



FOOTBALL
ALL-IRELAND SENIOR
CHAMPIONSHIP



GAA FOOTBALL
All-Ireland Senior
CHAMPIONSHIP
Quarter-Final Group Stage

ROS COMÁIN
v
TÍR EOGHAIN

Group 2
Phase 1

ÁTH CLIATH
v
DÚN NA nGALL

CLÁR OIFIGIÚIL LUACH €5
Páirc an Chrócaigh, Iúil 14 2018

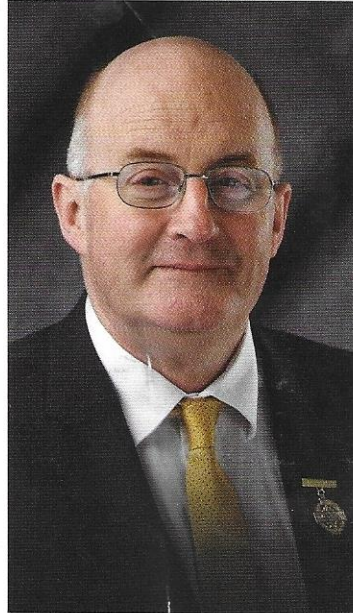
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It gives me great pleasure to welcome you all here for today's GAA Football All-Ireland Senior Championship double-header in GAA headquarters.

Today is the beginning of a new format of the All-Ireland Football Championship quarter-finals and one which I hope will bring great excitement to all GAA supporters in attendance at our games and watching from afar.

The 2018 Championship summer has already given us so many highlights and there's a real buzz of excitement about what's to come in the next few weeks.

The meeting of Roscommon and Tyrone is one which promises

to be a hugely exciting game with both sides having very impressive wins last weekend. Bainisteoirí Mickey Harte and Kevin McStay have enjoyed great success in Croke Park in the past, so one can expect an extremely competitive match.

Our second game this evening sees two provincial winners go head-to-head as the Leinster champions face the Ulster champions. Supporters of both sides bring great colour and atmosphere to wherever their county is in action, while Dublin and Donegal have played out many epic battles in recent years. I expect another fascinating game once the ball is thrown-in at 7pm.

There are a lot of people who play an important part in the GAA Championship summer from supporters, to match officials, to grounds staff, to sponsors, to

media - but above all I want to salute our players who continue to be such outstanding ambassadors for our great games.

Finally I would like to thank you for your support of Gaelic games. Enjoy your visit to Croke Park and I hope you bring home some happy memories from these games.

Rath Dé an obair,

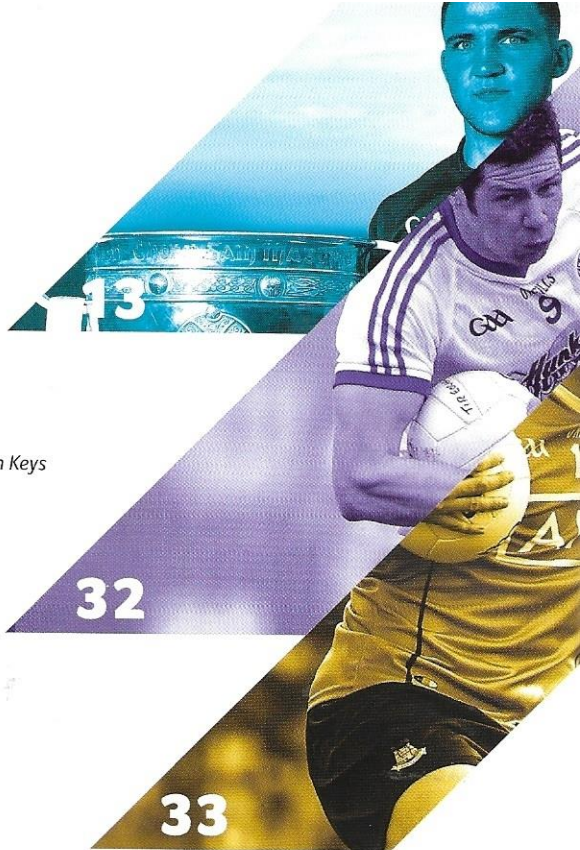
Seán Ó hÓráin

Seán Ó hÓráin
Uachtarán
Cumann Lúthchleas Gael



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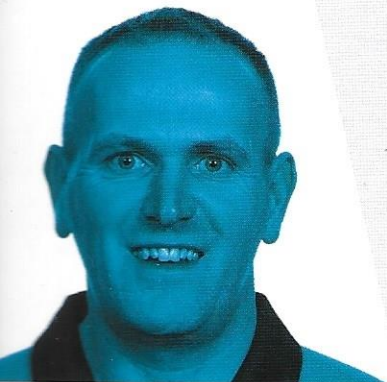
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DAVID GOUGH (AN MHÍ)

This will be the Slane clubman's fifth outing of the current campaign having already been on duty twice in the Ulster Championship (including the Donegal v Fermanagh final at Clones) and twice in the Qualifiers (Westmeath v Armagh at Mullingar and Kildare v Mayo at Newbridge). Both Roscommon and Tyrone featured on Gough's 2017 as he was assigned the Red Hand's quarter-final against Armagh and the Rossies' Connacht final encounter with Galway at Salthill. An intercounty panel member since 2013 Gough was last on duty at Croke Park in March for the AIB Club final between Corofin and Nemo Rangers.

AN RÉITEOIR



CONOR LANE (CORCAIGH)

The Banteer/Lyre clubman is on duty for the fifth time in the 2018 Senior Football Championship, the most recent of which was last weekend when he blew the whistle in Navan for Kildare and Fermanagh. Earlier matches to come under his jurisdiction were Mayo v Galway at Castlebar, Fermanagh v Monaghan at Omagh and the Carlow-Tyrone qualifier at Netwatch Cullen Park. The Rebel referee's last outing at Croke Park was at the end of January for the Dublin-Kildare Allianz League tie. The 41-year-old's last outing with Donegal was also in the league (2017) when they faced Cavan at Kingspan Breffni.

AN RÉITEOIR





CLÁR AN LAE

- 16.40 **ROS COMÁIN** amach ar an bpáirc
 16.42 **TÍR EOGHAIN** amach ar an bpáirc
 16.45 Oifigigh an chluiche amach ar an bpáirc
 16.50 Coin toss
 17.00 Tús an chluiche
 17.38* Leath-am
 RESPECT Exhibition Go Games
 17.53* Tús an dara leath
 18.35* Críoch an chluiche

- 18.40 **ÁTH CLIATH** amach ar an bpáirc
 18.42 **DÚN NA nGALL** amach ar an bpáirc
 18.45 Oifigigh an chluiche amach ar an bpáirc
 18.50 Coin toss
 18.58 Amhrán na bhFiann
 19.00 Tús an chluiche
 19.38* Leath-am
 RESPECT Exhibition Go Games
 19.53 Tús an dara leath
 20.35* Críoch an chluiche
 * depending on 'added time'

GAA Football All-Ireland Senior Championship Quarter-Final Group Stage Group 2 Phase 1

5.00 PM

In the event of a draw, both teams earn one point.

ROS COMÁIN v TÍR EOGHAIN

AN RÉITEOIR: David Gough (An Mhí)

LINESMEN: Derek O'Mahoney (Tiobraid Árann) (STANDBY REF),
 Noel Mooney (An Cabhán)

SIDELINE OFFICIAL: Liam Devenney (Maigh Eo)

UMPIRES: Stephen Gough, Eugene Gough, Terry Gough, Dean Gough

GAA Football All-Ireland Senior Championship Quarter-Final Group Stage Group 2 Phase 1

7.00 PM

In the event of a draw, both teams earn one point.

ÁTH CLIATH v DÚN NA nGALL

AN RÉITEOIR: Conor Lane (Corcaigh)

LINESMEN: Paddy Neilan (Ros Comáin) (STANDBY REF),
 Seán Hurson (Tír Eoghain)

SIDELINE OFFICIAL: James Birmingham (Corcaigh)

UMPIRES: John Joe Lane, Ray Hegarty, DJ O'Sullivan, Pat Kelly

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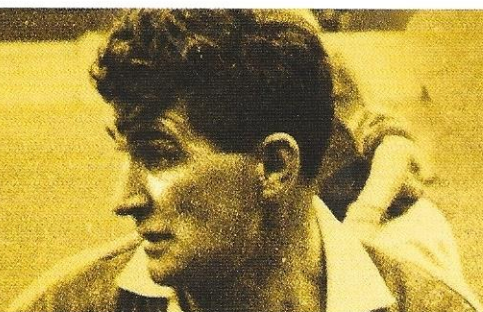
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Mick O'Dwyer, Ciarraí



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Taca an ama seo beagnach 50 bliain ó shin a thug an Cumann faoi athrú a bhí radacach go leor nuair a shocraigh an Chomhdháil Bhliantúil go mbeadh 80 nóiméad imeartha i mbabhtaí ceannais sinsearach na gcúigí, i gcluichí leathcheannais na hÉireann agus sna cluichí ceannais.

Uíbh Fhailí/An Cabhán/Cill Dara agus Loch Garman eatarthu a chuir an rún faoi bhráid na

dteachtaí, a bhí tagtha le chéile i gColáiste Muire i gCathair na Gaillimhe an chéad uair ag an gComhdháil a bheith ar bun lasmuigh de Bhaile Átha Cliath le 34 bliain.

John Dowling, a bhí le bheith mar Uachtarán ar CLG ina dhiaidh sin a mhol an rún agus mar is dual do CLG chuir fear eile a raibh an onóir sin le bheith aige – Con Murphy, ina choinne go láidir.

Nuair a tháinig an vótáil, ghlac na teachtaí leis le móramh láidir.

Ba i nGaillimh freisin a bhí an chéad chluiche peile a mhair 80 nóiméad, Cluiche Ceannais Chonnachta idir iadsan agus Ros Comáin a himríodh ar Pháirc an Phiarsaigh ar an 12 Iúil 1970 agus gála gaoithe ag séideadh isteach ó Oileáin Árann.

Scóráil Joe Mac Lochlainn as Maigh Cuilinn dhá chúl do Ghaillimh, John Keenan as an Dún Mór 0-7 i mbua na Gaillimhe 2-15, 0-8. Ba é Mel Flanagan a scóráil cúl Ros Comáin, fear a bhain clú amach ag plé le imirt an ghaillf agus dearadh cúrsaí ina

dhiaidh sin,

An Domhnach dar gcionn ar Pháirc an Chrócaigh mhair Cluiche Ceannais Laighin 80 nóiméad don chéad uair agus facthas scór gach dara nóiméad nuair a bhuaigh Contae na Mí ar Uíbh Fhailí 2-22, 5-12.

Ar an Domhnach an 26 Iúil 1970 a himríodh na babhtaí ceannais i gCúige Uladh agus i gCúige Mumhan.

I gCluain Eois ba iad Seán O'Connell agus Brian Devlin a scóráil cúl an Dúin a bhuaigh 2-13, 1-12.

Scóráil Mick O'Dwyer agus Mick O'Connell 0-13 eatarthu agus mo sheanchara Liam Ó hUigín 1-1 i mbua Chiarraí ar Chorcaigh ar Pháirc an Gheartaigh i gCill Airne .

Sna babhtaí leathcheannais bhuaigh an Mhí ar Ghaillimh (1-15, 0-11), bhuaigh Ciarraí ar Dhoire (0-23, 0-10) agus ba iadsan freisin a thug an chéad chluiche ceannais 80 nóiméad leo nuair a fuair siad an ceann ab fherr ar an gContae Ríoga 2-19, 0-18.

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THE SEASON IN NUMBERS

18



The total score in points recorded by Cillian O'Connor for Mayo in their Round 1 Qualifier against Limerick at the Gaelic Grounds. The Ballintubber marksman hit 3-9 against the Shannonsiders and that score is easily the highest single return in the championship to date, five points clear of Louth's William Woods who scored 0-13 against London at Ruislip.

23



The number of points Dublin have scored in each of their three championship outings to date. The Metropolitans hit Wicklow for 4-25 at Portlaoise before notching 2-25 against Longford and 1-25 against Laois in the provincial semi-final and final respectively as winning margins of 23, 19 and 18 points (average 20) were run up.

116,526



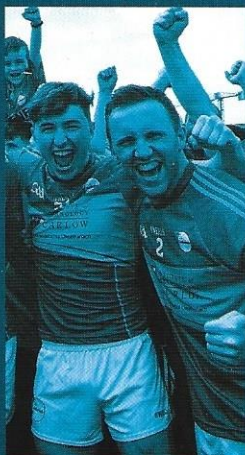
The number of spectators that attended the four provincial finals.

7

Number of matches in the championship that have failed to produce a goal. In Connacht the one goal-less game was Roscommon (24) v Leitrim (10) while Leinster had two; Longford (16) v Meath (14) and Laois (12) v Carlow (8). Munster also had two games without a green flag – Tipperary (20) v Waterford (9) and Kerry (32) v Clare (10). Ulster's lone goal-less contest was Fermanagh (12) v Armagh (7). Kildare (21) and Mayo (19) was the only qualifier match without a goal.

65

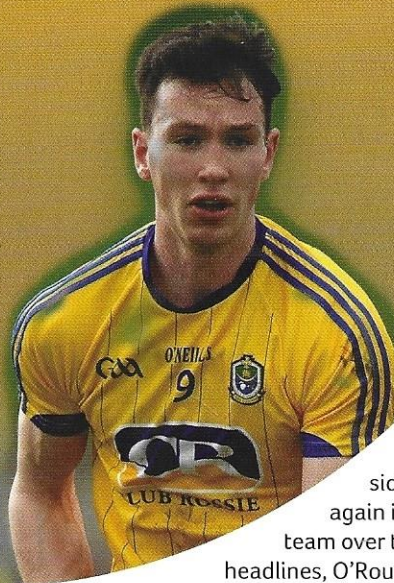
The number of years that Carlow waited for a Leinster Championship win over Kildare. Prior to their 2-14 to 1-10 success at Tullamore in the quarter-final, the Barrowsiders hadn't defeated the Lilywhites since 1953 when they won by 1-9 to 2-1 at Athy.



