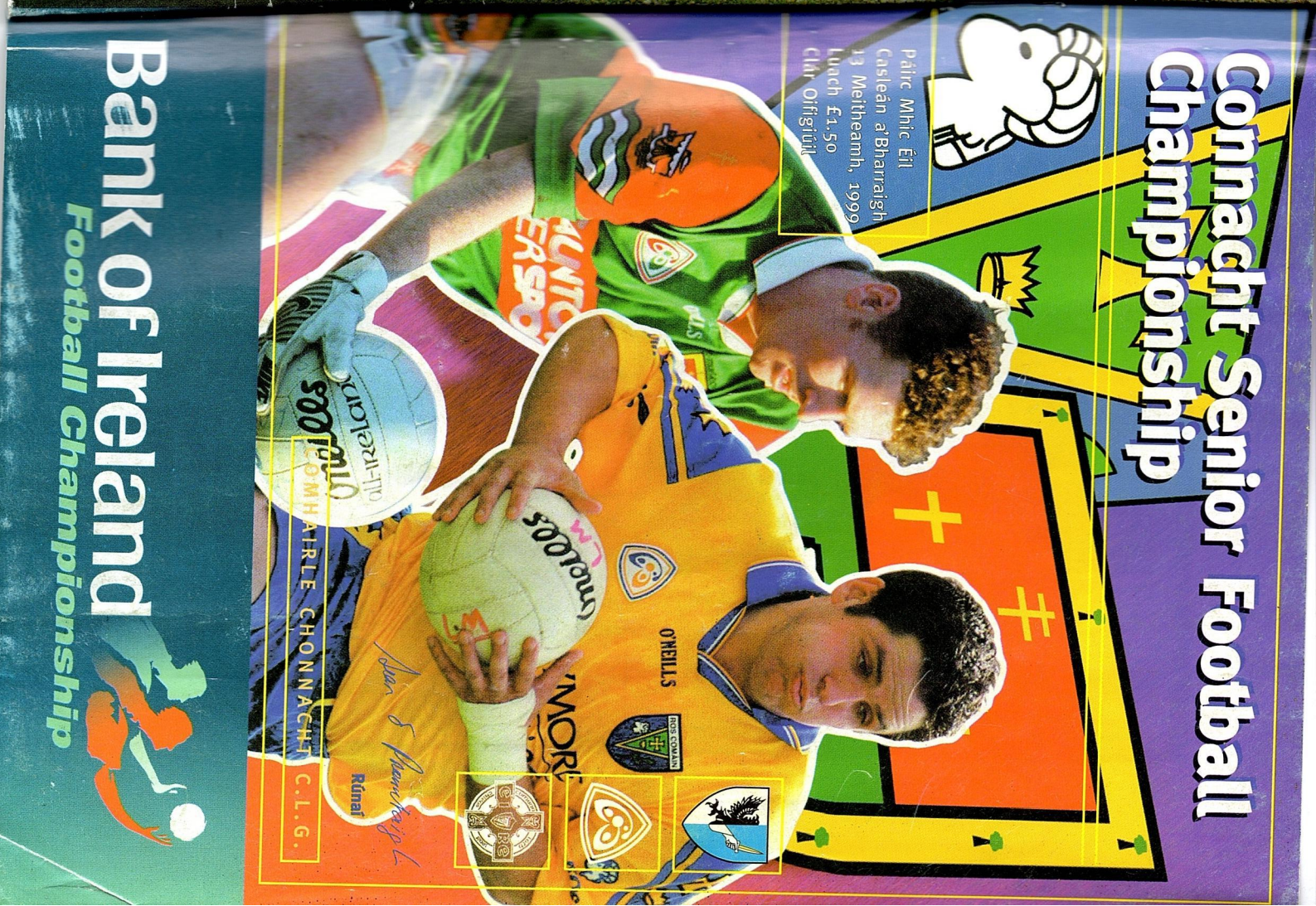
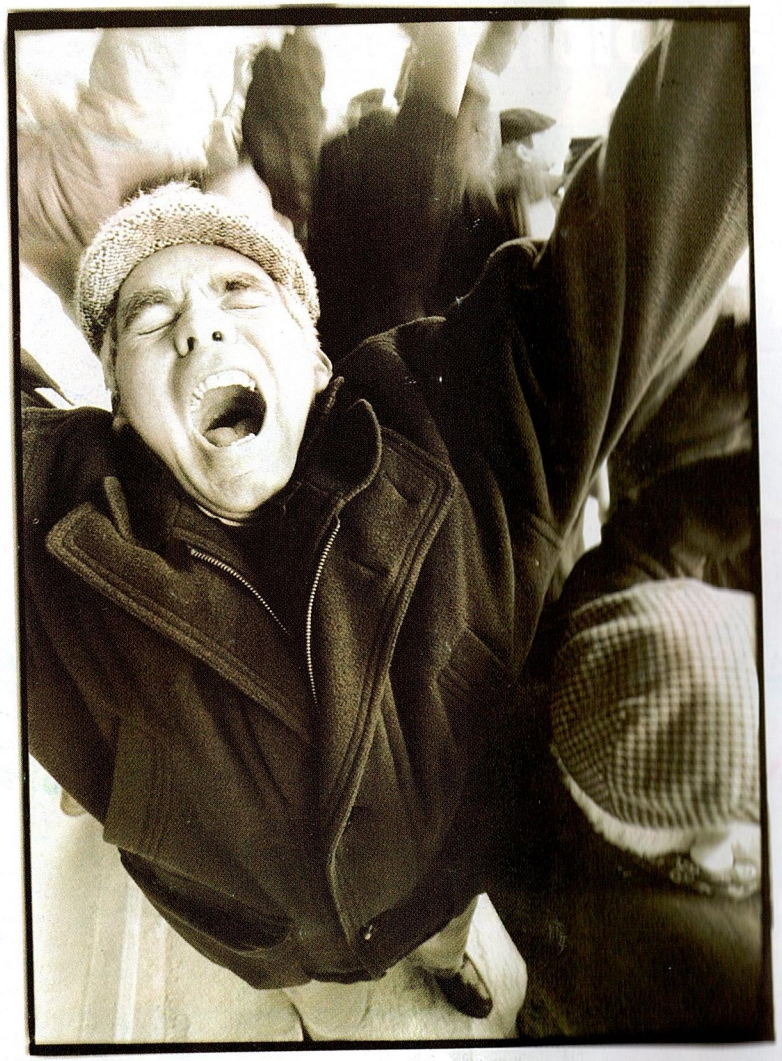

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Bank of Ireland Connacht Senior Football Championship

2.20 i.n. Seanorí / Over 40's Championship 1999

Maigh Eo v. Liatroim

Réiteoir: Pat Conway *(Sligeach)*

4.20 i.n.

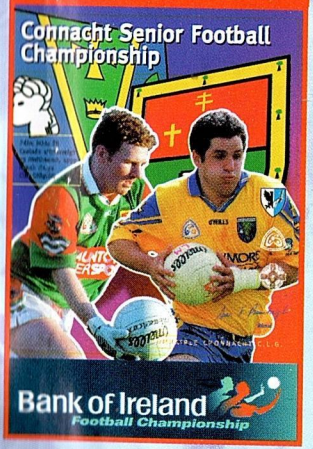
Maigh Eo v. Ros Comáin

Réiteoir: Brian White *(Loch Gorman)*

Linesmen: John Bannon *(Longfort)* **STAND-BY REFEREE**

Des Joyce *(Gaillimh)*

Ár gClúdach



Our cover shows Mayo and Roscommon forwards **David Nestor** and **Francie Grehan**

Amhrán na bhFiann

Sinne Fianna Fáil,
Atá faoi gheall ag Éirinn,
Buíon dár slua
Thar toinn doráinig chugainn
Faoi mhóid bheith saor,
Sean-tír ár sinsear feasta
Ní fhágfar faoin tíorán ná faoin tráill.
Anocht a théam sa bhearna baoil
Le gean ar Ghaeil chun báis nó saoil
Le gunna scréach faoi lámhach na bpiléar,
Seo libh canaig amhrán na bhFiann.

An Réteoir

Brian White (Loch Garman)

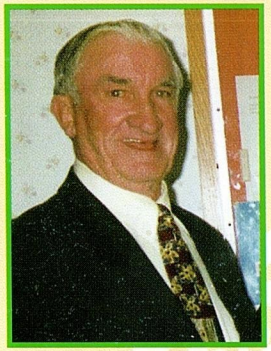


Brian refereed the Cork-Dublin Church & General National Football League final at Páirc Uí Chaoimh last month as well as the Cork-Derry encounter in the quarter-final. A former footballer and hurler, he has been refereeing for close on eleven years and in 1997 became the first Wexford man in 42 years to take charge of an All-Ireland senior football final. He has also refereed at All-Ireland club, minor and National League finals level. Brian also took control of the Kerry-Cavan game in the Church & General National League in New York in October 1997 to commemorate the playing of the 1947 All-Ireland senior championship final between those counties at the Polo Grounds, New York.

DBA

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Teachtaireacht ó Uachtarán Comhairle Chonnachta



Is cús mhór athais dom fiorchaoin fáilte a chur romhaibh go léir go Páirc Mhic Éil an lá inniu don ath-imirt an cluiche leath cheannais peile Chonnachta idir Ros Comáin agus Maigh Eo.

On behalf of Connacht Council it is my pleasure to welcome the senior teams from Roscommon and Mayo, the over 40's from Mayo and Leitrim and the participants in the Cumann na mBunscol exhibition game, along with their officials and supporters, for what promises to be a great day's entertainment.

I welcome the representatives of Bank of Ireland, our official sponsors of the Senior Football Championship.

I wish the best of luck to our referees and their officials.

Finally, I wish to thank and compliment the local Park Committee for the wonderful facilities they have provided at Páirc Mhic Éil and for having the Stadium in such splendid condition.

Le gach Dhea ghuí,

Feilim Ó Murchú,
Uachtarán.

Togha Chluiche Chugainn i gcraóbhchomortas Chonnachta

Táthar ann a deárfadh nár chomhlíon peileadóirí Mhaigh Eo a gcumais nuair nár bhain siad craobh na hÉireann i 1996/97 agus gur "lig" siad do na Gaillimhigh deá-ainm an Chúige a thabhairt slán anuraidh. Táthar ann freisin adéarfadh ná féadfá braith ar Ros Comáin - go bhfeádfaidís imirt ar nós churaidh Domhnach amháin agus a bheith in ísle brí an cheád Domhnach eile!

Tabharfar freagra ar an dá dhream thuasluaite inniu nuair a dhéanfaidh fir na bPairc Céide tréan-iarracht lena léiriú go bhfuil siad in ann agus in inmhe craobh Chonnachta a thabhairt ar ais agus, fiu, craobh na hEireann a bhaint ar deireadh. Beidh fir rábacha Ros Comáin ar a míle dhícheall dul céim níos sia ná anuraidh nuair a bhain siad geit as ábhair seaimpirí na hÉireann, Gaillimh, faor dhó!

Mar sin, beidh ard-chluiche againn inniu agus ba chearrt dúinn dearmad a dheánamh ar a bhfachamar cúpla Domhnach ó shin. Bhí Maigh Eo i bhfad ró-chumasach d'fhoireann Nua Eeabhrach agus d'fhéadfai mí-bhrí a bhaint as an scór ard a chuir siad í dtoll a chéile sa chluiche sin. Ag an am céanna chuir siad an iomarca ciceanna ar strae - agus ba bhreá linn a chloisteáil faoin uair dheiridh gur ghnóthaigh tosaí Mhaigh Eo trí chúl!

Sa chluiche in aghaidh Liatroma bhí 'Ros' ar fán sa chéad leath; bhí an chuma orthu go raith a gcumais mar pheileadóirí imithe ar fad go dtí gur cuireadh an fear ionaid, Ó Dómhnaill, ar an bpáirc. Ón am sin bhí an liathroíd á cheapadh in ard na spéire aige agus na tosaí eile a dtarraingt isteach sa chluiche aige. Mar adúradh thuas bhí droch-lá san oifig ag peileadóirí Ros Comáin. B'fhéidir, mar sin, go bhfuil lá maith in ndán dóibh inniu.

Mar ar tharla anuraidh bhí Derek Mac Thomáis, cúl-báire, ar fheabhas agus lasmuigh den aon chúl a ghnóthaigh Liatroim bhí iarrachtaí eile acu ar chuir Derek ó mhaith. Is cinnte go bhfuil dearmad déanta aige ar an mheancóg anuraidh san athimirt in aghaidh na Gaillimhe.

