

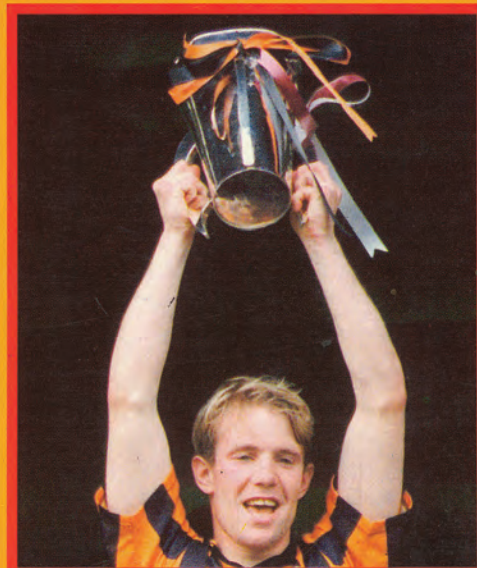
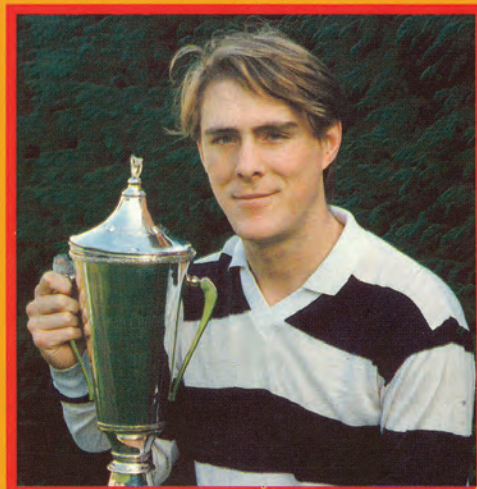
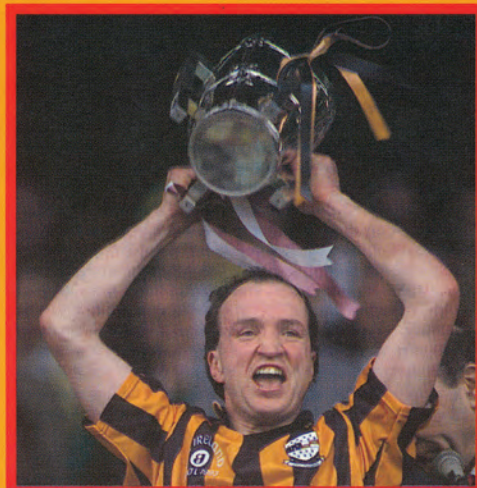
KILKENNY

G.A.A. YEARBOOK



1993

Luach:
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KILKENNY G.A.A. YEARBOOK 1993

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DUXIE WALSH – All-Ireland Handball
Singles Champion.
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SINEAD MILLEA – Captain St. Brigid's
College, Callan.
JOE PHILPOTT – Captain St. Kieran's College
SHANE DOYLE – Captain Kilkenny Minor
Team.
Cover pictures courtesy of
Tom Brett and Sportsfile.

Editorial

THE "linseed" has been applied to the trusted camán, dubbin has been kneaded into every nook and cranny of burling boots, socks and knicks, straps and bandages, tracksuits and bags have been confined to temporary hibernation. Yes, it's that time of year when G.A.A. people talk, and talk, and talk some more. In their local hostelrys over a pint of "black nectar", or gazing into the dying embers of a winter fire, they will discuss at length the glories, or "downers", of the past year, and what a year it was for the Marble County. Getting one of its teams to an All-Ireland final would be an unqualified success for many counties in Ireland, but getting all teams under its direct jurisdiction to their respective finals is the utopia sought by many, but attained by very few. Kilkenny achieved that, and much more in 1993.

The Kilkenny County Board are therefore delighted to record, as much as possible, the story that was Kilkenny in 1993. We have endeavoured to cover the inter-county exploits of all our teams. A large section of our Yearbook is seconded to the achievements of our clubs, mentors, supporters, camogie players, colleges players, coaching personnel, handballers, games development etc. For the people involved in compiling this Yearbook, it has, in the main, been a labour of love. We have endeavoured to re-live, through word, picture and verse, the story that was "Kilkenny 1993". To that end, we hope we have succeeded somewhat.

The compilation of this Yearbook could not have been possible without the involvement of many hard-working people. Primarily, our committee of Gerry O'Neill, Ann Downey, Tommy O'Brien, Richie Stone, Ned Quinn, Tommy Lanigan, John Cahill, Joe Dunphy, Ned Kennedy, John Knox, Michael Shortall, Tom Ryall, Barry Hickey, Ted Carroll, Nickey Brennan, under the chairmanship of Brendan O'Sullivan, worked long arduous hours to bring this book into your homes.

A debt of gratitude is also due to our own professional journalists, John Knox ('Kilkenny People') and Enda McEvoy ('Sunday Independent'). To all our photographers, I say go raibh mile maith agaibh.

You will appreciate that a venture like this is expensive. Without the generous support of all our advertisers, the "Kilkenny Yearbook" could not have 'come off the blocks'. I thank them sincerely for their continued generosity, and I trust that all Kilkenny supporters will support our advertisers. Hopefully our advertisers' investment will prove a lucrative one.

Finally, I wish to thank our publisher, "Kilkenny People" and its staff for the help, assistance, and courtesy shown to myself and all the members of my committee over a hectic few weeks.

Hopefully our Yearbook will give many hours of enjoyment to you. To our many emigrants, I hope that it will brighten your day, and put a renewed spring in your step.

Go n-eirí an bóthar libh go léir.

BARRIE HENRIQUES
Editor



Foreword



A cháirde, tá an t-am buailte linn arís chun cur síos ar eachtraí Cumann Lúthchleas Gael anseo cois Feoire agus tagairt faoi leith a lua ar na clubanna agus ar na daoine a léirigh go soiléir dúinn chomh tréan is atá ár gcluichí anseo i gCill Chainnigh. Táimid go léir bródúil as a ndúthracht agus níl aon amhras ann gur chóir dom buíochas ó chroí a ghabháil dóibh uilig. Léiríonn an leabhar seo go bhfuil an t-ádh againn agus táimse cinnte go mbainfidh muintir Chill Chainnigh i gcéin is i gcóngar sult as na haltanna atá scríofa. Bliain faoi mhaise díbh go léir.

Nineteen ninety three will go down in history as one of the great years for Cumann Lúthchleas Gael here in Kilkenny. To have all four inter-county hurling teams reach All-Ireland finals is a tremendous achievement. Two successes out of four is no bad return and we were very close to victory in the other two games.

The retaining of the All-Ireland Senior Hurling title was the obvious highlight of the year. The early part of 1993 did not bring much joy to Kilkenny and when the team was relegated to Division 2, the prospects of another All-Ireland success looked doubtful. This year's Leinster Senior Hurling Championship campaign was one of the best ever with brilliant hurling and exciting finishes. Kilkenny more than played their part in bringing the best out of Offaly and Wexford (twice). Of course we had a little luck along the way, but the manner in which the team rebounded when needed in their games showed the maturity to which this team has grown in recent years.

An unexpected easy win over Antrim in the All-Ireland Semi-Final saw Kilkenny into their third successive All-Ireland Final with Galway as opponents. Once again the game was close, with Kilkenny just edging ahead in the final moments. With the minor hurlers also victorious over Galway, the first Sunday in September this year was a great occasion for all Kilkenny supporters. The Minors certainly kept their best display for the day that mattered as they overcame a highly fancied Galway team. The homecoming to Kilkenny the following night was one of the best ever experienced by any Kilkenny team.

The past year saw some of the best club hurling for some time in Kilkenny. Both games in the Senior Hurling Final plus the Intermediate Hurling Final were tremendously exciting and clearly show the current strength of the game in the county. I congratulate the various winners and thank all the teams for the sporting manner in which the games were played.

It is easy to forget that Kilkenny continues to have an active Gaelic Football programme in spite of so much emphasis on hurling. Successes all are too rare at inter-county level, yet we can still boast of retaining the International tournament in August. Our club football fixtures were completed on schedule with some equally exciting games, belying the low status of Kilkenny football.

One of the undoubted highlights of the year was the history-making ninth title in a row from our ace handballer, Michael 'Ducksie' Walsh. This incredible achievement was achieved by one of Ireland's great sportsmen. His superb commitment and dedication to the sport is an example to all sports people.

These are just some of the many reviews of the year that appear in the 1993 Kilkenny G.A.A. Yearbook. All the regular features are again included with extensive coverage of underage hurling and football, camogie and handball. The Club Focus section affords readers an opportunity to see how their club fared during 1993.

Photographs are an integral part of any publication. The Yearbook Committee have made a special effort this year to bring the colour and excitement of 1993 to you in the best pictorial coverage possible. I know you will not be disappointed. Many thanks to the many excellent photographers for allowing us to use their material.

The running of our County Board, as well as the publication of our Yearbook, is an expensive operation and would not be possible but for the generous help of our many sponsors and advertisers. I would ask all our readers to support our sponsors and advertisers whenever the opportunity arises.

As in previous years, this Yearbook will find its way to many parts of the world. Wherever you may be, I hope you enjoy reading of the exploits of the many sportsmen and sportswomen in our county who thrilled us all during 1993. It is fitting that their achievements and endeavours are recorded for current and future generations.

I am grateful to the Editor, Barrie Henriques, and his hard working committee for the many hours spent compiling and editing the Yearbook.

I am sure all G.A.A. supporters in Kilkenny are looking forward to a nice break before the commencement of the National Leagues in February. I am grateful for all your support during 1993 and I know it was instrumental in all teams achieving such excellent performances during the year.

Every good wish for Christmas and the New Year to all the clubs, players and supporters in the county and all Kilkenny Gaels outside the county. We can all look forward to 1994 with further hope and anticipation.

Slán agus Beannacht.

NIOCLÁS Ó BRAONÁIN
Cathaoirleach,
Coiste Contae Cill Chainnigh

Teachtairacht an Uachtaráin



It is becoming increasingly difficult to think of something to say about Kilkenny hurling. Over the last few years, all the superlatives and all the cliches have been used up. Still Kilkenny continue to dominate, to provide exhibitions of outstanding skill, craft and courage in the pursuit of Liam Óg.

I was lucky enough to have witnessed most of Kilkenny's games this year. In that dark and dreary day against Offaly, I thought their reign was over. In the epic first game against Wexford I was certain at one stage that it was. But the resilience and commitment of the black and amber was proven, if ever proof was needed. The quest for the retention of Liam Óg continued and he rested by the Nore in September.

It was a great year for Kilkenny hurling. The Minor and Senior double was achieved with the great style and sportsmanship that is your hallmark. The under-21 title only eluded you by the puck of a ball. To complete the "nap hand", Kilkenny also brought the Junior hurlers to the All-Ireland Final, in which they were narrowly beaten by Clare. Not alone, therefore, have you had an outstandingly successful year, but you have laid tangible foundations for ultimate honours in the future.

As you embark on a major redevelopment of Nowlan Park, your Co. Committee, under the chairmanship of Nickey Brennan, can be proud of the achievement in ensuring a structure and policies that continue to produce great teams and facilities commensurate with the status of Kilkenny. You are a credit to the G.A.A. and you deserve every congratulations.

Ar son Cumann Lúthchleas Gael agus ar mo shon féin, ba mhaith liom buíochas a ghabháil libh agus tá súil agam go mbeidh bliain sasúil agaibh arís i nóchta a ceathair.

PEADAR Ó CÚINN
Uachtarán C.L.G.

YEARBOOK COMMITTEE 1993



SEATED (l.-r.): Joe Dunphy, Ann Downey, Brendan O'Sullivan (Chairman), Nickey Brennan (Chairman County Board), Ted Carroll (Secretary County Board), Tom Ryall (P.R.O. County Board). STANDING (l.-r.): Gerry O'Neill, Tommy Lanigan, Richie Stone, Barrie Henriques (Editor), Tommy O'Brien, Michael Shortall, John Cahill, John Knox, Barry Hickey (County Development Officer). Missing from photo: Ned Quinn and Ned Kennedy.

(Photo: Tom Brett)

– CATS TAKE 25th TITLE –

Survival in hurling tempest showed greatness

KILKENNY 2-17;

GALWAY 1-15

THE REAL appreciation was in being there, being part of the making of history! No slickly edited television highlight, or bright video recording or anything else could come to within a thousand miles of actually being there, seeing it all happening, pulsating second by pulsating second.

The 106th All-Ireland senior hurling final between defending champions, Kilkenny, and mighty Galway was all at once a gripping, heart-stopping and brilliant affair, a classic confrontation between two powerful teams.

The battle called for might of mind as well as body, as the protagonists threw themselves headlong into a Croke Park confrontation that transported supporters to dizzy heights and alternatively to the lowest depths.

At the end of it all, Kilkenny claimed their 25th All-Ireland win. On top of that, they put All-Ireland wins back-to-back, the first time since 1982 and '83, and ran-up the sixth 'two together' for this proud county.

Proud indeed was every Kilkenny man and woman in the Croke attendance of 63,500 – and world-wide too – when referee, Terence Murray, called hostilities to an end. All associated with the vanquished had every reason to be proud too, because this All-Ireland, more than many that had gone before, was a true



By: John Knox
"Kilkenny People"



John Power thwarts the best efforts of Gerry McInerney to stop him in the All-Ireland Final. Eamon Morrissey is arriving to assist. (Photo: Sportsfile)



D. J. Carey does his "Nijinski Act" as he speeds away from Galway defender Tom Helebert in the All-Ireland Final.

celebration of the richness of something that is uniquely Irish.

Other countries may have their games and pastimes, but few in the true amateur realm could compare with hurling for sheer excitement, skill, manliness and courage, when played with the finesse and daring that Kilkenny and Galway showed in this absorbing contest on September 5, 1993.

Devastating form

From the throw-in it looked as if Kilkenny were in a hurry to retain the McCarthy Cup and the Connacht champions appeared set to be put to the sword early. With Adrian Ronan in devastating form during the opening 20 minutes – he scored 1-2 – the 'Cats' opened up the biggest lead of the half (1-5 to 0-3).

The challengers were being tossed about in a calculated hurling storm whipped-up by Kilkenny, whose fast, low-ball game had Galway in a dither. The Tribesmen sought inspiration from every source, including their own 'line', but it came by way of Lady Luck, who guided a none too well struck shot from Liam Burke into the winners net.

That fortuitous score erased a lot of Kilkenny's early damage, which could have been worse had they taken all their chances – 9 wides in this half – and helped Galway back into the game. At half-time the champions lead was back to 1-8 to 1-6.

The new half was barely 40 seconds old when P. J. Delaney posted a point for Kilkenny. The opposition hit back for a like score from Joe Cooney and the tit-for-tat pattern of the second half exchanges was set.

With Joe Cooney having an inordinate influence on matters at midfield, Joe Rabbitte burst holes up front, and Pdraig Kelly also delivering a lot of ball from the '40', the challengers turned the screws on Kilkenny. In the 43rd minute Rabbitte had a point to slice the difference to the minimum (1-11 to 1-10).

In the 51st minute, goalie Michael Walsh, kept the Kilkenny ship afloat when he made a super diving save from a well struck low effort by Liam Burke. The 'keeper could do nothing to prevent the flying Rabbitte equalising seconds later, or when Joe Cooney put Galway in front for the only and one time when he converted a '65 moments later (1-12 to 1-11).

D. J. Carey won back parity for the 'Cats' before John Power, with a brave effort from 45 yards under the Hogan Stand into the Railway goal, nosed them in front yet again in the 57th



Where is the ball Joe? Pat Dwyer asks Joe Rabbitte – is there any sign of the ball in the All-Ireland Final. (Photo: John McElwaine)

minute. Again the Connacht champions clawed their way back, this time via Rabbitte.

In Front

D. J. Carey with a difficult free, and Pdraig Kelly with a long range effort left the teams neck-and-neck (1-14 each) seven minutes off the finish.

With 28.52 of the second half showing on the clock, the final of '93 saw Kilkenny get in front again. This time they were not to be called back. D. J. Carey took the honours after a foul on John Power.

Then with 32.12 showing on the clock, the losers were nailed. Galway lost a ball on midfield and from their

opponents sideline cut, Adrian Ronan won the ball and launched an attack. the ball dropped about 12 yards to the right of goal. P. J. Delaney read the flight of the ball perfectly and 'saw' it beating his marker. When the ball came to ground, he had the advantage and he slipped it beautifully to the net past advancing goalie Richard Burke.

There and then, the game was won and lost. A chap of a mere 20 years ended up having the most decisive say in a final that will long live in the memory of all who viewed it at first hand, and those who saw it via the 'box' in the corner.



Liam Keoghan watches Liam Burke's shot for a score in the All-Ireland Final. Looking on is Eddie O'Connor (half hidden) and Willie O'Connor. (Photo: John McElwaine)

Young Delaney grew into a hurling man in this game. During the opening half his speed, of body and mind, had the opposition in terrible trouble, but his shooting didn't always match stunning approach work. Still, he had a hand in Ronan's first half score and walked off the field with 1-4 to his credit.

He was involved in the one mystery surrounding this game – how he didn't win the 'man of the match' award. What more could a 20-year-old in his first Senior final have done to take the award? Nothing that would have made much more of a difference!

Was Great

For sure, Delaney was great. Good and all as he was, he wasn't far ahead of Pat O'Neill, who, during the opening 20 minutes, took on and beat three different centre-forwards. In the second half Galway opted to avoid his territory, and seek alternate routes towards goal.

Liam Simpson was truly great also, and he must have had a pain in his arms at the finish he cleared so much ball. Billy Hennessy, Liam McCarthy and Michael Walsh, especially for his save from Liam Burke, were others for whom great things happened in this final.

Galway gave the defending champions as searching a test as they are very likely to get. That Kilkenny carried the day, bore testimony to their undoubted greatness.



Funny kind of a breathaliser for a train driver! Eddie Keher, Dr. Bill Cuddihy and young Cuddihy have fun on the team train back from the All-Ireland Final.

The Scorers

Kilkenny: P. J. Delaney (1-4); A. Ronan (1-2); D. J. Carey (0-4, three frees); L. McCarthy (0-3); E. Morrissey (0-2); B. Hennessy, J. Power (0-1 each).

Galway: J. Rabbitte (0-4); J. Cooney (0-4, frees); P. Malone (0-3); L. Burke (1-0); M. McGrath (0-2); P. Kelly (0-2, one free).

The Teams

Kilkenny: M. Walsh, E. O'Connor (captain), P. Dwyer, L. Simpson, L. Keoghan, P. O'Neill, W. O'Connor, M. Phelan, B. Hennessy, L. McCarthy, J.

Power, D. J. Carey, E. Morrissey, P. J. Delaney, A. Ronan.

Subs: J. Brennan for Morrissey; T. Murphy for M. Phelan; C. Heffernan for Delaney (inj.)

Galway: R. Burke, P. Cooney, S. Treacy, M. Killilea, T. Helebert, G. McInerney, P. Kelly, M. Coleman, P. Malone, B. Keogh, J. McGrath, J. Cooney, M. McGrath (captain), J. Rabbitte, L. Burke.

Subs: J. Campbell for J. McGrath; P. Finnerty for Keogh.

Referee: T. Murray (Limerick).



Hey Liam – who won the 3.30 at Leopardstown. Michael Phelan looks for vital information during the All-Ireland Final.

(Photo: Sportfile)

MINOR RECORD REFLECTS HEAVY INVESTMENT IN YOUTH



By JOHN KNOX, "Kilkenny People"

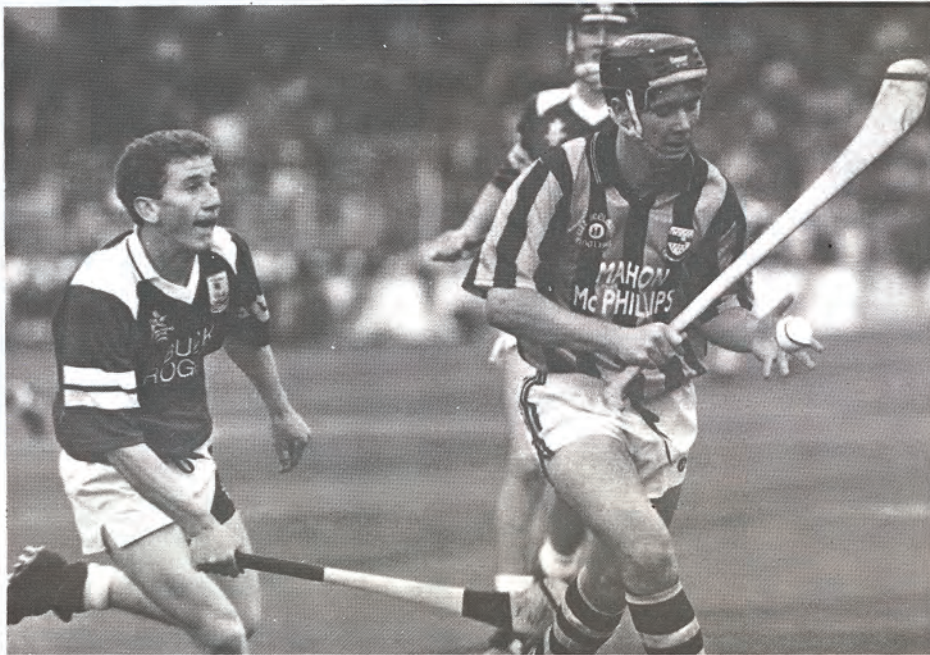
How often have we heard it said, "look after the pennies, and the pounds will look after themselves!". It would appear Kilkenny have taken to heart the sentiments expressed in that wise old saying, twisted them about a bit, and put them to profitable use.

THE heavy investment that has been made in under-age games in this county down through the years has turned a handy profit, to be sure. And full expression was given to that very needy and praiseworthy work when Kilkenny claimed a record 16th All-Ireland minor hurling championship victory in September.

Too often, work at under-age level is taken for granted. The dedicated teachers, club workers and under-age Board officers keep plugging away, without ever gaining much notice or credit. All their efforts are reflected when all combine as one with the county minor team, to give full expression to the work that is going on in the background.

Kilkenny have won more minor All-Ireland finals during the past 10 years than any other county. The breakdown is as follows: Kilkenny 4 (1988, '90, 1991 and '93); Offaly 3 (1986, '87 and 1989); Galway 1 (1992); Cork 1 (1985); Limerick 1 (1984).

That happy state of affairs, which culminated with Kilkenny taking over at



Brendan Dalton in action in the All-Ireland Minor Final versus Galway

(Photo: John McElwaine)

the top of the Roll of Honour, didn't merely happen by chance. It was made happen by looking after the pennies (the youngsters), who might eventually

mature into the pounds (seniors).

Not every minor player will make it through to the senior grade. But every year you can score a victory at under-18



Kilkenny players John Ayres and Shane Doyle in the Leinster Minor Hurling Final versus Dublin.

(Photo: Sportsfile)

level, improves the prospects of further success later in the senior grade.

Example, senior star of today, P.J. Delaney won a minor All-Ireland in 1991. Example, D.J. Carey, Pat O'Neill and Adrian Ronan, senior stars of today, won a minor All-Ireland in 1988.

HELPED DEVELOP

In fairness, it has to be admitted, that talented quartet is not representative of the average player at under-age level. In their early days they all showed outstanding capabilities, but it was the opportunity given to them in the fields of Johnstown, Gowran and Kilmanagh that helped develop and fine-tune the skills that were there in the first place.

And today, when they perform at senior level they are showing the fruits of the many hours that were invested in them by interested people in their schools and clubs, and also, of course, by their parents.

There is every chance that some of this year's minor All-Ireland winning team could be returning to Croke Park in the years ahead to claim even bigger prizes. This was a very skilful unit, one that won a first class final against a good Galway team.

Throughout the campaign, Ollie O'Connor proved he has that something special as a score-getter. David Buggy, who wasn't on for the first match and started the second with a No. 20 jersey on his back, blossomed as the campaign progressed and he starred in the All-Ireland.

Damien Cleere, who has a surprising knack of winning aerial duels, looked another one to watch out for in future years. And who knows, if things go well, Ollie Blanchfield, John Ayres, Vinny O'Brien, Liam Smith and most certainly Tom Hickey, could mature into senior prospects in the not too distant future.

As with every minor side, selectors Joe Pyke (Bórd na nÓg chairman), Phil Larkin (James Stephens), Paddy Corbett (Graignamanagh), Jim Neary (Graigue-



The minor magician! David Buggy in action during the All-Ireland Minor Final.

(Photo: Tom Brett)

Ballycallan) and Fr. Liam Barron (Glenmore) had their work cut out sifting through the talent, and getting the balance right.

Easily, the championship could have been over as quickly as it began for the Noresiders. Their first engagement against Offaly in Portlaoise was a close call, and finished level at 0-16 (K) to 1-13. The midlanders, under manager Damien Martin, had prepared really hard, and they went close to pushing their opponents out of the competition.

TOUCH AND GO

With Ollie O'Connor, Brendan Dalton and Damien Cleere picking off easy points early, Offaly fell 0-3 to 0-8 behind after 20 minutes, and looked booked for an early exit. A lucky goal brought them back into the match, and left them level at 1-6 to 0-9 at the break.

It was touch and go all the way during the second half. When Ollie O'Connor shot Kilkenny a point in front in the 58th minute the matter seemed decided. It wasn't. Offaly grabbed an equaliser.

Surprisingly, the replay was a one-sided affair. Reason? Kilkenny had a player with the speed of hands and mind to cope with the very heavy going. Castlecomer's David Buggy was the "mudlark" that evening who shot 3-1 to destroy the opposition.

Of course, this wasn't a one-man show, and Vinny O'Brien, John Ayres, John Costelloe, Seán Kealy, Liam Smith and Brendan Dalton also did very well.

In the Leinster semi-final against Wexford, the eventual champions left their best form at home and made life difficult on themselves. In the end they were lucky to win by 4-5 to 2-9, because the Slaneysiders missed a fair chance of a late goal.

'Cats' lead the way

Kilkenny (16) – 1931, 1935, 1936, 1950, 1960, 1961, 1962, 1972, 1973, 1975, 1977, 1981, 1988, 1990, 1991, 1993.

Cork (15) – 1928, 1937, 1938, 1939, 1941, 1951, 1964, 1967, 1969, 1970, 1971, 1974, 1978, 1979, 1985.

Tipperary (15) – 1930, 1932, 1933, 1934, 1947, 1949, 1952, 1953, 1955, 1956, 1957, 1959, 1976, 1980, 1982.

Dublin (4) – 1945, 1946, 1954, 1965.

Limerick (3) – 1940, 1958, 1984.

Offaly (3) – 1986, 1987, 1989.

Wexford (3) – 1963, 1966, 1968.

Waterford (2) – 1929, 1948.

Galway (2) – 1983, 1992.

Note: The Minor Hurling Championship was suspended in 1942, 1943 and 1944 because of World War II.

The Leinster final against Dublin and the All-Ireland semi-final against Antrim were no real tests of a team that by now had taken on a definite shape. The 'Cats' merely walked past the opposition, beating the Dubs by 15 points and the Northerners by massive 26 points.

FINAL ONE OF THE BEST

The All-Ireland final was one of the best in years. It was full of good hurling, individual brilliance and classy scores.

David Buggy, a player with great hands and near-perfect control, latched on to a huge drive from Brendan Bolger in the third minute, and goaled to help settle his team. With good help up front from Ollie O'Connor, and great hurling elsewhere by Tom Hickey, Kevin Grogan and Sean Kealy, the Noresiders coped with the best the Westerners could throw at them and went in 1-11 to 1-7 at the break.

The second half was a ding-dong affair. Galway suffered in that they were never allowed make too much progress. Any time they scored, their opponents landed a reply. When the losers were awarded a penalty in the 57th minute, there was no luck either, and that was turned over the bar by Tom Hickey.

On another occasion, when they looked set to goal, the winners' 'keeper, Ollie Blanchfield, brought off a classy save.

This delightful victory, the work of a bunch of players who grew into a potent unit during the campaign, set up the county's fourth minor/senior All-Ireland double. The other double years were 1935, 1972 and 1975.

Kilkenny (v. Galway) – Ollie Blanchfield (Lisdowney); Tom Hickey (Dunnamaggin); Shane Doyle, capt. (James Stephens); John Ayres (Dicksboro), Vinny O'Brien (James Stephens); Brian Lonergan (Galmoy); Brendan Bolger (Rower-Inistioge); Kevin Grogan (James Stephens); Sean Kealy (Blacks and Whites); Damien Cleere (Craigue-Ballycallan); Liam Smith (James Stephens); Eamon Mackey (Mooncoin); Brendan Dalton (Dicksboro); David Buggy (Erin's Own); Ollie O'Connor (St. Lachtain's). Subs. – James Young (Craigue-Ballycallan) used; John Costelloe (St. Lachtain's); Eoin Farrell (Young Irelands); Ken Hughes (Emeralds); James Kelly (Rower-Inistioge); Alan Hearne (Windgap); John Dowling (Slieverue); Michael O'Neill (Dunnamaggin); Martin Phelan (James Stephens); Ned Gahan (Kilmacow); Conor Cleere (James Stephens).



The Galmoy charge! . . . Brian Lonergan breaks up a Galway attack in the All-Ireland minor Final. (Photo: Tom Brett)

THE SCORING ROAD TO VICTORY

May 19, at Portlaoise

Kilkenny 0-16 Offaly 1-13
Half-time: 1-6 (O); 0-9.

Kilkenny scorers: O. O'Connor (0-7, one free); B. Dalton (0-3); D. Cleere, L. Smith, (0-2 each); V. O'Brien, E. Mackey (0-1 each).

May 26, at Portlaoise (replay)

Kilkenny 4-5 Offaly 0-3
Half-time: 2-2; 0-1.

Kilkenny scorers: D. Buggy (3-1), B. Dalton (1-2), O. O'Connor (0-2, one '65').

June 30, at Dr. Cullen Park, Carlow – Leinster Semi-final

Kilkenny 4-5 Wexford 2-9
Half-time: 2-2 (K); 1-5

Kilkenny scorers: O. O'Connor (1-3, two points frees); D. Cleere (1-1); B. Dalton, M. O'Neill (1-0 each); K. Hughes (0-1).

July 11, at Croke Park – Leinster Final

Kilkenny 4-14 Dublin 0-11
Half-time: 3-9; 0-6

Kilkenny scorers: O. O'Connor (2-7, goal free); three points frees; D. Cleere (1-4); E. Mackey (1-0); D. Buggy (0-2); L. Smith (0-1).

August 8, at Croke Park – All-Ireland Semi-final

Kilkenny 5-21 Antrim 1-5
Half time: 4-10; 0-3

Kilkenny scorers: O. O'Connor (2-10, two points frees), K. Grogan (0-5, three '65s', one free); D. Cleere (1-1), B. Dalton (1-1), D. Buggy (1-0), E. Mackey (0-2), S. Kealy, L. Smith (0-1 each).

September 5, at Croke Park – All-Ireland Final

Kilkenny 1-17 Galway 1-12
Half-time: 1-11 (K); 10-7

Kilkenny scorers: O. O'Connor (0-6); D. Buggy (1-3); D. Cleere (0-4); E. Mackey (0-2); B. Dalton, K. Grogan (0-1 each).

Coaching within Leinster

The need for coaching has never been greater, as children no longer spend the time required (to correct and perfect their skills) on their own. Emphasis is now on organised activities, training, coaching and games. We are competing for a scarce resource (children and their time) and if we are not fully prepared, hurling will be the eventual loser.

Also the time when personnel within the teaching and religious professions in addition to the one or two dedicated club men who were expected to look after all underage hurling activities within the parish, is disappearing fast and rightly so. Far better, that more people be expected to do a little, than a few do everything.

The greatest problem in this regard, appears to be the fact that people are not unwilling to give their time and energy, but rather they don't feel they have enough experience, knowledge or confidence to do so. The publication of three excellent coaching manuals:

- (a) Hurling and Camogie Skills Manual.
- (b) Gaelic Football Skills Manual.
- (c) The Complete Coaching Guide to Hurling and Football.

have been a huge assistance to people currently involved in all levels of coaching and can be very easily used by any person (male and female), experienced or inexperienced wishing to become involved. Confidence will develop with the extra information from the manuals, but the experience will only be achieved by giving it a go.

Recognising the trend, the G.A.A. have also embarked on the development of a coach training programme. The programme which is in the final stages of completion is the result of a get together of representatives from all the National Governing Bodies (i.e. of G.A.A., Rugby, Tennis, etc.) under the umbrella of the National Coaching and Training Centre in Limerick.

A Foundation Course will be available shortly, aimed at individuals who wish to become mentors of pre-adolescent teams. (There will be subsequent levels for those who wish to progress). The success of these courses will increase the number of people who are confident, willing and capable of assisting and supporting local club and schools.

The Leinster Council have also responded to the demands for assistance and support with the appointment of full time coaches. These appointments have been made under a variety of schemes and a list and brief synopsis of each follows.

Field Officers

In a Leinster Council/Croke Park

initiative in 1991 two coaches were employed, Colm Brady (Meath) to coach football and myself to coach hurling. This year a third officer was appointed – Cyril Duggan (Laois) to cover the Dublin area.

Our role is the Development and Promotion of Gaelic Games within Leinster. Initially the concentration has been on coaching in Primary and Secondary schools. Over 25,000 children were coached within the first two years.

Providing training and assistance to interested teachers, club mentors and newly appointed coaches has accounted for the remainder of our efforts to date.

The next step in our coaching plan is a move into Third Level Institutions. The need for supplementary assistance within this area has been highlighted and I look forward to the opportunity and challenge it presents.

Coach Organisers

Early this year the Leinster Council offered a subsidy to all the counties within Leinster, in an effort to encourage the appointment of a full time coach on a yearly contract. Six Counties availed of this opportunity – Kilkenny, Wicklow, Laois, Louth, Meath and Dublin.

Bobby Jackman (Windgap) was the Kilkenny appointment and his main area of work has been coaching in Primary, Post Primary and also assisting in clubs (under-age).

Job Training Scheme

A Croke Park venture aided by FAS and the V.E.C. An intensive one year course was organised and run in Thurles. Nine coaches were employed by the Leinster Council.

Having completed their training these people were placed throughout the Province – Brian Ryan (Johnstown) was "placed" in Kilkenny.

Fás Schemes

Additional coaches financed through Fás Schemes are also operating within counties. One of the largest such schemes is Wexford's, twenty coaches visiting schools on a regular basis. Offaly have 14, Carlow have 6 and Kildare have 1.

Some of the above schemes would also benefit from County Board and Supporters' Club support.

In total there are 64 coaches employed and the bulk of the work is directed towards under-age level in schools and clubs. The average session would involve both boys and girls and the emphasis is on participation, safety, enjoyment and learning the basic skills of hurling. Children are encouraged in a positive manner with no such thing as adults running up and down the sidelines "pulling their hair out"



By: Lester Ryan

and shouting abuse. Drills are used to develop particular skills and each child is given plenty of opportunity to practice in an enjoyable fashion. Matches (which are the highlight of every session) are initially confined to small-sided conditioned games with the emphasis on the particular skill being taught. The advantage of small-sided games is that the child, firstly, gets more opportunities with the ball and secondly, more time (while in possession) to decide what he/she is going to do, which helps in the development of both ability and confidence.

Coaches also carry a "wet day pack" in the event of inclement weather. This pack consists of educational videos, promotional material, quizzes etc. Above all each coach endeavours to hammer home the importance of practicing at home (hitting the ball against the wall), between sessions.

I would like to finish by inviting any person who is interested in getting involved but wary of doing so, to take that step. Coaching, especially under-age is an extremely enjoyable and rewarding experience. Children (especially in groups) can be the most uninhibited, entertaining people you are ever likely to hear, (once you listen) two examples spring to mind:

- (a) On one occasion when the correct grip was being coached, one child became so confused he balanced the hurl in both hands and refused to grip the handle.

After gentle coaxing I attempted to get him to identify his strong hand – "Which hand do you write with?" I asked, after a few seconds had elapsed his 3 foot, 9-year-old companion informed me – "Coach he doesn't write with any hand, his name is Christy Brown and he writes with his left foot".

- (b) Who wants to be All-Ireland Champions?

Early October and about to begin a mini-game of hurling with 12 Navan schoolchildren, a dispute arose as to who should be All-Ireland champions. After several minutes heated discussion it was resolved – Team A would be Kilkenny for the first half and swap names with the opposition for the second half, the opposing team were of course – "Derry" !!

The Ollie Walsh legend goes on and on . . .



By: Enda McEvoy

It was a horrible night at Palmerstown. Skies of slate, rain sheeting down, a group of young men wishing they were home at the fire instead of being forced through their paces in the kind of weather even ducks would have second thoughts about. Winning All-Irelands isn't all glamour.

One of the players had been working hard and arrived late. Looked towards the heavens, saw his team-mates dragging themselves through the motions. Concluded that since he was already late anyway, they could get along without him very well. Toggling out for the sake of merely getting wet wasn't going to do him any good. Taking a night off wouldn't kill him, and could scarcely be viewed as doing irreparable damage to Kilkenny's hopes of retaining the McCarthy Cup.

Along happened the boss. "What's up", he enquired, frowning his brow at the slacker. "Ah, I don't think I'll go out there, Ollie", came the reply.

Ollie stared at him. Opened his mouth. Said: "The only sensible man among us!" And went off about his business.

A small episode to be sure. But the small episodes are usually the important episodes. This one was important in revealing a good deal about Ollie Walsh.

In the eyes of another manager, the player's unwillingness might have been a capital offence; an act of dissent, a refusal to give the 100 per cent effort necessary on the part of all and sundry in order to win an All-Ireland.

In a non-amateur sphere, the player could well have been fined a week's wages and left



Ollie Walsh

to kick his heels on the bench for the foreseeable future.

Not here. Ollie had the humanity to see the picture from his charges' point of view – a point of view he himself once shared – and the cop-on to keep the matter in perspec-

tive. Result: a player whose respect for the boss could only increase, and a story which on doing the rounds of the dressingroom (as it surely did, sooner or later) would likely evoke similar appreciation from the rest of the camp.



Come on lads, it's not safe yet – Team Manager Ollie Walsh has words of wisdom for Michael Phelan and Pat O'Neill at half time in the All-Ireland Senior Hurling Final

(Photo: Sportsfile)

We all need the human touch, as the mysteriously disappeared Rick Springfield used to sing. Ollie Walsh has that touch. More importantly, his players realise he has that touch and respect him more for it.

The husband of the former Olive Murphy lives at 46 Fatima Place, Kilkenny, not in an ivory tower. He does not spend his spare time studying propositions from Wittgenstein or collecting obscure rock samples. (Or if he does, it's one of the better-kept secrets of our time). He's as down to earth and unassuming as any of his players. "I know my own and my own know me", said the Lord.

The players will confirm as much. A man you can respect and still have good crack with, they maintain. Down to earth, speaks their language, is a first-class motivator. And, interestingly, never comes out with any this-is-the-way-we-did-it-in-my-day nonsense.

All of which might play a part in answering one question Ollie Walsh's managerial success has, for some people, still not resolved. Is he good? Or merely lucky? Or a combination of both?

The temptation is to ask who cares, what does it matter? It's better to be a lucky driver than to be a good driver, as the saying goes. Better to own a good and lucky greyhound than to own merely a good greyhound. The first quality Napoleon looked for in his marshalls was luck. Wexford have had some capable men charting their hurling affairs since 1968; sadly, they've not – so far – had any lucky men. And shouldn't a record that reads **Played three All-Irelands in three seasons – Won two** be good enough for most-supporters? The facts do not betray Ollie Walsh.

Significantly, he appears to have learned as he's gone along. His spell with the county junior team was prodigiously productive, but that didn't necessarily mean he'd be the goods at a higher level. Now that he's become the uncrowned freeman of the city, the undistinguished opening half of his reign seems like a half-remembered episode from a tacky U.S. TV series of the 1970s.

Though it contains most of the same parts, the double All-Ireland unit is a different team to the ragbag that huffed and puffed its way through 1991 and much of 1992. Dante remarked that in bad times there's nothing so bad as the misery of recalling past riches in a Kilkenny context, today's glories don't mean that yesterday's embarrassments should be scrubbed from the memory bank.

Remember the way the Black and Amber were outplayed by Wexford in the N.H.L. semi-final at Thurles and again in the Leinster semi-final? Muddling through against Dublin a few weeks later? Being hurled practically off the pitch by Antrim? End of '91 hidings at the hands of Cork (Óireachtas) and Tipp (League)?

In between they'd almost, if not quite, redeemed themselves in the All-Ireland decider, a result that raised as many questions about Ollie Walsh as it answered. Was it true, as some ritual observers of



Nowlan Park training claimed, that he hadn't pushed the team hard enough? The first half display left no doubts surrounding his motivational powers, and Michael Walsh's All Star winning campaign transformed any murmurings about nepotism into unqualified praise – but why had the underdogs faded so badly once Tipperary found some sort of rhythm on the resumption? And was it Ollie's fault that it was left till eight minutes from the end to bring one, and only one, substitute on to a foundering team? Or, far more likely, and an instance of sideline fiddling while Rome burns that's always a danger with five selectors, was fire brigade action not a matter for his hands alone? And while we know he took the defeat as hard as the supporters – maybe harder – ought he to have allowed his disappointment to find public utterance in the words "Tipp didn't beat us, Cork beat us" at the Courthouse on the Monday night? Even if he wanted to play to the gallery and cheer up the faithful?

Well into the following season, the questions were still hanging in the air like a black cloud. The Thomastown man's health wasn't the best for a while. The Cats hardly improved it with a dreadfully disjointed performance in Limerick. Talk afterwards of So-and-so being worth a try merely smacked of desperate attempts to re-arrange the deckchairs on the Titanic. The Leinster

champions were going nowhere fast, groaned virtually unanimous public opinion.

June changed everything. Utterly. Kilkenny struggled through against Offaly – but received exactly the boost they needed, and hadn't looked like receiving, when Cork ambushed the champions down south. Suddenly everything was flux and anything was possible. The playing field was level again and the Noresiders would be in with as good a chance as the rest if they could only stop under-achieving and get the type of act together their individual parts suggested they could.

They did with a vengeance in the provincial final. They haven't lost a championship match since.

Causes of these effects? Many and varied. Liam Fennelly's captaincy and ancillary selectorship last season, for one. The rise and shine of Pat O'Neill, for another. The gradual communal maturing of the team, also. And, somewhere there, Ollie Walsh's ability to find his feet.

His interview for *The Sunday Game* following the county's first McCarthy Cup in nine years was a model of modest satisfaction. The team had come up twelve months earlier not really knowing what to expect and had maybe been a little naive, "myself included", he explained before generously – and correctly – making a point about the huge contribution Mick O'Flynn, his chosen trainer, had made in the physical preparation. (This season too, look at how often Kilkenny were able to make a late charge, lasting the pace better than their opponents to nick a result right on the finishing line). Quiet graciousness in victory is so attractive.

Retaining the title wasn't easy, anything but, but in one way it was a more straightforward year from the manager's viewpoint than 1991 and 1992 had been. The machinery was in place, with new components like Liam Keoghan and P. J. Delaney waiting to be slotted in, if and when necessary, and an impressive foundation of fitness existed; much of the manager's work was therefore comparable to that of a production line operative in a factory, keeping a watchful eye to ensure things ran smoothly. Only occasionally might he have felt the need to get up "off his chair" and kick some ass, such as after the Down fiasco. The self-imposed vow of media silence remained in force; a low profile having done neither himself nor the team any harm in 1992, the danger he might speak not wisely but too well, articulating honestly-held sentiments that might nevertheless be open to mis-construction, was as well avoided once more.

If we bury a manager when his charges are not successful, we must praise him when they are – or at least not damn him with faint praise. That Ollie Walsh was fortunate to get hold of the team at the time he did, matters not one whit. The record shows he took the blows and did it his way. And came out tops.

That's all she wrote.

League was a real Down-er



By John Knox
(Kilkenny People)

IT MAY be a play on words, but it just about captures the disappointment and heartache, because the National Hurling League was a real DOWN-ER for All-Ireland champions, Kilkenny.

From the grey, featureless day the Noresiders opened in the competition against Antrim in Casement Park to the afternoon they were sent tumbling from it at their own Nowlan Park by of all teams, Down, the 'League was one let-down after another for the McCarthy Cup holders.

It was as if Kilkenny were caught up in a hurling whirlpool that seemed intent on dragging them down. Fair enough, they got what they deserved when they lost to Antrim. After that, they tried really hard, but got nothing against Tipperary.

The clash of champions, League (Limerick) and All-Ireland (Kilkenny) at Nowlan Park brought some cheer in the closing match before the Christmas break. The good fortune continued after the resumption in March, against Offaly in Birr, but then Kilkenny flopped, within sight of the quarter-finals, when they were kicked out of the competition by Down.

"When you go through Leagues like that, you wonder how we ever get teams to win All-Irelands" suggests a man closely associated with the Kilkenny team.

Of course, state of mind has a lot to do with the difference between League and Championship hurling. Kilkenny were turned off for the League, despite their best efforts to suggest otherwise. In the knock-out competition, well, that is a different story entirely.

The closing chapter in the League left Kilkenny fans dumbfounded. The really hard work seemed to have been done when the Noresiders ran up 19 points and looked good when doing so, on March 7 when they clipped Offaly's wings, a week after the Midlanders had beaten them in the Walsh Cup final.

Ruffled Feathers

It looked as if Kilkenny had, at last, recaptured the form that, in the previous September, carried them to their first Senior All-Ireland victory in nine years. All that stood between the 'Cats' and a quarter-final place was Down, who, to be fair to them, had ruffled a few fathers in previous rounds.

But Down to beat Kilkenny, the All-Ireland champions, at Nowlan Park? No way. Sure hadn't the Noresiders given the Northerners a bit of a trimming the previous year in Ballycran.

After an hour of easy-going hurling from Kilkenny, and one full of effort and commitment from Down, the Northerners got the result that had the headline writers digging deep for adjectives strong enough to pronounce the shock. The scoreline read: Down 1-12, Kilkenny 1-11.

Not only did the result slam the

door to League riches on Kilkenny, the outcome of other games, the same day, meant they were condemned to relegation as well. Bad enough losing in the region of £30,000 by missing the 'cut' in the League, but relegation on top of that. It was all hard to take.

What matter, but Kilkenny could easily have won that decisive League clash. They took the opposition for granted, and a 59th minute point from one Chris Mageean was the one score that really mattered in the end.

There was never a lot between the teams. At half-time the home side led by 1-6 to 1-4, thanks to good work by the few successes on the day, John Power, Eddie O'Connor, Bill Hennessy, D. J. Carey, James Brennan and Pat Dwyer. Going into the last quarter, Kilkenny showed 1-9 to 1-6 in front.

From there on the hurling story was hard to credit. Down out-scored their opponents 0-6 to 0-2 to pull off one of



The Houdini act! John Power "conjures up a sliothar", out of thin air as he races away from Dominick McKinley (Antrim) in the All-Ireland semi-final.

(Sportsfile)

their most remarkable hurling victories of all time. For a while afterwards, the Northerners even forgot the significance of the victory, so overcome were they with emotion. They had actually to be reminded they were in the knock-out stages of the League.

Lacked energy

The start of the Winter competition was no better for the All-Ireland champions. They lacked energy and real interest after all the wild celebrations and were soundly beaten by 1-14 to 0-9 by Antrim. The writing was on the wall from an early stage. Twenty minutes had barely passed, and the difference was already 0-10 to 0-1.

Things never got any better for the visitors, despite good work by Michael Walsh in goal, Pat Dwyer and P. J. Delaney. The rest just weren't at the races.

Co. Board chairman and selector, Nickey Brennan didn't hide his annoyance and described the showing "as unbecoming of All-Ireland champions".

The second match against Tipperary drew a crowd of 8,000 to Nowlan Park. The difference between the teams here was Tipp free taker, Michael

Cleary, who ran up a personal tally of 1-8, all but a point from placed balls.

Even with nine of the All-Ireland winning team, Kilkenny could not save the day. They lost by 1-9 to 1-10.

In the home clash against Limerick, the man who stood out from the crowd was Adrian Ronan, who was back for his first match after resting a troublesome groin injury. In mid-match, he took over the free taking duties from an out-of-luck Anthony Prendergast. He met with instant success. He finished with 1-4. Kilkenny claimed their first League points on a 1-10 to 0-8 scoreline (H.T. 1-4 (K) to 0-5).

The week before they travelled to Birr, the 'Cats' lost by 1-12 to 1-16 in the Walsh Cup final against Offaly. With one eye towards the upcoming clash in the championship between the same teams, Kilkenny didn't want to go down again. They called back all the big guns.

With midfielder, Michael Phelan in powerful form, the visitors pulled off a 0-19 to 2-8 win after leading by 2-3 to 0-8 at half-time. The win was more comprehensive than the score would

suggest, because Offaly's goals were the direct result of bad errors by the opposition.

Falling Into Place

The hurling of Phelan, 10 point man Ray Heffernan, Eddie O'Connor, Bill Hennessy, Pat Dwyer and company hinted Kilkenny meant business at last. On top of that, D. J. Carey came on as a sub during the closing minutes following a six months break after suffering concussion in the Intermediate county final late in 1992.

Everything seemed to be falling nicely into place. All Kilkenny had to do was beat Down at Nowlan Park and they were into the big money in the League.

The players never got beyond second gear that day. They sauntered through the match, never getting more than a goal in front. When push came to shove at the finish, Down were so buoyed by being able to stay with the opposition for so long, that they lost the run of themselves, but not the match.

A League campaign that never got off the ground for Kilkenny, ended on a DOWN-ER and there was plenty to 'Mourne' about.



Gaelic Stars . . . group of Gaelic games stars pictured at the 1993 Smithwicks Sports Stars awards dinner in Springhill Hotel. Included are (from left) Michael 'Ducksie' Walsh (Handball), George Good (Managing Director, Smithwick's), Sinéad Millea (Camogie), Allie Cullen (Hall of Fame) and Pat O'Neill (Hurling)

(Photo: Tom Brett)

Who did what, and when

OCTOBER 25 at Casement Park, Belfast:

Antrim 1-14; Kilkenny 0-9

Kilkenny scorers: James Brennan (0-3, two frees); John Power (0-2, one free); Dermot Lawlor (0-2, frees); Michael Phelan, P. J. Delaney (0-1 each).

NOVEMBER 15 at Nowlan Park, Kilkenny:

Tipperary 1-10; Kilkenny 1-9

Kilkenny scorers: Anthony Prendergast (0-4, frees); Ray Heffernan (1-1, point free); P. J. Delaney (0-2); John Power, James Brennan (0-1 each).

NOVEMBER 22 at Nowlan Park, Kilkenny:

Kilkenny 1-10; Limerick 0-8

Kilkenny scorers: Adrian Ronan (1-4, two points frees, one '65); Anthony Prendergast (0-2, frees); Michael Phelan (0-2); Tom Murphy, Matty Walsh (0-1 each).

MARCH 7 at Birr, Co. Offaly:

Kilkenny 0-19; Offaly 2-8

Kilkenny scorers: Ray Heffernan (0-10, five frees, one '65); Michael Phelan (0-3); Anthony Prendergast, P. J. Delaney (0-2 each); Liam McCarthy, Tom Murphy (0-1 each).

MARCH 21 at Nowlan Park:

Down 1-12; Kilkenny 1-11

Kilkenny scorers: John Power (1-1); D. J. Carey (0-3, frees); P. J. Delaney, James Brennan (0-2 each); Ray Heffernan (0-2, one free); Michael Phelan (0-1).

Heffernan was top scorer

KILKENNY never looked like creating any scoring records during the National League, and their overall returns were a none too impressive 3-58.

The best showing, from a scoring point of view and from every other aspect, was the Birr clash with Offaly. This came a week after the Midlanders lowered the Kilkenny colours in the Walsh Cup final and weeks before the do-or-die Leinster championship meeting between the teams.

That was the one and only time Kilkenny even hinted they were the current All-Ireland champions. They ran up 19 points that afternoon.

Take that tally from the overall figure and it leaves a miserable 3-39, which are not very good shooting returns for four hours of hurling.

Kilkenny's top scorer in the League was Ray Heffernan, who finished with 1-13 to his credit. Not bad going, but take away the 10 points he got against Offaly and it leaves very little to be distributed between the other two

games in which he was involved.

The top scorer in 1992 was Eamon Morrissey with 1-15. The previous two years D. J. Carey was the sharpest shooter, with tallies of 3-23 (1991) and 0-52 (1990). In the latter year the Noresiders won the competition, which involved a marathon 10 matches, including an away final against New York.

The most consistent scorers during the League were Michael Phelan and P. J. Delaney, both of whom made the score-sheet four times.

The Kilkenny scorers during the League were: Ray Heffernan (1-13, seven points frees, one '65); Anthony Prendergast (0-8, six frees); P. J. Delaney (0-7); Michael Phelan (0-7); John Power (1-4, one point free); Adrian Ronan (1-4, two points frees, one '65); James Brennan (0-6, two frees); D. J. Carey (0-3, frees); Dermot Lawlor (0-2, frees); Tom Murphy (0-2); Matty Walsh, Liam McCarthy (0-1 each).

27 players were used

BECAUSE of injuries, and players opting out here and there, Kilkenny never got the chance to field the same team in consecutive matches during the National Hurling League.

The opening match of the competition was away to Antrim, over five weeks after the All-Ireland final win against Cork.

By that time, team captain of 1992 Liam Fennelly had retired and the groin injury that had been hampering Willie O'Connor for over two years was acting up again and he was forced to take a rest.

Things like that threw out the plans of the selectors, who in all used 27 players during the competition.

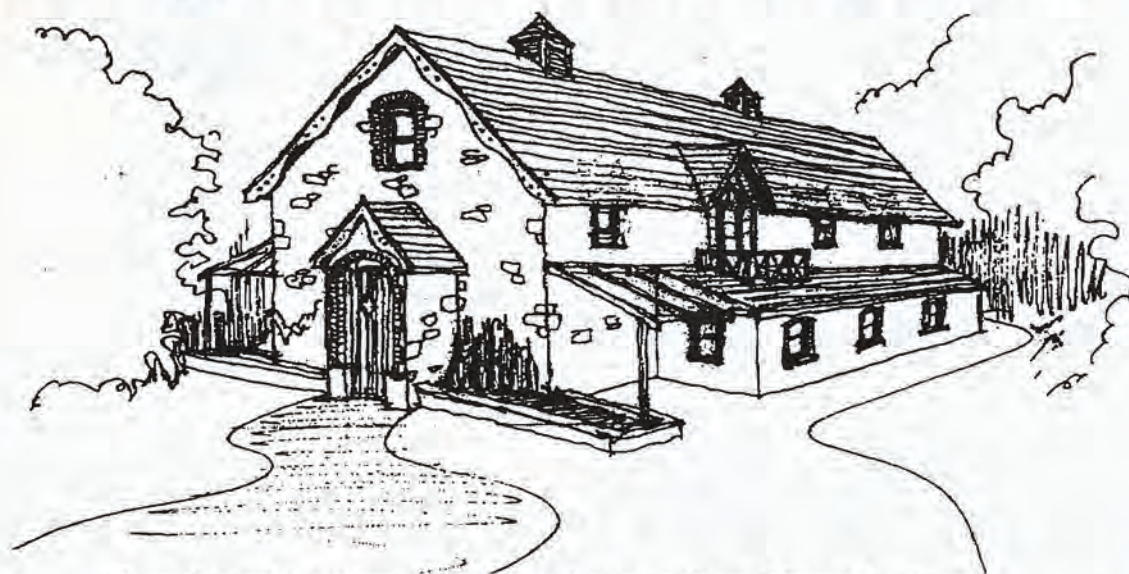
That was some going, seeing that Kilkenny played only five matches. The comparative figures for the previous two years were 31 and 25 players respectively.

Missing for most of the last campaign was the peerless D. J. Carey, who suffered concussion when helping his club, Young Irelands (Gowran) to victory in the Intermediate hurling final against Conahy Shamrocks. He was forced to take a six month break, and he didn't join in the League action until he came on as a substitute against Offaly on March 7.

Only nine players figured in all the games. The ever presents were: Michael Walsh, Eddie O'Connor, Pat Dwyer, Liam Simpson, Tom Murphy, Bill Hennessy, P. J. Delaney, John Power and James Brennan.

The players used, and the number of games they played, reads: Michael Walsh, Eddie O'Connor, Pat Dwyer, Liam Simpson, Tom Murphy, Bill Hennessy, P. J. Delaney, John Power, James Brennan (5 games each); Liam Walsh, Michael Phelan, Anthony Prendergast (4 games each); Pat O'Neill, Joe Walsh, Ray Heffernan, Liam McCarthy (3 games each); Dermot Lawlor, Charlie Carter, Paul Phelan, Matty Walsh, D. J. Carey, Adrian Ronan (2 games each).

County G.A.A. Museum at Lory Meagher Memorial Home



Kilkenny County G.A.A. Museum Lory Meagher Heritage Centre, Tullaroan, Co. Kilkenny.

THE restored Lory Meagher Memorial Home looked splendid on August 15th. last when it was opened to the public for Tullaroan's 1993 Heritage Day. Opening to the public for one day was deemed a tremendous success as it allowed locals and visitors to view the progress made on restoring the home.

One of the most popular attractions to be visited on the day was the temporary County G.A.A. Museum. It featured photographs of teams from the past, newspaper cuttings of match reports, old programmes, memorabilia associated with Lory Meagher and other items of G.A.A. interest. Also on view was the McCarthy Cup. As work is still in progress on the site, the valuable parts of the exhibition have been removed for safekeeping; however, occasional visitors to the centre have shown great interest in the photocopies of the match reports which have been left in place.

When the Lory Meagher Home is officially opened to the public next year the Kilkenny County G.A.A. Museum will be housed in a building on the site. Undoubtedly it will be a major attraction to our visitors. With that in mind all clubs in the county are invited to put together a display to form part of the exhibition. Most clubs in the county have compiled a club history by now. Much of that material can be put on display. Particularly welcome will be old jerseys, hurleys, medals, programmes, etc. Copies can be made of photographs and originals returned to the owners. Match reports and minutes of meetings are also interesting – again copies can be made. Medals or medal collections can be inspirational to the younger generations and need to be put on public exhibition. Such material as

medals or trophies will be housed in a strong room in the museum. There will be a video room for viewing recordings of games and other G.A.A. related events.

On past experience G.A.A. museums

are extremely attractive to locals and visitors. The Sam Melbourne Collection was very popular when put on display in Kilkenny and other places around the country.

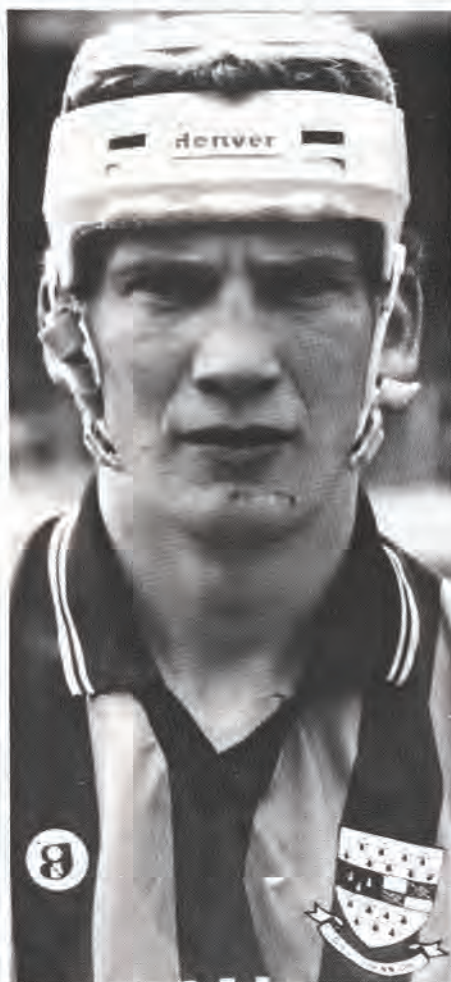
The Kilkenny G.A.A. Museum will honour past deeds and inspire future endeavours. The exhibits from each club will depend on the interest shown by the clubs in their own history. Each club is encouraged to make the best efforts possible to have a suitable display which will feature their achievements.

The Museum will be housed in one of the former outhouses in the farmyard of Curragh House, the home of the Meagher family. The outhouse is at present being restored by FÁS.

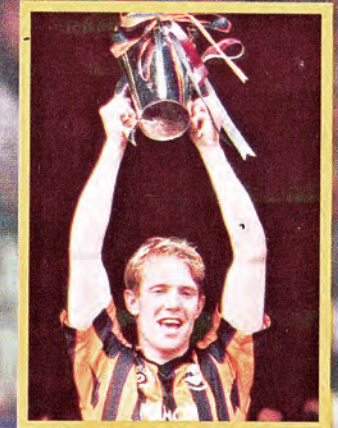
The entire restoration project at Curragh House has been welcomed by many different groups. The house itself dates from c.1680 and is a fine example of a "thatched mansion". For this reason alone it is worth a visit. In time the inclusion of a farmyard museum and craft shops will add to the attractions. Overnight accommodation will be provided in a hostel, an increasingly important feature of the tourist industry. A peaceful stay in the shadow of the Slieveardagh Hills surrounded by history, heritage and hurling will restore the weary traveller.

Dedicated to the "Prince of Hurlers", Curragh House is a fitting memorial to Lory Meagher, one of Kilkenny's greatest. The inclusion of the official County G.A.A. Museum will be a reminder to visitors of the hurlers, teams and clubs of this county who have built up Kilkenny's enviable tradition. It is important that all will be represented in a suitable manner. *Bí linn!*

The official opening of the Home and Museum will be in May, 1994.



Liam Keoghan – a splendid first championship for the Tullaroan defender. Photo: Sportstile



Liam Simpson about to clear the ball in this action shot from the All-Ireland Senior Hurling Final.

INSET — Eddie O'Connor (above left), Captain of Senior Team; Shane Doyle (above right), Captain Minor Team.

KILKENNY

All-Ireland Senior Hurling Champions 1993



BACK ROW (l.-r.): Matty Walsh, Ray Heffernan, Joe Walsh, Anthony Rrendergast, Christy Heffernan, Pat O'Neill, Tom Murphy, Michael Phelan. MIDDLE ROW (l.-r.): Mick O'Flynn (Team Trainer), Dr. Bill Cuddihy (Team Doctor), Ted Carroll (County Board Secretary), Brian Ryan, D. J. Carey, Eamon Holland, Liam Simpson, Pat Dwyer, John Power, Dermot Lawlor, P. J. Delaney, Paul Phelan, John Healy (County Board Vice-Chairman), Sean Kelly (Team Masseur), Pat Dunphy (County Board Treasurer), Tom Ryan (Selector). FRONT ROW (l.-r.): Nickey Brennan (County Board Chairman), Liam Keoghán, Liam McCarthy, Willie O'Connor, Eddie O'Connor (Captain), Michael Walsh, Bill Hennessy, Adrian Ronan, Jamesie Brennan, Ollie Walsh (Team Manager).

(Photo: Tom Brett)

Tom Brett

Christy the Rocket Man!



By John Knox
"Kilkenny People"

THE TAKE-OFF was as spectacular as any rocket shooting into space, and the 15 years spent in orbit in the high, rarified hurling atmosphere of the inter-county game were full of rich endeavour and handsome reward.

There were five All-Ireland senior hurling championships claimed, one at inter-club level; seven inter-county Leinster championships; three Kilkenny senior hurling titles and, of course, honour among the Bank of Ireland All-Stars.

Was it any wonder then the parting was a bitter, sweet occasion?

"Of course there had to be sadness", conceded Kilkenny hero of the last decade and a half, Christy Heffernan, on stepping off the inter-county stage. "Against that, I had a good innings and I have gone out as I came in, on an All-Ireland winning year. Fate has been good to me".

Just reward for just effort, perhaps? Heffernan had been knocking around the Kilkenny senior team for three years before he finally 'made it' so to speak. The date, September 5, 1982. The occasion, the All-Ireland senior hurling final against Cork.

The Glenmore man died a few deaths during the opening 20 minutes, when he struggled to keep up with the strong, sweeping current of a throbbing final. Then, a lucky break. A lucky goal. He never looked back.

Heffernan walked off the field with 2-3 to his credit. There was more to it than that. A new hero was born into Kilkenny hurling, a name that for years afterwards was to fall off the tongue of youngsters whose dream it was some day to figure in Croke Park on the first Sunday in September. They all wanted to be like Christy.

Special Place

Heffernan, to quote the Kilkenny manager of the time, Pat Henderson, revived hero worship. From that day forward he held a special place in the hearts of Noneside followers everywhere. He was the man who could do no wrong. The ordinary things he did right, were generally given a higher status. And the extraordinary things he did were often deemed incomparable.

"There were times when the things people expected of you were unreal", Christy admitted. "Some thought you could win a match almost whenever you felt like it. Of course, hurling at any level was never like that. I always went out to play to the absolute maximum of my ability, and hoped that was enough".

Another reason why the 35-year-old was loved so much . . . he was never afraid to put himself in the line of fire. Real hero stuff. He broke more bones, tore more muscles, got more stitches and generally spent more time in the care of doctors than your average player.

Part of the punishment for putting yourself about for the sake of the team, going where it was not always prudent to go in search of a score.

"You never thought of things in that light", the All-Star of 1983 insisted. "You went in to win ball. If you took or gave an innocent knock in the process, so be it. There was never time to stand back and think, was this an easy ball to win or not. No one involved in any body contact sport has the luxury of being able to think like that".

And so Heffernan soldiered on regardless. He took the rough with the smooth, the good times with the bad.

Rough play against him there was from time to time, but he dismissed that, and instead highlighted the positive things, the good players. Hundreds of friends were made. If he left bad feelings behind, they weren't by design. He viewed sport



A crucial score . . . captain Christy lands a point.

as being fair and honest, and that was how he played it. Others could judge his play whatever way they liked.

High Kings

Good times, yes, they were had with club and county. Four senior All-Irelands and four National Leagues with Kilkenny wasn't bad going. With Glenmore, he shared in Junior, Intermediate and Senior hurling successes at local level. And in 1991 the Southerners became High Kings of club hurling in the country when they won the All-Ireland championship.

He admitted he enjoyed every success that came his way, but being part of the big Glenmore hurling revival that started with the Junior championship success of 1980 had special significance. Doing it for the home parish, your own and all that.

A career high was captaining Glenmore to their first senior success in 1987. The year before he had played in Cork with Blackrock. Good and all as the people were there, he never settled. He longed to be among, and playing with, his own.

"That county final win over Shamrocks was the sweetest of them all" he said with firmness in his voice. "I know I won championships and leagues with Kilkenny and doubles in 1982 and '83, but I think I was too young to really appreciate some things when they came in my career. Winning the county title and All-Ireland club championship with Glenmore meant a great deal".

He thought about stepping down after Kilkenny regained the McCarthy Cup in 1992. When Glenmore later won the local senior

championship, he decided to stay on and throw his weight behind a Glenmore man's bid to captain Kilkenny to All-Ireland victory. He didn't see much action on the field. He got a run in two games, one the All-Ireland final against Galway.

Disaster

"I can't complain", the Waterford Insurance Broker insisted. "It wasn't bad for a lad who was nearly taken off in the All-Ireland final of 1982. That game turned from a disaster into the one that made me.

"Amazing the things that can change your career", he went on. "Hurling, and most games, are about confidence. Anyone could possibly do the same if things happened for them in a similar fashion".

Perhaps, but you would need a lot of talent, perseverance and inner strength to put setbacks behind you. All that Heffernan had in abundance. He thought his world had collapsed after losing consecutive All-Ireland finals in 1987 and 1991 with Kilkenny. He stuck with it and the rewards rolled in against in 1992 and '93.

"I go out with an All-Ireland medal in my back pocket, not bad eh?" he asked. Not bad at all!

Some of what he has won

Leinster S.H.C. (7) 1982, 1983, 1986, 1987, 1991, 1992, 1993.

All-Ireland S.H.C. (4) 1982, 1983, 1992, 1993.

N.H.L. (4) 1982, 1983, 1986, 1990.

Kilkenny S.H.C. (3): 1987 (captain), 1990, 1992.

Railway Cup (1): 1988.

Club All-Ireland S.H.C. (1): 1991.

All-Star Award (1): 1983.

Oireachtas S.H. (1): 1984.

Leinster Club S.H.C. (1): 1991.

Kilkenny I.H.C. (1): 1981,

Kilkenny J.H.C. (1): 1980.

All-Ireland Colleges 'B' H. (1): 1976 (Good Counsel).

Leinster M.H.C. (1): 1975 (as corner-back).

BOBBY JACKMAN

WINDGAP man Bobby Jackman was the ideal candidate to take up one of the two full-time coaching positions presently in operation in County Kilkenny. He has the credentials to ensure that the job will be successful. He is the epitome of what G.A.A. people are. At 43 years, he has known no other sport, nor does he care about any other sport.

Hurling has been his game since first he held a "camán" in his beloved village of Windgap. He has been many things to and for his club over a period that has seen him line out in the famed red and white for this first adult game in 1968. That's a long time in anyone's life and, you know, he starred at full-back for Windgap in this year's Southern Junior Championship, and the chances are that Bobby won't turn his back on Windgap in 1994 – if his club requires his services. Men like Bobby Jackman are a rare breed. I have seen him push his "ring weary" body to extremes that would have lesser and younger lads taking early showers.

Bobby Jackman's sideboard is not adorned with All-Ireland medals or All-Star awards – although lesser mortals than he could boast of such awards. Being the self-effacing guy that he is, his modesty is at times embarrassing. "Ah," he says when asked about his achievements, "I have a couple of ould Junior Championship medals in 1970 and 1986. Other than that we won a rake of tournaments in places like Dunhill, Mullinavat, Piltown, Carrigeen, Windgap and Carrick," he throws in as an aside.

"'Twas the pleasure I got from playing, and the friends I made through my involvement with the G.A.A., that's where I was a winner," said the new County Coach. Unlike many former players, Bobby Jackman has given back much to the game that gave him such enjoyment. He has been associated with under-age teams in unfashionable Windgap for many years now. Some of the youngsters he managed and coached years back are now playing with him on the Windgap junior team. He has a terrific knack of gaining the respect and confidence of whatever under-age team he happens to be involved with. Even this year, Bobby and his life-long side-kick – Shem Power – brought an unfancied Windgap under-13 outfit to win a county title in Nowlan Park. The kids practically deified Bobby afterwards. Bobby Jackman knows kids, and he knows what makes them tick.

In his time he has been chairman, secretary, trainer, coach and player with Windgap. He has been a County Board delegate for his club. He even had a couple of "runs" on the county team during the League campaign in 1974.



Bobby Jackman with his son Robert. Both played with Windgap in the 1993 championship.

"Why a goalkeeper," I asked. "Well", said he, "my idol was Ollie Walsh, and like all youngsters in my day, we all wanted to be as good as Ollie", he said. Another of his idols was Mooncoin man, Claus Dunne.

"Why did you apply for the job?", I enquired.

"Basically, I love working with kids. And if I can give them as much pleasure as I had from hurling, then I'm delighted," he said. "It really is a labour of love," he added.

Bobby lives in Callan with his wife Ann and his hurling sons, Robert (18) and Trevor (12) and his only daughter, Lynda (16). Both Robert and Bobby hurled on the same championship team with Windgap in both 1992 and 1993. As I said at the outset, Bobby Jackman and the coaching of kids, it's surely a case of "horses for courses".

The Year of the Village People



By: Tom Ryall

It was the year of the Village in Under-14 hurling. They regained a title they last held in 1989 when they took the Roinn "A" championship. They were also victorious in the Paddy Grace Memorial Tournament which carried with it the honour of representing the county at Féile na nGael in Galway.

They reached the semi-finals of Féile na nGael where they lost out to Turloughmore (Galway) by 2-5 to 1-4. In the first round they beat their hosts Gort by 2-4 to 1-3. In their next game they beat the Cork representatives Courcy Rovers by 1-12 to 0-1. They had another easy win in the third round against Clarenbridge (Galway) winning by 7-6 to 1-3.

James Stephens defeated Graigue/Ballycallan in the Kilkenny Under-14 Roinn "A" championship final by 4-7 to 2-6. Goals in the 37th and 39th minute of the game by Joey Murray broke the back of the opposition and set James Stephens on the road to victory. Joey Murray was the James Stephens scoring hero and helped himself to 4-2. Until his two goal blast in the second half, Graigue/Ballycallan had been on level terms.

Graigue/Ballycallan opened the scoring with two points from Michael Hoyne and they stayed in front until Joey Murray had his first goal in the 23rd minute which put his side into an interval lead of 1-3 to 0-4. The game was firmly balanced until Murray's two goal strike and after that, the losers despite coming close to goaling on two occasions, were chasing a lost cause.

Others to play well for the winners were Patrick Holden, who made a fantastic save in the second half, David Delaney, Hugh Gannon, John Morgan, John Cullen, Niall Smith and Shane Egan. In Michael Hoyne, the losers had the best player on view. Paul Dermody was an impressive goalkeeper, while others to play well were Gearóid Cleere, Dermot Hoyne and Robbie Byrne.

Scorers:

James Stephens: Joey Murray (4-2), John Morgan (0-4), Shane Egan (0-1).

Graigue-Ballycallan: Michael Hoyne (2-3), Dermot Hoyne, Robbie Byrne and Alan O'Shea (0-1 each).

James Stephens: Patrick Holden, David Delaney, David Dooley, Brian Power, Eoin O'Neill, John Morgan, Hugh Gannon, John Cullen, Richard Walsh, Stephen Murphy, Brian O'Dwyer, Patrick Savage, Niall Smith, Shane Egan, Joey Murray.

Sub: Karl Conroy.

Graigue/Ballycallan: Paul Dermody, Tom Butler, Michael Teehan, Karl Cleere, Anthony Drohan, Michael Hoyne, Jimmy Lynch, Gearóid Cleere, Brendan Marnell, James Ryall, Dermot Hoyne, Robbie Byrne, Brian Dalton, Alan O'Shea, Declan Byrne.

Thomastown beat neighbours to clinch Roinn 'B' title

Neighbouring sides Thomastown and Ballyhale Shamrocks battled their way into the Roinn 'B' final. They produced a real thriller with Thomastown having to stop a Henry Shefflin penalty in the last minute to come out on top by 2-2 to 0-6.

Defences were on top in the first half to such an extent that both sides scored just one point each. Henry Shefflin pointed for the Shamrocks and Dessie Walsh replied with a similar score for the winners. A foul on Murty Hughes following a fine run saw Dessie Walsh point the resultant free. When the Shamrocks had a player sent to the line the outcome looked bleak for the Ballyhale side. Matters got worse when Murty Hughes burst through for a goal to put Thomastown ahead by 1-2 to 0-1.

Despite being reduced to fourteen players, the Ballyhale Shamrocks thundered back into the game and four points from Henry Shefflin and another from Patrick Reid had them ahead by 0-6 to 1-2 with time running out. Dessie Walsh became the Thomastown hero when he scored the winning goal. Then came the penalty save and Thomastown were champions in this grade for the second

time in three years.

Best for the winners were Paul Dempsey, Declan Dempsey, Niall Nevin. Murty Hughes, Derek Lanigan and Dessie Walsh. The Ballyhale Shamrocks had good performers in Thomas Coogan, Aidan Cummins, a nephew of the former Kilkenny 'great' Frank Cummins, Paul Holohan, Patrick Reid and Henry Shefflin.

Scorers:

Thomastown: Dessie Walsh (1-2) and Murty Hughes (1-0).

Shamrocks: Henry Shefflin (0-5) and Patrick Reid (0-1).

Thomastown: Paul Dempsey, Pat Whitty, Declan Dempsey, John Donoghue, Sean Walsh, Niall Nevin, Davy Walsh, Niall Kiely, Derek Lanigan, Wayne McMahon, Murty Hughes, Derek Brennan, Thomas Kelly, Oscar Ryan, Dessie Walsh.

Sub: Paul Dunne.

Shamrocks: John Paul Fitzpatrick, Ger Connolly, Thomas Coogan, John Healy, Paul Shefflin, Aidan Cummins, Sean O'Keefe, Liam Grant, Paul Holohan, Joseph Walsh, Henry Shefflin, David Walsh, Patrick Reid, Sean O'Keefe, Ross Connolly.

St. Patrick's best in local Derby Final

This was another parish derby with great rivals St. Patrick's (Ballyragget) and Conahy Shamrocks drawing a big crowd to



**JAMES STEPHENS UNDER-14 ROINN 'A' HURLING CHAMPIONS
PADDY GRACE/FÉILE NA nGAEL CHAMPIONS**

Front row (left to right): Joey Murray, Geoffrey Brennan, Liam O'Dwyer, Eoin O'Neill, Richie Walsh, Neil Smith, Karl Conroy, David Delaney, Brian Power and Ian Morrissey. Back row (left to right): Dermot Ryan, Stephen Murphy, John Morgan, John Cullen, Francis Ryan, Hugh Gannon, David Dooley, Patrick Savage, Patrick Holden, Shane Egan.

Freshford where the Ballyragget boys came from behind to defeat a Conahy side who were seeking a double, having already won the Under-14 hurling league (11-a-side). Thanks to a goal from Pauric Nolan, Conahy Shamrocks led by four points at the interval.

St. Patrick's made a number of changes at the interval and these had the desired effect. Within ten minutes they had taken a lead which they were never to relinquish and eventually ran out winners by 1-9 to 1-5. It took St. Patrick's three games to get the better of Carrickshock in the semi-final and these games were a great help to the winners.

Robbie Malone kept a safe goal for the winners. Brian Phelan and Brendan Dooley were outstanding in defence. Stephen Roberts at midfield was the best player on view while Pat Callinan and Richard Stone did well when switched. Mark Swan was the top scorer. Best for Conahy were Liam Byrne, Niall Burke, Paul Buggy, John Brennan and Pauric Nolan.

Scorers:

St. Patrick's: Mark Swan (1-3), Pat Callinan (0-3), Eamonn Delaney, Brian Phelan and Stephen Roberts (0-1 each).

Conahy Shamrocks: Pauric Nolan (1-0), Paul Buggy (0-2), Niall Burke (0-2) and Seamus Brennan (0-1).

St. Patrick's: Robbie Malone, David Kenny, Brendan Dooley, James McCraith, Eamonn McEvoy, Brian Phelan, Tony Stapleton, Stephen Roberts, Billy Irwin, Pat Callinan, Mark Swan, Brian Phelan, Richard Stone, Eamonn Delaney, Eamonn Cuggy.

Sub: Kevin Malone.

Conahy Shamrocks: Conor Brennan, Eoin Flynn, Brian Heverin, Brendan Griffith, Darragh Connery, Liam Byrne, Eoin Byrne, Niall Burke, Colm Healy, Seamus Brennan, Paul Buggy, John Darcy, Mark Mooney, John Brennan, Pauric Nolan.



GRAIGUE/BALLYCALLAN UNDER-14 HURLING TEAM

Front row: Anthony Drohan, Paul Dermody, Dermot Hoyne, Brendan Marnell, Brian Dalton, James Ryall, Alan O'Shea, Gearóid Cleere, Tom Butler. Back row: John Dermody, Brendan Muldowney, Seamus Dooley, Karl Keane, Micheál Hoyne, Robbie Byrne, Thomas Fitzpatrick, Patrick Dalton, Jimmy Lynch, Joe Joe Brennan, Michael Teehan, Brendan Hayes, Declan Byrne.

(Photo: Tom Brett)

Game of the year sees James Stephens win Paddy Grace Tournament

This was undoubtedly the juvenile hurling game of the year. Played at a tremendous pace and at a high skill level, the pity was that there had to be a loser. The final score was James Stephens 3-8, Graigue/Ballycallan 2-9.

Joey Murray gave the city side the advantage at the interval with a goal to lead by 1-3 to 0-4. Unbelievably, this was also the score at the interval when the sides met in the championship final. A Brian Dalton goal had the losers ahead early in the second half. At the end of the

third quarter the teams were level but two goals within a minute seemed to have wrapped up the title for the city side when Graigue/Ballycallan, amidst great excitement, levelled the scores with two minutes left to play. Points from Niall Smith and Shane Egan snatched a late late victory for James Stephens.

Best for the winners were David Dooley, Eoin O'Neill and John Morgan in defence. John Cullen had a fine game at midfield, while Niall Smith, Stephen Murphy, Shane Egan and Joey Murray were best in attack. Paul Dermody, the smallest player on the field, was magnificent in goal for the losers. Michael Teehan, Jimmy Lynch and Anthony Drohan did best in defence. Dermot Hoyne stood out at midfield while the attack was best served by Brian Dalton, Michael Hoyne and Robbie Byrne.

James Stephens: Patrick Holden, David Delaney, David Dooley, Francis Ryan, Eoin O'Neill, John Morgan, Brian Power, John Cullen, Karl Conroy, Niall Smith, Richard Walsh, Stephen Murphy, Shane Egan, Patrick Savage, Joey Murray.

Graigue/Ballycallan: Paul Dermody, Tom Butler, Michael Teehan, Karl Keane, Anthony Drohan, Jimmy Lynch, Brendan Muldowney, Michael Hoyne, Dermot Hoyne, Brendan Marnell, Robbie Byrne, Gearóid Cleere, Brian Dalton, Alan O'Shea, James Ryall.

Sub: Declan Byrne.

Easy League win for Conahy Shamrocks

Conahy Shamrocks swept to an easy win (7-9 to 3-4) over Tullaghan-Rosbercon in the 11-a-side Under-14 hurling league. It took the Conahy side two games to dispose of Carrickshock in their semi-



Two Kilkeny boys played in Croke Park on All-Ireland Final Day in the Mini Sevens. Brendan Marnell (second player from the left back row) and Gearóid Cleere (second player from right front row). The other players included are James Quigley (Louth), Barry Murray (Down), Ronan O'Connor (Kerry), Thomas Loughran (Meath), Kevin Grieve (Antrim), David Keane (Dublin), Brian Byrne (Meath), Paul Brenniif (Down).

final, while Tullogher-Rosbercon got the better of St. Patrick's (Ballyragget) after their first game was called off after ten minutes.

Conahy Shamrocks took the field in the final without one of the best players, Colm Healy, who was injured. He did, however, make a late entry, at which stage the North Kilkenny side were in total control. Outstanding for the winners were Liam Byrne, Niall Burke, Paul Buggy and John Brennan, while Mark Mooney caused a lot of trouble for the Tullogher-Rosbercon defence scoring three goals.

The losers best players were John Barron, Richard Lanigan and Colm Prendergast.

Conahy Shamrocks: Conor Brennan, Brendan Griffith, Darragh Connery, Brian Heverin, Liam Byrne, Niall Burke (1-1), Paul Buggy (1-4), John Brennan (0-4), Seamus Brennan (1-0), John Darcy (1-0), Mark Mooney (3-0).

Subs: Eoin Flynn, Colm Healy, Pauric Nolan, Eoin Byrne, Denis Kelly, Ray Purcell, David Bergin, Brian McCullough, Padraig Conway and Pat Kenny.

Tullogher/Rosbercon: Martin Nolan, Canice Grennan, Alan Long, Alan Malone, Sean Healy, John Barron, Richard Lanigan, Colm Prendergast, Kevin Murphy, Patrick Green, Jason Purcell.

Subs: John Dowling and Martin Kennedy.

Dicksboro retain Roinn 'A' football title

Dicksboro retained the Roinn 'A' Under-14 football title when they defeated James Stephens by 5-4 to 3-3 in a good final played in St. John's Park. Stephen Guidera had two early points for Dicksboro but the Village boys took the lead with points from Geoff Brennan, Joey Murray and Pat Savage.

The introduction of Timmy Clifford as a substitute paid dividends for Dicksboro and he set up Keith Nicholson for a goal. A John Morgan goal gave James Stephens an interval lead of 1-3 to 1-2. Stephen Guidera put Dicksboro back into the lead with his first goal. James Stephens looked like coming through when Stephen Murphy goalied twice to put his side four points ahead (3-3 to 2-2).

It was that man Guidera again who came to the rescue of Dicksboro with his second goal after his penalty shot was saved and he netted the rebound. Then, Michael Falsey another substitute, scored a Dicksboro goal to put his side ahead: a lead they were never again to lose. A point by Alan Dowling, another goal by Guidera and a fine point from Alan Barry left no doubts as to who were the better side.

Stephen Guidera with 3-2 to his credit was the Dicksboro hero. He got most support from Conor Phelan, an excellent goalie, Oisín Breathnach and Liam McCormack in defence, Niall O'Gorman and Alan



MINI-SEVENS - KILMANAGH

Front row: Ciarán Hoyne, Patrick Dalton, Brian Dalton, Joe Joe Brennan, Niall Millea. Back row: Brendan Marnell, Brendan Hayes, James Ryall, Declan Byrne, Gearóid Cleere.



Michael Hoyne, winner of the All-Ireland U-14 Long Puck competition, presented with his trophy.



KILKENNY COUNTY FINAL OF THE "PUC FADA" UNDER-14 COMPETITION

Back: Joe Pyke, Niall O'Gorman, Niall Nevin, Brian Phelan, Tom Digby, Aidan Cummins, Tom Ryall. Front: Stephen Murphy, Michael Hoyne, Tim Dooley, Sean Tyler, Daniel Love, James Walsh.

Dowling who got on top at midfield, and substitutes Timmy Clifford and Michael Falsey in attack, when they came on as well as Richard Nagle.

Best for the losers were Patrick Holden, a capable goalkeeper, Derek Delaney, Eoin O'Neill, Stephen Murphy, Shane Egan and

John Morgan, both in attack and defence.

Scorers:

Dicksboro: Stephen Guidera (3-2), Keith Nicholson (1-0), Michael Falsey (1-0), Alan Barry and Alan Dowling (0-1 each).

James Stephens: Stephen Murphy (2-0),

John Morgan (1-0), Geoff Brennan, Pat Savage and Joey Murray (0-1 each).

Dicksboro: Conor Phelan, Mark Andrews, John Hayes, Ian Deegan, Gerard Hayes, Oisín Breathnach, Liam McCormack, Niall O'Gorman, Alan Dowling, Richard Nagle, Stephen Guidera, Alan Barry, Eoin Peters, David Maher, Keith Nicholson.

Subs: Timmy Clifford and Michael Falsey.

James Stephens: Patrick Holden, Francis Ryan, David Delaney, Brian Power, Eoin O'Neill, John Cullen, Brían O'Dwyer, Stephen Murphy, Hugh Gannon, Joey Murray, John Morgan, Geoff Brennan, Brian Holden, Shane Egan, Pat Savage.

Thomastown take Roinn 'B' title at second attempt

It took two games to decide the Under-14 Football "B" championship final. Thomastown completed the double for their club while Graigue/Ballycallan were also doing the double, but an unwanted one as they also lost the hurling final. Graigue/Ballycallan were also defeated in last years Under-14 football final.

The first game was a very low scoring affair with both sides finishing with three points each. Graigue/Ballycallan had a great chance of a goal in this game but Robbie Byrne's penalty was saved and he blazed the rebound wide. A strong wind dominated the game and Graigue/Ballycallan had their three points in the first period from Michael Hoyne, Robbie Byrne and Alan O'Shea. Thomastown, on the other other hand, scored their three points in the second half from Niall Nevin (2) and Murty Hughes.

Sean Walsh from Thomastown was the best player on view. He got most support from John Donoghue, Niall Nevin, Pat Whitty, Niall Kelly, Derek Lanigan, Dessie Walsh and Thomas Kelly.

Graigue/Ballycallan's best players were



DICKSBORO UNDER-14 COUNTY FOOTBALL CHAMPIONS 1993

Back row: Peter Long, Sean Butler, Niall O'Gorman, Niall Gallagher, Nicholas O'Donnell, Keith Nicholson, Conor Phelan, Cillian Breathnach, Oisín Breathnach, Thomas Knox, Gary O'Dwyer, Stephen Rochford. Middle row: Niall O'Neill, Richard Nagle, Jonathon Knox, Michael Falsey, Gerard Hayes, P. J. Brannigan, Eoin Peters, Alan Dowling, Jason Dempsey, Alan Barry, Mark Donnelly. Front row: Mark Massey, Liam McCormack, John Hayes, Ian Deegan, Shane McEvoy, Mark Andrews, Timmy Clifford, Stephen Guidera (captain), Pdraig Lacey, John Ryan, Thomas Hackett, David Maher.

Anthony Drohan who had a great game, Karl Keane in the second half, Michael Hoyne, Dermot Hoyne and Paul Dermody.

Better forwards was the main difference between the sides in the replay, and a two goal strike by Thomas Kelly in the second half helped Thomastown to a 3-4 to 1-7 victory. With Dermot Hoyne lording it at midfield, ably assisted by Michael Hoyne, Graigue/Ballycallan had most of the play but the switch of Murty Hughes helped Thomastown to parity in this sector.

A Dessie Walsh goal in the 8th minute helped Thomastown into a 1-2 to 0-2 interval lead. Kelly's two goals were vital in the second half, while Michael Hoyne's goal from a penalty in the closing stages was too little too late for the Kilmanagh side.

Paul Dunne made one class save in the winner's goal. Niall Nevin, Declan Dempsey and Pat Whitty were to the fore in defence. Murty Hughes did well when he came to midfield. Thomas Kelly and Dessie Walsh were best in attack.

Anthony Drohan, Jimmy Lynch and Joe Joe Brennan were best in the losers defence. The Hoynes, Dermot and Micheál, did well at midfield, While Gearóid Cleere and Alan O'Shea were best in the forward division.

Scorers:

Thomastown: Thomas Kelly (2-0); Murty Hughes (0-3); Dessie Walsh (1-0) and Robert Stapleton (0-1).

Graigue/Ballycallan: Michael Hoyne (1-1), Dermot Hoyne (0-2), Robbie Byrne (0-2), Gearóid Cleere and Paul Dermody (0-1 each).

Thomastown: Paul Dunne, Pat Whitty Declan Dempsey, J. J. Roche, Derek Brennan, Niall Nevin, Davy Walsh, Niall Kelly, Sean Walsh, Derek Lanigan, Murty Hughes, Paul Dempsey, Thomas Kelly, Robert Stapleton, Dessie Walsh.

Subs: Wayne McMahon and Oscar Ryan.

John Donoghue, Wayne McMahon and Oscar Ryan played in the drawn game. J. J. Roche, Derek Brennan and Robert Stapleton came on as substitutes in the drawn game.

Graigue/Ballycallan: Brendan Maher, Tom Butler, Michael Teehan, Karl Keane, Joe Joe Brennan, Jimmy Lynch, Anthony Drohan, Michael Hoyne, Dermot Hoyne, James Ryall, Robbie Byrne, Gearóid Cleere, Alan O'Shea, Fergal Brett, Paul Dermody.

Brendan Marnell played in the drawn game. Fergal Brett, who came on as a substitute in the drawn game, retained his place for the replay.

SEAN KELLY

Sports Therapist I.T.E.C. Dip.

Dip Ki Mass., M.I.H.C.A. - Ki Massage Therapist - M.I.F.P.A. Dip.,
Aromatherapy - T.F.H.A.I. Touch for Health & Kinesiology
I.C.N.H.S. Dip., Massage Reflexology - I.P.T.I. Dip., Aromatherapy

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ONLY THREE DIDN'T GET A RUN



By JOHN KNOX

Injuries made the task of retaining the McCarthy Cup a difficult one for Kilkenny, but the selectors made full use of the panel.

For the crucial opening games against Offaly, Liam Simpson (back), Michael Phelan (broken collar bone) and Liam Walsh (achilles tendon) were injured. The latter did get in for the closing 20 minutes, but that was the only part he played in the championship.

Further on in the Leinster final, Liam McCarthy (broken finger) was an absentee, and later in the All-Ireland semi-final, Pat Dwyer (groin) was unavailable.

Team handlers Ollie Walsh (manager), Nicky Brennan (Co. Board chairman) and Tom Ryan (Glenmore) didn't even have a full squad at their disposal for the All-Ireland final.

Paul Phelan (knee) was ruled out the week before the match, and on the day of the game Matty Walsh was rushed to hospital suffering severe pain in his stomach. The unlucky Walsh didn't even get to walk out onto the Croke Park pitch, because he spent most of the day in hospital.

Only three members of the panel - Paul Phelan, Matty Walsh and Eamon Holland - were not used during the campaign.

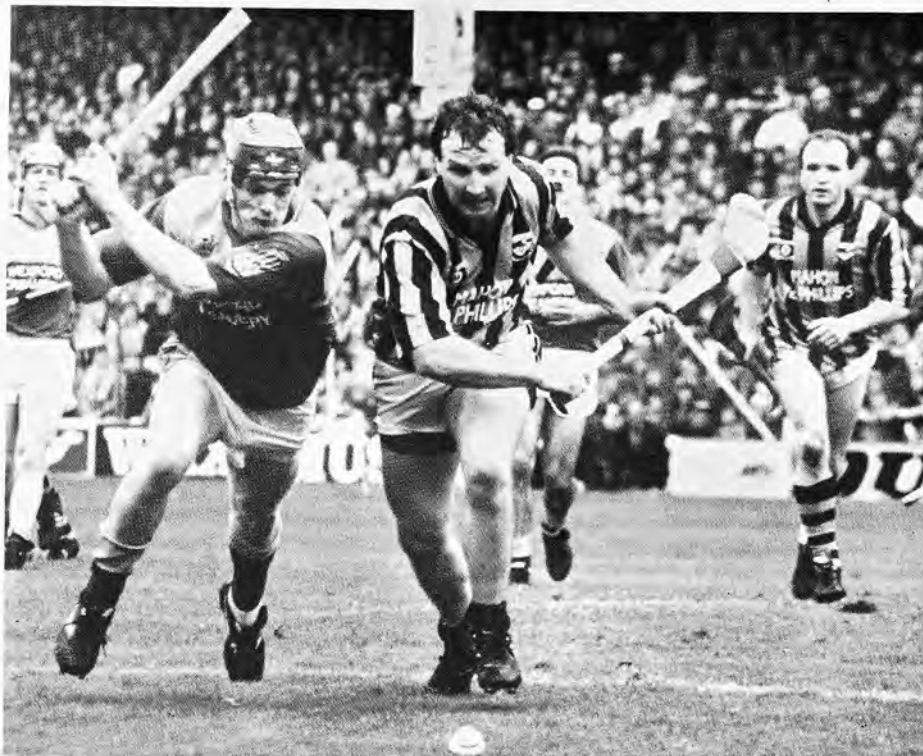
This was the order in which the Kilkenny players appeared in the championship: Michael Walsh (Dicksboro), Joe Walsh (Mullinavat), Pat Dwyer (Carrickshock), Eddie O'Connor (Glenmore), Liam Keogh (Tullaroan), Pat O'Neill (Young Irelands), Willie O'Connor (Glenmore), Bill Hennessy (Tullaroan), Anthony Prendergast (Clara), Liam McCarthy (Piltown), John Power (John Lockes), D.J. Carey (Young Irelands), Eamon Morrissey (St. Martin's), Brian Ryan (Fenians), Adrian Ronan (Graigue-Ballycallan).

