



St. John's 1969

A step back in time

By Andy McCallin and Gerry
McCann



What's Happening tonight?

- What are we doing?
- Reason we are doing this?
 - Match Reports



ST. JOHN'S 2-3 MARTINS 1-3

At Corrigan Park, in the junior football championship St. John's defeated Martins by a goal.

It was a very interesting game and both teams played some attractive football.

On the whole Martins put up a good show but found the more experienced St. John's side hard to overcome.

St. John's scorere were J Rainey (1-2), J Feeny (1-0), S McCann (0-1).

Martins scorers were T Bateson (1-1), D Bateson, P Kelly (0-1 each).



Junior Football Championship March 1969

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Antrim c'ship draws

The draw for the Antrim senior football championship was made during the week at a county meeting. Sixteen teams were entered and the first round games are on Sunday, April 27.

Pairings include an unusual clash between champions Pearses and last year's junior title winners, Moneyglass.

St. Mary's, Rasharkin, whose six month closure of their ground ends on May 1, were granted a four day reprieve to allow them their home game against a South Antrim selection.

The U-21 championship attracted the largest entry yet — 27 which provided 11 first round games and five byes. Champions St. Malachy's meet Ardoyne in their opening defence.

The senior pairings: Glenravel v Kickhams (venue to be arranged); St. John's v Eire Og, Sarsfields v Dwyers, Rasharkin v S. A. Sel.; Cargin v Davitts; Ahoghill v Lamh Dhearg; Rossa v Ardoyne and Pearses v Moneyglass.

The U-21 draw: Ardoyne v St. Malachy's (winner v St. Teresa's); Rossa v Eire Og (v Casements); Pearses v Glenravel (Dunloy); O'Donnells v Cargin (Sarsfields), Gael Uladh v Lisburn (St. Gall's); Ahoghill v St. Agnes'; St. Paul's v Lamh Dhearg; Kickhams v St. Colomba's; St. John's v Dwyers; Tir-no-nOg v Hopes; St. Ergnat's v Rasharkin.



27.04.1969 Irish News

Senior Football Championship 1969 First Round

St John's 3-11 Eire Og 1-3



SEAN BURNS PAVED THE WAY FOR ST. JOHN'S VICTORY

ST. JOHN'S 3-9 BALLYCRAN 1-7

CLASS and experience always tells. Yesterday at Casement Park long-serving Antrim and Ulster hurler Sean Burns stood head-and-shoulders above the other players involved in this belated Antrim 1968 senior league game.

The red haired midfielder paved the way to a clear cut win for the Johnnies but Ballycran and Down mentor Davy Bell received consolation even in defeat. Previously injured full back Hugo O'Prey, also a Railway Cup player, made an experimental 15 minute entry into the game and a quick neck and neck dash by the 32-year-old lorry-driver and St. John's poacher Paddy Williams gave Down high hopes that Hugo will be able to field in the county's vital National League semi-final in two week's time.

KNEE STOOD THE TEST

After the game Hugo, with his right knee well bandaged, said "I feel great at the moment. My knee stood up well and I'm confident of being able to play in the semi-final."

Hugo, one of the greatest hurling names to emerge from Down, may feel a little stiff on his injured joint this morning, but intends to receive intensive treatment for his suspected ligament trouble over the next two weeks.

Like Sean Burns, Hugo has class and experience. He can help Down make history in their first league decider. Had he been in action for the full hour yesterday St. John's might not have had it so easy. In the early minutes of the game both sets of players committed a variety of errors.

At this early stage of the season this is understandable. Ballycran looked the better team in the early minutes due to their catching and crisper striking. After 15 minutes the Ards side, through John Mallon and Peter Conlon, went into a five-two lead and then the roof fell in on them.

SET THE SEAL

Artie McGlone rattled home 3 goal for the Johnnies twelve minutes from the interval and later Paddy Williams and Pat Gallagher set the seal on both points with two great goals.

St. John's led by 3-3 to 0-5 at half time and had added on a further six points before Ballycran gained consolation scores - a goal by Brendan Arthurs and points by Kevin Bell and Seamus Fitzgerald before the end.

Best for the Corrigan Park team were Tony McGlone, Billy Johnston, Sean Burns, Paddy Williams, Eddie McCallin and Jim McNally.

HURLING

Ballycran featured interesting prospects such as Brian Gilmore and St. MacNissi's College student Peter Conlon along with the experience of Frank Gilmore, John Mallon and George Gilmore who came into the game in the second half.

St. John's scorers - A McGlone (1-2), S Burns (0-5), P Williams (1-1), P Gallagher (1-0), E McCallin (0-1).

Ballycran scorers - B Arthur (1-0), J Mallon (0-3), S Fitzgerald (0-1), B Gilmore and P Conlon (0-1 each).

St. John's - Tony McGlone, Harry Trainer, Martin McGranaghan, Henry Gallagher, Billy Johnston, Gerry Mallon, Brian Rainey; Sean Burns and Jim McNally; Artie McGlone, Mickey Gallagher, Eddie McCallin; Pat Gallagher, Paddy Williams and Dick Looby.

Sub - Eamonn Grieve for Rainey. Ballycran - Harry Gordon; Maurice Gilmore, David Gilmore, Cathal Bell; Jim Hughes, Frank Gilmore, Brian Gilmore; Eamonn Gilmore and Benny Gordon; John Mallon, Maurice Caughey, Peter Conlon; Brendan Arthurs, Seamus Fitzgerald and Kevin Bell.

Subs - George Gilmore for C Bell; H O'Prey for Conlon. Referee - Pat McIlvenney (Sarsfields).

French Classic hope beaten

French classic hope Yelapa was beaten into second place by a head in the one mile Prix De Fontainebleau at Longchamp yesterday.

Yelapa and the winner, Le Mas Marvent, fought a neck-and-neck battle over the last two furlongs after drawing clear of the rest of the field in the straight.

Kebab, another French entry for the English 2,000 guineas and Derby, was beaten by a head in the

St. John's scorers - A McGlone (1-2), S Burns (0-5), P Williams (1-1), P Gallagher (1-0), E McCallin (0-1).

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Sub - Eamonn Grieve for Rainey.



ST. JOHN'S 1-3, PEARSES 1-4.

There was a small crowd at Corrigan Park for this attractive fixture between last year's championship finalists, St. John's and Pearses.

In their last encounter at Casement Pearses came out on top but this time it was St. John's turn to collect the spoils. The first half was very much St. John's who led at the interval by 1-5 to 0-1.

However on the restart Pearses seemed to get new life and attacked for most of the second half. Had it not been for the sterling defensive work of John Gough, Sean Burns and Mickey Gallagher it could very well have spelled disaster for St. John's.

Led by Martin Greene and Pat O'Hara, the St. John's defence had to be at its best to prevent their opponents from scoring.

No doubt had the Pearses played as well in the first as they did in the second they could have made the result closer and perhaps won.

St. John's had their stars in the attack in Andy McCallin, Gerry McCann and Gerry McRory.

The first two were in brilliant form and the losers defence found it impossible to contain them.

McCallin had a great goal and McCann excellent points.

In defence for Pearses Aidan O'Prey had a great hour at full back and brought off a number of spectacular catches and class clearances.

Jimmy O'Reilly was a great prompter while Martin Greene had all his side's scores.

Scorers for St. John's — A McCallin (1-3), G McRory (0-4), G McRory (0-1).

Pearses scores came from M Greene (1-4).



Gilmour and M. Gilmour (0-1 each).
PORTAFERRY 3-17, ST. JOHNS 2-2

An avalanche of scores from Portaferry buried St. John's in this Div. 1 clash. The city side just did not count against the forceful first time hurling of the Co. Down lads.

Paul Braniff and Brian Fallona excelled for the Portaferry men while Sean Burns and Artie McGlone were best for the city side.

Portaferry scored through B. Fallona (2-2), P. Braniff, C. McNeill, A. Fallona (0-3 each), M. Coleman (0-2), E. Fallona (1-4).

St. John's replied through G. Mallon and A. McGlone (1-0 each) and S. Burns (0-2).

SCORERS: 0-1



ST. JOHN'S OUST CREGGAN TO REACH ANTRIM S.F.C. SEMI-FINAL

CREGGAN 1-4 ST. JOHN'S 1-7

GOAL and five points from a livewire St. John's forward-line during the third-quarter of this second round senior football championship tie was enough to bring the legendary **black side** through to the semi-final.

This scoring spree apart however they were anything but championship material. Creggan especially in the opening half, were very bit as good a team and had they made their last ditch effort 10 minutes before they did then they would have been filling that semi-final spot. Points from Joe Johnson, Kevin Young and Mickey Coogan soon after the start put the home side to a very happy spot. St. John's during this period did only offer token resistance even at this stage many of the players looked leg weary. The task of saving their hide was left to young Andy McCallin who notched a couple of points just before the interval.

Well-taken joint

A glimpse of what was to come as seen when Gerry McCann put in Johnnies back into the fight with a well-taken point. Andy McCallin followed up with a couple more and only now, after 40 minutes of play was the St. John's machine beginning to click. Finding their men to perfection they were now giving the Creggan defence a trying time of it.

Gerry McCann had another St. John's point and from a free Andy McCallin put them four ahead. In the 50th minute came the score which clinched this game. A high ball dropped into the Creggan goalmouth and a defender, in his attempts to catch the ball, allowed it to bounce off his chest. This unfortunate mistake proved more fortunate for Din Joe McGrogan who collected the rebound and gave young Des McAteer no chance with his right footed shot.

Creggan fight back

When it all seemed over for Kickhams, surprisingly enough they came back again with a great challenge. Changes in the forward line appeared to have made it more fluent when Brendan Totten had a point.

From one of the few movements to remember from this game came the Creggan goal. A wonderful piece of team work involving Kevin and Mickey Young saw them work the ball into the St. John's goal area. Mickey Young drew his man expertly and then punched the ball to veteran Patsy Totten who had no one to beat but the goalkeeper. Certainly it was a fine goal but it came far too late for Creggan to do anything to avoid a second round championship exit.

The St. John's side, far too often, was hesitant and slow and the defence made far too many mistakes.

Best forwards

Midfielders Mickey Gallagher and John Maguire were seen to

advantage in the middle of the field while Gerry McCann, Andy McCallin and big Des Armstrong were the best forwards. Des McAteer had a fine game in the Creggan goals as also had defenders Brendan Totten and Cahill McAteer. The forwards, were much too 'academical' in their approach and only 16-year-old Kevin Young and Joe Johnson did anything of exceptional merit. The St. John's scores came from A McCallin (0-5), D.J. McGrogan (1-0), G. McCann (0-2). Creggan replied through P Totten (1-0), J. Johnson, K. Young, M. Coogan, B. Totten (0-1 each).

NEW LOOK RAS TAILTEANN

A new look Ras Tailteann for 1969 emerges from the recent activities of which have been announced. Towns never previously included as stage-ends plus the elimination of time trials and round-the-houses sections will generate new enthusiasm along the 816 miles of roads through 22 counties.

There is a systematic build-up of mileage over the first five days 51-71-83-97-111 followed by a relatively short stage. Cahiroycree is a marathon 128 miles made even more difficult by fact the road traverses two severe mountain climbs (Linn A. Chiste and the tortuous 1800 Tunnel Road between Kenmare and Gengariff).

Celm 1, June 27: Ath Cliath-Balbrigan - Drogheda - Dunleer - Castlebellingham - Dundalk - 51 miles.

Celm 2, June 28: Dundalk-Cullinville - Castleblayney - Ballybay - Newbliss - Clones-Belturbet - Ballyconnell-Ballinamore - 71 miles.

Celm 3, June 29: Ballinamore-Fenagh-Carrick-on-Shannon-Boyle - Collooney-Ballyadare-Ballina - 83 miles.

Celm 4, June 30: Ballina-Castlebar-Ballinrobe-Galway - Oranmore-Kilcoigan-Gort - 97 miles.

Celm 5, July 1: Gort-Binnis-Limerick - Newcastleweir - Abbeyfeale - Castleisland - Farranfore - Tralee - 111 miles.

Celm 6, July 2: Tralee-Castlemaine-Killorglin-Glenbeigh - Cahiroycree - 128 miles.

Celm 7, July 3: Cahiroycree-Waterville-Sneem-Kennmare - Glen-garriff-Bantry - Drimoleague - Dummahaway-Bandon-Kinsale - 128 miles.

Celm 8, July 4: Kinsale-Cork-Middleton - Youghal - Dungarvan - Westford - 160 miles.

Celm 9, July 5: Waterford-Newross-Wexford - Enniscorthy-Buncloody-Ballon-Carlow - 83 miles.

Celm 10, July 6: Carlow - Castle-dermot-Killeullen-Naas-Dublin - 50 miles.

HUDSON WINS ALL IRELAND T.T. TITLE

White Hudson of Cyprus cycling club, Belfast, added the All-Ireland 25-mile time trial championship to his Northern title he won a fortnight ago when he out-ripped 23 competitors on the Derry Lamlava road.

Despite a very strong side which Hudson still managed to out-pace the hour's heating second man, E. McKinney of Bann Wheelers by one minute six seconds.

Ballymoney cyclist Thompson Hunter, who has been working in England, came over for the race and took the bronze medal, while Pat McElibbon of Lurgan, who was in second position at the half-way stage was fourth.