Bhí tosaí Mhaigh Eo, go háirithe Daithí Nestor, níos feárr ná mar a bhíodar, le tamall ach ní raibh tacaigh Nua Eábhrach den caighdeán a bheadh ag leithéid Ros Comáin. Bhí Séamus Ó hÓdhráin, iar-chosantóir, ard-éifeachtach mar leath-thosach láir agus len a neart agus a chumas ginearálta is "freagra" é ar roinnt de na ceis-teanna a cuirtear i dtaobh thosaí Mhaigh Eo!

Cé a thiocfaidh ar aghaidh go dtí craobhchluiche Chonnachta? Ceaptar go bhfuil mian láidir i gcampa Ros Comáin deis eile a bheith acu chun craobh an Chúige a bhaint, ar a laghad. Fós is dócha go bhfuil sé ag dó na geirbe i bpeileadóirí agus i mbainistíocht Mhaigh Eo nár éirigh leo an gníomh a dheánamh ar nós na Gaillimhe agus go mbeidh siad ar bís chun cúiteamh á dheánamh lena lucht leanúna.

Máisea, beidh cluiche den chéad ghrád faoinár mbráid inniu agus más gá dúinn buille faoi thuairim a thabhairt, maidir leis an toradh, ceaptar go mbeidh an lá le 'Rós'. Feicmid agus má tá breall orainn bíodh!

MAYO LEAD THE WAY IN MEETINGS WITH ROSCOMMON IN THE 'NINETIES.

Mayo and Roscommon meet today for the seventh time in the 'nineties in the Connacht senior football championship. Mayo have won four of the games, and drawn one.

Roscommon's last championship success over Mayo was in the final replay of 1991 at Dr. Hyde Park.

The drawn final that year at Castlebar was a thrilling affair and was highlighted by one of the best scores of the season. Mayo looked set to regain the provincial title after a two year break when they led by a point as the game was in its final minute.

The visitors were awarded a 60 yards free and left full forward Derek Duggan, then only 19, faced up to the last chance of earning his side a replay.

A real test of nerve, coolness and accuracy in a very tense atmosphere, but Duggan proved equal to the challenge by sending a massive kick well over the bar to earn Roscommon, who were defending champions, a second chance on a scoreline of 0-14 each.

That was Duggan's sixth point of the game. Gay Sheerin, current team-manager, was in goal for Roscommon.

CLOSE ENCOUNTER

The replay at Dr. Hyde Park before an attendance of over 21,000 was another close encounter, with Roscommon finishing with a brace of late points to snatch a 0-13 to 1-9 win.

Mayo were a point ahead seven minutes from time, but Derek Duggan soon equalised for the home team and about three minutes from time he slotted over the winning score from a free.

Duggan again proved spot on with his finishing by scoring eight points from frees. Enon Gavin was to the fore at left full back for the winners.

Michael Fitzmaurice was Mayo's leading scorer with three points. Others to get their name on the scoresheet included Colm McManamon, who hit a point.

BID ENDED

The counties met a year later in the provincial final at Castlebar, where Mayo ended Roscommon's bid for a third title in succession on a scoreline of 1-14 to 0-10 before an attendance of 30,000.

Ray Dempsey, on the target with 1-2, Kevin Staunton, who went in as a substitute and scored three points, and left half back Peter Butler did much to fashion the Mayo success.

The counties renewed rivalry in the 1993 final at Dr. Hyde Park, where a splendid goal by full forward Ray Dempsey eleven minutes into the second half, opened the door for a hard-earned 1-5 to 0-7 win for the visitors.

Mayo made it four wins in succession over Roscommon when they came out on top in a semi-final at Roscommon in 1996 by 0-14 to 0-11.

A strong finish saw Mayo through. A Derek Duggan free in the 60th minute gave Roscommon the lead by the minimum margin, but Liam McHale had Mayo level three minutes later.

Two further point by Maurice Sheridan and another from McHale ensured victory for the visitors.

It is interesting to look back on those teams:

MAYO: J. Madden; K. Mortimer, K. Cahill, A. McGarry; P. Holmes, J., Nallen, M. Connelly; C. McManamon, D. Brady; J. Horan, L. McHale, D. Nestor; D.Byrne, D. Sweeney, M. Sheridan.

Substitutes: J. Casey for Byrne. R. Dempsey for McManamon. A. Finnerty for Nestor.

ROSCOMMON: P. Staunton; C. Grogan, M. Feely. E. Gavin; R. O'Callaghan, C. McDonald, C. Heneghan; T. Ryan, D. O'Connor; L. Dowd, D. Duggan, D. Connellan; N. Donoghue, N. Dineen, C. Connolly.

Substitutes: J. Heneghan for Connolly. A. Nolan for O'Connor.

Clár an Lae

2.20pm	Master's game commences
3.30pm	Master's games finishes
3.35pm	Cumann na mBunscoil Primary Game commences
4.00pm	Roscommon Senior Football Team takes the field
4.02pm	Mayo senior Football Team takes the field
4.12pm	Parade
4.18pm	National Anthem
4.20pm	Throw in
4.55pm	Half time
5.05pm	Second half commences
5.40pm	Final whistle.

Ros Comáin



Back row (L-R): Eddie Lohan, Damien Donlon, Derek Thompson, Derek Duggan, Enon Gavin, Stephen Lohan, Conor Connelly.
Front row (L-R): Frankie Grehan, Denis Gavin, Tom Ryan, Clifford McDonald (captain), Lorcan Dowd, Rossa Callaghan, Ciaran Heneghan, Frankie Dolan

GOOD FORM A BOOST TO ROSCOMMON'S AMBITIONS

Roscommon have much to encourage them for their bid to record a first Connacht Senior Football Championship win over Mayo since 1991.

They had a good Church and General National League campaign that ended with them sharing top spot in Division II with Kerry.

Both counties, as a result, won promotion to the premier Division for next season and Kerry just pipped Roscommon on scoring averages for a place in the knock-out stages of the 1998-99 League.

They followed on by beating Galway in a thrilling FBD League Connacht final replay—and at Tuam Stadium. Roscommon won by 1-12 to 3-3, with Derek Duggan, not for the first time, setting the standard for the county in the scoring line with five points.

Then came a good start to the Championship campaign with a hard enough earned but well-merited 0-15 to 1-7 victory over Leitrim at Carrick-on-Shannon.

They struggled somewhat in the first half, despite a start that brought three points in succession from Eddie Lohan in the first eight minutes.

But Leitrim came more into the picture after than and a goal by Christopher Carroll helped them to end the half on level terms—1-3 to 0-6.

Roscommon sent in tall Fergal O'Donnell from the substitutes bench for the second half and he did much to help the side step up the tempo on the first-half showing.

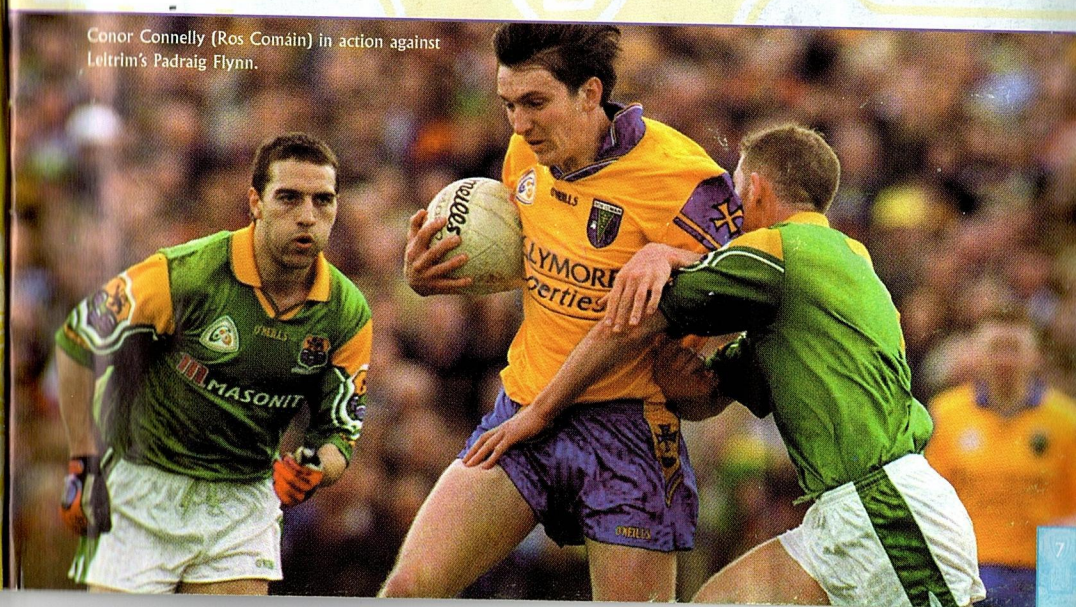
Although the home team continued to battle gamely, Roscommon pushed ahead to a five points lead (0-12 to 1-4) after 50 minutes to effectively establish a winning grip.

They also finished the stronger with a brace of late points by substitute Nigel Dineen for a good win.

O'Donnell, during his limited appearance, left a strong stamp on the game. Nigel Dineen was another substitute who also created a good impression.

Rossa O'Callaghan and Damien Donlon in defence, and Lorcan Dowd, Frankie Dolan and Conor Connolly in attack all contributed as well in fine style to the winning effort.

Roscommon back up their good form with a sound pedigree that will see them make a strong bid for a second successive provincial final appearance.



Conor Connelly (Ros Comáin) in action against Leitrim's Padraig Flynn.

Maigh Eo



The Mayo team which defeated New York at Castlebar last month.
Back row (L-R) James Horan, Ger Brady, David Heaney, Michaels Moyles, Peter Burke, David Brady, Maurice Sheridan, James Nallen, Kevin Cahill, Colm MacManaman.
Front row (L-R) Noel Connelly, Aiden Higgins, Fergal Costello (Captain), David Nestor, Gordon Morley.

MAYO REMAIN A STRONG FOOTBALL FORCE

Mayo, runners-up for the 1996 and 1997 All-Ireland senior football titles, remain a strong force in the game. They had a place in the Church and General National League quarter-finals snatched from their grasp at the last minute by Down at Newcastle in March in the concluding series of Divisional games.

They started that game as one of the front runners with their position as second in the table, a point behind Kildare. Mayo looked to be poised for a win when they led the Mourne men by two points with only a minute left.

Then James McCartan scored a dramatic goal to save Down from relegation and as it turned out end Mayo's interest in the League.

They finished the programme with eight points, the same total as Derry, but the Northerners went through for the third quarter-final ticket on scoring averages.

Still, that was a good run over-all by Mayo and a promising build-up for the championship.

UNIQUE

They had a unique start to that campaign when they helped to usher in a new chapter in the annals of the championship by entertaining New York at Castlebar on a Saturday evening late last month.

Mayo got off to to the perfect start. Playing with a strong wind they were a goal up after only three minutes when David Nestor, placed in possession by James Horan, found the net.

New York were always chasing the game after that but they worked hard all through. They did not get their first score until the 18th minute when right half forward Willie O'Donnell sent over the bar.

Mayo led at that stage by 1-4 to 0-1 but New York were beginning to move with authority. However, they suffered another blow when Nestor was this time the provider for Colm McManamon, who took his goal chance well to help his team to a 2-6 to 0-3 interval lead.

New York restarted in fine style with a brace of early points, but Mayo regained the initiative and shot over some good points to lead by ten points fifteen minutes into the half.

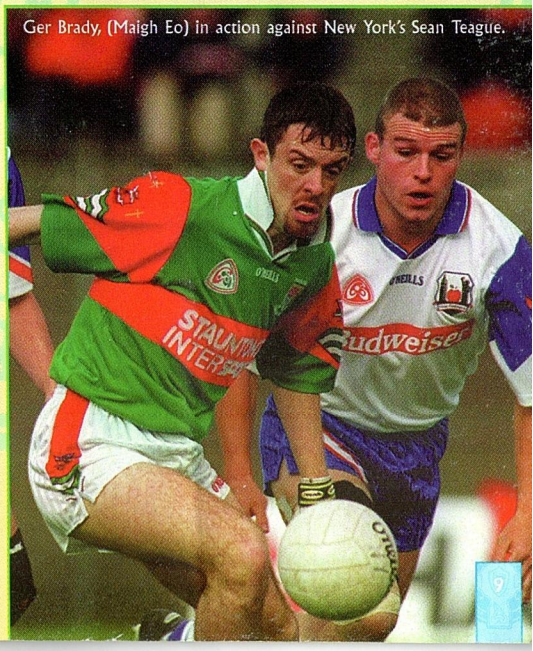
In the end the home team finished good winners by 3-13 to 0-10.

