

Cumann Lúthchleas Gael



Cluichí Ceannais

Peile na hÉireann 1999

Kian Ó Maolshéich

Árd Stiúrthóir

Bank of Ireland

Football Championship



ASK NOT
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CAN DO
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Bank of Ireland
Football Championship





Bank of Ireland
Football Championship



All-Ireland Minor Football Championship Final

An Dún v. Maigh Eo

1.30.i.n.

Réiteoir: **S. McCormack (An Mhí)**

Linesmen: **M. Collins (Corcaigh) STAND-BY REFEREE**

N. Cooney (Uibh Fháilí)

A. Mangan (Ciarraí) STAND-BY LINESMAN

Umpires: **Phil Savage, James Matthews, Colm Curtis, Stephen O'Hare.**

Cluichí Ceannais Peile na hÉireann Final

An Mhí v. Corcaigh

3.30.i.n.

Réiteoir: **M. Curley (Gaillimh)**

Linesmen: **P. McEnaney (Muineachán) STAND-BY REFEREE**

B. Gorman (Ard Mhaca)

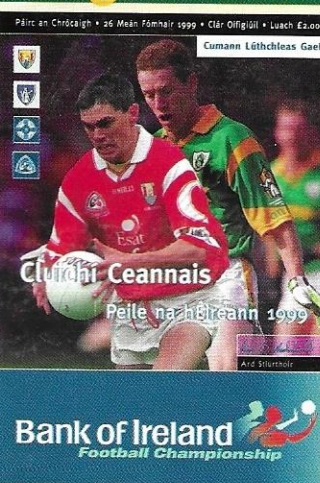
D. Joyce (Gaillimh) STAND-BY LINESMAN

Umpires: **Gerry Guinan, Pat McGovern, Patsy Griffin, Martin Fenton**

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 tiorán 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.

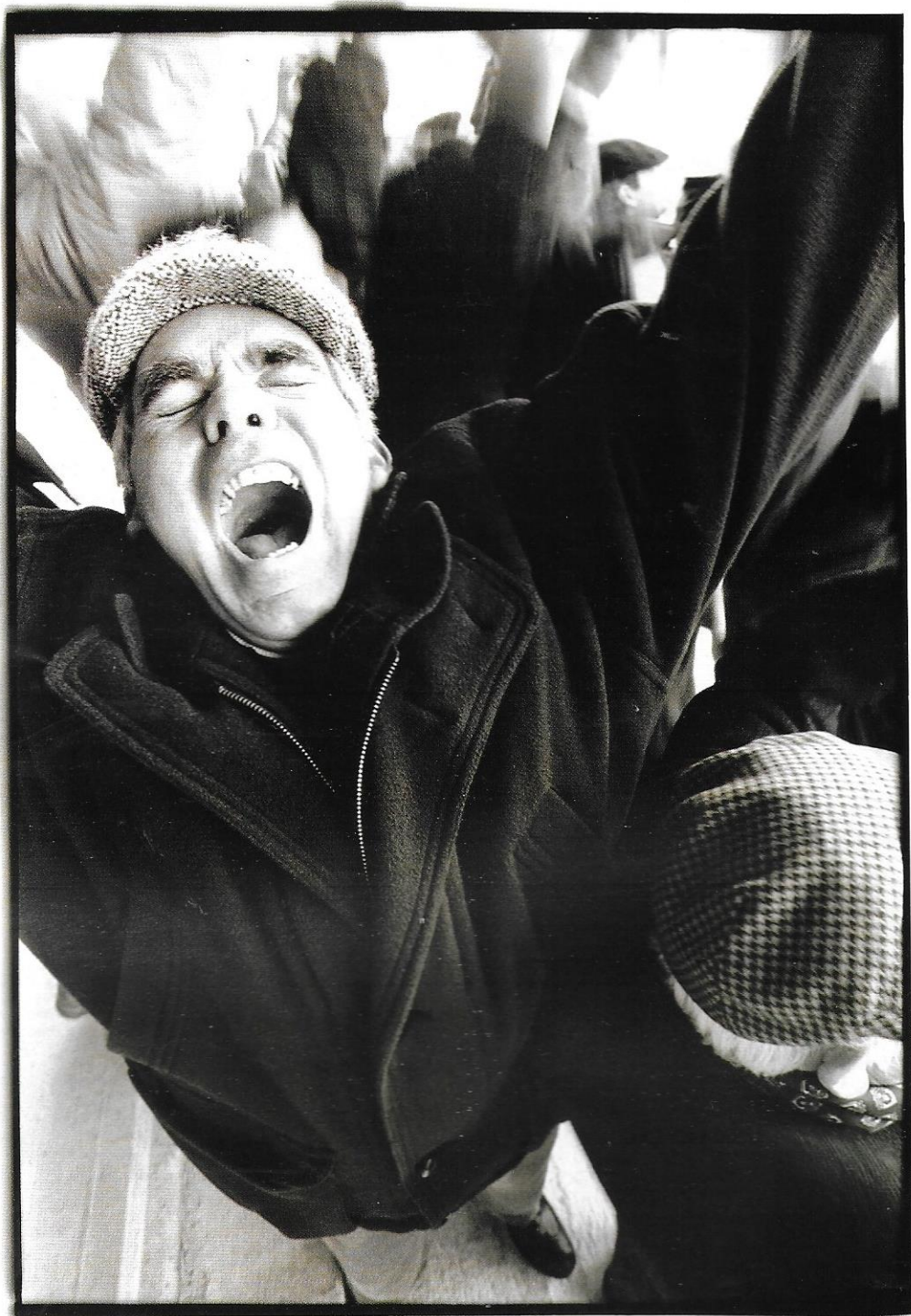
Ár gClúdach



Our cover features
Don Davis (Corcaigh)
and **Donal Curtis** (An Mhí).

DBA

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ar son CHUMANN LÚTHCHLEAS GAEIL



AIB Bank. Proud, hoarse, sponsor of
the AIB Club Championships.



Teachtairéacht an Uachtaráin



Is cúis mhór áthais dom fáilte a chur romhaibh go léir go dtí Páirc an Chrócaigh inniu. Is ócáid stairiúil í seo toisc gurb iad seo Cluichí Ceannais deireanacha an Chéid agus na Mílaoise sa pheil. Freisin beidh Ardán Uí Ógáin nua againn anseo nuair a fhilfidh muid arís sa bhliain 2000.

Ba mhaith liom fáilte speisialta a chur roimh na foirne ón Mhí, Corcaigh, Maigheo agus an Dún atá ag imirt inniu agus tá súil agam go mbeidh cluichí iontacha spóirtíúla againn.

Táimid tar éis bliain rathúil eile a bheith againn i mbliana sna comórtais peile go dtí seo. Bhí buaiteoirí nua againn sna Cúigí ar fad agus chuir sé seo go mór le suim an lucht féachana inár gcluichí. Tréaslaím a n-éachtaí agus a ngaiscí leis na himreoirí ar fad ar fud na tíre agus thar lear, i Nua Eabhrach agus Londain, a ghlac páirt sna comórtais craobha i rith an tséasúir. Gabhaim buíochas Chumann Lúthchleas Gael leis na peileadóirí sciliúla spóirtíúla as ucht an taitneamh a thugadar dúinn sna cluichí breátha a bhí againn idir mhionúir agus sinsir.

I mbliana is iad curaidh na Mumhan agus Laighean a bheas ag dul sa choimhlint sa gcluiche sinsir. Tá traidisiún na peile lonnaithe go smior sna condaetha seo agus bhí sár-chluichí ceannais againn leis na condaetha céanna ag deire na n-ochtóidí. Beidh Maigheo agus an Dún in aghaidh a chéile sa chluiche mionúir agus níl dabht ach gur foirne den scoth iad araon. Tréaslaím a saothar leo siúd atá ag forbairt na peile i measc na n-óg sa dá chonadae. Guím gach rath ar na himreoirí ar fad.

Cuirim mo bheannacht leis na réiteoirí a bheas i bhfeighil na gcluichí ceannais inniu, Michael Curley agus Séamus McCormack. Tá an Cumann go mór faoi chomaoín réiteoirí na tíre as ucht a ndéanann siad ar son ár gcumann. Is den riachtanas é go dtabharfaí ómós cuí dóibh i gcónaí. Tá súil agam go mbainfidh réiteoirí an lae inniu agus a gcuid maor taitneamh as a ndualgais ar ár son.

Tá focal molta speisialta tuillte ag RTÉ i mbliana arís de thoradh ghairmiúlacht agus caighdeán a gcráil i rith an tséasúir. Gabhaim buíochas le Teilifís na Gaeilge, Raidió Éireann, Raidió na Gaeltachta, Teilifís BBC agus na stáisiúin raidió áitiúla a rinne sár-obair chraolacháin freisin. Leanann na páipéir náisiúnta agus áitiúla ár n-imeachtaí go rialta agus glacaim buíochas leo ar fad as ucht a bhfuil déanta acu i mbliana chun ár gcluichí a chur os comhair an phobail.

Fearaim fáilte speisialta romhaibh ar fad a tháinig abhaile go hÉirinn chun freastal ar chluichí ceannais an lae inniu. Tá rath thar cuimse ar ár gcluichí thar lear i láthair na huaire agus tá borradh úr le sonrú ar ár n-aonaid idirnáisiúnta dá thoradh seo. Gabhaim buíochas ó chroí libh as ucht bhur saothair dár gCumann agus dár gcluichí thar lear. Dar ndóigh tá moladh ar leith tuillte ag comhlucht Setanta as ucht a bhfuil déanta acu chun ár margadh idirnáisiúnta teilifíse a fhorbairt. Tá gairmiúlacht speisialta curtha i gcrích acu i gcráil ár gcluichí beo ar fud an domhain.

A Chairde, táimid ag deireadh na nóchaidí, deireadh an Chéid agus ar thairseach na Mílaoise nua. Go gairid beidh muid ag cur an tsíl, trí mheán Scéim Peile 2000, chun an pheil a fhorbairt i measc na n-óg ach go háirithe. Tugaimis ómós cuí don chluiche iontach seo agus do na himreoirí iontacha atá á himirt faoi láthair.

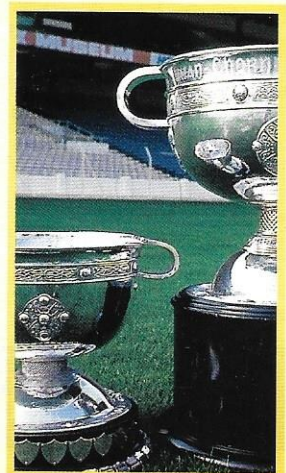
Ar deireadh, ó tharla gurb é seo mo Chluiche Ceannais deireanach sa Pheil mar Uachtarán C.L.G., gabhaim buíochas ó chroí libh ar fad as ucht bhur dta-caocht agus bhur ndílseacht dom i rith mo théarma Uachtaránachta. Chabhraigh sibh go mór liom chun fíis a chruthú do Chumann Lúthchleas Gael isteach sa Mhílaois nua. Ar aghaidh linn le chéile go muiníneach i dtreo fíorú na físe sin.

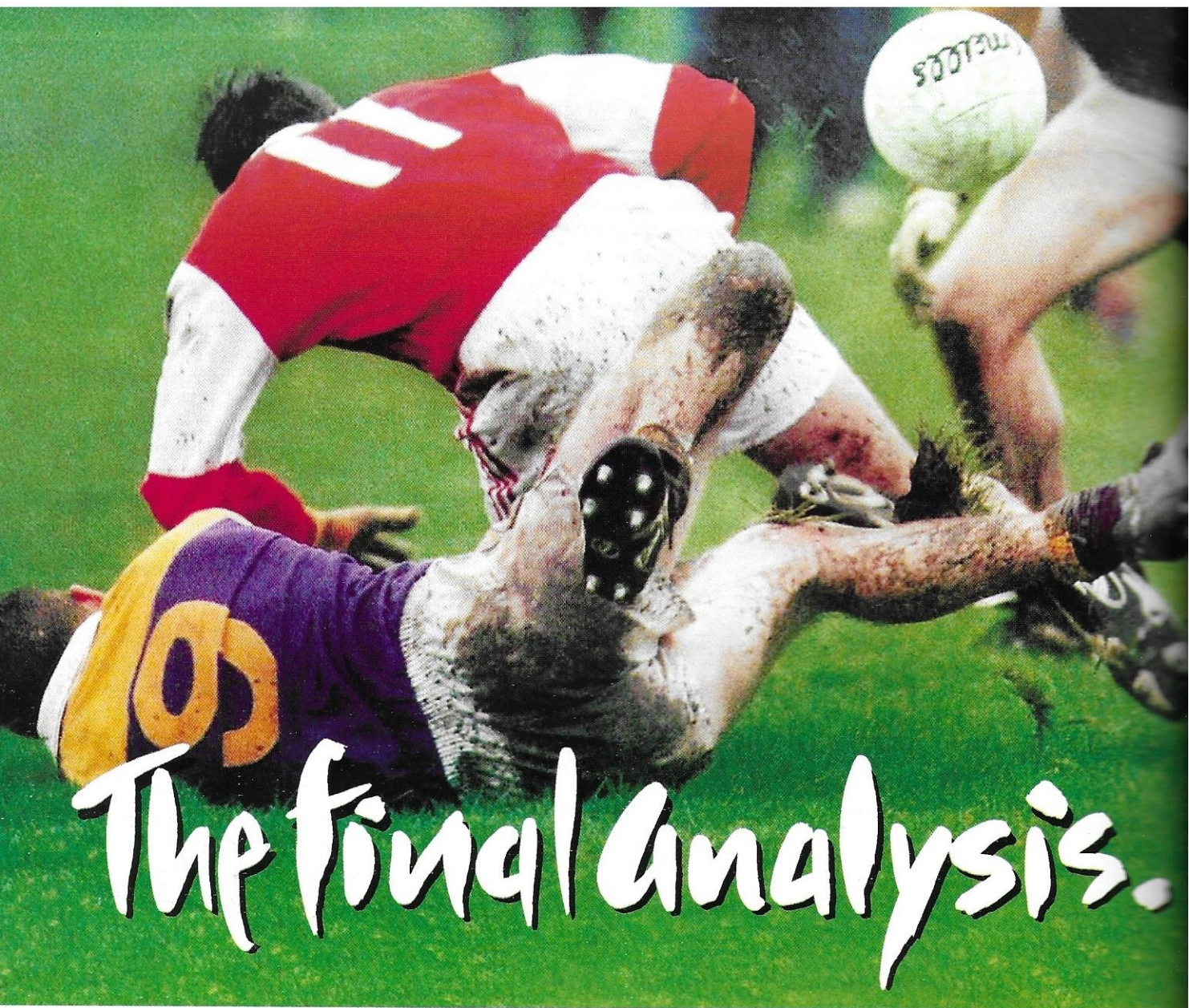
Seosamh Mac Donncha

Seosamh Mac Donncha,
Uachtarán C.L.G.

Clár an Lae

- | | | | |
|------------|---|-----------|--|
| 12.30 i.n. | The Artane Boys Band entertains. | 2.54 i.n. | Artane Boys Band recital. |
| 12.35 i.n. | Live television begins. | 2.59 i.n. | Dublin 1974 Jubilee team introduced by Mick Dunne. |
| 1.00 i.n. | The Artane Boys Band perform live on T.V. | 3.05 i.n. | Paths to the Final - Big Screen. |
| 1.13 i.n. | Foireann Mhionúir An Dúin amach ar an bPáirc. | 3.09 i.n. | Foireann Chorcaí amach ar an bPáirc. |
| 1.15 i.n. | Foireann Mhionúir Mhaigh Eo amach ar an bPáirc. | 3.12 i.n. | Foireann Na Mí amach ar an bPáirc. |
| 1.25 i.n. | Arrival of Uachtarán C.L.G. Seosamh Mac Donncha agus a bhean; Éirleamh C.L.G. An Dr. Diarmuid Ó Clúmháin, Ardeaspag Caiseal agus Imleach. Salute. | 3.19 i.n. | Uachtarán na hÉireann introduced. |
| 1.27 i.n. | Arrival of An Taoiseach via main tunnel. Salute. | 3.20 i.n. | An tUachtarán meets the teams. |
| 1.30 i.n. | Craobh Mhionúir Peile na hÉireann: An Dún v. Maigh Eo | 3.23 i.n. | Paráid na Foirne. |
| 2.04 i.n. | GAA/INTO Mini-Sevens. | 3.28 i.n. | Amhrán na bhFiann. |
| 2.40 i.n. | End of Minor Football Final. | 3.30 i.n. | Craobh Shinsir Peile na hÉireann: An Mhí v. Corcaigh |
| 2.45 i.n. | Presentation of the Minor Trophy by An Dr. Diarmuid Ó Clúmháin. | 4.08 i.n. | Salute to the Counties - The Artane Boys Band with Paul Hennessy. |
| | | 4.15 i.n. | Second half begins. |
| | | 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. |





Irish Times GAA coverage gets close to the action - it's also a measure of how much writers like GAA Correspondent Sean Moran, Tom Humphries, Keith Duggan and Sean Kilfeather enjoy the game. Their match previews and reports, as well as personality interviews bring great sporting occasions to life every week in the *SportsSaturday* and *SportsMonday* supplements.

THE IRISH TIMES

FOR THE TIMES WE LIVE IN

G.A.A.

A Message from Bank of Ireland



The last Bank of Ireland Football Championship of the century and what a truly memorable year 1999 has been. It has been a summer of very exciting football and no doubt today's final will be no exception. In total there have been 36 matches, including 5 replays.

It gives me great pleasure to welcome you to Croke Park for what is sure to be a great sporting encounter between two great teams. Both Cork and Meath will be quite at home here today with Cork having six championship successes to their credit and Meath, last victorious in 1996, also hoping to clinch their seventh All-Ireland title. Will Cork end the decade as they started it and scoop a second double?

Bank of Ireland is delighted to be associated with Ireland's premier sporting event. It is a very special year for the Bank as we celebrate our 21st year as a

major corporate sponsor of Gaelic Games. We thank all the players 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 all the loyal and devoted supporters who have told us what they would do for their county and added so much to the spectacle and excitement of a great championship. We know from our 'Ask not what your county can do for you' campaign that there are no limits to what fans are prepared to do to show their county pride!

Ar deireadh, go n-éirí go geal le Corcaigh agus An Mhí agus a lucht leanúna inniú. Tá súil agam go mbainfaidh sibh taitheamh agus sult as an lá.

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

Bank of Ireland
Football Championship



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.

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.

Artane Boys' Band and Senior Band

Music Programme

Musical Director:

Ronan O'Reilly

Tenor:

Paul Hennessy

12.30 i.n.:

"High School Cadets"

J.P. Sousa

"Dublin Millennium March"

F. O'Carroll

"King Cotton" J.P. Sousa

1.00 i.n.:

"Star Wars Medley"

John Williams

"Irish Washerwoman"

Leroy Anderson

1.25 i.n.:

Arrival of Uachtarán

C.L.G., Seosamh Mac

Donncha and the G.A.A.

Patron, An Dr. Diarmuid

Ó Clúmháin. **Salute.**

1.27 i.n.:

Arrival of An Taoiseach.

Salute.

2.04 i.n.:

"On The One Road"

A.J. Potter

2.59 i.n.:

Dublin 1974 Jubilee Team.

"Molly Malone"

R. O'Reilly

3.09 i.n.:

Salute to Cork.

3.12 i.n.:

Salute to Meath.

3.19 i.n.:

Presidential Salute.

3.20 i.n.:

Uachtarán an hÉireann

meets the teams.

"The Star of the County

Down".

J. Lynch

3.23 i.n.:

"Mairséal Uí

Chonbhúhair".

A. J. Potter

3.28 i.n.:

Amhrán na bhFiann.

A. J. Potter

4.08 i.n.:

Salute to the supporters of

both Senior Teams with

Paul Hennessy.

"The Banks of My Own

Lovely Lee"

J. Lynch

"Beautiful Meath"

R. O'Reilly

Safety Notice

In the interests of safety, patrons will not be allowed to enter the playing area after the games.

The policy to prohibit such encroachment in the future has been taken to avoid further injuries and possible fatality and has been taken on the advice and promptings of the safety authorities, namely the Gardaí, Dublin Corporation & Fire Brigade and the Eastern Health Board. Unlike many other grounds, Croke Park with its sunken areas close to the pitch presents particular hazards in a pitch encroachment situation.

Supporters are sincerely thanked for their co-operation to date and are asked to continue this co-operation in the future to ensure that games can be enjoyed without recourse to fencing or avoidable obstructions to seeing the action from all vantage points. Together we can ensure that a Croke Park experience is both enjoyable and safe, particularly for the young and vulnerable.

Public Telephone Locations

Hogan Stand

- Pay Phone and Card Phone beside the entrance to **Section P Lower Hogan Stand opposite the main sweet shop.**
- Pay Phone beside the **stairs to Upper Hogan Section P/R,** close to the Information Box.

New Stand

- **Lower Level (Level 3),** Pay Phone at rear of Sections 309/310.
- **Premium Level (Level 5),** Card Phone/Credit Card Phone at rear of Section 510.
- **Box Level (Level 6),** Call Card at elevator opposite Box 633.
- **Upper Level (Level 7),** Pay Phone next to lift at rear of Section 708.

Welcome from Local Committee

The Croke Park Area Residents Alliance would like to welcome you to Croke Park. We hope that you have a pleasant day.

Our Alliance represents ten Tenants and Residents Associations in the streets and roads around the stadium. We are here 365 days of the year and the area is a nice one in which we live.

We appreciate that fans want to come and support their teams in important matches. We would, however, ask that in coming into our neighbourhood that you treat the permanent residents, their property, and the public spaces in the way that you would hope you and your area would be treated, if large crowds were to come into your community for any reason.

Thankfully the vast majority of people attending Croke Park do just that but unfortunately there are a few who engage in anti-social behaviour which causes us problems. This includes illegal and dangerous parking, littering, entering private property, and acting in an intimidating fashion towards individuals.

We are working in partnership with the GAA to minimise the impact of large crowds in our area. We also liaise with the Gardaí, Dublin Transportation Office, the Corporation's Cleansing Section and local businesses. In time we hope that public awareness and responsibility will be more in-tune with community interests.

We would appreciate it if you could assist us by thinking of the consequences for us before you park the car illegally - clamping is now being extended to Sundays in the area; before you discard that paper wrapping - Litter Wardens too, are on duty; before you dump that can or glass - people are being injured by these; or before you hassle those who look vulnerable - the Gardaí are increasing their numbers on the streets.

As an alternative why not use group transport - it's cheaper, or designated car parks - they are safer. Why not bring the papers home in your pocket or put them in bins provided. Don't bring alcohol onto the streets in any type of container and treat everybody you meet with respect. Gaelic games followers have a reputation for good behaviour. Be proud of that tradition by keeping it alive.

Thank you for taking the time to read our piece, enjoy the match, and we hope you get the result you came for.

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



Peil (Buachaillí)

Team U

Meath - Green and Gold

Pitch: Defending Hogan Stand - Hill 16 End.

1. Pádraig Mulholland, St. Mary's P.S., Rostrevor, Down.
2. Cian Byrne, Rathfeigh N.S., Meath.
3. Paul Broderick, Bishop Foley N.S., Carlow.
4. Alan Delaney, Stradbally B.N.S., Laois.
5. Colin Smith, Stonepark N.S., Longford.
6. Alan Sheehan, Coosan N.S., Westmeath.
7. Jamie Staunton, Danescastle N.S., Carrig-on-Bannon, Wexford.
8. Pádraic O'Reilly, Ballinagh N.S., Cavan.
9. Nollaig Ó Cearbhaill, Scoil Mhuire, Rockcorry, Monaghan.
10. Brian Óg Maguire, St. Ronan's P.S., Lisnaskea, Fermanagh.

Team V

Cork: Red and White

Pitch: Defending Cusack Stand - Hill 16 End.

1. Eamonn Tubridy, Doonbeg N.S., Clare.
2. Shane Malone, Fossa N.S., Kerry.
3. Karl Ward, Sc. Mhuire, Carrigallen, Leitrim.
4. Kevin Moran, St. Declan's N.S., Waterford.
5. Seán Rowan, Holy Trinity N.S., Donaghmede, Dublin.
6. Mark Ronaldson, St. Joseph's N.S., Shrule, Mayo.
7. Tomás Gilmore, Ballinlass N.S., Galway.
8. Conor John McGourty, St. John the Baptist P.S., Belfast, Antrim.
9. Frank McGlynn, Dooish N.S., Donegal.
10. Colm Flynn, Sc. Chiarán C.B.S., Donnycomey, Dublin.

Peil (Cailíní)

Team W

Meath: Green and Gold

Pitch: Defending Hogan Stand - Canal End.

1. Jessica Casserly, St. Paul's N.S., Navan, Meath.
2. Tracy Mullan, Sc. Na gCeithre Máistrí, Áth Luain, Co. na hIarmhí.
3. Aoife Johnston, Callstown N.S., Clogherhead, Louth.
4. Avril Hickey, Piltown N.S., Kilkenny.
5. Claudine Dunne, Callstown N.S., Clogherhead, Louth.
6. Déirdre Fox, Castlebridge N.S., Wexford.
7. Stacey Murray, Fermoy N.S., Longford.
8. Edel Kennedy, Clonegal N.S., Carlow.
9. Danielle McMahon, Broomfield N.S., Monaghan.
10. Claire Boyle, Niall Mór N.S., Killybegs, Donegal.

Team X

Cork: Red and White

Pitch: Defending Cusack Stand - Canal End.

1. Sarah Walsh, The Neale N.S., Mayo.
2. Niamh Keane, Knockanean N.S., Clare.
3. Diane Britton, St. Joseph's N.S., Mohill, Leitrim.
4. Caroline Ní Cheallaigh, Ballinskelligs N.S., Kerry.
5. Sarah Wright, Sc. Meamóg, Portmeamóg, Baile Átha Cliath.
6. Michelle McGrath, Ballymacbray N.S., Waterford.
7. Déirdre Mannion, Windfield N.S., Galway.
8. Aisling McCaughey, St. Naile's P.S., Kinawley, Fermanagh.
9. Claire Gallagher, St. Columbkille's P.S., Carrickmore, Tyrone.
10. Sharon Prizeman, Sc. an Chroí Ró Naofa, Killenarden, Dublin.

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An Post/GAA

TEAM OF THE MILLENNIUM

in association with  Irish Independent

An Post, along with the GAA and in association with the Irish Independent are issuing a football "Team of the Millennium" stamp sheetlet which will be released on the 17th August. This exciting link up with the GAA gives us an ideal opportunity to celebrate and recognise our national sport.

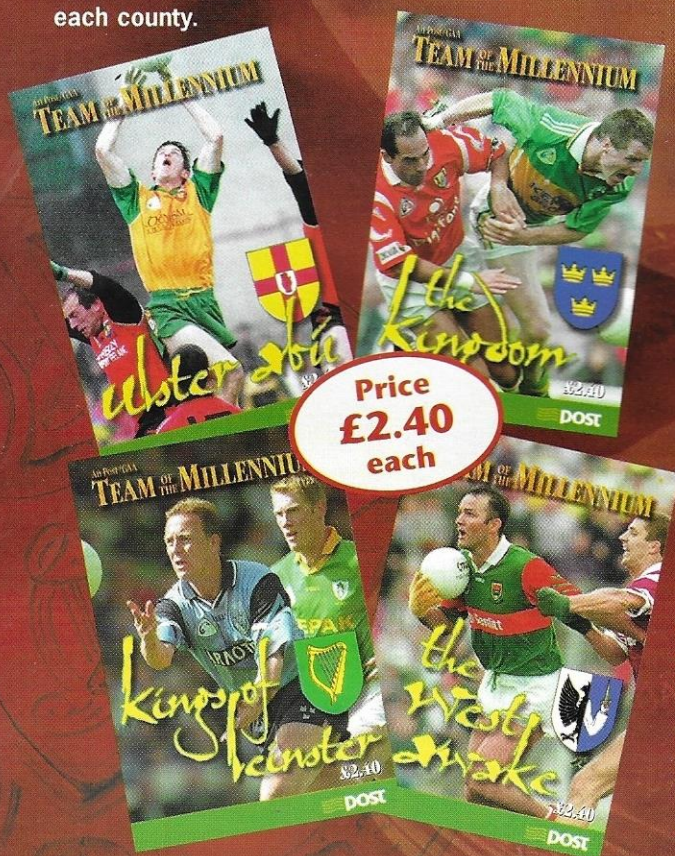
The Sheetlet

The sheetlet contains 15 x 30p stamps printed in a beautiful souvenir style sheetlet mimicking the normal team formation in Gaelic football. The players will be illustrated in their county colours and the sheetlet will cost £4.50.

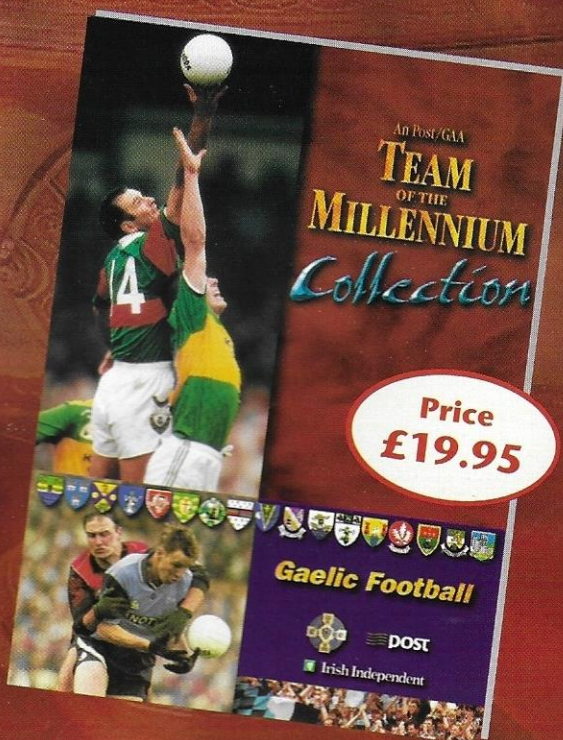
Booklets

To complement the Team sheetlet, An Post are producing four special commemorative booklets of self-adhesive stamps.

These four self-adhesive stamp booklets recognise the importance of the provincial championship for each county.



The Collection



This unique collection is a superb portfolio of the millennium and is sure to be a valued treasure. This collection contains a mint sheetlet and one each of the stamp booklets in an 8 page colour souvenir folder. It will bring happy memories of Gaelic sport and its wonderful players for many years into the next century.

First Day Cover/Presentation Pack

This delightful colour presentation pack will feature background details on each of the 15 players careers and it will cost £6.50.

Orders to: Irish Stamps, P.O.Box 1991, Freeport, Dublin 1. Fax: (01) 8722683

Cork and Meath renew rivalry - nine years on

Cork and Meath meet in an All-Ireland senior football final for the first time since 1990. The Munster county went into that game as Sam Maguire holders, having beaten Mayo a year earlier for their first All-Ireland senior football title in 16 years.

The game attracted an attendance of 65,723 and proved a somewhat disappointing affair, but nonetheless had some bright features.

Brightest of all was the high-powered football of Cork midfielder Shay Fahy. He was the chief architect of Cork's hard-earned but well-merited 0-11 to 0-9 win.

The high-flying Fahy gilded a tireless and efficient display by scoring four points from play.

Fahy received good support from his partner, Danny Culloty, while right full forward Tony Nation and current county team manager Larry Tompkins were other heroes for the winners.

Tompkins scored four points and he and Fahy finished joint top scorers for Cork. Tompkins also captained the side. Bobby O'Walley, Martin O'Connell and Terry Ferguson worked hard in the Meath defence but the forwards failed to really sparkle.

UNIQUE

Cork's success earned Teddy McCarthy a unique ranking as the only man so far to win All-Ireland senior hurling and football medals in the same year.

Meath's last All-Ireland senior football final win over Cork was in a replay in 1988. In the drawn game Cork got the perfect

start with a goal in three minutes by Teddy McCarthy. But Meath came back in typical style.

Nevertheless, Cork appeared to have the title in their grasp when Larry Tompkins, who had a brilliant game, pointed a free a minute from time to give his side the lead by the minimum advantage.

BATTLERS

But great championship battlers than they are, Meath stormed into the attack, won a free and marksman supreme, Brian Stafford, measured up to the challenge by expertly sending the ball over the bar to send the game to a replay. Meath 0-12; Cork 1-9.

The replay provided one of the many "14 man syndrome" success stories. The match was only six and a half minutes old when Meath had a midfielder dismissed by the referee. The Royal County played progressive football thereafter. Spurred on by a tight marking defence, marshalled by Martin O'Connell and Mick Lyons, they rose to the extra challenge in determined fashion and well deserved their 0-13 to 0-12 win.

Brian Stafford again underlined his qualities as a finisher and his worth to Meath is indicated by his feat in scoring seven points. Colm O'Rourke had a good game and Bernard Flynn was another to do well for the winners.

Colman Corrigan and Niall Cahalane in defence and the ever accurate Tompkins, who hit eight points, were best for Cork. The win earned Meath ranking as the first winners of the new Sam Maguire Cup.



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G.A.A.
Website at:
www.gaa.ie

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Cork footballers on their own double trail

There is little point at this stage in going over the by now well-worn ground with regard to Cork's All-Ireland senior titles double.

But what appears to have been generally overlooked is that the Cork footballers are in line to complete for the first time in ten years a special national titles double of their own.

In May 1989 Cork travelled to New York as National League "Home" champions and beat the home team on aggregate scores over two games. The following September the Leesiders regained the Sam Maguire Cup by seeing off Mayo in the final.

Last May at rain-soaked Páirc Uí Chaoimh, Cork, with Kevin O'Dwyer superb in goal (he brought off three great saves in the first half), left full back Anthony Lynch, Ciarán O'Sullivan, Joe Kavanagh and Pádraig O'Mahony to the fore, were good winners over Dublin in the Church and General National League final.

Can the latest rebel county representatives emulate the memorable double achievement of that side of ten years ago? Only time will tell but Cork bring the strongest possible credentials on their return to headquarters.

They climaxed their campaign with a display that blended character, all round ability and good football skills when seeing off defending champions Kerry in the Munster final at Páirc Uí Chaoimh.

Kerry were rated favourites in some circles for that game and looked like justifying that position when they led at the interval by 2-2 to 0-5.

But Cork turned in a storming second half display and ran out very good winners by 2-10 to 2-4.

COMEBACK

Cork showed their come-back qualities early on against Mayo in the semi-final. After eighteen minutes they trailed by 0-1 to 0-6 against a

side that was playing some of the best football seen from Mayo at headquarters in a long time. A goal by Philip Clifford after twenty six minutes helped the Munster champions go in at the interval on level terms—1-4 to 0-7.

Cork stepped up the tempo in the second half. Nicholas Murphy provided the forwards with a much better service than they had been receiving. Cork took control and finished the stronger with a point and a late goal from substitute Fionan Murray for a well-merited 2-12 to 0-12 win.

This was another polished and self assured display from Cork.

Anthony Lynch gave what many rated a man-of-the-match performance with his high quality display at left full back.

He received good support all round in defence but in particular from Ciarán O'Sullivan and Ronan McCarthy.

Murphy at midfield, Don Davis and team captain Philip Clifford were others who were to the fore in earning Cork a return trip to headquarters.

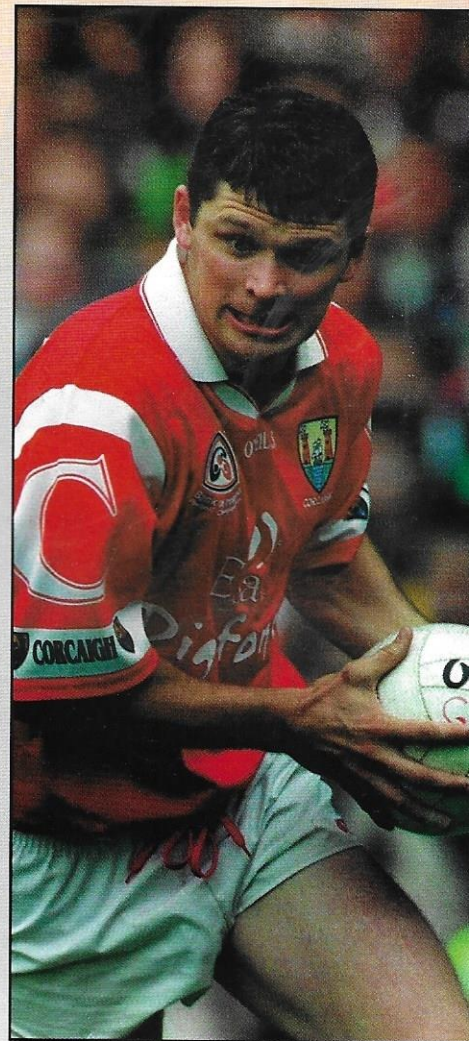
Cork have profited greatly from their League and championship run so far. They have the type of self-belief that will ensure they will not be easily unsettled by any early reverse against Meath.

This is backed up by all round balance, skilled footballers from goalkeeper to left full forward and a strong substitutes bench.

All of which indicates that Cork are well up to All-Ireland senior title winning standard.



