



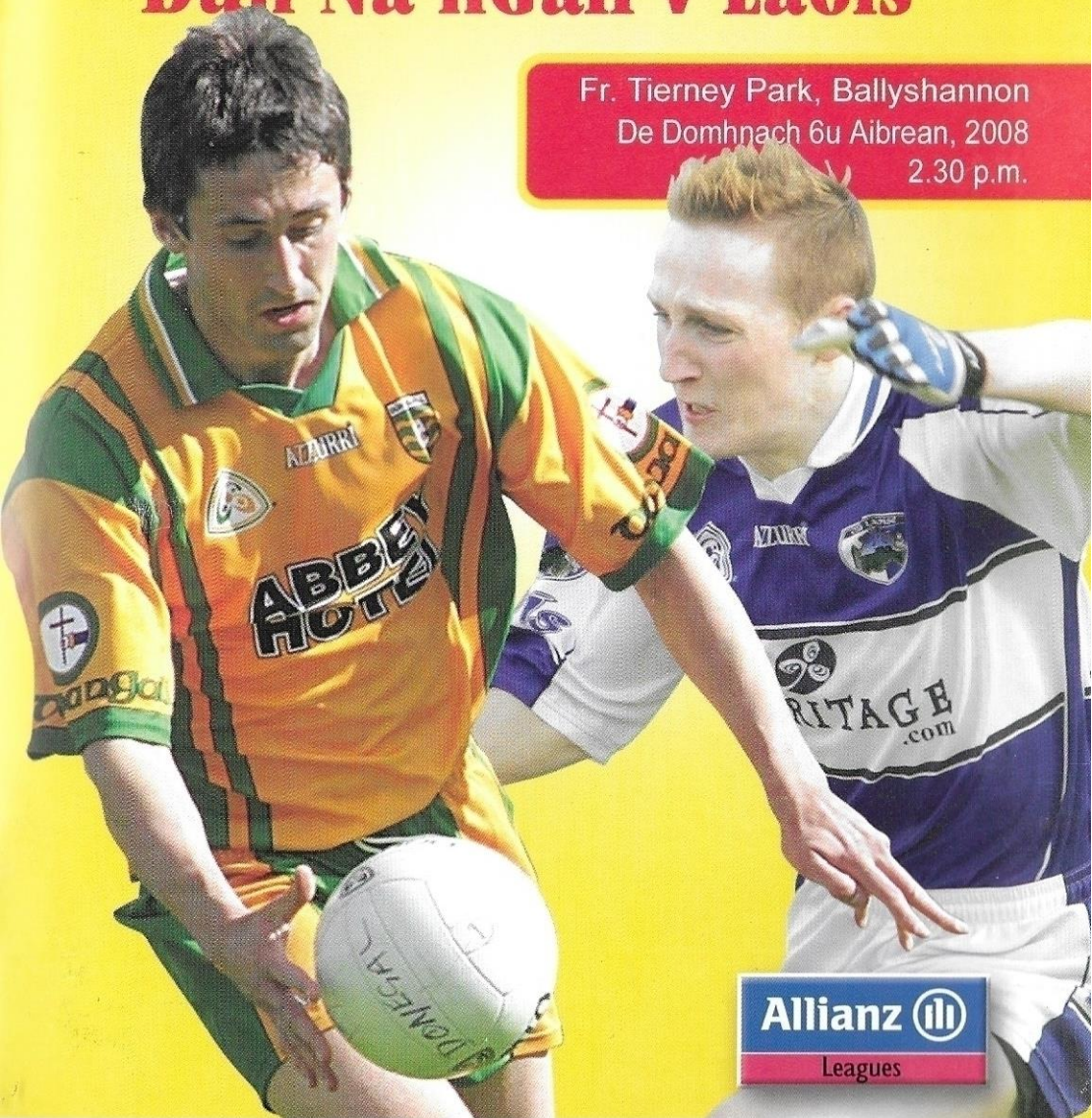
# Allianz National Football League

## Division 1



# Dún Na nGall v Laois

Fr. Tierney Park, Ballyshannon  
De Domhnach 6u Aibreán, 2008  
2.30 p.m.



Allianz 

Leagues

REITEOIR :  
Eugene Murtagh (Longford)

Clár Oifigiúil  
€3.00



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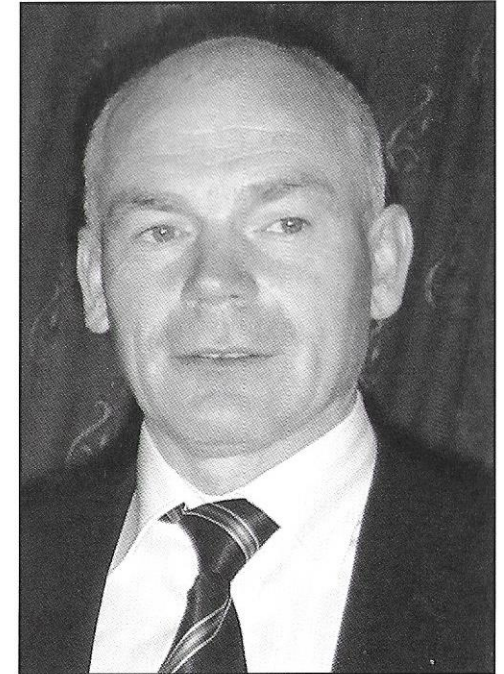
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## Fáilte

