National Football League 2002 Division 1A

# GREVILLE ARIV HOTEL Tir Chonaill (Donegal) v. An larmhi (Westneath

V

2.30 i.n. - Reiteoir: Charlie Collins (Maigh Eo)

Luach

Páirc Chíosóig An Muileann Cearr

Allianz 🕕

Leagues

10/3/02





# "Knock-out and Relegation issues to be decided in last series of games" says Cathaoirleach Iarmhí

A tús an-suimiúil curtha againn leis an tSraith Náisiúnta Peile, go háirithe ag smaoineamh ar thorthaí na seachtaine seo caite. Bhí bua iontach ag cuairteoirí an lae inniu, na Conallaigh ar Thír Eoghain agus gidh gur bhuaigh Áth Cliath ar an Iarmhí, glactar leis gur sártaispeántais peile a léiríodh I bPáirc Pharnell. D'ainneoin gur cealaíodh cluichí de bharr na haimsire, tá an chosúlacht ar an scéal anois go mbeidh gear coimhlint sna cluichí atá fágtha. Bíodh san mar atá, fearaim thar ceann pobal na hIarmhí fíorchaoin fáilte roimh na Conallaigh agus gach aon duine eile chuig Páirc Chíosóg inniu.



Hindsight provides us all with marvellous vision! The first round N.F.L. fixture wash-out led to widespread doubts being cast

on the sense of the "concentrated" league programme of matches. 'Can't be done', said the sceptics and they grew more confident with some more cancellations in the second round.

All, however, changed utterly last Sunday with reports from all over the country indicating that we had highly exhilarating games with a very strong level of commitment from the players. Our visitors today scored a dramatic win over high fliers, Tyrone, Cork shocked Galway, Roscommon snatched a late, late win from Offaly and Dublin and Westmeath produced "a classic" in Parnell Park. Division 1A is competitive!

Remarkably at the half-way stage of Division 1A it can be argued that most teams are in contention for the knock-out stages if they finish with an unbeaten run, while, ironically, a losing sequence would threaten the dreaded relegation trap-door for defeated counties, save Tyrone, at this juncture. Very interesting games ahead. Today's result is very significant for both counties. Victory can point the way for knock-out glory while relegation is a real threat for the losers. We can surely expect a championship style game.

Our last four games to Tír Chonaill were away games resulting in four defeats. We recorded N.F.L. wins in 1975 in Moate, '71 in Ballyshannon and on the last occasion we welcomed Tír Chonaill to Páirc Chíosóg in 1970, we registered an impressive 4-10 to 2-7 win. Honours are divided evenly enough between us.

Tír Chonaill, of course, won their All-Ireland in 1992 and the Conallaigh in Mullingar and Westmeath made "Sam" a welcome visitor to our county that year. A significant number of Tír Chonaill natives, now domiciled in Westmeath, have played club football in Westmeath and assisted clubs in Westmeath. Táimid faoi chomaoin acu.

We welcome our match sponsor, Con Gilsenan to our game today. Con is truly supportive of our activities and we appreciate his support. This is our last home game and we re-iterate thanks to our two previous sponsors, F.B.D., Mullingar and Graphic Tiles, Mullingar.

Ní neart go cur le chéile. Séamus Ó Faoláin

COVER PICTURE: JP Casey (Westmeath) and Adrian Sweeney (Donegal) in league action.

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## Message from the manager

As Manager of the Westmeath football team | would like to welcome Donegal to Cusack Park for the fifth round of the Allianz National Football League (our fourth round).

This division is shaping up to be as competitive as most people thought with all teams having suffered at least one defeat and, to date, Offaly are the only team without a win.

I am reasonably happy with our performances so far although losing to Dublin last Sunday was a very disappointing result.

I think that our players will learn from the experience of playing such top quality opposition in every game and must now realise that errors will be ruthlessly punished at this level.



Mickey Moran's Donegal team arrive in Mullingar today on the back of a very impressive win over previously unbeaten Tyrone. Tyrone were the form team in the division and, many would argue, in the country and for Donegal to gain victory over their high-flying neighbours was, indeed, impressive.