Mark O'Sullivan (Corcaigh)



NIVEA
FOR
MEN

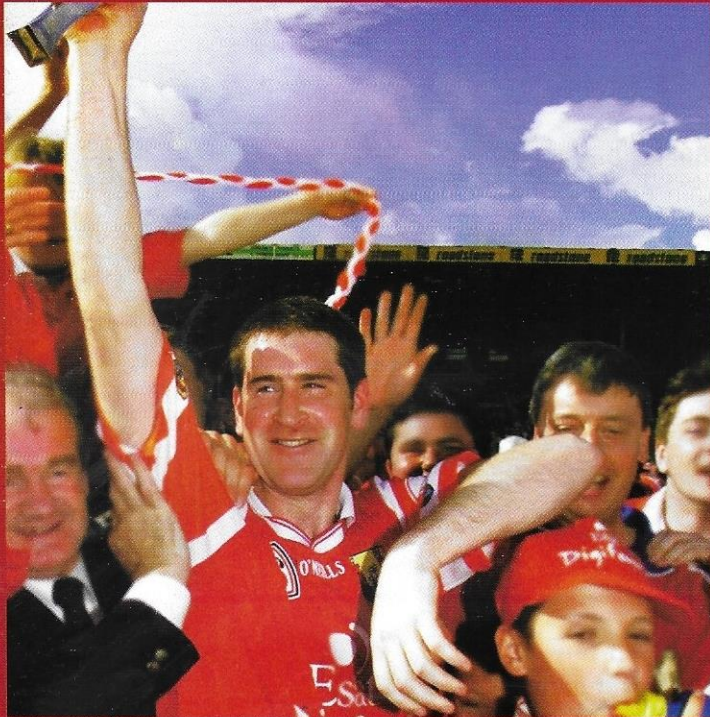
**REBELS?
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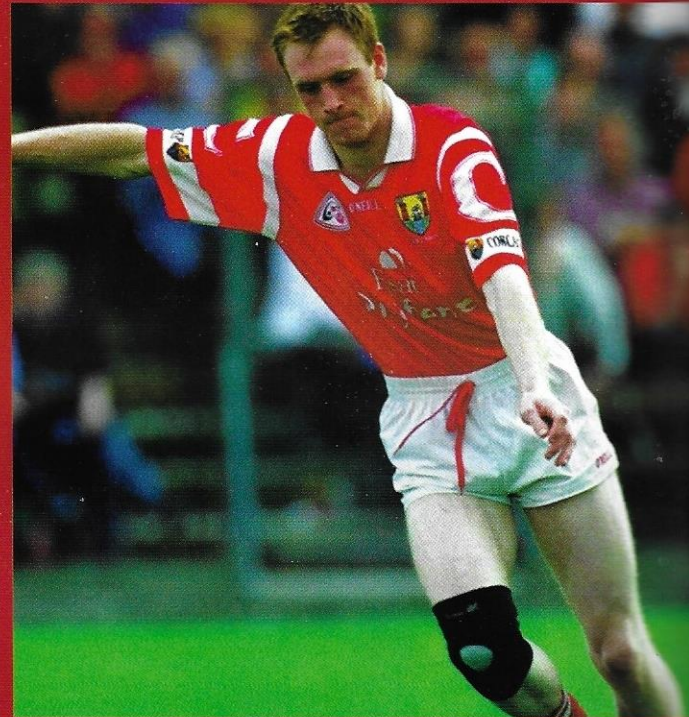
WITH THANKS TO NEW NIVEA FOR MEN AFTER SHAVE BALM.

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Meath living up to early Championship rating

Meath are living up superbly to the rating many gave them some months even before the start of the championship—that of potential Bank of Ireland All-Ireland champions.

After a bright start with wins over Wicklow and Offaly, they underlined in fine style that they were undoubtedly back as a force to be reckoned with by beating Dublin in the Leinster final.

Added merit was given to a fast-moving display in forging out a 1-14 to 0-12 victory over the Dubs was the fact that Meath were without their 1996 All-Ireland title winning captain, Tommy Dowd, who was injured, but another forward Ollie Murphy, stamped his personality on the Leinster final.

A high standard of play, non-stop effort and splendid accuracy that yielded 1-5, were the features of what must rank as the Carnaross clubman's best display in the Royal colours.

Despite their good march through the East, Meath had to call on all of their tremendous advantage in craft—eight of their Leinster title winning side were All-Ireland senior medal winners in 1996—against Armagh in the semi-final.

They were rocked by goals from Diarmuid Walsden and Kieran Hughes in a ten minute spell in the first half, Those were the first goals conceded by Meath's rock-like defence in the championship.

That was a test of Meath's character and resolve and they were not found wanting. They rose to the challenge in typical championship fashion to come from arrears of 0-8 to 2-4 at the interval to level matters at 0-11 to 2-5 after fifty minutes.

It is an indication of how Meath were dictating matters that six minutes earlier Armagh pointed for what was remarkably to prove their final point of the game.

NO DOUBT

Meath, with midfielder John McDermott getting through an amount of valuable work, continued to

take the game to the Ulster champions and eventually left no doubt as to their right to contest another All-Ireland final.

They finished more decisive winners than the 0-15 to 2-5 scoreline suggests.

Meath's defence, after that shaky start, settled down to provide the Armagh attack with few further opportunities to scheme scores.

Full backs Mark O'Reilly, Darren Fay and Cormac Murphy did much to ensure that step up in form by the Meath rearguard.

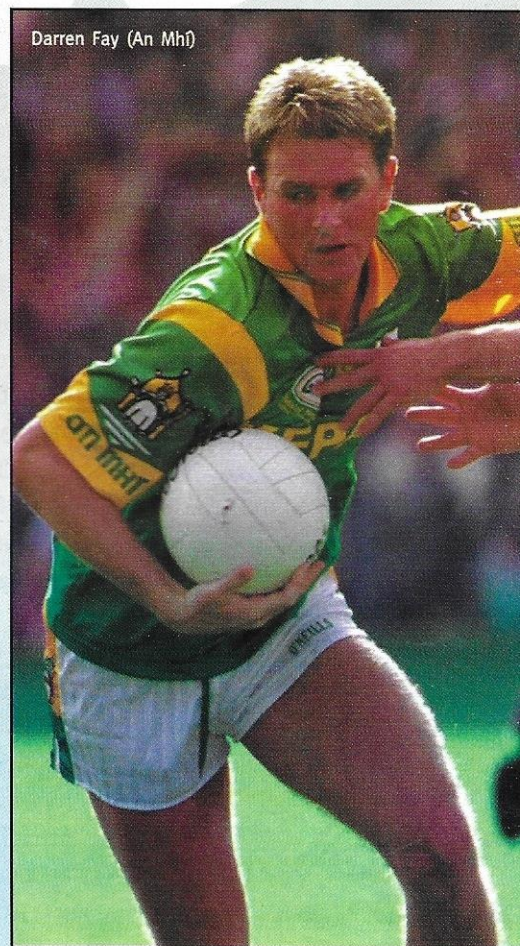
John McDermott had a capital game at midfield and proved one of the Royals most effective players over the game as a whole.

Trevor Giles, one of the most efficient and industrious forwards in the game, gave a Man-of-the Match display and also finished top scorer on the day for both teams with five points.

Ray Magee provided the selectors with an outside hint when he went in as substitute for the injured Ollie Murphy after twenty two minutes. He proved a key figure in helping to create victory.

This was another very competent display from Meath and one that underlines their ability to take knocks and bounce back into match-winning gear.

With that wealth of All-Ireland senior title winning know-how, good all round balance and players capable of taking a strong grip on a game, Meath will make a formidable effort to bring Sam back once again.



Darren Fay (An Mhí)

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S í an cheist atá le freagairt againn, agus ag peileadóirí na Mí chomh maith, ná an bhfuil Corcaigh chomh maith is a shamailítear? Rugadar craobh na Mumhan ó Chiarraí; chaill fir na Ríochta an cluiche leath-cheannais in aghaidh Chill Dara anuraidh - dá bhrí sin ní haon fáth maoite é ag na 'Réabhlóidigh'!

Ach má tógtar an leath eile den chomparáid d'fhéadfadh tuairim eile a bheith ag duine. Bhuaill Gaillimh na 'Lilywhites' i gcrabhbhluiche 1998. Tháinig Maigh Eo fhad le Tuaim chun curaidh Uile-Éireann 1998, 'Gaillimh, a chloí go héasca. Ansin casadh fir na bPáirc Céide ar Chorcaigh a rug an lá leis an scór 2-12 v. 0-12. Mar sin tá gach fath ag peileadóirí Chorcaí agus a lucht leanta a bheith maoiteach!

Conus mar atá ag An Mhí i mbliana? Thugadar bata is bóthar d'Uíbh Fháilí, a bhí tar éis na 'Lilywhites' a chloí sa chéad bhabhta de chraobh Laighean. Ansin de chloígh siad na 'Dubs' i gcluiche ceannais an chúige agus sa chluiche leathcheannais bhí an ceann ab' fhearr acu ar churaidh Uladh, Ard Mhacha.

Tá sean-taithí ag An Mhí agus Corcaigh a bheith san iomaíocht i gcrabhbhluichí. Nuair a casadh ar a chéile iad i 1987 d'fhéadfaí a rá gurbh nóbhisigh iad araon a bhí le blianta fada faoi scáth Chiarraí ó dheas agus Áth Claith thoir. Bhain An Mhí an chraobh agus an bhliain dár gcionn bhíodar in adharca a chéile arís agus, cé gur chaill An Mhí imreoir clúiteach go luath sa chluiche, bhaineadar an bua arís.

Bhí foireann ró-mhaith ag Corcaigh chun go n-imeoidís as radharc agus tháingadar ar ais chun Com Mhig Uidhir a thabhairt cois Laoi i 1989 agus 1990. Agus cé a bhí mar chéilí imeartha acu i 1990? An Mhí arís agus chruthaigh na 'Réabhlóidigh' go raibh siad inchurtha le fir An Chontae Ríoga nuair a bhain siad an lá le ceithre imreoir déag. Bhí cúis mhaoite breise acu mar tar éis d'iománaithe an chontae Com Mhic Cártaigh a bhreith leo bhí "an dúbhailt" bainte ag na peileadóirí - éacht nach ndearnadh ach uair amháin cheana cothrom céad bliain roimhe sin i 1890 ag na Corcaigh chróga freisin!

Tá foireann Chorcaí an lae inniu an-chruthanta amach is amach. Tá cúlbaire chomh maith le Billy Morgan acu; tá na tacaigh láidir agus gasta leis; tá an bheirt i lár páirce cumasach gan a bheith sár-oilte; is iad tosaí Chorcaí atá rí-dháinséarach mar tá Seosamh Caomhánach agus Don Ó Dáibhis, an bheirt is móir taithí acu, in ann a gcéilí imeartha a thiontú go gasta agus oscailt dá gcompánaigh a chruthú go minic; tá captaen na foirme Pádraig Ó

Clúmháin sa chúinne ar dheis an-éifeachtach agus in ann scóranna a ghnóthú ó triocho nó dachad slat amach.

I gcás na Mí bhain siad an lá sa dá chluiche deireannacha, in aghaidh Átha Cliath agus Ard Mhaca, in éagmais Thomáis Ó Dubhda an tosach is feárr acu le cúpla bliain. Le Ó Dubhda ar ais beidh dian-scrúdú curtha ar thacaigh Chorcaí mar gan trácht airsean amháin beidh Ó Murchú, sa chúinne dheas, Mac Oireachtaigh ar imeall na cearnóige agus Trevor Giles ar sodar timpeall idir lár na páirce agus an cúl mar a bheadh beach ar thóir meala i móinéar bláthmhar.

Níl amhras ar éinne go mbeidh an lámh in uachtar ag An Mhí i lár an ghoirt mar tá Seán Mac Diarmada ag imirt níos feárr i mbliana ná near a rinne sé nuair a bhain An Mhí an chraobh i 1996.

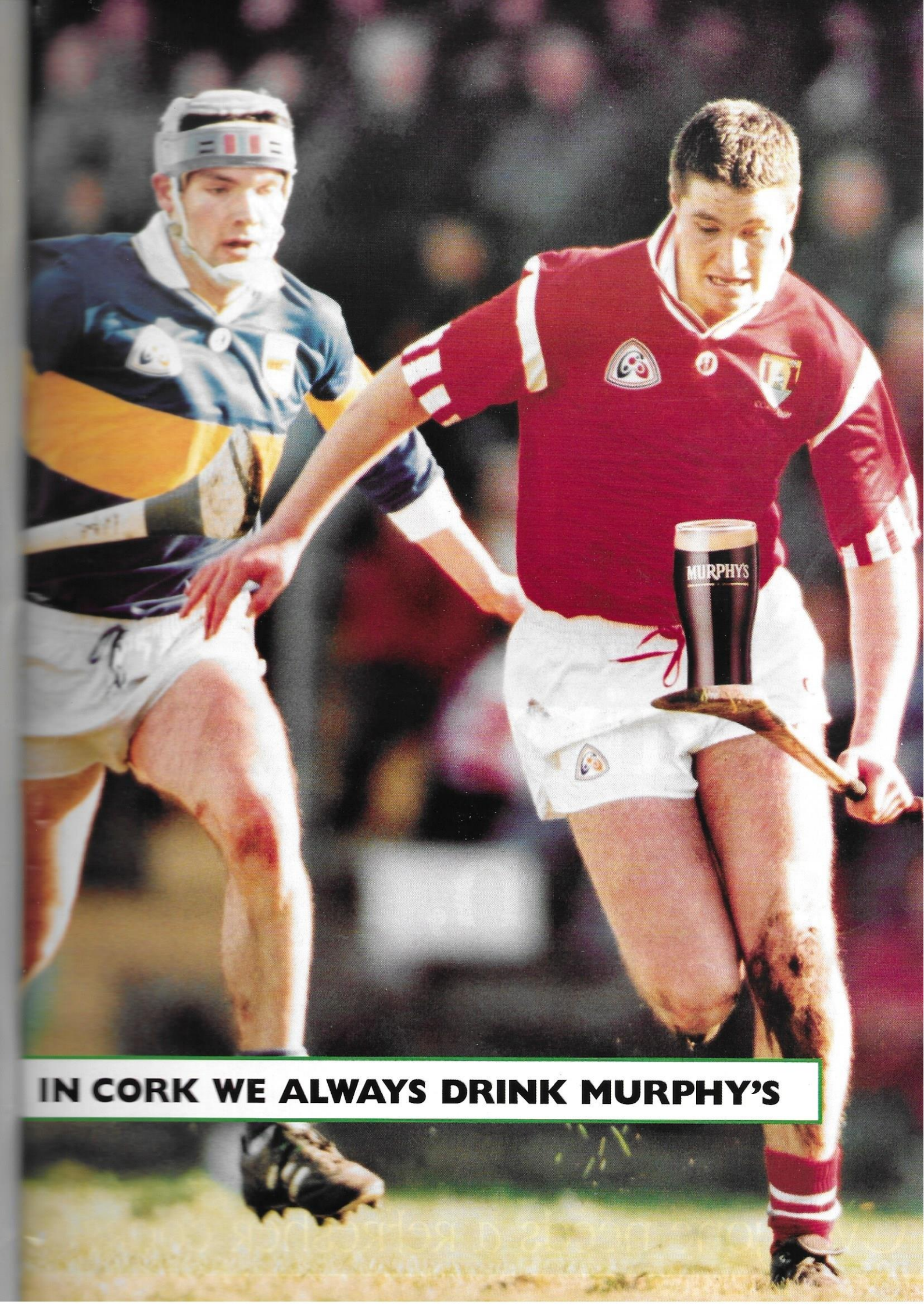
Má tá lántaca lár níos feárr in Éirinn ná Darren Ó Fiaichní fhacthas thart é. Más le Don Ó Dáibhis, nó tosach ar bith eile de chuid Chorcaigh, ag súil le scóranna a ghnóthú go héasca in aghaidh Darren beidh breall orthu. Tá na tacaigh eile an-mhaith freisin go háirithe Ó Raghallaigh agus Eánna Mac Mánaís.

Cad faoin toradh máisea? De réir cosúlachta beidh cúpla ionad ar an bpáirc ar a mbraithfidh an bua. Beidh an choimhlint i lár páirce fíor-thábhachtach agus ceaptar go mbeidh an lámh in uachtar ag An Mhí sa réimse sin den ghort. Ní fios an bhfágfar Seán Óg Ó hAilpín mar lántaca ag Corcaigh mar beidh sé rí-dheacair Graham Mac Oireachtaigh (an captaen) á láimhseáil nó a cheansú - buntáiste ag An Mhí ansin.

Ceaptar go mbeidh an lámh in uachtar ag an leathlíne cosanta ag Corcaigh mar tá Ciarán Ó Suiilleabháin, Sexton agus Máirtín Ó Cróinín thar a bheith oilte mar chosantóirí. Is ann a leagfar bun-sraith na bua do Chorcaigh! Tá fainic amháin áfach. Má bhíonn Ollie Ó Murchú go hiomlán leigheasta agus in ann a chéile imeartha Anton Ó Loingsigh, sa chúinne, a cheansú beidh scór ard gnóthaithe aige. Ach n'fheadar an mbeidh sé in ann don Loingseach.

Ceaptar go bhfuil an sean-laige ag Corcaigh leigheasta is é sin go bhfuil na tosaí in ann scóranna a ghnóthú; má bhíonn Seosamh Caomhánach ar a mhíle dhícheall le linn an chluiche ar fad tabharfaidh sé uachtach don cuid eile acu agus cuirfidh siad scór ard ar an gclár.

Cluiche an-chothrom a bheidh ann agus caighdeán ard peile. Táthar ag súil nach mbeidh aon ghoimh ann mar a bhíodh agus nach mbeidh aon ghortú ar dhuine ar bith. Moltar go hard iad araon. Go maire siad.



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The Jubilee Pursuit

Apart from the more immediate objective of annexing the Sam Maguire Cup, today Meath will be attempting to celebrate the Golden Jubilee of their first All-Ireland win with a similar triumph. Going on the record to date they have a mammoth task, for the record shows that of all the counties that have taken All-Ireland honours only one has successfully bridged the 50-year gap. Not surprisingly, that county is Kerry, while the list of 'failures' included Dublin, Cork, Tipperary, Wexford, Galway, Cavan, Louth, Kildare, Mayo and Roscommon who have appropriate time qualifications.

In the order in which they sought a Jubilee success, here is how the 12 counties fared:

Limerick (Champions 1887) - In the 1937 championship they lost the Munster semi-final to Clare (0-6 to 1-8) on a replay.

Tipperary (1889) - They beat Cork (1-9 to 2-2) and Clare (4-5 to 1-6) but went down to Kerry in the 1939 Munster final by 0-4 to 2-11.

Cork (1890) - Failed to survive the first round in 1940 when they were beaten by Tipperary (2-5 to 1-5) at Mitchelstown.

Dublin (1891) - Won Leinster title but lost the All-Ireland semi-final to Kerry on a replay at Tralee in 1941.

Wexford (1893) - Beat Kilkenny before losing to Carlow (1-1 to 1-7) in the second round in 1943 at Wexford Park.

Kerry (1903) - Spanned fifty years successfully when beating Armagh (0-13 to 1-6) in the 1953 final.

Kildare (1905) - Beat Wexford by 1-6 to 1-5 but lost the 1955 provincial semi-final to Meath on a replay by 0-11 to 1-9.

Louth (1910) - In 1960 they beat Wicklow and Westmeath to reach the Leinster final in which they lost to Offaly by 1-6 to 0-11.

Galway (1925) - As defending champions in '75 they failed to survive their opening tie with Sligo at Markievicz Park.

Cavan (1933) - Beat Derry, Tyrone and Fermanagh before losing the 1983 Ulster final to Donegal.

Mayo (1936) - Beat London in the 1986 first-round tie by 3-14 to 0-4, but lost the provincial semi-final to Roscommon (0-12 to 1-11) at Castlebar.

Roscommon (1943) - Beat Leitrim in the semi-final of the 1993 championship before losing the Connacht final to Mayo by 0-7 to 1-5.

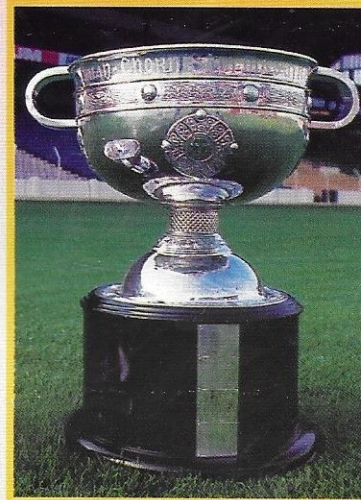
In relation to Meath's bid today it should be noted that - Kerry apart - they are the only county to have qualified for the All-Ireland final in their Jubilee year.

The next county to attempt a Jubilee year success will be Down in...2010!

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, Tommy Dowd (Meath) in 1996, Liam Hassett (Kerry) in 1997 and Ray Silke (Galway) last year.



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Best of luck to Down.



An Dún



Back row (l-r):
Ronan Murtagh,
Gary Morgan,
John Fegan,
John Sloan,
Brendan Kearney,
Michael Walsh,
Mark Doran,
Gary Digney.

Front row (l-r):
Benny Coulter,
Brendan Grant,
Ronan Sexton,
Liam Doyle (capt),
Louis Sloan,
John Clarke,
Damian McGrady.

Down should benefit from long campaign

It has proven a long, long road for Down on the way to the All-Ireland minor football final. A six match campaign marked by anxiety, joy, good individual performances and at last this head-quarters outing.

In the Ulster final they were given a testing time by Donegal, who eventually earned a replay with a last minute point at Clones.

Down stepped up on their form in the drawn game when the counties met for the second time but still did not help their cause by shooting 13 wides.

However, good work by Brendan Coulter, moved out to midfield from the attack, and Michael Walsh, who took over in a roving centre half forward role, proved very instrumental in earning Down the Northern crown by a clear-enough margin of 2-7 to 0-9.

Down's wastefulness was again in evidence in their All-Ireland semi-final against Dublin. They had twelve wides, but still looked bound for the final as they led by a point with time almost up.

Then, Dublin were awarded a close-in free and Liam Óg Ó hEineacháin proved equal to the difficult task in the white-hot atmosphere by levelling the match and sending Down to yet another replay. Down gave a much improved performance in the replay before over 6,000 spectators at An Uaimh.

Dominated

Down dominated matters in the second quarter with some purposeful football and should have been further ahead than by 0-6 to 0-5.

They got off to a dream start after the resumption when their left corner forward had the first goal of the game in a mere twenty seconds. Down received great encouragement from that score and, playing some excellent football, went ahead by 1-9 to 0-5.

Dublin kept battling away and a Stephen Mills goal after forty minutes had them back in the game as they trailed by just four points. However, Down quickly dispelled hopes of a quick come-back when a brilliant movement ended with Brendan Coulter finding the net. Dublin, to their credit, kept battling away, but Down finished the stronger with four points in the last ten minutes to fully merit their 2-14 to 1-9 win.

This long campaign could pay off handsomely for Down as it has helped to cement the team into a confident, assured and well-drilled side. They have a very efficient and consistent marksman in Brendan Coulter. He and Louis Sloan combine as a strong midfield capable of more than holding their own with the best.

Michael Walsh is a versatile player capable of doing well at midfield or in attack, where he had a fine game in the win over the Dubs.

Liam Doyle is an inspiring captain and centre half back and Mark Doran and Damien McGrady form a strong left flank of the defence. The other positions in the defence are also well filled, so the Ulster champions are capable of making a tremendous bid to give Ulster football a much needed boost with a win.



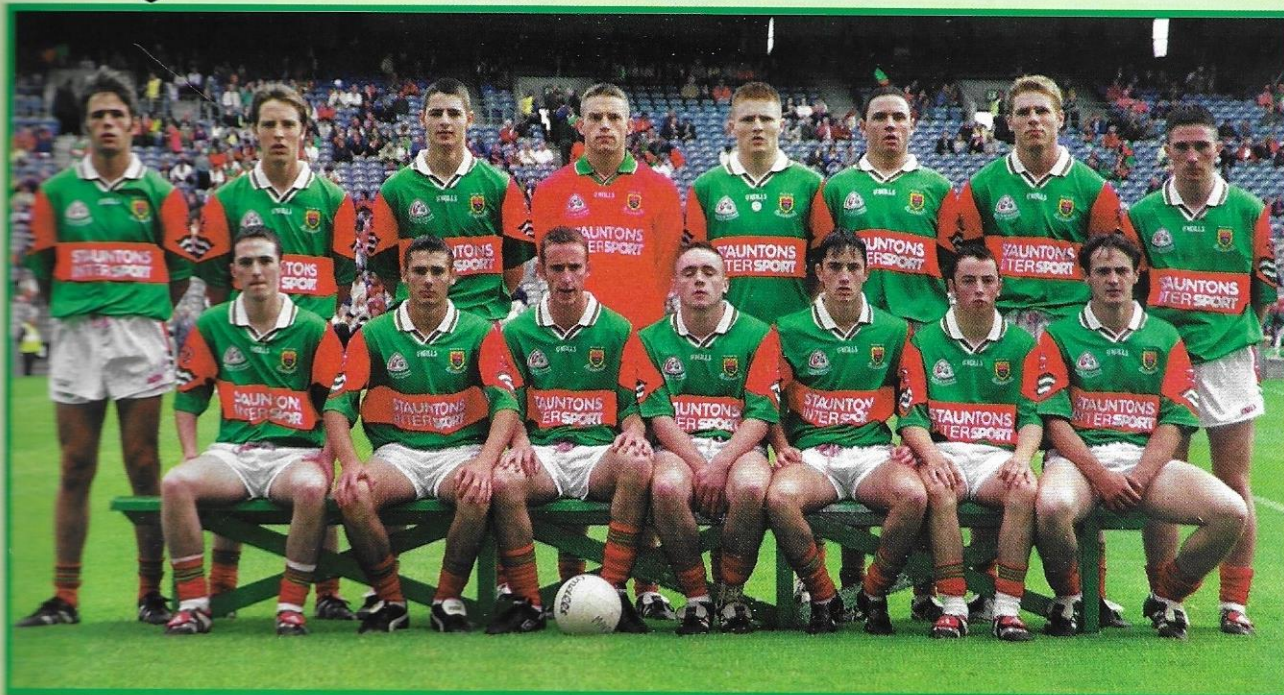
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Maigh Eo



Back row (l-r):
James Gill,
Billy Padden,
Eóin Gallagher,
John O'Hara,
Robert Moran,
Barry Loftus,
Gavin Duffy,
Allan Dillon.

Front row (l-r):
Gary Dillon,
Paul Coady,
Pat Kelly,
John Brogan,
Conor Moran,
Rory Keane,
Michael Meenaghan.

Mayo Minors capture the attention of the nation

Seldom, if ever, has a performance by a minor football team aroused such nation-wide admiration as Mayo's high scoring All-Ireland semi-final win over Cork last month.

Many followers who generally take little interest in happenings in the under-18 grade, enthusiasts with no direct involvement with either county, were enthralled and spoke in glowing terms of the Mayo boys' display.

It was a good advertisement for football and the live television coverage brought the match to a very wide audience.

At a time when senior football is suffering from a dearth of forwards with the ability to score points especially, the Mayo boys demonstrated the skills in an exciting manner.

Their three half backs even got on the scoresheet as well, and that is a rare enough feature.

All this after conceding a goal in the opening minute! Not in the least unruffled by the set-back, the Mayo players responded with an exciting display of controlled

football and, amazingly enough, had their final place in safe keeping when they led by 1-10 to 1-2 at the break.

Mature

They continued to produce a delightful brand of mature football after the restart and ran out most convincing winners by 1-19 to 1-10.

James Gill, a spectacular high fielder, who uses the ball well, and Gavin Duffy set a very strong pace for Mayo in the vital midfield area. Rory Keane, Paul Cody and Conor Moran not only combined at half back to provide a solid barrier to the Mayo goal, but each also found time to contribute a point apiece to the scoreline.

Robert Moran, Eoin Gallagher and Barry Loftus in attack were other influential figures in shaping this sparkling Mayo display.

A high quality showing from Mayo, one of the best seen in the championship by any team so far, and a performance that is bound give great encouragement for the final big push.

Two Meetings

One Final

1966 - Mayo 1-12; Down 1-8.

After so many disappointments over the previous ten or twelve years the pressure was on this Mayo team to deliver a worthwhile performance and bring the under-18 title back to the county. The pressure on Down might not have been as intense, as the glory garnered by the county's senior squad in recent years overshadowed all else - though there was still the fact that the county was appearing in the final for the first time, and that a win would do much to ensure Down's future among the elite.

Mayo's advantage in the matter of height and weight was immediately apparent, but as they set about laying the foundations of victory they relied only slightly on these attributes. The wind was a factor, though not a major one, as Mayo made the early running, but Down were only a point adrift at the end of the first quarter. Then a push which brought a goal by Aidan Kelly and some excellent points from play by Des Griffith, lifted Mayo into an interval lead of 1-8 to 0-3.

The lead was extended by an early second-half point before Down started a heart-warming rally. Points by Noel Millar and James Morgan lifted the team, and, as Mayo were forced back, Mick Laverty swept the ball to the net to reduce the arrears to five points with seven minutes remaining. However, as Down surged forward the Mayo defence responded magnificently with Tim Snee, Seamus Hughes and Tom Cafferkey getting in some fine clearances. The closing minutes were hectic, but virtually scoreless and try as they might the goal that Down needed to rescue their hopes just wouldn't come and the point that came late in the hour was no more than a forlorn gesture. After three final and five semi-final defeats, Mayo were again champions.

Mayo scorers: D.Griffith 0-4, S.O'Dowd 0-3, A.Kelly 1-0, J.Timoney 0-2, T.Fitzgerald 0-2, J.Smith 0-1.

Down: J.Murphy 0-3, M.Laverty 1-0, N.Millar 0-2, D.Mooney 0-1, J.Morgan 0-1, S.Purdy 0-1.

Mayo - Eugene Rooney, Seamus Hughes, Tim Snee, Bernard Meenaghan, Gay Nevin, Tom Cafferkey, Benny McHale, Seamus O'Dowd, Tony Joyce, J.J.Timoney, Tom Fitzgerald, Des Griffith, Pat Glavey, Jim Smyth, Aidan Kelly.

Down - John Harte, Sean Brennan, Liam Sloan, Henry Smith, Brendan Sloan, Colm McAlarney, Damien Curran, John Murphy, Dalsy Mooney, John Purdy, Noel Millar, Micky Cole, Mick Laverty, Peter Rooney, James Morgan.

Subs - John McGrath for Millar, Millar for Cole.

And One Semi-Final

1977 - Down 2-11; Mayo 1-7.

Eleven years on the pressure was on Down. The deeds of the county at senior level had assumed almost legendary proportions, but almost 20 years after the Ulster under-18 title had been annexed for the first time, the Markham Cup had still to be lifted by a youth from the Mournes. And an additional cause for concern was that the under-21 grade had also failed to yield a national triumph. Mayo, by contrast, had already claimed one minor crown in the seventies (1971) as well as an under-21 title three years later. The Westerners had little to prove in under-age football.

Mayo opened briskly but without reward on the scoreboard as the Down defence covered effectively and when play swung to the other end the first white flag of the afternoon fluttered. Down, more composed as Mayo sought to find their rhythm, soon added a second, but Mayo, despite some obvious deficiencies in a number of places, continued to keep in touch and after 20 minutes it was 0-5 to 0-3.

Five minutes from the break Jarlath Digney's harmless-looking shot deceived Mayo 'keeper Seamus Parsons and a quick point left it 1-6 to 0-3 at the break.

Five minutes after the resumption the gap was nine points when Emmet McGivern shot a great goal but Mayo responded immediately and might well have had two goals only for two great saves by Pat Doonan.

At this stage Martin Joyce and Willie Joe Padden were on top at midfield; a couple of points were quickly cut from the arrears, but the goal that might have panicked the Down defence was slow in coming and it wasn't until the 53rd minute that Brian Moran's shot was deflected to the net by a defender. Down held on without distress to win a place in the final.

Down scorers: B.Loughran 0-4, E.McGivern 1-1, J.Digney 1-1, T.Bradley 0-2, E.Toner 0-1, J.McCartan 0-1, P.Kennedy 0-1.

Mayo: A.McNicholas 0-3, B.Moran 1-0, E.Macken 0-2, G.Cuddy 0-1, A.Garvey 0-1.

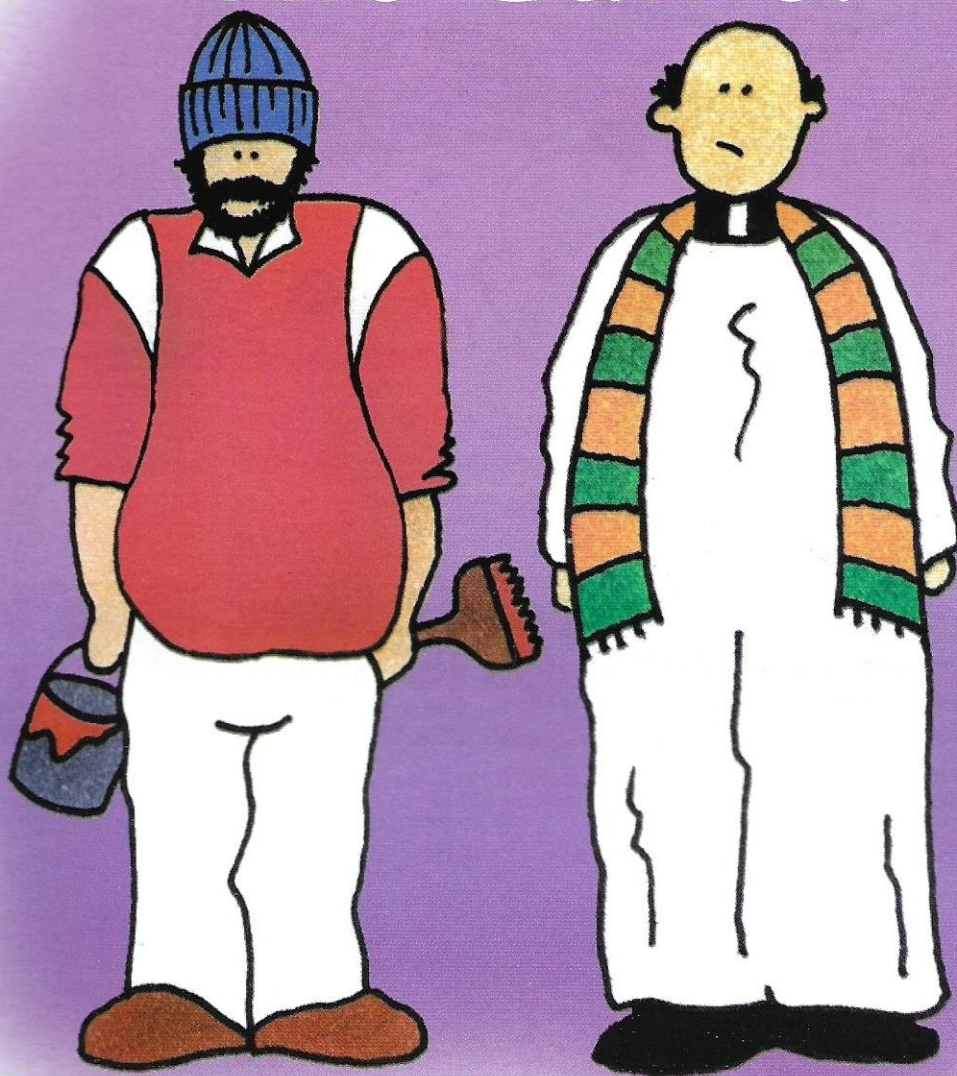
Down - Pat Doonan, Francis Rooney, Adrian McAulfield, John Murtagh, Paddy O'Rourke, Michael Sands, Brendan McGovern, John McCartan, Paddy Kennedy, Eamon Toner, Tommy Bradley, Martin McCann, Emmet McGivern, Brendan Loughran, Jarlath Digney.

Subs - Sean McNulty for McGovern, Seamus Carr for Toner.

Mayo - Seamus Parsons, P.J.McGarry, Tom Reilly, Eddie McLoughlin, Padraic Monaghan, Kevin Earley, Michael O'Toole, Martin Joyce, Willie Joe Padden, Eugene Macken, Jim Lyons, Adrian McNicholas, Gabriel Cuddy, Peter McGuinness, Adrian Garvey.

Subs - B Moran for Lyons, D Rutledge for Earley, A O'Brien for McGuinness.

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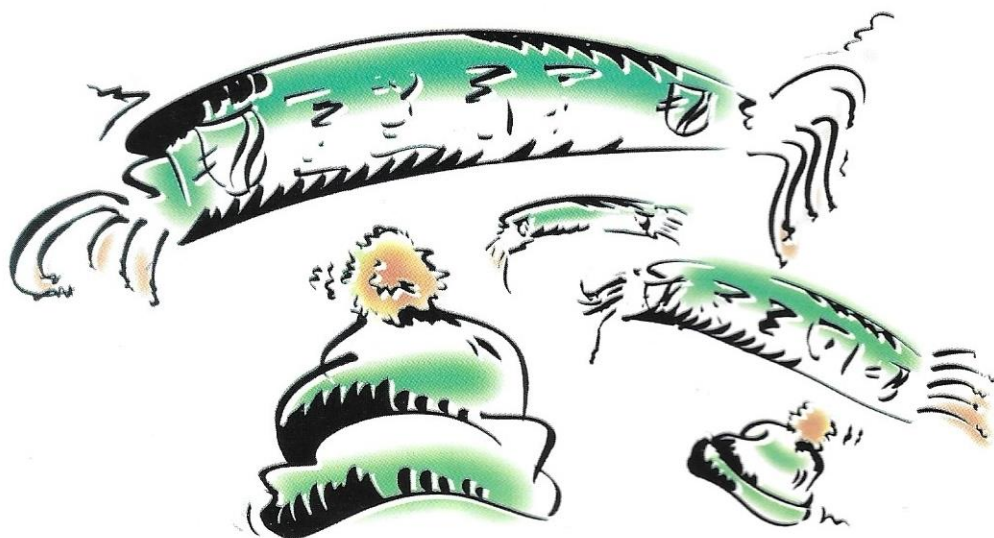
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Down and Mayo Bridge a Long Gap

The All-Ireland minor football championship final brings Down and Mayo into opposition for the first time since at this stage of the championship since 1966.

The Mourne County made their final debut in that game but it did not prove a double joy day as Mayo came out on top by 1-12 to 0-8. Seamus O'Dowd and Tony Joyce at midfield and half backs Gabriel Nevin, Tom Cafferkey and Bennie McHale did much to fashion what was Mayo's first final win in thirteen years.