Mar Cathaoirleach ar Coiste Chondae Dhun na nGall, is cuis mhor athais domh failte a chur roimh go leir anseo chuig Pairc Ui Thiarnaigh, Beal Atha Seanaidh, i gcoir Cluiche Sraith Naisiunta in eadan Laois

I welcome you all here today to the National League 6th round game in Ballyshannon and a special welcome is extended to the players and supporters of Laois. We have great memories of past clashes with Laois, not least the All-Ireland U-21 semi-final in 1982 when Donegal just came out on top and went on to win their first ever All-Ireland title at any level.

I would like to thank our main sponsors the Abbey Hotel and Azzurri. We thank them for their continued support. My thanks also to the Aodh Ruadh club who, as always, have everything under control in preparation for the staging of our county games.



A special thanks to the Aodh Ruadh Park Committee who have facilitated the county board this year by staging U-21 and minor games at late notice and with the minimum of fuss.

**Sean Ó Ceallaigh,**  
Cathaoirleach Coiste na Condae

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## MATCH PROGRAMME

Match Programme prepared by Aodh Ruadh Park Committee

**Editors:** John Hughes and Peter Campbell

**Contributors:** Peter Campbell, John Hughes, P. J. Buggy, Tom Comack.

**Cover Photo:** Rory Kavanagh of Donegal and Peter O'Leary of Laois

# First for Local News

Donegal Democrat

Donegal People's Press

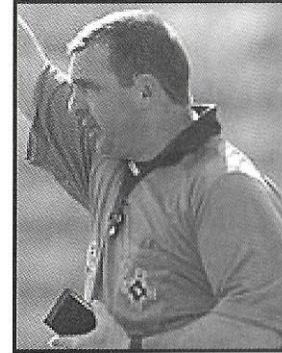
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## Today's Referee

Eugene Murtagh (Longford)



## DIVISION 1 TABLE

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Dif	Pts
Galway	5	4	0	1	6-61	6-51	10	8
Derry	5	3	0	2	5-59	5-45	14	6
Kerry	5	3	0	2	2-57	1-54	6	6
Donegal	5	3	0	2	4-51	2-57	0	6
Mayo	5	2	1	2	4-68	8-53	3	5
Tyrone	5	2	1	2	2-52	2-53	-1	5
Kildare	5	1	1	3	5-40	4-60	-17	3
Laois	5	0	1	4	3-57	3-72	-15	1

### Today's fixtures

#### DIV. 1

Dún na nGall v Laois  
Maigh Eo v Gaillimh

#### DIV. 2

Iar Mhí v An Cabhán

#### DIV. 3

Fear Manach v Loch Garman  
Luimneach v Longfort  
Liatroim v An Dún  
An Lú v Sligeach

### Fixtures Sunday 13th, 2.30

#### DIV. 1

Tír Eoghain v Maigh Eo  
Dún na nGall v Doire  
Laois v Cill Dara  
Gaillimh v Ciarraí

#### DIV 3

An Dún v Fear Manach  
Luimneach v Liatroim  
Longfort v Sligeach  
Loch Garman v An Lú

#### DIV 2

Ard Mhacha v Corcaigh  
Baile Átha Cliath v An Mhí  
Ros Comáin v An Cabhán  
Muineachán v Iar Mhí

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**Urraithe Craobh Shinsear Peile Dhún na nGall**

**Chéad Bhabhta/1st Rd.**

Gaoth Dobhair	v	Cill Chartha
Malainn	v	An Tearmann
N. Adhmhanan / Gleann Suilí	v	Ard a'Ratha
Bun Cranacha	v	Gaeil Fhanaid
Naomh Micheal	v	Na Cealla Beaga
N. Columba / C. Cheannfhaola	v	Naomh Conaill
Gleann Fhinne	v	Na 4 Maistrí
Aodh Rua B.A.S.	v	An Clochan Liath

## Can Roper break 147?

By John Hughes, Gaelic Life

When he takes to field against Laois in Father Tierney Park today Brian Roper will clock up his 142nd senior appearance for Donegal. It marks another step on the road to passing a significant milestone in Donegal football. That milestone was set by Ballintra's legendary Matt Gallagher who lined out for Donegal on 147 occasions; the most by any player ever to wear the green and gold.

When Roper's began his county career in 1996 you wouldn't have put much money on him playing football into his thirties, never mind threatening the all-time appearance record. From the get-go he was an all-action performer, hungry for the ball. Then, as now, he was always ready put his body on the line to win possession he had no right to win.

But there was always more to Roper than fearless determination. His football intuition is startling. He has an uncanny knack of finding the man in space, spotting the unseen run. His passing is that of a man who believes every ball is precious and has to be used to the utmost.

He's no mean score-taker himself either. It's a rare Donegal match report that doesn't feature his name in the scorer's column.