We are under no illusions that today's match will be extremely difficult but we are hopeful that we can gain the two points which will keep us in touch in the division.

I, again, thank our wonderful supporters who have turned out in great numbers for our three matches to date. We have had a wonderful atmosphere in Cusack Park for our previous two home games and last week's huge travelling support in Parnell Park was excellent.

#### Luke Dempsey

## 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.



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John Keane.

and Michael

## Allianz National Football League 2002 Fixtures & Results

#### Division 1A Round 1 - 03.02.2002 (played w/e 24/2/02)

ALC: N

Tyrone 3-20; Roscommon 0-14, Offaly 1-7; Dublin 0-10, Westmeath 1-14; Cork 0-6, Donegal 0-7; Galway 0-9.

#### Round 2 - 10.02.2002

Cork v Offaly (off); Dublin 2-10; Donegal 0-14, Galway 0-9; Tyrone 1-8, Roscommon v Westmeath (off).

#### **Round 3 - 17.02.2002** Tyrone 0-18; Dublin 2-10, Cork 0-10; Roscommon 1-9, Offaly

0-13; Donegal 0-16, Westmeath 0-13; Galway 3-12.

#### Round 4 - 03.03.2002 Dublin 3-13; Westmeath 1-16, Galway 1-8; Cork 1-11, Roscommon 1-15; Offaly 2-11, Donegal 1-10; Tyrone 0-11.

Round 5 - 10.03.2002 Cork v Dublin; Offaly v Tyrone; Westmeath v Donegal; Roscommon v Galway.

Round 6 - 24.03.2002 Galway v Offaly; Dublin v Roscommon; Tyrone v

#### Westmeath; Donegal v Cork. Round 7 - 31.03.2002

Roscommon v **Donegal;** Galway v Dublin; Offaly v **Westmeath;** Cork v Tyrone.

#### Division 1B Round 1 - 03.02.2002 (played w/e 24/2/02)

Cavan 1-9; Kildare 1-12, Sligo 0-10; Mayo 0-11, Clare 2-5; Derry 0-7, Down 1-17; Fermanagh 1-13 (3/2/02).

#### Round 2 - 10.02.2002

Derry 1-10; Cavan 1-15, Fermanagh 1-14; Clare 1-8, Mayo 0-10; Down 0-5, Kildare 0-12; Sligo 0-12.

Round 3 - 17.02.2002 Clare 1-6; Mayo 2-19, Kildare 1-15; Derry 1-11, Sligo 0-11; Down 0-10, Cavan 0-16; Fermanagh 0-14.

Round 4 - 03.03.2002 Mayo 2-14; Cavan 2-12, Fermanagh 1-13; Kildare 1-9, Derry 1-9; Sligo 0-14, Down 2-11; Clare 0-9.

#### Round 5 - 10.03.2002

Kildare v Mayo; Sligo v Clare; Cavan v Down; Derry v Fermanagh.

Round 6 - 23.03.2002 Clare v Cavan

Round 6 - 24.03.2002 Mayo v Derry; Fermanagh v Sligo; Down v Kildare.

Round 7 - 31.03.2002 Sligo v Cavan; Kildare v Clare; Fermanagh v Mayo; Derry v Down.

#### Division 2A

Round 1 - 03.02.2002 Armagh 1-15; Louth 0-13, Limerick 2-16; Leitrim 2-10,(24/2/02), Kerry 1-15; Wicklow 0-12, London 0-5; Antrim 1-19.

#### Round 2 - 10.02.2002 Louth 2-19; London 0-1, Antrim 1-11; Limerick 2-11, Leitrim 0-9; Kerry 2-12, Wicklow 0-13; Armagh 2-10.

Round 3 - 17.02.2002

Kerry 0-14; Antrim 0-7, Louth 2-18; Wicklow 0-12, London 0-10; Limerick 3-22, Armagh 3-16; Leitrim 0-9.