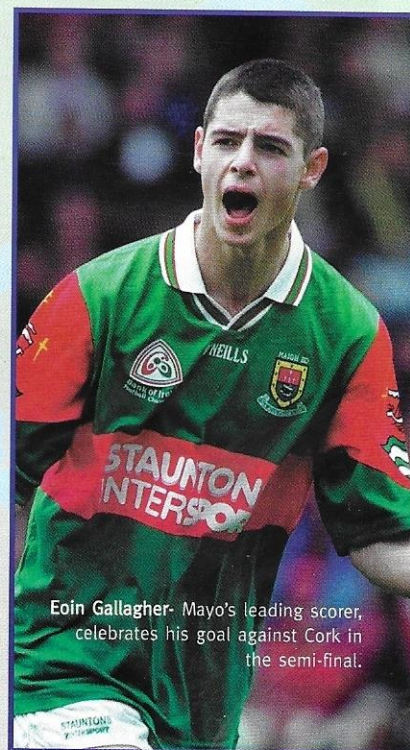
Down's team included Colm McAlarney at centre half back, Brendan Sloan at right half back, Peter Rooney and John Purdy in attack. Mayo are appearing in their first final since 1991 when they lost to Cork. Their last successful final appearance was in 1985 when full forward M. J. Mullen

was the goal-getting hero. He scored two goals to help the Western county to a 3-3 to 0-9 win.

Two years later Down made their last All-Ireland final appearance, and, like Mayo in their last winning performance, they beat Cork. Right half forward Cathal Murray made a big contribution to the 1-12 to 1-5 win. He scored six points.

Left full forward for Down was James McCartan. That was Down's last appearance in a final and their second title win overall. A Down win would give Ulster a second successive Tom Markham Cup triumph. Tyrone regained the title last September after an interval of fifteen years.

The trophy has not been won by a Connacht county since as far back as 1986 when Galway took the title for the fifth time.



Eoin Gallagher, Mayo's leading scorer, celebrates his goal against Cork in the semi-final.

Paths to the Final

An Dún

22th June at Newry:

Down 2-14 Antrim 3-4

12th July at Casement Park:

Down 1-12 Tyrone 1-6

1st August at Clones:

Down 0-10 Donegal 0-10

8th August at Clones:

Down 2-7 Donegal 0-9

19th August at Croke Park:

Down 0-13 Dublin 1-10

4th September at An Uaimh:

Down 2-14 Dublin 1-9

Total Scored 7-70 (91 points)
Total Conceded 6-48 (66)
Average 1.38

	1	2	3	4	5	6	Score	Total
Brendan Coulter	1-3	1-2	0-1	1-0	0-3	1-1	4-10	22
John Fegan	1-2	---	0-3	0-3	0-1	0-3	1-12	15
Michael Walsh	0-2	0-2	0-2	1-2	0-2	0-2	1-12	15
Gary Morgan	0-4	0-3	---	---	0-2	---	0-9	9
Ronan Murlagh	0-1	0-2	0-2	0-1	---	0-1	0-7	7
Ronan Sexton	0-1	0-1	---	---	0-2	1-0	1-4	7
Damien McGrady	0-1	0-1	0-1	0-1	---	0-1	0-5	5
Liam Doyle	---	---	---	---	0-2	0-2	0-4	4
Louis Sloan	---	---	---	---	---	0-3	0-3	3
Mark Doran	---	0-1	0-1	---	---	---	0-2	2
Gary Digney	---	---	---	---	0-1	---	0-1	1
P.J. McAlinden	---	---	---	---	---	0-1	0-1	1

Maigh Eo

4th July at Tuam:

Mayo 1-19; Roscommon 2-4

18th July at Tuam:

Mayo 3-3; Galway 1-6

22nd August at Croke Park:

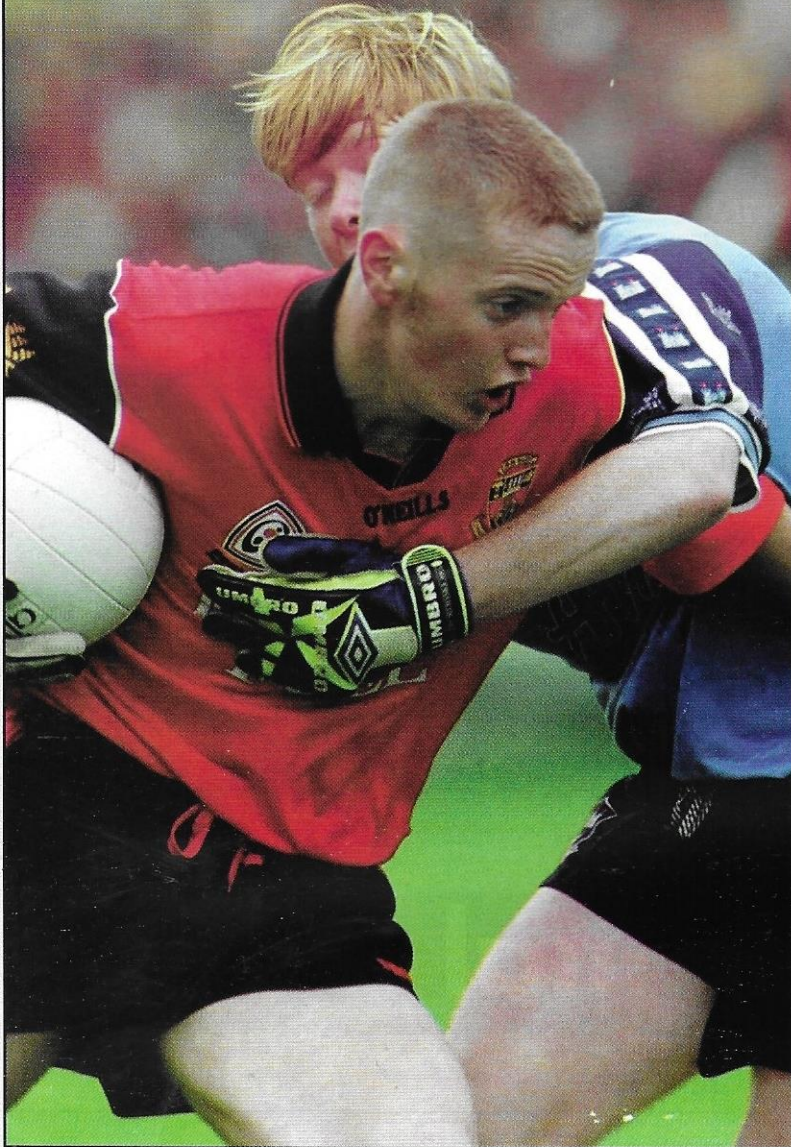
Mayo 1-19; Cork 2-9

Total Scored 5-41 (56 points)
Total Conceded 5-19 (34)
Average 1.65

	1	2	3	Score	Total
Eoin Gallagher	---	1-1	1-3	2-4	10
Barry Loftus	1-2	1-0	0-1	2-3	9
Robert Moran	---	---	0-7	0-7	7
Alan Dillon	0-4	---	0-2	0-6	6
James Gill	0-1	1-2	---	1-3	6
Billie Joe Padden	0-4	---	0-1	0-5	5
Gary Dillon	0-2	---	0-2	0-4	4
John Moran	0-3	---	---	0-3	3
Paul Coady	0-1	---	0-1	0-2	2
Rory Keane	0-1	---	0-1	0-2	2
Gavin Duffy	0-1	---	---	0-1	1
Conor Moran	---	---	0-1	0-1	1



The leading scorer in today's final: Down's Brendan Coulter.



Top Scorers

Last season Wayne McCarthy of Dublin was denied the overall scoring honour when Laois's Brian McDonald scored 0-7 in the final to relegate the city youth to second position by a margin of three points. A similar fate looks unlikely to befall current leader Stephen Mills as Brendan Coulter goes into today's final 22 points in arrears of the Liffesider. A more realistic target for the Mourne youth is second place and a return of four points this afternoon would be enough to secure the runners-up spot. A return of four points is also required from Mayo's Eoin Gallagher just to make this year's top ten as he currently lies outside the top 15 which reads as follows:

Stephen Mills (Dublin)	8-20 (44 points)
Liam Óg Ó hEineacháin (Dublin)	1-22 (25)
Brendan Coulter (Down)	4-10 (22)
Paudie Hurley (Cork)	0-18
Cillian O'Driscoll (Dublin)	2-11 (17)
Diarmuid Kinsella (Wexford)	0-16
John Paul Boyle (Donegal)	0-16
John Fegan (Down)	1-12 (15)
Michael Walsh (Down)	1-12 (15)
Kevin Golden (Dublin)	0-14
Mike Maunsell (Limerick)	2-8 (14)
Colm O'Reilly (Kildare)	0-13
Colm McFadden (Donegal)	1-10 (13)
Shane Cunningham (Offaly)	2-7 (13)
David Monaghan (Clare)	2-7 (13)

Individual Feats

When Stephen Mills recorded a total of 3-4 for Dublin in their opening round demolition of Carlow, few would have bet that such a return would be equalled, let alone exceeded, in this year's minor championship. And so it has proved and unless a Mayo or Down forward has a truly outstanding afternoon the Metropolitan youth looks set to do the overall/individual double. The only other player to record a double-digit return was Longford's Mark Connor - again in the Leinster first round - and in all, ten returns (eleven last year) of seven points or better were recorded in the '99 minor championship and they are:

Stephen Mills (Dublin)	3-4
v Carlow - 1st Round at Parnell Park	
Mark Connor (Longford)	2-5

v Kildare - 1st Round at Pearse Park	
David Monaghan (Clare)	2-3
v Tipperary - League section at Kilmallock	
Stephen Mills (Dublin)	2-2
v Offaly - Semi-final at Croke Park	
Robert Moran (Mayo)	0-7
v Cork - All-Ireland semi-final at Croke Park	
Colm O'Reilly (Kildare)	0-7
v Kilkenny - 2nd Round at Athy	
Kevin Golden (Dublin)	0-7
v Westmeath - 2nd Round at Parnell Park	
Paudie Hurley (Cork)	0-7
v Kerry - Munster Final at Páirc Uí Chaoimh	
Shane Cunningham (Offaly)	1-4
v Dublin - Semi-final at Croke Park	
Stephen Mills (Dublin)	2-1
v Westmeath - 2nd Round at Parnell Park	



***Warm up
before the
match.***

Have you had your Weetabix?



1999 Minor Football Championship Scoreboard

Connacht

1st Round

8th May at Hyde Park:

Roscommon 0-9; Leitrim 0-4

Semi-Finals

27th June at Markievicz Park:

Galway 0-16; Sligo 0-9

4th July at Tuam:

Mayo 1-19; Roscommon 2-4

Final

18th July at Tuam:

Mayo 3-3; Galway 1-6

Leinster

1st Round

1st May at Aughrim:

Meath 0-9; Wicklow 0-7

1st May at Parnell Park:

Dublin 5-21; Carlow 0-5

1st May at Dundalk:

Laois 1-14; Louth 0-4

1st May at Pearse Park:

Kildare 0-16; Longford 2-8

2nd Round

15th May at Athy:

Kildare 0-19; Kilkenny 0-2

15th May at An Uaimh:

Wexford 2-11; Meath 1-9

15th May at Portlaoise:

Offaly 2-6; Laois 0-9

16th May at Parnell Park:

Dublin 3-14; Westmeath 0-7

Semi-Finals

27th June at Croke Park:

Dublin 4-11; Offaly 3-7

4th July at Croke Park:

Wexford 1-11; Kildare 0-11

Final

1st August at Croke Park:

Dublin 1-13; Wexford 2-10

replay

7th August at Dr.Cullen Park:

Dublin 2-13; Wexford 1-12

Ulster

Preliminary Round

30th May at Clones:

Fermanagh 2-8; Monaghan 2-7

1st Round

30th May at Celtic Park:

Derry 0-13; Cavan 1-9

6th June at Ballybofey:

Donegal 0-11; Armagh 0-10

20th June at Newry:

Down 2-14; Antrim 3-4

27th June at Clones:

Tyrone 1-12; Fermanagh 1-6

Semi-Finals

4th July at Clones:

Donegal 2-10; Derry 1-12

11th July at Casement Park:

Down 1-12; Tyrone 1-6

Final

1st August at Clones:

Down 0-10; Donegal 0-10

replay

8th August at Clones:

Down 2-7; Donegal 0-9

Munster

League Section

15th April at Thurles:

Tipperary 2-10; Limerick 1-8

15th April at Ennis:

Clare 1-7; Waterford 2-3

21st April at Limerick:

Limerick 2-11; Waterford 0-9

22nd April at Kilmallock:

Clare 4-9; Tipperary 1-5

5th May at Thurles:

Waterford 2-8; Tipperary 1-10

5th May at Ennis:

Limerick 3-9; Clare 1-6

Semi-Finals

7th July at Ennis:

Kerry 0-15; Clare 0-7

7th July at Páirc Uí Chaoimh:

Cork 1-18; Limerick 1-5

Final

18th July at Páirc Uí Chaoimh:

Cork 2-16; Kerry 1-8

All-Ireland

Semi-Finals

22nd August at Croke Park:

Mayo 1-19; Cork 2-9

29th August at Croke Park:

Down 0-13; Dublin 1-10

replay 4th September at An Uaimh:

Down 2-14; Dublin 1-9

Connacht's Last Chance

Today Mayo carry not alone Connacht's last hope of an All-Ireland in 1999, but of preserving Connacht's record of winning at least one minor title in every decade since the 1930s. So far this has been the western province's poorest decade ever in regard to minor honours, with Mayo (1991) and Galway (1994) being the only appearances in the decider of teams from the West. But all is not yet lost and Mayo

have only to recall that the county itself has missed out in only one decade - the 1940s - and the minor championship was suspended during the war years. Even so Mayo did contest two finals in that decade - unsuccessfully to Louth (1940) and Tyrone (1947).

It is of interest to note that all four provinces have annexed minor titles in every decade with the exception of the 1950s when Armagh and Cavan each lost two finals.



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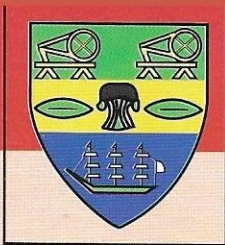
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An Dún

Dathanna: Dearg is Dubh



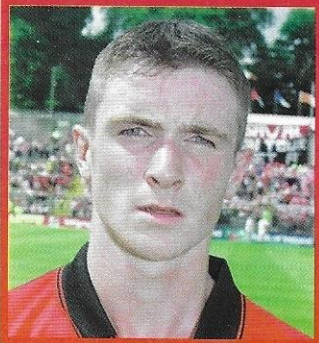
Fir Ionaid

- (16) **Peter Cunningham**
P. Ó Cuinneagáin
(St. Michael's)
- (17) **Gary Morgan**
G. Ó Muireagáin
(Attical)
- (18) **Darren O'Hanlon**
D. Ó hAnluain
(Ballymartin)
- (19) **Fintan McGreevy**
F. Mag Riabhaigh
(Castlewellan)
- (20) **Ronan O'Hare**
R. Ó hÍr
(Mayobridge)
- (21) **Gary Digney**
G. Mac an Deagánaigh
(Saval)
- (22) **John Turley**
S. Mac Toirealaigh
(Killyleagh)
- (23) **Conor Boyle**
C. Ó Baoill
(Castlewellan)
- (24) **Gary O'Hare**
G. Ó hÍr
(Kilcoo)

Roghnóirí

Gerry Dougherty (Castlewellan)
Manager,
Martin Farnon (Clonduff),
Eamon O'Hare (Warrenpoint),
Barry Breen (Downpatrick).

An Captaen



LIAM DOYLE

Liam is proudly maintaining a great family tradition. His father, Willie, was centre half back in the Down team that won the Sam Maguire Cup in 1968. Liam has been a sound centre half back throughout Down's long campaign. He uses the ball well, places his clearances intelligently and has also found time to show the forwards the way by adding to the team's scoring total. He won a county intermediate medal last year as well as a Division II League souvenir. He added an Ulster medal to his collection in July and is hoping to gain the distinction of bringing the Tom Markham Cup to Ulster for the second successive year.

- 1**
JOHN SLOAN
S. Ó Sluain
(Attical)
- 2**
JOHN CLARKE
S. Ó Cléirigh
(An Ríocht)
- 3**
BRENDAN GRANT
B. Grant
(Mayobridge)
- 4**
MARK DORAN
M. Ó Deoráin
(Longstone)
- 5**
BRENDAN KEARNEY
B. Ó Cearnaigh
(Warrenpoint)
- 6**
LIAM DOYLE
L. Ó Dúill (Capt.)
(Liatroim)
- 7**
COLM MURTAGH
C. Ó Muireartaigh
(Glenn)
- 8**
LOUIS SLOAN
L. Ó Sluain
(Attical)
- 9**
BRENDAN COULTER
B. Ó Coltair
(Mayobridge)
- 10**
DAMIEN McGRADY
D. Mag Bhrádaigh
(Castlewellan)
- 11**
MICHAEL WALSH
M. Breathnach
(Mayobridge)
- 12**
RONAN MURTAGH
R. Ó Muireartaigh
(Ballyholland)
- 13**
P. J. McALINDEN
P. S. Mac Giolla Fhiondáin
(Burren)
- 14**
JOHN FEGAN
S. Ó Faogáin
(Clonduff)
- 15**
RONAN SEXTON
R. Ó Seasnáin
(Mayobridge)

An Dún

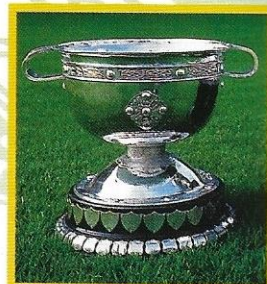
	Cúil	Cúillíní	Seachaí	45m	Saor Ciceanna
1adh Leath					
2adh Leath					
IOMLÁN					

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.
- 4: Tyrone: 1947, 1948, 1973, 1998.
- 3: Derry: 1965, 1983, 1989.
Roscommon: 1939, 1941, 1951.
Meath: 1957, 1990, 1992.
- 2: Cavan: 1937, 1938.
Down: 1977, 1987.
Laois: 1996, 1997.
Louth: 1936, 1940.
- 1: Armagh: 1949.
Clare: 1929.
Offaly: 1964.
Tipperary: 1934.
Westmeath: 1995.



Maigh Eo

Dathanna: Uaithne, Dearg is Bán



- 1**
JOHN O'HARA
S. Ó hEara
(Moy Davitts)
- 2**
MICHAEL J. MEENECHAN
M. S. Ó Maoineacháin
(Tourmakeady)
- 3**
PARAIC KELLY
P. Ó Ceallaigh (Capt.)
(Kilmaine)
- 4**
JOHN BROGAN
S. Ó Brógáin
(Knockmore)
- 5**
RORY KEANE
R. Ó Catháin
(Ballinrobe)
- 6**
PAUL COADY
P. Mac Óda
(Burrishoole)
- 7**
CONOR MORAN
C. Ó Moráin
(Burrishoole)
- 8**
JAMES GILL
S. Mac an Ghoil
(Westport)
- 9**
GAVIN DUFFY
G. Ó Dubhtaigh
(Ballina Stephenites)
- 10**
ROBERT MORAN
R. Ó Moráin
(Moy Davitts)
- 11**
BILLY JOE PADDEN
L. S. Mac Phaidín
(Belmullet)
- 12**
BARRY LOFTUS
B. Ó Lachtnáin
(Crossmolina Deel Rovers)
- 13**
GARY DILLON
G. Ó Diolúin
(Ballintubber)
- 14**
ALAN DILLON
A. Ó Diolúin
(Ballintubber)
- 15**
EOIN GALLAGHER
E. Ó Gallachóir
(Charlestown Sarsfield's)



Fir Ionaid

- (16) **Marcus Burke**
M. de Búrca
(Ardnaree)
- (17) **Shane Lindsay**
S. Ó Loingsigh
(Kiltane)
- (18) **Barry Jordan**
B. Mac Shiurtáin
(Breaffy)
- (19) **John Moran**
S. Ó Moráin
(Mayo Gaels)
- (20) **Edmund Barrett**
E. de Baróid
(Kiltane)
- (21) **Ronan Walsh**
R. Breathnach
(Shrule/Glencorrib)
- (22) **Dermot Costelloe**
D. Ó Coisteala
(Carramore)
- (23) **Derek Morley**
D. Ó Muirthíle
(Claremorris)
- (24) **Michael Webb**
M. Ó Ceib
(Ballyhaunis)

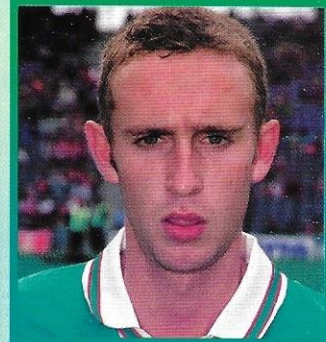
Maigh Eo

	Cúil	Cúilíní	Seachaí	45m	Saor Ciceanna
1 st Leath					
2 nd Leath					
IOMLÁN					

Roghnóirí

J.P. Keane, Joe McCabe
(Joint Managers),
Paddy Reilly,
Padraic Regan,
Cathal Hennelly,
Noel Brett.

An Captaen



PARAIC KELLY

Padraic has set an excellent example with his leadership and dependable full-back play in Mayo's march to the decider. He is hard-working and tireless and clears his lines to good effect. The Kilmaine clubman is also having a very good season. Apart from his Connacht minor football medal win in July he has also collected in recent times a South Mayo junior football title. Indeed, these are proving rich times for Kelly as last year he won a Mayo county minor medal. So he brings a winning know-how to his All-Ireland minor final outing and this latest challenge is just the one to bring out the very best in this highly accomplished defender.

An Réiteoir: Seamus McCormack (An Mhí)



Seamus controlled Cork's Bank of Ireland Munster semi-final meeting with Limerick at Páirc Uí Rinn in mid-June. The Walterstown clubman is already a very experienced referee and this is his fourth year on the inter-county panel. He refereed the 1995 three game saga involving Westmeath and Laois at Leinster minor final level.

His first senior championship was in 1996 and he has been very active at inter-county level in the meantime.

Seamus took charge of the 1997 Leinster minor final and other assignments have included O'Byrne Cup, Colleges' and, of course, National League ties.

He has taken control of various final in Meath, from under-age to senior.

Coimhlint Ghéar Idir An Dún agus Maigh Eo

S annamh a bhuaileann Maigh Eo agus An Dún, ag leibhéal ar bith, in aghaidh a chéile. Cuireann sin leis an spéis atá ginte don chluiche ceannais mionúir den uair dheireannach sa fichiú haois.

Chomh fada siar le 1966 bhuaíl an dá fhoireann in aghaidh a chéile sa chluiche ceannais mionúir agus bhí an lá le curaidh Chonnachta. B'shin an t-aon uair go dtí inniu gur casadh ar a chéile iad.

Má cuirtear an dá chluiche leathcheannais i gcomparáid ceaptar go raibh an caighdeán idir Maigh Eo agus Corcaigh níos airde ná an ceann idir Áth Cliath agus An Dún; caitheann a admháil, áfach, go raibh an athimirt sa dara cás i bhfad níos fearr ná an chéad chluiche agus gur fheabhsaigh An Dún go mór san idirlinn.

Bhí Ronán Ó Seasnáin an-éifeachtach sna tosaí don Dún agus bhí an fear lár páirce Breandán Ó Coltéir beagnach do sháraithe. Anuas air sin ghnóthaigh sé cúl álainn sa dara leath a bhain an ghaoth de sheolta Átha Cliath.

Tá imreoirí ard-éifeachtach ag Maigh Eo freisin agus tá an leath-líne tacaigh comhdhéanta de Ruairí Ó Catháin, Pól Mac Óda, agus Conchúir Ó Moráin rí-láidir agus an-mhuiníneach. Táid in inmhe cabhrú leis na tosaí chomh maith agus scóráil gach duine acu cúlín sa chluiche in aghaidh Chorcaigh.

Beidh an chomhlint i lár an ghoirt, áit a mbeidh beirt ard-éifeachtach ag Maigh Eo, Séamus Mac Giolla agus Gaibhín Ó

Dufaigh, in ardchur le Liam Ó Sluáin agus Breandán Ó Coltéir beirt ardchumasach ag foireann na Móirne. Is ann a leagfar bunsraith na bua agus an fhoireann a ghlacann ceannas sa réimse sin den pháirc beidh leo, ceaptar.

Bhí scór an-ard curtha suas ag An Dún (2-14) san athimirt in aghaidh na 'Dubs' ach bhí ceann níos airde scóraithe ag Maigh Eo in aghaidh Chorcaigh (1-19). Más comhartha é sin, agus tá, ar éifeacht na dtosaí ar an dá thaobh dealraíonn sé nach mbeidh mórán eatarthu. Ar ndóigh ní féidir éifeacht na bhfear tacaigh ag Corcaigh agus Áth Cliath a chur i gcomhmheas ach is cinnte gur de thoradh meancóige a ghnóthaigh Maigh Eo an cúl.

Beidh cluiche den chéad scoth curtha faoinár mbráid inniu. Beidh scóranna iontacha ó leithéidí Riobard Ó Móráin, Barra Ó Lachtnaim, an bheirt Ó Diolúin agus Eoin Ó Gallchóir de chuid Mhaigh Eo agus ar thaobh An Dúin ceaptar go mbeidh Micheál Breathnach Lúghaidh Ó Sluáin agus Seán Ó Faogáin inchurtha leo.

Beidh seans inniu ag An Dún díoltas a bhaint amach i leith 1966 ach tríd is tríd tá Maigh Eo an-chumasach agus tugtar an nod doibh siúd. Tréaslaítear leis an dá fhoireann an-oilte seo as craobhacha a gcúigí a bhaint agus teacht fhad leis an ggraobhchluiche. Tugtar buíochas don lucht stiúrtha, do na clubanna agus na scoileanna a oileann buachailí ó cheann ceann na bliana. Go maire siad uilig.

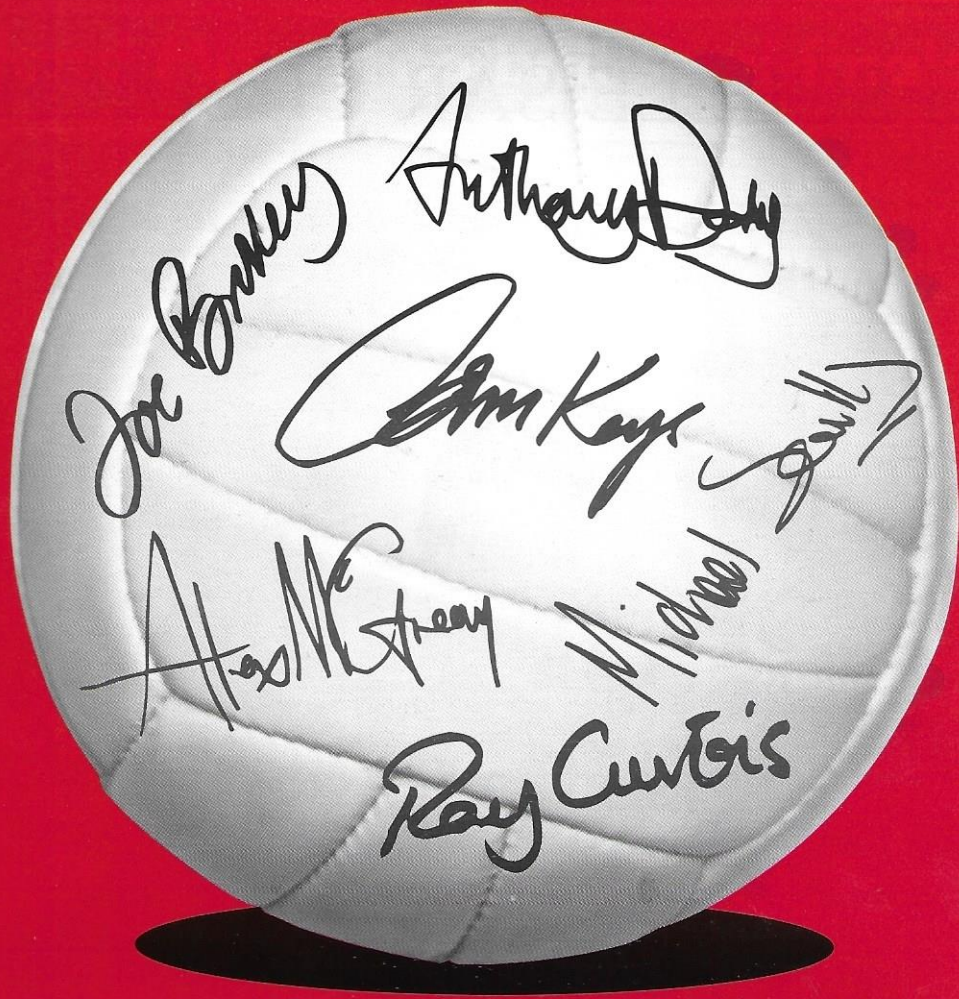
Triple for Abbey

The Abbey Christian Brothers' Grammar School in Newry had three of its final year students lining out for Down minors in the drawn All-Ireland semi-final against Dublin. (Unfortunately, Gary Morgan was injured in that game and missed the replay).

Michael Walsh and Ronan Sexton, who played in both games against Dublin, were honoured last year by being selected on the Bank of Ireland Ulster Colleges' All-Stars after a successful semi-final stage. Both are from the Mayobridge club and, along with fellow minor panellists from Mayobridge Brendan Grant, Brendan Coulter and Ronan O'Hare, helped their club to victory recently over Clonduff in the Down S.F.C. semi-final. They are hoping to inspire their club to a first-ever Down Senior Championship title.



The three Abbey players, left to right, Ronan Sexton, Michael Walsh and Gary Morgan are pictured in their school colours with, at back left to right, senior teacher John Rath, Dermot McGovern, Principal, and John Rafferty, Head of P.E.. John Rath and John Rafferty were managers of the schools' McRory Cup team.



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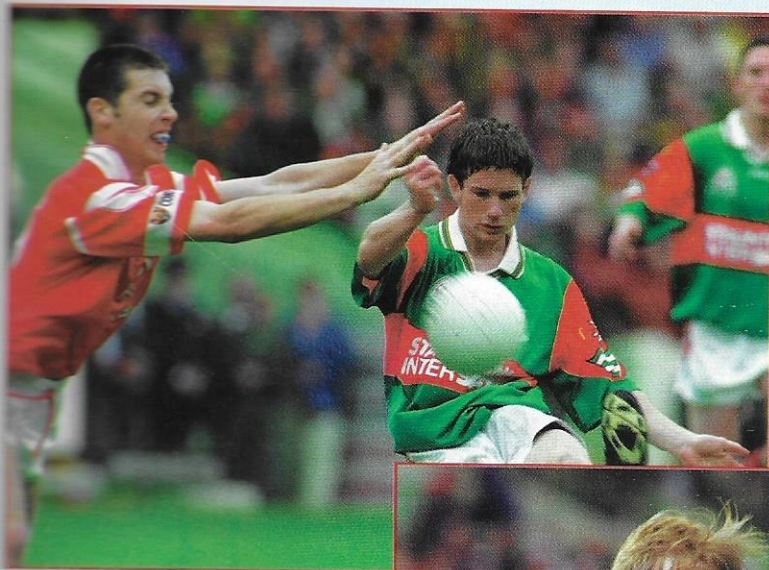
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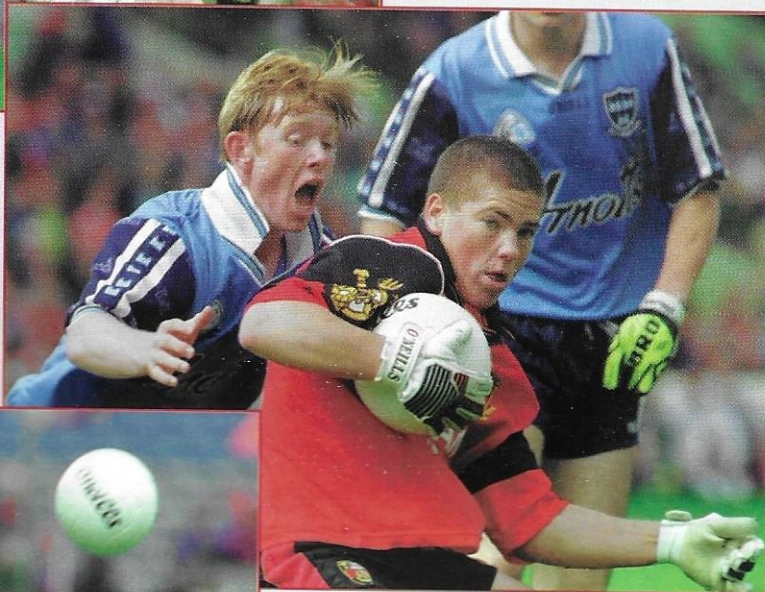
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 **Bord na Gaeilge**

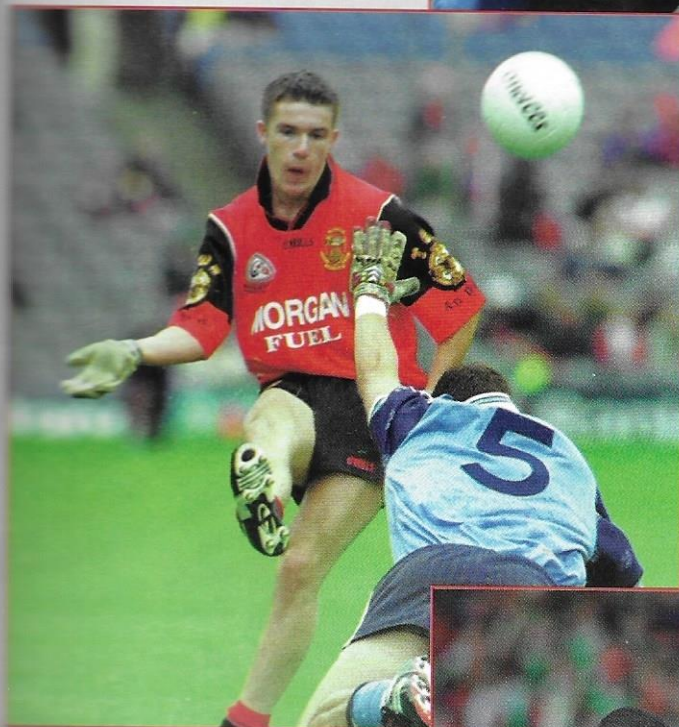
All-Ireland Minor Football semi-finals action



Above: John Moran (Maigh Eo) blocked by Cork's Ronan Curran.



Above: Ronan Sexton (An Dún)

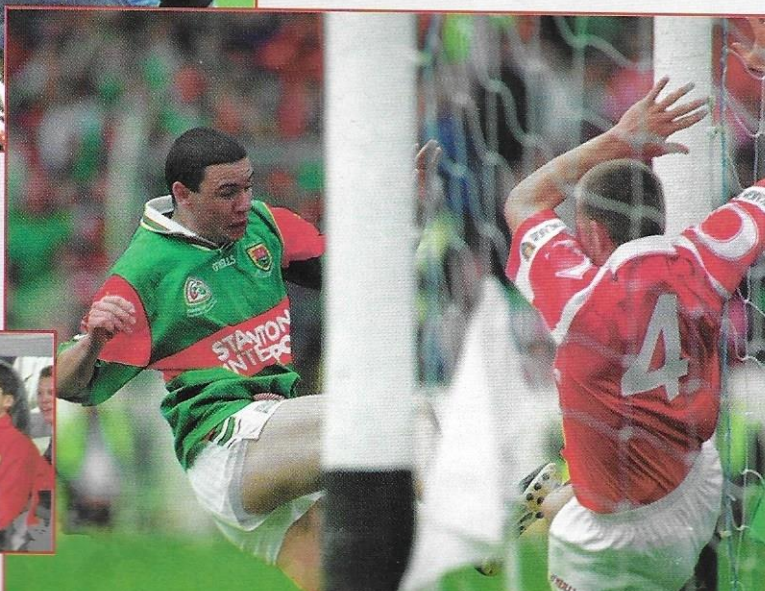


Left: Ronan Murtagh (An Dún)

Even spread

Although Kerry and Dublin dominate the minor roll of honour, country-wide there has been a fairly even spread of the honours in regard to the number of counties that have taken minor titles with Leinster's six counties - Dublin, Louth, Meath, Offaly, Westmeath and Laois edging out Ulster's five - Cavan, Tyrone, Derry, Armagh and Down. But for almost 20 years Ulster led the field as Down's 1977 win made up the quintet - a figure that Leinster did not reach until Westmeath won in 1995 - and Laois made it six a year later. However, no matter what the outcome of today's final there will be no change in this particular field of endeavour.

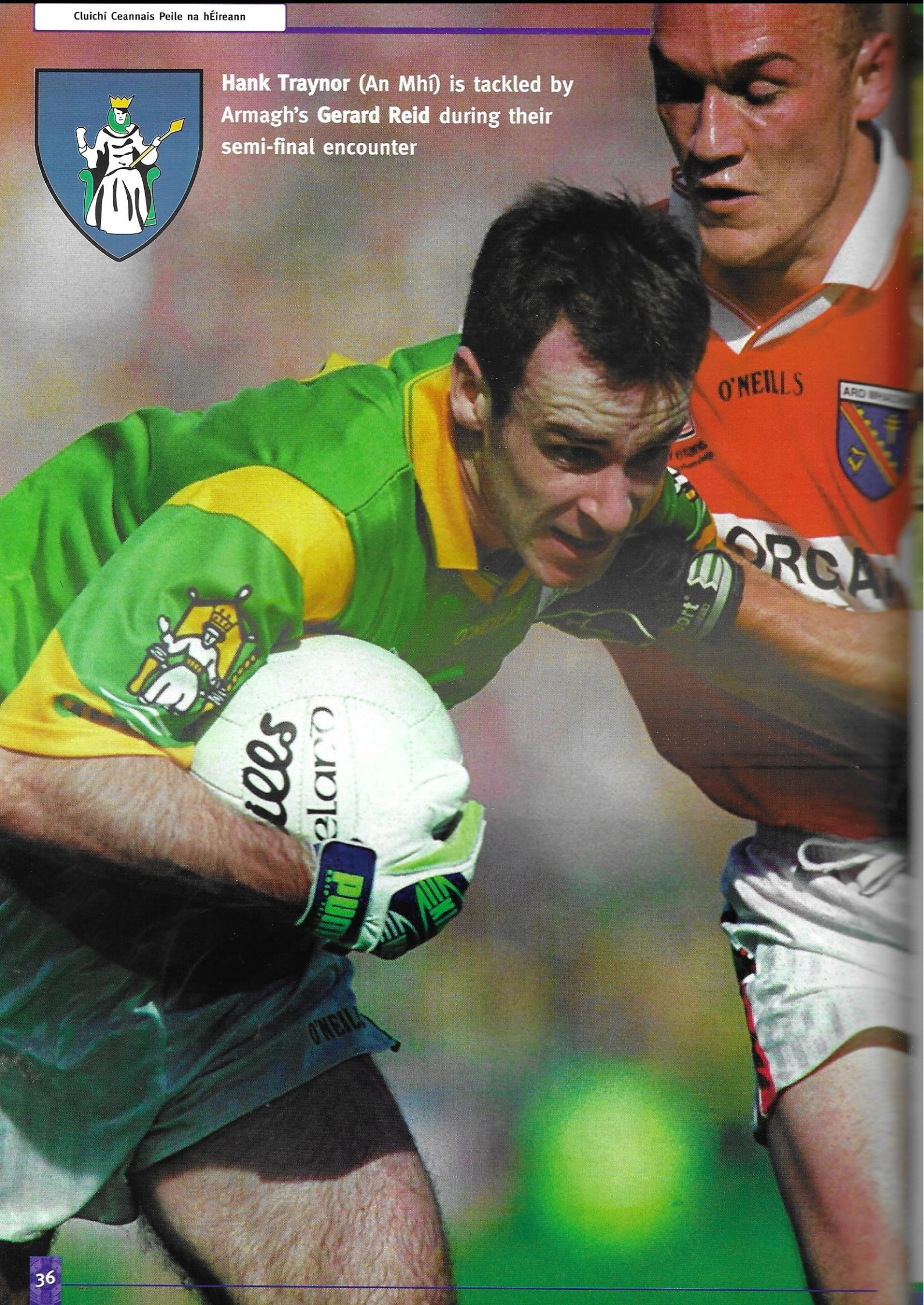
Below: Anxious faces on the Down bench - Down manager Gerry Doherty (on right) with his fellow selectors.



