

### Comhairle Uladh C.L.C.G.

Clár Oifigiúil



# ULSTER FOOTBALL FINALS

AT ST. TIGHEARNACH'S PARK, CLONES ON SUNDAY, 30th JULY, 1972

Sinsir :

# **DUN NA nGALL**

v.
TIR EOIN

# at 3.45 p.m. (80 Nóiméad)

Réiteoir : F. Ó Tiarnaigh (Cabhán)

Mionúir :

at 2.15 p.m. (60 Nóiméad)

CABHAN

V.

# TIR EOIN

Réiteoir : P. Ó Grianna (Aontruim)

Maoir-Cúl: A. Mac Poilin (Aontruim), G. Ó Fagain (Ard Macha), T. Mac Seain (Fir Manach), L. Mag Uidhir (Muineachán).

Luach — — — — — —

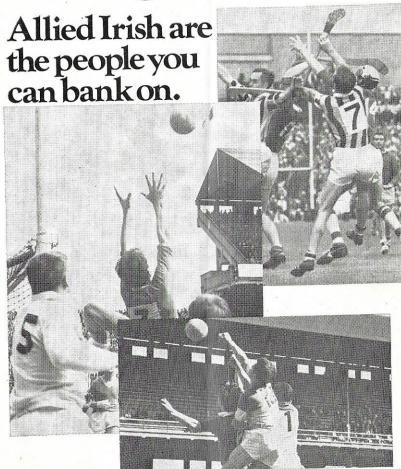
5p .

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### TYRONE v. DONEGAL

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Paddy McMahon

### TYRONE'S RETURN TO CLONES

PADRAIG O'NEILL

When the Tyrone team steps out at Clones on Sunday, 30th July, many of their supporters will recall that famous day sixteen years ago when a Tyrone team, captained by their present team manager Jody O'Neill, won their first ever Ulster Senior Football title.

When the final whistle blew that day the scoreboard read, Tyrone 3-5; Cavan, 0-4, and this was the signal for tumultuous and enthusiastic scenes as the Tyrone supporters welcomed the day for which they had waited so long and at times had given up all hope of ever seeing.

There were many famous and well-known names on that 1956 team, as well as their youthful captain, Jody O'Neill, these included Thady Turbett, Jim Devlin, Eddie Devlin, Iggy Jones, Jack Taggart and Frankie Donnelly, these became well-known and household names all over Ireland whereas the team in today's final contains only a few names which are known outside the confines of their own county.

The Tyrone team of 1956 made a very big impression on their initial appearance in an All-Ireland S.F. Semi-Final at Croke Park and that game in which they lost by a narrow margin of two points to a great Galway side which included those "terrible twins", Sean Purcell and Frank Stockwell, was reckoned as one of the best semi-finals ever. This side retained their Ulster title in 1957 when they defeated their near neighbours and great rivals, Derry, but were unfortunate through injuries in losing to Louth, the eventual winners, in the All-Ireland semi-final of that year. During the early part of that year the Tyrone team took part in a very successful tour in the United States which included a game against New York All Stars at the famous Polo Grounds, scene of the 1947 All-Ireland Final and today just another built-up area. During these years Tyrone reached the concluding stages of the National Football League as well as annexing both Dr. Lagan and Dr. McKenna Cups.

However, the major failing of the side of the "50's" was the fact that they reached this stage some 3 or 4 years too late, several members of the team had been successful minors during the late "40's" and early "50's" and were in the closing years of their football careers when Tyrone hit the big-time.

Since then Tyrone have not made any great impression at Senior level although they could always make quite a respectable showing against the best of opponents. However, keen followers of the game may have noticed the success of Tyrone teams in the younger age-groups and this has greatly contributed to the uprise of today's team.

