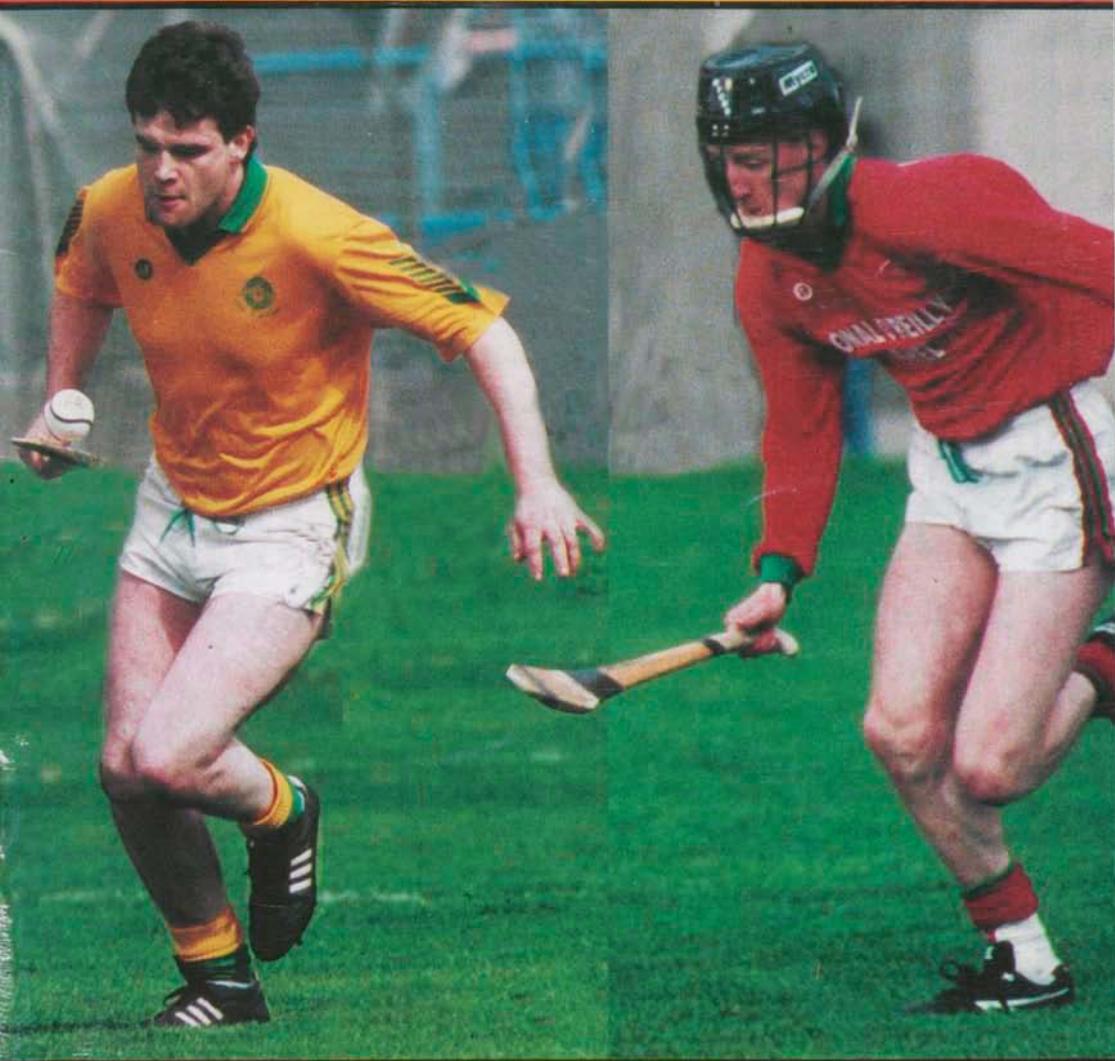
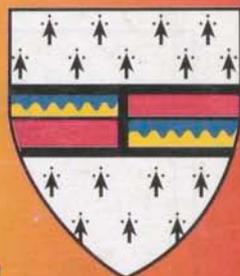


Co. Tipperary Senior Hurling Final
Match Programme
1994



THE NENAGH CO-OP TIPPERARY COUNTY SENIOR HURLING FINAL

Stáid Semple, Dúrlas
Sunday 2nd. October 1994



Tomás O Baróid
Runaí

LUACH

£1

Ballingarry Gaels C.L.G.

Ballingarry Gaels are an amalgamation of Ballingarry and St. Patrick's, Drangan, for minor hurling and football. On their way to to-day's minor final they recorded wins over Killenaule, St. Mary's, Mullinahone, Fr. Sheedy's and Knockavilla Kickhams. The clubs officers are Tadhg Vaughan, Chairman; John Horan, Secretary; and T. P. Maher and Richard Goldsboro, Joint Treasurers.

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HOARE ABBEY, CASHEL

BEST WISHES TO CASHEL

Clár an Lae

1.45 i.n. Cluiche Cheannais Mionúir

BALLINGARRY GAELS

v

TOOMEVARA

Réiteoir: Michael Greene.

3.30 i.n. Cluiche Cheannais Sinsear

CASHEL KING CORMACS

v

TOOMEVARA

Réiteoir: Michael Doyle.

Buíochas

Many thanks to those who contributed articles for to-day's Programme
and to Brendan O'Connor for his photographs.

John McCormack
Editor

Fáilte

Is cúis áthais dom ar mo shon féin agus ar son Coiste Contae Tiobraid Árann fíorchaoin fáilte a fhearadh roimh chuile dhuine go Stáid Semple le haghaidh Chluichí Ceannais Iomáioitha an Contae. Tá súil agam go mbainfidh gach éine taithneamh agus sport as an cluichí, agus go mbeidh an bua ag na foirne is fearr.

Hurling Final day is with us once again and on behalf of Tipperary County Board I extend a hearty Céad Míle Fáilte to all you loyal supporters. The senior final brings together Toomevara and Cashel King Cormacs. This game promises to be a great encounter with Toomevara aiming for the elusive three-in-a-row. Cashel, however, have many times proved what great championship battlers they are and will be equally keen to claim the laurels.

Toomevara and Ballingarry Gaels contest the minor final. The presence of Toomevara in both finals indicates the strength of the game at all levels in the club. Ballingarry Gaels represent the South Division, and it is indeed a sign of the progress hurling is making in the Division that they have reached this stage of the



championship.

