

# ALLIANZ FOOTBALL & HURLING LEAGUE



## Dún na nGall v Ros Comáin

## Dún na nGall v An Dún



Sunday 13th March 2016  
O'Donnell Park, Letterkenny  
Hurling at 1:15pm • Football at 3pm

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## FOCAL ÓN CATHAOIRLEACH



**Ar son Bord na Condae CLG Dhún na nGall, ba mhaith liom fáilte a chur romhaibh go léir anseo inniu go Páirc Uí Dhomhnaíll, Leitir Ceanainn.**

It gives me great pleasure to welcome you here this afternoon to this exciting Allianz National Hurling League Division 2B and Allianz National Football League Division 1 double-header in O' Donnell Park, Letterkenny. I also extend a warm welcome to the Down and Roscommon players, team managements, officials and supporters for what promises to be two very competitive games between our three respective counties.

On behalf of Bord na Condae, I would like to take this opportunity to remind the Donegal supporters that our first team into championship

action this year will be the Under 21 footballers next Wednesday evening, March 16th. We entertain the winners of Derry v Antrim in Mac Cumhaill Park in a quarter-final tie so please come along and give your support to our lads.

Finally, I hope that you enjoy this afternoon's games and may the best teams win.

Tá súil agam go mbainfidh sibh taitneamh as an chluiche agus go mbeidh turas slán sábháilte ag lucht leanúna An Dúin, Ros Comáin agus Dhún na nGall agus iad ag pilleadh na bhaile.

Is mise le meas,

*Seán Ó Duinnín,*  
**Cathaoirleach**



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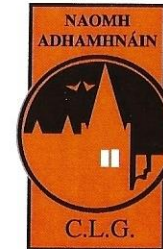


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## Fáilte go Leitir Ceanainn

Cuireann fo-chumann Naomh Adhamhnáin fáilte romhaibh inniu go Páirc Uí Dhonaill i Leitir Ceanainn. Tá lúcháir orainn agus ar mhuintir Leitir Ceanainn go bhfuil cluiche mór mar seo sa pháirc inniu. Tá fáilte speisialta roimh fhoireann Ros Comáin, a noifigigh agus a lucht leanúna. Tá fáilte roimh fhoireann Iománaíochta an Dúin fosta. Tá a lán oibre déanta ag oifigigh an chlub ag ullmhú don lá inniu agus tá súil againn go mbeidh gach duine sásta le himeachtaí an lae.

Ba mhaith liom buíochas a thabhairt do oifigí CLG Dhún na nGall ar son cead

a thabhairt dúinn an cluiche mór seo a bheith againn inniu i bPáirc Uí Dhonaill. Buíochas fosta do na Gardaí Síochána a thugann gach cuidiú dúinn i gcónaí. Rinne Pól Mac Samhráin, Oifigeach Caidreamh Poiblí an Chlub obair mhór ag eagrú an leabhar seo.

Beidh Feargus Mac aoidh, Oifigeach na Gaeilge CLG Dhún na nGall i mbun cúrsaí cumarsáide inniu.

Ádh mór oraibh uilig.

*Cathal Mac Grianna*  
**CLG Naomh Adhamhnáin**

### Buíochas:

Match programme produced and edited by Paul McGovern (PRO, Naomh Adhamhnáin).

Special thanks to all those that have contributed to today's match programme: Cathaoirleach CLG Naomh Adhamhnáin, Cathal MacGrianna; Charlie Collins, Alan Foley and Chris McNulty (Donegal Sport Hub); Peter Campbell & Tom Comack, Donegal Democrat; Sean Boyle, Paddy Flood and Kieran Kelly (St. Eunan's Club Members); Fr. Seán Ó Gallchóir; Ed Byrne (PRO, Donegal); Hugh Lynn (PRO, Roscommon); Fiona Ní Mhurchú (PRO, Down); Mags McNulty (PRO, Four Masters); Michael O'Brien (Roscommon Herald); Steve Malone (Down).

Special thanks to Geraldine Diver and Sportsfile for their photographs and to Donegal Printing Company for their work in putting together today's match programme.

Amhrán na bhFiann will be sung by Caitriona MacIntyre. Caitriona has represented Naomh Adhamhnáin in Scór Sinsear for several years winning numerous county titles.



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## Project NFL Almost Accomplished for Rory's Men

By Charlie Collins



Rory Gallagher is a man who is working backwards and the date that matters most is Sunday 12th June when Donegal will open their Ulster Championship campaign against either Antrim or Fermanagh. Everything that has happened up to now and that will happen over the next few months is geared at getting it right on that day and those that follow because we all know that no matter what else happens all that really does matter is the Championship.

Today the visit of Roscommon presents Rory's squad with the opportunity to rubber stamp their place in Division One of the League. The manager set a target of seven points to ensure Division One status for another year, and three wins in our opening three games has put us in a solid position despite last week's defeat in Kerry. Those three wins were impressive with both Down and Cork swept aside and when the questions were asked against Mayo Rory's men produced the right answers. Much has been said and written already this week about the events in Tralee last Sunday, so there is no need to add anything further for the moment. A win today will secure another year in Division One and probably a semi-final spot in April.

Today's visitors Roscommon have surprised many with their excellent start to life in Division One. After a late opening day defeat to Monaghan they have impressed many with wins over Kerry, Cork and Down and share second place with Donegal. They arrive today full of confidence and can be expected to provide a tough test for Rory's men. So far in the campaign the manager has been able to use a large numbers of players including a mixture of young ones still finding their way at this level and the more experienced ones easing their way back to full fitness. It's important that we don't get too over excited

or disappointed about what happens during a league campaign. Last year Tyrone were relegated after just one win in their seven League games. However they also drew three of their other six games and lost a couple of the others very narrowly. During the course of that campaign Mickey Harte used over thirty players and despite getting relegated and losing in the first round of the Championship went on to reach an All Ireland semi-final which they should have won. Dublin are the only team that has been able to mix a good League campaign with success in the Championship but the size of their panel allows for that and they will remain the exception in that regard. Rory Gallagher's main aim is to find out which of the young players are most likely to provide him with selection options in terms of his first twenty in the months ahead and of course can those who have served us so well for so long still be able to do it when championship time comes around again.

Finding the right balance is always the big challenge for any team manager and while the demand to win games from those paying to watch is understandable the focus must always remain on the bigger picture. Once the Championship gets up and running what happened back in February and March is soon forgotten but a solid foundation can be built now without putting too much pressure on those who will be required to produce their best when summer arrives. The team manager is well aware that his and his team's season will not be defined by what the situation is after these next three league games but he nonetheless will be keen to get to or past that seven point target he set before the action started. A victory today will get the job done and ease the pressure ahead of the last two games against Dublin and Monaghan in a few weeks time.

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on Sunday*



## TWELFTH MEETING



Fr. Seán

Today's match is the twelfth League match between Dún na nGall and Ros Comáin. It is Ros Comáin's first Senior competitive match in Leitir Ceanainn. The previous results were:

1. 14-10-1940	Ros Comáin	5-10	Dún na nGall	1-6	Ailfionn
2. 14-10-1984	Ros Comáin	0-8	Dún na nGall	0-8	Ros Comáin
3. 22-11-1987	Dún na nGall	1-6	Ros Comáin	0-8	Ros Comáin
4. 10-3-1991	Ros Comáin	1-10	Dún na nGall	0-4	Ros Comáin
5. 8-3-1992	Dún na nGall	0-15	Ros Comáin	0-6	Bealach Féich
6. 9-4-2000	Ros Comáin	0-14	Dún na nGall	1-9	Ros Comáin
7. 15-4-2001	Ros Comáin	1-10	Dún na nGall	0-11	Bealach Féich
8. 31-3-2002	Ros Comáin	2-13	Dún na nGall	1-12	Ros Comáin
9. 6-4-2003	Dún na nGall	2-10	Ros Comáin	1-10	Bealach Féich
10. 7-3-2004	Dún na nGall	0-12	Ros Comáin	0-11	Ros Comáin
11. 9-4-2006	Dún na nGall	0-14	Ros Comáin	1-9	Ros Comáin

- Dún na nGall have won five games, Ros Comáin five with one draw.
- Christy Toye played in the last four Dún na nGall v Ros Comáin league games. Colm McFadden played in the 2002, 2003 and 2004 matches.

### FIRST LEAGUE MEETING

The first League meeting of Dún na nGall and Ros Comáin took place in Elphin on October 13, 1940. The Ros Comáin team included a number of players who had just won the All-Ireland Junior Football Championship and who would feature on the Sam Maguire – winning Ros Comáin teams of 1943 and 1944. Ros Comáin legends Winston, Murray (2), Connor and Keenan got their goals with Gibbons, Boland and Kenny among the point scorers in a 5-10 to 1-6 Ros Comáin victory. Dún na nGall were outclassed despite fielding Railway Cup men like Columba McDyre, Hiúdaí Beag Gallagher, James McGarvey, Vinny McHugh and Mick Melly.

Pat Gill (St. Columba's, Lk)	Hughie McGuinness (Ballyshannon)	Mick Melly (Ballyshannon)	Harry O'Donnell (Ardara)
Anthony McBrearty (Donegal)	Hiúdaí Beag Gallagher (Gaoth Dobhair)	Columba McDyre (Glenties) & James McGarvey (Dungloe):	John McGahern (Cashelard):
Vinny McHugh (Ardara)	M. O'Neill (Mountcharles)	Jackie Gallagher (Gaoth Dobhair)	Jack Gallagher (Ballyshannon):
		Andy McHugh (Ardara)	Mick Slevin (Ballyshannon):

### LAST LEAGUE MEETING

Dún na nGall and Ros Comáin last met in the League on April 9, 2006, in Bealach Féich. Dún na nGall led by 0-12 to 0-2 at half-time and nearly blew it, winning by 0-14/1-9. Brendan Boyle was man-of-the-match.

#### Dún na nGall

Frank McGlynn	Michael Boyle:	Karl Lacey:
Damien Diver	Paddy Campbell	Kevin Cassidy (0-1):
	Éamonn McGee	
Christy Toye (0-2)	Brendan Boyle (0-1) & Neil Gallagher:	Conal Dunne:
Brian Roper	Michael Hegarty (0-4)	Michael Doherty (0-4)
	Adrian Sweeney (0-1)	

Subs: Barry Dunnion (0-1), Séamie Friel.

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## Ros Comáin

John Nolan  
Stuart Daly

Paul Moran  
Enda Kenny

Subs: Niall Moran, Gerry Lohan, Seán Fahy, John Rogers (1-0).

Geoffrey Claffey:  
David Cassidy  
John Whyte

Séamus O' Neill (0-2) & Michael Finneran:  
Karol Mannion (0-1)  
Martin Connolly

Seán McDermott:  
Paddy O' Connor:

Brian Higgins (0-1):  
Ger Heneghan (0-5)

## LAST MEETING

The last Senior meeting of Dún na nGall and Ros Comáin was their one and only Championship encounter – in the 2008 qualifiers in Bealach Féich. Dún na nGall won 3-11/1-9. The match featured two early Dún na nGall goals (Murphy & Griffin); two red cards for Ros Comáin (Cregg and Dunning) and two yellows for Neil McGee.

## Dún na nGall

Éamonn McGee  
Frank McGlynn

Kevin Rafferty (0-1)  
Colm McFadden (0-5)

Subs: Shane McGowan, Brendan Devenney, Christy Toye (0-1), Mark McGowan, Conal Dunne.

Paul Durcan:  
Neil McGee  
Barry Monaghan  
Neil Gallagher & Rory Kavanagh (0-1):

David Walsh (0-1)  
Ryan Bradley

Karl Lacey:  
Kevin Cassidy:

Stephen Griffin (1-0):  
Michael Murphy (2-2)

## Ros Comáin

Paddy O' Connor  
David Keenan

Mark O' Carroll  
Cathal Cregg

Subs: Jonathan Dunning, Séamus O' Neill (0-1), Anthony McDermott, Conor Devaney.