All-Ireland Vocational Schools' Football Championship titles were won in 1967, 1968 and 1970 and at least six players from these successful teams are members of the present-day Senior panel, including Gerry Taggart (1968 capt.) and Patsy Hetherington (1970 capt.). Ulster Minor Football Championship titles were won in 1967 and 1971 with the teams going close in other years and Minor League titles were annexed in 1967, 1968 and 1971. In the "Under 21 years" grade, Tyrone reached the Ulster Final last year and are also engaged in this year's decider.

From this you can see that the excellent work being done in the Schools and Minor grades in Tyrone is beginning to take real effect and

while very few people expected them to reach the Provincial Senior Final this year, there was a general concusus of opinion that there was plenty of football ability available which could be moulded into a really good side, provided that they stayed together and took their football seriously.

Well, there it is, out of the blue this young Tyrone side has made the Ulster Senior Final at what for very many of them was their first year in Senior Football, several people will doubt their ability, fearing that they are too young and thus lack the necessary experience, but few will deny that their victory over a fancied Derry side in the semi-final was anything but a well-merited one.

It is appropriate at this stage to pay a well-deserved tribute to the magnificent work which is being done for Gaelic Games in Tyrone by the P.E. teachers in our Secondary Intermediate Schools which resulted in Tyrone's successes in the Vocational School's Championships. I hope that no one will find fault if one individual is singled out for his labours in this field. I refer to Art McRory who with his many willing assistants has helped greatly to form and prepare so many of the young players who represent Tyrone here today. Art has continued this good work up to the Minor grades and has been greatly responsible for Tyrone's successes here in recent years.

Tribute is also due to Jody O'Neill for his part in the advancement of this Tyrone team. When things were going against us in recent years and lack of success in Senior ranks discouraged many, both players and supporters, Jody refused to give up and despite many disappointments he continued to encourage his side to greater efforts.

This first ever meeting of Tir Eoghain and Tir Conaill in an Ulster Senior Football Final reflects the great affinity and friendly rivalry that there has been between these two counties down through the years.

This is only fitting when one recalls that it was the Clans of O'Neill and O'Donnell who held fast against the invader in the distant days and that it was the "Flight of the Earls" from Lough Swilly which sounded the death-knell of our ancient Gaelic civilisation and resulted in the infamous plantations which have sown the seed for much of the trouble we suffer from in the North today.

Down through the years, even to the present day, Tyrone men "on their keeping" have found friendship and hospitality among the "Hills of Donegal" and while we look forward with renewed expectation to a Tyrone victory we will not begrudge Tir Conaill their first-ever Ulster Senior title if things should turn out that way.

At the time of concluding this article news has come through that Tyrone, having defeated Derry in the semi-final, will now contest the Minor Final against Cavan. This fact bears out the good work being done at Minor and Juvenile level in the county and is surely an excellent augury for the future of football in Tyrone. With two teams engaged, the Red Hand followers will have plenty to support on this occasion and while once again we all express our hopes for a Tyrone victory in both encounters, we also hope that both games will be played throughout in a sporting manner befitting the big day for Gaelic Football in Ulster.



PETER MULGREW
Captain Tyrone Senior Team



P. Ó GRIANNA (Antrim) will referee the Minor game



FINTAN TIERNEY (Cavan) will referee the Senior Final



SEAN LEDDY Cavan Minor Captain



FRANK McGUIGAN Captain Tyrone Minor Team



B. McENIFF Donegal Player-Manager

#### ROLL OF HONOUR

Where the 85 Ulster Senior Football Championships have gone—1887—1971.