That was the team that started against Offaly. Subs. introduced that day were Liam Walsh (Glenmore), P.J. Delaney (Fenians), James Brennan (Erin's Own). Later Ray Heffernan (Glenmore), Liam Simpson (Berinnettsbridge), Michael Phelan (Glenmore), Christy Heffernan (Glenmore), Dermot Lawlor (St. Martin's) and Tom Murphy (Mooncoin) saw action.

That left Paul Phelan (Shamrocks), Matty Walsh (Fenians) and Eamon Holland (Erin's Own) as the unlucky members of the squad who did not get a run.



Ouch! John O'Connor (Wexford) falls on Eamon Morrissey during the Leinster Championship final in Croke Park. Adrian Ronan is about to come to Eamon's assistance.



Down To It . . . Kilkenny's Willie O'Connor contests possession for a ground ball with Wexford's Rod Guiney as brother Eddie watches the outcome. Other Wexford players are Tom Dempsey and Martin Storey.

Photo: Tom Brett



Eamon Morrissey has a tough passage to get around John O'Connor in the Leinster Final against Wexford.

THE ORDER OF MERIT

27: Cork	1890, 1892, 1893, 1894, 1902, 1903, 1919, 1926, 1928, 1929, 1931, 1941, 1942, 1943, 1944, 1946, 1952, 1953, 1954, 1966, 1970, 1976, 1977, 1978, 1984, 1986, 1990.
25: Kilkenny	1904, 1905, 1907, 1909, 1911, 1912, 1913, 1922, 1932, 1933, 1935, 1939, 1947, 1957, 1963, 1967, 1969, 1972, 1974, 1975, 1979, 1982, 1983, 1992, 1993.
24: Tipperary	1887, 1895, 1896, 1898, 1899, 1900, 1906, 1908, 1916, 1925, 1930, 1937, 1945, 1949, 1950, 1951, 1958, 1961, 1962, 1964, 1965, 1971, 1989, 1991.
7: Limerick	1897, 1918, 1921, 1934, 1936, 1940, 1973.
6: Dublin	1889, 1917, 1920, 1924, 1927, 1938.
5: Wexford	1910, 1955, 1956, 1960, 1968.
4: Galway	1923, 1980, 1987, 1988.
2: Offaly	1981, 1985.
2: Waterford	1948, 1959.
1: Clare	1914.
Laois	1915.
Kerry	1891.
London	1901.

THE SUPPORTERS CLUB — Where does the money go?

ONE of the most depressing questions to be asked of officials of any unit of the G.A.A. during the "silly season" is "Where does all the money go?" If you really want to overload any harrassed treasurer of a club, that is the question to ask. Multiply his problems of making ends meet by the size of the unit - County Board - Leinster Council - Croke Park and you have similar problems, only bigger.

The Supporters Club is no different. Our books are audited and published in the County Board Accounts on County Convention Day, but we thought that we would let the public know the areas of the G.A.A. in the County which we are supporting.

We make no apologies that our main focus is on the Senior Hurling Team. We believe that if the Senior Hurlers are successful, the euphoria created will make the jobs of the officials, who are trying to motivate and generate interest at under age level, that much easier.

The following summary of our donations to G.A.A. units in 1993 should be of interest.

SENIOR HURLERS:

Holiday abroad for teams '92 and '93 - £18,000.
50% cost of outfits for teams.
Player of the Championship Award - D. J. Carey.

COUNTY COACHES:

Contribution of £2,000 to the Coaching Scheme.

SCHOOLS:

Schools hurley subsidy - £2,000.
Contribution to All-Ireland Colleges and Vocational Teams expenses.
Sponsored Broadcast of Schools Finals on Radio Kilkenny.

UNDER-21 TEAM:

Jumpers for panel and officials.
Sponsored Player of the Championship Award - Joe Dermody.

MINOR TEAM:

Boots for panel.
Sponsored Player of the Championship Award - Ollie O'Connor.

JUNIOR TEAM:

Jumpers for panel and officials.
Sponsored Player of the Championship Award - James McGarry.

FOOTBALL:

Sponsored Man of the Match at Football Final.

CAMOGIE:

Donation to Lisdowney £250 for the Club All-Ireland Championship.

FÉILE NA nGAEL:

Donation £100 to James Stephens Club.

GENERAL:

Promotion of games through sponsorship of outside broadcast by Radio Kilkenny before the All-Ireland.
Sponsored Banner Competition on the eve of the All-Ireland.
Organised social events on the All-Ireland week-end.
Organised purchase and sale of promotional items prior to All-Ireland Finals.

Our funds have been raised:

Golf Classic at Kilkenny Golf Club.
Membership (up 25% on last year)
Christmas Card Project - sold out.
Team Photographs.

We are most grateful to the companies and individuals who generously supported our Golf Classic, those who became official members and those who bought our products. We could not have carried out any of the work but for their generosity.

We look forward eagerly to 1994 - and we hope our Senior Team can give us one more supreme effort to win the three-in-a-row and go down in the history books. The Supporters' Club is now an essential part of G.A.A. affairs in the county, for funding to support the various units of the Association, and giving recognition for outstanding achievement.

We would like to get more people involved in the Supporters' Club, and we hope for a large attendance at our A.G.M. early in 1994.

Cheers all round for Golden Boy "Ducksie" and Ollie the Supreme

ONE MAN who proved his genius in active duty, and another in management, were fêted when the Hotel Kilkenny and *Kilkenny People* scheme crowned their kings in sport.

Tradition was dispensed with so that homage could be paid to one of the greatest of all alley 'Cats,' Michael 'Ducksie' Walsh, following a record ninth victory in the senior softball singles handball championship.

And Kilkenny senior hurling supremo, Ollie Walsh, who showed genius as a player in the past and is doing so as a manager now, was honoured for his outstanding achievements.

At the eighth annual Hotel Kilkenny and *Kilkenny People* sports personality banquet, Ducksie was presented with a specially commissioned gold medal and Ollie was honoured as the Supreme Personality of the Year.

'Ducksie' Walsh has set new boundaries through his achievements in handball courts all over the world. The Selection Committee – All-Ireland senior hurling medal record-holder Noel Skehan; Richard Butler, general manager Hotel Kilkenny, and John Knox, *Kilkenny People*, – felt his special accomplishments had to be marked in a special way.

And so, a unique gold medal, complete with handball figure on the front and inscription highlighting 'Ducksie's' newest achievement, was commissioned from local craftsman James Mary Kelly, High Street, Kilkenny, whose creations include the new McCarthy Cup.

That was a once-off presentation made to commemorate another milestone in the remarkable career of a remarkable athlete. (See special story).

CLEAR WINNER

Ollie Walsh was the clear winner of the annual Supreme Award, which recognises achievements at a consistently high level. The Kilkenny hurling manager brought the gathering to its feet and was accorded prolonged applause when called to accept his award from former Wexford and Clare hurler Liam Griffin, managing director, Hotel, Kilkenny.

Years ago, it appeared as if Ollie Walsh had achieved it all. Now he is doing it all over again, not as a great goalkeeper, but as a manager.

The once front-line soldier with winning ways continues to enjoy enormous success. Three years ago he was appointed manager of the Kilkenny team.

Since, the county has won three Leinster championships, contested three

All-Irelands, and won two.

After nine painful years in the wilderness, Kilkenny burst back into the winners' enclosure in the All-Ireland final of 1992 against Cork.

This year the marauding 'Cats' defended the McCarthy Cup in heroic fashion, and claimed their 25th Silver Jubilee victory. In one of the toughest campaigns ever – six matches – the Noresiders produced hurling of such power and yet beauty that they left all opposition gasping.

FIRM MANAGER

A lot of credit for this had to go to Ollie Walsh, the laid-back, warm, yet firm manager of the team. He fostered a close, family-like atmosphere within the squad.

Mr. Walsh holds a unique position as a hurling manager in Kilkenny. In 1984, 1986, 1988 and 1990 he won a record four junior

hurling All-Irelands as a manager. He is the only man to have managed All-Ireland winning county teams at two grades.

The Hotel Kilkenny and *Kilkenny People* scheme honours sports personalities on a monthly basis.

During the last year – from September to September – stars of the Gaelic world honoured were: Liam Fennelly, All-Ireland winning captain of 1992 (September '92); St. Kieran's College following their unique achievement of winning the senior hurling (Joseph Philpott, captain) and soccer Leinster title (March '93); St. Brigid's College, Callan (Sinéad Millea, captain), following their first win in the All-Ireland senior camogie final (April '93) and the Kilkenny senior camogie team (Marina Downey, captain), following their victory in the first 15-a-side National League.

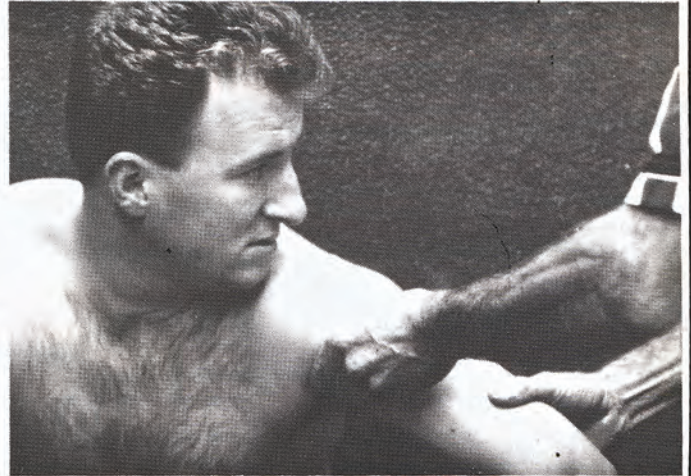


Still friends, still smiling! . . . It was a painful experience for Hotel Kilkenny managing director Liam Griffin (left) when Kilkenny beat his former team, Wexford, in the replayed Leinster final. He still managed a warm and appreciative smile when asked to present the architect of that victory, Ollie Walsh, the Kilkenny manager, with the "Supreme Award" in the annual Hotel Kilkenny and "Kilkenny People" sports personality scheme.

Photo: Michael Brophy

CAPTION WRITING COMPETITION

If you think you have the ability to write captions for photographs, now is your chance to test your skill, and you could win 2 Stand Tickets for next year's All-Ireland Final. We will even give you four chances of winning. The four pictures below were taken before and after the All-Ireland Final. You can submit captions for all four. The best caption for any one of the photographs will be adjudged the winner by a panel of judges, whose decision will be final. Send your answers to: **Brendan O'Sullivan, Logan Street, Thomastown.**



Le Gach Dea-Mhéin ó Chomhairle Laighean C.L.G.



Micheál Ó Dubhshláine
Rúnaí.

Winning Essay Competition



Congratulations to Alice Tennyson on winning our Essay Writing Competition. Alice's entry has won for her school – Newmarket National School–24 hurleys. The runner-up prize of 12 hurling balls goes to Trevor Jackman from Windgap National School. Congratulations to both of you and your schools.

To all the rest of the boys and girls who submitted entries, I say hard luck, go raibh míle maith agaibh for taking the time to enter our competition.

Better luck next year. We hope you enjoy the Kilkenny Yearbook. Maybe you will find your face somewhere in it. Hopefully some of you will fill the spaces taken up this year by Eddie O'Connor, Shane Doyle, Sinéad Millea or John Power in the years ahead.

Beidh bua an lá agaibh.

EDITOR

CLASH OF THE ASH

I grabbed my faithful hurl and trusty helmet and plunged out the door, excited and hopeful. We were having a league in school and this was our first match. I quickly took my position on the field. The master walked out, whistle in hand, ready to start the first match. We were the underdogs and I knew we would have to play so well that we would thoroughly shock ourselves as well as the spectators. The master threw the ball in, clash, the sound of the hurleys crashing together brought shivers up my spine.

As the ball approached I mentally prepared myself, I would swing, hit and then the ball would sail through the air towards the opposite goal . . . I hit the ball but not as hard or as far as I meant it to. After that I thought to myself wow!, what a wonderful game, so much fun and excitement.

Then an uninviting shout changed my mind, "cúl!". Although we were losing I played on and kept my head up. We scored some points and another goal and then, standing beside the ball, I struck with all my strength. I watched it fly past the goalie. I had scored a goal! . . . I didn't really care at that moment in time whether we won, lost or drew.

The other team scored some fine goals and were the better team at the end of the day. The master opened his arms and blew his whistle. We had lost. I entered the room red as a beetroot, and I laid down my faithful hurl and trusty helmet and thought what a wonderful game.

Alice Tennyson,
6th class, Newmarket National School



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Iarnród Éireann Minor Hurling Round-Up

Dunamaggin Create History



By: Tom Ryall

The 1993 Minor Hurling Championship Roinn A saw Dunamaggin create history by taking the "Michael Joyce" Cup for the first time. This was a marvellous performance from a club who were operating in Roinn C in 1989. They won promotion to Roinn B having won the Roinn C championship in 1989. They annexed the Roinn B championship in 1991 beating Conahy Shamrocks in an exciting final.

The 1993 championship was a very competitive affair with most of the teams evenly matched. Graigue/Ballycallan and Erin's Own opened the campaign in the North with the former winning by 3-12 to 2-6. The winners, however, were well beaten by James Stephens, who were everyone's fancy for the title, in the North Semi-Final by 2-14 to 1-5. Lachtain's qualified for a repeat of the previous year's North Final when they defeated Dicksboro by 2-9 to 2-8.

The Northern Final ended in controversy when James Stephens were reduced to fourteen players, and late scores saw St. Lachtain's come through by 2-9 to 0-14.

Dunamaggin made everyone sit up and take notice when they defeated Mooncoin in the first round by 2-15 to 2-8. Piltown were Dunamaggin's next victims in a great game, and when they beat last year's 'B' champions Glenmore by 2-19 to 2-8, they were installed as favourites to take the honours. Glenmore had qualified for the South Final with easy wins over Kilmacrogue and Graignamanagh.

The final was played on the 24th October as the curtain raiser to the Credit Union Senior Hurling championship final. The first half of the game produced hurling of a very high standard. The fare dropped somewhat in the third quarter but Dunamaggin played brilliantly in the final ten minutes pulling ahead to win by 1-11 to 1-6.

The "man of the match" award, sponsored by Iarnród Éireann, was won by Ramie Cahill, who is still only fifteen years of age. Cahill received a bad head injury in the first half and resumed with his head heavily bandaged. Shortly afterwards a mis-hit 20 metre free for Dunamaggin was picked up by Cahill and he shot to the net to give his side a 1-5 to 1-4 interval lead.

It was in the second half that Cahill left his imprint on the 1993 final. He took over the free taking at a stage when Dunamaggin had missed a few easy scoring chances. St. Lachtain's were actually in the lead by 1-6 to 1-5 when Cahill proved a

real sharpshooter and five scores from him earned a famous victory for his club.

Dunamaggin had other stars in Paul Cahill, a great centre-half-back who was also very much in line for the 'man of the match' award, goalkeeper Anthony McCormack, Tom Hickey who kept tabs on the dangerous Oliver O'Connor, Adrian Moran, Paul Kearney and Michael O'Neill.

St. Lachtain's outstanding player was their goalkeeper Joe Ryan who made several great saves. Others to play well were Noel Hickey, John Costelloe, Damien Barnaville and Ollie O'Connor.

Scorers:

Dunamaggin: Ramie Cahill (1-5), Paul Kearney (0-3), Michael O'Neill (0-2) and Ken O'Shea (0-1).

St. Lachtain's: Damien Barnaville (1-0), Ollie O'Connor (0-3), Noel Hickey (0-1), Niall O'Connor (0-1) and John Costelloe (0-1).

Dunamaggin: Anthony McCormack, Tom McCormack, Tom Hickey, Paul Moore, Adrian Moran, Paul Cahill (captain), Andrew Hickey, Noel Lahart, Ken O'Shea, James Barry, Paul Kearney, Michael O'Neill, Ramie Cahill, Philip O'Shea and John Hickey.

Sub: Brian O'Shea.

St. Lachtain's: Joe Ryan, Liam Cahill, Pa Hickey, Noel Walsh, Noel Hickey, John Costelloe, William Watson, Paul Dowling, Brendan Cleere, James Kavanagh, Brian Cahill, Niall O'Connor, Damien Barnaville, Mark Butler, Ollie O'Connor.

Sub: Richard Dawson.

Impressive Rower-Inistioge clinch "B" title

The Rower-Inistioge took the Roinn "B" Minor Hurling Championship when they defeated Lisdowney in the final by 0-11 to 1-6. The game ended in controversy when Lisdowney supporters vented their frustration on the referee at the end of the game.

Lisdowney opened their campaign with an easy win over the Fenians by 4-10 to 0-4. St. Martins and Young Irelands played a draw with St. Martin's winning the replay. They qualified for the North Final when they beat Barrow Rangers, while Lisdowney defeated O'Loughlin Gaels by a single point. Lisdowney took the title when they came from behind to beat St. Martin's.

The Rower-Inistioge had an easy first round win over the Ballyhale-Shamrocks by 3-13 to 0-6, while Mullinavat beat Thomastown by 0-16 to 1-8. In the South Semi-Finals Mullinavat defeated Tullogher-Rosbercon while the Rower-Inistioge got the better of John Lockes. It took a late rally from the Rower-Inistioge to see off Mullinavat in the South Final.

The star of the County Final was Michael Doyle, another fifteen year old, who scored nine points of his side's total. The North Kilkenny side led at the interval by 1-3 to 0-3. The Rower-Inistioge took over in the second half and with Doyle in



EMERALDS ROINN C WINNERS

Back row (left to right): Liam Hennessy, Denis Tobin, John Guilfoyle, John Ryan, David Guilfoyle, Daniel Holohan, Michael Tobin, John Power, Ted Clohosey, Tom Delaney, Damien Tobin, Ken Hughes. Front row (left to right): Adrian Cleere, Tom Manton, Richard Norton, Niall Minogue, Brendan Joyce, James Burke, Ollie Bergin, Shane Ahearne, Pat Doyle.

(Photo: Tom Brett)

great scoring form, they built up a four point lead.

Lisdowney brought Ollie Blanchfield to centre half forward for the closing ten minutes and it paid dividends. Blanchfield pointed two frees and Joe Nolan shot another to narrow the gap to a single point. It was Michael Doyle again who shot the final point of the game, although Lisdowney did have a chance of snatching a match winning goal in the closing minutes.

While Doyle deservedly took the Iarnród Éireann "Man of the Match" award, he got good assistance from county minor Brendan Bolger who worked hard, Owen Kenny, Paul Cottrell who took over at midfield, Jim Kelly and Derek Walsh. Best for the losers were Ollie Blanchfield, John Dowling, Joe Nolan, John Moore and Colm Dunphy.

Scorers:

Rower-Inistioge: Michael Doyle (0-9); Martin Burke (0-1), Michael Barron (0-1).

Lisdowney: Colm Dunphy (1-0), Ollie Blanchfield (0-2), Mark Dunphy (0-2), Joe Nolan (0-1), John Moore (0-1).

Rower-Inistioge: John Downey, Tom Digby, Jim Murphy, Michael Murphy, Derek Walsh, Jim Kelly, Bill Cottrell, Paul Cottrell, Owen Kenny, Michael Barron, Brendan Bolger, Michael Doyle, Martin Burke, Mark Kennedy.

Subs: James Mackey.

Lisdowney: Brendan Blanchfield, Brian Kelly, Ollie Blanchfield, Niall Kennedy, John Dowling, Declan Fitzpatrick, Joe Nolan, Mark Dunphy, John Moore, Brian Purcell, Vivian Mullally, Michael Bergin, Colm Dunphy, Edward Delehunty.

Emeralds too strong for all in Roinn 'C'

The Emeralds proved too strong for everyone in Roinn "C" and I feel that they might well have taken the Roinn "B" title had they been in that grade. They defeated Danesfort in the first round by 4-15 to 4-6. St. Patrick's (Ballyragget) beat Bennettsbridge while Clara got the better of Tullaroan by 1-9 to 0-6.

The Emeralds had another easy win in the second round, this time over Conahy Shamrocks by 3-13 to 0-2. James Stephens II beat St. Patrick's (Ballyragget), Galmoy beat Cloneen by 3-8 to 1-8, while Clara beat Blacks and Whites by 4-5 to 1-4.

In the North semi-finals the Emeralds had an easy win over James Stephens II and Galmoy beat Clara. The battle of neighbours Emeralds and Galmoy in the North Final saw the Urlingford boys prove too strong winning by 4-10 to 1-5.

Only three teams took part in the South Championship. Carrickshock beat Slieverue in the semi-final and had a hard game

with neighbours Windgap before winning by 0-14 to 1-7 in the South Final.

Carrickshock stayed with the Emeralds for fifty minutes of the game and at the interval trailed by just three points (1-5 to 0-5). A John Raggett goal in the second half left the sides level at 1-7 each. A mis-hit Ollie Bergin "65" went to Shane Aherne who shot the goal that opened the flood gates. This was a polished performance from the Emeralds. John Guilfoyle played well in goal. Niall Manogue, John Ryan and Damien Tobin were sound in the full back line.

Ollie Bergin won the 'Man of the Match' award, giving a magnificent performance at centre half back. He got good support from Tom Doheny and Danny Holohan. Brendan Joyce was the star of the attack with Ken Hughes having a great game at midfield. Shane Aherne and Jimmy Burke also showed fine skill.

Derek O'Grady had a fine game in the Carrickshock goal. Clive Cuddihy, Martin Roughan and Michael Murphy were best in the losers defence. P. J. Cuddihy and Larry O'Shea had their moments at midfield. Adrian Hudson was the chief danger in attack. Best of the others were David Murphy, John Raggett and Adrian Burke.

Scorers:

Emeralds: Shane Aherne (2-1), Ken Hughes (0-6), Brendan Joyce (0-4), Ollie Bergin, Richard Norton and Jimmy Burke (0-2 each).

Carrickshock: Adrian Hudson (0-5), John Raggett (1-0), Declan Sheridan (0-2), and P. J. Cuddihy (0-1).

Emeralds: John Guilfoyle, Niall Manogue, John Ryan, Damien Tobin, Danny Holohan, Ollie Bergin, Ted Clohosey, Tom Doheny, Ken Hughes, Richard Norton, Paddy Doyle, Jim Burke, Shane Aherne, Brendan Joyce, Michael Tobin.

Subs: David Guilfoyle, John Power and Tom Manton.

Carrickshock: Derek O'Grady, Peter Cassin, Clive Cuddihy, Gearóid Butler, Joseph Nolan, Martin Rohan, Michael Murphy, P. J. Cuddihy, Larry O'Shea, Michael Walsh, David Murphy, Declan

Sheridan, John Raggett, Adrian Hudson, Adrian Burke.

Sub: Jason Cuddihy.

James Stephens capture league title

James Stephens, Mooncoin, Glenmore and Graigue/Ballycallan qualified for the semi-finals of the Roinn "A" Minor hurling league (John Tobin Memorial Cup). James Stephens defeated Mooncoin while Glenmore saw off the challenge of the holders of the title, Graigue/Ballycallan after a replay.

James Stephens made amends for their championship defeat when they took the League title on a double score of 2-4 to 1-2. Despite having two players sent to the line, the City side ran out convincing winners. They laid the foundation of victory in the first half when they led by 2-3 to 0-2 at the interval.

The second half was a dour struggle with James Stephens adding just one point to their total, while Glenmore also had just one score, a goal.

James Stephens had good displays from Michael Power, a confident goalkeeper, Dermot Grogan, Conor Cleere, Shane Doyle, Ashley O'Keeffe, Vincent O'Brien, Martin Phelan, Liam Smith and Robert Kearney. Best for the losers who were short Ciaran Lynch were Paul Fitzgerald, Paddy Mullally, Mark Mullally and Raymond Culleton.

Scorers:

James Stephens: Martin Ryan (1-0), Paddy Crotty (1-0), Kevin Grogan (0-2), Robert Kearney and Stephen Drennan (0-1 each).

Glenmore: Raymond Culleton (1-0), Mark Mullally and Paddy Mullally (0-1 each).

James Stephens: Michael Power, Dermot Grogan, Conor Cleere, Ashley O'Keeffe, Vincent O'Brien, Shane Doyle, John McEvoy, Martin Phelan, Kevin Grogan,



O'LOUGHLIN GAELS - MINOR HURLING LEAGUE CHAMPIONS

Front row: Tom Dillon, Martin Corcoran, Alan Geoghegan, Brian Holohan, Jimmy Comerford, David Comerford. Back row: Ollie O'Connor, Niall Lanigan, David McCormack, Alan Dwyer, Keith Kinsella, Adrian Kealy, Derek Ralph, Sean Dowling, Brian Kelly.

Martin Ryan, Liam Smith, Robert Kearney, Wayne Kelly, Stephen Drennan, Paddy Crotty.

Glenmore: Niall Mackey, Fergal Freyne, Paul Fitzgerald, Thomás Berry, Brian O'Shea, Paddy Mullally, Richie Mullally, John Phelan, Fintan Walsh, Tommy Griffin, Willie Fitzgerald, Mark Mullally, Ken Cottrell, Donie Dowling, Raymond Culletton.

Important success for O'Loughlin Gaels

Conditions were not good for the Minor Hurling league Roinn 'B' Final which was played as a curtain raised to the replay of the Credit Union Senior Hurling final. O'Loughlin Gaels, Rower-Inistioge, Mullinavat and Lisdowney had qualified for the semi-finals. Lisdowney defeated Mullinavat, while O'Loughlin Gaels beat the Rower-Inistioge by ten points. The final was a repeat of the North Championship Semi-Final in which Lisdowney had come through by a single point.

Class and determination were the hallmarks of this O'Loughlin Gaels side who took a badly needed under-age title back to the club. Brian Kelly was the O'Loughlin Gaels chief marksman as they built up a lead of 0-5 to 0-1 at the interval. They had increased their lead by five points (0-8 to 0-3) when their goalie Adrian Kealy made a match winning save. Six minutes from time Alan O'Dwyer got through for a goal and while Vivian Mullally replied with a similar score for Lisdowney, it was Derek Ralph who sealed victory with a final point leaving O'Loughlin Gaels winners by 1-9 to 1-3.

Adrian Kealy kept a great goal for O'Loughlin Gaels. David Comerford, Keith Kinsella and Brian Holohan were best in defence. At midfield Derek Ralph and Niall Lanigan had the edge. Brian Kelly and Alan O'Dwyer, who got the vital goal and Ollie O'Connor were best in attack. Lisdowney's best players were Brendan Blanchfield, Ollie Blanchfield, Declan Fitzpatrick, Vivian Mullally and Mark Dunphy.

Scorers:

O'Loughlin Gaels: Brian Kelly (0-6), Alan O'Dwyer (1-0), Derek Ralph (0-2) and Ollie O'Connor (0-1).

Lisdowney: Vivian Mullally (1-0) and Mark Dunphy (0-3).

O'Loughlin Gaels: Adrian Kealy, David Comerford, Keith Kinsella, Brian Holohan, Sean Dowling, Tom Dillon, Martin Corcoran, Derek Ralph, Niall Lanigan, Jimmy Comerford, Brian Kelly, Alan Geoghegan, Ollie O'Connor, Alan O'Dwyer, David McCormack.

Lisdowney: Brendan Blanchfield, Brian Kelly, Ollie Blanchfield, Niall Kennedy, John Dowling, Declan Fitzpatrick, Bill Fitzpatrick, Joe Nolan, Mark Dunphy, John Moore, Brian Purcell, Vivian Mullally, Edward Delahunty, Colm Dunphy, Michael Bergin.

Emeralds complete minor double

The Emeralds completed a great double when they won the Roinn 'C' Minor hurling league title. The Urlingford side along with Slieverue, Galmoy and Carrickshock made it to the semi-finals. The Emeralds easily defeated Slieverue, while Galmoy beat championship finalists Carrickshock to set up an all North East Final. When the teams met in the North Championship Final, Emeralds won by 4-10 to 1-5, a margin of 14 points.

In the League Final they had fifteen points to spare, winning by 4-12 to 2-3. Galmoy started well and were ahead by 1-2 to 0-1 after Richard Norton had opened the scoring for the Emeralds. Galmoy were unlucky not to have added more scores during the opening twenty minutes.

Goals by Tom Manton, Pat Doyle and Richard Norton helped the Emeralds into a 3-4 to 1-2 lead at the interval. The Emeralds added a fourth goal in the second half from Brendan Joyce and ran out convincing winners.

John Guilfoyle had his best game of the year making several fine saves. John Ryan, Michael Tobin and Tom Delaney did most work in defence. Midfield honours were shaded by Ken Hughes and Brendan Joyce

for the winners. Richard Norton, Pat Doyle and Tom Manton did most work in attack.

Noel Doherty made several fine saves in the Galmoy goal. Brian Lonergan, Dave Delaney and John Phelan were best in defence. Philip Brennan and Paul Morrissey had their moments at midfield. Kevin Lonergan, Brendan Ryan, Pierce Harte and Rory Moore were best in attack.

Scorers:

Emeralds: Richard Norton (1-2), Paddy Doyle (1-2), Brendan Joyce (1-2), Tom Manton (1-1), Ted Clohosey (0-2), Ollie Bergin, Danny Holohan and Tom Delaney (0-1 each).

Galmoy: Philip Brennan (2-1), Paul Morrissey and Kevin Lonergan (0-1 each).

Emeralds: John Guilfoyle, Miall Manogue, John Ryan, Michael Tobin, Tom Delaney, Ollie Bergin, Damien Tobin, Ken Hughes, Brendan Joyce, Richard Norton, Ted Clohosey, Danny Holohan, Tom Manton, Shane Aherne, Paddy Doyle.

Subs: Liam Hennessy, John Power and Adrian Cleere.

Galmoy: Noel Doherty, John Phelan, Leo Doherty, Paul Delaney, Sean Delaney, Brian Lonergan, David Delaney, Philip Brennan, Paul Morrissey, Eamonn Doherty, Kevin Lonergan, Brendan Ryan, Rory Moore, Joe Doyle, Pierce Harte.

Sub: Gavin Doherty.



ST. LACHTAIN'S - 1993 ROINN A MINOR HURLING FINALISTS

Back row: Brian Cahill, Liam Cahill, Neil O'Connor, John Costelloe, Patrick Hickey, William Watson, Mark Butler. Front row: Noel Hickey, Damien Barnaville, James Kavanagh, Joe Ryan, Oliver O'Connor, Brendan Cleere, Paul Dowling, Noel Walsh.

(Photo: Tommy O'Neill)



ST. LACHTAIN'S - NORTHERN MINOR HURLING CHAMPIONS 1993

Back: Brian Cahill, Liam Cahill, Neil O'Connor, Martin Hughes, Vincent Minogue, Richard Dawson, John Costelloe, Brendan Cleere, Walter Kelly, Paul Dowling, Patrick Hickey, Mark Butler. Front row: Roy Kavanagh, Noel Walsh, Damien Barnaville, James Kavanagh, Joe Ryan, Oliver O'Connor (captain), Danny Walsh, Stephen Darcy, Noel Hickey, William Watson.

(Photo: Tommy O'Neill)

Radio Kilkenny - the best seat in the stand?

By Tommy Lanigan

The comfort . . . we arrive at O'Connor Park, Tullamore, to find the commentary boxes occupied. A quick look around at the rapidly filling stand suggests no viable alternatives but climb on top. Pat Treacy and I manage to haul the transmission gear and ourselves onto the roof of the said commentary box. At least we will be elevated enough to see all the action. Home comforts there are none. As Pat sets up the gear, I search for old newspapers, bags etc., anything to avoid sitting on the galvanised iron roof as our cables do not allow the luxury of standing.



Pat Treacy-head of sport on Radio Kilkenny.

A massive iron girder running the length of the stand impedes our vision of the far sideline. A wicked wind cuts us to the bone in our exposed elevation, but no matter, on with the game. Pity that it was one of the few losing occasions of the year as our gallant under-21's found Galway too much to handle at the second attempt, though one couldn't begrudge them victory after the Westerners' mighty contribution to a memorable year's hurling.



Tommy O'Brien

The noise . . . Nowlan Park, 15 August. Kilkenny play Cork in the All-Ireland Camogie semi-final. For a game of sheer effort, excitement and elan, this contest had few equals, but for the high pitched screams of encouragement, anxiety and delight it was incomparable. Normally earphones isolate one from most of the background sounds, but not this-time! In terms of result, it was another bad day as Cork substitute Lynn



Barry Henriques commenting from Croke Park.

Dunlea did a smash-and-grab job with a last second goal to give the ladies in red a one point victory.

The colour . . . 4 September, Saturday, on the Parade to see the flag and banner display. It seems now like part of every All-Ireland Final built-up, but it began only three years ago when Pat Treacy suggested Radio Kilkenny might sponsor a colour parade. It has now become a great friendly monster, winding its way through town on a busy Saturday, the last of the summer's tourists looking on with curiosity, and several joining the fun. Don't the youngsters love every minute of it! Dogs, cats and donkeys decorated in black and amber, the hats which Galwayman, Philip Treacy, might be proud to design, the banners! Remember Dunnamaggin's magnificent float? Poor Joe Rabbitte! His name came in for so much good humoured attention as did John Power. "Power for the Cup - McInerney for the buildings" struck a double irony as Gerry Mc. had been pictured on the National newspapers a few days previously, working on his new house.

The friends . . . 24 August, Press night in Athenry. There are mixed feelings about Press night, the players thoroughly hate it, the spectators would prefer to see a hard night's training to reassure themselves that their heroes will win, the press gang themselves love every minute of it. Where else can one find an opportunity to meet each member of a county panel under instructions to be polite and co-operative to the journalists? We chat to the players. Gerry McInerney is quiet, serious and curiously unlike his swashbuckling persona on the pitch. Joe Cooney, a gentleman, talks about his sixth senior All-Ireland appearance, admits it doesn't get easier and sends greetings to his great friend, Joe Hennessy.

Joe Rabbitte is the real character, quick-witted, jokes about a possible duel with Eddie O'Connor. Pat rambles among the spectators seeking some quotable quotes (not all are!), finally encountering two sheep farmers who talk of Dick O'Hara and Liam

Blackmore, Kilkenny colleagues in-a Sheep-breeders' Society. It is that kind of -night, rounded off with the hospitality of Phelim Murphy, Galway Co. Secretary, a man in the mould of Grace and Barrett. The return to Kilkenny in the late hours is animated with stories gleaned during the evening, few of which are publishable, most being downright libellous.

The Stewards . . . Croke Park can be hell on Final day if you have to move about and talk to people. Armed with Press pass and Radio microphone, I endeavour to gain access to the field to meet the victorious Minors, I am ushered through by three stewards only to be stopped by the fourth. Pleas that I will be live on air in one minute have no effect, nor does a suggestion that I might interview himself help matters. Nothing for it but race along under the Hogan Stand through the milling crowd and try to get in via the dressing rooms.



Tommy Lanigan interviewing Joe Pyke after the All-Ireland Minor final.

Thankfully I meet less officious stewards and get my interviews on the pitch only feet away from the one who, moments before, barred my path. One felt a certain childish enjoyment . . .

The reports . . . Shortly after 6.00 p.m. on Sunday evenings a small band of local reporters swing into action, directed by Pat Treacy. From around the county, and sometimes further afield, Richie Stone, Ned Quinn, Nickey Brennan, Tommy O'Brien, Ann Downey, Annette Dowling and Barrie Henriques to name a few, report on Gaelic Games played over the weekend. This brings top quality information to a huge audience. The reports are positive, sharp and knowledgeable and are appreciated hugely by the many supporters who cannot attend games for one reason or another.

The smiles . . . on the faces of the twelve top players in the Primary schools' final last June as they were presented with their awards by Liam Simpson, D.J. Carey, Michael Walsh and Bill Hennessy on the TC tyres sponsored "World of Gaelic Games".

Just a few memories of the great year of '93.

Ó inné go dtí inniu. Céard faoi amárach?



Seosamh Ó Donnchadha

Fadó, fadó – tosaíonn gach scéal maith leis na focla sin – nó sin a deirtear liom ar aon nós. Pé scéal é nuair a bhí mé ag machnamh ar ábhar don phíosa seo rith sé liom gur fiú féachaint siar ar fhóirne scoile a chonaic mé mar scoláire agus mar mhúinteoir. Mar sin chuaigh mé siar ar bhóithrín na smaointe chomh fada le laethanta m'óige i Scoil na mBuachaillí i mBaile Mhic Anndáin agus thaistil mé ar an mbóithrín sin go dtí an lá atá inniu ann agus comórtaisí na bliana 1993.

B'iontach an turas é – turas a bhí lán de stair, d'ócáidí, d'ainmneacha agus de roinnt den bhrón freisin. An rud a chuir brón orm ná an líon de bhuaichaillí thar na blianta atá imithe ar shlí na fhírinne – beannacht Dé leo – ó bheagnach gach bliain agus gach áit. Is iomaí smaoinemh a tháinig chugam faoi obair agus imeachtaí na mblianta sin agus déanfaidh mé iarracht anseo iad a chur ós bhúr gcomhair.

Ar an gcéad dul sios smaoinigh mé ar líon na mbuachaillí i ngach paróiste sa chontae a chaith geansaí na scoile go bródúil ach a d'éirigh as an gcluiche ar fad go luath ina dhiaidh sin. Cén chúis a bhí le sin? Tá daoine ann a deir gurb é an chúis leis ná go dtosaíonn siad ro-óg, go mbuain siad boinn ró-luath agus má fhaigheann siad áit ar fhoireann an chontae ag an aois sin nach mbíonn aon ghoile fágtha acu don chluiche níos déanaí. Ní aontaím le sin agus measaim go bhfuil an chruthú ann nach fíor an argóint é. Cinnte éiríonn roinnt mhaith díobh as an gcluiche ach i mo thuairim tá cúiseanna eile le seo. Siar ins na caogaidí cailleadh an-chuid d'imreoirí maithe don chluiche agus don tír tré imirce. I ngach ré bhí cúiseanna mar easpa suime lasmuigh den scoil, cúrsaí grá agus cúrsaí óil. Ina theannta san bhí daoine ann nach raibh foighne go leor acu agus a d'éirigh as mar nach raibh ionad ar an bhfoireann le fáil acu láithreach. Agus i ndeireadh na dála, sa lá atá inniu ann, tagann daoine óga faoi thionchar i bhfad níos mó cluichí eile de bharr na teilifíse agus eile, cuireann siad an suim iontu agus fágann siad an camán ar leataobh. Dá bharr san, ní mór dúinn a bheith aireach, agus i gcónaí a bheith ag iarraidh suime agus grá don iománaíocht a spreagadh in ógánaigh na tíre.

Nílím ag rá gur fadhb é. Go deimhin ní fadhb é, dar liom, agus mar a deirim tá an cruthú sin ann. Do gach uile duine a éiríonn as an iománaíocht go h-óg tá i bhfad níos mó díobh a leanann leis isteach ins na blianta. agus nílím ag trácht ar imreoirí cáiliúla an chontae ach imreoirí cumainn. Tá na mílte díobh ann a imríonn

le foireann an pharóiste bliain i ndiaidh bliana agus a bhaineann taitneamh as an gcluiche, as an gcomhlúadar agus as an ggraic. Is iontach an rud é má thagann craobh nó bonn an bealach ach muna dtagann, glacann siad le sin mar chuid den chluiche freisin. Grá don chluiche a thiománann ar aghaidh iad agus an-chuid díobh, fanann siad sa chluiche mar bhall nó mar oifigeach den chumann nó tógann said cúram fóirne orthu féin nuair a bhíonn deireadh lena ré mar imreoirí. Bunchloch Chumainn Lúthchleas Gael na daoine sin.

O thaobh geansaithe an chontae a thabhairt do dhaoine óga, bhuel ní dóigh liom gur olc an rud é ach a mhalairt. Féach, mar shampla, an líon de ghasúir óga a tháinig chun cinn o fhóirne scoile an chontae. Is dóigh liom gur i 1949 a fuair buachaill óg fionn o Bhaile Mhic Anndáin geansaí an chontae don chéad uair. Ollie Breathnach ab ainm dó – is ainm dó – agus ins na blianta idir an dá linn d'imir sé le mionúirí agus foireann shóisearach an chontae. Bhuaigh se Craobh na h-Éireann faoi chúig le Cill Chainnigh agus ó d'éirigh se; as tá ceithre chraobh shóisearacha agus dhá cheann shínsearach buaite aige mar bhainisteoir. Eisceacht a déarfáidh tú ach ní hea. Is féidir daoine eile mar Pádraig Mac Enrí, Nollaig Ó Sceacháin, agus Éamonn Ó Ceithir, agus an-chuid eile nach iad, a luaigh. Samplaí gur féidir a thabhairt ó fhóirne scoile an Chontae na:

1968: Brian de Bhaldráithe, Caoimhín Mac Róibín, Caoimhín agus Breandán Ó Fionnlaigh, Ristéard Ó Riada, Mairtín Ó

Cinnéide, Pádraig Ó Donnchadha, Pádraig Ó Tréasaigh agus Mícheál agus Seán Ó Loing.

1972: Liam Ó Fionnlaigh, Pádraig De Priondargás agus Seosamh De Bhál.

1977: Mícheál Ó Muirgheasa, Daithí Ó h-Eoin, Seán Mac Dómhnaill, Réamonn Ó h-Ifeárnáin, Liam Mac Cárthaigh, Liam Breathnach, Antóin De Priondargás agus Seosamh Ó h-Eadhra, beannacht Dé leis.

1984: Pádraig Ó Néill, Seán Ó Connaláin, Liam Ó Caoimh, D. J. Ó Ciardha, Adrian Ó Rónáin, Brian Ó Riain agus Pól Ó Tréasaigh.

1985: (faoi 13): P. J. Ó Dubhshláine, Dónall Ó Néill, Diarmuid Ó Leathlobhair, Pilib Ó Lorcáin (iad uile faoi 21 i mbliana).

Níl ansin ach sampla. Ó gach uile bhlian tháinig ógánaigh ar aghaidh agus tá an toradh go soiléir. Tá an cluiche chomh beo bríomhar sa chontae is a bhí riamh agus i 1993 bhí Cait Chille Chainnigh ar bharr an dréimire.

Mar fhocal scoir – céard atá ós ár gcomhair sna blianta atá romhainn? Bhuel, buíochas le Dia, ón méid atá feicthe agamsa i mbliana i gcomórtaisí Cumainn na mBunscoileanna níl aon bhaol ann don chluiche i gCill Chainnigh ins na blianta atá romhainn. Tá neart suime ag múinteoirí, tuismitheoirí agus páistí san iománaíocht, tá na scileanna á mhúineadh agus á chleachtadh, tá an caighdeán go h-árd, agus, le sin, agus le cúnamh Dé, is féidir linn a bheith ag súil go dóchasach leis na laethanta atá fós le teacht. bail Ó Dhia ar an obair.



Léiriú an pictiúir seo smaointe an phíosa. (a) Tá triúr de'n fhoireann, Tommy Spillane, Michael Walsh agus Timmy Kelly marbh, beannacht De leo. (b) Thóg an imirce roinnt mhaith díobh. (c) D'imir Fr. Leonard Forristal, Tony Walsh, Michael Walsh agus Seán Doyle leis na blianta. (d) Bhuaigh Ollie, Timmy boinn Shínsearach i bPáirc an Chrocáigh agus (e) Tá Ollie saite san obair go mór fós buíochas le Dia.

Solutions required for overhurlled under-21's



By ENDA McEVROY

Hurlers and footballers, especially those of the prominent variety, are often quoted on the subject of the amount of games they play every year. "There's no such thing as a winter break because the season lasts for twelve months of the year, really," is a familiar observation.

And a true observation. But if things are hectic for them, how much more demanding are they for leading under-21 players?

The case of Brian Corcoran opened some people's eyes. The brilliant young Corkman, it may be remembered, was advised by his doctor to take a complete break from Gaelic games for the winter. Otherwise, Corcoran admitted, he would be running a serious risk of burning himself out. Granted, the Erin's Own player could, to some extent, be classed an exception, a victim of his own freakish talents. In addition to his duties with the Leaside



CANICE BRENNAN

hurlers at senior and under-21 level, with his own club in both grades plus Munster's Railway Cup team, Brian Corcoran was desirable material for the selectors of the football equivalents.

One weekend, for instance, he was chosen to turn out for Cork hurlers, Munster footballers and his club. The southern capital's RTC, naturally, wanted him to play third-level hurling and football with them, moreover. No wonder he needed a rest.

The likes of Canice Brennan and Dan O'Neill would sympathise. The former, as one of the promising young footballers in Kilkenny, found himself with senior and under-21 big-ball commitments piled on top of his club involvements and membership of the Black and Amber's under-21 hurling outfit which reached the All-Ireland decider.

Dicksboro lad O'Neill, a team-mate on



Study in concentration . . . Dan O'Neill (Kilkenny) and Liam Burke (Galway) during the U-21 final replay.

the latter side, didn't find his duties for 1993 over and done with when the final whistle was blown the day of the replay with Galway in Tullamore. There was a county senior title to be won with the 'Boro, which took him into November; the Leinster club championship, which went on for another month; and, in between, the Kilkenny under-21 championship. Good job he isn't a footballer. . . !

What made it an even longer year for Dan was the Fitzgibbon Cup campaign, which brought him glory with UCD (he's a vet. student) at Walsh Park, Waterford, in March. Training for this had begun as soon as college resumed in January, and the medal was scarcely safe in his sweaty paw when he was into the county senior championship. The under-21 bandwagon

got rolling for him in early June - the halfway point of his season, literally.

"While it's great to be doing well, you do get browned off as the year goes on and the weather disimproves," he admits. "I had exams at Christmas, and I would have preferred to be staying in Dublin at weekends and getting some study done."

Any suggestions as to how the situation might be alleviated? Get the under-21 championships run off earlier, he opines.

"From talking to lads in college, all the other counties seem to get their under-21 competition played early in the year. In Kilkenny it usually goes on till Christmas."

There is often no easy solution in fixture affairs like these. But is this one which the powers-that-be might be able to have another look at. . . ?

Terry Leahy – a special kind of hurler



By: Paddy Buggy

TERRY LEAHY WAS SPECIAL

*"Hurling is special, the body and soul
Of a Nation surviving to speak;
Hurling is special, a language and crest,
Of a Nation instinctively free"*.

In no county in Ireland is the game of hurling more special than in our native county. From 1904, when Kilkenny won its first hurling All-Ireland, to the present time, every decade has produced stars of the camán. For the 1993 Year Book I wish to pay tribute to a very special hurler, a very special person, the late Terry Leahy, as fine an athlete and as glorious a hurler as ever donned the black and amber.

Terry and the Leahy family of Urlingford were born hurlers. Tommy won titles with Kilkenny in 1932, '33 and '35, and Railway Cup medals with Leinster in 1932 and '33. Terry joined Tommy on the Kilkenny side when injury ruled out some of our stars in the famous 3 game series between Cork and Kilkenny in 1931, when both teams were awarded gold watches by the G.A.A. for their prowess with the camán. Paddy Leahy played junior with Kilkenny in 1933, and a sister Tess, who married J. J. Cassidy of

Cavan football fame, played camogie with Dublin. Terry has the unique distinction of winning All-Ireland medals in the 3 grades of hurling in existence during his era. Minor with Kilkenny in 1935, senior in 1939 and '47, and junior with Dublin in 1937. He played on the Kilkenny side beaten in the League final of '47 and won an Oireachtas medal in 1940. He starred with Faughs of Dublin winning a number of championships, and played inter-county with Dublin. Whilst in New York he won titles with Kilkenny seniors in 1950 and '57, and, at the age of 43, in 1961, he came out of retirement to help the Kilkenny junior side win the New York title, and he also played for New York and U.S.A. selected sides.

Born in 1918, Terry died in New York in November 1988. In New York he was honoured by the Kilkenny men's Association in 1976 when it was said of him. "It is very nice to be important, but more important to be nice". Terry Leahy was both. He loved to sing, to dance, to joke and to have fun, to tell or listen to a good yarn, and he kept that sense of humour right to the end. Above all Terry loved his hurling, he came home regularly in September for

the All-Ireland finals, and on his last appearance in Croke Park in 1987 it was fitting that in the centenary year of All-Ireland finals, he was one of three Kilkenny men honoured by the G.A.A. Terry was too unwell to travel home in 1988. Well over 6ft. in height, Terry was a lithe supple man, a born athlete, and a most skilful hurler, he had a great eye and wonderful ball control. He was never overweight in his life, and his favourite stroke was the drop puck. It was his speciality, and he said he learned it from Lory Meagher and he boasted of scoring a point on John Quirke when playing in the 1939 final and a similar point in Gaelic Park in New York when playing with Kilkenny.

Terry played many outstanding games, but he will always be remembered for his glorious hurling and ice cool nerve in the '47 final, a classic, considered by many to be the greatest final ever played. Terry displayed all his artistry, he was majestic, and his name will forever be linked with this game. He scored six points out of Kilkenny's total of 14 points, but it was his coolness under pressure in the closing minutes of the game when Cork had gone ahead for the second time that



U.S.A. Selected Hurling Team – 1951. Terry Leahy (captain) seated front third from left

made him stand out as a special player. He scored the levelling point from a difficult free and when Paddy Grace cleared the puck out, Terry was on hand to score the winning point.

When Terry emigrated to New York in 1949, he became America's Mr. Hurling. The Yanks took him to their hearts, as he brought his artistry and grace to Gaelic Park, and, just as thousands were attracted to see Christy Ring play here at home, Terry attracted the Irish emigrant and the Irish American to Gaelic Park, as never before in the States, to see hurling played by a master craftsmen.

He always had the happy knack of lifting his game in a crisis, and when Kilkenny won the New York 1950 final, it is said that Terry played even better than in the 1947 final. He was well nigh unbeatable and scored 1-6 of the Kilkenny total. Again, in the '50 final, Terry played a heroes part, scored the winning point from an 80 yards free, and was carried shoulder high from the pitch at the end of the game. He came out of retirement in 1961 to help the Kilkenny junior side to win the New York title. He opened the scoring with a point and finished, Kilkenny's top marksman with 2-1, treating the crowd to uncanny stickwork, and



Terry Leahy at Croke Park in 1987

great scores. God be with you, Terry Leahy, we of the Kilkenny hurling faith owe you a great debt of gratitude. In a hurling career which spanned 26 years, you thrilled the crowds wherever you played, you brought joy and excitement to Kilkenny folk at home

and abroad.

Hurling has been more than a game in Kilkenny. Terry Leahy as he played the game was a symbol and an inspiration. He will forever be revered as one of our greatest, his spirit will live on forever.

Briain Ryan – coach/organiser

Twenty three years old Briain Ryan from Johnstown, took up the position of Coach/Organiser to the Schools and Clubs of Kilkenny on September 1st this year. He has completed the 'National Pilot G.A.A. Coaching Course' which was held in Thurles during the school year '92/'93.

Briain comes from a family steeped in the G.A.A. tradition – his grandfather was Tommy Moore of Faughs fame, while his late father Bernie was very involved in the coaching of hurling with Johnstown Vocational School and The Fenians club.

Indeed, the Northern Roinn B minor hurling cup was presented in recognition of the work of his father for Juvenile hurling. Brian, himself, is carrying on the family tradition by being active in The Fenians Juvenile club.

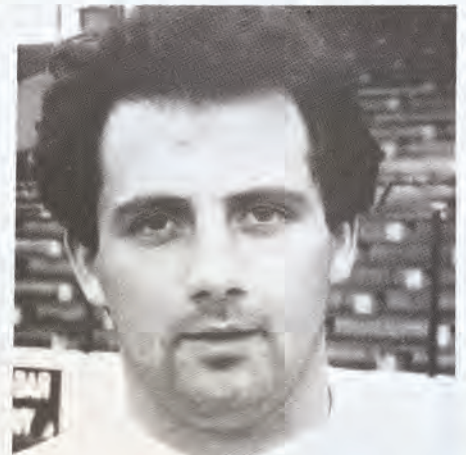
One of the stars of The Fenians team

who were defeated in the senior hurling final this year, Briain has achieved much success with his club, winning U-16 Roinn C league and championship, minor B and A championship. U-21 Roinn B championship and a senior hurling league. His main ambition is to win a Kilkenny senior hurling championship with The Fenians.

While attending St. Kieran's College he won Leinster juvenile, junior and two senior titles and one All-Ireland Colleges medal. While attending Carlow Regional College, he was a member of the team which won the Higher Education league and championship and he also played for the Combined teams against The Defence Forces.

He has represented Kilkenny in minor, U-21 and senior. He won a minor All-Ireland in 1988 and was also a member of successful U-21 and senior panels. He also won an Inter-Firms All-Ireland with Avonmore.

To date he has visited all the primary schools in North Kilkenny and



Briain Ryan

in Kilkenny city. He is delighted with the welcome he has received from the teachers in all the schools and also the interest and skills shown by the children. He is looking forward to return visits to all the schools in the New Year and also to visiting all the clubs from February onwards.

Does the responsibility for the welfare of hurling need to be wrested from Croke Park?



By ENDA McEVROY

A former Irish Rugby International gives his opinion. (Relax . . . it's Ned Byrne!)

Rugby, or hurling? For Ned Byrne, there's only ever been one game. True, he is the proud possessor of a fistful of Irish international caps - and representing one's country, no matter what the sport, has to be classed as the pinnacle of a career, the United Beverages man and purveyor of Finches finest soft drinks points out.

Getting to wear the green in the refined surroundings of Edinburgh and Paris is an experience not to be sniffed at, either. Nor are tours Down Under.

But satisfying and all as rugby undoubtedly is - and mighty as the camaraderie that such an essentially team game generates - hurling remains for Byrne "a game apart".

Front-row forwards, the bulldozers of the oval ball landscape, are meant to be strong and silent. Ned Byrne isn't. Not when his first and greatest love is the subject. Mention the word "hurling" and he's off on a hack. Talkative, effusive, almost lyrical. So much for the stereotype.

"Yes, a game apart. Watching a good hurler is like watching an artist. It's all about free expression. You can hit the ball overhead, off the ground, out of your hand, left-handed, right-handed, on the drop. There's no offside law or knock-ons. It's purely a skill game.

"Out there on the field, you're exposed. Either you have the skill or you haven't. There's nowhere to hide. I was far more nervous for my two All-Irelands than I was for my international caps!"

The greatest field game in the world. Part of our national heritage. Marvellous to play, marvellous to watch. Yet how enthusiastic are the G.A.A. when it comes to preserving it, promoting it, cherishing it? It pains and disturbs Byrne - 1972 All-Ireland winner with the Black and Amber, six-time



Ned Byrne (Kilkenny) and Brian Murphy (Cork) appear to be looking away from the sliothar as they race towards the hurling action in the All-Ireland senior final of 1972.

international rugby cap thereafter - to answer "not enough".

It pained him still further, in fact it downright horrified him, to see New Ross CBS in one of the sections for this year's Leinster Schools' Senior Cup. A Christian Brothers school from a hurling heartland in a top under-age rugby competition!

G.A.A. MISSING OUT ON YOUNG PLAYERS

Thirty years ago, in the James Stephens' clubman's schooldays, the likes of New Ross CBS would have been an entrenched GAA fortification!. First and last, comprehensively, unapologetically, uncompromisingly. His own Mount St. Joseph's (Roscrea) had a pretty nifty colleges' hurling side back then. As did Ballyfin, Belcamp, Knockbeg et al. These days you catch word of those outfits if you scour the fine print of the B, C or D championship reports closely enough.

Even farther back, when the famous Kilkenny CBS team of 1935-36 (Jim Langton, Christy Bollard, Sean Byrne, Eamon

Tallent, and the rest of them) reigned in Leinster, one of the teams they faced was Blackrock College. Yes, **that** Blackrock College. Where did it all go wrong for such schools?

It's not merely a matter of the GAA sidestepping the chance of getting the Dublin 4 sporting constituency into the fold, according to Ned. As well as local boys, the traditional rugby schools have a fair number of lads who are sent up from the country. Most of these would be playing hurling or football at home, yet when they go off to boarding school they are, "disgracefully", lost to the GAA forever.

Balancing the codes was never an easy task for the young Ned Byrne. A spiteful so-and-so from another establishment ratted on him to the colleges' authorities for having the temerity to represent Roscrea at rugby while he was also wielding the ash plant for the Cistercian school; the Ban was duly invoked, and because he wanted to play hurling in his final year, there he found himself having to opt out of rugby that season.

Though the ancient and noble art dominated the scene in the late 'sixties and early 'seventies for him, in the colours of the Village and the Cats, after the glory of 1972 he found himself turning more and more to the oval ball. First with Blackrock College, with his cousin Willie Duggan; then with Ireland; finally - following a career-rupturing broken leg suffered in a hit-and-run on an Australian tour - at Foulkstown with Kilkenny Rugby Club. Give him the choice, however, and he'd much rather watch a good hurling match than a good rugby match. As for Gaelic Football . . .

"Football has a bit of everything, which is why it'll always survive. It has something from soccer, something from rugby, something from

basketball. I'm not suggesting there isn't a certain amount of skill there, but things have got to the stage where you could be a very good Gaelic footballer and not have the ability to kick a ball.

"NOT GETTING A FAIR CRACK OF THE WHIP"

"Definitely there's no argument that hurling is not getting a fair crack of the whip from the Association. Possibly the problem is that most of the people at the top are from football counties. Apart from Paddy Buggy, no recent president has emerged from what you could categorically describe as a hurling county. I think that separate hurling and football boards to run each game are long overdue."

In Ned's day you hurled because it was the natural thing to do, because alternative ways of spending your time hadn't been dreamed up ("Sonic" didn't even refer to the speed of fast planes, never mind to video hedgehogs), because it was an expression of Irishness. Also because the late Mick Loughman made sure that as many city youths as possible played for St. Canice's. (For more about the remarkable Mick Loughman, refer to Paddy Buggy's article in last year's Kilkenny GAA Yearbook.)

Today? All the kids want to be Ryan Giggs. Most sports boast an international appeal, in the post-1992 Europe, specialist-interest ones may become increasingly ghettoised. Encouraging the spread of pelota to the posh suburbs of Frankfurt or the mean streets of Sarf London is scarcely one of the aims of European union, after all. Conversely, people in a homogenised superstate might see in their native games the expression of an outlook and indigenous frame of mind that sets them apart from other countries. is there, perhaps a niche here for

the GAA to widen?

Ned Byrne: "Identifying faults is always easier than providing answers, I'd accept. It's easy to say that Gaelic games, and especially hurling, need a good PR campaign to glamourise them and get kids out there playing them. Working out precisely how to go about the nitty-gritty is not so simple. One way of tackling the problem would be to pay people, I feel."

The players, you mean?

"Oh, no, not the players. The organisers, more like. It's the same with any business with a big turnover: targets and agendas must be set, no matter what the line of work is.

"Now the ordinary guy in the club is the backbone of the GAA. He's doing what he's doing for the love of the game. But he can't do everything, and when you operate on a purely amateur basis you can't be hard on him. Only when you're employing someone to do a specific job will you get it done thoroughly, or know why not."

KILKENNY "A SUPER TEAM"

Ned would have hurled for Dicksboro - his family did - had the club been there for

his generation. He did hurl for Kilkenny. 1993 was a terrific year for both. Unsurprisingly, he derived as much enjoyment from their respective successes as anyone.

The All-Ireland champions, he contends, are "a super team now. They're really matured over the past two seasons and will be very hard to beat in '94. They've the confidence in themselves - that's 40% of it. Another good thing is the way in which all the players were at some stage stars in their own area. There was nobody you could say carried the team the whole way on his own. Although I must admit I was highly impressed with Micky Walsh.

"Dicksboro winning the county championship was great. They have some lovely hurlers, and it shows how strong Kilkenny are that Micky was the only one who could make the county team. Dicksboro's win has to benefit hurling in the city. Mind you, I still find it disturbing that a town of 20,000 people has only two senior clubs."

Any changes in the game over the past twenty years?

In some ways, yes, he offers. On the periphery, tremendous work has been done on the facilities front: dressing rooms,

clubhouses, and all of that. 'Seventies man probably trained more nights a week - that shortage of alternative pursuits again - whereas today's lot don't train as often but are no less fit. On the field of play a subconscious soccer influence has crept in, Ned believes.

"That time it was more man-to-man, more individual contests. These days, lads are running all over the place, moving into space, waiting for hand-passes. What never fails to baffle me is the way some guys insist on running with the sliotar. That isn't what hurling is about.

"Nowadays only the odd point is scored from further out than 50 yards. One time you'd get the ball in the centre of the field and hit it over the bar, or at least you'd try to. You had a, say, 30-yard circle around your position and you dared not go outside it.

"Now the ball drops at midfield and six lads are under it. Nobody has the skill to double on it, so it goes to ground. They try to rise it, a ruck develops, there's pushing and shoving.

"Hurling is not about messing like that. It's about hitting the ball, not running with it. It's about letting the sliotar do the work."



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NENAGH CO-OP. TOURNAMENT

Kilkenny's U-16 hurlers bid to retain the Nenagh Co-Op. Inter-County title came to an abrupt halt at the Gaelic Grounds in Limerick. Kilkenny were holders of this title and were hoping for a good run in the competition.

After an unexpected defeat in the opening round, "the Cats" hit back in the second round, beating Wexford with something to spare. Next stop was the Ennis Road grounds in Limerick to take on the home side. After an even enough first half, Limerick took over and ran out easy winners. In fairness to Kilkenny they were forced to line out without six of the team that had beaten Wexford. This was due to injury and club commitments.

Kilkenny panel: P.J. Ryan (Fenians), Harry Stone (St. Patrick's), James Maher (Dicksboro), Michael Maher (Tulalroan), Jimmy Comerford (O'Loughlins), John Drea (Bennettsbridge), Niall Kelly (James Stephens), Eoin Behan (Fenians), Paddy Doyle (Emeralds), David Carroll (Dicksboro), Brendan Tobin (Mooncoin), Fergal Freyne (Glenmore), Richard Mullally (Glenmore), P.J. Cody (John Lockes), Andrew Hickey (Dunamaggin), Derek Walsh (Rower-Inistioge), Michael Gordon (Piltown), Shane Lanigan (Thomastown), Tom Healy (Tullagher-Rosbercon), Brian Dempsey (Thomastown), Ramie Cahill (Dunamaggin), Michael Doyle (Rower-Inistioge), Bill Gaule (Kilmacow), Owen Kenny (Rower-Inistioge), Tom McCormack (Dunamaggin), Brian Farrell (Piltown), Ger Kirwan (Mooncoin), Eoin Dunphy (Mooncoin).

TONY FORRISTAL TOURNAMENT

Success once again eluded Kilkenny's U-14 hurlers in the Tony Forristal tournament in Waterford. They opened their campaign with a good win over Wexford. However, they came unstuck in the second round against Galway, losing 2-5 to 0-6.

Despite that defeat, they only missed out on a place in the semi-final on score difference.

It is hard to define the reason for Kilkenny's lack of success in this competition. Year after year, hard-working officials spend weeks, even months, assembling a panel for this tournament, yet Kilkenny have not won this tournament since 1981.

Let's hope 1994 brings about a change of luck.

The Kilkenny panel that took part this year were: P. Holden (James Stephens), K. Haberlin (Slieverue), J. Hickey (Dunamaggin), M. Kavanagh (St. Lachtain's), J.P. Corcoran (John Lockes), A. Cummins (Shamrocks), L. Dunphy (Mooncoin), M. Hoyne (Graigue/Ballycallan), T. Walsh (Mooncoin), N. O'Gorman (Dicksboro), M. Hughes (Thomastown), B. O'Shea (Dunamaggin), H. Shefflin (Shamrocks), J. Tierney (Rower-Inistioge), S. Murphy (James Stephens), P. Mullally (Kilmacow), T. Digby (Rower-Inistioge), D. Hoyne (Graigue/Ballycallan), O. Breathnach (Dicksboro), J. Barron (Tullagher/Rosbercon), S. Tyler (Mooncoin), J. Morgan (James Stephens).

LEINSTER MINOR HURLING LEAGUE

North Kilkenny Minor hurlers captured this year's Leinster League title when they defeated their Southern counterparts in a thrilling final played before a small attendance at Nowlan Park.

The North qualified for the final by virtue of wins over Offaly, Derry, Laois and Dublin, while the Southerners saw off the challenges of Wexford, Laois and Dublin.

The final turned out to be an outstanding game. It had everything . . . great scores, a high level of commitment, near misses and a thrilling finish. The Northerners ran out three point winners: 3-11 to 3-8.

The North had heroes on the day in David Buggy, Brian Lonergan, John Ayres, Ken Brennan, Liam Smyth, Brendan Joyce and Kevin Grogan. Best for the South were Mick O'Neill, James Connolly, Adrian Hudson, Dermot Tierney and Tom Hickey. Many of these players went on to All-Ireland glory with Kilkenny.

TEAMS

North: R. Deevy (Dicksboro), A. Begley (Dicksboro), C. Cleere (James Stephens), B. Lonergan (Galmoy), J. Costello (St. Lachtain's), J. Ayres (Dicksboro), K. Brennan (Erin's Own), S. Kealy (Black & Whites), L. Smyth (James Stephens), N. Maloney (St. Martin's), K. Grogan (James Stephens), P. Brennan (Galmoy), B. Joyce (Emeralds), D. Keogh (Danesfort), D. Buggy (Erin's Own). Subs: C. Bolger (Young Irelands), O. Bergin (Emeralds).

South: E. Gahan (Kilmacow), E. Roche (Tullagher/Rosbercon), T. Hickey (Dunamaggin), J. Dowling (Slieverue), J. Connolly (Piltown), K. Walsh (Graiguenamanagh), L. Kearns (Piltown), A. Hearne (Windgap), O. Dunphy (Mooncoin), M. O'Neill (Dunamaggin), P. Kearney (Dunamaggin), D. Tierney (Dunamaggin), K. O'Shea (Dunamaggin), E. Mackey (Mooncoin), A. Hudson (Carrickshock). Subs: E. Connolly (Piltown), M. Purcell (Mooncoin).



Champs on the double . . . At the celebrations in the Green Isle Hotel following Kilkenny's great double over Galway were: (From left) Paul Barrett, Managing Director, Mahon McPhillips CEM; Shane Doyle (Minor team captain), Liam Aylward T.D., Minister for Sport, and Eddie O'Connor (Senior team captain).

Photo: Tom Brett

This and Chat and Scór



BARRY HICKEY
Development Office

Early this year we ran a 'Leadership Course' in Kilkenny for all the Clubs in the North of the county. The areas covered were: Club Management, Effective Meetings, Duties of Officers, and open discussion on the G.A.A. and its future.

Club officials were given the opportunity to make their point of view known to the 'powers that be' in Croke Park.

The meeting was run by Debbie Massey from Croke Park and the presenters were Brendan



Carrigeen Variety Group - County Scór Winners 1993. From left: Helena Walsh, Nickey Brennan (G.A.A. County Board Chairman), Pat Dunphy, James Power, John Gallagher.

Photo: Tom Brett

The All-Ireland song competition has gone down very well since it began 3 years ago. It brought a whole new meaning to the 'hype' which surrounds the All-Ireland. Radio Kilkenny has played a huge part in making it successful. The contribution by all the songwriters and musicians was first class, but I'm sure that they were disappointed that all the songs weren't played on the air. It is pleasing to note that other Counties followed our idea, especially Derry for this year's football final.



Solo singing winner and accompanist: Róisín Ní Chaoimh (accompanist) and Ruth McEneaney.



Mooncoin Ballad Group - County Scór Winners 1993. From left: Claire Holden, Nickey Brennan (G.A.A. County Board Chairman), Liam Hoban, Nicola Dunphy, Eddie Lee and Elaine O'Shea.

Photo: Tom Brett

Ryan and Donal Murphy. Twenty people, in all, attended the seminar, which was run in O'Loughlins. It is proposed to run a similar course in the South of the county early next year.

The First Aid Course started in February in O'Loughlins also and



Martina Dalton, Carrigeen - Recitation.

The flag and banner parade has been getting bigger each year and the input by the clubs this year was excellent. The contribution by R.T.E. in bringing some of the winners to the studio for the *Up for the Match* T.V. show helped also. What a pity that R.T.E. hasn't made more of the eve of the All-Ireland with a more 'up beat' show.

Senior Scór returned to the stage in Kilkenny last January after a long lapse. It was an excellent night with some very good talent from the clubs that took part. Pat Dalton from the Carrigeen Club stole the show with a very good recitation and he later represented Leinster in the All-Ireland final.

Junior Scór returned, after a lapse, in November, this year also. Seven clubs took part in the competition. Dicksboro, in particular, provided a very high standard of competition and will take beating in the Leinster final, but the 'Phil Cahill Cup' was won by the Carrigeen Club for the best overall club. I believe



Fenians winners.

27 club officials completed the 7-week session. Mr. Sean Colgan and his assistants in the Order of Malta were the instructors. A number of the referees in the county attended, courtesy of the County Board. I believe that it should become an integral part of all training for new referees coming on stream.



Headache for John Barden in Scór.



Dicksboro Ballad Group - County Scór Winners 1993.

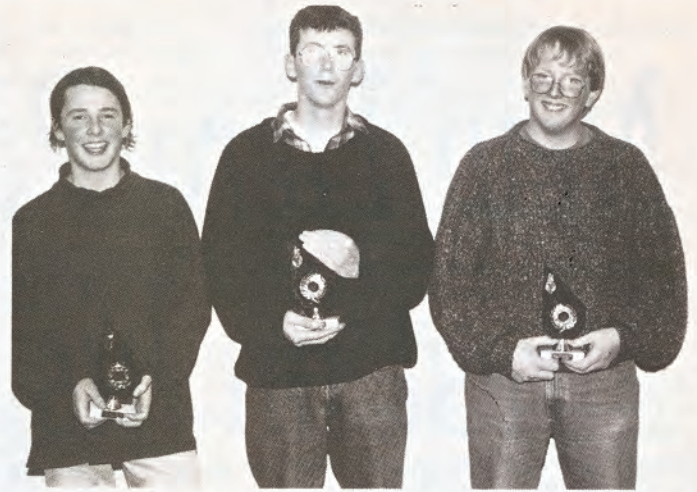
that Scór has a future in the form of a 'Seisiún' and this is the format that it is taking in Kilkenny this year.

It is the aim of the Development Committee to provide Scór for the Clubs who are interested in taking part. As a county we are very successful on the field and there is no reason why we can't feature in the finals of Scór in the future. I ask that Clubs appoint a Scór secretary at their A.G.M's this coming year to make sure that the interested people in each parish are given the opportunity to compete and perhaps bring back an All-Ireland title to their club.

The Club Focus with Radio Kilkenny is going very well and

we have only four clubs to interview at this point. I believe that it was a very worthwhile venture and I think all the club officers enjoyed doing it. I would like to thank Barrie Henriques and Radio Kilkenny for making it all possible. It was very interesting to hear the views of the people running the various clubs and we came across some very good suggestions for the future.

There are some great workers out in the clubs in the different parishes and we never get to hear about them except on a programme like this. With the co-operation of Barrie Henriques and Radio Kilkenny, I believe that we can do much more to help the clubs in the future.



John Lockes - Quiz Winners. Left to right: Des Barry, Denis Nolan, David Henriques.



Overall Club Winners Carrigeen with Cup.



Carrigeen Céilí Winners. Left to right: Martina Dalton, Catherine Dwyer, Niamh Dunphy, Susan Hennebry, Linda O'Brien, Linda Dalton, Hazel Rowe, Nuala Dunphy.

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JIM TREACY



Mooncoin - Novelty Act. Left to right: Helen Barden, Deirdre O'Hanlon, Liam Walsh, Yvonne Mackey, John Barden, Marie Kearns, Kathleen Kinsella, Ann McGrath.



Dicksboro Set Dancers.

New Hero P. J. won't rest on his laurels



By John Knox
"Kilkenny People"

LIVING with unreal expectations can be a killer, as many a talented youngster found to his cost. The bowels of the sporting world are full of 'nearly people', the ones who let early success get the better of them.

This year's hero is well aware of the pitfalls. His simple defence is not to think about such things, and just get on with what he enjoys best . . . hurling.

It was a great year for Kilkenny's P. J. Delaney. A chap of 20, not yet finished in the under-age divisions, left the scribes scurrying for the superlatives to describe his brilliance and the fans joyously singing his praise.

The burden of achievement, however, could become a suffocating force. But he has vowed that won't happen. He fought too hard to get in. Now he wants to stay so badly, the fear of slipping has formed its own protective barrier.

"What I did this year, I did this year", the Fenians (Johnstown) ace attacker declared after his first flirt with the senior inter-county game. "It won't mean a thing, or make games any easier for me in 1994".

Wise words! A personal view, but not the one always current on the terraces. The fans expect things from Delaney now. Subsequent to the senior championship, an air of expectancy swept around the ground any time he gained possession, be it in under-21 county games, or in the local senior competitions.

Delaney made a near instant impact on the senior team. After a mere 140 minutes of senior action, there were already hints of rich promise.

Lost out

In the opening defence of



What a year it has been for P. J. Delaney, the young Fenian's attacker

(Photo: Sportsfile)

the McCarthy Cup, he came on as the second substitute against Offaly and scored a point. Because of simultaneous commitments with the county under-21 team, he was rested against Carlow. In the drawn Leinster final against Wexford, he got lost in the hustle and bustle of a titanic struggle, and was eventually called ashore.

The knowledgeable selectors kept faith with the star minor of 1991, and started him again in the replay. Delaney rewarded that vote of confidence by shooting 1-1. Next up, he banged home 1-2 against Antrim and in the ultimate test, the All-Ireland final, he made an impact beyond his size and experience when he shot 1-4.

Noresiders felt it was a sin he didn't win the man-of-the-match award. His late goal pole-axed flagging Galway and left Kilkenny celebrating their Silver Jubilee success (25th).

"What kind of hoors are ye breeding down there", blurted an admiring John McIntyre (*Connacht Tribune*) in the press-box beside me at Croke Park that afternoon after Adrian Ronan scored Kilkenny's first goal in the 2-17 to 1-15 victory.

Delaney had started promisingly, but his shooting was off. He missed two early chances, one a really bad error of judgement. Still, the next chance that came his way, he had the cheek to have a go for a goal.

The effort caused 'keeper, Richard Burke problems, and Ronan profitted. McIntyre, a former Tipperary player, was

thrown out by Delaney's audacity. A player in his first final shouldn't be attempting such things, was the body of 'Mc's' interjection.

The Waterford R.T.C. Business Administration student achieved everything while carrying a nagging injury in the groin area, which necessitated a pain killing injection before most matches.

"What P. J. accomplished this year was way out of the ordinary", said another member of the Delaney fan club, Kilkenny senior selector and Co. Board chairman, Nickey Brennan. "Hopefully people won't expect too much from him in the future, because he is still young and learning".

Double duty

Next season the play-anywhere forward will still be young enough to do duty at Under-21 level with club and county.

Another year of double duty.

"By the end of the year, I felt I needed a break" the youngster admitted. "Playing with two county teams was hard. I am not

a great lover of training, and I have to admit, I was sickened by it at times. Things were so hectic that I rarely got out to train with my club".

There was delight and disappointment. Naturally, he was over the moon after winning and doing so well in the senior All-Ireland. Losing the Under-21 All-Ireland was a let-down. Even harder to take was the Fenians defeat in the championship final. Subsequent victory in the Kilkenny senior league decider was no great consolation.

He admitted surprise that things went so well with the senior team. The brilliance all around made his job easy, he admitted.

"I found it easier playing senior with Kilkenny than with any other team", the star of the 1991 Minor All-Ireland final insisted. "The class all around me made it easy.

"The backs are strong, and they give the forwards ideal ball. The midfield is good too. All the forwards are fine hurlers. The

speed of thought and actions with the likes of D. J. Carey, John Power and Liam McCarthy, for example, is out of this world. The game comes so natural to them it is unbelievable.

Want more

"It seemed I was just swept along with them. It was a great feeling being involved when Kilkenny were in full flight", P. J. admitted. "There was a real buzz from the hurling. It was like something I never experienced before. It made you want more and more of it".

Kilkenny's brightest young star didn't get the talent from the wind. He is none other than son of former great, Pat Delaney, a tiger of a forward who won Senior All-Irelands in 1969, 1972, 1974 and 1975.

Naturally Dad was delighted with the impact made by his son. He was also the first to warn 'his lad' about the rocky road that lies ahead. That warning did not fall on deaf ears!



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FOOTBALL FOCUS

KILKENNY remain firmly rooted at the bottom of the football ladder following yet another year of honest but fruitless endeavour. Despite some sterling performances in all grades, the obvious gap in standards was all too evident. Unlike many of the weaker hurling counties where standards are fairly equal, Kilkenny is in the unfortunate position of having no football base in the county thus making it extremely difficult to compete at inter-county level.



International Champions . . . Paul Kearney receives the International Cup from John Dowling, former President G.A.A.
Photo: Jack Boothman

No glory for Footballing Cats

By: NICKEY BRENNAN

The last National Football League saw Kilkenny in the illustrious company of counties like Kerry, Mayo, Tyrone and Armagh. Results were no different than previous years, but the higher standard brought improved performances from Kilkenny. The players too enjoyed the experience. When would Kilkenny footballers ever get the opportunity again to play on the same field as some of the great household football names? As events turned out later, the format of the National League was altered. Kilkenny now operate out of Division 4, and while the team can now have realistic aspira-

tions of some success, life for the Kilkenny inter-county footballer will continue to struggle.

For him there is no glory, no exposure and certainly no talk of holidays. Winter nights spent pounding the turf of St. James Park help to prepare the players for the rigours of the National Football League. The comradeship is no different than any team in the land. They continue to hope for victory. Hope springs eternal!

Results in the current National Football League continues as before. Yet the light at the end of the tunnel continues to flicker. It is heartening to see the tremendous efforts being made by the players, team officials and Football Boards Officers to improve the lot of Kilkenny. Progress can be made as long as the better players continue to make themselves available for selection, but all concerned are realistic to acknowledge that progress will be slow and tedious.

First round exit a big disappointment

The participation of Kilkenny in the Leinster Junior Football championship offers the team some realistic hope of success on the playing fields. However, except for a rare win over Carlow in the first round some years ago Kilkenny have failed to negotiate the opening game. This year was no different when Kilkenny failed to a rather modest Offaly team in Tullamore. The seven points winning margin flattered the Faithful county, yet they were never in any real danger of losing.

In a game where the football was always of a modest standard, Kilkenny opened poorly and failed to convert many good scoring opportunities in the opening half. After the break, the Noresiders impressed for long periods but poor distribution and downright bad luck made it a frustrating evening for the team. The commitment of

the players could certainly not be questioned but too often the wrong option was taken and good scoring chances were lost.

The disappointment on the faces of the players and team mentors after the game told its own story. The obvious absence of training since the last game in the National Football League was all too evident in Tullamore.

Kilkenny suffered their first setback as early as the fourth minute when a hesitant defence allowed Offaly through for a soft goal, and when they added a fine point from thirty metres, the omens did not look good for Kilkenny.

It took the Noresiders nine minutes to get on the score sheet when Pat Brennan pointed a free following a foul on himself. Offaly's reply was quick and decisive when they converted a harshly awarded penalty.

Despite an abundance of possession Kilkenny rarely looked like threatening the Offaly goal. Their best chance came late in the half when Pat Drea, who had a fine game for Kilkenny all through, forced the Offaly goalkeeper to a good save.

Kilkenny enjoyed their most productive spell in the first quarter of the second half, totally dominating the play but lady luck deserted the side in the tenth minute when a dazzling run by Stephen Kennedy from the middle of the field ended with the Dicksboro player blasting the ball off the crossbar to be finally cleared by an Offaly defender.

The absent Tommy Fogarty, out with an injury, was a huge loss to Kilkenny. His presence alone would have raised the performance of the team. After early hesitancy the Kilkenny defence coped well for most of the game with Jimmy Walsh, Philip Comerford and Canice Brennan an impressive trio.

The Kilkenny pairing of Liam Cassin and Liam Kenny more than held their own in

the middle of the field, but overall the attack disappointed. Pat Drea proved more than a handful for a combination of opponents but his fellow attackers failed to use the possession gained by the Barrow Rangers attacker. Stepen Kennedy after a slow start blossomed after the break while John Grace worked hard throughout the hour.

The Kilkenny team for that clash with Offaly was:

P. J. O'Connor (Glenmore), J. Walsh (Glenmore), N. Morrissey (Dicksboro), J. Murphy (Mooncoin), P. Comerford (Coolagh), E. Kennedy (Kilmoganny), C. Brennan (Conahy Shamrocks), L. Cassin (Bennettsbridge), L. Kenny (Piltown), L. Buggy (capt - Railyard), P. Drea (Barrow Rangers), J. Grace (James Stephens), S. Kennedy (Dicksboro), P. Brennan (St. Patrick's, Ballyragget), S. Cummins (Tullagher-Rosbercon). Subs: J. Teehan (Graigue/Ballycallan) for E. Kennedy) and J. Hickey (Kilmoganny) for L. Buggy.

Fright for All-Ireland champions

How many readers know that Kilkenny had the audacity to lead the eventual All-Ireland champions Meath at half time in the first round of the Leinster Under-21 Football championship at Navan earlier in the year? All of this happened at the Meathmen's own Pairc Tailteann in Navan. However, there was to be no fairytale ending as the star studded Meath team took heed of a half-time tongue lashing from their Team Manager to record a merited win. Thereafter, Meath strolled through Leinster, accounted for Derry after a replay and then just edged out Kerry after a great final played in

Portlaoise.

Minors continue to make progress

The Kilkenny Minor Footballers continue to make progress. A successful defence of the International Minor Football tournament, a most impressive display in the first round of the Leinster Minor Football championship and another fine South East Minor Football League campaign made for another good year. The standard displayed during the year clearly shows that Kilkenny has some very special football talent. If these players continue to be available in the future Kilkenny's football fortunes may just be a little rosier.

In the Leinster Minor Football Championship, Kilkenny faced a Wicklow side containing many players who had contested this year's Inter-County Vocational Schools Final. At the finish a whopping fifteen points separated the sides.

But forget the final score. With ten minutes remaining Kilkenny had every chance of winning this game. With three minutes remaining Wicklow led by six points and looked very unsure in many parts of the field. Then Kilkenny in a last final attempt to snatch a late win, left huge holes in their defence and the Wicklow attack crashed home an unexpected hat trick of goals.

This was as fine a display from a Kilkenny football side as one has seen in a long time. They might easily have given up when Wicklow opened impressively to go into a 3-5 to 0-2 lead during the first half. The loss of influential defender Brendan Bolger after just a minute of play was a decided blow to the Noresiders but

they battled gamely right up to the break.

A Brendan Dalton free after eleven minutes got Kilkenny on the scoreboard. Corner forward John Phelan who was causing all sorts of problems for the Wicklow defence whenever the ball came his way scored two fine points during the opening half with another coming from Paudie O'Gorman.

A re-shuffled Kilkenny side emerged after the break with Tom Hickey at wing back and substitute Eoin Maher pushed up to the attack. These changes brought an immediate improvement to the side as the team rose to the challenge in a tremendously competitive second half. The sweet moving Wicklow side were never allowed the same space in the second half with Kilkenny dictating matters, helped in no small way by an outstanding half back line of Tom Hickey, Ken Brennan and the very impressive Ken O'Shea.

The attack at last began to function as a unit and when Damien Cleere crashed home a fine goal, it was no more than Kilkenny deserved. Moments earlier Wicklow had a big let off when a Brendan Dalton penalty came off the post and was eventually cleared. To be fair to Kilkenny, there should never have been a need for the penalty as the Kilkenny attacker who was fouled, had scored a goal. To the dismay of the Kilkenny and even the Wicklow mentors the referee awarded a penalty when it was clear the goal should have been allowed to stand.

A John Phelan point for Kilkenny in the twenty fifth minute left just six points between the sides but in their effort to



At the International Football Tournament held in Kilkenny in July were (seated left to right): Fran Kenny (Chairman G.A.A. International Workgroup); John Dowling (former President, G.A.A.); Jack Boothman (President Elect.); Nickey Brennan (Chairman Co. Board); Jimmy Dunne (Chairman Wicklow Co. Board). Standing (left to right): Aidan Traynor (New York Captain), Martin Hurley (Captain, Canada); Debbie Massey (Tournament Co-ordinator), David Eigo (Captain London), Paul Kearney (Captain, Kilkenny).

snatch victory, Kilkenny left the defensive door too much ajar and paid the penalty.

It was a brave effort from Kilkenny who might well have caused an upset had the goal before the penalty incident been allowed to stand. In addition to this free taker Brendan Dalton was badly off target with at least five good opportunities. Wicklow knew they had been in a game and were grateful to hear the final whistle.

Kilkenny's custodian Paul Morrissey was a brave and agile goalkeeper who had little chance with any of the seven goals. Fullback John Dowd was a tower of strength throughout the game. The Kilkenny halfback line thundered into the game in the second half with Tom Hickey making a big difference when moved from the attack. Ken Brennan had a storming second half while wing back Ken O'Shea was one of Kilkenny's best players over the hour. His fine runs from defence were instrumental in setting up many of the Kilkenny scores.

The Kilkenny midfield pairing of Martin Phelan and Damien Cleere had a tough battle on their hands but the move of Paddy Mullally to the sector late in the first half brought more possession Kilkenny's way. The Nonesiders attack always looked dangerous and were somewhat unfortunate to see a number of slick passing movements go astray.

John Phelan and Paddy Mullally looked more than average footballers and were a constant thorn in the side of the Wicklow defence. Their ability to carry the ball at speed was a delight to watch. Brendan Dalton and Paudie O'Gorman both had fine games but Dalton will have been disappointed with his free taking.

The Kilkenny team that played Wicklow was:

P. Morrissey (Coölagh), C. Lynch (Glenmore), J. Dowd (Railyard), K. Grogan (James Stephens), B. Bolger (Rower Inistioge), K. Brennan (Erins Own), K. O'Shea (Kilmoganny), M. Phelan (James Stephens), D. Cleere (Graigue/Ballycallan), P. Mullally (Glenmore), T. Hickey (Glenmore), P.

Kearney (Kilmoganny), B. Dalton (Dicksboro), P. O'Gorman (Piltown), J. Phelan (Glenmore). Sub: E. Maher (Muckalee for B. Bolger - injured).

Kilkenny retain International Tournament

The August Bank Holiday weekend saw the team back in action defending their International Minor Football tournament. Kilkenny were the hosts for this year's competition and joining London and New York in the competition for the first time were Toronto from Canada. The competition is now an annual event and has been firmly established on the G.A.A.'s fixture calendar. It is proving extremely useful to the overseas units of Cumann Luthchleas Gael in the promotion of Gaelic Football. The visitors to Kilkenny were accommodated in St. Kieran's College for the duration of their stay.

Kilkenny made a poor start to the tournament losing to London in the opening game but they improved considerably thereafter to record good wins over New York and Toronto. The results of the opening games and semi-final meant that Kilkenny got through to the final in Nowlan Park with London providing the opposition.

The opening exchanges were even, but the good team work which Kilkenny built up during the tournament was used to good effect. A smashing John Phelan goal proved to be the crucial score. The tournament organisers were very pleased with the overall standard shown by all the teams. A major improvement was noted from the previous year's competition. Kilkenny's success in staging the tournament has resulted in a request from Croke Park to stage the 1994 competition again.

All-Ireland glory for Good Counsel

History was created earlier this year when a Kilkenny player captained his school, Good Counsel College in New Ross, to glory when winning the All-Ireland Colleges 'B' championship final following a replay. This unique honour fell to Glenmore's Ciaran Lynch and he was

joined by many players from South Kilkenny clubs. These same players were to backbone the Kilkenny Minor team later in the year.

James Stephens retain Senior Football title

Bank Holiday Monday in October saw James Stephens and the Railyard contest the 1993 Kilkenny Senior Football Final. The previous day a large crowd turned up for the Senior Hurling Final. There were no crowd problems on the Monday, yet the few hundred patrons who turned up were treated to one of the best games of football seen in Kilkenny for some time.

It was fitting that the top two football teams in Kilkenny should reach the final for the second successive year. James Stephens came through their section impressively and scored a convincing win over Muckalee in the Semi-Final. The Railyard's league campaign was equally impressive, but they had to endure many anxious moments before disposing of Dicksboro in their Semi-Final.

The quick thinking Peter Barry gave the 'Stephens a great start when he blasted a thirty metre free to the net. The Railyard gradually came more into the game and thereafter little separated the teams. James Stephens could have been left to rue a number of missed chances in the end but overall a draw was a fair result.

The replay the following Sunday never reached the same heights as the drawn game. Matters were even throughout the first half but after the break, James Stephens took over thanks mainly to the clinical finishing of corner forward Brian Leahy.

Rangers back in the senior ranks

Neighbours Barrow Rangers and Clara contested the Intermediate Football Final with the former finishing deserved winners. The Paulstown side helped by excellent play from Dermot Maher and Pat Drea led thanks to two first half goals from Drea and a Syl Hennessy penalty. Last year's Junior champions Clara came much more into the game in the second half, thanks to the committed display of the Shortall brothers, but their inability to score from some good play was to cost them dearly.

Due to the drawn Senior Football Final, Barrow Rangers were asked to represent Kilkenny in the Leinster Club Championship. The Rangers faced opponents the Heath from Laois and despite their best efforts the Laois men ran out convincing winners.

Piltown take Junior title

Piltown, after a number of years coming close, eventually made the breakthrough when beating Northern representatives Blacks & Whites in the Kilkenny Junior Football final. The winners have shown impressive form at underage level in recent years and this was eventually to pay off against Blacks & Whites. The winners should be more than a match for all in the Intermediate grade next year.



At the International Football Tournament in Kilkenny were Albert Fallon (Chairman Leinster Council), Nickey Brennan (Chairman Kilkenny Co. Board) and Barrie Henriques (Editor Kilkenny G.A.A. Yearbook).

The Raw Savagery of the Irish Hurling Final

This article appeared in an English daily newspaper following the 1993 All-Ireland Senior Hurling Final between Kilkenny and Galway

STREETS crammed with people, men drinking from bottles, smells of onion, chips and BO, a man propped up against the wall of a pub; it could have been any cup final, but this one was unique – the All-Ireland hurling final.

Hurling is a game unique to Ireland and certain parts of Scotland, where it is called Shinty just to make it more simple. There is also a female version

called camogie. So what is it? It is a very fast and sometimes very furious (sometimes very, very furious) game.

It is played with a ball that has a similar construction to a cricket ball, which is propelled at a hideous speed by a stick (the hurley) that resembles a cross between a wooden spoon and a hockey stick.

In this game you may handle the ball, but may only carry it four steps; you



Words of wisdom! . . . Nickey Brennan (selector) with words of advice to his charges in the All-Ireland Final.

(Photo: Sportfile)

may run along bouncing it on the spoon part of your hurley; you may throw it and you may kick it.

The one thing you can be sure of is that as long as you are in possession of the ball, you are going to be the centre of a maelstrom of violence and mayhem designed to remove the ball from you.



Bill Hennessy emulates Cuchulainn as he leads the Kilkenny charge on the Galway goal in the All-Ireland Final.

(Photo: Tommy O'Neill)

If, in the process, you are bloodied, bowed, bruised or a little broken, you are just expected to ignore the slight inconvenience and carry on regardless.

The violence is all in the best possible taste. The ground you play on is larger than a soccer pitch, hurling being much too fast for the restricting confines that footballers are used to.

The pitch is 160 yards long by 80 yards wide. The goal posts are like rugby ones, except that the bottom part is netted. You can score three points by "netting the leather" and one point for going over the bar – if you should live so long.

There are several conflicting versions of the origins of hurling. The least popular one is that it was brought to Ireland by the Norman invaders. The preferred option is that the origin of the game is lost in the mists of time and fable, and that probably covers the situation neatly. The game is entirely amateur, and players may receive absolutely no remuneration.

Be that as it may, the All-Ireland Final is a big occasion. Croke Park, Dublin, is the HQ of the Gaelic Athletic Association, who control the game and also Gaelic Football, which is nothing like soccer.

Croke Park seats 64,000 people and it was bursting at the seams yesterday. There was no segregation of fans and there



Mullinavat's Joe Walsh, disappointed at missing out on an All-Ireland Final place, but he can be more than pleased with his splendid contribution to the team in 1993.

(Photo: Sportsfile)

was no apparent aggravation among them. They were in high good humour.

Vandalism and violence is very rare. This may be because Ireland is still largely a rural nation and old standards tend to linger longer. The first thing you

notice about an Irish crowd is that they sound different to a British version. Brits roar, the Irish bay.

The final yesterday was between Galway and Kilkenny. Galway are relative newcomers to the hurling big time. Kilkenny were in for their 25th title.

The match was preceded by the Artane Boys Band, who thumped and banged and blew with great enthusiasm. The teams assembled to press the flesh with Ireland's lady President and everyone stood while Finbarr Wright, Ireland's current golden tenor, sang the National Anthem in Irish.

Galway won the toss and elected to play downwind. With a mighty howl from the crowd, the game began. I am not going to even attempt to report the game properly. It flowed like quicksilver; blink, and you missed something; stoop to write a note, and a shriek from the crowd told that something important had happened.

It was an amazing, exciting game of great skill and physical courage. A man caught the hard, white ball in his hand and, with a mighty whack sent it soaring high and long ("On a normal day he'd have closed his eyes and got it over the bar"); a clatter of sticks and grasping hands as others leap to catch it ("Jasus Mary and Joseph, Tony!" "well taken, Tony").

A man catching the ball and spurting down the field, bounced it on the blade of his stick ("Hurl, hurl, hurl, Jasus will ye run!"). "bl. . . dy Eejit", "run ye hoor, ye", for all the world like a turbo-charged egg and spoon race. But in an egg and spoon race you would not be shoulder-charged, kicked, tripped by those wishing to take your egg away.

A man lying on the pitch and rolling about in agony; the game continued around him, beside him, and indeed over him until he was able to pick himself up and limp gamely on, trying not to bleed on the pitch.

Hurling is a game "with no quarter asked or given" as my neighbour said. This was certainly the case in this exciting and closely fought final. Kilkenny were expected to win, but Galway fought them every inch.

Kilkenny won with a goal in injury time, but it was a cracking match.

I do not know what the Irish is for "over the moon" or "sick as a parrot", but I can do you "Maith thú a Cyril". The All-Ireland hurling final really was a nice one.



Rushing in for the "tae"! Pat Dwyer, Liam Simpson and Willie O'Connor going in for the half-time break during the All-Ireland Senior Hurling Final.

(Photo: Tom Brett)

They won the title of 'good value' team



By: John Knox
"Kilkenny People"

IF THERE was an award for losers who were regarded as a 'good value team', then there was but one contender. It just had to be the Kilkenny Under-21 hurling team, who failed in a replayed All-Ireland final against Galway, but never failed to give full value for money.

Just ask the near 26,000 people who flocked to the All-Ireland final and replay in Tullamore. Even on the day a decision was finally reached, there were no early breakers for the exits, because the action was spellbinding, which was a tribute to victors and vanquished.

Okay, the side had it failings, as highlighted by a mere two points during the opening half of the replayed final, and a similar, less than exhilarating, first period in the drawn tie.

