

Institiúid Teicneolaíochta, Sligeach
INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY, SLIGO

Cluichí Cheannais Chorn Mhic Síoghair

(incorporating Trench Cup Programme)

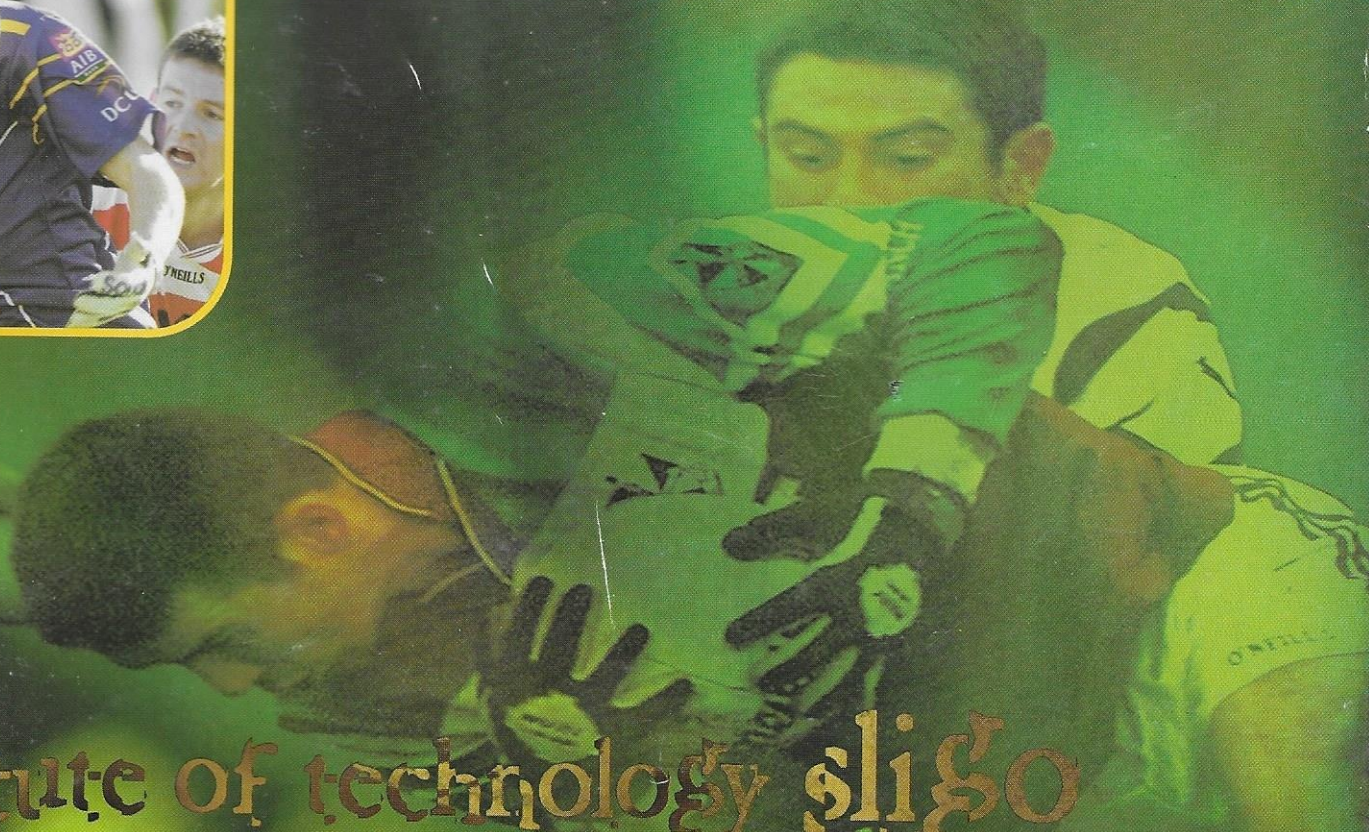
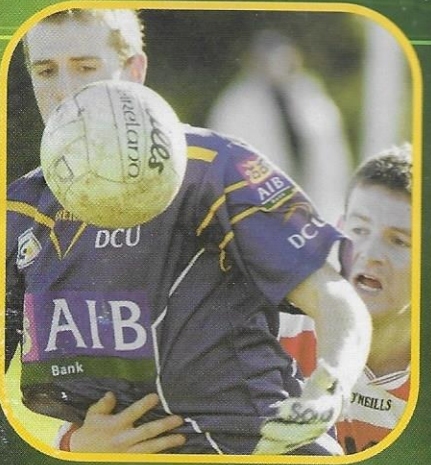
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2002



Sigerson Cup



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Irish  Examiner

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SIGERSON CUP TIME TABLE

Thursday 21-02-02 – Quarter Finals

- (A) 11.00 a.m. (Ref.: M. McGrath)
Kent Park
UCC V Maynooth
- (B) 12.30 p.m. (Ref.: P. McEneaney)
Markievicz Park
I.T. Sligo V DCU
- (C) 2.30 p.m. (Ref.: B. Crowe)
Grange
UCD V Athlone I.T.
- (D) 3.45 p.m. (Ref.: S. Prior)
Institute Park
Garda V UUU

Friday 22-02-02 – Semi Finals

- 1.30 Institute Park (Ref.: M. McGrath)
A V D
- 3.30 Kent Park (Ref.: P. McEneaney)
B V C

Saturday 23-02-02

- 2.30 Markievicz Park (Ref.: P. McEneaney) – Sigerson Cup Final

TRENCH CUP TIME TABLE

Friday 22-02-02

- 11.00 a.m. – Grange (Ref.: M. Duffy)
Semi-Final (A)
- 4.30 p.m. – Institute Park (Ref.: D. Mullaney)
Semi-Final (B)

Saturday 23-02-02

- 12.00 p.m. Kent Park (Ref.: M. Duffy)
TRENCH CUP FINAL

AMHRÁN na bhFIANN

Sinne Fianna Fáil
Atá faoi gheall ag Éirinn
Buíonn dar slua
Thar toinn do rainig chugainn
Faoi mhóid bheith saor,
Sean-tír ar sinsear feasta,
Ní fhagfar faoin
tiorán ná faoin tráill
Anocht a théam sa bhearna
baoil
Le gean ar Ghaeil chun báis
nó saoil
Le gunna scréach faoi Iámhach
na bpiléar,
Seo libh canaigh amhrán
na bhfiann.

Other Events. . .

Wednesday 20th. February: Civic Reception at 6.00 p.m.
& Official Opening at 7.30 p.m in I.T. Sligo.

Thursday 21st February: Dervish Concert and
singer/songwriter Kiernan Goss in I.T. Sligo Aula Maxima
at 8.p.m.

Thursday, Friday and Saturday --- Live Music

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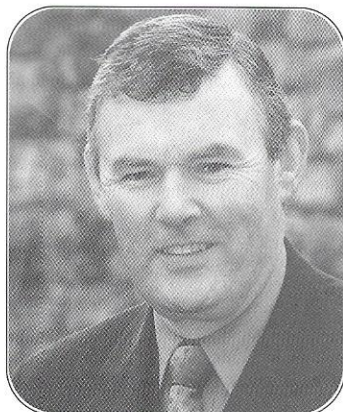
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STUDENT PUB**

*Conor, Lorraine and Staff wish Institute of Technology,
Sligo GAA Club every success in hosting the Sigerson Cup*

TEACHTAIREACHT AN UACHTARAIN Sigerson 2002



This has already been a year of major achievement for the GAA in the Institute of Technology, Sligo, so the staging of the Sigerson Cup for the first time in the north west brings the season to a fitting and historical climax.

In the recent past we have seen dramatic and very successful changes in our Third Level competitions and in the Sigerson and Fitzgibbon Cups especially The inclusion of new colleges, such as this year's Sigerson Cup hosts, has broadened the appeal of the entire sector and given strength and momentum to gaelic games in this crucial sector of our education system.

Sligo's recent success in the Third Level Football League when winning its first ever title was another manifestation of the growth and development of the game. It is something I welcome whole-heartedly because the greater the success of both Gaelic Football and Hurling within the Third Level sector the stronger Gaelic Games will be overall. Ever since the establishment of the Sigerson Cup in 1911 it has provided some of the great teams, great players and great games in football. Initially it was confined to the university colleges in Dublin, Cork and Galway, with Queen's University becoming regular contestants from 1933 onwards. Trinity College joined in 1963 and in the last thirty years we have seen the continuous growth of the competition to bring it to its current status.

There is a social side to the Sigerson Cup that is important. The contacts and friendships made by players and supporters on occasions such as this can last a lifetime. In my travels as Uachtarain I am constantly amazed at the friendships that have developed between players from far corners of the country. More often than not, these have started through meeting at Third Level events. It is something that should be treasured.

For the present, however, events on the field will be of great importance to the participants. As ever, we look forward to the weekend with great anticipation of fine games and fine displays. I wish everyone well, the organisers led by Michael Breslin and Michael Harte, the players and their coaches. There is a proud tradition to maintain and I know that you are fully equipped to do so.

Gabhaim fíor buíochas díobh. Seán Mac Thaidhg Uachtarán CLG

STRABANE SIGERSONS G.A.A. CLUB

The G.A.A. in Strabane, County Tyrone are celebrating their centenary this year, with the first club being formed in the border town in 1902. The club has been known by various different titles down the through years, but was reformed as 'Strabane Sigersons' in the early eighties, to honour a famous son of the town, Dr. George Sigerson.

The club grounds, which have been extensively developed over the past ten years, are also named in honour of Dr. Sigerson and are known as 'Páirc Mhic Sioghair'. We believe we are the only club in the country named in honour of 'Sigerson' and in this

our centenary year we are delighted to be associated with Sligo I.T. in their hosting of the Sigerson Cup weekend and wish them every success in their organisation of such a prestigious event in the G.A.A. calendar.

Strabane Sigersons will later this year publish a history of the G.A.A. in Strabane, this book will contain a special feature on the life and times of one of our towns finest sons and scholars, Dr. George Sigerson.

The Sigerson Cup, since 1911 has kept the Sigerson name to the fore in G.A.A. circles and we in Strabane will continue to promote and honour 'Sigerson' for many years to come.

*Aodhán O'Hearcain
Runai / P.R.O.
Strabane Sigersons G.A.A.*

Na Réiteoirí

PAT MCENANEY (MONAGHAN)

Pat, a member of the Corduff club, refereed the drawn All-Ireland final last September between Galway and Kerry. He was in charge of the Mayo v Meath All-Ireland Final and re-play of 1996. He refereed last year's Leinster Final and was appointed Irish Referee / Umpire last October in the International Test Rules series between Ireland and Australia in Croke Park. Pat won minor, junior and intermediate medals with his club, Corduff and he represented Monaghan in the under-21 grade. A vastly experienced referee, he has taken charge of four Ulster senior finals, one Munster decider and has also officiated at AIB All-Ireland club final level.

MICK MCGRATH (DONEGAL)

Donning his black jersey now for the sixteenth year, the Ballyshannon man has been in the middle for three Donegal County finals, a host of Ulster matches at all levels, and All-Ireland Vocational Schools and Sevens finals. A former P.R.O. and under-21 selector for his county, Mick spent a number of years in London, where he was heavily engrossed in the G.A.A. scene. He works as a sales representative. He is also currently County Development Officer in Donegal.

BRIAN CROWE (CAVAN)

A member of the Cavan Gaels Club Brian has been refereeing for the last 14 years. He has been refereeing at Inter-County level for the last 6 years and has refereed Ulster Championship games, Munster championship games as well as refereeing the Connacht Final of 2000. In 2001 he refereed the Railway Cup Final and was also the stand-by ref for the All-Ireland Senior Football Final. Married to Martina, Brian has 4 children.

SEAMUS PRIOR (LEITRIM)

The Aughnashellin club man is a referee with over 20 years experience. The Leitrim whistle-blower has the honour of having refereed the 1991 All-Ireland Final when Down defeated Meath and in 1992 he refereed the All-Ireland Minor Final when Meath defeated Armagh. He has also refereed Connacht Finals at all levels. Seamus is an employee of the Leitrim Co. Council and also is one of the Connacht Council delegates for the Leitrim Co. Board.

DERMOT MULLANEY (SLIGO)

Dermot is a member of the Enniscrone/Kilglass club. He is refereeing for the past six years. He refereed the Junior Championship Final in 1999, the Intermediate Championship Final in 2000 and the Senior Championship Final in 2001. He recently took charge of the Leitrim v Galway FBD Senior Connaught league game. He is in his third year on Connaught Referees list. He works as a Shift Supervisor in Inmo Tech. Enniscrone to Sligo.

MARTY DUFFY (SLIGO)

Marty took up refereeing in 1994 at club level and at inter-county level in 1997. He has played for his club, Enniscrone/Kilglass, at all levels and won an Intermediate Championship medal in 1991. He has refereed at all levels within Sligo as well as Minor and U21 Championship level within Connacht. In 2001 he took charge of the FBD final between Galway and Roscommon and also the away leg between Galway and New York in Gaelic Park. He also refereed the Connacht Minor Final and the Ladies All Ireland Final in 2001. He is employed as an Area Sales Manager with Chanelle Veterinary.



Tiofaidh Sligeach Aniar Aduaidh Ort-Fáilte

Is cúis mhÚr athais agus onÚra dom fáilte a chuir roimh na foirn agus a lucht tacaíochta chuig an sreath deireannach agus na cluichí ceannas do chomórtas Corn Sigerson agus Corn Trench na bliana 2002. Failtím chomh maith roimh na réitheoirí agus na hoifgigh eile a bheas i mbun na cluichí agus roimh ionadaí agus oifigí an Cumann Luathchleas Gael, Coiste Chondae Shligigh, and Coiste Cuige Chonnachta. Fáilte speisealta roimh gach duine a bheas i lathair ag na cluicé. Tá súil agam go mbainfidh sibh uilig taithneamh agus pléisiúr as an féile peile iontach seo.

Ins an leabhar iontach sin Scéal no h-Iomána leis an mBráthair Liam Ó Caithnia tá cuir sios aige ar na cluichí báire agus cois peilé a bhí a eagra san chontae seo ag tús an naoú céad déag. Tá cuntaisí ón mbéaloideachais ar mór chluicé stairiúla thárla fadó. Go dtí an lá atá inniú ann tá grá agus bród diograsach i gCondae Shligigh go mór mór don pheil agus is é an cumman peile bunchloch cultúrtha agus cúis mhisnigh gach paróiste san chondae.

It is indeed a great honour for the Institute to be invited to host the finals of these prestigious football competition, and I welcome all the participating teams and their supporters, and all who attend or play any part in this wonderful festival of football.

One of the defining features of the GAA is the generosity which permeates all areas of its activity. Our Institute teams have for nearly thirty years now been the recipients of such generosity from the County Board and the local clubs, and I am pleased to have this

opportunity to express our sincere thanks to the County Board, the Markievicz Park Committee, and to St. Maryís, Grange, Calry, Shamrock Gaels, and Ballymote, who have in the past made their pitches available for home matches. We have, just this season, got our own pitch and would hope in the future to reciprocate some of the generosity we have enjoyed.

My thanks to the members of our organising committee who have been working on the arrangements for these finals for several months, and to all of the companies and organisations who have sponsored events and supported our efforts.

The Sigerson competition is a premier national competition. I wish for all the participating teams that you will feel at the end that you played to your full potential on the day, and that the result was fair.

Our Gaelic team has for many years been a credit to the Institute and it has a fine record of achievements.

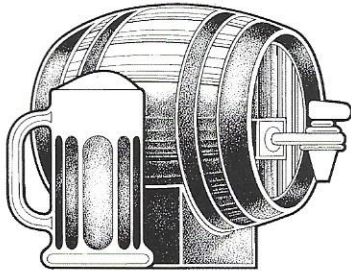
I congratulate you on hosting the Sigerson competition for the first time, and wish you every success in ensuring that it is a memorable celebration of the unique and extraordinary passionate game of Gaelic football.

Richard Thorn
DIRECTOR

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On Behalf of Heineken it gives me great pleasure to welcome everyone to the Institute of Technology Sligo for the final weekend of the Sigerson Cup.

Heineken is delighted to be associated with the Sigerson cup not only because of the proud football tradition of the competition, but also because the Sigerson cup final is one of the most enjoyable social weekends in the Third Level calendar. We also have nothing but admiration for the players who travel far and wide in the depths of winter for the chance to represent their college at the highest level.

We at Heineken would like to extend our gratitude and support to Mr. Des Cullinane, chairman of the Comharile Ard Oideachas and all of the staff at Cumann Luthchleas Geal, for their hard work in ensuring the success of The Sigerson Cup year after year. We would also like to thank Dr. Dr. Richard Thorn, Director of the Institute of Technology and all of the organising committee for extending such a warm welcome to all.

Finally I hope you all enjoy an exciting weekend of top class football and all the hospitality and entertainment that the Institute of technology Sligo has to offer.

Is mise le meas

**John Healy
Third Level Brand Manager**

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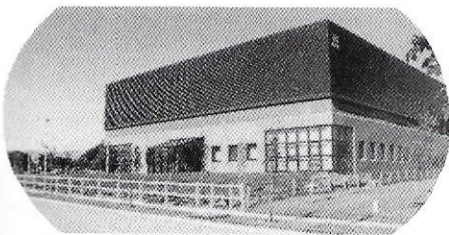
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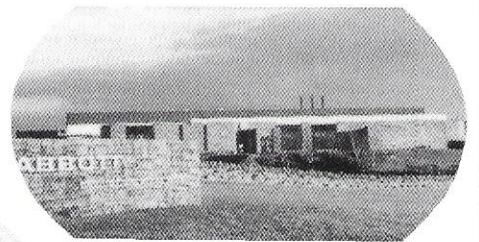
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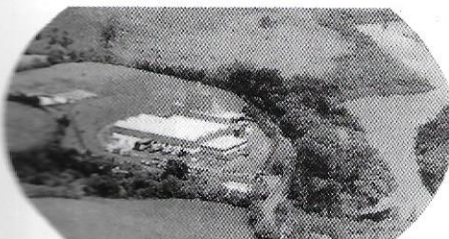
Pumps, Sligo



Donegal



Ballytivnan, Sligo



Cootehill



AIDD, Sligo

A word from our chairman . . .

A Chairde,

Ba mhaith liom thar cheann an Chomhairle árd Oideachais, fíorchaoín fáilte a chur roimh gach foireann atá ag glacadh pairt san dá chomárta. Ba mhaith liom buíochas a ghabhail le muintir Institiúid Teicneolaíochta, Sligeach as an sarobair atá déanta acu ag eagrúí na chomórtais seo. Tá árdmholadh tuillte acu.

On behalf of Comhairle árd Oideachais I am delighted to welcome the players, officials, and supporters from all the third level colleges to Sligo for the Heineken Sigerson and Trench Cups. We have great confidence in IT Sligo's ability to host these great competitions and we see it as a tribute to their efforts and commitment to gaelic games that they have been awarded these competitions for the first time ever. Great credit must be given to the IT Sligo organising committee. I would especially like to thank Michael Breslin, Michael Harte, Liam Heekin, Fr. Liam Devine, and all their hard-working co-workers. I would also like to pay a special tribute to Jim Nestor who for many years was one of the driving forces behind gaelic games in IT Sligo. The great work of Brian McCann with the hurling teams also deserves special mention.

Finally, I would like to thank our sponsors Heineken who have been ideal partners in our efforts to promote the Sigerson and the Trench Cups. The efforts and advice from John Healy of Murphy Ireland has been very valuable and we hope he and his team enjoy the weekend.

The Sigerson and Trench Cups have a special place in the lives of third level students. They bring their own joy and heartbreaks and their own memories and friendships to last a lifetime. Sligo 2001 will be no different. I hope everyone, players, mentors, referees, and administrators will have a weekend to remember.

Deasúin ó Chuileanain
Cathaoirleach, Comhairle árd Oideachais

TEACHTAIREACHT AN CHATHAOIRLIGH

Is cúis athais ar leith dom fáilte a chuir roimh na foirne, a hoifigí agus a lucht tachtaiochta go Cluichí Ceannais Chorn Heineken Mhic Sioghair agus Corn Trench na bliana 2002. Is mór an onoir don chlub comórtais comh speisialta leo seo a reachtáil and tá ár mbuíochas ag dul don Chomhaire árd Oideachais as na cluichí a chur inar leith don tarna blinain dar gcionn. Cuirim fáilte speisialta roimh Uachtarán Chumann Luthchleas Gael, an tUasal Sean Mac Taidhg and oifigí eile an Chumann atá i lathair don deireadh saehtaine.

