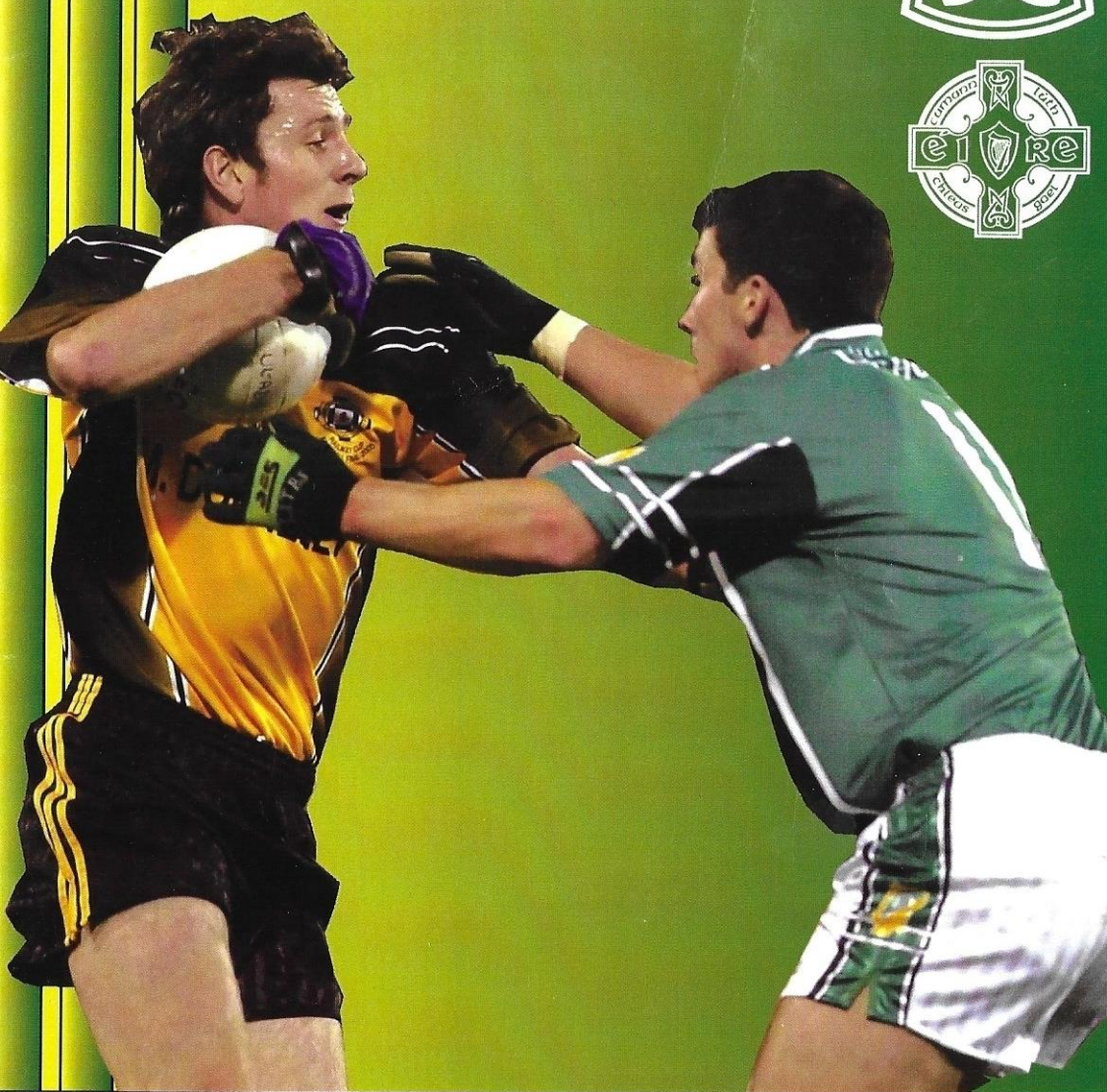


CUMANN LÚTHCHLEAS GAEL



M DONNELLY INTERPROVINCIAL FOOTBALL
SEMI-FINAL

7TH OCT. 2006 KINGSPAN BREFFNI PARK, AN CABHÁN

ÁRD-STIURTHÓIR

Kieran Ó Maduigh

CLÁR OIFIGIÚIL

€2.00

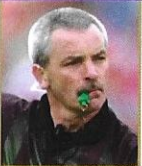
M DONNELLY INTERPROVINCIAL FOOTBALL SEMI-FINAL

7.00i.n. **LAIGHIN v ULADH**

Réiteoir: Paddy Russell (Tiobraid Árann)

