

Bank of Ireland



Football Championship

CLUICHÍ **CEANNAIS PEILE** NA hÉIREANN **2007**

DOIRE v GAILLIMH

CIARRAÍ v CORCAIGH

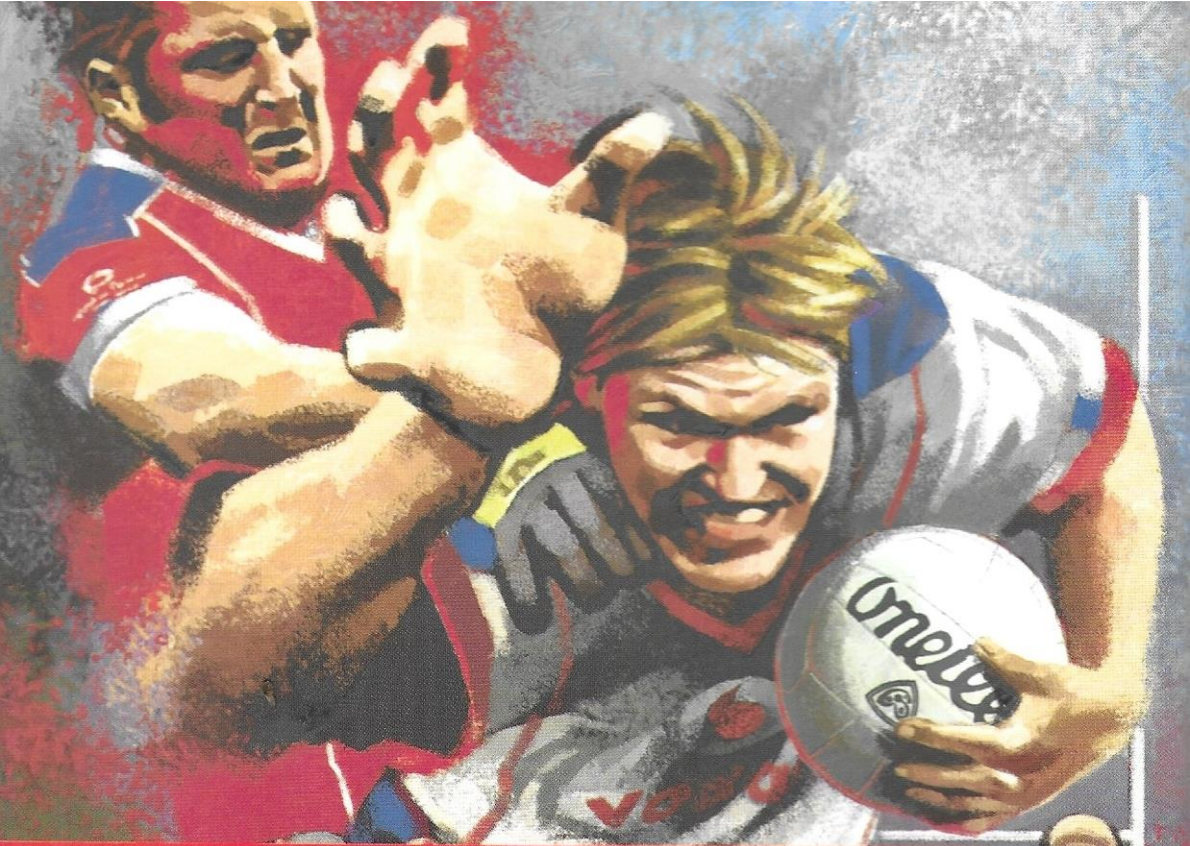


CUMANN LÚTHCHLEAS GAEL

CLÁR OIFIGIÚIL LUACH €5.00

Kian Ó Maolmíchéil ÁRD-STIURTHÓIR





Some run the field. You sprint it.

Some give their best. You give your all.

Some embrace the final whistle. You resent it.

Some are players. You're an All Star.

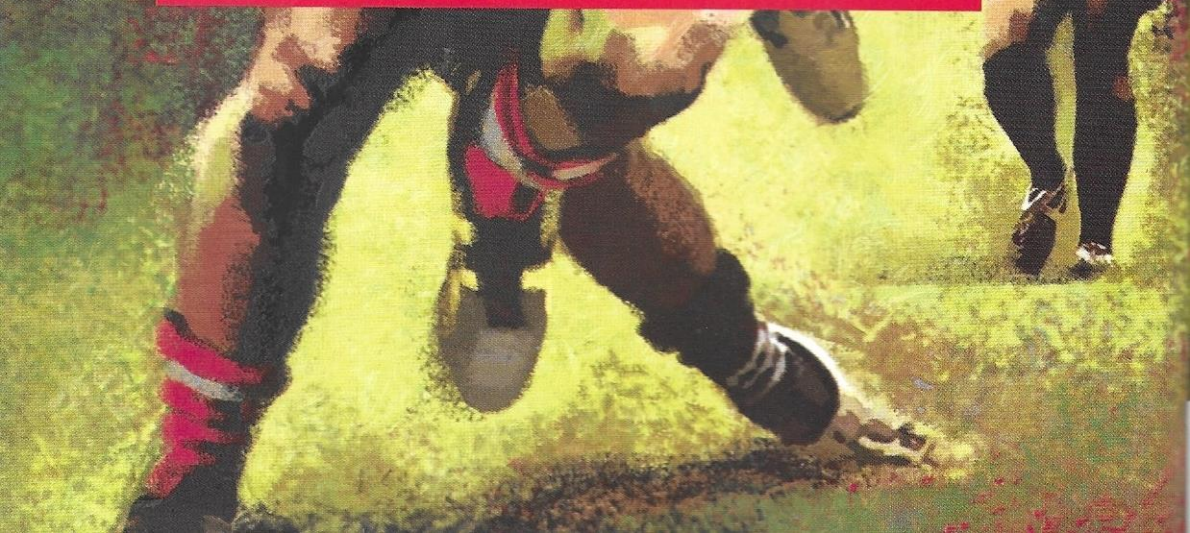
For 36 years only the best of the best have made it to GAA All Star status. This year will be no exception. The Vodafone GAA All Stars – talent is nothing without passion.

Make the most of now



vodafone

GAA All Stars



FOOTBALL
FINALSCLUICHÍ CEANNAIS
PEILE NA hÉIREANN

1.30 i.n.

ESB ALL-IRELAND MINOR FOOTBALL FINAL

DOIRE v
GAILLIMH

3.30 i.n.

BANK OF IRELAND ALL-IRELAND FOOTBALL FINAL

CIARRAÍ
v CORCAIGH

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.

DBA

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 ar son Chumann Lúthchleas Gael.

Cló: Wood Printcraft.

Photography:





Teachtaireacht an Uachtaráin

A chairde, beidh aird an phobail dírithe ar Pháirc an Chrócaigh inniu agus ní nach ionadh. Tá Ciarraí agus Corcaigh ag iarradh Sam a thabhairt abhaile leo agus is ócáid as an gcoitiantacht iad a bheith ag tabhairt aghaidh ar a chéile ag an am seo sa Chomórtas. Ní bhíonn leisce ag lucht leanúna Chiarraí ná ar mhuintir Chorcaí a admháil go gcuireann sé gliondar croí orthu aghaidh a chur ar a chéile agus bua a fháil. Dá bharr sin táimid dearfach go mbeidh na himreoirí faoi lán tseoil agus go mbeidís ar bharr a maitheasa inniu. Fearaim fáilte freisin roimh na hógánaigh ó Ghaillimh agus Doire. Tá súil agam go mbainfidh siad taitneamh as bheith ag imirt sa stáid iontach seo. Cuirim mo bheannacht leis na sluaite thar lear atá ag féachaint ar na gcluichí agus ar na daoine a tháinig abhaile ó chuile áit sa domhan. Táimid go léir faoi chomaoin ag na daoine seo as ucht a dhéanann siad ar son ár gcluichí. Mar sin, a chairde, bain taitneamh as an Domhnach faoi leith seo.

Fáilte

On behalf of Cumann Lúthchleas Gael I welcome the Players, Team Mentors, County Board Officials and Supporters from Cork, Kerry, Derry and Galway to Páirc an Chrócaigh this afternoon for All-Ireland Football Final Sunday. The meeting of neighbours and rivals in an All-Ireland Final is

not new, but a Cork v Kerry final is a unique occasion and one to be savoured. It is a final pairing which might not have been predicted, but the teams are here today on merit and it all makes for an intriguing contest. The minor final brings two marvellous sides together and we can look forward to seeing an abundance of skilful play from both Derry and Galway. I also welcome our referees, umpires, linesmen and fourth officials and I wish them well. Finally, I welcome the representatives of our sponsors, Bank of Ireland and the ESB, and I thank them for their on-going support.

ESB All-Ireland Minor Football Final – Derry v Galway

We have witnessed some great games in this year's minor football championship in all four provinces with today's finalists, Derry and Galway, providing some outstanding displays. Derry may not have won the Ulster championship, but they showed enough grit and determination to indicate that they would still have a big say in the ultimate destination of the championship. Galway come into the game undefeated and impressed along the way particularly against Kerry in the Semi-Final. Derry should have secured their own final spot in their first game against Laois, but somehow managed to let a big lead slip. They made no mistake in the replay. This is a

big day for the players and of course their families. Playing in Croke Park on All-Ireland Final day is a dream for every young lad. I hope all the players enjoy the occasion and retain happy memories of the day, be that as a winner or runner-up.

Bank of Ireland All-Ireland Senior Football Final – Cork v Kerry

Cork and Kerry have met on numerous occasions in the Munster S.F. Final. The rivalry between these two counties is legendary and the notion that one might lose to the other in an All-Ireland Final is unthinkable. Imagine the bragging rights the winner would have over their dejected neighbour! That alone makes for an intriguing final. This year's Munster S.F. Final was a clear indication that there is very little between the sides. Although Kerry won on that occasion, the result could have gone either way. Both sides impressed in their respective semi-finals. Cork demolished Meath comprehensively, while Kerry continued their dominance over their great rivals Dublin. The possible absence of Anthony Lynch today robs Cork of a great defender. It is a devastating blow to Anthony if he cannot line out. Kerry come to this year's All-Ireland Final with plenty of experience and of course as reigning champions. Those facts alone make them favourites, but this Cork side has matured

“The margin between the teams is narrowing with every encounter.”

greatly over the past couple of years. The margin between the teams is narrowing with every encounter. There may only be a kick of a ball between the sides today and I would not be surprised if it took another game to decide the eventual winner of this year's championship.

Jubilee Team

How ironic that Kerry should be playing in this year's All-Ireland Final when our Jubilee Team is the Offaly 1982 All-Ireland champions. I am sure no one will forget that renowned day in 1982 when Kerry looked destined for a famous fifth title in a row. As the clock ebbed towards the final whistle the Kerry supporters were ready to celebrate a memorable feat by their team. Offaly though made one final assault on the Kerry goal and the outcome is now part of GAA folklore. It is fair to say that Seamus Darby's goal changed the lives of the Offaly players for ever. I know the Kerry supporters in today's attendance will be generous in their appreciation of the Offaly Jubilee team of 1982.

Sam Maguire

Everyone knows that the winners of today's senior game will carry off the Sam Maguire Cup. Last weekend I attended the Sam Maguire Festival in Dunmanway in Cork where the local organising committee and the Dohenys GAA club enjoyed a great weekend of music and

sport. The Dohenys are one of the great clubs in our Association with a thriving underage structure. They may be better known for their football prowess, but they are making great strides on the hurling front also. At the core of the club's activities is an abundance of dedicated volunteers. Thanks to everyone in Dunmanway for giving me such a warm welcome. Near Dunmanway, the Clonakilty GAA club have big development plans. At the recent sod-turning ceremony for their new complex the club's esteemed Club President Thady O'Regan died suddenly. Thady was a legendary figure in Cork GAA circles and was a former selector with the Cork Senior Football team. He epitomised the great GAA volunteer in all he did throughout his life with both club and county. He will be sadly missed by his family and the many GAA people who were fortunate to know him. May he rest in peace.

GAA Charities for 2007/8

The official G.A.A. charities for 2007/8 are the Hope Foundation and the Temple Street Children's Hospital. Your support no matter how big or small is deeply appreciated. Details of where to send your donations are to be found in this match programme.

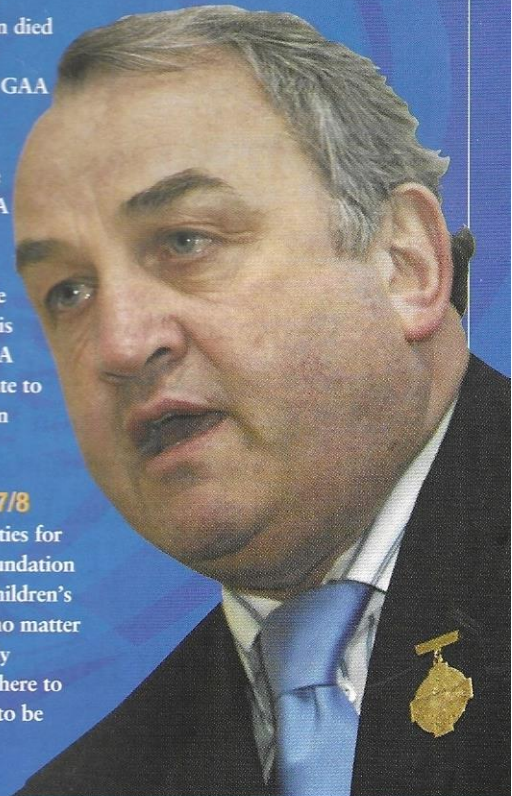
Buíochas

Finally, I wish all our patrons an enjoyable afternoon in Páirc an Chrócaigh. Thanks for your support and please take special care on your way home from today's games.

Tá lá spórtúil i ndán dúinn. Bainigí taitneamh as agus slán abhaile libh.

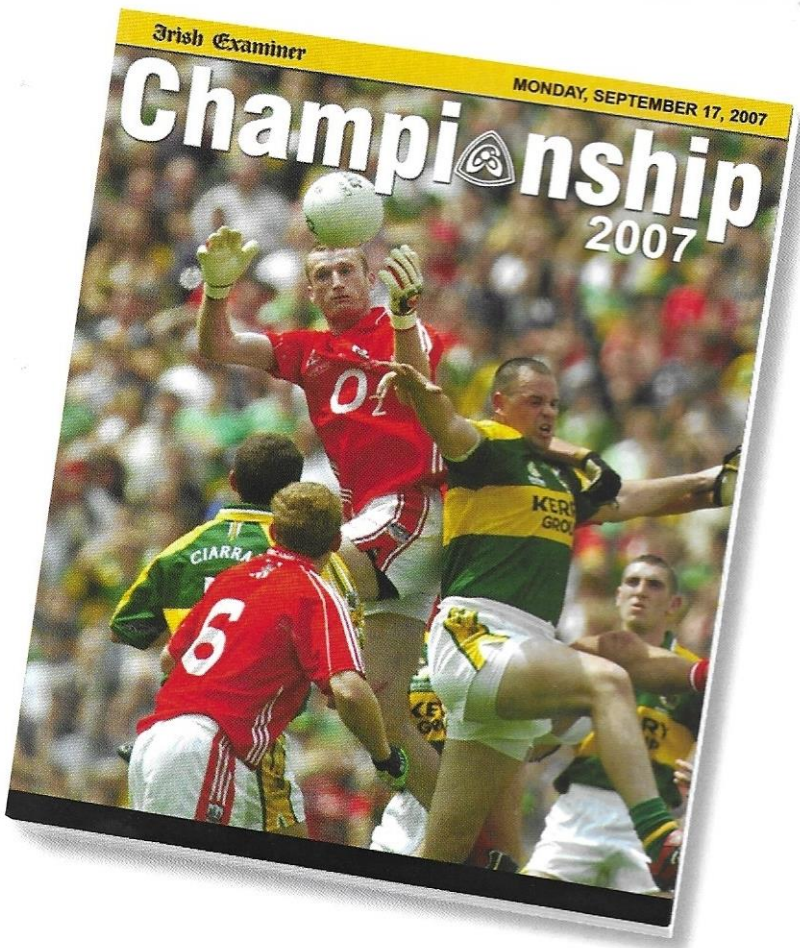
Níoclás Ó Braonáin

*Níoclás Ó Braonáin, Uachtarán
Cumann Lúthchleas Gael*



TOMORROW

in the *Irish Examiner*



Unrivalled coverage of the All-Ireland Senior and Minor Football Finals with expert analysis and reaction from Niall Cahalane, Eamon Fitzmaurice, Dara O'Cinnéide and our team of leading GAA writers; Jim O'Sullivan, Liam Horan, Brendan Larkin, Brendan O'Brien and Tony Leen.

**A 24-page special
on all the weekend's GAA action
tomorrow.**

For a different view

Irish Examiner

Coldrick bridges a 22-year gap at the helm of the first Meath man since Paddy Kavanagh in 1985 to referee an All-Ireland senior football final.

Coldrick will be assisted by Marty Duffy from Sligo, who will act as standby referee and linesman, and Maurice Deegan from Laois (linesman). Donegal's Robert O'Donnell will serve as sideline official.

This game marks the culmination of a dramatic rise to the top for Coldrick, who is just 30 years of age. As a player, Coldrick won minor and U21 All-Ireland championship medals with Naomhghall in Meath. But he was a player when I was playing minor football. I thought that I could do a bit of refereeing than the guys were doing it - I was young and at the time I made the decision to go down that path and I started playing juvenile football in Meath back in 1995.

Coldrick, a member of the Blackhall GAA club, had expressed his joy after being appointed for the glamour Cork v Kerry clash but also revealed that the game will be tinged with personal significance.

Coldrick revealed: "My dad Benny is coming with me but he suffered a mild stroke over two weeks ago and is still recovering at the moment. It has been with me since day one and it's a little sad that he's not going to be able to do umpire. But he's on the way to recovery and that's good news."

Coldrick revealed: "Tony Kearney is another guy who was with me from the start and he's also recovering from illness."

Coldrick has drafted in Seamus Gaughan from the Drumree club, while Gormac Reilly from the St. Mary's club in Drogheda is also an intercounty referee and was more than happy to oblige when contacted by Coldrick.

Coldrick's brother John, from Blackhall Gaels, and Dunshaughlin's Gerry Lynch will also act as umpires on the big match day.

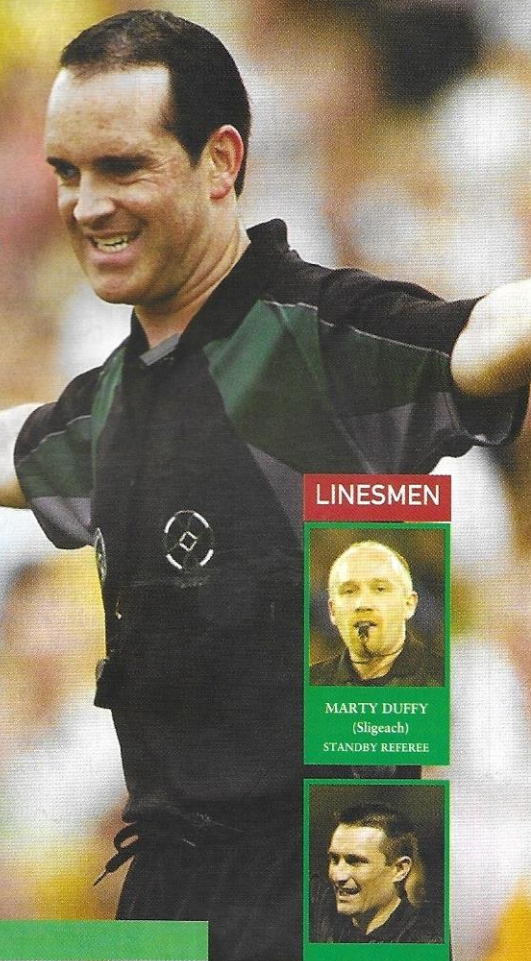
Coldrick, an actuary with Irish Life on Dublin's Abbey Street, has already taken charge of a number of high profile fixtures in the 2007 All-Ireland championship.

He refereed the Tyrone v Donegal clash in Ulster, Derry's victory over Mayo in the qualifiers and the bruising All-Ireland quarter-final tie between Kerry and Monaghan.

Young referee of the year in Meath back in 1995, Coldrick joined the Leinster referees panel in 1997 and joined the national panel a year later.

Coldrick also refereed during the International Rules series of 2005 and 2006 and before the throw-in this afternoon, watch out for a special hello to some friends in America.

Coldrick smiled: "My friend has a brother living in Florida and his children's names are Luke, Isobel and Grace. If I don't pull my right ear immediately before the ball is thrown in, I won't be allowed to visit!"



Sideline Official: Robert O'Donnell (Dún na nGall)

LINESMEN



MARTY DUFFY
(Sligeach)
STANDBY REFEREE



MAURICE DEEGAN
(Laois)

NA RÉITEOIRÍ

Mionúir

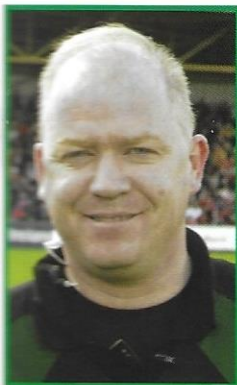
Derek Fahy (An Longfort)

Derek is the first Longford man to take charge of an All-Ireland minor football final since John Bannon ten years ago.

His assignments earlier this year included the O'Byrne Cup final between Dublin and Laois, and the All-Ireland Intermediate Club final between Ardferit (Kerry) and Eoghan Rua (Derry).

Fahy made his Croke Park debut as a referee at the 2005 Mayo-Kerry All-Ireland minor semi-final. He has also refereed at All-Ireland junior semi-final level, as well as in the Allianz League, All-Ireland Qualifiers and in the provincial senior championship.

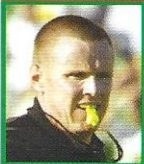
The Longford official, who has been refereeing locally for some nine years, won a county intermediate medal in 1998 with Ballymahon as a defender.



Mionúir:
Doire v. Gaillimh

Sideline Official: Brian O'Shea (Áth Cliath)

LINESMEN



BRIAN TYRELL
(Tiobriad Árann)
STANDBY REFEREE



PAT SHEEHY
(Ciarraí)

BULLETIN BOARD

SAFETY AND GENERAL INFORMATION

SUPPORTERS ARE ASKED TO RESPECT THE FACT THAT THEY ARE ENTERING AND LEAVING THE STADIUM THROUGH RESIDENTIAL AREAS.

BULLETIN BOARD



PÁIRC AN CHRÓCAIGH
THE HOME OF GAELIC GAMES

REGULATIONS Páirc an Chrócaigh

1. All persons entering this ground are admitted only subject to the following Regulations and to the Rules and Regulations of Páirc an Chrócaigh. Entry to the ground shall be deemed to constitute unqualified acceptance of all these Rules and Regulations.
2. Fireworks, smoke canisters, bottles, glasses, cans, flags, banners, poles and other similar articles or containers, including anything which could or might be used as a weapon, are not permitted within the ground, and any persons in possession of such an article or container may be refused entry or ejected from the ground.
3. Spectators are not permitted to bring alcohol into the ground/arena.
4. The climbing of walls, stands or other buildings in the ground is forbidden.
5. Excessive noise such as that from the use of radio sets or other appliances and behaviour likely to cause confusion or nuisance of any kind including foul or abusive language is not permitted in any part of the ground.
6. Under no circumstances is it permitted to throw any objects onto the pitch.
7. Unauthorised persons are not permitted to enter upon the field of play and shall be ejected.
8. Any person who fails to comply with the instructions from a steward may be ejected from the ground.
9. The stadium management reserve the right of admission.
10. The stadium management reserves the right to refuse admission to or to eject any person who refuses to be searched by a member of An Garda Síochána.
11. Any person who remains in a gangway or aisle may be ejected from the ground.
12. Páirc an Chrócaigh reserves the right for its servants or agents to remove from the stadium any person who does not comply with the Ground Regulations or whose presence on the ground could reasonably be construed as constituting a source of danger, nuisance or annoyance to other spectators.

Public Telephone Locations

Cusack Stand

At Lower Level (Level 3) • Pay Phone at Section 309.

Cusack Premium Level 5 • Pay Phone at Section 508.

Hogan Premium Level 5 • Pay Phone at Section 529.



Safety Notice

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

The policy to prohibit such encroachment in the future has been taken to avoid further injuries and possible fatality and has been taken on the advice and promptings of the safety authorities, namely the Gardaí, Dublin City Council, Fire Brigade and the ERHA.

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

CROKE PARK NOW OPERATES A **NO SMOKING** POLICY EXCEPT IN DESIGNATED AREAS OF THE GROUND.



Medical Assistance

Cusack Stand Lower: First Aid Centre rear of Section 312.

Canal Stand Upper: First Aid Centre rear of Section 724.

Hogan Stand Lower: First Aid Centre rear of Section 329.

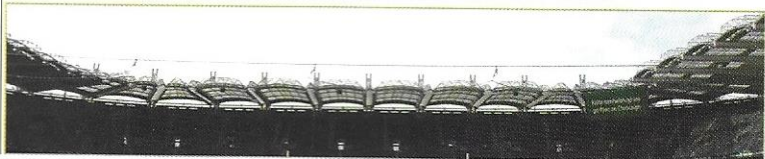
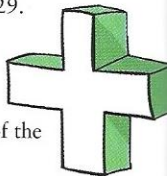
Hill 16: First Aid Centre rear of Section A

Lower Hogan: Medical Centre

The Site Medical Officer will be situated on the pitch in front of the Cusack Stand. All Treatment Centres are staffed by St. John Ambulance Brigade members.

Lost Children

Lost Children can be collected at the above Medical Centres.



Cork v Kerry Love thy neighbour

Some other time, maybe!

With over 25 hours of comprehensive sports coverage and analysis each week - covering 32 counties and a whole lot else - it wouldn't do to take sides. So, whichever side of the Healy Pass you reside*, tune in to Newstalk **106-108 fm** to find out what your neighbour is up to.

newstalk.
106-108 fm

Different Nation - Different Station

*This ad is also available in green and gold.



the **Coke**[™] side of GAA



Coca-Cola[®]

'Coca-Cola', 'Coke', the 'Coke Side of Life', and the Contour Bottle are registered trade marks of the Coca-Cola Company.



Good afternoon and welcome to Croke Park for this greatly anticipated Bank of Ireland Football Championship Final.

It is just four months since the 2007 championship began and within that time we have seen some remarkable

football and enjoyed many exciting moments in the 55 matches that have been played. As always players have enjoyed the support of dedicated fans with attendance figures exceeding one million and many more people tuning in to support their county on television. As ever, passion and excitement were the trademarks of the 2007 Bank of Ireland Football Championship and we witnessed some epic encounters over the summer. Dublin retained the Leinster title but were ultimately defeated by Kerry in a pulsating semi-final meeting, Meath emerged as contenders from Leinster, meanwhile Tyrone retained the Ulster title while Sligo captured their first Connacht provincial title for 32 years.

Cork and Kerry, the remaining two of 33 teams, share a rivalry that extends back to 1889 when

they met for the first time in the Championship; 118 years on they are poised to close another chapter in their colourful football history. If successful today, Cork will celebrate their first All-Ireland football title since 1990 and their seventh in all, while Kerry will take a record 35th title.

Bank of Ireland is honoured to count this year as our 14th year as sponsors of the Football Championship. We are proud of our association with the GAA and the return it gives us in terms of reaffirming our commitment to our customers at both local and national level.

Once again, this year's theme is 'Extraordinary' in recognition of the extraordinary passion and dedication that both players and fans bring to the game. This commitment and devotion, expressed each year by the players and fans illustrates the extraordinary place that Gaelic Football has in Irish society. We are proud to be part of such a unique sporting event where extraordinary commitment, passion and energy are brought to life.

May you all enjoy today's encounter and the very best of luck to both Kerry and Cork in what promises to be a thrilling afternoon of great football and sporting spirit.

Brian J. Goggin, Group Chief Executive

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



PEIL (Buachaillí)

Team V
Corcaigh: Dearg agus Bán
Pitch: Defending Hogan Stand, Davin Stand End.
1. Shane Carthy, St. Marnock's NS, Portmarnock, Co. Bhaile Átha Cliath.
2. Conor McNicholl, CBS Primary, Armagh, Co. Árd Mhacha.
3. Michael Daly, St. Mary's NS, Mountbellew, Co. na Gaillimhe.
4. Mark Russell, Mount Bruis NS, Tipperary, Co. Thiobraid Árann.
5. Kevin Moore, Scoil Naomh Mhuire, Ballynahill, Co. Luimní.
6. Colin Clerkin, Scoil Mhuire, Latton, Co. Mhuineacháin.
7. Diarmaid Ó'Connor, Ballintubber NS, Co. Mhaigh Eó.
8. Ronan Forkin, Moylough NS, Tubbercurry, Co. Shligigh.
9. Conor McMenamin, St. Patrick's Boys School, Downpatrick, Co. an Dúin.
10. Adam Scanlon, Scoil Phríonsias Naofa, Clara, Co. Ulbh Fhailí.

PEIL (Cailíní)

Team W	Team X	Team Y
Ciarraí: Uaithne agus Ór.	Corcaigh: Dearg agus Bán	Ciarraí: Uaithne agus Ór.
Pitch: Defending Cusack Stand, Davin Stand End.	Pitch: Defending Hogan Stand, Hill 16 End.	Pitch: Defending Cusack Stand, Hill 16 End.
1. Ciarán McCloy, St. Mary's PS, Maghera, Co. Dhoire.	1. Megan Atkinson, St. Michael's NS, Annyalla, Co. Mhuineacháin.	1. Grace Egan, Knock NS, Co. Mhaigh Eó.
2. Eoin McHugh, Scoil Chartha Naofa, Kilar, Co. Dhún na nGall.	2. Fionnuala Furphy, Tannaghmore PS, Lurgan, Co. Ard Mhacha.	2. Laura Sheeran, St. Bridget's NS, Duagh, Co. Chiarraí.
3. Darragh Cripps, Shanahoe NS, Abbeyleix, Co. Laoise.	3. Shannon McQuaid, St. Patrick's PS, Aughadarragh, Co. Thír Eoghain.	3. Hannah Cullen, St. Mary's NS, Enfield, Co. an Mhí.
4. Killian Farrell, St. Mel's NS, Ardagh, Co. Longfoirt.	4. Doireann O'Sullivan, Burnfort NS, Co. Chorcaí.	4. Aoife Corcoran, St. Pius X GNS, Terenure, Baile Átha Cliath.
5. Neil Flynn, Maynooth BNS, Maynooth, Co. Chill Dara.	5. Aimeé McNally, St. Mary's NS, Knockbridge, Co. an Lú.	5. Caoine Delaney, The Heath NS, Co. Laoise.
6. Peter Sutton, Oulart NS, Co. Loch Gharraí.	6. Dervla O'Kane, St. John's PS, Swatragh, Co. Dhoire.	7. Emer Fogarty, St. Laurence's NS, Crookstown, Co. Chill Dara.
7. Cormac Costello, St. Fiachra's SNS, Beaumont, Baile Átha Cliath.	7. Lauren Dwyer, Bennekerry NS, Co. Cheatharlach.	8. Stephanie Carroll, Knockea NS, Co. Luimní.
8. Patrick Reihill, Holy Trinity PS, Enniskillen, Co. Fhear Manach.	8. Nicole Kelly, St. Kieran's PS, Poleglass, Co. Aontroma.	9. Niamh McDermott, St. Kenny's NS, Kilpatrick, Co. Iar Mhí.
9. Simon Bouchier, St. Patrick's BNS, Wicklow, Co. Chill Mhantáin.	9. Fiona Bennett, Rathangan NS, Co. Loch Gharraí.	10. Bróna McHugh, St. Mary's Convent NS, Strokestown, Co. Ros Chomáin.
10. Micheál Ó Fiannabhra, Scoil Iognáid Rís, An Daingean, Co. Chiarraí.	10. Leah Caffrey, Scoil Bhríde GNS, Blanchardstown, Baile Átha Cliath.	

RTE RAIDIÓ

NA GAELTACHTA

Scoth na tráchtairachta:
Spórt an Lae 1.15pm – 5.10pm

Togha na hanailíse:
Spórt an Dombnaigh 7pm – 8pm

www.rte.ie/rnag

92 - 94 FM & 102.7FM

- 12.00 i.n.** Stiles open
Entertainment on Big Screen
- 01.10 i.n.** **Doire** amach ar an bpáirc
- 01.12 i.n.** **Gaillimh** amach ar an bpáirc
- 01.24 i.n.** Introduction of Uachtarán C.L.G. Níochlás Ó Braonáin agus a bhean; Éirleamh C.L.G., An Dr. Diarmuid Ó Clúmháin, Ardeaspag Caiseal agus Imleach. **Salute.**
- 01.27 i.n.** Introduction of An Taoiseach leis an t-Ard Stiúrthóir, Liam Ó Maolmhíchíl agus a bhean. **Salute.**
- 01.30 i.n.** Craobh Peile Mhionúir na hÉireann
Doire v Gaillimh
- 02.04 i.n.** INTO/GAA Mini-Games.
- 02.45 i.n.** End of Minor Football Final
- 02.49 i.n.** Presentation of the Cup to the winning captain by An Dr. Diarmuid Ó Clúmháin
- 02.55 i.n.** Offaly Jubilee team of 1982 – introduced by Micheál Ó Muircheartaigh
- 03.05 i.n.** **Corcaigh** amach ar an bpáirc
- 03.07 i.n.** **Ciarraí** amach ar an bpáirc
- 03.11 i.n.** Player profiles
- 03.17 i.n.** Uachtarán na hÉireann introduced. **Salute.**
- 03.18 i.n.** An tUachtarán meets the teams.
- 03.22 i.n.** Paráid na Fóirne
- 03.28 i.n.** Amhrán na bhFiann sung by Elaine Canning
- 03.30 i.n.** Craobh Peile Shinsear na hÉireann
Corcaigh v Ciarraí
- 04.11 i.n.** Entertainment by The Liam O'Connor Band
- 04.22 i.n.** Second half begins
- 05.00 i.n.** Senior Game ends
- 05.03 i.n.** Presentation of The Sam Maguire Cup to the winning captain by Uachtarán Cumann Lúthchleas Gael, Níochlás Ó Braonáin



THE ARTANE BAND PROGRAMME OF MUSIC

Musical Director – **Ronan O'Reilly**
Singer – **Elaine Canning**

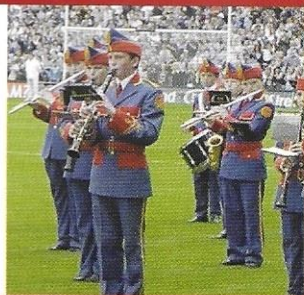
- 12.28pm** Play Away *Wim Laseroms*
Beautiful Sunday *Arr. John Edmunds*
Marching Bossa Nova *Harold L. Walters*
Band Boys *Ed Chenette*
- 1.24pm** Uachtarán C.L.G. **Salute** *R.O'Reilly*
- 1.27pm** Taoiseach. **Salute**
- 2.04pm** On The One Road
- 3.05pm** The Offaly Rover *R.O'Reilly*
- 3.19pm** Presidential Salute *A.J. Potter*
- 3.20pm** Star of the County Down *R.O'Reilly*
- 3.22pm** Parade of the Teams
God Save Ireland *J. Lynch*
- 3.28pm** National Anthem sung by Elaine Canning
- 4.05pm** Half Time with Liam O'Connor accompanied by the Artane Band

Elaine Canning, who sings the “Amhrán na bhFiann” here today, is no stranger to Páirc an Chrócaigh having previously performed at All-Ireland semi-finals and finals as well as the International Rules Test last November. Born in Dublin but living in Cork, she is much in demand as an International Soprano.



HALF TIME ENTERTAINMENT DURING THE SENIOR GAME TODAY WILL BE PROVIDED BY LIAM O'CONNOR ACCOMPANIED BY THE ARTANE BAND

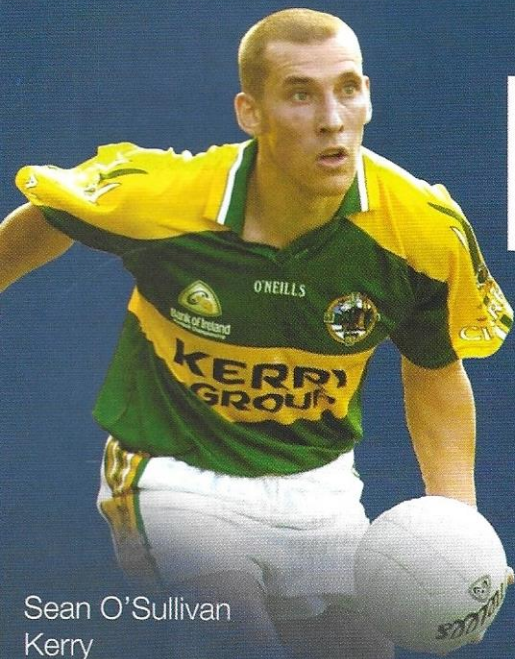
The unique combination of virtuoso accordion player, Liam O'Connor, and the Artane School of Music, will entertain at half-time today. Their debut performance together will include *The Rose of Tralee*, *The Banks Of My Own Lovely Lee* and a selection of jigs and reels featuring Liam O'Connor's dancers from his celebrated show. The collaboration will provide a wonderful musical interlude on the biggest day in Ireland's sporting calendar.





Bank of Ireland

Football Championship

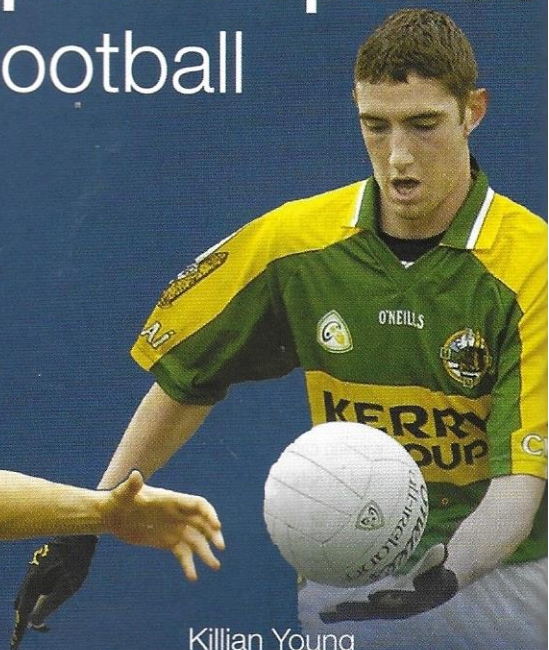


Sean O'Sullivan
Kerry

Bank of Ireland - proud sponsor
of the All Ireland Football
Championship,



Kevin O'Sullivan
Cork



Killian Young
Kerry

even prouder of our
colleagues playing
today!

THE END OF AN ERA

Jim O'Sullivan,
GAA Correspondent,
Irish Examiner

TODAY, Liam Mulvihill will make his last official appearance at an All-Ireland final. And, his signature on the official programme - Liam Ó Maolmhichíl, Árd Stiurthóir - will be seen for the last time. Two months ago he announced his retirement after 28 years of dedicated service to the Association, but officially he is remaining on in office until his successor is appointed and in position.

Other than this ready familiarisation with his name, he might not be as well-known to the public at large as any of the ten Presidents he has worked with since his appointment in June of 1979. But the membership at large is well aware of the vital role he performed in leading the Association through some difficult and challenging times. Most of all for providing inspired leadership.

He is justly credited with being the dynamic figure behind the redevelopment of Croke Park into the magnificent stadium that it is today. A source of great pride to GAA people at home and abroad, its reputation has been enhanced world-wide following the historic playing of rugby and soccer internationals there this year.

Nickey Brennan has described him 'the most able sports administrator in the country,' saying that the Association has never been stronger. "It stands out ahead of any other sporting organisation in this country and for that we will



be indebted to Liam for the stewardship, loyalty and commitment - and the genuine sense of direction he has given to the Association, its presidents and other officials over the years," he said.

Former President Sean McCague, in an address on the occasion of the official opening of the redeveloped Canal End and Hogan Stand in 2003, acknowledged that the Árd Stiurthóir's commitment and dedication to the redevelopment of the stadium 'surpassed that of all others.' "The redevelopment of Croke Park was his vision. His was the dynamic central to the evolution of the master-plan for the stadium and it was his drive and enthusiasm that ensured the continued advancement and completion of the project," he commented.

When the project was first announced, in February of 1992, the scale of the development (calculated then to cost £100m. (punts), eventually working out at Euro 250m.) was breath-taking in its scale and complexity. What was planned was a modern stadium to compare with the best in the world, a futuristic development which promised to propel the Association into the 21st century - and to a degree never imagined by players, officials or supporters.

Its design, construction and

embellishment have been well chronicled. But, what is worth highlighting - and Liam himself regards this as the GREATEST achievement - is that it was carried out without any interruption to the games programme. And that wouldn't have been possible if they had accepted expert advice to change the orientation of the pitch. Other than the agreement to modernise the stadium -as opposed to moving to a greenfield site outside the city - that was a key policy decision.

In Liam's own view, the Croke Park redevelopment was an expression of a new-found confidence in the Association which was given expression by the Centenary celebrations in 1984. "I'd say that the Centenary Year was a huge driver for the Association. Only when the (modern) history of the Association is written will we realise how important it was. It really galvanised the whole Association from the smallest club right up to the top and it never looked back," he says.

"There was an incredible growth in activity at every level. And that has continued. Back then we were pushing clubs to buy their property. Now, for clubs to be borrowing sums of five and ten million Euro is no problem." During his time in charge the Association underwent phenomenal change, notably by allowing sponsorship of county

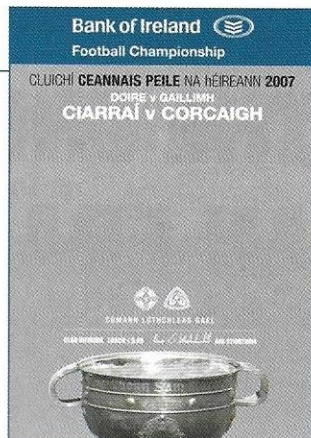
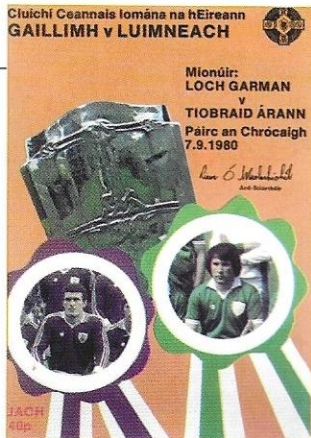
continued overleaf

FOOTBALL FINALS

CLUICHÍ CEANNAIS PEILE NA hÉIREANN

THE END OF AN ERA CONTINUED

teams and, more especially, the All-Ireland championships themselves. And, of course, the expansion of the senior hurling and football competitions have revolutionised the games programme - and with it, vastly increased television coverage. If he has a major concern going forward it relates to the 'tug' between the two levels of competitions, club and county. "The best I think we can ever hope for is to try and find an equilibrium between the two and to have a fair balance. But, you'll never sort it, short of deciding that county players do not play with their clubs. And that would be a revolutionary decision and wouldn't be welcomed by the Association at large. As long as you have that - that they have two masters as it were - it's going to be very difficult...."



All-Ireland Final programmes spanning 28 years bearing Liam Ó Maolmhichíl's signature.

Reflecting on his career, he feels that he 'flew through his 30's, 40's and 50's' before reaching the stage when he knew it was time to retire and 'to do something much less strenuous.' "I took it up saying that it was my hobby but the longer I went on in the position I discovered it was much more than a full-time hobby. It did become a way of life - which was inevitable because the GAA has such a high profile and the job is so

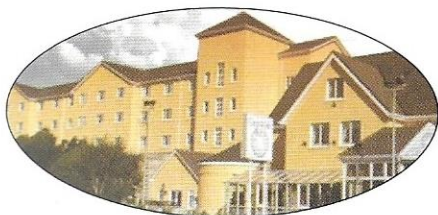
demanding. Just like the President, it subsumes everything."

Through it all, he had the active support and encouragement of his wife Máire, as well as the understanding of his children, his daughter Daráine - who touched the heart of the nation through her brave recovery from serious illness - and sons Fionán and Aonghus, both of whom share their father's passion for hurling.



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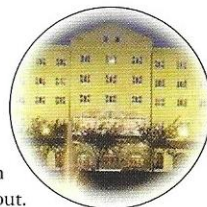
Northbound traffic - take the slip road off the road at Junction 20 onto the old road marked Jonesborough/Carrickarnon.
Southbound traffic - take the first exit after Cloughogue Roundabout at Junction 19 onto the old road or take the second exit after Cloughogue Roundabout at Junction 20, signposted Jonesborough/Carrickarnon.



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Wishing the Derry Team every success



ON THE TRAIL OF SAM

A FIRST FOR MUNSTER

- This is the first all-Munster Bank of Ireland All-Ireland senior football championship final. The only other one featuring counties from the same province was in 2003 when Armagh's bid for a successful defence of the title was ended by Tyrone, who won their first ever title that year.
- Kerry have a chance to bridge a lengthy gap in this game. No county has retained the All-Ireland title since Cork made in two in succession in 1990 with a win over Mayo. A high-powered display by Shea Fahy in midfield did much to set the scene for their 0-11 to 0-9 win over Meath. Cork were led by centre half forward Larry Tompkins.
- The Kingdom last retained the title in 1986 when they turned a seven points deficit five minutes in the second half into a 2-15 to 1-10 win over final newcomers Tyrone for a third title in succession. Pat Spillane and Michael Sheehy were two of Kerry's brightest stars. Each scored 1-4. Kerry were captained from right half back by Tommy Doyle, who also had a good game.
- Cork have not won the All-Ireland senior crown since that 1990 triumph.