#### Round 4 - 03.03.2002 Antrim v Armagh; Leitrim v Louth; Wicklow v London; Limerick v Kerry.

Round 5 - 10.03.2002 Louth v Antrim; London v Kerry; Armagh v Limerick; Wicklow v Leitrim.

Round 6 - 23.03.2002 Limerick v Louth Round 6 - 24.03.2002 Leitrim v London; Antrim v Wicklow; Kerry v Armagh.

Round 7 - 31.03.2002 Wicklow v Limerick; Leitrim v Antrim; London v Armagh; Louth v Kerry.

#### Division 2B

Round 1 - 03.02.2002

Longford 1-14; Carlow 0-8 (23/2/02), Laois 0-10; Tipperary 1-7, Waterford 1-5; Wexford 0-10, Monaghan 3-7; Meath 2-10 (24/2/02).

#### Round 2 - 10.02.2002

Tipperary 1-17; Waterford 1-10, Wexford 2-10; Longford 2-9, Carlow 1-7; Monaghan 0-11, Meath 0-9; Laois 0-12.

#### Round 3 - 17.02.2002 Laois 2-16; Carlow 1-11, Waterford 1-12; Longford 4-13, Tipperary 1-7; Meath 0-14, Monaghan 1-6; Wexford 1-8.

**Round 4 - 03.03.2002** Longford 1-12; Monaghan 0-11, Meath 3-11; Waterford 0-6,

Carlow 0-12; Tipperary 1-11, Wexford 2-19; Laois 2-12.

#### Round 5 - 09.03.2002 Tipperary v Wexford

Round 5 - 10.03.2002 Meath v Carlow; Laois v Longford; Waterford v Monaghan.

#### Round 6 - 24.03.2002 Longford v Tipperary; Carlow v Waterford; Wexford v Meath; Monaphan v Laois.

Round 7 - 31.03.2002 Meath v Longford; Carlow v Wexford; Waterford v Laois; Tipperary v Monaghan.

April 14 - Allianz Football League semi finals; April 28 - Allianz Football League Division 1 and 2 finals.

# Westmeath's Campaign To Date

#### 17 February

#### Westmeath 0-13; Galway 3-12

Westmeath - A Lennon, J Davitt, D Mitchell, F Murray, D Healy, K McKinley, J Keane, R O'Connell 0-1, D Hughes 0-1, D Heavin, F Wilson 0-3, B Morley 0-1, A Mangan 0-1, M Ennis, JP Casey 0-4. Subs: K Ryan for McKinley, J Fallon 0-2 for Ennis, T Cleary for Mangan Galway - A Keane, M Comer, G Fahey, T Meehan, R Fahey, K Fitzgerald, M Colleran, K Walsh, J Bergin 0-2, P Clancy 1-0, J Fallon 0-5, M Clancy 1-1, D Savage 0-1, K Comer, T Joyce 1-0. Subs: J Donnellan 0-2 for T Joyce, S Ó Domhnaill for K Comer Referee - B Gorman (Armagh)

#### 24 February

#### Westmeath 1-14; Cork 1-6

**Westmeath** - A Lennon, J Davitt, D Murphy, F Murray, D Healy, K Ryan, J Keane, R O'Connell 0-2, D Hughes, B Morley 0-1, F Wilson 0-1, D Heavin, J Fallon 1-2, M Ennis 0-1, JP Casey 0-6. Subs: T Cleary 0-1 for Wilson, K McKinley for Murphy, A Mangan for Ryan, R Casey for Morley, R Browne for Heavin

**Cork** - K O'Dwyer, M O'Donovan, E Sexton, N O'Donovan, C O'Sullivan, A O'Connor, P Kissane, R McCarthy, N Murphy, Michael O'Sullivan, BJ O'Sullivan 0-1, N O'Leary, P Clifford 1-4, C Crowley 0-1, Mark O'Sullivan. Subs: B O'Sullivan for Mark O'Sullivan, S Levis for O'Connor, J O'Donoghue for Michael O'Sullivan, P Holland for Crowley **Referee** - S Prior (Leitrim)