It is indeed a historic occasion for the GAA Club and the Institute to be honoured with the hosting of the Heineken Sigerson and Trench Cups for the first time ever. The GAA Club has a very distinguished place in the annals of the Institute of Technology, Sligo, and we will endeavour to uphold our reputation as good hosts by treating everyone to a festival of football. The Trench Cup has a special place in the history of our club, and we welcome in particular the UK champions, St Mary's, Strawberry Hill, who add an international flavour to the competition.

I wish to pay a special tribute to the hardworking committee who have made this weekend possible. I thank the clubs who have so generously put their facilities and personnel at our disposal. Most of all, I extend a sincere thank you to our sponsors, upon your support we are dependent throughout. Finally to the Institute management and staff, who have given of their time and support - go raibh míle maith agaibh.

Le sin guidhim rath ar na fóirne go léir agus tá súil agam go mairfidh eachtraí Sigerson 2002 in bhur gcuimhne sna blianta áta amach romhain.

Michael O Breisleáin
Cathaoirleach

Best Wishes to Sligo I.T. in hosting the Sigerson Competition

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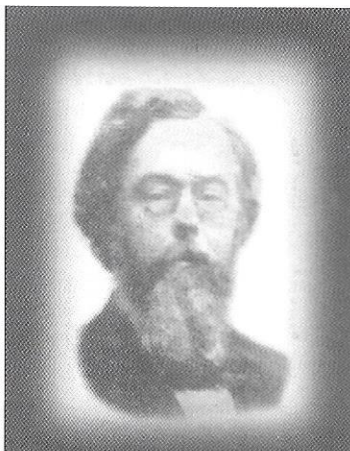
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GEORGE SIGERSON

Nócha bliain ó shin, nuair a d'éagraigh grúpa bheag mhac léinn ó Choláiste na hOllscoile, Baile Atha Cliath, comórtas peile Gaelach do na hollscoileanna, b'é an t-Ollamh George Sigerson, saineolaí i ngach sort ábhair, a chinntigh go mbeadh corn fiúntach ar fáil don comórtas. Pé oiread athruithe a tháinig ar an comórtas agus ar pheil Gaelach ó shin, tá an corn céanna á bhronnadh fós sa Mhílaos nua. Is dea-cheangal é sin leis ár ndúchas, ach seachas sin, tá ganntanas foinsí eolais faoin fear Sigerson é féin sa lá atá inniu.



In the ninety years that have passed since the first appearance of the Sigerson in 1911, the general awareness of the contribution of Dr. George Sigerson to Irish academia, medicine and the universities has diminished by comparison with many of his contemporaries. It would, therefore, be opportune to take a few excerpts from his remarkable curriculum vitae.

BACKGROUND

Born 1836, in Holyhill House, along Glenmoran river outside Strabane, Co. Tyrone. Attended St. Joseph's College Montrouge (Paris), Queen's College Galway, Queen's College Cork and Catholic University (Cecilia St., Dublin) - graduating in medicine. First Class Honours degree in special ad hoc Celtic examination.

SCIENCE & MEDICINE

Scientific papers written: 'Remarks on a Protomorphic Phyllotype' (1863), 'Anomalous Form of Corolla in Erica Tatralix' (1869-74), 'Heat as a Factor in Vital Action' (1875), 'Changes in the Physical Geography of Ireland' (1875-77), 'Contributions to the Study of Nerve-action in Connection with the Sense of Taste' (1877-83), 'The Need and Use of Village Hospitals in Ireland' (1882), 'The Law and the Lunatic' (1886), 'Genesis and Evolution' (1894). Translations into English: Charcot's Diseases' of the Nervous System, Medical Commissioner to Dublin Mansion House Committee in 1880-81.

HISTORICAL WRITING & POLITICS

Printed works: 'Antiquities in Donegal' (1857), 'History of the Land Tenures and Landed Classes in Ireland' (1871), 'The Last Independent Parliament in Ireland', 'St. Patrick as a Man of Letters' (1900), 'Irish Fishers of the Deep' (1907) 'Political Prisoners at

Home and Abroad', 'The Last Conquest of Ireland (Perhaps)'. 'The Blessing of Dublin from the Irish of St. Benean' (1890), 'O'Curry's Great Discovery: Translation of the Ancient Laws of Ireland' (1902). Member of Lord Spencer's Royal Commission on Prisons, 1883, President of Seanad Éireann 1922-23.

POETRY & THE ARTS

Collections of poetry: 'The Poets and Poetry of Munster' (1860), 'Bards of the Gael and Gall' (1897) and 'Easter Song of Sedulius' (1922). Ballads written: 'The Heather Glen' & 'The Mountains of Pomeroy'. Founder member of the Feis Cheoil. President of National Literary Society, 1893-1925. Editorial writer for The Irishman newspaper. Frequent contributor of essays and poems regularly published in: Freeman's Journal, North British Review, The Nation, Harp, Duffy's Hiberian Magazine, and The Irish People

One could fill this programme with articles about the many different interesting aspects of the Strabane-born scholar's life - his being one of the last survivors of the Great Famine, his friendship with John Mitchel (including his time as a fugitive in Paris), John O'Leary and Charles Kickham (of whom he made a death mask), the patients who travelled from as far away as Australia for his treatment; Thomas McDonagh's poem in his living honour, his presidency of Seanad Éireann and resignation from it, the museum that was his 3 Clare Street residence, the literary pursuits of other members of his family. These are but a few of the topics, not mentioned in the above c.v., that merit special attention. Some of these have been touched upon in the Sigerson articles of the last two years, and space does not permit a full recantation here.

Small wonder then that his Tyrone colleague among the U.C.D. staff, Tom Kettle M.P., described Sigerson as 'a national landmark'. His home has been likened to a museum, enriched by the spoil of all the civilisations of the world. To Ireland and to humanity George Sigerson consecrated the labours of his four-score years, and he has left behind him a fame that will endure."In the course of further research conducted during the past year, several points about Dr. Sigerson should be added to those made previously. It was stated last year by this writer that apart from Sigerson's G.A.A. Club in Strabane and the inter-varsity trophy, there is nothing to commemorate

his memory. This is not strictly true: there is Sigerson Place in Strabane, and there has been for some time a Sigerson Room in U.C.D. Nonetheless, it is scant recognition for the professor's great achievements. It has widely been assumed that his presentation of his eponymous trophy was Sigerson's sole contribution to the G.A.A. This is not so. The doctor's association with the inter-varsity football scene would seem to have drawn the attention of the G.A.A.'s Central Council to this learned benefactor for the first time. Thus when it was decided that there should be a permanent memorial to Dr. Croke, it was to the U.C.D. professor that the G.A.A. turned for advice in order to choose the best design for a statue. For much of the next decade, therefore, the organisation was in regular communication with Sigerson. Unfortunately, the designer entrusted with the project ran into problems and overran his original schedule by several years.

Dr. Sigerson was an avowed advocate of esprit de corps within the universities, as well as camaraderie between them, and with this in mind he wrote a special college song for U.C.D., which appeared in the

National Student in 1915. It captured the idealism and high hopes of the time, and the chorus ended with the line, 'And the bright Dawn light before us.' This was clearly a portent of the momentous events of the next year, and also an allusion to the part that university students would play therein.

Dr. Sigerson's understanding of the student mentality was further underlined by his design for the trophy of the competition he was launching - hence it was in the shape of a Mether, an ancient drinking urn symbolic of friendship. The cup has now lived longer than did its sponsor (and, indeed, longer than any other national trophy in circulation), and is badly in need of replacement. The distinguished gentleman died at 89 years of age and was buried in Glasnevin on 19 February 1925, the funeral being attended by a wide array of public personalities.

Bhí Éire i bhfad ní ba bhoichte tar éis a cailleadh é. Ach mairfidh a thionchar fada sa todhchaí. Tá súil againn go bhfeicfidh muid spiorad cinéalta Mhic Síoghair beo sa deireadh seachtaine seo.

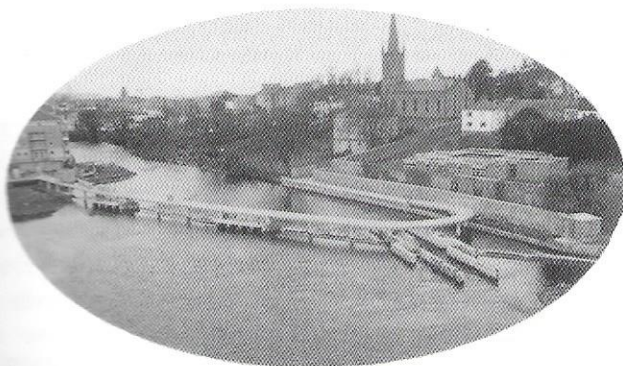
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Memories are made of this

BY JIM NESTOR

It is a source of pride and Joy to me that the College club has progressed to the stage that we are now in a position to host such a prestigious competition as Sigerson. Since stepping down from active involvement with the men's team at the end of 1998, I have concentrated on looking after the ladies team.

Although I have not been involved in the preparations for the weekend, I can assure all and sundry that the members of the organising committee have toiled long and hard to ensure that everything is ready for the big occasion. Their efforts deserve our sincere thanks.

On such an auspicious occasion as this, it is timely to take a look back over some twenty five years and recount some of the events and personalities that helped to shape the history of the club. The record will show that the club has won the Ryan Cup (League Div.1), Intermediate League (Div.1) and five Trench Cups and three League Division 2 titles in football. Our hurlers have won League Division 2 and 3 and Championship titles and, not to be outdone, the ladies team, only formed in 1996 are the current holders of the O'Connor Cup, the blue riband of Ladies Gaelic Football at third level. All that now remains is to put the 'icing on the cake' by winning Sigerson on the home turf this weekend.

Great players have graced our teams at all levels over the years. Some of them have been household names in their day, while others from the less-successful counties did



(Top photo from left: Michael Breslin, Gary Walsh and Jim Nestor with Trench Cup, League Cup and Freshers Cup.

not gain the limelight to the same extent. The high point of the club came in 1992 when four of our former players - Tony Boyle, Gary Walsh, Tommy Ryan and John Joe Doherty - won All-Ireland medals with Donegal. Personally, I regard the Trench Cup winning team of 1991 as the best that the College has produced. A forward line that boasts such names as Tony Boyle, Derek Duggan (Roscommon), Tommy Wilson (Galway) and Aidan Rooney (Leitrim) must be treated with respect. Kevin Cahill (Mayo) played as a wing half back on that team.

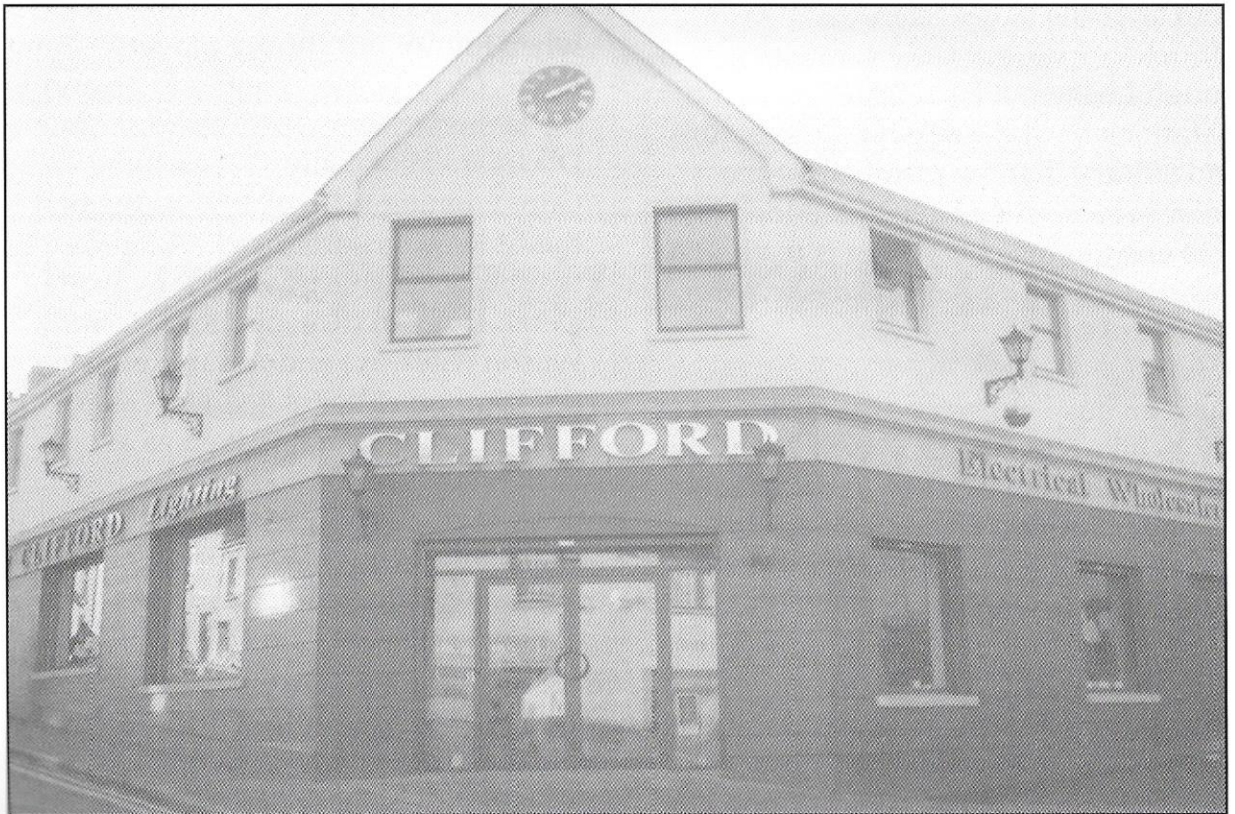
Other prominent players that spring to mind as having made their mark on the national stage are Dan Meehan (Leitrim), Stephen Joyce (Galway), Shane Durkin (Sligo), Sean Clarke (Mayo), Tom Og O'Brien (Roscommon), Kenneth Mortimer (Mayo) and Richie Fahy (Galway), to mention but a few. In hurling there were Niall Hand (Offaly) and John Flavin (Limerick). Our ladies teams have included such greats as Jenny Grennan (Monaghan), Christina and Marcella Heffernan (Mayo). To all those I have mentioned, and the countless others too numerous to mention, that have worn the College jersey with pride, I say thanks for the memories. It has been a great honour to be associated with them all.

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Nuair atá Corn Sigerson á imirt i mbéal dorais againn is fiú súil a chaitheamh ar na himreoirí as Dún na nGall a d’imir ar fhoirne a bhuaidh an Corn iomráiteach seo. De réir ollshaothar Réamoinn Mhic Gabhann, ba é John O’Donnell as an Chlochán Liath an chéad Conallach a bhain boinn sa chomórtas nuair a bhí sé ar fhoireann U.C.D. sa bhliain 1930 agus arís sa bhliain 1931. Tá clú agus cáil go fóill ar éachtaí an Dálaigh dá chlub agus dá chontae sna tríochaidí.

Ba fhear Gaeltachta eile an chéad Chonallach eile a rug an Chraobh, sé sin, Antoin Mac Ruairí as Gaoth Dobhair, bhí ar fhoirne bhuacacha U.C.D. i 1948 agus arís i 1949. Bhain Antoin ocht mbonn Craobhe Sinsir i nDún na nGall. Chuaigh sé le fiachlóireacht i gContae Ard Mhacha agus is mó an cháil atá ar a bhean chéile, Bríd, Leas-Cheannaire an SDLP, anois ná mar atá ar ghiorria an Choitiarna. Tá ábhar maíte eile ag Antoin óir bhí a mhac Séamus (faoi bhrat Ard Mhacha) ar fhoireann U.C.D. a bhain an Sigerson i 1985.

Ba sa bhliain 1954 a tháinig an chéad bhonn Sigerson go h[^]nis eoghan nuair a bhí Colm Ó Tuathaláin ina lánchúlaí ar fhoireann U.C.G. Bhí Breisleánach as Dún na nGall ina ionadaí ar fhoireann sin na Gaillimhe.

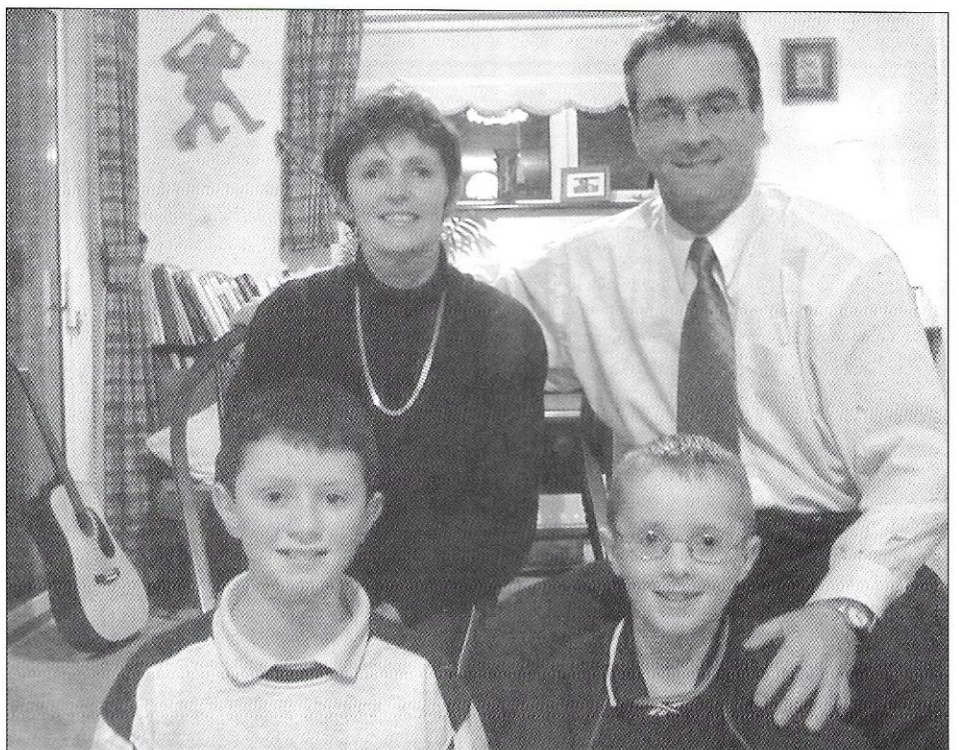
Breandán Dunleavy

Is é Breandán Dunleavy as Bealach Féich laoch mór sigerson Dhún na nGall - an t-aon Chonallach a ghnóthaigh ceithre bhonn

nuair a bhí sé ar fhoireann U.C.D. i 1975, ’77, ’78 agus ’79. Nuair a bhuaigh U.C.D. i 1975 b’iad Finín Mac a ’Bhaird as an Charraig in Iar-Dheisceart Thír Chonaill agus Breandán Dunleavy an bheirt ionadaí a th’áining ’na páirce dóibh. bhain Finín bonn Craoibhe Sinsir i gCúige Uladh i 1974 agus rinne Breandán amhlaidh i 1983. Is é Finín láithreoir ‘Spórtiris’ ar TG4 agus thug sé seirbhís iontach dá chlub, Naomh Columba agus do Dhún na nGall.

Bhain imreoir mór Chloich Cheannfhalola, Pól Ó ceallaigh, dhá bhonn Sigerson le U.C.D. i 1959 agus 1961 agus chuaigh sé ar aghaidh ina dhiaidh sin le éachtaí a dhéanamh dá chontae agus dá chúige. Bhí sé ar fhoireann Uladh a bhain corn an Bhóthair Iarainn i 1965 agus 1966. Bhí Bernard Ó Brádaigh as Bun Dobhráin ar fhoireann Uladh i 1965 fosta, ceithre bliana i ndiaidh bonn Sigerson a bhuaicint le U.C.D., i gcuideachta Phóil Uí Cheallaigh.

Ba é Seán Ó Cnámhsí an dara fear as na Rosaibh a raibh bhuaidh Sigerson aige, Bhí sé féin agus Tony McDevitgt as Leitir Ceanainn ar fhoireann U.C.G. i 1963. Cúig bliana ina dhiaidh sin bhí



**Brendan Dunleavy with his wife
Martina and Johnny and Rory.**

Rosantóir eile, Jim McElwee, ar fhoireann U.C.D. a bhuaigh an Corn, maraon le Antoin Ó Cearúill as Gaoth Dobhair. D'imir Antoin ar an chéad fhoireann as Dún na nGall a bhuaigh Craobh Sinsir Uladh i 1972 agus bíonn sé le clos go minic ar TG4 agus ar Raidió na Gaeltachta.