FOURTH FINAL IN A ROW

Kerry are appearing in their fourth final in succession. They beat Mayo in 2004 and 2006 and lost to Tyrone in 2005.

Cork's only outing in the top game of the year since their last title win in 1990 was in 1999 when they went down to Graham Geraghty-led Meath. The Rebels were led by Philip Clifford from right full forward.

ONE UP ON KERRY

- Cork are one up on Kerry in that they have the distinction of being the first Munster county to win the new Sam Maguire Cup. They were also involved in the last final for the old Sam Maguire Cup and the first for the new trophy.
- In 1987 Meath and Cork renewed championship final rivalry after twenty years when they met for the All-Ireland title. That was the last game in which the old Sam Maguire Cup was on offer for the winners and Meath came out on top by 1-14 to 0-11. Meath and Cork played a draw in the 1988 final, and the Royals triumphed in the replay by 0-13 to 0-12 to become the first winners of the new Sam Maguire Cup.
- Cork were back again for the 1989 final and their meeting with Mayo is entitled to rank as "The Friendly Final". It was a memorable encounter, brightened by skilled play and good individual displays. Niall Cahalane celebrated a dramatic come-back with a five-star display at right full back. He missed all of Cork's earlier games because of ligament trouble, but celebrated his return with a game to remember. Dinny Allen led Cork to their 0-17 to 1-11 win and ranking as the first Munster county to inscribe their name on the new Sam Maguire Cup.

KERRY LEADERS

Kerry are leaders in terms of successes in the new Sam Maguire Cup era. They won the trophy for the first time in 1997, regained the trophy in 2000, recorded their third success in 2004 and made it four successes last September.

Meath, who were led by Joe Castles to the first new Cup win in 1988 after a replay, have three successes. Their others

were in 1996 and 1999.

Cork, 1989 and 1990, Down 1991 and 1994, Galway 1998 and 2001, Tyrone 2003 and 2005, and Donegal 1992, Derry 1993, Dublin 1995, Armagh 2002 complete the record.

FIRST IN TWO YEARS

The last year four counties were represented in the All-Ireland senior and minor double bill was two years ago when Down beat Mayo at minor, and Tyrone beat Kerry at senior.

KERRY'S LAST DEFEAT

- Kerry's last defeat in senior championship football was in a Munster final replay against Cork at Páirc Uí Chaoimh last year. The counties drew at 0-10 each at Killarney. A week later the excellent finishing technique of James Masters proved a powerful platform from which Cork built a 1-12 to 0-9 win. Masters, who gave a man-of-the-match display, scored 1-6.
- The Cork team included Alan Quirke, Graham Canty, Kieran O'Connor, Michael Shields, Ger Spillane, Anthony Lynch, Nicholas Murphy, Derek Kavanagh, Pearse O'Neill, James Masters, Kevin McMahon and Donncha O'Connor. Conor McCarthy went in as a substitute,
- On duty for Kerry were Diarmuid Murphy, Aidan O'Mahony, Marc Ó Sé, Tomás Ó Sé, Tom O'Sullivan, Darragh Ó Sé, Eoin Brosnan, Paul Galvin, Declan O'Sullivan, Colm Cooper and Billy Sheehan. Mike Frank Russell went in as a substitute.

- Since then, Kerry have played eight games in the senior championship and won them all.



POOR START

Both Cork and Kerry did not look back on their first ventures into championship football with any degree of satisfaction. In fact, both counties experienced a very poor initiation to the

demands of the game.

Kerry did not take part in the first championship of 1887, nor indeed the following year and when they did debut in 1889 they notched just a lone point against Cork at Mallow. But if the Kingdom made a poor start, Cork fared even worse as, in the opening round of the inaugural campaign (1887) at Dungarvan, they finished scoreless against Kilkenny (0-4). The Rebels never avenged that defeat as their paths never again crossed in championship football.

AN EARLY DEFENCE

When Kerry and Cork met at the Markets Field, Limerick in the opening round of the 1904 championship on October 29th 1905, the Kingdom had still to play the 1903 All-Ireland final in which they would oppose London. Nothing daunted, Kerry took on the exiles at Jones's Road on November 12th 1905 and won by 0-11 to 0-3, having two weeks earlier defeated the Leesiders by 1-4 to nil. Thus did Kerry start their 1904 programme before they had completed the 1903 version.

A TWO-MINUTE GAME!

Dublin are listed as All-Ireland champions for 1894, but it could so easily have been Cork. In what was the first drawn final in either code, Cork (1-1) and Dublin (0-6) finished level at Clonturk Park (a goal equalled five points). The replay took place at Thurles a month later, but the arrangements were less than perfect as the huge crowd on several occasions spilled onto the pitch.

With only a couple of minutes remaining Cork led by 1-2 to 0-5 when Dublin walked off, claiming that it was impossible to continue. Cork, not surprisingly, were willing to finish the hour and in the circumstances expected to be awarded the game. But at the next meeting of the Central Council there was some difference of opinion as to what should be done. There was even a suggestion that the teams meet and play for just two minutes! Neither county was willing to accept that solution and, despite Cork protests the decision, was to fix a third game. Outraged, Cork refused to play and eventually Dublin were declared champions. Thus did Cork fail to take a second football title.

THE NOT-SO MAGNIFICENT SEVEN

Much has been said and written about Mayo's ill-luck in All-Ireland finals in recent years (they've lost five since 1989), but the green and red's unhappy experience in finals pales beside Cork in the early years of the championship when bad luck, bad judgements and bad decisions deprived them of titles they might have won.

Although the Rebel county won the first All-Ireland football final they contested (1890), it all went quickly astray as they lost the 1891 final to Dublin and then came the unfinished 1893 decider with Wexford. When the game terminated ten minutes into the second half the Slaneysiders were leading and subsequently were awarded the title.

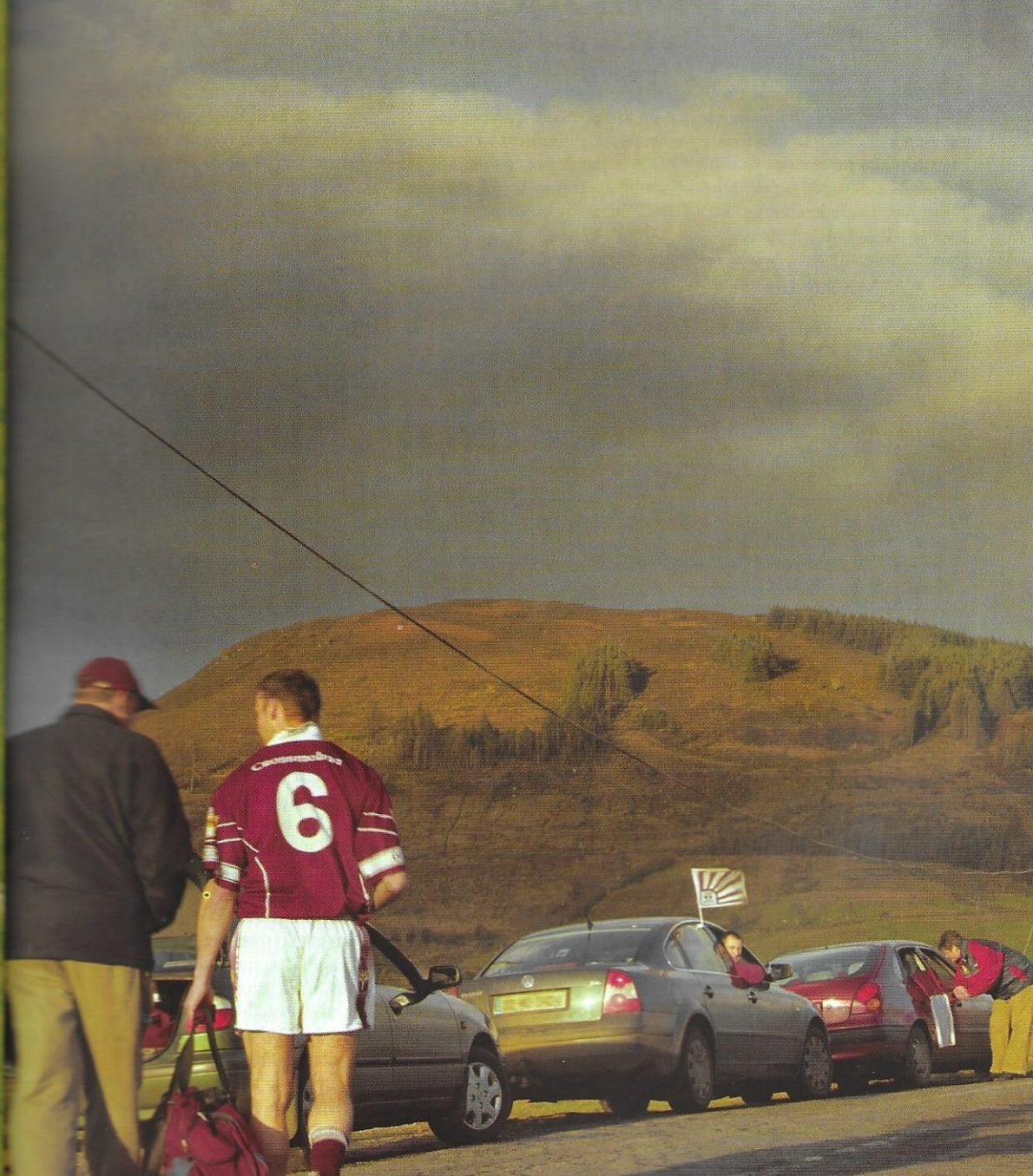
A year later Cork were leading when Dublin left the field in the replayed final at Thurles with just two minutes remaining (see left). In 1901 the Leesiders lost the "Home" final to their old foes by the minimum margin and that was also the margin six years later as Dublin again came out on top in a close contest.

In the 17 years between 1891 and 1907 Cork played in seven All-Ireland finals and had nothing to show for it.



SIDE LINES

AIB CLUB CHAMPIONSHIP BE PART OF IT



Supporting Clubs.
Supporting Communities.



Coimhlint Aitiúil – Suim Náisiúnta

B'ionn fíor-iomaíocht i gcónaí nuair a bhíonn laochra na Ríochta agus Na Reibiliúnaigh in aghaidh a chéile. Is amhlaidh a bheidh sé um thráthnóna freisin nuair a bheidh siad i ngleic don chéad uair riamh i gcluiche ceannais Uile-Éireann. Beidh stair á dhéanamh agus beidh fonn ar na Ciarraigh an dara chraobh as a chéile a bhaint - rud a rinne Na Deargaigh i 1990/91.

Nuair a chas na sean-namhaid ar a chéile i gcluiche ceannais na Mumhan i rith an tsamhraidh, is fíor go raibh dearg mhí-adh ar Chorcaigh nach raibh an lá leo. Ní raibh ach cic eatarthu. Beidh fonn díoltais ar Billy Morgan agus a imreoirí um thráthnóna agus beidh cuimhne acu freisin ar a tharla faoi dhó dóibh i gcluichí leathcheannais i bPáirc an Chrócaigh in aghaidh Na Ríochta. Caithfear a chur san áireamh freisin go mbeidh cuid de na himreoirí is fearr sa tír le blianta fada anuas ar an bPáirc inniu. Cé mhéid imreoir a bhí níos fearr ná Darragh Ó Sé i lár a ghoirt? An bhfuil Colm 'Gooch' Cooper inchurtha le réalta mór le rá na seachtóidí agus na hochtóidí nó níos faide siar? Bhí daoine a rá nach mbeadh suim ró-mhór sa chluiche ceannais seo os rud é gur coimhlint aitiúil í. Ní mar sin atá. Tá gach mac máthar sa tír ag súil le hard-chath.

Is fíor go bhfuil brú de shaghas ar Chorcaigh um thráthnóna de bharr a tharla dóibh sna cluichí leathcheannais a luadh. Tá brú i bhfad níos mo ar Ciarraí, áfach. Má theipeann orthu beidh deireadh le Darragh agus cúpla duine eile. Beidh foireann nua a thógáil ag bainisteoir na bliana seo chugainn. Beidh sé deacair

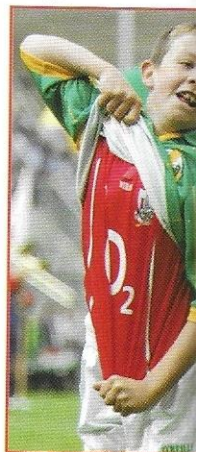
iad a chloí, áfach, go háirithe leis na tosaithe atá acu. Tá seisear acu atá go maith i ndann na scóranna a aimsiú. Tá Declan O'Sullivan ar bharr a mhaitheasa i mbliana freisin. Tá sé mar rogha na núdar do ghradam 'Imreoir na Bliana'. Cosúil le Paul Galvin tá sé breá sásta an obair dhian a dhéanamh ar fud na páirce freisin. Is breá le hEoin Brosnan páirc fhairsing an Chrócaigh ar na laethanta móra agus taobh istigh tá Cooper, Donaghy agus Bryan Sheehan ó Chathair Saidhbhín. Bhí Donaghy go mór i mbéal an phobail anuraidh agus is cinnte go mbeidh tionchur ollmhóir aige ar chúrsaí an lae inniu freisin. An mbeidh sé os comhair an chúil nó i lár a ghoirt - sin ceist thabachtach.

Ní haon dóithíní iad na Corcaigh ach an oiread. An bhfuil peileadóirí ar aon fhoireann níos fearr timpeall lár na páirce ná Ger Spillane, Nicholas Murphy, Derek Kavanagh agus Pearse O'Neill? Is feidir leis na fir úd na coimhlintí aonair a bhuaichint agus tá Nollaig Ó Laoire agus Kevin McMahan acu freisin chun seilbh a fhail nuair a bhriseann an liathróid. Tá sé rí-thabachtach dóibh seilbh a fháil i lár na páirce áit a bheidh fíor-chath idir Darragh Ó Sé agus Nicholas Murphy. B'fheidir nach mbeidh lá mór mar seo arís ag Darragh i bPáirc an Chrócaigh. Beidh fonn air an beart a dhéanamh don Ríocht inniu agus an stáitse mór a fhágáil le bua. Ma bhíonn sé ar bharr a mhaitheasa beidh Declan O'Sullivan ag ardú Sam ar Ardán Uí Ogáin um thráthnóna. Má tá seans ag Corcaigh beidh orthu an cath lár-páirce a bhuaichint mar níl a gcuid tosaithe inchurtha le tosaithe Chiarraí. Beidh James

Masters ar ais dóibh agus is maith san. Braithfidh morán ar chonas a úsáidfidh siad Michael Cussen - an fear mór. Beidh sé ag teastáil os chomhair an chúil áit a raibh sé ar fheabhas i gcluiche ceannais na Mumhan.

Tá cúlaithe láidre ag an dá fhoireann - leithéidí Graham Canty, Michael Shields agus Nollaig Ó Laoire do Chorcaigh - Mark agus Tomás Ó Sé agus Aidan O'Mahony don Ríocht. Dúradh go mbeadh fadhanna móra ag Ciarraí i mbliana gan Séamus Moynihan agus Mike McCarthy.

Braithfidh siad uathu iad gan amhras ach tháinig siad ar Pádraig Reidy agus Killian Young agus ní haon dóithíní iad an bheirt úd. Tá Ciarraí an-láidir agus bhí bealach i bhfad níos déine acu chuig chluiche an lae inniu ná a gcéilí comhraic. Bhí dian-chluichí acu in aghaidh Chorcaí, Mhuineachán agus fir na príomhchathrach. Chloí Corcaigh Laois, Sligeach agus An Mhí agus ní raibh siad thar mholadh abeirte in aon cheann dena cluichí sin. Agus sin go léir ráite caithfimid a admháil nach mbíonn na gnáth rialacha i bhfeidhm nuair a bhíonn iomaíocht aitiúil i gceist. Braithfidh gach rud ar cad a thitfidh amach ar an la. Ceaptar, áfach, go mbeidh an lámh in uachtar ag Ciarraí.



BRISEANN AN DÚCHA
Mini-Sevens participant, Eoghan O'Connell, St. Anthony's BNS, Ballinlough, a cousin of Irish rugby international, Paul O'Connell, showed his true colours as he left the field at the Kerry v. Dublin semi-final. He wore the Kerry jersey for the exhibition game but sported his Cork colours underneath — a true rebel.
Photo: Piaras Ó Míchéil

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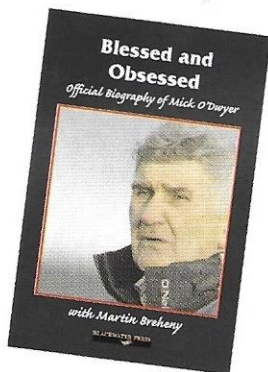
The Inside Story of a True GAA Legend

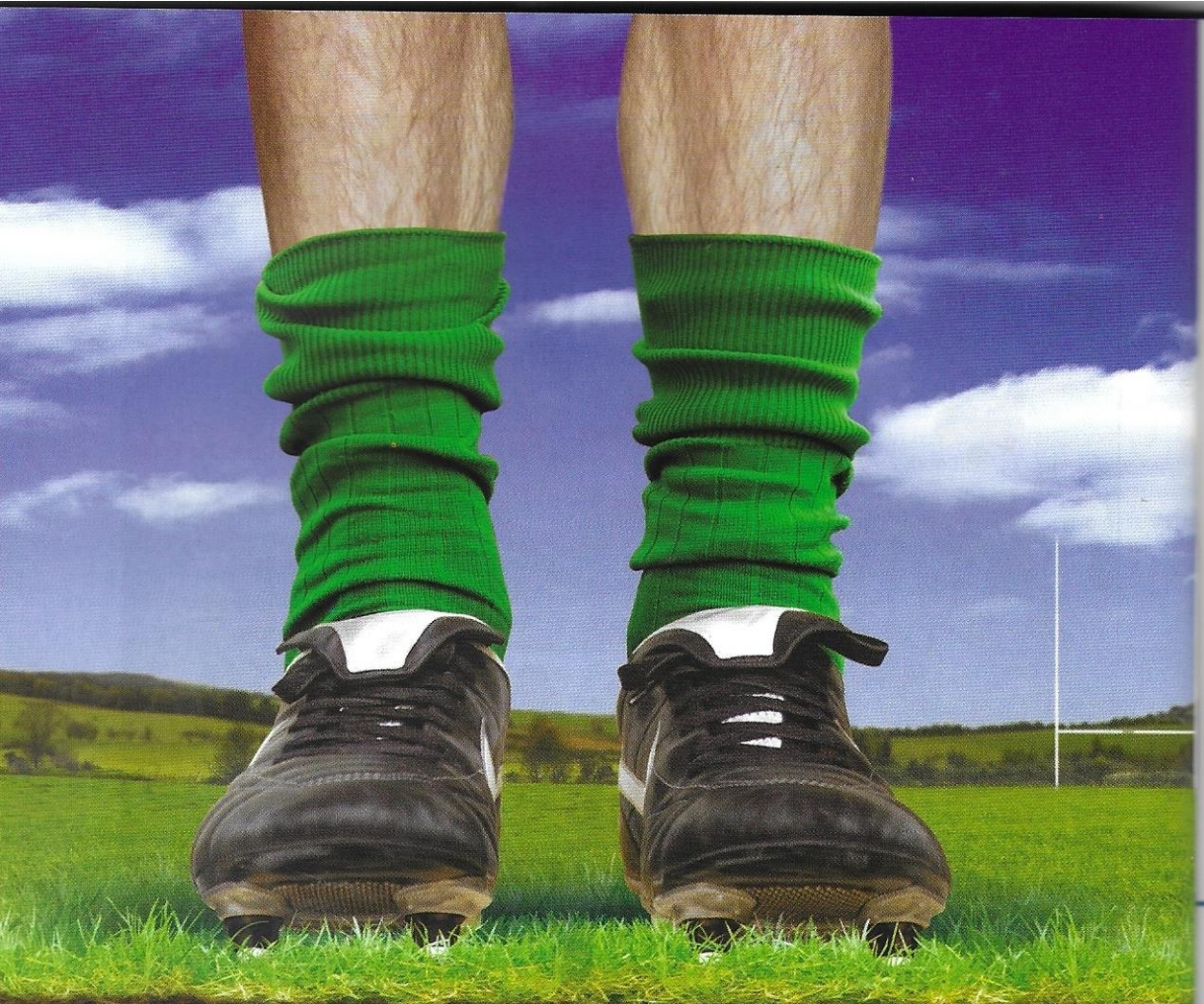
Blessed and Obsessed is the personal story of Mick O'Dwyer's fascinating 50-year adventure, first as an outstanding player with Kerry and then as a record-breaking manager with Kerry, Kildare, Laois and Wicklow.

Honest, insightful, controversial, colourful, humorous and definitely not to be missed.

'Everybody else has had their say, now it's my turn to set the record straight' - Mick O'Dwyer

Publication Date: November 6





**ESB ALL IRELAND MINOR
FOOTBALL AND HURLING
CHAMPIONSHIPS**



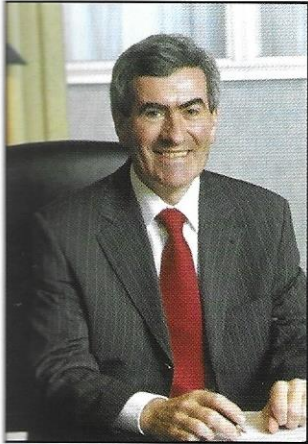
CELEBRATING THE POWER OF PEOPLE.





MESSAGE FROM ESB

SPONSORS OF THE ESB ALL-IRELAND MINOR HURLING FINAL



This is the third year of ESB's sponsorship of the All-Ireland Minor Hurling and Football Championships and we are very pleased to be back in Croke Park to share the spectacle of a final between Derry and Galway as they challenge for the Tom Markham Cup.

All Ireland Final Day is one of the great annual dramas in Irish sport. Today we come together to watch a thriller between two counties steeped in the proud traditions of football competing before one of the largest crowds at any single sporting event in the world.

ESB's sponsorship of two of our national sports at Minor level – where the stars of the future are nurtured – is one of the most appropriate business-sporting alliances in Ireland. Both ESB and the GAA Minor Championships have reached their ninth decade, being founded in the 1920s.

ESB's sponsorship of the Minor Championships reaches far beyond any commercial purpose and deep into Ireland's cultural, social and sporting life. It makes perfect sense that ESB should join forces with a sporting organisation that mirrors a deep involvement in Irish society.

We wish the very best of luck to both Derry and Galway in another afternoon of great Minor football in Croke Park.

Pádraig McManus
Chief Executive ESB

A FIRST MINOR FINAL BETWEEN DERRY AND GALWAY

This ESB All-Ireland minor football final brings Derry and Galway into opposition in the decider for the first time.

These counties were last engaged in a minor championship game in a semi-final in 1995 when in a thrilling finish Enda Muldoon scored a late goal to snatch a dramatic one point win for the Oak Leaf County.

Galway trailed by seven points early in the second half, but rallied so well that coming up to the final whistle they led by a point.

Then came a sideline kick for Derry. Midfielder and captain Johnny McBride sent a well-directed sideline kick into the Hill 16 goal area, where centre half forward Muldoon gained possession and sent to the net to earn the Ulster champions a 3-7 to 1-12 win.

The Derry team also included Gary Coleman at right half forward, and Adrian McGuckin at left half forward.

Among those on duty with Galway were Pádraig Joyce, Michael Donnellan, Derek Savage and John Divilly.

NO GOALS

Roscommon and Kerry failed to score a goal when they played a draw in last year's final. That was also the first final to end all square since 2003 when Laois and Dublin each scored 1-11. Laois won the replay by 2-10 to 1-9 at Carlow.

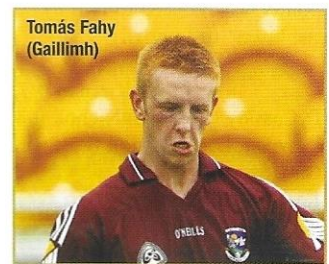
LAST CONNACHT WIN

Roscommon recorded the last title win by a Connacht county last year when they beat Kerry in a replay at Ennis.

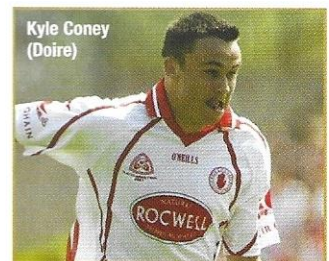
ULSTER'S LAST SUCCESS

Down scored the last All-Ireland

final win by an Ulster county in 2005 when they beat Mayo by 1-15 to 0-8.



Tomás Fahy
(Gaillimh)



Kyle Coney
(Doire)

TWO MEETINGS

1983 Derry 0-16 Galway 3-5

The scoreline in this All-Ireland semi/final might suggest that this was a closely-run affair which either side could have won.

That, however, was not the case with only Galway's ability to snatch goals against the run of play keeping them in touch with a team that tended to relax their grip on proceedings at various stages.

With Peter Young providing the vital midfield pull Derry were attacking for most of the opening 30 minutes and, as an over-worked Galway defence conceded frees, Tommy McKiernan made them pay dearly with his immaculate place-kicking. Despite dominating matters Derry led by just three points at the break after Dickie Canavan slipped in for a goal (0-8 to 1-2). Derry took it up again on the restart, but with less than a minute remaining their lead of five points was reduced to two by the losers' third goal.

Derry scorers: T.McKiernan 0-7, D.Cassidy 0-4, C.McNicholl 0-3, E.Lynch, D.McNicholl 0-1 each.
Galway scorers: P.Murphy 1-1, J.McDonagh 0-3, R.Flaherty, D.Canavan 1-0 each, M.Gavin 0-1.

Doire – D.Kelly, P.O'Donnell, P.Bradley, P.McGrillis, R.Conway, B.Kealy, N.Mullan, C.Barton, P.Young, D.McNicholl, S.McGurk, D.Cassidy, C.McNicholl, E.Lynch, T.McKiernan. Sub – T.Walls (Mullan).

Gaillimh – M.McNamara, J.Fallon, W.Forkan, D.Walsh,

E.Kyne, T.Greaney, P.Malone, M.Barrett, T.Higgins, J.McDonagh, A.Rowe, R.Flaherty, M.Gavin, P.Murphy, D.Canavan. Subs – D.Murphy (Malone), D.Cooke (Higgins).

1995 Derry 3-7 Galway 1-12

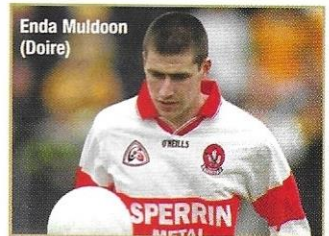
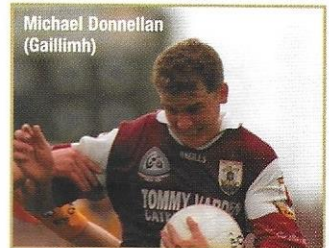
If ever a team was shattered with victory in sight it was the Galway team which looked certain to prevail in this semi/final clash at Croke Park. Many of the attendance – and they were not all Galway followers – would maintain that the Connacht champions at least deserved a second chance, but no game is won or lost until the final whistle, and that was the message brought home with crushing finality in this absorbing encounter between two talented and committed teams.

Both in turn looked to have taken charge; Galway in the early stages until a Derry free from 60 yards sailed into the net. The Oak Leaf had a second goal at the 20th minute which helped them into an interval lead of 2-2 to 0-5. The Ulster champions resumed impressively and were seven points clear by the end of the third quarter. Galway surged back impressively and moved in front just before the hour, but in a final desperate assault Derry's third goal decided the issue.

Derry scorers: E.Muldoon 1-2, J.Cassidy, J.McBride 1-1 each, G.Cassidy 0-2, A.McGuckin 0-1.
Galway scorers: B.Moran 0-5, D.Reilly 1-1, S.Cloherly, M.Donnellan 0-2 each, D.Savage, S.Conlisk 0-1 each.

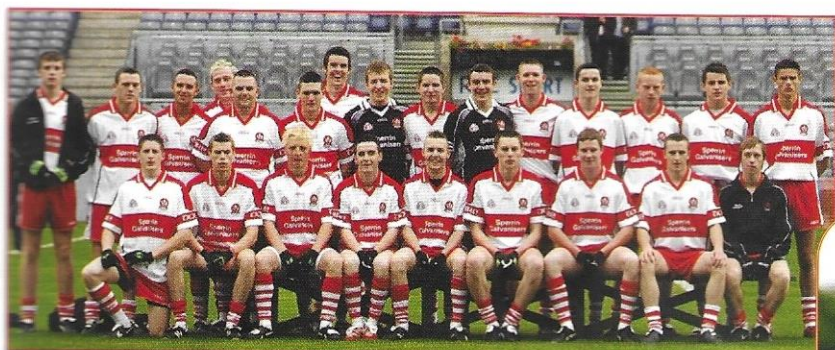
Doire – D.Hopkins, J.Heaney, M.Kelly, E.McGilloway, P.McFlynn, K.McNally, P.Diamond, J.McBride, G.Doyle, G.Coleman, E.Muldoon, A.McGuckin, G.Cushenan, J.Cassidy, B.Kearney. Sub – G.Cassidy (Kearney).

Gaillimh – P.Wallace, T.Meehan, M.Waldron, M.J.Kilmartin, J.Divilly, R.Fahy, A.Dempsey, M.Donnellan, S.Cloherly, K.Comer, P.Joyce, S.Conlisk, D.Savage, B.Moran, D.Reilly. Subs – M.Newell (Comer), M.Turner (Joyce).



Foes are old friends

Minor captains Paul Conroy of Galway and Derry's James Kielt have a unique story to tell and already know each other quite well ahead of today's final. Back in July 2003 when Féile Peil na nÓg was held in Galway, Kielt's Kilrea club were hosted by Conroy's St James' and the Derry captain stayed with Paul and the Conroy family for the weekend in Renmore in Galway City! Little did they know that just four short years later they would line up against each other in Croke Park on All Ireland final day.



The Derry panel which beat Laois in the Semi-Final:
Back Row (l-r): Liam Morrow, Darren Donnelly, Aidan Heron, John Devlin (at back), Gavin McGeehan, Daniel Heavron, Cailean O'Boyle (at back), Andrew Warnock, Mickey McKinney, Aidan McLaughlin, John Francis Bradley, Carlus McWilliams, Conor Nevin, Lee Kennedy, Christopher McKaigue (Vice Capt).
Front Row (l-r): Declan Mullan, Stephen Cleary, Ciaran McFeely, Lee Moore, Declan Bell, James Kielt (Capt), Paul Heaney, Brendan Henry, Neil Forrester.



An Captain
James Kielt

Doire

DERRY FOUND WINNING FORMULA AT SECOND ATTEMPT

Derry have put their ESB Ulster minor football final one point defeat by Tyrone last July firmly behind them with come-back wins over Cork and Laois in a replay. Those successes underline that they go into this All-Ireland final with much to encourage them.

In their first meeting with Laois in their semi-final at Croke Park last month, the Oak Leaf boys looked "home and dried" when they led by eight points after fifty-three minutes. They were then rocked by a Laois come-back that had the Leinster champions on level terms at the final whistle.

In the replay at An Uaimh at the start of September the exchanges were keen enough early on, before Derry found the goal scoring touch in remarkable style. Three in a golden six minutes spell helped them to a 3-3 to 0-3 lead after twenty minutes.

However, they went through a barren scoring spell for a time after that and midway through the

second half, the O'Moore County were just two points adrift.

RESPONSE

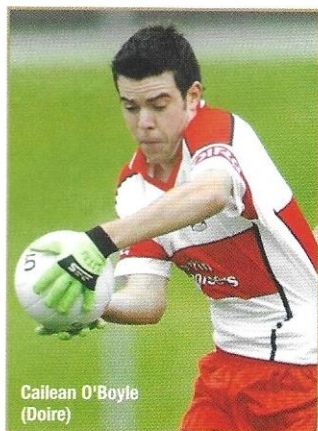
Derry responded in fine style. A good movement ended with centre half forward Aidan Heron collecting his second goal of the game. Spurred on by that score the Northerners dominated matters and went eight points clear.

As in the drawn game, Laois hit back well and collected a good goal to leave just four points between the sides. Their cause was not helped when they had a second player sidelined by the referee and Derry finished merited winners by 4-7 to 1-11.

This was a good all round performance by Derry, with Heron the ace in the pack with his good general play and a return of 2-1. Full forward Gavin McGeehan was another trump card up front. He had an excellent game, was involved in all four goals, and helped himself as well to 1-3.

Team captain James Kielt and Cailean Boyle got through much valuable work in midfield, and the defence, anchored well by John F. Bradley and Christopher McKaigue, ensured that it was a difficult day for the Laois attack.

Derry, then, return to Croke Park buoyed up by a win that should prove a real morale-booster for this bid to bring the Tom Markham Cup back to the county after five years.



Cailean O'Boyle
 (Doire)

TOP SCORERS

Whatever the outcome of today's final it appears Laois has provided the top two marksmen in the 2007 minor championship. Donal Kingston looks set for the title with Conor Meredith just two points in arrears in second, and in reality only Darren McDermott's hold on third position looks precarious. Just two points from Michael Martyn this afternoon will secure third spot, but the O'Moore county duo appear out of reach. Lee Moore and James Kielt are also in a position to challenge for a podium position.

The top ten (12) currently reads:



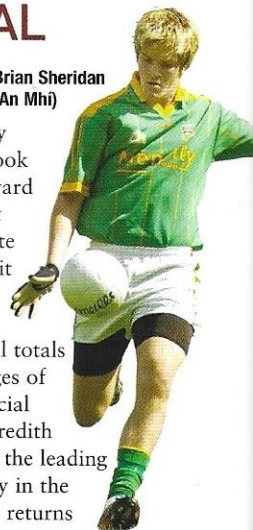
**Donal Kingston
(Laois)**

	Score	Total
1 – Donal Kingston (Laois)	2-31	37
2 – Conor Meredith (Laois)	4-23	35
3 – Darren McDermott (Roscommon)	1-22	25
4 – Sean Carey (Tipperary)	2-18	24
Michael Martyn (Galway)	3-15	24
Barry John Walsh (Kerry)	3-15	24
7 – Brian Smith (Laois)	4-11	23
8 – Lee Moore (Derry)	2-15	21
9 – Ian Ryan (Limerick)	2-14	20
10 – Nigel Dunne (Offaly)	0-18	18
James Kielt (Derry)	1-15	18
Con Murphy (Carlow)	2-12	18

INDIVIDUAL FEATS

**Brian Sheridan
(An Mhí)**

Two year's ago Timmy Dalton of Tipperary took the individual feats award and it looks likely that Sean Carey will emulate that achievement, albeit in a tie with Brian Sheridan of Meath. Both recorded personal totals of 2-5 in the early stages of their respective provincial campaigns. Conor Meredith of Laois almost joined the leading duo but fell a point shy in the Leinster final. Just five returns (ten last year) of nine points or better were recorded in the current campaign and they are:



Sean Carey (Tipperary)

2-5 v Clare – 21st April, Kilmallock

Brian Sheridan (Meath)

2-5 v Carlow – 14th April, Dr Cullen Park

Conor Meredith (Laois)

3-1 v Carlow – 15th July, Croke Park

Darren McDermott (Roscommon)

1-6 v Mayo – 23rd June, Hyde Park

Ian Coffey (Westmeath)

1-6 v Wexford – 7th April, Wexford Park

ROLL OF HONOUR

- | | |
|-------------|---|
| 11. Kerry: | 1931, 1932, 1933, 1946, 1950, 1962, 1963, 1975, 1980, 1988, 1994. |
| 10. Dublin: | 1930, 1945, 1954, 1955, 1956, 1958, 1959, 1979, 1982, 1984. |
| Cork: | 1961, 1967, 1968, 1969, 1972, 1974, 1981, 1991, 1993, 2000. |
| 6. Mayo: | 1935, 1953, 1966, 1971, 1978, 1985. |
| Tyrone: | 1947, 1948, 1973, 1998, 2001, 2004. |
| 5. Galway: | 1952, 1960, 1970, 1976, 1986. |
| 4. Derry: | 1965, 1983, 1989, 2002. |
| Down: | 1977, 1987, 1999, 2005. |
| Roscommon: | 1939, 1941, 1951, 2006. |
| 3. Laois: | 1996, 1997, 2003. |
| Meath: | 1957, 1990, 1992. |
| 2. Cavan: | 1937, 1938. |
| Louth: | 1936, 1940. |
| 1. Armagh: | 1949. |
| Clare: | 1929. |
| Offaly: | 1964. |
| Tipperary: | 1934. |
| Westmeath: | 1995. |

NOTE: This championship was suspended from 1942 to 1944 inclusive because of World War II.



TOM MARKHAM CUP

The winners of the All-Ireland minor football championship are presented with the Tom Markham Cup, which was first presented for the 1940 final. Louth beat Mayo by 5-5 to 2-7 in that final. The trophy commemorates a great Dublin Gael, Tom Markham.



The Galway panel which beat Kerry in the Semi-Final:

Back Row L to R: Sean Denver, Martin Coady, Joe Joe Greaney, Jonathan Ryan, Anthony Griffen, Keith Kelly, John O'Brien, Damien O'Reilly, Lorcan Connelly, Rory O' Neill, Jamie Burke, Eoin O'Mahony, Damien Walsh, Jason Devane.

Middle Row :Colin Forde, Declan Rhattigan, Tommy Walsh, Paul Conroy Capt, Owen Higgins, Michael Martyn, Conor Doherty, Tomas Fahy, Damien Reddington, Justin Burke, Ronan Burke, Derek Ryder, Daniel Dennigan.

Front Row: Kevin Conlon, Enna Glynn, Oisín O'Brien, Michael Hocht.



An Captaen
Paul Conroy

Gaillimh

TWO GOAL BARRAGE A WINNING PLATFORM FOR GALWAY

It is often said that "goals win matches" and two inside half a minute in the first half provided a strong platform for Galway to chart their way to victory over Kerry at Croke Park last month for a first appearance in an All-Ireland minor football final since 1994 when they lost to the Kingdom.

After opening promisingly to go three points clear early on, Galway lost their way somewhat as Kerry, with six of the squad that lost last year's All-Ireland final replay to Roscommon, took over.

Five unanswered points suggested they were setting out their stall for a good win, but Galway responded well, and goals by centre half forward Tommy Walsh and attacking half back Conor Doherty inside half a minute put them three points clear. However, Kerry responded well

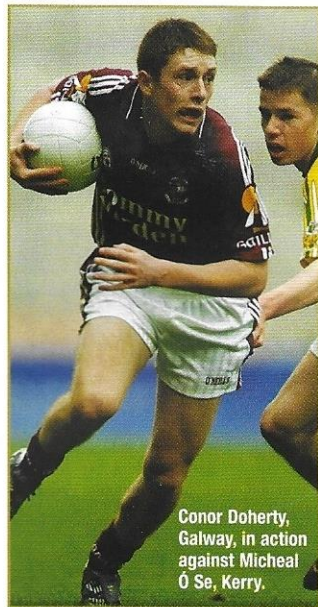
and the sides finished on level terms at the break—2-5 to 0-11. The teams exchanged points in the early stages of the second half, but Galway captain Paul Conroy and Anthony Griffin came more into the game at midfield to steadily swing the balance their way.

The points scoring flair of Damien Reddington, Eoin O'Mahony and John O'Brien further enhanced the Galway cause, and they finished worthy winners by 2-14 to 0-17.

Conroy led by example and also helped himself to a brace of points. Michael Martyn, further underlined his finishing powers with four points, and Walsh took his goal well. The solid defence was well anchored by goal-getting half back Doherty, full Colin Forde and Tom Fahy.

This win over the more experienced Kerry outfit was a

noteworthy one by Galway and is bound to prove a real boost to confidence for the bid to capture a crown that has eluded the county since as far back as 1986.



Conor Doherty, Galway, in action against Micheal Ó Se, Kerry.

PATHS TO THE FINAL

Doire

3rd June, Casement Park:

Derry 1-10 Antrim 0-3

24th June, Casement Park:

Derry 1-11 Monaghan 0-1

15th July, Clones:

Derry 1-6 Tyrone 0-10

11th August, Croke Park:

Derry 1-8 Cork 1-7

26th August, Croke Park:

Derry 1-15 Laois 2-12

1st September, Navan:

Derry 4-7 Laois 1-11

Total Scored 9-57 (84 points)

Total Conceded 4-44 (56 points)

Average 1.5

	1	2	3	4	5	6	Total
Lee Moore	1-2	0-5	0-2	0-2	1-3	0-1	2-15
James Kielt	0-5	0-3	0-3	1-1	0-3	—	1-15
Gavin McGeehan	—	1-1	1-0	0-1	0-1	1-3	3-6
Aidan Heron	—	—	—	0-1	0-3	2-1	2-5
Declan Mullan	0-2	—	0-1	0-3	0-3	0-1	0-10
Stephen Cleary	—	—	—	—	—	1-1	1-1
Lee Kennedy	0-1	0-1	—	—	—	—	0-2
Christopher McKaigue	—	—	—	—	0-2	—	0-2
Paul Heaney	—	0-1	—	—	—	—	0-1

Lee Moore
(Doire)



	1	2	3	4	Total
Michael Martyn	0-5	2-2	1-4	0-4	3-15
Jonathan Ryan	0-2	—	1-4	—	1-6
Paul Conroy	0-1	0-1	0-4	0-2	0-8
Damien Reddington	—	—	1-0	0-3	1-3
Tommy Walsh	0-1	—	—	1-1	1-2
Eoin O'Mahony	0-1	0-2	—	0-1	0-4
Conor Doherty	—	—	—	1-1	1-1
John O'Brien	0-1	0-1	—	0-1	0-3
Tomás Fahy	0-1	—	0-1	—	0-2
Jamie Burke	0-1	—	—	0-1	0-2
Joe Joe Greaney	—	0-1	—	—	0-1

Gaillimh

24th June, Carrick-on-Shannon:

Galway 0-13 Sligo 1-8

8th July, Hyde Park:

Galway 2-7 Roscommon 0-9

5th August, Tullamore:

Galway 3-13 Carlow 0-7

19th August, Croke Park:

Galway 2-14 Kerry 0-17

Total Scored 7-47 (68 points)

Total Conceded 1-41 (44 points)

Average 1.54

Michael Martyn
(Gaillimh)

Best wishes to the Galway team



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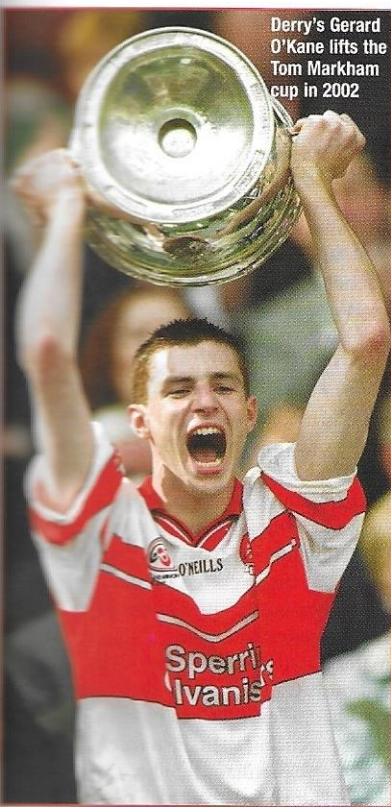
Galway

Castlebar

Letterfrack

Mountbellew

DERRY'S FOUR TITLES



Derry's Gerard O'Kane lifts the Tom Markham cup in 2002

1983 Derry 0-8 Cork 1-3

A four-game programme in Ulster saw Derry defeat Cavan (5-7 to 2-9), Tyrone (3-12 to 1-8), Down (3-2 to 1-6) and Monaghan in the final by 3-9 to 0-4. Despite conceding three goals to Galway in the All-Ireland semi-final, Derry advanced by 0-16 to 3-4 and although the Oak Leaf again failed to record a major in the final, they took their second title by a two-point margin. Team – D.Kelly, P.O'Donnell, P.Bradley, J.McGurk, R.Conway, B.Kealy, N.Mullen, P.Young, C.Barton, C.McNicholl, D.McNicholl, E.McElhinney, E.Lynch, D.Cassidy, T.McKiernan.

1989 Derry 3-9 Offaly 1-6

Fermanagh provided stiff first-round opposition as Derry advanced by 2-10 to 0-11, as did Cavan next time out (3-11 to 2-11). After that it was remarkably easy. Armagh were dismissed in the Ulster final (2-12 to 2-3) while Roscommon didn't extend the Oak Leaf in the All-Ireland semi-final (4-16 to 1-7). Offaly made the occasional burst, but were still nine points shy at the final whistle in the final. Team – M.O'Connor, J.Martin, P.McAllister, G.Simpson,

B.McGonigle, A.Coleman, R.Skelly, J.Mulholland, A.Tohill, R.McEldowney, J.Lynn, E.Burns, E.O'Kane, D.Heaney, D.Bateman. Subs – K.Diamond, R.Murphy, J.O'Connor.