27

The winning margin Monaghan ran up when defeating Waterford in Round 1 of the Qualifiers at Fraher Field Dungarvan. It equalled the record jointly held by Dublin and Armagh. The Metropolitans set the target in 2004 by defeating London (3-24 to 0-6) and the Orchard County equalled it in 2013 when they beat Leitrim by 8-13 to 0-10.





TADHG O'ROURKE (Roscommon)



O'Rourke is in his second year as a regular in the Roscommon side. The Tusk Lord Edwards midfielder made his championship debut against Leitrim last summer and has not looked back since, nailing down his place in the Roscommon midfield and impressing many with his fine displays. O'Rourke was the joint captain of the Rossies side that won the Connacht U21 title in 2015 and lined out for the U21s once again in 2016. A tall, powerful midfielder, he has fitted seamlessly into the senior team over the last two years. While midfield partner Enda Smith has been grabbing the headlines, O'Rourke was singled out for special praise by manager Kevin McStay after the Round 4 win over Armagh last Saturday.

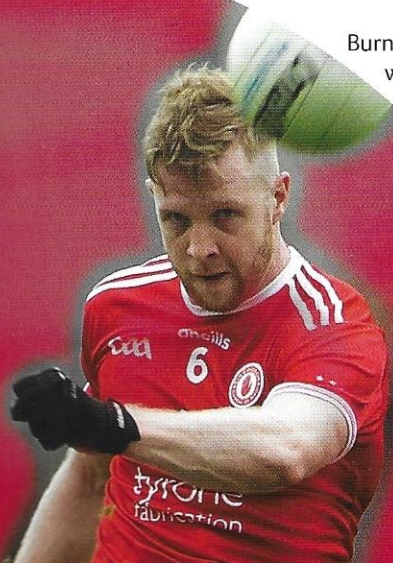
Brian Murphy

ONES TO WATCH

FRANK BURNS (Tyrone)



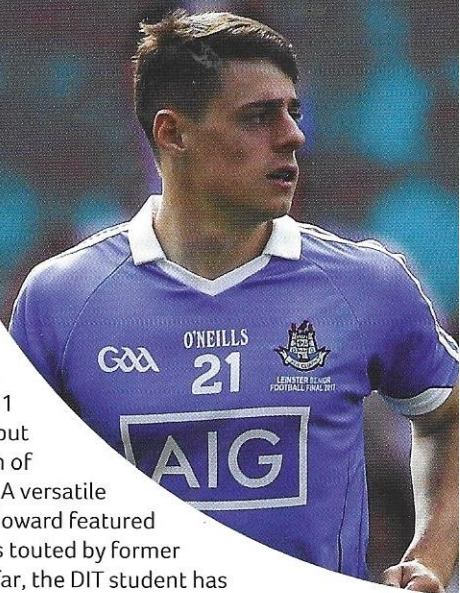
Burns won a county intermediate title with Pomeroy Plunketts in 2016, which helped launch him into the senior intercounty reckoning, and was instrumental as his club reached the last four of the Tyrone SFC last year. He won an All-Ireland Vocational Schools title with Holy Trinity, Cookstown, where he was coached by Peter Canavan. Burns won an All-Ireland U21 title with Tyrone in 2015 and then captained the side in the competition the following year. This season, Burns has nailed down the No. 6 jersey and has already drawn favourable comparisons with Red Hand great Conor Gormley for his superb performances in what had become a problem position for Mickey Harte. Burns delivered one of his most accomplished displays so far in the Round 4 Qualifier win over Cork last weekend, winning the man of the match award and scoring three points from play.





BRIAN HOWARD (Dublin)

Follows in the footsteps of Ciaran Whelan and team-mate Brian Fenton as a midfielder from the Raheny club with a big reputation. Howard played at centre-back on the Dubs' All-Ireland winning U21 side last year. He was an unused sub in last year's All-Ireland final, but is now firmly in Jim Gavin's plans, having started and scored in each of Dublin's three championship games this summer from wing-back. A versatile player who can operate anywhere in the middle third of the field, Howard featured off the bench against Westmeath and Kildare last summer and was touted by former Dubs team-mate Diarmuid Connolly as one to watch for 2018. So far, the DIT student has not disappointed and a few solid performances in the knock-out stages of the championship would confirm him as the Dubs' breakthrough star this year.

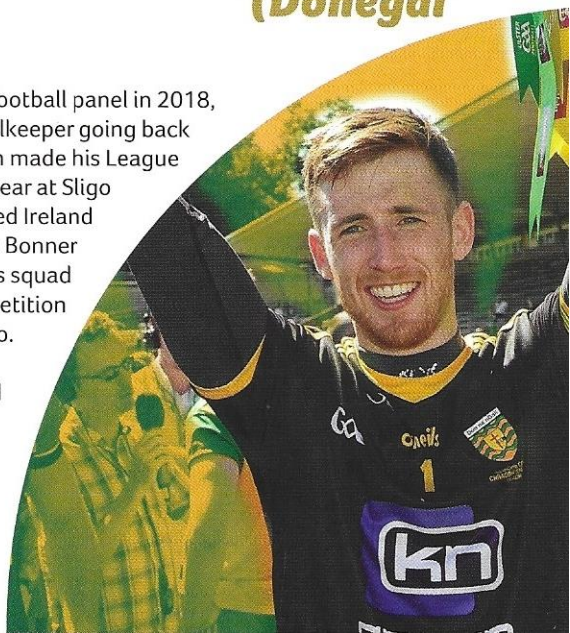


Ahead of today's exciting double header of championship action, we take a look at one player from each side who has made a name for themselves in this year's championship and is worth watching out for today. All four are relative newcomers to the intercounty scene for a variety of reasons, but each looks to have a big future ahead of them.



SHAUN PATTON (Donegal)

Although Shaun Patton is a newcomer to the Donegal football panel in 2018, the 22-year-old has a considerable reputation as a goalkeeper going back to his five years playing League of Ireland soccer. Patton made his League of Ireland debut for Finn Harps aged 16 and spent last year at Sligo Rovers, having also played for Derry City and represented Ireland at schoolboys level. However, Donegal manager Declan Bonner managed to convince the St Eunan's clubman to join his squad at the start of this year and he has fought off stiff competition from Peter Boyle and Mark Anthony McGinley for the No. 1 jersey. The 2018 campaign has been a learning curve for the newcomer but he has acquitted himself well and has impressed with both his short and long range kick-outs, as well as his shot-stopping, drawing favourable comparisons with ex Tír Chonaill stopper Paul Durcan. A regular in the Allianz League, Patton made his championship debut against Derry before landing an Ulster title last month.



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HISTORY IN THE MAKING

History is in the making this weekend, as the GAA begins the round robin quarter-final format for the first time. Designed to provide more matches at the sharp end of the championship, it also levels the playing field for the All-Ireland football championship.

It is worth remembering that the whole concept of All-Ireland quarter-finals is only 17 years old

but despite that, it rapidly became a focal point of the championship, with its coming together of provincial champions and four survivors of the qualifier route.

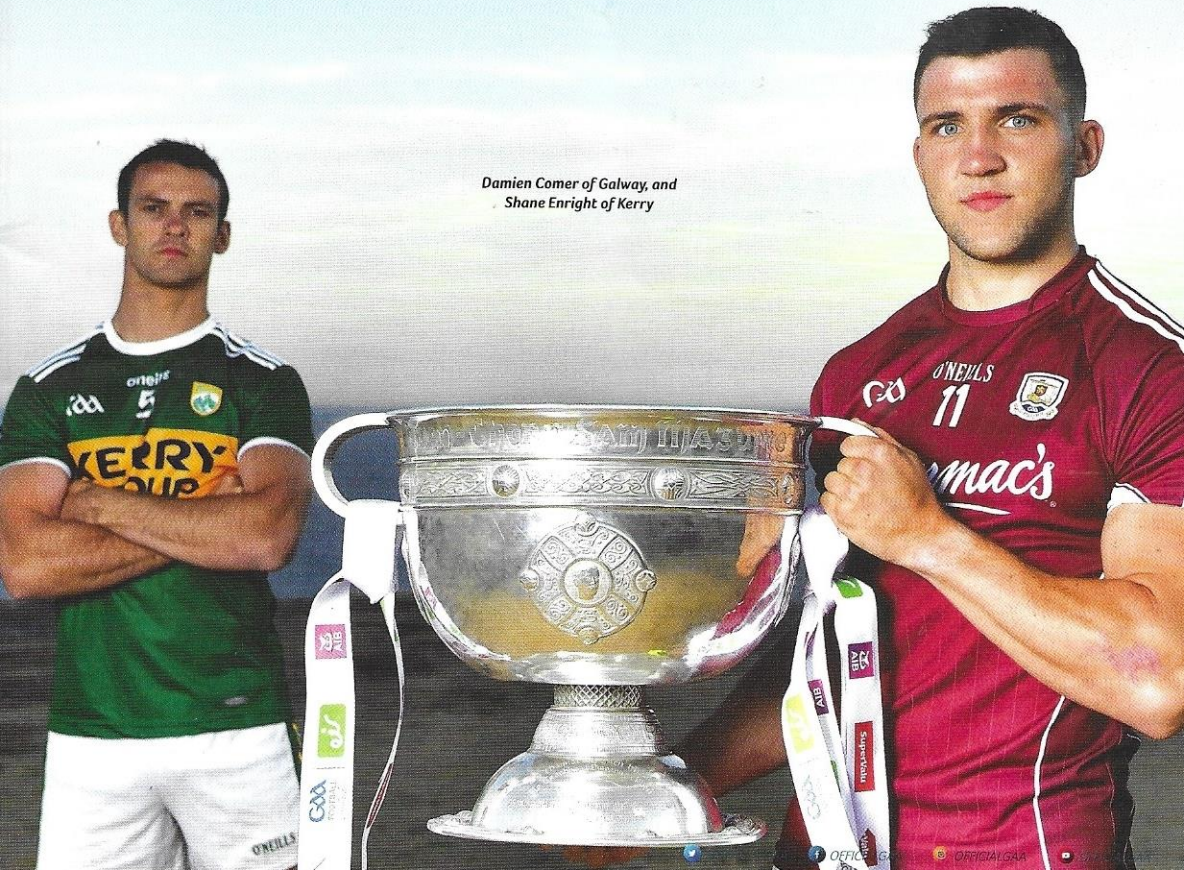
Nine years in, it looked as if the format had fatally undermined the status of the provincial championships when in 2010, all four title holders – Kerry, Roscommon, Tyrone and Meath – bit the dust in the last eight.

So, had the system reached a tipping point at which the historical provincial races could

be definitively deemed obsolete?

After all, as well as being able to analyse the priceless autopsies of defeat those counties in the qualifiers have the great advantage of regular matches. As long as a team can avoid injuries that's the best way to be ticking over. No time for destabilising introspection and also the incrementally developing confidence of winning.

To be entirely fair a competition should make the same demands on all teams.



*Damien Comer of Galway, and
Shane Enright of Kerry*



Enda Smith, Roscommon, scores his side's first goal against Armagh in the GAA Football All-Ireland Senior Championship Round 4 at O'Moore Park, Portlaoise

Any deviation from that creates disparities in the way counties are treated. This has long been a criticism of the championship system based on provinces of different size and competitive depth.

But the benefits conferred by getting out of the provincial championships now looked as if they had become disproportionate.

Within 12 months, the All-Ireland semi-finals for the first time featured no qualifiers.

Eight years later and it has all proved an over-reaction. Of the 28 semi-finalists in that time, only five haven't been provincial champions but the burden of complaint shifted. When Kerry reached the 2016 All-Ireland semi-final they had compiled a championship CV of one match (Munster final) against Tipperary

and two (Munster semi-final and All-Ireland quarter-final).

When then GAA Director General Páraic Duffy introduced this new format as a discussion document in 2016, it specifically set out to address one of the main perceived failings of the old system: that the unbalanced nature of the provincial championships meant vastly different requirements for different counties to win an All-Ireland.

Some provincial champions – generally Ulster and to an extent Connacht both of whom have provided the five title holders in the past seven years to lose in the last eight – arrived in Croke Park for the quarter-finals tired by the demands of their success whereas Dublin and Kerry have been the exclusive winners of decreasingly competitive championships in

Leinster and Munster.

But it would have been jumping to conclusions to deduce from 2010 that the provincial championships were becoming less important or that the champions were excessively disadvantaged by the system.

Taking the qualifier route had all of the advantages of momentum and practice but also a downside.

The introduction of extra time at the All-Ireland quarter-final stage in 2011 meant that any team, which had been active in successive weeks can find itself in difficulties against opponents who have been rested for a couple of weeks.

This has also been addressed by the sequence of matches, which in Phase 1 sees provincial champions, who haven't played for a couple of weeks, face each



other whereas the more practised qualifiers are also drawn together.

Galway face Kerry for the fifth time in the last eight and it's a fixture that the Connacht champions have yet to win.

They must have despaired at their ill-fortune in finding Kerry waiting as qualifiers in those years when they had won the province, 2002 (as All-Ireland winners) and '08 and when having made it to the All-Ireland quarter-finals through the qualifiers, which the county has managed only three times, they found Kerry already there as Munster champions.

This looks different, as under Kevin Walsh they have established credentials after an unbeaten regulation season in Allianz League Division 1, followed by a narrow defeat against Dublin in the final. For the first time since 2010, they have out-last-ed their

great, neighbouring rivals Mayo in the championship.