Ar son na Gaillimhe

Nuair a bhuaidh U.C.G. an Sigerson sa bhliain 1983 bhí Pól Mac Giolla Chearra as Leitir Ceanainn ar an fhoireann (bhí a aintín Joan ina banlaoch ar fhoirne Ashbourne na hOllscoile céanna blianta roimhe sin) Bhain U.C.G. an Sigerson arís i 1992 agus don chéad uair riamh bhí beirt as an chlub amheain i nDún na nGall ar an fhoireann, mar a bhí Diarmuid Keon agus Sylvester Mac Uidhir as Béal Átha Seanaidh. Ní ba mhoille sa bhliain mhór sin 1992 bhí Sylvester agus Pól Mac Giolla Chearra ina n-ionadaithe ar fhoireann Dhún na nGall a bhuaigh Craobh na hEireann. Tá seirbhís iontach tugtha ag an Sylvester céanna do chlub Aodh Ruadh.

McGuinness

Laoch eile Sigerson Dhún na nGall is é Jim McGuinness as na Gleanntaí a d'imir ar fhoirne chaithréimeacha Sigerson trí huaire. Bhí sé ar fhoireann Thrá Lí a bhuaigh i 1998 agus 1999. Nár dhoiligh á mbualadh i 1998 agus McGuinness, Michael donnellan, Pádraigh Joyce agus Michael Francis Russel i measc na dtosaithe, I 1999 bhí fear eile as Dún na nGall, Éamonn Reddan, as an Mhagh in Inis Eoghain, ar fhoireann Thrá Lí. Bhí Jim McGuinness i lár na páirce i 1999. Agus anuraidh bhain McGuinness a thriú bonn nuair a bhí an lá le Jordanstown. Tá McGuinness ar dhuine den uimhir bheag (cé mhéad?) a bhain an Sigerson le dhá choláiste éagsúil.

Agus i mbliana beidh muid ag guí go gcuirfeadh ainmneacha John Paul Gallagher, Christy Toyne, Barry Dunnion, Gareth Blake, Brendan Boyle agus a leithéidí le liosta na laoch. . .

*An t-Athair Seán Ó Gallchóir, S.P.
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Entertainment During Sigerson Weekend

'Remember when the unexpected happened'...

BY LIAM MALONEY (SLIGO WEEKENDER)

Enough will be written about those teams and players who may dominate this year's Sigerson Cup.

When it comes to the sporting élite - and that is what this Third Level competition is all about - there are few bad performers. The best of the best? Probably.

IT Sligo will be doing its best also; first time to host this festival of Gaelic Football and aiming to win this competition for the first time.

In the midst of all the hype, the preparations, the levels sought and the levels reached, those on the organising committee at IT Sligo will remember last year. When Sigerson didn't happen. A combination of bizarre events culminated in the cancellation of this three-day tournament. The very week that Sigerson's aura was set to be unleashed on the Sligo sporting public, foot-and-mouth - a disease which affects all cloven-footed animals - erupted in the country. First spotted in Meigh, Co. Armagh, this pestilence disrupted lives and livelihoods. Indeed, poor weather (including snow) shrouded the very weekend of madness; even if foot-and-mouth remained a term in 20th century veterinary encyclopaedias those venues wearing a white carpet would have proved unplayable.

Foot-and-mouth cut a terrible swathe. To confine it, the Irish people walked on mats seeped in disinfectant and prayer. Sporting fixtures were postponed and, weeks or months later, either re-fixed or never played.

At the time when games were called-off, those who were enmeshed in sport felt really bad. Frustrated, sickened.

At the end of 2001 a glance at the bulging sports reviews indicated that, despite the upheaval of foot-and-mouth, sport picked itself up, and got ready for the next game. The way it has always been. Sigerson went ahead, rather diluted, as IT Sligo's meagre consolation was to host their quarter-final against UCD. The Dublin-based students won what was a most memorable game.

Almost 12 months later, Sigerson is back in Sligo. The spirits are high, the high fielders jumping even higher. Regardless of who wins Sigerson, or who plays well in this tournament, let us be satisfied that IT Sligo are doing all they can to welcome the players and supporters.

Let the hosts enjoy it too: they know what it is like to have a dream postponed.

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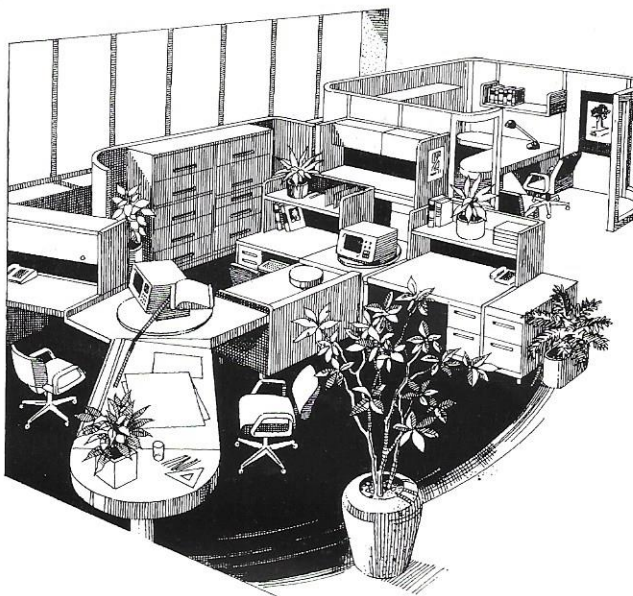
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North West Radio Sport wishes I.T Sligo all the best in the Sigerson Cup

Dervish Charity Concert



During Sigerson Week-end

Fresh from winning an Irish Music Magazine Award for Decade, an album that celebrated 10 years of Dervish, the Sligo band are back home to honour their commitment to local charities.

Last year Dervish and the Cafe orchestra had to postpone a fund raising concert in aid of Irish Sudden Death Association (ISIDA), Sligo Bay Life Boat (RNLI) and Sligo Cancer Support Centre because of the Foot and Mouth scare.

The concert is finally rescheduled but unfortunately due to unforeseen circumstances, the Cafe Orchestra cannot perform this time. Renowned and now Sligo based singer songwriter Kieran Goss has agreed to step instead. This combination has all the signs of being the music event of the year at the Aula Maxima, IT Sligo on February 21st.

Dervish are at their Sligo base at present, where they are busy working on their first studio album in three years which will be released later in 2002. They are said to be very excited about some of the material on this next studio production which will have influences taken from their travels around the world.

The band was recently showcased at the APAP Music Conference in the New York Hilton. The response was so great that this has elevated Dervish to the mainstrem Auditoriums in the USA. Tickets that were purchased last year and not refunded will be valid for this year's event. New tickets can be obtained from the Business Innovation Centre at IT Sligo and at outlets around the town to be announced next week.

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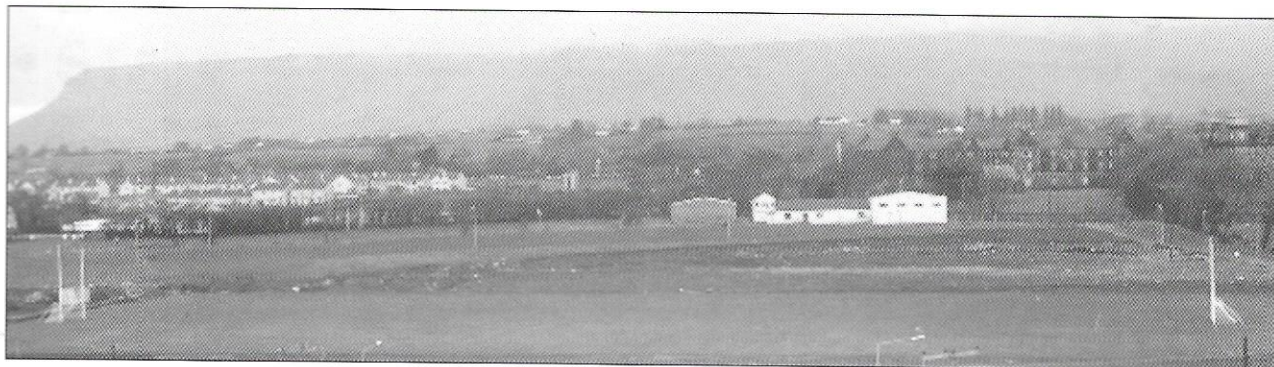
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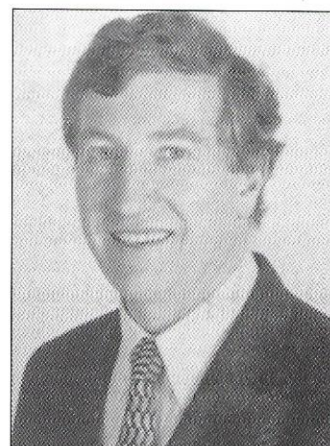
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*Good Luck to
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Sigersons I mostly remember UCG

BY GERRY McLOUGHLIN 'AN GRIPE'

Sigersons I mostly remember UCG, that most civilised place of one's earlier youth won the Sigerson and Fitzgibbon Cups in 1980. That was a magical year as Galway won the All-Ireland hurling title after over 50 years and I was cushioned from the crowd in Eyre Square by a good natured woman of the West. Those were the years when Tony Horse Reagan declared that "Sigerson" was more important than life itself. And of course it is. Where else would one get so many of Ireland's fittest young men and women gathered in one place for a magical weekend? Where else can one have so much cultural intercourse as an sean nos also? And hopefully this year's Sigerson Cup will be fished out from its murky depths. Should Sligo climb that ladder to the stars and the other "Sigerson" ends up in the Garavogue, there is one consolation. The Garavogue is not near as deep as the dark Lagan.

Sylvester Maguire proved that old boys can make their mark. In 1992 the Cloghore Cyclone was player of the Tournament as UCG took another title and a young fellow called Lorcan Dowd also featured. Sylvie was almost 29 but that's rapidly becoming the average age of some of the current stars. Jim McGuinness (Jordanstown) has become a real Student Prince with those dreadlocks

and Eamann O'Hara (if he plays) will be almost 27. Students generally are getting bigger, stronger, hairier and older. An Gripe played for UCG until he was 24 in the mid 80's and that was considered old. But there is still a lovely je ne sais quoi about that Spring weekend. Sligo are relative newcomers to these hallowed gatherings. Last year the Foot and Mouth halted the show but 2002 could be really historic. IT Rory Gallagher isn't really an old boy, but seems to have been around forever. And the Northern colleges will bring their own colour and craic.

John Farrell impish President of UUJ has written several theses on the Rules of the competition. "Tommy Joe" is also President of the Forever Young club. The Poly are the Man Utd of the competition and have almost as much resources. Their critics may call them a Polyglot but Sigerson would only be half-dressed without these international ambassadors. The competitive edge is much sharper than it was in those far off days of straight jeans. But there is still a special magic about Sigerson.... in these delicate days of Spring. Enjoy because you are only young once. And if you don't believe me ask Sylvie Maguire, Jim McGuinness, Lorcan Dowd, Eamann O'Hara, Jody Gormley, Maurice Sheridan, Nicky English or Diarmuid Drummond!

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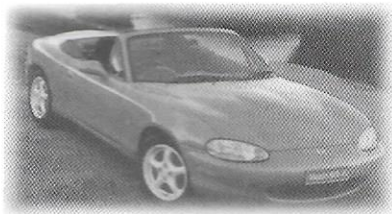
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PRIVATE PATRICK MORAN

The Sigerson Winner hanged for Ireland.

Hanged for Ireland - thus ran the title of GAA Museum manager Tim Carey's recent book about the ten Irish patriots executed by the British government during the War of Independence. Enduring an ignominious interment in Mountjoy Jail for eighty years until their state funerals last October, the men were - with the notable exception of Kevin Barry - largely forgotten by the Irish public.

Ironically, 'Kevin Barry's' has been one of the most popular patron names for Gaelic clubs in Ireland and abroad, despite the fact that the 18-year-old UCD student played rugby first and foremost, and hurling only occasionally as an afterthought.

SIGERSON CUP 1920

Imagine this writer's bemusement when, in his endless research into the history of universities' GAA, he found 'P. Moran' on the UCD team that beat UCC in the Sigerson Cup final (1-7 to 1-4) in February 1920. Knowing that the unfortunate Patrick Moran who was hanged in March 1921 never attended the 'National' University, the present author was quite doubtful that he represented UCD in this competition a mere year before his death. Considering especially the country's tense political and military situation - the Sigerson Cup final was one of the few Gaelic matches of national prominence to be played in early 1920 - it seemed unlikely that an active volunteer would have risked to indulge in a football match in Terenure, at the heart of Dublin, before 1500-odd spectators. In any case, it appeared inevitable that there were dozens of 'P. Morans' in Dublin at the time, several of them playing Gaelic games.

Yet amazingly it was indeed the very same Patrick Moran. Over Christmas, this writer had the pleasure of validating his Sigerson connection by comparing the photograph of the 1920 UCD team - pictured in the Freeman's Journal on 23 February 1920, alongside a substantial report of the final - to the portraits of Moran the martyr in Tim Carey's book. Seated fourth from left on the front row of the UCD team, ball in hand, was a man whose similarity to the Roscommon patriot was too great to be accidental, even allowing for the dullness of contemporary photographs.

DID MORAN STUDY AT UCD?

How did Patrick Moran, two weeks short of his 32nd birthday and a stranger to lecture halls, come to win a national title with UCD in the last months of his life? When this question was put to Tim Carey himself, he could not shed light on Moran's intervarsity sporting career:

"This is news to me. Apart from Kevin Barry, so little is widely known about these men, and although Patrick Moran is probably one of the better known, it says something about their mystery surrounding that no-one - not even Moran's family - was aware of his winning a Sigerson Cup medal." May Moran, a niece of Patrick Moran, living in the family homeplace of Crossna, Co. Roscommon, kindly provided information about her uncle's playing days and the team photograph accompanying this piece, but she confirmed that nothing was known of his links to UCD.

"Uncle Paddy was a member of the successful Grocers' Assistants team in 1913, and just

lately I found a Dublin City Gaelic Football League winner's medal from 1914/15, which he won with a team called Marlborough Rangers. But I had no idea he had ever played with UCD."

Jimmy Wren, one of the three-man team behind the forthcoming history book of the G.A.A. in Dublin, was able to furnish further information about Moran's latter playing days. In 1918 he started up a club called Dun Laoghaire Commercials (based primarily in Blackrock notwithstanding the name), with whom he won the Dublin Intermediate Football Championship in 1920 and finished as a runner-up in the Junior Football League of the same year.

Following their founder's death, Dun Laoghaire Commercials changed their name to 'Patrick Moran's', and after later amalgamating with Foxrock Geraldines, the club survives today as 'Geraldine Moran's'. His legacy also endured in Belfast, where a GAA club catering for publicans was named in his honour from the mid-1920s until the mid-1960s. Still the question of how Patrick Moran came to win the Sigerson Cup with UCD remains unanswered. It is unlikely now that we will ever know the full details, but the most plausible explanation is that he was friendly with a couple of the UCD players who were volunteers - for example, Mick Mullins of Castlebar, who was mentioned in one of Kevin Barry's last letters in September 1920, or Frank Burke, Headmaster of St. Enda's School - and they asked him to play. Not that 'ringers' were common in the competition, of course...

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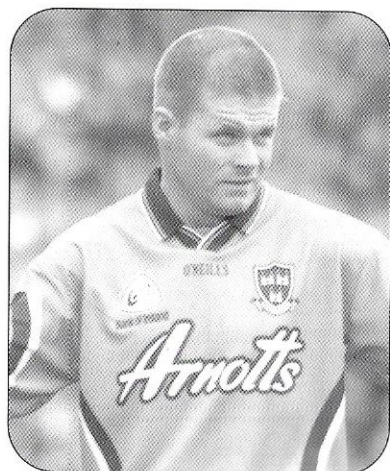
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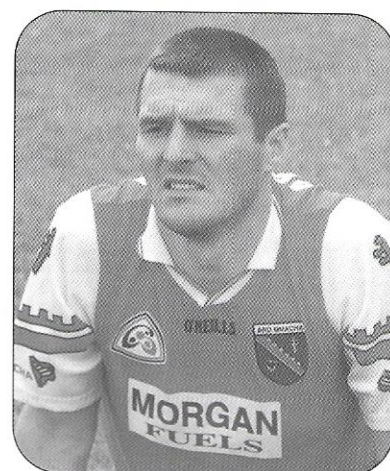
*Wishing I.T Sligo every success
in the The Sigerson Cup
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Entertainment in Bar during the
Sigerson Cup Weekend



Diarmuid Drummond speaks to both Dessie Farrell, Chairman of the Gaelic Players Association and Jarlath Burns, Chairman of the Players Advisory Committee, on some of the current issues facing the association and their own careers.



What does your association mean for players?

D.F.- "We would like to provide a forum for players to voice their opinion and to basically enhance the welfare of players in any way we can."

J.B.- "We would like to provide representation for the players on the issues which affect them. For example ensuring that all panel members receive a jersey on the day of a championship match, or in the case of a fixture clash, such as the Sigerson and All-Ireland club semi-final, making the players views known."

Can you envisage a day where players will actually get paid for playing the game?

D.F.- "Yes, at some stage in the future I believe it is inevitable."

J.B.- "Not in the near future, even if we get over the ideological hurdle of amateurism. It is important that we would avoid a 3-tier system among our players, i.e. our top players, county players

and club players. Also it could develop into a transfer system which would not help the games or clubs either. I have been in constant contact with the players and can honestly say that getting paid is not an issue."

Do you think that the resources are there to sustain players being paid?

D.F.- "That is currently debatable, I do however believe in the future that with the correct marketing strategies being employed that the necessary resources can be attained."

J.B.- "I don,t believe they currently exist but if the day arrives where the resources do become available, then I would have to reconsider."

How would you like to see the GAA progress over the next ten years?

D.F.- "I think that the ideal model exists in the form of the Australian Rules game that we could benefit from. I'm not

talking just specifically about the rules but also all that goes with it. Gaelic players have a lot to learn in terms of background teams such as technical kicking coaches and professionalism not just in terms of being paid but also in the general approach to matches. I would also like to see more exposure for our more high profile players more often."

J.B.- "This is why the Strategic Review committee has been set up and having worked on the proposals I am in agreement with them. I think we should look at the clubs, particularly at the numbers being catered for by clubs. We want to avoid situations where one club has 500 u-12 players and the next club has a problem with not enough numbers, particularly in larger towns where only one club exists to serve a large population. Also from a county perspective I believe that the new qualifier system is a stepping stone from the one championship match scenario. On the cultural side I believe the GAA is one of the few mass movement organisations that

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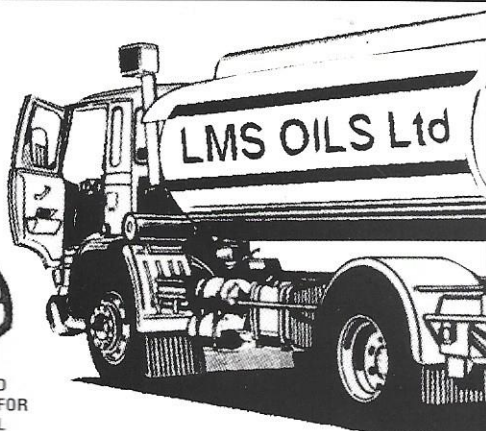
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are still actively involved in promoting the Irish language and culture. Personally I have a great interest in Scor and was horrified to read a recent article by Colm O'Rourke urging the GAA to ditch the cultural aspect of the association."

What do you think of the recent proposal by the Strategic Review Committee to divide Dublin into sections?

D.F.- "Speaking purely with my Dub hat on, I am not in favour of it. I find it difficult to see the logic and the rationale behind it. If it is an Administration problem then this should be addressed, perhaps by setting up a north and south board. I think that this proposal as it stands will only exacerbate the problem. Long term it is aspirational maybe in 20 years time. It could be perhaps introduced at underage level, such as minor and u-21 but only on a trial basis. They seem to be saying that the increase in the number of players at representative intercounty level in Dublin will boost the game there. I believe again that marketing is the key here not only in

Dublin but nationwide as well.

J.B.- "I think that it is a very radical idea. Peter Quinn makes an interesting point in his address by saying "If you want things to stay the same, things will have to change." It would not be the first time that Dublin has been divided for administration purposes e.g. it has already been divided up for local government administration. The next 10 years could see the population increase to 1.5 million people. The Dublin county board has been so busy administrating the county that a strategic plan may not have been a priority. At present the magnificent work that is been done at primary school in Dublin level has not been given the chance to blossom. In vast areas in Dublin the GAA is not even registering. I also believe that it is a national issue not just a Dublin one."

What is your view on other sports being played in Croke Park?

D.F.- "I,m in favour, I think the day is gone where the GAA can associate themselves as being Irish more than Keith Wood or Roy Keane. From a practical point of view it would also generate revenue.