Geoffrey Claffey:  
David Casey  
Gary Cox (0-1)  
Michael Finneran & Karol Mannion (1-1):  
David O' Gara  
S Kilbride (0-1)

Sean McDermott:  
Stuart Daly:

John Rogers:  
Ger Heneghan (0-5)

## 1982 U-21 FINAL

Dún na nGall's most famous victory over Ros Comáin was in the historic All-Ireland U-21 final of 1982 in Carrick-on-Shannon, Dún na nGall's first All-Ireland, winning by 0-8 to 0-5.

## Dún na nGall

Michael McBrearty  
Eunan McIntyre

Martin McHugh (0-5)  
Séamus Meehan

Subs: Pauric Gallagher (0-2), Sylvester Maguire.

Michael Kelly:  
Seán Bonnar  
Tommy McDermott  
Anthony Molloy & Donal Reid (0-1):  
Charlie Mulgrew  
Paul Carr

Matt Gallagher:  
Brian Tuohy (capt.):

Joyce McMullan:  
Patrick McGroarty

## Ros Comáin

Gary Wynne (capt)  
Marty Shanagher (0-1)

Tom Corcoran  
Jimmy Connellan (0-2)

Subs: John Kelly, Séamus Killoran.

Ger Paul Cunniffe:  
Pat Doorey  
Pádraig McNeill (0-1)  
Pat Rogers & Éamonn Glancy:  
Éamon McManus  
Paul Earley (0-1)

Gay Collins:  
Manus Tiernan:

Paul Hickey:  
Ronan McPhillips

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## Bar Food Menu

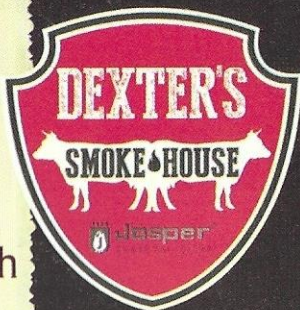
From 3pm Daily  
and from 12.30 on Saturday's

## Carvery Lunch

Daily from 12.30  
excluding Saturday's



## Sunday Carvery Lunch

12.30 - 4pm  
main courses from €10.95



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Referee: Tommy Moran

Ros Comáin had beaten Dún na nGall in the All-Ireland Under-21 semi-final of 1966.

### MINORS - 2014

Dún na nGall beat Ros Comáin in Sligeach by 0-10/1-5 in the All-Ireland M.F.C. quarter-final of 2014.

#### Dún na nGall

Danny Monagle Cian Mulligan (0-4)	Danny Rodgers: Ciarán Gillespie Tony McClenaghan	Colm Kelly: Andrew McClean:
Eoghan Bán Gallagher Jamie Brennan (0-1)	Niall Harley & Caolán McGonagle: Lorcan Connor (0-1) John Campbell (0-3)	Micheál Carroll (0-1): Stephen McBrearty

Subs: Ethan O' Donnell, Christian Bonner, Conall O' Boyle, Stephen McMenamin, Conor Doherty.

#### Ros Comáin

Jack Connaughton Keelan Beirne	Shane Mannion: Evan McGrath Fergal Lennon	Eoin Fallon: Luke Carty:
Cathal Callinan (0-1) Hubert Darcy (0-1)	Conor Murray & Rónán Rafferty: Brian Stack Kevin Smyth (0-3)	Killian Bannon: Noel Gately (1-0)

Subs: Brian Kelly, David Connaughton, John Cannon.

### 1972 GROUNDS' TOURNAMENT

Dún na nGall and Ros Comáin, the two defeated All-Ireland semi-finalists, met in the semi-final of the then prestigious Grounds' Tournament in Croke Park in October 1972. Dún na nGall played well, led by 1-9 to 0-5 at half-time and withstood a Ros Comáin comeback to win by 1-12 to 1-11.

#### Dún na nGall

Donal Monaghan Brian McEniff	Alan Kane: Pauric McShea Anthony Gallagher	Andy Curran: Pat Conaghan:
Martin Carney Séamus Granaghan (0-3)	Frankie McFeely (capt.) & Micky McMenamin: Séamus Bonner (0-1) Micky Sweeney (1-1)	Hughie McClafferty (0-1): Joe Winston (0-6)

#### Ros Comáin

Harry Keegan Gerry Mannion	John Neill: Pat Lindsay Adrian O' Sullivan	Tom Heneghan: John Kerrane:
J. Mannion (0-1) Jimmy Finnegan (0-1)	Gerry Beirne & Tom Hunt (0-2): Dermot Earley (0-1) Mick Freyne (1-3)	M. Flanagan (0-1): John Kelly (0-2)

Referee: Paul Kelly (Baile Átha Cliath)

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### Good Luck in 2016

## Quiz

1. Who did Donegal defeat in the All-Ireland U-21 semi-final in 1982?
2. Who was Roscommon's first All-Star?
3. One Donegal player played in all 17 competitive matches for the county in 2015. Name him?
4. Who was captain of the Roscommon U-21 team defeated by Donegal in the All-Ireland final in 1982?
5. What Roscommon man won an Ulster Senior Championship medal with Donegal in 1983?
6. Two Roscommon men won an All-Ireland Masters title with Donegal. Name them?
7. Two sets of brothers have captained Ulster clubs to All-Ireland club success. Name them?
8. Who was top scorer in the Allianz Football League in 2015?
9. The famous Jimmy Murray captained Roscommon to their two All-Ireland senior titles. What were the years?
10. Who has scored the highest individual tally in an Ulster Championship game?
11. Who was the last man to lift the Sam Maguire as captain 2 years in-a-row?
12. Eurovision winner Johnny Logan's grandfather won 5 All-Ireland senior medals with what county?
13. Who is manager of Leitrim Senior football team?
14. Only one Donegal club has won an Ulster club championship title. Name them and the year?
15. Apart from Kerry men who has the most all-star football awards?
16. What Roscommon man was President of the GAA from 73 to 76.
17. Who is the present GPA/GAA Player of the Year?
18. What club is current GAA president Aogan O Fearghail a member of?
19. Donegal manager, Rory Gallagher, won an All-Ireland club medal with what club?
20. What team did St. Brigid's of Roscommon defeat to win the All-Ireland Club title in 2012?

Answers on page 45

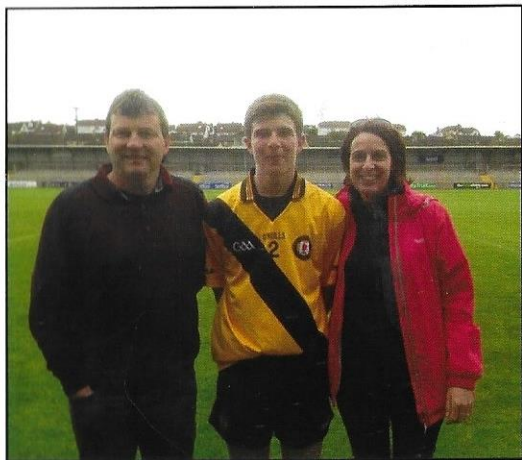


You may have seen our Féile 2015 girls holding a bucket collection outside the ground today in aid of the St. Eunan's Minor Board. They are pictured here visiting our Sunday Morning Academy last summer.

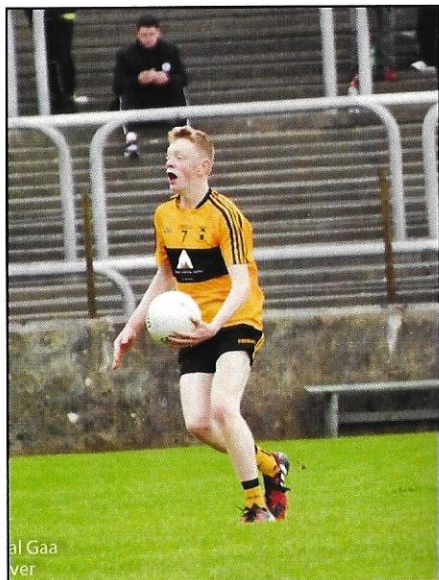




Members of the St. Eunan's GAA Club U16 team that won the County Championship in 2015 who are past pupils of Scoil Naomh Fiachra, Illistrin. L-R: Matthew McGovern (capt.), Louis Hasson, Eoin O'Boyle, Aaron Deeney and Conor McWalters (missing from picture is Ciaran McCloskey). Scoil N. Fiachra have players playing in today's half-time games.



Aaron Deeney (St. Eunan's) who was chosen as part of the U16 Ulster Academy squad in 2015 pictured with mum and dad, Anne and Pat. Aaron and Peadar Mogan (St. Naul's) were the only Donegal players selected for the team that played the Dublin U17 team in Armagh last summer.



Kevin Kealy, grandson of Pat English in action in the 2015 Co. Minor Football Final.  
© Photo Geraldine Diver

## One Footballer, Two Counties – Des Newton

By Tom Comack,  
Donegal Democrat/Donegal People's Press/ Highland Radio



Roscommon men that have worn the green and gold of Donegal are few and far between. The late Pat English, who only passed away last year, was one.

From Knockcroghery in south Roscommon, Pat English, who was a regular with his native county in the late 1940s and the first half of the 1950s, played for two seasons and one championship campaign with his adopted Donegal.

There may have been others back in time that maybe history has forgot. But one Roscommon man who history and time will not forget is Des Newton.

An All-Ireland U-21 winner with Roscommon from 1978 - while still a minor- Des Newton had won the first of his three Connacht Senior Championships before he transferred to Donegal, the native county of his mother, Kathleen Devine from Illistrin.

Des had taken up a teaching position two years earlier in Carndonagh Community School and had transferred from Shannon Gaels, in north Roscommon, to Urris, in the Inishowen peninsula.

His first outing in the green and gold was in the junior championship against Tyrone in Ballybofey, in early summer 1983. Mayo man Jimmy Brennan was the Donegal manager.

Donegal lost to Tyrone. It was a Wednesday night and 24 hours later Des was back in MacCumhaill Park and training with the Donegal seniors following a call from the legendary Brian McEniff. By summer's end Des Newton had collected his second provincial medal, this time an Ulster Celtic Cross.

His first game for Donegal was against Monaghan in the Ulster semi-final in Irvinestown. Then just 23, he played cornerback against Monaghan in place of the injured Matt Gallagher. Gallagher suffered a broken wrist in the first round against Armagh, in Ballybofey.

The Roscommon man did well on his Donegal debut and when the luckless Gallagher was ruled out of the Ulster final with appendicitis, Des Newton was again in the number four shirt. Donegal beat Cavan in the '83 final, 1-14 to 1-11, on a roasting hot day in Clones. Des played on for Donegal for the following four years before returning to Roscommon in 1988 to win two more Connacht titles in 1990 and 1991. He hung up his inter-county boots in the summer of 1992. Des headed to Boston in the summer of 1993 where he lined out for Notre Dame with the producer of today's match programme, St. Eunan's PRO Paul McGovern.

His first foray into management was with Donegal U-16s before he moved to Dublin and teamed up with another former Donegal footballer Paddy Carr at Kilmacud Crokes. He managed Roscommon for a year before Kerry man John Evans took up the challenge of turning the county's fortunes around.

These days Des is not involved in football and is back on the terraces, taking in as many Donegal and Roscommon games as his busy job of principal of Adamstown Community School, in West Dublin allows.

It could be a busy summer Des!

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## All-Ireland U-21 Final

- Sunday, 17th October, 1982

Pairc Sheain Mhic Diarmada, Carrick-on-Shannon



**Donegal** 0-08  
**Roscommon** 0-05

When referee Tommy Moran blew the final whistle in Carrick-on-Shannon, Donegal were All-Ireland U-21 champions for the first time ever - the first in any grade won by footballers representing the county. The final whistle saw Donegal supporters swarm on to the field to congratulate their heroes on finally getting that elusive All-Ireland title.