Left: Barry Loftus (Maigh Eo) scores past Cork's Finbarr Crowley.



Hank Traynor (An Mhí) is tackled by Armagh's Gerard Reid during their semi-final encounter





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An Mhí



Back row (l-r):
Trevor Giles,
John McDermott,
Graham Geraghty,
Darren Fay,
Cormac O'Sullivan,
Nigel Crawford,
Hank Traynor,
Nigel Nestor,
Cormac Murphy.

Front row (l-r):
Mark O'Reilly,
Donal Curtis,
Evan Kelly,
Paddy Reynolds,
Ollie Murphy,
Enda McManus.



Meath return to top in Leinster

Meath won their first Leinster senior title in three years and their 19th since 1895 on the way to today's Bank of Ireland All-Ireland senior football final appearance.

6th June at Croke Park:

Meath 2-10; Wicklow 0-6

4th July at Croke Park:

Meath 1-13 Offaly 0-9

1st August at Croke Park:

Meath 1-14 Dublin 0-12

29th August at Croke Park:

Meath 0-15 Armagh 2-5

Total Scored 4-52 (64 points)

Total Conceded 2-32 (38)

Average 1.68

the Meath scoring chart with 2-9 and 0-15 respectively.

A LEADING SPOT FOR MURPHY

Ollie Murphy recorded the best score by a Meath footballer in the championship so far at 1-5 against Dublin.

	1	2	3	4	Score	Total
Trevor Giles	0-2	0-3	0-5	0-5	0-15	15
Ollie Murphy	0-1	1-3	1-5	—	2-9	15
Graham Geraghty	1-4	0-1	0-2	0-1	1-8	11
Tommy Dowd	1-2	0-4	—	—	1-6	9
Evan Kelly	—	0-1	—	0-3	0-4	4
Ray Magee	0-1	—	—	0-2	0-3	3
Donal Curtis	—	0-1	—	0-2	0-3	3
Nigel Nestor	—	—	0-1	0-1	0-2	2
Hank Traynor	—	—	0-1	—	0-1	1
Enda McManus	—	—	—	0-1	0-1	1

TIE AT THE TOP

Ollie Murphy and Trevor Giles share joint leadership in



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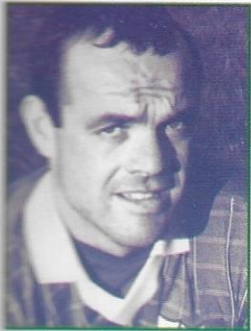


Leading Men

One of the accepted facts of All-Ireland success is that the men who lead their teams into the final are invariably outstanding players in their own right, and one has only to recall the great names that echo down the years - Dick Fitzgerald (Kerry), Sean Kennedy (Wexford), John Dunne (Galway), Sean Flanagan (Mayo) and Kevin Heffernan (Dublin) to realise what a galaxy of starts have attained this honour.

Cork and Meath, too, can claim their share of outstanding leaders - in victory and defeat - over the years. Cork have contested 19 finals plus one (1901) "Home" final and the captains in those years were:

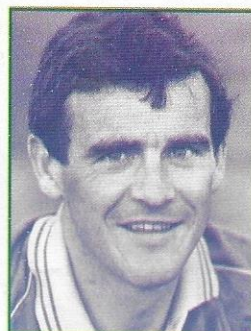
- 1890 Jim Power (Midleton)
- 1891 Con O'Leary (Dromtarriffe)
- 1893 Con O'Leary (Dromtarriffe)
- 1894 John O'Leary (Nils)
- 1897 Dan O'Donovan (Dohenys)
- 1899 Dick Coughlan (Nils)
- 1901 Jim Murphy (Nils)
- 1906 Martin Connors (Fermoy)



1988: Mick Lyons (An Mhí)



1987: Conor Counihan (Corcaigh)



1990: Colm O'Rourke (An Mhí)



1990: Larry Tompkins (Corcaigh)



1996: Tommy Dowd (An Mhí)



1988: Tony Nation (Corcaigh)

- 1907 Willy Mackessy (Lees)
- 1911 Mick Mehigan (Lees)
- 1945 Tadhg O'Crowley (Clonakilty)
- 1956 Donal O'Sullivan (Lees)
- 1957 Nealie Duggan (Lees)
- 1967 Denis Coughlan (St.Nicholas)
- 1973 Billy Morgan (Nemo Rangers)
- 1987 Conor Counihan (Aghada)
- 1988 Tony Nation (Nemo Rangers)
- 1989 Denis Allen (Nemo Rangers)
- 1990 Larry Tompkins (Castlehaven)
- 1993 Mick McCarthy (O'Donovan Rossas)

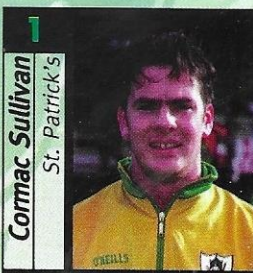
At the helm in Meath's 13 finals were:

- 1895 Mick Murray (Navan O'Mahonys)
- 1939 Mattie Gilsenan (Kells)
- 1949 Brian Smith (Skryne)
- 1951 Seamus Heery (Syddan)
- 1952 Paddy Meegan (Syddan)
- 1954 Peter McDermott (Navan O'Mahonys)
- 1967 Peter Darby (Trim)
- 1970 Jack Quinn (Kilbride)
- 1987 Mick Lyons (Summerhill)
- 1988 Mick Lyons (Summerhill)
- Replay Joe Cassells (Navan O'Mahonys)
- 1990 Colm O'Rourke (Skryne)
- 1991 Liam Hayes (Skryne)
- 1996 Tommy Dowd (Dunderry)

Player Profiles



An Mhí



Age 22. 6'4". 14st.2lbs.
Company Representative.
1 Leinster S.F.C.; 2 Leinster U-21.

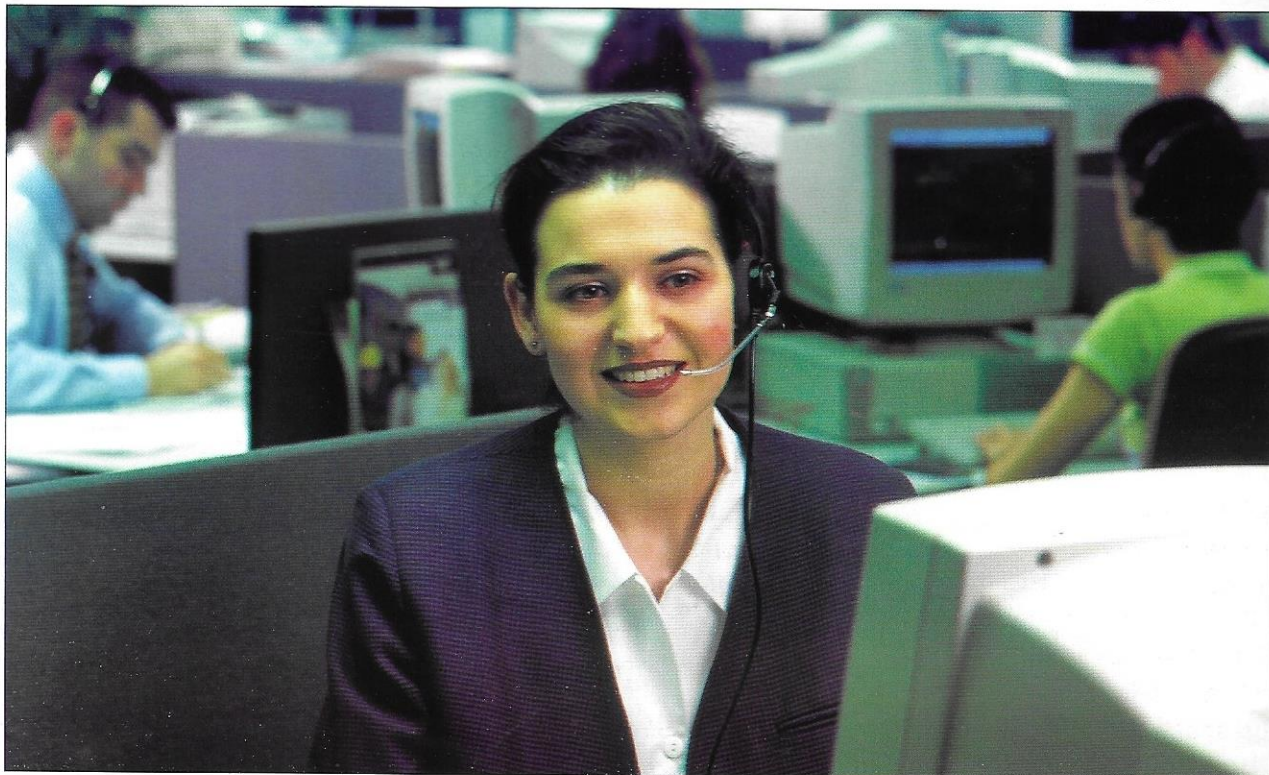


Age 22. 5'9". 12st. Sales Representative.
1 All-Ireland S.F.C.; 2 Leinster S.F.C.; 2 Leinster U-21; 1 Leinster M.F.C.; Young Footballer of the Year 1996.



Age 23. 6'2". 14st.4lbs. Joiner.
1 All-Ireland S.F.C.; 2 Leinster S.F.C.; 2 Leinster U-21; 1 Leinster M.F.C.; 1 All-Star 1996; Represented Ireland versus Australia.

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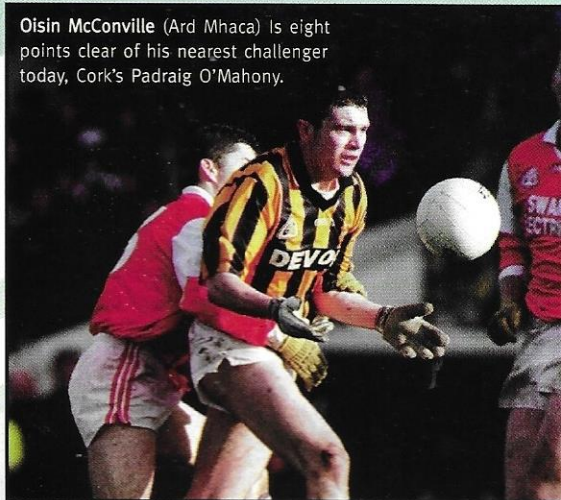
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Top Scorers

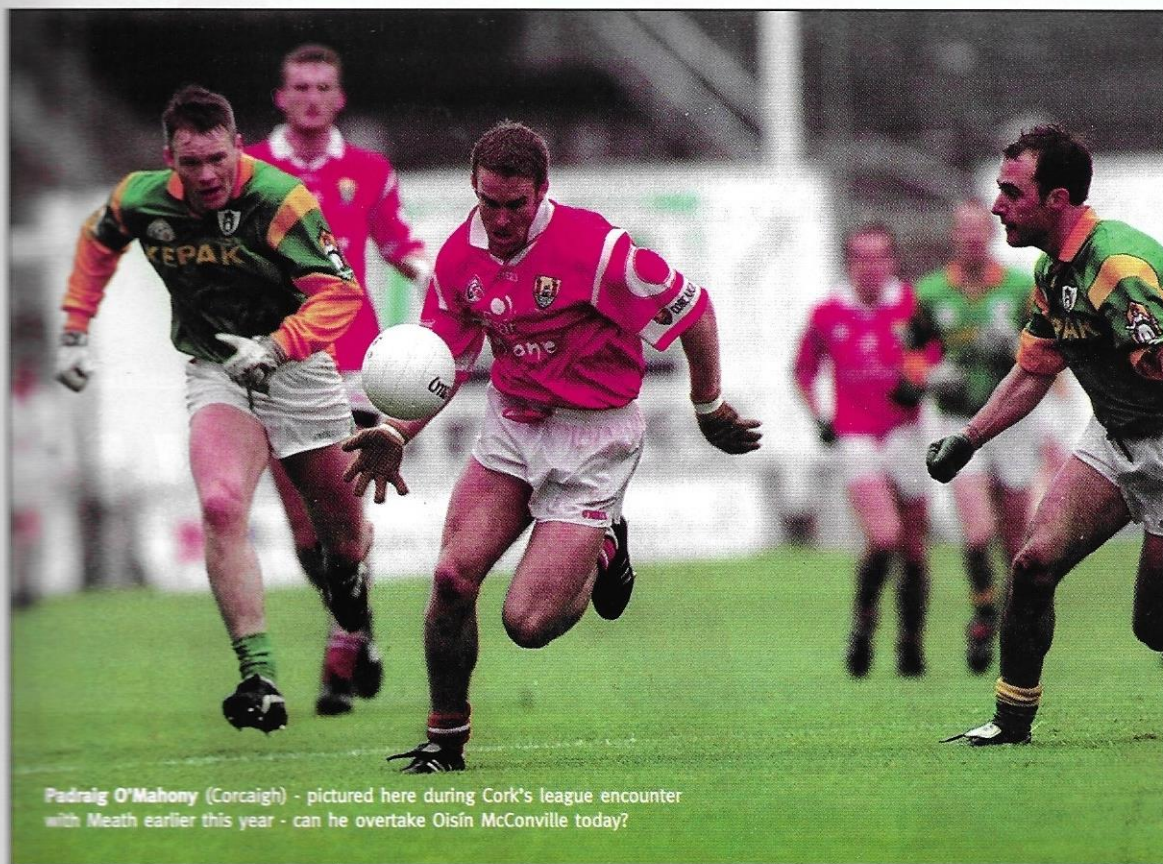
For the first time since 1995 it appears as if the top scorer title is heading northwards as Oisín McConville looks set to top this year's chart. Four years ago Peter Canavan scored a magnificent 0-11 in the final against Dublin to leap-frog Maurice Fitzgerald, Colin Corkery and Charlie Redmond to gain the laurels, but the Crossmaglen stalwart can sit back today and see if Pádraig O'Mahony, his only realistic challenger, can score the nine points he requires to gain the premier position. Should he do so it will be the third year running that Munster has provided the top scorer following Declan Browne 12 months ago and Maurice Fitzgerald in '97. The 1996 winner Maurice Sheridan currently resides in second position but O'Mahony requires only two points (he's averaging nearly five) to take the runners-up spot.

Just two players - Ger Heavin and Pádraig Joyce - reappear from last year's list with the Westmeath ace jumping from sixth to joint fourth while the Corribsider sinks from third to seventh. The top 17 scorers in the 1999 championship to date are:

Oisín McConville (Ard Mhaca) is eight points clear of his nearest challenger today, Cork's Pádraig O'Mahony.



Oisín McConville (Armagh)	3-18 (27)
Maurice Sheridan (Mayo)	0-20
Pádraig O'Mahony (Cork)	1-16 (19)
Declan Darcy (Dublin)	0-18
Ger Heavin (Westmeath)	1-15 (18)
Dessie Dolan (Westmeath)	2-12 (18)
Pádraig Joyce (Galway)	2-11 (17)
Diarmuid Marsden (Armagh)	3-7 (16)
Trevor Giles (Meath)	0-15
Philip Clifford (Cork)	1-12 (15)
Ronan Carolan (Cavan)	1-12 (15)
Ollie Murphy (Meath)	2-9 (15)
Damien Delaney (Laois)	0-14
Anthony Tohill (Derry)	0-14
Paul Barden (Longford)	2-8 (14)
Ciaran McCabe (Down)	2-8 (14)
Aodán MacGearailt (Kerry)	2-7 (13)



Pádraig O'Mahony (Corcaigh) - pictured here during Cork's league encounter with Meath earlier this year - can he overtake Oisín McConville today?

Player Profiles

4

Cormac Murphy
St. Patrick's

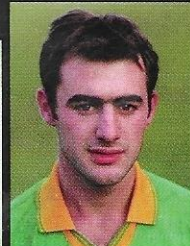


Age 28. 6'0". 13st.4lbs. Sales Representative.

1 Leinster S.F.C.; 1 N.F.L.

5

Paddy Reynolds
Walterstown



Age 23. 5'10". 11st.8lbs. Farmer.

1 All-Ireland S.F.C.; 2 Leinster S.F.C.; 2 Leinster U-21; 1 Leinster M.F.C.

6

Enda McManus
St. Peter's, Dunboyne

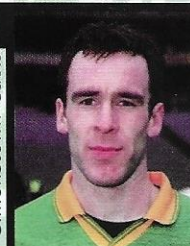


Age 27. 6'0". 13st.8lbs. Store Manager.

1 All-Ireland S.F.C.; 2 Leinster S.F.C.; 1 All-Ireland U-21; 1 Leinster U-21; 1 All-Ireland M.F.C. (captain); 1 Leinster M.F.C. (captain); 1 Meath S.F.C.

7

Hank Traynor
Simonstown Gaels



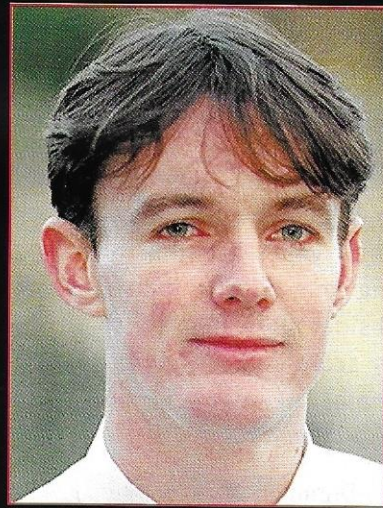
Age 24. 6'1". 12st.4lbs. Sales Assistant.

1 Leinster S.F.C.; 2 Leinster U-21; 1 Leinster M.F.C.

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1999 Senior Football Championship Scoreboard

Leinster

Preliminary Round Semi-Final

9th May at Dr.Cullen Park:

Westmeath 2-10; Carlow 1-8

9th May at New Ross:

Wexford 0-16; Longford 1-13

replay

16th May at Pearse Park:

Longford 2-15; Wexford 0-11

Preliminary Round Final

30th May at Mullingar:

Westmeath 3-17; Longford 2-9

1st Round

6th June at Croke Park:

Meath 2-10; Wicklow 0-6

Dublin 2-15; Louth 0-14

13th June at Croke Park:

Offaly 0-11; Kildare 0-7

Laois 1-16; Westmeath 1-8

Semi-Finals

27th June at Croke Park:

Dublin 1-11; Laois 0-14

4th July at Croke Park:

Meath 1-13; Offaly 0-9

replay

18th July at Croke Park:

Dublin 0-16; Laois 1-11

Final

1st August at Croke Park:

Meath 1-14; Dublin 0-12

Munster

1st Round

23rd May at Dungarvan:

Cork 3-23; Waterford 0-4

23rd May at Tralee:

Kerry 1-11; Tipperary 0-8

Semi-Finals

19th June at Páirc Uí Rinn:

Cork 4-13; Limerick 1-6

20th June at Killarney:

Kerry 3-17; Clare 0-12

Final

18th July at Páirc Uí Chaoimh:

Cork 2-10; Kerry 2-4

Ulster

Preliminary Round

30th May at Clones:

Fermanagh 2-12; Monaghan 1-10

1st Round

6th June at Ballybofey:

Donegal 2-9; Armagh 1-12

replay

13th June at Clones:

Armagh 2-11; Donegal 0-12

13th June at Casement Park:

Derry 2-15; Cavan 2-15

replay

20th June at Breffni Park:

Derry 2-14; Cavan 0-5

20th June at Newry:

Down 1-15; Antrim 0-14

27th June at Clones:

Tyrone 0-18; Fermanagh 0-8

Semi-Finals

4th July at Clones:

Armagh 1-10; Derry 0-12

11th July at Casement Park:

Down 2-14; Tyrone 0-15

Final

1st August at Clones:

Armagh 3-12; Down 0-10

Connacht

1st Round

29th May at Castlebar:

Mayo 3-13; New York 0-10

30th May at Carrick-on-Shannon:

Roscommon 0-15; Leitrim 1-7

6th June at Ruislip:

Galway 1-18; London 1-8

Semi-Finals

13th June at Castlebar:

Mayo 0-21; Roscommon 0-10

27th June at Markievicz Park:

Sligo 3-7; Galway 1-13

replay

4th July at Tuam:

Galway 1-17; Sligo 0-7

Final

18th July at Tuam:

Mayo 1-14; Galway 1-10

All-Ireland

Semi-Finals

22nd August at Croke Park:

Cork 2-12; Mayo 0-12

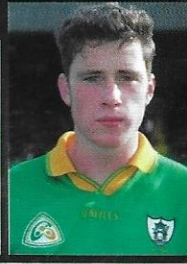
29th August at Croke Park:

Meath 0-15; Armagh 2-5

Player Profiles

8

Nigel Crawford
St. Peter's, Dunboyne



Age 19. 6'4". 14st.10lbs.
Student.
1 Leinster S.F.C.; 1 Meath S.F.C.

9

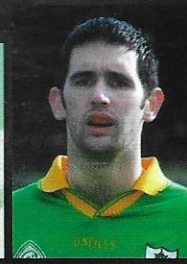
John McDermott
Skyrme



Age 29. 6'3". 15st.5lbs.
Company Representative.
1 All-Ireland S.F.C.; 3 Leinster S.F.C.; 2 Leinster U-21, 1 N.F.L.
2 All-Star Awards 1996 & 1998
2 Railway Cups; 1 County S.F.C., captained Ireland versus Australia.

10

Nigel Nestor
Blackhall Gaels



Age 25. 6'2". 13st.5lbs.
Company Representative.
1 Leinster S.F.C.; 2 Leinster J.F.C.

11

Trevor Giles
Skyrme



Age 24. 5'11". 11st.10lbs.
Physiotherapist.
1 All-Ireland S.F.C.; 2 Leinster S.F.C.; 1 All-Ireland U-21; 2 Leinster U-21; 1 All-Ireland M.F.C.; 2 Leinster M.F.C.; 1 N.F.L.; 1 Sigerson Cup; 1 Leinster Colleges S.F.C.; 2 Meath S.F.C.; 2 All-Star Award 1996-97.

An bhfuil a fhios agat?

Firsts

Down the Country

The first All-Ireland final to be played outside Dublin was the replay of the 1894 decider between Dublin and Cork which had ended with the sides level at Clonturk Park on March 24, 1895. The replay at Thurles a month later was unfinished, and despite efforts to arrange a third meeting Cork refused to play and as a protest against Dublin being awarded the title withdrew from all football and hurling activity in 1895.

County Teams

The first All-Ireland final between county selections was the meeting of Dublin and Kerry in 1892. Previously counties were represented by their champion clubs, and in all only four such finals were played including Middleton's win for Cork in 1890.

Up To Date

The first time in this century that an All-Ireland final was played within the year (previously finals had often been running up to two years late) was in 1909 when Kerry and Louth were in opposition on December 5 of that year. Ironically, no final at all was played the following year.

Goals

The first man to score a goal in an All-Ireland football final was William Spain of the Limerick Commercial who shot the only goal of the game eleven minutes into the second half of the 1887 final with Louth (Young Irelands) at Clonskeagh.

A Man Apart

The first man to receive a trophy at the end of an All-Ireland final was not, as commonly believed, Bill Gannon of Kildare in 1928, but Dubliner Matt Rea who was presented with the Croke Cup at Tipperary town on April 8, 1900. The 1899 Congress had decided that the Croke Cups should go to the All-Ireland winners and the Dublin-Waterford final was the first to be played following that decision.

Fir Ionad

16 Conor Martin (Ballivor)	Age 27.	5'11".	12st.8lbs.	Foreign Exchange Dealer.
17 Tommy Dowd (Dunderry)	Age 29.	5'11".	12st.9lbs.	Company Representative.
18 Barry Callaghan (Dunderry)	Age 23.	6'0".	13st.8lbs.	
19 Jimmy McGuinness (Dunsany)	Age 26.	6'2".	13st.10lbs.	Tara Mines Employee.
20 Richie Kealy (Dunshaughlin)	Age 23.	5'10".	11st.7lbs.	Electrician.
21 Jody Devine (Ballinlough)	Age 30.	5'11".	12st.6lbs.	Company Representative.
22 Paul Shankey (Kilmainhamwood)	Age 25.	6'0".	12st.5lbs.	Computer Engineer.
23 David Gallagher (St. Peter's, Dunboyne)	Age 19.	6'4".	13st.7lbs.	Plumber.
24 Ray Magee (Kilmainhamwood)	Age 23.	5'11".	12st.	Bank Official.

Player Profiles

12

Donal Curtis
Rathkenny



Age 26. 5'11". 11st.8lbs. Head Greenkeeper.
1 All-Ireland S.F.C.; 2 Leinster S.F.C..

13

Evan Kelly
Drumree



Age 25. 5'11". 13st. Fitter.
1 All-Ireland S.F.C.; 2 Leinster S.F.C..

14

Graham Geraghty (Capt)
Seneschalstown



Age 26. 6'0". 12st.7lbs. Publican.
1 All-Ireland S.F.C.; 2 Leinster S.F.C.; 1 All-Ireland U-21; 1 Leinster U-21; 1 All-Ireland M.F.C.; 1 Leinster M.F.C.; 1 N.F.L.; 2 Railway Cups, 1 Meath S.F.C.; 1 All-Star Award 1994.

15

Ollie Murphy
Carnaross



Age 23. 5'9". 12st.5lbs. Electrician.
1 All-Ireland S.F.C.; 2 Leinster S.F.C.; 1 Leinster U-21; 1 Leinster M.F.C..



An Mhí



Dathanna: Uaithne is Ór

An Captaen



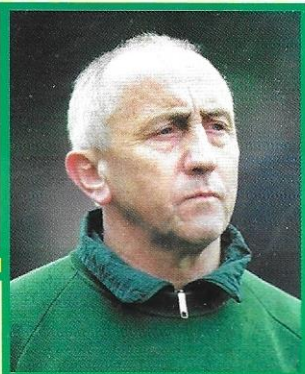
Graham Geraghty

The Meath captain is one of the team's more experienced campaigners and also a versatile footballer. Now firmly established as a forward of genuine ability, Geraghty first gained All-Ireland honours as a centre half back. He won national medals in that role at minor (1990) and under-21 (1993).

The Seneschalstown club man also won a National League medal in 1994 as a defender.

However, he has also had much success in attack. His quick-thinking led to the goal ten minutes from the end that set Meath up for their last Sam Maguire Cup win in the replay against Mayo three years ago. Geraghty, who also holds two Leinster and two interprovincial medals, is having another good season and has led Meath in dashing style back to the All-Ireland final stage.

Bainisteoir



Sean Boylan

Roghnóirí:

Sean Boylan (St. Peter's, Dunboyne)

Manager,

Frank Foley (Trim),

Eamon O'Brien (Walterstown).

- | | | |
|--|--|--|
| 1
CORMAC O'SULLIVAN
C. Ó Suilleabháin
(St. Patrick's) | 3
DARREN FAY
D. Ó Feich
(Trim) | 4
CORMAC MURPHY
C. Ó Murchú
(St. Patrick's) |
| 2
MARK O'REILLY
M. Ó Raghallaigh
(Summerhill) | 6
ENDA McMANUS
E. Mac Mánaís
(St. Peter's, Dunboyne) | 7
HANK TRAYNOR
E. Mac Thréinir
(Simonstown Gaels) |
| 5
PADDY REYNOLDS
P. Mac Ránaill
(Walterstown) | 8
NIGEL CRAWFORD
N. Mac Crábhagáin
(St. Peter's, Dunboyne) | 9
JOHN McDERMOTT
S. Mac Diarmada
(Skyrne) |
| 10
NIGEL NESTOR
N. Mac an Adhastair
(Blackhall Gaels) | 11
TREVOR GILES
T. Ó Glaisne
(Skyrne) | 12
DONAL CURTIS
D. de Cuirtéis
(Rathkenny) |
| 13
EVAN KELLY
E. Ó Ceallaigh
(Drumree) | 14
GRAHAM GERAGHTY
G. Mac Oireachtaigh (Capt.)
(Seneschalstown) | 15
OLLIE MURPHY
O. Ó Murchú
(Carnaross) |

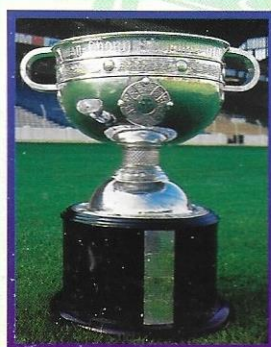
Fir Ionaid

- | | | |
|--|---|---|
| <p>(16) Conor Martin
C. Ó Máirtín
(Ballivor)</p> <p>(17) Ray Magee
R. Mag Aoidh
(Kilmainhamwood)</p> <p>(18) Tommy Dowd
T. Ó Dúda
(Dundery)</p> | <p>(19) Barry Callaghan
B. Ó Ceallacháin
(Dundery)</p> <p>(20) Jimmy McGuinness
S. Mac Aonasa
(Dunsany)</p> <p>(21) Richie Kealy
R. Ó Caollaí
(Dunshaughlin)</p> | <p>(22) Paul Shankey
S. Ó Seancaigh
(Kilmainhamwood)</p> <p>(23) Jody Devine
S. Ó Daimhín
(Ballinlough)</p> <p>(24) David Gallagher
D. Ó Callchoir
(St. Peter's, Dunboyne)</p> |
|--|---|---|

An Mhí

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

Roll of Honour All-Ireland Senior Football Championship



31: 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, 1997.	6: Meath:	1949, 1954, 1967, 1967, 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, 1990, 1994.
8: Galway:	1925, 1934, 1938, 1956, 1964, 1965, 1966, 1998.	Cavan:	1933, 1935, 1947, 1948, 1951.
6: Cork:	1890, 1911, 1945, 1973, 1989, 1990.	Wexford:	1893, 1915, 1916, 1917, 1928.
		4: Kildare:	1905, 1919, 1927, 1928.
		Tipperary:	1889, 1895, 1900, 1920.
		3: Louth:	1910, 1912, 1957.
		Mayo:	1936, 1950, 1951.
		Offaly:	1971, 1972, 1982.
		2: Limerick:	1887, 1896.
		Roscommon:	1943, 1944.
		1: Derry:	1993.
		Donegal:	1992.

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Corcaigh



Dathanna: Dearg is Bán



1

KEVIN O'DWYER
C. Ó Duibhir
(O'Donovan Rossa)

2

RONAN McCARTHY
R. Mac Carthaigh
(Douglas)

3

SEÁN ÓG Ó hAILPÍN
S. Óg Ó hAilpín
(Na Piarasaigh)

4

ANTHONY LYNCH
A. Ó Loingsigh
(Naomh Aban)

5

CIARÁN O'SULLIVAN
C. Ó Suilleabháin
(Urhan)

6

OWEN SEXTON
E. Ó Seasnáin
(Kilbrittain)

7

MARTIN CRONIN
M. Ó Cróinín
(Nemo Rangers)

8

NICHOLAS MURPHY
N. Ó Murchú
(Carrigaline)

9

MICHAEL O'SULLIVAN
M. Ó Suilleabháin
(Carbery Rangers)

10

MICHEÁL CRONIN
M. Ó Cróinín
(Naomh Aban)

11

JOE KAVANAGH
S. Ó Caomhánaigh
(Nemo Rangers)

12

PADRAIG O'MAHONY
P. Ó Mathúna
(Ballincollig)

13

PHILIP CLIFFORD
P. Ó Clúmháin (Capt.)
(Bantry Blues)

14

DON DAVIS
D. Ó Daibhis
(O'Donovan Rossa)

15

MARK O'SULLIVAN
M. Ó Suilleabháin
(Newmarket)

Fir Ionaid

(16) Alan Quirke
A. Ó Cuirc
(Valley Rovers)

(19) Fachtna Collins
F. Ó Coileáin
(Ilen Rovers)

(22) Brendan Walsh
B. Breathnach
(Clonakilty)

(17) Michael Ó Dunnabháin
M. Ó Dunnabháin
(Na Dubhchonnaigh)

(20) Fionán Murray
F. Ó Muirí
(St. Finbarr's)

(23) Aidan Dorgan
A. Ó Deargáin
(Grenagh)

(18) Mark O'Connor
M. Ó Conchubhair
(Bantry Blues)

(21) Brendan J. O'Sullivan
B. D. Ó Suilleabháin
(Adrigole)

(24) John Miskella
S. Miscella
(Ballincollig)

Corcaigh

Cúil

Cúilíní

Seachái

45m

Saor Ciceanna

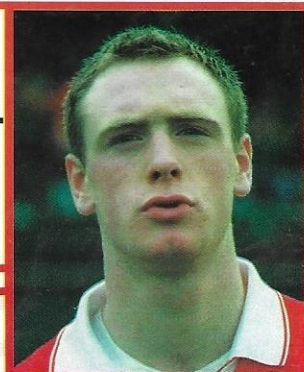
Tadh Leath

Zadh Leath

IOMLÁN

	Cúil	Cúilíní	Seachái	45m	Saor Ciceanna
Tadh Leath					
Zadh Leath					
IOMLÁN					

An Captaen



Philip Clifford

The Cork captain has made a strong impact in a comparatively short time in senior inter-county football. In his first full season with the senior team he led Cork to the 1998-99 Church and General National Football League title.

Now he has a chance to complete a rare captain's treble, having, of course, captained the Bank of Ireland Munster championship winning side.

The youthful forward was no stranger to the Cork colours when he joined the senior team. He played minor championship football with the county and earlier this year was in the under-21 side that lost to Kerry in the Munster final.

Clifford, a fast and incisive attacker, was top scorer for Bantry Blues with six points in their win over Duhallow last October for only the club's second Cork senior football championship.

Bainisteoir



Larry Tompkins

Roghnóirí:

Labhras Ó Toimicín (Castlehaven) C.
Conchur Ó Cuanacháin (Aghada),
Traolach Ó Néill (Bantry Blues),
Pádraig Ó Siocháin (Mallow) Asst. T.

An Réiteoir: Michael Curley (Gaillimh)

Mick today becomes the first Galway man to referee an All-Ireland senior football championship final since 1957 when Patsy Geraghty had charge of the meeting of Louth and Cork. The "Wee County" won that final. The Galway man has had a busy senior championship season. He has controlled games in Ulster, Munster and Leinster and this will be his sixth championship engagement of the campaign.

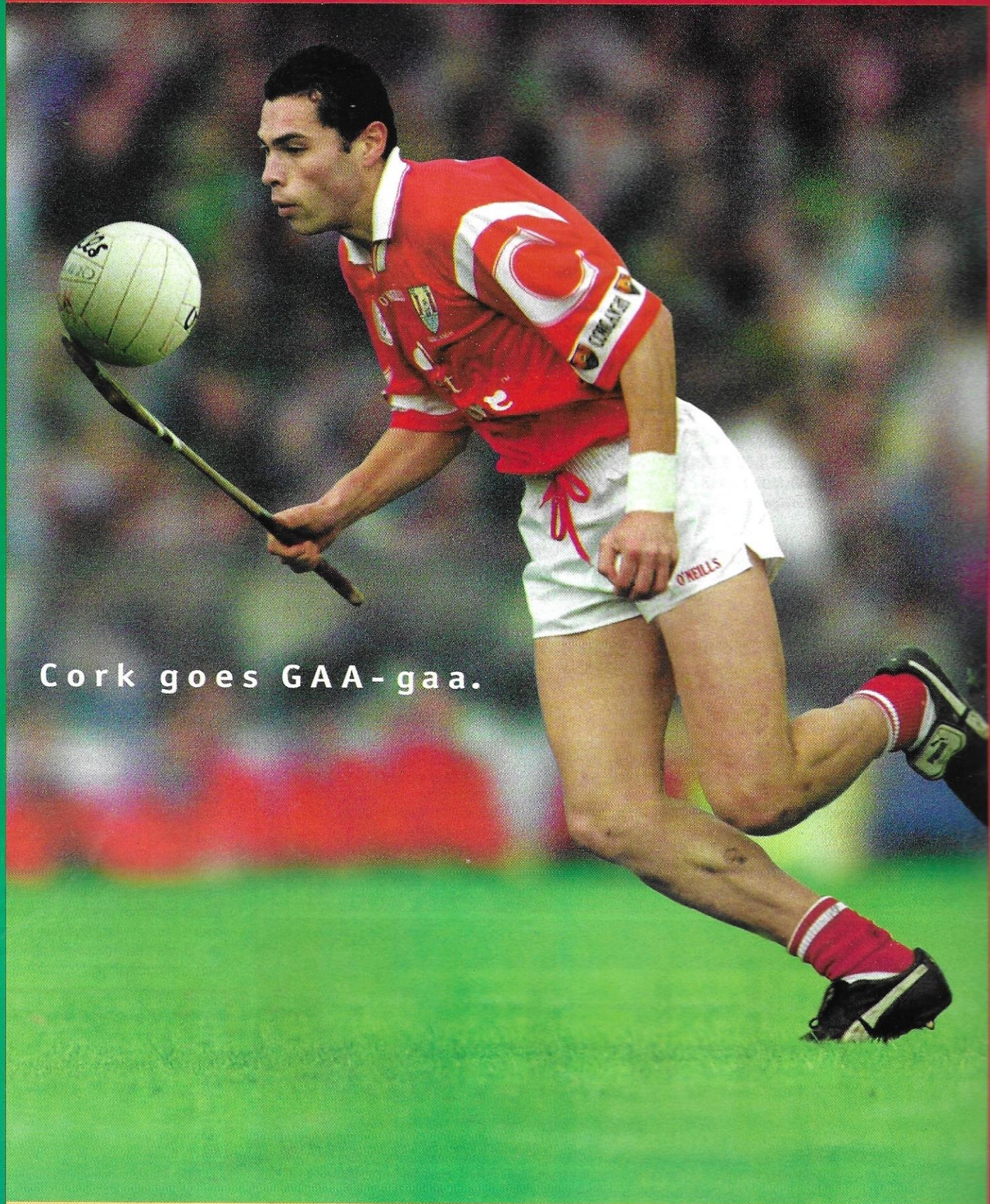
A Garda Superintendent, Curley refereed his second All-Ireland minor final last September. A few weeks later he was a referee/umpire at the Coca-Cola international series between Ireland and Australia. Mick Curley is a native of Galway and assisted his local club, Creggs. He played minor football with Roscommon as his club was affiliated to that county for G.A.A. purposes.