Linesmen: Michael Ryan (Luimneach) STAND-BY REFEREE
Donie Cahill (Tiobraid Árann)

Sideline Official: Martin Higgins (Fear Manach)

EXTRA TIME WILL BE PLAYED IN THE EVENT OF A DRAW**AN RÉITEOIR PADDY RUSSELL (TIOBRAID ÁRANN)**

It could be said that the wheel has turned full circle for the Tipperary man. He refereed the Leinster-Ulster M. D. Donnelly interprovincial final under lights at Parnell Park last November.

Paddy brings a wealth of big game experience to his refereeing. He took charge of the All-Ireland senior finals of 1990 between Cork and Meath, and the 1995 meeting of Dublin and Tyrone.

He has also refereed senior championship games in all four provinces. This has been another very busy season for the Emly clubman. He was on duty in the Allianz National League, refereed provincial championship games in Leinster and Ulster as well as the Connacht senior final between Mayo and Galway.

**Amhrán na bhFiann**

Sinne Fianna Fáil,

Atá faoi gheall ag Éirinn,

Buíon dár slua

Thar toinn do ráinig chugainn

Faoi mhóid bheith saor,

Sean-tír ár sinsear feasta

Ní fhágfar faoin tíorán ná faoin tráill.

Anocht a théam sa bhearna baoil

Le gean ar Ghaeil chun báis nó saoil

Le gunna scréach faoi lámhach

na bpiléar,

Seo libh canaig amhrán na bhFiann.

SIDELINE KICKS**GOOD ULSTER RECORD**

Ulster lost only once in six interprovincial semi-finals since the dawn of this century. That was to Connacht in 2001 at Killarney, where they went down by 0-15 to 1-10.

Leinster lost twice in the same period—to Ulster in 2000 at Casement Park and again in 2003 at Enniskillen in a semi-final that went to extra time.

Connacht were beaten by Leinster in 2002, Ulster in 2004 and Leinster again last year.

Munster are still bidding for their first win of the decade.

BRIGHT START FOR MUNSTER

The first Railway Cup semi-finals were played in November 1926. Munster beat Ulster at Cavan, while Connacht beat Leinster at Ballinasloe. **Munster** won the final on St. Patrick's Day 1927

SECOND MEDALS

Peadar Andrews (Dublin) and Dessie Dolan (Westmeath) were the only members of the Leinster side that lined out in the 2002 winning final against Ulster, who started in last year's final triumph at Parnell Park.

However, Tom Kelly, who lined out at full back in last year's final, went in as a substitute during the 2002 success. Ciarán Whelan (Dublin), who was in Leinster's 2002 final

SIDELINE KICKS

winning side at midfield, was chosen as midfielder and captain for last year's final but missed the game because of an injury.

Ulster fielded six interprovincial medal winners in last year's final—Enda McNulty (Armagh), Dan Gordon (Down), Brian Dooher (Tyrone), Sean Cavanagh (Tyrone), Paddy Bradley (Derry) and Steven McDonnell (Armagh).

MOYNIHAN AS PIVOT

Seamus Moynihan, who announced his retirement from intercounty football late last month, was centre half back in the Munster team that last won the interprovincial title in 1999.

That was the only time that the gifted Kerry footballer played in a Munster title winning side.

CONNACHT LINKS

Left full back Michael McGuinness (Leitrim), centre half back James Nallen (Mayo) and forward Conor Mortimer (Mayo) were the only playing members of Connacht's unsuccessful 2004 final team against Ulster to line out in last year's semi-final against Leinster.

However, Kieran Fitzgerald (Galway), right full back in the 2004 final, went in as a substitute.

