Cumann Lúthchleas Gael

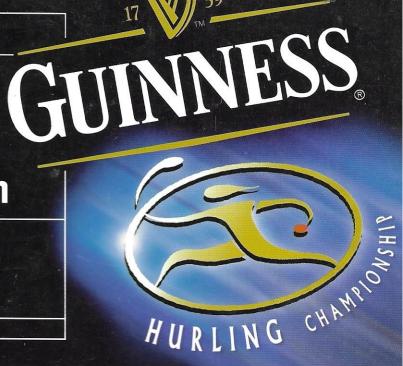
Cluichí Leath-Cheannais Iomána na hÉireann

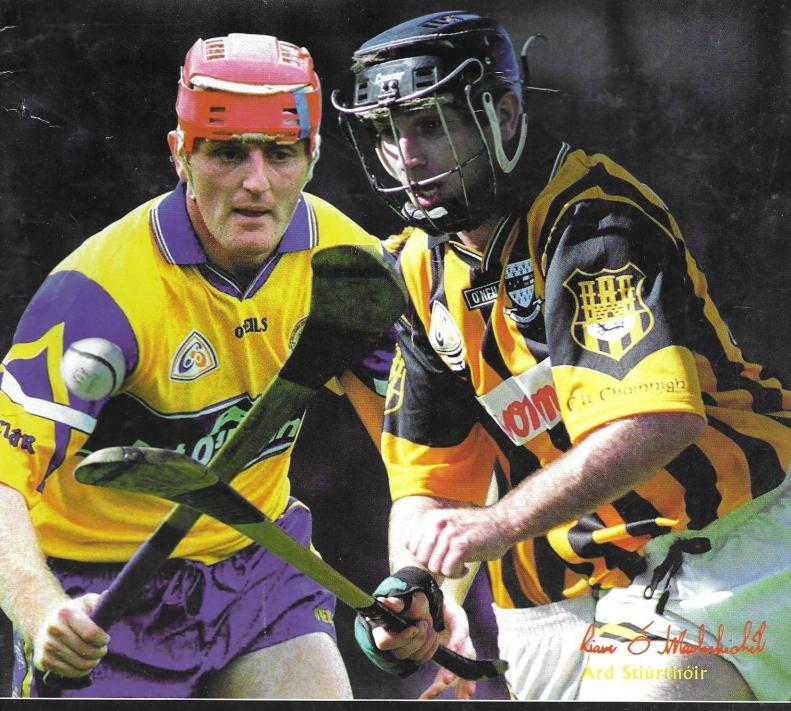












Páirc an Chrócaigh • 15 Lúnasa 1999 • Clár Oifigiúil • Luach £2.00







All-Ireland Minor Hurling Championship Semi-Final

Cill Chainnigh v. Gaillimh

Réiteoir: J. McLean (Aontroim)

Linesmen:

G. Harrington (Corcaigh) STAND-BY REFEREE

T. McIntyre (Aontroim)

P. Aherne (Ceatharlach) STAND-BY LINESMAN

Cluiche Leath-Cheannais Iomána na hÉireann

An Clár v. Cill Chainnigh

Linesmen:

3.30.i.n. Réiteoir: W. Barrett (Tiobraid Árann)

P. O'Connor (Luimneach) STAND-BY REFEREE

G. Devlin (Ard Mhaca)

P. Aherne (Ceatharlach) STAND-BY LINESMAN

Amhrán na bhFiann

Sinne Fianna Fáil,

Atá faoi gheall ag Éirinn,

Buíon dár slua

Thar toinn do ráinig chugainn

Faoi mhóid bheith saor,

Sean-tír ár sinsear feasta

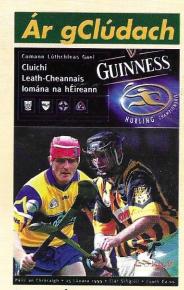
Ní fhágfar faoin tíorán ná faoin tráill.

Anocht a théam sa bhearna baoil

Le gean ar Ghaeil chun báis nó saoil

Le gunna scréach faoi lámhach na bpiléar,

Seo libh canaig amhrán na bhFiann.



Our cover features Brian Lohan (An Clár) and D.J. Carey (Cill Chainnigh)



Clár an Lae

1.50 i.n. Foireann na Gaillimhe amach ar an bPáirc.

1.53 i.n. Foireann Chill Chainnigh amach ar an bPáirc.

2.00 i.n. Cluiche Leath-cheannais Iomána:

Mionúir: Gaillimh v. Cill Chainnigh.

2.30 i.n. Leath-ama.

2.40 i.n. An dara leath.

Críoch leis an gCluiche. 3.10 i.n.

3.15 i.n. Foireann An Chláir amach ar an bPáirc.

3.18 i.n. Foireann Chill Chainnigh amach ar an bPáirc.

Paráid na Foirne. 3.23 i.n.

Amhrán na bhFiann. 3.28 i.n.

Cluiche Leath-cheannais Iomána: 3.30 i.n.

Sinsear: An Clár v. Cill Chainnigh

Leath ama. 4.05 i.n.

GAA/INTO Exhibition Games. 4.06 i.n.

4.15 i.n. An dara leath.

4.50 i.n. Críoch leis an gCluiche.

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 cooperation 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.

Ground Regulations – Páirc An Chrócaigh

- 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.
- 2. 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.
- 3. Spectators are not permitted to bring alcohol into the ground/arena.
- 4. The climbing of walls, stands or other buildings in the ground is forbidden.
- 5. 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.

- 1. All persons entering this ground are admitted 6. Under no circumstances is it permitted to throw any objects onto the pitch.
 - 7. Unauthorised persons are not permitted to enter upon the field of play and shall be ejected.
 - 8. Any person who fails to comply with the instructions from a steward may be ejected from the ground.
 - 9. The stadium management reserve the right of admission.
 - 10. The stadium management reserves the right to refuse admission to or to eject any person who refuses to be searched by a police officer.
 - 11. Any person who remains in a gangway or aisle may be ejected from the ground.
 - 12. The G.A.A. reserves the right for its servants or agents to remove from the stadium any person who does not comply with the Ground Regulations or whose presence on the ground could reasonably be construed as constituting a source of danger, nuisance or annoyance to other spectators.
 - C.C.T.V. is in operation at this stadium.

The Site Medical Officer will be situated on the

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. St. John's Ambulance Brigade members.

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.

Lost Children

pitch in front of the Nally Stand.

All Treatment Centres are staffed by

Lost Children can be collected at the above Medical Centres.

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.

'Na Cait' agus na Dál gCais chun togha iomána a léiriú!

há bhliain ó shin bhuail iománaithe An Chláir agus Chill Chainnigh in aghaidh a chéile sa chluiche leathcheannais 1997. 🜬 an am bhí na Dál gCais mar churaidh na Mumhan agus bhí Na Cait mar thánaistí i gCúige Laighean. Bhain An Clár bua maith an lá sin agus chuaigh siad ar aghaidh chun Tiobraid Árann a chloí sa chraobhchluiche.

Inniu tá malartú ann i seasamh an dá fhoireann - is curaidh Laighean iad Cill Chainnigh agus is tánaistí na Mumhan iad iomámaithe An Chláir. Tá rud suntasach le ríomhadh i dtaca leis an dá bhliain (1997 agus 1999) isé sin gur chloigh Cill Chainnigh. An Ghaillimh 53 chluiche ceathrúcheannais 1997 agus gur rinne An Clár amhlaidh i 1999 tar éis athimirt.

Tá an-chosúlacht idir an suíomh ina bhfuil 'Na Cait' i mbliana agus an staid i 1998. An bhliain sin bhí Cill Chainnigh ag fanacht ar feadh roinnt seachtainí go dtí go mbeadh toradh ar an choimhlint idir An Car agus Uíbh Fháilí. Ar deireadh b'iad na Fáiligh a bhuaigh tar éis seacht gcluichí le linn an chraobhchomortais rud a sheas dóibh sa

Go comparáideach bhí dhá athimirt ag An Clár i mbliana versus Tiobraid Árann agus Gaillimh agus, tá cúig dhian-chluiche curtha díobh acu agus iad ag feabhsú lena linn, ceaptar. Ó bhí chraobhch-Luiche Laighean ann nuair a thug 'Na Cait' leadradh d'Uíbh Fháilí táid díomhaoin ó shin; nuair a deirtear 'díomhaóin; táthar ag caint faoi dhian-chluichí agus ní faoi thraenáil. Níl ach dhá chluiche thábhachtacha imeartha ag Cill Chainnigh i mbliana versus Laois agus Jibh Fháilí agus is mí-bhuntaiste é sin.

Les cad faoin chluiche inniu? Tá a rian air go bhfuil gach imreoir the chuid An Chláir saor ó ghoineadh arís agus is bréa an rud é sin. I Chainnigh ní dócha go bhfuil tinneas nó gortú á bhfuilaingt ag aon imreoir ach an oiread. Dá bhrí sin is í an fhoireann is feárr sa a chointae a bheidh sa choimhlint inniu.

den chéad scoth ar an dá fhoireann; tá "D.J." Ó Ciardha, Cairtéir, Seán de Paor, Ó Seibhleáin chomh maith is atá in

aon chontae agus go comparáideach tá 'Jamesie' Ó Conchúir, Ó Giollagáin, P.J. Ó Conaill, Mac Fhlannchadha agus Alan Markham inchurtha leo. Mar sin is ar na tacaigh is gá an toradh a mheas.

Tá cruthaithe ag an mbeirt Ó Locháin agus Brian Ó Cuinn, ar an líne cosanta deiridh den Chlár, gur beag caoi a thugann siad do tosaí ar bith. Ach is é an líne leathchosanta ag na Dál gCais an ceann is feárr sa tír, mar atá, Liam Ó Dúill ar dheis, Seán Mac Mathúna i lár báire agus Anton Ó Dálaigh, an captaen, ar chlé. Is orthu súid den chuid is mó a bhraithfidh toradh an chluiche inniu.

Tá an bheirt i lár na páirce ag An Clár air-éifeachtach, Ollie Ó Baicéir agus Coilín Ó Loingsigh, agus ceaptar go mbeidh an lámh in uachtar acu ar Andy Ó Comartúin agus Donncha Ó Broin.

Ní haon dóithíní iad tacaigh Chill Chainnigh agus i gcluichí go dtí seo chruthaigh Tomás Ó hIcí, Cainneach Ó Braonáin agus Liam Ó Conchúir do-chloíte ar an líne deiridh. Má tá an chluiche le buachaint ag An Clár caithfidh Ó Giollagáin, Mac Fhlannchadha agus Markham an triúr sin a smachtú. Beidh, sa chuid eile den pháirc rudaí réasúnta cothrom agus is sa réimse sin den ghort a leagfar bunsraith na bua.

Feicfear inniu beirt ar an gcliathán deas den dá fhoireann atá inchurtha leis na tosaigh ab' fhearr san iomáint ariamh viz Jamesie Ó Conchúir agus D.J. Ó Ciardha - tá an bheirt acu in ann cluiche a chasadh timpeall i bpreab na súl le sár-iarrachtaí chun scóranna a thuilleamh iad féin nó an 'oscailt' a dhéanamh dá gcompánaigh. Ar an abhar go bhfuil 'stair' níos feárr ag Ó Ciardha cúil a ghnóthú tugtar an nod do an chluiche a thiontú i bhfábhar na 'gCait'.

Dhá bhliain ó shin bhí an lá leis na Dál gCais agus chuaigh siad ar aghaidh chun craobh na hÉireann a bhaint; ceaptar go mbainfidh Cill Chainnigh díoltas amach inniu ach rachaidh sé rite leo. Cúilín nó dhó a bheidh eatarthu ach beidh lá thar laethanta iomána againn - stíl, sprid, aiclíocht agus diongabháltacht ag dhá cheann de na contaethe ab' fhearr le linn na nochaidí. Beidh an t-adh leis an lucht féachana.

Guítear rath orthu araon agus nach mbeidh aon ghortú ar dhuine ar bith.

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

Black and Amber Bellending Hogan Stand -

- Theloke, M.S., Freshford, Kilkenny.
- Wicklow Town.
- Warr Stocky
- B.N.S., Hollypark, Dublin.
- Bagnelstown, Carlow.
- Loughinisland,
- Freshford, Kilkenny.
- Lavey, Derry.
- Street Thirdly
- Lamick-on-Shannon,
- Edemey, Fermanagh.
- Bridgend, Donegal.

Clare - Blue and Yellow Pitch: Defending Cusack Stand -

- Conor McCann, Holy Trinity P.S., Belfast, Antrim.
- Christopher O'Keeffe, S.N. Br. na Naomh, Lismore, Waterford.
- Peadar McMahon, St. Columbkille's P.S., Carrickmore, Tyrone.
- Shane Howley, S.N. Baile Meanach, Craughwell, Galway.
- Kevin Carty
- Lisaniskey N.S., Roscommon.
- - St. Clare's N.S., Harold's Cross, Dublin.
- Alan Callanan,
- S.N. Baile Meanach, Craughwell, Galway.
- Hugh Breslin.
 - St. Aergus N.S., Bridgend, Donegal.
- Alan Cawley,
- Stokane N.S., Sligo. 10. Fergal Lyons.
- St. Mary's N.S., Ballyhaunis, Co. Mayo.

Camógaíocht

Team G

Kilkenny - Black and Amber Pitch: Defending Cusack Stand -

- Rachel O'Reilly, St. Patrick's P.S., Ballymaghera, Down.
- Pamela Whelan, Myshall N.S., Carlow.
- Sabriona Ní Éanaigh, St. Mary's P.S., Bellaghy, Derry.
- Déirdre Ní Dhiarmada. Holy Rosary N.S., Ashford, Wicklow.
- Eileen Fitzpatrick,
- St. Lachtain's N.S., Freshford, Kilkenny.
- Emma O'Connell.
 - Sc. Tighearnach, Cullohill, Laois.
- Maria Rooney,
 - St. Brendan's N.S., Portumna, Galway.
- Jenna Lynch.
- St. Patrick's P.S., Ballymaghera, Down. Teresa McCormack,
- Runnamoat N.S., Roscommon.
- Madeleine Kelly, St. Columban's P.S., Belcoo, Fermanagh.

Team H

Clare - Blue and Yellow

Pitch: Defending Hogan Stand -Canal End.

- Cliodhna Thompson, St. Malachy's P.S., Belfast, Antrim.
- Elaine O'Riordan. Milford N.S., Cork.
- Sinéad McTiernan,
- Geevagh N.S., Sligo. Carmel Conway,
- St. Brendan's N.S., Portumna, Galway. Sinéad O'Hagan,
- St. John's P.S., Kingsisland, Tyrone.
- Áine Doherty, St. Patrick's G.N.S., Carndonagh, Co.
- Donegal. Niamh Lynch.
- St. Brendan's N.S., Portumna, Galway. Inez Gallagher,
- St. Columban's P.S., Belcoo, Fermanagh.
- Stella McCaffrey Ballinamore N.S., Leitrim.
- 10. Pauline Cunningham. Dunhill N.S., Waterford.

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- · Apartment Development, Kilkee Bayview Partnership Value £5.1m
- Residential Development -Liscannor Value £5.7m
- Housing Development Shannon Town Centre Value £4.2m
- Factory Unit SIFA Limited -Shannon Industrial Estate Value £3.2m

Recently Completed Contracts include:

- Hotel Development, Kilkee Bayview Partnership Value £2.8m
- Hotel, Commercial & Residential Development, Raheen, Limerick Value £11.6m
- Factory Unit Adhesives Research Ireland Limited, Raheen, Limerick Value £3.3m
- Livestock Mart Gort Marts Limited Value £1.6m
- · Commercial & Apartment Complex Lahinch Value £3.3m
- Seaworld & Leisure Centre Lahinch Value £1.9m
- SFAD Co. Bay 135 Refurbishment CFI Computers Shannon Value £1.8m
- SFAD Co.Bay 77 Refurbishment GE Capital Shannon Value £0.5m
- SFAD Co. Bay 80-82 Refurbishment Newbridge Shannon Value £0.4m
- SFAD Co. Block B Refurbishment -Cabletron Shannon Value £1.8m
- New Pharmaceutical Building SIFA Limited Shannon Value £3.3m
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Michael Lynch Limited is the largest locally based building and development company in the Mid - West region with 167 employees and a turnover in 1998 of £17 Million. Michael Lynch Limited is one of the top twenty building companies in Ireland.

