

Co. Tipperary Senior Hurling Final
Match Programme
1992



Cluichí Cheannais Chontae Thiobraid Árann

STÁID SEMPLE, DÚRLAS ÉILE

Sunday, November 1st, 1992



Luach:

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CLÁR AN LAE

1.30 I.N. – CLUICHE CHEANNAIS MIONÚIR

ÉIRE ÓG (Aonach) v NA SAIRSEALAIGH

(Éire Óg, Nenagh) v (Thurles Sarsfields)

Réiteoir: **RICHIE BARRY** (Cappawhite)

—o—

3.00 i.n. – CLUICHE CHEANNAIS SINSEAR

TUAIM UÍ MHEARA v NA SAIRSEALAIGH

(Toomevara) v (Thurles Sarsfields)

Réiteoir: **TOMMY LONERGAN** (Kilsheelan)

BUÍOCHAS

TO win an All-Ireland senior hurling medal is probably the greatest single desire of any hurler. To win a county senior hurling medal is possibly the second. Many people would reverse these and argue, as I do, that the winning of a county senior hurling title by a parish does more, much more, for the parish spirit and pride than an All-Ireland. Two teams have the chance to raise the spirits to high heavens in their respective parishes today. One, of necessity must lose out and hopefully theirs will be another day.

I hope that today's programme will serve as a suitable souvenir of the occasion for both players and spectators. Many thanks to those who contributed articles and photographs, to Donie Shanahan, Matt O'Meara and Ciaran Grace, Toomevara; Liam O'Donnchú, Paddy Doherty, Liz Howard, Gerry Slevin of the *Nenagh Guardian*, Michael Dundon of the *Tipperary Star*, Seamus O'Doherty and Brendan O'Connor for his colour photographs.



John McCormack
Programme Editor

Teachtaireacht an Cathaoirleach



Fáilím sibh go léir go dtí Páirc Semple inniu do na chluichí cheannais. Tá súil agam go mbainfidh sibh taighneamh mór as an lá agus go mbeidh sór imirt againn.

I am very happy to welcome everybody to Semple Stadium today for the premier event in our county hurling calendar, the minor and senior finals for 1992. In these encounters we shall experience the cream of young hurling promise and the maturity and skills of those with established playing reputations.

Today, we have two great hurling clubs competing for ultimate honours in the senior final, even though neither club has appeared at this stage for some time now. Anyone with any knowledge of Tipperary hurling will have read about the great exploits of the Toomevara Greyhounds during the period 1910-30. In that short period they won 17 north senior titles and eight county championships and had the balladeers singing:

*"Then hurrah for Toomevara! May your banner never fall!
You beat Galway and Queen's County, you're the boys can play the ball!
But I never will forget the day Kilkenny's pride went down
Before the skill of Wedger's men in sweet Dungarvan town".*

Even more impressive have been the exploits of the famed Thurles Sarsfields. The club had a great period of success in the first decade of this century when the famous Thurles Blues kept the flag of Tipperary hurling flying high. But more impressive still was that splendid period of eleven years, between 1955 and 1965, during which they won an incredible, and unlikely ever to be emulated, ten county senior hurling championships! One of the greatest, from a roll-call of greats, of that period was the irrepressible Mickey "The Rattler" Byrne, who won no less than fourteen senior championships during an illustrious career!

Is it any wonder that we look forward with such expectation to today's game? The last time Sarsfields won was in 1974 when they stopped Silvermines winning a first ever. Toomevara's last success goes back even further to 1960 when they had the distinction of stopping today's opposition winning six-in-a-row. That defeat gave a new lease of life to the famed Sarsfields side who went on to win another five.

To spend so much time on the senior game is not to detract from the merits of the minor final, in which the youngsters of Éire Óg, Nenagh, try their mettle against their peers from Thurles Sarsfields. Both clubs have been concentrating on their young players over the past number of years and their appearance in the final today is an indication of the success of their respective efforts. Éire Óg were easy winners in last year's final but Sarsfields have to go back to 1985 for their most recent success, having lost the final in 1987.

I wish all four teams well and hope that this will be a day to savour and remember for many years to come. I also wish the best to the match officials who are so important to the success of the day. Finally, I should like to thank all the players and teams who played at the earlier stages of today's championships. To all the supporters I should like to thank you sincerely for your continued loyalty and good behaviour. Táim fiór buíoch díobh uile.

Michael Maguidhir

Cathaoirleach Coiste Chondae

Best of Luck to Toomevara from:

Paddy Shanahan

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What Barometer now, the Divisional C'ships?

Asks GERRY SLEVIN

THE fact that neither of today's senior finalists is bidding to add a county title to one already captured in the divisional race, makes the Toomevara/Sarsfields clash rather strange. Indeed in Toome's case they failed to reach the North final and came through to contest the quarter finals of the county championship by virtue of their status as league champions, and a play-off with Lorrha, runners-up to Nenagh Éire Óg, in the North final.

Toome have faltered twice in championship fare this season, against Borris-Ileigh and Lorrha, Sarsfields lone loss was in the replayed Mid Final, when they were 'caught' by Loughmore-Castleiney in the final run in and then succumbed entirely in extra time.

All of which makes one wonder about the divisional championships being a barometer for further progress.

Nevertheless, none would dispute the entitlement of these great hurling strongholds to their place in the sun, today.

It's a total North/Mid interest, with Nenagh seeking to exact some measure of compensation for their seniors replayed defeat by Sarsfields through the presence of their minors. As one Nenagh wag put it on Saturday evening, after Éire Óg had defeated Ballybacon in the semi-final, "we're on the county final programme, anyhow!". He, and Nenagh of course would have wished their seniors to be there also but it was not to be and in taking on the Sarsfields, the Nenagh minors will be making their third final appearance in four years. They lost to Cashel in a replay in '89. Erin's Hope defeated them in the divisional final the following year, and went on to take the county title. Then last year, Nenagh bounced back to regain the honours and it remains to be seen if they can keep up the momentum.

Had Sarsfields managed to get over Nenagh in the drawn senior semi-final, the likelihood is that Toome would be the odds-on favourites today. What a change in attitude was wrought in the Thurles make-up in the space of one short week, so much so, that they are probably favourites to win.

This, of course, is making Toome smile and while not for a moment are they looking on this game as easy meat, they know that the burden of favourites is not on them.

Will Toome do it? I think so. Not because I feel they are an exceptional side. They are quite ordinary, but it is their even balance throughout the field, coupled with their 'so near and yet so far' accomplishments over the past few years, that suggest to me that their time has come.

Their major flaw is a lack of discipline in the side as demonstrated in the number of players who have failed to finish so many games this season. They will all have to keep their heads today and somehow, I feel they will.

So, we may not have the All-North final we spoke about in the semi-final programme, but a win for Nenagh and Toome would make up for this!

Sorry, Sars!

Sarsfields to reclaim their pride

Seamus O'Doherty

AFTER all the draws and boardroom action the pairing for this year's county senior hurling final has been established. The two protagonists have been through a lot this season and they have three things in common.

Both have a great tradition and proud history, they have won the secondary competition within their divisions and finally they came the long way around, before finally reaching the showpiece day at local level.

There's another interesting aspect to the game as well, neither county finalist is the champion club in its own division. Since the reintroduction of the divisional qualification systems in 1977, this is the first occasion that both teams in the decider were not local winners.

It all adds more spice to a clash, which has really captured the public imagination. The pairing has been 'coming' for several years past, consequent to outstanding progress at under-age level in Thurles and Toomevara. Both teams have their fanciers, but after all that has gone before nothing is certain.

The game is likely to be fought out at a hectic pace with courage going a long way. There's a lot of pride to be restored on both sides and this represents the perfect opportunity to do so.

Thurles Sarsfields played in their

last final when losing to Kilruane McDonagh's in 1979, while their last victory was recorded back in 1974, with the great Jimmy Doyle prominent all through. The present Sarsfields' manager, Tom Barry, was a very youthful member of that team. He now stands one hour away from achieving the second leg of a rare double.

In his way are the Toomevara Greyhounds, coached by the hurling fanatic P. J. Whelehan, the former Offaly player and selector. It is a first final appearance for the green and gold since losing the 1961 decider to Sarsfields. A year earlier Billy Donovan led Toome to their last Dan Breen Cup victory when they beat the famous 'Blues' who were bidding for a sixth title in-a-row. There has been a lot of reminiscing this week about those years of the early sixties and both clubs will be remembered for their achievements. Toome was the only club to beat the Sarsfields in 11 Co. Finals between 1955 and 1965!