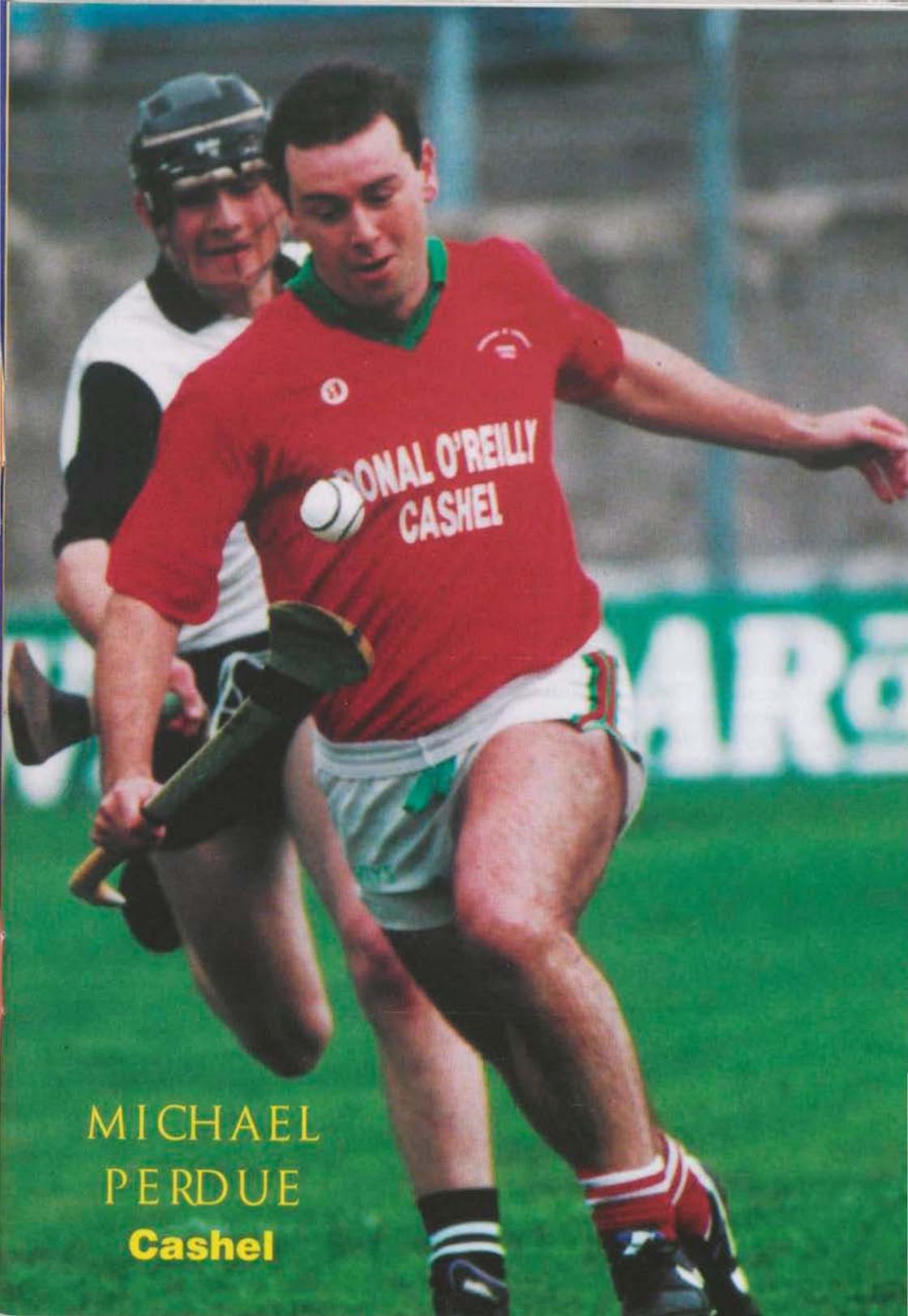
To our referees and their officials to-day we extend our thanks and hope that their task will be a pleasant one.

Amongst our attendance today are our newly elected senior hurling selectors. I hope that they will be suitably impressed by the standard of play to encourage them in the task that lies ahead. I congratulate them on their selection and ask you, our supporters, to be patient as together we strive to make Tipperary great again.

It would be remiss of me not to acknowledge the very generous gesture by Nenagh Co-Op. in sponsoring this year's Senior Hurling Championship. I would like to encourage everyone where possible to show Tipperary G.A.A.'s appreciation of this sponsorship by supporting Nenagh Co-Op. in a tangible way.

Guim rath Dé oraibh go léir agus go dte sibh abhaile slán agus lán sásta libh féin.

Seán Ó Fógartaigh
Cathaoirleach



MICHAEL
PERDUE
Cashel

THE SENIOR FINAL

By Noel Dundon - *Tipperary Star*

If you were asked to pick the two best teams in the county, how would you go about it?

Well, apart from the obvious competitions, you could judge on the number of past, present and possible county senior prospects that are in the sides and judge in that way. You could take the champions in each division and decipher which are worthy of contesting the decider.

If these methods were to be used the two teams who would come out on top would be the two sides we have in today's final. With that in mind it is reasonable to assume that the 1994 Nenagh Co-Op. senior hurling final will be an occasion to remember.

For Toome it will indeed be an historic occasion. They have both minor and senior teams in the final and occasions like that are rare for clubs, but not for Toome these days it seems. It could be one of the most successful days in the history of the club or it could be one of those disaster days when nothing goes right.

The three-in-a-row is on the cards for the seniors and if the minors were to turn in the kind of top class performances that they have been turning in all year in the North and in the county semi-final, they will certainly be hard to beat.

But quite a lot has been written about Toome in the past and indeed quite a lot has been said about them also, but the one question that lingers in the minds of the legions of hurling followers throughout the county and further afield, - Are Toome really as

good as they are being painted? They certainly have the trophies to prove it, the only one to remain out of their cabinet being the All-Ireland club. Toome are a powerful outfit and even when down to 14, or worse still 13 men, as they have been in the past, they have the ability to put teams away in devastating fashion. That's not to say that they are beyond beating. A team that sets out to defend a Munster Club trophy will meet with many obstacles and each match is a severe test of their stamina and ability to perform. Toome will treat the county final as just another game on their journey. They will be aware of the potential that Cashel have, and they will not allow themselves to be distracted from their goal, which will be the next round. They take each game as it comes and deal with opposition to their throne.

In Cashel, Toome will cross swords with a more than capable team. Although they have not won the West Championship, because the final has to be replayed, they will severely test the resolve of Toome.

The star-studded team have been accused in the past of being inconsistent but surely there is no greater incentive for them than the opportunity of defeating Toome while they are on a high. They will remember the humiliating defeat at the hands of the Toomevara men in last year's quarter final and while that would seem to be all in the past, the Cashel men have long memories and will want to reverse that result. They have the ability to do so.

To-day's Referees



SENIOR:

MICHAEL DOYLE
(Holycross/Ballycahill)

Linesmen:

Willie Barrett, Martin Treacy

Umpires:

Johnny Doyle, Michael McGrath,
Phil Lowry, Seamus Mackey.



MINOR:

MICHAEL GREENE
(Upperchurch/Drombane)

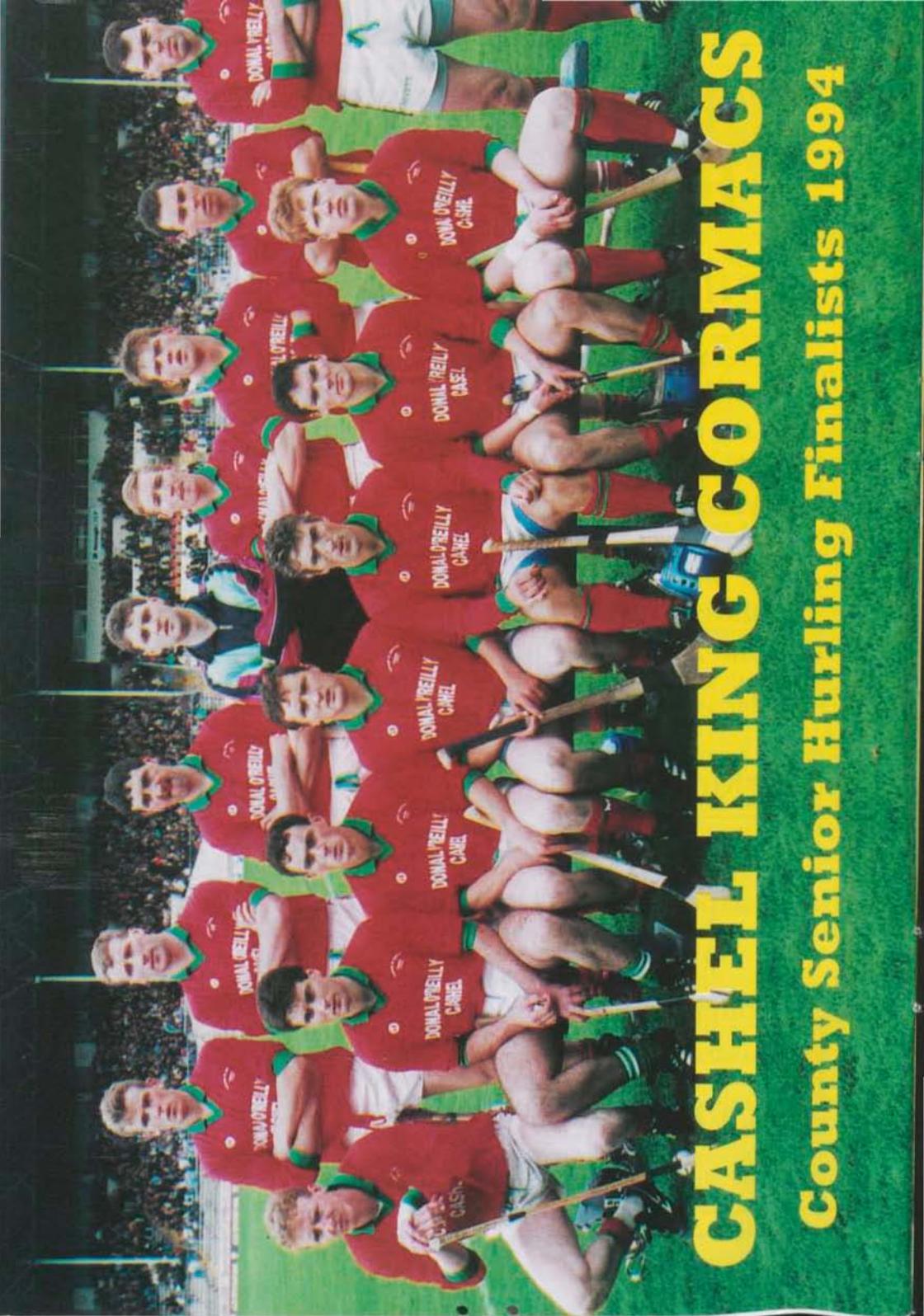
Linesmen:

Tom Maher, Willie Clohessey.

Umpires:

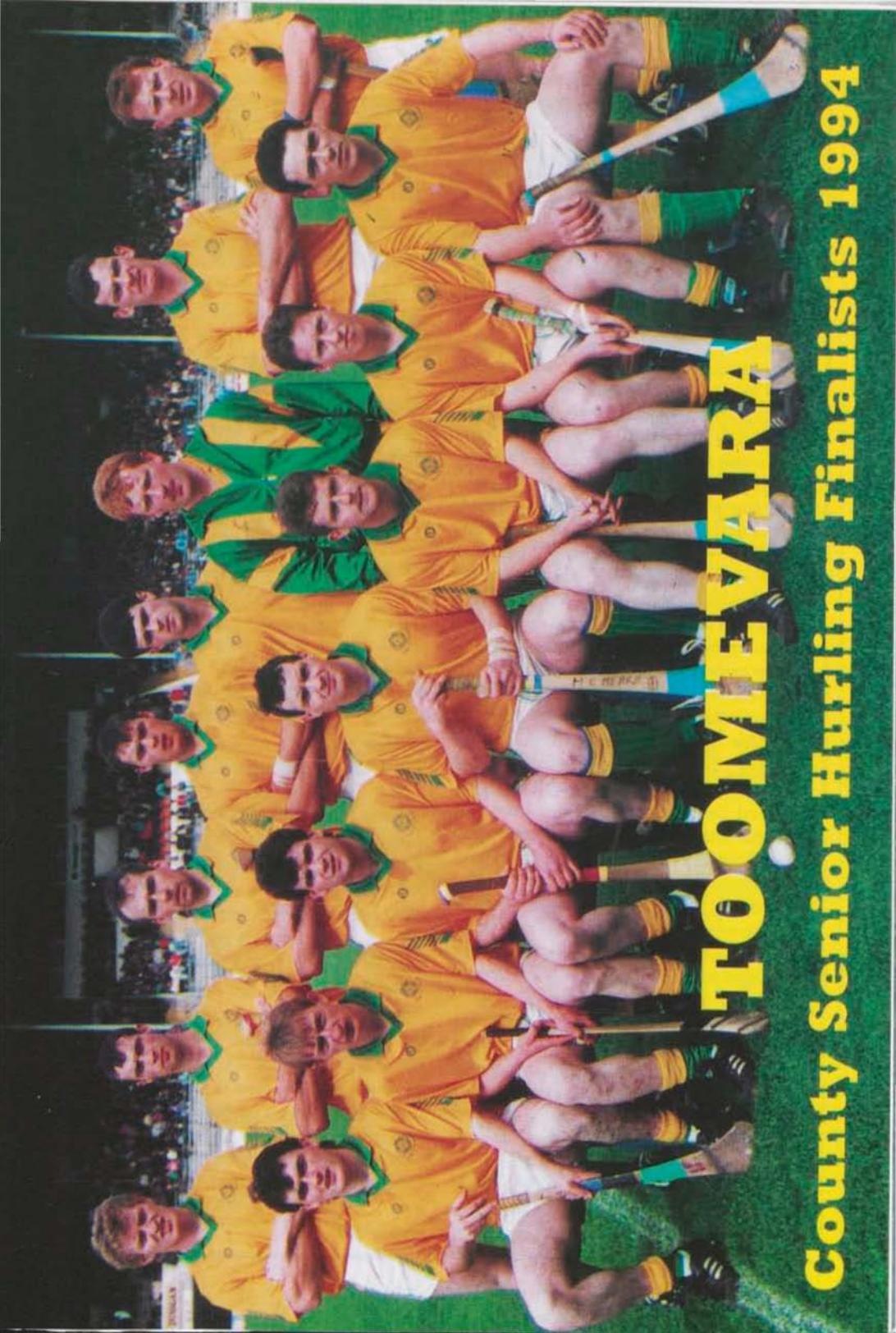
Billy Hayes, Richie Ryan, J. C.
Ryan, Kevin Ryan.





CASHEL KING CORMACS

County Senior Hurling Finalists 1994



TOOMEVARA

County Senior Hurling Finalists 1994

It's A Big Day for Hurling

Séamus O'Doherty

This year's County S.H.C. has so far failed to produce a memorable contest. The responsibility, therefore, rests on today's rivals to rectify that and give serious encouragement for Tipperary's future, at inter county level.

It is the final most people predicted, when the draw was made for the semi-finals and it brings together the last two clubs to win the title. The stakes are high for both teams, and such is the quality of the players that a cracking game is likely.

In the immediate aftermath of Cashel's victory over Kilruane, I came into a conversation where the King Cormac's men were wondering who would be selected at centre forward to take on Michael O'Meara. They expressed surprise that neighbours, Clonoulty Rossmore, had switched Declan Ryan to other duties in the semi-final clash, thereby allowing the recently married Toome man to extend his influence on the game.

However, the Cashel men couldn't make up their minds on that one and eventually they concluded that the Toome defence is so tight it will be difficult to penetrate any part of it!

Toome's form has been very impressive all season and they have risen to every challenge. I have been highly impressed by their enthusiasm for the game, in this their third season of extended activity. It takes a lot of know-how to keep a team in such form! There is no doubt about the quality of their players in every line of the team and with Cashel's inter-county connections, past and present, there is a

tremendous pool of talent on view.

The favourites' tag will rest on the Toomevara men and there is no reason to think otherwise, because they are the complete team, one which plays a competitive but thoughtful game. There's refinement in their game now and the development of previously overshadowed players has been a positive plus for them. On a day when their minors try to follow the example of the u-16s and show the way to the seniors, their club structure is secure.

Cashel KC have 'recovered' quicker than expected from last season's drubbing and their easy win over Kilruane was as convincing as Toome's divisional final victory over the same opposition. The return of Cormac Bonnar could be a major boost to morale, apart from everything else and his presence in the camp can only be helpful.

I've enjoyed seeing Raymie Ryan in attack again, where he shone as a minor. It's a position he could claim at inter-county level too. His ball-control and scoring ability would certainly be an advantage.