	1667—1571.					
Cavan —	47	Ant	rim —	11	9	
Down —	8	Arn	nagh —	4	Tyrone — 2	
Derry -	2					
ULSTER S	E	NIOR	FOOTBALL F	IN	ALS SINCE 1935	
Derry ULSTER S  1935—Cabhan 1936—Cabhan 1937—Cabhan 1938—Muineachan 1939—Cabhan 1941—Cabhan 1941—Cabhan 1942—Cabhan 1945—Cabhan 1945—Cabhan 1946—Aontruim 1947—Cabhan 1948—Cabhan 1950—Ard Macha 1951—Aontruim 1952—Cabhan 1955—Cabhan 1955—Cabhan 1955—Cabhan 1955—Cabhan 1955—Cabhan 1955—Cabhan 1955—Cabhan 1955—Cabhan 1955—Cabhan 1956—Tir Eoghain 1957—Tir Eoghain 1957—Tir Eoghain 1958—Doire 1959—An Dun 1960—An Dun 1961—An Dun 1963—An Dun 1964—Cabhan 1965—An Dun 1964—Cabhan 1965—An Dun	$\mathbf{E}_{21022435214232111112031123232}$	NIOR 6 7 13 5 3 10 9 11 3 9 10 8 4 12 7 11 7 8 6 10 11 5 9 11 16 7 10 6 11 10 5 7	FOOTBALL F Fir Manach Muineachan Ard Macha Ard Macha Ard Mhaca An Dun Tir Eoghain An Dun Muineachan Muineachan Fir Manach Cabhan Aontruim Aontruim Aontruim Ard Macha Cabhan Cabhan Cabhan Cabhan Cabhan Cabhan Ard Macha Doire Cabhan Doire Cabhan Cabhan Ard Macha Doire An Dun Cabhan Cabhan Cabhan Cabhan Cabhan Doire Cabhan Doire Cabhan Ard Macha An Dun Cabhan Dun na nGall An Dun Cabhan Dun na nGall	$\begin{smallmatrix} 2 & 0 & 0 & 2 & 1 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 2 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 1$	ALS SINCE 1935  1—Beal Tairbeirt  7—Caislean Mathuna  3—Caislean Mathuna  2—Ard Macha  4—Atha Cliath  5—An Cabhan  5—Ard Macha  3—Dun Dealgan  6—An Cabhan  5—Cluain Eois  4—Cluain Eois  4—Cluain Eois  4—Cluain Eois  5—Cluain Eois  4—Cluain Eois  8—Cluain Eois  8—An Cabhan  5—Beal Feirsde  5—Cluain Eois  4—Cluain Eois  8—Cluain Eois  4—Cluain Eois  8—Cluain Eois  10—Cluain Eois  4—Cluain Eois  4—Cluain Eois  5—Cluain Eois  4—Cluain Eois  4—Cluain Eois  4—Cluain Eois  4—Cluain Eois  5—Cluain Eois  8—Cluain Eois  10—Beal Feirsde  5—Beal Feirsde  5—Beal Feirsde  8—Cluain Eois  8—Cluain Eois	
1967—Cabhan 1968—An Dun 1969—Cabhan 1970—Doire	$\begin{array}{c} 2 \\ 0 \\ 2 \\ 2 \end{array}$	12 16 13 13	An Dun Cabhan An Dun Aontruim	0 1 2 1	8—Cluain Eois 8—Beal Feirsde 6—Beal Feirsde 12—Cluain Eois	
1971—An Dun	4	15	Doire	4	11—Beal Feirsde	

#### JUNIOR FOOTBALL (57)

Cavan	(18)—1915, 1916, 1917, 1918, 1919, 1920, 1921, 1922, 1924, 1927,
	1932, 1936, 1938, 1940, 1941, 1944, 1957, 1962.
Armagh	<b>(6)</b> —1925, 1926, 1929, 1935, 1948, 1951.
Antrim	(7)—1913 1914, 1923, 1937, 1942, 1960, 1963, 1970.
Donogal	(5)_1930 1933 1939 1952 1954

Down (8)—1931, 1934, 1946, 1947, 1949, 1958, 1965, 1971. Derry **(7)**—1945, 1950, 1953, 1955, 1964, 1967, 1969. Fermanagh (2)—1943, 1959. Monaghan (2)—1956, 1961.

Tyrone **(1)**—1968.

#### UNDER TWENTY-ONE FOOTBALL CHAMPIONSHIP (8)

Antrim (1)—1969.

Donegal (2)-1964, 1966.

Down (1)—1965.