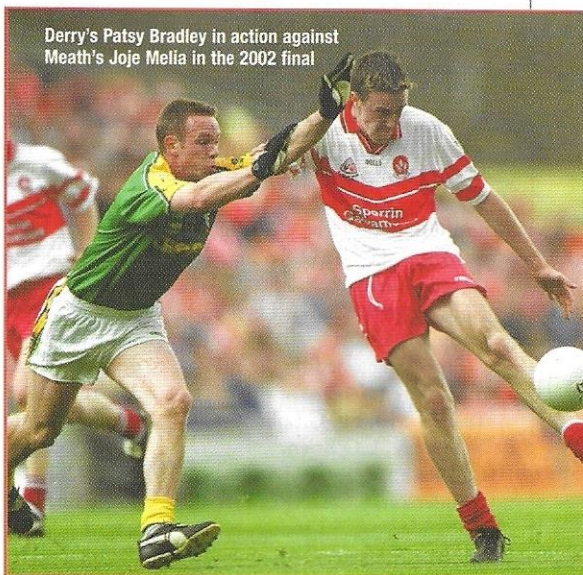
2002 Derry 1-12 Meath 0-8

After an easy win over Antrim (1-15 to 0-4), Ulster honours were hard earned as Cavan (0-14 to 0-10) and Tyrone (0-12 to 0-11) were overcome. However, the All-Ireland series was surprisingly easy, especially the quarter/final and semi-final as Tipperary (5-13 to 1-3) and Longford (3-13 to 1-3) were dismissed. Meath did provide sterner opposition in the final, but still a seven-point winning margin left no room for argument.

Team – E.McNicholl, M.McGoldrick, G.O'Kane, J.Keenan, C.McCallon, M.Lynch, P.O'Hea, P.Bradley, R.Convery, B.McGoldrick, C.O'Kane, C.Moran, J.Bateson, P.Young, C.Mullan.

1965 Derry 2-8 Kerry 2-4

The minor grade was proving a difficult assignment for the Oak Leaf as prior to this year Derry hadn't even contested a provincial final. Donegal were dismissed by 3-17 to 0-3 before the Ulster title was secured with wins over Down (2-7 to 2-6) and Cavan (3-11 to 2-4). Despite conceding four goals to Roscommon, Derry still won through (4-8 to 4-5) and in echoes of 1958 they overcame Kerry in the final by four points. Team – E.McCaul, A.Burke, T.Quinn, M.Kelly, C.Mullen, M.McAfee, A.McGuckian, T.Diamond, S.Lagan, B.Mullen, M.Niblock, E.Coleman, S.Kearney, S.McCluskey, P.Friel.



Derry's Patsy Bradley in action against Meath's Joje Melia in the 2002 final

GALWAY'S FIVE TITLES

1952

Galway 2-9 Cavan 1-6

Galway's route to the final was by way of wins over Roscommon (2-3 to 1-3), Leitrim (2-11 to 0-3), Sligo (4-11 to 0-3) and Cork (1-8 to 0-5). In the early stages Cavan looked the more settled team and were a goal ahead after 15 minutes. But from the moment that midfielder Brosnan moved upfield to snatch a goal Galway were flying. Ahead by 1-4 to 1-2 at the break they never looked back and were comfortable winners in the end. Team – M.Ryan, B.Naughton, S.Kyne, S.Hoban, M.Lohan, E.Dunleavy, M.Hawkshaw, M.Kelly, B.Mahon, T.Brosnan, S.Mitchell, L.Manning, B.Waldron, G.Kirwan, M.Geraghty.

1960

Galway 4-9 Cork 1-5

Cork were seeking a first title in the grade but apart from a short spell before the interval they were always struggling against a superior team which was splendidly served in every sector. On the way to this decider Galway were never extended, scoring comfortable wins over Mayo (2-6 to 0-4), Sligo (3-5 to 0-7), Roscommon (4-11 to 0-3) and Offaly (2-12 to 2-3). Against a Cork team that was poorly served in defence and attack, Galway, with Seamus Leydon leading the scoring rush, won as easily as suggested by the full-time score.

Team – M.King, G.Lohan, N.Tierney, L.O'Brien, E.Colleran, A.Ryan, J.Smith, J.Anderson, S.Cleary, C.Tyrrell, G.Prendergast, S.Leydon, J.Gavin, E.Slattery, A.Donnely.

1970

Galway 1-11 Kerry 1-10 (replay)

Once again Galway's progress to the final did not stretch them unduly. They opened with a 4-12 to 1-6 win over Sligo and beat Mayo in the Connacht final by 2-11 to 1-6. In the All-Ireland semi/final Dublin went down surprisingly easy (3-12 to 0-10), but the final could have gone either way, with a draw a just verdict as Galway's 1-8 was matched by Kerry's 2-5. In a closely fought replay Galway were deserving winners. Team – J.Higgins, S.Cloonan, A.Marren, J.Kemple, P.J.Burke, M.Geraghty, J.Corcoran, T.O'Connor, P.Silke, I.Barrett, M.Rooney, J.Lardner, M.Burke, S.Meehan, J.Tobin. Sub – M.Walsh.

1976

Galway 1-10 Cork 0-6

It was now five years since the title had gone to Connacht and, with strong contenders in the three other provinces, whoever emerged from the West would have it all to do. Galway had two impressive outings beating Mayo (0-18 to 2-7) and Sligo (6-16 to 3-3). Dublin presented strong opposition in the All-Ireland semi/final, which Galway edged by 2-8 to 2-7. Surprisingly, the Corribiders won the final with

something to spare.

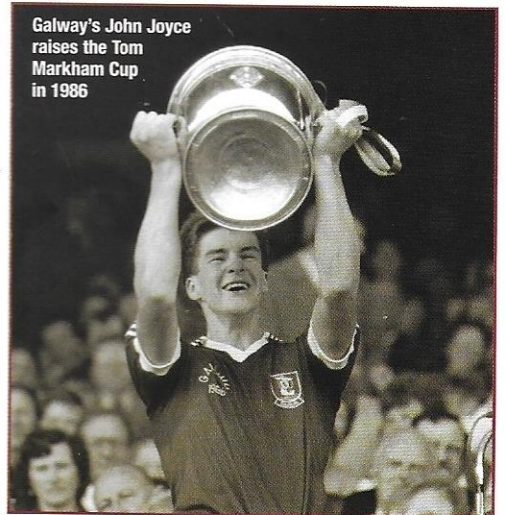
Team – P.Coyne, M.Coleman, O.Burke, C.O'Fatharta, J.Kelly, R.Birmingham, G.Forde, G.Burke, L.Higgins, B.Brennan, S.Ruane, P.Conroy, K.O'Sullivan, G.McManus, F.Rooney.

1986

Galway 3-8 Cork 2-7

Sligo provided weak opposition in the opening round (1-0 to 1-12), as did Leitrim (1-4 to 4-12) next time out. Reigning All-Ireland champions Mayo were overcome by 1-9 to 2-1 in the final, but the expected tough encounter with Down in the All-Ireland semi/final never materialised (3-10 to 0-6). Cork did push Galway all the way and they had a few anxious moments before securing their fifth title. Team – A.Brennan, B.Silke, F.McWalter, G.Farrell, P.Fallon, A.Mulholland, M.Tarpey, J.Joyce, J.Walsh, T.Kilcommins, F.O'Neill, M.McDonagh, T.Mannion, P.Maher, T.Finnerty. Subs – B.Walsh, N.Costello, J.Mitchell.

Galway's John Joyce raises the Tom Markham Cup in 1986



MINOR FOOTBALL CHAMPIONSHIPS

SCOREBOARD 2007

CONNACHT

26th April. Roscommon:	
Roscommon 0-13; Leitrim	2-7.
5th May. Markievicz Park:	
Roscommon 1-13; Sligo	0-8.
19th May. Ballinamore:	
Sligo 1-6; Leitrim	0-8.

SEMI-FINALS

23rd June. Dr. Hyde Park:	
Roscommon 1-11; Mayo	1-5.
24th June. Carrick-on-Shannon:	
Galway 0-13; Sligo	1-8.
FINAL — 8TH July. Roscommon:	
Galway 2-7; Roscommon	0-9.

LAIGIN

7th April. Ballyraggett:	
Laois 4-20; Kilkenny	0-6.
7th April. Wexford:	
Westmeath 1-16; Wexford	1-5.
7th April. Arklow:	
Wicklow 2-14; Offaly	0-8.
7th April. Parnell Park:	
Dublin 2-11; Meath	1-7.
7th April. Longford:	
Longford 2-7; Carlow	2-4.
7th April. Dundalk:	
Louth 1-12; Kildare	0-13.
14th April. Droichead Nua:	
Offaly 1-14; Kildare	1-10.
14th April. Carlow:	
Carlow 2-12; Meath	3-8.
26th April. Carlow:	
Carlow 2-9; Wexford	1-7.
12th May. Parnell Park (A.E.T.):	
Dublin 1-13; Laois	0-16.
12th May. Arklow:	
Louth 1-12; Wicklow	1-3.
12th May. Carlow:	
Carlow 2-13; Westmeath	0-13.
12th May. Longford:	
Offaly 2-8; Longford	0-12.
16th May. Portlaoise (Replay):	
Laois 2-12; Dublin	1-3.



SEMI-FINALS

24th June. Croke Park:		
Carlow 1-10; Louth	0-9.	
30h June. Portlaoise:		
Laois 2-16; Offaly	1-8.	
FINAL — 15th July. Croke Park:		
Laois 3-8; Carlow	1-12.	

MUMHA

11th April. Limerick:		
Kerry 3-7; Tipperary	0-10.	
11th April. Fermoy:		
Cork 0-20; Waterford	0-3.	
11th April. Ennis:		
Clare 1-13; Limerick	2-10.	
QUARTER-FINAL PLAY-OFF		
14th April Limerick:		
Limerick 3-5; Clare	1-4.	
PLAY-OFF 1		
18th April. Limerick:		
Tipperary 2-5; Clare	0-11.	
21st April. REPLAY		
Tipperary 2-11; Clare	0-13.	
PLAY-OFF 2		
25th April. Fermoy.		
Tipperary 1-12; Waterford	0-8.	
SEMI-FINALS — 9th May. Limerick:		
Kerry 0-11; Limerick	2-5.	
9th May. Kilmallock:		
Cork 1-9; Tipperary	0-5.	
12th May. Tralee (Replay):		
Kerry 2-13; Limerick	0-8.	
FINAL — 1st July. Killarney:		
Cork 1-16; Kerry	2-8.	

ULADH

13th May. Kingspan Breffni Park:		
Down 1-10; Cavan	2-5.	
20th May. Clones:		
Tyrone 2-12; Fermanagh	1-6.	
20th May. Crossmaglen:		
Monaghan 1-6; Down	2-1.	
27th May. Ballybofey:		
Armagh 2-9; Donegal	0-11.	
June 3. Casement Park:		
Derry 1-10; Antrim	0-3.	
SEMI-FINALS		
17th June. Clones:		
Tyrone 2-12; Armagh	0-8.	
24th June. Casement Park:		
Derry 1-10; Monaghan	0-1.	
FINAL		
15th July. Clones:		
Tyrone 0-10; Derry	1-6.	

ALL-IRELAND QUARTER-FINALS

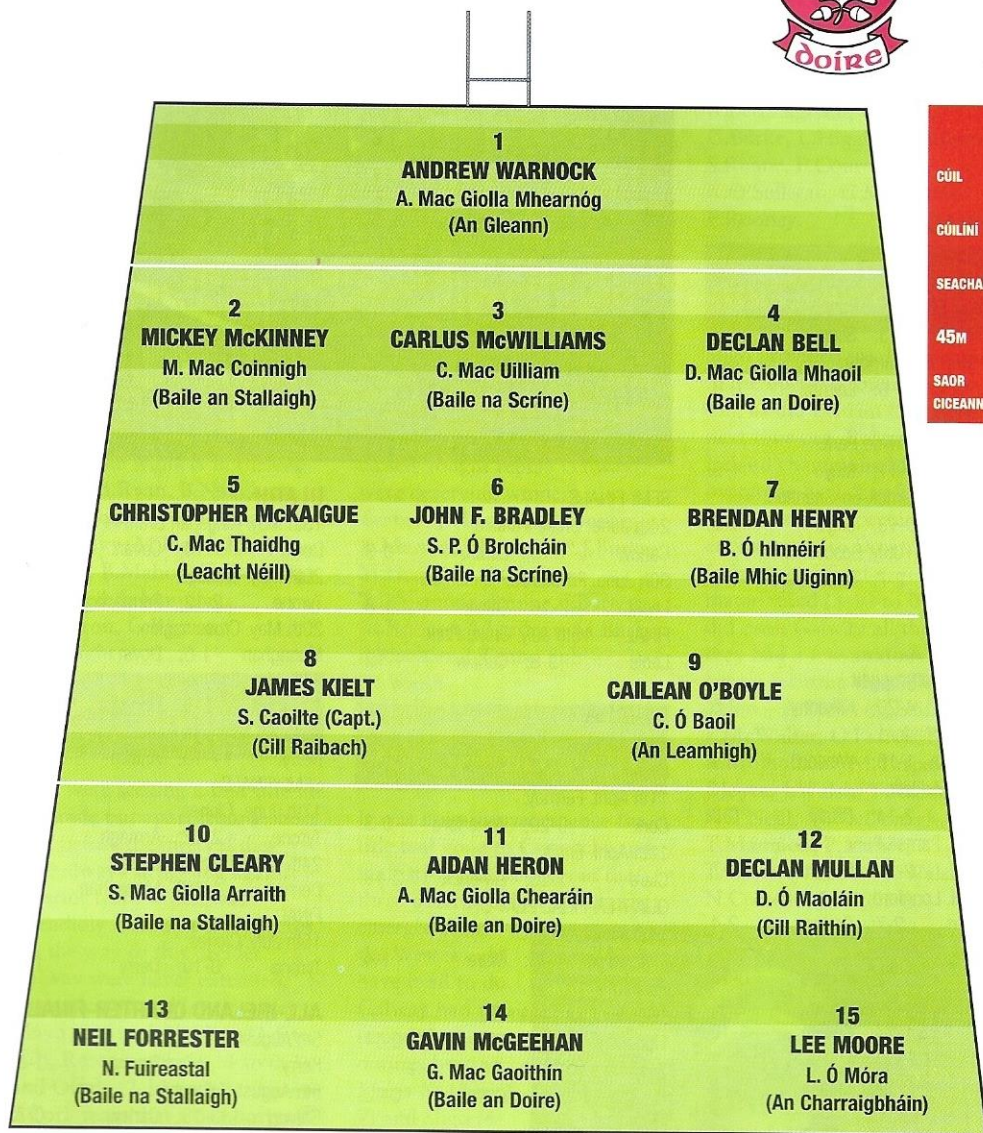
5th August. Tullamore:		
Kerry 2-9; Tyrone	1-8.	
5th August. Tullamore:		
Galway 3-13; Carlow	0-7.	
5th August. Thurles:		
Laois 1-13; Roscommon	1-11.	
11th August. Croke Park:		
Derry 1-8; Cork	1-7.	

ALL-IRELAND SEMI-FINAL

19th August. Croke Park:		
Galway 2-14; Kerry	0-17.	
26th August. Croke Park:		
Derry 1-15; Laois	2-12.	
26th August. Navan (Replay):		
Derry 4-7; Laois	1-11.	

DOIRE

DATHANNA: **BÁN IS DEARG**



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CUIL		
CUILÍNÍ		
SEACHAÍ		
45M		
SAOR CICEANNA		

FIR IONAD

(16) AIDAN McLAUGHLIN A. Mac Lochlainn (An Cladagh)	(18) CONOR NEVIN C. Mac Cnámhain (Baile an Doire)	(20) PAUL HEANEY P. Ó hÉanna (An Seanmullach)	(22) LEE KENNEDY L. Ó Cinnéide (Cill Riabach)	(24) JOHN DEVLIN S. Ó Doilbhilín (Baile an Doire)
(17) LIAM MORROW L. Mac Muirí (Cill Riabach)	(19) DANIEL HEAVRON D. Ó hAmhráin (Machaire Fíolta)	(21) CIARÁN McFEELY C. Mac Fícheallaig (Fothair Ghleann)	(23) DARREN DONNELLY D. Ó Donnaille (Lios Áine)	

ROIGNÓIRÍ

Niall Conway, Killian Conlon, Michel McMullan, Noel McFeely.

GAILLIMH

DATHANNA: **MARÚN IS BÁN**



TEAM LINE-OUTS



Time	Date	Location



FIR IONAD

(16) LORCAN CONNOLLY L. Ó Conghaille (Renvyle)	(18) KEVIN CONLON C. Ó Conaldáin (Salthill-Knocknacarra)	(20) MARTIN COADY M. Mac Óda (Oughterard)	(22) OISÍN O'BRIEN O. Ó Briain (Caherlistrane)	(24) RONAN BURKE R. de Búrca (Corofin)
(17) DECLAN RHATTIGAN D. Ó Peachtagáin (Dunmore McHales)	(19) JAMIE BURKE S. de Búrca (St. James's)	(21) EOIN O'MAHONY E. Ó Mathúna (Salthill-Knocknacarra)	(23) JUSTIN BURKE S. de Búrca (Corofin)	

ROIGHNÓIRÍ

Alan Mulholland (Manager), Donal Ó Flatharta, Pádraig Coyne. *Trainer:* John Kearney.

LOVE EVERY DETAIL

THE IRISH TIMES



Offaly All-Ireland Champions of 1982 honoured by the GAA

The Offaly football team who brought Sam Maguire to the Midlands in 1982 will today be honoured as the GAA's Jubilee team for 2007. The 1982 All Ireland will be remembered as one of the most dramatic finals ever played – not least because of Seamus Darby's incredible last minute goal which denied Kerry the chance to become the first ever team to win the magical "5-in-a-Row"

This was, of course, an exceptional Offaly team. They had appeared in the Leinster Finals of 1978 and 1979 where they were beaten by Dublin, before finally annexing the Provincial Crown in 1980. A second title followed in 1981 and while the Faithful had been defeated by Kerry in the All Ireland semi-final of 1980 and the final of '81 there was a growing feeling that '82 might finally be their year.

The Leinster campaign kicked off with a comfortable victory over Louth in Croke Park – Matt Connor's eight points helping the Leinster Champions to a 0-17 to 0-8 victory. The semi-final in Tullamore was a much tighter affair as neighbours Laois pushed the home side all the way and Offaly needed goals from Gerry Carroll, John Guinan and Brendan Lowry to secure their place in the Leinster Final against Dublin.

It was the sides' fourth Leinster Final meeting in five years and Offaly underlined their All Ireland credentials with a clinical 1-16 to 1-7 dispatching of the Metropolitanans.

After such an impressive dismantling of the Dubs, Offaly were warm favourites to dispose of Galway in the semi-final, but it proved to be an extremely tricky tie



Back row (l-r): Tomás Connor, Matt Connor, Liam Currams, Liam Connor, Pdraig Dunne, Gerry Carroll, Sean Lowry.
Front row (l-r): Mick Lowry, Brendan Lowry, Johnny Mooney, John Guinan, Richie Connor (Capt), Martin Furlong, Pat Fitzgerald, Mick Fitzgerald.

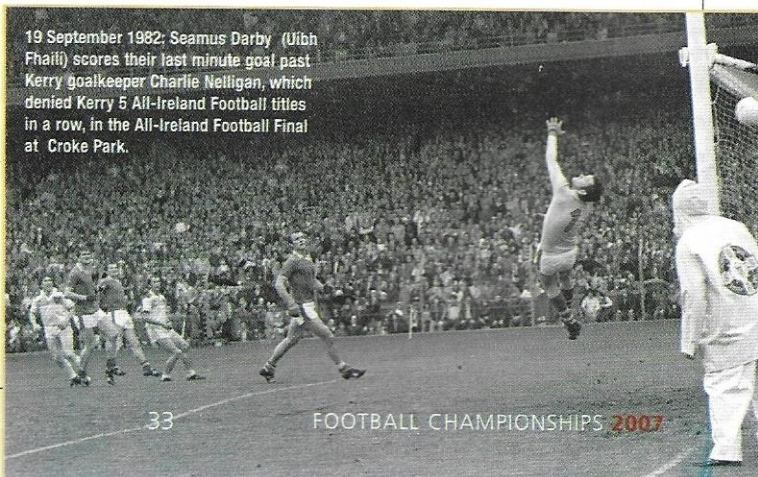
and the Midlanders narrowly scraped through with just a point to spare and thankful that two late chances for Galway's Gay Mc Manus, which could have ended the All Ireland dream, went unconverted.

The final itself was played on a very wet day, but it was a true classic. Neck and neck for most of the game, Kerry appeared to have been given the perfect chance to establish a winning platform when they were awarded a penalty in the 17th minute of the second half. Up stepped Mikey Sheehy, but 36 year old Martin Furlong in the Offaly goal pulled off a spectacular save.

It inspired Offaly, but wasn't

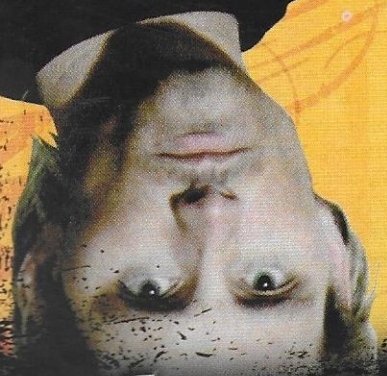
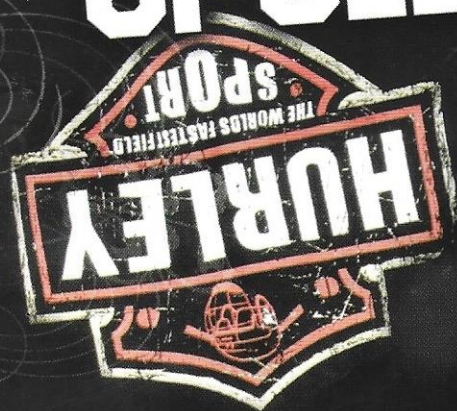
enough to save them from a four point deficit with time ticking away. Two Matt Connor frees left two points in it, before "that" goal. In one of the most iconic moments in Gaelic Football history, a long ball from Liam Connor was fielded by Seamus Darby behind Kerry defender Tommy Doyle. Darby's shot on the turn was inch perfect, avoiding the valiant efforts of Charlie Nelligan and looping over his head before dipping suddenly just under the crossbar at the Hill 16 end of the field.

History was made and Offaly were the All Ireland champions of 1982 on a scoreline of 1-15 to 0-17.



19 September 1982: Seamus Darby (Uíbh Fhailí) scores their last minute goal past Kerry goalkeeper Charlie Nelligan, which denied Kerry 5 All-Ireland Football titles in a row, in the All-Ireland Football Final at Croke Park.

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CHALLENGING THE CHAMPIONS

Today Cork embark on an assignment that has been familiar to generations of Leaside footballers...throwing down the gauntlet to the reigning All-Ireland champions. The championship was in its eleventh year before Cork were presented with the chance of lowering the colours of the reigning champions. Limerick had won their second All-Ireland title in 1896 and were favourites to go all the way again in '97, but Cork, having disposed of Waterford and Tipperary thanks mainly to a wonderful defence, just got the better of the Shannonsiders at Tipperary town by 0-5 to 0-3.

Not so impressive was Cork's second venture when they opposed Dublin in the 1899 All-Ireland final as the Metropolitans won easily by 1-10 to 0-6. Two years later Cork returned to winning ways in the provincial semi/final as they defeated Tipperary by 2-3 to 0-6 at the Markets Field in Limerick.

SCORELESS

Kerry were defending the title for the first time in 1904 and Cork failed to reply to the Kingdom's 1-4 at the Markets Field, a win repeated by Kerry the following year at the Athletic Grounds by 1-7 to 0-5.

For the remainder of that decade – and indeed far beyond – Cork were involved in a series of encounters with the reigning champions, but all of them ended in failure, usually at the hands of Kerry. Ironically, it was

during this period that Cork recorded a famous All-Ireland victory, which set a record that has never been equalled (scoring six goals in the final against Antrim in 1911). Kerry ended Cork's reign the following year.

Between 1912 and 1942 Cork challenged the Kingdom without success and on five of those occasions Kerry were in the role of defending champions (1914, '25, '27, '38 and '42). The Munster final in 1938 marked the lowest point in Cork's bid against the champions as Kerry hammered the Leesiders by 20 points at Clonakilty.

VICTORY AT LAST

Cork finally bridged a gap of more than half a century when

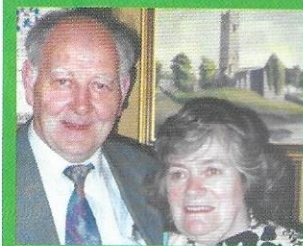
they defeated the champions Kerry in the 1956 Munster final by 1-8 to 1-7 after a 0-8 to 2-2 draw, and the Leesiders followed up with a one-point victory over Galway in the All-Ireland semi/final a year later. But Kerry's ability to hold off Cork was again in evidence through the 1960s and the opening of the next decade, but in 1971 the Rebels ended the Kingdom's three-in-a-row ambitions in the provincial final at the Athletic Grounds by 0-25 to 0-14.

In what was almost certainly their greatest era (1975-86) Kerry defended the title successfully on seven occasions, but their bid for a second four-in-a-row in that era was ended by Cork on a replay in 1987 by 0-13 to 1-5 at Killarney after a draw at Páirc Uí Chaoimh. Meath took the title that year and Cork failed narrowly to dethrone them 12 months later; a last-minute point earned the Royals a replay in the final and they took the title by the narrowest of margins in the second meeting.

Since then Cork have been in the role of challengers on four occasions – all against Kerry (including this year), but their luck was out on each occasion. This season marks 110 years since Cork's first clash with the champions and in all it is a task they have undertaken on 33 occasions with the record reading six wins and 27 defeats.

Cork have more than a few targets to aim at today.

50 YEARS A-GOIN'



Tommy and Ann Killoran from Tubbercurry, Co. Sligo, attended their first All-Ireland (Louth v Cork) in 1957, and have never missed one since. They were married on 16th September, 1958 and had their honeymoon at the All-Ireland that year. They always watched from The Hill, but as their circumstances improved they bought the five year tickets, then the ten year ones.

We would like to congratulate them on attending their 50th All-Ireland today and their 49th Wedding Anniversary.

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DECLAN O'SULLIVAN ON THE EDGE OF HISTORY

Declan O'Sullivan, who has the distinction of filling a captain's role in his third successive All-Ireland senior football final, could make history today.

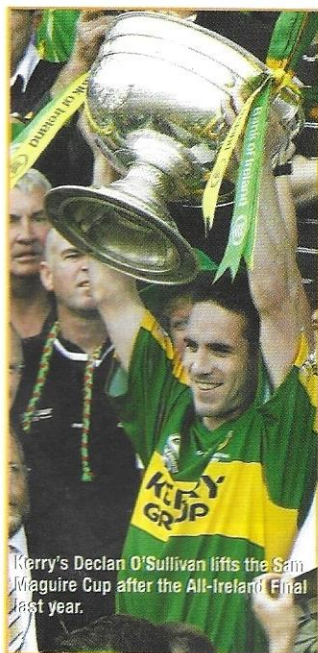
He, of course, led Kerry to the All-Ireland title last year and no footballer has so far been presented twice with the new Sam Maguire Cup.

- The trophy was first awarded for the 1988 final between Meath and Cork. That game went to a replay and the Royal County, captained by Joe Cassells, won the replay.
- O'Sullivan becomes the first since Tony Hanahoe to lead a county in three successive All-Ireland senior finals. However, the Dubliner filled that position over four finals in a row.
- Hanahoe captained Dublin's Sam Maguire Cup winning teams of 1976 and 1977 and filled that role again in 1978 when the Dubs lost to Kerry. A year later he was again team

leader when the Kingdom once again beat Dublin.

Six footballers were twice presented with the old Sam Maguire Cup.

- Joe Barrett captained Kerry to victory in the Sam Maguire Cup final in 1929 and three years later had the distinction of being the first to be twice presented with the trophy.
- Jimmy Murray led Roscommon to their first-ever All-Ireland senior title in 1943 and was also captain when they retained the Cup a year later.
- John Joe O'Reilly captained Cavan to victory in the only All-Ireland senior final played outside of this country. The Breffni men beat Kerry at the Polo Grounds, New York in 1947. He filled the team leader's role again when the title was retained a year later.
- Sean Flanagan became the fourth to accept the Cup for



Kerry's Declan O'Sullivan lifts the Sam Maguire Cup after the All-Ireland Final last year.

the second time after leading Mayo to their 1950 and 1951 All-Ireland titles.

- Enda Colleran skippered Galway to the 1965 and 1966 final wins and then Hanahoe joined this exclusive company.

SAM MAGUIRE CUP

The Sam Maguire Cup was first presented for the 1928 All-Ireland senior football final, in which Kildare, then defending All-Ireland champions, beat Cavan.

The trophy commemorates Sam Maguire, who gave outstanding service to the Association in Britain. He was a key figure in the organisation in London for the first twenty years of its existence.

Born in Mallabraga, County Cork, in 1879, he was to the fore as the London County panel contested four All-Ireland finals in a row from 1900 to 1903. He died in 1927 at the young age of 47.

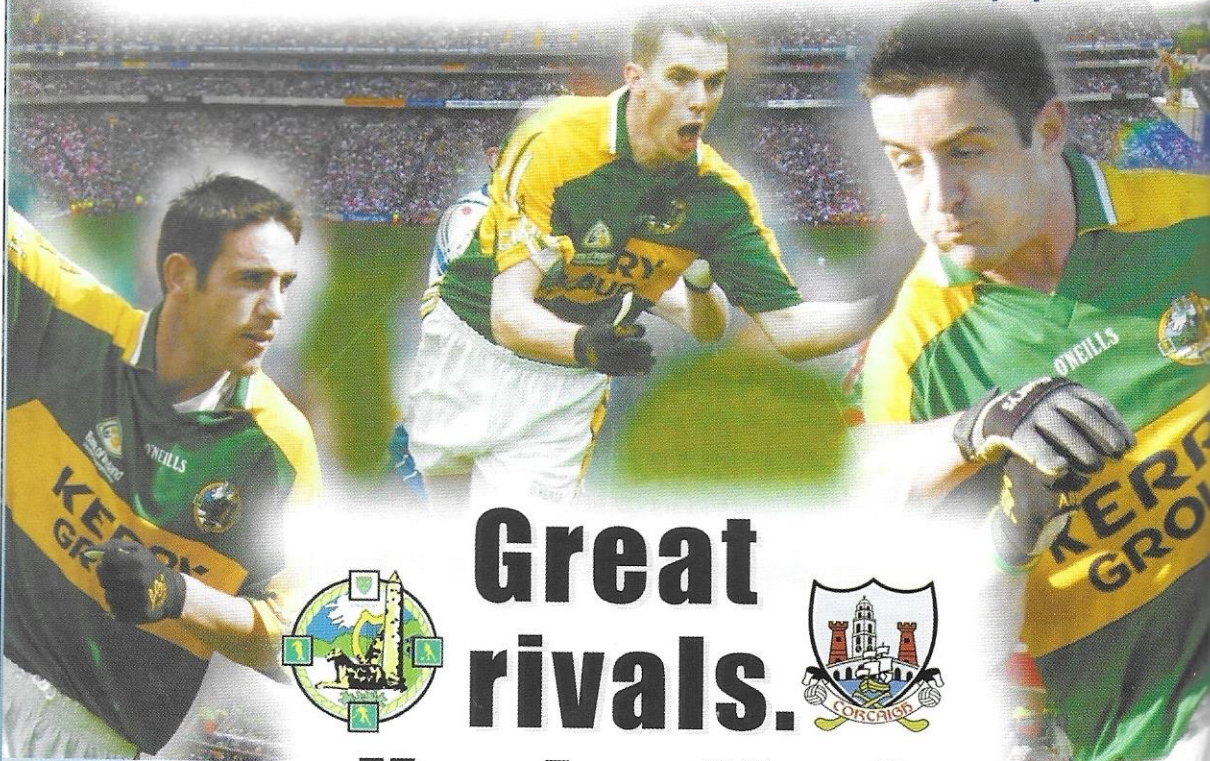
The Sam Maguire Cup was replaced with a new trophy, also known as the Sam Maguire Cup, for the 1988 All-Ireland final. Meath beat Cork in a final replay that year and Joe Cassells was the first player presented with the new trophy.





The Kerryman

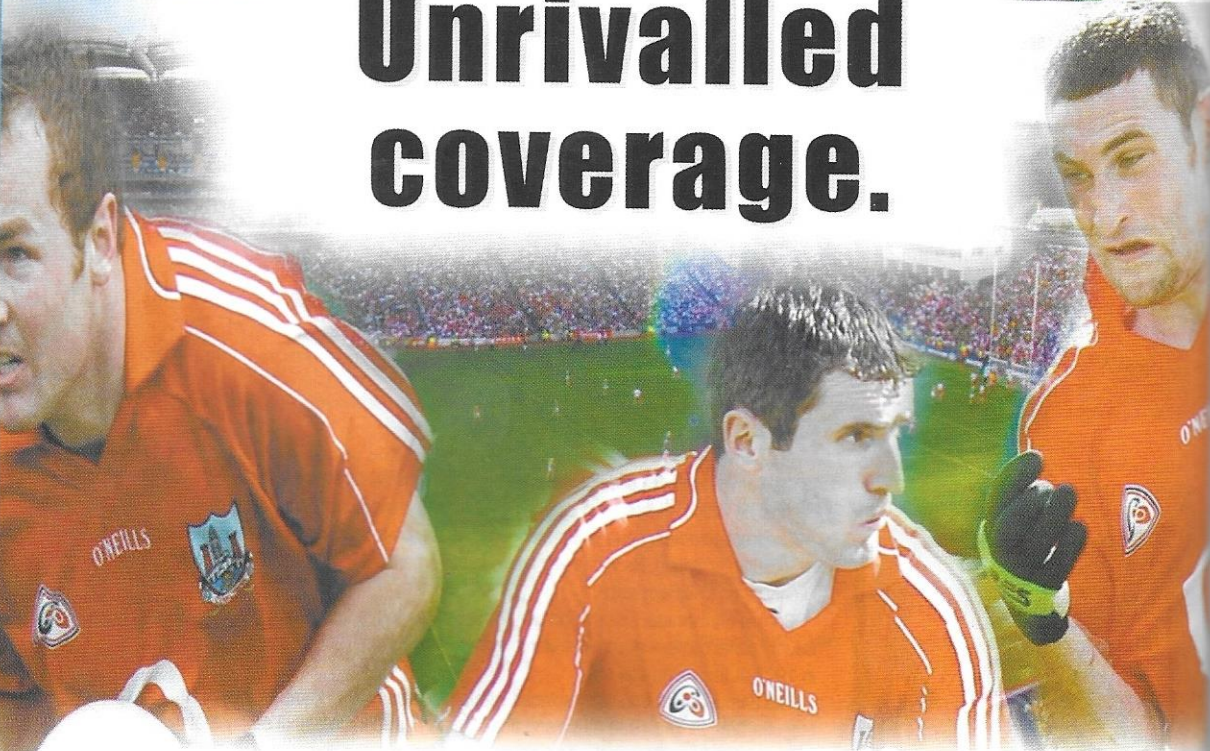
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The Corkman

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Extract from "The Princes of Pigskin"

Bank of Ireland
Football Championship

The end of a career

What promised to be the best summer of the twentieth century begins for Kerry on May 9th 1982. Páirc Uí Chaoimh. League final. Cork come in hope, Kerry travel in confidence.

Jimmy Deenihan is the most confident of all. Cocky almost.

'We won the league well,' says Deenihan, 'and at that time the Kerry captaincy lasted for the championship and the league of the following year. So I was 1981 championship captain and 1982 league captain and we win both.'

After that league win, Deenihan knew training in Fitzgerald Stadium would turn serious, but it's what he revelled in.

'Jimmy Deenihan was tough,' says Charlie Nelligan. 'He'd always keep himself on the near side. He wouldn't hold on to the jersey - he'd hold on to the skin. You'd be got for holding on to a fella's jersey. You couldn't be got for holding on to a fella's skin.'

They're three weeks into championship training now, another night nearly over. There's a small crowd looking on, which will grow as the year grows.

ONE MORE ATTACK

'One more attack, lads,' says Micko. 'Kick it out, Charlie.' John Egan and Deenihan are jostling for possession. Deenihan's mind is on the ball. Get the ball. Clear it. Finish off the session. Shower and go home. But here it all ends. No ball, no clearance, no shower, no going home, just
craaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaak.

'It was very simple,' says Deenihan. 'The tackle on John Egan - it wasn't even a tackle. A very innocuous incident. I was knocking a ball out of his hand, I put my hand in and, as I did, our legs got entangled. We twisted and

I came down on my leg - John came down on top of me. The way we fell there was just a crack and I can tell you, it was some crack. It was heard all over the pitch by players, spectators, anyone who was in Fitzgerald Stadium.'

'It was a wet evening,' remembers John Egan. 'It was a freakish thing to happen. The ball came in on the ground and I went to collect it. It went straight through my hands and my legs and he stepped over the ball. He got an awful injury for what happened because there was no real contact with me whatsoever.'

BEGINNING OF THE END

Deenihan looks up. Egan is on his feet. Heads everywhere. Micko, Liam Higgins, Joe Keohane, physio Claire Edwards. All gather around. Summer is starting, yet this is the beginning of the end. Shouts fill the background. 'Get a stretcher. Get back, give him some air, get some water, where's the sponge? There might be magic in it.' Seconds seem like minutes and then hours, before the ambulance arrives. Lying there he knows it's over, the five-in-a-row is over as he's finally carried away to Cork Regional Hospital 50 miles up the road to Cork, where the summer had started.

It's over now. Nurses and doctors say it. His consultant, Dr. Freddie Moore, says the same. A mesanof fracture of the right ankle - in lay terms, an ankle broken in two places; torn ligaments too; a fractured tibia as well. Worst day of Jimmy Deenihan's life. 2 June 1982.

The following day he was under the knife under the anaesthetic. It was the same old story - you wake up and, for seconds, you forget you're injured; forget you're finished. Forget you won't be on the five-in-a-row team; forget you won't wear the number two again; forget you'll never smell your own sweat after an All-Ireland.

'For a while I thought I'd get

back, I really did, even though I was told it would never happen. I did everything to get my leg right. I was running after ten weeks. It was crazy. 'I was running in pain but I was trying to push myself through that pain barrier. I was never going to make it but I had to try. Weight training, out on the beach at 6am every morning in Ballybunion. Anything.'

Seven days before the All-Ireland, Deenihan was toggled out with the Kerry team again - training once more but not part of the first fifteen. While a final trial game was going on in Fitzgerald Stadium, Deenihan was joined by Sean Walsh, Pat Spillane and Mikey Sheehy - all carrying knocks - in a separate kick-around on the front pitch. He was the only one of the four not to play in the final.

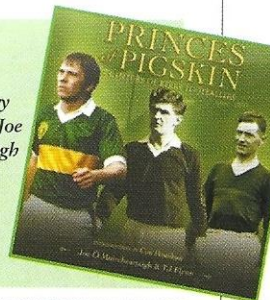
SILVER LINING

'I would have preferred to have played in this All-Ireland than any other and that probably includes my captaincy,' he said the week of the game. 'This is the year when they're attempting to make history. I would love to be part of it.' He wasn't - Jimmy Deenihan was finished. He never played for Kerry again, but it had a silver lining.

'If I hadn't broken my leg, I doubt that I would have gone into politics. I was only 30 and only for the leg break I would have played in the '82 final and there would have been two or three more years in me. One door closed another opened. That's the way things happen.'

Different worlds, but a similar buzz.

'The Princes of Pigskin - A Century of Kerry Footballers' by Joe Ó Muircheartaigh and TJ Flynn is published next month by Collins Press.





Involved in today's final are 15 members of the Cork and Kerry Panels who have played Sigerson Cup with CIT

Cork Panel

- Derek Kavanagh - Sigerson Cup 1999 – 2003
- Graham Canty - Sigerson Cup 1999 – 2003
- Kieran O Connor - Sigerson Cup 2000 – 2001
- Donncha O Connor - Sigerson Cup 2006 – 2006
- Kevin Murphy - Sigerson Cup 2000 – 2005
- Michael Prout - Sigerson Cup 2001 – 2005
- Dermot Hurley - Sigerson Cup 1999 – 2004
- Alan Cronin - Sigerson Cup 1999 – 2004
- Daniel Goulding - Sigerson Cup 2005 – Present
- Eoin Sexton – Sigerson Cup 1996 – 2000

Kerry Panel

- Mark O Shea - Sigerson Cup 1999
- Aidan O Mahony - Sigerson Cup 2000 – 2004
- Seamus Scanlon - Sigerson Cup 2001
- Brian Sheehan - Sigerson Cup 2004 – Present
- Darren O Sullivan - Sigerson Cup 2006 – Present

**On behalf of everybody here
Cork Institute of Technology
we wish them all the very best**

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NA BAINISTEoirí

Bank of Ireland
Football Championship

Billy Morgan was born in Cork in February, 1945. He was born into a household that, ironically, had a strong hurling tradition as both of his parents hailed from Galway. From an early age Morgan's dream was to play hurling for Cork. However, over time he became interested in Gaelic football. He was educated at Coláiste Chríost Rí and later attended University College Cork where he collected two Sigerson Cup medals in 1965 and '66 as goalkeeper.

Morgan played his club football with the famous Nemo Rangers club in Cork and he enjoyed

considerable success as a player, winning no fewer than eight county titles, five Munster crowns and two All-Irelands.

On the intercounty front, Morgan won a Munster U21 title in 1965 and made his senior debut in 1966, when he captured the first of his five provincial medals. Morgan's most memorable season as a player was 1973, when he captured a fourth senior provincial title and his one and only All-Ireland medal. Morgan was also honoured with an Allstar award and was named as Texaco Footballer of the Year.

He retired from intercounty football in 1981 before embarking on a highly-successful managerial career. At club level, Morgan guided Nemo Rangers to county and Munster crowns in 2001, 2002 and 2003.

Morgan tasted management with the Cork senior team as player-manager of Cork but his reign ended with a 1981 Munster final defeat. In 1986, Morgan was appointed manager for a second time and he presided over four successive All-Ireland final appearances from 1987 to 1990. Cork lost in 1987 and 1988 but won back-to-back titles in 1989 and 1990, the last team to achieve this feat. When Morgan resigned in 1986, Cork had collected seven Munster titles under his stewardship.

In late 2003 Morgan was appointed manager of the Cork senior football team for a third time and after winning the 2006 Munster title, a victory today would surely rank as Morgan's finest achievement as manager.

Pat O'Shea was born in 1966 and following on from a successful playing career, the Dr. Crokes clubman has emerged as a highly-rated young coach with innovate coaching techniques. O'Shea played for the Killarney club predominantly at full forward and won a Kerry Senior Football Championship in 1991 and an All Ireland Club Championship in 1992.

O'Shea was manager of the Kerry minor team in 2002 and 2003 and presided over back-to-back Munster titles. Before that, he managed the Limerick minor team for two seasons. He was appointed to manage the Kerry senior football team for the 2007 campaign and he took over the reins from Jack O'Connor, who had led the Kingdom to three successive All-Ireland finals, winning two.

Following his appointment last November, O'Shea had to juggle club commitments with Dr Crokes along with his new Kerry post.

Despite losing the county final, the county's representatives Dr. Crokes dethroned champions Nemo Rangers in the Munster semi-final and in early December, the Kerry men withstood a spirited fightback from Waterford outfit The Nire to collect a first Munster crown since that memorable 1991 season.

O'Shea managed to combine both club and county roles in early 2007 as Dr Crokes went all the way to an All-Ireland club final, where they were defeated by Crossmaglen Rangers after a replay.

O'Shea has co-authored a book on Gaelic Football Training Drills and seasoned observers have remarked that he has managed to keep the Kerry players remarkably fresh throughout the championship season.

A new approach under O'Shea seems to have given the Kerry players a new lease of life and against Dublin few would have believed that this was a team looking to book a place in a fourth successive All-Ireland final.

It remains to be seen whether or not O'Shea will be in charge of Kerry again in 2008. A Games Officer employed by the Munster Council, O'Shea was granted special permission by the provincial body to enjoy a dual mandate role for this year.

BILLY MORGAN

PAT O'SHEA

IMPRESSIVE STARTS EARN KERRY FINAL TICKET

Bright starts to both halves, and a strong finish was the key to a successful bid by Kerry against Leinster champions and old rivals Dublin in a closely contested Bank of Ireland All-Ireland senior football semi-final.

- The All-Ireland title holders also left little doubt that they were in very determined mood as they edged to a fourth successive Sam Maguire Cup appearance. They had to be on their toes, however, all through the game. At one stage the Kingdom had a comfortable looking six points lead in the second half, but Dublin rallied so well that it took two late points to keep alive their hopes of a successful defence of the title.

- Kerry started in the best possible manner and were three points clear after only four minutes, but Dublin got their game together and must have been encouraged when they turned over at the interval ahead by 0-8 to 0-7.

The holders lost no time again finding their scoring touch in the second half. Just two minutes after the restart, team captain Declan O'Sullivan provided the perfect start with a goal. Brian Sheehan followed on with a brace of points and when Colm Cooper brought the scoring total to 1-3 after eight minutes, Kerry looked to be heading for a comfortable win.

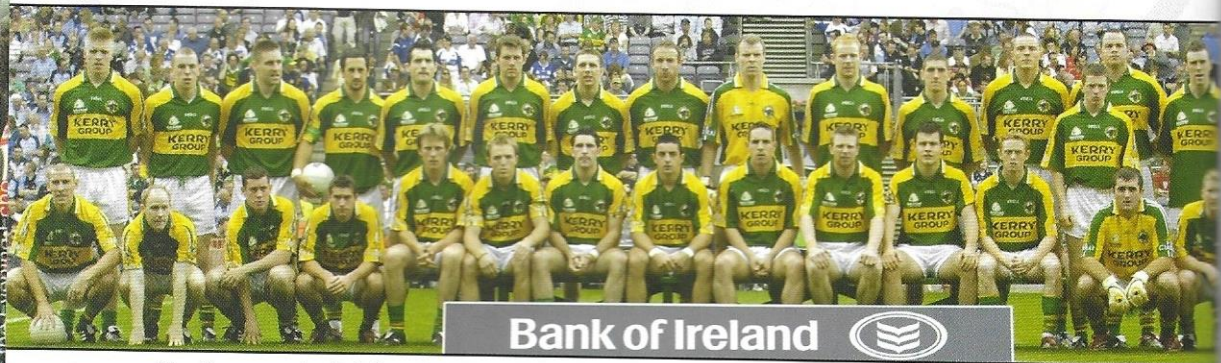
- The champions looked well in command with a six points lead after fifty-four minutes, but the Leinster champions, to their credit, did not throw in the towel. They bounced back so well that they hit five unanswered points, and twice in the concluding minutes they were just a point adrift.

