

North Tipperary Senior Hurling Final
Match Programme
2005

Coiste Thiobraid Árann Thuaidh

The Hibernian Inn

North Tipperary Senior Hurling Final

Buiríos Uí Luíoch v Éire Óg an Aonaigh

6.30 pm Referee: Sean Bradshaw

Preceded by

Menagh Guardian

North Tipperary

I.H.C. Quarter Final

Fannaithte na Sionnaine

v Beal Atha Gabann

4.45 Referee Andy Moloney



Georoid Mac Eochaidh

Luach
€3



MacDonagh Park, Nenagh Sunday 7 Aug. 2005

Borris-Ileigh, 2001 North S.H.C. finalist



Borris-Ileigh team 2001 North senior hurling finalist: Back row, l-r: Martin Maher, Philip Rabbittie, Philip Maher, Rory Kinnane, Seamus Maher, Tom Stakelum, Angelo Walsh, John McGrath, Aiden Cowan. Kneeling: Mark Bourke, Darragh Rabbittie, Declan Maher, Pierce Ryan, Owen Stapleton, John Keane.

Fáilte

Seamus Ó Muineog, Cathaoirleach

A Chara,

Fáilte go Páirc Mhic Dhonnchadha, Áonach inniu, don Cluiche Craobh Ceannais Iomaint Sinsear idir Búireas Uí Luíoch agus Éire Óg an Aonaigh.

It gives me great pleasure to welcome you all to our Hibernian Inn, sponsored Senior Hurling Championship Final, this evening between Borris-Ileigh and Nenagh Éire Óg. Borris are back in the final for the second year in a row and will be hoping to go a step further after they were narrowly beaten by Roscrea. Éire Óg on the other hand were beaten in the 2003 final by Toomevara, so both sides are very familiar to the occasion of the North Tipperary Senior Hurling Final.

This year the championship was run on a straight knock-out system. It produced some good games. The championship also has a new sponsor in the Hibernian Inn and I would like to thank Martin and his staff for their support throughout the year. I would like to take this opportunity to thank all our other championship sponsors.

For today's final I wish both sets of players, mentors and supporters the best of luck. I wish the man in the middle Sean Bradshaw and his team of officials the best of luck also. I would like to thank all the people who have contributed to our championships – the players, the mentors, the officials, the referees and their helpers, the supporters, the grounds-people and the gate checkers and of course the Order of Malta and anyone else who helps in anyway.

Best wishes also to Shannon Rovers and Silvermines in the Intermediate Quarter Final. I have no doubt that this too will be a close and exciting game.

Finally, a thank you to Liam Hogan for his work on the programme and to the Nenagh Éire Óg for the use of the field and facilities.

May you all have an enjoyable evening.

Seamus Ó Muineog (Cathaoirleach).

Thanks to all those who helped with today's match programme: Bridget Delaney, Gerry Slevin, David McDonnell, Liam Doran, Shane Brophy and Liz Howard. North Board Chairman Jimmy Minogue; North Board Secretary, Ger McKeogh; North Board Treasurer, Catherine Gleeson. Anne Maher, Billy Ryan and Noel Maher, Borris-Ileigh. Eamon Brennan and Sean Minogue, Nenagh Éire Óg. Aine Ryan, Kildangan. Ger Heenan, Shannon Rovers; Michael Shanahan, Silvermines. Anne McGrath and Carmel Daly. The sponsors.

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Best Wishes to Nenagh Eire Og

2005 Top Scorers

By Shane Brophy

With the abolition of the losers group in this years North Tipperary Senior Hurling Championship, it took eight matches to decide the finalists, Nenagh Eire Og and Borris-Ileigh.

Only once was a replay needed to decide a game with Nenagh needing a second go at beating a gallant Kilruane McDonagh's in the quarter-final. For Nenagh, Kevin Tucker was Nenagh's scorer in chief with a total of fifteen points to date. His eleven point haul in the semi-final win over Moneygall was a decisive factor in Nenagh's win. Angelo Walsh is Borris-Ileigh's top scorer with five and four points respectively in their impressive wins over reigning North and County Champions, Roscrea and Toomevara respectively on their way to the final.

Moneygall's John Doughan has been the top terroriser of defences with a massive 6-18 amassed in just three matches. In the preliminary round, he scored 3-3 in their win over Kildangan in Cloughjordan and followed it up with 3-7 in the quarter final win over Portroe in Nenagh. A good total of 0-8 was not good enough to see off Nenagh in the semi-final.

Darragh Egan has the highest average even though he played only one match. In that game he scored 3-4 in Kildangan's high scoring preliminary round defeat to Moneygall.

Other impressive tallies amassed during this years championship came from Toomevara's Terry Dunne who scored 3-2 in their quarter-final win over Templederry and Tipperary Minor captain Ray McLoughney scored 2-7 in Kilruane's drawn quarter-final with Nenagh.

Player		Prelim.	Q. Final	Semi	Total	Average
Sean Doughan	Moneygall	3-3	3-7	0-8	6-18	12 points
Ray McLoughney	Kilruane		2-7 and 1-4		3-11	10 points
Kevin Tucker	Nenagh Eire Og		0-2 and 0-2	0-11	0-15	5 points
Darragh Egan	Kildangan	3-4			3-4	13 points
Ken Dunne	Toomevara		0-5	0-7	0-12	6 points
Terry Dunne	Toomevara		3-2	No Score	3-2	5.5 points
Paul Ryan	Nenagh Eire Og		0-5 and 0-4	0-1	0-10	3.3 points
Angelo Walsh	Borris-Ileigh		0-5	0-4	0-9	4.5 points
John Keane	Borris-Ileigh		0-1	1-4	1-5	4 points
Michael Bevans	Toomevara		1-2	1-0	2-2	4 points

2005 North Tipperary Senior Hurling Championship Results

Preliminary Round

Moneygall 5-14 Kildangan 3-12

Quarter Finals

Moneygall 4-15 Portroe 4-7

Toomevara 5-19 Templederry 1-11

Borris-Ileigh 2-10 Roscrea 2-9

Kilruane McDonaghs 3-9 Nenagh Eire Og 0-18 (Draw)

Nenagh Eire Og 0-13 Kilruane McDonaghs 1-9 (Replay)

Semi-Finals

Borris-Ileigh 1-15 Toomevara 1-12

Nenagh Eire Og 1-17 Moneygall 2-13

Final

Borris-Ileigh Nenagh Eire Óg

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Two even sides ready to do battle

By **David McDonnell** (The Guardian)

Nenagh Éire Óg and Borris-Ileigh have locked horns in search of final silverware many times over the years, but it is their most recent final meetings that are the most lucid in memory.