Best Wishes to the Clare Hurlers From one successful team to another.

Second leg of Clare-Kilkenny rivalry

lare and Kilkenny ushered in a new chapter in the annals of the All-Ireland senior hurling championship when they met in a semi-final at Croke Park two year ago before an attendance of 47,961. That was the first-ever meeting of the counties at that stage of the championship.

That was also the first year of the All-Ireland quarter-finals under the new arrangement for the Guinness senior hurling championship. Clare went straight through to the semifinals as Munster champions, while Kilkenny, runners-up for the Leinster crown, qualified by beating Galway in a memorable quarterfinal at Thurles.

Ger O'Loughlin got Clare off to the best possible start in the 1997 semi-final with a point after only 52 seconds and a goal in the fourth minute to put the Banner County ahead by 1-2 to 0-0.

The Banner County were never headed after that and led by 1-8 to 0-6 at the interval. Clare continued to dominate the exchanges and looked to be poised for a resounding win when they led by 1-16 to 0-9 after 54 minutes. Kilkenny were given a lifeline a minute later with a fine goal by D. J. Carey.

That signalled a brave comeback by the Noresiders, who hurled with tremendous spirit and skill.

ONE POINT

hey limited Clare to a single point for the remainder of the game and three points by Carey and one from Denis Byrne dug into the Banner County lead.

But the Munster men still held out spiritedly with their defence in unyielding mood and in the end Clare earned a hard-earned but well merited win by 1-17 to 1-13. James O'Connor was in sparkling form for Clare and finished with nine points, four from frees.

Ger O'Loughlin also made a fine contribution, not only with his early and crucial

scoring burst, but good general play later. Frank Lohan and Michael O'Halloran in defence and Colin Lynch at midfield were other very influential figures for the Banner.

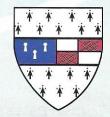
Carey, who was Kilkenny's captain, was a particularly hard worker for the Noresiders. Not for the first time he proved the team's main scoregetter with a good return of 1-6.

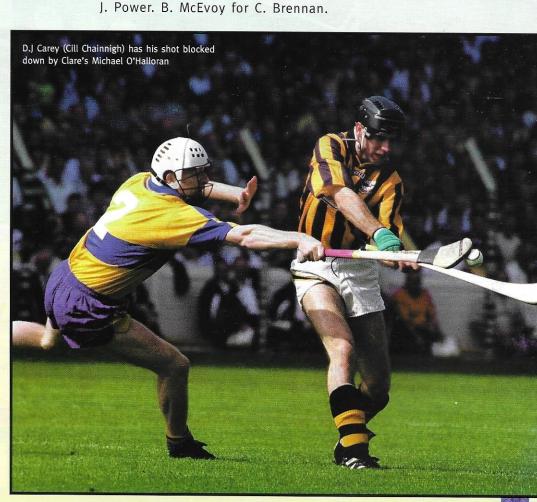
Charlie Carter, also in attack, Eddie O'Connor and Pat O'Neill in defence were other strong workers for the Leinster side. CLARE; D. Fitzgerald; B. O'Halloran, Brian Lohan, Frank Lohan; L. Doyle, S. McMahon, A. Daly; O. Baker, C. Lynch; J. O'Connor, C. Clancy, P. J. O'Connell; N. Gilligan, G. O'Loughlin, F. Hegarty.

Substitutes: D. Forde for F. Hegarty. E. Taaffe for O. Baker.

KILKENNY: A. Ronan; J. Costelloe, Eddie O'Connor, Willie O'Connor; Dan O'Neill, Pat O'Neill, L. Keoghan; P. Larkin, A. Comerford; J. Power, C. Brennan, D. J. Carey; K. O'Shea, P. J. Delaney, C. Carter. Substitutes: P Barry for K.O'Shea. D. Byrne

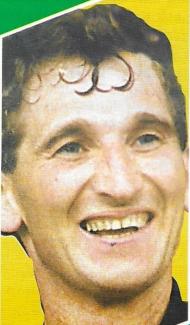








JIMMY MAGEE



LIAM FENNELLY

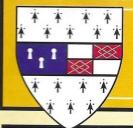


SEAN MCGOLDRICK

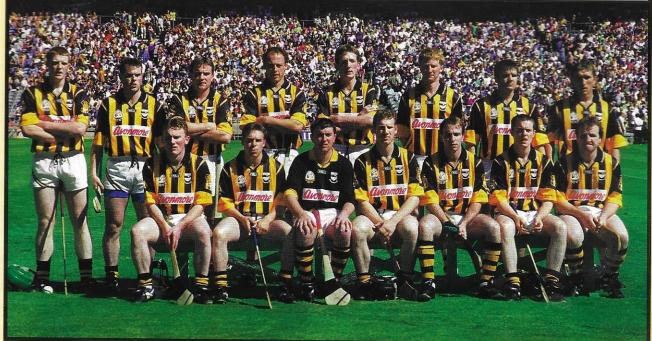
CON HOULIHAN

WRITE STUFF

THE BIG NAMES ON THE BIG GAMES



Cill Chainnigh



Back row (I-r):
Henry Shefflin,
Brian McEvoy,
Canice Brennan,
Andy Comerford,
Eamon Kennedy,
John Power,
Ken O'Shea,
Paddy Mullally.

Front row (I-r):
Tom Hickey,
Charlie Carter,
James McGarry,
Denis Byrne,
D.J. Carey,
Michael Kavanagh,
Willie O'Connor.



Kilkenny display scoring power on way to semi-final

ilkenny, runners-up for the Guinness All-Ireland senior hurling championship last September, return to headquarters with the type of form and above all scoring power that indicates they will not be easily foiled of another final appearance.

They retained the Guinness Leinster senior title in the most authorative manner possible. A goal from a sideline cut by Andy Comerford in the second minute set them on the road to a comprehensive win over Laois in a provincial semi-final.

Senior championship newcomer Henry Shefflin, also an under-21 hurler this year, contributed ten points to the mammoth scoreline of 6-21.

The Leinster champions again emphasised their talent for finding the way through to the net in their successful defence of the title against Offaly before 38,310 spectators at Croke Park.

They gave a sparkling all round display as they took the game to Offaly right from the throw-in and had the title in safe keeping long before the final whistle.

Once again the ability to take goal scoring chances with aplomb was a feature of the success.

Kilkenny got three goals in the opening half, from D. J. Carey, Charlie Carter and Carey again to earn a comfortable interval lead of 3-7 to 0-8.

Four minutes into the second half Brian McEvoy collected another goal for the holders and the Leinster champions were well and truly on the way to a far more decisive win that even their most ardent supporters could have anticipated. Shefflin got in on the goal scoring act later in the game and Kilkenny finished with another highly impressive return of 5-14.

LETHAL

This lethal finishing indicates that the Leinster champions will provide Clare's tried and tested defence with their toughtest assignment so far.

Shefflin is showing a particularly impressive line in finishing power, especially for a newcomer to the senior championship grade.

Carey, holder of All-Ireland senior medals for 1992 and 1993, remains an inspirational force with his flair for finding the scoring target as sharp as ever.

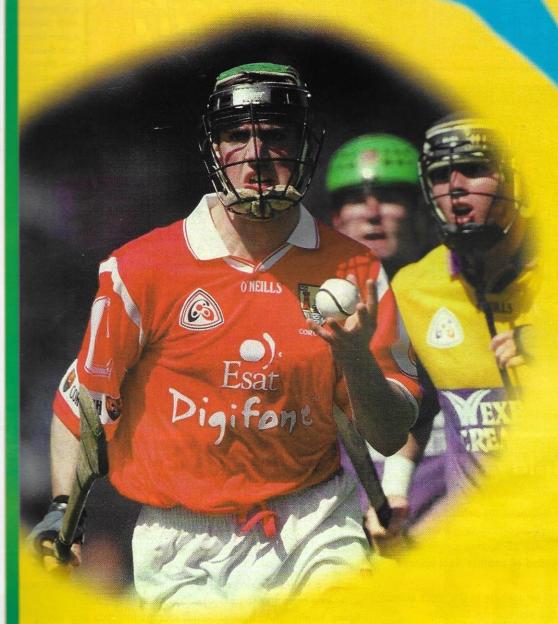
But all the strength is by no means confined to the attack.

The defence, with Willie O'Connor, another survivor from the 1992 and 1993 All-Ireland title winning teams, and Canice Brennan providing valuable leadership and strength, made the Laois and Offaly attacks work extremely hard for scores.

Brennan was centre half forward in last year's All-Ireland final loss to Offaly and has made a big success of his step back to the rearguard.

The Leinster champions are well armed as well at midfield. Andy Comerford had a particularly good game against Offaly; indeed he was one of the team's outstanding hurlers in that game. David Byrne also had an splendid game in the Leinster final and this pair are capable of setting the pace in the vital midfield area. Nor are Kilkenny short of big-match experience, with All-Ireland medal winners in their side and players also steeled in vital know-how by last year's losing final outing against Offaly. Morale has been boosted by those big wins in the East and, while no team needs an incentive in an All-Ireland game, the chance of revenge for the 1977 set-back will give an added edge to the Kilkenny effort.

Esat Digifone, Unit 10, Penrose Wharf, Penrose Quay, Cork. Phone 021 552007 Fax 021 552022



See one of you in the final!

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Back row (I-r):
Colin Lynch,
Brian Lohan,
Conor Clancy,
David Fitzgerald,
Frank Lohan,
Alan Markham,
Sean McMahon.



Front row (l-r): Liam Doyle, Stephen McNamara, P.J. O'Connell, Ollie Baker, Anthony Daly, James O'Connor, Brian Quinn, Niall Gilligan.

Another chapter in Clare's revival efforts

t will be a splendid achievement by Clare if they add another successful chapter to their revival bid by qualifying for the Guinness All-Ireland senior hurling final after a two year interval.

Few were prepared to write off Clare as serious contenders for the All-Ireland crown after their Munster final defeat by Cork in early July. Little wonder, in view of the achievements of the side in recent seasons and the gifted and experienced hurlers in all areas.

And the Banner men underscored that point with as dramatic a comeback as one could find in any game when earning a draw with Galway in their All-Ireland quarter-final at Croke Park.

Fifty minutes into the game they looked to be rushing to the championship exit door as they trailed by nine points. But they refused to accept defeat and with determination and plenty of skill they battled back courageously and two points from frees by long-striking centre half back Sean McMahon ensured a memorable draw in one of the best games of the year.

SECOND CHANCE

Clare made the most of their second chance of a semi-final ticket in the replay at Croke Park. They stepped up considerably all round the field on their performance in the first game.

The Banner men were into their stride from an early stage and they also struck the first decisive blow of the match when Niall Gilligan goaled after only twelve minutes.

Nevertheless, Galway were still in the hunt at the interval as they trailed by only two points. But the second half had only started when P. J. O'Connell popped up to find his way through to the Galway net and Clare were firmly on the road to the semi-final.

Granted, Galway stuck resolutely to the task and were boosted by a Eugene Cloonan goal in the 47th minute to leave his side five points adrift.

SECOND GOAL

However, Clare were moving with power and assurance and Gilligan eluded the cover for his second goal to boost the Banner's lead to seven points.

The Banner men kept up the momentum and eventually finished good winners by 3-18 to 2-14. Galway's second goal closed the scoring in the 70th minute.

Clare turned in a polished and smart-moving display, with Gilligan setting a headline with his good general play and strong finishing that yielded 2-3.

James O'Connor, who lined out from the start, made light of his earlier injury problems with another exciting showing. Alan Markham and Conor Clancy in attack, Colin Lynch at midfield, and Sean McMahon and Frank Lohan in defence were others who contributed in rich measure to a display that left little doubt that Clare remain very strong contenders for the Liam McCarthy Cup.

They remain a powerful and well-balanced side, keen to strike a further blow for ranking as the team of the nineties, and with hurlers in all sectors capable of providing the inspiration for a victory effort in this appealing semi-final.

Kilkenny retain Leinster title at second attempt

ilkenny are back in a familiar role as Leinster standard-bearers in an All-Ireland minor hurling semi-final. However, they had some worrying times before finally recording a remarkable tenth Leinster championship in a row.

After only a two points win over Westmeath in their opening game, they had to rely on a last gasp point from a free to keep their ambitions alive against Wexford at Croke Park in the provincial final.

But that point, which tied the scores at 0-13 each, came after a great come-back by Kilkenny. They trailed by seven points at the interval after playing against a stiff breeze, but bounced back in the second half to earn a replay.

Kilkenny stepped up considerably on that display in the replay at Dr. Cullen Park, Carlow. Even so, scores were somewhat at a premium, with Kilkenny ahead at the break by 0-6 to 0-2.

The defending champions started the second half in blistering fashion to really stamp their dominance on the exchanges. The half had just started when a grand Kilkenny movement ended with Phelan collecting the first goal of the game.

About nine minutes later Kieran Rafter goaled for Kilkenny but to Wexford's credit they kept battling away and shot over four unanswered points.

However, Kilkenny boosted confidence with a couple of points and they did not concede a goal until about two minutes from the end. They finished convincing winners by 2-13 to 1-11.

Keith Doheny and Brian Murphy in defence, Gordon Byrne at midfield and sharpshooting Phelan, who contributed 1-3, and Kieran Rafter were best for Kilkenny.

A proud record, then, for Kilkenny and their bid for further success is spearheaded by a well-balanced team with a real hunger for success.

How the minors qualified for latest encounter

Kilkenny have given a further dimension to their position as the specialists of the Leinster minor hurling championship by beating Wexford in the provincial decider after a replay. That success brought their record to an amazing ten Leinster championships in succession.

Kilkenny were beaten by Cork in last year's All-Ireland final. They had a 2-10 to 1-12 win over Galway in the semi-final.

26th June at Mullingar: Kilkenny 1-7; Westmeath 1-5.

Scorers: Eddie Walsh 1-1, Michael Phelan o-2, C. O'Neill o-1, Kieran Rafter o-1, P. Reid o-1, E. McCormack o-1.

12th July at Croke Park: Kilkenny 0-13; Wexford 0-13.

Scorers: Michael Phelan o-5, Gordon Byrne o-3, Kieran Rafter o-2, Gerry Byrne o-1, T. Murphy o-1, E. Walsh o-1.

16th July at Carlow: Kilkenny 2-13; Wexford 1-11. REPLAY.

Scorers: Michael Phelan 1-3, Kieran Rafter 1-1, Derek Brennan o-3, Gerry Byrne o-2, Canice Hickey o-2, Gordon Byrne o-1, Eddie Walsh o-1.

TOTAL SCORED: 3-33 (42 points). TOTAL CONCEDED: 2-29 (38 points).

AVERAGE: 1,2

PHELAN OUT IN FRONT

Michael Phelan sets the pace in the Kilkenny scoresheet with 1-10. He is followed by Kieran Rafter 1-4, Eddie Walsh 1-3, Gordon Byrne 0-4, Gerry Byrne 0-3, Derek Brennan 0-3, Canice Hickey 0-2, Chris O'Neill 0-1, Eoin McCormack 0-1, Timmy Murphy 0-1, P. Reid 0-1.

PHELAN AGAIN

Michael Phelan again leads the way in the chart of leading individual returns by a Kilkenny hurler in the series so far with 1-3 last time out.

WINNING CROKE PARK OUTING FOR GALWAY

Galway opened their campaign at Croke Park where they met Munster championship runners-up Clare in a quarter-final.

25th July at Croke Park: Galway 5-11; Clare 1-10.

Scorers: Cathal Coen 2-4, David Forde 2-2, Michael Coughlan 1-1, Damien Hayes o-1, Richie Murray o-1, Kevin Brady o-1, Conor Dervan o-1.