It shouldn't be overlooked that Roper is also a first class club man. Be it giving his all to Aodh Ruadh on the pitch, taking an under-age training session, giving out medals to the cubs, or just shooting the breeze up in Aras Aoidh Ruaidh with Pat Melaniff, he's Ballyshannon to the bone. It's his performances in the county jersey that define him though. He was central to an unbeaten league campaign for



*Donegal's Brian Roper with his April 2007 Player of the Month Award.*

Donegal last year. A campaign which was crowned by victory over Mayo in the final. Roper gave a sublime performance that day, tearing the Mayo defence asunder. You could see that this was one day Roper was damned if he was going to be on the losing side.

His immense contribution to the capture of the New Ireland trophy was recognised when he received the 'Player of the Year' award at the Annual Donegal GAA Banquet in February.

If all goes well for Donegal, Roper could clinch the appearance record at some stage in the 2008 Championship. With Brian McIver having built a Donegal team that finally looks like a realistic championship contender, who would bet against Roper celebrating not just securing the appearance record, but perhaps some of that long sought Championship silverware?

# Laceys now behind Donegal

By Tom Comack, Donegal Democrat

**A man with Laois blood will play a big part for Donegal today in Ballyshannon - Karl Lacey - whose father, Joe, came to the county in the 1980s and has now become a 'Donegal man'.**

From a tiny village called Luggacurran, near Stradbally, Joe is living and working in Donegal for over 20 years. And in those 20 years has contributed handsomely to Donegal football. And he continues to do so!

Living in Donegal Town, Joe is the current senior manager at Tir Chonaill Park. Having played for the club at senior level and having coached at various levels at the club since he first arrived in Donegal, he stepped into the top job at the beginning of the year.

"I moved to Donegal Town at the end of 1984, the year they won the championship and started playing with them the following season, and I played with the club right up to 1999," said Joe. Following his retirement he got involved in coaching and managed the reserve to team for a number of seasons winning a reserve championship before becoming a mentor to his brother-in-law, Michael Kelly.

His son Karl, who is a regular in the Donegal defence for the last four seasons already, has



Donegal's Karl Lacey in action against Kildare.

been honoured with an All Star. His daughters Nicola and Kelly are All Ireland junior winners with Donegal with Kelly also picking up a replacement Ladies All Star.

The Lacey legacy does not end there either. The baby of the family, Josh, is in his second year in the county minors and is one of the players the Donegal underage boss, Martin Regan, is pinning his hopes on.

And like his brother Karl, Josh even at this early stage looks destined to follow his brother onto the Donegal senior team.

The Kelly side of the family will rightly lay some claim to the football blood lines. Joe's wife, Deborah, is a sister of Michael Kelly, a member of the first Donegal to claim All Ireland glory. Michael, who currently forms part of Brian McIver's backroom team, was the goalkeeper on the 1982 All Ireland winning U-21 team and later graduated to play between the posts for Donegal seniors.

But the Laceys and family connections have played their part too in Laois football.

Current Laois senior, Brian 'Beano' McDonald, Donie Brennan are all cousins of Joe's, while he played minor football for the county and his younger brother, Aidan, played minor, U-21 and senior with the county of the O'Moore's.

Another rising star and a man tipped for the top in Laois, Donie Kingston, is also a cousin.

"While all my brothers played with St. Josephs, one of the biggest clubs in Laois, I played my football with Ballylinan. Ballylinan was also a senior club," explained Joe.

"I played county minor for Laois, but that was all. I moved away from home shortly afterwards and I have spent more of my life here in Donegal than anywhere else. And Donegal is now very much my home."

But while this might be the case one the first result he lists for every weekend is that of Laois.

"Laois showed great promise for a number of years under Mick O'Dwyer

and won a Leinster title. But things have gone down hill in the last year or so and they are already relegated with two games to go.

"This is very disappointing given they had so much success at minor level in the late 1990's. I'm not sure what's wrong and why the underage success cannot be repeated at senior level.

"Hopefully, they can turn it around in the championship. I don't think there is any great doubt but they have good young players coming through. They have young lads like O'Lochlainn

at centre back and young Tierney and Begley in the forwards and of course Donie Kingston and Donie Brennan. These are the lads that may eventually see them make the breakthrough."

But with his son Karl firmly installed in the Donegal seniors and young Josh tipped to join his bigger brother in the next few years Joe's bigger concern now is with the fortunes of his adopted Donegal.

But he will still continue to tune in for the Laois results and in particular how the clan members fare.

## Ulster's All-Ireland Roll of Honour 1997-2007

**1997** - Armagh: Crossmaglen, All-Ireland Club Football. Derry: All-Ireland Under 21 Football Championship. Monaghan: All-Ireland Junior Hurling Championship. Tyrone: St. Patrick's Academy, Dungannon Colleges Championship. Monaghan: 'B' All-Ireland Patrician High School, Carrickmacross. St. Mark's, Warrenpoint, All-Ireland U-16.

**1998** - Inter Provincial Championship-Tyrone: Minor Football Championship; Down: St. Colmans College, Newry, Colleges Championship. Tyrone: Vocational Schools.