The match before they meet also reunites two counties who also met at Croke Park in 2014. Monaghan and Kildare faced each other in the final qualifier round on the Saturday of the August bank holiday.

It was a thrilling match that went to extra-time before Monaghan won a championship match at Croke Park for the first time in 84 years. By coincidence the county had its first win at the venue since then beating Dublin in the league last March.

Kildare had established themselves as quarter-final specialists with six appearances in eight years between 2008 and '15 but they won just one of those, in 2010.

On Saturday Tyrone and Roscommon will also be providing

a novel fixture in the last eight but they too played a qualifier, if not at Croke Park, in 2013 when Tyrone edged it by two points in Dr Hyde Park, having won more convincingly at the same venue the previous year.

Finally, Dublin and Donegal have a long-standing relationship in the later stages of the championship, having played two quarter-finals, in 2002 (which went to a replay) and two years ago in 2016. Dublin won both but in the 2014 semi-finals fell to one of the biggest tactical ambushes in modern football when defeated by 0-17 to 3-14.

For all of the weekend's rivalries, renewed on a regular and not-so-regular basis, the greatest difference will be that the losers won't automatically see their season end and winners will have a lot more to do.

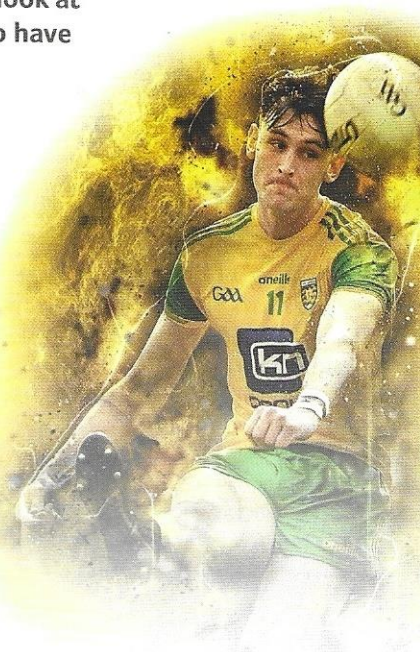
EMERGING TALENT IN CHAMPIONSHIP 2018

If a week is a long time in politics then a season is an eternity in Gaelic football. The course of an Irish sporting year can change the direction of a young footballer's career and with just eight counties left in the hunt for the Sam Maguire, we look at some of the players from the remaining contenders who have significantly enhanced their reputations in 2018.

MICHAEL LANGAN (DONEGAL)

When he scored 1-6 in Donegal's first game of the year - a McKenna Cup victory over Queens University - it was obvious that Tír Chonaill were onto a winner with rangy forward Michael Langan. Injury ruled him out of much of their Allianz Football League campaign, but his championship performances to date have justified the excitement there is around him.

An U21 star last year, Langan kicked three delightful points from play on his senior championship debut against Cavan and has been a marked man since. The Naomh Mícheál man has a fluid, deceptively powerful style and is particularly adept when shooting from distance.

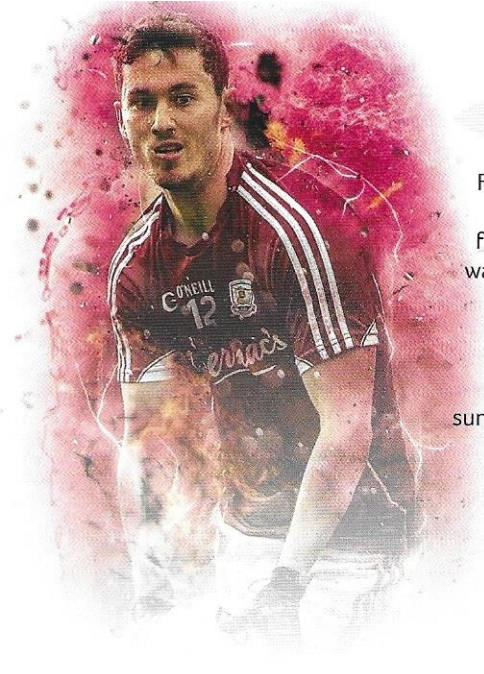


EVAN COMERFORD (DUBLIN)

Dublin fans may not want to believe it, but some day Stephen Cluxton will not be there - and earlier this summer, they got a glimpse of the future when talented young goalkeeper Evan Comerford stepped in for the injured Parnells man in the Leinster SFC matches against Longford as a sub and from the start against Laois.

The Ballymun Kickhams man, who was the goalkeeper on Dublin's All-Ireland winning U21 side last season, was admirably assured on both occasions, belying the fact that in playing, he became the first man other than Cluxton to keep goal in a senior championship game for Dublin in 14 years.





IAN BURKE (GALWAY)

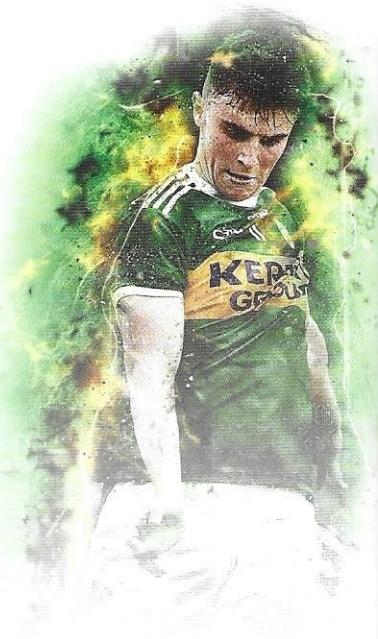
For those who saw Ian Burke playing underage football for Corofin in the mid-2000s, or U21 football for Galway in 2013, or indeed senior football for his club during their successful All-Ireland run in 2015, it was puzzling that it took until 2017 for the supremely talented corner forward to make his senior championship debut for the Tribesmen.

Another successful All-Ireland run with Corofin limited his league involvement for Galway in 2018 but he has come into form this summer, hitting 1-2 in the Connacht semi-final win over Sligo before a classy display in the Connacht final victory saw him land 0-3.

SEÁN O'SHEA (KERRY)

Naturally, David Clifford commanded much of the attention in Kerry ahead of the 2018 football season and that suited Seán O'Shea just fine, keeping the Kenmare centre-half-forward in the shadows for as long as possible. However, once he scored 0-7 on his senior debut for the Kingdom in their league opener against Donegal in late January, his name was well and truly in lights.

One of several recent All-Ireland minor winners in Éamonn Fitzmaurice's senior squad, O'Shea – an accomplished freetaker – has taken to senior championship football like a duck to water, hitting 0-7 against Clare and 0-4 in the Munster final against Cork.



JAMES MURRAY (KILDARE)

James Murray was inspirational for his club Moorefield during their successful Leinster Senior Football Club Championship campaign last winter, never more so than when he powered up the field from centre-half-back to score two critical points in their provincial final victory over St Loman's.

His performances for Moorefield brought him to the attention of Kildare boss Cian O'Neill, who brought him into the Lilywhites' championship squad once Moorefield's run was over. He made his debut in the Round 1 qualifier win over Derry, scoring a point from wing-back, and will be looking to cement a regular starting berth from here.



NIALL KEARNS (MONAGHAN)

What a year it has been for young Monaghan footballer Niall Kearns. Malachy O'Rourke's squad is one of the most fixed, experienced groups in the country but the young Seán McDermott's clubman has broken through this year, becoming a permanent fixture in the Farney County's starting XV.

Kearns got his chance in Monaghan's Division 1 campaign and took it with both hands; he has featured in every one of Monaghan's league and championship games this year. A hard-working midfielder with an eye for a score, he made his senior championship debut in the win over Tyrone on May 20.



TADHG O'ROURKE (ROSCOMMON)

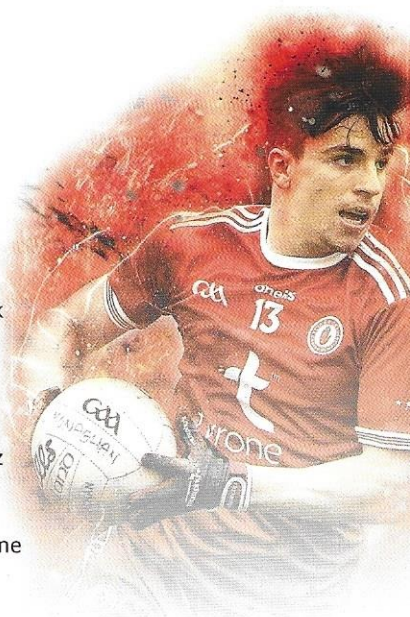
Since he made his senior debut for Roscommon at the start of the 2017 season, Tusk Lord Edwards man Tadhg O'Rourke has not looked back. A Connacht U21 winner in 2014 and 2015, the athletic and mobile O'Rourke is now the first choice at midfield for Kevin McStay, having played in every Roscommon championship game since making his senior debut against Leitrim last summer.

Roscommon have tried out several midfielders over the last two years but O'Rourke has been the one constant, and his melding of defensive and attacking skills means he is likely to be a go-to man in the middle for the Rossies for many years to come.

LEE BRENNAN (TYRONE)

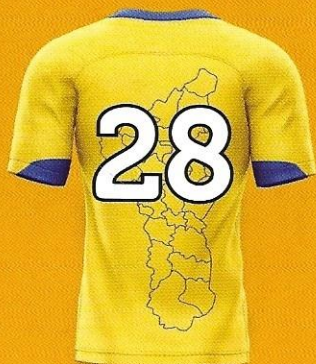
Most people who have followed Tyrone football at any level in the past few years will have heard of Lee Brennan, the sumptuously gifted Trillick attacker who seems to fulfil the same role for the Red Hands as the character of Neo did in the movie *The Matrix* - he's the One.

After years of promise, Brennan has started to deliver at senior level for Mickey Harte's men this season. He was excellent during Tyrone's Allianz Football League campaign but a hamstring injury picked up against Monaghan in the Ulster quarter-final has unfortunately disrupted his summer. Tyrone fans will be very eager to see him return to action at some stage during the All-Ireland Quarter-Final Group Stage.



BY THE NUMBERS

ROS COMÁIN



The number of players Roscommon used in qualifying for the 'last eight' of the Senior Football Championship.

11

The number of players who started all three games as Roscommon bounced back from the loss of their provincial crown. They were – Colm Lavin, David Murray, Peter Domican, Niall McInerney, Tadhg O'Rourke, Enda Smith, Niall Kilroy, Conor Devaney, Donal Smith, Diarmuid Murtagh and Ciarán Murtagh.

20

2



Two players –Conor Daly and Finbar Cregg– appeared in all three matches as a substitute.

52

4

The number of goals and points Roscommon scored in the championship to date. Diarmuid Murtagh is the county's top marksman with 0-16 of which nine have come from placed balls. Ciarán Murtagh is next in line with 1-9 accumulated with five points coming from frees. Enda Smith completes the podium with 2-3 to date all of which he scored from play.



4

Four players scored in all three matches. Not surprisingly the top scoring Murtaghs – Diarmuid and Ciarán – appeared on all three scoresheets and they were joined each time by Conor Devaney and Donal Smith.

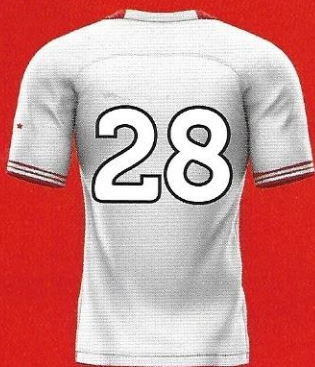


The percentage of Roscommon's scores that have come from play in the championship to date.

73

BY THE NUMBERS

TÍR EOGHAIN



The number of players Tyrone used in qualifying for the 'last eight' of the Senior Football Championship

9

The number of players who started all five games as Tyrone swept through the qualifiers after the early loss of their provincial title to Monaghan. They were – Pádraig Hampsey, Ronan McNamee, Frank Burns, Colm Cavanagh, Mattie Donnelly, Conor Meyler, Niall Sludden, Cathal McShane and Connor McAliskey.

2



Two players – Ronan O'Neill and Kieran McGeary – appeared in all five matches as a substitute.

82
9

The number of goals and points Tyrone scored in the championship to date. Connor McAliskey is the top marksman scoring 2-26 with 17 points of that total coming from frees. Niall Sludden contributed 1-9 to Tyrone's total, all from play. Three players – Frank Burns, Peter Harte and Cathal McShane – chipped in with eight-point returns with Harte scoring 1-2 of his 1-5 courtesy of a penalty and a couple of frees.



2

Just two players were on the scoresheet in all five matches and not surprisingly it is Connor McAliskey and Niall Sludden who troubled the scoreboard operator each time.

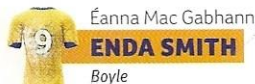


The percentage of Tyrone's scores that have come from play in the championship to date.