All of this will mean little to today's men. Their interest is in the present and there will be many years to come for reflection and adulation.

Predicting county final winners is hazardous because one often tends to concentrate too much on semi-final form. But very often it is the lesser impressive performance which has more room for improvement. To be candid Nenagh Éire Óg and Lough-

more-Castleiney were the fancied finalists, but neither survived the challenge so their day has been postponed.

The simple solution is reached by taking Loughmore-Castleiney as the yardstick. They beat Sarsfields and Cashel K.C. but Toomevara beat them so the Northerners should win! But don't forget Sarsfields beat fancied Clonoulty-Rossmore and trounced the champions of Toomevara's own division - Nenagh Éire Óg.

Would Sarsfields have improved so much if they had won the Mid title? Have Toomevara come back into form thanks to a break between games? The prevailing wisdom suggests that Thurles have more power around the field than their opponents, but who could dismiss the Toome defence as a soft touch? Nobody who knows the game that's for sure.

Their victory over Loughmore-Castleiney was a major achievement and can only convince them that greater targets are attainable.

Sarsfields came into North Tipp country for a replay with Nenagh Éire Óg and left with a highly impressive

performance behind them. Their performance (without captain Eamon Walsh) changed many peoples opinion of them and there is a fine sprinkling of talent, starting with goalkeeper Pat McCormack, which will take some work to contain for an hour.

Toomevara must believe their name is on the Cup. They were twice beaten in the North Tipp championship but won the games which mattered.

With Mick O'Meara leading from defence aided by George Frend and the under-rated Pat Meagher and with Declan O'Meara in determined form the rearguard will be solid. There won't be as much space as there was when two players were dismissed in Cloughjordan and close marking will be the norm rather than the exception. If either team can edge ahead here it could be decisive.

Sarsfields will need Brendan Carroll in top form at midfield and Connie Maher in sharp shooting form up front. There are no favourites in this clash, but, in a low scoring game, Sarsfields might have a few more aces to play. A victory for either club would be popular - let's hope it's of benefit to Tipperary.

Action from the 1960 County Final — Toomevara v. Sarsfields.

Left to Right: Tom Shanahan (T.), Jimmy Doyle (S.), Roger Mounsey (T.) and Sean McLoughlin (S.)





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Senior Referee:

Tommy Lonergan

(Kilsheelan)

Started refereeing in 1975. Refereed Co. Finals in all grades in football. Refereed last years Co. Minor hurling final and South Senior hurling final. This years South Senior football final.

Refereed National Football League games, Munster Minor football championship games, Munster club championship game, also served as a minor football selector for a number of years. Married to Judith, they have two children – Donncha and Noelle.



Umpires: Peter Mahony, Denis Lonergan, Peter Moore and Jim Cahill (all Kilsheelan).

Linesmen: Willie Robinson (Kilsheelan); Paddy Lonergan (Bansha).

Minor Referee:

Richard Barry

(Cappawhite)

Married with 5 children, Richie played Minor and Under-21 for Cappawhite. He commenced refereeing in 1988, having first completed a refereeing course under John Moloney.



Richie is heavily involved with juvenile games at all grades and is currently chairman of the West Tipperary Bord na nÓg and vice-chairman of the County Juvenile Board. This is Richie's first county final in any of the senior grades, although he has refereed many finals in the juvenile grades. We wish Richie and his officials the very best in today's final.

Linesmen: Liam O'Dwyer, William Morrissey.

Umpires: Sean Breen, Johnny Ryan (P.), John Barry, William Walsh.

THE MINOR FINAL

THE County minor hurling final between Éire Óg (Nenagh), the holders, and Thurles Sarsfields brings into contention two clubs with excellent records at under-age level and which are also setting headlines at senior level.

Winners last year, and with ten of that side eligible again this year, this is an excellent Éire Óg combination, a number of whose players are already showing outstanding promise at senior level.

Goalkeeper Christy McLoughlin and Robbie Tomlinson are regulars with the senior side, and Declan O'Meara also figured in the county semi-final.

Sarsfields' youngsters have not yet attained full senior status, although Pat Treacy and Declan Keher figured in the panel earlier in the year. With Durlas Óg achieving outstanding results at juvenile level, there is a wealth of talent in the Cathedral Town at present.

Nenagh have been most impressive in the campaign. In the semi-final they accounted for Ballybacon-Grange by a comfortable margin and earlier beat a fine Erin's Hope combination in the North final.

Sarsfields' path to the final saw them victorious over Holycross-Ballycahill in the Mid decider. Then they overcame the challenge of West title-holders, Cashel, in the semi-final to qualify for their first final since 1987. They last won the championship in 1985.

Of course, Sarsfields have the added incentive of bidding for a double, a feat last achieved by the club in the mid-12

fifties, as their seniors are also contesting the senior final.

Whatever the outcome, the game has all the ingredients for a thriller. Both sides are renowned for the open style of play and the spacious Semple Stadium area should facilitate them in this regard. Hopefully the elements will oblige with lively conditions that could make this one of the best finals for years.

With Tipperary anxious to make an impression at All-Ireland level, supporters will be looking to today's finalists for an indication of what to expect next year. We hope they won't be disappointed.

Jimmy Doyle

*I will tell a tale of a hurling star
With speed, control and style,
He gave us all such value,
His name was Jimmy Doyle.*

*His hurling was a treat to watch,
He was manly, he was clean;
Old-timers looked in awe at him,
His likes they had never seen.*

*For four years as a Minor,
he held centre stage;
Again he had no equal,
The best ever under-age.*

*When hurling men assemble
And they talk of skill and style,
One name will always come to mind,
The greatest - Jimmy Doyle.*

Gerard Ryan



EIRE OG, NENAGH - Minor Hurling Finalists 1992

BACK ROW (l-r): Shane Connolly, Declan O'Meara, Christy McLoughlin, Liam Walsh, John Tucker, Mervan Scanlon, Frank McGrath, Billy Flannery.

FRONT ROW (l-r): Declan Bailey, Jim McAuliffe, John Manley, Paudie O'Kennedy, Robert Tomlinson, Kevin Tucker, Tom Conroy.

MINOR:

ÉIRE ÓG, (Aonach)

(Eire Óg, Nenagh)

Dathanna: Light Blue & Navy (Gorm is Dubhgorm)

(1)

C. MacLochlainn

CHRISTY McLOUGHLIN

(2)

L. Ó Eadhra

LIAM O'GARA

(3)

S. Guest

JOHN GUEST

(4)

D. Báille

DECLAN BAILEY

(5)

T. Ó Confaoi

TOM CONROY

(6)

P. MacCraith

FRANK McGRATH

(7)

S. Ó Conghaile

SHANE CONNOLLY (Capt.)

(8)

M. Ó Scannlán

MERVAN SCANLON

(9)

S. MacTuachair

JOHN TUCKER

(10)

D. O'Meára

DECLAN O'MEARA

(11)

R. MacToimilín

ROBERT TOMLINSON

(12)

P. Ó Cinnéide

PADRAIG O'KENNEDY

(13)

C. MacTuachair

KEVIN TUCKER

(14)

L. Breatnach

LIAM WALSH

(15)

S. Ó Maonaile

JOHN MANLEY

Fir Ionaid: 16. S. MacAmhlaoigh (**Jim McAuliffe**); 17. D. MacThréinir (**David Creamer**); 18. P. MacÉinrí (**Paul Henry**); 19. L. Ó Flannabhra (**Billy Flannery**); 20. M. Ó Lachtnáin (**Michael Loughnane**); 21. S. Ó Broin (**John Burns**); 22. D. Ó Síocháin (**David Sheehan**); 23. P. Ó Seacháin (**Frank Shanahan**); 24. D. MacTuachair (**David Tucker**); 25. E. Ó Géaráin (**Eddie Guerin**).

Selectors: P. J. Maxwell, John Tucker, Sean Minogue (*manager*).