Fergal Costello, David Heaney and Noel Connelly did much to fashion the Mayo success with their authorative play in the half back line.

Colm McManamon took the honours in the attack and finished top scorer on the day for both teams with 1-3.

Maurice Sheridan, who hit five points, and James Nallen in midfield, were also to the fore in the home victory.

Overall, this was a workmanlike rather than spectacular performance by Mayo. They have a strong panel with talented players in all sectors and also have a nice framework of very experienced players capable of taking them back to another Connacht final.



Ger Brady, (Maigh Eo) in action against New York's Sean Teague.

MAYO'S LAST WIN...1996

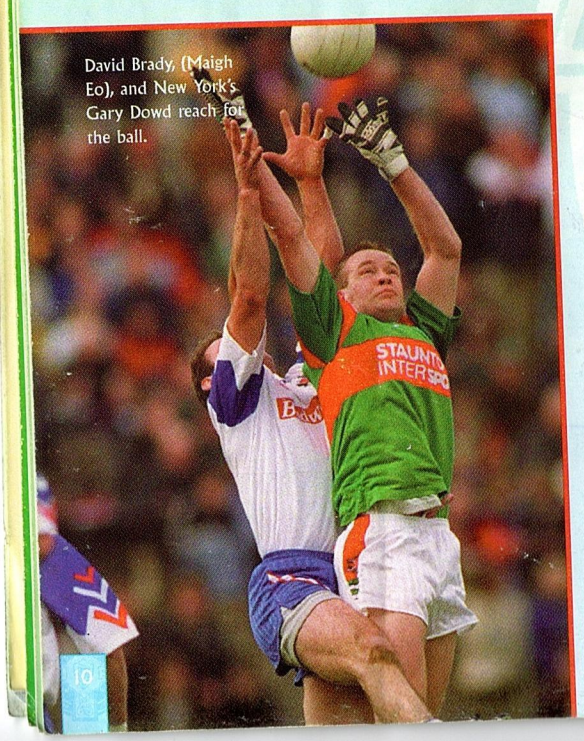
Mayo 0-14; Roscommon 0-11.

Before an attendance of 7,000 at Dr.Hyde Park, the home side opened the scoring when Derek Duggan converted a free after six minutes. Within a minute the same player had doubled Roscommon's advantage, again from a placed ball, before Mayo opened their account with a point by David Nestor after 11 minutes. Two minutes later Maurice Sheridan levelled matters but a further 11 minutes were to pass before the scoreboard operator was troubled again.

A super effort from James Horan restarted the scoring and although Duggan converted another free for the equaliser within two minutes, points by Colm McMenamon and Sheridan (free) saw the visitors pull two clear for the first time. On the stroke of half-time Duggan and Sheridan swapped frees and a very poor half ended with Mayo 0-6 to 0-4 in front.

Three minutes after the restart a superb four-man move ended with Horan increasing Mayo's lead and they made it double scores four minutes later when James Nallen pointed. Roscommon were struggling but a superb point by Ciaran Heneghan inspired the home side and by the 50th minute they were back on level terms thanks to a free and a '45 from Duggan and a single from Don Connellan.

When Niall O'Donoghue pointed five minutes later to give Roscommon the lead the tide seemed to be turning but Sheridan quickly equalised. Duggan edged Roscommon ahead again only for Ray Dempsey to respond in kind and another Duggan free was quickly answered by Liam McHale leaving it all square with seven minutes remaining. However, a visibly tiring Roscommon defence finally gave way and two fouls led to Sheridan points before McHale finished the scoring in injury time with a fine effort from an acute angle.



David Brady, (Maigh Eo), and New York's Gary Dowd reach for the ball.

Mayo scorers: M.Sheridan 0-6, L.McHale 0-2, J.Horan 0-2, J.Nallen 0-1, D.Nestor 0-1, R.Dempsey 0-1, C.McMenamon 0-1.
Roscommon: D.Duggan 0-8, D.Connellan 0-1, C.Heneghan 0-1, N.O'Donoghue 0-1.

Mayo - J.Madden, K.Mortimer, K.Cahill, A.McGarry, P.Holmes, J.Nallen, N.Connelly, C.McMenamon, D.Brady, J.Horan, L.McHale, D.Nestor, D.Byrne, D.Sweeney, M.Sheridan.
Subs - J.Casey for Byrne, R.Dempsey for McMenamon, A.Finnerty for Nestor.

Roscommon - P.Staunton, C.Grogan, M.Feely, E.Gavin, R.O'Callaghan, C.McDonald, C.Heneghan, T.Ryan, D.O'Connor, L.Dowd, D.Duggan, D.Connellan, N.O'Donoghue, N.Dineen, C.Connolly.
Subs - J.Heneghan for Connolly, A.Nolan for O'Connor.

ROSCOMMON'S LAST WIN...1991

Roscommon 0-13; Mayo 1-9.

This final replay at Hyde Park attracted more than 25,000 people and they were well rewarded with 70 minutes of exciting football at the end of which the home side just held on to their provincial title. The exciting finish, although desirable, seemed inappropriate as Roscommon were well on top for three-quarters of an hour but a number of missed chances and a determined Mayo rally left just the minimum between the sides.

Within a minute of the throw-in Derek Duggan converted the first of his eight frees and by the 10th minute the hosts were three points to the good. Mayo opened their account at the 13th minute through Michael Fitzmaurice but a brace of frees from Duggan left Roscommon 0-5 to 0-1 ahead after 20 minutes. The quarter of an hour prior to the interval saw Paul McStay and Tom Grehan swap points before Colm McMenamon and Duggan did likewise, and Liam McHale finished the first-half scoring to leave it 0-7 to 0-4 in the holders' favour.

Within 30 seconds of the resumption Michael Donlon fired over to put Roscommon four clear and this prompted the Mayo selectors to introduce Willie Joe Padden to the proceedings. Although Vincent Glennon extended Roscommon's advantage at the 42nd minute Padden hit a great point from 60 yards to keep Roscommon in view. Three unanswered points by Fitzmaurice (two) and McStay left Mayo just the minimum in arrears as the final quarter beckoned as Padden and T.J.Kilgallon got a grip on midfield.

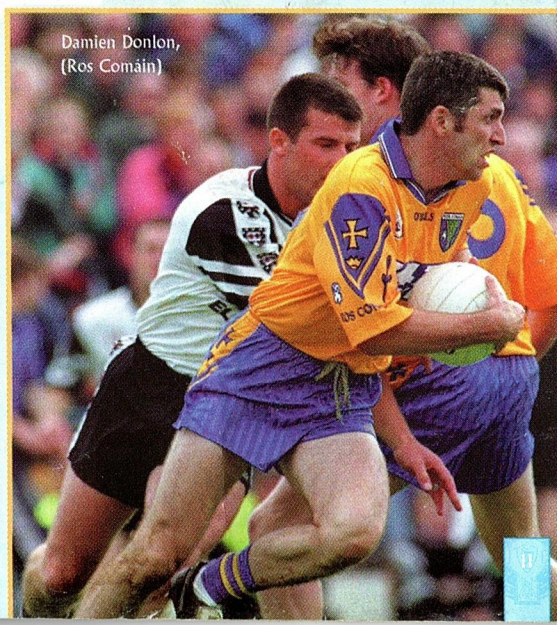
At the 57th minute a long ball from Kilgallon was gathered by Anthony Finnerty and his shot whistled by Gay Sheerin to give Mayo the lead and they nearly grabbed another only for the Roscommon 'keeper to deny Noel Durkin with a fine save. However, quick points by Duggan and John Newton brought parity but seven minutes from time Kilgallon restored Mayo's lead.

However, Roscommon refused to give in and two points by Duggan in the last five minutes saw the champions retain their title by the narrowest of margins.

Roscommon scorers: D.Duggan 0-8, J.Newton 0-1, T.Grehan 0-1, T.McManus 0-1, V.Glennon 0-1, M.Donlon 0-1.
Mayo: M.Fitzmaurice 0-3, A.Finnerty 1-0, P.McStay 0-2, T.J.Kilgallon 0-1, C.McMenamon 0-1, L.McHale 0-1, W.J.Padden 0-1.

Roscommon - G.Sheerin, D.Newton, P.Doorey, E.Gavin, J.Connaughton, P.Hickey, M.Reilly, S.Killoran, J.Newton, T.Grehan, T.McManus, V.Glennon, M.Donlon, P.Earley, D.Duggan.
Sub - E.McManus for Donlon.

Mayo - E.Lavin, A.McGarry, P.Forde, D.Flanagan, P.Butler, T.Tierney, J.Finn, L.McHale, T.J.Kilgallon, M.Fitzmaurice, C.McMenamon, N.Durkin, T.Morley, P.McStay, R.Dempsey.
Subs - W.J.Padden for McMenamon, A.Finnerty for Morley.



Damien Donlon, (Ros Comáin)

Liatroim

Dathanna: Uaithne, Ór is Bán

Fir Ionaid

(16) MICK HARTE
M. Mac Airt
(Cloone)

(17) KEVIN GLANCY
C. Mac Flanncadh
(St. Mary's)

(18) KEVIN KENNEDY
C. Ó Cinnéide
(St. Mary's)

(19) MICHAEL REILLY
M. Ó Raghallaigh
(Carrigallen)

(20) JOE REYNOLDS
S. Mac Raghnaill
(Eslin)

(21) PAT MC DONALD
P. Mac Domhnaill
(St. Osnet's)

(22) MICK MOYLETTE
M. de Mealóid
(Cloone)

(23) DES CREAMER
D. ó Créimir
(Ballinaguera)

(24) DONAL QUINN
D. ó Coinn
(Aughawillan)

Roghnóirí:
Terry Shortt
Sean McCartin
Pat Prior
Peter Faughnan

1
BRIAN MULVEY
B. Ó Muilbhigh
(St: Mary's)

2
PROINSIAS REYNOLDS
P. Mac Raghnaill
(Kiltubrid)

3
FRANK HOLOHAN
P. Ó hUallacháin
(Drumreilly)

4
SEAMUS SOROHAN
S. Ó Sorocháin
(Gortletteragh)

5
JOE DORRIGAN
S. Ó Dúragáin
(Gortletteragh)

6
PADDY O'NEILL
P. Ó Néill
(Gortletteragh)

7
HUBIE REYNOLDS
A. Mac Raghnaill
(Fenagh)

8
MICKEY QUINN
M. Ó Coinn
(Aughawillan)

9
SEAMUS TIGHE
S. Mac Taidhg
(Kiltubrid)

10
FRANK NIBLOCK
P. Nibloc
(Gortletteragh)

11
PAT FLANAGAN
P. Ó Flanagáin
(Aughawillan)

12
PAT FLYNN
P. Ó Floinn
(Gortletteragh)

13
PADRAIG MC KEON
P. Mac Eoin
(Sean O'Heslin's)

14
LIAM BURKE
L. de Búrca
(St. Osnet's))

15
PAT PRIOR
P. Mac an Phriora
(Aughawillan)

TOP NINE

No team has ever managed to put its total of goals into double figures in a Connacht senior football game...but both Mayo and Roscommon came close to doing so in different eras when they notched nine goals against, admittedly, weak opposition. Mayo were the first to hit nine 'majors', which feat they performed when beating Leitrim by 9-4 to 3-3 at Sligo in the 1935 semi-final. That record was to stand for more than 30 years - and in fact, appeared likely to stand for all time until Roscommon did a horrific demolition job on London in the first-round tie in 1980. At Roscommon it was never a contest as the home county ran up 9-19 to their opponent's 1-10. And the record of nine is still shared by Mayo and Roscommon, though Mayo might claim that theirs was a more meritorious achievement in that they scored nine goals in a 60-minute game as opposed to Roscommon accomplishing their feat in a 70-minute encounter.