73

ROS COMÁIN

ROGHNÓIRÍ - KEVIN McSTAY (BAINISTEoir), Liam McHale, Ger Dowd



FIR IONAIÐ

16. Séamus Fetherston
JAMES FETHERSTON
Roscommon Gaels
17. Brian Stac
BRIAN STACK
St Brigid's
18. Ciarán Ó Leannáin
CIARÁN LENNON
Clann na nGael

19. Conchúbar Ó Dálaigh
CONOR DALY
Pádraig Pearses
20. Fionnbharr de Creag
FINBAR CREGG
Western Gaels
21. Gearóid Mac Pháidín
GARY PATTERSON
Michael Glaveys
22. Eoin Mac Giolla Bhríde
IAN KILBRIDE
St Brigid's

23. Pádraig Ó Ceallaigh
PÁDRAIG KELLY
St Brigid's
24. Peadar Domican
PETER DOMICAN
St Brigid's
25. Seán Mac Diarmada
SEÁN McDERMOTT
Western Gaels
26. Seán Mac Giolla Luairinn
SHANE KILLORAN
Elphin



OFFICIAL SPONSORS



TÍR EOGHAIN

MICHEÁL Ó HAIRT (BAINISTEoir), Gabhan Ó Doibhilinn - ROGHNÓIRÍ

1 Néill Ó Muireagáin
NIALL MORGAN
Éadan na dTorc

2 Micheál Mac Thiarnáin
MICHAEL McKERNAN
Oileán a'Ghuail

3 Ronán Mac Con Midhe
RONAN McNAMEE
Achadh Uí Aráin

4 Cathal Mac Cearáin
CATHAL McCARRON
Athí

5 Tiarnán Mac Cana
TIARNAN McCANN
Coill an Chlochair

6 Proinsias Ó Broin
FRANK BURNS
Cabhán a'Chaortainn

7 Peadar Ó hAirt
PETER HARTE
Aireagal Chiaráin

8 Colm Caomhánach
COLM CAVANAGH
An Mhaigh

9 Pádraig Ó hAimsaigh
PÁDRAIG HAMPSEY
Oileán a'Ghuail

10 Maitiú Ó Donnaile (C.)
MATTHEW DONNELLY
Trí Leac

11 Néill Ó Sludáin
NIALL SLUDDEN
An Droim Mór

12 Conchúr Mac Maoilir
CONOR MEYLER
An Ómaigh

13 Cathal Mac Seáin
CATHAL McSHANE
E. R. Uí Néill

14 Risteard Ó Donnaile
RICHARD DONNELLY
Trí Leac

15 Conchúr Mac Conuisce
CONNOR McALISKEY
Cluain Eo

FIR IONAID

- 16. Micheál Ó Néill
MICHAEL O'NEILL
Cluain Eo
- 17. Marcas Ó Broicháin
MARK BRADLEY
Coill an Chlochair
- 18. Ruairí Ó Braonáin
RORY BRENNAN
Trí Leac

- 19. Anraí Ó Luachráin
HARRY LOUGHRAN
An Mhaigh
- 20. Conál Mac Cana
CONALL McCANN
Coill an Chlochair
- 21. Deaglán Mac Giolla Uir
DECLAN McCLURE
Cluain Eo
- 22. Aodhán Mac Ruairí
AIDAN McCRORY
Aireagal Chiaráin

- 23. Aodh Pádraig Mac Gadhra
HUGH PAT McGEARY
Cabhán a'Chaortainn
- 24. Ciarán Mac Gadhra
KIERAN McGEARY
Cabhán a'Chaortainn
- 25. Pádraig Mac an Ultaigh
PÁDRAIG McNULTY
Dún Geanainn
- 26. Ronán Ó Néill
RONAN O'NEILL
An Ómaigh



OFFICIAL SPONSORS

NEED FOR DEEPER, STRONGER SQUAD IS PARAMOUNT

Prior to this year's championship the former Armagh footballer Oisín McConville was asked about potential Ulster winners and how things might develop beyond that.

McConville was unequivocal. He 'fancied' Monaghan. He liked the way their manager Malachy O'Rourke appeared to be developing a deeper squad, not so much in terms of numbers but players who can really step up.

Maybe he had the midfielder Niall Kearns in mind for that, a player who has brought added energy to the position for them in his first full year.

It was a common theme during this year's Allianz League and for the early stages of the championship. The more ambitious counties have carried bigger squads and gave those

component parts more game time in the expectation that they would arrive at this point of the season having to lean on each and every resource.

Kerry, for instance, have played just nine games in league and championship but have used 43 players, as much because Éamonn Fitzmaurice's requirement to set the needle back at zero after last year's faltering All-Ireland semi-final replay effort against Mayo. Still outside that 43 is Donnchadh Walsh who has yet to feature this year. By comparison to last year Fitzmaurice used just 36 players in league and championship but in 2018 he has by far the biggest squad at his disposal.

Like Kerry, Donegal's fall from last year's championship to Galway was hard and with a new management team in place, there was always going to be a cleansing of sorts.

But as much as he has looked to tap into some of the county's most promising players that he himself worked with while U21 manager, Declan Bonner sought to refloat the intercounty careers of Leo McLoone, Odhran Mac Niallais and even Anthony Thompson by comparison to 31 in 2017.

Even Dublin, the most settled entity in football, have deployed 37 players by comparison to 35 at the same stage last year, the same increase as Roscommon and Tyrone.

Of the eight remaining teams in the football championship, the outlier is Galway who are down from 33 to 31 but, in the fourth year of his cycle, Kevin Walsh has a firm knowledge of his players by now.

And anyway Walsh's trawl through the county has resulted in 57 debutants since he took over in 2015, 20 alone in championship.

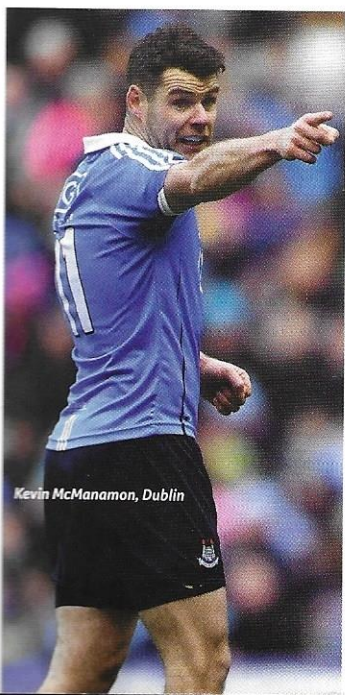
How the make-up of the All-Ireland quarter-finals have followed league status, with the exception of Mayo losing out to prevent a clean sweep of Division One teams participating over the next three weeks reflects the growing gulf between the best and the rest.

Armagh, who pushed Roscommon so hard, may beg to differ but the greatest gap between divisions in football appears to be between the top two. The last few weeks have reflected that.

The strongest teams will invariably be backed up by the strongest squads. But with such a taxing schedule of games ahead, especially for those who have won their way through the qualifiers - Tyrone and Kildare have both played four games in five weeks while Monaghan have played three in three - the need for deeper, stronger squads is paramount.

The depth in Dublin under Jim Gavin has always been evident and the clinical manner in which they have finished games was a measure of that.

But others are stockpiling a better stream of reserves too and the impact off the bench that Mickey Harte's Tyrone got last weekend was noticeable. Ronan O'Neill may not appreciate it but he's developing quite a reputation for his interventions as another goal, this time against Cork, suggests.



Kevin McManamon, Dublin

For impact, no one in the modern game can match Dublin's Kevin McManamon who, after forcing his way into the starting 15 for much of 2016, has had to take a back seat once more. But his goals at key moments in championship games against Kerry and Mayo underline how accustomed he has become to the role.

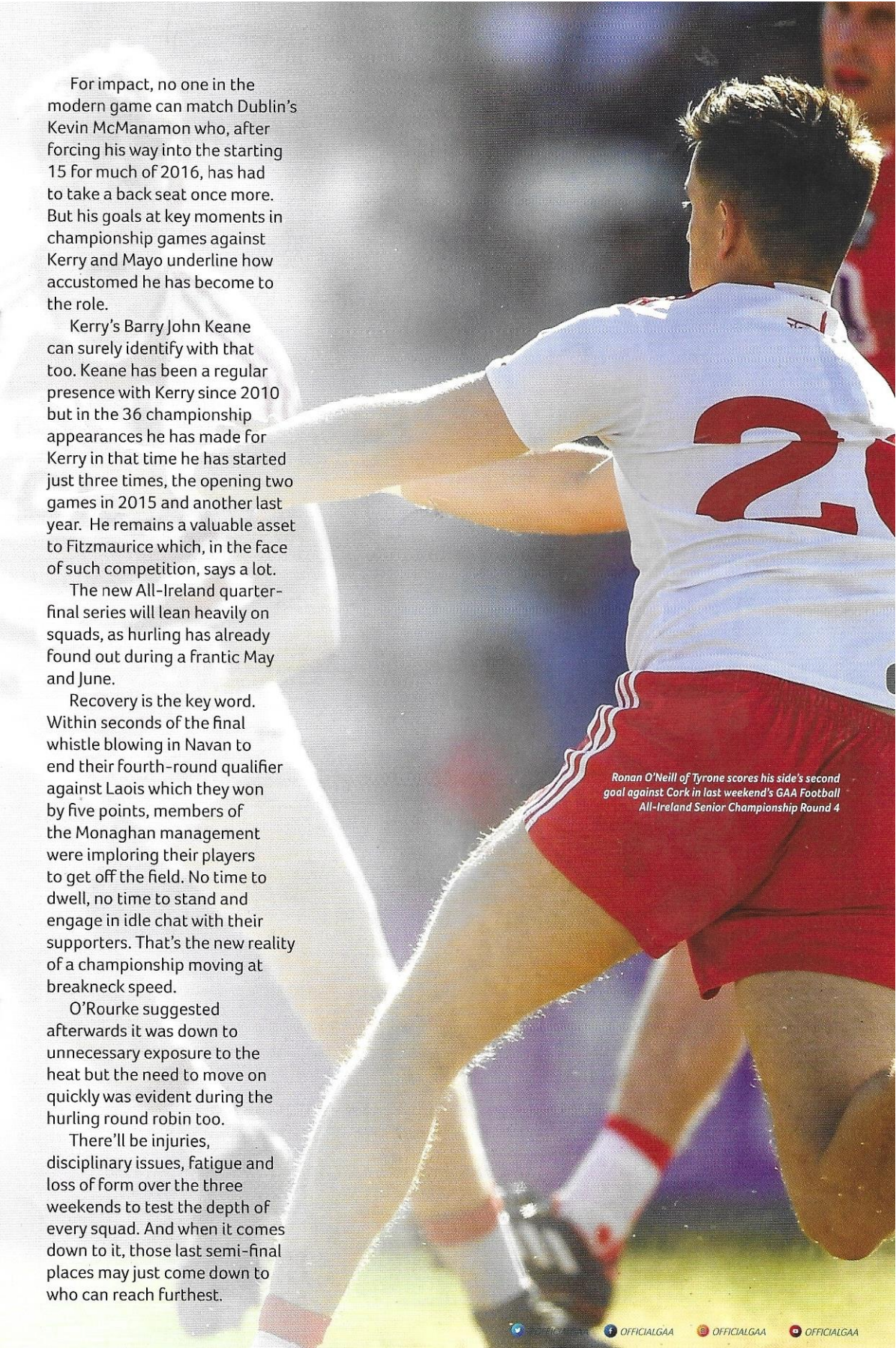
Kerry's Barry John Keane can surely identify with that too. Keane has been a regular presence with Kerry since 2010 but in the 36 championship appearances he has made for Kerry in that time he has started just three times, the opening two games in 2015 and another last year. He remains a valuable asset to Fitzmaurice which, in the face of such competition, says a lot.

The new All-Ireland quarter-final series will lean heavily on squads, as hurling has already found out during a frantic May and June.

Recovery is the key word. Within seconds of the final whistle blowing in Navan to end their fourth-round qualifier against Laois which they won by five points, members of the Monaghan management were imploring their players to get off the field. No time to dwell, no time to stand and engage in idle chat with their supporters. That's the new reality of a championship moving at breakneck speed.

O'Rourke suggested afterwards it was down to unnecessary exposure to the heat but the need to move on quickly was evident during the hurling round robin too.

There'll be injuries, disciplinary issues, fatigue and loss of form over the three weekends to test the depth of every squad. And when it comes down to it, those last semi-final places may just come down to who can reach furthest.



Ronan O'Neill of Tyrone scores his side's second goal against Cork in last weekend's GAA Football All-Ireland Senior Championship Round 4



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ÁTH CLIATH

ROGHNÓIRÍ - SÉAMUS Ó GÁIBHÍN (BAINISTEoir), Iasán Ó Scortló, Déaglán Ó Dorchaí, Seán Ó hAnluain



FIR IONAD

16. Éibhín Mac Cumascaigh
EVAN COMERFORD
Ballymun Kickhams
17. Colm Basquel
COLM BASQUEL
Ballyboden St. Enda's
18. Cormac Mac Coisdealbha
CORMAC COSTELLO
Whitehall Colmcille

19. Darren Ó Dálaigh
DARREN DALY
Fingal Ravens
20. Pól Mac Floinn
PAUL FLYNN
Fingallians
21. Seán Mac Gafraidh
JACK McCaffrey
Clontarf
22. Caoimhín Mac Meanman
KEVIN McMANAMON
St. Jude's

23. Conchúr Ó Maolalaidh
CONOR MULLALLY
Cuala
24. Eoin Ó Murcháin
EWIN MURCHAN
Na Fianna
25. Eoghan Ó Gadhra
EUGHAN O'GARA
Templeogue Synge Street
26. Cian Ó Súilleabháin
CIAN O'SULLIVAN
Kilmacud Crokes



OFFICIAL SPONSORS



DÚN NA nGALL

DEAGLÁN MAC CNÁIMHSÍ (BAINISTEoir), Carl de Léis, Pól Mac Congaill, Gearóid Ó Baoill - ROGHNÓIRÍ



Seán Ó Peatáin
SHAUN PATTON
Naomh Adhamhnáin



Pádraig Mac Craith
PADDY McGRATH
Ard an Ratha



Néill Mac Aoidh
NEIL McGEE
Gaith Dobhair



Eoghan Bán Ó Gallchóir
EOGHAN BÁN GALLAGHER
Na Cealla Beaga



Proinsias Mac Fhloinn
FRANK McGLYNN
Gleann Fhinne



Pól Ó Braonáin
PAUL BRENNAN
Realt na Mara, Bundobhráin



Riain Mac Aodha
RYAN McHUGH
Cill Chartha



Aodh Mac Pháidín
HUGH McFADDEN
Na Cealla Beaga



Leo Mac Giolla Úain
LEO McLOONE
Naomh Conaill



Cian Ó Maolagáin
CIAN MULLIGAN
Gaith Dobhair



Mícheál Ó Longáin
MICHAEL LANGAN
Naomh Mícheál



Ciarán Mac Thomáis
CIARÁN THOMPSON
Naomh Conaill



Odhrán Mac Niallais
ODHRÁN MAC NIALLAIS
Gaith Dobhair



Mícheál Ó Murchú (C.)
MICHAEL MURPHY
Gleann tSúilí



Séamus Ó Braonáin
JAMIE BRENNAN
Realt na Mara, Bun Dobhair

FIR IONAID

- 16. Marc Antaine Mac Fhionnghaile
MARK ANTHONY McGINLEY
Naomh Mícheál
- 17. Stiofán Mac Meanman
STEPHEN McMENAMIN
Aodh Rua, Cúil Mhic gCuirridín
- 18. Caolán Mac an Bháird
CAOLAN WARD
Naomh Adhamhnáin

- 19. Marc Mac Aodha
MARK McHUGH
Cill Chartha
- 20. Dáire Ó Baoill
DAIRE Ó BAOILL
Gaith Dobhair
- 21. Stiofán Mac Breartaigh
STEPHEN McBREARTY
Cill Chartha
- 22. Ciarán Mac Giolla Easbuig
CIARÁN GILLESPIE
Gaith Dobhair

- 23. Antóin Mac Thomáis
ANTHONY THOMPSON
Naomh Conaill
- 24. Niall Ó Domhnaill
NIALL O'DONNELL
Naomh Adhamhnáin
- 25. Antóin Mac Leannacháin
TONY McCLENAGHAN
Bun a Phobail
- 26. Éamonn Ó Dochartaigh
EAMONN DOHERTY
Naomh Adhamhnáin



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BY THE NUMBERS

ÁTH CLIATH



The number of players Dublin used in winning the Leinster Senior Football Championship.