Galway reap a goal harvest on last Croke Park visit

alway may lack competitive fare in the West but They continue to prove a formidable force in underage hurling. They return to headquarters for yet another All-Ireland semi-final buoyed up by a quarterfinal win over Clare that was much more convincing that even their most ardent supporters could have expected. Galway, with five survivors from last year's team, gave a polished all round display and showed a real flair for finding the way through to the Clare net. The Westerners lost no time in displaying their goal scoring skills. David Forde and Cathal Coen were on the goal standard in the first two minutes. Their attack moved with speed and purpose throughout the half. Michael Coughlan proved a clever leader and distributor of the ball and Richie Murray and Kevin Brady also showed up well.

By the interval Galway had their semi-final ticket in safe-keeping as they led by 5-4 to 0-6.

Galway did not score as freely in the second half but still moved with plenty of class and poise.

Clare, to their credit, kept striving away and scored a goal after forty minutes, but it was a case of too little too late. The wholehearted and accomplished Galway men finished handsome winners by 5-11 to 1-10. Understandably the attack took most of the honours, with Brady and Coen, two links with last season,

blending in a valuable touch of experience. Hugh Whirskey, another survivor from last year, did well in midfield.

Conor Dervan and Ronan Reilly, who played against Kilkenny a year ago, were to the fore in a defence that showed up well on the occasions that Clare posed problems.

Last year Galway beat Clare in a quarter-final but lost to Kilkenny in the semi-final. On the strength of their latest display they are well geared to have a genuine chance of going one better than last season.

Kilkenny and Galway...'Semis' In The 90s

Both Kilkenny and Galway have identical records as far as All-Ireland minor semi-finals are concerned in the present decade as of the nine played to date, each side has won five and lost four. Galway have a slight edge in terms of head-to-heads in the 1990s as they have won three of the five penultimate ties between these rivals.

The Noresiders had victories over Galway ('90 and '98), Derry ('91) and Antrim ('93 and '95) but also suffered defeats to Galway ('92, '94, '96) and Clare ('97). The Corribsiders mixed wins over Kilkenny ('92, '94, '96) and Tipperary ('93, '97) with defeats to Kilkenny ('90, 98), Tipperary ('91), and Cork ('95).



Galway's Last Win...1996

Galway 3-16; Kilkenny 1-14.

alway sprinted out of the blocks and inside the first 12 minutes they had established a six-point lead - 1-4 to o-1 - Ronan Cullinane scoring the goal. When Aidan Poniard scored another goal for Galway in the 16th minute Kilkenny looked all at sea but they fought back in typical Noreside fashion and John Hickey's 23rd-minute goal helped reduced the interval arrears to a manageable seven points - 1-5 to 2-9.

The Leinster champions continued on the offensive after the restart and four unanswered points in the opening ten minutes left just a goal between the sides. However, that was as close as they got and Poniard's second goal at the 46th minute allied to some wonderful point-taking by Eugene Cloonan saw Galway pull away to record a comfortable eight-point win. Galway scorers: E.Cloonan 0-11, A.Poniard 2-0, R.Cullinane 1-1, D.Loughrey 0-2, M.Blake 0-1, E.McEntee 0-1.

Kilkenny: J.Coogan o-6, R.Cahill o-5, J.Hickey 1-0, T.O'Dowd o-1, J.Hoyne o-1, M.Hoyne o-1.

Galway - Nigel Murray, Enda Tannian, Michael Healy, Kevin Coy, Darren Shaughnessy, Ritchie Brady, Cathal O'Reilly, Colin Coen, Shane McClearn, Martin Blake, Eugene McEntee, David Loughrey, Ronan Cullinane, Eugene Cloonan, Aidan Poniard.

Subs - Paul Kennedy for McClearn, Gary Hurney for Blake.

Kilkenny - Patrick Holden, Michael Kavanagh, Sean Dowling, Eddie Mackey, Ritchie Walsh, Ritchie Mullally, Michael Gordon, Tomas O'Dowd, John Hoyne, Ramie Cahill, John Hickey, Michael Hoyne, Dick Carroll, Jimmy Coogan, J.P.O'Neill.

Subs - Ger Kirwan for Walsh, Sean Millea for Hickey.

Kilkenny's Last Win...1998

Kilkenny 2-10; Galway 1-12.

Kilkenny elected to play against the wind in the opening half and not surprisingly it was Galway who took the early lead. After 20 minutes the Westerners were 0-6 to 0-3 ahead but a Keith Daniels goal gave them a more substantial advantage. Three more points were recorded before the interval with two going to Galway to give them a half-time lead of 1-8 to 0-4. Surprisingly, Galway continued on the offensive after the restart and would have been rewarded with a brace of goals but for the brilliance of Jamie Power in the Kilkenny goal. However, when the Noresiders got their chances for goals they were not found wanting and Joey Murray scored in the 4th and 11th minutes to reduce Galway's advantage to the minimum. Kevin Power pointed a free for the equaliser before Michael Rafter put them ahead for the first time early in the final quarter. Subsequently, Galway levelled on two occasions but a last-minute free by Gavin Keary gave Kilkenny the verdict. Kilkenny scorers: J.Murray 2-1, K.Power 0-3, B.Phelan o-2, M.Rafter o-2, J.Coogan o-1,

B.Phelan o-2, M.Rafter o-2, J.Coogan o-1, G.Cleere o-1.

Galway: K.Daniels 1-2, G.Keary o-4, C.Coen

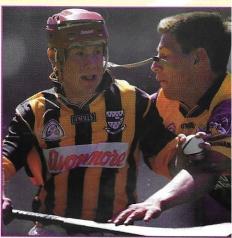
o-2, K.Brady o-1, K.Hayes o-1, H.Whiriskey o-1, D.Donoghue o-1.

Kilkenny - Jamie Power, Paul Shefflin, Noel Hickey, Canice Hickey, Colin Herity, John Morgan, James Ryall, Ken Moore, John Coogan, Paul Sheehan, Brian Phelan, Kevin Power, Gearoid Cleere, Michael Rafter, Joey Murray.

Subs - Eddie Walsh for Cleere, Dessie Walsh for Sheehan.

Galway - Ciaran Callanan, Derek Hardiman,
Diarmuid Cloonan, Ronan Reilly, Shane
Donoghue, Conor Dervan, John Culkin, Damien
Joyce, Kevin Brady, Gavin Keary, Hugh Whiriskey,
David Donoghue (Clarenbridge), Cathal Coen,
Keith Hayes, Keith Daniels.

Subs - Joe Hession for Brady, David Donoghue (Athenry) for David Donoghue (Clarenbridge), Donal Moore for Coen.



Gordon Byrne (Cill Chainnigh) in action against Wexford's Darren Stamp.

Óige na Gaillimhe chun Cúiteamh a Dhéanamh, Meastar

îl amhras ar bith ann ach go mbíonn mionúir na Gaillimhe thar a bheith éifeachtach bliain i ndiaidh bliana; agus ní haon eisceacht 1999. Cé nach raibh taithí ar bith acu roimh ré thugadar sár-thaispeántas sa chluiche ceathrúcheannais in aghaidh mhionúir An Chláir.

Anois tugann siad aghaidh ar an 'sean-namhaid' Cill Chainnigh sa chluiche leathcheannais. Cé go ndeirtear 'namhaid' anseo níl ann ach treisiú ar an abairt 'céile imeartha' nó 'céile comhraic' agus is mó uair thar na blianta a bhí na sáriománaithe faoi aois ag an dá chontae iomráiteacha seo i ngleic le chéile.

Níor casadh ar a chéile iad sa chraobhchluiche ach uair amháin i 1993 agus bhí athimirt i gceist sular chloígh na hIartharaigh na 'Puisíní '. Dáiríre is ins na nóchaidí amháin ar éirigh le mionúir na Gaillimhe craobhacha a bhaint!

Chomh fada siar le 1931 a bhuaigh Cill Chainnigh an chéad chraobh mhionúir agus cé a bhí mar chéilí imeartha an lá sin ach Gaillimh. Cé go raibh mionúir na Gaillimhe i dtrí chraobhchluiche go dtí gur cealaíodh an comortas i 1942 níor éirigh leo an chraobh a bhaint. Is dócha go raibh an t-easnamh chomortais i gConnacht an mí-bhuntáiste ba mhó a bhí ag goilliúint orthu. (N.B. Bhí an comortas ar ceal idir 1942 agus 1944. Atosaoídh arís é i 1945).

Ach leis na comortais sa chontae féin le tamall de bhlianta go háirithe iad siúd faoi chomirce Chumann an mBunscoil tá an óige ag fáil cleachtaidh leanúnach le linn na bliana agus tá a rian níos déanaí ar an foirne 'faoi aois' ar an staitse náisiúnta. Ar ndóigh tá an scéal céanna fíor faoi Chill Chainnigh áit ar thóg na buachaillí na camáin ar scoil leo i gcónaí agus go mbíodh cleachtadh sa chlós acu roimh oscailt na scoile.

B'fhéidir go dtarlaíonn sé leis na girseacha óga freisin mar go bhfuil an chamógaíocht rí-láidir ann! Is ceart ag an tráth seo bliana comhghairdeas a dhéanamh leis na foirne atá tagtha chuig na cluichí leathcheannais ach is gá freisin tréaslú leis na foirne ar fad a ghlac páirt sa chomortas agus nach raibh an t-ádh leo teacht an fhaid seo. Mar adeireann an nath olimpiceach ní hé an bua an ní is tábhachtaí ach an chomhpháirtíocht!

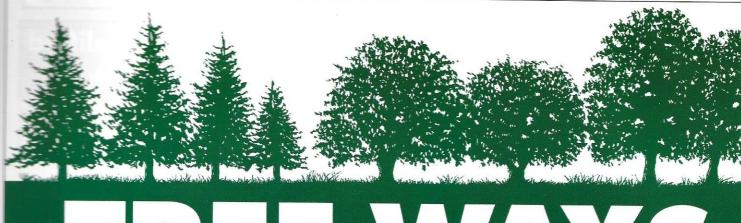
Ní mór freisin focal molta a ghuí ar thuismitheoirí, múinteoirí, oifigigh na gcoistí chontae agus na gclub agus gan amhras ar na traenálaithe agus na comhairleoirí nárbh fhéidir na cluichí a choinneáil ar siúl in éagmais a ndéamhéin agus na sároibre acu uilig ó cheann ceann na bliana.

Ceaptar go mbeidh an lá leis na Gaillimhigh inniu acu ní féidir aon fhoireann ó Chill Chainnigh a dhíoscríobh. Cluiche breá le stíl agus aiclíocht chugainn máisea agus guítear rath ar na himreoirí óga agus nach mbeidh aon ghortú ann.

An Réiteoir

Jim McLean (Aontroim)

This will be the Antrim man's first refereeing assignment at Croke Park. However, he was on duty at headquarters in recent times as a linesman at the Offaly-Clare All-Ireland minor quarter-final. A member of the Dunloy club, Jim has been refereeing since 1991 and has taken charge of matches in the Church and General National League, including the London-Carlow clash in London last May. McLean has represented his club, Antrim and Ulster in senior hurling.



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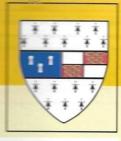
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- Derek Brennan
 D. Ó Braonáin
 (James Stephens)
- Niall Grogan
 N. Ó Gruagáin
 (James Stephens)
- E. Mac Cormaic (James Stephens)
- Brian Barry
 B. de Barra
 (Dicksboro)
- Patrick Reid
 P. Ó Riada
 (Shamrocks)
- A. Ó Fógartaigh (Emeralds)
- Ger Joyce G. Ó Seóighe (Emeralds)
- Ger Henderson
 G. Mac Aindréis
 (Fenians)
- L. Ó Cuagáin (Shamrocks)

Roghnóirí

Jimmy Dunne (Dunnamaggin) Manager,

Timmy Grogan (James Stephens), Michael Tierney (Rower-Inistioge), Liam Kenneally (Mullinavat), Gerry Drennan (Galmoy)

Cill Chainnigh

Dathanna: Dubh is Buí

1 DAVID HERITY

D. Ó Eartaigh (Dunnamaggin)

KEITH DOHENY

C. Ó Dochanaigh (John Lockes)

5 TIMMY MURPHY

T. Ó Murchú (Danesfort)

3 JACKIE TYRRELL

S. Ó Tiréal (James Stephens)

6 CANICE HICKEY

C. Ó hlcí (Capt.)
(Dunnamaggin)

4 BRIAN MURPHY

B. Ó Murchú (O'Loughlin Gaels)

7 J. J. DELANEY

S. S. Ó Dubhsláine

8 GERRY BYRNE

G. Ó Broin (Clara)

CHRIS O'NEILL

C. Ó Néill (Graignamanagh)

10 MICHAEL PHELAN

M. Ó Faoláin (Glenmore)

GORDON BYRNE

G. Ó Broin (Erin's Own)

12 E DEREK BRENNAN

D. Ó Braonáin (Thomastown)

13 DAVID DOWLING

D. Ó Dúlainn (Lisdowney)

14 KIERAN RAFTER

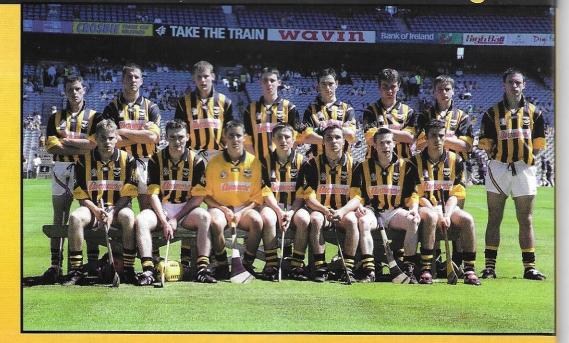
C. Ó Reachtair (Emeralds)

15 EDDIE WALSH

E. Breathnach (Graignamanagh)

Cill Chainnigh	Cúil	Cúilíní	Seachaí	65m	Saor Pocanna
1adh Leath				- Anna Carlo	
2adh Leath	1	TILIST.	8/10/13		
IOMLÁN					

Foireann Mhionúir Chill Chainnigh



Cill Chainnigh

Back row (l-r): Eoin McCormack,
Lean Bafter, Jackie Tyrrell,
Partick Bed, Eddie Walsh,
Brian Murphy, J.J. Delaney,
Brian Barry.

Francisco Free Niall Grogan, Canice Hickey (captain), David Ferty, Michael Phelan, Chris O'Neill, Gordon Byrne, Timmy Murany

Gaillimh

Dathanna: Marún is Bán



JOHNNY O'LOUGHLIN

S. Ó Lochlainn (Loughrea)

BRIAN O'MAHONEY

B. Ó Mathúna (Loughrea)

5 FERGAL MOORE

F. Ó Móra (Turloughmore)

JOHN CULKIN

S. Mac Uilcin (Abbeyknockmoy)

6 CONOR DERVAN

C. Ó Doirbheáin (Mullagh)

4 RONAN REILLY

R. Ó Raghallaigh (Kilbeacanty)

7 MICHAEL J. QUINN

M. S. Ó Coinn (Athenry)

8 HUGH WHIRISKEY

A. Ó Fuaruisce (Craughwell)

SHANE TIERNEY

S. Ó Tiamaigh (Kiltormer)

10 RICHIE MURRAY

R. Ó Muirí (St. Thomas's)

13 DAMIEN HAYES

D. Ó hAodha (Portumna)

11 MICHAEL COUGHLAN

M. Ó Cochláin (Craughwell)

14 DAVID FORDE

D. Mac Giollamáth (Clarenbridge)

12 KEVIN BRADY

C. Ó Brádaigh (Sylane)

15 CATHAL COEN

C. Ó Cadhain (Clarenbridge)

Gaillimh Cúil Cúilíní Seachaí 65m Saor Pocanna 1adh Leath 2adh Leath IOMLÁN Seachaí Seachaí 65m Saor Pocanna

Fir Ionaid

- (16) Ivan Canning
 I. Ó Cainin
 (Portumna)
- (17) Gerard Farragher
 G. Ó Fearchair
 (Castlegar)
- (18) Brendan Gantley
 B. Mag Sheanlaoich
 (Beagh)
- (19) **John Conroy** S. Ó Conraoi (St. Thomas's)
- (20) Keith Egan
 C. Mac Aogáin
 (Kilconieron)
- (21) Damien McLoughlin
 D. Mag Lochlainn
 (Clarenbridge)
- (22) Paddy McMahon P. Mac Mathúna (Sarsfields)
- David Greene
 D. Ó hUaine
 (Ardrahan)
- (24) **John O'Connell** S. Ó Conaill (Carnmore)

Roghnóirí

John Hardiman (Manager), Michael Murray, Michael Bodkin, John Moylan.