Maigh Eo

Dathanna: Uaithne is Dearg

Fir Ionaid

(16) GERRY O'NEILL
G. Ó Néill
(Balla)

(17) ANTHONY EGAN
A. Mac Aogáin
(Bunniconlon)

(18) TOMMY WARDE
T. Mac an Bhaird
(Charlestown)

(19) RAY MC HALE
R. Mac hÉil
(Knockmore)

(20) MICK SWEENEY
M. Mac Suibhne
(Islandeady)

(21) J.J. BARRETT
S.S. Bairéid
(Ballina)

(22) WALTER MORAN
U. Ó Moráin
(Parke)

(23) SEAMUS PARSONS
S. Mac an Phearsúin
(Ardnaree)

(24) RICHIE MC HALE
R. Mac hÉil
(Park)

Roghnóirí:
Larry McEllin (Manager)

1
EUGENE LAVIN
E. Ó Maoiléimhín
(Kiltimagh)

2
EAMONN HOWLEY
E. Ó hUallaigh
(Bunniconlon)

3
PADRAIC FLANNERY
P. Ó Flannabhra
(Garrymore)

4
JOHN JOE ORMSBY
S. S. Armas
(Islandeady)

5
CHARLIE COLLINS
C. Ó Coileáin
(Lacken)

6
MICHAEL COLLINS
M. Ó Coileáin
(Lacken)

7
JOHN JORDAN
S. Mac Shiúrtáin
(Moy Davitts)

8
DES MC GRATH
D. Mac Craith
(Kilmaine)

9
JOHNNY SWEENEY
S. Mac Suibhne (Capt.)
(Belmullet)

10
PAT TONRA
P. Ó Tomhnair
(Breaffy)

11
EUGENE MC HALE
E. Mac hÉil
(Knockmore)

12
TOM HENEGHAN
T. Ó hÉineacháin
(Tourmakeady)

13
DECLAN COLLINS
D. Ó Coileáin
(Lacken)

14
JOE FLYNN
S. Ó Floinn
(Parke)

15
DES RUTTLEDGE
D. Ó Maoildeirg
(Knockmore)

Roll of Honour

This is the tenth year of the over 40's football championship, which started in nineteen-ninety. The winners to date are

1990	Kildare	1995	Mayo
1991	Kildare	1996	Cavan
1992	Mayo	1997	Mayo
1993	Cavan	1998	Monaghan
1994	Mayo		

To date, Mayo have appeared in five finals, winning four of them.

Results to date.

This is the third round of the over 40's championship. The results of the two rounds played to date are:

Round 1 - 19 May 1999:

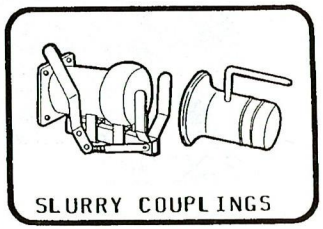
Galway	2-10;	Leitrim	1-9
Mayo	1-10;	Roscommon	3-9

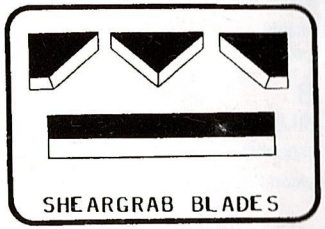
Round 2 - 2 June 1999:

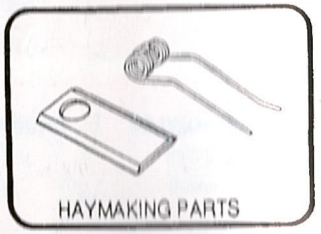
Leitrim	0-16;	Roscommon	0-5
Mayo	0-11;	Galway	0-8

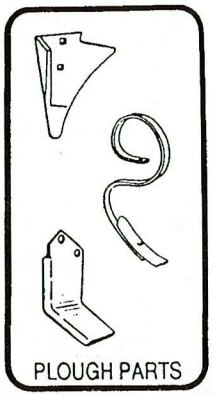
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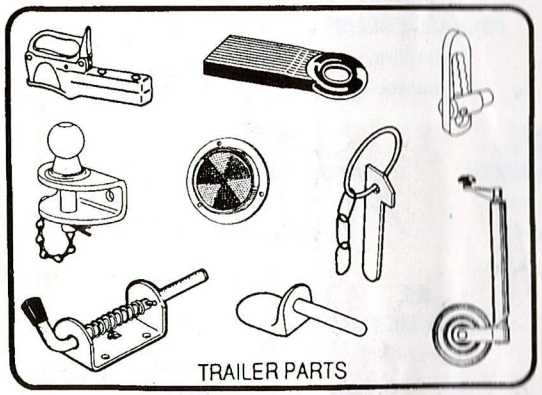
Symbol of Quality

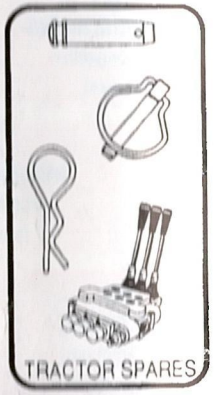

SLURRY COUPLINGS


SHEARGRAB BLADES

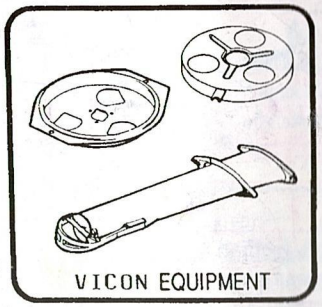

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GREYFIELD, KILTIMAGH, Co. MAYO.

BANK OF IRELAND CONNACHT SENIOR FOOTBALL CHAMPIONSHIP SCOREBOARD

This year's Bank of Ireland Connacht Senior Football Championship has already made history on the double.

New York made their senior football championship debut when they visited Mayo at Castlebar at the end of last month.

However, the Exiles did compete in the past in the National Football and Hurling Leagues and won the title in the "Big Ball" game in 1950, 1964 and 1967.

New York did not win the Hurling League.

Back to the Castlebar game and right half forward Willie O'Donnell, of Kerry, put his name into the history books by recording the first score by a New York player in the senior championship—a point.

History was also made at Ruislip, where Galway became the first county to start the defence of the Sam Maguire Cup in London.

29th May at Castlebar:
Mayo 3-13; New York 0-10.
Top Scorer: Colm McManamon (Mayo) 1-2.

30th May at Carrick-on-Shannon:
Roscommon 0-15; Leitrim 1-7.
Top Scorers: Frankie Dolan, Eddie Lohan (Roscommon) 0-3 each, Chris Carroll (Leitrim) 1-0.

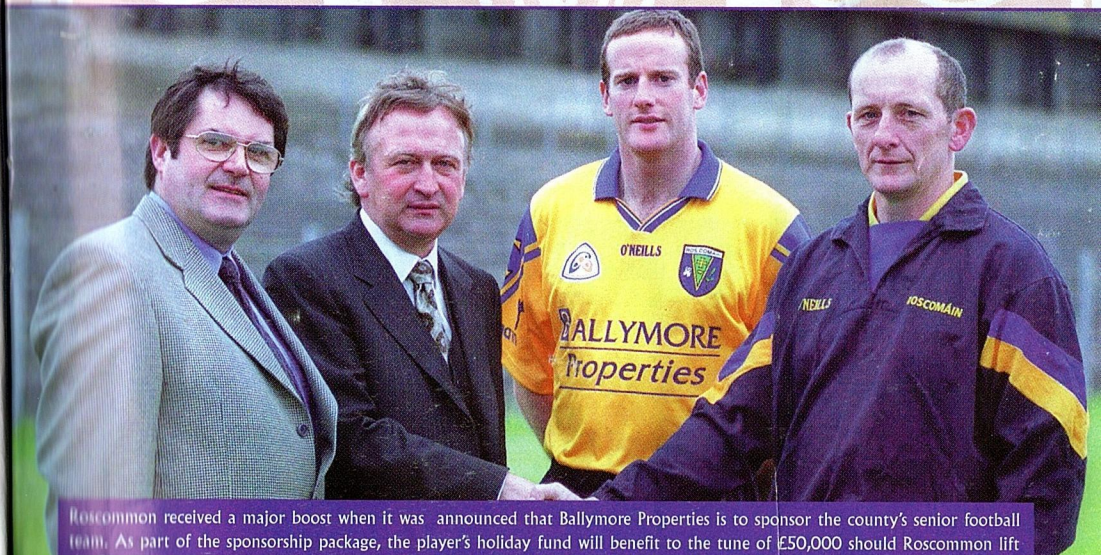
6th June at Ruislip:
Galway 1-18 London 1-8.
Top Scorer: Padraig Joyce (Galway) 1-4

HOW THEY REACHED THE SEMI-FINAL

Mayo and Roscommon each played one game on the way to this semi-final clash.

29th May at Castlebar:
Mayo 3-13; New York 0-10.
Scorers: Colm McManamon 1-3, Maurice Sheridan 0-5, David Nestor 1-2, James Horan 0-3, Brian Maloney 1-0.

30th May at Carrick-on-Shannon:
Roscommon 0-15; Leitrim 1-7.
Scorers: Frankie Dolan 0-3, Eddie Lohan 0-3, Stephen Lohan 0-2, Conor Connelly 0-2, Nigel Dineen 0-2, Lorcan Dowd 0-2, Derek Duggan 0-1.



Roscommon received a major boost when it was announced that Ballymore Properties is to sponsor the county's senior football team. As part of the sponsorship package, the player's holiday fund will benefit to the tune of £50,000 should Roscommon lift the Sam Maguire in Croke Park on September 26th. Pictured at the announcement are, from left, Stephen Banahan, Roscommon County Chairman, Sean Mulryan, Managing Director, Ballymore Properties, Tom Ryan, Captain, Roscommon Senior Football Team and Gay Sheerin, Manager, Roscommon Senior Football Team.

Maigh Eo

Dathanna: Uaithne is Dearg

Fir Ionaid

(16) **PAUL KANE**
P. Ó Catháin
(Hollymount)

(17) **PAT FALLON**
P. Ó Fallúin
(Balla)

(18) **PAT HOLMES**
P. Mac Thomáis
(Westport)

(19) **MICHAEL SMITH**
M. MacGabhann
(Parnells)

(20) **ALAN ROCHE**
A. de Róiste
(Davitt's)

(21) **GER BRADY**
G. Ó Brádaigh
(Claremorris)

(22) **BRIAN RUANE**
B. Ó Ruadháin
(Ballina Stephenites)

(23) **MICHAEL MOYLES**
M. Ó Maolmhuire
(Crossmolina Deel Rovers)

(24) **DERMOT HIGGINS**
D. Ó hUiginn
(Charlestown Sarsfields)

Roghnóirí:

John Maughan (Bainisteoir)
Tomás Tierney

1
PETER BURKE
P. de Búrca
(Kiltimagh)

2
AIDAN HIGGINS
A. Ó hUigín
(Charlestown Sarsfields)

3
KEVIN CAHILL
C. Ó Cathail
(Ballaghadereen)

4
GORDON MORLEY
G. Ó Muirthile
(Salthill)

5
FERGAL COSTELLO
F. Mac Coisteala
(Ballinrobe)

6
DAVID HEENEY
D.Ó hÉanaigh
(Swinford)

7
NOEL CONNELLY
N. Ó Conghaile
(Hollymount)

8
JAMES NALLEN
S. Ó Nailín
(Crossmolina Deel Rovers)

9
DAVID BRADY
D. Ó Brádaigh
(Ballina Stephenites)

10
COLM McMANAMAN
C. Mac Meanmáin
(Burrishool)

11
KENNETH MORTIMER
C. Ó Muircheartaigh (Capt.)
(Claremorris)

12
JOHN CASEY
S. Ó Cathasaigh
(Charlestown Sarsfields)

13
MAURICE SHERIDAN
M. Ó Sioradáin
(Balla)

14
JAMES HORAN
S. Ó hÓráin
(Ballintubber)

15
DAVID NESTOR
D. Mac an Adhastair
(Ballyhaunis)

	Cúil	Cúilíní	Seachaí	45m	Saor Ciceanna
1adh Leath					
2adh Leath					
IOMLÁN					

Ros Comáin

Dathanna: Ór is Gorm

Fir Ionaid

(16) **ENDA DALY**
E. Ó Dálaigh
(St. Joseph's)

(17) **RONAN OWENS**
R. Ó hEoghain
(Strokestown)

(18) **MICHAEL RYAN**
M. Ó Riain
(Roscommon Gaels)

(19) **GERRY KEANE**
G. Ó Céin
(Tulsk)

(20) **EDDIE LOHAN**
E. Ó Leogháin
(Kilbride)

(21) **NIGEL DINEEN**
N. Ó Duinnín
(Tulsk)

(22) **ANDY CARBURY**
A. Ó Cairbre
(Clan na nGael)

(23) **KIERAN GROGAN**
C. Ó Gruagáin
(Ml. Glavey's)

(24) **JOHN GILLOOLY**
S. Mac Giolla Ghuala
(St. Joseph's)