ULSTER'S TREBLE BID LAST YEAR ENDED BY LEINSTER

Ulster's hopes of a treble of M. D. Donnelly interprovincial football titles were ended by Leinster by 0-20 to 0-18 in a keenly contested final under lights that went to extra time at Parnell Park last November.

The match was a personal triumph for Dessie Dolan (Westmeath), who scored 0-11, seven points from frees.

The win was Leinster's first final triumph in three years and brought them level in the Roll of Honour with Ulster at 27 titles each.

The scores were level seven times in a very competitive match. Leinster had the edge in the first half and led at the break by 0-11 to 0-7.

Ulster fared somewhat better in the second half and went 0-14 to 0-13 ahead after about twenty minutes. The challengers responded well and were a point clear as the game moved into extra time, before Christy Toye (Donegal) coolly tied the scores at 0-15 each and sent the game into extra time.

Leinster had a one point lead at the break in extra time and two points by Dessie Dolan in the concluding stages sealed victory for the East.

While Dolan was a commanding figure for Leinster, Pádraig Clancy (Laois), after his transfer from attack to midfield in the first half, and Damien Healy (Westmeath) in defence were also influential figures.

Toye was not included originally in the Ulster team but started in the absence of Stephen O'Neill (Tyrone), who was nursing a hamstring problem, and the Donegal man had a fine game. He also contributed four points.

Steven McDonnell (Armagh), who captained the northern province, was top scorer with six points, and right half back Aaron Kernan, also of Armagh, was another to show up for Ulster with some good attacking runs and dependable play.

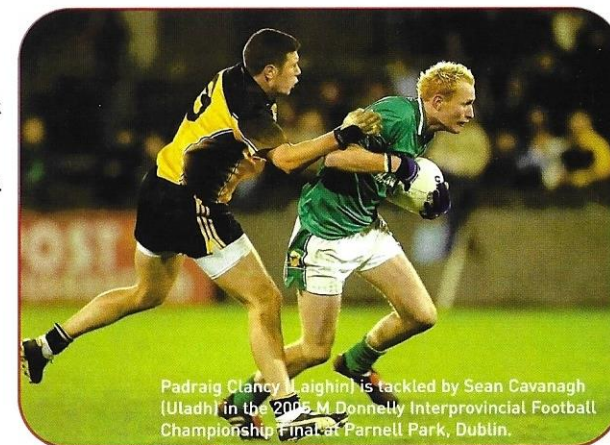
- It is interesting to look back on the teams in that game:

LAIGHIN: Fergal Byron (Laois); Michael Ennis (Westmeath), Tom Kelly (Laois), Damien Healy (Westmeath); Barry Cahill (Dublin), Colin Moran (Dublin), Peadar Andrews (Dublin), Tomas Walsh (Carlow), Noel Garvan (Laois); Alan Mangan

(Westmeath), Ross Munnely (Laois), Pádraig Clancy (Laois); Dessie Dolan (Westmeath), Graham Geraghty (Meath), Jason Sherlock (Dublin). Substitutes: Matty Forde (Wexford) for Walsh. John Doyle (Kildare) for Munnely. Billy Sheehan (Laois) for Mangan. Shane Ryan (Dublin) for Garvan. Garvan for Sherlock. Daithí Regan (Meath) for Forde. Sherlock for Doyle.

ULADH: James Reilly (Cavan); Kevin McGuckin (Derry), Kevin McCloy (Derry), Enda McNulty (Armagh); Aaron Kernan (Armagh), Conor Gormley (Tyrone), Andy Mallon (Armagh); Dan Gordon (Down), Sean Cavanagh (Tyrone); Brian Dooher (Tyrone), Christy Toye (Donegal), Dick Clerkin (Monaghan); Thomas Freeman (Monaghan), Paddy Bradley (Derry), Seven McDonnell (Armagh). Substitutes: Aidan O'Rourke (Armagh) for McCloy. Damien Diver (Donegal) for Gormley. Ronan Clarke (Armagh) for Clerkin. Ryan Mellon (Tyrone) for Bradley. Paul Hearty (Armagh) for Reilly. Bradley for Clarke. Collie Holmes (Tyrone) for Bradley.