The team prize was won by Cyprus C.C. even without their top men Foster and Smyth, who are riding in the Tour of Britain.

RESULTS

1. W. Hudson (Cyprus C.C.) 26 minutes 29 seconds; 2. E. McKinney (Bann Wheelers) 1 hr. 0 mins. 55 secs; 3. T. Hunter (Hull Couriers) 1 hr. 0 mins. 46 secs; 4. P. McElibbon (Lurgan RC) 1 hr. 0 mins. 57 secs.

Team - 1. Cyprus (Hudson, S. Chivers, G. McGrath).

SMYTH BEST OF THE IRISH

Joe Smyth was best placed Irishman in the first stage of the 15 day Tour of Britain. He finished one minute 27 seconds behind the stage winner Jasinski (Poland) in ninth position.

Peter Davis (Bravo) was next Irishman home in one minute 42 seconds down and Teggart one second behind him.

The rest of the Irish team - Morris Foster, Harry Dawson and Noel Gallagher - were one minute 36 seconds behind the leader.

The stage was marred by the fatal accident to Zdenek Krnava of the Czech national team. Krnava had punctured and was choosing alone when he collided with an on-coming vehicle near Liss, Hampshire.

Antrim minor team to play Down

The Antrim Minor team to play Down in the Water Minor League at Crescent Park on Wednesday (8 p.m.) is -

Martin Donnelly; Alec Quinn (both Rosca); Nick Mulholland (Ardvyle); Jim McVeigh (Parras); Danny McNeill (St. Patrick's); Eas Gallagher (St. Gall's); Tom Bates (Martins); Martin McAleer (Rosca); Terry Shortt (St. John's); Aidan Thornbury (Gael); Dermot McCaughey (Lambh. Dhearg); J. McNicholl (Glenavy); Eugene Grant (St. Columba's); Noel Rosca; and Frank McCounaghie (both St. Patrick's, Aghagallon).

Subs.—Eamonn Bawn (Glenavy); Sean McClean (Dunloy); P.D. McCuekian (Carrig); P. J. O'Hara (St. Gall's); Gabriel Lave (Mitchels, Aghagallon); Se. Higgins (Glenravel); Mick Taggart (St. Conal's); Matt Lavery (Randalstown); Brian Coy (St. Paul's); Jim McCurry (Rosca); Kevin Young (Creggan).



LOUGHGIEL MIDFIELD PAIR

HELD UPPERHAND

LOUGHGIEL 3-4 ST. JOHN'S 2-1

WITH both clubs only fielding skeleton sides in this Antrim senior league game, the pace never looked like warming.

Loughgiel, with complete mid-field dominance in the persons of Iain Connolly and Dan Gillan, gave the St. John's pair a bit in and it was from here that a game was won. Numerous mutations made by the St. John's manager, Andy McCallin, led to curb the Loughgiel pair any way and they never were the game with any real chance though they did provide something of a second half fight-back. The St. John's defence also looked their suspect and the wing half attacks in particular were inclined to give their opposing numbers too much scope to work in. Only Eugene Gallagher came out of this department with full marks for his ahead type of hurling.

GOALIE UNCERTAIN

The goalkeeper, Tony McGlone, so, was far from sound and gave his side's supporters many anxious moments.

The forwards cannot be blamed for their performance as in times, especially in the first half, was the ball in their territory. In the second half they showed much more gusto, but always found themselves delaying those vital seconds.

The Shamrocks took command of this game right from the beginning and it was obvious that their first-time tactics were going to pay off. At the end of the first quarter they were 2-1 to no score and frankly it had been no contest so far. Throughout the remainder of the half the pattern continued with Loughgiel strengthening their position by a further three points.

A P. J. O'Mullan goal just five minutes after the interval was the score which really set the seal on the game. Although St. John's did hit back and Brandon McGarry had a goal from far out, they still appeared little danger to the quicker moving and faster thinking Loughgiel team.

LOSERS TIRING

Seamus Gallagher five minutes later followed up with another goal from far out but even after this score it became more evident that the Johnnies were tiring fast. While their marking had been poor in the opening half it became even more ragged and the Loughgiel players were allowed to trespass in areas where they normally would not have dared.

The final score of the game came at the end of the third quarter when Brendan McGurk had a point direct from a 70' and from here on in both sides began to canter. St. John's did make the occasional raid but frankly they never looked dangerous.

Johnny Coyle the Loughgiel goalkeeper had little to do in the first half but two saves he made in the second helped to encourage his defence.

Young Paddy McCloskey had a good game at right back while Tony Connolly was the half back star, Dan Gillan and Aidan Connolly lorded midfield while Bernard Campbell, Seamus McMullan and Tom McFadden were always troublesome forwards.

The Loughgiel scores came from S. Lavery, P. J. O'Mullan and J. McCullough (1-0 each), T. McFadden (0-2), B. Campbell and A. Connolly (0-1 each).

St. John's replied through B. McGurk (1-1) and E. Gallagher (1-0).

S. O'Neill, P. J. McNaughton and B. McCaughey (0-1 each).

DUNLOY 0-4 CUSHENDALL 3-1

The Cushendall reserve side proved even less a match for Dunloy than their senior combination and were well and truly beaten in this Senior Reserve league engagement. Dunloy went into an early lead and never looked back which left Cushendall fighting an uphill battle all the way. Cushendall played very hard but never looked like upsetting the more capable Dunloy team.

Best for the winners were Enda McCampbell, P. J. Kearns, Sean McLean and John Magee.

Those to catch the eye on the Cushendall team were Paddy Burns, Sean Jameson, Charley Delargy and Martin Delargy.

The Dunloy scores came from A. Scott (2-0), S. McLean and S. Elliot (1-1 each), P. Brogan (1-0), P. Kearns and K. Robb (0-1 each), C. Delargy and K. Dempsey (1-0 each) and J. Jameson (0-1) replied.

SARSFIELDS 3-7, GLENARIFFE 2-5

What promised to be quite a meeting in this Senior league game at Corrigan Park turned out a bit of a disappointment as the Glensmen completely folded up in the second half.

After a great start, when they played fast delightful hurling they completely collapsed. Sarsfields didn't know what had hit them in the first half and must have been wondering at the interval when they trailed 0-2 to 1-5 what they had to do to curb the Glenariffe side.

The answer they found simple. Playing great hurling they brushed aside the Glenariffe defence and began taking their scores. Soon they had pulled themselves up with the North Antrim side and gradually pushed their way to the forefront.

Once they got out never looked back two valuable points for hurling honours. McKearney had a treble for the Paddies as a footballer Jimmy W. McCorry and Bobby others to trouble Gl. The Waterfoot side was wondering what such a fine opening pleased with this championship time. Cahal McNaughton and Geordie Wheel hard to avert this their efforts were in Sarsfield's scores.

McKearney (1-3), B. Sloan (1-0 each), and E. Ward (0-1). Glenariffe replied McNaughton (1-2), (1-1), E. Black (0-1 each).

LOUGHGIEL ST. JOHN'S

A goal in the first half of this Senior R game from St. John's gave the Belfast six ample revenge for defeat in the Senior R. St. John's took command in the game and was goals ahead at the 10-3. Generally the poor, but there was about who the superior Loughgiel pulled it into the game in 1 and after a hectic their way to the only minutes, then came St. John's answer of near miss Gilroy got the score all the difference.

Stars in this St. John's were the lurchy J. defence, left half Gilroy and John Fa half back Paddy centre half for McGarry were the Shamrocks players. P. J. O'Mullan a holland were other eye.

St. John's scores Gilroy (2-2), B. Eakin (1-2) and J. Loughgiel's total Mulholland (2-2), (1-1), D. McKa McGarry (0-3) and (0-1).

Kilkenny hurling club too good for Antrim

STEPHENS (Kilkenny) 4-8, ANTRIM

KILKENNY Stephens made their first successful one when they had little trouble for a half-hearted Antrim team.

Quite a number of the Antrim team had played in a game a short time before and apparently had lost their appetite for work.

Nothing was gained from this match that has not been already known about the Antrim team, but perhaps it might be of a little benefit if the players would learn from the Kilkenny lads that scores can be obtained without using any great amount of energy.

Highlight from the Antrim point of view was the midfield play of Ennis Black. This was as good a performance as one could expect

the other. On that must now be rated prospect for this ship. Against this the Ballycastle side answer and instead of the winners patting lift too much and their hands.

GOOD A At half time good as over for 2-1 to 0-3 after 15



LOUGHGIEL 4—7

ST. JOHN'S 5—6

A goal in the dying seconds of this Senior Reserve tussle from St. John's Gerry Gilroy gave the Belfast side victory and ample revenge for their earlier defeat in the Senior league.

St. John's took control early on in the game and were four clear goals ahead at the interval: 4-5 to 0-5. Generally the hurling was poor but there was no question about who the superior team were.

Loughgiel pulled themselves back into the game in the second half and after a hectic battle forged their way to the forefront with only minutes remaining. Back came St. John's and after a number of near misses, big Gerry Gilroy got the score which made all the difference.

Stars in this St. John's victory were the burly John Gough in defence, left half forward Gerry Gilroy and John Jameson. Centre half back Paddy McCloskey and centre half forward Gerard McGarry were the outstanding Shamrocks players.

P. J. O'Mullan and Barry Mulholland were others to catch the eye.

St. John's scores came from G. Gilroy (2-2), B. Kelly (2-0), J. Eakin (1-2) and J. Jameson (0-2).

Loughgiel's total came from B. Mulholland (2-2), J. McCullough (1-1), D. McKatten (1-0), G. McGarry (0-3) and H. Connelly (0-1).



ST. JOHN'S REACH ANTRIM S.H.C. SEMI-FINAL

ST. JOHN'S 2-8 SARSFIELDS 2-3

ST. JOHN'S reached the semi-final of the Antrim senior hurling championship by overcoming Sarsfields by five points. It wasn't a great game, but while St. John's never looked over impressive, they never at any time looked like being beaten.

Sarsfields had far too many weak spots and an attack that could not get any headway against the St. John's defence.

While St. John's won rather easily they will need to improve if they expect to go any further in the competition.

Early on Sarsfields went in front but could not maintain their lead and at half-time St. John's had a lead of four points.

In the second half St. John's attacked but again faultily and kept their score down.

Towards the end Sarsfields made a few attacks but their forwards were slow and failed to profit from many of the chances presented to them.

At the end of the game the St. John's goalkeeper Len Vernon played a powerful game bringing in some excellent saves. Their defence was solid with Harry Gallagher and Ernie McMullan most prominent.

TRAINOR MATCHWINNER

However, St. John's matchwinner was centre half Harry Trainor. All through the game he was extremely sound and kept the Sarsfields' attack well subdued. Jim McKeally, who came on for Eugene Gallagher produced some fine defence work and clever attacking play.

Tyrone S.F.C. semi replay on Sunday

The replay of the Tyrone senior football championship semi-final between the holders Ardara and Coalisland will take place on Sunday evening at 7.30 in O'Neill Park, Dungannon with Frank McClean as referee.

Members of the Tyrone County Committee take note that the meeting arranged for Monday night has been switched to Monday night week.

In attack Andy McCallin was the winner's most effective forward and his neat touches on many occasions completely took the Sarsfields' defence by surprise. He put his work to good effect by collecting four five points.

Sarsfields were rather disappointed. Goal-keeper Brendan Brackin brought off some fine saves but generally the defence was never too sound.

At times Mickey McKearney at midfield got through some fine hurling and was certainly their most accomplished player. In the attack Jimmy Ward tried hard but got little support.

Scorers for St. John's—A. McCallin (0-4), M. Gallagher (1-3), A. McKeally (1-0), O. Campbell (0-2). Sarsfields—M. Kearney (1-1), B. McGuinness (0-2), B. Whinnery, J. Ward (0-1 each).

ing the next round of the South Antrim junior hurling championship.

St. Agnes' tried very hard but found the skill of the winners too much to combat and could make little headway against the strong defence and top class midfield.

Gaelic scorers were—A. Thornbury, T. Donnelly (1-1 each), R. Gaiway (1-0), H. McMahon (0-2), C. Ward (0-1).

St. Agnes' scorers—F. Goff (1-0), P. Murphy (0-2).

CAREY 7-5, ST. GALL'S 3-7

Carey were always the better side in this hurling league game at Casement Park when they ran out decisive winners against St. Gall's by 10 points. At half-time they led by 4-1 to 0-3 and looked well set for an easy victory.

During the interval St. Gall's switched their line-out and gave a much better show in the second half. But they never looked like taking the points as Carey held the whip hand and commanded the game through their strong attack where Pat McCarey gave the St. Gall's defence a very hard time.

The McVeigh brothers Alex at full back and Jim at centre three-quarters were big men also in Carey's victory. Also impressive were goalkeeper Chris McCormick, John Masill, L. McLaughlin, P. J. Hill, Danny McKinley and P. J. Davidson.

When he came on in the second half Frankie Smith added life to the St. Gall's attack in which the most effective player was Jim Walsh. Kieran Donnelly tried very hard.

Scorers for Carey—P. McCarey (3-0), B. McKinley (2-0), J. McVeigh (1-1), P. J. Davidson (1-0). McLaughlin (0-3), P. J. Hill (0-1).

St. Gall's scorers came from J. Walsh (2-0), D. McDonnell (1-0), K. Donnelly (0-3), F. Smith, C. Fanning, S. McAreevey, H. McAllister (0-1 each).