But when it came to the death, the Kilkenny under-21 players, for all their failings, were there within an inch of victory. In the drawn final, what would have been a killing 10 point deficit for

most sides was knocked down during a blistering closing 11 minutes to earn one of the most remarkable draws of all time.

In the second clash, Galway were the better team, there was no doubt about that. The Tribesmen were on top for most of the match. Still in the end there was but a single puck of the ball in it (15 points to 12). For the fight and character shown by the Under-21 players, they ran away with the "good value" prize.

This is a grade of hurling, for whatever reason, that commands a huge following. Last year's final at Nowlan Park between Offaly and Waterford drew a combined total of nearly 50,000 people to a decider that went to a replay. In fairness, the

appearance of Waterford in the show-down after years in the wilderness had a lot to do with the huge crowds, but even the attendances at this year's Tullamore tests were more than respectable.

This is generally regarded as the step below the senior grade, and, perhaps for that reason fans want to get a glimpse of what might lie ahead as regards talents for the 'big team'. Without doubt, Under-21 teams have served Kilkenny well in the past, and the championship has been a good proving ground for seniors of the future.

Interesting Story

This season P. J. Delaney combined



KILKENNY - ALL-IRELAND UNDER-21 HURLING FINALISTS

Back - Philip Larkin, Dermot Maher, Michael Holohan, James Carroll, Sean Ryan, James McDermott, Andy Comerford, Eamonn Kennedy, Dan O'Neill. Front row; Patrick Farrell, Dermot Lawlor, Joe Dermody, P. J. Delaney, Canice Brennan, David Beirne (captain).

(Photo: Tom Brett)

senior and under-21 duties, and funnily enough, his best times were with the top team. Not just because the seniors won the All-Ireland. The scoring returns told an interesting story.

For example, in the last three games with the under-21 side he shot 2-0 (v. Wexford because he rested for the All-Ireland semi-final), nil, and 1-0. In the closing three matches at senior level he bagged 1-1, 1-2 and 1-4 respectively. Ten scores with the seniors and just three with the under-21 side.

The point? The players around you, and the expectations placed on you, can have a lot to do with things. Granted, the climax of the U-21 campaign coincided with hectic celebrations following the McCarthy Cup win, which didn't help. The real point, though, is, if a player has what it takes, the higher up he goes, the better the class in which he mixes, the better he will do.

Cork's Brian Corcoran last season. Kilkenny's P. J. Delaney, and Wexford's Larry Murphy this time.

The fact that Delaney didn't turn it on — apart from the Wexford match that is — with the under-age team had nothing to do with failings on his part. Sure didn't the five seniors who played with Wexford in the under-21 final against Kilkenny encounter similar difficulties?

Delaney won his spurs with the seniors this year, and that was enough for 1993. If he is to be joined in the upper echelon by any of his under-21 colleagues, not for a short burst but over a long period, the money would be on clever goalie Joe Dermody, Canice Brennan, who could be a '40' line defender or midfielder and Dan O'Neill. They would be the surer bets.

Longer odds would be on Philip Larkin, who might lose to physique but certainly not hurling, Dermot Lawlor, who needs to involve himself more during games, and

then further back maybe even O'Loughlin Gaels pair Michael Holohan and Andy Comerford.

Postive signs

Team officials, Brendan Fennelly (selector-trainer), Brendan O'Sullivan (Thomastown), Denis Philpott (Dicksboro), Michael Hayes (Young Ireland's) and Johnny Prendergast (Graigamanagh) didn't see the season as a lost one. They took a long term view, and saw positive signs for the future for Kilkenny.

Remember, it was their team who eventually completed the Leinster clean-sweep by beating Wexford in the provincial final. That victory meant Kilkenny had the senior, minor, junior and under-21 titles together for the first time.

That achievement was unique. It wasn't possible before 1964 because there was no under-21 competition. Neither was it achievable between 1974 and '82, because there was no junior event. Since 1983 the four have been there, and Kilkenny became the first county to hold them all in the one season. Nice going.

During the campaign, Offaly, Wexford and Derry were seen off before the uplifting final against Galway.

A 48th minute goal by Dermot Maher was crucial in the defeat of Offaly. A fine tally of 1-9 from Dermot Lawlor, plus P. J. Delaney's two goals, made all the difference against Wexford. A good attitude, which affords the opposition full respect, was crucial in the All-Ireland semi-final against Derry, a team that frightened Kilkenny at the same stage of the under-18 competition two years earlier.

The Leinster champions put in a Houdini like act in the drawn All-Ireland final against Galway as the bid to complete the treble — senior, minor and under-21 titles — went close to succeeding, after first looking hopeless.

Roll of Honour

9 - Cork:	1966, 1968, 1969, 1970, 1971, 1973, 1976, 1982, 1988.
7 - Tipperary:	1964, 1967, 1979, 1980, 1981, 1985, 1989.
6 - Galway:	1972, 1978, 1983, 1986, 1991, 1993.
5 - Kilkenny:	1974, 1975, 1977, 1984, 1990.
1 - Limerick:	1987.
1 - Waterford:	1992.
1 - Wexford:	1965.

The Connacht champions found progress difficult enough during the opening 20 minutes (0-6 to 0-3). From there to the rest, they did a bit better and went in for the break 1-8 to 0-5 in front.

Amazing Comeback

Eleven minutes from the end Kilkenny looked dead and buried, when the difference was 2-14 to 1-10. Don't ask me how, but from somewhere the 'Cats' mustered a gigantic effort that earned Canice Brennan 1-1, goals for Michael Owens and Dermot Lawlor, and a draw for the team. This had to be one of the most amazing comebacks in the history of the G.A.A.

In the replay, Galway played better over the hour and they got the result they deserved (2-9 to 3-3). But not before they were made sweat, again.

On a wet day and heavy sod, Canice Brennan had a late second half shot half-saved and the ball was stopped from going over the line by the sticky surface. Later P. J. Delaney, Patrick Farrell and Dermot Lawlor combined to get the sliothar within inches of the line. Later again Farrell had a good shot saved by the 'keeper. And a 54th minute goal from Peter Hennessy left Galway hanging on for



Dan O'Neill breaking clear with the ball supported by Michael Holohan in the Kilkenny v Galway U-21 All-Ireland

(Photo: Tom Brett)

dear life (2-8 to 3-3). A point near the finish by Colm O'Doherty guaranteed the Westerners against defeat.

Right up to the finish the Noresiders gave good value for money. They could only have bettered their effort had they won. At least they had the consolation of losing to a team they knew was better than them.

Kilkenny: (v. Galway in replay): Joe Dermody (St. Lachtain's), David Beirne (captain) (Dicksboro), Michael Holohan (O'Loughlin Gaels), James Carroll (Fenians), Dan O'Neill (Dicksboro), Eamon Kennedy (Dunamaggin), Philip Larkin (James Stephens), Canice Brennan (Conahy Shamrocks), Andy Comerford (O'Loughlin Gaels), Pat Farrell (Carrickshock), James McDermott (Young Irelands), Dermot Maher (Barrow Rangers), P. J. Delaney (Fenians), Sean Ryan (Dunnamaggin), Dermot Lawlor (St. Martin's).

Subs: Michael Owens (Erin's Own), Peter Hennessy (Threecastles) used; John Shefflin (Shamrocks), Martin Carey (Young Ireland's), Sean Meally (Cloneen), Mark Dowling (Dicksboro), Paul Long (Kilmacow), Austin Cleere (Emeralds), Robert Shörtall (Clara), Tomás Comerford (Graigue-Ballycallan), Padraig Farrell (Shamrocks), Barry Power (O'Loughlin Gaels).

The Strong Bid for Glory

June 30 at Portlaoise, Leinster semi-final:

Kilkenny 1-13; Offaly 1-8

(H.T. 0-6 (K.); Offaly 0-4)

Kilkenny scorers: D. Lawlor (0-6, frees); D. Maher (1-1); P. J. Delaney (0-2); S. Ryan, A. Comerford, P. Farrell, P. Long (0-1 each).

July 31 at Dr. Cullen Park, Carlow, Leinster Final:

Kilkenny 4-13; Wexford 2-7

(H.T. 2-7 (K); Wexford 0-5).

Kilkenny scorers; D. Lawlor (1-9, three points frees); P. J. Delaney (2-0); S. Ryan (1-0), A. Comerford (0-2), D. O'Neill (0-1, '65), J. Shefflin (0-1).

August 21 at Ballinascreen, All-Ireland Semi-Final:

Kilkenny 3-22; Derry 2-10

(H.T. 2-9 (K); Derry 1-7)

Kilkenny scorers: P. Farrell (0-7); S. Ryan (2-0); D. Maher (1-3); D. Lawlor (0-6); D. O'Neill (0-3); M. Owens (0-2); J. Shefflin (0-1).

September 12 at Tullamore, All-Ireland Final:

Kilkenny 3-11 (20); Galway 2-14

(H.T. 1-8 (G.); Kilkenny 0-5).

Kilkenny scorers: D. Lawlor (1-5, five points frees); C. Brennan (1-3); P. Farrell (0-3); M. Owens (1-0).

October 3 at Tullamore, All-Ireland Final Replay:

Galway 2-9; Kilkenny 3-3

(H.T. 1-6 (G.); Kilkenny 0-2)

Kilkenny scorers: D. Lawlor (1-2 – one point free); P. J. Delaney, P. Hennessy (1-0 each); C. Brennan (0-1).

An Poitín Stíl

Rathcoole, Co. Dublin (on Naas Dual Carriageway)



All-Ireland "Black & White" Pub of the Year Winner 1993

LUXURY LOUNGE BAR AND TRADITIONAL RESTAURANT

Best wishes from Louis Fitzgerald (Prop.) and remember place one Kilkenny person in 'An Poitín Stíl'. Result – a contented "Cat".

Coaching courses 1992-1993

The Coaching Courses, begun in 1992 for the pupils, boys and girls, of Primary schools, were continued and extended in 1993. Last year two venues – Lisdowney in the north of the county and Piltown in the south – were used and over 400 children took part.

Such was the success of the venture that the demand for places this year necessitated four venues and more coaches. This year the venues were Lisdowney and Ballyhale for Week 1 and O'Loughlins and Piltown for Week 2.

John Knox of Gowran was coordinator for the Northern venues while Joe Dunphy of Ballyhale took charge in the south. Over 600 children were involved and this year for the first time there were two lady coaches – Kathleen Quigley and Ann Grace.

Last year's veterans, Brendan O'Sullivan, Dick O'Neill, James Cahill, Richard Mulrooney, Dermot Dunphy, Viv Dooley, Martin Hanrick and Tom Doheny, were again in evidence, and "new" coaches included Tommy O'Brien, Briain Ryan, Noel Power, Brian Waldron and John Bolger.

The atmosphere, as always, was great. Good humour, encouragement and co-operation abounded and the sight of so many youngsters swinging the camán, the skills exhibited and learned and so many sliotars flying hither and thither made it an experience to be remem-



Ballyhale coaching course 1993. Coach: Dermot Dunphy.



Ballyhale Coaching Course 1993. Coach: Viv Dooley.

bered and cherished.

The weather, generally, obliged and even when the odd shower sent us indoors there were videos of games and skills to be seen, games to be played, and quizzes too added to the fun.

The effort put into the winning of stickers and other prizes was fantastic and spoke volumes for the enthusiasm of all the participants.

An added feature this year was a visit to each venue by

Lester Ryan of Clara and Kilkenny and now the Leinster Hurling Coach. No amount of praise is too great for the work Lester is doing and for the help he gave to all concerned. Well done, and many thanks, Lester.

Nor indeed is there any way we can sufficiently thank the Clubs who made their premises and facilities available. Everything possible was done in each of the four venues to guarantee that the courses would be successful and enjoyable.

The fact that such venues are available and willingly given in the county demonstrates the healthy attitude to and the state of hurling in Kilkenny. To the four clubs involved and to their personnel who helped out "Go raibh míle maith agaibh."

There is no doubting that the eagerly awaited moments on all the courses both last year and this year are the visits of members of the Senior County Team. Hurleys, helmets, T-shirts, everything and anything is produced for autographs. No one is refused, every request is fulfilled and all these hurlers show infinite patience and understanding.

The same old questions may be trotted out again and again, but to listen to the hurlers' answers you would feel they were giving the answer for the first time. The usual ones are "What's your favourite position?", "Do you think ye'll beat Offaly/Wexford next Sunday?",



Children and Coaches at Piltown 1992. This picture gives an idea of the huge demand for such courses.



Kilkenny All-Ireland star Michael Walsh signing autographs for jubilant youngsters at Summer Camp.

"Did you ever get a serious injury?"

Last year Liam Fennelly was asked "Did you ever think of retiring?"; - I don't think there was any malice in this question. This year he was asked "Will you come back?!" Liam McCarthy was confronted with "Why don't you score more for Piltown?" All were answered with wit and good humour.

But sights of D.J. Carey, John Power, Pat Dwyer, Liam Simpson, Joe Walsh, the two Liams - Fennelly and McCarthy - Willie O'Connor, Richie Power, Christy Heffernan, Adrian Roan, Bill Hennessy, P.J. Delaney, Marina Downey and Brigid Mulally signing autographs, answering questions and demonstrating skills makes you realise what the game is all about and what a great bunch of lads and girls these county players are.

When Michael Walsh arrives

- and he always does - everyone gets a chance to take a penalty at him, as well as getting an autograph. Such is the skill of some of these youngsters that an odd one hits the net, although strangely enough when Michael's good friend and Dicksboro clubmate, Martin Hanrick, tries one he never scores. We think it's something to do with the jersey Martin wears at the coaching course!

Another big attraction in 1993 was the visit of the other "Liam McCarthy". The amount of sweaty hands that reached out longingly to touch it was something else. Anyway, to the senior panel we say a big "Thank you", and keep it up! You're doing a power of good for the game.

Plans are already underway for next Summer's courses, so - le cunamh Dé - see you next year. idir an dá linn go n-éirí ádh libh.



Ballyhale Coaching Course 1993. Coach, Noel Power.



Ballyhale Coaching Course 1993. Coach: Tommy O'Brien.



O'Loughlins Summer Camp, July 1993.

Tomorrow's stars at Coaching Courses 1993



Ballyhale Coaching Course 1993. Coach: Richard Mulrooney.



Ballyhale Coaching Course 1993. Coach: Brendan O'Sullivan.



Ballyhale Coaching Course 1993. Coach: James Cahill.



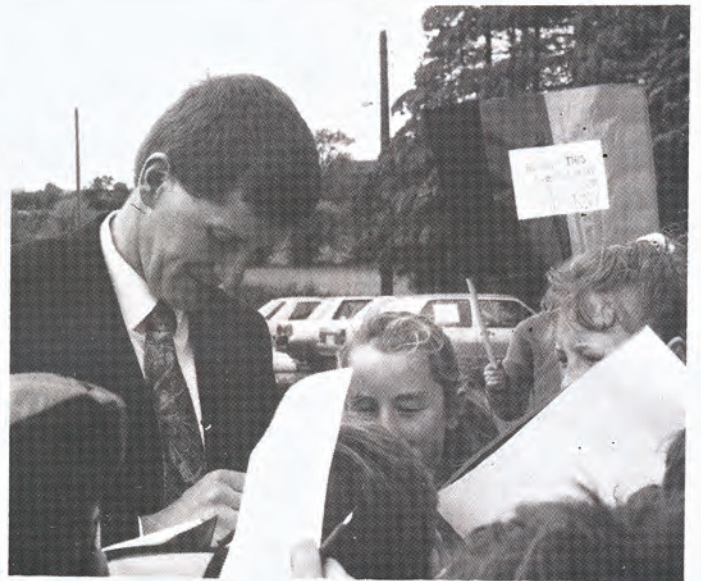
Ballyhale Coaching Course 1993. Coach: Dick O'Neill.



Ballyhale Coaching Course 1993. Coach: Kathleen Quigley.



Surrounded . . . Pat Dwyer, Liam Fennelly and Paul Phelan "under pressure".



"The gentle giant" – Richie Power signing autographs.



Ballyhale Coaching Course 1993 Group.

DICKSBORO

Credit Union Senior Hurling Champions 1993



BACK ROW (l.-r.): Rory Dreevy, Niall Lacey, Brendan Dalton, Dan O'Neill, Liam Kerwick, Vincent Byrne, Tom Henderson, Tommy Bawle, Sean Mopre, Donal Carroll, Stephen Kennedy, John Dwyer, Ger Henderson. FRONT ROW (l.-r.): John Ayres, Eoin Begley, David Beirne, Mark Dowling, Michael Kennedy, John Marnell (Captain), Michael Walsh, Sam Morrissey, Martin Hanrick, John Treacy, Sean Fitzpatrick.

(Photo: Tom Brett)

FENIANS (Johnstown)

Credit Union Senior Hurling Championship Finalists 1993



BACK ROW (l.-r.): James Carroll, Brian Ryan, Stephen Grehan, Billy Purcell, Billy Fitzpatrick, Pat McCormack, Ger Henderson, John Henderson. FRONT ROW (l.-r.): Ger Brennan, Anthony McEvoy, P.J. Delaney, Alan Behan, Jimmy Brennan (Captain), Gerry Quinlan, Brendan Ryan.

(Photo: T. O'Neill)

ST. KIERAN'S COLLEGE

All-Ireland Colleges' Senior Hurling Champions 1993



BACK ROW (l.-r.): Denis Philpott (Coach), Ollie Byrne, Martin Phelan, Damien Hurley, Billy Quinn, Derek Delaney, Rory Moore, Pat Comerford, Denis Drennan, Eamon Delahunty, Robert Kearney, Stephen Drennan, Art Anglin (Selector), MIDDLE ROW (l.-r.): Barry Ryan, Eoghan Farrell, Shane Doyle, Chris Foley, Joseph Philpott (Captain), James Young, Brendan Dalton, Ollie O'Connor, Kyran Vaughan, Ken Hughes. FRONT ROW (l.-r.): Seamus Knox (Manager), Brian Kelly, Brian Cahill, Ollie Blanchfield, Eoin Carey, Vincent O'Brien.

(Photo: Tom Brett)

ST. BRIGID'S COLLEGE, CALLAN

All-Ireland Post-Primary Schools Senior Camogie Champions 1993



BACK ROW (l.-r.): Caroline Campbell, Mary Brennan, Aine Comerford, Ollie O'Sullivan, Yvonne O'Meara, Ethy Ann Mahoney, Marie Maher, Eileen Walsh, Deirdre O'Sullivan, Ashling Byrne, Margaret Koughford, INSET: Janet Sweeney. FRONT ROW (l.-r.): Margaret Comerford, Brenda Maher, Frances Holohan, Angela O'Carroll, Noelle O'Driscoll (Trainer), Sinead Millea (Captain), Aoibhlinn Dunphy, Lisa Rohan, Ann-Marie Coogan, Martina Maher.

(Photo: Tom Brett)

NORTH ARE FIRST HOLDERS OF JIM FARRELL CUP

St. Patrick's Day, long recognised for great Gaelic Games sporting occasions, had a new competition added to its list this year when the best of the junior club hurlers of North and South Kilkenny came together for the newly inaugurated tournament for the Jim Farrell Cup. The competition took place appropriately enough in Freshford, home village of the former G.A.A. stalwart who gave many years service to both St. Lachtain's and latterly to the Northern Board. The beautiful trophy in memory of the late Mr. Farrell was donated by the Dillon family.

Right from the throw-in both teams gave everything in pursuit of victory with the better finishing of the North team the decisive factor in the end. The final score of 2-12 to 2-8 in favour of the North just about reflected their overall superiority.

Despite playing against the breeze in the opening half, the Northerners opened the scoring through Gerry Campion but at the interval the South men had a narrow three point lead thanks to a good goal from Tom Murphy.

Mick Rafter and Pat Walsh swapped goals midway through the new half. While the North continued to exert pressure and were rewarded with a number of splendidly taken points, the South men failed to score for the remainder of the game despite a number of good scoring



A special competition involving the top Junior hurlers of Kilkenny took place on St. Patrick's Day. The teams from North and South Kilkenny fought out a great game for the Jim Farrell Cup. Pictured at the game were: From left: Ned Moran, chairman Northern Board G.A.A., John Byrne (Blacks and Whites and captain of the North team), Pa Dillon (who donated the trophy in memory of his uncle Jim Farrell), Tom Morrissey (Tullagher/Rosbercon) and captain of the South team, Ned Quinn, chairman, Southern Board G.A.A.

(Pic: Tom Brett)

opportunities.

Best for the North were Ollie Blanchfield, Shay Downey, Gerry Drennan, Peter Hennessy, Austin Cleere, Gerry Campion, Gordon Ryan and John Byrne. The South had top performers in Eamonn Kennedy, goalie Ned Walsh, Jim Hickey, Tom Murphy and Sean Ryan.

North Kilkenny Team – O. Blanchfield (Lisdowney), S. Downey (Lisdowney), G. Ryan (St. Lachtain's), M. Doyle (Blacks & Whites), B. Phelan (St. Patrick's), E. Cahill (Cloneen), G. Drennan (Galmoy), P. Hennessy (Threecastles), A. Cleere (Emeralds), G. Campion (Threecastles), E. Maher (St. Lachtain's), J. Byrne (Blacks & Whites), J. Dermody (St. Lachtain's), M. Rafter (Emeralds), T. Farrell (Blacks & Whites). Subs: L. Drennan (Galmoy), L.

McEvoy (Lisdowney).

South Kilkenny Team – E. Walsh (Tullagher-Rosbercon), S. Phelan (Tullagher-Rosbercon), P. Heffernan (Tullagher-Rosbercon), M. Bookle (Tullagher-Rosbercon), P. Phelan (Slieverue), E. Kennedy (Dunnamaggin), J. Ryan (Dunnamaggin), T. Morrissey (Tullagher-Rosbercon), J. Hickey (Dunnamaggin), P. Long (Kilmacow), J. Heffernan (Tullagher-Rosbercon), T. Murphy (Tullagher-Rosbercon), G. Frisby (Slieverue), P. Walsh (Windgap), S. Ryan (Dunnamaggin). Subs: J. Forristal (Kilmacow), L. Doyle (Slieverue) and B. McGovern (Slieverue).

The Cup was presented to the winning captain, John Byrne, by Pa Dillon, nephew of the late Jim Farrell.

The Kilkenny G.A.A. deeply appreciates the financial assistance received from the following people towards the All-Ireland Training Fund

Tom Cantwell, T.C. Tyres, Upper Patrick St., Kilkenny.
 Bill Burke, 28 Heywood Heights, Clonmel, Co. Tipperary.
 Denis Bergin, Parish of St. John the Baptist, 1 Maritimo Gdns W., Blackrock, Co. Dublin.
 John Farnan, 'Knockroe', Bernadette Way, Ballinlough, Cork.
 Michael Hennessy, Motorscene Limited, 7 John F. Kennedy Drive, Dublin 12.
 Jim Bolger, Coolcullen, Carlow.
 John Joe Dowling, 12 St. John's Terrace, Dublin Rd., Kilkenny.
 Tom Downey, Downey Transport, Foulksrath, Jenkinstown, Co. Kilkenny.
 Seam Murphy, West End Lounge, Ballyragget, Co. Kilkenny.
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 Pat Egan, c/o Barlos, Dublin Road, Kilkenny.
 Michael Broderick, 12 Newlands Drive, Clondalkin, Dublin 22.
 Katherine O'Connor, Derrintogher, Kilnamartyra, Macroom, Co. Cork.
 Dick Hanrahan, Glenmore, Co. Kilkenny.
 Paddy Grennan, Ballycurran, New Ross, Co. Wexford.
 John Walsh, Mountneill, Carrigeen, Co. Kilkenny.
 Jim Comerford, 453 Howth Road, Raheny, Dublin 5.
 Bob Doherty, Dunnamaggin, Co. Kilkenny.
 Jack Kelly, 4 St. Fintan's Terrace, Mountrath, Co. Laois.
 Mick Ryan, St. Mary's, Kincora Drive, Clontarf, Dublin.
 George Kenny, The Square, Ballyragget, Co. Kilkenny.
 Pat Tallis, Clontubrid, Freshford, Co. Kilkenny.
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 Jimmy Phelan, Larkfield, Carlow.
 Tony Lennon, Knockroe, Ballyragget, Co. Kilkenny.
 Paddy Morrissey, Leeson Lounge, Leeson Street, Dublin.

Fr. Jim Crotty, Ferrybank, Waterford.
 Fr. Lar Ryan, Muckalee, Ballyfoyle, Co. Kilkenny.
 Jim Dwyer, John Street, Kilkenny.
 Paddy Tobin, Killahy, Tullaroan, Co. Kilkenny.
 Paddy Woodcock, Farnley, Cuffesgrange, Co. Kilkenny.
 Dr. Kieran Cuddihy, Dunningstown Road, Kilkenny.
 Michael O'Neill, Dangan, Kilmacow, Co. Kilkenny.
 James Harte & Sons (Solicitors), Parliament St., Kilkenny.
 Pierce Malone, Brookville, Ballyragget, Co. Kilkenny.
 Reddy Brennan, Talbot's Inch, Freshford Road, Kilkenny.
 Pat Bowden, Cullohill, Portlaoise, Co. Laois.
 Jim Dunne, Kilbricken, Callan, Co. Kilkenny.
 Peter McQuillan, Castle Gardens, Kilkenny.
 Colm Hegarty, c/o Smithwicks, St. Francis Abbey, Kilkenny.
 The Secretary, Tullaroan G.A.A. Club, Tullaroan, Co. Kilkenny.
 Pat Galavan, Cullintra, The Rower, Co. Kilkenny.
 Kevin McBride, Callan, Co. Kilkenny.
 Ned Kennedy, Callan, Co. Kilkenny.
 Paddy Ashe, England.
 Michael Roche, Coolrainey, Inistioge, Co. Kilkenny.
 Michael Morris, Freshford Road, Kilkenny.
 Paddy Clancy, Tinnamona, Callan, Co. Kilkenny.
 Sean Phelan, c/o Nowlan Park.
 Sean Roche, Coolrainey, Inistioge, Co. Kilkenny.
 Mick McGrath, Nipex Sports, High Street, Kilkenny.
 Nicky Purcell, Árd na Greine, Castlecomer Road, Kilkenny.
 Matty Hayes, Bennettsbridge, Co. Kilkenny.
 Michael Teehan, Barrack Hill, Rathmoyle, Kilkenny.
 Jim Morgan, Kilkenny.

The County Board would also like to acknowledge the receipt of a number of anonymous donations.

KILKENNY PRIMARY SCHOOLS BOARD REVIEW

By JOHN KNOX, N.T.



Finalists return to claim titles

THIS year's A.G.M. of the Schools Board had the usual large attendance including County Chairman Nickey Brennan; Secretary Ted Carroll and Development Officer Barry Hickey. They praised the efforts of the Board and recognised its major contribution to the infrastructure which helps to produce so many fine hurlers for the clubs and county.

At the affiliation meeting, a committee was formed to examine the competitive structure of the Board's competitions. This committee is due to report before the year is out.

A major development was the record number of teams entering the football competitions with eleven teams in Roinn A and a record sixteen in the Toymaster League. How much of this interest is due to the visit of Colm Brady, the Leinster football coach, is hard to judge.

The Board's activities have always received wide coverage in the local press and this year was no exception. The return of *The World of Gaelic Games* in the Spring again added to the coverage and the broadcasting of updates and summaries from all the hurling finals gave massive exposure to the games. The Man of the Match awards presented by the programme and sponsored by T.C. Tyres was most popular. This year's winners were:

Alan Barry, C.B.S.; Brendan Dooley, Ballyragget; John Coogan, Tullaroan; Sean Cassin, Rower/Inistioge; James Murray, Windgap; Mark Raggett, Stoneyford; Alan O'Shea, Kilmanagh; Patrick Langton, Clara; Mark Kennedy, Mullinavat; Paul Hickey, Gowran; Niall Rohan, Carrickshock; Paul Knox, Slieverue.

The Board is most grateful for all the media co-operation.

SPONSORSHIP

This year, Hennessy Fuels became official sponsors of the Roinn B League. This sponsorship was most appropriate as the trophy played for is the Hennessy Cup which was presented to the Board many years ago, in honour of the late Paddy Hennessy, who was very active in the G.A.A., particularly at juvenile level.

The Roinn A Hurling League and Roinn B Football League were again sponsored by former inter-county player Michael Crotty and are known as the Educational Supplies League and the Toymaster Foot-



C.B.S. – ROINN A WINNERS

Front row – John Cahill, James Holden, John Ryan, Michael Burke, Niall Bergin, Joey Murphy, Alan Barry (Capt.), Brian Barry, Richard Nolan, Patrick O'Neill, Thomas Lahart, Edward O'Malley, Philip Brennan, Tomás Hackett, Colman Casey, Padraig Hickey. **Back row** – Brian Murphy, Peter Brennan, Des Treacy, Ronan Higgins, Declan Donoghue, Darren Carroll, Cormac Ryan, Michael Byrne, Jonathan Knox, Christopher Burke, Paul McKee, Mark Donnelly, Mark Massey, Padraic Lacey, Jason Dempsey, Mr. T. O'Brien, Adrian Fitzpatrick, Michael Dowling, Antoin Breen.



KILMANAGH – FINALISTS ROINN A

Front (left to right) – Noel Keane, Aidan Brett, Anthony O'Dea, Tim Purcell, Billy Fitzpatrick, Gearóid Cleere, Alan O'Shea, Kevin Cleere, Paul Cullinane, Shane Murphy, Brian Dalton, Michael Wall, Brendan Marnell. **Back (left to right)** – Ciarán Hoyne, David Harrison, Enda O'Halloran, James Ryall, Jim Mulrooney, Patrick Hennessy, Seán Dooley, Joseph Brennan, Niall Millea, Patrick Dalton, Declan Byrne, Edward Delaney, Joseph Quirke, Brendan Hayes.



ROWER-INISTIIGE – WINNERS COUNTRY CUP

Back row (left to right) – Eamonn Naddy, Diarmuid Kavanagh, Michael Hackett, Simon Langton, Patrick Malone, Brian Murphy, Paul Knox, Donal Brennan, Richard Tierney, P. J. Wilmott, Niall Lyng, Joe Mooney, Darren Killeen. **Front (left to right)** – John O'Brien, Mark Clifford, Michael Cullen, Shane Dunphy, Sean Cashin, Tom Doyle (captain), Eamonn Lyster, Joe Proctor, David Murphy, Michael Grace, Liam Merginer, Peter Barron.

ball League respectively. Once again the Kilkenny Supporters Club sponsored the update of the finals on local radio.

Schools Coaching

The visit of Colm Brady in autumn '92 was followed by the visit of Lester Ryan in the early part of '93. Lester proved very popular in all the schools he visited and the feedback was positive in all cases.

In the autumn, thanks to the County Board, Briain Ryan (Fenians) and, in conjunction with the Leinster Council, Bobby Jackman (Windgap) were appointed as full-time coaches in the county.

Both Briain and Bobby have started working in the Primary Schools and the service is greatly appreciated by all the schools. Over 600 primary school pupils attended the Summer Camps this year.

With all this activity, coaching and skills work will be well serviced and should be seen in the Board's competitions but, more importantly, all pupils will have an opportunity to benefit, not just the team players.

Teachers remembered

Many people will remember Eddie O'Coñnor's All-Ireland speech for a variety of reasons, but the teachers of the county will all remember his tribute to Michael Lynch, Principal of Glenmore N.S. Mick introduced Eddie and all the Glenmore members of the All-Ireland panel to hurling and started them on their long trail to success by winning championships at schools level.

It is rather ironic to think that Mick, a Kerryman, introduced hurling into a parish which formerly was better known for its footballers. The tribute was well deserved and fair play to Eddie for remembering his former teacher at possibly the greatest moment of any hurler's life – as an All-Ireland winning captain.

On the *Sunday Game*, Adrian Ronan also took time to remember his former teacher, Mr. James Neary, and thanked him for all his help. In hurling circles Jimmy is a legend in his own lifetime and his record at schools level alone speaks for itself. Such recognition from two great players at such a time is a great encouragement to all the mentors of schools' teams, both teachers and non-teachers, whose efforts are all too often taken for granted.

I.N.T.O. Mini-Sevens

Once again this year the Mini-Sevens sponsored by the I.N.T.O. and organised by the National Cúmann na mBunscoil was organised in Kilkenny.

In hurling Kilmanagh were the victors and at the Regional Sevens Brendan



GOWRAN – RUNNERS-UP IN THE COUNTRY CUP AT NOWLAN PARK (ROINN A)

Front (left to right) – Thomas Carroll, Eric Corcoran, David Carter, Alan Roche, Kevin Dreeling, Patrick Kelly, Eoghan O'Neill, Mark Kirk, Leo Carroll, John O'Neill, John Doheny, Jonathan Dunphy. **Back** (l. to r.) – Patrick O'Neill, Kevin Curran, Derek Connolly, Brian Power, Alan Power, Paul Hickey, Karl Barcoe, Colm Geoghegan, John Hughes, Declan Kenny, Ian Phelan, John Whelan, Stephen Byrne.



BALLYRAGGET – WINNERS OF THE HENNESSY FUELS LEAGUE (ROINN B) FINAL AT NOWLAN PARK

Front (l. to r.) – Eogan McGrath, Jimmy Lacey, Robbie Malone, Liam Gleeson, Joe Lacey, Brendan Phelan, Brendan Stone, Kevin Malone, Kieran McGrath, Niall Kenny, Matthew O'Donnell, Thomas Delaney. **Back** (l. to r.) – Gavin Brophy, Kevin Holohan, Brendan Dooley, Pat Callaghan, Stephen Robers, Eamonn McEvoy, Brian Phelan, Kevin Staunton, David Kenny, Kieran Delaney, Maurice Walsh, James Phelan, Robert Irwin, Gerry Glendon.



MULLINAVAT – ROINN B FINALISTS

Back (l. to r.) – Conor Conway, John Paul Dungan, Brian Butler, Damien Aylward, Michael Duggan, Eoin Maher, Aidan Lanigan, Michael Murphy (capt.), Mark Kenneally, Seán Sutton. **Front** (l. to r.) – Keith Madigan, Brian Kenneally, Philip Dungan, Thomas Holden, John Rohan, Damien Conway, Andrew Frisby, Denis Butler, Walter Butler.



TULLAROAN – ROINN C HURLING CHAMPIONS

Front (l. to r.) – Michael Walsh, Seán Glennon, Tommy Walsh, Ned Sweeney, Joe Crosby, David Cleere, Shane Hennessy, Ken Coogan, Michael Connolly, Edmund Campion, James Pollard. **Back** (l. to r.) – Jimmy Holland, Chris Maher, Richie Cleere, Martin Óg Kennedy, Richie Holland, John Coogan, John O'Flynn, Liam Breen, Liam Brennan, Paul Doheny.

Marnell and Gearóid Cleere were selected to play in Croke Park in the Kilkenny colours on All-Ireland day and goalie Brendan Hayes on the semi-final day.

The Kilmanagh panel: Ciaran Hoyne, Joseph Brennan, Brendan Hayes, Gearóid Cleere, Patrick Dalton, Niall Millea, James Ryall, Brian Dalton, Brendan Marnell, Declan Byrne.

Gowran won out the local football competition. David Carter and Brian Power played in Croke Park during the All-Ireland semi-final between Derry and Dublin, with the boys wearing the red and white of Derry. The full panel was: Brian Power, Karl Barcoe, Paul Hickey, John Hughes, Colm Geoghegan, David Carter, Stephen Byrne, Alan Power, Jonathan Dunphy, Colm Curran.

Mullinavat won the local girls' football. The panel was: Anne Marie Raftice, Brighid Aylward, Sinéad Maddock, Diana Coughlan, Louise Foskin, Anne Aylward, Fiona Sutton, Joyce Power, Angela Kenneally, Marie Aldridge.

This year Kilkenny hosted the Regional Handball competition where local hero "Ducksie" Walsh made a most welcome appearance to present the trophies. The Kilkenny representatives were: Timmy Clifford (St. Canice's), singles winner; Shem Kelly and David Cashin (Muckalee N.S.), doubles winners, and the ladies were Pamela Dowling and Lorraine Muldowney (N.S.) in the doubles and Christine Gardiner in the singles.

U-13 Hurling

Kilmanagh continued their sequence of appearing in the Roinn A Educational Supplies finals since 1984. This year a powerful display of skilled hurling saw Kilkenny C.B.S. win 3-4 to 1-5. A great start saw the C.B.S. knock Kilmanagh out of their stride and they never really lived up to the promise they showed on their unbeaten run to the final.

A feature this year was the number of defeated finalists making a successful reappearance in the finals. In the Hennessy Fuels League Ballyragget gave a great display to defeat a very good Mullinavat side: Ballyragget 0-10, Mullinavat 2-2. In Roinn C Tullaroan made a



CARRICKSHOCK – FINALISTS ROINN D

Back (l. to r.) – Yvonne Duggan, Emer O'Meara, Matthew Hanrahan, William Carr, John Byrne, Sean Fennelly, Jamie Power, Richard O'Gorman, Jim Rice, Mark Raggett, Pat Dalton, John Walsh, Liam Barron, Pat Cleary, Gerard Murphy, William Wallace. **Front** (l. to r.) – Gerard Mulcahy, Richie Power, Michael Rice, George Frisby, Michael Rohan, Brendan Hoyne, Shane Power, Thomas Walsh, William King, Nicky Grace, Niall Rohan, Liam Aylward.



CLARA – ROINN C HURLING FINALISTS

Front (l. to r.) – John Bambrick, Mark Shortall, Michael Barcoe, Conor Phelan, Martin Kealy, Tadhg Corley, John Phelan, Fergus Fox, Emmet Corley, Declan Meaney, Eamon Kealy, Jack O'Keefe. **Back** (l. to r.) – Tommy Dowling, Fintan Treacy, Trevor Murphy, John Prendergast, Martin Prendergast, Brian Phelan, Gerry Ryan, David Mulrooney, Patrick Langton, Peter Roche, Richard Nolan, John Brennan, Michael Gibbons, Dermot Byrne, Ger Prendergast, John Nolan, Thomas Brennan, Adrian Meaney.



SLIEVERUE – ROINN D CHAMPIONS

Back (l. to r.) – Con Haberlin, David Walsh, John Drennan, David Barrett, Paul Knox, Brian Kirwan, Robert McDonald, Pat Maher, Eoin Dollard. **Front** (l. to r.) – Fergal Doherty, David Connell, Michael Forristal, Alan Atkins, Brian Delahunty, Robert Drennan, Jamie Walsh, Sean Phelan, Niall Knox, Paul Hogan.

successful reappearance when they out-classed the newly-promoted Clara side 2-9 to 0-1.

Slieverue made a successful return in the Roinn D final when, in an exciting match, they won: Slieverue 2-8, Carrickshock 2-1. In the eleven-a-side championship Windgap won their first title at this grade when they defeated Stoneyford 2-6 to 1-3.

The inaugural final of the Country Cup between Ballyhale and Thomastown was an enthralling contest in this competition organised for the country schools in Roinn A, but the second final between Rower/

Inistioge and Gowran matched, if not exceeded, that display when the Rower/Inistioge, with the second last puck of the match, snatched victory from Gowran – 3-5 to 3-4. This was the third meeting of the evenly-matched side. On the first encounter they drew. Gowran with a late goal won the second encounter but thanks to a gritty performance the Rower/Inistioge boys won the Country Cup.

ROINN A

Seventh Title for C.B.S.

Kilkenny C.B.S. regained the Roinn A title when defeating title-holders Kilmanagh in an enthralling contest to capture a record seventh title while Kilmanagh were making a record tenth-in-a-row appearance. On the night C.B.S. deserved their victory with a magnificent display of hurling.

C.B.S. had a dream start when Mark Donnelly had a fortuitous goal after a lapse from the Kilmanagh keeper. C.B.S. built on this piece of luck and never allowed Kilmanagh to settle and led 1-2 to Kilmanagh's 0-2 at the break.

The winners gave Kilmanagh no time to settle when, immediately on the restart, Michael Dowling had a goal. Kilmanagh replied quickly with a goal from newly-introduced substitute Tim Purcell. Gearóid Cleere narrowed the gap by a point, but Mark Donnelly volleyed the ball to the net and Alan Barry pointed a free to give C.B.S. a good lead.

However, Gearóid Cleere (2) and Brendan Marnell had points to leave four points between the sides with five minutes left. Once again Alan Barry stretched the lead and the game ended in a welter of excitement with Kilmanagh pressing hard for the scores they needed.

For the winners Joseph Murray was sound in goal. Their defence was very solid throughout with Paul McKee in sparkling form at centre-back. Alan Barry started at midfield with a brilliant display, with Adrian Fitzpatrick equally effective. Up front Mark Donnelly, Michael Dowling and Padraic Lacey were most dangerous.

For Kilmanagh Aidan Brett made some excellent saves in goal. Alan O'Shea was in great form at full-back and Joseph Brennan and Brendan Hayes also starred. Gearóid Cleere and Brendan Marnell did well at midfield. James Ryall was always most dangerous in attack, while Brian Dalton and Ciaran Hoyne proved most troublesome to the C.B.S. defence.

Kilkenny C.B.S. – Joseph Murphy; Peter Brennan, Mark Massey, Jason Dempsey; Richard Nolan, Paul McKee, Tomás Hackett; Alan Barry (capt.) (0-4), Adrian Fitzpatrick; Mark Donnelly (2-0), Ronan Higgins, Padraig Lacey; Brian Barry, Darren Carroll, Michael Dowling (1-0). Subs. – John Ryan, Brian Murphy, Desmond Treacy, Patrick O'Neill, Antoin Breen, Michael Byrne, John Cahill, Colman Casey, Jonathan Knox, Declan O'Donoghue, Christopher Burke, James Holden, Philip Brennan.

Kilmanagh – Aidan Brett; Niall Millea, Alan O'Shea, Kevin Cleere; Declan Byrne, Joseph Brennan, Brendan Hayes; Gearóid Hayes (0-4), Brendan Marnell (0-1); Patrick Dalton, Brian Dalton, Ciaran Hoyne; Sean Dooley, James Ryall, David Harrison. Subs. – Tim Purcell (1-0), Michael Wall, Edward Delaney, Billy Fitzpatrick, Patrick Hennessy, Anthony O'Dea, Shane Murphy, Joseph Quirke, Jim Mulrooney, Enda O'Halloran, Noel Keane, Paul Cullinan.

ROINN B

Ballyragget Champions

Ballyragget, defeated finalists in 1991, returned to Nowlan Park this year to capture the Roinn B title in magnificent style. This final proved a real thriller and a great display of schools' hurling, but in the end it was Ballyragget's ability to score points that finally won the day.

The game opened with a Ballyragget point from Kieran Delaney. Eoin Maher



WINDGAP – ROINN E CHAMPIONS

Back row (standing) – Bobby Jackman, Patricia Egan, Richard Downey, Michael Cantwell, P.J. Hawe, Sarah Bacon, Eoghan Guinan, Aidan Power, Gary Grincell, Seán Walsh, Shem Power. **Middle row** – Seamus Hawe, Seamus Landy, Eamon Hawe, David Power, James Murray (capt.), Niall Doran, Thomas Enright, Padraig Power. **Front** – Eugene Kenny, Paul Purcell.



STONEYFORD – ROINN E FINALISTS

Back (l. to r.) – Nicky Grace, Jamie Power, John Byrne, Matthew Hanrahan, Natasha Phelan, Fiachra Roche, Robert Lee, Liam Ireland. **Middle (l. to r.)** – Stephanie Power, Michael Rice, Willing King, Seán Fennelly, Mark Raggett, William Wallace, Jim Grace, Philip Dicker. **Front (l. to r.)** – Richard Power, Damien Raggett, Andrew O'Sullivan, James Tennyson, Emma Long.



MULLNAVAT – I.N.T.O. SEVENS CHAMPIONS

Back – Anne Marie Raftice, Brighid Aylward, Sinéad Maddock, Diana Coughlan, Louise Foskin. **Front** – Anne Aylward, Fiona Sutton, Joyce Power, Angela Keneally, Marie Aldridge.

equalised, but Ballyragget soon surged ahead with points from Brian Phelan and Eamon McEvoy. Midway through the half Damien Aylward rocked Ballyragget with a great goal and Eoin Maher added a point from a "65". Soon afterwards Keith Madigan had a goal to extend the southerners' lead.

However, Ballyragget didn't panic and points from Pat Callinan, Brian Phelan and Eoin McEvoy had them right back in the match before the break: Mullinavat 2-2, Ballyragget 0-6.

The second half was a thriller as both sides fought for supremacy. The outstanding Brian Phelan reduced the arrears with a point and Brendan Dooley levelled the scores. The stage was now set for a grandstand finish. In the final ten minutes Brian Phelan added two further points to put Ballyragget ahead. Mullinavat pressed hard in the final minutes but could not breach the winner's defence.

In a great team effort Ballyragget had heroes in goalie Robert Malone, Brendan Dooley, Kevin Holohan, David Kenny and Kevin Staunton. Pat Callinan and Stephen Roberts won the midfield battle. Up front captain Brian Phelan was outstanding while Kieran Delaney, Kevin Malone and Brendan Stone were always dangerous.

Mullinavat also had their stars. Goal-keeper Sean Sutton, full-back Walter Burke and Eoin Maher were outstanding. Damien Aylward was always threatening and Keith Madigan took his goal in great style.

Ballyragget – Robert Malone; Maurice Walsh, David Kenny, Kevin Holohan; Kevin Staunton, Brendan Dooley (0-1), Gavin Brophy; Pat Callinan (0-1), Stephen Roberts; Eamon McEvoy (0-2), Joe Lacey, Kieran Delaney (0-1); Brendan Stone, Brian Phelan (capt.) (0-5), Kevin Malone. Subs – Niall Kenny, Gerry Glendon, Matthew O'Donnell, Jimmy Lacey, Robert Irwin, Eoin McGrath, Liam Gleeson, Brendan Phelan, James Phelan, Tom Delaney, Kieran McGrath.

Mullinavat – Sean Sutton; Brian Butler, Walter Burke, John Paul Dungan; Andrew Frisby, John Rohan, Mark Kenneally; Eoin



KILMANAGH – I.N.T.O. SEVENS CHAMPIONS

Front (l. to r.) – Ciarán Hoyne, Patrick Dalton, Brian Dalton, Joseph Brennan, Niall Millea. **Back (l. to r.)** – Brendan Marnell, Brendan Hayes, James Ryall, Declan Byrne, Gearóid Cleere.



C.B.S. – UNDER-13 FOOTBALL CHAMPIONS

Back row – Donal McCarthy, Peter Brennan, Cillian Breathnach, Paul McKee, Stephen Murray, Christy Burke, Brian Power, Declan O'Donoghue, Niall O'Higgins, Philip Brennan, Dermot Dunphy. **Front row** – Brian Culleton, Andrew Lowry, Thomas Donovan, Niall Trehy, Thomas Lahart, Joey Murphy (capt.), Brian Barry, Patrick O'Neill, James Holden, Anthony Wall, Richard Kavanagh, Andrew Fahy.

Maher (0-2), Michael Murphy (capt.); Aidan Lanigan, Damien Conway, Conor Conway; Denis Butler, Keith Madigan (1-0), Damien Aylward (1-0). Subs. – Tommy Holden, Mick Duggan, Brian Kenneally, Philip Dungan.

ROINN B

Tullaroan Make No Mistake

Having failed to St. Canice's in 1992, Tullaroan made no mistake this year when they comprehensively defeated Clara 2-9 to 0-1. The winners led from start to finish and newly-promoted Clara could find no answer on the night.

Earlier in the League the sides had played a draw but on this occasion the first-time hurling of Tullaroan proved decisive. At the break the winners led 0-5 to Clara's 0-0, thanks to points from Shane Hennessy (0-2), John Coogan (0-2) and Chris Maher (0-1).

Clara rearranged their side with Patrick Langton moving to centre-forward which resulted in their best period, but, thanks to some fine goal-keeping by Richard Holland, their only reward was a point from John Prendergast. However, this made little



ST. PATRICK'S – UNDER-13 FOOTBALL FINALISTS 1993

Front (l. to r.) – Eamon Mernagh, Alan O'Brien, Niall Tyrrell, David Quinn, Niall Cody, Brendan Doyle, Mark Hoban, Keith Mulcahy, Declan Brennan, Sean Murray, Eoin McCormack. **Back (l. to r.)** – Joseph Mernagh, Enda Roberts, Jackie Mulcahy, Richie Hayes, Kenny Lynch, Maurice Harkin, Peter O'Neill, Niall Grogan, Kenneth Grogan, Gary Maher.

impression as Chris Maher had goaled for the winners on the restart and John Coogan added another goal. Although Clara never gave up, the final scoreline does not do justice to their efforts.

For Tullaroan it was a great team display of skilled hurling. Their defence was equal to all demands, with Michael Connolly giving an outstanding display. Paul Doheny and John Coogan dominated the midfield while Shane Hennessy and Ned Sweeney were the pick of the forwards.

For Clara Richard Nolan, Patrick Langton, Gerry Byrne, David Mulrooney and Brian Phelan did best.

Tullaroan – Richard Holland; Tommy Walsh, John O'Flynn, Edmund Campion; Michael Connolly, Martin Óg Kennedy, Richard Cleere; John Coogan (1-4), Paul Doheny; Liam Breen, Chris Maher (1-1), Ken Coogan; Ned Sweeney, James Pollard, Shane Hennessy (0-3). Subs. – Joe Crosby, Sean Glennon, Michael Walsh, Jimmy Holland, David Cleere, Liam Óg Brennan, James Cahill.

Clara – Martin Kealy; Michael Barcoe, Richard Nolan, Martin Prendergast; Peter Roche, Patrick Langton (capt.), Trevor Murphy; Gerry Byrne, David Mulrooney; Mark Shortall, Brian Phelan, John Prendergast (0-1); John Brennan, Tommy Dowling, John Bambrick. Subs. – Michael Gibbons, Ger Prendergast, Thomas Brennan, Dermot Byrne, Emmet Corley, Eamon Kealy, Fintan Treacy, Declan Meany, Fergus Knox, Adrian Meany, Jack O'Keefe, John Phelan, Conor Phelan.

ROINN D

Slieverue Make No Mistake

Having been outclassed in the Roinn D final by Clara in 1992, Slieverue were in no mood to be disappointed again. In a pulsating final both themselves and Carrickshock played some great hurling which saw the far south team capture the title – Slieverue 2-8, Carrickshock 2-1.

Slieverue had the better start with a great goal from Brian Kirwan and a point from David Walsh. But within minutes Jamie Power goaled for Carrickshock. Man of the Match, Paul Knox had two points to extend the Slieverue lead. But once again Michael Ronan equalised for Carrickshock with a great goal. Both sides traded points from David Walsh (S) and Jamie Power (C) to leave the sides level at the break: Slieverue 1-4, Carrickshock 2-1.

The second half saw Slieverue first to score. Their great defence was superbly led by centre-back Paul Knox, whose lengthy clearances and reading of the game were a major stumbling block for the losers. Slowly but surely the winners edged ahead and extended their lead with points from Brian Kirwan, David Barrett, Paul Knox ('65'), Robert Drennan (after he came outfield) and John Drennan.



URLINGFORD N.S. – TOYMASTER CHAMPIONS

Back (left to right) – Michael Joyce, Vincent Cleere, David Rothwell, Jason Looby, Andrew Lalor, Edward Kennedy, Michael Byrne, Alan Guilloyle, Micheál Power, Thomas Holohan, Shane Hennessy, David Moriarty, Gerard Joyce, Joseph Webster. **Front** (l. to r.) – Philip Dwyer, Stephen Roche, Donal Power, William Tynan, Aidan Fogarty, Alan Cleere, Niall Bergin (captain), Gerard Power, Kieran Joyce, Joseph Lafferty, Patrick Culleton, Michael O'Brien. (Missing from photo: Cliff Looby).



CLOGHMONKEENROE UNDER-13 FINALISTS

Back (left to right) – Shane Deegan, Laurence Power, Pdraig Dowd, Gary Dowd, Paul Clancy, Damien Byrne, Philip Roche, Andrew Brennan. **Front** (l. to r.) – Paul Roche, Patrick Brennan, Laurence Lyng, Colin Phillips, Jim Dowd, Sean Dowd, Joseph Dowd.



GOWRAN I.N.T.O. FOOTBALL SEVENS

Behind – Brian Power, Colm Geoghegan, Alan Power, Karl Barcoe, David Carter. **Front** – Jonathan Dunphy, Paul Hickey, Stephen Byrne, Colm Curran, John Hughes.

The winners had great a team effort with wing-backs Eoin Dollard and Jamie Walsh outstanding. David Walsh and John Drennan were in fine form at midfield and up front Pat Maher, Fergal Doherty and Paul Hogan were very dangerous.

Seán Fennelly was tremendous in goal for Carrickshock. Star centre-back Niall Rohan, Mathew Hanrahan and Liam Barron were great in defence. At midfield Pat Dalton and Mark Raggett tried hard to

turn the tide in favour of their team. Jamie Power was the pick of the forwards while Gerard Murphy, Liam Aylward and John Walsh also tried hard.

Slieverue – Robert Drennan (0-1); Robert McDonald, Michael Forristal, Brian Delahunty; Eoin Dollard, Colm Haberin, Paul Knox (0-3); Alan Atkins, Jamie Walsh; David Walsh (1-1), John Drennan (0-1), David Barrett (0-1); Brian Kirwan (1-1), Paul Knox, Fergal Doherty. Subs. – David

Connell, Pat Maher, J. P. Kearney, Niall Knox, David Phelan, Paul Hogan.

Carrickshock – Sean Fennelly; Gerard Mulcahy, Jim Rice, John Byrne; Matthew Hanrahan, Niall Rohan, Liam Barron; Pat Dalton, Mark Raggett; Liam Aylward, Jamie Power (capt.) (1-1), Michael Rice; John Walsh, Gerard Murphy, Michael Rohan (1-0). Subs. – William King, George Frisby, William Carr, Richie Power, Brendan Hoyne, Pat Cleary, Yvonne Duggan, Eimear O'Meara, Richard O'Gorman, Thomas Walsh, Shane Power.

ROINN E

First Title For Windgap

Windgap won their first Roinn E eleven-a-side title when they defeated Stoneyford 2-7 to 1-3. Having played in the first ever Roinn E final in 1991, when it took a replay to separate themselves and Carrickshock, Windgap made no mistake this year. The match was a real thriller with plenty of entertainment, lots of skill, near misses, and great commitment from both sides.

In the first half both sides dominated at times. Jamie Power opened the scoring with a point for Stoneyford but Eamon Hawe equalised. Windgap extended their lead with a goal and a point from James Murray and another point from Niall Doran despite the best efforts of a light Stoneyford defence.

The losers applied enormous pressure coming up to the break and were rewarded with two points from Jamie Power, to leave the score at half-time: Windgap 1-3, Stoneyford 0-3.

Windgap opened the scoring in the second half with two points from '65s' by captain James Murray, and Trevor Jackman added a goal. James Murray also had two points (one from a free). Jamie Power completed the scoring with a great goal for the losers.

For the winners David Power was brilliant in goal with Aidan Power and Thomas Enright best in defence. P. J. Hawe and Niall Doran kept the ball moving into the forwards. Up front Trevor Jackman and Gary Grincell went close on occasions.

For the losers Seán Fennelly was great in goal. Mark Raggett and Matthew Hanrahan played their hearts out and up front James Power excelled.

Windgap – David Power; Aidan Power, Thomas Enright, Pádraig Power; P. J. Hawe, Eoghan Guinan, James Murray (2-7); Trevor Jackman (1-0), Eamon Hawe (0-1); Niall Doran (0-1), Gary Grincell, Michael Cantwell; Richard Downey, Brendan Barry, Eugenie Kenny. Subs. – Patricia Egan, Seamus Landy, Seamus Hawe, Sean Walsh, Paul Purcell.

Stoneyford – Sean Fennelly; Jim Rice, William Wallace, Natasha Phelan; Matthew Hanrahan, Mark Raggett, John Byrne; William King, Jamie Power (1-3); Michael

Rice, Nicholas Grace, Robert Lee; Philip Dicker, Richard Power, Liam Ireland. Subs. – Damien Raggett, Stephanie Power, Emma Long, James Tennyson, Andrew O'Sullivan.

Country Cup

The Rower/Inistioge, in their first year in Roinn A, had a great season to follow their success of '92 in Roinn B when they captured the Country Cup in a very exciting game. Both sides started nervously and scores were hard to come by.

Tom Doyle opened the scoring with a point for the winners but Gowran soon replied with a great goal from Jonathan Dunphy and points from David Carter and Alan Power ('65') increased the lead. The sides then exchanged points from Tom Doyle and David Carter.

Gowran enjoyed a huge amount of possession but only registered two points from Kevin Curran and Alan Power, while Tom Doyle (Rower-Inistioge) topped a great display with a goal to leave the score at half-time Gowran 1-4, Rower/Inistioge 1-2.

Kevin Curran (1-0) and David Carter extended the Gowran lead but again Tom Doyle replied with two points from frees and Seán Cassin levelled the match with a goal. Tom Carroll after a determined effort goaled, but with time running out a shot from Dan Brennan (R/I) was deflected to the net to level the scores.

With time running out a free from the Gowran defence dropped short to Seán Cashin who made no mistake and put the ball between the posts to the consternation of the Gowran side and the delight of the Rower/Inistioge followers.

The winners had a sound 'keeper in J. Proctor. Their defence gave little away with Michael Hackett outstanding at full-back. Richie Tierney was a star on the night, restricting David Carter to a single point. P. J. Wilmott and Noel Lyng broke even at midfield while up front Tom Doyle was their most effective forward and Sean Cassin was always a thorn in the Gowran defence.

For the losers Brendan Kenny had his best match in goal. Stephen Byrne was rock-solid at full-back. John Hughes at corner-back was one of the stars of the defence while Pat O'Neill and Karl Barcoe were both most effective.

Captain Paul Hickey was a most stylish player and centre-back Alan Power had a great duel with Tom Doyle. Brian Power and Kevin Curran did well at midfield. Davy Carter was the pick of the forwards while Jonathan Dunphy and Thomas Carroll took their goals in great style. Derek Connolly, Brian Whelan and Alan Roche did well over the hour.

Rower/Inistioge – J. Proctor; D. Murphy, M. Hackett, P. Malone; S. Langton, R. Tierney, J. Mooney; P. J. Wilmot, N. Lyng; E. Lyster, T. Doyle (1-0, 0-4 frees), S. Cassin (1-1); S. Dunphy, B. Murphy, D. Brennan (1-0).

Subs – P. Barron, P. Knox, D. Kavanagh, L. Mernagh, M. Clifford, E. Naddy, J. O'Brien, D. Killeen, M. Grace; M. Cullen.

Gowran – Brendan Kenny; Patrick O'Neill, Stephen Byrne, John Hughes; Karl Barcoe, Alan Power (0-2, free), Paul Hickey (captain); Brian Power, Kevin Curran (1-1); John Whelan, David Carter (0-2, frees), Thomas Carroll (1-0); Alan Roche, Derek Connolly, Jonathan Dunphy (1-0). Subs – Eric Corcoran, Colm Geoghegan, Kevin Dreeeling, Eoghan O'Neill, Ian Phelan, John Doheny, John O'Neill, Mark Kirk, Patrick Kelly, Leo Carroll.

Schools' Football

THE largest number of teams entered this year's competitions and it looks as if there will soon be scope for three divisions. The visit of Colm Brady seems to have borne fruit in a greater interest than ever.

St. Patrick's de la Salle made their third appearance in a row in this final but once again Kilkenny C.B.S. proved too good on the day, despite a very spirited display by St. Pat's. The final scoreline was C.B.S. 3-5, St. Patrick's De La Salle 1-2.

Urlingford Take Toymaster

In the Toymaster final Urlingford completed an unbeaten win by defeating Moneenroe 2-5 to 0-2. The first half was a very close affair and Moneenroe, thanks to points from Shane Deégan and Damien Byrne, led for most of the first half.

In the second-half the strength and skill of Urlingford finally told and a great display from Aidan Fogarty and the recently injured Kieran Joyce set Urlingford up for their first title in the competition.

C.B.S. Take Title

Kilkenny C.B.S. won this year's Roinn A Under-13 Football final to capture the O'Callaghan Cup when defeating St. Patrick's de la Salle 3-5 to 1-2.

When these teams met in the league earlier in the season the C.B.S. had a facile victory but they had to pull out all the stops in the final. Indeed, the C.B.S. started slowly and St. Pat's did all the early pressing. C.B.S. captain Joseph Murphy opened the scoring with a point after six minutes.

St. Pat's equalised through Eoin McCormack. The play swung from end to end with both sides having their chances but St. Pat's took the lead with a goal from Eoin McCormack after 12 minutes. This seemed to stir the C.B.S. and they enjoyed their best spell of play which saw them

equalise with a great goal from Frank Quinn, which left the half-time scores 1-1 each.

In the second half the C.B.S. dominated the early stages and went ahead with points from Thomas Lahart and Brian Power ("45"). The match was won in the next two minutes when Brian Power added a goal, and a long-range goal from Brian Barry really left Pats with a mountain to climb.

St. Pat's replied with a point from Kenny Lynch but found the C.B.S. defence hard to break. The winners added two points from Niall Trehy and Frank Quinn to leave the final score: C.B.S. 3-5, St. Pat's 1-2.

The C.B.S. defence was outstanding, with corner back Andrew Lowry in fine form. Stephen Murray and Brian Power did well at midfield. Up front Brian Barry was the pick of the forwards and he got most assistance from Thomas Lahart.

For St. Pat's Niall Cody was sound in goal. Full-back Peter O'Neill and wing-back Barry O'Neill shone in the defence, Captain Nial Grogan and Kenny Lynch won the midfield battle for long periods while Eoin McCormack was the pick of the forwards.

C.B.S. – James Holden, Cillian Breathnach, Paul McKee, Andrew Lowry, Philip Brennan, Chris Burke, Peter Brennan, Brian Power (1-1), Stephen Murray, Frank Quinn (0-1), Brian Barry (1-0), Niall Trehy (0-1), Brian Gulleton, Joe Murphy (0-1), Thomas Lahart (1-1). Subs – Patrick O'Neill, Niall O'Higgins, Richard Kavanagh, Andrew Fahy, Declan O'Donoghue, Anthony Wall, Thomas Donovan.

St. Patrick's – Niall Cody, Mark Hoban, Peter O'Neill, Richie Hayes, Barry O'Neill, David Quinn, Jackie Tyrell, Niall Grogan (0-1), Kenny Lynch, Eoin McCormack (1-1), Enda Roberts, Niall Tyrrell, Seán Murray, Maurice Harkin, Brendan Doyle. Subs. –

Kenneth Grogan, Eamon Mernagh, Joe Mernagh, Alan O'Brien, Gary Maher, Darren Brennan, Keith Mulcahy.

Referee: Podge Butler.

Toymaster League Final

Urlingford 2-5; Moneenroe 0-2

In the Primary Schools Board Toymaster final played in Ballyragget, Urlingford proved too strong for Moneenroe. Urlingford took an early lead with a point from Alan Cleere but Damien Byrne soon equalised for Moneenroe and they took an early lead with a point from Shane Deegan.

Urlingford pressed very hard but were very inaccurate in their shooting until David Moriarty had a goal just before the break to leave the half-time scores Urlingford 1-1, Moneenroe 0-2.

Urlingford dominated the second half and a brilliant display by half-forward Kieran Joyce throughout the second half proved decisive. He had points in the 4th and 15th minutes.

Urlingford settled after this and dominated most of this half, Vincent Cleere extending their lead with a point from a "45". Moneenroe's best spell was ten minutes from the end when two good saves by goalie Gerard Power sealed their fate. Urlingford finished in a flurry with a point and a goal from Kieran Joyce to leave the final score Urlingford 2-5, Moneenroe 0-2.

Urlingford had 15 heroes, none more so than wing-back Aidan Fogarty and man-of-the-match Kieran Joyce.

For the losers corner-back Philip Roche and full-back Paul Clancy were outstanding. Padraig Dowd had a great game while

midfielder Shane Deegan and Damien Byrne tried hard. Up front Andrew Brennan and Padraig Brennan looked most dangerous.

Urlingford – Gerard Power; Alan Guilfoyle, Michael Byrne, William Tynan; Michael Joyce, Andrew Lalor, Aidan Fogarty; Philip Dwyer, Niall Bergin (captain); Kieran Joyce (1-2), Vincent Cleere (0-1), Alan Cleere (0-1); David Rothwell, David Moriarty (1-0), Gerard Joyce (0-1). Subs – Stephen Rourke, Thomas Holohan, Shane Hennessy, Michael Power, Patrick Culleton, Joyce Lafferty, Donal Power, Joseph Webster, James Looby, Michael O'Brien, Edward Kennedy.

Moneenroe – Joseph Dowd; Paul Roche, Paul Clancy, Philip Roche; Jim Dowd, Padraig Dowd, Gary Dowd; Shane Deegan (0-1), Damien Byrne (0-1); Colm Philips, Andrew Brennan, Patrick Brennan; Sean Dowd, Len Power, Lawrence Lyng. Subs – Cathal O'Dowd, Christy Kelly, Paul Donnelly, Tommy Dunne, Donal Hennessy, Niall Dowd, John Brennan, Paul Brennan, Seán Cullen.

Who To Cheer For?

At the Schools Finals in Nowlan Park this year Mrs. Anne Cleere of Canderstown, Tullaroan, had a problem of who to support or, rather, a busy time supporting her eight grandchildren, one nephew and two grand-nephews playing that night.

In the Educational Supplies Roinn A Final, C.B.S. played Kilmanagh with Gearóid and Kevin Cleere. In the Hennessy Supplies League Roinn B, Clara played Tullaroan. John Coogan, Ken Coogan, Richard Cleere, David Cleere, Ned Sweeney and Michael Walsh played nephew Shane Hennessy and grand-nephews James Pollard and Michael Connolly.

WHERE THE TITLES WENT

Educational Supplies Roinn A		
C.B.S.....	3-4	Kilmanagh.....1-5
Hennessy Fuels Finals – Roinn B		
Ballyragget.....	0-10	Mullinavat.....2-2
Roinn C		
Tullaroan.....	2-9	Clara.....0-1
Roinn D		
Slieverue.....	2-8	Carrickshock.....2-1
Roinn E		
Windgap.....	2-6	Stoneyford.....1-3
Country Cup		
Rower-Inistioge...	3-5	Gowran.....3-4
Roinn A Football		
Kilkenny C.B.S. ..	3-5	St. Patrick's de la Salle 1-2
Toymaster League		
Urlingford.....	2-5	Moneenroe.....1-3
Country Cup Football		
Dunamaggin.....	1-6	Thomastown.....0-5

T.C. MAN-OF-THE-MATCH AWARDS

Roinn A	Alan Barry Alan O'Shea	C.B.S. Kilmanagh
Roinn B	Brendan Dooley Mark Kenneally	Ballyragget Mullinavat
Roinn C	John Coogan Patrick Langton	Tullaroan Clara
Roinn D	Paul Knox Niall Rohan	Slieverue Carrickshock
Roinn E	James Murray Mark Raggett	Windgap Stoneyford
Country Cup	Sean Cassin Paul Hickey	Rower/Inistioge Gowran

Under-13 Country Cup Football

IN the inaugural Country Cup Football final played in Ballyhale, Dunamaggin proved too good for a skilful Thomastown side. Both sides served up some delightful football, but it was the ability of the Dunamaggin forwards to convert their chances that gave them a well-deserved victory while Thomastown will rue the many missed chances with eight wides in the first half alone.

Centre-forward Richard Cahill gave Dunamaggin an early lead with a point and while Thomastown pressed hard they could find no way through an excellent Dunamaggin full-back line of Colm Lydon, David Hoyne (3) and Brendan Donohoe. The most vital score of the match proved to be a goal from a well-taken free by C. J. Delaney, which barely dropped under the cross-bar to extend the winners' lead.

Thomastown replied with a point from the very skilful Shane Walsh operating at corner-forward. The Thomastown half-back line, with Declan Lanigan in great form, were well in command and set up numerous attacks through wing-forward Eugene O'Neill, but failed to convert their possession to scores.

Both sides enjoyed lots of possession and Dunamaggin always looked dangerous when centre-back Canice Hickey swept forward to set up some delightful moves with good support from midfielder Liam Heffernan (9) and they had points from Richard Cahill, Liam Heffernan and



DUNAMAGGIN – UNDER-13 COUNTRY CUP FOOTBALL WINNERS

Back – James Cahill, Mark Drennan, Thomas O'Brien, Noel McCormack, Ivan Sheridan, Liam Heffernan, Gavin O'Donovan, Malachy Hogan (coach), Mark Dowling, Canice Hickey, David Hoyne, Richard Cahill, Donal O'Shea, Seán O'Neill, Ben Small, Brendan Donohoe. **Front** – Colum Lydon, Mark Heffernan, Kevin Walsh, David Herity, Jamie O'Keeffe (captain), Denis O'Sullivan, Darren O'Keeffe, Julian Hughes, Paul Conway, C. J. Delaney, Rory Dunne. Absent: Liam Walsh.

Mark Drennan, to leave the half-time score: Dunamaggin 1-4, Thomastown 0-1.

In the second half Thomastown had a great start when Eugene O'Neill pointed, but Donal O'Shea replied for Dunamaggin. Thomas Phelan again narrowed the gap with another point but again substitute Thomas O'Brien – playing at full-forward – had a delightful point, to leave two goals between the sides. Thomastown had reorganised their side and introduced Ger Mullally on the half-back line and brought Eugene O'Neill to centre-back. This saw them get plenty of possession up front but their only reward was points from John Coone and Shane Walsh, to leave the final score: Dunamaggin 1-6, Thomastown 0-5.

For the winners, David Herryty was sound in goal. Kevin Walsh and James O'Keeffe did well in defence. Liam Herity, who had the distinction of hitting both uprights with successive shots, and his partner, Ivan Sheridan, were an effective midfield pair. The forwards were well-drilled and moved the ball very cleverly, especially Donal O'Shea, Sean O'Neill and Noel McCormack.

For the losers, Brian Begley made some great saves. Shane Neary, Richard Bolger and Michael Doyle shone in defence. Midfielders Damien Dempsey and Thomas Phelan gave a great supply to the forwards. Up front, Shane Walsh, Eugene O'Neill, William Hoyne and Kane Ryan did best.

Dunamaggin – David Herryty; Colm Lydon, David Hoyne, Brendan Donohoe; Kevin Walsh, Canice Hickey, James O'Keeffe; Ivan Sheridan, Liam Herity (0-1); Donal O'Shea (0-1), Richard Cahill (0-2), Sean O'Neill (0-1); C. J. Delaney (1-0), Noel McCormack, Mark Drennan (0-1). Subs. – Thomas O'Brien (0-1), Ben Small, Gavin O'Donovan, Paul Cowan, Julian Hughes, Denis O'Sullivan, Mark Heffernan, Mark Dowling.

Thomastown – Brian Begley; Ronan O'Connor, Shane Neary, Michael Doyle; John Coone, Richard Bolger, Declan Lanigan; Damien Dempsey, Thomas Phelan; William Hoyne, Liam McDonald, Eugene O'Neill; Daniel Dempsey, Kane Ryan, Shane Walsh. Subs. – Ger Mullally, William Bowan, Philip Begley, Tommy Quinn, Brian O'Keeffe, John Whitty, Alan Meegan, Niall Stapleton, Jason Burke, Kevin Lanigan, Liam Hearne, Shane Forristal.

Referee – Podge Butler.



THOMASTOWN – UNDER-13 COUNTRY CUP FOOTBALL FINALISTS

Back – Jason Burke, Alan Meegan, Kevin Lanigan, Declan Lanigan, Shane Neary, Richard Bolger, Philip Begley, Thomas Phelan, Liam McDonald, Kane Ryan, Michael Doyle, Eugene O'Neill, Niall Stapleton, Liam Hearne. **Front** – William Bowen, John Whitty, Shane Forristal, Damien Dempsey, Brian Begley, Daniel Dempsey, Shane Walsh, William Hoyne, John Coone, James Smith, Brian O'Keeffe, Tommy Quinn.

Dunamaggin complete magnificent double



By: Tom Ryall

For the second year in a row the Under-16 hurling championship went to the South with Dunamaggin winning the Roinn 'A' title for the first time since 1969. Considering they went on to win the minor hurling championship later in the year, this was a magnificent year for the Dunamaggin club.

Nothing could have been more dramatic than the manner of the victory over James Stephens on a 4-6 to 4-5 scoreline. While the winners led for most of the game, it looked all over for them when they conceded an "own goal" four minutes from time to put the city side ahead by 4-5 to 3-6. If ever courage and perseverance was rewarded it was in this game. Dunnamaggin battled back and in the last seconds John Hickey shot the winning goal.

The Dunamaggin players were all heroes in this game but none more so than Anthony McCormack, Andrew Hickey, a magnificent centre half back, Noel Lahart, Brian O'Shea, who won the Under-14 Skills Competition within the county, Tom McCormack and will-o-the-wisp Ramie Cahill. James Stephens had their own stars in Podge Butler, Barry O'Donoghue, Michael Fogarty, Niall Kelly and Liam "Chunky" O'Brien who threatened to win the game on his own at times.

Scorers:

Dunamaggin: Anthony McCormack (1-1), Noel Lahart (1-1), J. P. O'Neill (1-0),

John Hickey (1-0), Ramie Cahill (0-2) and Brian O'Shea (0-2).

James Stephens: Liam O'Brien (1-3), Tomás O'Dowd (1-0), Vincent Coonan (1-0), Padraig Power and Niall Kelly (0-1 each).

Dunamaggin: Niall McCormack, Shane Raggett, Tom McCormack, Brendan Moore, Willie Kearney, Andrew Hickey, Paul Moore, Noel Lahart, Brian O'Shea, Anthony McCormack, John Hickey, J. P. O'Neill, Ramie Cahill, Willie Drennan, Niall Brett.

James Stephens: Ray Kennedy, Podge Butler, Willie Murphy, Barry O'Donoghue, Michael Fogarty, John Murphy, Stephen Murphy, Niall Kelly, Eoin Campbell, Mark Brennan, Padraig Hehir, Padraig Power, Liam O'Brien, Tomás O'Dowd, Brian Maher.

Sub: Vincent Coonan.

Rower are also double champs

The Rower-Inistioge Under-16 hurlers completed a magnificent double for the club when they added the Under-16 Roinn 'B' hurling title to the Minor 'B' championship title they had won earlier in the year.

In a very competitive game, they came good in the last quarter to run out winners by 1-10 to 0-8 over the Fenians. The

Johnstown side had first use of the strong breeze but they were rocked back in the 5th minute when James Mackey goaled for the winners. As a result, the Fenians were chasing the game and were only on level terms at the interval (0-6 to 1-3).

With P. J. Ryan giving a star performance, the Fenians kept very much in touch and were just two points behind at the end of the third quarter, 1-7 to 0-8. When the Rower-Inistioge had a player sent to the line, their prospects looked bleak, but they dug deep and three unanswered points, two from Martin Butler and one from Michael Doyle, gave them a deserved win.

Pat Brennan kept a clean sheet in the winners goal. Derek Walsh stood out in defence, getting most assistance from Under-14 star Thomas Digby. John Kavanagh had a fine game at midfield, where he got good assistance from Paul Cottrell. Michael Doyle, without reaching the heights he attained in the Minor Final, was always dangerous. Martin Burke, in the last quarter, and James Mackey also impressed in attack.

In P. J. Ryan, the losers had the best player on view. Owen Behan was another impressive performer until an injury took its toll in the last quarter. Joe Delaney had a tremendous game at full back. Others to play well for the Fenians were Michael Glendon in goal, Podge Delaney and Jason Ryan.



DUNNAMAGGIN - UNDER-16 ROINN 'A' HURLING CHAMPS

Back row: Ramie Cahill (selector), Paul Moore, Anthony McCormack, John Hickey, Noel Lahart, Ramie Cahill jnr., Andrew Hickey, Tom McCormack, Willie Drennan, Brian O'Shea, Brendan Moore, Dick O'Shea (selector). Front row: Niall Brett, Noel Hickey, Colin Herity, Andrew O'Neill, William Kearney, Shane Raggett, Niall McCormack, J. P. O'Neill, Fergal O'Shea, Kenneth Moore. Mascot: James Cahill.

Scorers:

Rower/Inistioge: Michael Doyle (0-4), James Mackey (1-1), Martin Burke (0-2), Owen Kenny, James Tierney and Richard Barron (0-1 each).

Fenians: P. J. Ryan (0-3), Owen Behan (0-3), Jason Ryan and Declan Garrett (0-1 each).

Rower-Inistioge: Pat Brennan, Keith Cottrell, Derek Walsh, Thomas Digby, Owen Kenny, Johnny Griffin, John Kavanagh, Bill Cottrell, Richard Barron, Michael Doyle, Martin Burke, James Mackey, James Tierney, Liam Galavan.

Sub: Seán White.

Fenians: Michael Glendon, Martin Quinlan, John Delaney, Ken Murphy, Paul Cashman, P. J. Ryan, Brian Power, Jason Ryan, Owen Behan, Brendan Barnaville, Noel O'Loughlin, Declan Garrett, Lar Ryan, Podge Delaney, Kevin Power.

Sub: Aidan Butler.

Dunamaggin take league title after close contest

Dunamaggin completed a magnificent double when they added the League title to the championship. Again, it was a cliff hanger with the Southerners holding out for a 5-4 to 5-2 win over another city side Dicksboro. The winners had good displays from their half back line of Willie Kearney, Andrew Hickey and Paul Moore who was outstanding. Ramie Cahill ran riot in the forwards scoring 2-4. Others to play well were Brian O'Shea, Noel Lahart and Tom McCormack.

Dicksboro had good players in David Carroll, Brian Manogue, Cathal McDonald, Kieran Philpott and Richard Barry.

Scorers:

Dunamaggin: Ramie Cahill (2-4), Willie Drennan (1-0), Niall Brett (1-0), and Anthony McCormack (1-0).

Dunamaggin: Niall McCormack, Shane Raggett, Tom McCormack, Brendan Moore, Willie Kearney, Andrew Hickey, Paul Moore, Noel Lahart, Brian O'Shea, Anthony McCormack, John Hickey, J. P. O'Neill, Ramie Cahill, Willie Drennan, Niall Brett.

Dicksboro: Niall O'Gorman, Mark Gaffney, Brian Manogue, Oisín Dawson, Kieran O'Sullivan, David Carroll, Michael Coogan, James Maher, Brian Power, Cathal McDonald, Derek Deegan, Shane Geraghty, Kieran Philpott, Richard Barry, Paddy Walsh.

Sub: James Phelan.

'Lockes take league title in impressive fashion

John Lockes took the Under-16 'B' title in impressive fashion when they defeated the Fenians by 4-8 to 0-4. It was a double defeat for the Johnstown side as they also lost the championship final.

The Fenians opened well and had early points from P. J. Ryan and Podge Delaney. After twelve minutes John Lockes opened their scoring with a goal from Andy Power who took a pass from David Henriques. Another goal from the same player helped John Lockes into an interval lead of 2-2 to 0-3.

In the second half P. J. Cody began to get to grips with Owen Behan and this put the pressure on the Fenians and with John Norris and Brian Kennedy in sparkling form, the Callan side pulled away for an easy win. Owen Behan, in the early stages and P. J. Ryan were best for the losers.

Scorers:

John Lockes: Andy Power (3-3) and Brian Kennedy (1-5).

Fenians: P. J. Ryan (0-2), Owen Behan and Podge Delaney (0-1 each).

John Lockes: John O'Neill, Michael Denny, Denis Nolan, Kevin Fitzpatrick, Adrian Lyons, Conleth Nolan, Damien Burke, John Paul Corcoran, P. J. Cody, John Norris, Jamie Gormley, Ger Tobin, Brian Kennedy, David Henriques, Andy Power.

Fenians: Michael Glendon, Martin Quinlan, Brendan Barnaville, Ken Murphy, Paul Cashman, P. J. Ryan, Brian Power, Jason Ryan, Owen Behan, Kevin Power, John Delaney, Declan Garrett, Podge Delaney, Noel O'Loughlin, J. McEvoy.

Sub: Lar Ryan.



JOHN LOCKES U-16 ROINN 'B' LEAGUE CHAMPIONS - 1993

Front left: Eric Roche (selector), Geoffrey Dawson, Michael Denny, Joey Gormley, John O'Neill, John Norris (captain), Andy Power, Brian Kennedy, Kevin Fitzpatrick, Raymond Power, Ger Corcoran, Tóim Ryan (selector). Back row: Tom Walsh (selector), Adrian Lyons, Ger Tobin, P. J. Coady, Dennis Nolan, Jamie Gormley, John Paul Corcoran, Damien Burke, David Henriques, Conleth Nolan, David Kelly (selector).



ROWER-INISTIOGE U-16 COUNTY CHAMPIONS - ROINN B 1993

Front row (left to right): Tomás Digby, Michael Doyle, Andy Proctor, Neal Walsh, Derek Walsh (captain), Liam Galavan, Billy Galavan, Ciarán Holohan. Back row (left to right): Benny Holohan (selector), Bill Cottrell, Richard Barron, Keith Carroll, Nicky Kenny, James Mackey, John Kavanagh, Owen Kenny, Pat Brennan, James Tierney, Martin Kavanagh (selector). Missing from photo: Martin Burke, John Griffin, John White, Declan and Michael Byrne, Martin Cashin and Paul Sheehan.

Mullinavat first holders of the Nan Brennan Cup

The presentation of the Nan Brennan Memorial Cup to Bord na nÓg gave the competition a great boost and Mullinavat became the first winners of the magnificent new trophy. Bennettsbridge were chasing the double having won the League title which was confined to 11-a-side. The final score was Mullinavat 3-7, Bennettsbridge 0-6.

The sides were level at the interval after Mullinavat had played with the breeze and they had to pull out all the stops in the second half to claim victory. Bennettsbridge actually led until the 47th minute when Sean Hogan made a great run out of defence and passed the ball to Richard Butler who gave Mullinavat a single point lead.

After that there was no stopping the Southerners and further goals from Shane Walsh and Seamus Holden plus a brace of points from Oliver Dalton sealed the game. A feature of the game was that all Bennettsbridge's scores came from placed balls courtesy of John Drea.

Ned Haberlin, Liam Kenneally, Tommy Duggan and trainer Michael Carroll are to be congratulated on a job well done. Stars of the winning side were captain Declan Wall, goalie Paul Aylward, Kenneth Butler, Jonathan Duggan, Patrick Delehunty and Richard Butler.

In addition to John Drea the losers had good players in Dean Denieffe, Kieran Mulhall, Donal Cahalane and Adrian Walpole.

Mullinavat: Paul Aylward, Michael Shefflin, Kenneth Butler, Patrick Aylward, Sean Hogan, Jonathan Duggan, Liam Murphy, Patrick Delehunty, Richard Butler, Ciaran Laherty, Declan Wall, Oliver Dalton, Paul Conway, Shane Walsh, Seamus Holden.

Subs: Declan Duggan, Alan Wall, Niall Madigan, Colm Kenneally, Brendan Maddock, Kenneth Slattery, David Coughlan, Mark Coughlan, R. J. Carroll and Pat Butler.

Bennettsbridge: Bobby Griffith, James Treacy, Dean Denieffe, Owen Hanrahan, Liam McEvoy, Kieran Mulhall, Vincent Freyne, Donal Cahalane, John Drea, Wayne Dowling, Adrian Walpole, Noel Sugrue, Tim Dooley, Paul Cullen, Brendan Cleere.



Presentation of Nan Brennan Memorial Cup by the Brennan family to Kilkenny County Board. Geraldine Brennan (daughter), Nickey Brennan (Chairman Kilkenny Co. Board G.A.A.), Dick Brennan, Ted Carroll (Secretary Kilkenny Co. Board G.A.A.); Joe Pyke (Chairman Bord na nÓg), Tom Ryall (P.R.O. G.A.A. Co. Board); Marie Houlihan (daughter).

Bennettsbridge take 11-a-side League title

This year's competition, following a motion to last year's Bord na nÓg Convention, was confined to eleven-a-side teams. This gave a chance to many of the smaller parishes to field teams and, as such, the experiment was a success. Bennettsbridge broke their recent ill luck in many finals by taking the title.

Tullogher-Rosbercon fought their way tenaciously into the final but on the night were no match for the Bennettsbridge boys who ran out winners by seventeen points. The winners had great performers in John Drea, who played in the Intermediate grade with his club also, Bobby Griffith, Donal Cahalane, Adrian Walpole and Tim Dooley.

The losers had good players in Thomas Healy, David Mullally, John Mullally, John Barron and David Cummins.

Bennettsbridge: Bobby Griffith, James Treacy, Dean Denieffe, Liam McEvoy, Liam Mulhall, John Drea, Donal Cahalane, Wayne Dowling, Adrian Walpole, Tim Dooley, Brendan Cleere.

Subs: Owen Hanrahan, Vincent Freyne and Joe Gubbins.

Tullogher-Rosbercon: Damien Cummins, David Mullally, J. P. Phelan, P. J. Rigby, John Gaule, John Mullally, Richard Lanigan, Brian Walsh, John Barron (Brownsford), Richard Walsh, Thomas Healy.

Subs: John Barron (Darbystown), Alan Long, James Kennedy, Sean Healy and Luke Grennan.

James Stephens complete football double

James Stephens were completing a double when they beat Piltown in the Roinn A football championship final as they had already won the League. Piltown were well in the game in the first half but the city side took over after the break.

Piltown, thanks to points from Barry Walsh, Aubrey Storey and Michael Gordon went three ahead. At the interval, James Stephens had edged ahead by 0-5 to 0-3. Right at the start of the second half Stephen Murphy had a goal for the winners. Further goals followed from Niall Kelly and Liam O'Brien (penalty), to leave the Village boys ahead by 3-5 to 0-5. James Stephens eventually pulled ahead to win by 4-10 to 0-7.

Best for the winners were Donal Brennan, Pádraig Hehir, Podge Butler, Mark Brennan, Niall Kelly and Liam O'Brien. The best players for Piltown were Paul Butler, Trevor Grace, Michael Gordon and Barry Walsh.

Scorers: James Stephens: Niall Kelly (1-3), Stephen Murphy (1-1), Liam O'Brien (1-0), Michael Power (1-0), Mark Brennan (0-3), Tomás O'Dowd (0-2) and David Harkin (0-1).

Piltown: Michael Gordon (0-4), Paul Butler (0-1), Aubrey Storey and Barry Walsh (0-1 each).

James Stephens: Donal Brennan, John Murphy, Willie Murphy, Barry O'Donoghue, Podge Butler, Pádraig Hehir, Michael Fogarty, Mark Brennan, Gavin Knaggs, David Harkin, Niall Kelly, Stephen Murphy, Vincent Coonan, Tomás O'Dowd, Liam O'Brien.

Sub: Michael Power.

Piltown: Andrew Norris, Michael Long, Mark Long, Liam Knox, Paul Butler, Brian Farrell, Alan Walsh, Aubrey Storey, Ger Maher, Barry Walsh, Richard Connolly, Trevor Grace, Evan Grace, Michael Gordon, Tommy Faulkner.

Railyard take Roinn 'B' championship

Railyard won a hard fought Roinn 'B' County Final against Kilmoganny in a well contested game. The winners laid the foundation of their victory at midfield where Shane Coogan and David Clancy dominated.

The Railyard led by two points at the interval. Changes in the Kilmoganny team in the second half had the desired effect and they went ahead to lead by three points with ten minutes remaining. The Railyard switched Thomas Coogan from corner forward to left half forward with great results and points from Shane Coogan, Michael Maguire and Seanie Brennan (2) saw them sweep to a 0-11 to 1-7 win.

Michael O'Shea, Tommy Treacy and Donal Lawlor formed a brilliant half back line for the winners. They had other good players, in addition to their midfielders Shane Coogan and David Clancy, in Ian O'Keefe, Thomas Coogan and Seanie Brennan.

Best for Kilmoganny were Anthony McCormack, an excellent goalkeeper, Ramie Cahill, who scored 1-6 of his side's total, Richard Wallace, Paul Moore, J. P. O'Neill, Tom McCormack, Andrew Hickey and Noel Lahart.

Railyard: Owen Boran, Paul Maguire, Ian O'Keefe, Michael Kelly, Tommy Treacy, Daniel Lawlor, Michael O'Shea, David Clancy, Shane Coogan, Seanie Brennan, Michael Maguire, Cyril Steadman, Jimmy

Kelly, Seamus Hennessy, Thomas Coogan.

Subs: Oliver Meally, Liam Hennessy, John Paul O'Neill, Brian Coogan, Pdraig Dowd, Colm Coogan.

Kilmoganny: Anthony McCormack, Richard Wallace, John Hickey, Willie Kearney, Brendan Moore, Paul Moore, J. P. O'Neill, Andrew Hickey, Noel Lahart, Ramie Cahill, Tom McCormack, Brian O'Shea, Fergal O'Shea, Willie Drennan, Shane Raggett.

James Stephens too strong for city neighbours

James Stephens just held out in this all city derby against neighbours Dicksboro to take the Under-16 Roinn 'A' football league title on a score of 1-8 to 1-6. The winners started slowly and were also under pressure in the closing stages.

Dicksboro led by 1-2 to 0-1 after seven minutes. Right on the half time whistle James Stephens took the lead with a goal from Gavin Knaggs (1-4 to 1-2). By the 50th minute James Stephens led by 1-8 to 1-3. Dicksboro shot three points in the closing stages but could not get the goal they so badly needed.

Outstanding for the winners were Donal Brennan, Pdraig Hehir, David Harkin, Niall Kelly and Paul Carroll. Dicksboro's best players were Graham Doyle, Richard Barry, Kieran Philpott and David Kerwick.

James Stephens: Donal Brennan, Barry O'Donoghue, Willie Murphy, Paul Carroll, Podge Butler, Pdraig Hehir, Michael Fogarty, Gavin Knaggs, Vincent Coonan, David Harkin, Niall Kelly, John Murphy, Liam O'Brien, Michael Power, Brian Maher.

Dicksboro: Graham Doyle, Kieran O'Sullivan, David Carroll, Oisín Dawson, Derek Deegan, James Maher, Kieran Philpott, Richard Barry, Cathal McDonald, Brian Power, Mark Gaffney, Paddy Walsh, David Kerwick, Michael Coogan, Stephen Guidera.

—O—

Railyard collected the Under-16 Football League title when they beat John Lockes of Callan by 2-8 to 2-5. It was a clean sweep for the Railyard, as they had already won the Under-16 Championship. The Railyard scorers were Seamus Hennessy (1-1), Paul McGuire (1-1), Tom Coogan (0-3), Sean Brennan (0-2) and David Clancy (0-1). The John Lockes scorers were: J. Gormley (1-4 — all frees), John Norris (1-0) and P. J. Cody (0-1 — free).

Best for Railyard were Owen Boran, Paul McGuire, Tom Coogan, David Clancy, Sean Brennan, Cyril Steadman and Seamus Hennessy.

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The Fall of '93

by: PAT SHORTALL



Back on August twenty-fifth,
My fear was realised,
one month left, my final thoughts,
from ashes I can't rise.
A monument in Dublin's sky,
since nineteen thirty-eight,
I housed and sat so many,
but was always second rate.

It's time to bring the curtain down,
On superstars and cast,
"Simply Minds" and "Bono",
and shadows of my past.
For soon my frame will crumble,
Adieu to games and leagues,
Leinster finals, concerts,
with varied feats and deeds.

Recalling teams comes easy,
Dublin, Donegal,
Meath, Roscommon, Kerry,
but I loved the smaller ball,
Christy Ring, Eddie Keher,
I just missed Lory Meagher,
and my predecessors tell me,
he was the best by far.

Nineteen forty-seven,
was the finest hurling seen,
in others, thunder, lightning,
and I starred on "Rooney's" screen.
Cork had four wins in a row,
Jack Lynch is all alone,
six times in the forties,
he brought his medals home.

The greatest sound, Micheál O'Hehir,
his voice forever praised,
"Sam" and Liam McCarthy,
I've seen both kissed and raised.
Observed the great Camogie stars,
and ladies football too,
referees, so many,
TV and wireless crew.

Skehan in goal from Bennettsbridge,
the only one with nine,
A 'Shamrock' won both old and new,
to join the greats in line.
Ollie Walsh, 'Babs' Keating,
retain their dugout space,
a holy spot for many,
where substitutes say grace.

Childers, Hillery, Robinson,
in comfort, over there,
Haughey, Quinn and Mulvihill,
each had, their special chair.
I've just seen Down take Sam Maguire,
a visit North once more,
and admired Galway's promise,
with the stylists from the Nore.

Secretly, I did enjoy,
Kilkenny's recent prize,

P.J.'s goal from Ronan,
ignited marble eyes.
I must admit, my spot is soft,
for Kilkenny's hurling play,
I'll miss their great supporters,
if only I could stay.

I love this D.J. Carey,
Heroic Pat O'Neill,
Dwyer and John Power,
there's a final more, I feel.
But I'll not live to see it,
another takes my place,
a development of splendour,
for selected creed and race.

Bear with me now,
my time has come,
another ball I see,
hurleys blend to shovels,
why are they beating me?
These men with plastic yellow hats,
Equipped with tools of pain,
I'm shedding tears, I'm hurting,
remove this swinging chain.

"Nally" shouted to me,
the camogie game is on,
I must have been unconscious,
part of me is gone,
like the many million ticket-stubs,
I feel as their remains,
lost and separated,
wasted, scared, deranged.

To-day October, twenty-first,
there's nothing left of me,
my voice is but a whisper,
my aching structures free,
demolished concrete rubble,
my brother grins with pride,
and the re-born sister on my right,
her Dublin slangs deride.

My slender pillar's severed too,
the roof where seagulls slept,
lay scattered 'midst the debris,
no brick on brick is left.
Goodbye old black and amber,
farewell to Cork and Clare,
Limerick, Antrim, Derry,
Tipperary and Kildare.

Once more Artane, strike up the band,
my flags will stay behind,
and play for me "The Soldiers Song",
let you at least, be kind,
at last the pain has wilted,
a very different end,
if only I was like Canal,
Good-bye, good-bye, my friends.

PAT SHORTALL,
Kingsland, Cellarstown,
Co. Kilkenny.

KILKENNY G.A.A. PLAYERS' COMMITTEE

*On behalf of the players the committee
would like to thank the following for their
contributions to the holiday fund:*

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Mick O'Flynn (Chairman), Adrian Ronan (Secretary),
Christy Heffernan (P.R.O.), Joe Walsh (Vice-Chairman),
D. J. Carey (Assistant Secretary)

'Jamesie' A Shining Example to 'Comer Youngsters



By: John Knox
"Kilkenny People"

THEY were the team with the second best record for putting results together in the Senior hurling league and championship, but they ended up with nothing. A tough one on Erin's Own (Castlecomer), but no matter what way the pessimists twist their season about, it cannot be beaten into a bad one. No way!

Erin's Own run of results was only bettered by league champions, Fenians (Johnstown), who also qualified for the championship decider. 'Comer lost the league final, and bowed out of the championship, only after a replayed semi-final.