In 2001, Nenagh proved too strong for the maroon of Borris-Ileigh and on the day ran out deserving winners.

Earlier this year, the pair met in the County Hurling League Final. In the end Borris-Ileigh won on a scoreline of 2-10 to 1-10 in a dramatic encounter for it took an injury time goal to separate the sides. Angelo Walsh was the man to win the game for Borris.

The fact that both teams are present in the final of the North Championship perhaps serves the argument that taking the county league serious is particularly worthwhile.



Michael McNamara
Nenagh Éire Óg goalkeeper

Nevertheless both teams have had strong challenges on the road to the North Final.

In the first round, it took an injury time point from midfielder John Keane for Borris-Ileigh to overcome Roscrea by the narrowest of margins in the repeat of last year's provincial decider.

At the penultimate stage, Borris-Ileigh defeated Munster champions Toomevara after a cracking second half display. Toome were leading by eight points at half time, but a John Keane goal early in the second half was the platform on which Borris mounted their comeback. In the end, they ran out two point winners to book their place in the North final for the second year in a row.

Nenagh Éire Óg on the other side needed a replay to scrape past the challenge of Kilruane in two very closely contested games. In the replay, Éire Óg had a substantial lead but wind assisted a Ray McLoughney goal help Kilruane come back to level the tie with 10 minutes remaining.

However, points from David Hackett and Ritchie Flannery in the closing minutes saw Nenagh win by a point but it must be noted that Kilruane had a late chance from placed ball that sailed narrowly wide that would have sent the game into extra time. In the semi-final Nenagh beat Moneygall in what can only be described as their best performance of the year.

This year the side have been progressing every game and should they do so again today, it will take a strong outfit to displace them.

Nenagh are looking for their second title in four years while Borris-Ileigh are seeking their first in 17 years. Whatever way this final turns out, it is set to be an immense game between two evenly matched teams.

John Maher

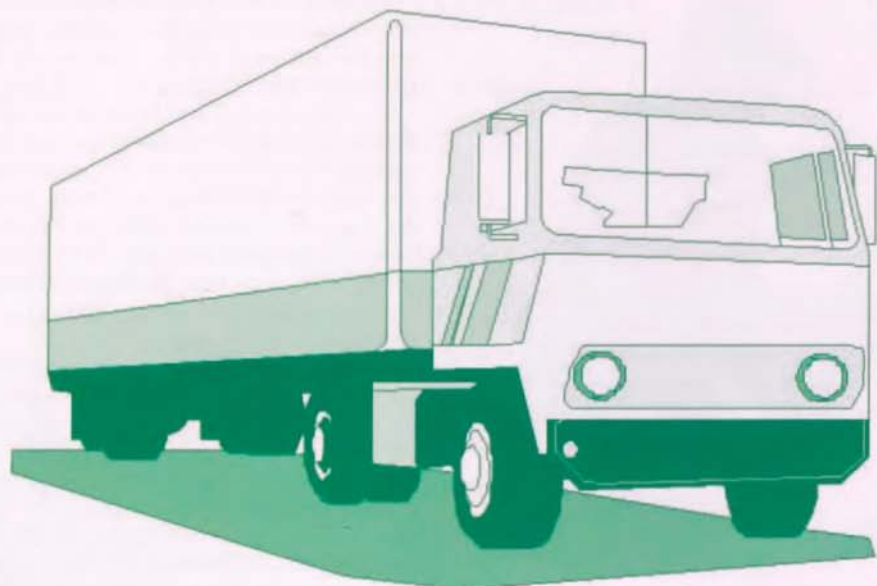
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*Best of luck to the Borris-Ileigh
hurlers from John and Anne*



The man who is Aidan Ryan

By Liz Howard

My abiding memory of Aidan Ryan goes back to the 1991 Munster Final replay against Cork in Thurles, Tipperary were down 3-13 to 1-10. It looked all over for Tipp when suddenly an extraordinary fight-back started. Still down six points, with about fourteen minutes to go, Pat Fox scored a peach of a goal followed by another, flicked to the net by team captain Declan Carr.

Thurles was a magical place to be, teams level, incredible atmosphere and tension. Tipp went two points up, courtesy of unlikely, ball cleared off the upright out the field to Aidan Ryan. Fair and fragile looking, he took off like a rocket on the old stand side, splitting the Cork defence and scoring a wonderful goal. It crowned one of the greatest victories I have seen in hurling. The Blue and Gold supporters swarmed onto the field. All were heroes but none more so than Aidan who epitomised courage, skill and spirit in that cameo.

Aidan Ryan inherited a hurling tradition from both sides of his family. His father Tim and uncle Eddie played and won All Ireland honours with Tipp while his maternal uncle Pat Stakelum captained Tipperary to All Ireland success and rated one of the finest centre backs to wear the Blue and Gold. His brother Bobby lifted the McCarthy Cup.

In 1989, when county champions, Loughmore nominated him to captain Tipperary. Another brother Pat "Flowery" also played for Tipperary and had the potential to nail down a place on the senior team but his chosen career took him out of Ireland. First cousins Richard Stakelum (never could call him Dickie as he is known in Borris) and Conor played with Tipp. Richard captained Tipp in 1987 and declared, "the famine is over" in Killarney.

Aidan won an All Ireland minor medal in 1982; a hand injury the following year saw him miss the minor All Ireland semi-final against Galway. A big loss, Galway won. He was part of the U21 team that won the All Ireland in 1985.

Five senior Munster final medals, two All Irelands and an All Star followed.

While he looked fragile Aidan was durable and strong. Anyone who marked him in training can vouch for that. His speed left many an opponent for dead. Aidan never minded who he was playing against. Indeed you'd never be sure if he knew the name of his direct opponent. He concentrated on his own game and on his input to the team. His contribution to Tipperary was immense.