This County Final will be a big attraction for hurling fans, but for others, like Fr. Tom Fogarty and his selectors (both of whose clubs lost to Toome!), it's a day when the genesis of a new Tipperary team will be sought.

The prevailing opinion is that there isn't a lot of talent around and that lean years are ahead. But wasn't that where "Babs" came in?

The future starts today, so the challenge is there for everybody. There are past and present captains on the field and whoever wins will provide the next one! Isn't that enough of an incentive for any man and for every man?

Will Toome win the three-in-a-row? Will Cashel be Kings again? Open the gates and let them at it. We want a game to remember!

COUNTY FINAL DAY – SNIPPETS

By Seán O'Driscoll

THE County S.H. Final was played at the following venues: Borris-illeigh, Thurles, Holycross, Cashel, Tipperary, Roscrea, Nenagh, Fethard, Boherlahan, Gaile, Clonmel, Templemore.

* * *

The first final, which was played at Borris-illeigh in 1887 between Thurles and North Tipperary, set the Mid men on their way to the top of Tipperary's roll of honour. They beat the North by 0-3 to 0-0 in that historic final. Denis Maher was their captain.

* * *

The following year's final, which was played at Thurles between Clonoulty and Boherlahan, on April 15th, ended in a draw at 0-2 each. Extra time was played and Clonoulty took the honours, winning by 1-2 to 0-2.

* * *

No championships were played in 1891, 1892 and 1893 due to the Parnellite Split.

* * *

The championships of 1920 and 1921 were not played due to the War of Independence.

* * *

Johnny Leahy of Boherlahan led his team to eight championship wins in a glorious era for the club. His brother Tommy was captain in the 1928 victory. Johnny led the Mid men to the title in 1915, 1916, 1917, 1918, 1922, 1924, 1925 and 1927.

* * *

The Dan Breen Cup was first presented to the Toomevara captain, Martin Kennedy, following their 5-4 to 2-0 victory over Moycarkey-Borris in the 1931 final which was played on February 14, 1932. Johnny Leahy of Boherlahan was the referee in control of the game.

* * *

Following wear and tear, the trophy was replaced and the new one was first presented to Jackie Hannon, the Roscrea captain, on October 14, 1973, when they achieved victory over Kilruane MacDonagh by 3-14 to 3-8, at Thurles. Mick Hogan of Roscrea was the

last captain to receive the original cup in 1972.

* * *

Former hurling star and G.A.A. President, Con Murphy, refereed the 1949 final between Borris-illeigh and the Kickhams which was played at Thurles, on October 30th, with victory going to Borris-illeigh on a 4-6 to 2-1 scoreline.

* * *

Thurles Sarsfields lead the County S.H. Roll of Honour with 27 titles to their credit. They achieved their victories in the following years: 1887, 1904, 1906, 1907, 1909, 1911, 1929, 1935, 1936, 1938, 1939, 1942, 1944, 1945, 1946, 1952, 1955, 1956, 1957, 1958, 1959, 1961, 1962, 1963, 1964, 1965, 1974.

* * *

Mickey "Rattler" Byrne of Thurles Sarsfields holds the record number of County S.H. medals which he won in three different decades. His fourteen victories were in the following years: 1944, 1945, 1946, 1952, 1955, 1956, 1957, 1958, 1959, 1961, 1962, 1963, 1964, 1965. A great record which will stand for many a day.

* * *

Thurles Sarsfields appeared in 11 successive S.H. finals from 1955 to 1965 inclusive. They achieved 5-in-a-row twice. Toomevara broke the sequence in the 1960 game, winning on a 3-15 to 2-8 scoreline.

* * *

Moycarkey-Borris and Boherlahan share second place in the honours list with fourteen titles each.

* * *

To-day's contestants, Toomevara, have twelve wins, which were achieved in the following years: 1890, 1910, 1912, 1913, 1914, 1919, 1923, 1930, 1931, 1960, 1992, 1993.

* * *

Cashel King Cormaes made the historic breakthrough in 1991 with a 2-8 to 1-5 victory over defending champions Holycross-Ballycahill.

BAILE AN GHARRÁI

BALLINGARRY GAELS (Maroon and White)

1.

M. Ó Góilin

MARTIN GOLDSBORO

2.

M. Maclomhair

MICHAEL IVORS

(CAPTAIN)

3.

S. Webster

SEAN WEBSTER

4.

M. Ó hEideáin

MICHAEL HAYDEN

5.

N. De Cléir

NIGEL CLEERE

6.

B. de Bháltún

BRIAN WALTON

7.

B. Ó Maolalaidh

BRENDAN MULALLY

8.

S. Ó Caollai

SEAMUS KEALY

9.

M. Ó Muiris

MARCUS MORRIS

10.

L. Ó Meachair

WILLIAM MAHER

11.

L. Ó Cathaill

LIAM CAHILL

12.

G. Maclomhair

GARY IVORS

13.

B. Ó Braonáin

BARRY BRENNAN

14.

R. Ó hIci

ROBERT HICKEY

15.

T. Ó hAodha

THOMAS HAYES

FIR IONAID: 16. (M. de Cléir) **Mark Cleere**; 17. (L. MacBreithimh) **William Brewer**; 18. (S. Ó hEideáin) **John Hayden**; 19. (N. de Burca) **Noel Burke**; 20. D. Maclomhair (**Damien Ivors**); 21. (N. Webster) **Noel Webster**; 22. (M. MacCormaio) **Milo McCormack**; 23. (M. MacCraith) **Michael McGrath**; 24. (L. de Cléir) **Willie Cleere**.

ROGHNOIRI: Jamsie Ivors (trainer); Martin Maher, Patrick Ivors, Colm Duggan, Ned Morris.

Medics: Dr. John Curtin, Richard Vaughan.

TUAIM UÍ MHEARA

TOOMEVARA (Green and Gold)

1.

J. MacCoitill

JUSTIN COTTRELL

2.

D. MacCraith

DAVID McGRATH

3.

D. Ó Brisleáin

DERMOT BRISLANE

4.

M. Ó Cathaláin

MARTIN CAHALANE

5.

P. MacEachaidh

PADRAIG HACKETT

6.

R. MacEachaidh

RAY HACKETT

7.

D. Ó Meara

DAMIEN O'MEARA

(CAPTAIN)

8.

D. Ó Dúlainne

DEREK DELANEY

9.

D. Ó Meara

DENIS KELLY

10.

P. Ó Briain

PADDY O'BRIEN

11.

C. Ó Coirnealláigh

KEVIN CORNALLY

12.

M. Bevans

MICHAEL BEVANS

13.

S. Ó Meachair

JOHN MAHER

14.

R. Ó Monsaigh

RORY MOUNSEY

15.

C. Ó Doinn

KEN DUNNE

FIR IONAIÐ: Sub-Goalkeeper: **Noel Cummins** (N. MacComin); 16. **Collwin Martin** (C. Ó Máirtín); 17. **Owen Woods** (E. MacConchoille); 18. **John Cleary** (S. Ó Cleirigh); 19. **Jody Ryan** (S. Ó Riain); 20. **Michael McCarthy** (M. Ó Cárthaigh); 21. **Shane O'Meara** (S. Ó Meara); 22. **John Paul O'Meara** (S. Ó Meara); 23. **Brian Duff** (B. Ó Duibh); 24. **John Hogan** (S. ó hÓgáin); 25. **Terence O'Brien** (T. Ó Briain).

Roghnoirí: Donal Shanahan; Gerry Kelly, Martin Ryan.

Cashel King Cormacs Club wish to record their appreciation to the following for their contributions towards their team fund:

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Main Street.
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Toomevara

Toome's gloom dispelled

By Gerry Slevin - *Nenagh Guardian*

The Toomevara dressing-room last St. Patrick's evening had an air of disappointment mixed with relief. The disappointment was natural. Defeat had just been experienced at the hands of Sarsfields from Galway in the All-Ireland Club final. The result might well have gone the other way, but it didn't. Toome were out.