Things did not look good when full-back Sean Bonner had to leave the field after just nine minutes. He had injured his left side in training and although passed fit to play, was in obvious discomfort from early on.

At that stage Donegal were playing into a strong breeze and Roscommon were looking good. Pauric Gallagher, who had been left off the team, came on and there

were a number of positional switches Joyce McMullan going to midfield; Donal Reid to centre-half and Tommy McDermott to full-back to replace Bonner.

The moves, if anything, enhanced Donegal's performance. McDermott was able to handle danger man Paul Earley, always in place to handle the tall Roscommon man wherever he went.

Donegal took the lead in the first minute with Paul Carr, Joyce McMullan and Patrick McGroarty involved in the build-up before Martin McHugh pointed. Roscommon levelled when Michael McBrearty was penalised for picking the ball off the ground and Jimmy Connellan pointed the 14 yard free.

Roscommon went in front when Marty Shanagher pointed but Donegal were level when Donal Reid finished after good work by Tommy McDermott, Anthony Molloy and Charlie Mulgrew.

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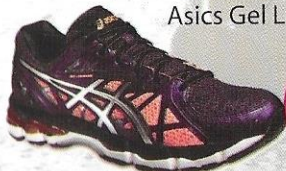
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RRP: €130  
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Asics Gel Luminus



RRP: €175  
Our Price: €149

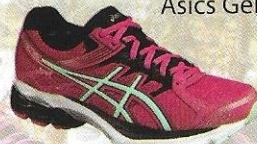
### WOMENS

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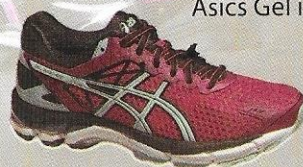
RRP: €90  
Our Price: €79.95

Asics Gel Pulse 7



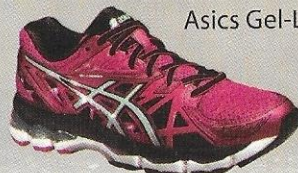
RRP: €110  
Our Price: €99

Asics Gel indicate 2



RRP: €130  
Our Price: €110

Asics Gel-Luminus



RRP: €175  
Our Price: €149

It was after this that Donegal lost Sean Bonner, but they had a good goal chance but Patrick McGroarty did not avail of it.

Pauric Gallagher had a goal chance but he blasted over and was then denied a goal by a good save. The Ballintra man made amends when he set up Martin McHugh for Donegal's fourth point in the 17th minute. McHugh added another on 19 minutes after good work by McDermott, Brian Tuohy and Seamus Meehan.

Roscommon had their best period in the final ten minutes of the first half. Paul Earley pointed a free and Pauric O'Neill, from 60 yards, left just a point between them and just before the break Jimmy Connellan pointed a free to leave it all square, 0-5 each, at the break.

Donegal went in front six minutes into the second half when Martin McHugh pointed a free. Four minutes later another McHugh free was converted after Joyce McMullan was fouled. The final point of the game came in the 43rd minute, Pauric Gallagher side-stepping his man to score from an acute angle.

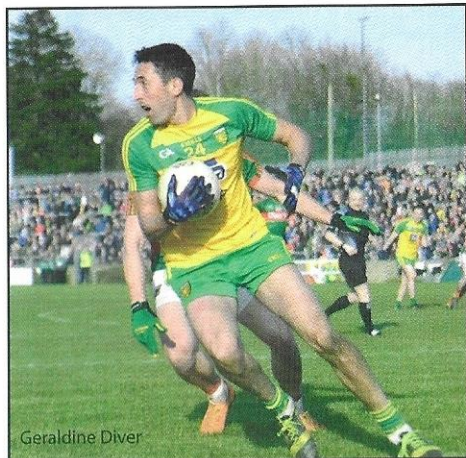
From there to the finish, it was a real battle with Donegal having a goal disallowed in the last minute when a McHugh free from 55 yards went all the way to the net but a Donegal player was adjudged to have been in the square before the ball.

**DONEGAL:** Michael Kelly; Michael McBrearty, Sean Bonner, Matt Gallagher; Eunan McIntyre, Tommy McDermott, Brian Tuohy (captain); Anthony Molloy, Donal Reid (0-1); Martin McHugh (0-5), Charlie Mulgrew, Joyce McMullan; Seamus Meehan, Paul Carr, Patrick McGroarty. Subs., Pauric Gallagher (0-2) for Bonner; Sylvester Maguire for McGroarty.

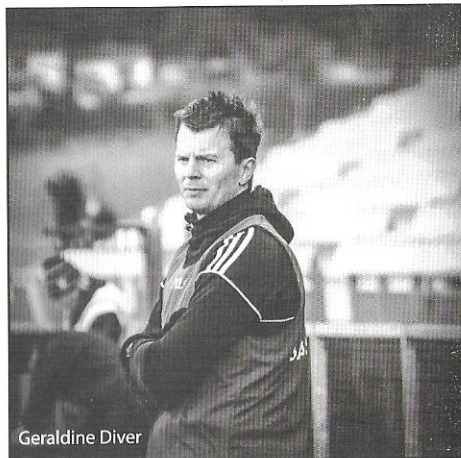
**ROSCOMMON:** GP Cuniffe; Gary Wryne (captain), Pat Doorey, Gay Collins; Marty Shanagher (0-1), Pdraig McNeill (0-1), Manus Tiernan; Pat Rogers, Eamon Glancy; Tom Corcoran, Eamon McManus, Paul Hickey; Jimmy Connellan (0-2), Paul Earley (0-1), Ronan McPhillips. Subs., John Kelly for McPhillips, Seamus Killoran for Glancy.

**REFEREE:** Tommy Moran (Ballinamore, Leitrim).

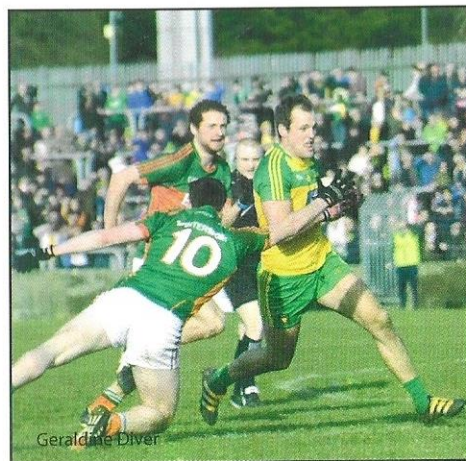




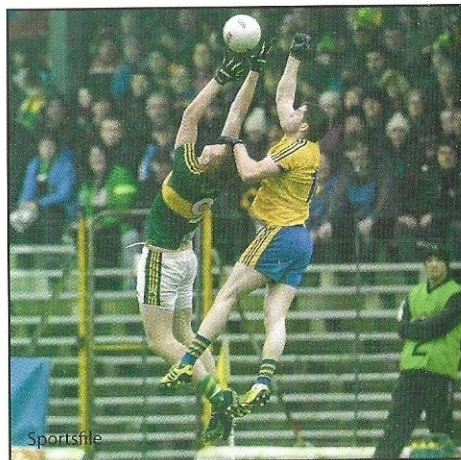
Geraldine Diver



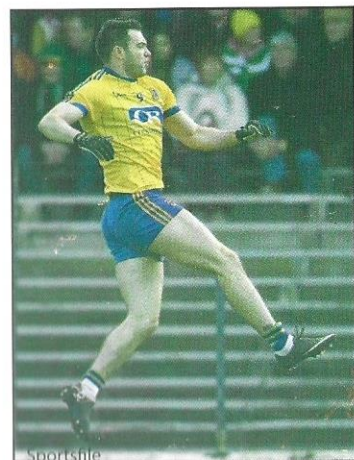
Geraldine Diver



Geraldine Diver



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# McBrearty Relishing Busy Programme

Chris McNulty



No matter who Donegal play these days, there is a backstory and, with it, a rivalry.

It comes with the territory of being one of the top teams in the country, a tag that Donegal have earned over the last six years.

When a 17-year-old Patrick McBrearty first jogged up to train with the senior panel in May 2011, the future had protected its secret and there was no hint that a force was to be awakened.

On Sunday, McBrearty played what he terms 'the toughest' he's endured in the county's colours as Kerry overcame Donegal 1-13 to 1-8 in Tralee.

"There is a big rivalry developing there between Donegal and Kerry," said McBrearty. "There was the quarter-final in 2012 and the All-Ireland final in 2014.

"We were going down there with six points and wanted the win. Their backs were to the wall and needed to win. Every day we go out, we don't lie down. It was definitely the most high profile game in terms of that physicality. There was a good deal of physicality to it, but it was just two teams going at it."

It was intense, too, when Donegal defeated Mayo in Ballybofey and it will be similarly raw when they joust with Monaghan and Dublin in the coming weeks. For McBrearty, it shows the value of being in Division I.

He said: "In 2014 we came through Division II to get an All-Ireland final. Now, you're looking at all the top teams, bar Tyrone, in Division I.

"It's the place to be because you're meeting the teams you'd be meeting in the Championship. There is nothing between these teams.

"It's great at this time of year. It's the height

of the season with the amount of games you have. You're week-on-week now whereas you have a month of a break in the Championship."

McBrearty has had a busy time of it of late, having featured in the Sigerson Cup for University of Ulster, Jordanstown and being an ever-present for Donegal in the Allianz League.

Donegal headed for Austin Stack Park having beaten Down, Cork and Mayo and will be keen to get back on track when they face Roscommon this Sunday in Letterkenny.

McBrearty said: "When we got back to seven-each, we should have kicked on because we had them rattled. We switched off for the goal and we couldn't get back after that. It was a tough loss.

"We'll learn a lot from the game. That's a big thing. Bryan Sheehan kicked eight frees so we can't be giving that kind of calibre of free taker those kind of opportunities. Roscommon are on good form so we just need to get back up on the horse again.

"We still have six points on the board. If you'd given us this situation before the League we'd have taken it. If we win this weekend we'd be in a League semi-final which would be good for us."

Roscommon have been a surprise package in Division I and will roll into O'Donnell Park full of confidence, level on points with Donegal.

McBrearty said: "Roscommon are flying. I'd know a lot of their players from Sigerson and the U21s. They're building something good in Roscommon. They'll want to go a few steps further this year than they did last year."