NA SAIRSEALAIGH

(Thurles Sarsfields)

Dathanna: Blue & White (Gorm is Bán)

(1)

D. Ó Móra

DAMIEN MOORE

(2)

P. Ó Bruadair

PETER BRODERICK

(3)

P. O'Treasaigh

PAT TREACY

(4)

N. Ó hAnracháin

NIALL HANRAHAN

(5)

M. Ó Riain

MATTHEW RYAN

(6)

P. Ó Muirí

PAT MURRAY

(7)

T. Ó Cinnéide

THOMAS KENNEDY

(8)

D. Ó Cathaoir (Capt.)

DECLAN KEHER

(9)

D. Ó Dubhuir

DARA DWYER

(10)

G. Spáinneach

GERRY SPAIN

(11)

D. de Búrca

DAN BURKE

(12)

N. Dondún

NOEL DUNDON

(13)

S. MacIonnraichtaigh

JOHN ENRIGHT

(14)

T. Ó Fógartaigh

TOM FOGARTY

(15)

E. MacIonnraichtaigh

EDDIE ENRIGHT

Fir Ionaid: 16. David O'Riordan; 17. Michael Bowe; 18. Fergal Loughnane; 19. Padraig Barrett; 20. Paul O'Gorman; 21. Seán O'Grady; 22. Mark Wade; 23. Dom Cornally; 24. Edward Cornally; 25. Michael Galvin; 26. Colin Coppinger; 27. Frank Nolan; 28. Anthony Nolan; 29. Raymond O'Riordan; 30. Murty Larkin; 31. Con Callinan.

Selectors: Fr. Pat O'Gorman, Jimmy Duggan, Michael Dundon, Michael McElgunn, Jim Max, Frank Barrett, Oliver Spillane.



THURLES SARSFIELDS - County Minor Hurling Finalists 1992

BACK ROW (lr): Noel Dundon, Tom Fogarty, Peter Broderick, Thomas Kennedy, Pat Murray, Eddie Enright, Dan Burke, Matthew Ryan.

FRONT ROW (l-r): Pat Treacy, Darra Dwyer, Declan Keher, Damien Moore, Niall Hanrahan, Murty Larkin, John Enright.

TEAMS WITH PROUD TRADITION

By
LIZ HOWARD

TOOMEVARA and Thurles, two revered names in hurling circles, seek Tipperary's major trophy, the Dan Breen Cup, to-day. Two prominent clubs from the early days of the Association, Toomevara dominated the North scene from 1909 to 1931, while Thurles were the Mid kingpins from 1935 to 1969. Thurles have a massive total of twenty-eight Co. Championships, while Toomevara hold 11. To-day, both make a welcome return to centre stage, recalling memories of 1960 and 1961.

I saw my first Tipperary Co. Final in 1960. We were living in Feakle at the time. Dad, who had won two Co. Championships with Toomevara in 1930 and '31, wanted to see his old club in action. He regaled us with hurling stories as we drove under the shadow of The Devil's Bit.

Thurles Sarsfields were at the height of their glory, having won the final since 1954. My great heroes, Tony Wall and Jimmy Doyle, were part of that star-studded side which also included Mickey Byrne, Larry Keane, Bobby Mockler, Sean McLoughlin, "Musha" Maher, Noel and Mick Murphy. Toomevara defeated Kilruane both in the North final and in the County semi-final and had shown a growing confidence. They had fine players in Matt O'Gara, Matt Hassett, Tom and Phil Shanahan, Tom Ryan, John and Gerry Hough.

Victory that day brought great joy and celebration to Toomevara; they won 3-15 to 2-8. Toomevara had not won since 1931. I expect that, as a child, I saw the events in an exaggerated way, but that day held a magical quality for us youngsters. Matt Hassett brought the McCarthy Cup to Toomevara the following Septem-

ber, but lost the Co. Championship title to Thurles Sarsfields, again in Templemore. The tragic death of Gerry Hough earlier that week left his Toomevara team-mates with little appetite for hurling.

To-day, as I drive through Killinan, I'll think of that finest of gentlemen, John Maher, who was one of Tipperary's greatest hurling ambassadors. His son, Michael, plays to-day, a man who has served his club well, on and off the field. I'll remember with affection John and Jim Lanigan and Tommy Doyle, men who loved "the Sarsfields" and Tipperary. The spirit of Tom Semple will, no doubt, be hovering around the stadium which hears his name.

"Wedger" Meagher is part of Toomevara and Tipperary hurling lore, so too are Frank McGrath and Martin Kennedy. Spare a thought for Tom Ryan, who departed this world in the prime of his life, as did Gerry Hough. Both were part of the 1960 victory.

Which team will claim victory today? The game is wide open. While Thurles were very impressive in the replay against Nenagh, Toomevara will be a different proposition. I look forward to a final worthy of the occasion. Éire Óg, Nenagh and Thurles Sarsfields contest the minor final. This should be a classic (famous last words!). As both sides have a lot of skill, I look forward to meeting my dear friend, Mick Craddock, a mere young fellow in his 80's who never misses a game. He'll be hoping for a "Thurles double". However, I know, only too well that my beloved Dad wants the Green and Gold of Toomevara to triumph. As for me, all I want is a wonderful County Final Day and a captain to lead Tipp. in September '93.

Player From The Past

Neil Williams

Toomevara

NEIL Williams was born in Cloughjordan beside the birth-place of Thomas McDonagh. He received his primary education in his home town and his strong family G.A.A. background had an early influence on his life.

When he moved to Ballyfin for his secondary education he made his mark on college games in both hurling and football, so much so that he represented the college on both Leinster teams.

After qualifying as a national teacher and spending a short period in Newport he was appointed principal of Ballinree national school in 1958 as a successor to the late Michael Bourke. He immediately transferred his allegiance to the Toomevara club and played a major part in the clubs North Tipp. senior championship success of that year, playing at centre-back. With Matt O'Gara and Tom Shanahan he formed one of the most powerful half back lines in club hurling.

Neil made the centre-back position on the club team his own for the next ten years, during which period he won three more North Tipp. titles and a county senior medal in 1960. He also represented Tipperary during that period and won Oireachtas and National League medals in 1961. He also had successful innings as captain of Toom to win the Frank McGrath Cup and the North senior football selection, with whom he won three county senior championship medals.

When his playing days ended he took an active interest in the administrative side of the Association being secretary of North Bórd na nÓg and a County



Board member for a long number of years. He was also a valued member of the local club committee of which he is still Registrar.

But it is his involvement with the juvenile hurlers of Toomevara that he will best be remembered. For twenty years he has devoted endless time coaching the youth of the parish with a success rate particularly at Under-12 age level, which is unlikely ever to be equalled. Every player representing Toomevara in today's senior final have passed through his hands and his main regret is that the players have not continued to play ground hurling at which he himself excelled. His coaching skills and quiet approach both on and off the field and during games have won many matches and championships against much better teams. Those qualities are well known far beyond the county boundaries and for his service to the Association he had the proud honour of being named *"Tipperary Clubman of the Year"* in 1986.

Neil has served his adopted parish with great devotion and dedication; as an outstanding teacher; a wise counsellor to those who approached him; a dedicated player; an efficient official; an excellent coach and above all a loyal friend.

Long may you be with us Neil.



TOOMEVARA - County Senior Hurling Finalists 1992

BACK ROW (l-r): Liam Nolan, Tommy Dunne, Pat Meagher, Tommy Carroll, Michael Murphy, Pat King, Jodie Grace, Michael Nolan.

FRONT ROW (l-r): Kenneth McDonnell, Phil Shanahan, George Friend, Declan O'Meara, Michael O'Meara, Rory Brislane, Terry Dunne.

SENIOR:

Tuaim Uí Mheara

(Toomevara)

Dathanna: Green and Gold (Glas is Óir)

(1)

S. de Grás

JODY GRACE

(2)

P. Ó Meachair

PAT MEAGHER

(3)

R. Ó Brisleáin

RORY BRISLANE

(4)

M. Ó Meára (Capt.)

MICHAEL O'MEARA

(5)

S. Frend

GEORGE FREND

(6)

D. O'Meara

DECLAN O'MEARA

(7)

P. Ó Seancháin

PHILIP SHANAHAN

(8)

P. O'Cionga

PAT KING

(9)

A. Ó Dúláinne

TONY DELANEY

(10)

L. O'Flaithcartaigh

LIAM FLAHERTY

(11)

M. Ó Murchú

MICHAEL MURPHY

(12)

T. Ó Doinn

TERRY DUNNE

(13)

L. Ó Nualláin

LIAM NOLAN

(14)

M. Ó Nualláin

MICHAEL NOLAN

(15)

T. Ó Doinn

TOMMY DUNNE

Fir Ionaid: 16. C. MacCormáic (Kevin McCormack); 17. S. Ó Nualláin (Sean Nolan); 18. T. O'Cearúil (Tommy Carroll); 19. C. MacDonáill (Kenneth McDonnell); 20. S. Ó Riain (John Ryan); 21. S. Ó Doinn (Jimmy Dunne); 22. B. Ó Speoláin (Brendan Spillane); 23. C. Ó Dúláinne (Kevin Delaney); 24. E. O'Cúidithe (Owen Cuddihy).