Curley has been refereeing for around fifteen years and has taken charge of many important games. He refereed the 1995 All-Ireland minor final and has been the man-in-the-middle at many National League ties.

The Galway man's last refereeing assignment at Croke Park was the Meath-Dublin Bank of Ireland Leinster final.

Bank of Ireland





Cork goes GAA-gaa.

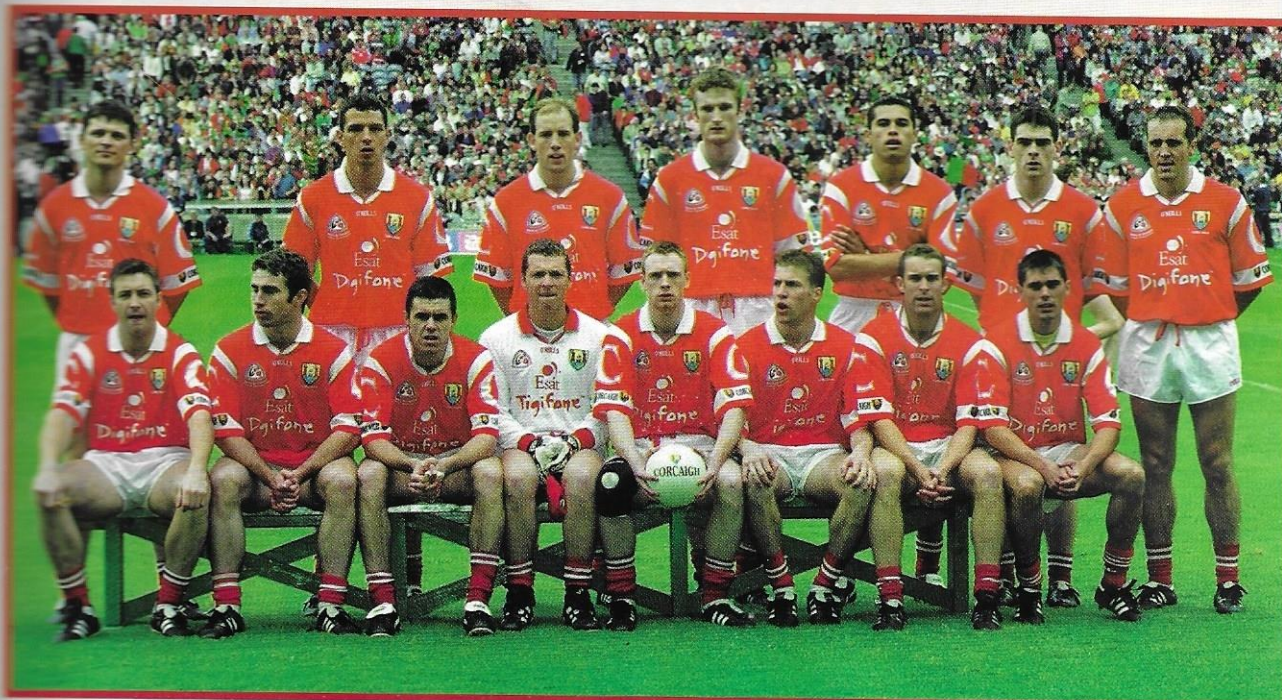
With the McCarthy Cup in the bag and the football final this weekend, who can blame Cork for going a little over the top. After all, it could be double the celebration.

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Corcaigh



Back row (l-r):
Mark O'Sullivan,
Michael O'Sullivan,
Ronan McCarthy,
Nicholas Murphy,
Seán Óg hAilpín,
Michael Cronin,
Ciarán O'Sullivan.

Front row (l-r):
Joe Kavanagh,
Eoin Sexton,
Martin Cronin,
Kevin O'Dwyer,
Philip Clifford,
Anthony Lynch,
Pdraig O'Mahony,
Don Davis.

Cork back after high-scoring campaign

Cork and Meath meet in an All-Ireland senior football championship final for the first time since 1990 when the Munster county made it a particularly memorable day by retaining the Sam Maguire Cup.

That 0-11 to 0-9 victory completed a rare double for the Munster county. A few weeks earlier Cork won the All-Ireland senior hurling title to become the first county to complete the hurling and football senior titles double in the same year since Tipperary in 1900.

Cork regained the Southern title in July after an interval of four years. That win brought their record of Munster championships to 32.

23rd May at Dungarvan:

Cork 3-23; Waterford 0-4

19th June at Páirc Uí Rinn:

Cork 4-13; Limerick 1-6

18th July at Páirc Uí Chaoimh:

Cork 2-10; Kerry 2-4

22nd August at Croke Park:

Cork 2-12; Mayo 0-12

Total Scored 11-58 (91 points)
Total Conceded 3-26 (35)
Average 2.60

	1	2	3	4	Score	Total
Pdraig O'Mahony	—	1-9	0-4	0-3	1-16	19
Philip Clifford	0-4	—	0-4	1-4	1-12	15
Joe Kavanagh	0-5	1-2	0-1	0-1	1-9	12
Fionan Murray	—	1-0	1-0	1-1	3-1	10
Mark O'Sullivan	1-4	—	0-1	0-1	1-6	9
Damien O'Neill	1-5	—	—	—	1-5	8
Aidan Dorgan	1-2	0-1	—	—	1-3	6
Don Davis	0-1	—	—	0-2	0-3	3
Alan O'Regan	—	1-0	—	—	1-0	3
Fachtna Collins	—	—	1-0	—	1-0	3
Ciarán O'Sullivan	0-2	—	—	—	0-2	2
Michael O'Sullivan	—	0-1	—	—	0-1	1

O'MAHONY OUT IN FRONT

Pdraig O'Mahony sets the pace in front in the Cork scoring chart with 1-16. He also leads the way in the match individual scoring chart for the Munster champions with 1-9 against Limerick. This is also the highest return as far as Cork and Meath are concerned.



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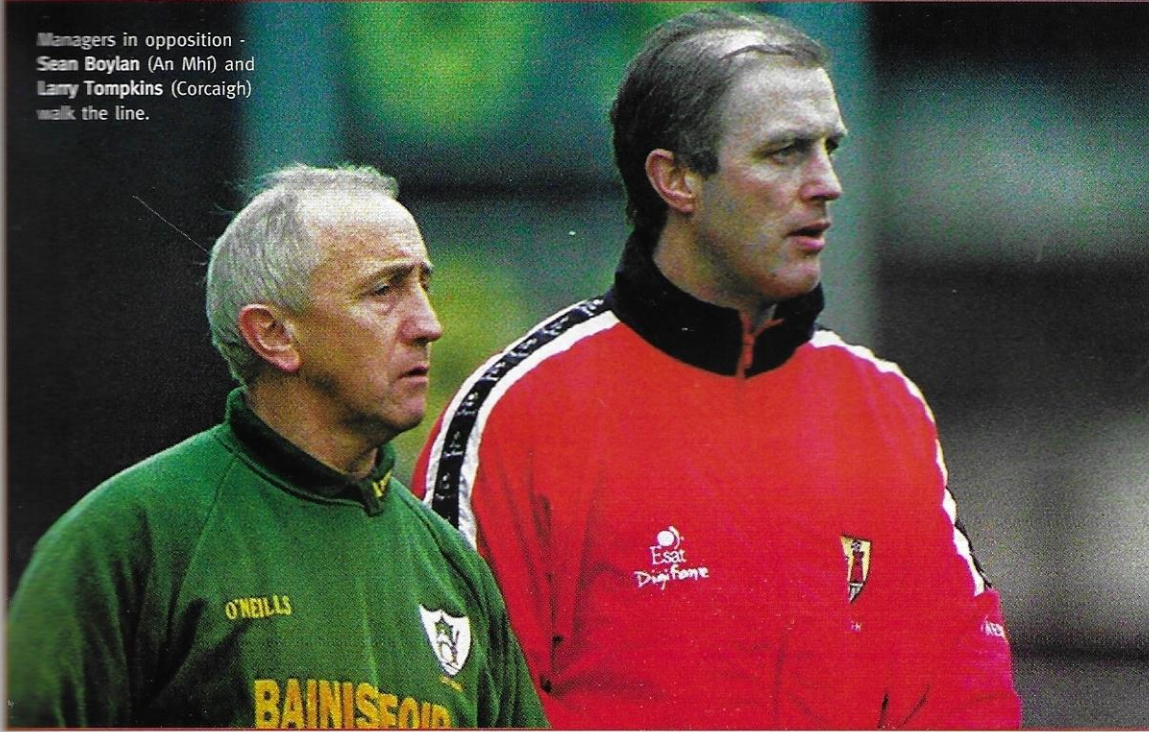


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Last April's League Encounter

Managers in opposition - Sean Boylan (An Mh) and Larry Tompkins (Corcaigh) walk the line.



Cork 0-6; Meath 0-3.

It is just five months since Cork and Meath were last in opposition at Croke Park and that was last April in the penultimate round of the league competition. On a rain-soaked surface both sides struggled although the conditions hardly excused Meath's sheer awfulness in the matter of shooting. Despite this the Royals did manage to open the scoring through Paddy Reynolds, but a brace of frees from Pádraig O'Mahony and a single from a '45' by Ciarán O'Sullivan enabled the Leesiders to turn over leading by 0-3 to 0-1.

In the third quarter Meath did manage to increase their points total to three thanks to Jimmy McGuinness and Evan Kelly, but minors from Aidan Dorgan and Joe Kavanagh kept Cork two clear. In the closing quarter the Leinster side continued to waste chances although they almost grabbed a goal six minutes from time but Graham Geraghty's toe-poke was well saved by Kevin O'Dwyer. A late Don Davis score increased Cork's winning margin to a distinctly unflattering three points.

Cork scorers: P.O'Mahony 0-2, C.O'Sullivan 0-1, A.Dorgan 0-1, J.Kavanagh 0-1, D.Davis 0-1.

Meath: P.Reynolds 0-1, J.McGuinness 0-1, E.Kelly 0-1.

Cork - Kevin O'Dwyer, Michael O'Donovan, Seán Óg Ó hAilpín, Anthony Lynch, Ciarán O'Sullivan, Owen Sexton, Martin Cronin, Michael O'Sullivan, Nicholas Murphy, Aidan Dorgan, Joe Kavanagh, Pádraig O'Mahony, Philip Clifford, Mark O'Sullivan, Alan O'Regan.

Subs - Ronan McCarthy for Clifford, Don Davis for Cronin, Brendan Walsh for O'Mahony.

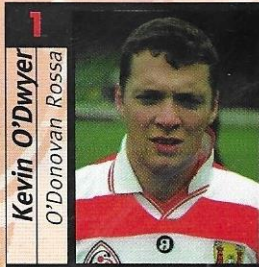
Meath - Cormac O'Sullivan, Mark O'Reilly, Darren Fay, Cormac Murphy, Paddy Reynolds, Hank Traynor, Donal Curtis, Jimmy McGuinness, John McDermott, Richard Kealy, Jody Devine, Graham Geraghty, Ray Magee, Nigel Crawford, Ollie Murphy.

Subs - Trevor Giles for Devine, Evan Kelly for Kealy, Tommy Dowd for Magee.

Player Profiles

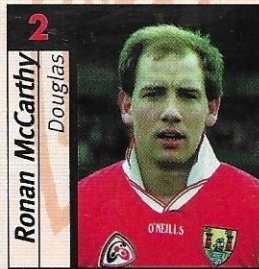


Corcaigh



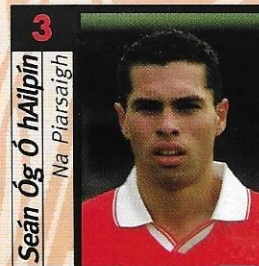
1
Kevin O'Dwyer
O'Donovan, Rossa

Age 25. 5'11". Garda.
1 Munster & All-Ireland M.F.C. 1991; 1 Munster & All Ireland U-21 1994; 3 Munster S.F.C. 1993-94, 1999; 1 County S.F.C. 1992; 1 All-Ireland Club Football 1992; 1 N.F.L. 1999.



2
Ronan McCarthy
Douglas

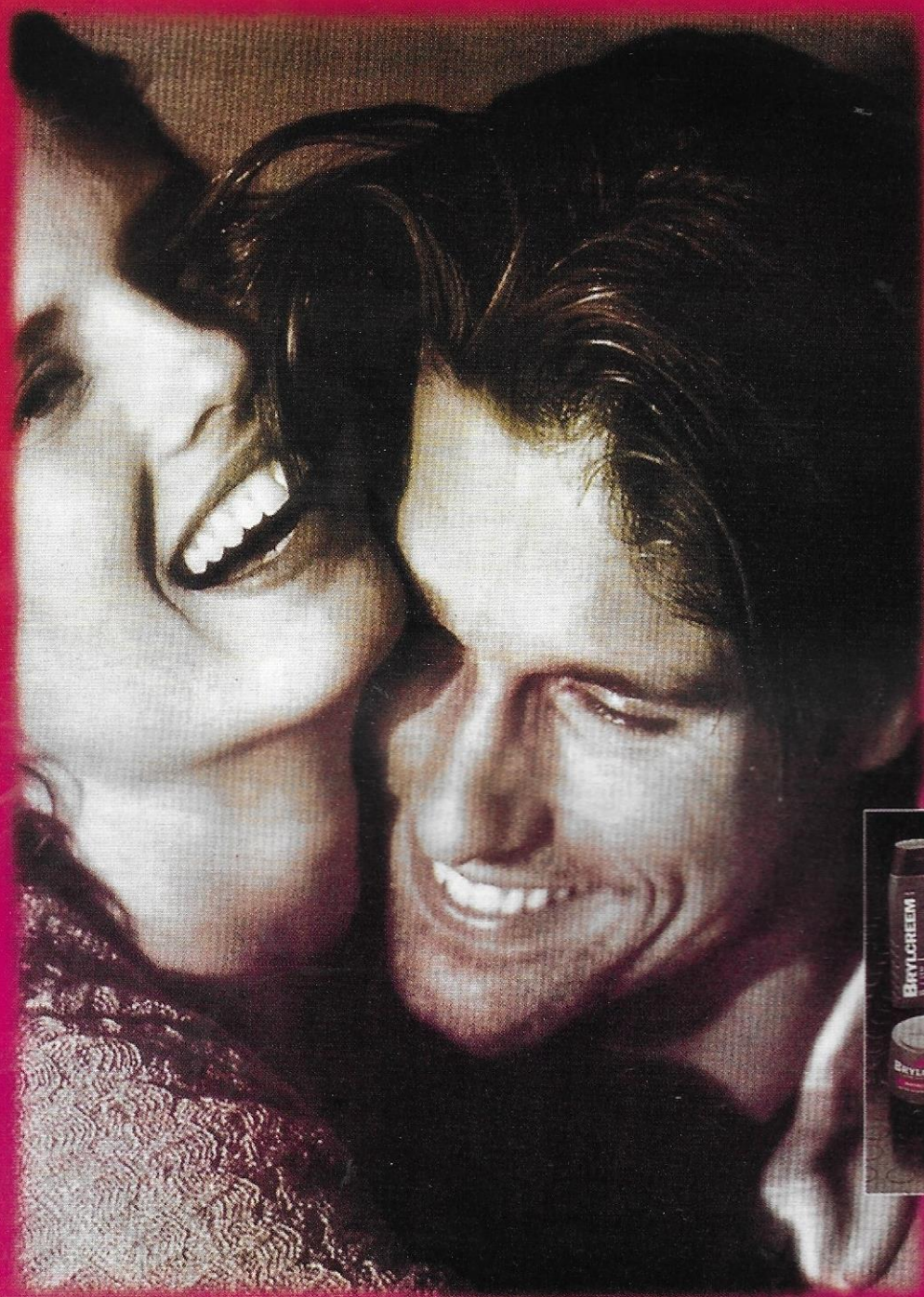
Age 25. 6'2". Teacher.
1 County I.F.C. 1997; 1 N.F.L. 1999; 1 Munster S.F.C. 1999.



3
Seán Óg Ó hAilpín
Na Píarsaigh

Age 22. 6'2". Student.
1 Munster & All-Ireland M.H.C. 1995; 3 Munster U-21 H.C. 1996-98; 2 All-Ireland U-21 H.C. 1997-98; 1 N.H.L. 1998; 1 Oireachtas 1998; 1 Co. S.H.C. 1995; 1 Munster S.H.C. 1999; 1 All-Ireland S.H.C. 1999; 1 N.F.L. 1999; 1 Railway Cup Football 1999; 1 Munster S.F.C. 1999.

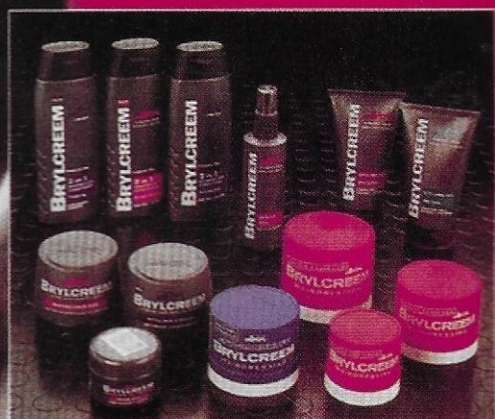
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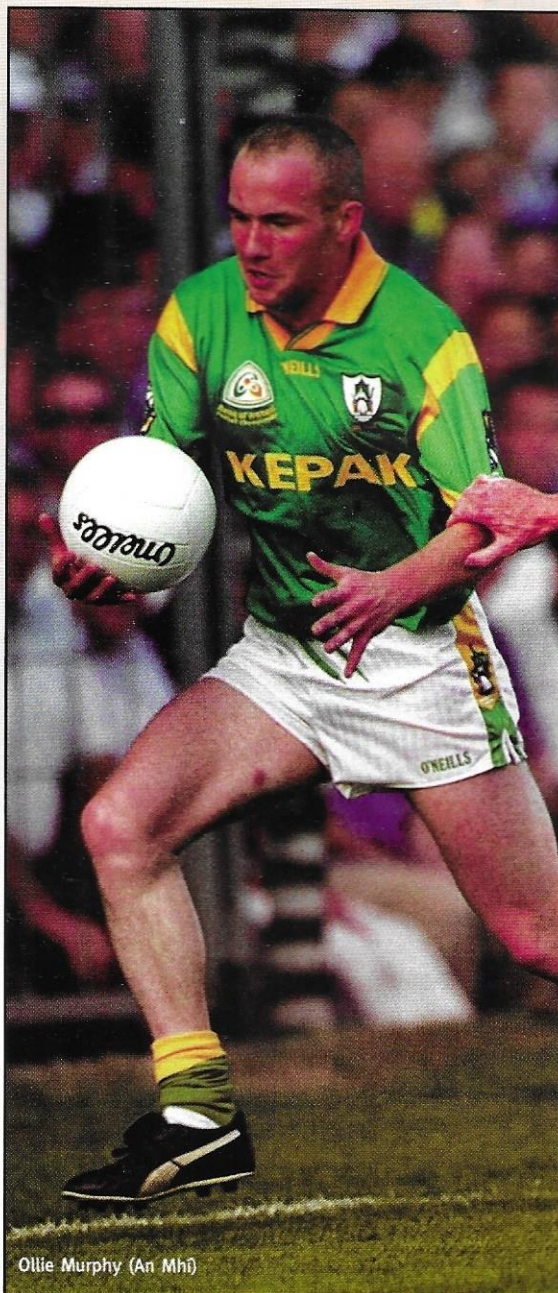
Individual Feats

Last season Declan Browne took the overall scoring honours alone but had to share the individual feats title with Maurice Fitzgerald. However, this year it looks as if Oisín McConville will do the double in solo form as his 2-7 performance against Down in the Ulster final still leads the way. Pádraig O'Mahony currently lies second thanks to his 1-9 total against Limerick, but the Leinster player may find that trying to repeat that feat, let alone exceed it, will prove an unenviable task against a defence as miserly as Meath's this afternoon. The only other double-digit return was filed by Ronan Carolan as he recorded 1-8 for Cavan in their first outing with Derry.

The Breffni man is one of only three players - the others being Pádraig Joyce and Ger Heavin - to reappear from last year's chart and in all 24 performances (23 last season) of seven-points or better were recorded and they were:

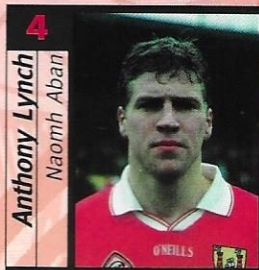
Oisín McConville (Armagh)	2-7
v Down - Ulster Final at Clones	
Pádraig O'Mahony (Cork)	1-9
v Limerick - Semi-final at Páirc Uí Rinn	
Ronan Carolan (Cavan)	1-8
v Derry - 1st round at Casement Park	
Maurice Sheridan (Mayo)	0-9
v Roscommon - Semi-final at Castlebar	
Ger Heavin (Westmeath)	0-9
v Carlow - Preliminary semi-final at Cullen Park	
Dessie Dolan (Westmeath)	1-6
v Laois - 1st round at Croke Park	
Dessie Dolan (Westmeath)	1-6
v Longford - Preliminary final at Mullingar	
Garan McCabe (Down)	2-3
v Tyrone - Semi-final at Casement Park	
Ollie Murphy (Meath)	1-5
v Dublin - Leinster Final at Croke Park	
Damien O'Neill (Cork)	1-5
v Waterford - 1st round at Dungarvan	
Declan Smyth (Monaghan)	1-5
v Fermanagh - Preliminary round at Clones	
Ger Heavin (Westmeath)	1-5
v Longford - Preliminary final at Mullingar	
Shane King (Fermanagh)	2-2
v Monaghan - Preliminary round at Clones	
John Donnellan (Galway)	0-7
v Sligo - Semi-final replay at Tuam	
Adrian Cush (Tyrone)	0-7

v Fermanagh - 1st round at Clones	
Damien Delaney (Laois)	0-7
v Westmeath - 1st round at Croke Park	
Oisín McConville (Armagh)	0-7
v Donegal - 1st round at Ballybofey	
Ken Madden (Antrim)	0-7
v Down - 1st round at Newry	
Philip Clifford (Cork)	1-4
v Mayo - All-Ireland semi-final at Croke Park	
Graham Geraghty (Meath)	1-4
v Wicklow - 1st round at Croke Park	
Pádraig Joyce (Galway)	1-4
v London - 1st round at Ruislip	
Mark O'Sullivan (Cork)	1-4
v Waterford - 1st round at Dungarvan	
Trevor Smullen (Longford)	1-4
v Wexford - Preliminary semi-final replay at Pearse Park	
Paul Barden (Longford)	1-4
v Wexford - Preliminary semi-final replay at Pearse Park	



Ollie Murphy (An Mhí)

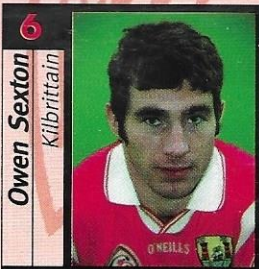
Player Profiles



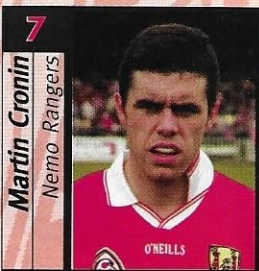
4
Anthony Lynch
Naomh Abán
Age 22. 5'10". Student.
1 N.F.L. 1999; 1 Railway Cup
Football 1999; 1 Munster S.F.C.
1999.



5
Ciarán O'Sullivan
Urhan
Age 27. 6'1". Oil Company
Representative.
1 Munster & All-Ireland J.F.C.
1990; 4 Munster S.F.C. 1993-95,
1999; 1 County S.F.C. 1997; 1
N.F.L. 1999; 1 Railway Cup
Football 1999.



6
Owen Sexton
Kilbrittain
Age 24. 5'9". Chemical Engineer.
1 Munster & All-Ireland M.F.C.
1993; 1 Munster & All-Ireland
U-21 1994; 1 N.F.L. 1999; 1
Munster S.F.C. 1999.



7
Martin Cronin
Nemo Rangers
Age 23. 6'0". Mechanical Engineer.
1 Munster & All-Ireland M.F.C.
1993; 1 Munster U-21 F.C. 1994;
1 N.F.L. 1999; 1 Railway Cup
Football 1999; 1 Munster S.F.C.
1999.

Penalty Parade

The 1998 championship was not regarded as a bumper one as far as penalty awards were concerned and just nine were awarded in that championship. By the end of June this season that figure had already been exceeded and with just this afternoon's game to come the current tally is 14, just one less than in 1997.

However, although the number of penalties awarded has increased from 12 months previously, the average return has not with just seven goals and two points resulting from 14 kicks - a return of 0.65 points per penalty. This is down on last year's return of 2.0 and even lower than the poorest recent return of 1.67 in '97.

Last season, only one goalkeeper, Philly Ryan of Limerick actually saved a penalty and the Shannonsiders returns this year along with J.J. Brennan, Damien McCusker, Fergal Bryan and Brendan Tierney, although the last two mentioned did concede a white flag while denying the opposition a green one. In terms of penalty-takers two have reappeared from last term with Pat Galvin again successful but Gary Coleman had to settle for a point this time around having found the net 12 months ago.

A pattern that has emerged in recent years of very few penalties being conceded after the provincial semi-finals continues with just one award (the same as last year) in the six games between the provincial finals and All-Ireland semi-finals.

The 14 penalties awarded in the '99 championship and the results to date are:

9th May

Ger Heavin (Westmeath) SAVED by J.J. Brennan (Carlow)

23rd May

Maurice Fitzgerald (Kerry) SAVED by Philly Ryan (Tipperary)

Dara Ó Cinnéide (Kerry) WIDE v Tipperary

30th May

Declan Smyth (Monaghan) GOAL v Fermanagh

Shane King (Fermanagh) GOAL v Monaghan

13th June

Ronan Carolan (Cavan) GOAL v Derry

Dessie Dolan (Westmeath) GOAL

v Laois

19th June

Michael Reidy (Limerick) GOAL v Cork

20th June

Ronan Carolan (Cavan) SAVED by Damien McCusker (Derry)

27th June

Paddy Christie (Dublin) POINTS saved by Fergal Bryan (Laois)

Gerard Cavlan (Tyrone) HIT POST v Fermanagh

4th July

Gary Coleman (Derry) POINT saved by Brendan Tierney (Armagh)

18th July

Chris Conway (Laois) GOAL v Dublin

1st August

Oisín McConville (Armagh) GOAL v Down

Player Profiles

8

Nicholas Murphy
Carrigaline



Age 21. 6'5". Insurance Official.
1 N.F.L. 1999; 1 Railway Cup Football 1999; 1 Munster S.F.C. 1999.

9

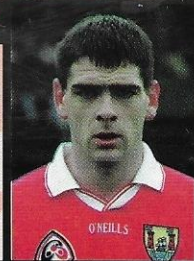
Michael O'Sullivan
Carbery Rangers



Age 22. 6'3". PE Teacher.
2 Limerick County S.F.C. 1997-98; 1 N.F.L. 1999; 1 Munster S.F.C. 1999.

10

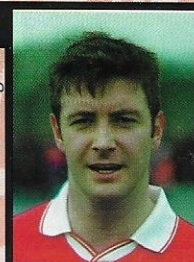
Michael Cronin
Naomh Abán



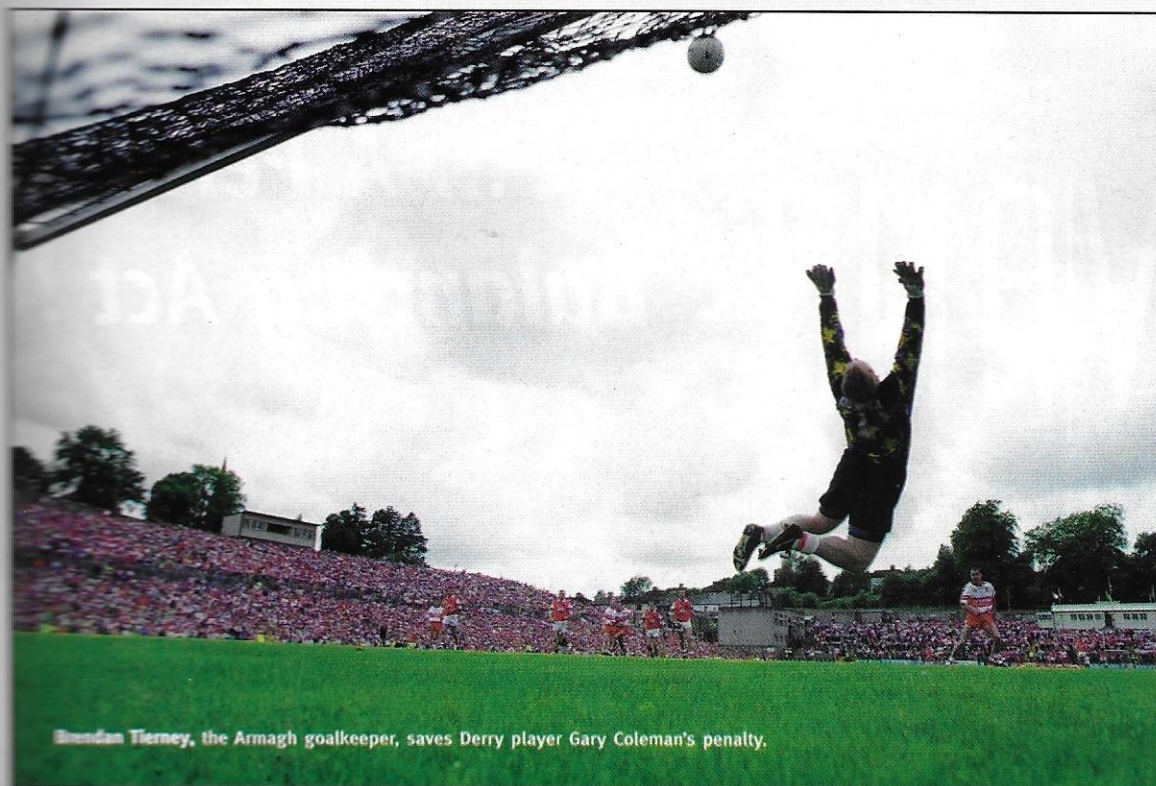
Age 21. 5'11". Student.
1 N.F.L. 1999; 1 Munster S.F.C. 1999.

11

Joe Kavangah
Nemo Rangers



Age 25. 6'0". Electrician.
1 Munster & All-Ireland M.F.C. 1991; 1 Munster & All-Ireland U-21 1994; 4 Munster S.F.C. 1993-95, 1999; All-Star Award 1993; 1 Munster & All-Ireland Club 1993; 1 County S.F.C. 1993; 1 N.F.L. 1999; 1 Railway Cup Football 1999.

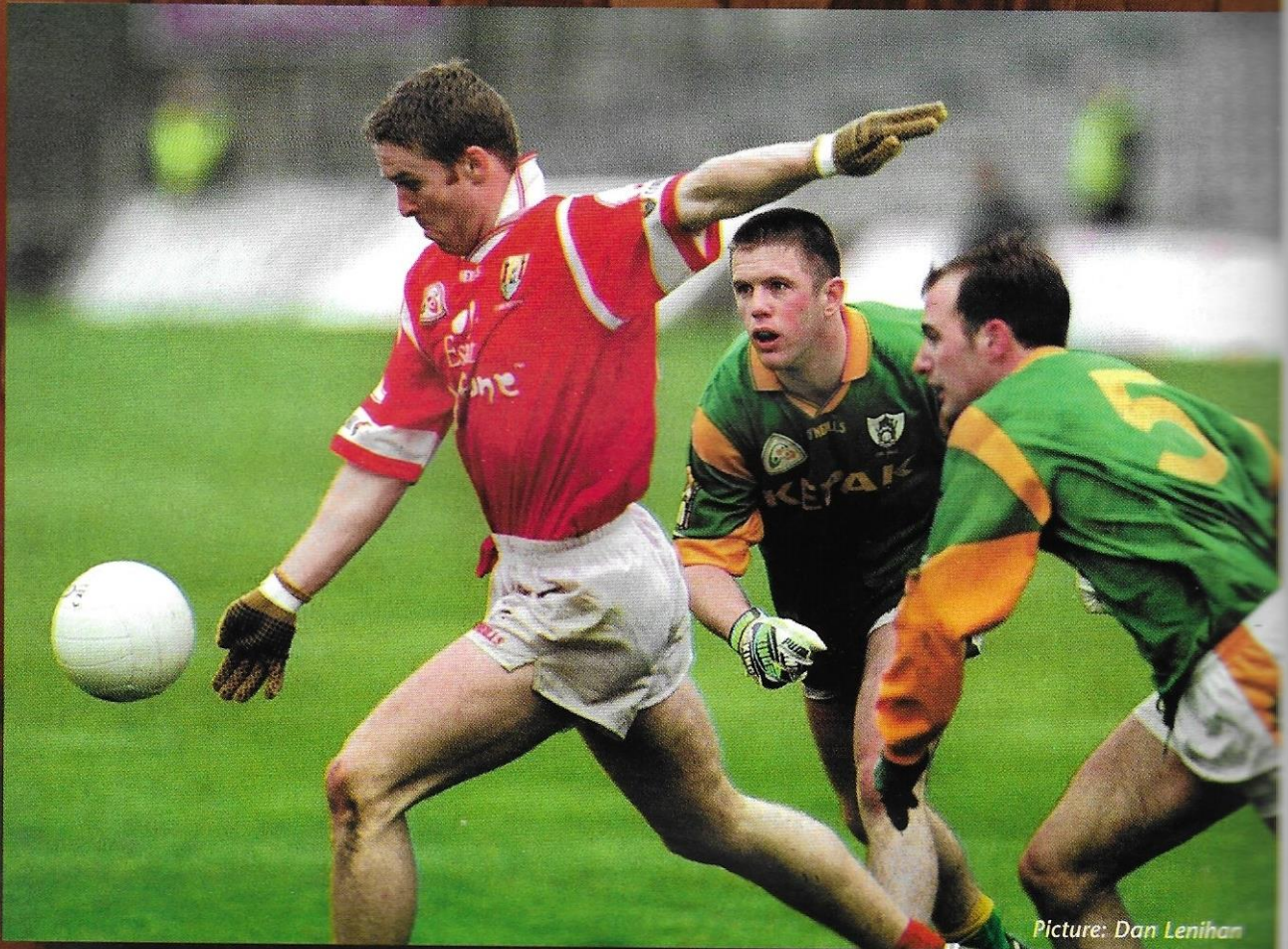


Brendan Tierney, the Armagh goalkeeper, saves Derry player Gary Coleman's penalty.



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CAPTAINS

The first Cork man to receive an All-Ireland trophy in any grade of football was Tadhg O'Crowley who collected the Sam Maguire Cup in 1945. The first Meath man was Brian Smith in 1949. In minor football the first player to captain a Mayo All-Ireland winning team was Willie Durkin of Swinford who led the 1935 side, but there was no trophy for minor football at that time so the honour of being the first Mayo player to receive the Markham Cup fell to Charlestown's Eamon Walsh who led the 1953 team to victory. Incidentally, the 1953 captaincy had been held by Sean Freyne up to (and including) the All-Ireland semi-final, but by the time the final was played he had returned to the seminary whose students were not allowed to play during the academic year. James McCartan was the first Mourne man to receive the Markham Cup in 1977.

First Time Success

Of the 17 counties that have won All-Ireland minor honours eleven have been successful on their first appearance in the final - Clare (1929), Dublin (1930), Kerry (1931), Cavan (1937), Roscommon (1939), Tyrone (1947), Armagh (1949), Galway (1952), Meath (1957), Offaly (1964) and Derry (1965). (Tipperary who became champions in 1934 did not have to play in a final as Tyrone or Dublin, who should have provided the opposition, were disqualified).

In senior football the list of first-time winners is shorter with only Limerick (1887), Tipperary (1889), Cork (1890), Kildare (1905), Down (1960) and Donegal (1992) claiming victory at the first attempt. (Kildare's famous confrontation with Kerry in 1903 was the "Home" final). But of all of the above listed only three counties can claim to have carried off senior and minor honours at the first attempt - Dublin (1891 and 1930), Tipperary (1889 and 1934), and Roscommon (1939 and 1943).

NEWCOMERS

The last occasion on which both counties in an All-Ireland minor final were seeking the title for the first time was in 1939 when Roscommon and Monaghan were in opposition at Croke Park in what was the eleventh minor final to be decided. This presented something of a contrast to the senior grade which saw its last final between two first-time seekers (Mayo and Laois in 1936) in what was the 49th final to be decided.