Foireann Mhionúir Gaillimh



Gaillimh

Back row (l-r): Brian O'Mahoney, Kevin Brady, Conor Dervan, Fergal Moore, Michael John Quinn, Richie Murray, Michael Coughlan.

Front row (I-r): Damien Hayes, David Forde, Johnny O'Loughlin, John Culkin, Ronan Reilly, Shane Tierney, Hugh Whiriskey, Cathal Coen.

Leaving the 19th and entering the 20th Century

hichever team of the three remaining survives to win the All-Ireland will enjoy the distinction of leaving the 20th century on a winning note. All others will, of course, bow out with a championship defeat. A century ago it was unlikely that such concerns preoccupied the teams involved in the 1898 championship which had run well into the following year with not a chance of any game in the 1899 race being decided before the year's end.

Consequently all the last games of the 19th century were played in the 1898 championship and in the late Autumn of '99 Cork, Limerick and Tipperary in Munster, and Kilkenny, Offaly and Dublin in Leinster were all there with a chance of 'crossing over' with a win to their credit.

In what was to be their last game of the century Limerick lost on September 10th to Cork at Tipperary town by 0-2 to 6-6. The Leesiders subsequently drew with Tipperary in the decider on October 8th but the curtain in both provinces came down on the same day (November 19th) when Tipperary beat Cork in the replay at Kilmallock and Kilkenny ousted Offaly in the Leinster semi-final at Jones's Road.

Dublin, of course, were still unbeaten in the '98 champi-

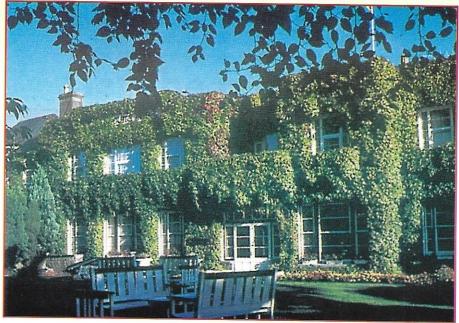
onship and, having beaten Laois in the provincial semifinal on October 22nd, they finished the century on a winning note. So three counties - Kilkenny, Tipperary and Dublin finished the century on a winning note.

Clare's last appearance of the century was in the 1897 championship when they went down to Limerick, the eventual All-Ireland winners, at the Markets' Field on June 19,1898 by 2-3 to 2-5.

To Kilkenny went the honour of winning the first championship game played in this century, when, on January 29, 1900, they beat Dublin by 4-12 to 3-2 at Jones's Road in the 1898 Leinster final. Clare won the first Munster tie, beating Cork at Tipperary town on May 13,1900, but in a sense they had already been upstaged by Tipperary who had won the All-Ireland final on March 25,1900, by beating Kilkenny at Jones's Road. Another county that opened the 20th century on a winning note was Wexford, whose first game was against Offaly at Jones's Road on October 30,1900.

All somewhat confusing, but that was one hundred years ago when the G.A.A. was only struggling to find its feet; things are obviously much better ordered today and the issues more clear-cut.

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Leading Scorers in Senior Hurling Championship

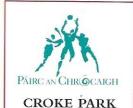
ugene Cloonan has taken over in impressive fashion on top of the chart of the leading included vidual scoring returns in the current Guinness senior hurling championship. He shot a maje tic 2-10 for Galway in their semi-final replay with Clare but still finished on the losing sid

His power-packed finishing sent him thundering four points clear of the earlier leader, Grego O'Kane (Antrim) with 1-9 against London in an Ulster semi-final.

Joe Deane comes into the review for the third time following his splendid showing for Cork their dethroning of All-Ireland champions Cork last Sunday.

Hed moves well up the chart with his latest tally of 0-10.

The leading individual match returns so far in the championship are:



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2-10: Eugene Cloonan (Galway)
v. Clare at Croke Park on August 2.

-9: Gregory O'Kane (Antrim)
v. London at Casement Park on June 19.

1-8: **Paul Flynn** (Waterford)
v. Limerick at Páirc Uí Chaoimh on May 30.

1-8: **Niall Rigney** (Laois)
v. Kilkenny at Croke Park on June 20.

o-10: **Joe Deane** (Cork)
v. Offaly at Croke Park on August 8.

o-10: **Tommy Dunne** (Tipperary) v. Clare at Páirc Uí Chaoimh on June 12.

0-10: **Henry Shefflin** (Kilkenny) v. Laois at Croke Park on June 20.

3-1: **Ken O'Shea** (Kilkenny) v. Laois at Croke Park on June 20.

1-7: Geoffrey McGonigle (Derry)v. Antrim at Casement Park on July 10.

1-7: **Ollie Fahy** (Galway) v. Roscommon at Dr. Hyde Park on July 10.

o-9: **Mick O'Connell** (Cork) v. Waterford at Thurles on June 13.

2-3: **D.J. Carey** (Kilkenny) v. Laois at Croke Park on June 20.

2-3: **D.J. Carey** (Kilkenny) v. Offaly at Croke Park on July 11.

1-6: **Henry Shefflin** (Kilkenny) v. Offaly at Croke Park on July 11.

2-2: **Paul Shelley** (Tipperary) v. Kerry at Thurles on May 22.

2-2: Ollie Fahy (Galway)
v. Clare at Croke Park on July 25.

o-8: Mick O'Connell (Cork)
v. Watrerford at Thurles on June 13.

1-5: **Joe Dooley** (Offaly) v. Wexford at Croke Park on June 20.

o-8: **Geoffrey McGonigle** (Derry)
v. Down at Casement Park on June 19.

2-2: Allister Elliott (Antrim)
v. London at Casement Park on June 19.

1-5: **Johnny Pilkington** (Offaly) v. Antrim at Croke Park on July 25.

o-8: **Paul Codd** (Wexford)
v. Offaly at Croke Park on June 20.

1-5: **Gregory O'Kane** (Antrim) v. Derry at Casement Park on July 10.

0-7: **Tommy Dunne** (Tipperary) v. Kerry at Thurles on May 22.

0-7: **Tommy Dunne** (Tipperary) v. Clare at Páirc Uí Chaoimh on June 6.

o-7: **Joe Deane** (Cork) v. Waterford at Thurles on June 13.

o-7: **Seanie McMahon** (Clare) v. Galway at Croke Park on July 25.

1-4: **Paul Flynn** (Waterford) v. Cork at Thurles on June 13.

1-4: **Joe Deane** (Cork) v. Clare at Thurles on July 4.

1-4: **Johnny Pilkington** (Offaly) v. Kilkenny on July 11.

o-6: **John Leahy** (Tipperary) v. Kerry at Thulres on May 22.

1-3: Alan Markham (Clare)
v. Tipperary at Páirc Uí Chaoimh on June 12

o-6: **Johnny Dooley** (Offaly) v. Wexford at Croke Park on June 20.

2-0: **Conor Murray** (Derry)
v. Down at Casement Park on June 19.

1-3: **Kevin Broderick** (Galway)
v. Roscommon at Roscommon on July 10.

1-3: Alan Kerins (Galway)
v. Roscommon at Roscommon on July 10th.

1-3: Alan Markham (Clare)
v. Galway at Croke Park on July 25.

South and East Semi-Finals

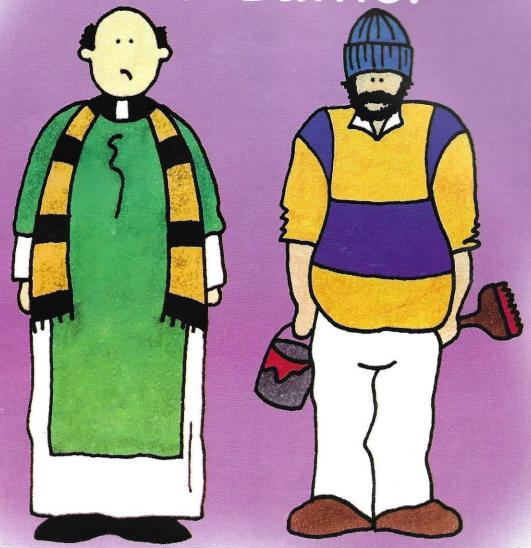
o date there have just been nine semi-finals between counties from Leinster and Munster with the Southerners holding a six-three winning advantage. The details:

1900	Tipperary	0-14	Kilkenny	1-8
1928	Cork	5-3	Dublin	0-2
1955	Wexford	2-12	Limerick	2-3
1958	Tipperary	1-15	Kilkenny	1-8

1997	Tipperary	2-16	Wexford	0-15
	Clare	1-17	Kilkenny	1-13
1998	Kilkenny	1-11	Waterford	1-10
	Offaly	1-13	Clare	1-13
	Offaly	2-10	Clare	1-16 *
	Offaly	0-16	Clare	0-13
1999	Cork	0-19	Offaly	0-16

*game prematurely ended - replay ordered.

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How they qualified for the Guinness All-Ireland senior hurling semi-final

ilkenny, runners-up for the senior hurling title last year, are Leinster champions for the 57th time since 1888. They retained their provincial title by avenging last year's Liam McCarthy Cup tie defeat by Offaly.

Last year's All-Ireland final appearance was Kilkenny's first since 1993 when they made a successful defence of the title.

They beat Waterford by 1-11 to 1-10 in last year's semi-final.

Clare had a much more demanding march to the last four. They were involved in two replays and lost their Munster senior championship along the way.

Clare opened their campaign a few weeks before Kilkenny stepped into the action. This is how they reached the semi-final: 6th June at Páirc Uí Chaoimh:

Clare 2-12; Tipperary 0-18.

Scorers: James O'Connor 1-2, David Forde 0-3,
David Fitzgerald 1-0, Niall Gilligan 0-2, Sean Mc
Mahon 0-1, Colin Lynch 0-1, Barry Murphy 0-1,
Alan Markham 0-1, Conor Clancy 0-1.

12th June at Páirc Uí Chaoimh:

Clare

1-21; Tipperary

1-11.

Scorers: Alan Markham 1-3, Sean McMahon o-5, Colin Lynch o-4, Barry Murphy o-3, David

Forde o-2, Anthony Daly o-1, Enda Flannery o-1, James O'Connor o-1, Ollie Baker o-1.

4th July at Thurles: Cork 1-15; Clare o-14.

Scorers: David Forde o-3, Niall Gilligan o-3,

Ollie Baker o-2, Ronan O'Hara o-1, Sean

McMahon o-1, Alan Markham o-1, Barry Murphy
o-1, Colm Lynch o-1, Danny Scanlon o-1.

25th July at Croke Park:

Clare 3-15; Galway 2-18. Scorers: Sean McMahon o-7, Alan Markham 1-3, Niall Gilligan 1-1, Stephen McNamara 1-0, Colin Lynch o-2, Ollie Baker o-2. 2nd August at Croke Park:

Clare 3-18; Galway 2-14.

Scorers: Niall Gilligan 2-3, Alan Markham 0-4,
Sean McMahon 0-3, P. J. O'Connell 1-0, James
O'Connor 0-2, Colin Lynch 0-2, Stephen
McNamara 0-1, Conor Clancy 0-1, Barry Murphy
0-1, David Forde 0-1.

TOTAL SCORED: 9-80 (107 points).

TOTAL CONCEDED: 6-76 (94 points).

AVERAGE: 1.14

JOINT LEADERS

Niall Gilligan and Alan Markham emerged from the replay with Galway as joint leaders in the Clare scoresheet with 3-9 and 2-12 respectively. Sean McMahon is just a point adrift in third place with 0-17. Colin Lynch scored 0-10, David Forde 0-9, James O'Connor 1-5, Barry Murphy 0-6, Ollie Baker 0-5, Stephen McNamara 1-1, P. J. O'Connell 1-0 and David Fitzgerald 1-0. Conor Clancy 0-2 and Enda Flannery, Anthony Daly, Ronan O'Hara and Danny Scanlon a point each completed the returns.

GILLIGAN MOVES TO THE TOP

Niall Gilligan took a major step towards earning joint leadership in the Clare chart by helping himself to 2-3 last time out. That now ranks as the best individual score by a Clare hurler in the series so far.

KILKENNY'S RECORD

The Noresiders had just two games in their successful defence of the Leinster title. 20th June at Croke Park:

Kilkenny 6-21; Laois 1-14.
Scorers: Henry Shefflin o-10, Ken O'Shea 3-1,
D. J. Carey 2-3, Andy Comerford 1-0, Charlie
Carter o-3, Brian McEvoy o-2, John Power o-1,
Michael Kavanagh o-1.

12th July at Croke Park:

Kilkenny 5-14; Offaly 1-16. Scorers: Henry Shefflin 1-6, D. J. Carey 2-3, Charlie Carter 1-3, Brian McEvoy 1-1, Andy Comerford 0-1.

TOTAL SCORED: 11-35 (68 points).
TOTAL CONCEDED: 2-30 (36 points).
AVERAGE: 1.89

TIGHT AT THE TOP

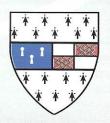
It is tight at the top of the Kilkenny scoring chart with Henry Shefflin just ahead of D. J. Carey. Shefflin has 1-16, while Carey is the goal expert of the side with 4-6.

Ken O'Shea helped himself to 3-1, Charlie Carter scored 1-6 and Brian McEvoy 1-3, Andy Comerford 1-1, John Power and Michael Kavanagh a point each completed the scoring tally.

SHEFFLIN AGAIN

Henry Shefflin chalked up the highest score by a Kilkenny hurler in the campaign so far on his senior championship debut against Laois when he chipped in with ten points.

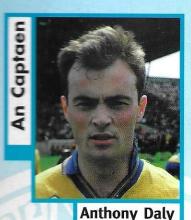






Colin Lynch (An Clár)





The Clarecastle clubman is hoping to add another winning chapter to his highly successful Croke Park appearances as captain of the Banner County.

A regular with the county senior team since making his debut in a National League game in 1989, he has been captain of the Clare team since 1992.

This is a tribute to his consistency and leadership over a lengthy period, during which he led Clare to the All-Ireland senior titles of 1995 and 1997 and to three Munster championships.

Daly has also earned a special niche for himself as the only hurler twice presented with the new Liam McCarthy Cup.

He has won county senior League and championship medals and All Stars awards.



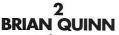
Roghnóirí: Ger Loughnane (Manager), Michael McNamara, Sean Stack, Tony Considine.