When Croke Park is brought up to full capacity it will hold 80,000, there are possibly 3

or 4 fixtures in the GAA calendar that will fill it to capacity. It is estimated that it will cost 2.5m to service it per annum."

J.B.- "I don,t have a big problem with other sports being played in Croke Park I did however, propose at a meeting last summer that all provincial winners be given the option of playing their quarter finals in Croke park if they so wished, I was told that was not possible because of the situation with the residents of the area which I accepted. I wouldn,t have a problem opening it up to other sports, so long as the needs of our own players have been catered for first."

What was the biggest highlight/disappointment of your playing career?

D.F.- "Winning the 1995 All-Ireland title and losing the 1994 final."

J.B.- "Captaining Armagh to the 1999 Ulster championship and a close second would be winning the Sigerson with St Mary,s in 1989 against UCC. Losing the 1999 All-Ireland Semi-final to Meath."

Who was the best manager you worked under?

D.F.- "Tough question, probably Pat O'Neill."

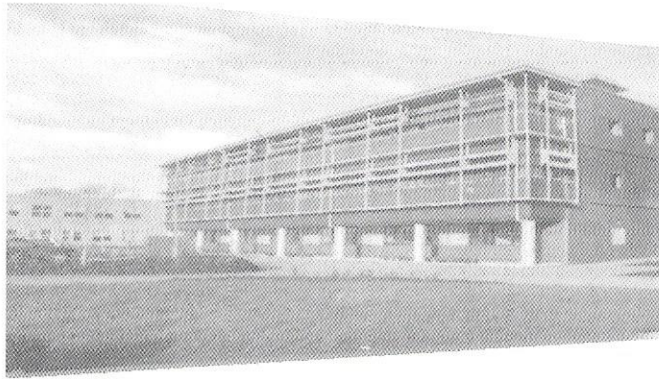
J.B.- "Peter Finn and Jim Mc Keever at St Mary,s but the shrewdest would have to be the two Brians, Mc Alinden and Canavan".



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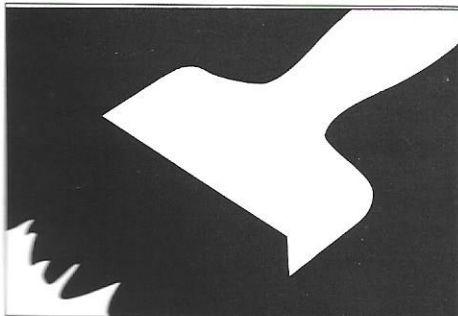
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Who was the biggest influence on your career?

D.F.- "My Father."

J.B.- "My Father"

Who was the best player you have played with/against?

D.F.- "With would be Kieran Mc Geeney and against would be Seamas Moynihan."

J.B. "With would be Diarmuid Marsden and against would be

Tony Barney, Maher."
What was the funniest incident you can recall happening during a match?

D.F.- "I remember a schools final being played in Croke Park and our goalkeeper jumped up and grabbed the crossbar and it broke and he injured himself in the process, I wont name names as he is a good friend!"

J.B.- "The incident involved a certain player I played with

who was noted for his bad manners toward referees. This particular day he was addressing the referee in a continental tongue and 5 minutes before half-time the referee told him he was going to send him off if he continued, at half time he went over to the referee and asked him if he could be sent off for thinking. To which the reiteoir replied "No". He then said, "In that case I think you're a Bollocks."

YOUR PREDICTIONS FOR 2002?

FOOTBALL SAM MAGUIRE:

D.F.- THE DUBS (WHO ELSE!!)

J.B.-Cork

MUNSTER:

D.F.- KERRY

J.B.- Cork

CONNACHT:

D.F.- MAYO

J.B.- Galway

ULSTER:

D.F. ARMAGH

J.B. Armagh

LEINSTER:

D.F.- THE DUBS!

J.B.- Dublin

SIGERSON:

D.F.-UCD

J.B.- UCD

ALL-IRELAND CLUB FOOTBALL:

D.F.- NEMO RANGERS

J.B.- Ballinderry

HURLING LIAM MC CARTHY

D.F. GALWAY

J.B.-Kilkenny

MUNSTER:

D.F.- CORK

J.B.-Tipperary

ULSTER:

D.F.- ANTRIM

J.B.- Antrim

LEINSTER

D.F.- KILKENNY

J.B.- Kilkenny

I.T. SLIGO

DAMIEN SHERIDAN
(Dromard, Longford)

Age; 22

Rates new Leitrim supremo Rowley very highly, "he managed a Cavan club to the Intermediate c,ship, and then won a Longford senior last year". Obviously rates the Longford senior C,ship below the Cavan Intermediate one!!! Never shuts up talking in goal, hopefully will take the advice shut up!!!!

2nd Sigerson

PAT KELLY (Kilmaine, Maigheo)

Age; 21

Highly rated full back from Mayo, HA HA!! Well it would be worse if he was a highly rated forward from Mayo!!

2nd Sigerson.

DAMIEN HENDY (Cill Dara)

Age; 52

This boy has loads of Sigerson medals, played for the Tralee All-stars of the late 90,s, says he would like to go in to club management, but has still heard no word from Peter Stringfellow!!

45th Sigerson

SHANE O NEILL (Coolera-Strandhill, Sligeach)

Age 30

Old blondie pubes is going well!!! Has been doing a bit of damage about his own class lately, and cosidering that most of his class is male, this is worrying!!!

9th Sigerson

DERMOT HIGGINS
(Charlestown Sarsfields, Maigheo)

Age;29

Hung like a donkey, a 2 month

old one that is. Great man for the jokes though, always laughs at his own, jokes that is.

11th Sigerson

SEAN GRIMES (Ballinrobe, Maigheo)

Age; 21

Rumour has it that Mayo chairman PJ Mc Grath has drawn up "the Blueprint for success". This is said to involve the Mayo U-21,s and senior ladies going on a joint holiday to the Canaries in the hope that this will result in Mayo collecting "SAM 2025" and rumour has it that the bould Sean and Marcella were first to sign up!!!

2nd Sigerson.

GER MOCKLER (St Croan's, Ros Comain)

Age; 23

Any sign of that scholarship Mickey!!

4th Sigerson.

BRENDAN BOYLE (Ard an Ratha, Dun na nGall)

Age; 20

Mr Sicknote, was at it again during rag week, rumour has it that Shoveee was put out of his bed to accommodate the Ardara stallion!!!

2nd Sigerson

PADRAIG CARROLL
(Kilmore, Ros Comain)

Age; 24

As part of the GAA,s more relaxed rules on sponsorship, rumour has it that Padraig has been approached by ŒWonderbra, to model their summer collection!!

3rd Sigerson

Christy Toye (Naomh Micheal, Dun na nGall)

Age; 18

The child prodigy from Dunfanaghy, the quiet north Donegal man has no involvement whatsoever with any sheep, but says he just can,t get enough of that Sigerson juice.

1st Sigerson

BRENDAN DEVANEY (Tuam Stars, Gaillimh)

Age; 21

What can we say about the big Tuam legend, who was born at a very young age, he celebrated his first birthday before he was 2, and is now on the most extensive weights programme known to man. Hopefully this man will never be dope tested, his brain may not stand up to it!!!!

4th Sigerson.

RICHARD HARAN
(Charlestown Sarsfields, Maigheo)

Age; 22

Quiet man of team trying to live up to wild party image of the Higgins brothers, another gifted, Mayo forward!!

1st Sigerson

GARRETT BLAKE (Aodh Ruadh, Dun na nGall)

Age; 21

Watch out Sigerson opponents the Ballyshannon man's opportunist finishing, crafty guile, fleetness of foot and ability to constantly fall on his arse will cause problems!!!

2nd Sigerson

MARK BREHENY (St. Marys, Sligeach)

Age; 21

I.T. SLIGO

His injuries should be clearing up as Sigerson approaches and the hard training is over, the baby faced assassin is just too clean to get any filth on!!!!
2nd Sigerson

BRIAN MALONEY (Kilmaine, Maigheo)**Age; 21**

Has an eye for goal, pity his foot isn't in agreement with his eye. Wishes we were doing more aerobics!!

1st Sigerson

JOHN MC KEON (Drumreilly, Laitroim)**Age; 21**

Still pesters Sheridan wonderin, "who is this Rowley buck". Was recently voted Leitrim footballer of the year, Is this the end for Leitrim football???????

3rd Sigerson

DARREN KEARINS (Geevagh, Sligeach)**Age; 19**

The only non-drinker on the team, can run the 100m in 10 flat, that's minutes not seconds!

2nd Sigerson

NICHOLAS JOYCE (Killanerin, Gaillimh)**Age; 18**

First cousin of Padraig Joyce.
First cousin of Padraig Joyce.
First cousin of Padraig Joyce.

1st Sigerson

DARA MC GRATH (Erne Gaels, Fear Manach)**Age; 23**

Categorically denies that soap bar was his, it has emerged that he was standing directly behind the guy who bent down to pick it up!!!!.

2nd Sigerson

RORY GALLAGHER (Erne Gaels, Fear Manach)**Age; 23**

Last years captain and star centre half ^back misses the companionship of Lorcan Dowd, has taken on board Martin Mc Hugh,s suggestion "Rory did you ever think about playin at centre-half forward".

3rd Sigerson

JOHN PAUL GALLAGHER (Cloughaneely, Dun na nGall)**Age; 21**

Nicest legs on the team, attributes this the seaweed baths and the immac range of products, loves to bend it from an angle!!!!.

4th Sigerson

AIDEN HIGGINS (Charlestown Sarsfields, Maigheo)**Age; 33**

The captain. Self professed studmuffin of team, rumour has it that him and Dermot share everything, possible CEmenage au trois,.

4th Sigerson

BARRY DUNNION (Four Masters, Dun na nGall)**Age; 18**

Mr 4 masters, also works as a model for the top of wedding cakes, will wear anything by "Gap for Kids".

1st Sigerson

MICHAEL MOYLES (Crossmolina Deel Rovers, Maigheo)**Age; 24**

Has appeared in the GAA lukalikes sights opposite Steve from Eastenders, Yeah right!! Looks more like Dot Cotton.

Sligo,s top scorer this year with 4 points and 78 wides in 3 matches. Hopes to beat that this weekend.

1st Sigerson

PAUL FINLAY (Ballybay, Muineachain)**Age; 18**

The Jap,s reputation has preceded him, this rookie is a legend in Monaghan, that leading Gaelic football power, know,s Sean Mc Cague well though!!!

1st Sigerson

GERRY LOHAN (St. Brigids, Ros Comain)**Age; 24**

We got the wrong one, why couldn,t we have got Stephen!!!!!! A member of that famous family in the Ross, at least he got the goals that stuffed Mayo!!!!!!

1st Sigerson

COLM CAFFERKEY (Achill, Maigheo)**Age; 20**

Out to prove that there is more than fishin in Achill, young Cafferkey wears some lovely shirts though and Carla in the GAA office thinks he is lovely the way he is!!

AAAHHHHH!!!!

1st Sigerson

JOHN CULLEN (Drumkieran, Laitroim)**Age; 24**

Another product of the Leitrim school of Excellence, young John has done rather well and is due some big bucks in the new GAA Pepsi commercial.

1st Sigerson

PADRAIG MC GETTIGAN (Na Cealla Beaga, Dun na nGall)**Age; 19**

I.T. SLIGO

The Killybegs man rubbishes the comparisons between himself and Donegal great Barry Mc Gowan, reckons Mc Gowan wouldn't lace his boots.
1st Sigerson

AARON MC HUGH
(Grange/Cliffoney, Sligeach)
Age; 23

Former fat ass of team now has an ass Naomi Campbell would be proud of, must be the slimfast coz it,s not the hard training!!!!.
1st Sigerson

JOEY JORDAN (an Cabhan)
Age; 21

Has played senior club football since the age of 10, also turned down the title role in the upcoming film, "Ali".
1st Sigerson

DAVID CARTY (St. Brendans, Gaillimh)

Age; 21
Comes from that legendary football club, St Brendan's, unlucky to have lost Junior B final last year when he masqueraded as a lady!!
1st Sigerson

BRENDAN BOWENS
(Dunmore Mc Hales, Gaillimh)

Age; 22
From the legendary club that produced the Donnellans and the Legendary Jim Nestor, Brendan is de man for a pint or 17.
1st Sigerson

DAVID BARDEN (Longford Slashers, Longfort)

Age; 19
Will be appearing in new Bruce Willis movie, Train-Hard 4 train harder. Always the first man on to the training pitch and last to leave, a role model for all young players, is tipped for O.Byrne cup success one day.
1st Sigerson

MANAGER: MICHAEL BRESLIN, all information has been censored.

COACH: MARTIN McHUGH, all information has been censored.

SELECTOR: PAUL McWEENEY, all information has been censored.

THE SIGERSON CUP Top Medal Winners

Note: This list has been thoroughly researched from all panels given in newspapers, college annuals and the trophy itself. It is possible that some players, particularly the first four decades of Sigerson, may be eligible for this list, as they may have been injured or non-playing subs on the final day. However, it is unlikely that the figures at the top of the table are in any way inaccurate.

Mick Raftery (Mayo & Galway).....	8	('33 sub, '34, '36, '36, '37, '38, '39, '40, '41) -	with UCG
Jimmy McGauran (Roscommon & Galway)	6	('34, '36, '37, '38, '39, '40) -	with UCG
Joe Salmon (Mayo & Galway)	6	('36, '37, '38, '39, '40, '41) -	with UCG
Mick O' Gorman (Monaghan).....	5	('28, '29, '30, '31, '32) -	with UCD
John O'Leary (Clare).....	5	('33, '34, '36, '37, '38) -	with UCG
Hugh Gibbons (Roscommon)	5	('34, '36, '37, '38, '39) -	with UCG
James Laffey (Mayo).....	5	('34, '36 injured, '37, '38, '39) -	with UCG
Henry Kenny (Mayo).....	5	('36, '37, '39, '40, '41) -	with UCG
Frank Burke (Dublin).....	4	('15, '17, '20, '23) -	with UCD
Eamonn Fitzgerald (Kerry).....	4	('26, '28, '29, '30) -	with UCD
Joe O' Sullivan (Kerry).....	4	('26, '28, '29, '30) -	with UCD
Johnny Walsh (Kerry).....	4	('29, '30, '31, '32) -	with UCD
George Powell (Kerry & Dublin)	4	('30, '31, '32, '35) -	with UCD
Gerry O' Beirne (Roscommon).....	4	('36, '37, '38, '39) -	with UCG
Tony Regan (Galway)	4	('33, '34, '36, '37) -	with UCG
Con McGovern (Longford & Galway)	4	('36 sub, '37, '38, '39) -	with UCG
Joe Joe Carney (Mayo).....	4	('36 sub, '37, '38, '39) -	with UCG
Pat Mitchell (Galway).....	4	('37 sub, '38, '39, '40) -	with UCG
Kieran Denvir (Down)	4	('53, '55, '56, '57) -	with UCD
James Brady (Cavan)	4	('55, '56, '57, '59) -	with UCD
Felix McKnight (Armagh).....	4	('55, '56, '57, '59) -	with UCD
John P. Keane (Mayo)	4	('73, '74, '75, '77) -	with UCD
Pat Duggan (Dublin).....	4	('73, '74, '75, '77) -	with UCD
Mick Carty (Wexford).....	4	('74, '75, '77, '78) -	with UCD
Brendan Dunleavy (Donegal).....	4	('75 sub, '77, '78, '79 sub) -	with UCD
Anthony Finnerty (Mayo).....	4	('81, '83, '84) - with UCG ('96) -	with UCD
Seamus Moynihan (Kerry).....	4	('94 sub, '95) with UCC; ('97, '98) -	with ITT

Mick Raftery was a native of Mayo who became a teacher in Castlegar. By virtue of the special dispensation UCG and UCC had at this time, he was able to play for UCG after he had finished his education at the College. He and Jimmy Mc Gauran won All-Ireland medals with their adopted county Galway in 1938.

I.T. ATHLONE

NAME: CHRIS DUFFY
COURSE OF STUDY (AND YEAR): Electronic and Computer Eng.
HOME CLUB: Caltra.
DATE OF BIRTH: 9/6/82
ACHIEVEMENTS: 1 Junior County Championship, County Minor 2000.

COMMENTS: Chris has used this Sigerson campaign to develop his football career and hopefully relay some tips back to his fellow Caltra clubmen. One to watch for the future.

NAME: MICHAEL LOWTHER
COURSE OF STUDY (AND YEAR): Business Studies 2
HOME CLUB: Trim
DATE OF BIRTH: 8/11/82
ACHIEVEMENTS: Leinster School League/ Champion Tipster i99 & i00.

COMMENTS: Will find it hard to concentrate on Sigerson with the Cheltenham festival so close. Sure to back a winner soon, even if it's Meath.

NAME: JAMES GILL
COURSE OF STUDY (AND YEAR): Diploma in Business Studies 3rd year
HOME CLUB: Westport
DATE OF BIRTH: 20/1/81
ACHIEVEMENTS: Played Irish Youths Rugby.

COMMENTS: Wearing a lovely tan for this time of year, James still maintains his very high transfer fee. Getting more ematureí with age, James is still a vital link to the team.

NAME: SEANIE DONOHUE
COURSE OF STUDY (AND YEAR): Professional Accounting
HOME CLUB: Garrycastle
DATE OF BIRTH: 30/10/ 81
ACHIEVEMENTS: Played U-17 Compromise Rules.

COMMENTS: One of Garrycastles finest young talents, Seanie is a fine wingback. Frequent romantic trips to Maynooth play heavy on his schedule. Recently took up self-defense lessons!!

NAME: BARRY REGAN
COURSE OF STUDY (AND YEAR): Polymer Technology 2nd year.
HOME CLUB: Ballaghadereen
DATE OF BIRTH: 16/11/82
ACHIEVEMENTS: All-Ireland Senior Colleges 'B' Medal 2000

COMMENTS: One of the brightest young talents to emerge out of Ballaghadereen. Barry has adapted well to college life. Been known to pull the wool over the eyes of the Blinkers Staff but not always successfully.

NAME: SHANE COLLEARY
COURSE OF STUDY (AND YEAR): Polymer Eng. Masters
HOME CLUB: Mullingar Shamrocks.
DATE OF BIRTH: 19/02/76
ACHIEVEMENTS: None.

COMMENTS: Entering his 14th Sigerson campaign, Shane is now part of the furniture in Athlone IT. Has been seen swinging from the trees lately!! Shane is a 'Jack of all trades and a Master of none'!!

NAME: BRENDAN O' BRIEN
COURSE OF STUDY (AND YEAR): CIMA 4th year
HOME CLUB: St. Brigids
DATE OF BIRTH: 4/6/76
ACHIEVEMENTS: None.

COMMENTS: Some thought he would never return after a year out crocodile hunting, but Dixie is back and strongly enough is injury free for a Sigerson weekend. A player no team can do without for a bit of craic!

NAME: STEPHEN LOHAN
COURSE OF STUDY (AND YEAR): BAAF 4th year
HOME CLUB: Kilbride
DATE OF BIRTH: 18/9/78
ACHIEVEMENTS: 1 Connaught Senior, 1 Connaught U-21, 1 Club Senior, 1 Club U-21.

COMMENTS: Another seasoned campaigner, and captain of the team, the Bigros man leads by example (even good example). The most eligible bachelor on the panel, so ladies watch out.

NAME: CIARAN GALLAGHER
COURSE OF STUDY (AND YEAR): Polymer Eng., Masters
HOME CLUB: Achill
DATE OF BIRTH: 21/9/78
ACHIEVEMENTS: None.

COMMENTS: Just when we thought we had seen the last of this Achill man, he makes a spectacular comeback after wintering well. Recently discovered good scoring form. SENIOR GAELIC FOOTBALL SIGERSON TEAM.

NAME: TREVOR MORTIMER
COURSE OF STUDY (AND YEAR): Mineral Eng. 1st year
HOME CLUB: Shrulë
DATE OF BIRTH: 25/7/80
ACHIEVEMENTS: None.

COMMENTS: Rumor has it Trevor recently joined 'Weight Watchers' after a hectic Christmas, followed by a trip to the Canaries. Big into the Jackson Five lately and the auld trad session. Trevor is a very accomplished 'fiddler' among other things.

NAME: EOIN FARRELL
COURSE OF STUDY (AND YEAR): Business Studies 2nd year
HOME CLUB: Maryland
DATE OF BIRTH: 8/11/82
ACHIEVEMENTS: Leinster Minor Champions 2000.

I.T. ATHLONE

COMMENTS: One of the few outstanding talents on the team, reactions like a cat. Sure to make it big if he can keep his gambling and drinking under control.