Derry (2)-1967, 1968. Fermanagh (2)-1970, 1971.

#### MINOR FOOTBALL CHAMPIONSHIP

Aontruim

(7)—1932, 1933, 1936, 1941, 1950, 1955. (8)—1930, 1949, 1951, 1953, 1954, 1957, 1961, 1968. (4)—1937, 1938, 1952, 1959. (3)—1965, 1969, 1970. Ard Macha

Cabhán

Doire

Dún na nGall (1)-1956

(5)—1958, 1960, 1962, 1963, 1966. (3)—1939, 1940, 1945. An Dún

Muineachán

(8)—1931, 1934, 1935, 1946, 1947, 1948, 1967, 1971. Tir Eoin

No Competition in 1942, 1943, 1944.

#### MOST REV. DR. McKENNA CUP (S.F.) (45)

Monaghan (7)—1928, 1932, 1934, 1935, 1937, 1948, 1952.

(9)—1936, 1940, 1943, 1951, 1953, 1955, 1956, 1962, 1968. Cavan

**(5)**—1929, 1951, 1938, 1939, 1950. Armagh

(6)—1927, 1941, 1942, 1945, 1946, 1966. Antrim

**(7)**—1947, 1954, 1958, 1960, 1969, 1970, 1971. Derry

Fermanagh (2)—1930, 1933.

(4)—1944 1959, 1961, 1964. Down

**Tyrone** (1)—1957.

(3)-1963, 1965 (Final, Donegal v. Cavan, unplayed. Match Donegal awarded to Donegal), 1957.

#### RAILWAY CUP FOOTBALL

(13)—1942, 1943, 1947, 1950, 1956, 1960, 1963, 1964, Ulster 1965, 1966, 1968, 1970, 1971.

#### **ALL-IRELAND TITLES**

Senior Football—Cavan (5)—1933, 1935, 1947, 1948, 1952.

Down (3)—1960, 1961, 1968.

Junior Football—Armagh (1)—1926. Cavan (1)—1927. Down (1)—1946 Fermanagh (1)—1969. Monaghan (1)—1956. Tyrone (1)—1968.

Under 21 Football—Derry (1)—1968. Antrim (1)—1969.

Minor Football—Cavan (2)—1937, 1938. Tyrone (2)—1947, 1948. Derry (1)—1965. Armagh (1)—1949.

Intermed ate—Antrim (1)—1970.

Junior Hurling-Down (1)-1964.

Under 16 Hurling—Down (1)—1967.

Special Minor Hurling Championship-Down (1)-1968.

### Craobh Peile na Mionúr

TÍR	EC	NIC
(Colo	urs -	– WI
1.	P.	Ó
<b>(1)</b>	(P.	Kerl

HITE and RED) Coireallain in, Owen Roes)

O. Ó Neill (O. O'Neill, Omagh)

A. Ó Maonaigh (H. Mooney, Edendork)

D. Ó Dálaigh (D. Daly, Kileeshil)

G. Goodwin (G. Goodwin, Dungannon)

C. Mac Giolla Uir (C. McAleer, Beragh)

S. Ó Docharthaigh (I. O'Doherty, Omagh)

8. P. Mac Guaigin (Capt.) (F. McGuigan, Ardboe)

B. Ó Neill (B. O'Neill, Clonoe)

M. Ó Cuinn (M. Quinn, Stewartstown)

11. D. Mac Cionnaith (D. McKenna, Augher)

12. S. Ó hAodha (I. Hughes, Coalisland)

T. Ó Cathmhaoil (T. Campbell, Omagh)

M. Ó hAirt (M. Harte, Ballygawley)

15. D. O Cinneide (D. Kennedy, Dungannon)

#### FIR IONAID

B. Ó Cathmhaoil (B. Campbell, Dromore)

17. M. Mac Giolla Chomhaill (M. Covle, Carrickmore)

18. P. Ó Gruagain (F. Grugan, Carrickmore)

13. P. Ó Cuinn (P. Quinn, Aghaloo)

M. Ó Leannain (M. Lennon, Kildress)

S. Mac Daibheid (J. McDaid, Omagh)

#### AN CABHAN

(Colours - BLUE and WHITE)