FIVE CHANGES ON DOWN'S U-21 TEAM

The Down U-21 team to play Antrim in the Ulster final at Davitt Park, Lurgan, on Sunday evening (7.30) shows five changes from that which defeated Armagh in the semi-final.

Brendan Sloan now recovered from illness returns to right back, while Noel Muller, who missed the semi-final through injury is at again and returns to centre half back while the rest of the team remains the same.

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03.08.1969

**ST. JOHN'S REACH
ANTRIM
S.H.C SEMI.FINAL**

ST JOHN'S 2-8 SARSFIELDS 2-3

St. John's reached the semi-final of the Antrim senior hurling championship by overcoming Sarsfield's by five points. It wasn't a great game, but while St. John's never looked over impressive, they never at any time looked like being beaten.

Sarsfield's had far too many weak spots and an attack that could make little headway against the St. John's defence.

While St. John's won rather easy they will need to improve if they expect to go any further in the competition.

Early on Sarsfield's went in front but could not maintain their superiority and at half time St. John's had a lead of four points.

For most of the second half St. John's attacked but again `faulty shooting` kept their score down.

Towards the end Sarsfield's made a few attacks but their forwards were poor and failed to profit from many of the chances presented to them.



All through the game the St John's goalkeeper Len Vernon played a powerful game bringing off excellent saves. Their defence was solid with Harry Gallagher and Ernie McMullan most prominent.

TRAINOR MATCHWINNER

However, St. John's match winner was centre-half Harry Trainor. All through he was extremely sound and kept the Sarsfield's attack well subdued. Jim McNally who came on for Eugene Gallagher produced some fine defence work and clever attacking play.

In attack Andy McCallin was the winners most effective forward and his neat touches on many occasions completely took the Sarsfield's defence by surprise. He put his work to good effect by collecting four fine points.



Sarsfield's were rather disappointing. Goalkeeper Brendan Brackin brought off some fine saves but generally the defence was never too sound.

At times Mickey McKearney at midfield got through some fine hurling and was certainly their most accomplished player. In attack Jimmy Ward tried hard but got little support.

Scorers for St. John's – A. McCallin (0.4), M. Gallagher (1.2), A. McGlone (1.0), O. Campbell (0.2).

Sarsfield's – M. Kearney (1.1), S. McGuinness (1.0), B. Whinnery, J. Ward (0.1 each)



ST. JOHN'S LED FROM START TO FINISH

ST. JOHN'S 4-4, CUSHENDUN 2-2

St. John's shot two early goals at Whitehill Park yesterday which helped them to collect both Antrim senior hurling league points from a scrappy game.

They maintained their lead from start to finish although Cushendun pulled back the leeway to a point at the interval (2-0 to 1-2).

After the restart the North Antrim side, chasing their first points in the league, tried desperately to come to terms but missed their chances. As the game progressed St. John's proved too strong and ran out comfortable winners. Stars on the side were Artie McGlone at half back, Sean Burns at centrefield and Gerry Mallon in the attack.

Terry O'Hara and Mick O'Neill were the pick of the Emmet's defence with Liam Convery prominent at midfield and Seamus McNeill up front.

St. John's scorers — Pat Gallagher (2-0), G. Mallon (1-1), Seamus Gallagher (1-0), A. McGlone (0-2) and S. Burns (0-1).

Cushendun scorers—S. McNeill (1-1), M. O'Neill (1-0) and Seamus Graham (0-1).



Whianery, W. Carson 0-1 each.

ST. JOHN'S 4-3, BOSSA 2-3

St. John's advanced to the next round of the South Antrim Junior hurling championship with the Corrigan Park side finishing in complete dominance.

St. John's scorers: J Jamison (1-0), M Wilkins (1-0), M McKeown (1-0), J McKeown (0-3), B McKeown (0-3), M Liberty (0-1),



05.10.1969

St Johns 4-8 Rossa 2-5

St John's advanced to the next round of the South Antrim Junior Hurling Championship with the Corrigan Park tie finishing in complete darkness.

St John's scorers; J Jamison (1-4), B Kelly , M Wilkinson (1-0) , L Crawford 1.2
Rossa ; P McMahan (2-1) B McParland (0-3) M Doherty (0-1)



ST. JOHN'S 1-11; ROSSA 0-4

The meeting of old rivals Rossa and St. John's at Corrigan Park in this Beringer Cup game turned out a bit of a disappointment as the home side won easily.

The Rossa side disappointed badly and never matched up to the skill of the Johnnies. The winning scores came from J. Rainey and J. Coogan (0-4 each), S. Gallagher (1-0), J. Nelson, J. McGurk and S. Mallon (0-1 each).

The Rossa scores came from S. Meade (0-2), J. McDermott and S. Kennedy (0-1 each).

23.10.1969

St Johns 1-11 Rossa 0-4

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The winners scores came from J Rainey and F Colgan (0-4 each) S Gallagher (1-0) J Nelson, J McGurk and S Mallon (0-1)

The Rossa scores came from S Meade (0-2) J McDermot and S Kennedy (0-1)



TO REACH ANTRIM FINAL

OVER the past six years the Antrim senior hurling title has been held in a vice-like grip by North Antrim clubs, chiefly by present champions Loughgiel and current league form suggests that the pattern will remain unchanged.

The belated semi-finals take place on Sunday and South Antrim's sole hope of success rests with city team St. John's who last won the laurels in 1963.

by Denis O'Hara

The Johnnies have slipped from their lofty pedestal as top dual club in recent years but this season they are brimming with confidence that they can once again bring off a double. In a few weeks they clash with Sarsfields in the senior football semi-final but in the meantime they are determined to take care of hurling matters Loughgiel whom they meet in the semi-final at Casement Park on Sunday.

For this crowd pulling affair the Johnnies have switched former county keeper Tony McGlone back to guarding the nets. It is some time now since the trainee teacher has been goalie but the Corrigan club consider this a wise move which should pay off against the Shamrocks.

St. John's confident

"We are very confident" was the view of club chairman Andy McCallin. "We have already lost Loughgiel in the league but it was only in our last game against Shamrocks that we were able to play at full strength. Throughout the year we have been missing top players involved with county commitments."

Hurling in the county needs some kind of injection and it is regarded in Belfast that this can be achieved if there is a strong



Seamus Richmond (Loughgiel)

city team at the top. Last year Rossa almost made it and looked the team most likely to bring back old glory to the Falls Road. But for some unaccountable reason their form deteriorated since that hectic '68 final against Loughgiel and it is now up to their rival club to try their luck.

"Loughgiel have been playing well all year," added Andy McCallin. "But we think that our



turn is due." An experienced judge, Andy admitted that he regarded the opposition half forward line as the most serious threat to their chances.

And who could blame him when one considers the talents of Brendan McGarry, Barney Campbell and Seamus Richmond.

Have proved themselves

Loughgiel's big men behind the scenes Neil Patterson places the utmost faith in his team. They have proved themselves time after time. They are a proud close knit community who will hurl to their last man in order to

retain the crown. Loughgiel head the honours list with 11 titles and the only team that can equal this at present is Ballycastle who take on Glenariff at Loughgiel in the other semi-final.

St. John are trailing by five titles but statistics like this are of little interest to them at the moment. They miss the top of the poll spot and after a period in the doldrums they are eager to climb back onto the rails.

With Sean Burns back to top form and Andy McCallin improving with every game they have the ability to pull off a shock win. Other top players, well trained for the game, are Ernie McMullan, Brendan McGurk, Artie McGlone and the Gallaher brothers, Seamus, Pat, Eugene and Mickey.

Despite their confidence I must take the champions to advance. Their consistency has bordered the amazing and with so many of the team well seasoned with county experience they look just a little bit too solid for the Johnnies. Of course there is one glimmer of hope, revealed from last year's final—they are not jasting the pace just as well although experience has kept them in front. Added to their half forward power are players such as Arthur, Tony and Aidan Connolly, John Coyle, Neil McMullen, Gerard McGarry and Dan Gillan.

B'castle v. Glenariff

The Ballymena-Glenariff affair features two sides who have been inconsistent to say the least. Yet both are well endowed with top-class talent. Ballycastle's easy eclipse of favourites Rossa in the last round must make them favourites.

Eddie and Kevin Donnelly, Paddy and Seamus McShane have been impressive in county games and with other useful hurlers eager to regain the title — Des and Robbie Elliott, John Harkin and Harry McKernan — they will be hard to beat and if they play up to standard they should reach yet another final. Top men on the Glenariff side are Nial Wheeler, Dermot McMullan, Cathal McNaughton, Arthur Rowan and Aneas Black.

Since that 120-minute epic against Loughgiel in the final of two years ago Glenariff have tried desperately to regain their form but with no great success.

Junior decider

Other games on Sunday include the South Antrim junior hurling final between Ardoyne and St. John's (Casement Park) with the winners eventually meeting Armo in the county final. At Corriga Park the "Irish News" cup holder Glenavy powered by Joe Creane, Owen Ruddy, Kevin McAreave, Claran O'Neill and Jim McCorr, face St. Gall's in the county junior football final.

The city team have three star U-21 players in the line-out—Gerrit Follock, Mick Gilbert and Jim Dowda plus Jim and Bill McDonnell, Hugh McCullough at full back and coming John Magill. The defeated Lisburn in the South Antrim final and if their form remains consistent they should achieve the big breakthrough.



Eddie Donnelly (St. John's)



ST. JOHN'S SHOCK ANTRIM HURLING CHAMPS TO MEET BALLYCASTLE IN FINAL

FOR the first time in seven seasons Loughglie Shamrocks will not contest the Antrim senior hurling championship final. A shock of the season defeat by two points at the hands of St. John's at Casement Park in the semi-final also prevented the North Antrim club from a rare fourth successive title—a feat last achieved by Rossa.

On Sunday week at a North Antrim venue St. John's meet Ballycastle McQuilian's in the final. Ballycastle, after beating Glenarriff in the other semi-final at Loughglie, are now in a position to share top title spot held at present by Loughglie who have won eleven titles. St. John's last contested the final in 1965 when they defeated Loughglie at Waterfoot, and the year before that Ballycastle gained their last win also against Loughglie.

and the Castle were once again ahead. In the 35th minute Brendan Elliott was on the mark with another Castle point but two minutes later lead ball expert Aeneas Black took another Glenarriff point.

ST. JOHN'S 3-8, LOUGHGLIE 1-13

St. John's won this very sporting game because they had the will and determination to succeed. They fought for every ball and never allowed the Loughglie men to get into their stride. Yet in the closing stages the champions had enough chances to put the game out of the fire, but instead of taking points they persisted in trying for goals.

Great defensive work by St. John's, plus brilliant goalkeeping by Tony McGilone, saved the day when all seemed lost. The full back line of Eugene Gallagher, Gerry Mallon and Harry McStranghan worked like trojans in repelling Loughglie attacks.

The half back line was equally effective where Jim McNally kept Seamus Richmond on a tight rein. Artie McGilone and Harry Trainor got through some solid work as well.

Sean Burns at centre-field started slowly but when he got moving the Loughglie midfield never counted. In fact it was the brilliance and experience of Burns that turned the tide.

Seamus McQuilian pointing. Then good defensive work by Loughglie allowed Andy McCallin to notch a point.

Jim McNally and Eugene Gallagher repeatedly repelled Loughglie who had the ball in the net after the whistle had gone. Liam McGarry came on to the Loughglie side and made his presence felt. Towards the end the Loughglie attacked constantly but concentrated on getting goals against St. John's unyielding defence.

Scorers for St. John's: A. McCallin (1-4), S. Burns (1-3), P. Gallagher (1-0), P. Gallagher (0-1), Loughglie scorers: S. McMullan (0-5), Richmond (1-1), J. McFadden (0-2), L. Gillen, J. McFadden, A. Connolly, T. McFadden (1 each).

BALLYCASTLE GLENARRIFF 2-6

Around Ballycastle to-day Paddy McShane must be the hero as it was his 50-yard point in the dying seconds of the game that gave his side victory.

Ray Coyles was the first man to get his name on the scoreboard when after four minutes he had the Castle opening score but eight minutes later Cahill castle defence in a complete tangle and worked his way through for a first class goal. A further 10 minutes elapsed without a score until Aeneas Black had another Glenarriff point from a free.

Two minutes later Ray Coyles was again in the news. Taking a beautifully delivered through ball from Harry McKernan, he hammered home another fine goal.

GREAT POINT

White Eddie Donnelly had certainly been in the thick of things if he hadn't until two minutes from the interval that the burly full forward chucked up his first point. But when it came it was a beauty. Just on the short whistle Black guided over his third point which left Glenarriff only one behind on a 2-2 to a 1-1 interval scoreline.

Although only one point ahead Ballycastle certainly seemed to have a slight edge but their defence at times made unforgivable blunders which could easily have led to further scores. Das Elliott had their next point in the 34th minute but Waterfoot butcher Cahill McNaughton again outlived the goal over the McQuilians defenders and cracked home another lopping goal.

Once again the balance of power had changed hands but back came the Castle. A John Trainor midway through the half was not enough to knock Glenarriff out of their very confident stride and with points from Allister Rowan and Cahill McNaughton with only eight minutes to go they looked as if they might make the final.