NAME: RAY MAC GUIRE
COURSE OF STUDY (AND YEAR): Polymer Eng. 4th year
HOME CLUB: Laragh United
DATE OF BIRTH: 15/7/77
ACHIEVEMENTS: Played County Minor and U-21

COMMENTS: A seasoned campaigner. Ray is a lean, mean Cavan machine. A talented defender that likes to display his silky skill with the ball, and with several shot glasses at the same time.

NAME: JOHN CULLINANE
COURSE OF STUDY (AND YEAR): Electronic and Computer 2nd year
HOME CLUB: Oranmore/ Marie
DATE OF BIRTH: 18/6/80
ACHIEVEMENTS: 4 Consecutive All-Stars!!!

COMMENTS: Finally back from injury, John is a serious addition to the panel. This former Galway minor star, with his velcro hands and extra vision has a lot more to show. Another man for the future.

NAME: AIDAN FLYNN
COURSE OF STUDY (AND YEAR): Business Studies 2nd year.
HOME CLUB: Ballinabrackey
DATE OF BIRTH: 2/2/82
ACHIEVEMENTS: Vocational Schools Leinster U-18.

COMMENTS: Aidan has now taken up a night class in Maths, to understand the difference in positive and negative in order to become Meaths greatest ever corner back.

NAME: RAY REYNOLDS
COURSE OF STUDY (AND YEAR): Business Studies
HOME CLUB: Walterstown
DATE OF BIRTH: 17/9/82
ACHIEVEMENTS: 1 Hogan Cup Medal 2000, U-18 and U-16 County Championship Div 1 Winners.

COMMENTS: A member of the Ginger Club, but don't be put off by the ladies. A very promising all-rounder, who has recently embarked on a music career.
SENIOR GAELIC FOOTBALL SIGERSON TEAM

NAME: BRENDAN MC GRATH
COURSE OF STUDY (AND YEAR): Sport and Recreation 2nd year
HOME CLUB: Milltown
DATE OF BIRTH: 20/1/82
ACHIEVEMENTS: Connaught Colleges, County Junior Championship.

COMMENTS: A tricky wing forward. Some say he has a steady head in front of the goal. However, we think it's his funny looking boots that put off the entire crowd, never mind the goalie!!

NAME: JOHN O' CALLAGHAN
COURSE OF STUDY (AND YEAR): Toxicology PhD
HOME CLUB: Ballymac
DATE OF BIRTH: 23/5/79
ACHIEVEMENTS: Too many to mention!!

COMMENTS: The talented Longford man, with the Kerry accent, has been around for years, but has only recently been noticed in Longford GAA circles. A very versatile player, John is having a great season for the college.

NAME: DIARMUID BLAKE
COURSE OF STUDY (AND YEAR): Professional Accountancy.

HOME CLUB: Milltown
DATE OF BIRTH: 30/9/82
ACHIEVEMENTS: U-21 Galway Connaught, Minor Galway.

COMMENTS: Another talented addition to the team. Diarmuid secured the No.6 at an early stage. Hailing from Milltown, this is his best chance to win something this year. Bright prospect for Galway's future.

NAME: DERMOT COSTELLO
COURSE OF STUDY (AND YEAR): Construction/ Civil 3rd year.
HOME CLUB: Moy-Davitts
DATE OF BIRTH: 6/8/81
ACHIEVEMENTS: County Senior Champions

COMMENTS: Known as Braveheart to few, and Cosy to more. Cosy is an outstanding midfielder and cannot be ignored by Mayo for much longer.

NAME: MICHAEL MC NAMARA
COURSE OF STUDY (AND YEAR): Plastics Engineering 3rd year.
HOME CLUB: Achill
DATE OF BIRTH: 27/9/81
ACHIEVEMENTS: Senior Championship.

COMMENTS: One of the biggest éLadsí on the team, Michael has impressed a lot this year. This Achill man is not one for long-term relationships, and Deborah is the last thing on his mind.

NAME: GARY DOLAN
COURSE OF STUDY (AND YEAR): Polymer Eng. 2nd year
HOME CLUB: Garrycastle
DATE OF BIRTH: 8/1/81
ACHIEVEMENTS: Minor, U-21 and Senior Championship.

COMMENTS: Even with all his recent injury problems, Gary has still found time to do Charity work. Injury-free we may even

I.T. ATHLONE

see a Dolan full forward line for Westmeath one day. Maybe??
SENIOR GAELIC FOOTBALL
SIGERSON TEAM.

NAME: MICHAEL COMER
COURSE OF STUDY (AND
YEAR): Business Studies and
Sports Recreation 1st year
HOME CLUB: Corofin
DATE OF BIRTH: 1/2/82
ACHIEVEMENTS: All-Ireland
Medal, U-21 Connaught, 2 Club
All-Irelands, etc, etc.

COMMENTS: Chairman of the
prestigious Ginger Club, Mick is
never known to 'flute' about on
the ball. Mick's journeys to
foreign cultures has broadened
his mind in many ways. A brilliant
defender.

NAME: FERGAL WILSON
COURSE OF STUDY (AND
YEAR): Business Studies 3rd
year.
HOME CLUB: Tubberclair
DATE OF BIRTH: 7/5/80
ACHIEVEMENTS: 2 Leinster U-
21, 1 All-Ireland U-21, National
League Medal Div.2.

COMMENTS: The quiet man,
holder of All-Ireland U-21 medal.
ëWillyí is Mr. Dependable, will
never let you down. Could do
with using the right foot every
now and then.

NAME: PADRAIC KILCUMMINS
COURSE OF STUDY (AND
YEAR): Business Studies 3rd
year
HOME CLUB: St. Brigids
DATE OF BIRTH: 16/7/74
ACHIEVEMENTS: Senior
Championship Medal with
Roscommon.

COMMENTS: Padraic is another
good addition to the panel. The
Kiltoom man will make the
presence felt on the field one
way or another.

NAME: DERRY O'BRIEN
COURSE OF STUDY (AND
YEAR): Business Studies 1st
year.
HOME CLUB: Mountbellew/
Moylough.
DATE OF BIRTH:
ACHIEVEMENTS: 2 Connaught
College medals with St. Jarlaths.
1 Intermediate Co. Championship
with Mountbellew/ Moylough.
Represented Galway at Minor, U-
21 and Senior Levels.

COMMENTS: Mountbellewsí
finest (after Higgins). Some call
him the 'ego', always handy for
cheap sports gear, wherever he
gets!!

NAME: ANDY MCPADDEN
COURSE OF STUDY (AND
YEAR):
HOME CLUB:
DATE OF BIRTH:
ACHIEVEMENTS:

COMMENTS: Struggling to
juggle the pressures of college
life with training, Andy is a flyer,
when we see him! Fastest white
man alive!!

NAME: MARK MC GINTY
COURSE OF STUDY (AND
YEAR): Plumbing 1st year
HOME CLUB:
DATE OF BIRTH:
ACHIEVEMENTS:

COMMENTS: The Donegal
Tank, God help anyone who gets
in his way down the middle!! A
little hard for the Midlanders to
understand.

NAME: JOHN LENNON
COURSE OF STUDY (AND
YEAR): Diploma in Computing 2
HOME CLUB: Ballymahon
DATE OF BIRTH: 10 /7/ 81
ACHIEVEMENTS: U-21 County
Championship, Leinster Schools
U-16 and Senior.

COMMENTS: An accomplished
Goalie, eventually got off his ass

to join the squad, and put
Owenie under some pressure.
Likes to back a donkey every
now and then!!

NAME: PAT COYNE
COURSE OF STUDY (AND
YEAR): Polymer Eng. 4th year
HOME CLUB: Davitts (Mayo)
DATE OF BIRTH: 29/ 12/ 75
ACHIEVEMENTS: Hogan Cup
Medal, National League.

COMMENTS: This Davitts man
gets better with age. Pat is a
solid defender, who is cool on
the ball and even cooler on the
dance floor!!! Talk of him
investing in a set of Bull Bars for
the car is apparently.

NAME: PAUL HANNIFFY
COURSE OF STUDY (AND
YEAR): Polymer Eng. 4th year
HOME CLUB: Doon
DATE OF BIRTH: 28/11/79
ACHIEVEMENTS: Fresher of the
year i99, but thatís about it.

COMMENTS: The man from
Doon has already proved he can
score this year, both on and off
the field, but lately has been
tightly marked and doesn't enjoy
the roaming forward role as
much.

NAME: KIERAN O' REILLY
COURSE: Degree in Accounting
4th year.
HOME CLUB: Cornafea.
DATE OF BIRTH: 22/6/80
ACHIEVEMENTS: 1 Minor
League, 1 Junior Championship.

COMMENTS: Another quiet man
however can be known to get a
little aggressive on the pitch. A
next door neighbor to Catriona
Mc Kiernan, unfortunately for the
rest of us he can't run like her
too.

D.C.U.

1. James Carolan (Cavan)
2. Brian McCormack (Meath)
3. Stephen Healy (Mayo)
4. Shane Carroll (Longford)
5. Paul Casey (Dublin)
6. Ciaran Brown (Donegal)
7. Brian Cullen (Dublin)
8. Kevin Devine (Dublin)
9. Barry Sheehan (Wicklow)
10. Eddie Byrne (Wicklow)
11. Fergus McMahon (Meath)
12. Terry Kelleher (Leitrim)
13. Thomas Quinn (Dublin)
14. Fergal Mone (Monaghan)
15. Ronnie Carrroll (Dublin)
16. James Curran (Sligo)
17. Pat Golden (Kerry)
18. Niall Brown (Kildare)
19. Niall Magennis (Monaghan)
20. Fergal Brady (Cavan)
21. Paul Murphy (Cavan)
22. Michael Hannon (Cavan)
23. Gavin Duffy (Cavan)
24. Fergal Monaghan (Monaghan)
25. Brian Stokes (Dublin)
26. Carl McDonald (Meath)
27. John Stattery (Wicklow)
28. James Lohan (Mayo)
29. Paul McElroy (Monaghan)
30. Brian Lennon (Wicklow)
31. William Doran (Wexford)
32. Eugene Cunningham (Longford)
33. Patrick Stephens (Galway)

Maynooth

1. Conor Brennan (An Mhi)
2. Darragh Doherty (Dun na nGall)
3. Graham Norton (Ath Cliath)
4. Shane Gilleran (Ros Comain)
5. Conor Moran (Maigheo)
6. Mark Ó Sé (Ciarrai)
7. John Keane (An Iarmhi)
8. Barry Cahill (Ath Cliath)
9. Rory Kavanagh (Dun na nGall)
10. Alan Dillon (Maigheo)
11. Michael Gurn (Dun na nGall)
12. Alan Brogan (Ath Cliath)
13. Paudie Swinburne (Muineachain)
14. Eoin Walsh (Port Lairge)
15. Colm Parkinson (Laoise)
16. Paul Horan (Cill Dara)
17. Dermot Geraghty (Maigheo)
18. Brendan Moran (Maigheo)
19. Seán Ó Dea (Cill Dara)
20. Ross Monnelly (Laoise)
21. Declan Lally (Ath Cliath)
22. Darragh Coffey (An Catharlach)
23. Peter Dooley (Muineachain)
24. John McHale (Ros Comain)
25. Niall Farragher (Cill Dara)
26. Ciaran Reilly (Uibh Fhaili)
27. Mark Leavy (An Iarmhi)
28. Paul Noone (Ros Comain)
29. Hugh Friel (Dun na nGall)
30. Seán Boyce (Dun na nGall)

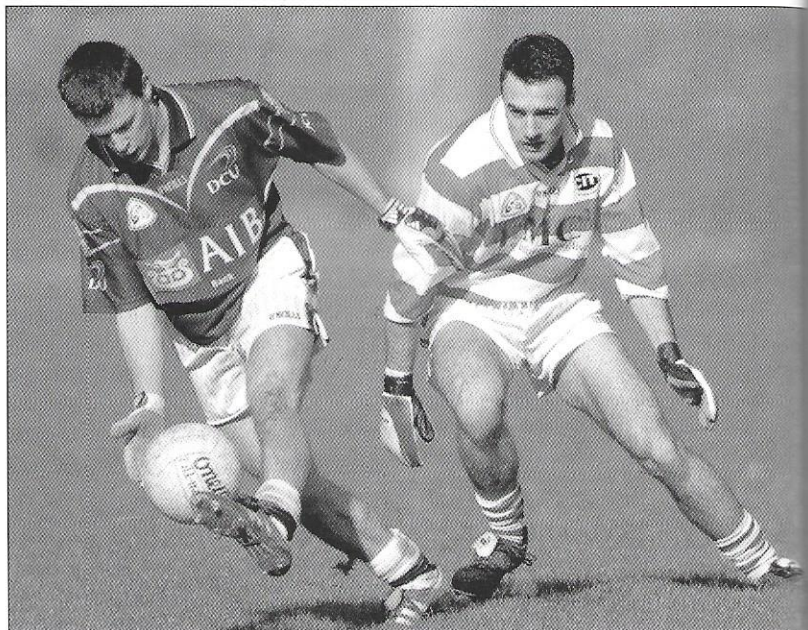
U.U.J.

1. Ronan Gallagher Fermanagh
2. Micheal Anderson Tyrone
3. Gerard O Reilly Armagh
4. Barry Shannon Armagh
5. Kevin Doherty Derry
6. Aidan O Rourke Armagh
7. Philip Jordan Tyrone
8. Fergal Doherty Derry
9. Philip Loughran, Armagh
10. Martin O Rourke Armagh
11. Michael Walsh Down
12. John Toal Armagh
13. Paddy Bradley Derry
14. Enda Mc Ginley Tyrone
15. Kevin Brady Antrim
16. Philip Maguire Monaghan
17. Paul Mc Cormick Armagh
18. Pdraig O Kane Derry
19. James Donaghy Derry
20. Jody Gormley Tyrone
21. Oliver Gaughran Armagh
22. Paul Rouse Tyrone
23. Sean Cavanagh Tyrone
24. Stephen Kearney Down
25. Damian Canning Derry
26. Kieran Devlin Tyrone
27. Stephen Donnelly Tyrone
28. Niall Farren Antrim
29. Paddy O Farrell Tyrone
30. Peter O Kane Derry
31. Pdraig Mc Guigan Monaghan
32. Martin Rafferty Down
33. Stephen Morrow Derry
34. Kevin Mc Gourty Antrim
35. Liam Og Gormley Sligo
36. Aidan Mc Crory Tyrone
37. Mark Quinn Armagh

U.C.D.

1. Gerard Mc Gill (Dun na nGall)
2. Alan Costello (Maigheo)
3. Conor Evans (Uibh Fhaili)
4. Ronan Kelly (An Mhi)
5. David Murphy (Loch Garman)
6. Brendan O, hHannaidh (Cill Mhantain)
7. Paul Navin (Maigheo)
8. Cormac Mc Anallen (Tir Eoghain)
9. Nigel Crawford (An Mhi)
10. Ciaran Mc Manus (Uibh Fhaili)
11. John Hanly (Ros Comain)
12. David Hanly (Gaillimh)
13. John Paul Casey (An Iarmhi)
14. Raymond Ronaghan (Muineachain)
15. Pete Lawless (Ath Cliath)
16. Seamas O Donnacha (Ath Cliath)
17. Noel Mc Guire (Sligeach)
18. Maghnus Breathnach (Ath Cliath)
19. Brendan Kearney (An Dun na nGall)
20. Darren Magee (Ath Cliath)
21. Cormac Feeney (An Mhi)
22. Brian Mc Donald (Laoise)
23. Ciaran O, Hannaidh (Cill Mhantain)
24. Liam O, Heineachain (Ath Cliath)
25. A. N. Other
26. Alan Lynch (Ciarrai)
27. Dara O, Hannaidh (Cill Mhantain)
28. Stephen Lucey (Luimneach)
29. Michael Smith (Maigheo)
30. Edward Galavan (Loch Garman)
31. Peter Curran (An Mhi)
32. Aidan Brady (Tir Eoghain)
33. James Conroy (An Iarmhi)

Action from DCU and Cork IT in the first round of the Sigerson Cup.



Garda College

Michael Lambe Laois
 Barry Lynch Meath
 Darren Owens Tipp
 Niall Sheridan Lford
 Pat Naughton Sligo
 Brendan Phillips Sligo
 Jamie Griffin Cork
 Tony Costelloe Galway
 Neil Cox Fmanagh
 Andy Lacey Tipp
 Mark Ferris Meath
 Johnathon Plunkett Westmeath
 Cormac Dineen Cork
 Tom Sullivan Kerry
 David Scahill Roscommon
 Brendan Burke
 Paudi O,Leary
 Fergal O,Callaghan Tipp
 Alan Keane Galway
 Ger Cremin Kerry
 James Buckley Offaly
 Jason Kelly
 Brian Begley Limerick
 Enda Daly Roscommon
 Ken O,Keeffe Roscommon
 Paul Flood Kildare
 Stephen Cushe Wicklow
 David Brennan Laois
 Noel Galvin
 David Moore Dublin
 Sean Breen Cork

I.T. Athlone

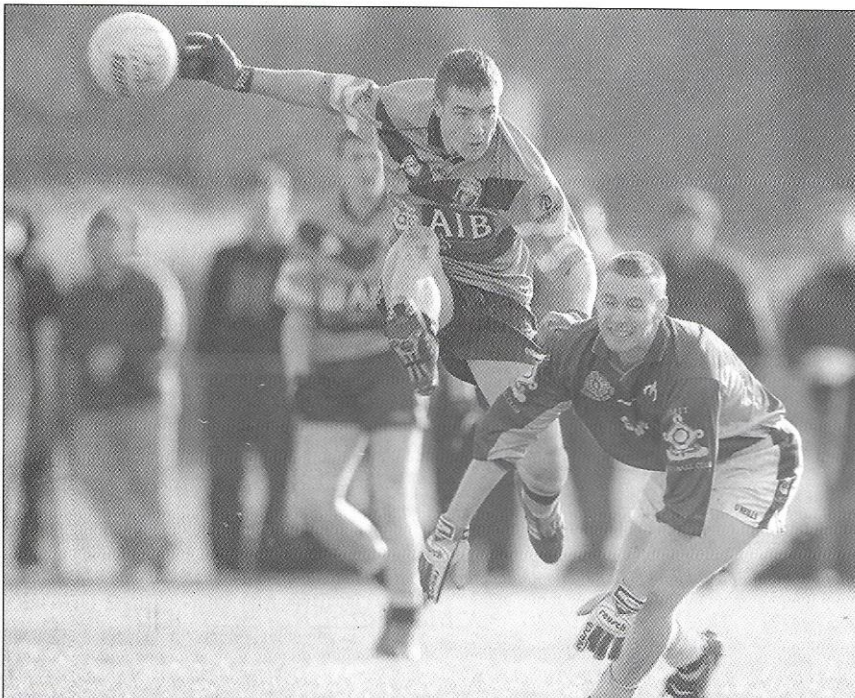
1. Chris Duffy
2. Michael Lowther
3. James Gill
4. Seanie Donohue
5. Barry Regan
6. Shane Colleary
7. Brendan O' Brien
8. Stephen Lohan
9. Ciaran Gallagher
10. Trevor Mortimer
11. Eoin Farrell
12. Ray Mac Guire
13. John Cullinane
14. Aidan Flynn
15. Ray Reynolds
16. Brendan Mc Grath
17. John O' Callaghan
18. Diarmuid Blake
19. Dermot Costello
20. Michael Mc
21. Gary Dolan
22. Michael Comer
23. Fergal Wilson
24. Padraic Kilcummins
25. Derry Oí Brien
25. Andy McPadden
26. Mark Mc Ginty
27. John Lennon
28. Pat Coyne
29. Paul Hanniffy
30. Kieran Oí Reilly

I.T. Sligo

1. Damien Sheridan (Longford)
2. Pat Kelly (Maigheo)
3. Damien Hendy (Cill Dara)
4. Shane O Neill (Sligeach)
5. Dermot Higgins (Maigheo)
6. Sean Grimes (Maigheo)
7. Ger Mockler (Ros Comain)
8. Brendan Boyle (Dun na nGall)
9. Padraig Carroll (Ros Comain)
10. Christy Toye (Dun na nGall)
11. Brendan Devaney (Gaillimh)
12. Richard Haran (Maigheo)
13. Garrett Blake (Dun na nGall)
14. Mark Breheny (Sligeach)
15. Brian Maloney (Maigheo)
16. John Mc Keon (Laitroim)
17. Darren Kearins (Sligeach)
18. Nicholas Joyce (Gaillimh)
19. Dara Mc Grath (Fear Manach)
20. Rory Gallagher (Fear Manach)
21. Eamon O'Hara (Sligeach)
22. John Paul Gallagher (Dun na nGall)
23. Aiden Higgins (Maigheo)
24. Barry Dunnion (Dun na nGall)
25. Michael Moyles (Maigheo)
26. Paul Finlay (Muineachain)
27. Gerry Lohan (Ros Comain)
28. Colm Cafferkey (Maigheo)
29. John Cullen (Laitroim)
30. Padraig McGettigan (Dun na nGall)
31. Aaron Mc Hugh (Sligeach)
32. Joey Jordan (an Cabhan)
33. David Carty (Gaillimh)
34. Brendan Bowens (Gaillimh)
35. David Barden (Longfort)

U.C.C.