1. A. Elliott

(A. Elliott, Cavan Gaels)

S. Mac Mánais (S. McManus, Arva)

P. Ó Conaill

(P. O'Connell, Virginia)

S. Mac Cabhann (I. Smyth, Ballyhaise)

5. O. O Pronntaigh (O. Prunty, Shannon Gaels)

B. Mac Conchra (B. Crowe, Killygarry)

S. Ó Muirí

(S. Murray, Kildallon)

S. Ó Lidí

(S. Leddy, Butlersbridge)

9. A. Mac an Riogh (A. King, Lavey-Laragh)
C. Ó Donnchadha

(C. O'Donaghue, Cavan Gaels)

B. Ó Brádaigh

(B. Brady, Lavey-Laragh) U. O Doineannaigh

(V. Dinnenny, Ballymachugh)

S. Ó Máirtín

(S. Martin, Templeport) G. Hetherton

(G. Hetherton, Munterconnacht)

15. T. Ó Raghallaigh (T. Reilly, Arva)

#### FIR IONAID

G. Mac an tSaoir (G. Mac Intyre, Bailiboro)

17. P. Mac Colgan

(P. Colgan, Castlerahan) S. Ó Cuana

(I. Cooney, Killinkere) 19. P. Mac Coisteala

(P. Costelloe, Ballyhaise)

N. Mac Corcráin (N. Corcoran, Kildallon)

C. Ó Sealbhaigh (K. Shalvey, Bailieboro)

22. B. Mac Uidhir

(B. Maguire, Crosserlough) B. Mac Cumascaigh (B Cumiskey, Lacken)

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# Dun na nGall

Craobh Peile na Sinsear

Colours: GREEN and GOLD

A. ó Cathain
(A. Kane)

P. Mac Se S. Ó Buaigh D. Ó Manachain (P. McShea) (J. Boyce) (D. Monaghan) (Roger Casements) (Donegal Town) (Ballyshannon) A. Ó Gallchobhair A. Ó Cearuill B. Mac Conduibh (A. Carroll) (B. McEniff) (A. Gallagher) (Gweedore) (St. Eunan's) (Bundoran) (8)P. Mac Ficheallaigh S. Ó Cnaimshi (F. McFeeley) (J. Bonnar) (Donegal Town) (Sean Mac Cumhaills) (11)(12)(10)M. Ó Cearnaigh M. Mac Meanman D. Ó Cearuill (D. Carroll) (M. Carney) (M. Mac Menamin) (Ballyshannon) (Sean Mac Cumhaills) (Bundoran) (15)(13)(14)M. ó Suibhne S. Winston S. Mag Reannachain (J. Granaghan) (M. Sweeney) (J. Winston) (St. Eunan's) (St. Eunan's) (Bundoran)

Fir Ionaid: (16) R. Ó Siarain (R. Sheeran, Ballyshannon); (17) E. ÓCnaimhsi (E. Bonner, Gwedore); (18) A. Ó Currain (A. Curran, S. Mac Cumhaills); (19) T. Ó Cuinn (T. Quinn, Ballyshannon); (20) P. de Barra (P. Barry, Bundoran); (21) M. Ó Griofa (M. Griffin, Round Towers, Dublin); (22) A. Mac Laifeartaigh (H. McClafferty, Roger Casements); (23) T. Mac Meanman (T. McMenamin, S. Mac Cumhaills); (24) S. Ó hAnnagain (J. Hannigan, St. Eunan's); (25) M. Mac an Chrosain (M. Crossan, St. Eunan's).