Kerry did not panic and substitute Sean O'Sullivan put the holders two points clear. The game was in added time when Dublin reduced their arrears by a point, but coming up to the final whistle Declan O'Sullivan set the seal on a memorable performance by sending over the bar to ensure a hard-earned but well merited 1-15 to 0-16 win.

- Declan O'Sullivan played a real captain's role with his clever play, leadership and finishing technique that yielded 1-3. Colm Cooper scored two magical points late in the first half to boost morale, and generally had a good game.

Kieran Donaghy, who moved outfield in the second half to good effect, Billy Sheehan and defenders Killian Young and Tomás Ó Sé also made vital contributions. So, too, did Darragh Ó Sé, who retired injured after twenty-one minutes, but returned to the action well into the second half, and did much to steady matters.

A testing examination, then, for Kerry, and one that should sharpen their edge for this latest challenge to their title.



The Kerry panel which beat Dublin in the Semi Final:

Back Row L to R: Tommy Walsh, Ronan Hussey, Darragh Ó Sé, Paul Galvin, Tom O'Sullivan, Eoin Brosnan, Marc Ó Sé, Tommy Griffin, Diarmuid Murphy, Séamus Scanlon, Killian Young, Kieran Donaghy, Kieran O'Leary, Mícheál Quirke, Daniel Bohan, Declan Quill

Front Row L to R: Seán O'Sullivan, Mossy Lyons, Rónán Ó Flatharta, Paul O'Connor, Donncha Walsh, Darren O'Sullivan, Bryan Sheehan, Aidan O'Mahony, Declan O'Sullivan, Tomás Ó Sé, Pádraig Reidy, Colm Cooper, Kieran Cremin, Mike Frank Russell.

Declan O'Sullivan



An Captaen

Declan O'Sullivan

Declan led by example in the Bank of Ireland All-Ireland senior semi-final win over Dublin. He was a very influential figure throughout, scored the only goal of the game and highlighted a true man-of-the-match display by finishing as Kerry's top marksman with 1-3.

A brilliant graduate from the minor and under-21 ranks, he was centre half forward in the Sam Maguire Cup winning-team of 2004 and captained the Kingdom in their unsuccessful Sam Maguire Cup tie against Tyrone a year later.

The Dromid Pearses' clubman, who gets through much valuable work in every game, led Kerry to the big national double of League and All-Ireland titles last year, and was back again in a successful role in this year's Munster decider.

STAR OF THE PAST

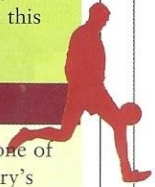


Ger Power was one of the giants of Kerry's golden era in the seventies and eighties.

Although his call up to the county senior team was as a forward, he distinguished himself at left half back, winning an All-Ireland medal there in 1975.

Subsequently, he became a key figure in Kerry's attacking force. He missed the 1979 final with an injury and had to retire during the 1980 win over Roscommon when he was captain. However, he stepped up to receive the Sam Maguire Cup.

Power won his seventh All-Ireland senior medal in 1986 and, after collecting his first All Stars award in 1975 at left half back, added five more as a forward, the last in 1986.



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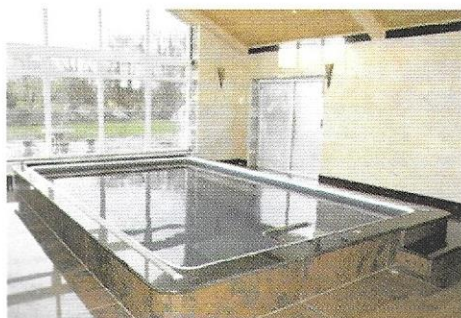
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From Captain to Manager

By Noel Coogan

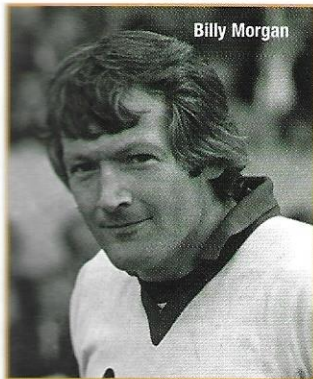
Cork team boss for today's All-Ireland senior football final against Kerry, Billy Morgan, is among a small group to have captained and managed sides to Sam Maguire Cup triumphs.

Many teams had trainers before the coaches/managers became such an important part of county squads. When Galway were three-in-a-row champions from 1964 to '66 John 'Tull' Dunne and Frank Stockwell were the trainers.

Stockwell had been one of the stars of the 1956 All-Ireland success and in 1938 Dunne captained Galway in the replay victory over Kerry with the Connacht champions winning by 2-4 to 0-7, four weeks after their 3-3 to 2-6 draw.

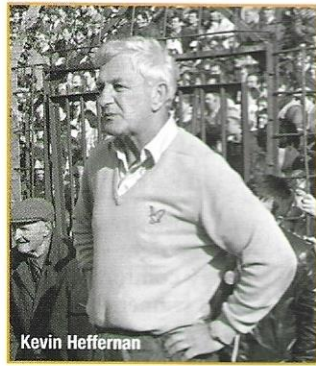
Galway defeated Meath to complete their great treble in 1966 before the Royal County went one better in 1967 with a final win over Cork when Terry Kearns punched the all-important goal past an up-and-coming goalkeeper called Billy Morgan in the second half.

The Royal County coach for that triumph was Peter McDermott who had an illustrious playing career in the 1940s and '50s. After



Billy Morgan

being left corner-forward for Meath's first annexation of 'Sam' in 1949, the 'man in the cap' was again in the number 15 jersey for the sensational 1-13 to 1-7 victory over hot favourites Kerry in 1954. Dublin lifted the Sam Maguire Cup for the first time in 16 years with a final victory over Derry in 1958 with Kevin Heffernan only the second man from the capital city to be presented with the famous piece of silverware.



Kevin Heffernan

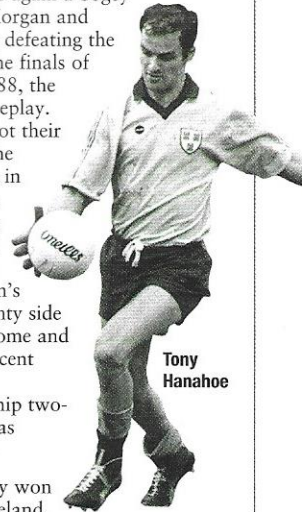
After winning the title in 1963 Dublin were in the football doldrums until 1974 when new boss Heffernan helped to restore pride in the county jersey. After winning out in Leinster for the first time in nine years, the resurgent Dubs (or Heffos Heroes, as they were also called) swept all before them to gain a final triumph over Galway

There were further All-Ireland successes for Dublin in 1976 and '77 with the '76 victory very special for Heffernan as Kerry were defeated in the final. That was very sweet for the former star forward after being on the losing side against the Kingdom in All-Ireland finals in 1955 and '75.

Then Kevin Heffernan dropped a bombshell by quitting as the Dublin team manager and Tony Hanahoe, captain in 1976 and again in '77 when the title was retained, took over as player/manager. Dublin retained the title for the first time since 1923 when comfortably outscoring Armagh after the oft-recalled semi-final success over Kerry.

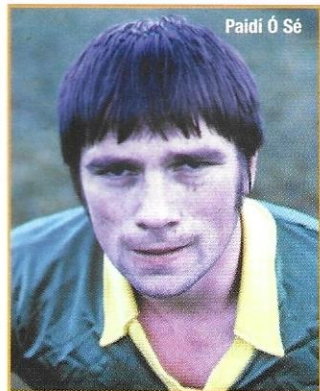
Billy Morgan gained rich compensation for the defeat in the 1967 final when captaining Cork to the final triumph over Galway in 1973. As a manager he also endured All-Ireland final disappointment before sampling the sweet taste of success.

Meath were again a bogey team for Morgan and Cork when defeating the Rebels in the finals of 1987 and '88, the latter in a replay. But Cork got their hands on the elusive title in 1989 when Mayo were beaten and in 1990 as Sean Boylan's Royal County side were overcome and the most recent football championship two-in-a-row was completed.



Tony Hanahoe

When Kerry won eight All-Ireland senior football titles between 1975 and '86 remarkably they had eight different captains. Páidí Ó Sé was skipper for the 1985 triumph and the man from An Gaeltacht went on to be the successful manager when the Kingdom won out in 1997 and 2000.



Páidí Ó Sé

ROLL OF HONOUR All-Ireland Senior Football Championship

34. Kerry:	1903, 1904, 1909, 1913, 1914, 1924, 1926, 1929, 1930, 1931, 1932, 1937, 1939, 1940, 1941, 1946, 1953, 1955, 1959, 1962, 1969, 1970, 1975, 1978, 1979, 1980, 1981, 1984, 1985, 1986, 1997, 2000, 2004, 2006.	6. Cork:	1890, 1911, 1945, 1973, 1989, 1990.
22. Dublin:	1891, 1892, 1894, 1897, 1898, 1899, 1901, 1902, 1906, 1907, 1908, 1921, 1922, 1923, 1942, 1958, 1963, 1974, 1976, 1977, 1983, 1995.	5. Cavan:	1933, 1935, 1947, 1948, 1952.
9. Galway:	1925, 1934, 1938, 1956, 1964, 1965, 1966, 1998, 2001.	Down:	1960, 1961, 1968, 1991, 1994.
7. Meath:	1949, 1954, 1967, 1987, 1988, 1996, 1999.	Wexford:	1893, 1915, 1916, 1917, 1918.
		4. Kildare:	1905, 1919, 1927, 1928.
		3. Tipperary:	1889, 1895, 1900, 1920.
		3. Louth:	1910, 1912, 1957.
		Mayo:	1936, 1950, 1951.
		Offaly:	1971, 1972, 1982.
		2. Limerick:	1887, 1896.
		Roscommon:	1943, 1944.
		Tyrone:	2003, 2005.
		1. Armagh:	2002.
		Derry:	1993.
		Donegal:	1992.

NOTE: No final was played in 1888 due to a visit of hunters and athletes to the U.S.A. known as 'The American Invasion'.

CORK HAVE MADE SOLID PROGRESS SINCE MUNSTER DEFEAT

Cork go into their first Bank of Ireland All-Ireland senior football final in eight years backed by an impressive campaign since losing by two points to Kerry in the Munster final at Killarney early in July.

- Wins over Louth, Sligo and Meath leave little doubt that they have put the Killarney defeat firmly behind them and are well capable of making a serious bid to relieve the Kingdom of the Sam Maguire Cup.

The Rebel County went into their semi-final against Meath without ace marksman James Masters, absent through injury, but Donncha O'Connor took over the scoring mantle in fine style. He scored six points to star in what was Cork's best performance at Croke Park in some time.

Meath, buoyed up by a lively comeback from their defeat by Dublin in a replay in the Leinster championship, fared well in the first half and were only 0-6 to 0-8 in arrears at the break.

- However, Cork, with Nicholas Murphy and Derek Kavanagh prominent in the midfield area, came very much into their own in the second half. They moved with speed and purpose, took their scoring opportunities well, and limited the Royal County to three points.

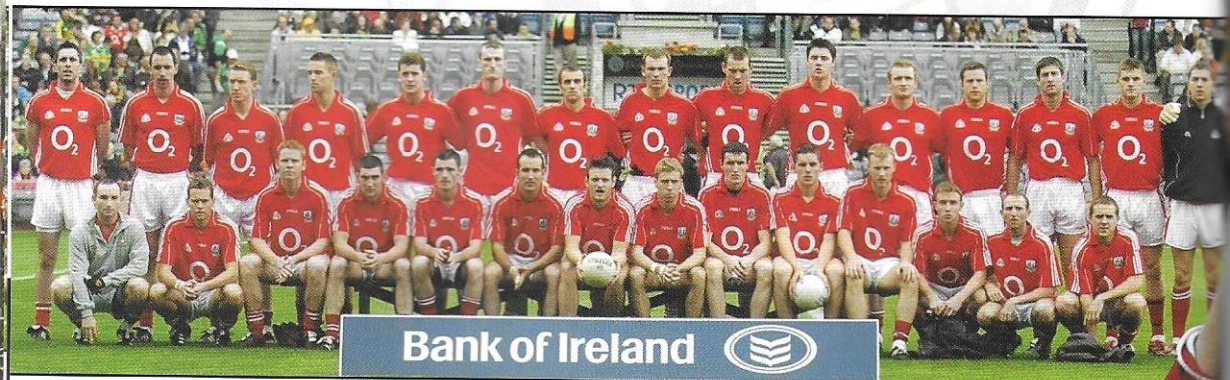
The only goal of the game after fifty-one minutes really secured the final ticket for the Leesiders. Kevin McMahon raced in from the right wing to capitalise in fine style on his opportunity, and the goal put his side a very comfortable eight points clear. Cork continued to play with authority and finished as decisive winners by 1-16 to 0-9.

- O'Connor made a big contribution to the success with his finishing skills and good general play. However, there were many other positives for the Munster county.

The defence, with Graham Canty, Ger Spillane and Anthony Lynch leading the way with flair and assurance, allowed the Meath attack little room to manoeuvre. Murphy and Kavanagh also made valuable contributions, while Michael Cussen prompted the forward division cleverly.

Daniel Goulding, on duty in place of Masters, and who scored three points, and goal getter McMahon also did much to have the division moving smoothly.

Much, therefore, to boost Cork's morale in their quest for revenge for the Munster final defeat and a first Sam Maguire Cup win in seventeen years.



The Cork panel which beat Meath in the Semi Final:

Back Row: D Niblock, DHurley, C Mc Carthy, K Mc Mahon, F Goold, N Murphy, J Miskella, A O'Connor, P O'Neill, M Cussin, G Spillane, K O'Sullivan, B Collins E Cadogan, K Murphy, A Quirke.
Front Row: S O'Brien, D Duggan, S Levis, N O'Leary, D O'Connor, K O'Connor, D Kavanagh, A Lynch, G Canty, D Goulding, M Shields, J Hayes, M Prout, A Cronin.

Derek Kavanagh

An Captaen

Derek Kavanagh

Derek's versatility was illustrated last month in contrasting championship games.

A week after leading Cork from midfield to their Bank of Ireland All-Ireland senior semi-final win over Meath, he was to the fore at full back for Nemo Rangers in their county senior championship third round replay success over Clonakilty.

Kavanagh, who has also put his talents on parade to good effect at full back with Cork, won a Munster senior medal last year at midfield. He has played a real captain's role with his leadership and solid play in midfield this season in Cork's come-back from their Munster final loss to Kerry.

Derek was prominent in the middle of the park in Nemo Rangers' last AIB All-Ireland club final win in 2003.

STAR OF THE PAST



Jimmy Kerrigan gave great service to Nemo Rangers and Cork over a lengthy period in the eighties and early nineties.

A commanding figure in defence in Cork's 1977 Munster minor

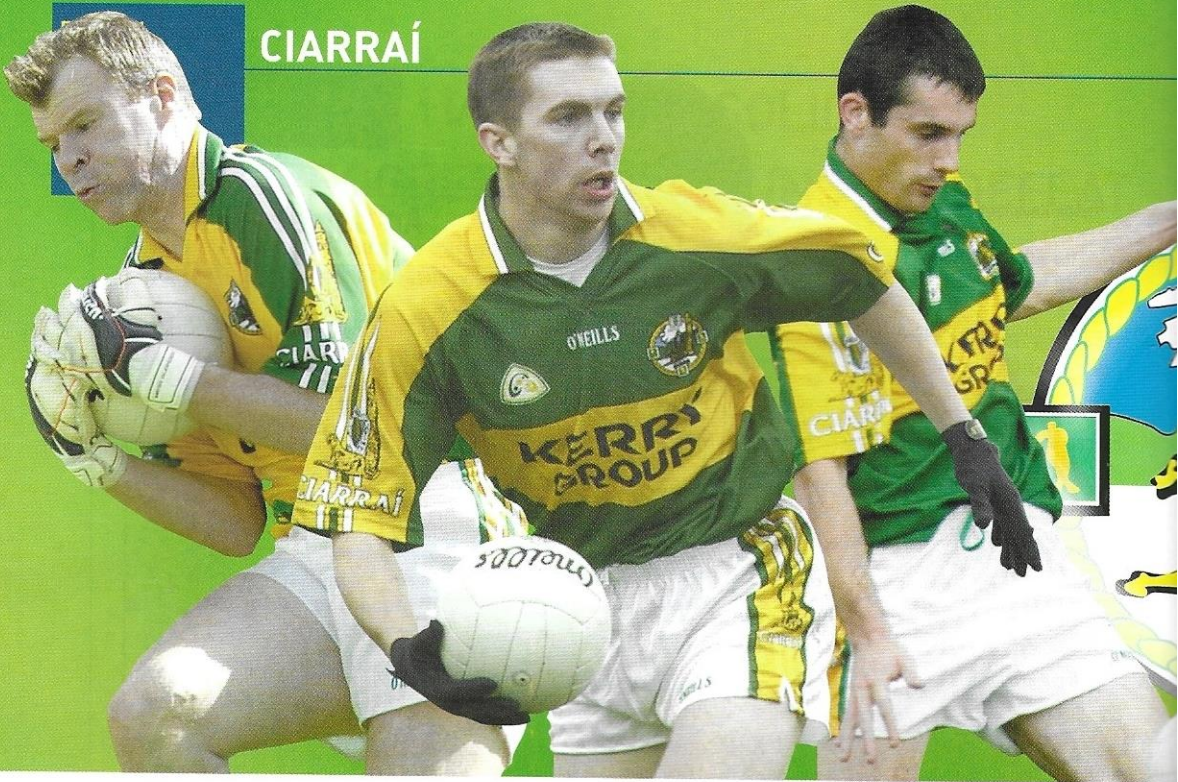
title winning team, he was a polished left half back in the side that brought the National League title to the Leeside in 1980.

He held down the same position in the side that shocked Kerry in the 1983 Munster final. Six years later he played a big part at left full back in bringing the Sam Maguire Cup back to the Leeside after sixteen years, and was a substitute a year later when Cork retained the All-Ireland title, although he did not go into the final.

Kerrigan enjoyed remarkable success with Nemo Rangers nationally. He won five All-Ireland club medals over an amazing fifteen years period, stretching from 1979 to 1994.

He also got among the Railway Cup medals and was honoured by the All Stars selectors in 1983.

CIARRAÍ



1 Diarmuid Murphy

Club: Dingle
Age: 32
Height: 1.91m/6'3"
Weight: 92.1kg/14st 7lbs
Occupation: Insurance Clerical Officer
Honours to date: 2 All-Ireland SFC, 2 All-Ireland U21F, 4 Munster JFC, 4 Munster SFC, 2 NFL, 2 All-Stars.

Has been in impressive form over the last number of years since taking over from Declan O'Keefe between the posts, as evidenced by two All-Star Awards in three years.

2 Marc Ó Sé

Club: An Ghaeltacht
Age: 27
Height: 1.83m/6'
Weight: 76.2kg/12st
Occupation: Teacher
Honours to date: 2 All-Ireland SFC, 1 Munster MFC, 4 Munster SFC, 2 County SFC, 2 NFL, 1 Munster Club, 1 All-Star.

The youngest Ó Sé brother, he played at corner back in the 2002 final against Armagh but was on the wing when winning his first All-Ireland medal against Mayo in 2004.

3 Tom O'Sullivan

Club: Rathmore
Age: 28
Height: 1.88m/6'2"
Weight: 82.6kg/13st
Occupation: Garda
Honours to date: 3 All-Ireland SFC, 6 Munster SFC, 1 All-Ireland U21F, 2 Munster U21F, All-Ireland Vocational Schools, 3 County SFC, 2 NFL, 2 All-Stars.

Had an impressive return to form in the semi-final victory over Dublin and has been one of the main stays of the Kingdom defence over the past couple of years.

16 Kieran Cremin

Club: Dr. Crokes
Age: 26
Height: 1.83m/6'
Weight: 95.3kg/15st
Occupation: Garda
Honours to date: 2 All-Ireland SFC, 2 NFL, 3 Munster SFC, 1 Munster U21F, 1 Munster JFC, 1 Munster MFC.



17 Mícheál Quirke

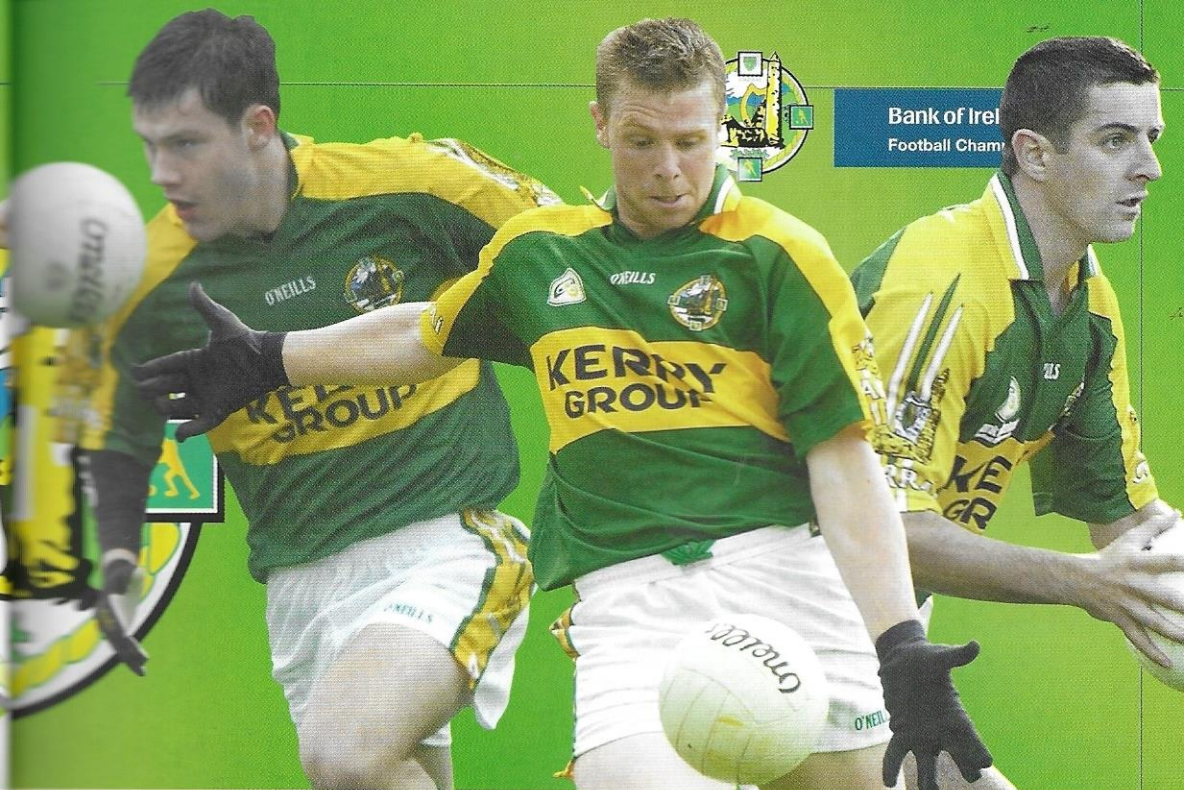
Club: Kerins O'Rahillys
Age: 27
Height: 2m/6'7"
Weight: 111kg/17st 7lbs
Occupation: GAA Coach
Honours to date: 1 All-Ireland SFC, 2 NFL, 4 Munster SFC.



18 Sean O'Sullivan

Club: Cromane
Age: 27
Height: 1.85m/6'1"
Weight: 76.2kg/12st
Occupation: Bank Official
Honours to date: 2 All-Ireland SFC, 1 NFL, 1 Munster MFC, 1 Munster U21F, 2 Munster SFC, Trench Cup 1999 with LIT.





Bank of Ireland
Football Championship

4 Pádraig Reidy

Club: Scartaglin
Age: 20
Height: 1.83m/6'
Weight: 76.2m/12st
Occupation: Sales Rep
Honours to date: 1 All-Ireland SFC,
1 NFL, 2 Munster MFC,
3 Munster SFC,
1 Junior International Rules 2004.

Has nailed down his place on the Kerry team this year and enjoyed probably his best game of the championship with a very solid performance in the defeat of Dublin.

5 Tomás Ó Sé

Club: An Ghaeltacht
Age: 29
Height: 1.8m/5'11"
Weight: 79.4kg/12st 7lbs
Occupation: Teacher
Honours to date: 3 All-Ireland SFC,
1 All-Ireland U21F, 3 Munster U21F,
1 Munster MFC, 7 Munster SFC,
2 County SFC, 2 NFL, 1 Munster
Club, 2 All-Stars, Player of the Year
2004, Texaco Award 2004.

An outstanding player for Kerry over the years, he has frequently provided the drive for his team and knows where the posts are too. A former Player of the Year.

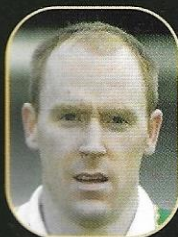
6 Aidan O'Mahony

Club: Rathmore
Age: 27
Height: 1.83m/6'
Weight: 82.6kg/13st
Occupation: Garda
Honours to date: 2 All-Ireland SFC,
2 NFL, 4 Munster SFC, 1 All-Star,
1 County SFC, 1 County U21F,
1 County IFC.

A very solid and tight marking defender who had a dream debut season in 2004 when winning his first All-Ireland. Added his second last season.

19 Mossie Lyons

Club: Castleisland Desmonds
Age: 30
Height: 1.83m/6'
Weight: 79.4kg/12st 7lbs
Occupation: Actuary
Honours to date:
2 All-Ireland SFC,
1 NFL,
4 Munster SFC.



20 Darren O'Sullivan

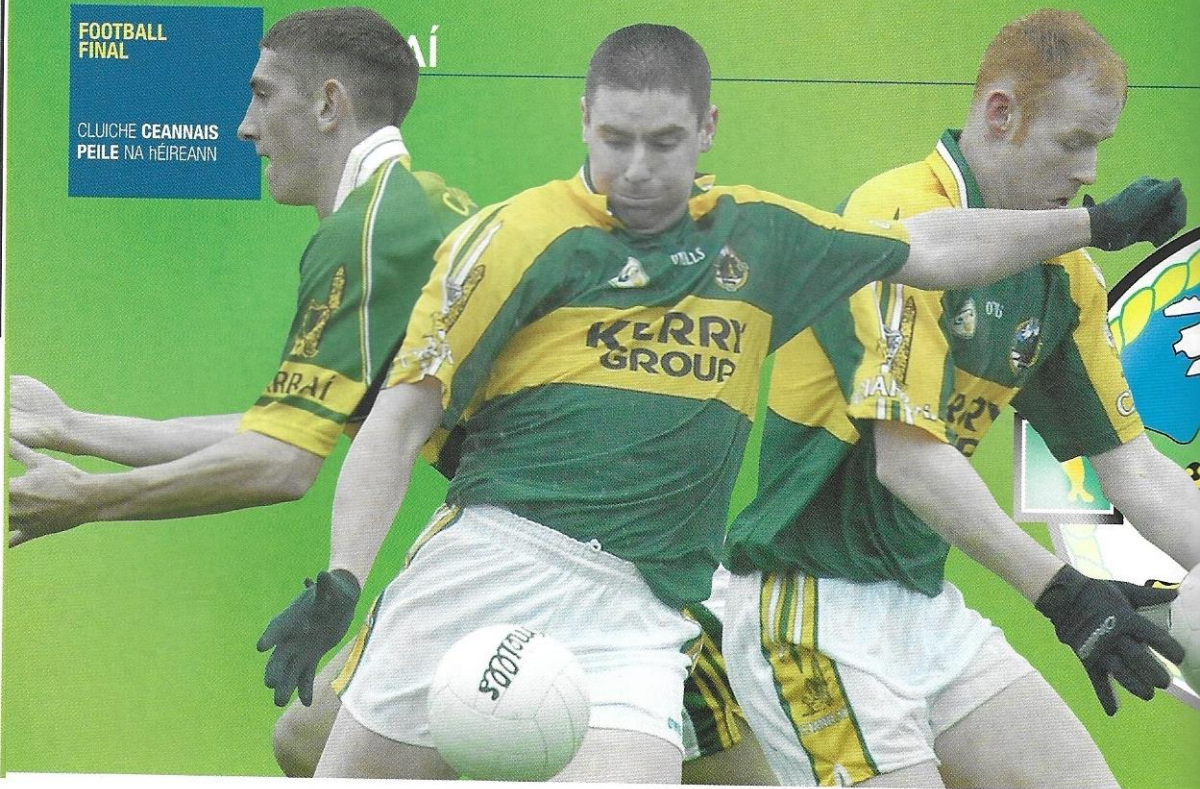
Club: Glenbeigh/Glencar
Age: 21
Height: 1.78m/5'10"
Weight: 76.2kg/12st
Occupation: Bank Official
Honours to date:
1 All-Ireland SFC,
1 Munster MFC,
2 Munster SFC,
1 NFL.



21 Mike Frank Russell

Club: Laune Rangers
Age: 29
Height: 1.8m/5'11"
Weight: 76.2kg/12st
Occupation: Teacher
Honours to date:
4 All-Ireland SFC,
2 All-Ireland U21F,
1 All-Ireland MFC,
1 All-Ireland Club,
1 All-Ireland
Colleges, 3 NFL,
1 Sigerson Cup,
3 County Kerry SFC,
1 All-Star.





7 Killian Young

Club: Renard
Age: 20
Height: 1.83m/6'
Weight: 76.2kg/12st
Occupation: Bank Official
Honours to date: 1 All-Ireland SFC, 1 NFL, 1 Munster SFC, 1 Munster MFC.

A newcomer to the Kerry defence, he has benefited greatly from the experience of those around him and today bids to win his first All-Ireland medal at wing back.

8 Darragh Ó Sé

Club: An Ghaeltacht
Age: 32
Height: 1.83m/6'
Weight: 88.9kg/14st
Occupation: Auctioneer
Honours to date: 4 All-Ireland SFC, 2 All-Ireland U21F, 3 NFL, 1 Railway Cup, 2 All-Star, International Rules 2001, 2 County SFC, 1 Munster Club.

An outstanding player who won his first All-Ireland medal for the Kingdom in 1997 and an inspiration ever since. Today looking for his fifth honour in a highly decorated career.

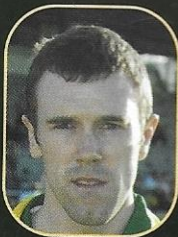
9 Seamus Scanlon

Club: Currow
Age: 25
Height: 1.91m/6'3"
Weight: 88.9kg/14st
Occupation: Fitter
Honours to date: 1 All-Ireland SFC, 2 Munster SFC, 1 Munster U21F, U17 International Rules 1999, 1 NFL.

Has formed a very useful partnership with the more experienced O'Sé this summer and wins a lot of loose ball around the midfield area.

22 Daniel Bohan

Club: Austin Stacks
Age: 24
Height: 1.83m/6'
Weight: 79.4kg/12st 7lbs
Occupation: Financial Advisor



23 Paul O'Connor

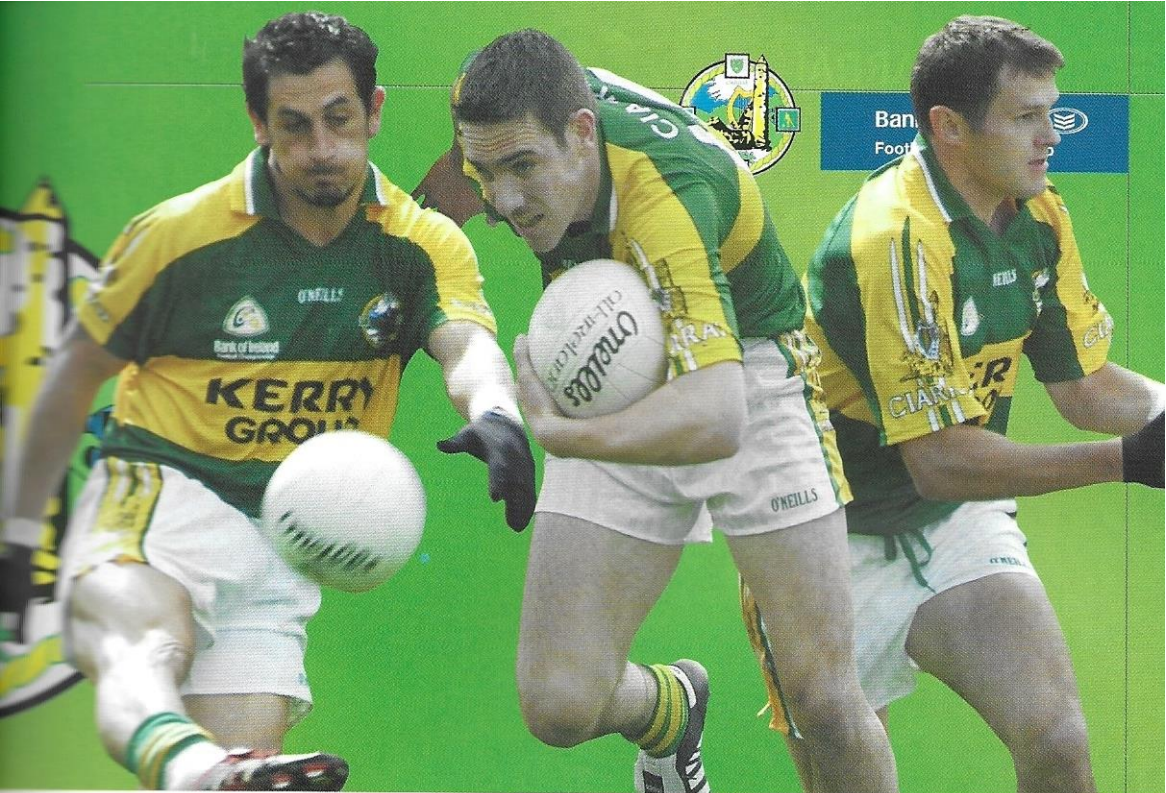
Club: Kenmare
Age: 21
Height: 1.78m/5'10"
Weight: 76.2kg/12st
Occupation: Student
Honours to date: 1 All-Ireland SFC, 1 Munster MFC.



24 Rónán Ó Flatharta

Club: An Ghaeltacht
Age: 24
Height: 1.85m/6'1"
Weight: 79.4kg/12st 7lbs
Occupation: Apprentice
Honours to date: 1 All-Ireland SFC, 1 Munster MFC, 1 Munster Club.





10 Paul Galvin

Club: Finuge

Age: 27

Height: 1.83m/6'

Weight: 76.2kg/12st

Occupation: Teacher

Honours to date: 2 All-Ireland SFC, 1 County Kerry SHC, 3 Munster SFC, 1 Munster U21F, 1 Munster MFC, 2 NFL, 1 Munster Club with UCC, 2 All-Star, 2 Munster JF Club, 1 All-Ireland JF Club.

His tireless work rate over the last four seasons has brought a fresh dimension to the Kerry team. Named as the 1,000th All-Star in November 2004, he is also an accomplished hurler and was an All-Star again last year.

11 Declan O'Sullivan

CAPTAIN

Club: Dromid Pearseas

Age: 23

Height: 1.83m/6'

Weight: 82.6kg/13st

Occupation: Supermarket Manager
Honours to date: 2 All-Ireland SFC, 4 Munster SFC, 1 Munster MFC, 1 Munster U21F, 2 NFL.

One of the most skilful players on the Kerry team, he scored an impressive 1-3 in the semi-final win over Dublin in what was generally accepted as a Man of the Match performance from the Captain.

12 Eoin Brosnan

Club: Dr. Crokes

Age: 27

Height: 1.91m/6'3"

Weight: 92.1kg/14st 7lbs

Occupation: Solicitor

Honours to date: 2 All-Ireland SFC, 1 County Kerry SFC, 5 Munster SFC, 1 County Cork SFC with UCC, 1 Munster MFC, 2 Munster Club, 2 NFL.

His direct running causes endless problems for the opposition and he has a keen eye for goal. Playing in his third All-Ireland final this year having already played in the drawn and replayed All-Ireland club finals.

25 Kieran O'Leary

Club: Dr. Crokes

Age: 22

Height: 1.8m/5'11"

Weight: 66.7kg/10st 7lbs

Occupation: Sales Assistant

Honours to date:

1 All-Ireland SFC,
1 Munster MFC.



26 Tommy Griffin

Club: Dingle

Age: 29

Height: 1.88m/6'2"

Weight: 88.9kg/14st

Occupation: Publican

Honours to date:

3 All-Ireland SFC,
1 All-Ireland U21F,
3 Munster U21F,
1 Munster MFC,
2 NFL.



27 Ronan Hussey

Club: Sneem

Age: 25

Height: 1.83m/6'

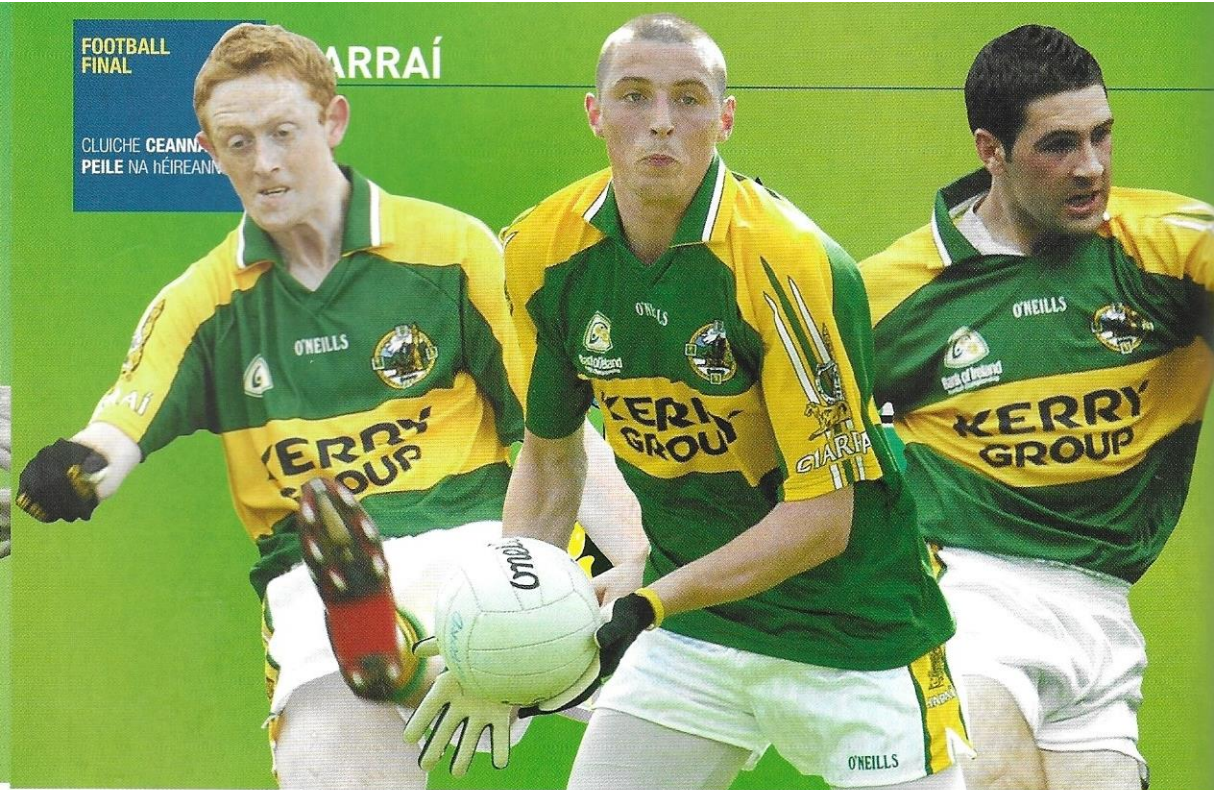
Weight: 79.4kg/12st 7lbs

Occupation: Bank Official

Honours to date:

1 All-Ireland SFC,
1 Munster SFC,
3 County Kerry SFC.





13 Colm Cooper

Club: Dr. Crokes
Age: 24
Height: 1.8m/5'11"
Weight: 73kg/11st 7lbs
Occupation: Bank Official
Honours to date: 2 All-Ireland SFC, 1 Munster MFC, 1 Munster U21F, 5 Munster SFC, 2 NFL, 3 All-Stars, Texaco Player of the Year 2004

The Dr. Crokes player is one of the most naturally gifted forwards in the game and in full flight is a joy to watch. Has been quietly effective this year and is always capable of being a match winner.

14 Kieran Donaghy

Club: Austin Stacks
Age: 24
Height: 1.96m/6'5"
Weight: 95.3kg/15st
Occupation: Bank Official
Honours to date: 1 All-Ireland SFC, 1 NFL, 2 Munster SFC, 1 All-Star, Player of the Year 2006.

His ability to win the ball and set up vital scores for those around him marks him apart and while he has not been quite as explosive this year as in 2006, he is still a vital cog in the Kerry machine.

15 Bryan Sheehan

Club: St. Mary's
Age: 22
Height: 1.88m/6'2"
Weight: 82.6kg/13st
Occupation: Student
Honours to date: 2 All-Ireland SFC, 1 NFL, 3 Munster MFC, 3 Munster Colleges, 1 County League Division 1, 2 County League Division 2, 3 County Kerry SFC, 1 IFC, 1 MFC, 1 U21F.

A very reliable free taker, Sheehan continues to develop his game from open play and has worked hard to ensure his inclusion from the start for today's final.

28 Donncha Walsh

Club: Cromane
Age: 23
Height: 1.85m/6'1"
Weight: 79.4kg/12st 7lbs
Occupation: Engineer
Honours to date: 2 Munster MFC.



29 Tommy Walsh

Club: Kerins O'Rahillys
Age: 19
Height: 1.93m/6'4"
Weight: 101.6kg/16st
Occupation: Student
Honours to date: 1 Munster MFC.



30 Declan Quill

Club: Kerins O'Rahillys
Occupation: Teacher
Age: 25
Height: 1.83m/6'
Weight: 73kg/11st 7lbs
Honours to date: 1 All-Ireland SFC, 2 Munster Colleges, 1 Munster U21F, 4 Munster SFC, 1 County Kerry SFC, 1 NFL.



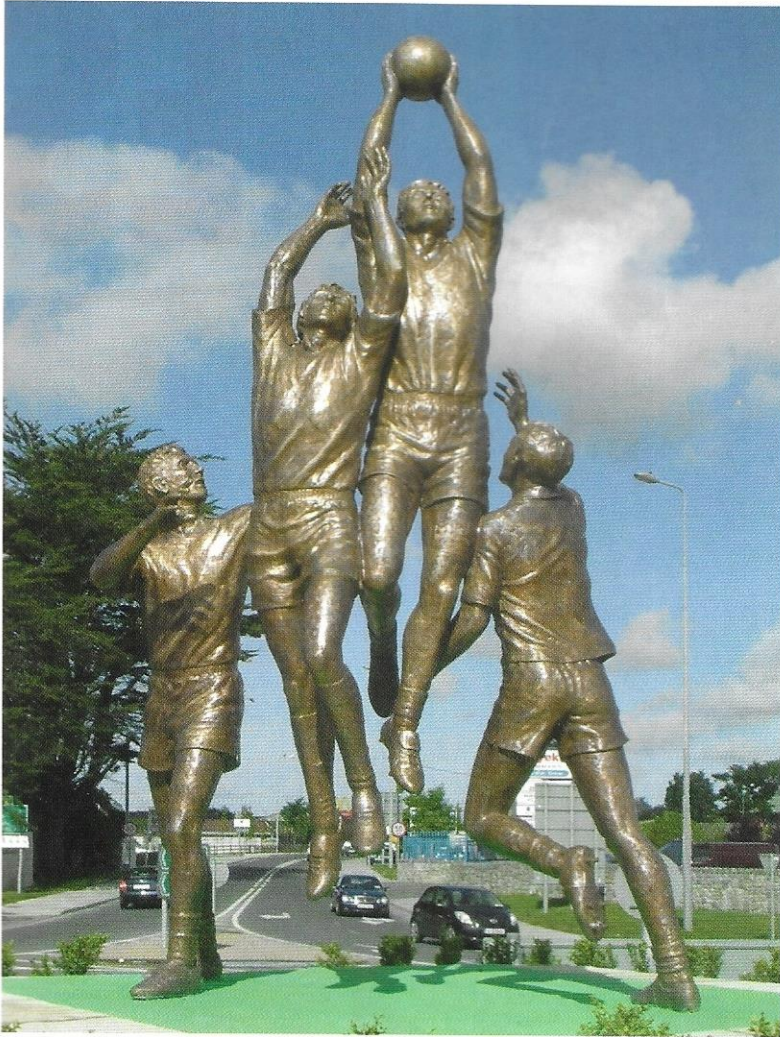


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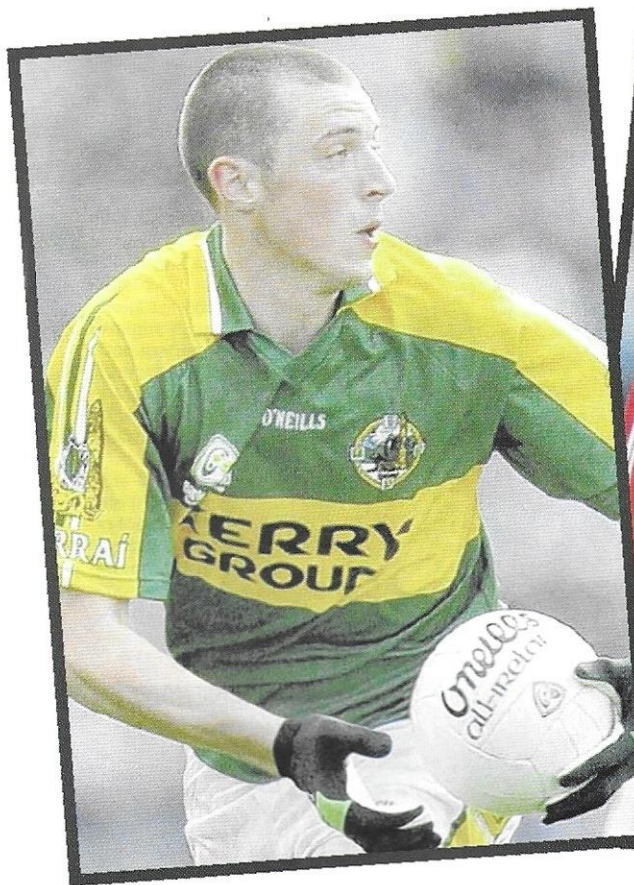
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SCOREBOARD 2007

CONNACHT

13th May. New York:
Sligo 2-18; New York 1-3.
20th May. Pearse Stadium:
Galway 2-10; Mayo 0-9.
27th May. Ruislip:
Leitrim 1-12; London 2-5.
SEMI-FINALS - 17th June. Dr. Hyde Park:
Sligo 0-13; Roscommon 2-5.
24th June. Carrick-on-Shannon:
Galway 0-17; Leitrim 1-10.
FINAL — 8th July. Roscommon:
Sligo 1-10; Galway 0-12.