Roghnóirí:
Gay Sheerin (Manager)
Tony McManus
Gerry Fitzmaurice
Sean Kilbride

1
DEREK THOMPSON
D. Mac Thomáis
(Garda)

2
DENIS GAVIN
D. Ó Gáibhín
(Clan na nGael)

3
DAMIEN DONLON
D. Ó Dónalláin
(Strokestown)

4
ENON GAVIN
E. Ó Gáibhín
(Clan na nGael)

5
ROSSA O'CALLAGHAN
R. Ó Ceallacháin
(Elphin)

6
CLIFFORD McDONALD
C. Mac Dónaill (Capt.)
(Roscommon Gaels)

7
CIARAN HENEGHAN
C. Ó hÉineacháin
(Roscommon Gaels)

8
TOM RYAN
T.Ó Riain
(Garda)

9
STEPHEN LOHAN
S. Ó Leogháin
(Kilbride)

10
CONOR CONNELLY
C. Ó Conaile
(Ml. Glavey's)

11
FERGAL O'DONNELL
F. Ó Dónaill
(Roscommon Gaels)

12
DEREK DUGGAN
D.Ó Duagáin
(Garda)

13
FRANKIE DOLAN
P. Ó Dúláin
(St. Brigid's)

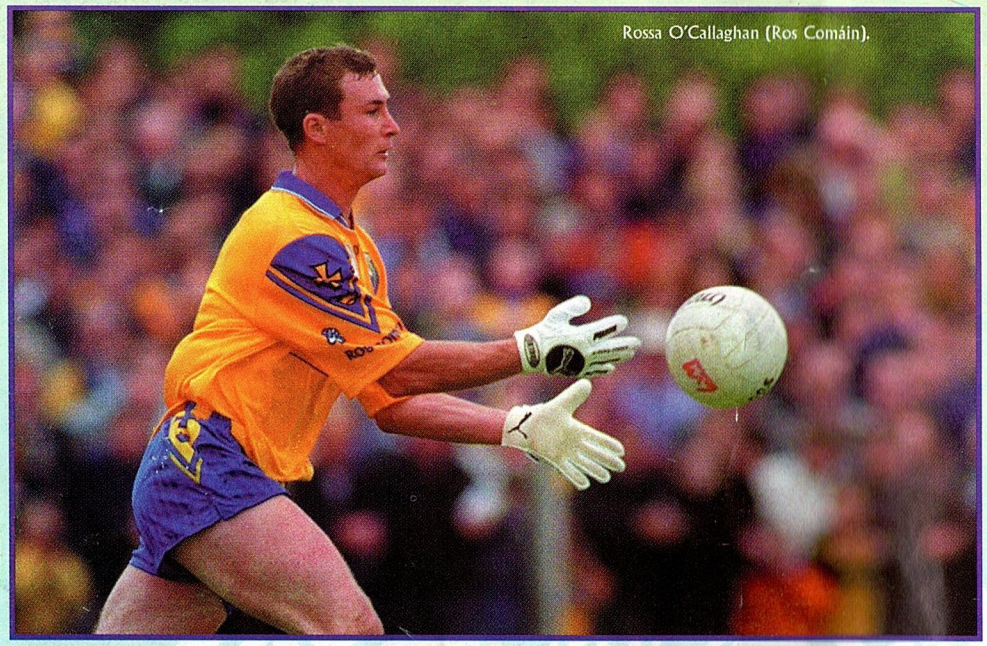
14
FRANCIE GREHAN
P. Ó Greacháin
(St. Aiden's)

15
LORCAN DOWD
L. ó Dúda
(Western Gaels)

	Cúil	Cúilíní	Seachaí	45m	Saor Ciceanna
1adh Leath					
2adh Leath					
IOMLÁN					

ASK NOT WHAT YOUR COUNTY CAN DO FOR YOU

Bank of Ireland
Football Championship


Rossa O'Callaghan (Ros Comáin).

SWEENEY SUPREME

Connacht has produced many outstanding goalkeepers over the years - Tom Burke (Mayo) and Jimmy McGauran (Galway) in the thirties and George Higgins (Sligo) and Willie Flanagan (Galway) in the previous decade. More recent times saw Jack Mangan (Galway) and Aidan Brady (Roscommon) emerge, while Johnny Geraghty made his own piece of goal-keeping history in the years of Galway's three in-a-row. P.J.Smith of Galway and Gabriel Irwin of Mayo were All-Star Award winners in Connacht's barren years of the seventies and eighties, while Roscommon's Gay Sheerin must have been close to the same honour, and Martin McNamara's impact on the 1998 championship could rank with the best of what most of the above mentioned achieved.

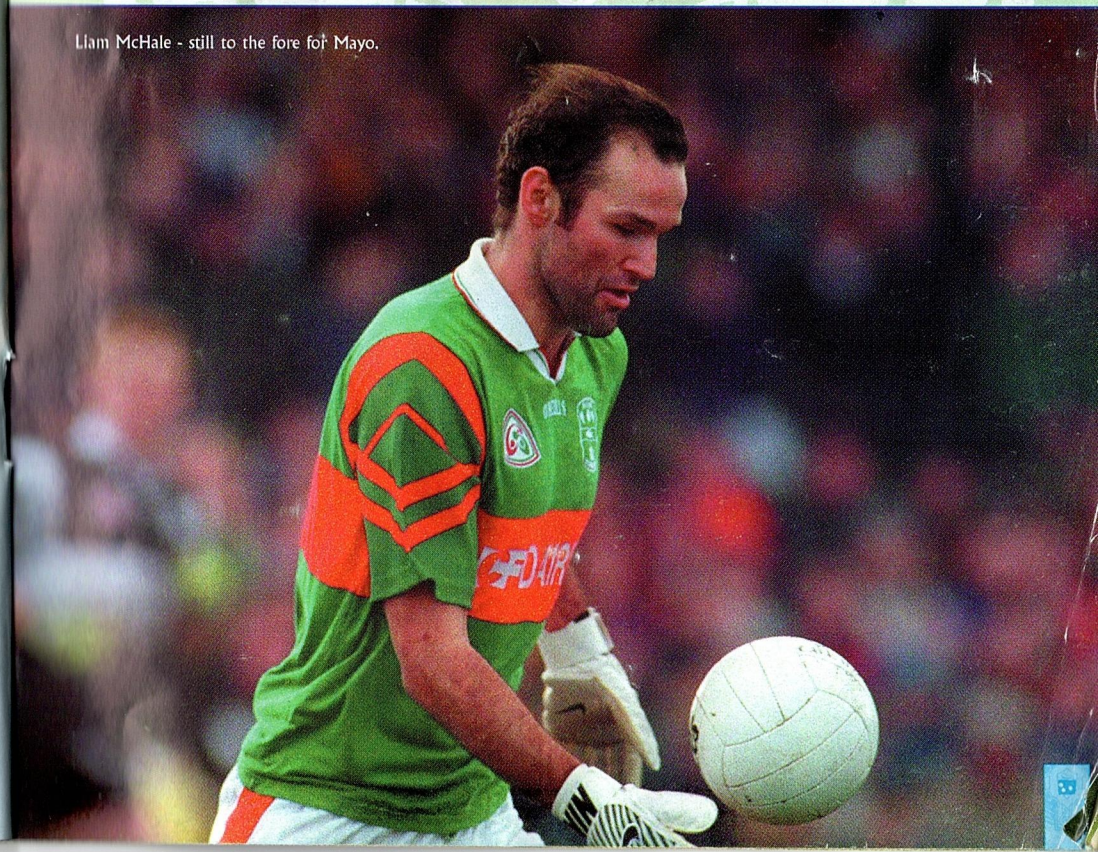
But undoubtedly the most outstanding figure to man the no.1 spot for any Connacht county in the past century was Mayo's Paudge Sweeney who holds a record for safe keeping that has never been matched by the custodians of any county. In eight provincial finals between 1901 and 1909 the Ballina Stephenites' keeper did not concede a single goal and indeed, in his entire career, only once in Connacht did his net fall, which was in the 1908 first-round clash with Sligo at the Sligo Show Grounds - a game that Mayo won by 1-16 to 1-3.

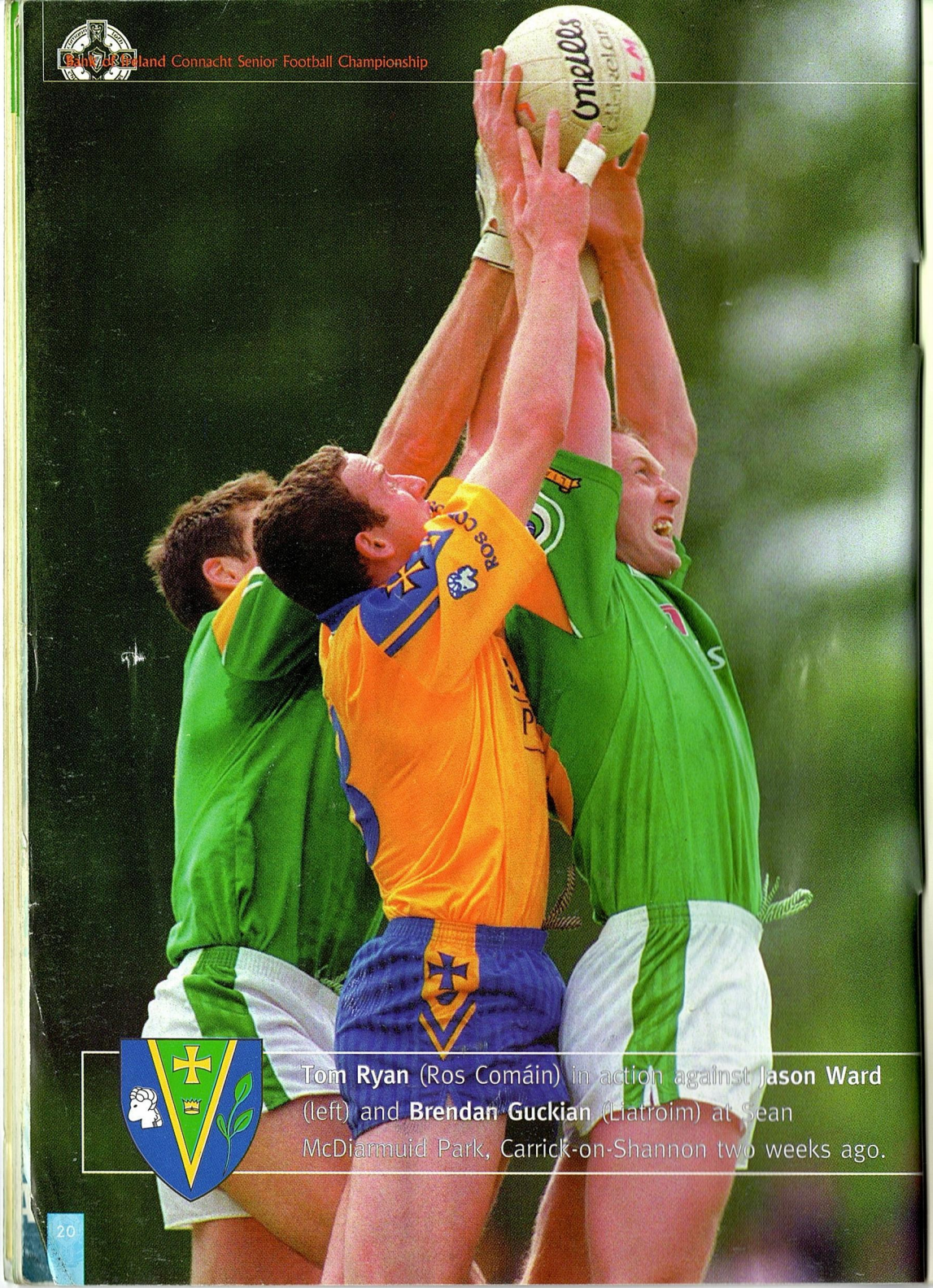
Paudge Sweeney was certainly a man apart.

UNDER TWO FLAGS

Gaelic games, because of their structure which breeds such fervent loyalty to the county of one's birth, do not present the spectacle of players switching from county to county or even from club to club. Indeed, county and club loyalty is one of the glories of the national games, but in the distant past, before the declaration rule was introduced, when his employment took a player to another county, he really had no choice in the matter, and were he good enough, he invariably lined out for his county of residence. Consequently, in the early decades of the century quite a number of players featured in the colours of two counties, and indeed, often winning top honours with both. The most notable instance of this in the West was the case of Mick Rafferty who won a National League medal with Mayo in 1934 and an All-Ireland with Galway four years later.

But the honour of being the first man to win provincial medals with two Connacht counties belongs to Harry Hession of Elphin, who, having assisted Roscommon to win the 1912 Connacht title was in the Mayo colours in 1915 when the county beat Roscommon in the final. And another distinction enjoyed by the Elphin man was that he was the first Connacht man to score a championship goal at Croke Park, which he did when he found the net in the Dublin-Roscommon semi-final of 1912.


Liam McHale - still to the fore for Mayo.