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# Donegal Dún na nGall

Manager: Rory Gallagher

# O'Donnell Park, Letterkenny

3.00pm

# Dún na nGall v Ros Comáin

# Roscommon Ros Comáin

Managers: Kevin Mc Stay & Fergal O'Donnell



### Referee:

Padraig Hughes  
(Ard Mhacha)

### Stand By:

Joe Mc Quillan  
(An Cabhán)

### Linesman:

Niall Cullen  
(Fear Manach)

### 4th Official:

Pat Clarke  
(An Cabhán)

### Referee:

Padraig Hughes  
(Ard Mhacha)

### Stand By:

Joe Mc Quillan  
(An Cabhán)

### Linesman:

Niall Cullen  
(Fear Manach)

### 4th Official:

Pat Clarke  
(An Cabhán)



Peadar O Baoille  
**PETER BOYLE**  
Aodh Ruadh BAS



Pádraig Mac Craith  
**PADDY MC GRATH**  
Ard an Ratha



Eamon Mac Aoidh  
**EAMON MC GEE**  
Gaoth Dobhair



Eamonn Ó Dochartaigh  
**EAMONN DOHERTY**  
Naomh Adhamhnáin



Rian MacAodha  
**RYAN MCHUGH**  
Cill Chartha



Antóin Mac Tomáis  
**ANTHONY THOMPSON**  
Naomh Conaill



Eoghan "Ban" Ó Gallchóir  
**EOGHAN "BAN" GALLAGHER**  
Na Cealla Beaga



Ruairí Caomhánach  
**RORY KAVANAGH**  
Naomh Adhamhnáin



Aodh Mac Pháidín  
**HUGH MC FADDEN**  
Na Cealla Beaga



Ciarán Mac Thomáis  
**CIARÁN THOMPSON**  
Naomh Conaill



Odhrán Mac Niallais  
**ODHRÁN MAC NIALLAIS**  
Gaoth Dobhair



Eoin Mac Aodha  
**EOIN MC HUGH**  
Cill Chartha



Pádraig MacBreartaigh  
**PATRICK MCBREARTY**  
Cill Chartha



Mícheál Ó Murchú  
**MICHAEL MURPHY (CAPTAIN)**  
Gleann Súilí



Mairtín Ó Raghallaigh  
**MARTIN O'REILLY**  
Seán Mac Cumhaill



Geoffrey Claffey  
**GEOFFREY CLAFFEY**  
Castlerea St Kevin's



Seán Mac Diarmada  
**SEAN MC DERMOTT**  
Western Gaels



Niall Ó Coileáin  
**NEIL COLLINS**  
St Brigid's Castlerea



Niall Mac an Airchinnigh  
**NIALL MC INERNEY**  
St Brigid's



Conchubhar Ó Dalaigh  
**CONOR DALY**  
Padraig Pearses



Seán Puircéil  
**SEAN PURCELL**  
Boyle



Daithe Ó Muirí  
**DAVID MURRAY**  
Padraig Pearses



Eanna Mac Gabhan  
**ENDA SMITH**  
Boyle



Eoin Mac Giolla Bhríde  
**IAN KILBRIDE**  
St. Brigid's



Fiontán de Creag  
**FINTAN CREGG**  
Elphin



Ciarán Ó Muireartaigh  
**CIARÁN MURTAGH (CAPTAIN)**  
St Faithleachs



Conchubhar Ó Duibheannaigh  
**CONOR DEVANEY**  
Kilbride



Cian Ó Conghaile  
**CIAN CONNOLLY**  
Roscommon Gaels



Seanán Mac Giolla Bhríde  
**SEANAN KILBRIDE**  
St. Brigid's



Cathal de Creag  
**CATHAL CREGG**  
Western Gaels

### FIR IONAD

16. Dónal Mac Ruairí, **DANNY ROGERS**, An Clochán Liath. 17. Caolan Mac an Bháird, **CAOLAN WARD**, Naomh Adhamhnáin. 18. Máirtín Mac Giolla Chainnigh, **MARTIN MCELHINNEY**, Naomh Michael. 19. Niall Ó Gallchóir, **NEIL GALLAGHER**, Gleann Súilí. 20. Stiofan Mac Breartaigh, **STEPHEN MC BREARTY** Cill Chartha. 21. Críostóir Ó Tuathaigh, **CHRISTY TOYE** Naomh Micheal. 22. Marcas MacAodha, **MARK MCHUGH** Cill Chartha. 23. Mícheál Ó Cearúil, **MICHAEL CARROLL** Gaoth Dobhair. 24. Ciarán Mac Giolla Easpaig, **CIARAN GILLESPIE**, Gaoth Dobhair. 25. Karl de Léis, **KARL LACEY**, Na Ceithre Máistirí. 26. Seán Ó Briain, **JACK O BRIEN**, Naomh Muire. **CAPTAIN: MICHAEL MURPHY**

Bainisteoir: **RUAIRÍ Ó GALLACHÓIR**; Maor Foirme: **JEAC Ó CUNNAIGH**; Medical (I) **DR KEVIN MORAN**; Medical (II) **MANUS MAC GABHANN**; Rúinail/Nominated Person: **AIDÍN UÍ GHIOLLÁIN**

Dathanna: Glas agus Oir

### FIR IONAD

16. **DARREN O MALLEY**, Dáire Ó Máille, Michael Glaveys. 17. **CATHAL COMPTON**, Cathal Ó Comptáin, Strokestown. 18. **RONAN DALY**, Ronán Ó Dalaigh, Padraig Pearses. 19. **NIALL KILROY**, Niall Mac Giolla Rua, Fuerty. 20. **JAMES MC DERMOTT**, Seosamh Mac Diarmada, Roscommon Gaels. 21. **CATHAL MC HUGH**, Cathal Mac Aodha, St. Brigid's. 22. **JOHN MC MANUS**, Seán MacMánaís, Roscommon Gaels. 23. **SEAN MULLOOLY**, Seán Ó Maoluala, Strokestown. 24. **DIARMUID MURTAGH**, Diarmuid Ó Muireartaigh, St Faithleachs. 25. **BRIAN MURTAGH**, Bréain Ó Muireartaigh, St Faithleachs. 26. **RONAN STACK**, Ronán de Staic, St Brigid's. **CAPTAIN: CIARAIN MURTAGH**

SELECTORS: Kevin Mc Stay, BAINISTEOR: Fergal O'Donnell, BAINISTEOR: Liam Mc Hale, ROGHNÓIRÍ: David Casey, Stephen Bohan

DATH: Blue and Yellow / Gorm agus Buí

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*Wishing Donegal all the best on Sunday*

## Donal Monaghan – A Tribute



In January of this year, Donegal football mourned the passing of a true legend in Donal Monaghan. There was a massive turnout from former club and county colleagues to say farewell to a giant of Donegal football. The Four Masters club has produced more All-Stars than any other Donegal club with Karl Lacey, Paul Durkan and Joyce McMullan all claiming the prestigious title of "All-Star" but before them all came Donal Monaghan.

Donal played county Minor in 1964/65 and U21 in 1968 and in between made his Senior debut for Donegal v Fermanagh in 1967. A stylish corner-back known for his wavy blond hair, Donal was an integral part of the great Donegal teams that lifted our first ever Senior Provincial titles in 1972 and 1974. He was named as an All-Star replacement in 1973 but his Man of the Match performance in the 1974 Ulster Final win over Down saw him rewarded with his own All-Star award and a trip to San Francisco and New York as corner-back. He also represented Ulster in the Railway Cup between 1973-1975.

Donal retired from the inter-county scene in 1978 and set his sights on bringing a Senior championship title to Four Masters. He managed the club's U21 side to success in 1979 and then the Senior team claimed the Co. Div. 2 league in 1981 before finally realising their ambition of lifting the Dr. Maguire Cup in 1982 when victory over Kilcar brought home the coveted title and of course the team was captained by Donal Monaghan.

And so it was with great sadness on a cold, but dry January day that former team mates from club and county, colleagues and friends gathered at St. Patrick's Church as the flags at Tír Conaill Park flew at half-mast. Donegal Town came to a standstill to join Donal on his final journey as they remembered a great footballer, a father, a grandfather and friend.

To his wife Margaret and sons Don, Barry and Marcus and extended family we extend our deepest sympathies.

Ar dheis Dé go raibh a anam.

# Remembering Two Roscommon Legends

By Cathal Greene



*Pat English 4th from the left back row on the Donegal Select team which defeated Kerry at the opening of MacCumhaill Park, Ballybofey on Sunday 22nd of April, 1956.*

**Back Row from Left:** Sean Young (Derry), Paddy Carr, Jim Mc Keever (Derry), Pat English, Roddy Gribbin (Derry), Jim Cookie Boyle, Seamus Hoare and Joe Carroll.

**Front from Left:** Sean O'Donnell, Frankie Brennan, Sean Mc Cormack, Pearse Dawson, Jackie Mc Dermott, Frankie Donnelly (Tyrone) and Peadar McGeehin.

## Gerry O' Malley

The death in January last of Gerry O' Malley from Brideswell in South Roscommon was mourned by GAA followers everywhere. He was an outstanding Footballer and Hurler for his club, County and Province. Between 1947 and 1965 he represented Roscommon "as a great hearted - lion hearted warrior". He played Gaelic Football for Connacht for 13 consecutive years winning Railway Cup medals in 1951, '57 and '58. He won 3 Connacht championships with Roscommon in 1952, 1953 and in 1962. Roscommon reached the 1962 All Ireland Final and were beaten by Kerry. Gerry was badly injured in that match and had to be substituted. He spent some time in hospital to recover from his injuries. The elusive All Ireland Senior Football medal

never came his way but an All-Ireland Junior Hurling medal was won by Roscommon in 1965. He won Roscommon Senior County medals with St. Patrick's Knockcroghery in 1948, 1949 and with the new club St. Brigid's (his own parish) in 1953, 1958, 1959 and 1963. He won 6 County Hurling titles with Four Roads. Gerry O'Malley, a Connacht Railway Cup player in hurling and football and 8 consecutive times on the Ireland selection in their Annual matches against the Combined Universities.

## Pat English

When Roscommon won the Connacht championship in 1952, Pat English like Gerry O' Malley was a member of that victorious team. Pat English was born in Knockcroghery and

educated at Roscommon CBS. Pat English went on to win another Connacht championship in 1953. Roscommon were beaten by Meath in the All Ireland Semi-final in 1952 and by Armagh in 1953. In 1953 he played full back for Connacht. They defeated Munster in the semi-final only to lose to Leinster in the final. Peadar McGeehin, St. Eunan's and Donegal player drove Pat and Packie McGarty of Leitrim to Kerry for the Railway Cup semi-final with Munster. Remembering that Mayo were All Ireland champions in 1950 and 1951, Pat English believed that the Roscommon victory in 1952 was his most memorable game. He won 2 Senior County Championship medals in Roscommon with St. Patrick's in 1945 and 1946. Prior to playing in those two finals with Roscommon, he helped Donegal to win the Dr. Lagan Cup in 1951 while working as a member of An Garda Síochána. Pat English as a member of An Garda Síochána worked in Kerrykeel, Milford and Letterkenny. He won a County Junior Championship medal with Downings, Co Donegal in 1948. He also played championship football for Donegal in 1951. They were beaten by Antrim in Belfast.

The Donegal team that day was: M. Mellett; J. Mc Mullan, P. English, H.T. Boyle; S. Kane,

Jim Gallagher, P. Mc Geehin; M.J. Gallagher, F. Brennan; C. Mc Cauley, P. Brogan, A. Rodgers; S. Mc Gettrick, T. Wickham, D. Curran.

At Club level in Donegal he played with St. Eunan's in Letterkenny. He was a member of St. Eunan's teams that were defeated in the County finals in 1951, 1952 and 1955.

Pat was regarded as an outstanding full back for Club and County in Roscommon and for Club and County in Donegal.

His grandson Mark is a World class 800m runner winning bronze and silver medals in the European championship 2014 and 2015 and he will represent Ireland at the Olympic Games in Rio this year. Another grandson Kieran Sharkey has won 5 senior County championship medals with St. Eunan's. Other grandchildren Kevin, Laura, Maria and John Kealy are to the fore in Football, Hurling and Camogie with St Eunan's, with Kevin winning a County Minor Football medal and a county U21 Hurling medal in 2015 and Laura and Maria winning a County U14 Camogie medal. Kevin and Laura represent their county at underage Hurling and Camogie.

Let us remember Gerry O' Malley and Pat English on this day involving Roscommon and Donegal.

Ar dheis Dé go raibh a n-anamacha.



*The Roscommon Team beaten by Armagh in the All-Ireland Semi-final in 1953. Pat English is pictured 8th from the left in the back row and Gerry O' Malley is pictured 6th from the left in the front row.*



# Century Cinemas / St. Eunan's U10 Football Academy Launches for 2016



The Century Cinemas Sunday Morning Football Academy in partnership with St. Eunan's GAA Club is up and running for the 2016 season. The initial weeks of the Academy will take place indoors at Aura Leisure Centre before moving outdoors in early April. The Academy has been running for almost twenty years and this has coincided with the most successful, sustained period of success for the St. Eunan's club. The Academy is open to all boys and girls in Letterkenny who want to play Gaelic Games. The club has continually invested in training coaches over the years and they will train the children in the fundamentals (A, B, C's - Agility, Balance, Co-ordination) in a safe and fun environment. All coaches are Garda vetted and have a minimum of Foundation Coaching Award completed. Club PRO Paul McGovern commented "Our Academies have been the foundation for the success we have enjoyed at all levels over the last decade or more both at underage and senior level across Football, Hurling and Camogie. New players are always welcome at both of our academies and we would encourage children to bring a friend to try out our games. We are delighted to be partnered with Mark Doherty and Century Cinemas as we continue to bring our national games to the boys and girls of Letterkenny Town".