HAD OTHER IDEAS

The Castle, however, had other ideas and came back with a tremendous burst. A Pat Campbell point with five hectic minutes left the Ballycastle men only one point in arrears but once again Kinney T. reached for the goal. Kinney opened the gap to two but big Eddie Donnelly who up until this had a tremendous impact on the game but was unable to score, fired home a Ballycastle goal.

This score with only two minutes remaining looked to have sealed the issue but Allister Rowan squared the tussle with a long range point. At this stage a replay was most definitely on the cards and the full Loughglie Park could have had no grouse so entertaining was this clash.

But from nowhere came Paddy McShane to score the point that most certainly will be remembered in Ballycastle for many a day. The Ballycastle defence could certainly do with some tightening up, although Paddy McShane, Pat Campbell, Kevin Donnelly and J. Brown certainly came through with flying colours.

Midlers Seamus McShane and Frank Campbell held this side together when at times they seemed certain to crumble. Up front Eddie Donnelly, Harry McKernan and Ray Coyles were the stars.

TONIC GOAL

For the first 20 minutes it was all Loughglie as they led by 3-5 to 1-0. Then St. John's were awarded a 21 yard free from which Sean Burns drove the ball as hard to the net. This goal gave John's a new lease of life and from there on they dictated the trend of play on the field.

In attack Andy McCallin gave a sparkling display and was well supported by Seamus Mickey and Pat Gallagher along with Brendan McGurk.

Loughglie were rather disappointing as they are too easily knocked off their game and allowed St. John's to set the pace. Their defence was reasonably good with Arthur Connolly and Neil McQuilian getting through a lot of work. But goalkeeper Johnny Coyles was the star of the side.

The half back line could never get a grip on the game while the centrefield pair were well to the fore until near the end of the first half but then on never regained control.

On the whole the attack never functioned properly with only Brendan McGarry, Seamus Richmond and Liam McGarry prominent.

Both teams attacked before Seamus McMullan opened the scoring with a point from a free in the sixth minute. St. John's attacked, but Seamus Gallagher wided. Then at the other end Gerry Mallon brought off a great save when a goal seemed certain.

From 70 yards Dan Gillen pointed and Loughglie were well on top with Seamus Richmond sending his side further ahead with a 10th minute goal. The lead was further stretched by a J. P. McFadden point.

St. John's came more into the game and against the run of play Pat Gallagher scored a goal but Seamus McMullan and Tom McFadden were repelled with points in piece. Coyles brought off a number of good saves and then came that Sean Burns goal which swung the game in St. John's favour.

St. John's now had their tails up and started to hurl with determination. Andy McCallin tormented the Loughglie defence before grabbing a point. Hank had shooting from St. John's prevented them from getting further scores. Then Seamus Richmond had the miss of the hour when from 10 yards he set up for Tony McGilone to bring off a spectacular save.

Then in the 26th minute Andy McCallin belted the ball to the net, 20 yds ahead and with two more points St. John's led at the interval by 3-3 to 1-3.

On the resumption Loughglie ran soon into their stride with

CELTIC PARK RESULTS

- ULSTER SPRINT CUP (5th YRS)**
HEAT FIVE—FIRST ROUND
- 1—SYBILS HAWK (soon clear) (1)..... fav 1-3
 - (Connolly)..... 1-3
 - 2—Turkish Wind (4)..... 20-1
 - 3—Mastros (5)..... 20-1
 - 4—Spotted Tray (2)..... 20-1
 - 5—Hi Tar Baby (5)..... 20-1
 - 6—Whistlers Double (3)..... 20-1
 - 8; 2; 2; 1; 1..... 20-26
- HEAT SEVEN**
Clewagh (al prom) (2) 6-1
(Prairie Flash)
- 2—Texas Red (al prom) (3) fav 12-10
 - 3—Ship Street Prince (0)..... 10-1
 - 4—Spy Queen (5)..... 10-1
 - 5—Lady Lancelot (4)..... 5-2
 - 6—Blackwater Star (1)..... 10-1
 - 11; 2; sh hd; 1; 1..... 20-45
- 5th YARDS**
JOHN'S LEADERS (fin well) (2)..... 3-1
(Waterside Quail-Mel's Linda)
- 2—Parkhead King (al prom)..... 4-1
 - 3—Oranmore Again (early pace) (1)..... 9-4
 - 4—Master Quail (5)..... fav 9-4
 - 5—Wee Joyful (4)..... 8-1
 - 6—Annakeera Lad (6)..... 8-1
 - 4; 1; 1; 1; 1; 2..... 29-80
- ULSTER SPRINT CUP**
HEAT SIX
- 1—KIRKLAND DARRIE (fin well) (3)..... 7-2
 - (Dusty Trail-Will Hire)
 - 2—Drum's Weather (al prom) (6)..... fav 5-4
 - 3—Car's Corner (5)..... 3-1
 - 4—Blackwater Dawn (1)..... 8-1
 - 5—Quality Match (2)..... 10-1
 - Flying Pigalle—n.r.
 - Phoenix Rising—n.r.
 - 1; 3; 3; 7..... 20-48

MINUS McMULLAN
Glenarriff started this game at least two goals down due to the absence of Dermot McMullan. A serious accident during the week to his eye left McMullan out of this clash and more than likely the Ulster and Antrim sides will have to call it a day.

Fergus Wheeler, Niall Wheeler and Denis O'Boyle were always well to the fore in the Glenarriff defence while Kevin Leech has his usual sound game in goals.

Allister Rowan had a marvellous game at midfield and that he had to be on the losing side seems a dreadful injustice. Up front Cahill McNaughton, Aeneas Black and Brendan Mitchell did their best in power to hold onto what seemed like victory.

The winners scores came from St. Coyles (2-0), E. Donnelly (1-1) and points each from B. Elliott (1-1), Elliott, J. Han, P. Campbell and P. McShane. Glenarriff replied through C. McNaughton (0-4), A. Black (0-4), A. Rowan (0-2), P. Kinney (0-1).

CIVIC CUP STAYS IN CARNLOUGH



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St John's 3-8 Loughuile 1-12

St John's won this very sporting game because they had the will and determination to succeed. They fought for every ball and never allowed the Loughuile men to get into their stride. Yet in the closing stages the champions had enough chances to pull the game out of the fire, but instead of taking points they persisted in trying for goals.

Great defensive work by St John's, plus brilliant goal keeping by Tony Mc Glone, saved the day when all seemed lost. The full back line of Eugene Gallagher, Gerry Mallon and Martin Mc Granaghan working like Trojans repelling Loughuile's attacks.



26.10.1969

The half-back line was equally effective where Jim McNally kept Seamus Richmond on a tight rein. Arty McGlone and Harry Trainor got through some solid work as well.

Sean Burns at centre field started slowly but when he got moving the Loughuile Mid-field never counted. In fact it was the brilliance and experience of Burns that turned the tide.

Tonic Goal

For the first twenty minutes it was all Loughuile as they led to 1-5 to 1-0. Then St John's were awarded a 21yard free which Sean Burns drove the ball low and hard at the net. This goal gave John's a new lease of life and from there on they dictated the trend of play.

In attack Andy McCallin gave a sparkling display and was well supported by Seamus, Mickey and Pat Gallagher along with Brendan McGurk.

Loughuile were rather disappointing as they were too easily knocked of their game and allowed St John's to set the pace. Their defence was reasonably good and with Arthur Connolly and Neil McMullan getting through a lot of work. But goalkeeper Johnny Coyles was the star of the side.

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26.10.1969

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Both teams attacked before Seamus McMullan with a point from a free in the sixth Minute. St John's attacked but Seamus Gallagher wided. Then at the other end Gerry Mallon brought of a great save when a goal seemed certain.

From 70 yards Dan Gillen pointed and Loughuile were well in top Seamus Richmond sending his side further ahead with a 10th minute goal. The lead was further stretched by a J.P McFadden point.

St John's came more into the game and against the run of play. Pat Gallagher scored a goal but Seamus McMullan and Tom McFadden replied with points apiece. Coyles brought off a number of good saves and then came Sean Burns goal which swung the game in St John's favour.

St Johns now had their tails up and started to hurl with determination. Andy McCallin tormented the Loughuile defense before grabbing a point. Rank bad shooting prevented them from getting further scores. Then Seamus Richmond had the miss of the hour when from ten yards he let fly for Toy McGlone to bring of a spectacular save. Then in the 29th minute Andy McCallin belted the ball to the net to put his side ahead and with two more points St John's led at the interval by 3-3 to 1-08.



26.10.1969

On the resumption Loughuile were soon into their stride with Seamus McMullan pointing. Then good defensive work by Loughuile allowed Andy McCallin to notch a point.

Jim McNally and Eugene Gallagher repeatedly repulsed Loughuile who had the ball in the net after the whistle had gone. Liam McGarry came onto the Loughuile side and made his presence felt. Towards the end the losers attacked constantly but concentrated on getting goals against an unyielding defence.

**Scorers for St John's were- A McCallin (1-4). S Burns (1-3), P Gallagher (1-0)
P Gallagher (0-1)**

Loughuile Scorers were- S McMullan(0-5), S Richmond (1-1) L McGarry (0-2) L Gillen, J.P McFadden, A.Connolly, T McFadden (0-1) each



ST. JOHN'S FANCIED TO LIFT

ANTRIM TITLE

BACK in 1932 Ballycastle McQuillan's were beaten by Belfast club, O'Connell's, in the Antrim senior hurling championship final, and since then they have taken part in nine finals, losing twice.

This exemplary record over a 37-year span is an indication of this North Antrim club's hurling tradition. Incidentally, the club was formed in 1907. Their displays during the past season must surely suggest that they are about to suffer defeat in one of the most consistently magnetic deciders in the Antrim G.A.A. calendar.

On Sunday they face St. John's in the glamour final at Loughgill but their chances of collecting their 11th title must be considered remote.

"It is the first final, as far as I can remember, that Ballycastle are really concerned about," commented club secretary and team manager Colm Lynn, one of the big names of the famous 'town' sides of the '50s. "We are not confident and I would have preferred to meet Loughgill in the final. We have not clashed with St. John's for some time now and they are something of an 'unknown quantity'."



Martin McGranaghan (St. John's).

Not a red herring

This may sound something of a red herring on Ballycastle's part but it is true to say that they are certainly up against it — a far cry from previous final teams which were full of confidence and feature which proved their downfall on a few occasions.

However this does not mean that they will be pushovers for the Johnnies. Their basic reason for such a sceptic mood is that their form has been most inconsistent.

By DENIS O'HARA

They played well against Rosca in the quarter final and spluttered through the semi-final affair against Glenarriff.

Add to this are injuries to two of their regular defenders, Raymond Coyle is out with a broken ankle and county junior player Mickey Donnelly was involved in a car accident last week-end and is at present recuperating in hospital.

"The injuries, on top of everything else have certainly worried us," added Colm Lynn. "But this could also have the right reaction from the rest of the team. They will now have to play all the harder."

The 'black' picture of Bally-



Eddie Donnelly (Ballycastle).

castle hopes will have little meaning to their opponents.

Look what happened

"In 1964 we met Ballycastle in the semi-final and look what happened," reflected St. John's chairman Andy McCallin. "Then we must have been 4-1 on favourites but it was Ballycastle who succeeded and went on to win the title."

"Beating Loughgill this year would probably make us favourites again but I would certainly prefer not to be in this position. I think we will win providing the boys can repeat their recent form. Ballycastle, however, are always a difficult side to beat especially if they click with their hand passing, cross-field ground style."

Success runs in cycles and even with poor teams Ballycastle sometimes retained that sick combined play which originated in the late 40s. The burning question now is — can they knit together well enough to overcome the close marking, fast running pattern of dedicated St. John's? Club chairman Seamus Clarke thinks so. The Ballycastle publican, who has been associated with the club since 1935, considers that tradition will help them through.

"The team form, however, has been very mercurial over the past two years," he added. "Last season we were league runners-up and this year we have had to fight to avoid relegation. It is not that we are a poor side, but the fact that displays have been indifferent and we have not found it possible to put out a full strength side. Our best form was against Rosca."

McKernan flying from England

He admitted that some of the star players had failed to repeat good form against Glenarriff, while the general rhythm of the side was upset early in the season by injuries to Kevin Donnelly and Paddy McShane. Harry McKernan, a trainee teacher in Manchester,

was only available in the holiday season. McKernan will be down over for the final.

The mood of St. John's at present will test the best and Ballycastle know it. The Corrigan Park side shocked the pundits by ousting holders Loughgill. They are a side utterly dedicated to bring back old glory to the Whitecock Road park. They are fit and every man is expected to give his best and even more!

Pat Gallagher, former county star has been one of the top marksmen on the side since his seven-year spell in Australia ended five seasons ago. "If we play as well as we did against Loughgill we will win," is his view. And one which is certainly well justified.

Weather conditions will, however, play a vital role in this final and not from an attendance point of view. Some weeks ago three semi-finals were staged in North Antrim on the one day but at different times and the estimated total gates were around 10,000 people. A figure which certainly speaks highly of the hurling interest in Antrim despite failure at county level.

The finalists first met in a decider in 1924 when St. John's won. Ballycastle reversed the decision in 1948. Now St. John's founded in 1929, look the part for the 'suburb' as they aim for their seventh title.



Paddy McShane (Ballycastle).

Key players on the team are the Gallagher brothers, Sean Burns, Gerry McCann, Andy McCallin, Gerry Mallon, Jimmy Nelson and Artie McElone.