Selectors: Fr. Michael Casey, Jim McDonald, Frank Ryan. **Coach:** P. J. Whelehan.

Na SAIRSEALAIGH

(Thurles Sarsfields)

Dathanna: Blue & White (Gorm is Bán))

(1)

P. McCormaíc

PAT McCORMACK

(2)

M. ÓMeacháir

MICHAEL MAHER

(3)

T. Ó Meacháir

THOMAS MAHER

(4)

M. Sparrow

MICHAEL SPARROW

(5)

S. Ó Maolomhnaigh

JIM MOLONEY (Capt.)

(6)

S. Ó Sé

SEAMUS O'SHEA

(7)

S. Ó Meachair

SEAMUS MAHER

(8)

B. Ó Cearúill

BRENDAN CARROLL

(9)

S. Ó Dóirinne

JOHN DORNEY

(10)

P. Ó Meacháir

PADDY MAHER

(11)

C. Ó Meacháir

CONNIE MAHER

(12)

M. MacCormaíc

MAURICE McCORMACK

(13)

G. Ó Conchúir

GRAHAM O'CONNOR

(14)

L. Ó Duagáin

LIAM DUGGAN

(15)

S. Ó Coinne

SEAMUS QUINN

Fir Ionaid: 16. C. Ó Cearúil (Kieran Carroll); 17. E. Breathnach (Eamon Walsh); 18. C. ÓhAnracháin (Clive Hanrahan); 19. L. Ó Baróid (Lar Barrett); 20. M. Ó hAnracháin (Michael Hanrahan); 21. A. Ó Comáin (Tony Coman); 22. A. Rosaítear (Andy Rossiter); 23. P. Caomhánach (P. J. Kavanagh); 24. A. Ó Meara (Tony O'Meara); 25. S. Ó Cinnéide (John Kennedy); 26. C. MacCoimin (Kevin Cummins).

Selectors: Tom Barry (Coach); Denis Maher, Liam Ó Donnchú.



THURLES SARSFIELDS - County Senior Hurling Finalists 1992

BACK ROW (l-r): Connie Maher, Seamus Maher, Maurice McCormack, Paddy Maher, Seamus O'Shea, Jim Moloney, Michael Sparrow, Thomas Maher.

FRONT ROW (l-r): Michael Maher, Liam Duggan, John Dorney, Pat McCormack, Brendan Carroll, Graham O'Connor, Seamus Quinn.

NOW for a brief trip down memory lane. Back in the forties and fifties in the town of Thurles, there was what was termed "The School Around The Corner". In fact there were two such schools, one situated at the west end of Liberty Square, outside what was then the U.D.C. offices, the other was across the street at Mocklers "Chemist" Shop.

On certain nights of the week the "Gods" as they were referred to, would gather to discuss! What else, but hurling autopsies and verdicts were made, but very seldom acquittals were given to any unfortunate who had performed below par in any game previously played.

There were the storytellers, they would recount the deeds of men like "The Hawk" O'Brien (goalie) who it was said that he practiced by catching swallows flying in and out of a haybarn, and of that illustrious leader of men Tom Temple, of how he would assemble his men outside the town hall and lead them on a walk out to the Ragg and back as part of their training. At a certain time of the evening the "School" at Mocklers corner would cross over to join the other group.

On one particular night there was a debate about a certain young prospect who they thought was the find of the year for a future position of goalie, the boys from the "Mockler School"

listened for a while to the debate and with timing that would do justice to the great Jimmy Doyle himself . . . Paddy Mockler "The Blue" as he was fondly known interjected with a "spake" that ended the topic and the prospects of

THOSE WERE THE DAYS

By: Paddy Doherty

"God gave all men all earth to love, but since our hearts are small, ordained for each one spot should prove beloved all" - Kipling

the would-be goalie Paddy was heard to say Ah! he said, he'd stop hayseeds today and let in a tram of hay the next day.

Space wouldn't allow me to mention all who attended the "Schools", so just to mention a few. At Mockler's Corner there was Paddy Mockler "The Blue", Danny Kane, Philly Ryan, Nicholas Mockler and when home on holidays Fr. Jack Graydon. Over at the Council corner you would have a mixture of regular and occasional attenders, but needless to say they

wouldn't be all there on any one night. John Joe Callanan, Tommy Butler, Tommy Semple, Bunny Murphy, Ger Cornally, Jim O'Shea. Incidentally his grandson Seamus is on today's Sars. team. Bill Small and his son Michael who was later chairman of the Sarsfield's club from '73 to '76, the Tierney Bros, Christopher and John, Mick Craddock, Con Keane, who had the unique distinction of playing hurling and football with Munster in a Railway Cup on the same day. He took special pride in his three sons, Connie, Larry and Michael (Blackie) for their part in the great Sarsfields team of the '50's and '60's. Also you would see John McGuire, Paddy Brolan, Michael Sheehan, Seamus O'Brien, Tim Nyham, Michael Maher, Tommy Max, and the stars of the day John Maher, Tom Doyle, Mickey Byrne "The Rattler", Tom Ryan, and Bobby Mockler; also present were Jim Dooley and Martin Shanahan making a sure that the fires of conflict were kept stoked and as they say, the "craic was mighty".

Only the following are still with us - Mickey Byrne, Mick Craddock, Michael Small, Connie, Larry and Michael Keane, John McGuire, Michael Maher, Philly Ryan, Tim Nyham, Michael Sheehan, Seamus O'Brien, Jimmy Dooley and Martin Shanahan. The rest have gone to their eternal rest. Ar dheis Dé go raibh a anam.