#### 3 March

#### Dublin 3-13; Westmeath 1-16

**Dublin** - S Cluxton, D Henry, P Andrews, C Goggins, M Casey, D Darcy, P Curran, D Homan, K Darcy, C Whelan, S Ryan 2-1, E Bennis, A Brogan 0-3, J McNally 1-3, R Cosgrove 0-5. Subs: D Magee for K Darcy, B Cahill for Casey, S Connell 0-1 for Bennis, J Sherlock for Whelan

Westmeath - C Mullin, J Davitt, D Mitchell, F Murray, D Healy, K Ryan, J Keane, R O'Connell, D Hughes, D Heavin 0-2, F Wilson 0-2, M Ennis, J Fallon 0-5, P Conway 1-0, JP Casey 0-6. Subs: R Casey 0-1 for Mitchell, D O'Shaughnessy for Conway, R Browne for Hughes, A Mangan for Heavin, T Cleary for Browne **Referee** - P McEnaney (Monaghan)

Westmeath Scorers: JP Casey 0-16, J Fallon 1-9, F Wilson 0-6, R O'Connell 0-3, P Conway 1-0, D Heavin 0-2, B Morley 0-2, R Casey 0-1, T Cleary 0-1, D Hughes 0-1, A Mangan 0-1, M Ennis 0-1

Total Scored: 2-43 Total Conceded: 7-31



J.P. Casey pushes aside the challenge of Dublin's David Henry during last Sunday's Dvision 1A game in Parnell Park.

# The Division 1A Story

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#### 10 February

Dublin 2-10; Donegal 0-14 Tyrone 1-8; Galway 0-9

#### 17 February

Donegal 0-16; Offaly 0-13 Galway 3-12; Westmeath 0-13 Roscommon 1-9; Cork 0-10 Tyrone 0-18; Dublin 2-10

#### 23 February

Offaly 1-7; Dublin 0-10

#### 24 February

Tyrone 3-20; Roscommon 0-14 Westmeath 1-14; Cork 1-6 Galway 0-9; Donegal 0-7

#### 3 March

Dublin 3-13; Westmeath 1-16 Cork 1-11; Galway 1-8 Donegal 1-10; Tyrone 0-11 Roscommon 1-15; Offaly 2-11

	TABLE				
	Р	$\mathbf{W}$	D	L	Pts
Tyrone	4	3	0	1	6
Dublin	4	2	1	1	5
Galway	4	2	0	2	4
Donegal	4	2	0	2	4
Roscommon	3	2	0	1	4
Westmeath	3	1	0	2	2
Cork	3	1	0	2	2
Offaly	3	0	1	2	1

#### **Top Scorers:**

Stephen O'Neill (Tyrone)	2-14 (20)
Alan Brogan (Dublin)	2-12 (18)
Ray Cosgrove (Dublin)	1-14 (17)
JP Casey (Westmeath)	0-16 (16)
Adrian Sweeney (Donegal)	0-15 (15)
Brendan Devenney (Donegal)	0-14 (14)
Peter Canavan (Tyrone)	0-14 (14)
John McNally (Dublin)	1-10 (13)
Joe Fallon (Westmeath)	1-9 (12)
Kieran Comer (Galway)	0-11 (11)

SPILLANE LOVE HIM? HATE HIM? READ HIM.



2. S. Mac Daibhéid C. Ó Riain JAMES DAVITT **KIERAN RYAN** St. Loman's, Mullingar Mullingar Shamrocks 5. R. Ó Casthasaigh **RUSSELL CASEY** Castledalv 8. R. Ó Conaill RORY O'CONNELL Athlone 10. F. Mac Liam FERGAL WILSON DAVID O'SHAUGHNESSY MICHAEL ENNIS Tubberclair 13. S. Ó Fallúin P. Ó Conbhuí

JOE FALLON Athlone

6. D. Ó hÉilí **DAMIEN HEALY** St. Mary's, Rochfortbridge D. Ó hAodha **DAVID HUGHES** Ballymore 11. D. Ó Seachnasaigh Garrycastle 14.