**1999** - Down: All-Ireland Minor Championship. Armagh: Crossmaglen, All-Ireland Club Champions.

**2000** - Derry: National Football League. Tyrone: Under 21 All-Ireland Football. Armagh: Crossmaglen Rangers, All-Ireland Championship. Ulster: Railway Cup Football. Fermanagh: All-Ireland 'B' Football. Armagh: All-Ireland Junior Hurling. Armagh: All-Ireland Special U-16 Hurling. Antrim: All-Ireland U-16 Hurling.

**2001** - Tyrone: Under 21 All-Ireland Football. Tyrone: Minor Football Championship. UUJ: Sigerson Cup University Football. Monaghan: Vocational Schools Inter-County Football. St. Joseph's Coalisland, Vocational Schools JFC. Donegal: National Hurling League Division 3. Armagh: Minor Hurling Championship 'C'. Armagh: Under-16 'C' Hurling.

**2002** - Armagh: All-Ireland Senior Football Championship. Derry: All-Ireland Minor Football Championship. Tyrone: Allianz National Football League. Donegal: All-Ireland Vocational Schools. Ballinderry: All-Ireland Club Championship. Antrim: All-Ireland Junior Hurling. Donegal: All-Ireland Minor 'C' Hurling. Monaghan: All-Ireland Under 16 'C' Hurling.

**2003** - Tyrone: All-Ireland Senior Football Championship. Tyrone: Allianz National Football League. St. Pat's Maghera, All-Ireland Colleges Senior. Ulster: All-Ireland Inter Provincial. Antrim: Under 16 'B' Hurling. Donegal: Minor 'C' Hurling. Armagh: U-16 'C' Hurling.

**2004** - Tyrone: All-Ireland Minor Football Championship. Armagh: Under 21 All-Ireland Football Championship. Monaghan: U-16 'C' All-Ireland Hurling Championship.

**2005** - Tyrone: All-Ireland Senior Football Championship. Tyrone: All-Ireland Vocational Schools. Down: All-Ireland Minor Football Championship. Armagh: NFL Division 1. Monaghan: NFL Division 2. St. Ciaran's Ballygawley: All-Ireland Senior Vocational Schools. Our Lady's Castleblaney: All-Ireland 'B' Colleges. Letterkenny IT: Trench Cup.

**2006** - Antrim: Christy Ring. Derry: Nicky Rackard. Inniskeen: All-Ireland Intermediate Football Club Championship. St. Patrick's Maghera: All-Ireland Hurling 'B' Colleges. Abbey CBS: Hogan Cup. Virginia Vocational School: All-Ireland U-18 Vocational Schools. St. Malachy's High School, Castlewellaun: All-Ireland U-16 Vocational Schools. Queens University: Ryan Cup. UUJ: Division 2 Hurling League Final. Belfast Institute: Division 2 Football League. Armagh: All-Ireland U-16 'C' Hurling.

**2007** - Ulster: Inter Provincial Football. Donegal: National Football League. Crossmaglen: All-Ireland Senior Football Club Championship. Greencastle: All-Ireland Junior Football Club Championship. Omagh CBS: Hogan Cup. Tyrone: All-Ireland Inter County Vocational Schools. Virginia Vocational School: All-Ireland U-18 Vocational Schools. St. Columban's Kilkeel: All-Ireland U-16 Vocational Schools. Queens University: Ryan Cup & Sigerson Cup.



# THIS MAN KNOWS WHO WILL WIN THE NATIONAL LEAGUE

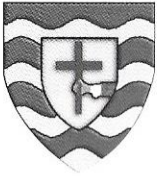
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THE NATIONAL LEAGUE

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## DÚN NA nGALL

- (1) Pol O Durcain  
**(Paul Durcan)**  
Na Ceithre Maistri
- (2) Carl De Léis  
**(Karl Lacey)**  
Na Ceithre Maistri
- (3) Neil Mac Aoidh  
**(Néil Mc Gee)**  
Gaoth Dobhair
- (4) Padraig Mac Daibheid  
**(Paddy Mc Daid)**  
An Tearmainn
- (5) Prionsias Mag Fhlionn  
**(Frank Mc Glynn)**  
Gaeil Fhinne
- (6) Eamon Mac Aoidh  
**(Éamonn Mc Gee)**  
Gaoth Dobhair
- (7) Caoimhin Ó'Casaide  
**(Kevin Cassidy) (Capt)**  
Gaoth Dobhair
- (8) Caoimhin Ó Raifeartaigh  
**(Kevin Rafferty)**  
Naomh Adhamhnáin
- (9) Ruairi O Caomhánach  
**(Rory Kavanagh)**  
Naomh Adhamhnáin
- (10) Criostóir O Tuathaigh  
**(Christy Toye)**  
Naomh Mícheál
- (11) Mícheál Ó hÉireartaigh  
**(Michael Hegarty)**  
Cill Chartha
- (12) Ciaran O Cnaimhsi  
**(Ciaran Bonner)**  
Gleann tSúilí
- (13) Eoin Mac Tomais  
**(Leon Thompson)**  
Naomh Conall
- (14) Colm Mac Phaidín  
**(Colm Mc Fadden)**  
Naomh Mícheál
- (15) Dáithí Breathnach  
**(David Walsh)**  
Naomh Bríd