There was a noticeable sense of relief, too. Their season hadn't ended when the Dan Breen Cup was won. They had to go on and uphold the honour of the county in the provincial and All-Ireland campaign.

A long season. Aye, a very long season and in that Croke Park dressing-room on March 17 the last thing on players' minds was what lay ahead in the coming season. After such a torturous campaign, who would want to talk about the future?

And only ten days later that notion was given credence when a Toome side, short five of their All-Ireland team, travelled to St. Cronan's Park, Roscrea, for the first game of the new league. They lost 0-10 to 0-7. Was a creak emerging in their make-up, we wondered. Anyone who thought so has had a rude awakening, because they haven't lost a game since!

Today Toomevara go in search of their third county title in a row and they do so as raging hot favourites. Over the past two seasons their ultimate success came about, not because they had won the North title but through their victory in the North league.

And just to show some people that they can win championships, too, they aided the North premier competition to their league success and are now poised to become the undisputed champions of Tipperary, not indeed that anyone had

cause to dispute their success in those years, but some did!!

It is basically the same team that is back in search of the three-in-row achievement, but there is one notable exception. Over the past two years top scorer has been Michael Nolan. The fair haired flying forward has been sidelined for some months, resulting from an alleged indiscretion in the North game against Lorrha. And yet Toome have marched on. For any side to lose its top scorer is a huge set-back, but then, not every club has the material at its disposal to bounce back as Toome have done.

And for good measure, their minors are also in the county final and their under 16's have already been similarly crowned.

There is little one can say about the Toomevara spirit that hasn't been said before. It is nigh indescribable and they have shown, once the rigours of the St. Patrick's Day disappointment were shrugged off, that they are simply the best there is in the county.

It is a terrible disadvantage to bring in to a county final. Everyone, or nearly everyone, will be shouting for the underdog, but that is when Toome show their true colours.

Will they take their third-in-a-row? Everything seems to point to a positive conclusion to their campaign.

They may have been disappointed and relieved on March 17 last, but I have a feeling the smell of it is coming back to haunt them again and they see themselves with a right good chance of atoning for their set-back of nearly seven months ago. That smell will, I feel, be all the stronger this evening.

CAISEAL RÍ CORMACS

CASHEL KING CORMACS (Red and Green)

1.

C. Ó Suileabháin
KEVIN O'SULLIVAN

2.

L. Ó Bearáin
LIAM BARRON

3.

P. Ó Donnchú
PAT O'DONOGHUE

4.

M Ó Perdue
MICHAEL PERDUE

5.

S. Ó Laoire
JOE O'LEARY

6.

C. Ó Cnáimhsí
COLM BONNAR
(CAPTAIN)

7.

S. Ó Muireasa
SEAMUS MORRISSEY

8.

S. Ó Donnchú
SEAN O'DONOGHUE

9.

L. MacEille
WILLIE FITZELL

10.

S. Ó Muireasa
SEAN MORRISSEY

11.

T. Ó Conghaile
T. J. CONNOLLY

12.

R. Ó Riain
RAMIE RYAN

13.

C. Ó Cnáimhsí
CONAL BONNAR

14.

A. Ó Cnáimhsí
AILBHE BONNAR

15.

S. Ó Slatarra
SEAN SLATTERY

FIR IONAIÐ: 16. **Michael Butler** (M. de Búitléir); 17. **Declan McGrath** (D. MacCraith); 18. **Seán Barron** (S. Ó Bearáin); 19. **Michael Minogue** (M. Muineóg); 20. **Joe Minogue** (S. Muineóg); 21. **Donal Ryan** (D. Ó Riain); 22. **Ger O'Dwyer** (G. Ó Duibhir); 23. **John Ryan** (S. Ó Riain); 24. **Barry Moloney** (B. Ó Maolaimhnaigh); 25. **Cormac Bonnar** (C. Ó Cnáimhsí).

Róghnoirí: Tommy Grogan, Brendan Bonnar, Joe Moloney, Justin McCarthy (Coach).

TUAIM UÍ MHEARA

TOOMEVARA (Green and Gold)

1.

S. de Grás
JODY GRACE

2.

P. Ó Meachair
PAT MEAGHER
(CAPTAIN)

3.

R. Ó Brisleain
RORY BRISLANE

4.

D. Ó Meara
DECLAN O'MEARA

5.

S. Frennd
GEORGE FRENDD

6.

M. Ó Meara
MICHAEL O'MEARA

7.

P. Ó Seancháin
PHILIP SHANAHAN

8.

T. Ó Doinn
TERRY DUNNE

9.

P. Ó Cionga
PAT KING

10.

C. Ó Cinnéide
KEVIN KENNEDY

11.

M. Ó Murchú
MICHAEL MURPHY

12.

A. Ó Dúlainne
TONY DELANEY

13.

L. Ó Noláin
LIAM NOLAN

14.

T. Ó Doinn
TOMMY DUNNE

15.

T. Ó Cearúil
TOMMY CARROLL

FIR IONAID: Sub Goalkeeper: **Justin Cottrell** (J. MacCoitill); 16. **Liam Flaherty** (L.Ó Fluircartaigh); 17. **Kevin McCormack** (C. MacCormaíc); 18. **Aidan Maxwell** (A. Ó Meiscill); 19. **Joseph O'Meara** (S. Ó Meara); 20. **Denis Kelly** (D. Ó Ceallaigh); 21. **Michael Bevans** (M. Bevans); 22. **Ray Hackett** (R. MacEachaidh); 23. **Damien O'Meara** (D. Ó Meara); 24. **Ken Dunne** (C. Ó Doinn).

Roghnoirí: Fr. Michael Casey, Jim McDonald, Frankie Ryan, Sean Stack (Coach).



"I said it's mine!" – Action from the semi-final with Joe Hayes (Clonoulty/Rossmore) and Philip Shanahan (Toomerara).

