## ASSOCIATION FOOTBALL MATCH

## Proceeds to UNICEF & IRISH CANCER SOCIETY



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# SHAMROCK ROVERS IRELAND XI

versus

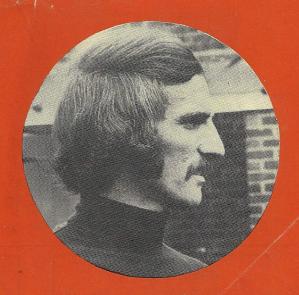
## BRAZIL

AT

LANSDOWNE ROAD, DUBLIN TUESDAY, 3 JULY, 1973

Kick-off 7.30 p.m.

Official Programme Price 10p.



Couis hules Managing Director, Shamrock Rovers 1972 Ltd.



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Your engine can get hot enough virtually to "cook" some motor oils and turn them into a thick, gooey, sludge-like substance. When that happens your motor oil stops lubricating your engine. And that can lead to real trouble. Lots of it.

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New Texaco Havoline All Temperature Motor Oil fights sludge to keep your engine healthy.

#### CREDITS

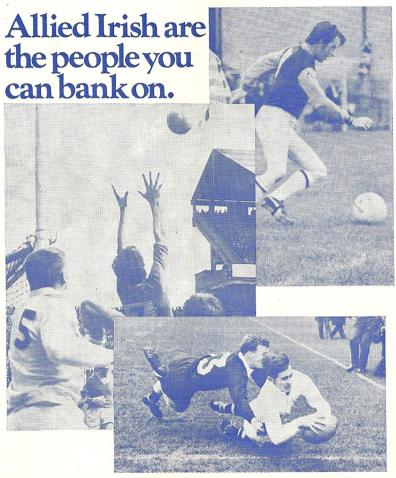
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## On all grounds...



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## BRAZIL'S FOOTBALL STORY

1894 an Anglo-Brazilian named Charles Miller, who was the son of an upper-class family in the Sao Paulo region, brought a number of footballs back from England where he had been studying. They were the very first footballs to be seen in the South American country and soon the friends of Charles Miller adopted the game of Association Football as their favourite pass-time. In 1895 Sao Paulo Athletic came into existence as a football club and the game was well on the way to being established in Brazil.

British sailors and other European visitors helped to spread the sport but it was another fifteen years before the Confederacao Brasileira de Desportos, the national Sports Confederation which controls football, came into existence. Apart from Sao Paulo Athletic another club, Flamengo, was also established in 1895 and they are still one of that country's

top sides.

Just as in the case of England in the 1880's when professionalism entered the picture the arrival of the "paid players" in Brazil in the 1930's signalled the end of the upper-class monopoly of the game. Another significant influence on the spread of Association Football in Brazil was the splendid work done by a Hungarian coach called Dori Kurschner who taught the natives the basic skills of the game. How well they learned the lesson was evident when the national side narrowly, but deservedly, beat the touring Chelsea side, in 1930.

In 1934 Brazil made their first journey to Europe to play Spain in what was their first ever World Cup match abroad. Unfortunately the Spaniards easily brushed aside the feeble challenge of Brazil by three goals to one. Indeed apart from 1958 when they won the Jules Rimet trophy in Sweden, Brazil have never found Europe a happy hunting ground at any

Football in Brazil is more a way of life and a religion than anything else and children from the most tender age learn to manipulate a ball almost as soon as they learn to walk. A most popular type of football is played on the beaches of the country and has millions of adherents. Indeed, so popular has this "beach ball" become that a seperate Association has been formed to cater for those who participate in the sport at professional level.

Colourful characters have always abounded in Brazilian football. Among the many superstitions indulged in by these great personalities was the famous international of the past who changed his name to

JAHU because those were the initials on the fuselage of the plane in which he flew for the first time. Then there was the player who named himself 109 because that was the number of the lottery ticket which won him a packet in a raffle! Another famous player called himself Hercules after the legendary Greek hero!

Because of its vast size the Brazilian football Association has to divide its football affairs into regions which number twenty in all. From this system, teams (if they are good enough) progress to the two most important leagues in the Sao Paulo and Rio regions. At the end of each season, which extends from February to December, the winners of these two championships meet to decide the over-all champions of Brazil.

Brazil's World Cup success story started in 1958 when they scored a breath-taking 5-2 win over Sweden in Stockholm. The goalscorers for Brazil were Vava (2), Pele (2) and Mario Zagalo, who incidentally manages today's Brazil side. On this superb Brazilian side then were names like Didi, Garrinchia, Nilton Santos, Gylmar and of course, the peerless Pele.

Again in 1962 the Jules Rimet trophy was retained when a gallant Czechoslovakian side went under by 3 goals to 1 and these were scored by Amarildo, Zito and Vava. It is interesting to note that Pele did not play in this final.

In 1966 came the somewhat brutal elimination of Brazil when Portugal "hacked" their way to a 3-1 victory over their opponents who lost Pele when he limped out of the competition and, it seemed at the time, out of any future World Cup games. The Brazilians never got the chance to show their superior skills in that particular World Cup competition.