Tom Ryan (Ros Comáin) in action against **Jason Ward** (left) and **Brendan Guckian** (Liatroim) at Sean McDiarmuid Park, Carrick-on-Shannon two weeks ago.

CLASHES OF YESTERYEAR

1975 - Mayo 1-12; Roscommon 1-9.

A margin of three points suggests a nail-biting encounter with the result in doubt until the final whistle; but such was not the case in this disappointing encounter at Roscommon where the home team rarely looked to have the measure of a far more incisive and purposeful Mayo side.

The wind, which blew diagonally across the pitch, with whatever favours it bestowed going Roscommon's way in the opening half, proved a trial for both sides and some of the wides resulting from its vagaries bordered on the farcical, with Mayo the more guilty in this sphere of misdirected endeavour.

Roscommon, who held an interval advantage of 0-6 to 0-4, were always struggling though they could have been in a more comfortable position at the changeover if Dermot Earley had been fully fit, but with the great man in obvious distress one of their trump cards was virtually eliminated. Mayo had no such worries and, with Ger Farragher in form, they were on level terms at the 40th minute and after that there was an air of inevitability about the outcome. By the 65th minute Mayo, despite missing a score of chances, had struggled into a six-point lead and it took substitute Tom Beegan's goal from a free to give respectability to the final scoreline.

Mayo scorers: G.Farragher 1-4, T.O'Malley 0-2, J.P.Kean 0-2, T.Webb 0-1, W.McGee 0-1, S.Kilbride 0-1, R.Ball 0-1.
Roscommon: T.Beegan 1-0, E.McManus 0-2, J.Keane 0-2, J.O'Gara 0-1, P.Cox 0-1, J.Finnegan 0-1, D.Earley 0-1, M.Menton 0-1.
Mayo - I.Heffernan, J.O'Mahony, T.J.Farragher, S.Reilly, G.Feeney, B.Moynihan, M.Higgins, F.Burns, R.Bell, T.O'Malley, J.P.Kean, T.Webb, W.McGee, S.Kilbride, G.Farragher.
Roscommon - G.O'Dowd, H.Keegan, P.Lindsay, T.Heneghan, A.Regan, G.Mannion, J.Kerrane, J.Mannion, J.O'Gara, E.McManus, J.Kelly, D.Earley, P.Cox, J.Keane, J.Finnegan.
Subs - M.Menton for Regan, G.Beirne for J.Mannion, T.Beegan for Earley.

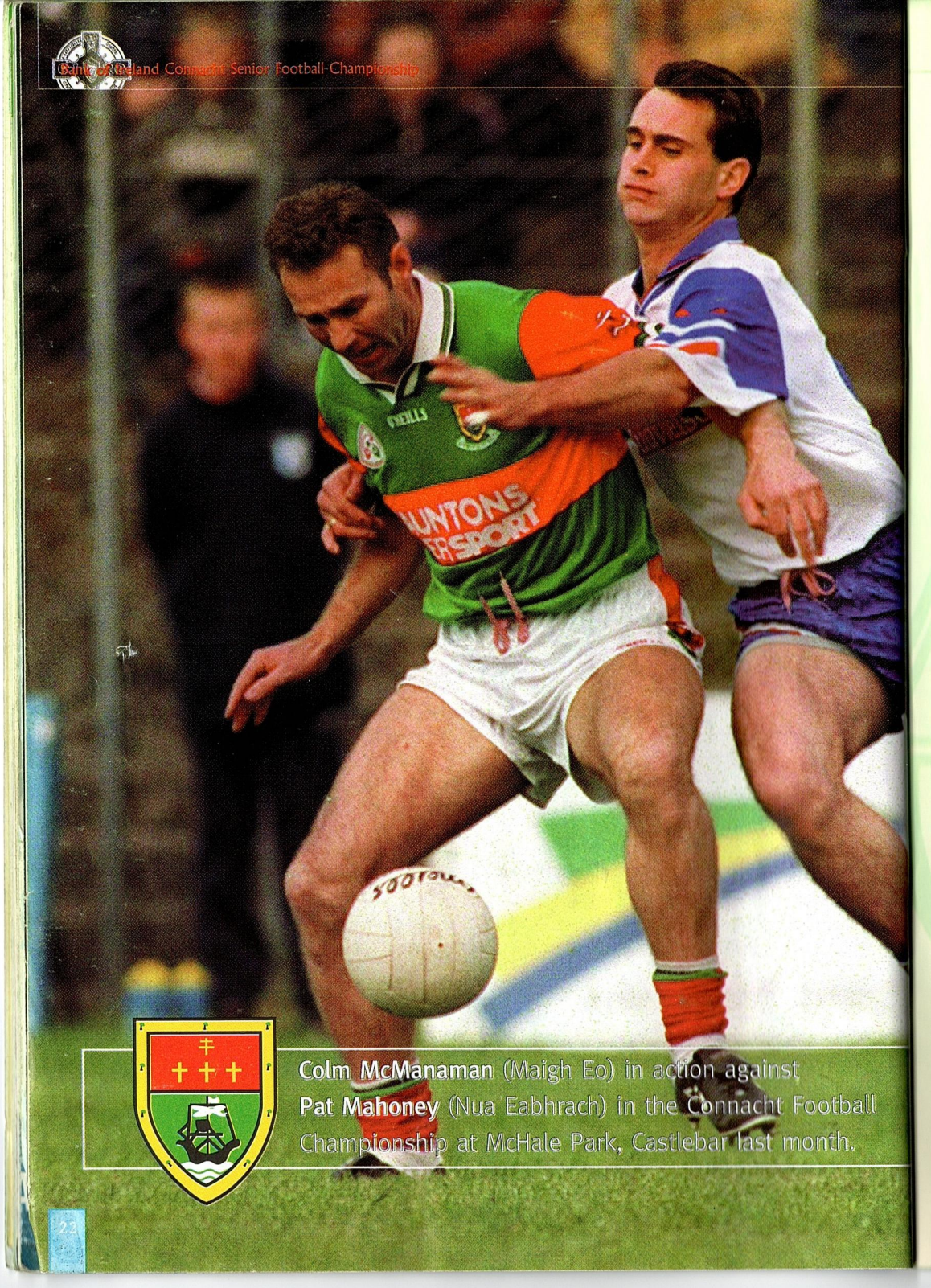
1986 - Roscommon 1-11; Mayo 0-12.

Few teams can concede the midfield battle for 60 of the 70 minutes and still come out on top. But Roscommon did just that before 15,000 spectators at McHale Park where a grandstand finish more than compensated for some very average play for three quarters of the way.

Defending the Connacht title, Mayo occasionally looked the part of champions, and if their forwards had been on a par with other sectors they would surely have survived. In the event they didn't and this was due in no small measure to a truly gallant Roscommon defence in which Danny Murray was the shining light from start to finish. But he didn't toil alone, as Harry Keegan, Sean Killoran and Pat Doorey responded manfully to his example when Liam McHale, Padraig Brogan and John Maughan came searching for match-winning scores in the final quarter.

And yet Mayo, who trailed by 0-4 to 1-5 at the break, looked likely winners when a pick up by a defender enabled Brogan to slot over the equalising point with five minutes remaining. Then the McManus brothers charged heroically to the rescue. From more than 45 yards Tony hoisted a magnificent shot between the Mayo posts and before Mayo could regroup to save the day brother Eamon shot the insurance point from close range.

Roscommon scorers: T.McManus 1-3, A.Garvey 0-3, E.McManus 0-3, P.Earley 0-2.
Mayo: P.Brogan 0-8, W.J.Padden 0-1, N.Durkin 0-1, J.Maughan 0-1, K.McStay 0-1.
Roscommon - G.Sheerin, G.Wynne, P.Doorey, H.Keegan, P.Hickey, G.Fitzmaurice, D.Murray, S.Killoran, P.McNeill, E.McManus (jnr.), T.McManus, E.McManus (snr.), T.O'Brien, P.Earley, A.Garvey.
Subs - S.McNeill for O'Brien, P.Gaynor for Killoran, A.McManus for Doorey.
Mayo - E.Lavin, M.Carney, P.Ford, J.Browne, F.Noone, P.J.McGarry, J.Finn, L.McHale, W.J.Padden, P.Brogan, J.Burke, N.Durkin, T.Reilly, J.Maughan, K.McStay.
Subs - M.J.Mullen for McStay, M.Fitzmaurice for Maughan, J.Lindsay for Noone.



Colm McManaman (Maigh Eo) in action against **Pat Mahoney** (Nua Eabhrach) in the Connacht Football Championship at McHale Park, Castlebar last month.

MAYO...A SPECIAL ACHIEVEMENT

As the 1920s drew to a close gaelic football was dominated by Kerry and Kildare, and if a realistic challenge could be mounted to the 'twin powers' that was a role enthusiastically filled by counties like Dublin, Meath, Cavan, Monaghan and Mayo - though rarely with any degree of success. The supremacy of the Kingdom and the Lily Whites stretched back into the junior grade and a victory over either was a cause for celebration whenever or wherever it occurred.

The introduction of the minor championships on a countrywide basis in 1930 was expected to provide a new dimension to the power of the top two, but it didn't happen immediately and it was left to Mayo to demonstrate how football at the highest level could be maintained on three fronts.

The year 1930 was an historic one in that for the first time all four provinces would compete in three different grades of football, and if some were intimidated at the prospect of such diverse involvement it most certainly wasn't the case with Mayo where all three championships were contested with remarkable enthusiasm - and success. Indeed, although it has tended to be forgotten, 1930 marked a year of wonderful achievement for Mayo - a year in which provincial titles were annexed in three different grades of football - the first by any county in any province.

Impressive Opening

Mayo's march into history began on the third Sunday in May at Sligo where the senior squad was opposed by a Leitrim side still basking in the glow of a first-ever Connacht title three years earlier, while the juniors took on the same county in the curtain-raiser. Mayo's day got off to a good start and the power-play of McDonnell, Diffley, Flannelly and O'Malley had set a winning tone against earnest Leitrim even before the first quarter had ended. But Mayo's superiority was not reflected adequately on the scoreboard, thanks mainly to the staunch resistance of the Leitrim defence, and in the end the margin of victory was a modest enough eight points (1-7 to 0-2).

The seniors likewise were confronted by a defence of no little resource, but first-half goals by Gerald Courell and Paddy Moclair provided the required basis for victory that was rarely in doubt after the green flag had fluttered twice. A goal by Dolan kept Leitrim hopes alive, however, and midway through the second half it took all the defensive wiles of Dick Creagh, Paddy Quinn and Tom Tunney to keep them at bay. But this period of tension was short-lived and another Courell goal ensured a victory that was comfortable without being easy (3-4 to 1-1).

A Close Call

July was well advanced before the minors made their debut against the home county at Castlerea. It came preciously close to being the end of the line at the hands of a Roscommon team that had crushed Galway in the opening round. Before the end of the first quarter Roscommon had three goals on the board to Mayo's solitary point but majors by Brian Scanlan and Tom McGowan roused Mayo and at the interval the sides were level - 2-6 to 4-0. Roscommon made the third-quarter running going six points in front but two goals in the space of four minutes brought scores level with ten minutes remaining. An exchange of points kept it that way (4-7 to 5-4).

Sligo provided the opposition in the senior final. Having disposed of Galway and Roscommon, Sligo were in confident mood at Tuam where Paddy Colleran's goal them just the start they wanted. Setting about their task with grim determination points by Keating,

continued overleaf

ROSCOMMON'S HISTORIC TREBLE

If those charged with the welfare of Roscommon football had, in the spring of 1939, assessed the chances of an All-Ireland breakthrough at any level, they would not have been encouraged by the county's recent history. And with good reason; in junior football Roscommon hadn't won a championship game for four years; it was even worse at senior level with no win registered since 1931, while a minor team from the county had last had a successful outing against Leitrim in the first round in 1934! An unimpressive foundation on which to build even the most modest of hopes - yet within a few months the face of Roscommon football would be changed for ever and in the space of three years three All-Ireland titles would be annexed - a feat never previously accomplished by a Connacht county. And, appropriately, it all began with a minor squad, was carried on by the junior team and completed by the under-18s in 1941. Truly a rags to riches story.

Minor 1939

A highly-rated Leitrim side (that had crushed Galway) provided the opposition in the provincial semi-final at Elphin. It proved to be a tremendous struggle with scores level on four occasions in the hour. Two early points by Joe Tiernan were offset by a Leitrim goal and it was clear that Roscommon had a fight on their hands. The interval saw the sides level - 0-6 to 1-3. Two points within five minutes of the restart heartened Leitrim, but Roscommon hit back with a goal by Cathal Beirne, and after scores had been level for the fourth time, Tiernan hit the points that gave them a 1-8 to 1-6 victory.