If anyone wants to describe that as bad going, they are being unfair to Erin's Own, the players, team officials, club officers, in fact, all Castlecomer people, who, after all, are represented by the players who actually take the field.

This was, plainly and simply, for Erin's Own, a year of progress. If the players see it as such, and resolve that it be the springboard to better things, then it can be.

However, if people want to take the soft-option and be negative, which is too easily done, then Erin's Own can knock themselves back, ignore the gains that were made this season. To do that would be to waste talent in the



Referee meets captains. . . Referee Pat Dunphy flanked by James Brennan (Fenian's captain) and Eamon Holland (Erin's Own captain), prior to the Credit Union Senior hurling semi-final. Looking on is linesman Podge Butler.

(Photo: T. O'Neill)

first instance and deny everything that happened this year.

Push On

Erin's Own are a good team, with a fair sprinkling of players who are above the ordinary, the kind who can make the difference when push comes to shove.

James 'Shiner' Brennan is one such player. Any time 'Comer do anything, he is a leading man. Some Kilkenny players, even those on the Senior All-Ireland team, never reach the heights 'Shiner' does at club level.

He always plays well for his club. He is always willing to take on responsi-



Mullinavat - 1993 Kilkenny Senior hurling semi-finalists: Back Row: Tommy Frisby, Paudie Holden, Sean Walsh, Pat Hoban, Joe Walsh, Pat McEvoy, Raymond Carroll. Front: Willie Carroll, Dan Power, Stephen Foskin, Michael Dunphy, John Dunphy.

(Photo: T. O'Neill)

bility. No challenge troubles him. He gives his all . . . all the time.

Young players in 'Comer could do no better than take a leaf from his book! He hit dizzy heights in the championship quarter-final against Shamrocks (Ballyhale), and Fenians in the replayed semi-final. In every game he was never less than good.

This season saw the elevation of county Minor star, David Buggy and Michael Owens onto the club Senior team. They can be influential players of the future, a future that can be bright if the will is right.

Eamon Holland, Brian Young, Peadar Healy, Patsy Brophy, John Buggy, Fergal Slevin, Eamon Coogan – what a game he had against Shamrocks – and company are not fighting a battle against time, more one against self evaluation that in the past has tended to underestimate their true potential. We all await with interest the road Erin's Own will choose.

Mullinavat, with Maurice Mason still calling the shots, enjoyed a useful run and got through to the championship semi-final. A major factor in their improved form was the conversion of Pat Hoban from attack to defence. He enjoyed a great season at centre-back, and his exciting form injected new life into everyone.

Did Well Early

The Southerners 'Achilles Heel' was a lack of scoring forwards. If they can improve this part of their game, then the hurling of John Dunphy, Paudie Holden, Joe Walsh, Raymond Carroll,

Stephen Foskin, Pat McEvoy and so on could put it up to anyone.

James Stephens and St. Martin's (Ballyfoyle, Coon, Muckalee) were the beaten league semi-finalists. 'Stephens went really well during the early stages, when their eager and young team beat Glenmore and Shamrocks to really make people sit up and take notice.

For some unknown reason, 'Stephens never reproduced the fire that marked their play in those matches, and despite good play by Philip Larkin, Richard Mangoue, Francis Cantwell, Liam O'Connor, Ned Kelly and Jody O'Dwyer they went out of both competitions in largely disappointing fashion.

St. Martin's never seemed settled within themselves and their team never had a settled shape. Michael Maher, Eamon Morrissey, Dermot Lawlor and Bobby Shore tried their best, but the spark to ignite the team performance never came.

That pair, along with Glenmore and Shamrocks, bit the championship dust on that famous week-end, 14/15 August – when all the favoured sides crashed one after the other.

Glenmore, the defending champions, only had one high. That was the evening they beat Shamrocks in Mullinavat. The Ballyhale boys were at last caught by age and unless they get new blood in their team, they will start to go backwards after so many good years.

Relegation Fight Good

Some of the best fare was provided in the fight against relegation. Here Young Ireland's (Gowran), with D. J. Carey and Pat O'Neill magical, produced their best form, as did Graigue/Ballycallan, who at last had put their injury problems behind them.

This pair clashed in the first relegation match. In a game that produced eight goals – 5-7 to 3-8 – the level of entertainment was terrific. The lingering thought one had leaving Ballyragget that day was what could either have achieved if they had performed like that all season? Watch this pair in 1994!

Tullaroan, with county men Bill Hennessy and Liam Keogh aboard, had difficulties in attack, and for that reason more than anything else they struggled to make an impact. Near the end Derek Gaffney came good – he hit 5 points from play against Clara – and if he can take up where he left off, Tullaroan will be on the way towards solving their problems.

Clara only won one game all season, when they beat James Stephens by 3-19 to 3-17. They ended up being relegated back to the Intermediate grade, despite good hurling by the likes of Lester Ryan, Anthony Prendergast, Kevin Ryan, Michael Fitzgerald and Eamon Whearty. Getting back up won't be easy.



James Stephens 1935-'37 Co. Senior Hurling Champions – Survivors honoured at Nowlan Park on Co. Senior Hurling Final Day. Left to Right: John Fennelly, Paddy Denieffe, Billy Ayres, Jimmy Morrissey, Lar Carroll, Dick Fennelly

'Lockes – a victory for realism



By JOHN KNOX, "Kilkenny People"

THERE was no naughtiness or grand ideas involved and, in the end, realism – plain and simple – was the unspectacular instrument of strength.

John Lockes (Callan) approached hurling as it should be approached. There were never any complicated plots involved. There was no effort to deceive. The players and officials told it as it was, that John Lockes weren't exactly Kilkenny's equivalent of the 'Dream Team'.

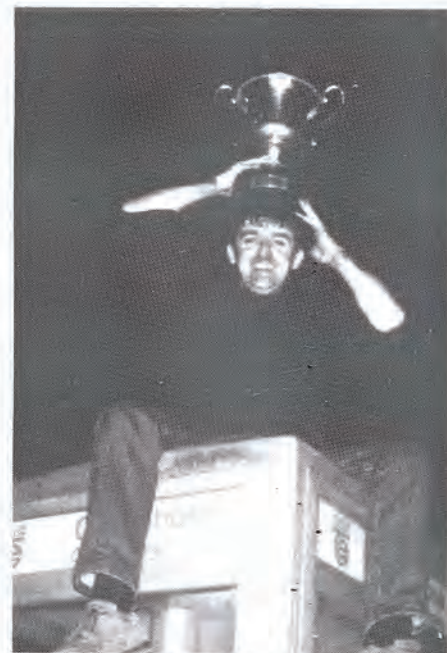
And therein lay the basis of the famous club's victory in the Vale Oil intermediate hurling championship – honest self-assessment. John Lockes never pretended to be anything other than what they were. In fact, their ordinariness, and a willingness to accept that, was a powerful strength that made the difference in the end.

For, you see, 'Lockes fell back on old-

fashioned but still important values like self pride, unity and downright hard work as the basis for their every match effort. Sure, they suffered a knock here and there during the League, like the day they were clipped 2-13 to 1-6 by O'Loughlin Gaels, but when it came to the knock-out competition they went in prepared to harass, hound and fight to the last breath.

Such an approach extracted every last ounce of hurling out of the players – possibly without them even knowing it – and the handsome rewards were promotion to the senior championship, and custody of the Hanrahan Cup. Not since 1935 has the club won this championship.

In fact, since that joyous day nearly 60 years ago, 'Lockes haven't been blessed with the best of luck at adult level in hurling. Indeed, their only successes since were at senior (1957),



Kevin "Butty" Coffey is wired to the moon as he celebrates John Lockes (Callan) winning the Intermediate County Final.

junior (1952 and '87) and, of course, this season. For an outfit with one of the best grounds and solid structures in the background, including a battalion of helpful and able workers, it is fair to say this latest victory was long overdue.

EXEMPLARY EFFORT

If ever a team had a right to say they did things their way, then John Lockes earned that right. They out-fought every team they met along the championship trail and then in the county final they fought a gripping battle against Thomastown. The action was intense, and sustained. There were no easy options. Both teams went in to give maximum effort, and they did. John Lockes gained the verdict on a 3-11 to 2-12 scoreline, but not before fans on both sides were treated to a hurling feast.

It looked early on as if 'Town would take a firm grip when they opened like real 'action men', and threw over three points. The winners needed inspiration



Proud John Lockes captain Sean Hogan accepts the Intermediate Championship Cup from County Board Vice-Chairman John Healy. In the background is Michael Hayes of Vale Oil, sponsors of the Intermediate Hurling League and Championship.

(Photo: Tommy O'Neill)

from some quarter, and they got it when Donal Maher planted the ball in the net.

That lifted 'Lockes spirits and for a while afterwards they showed in front. Then the opposition goaled through Cathal Fitzgerald to win back the initiative. The up-and-coming nature of the exchanges were reflected in the interval scoreline, which left 'Town a mere 1-8 to 1-7 ahead.

The second half was a delightful mix of exciting goodies. During the third quarter 'Town extended their lead, before a goal from a penalty by the slick-shooting Declan Roche reversed the roles.

That good fortune at one end was balanced by misfortune at the other, when a defensive error gifted the 'Town a soft goal. As supporters struggled to keep up with the exciting goings-on, 'Lockes hit back for a second penalty goal from Declan Roche after David Lynch was upended.

Not to be out-done in the fighting stakes, Thomastown rallied with gusto and points from Paul Treacy and Billy O'Keeffe helped them get 2-12 to 3-8 in front with four minutes remaining.

Knowing that the entire season hinged on those closing minutes, John Lockes blasted, and blasted and blasted away. It took a team of character and self-belief to fight out of the corner into which they had been boxed.

SELF-BELIEF

Paddy Comerford showed a lot of self-belief when he threw over the equalising point. The entire team was on a huge high: after that score when Phil Comerford shot the lead point. And with the title in the bag, that greatest of warriors, John Power had the final say when he rose the white flag in the 63rd minute.

It was a magnificent climax to a championship that sometimes ran hot and cold. When it came to the big day, neither John Lockes nor Thomastown was prepared to back off. Their exemplary approach to the game threw up a decider that will be remembered among the good ones for a long, long time.

John Lockes had every right to throw themselves into a wild bout of celebrations. They didn't get anything soft at any time during the season.

They got their just rewards for a lot of self-sacrifice, not only by the players, but by willing team officials: E. J. Ryan, Johnny Wall, Christy Vaughan and Barrie Henriques (trainer/coach).

Dedication was rewarded in the overall context, and in an individual sense too. The 'man of the match' award



John Lockes selectors celebrate. Left to right – Johnny Wall, E.J. Ryan, Christy Vaughan.

in the final was won by diminutive midfielder Kevin Coffey. Because of his size he shipped a lot of punishment during the season, but he never stood back from anyone or anything, and when given the opportunity to give free expression to his multiple talents, he did so in a stunning manner.

All along he played in the midfield shadow of All-Star John Power, but Coffey had his day, on the big day. Every day was a good one for Power, and his strong, unselfish hurling was usually on a par with the best from at least two members of the opposition. An exaggeration? No way! Ask the Callan people!

UNITY OF PURPOSE

This campaign was also a personal success for free-taker Declan Roche. In the semi-final and final, John Lockes scored a total of 3-20, and 2-10 came off Roche's stick. The former defender has really taken to playing at the other end of the field.

Adrian O'Sullivan, Jim Lynch, Sean Hogan, the pacey Stuart Donovan, Philip Comerford and Paddy Comerford are others who will forever hold golden memories from Championship '93. To single anyone out goes against the grain in a John Lockes team in which unity of purpose was what hurling was all about.

The Callan boys did not make it through to the League quarter-finals, and so they had to go through a full series of championship games. A first round win over Graignamanagh (1-13 to 2-4) was followed by a draw against the Rower-Inistigoe – 0-8 (J.L.) to 1-5. The

replay was won by 4-8 to 2-12.

If the final epitomised the champions do-or-die spirit, then a strong hint that it would take a lot to put them away was given in the semi-final against O'Loughlin Gaels. That day 'Lockes started the second half 0-1 to 0-7 down. They got no favours afterwards.

They didn't gain parity until John Power arrowed over a 60-yard effort on time. Seconds into injury time David Lynch let fly with a shot from 55 yards, and that rocket landed his team in the final (0-9 to 0-8). The rest is now history, as they say!

John Lockes team in final – James Quigley; Jack Lynch, Sean Hogan (capt.), John Bergin; Adrian O'Sullivan, Jim Lynch, Michael Lynch; John Power, Kevin Coffey; David Lynch, Philip Comerford, Donal Maher; Jim Power, Declan Roche, Stuart Donovan, Sub. – Paddy Comerford (used), Paul Morrissey, David Cahill, Nigel Donovan, Colum Nolan, Noel Dorgan, John Tobin, Gary Power, Denis O'Sullivan.

Thomastown – John Brennan; Michael O'Keeffe, Damien Walsh, Melvin Holden; John Lanigan, Michael Donnelly, Declan Lannon; John Galway, Billy O'Keeffe; John Donnelly, Paul Treacy, Tom O'Keeffe; Barry Doyle, Cathal Fitzgerald, Noel Holden. Subs. – Ger Walsh (used), Alan Hoyne, Willie Holden, Shem O'Hara, Noel Walsh, Richard Galway, Shane Lanigan, Kevin Treacy, Brendan Treacy, Dermot Woods, Paul Ryan, Mark Coone. Selectors: Noel Skehan, Ger Maher, Alan Hoyne.

Referee – P. Hayes (Graigue-Ballycallan).

Scoláireachtaí

Thomáis De Bhaldraithe

This year the County Board decided to perpetuate the memory of Iar-Oifigeach na Gaeilge an Chontae, Tomás de Bhaldraithe of Freshford, by offering 6 Scholarships, named after Tom to Sixth Class pupils in the county. These full scholarships were to the Summer Courses in Coláiste na Rinne in the Co. Waterford Gaeltacht where Mr. Waldron spent many terms teaching Irish.

Over 300 applications were received and this year's recipients were Séamus Ó Fionnaláin, Caitríona Ní Fhógartaigh, Caitríona Ní Néill, Aoife Ní Fhaoláin, Bernaidín Ní Fhógartaigh agus Oilibhéar Ó Fhaoláin.

At a pleasant gathering in the Springhill Hotel the Scholarships were presented by Brian De Bhaldraithe, representing the Waldron family and was attended by Liam Suipéal, Bainisteoir Coláiste na Rinne as well as Nioclás Ó Braonáin, Eamonn Ó Cearbhail, Seán MacCoisdealbha, Proinsias Ó Donnchadha agus Seosamh Ó Donnchadha.

The entire venture was a great success and reports from both the pupils and College authorities were very favourable. It is hoped that it will be possible to continue these scholarships next year. Bail Ó Dhia ar an obair.

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Presentation of De Bhaldraithe Scholarships. Included are the 6 children and the adults mentioned in the above article.

BALLYHALE SHAMROCKS

THE season 1992/93 was not a very successful one for the Club, since this year we failed to capture any county championship. However, participation and effort at all levels in the club was high and all teams gave of their very best.

The Seniors qualified for the quarter-final against Castlecomer but were defeated by two points following a controversial goal in the last quarter of the game. Our Under-21 team was defeated by Mooncoin in a replay after an exciting draw. The Juniors reached the special A Southern Final while the Under-16s reached the semi-final of the league and the semi-final of the "B" championship. The Senior footballers failed to qualify for the play-offs. Our Under-14s contested the Roinn B county final but they too were beaten, going down to Thomastown in a nail-biting finish by two points.

This year the club celebrates 21 years in existence. It has been a very successful two decades for the club. In that time we have been able to acclaim an Intermediate title in both hurling and football, a Junior hurling and two Junior football finals, winning nine of the fourteen Senior championship finals for which we qualified and three out of four All-Ireland club championships. We were also the first winners of the Credit Union League in Kilkenny.

Special mention must be given to Michael Fennelly who has the unique distinction of playing in all the above-mentioned finals. The Shamrocks also in that period won three Under-21 titles and a Minor "A" championship and again Michael was involved in all of these with the exception of the Minor title.

We congratulate our members who represented Kilkenny at inter-county level, namely Paul Phelan, on winning his second All-Ireland Senior hurling medal; John Shefflin and Padraig O'Farrell, both of whom were panelists on the Under-21



Liam goes back to school! . . . Liam Fennelly returns with the Cup to Ballyhale N.S.



Happiness is . . . Well, ask Paul Phelan, back in Ballyhale N.S.

team and Aidan Cummins and Henry Shefflin on making the Under-14 team.

At School level no finals were reached this year but the Under-13 team did very well. Beaten only once in the league, we finished as runners-up in our group to St. Patrick's. Unfortunately, in one dismal week form deserted us and we lost out, firstly to Dunnamaggin in the championship and then in the Country Cup to Gowran, both by the narrowest of margins.

Still, many of the team will be there next year and while star performers like Eamonn Frisby, John Paul Fitzpatrick, Seán O'Keefe and Joseph and Seamus Walsh will be missed, some seasoned campaigners like Patrick Reid, John Kennedy, Brendan Costelloe, Richard Fitzpatrick, Larry Aylward, William Coogan, Keith

Murphy, Robert Aylward and Anthony Walsh should keep the flag flying. A new piece of land to extend the school pitches has been acquired and already many new – if small – stars are appearing on the horizon.

In the Lisdowney Sevens – a wonderful competition – we set out to defend the title we won last year. However, we knew that while we were not lacking in skill, size was definitely against us and having been beaten by Portlaoise in the last minute in a great game, we eventually went out in the semi-final of the Shield to Clara.

On the social side we would like to extend our congratulations to both Tommy Phelan and Claire and Sean Fennelly and Bernadette who were married during the year. Congratulations also to Seán and Mary Reid and to Dermot and Mairéad Fennelly on their new arrivals – hopefully an aspiring hurler and camogie player respectively.

The club wishes to thank Paul Holden who was our main sponsor during the past year.

Finally, on a sad note, this year saw the untimely death of Jim Mason, a loyal and respected supporter of the club, whose sudden death at the age of 52 brought a great shock to the community. Jim was husband of Ann and father of Jerry, Seamus, Brendan and Niall. The club extends its deepest sympathy to his family. Ar dheis Dé go raibh sé.



What's it all about? . . . Kilkenny players Pat Dwyer, Paul Phelan, Liam Fennelly and Liam McCarthy meet young admirers, while in the background Richie Power and Shamrocks players Maurice Mason, Dermot Fennelly and Patrick Phelan look on.

BARROW RANGERS

The 1993 season ended on a high note for the club with the footballers winning the Intermediate Football Championship. With a display of courage, commitment and no little skill they overcame the challenge of neighbours Clara to bring back the Meally Cup to the parish.

The season started last April with a narrow but well deserved win over Tullogher. They were then swiftly brought back to earth when, fielding an understrength team, they were heavily defeated by Clara. This meant that they had to win their final game against Conahy to make the semi-final. This they duly did. The semi-final played in early July pitted Rangers against Kilmacow. Rangers played the most direct football and, despite squandering a lot of scoring chances they held out for a narrow victory.

Then came a four month wait to play the final – hardly the best way to promote football. In the final Clara started as if they would run Rangers into the ground but as they settled they slowly got on top and with some excellent performances from Syl Hennessy, a wonderful athlete and servant of the club, Ed and Pat Drea and Dermot Maher they held out for a famous victory.

Due to the Senior final ending in a draw the club was nominated to represent Kilkenny in the All-Ireland Club Championship. This was a great honour for the club to represent the parish at the highest level and while they were outclassed by Laois side The Heath they can still be proud of their achievements. A special word of thanks to trainer Kieran Fitzgerald for the quiet and efficient way he prepared the team.

On the hurling front the year could only be described as disastrous with very little effort or commitment shown by a lot of people. They got off to a great start with a well earned win over Mooncoin. Then followed defeats by John Lockes, Carrickshock and Bennettsbridge. In their final league game they had a good win over O'Loughlin's. This meant that they had to take part in the first round of the Championship where they accounted for a very disappointing Tullogher.

They had a quarter final meeting with Thomastown where they proceeded to give their poorest display for a long number of years and were easily beaten.

The under-age teams made little impression again this year. The club did hold a very successful street league with the Final producing fare of the highest order. Medals were presented to the winning team by county star D. J. Carey.

Once again the club had representation at Inter-County level. David Holmes was a member of the Junior panel beaten by Clare in the All-Ireland Final. Dermot Maher played with the U-21 team throughout the campaign culminating in defeat by Galway in a replay. Pat Drea continues to be a regular member of the Kilkenny Football squad.

A special word of thanks to sponsors Paddy's Country Pub who sponsored a meal for team and officials following the County Final. Also thanks to Tom Mullins who presented a set of jerseys to the juveniles.

At this point we would like to remember supporters and friends who died during the year and extend sympathy to their families.

Club Officers:

Chairman: S. Brennan; **Vice-Chairman:** J. Fenlon and J. McEvoy; **Secretary:** B. Shortall; **Asst. Secretary:** P. Maher; **Treasurer:** L. Doyle; **Asst. Treasurer:** D. Maher and T. Staunton; **P.R.O.:** M. Shortall; **Selectors:** (Adult): S. Brennan, J. Doyle, M. Medlar; (Juvenile): J. Staunton, P. Healy, F. Dormer.



Man-of-the-match Intermediate football final Dermot Maher received trophy from Kieran Meally, chairman Football Board.



Gerry Purcell, captain Barrow Rangers Intermediate football team received the Meally trophy from chairman Kieran Meally.



Back row (l. to r.) Manager: Frank Dormer, Tony Mullins, D. J. Carey, Johnny Greene, Pat Healy, Jimmy Staunton, David Staunton, James Gavin, Gary McEvoy, Peter Brophy, Gerry Walsh, Patrick Dormer, John Kelly, Dermot Walsh, David O'Neill. Front row: David Kelly, Jonathan Cooke, Paul Kelly, Darren O'Neill, Shane McEvoy, Andrew Healy, Patrick Walsh, Thomas Murphy, Vincent Roche, Denis Kealy, Richard Kelly.



BARROW RANGERS INTERMEDIATE FOOTBALL CHAMPIONS

Back row (l. to r.) O. O'Neill, M. Doyle, J. Hennessy, P. O'Neill, G. Lawlor, M. Whitely, J. Flavin, T. Staunton, P. Maher, Syl Hennessy, M. Whitely. Front: P. Drea, M. Barcoe, G. Purcell, L. Gittens, D. Maher, Ed. Drea, E. Gavin, C. Purcell.



Back row (l. to r.) Ciaran Cooke, Michael Lillis, John Dormer, Michael Hanlon, Tony Purcell, Brendan Kelly, Niall Healy, Michael Kelly. Front row (l. to r.) Eddie Tunstead, Derick McEvoy, Liam Walsh, Daniel Kearney, James Greene, Raymond O'Neill, Michael Walsh.

BENNETTSBRIDGE

Nineteen-ninety-three was a year in which a great effort was put in, but in the end a championship was not won. Our Intermediate hurlers began slowly and suffered defeats at the hands of John Lockes, O'Loughlins, and Mooncoin, in the League. This was followed by two very good wins against Paulstown and Carrickshock. Those two wins plus a number of impressive performances in challenge games against good opposition gave the players a much needed boost.

Training was stepped up and there was an air of confidence about our chances of success. We were drawn against Conahy Shamrocks in the first round of the championship. After a bad start in that game we clawed our way back to force a draw. In the replay, another bad start left us eight points down at half-time. In the second half our players responded magnificently and gradually got on top, in the process playing excellent hurling. We eventually won that game by four points. A great victory but we paid the price. Jimmy Lennon, our captain and play-maker, suffered a serious leg injury and could take no further part in the championship.

Despite this, confidence was high for our quarter-final game against O'Loughlins. This turned out to be an excellent game with Bennettsbridge playing their best hurling for a long time. Having dominated the game for 50 minutes, we were five points up. A lack of concentration at vital stages in the remaining ten minutes cost us dearly and we ended up losing by three points. A disappointing end to a campaign that promised so much. Nevertheless, it showed that we have the talent and with a little luck our day will come soon.

Our U-21 hurlers put up a good performance before submitting to a very strong St. Martin's team. Although well beaten in the end, a feature of the game was the return of some of our players who had dropped out of the game after juvenile level.

At under-age level our teams put in some excellent



Liam Simpson moves in on Brendan Keogh (Galway) as he shoots for goal in the All-Ireland final.

Photo: Tom Brett

performances. We are lucky in Bennettsbridge that we have a hard-working Bord na nÓg. The commitment and dedication of the Officers and Mentors is first class, and through their efforts some very good players are coming on stream.

Our U-16 hurlers provided the main highlights of the year. In the championship they played tremendous hurling in reaching the County Final. In the final they came up against a very strong Mullinavat team. This was another good game of hurling with the stronger Mullinavat team coming out on top in the end. Although hugely disappointed at the result, this team will go on to win a championship success in the near future.

Our U-14 and Minors were beaten in the Northern Championships after some good displays.

On the Inter-County scene, Liam Simpson had a great

year, culminating in winning his second All-Ireland medal. He gave a great display in the final and more honours are destined to come his way.

John Drea represented Kilkenny in juvenile hurling and acquitted himself well. Liam Cassin is currently on the Kilkenny football team.

At the start of the year we embarked on a fund-raising drive. We are currently halfway through our 300 Club promotion. This has proved a great success and is providing much needed revenue to fund our activities. A special 'thank you' to all our promoters and subscribers who have made this venture a success.

Overall the year has provided us with some great memories and no doubt with a renewed effort next year that much needed Championship will come our way.



BENNETTSBRIDGE U-16 ROINN C CHAMPIONSHIP RUNNERS-UP

Front Row: Jim Treacy (Trainer), Brendan Cleere, Nial Cody, Noel Sugrue, Owne Hanrahan, Donal Cahalane, Wayne Dowling, Bobby Griffiths, Vincent Croke, Martin Grace, Vincent Frayne, Eamon Hanrahan (Selector). Back Row: James Conway, Paul Cullen, Martin Hanrahan, Michel Denieffe, Paul Ryan, Liam McEvoy, John Drea, Liam Mulhall (Selector), Ciaran Mulhall, Dean Denieffe, James Treacy, Tim Dooley, Adrian Walpole.

BLACK & WHITES

Nineteen-ninety-three has proved another progressive and successful year for the Black & Whites Club. The taking of the Norther Junior football title, representation on the All-Ireland Minor hurling team by Sean Kealy, and the reaching of the Norther Junior hurling final were the highlights.

After defeat in the County Championship final last year, hopes and expectations were high for 1993. The Open Draw competition was the initial challenge for the Junior hurling team in which they had a very good run, being defeated in the semi-final by Dunnamaggin. Five successive victories in the County League brought the team to the semi-final stage where they met James Stephens. Under very poor weather conditions, James Stephens were victorious.

Our championship campaign was then begun in a very confident manner, and comprehensive victories were achieved over Clara and Lisdowney on the way to the Northern semi-final. A late Michael Ryan point earned a draw against Emeralds and after a see-saw contest in the replay, Black & Whites eventually secured a final place by two points. After a disastrous opening fifteen minutes in the final against St. Lachtain's, the scoreline read 2-6 to 0-1 in Freshford's favour. The Skeough men then rallied their forces and narrowed the margin to five points with ten minutes to go. A couple of late Freshford goals, however, saw them through on a full-time scoreline of 5-10 to 1-12.

Our Special Junior team also experienced a good league run, reaching the semi-final stage before losing out to a very strong Danesfort team. Their championship run, however, came to an abrupt end in the first round, when they were defeated by a late goal from the James Stephens' team who were to eventually win out this competition. Our Under-21 team had a good win over Danesfort in the opening round, but went down to a superior St. Martin's team in the Northern semi-final.

Black & Whites minor and under-16 teams gave good performances during the year, without achieving any successes. The National School hurling team, trained by Headmaster Tony Dalton, deserves a special mention for reaching the semi-final stage of the schools' competition. The juvenile footballers also had a number of



BLACK & WHITE - JUNIOR FOOTBALL COUNTY FINALISTS 1993

Back Row (l-r): Andy Barcoe, John McDonnell, Stephen Barcoe, David O'Neill, J.J. Barcoe, Jamie Carroll, Michael O'Dowd.

Front Row (l-r): P.J. Murphy, Jim Barcoe, John Byrne, Richard Dowling, Ned Kelly, Pat O'Grady, Michael Doyle, Martin Farrell.

challenge outings, all of these being organised by Ned Moran. The club sees great hope for the future in these juvenile teams.

After a number of lean years on the football scene, our Junior team provided some compensation for the Hurling defeat by having a very inspiring run in the championship. They reached the County Final by defeating Ballyragget, Castlecomer and O'Loughlins, beating Gowran in the Northern final. Again, victory was denied the Black & Whites when they were defeated by Piltown in the final.

It was a very proud moment for the Black & Whites supporters when the Kilkenny number nine jersey was worn by Sean Kealy in the All-Ireland minor hurling final. This talented young hurler had deservedly gained his place through his strong and skilful hurling, and has shown himself to be a bright prospect for the future. John Byrne captained the North Junior team in its victory over the South, while other players on that panel were M.J. Doherty, Ned Kelly, Michael Doyle and Tommy Farrell.

The club looks to 1994 with much hope.



BLACK & WHITES - NORTHERN JUNIOR HURLING FINALISTS 1993

Back Row: Martin Farrell, Denis Carroll, Tommy Farrell, Sean Kealy, John Byrne, Michael O'Dowd, John Aylward, Jack Barcoe.

Front Row: Michael Ryan, P.J. Murphy, Pat O'Grady, M.J. Doherty, Ned Kelly, Alan Byrne, Michael Doyle.

CARRICKSHOCK

While no major title came to the club in 1993, it was nevertheless quite a successful year. Teams representing the club gave some excellent performances reaching County Finals.

Stoneyford fought their way to the final of the 11-a-side championship, only to be beaten in the final. The Carrickshock Under-13 team then got to the Roinn D final to be beaten in an exciting game by Slieverue. Hopes were high that our Minor lads would win something, training under Paddy Rohan and Sean Raggett. They won all their matches to win the Southern Final. In the county final they came up against a very strong, skilful Emerald outfit who deservedly won the day in an exciting game.

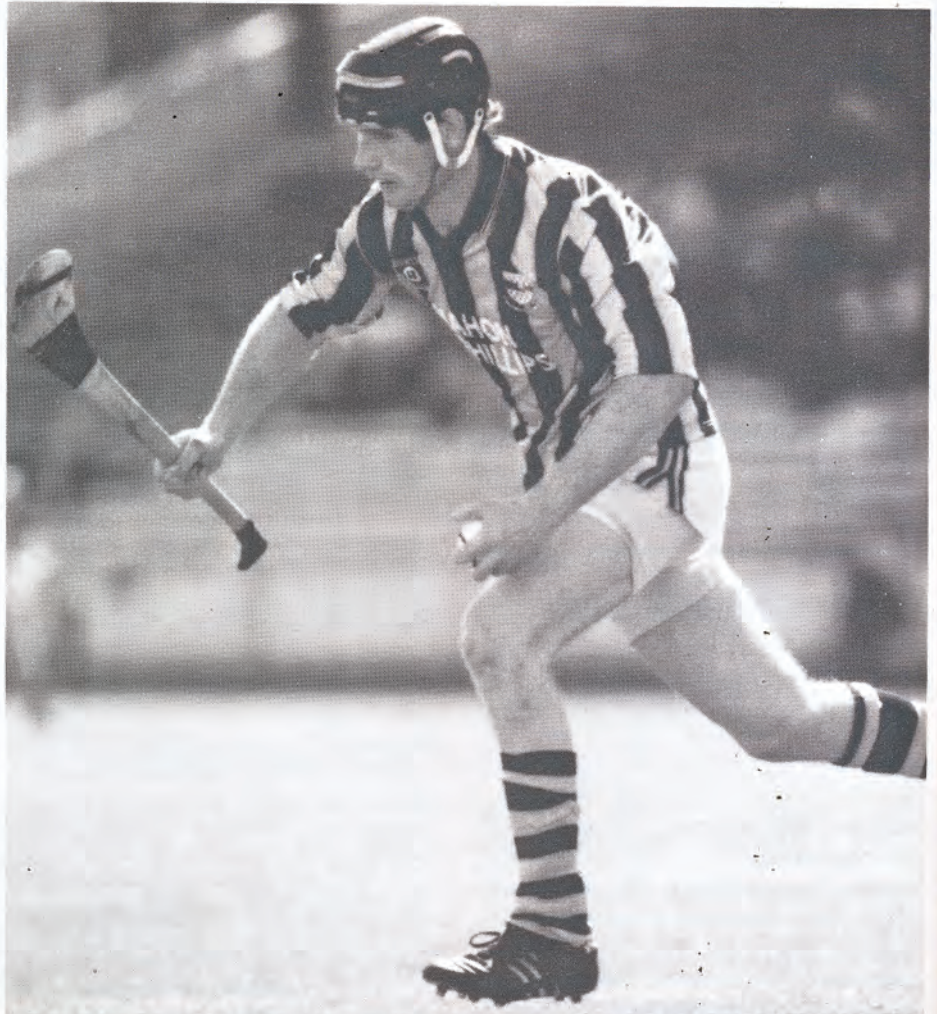
The Under-14 team provided us with exciting matches, most notably the series of replays with Ballyragget, only to be narrowly defeated.

At Intermediate grade the club performed well, reaching the quarter-finals of the championship. The league campaign didn't go so well with the team, only managing to collect 2 points. In the first round of the championship against Glenmore, Carrickshock were lucky to hold on to draw, but they made no mistake second time round, winning convincingly. In the quarter-final against Mooncoin, in Piltown, the lads gave it their all, and were as good as Mooncoin, but the latter managed to get vital scores when needed. All involved with the team deserve thanks for their efforts during the year, especially team coach, Georgie Leahy.

It was great to see Pat Dwyer turn in a great performance in the All-Ireland and win his second All-Ireland medal. As the season is nearing the end, our Under-21 team is still involved in the championship.

During the year a number of players represented the club at Inter-County level. The club wishes to thank them. At Junior and Under-21 it was Patrick Farrell, and Pat Dwyer at senior level.

At present the club is jointly running a parish lotto



Despite a painful groin injury, Carrickshock's Pat Dwyer returned in style to play a vital role in Kilkenny's All-Ireland triumph over Galway.

Photo: Sportsfile

draw, which is providing funds to help finance the club.

During the past year a number of Carrickshock hurlers passed away to their eternal rest. The club extends sincere sympathy to the families of the following: Paddy Hearne and John Walsh.

PATRICK HEARNE

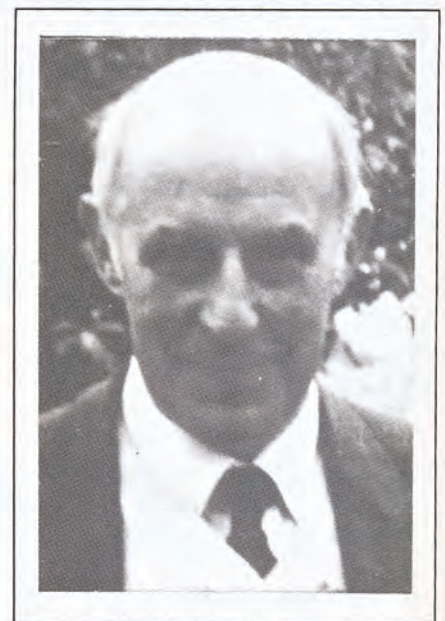
The death took place of Patrick (Paddy) Hearne, Catstown, Hugginstown, on the 6th October, after a short illness of three months. The 84-year-old was very well-known in the south of the county. A noted hurler in his youth, he won two senior championships with Carrickshock during 1938-1940 and won a Junior championship with Hugginstown in 1941. Also former chairman of the club. He is survived by his brothers, Jimmy and Danny; sister Mrs. Nelly Kelly, as well as nieces, nephews and friends.

JOHN WALSH

The death took place recently of John Walsh, former secretary of the club from 1968-1975. He is survived by his wife, family and friends. May he rest in peace.



PADDY HEARNE



JOHN WALSH

CLARA

AT adult hurling level 1993 will be a year Clara hurling fans will want to forget as soon as possible. After reaching the Senior semi-final in 1992, hopes were high that the team would go one better in 1993, but the thin line which now exists between winning a championship and being relegated means that Clara return to Intermediate hurling after ten interrupted years in Senior grade.

The year started well with a win over Graigue-Ballycallan. Defeats followed against St. Martin's, Shamrocks and Glenmore before the club stopped the rot with a win over James Stephens in the club's final league match. In the first round of the championship proper, the team came up against Mullinavat, and after a hard-fought game went down by five points. The semi-final of the relegation play-off against Tullaroan proved to be a non-event as far as Clara were concerned as the team never got going and Tullaroan were easy-winners.

Despite this defeat, hopes were high going into the final game against Graigue-Ballycallan and things were looking good with twenty minutes to go when Clara led by seven points, but then the bottom fell out of Clara's world and Graigue-Ballycallan ran out winners by a margin of five points.

The Junior team found the going very tough in the League. Looking on the positive side, a lot of young players were blooded and performed very well. In the championship we lost out to Skeough in a very entertaining, exciting and sporting first round clash.

UNDER-AGE: U-10 - 17

In the U-14 eleven-a-side league Clara defeated Danesfort, Cloneen and Lisdowney and were very lucky not to beat James Stephens II. However, in the final round of the league we were well beaten by a physically stronger Conahy Shamrocks



CLARA - LISDOWNEY SHIELD RUNNERS-UP 1993

Back row (left to right) - T. J. Fitzgerald, Adrian Fitzpatrick, Brian Phelan, Patrick Langton (capt.), David Mulrooney. **Front row** (left to right) - John Bambrick, Noel Hoyne, Mark Shortall, Tommy Dowling, Martin Kealy.

team and missed out on qualifying for the league semi-final.

When the championship came round Clara were eager to do well as they had won the Roinn "D" U-13 final in 1992. Clara had a good start to the championship, defeating Dicksboro 11 in the first round and then had a comprehensive victory over Barrow Rangers.

We then met St. Patrick's (Ballyragget) in the county quarter-final in St. James's Park and having been led by 0-5 to 0-2 at half-time, fought valiantly in the second half and peppered the St. Patrick's goal only to be denied three certain goals by a very much in-form St. Patrick's goalkeeper, eventually losing by 3-5 to 0-6. St. Patrick's went on to win the county final.

Clara U-14 team also qualified for the Community Games final by defeating Tullogher/Rosbercon and then Emeralds after a replay. We then met James Stephens in the final and were beaten by a physically stronger team who played six of their 'A' team which won this year U-14 Féile final.

Clara U-13 qualified for the Roinn C final against Tullaroan and, having missed a lot of scoring chances early on, never really got into the game and were well beaten by Tullaroan in the end, a team that they had already drawn with in the league.

To finish the season Clara U-13 contested the Lisdowney seven-a-side and, having defeated Castlecomer, Thomastown and Ballyhale, qualified to meet Tullaroan in the Shield final. At half-time the scores were level at Clara 2-1 to Tullaroan's 1-4. But on the resumption Tullaroan got a quick goal and after a great second half Tullaroan won by four points. Clara had some compensation when they were presented with their runners-up trophies by P.J. Delaney, the inter-county star.

Great credit is due to this panel of players from 10 - 14 years, who trained hard all year, qualified for their finals and with a bit of luck should have won at least one.

A very young Clara U-10 hurling team was defeated by St. Martin's in the semi-final of the Judge James Comerford Memorial Tournament and hopefully this team will regain this title last won by Clara in 1991.

A dedicated group of boys and girls under 9 years of age attended coaching sessions in Clara hurling field every Saturday morning from March to September.

Emphasis was on participation, enjoyment and the learning of basic skills. These young players have shown great improvement throughout the year and the hurling club looks forward to the day when we see these players exhibit their skills while wearing the maroon jersey.



CLARA - 1993 INTERMEDIATE FOOTBALL FINALISTS

Front row (l. to r.) - Lester Ryan, Victor Dowling, Sean Creane, Robert Shortall, Joe Casey, Paschal Connolly, Eamon Whearty, Johnny Shortall, Kevin Ryan, David Shortall, Johnny Ryan. **Back row** (l. to r.) - Philip Murphy, John Nolan, Michael Langton, Colman Ryan, Eugene Byrne, Pat Barcoe, James Langton, J.J. Ward, Brendan Barcoe, Edward Mulrooney, Anthony Prendergast, Pat Mulrooney.

CLUBS R O U N D - U P

The hurling club would like to thank John Bolger, National Teacher, Clara School, for his excellent work and his unselfishness in the time and energy he gives towards promoting Clara hurling, camogie and handball. He has been responsible for many performances by school teams over the past number of years, and his efforts are greatly appreciated.

This year the school's U-13 hurling team had an unbeaten run in the league. They won both their play-offs but had to settle for runners-up spot in the final.

The football team gained valuable experience from their first year in Roinn A competition.

On the camogie front the girls reached the Roinn B final where they went down by a single point.

Playing competitive handball for the first time turned out to be a very enjoyable experience for the boys and girls who participated.

ALL-IRELAND SENIOR PANELIST

Congratulations to Anthony Prendergast, who was a panelist on this year's Kilkenny senior hurling team who successfully defended their title as champions.

Thanks to all our team managers, selectors and coaches. Also a special thanks to our supporters and sponsors.

Our Minor hurlers competed in Roinn "C" hurling in 1993. The league campaign opened with a lacklustre defeat by Bennettsbridge. However, in the second round against James Stephens our lads turned a six points' deficit into a 4-10 to 2-11 victory. Some great hurling was done by Dennis Brennan – who scored three second-half goals, Joe Treacy, Pdraig Brennan, Conor Shortall and Martin Dowling.

In round three we took care of a depleted Danesfort team. Rory Moore, Eamon Phelan, Michael Brennan and fit-again Mark Campion were the players who stood out here.

Having qualified for the league "semi", we faced Tullaroan. In a fiercely contested match the result was in limbo right up to the final whistle. We were eventually beaten by a solitary goal. Overall, our performance was somewhat disappointing, but we had some excellent individual performers. Again Pdraig Brennan was quite outstanding at centre-back. Joe Treacy, Michael Brennan, Sean Barcoe, Martin Dowling, Eamon Phelan, Rory Moore, Ollie Nolan and Dan McDonald played very well.

In the championship proper, we were "pulled" against Blacks and Whites in the first round. This was a game that we won quite easily, with good displays from the Brennans, Conor Shortall, M. Dowling, Eamon Phelan, Rory Moore, D. Brennan



CLARA U-10s COACHING

Back row (left to right) – Tomás Brennan, John Nolan, John Phelan, John Murphy, Conor Phelan, Michael Barcoe, Austin Murphy, Kevin Knox, Jack O'Keeffe, Derek Knox and Liam Ryan. **Front row** (left to right) – Francis Knox, John Brennan, Thomas Coogan, Patrick Foley, Mark Drennan, Seán Prendergast, John Lennon, Adrian Meany and Gerard Prendergast.



Back row (left to right) – Angela Cody, Tadhg Corley, Mark Tracey, Kieran Tobin, David Prendergast, Dermot Nolan, Michael Bergin, Mairéad Brennan, Fintan Brennan, Neil Prendergast, Rory Moore, Kieran Kirwan and Michael McDonald. **Front row** (left to right) – Gemma Dowling, Clare McDonald, Roseanna Murphy, Deirdre Shortall, Ashling McDonald, Lisa Collins, Denis Tobin, Brian Nolan and Peter O'Dwyer.

and Ollie Nolan.

Galmoy proved too strong for our boys in the norther semi-final. We had difficulty in breaking down the Lonergan brothers, and so we were out of the championship race. Overall, we had a very good year at Minor level with plenty of matches and plenty of players obviously enjoying, and improving their standards.

Our Under-16 campaign was somewhat disappointing, with just one victory in the league and a first-round knock-out in the championship. The solitary league win was against Paulstown, while Ballyragget put paid to our championship aspirations. However, players like Seán Barcoe, Dan McDonald, Joe Treacy, Bill O'Keeffe, Conor Shortall and Joe Langton obviously have bright futures in front of them in hurling.

On the football stage, we set off to try and augment the Junior title won last year, by winning the Intermediate title this year. Our opening match was against Conahy Shamrocks. We had a hard-earned 1-5 to 0-6 win. Good performances were turned in that day by Johnny Ryan, Philip Murphy, S. Crean, D. and John Shortall.

In our second outing against neighbours, Paulstown, we played brilliantly to win by 2-10 to 0-5. However, we were to meet the Barrow Rangers later in the campaign. We had good performers that day in Eddie Mulrooney, Eamon Whearty, Johnny Ryan, Anthony Prendergast, Lester Ryan and Joe Casey.

We beat Tullogher in the final league game by 2-5 to 2-2. This was a difficult match for Clara, in wet conditions which

did not suit the Clara short-passing game. However, the way was clear for us to contest the county semi-final against Thomastown.

This was probably the best game of football Clara played all year. In a most sporting game the lads battled for every ball with gay abandon. Our defence, brilliantly marshalled by Johnny Ryan, gave little away. He got great support from Eamonn Whearty, Kevin Ryan, Lester Ryan, Seamus Crean, and forwards like David and Robert Shortall, Paschal Connolly and J. J. Ward. We won by 1-13 to 2-5.

We faced Barrow Rangers in the county final in Nowlan Park. Although playing well in the first half, we were still trailing by a few points at the break. Our undoing was probably our inability to avail of some easy chances that came our way, although one would have to admit that the Paulstown defence was exceptionally tight all the way through.

A brilliant goal by Robert Shortall ten minutes from full time levelled the match for us, but the Paulstown men tacked on a few points to take the honours.

Our panel of players was: E. Mulrooney, E. Whearty, J. Ryan, J. Shortall, K. Ryan, A. Prendergast, P. Murphy, S. Crean, L. Ryan, J. Casey, J. J. Ward, P. Connolly, D. Shortall, C. Ryan, R. Shortall, J. Nolan, E. Byrne, P. Barcoe, B. Barcoe, V. Dowling, L. Byrne, J. Langton, M. Langton.

Sincerest thanks to our sponsors, Hennessy Sports, P. Connolly Car Repairs, Loughboy, Jim Connolly, Dunbell and Steel Roofing Systems.

CLONEEN

It was not a great year from the most northerly club in the county. Only two points were collected in the Northern League and there was no joy in the championship, the team going down to ultimate county champions, Freshford, in a hard fought tie in Ballyragget.

At under-age level, the club continues to make slow but steady progress. This year saw the introduction of a minor team for the first time. Lack of numbers makes it difficult to field a strong team, with the result that some players being used are too young for the competition.

The minors had a reasonable run in the league and went out narrowly to Galmoy

in the championship.

Under-16 was probably the most successful group, winning all their games in the league section.

The introduction of Erin's Own senior hurler John Kelly to the teaching staff at Moneenroe school holds out promise of a major increase in hurling in that side of the parish. Michael Massey has joined Jim Walsh in Clogh school and is acting as local delegate to the Schools' Board. Hopes are that, come the Spring, there will be plenty of activity in both sides of the parish.

Cloneen hurling club will celebrate its

10th anniversary at the end of this season. Still very much the babes of Kilkenny clubs, only one officer remains in his founding role, Secretary Charlie McCarthy.

Donal Brennan, in his first full year as Chairman, is a tremendous worker and is particularly popular with the under-age members. While they will report some successful and happy times during their first decade, the realisation will be there that the club, like many others, has been badly hit by emigration and defections.

The ambitions of the club officers is to own their own hurling pitch, and a concerted effort is expected to achieve this during the coming year.

RAILYARD

Railyard began 1993 as Senior County Football Champions and were drawn against last year's final opponents in the opening round. Once again there was nothing between the sides and they finished level 1-7 each. Both clubs came through the league section unbeaten and Railyard had to battle to the final whistle to overcome Dicksboro in the semi-final at Jenkinstown, by a solitary point.

So it was Railyard v James Stephens in the County Final for the third year in succession. Once again it was a close-fought affair, ending on an almost identical scoreline to their earlier meeting: 1-7 to 0-10. Six days later they togged out again for the replay at Nowlan Park, and it would be difficult for anyone to explain the contrast in form. Three goals from the Village corner forward Brian Leahy paved the way for a total demolition of a lacklustre Railyard team.

Some consolation, however, was forthcoming when the second team went one better than last year, winning the Special Final with a comfortable win over Mooncoin, in Bennettsbridge.

The team was: Kieran Kerwick, Noel Kerr, Noel Geoghegan (capt.), John Buggy, Adrian Brennan, Liam Mooney, Ted Cahill, Michael Feehan, Michael Brennan, Sean O'Connor, John Dowd, Shane Coogan, John Smyth, Thomas Brennan, Sheamus Coogan and John Bolger.

Joining the juniors as County Champions in late November were the under-16 squad who travelled to cold Danesfort and had to overcome a great fightback by Kilmoganny before winning by a single point, 0-11 to 1-7, the winning point coming from diminutive Seanie Brennan in the dying seconds.

Team: Owen Boran, Paul Maguire, Ian O'Keeffe, Michael Kealy, Tommy Treacy, Daniel Lawler, Michael O'Shea, David Clancy, Shane Coogan, Seanie Brennan, Michael Maguire, Cyril Steadmond, Jimmy Kealy, Sheamus Hennessy, Thomas Coogan. Subs: John Paul Brennan, Oliver Meally, Liam Hennessy, Brian Coogan, Paucic Dowd, Colm Coogan.

Team manager: Patrick Dowd.

In charge at Railyard G.F.C. for 1993 are: Joint Presidents, Fr. Jerry Joyce P.P., Fr. Willie Purcell C.C.; chairman Kieran Meally; vice-chairman Tommy Brennan; secretary Charlie McCarthy; assistant secretary Jim Purcell; treasurer Liam Mooney; Development Committee: Sean Mansfield, Joe Coogan and Seamus O'Connor. Committee: Noel Geoghegan, Eddie Mahon, Patrick Dowd, Michael Dowd (New Road), Michael Dowd (Sidegate), Tommy Reilly.



RAILYARD - 1993 KILKENNY SENIOR FOOTBALL FINALISTS

Back: Thomas Brennan, Martin Dowd, Eddie Roche, Noel Geoghegan, Michael Walsh, Brendan Smith, Michael Delaney, Sean Meally. Front: Michael Dowd, Bernard Maguire, Damien Walsh, Florence Brennan, Larry Buggy, Michael Buggy, Martin Buggy.

Photo: Tommy O'Neill



RAILYARD - WINNERS OF 1993 SPECIAL JUNIOR COUNTY FOOTBALL FINAL

Back Row: Ml. Feehan, Ted Cahill, Adrian Brennan, John Dowd, Noel Geoghegan (Capt.), John Buggy, Liam Mooney, Noel Kerr.

Front: John Smyth, Seán O'Connor, Kieran Kerwick, Michael Brennan, Thomas Brennan, Shane Coogan and Sheamus Coogan.

CONAHY SHAMROCKS

What a difference a year makes! Last year saw Conahy Shamrocks contest a number of County Finals and while success eluded the various teams the achievements were considerable. Following last year's good run hopes were high for 1993 but it was a case of disappointment all the way as Conahy struggled in most grades.

The only bright note was the winning of the Under-14 11-a-Side League when Conahy defeated Tullogher-Rosbercon. Indeed it was these same players who brought most excitement to the club and parish with stirring displays throughout the Summer.

The Intermediate hurlers could hardly have hoped for a better start when they scored an impressive win over Thomastown in the first, round game of the Vale Oil League. The promising form displayed in this game was not carried forward thereafter. The side were far too complacent in the next round against Craignamagh and threw away the game by a single point. The Rower-Inistioge provided stern opposition in the third round and while Conahy gave an improved display, the Southerners had a six point margin to spare at the end.

Round 4 saw Conahy back on the winning rail with a good win over Glenmore. The final round left Conahy with only a minimal chance of reaching the concluding stages of the league. The display against Tullogher-Rosbercon was perhaps the worst of the year with all areas of the team totally at loggerheads with their game.

With the league prospects now over for another year it was on to the championship. Conahy were paired with Bennettsbridge, the first time for the sides to meet in a number of years. In a well contested game the sides finished level. Conahy were both lucky and unlucky. Having snatched a late lead they were eventually hauled back to parity by a last minute pointed free for the 'Bridge.

The replay was truly a game of two halves. Conahy was dominant in the opening half and bagged a couple of goals early on. However, despite a good interval lead, an inability to notch points was to prove the team's undoing in the end. The 'Bridge were certainly good listeners at their half time talk as they totally dominated the second period. Conahy had their fair share of chances but were simply inept close to goal. Thus ended Conahy's championship prospects for another year and a worrying relegation battle. However, Conahy made no mistake when they played Glenmore in October.

Conahy's displays during the year mixed the good with the very bad. It was hard to imagine that the same Conahy team which performed so well against strong opposition in challenge games could fail so abysmally when it all mattered. We live in hope for 1994.

The Special Junior team entered the year with modest hopes. Wins over St. Lachtain's, Young Ireland's and O'Loughlin/Gaels saw Conahy qualify for the Division III League semi-final but Tullaroan were to prove far too strong. The same opposition ended Conahy prospects in the

championship after the team had successfully negotiated the first round against Young Irelands.

Perhaps the biggest disappointment of the year was the defeat of the Under-21 hurlers at the hands of Galmoy in the Northern Semi-Final. The loss of a couple of key players through injury and illness did not help Conahy's cause. The game itself will also be remembered for many unsavoury incidents which the referee surprisingly choose to ignore.

The Conahy Intermediate footballers had their poorest year for some time losing all three games. Only the automatic relegation of another team for not playing a game saved Conahy from a relegation play-off themselves.

The most encouraging aspect of the past year was the renewed effort by the hard working Juvenile Committee to improve the performances of the club's underage teams. The long hours spent in the Polo Grounds saw some fine displays from Conahy at both Under-16 and Minor level in both hurling and football. A continuation of this good work in the coming year will surely see Conahy back on the winner's rostrum in the not too distant future.

Pride of place must surely go to the Under-14 hurling team which thrilled the parish with some whole hearted displays during the year. A great campaign in the 11-a-side league saw the team score a comprehensive win over Tullogher-Rosbercon in the final. Earlier the team had to overcome the stiff challenge of Carrickshock in a replayed semi-final.



CONAHY SHAMROCKS — 1993 UNDER-14 11-A-SIDE LEAGUE CHAMPIONS

Back row: Seamus Brennan, Paul Buggy, Conor Brennan, Mark Mooney, John Darcy, John Brennan, Colm Healy, Brian Heverin, Niall Burke. Front row: Eoin Byrne, Pat Kenny, Raymond Purcell, Pauric Nolan, Brendan Griffith, Darragh Connery, Eoin Flynn, David Bergin. (Absent from photo: Liam Byrne).

CLUBS ROUND-UP

The team entered the championship with high hopes and again scored a good win over Tullogher-Rosbercon in the semi-final. Near neighbours St. Patricks (Ballyragget) provided the opposition in the final but Conahy never rose to the occasion. The Ballyragget boys eventually ran out winners by four points. A couple of weeks later Conahy gained some revenge on their neighbours when they scored a good win in a tournament promoted by Ballyragget.

In November the same Under-14 team won the Tara Ryan Hurling Tournament which is played annually in Castlecomer. Played on a bitterly cold morning, both teams deserve credit for a committed and wholehearted display. Conahy made the best possible start when Liam Byrne scored a good goal after two minutes and they kept their opponents scoreless until the twenty-fifth minute when St. Martin's themselves goaled. The winners led at the interval by 1-3 to 1-0.

Time and again the efforts of the Conahy attack were thwarted in the new half by the heroics of the St. Martin's goalie. However, he could not prevent a good effort from Mark Mooney in the tenth minute. St. Martin's themselves came back strongly late in the game to snatch a second goal but Conahy's earlier effort were enough to see the team through for a deserving victory.

This was another splendid team display from the Conahy boys. John Brennan missed the game due to illness but he played an important role in getting the team to the final. After the game Conahy captain Colm Healy received the beautiful Cup from a daughter of John "Tara" Ryan.

Conahy: Conor Brennan, David Bergin, Brian Heverin, Brendan Griffith, Darragh Connery, Colm Healy, Eoin Byrne, Niall Burke (0-3), Paul Buggy, John Darcy (0-1), Liam Byrne (1-2), Seamus Brennan, Pauric



If it wasn't the drink what caused Ted Carroll and Nickey Brennan to go "bye-byes" returning on the train from the All-Ireland Final.



Action from Roinn 'C' County Final - St. Patrick's (Ballyragget) v Conahy Shamrocks.

Nolan, Mark Mooney (1-0), Pat Kenny.
Subs: John Bergin, Denis Kelly.

The Conahy Under-13 team had an indifferent year. Despite many good displays the team met with few successes. However the interest never waned and another big effort can be expected next year.

While Kilkenny folk will look back on 1993 with tremendous satisfaction don't expect Conahy's Canice Brennan to stand up and agree. He was one of a select group of players who finished on the losing side in two All-Ireland Finals in the past

year when the Kilkenny Juniors lost to Clare and the Under-21 team lost to Galway after a replay. It was some consolation though when he won the award for 'Man of the Match' in the first game against Galway. Conahy Club Secretary Toddy Lacey was a selector on the Kilkenny Junior team this year.

A piece of history was created in the Polo Grounds in Jenkinstown in October when the first game in the new Church & General Leagues took place between Kilkenny and Westmeath in Football. A question perhaps for the quiz masters in the future.



A line action study of Conahy's Niall Burke in action against Cloneen.



Conahy Under-14 team captain Colm Healy receives the Tara Ryan Cup from Betty and Bernadette Ryan, daughters of the late John "Tara" Ryan.

DANESFORT

Danesfort G.A.A Club made good progress on and off the field in 1993, even though our efforts did not bring any championship success. The Junior team had a lacklustre league campaign but prepared well for the Championship, and were rather unlucky to lose out to a good Emeralds team by one point in a replay of the first round of the Northern Junior Championship.

The Special Junior team, however, brought great excitement to the Club with their seven match unbeaten run before going on to beat Tullaroan in the Northern Final at Palmerstown. The full Special Junior panel was:

John Davis (capt.), Brendan Donohue, Richie Maher, Tom O'Neill, Gerry Doyle, Vinny Walsh, Ted Walsh, Joseph O'Neill, Peter Davis, Damien Donohoe, Declan Keogh, Ger Power, Eamon Bardon, Brian Hurley, Pat Kiely, Brian Nugent, Shane Sinnott, Paul Whelan, Pat Kenny, Jim Nugent, Tony Tierney, Ray Walsh, Pat O'Neill, Richie Walsh, Henry Giles.

Danesfort re-entered the Junior Football Championship after a lapse of a few years, and although well beaten in the first round by Young Irelands, played very well thereafter, and were eventually put out of the competition in a replay with O'Loughlin Gaels. Danesfort certainly have the potential to do well and, with a little more pre-season preparation, are well capable of winning the Junior football championship.

There were two other noteworthy events in 1993. The first was the opening of the new dressing-rooms, of which everybody was very proud. The club would like to thank all those whose assistance, financial or otherwise, brought this project to a successful conclusion. Some work remains to be done with the entrance, railings etc., and we hope this will be completed in 1994. The other event referred to is the fact that for the first time the club received sponsorship. This was generously provided by Paddy Sinnott Kitchens.

The Juvenile section in Danesfort club has grown from strength to strength, in both hurling and Camogie in '93. We had an exciting year both on and off the playing field, achieving maximum participation and enjoyment at all under-age grades.

Members: This year our membership has increased to nearly 100 Juvenile players, who train all year round on Sunday mornings and on Wednesday evenings during Spring and Summer. Training and backroom work was done by the following: Martin Carey, Joe Cody, Ray Cody, Paddy Forristal (PRO), Kevin Gaffney, John Kelly, Peter Marnell, Sheila Marnell, Anthony Martin, Joan Murphy, Peggy Muldowney, John O'Hara, Tom O'Neill, Jimmy O'Neill, Margaret Treacy, Pat Treacy and Ger Woodcock. The members greatly appreciate the tremendous work carried out by Jimmy Cahill on the playing pitches and would like to thank him for his efforts. We also thank all the ladies who supplied and served refreshments on our coaching sessions.

Coaching: The Juvenile players have benefited greatly from the help of qualified coaches. In June we were given an evening's coaching in both hurling and football by Lester Ryan, Brendan O'Sullivan, Denis Philpott, Ann Downey and Noelle O'Driscoll. Bobby Jackman called on all the National Schools of the Parish in October and he has promised to give further coaching sessions in the new year. The hurling/camogie skills and talents of our young players are being brought to the fore by these coaches and long may they continue to help juvenile players.

McCarthy Cup: In May our young players travelled to Croke



DANESFORT SPECIAL JUNIOR HURLING TEAM

Back Row (l-r): T. Murphy (Selector), B. Hurley, P. Davis, D. Donoghue, B. Nugent, E. Bardon, P. Kiely, R. Walsh, H. Giles, T. O'Neill, G. Doyle, J. Nugent, V. Walsh, M. Hanrahan (Selector).
Seated (l-r): J. O'Neill, P. Kenny, T. Tierney, B. Donohoe, J. Davis (Capt.), R. Walsh, R. Maher, T. Walsh, S. Sinnott, P. O'Neill.

Park to cheer on their heroes Kilkenny in the Leinster Senior Hurling clash with Offaly. They were rewarded for their enthusiastic support when Eddie O'Connor, captain of the victorious 1993 All-Ireland champions, brought the new McCarthy Cup to the Club grounds on a day of celebration in October. Marina Downey also showed the Leinster Championship Cup and the League Trophy won by the Kilkenny senior camogie team. Both captains presented medals (sponsored by John Murphy's Home Centre) to our camogie and hurling teams. Hopefully some of the young players who held aloft the coveted All-Ireland and Leinster trophies on that day will achieve the same distinction for their County in the years to come.

Under-14 Boys: In the under-14 league (11-a-side) the boys drew with Bennettsbridge, defeated Lisdowney and were defeated by Galmoy. In the Championship (15-a-side) the boys were defeated in a nail-biting match against Paulstown, playing their utmost until the final whistle.

Under-13 Boys: In the under-13 Roinn E the boys defeated

Newmarket and Goresbridge and drew with Skeoughvosteen before being beaten in the semi-final by a very good Windgap team who went on to win the final.

Under-9 Boys: The under-9 boys defeated the Gael Scoil and were defeated by O'Loughlin Gaels and Windgap in challenge games. They are progressing along nicely.

Under-14 Girls: In the Community Games Camogie our girls had a great win over Tullogher and were beaten by a good Rower Inistioge team. We also beat Craigue/Ballycallan in an exciting challenge.

Under-9 & 10 Girls: The Gael Scoil went down to our under-9's and were defeated by our under-10's on two separate occasions. The under-10's also drew with Craigue/Ballycallan in another exciting challenge. If the enthusiasm and effort shown by the under-age groups in '93 is anything to judge from, then the club as a whole should have a great future.



Presentation of set of jerseys to Danesfort Club by Paddy Sinnott Kitchens. L-R: Pat Hayes, Finbarr Kelly, John O'Donoghue, John Davis, Paschal Slattery, Paddy Sinnott, Tommy Murphy.

DICKSBORO

Regardless of what else there is to record of Dicksboro's past year (and there were many memorable moments besides), there can be no doubting that the highlight of 1993 was their historic victory in the County Senior Hurling Final. That moment, when the long awaited final whistle blew in Nowlan Park on November 7th, heralded the release of a wave of emotion that warmed the hearts of 'Boro people everywhere.

The 43-year famine was finally ended, and men (and women) who had kept faith with the Maroon and White through the long years of waiting, felt a great weight lift from their shoulders and were young again. None more so than the veterans of the 1950 victorious team who were guests of the club at both the drawn game and replay, and who were united with the youngest flag-waving juveniles in delight and pride in the victory.

Surely no more fitting captain ever lifted the Tom Walsh cup than John Marnell, who led by example, as he did throughout all his years of faithful service. The gratitude of the club goes to John, his gallant panel, the selectors, and especially to Trainer Pat Henderson, who did so much to bring his young charges to a peak of maturity beyond their years.

Pat would surely have preferred to meet any other opponents than his native Johnstown in the final, but he did not flinch his responsibility, and, having put his hand to the plough, did not look back.

What a great year for Tommy Brennan in his first year as Club President. How fitting, too, for the year that was in it, to see Alfie Cullen, that grand old man of Dicksboro, receive the Smithwicks Hall of Fame Award for 1993. Alfie, an accomplished All-Ireland handballer and Kilkenny hurler, played with Dicksboro in the 1930's, and continues, in the company of his old friend and Boro comrade, Paddy Treacy, to regale his listeners in the Boro' clubhouse with tales of those, and other, days in his own inimitable way. Go maire tu, Ailf.

As the County Championship, and final, are recorded elsewhere in this publication, we will move on to other happenings in Dicksboro in 1993.

Dicksboro had the distinction of having representatives on all four Kilkenny County Hurling teams in 1993. Michael Walsh won his second All-Ireland senior hurling medal and gave many fine displays, conceding only three goals throughout the whole championship. John Ayres and Brendan Dalton were key players on the victorious Kilkenny Minor team.

David Beirne captained the Kilkenny Under-21 team beaten in the replayed All-Ireland final by Galway. Mark Dowling and Dan O'Neill were also members of that team. Sam Morrissey was a member of the Kilkenny Junior hurling panel defeated by Clare in the All-Ireland final.

Bridie McGarry was a member of the Kilkenny senior camogie team, beaten by

Cork in the All-Ireland semi-final, while Brenda O'Reilly, Triona Kennedy, Ruth Comerford and Deirdre Costigan were members of the Kilkenny minor camogie team which beat Dublin in the Leinster final.

Niall Morrissey and Stephen Kennedy represented the club on the Kilkenny senior football team, while Brendan Dalton and Aidan Begley were members of the Kilkenny Minor football team which won the International Football tournament played at Nowlan Park. Dan O'Neill helped UCD to win their first Fitzgibbon Cup final since 1979 and was voted Player of the Tournament. Joe Philpott captained the victorious St. Kieran's College team in the All-Ireland Colleges final and was ably assisted by clubmate, Brendan Dalton.

County Final celebrations by our senior hurling team were somewhat curtailed by the commencement of the Leinster Club Championship on November 13th, when they had to travel to Archerstown to play Westmeath County Champions, Brownstown, in the first round. While they had a rather easy victory in this game on a scoreline of 3-11 to 1-4, things were much more difficult in the Leinster semi-final in Carlow on November 21st. Here, Dicksboro had to come from behind to overcome Wexford champions, Cloughbawn, in an extremely low-scoring game, with a score of 1-5 to 1-4.

At the time of writing, Dicksboro are scheduled to meet Offaly champions St.



DICKSBORO - 1992 UNDER-21 ROINN A COUNTY CHAMPIONS

Back Row: Patrick Henderson, Rory Deevy, Vinny Byrne, Tom Henderson, John Ayres, Eoin Begley, Ted Carroll, John O'Dwyer, Declan Phelan, Niall Lacey, Martin Murphy, Dan O'Neill,
Front Row: Mark Dowling, Brendan Dalton, David Beirne, Sean Fitzpatrick, Shane Prendergast (Capt.), James Phelan, Joe Philpott, Sam Morrissey.

CLUBS R O U N D - U P



DICKSBORO SAY GOODBYE TO PETER DUKELOW

Left to right: Shem Tynan (Chairman), Niall Morrissey (Captain, Senior Football Team), Joan Dukelow, Ned Buggy (Secretary), Peter Dukelow.

Rynagh's in the Leinster final on December 5th. Matters are somewhat complicated by the fact that sixteen of our Under-21 panel are also part of the senior outfit. As of now, the 'Boro have played only one game in this championship, overcoming Gowran in the preliminary round.

Our Special Junior Hurling team reached the Roinn A County Final only to be beaten by Mooncoin, 3-12 to 3-7. Trainer, Paddy Grace's charges have also qualified for the league final in which they will meet Erin's own.

Junior A Hurling Panel: Rory Deevy, Tom Maher, Joe Philpott, John Ayres, Niall Morrissey, Eoin Begley, James 'Phelan, Brendan Dalton, Shane Gannon, Jim Kerwick, Tim Butler, Brian Fitzpatrick, Paul Martin, Patrick Henderson, Brian Brennan, Vinny Byrne, Simon Walton, Aidan Begley, Sean Fitzpatrick, Martin Treacy, Michael Trait, Denis Monahan.

Dicksboro senior footballers improved 100% on last year's performance, and, having beaten Muckalee, Glenmore and Craigue/Ballycallan, reached the County semi-final where they were narrowly beaten by Railyard in a closely contested

game, the final score being: Railyard 2-7, Dicksboro 1-9.

Senior Football Panel: Derek Kenny, Michael Kennedy, Tim Butler, Kieran Boland, Mick Murphy, Liam Scott, Mick Lane, Stephen Kennedy, Niall Morrissey, Sam Morrissey, John O'Dwyer, John Ruane, Aidan Maher, Martin Hanrick, Robbie, Dalton, Frankie Bawle, Simon Walton, Eoin Begley, Martin Prendeville, Frank O'Meara, Seamus Culleton, Michael Slattery, Frank Colclough, Sean Fitzpatrick, Philip Spillane.

A big loss to the footballers, and to the club in general, was the transfer, on promotion, of football supremo, Peter Dukelow. Peter's contribution to Dicksboro football over the past number of years has been immense, and he brought many successes to the club. We wish him every success in his new surroundings.

On the camogie front, the club fielded five teams in the U-14, U-16, U-18, U-21, and senior competitions. Our under-14's made their debut in the Roinn A division but failed to win any of their games against stronger opposition, losing to Freshford, Clara and Tullaroan. It was, however, a

great year for our Under-16's who won an historic first ever under-age camogie final for Dicksboro. This team had it easy all the way to the final, getting a walk-over from James Stephens in the semi-final. In the decider the 'Boro faced Lisdowney, who had provided us with our toughest game in the first round. Lisdowney led at half-time 1-0 to 0-2, but a Geraldine Hogan goal on the resumption set the 'Boro up for an easy victory. Best for Dicksboro were R. McEvoy, R. Comerford and Captain, Triona Kennedy.

High hopes were entertained for our Under-18 team but, after a good win in the opening round, they went out in the semi-final to Lisdowney. A poor turn-out by the Under-21 panel meant that they fell at the first hurdle to St. Brigid's by 3-5 to 0-0. The Senior team, though still very young for this grade, put in some very good performances, but lost all but one of their matches, their only win coming at the expense of Thomastown. They are hoping for a better season in 1994. Unfortunately, emigration claimed five of our senior players during the season.

The Juvenile committee continued their

CLUBS ROUND-UP

great work during 1993, and their organisation of both the Street Leagues and the Billy Hogan/Tommy Martin Memorial Blitz tournament was superb. The Street League teams and results were as follows:-

Under-12 Division 1 Final: Paul McKee's team 3-3, Dam Champion's team 0-0.

Winners: Paul McKee, John Trait, Kieran Cuddihy, Brian Murphy, Neil Andrews, Shane McEvoy, T.T. Hayes, Niall O'Higgins, Michael Burke, Tomás Hackett, John Ryan, Colmán Casey, Eamon Kennan, Damien Fox, Brian Shields. (Managers - John and Marie McKee, Aidan Begley, Jim Murphy).

Runners-up: Dan Champion, Paddy Kiely, J.J. Hogan, Brian Bergin, Michael Manning, Stephen Mullally, J.P. Ramsbottom, Paddy Phelan, John Marnell, Brian Gallagher, Brian Barry, Conor O'Loughlin, Michael Keenan, Andrew Whelan. (Managers - Phil Hogan, Joe Phelan, Martin Morrissey).

Under-12 Division 2 Final: Edward Brennan's team 2-1, Stephen Neary's team 1-1.

Winners: Edward Brennan, Martin Dugan, Niall Bambrick, David O'Hara, Alan Gallagher, Thomas Donovan, Brian O'Neill, Pádraig O'Keefe, Donal O'Donovan, Kieran Culhane, Brian Gallagher, Brian Gallagher, Donal O'Brien, Mark Delaney, Conor Hogan, David Hogan, Gerard Walsh. (Managers - Michael Brennan, Kevin Galalgher, Tommy Brennan).

Runners-up: Stephen Neary, Niall Webster, Edward O'Keefe, John O'Neill, Conor Pratt, Wayne Clowry, Peter Ryan, Andrew Lowry, Tom Collins, Brian Cody, Kenny Deegan, David Staunton, Trevor Hickey, Jason Barry. (Managers - John and Michelle Neary, Sean O'Neill, Michael Deegan).



DICKSBORO UNDER-14 HURLERS - WINNERS BILLY HOGAN TOURNAMENT 1993

Back Row: Sean Butler, Michael Mullins, Jason Dempsey, Niall O'Gorman, Timmy Clifford, Stephen Guidera, Michael Falsey, Oisín Breatnach (Capt.), Alan Dowling, Garry O'Dwyer, Richard Nagle, Gerard Hayes.

Kneeling: Thomas Knox, Sean Ryan, Michael Byrne, Cillian Breatnach, Mark Donnelly, Pádraig Lacey, Jonathan Knox, Thomas Hackett, Conor Phelan, Alan Barry, Stephen Rochford, John Hayes, Peter Long.

Under-10 Division 1 Final: Finian Dawson's team 1-6, Kieran Cuddihy's team 2-2.

Winners: Finian Dawson, Kenny Deegan, Paul O'Flynn, Adrian O'Dwyer, Niall Webster, Robert Connolly, Brian Cody, Simon Creane, Robert Hickey, Nicky Glynn, Shane McGarry, Edward Brennan, Brian Bergin, Raymond Lonergan, Alex Dunne. (Managers - Michelle Deegan, Eugene Begley).

Runners-up: Kieran Cuddihy, Tom Collins, Gerry Hayes, Patrick Dore, Michael Breen, Michael Phelan, Conor Hogan, Shane Lyng, Donal Donovan, David Hogan, James Geoghegan, Neil Andrews, Kieran O'Donoghue, Brian Gallagher, Stephen Neary. (Managers - Tommy Gaffney, Martin Morrissey, Sam Morrissey).

Under-10 Division 2 Final: Darragh Bergin 1-2, Thomas Denieffe 0-1.

Winners: Darragh Bergin, Christopher Bollard, Stephen Hayes, Pádraig O Riain, David O'Mahony, Richard Walsh, Darren Tyrrell, John O'Shea, Ian Hogan, Tristan Eardley, Jarrod Lawlor, Shane Walsh, Thomas Hefernan, Philip Hogan, Vincent Ryan, Alan Mooney. (Managers - Joe Phelan, Con Malone).

Runners-up: Thomas Denieffe, Jamie Massey, Daniel Fanning, Chris Connolly, John O'Shea, Michael Foley, David Crilly, Richard Chandley, Richard Byrne, Alan Brennan, Thomas Ryan, Fergal Ryan, Ciaran Walsh, Edward O'Donoghue, Sean Quigley, Conor Higgins. (Managers - Tom O'Donoghue, Michael Byrne).

Tournament referees: Frank Cody, Richard Mulrooney.

Under-16 Football Team: (League runners-up to James Stephens): G. Doyle, K. O'Sullivan, D. Carroll, O. Dawson, K. Philpott, J. Maher, D. Deegan, R. Barry, C.



Kevin Ryan (Chairman, Juvenile Committee) presents Billy Hogan Cup to Oisín Breatnach, Captain Dicksboro Under-14 Hurling team.



Joe Pyke (Chairman, Bord na nÓg) presents Under-14 Football Championship Cup to Stephen Guidera, Captain, Dicksboro.

CLUBS R O U N D - U P

McDonald, B. Power, M. Gaffney, P. Walsh, D. Kerwick, S. Guidera, M. Coogan.

Under-16 Hurling Team (League runners-up to Dunnamaggin): N. O'Gorman, M. Gaffney, B. Minogue, O. Dawson, K. O'Sullivan, D. Carroll, M. Coogan, J. Maher, B. Power, C. McDonald, D. Deegan, S. Geraghty, K. Philpott, R. Barry, P. Walsh.

Dicksboro Under-14 hurlers defeated Graigue/Ballycallan 3-3 to 1-6 to win the Billy Hogan tournament in Palmerstown, on October 23rd, having beaten Ballyragget in the first round and O'Loughlin Gaels in the semi-final. Graigue/Ballycallan overcame James Stephens in the semi-final, after extra time. The Tommy Martin Shield was won by Mullinavat.

Under-14 Hurling Team (Winners, Billy Hogan Tournament): Conor Phelan, Thomas Hackett, John Hayes, Gerard Hayes, Richard Nagle, Niall O'Gorman, Stephen Rochford, Alan Dowling, Oisín Breathnach, Alan Barry, Mark Donnelly, Jimmy Clifford, Thomas Knox, Stephen Guidera, Jason Dempsey, Michael Falsey, Jonathan Knox, Michael Byrne, Cillian Breathnach, Pádraig Lacey, Peter Long, Garry O'Dwyer, Sean Butler, John Ryan, Michael Mullins.

On the field of play, success came to Dicksboro in the Senior Scór competition where two County titles were won, Kevin Ryan again winning the Solo Singing



DICKSBORO - U-16 ROINN C CHAMPIONS 1993

Back Row (l-r): E. Coyne, S. Phelan, C. Delaney, E. Phelan, D. Costigan, R. McEvoy, R. Comerford, E. Tynan, P. Rarragher, E. Bourke, A. Lanigan, A. M. Hogan, K. Dalton, T. O'Donoghue.
Front (l-r): L. Lacey, M. Bracken, D. D. Gaffney, D. Trait, B. O'Reilly, T. Kennedy (Capt.), G. Dunning, L. Dalton, C. Brennan, D. Fitzmaurice, D. Doyle.

competition, while the Dicksboro Set won the Dancing title.

In the Junior section, three titles were won when Ruth McEaney (accompanied by Roisín Ní Caoimh) took the Solo Singing title, while the Ballad Group (Maeve Kenny, Valerie O'Dwyer, Dympna Heffernan and Leanne Colgan), and the Set Dancers (Mark Gaffney, Paul Funcheon, Shane Grinsell, Liam McEvoy, Lorna McCormack, Carol Comerford, Margaret Comerford and Dearbhla Comerford) won their respective competitions.

The Club Development Committee also laboured diligently during the year, completing their work on the toilet block and dugouts. These improvements will be a great asset to the club in the coming seasons.

The club lost three great supporters during the year with the deaths of Tommy Hackett, John McKee and Kathleen McGarry. Their support, and attendance at the club, will be sadly missed and we extend our sympathy to their families.

Ar dheis Dé go raibh a n-anamacha.



DICKSBORO EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE 1993

Back Row: Joe Walton, Jim McGarry, Hughie Wall, Martin Morrissey, Phil Hogan, Noel Deevy.

Middle Row: Tom O'Donoghue, John Rafter, Tommy Knox, Jim Hogan, Donal Carroll, Denis Philpott, Richie Mulrooney (Oiligeach Gaeliac), Joe Phelan.

Front Row: Seamus Fitzpatrick (Vice-Chairman), Ned Buggy (Secretary), Shem Tynan (Chairman), Mick Byrne (Vice-Chairman), Paddy Grace (Joint Treasurer), Tony Dunning (Joint Treasurer), Tommy O'Brien (P.R.O.).

DUNNAMAGGIN

What a year of unprecedented success it was for the parish of Dunnamaggin. It started way back in January when our Under-21 Footballers won their first Roinn "A" title, beating Muckalee in Danesfort. The winning team was:

A. Mackey, D. Reade, B. Mackey, D. O'Shea, J. Hickey, E. Kennedy, P. Cahill, M. O'Shea, J. Moylan, P. Kearney, G. Carroll, T. Hickey, S. Ryan, O. Whelan, M. Moran.

Subs: P. Fleming, K. O'Shea, D. Lahart, M. Kennedy, A. Moran, B. Comerford.

Eamon Kennedy captained the Kilkenny Co. Under-21 team and his team-mates included Jim Hickey.

The Minor Footballers contested their third Roinn "A" County Final but were beaten by James Stephen's. Paul Kearney captained the county minor footballers who won the International Football Tournament played in Kilkenny this year. Tom Hickey, Adrian Moran, J. Barry and Kenneth O'Shea were also members of that victorious panel.

Our Junior Footballers failed to figure in the knock-out stages of their championship, probably due to the fixtures being made for mid-week nights.

Our Junior Hurlers had a very satisfying year, winning their first Southern Junior League and Open Draw Final for the third time in four years. We beat Piltown in the League by 0-6 to 0-5 in Hugginstown. We beat Kilmacow comfortably in the Open Draw.

Our Under-21 team have qualified for their South Final, in which they await the winners of Carrickshock and Kilmacow. Hope springs eternal for us in this competition.

Sean Ryan and Eamon Kennedy played on the Kilkenny team that lost to Galway in the All-Ireland Under-21 Championship, after a replay. They also played on the Junior team beaten by Clare in the Final.

Our Under-14 Footballers, who were exceptionally young, reached the South Semi-final, where they were beaten by eventual county champions, Thomastown. The Under-14 hurlers had a terrific run in the Paddy Grace Tournament (Féile), before again surrendering to Thomastown at the quarter-final stage. In their championship matches they had another excellent run, losing out to Mooncoin by a point and the Rower/Inistioge by 7 points. Two of our players, John Hickey and Kenneth O'Shea played for Kilkenny in the annual Waterford Glass Tournament. Brian O'Shea won the Kilkenny Féile na nGael Skills Competition and he was placed third in the National competition.

Presently our Under-16 Footballers have qualified for both the League and Championship Finals. They are expecting to complete the double.

Popular opinion has it that our most successful team would have to be our Under-16 Hurlers. They were only beaten once in their entire League and Championship campaigns. In their League outings they claimed the "scalps" of such big guns as Mooncoin, R./Inistioge,

Thomastown, James Stephens – in the semi-final and Dicksboro in the final by two points. In an absolutely thrilling championship final against James Stephen's, they came from the jaws of death to clinch a famous victory by a solitary point – compliments of a last minute brilliant goal by Noel Lahart.

The Under-16 heroes were: N. McCormack, S. Ragget (captain), T. McCormack, B. Moore, P. Moore, A. Hickey, W. Kearney, B. O'Shea, N. Lahart, A. McCormack, J. Hickey, J. P. O'Neill, R. Cahill, W. Drennan, N. Brett, F. O'Shea, A. O'Neill, C. Herrihy, K. Moore, N. Hickey, R. Wallace.

Three players from our club played with Kilkenny in the Nenagh Co-Op Tournament. They were: T. McCormack, A. Hickey and R. Cahill. Having previously lost the Roinn "A" Minor Final in 1969 and 1970, history was made when, for the first time in our history, we collected that elusive title in Nowlan Park by beating St. Lachtain's in a thrilling final. In the League Competition, we advanced to the Quarter Final stages, where we were beaten by Glenmore, who were avenging an earlier championship defeat.

Our first championship outing pitted us

against Mooncoin – a difficult opener. In arguably our best hurling performance of the year, we eventually wore down the Mooncoin lads to win by five points (2-13 to 2-8). Piltown were next to capitulate to the might of Dunnamaggin. We won this one, again with a late burst, by five points. We beat Glenmore in the South Final, thanks again to a 10 minute flurry of brilliant hurling (2-19 to 2-8). It was on to the county final, on a day that was full of lung-bursting pride, determination and oodles of skill. Every man was a hero, from goalkeeper Anthony McCormack to corner-forward John Hickey.

Scenes of great jubilation were the order of the day and night. Our history makers saw to that. They were a credit to our parish, and the champions crown wears lightly on their young heads.

Sadly our club lost one of its former players during the year. Murty O'Keeffe, from Rathduff, passed away, unexpectedly to his eternal reward, which caused much sadness to our club. Murty was captain of the last Roinn "A" League winners from the parish in 1970. May he rest in peace.



OPEN DRAW FINAL WINNERS

Back row: Left to right: S. Kennedy, J. Carroll, E. Fleming, P. Moylan, J. Fitzpatrick, J. Dunne, A. Moran, J. Moylan, P. Cahill, M. O'Neill, T. O'Shea, S. Ryan, M. Moran, M. O'Shea, J. Hickey, R. Cahill (sel.). Front row (l. to r.): S. Martin (sel.), M. Hogan. R. O'Neill, P. Kearney, T. Hickey, E. Kennedy, K. O'Shea, J. Ryan, B. Mackey, D. Lahart, M. Power (Trainer).



KILMOGANNY UNDER-21 ROINN 'A' FOOTBALL CHAMPIONS 1992

Front (left to right): Willie Kearney (sel.), Tom Hickey, Ollie Whelan, Paul Kearney, Michael Moran, Alan Mackey, Dermot O'Shea, Malachy Hogan (coach/sel.). Back (l. to r.): Mick Kennedy, Brian Mackey, Dermot Reade, James Moylan, Mick Carroll (sel.), Gerry Carroll, Dermot O'Shea, Paul Cahill, Eamon Kennedy, Sean Ryan, Jim Hickey, Pat Fleming.

EMERALDS

In 1993, Emeralds proved once again that they are a force to be reckoned with. While not glittering in the League campaign, they provided us with many exciting games in the championship. With Tipperaryman Billy Barnaville training the side, their first battle was with Danesfort. This was a tremendous contest, ending: Emeralds 2-12, Danesfort 1-15. The replay was equally close with the Urlingford outfit winning by one point: 0-12 to 1-8.

In the second round they overcame Threecastles by eight points: 3-14 to 3-6. In this game John Moriarty scored 1-4 and Mick Rafter 1-2. In the northern semi-final they met Black & Whites, who were the favourites for the championship. After conceding an early easy goal, the northern side bounced back to earn another draw: Black & Whites 1-17, Emeralds 2-14. The replay was equally close. The Skeogh forwards were exceptionally fast and accurate, yet the Urlingford side were narrowly defeated by two points. This was a very young Urlingford outfit, fielding five minors in nearly all games.

Junior Panel 1993: Declan Tobin, Cyril Cleere, P.J. Tobin, Tom Phelan, Tom Hughes, Ollie Bergin, Milo Phelan, Pat Ryan, John Ryan, Brendan Joyce, Austin Cleere, Ken Hughes, James Burke, Mick Rafter, Dave Moriarty, Frank Cleere, John Tobin, John Moriarty,



THOMAS NEARY

Tommie was a life-long supporter and member of the Urlingford based hurling club. He was a member of the local Parish team in the early 1960.s. Due to an accident at work, Tommie was confined to a wheelchair. Yet, despite this, he followed the parish team - Emeralds - down through the years. Every year he looked forward to the Kilkenny/Wexford clashes and the thrilling games between Kilkenny, Tipperary and Cork. An ardent Kilkenny follower, Tommie is sadly

missed in the club for his sincerity and dedication to the game. We extend our sympathy to his wife Kathleen, brothers Paddy, Michael, Kevin, Joe, James and sisters Catherine and Bridget. He died on Sunday, 28th March, 1993. May he rest in peace.

Liam Tobin.

Committee: Chairman - Luke Roche; Secretary - John Cahill; Co. Board Rep. - Peader Tobin; Junior Selectors - Michael Doyle, Pat Tobin, Pat Ryan.

The Urlingford hurling tournament was revived this year after a lapse of five years. The Fenians defeated the home side while St. Lachtain's (Freshford) overcame Gortnahoe. The final attracted a large attendance with Freshford winning the title, proving early in the summer that they had plenty of skill and craft to win a junior title.

CLUB DEVELOPMENT

In 1993 the club started on an ambitious development of the sportsfield and clubhouse. Building will start in the latter part of 1994. During 1993 many excellent fund-raising schemes were undertaken. The club wishes to thank all those who supported the various schemes, i.e. Piltown Draw, the Golf Classic, Calf Rearing Scheme, Cycle Day and Poker Classic.

Under-16: Our under-16 team started well in the League with good wins over St. Lachtain's, Erin's Own and Conahy. We lost out to Tullaroan in the



Emeralds Junior Hurling Team. Front Row (l-r): David Moriarty, Ken Hughes, Milo Phelan, Tom Phelan (Capt.), John Tobin, John Ryan, P.J. Tobin. Back row (l-r): Tom Hughes, Austin Cleere, Brendan Joyce, John Moriarty, Michael Rafter, Cyril Cleere, Pat Ryan, Oliver Bergin.

CLUBS R O U N D - U P

League semi-final and to Johnstown in the championship.

Panel: John Guilfoyle, James Kellaghan, Denis Tobin, Brian Queally, Brian Cody, Niall Minogue, Damien Dollard, Pat Doyle, Ted Clohosey, Tom Manton, Adrian Cleere, Derek Lyng, Phil Fogarty, Dave Guilfoyle, Tom Walsh, Niall Cahill and Sean Tobin.

Under-14: Great work in coaching this team by John Moriarty brought new life to this age group. The Jimmy Burke Cup tournament was revived and four teams from different ends of the Parish took part. The country team trained by John Campion and John Tobin won this league. After this much was expected of this team. They defeated Erin's Own and Young Irelands in the first rounds of the league but were well beaten by Young Irelands in the play-off section of the championship.

Panel: Joe Ryan, Ian Tobin, Anthony O'Grady, Michael Moriarty, Darren O'Brien, Andrew Laffan, Cathal Hennessy, Tom Walsh, Edward Hughes, Niall Cahill, Tom Campion, John Burke, Sean Tobin, Brendan Cahill, Ray Moriarty, Edmund Joyce, Bobby O'Hara, Damien Joyce, K. Grant, Edward Healy, Billy Hickey.

JUVENILE GAMES

The highlight of the year was the winning of the Iarnród Éireann Roinn C Minor Hurling Championship. This was the first minor win for the Parish in fourteen years. It was a tough championship and the Urlingford boys had to overcome gallant displays by Danesfort, Conahy, Galmoy and Carrickshock. All players on the panel worked well as a unit. In the final, Oliver Bergin was awarded "Man of the Match" sponsored by Iarnród Éireann.

John Ryan, Ken Hughes and Brendan Joyce are other boys with a very bright future with both club and county. The team mentors - Seán Norton, Joe Ryan, Pat Tobin and John Cahill - put in long hours over the last six years coaching and training this team. Brian Ryan (Feniars) was a major bonus in coaching this team and his efforts were rewarded and appreciated in the month leading up to the county final.

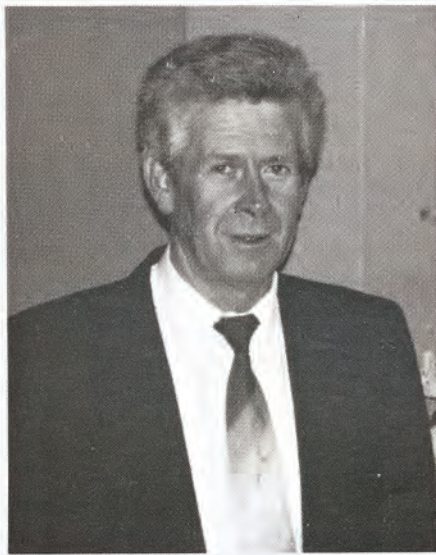
Three of the team, i.e. John Ryan, Ollie Bergin and Brendan Joyce, played with North Kilkenny Minor team, and Ken Hughes was a member of this year's victorious All-Ireland team.

Minor Panel: John Guilfoyle, Niall Minogue, John Ryan, Damien Tobin, Dan Holohan, Ollie Bergin, Ted Clohosey, Tom Delaney, Ken Hugges, Richard Norton, Pat Doyle, James Burke, Shane Ahearne, Brendan Joyce, Michael Tobin, David Guilfoyle, John Power, Liam Hennessy, Tom Manton, Denis Tobin.

MINOR FOOTBALL

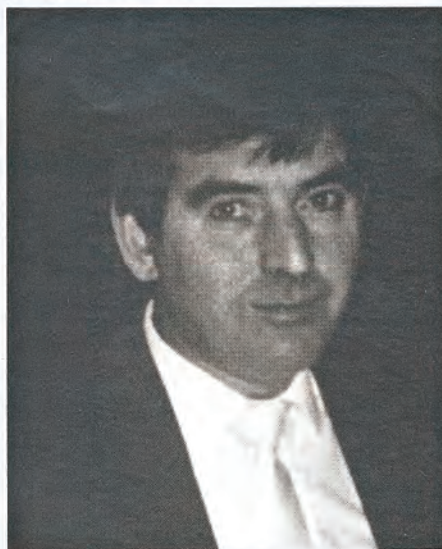
Last winter the club entered a football team in the 1992 championship. This was the first time that a juvenile team ever played the game in the Parish. This team defeated Railyard by a goal: 3-3 to 0-9; Emeralds played a draw with Young Irelands and won the replay by one point. St. Martin's defeated Urlingford in the Northern final by one point. Tremendous enjoyment was had by all who attended these matches in January and February of 1993.

Panel: N. Minogue, D. Tobin, O. Bergin, T.



MICHAEL (Stoney) BURKE (1940-1993)

When Stoney went to this eternal reward last April, the Happy Valley lost one of its best loved sons, a once-off character, the likes of which will not be seen again. He was a great goalkeeper, having won a senior hurling championship with Freshford in 1963. He also kept goal for Clomantagh and Urlingford. His passing was mourned by his many friends. Sympathy is extended to his wife Anne and son David, daughter Helena, his grandchildren, sisters, relatives and friends.



NEDDIE GUILFOYLE

The late Edward (Neddie) Guildoyle of Urlingford was a well-known supporter of the local hurling club. He played U12, 14, 16, Minor and Junior hurling with the club and was a great character both on the field and as a spectator. He emigrated to Wales in his early twenties and won two league medals and a county championship with the St. Cuillim Cill Club, Cardiff, Wales. In this final he scored 2-1 from play. His passing has caused great grief to many people - his wife Kathleen (nee Fitzpatrick), sons David, Alan, Declan and daughter Caroline, parents, brothers, sisters and many friends.

Delaney, J. Ryan, L. Robin, D. Holohan, K. Joyce, B. Joyce, J. Burke, M. Costello, R. Norton, J. Guilfoyle, D. Phelan, K. Hughes, P. Doyle, M. Tobin, S. Ahearne,

M. Doyle.

One week after this game the Parish was shocked by the tragic death of David Phelan (see below).

MINOR LEAGUE

The Roinn C Minor League provided many excellent games throughout the summer. In the early stages, Emeralds defeated Tullaroan, St. Patrick's, Ballyragget and Conahy. In the League semi-final they defeated Slieverue by 2-15 to 2-2. Pat Doyle was the top scorer with 2-2 in this game.

In the League Final, Emeralds met old rivals Galmoy in Freshford. This was the second meeting of the sides in recent times. The first half was very evenly matched, with very lively exchanges. The Galmoy boys got a great start when Phil Brennan crashed home a 21-yard free. Were it not for the excellent goalkeeping of John Guilfoyle, and full-back John Ryan, Emeralds would certainly have been in trouble by half-time. Goals by Tom Manton, Richard Norton and Pat Doyle gave Emeralds a slender lead at half-time.

Excellent work by the Lonergan brothers, Paul Morrissey, Noel Doherty and David Delaney was not rewarded with scores, thus Emeralds repeated their championship win over the same opposition.