Ballycastle's top men

Ballycastle's power is supplied by Des and Robbie Elliott, Harry McKernan, Paddy and Seamus McShane, John Harkin, J. J. Brown, Kevin and Eddie Donnelly. St. John's team will be selected from — Tony McElone, Eugene Gallagher, Gerry Mallon, Martin McGranaghan, Ernie McMillan, Harry Trainer, Artie McElone, Jim Nelson, Sean Burns, Seamus and Mickey and Pat Gallagher, Andy McCallin, Gerry McCann, Brendan McGurk, Jiny McNally, Harry Gallagher, Eamonn Grieve, Gerry McDonogh, Billy Johnston and Len Verdon. Ballycastle from — Paul Walsh, Kevin and Eddie Donnelly, Rosca, Des and Brendan Elliott, Paddy



Sean Burns (St. John's).

and Seamus McShane, Mickey Loughrey, J. J. Brown, Frank, Pat and Jim Campbell, John and James Harkin, Harry McKernan, Mick Doherty, Sean McElroy, Pat McFadden, Jim Molloy, Donal McCormick and Frank Brown.

References in Eddie Hogan (Rosca); line-outs — Dave McCurry (Glenarriff) and Eneach Black (Glenarriff); Displays — Frank (Corrig), (Ardara), Donal Anglin (Mohenia), Hugo Boyle (Dunloy) and Arthur Forsythe (Glenarm).

Trench lads not taking anything for granted

THE Antrim hurling final might be regarded in some quarters as behind schedule. This is so but not as belated as the vital Eoin McKenna Cup Football final for Colleges. The 1968 version, which was postponed last May, is now scheduled at Croke Park on Sunday when Tyrone senior star Seamus Donaghy leads out the Trench House "freshers" to meet the Military College.



ST. JOHN'S SWAMP B'CASTLE IN SECOND HALF

by 'Denis O'Hara'

ST. JOHN'S 3-5 BALLYCASTLE 0-4

COMPLETE superiority in the second half of this Antrim senior hurling championship final at wind-swept Loughglad yesterday brought the title to the Currygan Park club for the seventh time.

St. John's were in complete control from the start of the second half. They scored a goal in the 55th minute and a further two in the 60th and 65th minutes. Ballycastle were unable to score in the second half.

Superb hurling

HIGHLIGHTS

St. John's were in complete control from the start of the second half. They scored a goal in the 55th minute and a further two in the 60th and 65th minutes. Ballycastle were unable to score in the second half.

Great shot

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Quick striking goal

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St John's Swamp B'castle in Second Half

St John's 3-8 Ballycastle 0-4

Complete superiority in the second half of this Antrim Senior Hurling Championship final at wind-swept Loughuile yesterday brought the title to the Corrigan Park Club for the seventh time. Before describing the play I must pay tribute to players and fans braved the elements.

Considering the treacherous conditions the standard of hurling was extremely good. The players spent quite an amount of time trying to stay on their feet on the ice-rink surface, which effected Ballycastle's chances as early as the second minute. Experienced half forward Dessie Elliott was unable to stop himself from receiving a injury and was sidelined until 12 minutes after the restart.

However this was not the basic reason for such a heavy defeat. St John's lasted the pace better and were a more balanced unit. For the first ten minutes the city team had things their own way and went into a four point lead without reply form McQuillans. It could have been more if not for the solid North Antrim half back line of Mick Loughrey, Paddy McShane and James Brown. They held the johnnies attack on a tight rein while veteran Robbie Elliott first timed everything they missed. Then in the 11th minute Ballycastle sparked into life are their opening point from a free by Eddie Donnelly.



09.11.1969

Superb Hurling

They dominated the play until the interval, but had only 3 points to show for their herculean efforts. **Their hurling was superb yet a combination of wides plus stonewall defensive play from St John's keeper Tony McGlone and full back Gerry Mallon left their hard work unrewarded.**

Ballycastle's majority share of the play was deserving of a few more scores and had they put their nose in front the second half may not have turned out so one sided. St John's played their second place role very well. They remained cool and content to let their opponents burn themselves out.

Ballycastle's failure led to frustration and the second half showed them as a completely disjointed combination. They were ever to rise to the first half heights and no matter what switches were made the results were the same.

St John's however made a few subtle and rewarding switches at the interval. Andy McCallin to the "40", Seamus Gallagher moved in as poacher and Eamonn Grieve was pulled back to right half forward.

Great Shot

The move alone won the match for the Johnnies inside one minute of the restart. Grieve, county football corner back whipped over a point in 20 seconds and virtually from the puck out Andy McCallin blasted in a great shot from forty yards, one which hapless Mcquillan's keeper misjudged.



09.11.1969

Jim Nelson stretched the gap to 6 points in the 38th minute while Ballycastle two attempts sailed wide. The game was virtually over in the 40th minute when Mickey Gallagher completed unmarked , recorded goal number two.

Harry McKernan tried desperately to whip some kind of life into the Ballycastle Attack. Des Elliott returned to the fray, Paddy McShane moved to the “40” and Eddie Donnelly came back to the defense. It was all useless.

By now St John’s were in complete command and playing with complete confidence. They were superior in every department and full of running. Nelson and team captain Sean Burns tapped over points apiece before veteran Seamus Gallagher had their last score 12minutes from time. Goalie Walsh’s nightmare continued in this instance as he again misjudged the ball. Eddie Donnelly had the last say with a consolation point from a free in the 55th minute.

St John’s defence was nowever their strongest sector overall. The McGlone brothers, Gerry Mallon, Eugene Gallagher, Martin McGranaghan (until injured) Jim McNally and Harty Trainer were very consistent. The centre field partnership of Sean Burns and Gerry McCann had to bow the knee early in the game to Seamus McShane and Frank Campbell, but took over the driver’s seat with positive first time hurling in the second session.



09.11.1969

Quick Striking Paid Off

The attack had its moments in the opening seconds, fizzled out for a spell and came roaring back through a new formation. The early attempts at frilly hurling were sensibly discarded and with emphasis on quick striker Jimmy Nelson, Andy McCallin and Seamus Gallagher were always dangerous and made use of quite a few mistakes made by the tiring Ballycastle rearguard.

It was a sad day for McQuillans who played with surprisingly sharpness and seemed to settle in the conditions better in the first half. But their efforts crumbled the moment referee Eddie Rogan signalled half time.

Robbie Elliott, Mick Loughrey, Paddy McShane and J.J Brown never stopped trying. Seamus McShane and Frank Campbell played well until they lost their pace and the attack will be remembered for that twenty minute spell when the breaks did not come.

Harry McKernan was the best throughout with John Harkin, Billy Boylan and Pat Campbell also prominent. Eddie Donnelly took some time to settle and came into the game when pulled back from the square.



09.11.1969

The large attendance in such weather conditions was proof of the interest in hurling but in all fairness to the fans and players. The time of year had passed to do justice to the game. It was unfortunate that the final had to be continually put back through no fault of the board.

St John's Scorers – S Gallagher(1-1), M Gallagher , A McCallin(1-0) each, J Nelson (0-3), A McGlone, P Gallagher, E Grieve, B Burns (0-1) each.

Ballycastle Points came from – E Donnelly (0-3), J Harkin (0-1)

**St John's – Tony McGlone, Eugene Gallagher, Gerry Mallon, Martin McGranaghan, Jim McNally, Harry Trainer, Artie McGlone, Sean Burns (capt) and Gerry McCann, Andy McCallin, Seamus Gallagher, Jimmy Nelson, Pat Gallagher, Eamonn Grieve , Mickey Gallagher
Subs – Ernie McMullan for McGranaghan**

Ballycastle – Paul Walsh, Mickey Donnelly, Kevin Donnelly, Robbie Elliott(capt), Mickey Loughrey, Paddy McShane, James Brown, Frank Campbell and Seamus McShane, Harry McKiernan, Dessie Elliott, John Harkin, Brendan Elliott, Eddie Donnelly and Pat Campbell.

Subs – Billy Boylan for Des Elliott, D Elliott for B Elliott.

Referee – Eddie Rogan (Rossa)



McCALLIN SPARKLES AS ST. JOHN'S EASILY MASTER SARSFIELDS

St. John's 1-13 Sarsfields 1-4

[N a repeat of last year's Antrim senior football championship semi-final St John's defeated rival Falls Road club Sarsfields, but in a much more convincing fashion, writes Denis O'Hara.

The Johnnies, with nippy corner forward Andy McCallin in deadly shooting form completely demoralised Sarsfields with a power display in the second half against the breeze.



Andy McCallin, who scored 1-7 for St. John's in the Antrim senior football championship semi-final yesterday and was the star of the side.

Football was fast and interesting but due to the ground conditions bunching was inevitable. But this was still no excuse for the free-for-all display of rancour seven minutes from the end of the first half.

The incident or incidents occurred directly in front of the Stand and in the same spot as the punch-up in the first county semi-final (Pearse v Rossa) which was the curtain raiser to the drawn Bellaghy-Bryansford game two weeks ago. The fans of the Down and Derry clubs must now wonder if this is an every day occurrence in Antrim football.

Yesterday however the huffiums were not confined to the field during those brief uneasy minutes but spread to rival factions in the Stand.

Once again no names were entered in the black book. During the hour, referee Sean Higgins offered a few words of advice and on one occasion asked both captains to try and compose their players. Late in the game he booked one player.

This might seem over-exposing best forgotten incidents but the sooner something is done to prevent all out punch-ups becoming a habit the better.

Whatever chance Sarsfields had of winning this game quickly diminished after the second half began. Here the strong Dover Street club, minus injured Jimmy Ward, were six points down but now with the wind and rain in their backs it was expected that they could make up the leeway. They were still in with a chance but needed some drastic improvements around centrefield and the attack.

But before they could gather themselves for an all out offensive St. John's hit and hit hard with five points in five minutes. This body blow clinched the game and although the Corrigan Park side did not score again until eight minutes from the end with a final point from a free by ever-sure Andy McCallin (Sarsfields) had little to offer in the form of combined intelligent football.

They were slower to the ball in general and but for some gutsy football at the back by Paul McCormick, Gerry Rush, Eamonn

from this energy sapping encounter were those of Eamonn Grievie, full back, Martin McGranaghan and Sean Burns in defence; Gerry McCann and veteran Fermanagh star John Maguire who controlled centre-field and up front on for Andy McCallin who must be regarded as one of the best sharpshooters in the country. Yesterday his accuracy was uncanny and on must not forget that the ball was greasy and heavy.

Along with teenager Andy, Gerr McCrory continually probed the Sarsfields defence for the right kind of openings. Generally Gerry was successful in splitting the opposition defence with ver accurate passing.

For Sarsfields, McCormick, Rus and McGarrigle worked hard at the back but one of the major drawbacks in this area was their inability to kick the ball any distance accurately.

Time out of number a place kick went straight into the arms of St. John's player. Slower off the mark, Sarsfields were a team out of touch and they never gained any degree of control at centrefield with the result that the attack were not overworked. And when the occasion arose the forward failed to click into a combine section.

St. John's scorers: A McCallin (1-7, six points from free), P. Murphy (0-3), G. McCrory (0-2), McGlone (0-1).

Sarsfields replied per — A Sloan (1-0), B Gallogly (0-2, one from free), B Ward (0-2, both from free).

St. John's — Len Vernon; Tom McGlone, Eamonn Grievie, Martin McGranaghan; Clem Stewart; Mickey Gallagher, Sean Burns, Gerry McCann and John Maguire; Brendan Rainey, Gerry McCrory, Hugh Murphy; Andy McCallin; Artie McGlone, John Rainey.

Sub — Din Joe McGrogan for Murphy.

Sarsfields—Hugh Devenney; Paul McCormick, Jackie Lavery, Gerry Rush; Eamonn McGarrigle, Brian Whinnery, Eamonn Ward; Mickey and Sean O'Kearney; Albert Sloan, Pat Toland, Gerry Nellis, Jackie Kelly, Barney Ward and Bernard Gallogly.

Sub—Frank Dolan for Lavery. Referee — Sean Higgins (Glen ravel).

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— A minute later Sarsfields made their most positive move to date when Eamonn Ward sent Jackie Kelly on the right path for goal but Len Vernon came to the rescue. Two minutes later the row took place and it had a remarkable effect on the teams.

Sarsfields shook off the lethargy while St. John's had to back pedal and seven minutes from the interval a Paul McCormick 50-yard job was slotted into the back of the net by Albert Sloan.

Three points in it

Two minutes later Bernard Gallogly pointed from a free when Barney Ward was fouled. This left three points between the sides and proof that fortunes can switch with amazing swiftness.

But it was only temporary and as St. John's swept through in well drilled raids they gained two fouls, it wound up the half hour with a point by Hugh Murphy to leave them ahead by 1-7 to 1-1.

This was not an entirely convincing margin considering the weather conditions but when Gallogly wiled a great chance after a slip up by Mickey Gallagher, Sarsfields were never given another opportunity to top up vital quick scores after the restart.

A jinking McCrory solo run and parting shot had the Sarsfields defence in a tangle but goalie Devenney had to do trouble work. His clearance was intercepted by Murphy who started the five-minute blitz. Seconds later Artie McGlone was upended and McCallin converted.