Mark Doherty of Century Cinemas continued "The St. Eunan's club does fantastic work for the children of our



town in providing sport as an outlet. We share many common ideas on how we approach what we do here at Century Cinemas with St. Eunan's, such as our dedication to providing our patrons with the best facilities available and by having highly trained staff to make their experience more enjoyable. Because of this we are delighted to lend our name to the Century Cinemas St. Eunan's GAA Club Sunday Morning Football Academy."

The times and dates are as follows: For boys and girls born in 2008 and after between 10am and 11am and for boys and girls born in 2006 & 2007 11am until 12 noon. The Academy will run Indoors until Sunday, March 20th before taking a one-week break for Easter Sunday (March 27th) and it will return outdoors at O'Donnell Park on Sunday, April 3rd at 11am for all ages from U6's up to U10's.

Our Friday Evening Hurling & Camogie Academy will return outdoors on Friday, April 1st at 6:30pm.

## 2015 Minor Board Roll of Honour

- U12 Boys Go Games Football – Northern Board & County Winners
- U12 Girls Go Games Football – Regional Blitz Winners
- U13 Boys Football – Northern Board & County A Championship runners-Up
- U13 Girls Football – County B Championship Winners
- U14 Boys Football – All-Ireland Féile Div. 2; Northern Board & County League & Championship Winners.
- U14 Hurling – All-Ireland Féile Div. 4 Shield; County League & Championship Winners
- U14 Girls Football – All-Ireland Féile Div. 2 semi-finalists; County A Championship Runner-Up.
- U14 Camogie – County A Championship Winners; All-Ireland Féile Div. 6 Shield Winners
- U16 Boys Football – County A Championship Winners
- U16 Hurling – County A Championship Runner-Up
- U18 Boys Football – County A Championship Winners; Ulster Club Runner-Up
- U18 Girls Football – County C Championship Winners

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# Roscommon must hone in on their strengths

Michael O'Brien, Roscommon Herald



Another long grip, but one Roscommon will once again relish as they face a physical Donegal team in the fifth round of the Allianz National Football League Division One on Sunday. Throw-in at Letterkenny is 3p.m.

While Roscommon have beaten big guns in the form of Kerry and Cork, given the stage of the league that they're meeting Donegal at, the ante has been raised. Donegal have three wins but they're wounded in more ways than one following their five-point loss against Kerry in Tralee on Sunday last.

With the likes of Fintan Cregg and Ciarán Murtagh the template for Roscommon football at the moment - players at the top of their game who have developed at this level at a remarkable rate - confidence won't be an issue, nor will the team fear their opponents. The latter is always taken for granted, but along with many aspects of their play, Roscommon have also made huge strides mentally.

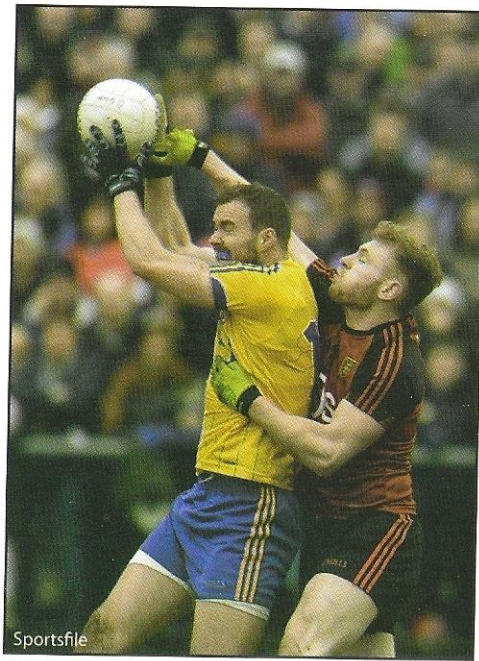
It will also be another big test for Roscommon at midfield where Donegal have Rory Kavanagh, Hugh McFadden and Neil Gallagher to call on. Odhran MacNiallais will look to dictate play from centre-forward with Ryan McHugh storming forward from wing-back.

Sunday's game presents Roscommon with a different obstacle to that of Down. The result against Down was a welcome one, but the least significant of the wins to date in terms of opposition.

Donegal's half-forward line is unorthodox, with no noted scorer. In 50/50 scraps, Donegal are extremely strong. Roscommon will be looking to keep it open. The faster the ball is moved, the less chance Neil McGee, Paddy McGrath and company have of holding up their markers.

While both teams should be safe, the reality is that the winner will be in prime position to qualify for the knockout stages. That's the carrot being dangled in front of both sides. Donegal's discipline will be monitored closely. Roscommon will aim to concentrate on their own strengths.

VERDICT: A DRAW



# Hall of Fame - 20 years on

By Sean Boyle



In 1996 the then chairman of our club Naomh Adhamháin, Mr. Michael Gibbons, asked me to explore the idea of initiating a club "Hall of Fame" Annual Award. After some intensive researching, we realised that there were many club players/members who had distinguished careers at club and county level that we never knew about. With the experience of having been County PRO for 12 years, a collector of past records and a big interest in our G.A.A. history, Michael bestowed on me the honour of drawing up the criteria and conditions for selecting our greats to be inducted annually into our clubs, by now famous, "Hall of Fame". Fittingly by the end of this year 2016, our Hall of Fame will "become of age" having reached 21 years since its inauguration way back in 1996. In these intervening 20 years this award has grown in popularity and is now one of the most prestigious awards in the club's calendar. The first great past player to be honoured with induction into the Hall of Fame in 1996 was Sean Curran. The other famous players to be inducted over the years (not necessary in exact sequence but very close) are Harry Blake; Peadar Mc Geehin R.I.P.; John Hannigan R.I.P.; Seamus Hoare; Sean Ferritter; Jim (Tune) Mc Glynn RIP; Fionn Gallagher; Joe (Dodo) Winston; James (Gouldie) McGettigan; Anthony Gallagher; Pauric Dawson; Seamus McCann RIP; James Gallagher RIP; Con Halpin and Damien Judge.

Two club members who didn't quite meet the conditions and criteria from a playing standpoint to be inducted into the Hall of Fame, but who have given a lifetime of outstanding and dedicated service to club and GAA - Barney McMonagle and Connie Maguire, were awarded with a similar honour by being given the "Lifetime Dedication Roll of Honour" award. Anthony Gallagher and James Gallagher R.I.P. are the only brothers to be honoured with induction into the Hall

of Fame and interestingly another brother Paddy, meets all the criteria and conditions for induction, but unfortunately spent some years in his prime in New Zealand that greatly limited his inter-county appearances. Anthony and James also appeared on the starting 15 of the first Donegal team to claim the Ulster title in 1966, James played at right corner forward and Anthony played at right half-forward. Donegal were then beaten by Roscommon in the All-Ireland semi-final by the exceptionally low score of 2-2 to 0-5. James, Anthony and Paddy's mother came from Roscommon. Donegal won their first ever All-Ireland title 16 years later by beating Roscommon in the All-Ireland final of 1982 by again an exceptionally low score of 0-8 to 0-5 in Carrick-on-Shannon. Three St. Eunan's players were on the starting 15 that day, Charlie Mulgrew, Paul Carr and Eunan MacIntyre with Charlie and Paul also members of the first Donegal squad to lift Sam in 1992. Eunan emigrated to the USA for a number of years and that greatly curtailed his inter-county career, no doubt all 3 will eventually join the "Hall".

Sadly, there are many great players/members who had passed away before the birth of our Hall of Fame that certainly would have been inducted. Hopefully in the not too distant future we will find a method or way to honour all these members with induction, perhaps all at the same time at an annual function. What about the future of this prestigious award? Cannot see any problem as we are so fortunate to have an abundance of great younger players (perhaps only young in my auld eyes) that meet all the criteria and conditions. Without having to dwell into records or spend time, I can name as many as will adorn our Hall of Fame over the next 20 years. The other certainty, is that I will not be around to present the next 20 club "Hall of Fame" Annual Awards.

# Letterkenny Rovers GAA Success



by Kieran Kelly



On the 18th September 1905, a Gaelic club was established in Letterkenny for the first time following a meeting in the Literary Institute. Bishop Patrick O'Donnell was chosen as patron of this "Lámh Dearg" club while Patrick Sweeney was made captain and James McMonagle vice-captain. By 1911, two new clubs had replaced Lámh Dearg, "Tirconail" and "Faugh A Ballagh" and by 1913, there was even a "Robert Emmet GFC" representing Letterkenny. Silverware success had eluded each of these clubs, however, and over time they each faded away.

By 1924, two new GAA clubs had been formed in the town, the Geraldines and Letterkenny Rovers, both sharing a pitch at Ballymacool known locally as the Burn

Field, located approximately where the Aura Leisure Centre is today. Success came for the Geraldines in 1926 when they won the Dr. McGinley Cup (the League title) without defeat while Letterkenny Rovers had to wait a little longer for their silverware, being defeated in the Championship Final by Ardara, 5 points to 2. They did not have long to wait though, as the following season saw them win the County Championship for the first time ever for a Letterkenny club.

Run on a league format in the Spring of 1927, on 4th March in Newtowncunningham with a crowd of over 300 watching, victory against Carrigans assured them of the title with a scoreline of 1-5 to 0-3. The Rovers team consisted of Patrick Doherty (capt.),

Michael Peoples, John Harvey, William O'Donnell, John McManus, Anthony Gallagher, Frank Larkin, Jack Doherty, William Strain, William Roarty, Hugh McGlynn, Patsy Sweeney, Phil Doherty and John Larkin.

However, only a few months after this Championship success, due to the majority of their team being decimated by emigration, the club merged with the Geraldines to form St. Eunan's GAA Club in August 1927. This club was in existence for only a short time though, playing 15 matches, and broke up in June 1928. Two years later, a meeting was held in the Literary Institute to reform and take on all debts of the old club and the current St. Eunan's GAA Club was born. The first match for this new club took place on 2nd March 1930 on the grounds of St. Conal's Hospital, almost three years to the day of the Championship success of Letterkenny Rovers. Fittingly, former Rovers star Anthony Gallagher from Sallaghgraine was chosen as captain.

In October 1927, only a few months after the break-up of the GAA club, the first record of Letterkenny Rovers (Association) Football Club can be found, beating Ballyshannon 5-1 in Ballymacool, and even though it was not until 1957 that the current soccer club had its origins, Letterkenny Rovers will always be remembered fondly as the first club from the town to win the GAA County Championship.