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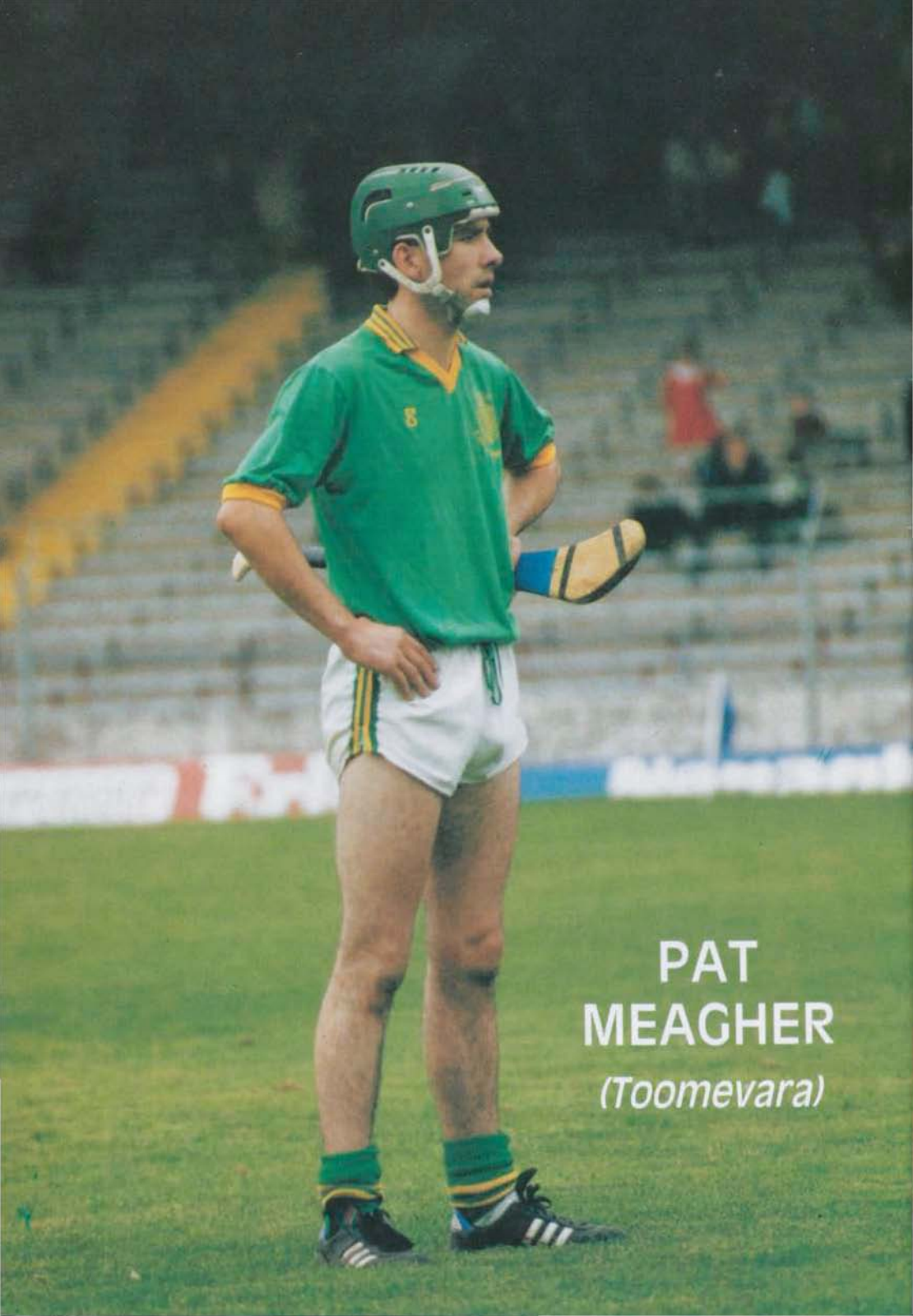
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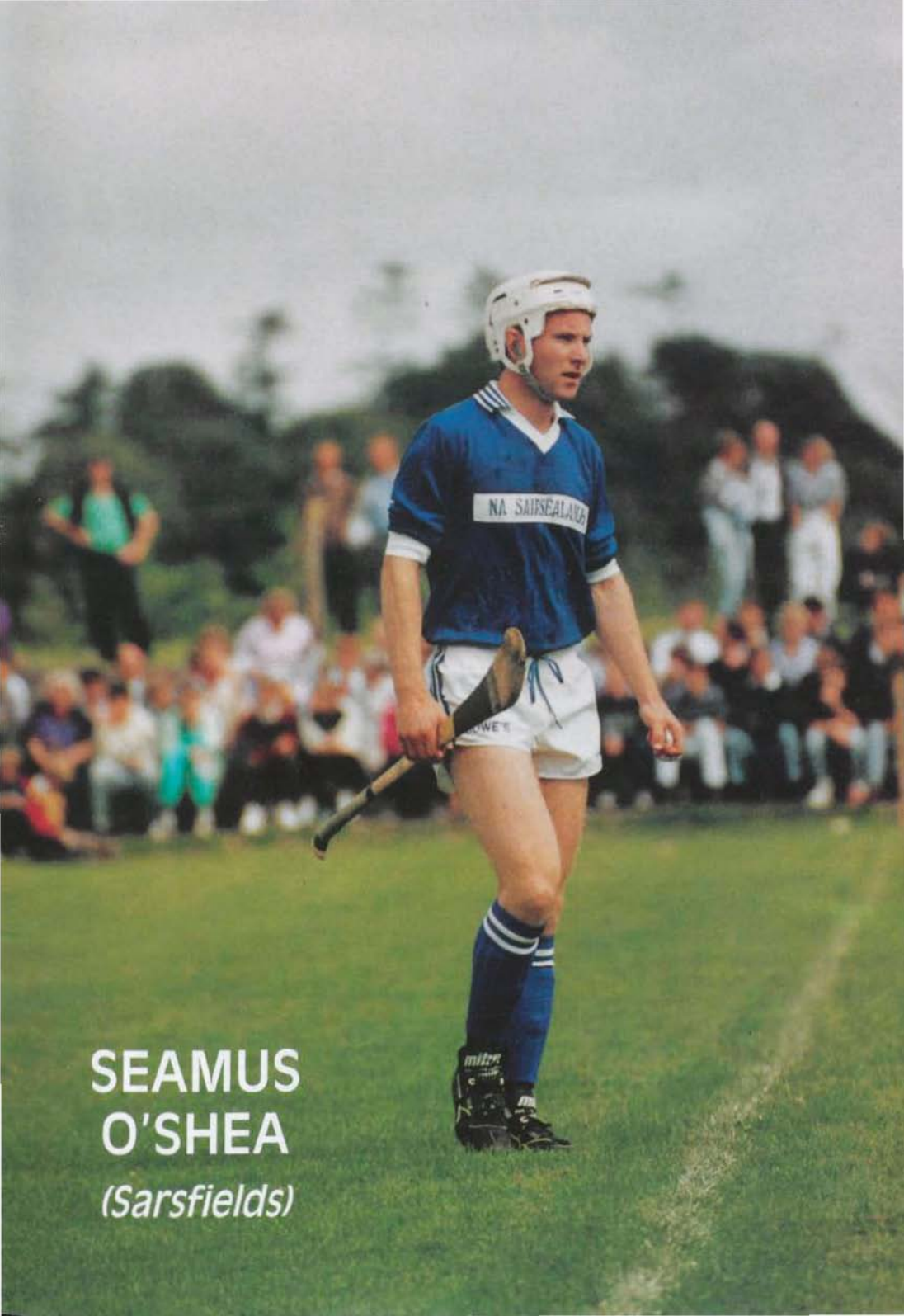
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**MICHAEL
MAHER**
(Sarsfields)



PAT
MEAGHER
(Toomevara)



SEAMUS
O'SHEA
(Sarsfields)

**LIAM
FLAHERTY**
(Toomevara)



Father and son

PLAYING at centrefield for Thurles Sarsfields today is John Dorney. The name Dorney will recall, for many here at Semple Stadium, a star of the Sarsfields' teams of the 'fifties and 'sixties era, in the person of Patsy Dorney – John's father.

Patsy had a brilliant career in the famed blue jersey, playing as a tenacious, gutsy forward.

He captured many honours including: Two County Minor hurling titles 1953-'55; one County Junior title 1956; 9 County Senior titles 1956, '57, '58, '59, '61, '62, '63, '64, '65; 2 Mid Minor hurling championships 1953, '55; 2 Mid Junior championships 1956, '69; 11 Mid Senior hurling titles 1956 to '65, 1969; Munster and All-Ireland Minor title 1955.

When playing days were over, Patsy did not sever links with his old club, rather he became a valued member of the backroom team, which has prepared many Sarsfield' teams for competition, including today's side.



A great man to administer the all important "rub" to loosen those stiff joints, while ceaselessly encouraging the players to greater endeavour.

Patsy, who is employed by Dwans in Thurles, has also a very keen interest in athletics, as shown by his successful involvement with Thurles Crokes.

Both Patsy and his wife, Kathleen, are delighted that John and Sarsfields are in today's County Final and are hoping for a Blues' win, of course.

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MEET THE PLAYERS

TOOMEVARA



Jody Grace: Age 25. Won Co. Championships at U/12, U/14, U/16, U/21, Intermediate and North S.H. Medal in 1991. He has represented Tipp at minor and U/21 and in 1989 won All-Ireland Junior medal with Tipp. as goalkeeper, and is presently a member of the Tipp Senior Panel – Farmer;



Pat Meagher: Age 26. Won Co. Championships at U/12, U/14, U/16, U/21 and North S.H. Medal in 1991. He has played U/21 hurling with Tipp. – Office Clerk.



Rory Brislane: Age 25. Won Co. Championships at U/12, U/14, U/16, U/21, Intermediate. Was captain of senior team in 1991, won all-Ireland colleges medal with St. Flannan's. He has also played minor and U/21 hurling with Tipp. – Sales Representative.



Sean Nolan: Age 29. Won many divisional honours at underage level, and a Co. Intermediate medal in 1984, won a North S.H. medal in 1991, and represented the county at Minor, U/21 and Junior level – Butcher.



George Frend: Age 22. Won Co. Championship medal at U/12, U/14, U/16, Minor, U/21. Won North S.H. medal in 1991, Won all-Ireland U/21 medal with Tipp. in 1989 and was captain in 1991. has played with Tipp. at corner back in this year's championship – Teacher.