LAIGHIN

13th May. Longford:
Longford 2-13; Westmeath 1-13.
20th May. Croke Park:
Meath 2-11; Kildare 1-8.
20th May. Croke Park:
Louth 1-11; Wicklow 0-14.
27th May. Parnell Park (AET):
Louth 1-9; Wicklow 0-12.
2nd June. Tullamore:
Laois 0-14; Longford 0-9.
3rd June. Croke Park (Second Replay):
Louth 2-18; Wicklow 0-11.
3rd June. Croke Park:
Dublin 1-11; Meath 0-14.
10th June. Portlaoise:
Offaly 2-19; Carlow 3-7.
17th June. Croke Park:
Wexford 0-16; Louth 2-8.
17th June. Croke Park:
Dublin 0-16; Meath 0-12.
SEMI-FINALS - 24th June. Croke Park:
Dublin 1-12; Offaly 0-10.
1st July. Croke Park:
Laois 1-13; Wexford 0-13.
FINAL — 15th July. Croke Park:
Dublin 3-14; Laois 1-14.

MUMHA

20th May. Pairc Ui Caoimh:
Cork 2-14; Limerick 0-7.
20th May. Dungarvan:
Waterford 1-6; Clare 0-7.
SEMI-FINALS - 3rd June. Dungarvan:
Kerry 2-15; Waterford 0-4.
3rd June. Limerick:
Cork 2-18; Tipperary 0-10.
FINAL — 1st July. Killarney:
Kerry 1-15; Cork 1-13.



ULADH

13th May. Kingspan Breffni Park:
Cavan 2-11; Down 3-8.
20th May. Clones:
Tyrone 0-13; Fermanagh 1-9.
20th May. Newry:
Down 0-15; Cavan 0-11.
27th May. Ballybofey:
Donegal 1-9; Armagh 1-8.
10th June. Casement Park:
Derry 1-13; Antrim 0-10.
10th June. Newry:
Monaghan 2-15; Down 1-15.
SEMI-FINALS — 17th June. Clones:
Tyrone 2-15; Donegal 1-7.
24th June. Casement Park:
Monaghan 0-14; Derry 1-9.
FINAL — 15th July. Clones:
Tyrone 1-15; Monaghan 1-13.

ALL-IRELAND QUARTER-FINALS:

4th August. Croke Park:
Cork 1-11; Sligo 0-8
Meath 1-13; Tyrone 2-8
11th August. Croke Park:
Dublin 0-18; Derry 0-15
12th August. Croke Park:
Kerry 1-12; Monaghan 1-11

ALL-IRELAND SEMI-FINALS:

19th August. Croke Park:
Corcaigh 1-16; Meath 0-9
26th August. Croke Park:
Kerry 1-15; Dublin 0-16

ALL-IRELAND QUALIFIERS

Round 1

7th July. Carrick-on-Shannon:
Donegal 1-16; Leitrim 1-14.
7th July. Castlebar:
Mayo 1-19; Cavan 3-7.
7th July. Clones:
Fermanagh 1-12; Wexford 1-8.
7th July. Clones:
Derry 0-10; Armagh 0-9.
7th July. Newry:
Meath 1-10; Down 0-8.
7th July. Mullingar:
Westmeath 0-18; Longford 0-9.
7th July. Roscommon:
Kildare 2-13; Roscommon 1-13.
7th July. Limerick:
Louth 0-14; Limerick 0-13.

Round 2

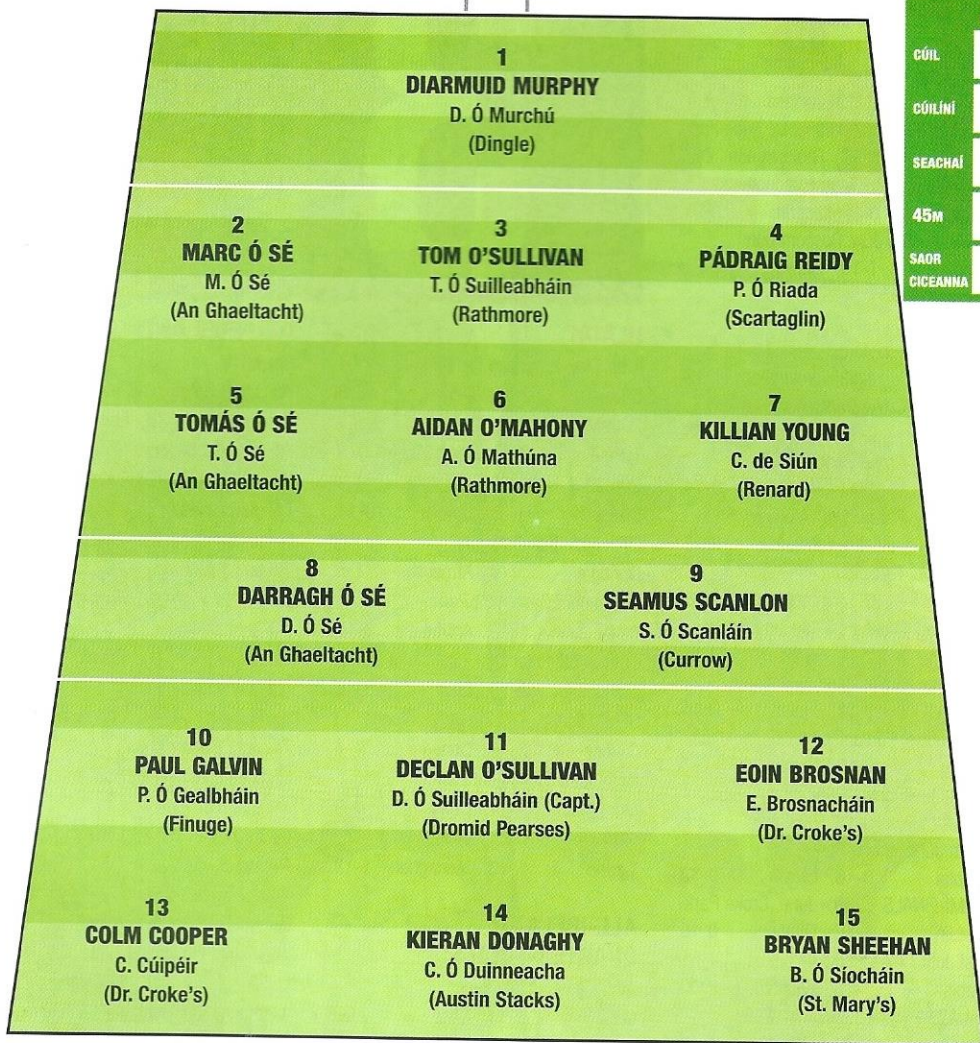
14th July. Celtic Park:
Derry 2-13; Mayo 1-6.
14th July. Droichead Nua:
Louth 1-16; Kildare 1-10.
14th July. Mullingar:
Donegal 1-13; Westmeath 1-18.
14th July. An Uaimh:
Meath 0-11; Fermanagh 0-9.

Round 3

21st July. Portlaoise:
Cork 0-16; Louth 0-14.
21st July. Portlaoise:
Meath 2-14; Galway 1-14.
28th July. Omagh:
Monaghan 2-12; Donegal 1-7.
28th July. Kingspan Breffni Park:
Derry 1-18; Laois 2-11.

CIARRAÍ

DATHANNA: UAITHNE IS ÓR



	1 ADH LEATH	2 ADH LEATH
CÓIL		
CÓILÍNÍ		
SEACHAÍ		
45M		
SAOR CICEANNA		

FIR IONAD

(16) KIERAN CREMIN C. Ó Creimín (Dr. Croke's)	(19) MOSSIE LYONS M. Ó Liatháin (Castleisland Desmonds)	(22) DANIEL BOHAN D. Ó Buacháin (Austin Stacks)	(25) KIERAN O'LEARY C. Ó Laoire (Dr. Croke's)	(28) DONNCHA WALSH D. Breathnach (Cromane)
(17) MÍCHEÁL QUIRKE M. Ó Cuirc (Kerins O'Rahilly's)	(20) DARREN O'SULLIVAN D. Ó Suilleabháin (Glenbeigh/Glencar)	(23) PAUL O'CONNOR P. Ó Conchúir (Kenmare)	(26) TOMMY GRIFFIN T. Ó Griffin (Dingle)	(29) TOMMY WALSH T. Breathnach (Kerins O'Rahilly's)
(18) SEÁN O'SULLIVAN S. Ó Suilleabháin (Cromane)	(21) MIKE FRANK RUSSELL M. P. Ruiséal (Laune Rangers)	(24) RÓNÁN Ó FLATHARTA R. Ó Flatharta (An Ghaeltacht)	(27) RONAN HUSSEY R. Ó hEosa (Sneem)	(30) DECLAN QUILL D. Ó Coill (Kerins O'Rahilly's)

ROIGHNÓIRÍ

Pat O'Shea (Manager). Dr. Dave Geaney, Sean Geaney. *Trainer:* John Sugrue.

CORCAIGH



DATHANNA: DEARG IS BÁN

TEAM LINE-OUTS

Bank of Ireland

Football Championship



1 ALAN QUIRKE A. Ó Cuirc (Valley Rovers)		
2 MICHAEL SHIELDS M. Ó Siall (St. Finbarr's)	3 GRAHAM CANTY G. Ó Cainte (Bantry Blues)	4 KIERAN O'CONNOR C. Ó Conchúir (Aghada)
5 NOEL O'LEARY N. Ó Laoire (Cill na Martra)	6 GER SPILLANE G. Ó Spealáin (Ballygarvan)	7 JOHN MISKELLA S. Mac Scalai (Ballincollig)
8 DEREK KAVANAGH D. Ó Caomhánach (Capt.) (Nemo Rangers)		9 NICHOLAS MURPHY N. Ó Murchú (Carrigaline)
10 CONOR MCCARTHY C. Mac Cárthaigh (O'Donovan Rossa)	11 PEARSE O'NEILL P. Ó Néill (Aghada)	12 KEVIN McMAHON C. Mac Mathúna (Carbery Rangers)
13 JAMES MASTERS S. Mac an Mhaistir (Nemo Rangers)	14 MICHAEL CUSSEN M. Ó Cuisín (Glanmire)	15 DONNCHA O'CONNOR D. Ó Conchúir (Ballydesmond)

FIR IONAD

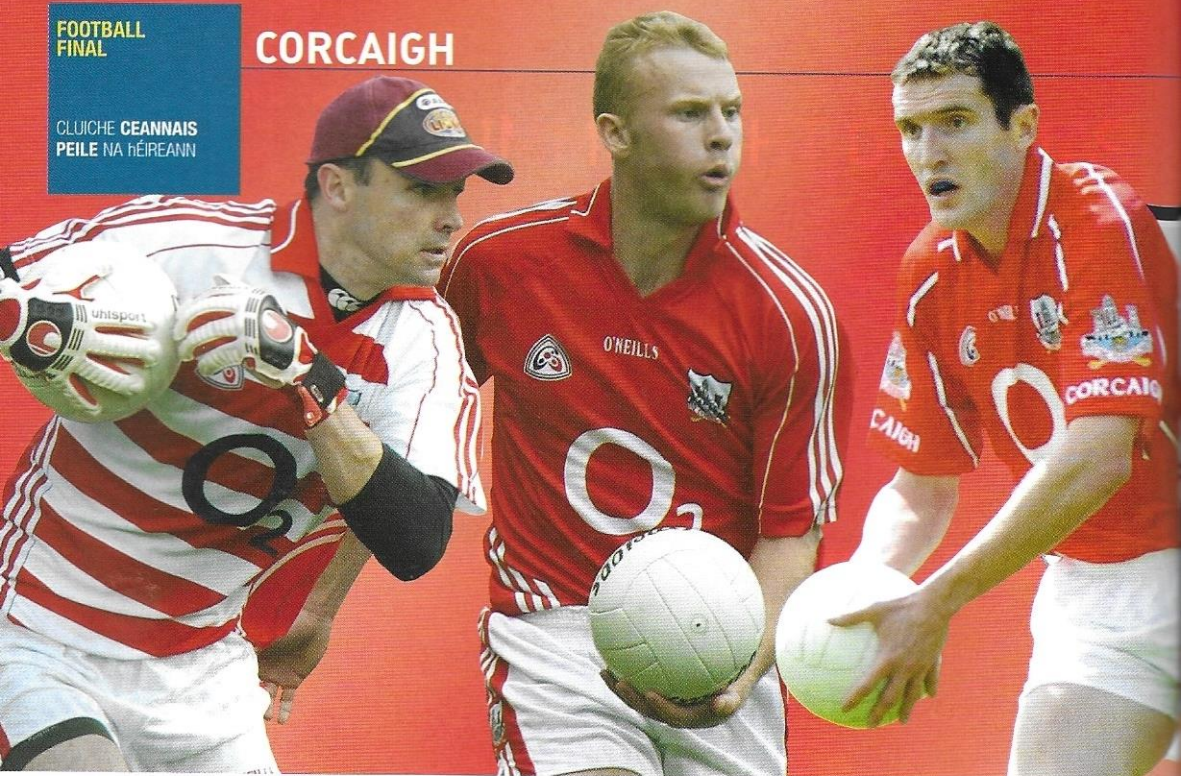
(16) PADDY O'SHEA P. Ó Sé (St. Vincent's)	(19) MICHAEL PROUT M. de Prút (Shamrocks)	(22) DERMOT HURLEY D. Ó Muirthuille (Castlehaven)	(25) DAVID NIBLOCK D. Nibloc (Nemo Rangers)	(28) JOHN HAYES S. Ó hAodha (Carbery Rangers)
(17) EDIN SEXTON E. Ó Seasnáin (Kilbrittain)	(20) SEAN LEVIS S. Ó Dhoimhleithe (Muintir Bhaire)	(23) DANIEL GOULDING D. Ó Goinn (Éire Óg)	(26) ALAN CRONIN A. Ó Croinín (Nemo Rangers)	(29) BERNIE COLLINS B. Ó Colleáin (Castlehaven)
(18) DIARMUID DUGGAN D. Ó Duagáin (Ilen Rovers)	(21) EON CADOGAN E. Ó Ceadagáin (Dubhglas)	(24) FINTAN GOOLD F. de Gúl (Macroom)	(27) KEVIN O'SULLIVAN C. Ó Suilleabháin (Fanuithé Aidleann)	(30) SEÁN O'BRIEN S. Ó Briáin (Nemo Rangers)

ROIGHNÓIRÍ

Liam Ó Muireagáin (Coach), Seán Ó Corcráin, Gearóid Ó Súilleabháin, Seamus Ó Nualláin. *Trainer:* Tadhg Mac Eoghain.



CORCAIGH



1 Alan Quirke

Club: Valley Rovers
Age: 30
Height: 1.93m/6'4"
Weight: 85.7kg/13st 7lbs
Occupation: Army Officer
Honours to date: 3 Munster SFC, 1 All-Ireland JFC, 1 Munster JFC, 1 NFL, 1 All-Ireland Freshers with UCC, 1 Cork County SFC, 1 Munster Club SFC.

An imposing physical presence at the back for Cork, he was the goalkeeper on the Irish International Rules team last winter and has made a number of important stops since rejoining the team after injury.

2 Michael Shields

Club: St. Fionbarrs
Age: 21
Height: 1.85m/6'1"
Weight: 85.7kg/13st 7lbs
Occupation: Student
Honours to date: 1 All-Ireland U21F, 3 Munster U21F, 1 Munster SFC, 1 Corn Ui Mhuiri, 1 Dr. O'Callaghan Cup.

An exceptional defence is one of the main reasons that Cork return to the All-Ireland final for the first time since 1999 and Shields has played a significant role in their progress.

3 Graham Canty

Club: Bantry Blues
Age: 27
Height: 1.85m/6'1"
Weight: 87.5kg/13st 11lbs
Occupation: Engineer
Honours to date: 1 Munster U21F, 2 Munster SFC, 1 County Club SFC.

One of the best full backs in the game, he will relish the opportunity to go head to head with Kieran Donaghy having missed last season's All-Ireland semi-final meeting through injury.

16 Paddy O'Shea

Club: St. Vincents
Age: 26
Height: 1.91m/6'3"
Weight: 93kg/14st 9lbs
Occupation: Electrician
Honours to date: 1 County Club MFC, 1 County Club IFC, 1 Munster MFC, 1 Munster SFC.



17 Owen Sexton

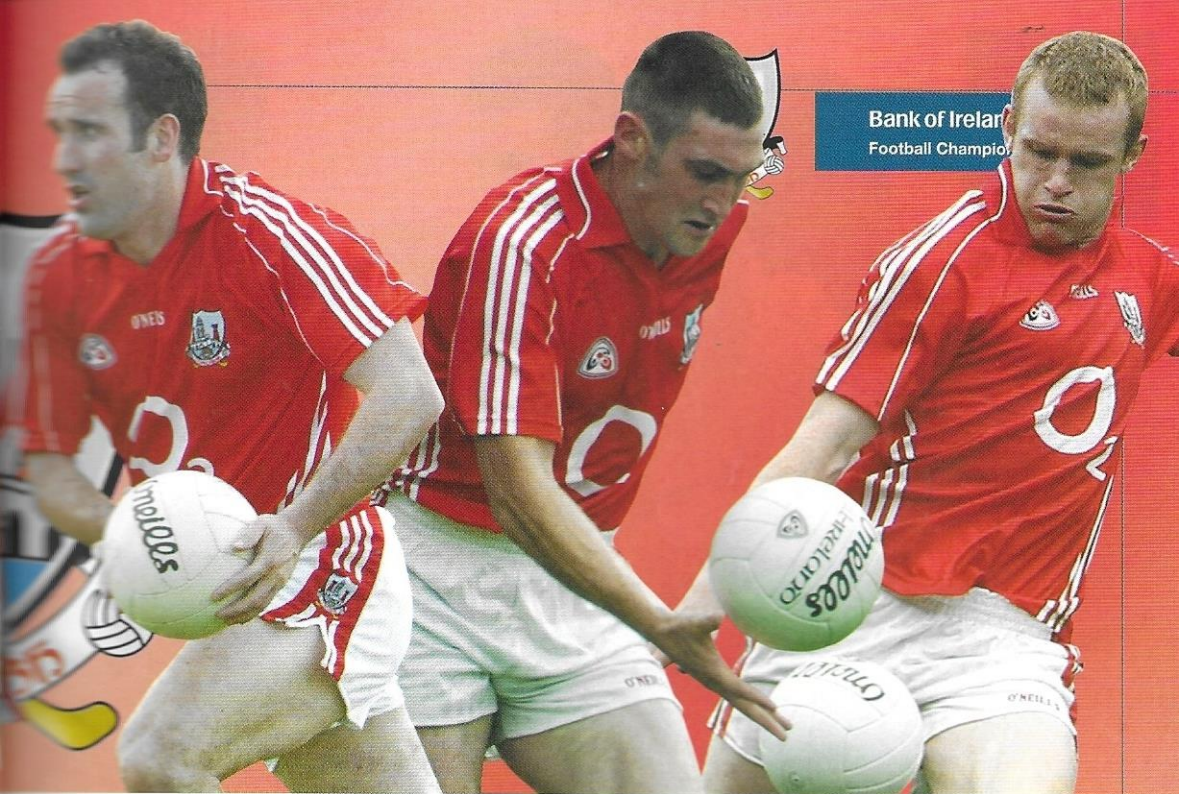
Club: Kilbrittain
Age: 32
Height: 1.78m/5'10"
Weight: 88.9kg/14st
Occupation: Chemical Engineer
Honours to date: 1 All-Ireland MFC, 3 Munster SFC, 1 County SFC.



18 Diarmuid Duggan

Club: Ilen Rovers
Age: 26
Height: 1.83m/6'
Weight: 81kg/12st 9lbs
Occupation: Primary Teacher
Honours to date: 1 Munster Intercounty SFC, 1 Munster Intercounty U21F, 1 Munster Intercounty JFC, 1 All-Ireland Intercounty JFC, 1 All-Ireland Club IFC, 1 Munster Club IFC, 1 County Club JFC, 1 County Club IFC, 1 Munster Intercounty U16F.





4 Kieran O'Connor

Club: Aghada
Age: 28
Height: 1.78m/5'10"
Weight: 82.6kg/13st
Occupation: Mechanical Fitter
Honours to date: 1 Munster SFC.

A tight marking corner back, the Aghada man managed to get his name on the scoreboard in the semi-final victory over Meath when traveling the length of the field to take an excellent point.

5 Noel O'Leary

Club: Cill na Martra
Age: 25
Height: 1.8m/5'11"
Weight: 82kg/12st 11lbs
Occupation: Tree Surgeon
Honours to date: 1 Munster U16F, 2 Munster MFC, 1 All-Ireland MFC, 1 Munster U21F, 1 All-Ireland JFC, 1 Munster JFC, 2 Munster SFC, 2 Mid Cork JCF.

A tough tackling wing back who loves to get forward, O'Leary's potential clash with Kerry's Paul Galvin may well be one of the most keenly fought duels on the day.

6 Ger Spillane

Club: Ballygarvan
Age: 26
Height: 1.85m/6'1"
Weight: 82.6kg/13st
Occupation: Sales Representative
Honours to date: 2 All-Ireland JFC, 2 Munster JFC, 1 Munster U21F, 1 Munster IHC, 1 Munster SFC, 2 South East SFC, 1 South East SHC, 1 County JHC.

An All-Star in 2006, Spillane brings a strong physical presence to the heart of the Cork defence and has been in impressive form for the Rebels through this year's championship.

19 Michael Prout

Club: Shamrocks
Age: 24
Height: 1.75m/5'9"
Weight: 63.5kg/10st
Occupation: Student Teacher
Honours to date:
11 Munster SFC,
11 Munster All-Star,
11 Munster JFC,
11 All-Ireland JFC,
11 Munster U21F,
11 Munster IHC,
11 All-Ireland IHC,
11 All-Ireland MHC,
11 U17 International Rules 2000.



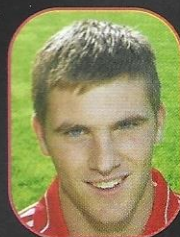
20 Sean Levis

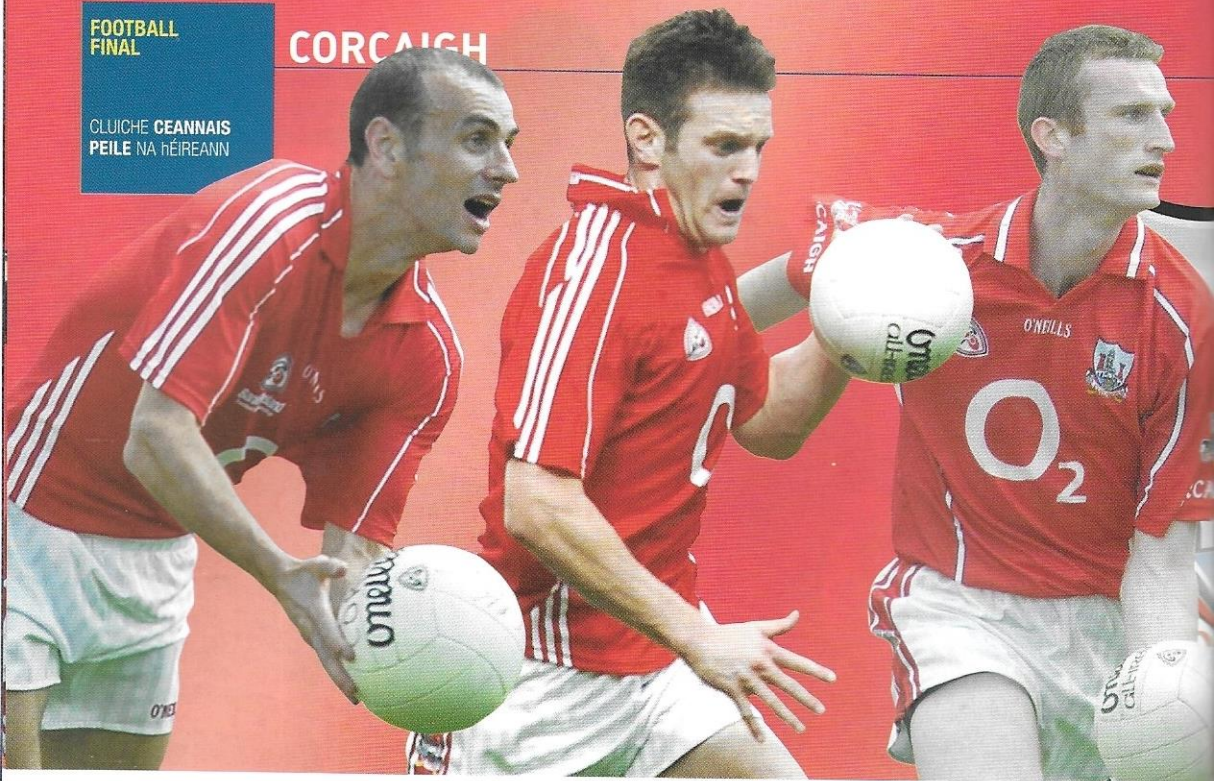
Club: Muintir Bhaire
Age: 26
Height: 1.85m/6'1"
Weight: 87.1kg/13st 10lbs
Occupation: Sales Representative
Honours to date: 2 Munster SFC,
1 Munster JFC,
1 All-Ireland JFC,
1 County SFC,
1 County 'B' JFC.



21 Eoin Cadogan

Club: Douglas
Age: 20
Height: 1.88m/6'2"
Weight: 85.7kg/13st 7lbs
Occupation: Electrician
Honours to date:
1 All-Ireland U21F,
3 Munster U21F,
2 Munster U21H,
1 Munster MHC,
1 Fitzgibbon Medal with LIT,
1 McGrath Cup,
7 County Under Age Hurling & Football Championships.





7 John Miskella

Club: Ballincollig
Age: 29
Height: 1.8m/5'11"
Weight: 78kg/12st 4lbs
Occupation: EMC (Manufacturing)
Honours to date: 2 Munster SFC, 1 County Club IFC, 1 County U21H, 1 NFL, 2 McGrath Cup.

Was deployed at wing forward in the semi-final win, but is equally useful when playing at wing back. Comes into the team today at the expense of the unfortunate Anthony Lynch, who missed out through injury.

8 Derek Kavanagh CAPTAIN

Club: Nemo Rangers
Age: 26
Height: 1.88m/6'2"
Weight: 88.9kg/14st
Occupation: Engineer
Honours to date: 1 Munster SFC, 1 Munster U21F, 1 All-Ireland Club SFC, 3 Munster Club SFC, 5 Cork County SFC.

His partnership with Nicholas Murphy in the middle of the field is among the finest in Ireland. No stranger to All-Ireland finals, having played in Croke Park in the colours of Nemo Rangers in the past.

9 Nicholas Murphy

Club: Carrigaline
Age: 29
Height: 1.96m/6'5"
Weight: 95kg/14st 12lbs
Occupation: Sales Manager
Honours to date: 1 NFL, 3 Munster SFC, 1 Railway Cup SFC, 1 All-Ireland IHC.

An immensely talented player, he is another who has worn the colours of his country in the International Rules series. If he and Kavanagh can gain the upper hand at midfield, Cork will have a huge chance of success.

22 Dermot Hurley

Club: Castlehaven
Age: 27
Height: 1.88m/6'2"
Weight: 92.1kg/14st 7lbs
Occupation: Computer Systems Engineer
Honours to date: 1 Munster SFC, 2 McGrath Cup, 1 County Club SFC, 1 County Club JHC.



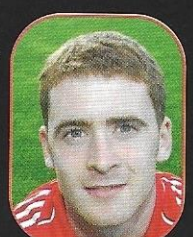
23 Daniel Goulding

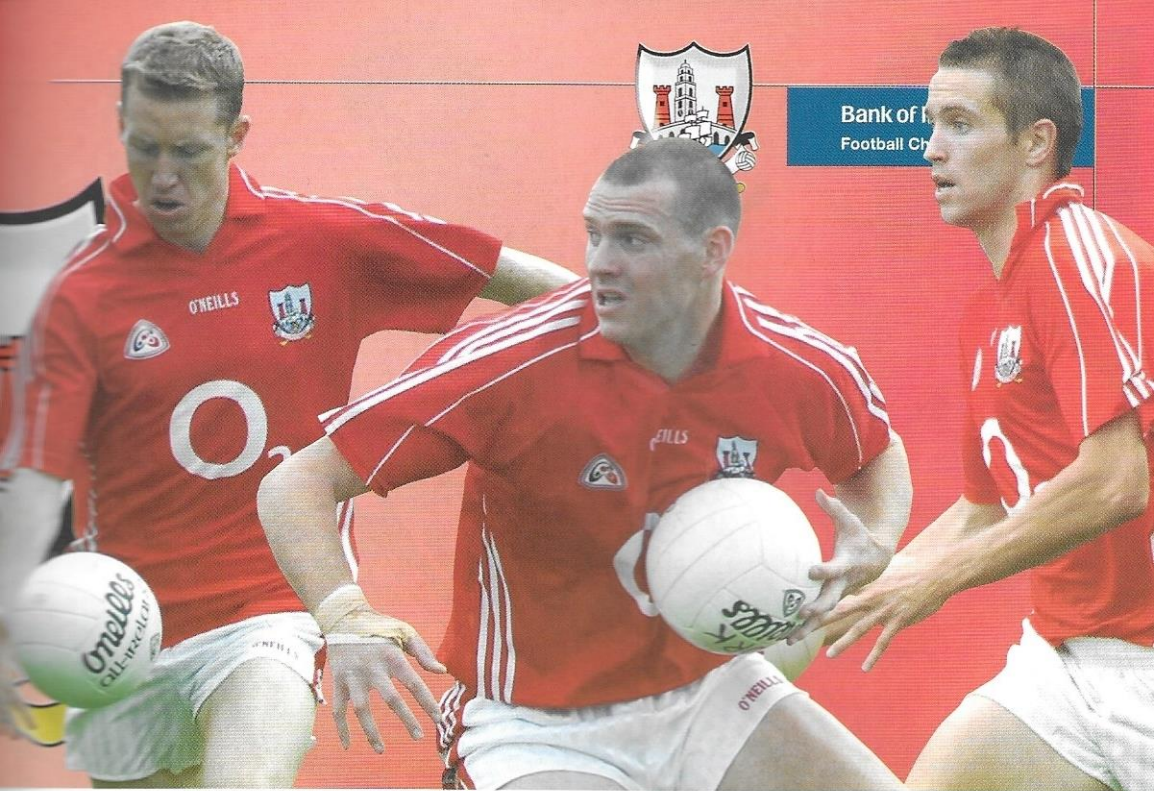
Club: Éire Óg
Age: 21
Height: 1.85m/6'1"
Weight: 85.7kg/13st 7lbs
Occupation: Student
Honours to date: 3 Munster U21F, 1 All-Ireland U21F, 1 Munster SFC, 1 County 'A' MFC, 1 Munster JFC, 1 All-Ireland JFC.



24 Fintan Goid

Club: Macroom
Age: 21
Height: 1.85m/6'1"
Weight: 88.9kg/14st
Occupation: Student
Honours to date: 3 Munster U21F, 1 Munster SFC, 1 All-Ireland U21F.





Bank of
Football Ch

10 Conor McCarthy

Club: O'Donovan Rossa
Age: 26
Height: 1.83m/6'
Weight: 79.4kg/12st 7lbs
Occupation: Commercial Lender
Honours to date: 1 West Cork U21F,
 1 Munster MFC, 1 Munster U21F,
 1 Munster SFC, 1 McGrath Cup.

A former pupil of St Fachtna's in Skibereen, he has won Munster championship medals at minor, U21 and Senior with the Rebels and was named as a Munster GAA All-Star in 2005 after an impressive year for club and county.

11 Pearse O'Neill

Club: Aghada
Age: 27
Height: 1.96m/6'5"
Weight: 98kg/15st 7lbs
Occupation: Accountant
Honours to date: 1 Munster SFC,
 1 McGrath Cup,
 1 All-Ireland Club 7-a-side,
 1 East Cork MHC,
 2 East Cork U21F,
 1 Munster Club SFC.

Part of a very physically imposing central spine on this Cork team, O'Neill is a fine midfielder but has prospered in his role at centre half forward this year, scoring in every game en route to the final.

12 Kevin MacMahon

Club: Carbery Rangers
Age: 25
Height: 1.88m/6'2"
Weight: 82.6kg/13st
Occupation: Civil Servant
Honours to date: 1 Munster SFC,
 1 All-Ireland MFC, 2 Munster MFC,
 1 County SFC,
 1 All-Ireland Club IFC,
 2 Munster Club IFC,
 1 Munster Club JFC.

Probably enjoyed his best game of the year in the semi-final win over Meath when he notched two points and the all important goal that set the Rebels up for a final appearance.

25 David Niblock

Club: Nemo Rangers
Age: 25
Height: 1.93/6'4"
Weight: 83kg/13st
Occupation: Business Acc. Exec.
Honours to date:
 1 MFC, 1 U21F,
 1 Munster SFC,
 4 County SFC,
 3 Munster Club SFC,
 1 County MFC,
 1 County U21F,
 1 County JHC.



26 Alan Cronin

Club: Nemo Rangers
Age: 28
Height: 1.83m/6'
Weight: 80kg/12st 8lbs
Occupation: Technician
Honours to date:
 1 All-Ireland Club SFC,
 3 Munster Club SFC,
 2 Munster Intercounty SFC.



27 Kevin O'Sullivan

Club: Ilen Rovers
Age: 23
Height: 1.85m/6'1"
Weight: 85.7kg/13st 7lbs
Occupation: Bank Official
Honours to date: 1 Munster SFC,
 1 Munster U21F,
 1 County Munster SFC, 1 County All-Ireland SFC,
 2 Intermediate Club SFC,
 1 County Club JFC, 1 West Cork 'B' U12F.





13 James Masters

Club: Nemo Rangers
Age: 25
Height: 1.83m/6'
Weight: 82.6kg/13st
Occupation: Garda
Honours to date: 1 All-Ireland MFC, 1 All-Ireland Club SFC, 5 County SFC, 4 Munster Club SFC, 1 All-Ireland IHC, 1 Munster SFC, 1 Munster U21F, 1 County JHC.

The leading scorer in the Championship, his importance to this Cork team cannot be underestimated. He has registered 3-27 in just five appearances but a recent injury may well curb his influence today.

14 Michael Cussen

Club: Glanmire
Age: 23
Height: 1.96m/6'5"
Weight: 88.9kg/14st
Occupation: Student Garda
Honours to date: 1 Munster U21H, Represented UCC in Sigerson Cup this year.

Had a promising performance against today's opposition in the Munster Final, when scoring two points and generally causing problems for the Kerry rearguard. Will hope to repeat that form today.

15 Donncha O'Connor

Club: Ballydesmond
Age: 26
Height: 1.83m/6'
Weight: 76kg/12st
Occupation: Fitter
Honours to date: 1 Munster SFC, 1 Munster JFC, 1 All-Ireland JFC.

Outside of James Masters, he has been Cork's main source of scores this year and will relish the prospect of facing Kerry again, having scored 1-4 in this year's Munster Final.

28 John Hayes

Club: Carbery Rangers
Age: 22
Height: 1.8m/5'11"
Weight: 76kg/12st
Occupation: Student
Honours to date: 1 Cork County JFC, 1 Cork County SFC, 1 Cork County IFC, 1 Munster Club JFC, 2 Munster Club IFC, 1 All-Ireland Intermediate Club F, 3 Munster U21F, 1 Munster SFC.



29 Bernie Collins

Club: Castlehaven
Age: 26
Height: 1.91m/6'3"
Weight: 92.1kg/14st 7lbs
Occupation: Roofing Contractor
Honours to date: 1 Munster U16F, 1 Munster U18F, 1 Cork County U21F, 1 Cork County SFC, 1 McGrath Cup.



30 Séan O'Brien

Club: Nemo Rangers
Age: 27
Height: 1.73m/5'8"
Weight: 74kg/11st 9lbs
Occupation: Accountant
Honours to date: 5 County SFC, 4 Munster Club SFC, 1 All-Ireland Club SFC, 1 Munster Intercounty SFC, 1 Munster Intercounty U21F.



ALL-IRELAND

AND FRANCE, SPAIN, GERMANY,
UK, HOLLAND, POLAND, PORTUGAL,
CZECH REPUBLIC, ETC ETC..



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HOW TO WIN
THE ALL-IRELAND**

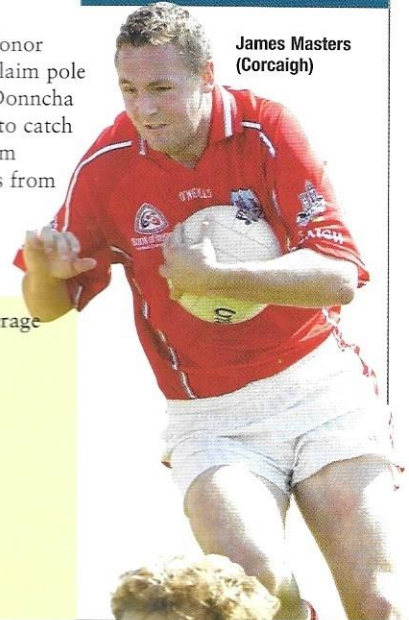
**SUNDAY
WORLD**
A REAL IRISH SUNDAY

TOP SCORERS

Bank of Ireland
Football Championship

Twelve months ago James Masters was the runner-up to Mayo's Conor Mortimer in the top scorers' chart, but the Leesider looks set to claim pole position this afternoon. His closest rival playing today is team-mate Donncha O'Connor and the Ballydesmond ace requires at least a dozen points to catch the Nemo sharp-shooter. Indeed, it appears likely that all three podium positions will remain unchanged. Apart from Masters, just two others from last year's top ten – Paddy Bradley (6th) and Brian Kavanagh (5th) – reappear. The top ten currently reads:

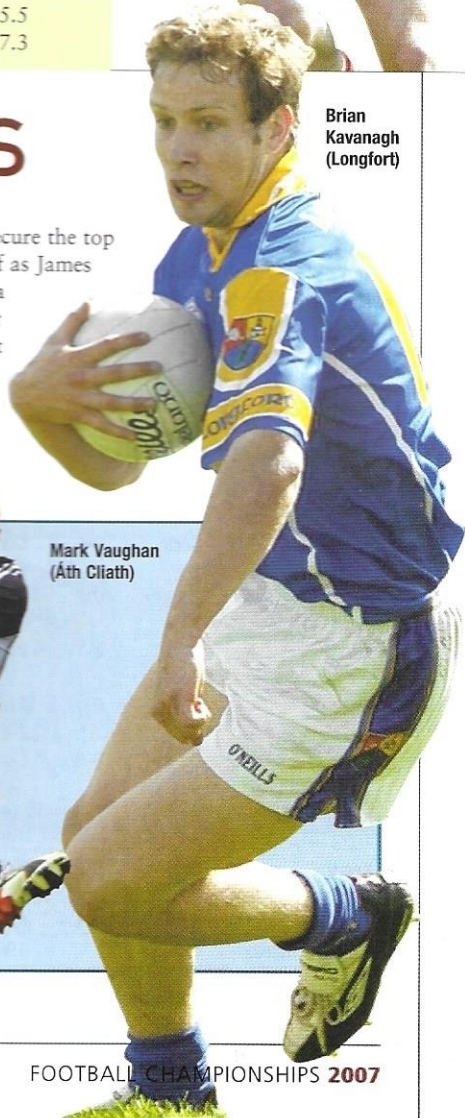
	Score	Total	Games	Average
1 – James Masters (Cork)	3-27	36	5	7.2
2 – Tomás Freeman (Monaghan)	3-23	32	5	6.4
3 – Mark Vaughan (Dublin)	1-28	31	5	6.2
4 – Paddy Bradley (Derry)	1-25	28	6	4.7
5 – Stephen Bray (Meath)	2-21	27	8	3.4
6 – Brian Farrell (Meath)	0-26	26	7	3.7
7 – Donncha O'Connor (Cork)	1-21	24	6	4.0
8 – Brian Kavanagh (Longford)	2-17	23	3	7.7
9 – Michael Tierney (Laois)	0-22	22	4	5.5
John Doyle (Kildare)	2-16	22	3	7.3



James Masters
(Corcaigh)

INDIVIDUAL FEATS

Twelve months ago Paddy Bradley's 2-7 was good enough to secure the top individual feat award and it looks like history will repeat itself as James Masters' 2-7 against Tipperary currently leads the way. It wasn't a vintage year for high individual totals as just five of nine points or better were recorded in the current campaign, compared to 15 last year and 18 the season before. With Masters all but assured of the overall scoring title, it's likely that the double (overall/individual) will be achieved for the first time since Mattie Forde in 2004, although Stephen O'Neill did win the overall and share the individual award twelve months later.



Brian Kavanagh
(Longfort)

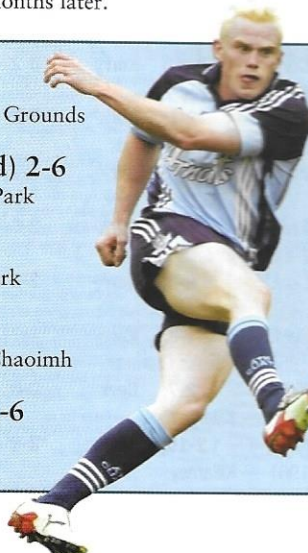
James Masters (Cork) 2-7
v Tipperary – 3rd June, the Gaelic Grounds

Brian Kavanagh (Longford) 2-6
v Westmeath – 13th May, Pearse Park

John Doyle (Kildare) 1-8
v Roscommon – 7th July, Hyde Park

James Masters (Cork) 1-7
v Limerick – 20th May, Páirc Uí Chaoimh

Mark Vaughan (Dublin) 1-6
v Laois – 15th July, Croke Park



Mark Vaughan
(Áth Cliath)

Corcaigh v. Ciarraí

HEAD-TO-HEAD

99 Games; Kerry 62, Cork 27, Draws 7, Objections 2, Abandoned 1.

1889 — Mallow:

Cork 0-2; Kerry 0-1

1890 — Markets Field (*abandoned*):

Cork 0-0; Kerry 0-0

Banteer:

Cork 1-4; Kerry 0-1

1891 — Killarney:

Cork 2-5; Kerry 0-2

1892 — Killarney:

Kerry 3-6; Cork 0-5

1893 — Mallow:

Cork W.O.; Kerry Scr.