14

The number of players who started each of the three games for the Metropolitans en-route to their eighth successive Leinster title. They were – Michael Fitzsimons, Philly McMahon, Eric Lowndes, James McCarthy, Jonny Cooper, Brian Howard, Michael Darragh Macauley, Brian Fenton, Niall Scully, Ciarán Kilkenny, Con O'Callaghan, Dean Rock, Paul Mannion and Paddy Andrews.

28

2



Two players – Darren Daly and Paul Flynn – appeared in all three championship outings as a substitute.

75
7

The number of goals and points Dublin scored in the championship to date. Dean Rock is the top scorer with 2-16 of which 12 points came from frees and one from a '45. Ciarán Kilkenny is the next best marksman with 2-15, all of which came from play. Brian Fenton rounds out the top three with 1-9 (all from play).



7

Seven players scored in each match. Along with the top three of Rock, Kilkenny and Fenton, others to raise a flag in each match were Brian Howard, Con O'Callaghan, Paul Mannion and Paddy Andrews.



The percentage of Dublin's scores that have come from play in the championship to date.

85

BY THE NUMBERS

DÚN NA nGALL



The number of players Donegal used in winning the Ulster Senior Football Championship.

12

The number of players who started each of the four games Donegal played en-route to their ninth provincial title. They were - Shaun Patton, Eoghan Bán Gallagher, Paul Brennan, Ryan McHugh, Hugh McFadden, Leo McLoone, Ciaran Thompson, Michael Langan, Frank McGlynn, Patrick McBrearty, Michael Murphy and Jamie Brennan.

2



Two players – Cian Mulligan and Mark McHugh – appeared in all four championship outings as a substitute.

76
8

The number of goals and points Donegal scored in the championship to date. Patrick McBrearty is Donegal's top marksman with 0-19 with all but six of that total coming from play. Michael Murphy has scored 0-17 in four matches with 10 of those points coming from frees. The top three (four) is rounded out by Jamie Brennan 1-7 and Ryan McHugh 2-4.



4

Four players scored in all four matches all of whom are mentioned in the previous stat. The highest individual total recorded was Patrick McBrearty's eight-point haul against Derry, of which just three came from frees.



The percentage of Donegal's scores that have come from play in the championship to date.

81

The spectacular setting of Dún Aonghasa fort on Inis Mór provided a fitting backdrop for the launch of the All-Ireland SFC

quarter-final series this week. As the players posed for photographs with nothing on the western horizon other than blue skies and even bluer seas, they were gazing out into the great wide yonder.

Back in 1966 Chay Blyth and John Ridgway emerged from it in a rowing boat after making it all the way across the Atlantic to Inis

Mór from Cape Cod, and in a way the players of the eight All-Ireland quarter-final teams are also setting out on their own journey into the unknown this weekend.

Because as much as you can plot and plan for the task of playing three high octane championship matches against quality opposition in four weeks might pose, until you're in the thick of it you won't have a full appreciation of the challenge at hand.

A positive attitude is half the battle, and the three footballers who trekked to the top of Dún Aonghasa on Monday – Galway's

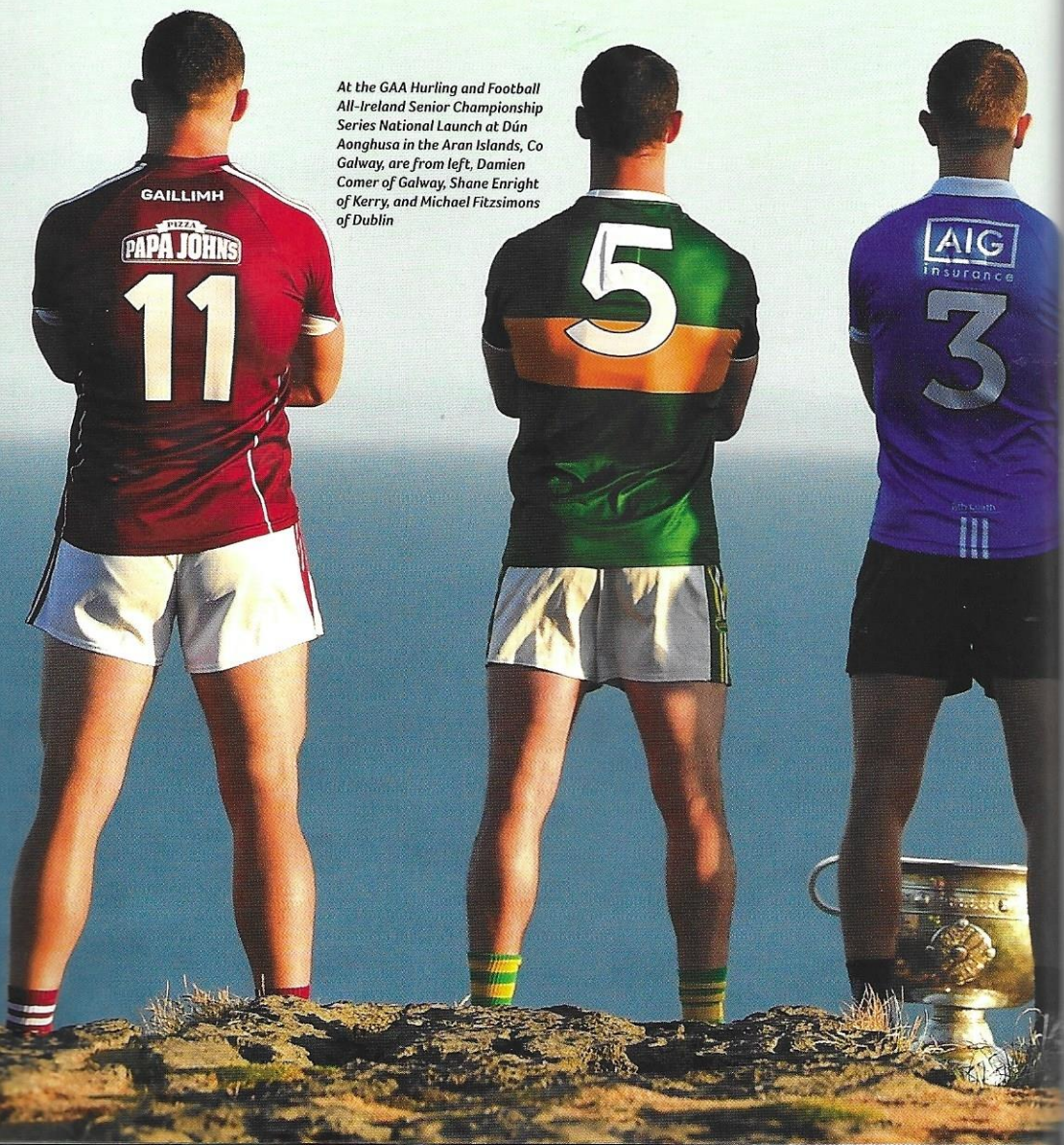
Damien Comer, Kerry's Shane Enright, and Dublin's Michael Fitzsimons – were certainly armed with that.

"There was great competition in the hurling (round robin) and it'll be something similar enough now in the football, I think," said Dublin defender Fitzsimons.

"Players always want more games. When you have a three-week lead-up to games you do a lot of preparation, a lot of running, and a higher ratio of training sessions to games and generally not as enjoyable.

"So, I think the players will like this format. The opportunity

At the GAA Hurling and Football All-Ireland Senior Championship Series National Launch at Dún Aonghasa in the Aran Islands, Co Galway, are from left, Damien Comer of Galway, Shane Enright of Kerry, and Michael Fitzsimons of Dublin



to play week in, week out, is something you don't normally get unless you're on a qualifier run.

"We did that in 2010 and it was a great feeling, you learn a lot of things and you fine-tune as you go in preparation for the next week.

"It's going to be intense, and I'm definitely looking forward to it."

If the round-robin structure of the provincial hurling championships taught us anything, it's that you can't afford to feel your way into a series of matches like this.

You have to come locked and loaded, and then hope you can sustain a high standard from the first match to the last.

Not easily done, but Kerry defender Shane Enright thinks it might suit this up-and-coming Kingdom team better than the old championship structure.

"Last year we kind of peaked in the Munster final and we didn't get going after that, so this time the three competitive games in the four weeks will be great, and hopefully we'll peak now in July and August whereas last year we

did it too early," said Enright.

"We hope we're timing our run right. We have a lot of young fellas with plenty of legs and it'll be no problem for them to play three games in four weeks.

"It's going to be very important to utilise your panel correctly because there will be knocks, injuries, and suspensions, stuff like that."

Whatever teams can best deal with adversity are likely to make it through the quarter-final series and into the All-Ireland semi-finals.

Injuries and possibly suspensions will test the depth of panels, and those with greater reservoirs of talent will have an obvious advantage.

Every team will be going out believing they can win every game, but the ability to recover from a defeat if one comes their way will also be a crucial factor.

"Yeah, exactly," agreed Galway captain Damien Comer. "We're nearly reverting back to the mindset that we had during the league where you're taking it game-by-game basis.

"Obviously if you're lucky enough to win all the games, then well and good.

"But there's probably going to be a set-back somewhere, that's usually the case, so it's just how you deal with that which determines how well you'll move forward.

"Obviously the depth of your squad is going to be important, but keeping lads fresh and injury-free will be a big one too.

"They're obviously going to be three fairly competitive games and we've a fairly young side with, I think, four debutants in the team again this year.

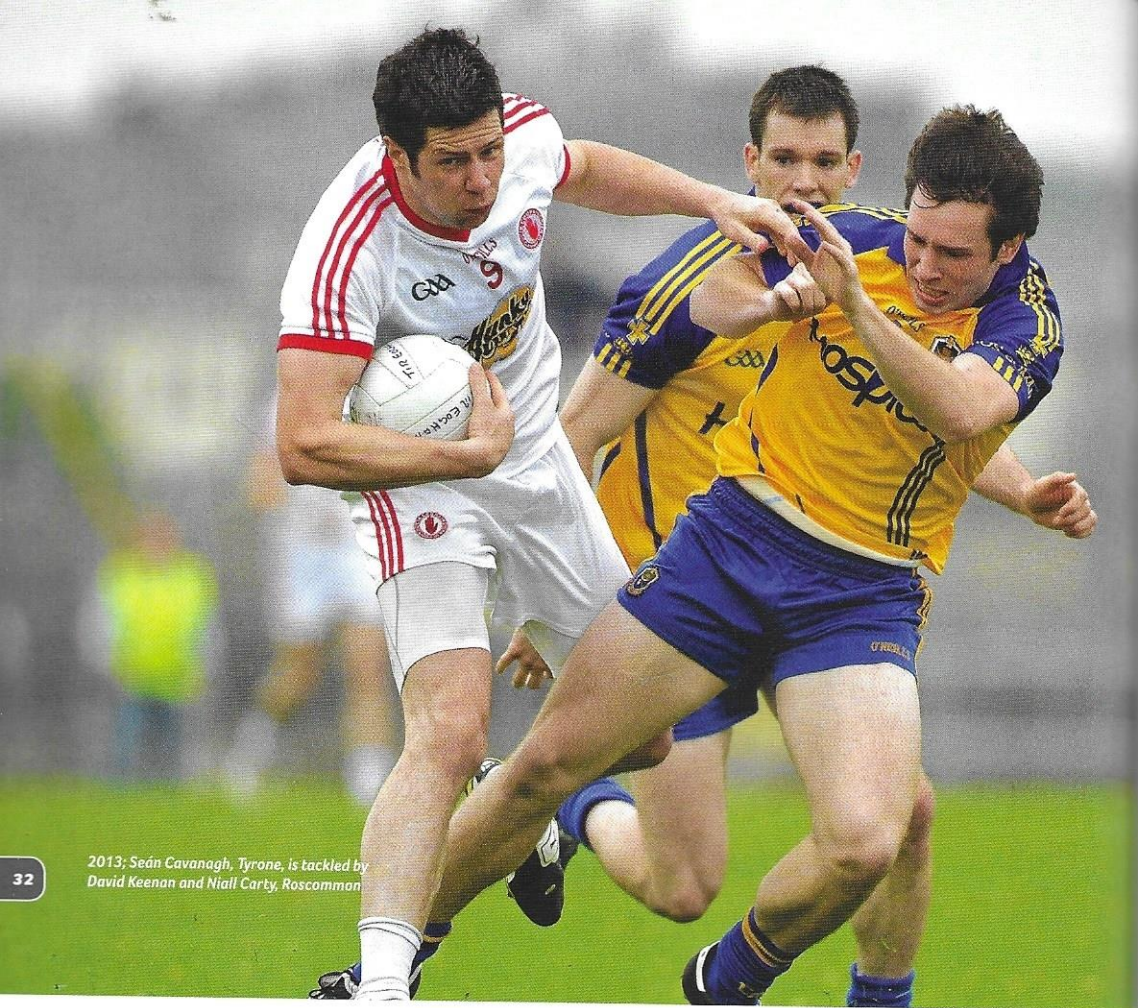
"We're just building and trying to get our experience up to the level of the likes of Dublin and Kerry and hopefully push on with these games."