- That was the second successive interprovincial final between Ulster and Leinster. They helped to usher in a new era in the football series in 2004 by playing the final in Paris—the first played outside of his country. Ulster won by 1-13 to 1-8. The goal scorers were Alan Brogan (Dublin) after only three minutes, and midfielder Dan Gordon (Down) after thirty-three minutes.



Pádraig Clancy (Laois) is tackled by Sean Cavanagh (Ulster) in the 2005 M. Donnelly Interprovincial Football Championship Final at Parnell Park, Dublin.



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DATHANNA: UAITHNE IS BÁN

LAIGHIN



FIR IONAI

- (16) **Damien Sheridan**
D. Ó Sirideáin
(An Longfort)
- (17) **Barry Cahill**
B. Ó Cathail
(Baile Átha Cliath)
- (18) **Darren Clarke**
D. Ó Cléirigh
(An Lú)
- (19) **Padraig O'Neill**
P. Ó Néill
(Cill Dara)
- (20) **Diarmuid Kinsella**
D. Cinsealach
(Loch Garman)
- (21) **Alan Mangan**
A. Ó Mangáin
(An Iarmhí)
- (22) **Bernard McElvaney**
B. Mac Giolla Mheana
(An Longfort)
- (23) **Mattie Forde**
M. Mac Giollarnáth
(Loch Garman)
- (24) **Declan Reilly**
D. Ó Roghallaigh
(An Longfort)
- (25) **Tommy Walsh**
T. Breathnach
(Ceatharlach)
- (26) **Dermot Earley**
D. Ó Mochóir
(Cill Dara)

1 GARY CONNAUGHTON

G. Ó Connachtáin
(An Iarmhí)

2 AIDAN FENNELLY

A. Ó Fionnalaigh
(Laois)

3 DARREN ROONEY

D. Ó Ruanaidh
(Laois)

4 MICHAEL ENNIS

M. Mac Aonais
(An Iarmhí)

5 CAOIMHÍN KING

C. Ó Cionga
(An Mhí)

6 COLIN MORAN

C. Ó Moráin
(Baile Átha Cliath)

7 KAROL SLATTERY

C. Ó Slatara
(Uíbh Fhailí)

8 BRENDAN QUIGLEY

B. Ó Coigligh
(Laois)

9 PÁDRAIG CLANCY

P. Mac Lannchaidh
(Laois)

10 DECLAN LALLY

D. Ó Maolalaidh
(Baile Átha Cliath)

11 JOHN DOYLE

S. Ó Dúill
(Cill Dara)

12 MARC CARPENTER

M. Mac an tSaoir
(Ceatharlach)

13 CONAL KEANEY

C. Ó Cianaigh
(Baile Átha Cliath)

14 JOE SHERIDAN

S. Ó Sirideáin
(An Mhí)

15 BRIAN KAVANAGH

B. Ó Caomhánaigh
(An Longfort)

ROGHNÓIRÍ

Paul Caffrey (Baile Átha Cliath), Seán Dempsey (Laois)

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

DATHANNA: BUÍ IS DUBH

ULADH



FIR IONAI

- (16) **James Reilly**
S. Ó Raghaílaigh
(An Cabhán)
- (17) **Ryan McCloskey**
R. Mac an Bloscaidh
(Fear Manach)
- (18) **Paul Brady**
P. Ó Brádaigh
(An Cabhán)
- (19) **Aaron Kernan**
A. Mac Thiarnáin
(Ard Mhacha)
- (20) **Eamon McGee**
E. Mac Aoidh
(Dún na nGall)
- (21) **Marty McGrath**
M. Mac Craith
(Fear Manach)
- (22) **Eoin Lennon**
E. Ó Lionnáin
(Muineachán)
- (23) **Paul Finlay**
P. Ó Fionnlaigh
(Muineachán)
- (24) **Eoin Bradley**
E. Ó Brocháin
(Doire)
- (25) **Kevin McGourty**
C. Mac Eabhartaigh
(Aontroim)
- (26) **Christy Toyne**
C. Ó Tuathaigh
(Dún na nGall)
- (27) **Karl Lacey**
C. de Léis
(Dún na nGall)