Clar

Dathanna: Ór is Gorm

DAVID FITZGERALD

D. Mac Gearailt (Sixmilebridge)



B. Ó Coinn (Tulla)

LIAM DOYLE

L. Ó Dughaill (Bodyke)

BRIAN LOHAN

B. Ó Leocháin (Wolfe Tones)

6 SEAN McMAHON

S. Mac Mathúna (St. Joseph's/Doora-Barefield)

OLLIE BAKER O. Ó Báicéir

(St. Joseph's/Doora-Barefield)

COUN LYNCH

C. Ó Loingsigh

(Lisseycasey)

JAMES O'CONNOR

S. Ó Conchúir (St. Joseph's/Doora-Barefield) **CONOR CLANCY**

C. Mac Lanncháidh (Kilmaley)

P. J. O'CONNELL P. S. Ó Conáill (O'Callaghan Mills)

FRANK LOHAN

P. Ó Leoch*áin*

(Wolfe Tones)

ANTHONY DALY

A. Ó Dálaigh (Capt.)

(Clarecastle)

STEPHEN McNAMARA S. Mac Conmara

(Éire Óg, Inis)

14 **NIALL GILLIGAN** N. Ó Giollagáin

(Sixmilebridge)

15 **ALAN MARKHAM**

A. Marcacháin (Kilmaley)

Fir Ionaid

(16) Christy O'Connor C. Ó Conchúir (St. Joseph's/Doora-Barefield)

(17) Enda Flannery E. Ó Flannabhra (Whitegate)

Barry Murphy B. Ó Murchú (Scariff)

(19) David Forde D. Mac Giollarnáth (Ogonnolloe)

(20) John Reddan S. Ó Riodáin (Sixmilebridge)

(21) Lorcan Hassett L. Ó hAisí (St. Joseph's/Doora-Barefield) (22) Richard Woods R. Mac Concoille (Newmarket)

(23) Brian Minogue B. Ó Muineóg (Whitegate)

(24) Gerry Quinn G. Ó Coinn (Corofin)

An Clár	Cúil	Cúilíní	Seachaí	65m	Saor Pocanna
1adh Leath			As a second		120 124 15
2adh Leath				100000000000000000000000000000000000000	A CO BUILDING
IOMLÁN					

Paths to the Semi-Final

An Clár				
6th June at Páirc Uí Chaoimh:	An Clár	2-12	0-18	Tiobraid Áran
12th June at Páirc Uí Chaoimh:	An Clár	1-21	1-11	Tiobraid Áran
4th July at Thurles:	Corcaigh	1-15	0-14	An Clár
25th July at Páirc An Chrócaigh:	An Clár	3-15	2-18	Gaillimh
2nd August at Páirc An Chrócaigh:	An Clár	3-18	2-14	Gaillimh
Cill Chainnigh			i para	the single
20th June at Croke Park:	Cill Chainnigh	6-21	1-14	Laois
12th July at Croke Park:	Cill Chainnigh	5-14	1-16	Uibh Fháilí

Cill Chainnigh



JAMES McGARRY

S. Mac Fearraí (Bennettsbridge)

PHILIP LARKIN

P. Ó Lorcáin (James Stpehens)

CANICE BRENNAN WILLIE O'CONNOR

C. Ó Braonáin (Conahy-Shamrocks)

L. Ó Conchúir (Glenmore)

5 MICHAEL KAVANAGH

M. Ó Caomhánach (St. Lachtains)

6 DUINE EILE

7 PETER BARRY

P. de Barra (James Stephens)

ANDY COMERFORD

A. Ó Comascaigh (O'Loughlin-Gaels)

9 DENIS BYRNE

D. Ó Broin (Capt.)
(Graigue-Ballycallan)

10 D.J. CAREY

D.S. Ó Ciara (Young Irelands)

JOHN POWER

S. de Paor (John Lockes)

12 BRIAN McEVOY

B. Mac Fionnbhuí (James Stephens)

13 KEN O'SHEA C. Ó Sé

(Dunnamaggin)

14 HENRY SHEFFLIN

A. Ó Seibhleáin (Shamrocks)

15 CHARLIE CARTER

C. Mac Artúir

(Young Irelands)

Fir Ionaid

(16) Martin Carey
M. Ó Ciara
(Young Irelands)

(17) Tom Hickey
T. Ó hlcí
(Dunnamaggin)
(18) Pat O'Neill

(18) Pat O'Neill

P. Ó Néill

(Young Irelands)

(19) Paddy Mullally P. Ó Maolallaí (Glenmore)

(20) John Costelloe S. Ó Coisteala (St. Lachtains)

(21) Stephen Grehan S. Ó Greacháin (Fenians) (22) Niall Moloney N. Ó Maolomhnaigh (St. Martin's)

(23) P. J. Delaney P. S. Ó Dubhsláine (Fenians)

(24) DUINE EILE

Cill Chainnigh Cúil Cúilíní Seachaí 65m Saor Pocanna 1adh Leath 2adh Leath IOMLÁN Seachaí 65m Saor Pocanna

An Réiteoir: Willie Barrett (Tiobraid Árann)

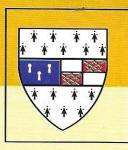


he Tipperary man refereed the Offaly-Wexford Guinness Leinster senior semi-final at Croke Park last June.

Willie is from Ardfinnan and is one of the most experienced referees in the sport. He had charge of the 1990 All-Ireland minor final and was the man-in-the-middle in the Offaly-Limerick Liam McCarthy Cup tie of 1994.

He was involved in the exciting series of three games between Cork and Wexford for the 1993 National League title.

Barrett refereed the meetings of Clare and Waterford in last year's Munster final and replay.



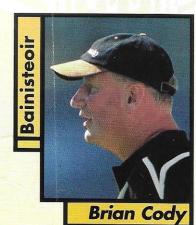
An Captaen Denis Byrne

Kilkenny's captain helped to usher in an historic chapter in the local championship last year as left full forward in the Craigue-Ballycallan team that won the county senior hurling title for the first time.

Denis is an accomplished and experienced hurler who had a very successful career in underage competitions. He won All-Ireland medals at minor in 1991 and under-21 in 1994.

He also helped Kilkenny to their last National League title in 1995.

Byme made a big contribution to Kilkenny's successful defence of the Leinster title this season with his polished play and leadership at midfield.



Roghnóirí:

Brian Cody (James Stephen Manager,

Ger Henderson (Fenians), John Walsh (Shamrocks).

How The Counties Have Fared Over The Past Year

An Clár

9th August - All-Ireland	semi-final	
Clare 1-13;	Offaly	1-13
22nd August - All-Irelan	d semi-final	
Clare 1-16;	Offaly	2-10*
29th August - All-Ireland	d semi-final	
Offaly 0-16;	Clare	0-13
31st October - Oireachta	as	
Clare 1-8;	Laois	2-5
14th November - Oireac	htas	
Galway 3-13;	Clare	0-13
21st November - Oireach	ntas	
Limerick 0-13;	Clare	1-4
14th February - Challeng	ge	
Clare 1-8;	Wexford	1-5
20th February - Nationa	l League	
Clare 5-15;	Kerry	1-6
7th March - National Le	ague	
Galway 2-17;	Clare	1-11
20th March - National L	eague	
Clare 2-14;	Antrim	3-9
28th March - National L	eague	
Clare 0-14;	Limerick	1-10
4th April - National Leas	gue	
Clare 2-5;	Offaly	1-6
18th April - National Lea	igue	
Clare 1-13;	Dublin	1-13
2nd May - National Leas	gue semi-final	
Tipperary 0-19;	Clare	1-15
16th May - Challenge		
Clare ;0-18;	Kilkenny	2-12
6th June - Championship)	
Clare 2-12;	Tipperary	0-18
12th June - Championshi	ip	
Clare 1-21;	Tipperary	1-11
4th July - Munster Final		
Cork 1-15;	Clare	0-14
25th July - All-Ireland qu	arter-final	
Clare 3-15;	Galway	2-18
2nd August - All-Ireland	quarter-final	
Clare 3-18;	Galway	2-14
*Game prematurely ende	ed - replay order	ed
Played 19		

Played 19 Won 7 Drew 6 Lost 6

Played

Won

Drew

Lost

Cill Chainnigh

16th August - A	Il-Ireland	semi-final	
Kilkenny		Waterford	1-10
13th Septembe	r - All-Ire	land Final	
Offaly	3-16;	Kilkenny	2-13
31st October -	South Ea	st League	
Limerick	1-9;	Kilkenny	0-9
8th November		ast League	
Waterford	3-7;	Kilkenny	0-11
5th December -	- South E	ast League	
Cork	The second secon	Kilkenny	1-5
24th January -	South Ea	st League	
		Kilkenny	3-4
31st January - A		ament	
Waterford	1-15;	Kilkenny	1-9
7th February - '	Walsh Cu	р	
Wexford	1-10;	Kilkenny	0-9
21st February -	National	League	
Cork	0-14;	Kilkenny	1-9
7th March - Nat	tional Lea	ague	
Kilkenny	2-15;	Laois	0-16
14th March - Ch	nallenge		
Kilkenny	2-10*	Dublin	0-16
SECONO DE COMPANSO	7,		0.10
21st March - Na			0-10
	ational Le	ague	1-12
21st March - Na	ational Le 1-16;	ague Waterford	
21st March - Na Kilkenny	ational Le 1-16; ational Le	ague Waterford	
21st March - Na Kilkenny 28th March - Na	ntional Le 1-16; ational Le 3-14;	ague Waterford eague Tipperary	1-12
21st March - Na Kilkenny 28th March - Na Kilkenny	ational Le 1-16; ational Le 3-14; onal Leag	ague Waterford eague Tipperary	1-12
21st March - Na Kilkenny 28th March - Na Kilkenny 4th April - Natio	ational Le 1-16; ational Le 3-14; onal Leag 2-20;	wague Waterford eague Tipperary gue Down	1-12
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21st March - Na Kilkenny 28th March - Na Kilkenny 4th April - Natio Kilkenny 11th April - Natio Kilkenny 2nd May - Natio Galway	1-16; ational Leag 3-14; onal Leag 2-20; onal Leag 3-12; onal Leag 2-15; llenge	waterford eague Tipperary gue Down gue Wexford gue semi-final	1-12 1-13 0-14 3-8
21st March - Na Kilkenny 28th March - Na Kilkenny 4th April - Natio Kilkenny 11th April - Natio Kilkenny 2nd May - Natio Galway 16th May - Chal	ational Least 1-16; ational Least 2-20; onal Least 2-15; llenge 2-12;	waterford eague Tipperary gue Down gue Wexford gue semi-final Kilkenny	1-12 1-13 0-14 3-8 1-15
21st March - Na Kilkenny 28th March - Na Kilkenny 4th April - Natio Kilkenny 11th April - Natio Kilkenny 2nd May - Natio Galway 16th May - Chal Kilkenny	1-16; ational Leage 2-20; onal Leage 3-12; onal Leage 2-15; llenge 2-12;	waterford eague Tipperary gue Down gue Wexford gue semi-final Kilkenny	1-12 1-13 0-14 3-8 1-15
21st March - Na Kilkenny 28th March - Na Kilkenny 4th April - Natio Kilkenny 11th April - Natio Kilkenny 2nd May - Natio Galway 16th May - Chal Kilkenny 23rd May - Chal	1-16; ational Leage 3-14; onal Leage 2-20; onal Leage 3-12; onal Leage 2-15; llenge 2-12; llenge 2-17;	waterford eague Tipperary gue Down gue Wexford gue semi-final Kilkenny Kilkenny	1-12 1-13 0-14 3-8 1-15 0-18
21st March - Na Kilkenny 28th March - Na Kilkenny 4th April - Natio Kilkenny 11th April - Natio Kilkenny 2nd May - Natio Galway 16th May - Chal Kilkenny 23rd May - Chal Cork 20th June - Chal Kilkenny	1-16; ational Leage 2-20; onal Leage 2-12; llenge 2-12; llenge 2-17; mpionshi 6-21;	Waterford eague Tipperary gue Down gue Wexford gue semi-final Kilkenny Clare Kilkenny	1-12 1-13 0-14 3-8 1-15 0-18
21st March - Na Kilkenny 28th March - Na Kilkenny 4th April - Natio Kilkenny 11th April - Natio Kilkenny 2nd May - Natio Galway 16th May - Chal Kilkenny 23rd May - Chal Cork 20th June - Chal Kilkenny 11th July - Leins	1-16; ational Leage 2-20; onal Leage 2-12; llenge 2-12; llenge 2-17; mpionshi 6-21;	Waterford eague Tipperary gue Down gue Wexford gue semi-final Kilkenny Clare Kilkenny	1-12 1-13 0-14 3-8 1-15 0-18
21st March - Na Kilkenny 28th March - Na Kilkenny 4th April - Natio Kilkenny 11th April - Natio Kilkenny 2nd May - Natio Galway 16th May - Chal Kilkenny 23rd May - Chal Cork 20th June - Chal Kilkenny	ational Least 1-16; ational Least 2-20; onal Least 2-15; llenge 2-17; mpionshi 6-21; ster Final	Waterford eague Tipperary gue Down gue Wexford gue semi-final Kilkenny Clare Kilkenny	1-12 1-13 0-14 3-8 1-15 0-18

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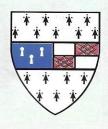
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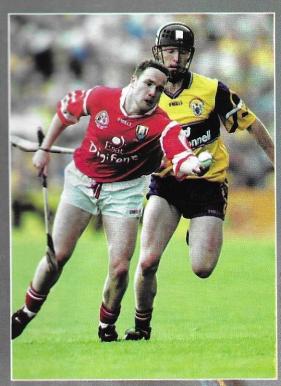


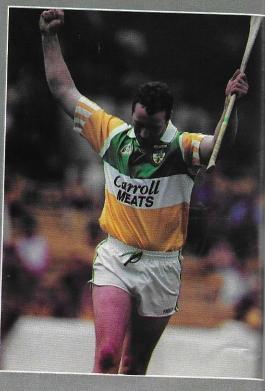


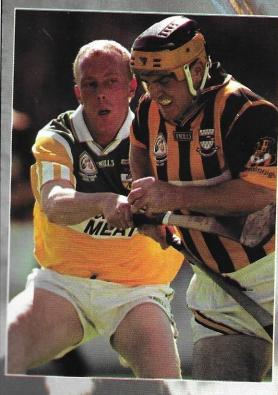
Canice Brennan (Cill Chainnigh)

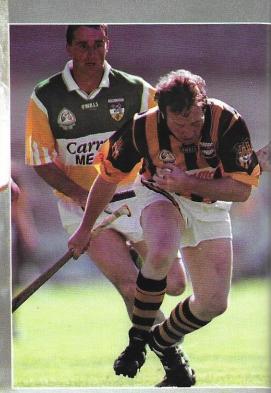


STAR FIRST FOR GOVERNOES











GATGH WINDTES EVERY MONDAY



Banner and Nore...Two Championship Head-To-Heads

1932 - Kilkenny 3-3; Clare 2-3.

crowd of just under 35,000 attended this first-ever championship meeting of Clare and Kilkenny in the All-Ireland final of 1932. Kilkenny had the better of the opening period but failed to score and it was the Banner men who opened their account first when Jack Gleeson fired over a long-range point. Kilkenny continued in the ascendancy territorially, but with the Clare full-back line of Jim Higgins, Pat McInerney and John Joe Doyle giving a fine impersonation of a brick wall, the first quarter passed with Gleeson's point the only score.

Eddie Byrne equalised for the Noresiders as the game entered the second quarter but the Munster champions responded quickly with a Mick Connery point to regain the lead. Scores continued to be hard to come by but a '70' from Jim Holohan doubled Clare's advantage. Just before the break Kilkenny reduced Clare's advantage to the minimum when Eddie Doyle converted a '70'.

Unlike the opening half, Kilkenny's early dominance in the second period was reflected on the scoreboard. Mattie Power fired home to give the Leinster champions the lead for the first time and a Lory Meagher sideline cut was touched to the net by Martin White to increase their advantage. Another Meagher delivery from a sideline again found White and his impeccable finish pushed Kilkenny's advantage to eight points.

Clare badly needed a response and got it when "Tull"

Considine fired home and when colleague Tony Burnell did likewise shortly after, an exciting finish was in prospect.

Clare continued on the offensive but it was now the turn of Kilkenny's back line to shine and as full time approached the gap between the sides remained at two points.

Considine got a late opportunity but shot wide under pressure and from the puck-out Kilkenny grabbed the last score of the game when Mattie Power shot over. Tom Daly's resultant puck-out was the last act of the afternoon as Kilkenny took the title.

Kilkenny scorers: M.White 2-0, M.Power 1-1, E.Byrne 0-1, E.Doyle 0-1.

Clare: T.Considine 1-0, T.Burnell 1-0, J.Gleeson 0-1, M.Connery 0-1, J.Holohan 0-1.

Kilkenny - Jim Dermody, Paddy Larkin, Peter O'Reilly, Eddie Doyle, Paddy Phelan, Podge Byrne, Jack Carroll, Eddie Byrne, Lory Meagher, Jim Walsh, Martin Power, Tommy Leahy, Dan Dunne, Mattie Power, Martin White.