The kick-out went to McCrory whose terrific return shot came off the bar into Murphy's arms and the former county star screwed another another point off the crossbar. Gerry McCann kicked up the kick-out, passed to McGlone and point number four was chalked up. Twenty seconds later the message was completed when McCallin intercepted the kick-out and made no mistake from 30 yards.

Kept battling away

Frank Dolan came into the Sarsfields defence and one must give the team credit for not throwing in the sponge. Eleven points behind they came storming back but not in the same smooth, well regulated formations as their opposition. The Gerry Nellis moved back to help out centrefield and this paid off. It sent in a treacherous high job from 45 yards and the shot bounced off Vernon's chest. A near goal and Sarsfields had to be content with a point by Gallogly.

In the 89th minute the Johnnies goalmouth had another set-off when Barney Ward punched on a Nellis job, but quick thinking Vernon out of the shot from entering the net.

More Sarsfield pressure resulted in another skirmish, but of a smaller nature. Mickey McKearney wiled a good chance before Barney Ward tapped over a point from a free 14 minutes from the end.

Five minutes later Andy McCallin gave another unerring exhibition of place kicking and in the closing seconds Barney Ward had a consolation point from a free.

It was a concerted effort by St. John's which was array of costly talent aligned when it was a slub officials and supporters it would.

Winners share But from the combined efforts the outstanding chance to emerge had

M'CABE



07.12.1969

McCallin Sparkles as St John's Easily Master Sarsfields

St Johns 1.13 Sarsfields 1.4

In a repeat of last year's Antrim Senior football championship semi-final St John's defeated rival Falls road Sarsfields, but in a much more convincing fashion, writes Denis O'Hara.

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The incident or the incidents occurred directly in front of the stand and in the same spot as the punch up in the first county semi-final (Pearses v Rossa) which was the current raiser to the drawn Bellaghy –Bryanford ... game two weeks ago. The fans of the Down and Derry clubs must now wonder if this is an everyday occurrence in Antrim Football.

Yesterday however the fisticuffs were not confined to the field during those brief unsavoury minutes but spread to rival factions in the stand.

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But before they could gather themselves, for an all out offensive St John's hit and hit hard with five points in five minutes.

This body blow clinched the game and although the Corrigan park side to not score again until 8 minutes from the end with a final point from a free by ever sure Andy McCallin. Sarsfields had little to offer in the form of combined intelligent football.

They were slower to the ball in general but for some gutsy football at the back by Paul McCormick, Gerry Rush, Eamon McGarrigle and Eamon Ward. The differences on the score board may well have been more for St John's.

The combined power and skills of St John's were impressive right from the start and after yesterdays compact display they must be regarded as favourite to regain the title last held in 1965- the year they also last won the senior hurling crown. The football final has been temporarily been scheduled to take place in Casement Park on Sunday.

The ability of St John's to move the ball about with accuracy despite the slippery conditions was one of the high features of their play. And in this respect centre half forward Gerry McCrory had one of his better days. He engineered most of the Johnnies attacking moves most of which resulted in a score either from play or from a free.



07.12.1969

And while St John's made it look relatively easy to score Sarsfields struggled in vain to click into gear. Right from the start they were sluggish and seemed to be in a trance after Andy McCallin opened the scoring with a brilliant fourth minute goal. After 18 minutes St John's were seven points ahead and it could have been more. Five good scoring chances were wasted in that time.

A minute later Sarsfields made their most positive move to date when Eamon Ward sent Jackie Kelly on the right path for goal but Len Vernon came to the rescue. Two minutes later the row took place and had a remarkable effect on the teams.

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07.12.1969

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Winners stars

But from the combined efforts the outstanding names to emerge from this sapping encounter were those of Eamon Grieve at full back, martin McGranaghan and Sean Burns in defence; Gerry McCann and Veteran Fermanagh star John Maguire who controlled cente-field and up front on form Andy McCallin who must be regarded as one of the best sharp shooters in the country. Yesterday his accuracy was uncanny and one must not forget that the ball was greasy and heavy.

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Sub – Din Joe McGrogan for Hugh Murphy

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Sub – Frank Dolan for Lavery

Referee- Sean Higgins (Glenravel)



12.12.1969

J.H.C. FINALS TOPS Antrim Bill

Topping the Antrim club hurling final at Waterfoot. Teams to brave the wintery winds and try to produce skills to suit the North Antrim tastes are Glen Rovers, Armoy and holders, St John's from Belfast. A new

face on the scene is always very interesting and welcome and none more so than dynamic Armoy back in circulation after a seven year lapse.

And right away they made their mark in county league games. A young and exciting team, handled by former star Willie Devlin, they have blazed a confident trail through junior and sometimes senior opposition.

They took care of Loughuile in north Antrim final and with players such as junior county stars John Dornan, brother Edgar, John Devlin, experienced Raymond Dallas and the McErlean brothers Pat and James, they look a good bet to lift the county crown.

It must be said at this stage however, that the Corrigan Park side field their third string as members of last year's winning team are ineligible.

They defeated Ardoyne in the South Antrim Final and have a mixture of more youth than experience. In the latter sphere Dick Looby, Clem Stewart, John Egan and Dessie Armstrong provide the more settling effect for stars of tomorrow – John Jamison, Mick Gannon, Joe Feeny, Frank McCoy and Joe McGlone younger brother of Tony and Art and a member of this year's Antrim U16 team hurling team which was defeated in the final by Offaly.



Armoy lift Antrim Junior title in convincing fashion

Glen Rovers (Armoy) 6-7 St John's 1-0

A team that can beat St John's in any competition at any time has to be a top rate side, but one that allows them to score only a goal throughout the hour must undoubtedly be the best in the county.

And this is exactly what Glen Rovers, Armoy, are as yesterday at Waterfoot they became Antrim junior hurling champions.

Playing excellent first time hurling in conditions that were far from ideal they completely outplayed the opposition, particularly in the second half. With a strong wind behind them during the first half hour they made poor enough showing at taking scores and time out of number they squandered the easiest of chances.

LOOKED FAR FROM CONVINCING

In fact they could only manage a total of 2-3 in this period and indeed this looked from being a convincing scoreline.

While they had all the play one felt that up front they weren't going to be strong enough and that St John's certainly must make their presence felt in the second half.

Most of the spectators had reason to believe this, as on the only occasion in the first half that St John's got a chance of scoring they made absolutely no mistake and only trailed at the interval by 1-3.

They had their misfortunes too, as midway through the first half they lost the services of Owen McMahan, who received marching orders for the only incident in the game.



ARMOY'S FIRST POINT

Armoys took their opening point of the half after two minutes and this was the sign that they intended to fight. And fight they did to the bitter end, brushing aside the St John's challenge which was always there.

Another John Dornan point and a Theo Laverty goal after only ten minutes of play and the Johnnies seemed shaken. Another point by Edgar Dornan and a Donal McErlean goal had a clinching effect on the game but still St John's battled on.

For St John's now the game had no longer any meaning of victory attached to it but whether they could manage another score.

They kept hammering away, had their chances but scores failed to come. At the other end the Rovers were having a field day. A further goal from Theo Laverty was followed by an Edgar Dornan point and minutes from the end this brilliant young player climaxed a tremendous game with the final goal of the game.

SUPERIOR SIDE

Glen Rovers were a fitter, and vastly superior side and certainly stressed this superiority during the second half. The St John's side were not a bad side but strangely enough they appeared to play better against the wind than they did when they had it in their favour.



James Dillon in the Armoy goal was seldom troubled but on the occasions he was tested he came out with flying colours.

Throughout the first half the defence was seldom ever called on to show their paces but on the couple of occasions that the St John's forwards did attack many of the defenders were caught on the hop.

CLEARED AT EASE

These jitters disappeared in the second half and all six came well out on top. Full back John Devlin cleared his lines with uncanny ease while Seamus McErlean practically blotted out the St John's half forward line single handed. Others to shine here were John O'Kane and John McCormick.

Midfielders Vernon Lavery and Neillis McAuley, after a shaky start really came into the game in the second half and McAuley in particular was seen to advantage all over the place.

Centre half forward Edgar Dornan had a brilliant game and gave the St John's defence a real headache. Brother John proved a real sharp shooter and some of the scores were executed with the skill of a veteran.

HAD HIS MOMENTS

Donal McErlean too, had his moments while young Theo Lavery was always to the fore and can certainly take a great deal of credit for this fine victory.

Full back John Egan, centre half Joe McCallin and right half John Jameson didn't lie down under the Rovers pressure. They kept hammering away and had it not been for them the scoreline might well have been double.

Clem Stewart did his best in the middle of the field but found the going on the tough side.



The forwards certainly threatened danger but when it came to the test they were pretty ineffective. Only John McCallin, Joe Feeney and John Rainey were anything better than average.

The Armoy scores came from: T Lavery (2-1), J Dornan (1-4), E Dornan (1-2), P Devlin, D McErlean (1-0 each)

St John's goal came from T Graham

Glen Rovers: James Dillon, John O'Kane, John Devlin, Frank O'Kane, John McCormick, Seamus McErlean, George O'Kane, Vernon Lavery and Neillus McAuley, Robert Dallas, Edgar Dornan, Donal McErlean, Peter Devlin, John Dornan, Theo Lavery.

Subs: Gerard Burns for R Dallas, Liam McAuley for P Devlin.

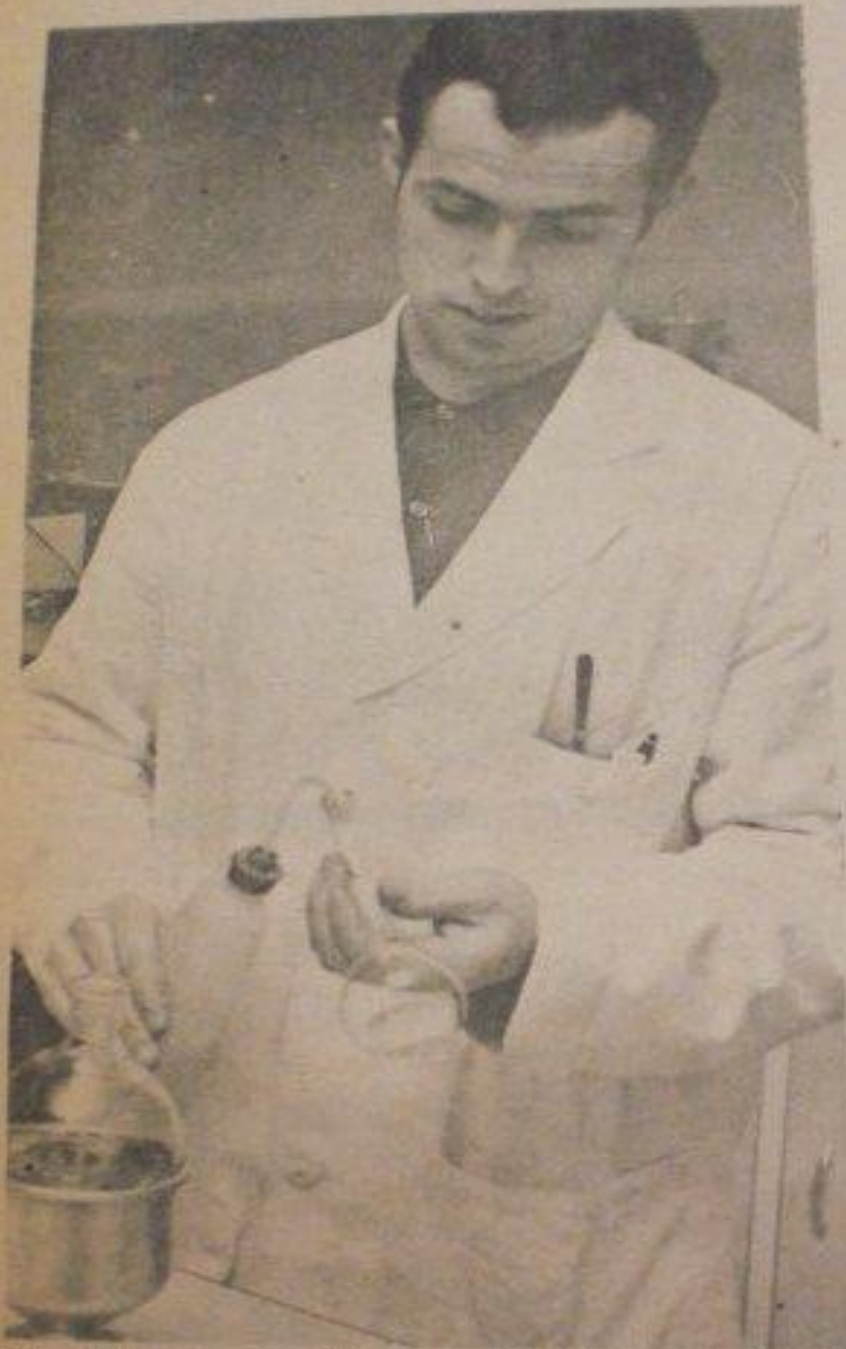
St John's: Peter Rafferty, Owen McMahon, John Egan, Dick Drysdale, John Jameson, Joe McCallin, Mickey Gannon, Clem Stewart and Charlie Fay, John McCallin, Dick Looby, Joe Feeney, John Rainey, Francis McCoy, T Graham.

Referee: N Wheeler



**“HE DOESN’T DRINK BUT HE CAN
CERTAINLY TELL HIS BEERS”**

WHO IS HE ?