Brendan Joyce was Captain of this team and proved a very capable leader of his team. Final score in the final: Emeralds 4-12, Galmoy 2-3.

Scores: Richard Norton 1-2, Pat Doyle 1-2, Brendan Joyce 1-2, Tom Manton 1-1, Ted Clohosey 0-2, Ollie Bergin 0-1, Tom Delaney 0-1, Dan Holohan 0-1.

Incidentally, this is the first ever Minor League win for the Parish of Urlingford.



DAVID PHELAN

The Parish of Urlingford was stunned last March by the untimely death of David Phelan in a road accident. David had played hurling with all of the Urlingford under-age teams and in the previous few weeks David played full-forward on the minor football team which met with much success. David's great strength lay in his sporting attitude. He enjoyed each game to the full. His great sense of humour and of sport will be greatly missed by all involved with the Emeralds. With his parents and family we mourn his loss.

ERIN'S OWN

MUCH satisfaction can be gleaned from 1993 players, mentors and the supporters of Castlecomer. At the time of going to press, the trophy sideboard is thinly decorated, however, our Juniors are still in the running for their league competition. Our seniors had to give best to The Fenians of Johnstown in the St. Canice's Credit Union League final. The Erin's Own Under-21 outfit are still involved in their championship.

Much "off-the-field" development has taken place, particularly over the past few months. At long last planning permission for our new grounds at Ballyhemon has finally come through. This after many years of dedication, hard work, and lobbying by club officials, friends of Erin's Own, politicians and many, many more.

It was terrific to hear that the on-going saga had finally drawn to a successful conclusion. The only damper on the good news was the realisation that if permission had been forthcoming earlier, Erin's Own would, in all probability, have had the playing complex in Ballyhemon up and running at this stage. Nevertheless, now that we have got the "green light" on the project, we feel sure that with dedication and the always reliable goodwill of the community our ambitions will bear fruit in the very near future. The surface of our new grounds is in excellent condition and, when completed, it should be one of the best grounds in the county.

During the year the club lost one of the most dedicated club officials it has ever numbered in its ranks. Vincent Brannelly

was successful in gaining a teaching post in his native Galway. Regretfully, he bade farewell to the boys in the National School, who will surely miss him as will all the players and mentors attached to our Juvenile section. The club wishes him well in his new appointment.

However, to offset Vincent's loss, the club has employed two juvenile coaches, compliments of the FÁS scheme. Joe Byrne and Seamus Brennan have taken up their new appointments and their efforts will be complemented occasion by either of the new county coaches, Briain Ryan and Bobby Jackman. No doubt both will do a great job for Erin's Own club.

We fielded teams in all under-age competitions in Kilkenny. A combination of bad luck and superior opposition put paid to their chances in the early rounds of all the competitions. It can be said categorically that the efforts of all the players, and the mentors – Christy Hughes, Joe Meagher, Dick Mullins and Paddy Phelan – lacked for nothing both on and off the field of play.

For the second year running our Junior team were beaten by a solitary point in their championship, again after a replay. After a tremendous display against Ballyragget on both days, a spirited display was thwarted "on the line".

The highlight of the year, I suppose, was the magnificent display of our Senior team. Twelve months ago Erin's Own was fighting for its "senior status". That was an achievement in itself and from that victory a platform was set and we more

than achieved that aim this year. It should be remembered that Erin's Own were only beaten once this year in senior hurling.

As far as everyone on the team and everyone involved with the team is concerned, 1994 cannot come quickly enough. Hopefully our day will come and it won't be too far away. Congratulations are due to James Brennan and Eamonn Holland on collecting another two All-Ireland medals for the parish.

Congratulations to David Buggy who collected an All-Ireland Minor medal with one of the finest performances ever given by a juvenile player in Croke Park. You did everyone proud especially people like Vincent Brannelly, Martin Fogarty and Harold Stone who looked after your progress and freely gave of their time since you were twelve years of age. It is these people that a club can't do without, and other members should be willing to help out a little more.

We also congratulate Michael Owens and Seán Meally on winning Leinster Under-21 medals with Kilkenny and were narrowly beaten by Galway in the All-Ireland Final. Both lads will have another go next year, and we wish them the very best of luck.

During the year the club lost some of its best supporters and we send our sympathies to all their families. May they rest in peace. On behalf of the club we wish all our friends and members a very Happy Christmas and all the good luck they deserve for the New Year.



ERIN'S OWN – 1993 KILKENNY SENIOR HURLING SEMI-FINALISTS

Back – David O'Rourke, Patsy Brophy, Eamonn Coogan, Colm Meagher, Martin Fogarty, John Kelly, Peadar Healy, Cormac Young, Brian Young, Michael Owens, John Brennan, Kieran Meally (team manager). Front – Ken Brennan, Liam Shore, Tom Brophy, Christy Brennan, Joe Meagher, John Buggy, Eamon Holland (capt), Eddie Brennan, Jamsie Brennan, Fergal Slevin, David Buggy, Edward Holland (selector).
Photo: Tom Brett

JAMES STEPHENS

Senior Football Champions 1993



BACK ROW (l.-r.): Ned Kelly, Nicky Boyd, Fran Whelan, Brian McEvoy, Seamus McGuire, John Grace, Liam O'Connor.
 FRONT ROW (l.-r.): Fergus Hickey, Peter Barry, Tommy Fogarty, Brian Leahy, John Joe Cullen (Captain), Jody Dwyer,
 John Larkin, Richie Minogue.

(Photo: Tommy O'Neill)

ST. LACHTAIN'S (Freshford)

County Junior Hurling Champions 1993



BACK ROW (l.-r.): Martin Maher, Mervyn Queally, Pat Doyle, Damien Hurley, Joe Dermody, Bobby Dillon, Eamonn Maher, Damien Anderson, John Costelloe, John Connolly, Patrick Brennan, Gordon Ryan, Noel Hughes, Jack Doyle, Michael Walsh, Michael Brennan. FRONT ROW (l.-r.): Ian Colclough, Martin Walsh, George O'Shea, Pierce Phelan, Brian Waldron, Christy Hickey, Michael Morrissey (Captain), Sean Hickey, James Farrell, Oliver O'Connor, Murty Kennedy, David Martin, Declan Killeen. Missing from photo: Paul Phelan.

KILKENNY

All-Ireland Minor Hurling Champions 1993



BACK ROW (l.-r.): Conor Cleere, Liam Smith, Vincent O'Brien, John Costello, Sean Kealy, Eamon Mackey, Michael O'Neill, Kevin Grogan, Brian Lonergan, John Ayres, Eoghan Farrell, Brendan Bolger, Ken Hughes, Martin Phelan, Ned Gahan. FRONT ROW (l.-r.): Alan Hearne, Damien Cleere, Tom Hickey, David Buggy, Ollie Blanchfield, Shane Doyle (Captain), Oliver O'Connor, Brendan Dalton, James Young, James Kelly, John Dowling.

(Photo: Tom Brett)

DUNNAMAGGIN

Roinn 'A' Minor Hurling Champions 1993



FRONT ROW (l.-r.): Brian O'Shea, Adrian Moran, Tom Hickey, Paul Kearney, Paul Cahill (Captain), Mick O'Neill, Fergal O'Shea, Ramie Cahill, William Kearney, Brendan Moore. BACK ROW (l.-r.): Willie Kearney (Selector), Willie Drennan, James Barry, John Hickey, Kenneth O'Shea, Noel Lahart, Anthoy McCormack, Tom McCormack, Andrew Hickey, Paul Moore, Philip O'Shea, J. P. O'Neill, Mattie Mackey (Selector).

(Photo: Tommy O'Neill)

FENIANS - JOHNSTOWN

Nineteen-ninety-three was a year of mixed luck. Celebrating the 25th anniversary of the Club's formation, it was hoped to land the 'big one'. How near our seniors went, just a puck of a ball between them and a county championship!

After a tremendous effort, which saw them only lose twice during the whole league and championship, there was some reward in winning the senior hurling league title. Indeed this will be remembered as "the year of the draw" by all Fenians.

One draw with Castlecomer in the league, another with the same team in the county semi-final, and finally another with the Boro in the County final. Great credit is due to all the panel, who did all that was asked of them both on and off the field right up to the very end. It must be remembered that this was an unusually long season for them as the championship dragged on for nearly four weeks longer than planned.

Added to that is the fact that an awful lot was expected of them, having to play four Sundays out of five, after an already heavy schedule. Is this a fair way to finish the premier competition in the county? Incidentally, if you add in the league final and the Under-21 championship, some of the players were asked to play six games in six weeks, not taking training into account!

1993 also saw three more senior All-Ireland medals come into the club. Last year saw a Kilkenny team for the first time in 23 years without a Fenian on the panel. Thankfully that was put right this year again. Matty Walsh, Brian Ryan, who played in the earlier stages of the competition, and P.J. Delaney - our "Man of the Match" in the All-Ireland - were our proud representatives on the winning panel.

Our congratulations to all three and we wish them all the best

in 1994. This year also saw the Fenians field a Junior and Special Junior team. This was a remarkable achievement for a small parish and bears great testament to all the work that is being done with under-age hurlers in the club.

To see that the club can call on 60 players and that they can acquit themselves well in competition says something for the structure and those involved. We must all help and support those who look after our juveniles because without them there is no future for hurling.

Our Juniors, while they did not win anything, had a very good year. They were unlucky to lose out by a single point, but it must be remembered that they stepped up a grade and also lost a key player or two. With a new effort early on next year, added to their experience of this one, the future is very bright for them.

Our Special Juniors, the team we would not be able to field, we were told, were a surprise package - not only did they field, but they won, not outright. They did the Club proud. It was refreshing to see new players tog out - ones that had played at under-age level but who had not continued to play. It has to be said that they brought enthusiasm and spirit to training and the club in general. This team was another one of the successes of 1993 and we wish them more luck in 1994.

At the time of going to press, our Under-21's are still in the championship, having beaten Clara in the first round. Graigue/Ballycallan will provide stiff opposition in the next round - having beaten us last year. Congratulations here to James Carroll and P.J. Delaney again on reaching the Under-21 All-Ireland final, sadly losing out to Galway in a replay.

Our under-16's reached both league and county finals without any success in either. A small thing could have swung both but alas

it was not to be. Better luck next year. We had no luck either with any of the other under-age teams, but this does not reflect the Trojan work that is being done by a few individuals. Do we give them enough support? This is something that will have to be addressed seriously next year. Remember, they are working with very little input from the Club or parents and this cannot continue. The future of our club lies with these youngsters.

The club held a very successful 25th Anniversary Dance and presentation at the beginning of the year. It was great to see most of that historic '68 team together again, and that night set the tone for the rest of the year. The 28th January is the date pencilled in for next year where the highlight will be the presentation of the senior league medals. Hopefully "Liam" will attend.

The Piltown/County Board Draw was a big success again this year and it still remains our biggest source of income. Our thanks to all who support it and congratulations to our winners.

Our senior tournament is now a very successful venture with clubs from far and near taking part - limiting the teams entry has now become necessary. The timing of this is fortunate as the club has use of the dressing-rooms and showers. Our thanks to the sportsfield committee for this valuable and necessary amenity.

During the year, the Club lost two great Gaels. Dave Henderson, who was a selector of the first Fenian team in 1968 - from which everything started - and Jim Dermody, a lifelong and most loyal supporter. At dheis Dé go raibh a n-anamacha.

Finally a word of thanks to all selectors, committee members and officials for all your efforts in making 1993 a great year on and off the field. Same again next year when we make another effort together, to go one step further.



FENIANS - KILKENNY CO. CREDIT UNION HURLING LEAGUE CHAMPIONS 1993

Back Row: Michael Phelan, Billy Purcell, Stephen Grehan, William Dollard, John Delaney, Pat McCormack, John Henderson. Front Row: Ger Brennan, Anthony McEvoy, Jimmy Brennan, Alan Behan, Brendan Ryan, P.J. Delaney, Gerry Quinlan, Ger Henderson.

Photo: Tom Brett

GALMOY

1993 was a mixed year on the playing fields for the Galmoy club. The club's first official outing was on Sunday, March 14th, when the Junior team defeated Ballyragget in the first round of the Junior Open Draw Competition. Three days later, the club was represented by Brian Doherty and Jerry and Liam Drennan on the Northern Junior selection which defeated the Southern Junior team in the Jim Farrell Challenge Cup in Freshford. Dunnamaggin, however, ended our interest in the Open Draw Competition, so the Northern Junior League was next on the menu. The opening game was against Emeralds, and Galmoy won by two points. Unfortunately, Galmoy were dealt a tragic blow at the end of the game, losing Liam Drennan, with the resurgence of an old knee injury, for the remainder of the year. The club had an excellent run in the remaining league games, beating St. Lachtain's, Lisdowney and Cloneen, while just losing to James Stephen's by a point. This set Galmoy up for the League semi-final, where they once again beat Ballyragget, only to be foiled in the League final, losing out once more to James Stephen's, this time by two points.

Indeed, it was James Stephen's who also put paid to Galmoy's chances in the first round of the championship on June 27th. This left Galmoy with only the Cahill Cup to play for, and, having seen off the challenges of Clara and Danesfort, they will meet Lisdowney in the final. Galmoy were also finalists in last year's Cahill Cup, losing out to current Junior Champions, St. Lachtain's.

At underage level, Galmoy were involved right into November. At Under-14 and Under-16 levels, the club competed in the 11-a-side leagues, performing creditably, but with little success. At Minor level, Galmoy, the holders, once again qualified for the Northern Championship final, only to be beaten by Emeralds. This left the Minors with the league as their next target. The team qualified for the League County Final, before losing out to Emeralds once again on October 25th.

At Under-21 level, Galmoy were fielding ten of their Junior team and proved too strong for Emeralds on a scoreline of Galmoy 3-7, Emeralds 1-7 in the first round on October 31st. This put the Under-21 team through to a Northern semi-final against Conahy Shamrocks.

Turning to off-the-field activities, the club had the pleasure of seeing D. J. Carey present medals to the Minors and Under-21's for successes in 1992. A large number of tickets were once again sold in the County Board/Hurlers' Co-op Draw, and this proved to be the main source of income, as no club Hurling Tournament was run in 1993. Congratulations to Brian Lonergan on winning a Minor All-Ireland medal with Kilkenny.

It was very encouraging to see the formation of St. Anne's Camogie club this year, as this has

provided competitive competition for many Galmoy girls. Individually, Galmoy won the Under-12 Camogie County Final beating Bennettsbridge on a scoreline Galmoy 6-2, Bennettsbridge 1-0. This team, trained by Mr. James Cullinane, gave a very creditable performance in the final in St. John's Park. Best players were Margaret Rafter, Claire Delaney, Catherine Doherty, Pamela Dunne and Ellie Lonergan.

Galmoy: Margaret Rafter, Claire Delaney, Laura Murphy, Ellie Lonergan, Catherine Maher, Theresa Glendon, Catherine Doherty (2-0), Michelle Glendon, Pamela Dunne (3-0), Orla Phelan (0-2), Deirdre Doyle (1-0), and Geraldine O'Loughlin.

Minor team (in County Final): Noel Doherty, Paul Delaney, John Phelan, Leo Doherty, David Delaney, Brian Lonergan, Sean Delaney, Philip Brennan (captain), Paul Morrissey, Brendan Ryan, Kevin Lonergan, Eamonn Doherty, Pierce Harte, Joe Doyle, Rory Moore.

Subs: Sean Doyle, Gavin Doherty, Paddy Drennan, Jerry Drennan, Brendan Delaney, David Doyle, Charles Brennan.

Under-21 Team: Paul Morrissey, John Phelan, Brian Lonergan, Shane Doherty, Sean Delaney, Brian Doherty, Cathal Doherty, Michael Brennan (captain), Declan Fitzpatrick, Brendan

Sherman, Kevin Lonergan, Philip Brennan, Brendan Ryan, Liam Corcoran, Alan Gray.

Subs: David Delaney, Joe Doyle, Rory Moore, Pierce Harte, Leo Doherty, Gavin Doherty, Eamonn Doherty.

Junior Championship Team: Paul Morrissey, Jarlath Duggan, Tommy Drennan, Shane Doherty, Brian Doherty (captain), Brian Lonergan, Cathal Doherty, Jerry Drennan, Pat Glendon, Michael Brennan, Kevin Lonergan, Philip Brennan, Declan Fitzpatrick, John Duggan, Alan Gray.

Subs: Peter Ryan, Frankie Grace.

GALMOY CLUB OFFICERS:

President: Rev. Fr. Michael Purcell P.P.; **Chairman:** Michael Lonergan; **Vice-Chairman:** Charlie Brennan; **Secretary:** Sean Doherty; **Assistant Sec.:** Dorica Gray; **Treasurer:** Jarlath Duggan; **P.R.O.:** Jerry Drennan; **Co. Board Rep.:** Sean Doherty; **Northern Board Rep.:** Jarlath Duggan; **Bord na nÓg Rep.:** Jerry Drennan; **Groundsmen:** Charlie and Michael Brennan; **Junior Selectors:** Phil Bowe, Lorrie Harte, Tom Russell; **Junior Team Trainer:** Sean Doherty; **Under-21/Minor Trainer:** Jerry Drennan; **Under-21/Minor Selectors:** Charlie Doherty, Stephen Delaney, Jerry Drennan.



GALMOY MINOR TEAM - RUNNERS-UP ROINN 'C' COUNTY LEAGUE 1993

Back row: Sean Delaney, Philip Brennan (captain), Brian Lonergan, John Phelan, Kevin Lonergan, Paul Morrissey, Joe Doyle, David Delaney. Back row: Paul Delaney, Pierce Harte, Noel Doherty, Brendan Ryan, Leo Doherty, Eamonn Doherty, Rory Moore.



GALMOY U-21 TEAM - ROINN B 1993

Back row (l. to r.) Brendan Sherman, Brian Lonergan, Joe Doyle, Alan Grey, Brendan Ryan, Shane Doherty, Rory Moore, Kevin Lonergan, Sean Delaney, Brian Doherty, Cathal Doherty, Liam Corcoran. Front row (l. to r.) Declan Fitzpatrick, Pierce Harte, Phil Brennan, Sean Doyle, Eamonn Doherty, Paul Morrissey, Leo Doherty, Mick Brennan (captain), Noel Doherty, Gavin Doherty.

GRAIGNAMANAGH

It has been a far from memorable year for the club. The minor team, which had contested three finals in a row, without success, had to be rebuilt and it was obvious that it would take some time before another side capable of challenging for honours could be put into place.

Hopes were high, however, that the Under-21 team would capitalise on the efforts put into the minor teams for the past 3 years and perhaps go even one better than last year when they were beaten by an exceptional Dicksboro outfit.

The club were campaigning in the Intermediate grade following relegation at the end of 1992. The lessons learned crossing hurleys with the elite for six years should have been an advantage but unfortunately things didn't go as anticipated and the team struggled to make any impression during a most disappointing year for officials and supporters. Their best form was against Tullogher-Rosbercon and, with younger players fitting in nicely, there is room for hope for a big improvement in 1994.

It's fair to say that 1993 will be remembered for all the wrong reasons in Graignamanagh. Success or failure on the field, the exploits of individuals or teams, pales into insignificance compared to the tragic death during the year of the town's favourite son and sports star, Fran Doyle.

Fran's hurling skills and deeds have been well chronicled at club, county and vocational schools' level and he will always be remembered not just in Graig but further afield. It is always sad to mourn the passing of a great sportsman or woman but when it happens to one so young and in such tragic circumstances, it takes on a new dimension for everyone, particularly his heartbroken family.

For the club, a great void has been created that perhaps will never be filled, and the promise shown from such an early age will now, alas, never be fulfilled. Fran's sad and untimely death touched the hearts of everyone and stunned the community. Hopefully the spontaneous display of heartfelt grief and sympathy will console his grieving parents and family in their darkest hour.

"The great selector in the sky was short
one special player,
For the hurler he has chosen, let's all
say a silent prayer."

SPECIAL JUNIOR

The Special Junior hurling team had a good run before being beaten by the eventual county winners, Mooncoin, in the Southern F-inial.

During the year, former Graig hurler, Michael Morrissey, collected another All-Ireland medal to add to his impressive total when he helped his Garda team, Dublin South, to beat Galway-Clare in the final. Michael's contribution of 12 points played an important part in this victory.



GRAIGNAMANAGH SPECIAL JUNIOR HURLING TEAM



Fran Doyle (Graignamanagh) breaks through in the Vocational Schools All-Ireland Final.

GRAIGUE/BALLYCALLAN

1993 would have to be classed as a good year on the inter-county stage but a very poor year at local level. At the time of writing, for the first time since 1984, no county title has been won at any grade. However, the Under-21 hurlers, Under-21 footballers, Minor footballers and Under-16 footballers (league) are still involved.

Adrian Ronan became the first player from the club to win a second senior All-Ireland medal when he starred in the defeat of Galway scoring 1-2. Adrian had a great championship setting up a number of vital scores in all the games. As a result he was selected on the 'Sunday Independent' team of the championship and received a memento of his selection. He was also selected on the Leinster Railway Cup Hurling team and helped them to win the competition bringing a Provincial medal to the parish for the first time since 1971.

Damien Cleere and James Young collected All-Ireland minor medals when Kilkenny beat a highly fancied Galway team in the final. Damien had a magnificent year and starred in the drawn game against Offaly, in the defeat of Wexford and in the Leinster Final against Dublin when he scored 1-4. He scored a magnificent 0-4 in the All-Ireland Final against Galway. He moved to midfield in the closing stages of the final, and along with James Young who had come on as a substitute, got Kilkenny back on top at a stage when Galway looked threatening.

It was a double All-Ireland victory for James Young. Earlier in the year he played a big part in St. Kieran's College triumph in the All-Ireland Colleges Hurling Final. It was James's second All-Ireland Colleges medal as he was a substitute on the 1992 team. James also came on as a substitute in the drawn championship game against Offaly.

Another player to win an All-Ireland medal was Pat Comerford who was a substitute on the St. Kieran's College team. Michael Hoyne was another from the club to win a national title when he went all the way to win the All-Ireland Under-14 long puck competition. It was his second year representing Kilkenny in this competition.

Three local boys represented Kilkenny in the mini-games played before the All-Ireland hurling semi-finals and the All-Ireland hurling finals. Brendan Hayes figured on All-Ireland semi-final day, while Brendan Marnell and Gearóid Cleere figured on All-Ireland final day. Other players to gain representative honours were Michael Hoyne and Dermot Hoyne who played with the Kilkenny Under-14

team in the Tony Forristal tournament in Waterford.

Damien Cleere was a member of the Kilkenny Minor football team which won the International tournament held in Kilkenny and also figured on the championship team against Wicklow scoring a goal. John Teehan and John Caldbeck played with the Kilkenny footballers during the National League and Leinster Junior football campaign.

Tomás Comerford collected a Leinster medal as a member of the Kilkenny Under-21 team while Denis Byrne helped Carlow R.T.C. to win the Dr. Ryan Cup (Higher Education Division II Championship) turning the tables on a Cork R.T.C. powered by Cork star Brian Corcoran. The Cork team had earlier defeated their Carlow opponents in the league final.

Noel Maher had no such luck as his Army Cadets team lost both the Division III League and Championship to Sligo R.T.C. Samuel Ryall collected a Rice Cup medal as a panel member of the Callan C.B.S. team which won the title. Local School principal Jim Neary was a selector with the successful Kilkenny Minor hurling team.

The Graigue/Ballycallan senior hurling team had a poor year, collecting three

points out of a possible ten, with a win over James Stephens and a draw with an under-strength Glenmore. They lost to Clara, the Shamrocks and St. Martins. The team, badly hit by injuries, got a bad beating from Glenmore in the first round of the championship. The team played the best hurling of the year in the relegation games. In a tremendous game with Young Irelands they lost 5-7 to 3-8 but then came good in the final quarter to beat Clara on a score of 2-13 to 2-8 and so retained their senior status.

The Special Junior hurlers qualified for the semi-final of the Division II League where they lost to Dicksboro on a score of 3-11 to 0-15. In the championship the team lost to St. Martin's by 2-8 to 0-8.

The Under-21 hurlers just scraped through by 2-7 to 1-8 against St. Lachtains and at the time of writing are waiting to play the Fenians.

It was a poor year for the Minor hurlers. They defeated Erin's Own in the first round before going down to James Stephens by 2-14 to 1-5. They also qualified for the league semi-final and after playing a draw with Glenmore were well beaten in the replay.



Adrian Ronan, Kilkenny's dashing corner forward kept his promise to meet President Mary Robinson on the Hogan Stand in September.

(Photo: Sportsfile)

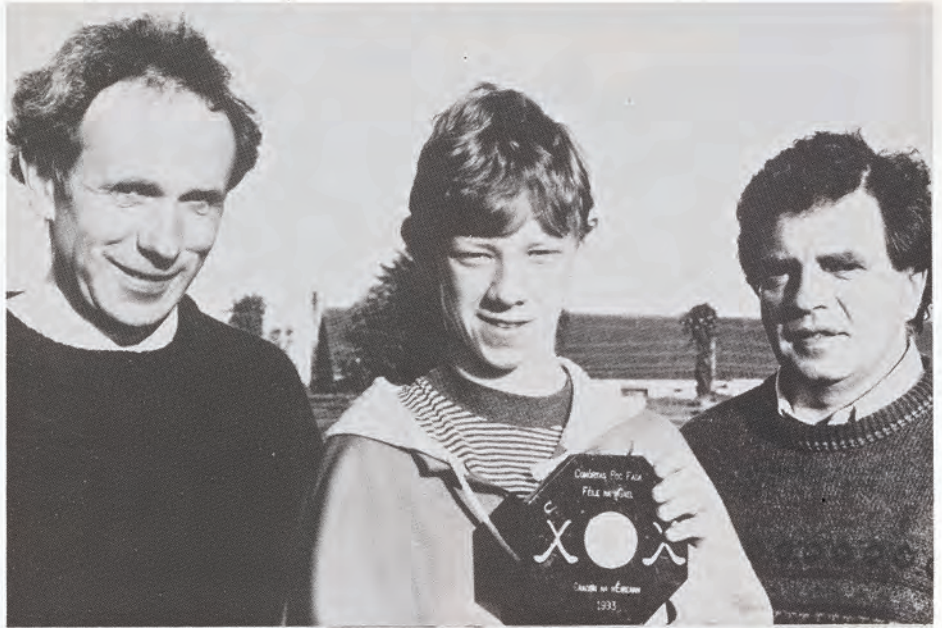
CLUBS R O U N D - U P

The Under-16 hurlers did not qualify for the semi-finals of the league and lost the championship to James Stephens by 2-11 to 2-7. The Under-14 hurlers qualified for their fourth successive county final but were not physically strong enough for James Stephens who won by 4-7 to 2-6. The Under-13 hurlers reached their tenth successive county final, an all-time record, but lost their title to Kilkenny C.B.S. by 3-4 to 1-5.

The Under-21 footballers took the 1992 Roinn B title in February after two great games with Tullogher-Rosbercon. The winning team was Sean Byrne, John Nugent, Pat Purcell, Larry Comerford, Joe Delaney, Tomas Comerford, Johnny Butler, Joe Brennan, Noel Maher, Conor Manogue, Peter Sheppard, James Young, Wayne Ronan, Denis Byrne, Damien Cleere. Pat Comerford played in the drawn game.

Apart from the Under-21 success it was a disastrous year for the club's football teams. The seniors lost to Glenmore, Muckalee and Dicksboro and must play Mooncoin to see who drops down to the Intermediate grade. The Under-21 footballers have yet to make an appearance in the 'A' championship, as have the Minor footballers. The Under-16 footballers reached the semi-finals of both the league and championship. They lost the championship following a replay against the Railyard and have also played a draw with John Lockes in the League. They await the replay.

The Under-14 footballers qualified for their second successive Under-14 'B' football final but again ended up on the losing side, this time to Thomastown on a score of 3-5 to 1-8 after



Graigue/Ballycallan's Michael Hoyne was Kilkenny's representative in the 1993 Poc Fada competition. Pictured at the Kilkenny Final were: From Left, Sean Costelloe, Cathaoirleach Cumann na mBunscoileanna, Michéal Hoyne and Paul Kinsella, Runaí Cumann na mBunscoileanna. (Pic. Tom Brett)

the sides were level at 0-3 each after an exciting first game. The Under-13 footballers did not reach the closing stages of the Schools competition losing out to Thomastown in the quarter finals.

It was a year of great activity in the new field. The bulldozers at last made their appearance and both fields were levelled off and grass seeds sown in the main field. The second field will not be sown until the New Year. The last phase, the

erection of dressing rooms, now remains to be tackled.

The club were deeply saddened by the death of two great supporters during the year, Jack Fennelly and Oliver Ryall. While Jack had advanced in years, he was an avid supporter all through the years. The sudden death of Oliver Ryall at the All-Ireland Final was a great shock to everyone in the local area. May they rest in peace.

PHIL HOGAN

T.D.



*wishes to
congratulate all
Kilkenny teams
and "Ducksie" Walsh
for a great year.*

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JAMES STEPHENS

A VERY good year indeed for James Stephens, with the club winning a county title in every grade from Senior to Under 14. Not only did we field seventeen teams at all levels but there were also major developments in other areas. The final phase of the development of the bar and social club was completed in October 1993 with the remodelling of the lounge bar area, creating a tastefully-designed lounge for our regular patrons. Much credit must go to the hardworking committee and manager for the fine premises we now have. We are also in the process of developing our second pitch at St. Joseph's.

On the playing fields, we lost two great club servants, Joe Hennessy and Paddy Neary who hung up their boots at the end of 1992 and began the year with a very young senior squad. Nevertheless, we had a great start to the Credit Union League, defeating Glenmore by 0-12 to 0-9, Shamrocks by two points and St. Martin's by a similar margin. Despite losing to Graigue-Ballycallan and Clara, we qualified for the League semi-final only to come a cropper to a very impressive Erin's Own side.

The championship quarter-final paired us with city rivals Dicksboro, but matters went terribly wrong for us in the last ten minutes of the game and we went down by four points. We defeated Mullinavat in the final of the Passage East tournament.



Pat Mulrooney, Secretary, Kilkenny G.A.A. Football Board, presents the County Championship Football trophy to James Stephens captain John Joe Cullen.
(Photo: Tommy O'Neill)

Our footballers went all the way to take the Ned Langton Cup by defeating Railyard after a replay. Brian Leahy won the "Man of the Match" award, scoring 3-3 in a sparkling performance. Careful preparation and good coaching showed that quality football can be played in Kilkenny if the will is there. We ran a very successful senior football tournament involving Railyard, Mullinahone, Tramore and ourselves in February.

The Junior hurling team did very well in the Nissan northern League, retaining their

title by defeating Galmoy by 1-16 to 2-11. The championship opened brightly with excellent wins over Fenians and Galmoy, but eventual County champions St. Lachtain's defeated us in the next round. The Special Junior "B" team had a great run and won the county final, defeating Glenmore by 2-7 to 0-8 in a hard game. This team was captained by Paul Cody.

Having won the Minor Roinn "A" title in 1991 and '92 and retaining many members of both panels, we were hot favourites to gain the treble, not achieved since



Mission accomplished! . . . Joe Pyke (Chairman, Bórd na nÓg) with Shane Doyle (captain) and Phil "Fan" Larkin (selector) after the All-Ireland Minor Final.

(Photo: Tom Bretty)

CLUBS

R O U N D - U P



JAMES STEPHENS – SPECIAL JUNIOR HURLING "B" CHAMPIONS, 1993

Front – Vincent O'Brien, Kevin Grogan, Shane Doyle, Liam Smith, Anthony Brannigan, Michael Power, Brendan Lee, Fergal Cantwell, Paul Cody (captain), Stephen Drénnán, Timmy Grogan (selector). **Back** – Eamon Larkin, Billy Walton (selector), Martin Ryan, Martin Phelan, Derek Kerwick, Conor Cleere, Patsy Kelly, Brian Dooley, Brian Hayes, Robert Kearney, Brian McGrath, Mark Kelly, Wayne Kelly, Stephen Kelly, Seán Brennan (selector).

Mooncoin in 1960, '61 and '62. We defeated Graigue-Ballycallan in the first round but lost to Ógra Naomh Lachtain in the Northern final by the slenderest of margins, 2-9 to 0-14. Winning the League title, the John Tobin Cup for the first time since 1986, defeating Glenmore by 2-4 to 1-2, was some compensation for going out of the championship.

Congratulations to Shane Doyle who captained Kilkenny to victory in the All-Ireland Minor final. He was aided and abetted by Liam Smith, Kevin Grogan, Vincent O'Brien, all of whom played huge roles in gaining the *Irish Press* Cup for

Kilkenny for a record sixteenth time. Martin Phelan and Conor Cleere were substitutes and Phil "Fan" Larkin was a selector. Well done to Philip Larkin who performed with distinction on the All-Ireland Under 21 team who lost to Galway after a replay.

We had an excellent year at Under 16 grade, winning the football league over Dicksboro 1-8 to 1-6 and championship over Piltown by 4-10 to 0-7. We made great progress through the hurling campaign but were defeated by Dunnamaggin in the championship final by 4-6 to 4-5.

In one of the finest games seen at Nowlan Park at Under-14 level for many years, we defeated Graigue-Ballycallan by 3-8 to 2-9 in the Paddy Grace/Féile na nGael final and went to Galway representing Kilkenny in the national competition. Three Galway teams and ourselves made up the semi-finalists for the Christy Ring Trophy but we went down to a physically stronger Turloughmore in the semi-final.

The county final pitted ourselves and Graigue-Ballycallan in a repeat of the Féile final and we edged them out again in another outstanding game by 4-7 to 2-6. This squad also won the Diarmuid Shortall Tournament. Ten of this panel went on to win the Lisdowney "Sevens" for the first time. We were defeated by Dicksboro in the County Football final by 5-4 to 3-3.

Under the leadership of Sean Brennan and Matt Ruth we continue to run hugely successful Sunday morning coaching sessions and street leagues catering for seven to twelve year olds. The Fry family of O'Loughlin Road presented a magnificent Perpetual Challenge Cup for the winners of the 5th and 6th class league. More than fifteen adults are involved with Sean and Matt in this programme.

The first AGM of the James Stephens Camogie Club was held in October. Officers elected were: Chairman, Jimmy O'Brien; Secretary, Ann Power; Treasurer, Joan Cody. We will field teams at Under 14, 16, 18 and Junior for 1994.

During the year some former club members passed away, one of whom was Paddy Larkin, St. Patrick's Close. He had given so much of his time to the club as a player, winning titles at many levels including County Senior titles and an All-Ireland club in 1976. He served as a selector at many grades and worked hard on many sub-committees. Ar dheis Dé go raibh a anam dílis.



Brian is tops! . . . James Stephens dashing corner-forward Brian Leary receiving the "man of the match" trophy from Pat Mulrooney following his side's comprehensive win over Railyard in the County Senior Football Final.

(Photo: Tommy O'Neill)

JOHN LOCKES

It has to go down as the most successful year in living memory as far as the present membership of "The Lockes" is concerned. Top of the achievement list would have to be the winning of the Intermediate Championship for the first time since 1935.

Those close to the kernel of "The Lockes" machine will tell you that the long gruelling climb to the "Intermediate Everest" started way back in the uninviting climate of late February in John Locke Park. Over seventy spartan training sessions, under trainer/coach Barry Henriques. Later, captain Sean Hogan collected the Hanrahan Cup from County Board Vice-Chairman John Healy, amid scenes of unrivalled euphoria hitherto unknown to Callan supporters.

In League and Championship matches, "The Lockes" record will read: Played 9, Lost 2, Won 7. The 77% success rate makes great reading for a club that was euphemistically known as "the nearly team". In the League opener the Callan lads had a torrid time before they beat Bennettsbridge in Palmerstown in April. In May, Barrow Rangers bit the dust, but only just, in the second match.

"The Lockes" were on a "high", but O'Loughlin's took the wind out of their sails in their very next match on June 6th. O'Loughlin's really slammed the Callan lads. As subsequent events proved, that upset was very instrumental in reversing the result with the city lads on the march to Nowlan Park.

In mid-June the "Lockes" got back on the winning trail with a terrific result against old adversaries Carrickshock in well-prepared Windgap. Qualification for the League semi-final rested on the last outing against Mooncoin in Piltown on the last Saturday in June. Mooncoin won by five points.

Callan lost their qualification place, but there were lessons to be learned. The "Lockes" selectors - Johnny Wall, Christy Vaughan and E. J. Ryan - were quick to learn. With the aid of a few timely challenge matches the mentors re-sited their troops and set off in search of the "Holy Grail".

The first match was against Graignamanagh in wet but beautifully-prepared Thomastown. This was the match where the Callan "experimentation" came of age. Jim Lynch settled in well at centre-back. Declan Roche looked good as a forward and he gave a certain authority to a young forward division. The score wasn't high but the effort was titanic.

Training was seriously stepped up for the next match against the Rower/Inistioge, in Thomastown again. If any encounter was to be highlighted as the

match that the "Lockes" came of age then this surely was the game. Callan led for most of the way, trailed by a single point at the call of play, but Kevin "Butty" Coffey earned the Callan lads a second "bite" with a last-second point.

The replay was nail-biting. The Callan defence was brilliant, with Sean Hogan, Mick, Jim and Jack Lynch outstanding. Adrian O'Sullivan was electric and John Power displayed all the silken skills that he is renowned for. The forwards were particularly effective, ramming in four great goals. One goal in particular, a kicked effort by Stuart O'Donovan, was clinical in its execution.

O'Loughlin's beckoned in the semi-final. After the League drubbing by the city lads in the early summer, the "safe money" was on a repeat dose for the "Lockes". Callan had different ideas. Playing well in the first half, they were still behind by six points at the break. A few well-chosen words at the break sent "the lads" out with fire in their bellies.

Slowly the arrears were whittled away until, with two minutes left, John Power rifled an impossible equaliser from ninety yards and David Lynch slotted over the winner from sixty yards. The rest is history. The story continues elsewhere in this book.

They say that behind every great team there is a great back-up team. So take a bow, Johnny Wall, E.J. Ryan, Christy Ryan, Tom Ryan (secretary), Pat Power (chairman), Tom Walsh, Davy Kelly, Joe O'Dwyer, Paddy Donovan, Eric Roche, Johnny Tobin and many, many more. Your efforts have at long last been rewarded.

Elsewhere in the club, activity was vibrant. The year was set on the glory trail with the under-16 team winning their league. Under the management of the hard-working Tom Walsh, Davy Kelly, Eric Roche and Tom Ryan, they beat Kilmacow, Glenmore, Graignamanagh and Ballyhale Shamrocks, before taking care of Tullaroan in the semi-final.

Then the northern champions from Johnstown were faced in Palmerstown. Hurling with great determination, these lads were not going to be beaten. They led at half-time and totally dominated the second half to win comfortably in the end.

In their championship campaign they were pitted against the Rower/Inistioge in the first round. The Rower had come back from Roinn "A" in the league to contest the Roinn "B" championship. After a very gutsy display the Callan lads were beaten by two points. The Rower eventually won the championship.

The Under-14 hurlers had an interesting season. They travelled to Lucan to take



Only surviving members of the John Lockes team which won the Intermediate Championship in 1935, Micksie Connell and Ned Leahy. They are pictured at the 1993 Intermediate County Final won by John Lockes. (Photo: Tommy O'Neill)

part in a Mini Féile. They won the final of that competition, taking care of Lucan Sarsfields, Ballyboden St. Enda's and Conahy Shamrocks. All the boys returned to Carlow where they were the guests of the Leinster Council at the Kilkenny versus Carlow and Wexford versus Laois Leinster semi-finals.

They beat Graignamanagh in their first championship match, which took two games to decide the winner. In the southern semi-final they were eventually beaten by the Shamrocks after a terrific game. The Callan lads were being led at half-time by ten points. They fought like tigers in the second half and only "the clock" was not kind to them. They eventually were beaten by four points.

At Minor level, the "Lockes" beat the Shamrocks well, before The Rower put paid to their chances of qualifying for the play-offs. The same team again prevented Callan from further progress in the first round of the championship.

The Under-16 footballers beat Kilmacow, Tullogher and Windgap to qualify for their league semi-final, which has still to be completed. They have already played a draw with Ballycallan.

The much-fancied Under-21 hurlers fell at the first hurdle when Tullogher beat them in the first round by two points. This was a game that was surely thrown away.

The club were delighted that John Power collected his deserved All-Star award. In addition to his All-Ireland medals, he has collected many other national awards. Other players from the club who were honoured by inter-county selectors were Declan Roche (Junior), P. J. Cody (Under 16), John Paul Corcoran, Damien Burke (Under 14) and Paul Morrissey who won an international football title with Kilkenny.

KILMACOW

One could say that it was a "Jekyll and Hyde" type of year for Kilmacow. We played "some great hurling, and then again not so great. True, we fought our way to the county Junior final, but a lot happened before that. We started the season in the Carrigeen tournament with a win, and our first really competitive win was against the Emeralds in the Open Draw competition. We won that on a score of 2-12 to 3-6. We then faced a team that we were to get very familiar with later in the year - Freshford.

We played them in the Open Draw semi-final in Danesfort, in conditions that were not conducive to good hurling. A draw was a fitting result here, on a score of eight points each. The replay was played in Bennettsbridge, and the sides were still level at the call of full time. Extra time was mandatory and we eventually won by 1-9 to 3-11.

In our opening match of the League Championship we played Piltown in Mooncoin. We got a bit of a trimming, losing by 3-14 to 1-9. It was going to be a hard season. That result was destined to haunt-Piltown at a later stage in the championship. Our next game was against hot favourites, Dunnamaggin, in Carrigeen, on the 24th of April. We gave a very good account of ourselves and we were narrowly beaten by two points. A short break in the League allowed us to regroup, and we faced Windgap in the Carrigeen Tournament semi-final.

Again we suffered a defeat, although our hopes of retaining our title were high. We were also beaten, by Thomastown in the Mullinavat Tournament at the end of May. We faced Windgap in the next round of the League, again in Piltown, on the 5th of June. We were beaten by five points and our morale was on a downward slide. The story didn't change against Slieverue in our next match, going down by four points.

We were therefore pointless, going into the knock-out stages of the championship. We were "pulled" against old adversaries, Slieverue, to be played in Mullinavat. This was one match we were "fired" for. Slieverue didn't know what hit them, and we sailed home on a score of 3-7 to 2-6.

Our team that day was: N. Gahan, G. Power (capt.), D. Scully, G. Mulligan, T. Reddy, S. Caulfield, R. Dalton, P. Long (0-1), J. Dalton, N. Dunphy, P. Gahan (0-3), D. Tierney (0-1), D. Haberlin (1-0), J. Forristal (1-2), T. Sutton (1-0).

In the Southern semi-final we faced Dunnamaggin, in Mullinavat, on July 25. Showing great character, we overpowered many people's favourites for the title and "slipped" into the Southern final against Piltown. What started as an atrocious year, had materialised into a very pleasant one, and we were now only one hour from the County Final. Not too long before this that thought had been only a figment of a wild imagination. In the South final, played in Mooncoin, we were again the underdogs to the Liam McCarthy-powered Piltown outfit.

At half-time we were adrift by a solitary point - 0-4 to 0-3. This was a very dour affair, with very little inspiring hurling from either side. Jim Kinsella was brought on for the second half, and later in the same half both Dermot Tierney and Declan Gahan were introduced to telling effect. Both were very instrumental in sealing a famous victory, albeit by a slender margin.

Eddie Gahan played well in goal, while our backs were unbeatable. P. Ryan and Paul Long had great games in the middle of the park.

Up front, J. Kinsella, P. Gahan, D. Gahan, D. Tierney, J. Dalton and T. Sutton, worked very hard for the cause of Kilmacow.

We probably reserved our worst performance for the County Final against Freshford. We suffered a stunning blow before the match when we discovered that both Dermot Haberlin and J. Forristal could not line out because of injury. The basic difference between the sides was that Freshford availed of every scoring opportunity, while we did not.

Our Special Junior team had a great run to the Southern Final, having played Glenmore, Slieverue, Windgap, Tullogher/Rosbercon and Carrickshock on the way. We beat Windgap in the "Semi" by 3-6 to 1-1. Dick McNamara was our scorer-in-chief, scoring 1-3. After Dick, best for Kilmacow were B. O'Callaghan, S. Ryan, T. Reddy, T. Vereker, L. Rockett, Greg Power, and Tommy Hearne.

In the Southern Final, Glenmore pipped us on the line by the minimum of margins. Glenmore got a goal in the first few minutes, which proved costly to Kilmacow. We were behind at the break by a solitary point. Our lads showed great character and courage in the second half, but, try as they could, they couldn't get their noses in front when it mattered.

The team was: B. O'Callaghan, E. Reidy, S. Ryan, P. Phelan, T. Vereker, J. Phelan, D. Phelan, B. Walsh, G. Drohan (0-6), T. Hearne, E. Doody, J. O'Neill, N. Walsh, D. McNamara (0-4), A. Long. Subs: R. Ryan (0-1), P. Walsh, G. O'Neill.

In the Intermediate Football Championship, we had a great win over Freshford in our opening game, winning by 5-7 to 3-0. Our top scorer was Niall Walsh, who bagged three goals. Paddy Gahan score 1-4, N. Gahan 1-0, while S. Ryan, P. Long, T. Sutton got 9-1 each. We fell at the next hurdle, when the eventual county champions beat us by 2-9 to 2-6. At half-time we trailed 1-3 to 0-4. Our scorers were P. Gahan 1-3, N. Walsh 1-1, N. Gahan and D. Haberlin 0-1 each.

Our Minor hurlers had a torrid time in Roinn "A". They had a good win over Graignamanagh by 2-8 to 1-5. However, Glenmore and Mooncoin had rather easy victories over our lads in subsequent games, but, with young players of the calibre of B. O'Callaghan, N. Gahan, D. Tierney, M. Sweeney, and M. Ryan the future of Kilmacow is assured.

Great work was put into under-9 and under-11 tournaments, with terrific turn-outs at all the matches. Great credit must go to Seamie Kennedy, Tom Reid, Greg Power and Mickey Flynn. Members of the Kilkenny panel presented medals to nearly 50 youngsters.

Our under-16 team had a reasonable run in their League campaign, beating Graignamanagh and Glenmore. They suffered defeats by John Lockes and Shamrocks. In the championship they were beaten by the eventual County champions, Rower-Inistioge. However, this team is a very young one, with most players eligible next year again.

M. Sweeney, B. Gaule, P. Mullally and F. Walsh played on the Kilkenny under-16 and under -14 teams during the year.



KILMACOW - COUNTY JUNIOR HURLING FINALISTS

Back Row (l-r): Trevor Sutton, Ned Gahan, Andy Long, Seán Caulfield, John Phelan, Peter Ryan, Tommie Hearne, Declan Gahan, John Dalton, Paddy Gahan, Greg Power, Ian O'Callaghan, Noel Dunphy, Gerry Mulligan, Andy Ryan, Toby Vereker, Eamon Reddy, David Phelan. Front Row (l-r): Denis Scully, Brian O'Callaghan, Dermot Tierney, Jimmy Walsh (mascot), Robert Dalton, Paul Long, Gerry Drohan, Tomás Reddy, Jim Kinsella, Dermot Haberlin.

LISDOWNEY

Both the Minors and Juniors had something to celebrate at the beginning of the year – the Minors having won the Iarnrod Eireann Minor Hurling League Roinn 'B' and the Juniors winning the Northern Junior League.

The Junior team had mixed fortunes in the League, and then in the Northern championship defending champions Blacks and Whites were responsible for ending the team's interest in the competition. After some disappointing performances during the Summer, the year is ending on a more optimistic note. Having beaten Threecastles in the semi-final of the Paddy Cahill Cup, they have now qualified to meet Galmoy in the final.

In 1991 the Minors won the championship and league in Roinn 'C'. In 1992 they won the league in Roinn 'B'. In 1993 they qualified for both the championship and league finals, only to be beaten by the Rower-Inistioge and O'Loughlin Gaels respectively. In spite of these two narrow defeats it has been a proud achievement over the past three years for a small rural parish.

The parish and club is also proud of one of it's minor stalwarts – Ollie Blanchfield. Having achieved All-Ireland Senior Colleges success with St. Kieran's, he later went on to win All-Ireland Minor hurling honours with Kilkenny. In both competitions Ollie played in goal and was a competent one at that. Well done Ollie!

On the subject of success, achievers of the year were the Senior camogie team. Following



Eleanor Walsh and Yvonne O'Meara (training session before All-Ireland Final).

the successful defence of the County Senior Championship title, the team went on to win the Leinster Club Championship when they defeated Marino from Dublin. In the All-Ireland Semi-Final however they went under to a star-studded Glen Rovers from Cork.

In other under-age competitions the Under-13's were the most successful – reaching the quarter-finals of the Roinn D League competition. The Under-14 team enjoyed a weekend in Dublin, taking part in the Leinster Mini Féile.

As usual one of the highlights of the year was the Lisdowney/Coca-Cola Sevens. Organised by Larry Hamilton, Eamonn Dunne, Tommy Maher, Eamonn Nolan and Josephine Murphy, it attracted 32 teams from Kilkenny, Tipperary, Laois, Kildare, Dublin and Wexford. James Stephens defeated Kilmanagh in the final of

the Sweeney Cup, while Tullaroan proved too strong for Clara in the final of the Lisdowney Shield.

In the parish competition Paddy Bergin's team were victorious over David Dowling's team. Referees for the three finals were Ollie Blanchfield, P. J. Delaney and Adrian Ronan. This was the twelfth year of the competition and as usual all the trophies were sponsored by Coca-Cola.

It is one of the highlights of the hurling year in Lisdowney and among the attendance were Nickey Brennan (Co. Board Chairman), Ted Carroll (Co. Board Secretary), Barry Hickey (County Board Development Officer), Tom Ryall (Secretary, Board na nÓg), Sean Costelloe (Chairman Cumann na mBunscoileanna) and Paul Kinsella (Secretary Cumann na mBunscoileanna).


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MOONCOIN

The year 1993 started promisingly for the club with both Intermediate and Special Junior A teams doing well in their grades. The Special Junior A team were the first to bring honours home to the club when they beat Mullinavat in the Southern Final. They then went on to beat Dicksboro in a wonderful County Final played in Ballyhale. There was great work put into preparing this team by trainers Johnny Walsh and Joe Dunphy and selectors Eugene Dunphy, Nicholas Heneberry and Michael Fox.

Teams: Mark Tyler, Patrick Dobbyn, Jimmy Holden (captain), Michael Kinsella, Aidan Fitzpatrick, Eddie Doyle, David Phelan, Trevor Dunphy, Oliver Dunphy, Eamon Mackey, Eamon Delahunty, Joe Wall, Joe Vereker, Tom Heneberry, Johnny Ryan.

The Intermediate Team were the winners of the Open Draw for the first time for the club, when they defeated St. Martin's in the final, in a replay held in Ballyhale on a scoreline Mooncoin 1-13, St. Martin's 1-9. Team selectors: Noel Doyle, Joe Dunphy and trainer Johnny Walsh.

Team: Mark Tyler, Paddy Crowley, John Mahon, Michael Kinsella, Aidan Fitzpatrick, Joe Murphy (captain), Patrick Doyle, Domo Connolly, David Phelan, Pat Hogan, Eamon Delahunty, Eamon Mackey, Joe Vereker, Michael Walsh, Joe Wall. The Intermediate hurlers reached the League Final for the second time but were defeated this time by great rivals O'Loughlin's.

It was down now to what Mooncoin were all out to achieve and that was winning the I.H.C. We were drawn against Carrickshock in the quarter final and after a well contested game, came out winners by six points. Things were now settling into place, training was going well under the very hard working, and no-nonsense Johnny Walsh.

Thomastown were our opponents in the semi-final, the game being played in Ballyhale. Victory was not to be, as on the day, Thomastown came out winners (1-12 to 1-9). A major factor in the result was the accuracy of Thomastown's Paul Treacy from placed balls of which he converted 8 points. He also scored one point from a 65 and one from play. Mooncoin tried very hard to save this game but they could not break down a very committed Thomastown defence, so it all ended a very disappointing year for the club after a very bright start.

However, compensation has since come in the form of a southern title for our Under-21 hurlers, which team had failed to negotiate the first round for the last number of years. Success in the final was achieved at the expense of a youthful Glenmore team on the scoreline 2-14 to 2-9. The Under-21 footballers were beaten by Carrickshock after a replay in the 1992

Championship which was played in early January.

The Senior footballers were beaten in their three games in the League/Championship and now await a relegation play-off with Graigue/Ballycallan. Having defeated Tullogher easily in the Southern Final of the Special Junior Football Championship, hopes were high of victory in the County Final. However, on the evening in question, it was apparent that individual superiority in ability is no match for a team prepared in a total football surrounding, as shown on the scoreboard in favour of old rivals Railyard at full-time. The efforts of Billy O'Keefe and Tom O'Hanlon in promoting football at both club and county level have to be applauded. However, it is recognised that their task is a hopeless one in a tradition-laden hurling environment, where football prowess and ability at juvenile level has not been developed into inter-county success.

Many successful fund raising events were held during the year, the most notable being the Rose of Mooncoin Festival, Golf Classic,



John Kinsella

Race Night, Piltown Draw, Sponsored Cycle; thanks to the main sponsors of the Rose of Mooncoin, Morris Oil, the sponsors of the Race Night, Avonmore Creamery, Eoin Dermody, Ormonde Soft Furnishings, Comerfords Bar, Rolor Commercials, Ryan's Bar, Martin Howley, Suir Electrical; thanks to the organisers of those events and those hard working committees.

Thanks to groundsman and Sports Complex caretaker Eamon Holden for his marvellous work for the club. The club was shocked and saddened during the year by the death of John Kinsella, son of Club Secretary Pat Kinsella, who lost his life in an accident. John was a wonderful supporter of the club and county teams, and his untimely death had a devastating effect on the parish. May John and all those who died from the parish during the year rest in peace.

The Juvenile section of the club which for the past two years are responsible for all teams under-16 years of age, was very active during 1993 without achieving any success. In the under-16 Hurling League, early victories were

achieved against Thomastown and the Rower-Inistioge. However, last minute scores conceded against Dunnamaggin and Piltown deprived us of a place in the play-offs.

The subsequent victory of Dunnamaggin in the final of this competition and in the Championship, indicated that the standard of hurling at this age group is highest among southern clubs and is some compensation for our endeavours during the year. Indeed, it was generally agreed that our confrontation with Dunnamaggin in the Championship where we were beaten 3-8 to 2-8 was a game of exceptionally high standard of hurling. We went out tamely to Piltown in the Under-16 Football Championship which was played only two days after our energy sapping encounter with Dunnamaggin in the Hurling Championship. However, this team provided one of the games of the year in the Under-16 Football League to draw with James Stephens in Larchfield and were unlucky not to qualify for the play-off stages.

Our under-14 hurlers were surprisingly beaten by Thomastown in the Paddy Grace tournament and were later beaten in the semi-final of the Championship by James Stephens having earlier defeated Dunnamaggin and being narrowly beaten by Rower-Inistioge.

The Under-13 School League team were beaten in the semi-final by a strong Mullinavat side. Our under-13's also took part in the Waterford City League and were also beaten in the semi-final by Clonea. The Under-11 team qualified for the final of the Waterford City League and the Clover Tournament and in both cases, were narrowly beaten by Mount Sign after excellent games.

The Under-14 Football Championship was played on a league basis this year, and there was a large gap in class between the City sides, James Stephens and Dicksboro, and the rest. By virtue of our victory over Clara after a replay, we would deem to be best of the rest though well below the standard set by county champions, Dicksboro. In the Under-13 Football School League, we were beaten in the quarter final by Freshford though appearing throughout the game to be a more skilful team.

Other under-age activity consisted of Under-10 challenges games with Piltown, Tramore, Kilmacow and a most successful trip to Kilkenny with 42 boys who took part in various matches against James Stephens selections. We also took part in an Under-13 Tournament in Dungarvan and the Lisdowney 7-a-side tournament without success.

We had a most enjoyable weekend in Dublin as guests of the Cruimlin club when taking part in the Leinster Féile Competition and also enjoying our bus trips to all of Kilkenny's Championship matches including the All-Ireland Final.

MULLINAVAT

1993 has been a year of mixed fortunes for Mullinavat. We may not have any hardware to show for our endeavours, but all in all, the year had its own rewards. For the first time in fifty years our Senior hurlers reached the semi-finals of the championship. We had a very poor run in the League, winning only our last game. However, in the championship, things improved, and a new spirit entered into the club.

We won our first round game against Clara, and went on to beat St. Martin's in the quarter-final. We were drawn against Dicksboro in the semi-final and went up to Nowlan Park, quietly confident. Alas, victory was not to be ours. After being denied at least two certain goals by the No. 1 goalie in the game, Michael Walsh, we ended the first half on level terms, but with our hopes still high. The second half, however, proved disastrous and we finished the game, trailing by fourteen points. After overcoming the initial shock, our spirits are again rising and we look forward to next year with anticipation.

Having won the Special Junior B Hurling Championship in 1992, we played in the A grade this year. We had a good run, reaching the Southern final, where we had to give best to a stronger Mooncoin outfit. Our underage teams, both in hurling and football had a reasonable amount of luck, reaching the knockout stages of some competitions. Our minor hurlers reached the semi-final stages of both the League and Championship, but had to give best to the Rower-Inistioge and Lisdowney respectively. Our Under-16 hurlers, however, made amends by winning the County Championship at the expense of Bennettsbridge.

The Mullinavat Club is very much alive, and we are still running our own tournament which must be one of the longest running in the county. The year 1960 saw the beginning of the Mullinavat Parochial Fete and Hurling Tournament, and some of the best teams from Kilkenny, Waterford, Wexford and Tipperary have taken part over the years.



Mullinavat Under-16 Captain, Declan Wall, making his acceptance speech after winning the Roinn C Championship.



Mullinavat, Under-16 Roinn C Hurling Champions 1993 – Back Row: David Coughlan, Shane Walsh, Patrick Delehunty, Brendan Maddock, Oliver Dalton, Liam Murphy, Michael Shefflin, Seamus Holden, Patrick Aylward, Kenneth Butler, Declan Wall (captain), Jonathan Duggan, Niall Madigan, Eamonn Sutton. Middle: Alan Wall, Mark Coughlan, Paul Conway, Paul Aylward, Richard Butler, Sean Hogan, Declan Duggan. Colm Kenneally, Ciarán Laherty. Front row: Patrick Butler, R. J. Carroll, Kenneth Slattery.

O'LOUGHLIN/GAELS

It was rather a good year for our Intermediate team with the highlight being the league final victory over a strong Mooncoin side in Ballyhale. It was a difficult game to win with just a point between the teams at the finish. O'Loughlin's Paul Cleere received the "Man of the Match" award. In the Championship we bowed out at the semi-final stage to eventual champions John Lockes. This match was also very close, the final score being 0-9 to 1-5.

Our Juniors didn't fare so well this year, going down to Threecastles in the opening round of the championship, though only a puck of the ball separated the sides. The Special Junior squad just didn't show at all this year.

The minors did very well with a win in the Minor League final over Lisdowney by 1-9 to 1-4 gaining revenge on them for their one point margin over us in the championship. Unfortunately we lost our minor trainer before this game.

Juvenile Affairs: Regular coaching sessions are held on Sunday mornings for 8-12 year olds. Over the last three years the dedication of these coaches coupled with a strong juvenile committee has shown in the improving results of our teams at under-14, 16 and minor levels.

The recently held Diarmuid Shortall - Billy Keane under-14 hurling Blitz was again a great success.

We would like to take this opportunity to thank all our sponsors for their support during the year.

Our Handballers must be congratulated on their continuing success and we wish them well for '94.

Three of our Intermediate hurling team represented the club on the county Junior squad, Johnny Holohan, Andy Comerford and Derek Shelley all of whom won Leinster Championship medals. Andy Comerford, Michael Holohan and Barry Power also collected Leinster Championship medals at Under-21 level.

Congratulations also to Brian Kelly, a Minor, Under-21 and Intermediate player who won an All-Ireland Colleges medal with St. Kieran's in April.

Yet again we played host to the annual County Board Convention. It was an enjoyable year for our club and we look forward to 1994 with enthusiasm.

O'Loughlin/Gaels take League Crown

O'Loughlin/Gaels 1-14; Mooncoin 2-10

O'Loughlin/Gaels so long the nearly team of Kilkenny hurling, burst out into the warming sunlight of victors in dramatic fashion at Ballyhale when they took the

Vale Oil Intermediate League title from Mooncoin.

The game was into the final minute when Brian Kelly won possession about 25 yards out. The determined wing-forward burrowed his way through, and cracked in a good shot which ended in the net.

Disciplined Mooncoin made the opposition fight every inch of the way, even after a very poor opening during which they gave O'Loughlin's a good head start. Against the breeze, the victors had points without reply from Paul Cleere (3) and Michael Cleere during the opening six minutes. After Joe Murphy interrupted the trend to get Mooncoin off the mark there was more of the same from the winners. This time the scoring returns were taken by Paul Cleere and Joe Daly to up the difference to 0-7 to 0-1 after barely 12 minutes. Mooncoin at last settled into their stride and after a pointed free by Michael Walsh, the alert Eamon Mackey ran through for a goal that provided a timely boost for his colleagues. Although the winners hit back for a quick brace of points from Paul Cleere, the Southerners were more with it from here to the break. At that stage the scoreline was 0-10 to 1-5 in favour of the winners, but at least Mooncoin were back in the hunt after a terrible opening. The losers got back on

terms in the 37th minute after Eamon Mackey tossed over two points (0-10 to 1-7). Those efforts shook O'Loughlin's, but they responded positively and Michael Doyle put his name on two points. The Mooncoin response was a point from Michael Walsh, and then in the 55th minute they hit the front for the first time. A well struck low shot by Walsh was well saved, but the lurking Joe Wall pounced to put the ball in the net (2-8 to 0-12). Twice subsequently there was a good exchange of scores, which left the way open for Kelly to do his match winning party piece with just seconds remaining on the clock.

Kelly may have been the late hero for O'Loughlin's but the great earlier work of Barry Power, Derek Shelly, Johnny Holohan, Keith McCormack, Andy Comerford, Michael Cleere and man-of-the-match Paul Cleere did a lot to make sure this was a day of celebrations for the city outfit.

Eamonn Mackey and Michael Kinsella were the losers most prominent players, while Michael Walsh and Joe Murphy also performed with distinction.

The Scorers:

O'Loughlin's: P. Cleere (0-8 frees); B. Kelly (1-0); M. Doyle and M. Cleere (0-2) each; A. Comerford, J. Daly (0-1 each).

Mooncoin: E. Mackey (1-3), M. Walsh (0-5 - 3 frees); J. Wall (1-0); J. Murphy (0-1 '65); G. O'Shea (0-1).



Derek Ralph, captain O'Loughlin Gaels Roinn 'B' Minor hurling champions

(Photo: T. O'Neill)



O'LOUGHLIN'S INTERMEDIATE PANEL '93

Front row: B. Kelly, D. Ward, M. Doyle, K. McCormack, J. Holohan, K. Cleere, P. Cleere, J. Dowling, J. Daly. Back row: P. Dowling, J. Skehan, M. Holohan, S. Tyrrell, J. Nolan, D. Shelley, D. Morrissey, P. Fitzgerald, E. Buckley, A. Comerford, D. Ronan, R. McEvoy, B. Daly, J. Malone, M. Coogan. (Missing: B. Power and M. Cleere).

PILTOWN

WE went into the year 1993 with great expectations of getting back up to Intermediate level. Our hurlers quickly found out that Junior status is no bed of roses when we were beaten in two finals. It was our Junior football team who brought honour to the club by winning the county Junior Football Championship.

Liam McCarthy brought further honour to the Piltown club with his second All-Ireland medal. The club would like to congratulate him on his fine display in all games but especially against Galway in the All-Ireland where he scored three great points from play. The club honoured Liam and captain Eddie O'Connor with Tipperary Crystal presentations at a highly successful function in the local G.A.A. complex. Other members of the team were also present.

The Hurlers Co-op Draw was a great success, run in conjunction with Kilkenny County Board and associated clubs from other counties. The club would like to thank all the Kilkenny clubs who put in such a fine effort in selling tickets.

We started off the year in great spirits, winning our first four league games against Kilmacow, Slieverue, Dunnamaggin and Windgap to qualify for the league final against Dunnamaggin. In one of the lowest scoring games of the season Dunnamaggin slipped one over on our boys by 0-6 to 0-5.

We went on to play Slieverue in the semi-final of the championship and won by 1-13 to 0-10, thus qualifying for the South Junior final against neighbours Kilmacow. We played badly on final day and lost another low-scoring game 0-8 to 0-6.

JUNIOR FOOTBALL

This year's campaign began in very sad circumstances with the hospitalisation of Niall O'Brien two days before our first game. This was as a result of injuries suffered in a car accident which later proved to be tragically fatal. The death of

an exceptionally talented player with tremendous spirit left the whole parish with a tremendous sense of loss. Ar dheis Dé go raibh a anam.

Our first game with Kilmoganny ended in a draw after leading for most of the hour. Subsequent league games yielded good victories over Carrigeen and Thomastown.

In the South semi-final our forwards hit top form, scoring 5-8 against Carrickshock. The South final was very exciting with a Jim Power goal earning us a draw in a game we had earlier dominated. The first half of the replay saw Piltown on top, leading by 1-10 to 0-1 at the break. But Thomastown scored 4-1 in the early stages of the second half to lead by a point. Fortunes fluctuated before a well-taken goal by Andrew McCarthy sealed our place in the county final.

After close exchanges early in the half, Piltown led Blacks and Whites by 0-4 to 0-1 at the interval. For the first 20 minutes of the second half Piltown found their true form and ran up 1-4 against the wind. Blacks and Whites narrowed the gap with a good goal but two further points ensured that the cup was going to Piltown.

Final team – Paul Friend; Tommy Reid, Mossy Walsh, Brian Farrell; James Farrell, Michael O'Shea, James Connolly; Liam Kenny, Tadhg Kenny; Jim Power (capt.), Kevin O'Shea, Michael Brennan; Paudie O'Gorman, Denis McCarthy, Andrew McCarthy. Subs. – Mark Walsh (played), Liam McCarthy (played), P. J. McCarthy (played), Seamus Morris, Dave Stepney, Liam Kearns, Pat Enright.

The side was very young, with five Minors – James Farrell, James Connolly, Tadhg Kenny, Michael Brennan and Paudie O'Gorman; one Under-16 player – Brian Farrell; three Under-21 players – Mossy Walsh, Liam Kenny and Kevin O'Shea. Experience and youth gave a good blend with great leadership from captain Jim Power and Denis McCarthy who were also selectors.



PILTOWN JUNIOR FOOTBALL TEAM, 1993

Back (from left) – Tommy Hearne, Liam Kearns, Tadhg Kenny, Michael Brennan, P.J. McCarthy, Michael O'Shea, James Farrell, Kevin O'Shea, Thomas Reid, Liam Kenny, Paul Friend, Paudie O'Gorman, Pat Enright. **Front** (from left) – James Connolly, Seamus Norris, Brian Farrell, Liam McCarthy, Dave Stepney, Jim Power (captain), Denis McCarthy, Andrew McCarthy, Mark Walsh, Michael "Mossy" Walsh, Dan Kenny.



NIALL O'BRIEN

Niall O'Brien was a very loyal and valuable player member of the present Piltown team. His tragic loss a short time ago has been severely felt by his family in particular and his team-mates on the Piltown team. To his father Lory, his mother Mary, his brother Paul and his sisters Claire, Colette and Lorraine I extend the heartfelt sympathy of all true G.A.A. followers and the officers of the Southern Board. Ar dheis Dé go raibh a anam dilis.

Aged 20 years, he was very popular with all his team-mates. He was a great-hearted and spirited player, always willing to give his best in training and on the field of play. He played at every level under-age, both football and hurling, on school teams etc. A loss to family, friends and parish. A friend to all.

JUVENILES

In contrast with 1992, the current year has been relatively quiet. The Under-16 hurlers showed merit with a four-point win over eventual champions Dunnamaggin in the first round of the league and scored a draw against Mooncoin.

The loss of a key player, Michael Gordon, proved too much in the semi-final against Dicksboro.

The Minors opened brightly against Dunnamaggin but were beaten by the eventual champions. Dunnamaggin were our conquerors in the Under-16 championship also.

Our Under-14 hurlers and footballers trained hard but met with little success while our school football team reached the championship semi-final.

Brian Farrell and Michael Gordon made the Kilkenny Under-16 football side. Liam Kenny represented Kilkenny in Under-21 football and the same player also played on the Kilkenny Senior football team. James Connolly played for South Kilkenny in the Leinster Minor league.

ROWER-INISTIOGE

It is now twenty-five years since the club's one and only success in the Senior hurling championship. It was hoped that 1993 would see the club take the first step towards achieving the same feat by winning the Intermediate Championship. With a nice blend of seasoned campaigners and promising young players, training commenced last February.

A good start to the Intermediate League saw the Rower overcome the challenge of Glenmore in the first game by five points. Excellent wins over Thomastown and Conahy Shamrocks in the next two games left the team in a strong position for qualification to the semi-final stages of the league. The final two games in the league were against Tullogher-Rosbercon and Graignamanagh, and although victory was achieved in both, the performances were far from convincing. The unbeaten league run saw the side into the semi-final were Mooncoin provided the opposition.

Having beaten Mooncoin in last year's championship, the Rower entered the game with optimism. However, the loss of John Prendergast and Tom Lyng seemed to have an unsettling affect on the team and Mooncoin capitalised on this to the full, running out winners by seven points.

The good league campaign saw the Rower gain automatic qualification for the quarter-finals of the championship. However, a long delay without a competitive game left the team poorly prepared for their important championship game against John

Lockes, who had earlier accounted for Graignamanagh. The Callan side proved a tenacious and determined team. The Rower welcomed back Richie Kelly after a serious illness for this game. The contest itself was a big disappointment with both teams playing poorly. In the end a draw was probably a fair result.

The replay the following Saturday saw the Rower line out without both Jack and Jim Lyng and their presence was sorely felt. The standard of play was much higher than the previous game but it went very much along the same lines. The Rower played well throughout the hour but the fighting spirit of John Lockes was clearly evident for all to see. The Rower's cause was not helped by the concession of four rather soft goals. With ten minutes remaining, John Lockes led by three points but, try as they might, the Rower could not get through for the vital scores to save the game. For the Rower-Inistioge it was a case of another dream shattered and back to the drawing-board.

The Special Junior team holds a great deal of promise at the start of each year, and 1993 was no different. However, after a few early defeats interest waned and the team failed to progress in the competition.

Off the field activities were at a premium this year, the highlight being the official opening of the club's newly built dressing-room at their pitch in the Rower. The ceremony was performed by the Minister for Sport, Mr. Liam Aylward, on the 25th April, 1993. The opening was followed by a tournament game between Kilkenny and Waterford which attracted a large

attendance. After the game the players, guests, club officials and stewards were served a beautiful meal in the local hall. The opening of the clubhouse is a result of much hard work by many people and all concerned can feel justifiably proud of their achievement.

It was really at under-age level that our Club had its major achievers. Our Bord na nÓg committee can feel justifiably proud of all the winning teams it produced through the year. Our under-13 hurlers contested the Roinn "A" championship for the first time since 1987. We were beaten by Gowran in the championship quarter-final, but we gained a sweet revenge for that defeat by beating the same opposition in the County Cup Final. A brilliant equalising goal by Dónal Brennan, and then an equally brilliant winning point by Tom Doyle put the seal on a famous victory.

This victory, following on from last year's Roinn "B" victory, seals a healthy future for hurling in Inistioge and the Rower schools. It is worth noting that our under-13 success in 1987 was helped by the inclusion of three girls. Camogie is catered for by a committee within our Bord na nÓg also. The numbers of boys and girls have increased, which is indicative of the Trojan work being done by people like Richard Tierney (Chairman), Benny Holohan (Secretary), Martin Kavanaugh, Jim Mooney, John Murphy, Dermot Kavanagh and many more.

Our under-16 lads bridged a 26-year-old gap, when they won the county final by beating the Fenians of Johnstown. This was a thrilling final, played at a break-neck pace all the way. A combination of fast, ground hurling, allied to good teamwork and effort, brought



ROWER-INISTIOGE - ROINN B MINOR HURLING CHAMPIONS

Back: Bill Cottrell, Michael Murphy, Martin Burke, Jim Murphy, John Downey, Michael Barron, Mark Kennedy, Paul Cottrell, Brendan Bolger. Front: Derek Walsh, Richard Flood, Tomás Digby, Owen Kenny, Jim Kelly, Michael Doyle.

CLUBS

R O U N D - U P

great honour and glory to the "Green and Red".

An abundance of credit is due in no small way to selectors Martin Kavanagh, Danny White, Pat Walsh and Trainer, Benny Holohan.

Our Minor hurlers, by winning their Roinn "B" title, made it a great 'double' for the club. It was our first 'double' (Under-16 and Minor) ever. Our boys performed with great determination to overcome a determined Lisdowney outfit by 0-11 to 1-6, thus bridging a thirteen year gap. Not since 1980 have we managed to win a Minor title. That final, too, was against Lisdowney. Well done to selectors Noel Cottrell, Benny Holohan, Martin Barron and excellent trainer, Michael Tierney.

In camogie, our victorious Under-13 team from last year put the Under-14 title alongside it this year. The unique feature of this success was, that the team had no alterations in either personnel or position over the two campaigns. A loud "hurragh" then for selectors Noreen Tierney, Mary Cottrell and Margaret Minogue.

The Under-13 team reached their semi-final while the Under-16 girls also reached the Roinn "C" semi-final.

We competed in the Rackard League Final in New Ross for the third time, and we eventually managed to collect the honours. We beat Tullogher in the all-Kilkenny final. This team was coached and managed by Dermot Kavanagh, Jim Mooney, Mick Tierney and Martin Barron.

Two players from our Club won All-Ireland minor medals with Kilkenny on the first Sunday in September.



ROWER-INISTIOGE U.14 ROINN C CAMOGIE CHAMPIONS 1993

Back Row (l-r): Catherine Corcoran, Lizzie Cahill, Lourde O'Brien, Norah Barron, Linda Cottrell, Mairéad Gallavan, Anne Barron, Miriam Lyster, Michelle Tierney. Front Row (l-r): Becky Dempsey, Mairéad Holohan, Michelle Flood, Mairéad Kelly (Capt.), Catriona Holohan, Siobhán White, Linda Minogue and Deirdre Brennan.

They were Brendan Bolger and Jim Kelly. The same two players collected two All-Ireland Colleges' Football medals with Good Counsel College in New Ross. Martin Burke won an All-Ireland Junior colleges' medal with New Ross Vocational School. Other players from the club that wore the Black and Amber with distinction were: James Tierney, Paul Sheehan and

Tom Digby (all under-14), Michael Doyle, Derek Walsh, Owen Kenny, John Kavanagh, and Pat Brennan (all under-16). Congratulations to all concerned.

Bord na nÓg thank all the people who helped to make the year such a successful and rewarding one for the players and the Club.



ROWER-INISTIOGE U.11 RACKARD LEAGUE WINNERS 1993

Back Row (l-r): Paul Knox, Michael Cullen, Joey Proctor, Niall Power, Michael Hackett (Capt.), Peter Barron, Diarmuid Kavanagh, Joe Mooney. Front Row (l-r): James Roche, Michael White, Shane Dunphy, Connie Clifford, Mick McCarthy and Michael Tierney.

ST. LACHTAIN'S

Ten years after St. Lachtain's were first relegated from Senior ranks, they return to the Intermediate grade but this time in glory. The winning of the Junior hurling championship was the highlight of the past year.

The Juniors made reasonable progress in the Open-Draw competition and in the Northern Junior League but bowed out in the closing stages. The arrival of Kevin Fennelly as trainer brought an immediate response from the panelists. An unusual feature of training from then on was the presence of a number of spectators led by Jimmy Brennan, Tommy Phelan and Marty Prendergast. A first round rout of Cloneen led to a slight hiccup in the form of a draw with Ballyragget.

The top-class replay victory over Ballyragget restored confidence for a semi-final clash with James Stephens, many people's fancy for honours. A great performance by St. Lachtain's over the Citymen paved the way for the Northern final against Black and Whites. It turned into the Mick Morrissey Show as the full-forward fired in 5 goals, and St. Lachtain's were back in the County Final.

A power-packed performance saw the Junior championship return to the village for the second time in the club's history.

Another highlight of 1993 was the great run enjoyed by the minors as they progressed to the Roinn A County final for the first time since 1977. The players had shown encouraging promise during the league with a victory over Dicksboro and a draw with James Stephens. Nevertheless, they were unfancied in the championship but set about their task with determination and commitment.

They followed up their league victory over Dicksboro with another one point win in the Northern semi-final. James Stephens provided the opposition in the Northern final. For the second time this year the Village men failed to beat the Freshford men as St. Lachtain's had a memorable one point victory, the first at this level since 1956.

A tremendous amount of preparation went into the County final; however, on final day Dunnamaginn had the better of exchanges, winning by 1-11 to 1-6. There was great disappointment but the team has developed well over two years and hopefully the pay-off will come at a higher level, though not this year, as the under-21's went out in the first round.

The Under-16's went out in the first round of the championship but reached the quarter-final of the league where they had a fine tussle with the Fenians before going down by a goal.

The Under-14's reached the semi-final of the championship. They won the Shield section of the Dublin Féile when they enjoyed a weekend with Malahide.



Oliver O'Connor, captain of St. Lachtain's minor hurlers, receiving the trophy for the Northern Minor hurling championship from Richie Stone, Bord na nÓg.



Mick Morrissey, captain of Co. Junior champions, St. Lachtain's, receives the trophy from Nicky Brennan, Co. Chariman.

The Scoil Lachtáin team, though out of the honours, continue to survive in Roinn A.

Representing St. Lachtain's, Oliver O'Connor and John Costelloe brought great honour to the club when winning All-Ireland minor medals. Joe Dermody won great admiration for his displays with the Under-21 team. Peter Hennessy was also an under-21 panelist. Both Oliver and Joe won the Kilkenny Player of the Year award from the Supporters' Club at Minor and Under-21 level. Joe is now sub. goalkeeper on the Kilkenny senior side, the first representative from St. Lachtain's in 10 years.

Damian Hurley, Brian Cahill and Oliver O'Connor won All-Ireland Senior Colleges' medals with St. Kieran's. Oliver completed a unique "triple crown" of medals with his county junior medal. John Costelloe was on the North Kilkenny team which won the Leinster League. Michael Kavanagh was the club's rep. on the Kilkenny Under-14 team.

Work progressed on Páirc Lachtáin and it is

hoped to have the official opening in May 1994.

There was deep regret among club members in October at the unexpected death of Jimmy "Crowley" Brennan. Jimmy was a lifelong supporter of St. Lachtain's and a tireless worker both as a fundraiser and in the field. He was popular with all sections of the community and supported all the clubs. He will be missed by everyone. May he rest in peace.

Sympathy is extended to the relatives of the following people who died during the year: Tom Dwane, Mrs. Annie Brophy, Mrs. Bridget Butler, Paddy Bergin (Sart), a former Tullaroan hurler and longtime supporter and whose presence and comments will be missed; Jack Crosby, late of Bohergloss, and Jimmy Brennan.

Thanks to players, officials, members and supporters who helped to make 1993 a memorable year for St. Lachtain's. Rath Dé oraibh go léir.



ST. LACHTAIN'S COUNTY UNDER-21 ROINN B CHAMPIONS 1992

Back (l-r): Kevin Gibbons, Brian Cahill, T.J. Kelly, Eamonn Ryan, Owen Dalton, Pat Connolly, Pat Doyle, Martin Maher, Joe Dermody, Mervyn Queally, Damian Anderson, Oliver O'Connor, Peter Hennessy. Front: Ian Colclough, George O'Shea, Lorcan Carroll, William Walsh, Damian Hurley, Tommy Dowling, Sean Hickey (capt.), Bobby Dillon, David Martin, Paul Phelan.

ST. MARTIN'S

A year that began with high hopes for our Senior hurlers ended with bitter disappointment in Callan, when we were desperately unlucky to lose to Mullinavat in controversial circumstances in the championship quarter-final.

Having looked at the remaining games in the Championship, one has to say that St. Martin's were well capable of progressing further this year. After a good start to the senior league, St. Martin's qualified for the semi-final which we lost to The Fenians. We also qualified for the Open Draw final in which we were beaten by Mooncoin following a replay, having played without our county players, Eamonn Morrissey and Diarmuid Lawler.

Tom Brennan took on the job as Trainer/Coach this year and gave a great commitment to St. Martin's but unfortunately his efforts were not rewarded with success on the playing field.

Our Special Junior team improved on their performances of recent years and qualified for the Northern Championship Final and the Northern League semi-final.

Our Minor hurlers gave the club great hope for the future with their displays this year and qualified for the Northern final, which they were unlucky to lose by a point. They gained some measure of compensation by winning the 'Ned Downey Cup' and trophies in a tournament organised by Conahy Shamrocks this autumn.

Our other juvenile teams performed up to their capabilities and won many of their games without being strong enough to qualify for the final stages of any competition.

The highlight of the year was the contribution made by Eamonn Morrissey and Diarmuid Lawlor towards the Kilkenny challenge for the Senior and U-21 All-Ireland titles. One was proud to be a St. Martin's man in Croke Park when Eamonn Morrissey rescued Kilkenny from the jaws of defeat against Wexford and paved the way for All-Ireland success later in the year.

Diarmuid Lawlor played a major role in helping Kilkenny reach the All-Ireland U-21 Final and his spectacular last minute goal in the drawn game gave us great enjoyment. All club members were proud of their achievements and wish to congratulate both players.

This year saw the continuing development of the facilities at the



There was great excitement when the McCarthy Cup was brought to Wandersforde National School by Kilkenny players Eamonn Morrissey, Jamesie Brennan and Dermot Lawlor. Photo: Tommy O'Neill

G.A.A. fields in Coon and Muckalee. We would like to thank all those who have supported the fund-raising for these developments not alone in 1993 but for the last number of years. We would also like to acknowledge the work done by those men who have taken part in the FÁS Employment Schemes of the past few years - both St. Martin's Hurling and Muckalee Football Clubs have benefited greatly.

TOMMY KINSELLA

When Tommy Kinsella passed away after a brief illness this year, there was a deep sense of sadness felt by his family and by hurling followers in Coon, Muckalee and Ballyfoyle. This was demonstrated by the huge attendance at the removal of his remains from his residence and burial the following day. His coffin was draped with the St. Martin's colours and past and present players and supporters combined to form a Guard of Honour.

St. Martin's Hurling Club, as a mark of respect, insisted on having a senior league semi-final game, due to be played on the day of his funeral, rescheduled.

A lifelong Gaelic games enthusiast, Tommy Kinsella served

Coon Hurling Club as secretary for many years and was succeeded by his son Paul who continued his good work with Coon and later on with St. Martin's. He gave up his best field, which is convenient to the village and school in Coon, so that we all could have playing facilities. These facilities have now been developed to a degree of which any rural area could be proud due in no small way to the efforts of Tommy and his family.

He was always present, while he was able, to help out with any work going on in the field and helped prepare the field for games and training. He looked forward to going to the field to watch the players training and to discuss hurling with young and old alike. He got great satisfaction from seeing St. Martin's winning the county senior title and the All-Ireland Club Championship: He put his feelings into verse afterwards with a kind tribute to those involved in the victories. His dedication to the G.A.A., and in particular to the G.A.A. in Coon, Muckalee and Ballyfoyle, will always be remembered, and to his wife Mollie and family, St. Martin's Hurling Club extends the deepest sympathy of all its members on their bereavement.

St. Martin's wish to extend sincere sympathy to all families in the parish who suffered bereavements during the year.



1992 U-21 Football. Back row: Caleb Daly, Aidan Lawler, Seamus Byrne, Dermot Comerford, John Dooley, Richard Healy, Tommy Kehoe, Martin Patterson, Liam Coogan, Liam Nolan, Mattie Kealy. Front Row: John Ryan, Eoin Maher, Sean Kelly, Paddy Kealy, Nicky Purcell, Dermot Lawler, Jenny Buggy, Richard Nolan, Brendan Ryan, Tom Agar.

ST. PATRICK'S (BALLYRAGGET)

A SUPERB year at under-age level brought adequate compensation for another disappointing season for our adult teams.

Both our Under-13 and Under-14 hurlers captured county titles for the parish while our Under-16 hurlers were a little unlucky to be beaten in the Northern Final by Bennettsbridge.

The Under-13 hurlers battled their way through a tough group which included a good Graiguenamanagh side and a fancied St. Patrick's De La Salle to qualify for the final of the Hennessy Fuels league. In the final they gave an outstanding display to win by two points against a physically stronger Mullinavat. Great credit is due to Pat O'Neill and his fellow teachers, Claire Farrell and Michael O'Connor, for the time and effort they gave preparing this team. Our club is very lucky to have such dedicated people doing the groundwork in the schools.

Former All-Ireland camogie star Anna Whelan was appointed trainer at the start of the year. Her selectors were Richie Stone and Tommy Phelan. A good run in the eleven-a-side league ended when they were beaten in the semi-final by Tullogher/Rosbercon. They opened the Supermac's championship campaign by reversing an earlier league result, defeating Bennettsbridge on the score 6-5 to 3-5. Clara were next to be seen off.

They faced Carrickshock in the county semi-final at St. James's Park. In an incident-packed game Ballyragget fought back from seven points down to force a draw. The replay, played at Danesfort, also ended in stalemate. The second replay was played in Callan and Ballyragget got through with a late point after another tremendous game.

Neighbours and great rivals Conahy Shamrocks provided the opposition in the final. Conahy had already taken the league title and were hotly fancied to do the double. The build-up to this final in both parishes would have done justice to the All-Ireland. A huge crowd descended on Freshford for the game. They were not to be disappointed.

Conahy dominated for long periods of the opening half and seemed set for victory when they led by four points at the break. The Ballyragget mentors made some switches at half-time which paid rich dividends. The scores were level by the 40th minutes.

The final quarter belonged to Ballyragget and they went on to score a famous victory on the score 1-9 to 1-5.

The importance of hurling to the people of the parish was evidenced by the big crowd that greeted the team when they returned home later in the evening.

At under-16 level Ballyragget reached the quarter-final of the league before bowing out to Bennettsbridge. The 'Bridge again proved the bogey team in the "Supermac's" championship Northern final. This is a game Ballyragget could have won. The concession of needless frees proved costly and Bennettsbridge held on to win by two points.

The Junior hurlers flattered to deceive. They had a good league campaign qualifying for the semi-finals, beating Threecastles, Danesfort and Clara and drawing with Fenians. Their only loss was to Blacks and Whites.

In the semi-final they faced Galmoy. After a bright opening half they completely collapsed in the second period and Galmoy ran out nine-point winners.

Erin's Own were St. Patrick's opponents in the opening round of the Nissan Northern Championship. After a tough, hard game Ballyragget were lucky to escape with a draw.

In the replay at Jenkinstown they built up a big lead by half-time. However, they had to survive a late onslaught from the 'Comer men to win by two points. St. Lachtain's (Freshford) were our next opponents. Freshford were very lucky to escape with a draw as Ballyragget gave their best display of the year. Unfortunately, they followed this with their worst performance in the replay and Freshford ran out easy winners.

Freshford went on to win the county final. Our minor hurlers had a poor league



Brian Phelan, captain of St. Ciarán's School (Ballyragget) U-13 team, receiving trophy from Seán Costelloe, Chairman, Cumann na mBunscoileanna.

campaign. In the Iarnród Éireann championship they gave their best display of the year before going under to Bennettsbridge.

The Under-21 hurlers also failed at the first hurdle, losing out to Tullaroan. Lack of fitness was a major factor in this game. However, there were a number of good performances, particularly from the younger members of the team.

Our special juniors failed to make an impression in either the championship or the league.

Although the club fielded teams in the various football leagues and championships success eluded us this year. However, a number of good performances at under-age level would seem to indicate that it won't be too long before a title at juvenile level comes to Ballyragget.

Ballyragget camogie players were to the fore again this year. Ann and Angela Downey and young Sandra Gleeson were part of the successful Lisdowney team that won the Leinster club championship while Elaine Moylan, Sandra Gleeson, Lorna Callinan and Martina McGrath were members of the successful Castlecomer minor team.

The club's under-10 league organised by John Kavanagh was won by Kevin Malone's squad while the annual Boys' School tournament was not played due to the school's involvement in the county final.

A number of Ballyragget players represented Kilkenny at under-age level during 1993. Harry Stone and Gerry Kennedy were on the county team for the Nenagh Co-op under-16 tournament. Billy Irwin and Brian Phelan were selected on the under-14 football team that took part in the South-East Blitz.

The local park was the venue for many major games during the year. The first ever 15-a-side national camogie league final also took place in Ballyragget. Kilkenny beat Cork after a thrilling game. Once again local girls Ann and Angela Downey were to the fore in Kilkenny's victory.



ST. PATRICK'S - ROINN B UNDER-13 CHAMPIONS

Front row - L. Gleeson, M. O'Donnell, E. McGrath, B. Phelan, B. Stone, K. McCraith, R. Malone, B. Phelan (capt.), S. Roberts, P. Callinan, K. Delaney, K. Malone, J. Lacey, M. Walshe. **Back row** (l. to. r.) - R. Irwin, G. Brophy, J. Lacey, E. McEvoy, K. Staunton, K. Holohan, B. Dooley, D. Kenny, G. Glendon, James Phelan, T. Delaney, N. Kenny.

CLUBS R O U N D - U P



John Lacey, Ballyragget club secretary, who received a presentation on completing 25 years service.

As with every other club, fund-raising is a major problem for St. Patrick's. This year the club launched a weekly lottery which has been very well supported. The lottery has proved to be a major source of income. The Hurlers' Co-op. Draw and the annual American Tea Party were the other major fund-raisers.

The highlight of this year's American Tea Party was a presentation to club secretary John Lacey who had just completed 25 years in this onerous position. Among those who paid tribute to John's contribution to the club were county chairman Nickey Brennan,

Norther Board chairman Ned Moran and Bórd na nÓg chairman Joe Pyke as well as local club officials. The 1994 Party takes place in January and this time the successful under-age teams will be fêted.

This year also saw the start of a big drive to upgrade facilities at the "Park." The club has acquired permission to employ two people under an S.E.S. scheme. As well as giving employment, the scheme will be a major boost to our efforts to ensure that players, officials and spectators enjoy their visits to Ballyragget.

Other highlights of a very busy year were the juvenile sections trips to Croke Park. Visits from both Lester Ryan (Leinster Hurling

Officer), Brian Ryan (County Coach) and the visit of the county Minors with the *Irish Press* Cup.

All in all, the club can look back on 1993 with a great deal of satisfaction and look forward to '94 with renewed optimism.

During the year the club lost three great friends and supporters with the deaths of Councillor Jack Murphy, Pat Keaveney and Danny Culleton. All three in their different ways made handsome contributions to the development of the club over the years. We extend our sympathy to their relatives and friends.

May they Rest in Peace.



ST. PATRICK'S - ROINN C U-14 CHAMPIONS 1993

Back row (left to right) - Richard Stone, Eamon Cuggy, Brendan Dooley, Tony Stapleton, Mark Swan, Eamon Delaney, Brian Phelan, James McCraith, David Kenny. **Front** - Kevin O'Hara, Eamon Stafford, Pat Callinan, Billy Irwin, Kevin Malone, Eamon McEvoy, Robert Malone, Stephen Roberts, Brian ("Brooksy") Phelan, Liam Gleeson, Joe Lacey.

Eamonn Langton



69 John Street, Kilkenny.

☎ 056-65133

AWARDS

Bar:
PUB OF THE YEAR
National Award
Winners 1986, 1987,
1988
(three-in-a-row)

RESTAURANT
National
Bar Catering Winners
1986, 1988 and
1989

Regional Winners
1985, 1986, 1987,
1988 and 1989

C.I.E. International
Awards of Excellence
1989
for
Best Luncheon

Super Pub of the
Year Award 1992

SLIEVERUE

This year's centre stage belongs to our successful Under-13 hurling team which won the Cumann na mBunscoileanna championship. Unfortunately, winning championships at any grade in Slieverue is quite rare.

It is hard to imagine that nearly a decade has passed since we beat the Fenians to capture the Under-21 title or that it is nearly 40 years since we last won the senior hurling championship.

Since 1988, when we were beaten in the Junior county final, we have been there or thereabouts, reaching 5 Southern finals on the trot. A little bit of extra grit and determination will help us make that breakthrough.

It would be good to start early next year by getting a full, committed panel together to give a serious commitment to achieving our ultimate goal.

A settled, highly-motivated side working together can achieve top performances from moderate to good players. It is the hope of the club that the regular players can organise themselves with natural leaders from their own ranks to win that elusive title.



When the McCarthy Cup came to Slieverue on 14th September it was welcomed very warmly by Jack Hincks, seen here with Eddie O'Connor and Michael Phelan. Jack is one of Kilkenny hurling's greatest admirers.

KILKENNY

CORPORATION and COUNTY COUNCIL



*Well done to our men in
Black and Amber*



KILKENNY COUNTY COUNCIL
JOHN'S GREEN
KILKENNY
Tel: 056-21196
Fax: 056-63384

KILKENNY CORPORATION
CITY HALL
KILKENNY
Tel: 056-21076
Fax: 056-63422

THOMASTOWN

Thomastown had a very successful year in '93. Our U-14s completed a double – winning the Roinn B hurling and football championships. Our Intermediate hurlers reached the final of the championship and the semi-final of the league; our Intermediate footballers reached the semi-final and our Junior footballers the southern final. The U-16s reached the Southern football final and the U-13 school team the final of the Country Cup football.

At the start of the year the club secured a major sponsorship deal with Kavanagh's Super-Valu which provided the club with much needed finance.

Training commenced in February under the watchful eye of trainer Noel Skehan. The commitment of the players to the training was excellent and as a result we qualified for the league semi-final. Here we suffered a setback when we were defeated by O'Loughlin's. When the championship came around the team got back on the winning trail and defeated Paulstown and Mooncoin to qualify for the final against Callan. There was great disappointment when we lost the final to Callan but as this is a very young team we have great hopes for the future. Great credit is due to Noel Skehan, Ger Maher and Alan Hoyne for the time and effort they put into the preparation of the team.

Our Intermediate footballers were defeated in the semi-final by Clara in a game that could have been won. The Junior footballers were unlucky to lose the Southern Final to Piltown (after a replay) who went on to win the county final easily. Our Special Juniors, U-21s, Minor and U-16



THOMASTOWN UNDER-14 FOOTBALL CHAMPIONS

Back row (l. to r.) Pat Whitty, Oscar Ryan, Niall Kiely, Robert Stapleton, Declan Dempsey, Stephen Kelly, Murty Hughes, Niall Nevin, Brian Feeney, Keith Lannon, Paul Doyle, John Donohoe, Sean Walsh, Noel Power, Patrick Butler. Front row (l. to r.) Dessie Walsh, Ian Begley, Timmy Maloney, Wayne McMahon, Paul Dempsey, Paul Dunne, Derek Lanigan, David Walsh, Thomas Kelly, J. J. Roche, Derek Brennan, Joe Murray, Richard Bolger. (Missing Mark Magnier)

hurlers made early exits from the championships. The Minors put in a great effort and having won a few of their league games were unlucky to lose their first round championship game to Mullinavat. The U-16 hurlers were a big disappointment as much was expected of the team which had won U-14 in '91. They did however, reach the Southern Final in the football competition where they were defeated by an excellent Dunamaggin team.