1901 — Markets Field (*objection*):

Cork 0-6; Kerry 0-1

Millstreet:

Cork 0-8; Kerry 0-6

1902 — Millstreet:

Kerry 2-7; Cork 0-3

1903 — Markets Field:

Kerry 1-7; Cork 0-3

1904 — Markets Field:

Kerry 1-4; Cork 0-0

1905 — Athletic Grounds:

Kerry 1-7; Cork 0-5

1906 — Tipperary town:

Cork 1-10; Kerry 0-3

1907 — Markets Field:

Cork 1-9; Kerry 0-6

1909 — Markets Field (*objection*):

Cork 2-8; Kerry 1-7

Athletic Grounds:

Kerry 1-5; Cork 0-6

1910 — Athletic Grounds:

Kerry 0-4; Cork 0-2

1912 — Tralee:

Kerry 2-3; Cork 0-1

1913 — Athletic Grounds:

Kerry 1-6; Cork 0-1

1914 — Tralee:

Kerry 0-5; Cork 0-1

1920 — Athletic Grounds:

Kerry 2-6; Cork 0-4

1923 — Athletic Grounds:

Kerry 3-4; Cork 0-3

1924 — Athletic Grounds:

Kerry 4-3; Cork 2-1

1925 — Tralee:

Kerry 3-8; Cork 1-0

1926 — Listowel:

Kerry 1-9; Cork 2-1

1927 — Athletic Grounds:

Kerry 1-7; Cork 0-1

1929 — Athletic Grounds:

Kerry 1-7; Cork 1-3

1934 — Fermoy:

Kerry 2-6; Cork 0-3

1937 — Killarney:

Kerry 6-7; Cork 0-4

1938 — Clonakilty:

Kerry 4-14; Cork 0-6

1942 — Tralee:

Kerry 3-7; Cork 0-8

1943 — Athletic Grounds:

Cork 2-3; Kerry 0-9

Athletic Grounds (replay):

Cork 1-5; Kerry 1-4

1945 — Killarney:

Cork 1-11; Kerry 1-6

1946 — Killarney:

Kerry 1-8; Cork 1-4

1947 — Athletic Grounds:

Kerry 3-8; Cork 2-6

1948 — Killarney:

Kerry 2-9; Cork 2-6

1950 — Athletic Grounds:

Kerry 2-5; Cork 1-5

1951 — Killarney:

Kerry 1-6; Cork 0-4

1952 — Athletic Grounds:

Cork 0-11; Kerry 0-2

1953 — Killarney:

Kerry 2-7; Cork 2-3

1954 — Athletic Grounds:

Kerry 4-9; Cork 2-3

1955 — Killarney:

Kerry 0-14; Cork 2-6

1956 — Athletic Grounds:

Cork 0-8; Kerry 2-2

Killarney (replay):

Cork 1-8; Kerry 1-7

1958 — Athletic Grounds:

Kerry 2-7; Cork 0-3

1959 — Killarney:

Kerry 2-15; Cork 2-8

1961 — Killarney:

Kerry 2-13; Cork 1-4

1962 — Athletic Grounds:

Kerry 4-8; Cork 0-4

1963 — Killarney:

Kerry 1-18; Cork 3-7

1964 — Athletic Grounds:

Kerry 2-11; Cork 1-8

1966 — Killarney:

Cork 2-7; Kerry 1-7

1967 — Athletic Grounds:

Cork 0-8; Kerry 0-7

1968 — Killarney:

Kerry 1-21; Cork 3-8

1969 — Athletic Grounds:

Kerry 0-16; Cork 1-4

1970 — Killarney:

Kerry 2-22; Cork 2-9

1971 — Athletic Grounds:

Cork 0-25; Kerry 0-14

1972 — Killarney:

Kerry 2-21; Cork 2-15

1973 — Athletic Grounds:

Cork 5-12; Kerry 1-15

1974 — Killarney:

Cork 1-11; Kerry 0-7

1975 — Killarney:

Kerry 1-14; Cork 0-7

1976 — Páirc Uí Chaoimh:

Kerry 0-10; Cork 0-10

Páirc Uí Chaoimh (replay):

Kerry 3-20; Cork 2-19

1977 — Killarney:

Kerry 3-15; Cork 0-9

1978 — Páirc Uí Chaoimh:

Kerry 3-14; Cork 3-7

1979 — Killarney:

Kerry 2-14; Cork 2-4

1980 — Páirc Uí Chaoimh:

Kerry 3-13; Cork 0-12

1981 — Killarney:

Kerry 1-11; Cork 0-3

1982 — Páirc Uí Chaoimh:

Kerry 0-9; Cork 0-9

Killarney (replay):

Kerry 2-18; Cork 0-12

1983 — Páirc Uí Chaoimh:

Cork 3-10; Kerry 3-9

1984 — Killarney:

Kerry 3-14; Cork 2-10



FIRST MEETING

1985 — Páirc Uí Chaoimh:		
Kerry	2-11;	Cork 0-11
1986 — Killarney:		
Kerry	0-12;	Cork 0-8
1987 — Páirc Uí Chaoimh:		
Cork	1-10;	Kerry 2-7
Killarney (replay):		
Cork	0-13;	Kerry 1-5
1988 — Páirc Uí Chaoimh:		
Cork	1-14;	Kerry 0-16
1989 — Killarney:		
Cork	1-12;	Kerry 1-9
1990 — Páirc Uí Chaoimh:		
Cork	2-23;	Kerry 1-11
1991 — Killarney:		
Kerry	1-10;	Cork 0-11
1992 — Páirc Uí Chaoimh:		
Kerry	2-14;	Cork 0-10
1993 — Killarney:		
Cork	1-10;	Kerry 0-10
1994 — Páirc Uí Chaoimh:		
Cork	1-13;	Kerry 2-8
1995 — Killarney:		
Cork	0-15;	Kerry 1-9
1996 — Páirc Uí Chaoimh:		
Kerry	0-14;	Cork 0-11
1998 — Killarney:		
Kerry	1-14;	Cork 1-11
1999 — Páirc Uí Chaoimh:		
Cork	2-10;	Kerry 2-4
2000 — Killarney:		
Kerry	2-15;	Cork 1-13
2001 — Páirc Uí Chaoimh:		
Kerry	0-19;	Cork 1-13
2002 — Killarney:		
Cork	0-8;	Kerry 0-8
Páirc Uí Chaoimh (replay):		
Cork	0-15;	Kerry 1-9
Croke Park:		
Kerry	3-19;	Cork 2-7
2004 — Killarney:		
Kerry	0-15;	Cork 0-7
2005 — Páirc Uí Chaoimh:		
Kerry	1-11	Cork 0-11
Croke Park:		
Kerry	1-19;	Cork 0-9
2006 — Killarney:		
Cork	0-10;	Kerry 0-10
Páirc Uí Chaoimh (replay):		
Cork	1-12;	Kerry 0-9
Croke Park:		
Kerry	0-16;	Cork 0-10
2007 — Killarney:		
Kerry	1-15;	Cork 1-13

1889 Cork 0-2; Kerry 0-1

Not alone was this the first-ever meeting of Cork and Kerry, this match at Mallow marked the Kingdom's debut in championship football as they had not participated in the 1887 or 1888 campaigns. Cork's edge in experience was minimal as they had taken to the field just once in each of the previous two seasons and that was to lose to Kilkenny at Dungarvan in '87 (0-0 to 0-4) and to fail to Tipperary at Buttevant in '88 (0-1 to 0-2).

Such a background would suggest that this wasn't the most eagerly awaited of fixtures, but according to the Cork Examiner a crowd of several thousand attended the match. The visitors (represented by Killorglin) won the toss and did most of the early attacking, without disturbing the scoreboard. The home side (represented by Middleton) quickly got on top territorially, but the lone score of the opening half fell to Kerry.

Matters continued in much the same vein on the restart with Cork doing most of the pressing, but without reward. The third quarter ended with the hosts still trailing, but finally they got on terms early in the fourth. Each side then had a number of wides before Cork grabbed a winner five minutes from time. Kerry did have a number of chances to rescue the situation, but failed to find the target.

Corcaigh – J.Power, J.Leahy, P.O'Brien, B.Kelleher, J.D.O'Brien, M.Hennessy, W.Hennessy, M.Roche, W.Colbert, B.Hennessy, J.Ahern, M.Buckley, D.Murphy, M.Moore, W.Kennedy, W.Twomey, P.Moore, W.Barry, J.Kennedy, J.Hannon, W.Buckley.
Ciarraí – J.P.O'Sullivan, P.O'Sullivan, E.O'Sullivan, M.O'Sullivan, Jack O'Sullivan, John O'Sullivan, Tim Curran, Tom Curran, P.Teehan, P.Sheehan, P.Regan, P.O'Shea, P.Fleming, J.Hayes, T.Murphy, J.Doyle, D.O'Neill, D.Murphy, T.Cremin, M.O'Brien, T.Foley.

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The GOAL team working in the war-torn North Darfur region of Sudan from left: Emergency Coordinator Brian Casey from Dublin, Nutrition Programme Coordinator Gayveth Cates from New Orleans, Medical Supervisor Crystal Bourke from Silvermines, Medical Supervisor Eskil Jakobson from Sweden, Community Health Programme Manager Samuel Fiso from Great Britain, Medical Coordinator Paula Ward from Maize and Water & Sanitation Coordinator Keith Porter from Sligo, pictured in the GOAL compound in Sudan.



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KERRY REGAIN TITLE

2007 – Kerry 1-15 Cork 1-13



Kerry's Colm Cooper scores his side's only goal in the Munster Final

Just ten weeks ago Kerry and Cork clashed in the provincial final at Killarney and in an exciting contest the home side regained the title in front of an attendance of 31,420. Despite facing into the breeze, Kerry made the more positive start and a couple of Declan O'Sullivan points gave them a 0-3 to 0-1 lead. However, after some early missed chances Cork found their range and were soon forcing the pace thanks to Michael Cussen and James Masters, but an interval advantage of 0-9 to 0-7 looked precarious.

Kerry restarted brilliantly and Colm Cooper's goal at the 43rd minute appeared to set them on course for a comfortable victory. Darragh Ó Sé continued to push Kerry forward and as the visitors resorted to fouling Mike Frank

Russell punished them and, six points clear nearing the end of the third quarter, the game appeared over.

But Kerry took their foot off the pedal and Donncha O'Connor's goal at the start of the final quarter breathed new life into Cork's challenge. Six minutes from time Masters lofted over the equaliser from a free and the momentum was definitely with the Rebels. Late on Derek Kavanagh appeared to be fouled when shooting wide from close in, but no penalty was awarded and the hosts made the most of the reprieve with Kieran Donaghy and Sean O'Sullivan notching the winning scores.

Kerry scorers: M.F.Russell 0-6, C.Cooper 1-2, Declan O'Sullivan 0-3, K.Donaghy 0-2, E.Brosnan, S.O'Sullivan 0-1 each.

Cork scorers: D.O'Connor 1-4, J.Masters 0-4, M.Cussen 0-2, P.O'Neill, K.McMahon, N.Murphy 0-1 each.

Giarrái – D.Murphy, P.Reidy, T.O'Sullivan, M.Ó Sé, T. Ó Sé, A.O'Mahony, K.Young, D. Ó Sé, M.Quirke, Declan O'Sullivan, E.Brosnan, P.Galvin, C.Cooper, K.Donaghy, M.F.Russell. Subs – S.O'Sullivan (Galvin), Darren O'Sullivan (Brosnan), T.Griffin (Quirke), B.Sheehan (Declan O'Sullivan).

Corcaigh – P.O'Shea, M.Shields, G.Canty, K.O'Connor, N.O'Leary, G.Spillane, A.Lynch, D.Kavanagh, N.Murphy, F.Gould, P.O'Neill, K.McMahon, J.Masters, M.Cussen, D.O'Connor. Subs – J.Miskella (Gould), C.McCarthy (Lynch).



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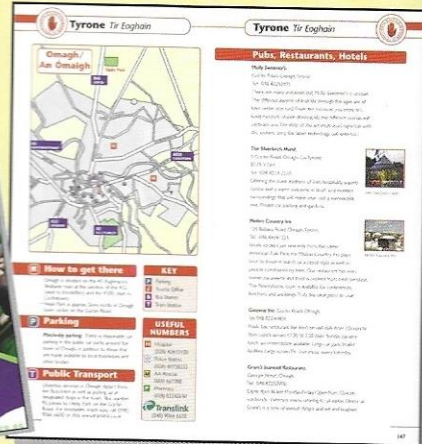


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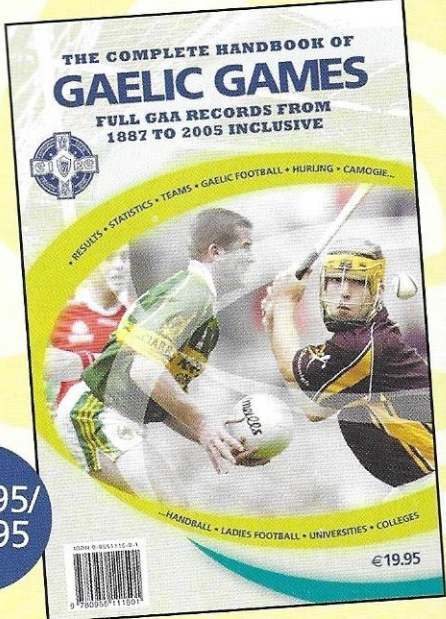
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PENALTY PARADE

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Football Championship

With eight fewer championship matches in the current campaign than last year, it was no great surprise to see a reduction in the number of penalties conceded. To date 15 have been awarded which is four fewer than at the same stage twelve months ago. As well as the fall in the number of penalties, there also has been a decline in the conversion rate with this year's 11 penalties yielding six goals (18 points) or 1.64 points per penalty (2.47 last year).

The 11 penalties awarded in the current campaign and the result of each is as follows:

20th May

Joe Sheridan (Meath)

GOAL v Kildare

17th June

Mark Stanfield (Louth)

HIT POST v Wexford*

Colm McFadden (Donegal)

SAVED by John Devine (Tyrone)

Colm McCullagh (Tyrone)

GOAL v Donegal

7th July

Dermot McCabe (Cavan)

GOAL v Mayo

Michael Foley (Leitrim)

SAVED by Paul Durcan (Donegal)

14th July

Gary Dolan (Westmeath)

WIDE v Donegal

Michael Murphy (Donegal)

SAVED by Gary Connaughton (Westmeath)

John Doyle (Kildare)

GOAL v Louth

21st July

Michael Meehan (Galway)

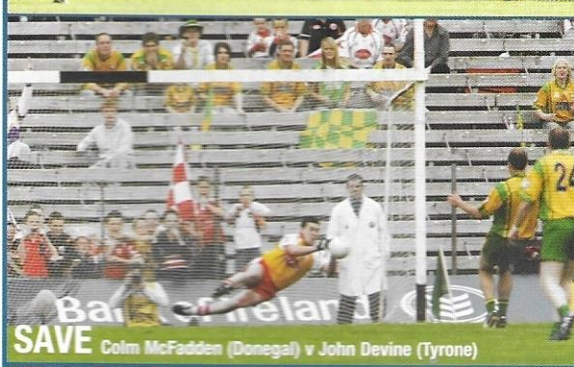
GOAL v Meath

12th August

Tomas Freeman (Monaghan)

GOAL v Kerry

*J.P.Rooney netted the rebound



University College Cork

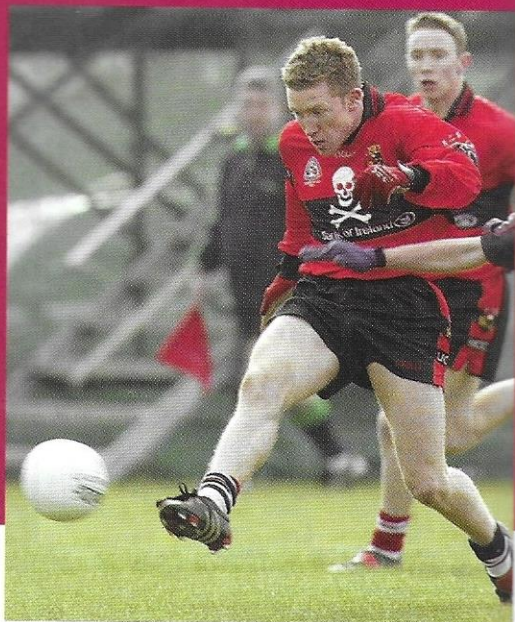
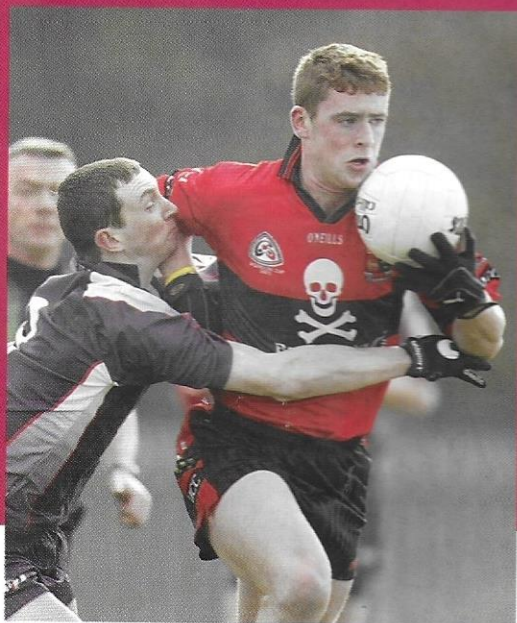
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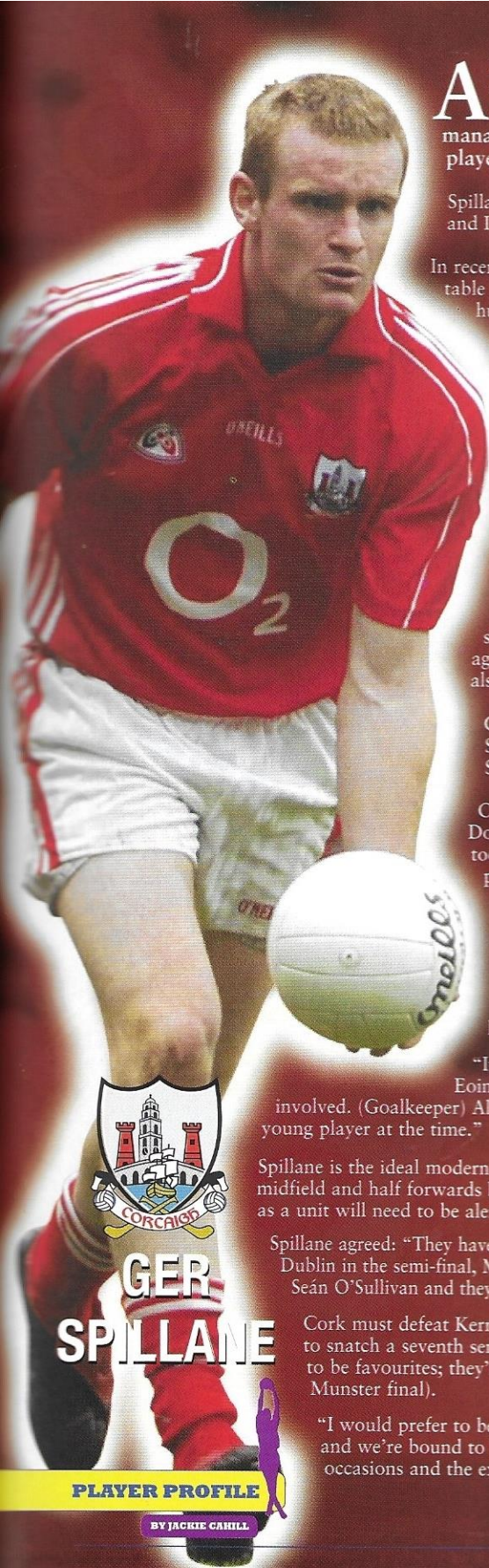
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ALLSTAR centre half back Ger Spillane wants to reward Cork's 'Mister Football' by helping to end a 17-year All-Ireland famine. Spillane is a huge fan of team manager Billy Morgan, who won an All-Ireland title as a player in 1973 and two as manager in 1989 and 1990.

Spillane said: "He lives and dies for it. He would do anything for us and I couldn't say enough about Billy."

In recent seasons, Cork have crept slowly back towards football's top table and this afternoon, they are just 70 minutes away from gorging hungrily on glory once again. And Spillane insisted: "We owe Billy and the selectors a lot. We have delivered one Munster title (2006) but they deserve more. An All-Ireland would be the ultimate reward for the work they have put in and for the faith they have placed in us."

Spillane (26), has Morgan to thank for giving him a chance at senior intercounty level with Cork. The Ballygarvan clubman won All-Ireland junior titles with Cork in 2001 and 2005 and has blossomed since making the huge leap into the senior ranks.

Spillane was a member of the Cork senior panel in 2005, in tandem with the juniors, and made his league debut against Offaly in 2006. He quickly cemented a place on the team and showed true class during the championship, when he excelled against Kerry in the Munster final and subsequent replay, and also against Donegal in the All-Ireland quarter-final.

Growing up, Spillane admired All-Ireland winning heroes like Stephen O'Brien, Niall Cahalane and Larry Tompkins but now Spillane has the chance to create his own piece of history.

Coming from a junior club doesn't faze him either. After all, Donncha O'Connor is in the same boat and Noel O'Leary was too up until recently. Spillane noted: "It's more pressure. You're playing against better teams, the speed of the game is a bit higher too and to adapt and cope with that is the biggest problem."

"There's more to be put in too – it's a full time commitment." When Cork last contested a football final – against Meath in 1999 – Spillane was a spectator. He recalled: "I wasn't at the hurling final two weeks before but I was at the football."

"It was disappointing but I was looking in awe at the likes of Eoin Sexton and Anthony Lynch. It's great to have those lads still involved. (Goalkeeper) Alan Quirke was a sub that day and Nicholas Murphy was a very young player at the time."

Spillane is the ideal modern-day centre back. He loves to drive forward in support of his midfield and half forwards but his primary job is obviously to defend and the Cork defence as a unit will need to be alert against Kerry's red-hot attack.

Spillane agreed: "They have fierce talent in the forward line. Bryan Sheehan started against Dublin in the semi-final, Mike Frank Russell didn't but he's a great sub to come in. Equally, Seán O'Sullivan and they have a few more. You couldn't pick a weak spot."

Cork must defeat Kerry at Croke Park for the very first time in championship fare to snatch a seventh senior All-Ireland crown. And Spillane insisted: "Kerry will have to be favourites; they're reigning champions and have beaten us already (in the Munster final)."

"I would prefer to be an underdog going into a match but it's an All-Ireland final and we're bound to be under pressure. Kerry have been there on numerous occasions and the experience will help them."



**GER
SPILLANE**

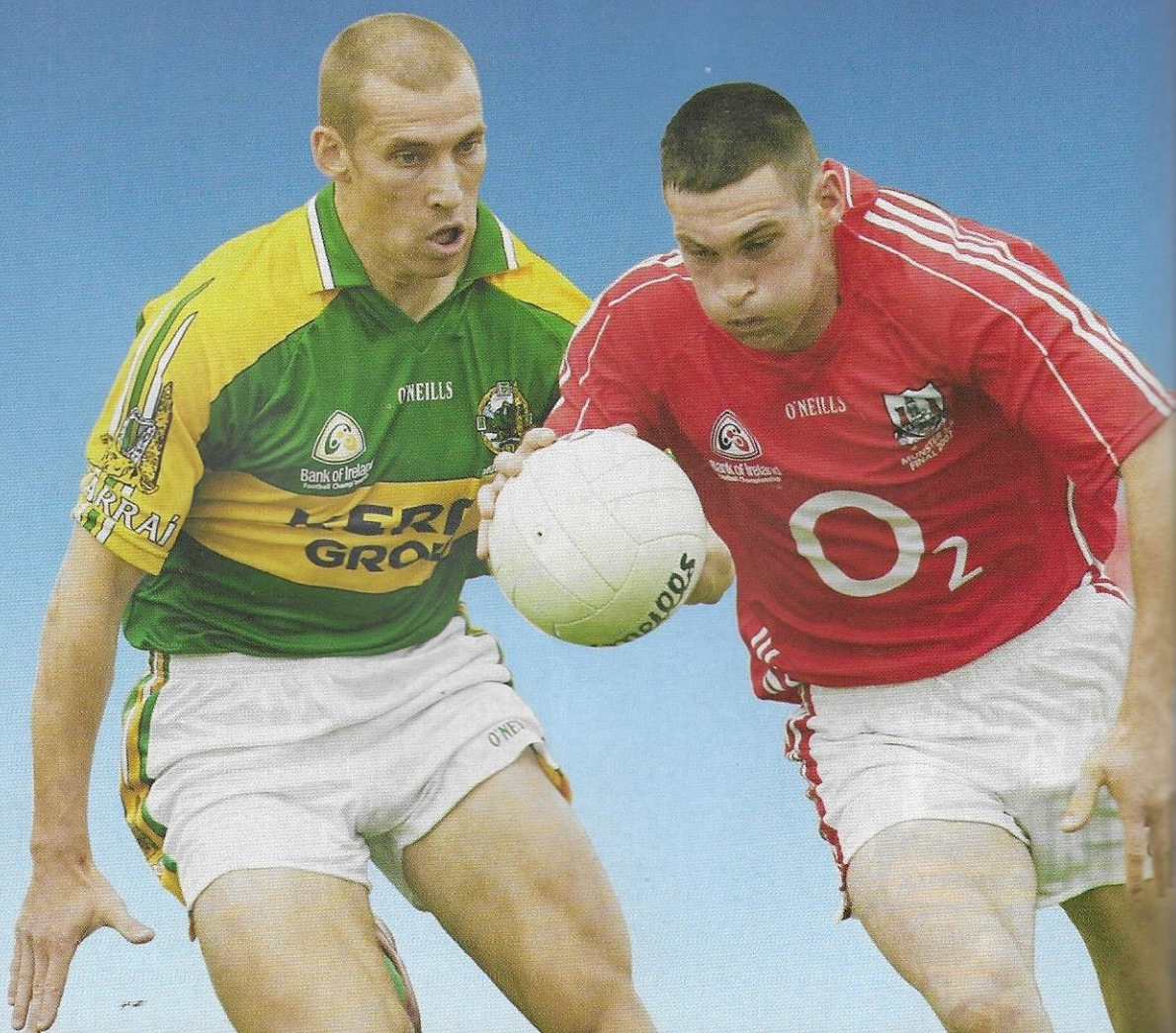
PLAYER PROFILE

BY JACKIE CAHILL

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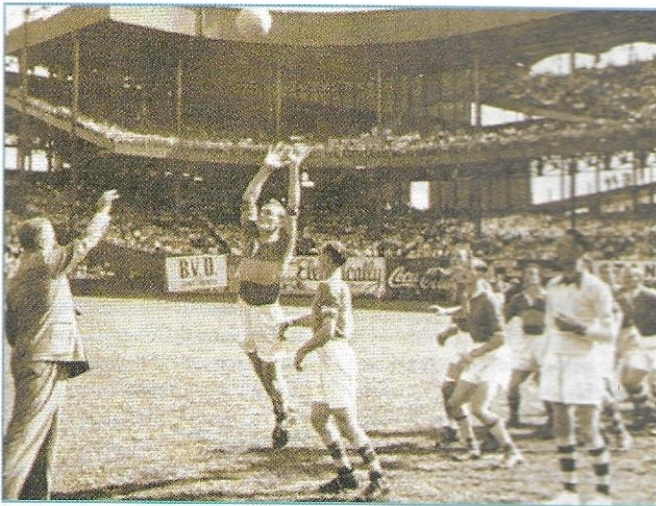
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Mark Duncan, GAA researcher, journalist and historian takes a look back at the 1947 All-Ireland Final between Kerry and Cavan and the story behind the decision to play the game in New York.

The Polo Grounds All-Ireland Final 60 Years On



The throw-in to start the historic 1947 final featuring Kerry's Dan Kavanagh and Cavan's Gunner Brady at the front of the lineouts. On right is referee Martin O'Neill (Loch Garman).

Sixty years on and the ambition of it still astonishes. To detach any sporting showpiece from its only large and natural support base and transport it to a different country must surely rank as either foolhardy or brave. Or both. Can you imagine the reactions at next year's annual congress were some delegate to suggest uprooting the All-Ireland hurling or football final and playing it instead in, say, New York? Consternation most likely; disdain certainly. The proposal would crash before it could even take flight.

Yet this is exactly what happened in 1947 when the All-Ireland football final between Cavan and Kerry was played in the Polo Grounds, then famed as home to the New York Giants baseball team. It remains the only All-Ireland final ever to be staged outside the country and

unless GAA officialdom volunteers for a mass lobotomy, this distinction is unlikely to be challenged anytime soon.

AUDACIOUS

The audaciousness of the decision to play the All-Ireland final in New York is underscored by the context of the times. Europe and United States were only emerging from the wreckage of the Second World, while Ireland, sheltered from the full horrors of engagement, was making a lame attempt to return to the mainstream of international experience.

This, of course, was a pre-globalised age: air travel from Ireland was expensive and seating was limited. Telecommunications, by today's standards, was equally primitive.

So what exactly got into the GAA? Impulse it seems. An

emotional fit. The case for taking the All-Ireland final to New York was championed by Canon Hamilton, Chairman of the Clare County Board. Hamilton had warmed to the idea in an exchange of correspondence with John Kerry O'Donnell, who dominated New York GAA for four decades and who, in the wake of the drawn All-Ireland football final the previous year, had suggested taking the replay across the Atlantic. Hamilton steered a motion through the Clare Convention, but when delegates gathered for the GAA's annual congress in April 1947, nobody expected it to succeed.

Anticipating its heavy defeat, GAA Secretary General Pádraig Ó Caoimh was moved to pass cards among a number of delegates asking them to vote for the motion to ensure the Canon, his friend, would be spared outright humiliation.

But Hamilton didn't need to save face. He relied on the power of his own rhetoric to swing the debate. When his turn came to speak, he played to sentiment.

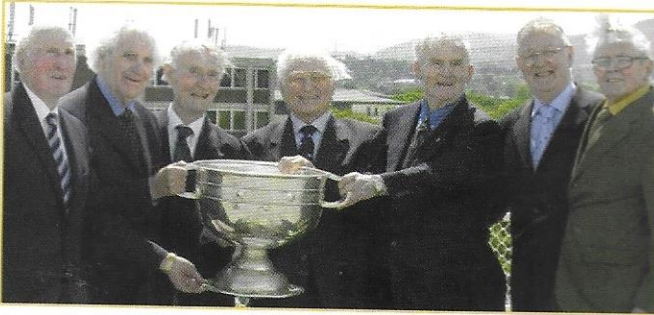
He invoked the memory of the famine, the centenary of which fell that year. He spoke of the isolation and loneliness of exile and insisted that the playing of an All-Ireland final in New York would enable thousands of Irishmen and women to die content that they had seen an All-Ireland final, most likely their last. Gifting an All-Ireland final to the emigrant Irish would be both a firm statement of solidarity and an act of resuscitation.

EMOTION

Hamilton told delegates that "*When the flag of a free Ireland is hoisted there beside the symbol of American unity and*

Continued overleaf

The Polo Grounds All-Ireland Final 60 Years On CONTINUED



May 2005: Surviving members of the 1947 All-Ireland Football Final, from left; Mick Higgins, Cavan, John Wilson (RIP), Cavan, Teddy Sullivan (RIP), Kerry, Mick Finnucane, Kerry, Simon Deignan, Cavan, Tony Tighe (RIP), Cavan and Gus Cremin, Kerry, at the inaugural, Lucozade Sport sponsored, Association of Sports Journalists in Ireland Sporting Legends lunch to honour the surviving members of the 1947 All-Ireland Football Final.

independence, and when the strains of the Soldier's Song are wafted across the stadium, chords will be touched in the hearts of that Irish throng that nothing else in this world could touch, tears of joy and pride will glisten in the eyes of thousands of men and women. Strong hearts will throb with emotion that only those who have been in exile can appreciate and understand."

Hamilton's address stirred up a wave of emotion that drowned out concerns about logistics and costs. Pragmatism yielded to dewy-eyed sentiment. The motion passed.

The GAA had, by this point, already developed a keen appetite for foreign travel. And for obvious reasons, the United States was the destination of choice. The Association was no sooner born than it took a shipload of its finest athletes and paraded them in front of an American audience. The so-called 'Invasion Tour' of 1888 was planned to mine the goodwill of Irish emigrant groups and raise sufficient funds to re-launch a modern version of the Tailteann games, the ancient

Celtic cultural festival. It failed miserably.

The expedition nearly broke the GAA and many of its star athletes, smitten by the excitement and promise of American life, never returned to Ireland. Gaelic games did subsequently flourish among the emigrant Irish across the U.S. and Britain, but decades would pass before the GAA's elite would travel in such numbers again.

It was not until the mid-1920s, after GAA activity had recovered from the disruption of the War of Independence and Civil War that county teams began to travel stateside for exhibition games, where they were frequently feted on a scale unimaginable at home. Heroes abroad.

Just like at home, however, the fortunes of the GAA in the United States were vulnerable to wider social and political events. Troop mobilisation during the Second World War soaked up many eligible footballers and hurlers among the Irish-American community, and when the fighting finished, it was a severely weakened GAA that

limped into the post-war era.

A sense of crisis prevailed and GAA Secretary General Pádraig Ó Caoimh, in his 1947 Congress Report, was moved to highlight the fact that the number of teams in the United States was '...dwindling through the years in the absence of Irish immigrants.'

Transporting an All-Ireland final to the United States would, it was believed, boost the flagging fortunes of the Association there. Nevertheless, the passage of the Clare motion at the Annual Congress was no guarantee that the event would actually materialise.

FEASIBILITY

The Central Council still had to consider its feasibility, and many of the top brass, including Ó Caoimh, were more convinced of the arguments against rather than for the venture. It was only when a proposal by Waterford's Vincent O'Donoghue – a future GAA President – to abandon the plan was defeated at a vote of the Central Council that the point of no return was reached and preparations gathered momentum.

The securing of a venue and adequate travel arrangements were among the more daunting logistical challenges facing the GAA. The choice of New York's Polo Grounds resolved the first dilemma. GAA exhibition matches had been played at the venue before, but a game of this importance would require compromises all round.

While it was possible to shoehorn a rectangular pitch into the baseball stadium is distinctive bathtub shape, both finalists would have to agree to a curtailed playing area.

AG FÉACHAINT SIAR

25 Years Ago – 1982

Leitrim and Roscommon were first-round winners in Connacht, but both lost next time out as Mayo and Galway beat them respectively by a goal. However, there was a lot more than a goal between the sides in the final at Tuam where the home side coasted to a 3-17 to 0-10 win.

Offaly were seeking their third successive Leinster title with Dublin their main opposition. Offaly defeated Louth and Laois en-route to the final while Dublin got the better of Longford and Kildare, but the decider was a big disappointment with the Midlanders winning easily by 1-16 to 1-7.

There were no surprises in Munster as Tipperary beat Waterford and Clare defeated Limerick. Both Cork and Kerry had their expected easy semi/final wins before the final ended in a 0-9 all draw at Cork. Kerry eased through by 2-18 to 0-12 in the replay at Killarney.

Nor was there anything exceptional about the provincial campaign in Ulster. Fermanagh did surprise with wins over Derry and Tyrone to make their first final since 1945, but Armagh took the title by 0-10 to 1-4.

The Orchard county proved no match for Kerry in the All-Ireland semi/final (1-11 to 3-15) while Offaly just scraped past Galway by 1-12 to 1-11. Bidding for a record fifth successive title Kerry looked on course until a late goal gave Offaly the title by 1-15 to 0-17.

They did. Cavan and Kerry qualified for the All-Ireland final after defeating Roscommon and Meath respectively in the semi-finals and as September approached they prepared for the journey of a lifetime and a fixture that would guarantee them a unique place in the history of gaelic games.

There were passports to be got, visas to be secured.

SIXTY-FIVE PLAYERS

A travelling party of sixty-five players, mentors and officials eventually crossed the Atlantic by air and sea. None of the forty that flew from Shannon had ever been on a plane before. The remaining twenty-five crossed on the Cunard Star white ocean liner. In a move that suggested greater faith in the safety of air travel than sea, Cavan opted to send all their subs by boat. The Kerry management, in the clear belief that some familiarity of the sea would be an advantage, loaded most of its Dingle players onto the ship.

When the party was united in New York they were soon thrown into a whirl of social engagements. A series of receptions, official lunches and a ticker tape parade down Fifth Avenue, in front of bemused New Yorkers, was overcame before the Cavan and Kerry teams finally got down to the business of deciding the All-Ireland final.

The game was played on September 14th before a crowd of 34,941. The honour of throwing in the ball, the preserve of religious at home, was given to the Mayo-born Mayor of New York, Bill O'Dwyer, who had done much to facilitate the event.

Kerry raced into an early lead, but a number of positional changes on the Cavan side turned the game on its head. In the end, the Ulster champions hauled back an eight point

deficit to win by four points. The star performer for Cavan, contributing eight points to his side's 2-11 total, was Peter Donohue, the free-taker dubbed the Babe Ruth of Gaelic football by the New York press.

The result stunned the Kerry players and disgusted their supporters. So unconscionable was notion of defeat that some of the large Kerry community in New York accused their players of being too fond of the drink. Others, fortunately perhaps, were simply rendered speechless. "There was no such thing as defeat for the emigrants before the match", Kerry's Batt Garvey recalled many years later. "Over there in the forties there were quite a number of Kerry people and they only wanted winners. They weren't able to talk after the match, it was amazing. It's bad enough to lose an All-Ireland, but that was the only one ever lost in New York."

In time, however, the 1947 All-Ireland football final would be remembered more for where it was played than for who won or lost it.

STADIUM

The stadium itself is no more. The Giants abandoned New York for San Francisco in 1957 and in 1964 the Polo Grounds fell to a wrecking ball. An apartment block now stands on the site. Pity. The stadium would surely have had a future as a tourist destination for Cavan pilgrims.

The memory of the Polo Grounds All-Ireland final now survives in a small stock of grainy images and 10 minutes of film highlights, specially commissioned by Pádraig Ó Caoimh for the GAA and the National Film Institute of Ireland.

The GAA Museum also houses some fascinating memorabilia. Go and see it. It's worth the effort. The All-Ireland final is unlikely to travel again.




ANDRÉ
SHIRTS

AIDAN O'Mahony has yet to register a single score in this year's league and championship campaigns but you wouldn't bet against him breaking his duck in this afternoon's All-Ireland final.

The Kerry centre half back picked up the RTÉ man of the match award from last year's decider after a superb marking job on Mayo dangerman Ciarán McDonald. O'Mahony even found time to bomb forward for two points himself from the half back line but the Rathmore man admits that playing in the centre requires more discipline.

O'Mahony would surely love that bit more freedom on the left flank but he has stepped in brilliantly at centre back following the retirement of Kingdom great Seamus Moynihan following last year's final.

O'Mahony said: "I'd be used to playing wing back, man-marking and attacking. You have to be more conservative at centre back, stay back and hold the house. A lot of teams play blanket defence, Monaghan were a typical example. They dropped a man back and played two men inside so you need to be on your guard."

27-year-old O'Mahony is fast approaching the peak of his career and this afternoon he could capture a third All-Ireland senior winner's medal.

The 6ft Garda made his championship debut against Clare in 2004 and finished the year with an All-Ireland medal as Kerry demolished Mayo in the final.

The 2006 Vodafone Allstar has also claimed two National League titles and four Munster crowns with Kerry while he has captured county club titles at U21, intermediate and senior levels.

O'Mahony will hope to exert a similar influence on today's final following his heroics against Mayo last season and although many pundits predicted an all-Leinster final between Meath and Dublin, it is two ancient Munster rivals who will battle it out for the coveted Sam Maguire Cup.

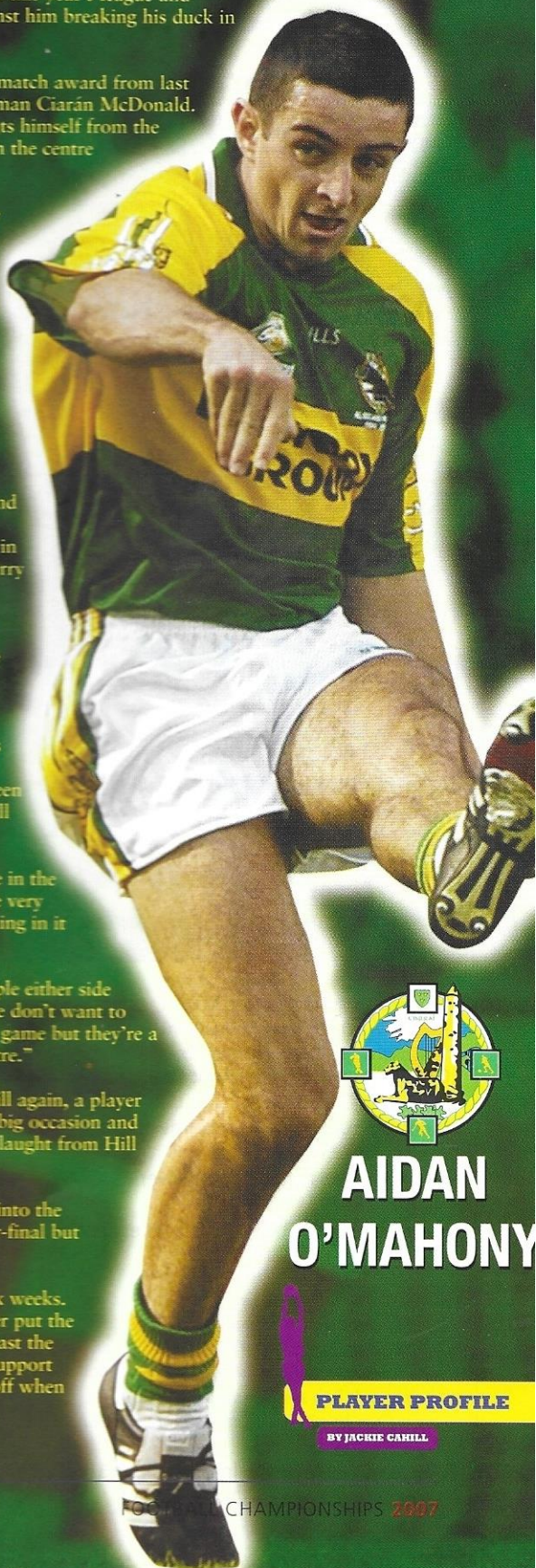
O'Mahony insisted: "The two best teams in the country are in the final. Cork had a massive win against Meath and they were very unlucky against us in the Munster final - there will be nothing in it again."

The stakes couldn't be higher, the fear of failure could cripple either side and O'Mahony said: "They don't want to lose to us and we don't want to lose to them. A lot of people wrote Cork off after the Sligo game but they're a very good running side and are very physical down the centre."

O'Mahony will come face to face with Cork's Pearse O'Neill again, a player who grafts tirelessly for his team. But O'Mahony loves the big occasion and he was a tower of strength as Kerry survived the verbal onslaught from Hill 16 to see off the Dublin challenge in the semi-final.

O'Mahony reflected: "There was a lot of incentive coming into the Dublin game - a lot of people wrote us off after the quarter-final but didn't give Monaghan enough credit.

"That was a game we needed because we had a break of six weeks. Against Dublin, we upped our performance and every player put the shoulder to the wheel. The one memory I have is walking past the Canal End and facing up to Hill 16 behind the band. The support they had was unbelievable and they nearly shook the roof off when they came back at us in the second half."



AIDAN O'MAHONY

PLAYER PROFILE

BY JACKIE CAHILL

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Tackling the discipline maze

Seán Moran (Irish Times) takes us through the procedures



For anyone who feels that the alphabetical blizzard of all the new discipline committees – CCCC, CHC and CAC – sounds more like a heavy morning’s computer programming than streamlined administration, let’s go back to the turn of this decade and look at the structures then.

Basically you had a Games Administration Committee whose job it was to do virtually everything the title suggested: make fixtures, impose suspensions, conduct investigations, level charges and hear cases. You could appeal to Central Council but that was the limit of the process.

The trouble with the old GAC was that it was a legal time bomb and its multi-tasking gave ample scope for the aggrieved to take decisions off to the high court for injunctions. On constitutional grounds it was too questionable to have the one body investigating, charging and judging.

What exists now tries to tackle the situation on a few levels. Firstly the Central Competitions Control Committee has no power to impose suspensions or punishments. It simply suggests what it believes is an appropriate response to a referee’s report or an investigation.

Video evidence can be used by the CCCC to deal with an incident that the referee hasn’t noticed. If the referee has taken action there is still a possibility that video can be used.

In the controversial circumstances of an official having taken the wrong action, eg showing a yellow card for what is clearly a red-card offence the referee can be approached and asked to review the video. If he is

still satisfied with the yellow card the matter rests; if not the CCCC is free to pursue the matter and suggest a suspension.

It’s up to the individual involved to decide whether they’ll take their medicine and accept the suggestion or fight the matter further.

This is a bit like pleading guilty or not guilty. In the first instance the individual accepts the charge and doesn’t believe it worthwhile to pursue things farther. In the second, the desire is for a hearing during which the person or unit charged can attempt to establish that they didn’t breach any rules or that they don’t deserve to be punished.

An example of the first instance would be Meath’s Brian Farrell, who accepted his four weeks for a sending off against Kildare and didn’t look for a hearing.

Examples of the second instance are all around us, as players and units rarely believe that a hearing isn’t worth a try. If a hearing is requested the matter goes to the Central Hearings Committee (CHC) and the CCCC act like a prosecution, making the case for their suggested suspension while the player or unit charged defend themselves.

APPEALS

Should that hearing uphold the CCCC case, the next remedy for whoever’s suspended or otherwise punished is to take an appeal to the Central Appeals Committee.

There is often reference made to people getting off on a ‘technicality’ but to be fair to the CAC the only grounds on which they can make a decision are procedural or technical. The CAC

don’t get to decide on the facts of the case, only the application of rule. The committee rarely watch video evidence for instance because it’s not its function to re-adjudicate the facts of the matter.

If the CAC’s decision still isn’t to the liking of one of the parties the only remaining option is the Disputes Resolution Authority. The DRA was set up as an independent tribunal to tackle the situation whereby the High Court was being used to get players eligible for big matches.

The tactic was simple: get a temporary injunction to lift the suspension for just long enough to play in a particular match. The reasons didn’t have to be cast iron, merely sufficient to convince the court that the matter should be looked at and that it would be unfair if the player couldn’t play because if he were to win his case there would be no way of making it up to him later.

Inevitably the full cases were never heard and lapsed, as the purpose of freeing the player for a specific occasion had been served. The DRA combines legal expertise and knowledge of the GAA and often hears cases fully in advance of specific matches.

Despite the Official Guide’s stipulation that members aren’t allowed take the GAA to court, anyone is constitutionally entitled to do so but if the High Court sees that the applicant has already been given an independent hearing, it is less likely to award interim injunctions.

Since the DRA came into operation in May 2005 the GAA has only once had an injunction awarded against it and that was immediately overturned in Court.