10 — Laboratory technician Eoin McMahon — he doesn't drink but he can certainly tell his beers.

McGROGAN'S ANTRIM CROWN

ST. JOHN'S 2-3 PEARES 0-3

DANIEL McGROGAN is a habitual goal satcher. This year his record in both club and county games is an exceptional one. His opportunistic play is a major role in the Antrim All Ireland U-21 success and yesterday at Glenties Park, red-haired Din Joe, as he is better known, dealt his body blow to take the county senior crown from champions Peares.

Din Joe, a 35-year-old machineliner, a very necessary factory, pulled out a beauty that served the purpose of a goal in less than 10 minutes from time.

The "Johnnies" failed to win their 15th county senior trophy in heavy weather of taking revenge for last year's defeat. The rain came through by the skin of their teeth against the forceful hostesses who lacked nothing in determination and tenacity. It did not seem easily have saved their crown for another day.

While St. John's improved their pace in the second half especially after former Antrim ace, Parnazan star, Hugh Murphy was introduced to the attack, the either over-employed close beating tactics of the ball handling were wide. In the last 20 minutes the Johnnies scored five points and not was once in the lead.

Nearly earned replay

From the quick break Peares were extremely dangerous and in the early stages of the contest determination almost earned them a replay. It was only a brilliant catch by St. John's defender, Tony McEneaney, Mickey Callaghan and Martin Kelly, who kept the ball out of the goal before entering into any further details on the game it is worth noting that the standard of play was highly commendable considering the heavy ground conditions which forced every player to call on reserves of stamina. The match was generally close and the hosts were once mildly denied in the 19th minute when St. John's forward had his name taken by referee Alan Higgins.

On reflection, St. John's might well have landed the title in a more comfortable manner had it

Bryansford star has broken arm

Eugene Grant the talented 16-year-old Bryansford 1961 centre forward whose broken ribs against Clan na Gael and recently played an important part in his club's Ulster club championship success could be out of football for some time. The St. Patrick's College star sustained a suspected broken arm (for the third time) in his club's Down A.F.I. game against Glenties at Newcastle.

It was not for the brilliant display of Peares, keeper George Eagleton, George, who lost his grip on the county team for the last inter-county game, gave the selectors a positive hint yesterday.

Pace in the first half (in the 8th and 9th minutes) he prevented the Johnnies from scoring what looked like a goal. The first miracle save was from a point by St. John's goalkeeper, Artie McEneaney, who was taken by Clem Stewart. He then blocked St. John's in to Andy McCullin. From the edge of the square Andy fitted the ball but eagle eye Eagleton only plucked the ball out of the

Dramatic saves

In the second half he brought off more dramatic saves including one with his head from McEneaney's heroism always kept the fighting spirit alive and his own also had a discouraging effect on the St. John's attack. In addition to the club's success, McCullin while held on a stretcher by Jimmy O'Reilly, lay in the back of the net twice in the last plus over the bar

once only for the score to be ruled out.

The first goal was scored from inside the square after 10 minutes. Five minutes from the interval was set in motion by a McEneaney penalty kick which was saved by Peares. This has been used.

Quick point

It was a quick point from the free and second after he had the ball carried. At the same St. John's Din Joe believed in tandem with his mate, scoring first goal.

It was a quick point from the free and second after he had the ball carried. At the same St. John's Din Joe believed in tandem with his mate, scoring first goal.

Vernon saves situation

This more direct style from Peares plenty to think about plus the fact that Albert Fry elicited the full forward spot. Vernon came to the rescue again when his defence again was out of position. Albert Fry struck the ball over the bar but he looked a certain score but he

Let for the third time through that McGarry point the tension mounted and with a great chance of retaining their title. Hugh Murphy's presence however gave the defence needed power to stop the attack. George Eagleton and wasteful shooting led to a narrow escape. Andy McCullin missed a close-in free before dangerous Din Joe decided to make his presence felt by blocking a terrific shot from McEneaney. All looked on as a goal's head and over the line for but given no time to consider his own welfare as the free was taken by the Johnnies. The Johnnies attacked into the decisive move.

McCullin's shot which reached the Peares square and got the ball back to the Peares defence but slapping the ball badly while George Eagleton cut out a free by Andy McCullin and with seven minutes remaining Albert Fry nearly

Went down fighting

With almost 14 minutes left Peares were not disconsolate. They went down fighting like champions. Martin Green, who had an unusually quiet game curled up a head of the ball but he had a good off the upright. Play switched to the other side with Hugh Murphy centering through the Peares defence but slapping the ball badly while George Eagleton cut out a free by Andy McCullin and with seven minutes remaining Albert Fry nearly

caught a lucky early clearance, resulting in St. John's lead to the goal.

Both Mickey Callaghan and Eamon Grive played steadily, not over impressive games. Both looked after suffering a severe bout of flu.

Eagleton stars

George Eagleton was the vanquished hero. Not for some time has the Peares goalie been so impressive. He was, however, given plenty of time to show his prowess as the defence were a little

both sides. The Peares defence was not over impressive games. Both looked after suffering a severe bout of flu.

Larne lift McAleev

BY "BAULKLINE"

Larne, after a lapse of 27 years, have won the Catholic League McAleev Cup when they defeated Newry in the final at the National Club, Belfast.

In receipt of 85 points the County Antrim men ran into a big lead after the opening two minutes when they were 2-0

to the goal.

Both Mickey Callaghan and Eamon Grive played steadily, not over impressive games. Both looked after suffering a severe bout of flu.

after 32 years

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21.12.1969

Mc GROGAN'S GOALS WINS St JOHN'S ANTRIM SFC CROWN

St John's 2-3 Pearses 0-8

Daniel McGrogan is a habitual goal snatcher. This year his record in both club and county games is an exceptional one. His opportunity played a major role in the Antrim All Ireland U-21 success and yesterday at casement Park red haired Din Joe, as he is better known, dealt out two body blows to take the county senior crown from the champions Pearse's.

Din Joe, a 21 year old machinist in a car accessory factory, rattled home a beauty past keeper George Eagleson two minutes before the interval and the second 11 minutes from time.

The "Johnnies" fancied to win their 12th title, made extremely heavy weather of taking revenge for last year's final defeat. They came through by the skin of their teeth against the forceful holders who lacked nothing in determination and with a bit of luck could easily have saved their crown for another day.

While St John's improved their pace in the second half, especially after former Antrim and Fermanagh Star Hugh Murphy was introduced to the attack, they either over-employed close passing tactics or shot the ball harmlessly wide. In the last 30 minutes St John's wided 5 times while Pearse's scored 5 points and shot wide once in the same period.



Nearly Earned Replay

From the quick break Pearses were extremely dangerous and even in the dying seconds their determination almost earned them a replay only for some brilliant catching by St John defenders Tony McGlone, Mickey Gallagher, Captain Sean Burns and Martin McGranaghan.

Before entering into any further details on the game it is worth recording that the standard of play was highly commendable considering the heavy ground conditions which forced every player to call on reserves of strengths/ The marking was generally close and the high, standard of sportsmanship was one mildly dented in the dying minutes when a St John's forward had his name taken by referee Sean Higgins.

On reflection St John's might well have landed the title in a more comfortable manner had it been not been for the brilliant display of Pearses keeper George Eagleson.

George who lost his place on the county team for the last inter-county game, gave the selectors a positive hint yesterday.

Twice in the first half (in the 8th and 9th minutes) he prevented the Johnnies from scoring what certain goals. The first miracle save was from point blank shot by St John's poacher Artie McGlone. Eagleson conceded a 50 yard free which was taken by Clem Stewart. His shot floated to McGlone who passed it to Andy McCallin. From the edge of the square Andy fisted the ball but eagle eye Eagleson plucked the ball out of the air.



Dramatic saves

In the second half he brought off a few more dramatic saves including one with his head from McGlone. Georges heroism always kept Pearses fighting for survival and his persistence had a discouraging effect on the St John's attack. Their ace marksman McCallin while held on a tight rein by Jimmy O'Reilly, had the ball in the back of the net twice in the first half plus over the bar once only for the scores to be ruled out.

The first goal was scored from inside the square after 16 minutes when the teams were level (0-1) each. Five minutes from the interval came the second one when McCallin was set in position by Brendan Rainey pass but was fouled before shooting. The advantage rule might have been used.

Andy scored a point from the free and seconds later he had the ball over the bar but seemingly over carried. At this stage St John's were trailing by a point and then Din Joe relieved the tension with his morale boosting first goal.

Quick Point

Pearses however, with a slight breeze in their favour, showed just how champions should fight to hold their crown. Within 30 seconds of the restart Martin Green had the ball over the bar from a free.



Two minutes later a well directed sideline kick by Brendan McGeary was punched over the bar by the fists of the two forwards Albert Fry and Sean Kearney. This double act, with Kearny given credit put the sides on level terms.

Pearses, with Martin Kelly and McGeary taking over mid-field control, kept the pressure up but failed to score.

From a quick break Artie McGlone looked through but was held by Aidan O'Prey and Andy McCallin tapped over the free to give St John's the lead for the fourth time.

In the 39th Minute St John's keeper Len Vernon did well to prevent a goal by punching over the bar a great mid-field lob from McGeary.

Vernon Saves Situation

This more direct style for Pearse always gave the Johnnies defence plenty to think about plus the fact that Albert Fry switched the full forward spot. **Vernon came to the rescue again when his defence was caught out of position. Albert Fry flicked the ball over Vernon's head for what looked a certain score but he recovered to clutch the leather and clear.**

Level for the third time through that McGeary point the tension mounted and Pearses full of fire were in a great chance of retaining their title. Hugh Murphy's presence however gave that much needed power to the Johnnies attack but the combination of George Eagleson and wasteful shooting kept the issue wide open.



Andy McCallin miscued a close-in free before dangerous Din Joe decided to make his presence felt again. Eagleson had courageously blocked a terrific shot from McGlone. The ball bounced off the goalies head and over the line for a 50 yard free. Eagleson was dazed but given no time to consider his own welfare as the free kick from Gerry McCann set the Johnnies attack into the decisive move of the match.

McCann's shot kick reached Brendan Rainey who lofted the ball into Pearses square and off the fingertips of full back and captain Aidan O'Prey onto the waiting fist of McGrogan. Din Joe punched the ball well clear of Eagleson into the roof of the net.

Went down fighting

With almost 14 minutes Pearses were not disconsolate. They went down fighting like champions. Martin Greene, who had had an unusually quiet game curled in a high lob but the ball bounced of the upright.

Play switched to the other end with Hugh Murphy cantering through the Pearses defence but slamming the ball badly wide. George Eagleson cut out a free by Andy McCallin and with seven minutes remaining Albert Fry neatly caught a lengthy Kelly clearance rounded full back grieve and whittles St John's lead down to two points.

Hugh Murphy and Din Joe wided before Martin Greene lobbed of on a goal seeking solo run. He was hassled down and neatly converted the free for the last point of the game.



Considering the conditions, the football was good but the game lacked bite. Even the supporters of both teams were strangely subdued.

For St John's the honours went to the defenders McGlone, Vernon, McGranaghan, Gallagher and Sean Burns who skippered both Corrigan Park senior sides this season. It was certainly a medal showered season for 29year old Burns. The dual code success by St John's was a repeat of their 1965 season when the feat was achieved for the first time in Antrim. Both Mickey Gallagher and Eamon Grieve played steady, if not over impressive games. Both fielded after suffering a severe bout of the flu.

At centrefield St John's gained a fair percentage of the play in the first half with Gerry McCann splitting the Pearses defence with some good running. Veteran John Maguire played a strong game but both players lost their ascendancy in the early minutes of the second half. Up front Brendan Rainey worked ceaselessly while Gerry McCrory was quieter than usual, Hugh Murphy made the difference to the forward line to the second half while Din Joe opportunism and eagerness was been dealt with.

The impressive player in the attack was full forward Artie McGlone who gave full back O'Prey many trying moments. Artie varied his style from close marking to roving commissions and he set up many moves could have borne fruit. Andy McCallin was not his usual self but still showed how dangerous he can be given half a chance.

Eagleson Stars

George Eagleson was the vanquished hero. Not for some time has Pearses goalie been so impressive. He was, However, given plenty of chances to show his powers as the defence were a little inclined to palm the ball down to the opponent.



Jimmy O'Reilly performed an effective shadow job on Andy McCallin while Joe Mulvenna quietly negated Gerry McCrory. Phelim Green switched wings to keep watch on Hugh Murphy in the second half. Phelims move brought about a subsequent switch which decidedly weakened his teams attack. Charley Sweeney who scored Pearses opening point was pulled back to left back.

Martin Kelly and Brendan McGleary were a powerful running combination at centre-field. It was their hard first time shots which always kept the team in with a chance. Up front Martin Green was unable to click into top gear and the brunt of the work was taken on by Seamus Lavery, Sean Kearney and Albert Fry. Missing from the team were regulars Joe Loughran and George O'Hara.