Tony Delaney: Age 21. Won Co. Championships at U/12, U/14, U/16, Minor, U/21. Also North S.H. medal in 1991. Has played for Tipp. in Minor and U/21 hurling – Insurance Representative.



Michael O'Meara: Age 23. Won Co. Championships at U/12, U/14, U/16, Minor, U/21. Won North S.H. Medal in 1991. He was captain of the Tipp. M.H. in 1987, has played with the Tipp. U/21 team, and is currently a member of the Co. Senior Panel, and is a holder of an All-Ireland medal for 1991. Michael is also captain of today's team – Factory Employee.



Declan O'Meara: Age 22. Won Co. Championships at U/12, U/14, U/16, Minor and U/21. Won North S.H. medal in 1991. He was captain of Tipp. M.H. team in 1988, and has played with the county U/21 and senior teams – Carpenter.



Pat King: Age 27. Won Co. Championship medals at U/12, U/14, U/16, and U/21. Intermediate. Won North S.H. Medal in 1991. Has played on a number of occasions for Tipp. Senior Team – Factory Employee.



Thomas Dunne: Age 18. Won Co. Championship medals at U/12, U/14, and Minor, U/21. Won North S.H. Medal in 1991. Won honours with Tipp. U/14 and U/16 teams, has played with Tipp. Minor team for 3 years and was also a member of this year's U/21 panel – Apprentice Electrician.



Michael Murphy: Age 27. Won Co. Championships at U/12, U/14, U/16, U/21 and Intermediate. Won North S.H. Medal in 1991. Has represented Tipp at Minor, U/21, Junior and S.H. – Carpenter



Terry Dunne: Age 17. Won many underage championships and a Co. U/21 in 1990. Won North J.H. & S.H. medals in 1991, played with Tipp. in this year's M.H. Championship – Student.



Liam Flaherty: Age 27. Won Co. Championships at U/12, U/14, U/16, U/21. Won North S.H. medal in 1991. Won Munster U/16 Medal with North Tipp in 1981 – Farmer.



Liam Nolan: Age 27. Won Co. Championships at U/12, U/14, U/16, U/21, Intermediate. Has played for Tipp in Minor and U/21 grades. Won Co. Dublin Intermediate medal with Commercial in 1991 – Publican



Michael Nolan: Age 24. Won Co. Championships at U/12, U/14, U/16, Minor, U/21. Won North S.H. Medal in 1991. Has played with Tipp. Minor and U/21 teams, winning all-Ireland U/21 Medal in 1989. Also has played with Tipp. Senior team, and won Div. II Medal in 1987 – Factory Employee.



Tommy Carroll: Age 21. Won Co. Championship at U/12, U/14, Minor, U/21. Won North S.H. Medal in 1991. Has played for Tipp. at Minor and U/21 level – Student.



Kenneth McDonnell: Age 25. Won many underage honours, and captained the M.H. team to a North title win in 1985, and was a member of Tipp. U/21 team in 1988 – Farmer.



Jimmy Dunne: Age 30. Has won many Divisional honours at underage level, won Co. Intermediate Medal in 1984, and North S.H. Medal in 1991 – Carpenter.



Kevin McCormack: Age 21. Won Co. Championships at U/12, U/14, U/16, Minor, U/21, won North S.H. Medal in 1991. In 1988 won All-Ireland V.S. medal. With Tipp. V.S. Has played in goals for Tipp. Minor and Under-21 teams – Carpenter.



John Ryan: Age 27. Won Co. Championships at U/12, U/14, U/16, U/21 and many divisional honours and North S.H. Medal in 1991 – Farmer.



Kevin Delaney: Age 24. Won Co. Championships at U/12, U/14, Minor, Won North S.H. and J.H. in 1991 – Garage employee.



Owen Cuddihy: Age 31. Won many honours at underage level, and played in goals for the Junior team that won the 1991 North J.H. Championship – Carpenter.



Brendan Spillane: Age 27. Won Co. Championships at U/12, U/14, U/16, U/21 and Intermediate. Was a regular on the senior team until injury forced him to miss last year's Championship – Office Clerk.



Phillip Shanahan: Age 18. Won Co. Championships at U/12, U/14, Minor and U/21. Won North S.H. Medal in 1991, and also North J.H. Medal in 1991. Has played for Tipperary in U/14, U/16 and Minor – Trainee Hurling Coach.

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MEET THE PLAYERS

THURLES SARSFIELDS



Pat McCormack (36). Goal-keeper. Married to Ruth, two sons Patrick and Barry. Occupation: Quality Assurance Manager. County minor medal 1973, County senior hurling medal 1974, County junior hurling medal 1987, 4 Mid

S.H. medals and 5 Cahill Cup hurling medals. Golf is Pat's other major hobby.



Michael Maher (36). Corner back. Married to Nora. Three children, John, Joanne and Stephen. Son of the late John Maher (Killinan). Occupation: Veterinary Surgeon. County minor hurling medal 1973, 2 Mid S.H. medals, 5 Cahill Cup medals, 2 Fitzgibbon Cup medals with U.C.D. Michael also played with the Combined Universities team.



Tommy Maher (22). Full back. Single. Occupation: Engineer. Brother of wing back Seamus. Represented Tipperary at minor level. Won county junior and u-21 medals and County junior football. Holds 3 Mid minor and 3 Mid u-21 hurling medals.

Won numerous awards with Dúrlas Óg at juvenile level.



Michael Sparrow. (32) Corner back. Married to Ailish. 3 children, David, Sharon and Rebecca. A native of Ballingarry, Michael played with his native parish at all grades in both hurling and football. Following his move to live in

Thurles he subsequently transferred to Sarsfields and has been ever-present on the senior side since.



Seamus Maher (24). Half-back. Single. Occupation: Accountant. Holds under-21 All-Ireland medal from 1989. He captained the Tipperary minor team in 1986. Holds minor and under-21 County medals. Won two First Division Colleges

medals with Waterford R.T.C.



Jim Moloney (29). Half-back. married to Mary, sister of Conor and Richard Stakelum, Borris-Ileigh. Occupation: Supervisor. Jim is unique in that he played little hurling at juvenile level, having played

only for his school. It was only after injury curtailed his athletic career that he turned to hurling and is a regular on the Sarsfields' senior team since. As vice-captain, to-day he deputises for the injured Eamon Walsh.



Seamus O'Shea (25). Centre-back. Single. Occupation: Quality Assurance Analyst. Seamus has represented Tipperary at minor, u-21 and senior level. Captained Sarsfields to County minor title in 1985 and County u-21 title in 1988. he played with U.C.D. and the Combined Universities.



John Dorney (27). Centrefield. Married to Nuala, two sons Shane and Stephen. Occupation: Machine Operator. John's father, Patsy, won 9 County senior hurling medals with Sarsfields and captained Sarsfields to the title in 1965. John won numerous under-age titles with Dúrlas Óg and also holds a Munster Vocational Schools' medal.



Brendan Carroll (21). Centrefield. Single. Occupation: Student. Brendan is the son of former Kilkenny inter-county star, Mick Carroll, and nephew of Kilkenny County Secretary, Ted Carroll. Brendan has represented Tipperary at minor and under-21 level and holds a Munster minor medal from 1988 and under-21 medal from 1990. Brendan, who plays with U.C.D., also played with the Combined Universities this year. He is one of many Sarsfields' players who have graduated through the ranks of Dúrlas Óg. Played with Thurles C.B.S. in Harty Cup Final 1988.



Paddy Maher (30). Half-forward. Married to Helen, who is a sister of Pat and Maurice McCormack. One son, Pádric.

Paddy represented Tipperary at minor and under-21 levels, winning both minor and under-21 All-Ireland medals. He also holds 3 Cahill Cup medals and 1 Mid (S.H.) medal.



Connie Maher (31). Centre-forward. Married to Ann with one son, Denis. Occupation: Carpenter. Represented Tipperary at minor, under-21 and senior level. Connie holds two under-21 All-Ireland medals. His brother Paddy will play alongside him in the forward line and another brother, Denis, is a selector.



Maurice McCormack (31). Half-forward. Married to Catherine with one daughter, Katie. Occupation: Electrician. Maurice is a brother of Pat, the goalkeeper. He won an All-Ireland junior hurling medal with Tipperary in 1989 and also holds a County junior hurling medal (1987) and County junior football medal (1989).