It took Blyth and Ridgway 92 days to sail across the Atlantic and make land in Inis Mór.

The All-Ireland quarter-finals will take no more than 30 days to conclude, but the eight competing counties will have to navigate some choppy waters along the way too.

John Harrington

NAVIGATING THE CHOPPY WATERS



2013; Seán Cavanagh, Tyrone, is tackled by David Keenan and Niall Carby, Roscommon

WE HAVE MET BEFORE

Donal Keenan



July 6th, 2013

All-Ireland Qualifier
TYRONE 0-12
ROSCOMMON 1-7

A week previously Tyrone thrashed Offaly by 22 points so they travelled to Dr. Hyde Park with a fair degree of optimism and confidence. And then they got a reality check. Roscommon set up a defensive barrier with 13 men behind the ball. Nineteen minutes elapsed before Tyrone got their first score. After half an hour the teams were level at 0-2 each when

Conor Devaney broke the pattern with a well-taken goal. That woke Tyrone from their slumber. Darren McCurry started the comeback and ended up as top scorer with six points as Tyrone held on for a narrow two-point victory.

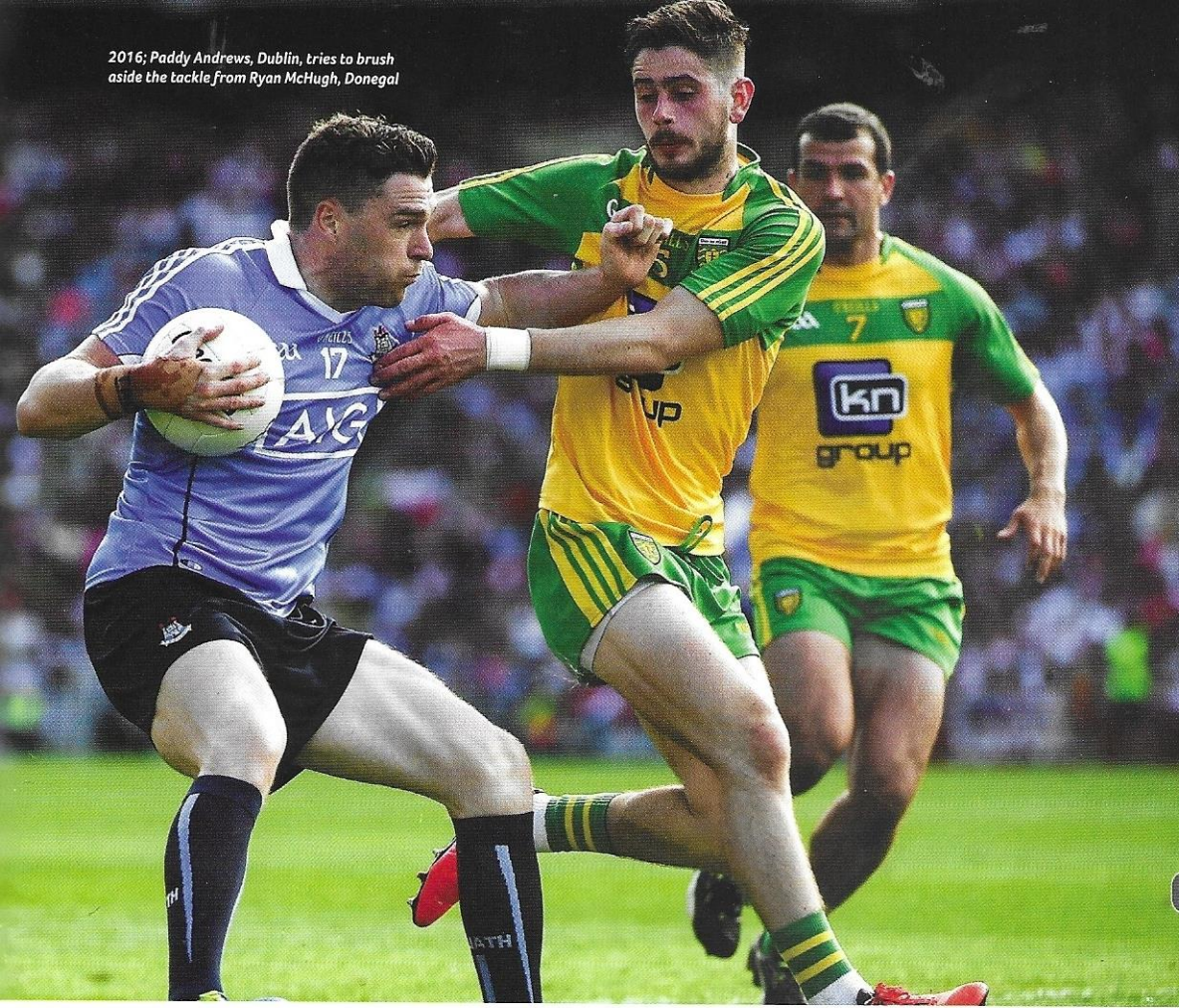
July 30th, 2010

All-Ireland Qualifier
TYRONE 3-19
ROSCOMMON 1-14

Mickey Harte urged caution when reacting to a scoreline that looked mighty impressive on the

day. "I'd describe it as flattering because in no way did we deserve that scoreline at the end of the game and, certainly, Roscommon didn't deserve to be beaten by that amount," was the Tyrone manager's frank assessment. A goal from Matt Mannion had given Roscommon a four-point lead after 27 minutes before Seán Cavanagh stamped class on the game with a powerful 45-metre run that ended with him slipping the ball past Geoff Claffey for a brilliant individual goal. Cavanagh ended up scoring the match-winning 2-3.

2016; Paddy Andrews, Dublin, tries to brush aside the tackle from Ryan McHugh, Donegal



August 7th, 2016

All-Ireland quarter-final
DUBLIN 1-15
DONEGAL 1-10

Ciarán Kilkenny's deployment as a wing-back in the absence of the injured James McCarthy took many, even within the Dublin camp, by surprise but the Castleknock man adapted brilliantly. "He spent more time on the ball than anyone else, as if magnetically drawn to the point of the action, as he adapted with complete ease to his new role," was the verdict of

the *Irish Independent*. His man-of-the-match performance inspired Dublin on a day when they finished with just 13 players following the dismissal of Diarmuid Connolly and, in stoppage time, Eoghan O'Gara.

September 20th, 1992

All-Ireland Final
DONEGAL 0-18
DUBLIN 0-14

They had never before played each other in championship football. Donegal had never before reached such dizzy heights.

The expectation everywhere, even in parts of Donegal, was that the Dubs would prove too canny, too slick and simply too good. Dublin's much vaunted half-backs and forwards were expected to wreak havoc but they came up against an irresistible force named Martin Gavigan who had a sensational game at centre-half back for Donegal. Goalkeeper Gary Walsh made three outstanding saves and current Donegal manager Declan Bonner kicked three points as Donegal created history when winning their first ever All-Ireland senior football title.

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SENIOR SCOREBOARD 2018

CONNACHT

Leitrim	0-19	1-15	New York
Sligo	1-21	1-11	London
Galway	1-12	0-12	Mayo
Roscommon	0-24	0-10	Leitrim
Galway	4-24	1-12	Sligo
Galway	0-16	2-6	Roscommon

LEINSTER

Laois	2-21	1-18	Wexford
Carlow	2-17	0-12	Louth
Wicklow	1-20	1-15	Offaly
Laois	4-13	1-12	Westmeath
Carlow	2-14	1-10	Kildare
Dublin	4-25	1-11	Wicklow
Longford	0-16	0-14	Meath
Laois	0-12	0-8	Carlow
Dublin	2-25	0-12	Longford
Dublin	1-25	0-10	Laois

MUNSTER

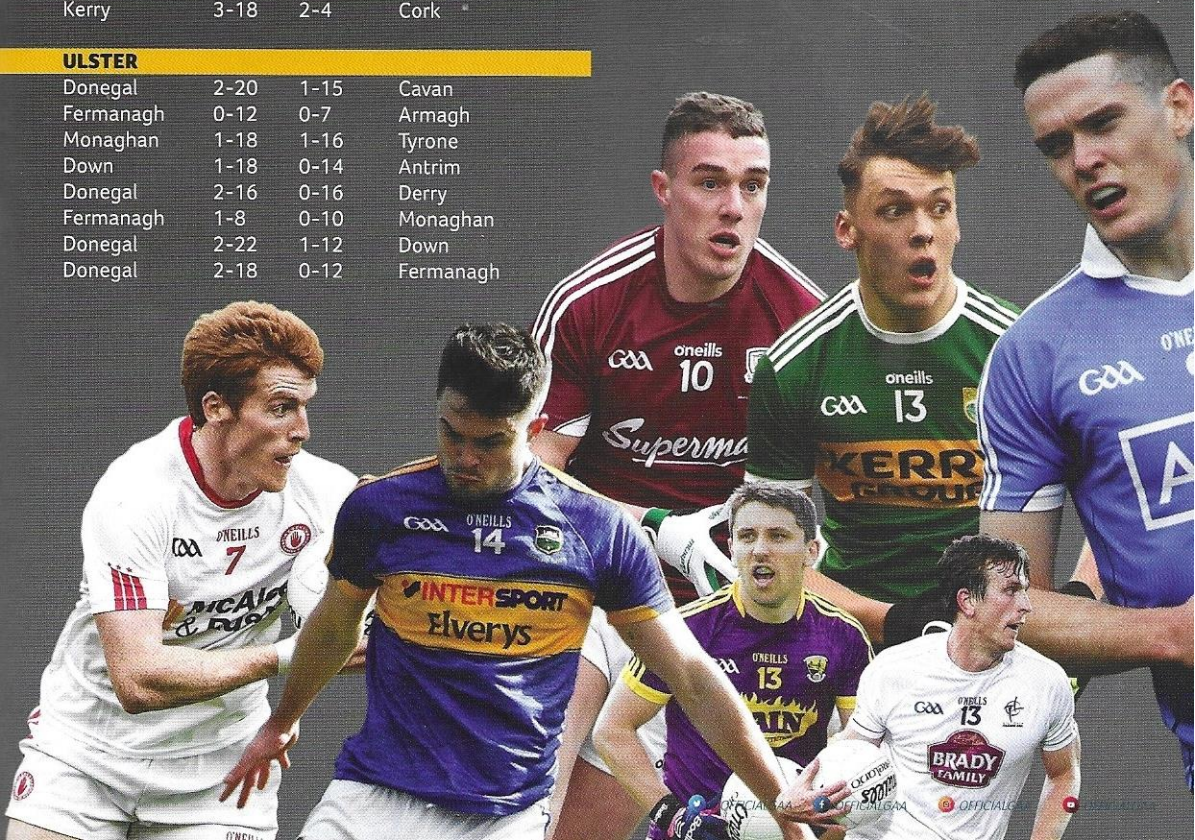
Tipperary	0-20	0-9	Waterford
Clare	1-22	0-14	Limerick
Cork	1-17	0-9	Tipperary
Kerry	0-32	0-10	Clare
Kerry	3-18	2-4	Cork

ULSTER

Donegal	2-20	1-15	Cavan
Fermanagh	0-12	0-7	Armagh
Monaghan	1-18	1-16	Tyrone
Down	1-18	0-14	Antrim
Donegal	2-16	0-16	Derry
Fermanagh	1-8	0-10	Monaghan
Donegal	2-22	1-12	Down
Donegal	2-18	0-12	Fermanagh

QUALIFIERS

Waterford	3-14	1-18	Wexford
Kildare	2-22	2-14	Derry
Tyrone	2-14	0-19	Meath
Cavan	2-16	1-5	Wicklow
Offaly	2-20	1-15	Antrim
Mayo	5-19	3-7	Limerick
Armagh	3-16	1-11	Westmeath
Louth	2-26	1-19	London
Monaghan	5-21	0-9	Waterford
Tyrone	3-14	1-10	Carlow
Cavan	1-14	0-15	Down
Mayo	1-19	1-11	Tipperary
Armagh	1-19	1-13	Sligo
Leitrim	0-25	1-12	Louth
Kildare	1-16	1-13	Longford
Clare	1-19	2-14	Offaly
Monaghan	1-19	0-9	Leitrim
Armagh	2-16	1-15	Clare
Tyrone	0-18	1-12	Cavan
Kildare	0-21	0-19	Mayo
Roscommon	2-22	1-19	Armagh
Tyrone	3-20	0-13	Cork
Kildare	3-20	0-18	Fermanagh
Monaghan	0-19	1-11	Laois



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9 September 2018

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team, or because you know someone
who knows someone on the team.