St John's scorers – D McGrogan – (2-0), A McCallin (0-3) from frees
Pearses marksmen – M Green (0-3 two from frees) C Sweeney, A Fry, S Lavery, S Kearney , B McGeary (0-1) each

St John's – Len Vernon ; Tony McGlone, Eamonn Grieve, Martin McGranaghan, Clem Stewart, Mick Gallagher, Sean Burns (captain) Gerry McCann and John Maguire; Brendan Rainey, Gerry McCrory, John Rainey; Andy McCallin, Artie McGlone, Din Joe McGrogan
Sub – Hugh Murphy for John Rainey



Pearses – George Eagleson; Jimmy McVeigh, Aidan O’Prey(captain) Jimmy O’Reilly, Billy McCrory, Joe Mulvenna, Phelim Green; Martin Kelly, and Brendan McGeary; Des Bannon, Martin Green, Albert Fry, Charlie Sweeney, Seamus Lavery, Sean Kearney.

Sub- Pat O’Hara for Bannon

Ref – Sean Higgins (Glenravel)





St. John's win -but only just

So I was right after all — St. John's to recapture the Antrim senior football crown. But I'll tell you something. At half-time in this match at Casement Park I thought I was going to have to eat my words. Although the Johnnies were leading Pearsons by 1-2 in three quarters at the break I was convinced the North Queen Street side had it sewed up.

Big teams and obvious goals were high speed attack it looked only a matter of time before they would get the points for victory and retention of the cup. The fact that they had eight corners as opposed to five for St. John's tells us very little.

Pearsons are a good side — even under strength — and fulfilled all the hopes of their followers. What a player is that ex-Dromagh man Brendan McGarry. As a kicker of a dead ball there isn't his equal in the county — I think even Jimmy Ward will agree on that score. And as for full-back Jimmie Smith — I haven't enough space to do him full justice.

UNUSUAL

It's probably unusual to look to the future for the players who impressed. But amazingly that's how I see it. My usual football impres-

sions were of George Eakin, stopping two, at least great dives at his goal while up from Martin Greene and John Fry showed what determination can achieve.

But all the credit to St. John's. They stopped up their game considerably in the last 20 minutes and even though they only managed two scores of the five by Pearsons, and enough to win — thanks again to a diving full back line. The efficiency of George McGarry and the "parking" game of under-16 defender Jim McElroy in the left corner.

It was Jimmy McGowan who took McGarry's initial pass for the first goal two minutes from the interval and started home the second 20 minutes from the second half.

Pearsons were seen to be in a position in that they came within a goal of a replay on a fine kicking by Orlan, Tran, and Pat. There was eight minutes from time but at that stage it was too late. Surprisingly they claim that had brother George been able to play it might well have ended in another win. But at this stage it's all hypothetical.

The Johnnies, well limited in effect by the hazing and football drought and their H. (Couch) crown, came through — but not in the style that was expected of them. That didn't have the direct approach, very evident, when related to Pearsons game and in fact had the game ended in a draw I'd have been prepared to encourage and challenge the replay.

Amazingly they might well have won by a margin



The St. John's football team and officials who regained the Antrim senior football crown after three years. They beat Pearsons, the holders, by one point to collect a hazing and football double.

over handsome margin — 2-0 — by no means a surprising result — but two goals and another point that didn't go up on the board can't be considered.

One point I must make though. I was a tiny sympathetic foul. There wasn't an early incident all through the game played on a pitch that must have been frustrating all round. Before Sean Higgins did take one name but I don't think that name shows of commitment. The game was played in what I hope will be the trend for clubs to come.

Complaints were by the standard of football. It was interesting considering the conditions. To both sides — thanks for a better match than I had anticipated.



10.12.1969

St John's win - but only just

So I was right after all –St. John's to recapture the Antrim senior football crown. But I tell you something. At half-time in this match at Casement Park I thought I was going to have to eat my words. Although the Johnnies were leading Pearses by 1-2 to three points at the break I was convinced the North Queen Street side had it sewn up.

Big, strong and showing great form with every attack it looked only a matter of time before they notched up the points for victory and retention of the title. The fact that they had 8 scores against the 5 of St John's tells its own story.

Pearses are a good side -even under strength- and fulfilled all the hopes of their followers. What a player that is that ex-Armagh man Brendan McGeary. As a kicker of a dead ball there isn't his equal in the county – I think even Jimmy Ward will agree on that score. And as for left-back Jimmy Reilly..I haven't enough space to do him justice.

Unusual

It's probably unusual to look to the losers for the players that impressed. But amazingly that's how I saw it. My most lasting impressions were of George Eagle-son stopping two, at least great drives at his goal while up front Martin Greene and Allbe Fry showed what determination can achieve.

But all due credit to St John's. They stepped up their game considerably in the last twenty five minutes and even though they only managed two scores to the five by Pearses, did enough to win – thanks again to the strong full back line, the efficiency of Gerry McRory and the poaching game of under-21 footballer Din Joe McGrogan in the left corner.



10.12.1969

It was young McGrogan who took McRorys slotted pass for the first goal two minutes from the interval and slammed home the second 16 minutes into the second half. Pearses can take full consolation in that they came within a point of a replay on a side missing an O'hara. True, big Pat came on eight minutes from time but at this stage it was just too late. Justifiably they claim they had brother George been able to play it might well have ended in another win! But at this stage it's all just hypothetical.

The Johnnies well fancied to collect the hurling and football double and their 12 football crown, came through – but not in the style that was expected of them. They didn't have the direct approach, very evident when related to Pearses game and in fact if the game ended in a draw I'd have been prepared to re-arrange my thinking for a replay.

Admittedly they well have won by a much more handsome margin – 9-8 is by no means a convincing scoreline- but two goals and another point that didn't go up on the score board can't be considered.

One Point I must make though. It was a truly sportsmanlike final. There wasn't an ugly incident all through the game, played on a pitch that must have been frustrating all round. Referee Sean Higgins did take one name but apart from that minor show of temperament , the games was played in what I hope will be a trend for finals to come.

Congratulations on the standard of football. It was refreshing considering the conditions. To both sides- thanks for a better match than I anticipated.



SEAN BURNS' RARE DOUBLE



Sean Burns has had a rare double in Antrim during the past 12 months which few, if any players in Ulster, can lay claim to, writes Denis O'Hara.

According to the records he is the first man ever in Antrim to captain both the senior football and hurling champions in the same season. It is a feat which may never be equalled in the county and for that reason alone Sean is worthy of a special niche in the Association's Hall of Fame in Antrim.

Since I first met the classy hurler in the mid-50s he has been an example to younger players upon which to model themselves and during all those years he has never lost the "touch." Sean, who celebrated his 30th birthday yesterday, could not be regarded as a showy player but he is a household name in Ulster hurling circles as he has been a regular on the Railway Cup team for the past seven years.

Despite his prowess Sean, an Ulster Brewery employee, has never been accorded "full" honours by the county selectors in the role of captaincy but with the county crown now at Corrigan Park this distinction seems imminent.

He is pictured here with St. John's chairman Andy McCallin (left) who, like all members of the Johnnies club, is very proud of their quiet spoken captain.

"Sean prefers to steer clear of publicity," remarked Andy. "He has always been a shy, reserved and well spoken member since he joined St. John's as a school-boy of 12. He has been an exemplary member since and the rest of the members look up to him. We are certainly very proud of him."

Considering the fact that he is on the field at least once a week Sean has never been sent off or reprimanded by a referee. He has proved that true sportsmanship allied to craft pays dividends on the field. His easy

going style in both games has seen him withstand many heavy tackles.

Prior to this double success, Sean captained a St. John's U-16 team many years ago. When a minor he emigrated to Australia, settled in Sydney for a spell and then moved up the Snowy Mountains to mining country.

While "Down Under", Sean became an automatic choice for New South Wales hurling and football teams and then at Christmas 1962, fortunately for St. John's and Antrim, returned to his native Belfast.

Since his return he has made a name for himself on hurling teams and his figured also on the county junior football side and later the senior one.

For the likeable Sean, his greatest moment will be at his club's annual dinner which takes place in the Woodbourne Hotel on Wednesday evening. No doubt Sean's speeches will be in keeping with his play, short, snappy and precise.



Sean Burns in Rare Double

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Committee



Antrim U-21 F.C Final

Rainey goal paves way for Johnnies

ST. JOHN'S..... 1-9 ROSSA 0-7

Bright sunshine and overall conditions totally out-of-season failed to shake cobwebs from yesterday's delayed Antrim County Final in the U-21 football grade, writes Denis O'Hara.

I would err badly by stating that this 1969 decider at Casement Park was a flop, but could be forgiven by naming it an anti-climax much was the lack of bite so often associated with encounters between these two rival Belfast clubs. To quote the off-worn phrase – there were many passages of excellent football - would probably sum up the tussle that failed to provide expected sparks.

Both teams featured talented individuals and both outfits had their moments of fluency yet overall the game lacked conviction. The Johnnies, faced with the threat of defeat in the early stages, gradually took control through bustling enthusiasm of centre half forward Brendan Rainey and when they eased ahead they did just enough to hold their noses in front.



It was Rainey, generated into lethal action in the 25th Minute by Andy McCallin who sealed the issue with a spectacular goal. At this stage Rossa, forcing the somewhat pedestrian pace, were one point ahead and looking good enough to do better through the wiles of Aidan Hamill and the fetch and carry industry of fellow Queen's students Martin McAleese and Charlie Monaghan.

But gradually the pendulum laxly swung the other way when the younger McCallin – wing half John – opened a gap for Rainey to tap over a point. Second's later St. John's best attacking move to date, ended with the ball being firmly palmed to the back of the net by burly centre-forward Gerry Mallon. The score was disallowed, however, with trainee-teacher Mallon ruled inside the square.

The move, which began near-reward and was engineered by Andy McCallin, Din Joe McGrogan and Dom Lynch, hinted that Rossa were slightly losing their grip on the game.

Brendan Rainey proved the point with that blistering shot to the net and followed with an expertly-taken point. Charlie Monaghan pulled one more back and Andy McCallin- more in the role of a planner than customary executioner- stretched the lead with a point from a free to give St. John's a 1-1 to 0-3 interval lead.

Rossa's reshuffled pack had barely time to settle when McCallin and Gerry McCann slammed over points from frees. And then their great expectations turned sour when they were reduced to 14 players with the ejection of sure-catching corner back Malachy McMahan.



Hamil brought his side to life with a neat run to leave McAleese in position to grab a brilliant point, but St John's retaliated with similar scores from Lynch and Mallon. The tackling now carried a bit more fire but still the game lacked conviction. St John's were in a contented position yet were never given too much attacking scope by the opposition.

Towards the end Brendan Rainey pointed and then came two dramatic saves by Rossa's teenage goalie, McAvoy. The minor star heroically halted a point blank rocket shot from McCann. The final score of the game was a consolation point for Rossa by Pat Kane.

The Johnnies defence had prominent players in goalie Vernon, full back McGranaghan, wing-half John McCallin, centre field Gerry McCann and forwards Brendan Rainey and Andy McCallin.

Best for Rossa were goalie McAvoy, right-back Malachy McMahan, centre back Jim Mullan, Half-backs Eddie Maguire and 17 years old Pat Armstrong, son of former Antrim and Ulster dual star Kevin Armstrong.

Martin McAleese, at mid-field and Charlie Monaghan – when pulled back from the half forward line- showed a little more flair than their opponents Gerry McCann and John Rainey, while Aidan Hamill was very much a lone figure up front.



St. John's – B. Rainey 1-3, A McCallin 0-2, G McCann, D Lynch, G Mallon, D.J. McGrogan 0-1 each.

Rossa- A Hamill 0-3, C Monaghan 0-2, M McAleese, P Kane 0-1 each

St John's – Len Vernon; Owen McMahon, Martin McGranaghan, Pat Campbell; John McCallin, Tony McGlone, Jim Cunningham, John Rainey, Gerry McCann; Andy McCallin, Brendan Rainey, Din Joe McGrogan, Billy Johnston, Gerry Mallon, Dom Lynch.

Subs – Harry McNally for Johnston. Gerry Armstrong for Lynch.

Rossa – Joe McAvoy; Malachy McMahon, Jim Mullan, Kevin Steele; Pat Armstrong, Eddie Maguire, Paul Curran, Martin McAleese, Alex Quinn, Charlie Monaghan, Aidan Hamill, Pat Kane; Peter Farrell, Brian Gormley, Tom McDermott.

Subs- J Greco for Quinn; Quinn for Farrell.

Referee- Phelim Greene (Pearses)





St. John's, Antrim U-21 (1989), football champions after their win over Rossa in the delayed final.





Dom Lynch, St. John's winger, edges past Rossa's most impressive defender—Malachy McMahon.





Mr. Jack Rooney, Antrim's recently-elected County Chairman, is seen here performing his first official duty since elected to office. He hands over the County U-21 football trophy to St. John's captain, Tony McGlene.





Pictured above are the seven recipients of the annual Antrim Gaelic All-Star awards sponsored by St. John's G.A.C., Belfast. Antrim county treasurer, Mr. Jack Rooney (right) made the presentations at the recent Ceili Gleasta held in Woodbourne Hotel, Dunmurry. Behind him is Mr. Andy McCallin, St. John's G.A.C. chairman. Front row—John Robb (Dunloy), hurler of the year, and Seamus Killough (Ahoghill), footballer. Centre—Harry Rocks (Corrigan A.C.), athlete, Marion McPetridge (St. Malachy's), camogie, and Dave McLarnon (Cromac), cyclist). Back row — John McCaughan, representing "team of the year"—Latharna Og, and Mr. Patrick Burns, winner of the Hall of Fame award.



THANKS

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Maeve Cunning
Paul McGivern

Everyone who helped tonight including the
members of the Under 14 Feile Team