1 PAUL HEARTY

P. Ó hAghartaigh
(Ard Mhacha)

2 ANDY MALLON

A. Ó Mealláin
(Ard Mhacha)

3 BARRY OWENS

B. Mac Eoghain
(Fear Manach)

4 FRANCIE BELLEW

P. Ó Beilliú
(Ard Mhacha)

5 BARRY DUNNION

B. Ó Dúinín
(Dún na nGall)

6 BARRY MONAGHAN

B. Ó Manacháin
(Dún na nGall)

7 PHILIP JORDAN

P. Mac Shiúrtáin
(Tír Eoghain)

8 DAN GORDON

D. Mag Mhuirneacháin
(An Dún)

9 NEIL GALLAGHER

N. Ó Gallchóir
(Dún na nGall)

10 DICK CLERKIN

D. Ó Cléirchín
(Muineachán)

11 SEAN CAVANAGH

S. Caomhánach
(Tír Eoghain)

12 FERGAL DOHERTY

F. Ó Dochartaigh
(Doire)

13 SEANIE JOHNSTON

S. Mac Seáin
(An Cabhán)

14 STEPHEN O'NEILL

S. Ó Neill (Capt.)
(Tír Eoghain)

15 PADDY BRADLEY

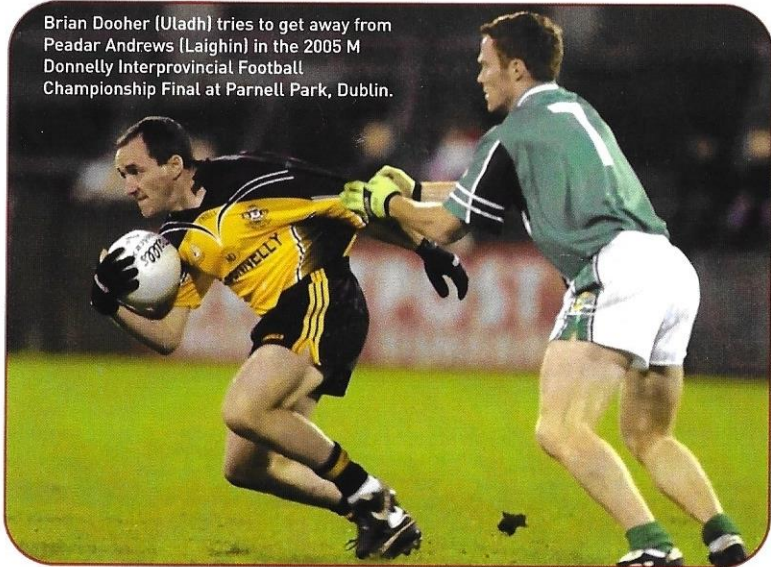
P. Ó Brocháin
(Doire)

ROGHNÓIRÍ

Art McCrory (Tír Eoghain), Tony Scullion (Doire).
Physio: Ronan Carolan (An Cabhán)

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

ULSTER AND LEINSTER REVIVE MEMORIES OF EXTRA TIME SEMI-FINAL



Brian Dooher (Uladh) tries to get away from Peadar Andrews (Laighin) in the 2005 M Donnelly Interprovincial Football Championship Final at Parnell Park, Dublin.

Although Ulster did not win their first Railway Cup title until 1942, they have become the modern specialists of the series. In the last fifteen years alone they have won the crown nine times as against five successes by Leinster, one by Munster and none by Connacht.

The Northerners also go into this M. D. Donnelly interprovincial semi-final with an impressive record of successes of late at this stage. They are bidding today for their fifth successive semi-final win.

Ulster's last defeat at this stage was in 2001 when they went down to Connacht by 0-15 to 1-10 at Killarney. Since then they have beaten Munster in 2002 at Ballindereen, Leinster at Enniskillen a year later, Connacht at Castlebar in 2004, and Munster last year at Crossmaglen.

The 2003 semi-final between Ulster and Leinster at Enniskillen went to extra time. Leinster led at the interval by 0-8 to 1-4 but, subsequently, it took a point by Paul Barden (Longford) after fifty-one minutes to bring them level at 0-13 to Ulster's 2-7 and send the game to extra time. Enda Muldoon (Derry) and Sean Cavanagh (Tyrone) were the goal scorers.