1.

C. Ó Maoláin

CATHAL MULLIN

Garrycastle

3.

An Iar Mhí (WESTMEATH)

MARÚN AGUS BÁN (Maroon and White)

Ballinagore 15. S.P. Ó Casthasaigh J.P. CASEY Castledaly

C. Mac Fhionnlaoich

**KENNY McKINLEY** 

St. Loman's, Mullingar

7.

S. Ó Céin

JOHN KEANE

Rosemount

12.

M. Ó hAonais

9.

FIR IONAID: 16. A. Ó Leannáin, AIDAN LENNON, St. Joseph's: 17. D. Ó Murchú, DAVID MURPHY, Tyrrellspass; 18. F. Ó Muirí, FERGAL MURRAY, Athlone; 19. D. Mistéil, DAVID MITCHELL, St. Mary's, Rochfortbridge; 20. D. Ó hÉimhín, DEREK HEAVIN, Castledaly; 21. A. Ó Mongáin, ALAN MANGAN, St. Malachy's; 22. D. Ó Gáibhín, DAMIEN GAVIN, St. Mary's, Rochfortbridge; 23. C. de Búrca, KEVIN BURKE, Milltownpass; 24. T. Ó Cléirigh, THOMAS CLEARY, The Downs; 25. S. Ó Conraoi, JAMES CONROY, The Downs; 26. D. Mac Giolla Mhártain, DAVID KILMARTIN, Coralstown/Kinnegad; 27. D. Ó Brádaigh, DERMOT BRADY, St. Loman's, Mullingar.

PAUL CONWAY

Tang

## Tír Chonaill (DONEGAL) 1-8

**UAINE AGUS ÓIR (Green and Gold)** 

2. D. Ó Duibhir DAMIEN DIVER Árd an Ratha 5. R. Mac Suibhne RAYMOND SWEENEY An Clochán Liath 8. S. Mac Giolla Dé JOHN GILDEA Naomh Conaill 10.

> C. Ó Tuathaigh CHRISTY TOYE Naomh Micheál

13. A. Mac Suibhne ADRIAN SWEENEY An Clochán Liath

Naomh Adhamháin 3. M. Mac an Chrosáin MARK CROSSAN Naomh Adhamháin 6.

1.

A. de Bláca

TONY BLAKE

B. Ó Muineacháin BARRY MONAGHAN Na Ceithre Máistrí

11. M. Ó hEigheartaigh MICHAEL HEGARTY

Cill Chartha

B. Ó Duibheannaigh **BRENDAN DEVENNEY** 

Naomh Adhamháin

N. Mac Fhionnagaile NOEL McGINLEY Naomh Columba 7. C. Ó Caiside **KEVIN CASSIDY** Gaoth Dobhair

9. C. Ó Raifeartaigh **KEVIN RAFFERTY** Naomh Adhamháin 12.

> S. Mag Aonasa JIM McGUINNESS Naomh Conaill 15.

B. Ó Ropéir **BRIAN ROPER** Aodh Ruadh

FIR IONAID: 16. G. Mac Ghoill, GERARD McGILL, Naomh Columba; 17. P. Mac Congaile, PATRICK McCONIGLY; Gael Fhanada; 18. P. Mac Congail, PAUL McGONIGLE, Buncrannaigh; 19. S. Ó Haran, JOHN HARON, Naomh Adhamháin; 20. C. Mac Pháidín, COLM McFADDEN, Naomh Micheál; 21. Duine Eile, A.N. OTHER: 22. Duine Eile, A.N. OTHER; 23. Duine Eile, A.N. OTHER; 24. Duine Eile, A.N. OTHER.

14.







LOVE HIM? HATE HIM? READ HIM.