At club level, Aidan made his senior debut in 1982, which coincided with the start of a successful spell for Borris-Ileigh. Borris won the county final in 1983 and again in 1986. They went on to win the All Ireland Club championship 1986/87 which was a hugely popular victory throughout the county. I would contend that Borris-Ileigh should have won much more in the 80's.

As a person, Aidan is calm, dignified, refined and reserved. A truly lovely man, he gives 100 % of his attention when talking to a person. He has a lovely sense of humour and a wry comment often captures the moment so succinctly. There were many strong characters on the Tipperary team but Aidan never got lost in the crowd. He had a presence and was both popular and respected. Billy Ryan, former Chairman of the North Board and a Borris man sums up Aidan very well "You couldn't meet a finer gentleman, modest and quiet he is one of the most respected hurlers in our parish, he gave his best every day he put on a club or county jersey".





Be passionate.

Good luck to Borrisoleigh and
Nenagh in the North Tipperary
Hurling Final from AIB Nenagh.

be with



2001 Centenary Final

When Nenagh last defeated Borris-Ileigh

Nenagh Éire Óg 1-15 Borris-Ileigh 1-11

Nenagh Éire Óg became Centenary champions after defeating favourites, Borris-Ileigh, to claim their fourth Frank McGrath Cup in the past decade.

A goal from Declan O'Meara was the decisive score coming in the 43rd minute. The right corner forward was man of the match and helped by the breeze in the opening half, he scored four points to help them lead at the interval by 0-12 to 0-5.

After the interval, Borris began to mount a challenge. Mark Bourke, Angelo Walsh, a free, had points. A goal from Mark Bourke reduced the deficit to two before Borris took a one point lead on 41 minutes.

But, Declan O'Meara's goal edged Nenagh ahead at 1-12 to 1-10. Michael Hackett stretched the lead to three before Bourke responded for Borris-Ileigh's last score

on 48 minutes. From there, Eddie Tucker and Michael Cleary sealed victory for Nenagh.

Nenagh Éire Óg: M McNamara; H Flannery, Noel Coffey, A Quinn; J Slattery 0-1, R Flannery, J Kennedy; Rory Flannery, N Moloney; K Tucker (capt) 0-6(4f), E Tucker 0-1, R Tomilson 0-1; D O'Meara 1-4, R Foley, M Cleary 0-1. Subs: B Darcy for Foley, M Hackett 0-1 for Darcy, H Moloney for R Flannery, S Connolly for Rory Flannery.

Borris-Ileigh: D Rabbitte; Rory Kinnane, Philip Maher (Capt), M Maher; P Ryan, P Rabbitte, O Stapleton; T Stakelum, A Cowan; J Keane, Seamus Maher, A Walsh; D Maher, J McGrath, M Bourke. Subs: Sean Maher for Kinnane, Vincent Stapleton for M Maher, Mark Stapleton for D Maher, Aidan Ryan for Stakelum.

Referee Michael Cahill, Kilruane MacDonaghs.

24 June 2004 SHC:

Quarter final win for Borris-Ileigh

Borris-Ileigh 2-13 Nenagh Éire Óg 1-9

Borris-Ileigh won a place in the last four of the Nenagh Permanent TSB North Tipperary Senior hurling championship, with a convincing win over Nenagh Éire Óg, at MacDonagh Park, Nenagh.

Playing against the breeze in the opening half, they trailed by three points after a quarter of an hour before reducing the deficit to one at the interval at 0-7 to 0-6.

With Philip Rabbitte, Martin Treacy and Eoin Stapleton providing a tight grip on the Nenagh attack, Borris took over with and on forty minutes, they led by three.

Noel Moloney helped reduce the margin to one. However, two goals through Declan Maher and Rory Kinnane, in the 52nd and 54th minutes, put his Borris firmly in the driving seat.

Philip Maher was on fire playing at his unusual position at centre back while both Sean and Seamus Maher dominated matters

at midfield.

Best for Nenagh were Hugh Moloney along with Kevin Tucker and Noel Moloney best in attack. Paddy Harrington had Nenagh's only goal, late in the game.

Borris-Ileigh J Harkins; M Treacy, P Rabbitte, E Stapleton; P Stapleton, P Maher, A Cowan; S Maher 0-2, S Maher; T Stakelum 0-1, M Maher, A Walsh; M Bourke 0-7(5f), D Maher 1-3, J Keane. Subs: Paraic Maher for Stapleton inj, 2 mins, R Kinnane 1-0 for Walsh 37 mins, P Ryan for Stakelum 59 mins.

Nenagh Éire Óg C McLoughlin; A Kelly, E Tucker, A Quinn; H Moloney, R Flannery 0-1, H Flannery; J Brennan, J Kennedy 0-1; J Slattery, N Moloney 0-1, K Tucker 0-1; D Hackett, M Cleary 0-5(4f and 1=6S), M Hackett. Subs: D Quinn for D Hackett 24 mins, P Harrington 1-0 for M Hackett 55 mins.

Referee Brian White Clonmel.

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Paddy looks back to when hurling was hurling

By Gerry Slevin

A name synonymous with hurling, and football too, in Nenagh for several decades is PADDY BURKE. His was a long and varied career to which allegiance was given, not alone to his beloved Nenagh but also to neighbouring Duharra (an amalgamation of Burgess and Portroe), Thurles Sarsfields, to Tullamore and even to Athlone where he was responsible for introducing hurling interest to what was a predominantly football area.

He will celebrate his 82nd birthday next Wednesday and while physically Paddy may have slowed down somewhat, the alertness of mind is still as acute and as active as when he strode the mid field area throughout the 1940s. Nothing pleases him more than to recall those days, days, he says, that saw players rely more on their own physical work in order to reach fitness than on all the gym concentration that takes place today.

Paddy hailed from Wolfe Tone Terrace and back in the late '30s and early '40s there was more interest in those famous Nenagh street leagues than in how Nenagh teams performed in championship games. He recalls proof of how the street leagues were viewed locally by mentioning that on one particular occasion a big tournament game was arranged between Ahane of the famed Mackeys from Limerick and Thurles Sarsfields. But it was only the curtain raiser to the street league final!