Three points in the second half of extra time by substitute Tom Brewster (Fermanagh), Owen

Mulligan (Tyrone) and Muldoon ensured victory for the North by 2-13 to 0-16.

Ulster scorers:

- E.Muldoon 1-1,
- S.Cavanagh 1-0,
- S.McDonnell 0-2,
- E.Mulligan 0-2,
- T.Brewster 0-2,
- N.McCready 0-1,
- G.McCarton 0-1,
- P.McGrane 0-1,
- L.Doyle 0-1, B.Coulter 0-1, K.Brady 0-1.

Leinster scorers:

- D.Dolan 0-6, T.Fennin 0-3, P.Barden 0-2,
- S.Rea 0-2, T.Kelly 0-1, P.Clancy 0-1, C.McManus 0-1.

Uladh – M.McVeigh, E.McNulty, N.McCusker, N.McCready, C.Gormley, B.Monaghan, R.McMenamin, G.McCarton, P.McGrane, L.Doyle, S.Cavanagh, B.Coulter, S.McDonnell, E.Muldoon, E.Mulligan. Subs – T.Freeman, K.Brady, T.Brewster, C.Toye, A.Forde, P.Loughran.

Laighin – F.Byron, C.Daly, P.Christie, J.Higgins, S.Ryan, T.Kelly, A.Rainbow, C.Whelan, P.Clancy, D.Dolan, P.Barden, C.McManus, S.Rea, I.Fitzgerald, T.Fennin. Subs – S.Connell, J.P.Rooney, K.Slattery, K.Fitzpatrick, P.Griffin, T.Gill, B.O'hAnnaidh.

That was Leinster's second semi-final defeat by Ulster—they lost in 2000— since their last success at this stage at the expense of the Northerners. In 1997 Leinster went on a scoring spree against Ulster at Páirc Tailteann, An Uaimh. They chalked up 3-14 to Ulster's 1-10 and went on to win the title.

Last year Leinster conceded three goals to Connacht in their semi-final under lights at Parnell Park but still edged through by 1-14 to 3-7. The home province led by six points at the interval, but in the end it took a point in the fourth minute of added time by John Doyle (Kildare) to clinch victory.

LAIGHIN AGUS ULADH LAST GASP WINNER GIVES LEINSTER A FIRST TITLE

1928
Leinster 1-8 Ulster 2-4

It was not surprising that Leinster were overwhelming favourites for this first-ever clash with Ulster as no fewer than seven of the team were holders of All-Ireland medals while not one of the opposition had even appeared in a final.

This was the second St.Patrick's Day final and attracted an attendance of more than 15,000, a big increase on the previous year. Leinster had qualified by reversing the 1927 verdict with Connacht while Ulster had ousted the holders Munster in a semi-final that did not run the full hour.

The early exchange of points between McCusker and McDonnell gave little hint of the almost complete dominance of the next 25 minutes by the Northerners. Maguire's point put Ulster ahead and when Fearon's lob from 40 yards finished in the Leinster net it was obvious that the favourites had a real challenge with which to contend. And the challenge assumed even greater proportions when Cunnings' cross was fisted to the net by the inrushing Treanor. At the interval Leinster looked to be in real trouble with the score 2-3 to 0-1 in Ulster's favour.

Early second-half attacks by Leinster yielded no return due mainly to the tenacious tackling by the

Ulster defenders, but when the Leinster selectors made a couple of switches a well-organised comeback began. McDonnell pointed two frees and Russell had one from play before the turning point came when a long delivery by Higgins saw O'Neill set up the chance which was finished by Martin for a goal to leave just a point between the teams.

In one of Ulster's infrequent raids Weymes got their only score of the half but Leinster were now in full cry and Russell hit two points to bring the teams level with five minutes remaining. Then when a draw looked certain Russell fired over the winner.

Leinster scorers: P.McDonnell 0-5, P.Russell 0-3, P.Martin 1-0.

Ulster scorers: P.Fearon 1-0, J.Treanor 1-0, J.McCusker 0-2, J.Maguire 0-1, T.J.Weymes 0-1.