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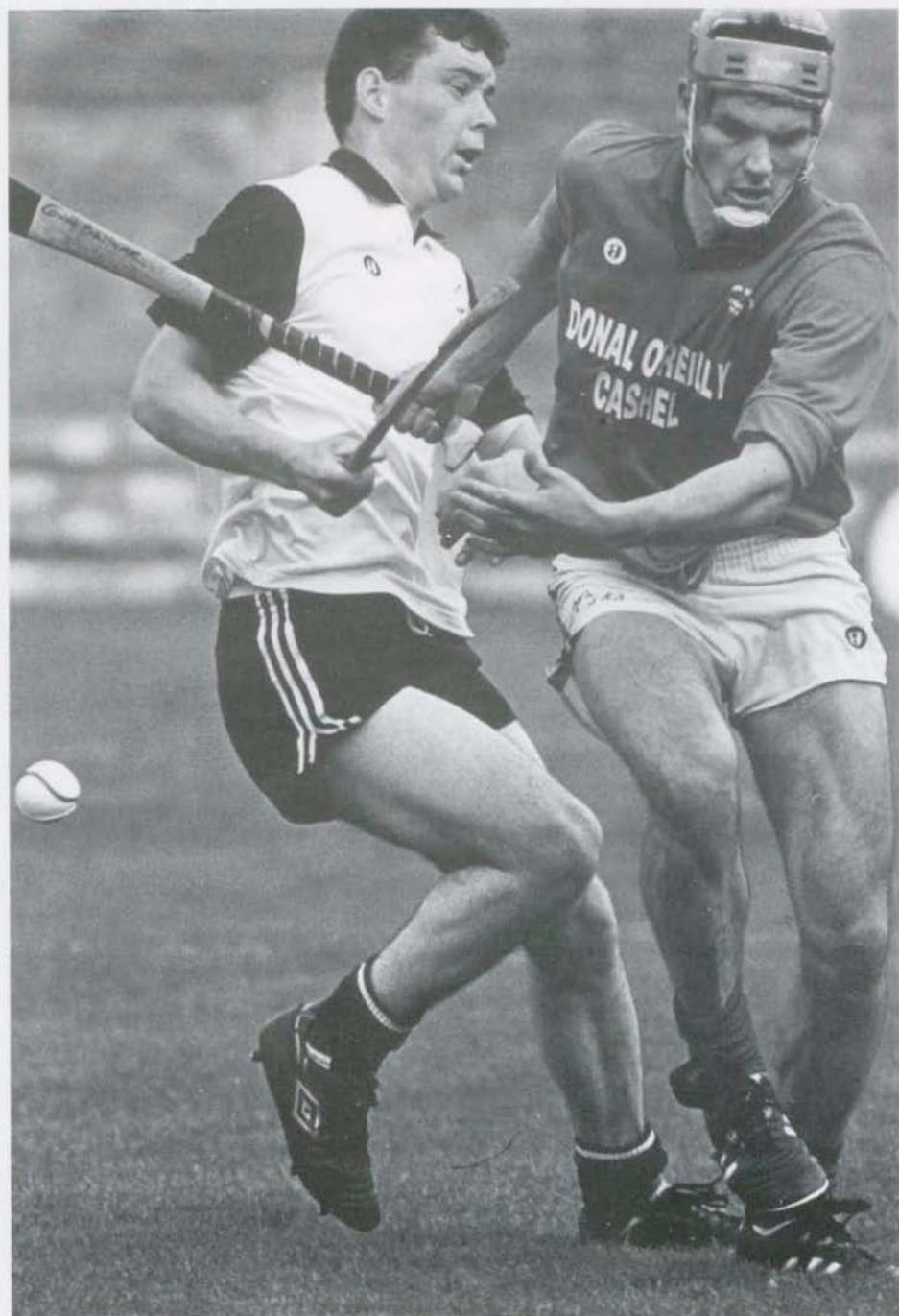
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Determination on the faces of Conal Bonnair (Cashel) and Paddy Ryan (Kilruane) during the semi-final encounter.

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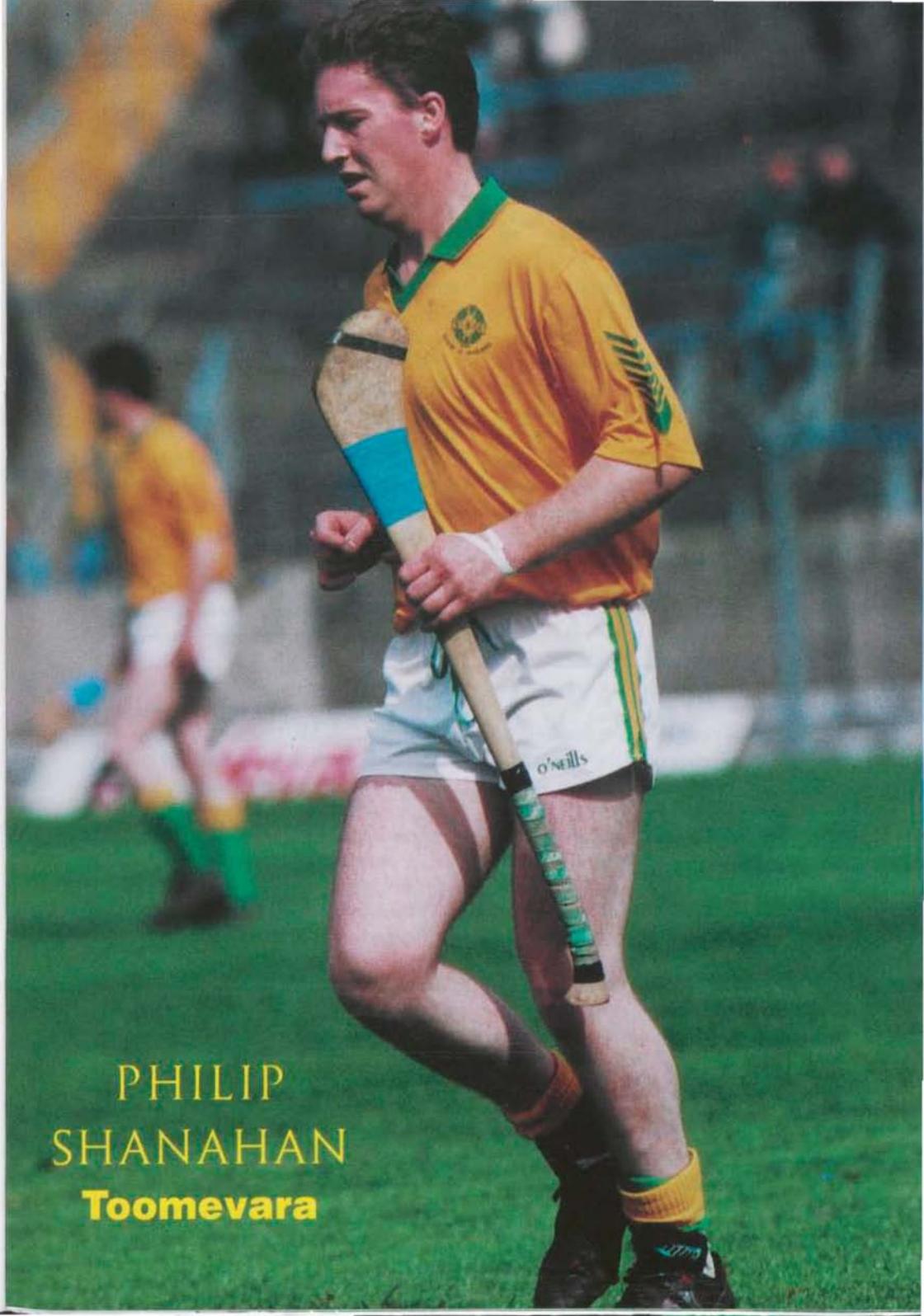
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PHILIP
SHANAHAN
Toomevara

A Good County Final Would Not Be Out Of Place

We deserve a great County Final. It would compensate for all the poor games which we have witnessed in this year's championship. I can't recall a duller championship, bad matches, one-sided games and generally little to excite the hurling appetite. It is difficult to analyse why. Players trained throughout the Winter and Spring. They should have been "flying", instead many were leaden footed and lacked the spirit which wins championships.

Talking to friends in Cork, many had the same comment to make about their county. Is there a common denominator? An early exit from the Munster Championship, perhaps. A sad season for Tipperary supporters, particularly on the hurling front.

Toomevara appear to be on the crest of the wave. Contesting both the minor and senior finals here to-day makes a strong hurling statement. Add the u16 county championship to that. It is widely recognised the amount of work which is put into underage hurling in Toome. Sometimes, I ask, is Toome bigger than Tipp? While parish loyalty must be strong, the interests of county have to come into the reckoning, too. The Club championship can be an obstacle in ways, players not being made available for the county team is a problem. Toomevara aren't alone in this respect, but there has to be a balance.

The seniors are bidding for three in a row. Can they be stopped? It is difficult to envisage them being beaten. Despite the loss of Michael Nolan's scoring power,

they are a formidable force. Strong and committed, they are hungry for victory. Apart from Nenagh, the only team which can cause them anxiety is Lorrha. I expect that we all have an "Achilles heel"!

The placing of the Cashel team is one of the big talking points this Summer. Conal Bonnar and Raymie Ryan in the forwards! Conal is potentially one of the best backs in the game. An All Star wing back now in the corner forward. Yes, I hear you say, what about Pat Fox. However, there is only one Pat Fox. From what I've seen, Conal is not a natural forward. He looks uncomfortable in the corner. As a back he looks graceful and dashing. Similarly with Raymie, against Kilruane-McDonaghs, he got possession but failed to find "the posts" repeatedly. A shame really to waste his talents. A move to midfield perhaps would be more beneficial. Maybe the Cashel selectors, Conal and Raymie will prove me wrong to-day!