He lined out in all grades for Nenagh and won several titles, notably the divisional and county Intermediate hurling title of 1947, which brought Nenagh – then St Mary's – into senior grade. That team reached the North senior final two years later and went down to Roscrea.

He played with Thurles Sarsfields for one year

when working for a short time in Thurles and won a Mid championship medal. At that time he was working for the L. & N. Co. and was transferred back to Nenagh, following which Sarsfields went on to dominate the divisional and county scene.

While working with D. E. Williams Ltd in Tullamore, he lined out with the Offaly side and when his work took him to Athlone, he was instrumental in having a hurling team formed there.

His Duharra presence came about when living out there for a while with relatives.

Comparing today's game and the scene when he was playing, Paddy sees huge changes and not all for the better. In his day, he claims, people used their hurleys far more and more effectively too. There was no such thing as 'all this oul' hand passing' which he sees as destroying the game. He cannot understand why a player today, when he gets the ball, won't 'let fly' and let the ball do the work.

He sees it a great pity nowadays that goals are in such short supply. Teams going out and winning matches by scoring a load of points, is taking from the game. Hurling needs goals to heighten the excitement, Paddy maintains.

Like all the players of old, Paddy Burke has innumerable memories of great and not so great days. He is worth far more than the short space for this article will allow. Hurling has been good to him and he enjoyed it all immensely.

"Hurling was hurling in those days. Maybe they are fitter today but as I see it, the game has gone too professional now. It's win at all costs. It was a grand, healthy past time then. Now, it has become something that is taking over players lives, and that shouldn't be," says Paddy.

Maybe he has a point.



North Tipp. Intermediate League 2004



Shannon Rovers, League Champions, 2004

2004 Intermediate North League Final

Never say die attitude wins battle for Rovers

by David McDonnell

Shannon Rovers 2-13 Ballina 1-13

At the final whistle a goal separated the sides in this absorbing North Tipperary Intermediate League Final played in Nenagh. When it was over the team in red and white paraded with delight as they became surrounded by their faithful supporters, while their opponents.

It was a glorious triumph for the Shannon Rovers community and although only the league, the signal ending the contest was greeted with the gusto of a county or All-Ireland victory. It had been a closely contested affair and when the second half descended into a battle of character and heart it was Rovers who greater rose to the challenge and in the end their appetite won them the fight.

The first half flowed from the start and the attendance was greeted with a display of first time hurling of great fluency. Donal McKeogh opened the scoring with a quickly taken point, but Rovers responded they led after two points from midfielder Derek Horan and Martin Burke. Indeed the first half ebbed and flowed and while a 20 yards effort sailed over the crossbar from the hurl of Brian Mc Keogh to level matters, six minutes later the sides were again level, this time with four points apiece when Dermot Costello powered over after a nice hand-pass from Darcy on the wing.

Mid way through the first half it was Ballina who began to gather a stranglehold of the contest when a point from Brian Stritch was followed with another from placed ball by Donal McKeogh. However, a goal from Pakie Burke gave Shannon Rovers put his side back in the contest before Ballina went from strength to strength. A first time shot from Eoin Sheehy leveled matters and when a high ball landed on top of the Rovers full back line, Brian McKeogh found himself in enough space to pick his spot and he drilled the sliotar to the back of the net.

Soon after the Rovers selectors made a substitution by bring on Kevin Cahalan to marshal McKeogh, while Hourigan retreated to the far corner to mind Sheehy. A decision that proved to be a masterstroke as neither forward continued to be the threat they had been prior to the switch. Donal Mc Keogh extended Ballina's lead with another free and a minute later the star of the first half Brian Stritch hit the

sliotar high over the bar to extend the margin to five. Darcy shot over from a narrow angle before Stritch again pointed to restore Ballina's five-point lead before the half time interval.

At the break it didn't seem so much of a question of if Ballina would win the contest but by how much as they played much the better hurling in the opening period. However, nobody told Shannon Rovers, who reappeared from their huddle at the side of the field with hunger in their minds and fire in their hearts and from the off refused to accept what seemed their fate.

A Roy Darcy point was complimented with a point from placed ball by Sean O'Meara and it was O'Meara again who shot from along the sideline 60 yards out to raise another white flag. Indeed with fifteen minutes of the second half played only a point separated the sides after a lone Donal McKeogh effort was followed with points for the team in red from corner forward James Stack and O'Meara. With ten minutes remaining Rovers good work from Shannon rovers substitute George Hannigan was rewarded when the ball broke to Darcy who picked and stepped inside the Ballina defence before shooting to the side of the net to give his team a three point advantage. O'Meara increased the lead soon after with another free.

In the dying minutes Donal Mc Keogh soloed with intent before forcing Quinlan in the Rovers goal into a point blank save that was pushed wide of the post. McKeogh brought the gap down to three with the resultant '65. The sides swapped points before the final whistle, which awarded a deserving victory to the men of Shannon Rovers.

Shannon Rovers: P Quinlan; M Hourigan, P O'Meara, Ross Burke; A Byrne, D Leenane, D Hourigan; S Carroll, Derek Horan (0-1); R Darcy (1-2), M Burke (0-2), S O'Meara (0-6, 5f, 1 '65); D Costello (0-1), P Burke (1-0), J Stack (0-1). Sub: K Cahalan for Burke (17 mins), G Hannigan for P Burke (46 mins).

Ballina: M McKeogh; M King, P Cosgrove, P Ryan; S O'Brien, T Collins, A McKeogh; Stephan Stritch, M Sheehy (0-1); A Devane, B Stritch (0-3), D McKeogh (0-5, 3f, 1 '65); B McKeogh (1-3), T Mescal, E Sheehy (0-1). Sub: P King for T Mescal (49 mins).

Best Wishes
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Silvermines Intermediate

	1 Mike Murphy	
2	3	4
Maurice Leamy	David Boland	Brendan Timmons
5	6	7
Niall Sherlock	Brian O'Dwyer	Ronan Sherlock
	8	9
	Sean Quirke	Niall Kelly
10	11	12
Timmy Kelly	Declan Corcoran	Donal Keogh
13	14	15
William Keogh	Cathal Gleeson	Orrie Quirke

Fir Ionaid: 16 Donal O'Brien, 17 Kevin Cunneen, 18 Eoin Quirke, 19 Declan Mulqueen, 20 Anthony McGrath, 21 David Keogh, 22 Michael Hogan, 23 Donnacha Droney, 24 Damien Boland, 25 Gavin Steed, 26 Paul Sherlock, 27 Alan Ryan, 28 Ger Gleeson, 29 Eoin Grace, 30 Mattie Ryan, 31 Daniel Keogh.