1. CIAN KELLEHER
2. ENDA WISEMAN
3. PAUL HANLEY
4. STEVEN CURRAN
5. PAUL GALVIN
6. ANTONY LYNCH
7. DAMIEN REIDY
8. KARL O KEEFFE
9. MICHEAL O'SHEA
10. TOM KENNY
11. CONRAD MURPHY
12. SEAN O'BRIEN
13. MICHAEL D CAHILL
14. BILLY SHEEHAN
15. CONOR McCARTHY
16. DAVID McINERNEY
17. NOEL O'DONOVAN
18. J P O'LEARY
19. PETER MURPHY
20. RORY McCARTHY
21. DYLAN MIHIGAN
22. JONATHON OLDEN
23. CONOR BROSNA
24. IAN TWISS
25. DONAL O'SULLIVAN
26. DENIS REIDY
27. SHANE O'MAHONY
28. BRIAN HEALY
29. PAUL GALVIN
30. CONOR O'CRUADHLAICH
31. MICHAEL PHELAN
32. BRENDAN BREATHNACH
33. COLM O'CONNOR
34. RONAN O'CONNOR
35. ED HUZZEY
36. CIARAN O'HERLIHY
37. BILLY HARTE



Action from UCD and GMIT in the first round of the Sigerson Cup.

GARDA COLLEGE

Name	County	Position	Panel No.	Age	Year
Michael Lambe	Laois	Centre-Forward	11	23	1
Barry Lynch	Meath	Midfield	9	22	1
Darren Owens	Tipp	Wing-Forward	12	24	2
Niall Sheridan	Lford	Full Forward	14	23	1
Pat Naughton	Sligo	Wing Back	2	22	1
Brendan Phillips	Sligo	Wing Back	5	22	1
Jamie Griffin	Cork	Corner Back	27	22	1
Tony Costelloe	Galway	Wing Back	7	22	1
Neil Cox	Fmanagh	Centre Back	6	24	1
Andy Lacey	Tipp	Wing Back	26	23	1
Mark Ferris	Meath	Corner Forward	25	21	1
Johnathon Plunkett	Westmeath	Centre Back	24	22	1
Cormac Dineen	Cork	Wing Forward	10	22	1
Tom Sullivan	Kerry	Full Back	4	22	2
David Scahill	Roscommon	Corner Forward	13	22	1
Brendan Burke	Roscommon	Wing Back	17	22	1
Paudi O'Leary	Roscommon	Wing Back	28	22	1
Fergal O,Callaghan	Tipp	Midfield	8	25	1
Alan Keane	Galway	Goalkeeper	30	22	1
Ger Cremin	Kerry	Goalkeeper	16	22	2
James Buckley	Offaly	Corner Back	23	23	2
Jason Kelly	Offaly	Corner Back	22	22	1
Brian Begley	Limerick	Midfield	18	22	2
Enda Daly	Roscommon	Goalkeeper	1	22	2
Ken O,Keefe	Roscommon	Corner Forward	21	22	1
Paul Flood	Kildare	Goalkeeper	31	24	2
Stephen Cushe	Wicklow	Corner Back	19	22	1
David Brennan	Laois	Wing Back	20	23	2
Noel Galvin	Laois	Full Back	3	24	1
David Moore	Dublin	Corner Back	15	24	2
Sean Breen	Cork	Wing Back	29	26	1

MESSAGE FROM MICHAEL LAMBE (CAPTAIN) THE HEATH GAA CLUB, LAOIS

It is a great honour for me to captain the Garda College Football Team. The Sigerson Championship is now ranked as a prestigious competition and it is a dream for any player to take part and to represent his college. The Sigerson is an ideal opportunity for players from all over the country to show off all their skills and to hopefully form ever lasting friendships with players from other Colleges. On behalf of the Garda College GAA Club I wish Sligo IT the very best of luck with hosting the championships and to all those taking part a very enjoyable championship and may the best team win.

U.C.D.

GERRY MC GILL (Donegal)**Age: 27**

Sigerson,s, since he was 4 years old. The busiest man in Ireland, a real ladies man, soon to be married ^ if not already!! Having trouble controlling the ladies team selectors ^ hard to blame them!!

BRIAN MC DONALD (Laois)**Age: 21**

2nd Sigerson, Who,s Beano? A seriously committed player who despises winter training - first cousin of Bozo. Thought about the priest hood but didn,t like black.

NOEL MC GUIRE (Sligo)**Age: 24**

Sigerson,s, too many to mention. „Any fags?% A graduate of agricultural school of drinking. Pat Fitzgerald ruins another footballer!

AIDAN BRADY (Tyrone)**Age: 20**

1st Sigerson. An awful alcoholic! A hard man to manage just ask Jamsie O,Donnell.

ALAN COSTELLO (Mayo)**Age: 23**

3rd Sigerson. „The Pigeon” Got into a bit of trouble outside the Portobello lately allegedly the smallest “MICKEY” in Ireland!! His elbows are bigger! Kamakazi Costello!!!

MAGHNUS BREATHNACH (Dublin)**Age: 22**

2nd Sigerson. Dave wraps him up in Dublin coloured wool. Tried his hand at hurling but found his pulling wasn,t hard enough!!

JOHN PAUL CASEY**(Westmeath)****Age: 22**

3rd Sigerson. Stuck in a rutt! Primadonna for Westmeath this year along with Joe Fallon. Still a bachelor after five years in Dublin. Wants to play for a Bulmers sponsored Antrim team!

PETER CURRAN (Meath)**Age: 21**

1st Sigerson. Faked an injury to miss out hard winter slogging. Likes to turn out for big days! Lucky to have him for Dublin U21 final, potential Sigerson match winner!!!

CONOR EVANS (Offaly)**Age: 21**

3rd Sigerson. Captain ^ fanta ^ tastic, former out half for Wales, vomits before Lions tours and after every night out!! An Offaly inferno!! Ginger pubes and sad act in the full back line.

CORMAC FEENEY (Meath)**Age: 21**

1st Sigerson. A battered husband - Melissa go easy! A man for wet weather and pub brawls. Like a bull in a china shop!

JAMES CONROY (Westmeath)**Age: 19**

1st Sigerson. According to Billing ‘he can kick the ball over the bar but he has nicer teeth than Chopper’.

ROBERT WALLACE**Age: 19**

1st Sigerson.

MICHAEL SMITH (Mayo)**Age: 53**

21st Sigerson. Captain Mick is

bigger than most of us so were too feckin scared to talk about him!

RAYMOND RONAGHAN (Monaghan)**Age: 22**

1st Sigerson. Only known Gaelic footballer that also applied for Pop Stars. Rumour has it that he lied about his age!

LIAM OG O HEINEACHAIN (Dublin)**Age: 21**

1st Sigerson.

OISIN O HANNAIDH (Wicklow)**Age: 22**

3rd Sigerson.Has the biggest arse on the team „I don,t need to train” Favourite quote is “I am not fat”

JOHN HANLEY (Roscommon)**Age: 21**

2nd Sigerson. The small jockey with the big whip! How you man! Rides like a horse, and hung like a donkey!!!!!!!

BRENDAN KEARNEY (Down)**Age: 21**

2nd Sigerson. Had a sorted affair with UCD secretary! Has a bird that,s old enough to be his granny! Former IRA convict - a silent cell!

RONAN KELLY (Meath)**Age: 21**

3rd Sigerson. A real ladies man, just ask poor Paul Navin. Likes doing sit ups in the dark! Allegedly a member of the Taliban!!!

U.C.D.

PAUL NAVIN (Mayo)

Age: 22

3rd Sigerson.

"The man with the golden load!" Its probably solid at this stage it,s been so long since he lost it. Has struggled with fitness this year but hopes his extra curricular activities in the GAA office will get him through! All time hero is Pat Holmes.

DAVID MURPHY (Wexford)

Age: 21

2nd Sigerson.

The man who can produce the water works ^ just ask the duck! The question is is he still going out with Lisa? He doesn,t seem to know himself, one of the all time great Wexford wing backs.

CORMAC McANALLEN (Tyrone)

Age: 22

4th Sigerson.

The man with the x -ray vision, must stay away from the Portabello in the future. Known to his girlfriend as short arse, obviously she was looking at the wrong side!!

CIARAN MC MANUS (Offaly)

Age: Not allowed to say!

Sigerson's: Not allowed to say! If UCD win a Sigerson he will be THE reason, an inspiration on and off the field. Highlights one of the biggest problems

the GAA have, INCONSISTENT REFEREES. A gentleman who can hold his head proudly. Nobody has given more to Sigerson Cup football.

PETER LAWLESS (Dublin)

Age: 21

1st Sigerson. Arrives at training with a translator! Would like to marry Mary O,Rourke and breed chickens, Mr. Red Neck!!

ALAN LYNCH (Kerry)

Age: 22

2nd Sigerson. Ahh Alan! Currently going through divorce procedures, it was only lust! Struggles with stamina, on the field!

DARREN MAGEE (Dublin)

Age: 21

1st Sigerson. Likes his cans at the back of Crokes, very good friends with Tommy Lyons, now that he,s over Dublin!

NIGEL CRAWFORD (Meath)

Age: 23

4th Sigerson. My face is my ticket! Likes flashing his body-doubts about his sexuality. A good friend of the Mc Manus family! Shades of Mrs. Doubtfire around the house. Bags are packed, old school!

EDMUND GALAVAN (Wexford)

Age; 21

2nd Sigerson. Who,s the blonde in Commerce! Allegedly paid for it on holidays!!!

DAVID HANLY (Galway)

Age; 20

3rd Sigerson. Fond of the horse physio! Was thought to be looking for a transfer to Fermanagh, but it fell through! Used to have a full set of teeth and a nice haircut! Who,s Grainne anyway?

SEAMAS O DONNACHA (Dublin)

Age; not forwarded

1st Sigerson.

STEPHEN LUCEY (Limerick)

Age; 21

2nd Sigerson. Has been known to play a bit O, hurlin,, claims to be a footballer too!!!!

BRENDAN O,HANNAIDH (Wicklow)

Age; not forwarded

3rd Sigerson.

DARA O,HANNAIDH (Wicklow)

Age ; not forwarded

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D.C.U.**DCU Sigerson Cup 2002**

- | | |
|---------------------|----------|
| 1. James Carolan | Cavan |
| 2. Brian McCormack | Meath |
| 3. Stephen Healy | Mayo |
| 4. Shane Carroll | Longford |
| 5. Paul Casey | Dublin |
| 6. Ciaran Brown | Donegal |
| 7. Brian Cullen | Dublin |
| 8. Kevin Devine | Dublin |
| 9. Barry Sheehan | Wicklow |
| 10. Eddie Byrne | Wicklow |
| 11. Fergus McMahon | Meath |
| 12. Terry Kelleher | Leitrim |
| 13. Thomas Quinn | Dublin |
| 14. Fergal Mone | Monaghan |
| 15. Ronnie Carrroll | Dublin |

Subs

- | | |
|-----------------------|----------|
| 16. James Curran | Sligo |
| 17. Pat Golden | Kerry |
| 18. Niall Brown | Kildare |
| 19. Niall Magennis | Monaghan |
| 20. Fergal Brady | Cavan |
| 21. Paul Murphy | Cavan |
| 22. Michael Hannon | Cavan |
| 23. Gavin Duffy | Cavan |
| 24. Fergal Monaghan | Monaghan |
| 25. Brian Stokes | Dublin |
| 26. Carl McDonald | Meath |
| 27. John Slattery | Wicklow |
| 28. James Lohan | Mayo |
| 29. Paul McElroy | Monaghan |
| 30. Brian Lennon | Wicklow |
| 31. William Doran | Wexford |
| 32. Eugene Cunningham | Longford |
| 33. Patrick Stephens | Galway |

I.T. TALLAGHT**I.T TALLAGHT SENIOR PANEL**

Tallaght I.T. have got to the semis of the Trench Cup with victories over Cadets, Magee College, Derry and I.T. Carlow. Tallaght I.T. are defending champions included in their ranks are Dublin Senior goalkeeper Stephen Cluxton plus several Dublin and Wicklow U-21 players.

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- ANTO NORTON
- DARA LOWE
- NIALL CLARKE
- MARK FITZPATRICK.
- SIMON OWENS.
- DAMIEN MURRAY(C)
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- PAUL PHIBBS
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- BREN MCMENAMEN
- CIARAN RABBITTE
- CONAL KEANEY
- GRAHAM DUNNE
- JOHN DANIELS
- BRIAN COSTELLO
- NIALL GUCKIAN
- DAVEY CLANE
- EMMETT FITZIMONS
- ROBBIE HYLAND
- TOMO MADDEN
- MARK KAVANAGH
- SHANE O'CORLAIG
- DARREN GORDON
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- FRAN KEVLIHAN

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U.U. JORDANSTOWN

JORDANSTOWN SIGERSON PANEL 2002-02-01

1. Ronan Gallagher	Erne Gaels, Fermanagh	2nd Sigerson
2. Micheal Anderson	Aghyaran, Tyrone	1st Sigerson
3. Gerard O Reilly	Correncheo, Armagh	1st Sigerson
4. Barry Shannon	Drumintee, Armagh	2nd Sigerson
5. Kevin Doherty	Bellaghy, Derry	1st Sigerson
6. Aidan O Rourke	Drunintee, Armagh	4th Sigerson
7. Philip Jordan	Moy, Tyrone	4th Sigerson
8. Fergal Doherty	Bellaghy, Derry	1st Sigerson
9. Philip Loughran	Clady, Armagh	2nd Sigerson
10. Martin O Rourke	Drumintee, Armagh	3rd Sigerson
11. Michael Walsh	Mayobridge, Down	2nd Sigerson
12. John Toal	Keady, Armagh	3rd Sigerson
13. Paddy Bradley	Glenullin, Derry	3rd Sigerson
14. Enda Mc Ginley	Errigal Ciaran, Tyrone	3rd Sigerson
15. Kevin Brady	Moneyglass, Antrim	4th Sigerson
16. Philip Maguire	Scotstown, Monaghan	1st Sigerson
17. Paul Mc Cormick	Keady, Armagh	2nd Sigerson
18. Padraig O Kane	Loup, Derry	2nd Sigerson
19. James Donaghy	Kilrea, Derry	2nd Sigerson
20. Jody Gormley	Trillick, Tyrone	4th Sigerson
21. Oliver Gaughran	Shane O Neill,s, Armagh	4th Sigerson
22. Paul Rouse	Brackaville, Tyrone	2nd Sigerson
23. Sean Cavanagh	Moy, Tyrone	1st Sigerson
24. Stephen Kearney	Mitchel's Down	1st Sigerson
25. Damian Canning	Drumurn, Derry	1st Sigerson
26. Kieran Devlin	Arboe, Tyrone	2nd Sigerson
27. Stephen Donnelly	Aghaloo, Tyrone	2nd Sigerson
28. Niall Farren	St. Paul,s, Antrim	3rd Sigerson
29. Paddy O Farrell	Coalisland, Tyrone	2nd Sigerson
30. Peter O Kane	Banagher, Derry	1st Sigerson
31. Padraig Mc Guigan	Clontribet, Monaghan	1st Sigerson
32. Martin Rafferty	Shamrock,s, Down	1st Sigerson
33. Stephen Morrow	Faughanvale, Derry	1st Sigerson
34. Kevin Mc Gourty	St Gall,s, Antrim	1st Sigerson
35. Liam Og Gormley	Bunninadden, Sligo	1st Sigerson
36. Aidan Mc Croy	Galbally, Tyrone	1st Sigerson
37. Mark Quinn	Mullaghbawn, Armagh	1st Sigerson

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Watch out for his quick feet

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NIGEL LOUGHRAN

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CONALL LAVERY

Tyrone;
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SHANE MCNULTY

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CATHAL SMITH

Meath;
Noel Duffy the second. Enough said.

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the Aussie Caused it.

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Westmeath;
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BRIAN MCCLOSKEY

Derry;
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PAUDIE MCKEEVER

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GERRY GRIFFIN

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SEAN MCALINDEN

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ANDY KELLY

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CATHAL KEENEY

Cavan;
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MARTIN DONAGHY

Donegal;
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OWEN FROST

Wales;
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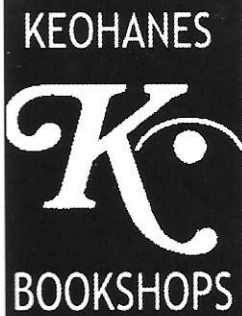
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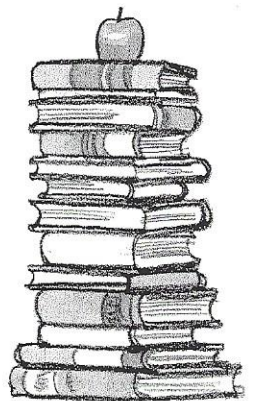
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CORN TRENCH

Before the Trench Cup was inaugurated in the 1975/76 season, the non-university third level football sides had a limited amount of competition. They were allowed to take part in the same freshers and senior league competitions as the universities, but access to the Sigerson Cup participation was denied to them. This was frustrated for the likes of St. Joseph's (Belfast) St. Patrick's (Druncondra) and Thomond College (Limerick), who had excellent records in the freshers and league competitions, and so St. Joseph's committee members Peter McGinnity and Pat Blake proposed a knock-out championship for those who did not take part in Sigerson Cup fare. Finding an appropriate name for the new trophy proved difficult as the GAA had a rule for bidding the dedication of silverware to any living person. Thus it was decided to call it after the building in which St. Joseph's College used to reside, Trench House.

A further innovation accompanying this was the establishment of an annual fixture between the Trench Cup winners and the Sigerson Cup winners. The Dublin booksellers, Hodges Figgis, sponsored this trophy. Over the eight seasons

of this contest, the Trench Cup champions won on five occasions, the Sigerson champions just twice. This was a definite indication that the standard of advanced colleges' football was at that time at least the equal of the Sigerson Cup counterpart. However, it must be said that the Trench Cup winners tended to approach the match with a more serious attitude, as they understandably wanted to show why they should be in the Sigerson Cup. On the other hand, the Sigerson Cup winners rarely gave their full commitment to the Hodges Figgis, as it merely interrupted their long-running celebrations! Because of the difficulty in arranging the games before examinations started and the lack of spectator interest, the series was discontinued in 1983.

The Trench Cup continued to produce a very high standard of football until the late 1980's, but then all colleges competing in Division One of the senior leagues became automatically eligible to participate in the Sigerson Cup. In 1988, there was an experiment whereby all teams who lost in the early rounds of the Sigerson Cup were allowed to play in the Trench Cup; this was repeated in 1998, when Coleraine became the only team

to win the Trench Cup as a university. While not as fiercely contested as it once was, the Trench Cup remains a very useful training ground for Sigerson, as evinced by the way Sligo R.T.C., Athlone R.T.C., Garda and D.I.T. have all performed admirably in Sigerson soon after winning the secondary grade.

By looking at the roll of honour, one can see how the winning teams and their names reflect the rapidly changing nature of Irish third level education. Indeed, the event has taken on a new dimension, with the British universities having sent over very capable champions to the Trench Cup semi-finals in each of the last two years. The incentive of a trip to Sigerson weekend for the British champions is probably the most important role served by the Trench Cup today, as it has helped accelerate the developing Gaelic scene among these young Irish exiles. Thus it has changed immensely in purpose and content (of the original competing teams, only Drumcondra and Carlow I.T. remain involved), but it still has its own niche in the realms of Gaelic football.