**Fir Ionad:** 16. Mícheál O Baoill (Michael Boyle), An Tearmainn; 17. Niall Mac Riada (Niall Mc Cready), Aodh Ruadh BAS; 18. Caoimhin Mac Meanman (Kevin Mc Menamin), An Tearmainn; 19. Barra ÓMannacháin (Barry Monaghan), Na Ceithre Máistrí; 20. Sean O Gallochoir (Johnny Gallagher), Aodh Ruadh; 21. Shane Mac Gabhann (Shane McGowan) Bun Dobhrain; 22. Cainneach O Dochartaigh (Kenneth Doherty), Ard an Rátha 23. Stíofan Mac Diarmada (Stephen McDermott), Gleann Fhinne; 24. Conail O Doinn (Conall Dunne), Naomh Adhamhnáin; 25. Brian O Roipear (Brian Roper), Aodh Ruadh BAS; 26. Rian O'Brolchain (Ryan Bradley), Bun Crannaigh 27. Stíofan O Griofa (Stephen Griffin), Naomh Naille; 28. Micheal O'Dochartaigh (Michael Doherty), Na Ceithre Máistrí 29. Micheal O Murchu (Michael Murphy), Gleann tSúilí



## LAOIS

- (1) Conchúr Ó Gormáin  
**(Conor Gorman)**  
Clonaslee St Manman's
- (2) Peadar O Laoire  
**(Peter O'Leary)**  
O'Dempsey's
- (3) Marcas Ó Tiomáin  
**(Mark Timmons)**  
Graiguecullen
- (4) Cathaoir Ó hÉilí  
**(Cahir Healy)**  
Portlaoise
- (5) Daibhéid Ó Murchú  
**(David Murphy)**  
Naomh Bríd
- (6) Darren Ó Ruanaidh  
**(Darren Rooney) (C)**  
Clonaslee St Manman's
- (7) Pádraig Mac Mathúna  
**(Padraig McMahon)**  
Ballyroan Abbey
- (8) Breandán Ó Coigligh  
**(Brendan Quigley)**  
Timahoe
- (9) Seán Ó Lochlainn  
**(John O'Loughlin)**  
Mountmellick
- (10) Brian Mac Cormaic  
**(Brian Mac Cormaic)**  
Portlaoise
- (11) Pól Ó Leathleobhair  
**(Paul Lawlor)**  
Emo
- (12) Liam Ó Siocháin  
**(Billy Sheehan)**  
Emo
- (13) Mícheál Ó Tiarnaigh  
**(Michael Tierney)**  
Ballyroan Abbey
- (14) Colm Ó Ceallaigh  
**(Colm Kelly)**  
St Joseph's
- (15) Ros Ó Maonaile  
**(Ross Munnelly)**  
Arles Kilcruise

**Fir Ionad:** 16. Mícheál Ó Nualláin (Michael Nolan), Portlaoise 17. Cathal Ó Riain (Cathal Ryan), Portarlinton; 18. Caoimhín Ó Maonaigh (Kevin Meaney), Arles Kilcruise; 19. Aodhán Ó Fionnalaigh (Aidan Fennelly), Portlaoise; 20. Dónall Ó Braonáin (Donal Brennan), Arles Killeen; 21. Ruairi Mac an Ghaill (Rory Stapleton), Annanough; 22. Pól Ó Doinn (Paul Dunne), The Rock; 23. Brian Mac Dónaill (Brian McDonald), Arles Killeen; 24. Seosamh Ó hUiginn (Joe Higgins), St Joseph's; 25. Barra Mac Gearailt (Barry Fitzgerald) Portlaoise 26. Colm Ó Ceallaigh (Colm Kelly), Stradbally; 27. Gary Ó Caomhánach (Gary Kavanagh), Stradbally; 28. Darren Ó hOgáin (Darren Hogan), Clonaslee St Manman's.