Graham O'Connor (21). Corner-forward. Single. Waterford R.T.C. Won numerous under-age titles with Dúrlas Óg. Played with Thurles C.B.S. in the Harty Cup Final of 1988. Represented Tipperary at Minor level in 1989. Graham is a son of Dr. Larry O'Connor, who helps guide the fortunes of the club's footballers and is a nephew of former inter-county star, Paddy Kenny, who won numerous titles with Sarsfields and Borris-Ileigh.



Liam Duggan (31). Full-forward. Married to Catherine, two children Pádraig and Amy. Occupation: Factory Supervisor. Liam won County Intermediate football and hurling titles with Moyne-Templetuohy before moving to live in Thurles. He has represented Tipperary at both junior hurling and senior football.



Seamus Quinn (21). Single. Seamus showed great promise as a minor and represented Tipperary at minor level in 1987, 1988 and 1989, until a serious injury interrupted his career. He is currently rediscovering his old form. Seamus has won numerous awards with Dúrlas Óg at under-age level. He played with Thurles C.B.S. in the Harty Cup final of 1988.



Kieran Carroll (24). Goalkeeper. Single. Occupation: Student. Brother of centrefield man Brendan. Kieran is also a useful forward. Represented Tipperary at junior hurling level, winning a Munster medal in 1990. Holds County minor medal 1985, County under-21 medal 1988, County junior hurling medal 1987, and County junior football medal 1989. He wants a County senior hurling medal to complete the collection.



Eamon Walsh (26). Half-forward. Single. Captain of the team, who is, unfortunately, sidelined through injury. Occupation: Insurance Agent with Irish Life. Eamon played under-age with Dúrlas Óg and won an All-Ireland Colleges' title with Waterford R.T.C. His career has been hampered by injury. He played some tremendous hurling in the earlier rounds of this year's championship.



Lar Barrett (19). Corner-forward. Single. Occupation: Student with Waterford R.T.C. Won a Munster minor title with Tipperary in 1991 and scored 3 goals and 1 point in the final. Has won numerous under-age titles with Dúrlas Óg.



Andy Rossiter (25). Corner-forward. Single. Occupation: Machine operator. Played minor with Tipperary in 1984 and 1985. Won Co. minor medal in 1985. Also holds two Cahill Cups and numerous under-age awards with Dúrlas Óg.



Tony Coman (20). Full-forward. Single. Occupation: Storeman. Holds numerous awards at under-age level with Dúrlas Óg. Played with Thurles C.B.S. in Harty Cup Final 1988. Tony is also a useful goalkeeper.

MEET THE PLAYERS - THURLES SARSFIELDS (Continued)



P.J. Kavanagh (29). Corner-back. Married to Breda. Occupation: Van Sales. Played minor with Tipperary in 1981. Holds minor and u-21 Mid titles and 2 Cahill Cup medals. P.J. is also a capable forward.



Clive Hanrahan (21). Wing-back. Single. Occupation: Electrician. Holds numerous under-age titles with Dúrlas Óg. Played on Thurles C.B.S. Harty Cup final team 1988. Won All-Ireland Colleges' (B) title with CoAct Limerick.



John Kennedy (29). Corner-forward. Married to Nora, sister of Jim Moloney, wing-back on the team. Occupation: Mid-Western Health Board. Numerous under-age awards. 2 Cahill Cup medals.



Michael Hanrahan (21). Corner-back. Single. Occupation: Quality Supervisor. Won numerous under-age awards with Dúrlas Óg. Holds Mid minor, under-21 and junior medals.



Tony O'Meara (24). Wing-back. Single. Occupation: Civil Engineering Technician. Won Munster Junior hurling medal with Tipperary in 1990. Has minor and under-21 County hurling medals and County junior football medal.



Kevin Cummins (30). Wing-back. Single. Occupation: Computer Consultant. Won 2 All-Ireland Colleges with N.I.H.E. Limerick. All-Ireland Inter Firms (B) with Kerry Co-Op.

Co. Bórd na nÓg

TODAY'S collection is to raise funds for the running of under-age games in County Tipperary. We hope you will support the collection.

Competitions 1992:

This was Cahir's year in county competitions. The South Tipp club won three championships and were runners-up in another.

Congratulations to the Mid-Tipp under-16 hurling team which won the Munster competition, at Páirc Uí Caoimh on Munster Final day.

Large attendances were present for our finals this year, and the standard of competition in under-12 was excellent.

Coaching courses were held for hurling in Rockwell and football in Limerick.

We fielded county teams in under-14 hurling (Forrestal Tournament) and under-16 hurling (Nenagh Co-Op. Tournament).

We wish all today's finalists, both senior and minor the best of luck. These players have come through Bórd na nÓg and several of them have county Bórd na nÓg championship medals.

1992 Champions

Under-12 (Hurling)

Drom-Inch.

(Football) Galtee Rovers.

Under-14

(Rural Hurling) Cahir.

(Urban-Rural Hurling) Roscrea.

Rural-Football: Cappawhite.

Urban-Rural Football: Cahir.

Under-16:

Hurling 'A' Dúrlas Óg.

Hurling 'B' Fr. Sheehy's.

Football 'A' Cahir.

Football 'B' Fr. Sheehy's or Holycross.

Féile na nGael U-14 Hurling

Cappawhite.

Féile na nGael U-14 Football

Cashel.

Turas na nÓg U-14 Hurling

Roscrea.

Garda Cup (U-16 Div. Hurling)

Mid-Tipperary.

Garda Cup (U-16 Div. Football)

South Tipperary.

Munster Hurling U-16

Mid-Tipperary.

Our thanks to the countless voluntary workers who help Bórd na nÓg in promoting our games.

Liam McGrath
P.R.O.

A PROUD & NOBLE HERITAGE

By: PADDY DOHERTY

THURLES SARSFIELDS Club is as old as the G.A.A. itself going right back to 1884, according to tradition, though some claim 1885 was when it was affiliated to the G.A.A.

It lays claim to being one of Ireland's leading clubs. It can boast of holding a record 28 Tipperary senior hurling titles, and are proud of the men from the club who have captained Tipperary to ten All-Ireland victories: Jim Stapleton 1887, Tom Semple 1906, 1908, John Joe Callanan 1930, Jim Lanigan 1937, John Maher 1945, Tony Wall 1958, Jimmy Doyle 1962, 1965 and Michael Murphy 1964.

The club's first officers were Hugh Ryan, President, James Butler, secretary and Dan Maher, treasurer. They won their first county championship in 1887, wearing the colours of green and gold. The club then representing Tipperary under the captaincy of Jim Stapleton had the proud distinction of winning the first All-Ireland senior hurling final.

Seventeen years were to pass before they won a county championship in 1906, 1907, 1909, and 1911. The Blues combining with Moycarkey and Jockey men, won the All-Ireland Championships of 1906, and 1908 with Tom Semple as captain.

1912 to 1928 were barren years for the club, 1929 saw them regain the county title, 1930 Tipperary were to win the Triple Crown with

Juniors and Minors also, 1935, '36, '38 and '39, brought victory again to the Sarsfields with Jim Lanigan captaining the club section to All-Ireland honours in 1937.

Next we come to the years 1942, '44, '45, and '46 for further club victories. John Maher captained Tipperary's All-Ireland in 1945 and incidentally his son Michael is on today's Sarsfields team. The next championship victory for the boys in blue was in 1952 at Nenagh before a crowd of 15,000 spectators, when they defeated Borrisoleigh.

1955 and '56 brought further glory to the club for in those years the club won the triple crown of senior, junior and minor county titles. Senior and minor county titles were won in 1957 being defeated in the junior level, and the double was won again in 1958, but on this occasion it was the minors who suffered defeat.

The seniors won again in 1959 and were on their way to a six-in-a-row, only to be beaten by Toomevara, in 1960. However the club weren't to go empty handed as the footballers secured the only county senior title.

The club hurlers continued their winning way from 1961 to 1965. In the eleven years from 1954 - 1965 the club won ten senior county Junior Championships, four county Minor and three county Junior Championships, an unrivalled record in the county, 1965 saw the last of the "Summer Wine" they weren't to win again until 1974. They did however reach the final in 1979 only to be defeated by Kilruane McDonagh.