TOP TEN

The first man to raise ten flags in an All-Ireland football final was Meath's Micky Faye who scored ten points for his county in the 1970 dash with Kerry - the first 80-minute final. Even allowing for the extended playing time the Trim sharpshooter's performance that day was most impressive, considering that the previous year, Tony McTeague of Offaly took top individual honours with 0-3! And after all that, Micky Faye was on the losing side thereby missing his only chance of an All-Ireland medal.

Fir Ionad

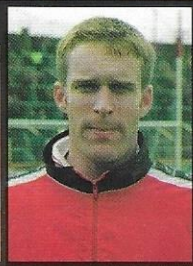
- 16 Alan Quirke (Valley Rovers)
- 17 Michael O'Donovan (Doheny's)
- 18 Mark O'Connor (Bantry Blues)
- 19 Fachtna Collins (Ilen Rovers)
- 20 Fionan Murray (St. Finbarr's)
- 21 Brendan J. O'Sullivan (Adrigole)
- 22 Brendan Walsh (Clonakilty)
- 23 Aidan Dorgan (Grenagh)
- 24 John Miskella (Ballinacollig)

Age 22.	6'3".	Student.
Age 24.	6'0".	Electrician.
Age 30.	6'0".	Army Officer.
Age 25.	6'3".	Veterinary Surgeon.
Age 20.	5'11".	Building Society Executive.
Age 21.	6'0".	Company Representative
Age 26.	5'11".	Teacher.
Age 26.	5'8".	Carpenter.
Age 21.	6'0".	Army Officer.

Player Profiles

12

Padraig O'Mahony
Ballinacollig



Age 25. 5'11". Oil Company Representative.
1 Munster & All-Ireland M.F.C. 1991; 1 Munster & All-Ireland U-21 1994; 1 N.F.L. 1999; 1 Railway Cup Football 1999; 1 Munster S.F.C. 1999.

13

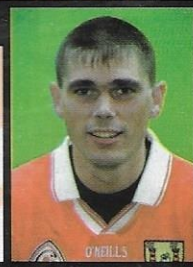
Philip Clifford (capt)
Bantry Blues



Age 19. 6'0". TSB Official.
1 County S.F.C. 1998; 1 N.F.L. 1999; 1 Munster S.F.C. 1999.

14

Don Davis
O'Donovan Rossa



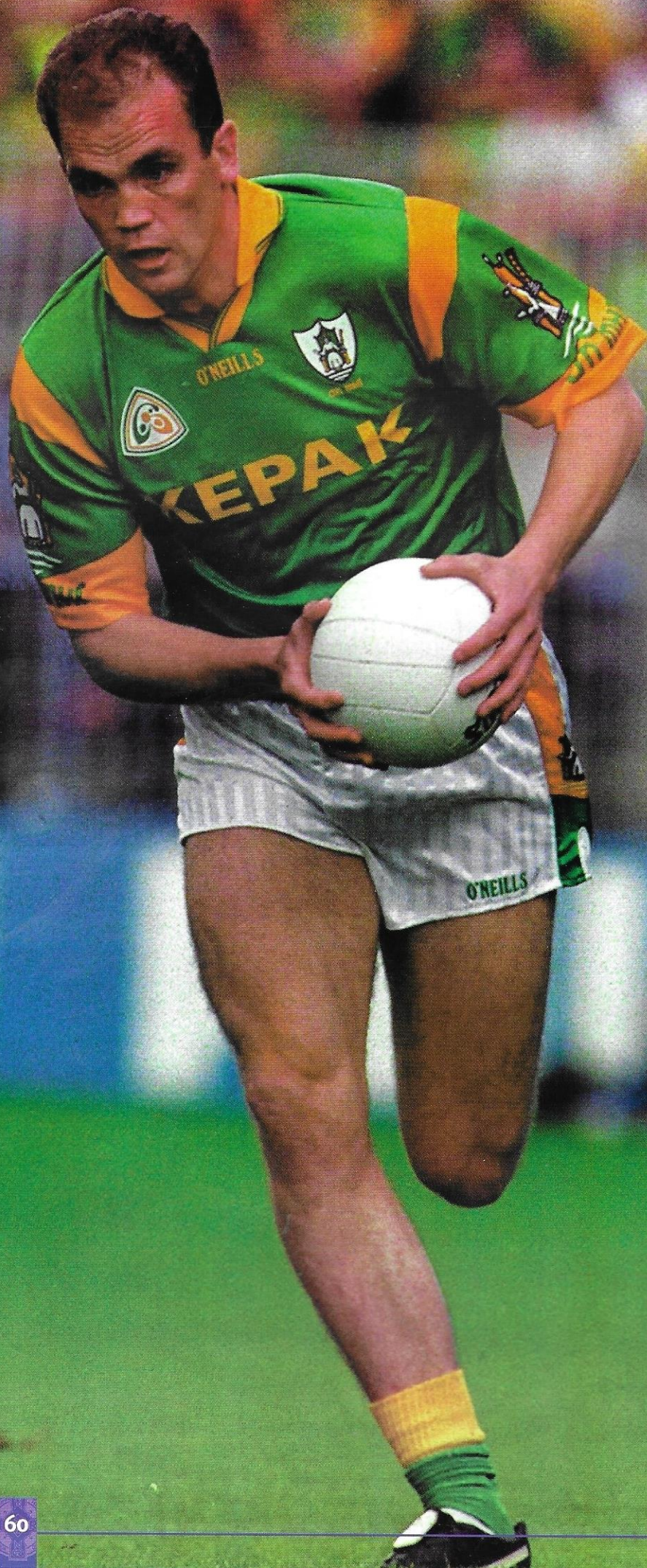
Age 30. 5'11". Garda.
1 Munster M.F.C. 1997; 1 Munster & All-Ireland U-21 F.C. 1989; 3 Munster S.F.C. 1993-94, 1999; 1 County S.F.C. 1992; 1 All-Ireland Club Football 1992; 1 N.F.L. 1999.

15

Mark O'Sullivan
Newmarket



Age 25. 6'2". Computer Programmer.
1 Munster & All-Ireland M.F.C. 1991; 1 Munster & All-Ireland U-21 F.C. 1994; 1 County J.F.C. 1998; 1 N.F.L. 1999; 1 Railway Cup Football 1999; 1 Munster S.F.C. 1999.



McDermott hoping to boost his Irish leadership with a Croke Park win

A particularly warm send-off for Australia - that's what a Meath win would prove for John McDermott more so than the other Royal County men chosen for the trip. The reason? McDermott, who led Ireland in such spectacular style to victory over Australia in the International Rules series in Dublin's last year, will again captain the boys in green.

Little wonder, as not only did he prove a very successful team leader last year, but he has been very much to the fore with Meath in their march back to the All-Ireland final.

McDermott, who was only 26 in July, remains one of the most exciting personalities in the sport. His fielding is of the highest and at times most spectacular standard; a standard to rival that of the giants of past eras.

In addition, John invariably gets through an amount of very productive work in game after game.

He also brings a wealth of experience to his football being a brilliant link with Meath's last Sam Maguire Cup success three years ago.

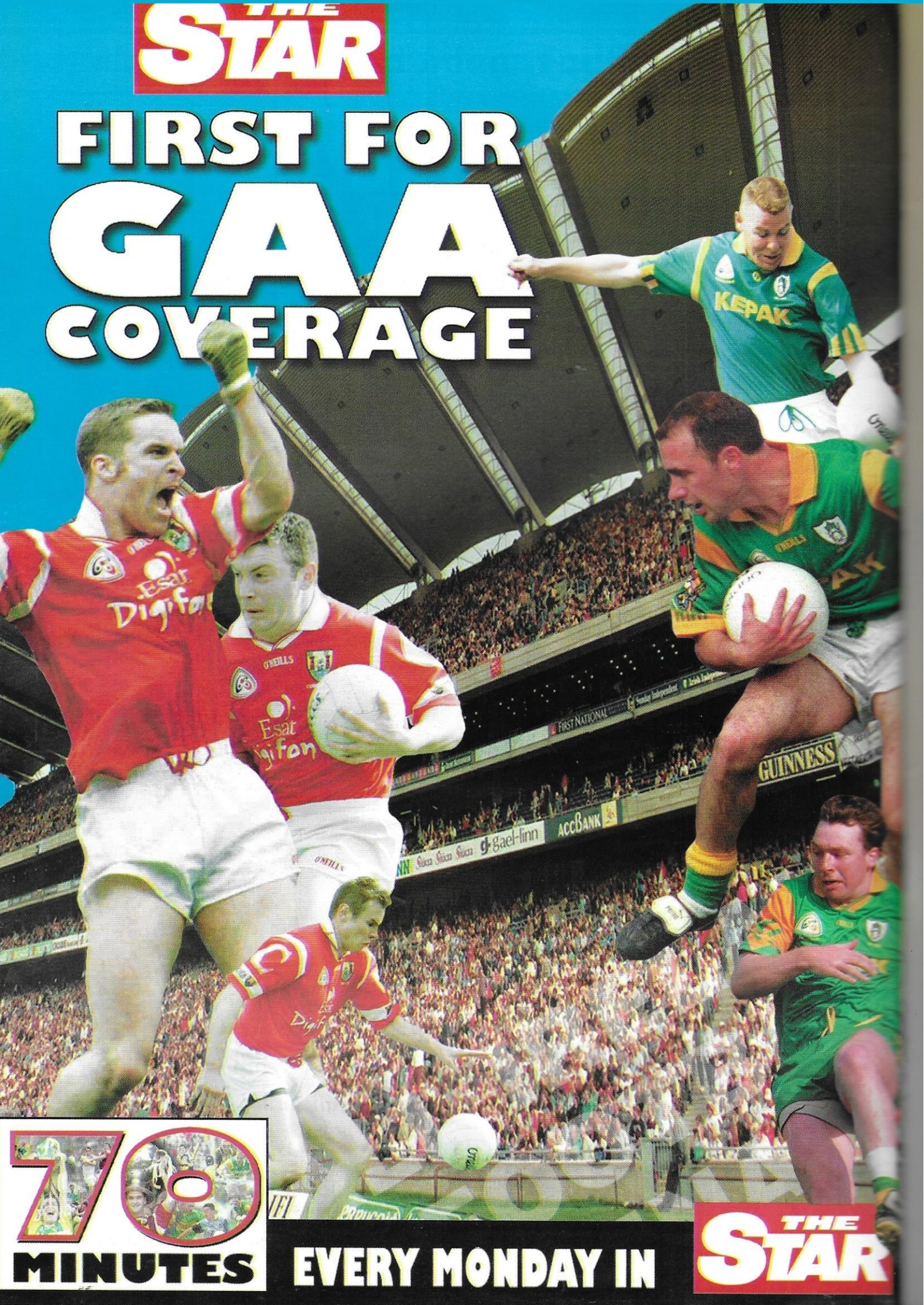
He showed plenty of promise in under-age football and won two Leinster under-21 medals. His first major national award was gained in 1994 in the National League final at the expense of Armagh.

Winner of a second Leinster senior medal last month, McDermott's wealth of experience and non stop effort mark him out as a player who could prove a most influential figure in today's final.



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The pursuit of the double

Ten years after their last double Cork stand within 70 minutes of repeating that achievement and in recent times only the Leesiders could reasonably expect to win both titles despite Offaly's brave bid in 1981. And previous to the faithful county's bid, one has to go back to 1956 for the last attempt at the double when Cork failed on both counts - to Wexford in hurling and Galway in football. The pursuit of the double is almost as old as the championship itself and indeed, in the first year of the championship Tipperary made a highly creditable attempt for both titles, winning the hurling and reaching the last four of the football before bowing out to the eventual winners Limerick.

Cork's first effort proved successful in 1890: represented by Wicleton in football they beat the Blues and Whites of Wexford, but the hurling success was marred by the fact that the game between Aghabullogue and the Wexford representatives, Castlebridge was unfinished, Cork getting the verdict in the boardroom.

Two years later Dublin won the football title but lost the hurling final to Cork, who, in 1893 won the hurling but lost the unfinished football decider to Wexford. Twelve months on Cork and Dublin contested both finals. The Leesiders won the hurling with plenty to spare but the contest for the football title ended in some confusion with Dublin being awarded the unfinished replay match. Then, in 1895 Tipperary became the first county to win both titles on the same day by beating Kilkenny (hurling) and Meath (football).

The Capital's Struggle

As Cork slipped from view in the late nineties, Dublin resumed the pursuit of the double in 1896, losing the hurling final to Tipperary and the football to Limerick, but Tipperary made no mistake when they contested both finals in 1900, beating London on both counts.

Cork were back in double contention in 1901 but went down to Dublin in the "Home" football final and quite dramatically to London in the hurling decider. Dublin won football honours in 1902 but lost the "Home" hurling clash with Cork on a replay.

Dublin just couldn't put two titles together as they split the honours (won the football and lost the hurling) in 1906 and 1908. In between those years Cork had the frustrating experience of losing the football final to Dublin by four points and the hurling to Kilkenny by one.

Wexford, struggling valiantly to retain their position as a dual power, reached the closing stages in both codes in 1918 only to lose heavily to Limerick in hurling as the footballers retained their title at the expense of Tipperary.

The early twenties saw three bids by Dublin for dual honours: in 1920 they won the hurling from Cork and lost the football to Tipperary; in 1921 they won the football but lost the hurling, and then in 1924 they literally came within an ace of success when they won the hurling but lost the football final to Kerry by a point.

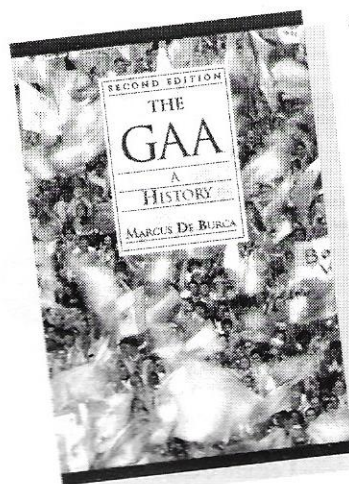
The Leaders Depart

By the 1930s the fortunes of Tipperary and Cork in hurling and Wexford in football had waned considerably and only Dublin pursued the double with any hope of success - though they lost to Limerick (hurling) and Galway (football) in the Jubilee year. In 1942 the capital enjoyed better luck - winning the football from Galway but losing the hurling to Cork. That was to prove Dublin's 'last hurrah' in this field of endeavour and into the fifties only Cork maintained a credible dual presence, although there were the heartbreaking defeats in the 1956 finals when Galway and Wexford denied them.

Both double All-Ireland appearances had disappeared by the time the sixties dawned though Cork were close enough in '66 when they were successful in the hurling final after the footballers had run Galway - the eventual All-Ireland winners - to two points in the semi-final.

Cork might have made a bid in the 1970s - but didn't, and then Offaly, striving with very limited resources, challenged successfully for hurling honours but unsuccessfully for the football crown in 1981. The centenary of Cork's 1890 triumphs could not have been more appropriately celebrated when both crowns were won nine years ago and now they are seeking to depart the decade as they began it - with both trophies by the Lee.

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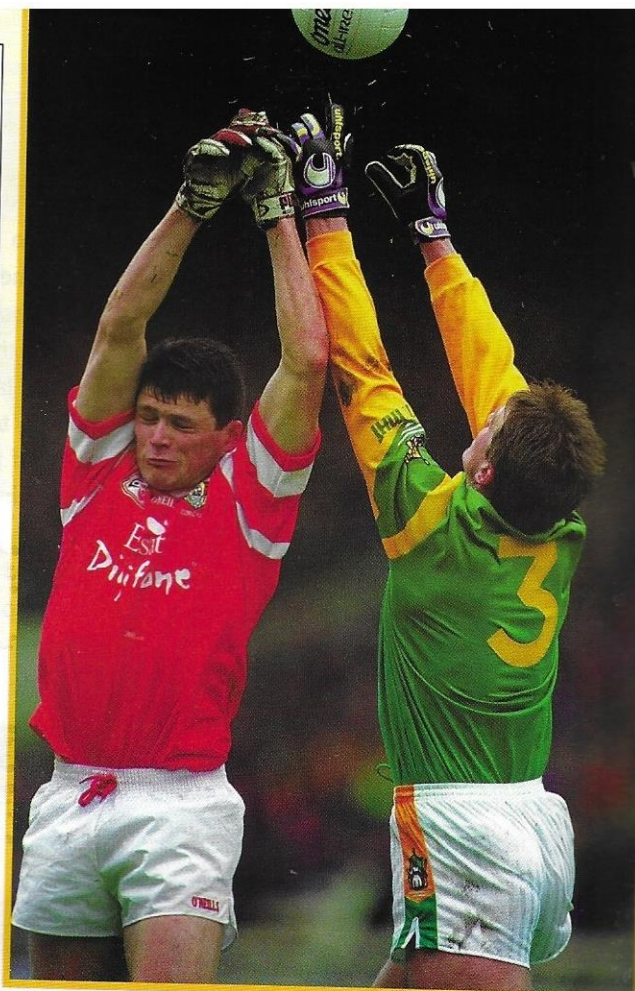
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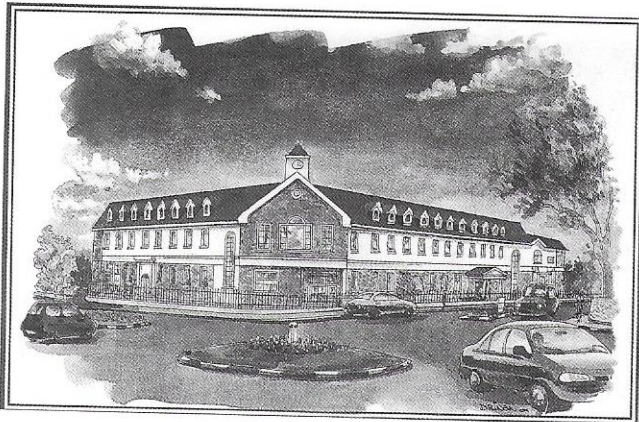
Mark O'Sullivan (Corcaigh) goes up for the ball against Darren Fay (An Mhí) in the Church & General National Football League Semi-Final at Croke Park.



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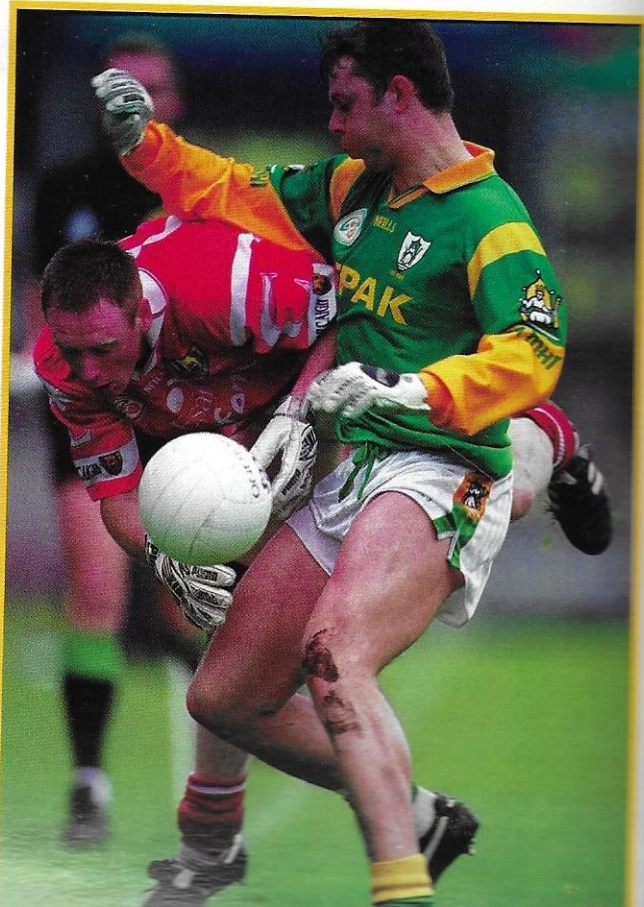
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League Semi-Final Action

Philip Clifford (Corcaigh) in action against Cormac Murphy (An Mhí) in the League Semi-Final.



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At the cheque presentation by Bank of Ireland to Cork County G.A.A. Board are from left: Jim Forbes, P.R.O., County Board; Tim O'Neill, General Manager, Bank of Ireland; Jim Cronin, Vice-Chairman, County Board; Seamus McCarthy, Bank of Ireland Kinsale; Pearse Murphy, Treasurer, County Board; and Tom Monaghan, Bank of Ireland.

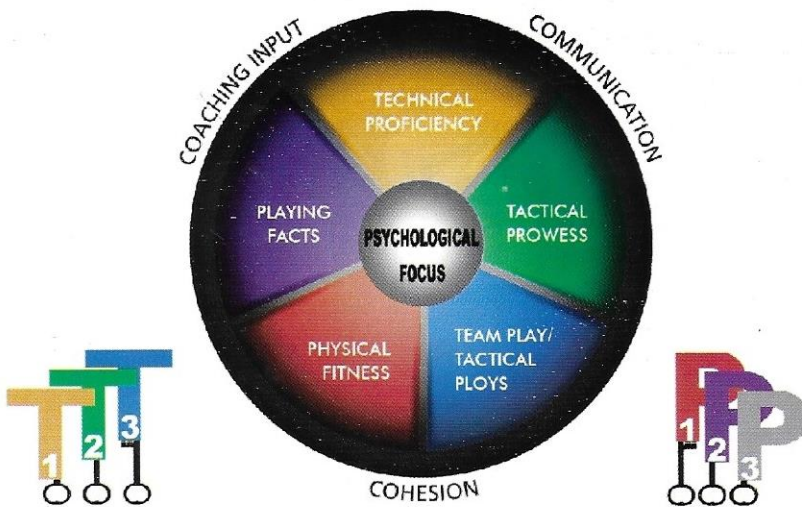
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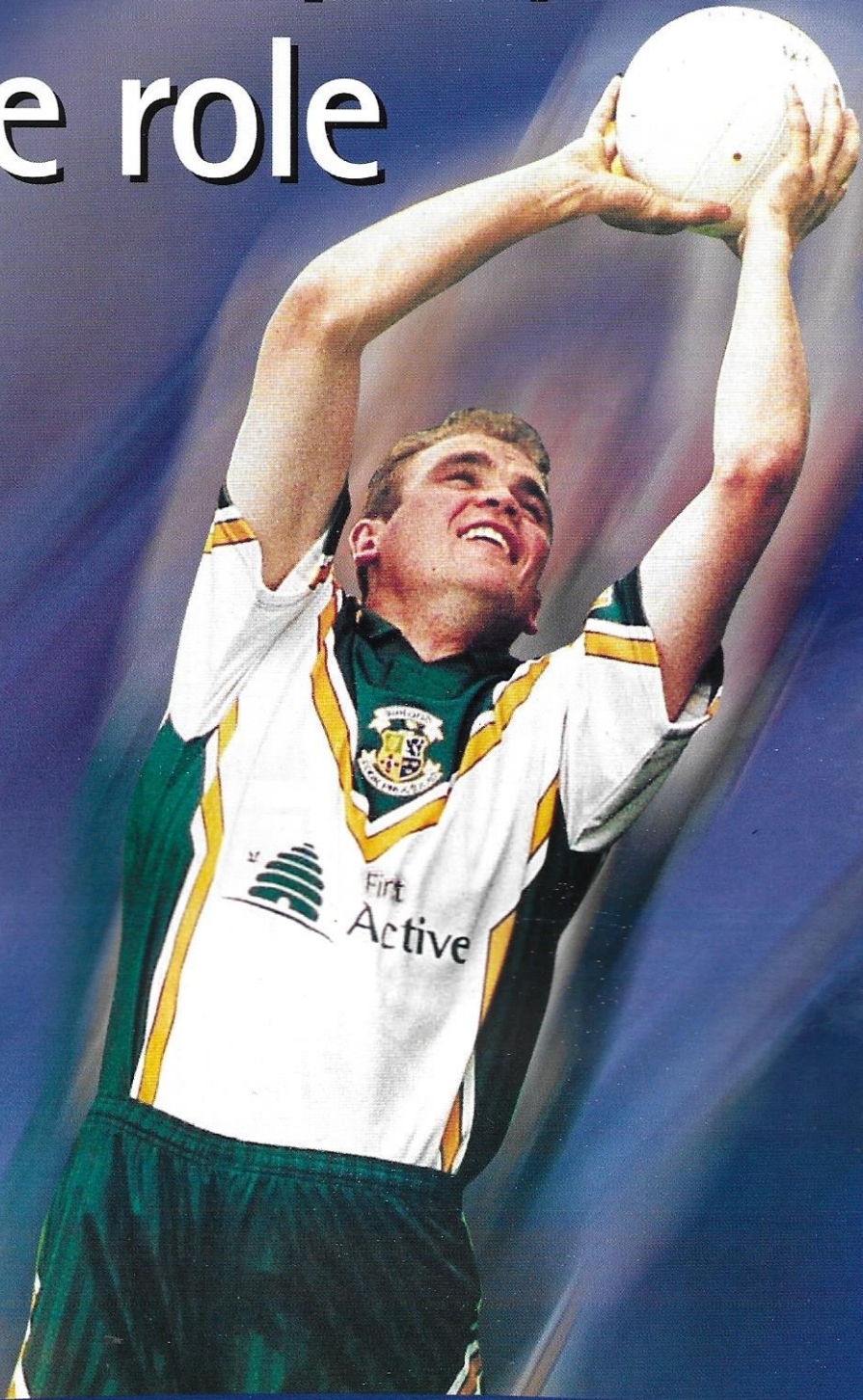
WAY AHEAD

Although Mayo had only two All-Ireland minor titles to their credit when Down first made an impression at this level (1958), the disparity in fortunes in the matter of provincial honours could hardly have been greater as, by that year, Mayo had annexed Connacht honours on 15 occasions (1958 included) while Down's best efforts had been in reaching four Ulster finals, all of which they had lost.



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TOP SCORE

The highest score ever recorded in a minor football final was 5-14 (29 points) and it was recorded twice. In 1967 a powerful Cork team overwhelmed Laois by 5-14 to 2-3 - a margin of 20 points; but eleven years earlier Dublin, who had also scored 5-14 in the final against Leitrim, in a sense went one better than Cork in restricting the losers to 2-2, thus making their winning margin 21 points.

WITH TWO COUNTIES

The first man to win All-Ireland medals with two counties was Ted Downey of Cork. Downey, who was a member of the Midleton team that won the 1890 final, later moved to Dublin where, as a member of the Kickhams club, he helped his adopted county to win the 1897 final.

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34-6pts.....	10-3
11/27-9pts.....	7
1010-12pts.....	14
1613-15pts.....	25
2516-18pts.....	40
8TIE.....	8

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MEATH	CORK
TO SCORE FIRST, LEAD AT HALF TIME AND WIN THE MATCH	
7/2	4/1
TO SCORE LAST, LEAD AT HALF TIME AND WIN THE MATCH	
10/3	7/2

ALL BETS 70 MINS PLAY

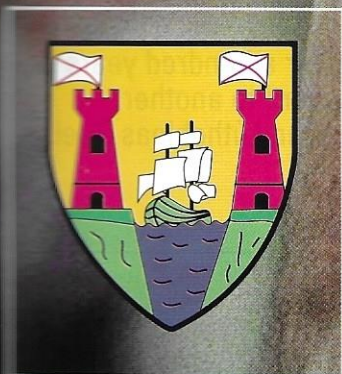
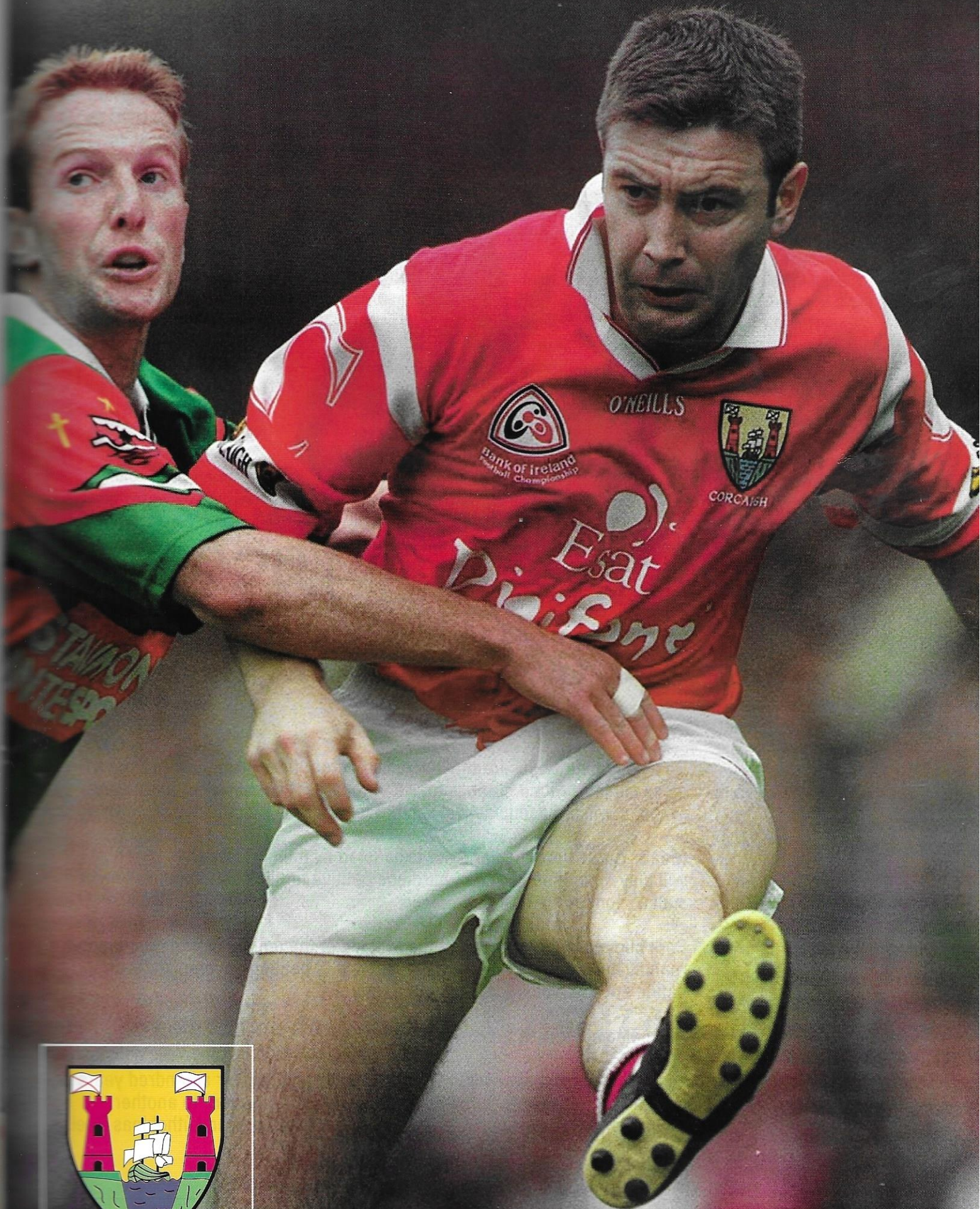
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Joe Kavanagh (Corcaigh) gets the ball away from Gordon Morley (Maigh Eo) during the All-Ireland Senior Football Semi-Final.



Football Final 1999

Cork v. Meath

.....Of Kings and Rebels

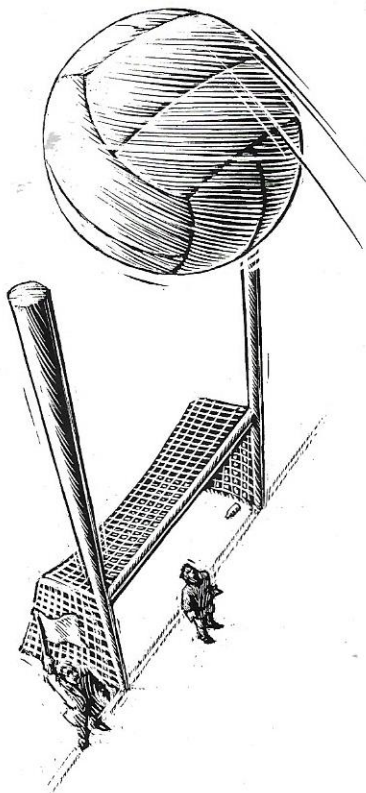
So it has come to this for the last tussle before the Millennium, in a world class stadium with a glorious future - the largest counties in Leinster and Munster will engage in mortal combat for the Sam Maguire.

Meath, battle hardened and not exhausted by the normal series of replays, will play their usual brand of hard competitive football with the finishing of a snake's tongue.

Cork buoyed by the winning of the first leg of the double will "hit the ground running" and believe that they are capable of beating anyone, and woe betide anyone who understates their chances.

All in all a contest fit to finish the millennium.

Football fans from every county have used the railway for a hundred years to visit the 'Headquarters' of Gaelic Football. We look forward to another thousand years of association and friendship with Cumann Lúthchleas Gael.



it's time to take the train

All-Ireland Senior Football Final Referees 1887-1999

1887	John Cullinane (Tipperary)	1926	Tom Shovlin (Roscommon)	1962	Eamon Moules (Wicklow)
1888	No Final	1927	Tom Shovlin (Roscommon)	1963	Eamon Moules (Wicklow)
1889	F.T.O'Driscoll (Cork)	1928	Tom Burke (Louth)	1964	Jimmy Hatton (Wicklow)
1890	J.J.Kenny (Dublin)	1929	Peter O'Farrell (Roscommon)	1965	Mick Loftus (Mayo)
1891	F.J.Whelan (Laois)	1930	Jim Byrne (Wexford)	1966	Jimmy Hatton (Wicklow)
1892	Dan Fraher (Waterford)	1931	T.Keating (Tipperary)	1967	John Moloney (Tipperary)
1893	T Gilligan (Dublin)	1932	Martin O'Neill (Wexford)	1968	Mick Loftus (Mayo)
1894	R.T.Blake (Meath)	1933	Martin O'Neill (Wexford)	1969	John Moloney (Tipperary)
1895	J.J.Kenny (Dublin)	1934	J.McCarthy (Kerry)	1970	Paul Kelly (Dublin)
1896	Tom Dooley (Cork)	1935	Stephen Jordan (Galway)	1971	Paul Kelly (Dublin)
1897	D.S.Lyons (Limerick)	1936	J.McCarthy (Kerry)	1972	Fintan Tierney (Cavan)
1898	John McCarthy (Kilkenny)	1937	Mick Hennessy (Dublin)	replay	Patsy Devlin (Tyrone)
1899	Lar Stanley (Louth)	1938	Tom Culhane (Limerick)	1973	John Moloney (Tipperary)
1900	T.H.Redmond (Dublin)	replay	Peter Waters (Kildare)	1974	Patsy Devlin (Tyrone)
1901	John McCarthy (Kilkenny)	1939	Jim Flaherty (Offaly)	1975	John Moloney (Tipperary)
1902	T.F.O'Sullivan (Kerry)	1940	Seamus Burke (Kildare)	1976	Paddy Collins (Westmeath)
1903	John McCarthy (Kilkenny)	1941	Paddy McKenna (Limerick)	1977	John Moloney (Tipperary)
1904	John Fitzgerald (Cork)	1942	Seamus Kennedy (Donegal)	1978	Seamus Aldridge (Kildare)
1905	M.F.Crowe (Limerick)	1943	Paddy McKenna (Limerick)	1979	Aodh Duggan (Armagh)
1906	John Fitzgerald (Kildare)	replay	Paddy Mythen (Wexford)	1980	Seamus Murray (Monaghan)
1907	John Fitzgerald (Kildare)	1944	Paddy Mythen (Wexford)	1981	Paddy Collins (Westmeath)
1908	M.Conroy (Dublin)	1945	John Dunne (Galway)	1982	P.J.McGrath (Mayo)
1909	M.F.Crowe (Limerick)	1946	Bill Delaney (Laois)	1983	John Gough (Antrim)
1910	No Final	replay	Paddy Mythen (Wexford)	1984	Paddy Collins (Westmeath)
1911	M.O'Brennan (Roscommon)	1947	Martin O'Neill (Wexford)	1985	Paddy Kavanagh (Meath)
1912	Tom Irwin (Cork)	1948	Jim Flaherty (Offaly)	1986	Jim Dennigan (Cork)
1913	M.F.Crowe (Limerick)	1949	Dan Ryan (Kerry)	1987	Pat Lane (Limerick)
1914	Harry Boland (Dublin)	1950	Simon Deignan (Cavan)	1988	Tommy Sugrue (Kildare)
1915	Pat Dunphy (Laois)	1951	Bill Delaney (Laois)	1989	Paddy Collins (Westmeath)
1916	Pat Dunphy (Laois)	1952	S.Hayes (Tipperary)	1990	Paddy Russell (Tipperary)
1917	Pat Dunphy (Laois)	1953	Peter McDermott (Meath)	1991	Seamus Prior (Leitrim)
1918	Pat Dunphy (Laois)	1954	Simon Deignan (Cavan)	1992	Tommy Sugrue (Kerry)
1919	Pat Dunphy (Laois)	1955	Bill Goodison (Wexford)	1993	Tommy Howard (Dublin)
1920	Willie Walsh (Waterford)	1956	Peter McDermott (Meath)	1994	Tommy Sugrue (Kerry)
1921	Willie Walsh (Waterford)	1957	Patsy Geraghty (Galway)	1995	Paddy Russell (Tipperary)
1922	Pat Dunphy (Laois)	1958	Simon Deignan (Cavan)	1996	Pat McEaney (Monaghan)
1923	Jim Byrne (Wexford)	1959	John Dowling (Offaly)	1997	Brendan White (Wexford)
1924	Tom Shovlin (Roscommon)	1960	John Dowling (Offaly)	1998	John Bannon (Longford)
1925	No Final	1961	Liam Maguire (Cavan)	1999	Michael Curley (Galway)

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Four Finals

Cork and Meath have met in four senior football finals - the first in 1967 which Meath won as they did when the counties met for the second time in 1987. The 1998 meeting also went in the Royal county's favour, but Cork recorded their first win in 1990 in the only goal-less decider between them.

1967 - Meath 1-9; Cork 0-9.

At half-time Meath looked a team heading for defeat not just because they had only one point on the board at that stage, but because of Cork's superiority in most sectors - a superiority only vaguely reflected in an 0-4 to 0-1 scoreline, and Meath's lone score had only come after 23 minutes.