*Kieran Kelly is the author of "Letterkenny: Where the Winding Swilly Flows" and founder of the Letterkenny Historical Society. He can be contacted at windingswilly@gmail.com or through the 'Letterkenny History' Facebook Page*



## League Tables



Allianz Football League Roinn 1								
POS	TEAM	P	W	L	D	F	A	POINTS
1	Dublin	4	4	0	0	66	53	8
2	Donegal	4	3	0	0	61	32	6
3	Roscommon	4	3	1	0	78	54	6
4	Monaghan	4	2	1	0	45	40	4
5	Kerry	4	1	2	0	49	40	4
6	Cork	4	1	3	0	66	89	2
7	Mayo	4	0	3	0	34	47	2
8	Down	4	0	4	0	30	74	0

Allianz Hurling League Roinn 2B								
POS	TEAM	P	W	L	D	F	A	POINTS
1	Mayo	3	3	0	0	56	44	6
2	Meath	3	2	1	0	78	41	4
3	Down	3	2	1	0	62	51	4
4	Armagh	3	2	1	0	63	54	4
5	Wicklow	3	0	3	0	45	69	0
6	Donegal	3	0	3	0	33	78	0

POS Position P Played W Won L Lost D Drawn F For A Against

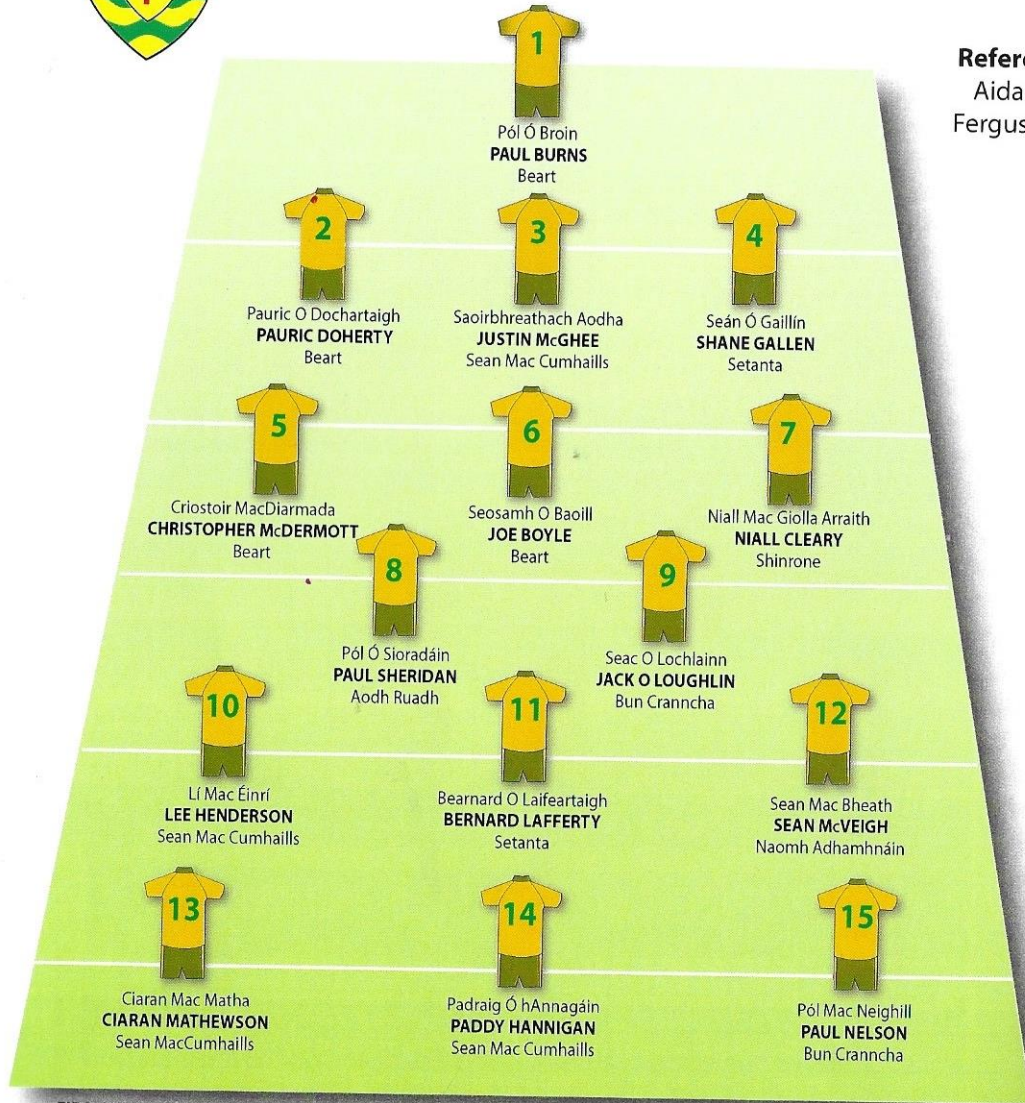


# Donegal Dún na nGall

Manager: Ardal McDermott

O'Donnell Park,  
Letterkenny  
1.15pm

Referee:  
Aidan  
Ferguson



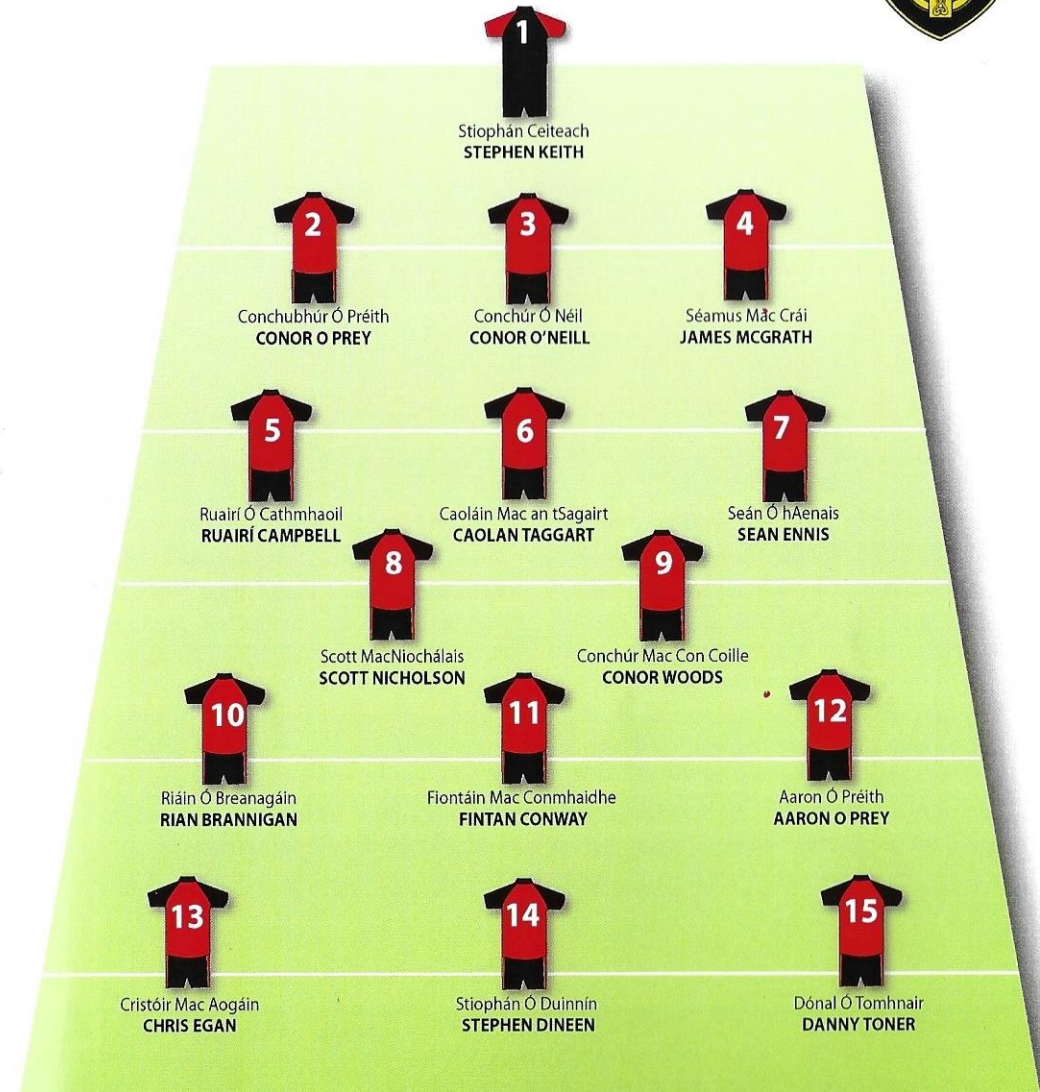
### FIR IONAD

16 (GK). **DYLAN LAFFERTY**, Diolún Ó Laifeartaigh, Sean Mac Cumhailis. 17. **DARA GRANT**, Dáire Grant, Beart. 18. **SAM DOHERTY**, Somhairle Ó Dochartaigh, Bun Cranncha. 19. **MARK CALLAGHAN**, Marcas Ó Ceallacháin, Setanta. 20. **GAVIN BROWN**, Gaibhín de Brún, Sean Mac Cumhailis. 21. **COLM FLOOD**, Coilm Ó Maoltaíle, Naomh Adhamhnáin. 22. **JAMESIE DONNELLY**, Séamus Donnghaile, Sean Mac Cumhailis. 23. **CONOR O GRADY**, Concobhar Gradaigh, Naomh Adhamhnáin. 24. **SEAN CURRAN**, Sean Ó Corrain, Sean Mac Cumhailis. 25. **DANNY CULLEN**, Donail Ó Cúillin, Setanta. 26. **KEVIN CAMPBELL**, Caoimhín Ó Cathmóil, Setanta. **CAPTAIN: DANNY CULLEN**  
Bainisteoir: **ARDAL McDERMOTT**; Maor Fóirne: **ADIE GAFFNEY**; Roghnóir (1): **EUNAN O DONNELL**; Roghnóir (2): **SEAN MURPHY**;  
Medic: **COLM O NEILL**, **FRANK FOGARTY**; Kit Man: **ANTONY COYLE**;  
Maor Uisce/Camán: **ANTONY COYLE**, **EUNAN O DONNELL**, **ADIE GAFFNEY**; Cathaoirleach Contae: **FRANKIE DOHERTY**  
**Dathanna:** Glas agus Oir

Dún na nGall  
v  
An Dún

# Down An Dún

Manager: Micheál Mac Seáin

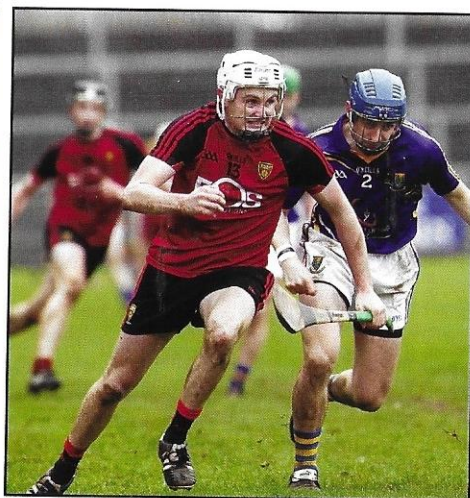
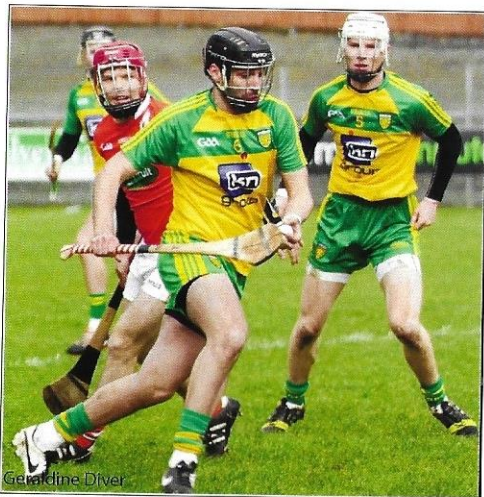


### FIR IONAD

16. **GARY McMULLEN**, Garaidh Mac Maoláin. 17. **DONAL HUGHES**, Dónal Ó hAodha. 18. **PAUL SHEEHAN**, Pól Ó Síocháin. 19. **MATT CONLON**, Maitiú Ó Conláin. 20. **PADRAIG FLYNN**, Pádraig Mac Floinn. 21. **CONOR CASSIDY**, Conchubhúr Ó Cassaíde. 22. **BROOK BYERS**, Brook a' Bhóthaigh. 23. **BRETT NICHOLSON**, Brett Mac Níochálais. 24. **OISÍN MCMANUS**, Oisín Mac Mánaís. 25. **JOHN O KANE**, Seán Ó Cathain. 26. **JAMES LAVERY**, Séamus Ó Labharaidh  
**BAINISTEoir:** MICHEÁL MAC SEÁIN  
**DATH:** Dubh agus Dearg

# Donegal v Down – A New rivalry

By Paddy Flood



It would probably be an exaggeration to say that Donegal and Down have an extensive hurling history together. For many years, the two counties operated at different levels of the sport. While Down have always competed at the elite level of Ulster hurling, winning Ulster titles and frequently mixing with the giants of the game, Donegal traditionally played in the lower reaches of league and championship.