Roscommon had never beaten Mayo in minor football, but an eager squad was in no way intimidated by that record in the final at Castlerea where points by Henry Winston, Joe Bambrick and Joe Tiernan (two) got them off to a flying start. Even when Mayo got a goal immediately after the restart Roscommon remain unruffled and a steady stream of points had them in command before Cathal Beirne's goal made victory certain. Roscommon took their first Connacht minor title on a 1-11 to 1-3 scoreline.

The semi-final at Croke Park with Cork (also appearing at this stage for the first time) was an absorbing encounter. The only goal of the hour gave Cork an interval lead but after the defence, in which Bill Carlos, Des Boyd and Larry Cummins were outstanding, had absorbed intense pressure, Winston brought the teams level. In the last quarter Winston (two) and Gerry Kilduff had the points that clinched an 0-10 to 1-4 victory.

The All-Ireland final with Monaghan provided the ultimate test. Five points behind at the break, Roscommon's deficit was eight points with little over ten minutes remaining. A huge effort was clearly necessary and it came. Tim Lynch and Sean Lavan took over at midfield and the now well-serviced attack began to function magnificently. Tiernan led the scoring rush, Kilduff got the all-important goal and in the end Roscommon's first All-Ireland title was secured on a 1-9 to 1-7 scoreline. The team that recorded that historic triumph was - Sean Naughton, Larry Cummins, Bill Carlos, Des Boyd, Paddy Padden and Courell brought Mayo level by the 20th minute, and it was still level at the break (1-1 to 0-4).

The second half may not have exactly belonged to Mayo but after Micky Moran had shot a goal and a point they were definitely on their way and after a series of Sligo assaults had been contained, Mayo held on for a 1-7 to 1-2 victory. The team that took senior honours was - S.Moran, J.Kenny, R.Creagh, P.Flannery, T.Tunney, P.Quinn, P.Cox, M.Mulderrig, J.Forde, F.Patton, M.Keating, M.Moran, T.J.Hanley, R.Hearns, G.Courell.

The minors' close shave at Castlerea steeled them for the replay at Tuam on August 10. This time there was no mistake. Gone was the uncertainty of the first meeting and Mayo's superiority was hardly reflected in the 3-9 to 2-2 scoreline.

The Treble Completed

Awaiting their Connacht final engagement with Sligo, Mayo's under-18s were nominated to represent Connacht in the All-Ireland semi-final against defending champions Clare whom they beat by nine points at Birr. They then took on Dublin in the All-Ireland, a game they lost by a point in controversial circumstances.

Undismayed, the minors returned to claim the provincial title at Tubbercurry where conceding ground advantage proved to be no problem. Surviving an early goal and a point by Sligo, Mayo hit back with goals from Brian Scanlan, Martin Connor and Jim McGowan to lead by 3-0 to 1-1. It was all one way thereafter: Connor hit three points and McGowan a goal to take the issue out of contention, and Mayo sailed to their first-ever provincial minor title on a 4-7 to 1-1 scoreline.

The team lined out - J.O'Gara, C.Gannon, C.Ward, G.Ormsby, C.McHale, J.Acton, J.O'Donoghue, M.Flannery, C.O'Boyle, J.McGowan, T.Burke, W.Dever, P.McGoff, B.Scanlan, M.Connor.

The team that completed the historic treble were the juniors who defeated Roscommon by 2-9 to 2-2 and the fifteen who did duty on that day of glory were - T.Burke, W.Cox, P.Coffey, J.Freyne, T.Regan, S.O'Malley, T.Kelly, W.Hughes, T.Grier, J.Diffley, M.Padden, J.Forde, P.Carney, H.O'Brien, W.Griffiths.

The feat of being the first county in Ireland to record a provincial treble in either hurling or football received scant recognition in any quarter. In the years ahead that feat would be equalled by a number of counties - Kerry, Dublin, Galway and Down; but Mayo were first.

Sweeney, Liam Gilmartin, Tony Murray, Tim Lynch, Sean Lavan, Cathal Beirne, Joe Tiernan, John McDermott, Joe Bambrick, Gerry Kilduff, Henry Winston.

The juniors almost made it a double, but they lost the All-Ireland "Home" final to Dublin by a goal. Their day would come - and soon.

Junior 1940

With the bulk of the 1939 team available Roscommon were obviously strong contenders - and duly delivered. At Tuam Galway posed few problems as indicated by a 6-7 to 2-9 scoreline. Leitrim posed fewer still at Carrick-on-Shannon where goals by Hugh Gibbons (two), Paddy McManus (two) and Kevin Winston lifted Roscommon into a 5-7 to nil lead at the interval. Thereafter it was just a formality with the final score reading 8-9 to 0-5. Mayo, however, proved worthy opponents in the provincial final at Tuam. Level 1-1 each at half time, Roscommon slipped into arrears of three points before Gibbons and Winston did the needful to ensure a 1-7 to 2-1 victory.

On home soil at Castlerea, Cavan offered staunch resistance for much of the way in the All-Ireland semi-final, but the result was never really in doubt (1-11 to 0-7). With London out Westmeath provided the final opposition at Longford. Here again, there was a generous measure of comfort as, with Hugh Gibbons accounting for 2-5, an interval advantage of 1-4 to 0-2 was extended to 2-9 to 0-5 in the end.

Roscommon's first - and only - junior champions were - Frank Glynn, J.P.O'Callaghan, John Comer, Owensie Hoare, Paddy Kelly, Henry Connor, Willie Heavey, Eamon Boland, Kevin Winston, Donal Keenan, Jimmy Murray, Paddy Kenny, Hugh Gibbons, Gerry Beirne, Paddy McManus.

Minor 1941

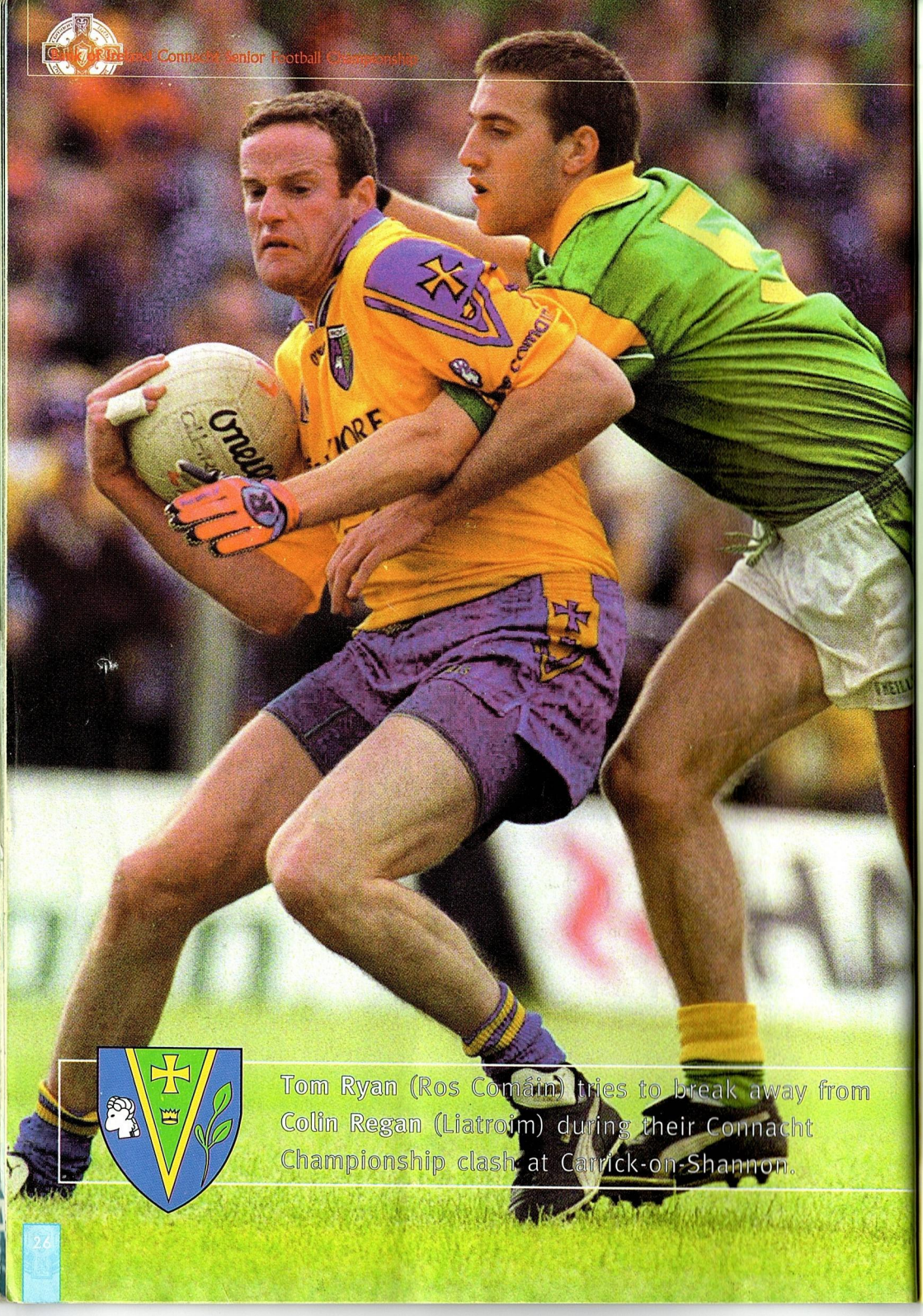
With two survivors from the 1939 squad, Roscommon set out in search of a third All-Ireland crown in as many years, and a flying start which saw them go into a 2-3 to nil lead at half-time laid the foundation of a 2-6 to 1-4 win over gritty Sligo at Boyle.

Another blistering opening half meant Leitrim were never in the hunt at St.Colman's Park - a 3-7 to 1-1 scoreline tells the story and Galway were also hit with an early barrage (2-3 to 0-0 after ten minutes) in the final at Tuam which was eventually won by 2-6 to 0-6.

It took two hours to dispose of Kerry in the All-Ireland semi-final. A game that could have gone either way at Tralee, appropriately, ended with honours even (2-7 to 3-4) and at Roscommon home advantage was utilised to the full. Ahead by 2-3 to 2-1 at the break, Gerry Kilduff's brace of third-quarter goals set Roscommon up for a win that was relatively easy in the end (5-7 to 3-3).

The Louth challenge in the final at Longford lasted for only 30 minutes at which stage Roscommon led by 1-3 to 0-3. Then a flurry of scores took the issue out of contention as Roscommon romped to the title by 3-6 to 0-7. The team lined out - G.Dolan, T.Bannon, T.Lynch, L.Kelly, L.Donnelly, B.Lynch, P.Hoare, W.Carlos, E.Curran, B.O'Gara, P.Duignan, B.O'Rourke, C.Murray, G.Kilduff, G.Hannelly.

For the first time in Connacht football history a county had won three All-Ireland titles in successive seasons. Galway would equal that achievement more than 20 years later, but Roscommon were first.



Tom Ryan (Ros Comáin) tries to break away from Colin Regan (Liatroim) during their Connacht Championship clash at Carrick-on-Shannon.



Pictured at the presentation to Roscommon GAA Co Board of initial Bank of Ireland sponsorship cheque. From Bank of Ireland All Ireland Football Championship 1999 are (left to right) Tom Mullaney, GAA Co Secretary, Stephen Banahan, GAA Co Chairman, Gerry Fitzmaurice, Team Selector, Eamonn O'Loughlin, Manager, Bank of Ireland, Gerry Finnernan, GAA Co Treasurer, Tom Goodwin, Bank of Ireland, Dominic Connolly GAA Co P.R.O. and Gay Sheerin, Team Manager.

AT THE VENUE

If the record can be accepted at face value, Mayo may not derive any advantage (or Roscommon any disadvantage) from playing at McHale Park today, for interestingly, their records at Castlebar are almost identical, showing a success rate that varies by little more than one per cent in favour of Roscommon.

In a province where home championship fixtures are much more common than elsewhere, it is not surprising that Mayo have featured more often at Castlebar than Roscommon, but what is surprising is that - relative to Roscommon - they have derived so little advantage from playing there.

Roscommon first played at Castlebar in the 1914 semi-final in which they recorded an easy 4-3 to 1-1 win over Galway. Remarkable to relate, Mayo's debut there did not take place until 1944 and like Roscommon they got off to a good start, scoring a 1-11 to 1-3 win over old rivals, Galway.