But when Meath restarted they were a team revitalised. Paddy Mulvaney started the comeback at the 31st minute and Noel Curran soon added another point. The only goal which came at the 36th minute may not have broken Cork,

but it provided a huge boost for the pursuing Meath men.

Midfield supremacy had swung steadily to the Leinster champions following Matt Kerrigan's switch to that sector and it was his spectacular lob that found the Cork defence wide open; with his back to the goal Terry Kearns rose to meet the dropping ball and Billy Morgan had no option but to challenge him. But his challenge was a split second late and the forward's perfectly-timed flick brought the golden goal. Tony Brennan's quick point left it 1-4 to 0-4, but there was still a long way to go. Eric Philpott reduced the arrears with a nicely-angled point but that brought two in reply from Mick Mellett from frees.

However, Cork were soon back in contention and between the 43rd and 49th minute Con O'Sullivan hit three points from close-in frees, conceded by a defence intent on keeping their net intact at all cost.

Only a point now separated the sides (1-6 to 0-8) and for precious minutes the game teetered on a knife edge. Kearns and Billy O'Neill exchanged points without materially affecting the position and then it was a matter of nerve and stamina. In the event the Royal county showed they had the requisite reserves and late points by Kearns and Curran clinched a hard-earned victory.

Meath scorers: T.Kearns 1-2, M.Mellett 0-2,

P.Mulvaney 0-2, N.Curran 0-2, A.Brennan 0-1.

Cork: E.Philpott 0-3, C.O'Sullivan 0-3, M.O'Loughlin 0-1, F.Hayes 0-1, B.O'Neill 0-1.

Meath: Sean McCormack, Mick White, Jack Quinn, Peter Darby, Pat Collier, Bertie Cunningham, Pat Reynolds, Peter Moore, Terry Kearns, Tony Browne, Matt Kerrigan, Mick Mellett, Paddy Mulvaney, Noel Curran, Ollie Shanley.

Cork: Billy Morgan, Brian Murphy, Jerry Lucey, John O'Mahony, Frank Cogan, Denis Coughlan, Kevin Dillon, Mick Burke, Mick O'Loughlin, Eric Philpott, Gene McCarthy, Billy O'Neill, Eamon Ryan, Con O'Sullivan, Flor Hayes.

Subs: Johnny Carroll for Burke, Jim Downing for McCarthy, J.J.Murphy for Downing.

		Gls	Pts	Wds	Frees	50s
Meath	1st half	0	1	5	12	0
	2nd half	1	8	7	11	0
Total		1	9	12	23	0
Cork	1st half	0	4	8	16	3
	2nd half	0	5	0	12	0
Total		0	9	8	28	3

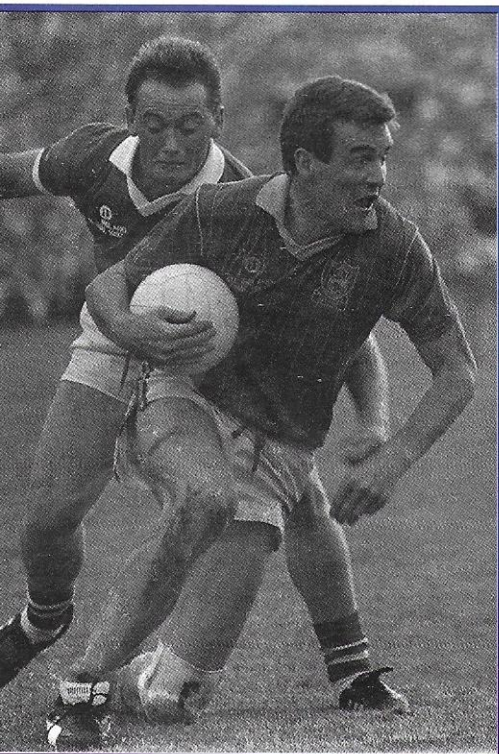
Attendance 70,343

1987 - Meath 1-14; Cork 0-11.

A winning margin of six points suggests a victory achieved with a fair degree of comfort, but in the early stages of this game any suggestion of a comfortable win would revolve around Cork who set the early pace - a pace that Meath strove vainly to match. The 'Royals' may have been on the run during those early minutes, but after an exchange of points between Colm O'Neill and P.J.Gillic, Cork were looking the far more composed and purposeful outfit as they started to put daylight on the scoreboard between themselves and obviously struggling Meath. Between the 11th and 16th minutes Larry Tompkins pointed three frees, and when Christy Ryan, for once avoiding the tenacious Mick Lyons, added another the score was 0-5 to 0-1. The Cork advantage was five points with 22 minutes gone and then came the miss of the afternoon when a careering Cork attacker decided to go it alone when a judicious pass would almost certainly have yielded a goal.

Shrewd Meath did not require a second let-off and after Gerry McEntee had pointed, the only goal of the game, which had a huge bearing on the outcome, came following an O'Rourke, Beggy and Flynn move which the tall corner man finished to the net.

That was the turning point. By the interval they had eased into a 1-6 to 0-8 lead and were never



1987: Meath's Colm O'Rourke in action against Cork's Niall Cahalane.

subsequently headed. For most of the second half the scoring - if not the play - was one way. Completely confident the lead expanded, not dramatically but steadily. Brian Stafford's pointed '50' was just the boost any team needs, and though Tompkins pointed a free in reply, Stafford, Beggy, Stafford again from a free and then from play stretched the lead to a comfortable five points. As Cork disintegrated only Tony Nation, Conor Counihan and Tompkins continued to play with any real conviction and the southern deficit was eight points before Tompkins and John O'Driscoll grabbed consolation points for a well-beaten team.

Weath scorers: B.Stafford 0-7, C.O'Rourke 1-1, D.Beggy 0-3, G.McEntee 0-1, P.J.Gillic 0-1, B.Flynn 0-1.
Cork: L.Tompkins 0-6, N.Cahalane 0-1, J. O'Driscoll 0-1, C.O'Neill 0-1, C.Ryan 0-1, J.Cleary 0-1.

Weath: Michael McQuillan, Robbie O'Malley, Mick Lyons, Terry Fergusson, Kevin Foley, Liam Harnan, Martin O'Connell, Liam Hayes, Gerry McEntee, David Beggy, Joe Cassells, P.J.Gillic, Colm O'Rourke, Brian Stafford, Bernard Flynn.

Subs: Colm Coyle for Cassells, Padraic Lyons for O'Connell.

Cork: John Kearins, Tony Davis, Colman Corrigan, Denis Walsh, Tony Nation, Conor Counihan, Niall Cahalane, Shay Fahy, Teddy McCarthy, John O'Driscoll, Larry Tompkins, Jimmy Kerrigan, Colm O'Neill, Christy Ryan, John Cleary.

Subs: John Evans for Corrigan, Tony Leahy for Fahy, Paddy Hayes for Ryan.

		Gls	Pts	Wds	Frees	50s
Weath	1st half	1	6	4	9	2
	2nd half	0	8	5	7	1
Total		1	14	9	16	3
Cork	1st half	0	8	3	11	0
	2nd half	0	3	6	10	0
Total		0	11	9	21	0

Attendance 68,431.

1988 - Meath 0-12; Cork 1-9.

If this final required a pithy title it was "the free that was...or wasn't". In the event, referee Tommy Sugrue decided that it was, and that decision ensured a replay for the beleaguered champions. But in truth, if Cork had taken just a reasonable proportion of their chances, the referee's late decision would not have been of any consequence, but the squandermania of the Cork attack, more than any positive merits on Meath's side, left them vulnerable to a late strike - a strike in the shape of a 14-yard free which Brian Stafford had no difficulty in converting to deny a Cork victory they looked likely to achieve.

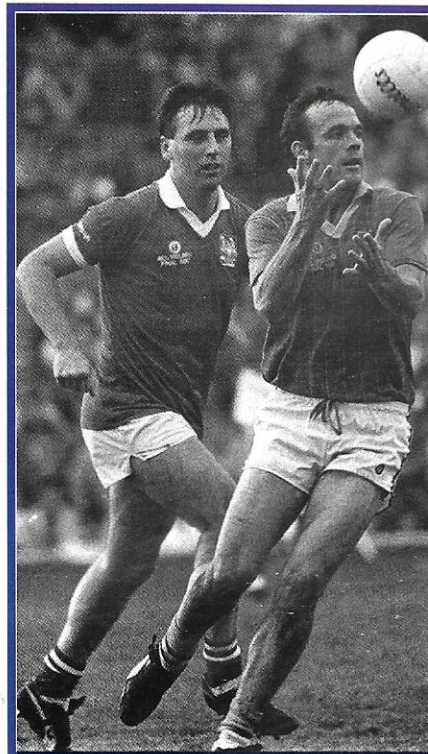
For along way, as Cork rampaged almost at will (except on the scoreboard), only Robbie O'Malley, Colm O'Rourke, Michael McQuillan and Stafford appeared to have the ability to cope with the many skills of Colman Corrigan, Larry Tompkins, Denis Allen and captain Tony Nation. But in the end some credit must be given to Meath whose legendary tenacity never faltered and reaped the reward of a second chance.

Cork scorers: L.Tompkins 0-8, T.McCarthy 1-0, M.McCarthy 0-1.

Meath: B.Stafford 0-8, C.O'Rourke 0-4.

		Gls	Pts	Wds	Frees	50s
Meath	1st half	0	6	3	16	1
	2nd half	0	6	4	10	0
Total		0	12	7	26	1
Cork	1st half	1	2	5	11	0
	2nd half	0	7	9	14	0
Total		1	9	14	25	0

Attendance 65,000



1987: Meath's Mick Lyons in action against Cork's Jimmy Kerrigan.

Continued on page 77

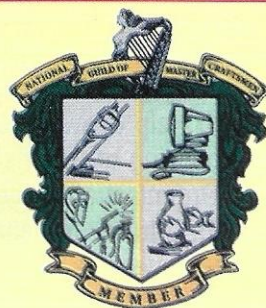
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replay - Meath 0-13; Cork 0-12.

The belief in gaelic games that a team deprived of the services of one of their players invariably lift their game to offset their numerical inferiority, was graphically endorsed in this highly combative second meeting. From the seventh minute when Gerry McEntee departed the scene to the end of a bruising 70 minutes, Cork again squandered chances that might well have carried them through had they a forward capable of finishing some excellent approach work.

Meath may not have been all that much better in setting the scoreboard official to work, but their forwards, operating on a limited service for long periods, especially in the last quarter, proved somewhat more thrifty than their opposite numbers. If it was a memorable final, it was mostly for the wrong reasons - a sending off after a brawl that was, admittedly, more vocal than physical and a surfeit of frees as fervour was substituted for finesse.

In the end Meath's grit triumphed over Cork's waywardness...but a point is a delicate margin.

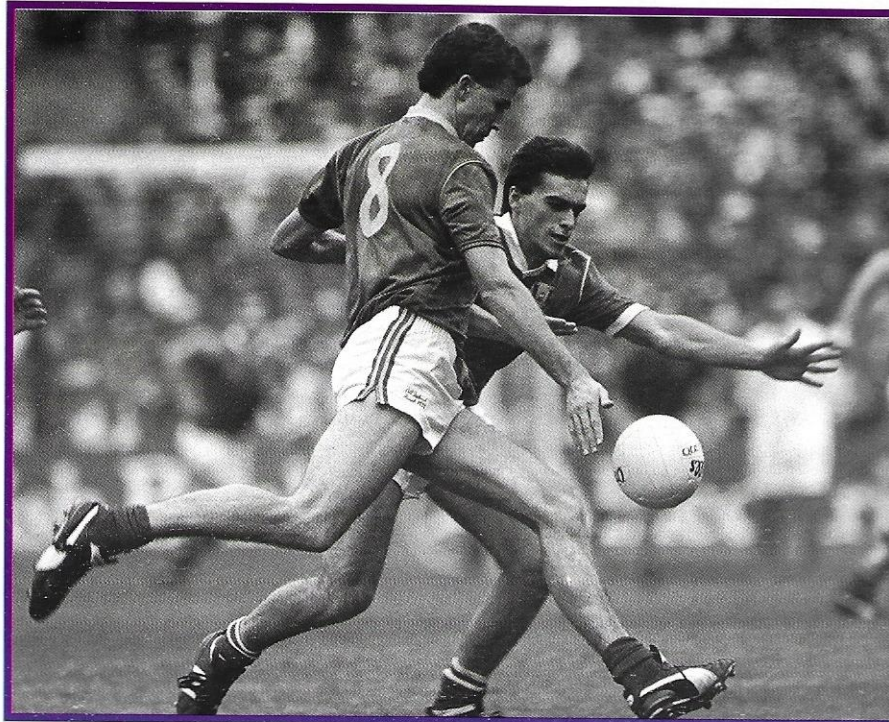
Meath scorers: B.Stafford 0-7, C.O'Rourke 0-3, D.Beggy 0-1, B.Flynn 0-1, J.Cassells 0-1.

Cork: L.Tompkins 0-8, B.Coffey 0-2, D.Allen 0-1, D.Barry 0-1.

Meath: Michael McQuillan, Robbie O'Malley, Mick Lyons, Terry Fergusson, Colm Coyle, Liam Harnan, Martin O'Connell, Liam Hayes, Gerry McEntee, David Beggy, Joe Cassells, P.J.Gillic, Colm O'Rourke, Brian Stafford, Bernard Flynn.

Sub: Mattie McCabe for Gillic.

Cork: John Kearins, Niall Cahalane, Colman Corrigan, Stephen O'Brien, Tony Davis, Conor

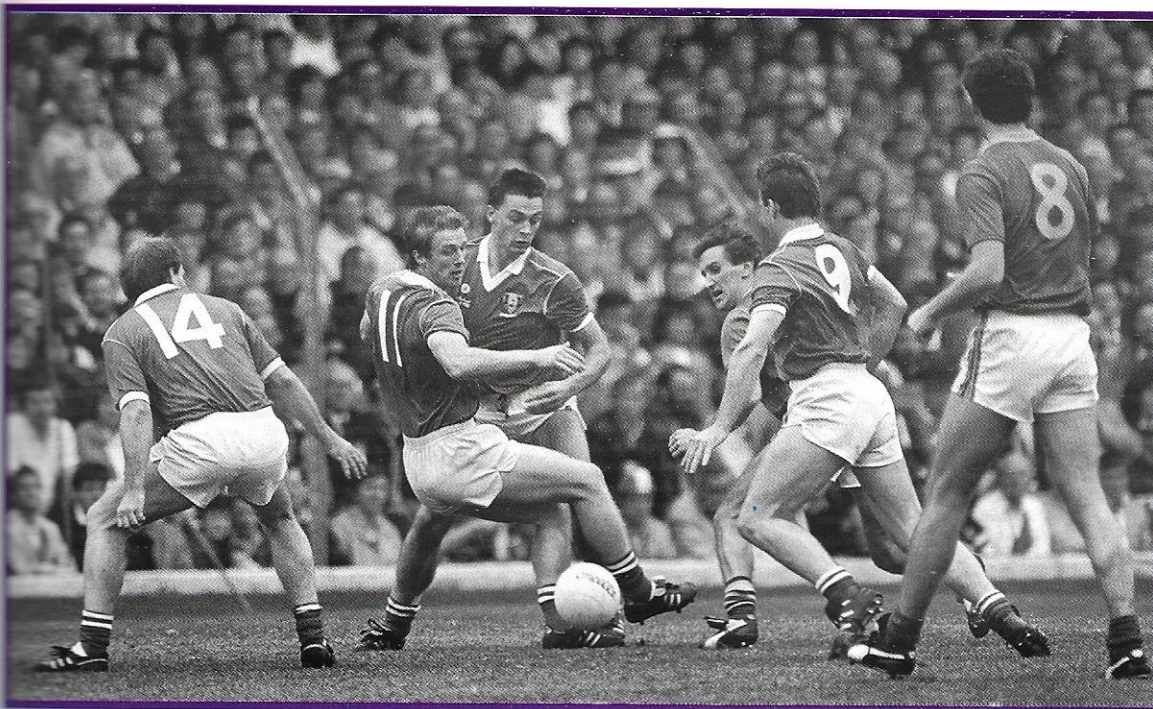


1988: Meath's Liam Hayes in action against Cork's Tony Nation.

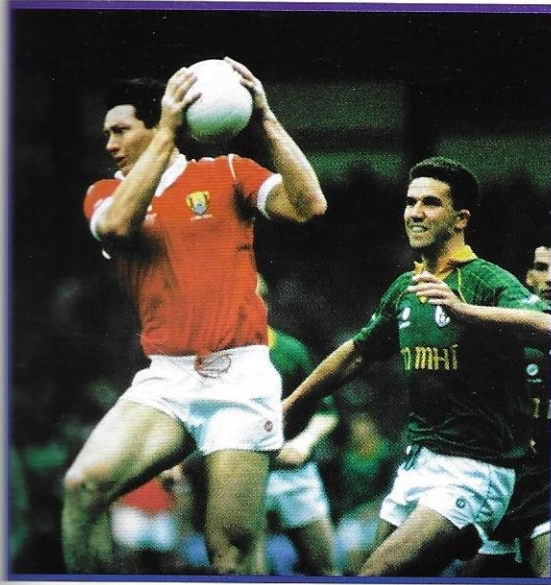
Counihan, Tony Nation, Shay Fahy, Teddy McCarthy, Paul McGrath, Larry Tompkins, Barry Coffey, Denis Allen, Dave Barry, Mick McCarthy. Subs - Colm O'Neill for Mick McCarthy, John O'Driscoll for McGrath.

		Gls	Pts	Wds	Frees	50s
Meath	1st half	0	5	0	13	1
	2nd half	0	8	2	11	1
Total		0	13	2	24	2
Cork	1st half	0	6	3	19	0
	2nd half	0	6	5	15	0
Total		0	12	8	24	0

Attendance 65,000



1988: Cork's Dave Barry (14), Larry Tompkins (11) Tony Davis and Teddy McCarthy (9) in action against Meath's Mattie McCabe and P.J. Gillic (8).



1990: Shay Fahy, Cork in action against Liam Hayes, Meath.

1990 - Cork 0-11; Meath 0-9.

Additional incentives are rarely required in an All-Ireland final but Cork certainly had some in this third final between the counties in four years: They had yet to beat Meath in a final; they were seeking to become the first Cork team to win back-to-back titles and they were also striving for an All-Ireland double that had last been recorded by a Cork team 100 years previously.

There were dissimilarities with the last meeting. This time it was Cork who lost a player early on, and this time it was Meath who did the widening as they ran up a total of 13 to the opposition's seven. And as with Cork in '88 Meath drew neither inspiration nor benefit from the extra man. On a day that saw an inordinate amount of fouling - 69 frees in all - there were fewer scores from frees than in any of the three previous meetings.

And this time Cork showed that they could be

as dogged and unrelenting in pursuit of victory as Meath had ever been. Yet Meath were always there with a chance and one that might have swung the game in their favour occurred early in the second half when John Kerins brought off a great save from Brian Stafford.

Despite their numerical advantage and the superiority wrought by Michael Slocum, Shay Fahy, Danny Culloty and Tony Nation, Cork could never put much daylight between themselves and Meath and the figures of the game which show Meath as having crossed the Cork lines 24 times (9 scores/13 wides) to their opponents' 18 (11 scores/7 wides), must have caused some heart-searching among the losers at the end of it all.

Cork scorers: S.Fahy 0-4, L.Tompkins 0-4, M.McCarthy 0-2, P.McGrath 0-1.

Meath: B.Stafford 0-6, B.Flynn 0-1, C.Coyle 0-1, D.Beggy 0-1.

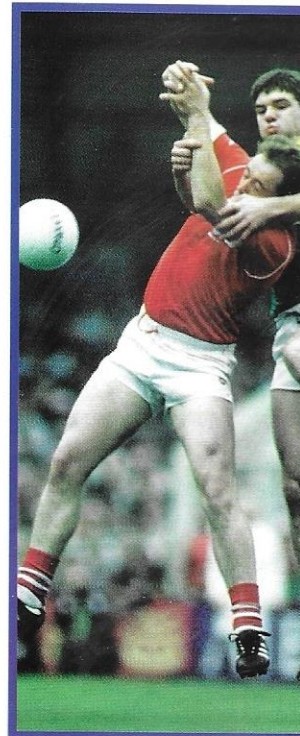
Cork: John Kerins, Tony Nation, Stephen O'Brien, Niall Cahalane, Michael Slocum, Conor Counihan, Barry Coffey, Shay Fahy, Danny Culloty, Dave Barry, Larry Tompkins, Teddy McCarthy, Paul McGrath, Colm O'Neill, Mick McCarthy.

Subs: John O'Driscoll for Mick McCarthy, Paddy Hayes for Barry, John Cleary for McGrath.

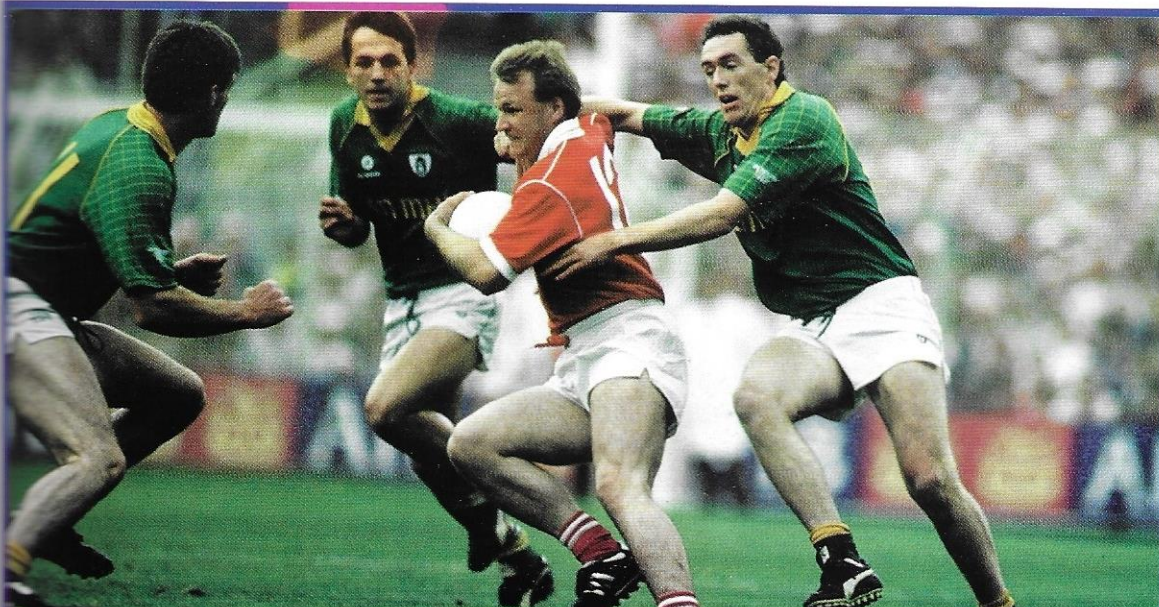
Meath: Donal Smyth, Robbie O'Malley, Mick Lyons, Terry Fergusson, Brendan Reilly, Kevin Foley, Martin O'Connell, Liam Hayes, Gerry McEntee, David Beggy, P.J.Gillic, Colm Brady, Colm O'Rourke, Brian Stafford, Bernard Flynn. Subs - Colm Coyle for Brady, Joe Cassells for McEntee, Tommy Dowd for Beggy.

		Gls	Pts	Wds	Frees	50s
Cork	1st half	0	6	3	12	0
	2nd half	0	5	4	18	0
Total		0	11	7	30	0
Meath	1st half	0	5	7	20	0
	2nd half	0	4	6	19	2
Total		0	9	13	39	2

Attendance 65,723



1990: P.J. Gillic, Meath in action against Niall Cahalane.



1990: Teddy McCarthy, Cork in action against Brian Stafford (right) and P.J. Gillic.

Irish Nationwide Building Society GAA Jubilee Awards

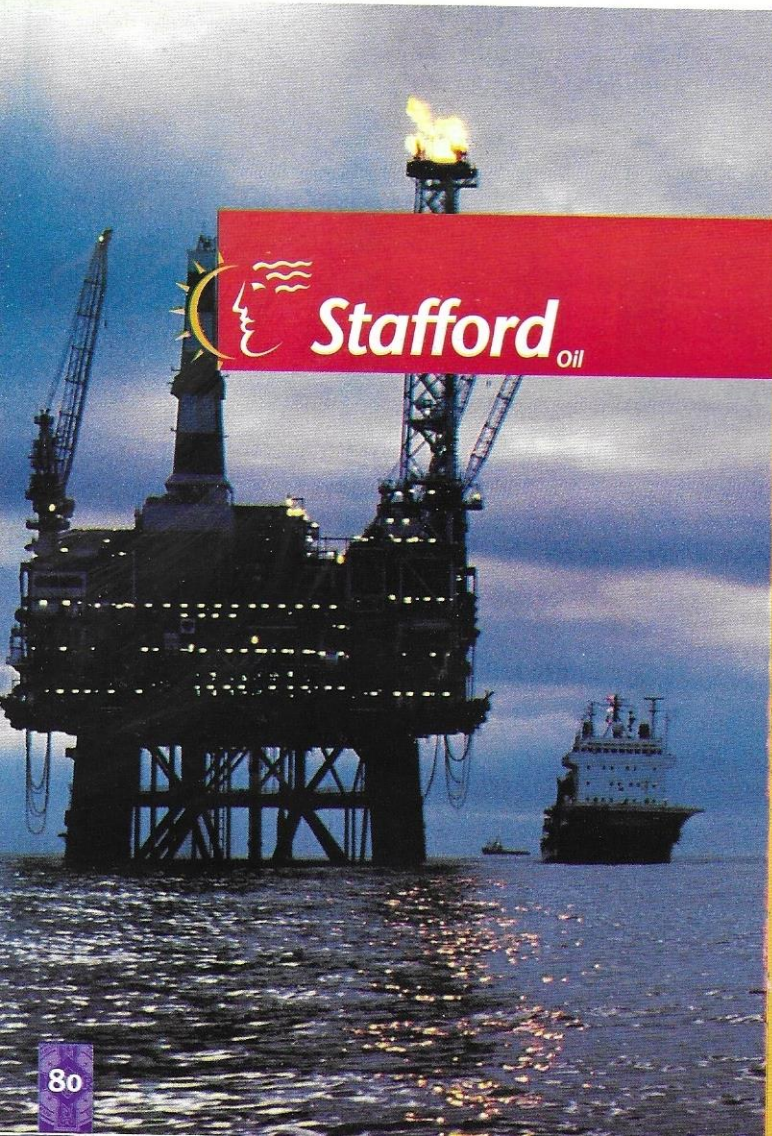
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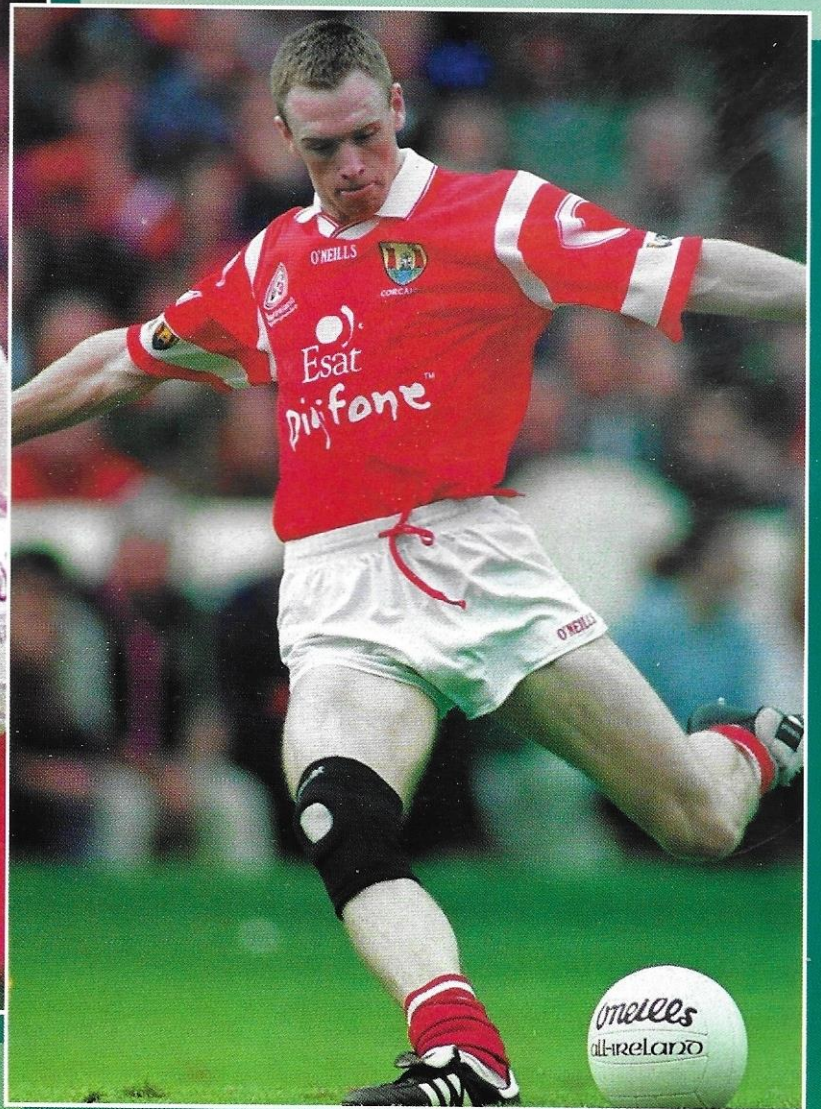
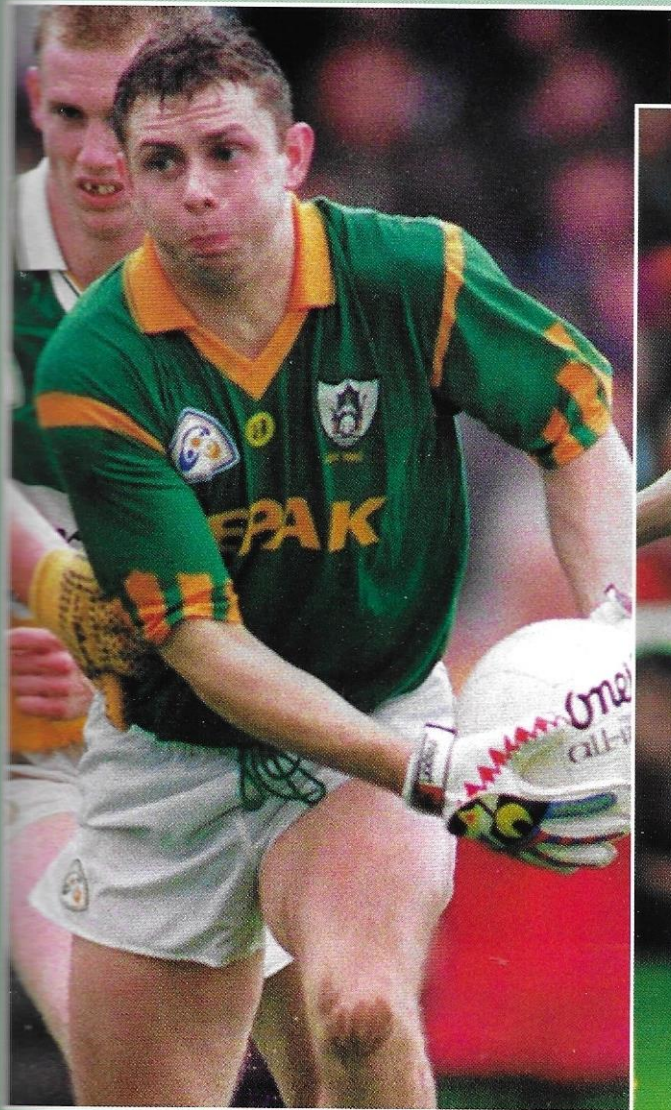
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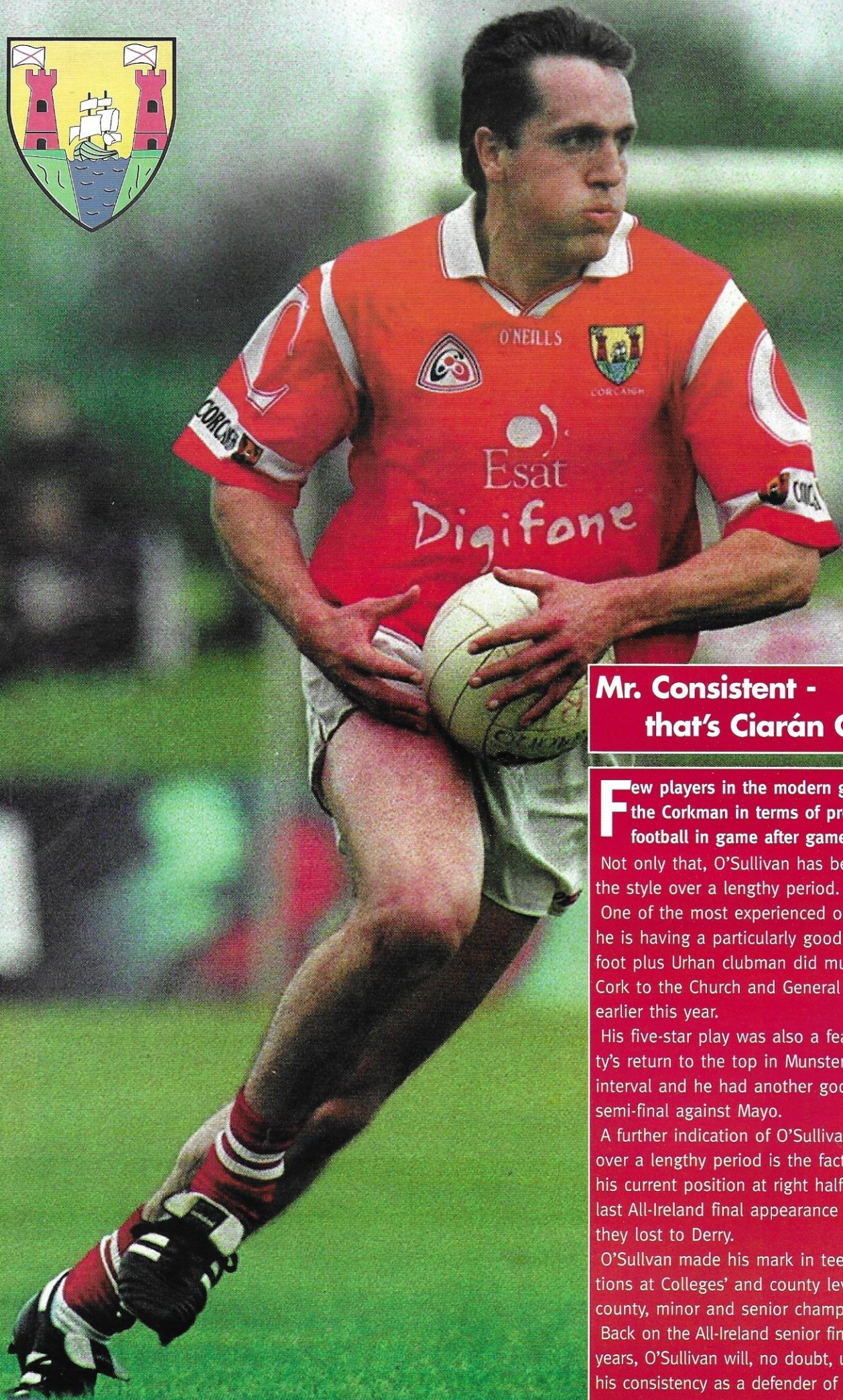


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One of the most experienced of the Corkmen, he is having a particularly good year. The six-foot plus Urhan clubman did much to power Cork to the Church and General National League earlier this year.

His five-star play was also a feature of his county's return to the top in Munster after a four year interval and he had another good game in the semi-final against Mayo.

A further indication of O'Sullivan's consistency over a lengthy period is the fact that he was in his current position at right half back in Cork's last All-Ireland final appearance in 1993 when they lost to Derry.

O'Sullivan made his mark in teenage competitions at Colleges' and county level. He has won county, minor and senior championship medals.

Back on the All-Ireland senior final stage after six years, O'Sullivan will, no doubt, underline again his consistency as a defender of the highest class.

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Ag Féachaint Siar

Cúig Bliana Fíchead Ó Shin (1974)

The short list of favourites for Leinster honours included Offaly, Meath and Kildare - but most certainly not Dublin who had done nothing of significance for almost ten years. The Metropolitans' victory over Wexford by 3-9 to 0-6 or the subsequent dismissal of Louth, which gave them a quarter-final spot, hardly improved their rating, but when they shocked holders, Offaly, Leinster sat up and took notice.

Meanwhile, Meath and Laois had made impressive debuts, and when Kildare came in it was to end Longford's interest by 2-10 to 0-11. Neither semi-final was particularly competitive. Laois's challenge to Meath was surprisingly weak and the Royals strolled to the final by an easy 1-14 to 0-7. Dublin's passage was almost as easy (1-13 to 0-10) as Kildare folded, and then a new era was born when they city men took provincial honours on a 1-14 to 1-9 scoreline.

In Munster, as usual, the preliminaries excited interest only in the competing counties. Tipperary and Waterford had wins over Clare and Limerick respectively, but when these county men pitted their skills against Cork and Kerry the results were almost pitiful to behold - Cork beating Tipperary by 3-14 to 2-2 and Kerry crushing Waterford by 7-16 to 0-8. The southern final was a huge disappointment. Kerry led by two points at the interval and as their forwards slumped, Dave McCarthy's goal set Cork on their way to a 1-11 to 0-7 win.

There were surprises in Connacht but these concerned the ease with which Galway retained their title. The Corribiders had seven points to spare over Mayo at Tuam and when the Roscommon, Sligo, Leitrim triangle had been sorted out, they dispatched Roscommon in the final by 2-14 to 0-8.

In Ulster, Tyrone's hold on the title did not survive the challenge of the opening round as Donegal, the 1972 champions, beat them by 1-9 to 0-8. Down, Antrim and Derry were all first-time winners and Cavan's efforts to dislodge Down in the quarter-final failed by just two points. One-sided semi-finals saw Donegal crush Antrim (5-9 to 1-7) and Down see off a lethargic Derry side by 1-12 to 0-7. The final at Clones compensated for much mediocrity as Donegal won a well-contested replayed encounter by 3-9 to 1-12.