24.4.1.5).		ladh Leath (1st Half)	2adh Leath (2nd Half)	<b>lomlán</b> (Total)
Cúil (Goals)				
Cúilíní (Points)			*********	
Seachaí (Overs)				
<b>50 sl.</b> (50's)				
Saor-Chiceanna	(Free Kicks)			

# Tir Eoin

Craobh Peile na Sinsear

Colours:

WHITE

(1) C. Ó hAirt (K. Harte) (Carrickmore)

(2) O. Nuinseann (O. Nugent) (Pomeroy)	(3)  P. Ó Maolchraoibhe (P. Mulgrew, Capt.) (Stewartstown)	(4) S. Ó Dubhthaigh (J. Duffy) (Lamh Dhearg)		
(5) M. S. Mac Firbhisigh (M. J. Forbes) (Ardboe)	(6)  G. Mac an tSagairt (G. Teggart) (Derrylaughan)	(7) <b>M. Ó hAodha</b> (M. Hughes) (Killyman)		
(8) (9) <b>B. Ó Dubhláin</b> (B. Dolan) (Aghyaran)  (F. McGuigan) (Ardboe)				
(10) <b>P. Ó hEithearton</b> (P. Hetherington) (Donaghmore)	(11) S. Mac Giolla Chatain (J. McElhatton) (Lamh Dhearg)			
(13) A. Crafort (H. Crawford) (Ogh Maigh)	(14) C. Mac Thaigh (K. Teague) (Ardboe)	(15) S. Ó Mochóir (J. Earley) (Coalisland)		
Fir Ionaid: (16) M.	Mac Canna (M. McCan	nn Dromore); (17) I		

Fir Ionaid: (16) M. Mac Canna (M. McCann Dromore); (17) P. Mac Páirc (P. Parke, Stewartstown); (18) P. Mac an Réagh (P. King, Trillick); (19) L. Mac Cionna (W. McKenna, Augher); (20) P. Ó Cuinn (F. Quinn, Donaghmore); (21) P. Ó hAirt (P Harte, Ballygawley); (22) S. Ó Donnchadh (S. Donaghy, Dromore).

	<b>ladh Leath</b> (1st Half)	2adh Leath (2nd Half)	Iomlán (Total)
Cúil (Coals)			
Cúilíní (Points)			
Seachaí (Overs)	*		***********
<b>50 sl.</b> (50's)			
Saor-Chiceanna (Free Kicks)			



Kerlin, B. O'Neill. (Inset P. Quinn) , M. Quinn, F. McGuigan (Capt.) D. Kennedy, T. Campbell, M. Harte, D. McKenna, P. K. Aleer, G. Goodwin, J. Hughes, O. O'Neill, J. Doherty, McAleer, (left to right)

### DONEGAL'S THIRD FINAL

In 1963, for the first time in Donegal's history, the Senior county football team qualified for the Ulster final and on that occasion, to Breffni Park, Cavan, went the greatest number of people ever to attend a Provincial final in any Province.

Not alone the park itself, but the adjoining hills were packed to capacity and to see Donegal's minor and senior teams in action. The minors had a close call against Down, and the seniors failed to live up to the standard that they had displayed in the opening game and later in the provincial semi-final against Cavan. Later, however, Donegal won the Dr. Lagan Cup.

It was not until 1966 that Donegal again qualified for the Provincial final and on this occasion the game, again against Down, was played in Belfast. It was a close, hard game, but again, it was Down who came out on top after a most interesting hour's play in which the physical condition of some of the Donegal players, received before the game, affected them to such an extent that they were unable to maintain the form they had shown in the National Football League.

Of that 1966 team the youngest member was the present full back of the senior side, Pauric McShea, Ballyshannon, who with Declan O'Carroll, Bundoran, Anton Carroll, Gweedore, and present captain, Frankie McFeely, are the only playing members of the present side who played on that occasion. There was also another distinguished Donegal player, who is in the subs, following an injury he received after this year's opening game — John Hannigan of St. Eunan, Letterkenny, who gave Donegal distinguished football service in the first final in 1963, as well as in the 1966 game.