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Insurance All-Ireland Camogie
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CELEBRATING GAELIC SUNDAY

The *Freeman's Journal* on August 5, 1918 captured precisely what had happened the previous day throughout Ireland.

"Gaelic Sunday, organised by the Gaelic Athletic Association was observed throughout the country yesterday with great success, the article started.

"Every football and hurling team in the country took part in a match, and in all some 54,000 players were engaged.

"As a result of the withdrawal of the prohibition against Gaelic games enforced for the past couple of weeks by police and military, there was no interference with the matches, which were carried out with perfect order in the presence of large numbers of spectators.

"Every town and district had its own venue, and all the matches started simultaneously at three o'clock (old time).

"The progress of the play was everywhere followed with enthusiasm, and the occasion provided a unique display of the popularity of the Gaelic games.

"The proceedings of the day, the good order among the crowds, the perfection of organisation, and the magnificent response made by every team and club throughout the country, constituted at once a vindication of the Gaelic Athletic Association and its objects, and a demonstration of the popular hold which the Gaelic games have on the interests and sympathies of the Irish people."

So 100 years on during a



weekend with All-Ireland Football quarter-final round robin series action taking place clubs will participate with a range of activities.

While a match was held in nearly every parish in the country in 1918 clubs are already busy planning for events next month.

The centenary of Gaelic Sunday is set to be marked at the four All-Ireland quarter-final fixtures, but clubs will also organise their own occasions as a mark of respect to the 100,000 people who watched in 1918.

It was a significant statement by the GAA as tight knit communities worked together. In Mullinavat in Kilkenny a hurley maker hid sticks so the game could take place, but there was further drama. When police arrived outside people flocked elsewhere where a game commenced.

That type of spirit, sense of pride and place remains an integral part of the Association. When nine boys were arrested for playing football in the Phoenix Park the GAA had tough decisions to make. Ultimately it decided to ensure County Boards would arrange games on August 4. Now 100 years later internal club tournaments and family days are amongst the items being

proposed with the emphasis placed on the importance of loyalty for those who have maintained the traditions and ethos of the GAA.

Clubs are also being invited to create their own projects such as history exhibits to emphasise their own achievements during this time.

Significant changes have occurred in Ireland during the past 100 years, but the GAA club remains a constant source of hope and inspiration for people interested in Gaelic games.

With the number of GAA clubs increasing throughout the world the upcoming August weekend offers an ideal opportunity to reflect on the strides being made in various different ways.

A hugely courageous act and statement was made on a national day of defiance when GAA clubs refused to seek a permit opting to organise activities and in Cork, where 40 matches were scheduled, but the adverse weather had a severe impact. Still people tried to find a way to play and those brave souls won't be forgotten by GAA enthusiasts and during the coming weeks clubs will continue to prepare to remember one of the most important and iconic days in the history of the Association.

Get the facts. Be **DRINKAWARE** Visit [drinkaware](http://drinkaware.com)

BOUND TOGETHER



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MADE OF MORE

WHERE WOULD YOU RATHER BE?



It's August, the sod is dry and the best Gaelic football teams in the country – or, why not, the world – are about to collide at full tilt. For devotees of the O'Neill's size five, there is no more exciting time.

The beauty of where we are, right now, is that anything is still possible. The summer is at its height and we are a little closer to knowing who will be crowned kings of September but not by much. Eight teams are still standing, their standing armies of supporters mobilising, the hype

building. It's the best time – the sport of the chase is often better than the catch itself.

In the coming weeks, the big house on Jones' Road – and the country residences dotted around the island – will be brimful of revellers for the annual carnival that is the quarter-final stages.

It's the same but different. This year, the new group format will pose challenges that have not been seen before, ever. It brings to mind one of the GAA's marketing slogans from a couple of years back: *Unexpected The Expected*.

Still, at the back of it all, is the

dream – and it's so precious that some dare not even utter mention the prospect of getting there – of taking a place behind the band on All-Ireland final day, that big drum pounding and the roars swelling up from the stands and from homes and bars and cars and clubhouses the planet over.

Because that's the magnet pulling us all towards September. Yes, the so-called Super 8s are set to be something unique but nothing will ever compare to the big one. Even the regal-sounding name resonates – the final of all Ireland.

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That day of days holds an exalted place and does something to those who experience it, players and management especially. Once they are brushed by the wonder of it all, the feeling is hard to shake.

It's no coincidence that All-Ireland winners often become synonymous with the sport itself. Try it yourself – pick a random year and watch how the influence of the team who landed Sam endures.

We thought of this last week when word emerged from Down that Conor Deegan could be in line to take over as manager following the resignation of Eamonn Burns, his team-mate from the All-Ireland winning days of the early 1990s.

Should Deegan get the gig, he will be the fifth member of the starting team from the 1991 final to manage the county in the 16 years since Pete McGrath stepped aside.

Prior to Deegan, Burns, James McCartan, Ross Carr and Paddy O'Rourke – all of whom started in 1991 – had their turn, with team-mates DJ Kane and Neil Collins filling selector roles.

And of course, McGrath himself, wondrously, is still standing too, still fighting the good fight. Three seasons ago, at this time of year, he was preparing his Fermanagh team for a tilt at Dublin in the All-Ireland quarter-final. This year, he was in charge of Louth.

And from the Meath team they beat in that final, Colm Coyle has managed the Royals as well. Bernard Flynn and Colm O'Rourke will be in Croke Park this weekend calling the moves for RTÉ while Liam Hayes has written several books on the game.

The 1991 final is no outlier, either. The following season, Donegal won it out. From their panel who beat Dublin, John Joe Doherty and Jim McGuinness managed the county and Declan

Bonner, currently wearing the bib marked bainisteoir for the second time, will now lead his charges south plotting an ambush, from the Rosses to Jones' Road, seeking that All-Ireland day thrill again.

Martin McHugh has two sons on the current panel, one of whom, Mark, also has a Celtic Cross, earned 20 years to the month after his Dad. The 'wee man from Kilcar' will also be here today on media duty, like McGuinness, 21 years after he brought Cavan back here for their only All-Ireland semi-final in half a century.

Fermanagh, who we mentioned earlier, have also only been in the last four once in that time – their manager, in 2004, was another of those who brought Sam to the hills in '92, Charlie Mulgrew. Can you spot the common theme?

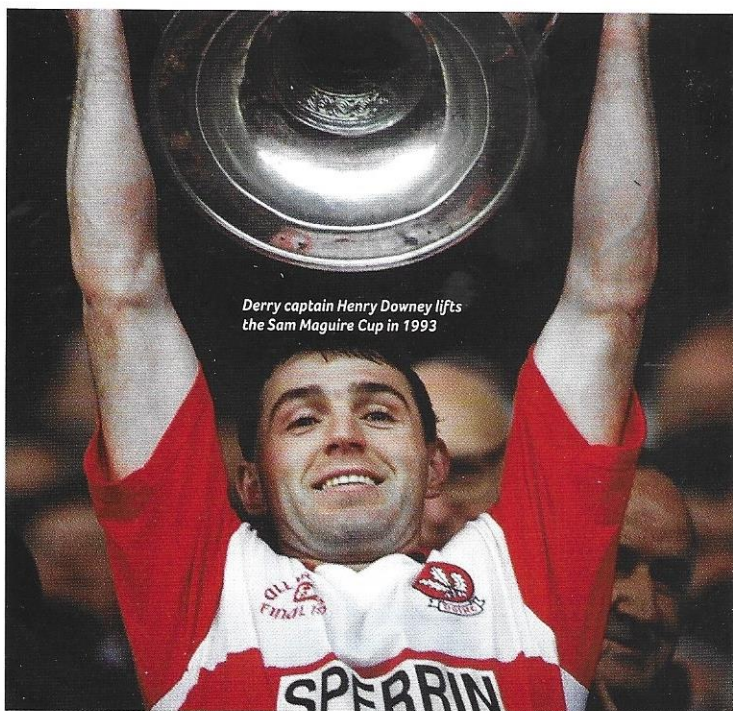
So, the next month will see new stories written and new heroes emerge but all roads lead back to this same venue for the big day. At half-time in that game on September 2, the Derry team who won the county's only All-Ireland

title in 1993 will be introduced to the crowd.

The feting of the winners from 25 years before is one of the most endearing developments in Gaelic games and always invokes nostalgic feelings. What's noticeable, though, is that while the hairlines may be receding and speckled with grey in places, most of those who, suited and booted, step forward gingerly and salute the crowd are instantly recognisable to the fans all these years later.

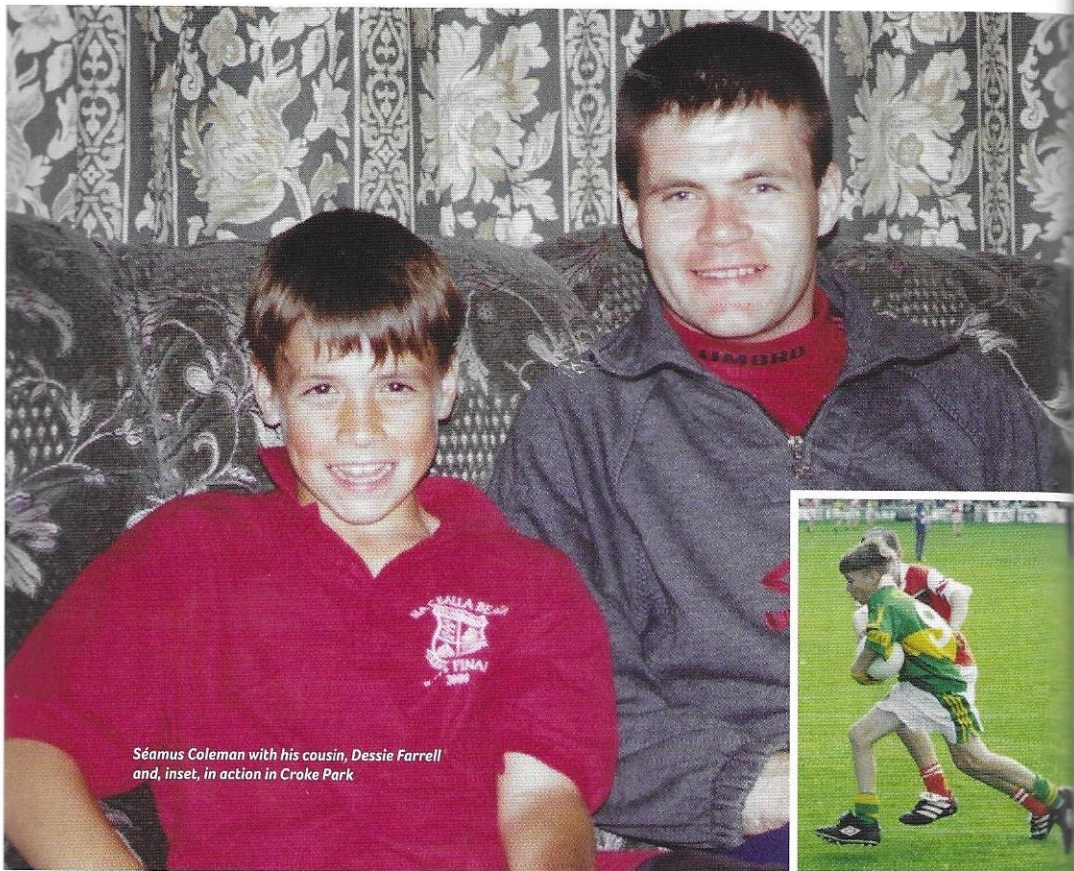
Their legacies live on and they are forever linked in the public consciousness to that one afternoon – or, in some lucky cases, a few of them. That's the gift that an All-Ireland day bestows. To paraphrase another marketing tag-line of a few years ago, *they are no longer men but giants*.

The great challenge for the eight still in the race is to find a way to get there and that work starts in earnest this weekend. Where would you rather be?



Derry captain Henry Downey lifts the Sam Maguire Cup in 1993

CUMANN NA mBUNSCOL, ÁTH CLIATH



Séamus Coleman with his cousin, Dessie Farrell and, inset, in action in Croke Park

Cumann na mBunscol, Áth Cliath, is currently celebrating 90 years in existence and taking pride in the contribution the organisation has played in promoting and developing Gaelic games in the capital since the early part of the 20th century. The most celebrated GAA clubs in the city grew from primary schools that are still providing backbone support in supplying players and

facilitating the promotion of summer camps and related activities.

The great stars of teams down the years are quick to acknowledge the influence of Cumann na mBunscol teachers and their pride in having played in Croke Park finals with their schools. As the organisation moves close to its 100th birthday, a record number of teams are currently being organised in leagues for the biggest year in history. The number of teams participating in the Allianz leagues has passed 500 for

the first time.

Cumann na mBunscol teachers are central to the arrangement of the half-time INTO sponsored Go Games. Many stars from other counties have come through the programme including current Ireland football captain, Seamus Coleman. He was a talented Gaelic player and he represented Killybegs NS in the Mini-Sevens. He is a first cousin of former Dublin star and Cumann na mBunscol player (St. Vincent's, Glasnevin) Dessie Farrell. Seamus wore the Kerry jersey when he lined out in Croke Park.

MAKING THE DAYS COUNT

One of the charities that the GAA is supporting in 2018 is Mayo Roscommon Hospice Foundation which was established in 1993 to help provide hospice services in the two counties.

The Foundation, working in association with HSE West, provides a 7-day specialist palliative home care service. As the Service has developed and expanded, it is now also available for pain and symptom control in patients with other non-malignant conditions such as end stage Motor Neurone, Muscular Dystrophy, MS, COPD, Dementia and Heart Failure. Over the past 24 years the palliative care teams

have assisted in the care of over 14,000 patients and their families.

The number of patients, both adults and children being referred to the service increases annually, from 466 in 2007 to 907 in 2017.