## **DONEGAL'S CAMPAIGN TO DATE**

#### **10 February**

#### Dublin 2-10; Donegal 0-14

Dublin - S Cluxton, D Henry, P Andrews, C Goggins 0-1, P Casey, D Darcy, B Cahill, D Homan, D Magee, J O'Connor, C Whelan 0-1, E Bennis, A Brogan 1-3, J McNally 0-2, R Cosgrove 0-3. Subs: S Ryan for O'Connor, J Magee 1-0 for McNally, C Murphy for D Magee, J Gavin for Cosgrove Donegal - G McGill, P Campbell, E Doherty, P McConagly, N McGinley, M Crossan, R Sweeney, J Gildea 0-1, P McGonigle, A Sweeney 0-1, M Hegarty 0-1, D Diver, B McLaughlin, B Devenney 0-9, J Gallagher. Subs: J McGuinness 0-1 for McGonigle, C McFadden 0-1 for R Sweeney, K Browne for McConagly, A Gallagher for J Gallagher, C Toye for McLaughlin Referee - M Ryan (Limerick)

#### **17 February**

#### Offaly 0-13; Donegal 0-16

Donegal - T Blake, M Crossan, E Doherty, N McGinley, R Sweeney, K Browne, D Diver 0-1, J Gildea, J McGuinness, B McLaughlin 0-1, M Hegarty 0-3, B Roper 0-3, A Gallagher, A Sweeney 0-5, J Gallagher 0-1. Subs: K Cassidy for Browne, J McCafferty 0-1 for J Gallagher, K Rafferty 0-1 for McLaughlin, C Toye for Roper Offaly - P Kelly, C Daly, C Rafferty, B Mooney, J Hurst, A McNamee, K Slattery 0-1, J Grennan, A Mahon, C Quinn 0-3, J Kenny 0-1, B Malone 0-2, D Claffey 0-2, N Coughlan 0-1, P Kellaghan 0-3. Subs: D Ryan for Quinn, V Claffey for Coughlan, F Cullen for Coughlan, F Cullen for Kenny, M Stones for Hurst **Referee** - P Russell (Tipperary)

#### 24 February

#### Donegal 0-7; Galway 0-9

Galway - A Keane, M Comer, G Fahey, T Meehan, M Colleran, K Fitzgerald, R Fahey,

K Walsh, J Bergin, P Clancy 0-2, J Fallon, M Clancy, D Savage 0-1, K Comer 0-6, T Joyce. Subs: S Ó Domhnaill for M Clancy, J Donnellan for T Joyce.

Donegal - T Blake, E Doherty 0-1, M Crossan, N McGinley, R Sweeney, B Monaghan, D Diver, J McDenis, K Rafferty, M Hegarty, J Gildea, B Roper, A Gallagher, A Sweeney 0-4, J McCafferty. Subs: B Devenney 0-2 for J McCafferty, J Gallagher for A Gallagher, P McGonagle for B Roper, C McFadden for J McGuinness, K Cassidy for E Doherty

Referee - S McCormack (Meath)

3 March

#### Donegal 1-10; Tyrone 0-11

Donegal - T Blake, D Diver, M Crossan, N McGinley, R Sweeney, B Monaghan, K Cassidy, K Rafferty, J Gildea, J McGuinness, M Hegarty, C Toye 1-0, A Sweeney 0-5, B Devenney 0-3, B Roper. Subs: C McFadden 0-2 for B Roper, J Haran for M Hegarty, P McGonagle for J McGuinness

Tyrone - P Ward, C Gormley, C Lawn, B Robinson, R McMenamin 0-2, C Holmes, D McCrossan, C McAnallen, J Quinn 0-1, B Dooher 0-1, S O'Neill 0-4, B McGuigan, E McGinley, K Hughes, R Thornton. Subs: C Gourley for C Lawn, E Mulligan 0-2 for R Thornton, P McLaughlin 0-1 for J Quinn Referee - M Daly (Mayo)

Donegal Scorers: A Sweeney 0-15, B Devenney 0-14, M Hegarty 0-4, C Toye 1-0, C McFadden 0-3, B Roper 0-3, E Doherty 0-1, D Diver 0-1, B McLaughlin 0-1, J Gallagher 0-1, J McCafferty 0-1, J McGuinness 0-1, J Gildea 0-1, K Rafferty 0-1.