Our U-14s completed a great double. In the hurling final we had a great victory over Shamrocks, while in the football final it took a replay to separate us from Graigue/Ballycallan. The team had further success when they were victorious in Féile Laighean which was held in Dublin. The boys were hosted for the weekend by Swords Hurling Club and a great time was had by all. Our school football team were defeated by Dunamaggin in the Country Cup Final by 1-6 to 0-5.

During the year the schools and club were visited by Leinster Field Officers, Lester Ryan and Colm Brady. In November County Coach Bobby Jackman visited the Boy's School and was a great hit with the 2nd and 3rd classes who are eagerly looking forward to his return visits in the Spring. The Hurling Summer Camp in Ballyhale was attended by 50 boys and girls from the club and was a huge success.

The death of Joe Walsh (Ladywell) saw the club lose one of its most loyal members. He had served as a steward at all levels of the Association from club to Croke Park on All-Ireland days for over 50 years. Also gone to his eternal rest is John Doyle (Friar's Hill) who won many honours with the club in the 60's. Our sincere sympathy to their relatives and to all who suffered bereavements during the year.

Finally the club extends thanks to all who looked after teams, provided transport, washed jerseys, looked after our grounds and supported us financially in '93. We look forward to your continued support in '94.



INTERMEDIATE HURLING FINALISTS (Thomastown)

Back (l. to r.) Michael Donnelly, Barry Doyle, Michael O'Keefe, Damian Walsh, John Donnelly, Noel Holden, John Galway, Paul Treacy, Billy O'Keefe. Front: Declan Lannon, John Lanigan, John Brennan, Tom O'Keefe, Cathal Fitzgerald, Melvin Holden.

(Photo: Tommy O'Neill)

TULLOGHER-ROSBERCON



TULLOGHER-ROSBERCON U-11 HURLERS – Back row (left to right) John Murphy, Moling Cottrell, Kieran Barron, Martin Malone, Martin Woods, Declan Phelan, Martin Lanigan, Richard Gaule, Eoin Gorry. Front: Edward Conway, John Cotterell, Andrew Murphy, Martin Roche, Raymond Roche, Richard Murphy.

We entered 1993 with high hopes of a good run in the various championships. Our best bet seemed to be our Intermediate hurlers. After all they had been very impressive when taking the Kilkenny Junior hurling championship in 1992. The step up to a higher grade seemed well within their capabilities.

A perfect start was made on home territory when we beat Conahy Shamrocks 2-13 to 1-13 in the first round of the Open Draw. However, in the next round Young Ireland's proved too strong outscoring us 2-17 to 2-7.

On then to the league and again a dream start was made – a big victory over Graignamanagh – a confidence booster for the road ahead. Another cracking victory over Glenmore was to follow where Jimmy Heffernan had a superb game.

But then things started to go wrong. Eventual county finalists Thomastown had a 2-16 to 1-8 victory over us. We then faced Rower-Inistioge and after having the best of matters for most of the hour, we allowed the opposition to come and pip us at the post.

An excellent final game against Conahy Shamrocks, which resulted in a fine win, was not enough to qualify us for the knockout stages, Thomastown having a better scoring average.

When the draw was made for the championship proper we faced Barrow Rangers in Thomastown. A lacklustre display here meant a drubbing for our side. Our Intermediate status was now in danger and it looked curtains when Graignamanagh destroyed us 3-17 to 2-6 in the relegation semi-final.

It all hinged on the final game against age-old rivals, Glenmore. At last, a vastly improved display gave us a 1-14 to 1-5 win that means Tullagher-Rosbercon will compete in the Intermediate Championship in 1994.

Junior Hurling

No luck in the special junior hurling although we had some good wins in the early stages. Glenmore proved too strong in the Southern semi-final.

Football has always been the poor relation of hurling in Kilkenny but there are always a few interested in playing and promoting it. Our Intermediate footballers mixed the good with the bad. Outplayed by eventual champions, Barrow Rangers in our first game, the score ended 2-6 to 0-5 against us.

We bounced back in the next game to beat Conahy Shamrocks 2-10 to 2-5 in an absolute thriller. A depleted team put up a good show against Clara before bowing out 2-5 to 2-2 and so our hopes were gone for another year.

Primary school

At Primary School level our hurlers won 5 games out of 7 to qualify for the Roinn C semi-final for the second successive year. Although beaten by Tullaroan in that game hopes are high for the future as in 1994 the same panel is available for this competition.

Our under-14 hurlers reached the County League final after an unbeaten run. Conahy Shamrocks proved too strong for us that day in Nowlan Park. The same team reached the Roinn C championship

semi-final but once more defeat was our lot against Conahy.

In under-16 hurling there was no success even though we reached the league final.

No luck in minor hurling either. After winning Roinn C last year, we moved to a higher grade and were beaten in both league and championship.

At Under-21 level, both hurlers and footballers have yet to make their debut.

Youngest

The youngest team fielded by the club was U-11 hurling. They competed in the Rower-Inistioge tournament with ultimate success. On the path to the final they defeated Rower-Inistioge, Geraldine O'Hanrahan's and Rathnure. Their victory over Rathnure in the semi-final was by 5-7 to 3-4 after a thriller.

In the final against Geraldine O'Hanrahan's we were decisive winners by 5-3 to 1-4. Our boys received a beautiful set of medals sponsored by Jim Mooney. The same team had some great wins in the Bill Deegan sponsored New Ross Tournament.

Going all the way to the final Rower-Inistioge beat us by 2-1 to 1-1.

History

History was made in the club this year when for the first time a female officer was voted into office. Mrs. Bridget Kealy was appointed Bord na nÓg secretary and did a marvellous job throughout the season.

Thomas Kealy won an All-Ireland Vocational schools medal when he kept a great goal for New Ross Vocational school. John Barron of Darbystown was also a member of that side.

Raymond Roche and John Paul Phelan both starred with Good Counsel College in some notable victories.

With quite a degree of success at juvenile level we face the future with confidence and, hopefully, these young players will make their mark in future years.

TULLAROAN

Tullaroan G.A.A. club entered 1993 with high expectations, having contested the Senior Hurling County Final in 1992. The club set about going one better and capturing the Tom Walsh Cup. Team manager, Martin Fitzpatrick started the ball rolling in mid February when training commenced. Some challenge games were played and there was a great eagerness among the players. Some tournament finals outstanding from 1992 were played with Tullaroan winning both the Graigue/Ballycallan and Threecastles tournaments and receiving sets of handsome trophies in both cases. The team was gradually getting into shape for their first round game with the Fenians. On the day, however, we were beaten by a more determined Johnstown outfit who subsequently succeeded in reaching the County Final. We proceeded to record wins over Dicksboro, Mullinavat and Young Irelands, and things were falling nicely into place. Alas, at Jenkinstown, Erin's Own had other ideas, and after a thrilling game, pipped us at the finish, thus putting us out of the league competition.

In the first round of the Championship proper, we were drawn against Ballyhale Shamrocks, a game we approached with great caution. In the course of the game, some dubious refereeing decisions, together with the sending off of a key Tullaroan player, confusion on the field left us beaten by a better team on the day. Losing this game meant contesting relegation with Clara. Now, a more determined effort was needed, and all the players responded to produce a great display, thus ensuring our Senior status for 1994.

Tullaroan Special Juniors did very well in the opening rounds of the League, winning against the Fenians, Barrow Rangers, St. Patrick's and Dicksboro, and drawing with Danesfort. We were beaten in the League Final by Danesfort in a thrilling game at Palmerstown.

In the special Junior Championship, Tullaroan beat Johnstown and Conahy, but were overcome by James Stephen's in the Northern Final. Our team was made up of many young players and it is hoped that some of these will progress to the Senior ranks in the coming years.

Tullaroan Under-21's played and won a good game against Ballyragget in the opening round of the Championship, but were well beaten in the second round by Conahy. We are fortunate in that the majority of this team are eligible for next year when, we hope, they will fare much better.

Tullaroan Minor hurlers played a total of six matches, winning three, but were beaten by eventual winners, Emeralds, both in League and Championship. Again, this team had many young players, and all in all, acquitted themselves well. Our Under 16s reached the semi-final of the Roinn B Championship. They were eventually beaten by Johnstown in a

replay. Michael Maher represented the club on the Kilkenny Under-16 team.

At Under-14 level, Tullaroan won the Shield in the O'Loughlin Gaels Diarmuid Shortall tournament, beating Thomastown in the final on a scoreline of 2-2 to 1-4.

The team was:

Richard Holland, Jimmy Cleere, Edward Campion, Tommy Walsh, Chris Maher, Ogie Kennedy, Michael Connolly, Patrick Campion, Matthew Butler, Tom Fitzgerald, Paul Coogan, Paul Delaney, Milo Cleere, Sean Glennon, Richard Cleere, Mark Holmes, John Delaney, David Cleere.

David Glennon won a Leinster Junior medal with Kilkenny C.B.S. who defeated St. Kieran's College in the final. Mark Holmes, John Delaney and Michael Cleere were members of the winning Callan C.B.S. Rice Cup team.

In the Under-13 seven-a-side Tournament at Lisdowney, Tullaroan won the Shield for the first time, beating Clara in the final. The team was:

Richard Holland, Jimmy Cleere, Ogie Kennedy, John Coogan, Patrick Campion, Chris Maher, Tom Fitzgerald, Paul Doheny, Richard Cleere, Tommy Walsh.

By any standards, it was a very good year for Under-age hurling in Tullaroan and great credit is due to the many people beginning with Ned Kennedy, at schools level, right up through the various grades to Senior who are all playing their parts in ensuring that hurling remains strong in Tullaroan.

All in all, 1993 was a great year for Tullaroan Hurling, with victories in five tournaments, but the outstanding achievement was the winning of All-Ireland Senior Hurling medals by club men, Liam Keogh and Bill Hennessy, both of whom gave outstanding displays in the All-Ireland Final. Liam and Bill are dedicated hurlers and wonderful ambassadors for the game of hurling. Tullaroan is proud of them.

Obituaries

The past year has seen the passing of three loyal Tullaroan men, and former players with the club.

Garda Jim Grace, born in Tullaroan in 1905, won an All-Ireland Senior Hurling medal with Kilkenny in 1933, and served with such stalwarts as Lory Meagher, Paddy Phelan, Peter Reilly, Matty Power and Johnny Dunne. Based in Co. Wicklow for a great part of his life, Jim won Senior County Hurling medals in Wicklow, Dublin and Kilkenny. He won a Railway Cup medal with Leinster in 1932. Having already won a County medal with Tullaroan, before he joined the Gardaí, he went on to win a Wicklow county title with Baltinglass in 1927, and having joined the Garda Club, added the Dublin County Title to his collection in 1931. While playing with the Gardaí, he also got his place on the Dublin Senior Hurling team. Jim also played for Bray Emmets. First appointed to Hollywood in 1925, he was transferred to Bray in 1930, and served there, a well loved and respected member of the force, until his retirement in 1970. Throughout all his years of exile, however, he always maintained his interest in, and love

of, Tullaroan, its people and its hurling. After a long and productive retirement, Jim Grace passed away on the 7th of December 1992.

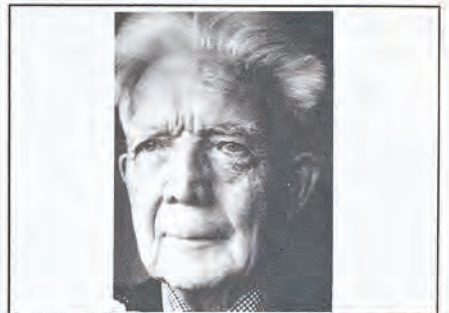
Stephen Marnell died on 28th January, 1993, aged 69 years after a short illness, bravely borne. Like his two brothers, Mark and Father Tommy, Stephen was a fine hurler and played for Tullaroan from 1947 until 1953, when the Parish Rule was introduced. He won a Senior County Hurling Championship in 1948.

Jimmy Cleere's untimely death on 10th January, 1993, came as a sad shock to the Parish and community of Tullaroan. A native of Killeen, in the parish of Kilmanagh, Jimmy came to live in Tullaroan after his marriage to Anne Hennessy. Jimmy was a member of the Tullaroan Senior Hurling Championship winning team in 1948, and also played on the team beaten by Graigue in 1949. A kind neighbour and friend, a fine musician and singer, ever available to work at any Parish activity, Jimmy was a gentleman to all who knew him.

The sympathy of Tullaroan G.A.A. Club is extended to the families and friends of these three stalwarts, and to all who were bereaved during the past year. Guimíd suaimehneas sioraí ar a n-anamnacha uilig.



The late Jimmy Cleere, Tullaroan



The late Garda Jim Grace



The late Stephen Marnell

THREecastLES

On the playing fields, Threecastles had a rather disappointing year. Many thought they might build on success of 1992 but, alas, the reverse was the case.

In the Northern Junior League there was difficulty on many occasions getting a full panel of players and it was no surprise when results went against them. Jim Lyng, the former Dublin player who now lives in the area, was a very committed trainer but, unfortunately, his enthusiasm did not always rub off on his charges.

In the first round of the championship we just got the better of O'Loughlin/Gaels. Sadly, when we came up against the Emeralds in the quarter-final our shooting was very much astray, firing twelve wides in the opening twenty minutes. Thus ended our championship dreams.

The annual dinner dance in the Newpark Hotel, in March, was most enjoyable with an attendance of over 160. The Pattern Festival, which takes place annually, was spoiled by mother nature. This being the only means of fund-raising, has left the club with a financial shortfall which will have to be made up by other means.

The annual Senior hurling tournament for "The Rock Cup" was won by Clara, who defeated near neighbours Young Irelands in the final. Earlier in the year the 1992 final was played, with Tullaroan emerging victors over Clara.



Threecastles on tour in Galway.

The club undertakes an annual trip and this year the venue was Galway. The three-day trip during the October Bank Holiday weekend was most enjoyable. In a day stolen from summer, Sunday was spent touring Connemara. The trip home included the West coast of Clare and a visit to the spectacular Cliffs of Moher.

The club was most pleased when one of our fine young hurlers, Peter Hennessy, made the County under-21 panel. Unfortunately, he only got 12 minutes of play in the All-Ireland semi-final but in that time scored a fine goal. Most will agree he grabbed an

opportunity with both hands, and surely better things may come his way in 1994.

On a sad note, one of our most consistent players down the years, Andy Cleere, suffered a knee injury which has ended his hurling career. Hopefully Andy will continue to give service to the club.

Finally, let's end on a happy note! Congratulations are extended to Mick Manogue and Ger Mullen, two of our players who were married recently. May we offer our best wishes to the happy couples.

O'neills **SPORTSWEAR**

THE CHOICE OF CHAMPIONS

WINDGAP

It was not any of our adult teams that set Windgap on fire – literally – in 1993. No sir, that honour fell to the youngest team that left our small parish to contest the Under-13 Schools Final in Nowlan Park last May. Here was a team that at the outset were not given a prayer to win a match, never mind winning a county final. Here was a team that proved beyond a shadow of doubt – if ever proof was needed – that with a proper attitude, a fierce dedication and an overwhelming will to win, anything is possible.

Through the absolute commitment of mentors Bobby Jackman, Shem Power and Mrs. Sarah Bacon, to their charges, these youngsters from Windgap proved that anything is possible. The kids reciprocated the efforts of their mentors and eventually hope materialised into reality. It just didn't happen overnight. It happened over long periods in the school playground and on numerous Sunday mornings in the playing field. If ever mentors deserved success, then surely Bobby, Shem, Tom and Sadie deserved success. After an inconspicuous start, the Windgap lads arrived in the semi-final against red-hot favourites, Danesfort, in John Locke Park, Callan. This was the match that set the young Windgap Adonises on the road to victory. They were all heroes that night. They performed feats of endeavour above and beyond the call of mere mortals. Danesfort were vanquished, Nowlan Park beckoned.

The whole parish were there. Flags were flying. Windgap were flying, Jackman, Power and Bacon were flying too on the night. It is now history that our lads collected the cup, having beaten Stoneyford by 2-7 to 1-3. The roar that went up when Captain and T.C. Tyres "Man of the Match" James Murray collected the cup was unforgettable. Every one of the team was a hero. They got a hero's welcome from the village when they returned triumphant. Bonfires blazed, balloons and flags fluttered from every vantage point, and many speakers lauded the boys to heavens high.

The junior hurlers had a topsy-turvy like season. They responded well to their new trainer, Barrie Henriques, and the attendance to training was generally good. In their first round Open Draw match, they beat Piltown. Unfortunately, Emeralds put a stop to the Open Draw gallop in the next match in Urlingford. The first League/Championship match was against Dunnamaggin. After a terrific game two points separated us from victory. Kilmacow and Slieverue were hammered, before we faced Piltown in our next game. A place

in the League Final and the South semi-final beckoned. An unfortunate late goal scotched our immediate ambitions in that direction. We finished a very creditable third in the League. Lady Luck then took her toll on our destiny. We were allowed only one chance of entry into the South semi-final. We faced Slieverue in Piltown. Having hammered them in the League, expectations were high. But as often happens, there is a big dividing line between expectations and reality. Defeat was our lot and so our chance of advancement had evaporated. However, we won the Asper Cup, which gave a modicum of satisfaction to an otherwise disappointing season.

The "Special Juniors" had a good year, with wins over Mooncoin and Carrigeen, before being knocked out by Kilmacow and Glenmore. Presently our Under-21 team are awaiting the start of the eleven-a-side competition. They were beaten by Carrickshock in the Under-21 championship proper.

The Minor mentors can look back on a good year from their charges. Denis Foley and P. J. Egan had "their lads" in great condition for their first round match against a much vaunted Carrickshock outfit. They were eventually beaten by four points, but not before they frightened the 'Shock out of their wits. That game was the stage on which William Walsh performed like a man inspired.

Our Under-16 and Under-14 teams acquitted themselves admirably, but

unfortunately victories were hard to come by and they bowed out of their respective championships at an early stage.

It was in the I.N.T.O. Sevens that Windgap caused shockwaves with victories over Piltown and Carrickshock. However, Ballycallan and Tullaroan put paid to further progress in that competition.

Our camogie girls enjoyed their season playing without near neighbours, Piltown.

On the Inter-County scene. Alan Hearne brought home the first Minor All-Ireland hurling medal to the parish. Paddy Walsh was a member of the Kilkenny Junior panel that contested the All-Ireland Final against Clare. What amazed many neutrals that day in Croke Park, was that a man of Paddy's proven ability was not called upon, even though his "know how" was blatantly needed against a nonsense Clare outfit.

Robert Jackman played in goal for Kilkenny Vocational Schools team and many youngsters won Colleges medals with schools outside the parish (see photograph).

Handballers too brought great honour to the club. Their exploits are covered in the handball section.

Shem Power and Bobby Jackman played on the Over-40's Kilkenny team that were beaten in the All-Ireland semi-final by Dublin.

1994 will see the development of our dressing rooms. This development has been made possible by the generosity of our local farmers. The hard work and utter dedication to duty of people like our secretary, Simon Brophy, is an additional bonus for a club like Windgap. A huge debt of gratitude is due Simon.



CHAMPIONS – ALL FROM WINDGAP

Back row: (l. to r.) Sean Power Munster Vocational Schools winner, Paul McKenna (Rice Cup, Callan C.B.S.), Matthew Enright (Rice Cup, Callan), Enda Hawe (All-Ireland Handball), Aidan Mackey (Rice Cup, Callan), Garret Power (Rice Cup, Callan), Alan Hearne (All-Ireland Minor, and Tipperary Senior Colleges with Carrick C.B.S.), Front row: P. J. Hawe (All-Ireland Handball), David Power (All-Ireland Handball), Eamon Hawe (All-Ireland Handball), Seamus Hawe (All-Ireland Handball). Inset: Niall Doran (All-Ireland Handball).

YOUNG IRELANDS, GOWRAN

The club contested the senior championship for the first time in a long number of years. They failed to make "the cut" in the league campaign. Nevertheless, their performances boded well for a creditable run in the championship.

We were drawn against our great foes from latter days, Dicksboro, and after a titanic struggle, we eventually had to capitulate to a superior team on the day. However, the disappointment of losing was tempered somewhat when our opponents eventually won the senior crown for the first time in forty years.

We faced Ballycallan in a relegation battle, and after a brilliant game of hurling we eventually emerged victorious. Credit for our remaining in senior hurling must rest to a large extent on the shoulders of trainer Paddy Prendergast and Selectors Jim Carter and Dick O'Neill. The experience gained in senior ranks this year will pay dividends, surely in 1994.

Our "Special Junior" team did not live up to expectations. Their performance in the league was not great, but in the first round of the Northern Championship they put on a terrific display of hurling against the Boro. However, lady Luck did not favour our lads, and they were eventually beaten. The Boro continued on to contest the county final. Pat Hutchinson and Tom Kehoe were the "Generals" behind this team.

Our minor hurlers were beaten by Muckalee in their first round game; so ended their season rather prematurely. Brian Farrell, Michael Kehoe and John Comerford were the selectors for the minor team. It was a pity that their labours merited such little reward.

The under-16 hurlers were in great shape, thanks to their mentors, Pat Bolger, Tom Drennan, and Tom Carroll. They fought their way to the Northern semi-final but they were beaten by the narrowest of margins.

Jim Dunphy and Tom Drennan had our under-14

hurlers in tip-top condition as they fought their way to the championship semi-final. However, they ran headlong into a very resolute Thomastown outfit, who eventually won the championship but not before our lads gave them the biggest fright they ever got in their whole lives. We were beaten by just two points.

In football, our Juniors, under the tutelage of Tom Hunt, reached the Northern final of the Junior Championship, where they were beaten by a goal in the last seconds, scored by the Black and Whites.

Our under-age footballers competed in all championships, but unfortunately success eluded them.

The club, however, had the distinction of having players on all Kilkenny County teams. Top of the list, of course, are our two McCarthy Cup winners, D.J. Carey and Pat O'Neill. Surely All-Star awards beckon this year again.

With Charlie Carter captaining, and Ciaran Phelan and Pat Drea playing, our club was well represented on the Junior team that was beaten by Clare in the All-Ireland final.

James McDermott and Martin Carey were on the under-21 panel that lost the All-Ireland final to Galway after a replay.

Eoghan Farrell was a member of the minor panel that beat Galway in the All-Ireland final. Both Eoghan and Oliver Byrne won Colleges' medals with St. Kieran's College, while Canice Bolger won a Leinster League medal with North Kilkenny.

Our field committee were, as usual, very active. They erected a scoreboard, which was sponsored by "Leinster Steel". The field committee of Martin Kealy, Noel Roche, Tom Hogan and John O'Neill are to be commended. First year, Finance Secretary Toddy Farrell performed heroics. Both the Piltown and Inistioge Draws were great successes. The racecourse concert was not as successful as in previous years, nevertheless our finances are



JAMES BYRNE

healthy, thanks in no small way to Toddy.

The Parish of Gowran was shocked when on October 6th it was learned that James Byrne from Clover had died suddenly at the early age of 50 years. James was the "stuff" that true GAA people are made of. He learned his hurling in Gowran National School and continued the process at Kilkenny CBS.

James won a county Junior title in '75, and played senior hurling with his native parish until 1976. A dashing forward in his playing days, James filled many administrative roles with his native parish until 1976.

To his wife Teresa, his children Fergal, Michelle, Sinéad and Maeve, and to his brothers and sisters, the sympathy of the Young Ireland's Club is sincerely extended.



Her Excellency President Mary Robinson meets D.J. Carey. Looking on is John Power, Eamon Morrissey, P.J. Delaney, while Adrian Ronan is obviously thinking "will I ever get to meet her."

Photo: Tom Brett

FENIANS REWARDED FOR HONEST EFFORT



By: JOHN KNOX

THERE WAS no doubt about it, at the beginning, the Fenians (Johnstown) were hurting, and badly, but when they got even a whiff of victory they thundered into the contest and ran out worthy winners in the end.

That was the course which the senior hurling league final followed as the battling Fenians made something of the year when they collected their first major title since they won the championship back in 1977.

It wasn't an easy conclusion to the competitive season for Fenians. The Sunday before the League decider, they had lost the championship final replay against Dicksboro.

It wasn't easy to pick themselves up off the floor, and the Fenians had little appetite for the battle when it got underway. Adding to their woes was the fact that arguably their most influential player, Brian Ryan was out with 'flu. The unsettling background to the final didn't do much to inspire confidence among the Fenian faithful.

By the end of an interesting hour's hurling, Fenians had done enough to beat Erin's Own (Castlecomer) by 3-12 to 2-12. This was a repeat of the drawn Championship semi-final between the same teams, and if the overall offering didn't match the hurling in the knock-out competition, the closing segment of the match out-stripped a lot of the fare witnessed earlier in the season.

The 'Comer men took advantage of their opponents championship hangover, and tore into them from the off. The losers lead raced up to 1-3 to 0-1 after a mere nine minutes. A well taken 15th minute goal by Michael Phelan brought the arrears down to the minimum, but struggling Fenians lost their way again.

Never got excited

At half-time, the losers were good value for their 2-5 to 1-5 lead, and they looked booked for great things when they had unanswered points from Fergal Slevin, James Brennan and John Buggy after the change of ends.

The Fenians merely stuck with the task. They never got too excited, and with the help of an easy goal from Billy Purcell and a few points from P. J. Delaney and Pat McCormack, they drew up to their opponents shoulders (2-9 each) in the 46th minute.

From Johnstown's point of view, the real hurling was only beginning. The challenge was really thrown down when James



John Healy (vice-chairman Co. Board) presents the league championship trophy to Fenians captain, James Brennan.

Brennan threw over a brace of points to give Erin's Own a good boost.

Then, 10 minutes off the finish, that slightly built youngster with the talent of a giant, Brendan Ryan knocked home a lovely goal for the Fenians (3-9 to 2-11) to put them into the lead for the first time. Once they got a hand on the Matt Power Cup, the tenacious Johnstown crew weren't about to let go. They didn't, and in a thrilling finish, Fenians carried the day.

Taking something from the year was no less than the Fenians deserved, and it was a proud and delighted captain, Jimmy Brennan who accepted the cup on behalf of the club. The Fenians, during the League and Championship, helped brighten up the hurling year with some performances that suggested the will was there to make up for the many barren times that had passed.

Long servers Ger and John Henderson, Billy Fitzpatrick, Pat McCormack and even Billy Purcell were driven on by something special. In the case of the first three mentioned, perhaps it was the thought that this might be their last fling in the senior grade. If that is to be the case, they can truly say they went out with a bang. For when they were really needed, they

always found that something extra to give for the cause.

Truly magnificent

Younger players like Jimmy and Ger Brennan, James Carroll and Brian Ryan enjoyed season-long good form. And sure Johnstown's man of the moment, P. J. Delaney turned in some truly magnificent showings at home and further afield.

The All-Ireland final exertions with the senior and under-21 teams left him with the legacy whereby people expected super things from him every time he touched the ball. Naturally, he couldn't live up to such crazy expectations. His hurling was good, if somewhat misunderstood by those wanting too much from him.

Before the pressure really mounted on young Delaney, in the League semi-final against St. Martin's, there was a beautiful carefree air about his hurling. That evening in Ballyragget he plundered two late goals to turn the match on its head, and transform impending defeat into a fabulous 3-16 to 2-10 win.

This game was played on a Tuesday evening, and attracted a 'gate' in excess of £1,000. Could we be seeing more midweek fixtures in the future? Such rewarding returns are not always forthcoming, and



FENIANS (Johnstown) – Kilkenny County Credit Union Senior Hurling Champions 1993

Back row: Michael Phelan, Billy Purcell, Stephen Grehan, William Dollard, John Delaney, Pat McCormack, John Henderson. Front row: Ger Brennan, Anthony McEvoy, Jimmy Brennan, Alan Behan, Brendan Ryan, P.J. Delaney, Gerry Quinlan, Ger Henderson.

(Photo: Tom Brett)

they cannot be ignored.

The Fenians only once gave best to another team during the League. That was in their final preliminary round match against Mullinavat, which they lost by 1-13 to 0-14. At that stage the result didn't really matter, because they had already wrapped up a semi-final place.

Plenty of effort

That was done via a string of good results against Tullaroan (4-13 to 2-11), Erin's Own (1-16 to 2-13), Young Irelands (3-10 to 2-10) and Dicksboro (2-15 to 2-12). There was a 'we really want to do it' cut about the Fenians hurling all season, and

team selectors Pat Delaney, Eugene Grehan, Nicky Orr, Patrick Loughlin and Martin 'Goggy' Brennan never had reason to berate their players for lack of effort.

Honest effort earned Fenians some reward at the season's end. It was not the prize they craved, a Championship success, but it the next best thing. Perhaps it was only a down payment on bigger things in the future?

Fenians team in League final – Alan Behan, Gerry Quinlan, Ger Henderson, John Henderson, Anthony McEvoy, Pat McCormack, Wattie Dollard, Ger Brennan, Stephen Grehan, P. J. Delaney, John Delaney, Jimmy Brennan (capt.), Michael

Phelan, Billy Purcell, Brendan Ryan. Subs: Liam McEvoy (used), James Carroll, Briain Ryan, P. J. Ryan, Finbar Delaney, Billy Dermody, Seamus Behan, Thomas Walsh, Billy Fitzpatrick.

Erin's Own – Tom Brophy, John Maher, Peadar Healy, Cormac Young, Patsy Brophy, John Kelly, Martin Fogarty, James Brennan, John Buggy, Eddie Brennan, Eamon Holland (capt.), Fergal Slevin, Brian Young, Michael Owens, Christy Brennan. Subs: David Buggy (used), David O'Rourke, Eamon Coogan, Michael Brophy, Joe Meagher, Liam Shore.



ERIN'S OWN (Castlecomer) – 1993 Kilkenny Senior Hurling League Finalists

Back row: David O'Rourke, Patsy Brophy, Eamonn Coogan, Colm Meagher, Martin Fogarty, John Kelly, Peadar Healy, Cormac Young, Brian Young, Michael Owens, John Brennan, Kieran Meally (Team Manager). Front row: Ken Brennan, Liam Shore, Tom Brophy, Christy Brennan, Joe Meagher, John Buggy, Eamonn Holland (Capt.), Eddie Brennan, Jamesie Brennan, Fergal Slevin, David Buggy, Edward Holland (Selector).

(Photo: Tom Brett)

First 15-a-side League, and 'Cats' are back

THERE was an element of propriety about Kilkenny's victory in the historic first National Camogie League played with 15-a-side teams.

It was the Noresiders who worked hard and sought support for the 15-a-side game at Camogie Congress.

And having succeeded with their daring move in the corridors of power, how appropriate, then, that Kilkenny should end up with the title – their ninth in all.

The final against Cork, played on a glorious June day in Ballyragget, was a rip-roaring affair and provided Kilkenny with their first win since 1990.

"It was a hard match to win, because neither side wanted to give the other an advantage with the championship not too far away," recalled Kilkenny captain Marina Downey.

The flying Lisdowney player admitted Kilkenny were stretched to the absolute limit to hold out on a nail-biting finish, but the players showed real character and commitment and got no more than they deserved in the end.

BACKS TO WALL

The finishing scoreline was 4-7 (19) to 1-13 (16), and the 'Cats' were forced to mount a real backs-to-the-wall effort during the closing quarter.

In the 46th minute, Angela Downey dug out her third goal to give Kilkenny their biggest lead of the match (4-7 to 1-9).

Strangely, the winners were unable to add to their tally. When Cork pulled back points through Denise Cronin, Colette O'Mahony (2) and Linda Mellerick, it left the game there to be taken.

The Downey twins – Angela and Ann (they scored 4-5 between them), Bridie McGarry, Marina Downey, Tracy Millea, Gillian Dillon, Breda Holmes and company gritted their teeth and got stuck in afterwards, and they held out in the face of a Cork onslaught.

The visitors showed they meant business from the throw-in when they grabbed an early lead through Stephanie Dunlea.

Kilkenny hit back for points by Ann

Downey (3) and Breda Holmes, but they fell behind a second time before recovering to go 2-5 to 1-5 in front at half-time.

STRONG POSITION

Twice scores were swapped during the early stages of the closing half before Angela Downey knocked home another goal. Angela's third goal later put Kilkenny into a strong position when they opened up a six-point lead.

However, there was no big follow-up and it took a huge effort by the defence to keep charging Cork out in a thrilling finish.

In an earlier round, the eventual champions played Cork, and an under-strength team was hammered to the tune of 2-20 to 2-3. Victories were scored over Dublin (1-12 to 1-5), Wexford (3-14 to 1-4) and Galway (4-8 to 3-7) in the semi-final.

But the 15-a-side game, how did the ladies find it?

Marina Downey – "The experiment is to be continued in the League again next year, and after that, everyone will be in a better position to judge. I have to say, it was enjoyable."

Marina Downey added that the level of fitness, particularly at inter-county level, had risen so high in recent years that the 12-a-side game had become really demanding.

However, at club level she could see some difficulty in getting 15 players to make up teams. In some cases it was hard enough to get 12.

WAIT AND SEE

"The advantages of the system appears to be at inter-county level at the moment," she felt. "I know some of

the girls prefer the 12-a-side game, particularly in attack because it is easier to create space and openings for scores.

"I liked the new experience, because the work-load was more evenly spread," Marina continued. "Before, the inter-county game involved less running, and 12-a-side was fine. I would not be prepared to commit myself on it until I have at least one more season of it behind me."

Marina said she saw the advantages for county teams, in that selectors could use a 15-a-side league to blood new players. However, she had reservations about how the system might work at club level.

The Kilkenny team in the League final was – Marie Fitzpatrick, Bridie McGarry, Bidy O'Sullivan, Una Murphy, Tracey Millea, Deirdre Malone, Brigid Barnaville, Gillian Dillon, Marina Downey (capt.), Breda Holmes, Claire Jones, Angela Downey, Bridget Mullally, Joan Aylward, Ann Downey. Subs. – Sinéad Costello, Marie Maher (used), Margaret Comerford, Esther Kennedy, Catherine Dunne, Bridget Wall.

Second League win over Cork

ONE-THIRD of Kilkenny's nine National Camogie League final victories have been scored over Dublin.

The Dubs were a strong force during the 'Eighties, but they couldn't crack the high-flying Noresiders.

In this year's final, which was the first with 15-a-side teams, Cork were chasing a third win on the trot. This was the second time the 'Cats' beat the Leesiders in a League showdown.

1978:	Kilkenny	2-4	Limerick	1-5
1980:	Kilkenny	3-8	Tipperary	1-3
1982:	Kilkenny	2-5	Cork	1-4
1985:	Kilkenny	4-7	Dublin	2-13 (draw)
	Kilkenny	4-7	Dublin	3-6 (replay)
1987:	Kilkenny	4-8	Dublin	1-5
1988:	Kilkenny	3-10	Dublin	2-4
1989:	Kilkenny	6-7	Cork	1-11
1990:	Kilkenny	1-10	Wexford	2-4
1993:	Kilkenny	4-7	Cork	1-13

Left with far from comforting thoughts

It was a numbing experience, and the vanquished just couldn't comprehend reality afterwards! The players sweated for all they were worth, gave everything they had to give, and they ended with nothing. It was cruel, cruel, cruel.

Talk about a bitter, bitter experience, this was really it. Whoever said, if you are going to lose, let it be in a top class match, one full of the skills and joys of the game. Poppycock!

The greater the battle, the greater the disappointment. Happiness belongs to winners. Happy losers will always remain that... losers.

Back in 1991 the magnificent senior camogie ladies in Kilkenny ran up their 7th successive victory in the All-Ireland championship final. The following year they lost their grip on the O'Duffy Cup. This time, in 1993, they vowed to return in glory.

On a warm August day at Nowlan Park, they looked to have kept their promise when that rising star in the game, Sinéad Millea, shot two lovely points into the closing five minutes to earn Kilkenny an important 2-18 to 4-10 lead. The opposition was provided by mighty Cork in the All-Ireland semi-final.

The Cats looked set to celebrate when the story went terribly wrong for them. From what appeared a harmless enough situation 20 yards to the right of the town end goal, Cork sub Lynn Dunlea walloped the ball into the Kilkenny net when surrounded by defenders.

LOOKED TO HAVE ESCAPED

The home players didn't even have time to reply. Cork won one of the finest

camogie games ever played by 5-10 (25) to 2-18 (24). The losers had plenty of sad thoughts to dwell on afterwards. They conceded four goals during the second half, three from frees.

But until Dunlea's sickening blow, they looked to have escaped, despite their defensive failings against frees. What made defeat totally unpalatable was that this clash of giants was classed as the 'decider' in the championship. It turned out to be so. In the final, Cork blitzed an inexperienced Galway team.

"We lost more than a match in those dying seconds, an All-Ireland title probably went as well," Kilkenny captain, Marina Downey, recalled months afterwards. "To this day, thinking about that match is painful. It had to be the worst of all experiences for a sports person."

Marina pointed out that she was on the Lisdowney team hammered by 6-10 to 2-3 by Glen Rovers (Cork) in the All-Ireland club semi-final. That crushing defeat was easier to take. At least Glen Rovers proved without a shadow of a doubt they were the better team.

There would always be doubts about that All-Ireland inter-county championship semi-final. For as long as they live, the Kilkenny girls will view that as an All-Ireland lost.

"The game was a freak," Marina insisted, without being prompted by a question. "Some said it was the best match they ever saw. The game has only sad memories for the Kilkenny players."

Without doubt, it was a terrific match. It was hard to cope with the ups-and-downs. Cork made the running early on. Kilkenny

then took over. Cork got back. At half-time the teams were together 1-8 each.

HIGH EXPECTATIONS

During the closing moiety, Kilkenny made the stronger promises that they would edge through. Brigid Mullally prompted high expectations when she shot two early points.

But then the Cork free-scoring show commenced. From a 15 metre free, Collette O'Mahony slammed the ball into the Kilkenny net, even with a forest of players on the line. The opposition hit back, but a score of the same variety undid the losers' good work a second time (3-9 to 2-12).

A third time the Cats took up the running, via minor scores from Mullally and Millea. Collette O'Mahony had one reply for the Leesiders. Brigid Mullally had a point for the home side.

Minutes later, Collette O'Mahony completed her hat-trick of goals from frees to put her side 4-10 to 2-15 in front. That long and loyal servant of the game in Kilkenny, Angela Downey, levelled the scores, before young Sinéad Millea hit a brace of points that looked like deciding the issue.

They weren't enough, as it turned out. Cork clawed their way back, got into the final and eventually claimed the All-Ireland title. They left the Kilkenny girls thinking about what 'might have been', thoughts that were far from comforting.

Kilkenny: M. Fitzpatrick, B. O'Sullivan, T. Millea, D. Malone, U. Murphy, M. Downey (capt.), Ann Downey, G. Dillon, B. Mullally, C. Jones, A. Downey-Browne, S. Millea. Sub: B. McGarry.



SENIOR TEAM LINEOUT v. CORK ALL-IRELAND SEMI-FINAL

Back Row (l-r): Tom Ryan, Ann Downey, Deirdre Malone, Brigid Mullally, Biddy O'Sullivan, Gillian Dillon, Marie Fitzpatrick. Front (l-r): Una Murphy, Sinéad Millea, Treacy Millea, Marina Downey (Capt.), Angela Downey, Claire Jones.

Tracey Millea

USUALLY referred to as the sister of Sinead or the daughter of Joe, Tracey Millea has well and truly established herself as a stylish campaigner and fine individual. She made a tremendous impact on the Colleges scene when she captained St. Brigid's, Callan to their first All-Ireland appearance in 17 years. This clever and incisive player had little time to wait for her call up to the Kilkenny senior team. A stylish campaigner and keen worker, Tracey has won many honours at minor level. She captained the Kilkenny minor team in 1989 and won another minor in 1988.

Her disappointment with Kilkenny's failure to reach this year's All-Ireland final was eased somewhat by winning her first call-up to the Leinster team. As well as proving an ace competitor with the Kilkenny team, Tracey has regularly turned on the style in club games. She has played with Ballycallan since her schooldays and has won a senior county championship medal with them.

Perhaps the lesser known of the Millea sisters, but nevertheless a vital cog in the Kilkenny senior team. Her heart and soul is in Kilkenny camogie and at 20 Tracey has lots of time on her side. With her determination she won't be happy with what she had already achieved. There is still a lot to do. Uppermost in her mind is to bring the O'Duffy Cup back to its rightful place next year and there is no reason why Kilkenny cannot do so with Tracey Millea in the side, along with her younger sister Sinead.



Tracey Millea, Kilkenny keeps an eye on Sandie Fitzgibbon, Cork in action from the National Camogie League final.

Profile

Name:	Tracey Millea.
Age:	20.
Club:	St. Brigid's, Ballycallan.
Occupation:	Sales Office, Mount Juliet.
Honours Won:	Senior, League & Minor All-Ireland Medals. Various Colleges & County Leinster Medals.
Favourite Player:	Ann Downey.
Biggest Influence:	My father Joe.
Likes:	Singing, Music and Swimming.
Dislikes:	Winter weather.
Most Difficult Opponent:	Collette O'Mahony (Cork)
Ambition:	To go on and win another seven All-Irelands
Most disappointing experience:	Losing to Cork in Semi-Final by 1 point
Most rewarding experience:	Being part of the All-Ireland Final in 1991.
Favourite Food:	Chinese.

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UNA MURPHY

A FIRST All-Ireland Senior Championship medal win is a memorable occasion in the life of a Hurler or Camogie player, but why? Is it that the one that got away hurts you for eternity? Kilkenny's defeat at the hands of Cork on the Holyday of August 15th will stay in the minds of every team member for many a day. For Una Murphy it seemed that her world had just fallen apart.

Una had a very successful career with her native Kilkenny at under-age competitions when she won Minor medals in 1988 and 1989 and at the tender age of 18, she picked up her first Senior All-Ireland medal when she gave a star-studded performance against Wexford. Since graduating to the Senior team, this dashing, lion-hearted defender has blossomed into one of the most admired camogie players in the game. Her artistry, stickwork, vision and lethal techniques have enabled her to stamp her personality time and again on matches at County and Club level.

She has played for her province, Leinster, in the Gael Linn Cup at both Senior and Junior levels. She also helped Kilkenny in the first 15-a-side Senior League win over Cork at Ballyragget last June.

Perhaps 1993 wasn't as successful as Una would have wished, but at 20, Una, like many of her county colleagues, has plenty of time on her side. For the young Tullogher girl the 1994 season can't come quickly enough, and, perhaps with it will come the chance to finally put the horrors of that Holyday in 1993 out of her mind forever. For Una is a girl with a mission and one All-Ireland isn't enough by a long shot.



PROFILE

Name	Una Murphy
Age	20
Club	Tullogher
Occupation	Student, W.R.T.C.
Honours Won	Senior, League and Minor All-Ireland Medals Under-14 Leinster Championship Junior, Intermediate and Senior B Club Championship
Favourite Player	Fiona O'Driscoll
Biggest Influence	Angela Downey, Denis Kelly and Parents
Likes	Music and Socialising
Dislikes	Thinking of Training
Most Difficult Opponent	All players are difficult
Ambition	To win another All-Ireland
Most Disappointing Experience	Losing 1993 All-Ireland Semi-final to Cork
Most Rewarding Experience	Winning All-Ireland 1991
Favourite Food	Chinese

Loreto Secondary School

Of the five teams entered by the school in camogie competitions this year, four of them reached the finals of their respective championships. Unfortunately, however, the senior, minor and seven-a-side teams narrowly lost the Leinster finals to St. Brigid's College (Callan), F.C.J. (Bunclody) and Castlecomer Community School respectively.

The youngest of these four teams, the First Year team, won their final and achieved the distinction of not conceding a single score in any match during the competition, which is played on a blitz basis.

The remaining team, the juniors, were defeated early in the year in their zone final by the Presentation Secondary School, Kilkenny.



LORETO SECONDARY SCHOOL – KILKENNY POST-PRIMARY SCHOOLS FIRST YEAR CHAMPIONS 1993
Back row – Karen Fitzpatrick (unattached), Gillian Ryan (St. Anne's), Emma Fitzpatrick (Freshford), Kathy Gibbons (Clara), Ellen Murphy (St. Brigid's), Elaine Phelan (Dicksboro), Pamela Farragher (Dicksboro), Claire Burke (Freshford), Julie Ryan (Freshford), Geraldine Hogan (Dicksboro), Marie Fitzpatrick (Freshford), Claire Dermody (Freshford). **Front row** – Breda Wall (Freshford), Jennifer Dillon (Clara), Oonagh Hennessy (Tullaroan), Mary Carmel Ryan (captain) (Freshford), Sheila Doyle (Emeralds), Norma Minogue (Freshford), Deirdre Lawlor (Blacks and WhitesP).

COLLEGES CAMOGIE

1993 will go down as a memorable year in the sporting archives of St. Brigid's College, Callan. Heart to win and dedication, ensured that the elusive Corn Sceilige made its way to Kilkenny for only the third time. The other two titles were won in 1969 and 1970 by the Presentation Convent, Kilkenny. This was Callan's first All-Ireland Senior Colleges title ever, although they did contest the final on two other occasions - 1975 and 1992.

The team, trained by Noelle O'Driscoll began their campaign in mid-October against Ballyhale V.S. St. Brigid's convincingly disposed of their opponents on a scoreline of 11-6 to 0-1. The second round game was at home to Thomastown V.S. This was a game in which all the forwards registered their names on the scoreboard and gave an exhibition of point taking from every angle. The final score 5-12 to 0-1.

At this stage Callan were into the Leinster Quarter Final. Playing against Borris, Callan were slow to get into their stride, but good defensive work in particular by Janet Sweeney relieved some of the pressure. The second half saw the girls settle down and they notched an impressive scoreline of 5-11 to 2-3.

Loreto Kilkenny were to provide the opposition in the Leinster Final. This eagerly awaited 'local derby' was played in Nowlan Park. Callan were at a disadvantage going into the game as favourites. Loreto's low key approach to this match paid dividends as they led at half-time by 2-2 to 1-2. The second half, however, saw the Callan team emerge anew. In the dying minutes, Loreto had a goal disallowed while at the other end, the Callan forwards took their scores. They emerged winners by 2-6 to 2-3.

St. Brigid's Vocational School, Loughrea were the Connaught representatives and the opposition in the All-Ireland semi-final. The game was due to be played in John Lockes Park but the Tuesday night before the game a frantic call to St. Brigid's carried the news that Loughrea were

pulling out and were giving St. Brigid's a walk-over. Apparently there was a threat that if the girls played in Vocational competition and then Colleges competition, there would be an objection to a boys team from the school playing in College's competition. Later the Galway school decided it was not in breach of any rule and so were allowed back into the competition. This was not the end of the saga, as Loughrea were out again by late Friday night, and the next morning St. Brigid's were awarded a walk-over. This gave Callan a ticket into the All-Ireland Final against St. Mary's, Charleville.

The game was played in wind-swept Tullamore, but heavy conditions didn't hamper St. Brigid's who got stuck in from the very beginning. A brilliant goal by Margaret Comerford, and points by Sinead Millea, saw Callan lead at half-time by 1-4 to 1-0. Playing with a very stiff wind in the second half, Callan looked like potential All-Ireland champions.

Two goals in the second half sealed St. Mary's fate and the All-Ireland trophy was on it's way back to Kilkenny after 23 years.

Áine Comerford gave a brilliant display in goal. In front of her, she had sound defenders in Janet Sweeney, Marie Maher, Mary Brennan and Angela O'Carroll. Time and time again, they foiled St. Mary's attacks. Marie Maher slotted over a nice point in the second half also. At centrefield Olive O'Sullivan, Ethel Ann Moloney and Yvonne Meara supplied the forwards with perfect low balls and all three contributed greatly to the victory. The forward line of Margaret Comerford, Sinead Millea, Brenda Maher and Eleanor Walsh combined superbly and probably would have scored more had it not been for gutsy St. Mary's goalkeeper Vera Sheehan. Deirdre O'Sullivan also played her part and almost scored a goal but her flicked effort went narrowly wide.

The All-Ireland winning team and subs. were: A. Comerford, M. Brennan, M. Maher, J. Sweeney, A. O'Carroll, Y. O'Meara, E. A. Moloney, O. O'Sullivan, S. Millea (capt.), M. Comerford, B. Maher, E. Walsh. Subs: D. O'Sullivan, C. Campion, M. Maher, A. Dunphy, F. Holohan, M. Rochford, L. Ronan, A. Byrne, A. M. Coogan.

The Rower-Inistioge

1993 proved to be a very successful year for camogie in the parish. Pride of place must go to our Under-14 team who captured the County title on the 4th. May. Played in Callan, it was Thomastown who provided the opposition. After a very tough, exciting game, our girls proved worthy winners on a scoreline of 3-5 to 1-1. For the record this Under-14 team scored a massive 56-17 during the championship, whilst conceding only 2-1. Well done girls!

For the second year in a row, our Community Games team won out in Kilkenny. However, our Mosney dreams were short-lived when we went down to a very strong Wexford side in the Leinster quarter-final stage.

Our primary school team had a very successful run in the championship. After

overcoming some very strong teams in the County, they finally fell at the semi-final stage on 21st June, in Danesfort; Freshford ended their winning streak on that day!

We entered a team at Under-16 level this year for the first time. This proved to be a very tough section. Nonetheless, we reached the semi-final. This game was played in James's Park on the 7th July. Lisdowney faced us this time and we were very unfortunate to be just pipped at the post on a scoreline of 1-2 to 1-5.

We were well represented at County level in 1993. Becky Dempsey, Miriam Lyster and Linda Cottrell gave some fine displays with the Kilkenny Under-14 team. Claire Bolger and Valerie Minogue helped Kilkenny win a Leinster Minor title this year. Congratulations to all the girls and the very best of luck for 1994.



KILKENNY JUNIOR LEINSTER FINAL TEAM DEFEATED BY CARLOW

Back row (l.-r.): Elaine Nolan, Olivia Donnelly, Áine Dunne, Kay Bowden, Joan Aylward, Kay Dunphy, Hilda Butler, Catherine Dunne, Catherine Murphy, Dolores Lanigan, Sandra Gleeson. Front row (l.-r.): Ann-Marie Hughes, Helen McGrath, Marie Maher, Brenda Maher, Paula Dowling, Sinead Costello, Margaret Kavanagh, Mary McGrath, Margaret Comerford, Esther Kennedy.

WIN FOR PRESENTATION

Presentation, Kilkenny 5-4
Birr Community School 2-6

Presentation secondary school, Kilkenny, overcame the strong challenge of St. Brendan's Community School, Birr, to win the Leinster Colleges' Senior B camogie championship, in Freshford.

Conditions were far from ideal for a game of camogie as wind and rain prevailed for most of the game.

The match opened brightly for Presentation and they had a goal after 4 minutes from Elaine Leahy. This was to be their only score until nearly half-time as Birr became the dominant team and scored two goals and three points without reply.

Just on half-time, however, Elizabeth Dowling had a point from a free to leave the score at the break: Birr 2-3, Presentation 1-1.

Early in the second half Birr had another point from a free. Presentation gradually hauled themselves back into the game with points from frees by Michelle Fennelly and then in the 12th minute the same player had a goal which left just a point between the teams.

At this stage the Presentation midfield were getting the better of their opponents and the forwards began to receive a steady supply of the ball.

A goal from a free by Michelle Fennelly, after Triona Kennedy was fouled, brought Presentation the lead in the 18th minute. Birr then landed another point from a free to again leave the minimum between the sides.

Presentation finished the stronger side and in the final 5 minutes two goals by Deirdre Phelan and a point from Michelle Fennelly to one point from Birr left the final score: Presentation 5-4, Birr 2-6.

After a very shaky first half, this was a fine performance from the Presentation team. Anne Sunderland and Elizabeth Dowling played very well in defence. The midfield of Deirdre Phelan, Ann Marie Ryall and Edel Murphy got on top in the second half while Elaine Dalton and Triona Kennedy played prominent parts in the forwards.

Michelle Fennelly's free-taking in the second half was excellent while Elaine Leahy took her goal chance well.

Suzanne Brennan made some good saves in goal. Margaret Dooley and Cora Mullen had great second halves and held their players scoreless.

Birr had some fine players in Majella Bergin at centre-back, Hilda Dooley, Colleen Myles and Eilish Dooley at midfield while centre-forward Patricia Dooley and full-forward Tina Robinson were very dangerous.

Presentation scorers: M. Fennelly (2-3, 1-3 frees); D. Phelan 2-0; E. Leahy 1-0; E. Dowling (0-1, free).



PRESENTATION KILKENNY - WINNERS LEINSTER POST PRIMARY SCHOOLS ROINN B SENIOR CHAMPIONSHIP

Back Row: Breda Dooley, Yvonne O'Dwyer, Deirdre Phelan, Elaine Dalton, Edwina Tallent, Elizabeth Dowling (Capt.), Mr. J. O'Dwyer. *Centre:* Suzanne Brennan, Michelle Fennelly, Cora Mullen, Ann Marie Ryall, Geraldine Brennan, Deirdre Dowling, Margaret Dooley, Edel Murphy. *Front:* Sinéad Butler, Yvonne Kenny, Elaine Leahy, Gillian Meany, Triona Kennedy, Nicola Fitzpatrick, Anne Sunderland.

Presentation: Suzanne Brennan (Clara), Anne Sunderland (Dicksboro), Cora Mullen (James Stephens), Elizabeth Dowling (Clara), Margaret Dooley (St. Lachtain's), Edel Murphy (Clara), Ann Marie Ryall (St. Brigid's), Deirdre Phelan (James Stephens), Michelle Fennelly (Carrickshock), Elaine Dalton, Elaine Leahy (James Stephens), Triona Kennedy (Dicksboro).

Subs: Sinéad Butler (St. Lachtain's), Nicola Fitzpatrick (James Stephens), Deirdre Dowling (Clara), Yvonne Kenny

(James Stephens), Geraldine Brennan (Clara), Breda Dooley (St. Lachtain's), Edwina Tallent (James Stephens), Gillian Meany (Clara).

Birr C.S.: Sinéad O'Meara, Maureen Dooley, Tara King, Majella Bergin, Hilda Dooley, Colleen Myles, Eilis Dooley, Sarah Corrigan, Audrey Hennessy; Patricia Dooley, Edel O'Meara, Tina Robinson.

Subs: Eva O'Donoghue, Brenda Keogh, Rita Bergin, Frances Carey, Helen Fitzgerald.



PRESENTATION KILKENNY - FINALISTS IN THE LEINSTER POST PRIMARY SCHOOLS JUNIOR CAMOGIE CHAMPIONSHIP

Back Row (l-r): Sinéad Hurley, Breda Dooley, Elizabeth Murphy, Aisling Power, Deirdre Dowling, Michelle Heffernan, Orla Brennan, Ann Marie Ryall, Elaine Brennan, Gillian Meany, Suzanne Brennan. *Front Row (l-r):* Catherine Bourke, Triona Kennedy, Sinéad Walsh, Angela Grogan, Elaine Dalton, Nicola O'Brien, Eleanor Purcell, Cliodhna Phelan.

St. Anne's Camogie Club

ST. ANNE'S Camogie club was formed this year. Galmoy and Johnstown joined forces to form this club. The club has an U-14, U-18 and an U-21 team, and it is hoped to have a junior team next year. The club got plenty of sponsorship from Arcon. So far this year the club has done remarkably well. They reached the quarter final of the U-18 by beating Glenmore. In the first round of the U-21 championship, they were unlucky to meet near rivals Lisdowney, and they lost in a very good and competitive match.

During the year the club ran a tournament to raise funds for the club. In the U-14 section, Urlingford ran out winners to a very good Lisdowney side. In the U-21, Lisdowney are due to play Glenmore. The club would like to thank all clubs who took part in this tournament. Next year the club hope to do a lot better and they have enjoyed their first year in the camogie scene. The club would like to thank their trainer Jimmy Tobin, Sean Hanrahan and Sean Warren who have done trojan work for the club during the year.

Under-12 County Final

Galmoy 6-2
Bennettsbridge 1-0

The game, played in St. John's Park was a one sided affair. Galmoy got a goal from Catherine Doherty followed by a point from Orla Phelan, with Bennettsbridge hitting back with a goal from a penalty by Pauline Millea. Pamela Dunne then scored the first of her three goals. Half-time score, Galmoy 2-1, Bennettsbridge 1-0. After half-time Galmoy really dominated the game with fullback Claire Delaney and goalie Margaret Rafter getting little to do. The forwards for Galmoy were very good. In midfield, Catherine Doherty was outstanding. Ellie Lonergan in defence, cleared a lot of balls for Galmoy. Their trainer Jimmy Cullinane was delighted with their success.

Scorers for Galmoy: Pamela Dunne (3-0), Catherine Doherty (2-0), Deirdre Doyle (1-0), Orla Phelan (0-2). Scorers for Bennettsbridge: Pauline Millea (1-0).

Tullaroan Camogie Club

THIS YEAR proved to be a tough one for Tullaroan. The Under-14's were the most successful team. Tullaroan and Freshford contested the Under-14 Roinn 'A' County Final at Nowlan Park. This resulted in a win for Freshford. Tullaroan did not make use of their chances in the first half and were behind at the interval. It was a good contest all the way. The last ten minutes proved this with both sets of backs on top. Then Tullaroan got a 15 yard free which Martina Maher buried home. With a tough battle at midfield, Freshford got a run towards the goal in the dying seconds of the game and put away a goal. Their ability to finish smartly was the deciding factor.

The Tullaroan team was as follows: M. O'Dea, M. E. Butler, P. Doheny, F. Coogan, A. M. Cleere, A. M. Young, O. Maher, O. Hennessy, M. Maher, L. Sweeney, F. Hall, D. Delaney, R. Walsh, M. Hennessy, S. Butler and C. Marshall.



Galmoy U-12 County Champions. Back Row: Ann Harte, Catherine Doherty, Claire Delaney, Ellie Lonergan, Michelle Glendon, Geraldine O'Bughlin, Therese Glendon, Orla Phelan, Pamela Dunne. Front Row: Mary Ryan, Aileen Dillon, Anne-Marie Kavanagh, Sarahjane Dowling, Margaret Rafter, Laura Murphy, Deirdre Doyle, Catherine Maher, Mary Russell, Ann-Marie Phelan.

The Under-16's got as far as the semi-finals. The minors lost to Freshford in the quarter finals.

The seniors were quite successful for their first year at senior level and were unfortunate to lose a thrilling game to Ballycallan in the quarter finals. This year we added an additional player to our senior team, Kay Bowden, who previously played for Cahir. She was a great asset to the team.

The Senior Panel was as follows: A. M. Coogan, K. Bowden, J. Sweeney, M. Maher, C. Hennessy, J. Sweeney, B. Maher, S. Mullally, C. Holmes; B. Holmes, B. Maher, M. Maher, O. Hennessy, M. Coogan, G. Walsh, M. Sweeney, M. Mullally, E. Doheny and M. Pollard.

Tullaroan also contributed largely to the success of the St. Brigid's College (Callan) team which defeated Loreto, Kilkenny in the Leinster Final and then went on to win the All-Ireland Senior 'A' Colleges Final, beating St. Mary's, Charleville, Cork.

The club representatives were B. Maher, J. Sweeney, M. Maher, A. M. Coogan, M. Maher and C. Campion.

We also had a number of representatives on the County teams, namely M. Maher, O. Hennessy, A. M. Cleere and P. Doheny on the Under-14 panel and K. Bowden, B. Maher and M. Maher (captain) on the Kilkenny Junior team.

St. Brigid's, Goresbridge



St. Brigid's Secondary School, Goresbridge, camogie team won Co. Carlow Junior Colleges Final. Back row (left to right): G. Shanahan (trainer), S. Nolan, C. Barcoe, S. Tirard, D. Hennessy, L. Healy, U. O'Neill. Front row (left to right): C. Middleton, C. Moran, A. Dreeeling, J. O'Neill (capt), M. Moran, G. Byrne, M. Moran, R. Middleton.

St. Brigid's Camogie Club

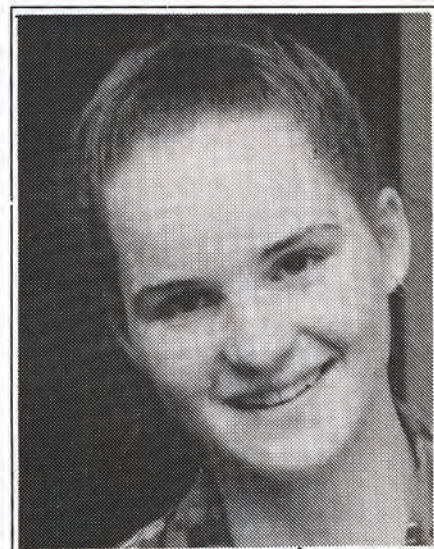
ST. BRIGID'S Camogie Club addressed last year's losses when no County or All-Ireland medals came to the Club. This year the Primary Schools team won the Roinn A Championship for the first time since 1988 while six All-Ireland Colleges Camogie medals came to the club when St. Brigid's College, Callan, eventually made the long-awaited breakthrough.

Yet, despite these victories, it was a disastrous year for Camogie in the Club. The playing off of the Senior Championship in March and April was a disaster. Once clubs were out of the championship, interest was lost, with the result that no club camogie was played in May, June, July and August, which are the best months for playing the game. The same situation arose in many other clubs and unless

this crazy situation is changed then club camogie is dead and buried.

The highlight of the year was the winning of All-Ireland Senior Colleges medals by club members Sinéad Millea, who captained the team, Áine Comerford, Margaret Comerford and Olive O'Sullivan. Deirdre O'Sullivan came on as a sub. in the final while Ashling Byrne was on the panel. Club members collected National Senior Camogie League Medals when Marie Fitzpatrick, Deirdre Malone and Tracey Millea were members of the Noreside team which beat Cork in the final.

Sinéad Millea was also a member of the team but missed the final because of examinations. Margaret Comerford was a sub. on the winning team. Kay Dunphy and Mary McGrath figured



Sinéad Millea

CHOISTE CHILL CHAINNIGH ROLL OF HONOUR 1993

SENIOR NATIONAL LEAGUE CHAMPIONS..... KILKENNY
ALL-IRELAND POST-PRIMARY SCHOOLS SENIOR
CAMOGIE CHAMPIONS ST. BRIGID'S COLLEGE, CALLAN

Leinster Senior Camogie Champions (1992) Kilkenny
Leinster Senior Camogie Champions (1993) Kilkenny
Leinster Minor Camogie Champions Kilkenny
Leinster Senior Club Champions..... Lisdowney

COUNTY CHAMPIONSHIPS

Competition:

Competition:	Winners	Runners-up
Primary Schools Roinn A	Kilmanagh	Freshford
Primary Schools Roinn B	Urlingford	Clara
Primary Schools Roinn C	Tullagher	St. Canice's
Primary Schools Roinn D	Galmoy	Bennettsbridge
Under-14 Roinn A	Freshford	Tullaroan
Under-14 Roinn B	Shamrocks	Lisdowney
Under-14 Roinn C	Rower-Inistioge	Thomastown
Minor Roinn A	Clara	Castlecomer
Minor Roinn B	Mullinavat	Carrickshock
Minor Roinn C	Dicksboro	Lisdowney
Under-18	Freshford	Lisdowney
Under-21	(not yet completed)	
Junior	Glenmore	Mooncoin
Junior B	Clara	Lisdowney
Senior	Lisdowney	Freshford
Senior 15-a-side	(not yet completed)	
Senior B	(not yet completed)	

Community Games County Champions Rower-Inistioge
Butlerstown Seven-a-side, Tournament Winners..... Freshford

Leinster Post-Primary Schools

Senior Champions..... St. Brigid's College, Callan
Senior B Champions Presentation Secondary School, Kilkenny
Seven-a-side, Champions Castlecomer Community School

Leinster Vocational Schools

Junior Champions Castlecomer Community School

Kilkenny Post-Primary Schools

First Year Champions Loreto Secondary Schools, Kilkenny
I.N.T.O. Seven-a-side County Champions..... Freshford

in earlier games in the competition. Tracey Millea and Sinéad Millea are members of the Leinster Senior Camogie team which has qualified for the Gael Linn Final.

Sinéad Millea collected the *Kilkenny People*/Hotel Kilkenny Sports Star of the Month award for April for her display in the All-Ireland Colleges final in which she scored 2-6 of her side's total 3-7. Sinéad also won the Smithwick's award for camogie for 1993. Ann-Marie Ryall collected a Leinster Colleges 'B' medal as a member of the Presentation (Kilkenny) team which beat Birr Community School in the final. Deirdre O'Sullivan and Ashling Byrne won Leinster Minor Camogie medals.

The Senior Camogie team lost to St. Lachtain's and Lisdowney in the League section. Victories over Tullagher, Dicksboro and Thomastown gave them a place in the semi-final where they were again beaten by Lisdowney. The Under-21 team has qualified for the semi-finals against Lisdowney after beating Dicksboro and getting a walk-over from Carrick. The Minor camogie team reached the County semi-finals but were no match for St. Lachtain's, losing by 9-5 to 0-2. The Under-14 team played all their games but did not qualify for the closing stages.

The highlight of the year was the winning of the Primary Schools Roinn 'A' title. The team had been very impressive on the way to the final, having big wins over Mullinavat, Rower-Inistioge, Clara and St. Lachtain's. They beat St. Lachtain's in the final by 5-3 to 1-1 to regain a title they last held in 1993. Trainers of the team were Kathleen Quigley and Martin O'Halloran, both teaching in the local school. Hopefully, this team will go on to win the Under-14 title in 1994 and represent the County in Féile na nGael in Limerick.

The team was: Bronagh Neary, Bernadette Marnell, Bernadette Ryall, Mary Purcell, Martina Comerford, Margaret Cleere, Pauline Comerford (Capt.), Emer Walsh, Aoife Neary, Elizabeth Teehan, Nicola Fitzpatrick, Moira Cody. Subs. - Aoire Brennan (used), Deirdre O'Halloran (used), Ashling Murphy, Catriona Muldowney, Nora Comerford.

Lady luck strikes twice for Clara girls

CLARA played Lisdowney in the Junior B final, winning by 3 points and in the Minor A final, they beat Castlecomer 7-5. Majella Hickey captured the Junior side while her sister Anne led the Minors to victory.

Clara against Lisdowney Junior B was a thrilling final with a great display of skill on both sides. Clara scored first with a point from a '30 by Elizabeth Dowling. Edel Murphy picked up the ball from the puck out and ran all the way in, but was hooked and the ball went narrowly wide. Lisdowney had a free taken by Noelle O'Driscoll but it was wide.

Edel Murphy, Anne Hickey and Majella Hickey dominated midfield for Clara and all played with great enthusiasm.

Catriona Carey had a beautiful point from play and seconds later was on her way again, but was fouled and awarded a free. Elizabeth Dowling pointed.

Lisdowney had a point by Noelle O'Driscoll from a free and seconds later another free taken by Noelle was clocked down by Elizabeth Dowling and was picked up and pointed by Noelle O'Driscoll.

Niámh Phelan made some great clearances. Clare Comerford was superb in goal and her long puckouts proved very valuable for Clara forwards.

Lisdowney had a great save, resulting in a '30 for Clara which added another point for them. A good pass from Gillian Meaney to Catriona Carey was snatched up by her and landed in the corner of the Lisdowney net. The half time score 1-4 Clara, 2 points Lisdowney.

The second half was very exciting. Lisdowney had a point from a free and Clara had another. There was great defensive work on both sides. Catriona Carey had another great point from play just as accurate as her brother D. J. Lisdowney had two more points from frees, both taken by Noelle O'Driscoll. Joanne Dowling sent in a good ball which was saved by Mary Brennan. Ailish Dunne and Catherine Dowling played diligently in the Clara defence. Ann Hickey had a good point for Clara. The Lisdowney goalie made some great saves. Final score:

Clara 1-8
Lisdowney 1-5

Clara: C. Comerford, N. Phelan, C. Dowling, A. Dunne, E. Dowling, A. Hickey, E. Murphy, M. Hickey, J. Dowling, G. Meaney, E. Dowling, C. Carey. Subs: Val Dowling, Deirdre Dowling, Denise Dowling, Julianne Coogan.

Under-16 Final

The Under-16 final was played in excellent conditions in Danesfort. Clara got off to a good start with a free from Deirdre Dowling going to Catriona Carey, who got a goal. There was some great ground hurling between the girls and plenty of clash of the ash.

Catriona Carey sent a beautiful flick over hand, but it went narrowly wide. Fran Shore made a great run through the Clara defence, but it was a wide. From the puck-out Eavan Dowling flicked the ball to Elaine Brennan and

she sent a nice ball to the 'Comer net.

Castlecomer had another wide and then from a free, Mary Rose Ryan collected a ball and sent a great shot to the Clara net. Fran Shore scored a point from a free.

Deirdre Dowling took a free which was blocked out for a '30, and then she secured her point. The ball was flying up and down the pitch with some great defence on both teams, and Anne Hickey playing her part at midfield for Clara.

Castlecomer had a free, but the ball was blocked out for another free to Clara. Deirdre Dowling passed the ball to Catriona Carey and she crossed it to Deirdre Hennessy and it ended in the net, leaving Clara 3-1, Castlecomer 1-7.

Castlecomer replied with another goal from Mary Rose Ryan. From puck-out from Deirdre Dowling, the ball ended in the Castlecomer Square, and it danced around back and forth for a few seconds until Deirdre Hennessy scored her second goal.

Eavan Dowling, Anne Hickey and Hazel O'Neill were outstanding in midfield while Susan Brennan was always alert in goal, and brought off some great saves.

Brid Foley and Jennifer Dillon were in command at the corner back and Denise Dowling was keeping a close watch on Mary Rose Ryan, the Castlecomer full forward. Deirdre Dowling was in excellent form on her puck outs and 30's frees as was Fran Shore in opposition.

Clara's forwards all scored. Deirdre Hennessy was determined in centre forward and rarely lost a ball, while Catriona Carey was always dangerous in attack and showed some great skill. Gillian Meaney and Elaine Brennan did some marvellous work in the wings. Half-time score: 4-1, 2-2.

Catherine Neary (trainer) gave a great encouraging speech at half time to the Clara

girls, and likewise Ted Browne was giving a grind in the other camp. Yet again, in the second half there was lovely hurling and some great skill and determination from both sides. Clara had a free taken by Deirdre Dowling with another point.

Catriona Carey had a great goal and shortly afterwards had another great run through, but it was blocked out for a 30, and a point by Deirdre Dowling. Clara had another 30 with a point scored by Deirdre Dowling and Castlecomer had a point from a free by Fran Shore.

Mary Rose Ryan scored her third goal for Castlecomer and Gillian Meaney replied with another great goal for Clara. Catriona Carey scored a beautiful point from play, while Fran Shore had another point from a free. Elaine Brennan had a brilliant goal for Clara, and Castlecomer scored a point to leave the final score:

Clara 7-5
Castlecomer 3-5

Clara: S. Brennan, Denise Dowling, B. Foley, J. Dillon, Deirdre Dowling, A. Hickey, H. O'Neill, E. Dowling, D. Hennessy, G. Meaney, C. Carey, E. Brennan. Subs: G. Byrne, Edwina Dowling, A. Dreeling, C. Gibbons.

Clara continues its success after winning the Feile last year when they went on to win the Minor 'A' and Junior 'B' County Finals this season. They were narrowly defeated by a point in the Primary Schools Final by Urlingford. This was a very exciting match where both teams were determined from the start. Clara were unfortunate to have a goal disallowed in the first quarter which seemed to dampen their enthusiasm. However, they settled in again in the second quarter and were leading by a point at half time. Urlingford attacked early in the second half. Clara returned another goal but at the final whistle it was Urlingford's turn to be a point in the lead.



Minor 'A' Champions 1993. Front Row (left to right): Brid Foley, Jennifer Dillon, Eavan Dowling, Anne Hickey, Susan Brennan, Catriona Carey, Denise Dowling. Back Row (left to right): Phil Dowling (secretary), Cathy Gibbons, Deirdre Hennessy, Deirdre Dowling, Hazel O'Neill, John Dowling (coach), Elaine Brennan, Gillian Meaney, Gillian Byrne, Edwina Dowling, Catherine Neary (trainer).

CAMOGIE

Glenmore girls do it at last



Back Row (left to right): Marie Ennett, Edel Drohan, Dolores Kehoe, Anna Boyle, Marie O'Shea, Margaret Aylward, Josephine Dowling, Anne Garvey, Catherine Hennessy, Joan Aylward, Aine Coady, Karen Phelan, Chris Dollard. Front row (left to right): Anna Doherty, Bridget Murphy, Olive Mullally, Bridget Mullally, Margaret Doherty (capt.), Owen Murphy, Helen Murphy, David Garvey, Annette Phelan, Marie Hanrahan, Frances Phelan, Martina Murphy.

GLENMORE Camogie Club has at last achieved what eluded them for the past three years by taking the Junior County Final Féile this year beating Mooncoin in a close low scoring battle on the 23rd of May last. They made a good start by beating the Shamrocks by 1-3 to 0-4, following this by beating Mullinavat by a convincing score of 1-4 to 0-3. A walk over given by Piltown led to the Glenmore team's first defeat by a strong Mooncoin team with a scoreline of 3-9 to 2-5. This qualified them for semi-final stages against Lisdowney. A very close sporting game resulted in Glenmore going through to the final, defeating their opponents by two points with a score of 2-6 to 2-4.

The County Final was played on Sunday,

23rd May before a large crowd of both Glenmore and Mooncoin supporters and the victorious Glenmore girls celebrated their first Junior title since the formation of the camogie club four years ago, beating Mooncoin by 0-8 to 0-4. This was Glenmore's third county final in their four years, having reached semi-final stage last year and carrying on to win the Junior B final.

In September of this year, the club ran a tournament, inviting clubs from surrounding areas. Eight teams battled for the title and the tournament is still in progress. The club also participated in a 7-a-side tournament blitz in Butlerstown and emerged runners-up on the occasion.

The U-21 team beat Dicksboro in a

tournament semi-final in Johnstown with the final still to be played. The U-16 team found themselves outclassed this year having come from the U-14 grade, but show great potential for the coming year.

Two of the club members also play for county teams, Joan Aylward on the Junior team and Senior panel, and also Bridget Mullally on the Senior team.

The girls look forward to a challenging year, having qualified to play senior championship next year.

The girls wish to thank everyone for their participation and support, in particular the trainers and selectors, P. J. O'Connor, Paddy Murphy and Thomas Mullally.



Dicksboro Set Dance Team – winners – Scór Competition . . . Patricia Dalton, Patricia Byrne, Davy Dalton, Nicky Brennan, Tommy Gaffney, Siobhán Morrissey, Mairéad Blanchfield, Richie McEvoy.

Photo: Tom Brett

St. Lachtain's Camogie Club

St. Lachtain's were not as dominant on the under-age scene as they had been in recent years; nevertheless, it was a successful year. The highlights were qualifying for the Co. Senior Final and winning the Under-18 title for the sixth year in a row.

Once again the Scoil Lachtain teams set the scene by winning the I.N.T.O. 7-a-side tournament. They qualified for the Roinn A championship final but had to give way to Kilmamagh.

The under 14's had a fine victory in the County final over neighbours Tullaroan. It was one of the most exciting finals ever seen in Nowlan Park. There was great anticipation as everyone looked forward to Féile na nGael in Galway; however, disappointment was our lot due to a mix-up over entries to the national final. Unfortunately the county of the reigning All-Ireland champions was thus unable to partake and the host county picked up the title.

The Under-16' were beaten by Clara in the semi-final.

The Under-18 championship has been dominated by Freshford and the girls took the title for the sixth year in a row, with a deserved victory over Lisdowney.

Freshford are still in contention in the Under-21 championship.

The great promise shown at under-age level was brought to fruition at adult stage when the seniors qualified for the club's first ever County Senior final. The more experienced Lisdowney opposition had the better of the day but St. Lachtain's contributed mightily to a very entertaining final. It was the first appearance in a county final by a Freshford team since St. Ita's won the title sixty years ago in 1933. St. Ita's lost that title in the board-room to Young Irelands because one of the players had worn grey stockings!

At county level, Kathleen Ryan captained Kilkenny to Leinster minor honours. They lost to Galway in the All-Ireland semi-final.

Gillian Dillon and Sinéad Costelloe represented the club at senior level.

On the Kilkenny Junior team were Helen McGrath, Paula Dowling, Esther Kennedy, Sinéad Costelloe, Fiona Connery, Hilda Butler, Margaret Kavanagh, and Imelda Kennedy. They lost to Carlow in the Leinster semi-final.

Máiréad Costelloe represented Scoil Lachtain in the mini-sevens game in Croke Park on All-Ireland hurling final day.

Teresa Dillon represented St. Lachtain's as the longest serving chairperson of the Kilkenny Co. Camogie Board. We congratulate her, on her achievements in that position. Teresa did not seek re-election at this year's convention.



St. Lachtain's, Butlerstown 7-a-side tournament winners. Back: Paula Dowling, Kathleen Dooley, Sinéad Costelloe, Gillian Dillon Front: Maura Costelloe, Margaret Kavanagh, Hilda Butler, Helen McGrath.



St. Lachtain's Under-18 Roinn A Champions 1993. Back: Margaret Dooley, Sinéad Costelloe, Margaret Hickey, Margaret Kavanagh, Kathleen Dooley, Paula Dowling. Front: Patricia Dalton, Máiréad Costelloe, Kathleen Ryan, Ann Marie Butler, Breda Dooley, Ann Wall. Missing from photo: Fiona Connery, Imelda Kennedy, Mary Carmel Ryan, Eimear Connery, Claire Dermody, Sinéad Butler.



St. Lachtain's Under-14 Roinn A Champions 1993. Back: Emma Fitzpatrick, Orla O'Connor, Julie Ryan, Claire Burke, Máiréad Kelly, Marie Fitzpatrick, Claire Dermody. Front: Sheila Dalton, Máiréad Costelloe, Breda Wall, Mary Carmel Ryan, Sinéad Kavanagh, Breena Phelan, Bernadette Dooley.

LISDOWNEY CLUB

Third of October will be forever etched in the history books of Lisdowney Camogie Club. The senior team created their own piece of history by winning the Leinster Club Championship for the first time. This was a great occasion for the club as they made up for the disappointment of the previous year when they were beaten by Rathnure.

On the domestic front, they won all the games in the league section, except their last one against St. Lachtain's which they lost 2-9 to 0-4. This qualified them for a semi-final meeting with St. Brigid's. Lisdowney proved too good for them in all sectors and ran out convincing 2-15 to 0-7 winners.

The County Final, played on 13th May, saw them pitted against near neighbours St. Lachtain's. One of the biggest attendances ever at a senior final watched a thrilling local 'derby' game. The keen edge to rivalry between the two became evident early on and nothing was conceded easily.

With both defences on top, and Helen McGrath having some fine saves in the Freshford goal, both teams were finding scores hard to come by. The opening half ended on a scoreline of 0-3 to 0-1 in favour of Lisdowney. In the second half, good midfield play by Ann Downey, Catherine Dunne and Marina Downey swung the pendulum in Lisdowney's favour. It took a tremendous goal - a ground shot - by Claire Jones before the Freshford challenge was nullified.

In the closing stages they showed their superiority as the defence allowed nothing past and they had points from Lizzie Fogarty and one from Catherine Dunne to gain victory on a score of 1-9 to 0-4. A jubilant captain, Lizzie Fogarty, accepted the Dunphy Cup on behalf of the team.

Panel: Veronica Wall, Caroline Glendon, Bridgid Wall, Bridget Barnaville, Olivia Donnelly,

Marina Downey, Ann Downey, Catherine Dunne, Áine Dunne, Claire Jones, Angela Downey-Browne, Lizzie Fogarty (Capt.), Ann Marie Hughes, Noelle O'Driscoll, Mary Brennan, Deirdre Delaney, Sandra Gleeson, Fionnuala Gray, Bridget Sharkey, Catherine O'Loughlin and Marie Blanchfield.

In the Leinster Championship on the morning of the hurling All-Ireland, Lisdowney travelled to Cadamstown and defeated Broadford (Kildare) 4-18 to 0-4. Lisdowney was the next stop on Sunday, September 12, for a semi-final clash with Oulart The Ballagh (Wexford). After a slow start, going five points down, Lisdowney fought their way back to run out winners on a scoreline 4-10 to 2-6.

Páirc Uinsionn, Dublin, will always be remembered by the Lisdowney girls as a happy hunting ground. Following pre-noon rain, underfoot conditions were greasy. Both teams were eager to win as they had both suffered defeats on their previous attempts. Lisdowney adapted to the conditions better than their opponents and played some tremendous camogie in the opening period to leave the half-time score: 4-2 to 0-4. In the second half Lisdowney had to play against the breeze and up the hill. They became slightly disorientated in a few sectors. Marino chipped away at the ominous margin and never gave up. At one time they had whittled the Lisdowney lead lead to just one point.

Some good goalkeeping and firm defensive work saw them holding on after Angela Downey goaled in the closing minutes, leaving the scores 6-6 to 4-8. It was a unique occasion to witness as Phyllis Breslin presented vice-captain Ann Marie Hughes (who was officiating for the day) with the Conway Memorial Cup.

Their jubilation was short-lived with the realisation that Glen Rovers (Cork), the All-Ireland champions, were to be their opponents in the All-Ireland semi-final, at a Cork venue. On the day, the Cork girls were far superior and

ran out winners on a scoreline of 6-10 to 2-8. Despite this defeat, 1993 will be remembered as a rewarding one.

A predominantly young Junior team were defeated by eventual champions, Glenmore, in the semi-final (2-6 to 2-4). With a bit of luck they could have had a different result. They also reached the final of the Junior B but were defeated by Clara after a thrilling game (1-8 to 1-5). Despite the experience of Noelle O'Driscoll, Ann Kavanagh, Bridget Sharkey and Catherine O'Loughlin, the majority of the remaining players were under eighteen. If players like Fionnuala Gray, Angie O'Carroll, Cora Mackey, Deirdre Delaney, Claire and Martina Tallis continue to improve they will be seen in the senior ranks in the not too distant future.

At present our U/21's have reached the semi-final, following a win over St. Anne's and a walkover from Mullinavat. St. Brigid's are their opposition in what should be an interesting tussle. They have also reached the final of the St. Anne's tournament, where they take on Glenmore.

The U/18 team reached the final by virtue of wins over Mullinavat and Dicksboro. They qualified for a final meeting with St. Lachtain's. Both teams were evenly matched in the opening half and played some fine camogie in the first half. There was only the minimum margin in it at the break.

In the second half, the ability of the Freshford forwards to take their scores, and mistakes by the defence, allowed Freshford take the lead. They were well in control in the last quarter and ran out convincing winners. Angela O'Carroll and Mary Brennan were outstanding for the losers.

Lisdowney were also defeated in the Minor B final by Dicksboro. The winners laid the foundation of victory in the first half with some good play, especially from Triona



Back Row (left to right): Ann Marie Hughes, Bridget Sharkey, Noelle O'Driscoll, Deirdre Delaney, Bridget Barnaville, Caroline Glendon, Ann Delaney, Claire Jones, Bridgid Wall, Lizzie Fogarty (Capt.), Maria Blanchfield.

Front Row (l-r): Mary Brennan, Sandra Gleeson, Angela Downey, Maria Downey, Veronica Wall, Catherine Dunne, Áine Dunne, Olivia Donnelly. (mascot Paul Hyndle).



↑ **ABOVE** – John Power, Captain of the Leinster team which won the Railway Cup.

← **LEFT** – Michael 'Duxie' Walsh – All-Ireland Handball Singles Champion.



GRANNY'S CUP . . . Grandchildren of the late Nan Brennan, Wolfe Tone Street, one of the city's hurlers most ardent supporters, pictured with the new memorial cup in her honour, which the family have presented to Bord na nÓg for the under-16 hurling championship. They are (from left): Emmet Holohan, Cedarwood Drive; Gavan Holohan and Adrian Brennan, Wolfe Tone Street.

(Photo: Tom Brett)

JOHN LOCKES (Callan)

Vale Oil Intermediate Hurling Champions 1993



FRONT ROW (l.-r.): John Donovan (mascot), James Qulgley, Garry Power, Nigel Donovan, Adrian O'Sullivan, Declan Roche, Stewart Donovan, Sean Hogan (Captain), John Power, Kevin Coffey, David Lynch, John Tobin, John Bergin.
 BACK ROW (l.-r.): Jim Power, Paul Morrissey, David Cahill, Denis O'Sullivan, Philip Comerford, Paddy Comerford, Colm Nolan, Jack Lynch, Donal Maher, Jim Lynch, Mick Lynch, Noel Dargan.

(Photo: T. O'Neill)

KILKENNY

Minor Football International Winners 1993



FRONT ROW (l.-r.): Ken O'Shea, Owen Maher, Damien Cleere, Paddy Mullally, Paul Kearney (Captain), Niall Clancy, Paul Morrissey, Brendan Bolger, Ken Brennan, Claran Lynch, Raymond Roche. BACK ROW (l.-r.): John Phelan, James Barry, D. Mullins, Niall Kelly, Alan Lonergan, Aidan Begley, Damien Walsh, Brendan Dalton, Adrian Moran, John Dowd, Tadhg Kenny.

Kennedy. Dicksboro were able to pick off their scores in the second half, but Lisdowney never gave up fighting and threatened on numerous occasions. They couldn't find a way past a good Dicksboro defence. But for the displays of captain Angela O'Carroll, Sinéad Delaney and Áine Henderson, the deficit could have been far greater.

The U/14 team were also beaten by Shamrocks in the County Final (4-0 to 1-1). Captain Denise Ryan had a great opening half; she scored all her side's scores 1-1. Sinéad Delaney, Deirdre Morrissey, Maura Dowling, Patricia Fitzpatrick, Áine Henderson and Catherine Nolan all played quite well. They defeated Mullinavat in the semi-final, played in Callan, 2-0 to 1-0.

For the first time ever, the club entered two primary teams in Roinn B & D. The Roinn B team defeated Mooncoin but were defeated by Galmoy, Emeralds and Tullaroan. The Roinn D team were defeated in the semi-final by a

strong Bennettsbridge team. There is great interest in this area of the club and it is hoped it will continue. There are many promising players whose keen interest will also continue.

Two club members, namely Mary Brennan and Angela O'Carroll, won Leinster and All-Ireland Senior Colleges' medals with St. Brigid's, Callan. Their team trainer was Noelle O'Driscoll, who is also a club member. Angela added a Leinster Minor medal to her collection in July.

Marina Downey was the first person from our Club to captain a senior county team. They failed to Cork in the All-Ireland semi-final but the team won the Leinster final and the first inaugural 15-a-side league – she was joined on the panel by club members Ann and Angela Downey, Clair Jones, Bridget Barnaville, Brigid Wall and Catherine Dunne.

For the first time the senior team took part in the Kilmacud/Crokes tournament on the eve of the Camogie All-Irelands. They were group winners, following wins over Crumlin (Dublin),

Shinrone (Offaly) and Toomevara (Tipperary). This qualified the Kilmacud team for a semi-final against Rathnure (Wexford). After a thrilling game they lost out to the eventual champions by the minimum of margins. It was an enjoyable day and if a full selection had been available it might have been their day.

Panel: N. O'Driscoll, C. Jones; B. Barnaville, M. Downey, Ann Downey, A.M. Hughes, C. Dunne (Capt.), M. Brennan, D. Delaney, Angela Downey.

Congratulations to A.M. Hughes on her marriage during the year, and Claire Jones on her recent engagement.

On the administrative side, this year, our officers and committee members have been busy fundraising, generating badly needed funds to meet our heavy financial commitments. The club is ever grateful to them and also to the many people for their sponsorship and donations throughout the year. We are thankful for their generosity.

Scoil Aodain Naofa, Kilmanagh

Primary Schools' Roinn 'A' Camogie Champions 1993. Back Row (left to right): Kathleen Quigley (Trainer), Bernadette Ryall, Aoife Neary, Mary Purcell, Bernadette Marnell, Emer Walsh, Margaret Cleere, Martin Comerford, Aoife Brennan, Martin O'Halloran (coach). Front Row (left to right): Nora Comerford, Ashling Murphy, Elizabeth Teehan, Pauline Comerford (capt.), Bronagh Neary, Moira Cody, Deirdre O'Halloran, Nicola Fitzpatrick.



Members of the Kilkeny team on the Leinster Junior team that defeated Munster. Front row (left to right): Ester Kennedy, Joan Aylward (captain), Hilda Butler. Back Row (left to right): Sinead Costello, Imelda Kennedy, Marie Maher.

Members of the Kilkeny team on the Leinster Senior team that defeated Munster. Front Row (left to right): Bridget Mullally, Gillian Dillon, Sinead Millea, Angela Downey Browne, (Katie Browne). Standing (left to right): Teresa Dillon (chairperson), Clare Jones, Tracey Millea, Ann Downey, Bridie McGarry, Una Murphy, Tom Ryan (Manager).



Tullogher Camogie Club

HAVING enjoyed considerable success in recent years at Junior, Intermediate and Senior level, Tullogher's only success in 1993 came with the victory of their Primary School team in the Roinn 'C' County Final, defeating St. Canice's in an exciting final by 3-2 to 1-0. The victorious team members were as follows:

Catriona Ryan (Listerlin), Elizabeth Walsh, Stephenie Cottrell, Bernadette Doolan, Siobhan Ryan, E. Malone, Sandy Cottrell, Martina Lanigan, Catriona Ryan (Ballalog), Maria Barron, A. Ryan, Anne Marie Mullally, E. Malone, D. Malone, M. Ryan, C. Ryan.

Tullogher were once again well represented at county level during the year by Una Murphy, Noreen Tierney, Biddy O'Sullivan (senior), Catherine Murphy, Elaine Nolan, Dolores Lanigan (junior), and Florence Lanigan (minor).

Our senior team captain, Una Murphy, had the honour of being selected to play for Leinster in the Interprovincial games, and Una also was an outstanding member of the Waterford Regional College team which won the Purcell Cup.



Tullogher Primary Schools Roinn 'C' County Champions 1993.



G.A.A. I.N.T.O. Sevens, 3-in-a-row Champions. Back Row (left to right): Eimear Norton, Mairead Costelloe, Karen Cass, Ashling Kelly, Jennifery Dalton. Front Row (left to right) Sinead Kavanagh, Bernadette Dooley, Louise Burke, Sheila Dalton, Breena Phelan. Mairead Costelloe played on All-Ireland Hurling day in the Kilkenny colours.



CALLAN



NEW ROSS

quality
awards
1 3



Caulfield's Super-Valu Supermarket, Callan, won the 1993 Super-Valu Hygiene Award and the prestigious Irish Quality Association Hygiene Mark. Pictured at the presentation are An Taoiseach, Albert Reynolds TD; Tomás Caulfield; Seamus Scally (Chairman Super-Valu Supermarkets) and Cormac O'Herlihy (Acting Chief Executive I.Q.A.).

Outstanding year for Mullinavat

The highlight of the year for Mullinavat Camogie Club was the winning of the Minor Roinn B Championship. Mullinavat won all their games in the League section and this brought them to a semi-final meeting with the Shamrocks of Ballyhale.

This was a very close game with Mullinavat coming from behind to snatch victory. In the final we met our neighbours and great rivals, Carrickshock. Behind at half-time by four points, we fought back in the second half and emerged winners on the score: Mullinavat 2-4, Carrickshock 1-3.

Our Primary School's team failed to reach the final of the Roinn A Group for the first time in 9 years when they were beaten by Kilmanagh in the semi-final. Our U14 team were beaten at the semi-final stage also. Our Junior team, although not winning any games, gave some creditable performances.

Catherine Butler and Caroline Atkins were members of the Kilkenny Minor team that won the Leinster Championship.

All our teams are represented by players from the parish and winning a County title in Kilkenny camogie with a parish team is a wonderful achievement for the club.



MULLINAVAT - ROINN B CHAMPIONS

Back Row (l-r): Maureen Burke, Barnadette O'Keefe, Olivia Delahunty, Martina Fitzgerald, Christine Aldridge, Bridie O'Keefe, Margaret Ann Raitice, Catherine Aylward, Marie Aylward, Tom Anthony (Trainer). Front Row (l-r): Kathleen Atkins, Caroline Atkins, Sandra Lannon, Catherine Butler (Capt.), Monica Duggan, Karen O'Neill, Marie Anthony, Caroline O'Dwyer (Inset).

THRILLING WIN FOR CAMOGIE GIRLS

Urlingford won the final of the Roinn B Primary Schools' camogie championship with a win over Clara in a thriller at O'Loughlin's.

It was Urlingford's determination that finally won the day. The game opened with a point from a free taken by Maura Brennan. Then disaster struck for Urlingford after ten minutes when star goalkeeper Laura Comerford, who was having a magnificent game in goal, was injured and had to be replaced by Caroline Guilfoyle.

Clara scored a goal in the last ten minutes. At half-time Clara were leading by two points. A goal from Maura Brennan in the second half put Urlingford in the lead.

Clara scored another goal and then Sarah O'Gorman showed her talent when she scored a beautiful goal which once again put Urlingford in the lead. Clara never gave up trying at this stage and the last ten minutes saw some great defensive work by Blanáid Hennessy, Brenda Cleere and Tina Breen who gave some great puck-outs. Caroline Guilfoyle had some great saves.

Forwards Alfreda Pembroke, Orla Quinn, Claire Ryan, Tara Lyng and Joan Carroll had great games and went close to scoring on a number of occasions.

Dominating centrefield were Aoife Phelan, who gave some excellent passes; Sarah O'Gorman who had a great game and Maura Brennan who received the "player of the match" award.

Back in Urlingford, a good crowd greeted the team on their arrival and they paraded through

the town. They later adjourned to the Community Centre for refreshments hosted by the Urlingford Action Group.

Sponsors of Urlingford Camogie Club were: Jim Bergin, Richard Hayes, Richie Breen and Richie Brennan, Pat Delaney, Johnstown, and Kevin Brett, who sponsored "player of the match".

Team: Laura Comerford, Caroline Guilfoyle, Blanáid Hennessy, Brendan Cleere, Tina Breen, Maura Brennan, Sara O'Gorman, Aoife Phelan, Alfreda Pembroke, Orla Quinn, Claire Ryan, Tara Lyng, Joan Carroll.

Subs: Kathleen Peters, Áine Brennan, Lisa Moriarty, Elaine Kellaghan, Jean Costelloe, Anna Fox and Mary Drennan.



Back Row (l-r): Breda Cleere, Aoife Phelan, Alfreda Pembroke, Laura Comerford, Sara O'Gorman, Joan Carroll, Claire Ryan, Henry O'Grady (Trainer). Front Row: Tara Lyng, Caroline Guilfoyle, Maura Brennan, Orla Quinn, Tina Breen, Blanáid Hennessy.