Courtesy: Dónal Mac An Ailín



Shane Durkan and Sean Clarke treble winners of the Trench Cup 1981, 1985, and 1986

TRENCH CUP ROLL OF HONOUR:

Sligo R.T.C. (5)
(N.C.P.E./Thomond(4),
D.I.T. (3),
Ulster Polytechnic (2),
Galway R.T.C. (2),
Garda College (2),
St. Joseph's (1),
N.I.H.E. Limerick (1),
Cork R.T.C. (1),
Athlone R.T.C. (1),
U.U. Coleraine (1),
Limerick I.T. (1).
Cadets (1).
I.T. Tallaght (1)

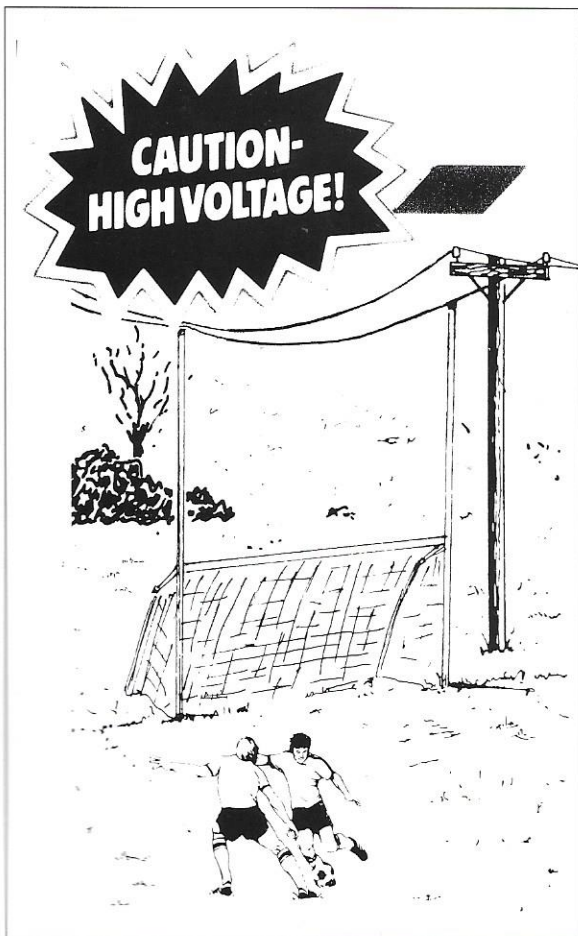
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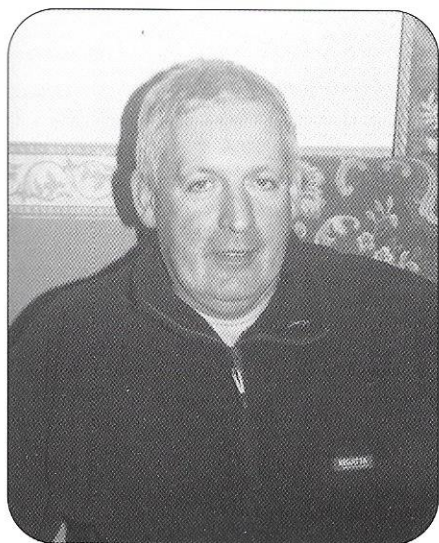
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Tony McManus

Three Times Sigerson Winner

BY FR. LIAM DEVINE – ROSCOMMON CO. BOARD P.R.O.

The name Tony McManus is synonymous with Roscomon football. For the best part of two decades he was the county's most celebrated forward and he will always be remembered as one of the county's greatest ever footballers. In fact, he was chosen on the Roscommon Millennium Team, an honour which establishes him as one of the greatest players ever to wear the famed primrose and blue, and puts him in the same company as the Murrays, Kinlough, Keenan, O'Malley and Earley.

The Clann na nGael man first came to the notice of Roscommon supporters when as a dashing centre half forward he led the county minors to a Connacht title in 1975. He studied veterinary in U.C.D. from 1976 to 1980 and he played in five Sigerson Cup finals in that time, winning three in a row in 1977, '78 and '79. Tony has vivid memories of all five finals. The 1976 final

was a major disappointment. U.C.D. were hot favourites to win but St. Patrick's College, Maynooth, upset all the odds and won on a score of 2-5 to 0-9 in a game that was played in Croke Park. Tony came on as a sub that day when he replaced Meath's Paddy Gray in the second half. Sligo had two players on the Maynooth team, Paddy Henry at midfield and Donal Brennan at right half forward. Tony's team mates on a star studded U.C.D. team included Meath's Colm O'Rourke and Gerry McEntee; Mayo's Ivan Heffernan, Bernie Jennings and John P. Kean; Kildare's Eamonn O'Donoghue, and Kerry's Denis "Ogie" Moran and Jackie Walsh. Better luck followed in 1977 when Tony, lining out at left half forward, won his first Sigerson medal when U.C.D. defeated U.C.G. in a replay in Pearse Stadium, Galway, by 1-11 to 0-6. Among Tony's colleagues on that star studded team were Dublin's Pat O'Neill, Wicklow's Tommy Murphy, Wexford's Mick Carty and Cavan's Adge King, in addition to the players already mentioned. Tony

would regard Tommy Murphy as one of the best forwards he ever played with, while he also had a very high regard for Wexford's Mick Carty.

Victories followed in 1978 and '79. Tony was right half forward in 1978 on a team that had Sligo's John Murphy in goals and Donegal's Brendan Dunleavy at full back. The Kerry star, Mickey O'Sullivan was a sub. that day. U.C.D. beat U.C.G. in the final by 1-13 to 0-7 in Croke Park. The following year, 1979, was a special year for Tony, he captained the team that year. That was the year that the U.C.D. team recorded it's easiest victory when U.C.G. was demolished in the final in Páirc Uí Chaoimh by 2-15 to 0-2. Tony is modest about his scoring achievements, but he was the top scorer in that final with 0-6 from play. Tony's last Sigerson Cup final appearance was in 1980 when U.C.G. turned the tables of the previous year and recorded a four point victory over their old rivals, 1-8 to 0-7. Tony was to suffer further disappointment later that year when he lined out at full

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forward on the Roscommon team that was beaten by Kerry in the All-Ireland senior final.

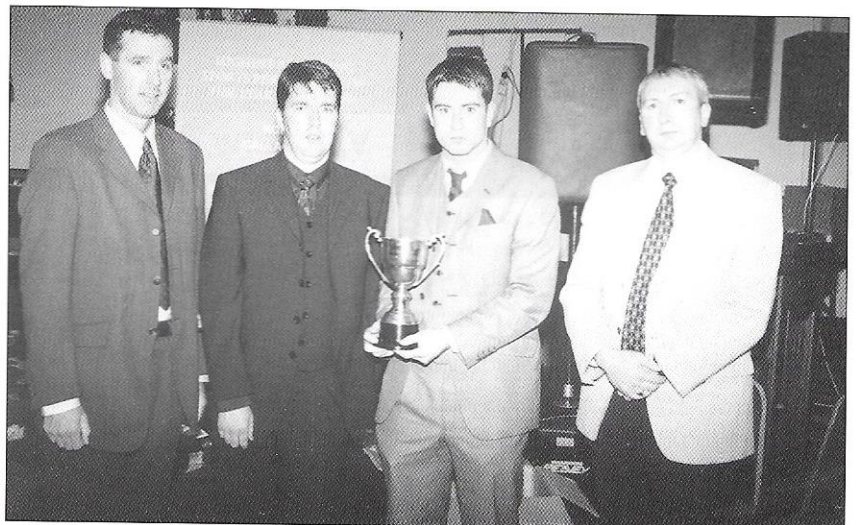
Has he any memories of the training for Sigerson? Has he what? "The training was savage. We trained under lights on a small pitch in Belfield. It was a pitch that the rugby team used at peak rugby time and the soccer team used during peak soccer time and we used it to prepare for the Sigerson. You can well imagine the state of a pitch like that. We trained on Thursday, Friday, Saturday and Sunday. Our trainer, Eugene McGee really drove us hard." He went on to explain that the Sigerson was different in his time, it was confined to a week-end from Thursday to Sunday. It was

confined to the five universities before all the other third level colleges were admitted. Who were the great players he met in his time playing with U.C.D.? He can recall several but a few stand out; Dublin star Tommy Drumm, who played for Trinity, Tyrone's Eugene McKenna, " a great player who played for Queens", Kerry's Seánie Walsh, who played for U.C.C., and Galway's Gay McManus and Roscommon's Tony 'Horse' Regan, both of whom played with U.C.G.

Tony, a veterinary surgeon with the Dept. of Agriculture in Longford, is now a keen golfer, playing off an 8 handicap. He lives in Roscommon town with his

wife Marie (formerly Marie Twomey of Cork) and his three children, Katie, Róisín and John. In addition to his three Sigerson medals, he has thirteen county championship medals won with Clann na nGael, eight Connacht championship medals (6 senior, 1 minor and 1 U-21), an All-Ireland U-21 medal won in 1978, and an All-Star Award (1989). His biggest disappointment was losing the 1980 All-Ireland final and losing five All-Ireland club finals with Clann na nGael. He still has many successes to celebrate and his Sigerson days provide him with some of his greatest memories.

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Sigerson in the Bertiebowl

by Sean Perry

Find me a participant in Sigerson weekend who didn't enjoy the experience and I'll explain Chinese writing at length to one and all. Be it the secondary "Ditch Cup" or the petit and easily misplaced Dr. George Sigerson, the weekend oozes quality games and truckloads o'craic. Win, lose or draw, it's a tournament which nourishes the coffers with tales for a lifetime and is the cornerstone of many an enduring friendship or grudge.

For the teams eliminated on the Friday who would surely have made the final had they just got through that first game, it's a weekend on the razz, scuttling the university/college emergency clubs and societies fund. For Saturday's vanquished, having shrewdly identified the usual plethora of excuses in great detail - pitches, referees and the dirty hours we played on Friday - it's off to the pub to forget about the game, yet inevitably talk it over another thousand times.

Apart from the glazed eyes and throbbing heads of the "peiladoiri eile" watching Sunday's showpiece, there's the novelty of a TG4 camera panning around the venue nowadays. And boy, do they play to it!

As some of the finest footballers in the land lock horns and knock chunks out of each other, the Friday and Saturday fallers wince in their spanking new embroidered fleeces. The bitter February chill and quagmire of a pitch force the faint-hearted to seriously question their footballing ambitions.

Having been a regular spectator at Sigerson in the late '90's through my involvement with the enigmatic and charismatic UUC, I wonder

shall I ever see another Sigerson from a student's perspective. My mind trundles on a few decades and I find myself an undergraduate once more (Yippee) living the belle vie of the student

Paisley and Robinson are playing i lar na pairce for Aranmore IT in a battle of very little wits against la Sorbonne in the Sigerson final of 2050. The Parisian university have the benefit of having come through two very handy groups on the continent and have amassed considerable funds for GAA scholarships through TV rights and website hits.

On the other hand, ITA (since Athlone were there before them) is an outfit laden with brawn since they row to the sparsely populated Donegal island on a daily basis. Hardly afraid of a drop of water, they perform a spine-chilling rairdance reminiscent of the haka led by Sean Lomu, whose grandfather, Jonah was a rugby player of some renown.

Led by Pdraig MacGiolla Chirac, the cultured French roar into a two point lead baffling their opponents by barking orders at eachother in a foreign tongue. With several hundred euro in wagers and thousands of people watching their fate through www.canal+.com, the French side daren't traverse the channel without the Sigerson.

However, the Aranmore guys raid the flanks of the Bertiebowl very effectively towards the end of the first third and as the hail begins to blaze down, the roof is drawn across the old and dilapidated stadium.

Mitch Foster Kennelly pinches a goal for the IT which would have made his great-grandfather extremely proud

before the certificate in cyber law student and Derry native, Joe Umbrella pulls up his socks and hits the bar before sending the ball high and over.

With the score standing at ITA 1-1 v0-2 La Sorbonne, the continentals have only 10 minutes 12 micro-seconds to rustle up a response. They introduce Jacques Spillane who is immediately involved in a war of words with Umbrella who's busy blowing kisses to the crowd.

Patrice Curran - whose father was the only man to win Leinster medals with all three Dublin inter-county teams - goes on a run from wingback which results in a score for the long-established Paris university. Justifiably one of the most expensive players in VirtuaSigerson '50 on the palmtop.

With only minutes remaining, tough tackling ITA utility player, Rory O'Connell clatters Chirac and as the referee swipes his number into his scanner, a deathlike hush descends on the crowd. O'Connell, a star with Kildare superclub Kildoran, has a chequered family background in that his father was sent off in the last of Westmeath's five in a row in the noughties (2003-07). Young Rory's fate looks ominous since he was earlier cautioned and with the aid of the thirteenth official, the referee waves a green card, the time-travel student will make his way to the line and probably to the USA for the Summer months.

As the fans brace themselves for the hooter, the boundary rider signals a line-ball for Sorbonne whose fans are practically going up the walls and across the ceiling. Maurice "Le Grand" Fitzgerald is assigned the kick and the rest might well be history.

Sean Perry wrote with the Donegal Democrat before taking up employment with North West Radio last month.



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Wishing IT Sligo Every success in Sigerson Cup

Gerry Reynolds TD

fine gael ★

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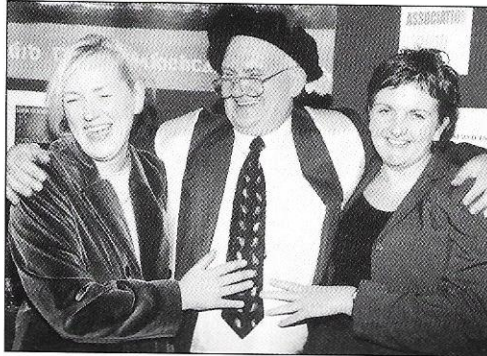
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An Dara Leath,

Anuraidh nuair a cuireadh deireadh seachtaine Sigerson ar ceal bhí an trua agam don choiste eagraíochta mar bhí sár-obair déanta acu chun fáil réidh don chomórtas agus a ngabhann leis. Mo bhuíochas leis an gComhairle Árdoideachais gur thug sibh seans eile do chumann peile na hInstitiúide an comórtas a eagrú i mbliana agus táim cinntede go ndéanfar ceiliúradh suntasach agus cáiliúil ar chluiche iontach díograiseach na peile i rith na deireadh seachtaine.

In alt a scríobh mé anuraidh rinne mé trácht ar a bhfuil ráite ag an mBráthair Liam Ó Caithne sa sár-leabhair Scéal n hIomána faoi na cluichí báire agus peile a bhíodh á n-eagrú i Sligeach ag tús an Naoú Céad Déag. Tá cuntais ón mbéaloideas chomh maith ar na mór-chluichí stairiúla a thárla fadó. Go dtí an lá atá inniu ann tá grá agus bród díograsach i gCondae Shligigh go mór-mhór don pheil agus is é an cumann peile bunchloch cultúrtha agus cúis mhisnigh na bparóistí fán chondae. Tá curtha leis an mbród sin de bharr eachtraí éachtacha fhoireann an chondae anuraidh. ba chúis ar leith bróid domsa go raibh cúigear nó seisear den fhoireann ina mich léinn nó ina gcúimthe den Institiúid. Measaim go bhfuil an-seans ag Sligheach i mbliana. Déanfar tús maith ag Sigerson le cúnamh Dé.

Bainim féin an-taitneamh as a bheith ag tabhairt tacaíochta don dubh (agus bán). Is as Maigh Eo dom agus bheios ag cluiche leathcheannais chonnachta idir maigh Eo agus Sligeach timpeal deich mbliana ó shin. Dar ndóidgh thosaigh mé ag tacú le maigh Eo, mar a bhí déanta agam le caoga bliain. Ach ansin smaoinigh mé go raibh seisear ó fhoireann mo pharóiste féin, gaeil na seamróige ar fhoireann Shligigh, triúr mac mo chomharsan béal dorais ina measc. Thosaigh mé ag tacú le Sligeach ag an bpointe sin agus tá mé leo ó shin. Dar ndóigh téim ar ais le Maigh Eo más rud é go bhfuil Sligeach imithe ón gcomórtas agus bíonn fáilte, fial, bráthairiúil romham ag deartháir liom le "Tá do chóta iompaithe ar ais arís agat". B'fhéidir gurbh fhearr do Mhaigh Eo é dá bhfanfainn le Sligeach. Bhí Maigh Eo in ocht gcluiche ceannais i rith mo shaeoil agus bhaineadar trí chinn acu. Ní raibh mé ag aon cheann de na cluichei sin mar ní raibh mé ach trí mhí d'aois i 1936 agus bhí mé i bpriosún i



mean-scoil chonaithe i 1950 agus 1951. Bhí mé ag an gcúig chinn eile nuair nár éirigh leo. An rud is fearr dom a dhéanamh ná fanacht abhaile an chéad uair eile.

Is aoibhinn liom an saoirise atá agam ó d'éirigh mé as mo bpost mar Stiúrthóir agus is breá liom a bheith I mo Iar-Stiúrthóir. Tá am agam smaoinemh ar dhiabhláocht de shaghas éigin. Go fóil níl ann ach smaoinemh is trua liom a rá. Rud amháin a thug mé faoi deara ná na mínithe eagsúla ar "Iar" agus dar ndóigh chuaigh mé dhá lorg i bhfoclóir Uí Dhuinnín. Na focail Bhéarla a bhí aige dó ná: after, rear, back, past, remote, west, western. Ansin bhí sampla aige: Iaráluinn - "beautifully rounded at the back" agus ar eagla na heagla go mbeadh droch-smaointe ag fás i do chloigeann faoi spéir-bhean le tóinín gleoite, tá idir lúbíní aige ("of the heels"). Mar sin d'fhéadfá a rá gur leagan amháin den Bhearla ar Iar-Stiúrthóir ná "rounded at the back Director".

Gabhaim fíor-bhuíochas le Cumann na hInstitiúide as an onóir a bhronn sibh orm mé a cheapadh mar phátrún ar an gcumann. Ba mhaith liom gur smaoinigh sibh orm agus mé imithe uaibh. Cheap mé igcónaí gurbh é an t-easpag nó an sagart paróiste an pátrún agus gurbh iad dualgais an phátrúin paidreacha a rá ag leath ama nuair a bhí an fhoireann cúl agus dhá chúilín siar agus ag dul amach in aghaidh na gaoithe don dara leath. Má tá tú ag léamh an ailt seo tá mo dhualgais comhlíonta agam agus bhí mo phaidreacha éifeachtach in aghaidh tubaiste eile crúb is béal. Tá súil agam go mbainfidh na foirne a bheidh ag imirt i Sigerson agus Trench na cuairteoirí eile atá linn taitneamh agus pléisiúr as an deireadh seachtaine agus go mbeidh cuimhní maithe agaibh ar bhur gcuairt go Sligeach.

Guidhim ádh maith ar ár bhfoireann peile sa chomórtas stairiúil seo. Mo bhuíochas don fhoireann sin, na foirne eile sa chumann, na foirne a chuaigh rompa, agus as na doine ins an Institiúid a chothaigh na cluichí Gaelacha as an áthas agus an bród a chir sibh orm le blianta fada.

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Editor's Note

As I sit down to pen "The Editor's Note" for the second time, I find it hard to believe that a year has elapsed since last year's Sigerson. After last year's disappointment of the 'foot and mouth' epidemic putting the skids under the college's bid to host the weekend event, everyone connected with IT Sligo is hoping that this year's event will go off without any glitches.

For many of us this year's event will be the culmination of two years work. Once again we were very fortunate to have a very hardworking group of people who worked so diligently to ensure that this publication was possible. I feel it would be remiss of me not to single out two men who above all others ensured that we stayed right on track, those men being Liam Heekin and Michael Harte.

Thanks are again due to Joe Delaney for his help with the design. I would also like to thank Carla in the GAA office for assistance with the typing (certainly not my forte!). I would also like to thank Declan and Sharon Lynch of the Lynn Group (photos courtesy of hoganstand.com) and also to Ann Mc Manus and Sportsfile. We would also like to acknowledge the help of the Students Union and Pdraig Ryan. To all those who so generously supported the programme through taking out advertisements I say a big thank you. To the people who generously contributed articles to the programme, Liam Maloney, Donal Mc Anallen, Keith Duggan, Fr. Sean O Gallochoir, Sean Perry, Gerry 'An Gripe' Mc Loughlin, Jim Nestor, Dr. Breandan Mac Conamhna, Fr Liam Devine and Sean McGoldrick.

I would like to also express my gratitude to both Dessie Farrell and Jarlath Burns for the courtesy that

was shown towards me when I contacted them for an interview. On a personal note as it is the final year of my degree, I would like to thank all the people I have met, both students and staff alike, who have made my tenure in the college a very happy and memorable experience.

I would like to welcome all the teams to Sligo and hope that their stay is a memorable one. To our own team and management I would like to wish them the best of luck on a what has been a massive effort by all concerned.

To you the punter I hope our humble offering pleases you and that you buy at least two more programmes to bring home to the friends that couldn't make it.

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Acknowledgements

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"Are the Player Issues being addressed"?

BY SEAN MCGOLDRICK

GAA CORRESPONDENT, SUNDAY WORLD

ONE of the most disappointing aspects of the much heralded Strategic Review Committee report on the future of the GAA was its failure to address what might be termed 'player issues'.