In 1970 it was all sunshine for the Brazilians once more when they captivated the world with some of the greatest football ever played anywhere in the entire history of the sport. Between the qualifying group matches of the finals proper and the quarter finals, semi-final and final they played six games and won all for a goal average of 19 for and 7 against. They won the World Cup for the third time and thereby retained possession of the trophy for all time. No one could doubt their right to do so. They revived interest in the game throughout the world in 1970 with their brilliant style of play. What lies ahead for them in Munich 1974? Only time can tell but it is certain that we will once again be treated to a display of all that is best in Association Football.



## Céad Míle Fáilte, Brazil

It is with the greatest pleasure that we greet the players, staff and officials of the Brazilian World Champion party to Lansdowne Road this evening.

Furthermore, we take this opportunity to extend our sincerest greetings to Dr. Joao Havelange, the President of the Brazilian Sports Confederation, who has made special arrangements to be present for this evening's game. It was mainly through the good agency of Dr. Havelange that the Republic of Ireland team participated so successfully in the Cup of Independence (Mini World Cup) last Summer in Brazil. Following that excellent tournament tentative plans were laid for this evenings unique game.

Dr. Havelange is accompanied to Dublin by his vice-president Mr. Abilio d'Almeida (who is also a vice-president of F.I.F.A.) and Mr. Peter Pullen, a friend of Association Football in Ireland and C.B.D. delegate to the U.K. and Ireland.

By waiving the very considerable match fee, Dr. Havelange, on behalf of the World Champions, has made a significant contribution to the worthy causes of both U.N.I.C.E.F. and the Irish Cancer Society. Accordingly on behalf of those two bodies and on my own behalf, I extend a hearty "Céad Míle Fáilte" to Dr. Havelange and the entire Brazilian party.

Com heleogne

M.D., SHAMROCK ROVERS 1972 LTD.



Dr. Joao Havelange, President Brazilian Sports Federation. Now an effective sports administrator. Dr. Havelange Brazilian swimming champion and Olympic representative in 1952. He is an honorary citizen of six cities and has won over International and club awards. President of C.B.D. since 1958, a member of the International Olympic Committee, he is considered a strong contender for the presidency of F.I.A.F.A. in 1974.



THE IRISH NATIONAL COMMITTEE FOR UNICEF and THE IRISH CANCER SOCIETY are most grateful to

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#### GREAT NAMES

## **BRAZIL—PELÉ**

by SHAY KEOGH

Brazil '70 was the greatest team I ever saw—albeit through television. Rich in Style, Skill, Power, Athleticism and ENTERTAINMENT.

Everybody agrees. Yet they played to a numbers system. Yet again everybody blames the systems for dull, inhibited, unentertaining football—the very antithesis of Brazilian Play. 'Tis curious.

But as Jock Stein recently said, commenting on the Ajax Centre Backs aggressive front running, "When you have the PLAYERS you can go forward", and that's the rub. Brazil had the PLAYERS last World Cup, their system was there in respect to organisation but it was dominated by their overpowering skilful play. So may I suggest, the system critics, only see half the problem . . .

Talking about seeing half the problem, there is little danger the Brazilian (CBD) Sports Confederation will be guilty of that practice. There are many reasons, no doubt, for the power of Brazil in World Football. The very interaction of Race, Culture, Economics and Population scale, produce the potential, but it is the Organisation of Sport in Brazil that harvests the rich yield. That Organisation (CBD) covers all sports and is controlled from Government level where Sport is the responsibility of Educational Authority. Bring that to its logical conclusion and you have Sport Organisation in Brazil being answerable to the people. Might I ask here, who are our Football Legislators answerable to? Do they serve football or is it the other way around? We need good National Organisation relating the parts to the whole, without it, no progress.

For that matter when will our Government take a stronger lead in rationalising and linking the fragmented efforts of Irish Sport and so provide better facilities, better recreation, better standards.

Brazilian Football makes that bitter point sweetly.

Then there was Pelé. The greatest ever? There is a lot of quantitative evidence that suggests he was, like one thousand goals, three World Cups and so on. But then it is not so much of WHAT as HOW that singles out the gifted from the mundane. For my part, Pelé at the last World Cup established himself as the greatest footballer of all time. I knew, of course, that he was already a legend for his football skills but I didn't realise the range of his repertoire. Two incidents highlight this view . . .

Remember that Banks save . . . but do you recall that Pelé header . . . a hanging ball . . . A Pelé leap and then in mid-air a second thrust of the body and that "sleeping" ball was given a new dynamic power . . . Banks immortalised the rest of that incident, but for me, it showed another side of the Great Brazilian—a superb header of the ball.

Remember Brazil's 2nd goal against Czechoslovakia, a Gerson lofted ball that never looked on for Pelé... but he converged on its line although it was still six feet high... a Pelé leap taking the ball on his chest almost under his chin, coming down in perfect balance and control and scoring a superb goal. It left me in wonder.