The semi-final clash of Dublin and Cork was the real test of Dublin's quality and they passed with flying colours. An exchange of converted penalties added to the tension but Dublin's new-found tenacity enabled them to beat the All-Ireland champions by 2-11 to 1-8. Donegal's hopes of going one better than on their only previous appearance in the semi-final two years previously never really looked like being realised though their clash with Galway certainly had its moments. In the end, however, the westerners were through to their third final in four years on a 3-13 to 1-14 scoreline.

The standard in the final fell below expectations, but the drama was still present. Galway looked like clawing their way back when they were awarded a 52nd minute penalty but Paddy Cullen saved Liam Sammon's shot and Dublin

surged to what was probably the county's most significant title in more than 50 years on a 0-14 to 1-6 scoreline.

Caoga Bliain Ó Shin (1949)

Armagh signalled their intentions with a 3-6 to 1-8 win over a good Monaghan team while Antrim crushed Derry (5-9 to 1-6) and Donegal cruised past Down by 2-6 to 0-8. But all pretenders to Cavan's Ulster and All-Ireland honours must have been intimidated by the manner in which they opened their defence with a 7-10 to 1-7 win over Tyrone.

Antrim provided stiffer opposition for the champions but still went down (2-6 to 3-7) in the semi-final. The second semi-final was a poor affair as Donegal proved no match for Armagh who were not flattered by a full-time score of 0-14 to 1-4. The final, however, was a worthy affair; the challengers matched Cavan score for score and a last-minute effort for a winning goal just scraped the crossbar as the champions held on - 1-7 to 1-6.

In Connacht Mayo were the team to beat, but no one did, though Roscommon made a brave try at Ballymote before going down by 1-9 to 2-10. Leitrim recorded their first win over Galway in 21 years when they won the semi-final tie at Carrick-on-Shannon by 3-3 to 1-7, but Mayo sounded a warning note to all aspirants when they crushed Sligo at Ballina by 7-10 to 0-2. The Leitrim challenge in the final at Roscommon fizzled out early. Mayo didn't reproduce the scoring bursts of the semi-final, but they didn't need to as they hit 4-6 to Leitrim's 0-3.

In Munster Limerick opted out and in the opening game Tipperary, whose fortunes had waned since the mid-forties, were still good enough to account for Waterford by 3-8 to 3-4 at Dungarvan. The semi-finals saw the Premier county make a bold bid against Cork at Clonmel only to go out on a 4-2 to 2-4 scoreline, but the shock of the decade was wrought by Clare when they scored a first-ever win over Kerry at Ennis by 3-7 to 1-8. However, they were unable to produce another shock as Cork won the final at Limerick by 3-6 to 0-7.

The competition in Leinster was the best for years as Meath and Westmeath recorded some crucial wins to reach the final. The early rounds also had their moments for other counties. Dublin had a hard-earned win by 2-9 to 2-5 over Longford at Mullingar while Louth just held off Wicklow (0-7 to 0-5) at Croke Park.

When Meath entered the competition it was to record an 0-11 to 1-5 win over Kildare and though they conceded four goals to Wexford next time out, they still won (0-14 to 4-0). Meanwhile Westmeath had a shock win over Carlow by 3-7 to 1-5 at Portlaoise and a high-scoring encounter at the same venue between Offaly and Dublin ended 4-7 to 3-7 in the Midlander's favour, before Westmeath completed the semi-final line-up with a first-ever win over Laois (2-5 to 0-7) at O'Connor Park.

Continued overleaf

Continued from previous page

The semi-finals provided some stirring exchanges. At Tullamore, Offaly, who had looked likely winners for a long way were caught at the post (1-9 to 2-6), and seven days later the 'Home' county prevailed at Cusack Park by 0-8 to 1-2. The Meath-Louth affair went to three meetings. Meath came back from the dead the first day (1-5 each) and Louth did likewise in the replay (3-6 to 2-9) before the Royal county edged through by 2-5 to 1-7. After that the final fell flat as Westmeath struggled and Meath prospered - the Royals eventually winning by 4-5 to 0-6.

In the All-Ireland semi-finals Meath survived an opening Mayo barrage and then went on to win by 3-10 to 1-10 while Cavan held off Cork

(1-9 to 2-3). Meath's All-Ireland triumph was widely hailed as they held off a late rally by treble-seeking Cavan to win by 1-10 to 1-6.

Cúig Bliana Seachtód Ó Shin (1924)

Replays were the order of the day in Connacht, though the opening tie between Roscommon and Sligo did produce a decision with the 'home' county winning by 1-4 to 0-2.

Mayo and Leitrim shared four points at Ballaghadereen, but the green and red stepped up their performance at Sligo to win the replay by 3-1 to 1-2. Roscommon lost to Galway at Ballinasloe (1-2 to 2-4), got a replay as a result of a carefully crafted objection but still went out as Galway won the second meeting by 4-3 to 1-1.

The final at Balla was an extraordinary affair and ended with each side having one point on the board. The scoring rate improved considerably for the replay at Tuam where Mayo won by 2-6 to 0-5.

With Longford, Offaly, Wicklow and Westmeath having reverted to junior ranks there was a relatively light list in Leinster where Dublin were seeking a fifth-successive provincial title, and they opened their campaign with a 2-6 to 1-4 win over Meath at An Uaimh. A week later their most creditable challengers Wexford beat Carlow by 3-1 to 1-2 at New Ross.

Kildare and Louth were not pressed in their opening tie as they put paid to the hopes of Laois and Kilkenny - incidentally, by the same score, 3-4 to 0-2. The semi-finals were hectic affairs. At Croke Park backs dominated to such an extent that only three scores were registered in the hour in the Wexford-Kildare game which the Slaneysiders won by 1-1 to 0-1 while two points separated Dublin (winners) from Louth - 2-6 to 2-4. The final took two hours to decide. In the first game Dublin were lucky to escape with a 1-4 all draw, but they didn't need any luck to win the replay - on the last day of November - by 3-5 to 2-3.

Derry were non-starters in Ulster, where two points sufficed to give Tyrone the verdict over Donegal's 0-1. Defending champions Cavan, and Monaghan were untroubled in seeing off the challenge of Armagh and Fermanagh respectively while Antrim put out Down by 1-6 to 1-2.

The Monaghan-Antrim game went to a replay, courtesy of an objection before Monaghan went through (1-4 to 1-1) and Cavan were hard set to hold off Tyrone by 1-6 to 0-7. A draw in the final at Belturbet (1-3 to 0-6) sent Cavan and Monaghan to

Ballybay where the Breffni men won by 2-3 to 1-3.

Kerry, with years of turmoil now firmly behind them, were the popular fancy in Munster - and they duly delivered; and though Tipperary had six All-Ireland medalists in their team, Kerry won at Clonmel by 5-3 to 1-5. Cork beat Waterford scoreless (2-1 to 0-0) at Dungarvan but Kerry beat them at the Athletic Grounds by 4-3 to 2-1. Clare, who ousted Limerick, provided poor opposition for the 'Kingdom' in the Munster final at Limerick where it was double scores - 3-7 to 2-2.

The All-Ireland semi-finals were played in December and in January 1925. The Kerry-Mayo game saw the Munster men qualify with six points to spare (1-4 to 0-1) on December 7, and they were joined in the final by Dublin who held off Cavan, with some difficulty - 0-6 to 1-1. Dublin were seeking a fourth successive title but Kerry bridged a ten-year gap when Con Brosnan's pointed free gave them a 0-4 to 0-3 victory.

Céad Bliain Ó Shin (1899)

By the last year of the century, gaelic games, which had begun to revive in the mid-nineties, still had a long way to go. Apart from a game of uncertain status between Mayo and Sligo in 1888 there had yet to be a championship fixture in Connacht, and not since 1895 when Cavan made a 'once off' appearance in the Leinster championship, had there been any Ulster participation.

And matters were less than satisfactory in the other two provinces with more counties uninterested or unable to field than were prepared to strive for championship honours. A series of walk-overs marked the early stages in Munster where Kerry, for the fourth successive year, did not appear, thus giving a walk-over to Waterford. Limerick, who had won All-Ireland honours only three years previously, declined to compete and Tipperary were granted a walk-over. The fourth, and final walk-over was Cork's from Waterford.

Eventually, however, a game was played between Cork and Tipperary at Tipperary town on October 15, 1900, but this came to a premature end when the ball went burst and no replacement was available. The replay three weeks later also terminated at the half-way stage owing to a dispute between the officials of both teams. But the matter was finally resolved on the third Sunday in January at Turner's Cross where a very depleted Tipperary team went down by 0-1 to 3-11.

The situation in Leinster was little better, though out of the original eight entrants only four actually competed. With only four teams it should have made for a simple two semi-finals and a final format, but as it transpired Dublin played all three of the other contenders and accounted for them all with ease. The game with Laois at Asylum Lane, Kilkenny was farcical as the Midlanders, fielding an incredibly inept seventeen, were beaten by 35 points (7-17 to 0-3). Dublin went back to the Kilkenny venue ten weeks later where they accounted for the 'locals' by 0-10 to 0-2, and despite a strong Wexford challenge in the provincial final, the Metropolitans won easily by 1-7 to 0-3.

With no semi-final opposition Dublin and Cork went straight into the final in which Dublin, after leading by 1-7 to 0-2 at the break, held off a second-half rally by Cork to win by 1-10 to 0-6. Not a vintage year for gaelic football by any reckoning.

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Cork's Doubles



The First - 1890

Hurling - Cork 1-6; Wexford 2-2.

Both counties, as was the rule at that time, were represented by their county champions, Aghabullogue for Cork and Castlebridge for Wexford. In a slack year in Munster, Cork had only one outing, against Kilmoyley (Kerry) in the provincial final at Limerick which they won by 2-0 to 0-1.

Wexford had a more active path - recording a 1-3 to 0-2 win over Kilkenny, a semi-final win over All-Ireland champions, Dublin by 4-1 to 0-1, and a 2-9 to 0-3 win over Laois in the Leinster final. With no opposition from Connacht or Ulster their provincial honours put both teams in the final which was staged at Clonturk Park on November 16. If the venue was to bestow any advantage it should have been with the Leinster champions who had already played two of their three games at the north city grounds.

But it was Cork who looked the more impressive early on and after they had opened the scoring with a point from a '40' (the equivalent of today's '65'), they added two more before the end of the first quarter with Wexford still to open their account. They eventually did but only after Cork added a goal which left it 1-3 to 0-1 at the break.

And when Cork added three points to their total Wexford were reeling but they quickly recovered to ram two goals for the lead (a goal exceeded any number of points). Unfortunately at this stage play became extremely rough, so much so, that, with several Cork men injured the Aghabullogue captain, Dan Lane told the referee they would not continue and with his permission they withdrew from the field. Later the Central Council awarded the match to Cork. An unsatisfactory end to the season but it did mean that Cork were champions for the first time.

Team - D.Lane (Capt.), J.Henchion, T.Toomey, J.Buckley, P.Buckley, D.Sullivan, D.Drew, J.Lenihan, D.Lenihan, F.Goode, D.Hogan, M.Horgan, C.McCarthy, J.Reilly, T.O'Connor, P.O'Riordan, J.Sullivan, D.Regan, D.Looney, J.Kelleher, F.Kelly. (21-a-side)

Football - Cork 2-4; Wexford 0-1.

The route to the final could hardly have been easier. Waterford beaten scoreless in the opening round by county champions Midleton, Kerry beaten by six points

in the Munster final and Armagh by 18 in the All-Ireland semi-final. Wexford's (Blues and Whites) path was more troubled - a draw, two one-point wins and a walk-over from Galway in the semi-final.

The final pairing had emerged by early November 1890, but it was to be more than 18 months before the final was staged at Clonturk Park following a series of objections, delays and postponements which threatened to abort the fixture altogether.

Strangely, considering the scoreline, the Dublin papers described it as a "great contest witnessed by a crowd of several thousand". Wexford won the toss but it was only of minor advantage as the wind blew diagonally towards the Clontarf goal. Early pressure brought no reward to Wexford, but after a period of up and down play, the Slaneysiders came back to open the scoring after seven minutes and following another period of even exchanges Cork equalised at the end of the opening quarter. Wexford had a few attacks that were well held and then shortly before half-time Cork had their first goal which enabled them to turn over leading by 1-1 to 0-1.

Hold-ups resulting from disputes, injuries and frees broke the continuity of play in the third quarter, but as Wexford tired Cork took over and their second goal entering the fourth quarter killed off the game as a contest. The additional three points, scored in the closing minutes, merely underlined Cork's superiority.

Team - J.Power (Capt.), J.Leahy, R.Kelleher, J.Fitzgerald, M.Roche, W.Hennessy, M.Coleman, M.Buckley, J.Aherne, W.Buckley, M.Egan, W.Colbert, D.Murphy, M.Moore, M.Downey, J.Kennedy, W.Toomey, P.Moore, W.Kennedy, M.Hennessy, J.D.O'Shea. (21-a-side)

The Last - 1990

Hurling - Cork 5-15; Galway 2-21.

This was a marvellous contest that produced 43 scores and three times as many thrills on an afternoon of passion and powerful hurling. Both counties had much to prove - Galway that the slip to Tipperary twelve months beforehand had been an unexpected blip and Cork that they could still reach unprecedented heights when the prize was the McCarthy Cup. And they did.

A Kevin Hennessy goal with the game only 48 seconds old was a dream start, but Galway were soon making the running with a forward sextet every one of whom could pick off delightful scores and at the interval the 23 scores which adorned the scoreboard read 1-13 to 1-8 in the Westerners' favour.

But the second half brought a change in the tenor of the exchanges and a contributing factor was Ger Cunningham's huge pucks out, every one of which landed between the Galway half and full line of defence, forcing the hitherto dominant Keady, Finnerty and McNerney to fall back almost on top of their full-line colleagues. The ensuing 'congestion' should have hampered the forwards but it didn't. The Cork attack simply revelled in the abundant service and Tomas Mulcahy's goal nine minutes after the restart sent them on their way. Mark Foley's brilliant goal after 56 minutes grabbed the lead, and though the incident of the '65' that wasn't may have been a help, Cork scarcely needed it as the tide was now flowing strongly for them. The lead stretched to six points before Lyskey's goal restored uncertainty but Cork held on for a great victory in a great game.

Team - G.Cunningham, J.Considine, D.Walsh, S.O'Gorman, S.McCarthy, J.Cashman, K.McGuckian, B.O'Sullivan, T.McCarthy, G.Fitzgerald, M.Foley, T.O'Sullivan, T.Mulcahy, K.Hennessy, J.Fitzgibbon.

Subs - D.Quirke for McGuckian, C.Casey for B.O'Sullivan.

Football - Cork 1-11; Meath 0-9.

It is rarely, even in an All-Ireland final, that a team is under such pressure as that which this Cork team had to endure, and for obvious reasons. After the victory of the hurlers the double was 'on', a fitting way to celebrate the first-ever double by any county a century before and not least, the fact that Meath were providing the opposition. Twice in the previous three years the Royal county had denied Cork, the second of these finals being the source of much anguish by the Lee as for most of the way they enjoyed the advantage of the extra man.

And now they would have to do it with a numerical disadvantage after the loss of Colm O'Neill at the 31st minute for a reckless rather than a vicious exchange with the Meath full-back.

But Cork rose manfully to the challenge. Shay Fahy and Danny Culloty won an enormous amount of possession at midfield and if the forwards did not exactly

go to town with the consistent supply, they did prove themselves a more thrifty bunch than their opposite numbers who somehow contrived, from a limited service, to shoot a total of 13 wides to Cork's seven. Yet many of those were enforced errors as the Cork defenders harried relentlessly and to great effect as evidenced by Meath's final tally - the poorest return by a Royal county attack in a final. This wasn't football at its prettiest - the tackling and the stakes made that almost impossible - and 69 frees interrupted the flow of exchanges at regular - and irregular - intervals. But supporters of the winners exiting from Croke Park would not complain. The double had been won and that's what mattered in the end.

Team - J.Kerins, T.Nation, S.O'Brien, N.Cahalane, M.Slocum, C.Counihan, B.Coffey, S.Fahy, D.Culloty, D.Barry, L.Tompkins, T.McCarthy, P.McGrath, C.O'Neill, M.McCarthy.

Subs - J.O'Driscoll for M.McCarthy, P.Hayes for Barry, J.Cleary for McGrath.

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Leinster G.A.A's commitment to second level schools is re-inforced by the huge response to their transition year coach education programme.

At a presentation in Croke Park last November almost 300 students received certification having successfully completed the transition year course.

The course consists of both theory and practice and requires each student to complete a coaching logbook of sessions that they themselves have organised in their local primary schools/clubs.

SIX HUNDRED STUDENTS

The corresponding presentation this year will see a massive 600 students receive certification on November 3rd in the new stand at Croke Park.

Successful students will have the opportunity to meet G.A.A. President Joe McDonagh. They will be given a tour of the new stand and of the highly impressive G.A.A. Museum, and finally as a mark of appreciation each student will be presented with a specially commissioned Leinster G.A.A. bag and T-shirt.

The courses are conducted in each county by the full-time Coaching and Games development Officers in conjunction with their games development committees. Further information regarding this coaching initiative may be obtained from the Leinster G.A.A. coaching directors:

Colm Brady 087 2601522

Lester Ryan 087 2601524

Cyril Duggan 086 2601523



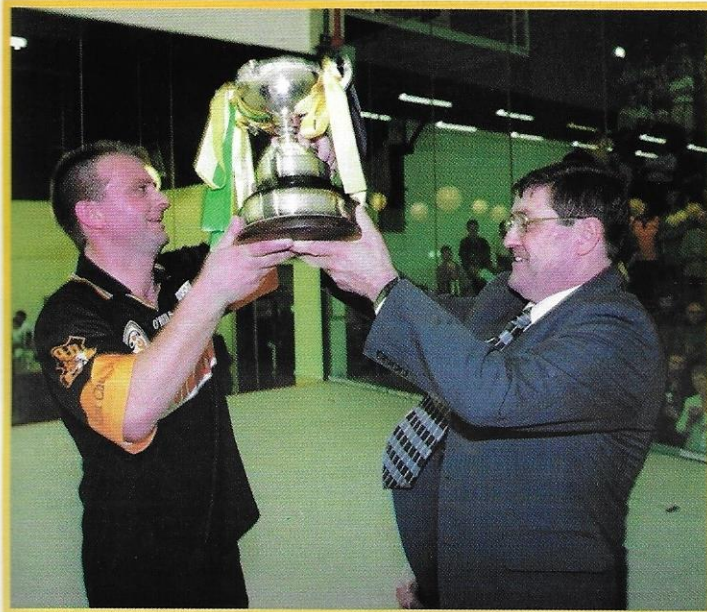
Pictured from (l-r): Colm Brady, Lester Ryan, Ann Aherne, Kilkenny C.B.S. and Cyril Duggan.

High Ball All-Ireland Softball Finals

Michael 'Duxie' Walsh regained the High Ball All-Ireland Senior Softball Singles title at Croke Park on 11th September when he defeated defending champion Walter O'Connor 21-9, 21-10 in the final before a packed gallery.

This was Duxie's 14th win in 15 years and in his victory speech he announced that this was his last Singles final. In an emotional gesture, he presented his 1999 medal to Tommy O'Brien and paid tribute to him for coaching him from the age of nine.

Carlow's David King and John Ryan took the ISD medals at the expense of Tom and Billy O'Brien (Limerick) 21-15, 21-4 while Michael Gregan and Sammy Willoughby took the MSD title to Wicklow for the first time since 1959 when they got the better of Mayo's Dessie Keegan and Barry Hough on a 5-21, 21-11, 21-7 scoreline.



Peadar McArtúir, Uachtarán, Irish Handball Council, presents the Purcell Cup to Michael 'Duxie' Walsh, Gull Chaimhinn following his victory over Walter O'Connor, an Mhí, in the High Ball All-Ireland Senior Singles final at Páirc an Chrócaigh on the eve of the All-Ireland hurling final.

Men In The Middle

The first man to referee an All-Ireland football final and later become President of the Association was Offaly's John Dowling who had charge of the 1959 and 1960 finals and served as President from 1988 to 1990. He was followed by Mick Loftus - the Mayo doctor, who became President after having refereed the 1965 and 1968 finals. The Offaly man enjoys the added distinction of being the only President to have refereed All-Ireland senior football and hurling finals.

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Cúinne na nÓg

Tráth na gCeist

1. In what year was a new name last inscribed on the All-Ireland minor football championship Roll of Honour?
2. Tyrone won the All-Ireland minor football title last September. Who were runners-up?
3. Trevor Giles (Meath) won an All-Ireland minor football medal in 1992. True or false?
4. Tipperary won their first Bord na Gaeilge All-Ireland senior camogie title earlier this month. That game also made history in another direction. Any ideas on that point?
5. The Bank of Ireland All-Ireland ladies senior football final next month will be between Waterford and Meath, Monaghan or Mayo?
6. Who captained Meath in their unsuccessful All-Ireland senior football final in 1990 against Cork?
7. When will Joe McDonagh's term of office as President of the G.A.A. end?

Match the Trophy and the Competition

Listed below are six trophies on offer to winners of various competitions in Gaelic Games. Match the trophy to the correct competition.

- | | |
|-------------------|-------------------------------|
| Anglo Celt Cup | AIB All-Ireland Club. |
| Tom Markham Cup | Universities' senior football |
| Liam McCarthy Cup | All-Ireland minor football. |
| Sigerson Cup | Universities senior hurling. |
| Fitzgerald Cup | Ulster senior football. |
| Andy Merrigan Cup | All-Ireland senior hurling. |

Spot the Deliberate Mistakes

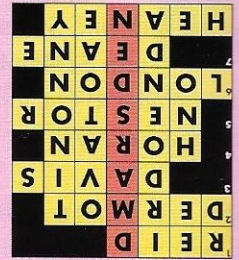
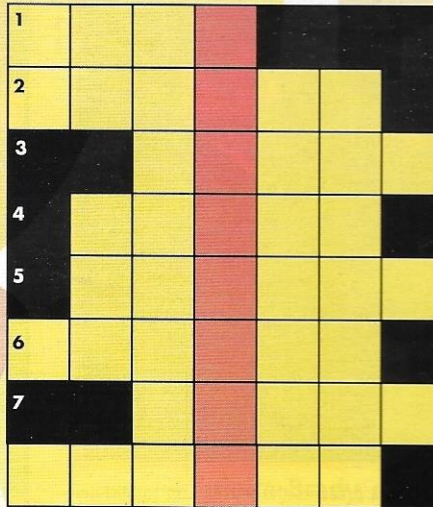
Listed below are four sentences each containing a deliberate mistake. All you have to do is to spot each one.

1. Cork did well to beat Kerry in the rain in the Church and General National Football League final last May.
2. Crossmaglen Rangers gave a fine exhibition when winning their third AIB All-Ireland senior football title last St. Patrick's Day.
3. Armagh opened their successful Ulster senior football championship campaign by seeing off Derry in a replay at Ballybofey.
4. Galway's bid to become the first Connacht titleholders to make a successful defence in three years was ended in the rain in July at Tuam Stadium by Mayo.

Junior Crossword

Solve all the clues correctly and the shaded squares will reveal the name of a bright young and sharp-shooting forward, who won his first provincial senior championship medal earlier this year.

1. Surname of a defender who helped his county to a first provincial senior football title this year after many years.
2. Christian name of a young player, son of a former intercounty footballer of the same Christian and surname, who will be travelling to Australia with the Irish squad next month.
3. Surname of a flashing football forward from Cork.
4. This footballer was Mayo's outstanding player in the 1999 Bank of Ireland Connacht senior football championship.
5. Surname of the Mayo footballer who wore the No. 15 jersey against Cork.
6. Galway's first round opponents in this year's Connacht senior football championship.
7. Small, speedy and so accurate in his finishing, this forward was a sharpshooting hero for Cork in their successful Liam McCarthy Cup campaign.
8. Surname of Mayo's centre half back against Cork in last month's Bank of Ireland All-Ireland semi-final.



JUNIOR CROSSWORD

ago.
SE title was by Mayo in 1997, two years
The last successful defence of the Connacht
Armagh beat Donegal not Derry in a replay.
Patrick's Day.
The AIB All-Ireland club championship on St.
Crossmaglen Rangers won their second, not
Cork beat Dublin not Kerry.
Spot the Deliberate Mistake
Universities senior hurling.
—
All-Ireland club senior hurling championship.
—
Merrigan Cup —
Universities senior football.
—
—
All-Ireland senior hurling championship.
—
Liam McCarthy Cup —
All-Ireland minor football championship.
—
Tom Markham Cup —
Ulster senior football championship.
—
Anglo Celt Cup —
Match the Trophy and the Competition
The next year's Annual Congress.
Liam O'Rourke.
Mayo.
That.
It was the first 15-a-side All-Ireland senior
The.
Lads.
so far.
1999 when Westmeath won their only title
Tráth na gCeist

Comhairle - the National Leadership and Administration Programme for Club Officers is available to all Club Officers from October 1999 to February 2000.



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- Code of Conduct
- Youth Policy
- Teamwork in the Club
- Sub-Committees in the Club
- Analysis and Evaluation in the Club
- Strategic Planning for the Club

If so, please contact your County Secretary, who will arrange for the Comhairle Programme to come to your County soon.

Where does all the money go?

One of the most common comments one hears in a sporting context is the one about the GAA and all their money. It is an easy jibe to make but it shows a serious lack of understanding of how the Association uses its resources.

There are some very important details which need to be recognised. Firstly, the Association uses its money constructively and does not hoard it. Only a very nominal amount is retained each year. An examination of the published accounts for 1998 reveals that in 1998 the following major outlays were undertaken.

• Games Development and Coaching	£1.300 million
• Grants for Provincial Grounds	£0.100 million
• Grants for County Grounds	£0.375 million
• Grants for Club Grounds	£0.200 million
• Grants for Omagh Fund	£0.250 million
• Other Projects	£0.250 million
Total	£2.475 million



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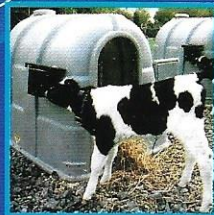
After this a total of £2.5 million was invested in the Croke Park Redevelopment Project. This represents a total investment in the future of our Association and our games of almost £5 million **in just one year**. All this was done while still financing the day-to-day running of the Association.

In addition to the expenditure on development as outlined above, a further £1.8 million was paid out under the Players' Injury Scheme representing a significant contribution to the welfare of our players.

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SOARING

ABOVE THE
COMPETITION...



Fiche Ceist

Twenty questions to see how expert you are on happenings in All-Ireland senior and minor football finals of the nineties.

1. Cork won the first Sam Maguire Cup tie of the 'Nineties. What county won the corresponding minor final?
2. Who was the first Ulster man presented with the new Sam Maguire Cup?
3. Who captained Donegal to their history-making win over Dublin in the 1992 senior decider?
4. Did Dublin contest an All-Ireland minor football final in the nineties?
5. What was Dublin's winning margin over Tyrone in the 1995 Sam Maguire Cup tie?
6. Who refereed last year's All-Ireland senior football final?
7. What was the last year during the decade in which one county won the All-Ireland minor and senior football titles on the same day?
8. Three counties will see out the decade as the most successful in minor football in terms of All-Ireland successes. Meath, champions in 1990 and 1992 is one. Who are the others?
9. What was Galway's winning margin over Kildare in last year's senior decider—three, four or five points?
10. One of the following finished top scorer nationally for last year's championship—Padraig Joyce, Michael Donnellan (Galway), Declan Browne (Tipperary) or Maurice Fitzgerald (Kerry). Which?
11. What was the last year during the decade in which a county won an All-Ireland senior final without scoring a goal?
12. Who captained Tyrone in their unsuccessful Sam Maguire Cup bid four years ago?
13. Excluding the 1996 drawn final and replay only two men refereed more than one All-Ireland senior football final during the decade. Paddy Russell (Tipperary) is one. Who is the other?
14. What was the last senior final that failed to produce a single goal?
15. Who were runners-up for last year's All-Ireland minor football title?
16. How many goals were scored in last year's minor final—one, two or three?
17. Who captained Kildare in the Sam Maguire Cup tie last September?
18. Larry Tompkins led Cork to their last Sam Maguire Cup win. True or false?
19. Who presented the Sam Maguire Cup to Henry Downey (Derry) after the 1993 final?
20. Counties from all four provinces won the All-Ireland minor football title in the decade now drawing to a close. True or false?

1. Meath, who beat Kerry in the final.
2. Paddy O'Rourke (Down) in 1991.
3. Anthony Molloy.
4. No.
5. One point—1-10 to 0-12.
6. John Bannon (Longford).
7. No county won the minor and senior titles on the same day during the decade.
8. Cork (1991 and 1993) and Laois (1996 and 1997).
9. Four points—1-14 to 1-10.
10. Declan Browne (Tipperary).
11. 1997 when Kerry were successful. They scored 0-13.
12. Taran Corn.
13. Tommy Sugrue (Kerry), referee of the finals of 1992 and 1994.
14. 1992: Donegal 0-18; Dublin 0-14.
15. Laois.
16. Two, both by Tyrone.
17. Glen Ryan.
18. True.
19. Peter Quinn (Fermanagh), then President of the G.A.A.
20. False. Connacht did not provide a winning county. The remaining provinces are all represented in the title winning rankings.

Fragraí



DID YOU KNOW?

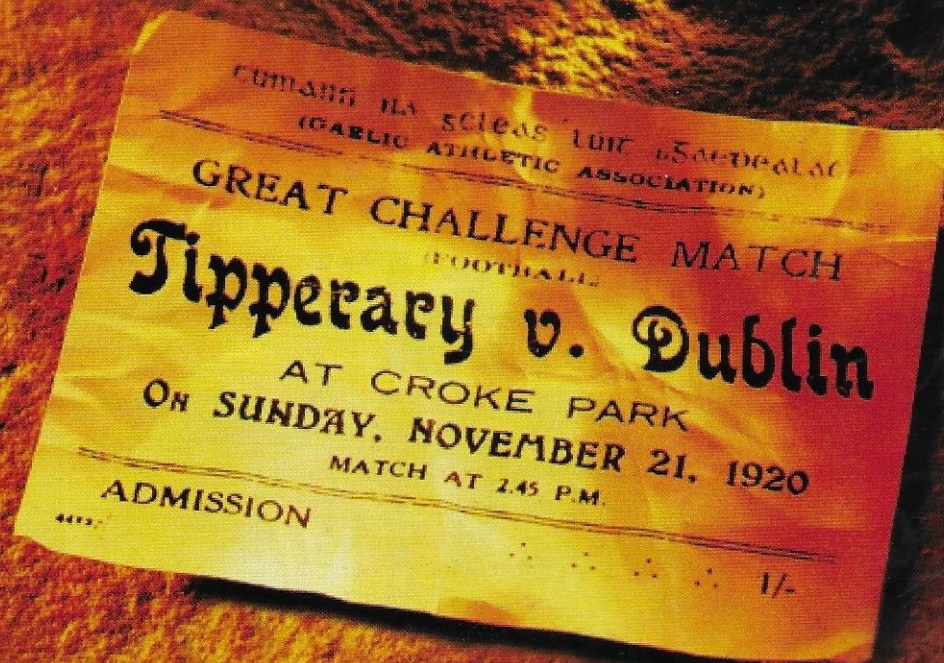
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Cumann na mBunscol

The greatest thrill for Cumann na mBunscol teachers is to see their past pupils play in Croke Park on All-Ireland final day. The I.N.T.O.-G.A.A. Mini -Sevens has made a major contribution, over the past 13 years, towards sharpening the ambition of young players and increasing their desire to return to Croke Park on one of the great days in the G.A.A. calendar. The Association gives centre- stage today to 40 children from throughout the country as they display the skills learned in their national school nurseries and we salute the many teachers who have given freely of their time and enthusiasm to promote our games.

I.N.T.O. / GAA Mini-Sevens

Kerry For the next Double

“You must be joking!” seems to be the response from Michael Grogan former Offaly footballer and Managing Director, Roadstone Provinces, as he chats with three Kerymen, Jerry Grogan, Senator Joe O’Toole and Tim Maher at the



launch of the Roadstone-Cumann na mBunscol awards. This year’s awards’ banquet will be held in the Grand Hotel, Malahide on October 26th.

I.N.T.O.- GAA



I.N.T.O. President, Des Rainey, a native of Derry, welcomed G.A.A. President, Seosamh Mac Donncha, to the I.N.T.O -G.A.A. Mini-Sevens prior to the All-Ireland Hurling final.

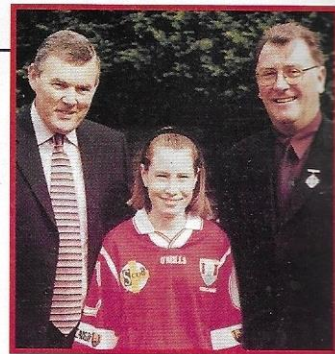
Rebel Sextet

The parish of Ballincollig was well represented at the Cork-Mayo semi-final earlier this month. Patrick Cronin and Thomas Murray represented Scoil Eoin and brought some supporters along to cheer them on. They are all hoping for The Rebels to complete the double today to end the Millennium in style. In the picture are back row (l-r): Patrick Cronin, Paul O’Donoghue and Thomas Murray. Front (l-r): Denise Cronin, Brian Murray and David O’Driscoll.



Monaghan Mini

Vivienne Tavey, Castleblaney G.N.S. wore the Cork jersey in the Mini-Sevens at the Hurling final when she displayed her considerable Camogie skills at half-time. She was following in her Dad’s footsteps as Eamonn Tavey wore the Monaghan and Ulster jerseys with distinction. Before the “Minis” she was greeted in Clonliffe College by G.A.A.

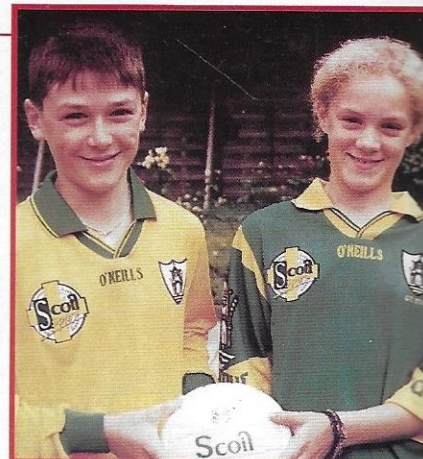



President, Seosamh Mac Donncha and President elect, Sean McCague, himself a proud Monaghan man and former provincial and county team manager.

Royal Duo

Micheal Fogarty, Rathfeigh N.S. - home of former greats Peter Mc.Dermott and Colm O’Rourke - and Rebecca Rogers, St. Paul’s N.S Navan, represented their schools in this year’s Mini-Sevens during the Meath-Armagh semi-final. They will be cheering on the Royals today and both are confident of a Leinster success. Micheal is a goalkeeper and expects a three or four point victory with his favourite player, Ollie Murphy,

making a big contribution. Rebecca is a corner-forward who plays her club football with Navan O’ Mahony’s. She would love to meet her favourite player, Trevor Giles, and will be watching him closely today. Marching out behind The Artane Boys’ Band was her favourite part of the Mini-Sevens and she is grateful to teachers Mary O’Brien and Joe Kelly for the time they spent coaching her skills.





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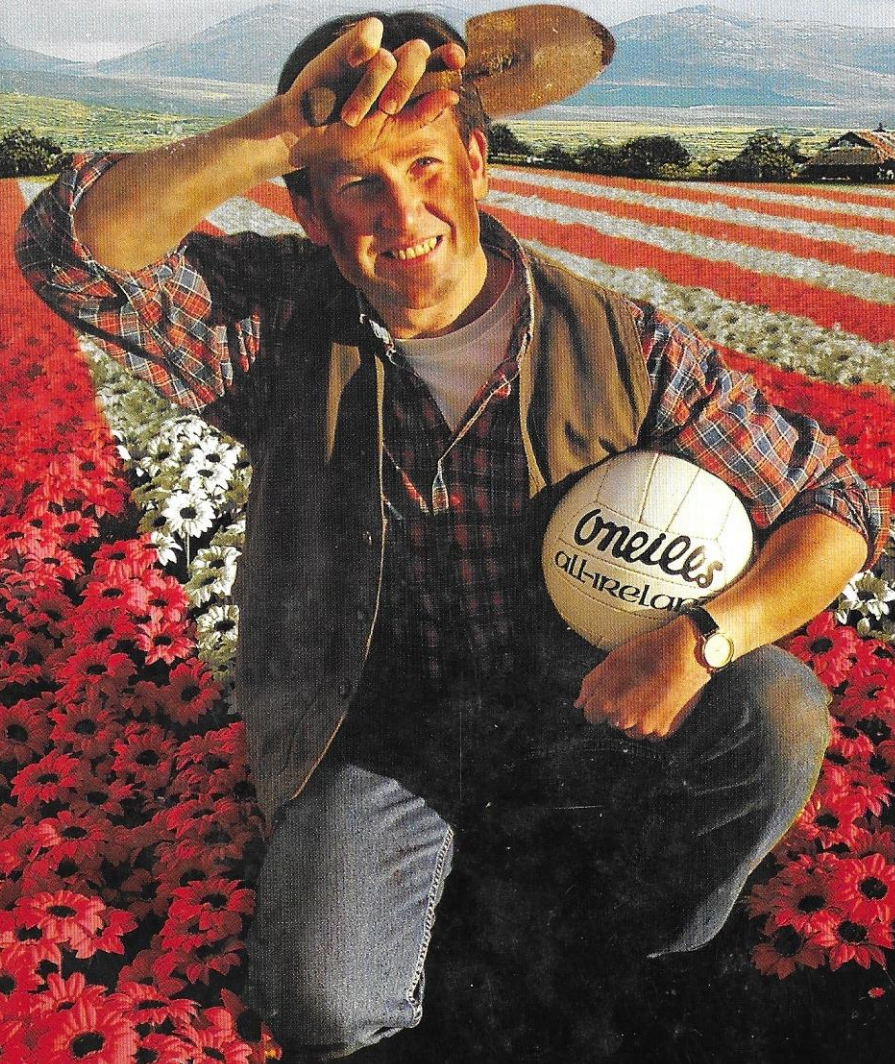


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