Clare - Tom Daly, Jim Higgins, Pat McInerney, John Joe Doyle, Jim Holohan, D.J.Hogan, Larry Blake, Jack Gleeson, Tom McInerney, Mick Falvey, Mick Connery, Mick O'Rourke, Jim Mullane, Tony Burnell, "Tull" Considine.

1997 - Clare 1-17; Kilkenny 1-13.

crowd of just under 48,000 turned up at Croke Park for the second senior championship meeting of Clare and Kilkenny, this time at the semi-final stage, two years ago. Clare got off to a flying start with points by Ger O'Loughlin and James O'Connor inside the opening couple of minutes and a goal from the former in the fourth minute put the Banner men five clear. Kilkenny opened their account with a Philip Larkin point a minute later but frees from O'Connor and Sean McMahon kept Clare humming.

The Noresiders scored three of the next four points to end the first quarter o-4 to 1-5 behind and they continued to gnaw away at the arrears with a point from a '65' by Pat O'Neill at the 22nd minute. However, points by O'Connor and Niall Gilligan stopped Kilkenny's rally and left the Leinster side five points in arrears at the half hour mark. Just two further scores decorated the first period as D.J.Carey and O'Connor swapped points to leave the interval score 1-8 to 0-6 in Clare's favour. Kilkenny required a couple of quick scores on the restart but it was Clare who continued on their merry way as points by Gilligan, O'Connor and P.J.O'Connell pushed their advantage to eight points by the 40th minute. Charlie Carter sniped a point of the arrears a minute later but another spell of Banner pressure saw a brace of points from O'Connor sandwich a single from O'Connell to leave it 1-14 to 0-7 with three-quarters of an hour gone.

Peter Barry and Sean McMahon swapped points before David Forde and D.J.Carey did likewise, but a fine goal from the latter finally sparked Kilkenny into life. The Noreside ace quickly added a point to close the gap to six points with twice as many minutes left but a pointed free from O'Connor eight minutes from time steadied Clare. However, that proved to be their last score and late attacks by Kilkenny brought a brace of points from Carey and a single from Denis Byrne, but it was all too late as Clare advanced with four points to spare.

Clare scorers: J.O'Connor o-9, G.O'Loughlin 1-1, S.McMahon o-2, N.Gilligan o-2, P.J.O'Connell o-2, D.Forde o-1.

Kilkenny: D.J.Carey 1-6, C.Carter o-2, P.Barry o-1, P.Larkin o-1, P.O'Neill o-1, D.Byrne o-1, C.Brennan o-1.

Clare - David Fitzgerald, Michael O'Halloran, Brian Lohan, Frank Lohan, Liam Doyle, Sean McMahon, Anthony Daly, Ollie Baker, Colin Lynch, James O'Connor, Conor Clancy, P.J.O'Connell, Niall Gilligan, Ger O'Loughlin, Fergal Hegarty.

Subs - David Forde for Hegarty, Eamonn Taaffe for Baker.

Kilkenny - Adrian Ronan, John Costello, Eddie O'Connor, Willie
O'Connor, Dan O'Neill, Pat O'Neill, Liam Keoghan, Philip Larkin,
Andy Comerford, John Power, Canice Brennan, D.J.Carey, Ken
O'Shea, P.J.Delaney, Charlie Carter.

Subs - Peter Barry for O'Shea, Denis Byrne for Power, Brian McEvoy for Brennan.

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Kilkenny 2-10; Clare 1-8.

ike the championship, it has been two years since the paths of Clare and Kilkenny last crossed in the secondary competition and on that occasion it was the Noresiders who prevailed before a crowd of 10,000 at Nowlan Park.

There was little between the sides in the first

quarter but Niall Gilligan's goal put Clare ahead by 1-2 to 0-3. They built on that advantage to lead by 1-5 to 0-3 at the break but it could have been more had the Banner forwards not squandered a number of chances. Kilkenny set about their arrears with gusto after the restart and by the 50th minute they had turned their interval arrears of five points into a three-point lead (1-9 to 1-6). James O'Connor and Niall Gilligan reduced the deficit to the minimum but the home side finished strongly and a point by Carey was followed by a Philip Larkin goal to give Kilkenny the points.

A.Comerford o-2, D.Byrne
o-1, N.Maloney o-1, B.McEvoy o-1, P.O'Neill o
Clare: J.O'Connor o-4, N.Gilligan 1-1, C.Lynch
1, P.J.O'Connell o-1, S.McMahon o-1.

Kilkenny - Joe Dermody, David Beirne, Eddie O'Connor, Willie O'Connor, Liam Keoghan, Pa O'Neill, John Costelloe, Philip Larkin, Andy Comerford, Brian McEvoy, John Power, D.J.Carey, Niall Maloney, Denis Byrne, Charlie Carter.

Sub - Michael Phelan for Carter.

Clare - David Fitzgerald, Frank Lohan, Brian Lohan, Brian Quinn, Liam Doyle, Sean McMahon, Anthony Daly, Christy Chaplin, Jan O'Connor, David Forde, Colin Lynch, P.J.O'Connell, Niall Gilligan, Ger O'Loughlin, Barry Murphy.

Subs - Eamon Taaffe for Forde, Ronan O'Hare for Chaplin.



An Poc Fada

M. Donnelly All-Ireland Poc Fada Final Annaverna Mountain, Cooley, County Louth, 7th August

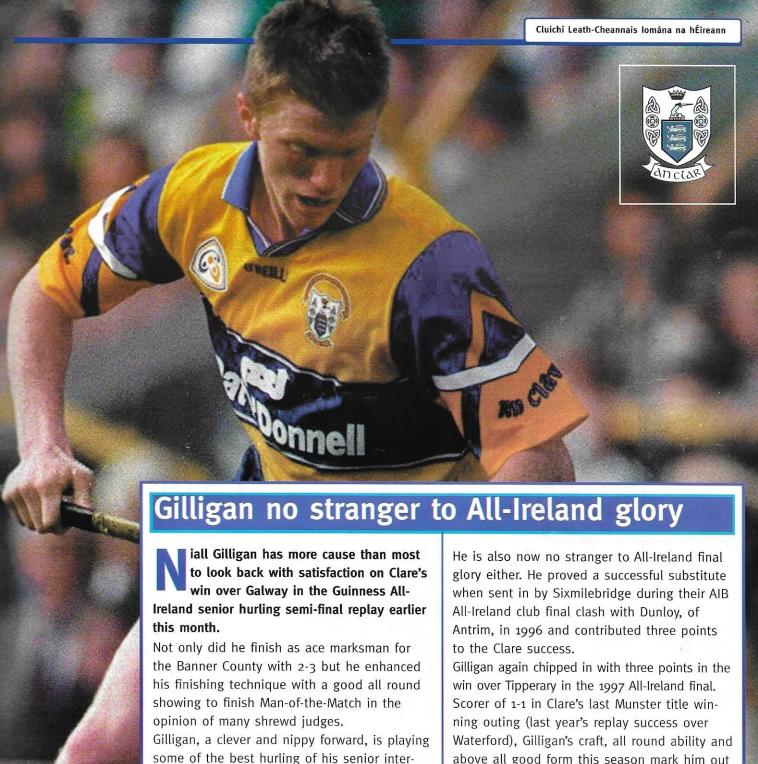
lare's David Fitzgerald collected his and his county's first-ever All-Ireland Poc Fada title, in a Poc Fada that many described as one of the most demanding ever. Heavy wind, rain and mist meant that the five kilometres course was cut to a distance of three and a half kilometres. The contest was so close that on the final leg home any one of four hurlers, David Fitzgerald and Brendan Cummins (Tipperary), Liam Shinners (Tipperary), or Paul Dunne (Louth) could have claimed the All-Ireland title. David, visiting the mountain for the ninth time, prevailed, and claimed the title by virtue of one poc from both Brendan Cummins and Liam Shinners, with Paul Dunne fourth, two pocs behind David's winning score of

39 pocs. David collected his All-Irelan trophy and medal from G.A.A. Preside Joe McDonagh and he told the large audience on the mountain that he was delighted and proud to win the title. Both he and Joe praised all involved organising the great hurling contest.

The Coiste of An Poc Fada made a special presentation to Joe McDonagh in appreciation for his support to the contest. Poc Fada sponsor Martin Donnelly was also presented with a token of gratitude from the Coiste. Wexford's Jim Berry, back on the mountain for the second year running, claimed the 'Veteran's' title winning by one poc from Louth's Pat Harnett. Clare's Christy Ryan and Armagh's Eamon McBride filled the next two positions. Louth defeated Armagh in the Poc Baire (skills) contest.

David Fitzgerald joins hurlers such as

Ollie Walsh, Pat Hartigan, Ger Cunningham, Finbar O'Neill and Tomm Quaid as All-Ireland Poc Fada champion



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regularly on the scoresheet.

above all good form this season mark him out as a hurler who could again set the Banner flying high.

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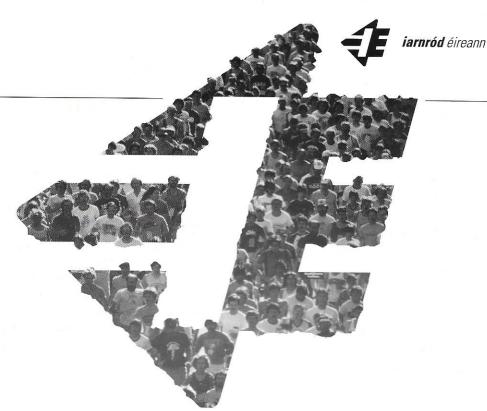
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Hurling Semi-Final 1999 Clare v. Kilkenny

The Banners and The Cats

"The irresistible force meeting the immovable object" comes to mind when we consider this epic match. Proud Kilkenny, holders of a great hurling tradition and many All-Ireland pennants, face resurgent Clare. The Banner County, whose indefatigable manager Ger Loughnane, has imbued his troops with a fierce will to win.

Kilkenny have shown powerful form in the championship, but Clare, after surrendering the Munster title to Cork, has tuned up to a fine pitch after two matches against Galway.

What would former greats like Jim Langford and Mattie Power have made of this clash? Like everyone else who exults in the best of modern hurling, we think they would have been in a proverbial welter of excitement.

We wish both teams the very best and hope for a great game of hurling.

The crowds of black and amber-clad supporters on our trains have been joined latterly by huge numbers of saffon and blues. It has been a delight to carry all hurling supporters over the years. Long may you travel with us.



Semi-Finals By Ten

1909 - After the previous year's crushing defeat Galway were considered to have no chance against Tipperary, the defending the All-Ireland champions when they lined out at the Markets' Field in Limerick on the third Sunday in October before a good attendance. But somehow, somewhere, the Westerners found the spirit and skill to carry the fight to the favourites, and their response to Tipperary's opening burst of 1-3 was a brace of goals to draw level. Another Tipperary goal brought one in reply and at the interval it was 3-6 to 3-2.

Through the second half this pattern persisted with the challengers maintaining a hot pursuit to the very end when a relieved Tipperary went through on a 6-7 to 5-7 scoreline.

Tipperary: J.O'Brien, T.Semple, T.Kerwick, J.Mockler, M.O'Brien, P.Burke, P.Brolan, H.Shelly, T.Kenna, J.McLoughrey, A.Carew, P.Dwan, T.Dwyer, A.Mockler, T.Gleeson, P.Fitzgerald, J.Fitzgerald.

Galway: J.Cahill, J.Connolly, O.Comber, J.T.Flanagan, M.Stanhard, J.Quinn, M.Forde, J.Mulhall, J.McInerney, T.Murphy, M.Fallon, R.Hickey, J.Mannion, G.Jennings, J.Egan, J.Morrisey, P.J.Conniffe. (17-a-side)

The Kilkenny-Derry semi-final drew only a small attendance to Jones's Road where the Ulster team's lack of skill was painfully obvious. The Noresiders could afford to rest most of the team that had won the Leinster final and still never be in the slightest danger of defeat. The full-time score of 3-17 to o-3 shows how easy it was for Kilkenny's 'second string'. Kilkenny: E.Doyle, M.McDonnell, J.Brennan, J.Kelly, J.Ryan, T.Corr, J.Doherty, M.Doyle, W.Walsh, P.Morahan, E.Furie, J.Butler, T.Butler, J.Delahunty, J.Dunphy, W.Henneberry, D.Doyle. Derry: P.Cusack, J.Kelly, P.Elliott, J.Sixham, E.Gallagher, E.Millar, B.Doherty, J.McEvoy, J.McCullagh, F.McCullagh, D.Kenny, P.Mulvanny, H.Elliott, D.Lynn, M.Hensey, E.Coyle, W.McCullagh.

1919 - Cork were seeking a place in the All-Ireland final for the first time in seven years while Galway were attempting to bridge a 19-year gap to their only success at the All-Ireland semi-final stage in 1900 when the counties clashed at Limerick on the first Sunday in September. With excellent wins over Waterford, Tipperary and defending All-Ireland champions Limerick, Cork could hardly have been better prepared for this encounter, but with the opposition in Connacht having petered out a few years earlier, Galway, coming in 'cold', were at an obvious disadvantage - and it showed.

Despite hitting five wides in as many minutes, Cork were soon on their way with a goal by Jimmy Kennedy and points by Denis Ryng. The Galway defence, however, was not easily over-run and dogged defence by the Morriseys and John Power kept the score within bounds. But there were limits to what they could do and though there was no rush of scoring, Ryng, Healy and Hassett raised flags which left it 2-5 to 0-0 at the break.

Galway restarted with spirit and some inspired play by John Dervan led to a point by Brehony, but there the Galway attack jammed and Cork went on to add 1-3 and finish winners by 3-8 to 0-1.

Cork: J.Kennedy, E.Gray, J.O'Keeffe, P.O'Halloran, T.Nagle, P.Healy, R.Gorman, J.Barry-Murphy, C.Lucey, J.Hassett, D.Ryng,

S.Murphy, M.Murphy, C.Sheehan, F.Kelleher.

Sub: M.Murphy.

Galway: D.Morrisey, G.Morrisey, J.Power, M.Brehony, A.Kelly, J.Dervan, M.Glynn, M.Kennedy, J.Mahony, P.O'Connor, W.Newell,

F.Fallon, J.Cusack, J.Sullivan, T.Gibbons.

1929 - The surge that had carried Galway to an historic All-Ireland win and three subsequent appearances in the final was slowly abating, and it was expected that Kilkenny would be quite capable of ending their interest in this semi-final. Kilkenny had been nominated to represent Leinster at this stage after the Leinster championship had been declared void, but they were in no way inhibited by that blip and at Birr they lacked nothing in the way of skill and enthusiasm when they faced their great rivals.=

Defences on both sides had a harrowing time as the respective forward lines were consistently on the mark after Ignatius Harney had opened the scoring with a goal. That was an example taken up by both sides and soon there was a profusion of flags (mostly green) as Dealy, Wat Dunphy, Lory Meagher, Mick Broderick and John Fleming all got on target; but Kilkenny were doing better as evidenced by an interval score of 6-o to 3-2.

But Galway were soon cutting into the arrears and Broderick, Harney and Dealy were all to the fore as the scores levelled. Galway then surged ahead by six points before Dunphy, with Kilkenny's seventh goal, closed the gap to three points. Galway, however, finished strongly to finish worthy winners by 7-7 to 7-1.

Galway: J.Mahony, W.Keane, M.Cunningham, J.Derivan, Matt Broderick, L.Geoghegan, W.Derivan, I.Harney, J.Shaughnessy, F.Keeley, J.Mullen, J.Dealy, Mick Broderick, W.Curran, R.Morrisey. Kilkenny: M.Bergin, J.Walsh, J.Dunne, W.Dunphy, E.Dunphy, M.Power, L.Meagher, E.Doyle, T.Grace, T.Connell, P.Kealy, P.Byrne, P.Butler, J.Fleming, J.Carroll.