VOCATIONAL SCHOOLS SCENE

THE YEAR 1993 can indeed be described as a year of change in relation to our structures. Nick McGrath, our long-serving secretary/treasurer/team manager, was obliged to withdraw his services due to increased responsibilities in his post in Kilkenny Vocational School.

Michael Malone of Mooncoin Vocational School was elected to the post of secretary/treasurer at our A.G.M. in November 1992.

Fr. Liam Barron, after 5 years as team coach, decided to call it a day also. We thus had a major headache – who could possibly follow his act?

We were most fortunate that Kevin Fennelly acceded to our appeal for help. Kevin was an ideal successor to Fr. Barron. A man of great hurling experience with club, county and province and also considerable experience in the coaching aspect of the game, he had the C.V. we needed. Unfortunately, the first round of the All-Ireland Championship came earlier than expected and Kevin did not have the opportunity to prepare the team as well as he desired. Perhaps 1994?

Fr. Barron had an extraordinary record of success with our teams. He took them to 5 All-Irelands in five years and won two. His success was due, in my opinion to his total commitment to the job in hand, his never flagging enthusiasm, his sincerity and his respect for every member of the panel. We thank you Fr. Liam for your trojan work with our teams and we wish you every blessing and happiness in your pastoral work in Glenmore. The hurling might benefit also in that hurling mad parish!!

Nick McGrath has been a great servant of hurling in the Vocational School sector over a quarter of a century. Nick served at every level of administration in the Vocational area, local and national. He was secretary/treasurer of the County Committee for many years. He represented Co. Kilkenny Vocational Schools at both Provincial and Central Councils of the Vocational Schools. He was honoured to be elected National President of that body and occupied that position for three years.

In my opinion however, his biggest contribution was at local level with the county team. As team manager for many years Nick was the hub about which the whole structure moved. He spent thousands of man hours arranging matches, meals, transport, equipment – all that is involved in the preparation and fielding of teams. He transported players to and from every nook and corner of this county and far beyond. The means of transport available was unimportant – car, bus, van, lorry! It was not unusual for Nick at one period to take players from a training session in Thomastown or Danesfort and do drops in Piltown, Dunamaggin, Kilkenny, as far as Galmoy and across to Coon. Did I hear a suggestion that players should be paid for playing hurling?

Nick McGrath is due greater credit than he has received to date for his services to one important sector of Gaelic games. On behalf of our committee and several generations of

students, I thank you Nick, most sincerely, and trust that you will enjoy the hurling at a more relaxed pace in future.

Nowadays much of the transporting of players is done by the mini-buses from Johnstown and Graignamanagh Vocational schools. This has made life much easier all round. I express our appreciation to the management of both schools for the use of the buses and I thank our faithful drivers – Sean Hanrahan and Christy Walsh for their willing service.

We have for a number of years now, been very fortunate to have the use of Danesfort pitch for our training sessions. We very much appreciate this facility and we are indeed very grateful to the Danesfort Club. In particular I wish to express our thanks to Jimmy Cahill, the groundsman in Danesfort, for his unfailing co-operation and courtesy at all times. We, the clubs, and the G.A.A. are lucky to have the Jimmy Cahills of Ireland at our service. Let's hope we never fail to appreciate their role.

A further change in 1993 was our success in obtaining a major sponsor for the county hurling team. I wish to record our thanks to P. M. Cantwell, Building Contractors, for their financial support, and I welcome their decision to continue their sponsorship for 1994. Let's hope that the county team and P. M. Cantwell will have a better run for their money in the coming year.

Inter county Vocational hurling

In 1993 the Vocational Inter-County team put in a number of polished performances. Defeated All-Ireland finalists in 1992, Kilkenny all but slipped past Offaly in the open draw All-Ireland Vocational Schools Senior Championship. The Noresiders were minutes from moving into the next round when Offaly produced an equaliser from virtually nothing. This game ended on level terms – 1-5 each.

In the replay the standard of hurling was far superior to the drawn tie. When wind assisted during the opening half, Offaly took the opposition asunder and ran up an interval

lead of 1-8 to 0-2. A great second half rally left only four points between the sides by the 40th minute. From here to the finish it was score for score leaving Offaly handsome winners.

Robert Jackman, Finbar Delaney, Brendan Walpole, Brendan Joyce, Declan Fitzpatrick, Mark Dunphy and P. J. O'Loughlin tried very hard for the losers.

Team: R. Jackman (Kilkenny), M. Kennedy (Thomastown), Finbar Delaney (Johnstown), B. O'Brien (Graignamanagh), B. Walpole (Thomastown), A. Morrissey (Graignamanagh), Paul Dowling (Johnstown), Kevin O'Shea (Ballyhale), Owen Beehan (Johnstown), S. Reid (Ballyhale), Colin Dunphy (Johnstown).

Subs: Joe Nolan and Kevin Lonergan (both Johnstown).

Johnstown Vocational School

In the winter and spring months many excellent games were played in the Vocational Schools Hurling Championship.

Johnstown had to rely on every ounce of ability to overcome local neighbours Thomastown and Ballyhale in the early rounds of the campaign. The Leinster semi-finals involved Johnstown, New Ross, Mountrath and Kilcormac.

Mark Dunphy (Lisdowney) was in great form for Johnstown scoring seven points against Mountrath. P. J. O'Loughlin and Brendan Ryan scored a goal each to finish off the Mountrath challenge. Kilcormac defeated New Ross in the other semi-final.

In the Leinster Final at Roscrea, Kilcormac were very determined. They had many fine performers in Shane Hand, David Gleeson, Tony Spain and David Nolan. Their 'keeper, Stephen Byrne pulled off a string of superb saves to deny the Kilkenny side the title. Nevertheless, heroic work by Finbar Delaney, Joe Nolan, Owen Behan, Colin Dunphy and Brendan Joyce kept the title in doubt to the final quarter.

Johnstown panel: John Guilfoyle (Emeralds), Niall Minogue (Emeralds), Declan Fitzpatrick (Lisdowney), Noel Walsh (Freshford), Joe Nolan (Lisdowney), Finbar Delaney (Johnstown), Tom Delaney (Emeralds), Brendan Joyce (Emeralds),



JOHNSTOWN VOCATIONAL SCHOOL SENIOR HURLING TEAM

Back row: left to right: Joe Nolan, Brendan Joyce, Kevin Lonergan, Mark Dunphy, Niall O'Connor, Colin Dunphy, P. J. O'Loughlin, Noel Walsh. Front row: left to right: Finbar Delaney, Brendan Ryan, Niall Minogue, John Guilfoyle, Declan Fitzpatrick, Tom Delaney, Paul Dowling (Photo: All Harvey, Portlaoise)

Mark Dunphy (Lisdowney), P. J. O'Loughlin (Johnstown), Colin Dunphy (Lisdowney), Paul Dowling (Freshford), Owen Behan (Johnstown), Brendan Ryan (Galmoy), Niall O'Connor (Freshford), Kevin Lonergan (Galmoy), Martin Egan (Johnstown), Brendan Barnaville (Johnstown).

Scores: (Semi-Final): Johnstown 2-10; Mountrath 1-4. Leinster Final: Kilcormac 5-4; Johnstown 2-3.

Johnstown Vocational School U-14 Hurling

The Johnstown Vocational school U-14 hurling team enjoyed a successful season in 1991-1992, even though they failed at the penultimate hurdle of the Leinster Colleges B Competition. In the first round they scored a resounding victory over Mountrath V.S. They defeated the Cistercian College, Roscrea, by three points in a hard fought encounter in Roscrea. A victory over Rathdowney V.S. by four points confirmed Johnstown's status as Regional champions for the past four years.

In the Leinster semi-final, Johnstown were defeated by an exceptionally strong Banagher team. The Johnstown team was a good, well-balanced outfit. Raymond Tallis was exceptional in goal. The full-back line of P. Costelloe, M. Quinlan and P. Wall were solid, if unspectacular. P. Morrissey, M. Glendon and D. Sheehy and the midfield duo P. Mooney and D. Garrett had a very good season. Captain P. Delaney, T. Bergin and P. Kennedy were a useful half forward line. N. Phelan and D. Bird showed great skill in the corners, while J. Burke had a great game against Roscrea.

Johnstown Vocational School Camogie

After a very successful season in 1991-92, Johnstown V.S. senior camogie team suffered a first round defeat in the Senior Vocational Schools Championship. In an epic tussle, the team succumbed to eventual Leinster champions, Thomastown V.S. by a margin of two points.

Johnstown heroes on the day were Patricia Dalton, Ann Marie Gray, Fionnuala Donnelly and Cora Mackey.

The Johnstown V.S. Juvenile Camogie team competed in the Kilkenny regional camogie competition. Having been narrowly defeated by the Presentation and Loreto convents and by Castlecomer Community School, they scored an emphatic victory over Heywood Community School. The players acquitted themselves well in every game and stars Sinéad Delaney and Kelly Long were two of the very best players in the competition.

Other stars were Suzanne Stapleton, Chrissie Hughes, Margaret Tobin and Ann Marie Gray. The team's performances augurs well for the future of camogie in the school.

Under-14 'C' Integrated hurling Competition 1993

Kilkenny City Vocational School won the above competition last year bringing the first title to the school in many years. Their first match was against Bagenalstown Presentation. Behind by eight points at half-time, they turned the game around to win by one point. The performance of Gerry Dunne and the introduction of Tom Fitzgerald was vital. In their second match against Knockbeg College, they completely dominated, the back line of John McCormack and Trevor Cummins being supreme, and won by a large margin. Fitzgerald scored a hat-trick of goals. In the South Leinster quarter final against Bunclody, the going was much tougher. Played in a terrible conditions, the match looked beyond redemption when a strong-looking Bunclody outfit led by seven points at half-time. Good work by Ruaidhri O'Neill, David Maher, James Hickey and Tom Murphy saw the lead whittled away but with seconds remaining, Bunclody were ahead by a point. Kilkenny were awarded a free, Paul Buggy dropped it in and it ended up in the Bunclody net.

The South Leinster final was a thriller. New

Ross C.B.S. scored 2-1 without reply in the opening ten minutes, but a goal from Stephen Guidera pegged it back. Kilkenny Vocational School were five points behind at half-time but, with David Kenny, Paul Buggy, Lee Phelan and Michael Brennan playing well, they hit back and two Gerry Dunne goals proved winners.

Final score:

Kilkenny City V.S. 3-6; New Ross 2-5

The Leinster semi-final was an anti-climax with Kilkenny beating Tullamore C.B.S. by 6-7 to 0-4; Lee Phelan and Gerry Dunne each scoring two goals. The Leinster Final against St. Declan's Cabra, was a more closely fought affair until two goals late in the second half put a lot of daylight between the two teams.

Final score:

Kilkenny City V.S. 3-5; St. Declan's 0-2

Team: D. Kenny, J. McCormack, T. Cummins (captain), J. Hickey, D. Maher, R. O'Neill, P. Buggy, T. Murphy, S. Guidera, M. Brennan, L. Phelan, T. Fitzgerald, G. Dunne.

Subs: G. O'Dwyer, A. Homan, P. Kealy, D. Foley, M. Dunne, D. Kavanagh, P. Feehan, M. Butler, N. Hoynes.

Mooncoin Vocational School

In the integrated Junior Hurling Competition, Mooncoin beat Thomastown Vocational



JOHNSTOWN VOCATIONAL SCHOOL SENIOR CAMOGIE

Back row (l. to r.): Kelly Long, Finnoula Gray, Cora Mackey, Belinda Doyle, Carol Fox, Marcella Dawson, Sinéad Bergin, Sinéad Delaney, Catherine Anderson, Noelle Lalor, Bernadette Crosby. Front row (l. to r.): Teresa Doyle, Tanya Hughes, Patricia Dalton, Lisa Rafter, Frances Cleere, Mairead Kelly, Thomasina Sharkey.



JOHNSTOWN VOCATIONAL SCHOOL UNDER-14 HURLING

Back row (l. to r.) Pat Morrissey, Pat Wall, Pat Mooney, Thomas Bergin, Michael Glendon, Raymond Tallis, John Burke, Martin Quinlan, Damien Sheehy, Sean Tobin, Paul Bergin. Middle row: David Burke, Declan Garrett, Pat Kennedy, T. J. Mackey, Podge Delaney, Ken Costello, Bobby O'Hara, Denis Bird, Raymond Moriarty, Michael Moriarty. Front: J. J. Grace, Thomas Hawkes, Keith Grant, Paul Costello. Missing from photo: Niall Phelan.

School, Wexford C.B.S. and Gorey C.B.S. to reach the Leinster semi-final; we faced the Cistercian College, Roscrea, who won on this occasion.

In the Vocational Schools competition, Mooncoin beat Ballyhale, but then ran into the eventual All-Ireland winners New Ross Vocational School and thus exited this competition. Ballyhale Vocational School beat Mooncoin in the Senior Hurling and Juvenile Hurling.

The Mooncoin Junior hurling team in the 1992-1993 competition was:

B. Ryan, M. Phelan, B. Gaule, L. Walsh, G. Maher, E. Dunphy, E. Mackey, W. Walsh, A. Walsh, G. Kirwan, A. Henebry, M. Gordon, T. Falconer, W. Synnott, R. Walsh.

Subs: L. Kelly, S. Tyler, D. Coughlan, D. Walsh.

In the school year '93/'94, Mooncoin Vocational School have played Thomastown Vocational School and New Ross Vocational School and were successful on both occasions and thus Mooncoin Vocational has qualified for the Leinster Quarter Final in which we play Presentation Convent, Bagenalstown.

Team: T. Falconer, C. Dunphy, L. Walsh, L. Dunphy, E. Mackey, B. Gaule, G. Maher, A. Walsh, M. Gordon, L. Kelly, G. Kirwan, B. Ryan, L. Knox, W. Synnott, R. Walsh.

Subs: S. Tyler, P. Phelan, D. Coughlan, D. Walsh, B. Flemming.

Congratulations to Tom Murphy, a past student, who won his second senior All-Ireland medal and could become a permanent member of the Kilkenny senior team. Past students Joe Murphy and John Mahon were on the Kilkenny junior team that lost the All-Ireland final to a strong Clare team. Oliver Dunphy won an All-Ireland medal with Kildalton Agricultural College. Laurence Dunphy and S. Tyler were on the Kilkenny Under-14 team in the Tony Forristal competition. Mooncoin Vocational School had four players on the South Kilkenny Under-16 hurling team and the same four players were on the Under-16 Kilkenny hurling team which took part in the Nenagh Co-Op. Competition: Bill Gaule, Ger Kirwan, Michael Gordon, Eoin Dunphy.

Mooncoin Vocational School has a very strong tradition, and a very positive attitude to Gaelic games. The school is very thankful to Mooncoin Boys' National School, Piltown and Carrigeen G.A.A. clubs for the use of their facilities during the year.

In 1992/'93 Mooncoin V.S. competed in the integrated Leinster Junior hurling competition. For the first time in its history. Cistercian College, Roscrea, defeated Mooncoin at the semi-final stage. Having lost five good players from that team, the school again affiliated for the competition in '93/'94. Training started in September and it was more in hope that confidence that Mooncoin faced Thomastown in the first round. In a tough, but very sporting game, Mooncoin emerged victorious. In the second round, Mooncoin faced last year's All-Ireland champions, New Ross V.S.

This was a ding-dong struggle before victory was Mooncoin's. Presentation School of Bagenalstown, were next to throw down the gauntlet to Mooncoin.

This match was played in Mooncoin, and after a fairly hectic hours hurling, in which the Carlow team pushed the locals to the absolute limit, Mooncoin qualified for the Leinster semi-final for the second year running. A great unity

of spirit and purpose had developed within the team that saw them face Gorey Community School in the 'semi'. Played in the grounds of Cloughbawn G.A.A. club, the match was an absorbing tussle all the way to the "wire". With 12 minutes left and playing against a strong wind, it did not look too rosy for Mooncoin.

They were on level scores and the Wexford lads were laying siege to the Mooncoin goal. However, Ger Kirwan and Michael Gordon at midfield, responded with a fierce determination to the Gorey pressure and repelled many Gorey attacks. Both players engineered the move that saw Kirwan rocket the all-important goal to the Gorey net to seal a great and historical victory for the Kilkenny lads. Others to impress were Bill Gaule, Billy Ryan, Richie Carroll, L. Kelly and W. Sinnott. Mooncoin beat Gorey - who have a far greater number of pupils than Mooncoin - by 5-3 to 4-1.

In the "Rest of Leinster" final against St. Michael's College from Trim, County Meath, Mooncoin had to fight all the way to take the spoils on a score of 1-5 to 0-5. The Trim lads were a bigger team than Mooncoin and they raced into a four point lead without reply from Mooncoin.

Trim were playing against the wind in that first half. Some astute switching by the Mooncoin mentors saw Mooncoin go in at the break leading by 1-4 to 0-4. The Mooncoin goal was scored by R. Walsh, who received a terrific pass from Wesley Sinnott. Some great

defensive hurling by Ciarán and Laurence Dunphy, E. Mackey (Mooncoin), Bill Gaule (Kilmacow) and Ger Máher (Piltown) restricted the Trim lads to a solitary point.

In the second half Ger Kirwan, Lee Kelly, Michael Gordon and Richie Carroll drove hard into the Trim defence whenever the occasion presented itself and so it was on to the championship final against the Dubs, Scoil Eanna, in Dr. Cullen Park on November 22nd.

A big crowd of supporters followed the Mooncoin lads to Carlow, and they were not disappointed. Mooncoin led at half time by a solitary point. That was the way it was going to be all the way to the final whistle with not the 'puck of a hayseed' between two fully committed and determined outfits. Captain, Bill Gaule, was outstanding at centre-back, Ger Kirwan got his goal in that first half which was to prove a vital score for Mooncoin. Again the two Dunphys were excellent. The half-back line of Maher, Gaule and Mackey were seldom beaten. At centrefield Michael Gordon and A. Walsh got through a mountain of work.

All six forwards B. Ryan (0-1), Ger Kirwan (1-1), L. Kelly, W. Sinnott, R. Walsh (0-1) and R. Carroll contributed enormously to an historic win for Mooncoin V.S. Substitute Liam Knox also played his part when introduced. The rest of the panel was: David Walsh, Brian Fleming, Paul Walsh, James Browne, Sean Tyler, David Coughlin, Mark Coughlin, Eamon Sutton, Ivan Tobin, James Norris, Damien Fewer, Brian Murphy, Pat Phelan.



MOONCOIN VOCATIONAL SCHOOL - LEINSTER CHAMPIONS

Mooncoin Vocational School, pictured after their epic struggle with Cóláiste Eanna. Back row (l. to r.): Liam Walsh, Michael Gordon, Alan Walsh, Billy Ryan, Wesley Synnott, Ciaran Dunphy, Ger Kirwan, Eddie Mackey. Front row (l. to r.): Ger Maher, Lee Kelly, Bill Gaule, Tommy Faulkner, Laurence Dunphy, Richard Carroll, Dick Walsh.



KILKENNY CITY VOCATIONAL SCHOOL

Back: Tom Brophy (selector), Patrick Feehan, Darren Kavanagh, Noel Hoyne, Gary O'Dwyer, Ruadhri O'Neill, Stephen Guidera, Michael Brennan, Matt Butler, Declan Foley, Paul Brennan (selector), John Sheehy (at back) trainer. Front: David Maher, Lee Phelan, Tom Fitzgerald, Paul Buggy, Gerry Dunne, Trevor Cummins (captain), David Kenny, John McCormack, Tom Murphy, James Hickey.

(Photo: Tom Brett)

KILKENNY HANDBALL CHAMPIONSHIPS

By: Martin Lalor
(P.R.O. Kilkenny Handball Board)

The Kilkenny handball championships were run in their usual excellent fashion and produced some great games.

40 x 20

Although Kilkenny had no All-Ireland success in the 40 x 20 court – the first time for quite a number of years – the local championships turned out to be quite interesting. The most successful player in this code was John Connolly (Talbot's Inch) who collected four championship medals while doubles successes were recorded by Michael Ryan (Goresbridge) and Joe Daly (O'Loughlin's).

Connolly won Junior Singles, Intermediate Singles and Doubles and a team event. Daly captured singles and doubles in Under-21, with Ryan completing his double in the Minor grade.

The Senior title went to Duxie Walsh although he was pushed to the limit by Billy Bourke (Duxie got through 21-17 in the third game) while Goresbridge duo D. J. Carey and John Curran won the Senior Doubles title.

Newcomers to the handball scene, St. John's, collected the Special Novice Doubles title when Paul Smith and C. Fahy beat all-comers in that grade. T. Davitor (Goresbridge) won the corresponding Singles title to give him his first county crown.

Seamus Martin and Joe Sheridan (Kells) created a piece of history when they became the first players from their club to win a Junior county title beating some very good pairs on the way, while in the Novice grade, the winners were Michael Barcoe (Mothel) in Singles and Nicky Reilly/Tom Comer-

ford (O'Loughlin's) in Doubles.

In the overage grades Willie Pratt (St. Canice's) retained his Masters title while Ger Murphy/Jim O'Neill (O'Loughlin's) won the Doubles. Murphy and O'Neill almost captured the Silver Masters Doubles but they lost the final to Anthony Greene and Doc Hennessy.

Former Senior All-Ireland champion, Paddy Reilly (O'Loughlin's) won his first Silver Masters Singles title. Paddy Irwin (Goresbridge) was successful in Masters B Singles and teamed up with Jackie Ryan to win the Doubles title also in this grade.

Irwin made it a treble when he won the Golden Masters Doubles title in partnership with Kilfane's Jimmy Caulfield. Golden Masters Singles went to veteran campaigner, Johnny O'Meara (Mullinavat).

Team events:

Division 1: Talbot's Inch (M. Lalor, A. Greene, C. Quigley, J. Connolly).

Division 2: Kells (J. Power, M. Kirby, M. Butler, S. Martin, J. Power).

Division 3: St. John's (N. Murphy, P. Smith, J. Burke, C. Dunne).

Division 4: St. John's (N. Murphy, P. Smith, C. Dunne, K. Browne, M. Hayes).

60 x 30

Since most players play on both size courts, quite a few of the 60 x 30 champions had already been successful in 40 x 20.

Michael Ryan (Goresbridge) won his third Minor title when he won the Singles

title but his clean sweep was halted by Willie Murphy/Brendan Walpole of neighbouring Kilfane. As in 40 x 20, Ryan had little success in Leinster, losing to last year's beaten All-Ireland finalist, Raymond Breen.

Joe Daly (O'Loughlin's) won the Under-21 Singles title with Brendan Hosey/Michael Maher (Clogh) win-

ning the Doubles title. The Special Novice Singles title went to Seamus Martin (Kells) while M. Hayes/J. Sullivan (St. John's) won their first "big alley" title.

Billy O'Keefe (Kilfane) won both Novice titles, the Doubles in partnership with Michael Holden while Kilfane dominated the Junior grade with Willie Holden winning



The inaugural John Joe Gilmartin Novice Doubles Tournament took place this year. Pictured at the final were the winning combination Kevin Browne and Jerry Rowe. Front left: Kevin Browne, Mrs. Gilmartin and Jerry Rowe.



Kilfane – Novice All-Ireland Team of Four Champions. From left: Con Moore, secretary, Kilkenny Handball Board; Noel Holden, Tom O'Keefe, James Holden, Billy O'Keefe and Willie Holden.



All-Ireland Masters B runners-up: From left: Seán Fitzgerald and Pat Savage.

the Singles event and teaming up successfully with his brother Noel in Doubles.

In Intermediate, Nicky Reilly was O'Loughlin's star in Singles and Doubles, Ollie Falsey being his Doubles partner. Talbot's Inch were the dominant club in Senior with Martin Lalor winning his first Singles crown and the John Connolly/Canice Quigley combo winning the Doubles.

Overage events saw Willie Pratt (St. Canice's) win yet another Masters title, Anthony Greene/Seamus Reade (Talbot's Inch) winning the Doubles crown.

As in the 40 x 20 court, Johnny O'Meara (Mullinavat), Paddy Reilly (O'Loughlin's) and Anthony Greene (Talbot's Inch) were all winners. O'Meara won the Masters B Singles and Doubles titles, his partner being E. Slattery. Reilly captured Silver Masters Singles while Greene teamed up with Seamus Reade to win titles in Masters A Doubles and Silver Masters Doubles.

Jimmy Barcoe (Mothel) beat all-comers to win the Golden Masters Singles and Doubles title with Frank Minogue of Kells in tandem in Doubles.

A new tournament was initiated this year with the emphasis on time. It was decided to run it in two grades and the eventual winners were Martin Lalor (Talbot's Inch) in Grade 1 while the Grade 2 title was taken by Michael Barcoe (Mothel).

Team Events

Division 1: Talbot's Inch (M. Reade, A. Greene, C. Quigley, S. Reade).

Division 2: Mothel (M. Barcoe, M. Ryan, J. Brennan, S. Walsh).

Division 3: Kílfane (M. Dalton, D. Forrestal, M. Holden, B. O'Keeffe).

Division 4: Kells (S. Mahon, F. Minogue, P. Donovan, Jim Power).

All-Ireland team events

Pride of place under this heading must go to Kílfane who won their first ever Novice Inter-club All-Ireland title beating Horse and Jockey (Tipperary) in the final. Willie Holden, Noel Holden, Bill O'Keeffe and Tom O'Keeffe – two sets of brothers and first cousins – played some excellent handball on their way to victory and none more so than in the final.

To win in Leinster, they beat Talbot's Inch and O'Loughlin's. Their semi-final opponents were St. Paul's of Belfast with the Munster champions, Horse and Jockey, as their final opposition.

In the 1992 40 x 20 Novice and Open finals, Talbot's Inch and O'Loughlin's were both defeated. Bobby Falsey, Michael Nolan, Eddie Leahy and Nicky O'Reilly (O'Loughlin's) lost their final to Tydavnet while Talbot's Inch (Michael Reade, Michael Walsh, Seamus Reade and Martin Lalor) lost to McDermott's (Belfast) for the second successive year in the Open Final.

National League

Kilkenny won the 40 x 20 National League title in January when they beat Dublin 109-107 in the final. The Kilkenny team comprised of Pierce O'Keeffe, Eamon Law, Michael Nolan, Bobby Falsey, Tom O'Neill and Tom Bolger.

O'Keeffe, Law and Nolan were also members of the victorious 60 x 30 team which won the National League title just before Christmas 1992. The other team members were Nicky Reilly, Philip Parsons and Ollie Falsey.

Kilkenny had less luck in this year's 60 x 30 National League. Kilkenny A bowed out at the quarter final stage and, although Kilkenny B made it to the semis, defeat was also their lot.

Kilkenny 'A': N. Reilly, B. Falsey, C. Moore, C. Quigley, G. Murphy, O. Falsey.



Sean Walsh (Mothel) was the 1992 Kilkenny Handball Board Clubman of the Year. Pictured at the presentation of the award were: From left: Sean Walsh, Liam Mahon, Chairman Kilkenny Handball Board and Con Moore, Secretary Kilkenny Handball Board.



All-Ireland Under-14 Handball Doubles Champions in 40 x 20 and 60 x 30. From left: Timmy Clifford and Daniel Love.



Kilkenny's 40 x 20 County Junior Doubles Champions – Seamus Martin (left) and Joe Sheridan (right) became the first players from Kells to win a Junior Championship.

Kilkenny 'B': P. O'Keeffe, E. Law, S. Fitzgerald, Eddie Leahy, M. Maher, C. Love.

All-Ireland titles:

Although our 40 x 20 season proved a disaster at inter-county level, we did have some successes in the bigger court.

Michael 'Duxie' Walsh crowned a great year by winning his record 9th title in-a-row in Senior Singles, breaking the record of the late Paddy Perry which stood for over half a century.

On the eve of the hurling All-Hurling, he and Eugene Downey regained their Senior Doubles title when they easily outclassed champions Meath in the final.

It was a memorable year for Paddy Reilly also. He won his first ever overage title – at Silver Masters – beating his opponent in so many Senior finals, Dan Kirby.

Reilly made it a Double when he teamed up with O'Loughlin's, Eddie Leahy to outclass Kirby once more.

Seán Fitzgerald and Pat Savage won a most competitive Leinster championship in Masters Doubles. They came from the dead to win that title; overcame Ulster opposition in the All-Ireland semi-final but came a cropper in the final against Tipperary.

DUCKSIE - SIMPLY THE BEST



By ENDA McEVROY

SOME MEN ARE BORN GREAT, SOME ACHIEVE GREATNESS, AND SOME HAVE GREATNESS THRUST UPON THEM. AND SOME WHO ARE BORN GREAT, DON'T ALWAYS GO ON TO ACHIEVE GREATNESS. BUT DUCKSIE WALSH ISN'T ONE OF THEM.

Greatness. In a sporting context, it's a fusion of any number of qualities. On its own, raw natural talent is not nearly enough. The classier team or sweeter puncher doesn't invariably carry the day. When the whips are flying in the final furlong the beautifully-bred colt with the speed to burn is not necessarily the animal which will have its head in front at the winning post.

Greatness means integrity (Pat Jennings), Courage (Desert Orchid winning the Gold Cup), Charisma (Ali), Longevity and adaptability (Vincent O'Brien), Flair (Ballesteros), Remorseless efficiency (Borg, Faldo), Genius (Piggott), and an appetite for hard work (all of them).

And the most important of these? Quite probably dedication. "I practice hard and I'm lucky," as Arnold Palmer or whoever it was revealed by way of explaining his success. "And I find that the harder I practice, the luckier I get."

As good an answer, that, as any to the question of why a cabinetmaker from the Butts in Kilkenny has aced, killed and returned his way to the title of greatest Irish handballer ever. Ducksie Walsh has been All-Ireland senior singles champion an unparalleled nine years in succession, not because of some arcane and magical potion known to him and to him alone, but because he's worked damned hard at it.

Getting to the top was one thing, a feat for which he could justifiably thank God and nature. Staying there has been another matter entirely, a happy fate of which he has been wholly master.

In sport, to employ Eamon Dunphy's oft-recycled observation, one usually gets what one deserves. One only gets out what one puts in. Ducksie Walsh puts in 25,000 miles a year, four or five nights every week. Little wonder, then, that he is Mr. Invincible, Mr. Simply the Best; his practice regime is Simply the Hardest. I train, therefore I am.

How does he keep himself going?

"I never imagined I'd win nine or dreamed of doing so," he admits. "Originally the aim was to win one All-Ireland, as I suppose every young lad aims to. After I won the first, I wanted to win four - Pat Kirby had done that. Then I began to look towards Paddy Perry's record of eight. Then after equalling it, I wanted to beat it. Now the objective is to



Michael "Ducksie" Walsh became Ireland's greatest handballer in 1993 when he won his ninth Senior title in a row. He is pictured here after this year's final with Kilkenny hurling star and handballer, D.J. Carey.

Photo: Sportsfile

make it into double figures and to overtake John Joe Gilmartin's 24 senior titles." Walsh currently has 23.

It's difficult to believe that eight years have passed since Offaly won their second McCarthy Cup. The small contingent gathered at Kilkenny railway station that morning weren't so much looking forward to the afternoon's entertainment as trying to discover what had happened in the vicinity of Croke Park twelve hours earlier. "Did Ducksie win last night, did you hear?" The question was on everybody's lips. The reply was on nobody's. Little did we think that the same enquiry would be posed every year since on the same morning. Or that the answer would be always be a nod and a grin.

Difficult to imagine, too, what a star the slip of a nine-year-old his cousin Billy Bourke brought to the alley in the Waterbarrack two decades ago was going

to mature into. For the next five years Ducksie (the nickname was handed down from his father) was a very good juvenile without being brilliant; delightfully skilful from the beginning, he was also terribly small. At 15 he wouldn't have been classed as being among the best three under-16 handballers in the county. At 16 he was the best minor in Ireland. From duckling to swan in the space of twelve months.

The titles began to flood in. He captured three minor singles titles in a row (the previous three has been won by Billy Bourke), the third of them on the night in Croke park he partnered Eugene Downey to victory in the junior doubles. He was still a minor when he reached the semi-final of the senior singles championship, in August 1984, an event that affords a neat opportunity for a quiz question. Who was the last man to beat Ducksie Walsh in senior singles? Surprise and amaze your

friends with this one! (Answer at the end of the article).

The first Irish handballer to win a US juvenile title (1981), Ducksie has it in the head, the heart and the hands. He's extremely fast on his feet, well balanced, quick to recover if sent the wrong way. He was a good listener when younger; now he's a good watcher, seeing quite through the deeds of men and their technique and shortcomings. The left hand he writes and works with is almost as powerful as the right hand with which he plays handball. His reservoir of stamina means he never seems to get tired. And - this above all - he **hates** losing.

A stable, supportive background is another significant asset. His wife Sheena, who knew little about the game in her pre-Mrs. Walsh days ("I converted her!"), is his number one fan, with her parents not far behind. Tommy O'Brien has been there and thereabouts from the beginning. Paddy Sinnott Fitted Kitchens in Kells are the most considerate of employers, while Hotel Kilkenny have helped out by handing him free membership of their health club.

"I do some running on the machine, some light weights and a bit of skipping. The skipping I find great - you have to be on your toes, and it helps you become that split-second faster taking off.

"The fitter you are, the better chance you have. If you're not fit you're really at nothing going in. You won't win, and that's it."

If Talbot's Inch is Ducksie's spiritual home number one, Ballymore Eustace might be described as his soul's (and body's) alternative accommodation. The Kildare venue is where he trains in the company of Pius Winders, Pius's son Trevor, John Connolly and Eugene Downey, Walsh's long-time doubles partner. He makes the journey twice a week, usually.

Since this is Ducksie's own bully, since this is personally-initiated training rather than mileage clocked up on the road to official fixtures, the petrol comes out of the man's own pocket. 25,000 miles worth of petrol each year. Even accepting his claim that training at Ballymore Eustace has made him stronger, isn't this somewhat - well, somewhat insane carry-on for a non-professional, unsponsored sportsman?

He doesn't bat an eyelid. "The money doesn't matter when you love your game," he maintains. Totally, totally seriously.

The adult version of the lad who grew up watching Dick Lyng on RTE's *Top Ace* has no axe to grind about handball's lack of public profile. The fact that - and consider the implications of this one for a minute, the competition he's up against - a strong case can be made for his claims to the tag of Kilkenny's *greatest ever sporting genius* seems to faze him not in the least.

It ought to faze the local authorities. They've give us, down the years, Banim Terrace and Bateman Quay and Bishop



"Ducksie" despatches another "screamer" to the front wall in the All-Ireland final against Walter O'Connor.

Birch Place. They've not given us Lory Meagher Mews or Eddie Keher Villas or Ducksie Walsh Gardens. Yet much more than any man or woman this century outside Peter Birch, Meagher and Keher and Walsh have enriched the lives of the ordinary Kilkenny person, sent the name of city and county ringing throughout the land, carved out a glory whose reflection makes us all stand a little taller.

If the powers-that-be have any intention of doing something popular and populist,

sensible and sensitive (don't hold your breath . . .), they might think of commemorating the sporting heroes of the Black and Amber in such a fashion. And preferably while most of them are still alive.

Ducksie Walsh wouldn't be a bad hero to begin with.

* The last - and indeed only - man to defeat him to date in senior singles competition was Tony Ryan, the then reigning champion, nine years ago.



Enjoying the 1993 Credit Union S.H. Final were: Nicky Purcell, former Chairman Kilkenny G.A.A. Co. Board; Jack Boothman, President-Elect Cumann Luthchleas Gael, and John Knox, St. Canice's Credit Union. Photo: Tom Brett

KIERAN'S WERE A REAL CLASS ACT

By JOHN KNOX, *Kilkenny People*

Many a good one has gone before, but few, if any, sauntered through the campaign like these lads. They never had to perform under pressure, because no one was good enough to get on top of them. Class shone through all the way.

"In my time I would reckon it one of the best teams ever," insisted trainer, Denis Philpott of the St. Kieran's College senior hurling team that won the famous school's fifth All-Ireland in six years.

That was some going, and some summary from Mr. Philpott, too, who has been 22 years in the college. In that time many a good hurler has worn the black and white colours, but the team official was sure the combination this year was among the very best.

"The team had a good scoring rate," Mr. Philpott continued. "It had a high code of discipline, and didn't give away many scores, and the players were very committed."

St. Kieran's won the college championship without ever having to sweat it out. Sure, they were tested for short spells here

and there during the course of games, but when necessary the players were always able to pick up their level of performance and leave opponents for dead.

It cannot be argued that the overall standard was down, or anything like that. Because during their stiff 8-match preparatory programme, St. Kieran's played the Tipperary and Clare county minor teams. They beat the Banner boys and in a two match series shared the honours with Tipp.

SCHOOL TEAM BEAT COUNTY

Was it any wonder then that the Noresiders walked away with their 12th success, which, incidentally, put them on top of the Roll of Honour?

The mix of players was terrific. Up front Oliver O'Connor showed the talents of a hurling genius, and left people looking forward to the day when he graduates to the county senior team. He could be classed as the Ryan Giggs of the hurling world.

Beside him Brendan Dalton went on a scoring spree during the campaign, and in

the four games he amassed 3-9. Those good returns reflected Dalton's special talent, but they still fell short of O'Connor's lot, which was 2-27.

Throw in another good forward, Stephen Drennan, and defender-turned-attacker, Martin Phelan, who kept the game as simple as possible, and Kieran's had an attacking unit that had all defences working under severe pressure.

Further back, Damien Hurley, Eoin Farrell, Oliver Blanchfield, Vinny O'Brien, Joseph Philpott and Chris Foley played clever, well thought out hurling throughout. Team official, Denis Philpott, Seamus Knox and Art Anglin knew they had a rare group of players and, to their credit, they succeeded in dragging the best out of the them.

St. Kieran's won the All-Ireland final against Our Lady's College (Gort) with comurate ease. Still, for anyone who wanted to see, they showed much of their vast talents before walking away with the title (3-15 to 1-10).

STRONG POSITION



Presentation of equipment grants by Kilkenny Co. Board to secondary and vocational schools in Kilkenny county, New Ross, Ballinakill and Bagenalstown. Front Row: Pat Cronin (Thomastown V.C.), Tommy Lanigan (St. Kieran's), Nicky Brennan (Co. Chairman), Barry Hickey (Dev. Officer), Paul Kinsella (Chairman Development Co.), Jim Walsh (Slieverue), Noel O'Sullivan (Supporters' Club). Middle: Paddy Broderick (Johnstown), Denis Philpott (St. Kieran's), Willie McTiernan (Thomastown V.S.), Nicky Grace (Leinster Co.), Mick Hayes (Vale Oil), Ted Carroll (Co. Secretary), — —, Pat Dunphy (County Treasurer), Tommy Murphy (Leinster Co.), Joe Pyke (Bord na nÓg), Bobby Jackman (County Coach), John Healy (Co. Board), Sean Walsh (C.B.S.), Donal O'Hanlon (Callan C.B.S.), Pat Murphy (New Ross V.S.), Martin Gordon (Mooncoin V.S.), John Kennedy (C.B.S. Kilkenny), Michael Malone (Mooncoin V.S.). Back: Tom Walsh (Callan C.B.S.), Seamus O'Connor, (Comer Community School), Fr. Nicholas Flavin (St. Kieran's), Kevin Dunphy (Heywood C.S.), J.J. Murphy (Iarnród Éireann), Tom Walsh (Mooncoin V.S.), Dick Dunphy (Co. Board), Jim Rice (Co. Board).

Our Lady's weren't a bad team. They were a bit nervous of the opposition, and probably the occasion, too, during the early stages. They couldn't take full advantage when playing with the wind during the opening half, and well taken goals by Stephen Drennan and Ken Hughes left Kieran's in a very strong position when they led by 2-7 to 0-7 at half-time.

The best of the game was still to come. Gort stepped up their performance after the rest, and at one stage had the arrears back to three points (2-7 to 0-10). Then Oliver O'Connor picked off a few nice scores to douse the fires in the Galway bellies, and with neat scores from Dalton, the Noresiders simply ease away to an 11 point victory.

It was the apparently simple way Kieran's were able to pick up their game that really impressed. They were going along grand. The opposition made a bit of headway. Then bang! Gort were flattened.

The St. Kieran's team played like that most of the time. The All-Ireland semi-final against St. Patrick's (Maghera) was a difficult assignment, because underfoot conditions were difficult.

This game was supposed to be played in Trim, but because of heavy rain during the week before the game, it had to be switched to Athboy. St. Patrick's ran themselves into the ground to stay with the opposition. At half-time there was hope for the Northerners (0-5 to 0-3).

Inevitably, O'Connor landed a few scores to take the zip out of the opposition. Brendan Dalton and Damien Hurley piled on more, and suddenly the game ran away on St. Patrick's.

HANG AROUND

Poor old St. Peter's College didn't even get the chance to hang around that long in the Leinster final. The Slaneysiders turned in a good semi-final, and a lot was expected of them. Barely five minutes into the final, after goals from O'Connor and Stephen Drennan, Kieran's looked booked for a 55th win in the province.

Poor Peter's were shattered. They were 0-5 to 2-3 behind at half-time. Then bang, bang again, and they were buried. This time Brendan Dalton (2) and James Young had goals within five minutes to put the issue beyond all doubt.

The eventual All-Ireland champions opened their campaign against Callan C.B.S. in Thomastown. The C.B.S. worked feverishly during the first half, and a 10th minute Damien Cleere goal gave them great heart. They really took the game to the opposition, but they were at full stretch to go in level at half-time (0-7 to 1-4).

The second half was a cakewalk for St. Kieran's. The class that was to eventually carry them to outright victory came to the fore. Brave Callan were trounced.

St. Kieran's College have had many a good hurling team in the past. Now another can take its place beside the very best.

St. Kieran's All-Ireland team: O. Blanchfield (Lisdowney), B. Cahill (St. Lachtain's), S. Doyle (James Stephens), B. Kelly (O'Loughlin-gaels), V. O'Brien (James Stephens), C.

Foley (Drangan), J. Philpott, capt. (Dicksboro), E. Farrell (Young Irelands), D. Hurley (St. Lachtain's), J. Young (Graigue-Ballycallan), M. Phelan (James Stephens), K. Hughes (Emeralds), B. Dalton (Dicksboro), S. Drennan (James Stephens), O. O'Connor (St. Lachtain's).

Subs: K. Vaughan (Mullinahone) used, Oliver Barry (Young Irelands), E. Carey (John Lockes), P. Comerford (Graigue-Ballycallan), Eamon Delaney (Mooncoin), D. Delaney (O'Loughlin-Gaels), D. Drennan (Clara), R. Kearney (James Stephens), R.

FOUR STEPS TO VICTORY

MARCH 5 AT THOMASTOWN, LEINSTER SEMI-FINAL

St. Kieran's College 2-18 Callan C.B.S..... 1-6
H.T. 0-7 (K) to 1-4

Scorers: Oliver O'Connor (0-8, three points frees); Stephen Drennan (1-3); Brendan Dalton (0-4); Martin Phelan (1-0); James Young (0-2); Damien Hurley (0-1).

MARCH 28, AT DR. CULLEN PARK, CARLOW, LEINSTER FINAL

St. Kieran's College 8-10 St. Peter's College..... 2-8
H.T. 2-3 (K) to 0-5

Scorers: Brendan Dalton (3-1); Oliver O'Connor (2-4, three points frees); Martin Phelan (1-2); James Young, Stephen Drennan (1-0 each); Ken Hughes (0-2); Damien Hurley (0-1, '65').

APRIL 4, AT ATHBOY, ALL-IRELAND SEMI-FINAL

St. Kieran's College 1-15 St. Patrick's..... 0-3
H.T. 0-5 (K) to 0-3

Scorers: Oliver O'Connor (0-7); Rory Moore (1-1); Ken Hughes, Brendan Dalton, Damien Hurley (0-2 each); James Young (0-1).

APRIL 25, AT NENAGH, ALL-IRELAND FINAL

St. Kieran's College 3-15 Our Lady's College 1-10
H.T. 2-7 to 0-7

Scorers: Oliver O'Connor (0-8, three frees); Ken Hughes, Damien Hurley (1-1 each); Stephen Drennan (1-0); Brendan Dalton (0-2); Eoin Farrell, Martin Phelan, James Young (0-1 each).

Alone on top for the first time

THE All-Ireland senior final in Nenagh was the 21st contested by St. Kieran's College and to mark their coming of age decider they jumped to the top of the winners' list for the first time.

Following their success in the 1992 showdown, St. Kieran's joined St. Flannan's College, Ennis, at the top of the roll of honour.

St. Kieran's 12th victory left them clear leaders.

It was a most interesting year for the college. In March they made another bit of sporting history when they completed the first ever senior soccer-hurling double in Leinster.

During the past six years St. Kieran's won the All-Ireland hurling title an incredible five times.

They contested their first final way back in 1944 when they were beaten by St. Flannan's (5-5 to 3-3). It was four years

before they qualified for the decider again. This time against St. Coleman's (Fermoy) they got it right, and claimed their first success.

THE ROLL OF HONOUR

- 12- St. Kieran's College - 1948, 1957, 1959, 1961, 1965, 1971, 1975, 1988, 1989, 1990, 1992, 1993.
- 11- St. Flannan's College, Ennis - 1944, 1945, 1946, 1947, 1958, 1976, 1979, 1982, 1983, 1987, 1991.
- 5- St. Finbarr's, Farranferris (Cork) - 1963, 1969, 1972, 1974, 1984.
- 4- St. Peter's College (Wexford) - 1962, 1967, 1968, 1973.
- 4- North Monastery (Cork) - 1960, 1970, 1980, 1985.
- 2- Limerick C.B.S. - 1964, 1966.
- 1- Kilkenny C.B.S. - 1981.
- 1- St. Coleman's (Fermoy) - 1977.
- 1- Templemore C.B.S. - 1978.

Kilkenny G.A.A. County Board to launch Job Creation initiative

IN 1992, the Emigration and Job Creation Work Group of the Policy and Planning Committee of Cumann Luthchleas commissioned a survey of all G.A.A. clubs. The purpose of the survey was to determine the severity and effects of both emigration and the jobs crisis on our clubs and the communities they serve.

While (as in all surveys) the return fell short of expectations, it was considered, nonetheless, to be adequate to present a good cross section of how G.A.A. clubs up and down the county experience the reality of emigration, migration and unemployment.

The data was processed in the Statistics and Operations Laboratory of Trinity College and the resulting statistics were passed on to Fr. Liam Ryan (Head of Sociology, St. Patrick's College, Maynooth) for interpretation.

One of the key issues to emerge was that any initiative must take place on a 'Ground-Up' basis and so it was proposed to ask each County Board to set up a 'County Job Creation Sub-Committee', who will be responsible for identifying viable job creation projects in the county. Where suitable projects are forthcoming, they will be examined at county and provincial level and finally passed to the Work Group and Committee for assistance approval.

This job creation initiative is considered to be a feasible and positive action by Cumann Luthchleas Gael, in the full knowledge that job creation is not the function of the G.A.A. However, considering the present crisis, involvement in job creation appears to be the most practical way for the Association to "assist in promoting a community spirit through its clubs".



For the third successive year Mahon McPhillips C.E.M. were sponsors of all Kilkenny G.A.A. teams. Also included this year were the camogie and handball teams. Pictured at the formal announcement of the sponsorship were Nickey Brennan, Chairman, Kilkenny G.A.A. Co. Board, Ollie Walsh, Kilkenny senior team manager and Paul Barrett, Managing Director, Mahon McPhillips C.E.M. (Photo: Tom Brett)



Iarnrod Eireann were once again the sponsors of all minor hurling competitions in Kilkenny this year. Pictured at the announcement of the sponsorship were: From left: Frank Hogan Business Development Manager, Iarnród Eireann, D. J. Carey, Joe Pyke, Chairman Kilkenny G.A.A. Bórd na nÓg, Tom Delehunty, Vice-Chairman, Kilkenny G.A.A. Bord na nÓg and Shane Doyle (James Stephens). (Photo: Tom Brett)

The Kilkenny G.A.A. County Board will have its own sub-committee in place by mid December. The members of the sub-committee will not all be active G.A.A. members, but rather selected for their expertise and interest in this work.

The Terms of Reference of the Sub-Committee are as follows:

1. Providing an information service to G.A.A. and local community members in Co. Kilkenny in relation to sources of funding available from local and national agencies and bodies. Cumann Luthchleas Gael will be providing each sub-committee with an information pack for this purpose.
2. Acting in an advisory and motivational capacity to clubs and local people who may have good ideas for job creation initiatives but need some guidance.
3. Identifying projects and ensuring necessary structures are put in place to promote and implement the projects.
4. Contacting and forming links with existing job creation schemes and initiatives in the county. Cumann Luthchleas Gael is conscious of the splendid work being done by FÁS, the Leader Programme, the recently formed County Enterprise Boards and many other voluntary organisations in the area of job creation. The role of the sub-committee will be to work in conjunction with these bodies to ensure as much help as possible is available to people with initiatives for job creation projects.
5. **Ensure** that the clubs of the county and the County Board continue to raise the issue of job creation at meetings and that all members are aware of the sub-committee's existence and the facilities and help it has to offer.
6. **Monitor** projects which may be set up with the help of the sub-committee.
7. Raising and maintaining awareness in the community in general, of the G.A.A. "Buy Irish, Buy Local" Campaign, which is now an annual event.
8. **Report** monthly to the County Board on progress and developments.

A no-nonsense loan scheme fund has been devised by Cumann Luthchleas Gael to assist projects which have been approved. The fund will be used to grant small loans to viable job creation projects.

The Kilkenny County Board will formally launch the scheme at its annual Convention in mid-January.

Well Done Lads!

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1993: THIS WAS THE YEAR THAT WAS



By: ENDA McEVOY

Was there ever a reason like it before? Ever a reason for such excitement, so many thrills, such sustained uplift? Of Indiana Jones - proportioned escapes from the tightest, no-way-outest of corners? Of goals so glorious they might have been designed in the heavens prior to their dispatch on earth by God's own representative in Gowran, His Holiness D.J. Carey? Of great expectations finally fulfilled in a captivating closing chapter at Croke Park on the first Sunday in September?

From a Kilkenny point of view, probably not. So, as December draws to a close, wherever two or three of the faithful are gathered let them give thanks and praise, and raise their glasses and drink a toast to the year of grace 1993. And mourn its passing; for while the Black and Amber will win All-Irelands in the future, they may have to wait for one that brings quite as much enjoyment and satisfaction. Wait a long time.

We knew to anticipate the best from an early stage - as early as March 7th, to be pedantic - and for once first appearances weren't deceiving. Though St. Brigid's Day was the first day of Spring, this afternoon in Birr five weeks later was very definitely the opening of GAA Spring; a crisp dry Sunday, ideal for getting out and about, and the visiting throngs seized the day with both hands. Goodbye, winter Sabbaths of extended dinners and snoozing by the fire. Hello, the real world again.

Kilkenny looked awesome. Swaggering,



Captain Eddie clears his lines . . . Eddie O'Connor just gets to the ball before Peter Finnerty (Galway) in the All-Ireland Final. Looking on are Michel McGrath (Galway), Liam Burke (G) and Liam Keoghan.

Photo: Sportsfile

swashbuckling, threading angled passes to one another with almost indolent ease, plainly bursting with the confidence of the champions they had become six months earlier. Five points was the winning margin, 0-19 to Offaly's 2-8; it's no insult to the home side to say the gap should have been twice that.

The fans looked on and liked what they saw. Winter had passed. *Hiems transit*. Hurling was back, and the Cats were shaping nicely. It's as well for Ladbrokes that their man in Kieran Street, Dicksboro stalwart Ned Buggy, wasn't to be spotted

on the way out of St. Brendan's Park, for he would surely have been swept aside with the weight of wagers on the holders to retain the McCarthy Cup. Quite simply, Kilkenny looked the best of the century that day in Birr.

As if to demonstrate how hurling really can be a funny old game, only a fortnight had elapsed before they were suddenly transmuted into the chumps of the century. The closing round of the NHL brought Down to Nowlan Park. The event seemed a *fait accompli*; the Mourne men would roll over and die, as all sacrificial lambs worth their salt do, and the Black and Amber would auto-pilot their way into the quarter-finals.

Quite properly, Sean McGuinness's men were having none of it. They kept plugging away whereas their opponents downed tools long before the end, clearly expecting the visitors to know their place and give way to their supposed betters. (John Power was an honourable exception, proving that at least one man realised you have to battle for the right to play your own game.) The result? One of the heftiest kicks in the posterior a Kilkenny team has received and ever will.

The final whistle had barely sounded and Down's celebrations were only beginning when the awful truth started to sink in. The Ulster side had retained their Division 1 place. The losers would miss out on the knock-outs - and, moreover, were relegated! So much for the County Board's hopes of making a few bob from the business end of the League. Thoughts of



It's tough road to the top . . . D.J. Carey grimaces as he breaks through the Galway defence. From left: Sean Treacy (Galway), P.J. Delaney, D.J. Carey, Padraic Kelly (G), Gerry McInerney (G) and Murty Killilea (G).

future winter outings to Westmeath and Kerry did not appeal. And - most importantly of all to the fans - what influence would the defeat have on championship preparations?

All that week the debate raged. Might the result prove to be a blessing in disguise, ensuring that the McCarthy Cup holders approached the provincial campaign rarin' to go, dying for the sight of the sliothar and the roar of the crowds, and having plenty of mileage left on the clock after avoiding the possibly ruinous effects of an extended league run? Or, seeing as the world and his mother agrees that "you can't bate match practice", would it mean that Oliver's army went "cold" into Leinster, with similar consequences? The definitive answer was not to emerge for half a year.

In the meantime Wexford were - yet again - giving their long-suffering supporters new reasons to believe. And this time there was substance in the promise. Let-the-ball-do-the-work was the order of the day under Christy Keogh. Damien Fitzhenry appeared to be someone finally capable of plugging the gap between the posts, while Larry Murphy (son of a Tullagher man, according to reports) made an ass of his new-boy tag with a



Who do you think you are - Eddie O'Connor! Sara Coffey (right) seems to say to her 6-month-old twin sister Amy as they sit with the McCarthy Cup at their grandmother's (Brigid Hayes) garden in Tullamaine, Callan.

net-finding ability that would have put most established intercounty forwards to shame.

The Yellowbellies played a captivating league final saga with Cork, in Thurles, the outcome of which put meat on a favourite observation of Diarmuid Healy's. The big prizes are won by the team which doesn't do spectacular things but does the simple things properly, in the words of the Conahyman. Wexford couldn't convert their frees, or even be sure whom to turn to do so, at the supreme moments; thus, once more, and to the sincere regret of every genuine hurling man in the land, defeat was snatched from the jaws of victory. The Slaneysiders will seldom earn themselves a better chance of ending the



Kilkenny supporters roar on the lads.

famine.

As Cork gradually broke their strength in gaining the most Pyrrhic of victories under the Semple Stadium spotlights, Offaly and Kilkenny prepared in the May stillness. The first hurdle for the champions and the toughest, it was agreed in advance. Overcome the Midlanders and they'd be well on their way to retaining their Leinster and All-Ireland titles; lose and they'd be damned as a team who got lucky in winning one championship and weren't good enough to come anywhere near holding onto it. Retrospective respect for 1992 as much as success in '93 was what the Cats were battling for in the Croke Park rain on May 30th.

As close-run a thing, as we had expected, it turned out. The Black and Amber won because Willie O'Connor was magnificent and Pat O'Neill not far behind him; because they were lucky enough to get, and good enough to take, the breaks; and because Carey worked the oracle at the right times. Only an ongoing lack of incisiveness up front denied the losers, who dominated midfield for three-quarters of the game; Kilkenny being badly hit here by the absence of Michael Phelan, and also lacking a Christy Heffernan type to throw himself around in the mud on the edge of the square, Kilkenny did exceptionally well to come out with their interest in the competition intact.

O'Neill was even better in the Leinster final, Pat Dwyer close to flawless behind him. They had to be. Wexford rediscovered a sweeping spirit they hadn't shown against the old enemy since 1984, contributing more than generously to the match of the year. The defence, Eamon Morrissey, plus the collective grace under pressure of the closing five minutes saw the holders live to fight another day. By which time the exertions of the league had well and truly done for the challengers, and the favourites were forewarned; the exhibition of pass-and-move thoughtful-

ness they went on to produce came straight out of soccer coaching manual.

Given the length (six games) and arduousness (all those injuries!) of the road to the presentation podium on September 5th, no unbiased observer could have begrudged the Noresiders' silver jubilee victory. (Galway needed a mere four-fixtures for their double-double in 1987-88.) No mean achievement indeed, then, and if any Western reader still feels a pang of disappointment at the way his heroes lost out at the death, the bottom line probably amounts to the fact that Kilkenny had come too far to blow it at the final obstacle.

A few personal highlights as follows . . .

Hurler of the year: D.J. Carey.

Next best: John Power (to think I reckoned he'd never make it at centre-forward!).

Finally fulfilling his under-age promise: Pat O'Neill.

Renaissance: Adrian Ronan. See what happens, selectors everywhere, when you keep faith with a guy instead of taking him off all the time?

Goal: Carey's second against Antrim, although his first against Offaly was another work of art (credit also to Liam McCarthy there).

Point: Morrissey's equaliser in the Leinster final.

Fifteen minutes of fame: The Kilkenny minors in the opening quarter of the All-Ireland final. Poetry in motion.

Individual performance: Liam Dunne in the second NHL final.

Team: Michael Walsh, Eddie O'Connor, Pat Dwyer, Martin Hanamy (Offaly), Larry O'Gorman (Wexford), Pat O'Neill, Padraic Kelly (Galway), Tom Dempsey (Wexford), Paul McKillen (Antrim), Martin Storey (Wexford), John Power, D.J. Carey, Ger Manley (Cork), Joe Rabbitte (Galway), P.J. Delaney.

A final thought: Now that Kilkenny have put successive All-Irelands together,

everyone seems to have forgotten about the preceding barren nine years. A mistake, that, for it's a subject still deserving of some investigation. Was the standard so bad in the county that the Cats won out in Leinster just twice between 1984 and 1991? Were Cork, for instance, three All-Irelands superior in that period? Scarcely.

The words of Nigel Lawson - himself, ironically, a future Chancellor of the Exchequer - in *The Spectator* shortly after England's World Cup win in 1966 have a peculiar resonance three decades later. Did the victory mean anything except that they had a good football team and an even better manager, he mused? "Probably not, although I'd like to draw the moral (not for the first time) that there's nothing wrong with Britain; it's just our politicians that let us down."

Although the McCarthy Cup wasn't brought to this neck of the woods for nine seasons after 1983, there was really very little wrong with Kilkenny hurling. It's just that the structures of the County Board, this observer would respectfully suggest, kept letting the side down.

Remember those interminable three-selectors-or-five arguments? The county champions of the day having *carte blanche* to change the system to suit themselves? A figure as substantial as Diarmuid Healy forced to resign over a bye law technicality and because not enough clubs reckoned,



Galway substitute Justin Campbell gets his hand-pass away before the arrival of Willie O'Connor and Liam Simpson.

ridiculously, he should be free to choose his own selectors? Never-ending 'Board meetings that allowed everyone chip in with his tuppence, regardless of how irrelevant it may have been?

Democracy allowed run wild. Bureaucracy careered out of hand. Common sense stangled by red tape. It was only when the powers-that-be took matters

into their own hands, appointed a sub-committee to decide the manager and scaled down to three selectors that the county started to win All-Irelands again.

Those who refuse to learn from the mistakes of the past are doomed to repeat them. No county champions calling the shots again, please. Ever.

BARRY'S TEA



...Every day should have its Golden Moments

Teresa thanked

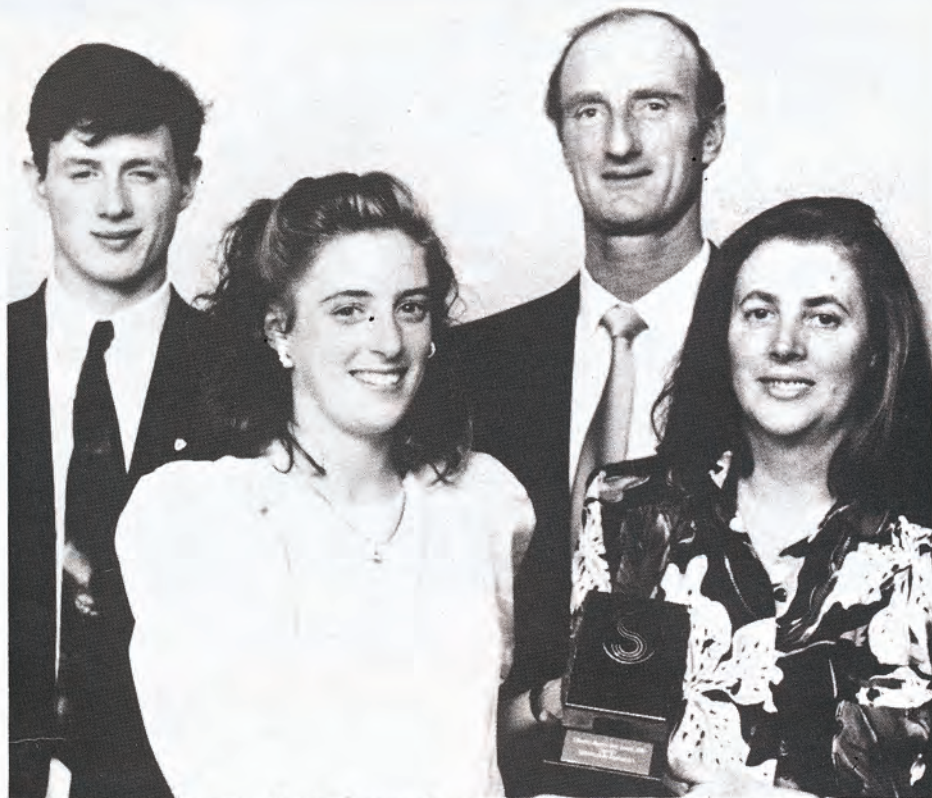
TERESA DILLON, the longest serving chairperson of the Kilkenny Camogie Board, announced at this year's Convention that she would not be seeking re-election. Representing St. Lachtain's, Teresa was chairperson from 1986 to 1993.

Teresa's term of office coincided with Kilkenny's total domination of the All-Ireland senior camogie championship during the 'Eighties. She was at the helm when Kilkenny won five of their seven titles in a row. They also won six National League titles during that great run.

Another notable achievement under Teresa's stewardship was the 1990 visit to the U.S.A. by the champions Kilkenny and Cork. This was the first ever trip by county teams to America.

Kilkenny also had a number of triumphs at other levels during the last seven years which leaves camogie in a healthy state as the mid-Nineties approach. Leinster senior championship honours, Leinster under-14 triumphs, the first win by a Kilkenny team at Féile na nGael, All-Ireland titles at minor in 1989 and 1990, the first Leinster junior title in 30 years in 1992, all point to the excellent promotional work being done.

One of the most important aspects of



Teresa Dillon, chairperson, Kilkenny County Camogie Board, 1986-1993, with husband Pa, daughter Gillian and son Bobby.
(Photo: Brett)

Teresa's term of office was the growth in the number of new clubs in the county. Arising from that, new senior champions have been crowned in the county in the last two years.

At present, camogie is one of the fastest-growing sports in the country.

Kilkenny's winning of seven All-Ireland titles in a row has been the spur for the development of the game here. Let's hope the good work continues and that Kilkenny remains at the top.

Thanks and best wishes to Teresa. Go n-éirí go geal léi as seo amach.

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This D.J. was top of the charts



John Knox



D.J. Carey dances his way between Adrian Fenlon (left) and Tomás Dunne (right) as he heads goalwards in the Leinster Hurling Final against Wexford.

(Photo: Sportsfile)

He did it when McCarthy was retrieved in 1992, and he repeated the act this time! D.J. Carey headed the scoring charts for his beloved Kilkenny during the championship.

The hugely talented Young Irelands (Gowran) attacker scored in all six rounds. He 'took it easy' against Carlow, when he shot just 1-0, his lowest tally.

His 'highs' were the days he scored 2-4 (v. Offaly) and 2-5 (v. Antrim). The player with the Midas scoring touch finished with a massive 6-23 to his credit after six games – an average of nearly 1-4 per match. That is some going. And he is still only 22, way short of the age at which he would be reckoned to reach his peak.

Another big scorer was Eamon Morrissey, who finished with 5-11 to his credit. He enjoyed good days against Offaly and Wexford, when he helped himself to 2-3 on each occasion.

The third highest scorer was P.J. Delaney, which was some achievement

for a player not reckoned a regular at the start of the campaign. In fact, the Fenians (Johnstown) man only came on as a sub. against Offaly in the opening game. He started the next one against Wexford, but was called ashore.

The selectors kept faith with young Delaney, and he was started again in the replayed Leinster final against the Slaney-siders. He more than paid his way, and pocketed 1-1 that day, which was followed by 1-2 and 1-4 in consecutive games. Now that was some going!

In all, Kilkenny hit a whopping 17 goals and 90 points during the championship. In all, 15 players shared in the scoring, including defenders Liam Keogh and Pat O'Neill, and midfielders Bill Hennessy and Michael Phelan, who shared equally in six points.

The Kilkenny defence didn't do half badly either. They only conceded a goal in every game – three in all.

The team of scorers in the championship was:

D.J. Carey (Young Irelands).....	6-23
Eamonn Morrissey (St. Martin's).....	5-11
P.J. Delaney (Fenians).....	3-8
Adrian Ronan (Graigue/B'callan).....	1-11
Liam McCarthy (Piltown).....	1-9
John Power (John Lockes).....	1-7
James Brennan (Erin's Own).....	0-3
A. Prendergast (Clara).....	0-3
Bill Hennessy (Tullaroan).....	0-3
Michael Phelan (Glenmore).....	0-3
Pat O'Neill (Young Irelands).....	0-2
Briain Ryan (Fenians).....	0-2
Ray Heffernan (Glenmore).....	0-2
Dermot Lawlor (St. Martin's).....	0-2
Liam Keogh (Tullaroan).....	0-1

Wait for that 9th title goes on



By: JOHN KNOX

The real disappointment wasn't in losing, rather in not doing justice to themselves on the big day when it mattered most.

That was the over-riding mood in a bitterly disappointed Kilkenny camp after failing badly against Clare in the All-Ireland Junior hurling final, at Croke Park.

Twice during the campaign Kilkenny played in National Headquarters, and, would you believe it, the visits to that magnificent venue coincided with their poorest performances of the season. In the first against Dublin, they got away with it. In the second, they were hammered.

Of course, there was a world of difference between the class of teams Kilkenny faced at Croke. The Dubs fielded a genuine junior selection, but the rule allowed Clare play their second senior string - remember they qualified for the Munster senior final this year - and it simply proved too strong for the Leinster champions.

Former senior player, Val Donnellan, caused havoc in the Kilkenny defence early on, as did Ciaran O'Neill and Brian McNamara. Barely three minutes had passed and the gap was already 1-4 to 0-1. By the end of the quarter Clare were 2-5 to 0-1 in front, and their first win in 79 years (1914) in the Junior championship was already a certainty.

The simple story was too many of the Kilkenny players were off form together. Admittedly, even if they had been on top of their game, they still might not have been able to manage Clare. But as it was, they had no chance.

Things went well enough for Canice Brennan (when moved to midfield), Patrick Farrell, Tom O'Keeffe, Declan Roche, Ciaran Phelan and Johnny Holohan, but the rest just couldn't get it together. The losers' miserable luck was highlighted by the fact that they only got a single point return from two second half penalties.

It was one of those days!

WALKED THROUGH

In fairness, selectors Noel Skehan (Bennettsbridge), John Comerford (Young Irelands), John Healy (Chairman of committee), Toddy Lacey (Conahy Shamrocks) and Seamus Murphy (Black & Whites) didn't have an awful lot to play around with. The team had walked through most games, but in two outings prior to the final in which a bit of pressure was applied, the ability to hit the pedal and dash away from danger just wasn't there. It was the sort of team that had ability up to a certain point,

and there was little or nothing beyond that. Unfortunately, in the final the Noresiders didn't even go near maximum output.

The 10-point difference at the end of the first quarter was the same at half-time (2-7 to 0-3). During the opening 22 minutes of the closing half, Clare added just two more points to their tally. Kilkenny did a lot of pressing, but they couldn't score, not even from penalties. In the end the honours went where they belonged.

The concluding chapter and the opening chapter were in stark contrast to each other. Here Laois, again with their second senior team, were disposed of with consummate ease. The O'Moore County had seven of the side on duty in the National League quarter-finals only a short time earlier.

Yet they were seen off with eight points to spare, and that after Kilkenny shot an unbelievable 21 wides! Charlie Carter, who was a member of the Kilkenny senior panel the previous year, really looked the part, as did Paul Treacy.

The good times rolled against Offaly. However, the midlanders were hopeless.



KILKENNY - ALL-IRELAND JUNIOR HURLING FINALISTS 1993

BACK - Sam Morrissey, David Holmes, Patrick Farrell, Eamonn Kennedy, Joe Murphy, Canice Brennan, Paul Treacy, Michael Walsh, Ciaran Phelan, John Mahon, Pat Drea, Sean Ryan. FRONT - Andy Comerford, Billy O'Keeffe, Johnny Holohan, James McGarry, Declan Roche, Charlie Carter (capt.), Tom O'Keeffe, Derek Shelley and Dick Dooley.

Photo: Tom Brett

WHO DID THE SCORING

MAY 1 AT NOWLAN PARK:

Kilkenny 2-13 **Laois**..... 2-5
[H.T. 1-3 (L); 0-6 (K)]

Kilkenny scorers: C. Carter (1-6, five points frees), T. O'Keefe (1-0), P. Treacy (0-2), D. Shelly (0-1, free), E. Kennedy, P. Farrell, A. Comerford, S. Ryan (0-1 each).

MAY 12 AT NOWLAN PARK:

Kilkenny 3-28 **Offaly**..... 2-3
[H.T. 2-16; 1-1 (O)]

Kilkenny scorers: S. Ryan (1-4), P. Farrell (0-7), P. Treacy (1-3), C. Carter (0-5, two frees), C. Brennan (0-4), T. O'Keefe (1-0), D. Shelly (0-2, one free, one '65'), E. Kennedy, A. Comerford, B. O'Keefe (0-1 each).

MAY 30 AT CROKE PARK - LEINSTER SEMI-FINAL:

Kilkenny 0-15 **Dublin**..... 0-13
[H.T. 0-6 (D); 0-5 (K)]

Kilkenny scorers: P. Treacy (0-3); C. Carter (0-3, one free); E. Kennedy (0-2); P. Farrell (0-2, one free, one '65'); A. Comerford (0-2); C. Brennan, S. Ryan, T. O'Keefe (0-1 each).

JUNE 16 AT NOWLAN PARK - LEINSTER FINAL:

Kilkenny 1-15 **Wexford**..... 0-10
[H.T. 0-9 (K); 0-5 (W)]

Kilkenny scorers: P. Farrell (0-4, two frees, one '65'), D. Roche (1-1), A. Comerford (0-3), C. Carter (0-3), S. Ryan (0-2), P. Treacy, C. Brennan (0-1 each).

JULY 3 AT BIRR - ALL-IRELAND SEMI-FINAL:

Kilkenny 1-14 **Galway**..... 0-9
[H.T. 0-6 (G); 0-4 (K)]

Kilkenny scorers: P. Treacy (1-2), C. Carter (0-6, five frees), D. Shelly (0-2, frees), T. O'Keefe, C. Brennan, A. Comerford, M. Walsh (0-1 each).

JULY 18 AT CROKE PARK - ALL-IRELAND FINAL:

Clare 3-10 **Kilkenny**..... 0-8
[H.T. 2-7 (C); 0-3 (K)]

Kilkenny scorers: P. Treacy (0-4, point free, one penalty); C. Carter (0-3, frees), T. O'Keefe (0-1).

Dublin, with Noresider Eoin Lawlor (Bennettsbridge) aboard, provided Kilkenny with their stiffest test to date; although, it has to be said, the winners were far from impressive.

The Dubs led by 0-6 to 0-5 at half-time. Six times during the second half the scores were level, the last occasion at 0-13 each. Late points from Paul Treacy and Charlie Carter sneaked the 'Cats' through.

Only Eamon Kennedy and Canice Brennan did justice to themselves during the opening period, while James McGarry, Johnny Holohan, Paul Treacy and David Holmes improved after the turn.

A workmanlike showing was strong enough to deal with a disappointing Wexford in the Leinster final. The visitors to Nowlan Park trailed by 0-6 to 1-10 at the interval. A 33rd minute goal from Declan Roche sealed their fate.

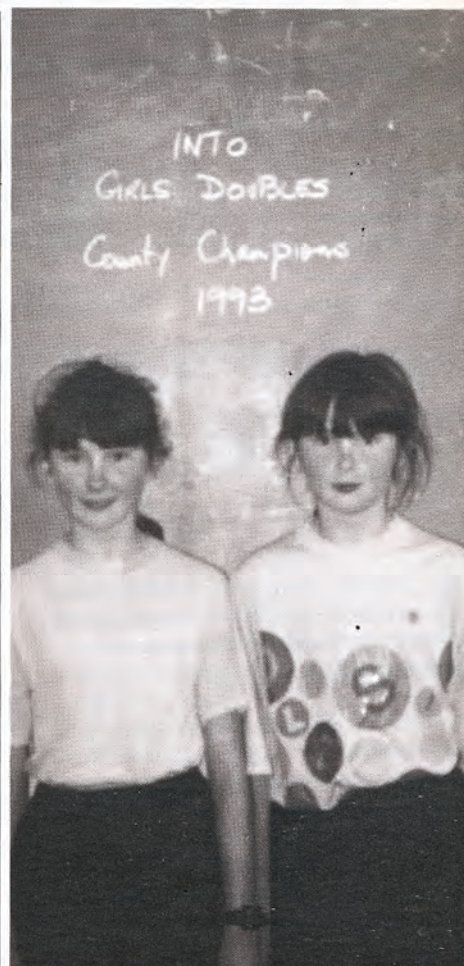
And so it was into the All-Ireland series, and a semi-final against Galway. Here the springing of Thomastown's Billy O'Keefe from the bench, shook up an otherwise even contest. O'Keefe's appearance injected new life into his team, after struggling somewhat during the opening half and trailing by 0-4 to 0-6 at half-way.

After, the change, Paul Treacy, John Mahon, Declan Roche, Joe Murphy and Patrick Farrell all hit new heights, and an early last quarter goal from Treacy eventually nailed the opposition.

Unfortunately for the Noresiders, things just didn't happen for them in the final. Not only did they go home empty-handed, but they were full of regrets, too. The players knew they had more to offer.

The wait for the 9th Junior All-Ireland goes on! The last success was in 1990!

Kilkenny (v. Clare) - James McGarry (Bennettsbridge), Johnny Holohan (O'Loughlin-Gaels), John Mahon (Mooncoin), Declan Roche (John Lockes), Joe Murphy (Mooncoin), Derek Shelly (O'Loughlin-Gaels), Ciaran Phelan (Young Irelands), Billy O'Keefe (Thomastown), Patrick Farrell (Carrickshock), Tom O'Keefe (Thomastown), Canice Brennan (Conahy Shamrocks), Andy Comerford (O'Loughlin-Gaels), Charlie Carter, capt. (Young Irelands), Paul Treacy (Thomastown), Michael Walsh (Mooncoin). *Subs:* Dick Dooley (St. Martin's) and Sean Ryan (Dunnamaggin) used; Sam Morrissey (Dicksboro), Derek Holmes (Barrow Rangers), Eamon Kennedy (Dunnamaggin).



I.N.T.O. Under-13 Handball Doubles Girls County Champions 1993 - Muckalee N.S. - Lorraine and Pamela Muldowney.



I.N.T.O. Under-13 Handball Doubles Boys County Champions 1993 - Muckalee N.S. - Seamus Kelly and David Cashin. (Seamus and David went on to win out the South Leinster Area Final).

KILKENNY: HURLING'S ALL BLACKS

IT DOES not take much for a Wexford man to talk about Kilkenny hurling. Even less to heap praise on a celebrated foe. In this article, Tom Mooney, a reporter with "The Echo Newspaper" in Wexford, explains why his county views Kilkenny as the All Blacks of hurling, difficult to defeat.

IT was with some irony that thousands of Wexford supporters passed through Kilkenny City for this summer's National League Final against Cork in Thurles.

On three occasions purple and gold banners from a convoy of vociferous cars serenaded the rolling Thomastown meadows and then the sun-lit streets of the ancient parliament town.

Wexford anticipated victory and on the shoulders of 15 lay the hopes of the entire county. The National League crown was to be secured and on the victorious odyssey home from Thurles, Kilkenny would know all about it.

Celebrations were cancelled by Cork who belatedly discovered an extra dimension in Barry Egan and effectively outplayed Tom Dempsey and his colleagues, making haste South with another laurel.

It was thus a subdued Wexford support that seeped through Kilkenny City after the League Final disappointment. The purple and gold was limp, and within 24



hours Dublin knocked Wexford's footballers out of the Championship at Wexford Park.

Amid the media fuss in Wexford and beyond the League Final series, a giant lay in slumber, Kilkenny. It was as if the county was indifferent to the joust in Thurles. More serious affairs had to be attended to.

The League Final post-mortem in the

Wexford Echo newspaper recommended consigning the recent defeat to the past because pressing matters deserved immediate attention, namely our neighbouring county.

Buried in the articles on how much Wexford hurling had evolved was one reminder that no county had come near to attaining or achieving the hurling standards established by the All-Ireland Champions.

By common consent most hurling aficionados have an immense dislike of Tipperary. It is as if the only way is the Munster way. When Galway stuffed Tipp in the All-Ireland semi-final, Kilkenny's grin extended to Wexford.

This point is raised because despite the intense rivalry when Kilkenny and Wexford meet, there is an enduring respect by the latter for the former.

Wexford may often feel unlucky but rarely feels that Kilkenny does not deserve the victory when it is achieved.

Apparently animosity between the two may have its roots in media hype. Was



D. J. Carey visits New Ross and attracts the usual large crowd of admirers. Foreground is Billy Deegan, Chairman Kilkenny Supporters Club.

there a more beautiful game of hurling in recent years than the first 1993 Leinster Final?

The love of hurling in Wexford is paramount among other sports. Over 10,000 attended this year's senior hurling final between Cloughbawn and Rapparees. It was an awful game, played at a sleepwalker's pace.

Two weeks later an even larger crowd bore witness to the replay. Hurling in Wexford, at its finest, is a manifestation of speed, grace and athleticism.

Well, it ought to be. July 19th, 1992 remains one of the most shameful episodes in Wexford hurling. Hammered 3-16 to 2-9 by Kilkenny, Wexford hurling was bruised and battered by pure finesse from the Black and Amber. Wexford's reaction was ugly when there was no reply. Two were sent off for disgraceful fouls.

Thankfully, a spirited League campaign helped resuscitate hurling in the county in the 1992-93 season. The urgency to evolve into a competitive team was largely inspired by the achievements of Kilkenny.

There is much about Kilkenny hurling that is respected in Wexford, and the skill factor is held in awe. It is not so much what D. J. Carey epitomises that we admire but rather the infrastructure in Kilkenny which produces players without equal in the country.

One does not have to pat a Kilkenny supporter on the back. They have perfected that themselves. Yet Kilkenny as opposition draws the best out of Wexford.

Consider a roll call of Leinster championship confrontations. In 1977 the

Cats lost by three points, but won by a single point a year later, courtesy of a Matt Ruth goal. In 1979 four points separated the teams.

If Kilkenny were surprised by the 1992 debacle in the Leinster Final due to Wexford's attitude, akin to a bully boy in a schoolyard, Wexford supporters were mortified. It was The Echo that published the immortal headline "Wexford Hurling RIP"

By and large the encounters between both are played by two Goliaths. Kilkenny has the upperhand because they are the All Blacks of hurling.

They can scent a team's weakness and then expose it. They know a game is not over until the final blast of the whistle and off the field shrewd decisions are made. Not always, but much more often than not.

Eamon Morrissey's late point in the 1993 Leinster Final raised the Kilkenny Titanic but gutted the Wexford defence. It was poetic justice and deserves analysis.

It was his belief in his natural ability under incredible pressure, to score in one swift movement when his team most needed that point. In the dying embers of the game, Kilkenny are always fighting away, where Wexford heads hang.

I refer to and compare with the All-Blacks because the New Zealanders and the Noresiders retain grace under pressure.

Remembered fondly in Wexford is Kilkenny's Ned Power who initiated a new era in the game when he arrived at St. Peter's College in 1950.

Football then was the dominant game,

but Power injected some Kilkenny spirit and the hurling desert had a new oasis and a new academy.

In his four decades with St. Peter's, which overlooks Wexford town, the college won four All-Ireland College titles.

Kilkenny have worked at this art which has been perfected for a long time. It is easy to forget that almost 40 years had to elapse before Wexford defeated Kilkenny in a Leinster Championship in 1944.

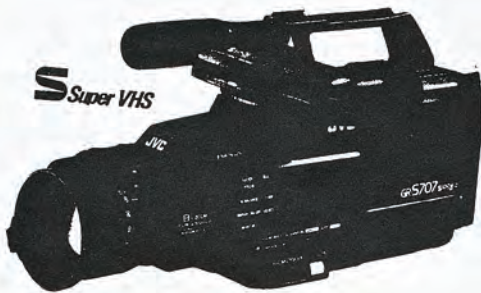
Joy for the Cats and hearbreak for Wexford. It is a familiar story, such as the 1991 Leinster semi-final when D. J.'s arithmetic let him down in injury time but not his boot.

Several months later Kilkenny and Wexford faced each other to mark the opening of the Ned Power Park in his adopted town. A Kilkenny genius commemorated by Wexford.

Hurling extracts the man from the boy, greatness from mediocrity. It therefore makes sense that the pages which chronicle outstanding achievements by Wexford hurling teams in the 1950's and 1960's, also pay fitting tribute to Kilkenny sides.

When Kilkenny knocked Wexford out of this year's Championship, the thoughts and reflections of the immortal Billy Rackard after the match are a fine example of Wexford's admiration for Kilkenny.

"Kilkenny were overall masters of the situation. They are a fine sporting team, a well knit combination with nerves of steel and the most talented of players. I hope they go all the way".



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Ability to learn and improve stood to the 'Boro



By JOHN KNOX, "Kilkenny People"

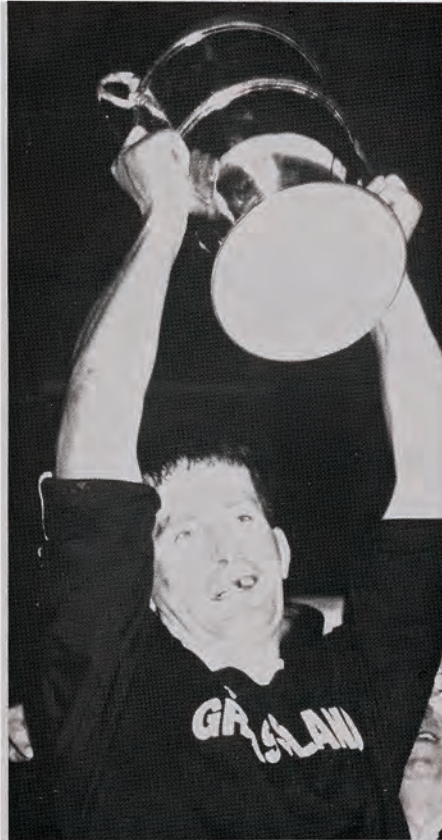
THE difference between April 18 and November 7 was hard to credit, because right before our very eyes the team went through a metamorphosis. The side that started the campaign was a far cry from the one that finished. Audacious youngsters matured into cold-blooded hurling men.

There is not a Dicksboro person who could honestly say that when their team opened in the Senior Hurling League against Mullinavat in Ballyhale in April, they saw the potential in the players to go all the way. It wasn't that sort of contest. It was dour, close, without being good. A run-of-the-mill match. One that wasn't bad to win, but hinted at nothing great beyond.

Seven months down the line Dicksboro had blossomed into a real force. A mere nine hours of senior hurling later, and Dicksboro claimed the Walsh Cup. Much better than good going — remarkable would be closer to the truth.

Winning the senior championship only two years after winning the Intermediate title was some going by Dicksboro. Sure it took the mighty Shamrocks four years to bridge the same gap (1974 to 1978) and the Ballyhale brigade was no ordinary bunch of hurlers.

This need not suggest that Dicksboro are now set to dominate. Such things don't follow as automatically as day follows night. Dicksboro's first senior championship success in 43 years, and fourth in all, was a magnificent, terrific achievement, but there are no guarantees with the title of champions.



Dicksboro captain John Marnell proudly displays the Tom Walsh Cup following his team's victory in the 1993 Senior Hurling Final over the Fenians.

(Photos: Tom Brett)

Indeed, Dicksboro's victory could be a source of inspiration to others who saw what could be achieved with the right approach and right attitude. Young Irelands (Gowran), for example, who were

dumped out of the championship by the 'Boro, will have looked on with more than ordinary interest at how things developed subsequently. Graigue-Ballycallan might be cursing their bad luck too.

TALK

Oh, yes, the talk went around: "If Dicksboro could do that, so could we." Easier said than done, of course. The 'Boro didn't come from nowhere. They won the intermediate championship in 1991. They have dominated the under-21 championship for the past two years. Many of their players were deemed good enough to wear the county colours at under-age level.

The success over Fenians (Johnstown) in the replayed senior championship final was the last step in a gradual evolving process by a united group, many of whom were close friends as well as team colleagues. The feeling of togetherness goes beyond hurling duties. It is part of life itself.

In the drawn final on October 24, the 'Boro were more lucky than unlucky. They fell 0-1 to 0-6 behind during the opening 20 minutes and were on the verge of collapse. They got back into the hunt but then stumbled again and twice during the closing nine minutes fell three points behind.

Not for the first time during the season their knight in shining armour, midfielder Dan O'Neill, came charging through to save the day. Young O'Neill, one of the finest stickmen in the country, pulled his team out of trouble, just as he had done against Young Irelands and James Stephens.

In the dying moments the 'Boro had what could only be termed as a half-chance to snatch a dramatic win. They missed the chance. Still, they were happy enough with an 0-12 each draw, remembering that 19 minutes separated their first and second scores. Had they won then, wouldn't that have been some stroke?

The day of the replay was grey and overcast and the ground heavy. To some degree the elements called the shots and pushed the teams into a strength-sapping physical encounter. No one went back from anything and afterwards sturdy Fenians' defender Ger Henderson admitted he had never been hit as hard or as often in a game. The 'Boro took a leaf out of Big Jack's book and 'put the pressure on'. And they kept it on.



No way! . . . Fenians' Brendan Ryan runs into trouble from Dicksboro defenders Tom Henderson (left) and David Beirne. Moving in to give assistance is Brian Ryan (Fenians).

(Photo: Tom Brett)



Ready for the toss! . . . Rival captains Jimmy Brennan (Fenians) and John Marnell (Dicksboro) along with referee Denis Cody before the start of the 1993 County Senior Hurling Final. (Photo: T. O'Neill)

INSPIRATION

This time the city lads were more with it from the throw-in. An early goal from John Treacy helped calm the nerves. After nine minutes the Fenians were looking for inspiration when 0-1 to 1-2 behind. A smashing goal from Briain Ryan threw the game wide open and three times subsequently the sides were level before they went in for the rest together at 1-4 each. Crucially, Dicksboro had played against the wind during that half.

Both sides had their moments in front during the early stages of the second half. Then, in the 36th minute, Tommy Bawle pointed a free after a foul on Sam Morrissey to put the 'Boro in front (1-7 to 1-6). The game was about to move away from the Fenians.

In the 37th minute Sam Morrissey goaled for the 'Boro to help them towards a five-point lead before the end of the quarter. From there to the finish the strength of the 'Boro defence, with 'keeper Michael Walsh utterly dependable and the six defenders all playing better than ably, carried the day. Inexperience showed through here and there, but old-stagers at the back, Martin Hanrick and John Marnell, rallied their forces and steered their team through for a fighting 2-9 to 1-9 win.

Winning was made even sweeter for them by the fact that all 15 players performed to a high standard. Walsh, Mark Dowling, Tom Henderson, Michael Kennedy, Dan O'Neill, Stephen Kennedy, Hanrick and Marnell were especially good.

Expertise with the camán was a crucial factor on a tough day for hurling. In this regard the 'Boro impressed greatly because, ordinarily, the sort of day that was

in it would be more suited to a seasoned, rather than young, team like the victors. But they bridged the gap with pure skill. The handiwork of Hanrick, O'Neill and Dowling was particularly eye-catching.

In the drawn final, Liam Kerwick, when moved from wing-forward to midfield, turned in the proverbial blinder and played no small part in digging his side out of trouble. Centre-back Donal Carroll enjoyed his finest hour that afternoon also. That pair matured enormously during the campaign as did Sam Morrissey, John Treacy, Sean Moore and Shane Prendergast.

WON TWO GAMES

Another of the long servers, Tommy Bawle shot half the champions' total in the drawn final, some from very testing angles. In the replay he had a right old battle with Ger Henderson and totally occupied a man who had starred in the first clash. Never did Bawle put himself about more for the cause.

During the League, Dicksboro won just two games, against Mullinavat (0-11 to 1-5) and Young Irelands (3-12 to 2-10). They lost against Tullaroan (0-12 to 0-10), Erin's Own (0-14 to 1-10) and Fenians (2-15 to 2-12).

In the championship, they started like an out-of-control train against Young Irelands, and goaled twice during the opening six minutes. A run-away win looked on the cards. When the 'Boro sat down on the job after the change, 'Irelands roared back, and it took two late points from Dan O'Neill to secure a 2-11 to 0-14 victory.

Next up came James Stephens, and after a match that blew hot and cold, the 'Boro won by 3-7 to 1-9. The semi-final against score-shy Mullinavat was an awful affair.



Liam Kerwick (Dicksboro) shoots goalwards despite the close attentions of John Henderson (Fenians) in the Credit Union Senior Hurling Final.

The eventual winners only went well for 10 minutes, but they made plenty of gains and sailed into the final on the back of a 4-11 to 0-9 victory.

Dicksboro selectors Seamus Fitzpatrick, John Marnell, Eugene Begley, Jimmy Mulrooney and John Cahill had their team well and truly shaped by this stage. Between the draw and replay, experienced trainer Pat Henderson, the former Kilkenny manager, spelled out the demands in no uncertain manner for his charges.

Mr. Henderson had an attentive, willing-to-learn audience. The depth of the performance on November 7 was streets ahead of that seen on April 18. The 'Boro boys showed they were sharp at their lessons, in hurling as well as in other things.

Dicksboro team in final replay – Michael Walsh; Martin Hanrick, John Marnell (capt.), David Beirne; Mark Dowling, Donal Carroll, Tom Henderson; Michael Kennedy, Dan O'Neill; Liam Kerwick, Sean Moore, Stephen Kennedy; John Treacy, Tommy Bawle, Sam Morrissey. Subs – Brendan Dalton (used); Ger Henderson, Niall Lacey, John Ayres, James Phelan, Vinny Byrne, Eoin Begley, Ted Carroll, John Dwyer, Rory Deevy, Seán Fitzpatrick, Jim Kerwick. Shane Prendergast played in the drawn match but injured his back and was not available for the replay.

Fenians – Alan Behan; Gerry Quinlan, Ger Henderson, John Henderson; Anthony McEvoy, Pat McCormack, James Carroll; Ger Brennan, Briain Ryan; Stephen Grehan, Billy Purcell, Jimmy Brennan (capt.), Billy Fitzpatrick, P. J. Delaney, Brendan Ryan. Subs. – P. J. Ryan, Michael Phelan, Finbar Delaney, Willie Dollard, Liam McEvoy, Billy Dermody, Seamus Behan, John Delaney, Thomas Walsh.

Who has the titles?

Tullaroan (19) – 1887, 1889, 1895, 1897, 1899, 1901, 1902, 1904, 1910, 1911, 1915, 1924, 1925, 1930, 1933, 1934, 1948, 1958.

Bennettsbridge (12) – 1890, 1952, 1953, 1955, 1956, 1959, 1960, 1962, 1964, 1966, 1967, 1971.

Mooncoin (12) – 1888, 1900, 1906, 1908, 1913, 1916, 1927, 1928, 1929, 1932, 1936, 1965.

The Shamrocks (9) – 1978, 1979, 1980, 1982, 1983, 1985, 1988, 1989, 1991.

Carrickshock (7) – 1931, 1938, 1940, 1941, 1942, 1943, 1951.

James Stephens (6) – 1935, 1937, 1969, 1975, 1976, 1981.

The Fenians (5) – 1970, 1972, 1973, 1974, 1977.

Éire Óg (4) – 1939, 1944, 1945, 1947.

Dicksboro (4) – 1923, 1926, 1950, 1993.

Glenmore (3) – 1987, 1990, 1992.

Confederation (3) – 1893, 1894, 1896.

Erin's Own (City) (2) – 1905, 1909.

St. Lachtain's (Freshford) (2) – 1961, 1963.

Threecastles (2) – 1898, 1903.

Thomastown (1) – 1946.

Graigue (1) – 1949.

Slieverue (1) – 1954.

John Lockes (Callan) (1) – 1957.

Johnstown (1) – 1914.

Rower-Inistioge (1) – 1968.

St. Martin's (1) – 1984.

Clara (1) – 1986.

From Windgap to the U.S.A.



Geoffrey Butler (Windgap)

The old adage "one man's loss is another man's gain", is surely true of the Windgap hurling club and the central division of the American Co. Board. Geoffrey Butler was born in the Slatequarries, Windgap, in the early 'Forties. He won minor and junior football titles with Kilmoganny in '52 and '54. Having played hurling with Piltown, he was a founding member and official of the Windgap club until he emigrated to Chicago in 1964. Before he emigrated, he was on the "Far South team that was beaten by Freshford in a county senior semi-final.

He also played senior football for Kilmoganny (St. Nicholas') and Lamogue. He won numerous American hurling and football titles with "Harry Bolands" and "St. Patrick's". He was elected as vice-chairman of the American Central Division in '69. But it was in 1972 that Geoffrey Butler attained his greatest honour, when he was elected chairman of the American Board. This Board covers eight divisions, including San Francisco, Philadelphia, Boston, Central, Florida, Great Lakes and the Mid-West. He was re-elected chairman again in 1978, and relinquished his tenure of the position in 1980.

Geoffrey never forgot his roots and his one regret is that emigration deprived him of the opportunity of playing with his native Windgap during the halcyon days of the 70's. Geoffrey is married to Kitty Franks from Silverton, Colorado, and they have a daughter, Marla and a son John.

Jim Langton



Jim Langton

Kilkenny won their 25th All-Ireland last September and one of their greatest supporters was not in Croke Park to see his beloved "black and amber" do so. Jim Langton had gone to the great "Croke Park in the sky" just two weeks beforehand, after a short illness.

Jim loved his hurling generally, but his love of Kilkenny hurling was a way of life. He was an outgoing and witty man, who was delightful company and a sincere friend when called upon.