Shannon Rovers Intermediate

	1 Pat Quinlan	
2	3	4
Lee Darcy	Pat O'Meara capt	Kevin Cahalan
5	6	7
George Hannigan	Alan Byrne	Donal Hourigan
	8	9
	Roy Darcy	Derek Horan
10	11	12
Adrian Whelan	Martin Burke	James Stack
13	14	15
Dermot Costello	Niall Cahalan	Darrell Darcy

Fir Ionaid: 16 Sean O'Meara, 17 Philip Donlon, 18 Jamie Burke, 19 Pakie Bourke, 20 Barry Cahalan, 21 Edward Brophy, 22 Paddy Donnellan, 23 Michael Burke, 24 Shane Carroll, 25 Donal Brophy, 26 Michael J. Quinlan.

Manager: Sean Darcy. Selectors: Tony Fox, Pat Stack and Willie Lennox.

Physio: Mary Tierney, First Aid: Berna Walsh.

Buiríos Uí Luíoch

1

Jody Harkins

2

3

4

Martin Treacy Philip Rabbitte (capt) Eoin Stapleton

5

6

7

David O'Connor Patrick Stapleton Vincent Stapleton

8

9

Sean Maher

John Keane

10

11

12

Seamus Maher

Aidan Cowan

Angelo Walsh

13

14

15

Declan Maher

Rory Kinane

Matty Stapleton

Fir Ionaid

17 Pierse Ryan, 18 Tom Stakelum, 19 Pauric Maher,
20 Mark Stapleton, 21 Robert Stakelum, 22 Brendan
Kenny, 23 Matty Vahey, 24 Shane Stapleton,
25 Brendan Maher, 26 Keith Ryan, 27 Timmy
O'Connell, 28 Niall Hackett, 29 Mark Bourke,
30 Martin Maher, 31 Philip Maher

Raghnóirei

Selectors: Don Ryan, Tom Ryan, Philly Bourke
Coach/Trainer: Ger O'Neill
Trainer: Philip Ryan
Medic: Dr. Kevin de Largey
Physio: Michael Clohessy



Captain: Philip Rabbitte

Éire Óg an Aonaigh

1

Michael McNamara

2

John Brennan

3

Johnny Slattery(capt)

4

Anthony Quinn

5

Hugh Flannery

6

Richie Flannery

7

Hugh Moloney

8

John Flannery

9

Eddie Tucker

10

John Kennedy

11

Kevin Tucker

12

Declan O'Meara

13

Paul Ryan

14

Noel Moloney

15

Michael Hackett

Fir Ionaid

16 Christy McLoughlin, 17 Declan Bailey,
18 Stevie Ryan, 19 Cormac Galvin,
20 Robbie Tomlinson, 21 David Hackett,
22 Brian Quinn, 23 Dara Quinn, 24 Brian Dillon,
25 Michael Cleary, 26 Conor Brennan,
27 Conor Kirwan, 28 Eoin Fitzgibbon,
29 Liam O'Gara, 30 Alan Kelly, 31 Donach O'Donnell

Raghnóirei

Manager: Michael Cleary
Selectors: Billy Flannery, Liam Heffernan
Physio: Angela Hogan
First Aid: Bartley Ryan



Captain: Johnny Slattery

Best of Luck to the Borris-Ileigh Hurling
Team in today's North Final

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Thomas Ryan



Vincent Ryan

Profile on Philip Maher

BORRIS-ILEIGH & TIPPERARY

By Liam Hogan

Philip Maher has become an outstanding full back for Tipperary and Borris-Ileagh.

Today, he will play in his fourth North Senior Final, finishing on the losing side each time.

His club career began at the age of eight, when Philip lined out for his club Borris-Ileagh in an U-12 hurling game. He played in the forwards. He won his first underage medal when Borris-Ileagh won a North U-14 B football title against Kilruane MacDonagh in 1991 following a replay. Winning football medals would become a big part in his sporting career, winning a medal in every grade. In 2000, he won a North Tipp junior football medal against Burgess.

His hurling career began to take off in 1993. He won a Tony Forestall medal with the Tipp Under-14 team when he lined at corner back. The team included other well known players like Paddy O'Brien, William Maher and Donnacha Fahey.

Two years later, he collected a North and county double in U-16 B Hurling and U-16 B Football plus an U-21 B Hurling the same year.

In 1997, he made his debut at senior level for his club, playing against Lorrha in the North Tipp Senior league. Later that year, he won a Munster minor hurling medal against Clare before losing to Galway in the All-Ireland semi-final. The year ended on a high note as he won an All-Ireland Sevens medal in Kilmacud. Then

he was selected as the North Tipperary, Nenagh Guardian Hurler of the year.

There was the down side too. Philip missed out in Borris-Ileagh's 1999 success in both the North and County Tipp U-21 A hurling, due to injury. The following year he was made captain of the Tipp U-21 team. He played in the first two rounds but was dropped for the Munster final.

Later that year, he made it to the county senior panel but had to wait for his first senior championship game in 2000 against Waterford. He marked Ken

McGrath. He later came up against Eamon Taffee and Niall Gilligan of Clare before facing Joe Deane in the Munster decider. In the All-Ireland quarter final, Ollie Fahy from Galway was his opponent.

In 2001, Tipp had a very successful year. They won a treble in National League, Munster and All-Ireland finals with Philip playing at full-back. In the championship he conceded just 1-2, with Brian Begley, Limerick, scoring 0-1 while Eugene Cloonan got 1-1 in the All-Ireland Final. Over the five championship games he was opposed by 13 opponents.

Philip's career has been troubled with injury. He injured his knee in the 2003 National Hurling Final against Kilkenny. His championship in '05 has been interrupted by more injury and as a result of last Sunday's All-Ireland quarter final v Galway he will miss today's game.