1939 - When Galway made the short trip to Roscrea for the 1939 semi-final clash with Kilkenny, they almost certainly travelled more in hope than confidence for their championship record since the beginning of the decade had been most depressing - not a single win over any opposition. Not alone that, but in the Railway Cup Galway-powered Connacht had drawn a similar blank and of the fifteen players who now faced Kilkenny, not one had ever figured on a winning Galway team in senior inter-county hurling.

That, however, did not prevent them giving of their best and even the shock of a Kilkenny goal after five minutes did not faze them, and though Kilkenny were busy in search of points, goals by Molloy and one from "Inky" Flaherty, when he finished Tony Brennan's '70' to the net, kept Galway in the hunt and with 23 minutes gone they were only three points adrift. But the Noresiders finished the half with a flurry of points to lead by 1-10 to 2-0 at the break.

A Galway spurt on the restart when Corcoran pointed and then added a goal, kept Kilkenny in sight. But from there on off the odd point to eventually stretch their advantage to nine points before the end (1-16 to 3-1).

Kilkenny: J.O'Connell, P.Grace, P.Larkin, P.Blanchfield, B.Hinks, W.Burke, P.Phelan, J.Kelly, J.Langton, J.Walsh, T.Leahy, R.Brannigan, J.Mulcahy, S.O'Brien, J.Gargan.

Galway: W.Madden, M.Brennan, R.Walsh, M.Kelly, J.Greene, A.Brennan, M.Healy, T.Molloy, P.O'Connor, M.O'Connor, J.Gill, M.Loughnane, J.McGrath, M.J.Flaherty, S.Corcoran.

1949 - Unlike their opponents, Laois were novices at this stage of the hurling championship, but on a greasy surface they then hurled with remarkable confidence once Dinny Forde had given them a tonic start with a great goal. Joe Styles added two points before Galway got moving and Josie Gallagher quickly gnawed two points off the arrears and they were lurking dangerously when the same player goaled a 21-yard free. Laois, however, were not ruffled and Kelly's goal helped them to turn over leading by 2-3 to 1-4.

Laois were playing in a winning vein right from the restart, and though Josie Gallagher kept Galway hopes alive, when Harry Grey hit 1-2 it was all over and Galway's injury-time goals were mere statistics (4-6 to 3-5).

Laois: T.Fitzpatrick, L.White, J.Bergin, P.McCormack, J.Murray, T.Byrne, P.Rustchitzko, B.Bohane, J.Styles, P.Hogan, H.Grey, W.Dargan, P.Lalor, D.Forde, P.Kelly.

Subs: P.Farrell for Dargan, K.Hyland for Fitzpatrick.

Galway: S.Duggan, M.Badger, R.Quinn, W.Fahy, M.McInerney, G.Corless, M.J.Flaherty, J.Killeen, T.O'Boyle, F.Duignan, H.Gordon, T.Moroney, T.Kelly, S.Brophy, J.Gallagher.

Sub: S.Sammon for Killeen.

The certainty about the Tipperary-Antrim game was that Antrim would fight with typical bravery and that the Munster champions would win. The Tipperary interval advantage of 2-8 to 0-4 was ample but not overwhelming, but a third-quarter spate of scores quickly reduced the game to a formality and the only noteworthy feature of the day was the accuracy of the winners' forwards who shot only three wides in the hour as they won by 6-18 to 1-4.

Tipperary: A.Reddan, M.Brown, A.Brennan, S.Doyle, F.Coffey, P.Furlong, T.Doyle, P.Shanahan, P.Stakelum, T.Ryan, M.Ryan, J.Kennedy, M.Maher, E.O'Gorman, J.Ryan.

Subs: J.Devitt for Coffey, S.Bannon for O'Gorman, D.O'Gorman for Furlong.

Antrim: B.Cairns, G.Burns, L.Feeney, S.Haran, S.Mullen, D.Cormican, B.Anglin, K.Armstrong, N.Campbell, P.McManus, S.McDonnell, T.Best, H.Sheehan, S.Fogarty, T.Sheehan.

1959 - With Galway moving to Munster and Antrim and the other Ulster counties competing at junior or intermediate level, there was no All-Ireland semi-final for the first time since 1918.

1969 - As the last campaign of the sixties got under way it appeared that the decade would be the first without a semifinal as Connacht and Ulster were still unrepresented. But when London, having won intermediate honours in '67 and '68, sought admission to the senior championship they were readily accepted and were listed to play the Leinster champions in the semi-final.

Alas, the return of the exiles to premier competition after a lapse of more than half a century was less than auspicious as at Croke Park, Kilkenny, without stretching themselves unduly, cantered to the easiest of wins. Tommy Murphy's goal after two minutes opened the scoring and from there it went on its inevitable way.

All considered an interval deficit of 0-6 to 1-12 did not reflect too badly on London and when Tom Connolly had their goal midway through the second half only five points separated the sides and the possibility of a close finish surfaced. It didn't last long as Kilkenny, sensing there might be some danger, stepped up a gear and Eddie Keher, Pat Delaney, Sean Buckley and Seamus Cleere hit 2-7 without reply and the game ended with Kilkenny winners by 3-22 to 1-10.

The only point of interest was that Eddie Keher, who accounted for o-11, had to share the scoring honours with Tommy Murphy (3-2).

Kilkenny: O.Walsh, P.Henderson, T.Carroll, J.Treacy, S.Cleere, W.Murphy, M.Coogan, M.Lawlor, P.Moran, P.Kavanagh, P.Delaney, E.Keher, J.Millar, M.Brennan, T.Murphy.

London: W.Barniville, M.Kirwan, L.Walsh, T.Nolan, P.Fahy, M.Connolly, B.Twomey, P.O'Neill, M.Meaney, T.Connolly, J.Bennett, B.Barry, J.Organ, N.Power, T.Cleary.

1979 - With Cork committed to annexing a recordequalling fourth successive All-Ireland title, and Galway hoping that the promise of their fine under-21 team of the previous year would show some indication of better times ahead, there was much to play for in this semi-final. Unbeaten for four years, Cork could not have been unmindful of the fact that their last championship defeat had been at the hands of Galway - also at the semi-final stage.

There were great expectations of this meeting - and it certainly lived up to them. As Galway moved o-9 to o-4 in front after 24 minutes Cork realised that they had a battle on their hands and reacted like the true champions they were. Points were swapped through a third quarter of rare excellence and Cork were looking good when Sean O'Leary inched them ahead at the 48th minute.

Galway's response was immediate and effective; John Connolly sent a long ball towards the Cork goal area and Finbarr Gantley was on hand to finish to the net. Frank Burke's point eased the Westerners' situation but Cork were quickly back with points by John Horgan and Charlie McCarthy before Galway struck a vital blow when Noel Lane shot their second goal with seven minutes remaining. The champions rallied with spirit but even a Ray Cummins goal couldn't rescue them and Galway reached the final on a 2-14 to 1-13 scoreline.

Galway: S.Shinnors, N.McInerney, B.Hayes, A.Fenton, J.McDonagh, S.Silke, I.Clarke, S.Mahon, John Connolly, B.Forde, F.Gantley, Joe Connolly, P.J.Molloy, N.Lane, F.Burke.

Cork: M.Coleman, B.Murphy, M.O'Doherty, J.Horgan, D.McCurtain, J.Crowley, P.Moylan, D.Coughlan, J.Fenton, T.Crowley, G.McCarthy, T.Cashman, C.McCarthy, R.Cummins, J.Barry-Murphy.

1989 - The good and the not-so-good were present in equal measure in this double-header at Croke Park where

Antrim were seeking their first semi-final win since 1943 while Offaly were confidently expected to repel their challenge. Everything appeared to be going according to the prepared script until an Antrim goal put them in front with 29 minutes gone. Offaly, however, hit back to lead at the break by 1-10 to 1-6, but Antrim had scented victory and with Dessie Donnelly and Paul McKillen providing the inspiration they laid siege to the Offaly goal and when Olcan McFetridge found the net they were on their way. Offaly simply had no answer and Antrim deservedly won by 4-15 to 1-15.

Antrim: N.Patterson, C.O'Kane, T.Donnelly, D.Donnelly, J.McNaughton, D.McKinley, L.McKeegan, P.McKillan, D.McMullan, B.Donnelly, A.McCarry, O.McFetridge, D.Armstrong, C.Barr, T.McNaughton.

Sub: D.McNaughton for McMullan.

Offaly: J.Troy, A.Fogarty, E.Coughlan, M.Hanamy, R.Mannion, P.Delaney, G.Coughlan, J.Kelly, J.Pilkington, J.Dooley, D.Regan, M.Corrigan, V.Teehan, M.Duignan, D.Pilkington.

Subs: P.Corrigan for Teehan, D.Owens for M.Corrigan, B.Whelehan for D.Pilkington.

Inevitably the Tipperary-Galway game was overshadowed by the 'Keady affair' and this certainly didn't help to keep the contest on an even keel. Those who had come to see a repeat of the classic championship and league encounters of the previous year were to be disappointed by a bad-tempered affair in which ten names were taken and two sent off. When hurl-

Nominated

ualifying for an All-Ireland semi-final usually requires some sterling displays along the way; but that wasn't always the case as in the early years of the century, with the provincial championships running late, the Central Council would nominate a county to make up a semi-final pairing.

Kilkenny were the 'beneficiaries' of this system on a number of occasions. The first of these was in 1904 when, with the Leinster campaign more than a year behind, Kilkenny were nominated to play Galway in the semi-final, and at Athlone, despite trailing at half-time, came through to win by 2-8 to 1-7. Later they accounted for Dublin in the Leinster final before going on to win All-Ireland honours for the first time.

A year later there was a repeat performance and Kilkenny got 'the nomination' for a semi-final meeting with British newcomers, Lancashire. This time it was much easier, and at Jones's Road Kilkenny won by 2-21 to 0-5. Again the needful was done when Dublin were beaten in the Leinster final at Wexford.

It was becoming a habit. For the third year running Kilkenny were nominated for the semi-final in which their opponents were Antrim at Belfast. Conceding ground advantage was no problem to the Noresiders who won a hopelessly one-sided tie by 7-21 to 1-3. But it was third time 'unlucky' when they returned to take on Dublin in the provincial final as the Metropolitans created a big

ing was the main concern of the players there were fine displays from Nicholas English and Michael Cleary for Tipperary, and Sean Treacy and Michael Coleman for the losers, but overall this was not one of hurling's great occasions to say the least. Tipperary's win was on a 1-17 to 2-11 scoreline.

Tipperary: K.Hogan, J.Heffernan, C.O'Donovan, N.Sheehy, Conal Bonnar, B.Ryan, P.Delaney, D.Carr, D.Ryan, M.Cleary, J.Hayes, J.Leahy, P.Fox, Cormac Bonnar, N.English.

Subs: J.Cormac for Hayes, J.Kennedy for Delaney, Colm Bonnar for O'Donovan.

Galway: J.Commins, S.Linnane, C.Hayes, O.Kilkenny, P.Finnerty, S.Treacy, G.McInerney, P.Malone, M.Coleman, M.McGrath, B.Lynskey, R.Duane, G.Burke, J.Cooney, E.Ryan.

Subs: A.Cunningham for Duane, P.Nolan for Burke.

Ken O'Shea, Kilkenny, in action against Kevin Martin, Offaly in the Leinster Hurling Final at Croke Park.

READ

surprise by winning easily at Wexford Park (1-14 to 0-5).

Four years later, although the championship was not too far in arrears, Kilkenny were again nominated for the 1910 semi-final with London and at Waterford duly delivered with a 5-11 to 0-3 win. But again there was disappointment when a team, short the services of Eddie, Mick and Dick Doyle - went down to Dublin in the Leinster semi-final by 2-1 to 4-1. This particular venture had one more episode to run as far as Kilkenny were concerned though this time it wasn't quite so easy as Lancashire, on home ground in 1913, put up a most creditable display before going down by 1-4 to 4-4.

But as Kilkenny bowed out of this sphere of hurling activity, Clare came in - though they would feature only once as nominated All-Ireland semi-finalists. This was in 1915 when, with the Munster championships lagging behind, Clare, as reigning provincial and All-Ireland champions, were nominated for the clash with Galway at Gort. With some difficulty Clare won by 2-1 to 1-1, but when it came to defending their crowns against Cork a few weeks later in the Munster final they were crushed by 8-2 to 2-1.

That ended nominations as far as Clare and Kilkenny were concerned.





ne of the brightest features of Kilkenny's successful retention of the Leinster senior hurling title was the sparkling form of championship newcomer Henry Shefflin.

He has brought new punch and creativity to the attack with polished hurling which is more that of a mature campaigner than a hurler in his first season in the top grade.

But then, that is not so surprising as Shefflin has been turning on the style and finding the target impressively with the county in the lower grades. He had a highly successful career at minor and on the way to Leinster medals in1996 and1997 provided strong evidence of emerging qualities and the sharpshooting skill he is displaying so effectively now at senior.

Shefflin has also worn the county colours at under-21 and intermediate. Indeed, he has been on the scoring target at under-21 again this year. Henry is not the only member of his family to represent Kilkenny. His brothers Tommy, John and Paul, have all donned the Black and Amber with distinction.

Last March Shefflin, Kilkenny's leading scorer in the current championship, was on the scoresheet for Waterford IT in their Fitzgibbon Cup final win over U.C.C. at Templemore.

Enjoy a Feast of Gaelic Games

At St. Jude's GAA Club and Grounds, Wellington Lane, Templeogue, D6W.

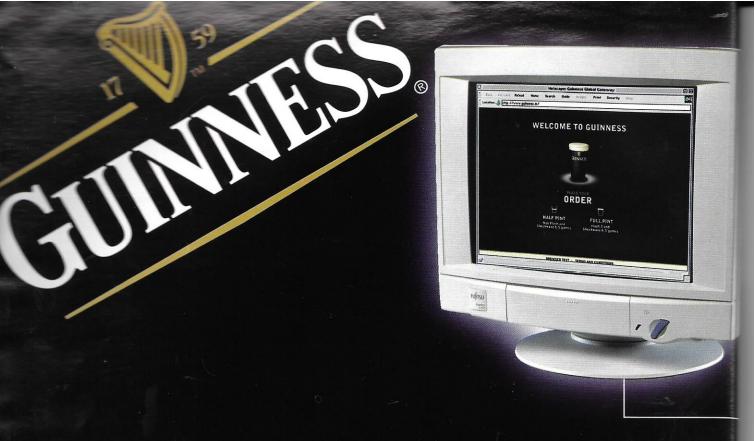
EBS/St. Jude's All-Ireland Junior Sevens



Hurling: Saturday, September 11th. **Football:** Saturday, September 25th. First games at 11.30a.m. Sharp - Final at 6.30p.m.



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Guinness has developed an exciting new hurling website that offers you the chance to learn all about the Guinness Hurling Championship. The new website features match previews and reports, fixtures and results, a comment line, county profiles, press reports and lots of championship match pictures from award winning photographers.

There is even a section entitled the "Bluffers' Guide" which takes a look at the humorous side of hurling and the championship. It is a fantastically interactive site, which includes lots of competitions for you to enter. Why not tell us why you deserve to be "Fan of the championship? Or try our "Spot the Sliothar"? Competition. Believe us - it isn't easy! Top line prizes include limited edition Guinness hurling jerseys and All-Ireland tickets.

Check out this highly informative site. Three of Ireland's top GAA correspondents, (Liam Horan, The Irish Independent, Cian Murphy from The Star and Martin Breheny, Ireland on Sunday) contribute to the website weekly, ensuring that you receive topical coverage throughout the Championship. Results and pictures from the weekend games are posted on the site for you to see straight after each match.

We would also like to find out what you think of our website by emailing us on our direct comment line.

You can find the Guinness hurling website by downloading http://www.guinness.ie and entering the section entitled "Live the Life".

Live Life to the Power of GUINNESS



Clare and Kilkenny - Last Season's Semi-Finals

Kilkenny 1-11; Waterford 1-10.