Laighin – M.Walsh, M.Goff, J.Higgins, F.Malone, P.Martin, P.Doyle (Kildare), P.Russell, P.McDonnell (Dublin), M.O'Neill, N.Walsh (Wexford), M.McKeown, W.Lawless (Louth), P.Bates, W.Whelan (Laois), M.Keoghan (Meath). Sub – J.Delaney (Laois).

Uladh – P.Kilroy, T.Bradley, F.Farrell, J.Brannigan, J.Duffy, J.Treanor (Monaghan), G.Hanratty, J.Maguire, P.Fearon, J.McCusker (Armagh), J.P.Murphy, J.Smith (Cavan), P.Cunning, J.C.McDonnell (Antrim), C.Fisher (Monaghan). Sub – T.J.Weymes (Monaghan).

SEMI/FINAL MEETINGS

Leinster and Ulster have met on 25 occasions at the semi/final stage of the inter-provincial championship with the Easterners holding a 14-11 lead, the details of which are:

Leinster	1929 – Breffni Park	2-3 Ulster	1-2	Leinster	1946 – Breffni Park	2-5 Ulster	1-5	Leinster	1972 – Croke Park	0-13 Ulster	1-9
Leinster	1931 – An Uaimh	1-8 Ulster	1-2	Ulster	1948 – Croke Park	2-10 Leinster	1-12	Ulster	1978 – Breffni Park	1-7 Leinster	0-7
Leinster	1932 – Drogheda	4-11 Ulster	1-3	Leinster	1949 – Clones	3-5 Ulster	2-2	Ulster	1979 – Croke Park	5-8 Leinster	1-13
Leinster	1936 – Dundalk	0-2 Ulster	0-2	Leinster	1954 – Croke Park	3-14 Ulster	3-6	Leinster	1985 – Croke Park	2-8 Ulster	2-7
Ulster	replay – Breffni Park	1-7 Leinster	1-5	Leinster	1955 – Breffni Park	2-9 Ulster	2-4	Leinster	1986 – Breffni Park	3-7 Ulster	1-9
Leinster	1940 – Dundalk	2-4 Ulster	0-6	Ulster	1960 – Croke Park	2-9 Leinster	1-5	Ulster	1994 – The Athletic Grounds	0-9 Leinster	1-5
Ulster	1941 – Breffni Park	1-9 Leinster	2-5	Leinster	1961 – Casement Park	2-5 Ulster	1-7	Leinster	1997 – An Uaimh	3-14 Ulster	1-10
Leinster	1945 – Croke Park	4-3 Ulster	2-9	Ulster	1966 – Croke Park	1-8 Leinster	1-4	Ulster	2000 – Casement Park	1-14 Leinster	0-10
Leinster	replay – Croke Park	4-9 Ulster	3-6	Ulster	1967 – Casement Park	0-9 Leinster	0-8	Ulster	2003 – Enniskillen (After extra time)	2-13 Leinster	0-16



'BRIGHT FUTURE' FOR CAVAN!!



Tonight, we get a glimpse of Cavan's bright future as they now have state of the art floodlighting as part of the Ulster Council's modernisation programme across the nine Counties in the Province.

Thanks to a €800,000 investment from the Ulster Council GAA, the impressive facility will now regularly host a range of floodlit club, county, school, college and provincial fixtures in all codes of Gaelic Games.

The Ulster Council Operations Manager, Stephen McGeehan praised the work completed by Musco Lighting Ireland Ltd; a world renowned specialist sports floodlighting company by saying:

"The Ulster Council GAA would like to congratulate all those involved in the floodlighting project at Kingspan Breffni Park and in particular the main contractors Musco Lighting for their excellent work.

This project is one of a number of modernisation projects throughout Ulster which will see our Council invest in the region of €11m in various capital and coaching initiatives in our nine Counties."

The Cavan Senior Hurling Final between Mullahoran St Joseph's and Woodford Gaels was played under the glare of the 850 lux level lighting on Tuesday 26th September and a larger crowd than expected was recorded.

The Breffni Park Project is just one of a number of capital developments throughout Ulster which will see the Ulster Council investing over €11m in Floodlighting and Coaching and Games programmes as part of a modernisation strategy.

The Ulster Council GAA would like to thank all the people involved in our modernisation strategy at Kingspan Breffni Park, Cavan.

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