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Good luck to the
Borris-Ileigh hurlers

from **Mick and Breed
Cowan**

Nenagh Brothers

By David McDonnell

For today's game, Nenagh will have three sets of brothers on the starting 15 when they take on Borrisoleigh in the final of the North Senior Hurling Championship in MacDonagh Park.

What is perhaps most notable is that all six players have also played at senior level for Tipperary at one time or another.

Kevin was involved with Tipp until 1998. The previous year he played a prominent role in Tipp's path to the All-Ireland final against Clare. In 1999 Eddie Tucker scored a point to put Tipp three ahead with time running out in the contest against Clare. However, a late goal from a penalty from Clare goalkeeper Davy Fitzgerald saved the Banner blushes and earned his side a



Eddie Tucker



Kevin Tucker

replay, which they won convincingly.

Both Noel Maloney and Hugh Maloney have also worn the Blue and Gold in recent years. Having won an All Ireland College B Hurling final in 2000, both have been fixtures on the Nenagh team in recent years. Last year Noel was on the Tipperary team for both the league and championship, while this year Hugh earned himself a place in the starting 15 and was playing against Galway in Croke Park last Sunday. He also has Munster medals at both minor and under 21 level for the Premier.

Ritchie and Hugh Flannery have also played senior hurling for Tipperary, both making appearances during the National League in recent years.



Hugh Maloney



Noel Maloney

Best wishes to the Borris-Ileigh team from

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*Best Wishes to the Borris-Ileigh Hurling Team
from*



Borris-Ileigh Branch

Guardian North Tipp Player of the Year – 35 years in existence

By Liam Hogan

The Nenagh Guardian Hurler of The Year is thirty-five years in existence. Since a young minor hurler, named Pat Quinlan, Silvermines won the first award in 1970, the title has gone to thirty other players in this division.

Toomevara's Tommy Dunne has won it three times in 1998, '99 and 2001. Both Francis Loughnane, Roscrea (1971 and '73), and Patrick McLoughney ('79 and '86) have claimed the award twice.

Toomevara have won it eight times, followed by Nenagh Éire Óg with five. Silvermines, Roscrea and Lorrha are next with three. The award has gone to nine other clubs so far. Burgess, Ballinahinch, Knockshegowna and Ballina are the exceptions.

In fact, the four clubs involved in today's games has produced eleven players who won the award. From the senior pairing, Nenagh Éire Óg have Conor O'Donovan who was the club's first player to win it in 1987. Four other players won the award including Michael Cleary ('89), Kevin Tucker ('93), Eddie Tucker ('95) and Hugh Moloney in (2003). Those four were involved in this year's championship.

On the other hand, Noel O'Dwyer ('81) and Philip Maher '97 come from the Borris-Ileigh side.

From the two Intermediate clubs, Silvermines received the three awards beginning with Pat Quinlan ('70), Jim Keogh ('74) and Noel Sheehy in ('90). For Shannon Rovers, Patrick McLoughney claimed his two in 1979 and '86.

The full list of winners are:

- 1970: **Pat Quinlan** Silvermines
- 1971: **Francis Loughnane** Roscrea
- 1972: **Liam King** Lorrha
- 1973: **Francis Loughnane** Roscrea
- 1974: **Jim Keogh** Silvermines
- 1975: **John Gleeson** Moneygall
- 1976: **Tadgh O'Connor** Roscrea
- 1977: **Sean Hyland** Kilruane MacDonaghs
- 1978: **Paddy Williams**
Kilruane MacDonaghs
- 1979: **Patrick McLoughney**
Shannon Rovers
- 1980: **Ken Hogan** Lorrha
- 1981: **Noel O'Dwyer** Borris-Ileigh
- 1982: **Seamus Hogan** Borrisokane
- 1983: **John Sheedy** Portroe
- 1984: **Brian Mannion** Lorrha
- 1985: **Noel McDonnell** Toomevara
- 1986: **Patrick McLoughney**
Shannon Rovers
- 1987: **Conor O'Donovan** Nenagh Éire Óg
- 1988: **Dinny Ryan** Newport
- 1989: **Michael Cleary** Nenagh Éire Óg
- 1990: **Noel Sheehy** Silvermines
- 1991: **George Frend** Toomevara
- 1992: **Philip Shanahan** Toomevara
- 1993: **Kevin Tucker** Nenagh Éire Óg
- 1994: **Jody Grace** Toomevara
- 1995: **Eddie Tucker** Nenagh Éire Óg
- 1996: **Micheal Ryan** Templederry
- 1997: **Philip Maher** Borris-Ileigh
- 1998: **Tomas Dunne** Toomevara
- 1999: **Tomas Dunne** Toomevara
- 2000: **Paddy O'Brien** Toomevara
- 2001: **Tomas Dunne** Toomevara
- 2002: **Ger Slattery** Kildangan
- 2003: **Hugh Moloney** Nenagh Éire Óg
- 2004: **Diarmuid Fitzgerald** Roscrea

Action from 2001 TSB Final



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***Permanent TSB wish Borris-Ileigh
and Nenagh Éire Óg every success in
today's final***

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***11/13 Pearse
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Nenagh,
Co. Tipperary***

***Tel (067) 32288
Fax (067) 32866***



Michael Hackett, Nenagh Éire Óg



Jodie Harkin, Borris-Ileigh



Borris-ileigh U-14 North champions 1999, defeated Ballina in the final. Back: l-r Liam Shanahan, Paul Mason, Joanne Cowan, Sinead Ryan, Brian Stapleton, David O'Connor, Gerard Treacy, Shane McCormack, Paul Mason, Keith Ryan, Brendan Ryan, John Young captain, Michael Kiely. Kneeling: Joseph Spooner, Liam Shanahan, Kieran Cowan, John Sadlier, Michael Treacy, Paddy Stapleton, Michael Corcoran, Ivan Kelly, Martin Treacy, Jody Harkin, Brendan Maher, Michelle Stapleton, Carmel O'Brien, Mairead Maher. Mentors include John Stapleton and Jimmy Slattery.



Darrell McCormack, captain of the Nenagh U-14 football team that won Feile ne Peil receiving the cup from Ann McGrath, North Bord na nOg Secretary



Action from the 2001 North senior final between Nenagh Eire Og and Borris-Ileigh

Best wishes to the Nenagh Éire Óg in the North Final
from

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The Last three . . .