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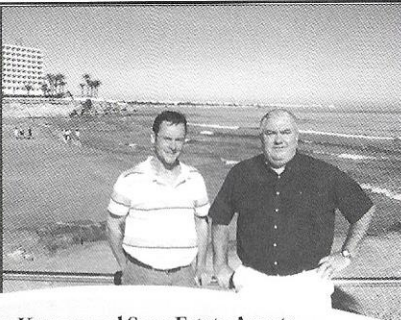
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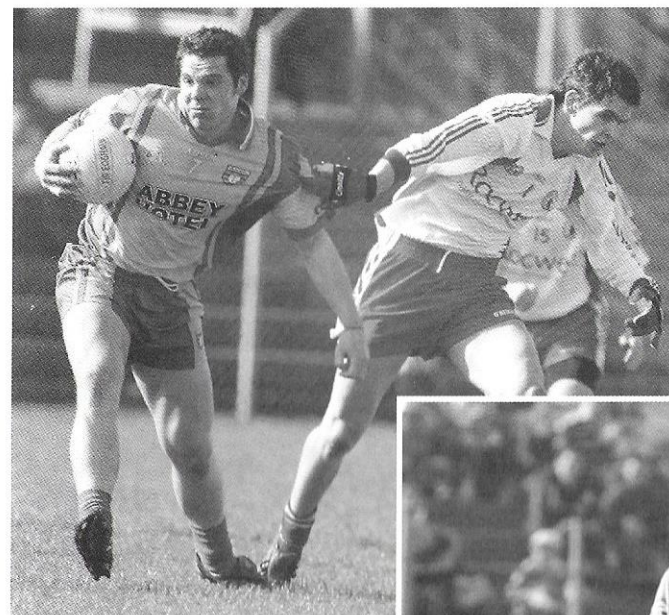
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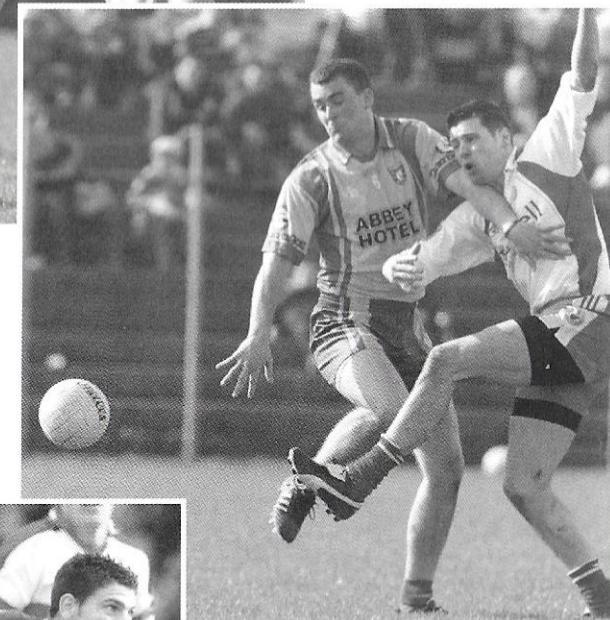
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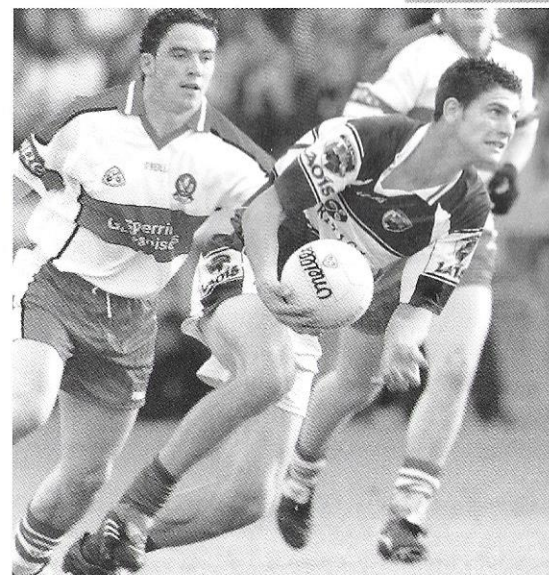
*Donegal's Kevin Cassidy  
gets away from Tyrone's  
Raymond Mulgrew at  
Edendork last Sunday.*

Photo Thomas Gallagher 0104TG27



*Neill Gallagher Donegal and  
Tyrone's Sean Cavanagh tussle  
for possession at Edendork last  
Sunday.*

Photo Thomas Gallagher 0104TG27



*Brendan Quigley of Laois gets  
to better of Derrys Joe Keenan.*

Picture Margaret McLaughlin

## Flashback to 1982

# Donegal make the big break through

**DONEGAL** ..... 0 -5

**LAOIS** ..... 0 -4

That was the scoreline at Pearse Park, Longford when Donegal defeated Laois in the U-21 semi-final on their way to a first ever All-Ireland title.

It was a miserable day for football. The rain, which came down in the proverbial bucketfuls before the match and during the first half, left the pitch a quagmire, with water lying in pools in several places.

But the teams strove manfully to overcome the environment and succeeded at times in turning out football of a quality that one would not expect in the circumstances. Of course, a lot of it was also scrappy, with players slipping and sliding all over the place and misplaced passes and wasted scoring opportunities in abundance on both sides.

Given the conditions, it was a pity that either side had to lose, but Donegal deserved their victory. Both sides ended up with eight wides at the end, but overall Donegal had more of the play and missed better chances for goals. This was particularly true in the first half when Donegal had what bit of advantage there was from a diagonal breeze. They did most of the attacking and on a number of occasions split the Laois defence wide open with well worked moves but more often than not the last pass or last shot went astray and so at half-time they went in with just a 0-3 to 0-2 lead, having shot five wides and missed two or three chances for goals.

The sun came out for the second half, but in the early part of the half things did not look bright for Donegal; in fact this was their worst period. They were completely out of it at midfield and for the first fifteen minutes, Laois kept them fairly well penned into their own half as they set up a blockade at midfield which Donegal found difficult to get past.