**Total Scored: 1-47 Total Conceded: 2-43** 

# When Last They Met **15 February 1998**

## Donegal 2-11; Westmeath 2-8

The last National League meeting between Westmeath and Donegal was a Section B clash at Ballybofey on 15 February 1998.

Ten minutes into the second half Donegal seemed to be coasting to victory when they led by 2-10 to 0-4. However a late rally from Westmeath just failed to gain the honours for the Lake county men.

Within the first five minutes of the match Donegal had three points on the board. These scores were quickly followed by another point and in the ninth minute by a Brian Roper goal to open up a 1-4 to 0-0 lead.

Donegal then increased their lead to eight points before a mini Westmeath revival yielded three points to cut into the Donegal lead. However in the run up to half-time Donegal regained the initiative and a Tony Boyle goal and two more points meant that the half-time score read: Donegal 2-7; Westmeath 0-3.

Donegal continued in the same vein in the early moments of the second-half when they continued on top and added two points to their total.

Westmeath's resurgence then commenced, Damien Gavin came up field from the half-back line to score a goal. This was quickly added to by another goal from Paul Conway followed by three unanswered points to cut the lead to three points as the game entered the closing stages.

In the remaining minutes Donegal steadied their ship and both teams added two points to their totals to leave the final score, Donegal 2-11; Westmeath 2-8. Teams and scorers:

Donegal: P. Callaghan, E. Reddin, R. Sweeney, D. Diver, M. Crossan, M. Coll, M. Bonner, J. Horan, J. McGuinness, A. Sweeney (0-1), J. Ruane (0-1), B. Roper (1-2), J. Duffy (0-5), T. Boyle (1-2), B. Devenney. Subs: B. Murray for J. McGuinness, A. McFadden for T. Boyle, B. Gowran for J. Ruane.

Westmeath: D. Ryan, D. Brady, D. Murphy, D. Healy, J. Murray, A. Collins (0-1), D. Gavin (1-1), J. Cooney, P. Conway (1-0), D. Hughes, T. Cleary (0-2), G. Heavin (0-3), M. Staunton, K. Lyons, M. O'Reilly (0-1). Subs: S. Colleary for D. Hughes, D. Martin for M. Staunton.

# The Donegal Connection

ullingar can expect a large contingent from Donegal for this Allianz Division 1 A League game. It is an ideal opportunity for Muintir Thír Chonaill in the midlands, and not forgetting the strong supporters clubs from Dublin and Donegal, to show their colours. Céad Míle Fáilte go Páirc Chíosóg.



The year 1992 was a memorable one for Na Conallaigh. This was the year that Brian McEniff and his mentors steered a Donegal team to a Senior All-Ireland victory. Spines were tingling, emotions ran high as Anthony Molloy lifted the Sam Maguire Cup in the Hogan Stand. It, then, made it's way through the hills and glens of Tír Chonaill on a tour of celebration. The 1992 team are household names in Donegal today. We were privileged to have members of that team visit us in the midlands with the Sam Maguire silverware.

Mullingar turned out in style as we were joined by Westmeath people, as well as people from other counties in our celebration. The banter that is part and parcel of C.L.G. culture was mighty. It was said to us that the first Donegal residents in Westmeath were on their way to the Battle of Kinsale, they liked what they saw here and stayed – could that be believed? Another said, will I ever see the day that the Sam Maguire Cup will be under a Westmeath banner?

We did not have long to wait for a celebration as Luke Dempsey and company managed a skilful minor team to an All-Ireland title. This was followed by an Under 21 success and the Senior team brought National League silverware to the county. Last year's performance in the championship commanded a high respect for Westmeath football throughout the country – are they on their way to glory?

Mickey Moran will have his Donegal team primed to treat Westmeath with that same respect, his approach will be cautious. Both teams have the ability to play an attractive and skilful brand of football, if we see that combined with spirited displays – need we ask for more?