Croke Park pitch withstands demanding schedule

ONE of the many fascinations of attending games in Croke Park over the past month has been the remarkable condition of the pitch which has come in for glowing praise from players, managers and media alike.

Despite an incredibly heavy schedule, a surface that has regularly hosted six games in little over twenty-four hours remains in superb condition for hurling and football. There's almost certainly no other big stadium in the world with such a busy programme of games in a 5/6 week period and it's a tribute to all concerned that after a few years of mixed reviews the Croke Park surface is now in such excellent condition.

Concerns over the hardness and traction were expressed last year, leading to a promise by Uachtarán Cumann Lúthchleas Gael, Nickey Brennan that the problems would be sorted out for this year's championship. To that end, the GAA appointed Joe Bedford, Past President of both the Irish and European Golf Greenkeepers' Associations and

Golf Course Manager in Hollystown, Dublin to undertake an examination of the Croke Park pitch and to make recommendations as to ways of improving it.

Arising from his findings and recommendations, the GAA appointed a renowned turfgrass consultancy firm, The Sports Turf Research Institute (STRI) early this year to work on the pitch. STRI provided a team of dedicated specialists to deal specifically with Croke Park under the direction of project manager and lead consultant, Richard Hayden, B Agr.Sc, C Sc. M.Eng.

Richard is a native of Gaignamanagh, Co.Kilkenny and works internationally on similar projects with the STRI team. Under the direction of Peter McKenna, Croke Park Stadium Director, the groundstaff, Robert Ellis (head groundsman) and his assistants Paddy Walsh and Marcel Bentea embraced the exciting challenge which lay ahead. In order to explain exactly what work was carried out, it's

necessary to outline the precise nature of the pitch. It's made up of 12 inches of a sand rootzone, overlying a porous drainage layer with plastic fibre strands providing stability to the surface. This is combined with air ventilation, hot water piped heating and irrigation systems to control growing conditions on the pitch. A series of initial tests were carried out to determine and compare pitch performance with standardised criteria for similar pitch constructions and as a result the GAA set a number of performance improvement targets for this year.

In late April, a series of intensive maintenance works were carried out by Harris Turf Improvements, Co. Kildare and Clive Richardson Ltd, Armagh. Initially, this involved the scalp mowing of the sward, followed by intensive scarification and removal of dead material and algae growth.

Several mechanical aerators were used for the removal of the small cores. Carefully selected sand was brushed into these holes to enhance the pitch surface. Top varieties of Ryegrass were oversown into the surface, followed by specialised fertilising. A germination blanket was used in conjunction with the undersoil heating and irrigation systems to quickly germinate the seed. This meant that the pitch was playable again in just four weeks after the renovation which was quite remarkable.



Subsequent performance tests indicated dramatic improvements to the pitch, leading to very positive feedback from players, managers, media and supporters. Meanwhile, similar performance tests were carried out at selected GAA grounds around the country and this information was combined with the data collected at Croke Park and used for benchmarking the performance of the pitch.

This included measurement of grass height, species composition, pitch make-up, hardness, traction, stud penetration, rooting depth, water infiltration and ball bounce. This data will be used to set standard



DRAMATIC FINALE TO TOMMY MURPHY CUP

This year's Tommy Murphy Cup may have had an inauspicious start, but the final at Croke Park produced a dramatic conclusion. Antrim were involved on both occasions, with their 38-point drubbing of Kilkenny in the opening round doing nothing for the merits of the competition. Neither was Carlow's weakened side capitulating to Waterford to the tune of 28 points in the quarter/final of benefit.

However, Wicklow's win over Offaly and the meeting of previous champions Clare (2004) and Tipperary (2005) at Ardinnan were worthy contests. The Banner won the meeting of ex-champs, but despite enjoying home advantage fell to Antrim at the semi/final stage. Wicklow eased by Waterford in the other 'semi'.

In the decider, goals from Derek Daly and Leighton Glynn helped Wicklow turn over leading by 2-5 to 0-8. However, a penalty by C.J.McGourty brought Antrim within a point (1-12 to 2-10) and, after a further brace apiece,

Michael McCann fired over the equaliser (1-15 to 2-12). Scores were hard to come by in extra time, but Michael Magill appeared to have won it for Antrim when he made it 1-17 to 2-13 close to the end of the second period. But in a last gasp attack Tommy Gill crashed home the winning goal.

1st Round

30th June, Nowlan Park:
Antrim 3-32; Kilkenny 1-0

Quarter-Finals

7th July, Aughrim:
Wicklow 1-16; Offaly 1-11
7th July, Ruislip:
Antrim 4-11; London 1-10
7th July, Dungarvan:
Waterford 8-11; Carlow 0-7
7th July, Ardinnan:
Clare 1-13; Tipperary 0-12

Semi-Finals

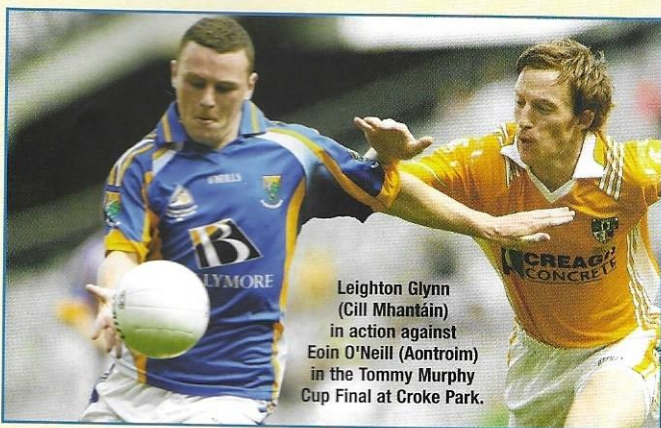
14th July, Ennis:
Antrim 1-11; Clare 0-10
14th July, Aughrim:
Wicklow 2-15; Waterford 0-14

Final

4th August, Croke Park (aet):
Wicklow 3-13; Antrim 1-17

performance criteria for Croke Park and other natural turf pitches in the future.

Meanwhile on this, one of the great days in Irish sport as the country's hurlers showcase their skills, it's rewarding for 82,300 GAA supporters to look out on the Croke Park pitch, knowing that it's in its best ever condition. It has taken some time to get it to this stage but the wait has been worth it and now the players can enjoy playing on a surface that's true and reliable, whatever the weather. What's more it's well able to stand up to the demanding schedule which the modern-day GAA championships present.



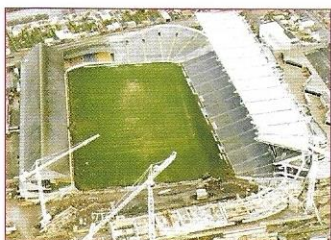
Leighton Glynn (Cill Mhantáin) in action against Eoin O'Neill (Aontroim) in the Tommy Murphy Cup Final at Croke Park.



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CORK goalkeeper Alan Quirke has warned that the Rebels must be on top of their game from the very first whistle or their dreams of All-Ireland glory will be quickly extinguished.

Kerry demolished Mayo with a blistering start to last year's final and Quirke also noted what Kilkenny's hurlers did to Limerick in the opening ten minutes of the hurling decider here at Croke Park a fortnight ago. In their semi-final victory over Dublin, Kerry started brilliantly in both halves and the Kingdom's finest also stepped on the gas straight after half-time to make a surge for victory when they defeated Cork in the Munster final.

It's a trend that Quirke has taken note of and he said: "We'll be trying to avoid that. Kerry are the experienced team going into Croke Park and we hope they don't catch us cold in the first ten minutes. Kilkenny got an early lead in the hurling final and never relinquished it and we can't find ourselves in a position after ten minutes where we're not in a position to win the match."

Quirke follows in the footsteps of some great Cork goalkeepers who have graced All-Ireland final day. Current manager Billy Morgan lost in 1967 but captained the victorious 1973 team. The late, great John Kerins lined out in four successive finals from 1987-1990 and Quirke was substitute in 1999 when Kevin O'Dwyer started against Meath.

Quirke says: "John Kerins, growing up, was the best goalkeeper in the country for five or six years. He had a fantastic kick out and seemed cool under pressure always. As far as I can remember, he never made a mistake in a big match and that's what you want as a goalkeeper. It's all about performing under pressure.

"If there are small things that Billy sees me doing in a match that I could improve on, he'll point them out to me afterwards. He takes the team session and we do goalkeeping coaching with Ted Owens but Billy is hugely helpful and if I can't take advice from him as a goalie, I'm in the wrong game."

Quirke's goalkeeping career started in the back-garden, as his father Paul peppered him with shots. Alan remembers fondly: "I grew up at home with no brothers. The oul' fella threw me into goals and let fly - that's where it started! I liked the position and it went from there."

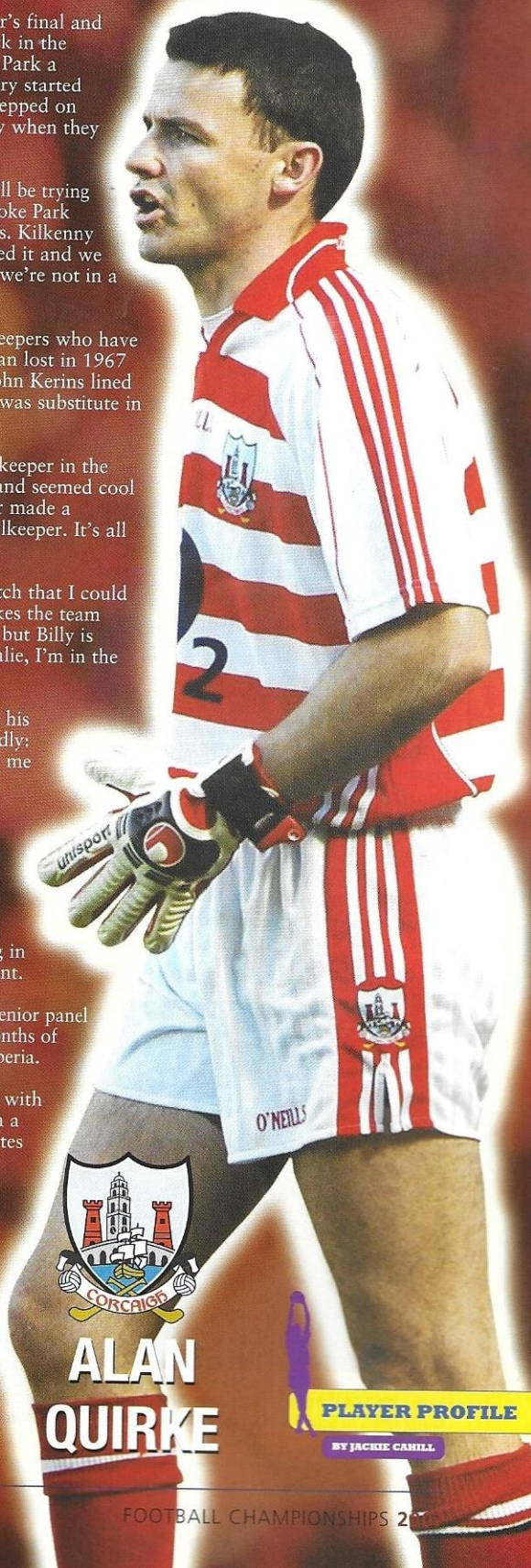
Alan, an Army Officer just like his father, followed in his father's footsteps when he pursued a career in the Army. And within GAA circles, the main influences were school headmaster Sean Collins, Kerry native Paudie Palmer who coached the developing Quirke from U14 through to U21, current Cork selector Jim Nolan, a Castlehaven man living in Innishannon and Donal McCarthy, the local Garda Sergeant.


Quirke, who enjoyed a superb 2006 season, joined the Cork senior panel in early 1999 but departed for the Curragh in 2002 for 18 months of Army training, which was followed by a six-month stint in Liberia.

However, Morgan left the door ajar and Quirke linked up with the Cork panel again in 2005. The current season has been a difficult one injury-wise but Quirke and his Cork team-mates are on the verge of a glorious conclusion.

He missed the entire National Football League campaign following surgery on a hip problem and then dislocated his shoulder in the closing stages of Cork's championship victory over Limerick. "It was an innocuous challenge; it was the way I fell. I was trying to tackle Michael Reidy and whatever way I met him, the shoulder popped out. I was in a brace for four weeks and the rehab started after that. I got great help from Dr. Con Murphy and our physio Colin Lane."

Quirke returned in place of Paddy O'Shea for the quarter-final victory over Sligo after O'Shea had deputised for the matches against Tipperary, Kerry and Louth.




**ALAN
QUIRKE**

PLAYER PROFILE

BY JACKIE CAHILL

The tradition of Volunteerism

By Tom Humphries (Irish Times)

A Wednesday evening in our club. There's a small impatient huddle waiting for Christy Sweets by the time he arrives from work with the keys to the dressingrooms. Christy fishes his huge ring of keys out from the big bag he always totes with him, magically finds the right key, turns it and hey presto, he lets everyone loose.

The nets room gets opened and soon there are figures moving like worker bees around the two sets of goal posts. Busy fingers get to work on tasks that are timeless. Rigging the nets. Setting out the flags. Filling the water bottles. Opening the lock ups.

The dressingrooms are thrown open. The referees' room gets a once over. Footballs are pumped. Hurleys are assessed and taped. Jerseys fresh from the laundry or the washing line are sorted.

Kids. There are kids everywhere. Mentors chasing them like men minding mice at the crossroads. It's approaching six and nobody has had tea yet. More worried

about the bruised skies and whether they carry rain.

Two thirds of the kids are duly rounded up and sardined into cars which disperse quickly to other fields and other clubs and other pitches all over the city, their drivers roaring to each other as they go to avoid the effin M50!

The lights come on in the bar. The committee room gets opened. Club lotto tickets are collected to be sold. From the pitch we can see the executive gathering to meet, worrying over the other perennial. How to raise money. How to hustle grants. How to keep it all going.

ENDLESS

It's endless. A couple of years ago now we put a cow out on the juvenile pitch and the cow was called Daisy. The pitch was marked into grids. The scam was to guess where would Daisy dump. Daisy was constipated though. Darkness fell and we lost interest long before she evacuated her bovine bowels. These are the things you plan and do though.

The kids are training in bright bibs now on the training areas. The pitches lined, flagged and netted await their players. The cars carrying the players from tonight's visiting clubs start to fill the car park. The smell of wintergreen and freeze sprays seeps from the angled open windows.

A referee phones to say he is stuck in traffic. Men loitering slyly in the car park or shuffling towards the bar are conscripted to do linesman or umpire. The seniors are warming up on the big pitch. Mickey, who has an All Ireland medal at home and surely doesn't need this, puts them through their paces as if they are the first team he has ever managed and not the thousandth.

More cars leave the car park before the action gets going on the field. Delegates heading to county board meetings, minor board meetings, management committee meetings, going to collect tickets for Croke Park next Sunday.

There's been a removal down in the church and the mourners make their way up to the bar in black jackets and white shirts and people coming out of the clubhouse to watch the games which are now starting, pump hands and offer hugs as the groups meet at the doorway. There'll be soup and sandwiches and pints upstairs.

SELFLESS

It's so vital and selflessly done that nobody thinks about it or comments on this tradition of volunteerism and free effort which sustains our games and provides the energy and drive that are the



President of the GAA Nicky Brennan presents Frank Kennedy, Tyrone, with an award at the 2007 GAA President's Awards. Anywhere there is a gate to be manned, from Ulster finals to Scór, Frank is available and typifies the volunteer spirit that marks the GAA apart.

foundations underpinning days like today.

Is there a more uniquely Irish act that a kid can commit then to walk through the gate of his or her nearest club to first lift a hurley or a football and to start paying in mini leagues? In this homogenised and globally franchised world surely that is the most distinctively cultural act left to us on this little island. The child walks into a world where everything is done for love and tradition and commitment and nobody has their hand out making a buck, nobody's mouth is working overtime asking where's mine, where's mine.

The summer finishes today in this great cathedral which has been built from the love of volunteers and the sweat of people who open dressingrooms and put up nets and mentor kids and give lifts. It's Billy's day and Darragh's day and Cork's day and Kerry's day, but for the volunteers who chisel away for the other 364 days a year, it's their day too. They're the ones who fish out the big bag of keys and open the doors for everybody else.



Tom O'Connor, a volunteer worker, runs the tri-colour up the flag pole at Emerald Gaelic Grounds, Ruislip, London.

Primary School extraordinary GAA kit competition winners ...

Bank of Ireland boosted football championship fever in primary schools across the country this year with an exciting new nationwide competition, to design the most extraordinary GAA kit in Ireland. Up for grabs were tickets for 32 pupils and 4 adults to the All Ireland Football Final. In addition the winning school won the opportunity to showcase their kit design to the crowd at the pre-match ceremony on All Ireland day.

From the hundreds of fantastic entries GAA Football All Star player, Peter Canavan and Alison Underwood, Designer from O'Neill's Sports chose St. Patrick's National School, Fanore, Ballyvaughan, Co. Clare as the winning school. A small two-teacher school from the Burren in Co. Clare, a stones throw from where GAA founder, Michael Cusack was born.

The theme of the winning design is 'burning flames'. Flames representing passion, which the children feel the GAA inspires in every town land throughout Ireland. The colours, red, gold and black were chosen for their strength. In addition various county names are included, the reasoning "whether rural or urban, from Tyrone to Tipperary we all get 'fired up' to defend and promote our county and parish."

The winning team are proud to be modelling their fantastic design in the opening ceremony this afternoon, a magical occasion for these young designers! So please give them a rousing welcome!



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THE ATTENDANCE SAGA

If seventy thousand spectators turned up for today's final there would be consternation in many quarters as to the cause of such a poor attendance. But there were finals, almost within living memory, when such an attendance would have been hailed as bordering on the incredible. And further back Croke Park would hardly have been capable of housing an attendance of half the figure that will watch today's decider.

There is some doubt about the accuracy of the attendance figures given for the finals previous to 1911 as most of the totals given at various times over the years were simply estimates. It should also be noted that the finals of a number of years – 1891, 1892, 1893, 1895, 1900, 1901, 1902 and 1903 – were played in conjunction with the hurling final.

It might be said that previous to 1920 not once was the exact attendance figure given as all the attendance figures prior to that year were round figures, which on some occasions were wildly inaccurate. Just how unreliable some of the estimated attendances were in the very early finals can be gauged from the fact that figures varying for six to ten thousand were reported for the very first final between Limerick and Louth at Clonskeagh in 1887.

Meagre Attendances

There was no final in 1888, but a year later when Tipperary and Laois met at Inchicore it would not have been difficult to make a quick check of the 1,500 spectators who viewed the 1889 final. And an even quicker check could have

been made of the first final to be played at Clonturk Park as an attendance of only 1,000 was estimated for the game which saw Cork win their first title with victory over Wexford. A year later when Cork surrendered their All-Ireland crown to Dublin the crowd had zoomed upwards to 2,000 at the same venue.

Kerry's arrival on the All-Ireland scene brought a crowd of 5,000 to Clonturk Park for the 1892 final which was won by Dublin. There was a drop back to 1,000 for the unfinished Cork-Wexford final in 1893...and that game was played in conjunction with the Cork-Kilkenny hurling final at the Phoenix Park.

The first final to be played at Jones's Road saw Meath make their All-Ireland debut against Tipperary who, with Kilkenny, made it a double-final occasion. Reports of those finals put the attendance between 6,000 and 8,000, which was reasonably good for the new venue. The figures for the remainder of that decade varied between 4,000 for the Cork-Dublin final in 1897 and half that when the two counties met a couple of years later.

A New Century

The advent of London to the final day scene drew meagre attendances for their first two appearances in 1900 and 1901, but when Dublin took on the exiles at Cork in 1902, a crowd of 10,000 turned up; but again that was a double event.

Kerry and London (with Cork and London) drew an attendance of 10,000 to Jones's Road in 1903, but one tends to view that figure with some reserve as in 1904 the

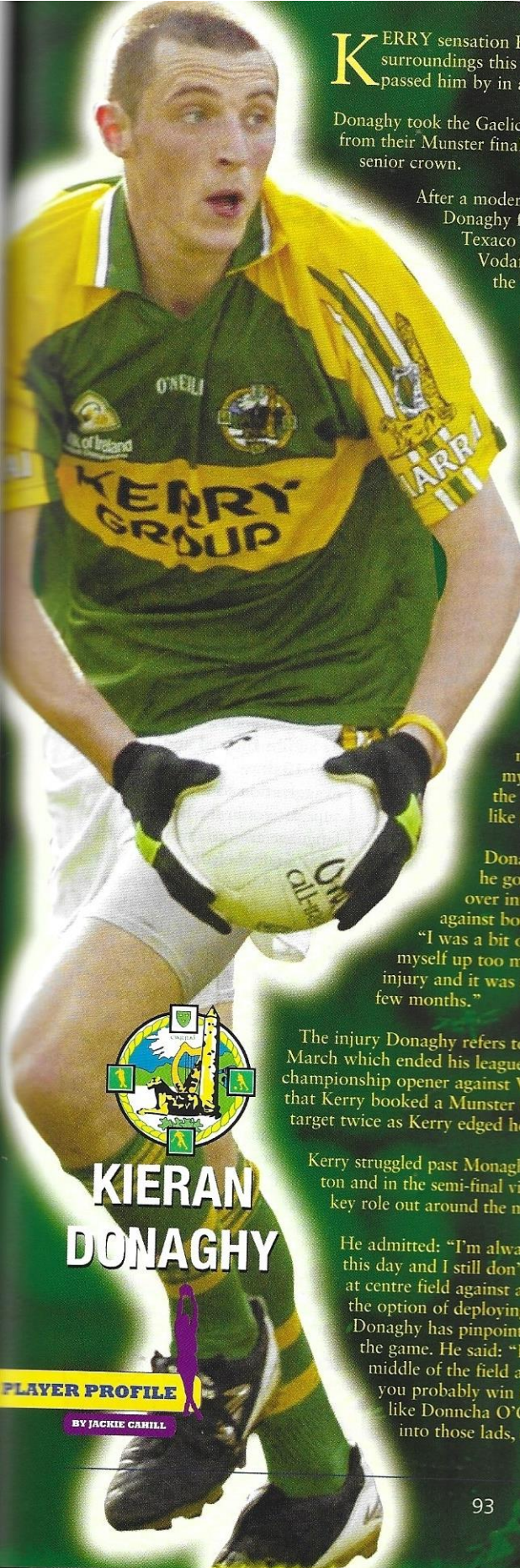
attendance at the Dublin-Kerry final was also given as 10,000 at the Cork Athletic Grounds. The figure for the Kerry-Kildare final at Thurles was given as 15,000, but deciders between 1906 and 1908 attracted modest attendances.

The biggest crowd to date witnessed the Kerry-Louth final in 1909 (16,000), but just 11,000 turned up for Cork and Antrim two years later. Antrim's defeat that year did not have an adverse affect on the 1912 final which saw 13,000 turn up generating gate receipts of £510.

It is of interest to note that the biggest attendance at a football game during the first 40 years of the championship was not at an All-Ireland final, but at the replay of the Kerry-Louth Croke Memorial final in 1913 when the attendance was said to be over 50,000 generating gate receipts of £1,183. That figure would not be exceeded for another 22 years!

There was a dramatic drop in the attendance figures for the 1916 Wexford-Mayo final (3,000) when it was considered that 27,000 had seen the Kerry-Wexford final the previous year (£1,044). The 1919 Kildare-Galway final set a new attendance record of 32,000, but not surprisingly the years of the War Of Independence saw figures slip back, only to be restored to 28,844 when Dublin and Kerry clashed in 1924.

A new attendance record was set in 1926 when 37,500 saw the drawn Kerry-Kildare clash and from then on final attendances generally increased. However, some doubt still remains as to the veracity of the figures given for the first 25 years of All-Ireland final attendances.



KERRY sensation Kieran Donaghy will take more notice of his surroundings this afternoon after admitting that his incredible 2006 season passed him by in a sheer blur.

Donaghy took the Gaelic Football world by storm last year as Kerry bounced back from their Munster final replay defeat against Cork to claim a 34th All-Ireland senior crown.

After a moderate start to the year at midfield alongside Darragh Ó Sé, Donaghy finished with the GPA Footballer of the Year award, the Texaco Footballer of the Year award, was named on the Vodafone Allstar team and collected the Allstar Footballer of the Year award.

Donaghy was suspended for the Cork game having been sent off in the drawn encounter in Killarney and when he returned, against Longford in the qualifiers, he was named at full-forward as manager Jack O'Connor went for broke.

Donaghy responded by setting up a number of scores including three goals but he came of age against Armagh in a landmark All-Ireland quarter final with a killer goal.

Donaghy was too hot for Cork to handle in the semi-final when the two sides locked horns again and in the final, the towering 6ft 5in star was to the fore as Kerry blitzed Mayo with a devastating start.

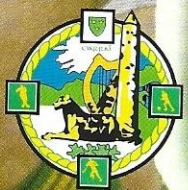
Donaghy, 24, created Kerry's first goal and scored another himself soon after and the comparisons with the great Eoin 'Bomber' Liston seemed apt. Donaghy, nicknamed 'Star', reflected: "Last year was a blur for me. I'm looking forward to this one. I've taken it more in my stride; I've thought about things a bit more and enjoyed the last few days training in Fitzgerald Stadium. Little things like that last year didn't even enter my head."

Donaghy seemed to be running on sheer adrenalin when he got into his considerable stride and that seemed to carry over into the early stages of 2007 as he was red-carded against both Mayo and Fermanagh in February. Donaghy said: "I was a bit over eager at the start of the year. I had probably built myself up too much and things went a bit pear-shaped. Then I got the injury and it was a disrupted start to the year but I've enjoyed the last few months."

The injury Donaghy refers to is a shoulder problem sustained against Donegal in March which ended his league season. But he was back fit in time for the championship opener against Waterford in June. A facile 17-point victory ensured that Kerry booked a Munster final showdown with Cork and Donaghy was on target twice as Kerry edged home by two points.

Kerry struggled past Monaghan in the quarter-finals but that test brought them on a ton and in the semi-final victory over Dublin it was notable that Donaghy played a key role out around the middle of the field in a hugely intense encounter.

He admitted: "I'm always more comfortable around the middle of the field to this day and I still don't look at myself as a forward." If Kerry are struggling at centre field against a strong Cork partnership, manager Pat O'Shea has the option of deploying Donaghy there to gain a Kerry stranglehold. And Donaghy has pinpointed this most crucial of areas as the key to winning the game. He said: "I rate Cork highly. They're very strong around the middle of the field and the way Gaelic Football is, if you win midfield, you probably win the match. They have a few very accurate forwards like Donncha O'Connor and James Masters and when they get the ball into those lads, they're very hard to compete against."



KIERAN DONAGHY

PLAYER PROFILE

BY JACKIE CAHILL

Greatest rivals meet on the greatest stage

By Ferus Hurley

The original football rivalry is renewed in an original setting as Cork take on Kerry today for the 99th time in championship football, but for the first time in an All Ireland final. As if there wasn't enough at stake, the desire to win the inaugural all-Munster All Ireland football final should provide both teams with all the motivation they need, while inflicting both sets of supporters with a dose of nerves they could certainly do without. Kerry lead the stats in every field, 62-26 in championship meetings, 40-18 in Munster finals, and even 3-0 in All Ireland semi-final face offs, following the relatively recent introduction of the qualifier series. So it should provide solace to all Corkonians that their team is going into battle today level with their greatest rivals in the number of All Ireland finals won against one another.....albeit that the score is currently 0-0!

Given that this game has the potential to be the superlative of them all (fondest memory for the victors, most agonizing for the vanquished!), it may be worthwhile to look back on the greatest clashes of these old

football rivals when skill, passion, tension and intensity combined to give us the Cork and Kerry classics. The rivalry began in the 1890 Munster final not so much as a classic game, but as a classic farce. Cork were leading by a point when the football burst and the game had to be abandoned. They won the replay comfortably and went on to win the All Ireland that year, but the early years against Kerry were lean for Cork even by today's standards. They did not beat their rivals for 35 years between 1909 and 1943 as the game struggled in the shadow of hurling, but they briefly flourished in the 1940s with a team backboned by five Army men, including Eamon Young and Clareman Mick Tubridy, culminating in an All Ireland win in 1945. A few narrow defeats from 1953-55 were followed by a small breakthrough in 1956 and 1957, when another Army officer, Niall Fitzgerald, kicked a mighty match winner for Cork in the replayed Munster final in Killarney.

MOST INTENSE

The rivalry was probably at its most intense in the 1970s when a decade of underage success for

Cork translated into three thumping Munster final wins in four years, and the Rebels sought to claim perennial bragging rights in the province for the first time in football history. However, that great Cork team ran aground against the greatest of them all, as Kerry under Mick O' Dwyer upped the intensity to levels never seen before, and the old order was restored. The 1976 final replay is remembered by those present as the finest game between them, especially since it was preceded by an ill-tempered and dour 0-10 to 0-10 draw. "It is no exaggeration to say that all the superlatives in the English language are too few to describe adequately the comeback witnessed by 45,235 paying customers", was how Paddy Downey of The Irish Times described this classic replay. Cork were leading by seven points with less than 20 minutes left when defender Brian Murphy was controversially deemed to have blocked a shot behind his own line. To add insult to injury, Declan Barron fisted a goal for the Rebels but again the umpires intervened, ruling that he had been in the square at the time and

CORK GAA CLUBS' DRAW



Thank you to all our Clubs, Co-ordinators, Sellers and Draw Members.

New Draw Series commences Friday, October 26th, 2007

(September/October Draws take place on Friday, October 26th, 2007)



GO RAIBH MÍLE MAITH AGAIBH GO LÉIR!

AG FÉACHAINT SIAR

50 Years Ago – 1957

One of the biggest shocks for years saw Kerry lose to Waterford (0-10 to 2-5) at Walsh Park; a win that more or less cleared the way for Cork who defeated Clare (1-7 to 0-3) and Waterford in the final at Thurles by 0-16 to 1-2.

In Connacht, Roscommon edged out Mayo by 0-7 to 0-6 but then fell to defending champions Galway by 0-7 to 0-13 on home turf. Leitrim made the final with a 1-8 to 2-1 win over Sligo, but were no match for the Corribiders and went down by 0-4 to 4-8.

Tyrone opened the defence of their provincial crown with a 2-9 to 3-5 win over Armagh while Derry (Antrim) and Donegal (Down) had easy first wins. Cavan beat Monaghan by 1-12 to 1-5, but the Oak Leaf ended the Breffni side's interest by 1-10 to 1-9 in the semi/final.

However, wins over Donegal (3-5 to 2-3) and Derry (1-9 to 0-10) saw Tyrone retain the title.

From an early stage it was clear that Leinster honours lay between Dublin and Louth, and as expected both duly qualified for the final with something to spare. In the decider the Wee county regained the title after a lapse of four years by 2-9 to 1-7.

Cork ended Galway's reign as champions in a tight semi/final clash by 2-4 to 0-9 while Louth had it a little easier against Tyrone (0-13 to 0-7). Cork looked set to win their first All-Ireland since 1945 but a late goal gave Louth the win by 1-9 to 1-7.

75 Years Ago – 1932

Cavan signalled their intentions with an 8-7 to 2-6 win over Donegal first time out while Antrim and Armagh were also first-round winners. Monaghan sent Fermanagh packing as Armagh did with Antrim, but there was no stopping the Breffni men who hammered Monaghan by 8-8 to 2-6 and Armagh in the final by 2-4 to 0-1.

Kildare, bidding for a seventh successive Leinster title, beat Louth by 4-5 to 0-7 at An Uaimh while Wexford hammered Laois by 5-4 to 0-4 at Kilkenny. There were wins for Westmeath (Offaly) and Dublin (Meath) before Wexford ended Kildare's reign at Croke Park (2-8 to 2-5). After defeating the Lake county, Dublin and Wexford drew the final (0-8 to 1-5) with the Liffesiders easily winning the replay (4-6 to 1-5).

Because of Kerry's dominance there was little interest in the Munster campaign. Waterford and Cork made early departures, before Kerry eased to the title with wins over Limerick and Tipperary.

Out West, Mayo and Galway were the big two. Mayo won their semi/final clash at Castlerea before defeating Sligo by 2-6 to 0-7 in the final at Tuam.

In the All-Ireland semi/finals Mayo ended Cavan's heretofore impressive campaign by 2-4 to 0-8 while Kerry edged out Dublin in a low-scoring contest by 1-3 to 1-1. Kerry made it four-in-a-row with a 2-7 to 2-4 win over the green and red in the final.

disallowing the goal. With Cork players, mentors and supporters howling injustice, Kerry nonchalantly fired over four points to level the game and were too strong in extra time, winning 3-20 to 2-19.

HAMMERED

Cork ran Kerry close in 1978 and took them to a replay in 1982 before being hammered in Killarney, but eight provincial titles in a row and 11 in 12 years speaks volumes for the awesome dominance that the men from the Kingdom exerted over their neighbours. The solitary win for Cork was a sweet victory courtesy of a last minute goal by Tadhg Murphy in 1983, but as only 17,000 supporters were present that day, it is fair to say that Cork football folk had lost a lot of faith in their team. The appointment of Billy Morgan as coach in 1987 led to a revival in Cork's fortunes, and seven Munster titles in nine years represents the only era in the Cork-Kerry rivalry when a generation of Corkmen regularly outclassed the Kingdom. The height of this dominance was reached in 1990, when a 16 point win for Cork saw many Kerry fans leaving the Páirc early and many Cork fans screaming to "lock the gates and make 'em watch!" Sure we all knew that would never last.....

Of course, the old order has again been restored since the mid 1990s. It may be a unique final today, but both teams will contest the game in the traditional frame of mind: Cork hopeful of causing an upset and proving their critics wrong; Kerry confident of winning but never underestimating their great southern rivals. It's like a Munster final, but with the stakes upped just a tad, the greatest rivalry of them all may yet produce the most memorable showdown between them!

THADY O'REGAN

President Clonakilty GAA Club

“It’s over to you now, lads”

On the 5th September last, on his 90th birthday, Thady O'Regan, President of the renowned Clonakilty GAA Club collapsed and died minutes after turning the sod in the club's new 9 million Euro development at Ahamilla. In attendance were his wife Noreen and members of his family, together with a large group of club members and his good friend Michael Dolan, Chairman of the Cork County Board. "Tonight was to be a double celebration- once the sod-turning ceremony was over, we intended to celebrate Thady's birthday" said one shocked witness.

A member of the Clonakilty Club since the early thirties, he had given a lifetime of service to the GAA, as a player, referee, selector and administrator before becoming Club President in 1989.

LEGENDARY

On the playing field he was a member of the legendary Clonakilty teams from 1929-

1952 which won seven Cork County Senior Football titles, winning his last medal playing at full back in 1952. His colleagues included Tadgho Crowley, Fachtna O'Donovan, Moll O'Driscoll, Liam and Fr. Jim Ahern, Humphrey and Neillie O'Neill, Jackey O'Regan, John "Shutter" Crowley, Seamie O'Donovan, Tom Moriarty, Mick Ryan, Mick Finn and Jack Cahalane. He also played in the famous five-game saga between Clonakilty and Dromtarriffe in Macroom in 1941 which has been credited with the revival of Cork's football fortunes, culminating in Cork's All Ireland win in 1945, captained by Tadhgo Crowley.

DISAPPOINTMENT

He served as a Cork Senior Football Selector from 1965-1968 and 1983-1984. Cork won two Munster Senior Titles in 1966-1967 but were beaten by Meath in the All Ireland Final. The team included current Cork Manager Billy Morgan in goal. The loss to

Meath was Thady's greatest sporting disappointment.

He was described by those who knew him as a tough footballer in his day but a jovial and warm-hearted man. He always took great pride in Clonakilty and the green and red jersey. He was a great character who was loved by everyone who met him and had a great rapport with the youth of the town who sought his company for the wisdom, advice and enjoyment he gave.

With his next door neighbour, Pat Griffin, the former Kerry star of the sixties and seventies, he travelled all over the country to attend games and loved meeting old friends. They rarely missed a funeral of former colleagues no matter what part of the country.

ATTENDANCE

Amongst the huge attendance at his funeral were Nickey Brennan, President of the GAA, and another long-standing friend Bishop John Buckley of Cork. He is survived by his wife Noreen, sons Fintan, Brian and Terry, daughters Irene and Maria and eight grandchildren, all of whom are actively involved in various aspects of the GAA. His son Terry, who is a teacher in St. Jarlath's College, Tuam where he coaches the schools teams, will have a particular interest in today's minor game as six of the Galway minor team are his pupils.

Thady's last words to the Club's officers and members having turned the sod were "It's over to you now lads".

Ar dheis Dé go raibh a anam dlis.



CLÓNAKILTÝ V DROUMTARRIFFE 1941

Back (L to R) Derry Burke, Thady O'Regan, J. Deasy, Tadhgo Crowley, John Hallissey, Paddy Crowley, Liam Ahern, Mick Finn, Seamie O'Donovan, W. Smith, P. Fitzgerald. Front (L to R) Pat Nyhan, Jackie O'Regan, Chris Kiely, Paddy McNamara, John Crowley (capt), Jim Ahern, Humphrey Duggan, Jack Cahalane, Dessie Cullinane, W. Harte. Boy with ball, Michael Ahern. Boys in front, Donal and Cathal Hurley, sons of Jim Hurley. Their five games with a total of 330 minutes of play set a record which still stands. First game in Dumanway and all others in Macroom with Clon winning in the end.

GAA Announce Significant Investment for Grassroots

At the August meeting of Central Council the GAA approved a proposal from its Management Committee of new and very significant investment at grassroots level. This investment, in the region of €38 million, will take place over three years and the cost will be met in large part from the revenue realised from the playing of Soccer and Rugby Internationals in Croke Park. The expenditure will be in addition to the Association's ongoing investment in Coaching, Games Development, infrastructure and player welfare and its primary aim is to provide enhanced and new facilities for players at all levels and in all areas.

The investment includes €8.5 million for County Boards specifically for Club associated development projects. In addition and because of rapid demographic changes, special urban initiatives will be funded, as will new hurling development initiatives. Between ten and fifteen floodlit synthetic and all weather pitches to regulation GAA scale will be developed at centres throughout the country, which will enhance and supplement facilities for Clubs, Colleges and Counties. There will also be special investment in the overseas sector, Gaeltacht areas and affiliated units.

Mr. Nickey Brennan, the President of the GAA, emphasised

that this is a once off investment additional to funding made available on an annual basis from the GAA's traditional income sources. He said that the decision is consistent with the commitment given that any associated finance that would accrue from the rugby and soccer games at the stadium would be invested at grassroots level.

Mr. Brennan also explained that while the investment is on a stand-alone basis, it has been integrated and is complementary to the overall development vision for the Association. He said that this is a hugely significant initiative for the Association at local level and he anticipated that the proposal would receive Government support.

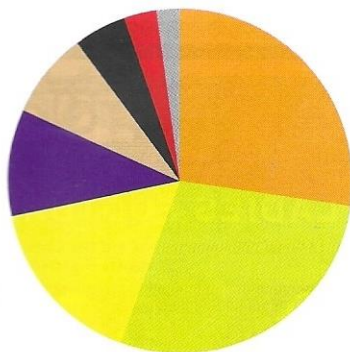
The process of implementation will now proceed through

consultation and discussion with Provincial Councils and County Committees.

HOW GAA REVENUES ARE USED

Have you ever wondered how revenue's generated during the championships are used by the Association? Below we carry an example based on a family of two adults and two children attending an All Ireland Semi-Final in 2007.

Combined Ticket Prices	€100
<i>Additional Income</i>	
Commercial & Other	€52
Croke Park grant repayment	€23
State Funding	€14
Total Income	€189
Total Expenditure	€186
<small>Re-cycled within the Association See Chart below</small>	
Surplus	€3

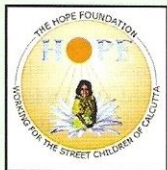


GAA's Official Charities

The GAA's official charities for 2007 are the Hope Foundation and Temple Street Children's Hospital.

The Hope Foundation (HOPE) was set up in 1999 to help restore basic human rights to the street children of Calcutta. Through providing formal and non-formal education, a nutrition programme and health care, HOPE aims to protect these children from exploitation and

danger and give them back their right to a childhood. Further information is available from HOPE on 021-4292990 or at www.hopefoundation.ie



Temple Street University Children's Hospital provides an acute paediatric service and specialist paediatric health care for children from

all over Ireland. As the hospital provides increasingly specialised services, the demand on limited resources continues to grow. The Hospital's priorities are to enhance, develop and fund new equipment, new technologies and new medical specialities within all areas of the hospital. Further information is available from 01 8784200 or at www.childrenshospital.ie

Anyone who wishes to make donations to the GAA's official charities can do so through a special Bank account:

Account name:

GAA Charitable Donations Account

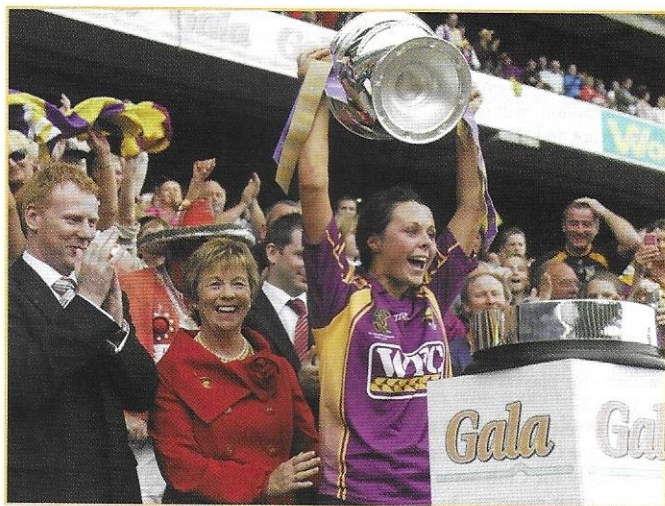
Bank: AIB, Drumcondra, Dublin 9

Sort Code: 93-21-08. Account: 03432098

GALA ALL-IRELAND

Last Sunday the women of Wexford, Cork, Derry and Clare delivered two enthralling camogie finals in Croke Park in front of an attendance of almost 35,000 people.

Wexford claimed a famous victory over Cork in the Gala All Ireland Senior Camogie Final. Wexford had already beaten Cork twice earlier in the year but had not appeared in Croke Park since 1994. A good start was important to the model county and they got just that when Player of the Match Una Leacy, sister of the captain Mary Leacy, scored a cracking

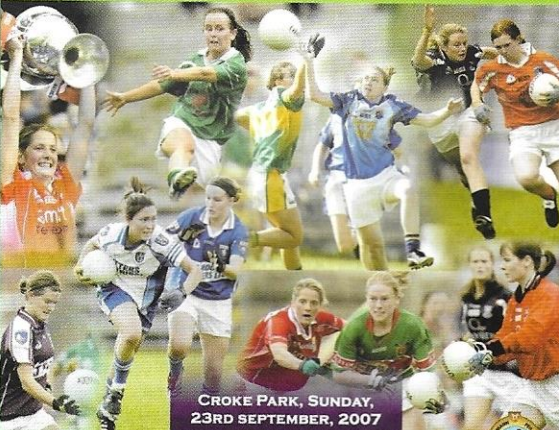


Wexford captain Mary Leacy lifts the O'Duffy Cup while Gary Desmond, CEO, Gala Retail Services, and Liz Howard, President of the Camogie Association, look on at the All-Ireland Senior Camogie Final in Croke Park.

TG4

**TG4 ALL IRELAND
LADIES FOOTBALL FINALS**

CLUICHÍ CEANNAIS NA hÉIREANN, PÁIRC AN CHRÓCAIGH,
23 MÉAN FOMHAIR 2007



CROKE PARK, SUNDAY,
23RD SEPTEMBER, 2007

JUNIOR FINAL 12 PM
INTERMEDIATE FINAL 2 PM
SENIOR FINAL 3 PM

Adults: €25.
Students/OAP's: €10.
U/14's: €8.
Groups of U/16's (min. 10):
€5 per person + 1 adult @ €5 per group of 10.
Family Tickets:
2 Adults €25 each and children €5 each.

Tickets available through the Ladies Football Association Office
Phone: 01-8363156, 01-8363235,
01-8363157, 01-8879070
Website: www.ladiesgaic.ie

Group rates, Underage and Family tickets may only be purchased from the office.
Limited number of full price tickets will be available from outlets on the day.

LADIES FOOTBALL

All three Ladies Football Championship finals, Senior, Intermediate and Junior will take place in Croke Park on the 23rd September.

Cork and Mayo will battle it out for the Brendan Martin Cup as the National League champions aim to put an end to the Rebelettes dominance and deny them three in a row.

Cork have been in exceptional form throughout the Championship and have gone from strength to strength during the knockout stages of the competition. After comfortable group victories over Galway, Monaghan and Roscommon, the Rebelettes dispatched Dublin in an awesome display at Wexford Park.

The defending champions again raised the bar, blitzing Leinster champions Laois in the semi-final and the Leesiders look destined to reclaim the trophy

CAMOGIE FINALS

goal in the opening minutes of the game. The Rebels came to within a point of Wexford in the second half but Wexford showed great resolve and composure coming away with a two point win in the end.

Eleven of the players involved in the senior final will be back in Croke Park next week when Wexford take on Leitrim in the Intermediate All Ireland Ladies Football and Cork take on Mayo in the All Ireland Senior final.

Derry emerged winners of the Gala All Ireland Junior final

scoring a goal in the eighth minute of injury time to win by a single point deny Clare their first All Ireland title since 1986. Derry, Wexford and Cork were in action again yesterday. Derry played Waterford in the U16 Final replay while Wexford played Cork and Limerick played Galway in the Gala All Ireland Senior B Camogie semi-finals.