He was very serious about his hurling and he was a sensitive man about Kilkenny hurling, particularly if matters were not as he thought they should have been. He was instrumental in establishing the Kilkenny Supporters' Club some years ago. He would have been delirious last September to watch "the lads" surpass arch-rivals Tipperary, in the All-Ireland roll of honour.

He won hurling medals with St. Kieran's College and he was very involved with the Eire Óg club. As editor of the Yearbook, Jim Langton offered his support without elicitation every year it was printed.

To use a well-worn cliché, Jim Langton was a man who "put his money where his mouth was". He was a true Gael. He was a nice man.

He was a friend of many. He will be sadly missed by all such people. On behalf of all true Gaels, we offer our sympathy to his wife, Martha, his children, Gemma, Irena and James, and to his brother, Eamon and his sister Mrs. Mary Hennessy, Viewmount House, Castlecomer Road. Ar Dheis Dé Go Raibh a Anam.

Tribute to Micheál Ó Hehir

By Joe Dunphy

It was wonderful in those days
As his voice excited air
And we listened sitting spellbound
To the great Micheál Ó Hehir.

Oh so often he would manage
To electrify a game
And the players from all counties
He helped to spread their fame.

His great broadcasts on the wireless
Which in thirty eight began
Up to '84 they thrilled me
First as boy and then as man.

Right through the hungry Forties
When all of us were poor
We looked forward to the Sunday
Micheál's voice would thrill for sure.

Every person in the country
Knew of "Bán" and Christy Ring
He would conjure up the pictures
And their praises he would sing.

The lads of the Artane Boys' Band
Strike up "Amhrán na bhFiann"
The crowds, the roars, the cheering
Hear Micheál describe the scene.

"Eddie Keher goes on a solo
With the ball glued to his stick
Now there's just a point between them
As those minutes tick and tick.

Great O'Connell soars in midfield
Here comes "Micko" once again
And "Sam" is heading homeward
To Kerry on the train".

So many thousand heroes
From all corners of our land
Micheál introduced them to us
With his eloquence so grand.

All those games of many years
None of us shall e'er forget
Thank you Micheál for the memories
You are the greatest yet.

It was you who put our native games
Before the whole wide world
Where'er a leather ball was kicked
Or a slotar was being hurled.

Our sincere and heartfelt thanks then
To you Micheál Ó Hehir
For all those "Bail Ó Dhia's"
And your "Slán agaibh go léir".

Three-in-a-row — It is up to the players



By: JOHN KNOX

The achievement, the stunning manner in which a dream was turned into reality, was truly wonderful, but the possibilities that have been thrown open now are almost beyond comprehension.

This year Kilkenny put senior hurling All-Ireland wins back-to-back. Ponder on the new possibilities . . . a Leinster four-in-a-row, and an All-Ireland three-in-a-row! What a heart-warming thought. What a stupendous accomplishment that would be! You would nearly be afraid to think about it, but the chance is there.

The last time Kilkenny did the All-Ireland three-in-a-row was way back in 1911, 1912 and 1913, the times when John T. Power, Sim Walton, Jack Keoghan, Jack Rochford, Dan Kennedy, Paddy 'Icy' Lanigan, Dick 'Drug' Walsh and so on were among the untouchables, in a hurling sense.

A lot of good Noreside camán wielders have come and gone in the intervening 80 years. Never a three-in-a-row! Five times All-Ireland wins were put back-to-back. But Kilkenny, now second in the Roll of Honour with 25 McCarthy Cup successes to their credit, have only once put three All-Ireland wins together.

Surely that must be a great incentive for Ollie Walsh's heroes, as they look towards Championship '94. The last treble was achieved by Cork in 1976, 1977 and 1978. Overall, the Leesiders have achieved that distinguished feat on four occasions. Old rivals Tipperary did it once (1898, '99 and 1900). No other hurling county has ever done it.

A lot of things could change between now and the time Kilkenny open in next

year's Leinster championship. But if the champs look after themselves, and they don't run into too many injuries, then who knows what the hurling year might bring?

MASSIVE ACHIEVEMENT

Going on what transpired in the championship just ended, anything could happen. Let no one be under any illusions, winning the 1993 championship was a massive achievement. Apart altogether from the close calls against good teams like Offaly, Wexford and Galway, the 'Cats' had to put up with a glut of unfortunate injuries.

In 1992 they more or less enjoyed an injury-free run. This time it was different. Liam Simpson, Michael Phelan and Liam Walsh, apart from 20 minutes, sat out the first match. The second outing against Carlow was hardly likely to throw up an upset, so the defending champions were able to cope with their troubles.

For the drawn Leinster final against Wexford, Liam McCarthy sat out the action. In the replay, Pat O'Neill (shoulder) and Pat Dwyer (groin) struggled throughout the second half. Before the finish, the latter was forced by pain to give in. Dwyer was unable to participate in the All-Ireland semi-final against Antrim.

Yet, in the face of all those trying circumstances, Kilkenny survived some of the severest tests any team has ever

experienced. What more could Offaly have done in pursuit of victory? What more could Wexford have done in the drawn Leinster final? And what team would have played as well as Galway did in the All-Ireland final, and still end up losing?

Why did all that happen? Because Kilkenny had a terrific team. Nothing less.

The players showed their class time and again. John Power and D.J. Carey played superbly against Offaly, and then earned the penalty that turned the match. Carey achieved wondrous things during the campaign, and his first goal against Offaly, and his second against Antrim — the one where he batted a rebound off the crossbar into the net — were scores worth travelling to Dublin alone to see.

Pat Dwyer has developed into the most disciplined and effective full-back in the country. Were there a transfer system in operation in Gaelic games, then Pat O'Neill would surely be a £1 million man. The Young Irelands (Gowran) player has an ability few in the country possess — he can dictate a game from his position.

FREE-THINKING PLAYERS

Bill Hennessy, Willie and Eddie O'Connor, Liam McCarthy, Liam Simpson, Michael Walsh, Eamon Morrissey and Michael Phelan have all matured into



O'Neill tidies up . . . Pat O'Neill sweeps up a dangerous situation as Galway's Liam Burke, Joe McGrath and Michael Coleman bear down on him. Kilkenny players looking on are Liam Simpson, Willie O'Connor and Michael Phelan.



Airborne! A fantastic picture of D.J. Carey after striking the ball. Notice that neither of D.J.'s feet are on the ground. Truly remarkable!

free-thinking players, who are capable of adjusting their match position to cope with varying demands. The last three championships, and the losing experience in the final of 1991, have improved these players no end.

If the players learned during those times, so too did team manager, Ollie Walsh and his deputy and fellow selector throughout it all, Nicky Brennan (Co. Board Chairman). It was interesting to study their work throughout the campaign. They met difficulties on a one-for-one basis, and never upset the main body of the team when forced to make changes.

For the new selector who joined them this year, Tom Ryan (Glenmore), it must have been a pleasant experience, because Walsh and Brennan know their players, and the ropes. They are a shrewd pair together, and before and during games they know what they are about. Kilkenny have assembled a good squad, one that has a family-like unit. That sort of thing brings about another strength, a hatred of losing, which is something that has characterised the Noresiders' play.

At the same time, Kilkenny have not remained stagnant. They have introduced new blood, and coaxed along another who could easily have lost his way. After two up-and-down seasons, Adrian Ronan, one of the most gifted minors ever to pull on a black and amber shirt, got his game together as never before in the top flight.

Ronan's new found self-belief, patiently built-up by the selectors, made all the difference to his game, and consequently the contribution he could make to the team. If he can take the work he started this year a step further in the next campaign, then he could yet recover the true brilliance that marked his game at under-age level. It is up to himself from here on out.

The bringing along of 20-year-old P.J. Delaney was another shrewd move. Sure, he nearly didn't figure at all. When he was started against Wexford in the replayed

The High Road to Success

MAY 30, AT CROKE PARK:

Kilkenny 2-10 **Offaly** 0-14
[H.T. 1-10 (O); 1-5 (K)]

Kilkenny scorers: D.J. Carey (2-4, goal penalty, three points frees); A. Prendergast (0-2, one free); J. Power, B. Ryan, A. Ronan, P.J. Delaney (0-1 each).

JUNE 20 AT DR. CULLEN PARK - LEINSTER SEMI-FINAL:

Kilkenny 5-19 **Carlow** 0-16
[H.T. 2-11 (K); 0-8 (C)]

Kilkenny scorers: E. Morrissey (2-3); L. McCarthy (1-5); J. Power (1-3); D.J. Carey (1-0); A. Ronan (0-3); R. Heffernan (0-2); L. Keoghlan, A. Prendergast, B. Ryan (0-1 each).

JULY 11 AT CROKE PARK - LEINSTER FINAL:

Kilkenny 2-14 (20 pts) **Wexford** 1-17 (20 pts)
[H.T. 0-10 (W); 1.3 (K)]

Kilkenny scorers: E. Morrissey (2-3); D.J. Carey (0-5, four frees); J. Brennan (0-2); B. Hennessy, M. Phelan, A. Ronan (0-1 each); P. O'Neill (0-1, '65').

JULY 18 AT CROKE PARK - LEINSTER FINAL REPLAY:

Kilkenny 2-12 **Wexford** 0-11
[H.T. 2-5 (K); 0-7 (W)]

Kilkenny scorers: D.J. Carey (1-5, four points frees); P.J. Delaney (1-1); E. Morrissey (0-2); M. Phelan, J. Brennan, J. Power, A. Ronan (0-1 each).

AUGUST 8 AT CROKE PARK - ALL-IRELAND SEMI-FINAL:

Kilkenny 4-18 **Antrim** 1-8
[H.T. 1-8 (A); 1-5 (K)]

Kilkenny scorers: D.J. Carey (2-5, four points frees); P.J. Delaney (1-2); E. Morrissey (1-1); A. Ronan (0-3, one free); D. Lawlor (0-2); J. Power, L. McCarthy, M. Phelan, B. Hennessy (0-1 each); P. O'Neill (0-1, '65').

SEPTEMBER 5 AT CROKE PARK - ALL-IRELAND FINAL

Kilkenny 2-17 **Galway** 1-15
[H.T. 1-8 (K); 1-6 (G)]

Kilkenny scorers: P.J. Delaney (1-4); A. Ronan (1-2); D.J. Carey (0-4, three frees); L. McCarthy (0-3); E. Morrissey (0-2); E. Hennessy, J. Power (0-1 each).

Leinster final, after being taken off in the drawn match, he was astounded. A shrewd move? Most certainly. Delaney has never looked back.

Such action by Selectors often go unnoticed. The decision by Messrs. Walsh, Brennan and Ryan was as good as any Kilkenny had made during the past three seasons.

QUICK LEARNER

Then, of course, there was the introduction of Liam Keoghlan and the clever use of Joe Walsh as a cover man. Keoghlan surprised everyone, possibly even himself, as he settled on the scene so quickly. By the end of the season his hurling at club level had come on 50%. This guy is a quick learner, and someone intent on staying around a long time.

If ever a man knew the ups and downs of hurling, then it was surely Joe Walsh this year. Twice he was called in to plug gaps in vital games. He starred on one occasion and played comfortably within himself in the other. His form has left a lot of defenders looking over their shoulders.

Whether the future is to be full of more joyous occasions or is to turn out bleak, depends a lot on the players themselves. They cannot afford to lose the run of themselves. Offaly and Wexford won't be

any easier to beat in Leinster next year. And then, wow, Galway in the All-Ireland semi-final, if they survive that long. That is a game no one could look beyond.

The day Offaly looked winners all the way up to six minutes from the end; the day four scores were needed during the closing six minutes to force a draw with Wexford, and the day a 20-year-old was needed to score a vital goal late in the All-



I hate ya! Mickey Walsh is determined to take the cover of the sliotar in the Leinster Final against Wexford.

Ireland final – are all in the past.

The enjoyment at the time was first class. The memories still light up dull moments. But such deeds, and All-Ireland victory '93 are yesterday's powerful deeds.

The ones that are to come should be the providers of inspiration for Kilkenny. If they are . . . maybe . . . just maybe the All-Ireland hat-trick might be completed.

Kennedy, Walton, Lanigan, Power et al may yet have company in that chapter of history marked 'special'.

P.S. - Kilkenny and Wexford still have some drawing power in the championship. In the Leinster final draw and replay, over 79,500 people enjoyed the action.

The attendance the first day was 37,715,

and the second day was 41,833.

Kilkenny's three-in-a-row in Leinster was the eighth for the county. The others were 1903 to '95, 1911 to '13, 1931 to '33, 1935 to '37, 1945 to '47, 1957 to '59 and 1971 to '75.

In all, the Noresiders have won a record 55 provincial championships.



Michael Coleman and Willie O'Connor tussle for the ball in the All-Ireland Final. Awaiting the outcome are Liam Keoghan and Joe McGrath (Galway).

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Race for possession between Willie O'Connor and Rod Guiney (Wexford) in the Leinster Hurling Final. Awaiting developments are (from left): Bill Hennessy, Martin Storey (Wexford), George O'Connor (Wexford), Pat O'Neill and Liam Keoghan. (Photo: Tom Brett)

Action from the Leinster Senior Hurling Championship



Going nowhere fast! . . . This Offaly forward has no chance as he is surrounded by Kilkeny backs in the first round of the Leinster Senior Hurling Championship. From left - Pat O'Neill, Eddie O'Connor (hidden), Joe Walsh and Pat Dwyer.

Lachtain's free scoring forwards blow all the opposition away



By: John Knox
"Kilkenny People"

MOST CLUBS would regard themselves as blessed to possess one good forward capable of scoring regularly. Championships have been won many a time by sides with a lot of hard workers, and just one man with the Midas scoring touch.

St. Lachtain's (Freshford) were an exception to the general rule and they had a bunch of handy scorers in their ranks. They made good use of their many talents, and the club galloped away with the Junior hurling championship and into the Intermediate grade for next season.

It is fair to say, Lachtain's won the championship with one of the finest sides seen in the division in years. There was a nice balance to the team. They were good at the back. They were equally efficient at midfield. And up front, well, there they had real power, and they simply blew away the opposition.

It took St. Lachtain's six matches, including a replay against St. Patrick's (Ballyragget) to wrap up the title. In that time they ran up an amazing score of 19 goals and 78 points. That works out at around 3-13 per match, which is some shooting by any standard.

In the county final against outclassed Kilmacow, the champions won, looking back, on the score of 3-14 to 1-7. The game was more or less over after 20 minutes when Lachtain's had already lashed home two goals. The second Junior win, to go with the one registered in 1959, was already in the bag.

The overall scoring returns were one thing, but when you broke them down, it was easy to see why St. Lachtain's had a fair bit in hand on all the rest.

Run away winners

County minor star, Ollie O'Connor, for example ran up a whopping 5-23. Team captain and full-forward, Michael Morrissey, knocked home 9-5. Next best was the long serving Brian Waldron with 1-18. After that came midfielder, Damien Hurley, with 3-5.

With scorers like that, is it any wonder St. Lachtain's were run away winners of the Junior championships? Those figures prove they had the sharp-shooters up front to blast holes in any opposition. That is exactly what they did.

The county final wasn't really a great game, simply because the gulf in class was so vast. St. Lachtain's were moving like a well oiled machine by the time the decider came round. Selectors Tom Beckett, Michael McCarthy, Tom Doheny and Tony Hughes more or less had a team that picked itself and trainer Kevin Fennelly had his men well briefed on how to open out play, which suited Lachtain's style.

Twice during the opening quarter the scores were level after Kilmacow opened full of promise. In the 17th minute, Michael Morrissey dug a huge hole in the Southerners defence, and made a goal for Damien Anderson. St. Lachtain's moved 1-4 to 0-4 in front, and in the direction of the Bob Aylward Cup.

Morrissey again caused uproar in the Kilmacow defence minutes later, and after his

shot was blocked, Brian Waldron pushed the rebound into the net. That score shot the half-time difference up to 2-8 to 0-5.

In fairness to the losers, they tried to make a game of it after the change. The standard of hurling shot up, but Kilmacow were quickly put in their place. After Brian Waldron had a 43rd minute point (2-11 to 1-7), the losers never again put anything on the scoreboard. That 'give nothing away' effort told its own story about the effectiveness of the other parts of the Lachtain's team, apart from the forwards that is.

In the final, the opposition went out with the intention of holding young O'Connor, who had just put a string of great performances with the county behind him. Kilmacow succeeded in that aspect of play, but guess what happened then?

Back Door Open

Michael Morrissey went to town and caused all sorts of problems. Brian Waldron did likewise, and finished with 1-6 to his credit. It was like guarding the front door against attack, and leaving the back door wide open. The story was simple. St. Lachtain's had too many big guns.

Of course, the front men could do nothing if the supply line was not good. Old hands at the back, Gordon Ryan, who did a fine job at centre-back even if he did have a hamstring problem, and Martin Kennedy, had a tremendous settling effect on those around them, and they brought out the best in Bobby Dillon, Sean Hickey and company.

Lachtain's had another classy performer in goalkeeper Joe Dermody, who, this season, showed the kind of exciting form that left people talking about him in terms of the Kilkenny Senior team. He has it, as they say.

In the Northern final, the eventual champions turned in another stunning hurling show to see off holders of the divisional honours from

the previous year, Blacks and Whites. The difference here was 5-10 to 1-12. Michael Morrissey ran riot here, and riddled the opposition to claim 5-1. That had to be the individual scoring feat of the year in Kilkenny.

Before that, Cloneen (2-16 to 1-7), St. Patrick's (2-9 each draw and then 4-17 to 0-9) and James Stephens (3-12 to 0-13) found out that it wasn't easy to tangle with St. Lachtain's.

There was terrific self-belief in the St. Lachtain's team. They knew they weren't bad. They worked hard for what they got. And the legacy of the men of '93 was that they were among the most convincing winners ever of the Junior championship. Now that is something to crow about.

The **St. Lachtain's** team in the county final was:

Joe Dermody, Patrick Brennan, Bobby Dillon, Murty Kennedy, John Costelloe, Gordon Ryan, Sean Hickey, Eamon Maher, Damien Hurley, Pierce Phelan, Damien Anderson, George O'Shea, Brian Waldron, Mick Morrissey (captain), Oliver O'Connor.

Subs: John Connolly, Christy Hickey, James Farrell (used), Michael Brennan, Martin Maher, Paul Phelan, Pat Doyle, Declan Killeen, Martin Walsh, Mick Walsh, Jack Doyle, Ian Colclough, Noel Hughes, Davy Martin, Mervyn Queally.

Kilmacow: Eamon Gahan, Greg Power (captain), Gerry Mulligan, Ian O'Callaghan, Thomas Reddy, Sean Caulfield, Robert Dalton, Peter Ryan, Paul Long, John Dalton, Jim Kinsella, Noel Dunphy, Gerry Drohan, Paddy Gahan, Declan Gahan.

Subs: Dermot Tierney, Trevor Sutton (used), Brian O'Callaghan, Denis Scully, David Phelan, John Phelan, Andy Ryan, Toby Vereker, Eamon Reddy, Andy Long, Tommy Hearne.

Selectors: Martin Aylward, Dick McNamara, Tom Caulfield.



Action from the Roinn 'A' Iarnrod Éireann Minor hurling county final.

(Photo: I. O'Neill)

Kilmacow failed to shine in two finals

STRANGE to relate, after appearing in two county finals the predominant feeling in Kilmacow, when they look back on a hard hurling year, will be one of disappointment. It wasn't merely because they lost both, which they did heavily, but there had to be displeasure at the way the players handled the occasion.

First Kilmacow suffered an awful hammering at the hands of Dunamaggin in the Junior Hurling Open Draw final (4-12 to 1-6). Explain that one, because only a few weeks earlier Kilmacow had played very well when beating the same opposition in a good Southern semi-final.

It was easier accept the championship final defeat at the hands of St. Lachtain's, because the latter were a good team who had a string of big wins behind them.

But taking the year as a whole for Kilmacow, it cannot be viewed other than in a critical light. They did nothing during the Southern league games. When it came to the championship it was a different ball game, which was fair enough.

But to many, including those closely associated with the team, the bite was gone when it came to county final time. It appeared some were content to regard the winning of the Southern title as the high point. If that was the case, it was sad, because who knows how long it will take the Southerners to get another crack at putting their names on the county roll of honour.

On their way to the county final Kilmacow beat Windgap, Dunamaggin (4-11 to 3-12) and

Piltown (0-8 to 0-6) in the divisional final. The decider in the South was decided by points from Dermot Tierney and Declan Gahan during the closing seven minutes.

What a pity

The match never really took off, although the climax was exciting. Good players like Gerry Mulligan, Greg Power, Sean Caulfield, Paul Long, Gerry Drohan, Jim Kinsella, Paddy and Declan Gahan proved they had a lot to offer by the way they turned the season around after the dismal league. What a pity the county final efforts slipped off the rails.

Dunamaggin, who looked a team to watch for a long time, were furious when they made their exit from the Southern championship. There were some who felt they lost out because their team was too young! Perhaps, but if lessons were learned and bearing in mind they won the minor county final this season, they could be the team to beat next time round.

For them, the victory in the Open Draw final was the big achievement of the season at Junior level. Here they took the title for the third time, to go with previous victories in 1990 and 1992.

Dunamaggin didn't burst into life, but still they eased into a 1-6 to 0-1 lead by the end of the quarter. By the break the advantage had stretched to 2-11 to 1-1. Their 15 point success (4-12 to 1-6) was just reward for a full-blooded team effort.

Dunamaggin have reason to be optimistic. They have the talent to go places, because in Tom Hickey, John Fitzpatrick, Paul Cahill, Richie O'Neill, Paul Kearney, the long serving Jimmy Dunne, Eamon Kennedy, Sean Ryan and Michael O'Neill they have the makings of a

good team, one capable of going places.

Strange as it may seem, Piltown enjoyed their best hour when their county man, Liam McCarthy was out injured. That was in the Southern semi-final against Slieverue, a good match which they won by 1-13 to 0-10.

Piltown were dragged through when Pat Davis turned on the style during the closing stages, picking off five lovely points. He was a star, as were Liam Kenny, Michael Long, Michael O'Shea, Kevin O'Shea, Mark Walsh and Sean Norris.

Big Scores

Up North, Blacks and Whites would certainly have retained the divisional title if St. Lachtain's hadn't been so strong. They ran up some big scores and nice wins. They shouldn't be too down-hearted because they have a good team, one that is capable of getting better.

They have the hurlers in J. J. Barcoe, Pat O'Grady, Denis Carroll, Ned Kelly, John and Alan Byrne, Martin Farrell and Sean Kealy to help them climb up the ladder.

Emeralds and James Stephens were the losing semi-finalists in the North. Emeralds best men this year were Ollie Bergin, Austin Cleere, P. J. and Declan Tobin, Cyril Cleere and James Burke.

James Stephens also qualified for the Special Junior hurling (Roinn B) county final, and took home the honours there.

The Stephens have a lot going for them and they are capable of mounting a big challenge, despite all their other commitments, in a grade in which the standard of hurling is rising and rising.

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Junior Hurling

James Stephens 2-7
Glenmore..... 0-8

James Stephens captured the Special Junior Roinn "B" championship when they beat Glenmore in a well-contested final at Nowlan Park.

For a long period in this game it seemed The Village men would run out easy winners. By the 34th minute they had run up a lead of eleven points.

However, Glenmore were not prepared to lie down. They re-doubled their efforts and began taking their chances. They hit six unanswered points to threaten James Stephens' lead.

The winners, realising the danger, hit back firmly. During the closing stages both sides fought gamely for control. However, nothing was given away at either end and James Stephens ran out 2-7 to 0-8 winners.

James Stephens – L. Smyth (2-1), K. Grogan (0-3), B. Dooley, P. Cody and V. O'Brien (0-1 each).3pt

Glenmore – J. Phelan (0-5), P. Mullally (0-2), R. O'Connor (0-1).

James Stephens – M. Power, M. Phelan, B. Lee, C. Cleere, V. O'Brien, S. Doyle, E. Larkin, K. Grogan, B. Dooley, B. Kearney, L. Smyth, P. Kelly, F. Cantwell, P. Cody (captain), S. Drennan. Subs. – D. Kerwick, M. Kelly.

Glenmore – N. Mullally, T. Mullally, D. O'Keefe, J. Boyle, P. Mullally, P. Kehoe, T. Roche, R. Aylward, B. Vereker, P. Doherty, D. Hartley, J. Phelan, F. Ennett, P. Phelan, R. O'Connor.

Referee: D. O'Sullivan (John Lockes).

Mooncoin..... 3-12
Dicksboro 3-7

A sparkling display by Mooncoin goalkeeper Mark Tyler was the main feature of the Special Junior "A" Final. Tyler had a big say in his side's victory over Dicksboro in a cracking game. Mooncoin built up a lead of four points after 13 minutes. Twice in this period young Tyler rescued his side with great saves.

The 'Boro hit back with a James Phelan goal. The half-time score was 0-7 to 1-2.

Mark Tyler again came to his side's rescue

early in the second half. Dicksboro reduced the lead to a single point within minutes of the restart.

Mooncoin made a number of switches at this stage and they paid rich dividends. They began to get on top and when Joe Vereker goaled to put his side 2-9 to 1-6 ahead they always looked the likely winners. Dicksboro tried hard to get back into the game but goalie Tyler denied them time and again and the Suiriders ran out deserving 3-12 to 3-7 winners.

Mooncoin had stars in the brilliant Mark Tyler, Michael Kinsella, Joe Vereker, Joe Wall and Trevor Dunphy.

Best for Dicksboro were Rory Deevy, Brendan Dalton, Eoin Begley, James Phelan and Joe Philpott.

Mooncoin – M. Tyler, P. Dobbyn, J. Holden, M. Kinsella, A. Fitzpatrick, E. Doyle, D. Phelan, T. Dunphy, O. Dunphy, E. Mackey, J. Wall, J. Vereker, T. Henebery, J. Ryan. Sub. – N. Phelan.

Dicksboro – R. Deevy, T. Butler, T. Maher, B. Fitzpatrick, J. Philpott, P. Martin, J. Ayres, P. Henderson, N. Morrissey, B. Dalton, E. Begley, B. Brennan, S. Walton, J. Phelan, V. Byrne.

Referee: Pat Mulrooney.



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Moment of magic ended painful 15-year wait



By: JOHN KNOX

THE LONG, agonising wait dragged on over 15 painful years, but it took less than 30 seconds and one stroke of genius to cross the hitherto elusive bridge into the land of winners.

A youngster by the name of Brian Kelly blasted his way through bodies and sticks to shoot a goal. That was a priceless score for long time hard triers, and too often for their own good, game losers.

The score, seconds from the end of the Vale Oil intermediate hurling league final, earned O'Loughlin-Gaels a dramatic victory over defending champions, Mooncoin. It was a score that catapulted the St. John's Park outfit back among the winners, a place that had eluded them since 1978.

O'Loughlins 1-14 (18 pts) to 2-10 (16) success confirmed the city side's dominance over Mooncoin. Earlier in the league section proper, the Suirsiders lost by 1-6 to 1-8 in a fourth round tie.

The St. John's Park side later kept the dream of an intermediate 'double' alive, but in the championship semi-final, they suffered the pain of defeat in the dying seconds when they were beaten by a 'lost time' point by John Lockes (Callan).

After many a poor season and many disappointments, including in the shake-up of the competition, O'Loughlin-Gaels had an interesting cut about them this season. They had some new faces aboard, which knitted with the experience of Michael Cleere, Paul Cleere and Derek Shelly, all of whom were vital cogs in the wheel this time, and they moved well from the moment the action commenced.

As the season progressed, the likes of Andy Comerford, Keith McCormack, Joe Daly, Johnny and Michael Holohan and company gained in confidence. As the good results were put together, a hunger to achieve something engulfed the players.

Rejuvenated

It is interesting to recall, that O'Loughlins weren't beaten in the league until the fifth round, by which stage they had a semi-final place in the bag. Prior to that, Carrickshock (1-9 to 0-8), Bennettsbridge (1-17 to 2-8), John Lockes (2-13 to 1-6) and Mooncoin (1-8 to 1-6) had all fallen to the rejuvenated city crew.

The one reverse was against Barrow Rangers on a hot afternoon in Thomastown, when O'Loughlins took too much for granted for too long. It was only in the closing 10 minutes that it finally dawned on them that they could be actually beaten, by which stage 'Rangers had

gained too strong a foothold and they weren't going to be knocked over.

In the long run, that defeat probably served O'Loughlins well. It was a timely reminder that nothing, nor no one, could be taken for granted. Team handlers weren't too put out that the players had received a bit of a kick in the rear end, for their own good, of course.

The eventual champions were really 'with it' for their next game, the league semi-final against Thomastown. Here they always looked hungry, energetic and, let us be honest, the better team.

No more than eight minutes were gone when 'Town were 0-1 to 0-4 down, and that after their opponents had hit eight wides. The difference was 0-10 to 0-6 at midway, and with four minutes remaining, O'Loughlins had seven points in hand (0-17 to 1-7).

A late penalty to the losers improved their lot, but really, they were as soundly beaten as the finishing scoreline of 2-21 to 2-8 would suggest.

The game was played in late July, and the final could not be fitted in until late September.

Mooncoin, always a tough nut to crack, went very close to a successful defence of the title. They didn't start that well, and lost four points during the opening six minutes when playing with the breeze.

Different story

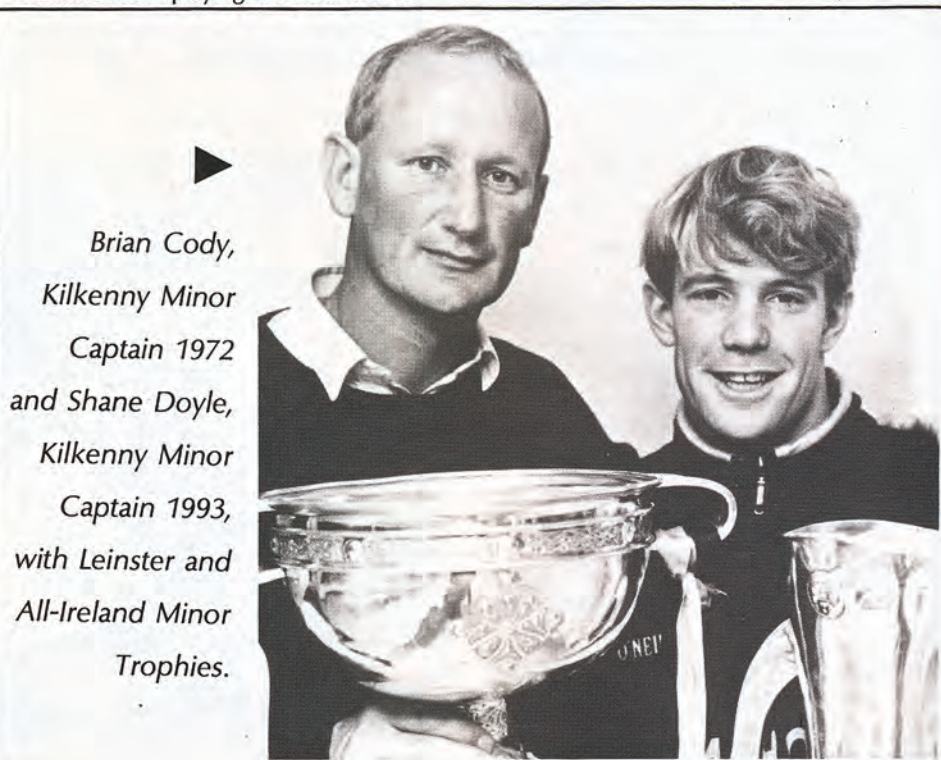
O'Loughlin's rich promise bore further fruit with minor scores from Paul Cleere and Joe Daly to zoom 0-7 to 0-1 clear after 12 minutes. Dogged Mooncoin clawed their way back, and at half-time had the deficit down to 1-5 to 0-10.

The second moiety was a different story after the Suirsiders had drawn level via a pair of points from Eamon Mackey. When it was really put up to them, O'Loughlin's had the stomach for the fight, and they hit back for two scores from Michael Doyle.

Again Mooncoin came back, and after a point from Michael Walsh they took up the running for the first time when Joe Walsh finished to the net (2-8 to 0-12). Twice afterwards the teams traded points, before Kelly powered through for a goal that put O'Loughlin-Gaels name on a trophy after 15 empty years.

O'Loughlin-Gaels team: K. Cleere, B. Power, M. Holohan, J. Nolan, J. Dowling, D. Shelly, J. Holohan, K. McCormack, A. Comerford, J. Daly, M. Cleere, E. Kelly, D. Morrissey, P. Cleere, S. Tyrrell. Subs: M. Doyle (used).

Mooncoin: M. Tyler, P. Crowley, J. Mahon, M. Kinsella, A. Fitzpatrick, J. Murphy, P. Doyle, D. Connolly, T. Murphy, E. Mackey, E. Delahunty, G. O'Shea, J. Vereker, J. Wall, M. Walsh. Subs: Referee: K. Carroll (Mullinavat).



▶
*Brian Cody,
Kilkenny Minor
Captain 1972
and Shane Doyle,
Kilkenny Minor
Captain 1993,
with Leinster and
All-Ireland Minor
Trophies.*

Look B(l)ack in Amber



By: John Knox

When Eddie O'Connor hoisted the new McCarthy Cup high over the Croke Park sward at around a quarter past five on September 5th, 1993, a Kilkennyman was captaining an All-Ireland senior hurling winning team for the 25th time this century.

Thereby hangs a tale. On the field of play the Cats are famously slow starters, a habit they usually make up for with flying finishes. In the annals of the G.A.A. the county was equally slow to get off the mark. Though they hold the record for title triumphs in the 20th century, one reason they trail Cork in the honours list is the Leesiders' six victories prior to 1904.

So a ready excuse exists for a Kilkennyman if a smug Rebel ever reminds him which county has more All-Irelands: "Ah, sure, it's not fair - ye were six ahead of us before we got going!". (More revealingly, he should point out the population disparity between the two counties and force the Corkman to agree that, pound for pound, there's no question as to which is the number one hurling county. And sucks to you, Kevin Cashman!)

Anyway, 1904 was a significant year in local G.A.A. history not only because it signalled the Black and Amber's debut All-Ireland victory but also because it was the beginning of the first golden era of Kilkenny hurling. The title was retained in 1905 and additions arrived in 1907, 1909 and - the county's first and only three-in-a-row - 1911, 1912 and 1913. Thanks to the efforts of the Doyles, Sim Walton, Matt Gargan and friends, the Cats had now closed to within one title of Tipperary at the head of the roll of honour.

Inevitably, the years of plenty gave way to years of famine. The old soldiers faded away. Kilkenny stayed down for the next two decades, the single bright spark in the gloom being the 1922 triumph when Wattie Dunphy's team came late to stun Tipperary. In the run-up to this encounter, Tom Ryall records in *Kilkenny: The G.A.A. Story*, the Earl of Ormonde invited the hard-training players to view the Picture Gallery in Kilkenny Castle, Lady Desart gave them leave to relax in the gardens at Talbot's Inch and the C.Y.M.S. let them play billiards to their hearts' content at their William Street premises. All work and lots of play obviously did the trick.

The pendulum swung back Noreside way in the 1930s: Along with Cork they got what's widely rated the most glorious decade in the annals of the game off to a famous start in 1931; that twice-replayed decider was unquestionably the most significant hurling match in the history of the Association. Vanquished then, Kilkenny received compensation on the



KILKENNY - ALL-IRELAND SENIOR HURLING CHAMPIONS 1969

double in the following two years against Clare and Limerick. In 1935 Lory Meagher's very finest hour saw them vanquish Limerick once more, Mick Mackey's Shannosiders gaining their revenge twelve months later. The year after that, 1937, an ageing outfit succumbed to Tipperary in Killarney, but the decade ended on an unbeatable note with the Thunder and Lightning victory of 1939.

The reasons why Kilkenny were to win only two more All-Irelands (1947 and 1957) between then and 1963 have never been properly outlined. Was it a case of the pre-parish rule days making one or two clubs stronger to the detriment of the common good? The absence of an influential personality until Fr. Tommy Maher's return

from Dublin? The cycle rotating to the dark side of the moon? Whatever the cause, it was the bleakest spell yet for hurling in the county.

The sun came out again in 1963 at the outset of what may be termed the Keher-Cummins era. In 21 seasons the ultimate silverware made its way to Noreside on nine occasions: 1963, 1967, 1969, 1972, 1974-75, 1979 and 1982-83, two decades of glory that concluded with Frank Cummins capturing the last of his eight senior medals.

Might the recent under-age successes mean that 1992 and 1993 will later come to be regarded as the start of the D. J. Carey era . . . ?



KILKENNY - ALL-IRELAND SENIOR HURLING CHAMPIONS 1979

Upset or not, 'Town did make progress



By JOHN KNOX

FAIR ENOUGH, they won't be satisfied, but during the winter months when Thomastown people look back on the intermediate hurling action of 1993 they will come round to the belief that it wasn't a bad season at all for them.

The 'Town started poorly in the Vale Oil and lost their opening two games, but they ended up qualifying for the semi-finals. Here they were beaten by 2-21 to 2-8 by O'Loughling-Gaels, the eventual champions.

In the Championship, Thomastown got through to the final, and a few scores on the call of time denied them, and left John Lockes (Callan) to look forward to action in the senior grade next season.

Getting into the shake-up in both competitions could, in no way, be construed as bad going. After the dull and unimaginative campaigns that went before, at least Thomastown can look back on the action of 1993 and say, without fear of contradiction, that they made progress, and considerable progress at that.

There is simply not enough room at the top for everyone to mark progress with titles and silverware, but in the real sense of the word, Thomastown measured up this season, bearing in mind poor showings in the years that had gone before.

No miracles

In a bid to shake things up, Thomastown brought in former Kilkenny star goalkeeper, Noel Skehan to train and coach the intermediate squad. He made it known from the start that no one should expect miracles. They didn't get them.

What they did get was the implementation of a stiff regime of coaching, that called for discipline and a lot of honest work. By the season's end the players were enjoying their hurling better than for a long time, and they halted a slide that brought them very close to relegation in the not too distant past.

Fair enough, there was disappointment in not rejoining the senior ranks – they were last there in 1989 – but surely John Brennan, Damien Walsh, Melvin Holden, Tom and Billy O'Keefe, John and Michael Donnelly, Paul Treacy and the rest would have to admit their better input this time brought for better results. Titles, or the intermediate grade, are not won without sweat, and sometimes tears.

If the Thomastown players need reassurance of the definite progress they made, all they have to do is look down the road to Young Irelands (Gowran). The year after they lost an intermediate final, they bounced back to win it!

Yet again, the intermediate competitions lived up to their reputation of being hard to win. Mooncoin, for example, lost just two important games – League final and Championship semi-final – and ended up with nothing.

The Suirsiders are always tough nuts to crack. This year they sparked and sparked like a cigarette lighter that fails to ignite. Their hurling was good to a point, but it appeared to have a plateau, rather than a peak of performance. And that level of performance was just short of what was required.

John Mahon, Michael Kinsella, Joe Murphy, Domo Connolly, Tom Murphy, Mark Tyler, Michael Walsh and Eamon Mackey gave all that was in them for the good of the parish.

Inconsistent

The Rower-Inistioge lost out in the league semi-final against Mooncoin, and in the second round of the Championship, after a replay against the eventual winners. For their own good, their performances were too inconsistent, and good work in many quarters of the field didn't always show on the scoreboard.

Michael Mackey, Richard Bolger, Eddie Prendergast, Gerry Lyng, John Galvan,

James Lyng and Richie Kelly worked with tremendous will throughout. Like Mooncoin, they are not far off the level of performance needed to succeed, if the appetite has not been blunted by yet another empty season.

Bennettsbridge, who barely avoided the drop in 1992, hit back strongly this year. After three defeats in the opening three games of the League, they put a four match unbeaten run together, including a draw and replay against Conahy Shamrocks in the Championship, before their involvement was ended by O'Loughling-Gaels.

In fairness to the 'Bridge, the city side enjoyed any luck that was going in that match. The objective for the 'Bridge now must be to build on the foundations laid this time. Over to Liam Simpson, Eddie Wall, James McGarry, John Conlon, who returned after a few years out of action and made a big difference, Tim Drea, Fintan Cleere, the Lennons and company, in whose hands the future lies.

Carrickshock and Barrow Rangers (Paulstown) were neither involved in the tussle for honours, nor the fight against relegation. The prospects would appear bright enough for 'Shock, who have a few useful under-age players coming along.

Grasp the nettle

'Rangers need to be more serious about their approach if the big leap up to the top flight is to be made. They have plenty of hurling in them, as two quick championship wins at junior level (1988 and 1990), would indicate. Someone needs to grasp the nettle here!

The fight against relegation involved championship finalists of last season, Conahy Shamrocks as well as Graignamagh, Tullogher-Rosbercon and Glenmore. The latter lost out, and made the drop back to junior level.

Well Done to all Kilkenny teams in 1993
Best of Luck again in 1994

Conahy Shamrocks G.A.A. Club

St. Kieran's College 1993 - another excellent year

The phenomenal success of the school in senior hurling continued this year when the twelfth All-Ireland Senior crown was claimed at the expense of Our Lady's, Gort (see report elsewhere). We have contested the last seven finals and won five, bringing our total to a record-breaking twelve Croke Cups, one ahead of our great rivals, St. Flannan's, Ennis.

Congratulations to Denis Philpott, Seamus Knox and Art Anglin, the management team and thanks to all the staff who helped at various times, especially John Quane who was frequently called on to render expert first-aid. We are currently in the middle of our winter fitness training programme, the basis of much of our recent success.

At Juvenile level we were permitted to enter two under-14 teams for the first (and only) time and many young players who could not normally have worn the black and white in first year played very well against Birr C.S., Comer Community School and C.B.S. Kilkenny for the "B" team, being very unlucky to lose to the Offaly boys. The "A" team played very impressively in the early rounds and inflicted a crushing defeat on Enniscorthy C.B.S. in the Leinster semi-final by 7-16 to 0-3.

This may have proved our undoing, because shortly afterwards, in the Leinster final, we never really hurled with the fluency shown earlier and went down to a fine Good Counsel side by 2-6 to 1-7.

Despite this defeat, the team has great potential to go on and achieve success in the coming years. Team mentors were Tom Hogan and Pat Murphy, while Adrian Finan and Charlie Lynch took care of the "B" team.

Despite the fact that many of our students travel by bus to and from school and there are fewer boarders than yesterday, the hurling leagues are still played with enthusiasm and keen rivalry. Over 100 first and second years, none of whom were members of representative teams, took part under the supervision of Michael Forrest, and a new scheme organised by Pat Murphy, involving league and coaching sessions for third and fourth years, meant that almost 300 students were involved in competitive hurling in St. Kieran's during 1993.

Twelve staff members acted as coaches and team managers to Gaelic teams during the year and perhaps that is another reason why the College has been so successful in recent times.

The under 14 footballers had a good run to the South Leinster final, defeating Tullow C.S., Carlow C.B.S. and Good Counsel, New Ross, along the way. Extra time failed to separate ourselves and Patrician College, Newbridge, on our meeting but the Kildare team won well at the second attempt. Mentors, Neil Connolly and Philip Walsh worked hard with the players, who also enjoyed the visits of Meath coach, Colm Brady, and



St. Kieran's College captain Joe Philpott proudly displays the Croke Cup following his side's impressive win over St. Mary's (Gort) in the All-Ireland Colleges' final. Photo: Tom Brett

this team has the potential to be difficult opponents for all at under-16 level. Our under-16 footballers had a disappointing season, with no wins in the "A" league though they tried very hard.

Finally, it was delightful to see so many former hurlers return to the College for our reunion on 13 November. The day consisted of a golf outing, a hurling exhibition and a dinner dance and many old matches were replayed during the day's festivities.

Guests included G.A.A. President-Elect Jack Boothman, Minister for Sport Liam Aylward, himself a former Colleges' senior hurler with St. Kieran's; Bishop Forristal, and past players from the 1930's to the present day. A good time was had by all and it would be nice to see the reunion become an annual event.



ST. KIERAN'S - LEINSTER COLLEGES' JUNIOR HURLING WINNERS

Front Row: Barry Donohue, Jimmy Coogan, P.J. Coady, Mark Costigan, David Carroll (Capt.), Thomas Lawlor, John Murphy, Noel Hickey. Back Row: Gerry Kennedy, Liam Cahill, John Staunton, Willie Maher, Tomás O'Dowd, Michael Fogarty, Alan Geoghegan.

Kilkenny C.B.S. – a year of achievements

Kilkenny C.B.S. has a very proud sporting tradition and has been blessed with students of wonderful calibre over many years. As 1993 draws to a close we look back with pleasure and pride on some outstanding achievements by both our present and past pupils over the last year.

Shane Raggett, playing at right corner-back, captained his club Dunamaggin to win both the Kilkenny County U-16 Roinn "A" Hurling League and the County U-16 Roinn "A" hurling championship in 1993.

Derek Ralph captained the O'Loughlin Gaels Minor "B" team to win the Iarnród Éireann Minor "B" Hurling League 1993. Derek played outstandingly all year.

Michael Hoyne (Graigue-Ballycallan), having won the Co. Kilkenny Féile na nGael Poc Fada competition, went on to win the Leinster Final. He then represented his county in the All-Ireland Final which was held in Athenry, Co. Galway, and overcame all opposition to bring the title back to Kilkenny.

Mark Dunne, Michael Falsey and Alan Dowling also travelled to Galway in June for the All-Ireland Féile na nGael Handball Finals and emerged victorious, having beaten the best that Tipperary, Cork, Clare and Meath could produce. Well done to all.

We congratulate Dicksboro on winning the Kilkenny County Senior Hurling Championship 1993 after a lapse of 43 years. We were delighted to welcome their outstanding captain, John Marnell, back to



C.B.S. - LEINSTER JUNIOR COLLEGES HURLING FINALISTS '93

Back Row (from left): Richie Barry, Brendan Cleere, Douglas McCann, Paddy Walsh, Dick Carroll, David McCormack, Derek Deegan, Micheál Hoyne. Front Row (from left): Brian Power, John Hoyne, James Cullinane, Adrian Kealy, Paul Hoyne, Keith Kinsella, Liam O'Brien.

our school with the Walsh Cup. John is a past pupil of the C.B.S. as are 24 members of the Dicksboro panel.

Michael Walsh, Kilkenny's outstanding net-minder, also returned to the school with the McCarthy Cup. We wish Michael well, as he will captain the Kilkenny Senior Hurling team for 1994 and we hope that he will be returning again next year with the cup.

We also congratulate Mick O'Flynn, P.E. teacher at the C.B.S., on the marvellous work he has done over the last 3 years in preparing the Kilkenny Senior hurlers to win two All-Ireland championships.

Two more past pupils, Kevin Grogan (James Stephens) and John Ayres (Dicksboro) played starring roles with the Kilkenny Minor hurling team who won the All-Ireland championship in September. We were also delighted to welcome them back to the school with the Irish Press Cup.

The C.B.S. Junior hurlers had another outstanding campaign and made a valiant

effort to put two titles back to back. The campaign started in New Ross in early October and after a mighty effort Good Counsel College had a very narrow win. The C.B.S. boys then had a comfortable victory over Castlecomer C.S. and followed that with a tremendous victory over St. Peter's College, Wexford, in Wexford, to earn a semi-final spot against Callan C.B.S. in Nowlan Park. A very good display here and the James's Street boys emerged victorious on the scoreline: Kilkenny C.B.S. 2-8, Callan C.B.S. 0-5.

The final was played on Nov. 17 in Nowlan Park and what a game we had. After one of the best games of hurling seen in the Park for many a day, the 'ould enemy' St. Kieran's carried the day by the slenderest of margins: St. Kieran's 2-8, Kilkenny C.B.S. 2-7.

We congratulate both teams on their outstanding display and we look forward to many more epic encounters in the future.



Front Row (l-r): Micheál Hoyne (All-Ireland U-14 Poc Fada Champion); Adrian Hudson (Captain C.B.S. Junior Champions '92); Michael Walsh (Kilkenny & Dicksboro Goalkeeper); John Marnell (Captain Dicksboro, Kilkenny Senior Co. Champions '93); Mick O'Flynn (Trainer, Kilkenny Senior Hurling Team). Back Row (l-r): Shane Raggett (Captain Dunamaggin U-16 team); Kevin Grogan (Kilkenny Minor); Derek Ralph (Captain O'Loughlin Gaels Minor Hurlers); John Ayres (Kilkenny Minor); Alan Dowling, Michael Falsey, Mark Dunne (Féile na nGael Handball Winners).

Callan C.B.S. - Rice Cup Champions 1993

The Rice Cup is a tournament organised at under-14 level and confined to Christian Brothers' schools. Despite the fact that only two Leinster schools out of an entry of twenty-two schools play in this most keenly contested competition, it is an interesting reflection of the quality of Colleges' hurling that those said schools - CBS Callan and CBS Kilkenny - have dominated the competition in the last two years.

Callan entered this year's campaign fresh from a one point defeat by Kilkenny CBS in the 1992 final. Their first outing saw them defeat a game Clonmel CBS side by 5-7 to 4-0. Callan took on their city rivals to decide the top spot in the group. In a match worthy of a final, such was the ferocity of the contest, Dunamaggin's Ramie Cahill rammed home an equalising goal in the fifth minute of injury time from a twenty metre free to level the scores. However, both sides went through to the quarter-finals, there to meet strong Tipperary opposition.

Thurles CBS duly accounted for Kilkenny CBS and so it was left to the Callan

lads to fly the standard for Leinster against a competent and confident Cashel CBS side. Played in Clogheen on a glorious April day, both sides dished up a marvellous display of juvenile hurling. In the end, the major difference between the sides was Callan goalkeeper Niall McCormack, who made a succession of excellent saves to thwart a potential Cashel fight-back. Callan prevailed on a 2-7 to 0-6 scoreline, with M. Holmes (Tullaroan) and J. O'Neill (John Lockes) scoring the goals.

Nenagh CBS were the next victims in the Rice Cup semi-final, played in Semple Stadium, and what a game that proved to be! In a very high scoring game, and under huge pressure in the final quarter, the Callan defence held out brilliantly to edge through by the slenderest of margins, 3-10 to 4-6, with super performances from John Hickey, Dermot Burke, Willie Kearney and Matt Enright.

The final, in Clonmel, pitted Callan - the school with one of the smallest numbers in the competition - against Thurles CBS.

Unfortunately, the game was played in dreadful weather conditions, which gave

neither side an opportunity to display their talents to the full. It is not surprising that scores were low but Callan got the first real break in the game with a Frank Manogue (Danesfort) goal just before half-time to give them a 1-1 to 0-1 lead.

Shortly after the resumption, Paul McKenna (Windgap) goaled for Callan, but from then to the finish (including seven minutes of overtime) the pressure was on the Callan defence.

Finally, to the relief of the Callan faithful, victory came on a scoreline of 2-1 to 1-2, a fine win to add to the victories of 1968 and 1986 in the same competition.

The make-up of the panel saw practically every school in the catchment area represented: N. Foxe, P. O'Brien (Mullinahone), M. Enright, P. McKenna, A. Mackey, G. Power (Windgap), R. Cahill, W. Kearney, J. Hickey (capt.), N. McCormack (Dunamaggin), J.P. Corcoran, D. Burke, J. Gormley, J. O'Neill, M. Dunne, M. Roche, R. Power, K. Doheny (John Lockes), F. Manogue (Danesfort), S. O'Neill, M. Holmes, J. Delaney, M. Cleere (Tullaroan), S. Ryall (Graig-Ballycallan), B. Cantwell (Carrickshock).



Back (l-r): Sam Ryall (GBC), Mr. D. O'Hanlon (Principal), Paul McKenna (Windgap), Seamus O'Neill (Tullaroan), Frank Manogue (Danesfort), Frank McKenna *Trainer, Willie Kearney (Dunamaggin), Mark Holmes (Tullaroan), John Delaney (Tullaroan), Ramie Cahill (Dunamaggin), John Paul Corcoran (John Lockes), Joe Gormley (John Lockes), Brian Cantwell (Carrickshock), Eddie Keher (A.I.B. Callan, sponsors), Damien Burke (John Lockes), Adrian Cunningham (Danesfort). Front (l-r): Michael Roche (John Lockes), Garret Power (Windgap), Paul O'Brien (Mullinahone), Declan Burke (John Lockes), Aidan Mackey (Windgap), John O'Neill (John Lockes), John Hickey (Dunamaggin, capt.), Matthew Enright (Windgap), Niall McCormack (Dunamaggin), Milo Cleere (Tullaroan), Keith Doheny (John Lockes), Michael Dunne (John Lockes), Ray Power (John Lockes).
Photo: Tom Brett

Dr. Barry Memorial Cup

Good Counsel College 2-6
St. Kieran's 1-7

In a most exciting Leinster Juvenile (U14) "A" hurling final played at Dr. Cullen Park, Carlow, Good Counsel College retained the Dr. Tom Barry Memorial Cup, against great rivals St. Kieran's, Kilkenny. Good Counsel won this trophy for the first time last year, breaking St. Kieran's

stronghold on the cup over the previous 12 years.

In this year's Leinster championship St. Kieran's had been playing some great hurling, easily disposing of all the opposition in their group. In the semi-final they beat Enniscorthy C.B.S. by 7-16 to 0-3 and they went into the final as firm favourites.

Within 2 mins. Good Counsel had

already made their mark on the game by scoring 1-1. The goal came from Michael Sinnott and the point from Michael Doyle. This determination by Good Counsel was to prevail through the game. At half-time Good Counsel led by 2-2 to 0-5, and early in the second half they extended their lead to 5 points - two from Michael Doyle and one from Thomas Howlin. The final 20

minutes saw St. Kieran's make a valiant effort to come back and win this match, but a magnificent display by the Good Counsel defence, and in particular goalie Niall Mackey, denied them victory.

All the Good Counsel team put in an exceptional effort, inspired by the leadership of Michael Doyle, and this gave them a fully merited victory over their more fancied opponents.

Scorers: Good Counsel - Ml. Doyle 0-3, Ml. Sinnott 1-0, T. Hogan 1-0, P. Sheehan, T. Howlin, F. McWilliam 0-1 each.

St. Kieran's - B. O'Shea 0-4, N. Hickey 1-0, B. O'Donnell 0-2, H. Shefflin 0-1.

Team: Niall Mackey (Glenmore), Edward Lawless (Ballygarrett), John Phelan (Tullagher), Shane Hickey (Cushinstown), Thomas Howlin (Horeswood), Thomas Digby (Rower/Inistioge), Ollie Murphy (Gusserane), Shane Barron (Rathnure), James Tierney (Rower/Inistioge), Paul Sheahan (Rower/Inistioge), Michael Doyle (Rower/Inistioge), Philip Wallace (Gusserane), Nigel Higgins (Rathnure), Michael Sinnott (Buffers Alley), Trevor Hogan (Rathnure).

Subs: Fergal MacWilliams (Horeswood) for Nigel Higgins.



GOOD COUNSEL - LEINSTER COLLEGES JUVENILE "A" HURLING CHAMPIONS

Front Row (l-r): Mr. Mick Purcell, Fergal McWilliams (Horeswood), Thomas Howlin (Horeswood), Michael Doyle (Rower/Inistioge, capt.), Trevor Hogan (Rathnure, vice-capt.), Mr. Tom Walsh, Fr. John Cosgrove O.S.A. 2nd Row: John Barron (Kilmacow), Michael O'Hanlon (Horeswood), Karl Lawlor (Borris), Michael Sinnott (Buffers Alley), Paul Sheehan (Rower/Inistioge), Ollie Murphy (Gusserane), Paul Bolger (Rathgarogue/Cushinstown), Nigel Higgins (Rathnure), Nickey Kenny (Rower/Inistioge). 3rd Row: Philip Wallace (Gusserane), Stephen Hunt (Horeswood), Thomas Digby (Rower/Inistioge), Michael Redmond (Rathnure), Mark McCaughley (Horeswood), Shane Hickey (Rathgarogue/Cushinstown), Martin Bolger (Graignamanagh). Back Row: Edward Lawless (Ballygarrett), Patrick Kehoe (Horeswood), John Phelan (Tullagher), Shane Barron (Rathnure), James Tierney (Rower/Inistioge), Niall Mackey (Glenmore).

GOOD COUNSEL - THE KILKENNY CONNECTION

The County Kilkenny connection with Good Counsel College is a long and happy one. For day boys, it is mainly a south Kilkenny connection, with some boarders from further afield. The parishes/clubs principally represented among the Kilkenny students are Glenmore, Tullagher/Rosbercon, The Rower/Inistioge and Graignamanagh.

Up to the late seventies, the total Good Counsel College enrolment was well under 200 students and the Kilkenny connection was correspondingly slight: because Good Counsel's impact on Colleges' games was considerably less than it is at present. We usually played in Division "B" in all Leinster competitions.

All-Ireland Senior Football "B" Champions 1993



Front Row (l-r): Kevin Kehoe, John Murphy (St. James), Edward Whelan (Gusserane), **Ciaran Lynch (Glenmore) Capt.**, Raymond Roche (Tullagher-Rosbercon), Aidan O'Brien, Fr. John Cosgrave, O.S.A. Second Row (l-r): Paddy Mullally (Glenmore), Jason Lawlor (Adamstown), Jim Kelly (The Rower-Inistioge), Ollie Murphy (Gusserane), John Phelan (Glenmore), Paul Fitzgerald (Glenmore), Brian Deely (Horeswood). Third Row (l-r): Cathal McManus (Davidstown-Courtmacuddy), Brendan Bolger (The Rower-Inistioge), Diarmuid Howling (Horeswood), Philip Hennessy (Geraldine O'Hanrahans), Brian O'Shea (Glenmore), Richie Galway (Adamstown), Michael O'Leary (Rathnure). Back Row (l-r): Richie Purcell (Adamstown), James Bolger (Rathgarogue-Cushinstown), Michael Higgins (Kilenerin), Adrian Purcell (Adamstown), Martin Byrne (Rathnure), David Shannon (Horeswood), Liam Foley (Horeswood).



Sportsman of the Year '92/'93 Good Counsel College, John Phelan, Glenmore, and Fr. John Cosgrave, O.S.A.

However, notable GAA Kilkenny names emerge from these years . . . the Heffernans of Glenmore, the O'Connors of Ballyfacey etc. In the All-Ireland senior hurling final of 1992, five past pupils from

Glenmore actually played on the day: Eddie and Willie O'Connor, Michael Phelan, Liam Walsh and Christy Heffernan - the "Famous Five" of another story! Among the subs. was Michael Morrissey of

Cuala, Dublin.

The College was rebuilt and relocated on a 40-acre site in the early '80's. We now have a thriving student group of some 620 students, with the best of facilities, which includes 6 pitches, and a new sports hall about to come on stream.

The College, now in 1993-1994, competes in Division "A" of all Leinster Colleges competitions in hurling and football. We were fortunate to win out the division "B" Senior football All-Ireland in 1992-1993 before being promoted.

At hurling level a couple of Junior "A" and two Juvenile "A" hurling champion-

ship wins back-to-back came our way in recent years. Maybe we will eventually make the breakthrough at senior level! All these years we have been overshadowed by our giant neighbours, St. Peter's in Wexford and the Kilkenny schools with such long hurling traditions, none more so than St. Kieran's College.

In 1992-1993, our senior football team was captained by Ciaran Lynch, son of Michael N.T., of Glenmore. Ciaran was also the nominee of his classmates as "Student of the Year". The other notables from Glenmore were Patrick Mullally (Head Boy, 1992-1993 and captain of the senior

hurling team), John Phelan (Sportsman of the Year), Paul Fitzgerald and Brian O'Shea.

Tullagher was also represented by a mighty corner back, Raymond Roche. There were two distinguished representatives from The Rower/Inistioge, Brendan Bolger and Jim Kelly. It was a fabulous year for Brendan and Jim as both won College Leinster and All-Ireland football medals with Good Counsel, and Minor hurling medals with Kilkenny. They capped it off with county minor medals with their club.

Congratulations to you, one and all.
Beir buadh agus beannacht!

Kildalton's Sixth Hurling Title

Kildalton..... 1-5
Rockwell..... 0-7

Kildalton College defeated Rockwell in this year's All-Ireland Agricultural Colleges' hurling final at a very wet and dreary Ardfinnan. The foundations for this victory were laid in early March, and it was the 30th of April before the first round took place against arch rivals, Pallaskerry. It was a facile victory, with Kildalton achieving victory on the score 4-12 to 0-3. The semi-final was against Mountbellew and they, like Pallaskerry, were no match for the Kildalton lads on the score: Kildalton 2-12, Mountbellew 1-2.

The final was to prove a very difficult obstacle for Kildalton. Rockwell were installed as firm favourites and from the throw-in they stamped their authority on this game and raced into an early lead, scoring three excellent points in as many minutes. Such was the dominance of this Rockwell team that it took Kildalton 14 minutes to register its first score, a point from a free by Ollie Dunphy.

It was after that score that Kildalton had its biggest let-off when a long clearance by Mick Lacey found Liam McEvoy, who literally walked through the Kildalton defence only to see his final effort hit the side netting. On the puck out, it was Ollie Dunphy who gathered from Ed. Drea to score his second point. Now Mick Owens was operating at centre-forward and, in typical Owens manner, took on the Rockwell defence to score a great individual point and bring the teams level. However, Rockwell were having none of it and replied with two points in quick succession to leave the half-time score: Rockwell 0-5, Kildalton 0-3.

With monsoon conditions continuing, both teams resumed the second half full of determination and served up some splendid hurling. It was the eighth minute before either team registered a score, but what a score it was! A well-taken sideline by Niall Kehoe found Mick Owens, who took on the entire Rockwell defence and, from an almost impossible angle, rifled the ball into the Rockwell net. Kildalton were in the lead for the first time.

The lead was short-lived as Richard Doyle evened up matters with a point for Rockwell. On the puck-out, Ed Drea won the ball near the middle of the field and was fouled. The resultant free was taken by Ollie Dunphy, who duly tapped the ball over the bar to put Kildalton in the lead once more. With only five minutes remaining, and with everything to play for, Rockwell's Mick Fenton

levelled once more, only to see Kildalton's Francis O'Driscoll slot over the winning point to give Kildalton its sixth title.

This was a very good team performance by Kildalton, but one must single out "man of the match", Mick Fitzgerald, for his performance not alone in the final, but throughout the entire campaign. And not far behind was scorer-in-chief Michael Owens and captain Ed Drea. Best for Rockwell were: Jim Ryan, Mick Fenton and Liam McEvoy.

Scorers:

Kildalton: M. Owens (1-1), O. Dunphy (0-3), F. O'Driscoll (0-1). **Rockwell:** L. McEvoy (0-3), M. Fenton (0-2), A. Butler (0-1), R. Doyle (0-1).

Kildalton: J. Downey, W. O'Brien, J. Shields, B. Noonan, J. Whelan, M. Fitzgerald, T. Walsh, N. Kehoe, E. Drea (Capt.), F. O'Driscoll, D. Drislane, O. Dunphy, P. Maher, M. Owens, J. Langton. *Sub:* J. Minogue for P. Maher.

Rockwell: D. Holohan, S. McGrath, A. Butler, E. Rothwell, J. Ryan, R. Doyle, T.J. Farrell, N. Lacey, M. Fenton, D. Kiely, L. Carroll, M. Healy, J. Gleeson, L. McEvoy, Ml. Healy.

Referee: Willie Barrett (Tipperary).

Dolores Tyrrell

The untimely death of Dolores Tyrrell at the early age of 32 (nee Hallinan) leaves a deep vacuum in the lives of her family, friends and colleagues. Dolores passed away on Sunday, 31st October, at

a Dublin hospital.

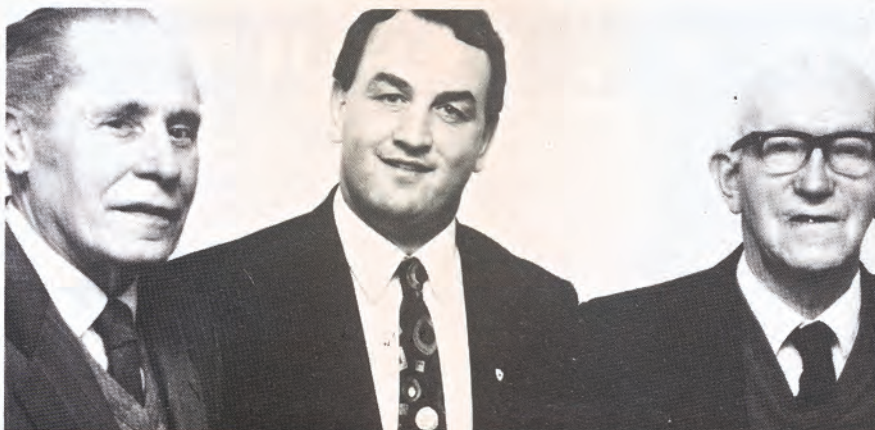
Dolores was a very talented athlete, excelling at football, camogie and badminton. She was the holder of ten All-Irelands, all achieved with Ballymacarbery, and Waterford Ladies' Football teams. In 1987, she had the honour of captaining her club to All-Ireland honours and that same year was chosen as Sports Star of the Year. An All-Star award followed in 1988, and for the next two years, 1989 and 1990, she had the distinction of representing her province on the Munster Football team.

However, in 1991 and 1992, Dolores witchèd her allegiance to camogie and played on the victorious St. Mary's camogie team, winning two county titles. At Badminton, Dolores was also a champion winning Ladies' Junior and Senior County doubles titles.

An employee of Teagasc at Kildalton College, Dolores took over the training of the college's hurling team in the last three years and her motivation and will to win brought success on her first attempt in 1991. This year her determination was never more evident than when she left her hospital bed on the day of the final to help coach the victorious 1993 All-Ireland winning Kildalton team. Dolores was a wonderful friend, always willing to help, and her passing is a great loss to all those she came in contact with. She is sadly mourned, especially by her husband Jerome (Grangemockler), parents Frank and Emily (Newcastle), her brother Michael, sisters Mary, Detty, Emmy, Lily, mother-in-law Philomena and her numerous circle of relatives, friends and neighbours. Ar dheis Dé go raibh a h-anam.



Kildalton. Back (l-r): Denis Drislane, Michael Fitzgerald, Francis O'Driscoll, John Shields, Tom Walsh, John Downey, Brendan Noonan, Oliver Dunphy, Michael Owens. Front (l-r): Patrick Maher, Noel Kehoe, Edward Drea (Capt.), Walter O'Brien, John Whelan and Joe Langton.



For the first time in 1992 the Kilkenny G.A.A. County Board included a Hall of Fame category in its annual awards. The first recipients of the awards were long serving G.A.A. officials Joe Walsh (Thomastown), current secretary of the Southern Board G.A.A. and John Ivory, former secretary of the Northern Board G.A.A. Both are pictured at the awards ceremony with Nickey Brennan, Chairman Kilkenny G.A.A. County Board.

(Photo: Tom Brett)



G.A.A. President Peter Quinn greets Rosie Lanigan on big match day in Croke Park.

Gerry is the man to talk to on Rose Inn Street, Kilkenny.

(Give him a call)

Next time you're in town call in to see Gerry McGovern, Manager of National Irish Bank.

Whatever your financial requirements - farming, business or personal, we have the products and services designed to meet your needs. For loans, a wide range of savings products, mortgages, credit cards, business advice and finance, you'll be better off banking with us at National Irish Bank Kilkenny. Then once you've got an idea of how innovative we are, we're quietly confident you'll be dropping by on a regular basis...



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Telephone: (056) 61055/61070**

National Irish  Bank

KILKENNY G.A.A. RESULTS

Credit Union Senior Hurling Championship Final
Dicksboro 0-12 Fenians 0-12
(draw)

Dicksboro 2-9 Fenians 1-9

Credit Union Senior Hurling League Final
Fenians 3-12 Erin's Own 2-12

Vale Oil Intermediate Hurling Championship Final
John Locke's 3-11 Thomastown 2-12

Vale Oil Intermediate Hurling League Final
O'Loughlin Gaels 1-14 Mooncoin 2-10

Junior Hurling Championship Final
St. Lachtain's 3-14 Kilmacow 1-7
(Freshford)

Nissan Northern Junior Hurling Championship Final
St. Lachtain's (Freshford) 5-10 Blacks & Whites 1-10

Iverk Produce Southern Junior Hurling Championship Final
Kilmacow 0-8 Piltown 0-6

Special Junior 'A' County Championship Final
Mooncoin 3-12 Dicksboro 3-7

Special Junior 'B' County Championship Final
James Stephens 2-7 Glenmore 0-8

Nissan Northern Special Junior 'A' Championship Final
Dicksboro 1-18 St. Martins 0-2

Nissan Northern Special Junior 'B' Championship Final
James Stephens 0-18 Tullaroan 1-13

Iverk Produce Southern Special Junior 'A' Championship Final
Mooncoin 2-13 Mullinavat 1-7

Iverk Produce Southern Special Junior 'B' Championship Final
Glenmore 1-9 Kilmacow 0-11

Nissan Northern Junior Hurling League -- Division I Final
James Stephens 1-16 Galmoy 2-11

Nissan Northern Junior Hurling League -- Division II Final
Dicksboro Erin's Own
(to be played)

Nissan Northern Junior Hurling League -- Division III Final
Danesfort 5-9 Tullaroan 2-12

Iverk Produce Southern Junior Hurling League Final
Dunamaggin 0-6 Piltown 0-5

Byrne Cup Open Draw Final
Mooncoin 1-8 St. Martin's 1-8 (draw)
Mooncoin 1-13 St. Martin's 1-9

Junior Hurling Open Draw Final
Dunamaggin 4-12 Kilmacow 1-6

Paddy Cahill Junior Hurling Final
Galmoy Lisdowney
(to be played)

Under-21 Hurling Roinn 'A' Final
(to be played)

Under-21 Hurling Roinn 'B' Final
Dunamaggin 6-19 St. Martin's 2-6

Under-21 Hurling (11-a-side) Final
(To be played)

Senior Football Championship Final
James Stephens 1-7 Railyard 0-10 (draw)
James Stephens 4-10 Railyard 0-7

Intermediate Football Championship Final
Barrow Rangers 2-6 Clara 1-6

Junior Football Championship Final
Piltown 1-10 Blacks and Whites 1-4

Special Junior Football Championship Final
Railyard 2-10 Mooncoin 0-4

Iarnrod Eireann Minor Hurling 'A' Championship Final
Dunamaggin 1-11 St. Lachtain's 1-6
(Freshford)

Iarnrod Eireann Minor Hurling Roinn 'B' C'ship Final
Rower-Inistioge 0-11 Lisdowney 1-6

Iarnrod Eireann Minor Hurling Roinn 'C' C'ship Final
Emeralds 2-17 Carrickshock 1-8

Iarnrod Eireann Minor Hurling Roinn 'A' League Final
James Stephens 2-4 Glenmore 1-2

Iarnrod Eireann Minor Hurling Roinn 'B' League Final
O'Loughlin Gaels 1-9 Lisdowney 1-3

Iarnrod Eireann Minor Hurling Roinn 'C' League Final
Emeralds 4-12 Galmoy 2-3

Supermac's Under-16 Hurling Roinn 'A' C'ship Final
Dunamaggin 4-6 James Stephens 4-5

Supermac's Under-16 Hurling Roinn 'B' C'ship Final
Rower-Inistioge 1-10 Fenians 0-8

Supermac's Under-16 Hurling Roinn 'C' C'ship Final
Mullinavat 3-7 Bennettsbridge 0-6

Supermac's Under-16 Hurling Roinn 'A' League Final
Dunamaggin 5-4 Dicksboro 5-2

Supermac's Under-16 Hurling Roinn 'B' League Final
John Lockes 4-8 Fenians 0-4

Supermac's Under-16 Hurling Roinn 'C' League Final
(11-a-side)
Bennettsbridge 4-18 Tullogher-Rosbercon 3-4

Supermac's Under-14 Hurling Roinn 'A' C'ship Final
James Stephens 4-7 Craigue/Ballycallan 2-6

Supermac's Under-14 Hurling Roinn 'B' C'ship Final
Thomastown 2-2 Ballyhale Shamrocks 0-6

Supermac's Under-14 Hurling Roinn 'C' C'ship Final
St. Patrick's (Ballyragget) 1-9 Conahy Shamrocks 1-5

Under-14 Féile na nGael Final
(Paddy Grace Memorial Tournament)
James Stephens 3-8 Craigue/Ballycallan 2-9

Supermac's Under-14 Hurling Roinn 'C' League Final
(11-a-side)
Conahy Shamrocks 7-9 Tullogher-Rosbercon 3-4

Under-13 Hurling Roinn 'A' County Final
Kilkenny C.B.S. 3-4 Kilmoghney 1-5

Under-13 Hurling Roinn 'B' County Final
St. Patrick's (Ballyragget) 0-10 Mullinavat 2-2

Under-13 Hurling Roinn 'C' County Final
Tullaroan 2-9 Clara 0-1

Under-13 Hurling Roinn 'D' County Final
Sieverue 2-8 Carrickshock 2-1

Under-13 Hurling Roinn 'E' Co. Final (11-a-side)
Windgap 2-6 Stoneyford 1-3

Under-13 Hurling Country Cup Final
Rower-Inistioge 3-5 Young Ireland's 3-4

Minor Football Championship Roinn 'A' Final
To be played

Minor Football Championship Roinn 'B' Final
To be played

Under-21 Football Championship Roinn 'A' Final
To be played

Under-21 Football Championship Roinn 'B' Final
To be played

Supermac's Under-16 Football Roinn 'A' C'ship Final
James Stephens 4-10 Piltown 0-7

Supermac's Under-16 Football Roinn 'B' C'ship Final
Railyard 0-11 Kilmoghney 1-7

Supermac's Under-16 Football Roinn 'A' League Final
James Stephens 1-8 Dicksboro 1-6

Supermac's Under-16 Football Roinn 'B' League Final
Railyard 2-8 John Lockes 2-5

Supermac's Under-14 Football Roinn A C'ship Final
Dicksboro 5-4; James Stephens 3-3

Supermac's Under-14 Football Roinn 'B' C'ship Final
Thomastown 0-3 Craigue/Ballycallan 0-3
(Draw)

Thomastown 3-4 Craigue/Ballycallan 1-7

Under-13 Football Roinn 'A' Championship Final
Kilkenny C.B.S. 3-5 St. Patrick's De La Salle 1-2

Under-13 Football Roinn 'B' Championship Final
Urlingford 2-5 Moneenroe 0-2

Under-13 Football Country Cup Final
Thomastown 0-5 Dunamaggin 1-6



FACES COMPETITION

Find:

1. A Cork midfield player. (Clue: a dual player)
2. A Wexford back (a close friend of Eamon Morrissey!)
3. A Galway forward (well-known farmer).
4. A Tipperary forward (very cunning).
5. An inter-county referee.
6. A future G.A.A. President.
7. A Radio Kilkenny Hospitals Requests host.
8. Brothers, side by side.

First 4 Correct Entries Drawn receive £25.00 each.

Entries, on a postcard, to: **Brendan O'Sullivan, Thomastown**

Closing date: **1st February, 1994**

RESULTS UPDATE – KILKENNY COUNTY FINALS SINCE 1983

These results were compiled by Tom Ryall (P.R.O.) and Gerry O'Neill. They are a continuation of the results sequence listed in "Kilkenny – The G.A.A. Story 1884-1984" By Tom Ryall.

SENIOR HURLING CHAMPIONSHIP FINALS

1984	Nowlan Park	Sept. 30	St. Martin's	1-14	Ballyhale Shamrocks	1-7
1985	Nowlan Park	Sept. 28	Ballyhale Shamrocks	4-18	Glenmore	3-13
1986	Nowlan Park	Sept. 28	Clara	3-10	Ballyhale Shamrocks	4-5
1987	Nowlan Park	Nov. 1	Glenmore	4-10	Ballyhale Shamrocks	3-9
1988	Nowlan Park	Oct. 2	Ballyhale Shamrocks	2-15	Thomastown	0-4
1989	Nowlan Park	Oct. 1	Ballyhale Shamrocks	2-11	Glenmore	1-13
1990	Nowlan Park	Oct. 7	Glenmore	3-15	Clara	2-6
1991	Nowlan Park	Oct. 13	Ballyhale Shamrocks	3-16	St. Martin's	1-8
1992	Nowlan Park	Oct. 11	Glenmore	1-14	Tullaroan	2-6

INTERMEDIATE HURLING FINALS

1984	Callan	Nov. 4	St. Lachtains	2-14	Craignamanagh	1-5
1985	Nowlan Park	Oct. 13	Craignamanagh	4-11	Piltown	2-10
1986	Nowlan Park	Oct. 19	Conahy Shamrocks	1-10	Piltown	1-7
1987	Nowlan Park	Oct. 11	Craigue/Ballycallan	2-8	O'Loughlin Gaels	2-8
1988	Nowlan Park	Nov. 8	Craigue/Ballycallan	2-5	O'Loughlin Gaels	0-8
1988	Nowlan Park	Sept. 25	Tullaroan	4-13	Piltown	2-12
1989	Nowlan Park	Sept. 24	Mullinavat	2-13	Young Irelands	0-14
1990	Nowlan Park	Oct. 21	Mooncoin	4-9	Thomastown	1-9
1991	Nowlan Park	Oct. 27	Dicksboro	4-9	Young Irelands	2-8
1992	Nowlan Park	Oct. 18	Young Irelands	2-12	Conahy Shamrocks	1-7

COUNTY JUNIOR HURLING FINALS

1984	Callan	Oct. 21	Mullinavat	3-9	Emeralds	1-5
1985	Nowlan Park	Oct. 13	Craigue/Ballycallan	1-12	John Lockes	3-4
1986	Nowlan Park	Oct. 19	Windgap	1-11	Danesfort	2-1
1987	Nowlan Park	Oct. 11	John Lockes	2-17	Galmoy	3-8
1988	Nowlan Park	Sept. 25	Barrow Rangers	4-12	Slievenue	0-11
1989	Nowlan Park	Sept. 24	Tullagher/Rosbercon	2-15	Galmoy	3-8
1990	Nowlan Park	Oct. 21	Barrow Rangers	3-5	Kilmacow	2-8
1990	Nowlan Park	Nov. 11	Barrow Rangers	2-8	Kilmacow	2-8 (normal time)
1991	Nowlan Park	Oct. 27	Barrow Rangers	6-9	Kilmacow	3-10 (extra time)
1991	Nowlan Park	Oct. 27	Glenmore	3-7	St. Lachtain's	0-12
1992	Nowlan Park	Sept. 13	Tullagher/Rosbercon	2-13	Blacks and Whites	1-10

SPECIAL JUNIOR HURLING COUNTY FINALS – ROINN A

1984	Callan	Oct. 21	St. Martin's	3-7	Glenmore	2-5
1985	Nowlan Park	Sept. 21	Erin's Own	4-11	Glenmore	3-10
1986	Thomastown	Oct. 4	James Stephens	3-11	Craignamanagh	0-1
1987	Thomastown	Sept. 27	Rower-Inistioge	1-10	Bennettsbridge	1-4
1988	Callan	Sept. 25	Cloneen	1-8	Glenmore	1-8
1988	Nowlan Park	Oct. 30	Cloneen	2-10	Glenmore	0-4
1989	Callan	Sept. 23	Glenmore	4-5	Young Irelands	2-6
1990	Nowlan Park	Sept. 15	Clara	1-12	Ballyhale Shamrocks	0-4
1991	Callan	Oct. 5	Thomastown	1-8	Young Irelands	1-8
1991	Nowlan Park	Oct. 20	Thomastown	3-4	Young Ireland	0-9
1992	Palmerstown	Sept. 26	Fenians	5-7	Ballyhale Shamrocks	0-11

SPECIAL JUNIOR HURLING COUNTY FINALS – ROINN B

1983	Callan	Oct. 23	Emeralds	2-8	Mooncoin	1-4
1984	Nowlan Park	Oct. 7	Conahy Shamrocks	2-10	Carrickshock	1-7
1985	Nowlan Park	Oct. 6	Young Irelands	1-9	Mullinavat	2-4
1986	Nowlan Park	Oct. 12	Mullinavat	2-13	Tullaroan	1-6
1987	Nowlan Park	Sept. 27	Cloneen	1-8	John Lockes	1-4
1989	John's Park	Oct. 2	John Lockes	4-8	Tullaroan	2-6
1989	Callan	Oct. 15	Craigue/Ballycallan	2-9	Piltown	3-6
1989	Callan	Oct. 22	Craigue/Ballycallan	0-16	Piltown	0-8
1990	Callan	Oct. 20	Piltown	2-8	O'Loughlin Gaels	2-8
1991	Callan	Nov. 10	Piltown	2-10	O'Loughlin Gaels	3-5
1991	Callan	Sept. 7	Bennettsbridge	1-9	Carrickshock	1-5
1992	John's Park	Sept. 27	Mullinavat	0-6	Barrow Rangers	0-5

UNDER-21 HURLING COUNTY FINALS – ROINN A

1984	Callan	Nov. 25	Clara	3-8	Glenmore	1-14
1984	Callan	Dec. 16	Clara	1-7	Glenmore	1-6
1985	Nowlan Park	Oct. 27	Bennettsbridge	2-10	Craignamanagh	0-6
1986	Hugginstown	Nov. 16	Dicksboro	3-10	Glenmore	1-5
1987	Hugginstown	Dec. 13	James Stephens	5-10	John Lockes	2-3
1988	Nowlan Park	Nov. 12	Glenmore	0-11	Tullaroan	0-7
1989	Nowlan Park	Dec. 17	Erin's Own	2-9	Ballyhale Shamrocks	1-5
1990	Nowlan Park	Jan. 6/91	Erin's Own	w.o.	Ballyhale Shamrocks	(scr.)
1991	Nowlan Park	Dec. 1	Dicksboro	1-7	Craignamanagh-Blacks & W's	0-5
1992	Thomastown	Dec. 6	Dicksboro	3-9	Craignamanagh-Blacks & W's	1-4

UNDER-21 COUNTY HURLING FINALS – ROINN B

1984	Callan	Nov. 4	Slievenue	2-10	Fenians	1-6
1985	Nowlan Park	Nov. 3	Young Ireland's	5-6	Piltown	4-2
1986	Nowlan Park	Dec. 14	Carrickshock	1-6	St. Martin's	0-5
1987	Nowlan Park	Dec. 13	Fenians	1-10	Rower-Inistioge	1-10

Nowlan Park	Jan. 31/88	Fenians	0-10	Rower/Inistioge	1-7	
Nowlan Park	Feb. 14/88	Fenians	2-9	Rower/Inistioge	1-10	
1988	Nowlan Park	Nov. 13	Conahy Shamrocks	6-14	Rower/Inistioge	1-5
1989	Nowlan Park	Nov. 19	St. Martin's	2-6	Carrickshock	1-5
1990	Thomastown	Dec. 23	Barrow Rangers	4-4	Tullagher/Rosbercon	2-2
1991	Nowlan Park	Nov. 24	Rower/Inistioge	4-7	Tullaroan	0-0
1992	Callan	Dec. 13	St. Lachtain's	2-12	Carrickshock	2-8

SPECIAL UNDER-21 COUNTY HURLING FINALS (11-a-side)

1992	John's Park	Nov. 8	Galmoy	8-10	Windgap	2-3
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MINOR HURLING COUNTY FINALS – ROINN A

1984	Callan	Oct. 28	John Lockes	2-11	Erin's Own	1-8
1985	Nowlan Park	Sept. 29	James Stephens	1-11	Thomastown	2-4
1986	Nowlan Park	Sept. 28	James Stephens	4-12	Craignamanagh	3-7
1987	Nowlan Park	Nov. 1	Erin's Own	1-10	Thomastown	0-6
1988	Nowlan Park	Oct. 2	Fenians	4-16	Thomastown	1-8
1989	Nowlan Park	Oct. 1	Young Ireland's	1-18	Mooncoin	1-6
1990	Nowlan Park	Nov. 11	Dicksboro	0-10	Craignamanagh	0-5
1991	Nowlan Park	Oct. 28	James Stephens	3-8	Craignamanagh	1-4
1992	Nowlan Park	Oct. 11	James's Stephens	1-10	Craignamanagh/Blacks & W's	0-13
Nowlan Park	Oct. 18	James Stephens	2-9	Craignamanagh/Blacks & W's	1-9	

MINOR HURLING COUNTY FINALS – ROINN B

1984	Nowlan Park	Sept. 30	Craigue/Ballycallan	3-7	Glenmore	2-5
1985	Callan	Oct. 6	Clara	3-12	Craignamanagh	3-8
1986	Nowlan Park	Oct. 12	Young Ireland's	1-10	Slievenue	1-5
1987	Nowlan Park	Oct. 26	Fenians	4-16	Ballyhale Shamrocks	1-3
1988	Nowlan Park	Oct. 8	St. Martin's	1-11	Ballyhale Shamrocks	2-4
1989	Nowlan Park	Oct. 22	Clara	2-7	Carrickshock	2-2
1990	Nowlan Park	Oct. 29	Kilmacow	1-5	St. Lachtain's	1-4
1991	Nowlan Park	Oct. 13	Dunamaggin	2-12	Conahy Shamrocks	3-5
1992	Nowlan Park	Oct. 25	Glenmore	2-7	Conahy Shamrocks	3-2

MINOR HURLING COUNTY HURLING FINALS – ROINN C

1984	Danesfort	Sept. 22	Conahy Shamrocks	3-6	Dunamaggin	1-4
1985	Thomastown	Oct. 6	Blacks and Whites	2-13	Tullagher/Rosbercon	1-6
1986	John's Park	Oct. 5	St. Martin's	2-16	Tullagher/Rosbercon	1-6
1987	Callan	Sept. 26	Tullaroan	5-14	Mullinavat	3-1
1988	Nowlan Park	Oct. 23	Tullagher/Rosbercon	1-7	Danesfort	0-7
1989	Nowlan Park	Oct. 8	Barrow Rangers	2-4	Dunamaggin	1-7
1990	Nowlan Park	Oct. 22	Barrow Rangers	2-8	Dunamaggin	1-9
1990	Callan	Oct. 28	Conahy Shamrocks	5-9	Mullinavat	2-3
1991	John's Park	Sept. 7	Lisdowney	2-6	Mullinavat	0-6
1992	Nowlan Park	Oct. 18	Tullagher/Rosbercon	2-5	Galmoy	1-7

COUNTY SENIOR FOOTBALL FINALS

1984	Callan	Dec. 16	Thomastown	1-9	Railyard	0-4
1985	Nowlan Park	Dec. 8	Thomastown	5-3	Railyard	1-5
1986	Nowlan Park	Nov. 16	Mooncoin	1-6	James Stephens	1-6
Nowlan Park	Dec. 7	Mooncoin	0-9	James Stephens	0-7	
1987	Nowlan Park	Nov. 14	Muckalee	0-6	Railyard	0-5
1988	Nowlan Park	Oct. 8	James Stephens	1-6	Railyard	1-6
Nowlan Park	Oct. 16	James Stephens	0-7	Railyard	0-4	
1989	Nowlan Park	Sept. 10	Glenmore	0-11	Railyard	1-5
1990	Nowlan Park	Oct. 14	Muckalee	1-11	Glenmore	0-4
1991	Nowlan Park	Oct. 6	James Stephens	1-9	Railyard	1-7
1992	Nowlan Park	July 26	Railyard	0-11	James Stephens	0-8

INTERMEDIATE FOOTBALL CHAMPIONSHIP FINALS

1990	Nowlan Park	Barrow Rangers	4-7	Lisdowney	1-5	
1991	Nowlan Park	Nov. 2	Dicksboro	2-4	Conahy Shamrocks	2-4
John's Park	Nov. 17	Dicksboro	0-7	Conahy Shamrocks	0-4	
1992	Bennettsbridge	Nov. 7	Ballyhale Shamrocks	1-11	Conahy Shamrocks	0-7

COUNTY JUNIOR FOOTBALL FINALS

1984	John's Park	Nov. 18	Lisdowney	3-6	Mooncoin	0-9
1985	Callan	Oct. 5	Mooncoin	1-3	Clara	1-0
1986	Nowlan Park	Nov. 2	Tullagher/Rosbercon	0-7	Danesfort	0-3
1987	Nowlan Park	Sept. 11	St. Pat's (Kilmacow)	0-9	Railyard	0-3
1988	Danesfort	Oct. 29	Craigue/Ballycallan	2-6	Mullinavat	0-4
1989	Nowlan Park	Oct. 21	Bennettsbridge	2-9	Mullinavat	2-6
1990	Danesfort	Dec. 1	Dicksboro	0-9	Mullinavat	2-2
1991	Callan	Dec. 7	Shamrocks	1-5	O'Loughlin Gaels	0-3
1992	Thomastown	Nov. 28	Clara	3-2	Piltown	0-2

SPECIAL JUNIOR FOOTBALL FINALS

1984	John's Park	Nov. 3	Carrickshock	1-8	Blacks & Whites	1-4
1985	Danesfort	Dec. 8	Blacks & Whites	0-5	Carrickshock	0-2
1986	Bennettsbridge	Nov. 2	Kilmoganny	3-4	Blacks & Whites	0-8
1987	Callan	Nov. 22	Craigue/Ballycallan	1-6	Carrickshock	0-1
1988	James' Park	Nov. 5	Kilmoganny	2-4	Railyard	0-6
1989	Dunamaggin	Jan. 20/91	Erin's Own	2-7	Kilmoganny	1-2
1990	No Competition					
1991	No Competition					
1992					Thomastown beat Railyard	

UNDER-21 COUNTY FOOTBALL FINALS – ROINN A

1984	Bennettsbridge	Feb. 24/85	Thomastown	1-4	Railyard	0-4
1985	Hugginstown	Dec. 22	Dicksboro	6-6	Glenmore	0-5
1986	Callan	Jan. 4/87	James Stephen's	0-8	Thomastown	1-1
1987	James' Park	Feb. 7/88	James Stephen's	3-3	Thomastown	1-4
1988	Thomastown	Mar. 26/89	James Stephen's	1-2	Glenmore	1-0
1989	Callan	Dec. 9/90	Dicksboro	2-6	Piltown	2-3
1990	Thomastown	May 11/91	Dicksboro	2-16	Piltown	0-4
1991	Thomastown	Jan. 19/92	Dicksboro	0-9	Glenmore	0-9
1991	Thomastown	Jan. 26/92	Dicksboro	1-11	Glenmore	0-4
1992	Danesfort	Jan. 2/93	Kilmoganny	2-13	Muckalee	2-4

UNDER-21 COUNTY FOOTBALL FINALS – ROINN B

1984	Bennettsbridge	Feb. 24/85	Craignamanagh	0-6	Lisdowney	0-6
	Bennettsbridge	Apr. 14/85	Craignamanagh	1-4	Lisdowney	1-1
1985	Danesfort	Jan. 5/86	Craigue/Ballycallan	2-10	Mooncoin	2-2
1986	Nowlan Park	Mar. 15/87	Carrickshock	2-4	Young Ireland's	1-5
1987	James' Park	Feb. 21/88	Railyard	3-8	St. Pat's (Kilmacow)	0-6
1988	Danesfort	Mar. 27/89	Young Ireland's	2-9	Mooncoin	0-4
1989	'Comer	Feb. 2/91	Erin's Own	1-6	Kilmoganny	0-3
1990	Nowlan Park	Nov. 2/91	Muckalee	3-6	Kilmoganny	0-5
1991	Danesfort	Jan. 11/92	Kilmoganny	3-11	Conahy Shamrocks	1-1
1992	Ballyhale	Feb. 7/93	Craigue/Ballycallan	1-6	Tullagher/Rosbercon	2-3
1992	Ballyhale	Feb. 28/93	Craigue/Ballycallan	1-8	Tullagher/Rosbercon	0-4

MINOR FOOTBALL COUNTY FINALS – ROINN A

1984	Danesfort	Dec. 16	Dicksboro	2-7	Bigwood	1-1
1985	Callan	Nov. 24	James Stephen's	0-6	Thomastown	0-2
1986	Callan	Dec. 21	James Stephen's	1-8	Thomastown	1-2
1987	Danesfort	Jan. 31/88	James Stephen's	5-4	Piltown	0-2
1988	Hugginstown	Dec. 4	James Stephen's	4-9	Mooncoin	2-1
1989	Callan	Jan. 7/90	Dicksboro	2-6	Piltown	0-4
1990	Callan	Dec. 15/91	James Stephen's	1-5	Kilmoganny	0-5
1991	Bennettsbridge	Mar. 15/92	James Stephen's	1-6	Kilmoganny	0-4
1992	Danesfort	Feb. 6/93	James Stephen's	1-11	Kilmoganny	0-9

MINOR COUNTY FOOTBALL FINALS – ROINN B

1984	Callan	Apr. 28/85	Bennettsbridge	0-8	St. Pat's (Kilmacow)	2-1
1985	Bennettsbridge	Dec. 8	Craigue/Ballycallan	1-4	Glenmore	0-3
1986	John's Park	Jan. 4/87	Piltown	3-3	Blacks & Whites	1-7
1987	James' Park	Jan. 31/88	Erin's Own	0-13	Glenmore	0-1
1988	Bennettsbridge	Jan. 22/89	Railyard	0-8	Craignamanagh	0-1
1989	James' Park	Feb. 4/90	Kilmoganny	0-8	Muckalee	1-2
1990	Danesfort	Dec. 15/91	Kilmacow	2-5	Conahy Shamrocks	0-5
1991	Danesfort	Feb. 2/92	Erin's Own	0-7	Piltown	0-7
1991	Callan	Feb. 15/92	Erin's Own	1-6	Piltown	0-3
1992	Callan	Mar. 28/93	Glenmore	1-9	Muckalee	1-5



Pictured at the Rower-Instioge re-union of the Senior Hurling Championship winning team of 1968 – Front row (l.-r.): Billy Murphy, Dick Bolger (Selector), Donal Kavanagh, Nickey Brennan (Chairman Co. Board), Marty Butler (Club President), Michael Walsh (Capt.), Martin Freeman, Eamon Flood, Pat Galavan. Second row: John Cötterell, Tom Waters, Pat Murphy, Martin Kavanagh, John Mahon, Pat Kavanagh, Jim Morrissey, Michael Roche (Selector), Danny White. Third row: Michael Bolger, Tom Dunphy, C. Murphy, Marty Walsh, John Walsh. Back row: Fr. Tom Murphy, Eddie Keher, Fintan Murphy, Dermot Kavanagh, Pat Murphy, John L. O'Sullivan (Selector).

SATURDAY PARADE



In the mood.



Ready for the match.



At the Minor Football International, Barrie Henriques, Jack Boothman and Bishop Laurence Forristal.



Happy birthday Liam from Noel Hegarty (Donegal) in Tenerife. Photo: Tom Brett

Happy faces in Tenerife



Mrs. Martin Lynch, Mairead Brennan, Martin Lynch, Ollie Dunne, Geoff O'Shea, Nicky Brennan, Diarmuid Dunne, Denis Cody.

Saturday Parade observers



1993 Credit Union S.H. Final Officers Derek Dooley, Denis Cody and Dermot Ronan. Photo: Tom Brett