#### Fionn Gallagher

# **Previous Meetings**

Today will be the eighth meeting of Westmeath and Donegal in the National Football League, with Donegal "leading" 4-3. Can today be the equaliser?

Previous results were:

15 February 1998	Section B	Ballybofey	Donegal 2-11; Westmeath 2-8
9 October 1983	Division 3	Donegal	Donegal 0-12; Westmeath 1-6
29 November 1981	Division 3	Ballyshannon	Donegal 0-16; Westmeath 0-8
1 February 1976	Division 3A	Ballyshannon	Donegal 3-11; Westmeath 1-7
2 February 1975	Division 3A	Moate	Westmeath 1-7; Donegal 1-5
28 November 1971	Division 2B	Ballyshannon	Donegal 1-3; Westmeath 3-13
29 November 1970	Division 2B	Cusack Park	Westmeath 4-10; Donegal 2-7

# Westmeath/Donegal Connections

• Donegalman Peter Faulkner was a stalwart midfielder on the Mullingar Shamrocks championship winning teams of 1986, 1987, 1990, 1992 and 1993.

• Fionn Gallagher (writer in this programme) won a Donegal championship with St. Eunan's, Letterkenny in 1967 together with 2 League Championships for his club. He had previously played for Cloughaneely. He also won Lagan Cup and Dr. McKenna Cup medals, as well as playing in the 1964 and 1966 Ulster finals, with his native Donegal. His career then took him to Limerick where he lined out with the Na Piarsaigh club, and then to Mullingar when he played for St. Loman's in the '70s. He is currently a Life President of the St. Loman's, Mullingar club.

• Mixed emotions? Westmeath selectors Oliver Keating and Jack Cooney are both married to ladies from Donegal, Oliver to Rosemary and Jack to Elaine.

# The Donegal Team which was defeated by Galway in earlier league match.

# Westmeath Football Supporters Group PATRON'S DRAW

The Westmeath Football Supporters Group are, once again, holding their Patron's Draw over the coming months.

This particular fund-raiser proved very successful in providing financial assistance to the various county football teams over the past twelve months and, also, proved very popular with Westmeath Football supporters in general.

This year's draw promises to be even bigger and better than last year's with six excellent prizes on offer.

The following are the prizes:

1st Prize	Seat Arosa Car 1.0 Stella Supplied by Midlands Seat Ltd.
2nd Prize	Holiday valued at €2,500 Sponsored by Scottish Provident – Abbey National Group
3rd Prize	Holiday valued at €1,250 Sponsored by Aon Toal Consulting, Mullingar
4th Prize	Weekend in London Sponsored by Mullingar Travel
5th Prize	Golfing week-end away in Ireland

Sur Frize Goning week-end away in Ireland Sponsored by Bloomfield House Hotel, Mullingar

6th Prize €400 Holiday voucher Sponsored by Auld Sheebeen/Grand Hotel, Moate

Tickets for the draw are priced at €130 and may be purchased by completing the following Application Form and returning to any of the directors.

Member's Name:

Address:

Phone No:

Payment Method: Cash/Cheque

Payment Date:

Seller's Name:

**Directors:** Leo Dowling, Michael Duffy, Gerry Moore, Joe Martin, Tom Byrne, Tom Farrell, Seamus Fagan, Tony Robinson, Gerry Buckley, Joe Harrington, Tom Cornally, Eddie Newman, Michael Kelly, Joe Bracken, Patsy Fagan, Patrick Doherty, John Cochrane, David Hanevy, Christine Forde, Bernie Hynes, Eileen McLoughlin, Brian Melinn, Mick Price.

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# Greville Arms Hotel

**PROUD SPONSORS OF WESTMEATH FOOTBALL** *Thanks for the Enjoyment* 

National League Champions (Division 2) All Ireland Quarter Finalists Eircell Player of the Month Sport Star of the Week Manager of the Month

WHAT A YEAR - THANKS

JOIN THE PLAYERS & SUPPORTERS AFTER THE MATCH IN ULYSSES PUB

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