Finals

2002 Sep 14th	Toomevara	0-19	Moneygall	1-7	@ Nenagh
2003 Sep 7th	Toomevara	3-12	Nenagh Eire Og	0-16	@ Cloughjordan
2004 Aug 22nd	Roscrea	0-13	Borris-Ileagh	1-9	@ Nenagh

Three seasons:

In the past three seasons, Nenagh Eire Og has played in the North Tipperary's senior hurling championship, more times, than any other team in the North Tipp division. They have played 13 games, Borris-Ileagh are next on ten games with Toomevara, Moneygall and Roscrea on nine.

Yet, the period has seen Toomevara as been the most successful team in terms of winning. Out of the nine games they have won seven games and lost twice, which gives them a 77% return. Nenagh are second, winning seven but drawing twice, leaving them with a success rate of 61%.

Significantly, Borris-Ileagh are third, winning six out of ten games leaving them on a 60% success rate.

The full table is as follows:

Team	Played	Won	Drawn	Lost	Points	%
Toomevara	9	7	0	2	14	77
Nenagh	13	7	2	4	14	61
Borris-Ileagh	10	6	0	4	12	60
Roscrea	9	4	1	4	9	50
Moneygall	9	4	1	4	9	50
Portroe	7	2	2	3	6	42
*Kilruane	5	1	1	3	3	30
Kildangan	1	0	0	1	0	

Today's Referees

By Liam Hogan

Senior Final Referee

Sean Bradshaw Knockavilla, began refereeing in 2000.

He refereed the West Senior Hurling Final in 2004, where the Combo Éire Óg/Golden defeated Clonoulty Rossmore.

He officiated in two county minor hurling finals. In 2002, Loughmore defeated Burgess followed by the Swans defeat of Drom Inch last year.

In his playing career:

He played in goals with his club Knockavilla Kickhams for 12 years, before retiring in 2001. He won two West Senior Hurling Championship medals plus a county Intermediate medal in hurling and football.

Age 40, Sean is an Accounts Assistant with Michael Gill and Company, Chartered Accountants, Caherconlish, Co. Limerick.

His umpires for today's final are Ollie Morrissey, Christy Ryan, Vincent Bradshaw and Liam Quirke.

His linesmen are John Cleary (assistant referee), and Tommy Houlihan (Lorrha).



Andy Moloney

Intermediate Referee

Andy Moloney

Name: Andy Moloney

Home Club: Cahir

Age: 35

When did you start refereeing? 1998

What Finals have you done? West Minor Hurling Final, County S.H.L. Div. 3 Final; South U-21 Finals & many Under-Age

What level have you refereed in i.e. schools, inter-firms, club (Senior, Under-Age etc), inter-county etc.

North S. H. Champ., West S.F. Champ., Mid S.H. Champ Semi-Final; North I.H. Semi-Finals; Co. J.H. Semi-Final; Co. M.H. Semi-Final; Munster S.H.L., Co. I.H. Semi-Final

What is the one rule you would change given the chance? No Pick Up Rule in Football – should be allowed get the ball up anyway you like

What was your funniest moment as a referee? Trying to separate an umpire and a corner forward after the umpire recommended he stop whinging and get on with playing.

Why did you get involved as a referee? After years of playing at a high level, the legs get a bit slow and with family commitments, the training was too intense at four nights a week.

Interests: Greyhounds Track / Coursing and good pub conversation and music

Any Comments: That the umpires should be invited with referee to a social night (nothing spectacular) by their respective boards.

Contrasting Fortunes

By Liam Hogan

Meet Sean Maher and Richie Flannery, two players who will play on opposite sides in today's senior final. For one, the dream of winning a first North Final would delete the memory of losing in four previous deciders. The other player hopes to win a third.

Sean Maher, Borris-Ileigh, will be playing in his fifth North senior final having finished on the losing side in the other four in 1995, '97, 2001 and 2003.

In the first one, Sean lined at corner back against a strong Toome side. Two years later, Sean had moved to the wing back position as Toome denied them again.

Borris were favourites in centenary year. Sean had been in Australia, for part of that year, but returned home prior to the final. He replaced Rory Kinnane at corner back, while Borris lost to Nenagh by four points.

Last year, Sean lined out at midfield. Once again, Borris had the tag of favourites but Roscrea upset the odds to win by the minimum.

"Last year was devastating to lose," said Sean. "We had done all the hard work and beaten the so called better teams like Nenagh and Toome. The ball did not hop for us on the day. We had trained very hard and normally Borris-Ileigh is a very fit team. We trained under Paddy Moore of Thurles, who was very good and concentrated a lot on the ball work. This year, Borris-Ileigh has Ger O'Neill, Cappawhite at the helm and he is very enthusiastic and he has continued the good work that we have done over the years," said Sean.

In a promising under age career, he won a Munster U-16 Divisional medal with North Tipperary, in 1993. In 1999, he won both a North and County U-21 medals.

Alas, the hopes of adding to that tally, at senior level, became a lot more difficult. Today, the 28 year old hopes to put that statistic right.

Lining out at centre back, **Richie Flannery**, Nenagh, has won two North senior medals in 1998 and 2001 while he lost in the 1999 and 2003 deciders.

In the 1998 final, he lined out at right half back, on a half back line that included Hugh Flannery and Michael Cleary. Hugh Flannery scored a goal from a free which was to be the decisive score. The following year, the teams met again. Toome overturned the tables in a high scoring game with Richie playing at midfield, partnering John Tucker, and scoring three points from play.

As a young hurler, he watched Kilruane play Toomevara in the 1990 North Tipperary Senior hurling final, at MacDonagh Park. Since then he wanted to play in a North Final in his home ground. Eleven years later, Flannery realised his ambition when Nenagh won the centenary year final, defeating Borris-Ileigh. Two years later, Toome denied him of a third medal.

Generally he has always worn the number six jersey. On occasion, the selectors have played him at full back, such as the game against Moneygall, in their first round clash, in 2003.

This year, he lined out at centre forward in the quarter final replay against Kilruane. He played a leading part in his sides win. "I like playing in a central position but centre back is my favourite," said Richie who named Sean McMahon as his hero.