By 2020 one in every two people will be diagnosed with cancer and given that 44% of our patients have non-cancer illnesses it is forecasted that our patient numbers will double over the next five years.

Patients from Mayo and Roscommon who currently require specialist in-patient facilities have to be cared for in Galway or Dublin or in an inappropriate setting in an acute hospital. Hospitals try where they can to provide a private room but that is not always possible.

Last December the build of

a 14 bed hospice in Castlebar began, and will be completed in April 2019. This will be followed by an eight bed unit in the grounds of Roscommon Hospital. The capital cost of both projects is approx. €15 million. This is a huge undertaking for a small organisation but the Foundation is determined to ensure that patients with life limiting illnesses from Mayo and Roscommon have the best possible facilities, where they can be cared for with dignity and respect at end of life.

Our hospices will provide a wide range of services, including specialist medical, nursing, psychological and spiritual care.

Find out more at www.hospice.ie call 0949388666 or email fundraising@hospice.ie



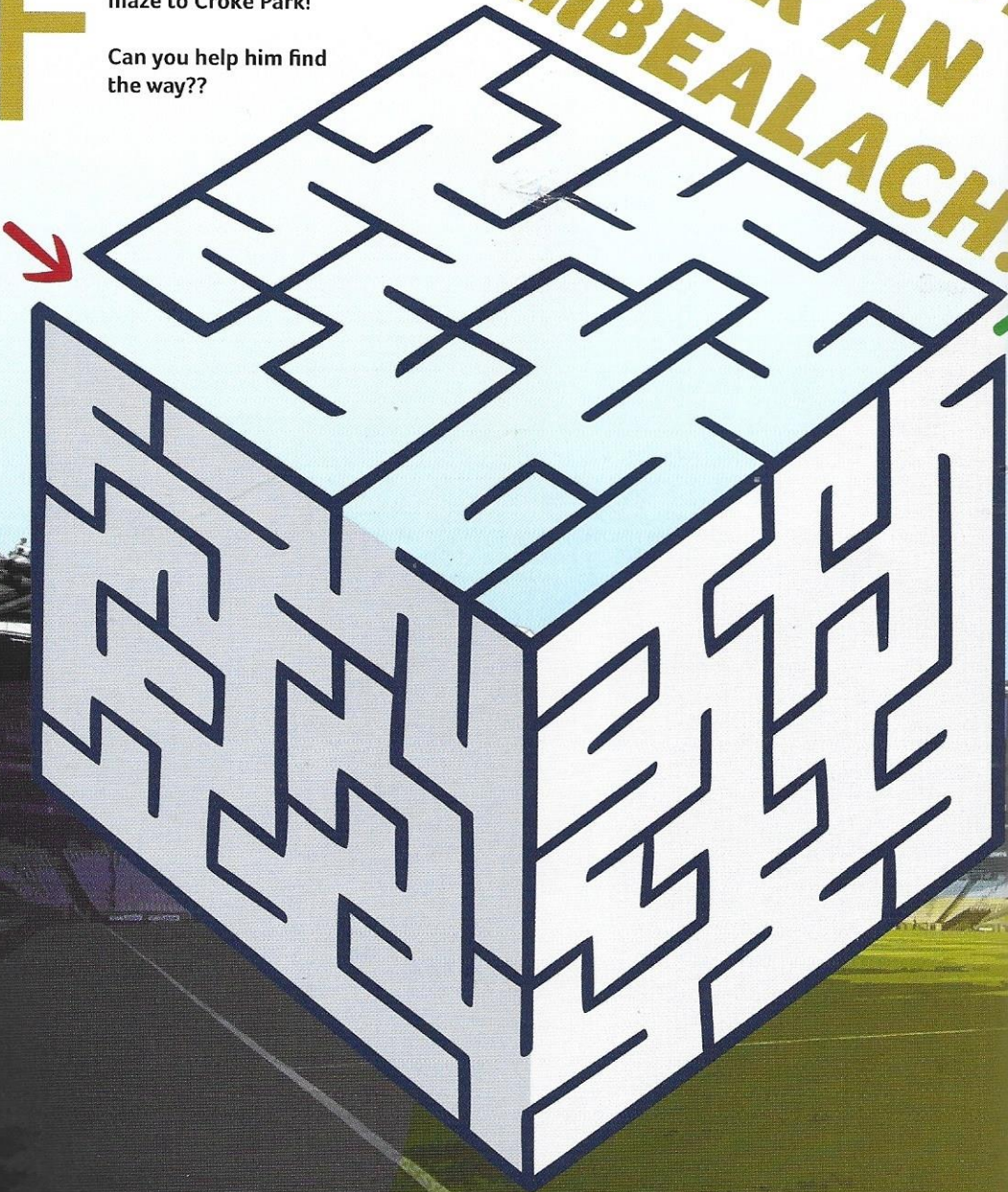


CÚINNE NA nÓG

TEACHT
AR AN
mBEALACH!

Fionn needs to make his way through the maze to Croke Park!

Can you help him find the way??



Is the ball at A, B or C?



CUIR AN
LIATHROID
AR AN
LATHAIR

Freagra: C. Ainmnigh an imreoir: Paddy Brophy, Kildare

SA
MHEASCÁN

READ LIK

ALG YAW

AINMNIGH AN IMREOIR SIN

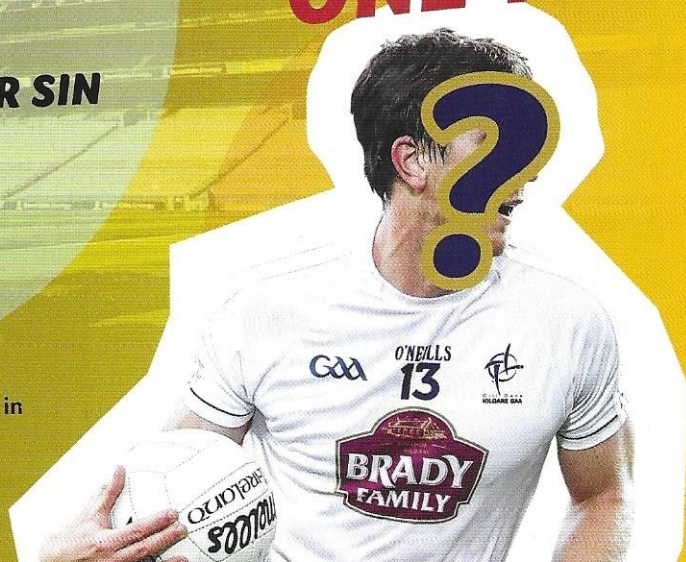
Can you name the intercounty player
from the clues below...?

1. Signed for Australian Rules club
West Coast Eagles in 2014.
2. My club is Celbridge.
3. Scored two points against Fermanagh in
Round 4 of the Football Qualifiers

Unscramble the anagrams below to find the
names of county teams!

BLUDIN
NOM HAG NA

ONE TRY



CROKE PARK SAFETY AND GENERAL INFORMATION

REGULATIONS

Páirc an Chrócaigh

1. All persons entering this ground are admitted only subject to the following Rules (which are designated to protect the Health and Safety of all entrants to the ground). Entry to the ground shall be deemed to constitute unqualified acceptance of all of these Rules.
2. The management reserves the right of admission.
3. The instructions of the stewards must be obeyed at all times.
4. All persons entering the ground agree to be searched by a member of the Garda Síochána.
5. Every person (including infants) entering the ground must have a ticket.
6. The following are not permitted:
- 6.1 Entry upon the pitch or engaging in conduct that causes or is likely to cause injury or harm to, or otherwise interferes with, disrupts, hinders, or distracts a person playing in, refereeing or otherwise having a role in a match at this ground.
- 6.2 Any unauthorised contact with the boundary wall surrounding the pitch or incursion on to the pitch. Any such unauthorised contact or incursion constitutes a trespass to property.
- 6.3 The climbing of floodlights or other pylons, stands or other buildings. Such behavior constitutes a trespass to property.
- 6.4 Throwing of objects onto the pitch.
- 6.5 Remaining or loitering in any gangway or aisle.
- 6.6 Behaving in an offensive or indecent manner.
- 6.7 Bringing of alcohol into the ground.
- 6.8 Bringing into the ground of fireworks, smoke canisters, bottles, glasses, cans, flags, banners, poles, distress signals, laser pointers and similar articles or containers, including anything which could or might be used as a weapon.
- 6.9 Excessive noise such as that from the use of radio sets or other appliances and behaviour likely to cause confusion or nuisance of any kind including foul or abusive language.
7. If a person commits a trespass, reasonable force may be used to prevent, restrain or terminate any trespass.
8. Where a person is in breach of any of these rules, or where the management believes that a person constitutes a source of danger to others, or to the ground, such person may be refused entry or ejected from the ground, and reasonable force may be used for that purpose.

Safety and General Information

Supporters are asked to respect the fact that they are entering and leaving the stadium through residential areas.



Safety Notice

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



The policy to prohibit such encroachment in the future has been taken to avoid further injuries and possible fatality and has been taken on the advice and promptings of the safety authorities, namely the Gardai, Dublin City Council, Fire Brigade and the HSE. The full co-operation of supporters is requested to avoid serious injury and to ensure that games can be enjoyed without resource to fencing or avoidable obstructions to seeing action from all vantage points.

Together we can ensure that the Croke Park experience is both enjoyable and safe, particularly for the young and vulnerable.

Smoking Policy

Croke Park now operates a No Smoking policy except in designated areas of the ground.



Medical Assistance

First Aid Centres are located in the following areas:

Davin Stand/Cusack Stand Level 3:	Section 313
Hogan Stand Level 3:	Section 333
Cusack Stand Level 7 :	Section 702
Davin/Cusack Stand Level 7:	Section 724
Dineen/Hill 16 Cusack Side:	Section A
Medical Centre:	Hogan Players Tunnel



Lost Children

Lost children will be brought to the above First Aid Centres.



Please play your part by co-operating with the Greener On and off the pitch initiatives at the Stadium and using the recycling stations provided. Please log onto www.crokepark.ie/about/sustainability for further information.

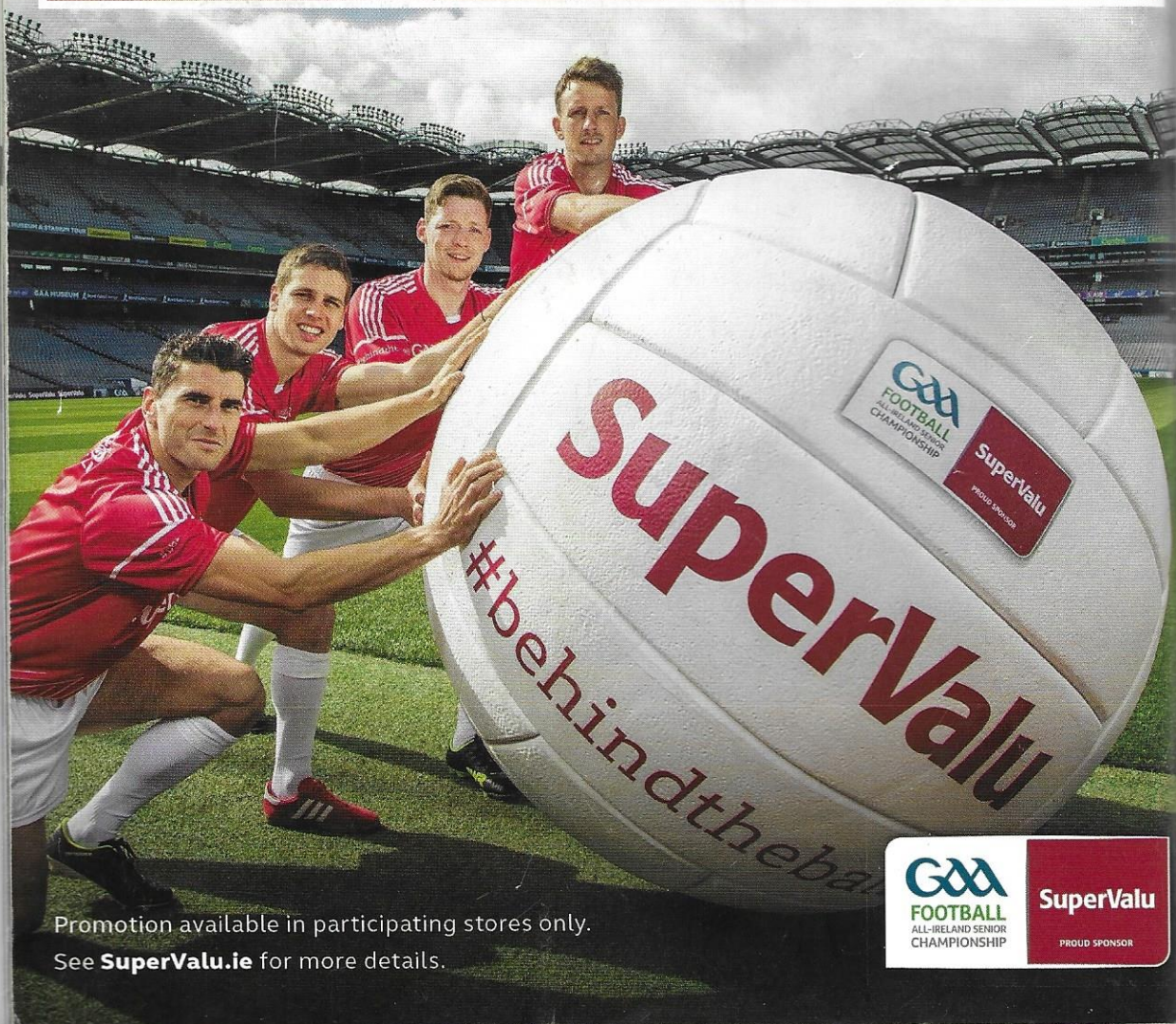


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