The odd meeting did occur over the years, such as 1997, when recently relegated Down defeated promoted Donegal 5-18 to 0-11 in Division 3 of the NHL in Ballyshannon. The two counties parted ways in hurling again for over a decade. Since 2011, however, Donegal v Down has become a more regular fixture at all grades, largely due to huge improvements in Donegal hurling. At senior level, following breakthrough successes in the Lory Meagher (2011) and

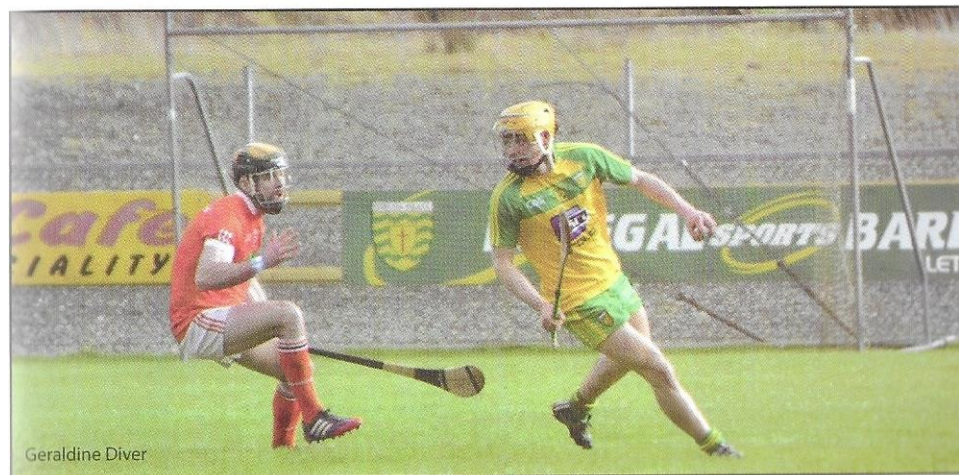
Nicky Rackard (2013) Cups, Donegal has played Down a number of times in the Ulster Championship, including a close affair in 2011 in today's venue O'Donnell Park, where only a late rally by the Mourne men prevented a major shock. Indeed, on the same day in Croke Park in 2013 when Donegal achieved its greatest win in hurling by overcoming Roscommon in a high scoring classic to win the Nicky Rackard Cup, Down experienced a similar high by defeating Kerry in another thriller to take the Christy Ring Cup after two earlier final losses. This win left Down on the verge of playing at the highest level in the Liam McCarthy Cup. At underage level, Donegal county board made a long term decision to play at the elite level in Ulster, with the aim of producing young players capable of playing top class hurling. As a result, young Donegal and Down players have become used to seeing each other's jerseys on the playing field. When a

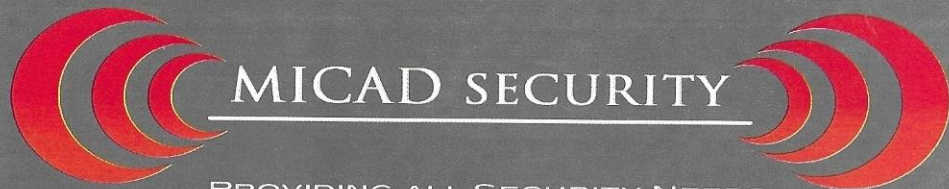
talented Down team finally broke Antrim's decade long stranglehold on the Ulster Minor Hurling Championship in 2012, it beat Donegal on the way. Both senior sides today feature players from those teams.

Down seniors lost the 2015 Ulster Hurling Championship final to Antrim by the narrowest of margins and they aim to move back up to the upper echelons of the league. Today's home team are relatively new to this grade of hurling and hope to gain from the experience of continuing to play in Division 2. After two wins over Armagh and Wicklow, Down suffered a surprise defeat to Mayo last Sunday. They lie joint second the table and are set on promotion. An interesting feature of the away team today is the inclusion of a number of players from outside the traditional strongholds on the Ards peninsula. Down hurling, while still backboned by Portaferry, Ballycran and Ballygallget, is benefitting from the drive to strengthen the game in other parts of the county. Following promotion from Division 3 in 2014, Donegal under Ray Durack did well to survive in this section last season. Staying in Division 2 of the AHL is seen as critical to the development

of local hurling, providing a platform for future progress at club and county level. Three defeats in the league so far have left Donegal facing a relegation battle.

The visitors beat Donegal in the corresponding league fixture last year by 4-17 to 2-9 and are favourites for today's encounter. Nevertheless, new manager Ardal McDermott's men expect that a good display can produce a result at home. Experienced campaigners such as Joe Boyle, Lee Henderson and Seán McVeigh can lead the way, while younger players like Shane Gallen and Jack O'Loughlin have produced fine performances in recent matches. Donegal also feature ten members of last year's All Ireland Under 21C champions in this year's senior panel, including captain Dylan Laverty. The hosts' campaign has been disrupted by injuries to key players such as Ronan McDermott and much will depend on the availability of Danny Cullen, who has missed out so far this year due to injury. Down manager Michael Johnston will expect that form players such as Danny Toner and Conor Woods, along with fellow Christy Ring winners Stephen Keith and Donal Hughes, will help his team keep up its push for promotion.





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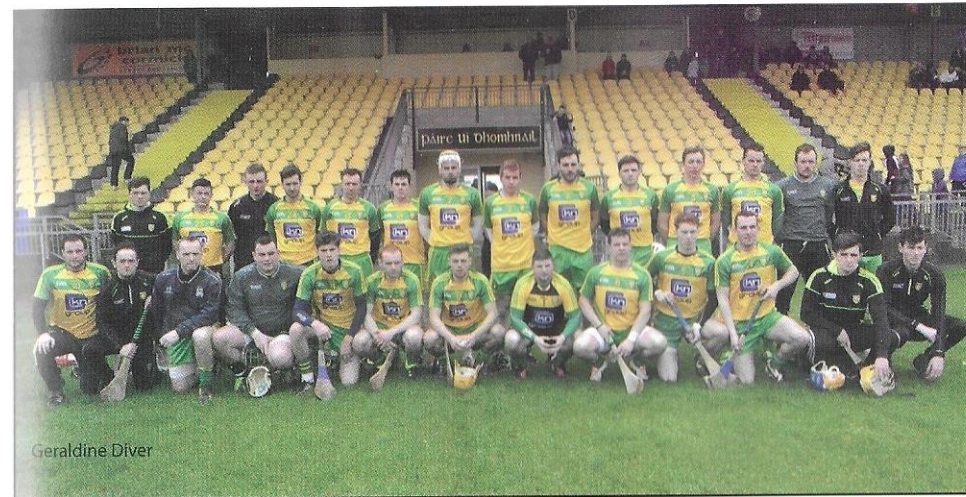
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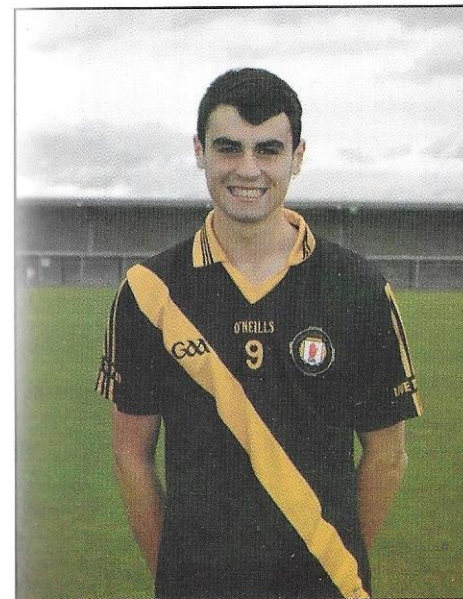
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(Peter Cutliffe, Peace Commissioner & Commissioner for Oaths)

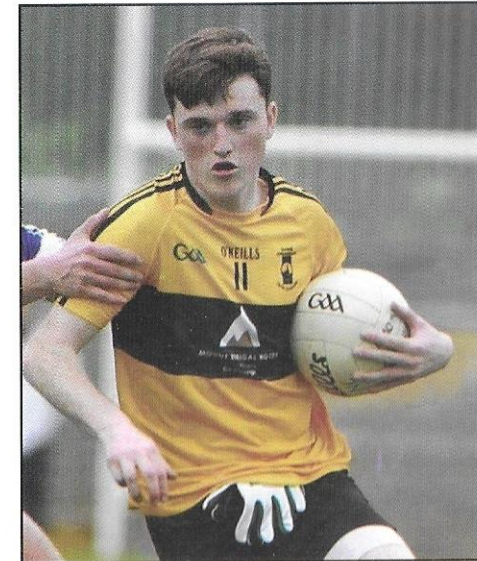
*Wishing the Donegal Footballers & Hurlers All the Best on Sunday*



Geraldine Diver



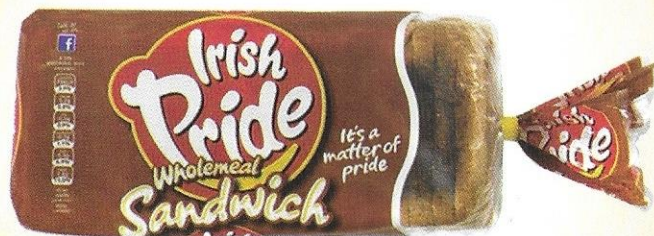
Ryan Hilferty, St. Eunan's was selected for the Ulster U16 Hurling Panel in 2015 for games v the Galway U17 Hurling panel.



Niall O'Donnell who was recently voted Player of the Ulster Minor Football tournament at the Ulster Minor Football tournament at St. Paul's in Belfast. Niall plays football and hurling for St. Eunan's and won a Co. Minor Football Championship and Co. U21 Hurling medal in 2015.

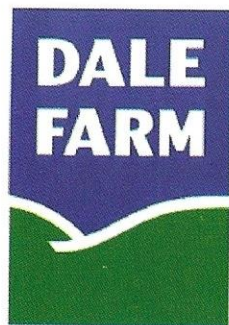
# Shaun Holian Bread Agent

.... *It's a Matter of Pride*



*Best of luck to the Donegal Footballers & Hurlers*

**Contact Shaun: 087 915 3455**



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# Seán McVeigh – A Balancing Act



THE DUAL-PLAYER in Gaelic Games is something of a dying breed.

With the demands of training for and playing in both codes separately going into orbit, that's a trend that looks acutely likely to continue. And in Donegal, there's some who don't play football and even more not involved in hurling - so nobody does both at inter-county level.

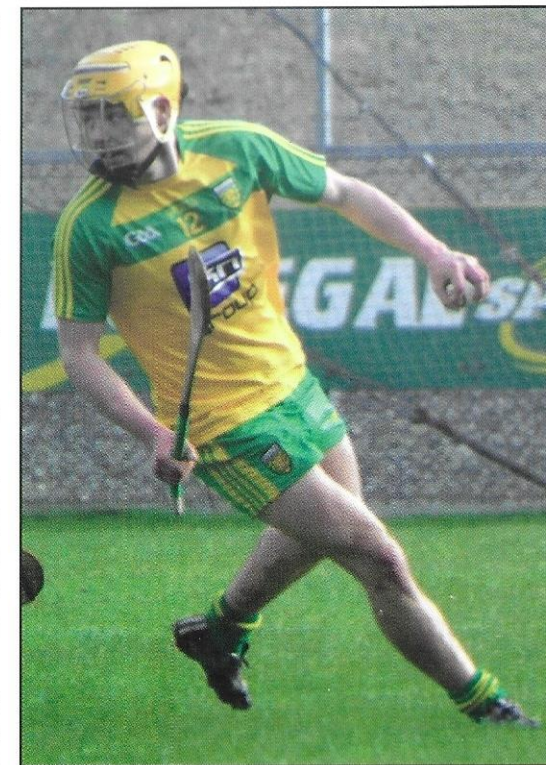
Seán McVeigh is as close as you can get.