This was an absorbing contest in which defences dominated, but the relative lack of scores did not diminish the excitement in any way for the 51,000 in attendance. The first half was very much a nip and tuck affair with both sides having their barren periods i.e. Waterford failed to score between the 8th and 20th minutes while Kilkenny refused to disturb the scoreboard operator between the 19th and 34th minutes. All this left just two points between the sides at the interval with the Noresiders trooping off slightly the happier at 0-7 to 0-5.

With the breeze at their backs Waterford entertained high hopes for the second period but having failed to add to their interval score in the opening five minutes of the second half, Kilkenny punished them when D.J.Carey's low free was pulled on by Niall Maloney to the net. Within seven minutes the Leinster champions had pulled as many points clear as Carey and Brian McEvoy added minors but it could have been more had Charlie Carter not missed a couple of glorious scoring opportunities.

Waterford decided that the quickest route back into the game was a goal and although their initial efforts failed, they did grab one in the 57th minute when Paul Flynn's free was saved but Tony Browne was on hand to lash home the rebound. Carey and Anthony Kirwan traded points to leave four between the sides with less than ten minutes remaining. A point apiece from Flynn and Browne reduced the "Cats" advantage to two and in the last minute the former pointed a free to leave just the minimum between the sides. Waterford launched one last attack but Pat O'Neill broke it up and his clearance ended the contest.

Kilkenny scorers: D.J.Carey o-5, A.Comerford o-3, N.Maloney 1-0, B.McEvoy o-2, C.Carter o-1.

Kilkenny: Joe Dermody, Tom Hickey, Pat O'Neill, Willie O'Connor, Michael Kavanagh, Canice Brennan, Liam Keoghan, Philip Larkin, Peter Barry, Brian McEvoy, Andy Comerford, Shane Prendergast, D.J.Carey, P.J.Delaney, Charlie Carter.

Subs: Niall Maloney for Prendergast, Ken O'Shea for McEvoy.

Clare 1-13; Offaly 1-13.

Favourites Clare opened brightly and grabbed an early twopoint advantage. However, a spell of Midland dominance saw the Midlanders lead by 0-6 to 0-3 after 20 minutes and just two more scores were recorded in the first period and both were for the Munster champions to leave just the minimum between the sides at the interval.

Neither side seemed to be able to get a grip on proceedings as the second half trundled along but the introduction of Fergus Tuohy stirred Clare. He scored a goal when Niall Gilligan's centre eluded Simon Whelahan and Alan Markham and with less than ten minutes remaining the Banner side led by four points. However, an Offaly revival

sparked by Johnny Pilkington's goal saw the Midlanders edge ahead and it took a late free from James O'Connor to save Clare.

Clare scorers: J.O'Connor o-6, F.Tuohy 1-2, D.Forde o-1, S.McMahon o-1, P.J.O'Connell o-1, G.O'Loughlin o-1, O.Baker o-1.

Clare 1-16; Offaly 2-10.

Thirteen days later the sides met again at Croke Park and many of the pundits felt that Offaly may have missed their chance. The early stages didn't lend credence to this vein of thought as the sides shared four points but for the rest of the opening half Clare looked the part as they dominated proceedings and at the interval were deserving leaders by 1-9 to 0-4.

The Banner county continued in the ascendancy after the restart and after three-quarters of an hour they had moved ten points clear. An Offaly revival knocked 1-2 off their arrears although a brace from James O'Connor kept Clare clear. Another spell of Offaly pressure reduced the gap to three points but amazingly, with Clare looking likely to hold on for a deserved victory, referee Jimmy Cooney called time early. Less than 24 hours later it was decided that a third meeting was required.

Clare scorers: A.Markham 1-3, J.O'Connor o-5, S.McMahon o-3, B.Murphy o-2, A.Daly o-1, O.Baker o-1, F.Tuohy o-1.

Offaly 0-16; Clare 0-13.

The third meeting at Semple Stadium was a classic with little to choose between the sides. Offaly were out of the blocks the faster and had four points on the board inside the first seven minutes but Clare responded with five unanswered points to take the lead. However, another spell of Midland dominance before the interval gave Offaly an interval lead of three points - 0-9 to 0-6.

In the early stages of the second period Offaly started to creep away from Clare but with neither side finding a goal, the gap never looked unbridgeable. Three points divided the sides at the three-quarter stage but another spell of Offaly dominance brought three quick points to leave it 0-16 to 0-10 with five minutes remaining. Clare piled on the pressure but Stephen Byrne saved efforts from Fergal Hegarty and James O'Connor, and although O'Connor (two) and Anthony Daly did fire over points, Offaly held out to record a narrow victory.

Clare scorers: J.O'Connor o-5, D.Forde o-2, S.McMahon o-1, J.Reddan o-1, O.Baker o-1, A.Markham o-1, A.Daly o-1, N.Gilligan o-1.

Clare: David Fitzgerald, Brian Quinn, Brian Lohan, Frank Lohan, Liam Doyle, Sean McMahon, Anthony Daly, Ollie Baker, John Reddan, James O'Connor, Fergus Tuohy, Alan Markham, Niall Gilligan, Ger O'Loughlin, David Forde.

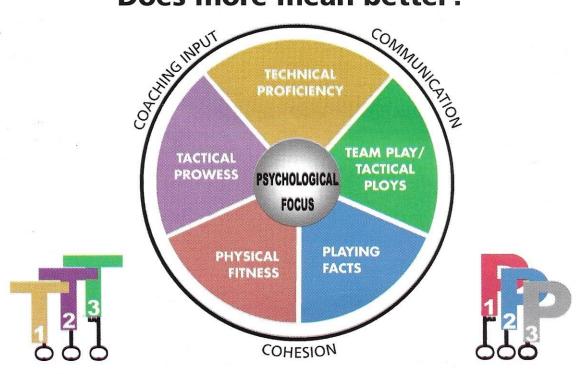
Subs: Fergal Hegarty for Tuohy, Danny Scanlan for O'Loughlin, Conor Clancy for Scanlan.

National Coaching Forum

Saturday 27th, November, 1999 in the New Stand • Croke Park

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25	Name:	
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=	To Pat Daly Coachir	g Games Promotion Manager, GAA, Croke Park, Dublin 3.

Fiche Ceist

- How many wins have Clare recorded at Croke Park in the Guinness senior hurling championship since 1995?
- 2. How many goals did Kilkenny score in their last All-Ireland senior hurling final appearance in 1993?
- 3. Who was leading scorer in last year's Kilkenny-Waterford All-Ireland senior hurling semi-final—D. J. Carey or Tony Browne?
- 4. What was Clare's winning margin over Waterford in last year's Munster senior hurling final replay—nine, twelve or thirteen points?
- Who refereed that Munster final replay— Dickie Murphy (Wexford), Willie Barrett (Tipperary) or Pat Horan (Offaly)?
- 6. David Fitzgerald won the M. Donnelly All-Ireland Poc Fada Championship last weekend. Where was that championship decided?
- 7. Who won the All-Ireland junior hurling championship earlier this month?
- 8. What counties will contest the Bord na Gaeilge All-Ireland senior camogie title next month?
- 9. Galway have still to win the All-Ireland senior camogie title. True or false?
- 10. How many times has the new Liam

- McCarthy Cup been brought to Kilkenny?
- 11. Who captained Kilkenny when they last won the old Liam McCarthy Cup in 1983?
- 12. Who refereed the first game for the new Liam McCarthy Cup in 1992—Dickie Murphy (Wexford), Pat O'Connor (Limerick) or John Moore (Waterford)?
- 13. Who captained Tipperary to the Church and General National Hurling League title last May?
- 14. Has an Ulster club won the AIB All-Ireland senior hurling championship?
- 15. When did Kilkenny last win All-Ireland senior and minor hurling semi-finals on the same afternoon at Croke Park?
- 16. Who scored Clare's goal in their draw with Offaly in last year's All-Ireland senior hurling semi-final at Croke Park?
- 17. Who lined out at full back in the Clare-Offaly draw at Croke Park in the All-Ireland senior hurling semi-final last August?
- 18. What hurler won the Eircell G.A.A. All Stars Player of the Month award for June?
- 19. When did Kilkenny last win the All-Ireland senior camogie title?
- 20. Limerick, Kilkenny or Clare won the All-Ireland Intermediate hurling championship last year. Which?

the final. Limerick, who beat Kilkenny in David Fitzgerald. 19. 1994. 20. tute. 17. Richard Woods.18. went into the game as a substiat senior, 16. Fergus Tuohy, who Galway at minor and Waterford Last year when they beat North's only crown in 1983. 15. Shamrocks, of Antrim, won the Thomas Dunne. 14. Loughgiel Fennelly, 12. Dickie Murphy, 13. 1992 and 1993, 11. Liam time in 1996. 10. Twice—in the title for the first and only hpperary. 9. False. They won the final. 8. Kilkenny and 7. Meath, who beat Tyrone in Cooley Mountains, Co. Louth. Barrett. 6. Over a course in the points-2-16 to 0-10. 5. Willie Browne with 1-3. 4. Twelve the time, 2. Two.3. Tony played. Clare were ahead at full playing time was not Offaly, which was refixed as the Ireland replay last year with 1. Five, excluding the first All-

Freagrai

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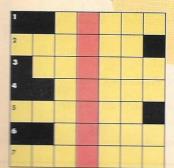
Iram na gCeist

- who scored a mammoth their Guinness Allmain semi-final replay on Holiday Monday, is a memther off what club?
- and Antrim in their All-Ireland guarter-final against Offaly less munth?
- goals did Kilkenny score in last -Ireland senior hurling final offaly-one, two or three?
- lost to what county in their Allsenior hurling quarter-final last **August?**
- captained Kilkenny in last year's Allmeland senior hurling final?
- What county completed an All-Ireland under-age hurling titles double last year?
- 7. When did an Ulster county last contest an All-Ireland senior hurling final?

Junior Grossword

Solve correctly the seven clues below and the shaded square will reveal the name of Tipperary's centre half forward in their unsuccessful Munster senior hurling semifinal replay against Clare last June.

- 1. This county finished runners-up for the 1999 Ulster senior hurling championship.
- 2. A position in the half back line or half forward line.
- 3. This hurler led Tipperary to the Church and General National League title last May. (1,5)
- 4 Wexford's captain in their unsuccessful bid against Offaly in the Leister senior hurling semi-final last June. (1,4)
- 5. Sumame of Kilkenny's captain in last year's All-Ireland seionr hurling final.
- 6 A sharpshooting forward from a county in Munster.
- 7. Offaly's left half back in last week's All-Ireland senior hurling semi-final against Cork.



Find the Hurler

Unscramble each of the listings below to find the surname of a prominent intercounty hurler hidden in each one.

- HMKMARA 1.
- MNAHADIR 2.
- EHWLHAAN 3.
- DRHIMNOC 4.
- LSFINHEF 5.
- ANFENRLY

Match the Hurler and the Club

Listed below are six well-known intercounty hurlers and six clubs. What you have to do is to match the hurler with the correct club.

1. Thomas Dunne

2. Joe Deane

3. Brendan McLoughlin

4. Michael Duignan

5. Damien Fitzhenry

6. Brendan Landers

O'Tooles Lismore

Duffry Rovers

Killeagh

Toomevara

St. Rynagh's

Who Am 1?

Now retired from intercounty senior hurling, I won my first National League medal back in 1981. I also helped my county to their last National League title win last year.

I have also won three All-Ireland senior hurling medals and I enjoyed much success in the All-Ireland Poc Fada Championship. Indeed, I won the championship seven years in succession. My club is St. Finbarr's. Who am I?

Lismore.

- endan Landers -Duffry Rovers.
- Ynnedziji neim St. Rynagh's.
 - chael Duignan -
- O'Tooles.
- endan McLoughlin -E Deane - Killeagh. Toomevara.
 - owas Dunne -

reliable Hurler

(Clare). **Auneny** (Kilkenny). nilHer .(mirtnA) риоши (Offaly), uegepeu (Galway). ardiman (Clare). вікраш

the Hurler



ICKer. lipperary player is

lipperary. 120 mirtnA n94w 68e "IUUL" ork at under-21 and om Hickey. aterford.

re half back, eary O'Kane from cen--tuuaur-

ालगढ़िक्न

Cumann na mBunscol

Scott Scott

Church & General Cumann na mBunscol

Cumann na mBunscol

40 Cumann na mBunscol Hurlers and Camogie players will hold centrestage today at half-time in the Senior game, as the Gaelic Athletic Association gives pride of place to the children from the G.A.A.-I.N.T.O. Mini -Sevens to display their skills in a short mini exhibition game. 240 children will have this wonderful opportunity during the All-Ireland series, providing them with a unique experience to cherish for the rest of their lives and giving Cumann na mBunscol a platform to showcase the Gaelic games developmental work that is going on in Primary schools throughout the country.

na mBunscol s hurling, Handball and tes in the s schools of all

- hurling is one
 fastest growing
 of the organisaHundreds of
 can now proHurling all year
 In a safe and
 menvironment.
- Erong Cumann na Bunscol units pronote our games in today's participating counties.
- Well-known Kilkenny Hurling activist, Paul Kinsella, is Runai of Cumann na mBunscol in Kilkenny. Pat Coen, from Claregalway, presides over activity in Galway while Ennis C.B.S. teacher, Michael Carmody, devotes his time to Cumann na mBunscol work in The Banner County.
- D.J. Carey is a past pupil of Gowran N.S. where he was coached by Cumann na mBunscol teacher John Knox -
- Barefield N.S. Co, Clare is a distinguished Gaelic games nursery. Past pupils include huners Ollie Baker and Kenneth Kennedy, frotballer, James Hanrahan and camogie player Mary Howard.

Geevagh Gals

1998-9 proved to be a very memorable year for the children of Geevagh N.S. in Co. Sligo. The school scooped 8 Cumann na mBunscol titles. The boys won the football, hurling and indoor hurling competitions, while the girls completed an unprecedented "grand slam" by claiming all 5 titles on offer - football, camogie, indoor hurling and an impressive mini-sevens football and camogie double success. This magnificent achievement was recognised with the selection of 4 girls to participate in the Mini-Sevens at this year's All-Ireland series. Sinead McTiernan, Bernice Byrne, Stephanie O'Reilly and Michelle Mostyn will represent this great school with pride and do justice to the work

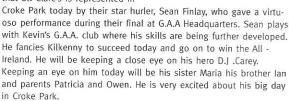
and commitment of their excellent teacher and coach, John Hughes, who does so much to pro-

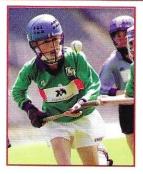


mote and develop a love of our native culture in "The Land of Heart's Desire."

Flying Finlay

St. Clare's N.S. Harold's Cross, Dublin, has that winning habit, as it were, thanks to their coach, Sr. Anne Dempsey, who has led them to a Cumann na mBunscol final in Croke Park, a meeting with President Mary Mc.Aleese and participation in a unique cross-border camogie tournament which has now become an integral part of the school calendar. It is fitting that St. Clare's is represented in





Blue Brigade

The Mini-Sevens "Blue Brigade" is a most important part of the half-time show during today's Senior match. 20 children carry the distinctive I.N.T.O -G.A.A. MIni-Sevens banner on to the field, act as umpires, linesmen and runners and generally provide all the support necessary for organisers Tim Maher and Neasa NI Laoire to provide a platform for our young hurlers and camogie players to perform today.



PICTURED IN CLONLIFFE COL-LEGE PRIOR TO LAST WEEK'S SEMI-FINAL WERE- CIARA QUINN,TADHG O'MEACHAIR, AND CIAN NEARY.

Banner in Disguise

Ruth Cahill, Kilnamona N.S. and Stephen Kelly, Ballycar - Stonehall, Newmarket - on Fergus, Co. Clare, had no objection to wearing the Cork jersey at last week's semi-final. They thoroughly enjoyed their Mini-Sevens appearance and the opportunity to see at first hand what their Banner heroes will be up against in the All-Ireland final. Today they will swap their Rebel shirts for the Clare colours and cheer their own team. They are pictured with Mini-Sevens National Co-



Ordinator, Tim Maher, in Clonlife College prior to last week's match.





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