It is good to see Ballingarry in the minor final, a new team always brings colour and excitement. My friend James Murray and others put so much into the club in Ballingarry. Again they have worked hard at underage level. It should be an interesting clash with Toome, who have a well balanced side. Paddy O'Brien, a young hurler of immense talent, lines out with Toomevara. Remember the name, you'll hear it again. My personal good wishes, Paddy. However, I have to be neutral, otherwise Joe Murray will write me out of the will!

To-day sees the ordination of Fr. Willie Walsh as Bishop of Killaloe to succeed the

late Dr. Harty, who was a frequent visitor to our County final. A great Toomevara and Tipperary supporter, we will miss his gracious presence. Dr. Walsh will be equally welcome in our midst. We congratulate and wish him well in his new role. It is difficult to visualise him other than "on the sideline", urging his team to greater efforts. His Grace Dr. Clifford will be absent from Semple Stadium to-day, Ennis has first call on this occasion.

The start of the League heralds a change of personnel in the hurling selectors. Good luck to Fr. Tom, Ken, John and all the players. We still have lots of talent in Tipperary. It is a question of, DO WE WANT TO WIN? To Babs we say, thanks for your immense contribution to Tipperary hurling. You brought back style, pride in the Blue and Gold, success and a new approach. Many people will not be aware of what work you put in

behind the scenes. They saw only the glamour of League Final or All-Ireland day. It was a wonderful era in Tipperary hurling. Every youngster in the county would agree with me. Many other people would, also. As for the "bedrudgers", na bach iad. Killarney 1987 will always be a treasured memory, not only because of the wonderful victory, but because of the innocence which first success brings. Thanks for the memories and the fun,

I desperately want to see a County Final which we can talk about with pride. A rousing, sporting, well contested game, worthy of Tipperary hurling. We wish all our supporters an enjoyable day, your continued support is appreciated.

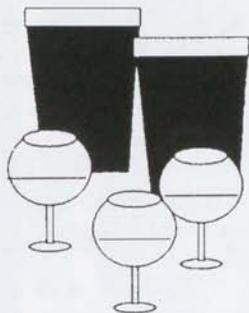
Good luck to all the players, referees, umpires and linesmen. May it be the best of days for Tipperary hurling, and our sponsors NENAGH CO-OP.

Liz Howard, PRO

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BALLINGARRY GAELS

County Minor Hurling Finalists 1994



TOOMEVARA

County Minor Hurling Finalists 1994

The Minor Final

By Noel Dundon

(Tipperary Star)

There is nothing to compare with the thrill of playing in a county minor hurling final. It is a known fact that many of the greatest hurlers in the country will tell you that their greatest regret was that they did not have the opportunity of playing in a county minor final. While you might get two or even three bites at the cherry when it comes to playing in a senior final, you may get only one chance to play in the minor final and that's if you are lucky.

That's what makes today so special for the u-18's of Toomevara and Ballingarry and it gives the supporters a chance to see exactly how high a standard there is in minor hurling in the county.

Both clubs have come through a gruelling campaign to reach the final and while it is always a lovely feeling to win, it is also a great feeling to be there and to say that you competed in a minor hurling final. In other words it is fair to say that winning is not everything when it comes to today's curtain raiser and the sense of occasion that participation in the final brings will always be special.

For Toomevara, to-day will be a special day anyway. With both the minor and senior teams in the final

it is an historic occasion for them but they must beware that they don't let the occasion get to them as they might end up winning neither of the finals. Remember Thurles Sarsfields in 1992. They had both teams in the final also and they ended up winning neither. Toome have the potential in both grades to win out and following their victory over Thurles Sarsfields in the minor semi-final they will be very difficult to beat.

Ballingarry too have the potential to go a long way and if they can hit top form they will upset the Toome lads who have looked like champions. Going into the game as underdogs will suit Ballingarry just fine and they will hit the north champions with everything they have.

Last years winners, Boherlahan/-Dualla and the previous years winners Nenagh, now have many of the men who won the title for them on their senior teams. So watch out, you might be looking at future senior stars in to-day's minor final.

A team with spirit

Cut them hurls from an Irish glen
And give them a broad green field
A team imbued with spirit
A team that will never yield
Success upon success will come,
To such a hurling team,
The championship they will win
And realise a dream.

Gerard Ryan

Buillí Troma na Bliana



D'fhulaing mórán fóirne, go mór mhór na fóirne cumasacha buillí troma i mbabhtáí Craoibhe na hÉireann i mbliana. Bhí muintir Thiobraid Árann thar a bheith muiníneach i bhfoireann an Chontae. Bhíodar ag tnúth ní amháin le Craobh na Mumhan ach le Craobh na hÉireann.

Ar aghaidh leo go Luimneach chun dul i gcoimhlint leis An Clár. Chuir siad san matalang na bliana roimhe ar leathaobh agus ag diere an chluiche bhí buille trom fachta ag Tiobraid Árann mar bhí An Clár chun tosaigh. Bhíomar ar an gcarn aoiligh go ceann bliana eile. Bhuaigh An Clár ar Chiarraí agus bhí siad i gCraobh na Mumhan don dara bliain i ndiaidh a chéile.

San leath eile den chomórtas bhí Corcaigh ag goileadh i dtaoibh an bhriseadh a d'fhulaing siad ón gClár an bhliain roimhe agus bhí cuma dhiongbhála ortha nuair a thug siad aghaidh ar Luimneach. Iompú mór eile ab ea an toradh. Bhí Luimneach chun tosaigh nuair a séideadh an fheadóg dheireanach agus bhí bliain neamhthortúil arís ag Corcaigh: Bhuaig Luimneach go héasca i gCraobh na Mumhan. I gCúige Laighean, bhí Cill Choinnigh, Curaidh na hÉireann in

iomaíocht le Uí bhFáilí. Lean scál na n-iompuithe arís. Le tasipeántas croíúil, ghnóthaigh Uí bhFáilí an bua tar éis cluiche fuinnúil. Bhuadar ansin ar Loch Garman i gCraobh Laighin agus in iompú eile fuair siad an lámh uachtar ar Ghaillimh i Leathchraobh na hÉireann. Sa leathchraobh eile bhí an lá le Luimneach ar Aontraim fé mar a bhéadh siúil leis, agus bhí na hiomaitheoirí réidh chun dul i ngleic don chraobh.

Cluiche breá spórtúil a bhí ann agus bhí Luimneach go maith bhun tosaigh agus deire an chluiche ag druoidim linn; ach ní raibh aon choinne dhá chúl agus bhí siad chun tosaigh. Ar feadh an ama a bhí fágtha d'aimsíodar cúpla cúilín eile agus sciobadar an corn. Iompú mór eile a bhí ann.

Tá Tuaim Uí Mheadhra ag lorg an choirn inniu don triú bCiáin i ndiaidh a chéile. An mbeidh iompú eile againn, an ortha thitfidh an buille Trom? An mbeidh an lá le Caiseal? Is maith an scéalaí an aimsir.

Rath Dé oraibh go léir.

Conchubhar Ó Riain
Oifigeach na Gaeilge



Babs Babes

*Imagine Spring without bluebells
Autumn without golden leaves
Pavarotti without Carreras and Domingo
Tipp hurling without Michael Babs Keating*

There once was a great power which suddenly waned and wilted for a period of 16 years. A stake through the heart administered by a certain Mr. Bennis, led to this period of isolation, where no Munster finals were to be celebrated and to consider the All-Ireland title would require the assistance of the potion used to produce Coleridge's Kubla Khan.

Then in the Sixteenth year of this famine, the rulers of this fabled county turned to a new weaver of the wand, who had in a previous golden age been a magician of the ash.