The drafting in of Donal Reid to combine with Sylvester Maguire, who had come on at half-time, stopped the rot in the middle of the field and it was Reid who got the winning point. From there until the end the play swung from end to end without either side managing a further score.

Joyce McMullan won the throw-in to set up the first attack for Donegal but it was Laois who had the first score when Christy Maguire took advantage of some laxness in the Donegal defence to point in the second minute.

The scores were level two minutes later when Charlie Mulgrew was fouled and Martin McHugh converted the free. Paul Carr shot hastily and wasted a good chance in the 6th minute and three minutes later the Laois' keeper smothered a close shot from Charlie Mulgrew.

Donegal went in front in the 10th minute when Joyce McMullan was fouled and McHugh pointed the free.

It was all square again two minutes later when Christy Maguire did likewise at the other end of the field.

### SPLENDID POINT

Anthony Molloy shot wide before Donegal again took the lead in the 17th minute. Centre half-back Tommy McDermott carried the ball downfield, played a one-two with Pauric Gallagher, and then kicked a splendid point. Pauric Gallagher missed a chance three minutes later when he was set up by a brilliant move involving Joyce McMullan, Charlie Mulgrew and Seamus Meehan. Two minutes from half-time he was involved in the situation when the ball landed in the pool of water and just before half-time Joyce McMullan shot wide.

For the second half Sylvester Maguire came in to the game with Anthony Molloy moving

from midfield to full-forward and Paul Carr moved from there to corner forward in place of Patrick McGroarty who went off.

Laois, who also reshuffled their side, attacked from the throw in and shot four wides in the first ten minutes of the half as they subjected Donegal to a lot of pressure. Their pressure finally brought results in the 11th minute when John Ramsbottom pointed to bring the scores level again.

The same player put Laois in front with a point from a free in the 14th minute and at that stage Donegal seemed to be on the slippery slope to defeat as almost every clearance from defence seemed to go to a Laois player.

But substitute Donal Reid began to make his presence felt and Donegal re-established themselves once again in the middle of the park. In the 16th minute he had a shot deflected for a '50' and from it Martin McHugh sent the ball straight and through between the posts to once more tie it all up.

Encouraged by that score, the Tirconail boys pressed forward and a minute later Charlie Mulgrew worked his way up the left wing. He lost the ball as he tried to cut in side but it fell to Reid who promptly put it over the bar for what proved to be the winner.

Two minutes later Anthony Molloy failed to take advantage of a good chance brought about by another good Donegal move and three minutes later Paul Carr shot across the face of the goals and wide.

Donegal's last shot at goal came three minutes from the final whistle when Eunan McIntyre linked with Tommy McDermott and Charlie Mulgrew before shooting wide from long range.

The scorers were: **Donegal** - M. McHugh 0-3; T. McDermott and D. Reid 0-1 each.

**Laois:** C. Maguire and J. Ramsbottom (0-2 each).

The teams under referee Tommy Moran were:

**Donegal** - M. Kelly; M. McBrearty; S. Bonner; M. Gallagher; E. McIntyre; T. McDermott; B. Tuohy (Capt.); J. McMullan; A. Molloy; M. McHugh; C. Mulgrew; S. Meehan; P. Gallagher; P. Carr; P. McGroarty. Subs: S. Maguire and D. Reid.

**Laois** - M. Conroy; N. Campion; P. Roe; M. Drennan; E. Kelly; M. Kavanagh; F. Whelehan; M. Dempsey; T. Murphy; J. Lewis; C. Maguire; J. Ramsbottom; D. Horan; L. Irwin; P. Doran. Subs: S. Murphy and J. Comerford.







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## Donegal-Laois meetings

*By Peter Campbell (Sports Editor, Donegal Democrat)*

Donegal's last meeting with the men from Laois was thirteen years ago in Portlaoise in the 1995/1996 League season. In all they have met nine times with Donegal winning five, losing three and one game was drawn.

In the mid-nineties they met four times in the space of eighteen months between April 1994 and November 1995 including two games in Portlaoise and two in Croke Park - a quarter-final and a semi-final.

In their last meeting in late 1995 Donegal had defeated Clare and Tyrone respectively before travelling south and they they returned victorious by 1-10 to 0-8.

It was the occasion of Manus Boyle's 99th game for the county and he celebrated with five points. The goal came from MacCumhail's Eamon McMenamin.

The Donegal team and scorers was: Paul Callaghan; Gerard Kelly, John Joe Doherty, Sean McEwen; Damien Diver, Noel Hegarty, Martin Shovlin; John Ban Gallagher, Brian Murray; Eamon McMenamin (1-1), John Gildea, James Ruane; Niall McCready, Tony Boyle (0-1), Manus Boyle (0-5). Sub., John Duffy.

### **April 30th 1995 - Croke Park Donegal 1-14, Laois 2-8**

Donegal had to overcome a very strong Laois team in the National League semi-final in Croke Park. Laois twice took a one point lead in the second half before Donegal eventually prevailed.

They met Derry in the final, losing out by 0-12 to 0-8, in what was a very difficult time as they were out in the championship the following week after the league final against Down in Clones.