Donegal's side for this year's final is a young team, and for the past three years efforts have been made to bring the county back to the forefront following the decision of a number of players, like Sean Ferriter, Sheamus Hoare and many others like Paul Kelly, retired. Building up a new side has been a wonderful work, with the County Convention of a few years back deciding that the county's selection committee of nine should be reduced to three. Now, none of the county officers have to take action of any kind in the selection of a county team. When a team is selected, it is placed before the County Secretary, whose responsibility it is to make travelling and other arrangements. The three selectors are former Ulster and county player, Jim Gallagher, of Ballyshannon; former county man of recent years, Conal Maguire, St. Eunan's, Letterkenny, and one of the most dedicated workers and former brilliant player, Gerry Mc-Cafferty, Convoy. Also having a right to advise is county teams manager, right half back, Brian McEniff, Bundoran, who has shown such brilliant form for Ulster in the Railway Cup for the past 3 years.

There are other people who have given signal service to Donegal this year and they include two men who for many years have stood together for the development of the Gaelic cause; two players, both of whom won an All-Ireland medal when playing for Cavan in the U.S.A. — Columba McDwyer, Glenties, and former Breffni captain, Mick Higgins. Then, of course, there is the Garda trainer, Kieran McCready, who some twenty years ago left Ballyshannon to become a member of the Garda force, and who is looked up to so much in Phoenix Park.

To-day, Donegal's entry into their third Provincial senior final is indeed a wonderful day for the county who has provided some 15,000 people from the county alone for this memorable occasion. Win or lose, and Donegal people will hope for a win and a great display, the Donegal side of the 'seventies will indeed be one to remember.

AODH Ó DÁLAIGH.

Rúnaí Tír Chonaill.

#### TWO ALL-IRELANDS FOR ULSTER

Already this year teams from Ulster have been making a big impact on the All-Ireland scene and two national titles have come to the province. Heartiest congratulations to Bellaghey, Derry and Ulster champions on completing a great year by bringing home the All-Ireland Club Championship at their first atempt. The final of this competition, in which Bellaghey scored a remarkable win over Cork and Munster champions, U.C.C., was one of the best games seen at Croke Park in recent times.

Congratulations also to St. Patrick's, Cavan, on winning the All-Ireland Colleges' Championship. St. Patrick's only other appearance in the final of this championship was back in 1948, when they went under to St. Mel's, Longford, but this year, with wins over St. Jarlath's, Tuam, and Abbey C.B.S., Newry, behind them and trained to perfection by former Crosserlough star, Rev B. Maguire, a spectacular final display against St Brendan's, Killarney, brought the Hogan Cup to the famed nursery of Breifne and Ulster football.

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DONEGAL SENIOR TEAM

### CAMOGIE IN ULSTER

By Máirín Ní Gabhann

#### BEST WISHES

On behalf of The Ulster Camogie Council and Camogie players generally in the Province I take this opportunity, so generously accorded me, of congratulating and offering best wishes to both Counties — Tyrone and Donegal — on attaining the honour of reaching the 1972 Ulster Senior Football final.

But I was asked to write a contribution on Camogie in Ulster and I have this to say: The Province has a good Camogie tradition and the game is played in all Counties; but all counties are not affiliated to the Ulster Council and the County of Donegal is the sole offender in this respect. Some years ago there was a County Board in Donegal and the County team reached the Ulster Junior final, but were beaten by guess who? Yes, Tyrone!

So I make further use of this opportunity to appeal to the Donegal G.A.A. Board to assist as far as possible in putting Donegal back on to the Camogie map. The game is enthusiastically played there by Colleges and three Colleges in the County are affiliated to the Ulster Colleges' Council. They are: Scol Mhuire, Buncrana; Loreto, Letterkenny and Loreto, Milford. Each of these Colleges entered both a Senior and Junior team and had the satisfaction of reaching the quarter-final stage of the various competitions. In fact, Scol Mhuire's first-year team reached the final of the first-year cup competition, which is good work for such a recently affiliated school. There is Camogie talent in Donegal and the G.A.A. will get plenty of satisfaction if it encourages the game in the County.