They did not err. A new magical mystery tour was instigated by that decision. From the highways and byways of the Premier County, new supple athletic craftsmen were plucked as if apples from a golden bough by Babs and the other wise men.

A feat of seven years magnitude began. Two All-Ireland wins, 2 National League titles, 5 Munster titles were the harvest which they reaped.

But more, much more. Fox low to the ground, flashing points from all angles and scoring hard-won goals when most needed. English turning and twisting like a piston and soaring skywards like an eagle before dispatching scores from left and right.

The brio and cheeky ebullience of John Leahy, the grit of Delaney and Frend, the



bloody and unbowed Hayes, the throbbing and courageous runs of the Viking. Mix all the above with the majestic presence of Sheehy, the wiry strength of Michael Ryan, the rallying pulsating surges of the brothers Bobby and Aidan.

Consider the snipe-like runs of Cleary, the strength and presence of Declan Ryan, the ball-playing skills of Colm and Conal.

There are many more memories of this golden era, which remain in the mind as clearly as stills projected by the latest video technology.

Yes, there were disappointments; Thurles in 90, Cork in 92, Corke Park in 93, Limerick in 94. But place against these setbacks the following record.

We cannot know joy without sorrow, sunshine without rain, peace without a storm.

It is a cliché but also a truism that 'a prophet is never accepted in his own land'. I thank you Babs for leaving us so many majestic memories which still brighten even the most mundane days. Thank you especially for bringing dignity and above all skill back to the home of hurling.

Jim (Seamus) Fogarty
Kilkenny and Roscrea

- | | |
|------|---|
| 1987 | Munster Champions |
| 1988 | Munster Champions and National League Champions |
| 1989 | Munster Champions and All-Ireland Champions. |
| 1991 | Munster Champions and All-Ireland Champions. |
| 1993 | Munster Champions. |
| 1994 | National League Champions. |

CASHEL GO FOR WORLD HONOURS

This afternoon Cashel hurlers will be striving to take county honours but also today marks the beginning of the World Handball Championships where Cashel handballers will be striving for world glory.

The Waterford Crystal World Handball Championships come to Ireland for the third time with a total of 680 players entered and they are being played at Dublin and Clare venues. Cashel have 6 players in action and hopes will be high that they can win a world title.

Today in Clare, the championships begin and will run for the full week until Sunday, 9th. Clare may be the place where Cashel's best hopes are.

Jackie Keating is in action in the girls' 19 and under singles and she should have a great chance of honours. Jackie has been in great form this year, winning the All-Ireland 40x20 Junior singles title, and, with her international experience, she should do well. Carol Moloney also participates in the girls' 19 and under singles and is another girl who should do very well. She has one All-Ireland under her belt this year and has trained hard for her World

attempt. Incidentally, Carol's father is well-known Cashel King Cormac's chairman, J.J. Moloney.

Donna Harding is the third Cashel girl in action and she plays in the girls' 15 and under singles. Donna, who recently won an All-Ireland Community Games, should do well and it will be great experience for this young Cashel girl.

Cashel have three men in action at Dublin venues but the men's plans have been upset by the withdrawal of the unlucky David Moloney, due to a knee injury. David would have been a firm bet for honours. Noel Murphy now plays the "A&B" doubles with Josie O'Dwyer and this will be a new partnership. And if they can hit it off together, they could do well. Noel also participates in the 23 and under singles but he will have his work cut out in a very tough grade.

Michael Carrie takes part in the "C" singles and will be a 'dark horse' in this competition. Michael has been training very hard for this and is well capable of doing very well.

Maybe this week will see the return of the "Dan Breen" cup to Cashel and maybe also a lot of world titles.

The one thing missing from Tipperary hurling

By: Cyril Darcy

The time has come again for an evaluation of Tipperary hurling. This time seems appropriate in the aftermath of Tipperary's defeat by Clare in the Munster senior hurling championship and the subsequent resignation of their manager Michael 'Babs' Keating.

Taking the positive aspects first, it is only fair to compliment 'Babs' on his record over the past eight years. He brought Tipperary hurling out of the wilderness after a famine of eighteen years to once again regain the respect that we in Tipperary were used to in the 1950's and 1960's.

In setting out on his mission, 'Babs' with his team of mentors set about their task in a business-like way. He put structures in place that brought results and instilled a sense of pride in the players who responded in a positive way.

'Babs' with the support of the county board and Michael Lowry, county chairman, got rid of the old North, South, Mid, West phenomena.

In setting out his tasks and priorities, it seems to me that 'Babs' worked out his strategy in the following way. He placed the greatest emphasis on skill, this was understandable as he was a skilful player himself and if the skills of hurling are not developed its pointless developing other aspects of the game. A great emphasis was also placed on fitness and team work and progress in these areas was visible from an early stage of 'Babs' reign.

As a result of his efforts, Babs put together a very skilful squad of hurlers that combined very well as a team which brought good results.

The only negative aspect of this team was whenever they were regarded favourites to win an important game they floundered. Remember Cork 1990, Galway 1993 and of course Clare 1994? All these games should have been won so what happened?

In my opinion to have a successful team you must have three things:

- A. Skill.
- B. A high degree of fitness.
- C. The character to win.

I do not intend to discuss A & B as I feel

these two areas were adequately dealt with. I will discuss the character issue because I feel it was not treated with the same importance as skill and fitness by the Tipperary mentors.

When I write about character, I mean:

1. The inner feeling of superiority that each player must have.
2. The total commitment above all else to the subject in hand.
3. The crossing of all barriers including pain to achieve the targets.
4. The utter conviction within oneself that the mission is achievable.

Looking at the past eight years of Tipperary hurling, I feel these aspects were missing. I would say that on important occasions the very skilful player was selected at the expense of the player with less skill and more character.

In my opinion there are two ways of dealing with this character issue:

1. When selecting a panel of players, use character more frequently as an aspect of the criteria for selection.
2. If players are skilful and motivated but are weak on character, this issue should be taken on board. This can be done by looking at the psychological aspects of each individual player.

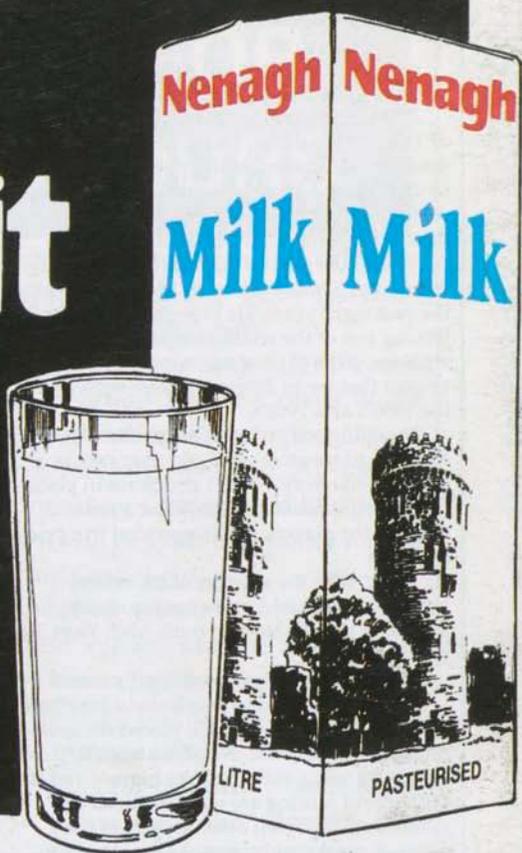
In this respect, open communication by the management is the most important aspect with each player as individuals and as a team to discuss their strengths and weaknesses.

Other areas to be closely looked at are motivation, commitment, team building, co-operation, achievement and above all the area of positive thinking. If work is carried out in this area a cohesive team will emerge finely tuned and strong in mind and body to take on all aspects in battle and to win and achieve the ultimate goal.

The 90's can still be bright for this Tipperary team if the present strategy is continued and enhanced with a greater emphasis on character building and man management.

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