Mickey Byrne "The Rattler" as he is fondly known retired in 1965, one of the club's most cheerful and colourful characters, ever ready with a quick quip, or to tell a yarn. He chalked up no less than twenty three years of hurling for the Blues and won fourteen senior county championship medals from 1942 - 1965, an unequalled record, also winning All-Ireland medals in 1945, 1949, '50, '51 and 1958. Seven National Hurling league medals, Railway Cup and Oireachtas honours, Mickey captained Tipp. to national success in 1957. Played for Tipp. in 1960 league against Cork. He announced his retirement after the game, however conceding to a special request, turned out a few weeks later to lead Tipperary in a tournament in Birmingham against Cork.

I am delighted to extend a hearty congratulations to Mickey on his being unanimously elected President this summer of the club he served so faithfully.

Whether the team is called Toomevara, the Greyhounds, or simply Toome, the very mention of the men in green and gold arouses all sorts of feelings in people.

Particularly in North Tipp there is an incentive for all clubs to beat Toome, not that this is a bad thing, in fact over the years it has helped to create a healthy rivalry between all clubs in the North Division.

In the first 50 years of the Association the club enjoyed tremendous success throughout the county. During the period from 1890 to 1931 the club won an incredible 17 North S.H. titles and 9 county final successes. A remarkable achievement.

it was in 1910 that the club became a household name throughout the country, when led by the legendary "Wedger" Meagher, the famed Toomevara Greyhounds were formed. Many members of the club's team were part of the successful Tipperary teams at that time, one such event was the Croke memorial tournament of 1913 when the Toomevara selection defeated Kilkenny. This great victory was immortalised in the song

*Then hurrah for Toomevara may your banner never fall,
You beat Galway and Queen's County
- you're the boys can play the ball.*

*But I never will forget the day
Kilkenny's pride went down,
Before the skill of "Wedger's" men in
sweet Dungarvan town.*

The winning of the county title of 1931 was the end of an era for the club, and losing the service of such players

a s T o m O'Meara, Martin Kennedy, Jack Donovan, Garrett Howard and John Gleeson, the club was to experience a lean period at senior hurling level. Toome did make a welcome return to senior ranks when they won the North Intermediate title of 1944, and followed with S.H. title in '46 only to lose out to Carrick Swans in the County Semi-Final.

Toomevara - Down the Years

Under the leadership of Michael Bourke N.T. juvenile hurling was reorganised in the early 'fifties with a lot of success. Minor titles quickly followed and an Intermediate title in 1955. They got back into the winners enclosure with a North Final success over Kilruane in 1958.

They were defeated by Thurles Sarsfields in the county final but the paths of these two teams would cross again in '60 and '61. In 1960 when Sarsfields were going for their sixth title in-a-row, Toome were not to be denied and went on to record a historic win, and bring back the Dan Breen Cup for the first time since 1931.

They lost their title the following year to Sarsfields and even though they won the North Final of '62 it was the end of another era in the clubs history.

Up to the mid-70's the club had limited success, but when the under-age structure was reorganised many titles have been won at juvenile, minor, U-21, Junior and Intermediate. So, all members of todays panel have been part of that success, and with a North S.H. title in 1991 and League champions this year, it is hoped that a county senior medal will be added to their collection.

The parish of Toomevara holds its breath today, supporters know and the players know that a county title is long overdue, and with an average age of only twenty-three the future looks bright and we hope that on Sunday evening the Dan Breen Cup will be making its way to the village of Toomevara.

Toomevara Club Officers

Life President: Jack Donovan.

President: Matt Hassett.

Vice-President: Tom Shanahan.

Chairman: Fr. Michael Casey.

Vice-Chairmen: Fr. Michael

O'Meara, Gerry Kelly.

Secretary: Matt O'Meara.

Treasurer: Bernard O'Neill.

Registrar: Neil Williams.

Committee: Matt Ryan, Paddy Cummins, Billy Delaney, Ger Kinnane, Seamus Flaherty, Eamon Byrne, Pat Hennessy, John Joe McCormack, Donal Shanahan, Owen Cuddihy, Tom Troy, John Tynan, Arthur Powell, Paddy O'Brien, Deirdre Hughes.

TOOMEVARA

*Beaten by Thurles Sarsfields – Co. Semi-Final 1974
– when they last met*



Dinny Haverty, Dan Kennedy, Noel Duggan, Martin Ryan, Pat McGrath, Jack Brislane, Liam Hackett. **FRONT ROW:** Dinny Cuddy, Michael Delaney, Paddy O'Brien, Michael Young, Liam McGrath, Tomás Maxwell, T. J. Grace, D. G. Cleary, Tommy Whelehan, Seamus McGrath, Martin Ryan.

Sarsfields To-day

President: Mickey Byrne.

Patron: Fr. Pat O'Gorman.

Chairman: Liam O'Donnchú.

Secretary: Gerard Corbett.

Treasurer: John McCormack.

Registrar: Michael Maher.

P.R.O.: Michael Dundon.

To be involved in both the minor and senior finals on the one day is a rare and somewhat unique achievement. Today Sarsfields are experiencing such an occasion. The senior panel commenced training on the 14th January last under the guidance of Tom Barry and his co-selectors Denis Maher and Liam O'Donnchú. All three are former club players, Tom having been part of the last Sarsfield's team to win the title in 1974.

A comprehensive training programme was drawn up and the services of P. E. instructor Ann Stakelum were engaged to bring the panel through their paces. Ann, is a sister of John McGrath, Borris-Ileigh and is married to Holycross stalwart Tim Stakelum. The senior panel is a mix of experience and youth which has blended well together as the year progressed.

To-day's minor panel, as can be seen from the team list, is a comprehensive panel of 31 players. The club took a decision to enter two minor teams in this year's championship at 'A' and 'C' levels. The 'C' team are still involved at Mid-championship level. The fact that such a large body of minors are still involved in hurling at such an advanced stage of the year is proof that this decision was the correct one.

Both club teams are wished the very best in their respective bids to attain county honours to-day.



Pictured after the presentation in 1991 of statuette to former Tipperary and Sarsfield's great Ger Cornally were (back row – left to right) Pat O'Shea, Larry Barrett, John McCormack, Seamus Maher, Jimmy Duggan, Martin Maher, Timmy Grace, (Front row, left to right): Liam O'Donnchú, Ger Cornally, Gerard Corbett, Michael McElgunn.

**FROM THE GOOD EARTH
OF THIS NATIVE LAND
COMES ALL THE RICHNESS
AND NATURAL, HOMEGROWN
FLAVOUR OF ERIN.**



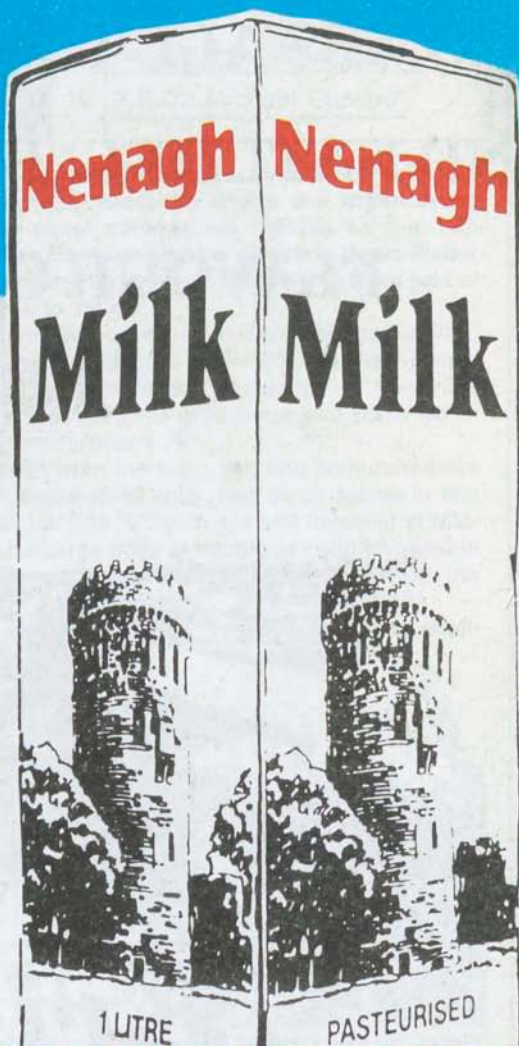
Erin

HOMEGROWN IN THE LAND OF ERIN.

FRESHHH...

...

There's
nothing
to beat it!



FRESH MILK - FROM NENAGH CO-OP