Roscommon had their second outing at the venue in 1934, but that was an unhappy occasion for them as they were crushed by Galway by a margin of 17 points (4-7 to 0-2). However, Roscommon's third appearance at Castlebar was the occasion of one of the county's greatest triumphs - the 1952 Connacht final win over All-Ireland champions, Mayo.

Since then, both counties have enjoyed mixed fortunes at the venue with the face-to-face confrontations - eleven in all - showing six-five in Roscommon's favour. Overall, Mayo have contested 39 championship games at Castlebar from which their record reads - won 21; lost 15; drawn 2 (a win rate of 54%). The figures for Roscommon are played 18 - won ten; lost six; drawn two (a win rate of 55.5%).

Fr. Des Dockery - Former Roscommon Star

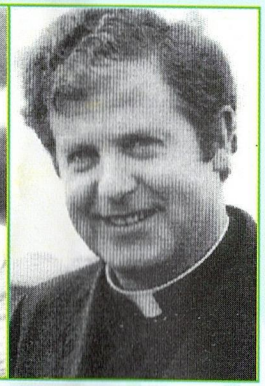
A Tribute

It is appropriate that on an occasion like this we remember the late Fr. Des Dockery of Elphin, the former Roscommon star, who died a few months ago. Fr. Des served in the Dublin Archdiocese and was P.P. in Harold's Cross when he died. A native of Elphin, with whom he won four Roscommon S.F.C. titles, Des was one of the finest footballers to play in the primrose and blue. A most sporting player, he had the lazy style of men like Kevin Walsh, Jimmy Duggan, Eamonn Donoghoe, he too had time on the ball. But it was the way he sailed up for the ball after a run that made him stand out. He played for Roscommon in the latter part of the fifties and eventually won a Connacht S.F.C. in 1961. After that his priestly duties rendered him unavailable.

Des had an eternal smile, was ever so placid and was very fond of sport. In later life he followed the fortunes of Roscommon and we often met on the steps outside the Hogan Stand on Croke Park occasions with men like Gerry O'Malley and Tony Kenny and others. He was fond of the nags too and loved the atmosphere of the Galway Races. We walked the Promenade in Salthill together more than once on race nights after Ballybrit. Talking football mostly.



Des as a player



Des as a priest

Des Dockery was one of those players who, when they were ordained, played under semi-false names; like Peter Quinn of Mayo who played as Peter "Quinlan" and Ned Durkin of Sligo who played as Ned "Doudican". Des played while a priest as Des "Cryan", his mother's maiden name. The Gaels of Roscommon won't easily forget the gentlemen footballer that was Des Dockery. Great fielder, long kicker, fair opponent and wonderful team-man, I wish we had a video now of his great skills.

Ar dheis lámh Dé go raibh a anam.

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Cumann na mBunscol

Maigh Eo

Boys' Team

1	Kieran Conroy	-	Shrule N.S.
2	Eoin Carney	-	Breaffy N.S.
3	Darren McHugh	-	Lehinch N.S.
4	Padraig Hoban	-	Currabaggan N.S.
5	Anthony Browne	-	Carrowholly N.S.
6	Mark Leonard	-	Crossmolina N.S.
7	Tomás McCrann	-	Ballaghderreen N.S.
8	Michael Kelleghan	-	Shrule N.S.
9	Seamus O'Shea	-	Breaffy N.S.
10	Rory Corrigan	-	Bangor Erris N.S.

Girls' Team

1	Áine Casey	-	The Neale N.S.
2	Elaine Duffy	-	Tavrane N.S.
3	Cathríona Gilmartin	-	Attymass N.S.
4	Brenda Biggins	-	Glencorrib N.S.
5	Emer Forde	-	Knock N.S.
6	Louise Healy	-	Pullathomas N.S.
7	Nicola McIntyre	-	Kilmeena N.S.
8	Fiona McHale	-	Errew N.S.
9	Denise O'Hora	-	Bohola N.S.
10	Caroline McGing	-	Ballyheane N.S.

Ros Comáin

Boys' Team

1	Michael Killilea	-	St. Paul's, Castlerea
2	Kevin Finan		Carrick N.S., Ballinlough
3	Brian McTague	-	Kilcroun N.S.
4	Martin Finnerty	-	Ballinagare N.S.
5	Tommy Collins	-	Cortoon N.S.
6	James McDonnell	-	Fairymount N.S.
7	Stephen Nolan	-	Rathcroghan N.S.
8	Michael O'Flanagan	-	Cloonboniffe N.S.
9	Brenda Hester	-	Tarmon N.S.
10	David Grennan	-	Lisacul N.S.

Girls' Team

1	Linda Healy	-	Gorthaganny N.S.
2	Siobhán Cummins	-	Cloonfad N.S.
3	Edel McDonagh	-	Castleplunkett N.S.
4	Niamh Cahill	-	Ballintubber N.S.
5	Caitríona Hanmore	-	Kingsland N.S.
6	Ann Marie Beirne	-	Killina N.S.
7	Nichola Higgins	-	Tulsk N.S.
8	Maura O'Connell	-	Kilmurry N.S.
9	Olivia Raftery	-	Treen N.S.
10	Margaret Fox	-	Granlahan N.S.



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Cúinne na nÓg

TRÁTH NA gCEIST

1. What province lost to Connacht in the interprovincial senior football semi-final at Tuam Stadium last April?
2. Connacht scored, three, four or five goals in that game?
3. Roscommon won the Connacht under-21 football title in April. Who were runners-up for the championship?
4. Who refereed the Mayo-New York Bank of Ireland Connacht senior football championship game at Castlebar last month?
5. Declan Darcy, the former Leitrim and Connacht footballer, plays club football in Dublin with St. Vincent's or St. Brigid's?
6. What province beat Connacht in the interprovincial senior football final at Tuam Stadium early last month?
7. Did Connacht score a goal in that game?
8. Sean McCague, who became as President-Elect of the G.A.A. in April, is a native of what county?
9. When did Roscommon last win the Connacht senior football championship?
10. Who captained Mayo in the 1996 Bank of Ireland All-Ireland senior football final?

UNDER-AGE GAMES

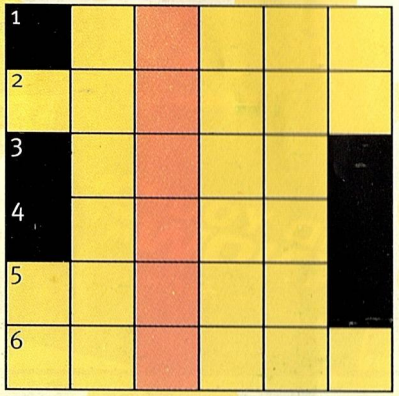
Listed below are six teams that won important titles at under-age level already this year and the six competitions in which the successes were forged out. What you have to do is to correctly link the team and the competition.

Monaghan	All-Ireland Vocational Schools Football.
St. Jarlath's, Tuam.	Ulster Colleges' Senior Football.
Westmeath	Ulster Under-21 Football.
St. Flannan's, Ennis.	Connacht Colleges' Senior Football.
St. Michael's, Enniskillen.	All-Ireland Under-21 Football.
Mayo	All-Ireland Colleges' senior hurling.

CROSFHOCAL BEAG

Solve the six clues and the shaded column will give the name of a defender who has already been in action in this year's Bank of Ireland senior football championship.

1. The last All-Ireland Under-21 Football Champions of the century.
2. Surname of the footballer who lined out at centre forward for Roscommon against Leitrim in the senior championship late last month.
3. Leitrim's No. 9 against Roscommon in the senior football championship last month.
4. Christian name of Kelly, right full forward in the Meath team in the 1996 All-Ireland senior football final draw with Mayo.
5. Surname of Seamus, of Leitrim, who was rated as the Man-of-the-Match in the Roscommon-Leitrim Connacht senior football championship first round tie last month.
6. Another surname. Try a Roscommon defender in the recent senior championship clash with Leitrim.



Freagraí

TRÁTH NA gCEIST

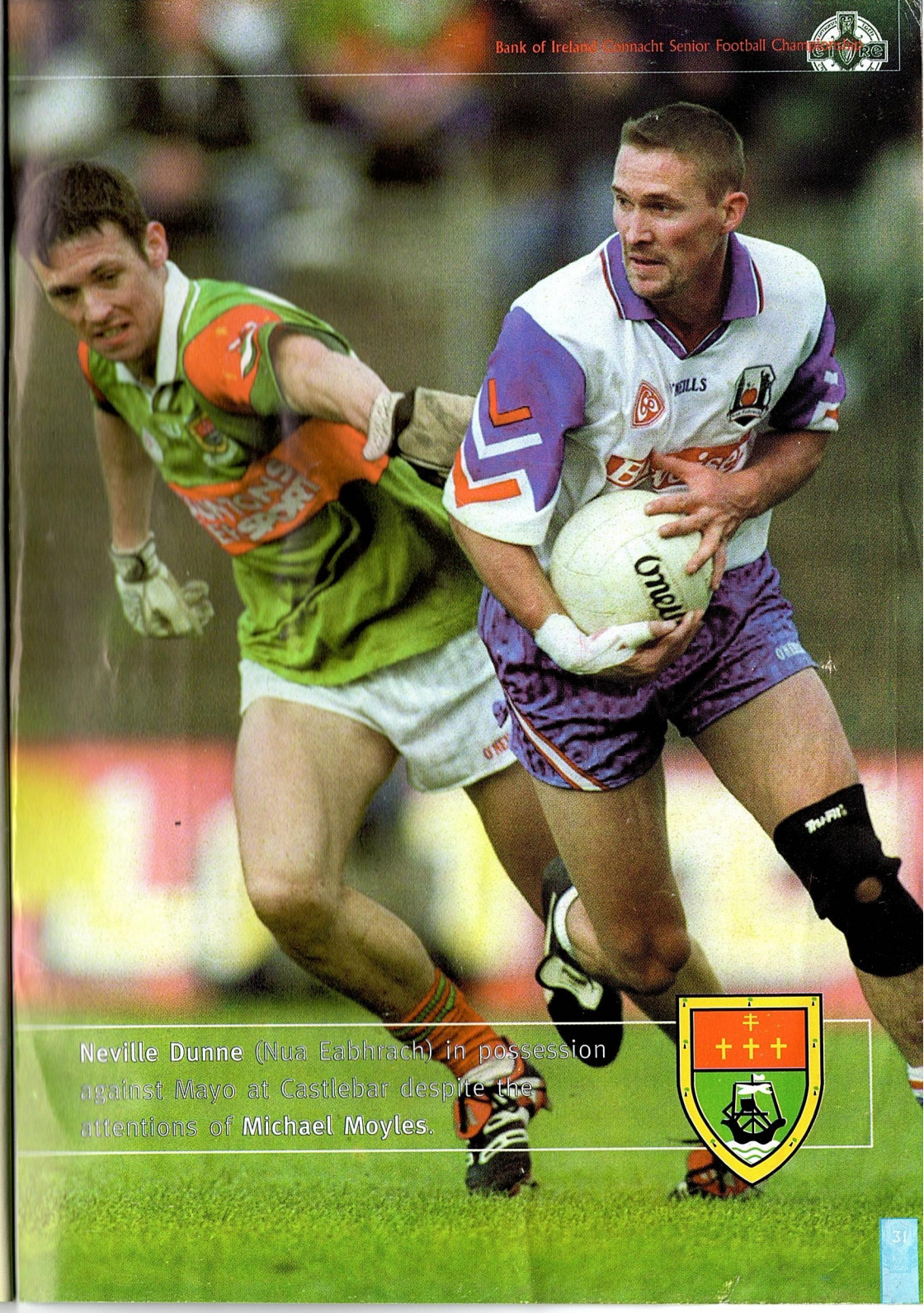
1. Leinster. 2. Four. Connacht won by 4-7 to 1-8. 3. Sligo. 4. Seamus Prior (Leitrim). 5. St. Brigid's. 6. Munster. 7. No. Munster won by 0-10 to 0-7.8. Monaghan. 9. 1991.10. Noel Connelly from left half back.

UNDER-AGE GAMES

Monaghan - Ulster Under-21 Football.
St. Jarlath's, Tuam - Connacht Colleges' Senior Football.
Westmeath - All-Ireland Under-21 Football
St. Flannan's, Ennis - All-Ireland Colleges' Senior Hurling.
St. Michael's, Enniskillen - Ulster Colleges" Senior Football.
Mayo - All-Ireland Vocational Schools.

CROSFHOCAL BEAG

	K	E	R	R	Y
D	U	G	G	A	N
	W	A	R	D	
4	E	V	A	N	
Q	U	I	N		
D	O	L	N		



Neville Dunne (Nua Eabhrach) in possession against Mayo at Castlebar despite the attentions of **Michael Moyles**.

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