Strangely, Richie won no medals at Juvenile hurling. He recalls his first game with Nenagh at U-12 level. "I was nine years old playing with the Nenagh U-12 team. We defeated Lorrha at Ballinderry. I won lots of football medals at that age," he said.

His career in later years has been more fruitful. He is a winner of a Fitzgibbon medal, plus two Higher Education League mementos, with UCC. With his county, he won a Munster U-21 medal in 99 when Tipp defeated Clare in Cusack Park, Ennis. "The game was played in a cauldron," he admits.

Finals by TEN

1975: Moneygall 2-10 Silvermines 1-11

Moneygall come from behind to defeat the holders. Trailing by three points at the break, they needed two late points, (65 and a free) from Eugene Ryan to give them their first title.

Moneygall: N White; J McCormack, J Gleeson, M Doherty; M Nolan, B Fanning, E Ryan 0-4 (3f and one 65); Jack Ryan 0-3 (frees), P Fanning; D Kennedy 1-2, S Doughan, Seamus Ryan; P Sheedy (capt) 0-1, P Ryan 1-0(free), B McLeish. Subs: B Jones for Doughan.

Silvermines: T Kennedy; D Grace, J Keogh, J Dunlea; P Dunlea, M Fitzgibbon, J Grace; J Sherlock 0-1, Michael Hanley; J Kennedy, E Dillon, J Forde 1-4 (1-3 frees); J Ryan, P Quinlan 0-3 (2 frees), J Quirke 0-3. Subs: Matt Hanley for J Grace.

Referee: Sean O'Connor, Limerick.

1985: Kilruane MacDonagh 2-10 Roscrea 1-10

Two goals, inside twelve minutes, from Denis Cahill and "Man of the Match," Gerry Williams denied Roscrea a late comeback.

Kilruane MacDonaghs: T Sheppard; John Cahill, D O'Meara, S Gibson; M Hogan, J O'Meara, G Williams; E Hogan, S Hennessey 0-5 (4f and 1=65); Ger Williams 1-2, Jim Williams, E O'Shea 0-2; D Cahill 1-0, P Williams, P Quinlan 0-1. Subs: J Banaghan for J O'Meara, David Quinlan for D Cahill.

Roscrea: K Moloney; J Bergin, V Ryan, T O'Connor: F Fletcher, D Kealy, K O'Connor; P Quealy 0-1, Jn Pyne; G O'Connor 0-1, Ger Ryan, M Scully 0-5 (2f); S McLoughney 0-1, F Loughnane 1-0, E Bergin 0-1. Subs: L Spooner for E Bergin, T Maher 0-1 for McLoughney, A O'Meara for G Ryan.

Referee: Pat Dunlea, Silvermines

1995: Toomevara 0-18 Borris-Ileigh 1-12

An evening final played in very warm conditions. Toomevara were never led. One point, separated the teams with five remaining, before two late scores from Tomas Dunne helped secure victory. New covered stand in use.

Toomevara: J Grace, P Meagher, R Brislane, P Shanahan; T Delaney (Capt), M O'Meara, G Frend; Terry Dunne, P King; Tomas Dunne 0-11 (8f), L Flatherty; K Dunne 0-4; L Nolan 0-1, K Kennedy 0-2, M Bevans. Subs T Carroll for Nolan, Declan O'Meara for Carroll.

Borris-Ileigh: D Maher; D Kelly, M Ryan, J. J. Maher; J Loughnane, P Rabbitte 0-2 (1=65), S Maher; M Hayes 0-1, A Ryan; J McGrath 0-2, B Ryan, M Ryan; T Stakelum, T Stakelum, T Stapleton, C Stakelum 1-7 (1-5 frees). Subs G Stapleton for Rabbitte.

Referee Gerry Hayes, Moneygall.

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today's Final from*

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Captains' Questionnaire

Nenagh Captain:
Johnnie Slattery, Full Back

Age: 27

Occupation: Primary School Teacher, Corville N.S., Roscrea

Medals won:

- 2 North Senior Hurling
- 2 Junior Hurling.
- 4 County Senior Hurling Medals,
- 1 U-16^{1/2} - Nenagh CBS,
- 1 U-17 Fitzgibbon medal, Nenagh CBS
- 1 North U-14 Hurling -1989.

Football medals in U-12, 14, 16 and 18

Biggest Influence on Hurling Career: Dad
Martin Slattery, Liam Heffernan and
Con Howard.

Hurlers you admire most: Henry Shefflin,
Kilkenny and Michael Cleary, Nenagh
Éire Óg

Likes about the GAA: The good friendships
made through the years

Dislikes about the GAA: None

Any changes you would like to make? Players
to get better expenses at club and
county.

Other sporting Interests: Golf and Rugby

Should players be paid: No

What does your club mean to you? It means
everything, pride, loyalty and
camaraderie.

Borris-Ileagh Captain:
Philip Rabbitte centre back

Age: 28

Occupation: Process Technician, with
Vistacom Ireland

Medals won: Hurling- 1 Munster and All-
Ireland Intermediate in 2000

- 2 All-Ireland Sevens in Kilmacud
- 2 Co Senior Hurling League
- 1 U-21 A North and County
- 1 U-21 B North and County
- 1 U-16 Munster Inter Divisional
- 1 Garda Cup
- 1 U-14 Tony Forrester
- 1 Australian league and championship
with Sydney Shamrocks
- Football: 1 Tipperary U-21 A;
3 Junior A North

Biggest Influence on Hurling Career: All my
family

Hurlers you admire most: John McGrath
(Borris-Ileagh), Tomas Dunne and Eoin
Kelly

Likes about the GAA: Friends I have made

Dislikes about the GAA: Long wait between
club games, Inconsistent Refereeing

Any changes you would like to make? More
importance to be given to the club
scene.

Other sporting Interests: Soccer and Golf

Should players be paid: Not sure! Maybe the
Borris-Ileagh team should be given a
trial run.

What does your club mean to you? It means
everything and always will.

do

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FINCHES

Nenagh Éire Óg last North final win



Watched by TSB Bank manager, George McGrath (centre) North Board chairman Tom Slattery presented the Frank McGrath Trophy to Éire Óg captain Kevin Tucker after the North final in 2001.

**Best wishes to both teams
in today's North final**
from

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