He's an intricate part of Ardal McDermott's county panel and will this afternoon be part of the team that takes on Down in the Allianz Hurling League Division 2 here in Letterkenny.

O'Donnell Park is a place where McVeigh hurls for the St Eunan's club, providing the foundation for the 2011 Lory Meagher success with Donegal that was supplemented with victory in the Nicky Rackard Cup two years later.

This year, St Eunan's have won the County Under-21 championship for the first time with McVeigh part of Paddy Flood's management team as they continue their pursuit of upsetting the established order of Setanta and, in particular, Burt.

Only last month, in the semi-final of the Corn Padraig MacDiarmada - the Independent.ie HEHurling Championship



Division 3 All-Ireland - the 26-year-old McVeigh scored an almighty 3-6 in the 4-7 to 3-6 win over University of Ulster Magee here at O'Donnell Park, whilst in the colours of Letterkenny Institute of Technology.

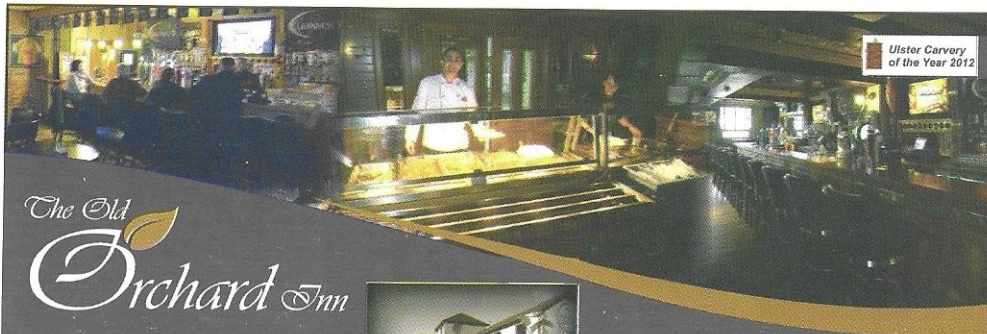
It meant a first ever Fitzgibbon Cup weekend for the third-level institute based on the Port Road. At Cork Institute of Technology, Paddy Lennon's team - with McVeigh chipping in with nine points - took the trophy home courtesy of a 1-11 to 2-6 win over Robert Gordon University - the British champions from



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and in the year ahead.**

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Aberdeen.

"College hurling is a bit of craic but we put in a good shift this year," McVeigh says. "We've been a team who had a great spread of scorers all year. It's enjoyable."

And for a youngster who, by his own admission, hadn't seen a football match until he hit the double-digits, McVeigh is a three-time Donegal SFC winner with St Eunan's.

Perhaps the reason hurling is his first love is because McVeigh was brought up in Ballycastle - a well-known hurling enclave in north Antrim that looks out to Rathlin Island and on a very clear day, Scotland.

There, as here, his club colours were black and amber. The family moved to Letterkenny when McVeigh was 10. Then came football. Football and hurling.

The life of a dual player can be a busy one.

"At times it can be very hard to go and motivate yourself to go and train," McVeigh adds. "You might have weeks where you have something every day of the week. And you're just wrecked and not able to put your best foot forward at each session."

"It's probably something that should be looked at because there are some really good dual players in Donegal coming through. Those players are probably not getting a chance to develop either code properly with the demands put on them.

"Like the O'Donnell's - Conor, Niall and Shane - here at St Eunan's are serious operators in each code. You'd hate for them to be lost to concentrate on one code. I'm not saying anyone is stopping players from playing both codes, but there are demands and less of them would help players play both if that's what they enjoy."

McVeigh - a fourth year student of Sports Coaching and Performance - admits the way the calendar falls on his own situation makes it manageable.

"I'm fortunate as with the county hurling season, it's really only going to go to June," he adds. "The football is only really kicking in then after that. I'm lucky too in the fact that my managers at St Eunan's and Ardal McDermott - the Donegal hurling manager - are all very accommodating. I enjoy both but hurling is No. 1 for me."

**Quiz on page 13**

**ANSWERS:** **1** Laois; **2** Mickey Freyne, corner forward, 1972; **3** Martin McElhinney; **4** Gary Wrynn; **5** Des Newton; **6** Des Newton and John 'Jigger' O'Connor; **7** the McConville's, Jim and Oisín with Crossmaglen Rangers and the McGovern's, Tommy and Vincent with Burren; **8** Sean Quigley, Fermanagh, 4-49; **9** 1943 and 1944; **10** Rory Gallagher (Donegal manager) with 3-9 against Monaghan in 2002; **11** Declan O'Sullivan of Kerry, 2006 and 2007; **12** Kilkenny; his name is Jack Gargan and he won medals in 1907 1909 1911 1912 and 1913; **13** Shane Ward (former Aodh Ruadh player); **14** St. Joseph's, 1975; **15** Peter Canavan with six; **16** The late Donal Keenan (who won All-Ireland medals in '43 and '44); **17** Jack McCaffrey, Dublin; **18** Drumgoon, Cavan; **19** St. Gall's, 2010; **20** Ballymun Kickhams.



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to or from O'Donnell Park*

## Down Hurlers hoping to Bounce Back

By Steve Malone



DOWN hurlers will hope to bounce back from last weeks to defeat to Mayo with a win against bottom of the table Donegal today.

The Mourne hurlers put in a solid performance against Mayo but John McManus' first half sending off, made life much more difficult, although they won almost all individual battles in the second half.

Down expect a tough battle against Donegal, who will be confident of pulling off an upset and grabbing their first win of the season, despite being on the end of a drubbing by Meath last week.

So Down manager Michael Johnson will expect a reaction from Donegal, especially on their home turf, but the Down boss also knows that a win today will put the Mourne men in the driving seat for the Division 2B final, which makes today's encounter a must-win.

Danny Toner, Caolan Bailie and Donal Hughes will be expected to carry much of Down's attacking threat, while Conor Woods and Scott Nicholson form a formidable midfield partnership.

James McGrath and Conor O'Prey are quick on their feet and strong in the tackle while Michael McCullough must be giving Johnston to think about after his impressive substitute appearance against Mayo.

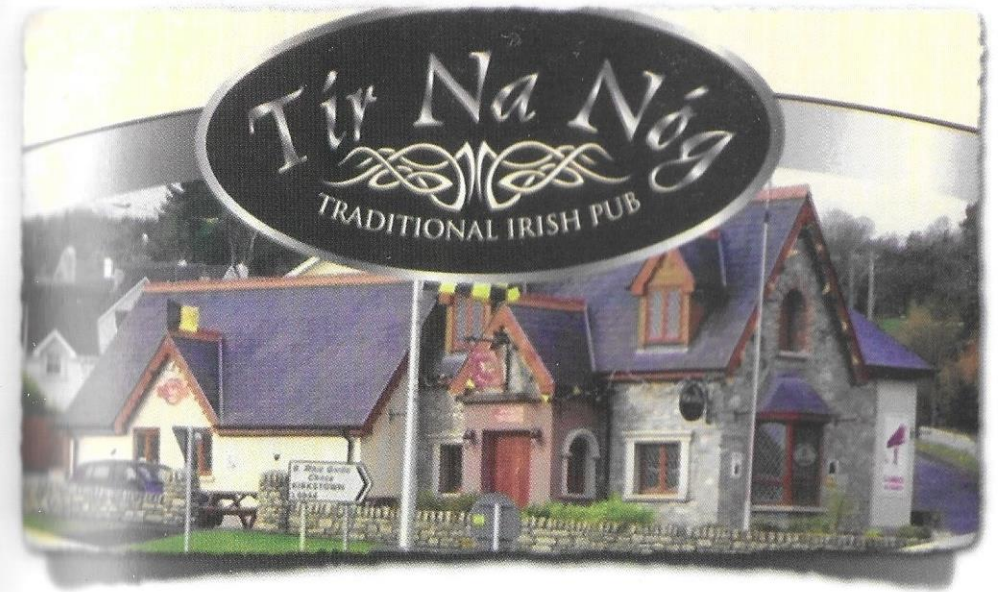


Expect a tough physical contest today but if Woods and Fintan Conway are on scoring form then Down could pull away with a handsome winning margin.

# GROUND REGULATIONS for O'Donnell Park



1. All persons entering O'Donnell Park, Letterkenny are admitted only subject to the following Ground Regulations and to the Rules and Regulations of the Gaelic Athletic Association. Entry to the ground shall be deemed to constitute unqualified acceptance of all these Rules and Regulations. Any person who fails to comply with these Ground Regulations may be refused entry or removed from the ground.
2. Fireworks, smoke canisters, gas-horns, bottles, glasses, cans, flags, banners, poles and other similar articles or containers, including anything, which may be used as a weapon, are not permitted within the stadium.
3. The consumption of alcohol is not permitted within the ground and spectators are not permitted to bring alcohol into the stadium.
4. The unauthorized climbing of any structure, walls or buildings in the ground is strictly forbidden.
5. Unnecessary noise such as that from the use of radio sets, gas-horns 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 object onto the pitch.
7. Unauthorized persons are not permitted to enter upon the field of play at any time before, during or after the games.
8. The Ground Management reserve the right to refuse admission or to eject any person who refuses to be searched where such a search is deemed necessary.
9. A person may not obstruct a gangway, stairwell or circulation area at any time. Standing is not permitted for Health and Safety reasons at the back of the Stand.
10. All persons entering or in the ground are reminded of their obligation to ensure that their behaviour does not present a danger from fire or other occurrence to anyone using the premises.
11. Smoking is not permitted in the Main Stand. Smoking Areas are located at the back of the Stand.
12. The Ground Management reserve the right for its servants or agents to remove from the ground any person who does not comply with the Ground Regulations or whose presence in the ground could reasonably be construed as constituting a source of danger, nuisance or annoyance to other spectators.
13. All spectators are asked to follow the instructions of Stewards at all times.



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Burdoran women to feature in Bressie's health series Page 3, Banks, Donegal Town Page 18

Kearney and Burdoran ready for Glenay challenges at 100

## GARDAÍ UNCOVERED STUN GUN A CROSSBOW DRUGS SE

**A** Gardaí have uncovered a stun gun and a crossbow in a car in the north of the county. The car was found in a field near the town of Belleek. The Gardaí were alerted to the car by a local resident who reported seeing a suspicious vehicle. The car was found to contain a stun gun and a crossbow, along with other items. The Gardaí are currently investigating the case and have not yet identified any suspects.

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Carn scouts celebrate 40 years

Pages 72, 73 and 84



Election Special

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## Breaking point

**One 24/7 ambulance not enough to cover Inishowen**

Anthony Gillman

A COUNTY councillor has claimed the one 24/7 ambulance service in Inishowen is struggling to cope with the demand for emergency services. The councillor, Anthony Gillman, said that the service is often overwhelmed, particularly during winter months. He called for more ambulances to be based in the area to ensure that emergency services can be provided in a timely manner. The Health Service Executive (HSE) has responded to the councillor's concerns, stating that the current service is the best possible given the resources available.

## A cut above

**Industry expanding their operations to the Inishowen region**

Industry is expanding their operations to the Inishowen region, with several new businesses opening in the area. The expansion is seen as a positive sign for the local economy, which has been struggling in recent years. The new businesses include a restaurant, a cafe, and a retail store. The local council has welcomed the expansion and hopes that it will create jobs and boost the local economy. The businesses are expected to start trading in the next few weeks.



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