While nobody expected the SRC to advocate a fully professional - or even semi-professional set-up for inter-county players - one would have expected the vexed question of player expenses, for instance, to be addressed in a more comprehensive manner.

The SRC did reiterate the needs for all County Boards to pay the agreed figure of 38 cents per mile in travelling expenses to their inter-county players. Failure to do so could result in a reduction in the allocation of All-Ireland final tickets to the offending counties.

However, in the longer term players are unlikely to be satisfied with the 38 cent per mile package and the Gaelic Players Association are seeking a £100 (€127) a week expenses deal for inter-county footballers and hurlers.

The GAA would face an annual bill of nearly £5m (£3.9m) were they to agree to these demands. GPA administrator Donal O'Neill has confirmed that the £127 a week is still on the association's wish list. It is understood it was discussed at the recent historic meeting

between the GAA's top brass and the leading lights in the GPA.

"Our members were very vociferous on this issue at our AGM before Christmas. Certainly it is something we will continue to pursue."

The £127 figure is not laid down in stone. But O'Neill acknowledged that if their request was granted the additional costs would have to be met by the GAA at national level rather than by individual County Boards.

"Even with the increase in the mileage allowance for inter-county players there is no way anybody would be receiving £127 a week in expenses at the moment," said O'Neill.

Two separate issues need to be addressed by the GAA authorities before they can negotiate with the GPA on this thorny subject.

Firstly there is a critical policy issue involved because if the GAA agree to this request it could be the first step on the road to some form of semi-professionalism within the association.

The GAA hierarchy remain utterly opposed to any form of creeping professionalism. And rugby's chastening experience with the pro game - particularly at club level - has reinforced the GAA's determination not to repeat the same mistakes.

Official policy was reiterated by GAA President Sean McCague in his address to last year's annual Congress.

"I believe it is significant and a reflection of the general mood of the membership that the ongoing discussion about the amateur status of the GAA has not led to a call for a change in the rule.

"The modifications made have allowed us to enter the commercial world in a meaningful way and proven that while we maintain our traditional values with pride, the GAA is also embracing modern culture and responding to the needs of a new century."

On a more practical level there are less than half a dozen County Boards who could afford to finance a new expenses deal for players.

The decision of Central Council to standardise travelling expenses at 30p (38 cents) per mile for inter-county players caused serious rumblings within many County Boards because of the extra costs involved.

For instance, the Laois County Board's expenses bill for inter-county players more than doubled in 2001 increasing from £24,125 (£19,000) to £58,407 (£46,000).

County Board secretary Liam O'Neill believes the £127 (£100) a week proposal is a non-starter. "I don't think it's

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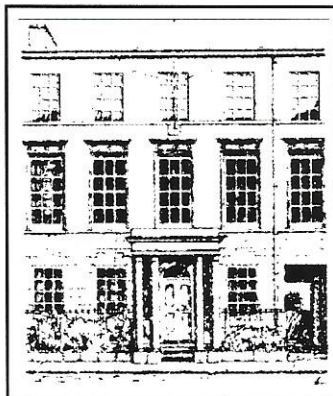
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feasible. For instance, our two home games in the National Hurling league this season are against Wicklow and London. "The gate receipts from the two games will just about cover the referees' expenses. The reality is that people are not interested in paying money to see teams like Laois, Meath or Antrim getting hammered. Last season when we played in Division 1 the only decent crowd we had for our home game against Tipperary," said O'Neill.

Even the top hurling counties are feeling the financial pinch. For instance, two of Kilkenny three home games in this spring's National League, the traditional source of revenue for County Boards, are against Meath and Dublin. Crowd control measures are unlikely to be needed for either tie!

The majority of County Boards are in debt and, ironically, when county teams enjoy a runs of success it places additional financial pressure on the Board. The Sligo County Board, for instance, are in debt to the tune of d 63,000 (£50,000) despite the success of their footballers in 2001.

The success of the new qualifying competition did take the financial sting out of the expenses issue for the majority of counties.

The d50,789 (£40,000) pay-out counties received as their share of the gate receipts from the new competition eased their financial worries.

But the reality is that any new deal for the players will have to be part financed by Croke Park. Last year the GAA's total income amounted to over d16.5m (£13m) and they had

an operating surplus of c5.3 (£4.2m).

The revenue figures will show a healthy increase this year due to the success of the All-Ireland qualifying competition. The arrival of the new look hurling championship will further boost income in 2002.

Obviously the GAA at national level won't meet all the costs involved in any new deal for players but they will have to make a substantial contribution.

Given the ongoing costs involved in the Croke Park development the Association will have to look at new areas of revenue generation.

Apart from the hoary old chestnuts of opening up Croke Park to the FAI and the IRFU and the possibility of squeezing more money out of their TV deals another source of additional revenue are endorsements from gear manufacturers.

At the moment all the GAA's gear is supplied by the Dublin based O'Neills company. The international leisure conglomerates such as Adidas, Nike and Umbro are banned from entering the market because they don't have manufacturing plants in Ireland.

There has been increasing speculation that the GAA could face legal action on this issue because their ban on non-Irish manufactured sports gear may be in breach of EU laws.

Meanwhile, GPA members face an uphill battle in their bid to persuade the Croke Park authorities that they should be

reimbursed to the tune of x127 (£100) per week.

But it will be an interesting fight!

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Roy Keane earns an estimated x88,881 (£70,000) per WEEK.

Top League of Ireland players earn X630 -x890 (£500-£700) per WEEK.

NATIONAL COST

Football

31 Counties compete in 2002 championship.

Total: x3,085,971 (£2,430,400)

Hurling

19 Counties compete in 2002 championship

Total: x1,891,401 (£1,489,600)

Grand Total: x 4,977,373 (£3,920,000).

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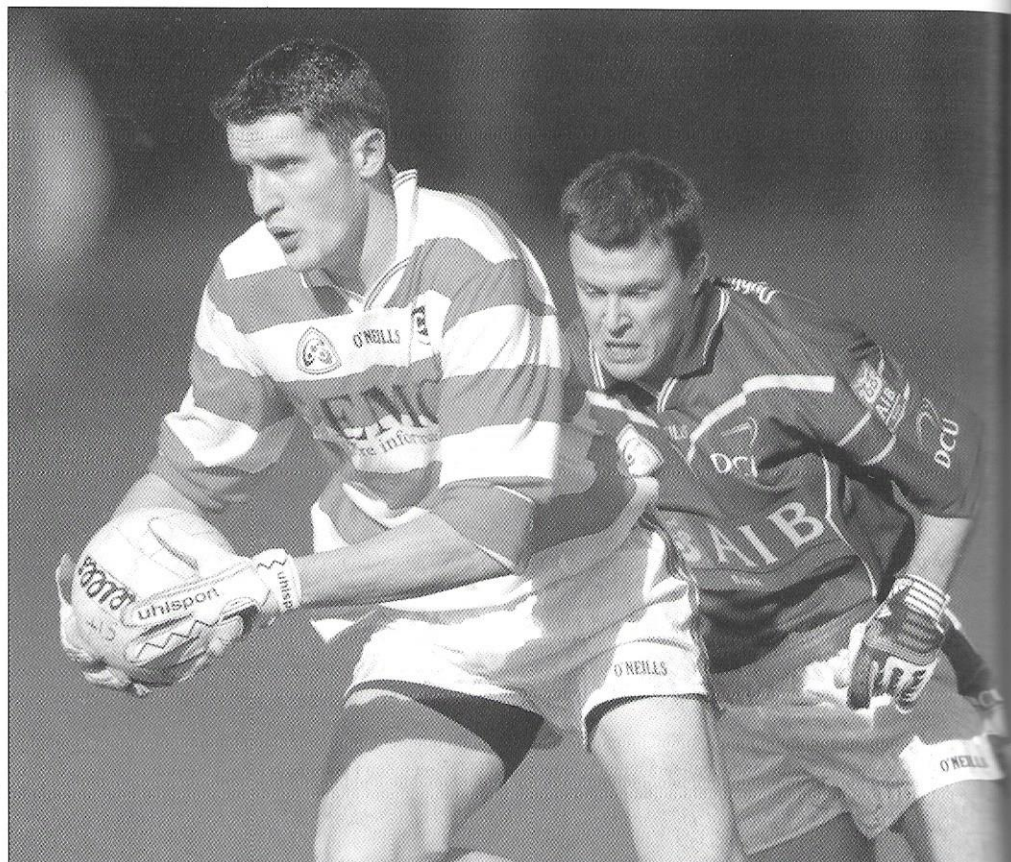
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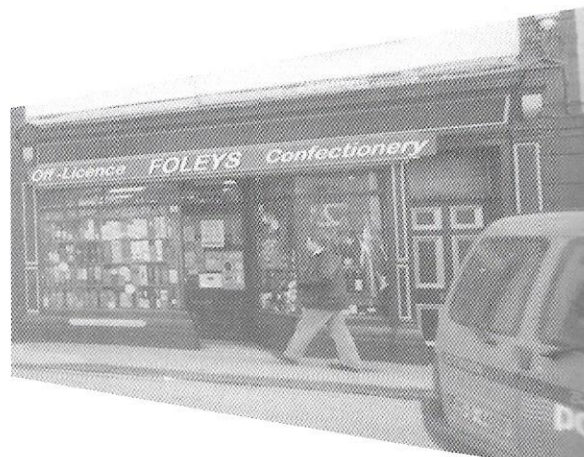
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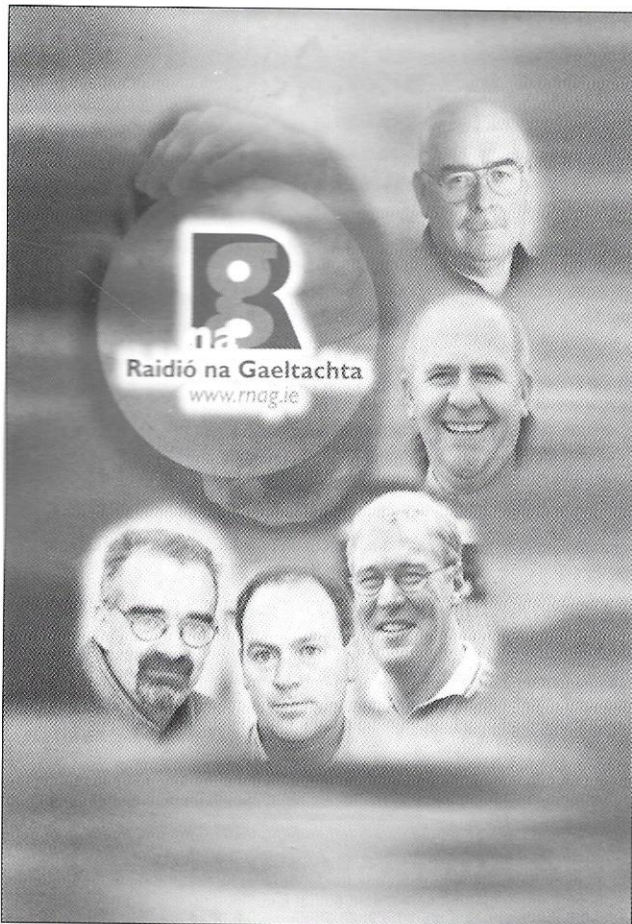
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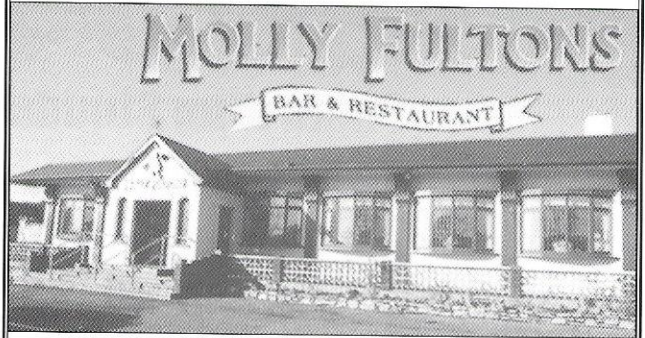
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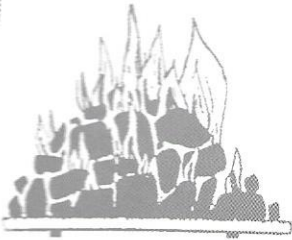
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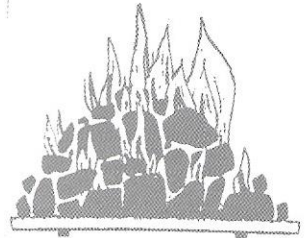
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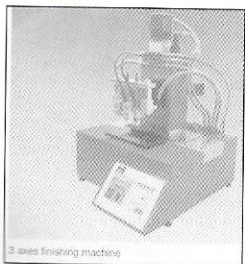
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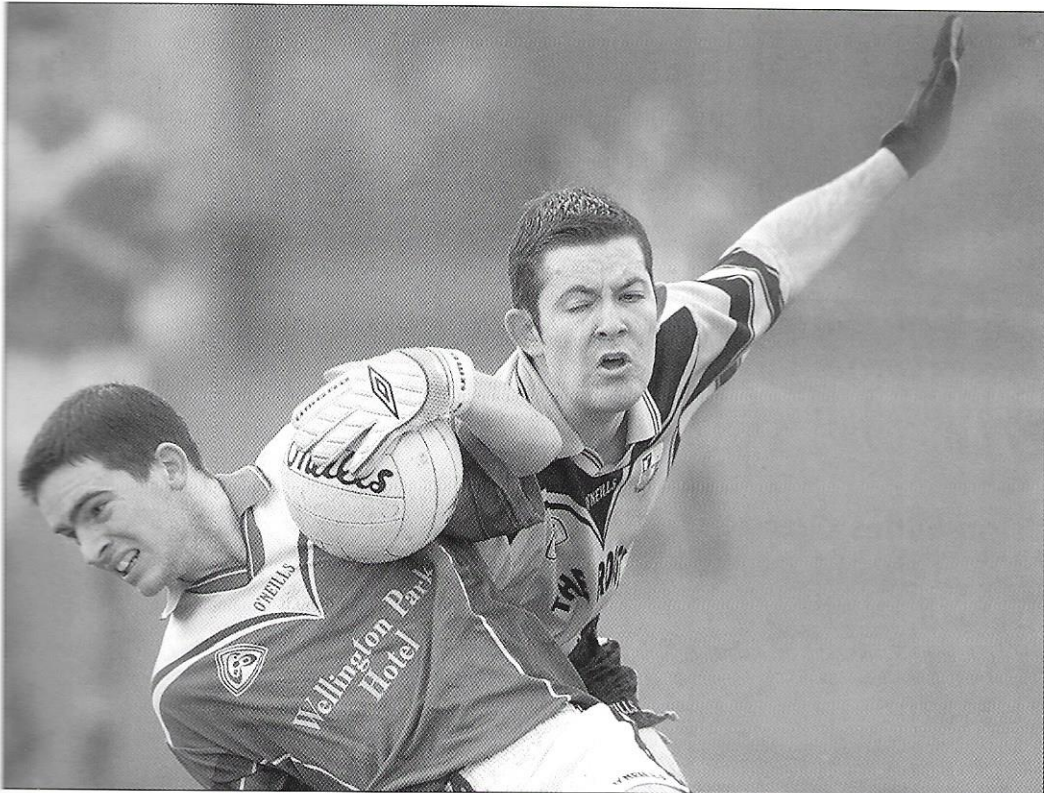
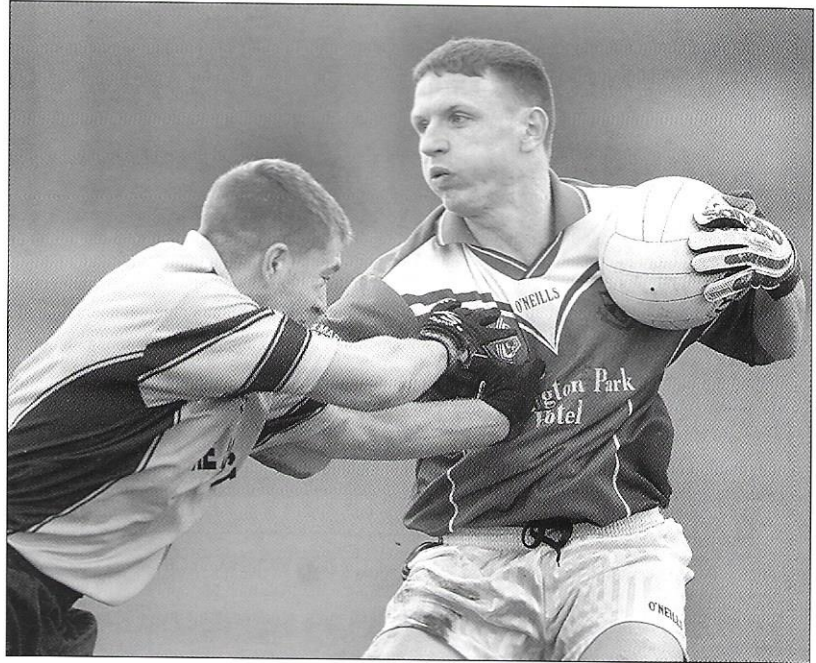
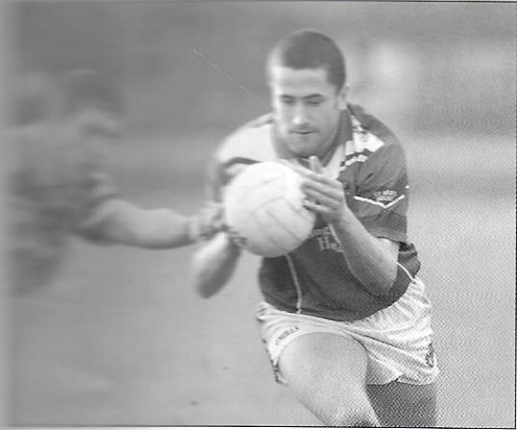


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Action from Sigerson First Round matches -
St. Mary's v Maynooth



TG4 - Súil eile ar Spórt na gColáistí

Pádhraic Ó Ciardha, Leascheannasaí TG4

Tá ríméad ar TG4 a bheith ag beochraoladh ó chomórtas Heineken Chorn Mhic Shigir arís i 2002. Tréaslaimid a saothar leis an lucht eagair in Institiúid Teicneolaíochta Shligigh. Molaimid na foirne ar fad a ghlac páirt i gcomórtas na bliana seo ón tús agus a lucht leanta dílis. Fáiltmid roimh na sluaite a bheidh i láthair agus guimid gach rath ar an dá fhoireann a thabharfaidh aghaidh ar a chéile sa gcluiche ceannais i bPáirc Markievicz ar an Domhnach. Gabhaimid buíochas leis an Chomhairle Ard Oideachais as a bpáirtíocht leanúnach linn agus as ucht deis a thabhairt dúinn scoth na gcluichí a chur ar fáil don phobal náisiúnta féachana.

Tá clúdach spóirt TG4 aitheanta go forleathan anois. Thuill an clúdadh ar leith a thugann an cainéal d'imeachtaí CLG ó cheann, ceann na bliana moladh agus gean ar leith don tseirbhís i measc lucht leanta CLG. Tá traidisiún fada uasal ag comórtas peile na gcoláistí tríú leibhéal ach is féidir a rá go bhfuil clúdach TG4 le cupla bliain tar éis cur go mór lena stádas.

TG4 is again delighted to provide television coverage of this year's Heineken Sigerson Cup and extend our congratulations to the Institute of Technology, Sligo, the host college. We acknowledge the contribution of all the teams who took part in the 2002 competition, to their loyal and exhausted supporters and we wish the finalists well in what will be their live television premiere for many of them. We also wish to thank the GAA's Comhairle Ard Oideachais for its ongoing support to TG4.

Our channel is now an established player in providing high-quality sports coverage. GAA followers throughout Ireland – and further afield – now have access to live television coverage of a top fixture every weekend, year-round and TG4 is the reason why. The Sigerson Cup has a long and cherished tradition and we are proud to have been able to bring the added dimension and status of television coverage. Our initial foray was delayed highlights coverage but we are now able to provide live coverage of the final. It also means that the unique passion and atmosphere of this great fixture will be shared not only by an appreciative attendance at the venue but also by the scores of thousands watching on television in the homes and clubs (and pubs) of Ireland.

The camaraderie of this competition is often mentioned but is a key ingredient of its enduring success. Past and present students of the participating colleges – and those of us who spent many college hours chasing our Sigerson dreams from the sidelines and terraces of Ireland benefit enormously from the live television coverage. I know from the viewer feedback to last year's TG4 coverage of this fixture that many more oldies like me will tune in not only to see a top game but to indulge in a bit of nostalgia and smile a wistful smile of happy memories.

Go n-éirí an lá agus an iománaíocht libh ar fad!

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