Derry captain Claire Doherty lifts the New Ireland Cup after her team's victory at the Gala All-Ireland Junior Camogie Final against Clare at Croke Park.



A FEAST OF FOOTBALL

which has taken up residency in Cork over the past two years.

But Cork must overcome Mayo, the only side to beat them in the last three years, if they are to achieve their dream treble. This Mayo team has laid dormant since they last won the Senior All Ireland title in 2003 and in Cora Staunton they have one of the most potent predators in the game.

The Carnacon forward has been in devastating form this season scoring an average of 10 points a game and she currently leads the Converse Golden Boot competition by a proverbial country mile.

Mayo were never really troubled during their group matches and sailed to facile victories over Waterford, Kerry and Dublin.

They then went on to beat Monaghan before eventually getting on top of Tyrone in their semi-final clash in Breffni Park. This will be the second time the two sides have met this year with Mayo ending Cork's unbeaten run of over 30 games in the semi-final of the Suzuki National League.

FIRST EVER

The first ever Intermediate final will see Wexford take on Leitrim for the Mary Quinn Memorial Cup. Both teams were drawn in Group 2 of the Intermediate Championship and it was Leitrim who topped the group thanks to a hard-fought two point victory over the Model County.

Leitrim qualified directly for the semi-finals while Wexford had to navigate their way past Cavan

to secure a semi-final showdown with Tipperary. Tipperary were dispatched thanks to a late Wexford charge while Leitrim had to fight all the way against Clare to secure their place in the final.

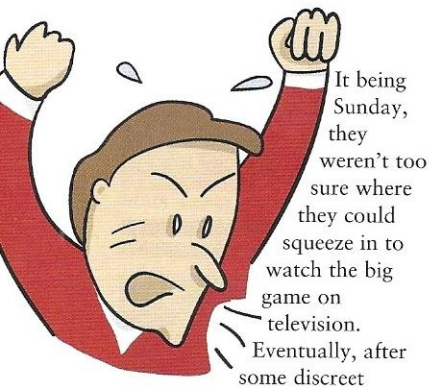
The Junior final will be contested by London and Kilkenny. The Exiles topped Group 1 thanks to a comprehensive victory over Antrim and a draw with Derry. In Group 2 Kilkenny beat Carlow, Wicklow and Offaly to advance to the semi-finals. London snuck past Carlow to secure their first appearance in an All Ireland final in 14 years while Kilkenny's impressive victory over Derry ensured the Cats campaign would end in Croke Park.

A Borderline Case

By Liam Cahill (An Fear Rua)



Then there was the Kerryman and his young son who were up in Belfast in August of last year on the weekend when the Kingdom played Armagh in the All Ireland senior football quarter final.



It being Sunday, they weren't too sure where they could squeeze in to watch the big game on television.

Eventually, after some discreet enquiries, they ended up ensconced in the salubrious surroundings of a popular establishment in West Belfast called 'The Felons' Club'. Hundreds of men and women, boys and girls of all ages thronged into the place, many of them proudly sporting the orange and white of Armagh and loudly cheering their heroes. They had much to cheer about, too. In the first half, the game was, to an extent, nip and tuck, but it still looked as though Armagh might have the edge.

DING DONG

The game opened in ding dong fashion. After two minutes, Armagh were two points up. In the third minute, Kerry goaled. However, by half time, Armagh led by two points. Our Kerry friend glumly ponders his pint of

stout while his ten year old munches endless crisps and puts away numerous cans of fizzy drinks. Three minutes into the second half, Donaghy out jumps the legendary Bellew, takes his goal and puts Kerry three points ahead. Now, Armagh are on the back foot. A palpable silence descends on West Belfast. Except for three people in the club. The Kerryman and his little fella – almost sheepishly – leap to their feet punching the air. Out of the corner of an eye, they spot a burly figure in the middle distance celebrating with even more fervour.

The game continues with Kerry keeping their noses in front. Then, in the sixty-seventh minute, their substitute, O'Sullivan, finishes the game as a contest with a further goal. Again, only three people out of hundreds leap to their feet in jubilant celebration.

SURPRISED

A little surprised to find another Kerryman so far North that particular Sunday, our friend approached the burly figure after the game as people milled around the bar looking for refills. 'What part of Kerry are you from?' he ventures. 'Ach, I'm not from Kerry at all', your man responds. 'I'm from Tyrone! Nothing gives me greater pleasure than to see thon boys from Armagh being beaten ...'.

STUMBLER

Our Kerryman had stumbled into one of the great inter-county

rivalries of the GAA. None deeper or more transcending than those between neighbouring counties. The Arabs, no slouches themselves when it comes to border disputes, have a saying that sums up the Tyrone man's approach: 'The enemy of my enemy is my friend...'. There are other great border rivalries in the GAA. In hurling, there's Kilkenny and Waterford and a bitter one in the land where East Limerick abuts onto Tipperary; in football, there is the perennial disputation between Galway and Mayo and in Meath, to the South that famous rivalry with the Dubs, while to the North, quieter – but even more intense and historic - conflicts with Cavan and Louth.

RIVALRY

Influenced to an extent, no doubt, by modern media coverage (and those great All Ireland finals of the Seventies), we sometimes think of Kerry and Dublin as the quintessential rivalry of Gaelic football. Since their legendary tussles of the eighties, others argue that there is an extra frisson of rivalry whenever Meath meet Cork. However, these Leinster counties are hundreds of kilometres away from the Kingdom and the Rebels. In addition, the last time we checked the map, they certainly did not share a border with them. Towns like Navan or Balbriggan are nearly four hundred kilometres away from the Kerry town of Dingle,

Daingean, Dongle – or whatever they’re calling it this week. Distance tempers rivalry.

Therefore, the Dublin / Kerry and Meath / Cork rivalries are only in the ha’penny place compared with that between Cork and Kerry themselves, who take the field in today’s senior final. To an outsider, this may seem inexplicable. At first glance, there appear to be such similarities between these two counties. Both enjoy a pleasant climate warmed by the Gulf Stream; counties where the Gaelic language and culture flourish and are respected; where fishing folk still eke out a hazardous existence in distant Atlantic waters; sharing vistas of lake, mountain, valley and sea. To the untutored ear, their sing-song merry accents sound so similar. For years, alumni of famous schools and colleges in the two counties seemed to take it in turns to rule the rest of us as kingpins in the civil service. What could they possibly find to fall out over?

FAULT LINE

The fault line between them starts on the Beara peninsula at Ardgroon harbour and snakes along the peaks of the Caha mountains, turning east at Hungry Hill, the highest mountain in that range, on by the Healy Pass, through the Sheehy mountains and on to the Derrynasagart peaks until we come to Rathmore - the El Paso of this ancient rivalry. Rathmore nestles snugly just on the Kerry

side of the border. It is the place in September where ‘Sam’ gets off the train for the first time and is greeted rapturously on the sacred soil of the Kingdom.

CHEEK BY JOWL

The first Munster senior football final was contested in 1888 and won by Tipperary. Our rivals today have been ‘at it’ almost continuously since then, cheek by jowl, pushed up against the Atlantic waves. A mere two years after the championship began, Cork took their first title. They repeated that the following year. Then, the famous Kerry / Laune Rangers side said ‘Enough of this!’ and stepped in to take the Kingdom’s first title. It was Cork again in ’93 and ’94 and, again, in ’97 and ’99. The start of the next century saw a Kerry three-in-a-row, in ’03, ’04 and ’07.

NATIONAL STAGE

And so it has gone on. Over the years, Kerry have amassed seventy two Munster titles, while Cork have thirty three. Now, through the quirks of the Qualifiers that regional rivalry is transformed to the national stage of the All Ireland final. The teams are evenly matched. If anything, their rivalry has intensified in the past two or three years so there is a major ‘score’ to be settled today.

POET

The rest of us – in the other thirty counties – may only gaze in awe at the intensity of this rivalry. But, you know, it was a

less accomplished footballer than the stars we’re privileged to watch today who put all this in perspective. He was the Monaghan born poet, Patrick Kavanagh, who occasionally stood between the posts for his parish club, Enniskeen Rangers. In one of his best poems, Kavanagh tells of an age-old rivalry between the McCabes and the Duffys over the boundaries of a piece of worthless land while the Great Powers of Europe moved inexorably towards war. Kavanagh wrongly thought the conflict in Ballyrush and Gortin paled in comparison, until – as he said himself – ‘Homer’s ghost came whispering to my mind. He said: I made the Iliad of such a local row ...’

Once referee David Coldrick throws in the ball today, the ancient story of the siege of Troy will be as nothing in comparison with this Cork versus Kerry ‘local row’.

Liam Cahill is Editor of the popular website ‘An Fear Rua – The GAA Unplugged!’
www.anfearrua.com

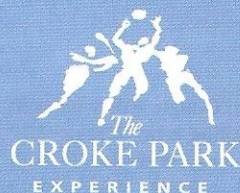


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The Croke Park Experience in the GAA Museum and Croke Park Stadium Tour attracts tourists, sports fans and cultural enthusiasts from all walks of life. The GAA Museum brings the history of Gaelic games to life and also offers a calendar of special events throughout the year including special guided tours, workshops and the museum lecture series. The Croke Park Stadium Tour offers an in-depth look behind the scenes, look at one of the most historic and modern sporting arenas in the world.

The GAA Museum is open on matchdays from 12 - 5pm



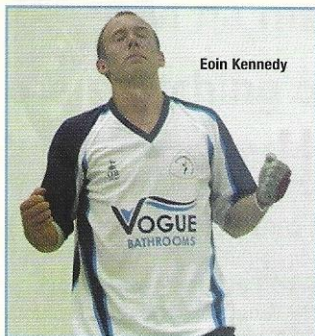
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Contact the Conference Team
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events@crokepark.ie

Contact the GAA Museum
01 819 2323
gaamuseum@crokepark.ie



KENNEDY REIGNS SUPREME



Eoin Kennedy

Dublin's Eoin Kennedy collected his fourth All-Ireland Senior crown two weeks ago when he defeated Kilkenny handball legend, Michael Ducky Walsh, at Croke Park handball headquarters.

The defending champion was in awesome form and in front of a huge attendance, served up one of his most impressive performances this year. The legendary champion of the past, 16-time winner, Walsh returned to the final stage following a five year absence but failed to contain the sheer speed and agility of the St Brigid's clubman.

Yesterday's win secured Kennedy's fourth consecutive singles title, and he now will go on to contest senior doubles honours in two weeks time. In the opening game, Kennedy dominated the early exchanges as rushed into an 8-0 lead. Despite getting back into serve, Walsh was unable to put scores on the board as Kennedy opened a 16-0 gap. The Kilkenny handballer then settled into the game, but the Dubliner eventually took the first 21-20. In the second game, Kennedy's fitness told as he powered home to a 21-6 victory to confirm his number one rank in Ireland.

"Ducky is the greatest champion in the history of handball," said Kennedy.

"I remember coming here to see him as a young lad and to win

today was very important to me."

Kennedy dedicated the victory to fellow St Brigid's handballer, Julie Long (28) who passed away earlier in the year. "Dublin handball lost a very special person this year and I would like to dedicate this win to Julie Long," said the NUI Maynooth lecturer.

Ducky Walsh, who collected 13 consecutive All-Ireland senior singles titles between 1985 and 1997, and went on to take three further titles from 1999-2001, was disappointed after failing to make his dream of retaining All-Ireland honours a reality but commended the efforts of his impressive opponent.

"Eoin was the much better player today, he took his chances and although I would have loved to have won today, it was great to be back in a final," said Ducky.

In the minor clash, the dress rehearsal for today's All-Ireland hurling decider, honours went to Limerick's CJ Fitzpatrick after a comprehensive victory over Kilkenny's Ciarán Neary. Kilkenny were granted some consolation when the Intermediate Doubles title went to the Cats, as Eddie Burke and Michael Clifford defeated Paul Mullins and Adrian Johnson of Tipperary.



Ashley Prendiville (Ballymacelligott, Kerry) who will travel to the Basque International Tournament in December as part of the Irish Squad, following her victory over Katie Costello (Roscommon, pictured) in the Irish Open Women's Final earlier in the year.

Bank of Ireland
Football Championship

Oíche na Soilse



The children of Cumann na mBunscol, Áth Cliath helped to create history on February when, in the presence of 82,000 people, they were central to proceedings as the Croke Park floodlights were turned on for the first time (see pages overleaf). Boys and girls dressed in all 32 county colours formed a guard of honour along with representatives of 18 different nationalities carrying their flags and selected from those who starred in Cumann na mBunscol Dublin finals in the previous months. They formed a colourful backdrop for GAA President, Mr Nickey Brennan, as he pulled the switch to light the stadium and, in another first for Cumann na mBunscol, they marched in the pre-match parade behind the stars of Dublin and Tyrone. The capital unit of Cumann na mBunscol invited children from Tyrone to be part of the historic night and the participants from St. Patrick's, Ardboe and Primate Dixon PS from Coalisland, thoroughly enjoyed a truly memorable multi-national occasion. The Allianz sponsored Dublin Primary Whistlers were represented by Mark Ryan as he refereed a top-class display from the international children at half-time.



Above: Cian, Ellis and Conor O'Leary from Cahirciveen participated in the half-time exhibition game at the Kerry v Dublin semi-final. The children's grandfather, Frank O'Leary, played in two All-Ireland finals with Kerry in 1965 and 1966. He was a Kerry selector when Páidí Ó Sé was manager. The Cahirciveen Veterinary Surgeon played minor football for Westmeath and club football with John Mitchell's in Tralee and with St. Mary's, Cahirciveen. He also played with South Kerry and won a Sigerson Cup medal with UCD. The stylish left-footer won two Munster senior medals. Frank's grandchildren have a passionate interest in Gaelic games and live in Renard where Kerry star Cillian Young plays his football. Their father, Mike, who passed away last year, was also an outstanding footballer who played U21 football for Kerry, won a Sigerson medal with UCD and starred in many an encounter with St. Mary's and South Kerry. He would have been very proud of Ellis, Conor and Cian as they marched behind The Artane Band in August.

**INFORMATION: Niamh Egan, Irish Handball Council, Croke Park, Dublin 3.
E-mail: niamh@handball.ie Telephone: 01-8192383**



It all starts in the local National School!



PRIMARY SCHOOL
FINALISTS 2001

From the County of the Tribes:

Many players who participate in Gaelic Games at the highest level will always remark that their first introduction to the games we know and love was through the local national school. Very often the teacher involved in promoting our games in school is also heavily involved in the local club. Such is the close link between local national school and club that it is often difficult to distinguish one from the other! This close connection between the local primary school and the club is what makes the GAA so strong. Many players who will be performing at the highest level today will have played in Cumann na mBunscol

competitions during their time in primary school. In 2001, Garrafrauns NS were the beaten finalists in Galway. However, two of that team are on the Galway panel in Croke Park today: Declan Rattigan and Damien Reddington (front row, sixth and seventh from the left, above). Their local club is Dunmore MacHales. Also involved today are Tommy Walsh (front row second from the left) and Lorcan Ó Conghaile (back row, second from the left) who attended Tully NS. Their local club is Renvyle and in 2001 the school team won the seven-a-side football championship.



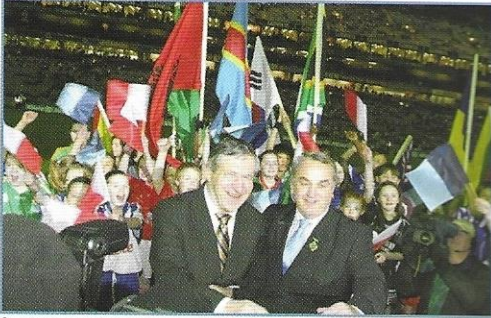
From the Kingdom:

Playing in the GAA/INTO Mini Sevens today and representing the Kingdom are Laura Sheeran, St. Bridget's, Duagh, and Micheál Ó Flannabhra, Scoil Iognáid Rís, An Daingean. Laura and Micheál come from their respective northern and western divisions of the Kingdom. They are splendid ambassadors for all that is best in Kerry primary school football and allied activities and we wish them the very best on their day of glory. Laura was a member of the Duagh NS Mini Sevens team that won the Kerry girls'



title in 2007. For Laura's family this is the second visit to Croke Park for an All-Ireland final in 2007. Laura's brother Peter was a member of the Duagh GAA team that played in the All-Ireland Junior Club Final in Croke Park last March. Micheál Ó Flannabhra is a star of An Daingean CBS Primary School team that won the Kerry Boys' Allianz League title in 2006 and followed up with the Mini-Sevens title in early 2007. For years An Daingean made many valiant attempts on this elusive title and their dreams finally came through on Friday 17th November, 2006, when, at Austin Stack Park, that hallowed

Cumann na mBunscol celebrates the switching on of Croke Park lights



Cumann na mBunscol contributed to the colourful scenes at the switching on of the new lights at Páirc an Chrócaigh prior to the Dublin v. Tyrone game earlier this year in the presence of Liam Ó Maoilbichil, Ard Stiúrthóir and Nickey Brennan, Uachtarán. Carrying the flags of many nations, the young players paid testimony to the multi-cultural nature of Ireland and the participation of young people from many backgrounds in Gaelic games.

shrine of Kerry football, they captured the longed-for title powered on by a brilliant display by Micheál. Micheál has also lined out for Kerry in the Go Games Primary Game v Cork in Killarney in July 2007.

GAA/INTO Mini Sevens Stars from the Past :

Kerry captain, Declan O'Sullivan played in the GAA/INTO Minis game in Croke Park on All

Ireland final day in the mid 1990s. His school, Cillín Liath NS, won the Kerry Mini Sevens title and Declan was selected at the regional finals.

Bryan Sheehan, star senior Kerry forward, the sometimes midfielder and former minor goalkeeper, first donned the green and gold of The Kingdom when he lined out for Cumann na mBunscol Chiarraí in 1997.



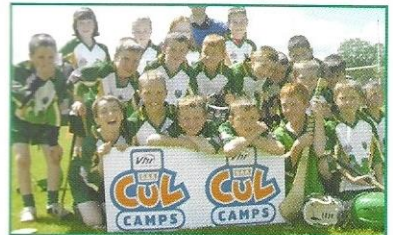
Declan O'Sullivan



Bryan Sheehan

VHI GAA CÚL CAMPS ON THE RISE

Coiste Oilúna Chorcaí wish to thank all the club coordinators for their hard work in ensuring over 7,000 children had such fun at VHI GAA Cúl Camps this summer in Cork. We would also like to wish our county players Graham Canty, Daniel Goulding, Michael Prout, James Masters and any other players who contributed to the camps the very best of Puck in todays game.



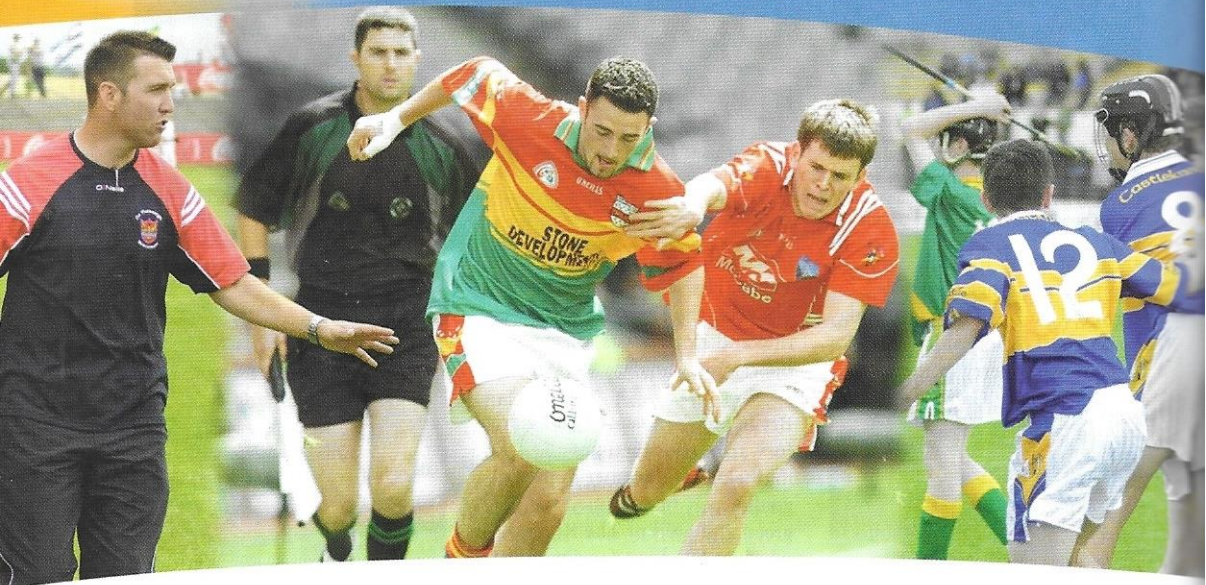
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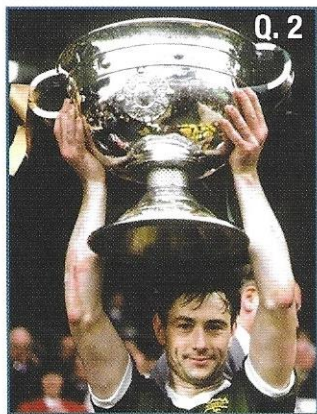
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THE IRISH TIMES

FICHE CEIST

ALL-IRELAND FINAL CAPTAINS

1. Who led Derry to their only All-Ireland senior football final win so far?
2. Who was the last Kerry man presented with the old Sam Maguire Cup?



3. Billy Morgan was the first or second Cork man presented with the old Sam Maguire Cup?
4. In what year did Willie Bryan captain his county to a first-ever All-Ireland senior football final win?
5. Who is the only Dublin man to have been presented with the new Sam Maguire Cup?

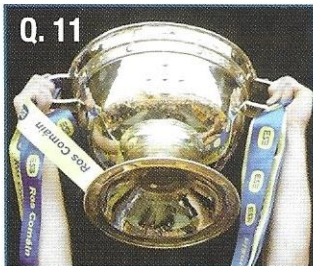
ALL-IRELAND SENIOR FINALS

6. Name the footballer who scored 3-2 for his county in their 1978 All-Ireland final win.

7. In what year did Louth last appear in a Sam Maguire Cup tie?
8. What county lost the Centenary Year All-Ireland senior final?
9. Manus Boyle scored 0-7, 0-8 or 0-9 in Donegal's win over Dublin in the 1992 All-Ireland final. Your choice!
10. Who scored Galway's only goal in their 1998 final win over Kildare?

THE MINORS

11. What is the name of the trophy presented to the winners of the All-Ireland minor football final?

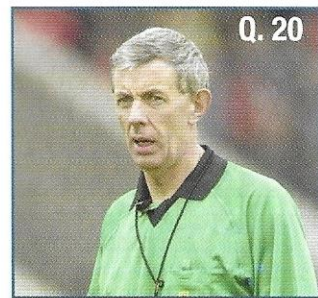


12. The first All-Ireland minor football final win by an Ulster county was in 1937. Name the history-making county.
13. Who refereed last year's drawn All-Ireland minor final?
14. Dublin have not won the All-Ireland minor title since 1984. True or false?
15. Where did Roscommon and Kerry replay last year's All-Ireland decider?



REFEREES

16. Pat McEnaney (Monaghan) made his All-Ireland senior football final refereeing debut in 1995, 1996 or 1997?
17. In what year did a Cork man last referee a Sam Maguire Cup tie?
18. Who took charge of the All-Ireland senior final in 2000—Michael Curley (Galway), John Bannon (Longford) or Pat McEnaney (Monaghan)?
19. Syl Doyle (Wexford) refereed the only provincial senior football championship game played outside of Ireland this year. Name the game in question.
20. Who refereed this year's Leinster senior final?



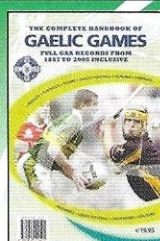
FREAIR

ALL-IRELAND FINAL CAPTAINS 1. Henry Downey in 1993. 2. Tommy Doyle in 1986. The new trophy was presented in 1988. 3. Second in 1973. 4. 1991 when Offaly beat Galway. 5. John O'Leary in 1995. ALL-IRELAND SENIOR FINALS 6. Eoin Liston (Kerry). 7. 1957. 8. Dublin, defending champions, to Kerry in 1984. 9. 0-9. 10. Pádraig Joyce. THE MINORS 11. Tom Markham Cup. 12. Cavan, who beat Wexford in the final. 13. Syl Doyle (Wexford). 14. True. 15. Ennis REFEREES 16. 1996 final between Meath and Mayo, which ended in a draw. 17. 2001 when Michael Collins refereed the Galway-Meath tie. 18. Pat McEnaney. The Kerry-Galway game ended in a draw and Brian White refereed the replay. 19. The Sligo-New York Connacht championship first round tie in New York. 20. Michael Hughes (Tyrone).

The Complete Handbook of Gaelic Games

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Contact Lynn at DBA Publications Limited on 01-288 7247



GAA Fun Do Learning Resource Pack



When we see the top stars of Hurling and Football line out on an All-Ireland final day, generally it is our brightest talents performing at the peak of their careers. But those brilliant players only reach the pinnacle after a lifetime of development that can be traced back to the very first day they held a hurley or kicked a football.

The secret to developing any young player is getting it right at the start but often the people who first introduce youngsters to our games are not necessarily certain what they should be doing. It is regularly left to parents of young players or schoolteachers who may not have had much knowledge of the game to carry the responsibility of facilitating those vital first steps.

However, on October 1st, the GAA will launch an exciting new learning resource pack. The GAA Fun Do Learning Resource Pack will provide Coaches of all levels with the tools to enable young players from nursery age right up to the end of primary school level, in the basic skills of Football and Hurling.

The GAA Fun Do Pack contains a state-of-the-art interactive DVD, which combines the latest technology with a practical resource that will make it user-friendly to even the least technologically minded individual. Linking up with the GAA's Ú Can Skill Awards Passport, the Fun Do interactive DVD sets out an array of activities, which enable coaches to effectively plan and carry out child-friendly training sessions according to best practice.

This Resource Pack is the result of meticulous planning and preparation by the Association and compares favourably with anything that has ever been produced by any other sport in the world. Filmed by professional cameramen in various locations around the country, the quality of the footage is remarkably good and the user will find it very easy to utilize the various aspects of the content.

"We wanted a Resource Pack for people who are coaching kids," explains Pat Daly, Director of GAA Games. "We decided to fuse technology, sport, education and health and bring them all together in a manner that would ensure children were being introduced to the games in a quality way."

He continued: "There are over four hours of top class video footage on the DVD Rom. This footage is integrated with over 1,000 activities between Hurling and Football all of which are complemented by a series of written manuals. What we are trying to do is to facilitate people who are involved in coaching kids and thus ensure they're doing the best job possible."

"The activities included are referenced to childhood needs. We have differentiated between children at nursery level right through to those in sixth class so this is programmed for children from the start right up to the end of primary school, whether they are in schools or clubs."

"For instance in a nursery context, we have set out a generic

programme that will provide the underpinning basic motor skills (agility, balance, coordination) which will enable children to move onto the sports specific skills which are broken down into under-8's, under 10's and under 12's. In addition to the actual skills we then provide key tips surrounding games because this is all pitched in the context of 'Play and Stay with the GAA'.

"At the end of the day kids want to play a game and the game has to be appropriate to childhood needs. It is also essential that children acquire the basic skills of Hurling and Football be they technical, tactical, or team-play - in the most spontaneous and enjoyable manner possible and we are confident that the GAA Fun Do Learning Resource Pack will play no small part in bringing this to fruition.

In the final analysis, the GAA Fun Do Learning Resource Pack bears out the old Irish proverb "tús maith leath na h-oibre" - A good start is half the job.

Each GAA Fun Do Learning Resource Pack is tailored for either Gaelic Football or Hurling depending on the coach's needs. In total each resource pack contains an interactive DVD Rom, a Skills DVD, a Nursery DVD in addition to supplementary manuals on GAA Go Games, catch and kick Coaching Classes or lift and strike Coaching Classes, a Coach Handbook and a Nursery Manual.

For further information on the GAA Fun Do Learning Resource Pack visit www.gaa.ie.

REFEREEING MATTERS IN 2007

Seamus Gardiner (Spokesman for Referees)



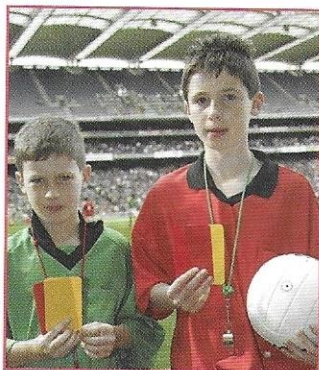
Football Championship 2007

To date fifty-seven games have been played in the Football Championship and nine games in the Tommy Murphy Cup. In all, approximately 36 referees have been appointed to referee them. There is acceptance among most commentators that there have been fewer areas of controversy and credit must be given to the referees for this. We all accept, particularly referees themselves, that any mistake in a close game is of vital importance to a team.

Positives from the Year

The Uachtarán Nickey Brennan launched a Recruitment Campaign last November and the number of new referees who completed these courses was 454. So, that's good news. The Referee Tutor Group, under Chairman Muiris O'Sullivan of Kerry, had a very active year. They enhanced the training courses for referees by their publication of Umpire Education Course Logbook (Jan.2007), Referee Foundation Course Logbook (Feb.2007), Assessor Education Programme (May 2007). They also organised the Intercounty Referee Seminars and also four courses for Intercounty referees and their umpires at which 728 people attended. Two very important initiatives now becoming available are The Young Whistler Programme and The Club Referee In-Service Programme. Another project which has just finished - a Training Course for referees in the Garda Training Centre in

Templemore, eighteen Gardaí completed this course. It is hoped to hold similar courses in other Third Level Institutions.



The Young Whistler Programme

The Young Whistler Programme, a Primary classroom resource, introduces and guides the young whistler through the challenging role of the referee. The programme is available countrywide in Primary Schools from the beginning of this school year. Cumann na mBunscol Náisiúnta has commissioned the work in response to a demand from Primary teachers. Under the direction of the teacher the pupils will gain practical experience through class mini-games in the P.E. context. At the heart of the Young Whistler initiative is the key concept of RESPECT - respect for oneself and respect for the referee.

Club Referee In-Service Programme

The National Tutor Workgroup has devised an exciting Referee Education Resource for Club referees. The two-session

programme for serving match officials includes up to date information on rules, clarifications and interpretations. The inclusion of video clips from the current championships adds a fresh dimension to a fine product. The National Referee Tutors look forward to delivering this programme this autumn. This is a practical initiative aimed at the Club referees to achieve consistency in their performance and higher standards overall.

What about the Problems?

As referees are human there will always be some mistakes and the purpose of all the training, seminars, etc. is to lessen human error. The main talking points in football this year were : Square Ball Incidents, Blocking Player from Advancing, Verbal Inciting of Opponents, Non-Release of football after Free Awarded, Advantage Awarded but not Accruing, Discipline Decisions by Referee and subsequent Video Scrutiny. One of the attractions of Gaelic Football is not only the skill of the players but the physical nature of what is a contact sport. There is need of an open mind on what might improve the game further while retaining both these elements - skill and physical contact.

Some matters for consideration might be:

- Introduction of some form of sin-bin
- More power for Linesmen, now intercounty referees themselves



- (c) Relieve the referee of the task of time-keeping
- (d) What about a 5 second advantage?
- (e) Use of Video Technology re points and wides
- (f) Reward for High Fielding

Any discussion of change must be to remove a commonly perceived problem and not just a tinkering with rules.

Prejudice - "That Referee is always against us".

There can sometimes be a feeling among managements, players and spectators that a particular referee is unfair to them. Let me say immediately that, after being involved for over 20 years in the refereeing scene, I do not know of any referee at intercounty level who was prejudiced against a particular team. To put it in selfish terms - all referees at this level want to advance. The bigger the game, the greater the honour - all the more, referees want to be there. The top referees argue, with some validity, that to be a top referee one needs to be refereeing regularly at this level. Some followers place little value on the whole practice of Assessment of referees. But the assessors are knowledgeable, and most importantly, neutral people whose sole task is to judge the referee's performance and report on it. Are we saying they will not spot possible unfairness? Prejudice clouds and colours all fair judgement and as Tommy Moran, former intercounty referee himself

and former Connacht Chairman puts it - "Prejudice feeds itself". Tommy continues, "The referee is frequently remembered as the man who robbed us of the 1967 Junior Final, who gave that vital free to the opposition, missed the blatant push in the back, ruined the game with too much whistle, played too much advantage or didn't let the game flow". I have heard the comment "We never won a match with him refereeing". There is no mention of how good the opposition was, how wide was the winning margin or how many games the particular referee had refereed for them.

Any Cause for Perceived Wrongs?

Let me repeat, I have never known an intercounty referee who had a particular 'set' on a particular team. The grievance may come from one of the following:

- (a) Genuine mistake(s) by the referee
- (b) An advantage incident not working out as an advantage
- (c) Consistently blowing a particular foul committed by a team - maybe a foul not blown in training.
- (d) Let's face it, just blind prejudice to see fouls on the opposition side only.

There are many of us who become different creatures when our own team is playing - normal, balanced conduct seems to desert us. I visualise in particular one

Focal Scoir

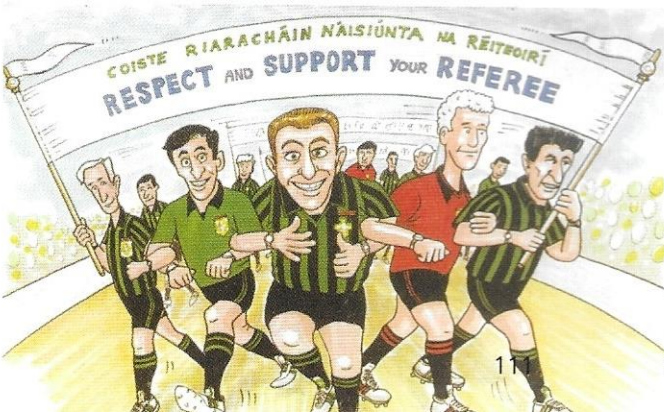
Thanks to all for the enjoyment and excitement of this summer's football - players, coaches, managers, selectors and, of course, our referees.

most intelligent, quiet, balanced gentleman - and I use the word gentle-man in its primary meaning. Beside him one evening at a minor game in which his county was playing, it was almost as if another spirit had invaded his person. He became loud, strident even, most articulate in his criticism of the referee. Even blatant fouls by his own team were greeted by proclamations of the ocular deficiencies of the referee. I moved a safe distance from him, not wishing to be associated with the verbal onslaught on the referee. After the game, which his team won, he reverted to his usual balanced, intelligent self. His other self of 60 minutes duration had disappeared - until the next game.

Could we accept that few are neutral when our own team is involved?

T.P. Pettit (R.I.P.)

Refereeing the minor game today is Longford referee, Derek Fahy. It's a great occasion for him and his team of umpires. But sadly T.P. Pettit, who was one of Derek's team of umpires, was killed in a car accident during the year. He had in fact been standing in as umpire for another Longford referee, Eugene Murtagh, in the replay of the All-Ireland Club Football Final. The night of that final T.P., as he was known, was killed in a car accident. Our sympathies to his family, friends and the team of officials with whom he worked. Ar dheis Dé go raibh sé.



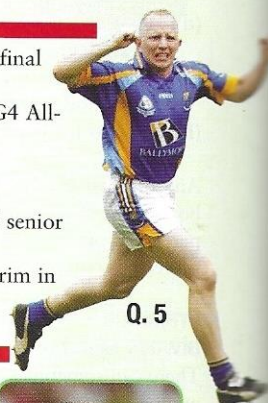
CÚINNE NA nÓG

Tráth na gCeist

Q. 3



1. What county lost to Derry in the Ulster Under-21 hurling final last month.
2. Name the two counties who will contest next Sunday's TG4 All-Ireland Ladies senior football final.
3. Who captained Monaghan in this season's senior football championship campaign?
4. Who ended Galway's hopes of Bank of Ireland All-Ireland senior football glory this year?
5. Who scored Wicklow's late, late winning goal against Antrim in the Tommy Murphy Cup final at Croke Park last month?



Q. 5

What's My Name?



1. I am a well-known intercounty senior football referee. My club is Austin Stacks, Tralee, and one of the games I refereed this year was the Dublin-Derry Bank of Ireland All-Ireland quarter-final at Croke Park.



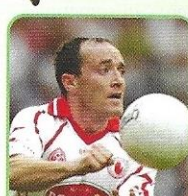
2. I am currently manager of a county senior team. I won All-Ireland senior medals as a half back in 1987, 1988 and 1996, and I managed a county team in another province before taking up my current position.



3. My county had a good run in the championship having reached the semi-final. I was my county's leading marksman in this year's senior football championship and I am also one of the leading scorers nationally. I won another provincial senior medal this summer and my club is Kilmacud Crokes.



4. I retained my All-Ireland senior softball 60 x 30 title in handball at the end of August. I beat one of the legends of the sport in the final. My club is St. Brigid's, Dublin.



5. I am a former All-Ireland senior title-winning captain and I also led my county earlier this year to a first provincial senior title in four years. I am a forward, but I generally cover a lot of ground all over the field in every game. My club is Clan na Gael.

Other Games

1. The O'Duffy Cup is awarded to the winners of what All-Ireland senior championship?
2. Cork will be bidding to win their second, third or fourth successive All-Ireland Ladies senior football title next Sunday. Your choice!
3. Who beat Tyrone in the All-Ireland Ladies senior football semi-final last week-end?
4. C. J. Fitzpatrick won the All-Ireland minor softball singles 60 x 30 title in handball last week-end. He is from Tipperary, Limerick or Clare. Your choice!
5. Diane O'Hora played Ladies football with what county?



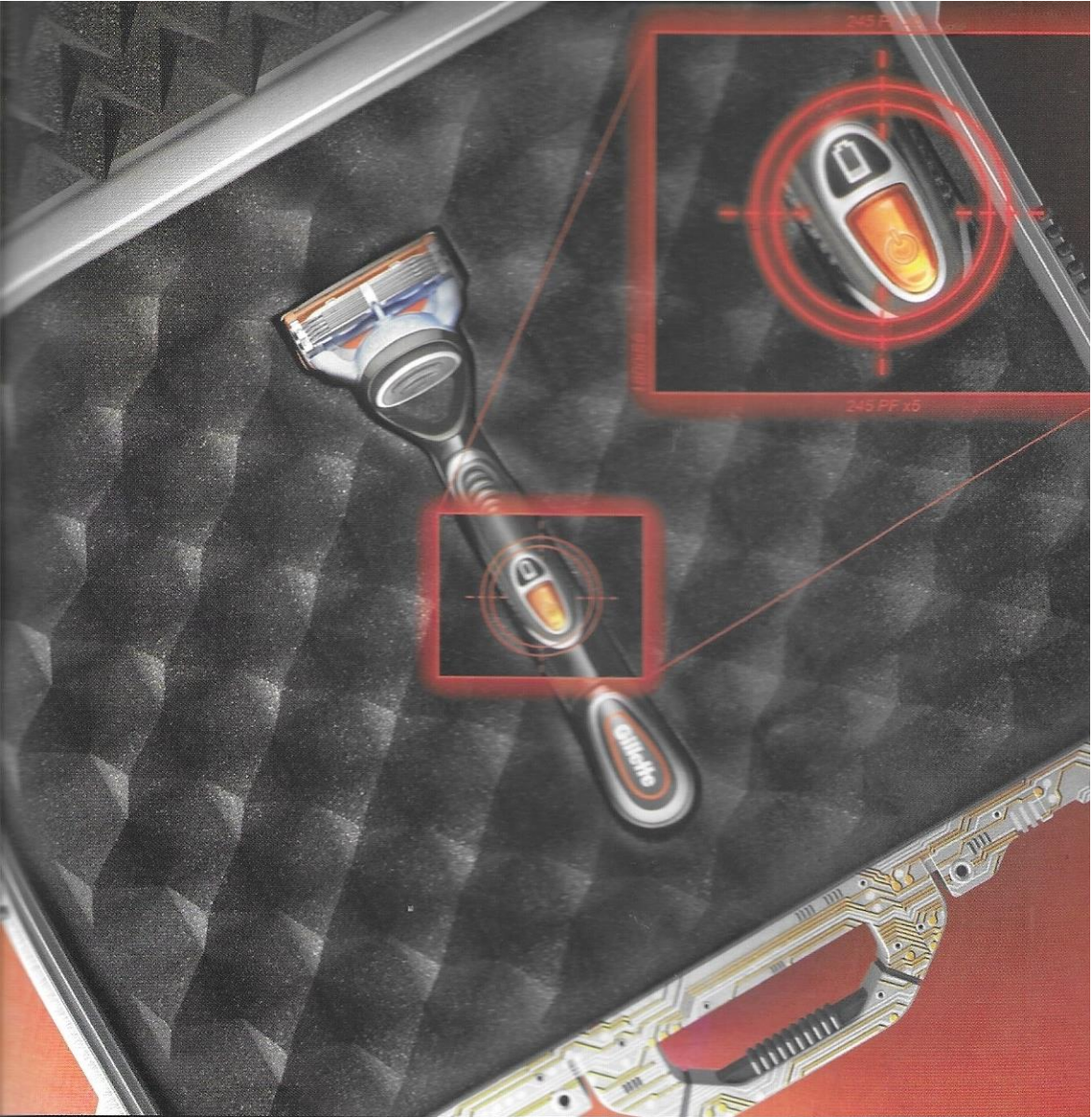
Q. 5

Spotlight On The Minors

1. Zac Tuohy was in action with what county in the ESB minor football championship this year?
2. Paul Garvey captained Roscommon or Tyrone in this year's minor football championship. Your choice!
3. Who won the Ulster minor football title last year?
4. Name Roscommon's captain for their All-Ireland football title win last year from this trio—David Flynn, James McKeague or Mark Miley.
5. John Kennedy was manager of what county in this year's minor football championship campaign?



Q. 4



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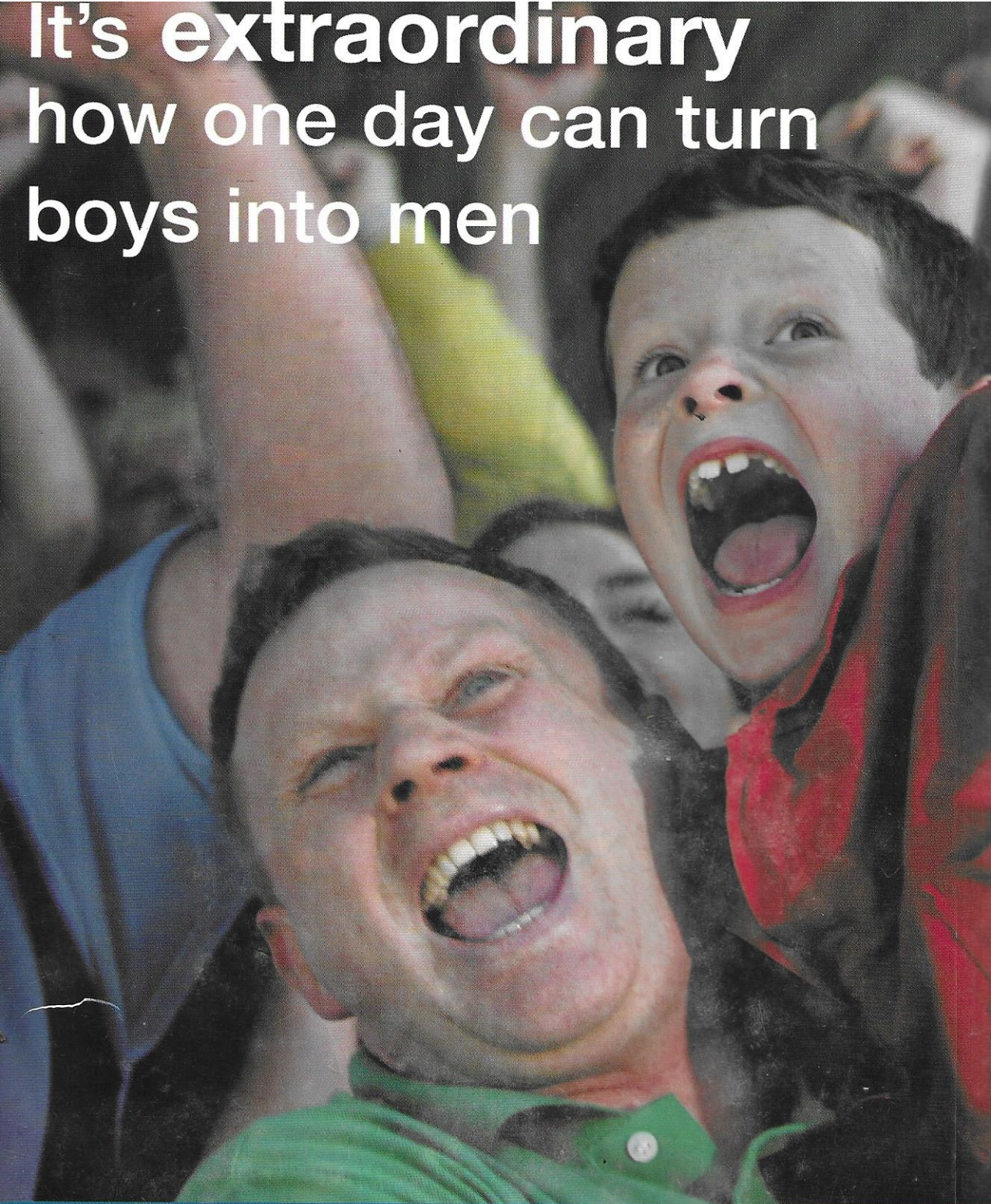
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