Tyrone is going well in the Camogie sense and Eglish has become well-known in connection with the Ulster Club Championship. In mid-Ulster, Monaghan, Cavan and Tyrone have been unlucky in recent years in that no titles have come their way. In the West, Fermanagh continues to improve but most of the titles and achievements can be found in the East of the Province, largely because the game always was strong in these areas.

Armagh has now won the Ulster Junior title three times in a row, but so far, the All-Ireland Junior title has eluded them. Down won the All-Ireland Junior title in the first year of the competition, 1968, and Derry won it the following year, 1969.

Antrim has won the Ulster Senior title seventeen times in a row, won the All-Ireland Senior Championship five times and were the first County in Ulster to bring an All-Ireland title to the Province.

Down contested one All-Ireland Senior final in 1948.

Administratively, Ulster has supplied many office-bearers of high ability Miss Jean McHugh was General Secretary for many years and handed over to the present incumbent, also an Ulsterwoman from Down, Miss Sheila McAnulty Two Belfast ladies held the highest office, that of President of An Cumann Camoguidheachta, Miss Lily Spence in the 'fifties and Mrs Rosina McManus in the 'sixties Miss Spence is at resent President of the All-Ireland Colleges' Council and is Cisteoir of An Cumann Camoguidheachta

### 66SCOR '72"

### Winter Talent Competitions

This year's Ulster Championships in these increasingly popular competitions proved even more entertaining and keenly contested than in previous years A feature of the Finals, which were held in the magnificent G.A.A. Community Centre in Newbridge, Co. Derry, was that all nine counties in the province were represented.

The following emerged as Ulster Scor '72 Champions and represented the province in the All-Ireland Finals in the R.D.S. Hall, Ballsbridge :  $\dots$ 

- 1. Recitation: Miss M. Meehan, Derrygonnelly, Co. Fermanagh.
- 2. Individual Ballad: Rosaleen McEnhill, Enniskillen Gaels, Co. Fermanagh.
  3. Motion Speaking: Padraig Duffy, Castleblayney Faughs, Co. Monaghan.
- 4. Figure Dancing: Ballyholland Harps, Co. Down.
- 5. Question Time: Wattie Graham's G.F.C., Glen, Co. Derry. 6. Instrumental Music: Seamus Logan, Dunloy, Co. Antrim.
- Set Dancing: Ballyholland Harps.
- 8. Ballad Groups: Enniskillen Gaels, Co. Fermanagh.

Ulster representatives did not fare very well in the All-Ireland Finals, and our only winner was Fermanagh's Rosaleen McEnhill in the individual ballad competition, although many felt that accordeonist Seamus Logan, our youngest and most popular representatives from the Glens of Antrim was unlucky not to bring a second title to Ulster. Heartiest congratulations to Rosaleen and to Fermanagh on again providing an All-Ireland Talent winner.

#### CAMOGIE IN ULSTER

(Continued)

Many honours have come the way of the well-known Ulster players and many All-Ireland and All-Star awards, some more than once, have been made to Miss Maeve Gilroy, Mrs Sue Cashman, Miss Mairead Mc-Atamney, Miss Moya Forde, Mrs. Nancy Murray and others.

But this saga of brilliant performances is marred by a sombre and serious note which has crept in during the past few years. The game is dying in Belfast and district, thanks to the spate of riots and disorders in the area. Few games can be arranged or played as circumstances are so difficult and the clubs are going out of existence. As well, the Antrim County team is facing serious difficulties and may find it hard to continue. It is hard to be optimistic about Belfast but it is the only dark tone in an otherwise bright picture of Camogie in Ulster.

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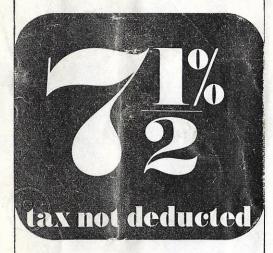
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