The Donegal team in that semi-final was: Gary Walsh; John Joe Doherty, Matt

Gallagher, Noel Hegarty; John Cunningham, Martin Gavigan, Martin Shovlin; Mark McShane, Brian Murray (0-1); Tommy Ryan, James McHugh (1-3), John Ban Gallagher; John Duffy (0-5,3f), Paddy Hegarty, Manus Boyle (0-4,3f). Subs., Barry McGowan for JB Gallagher; Declan Bonner for Ryan.

### **19th February, 1995: Portlaoise Laois 0-10, Donegal 0-8.**

After seventeen minutes Laois led by 0-6 to 0-1 in a very exciting and tough game. Donegal steadied themselves to trail 0-7 to 0-4 at the break.

In the second half John Gildea was sent off while Leo Turley escaped for Laois. Despite the numerical disadvantage Donegal were by far the better side but an element of panic set in and they missed many chances to at least get a draw.

Donegal: Gary Walsh; John Joe Doherty, Eugene McMenamin, Matt Gallagher; Mark Crossan, John Cunningham, Martin Shovlin; John Ban Gallagher, Brian Murray (0-1); Barry McGowan, John Gildea (0-1), Jim McGuinness; John Duffy (0-2), Tony Boyle, Manus Boyle (0-3). Sub., Declan Bonner (0-1) for McGowan.

### **3rd April 1994: Croke Park Donegal 0-7, Laois 0-8**

**Donegal:** Gary Walsh; John Joe Doherty, Matt Gallagher, Paddy Hegarty; Donal Reid, John Cunningham, Noel Hegarty; Brian Murray, Mark McShane; James McHugh (0-2), Martin McHugh, Joyce McMullan; Declan Bonner (0-2), Manus Boyle (0-2), Jim McGuinness. Subs., Anthony Molloy for McShane; Paul Carr for Bonner; Martin Carlin (0-1) for McGuinness.

## 20 QUESTIONS

with P. J. Buggy

1. When Donegal won 3 in a row Lagan Cups in 65, 66, & 67 their forward line included a Laois native, who was he?
2. What Donegal Club were winners of the gold medals in the Nuachleas section of the 2008 Scor na nOg All Ireland Finals held recently in Athlone.
3. What former Laois player was affectionately known as "The Boy Wonder".
4. When did Laois win their only All Ireland Senior Hurling Final.
5. What is the name of the GAA pitch in Portlaoise.
6. Who are the new sponsors of the Galway Senior Football Team.
7. Who captained Ulster to Railway Cup football glory in Croke Park in 2007.
8. What Laois club team was defeated by Glen Rovers in the All Ireland Senior Hurling final in 1977.
9. When Laois won the National Football League in 1986 who was captain.
10. Laois had 2 All Stars in 1986 – one was the captain above and the other was a midfielder – name him.
11. What county is known as the short grass county.
12. Who is the Manager of that county for 2008.
13. Name the referee who called off the Dublin v Armagh National League game, due to have been played in Crossmaglen last Sunday.
14. Who is the goalkeeper on the Donegal Democrat "Donegal Team of the Millennium".
15. Who captained Donegal Ladies victory in the 2003 All Ireland Junior Final in Croke Park.
16. What is the name of the GAA pitch in Carlow Town?
17. Who are the holders of the Donegal U12 A Football Championship.
18. Name the only father and son to have captained their county to All Ireland Senior Football or Hurling success.
19. Which Laois club has the greatest number of county senior football titles.
20. In 1938 Michael O'Hehir gave his first commentary in an All Ireland Senior semi-final held in Mullingar – name the two teams involved.

**ANSWERS:** 1. The late Des Houllihan; 2. Glenswillly; 3. Tommy Murphy – after whom the Tommy Murphy Cup is named; 4. 1915; 5. O'Moore Park; 6. Aer Arran; 7. Connor Gormley - Tyrone; 8. Camross; 9. Colm Browne; 10. Liam Irwin; 11. Kildare; 12. Kieran McGeeney; 13. Derek Fahy - Longford – he refereed 2007 Ulster final; 14. Seamus Hoare of St Eunan's; 15. Debbie Lee Fox; 16. Dr. Cullen Park; 17. Aodh Ruadh Ballyshannon; 18. The Sheehys – John Joe captained Kerry to victories in 1926 & 1930 while his son Sean Og was captain in 1962; 19. Portlaoise; 20. Galway & Monaghan – with Galway winning and going on to win the Sam Maguire.

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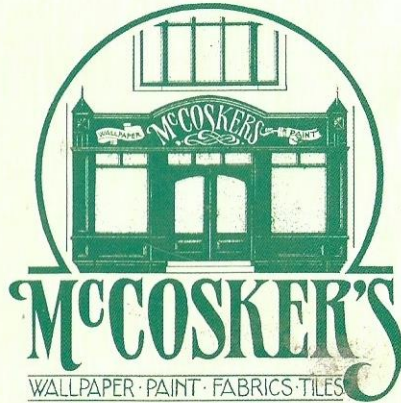
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