That was it then, or almost, what about that gigantic chip from the halfway line when he spotted the Czechoslovakian keeper off the goal. In my time I have seen that attempted from thirty yards but never ever from double that distance. It just doesn't enter the mind.

It is not just that the man had no weaknesses but rather that he was a composite collection of strengths. It is this subtle point that I feel separates Pelé from the rest.

Moore, Best, de Stefano, Doherty (Peter), Carter, Finney, Matthews, Beckenbaur, Charlton, Law, Giles, Cryueff, they are all masters of many of the elements, some get nearer to the full bloom, but none, I suggest, to the same range or degree as the Great Master, Pelé.

## BRAZIL'S WORLD CHAMPIONS



## BRAZIL'S WORLD CHAMPIONS

Leao Emerson Leao; goal, born in Ribeirao Prêto (Sao Paulo). 11.6.49. S.E. Palmeiras. 14 caps.

Wendell-Wendell Lucena Ramalho; Botafogo E.R. 1 cap.

Renato—Renato de Cunha Vale; goal, C.R. Flamengo, 1 cap.

Rodrigues Neto—José Rodrigues Neto; either wing fullback, born in Central (Minas Gerais). 6.12.49. C.R. Flam-

èngo. 2 caps. Marinho—Francisco das Chagas; left wing full back; born in Natal (Rio Grande do

Norte). 8.2.52. Botafogo F.R. No caps. Leivinha—Joao Leivas Campos Filho; forward: born in Sao Paulo. 11.9.49. S.E. Palmeiras. 9 caps.

Palhinha—Vanderlei Eustáquio de Oliveira; centre forward; born in Belo Horizonte

(M.G.), 1951. No caps. Dirceu—Dirceu José Guimaraes; mid-field; born in Curitiba (PA), 15.6.52. Botafogo F.R. No caps.

Chiquinho — Francisco G. Fernandes; centre back. S.E. Palmeiras. 3 caps.

Luis Pereira — Luis Edmundo Pereira; centre back. S.E. Palmeiras. 2 caps.

Valdomiro—Valdomiro Vaz Franco; out-

side right; S.C. International. 3 caps. Carbone—José Luis Carbone Sobrinho; midfield: born 1948: S.C. International. No caps.

Jairzinho—Jair Ventura Filho, Duque de Caxias (Rio de Janeiro), Striker. Botafogo F.R. 25.12.44. caps.

Dário-Dário José dos Santos, born in Rio de Janeiro, on 4.3.43. Striker. Flamengo—previously with E.C. Campo Grande (Rio de Janeiro). 9 caps.

Edú—Jonas Eduardo Américo, born in Jaú (Sao Paulo) on 6.8.49. Outside left—Santos F.C. (Sao Paulo). 40 caps.

Piazza — Wilson da silva Piazza, born in Belo Horizonte (Minas Gerais), 24.11.46. Mid-field—Cruzeiro S.C. Previously with Renascência. 39 caps.

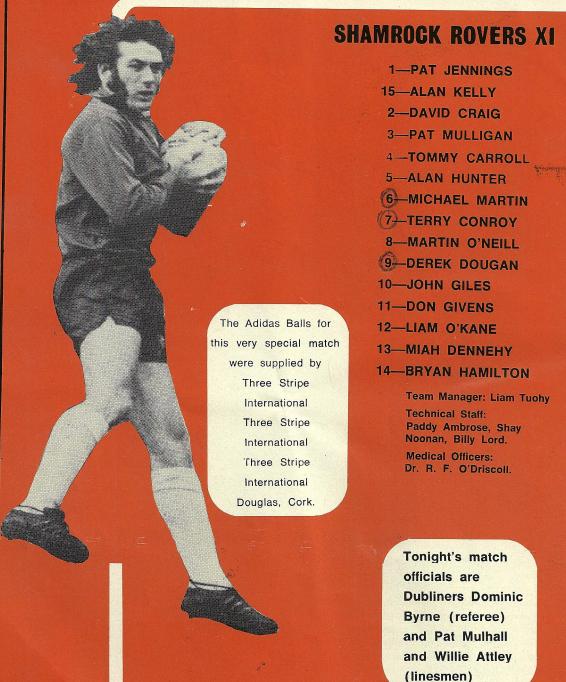
Paulo Cezar—Paulo Cezar Lima—born 16.6.49 in Rio de Janeiro; mid-field— C.R. Flamengo. 40 caps.

Clodoaldo—Clodoaldo Tavares de Santana—born in Aracaju (Sergipe), 25.9.49. Mid-field—Santos F.C. (Sao Paulo). 40 caps.

Rivelino—Roberto Rivelino—born in Sao Paulo, 1.1.46. Mid-field—S.C. Corintians Paulista (Sao Paulo). 50 caps.

Marco Antonio-Marco António Feliciano. born in Santos, 6.12.51. Left full back-Fluminense F.C. 27 caps.

Zé Maria—José Maria Rodrigues Alvesborn in Botucatú (Sao Paulo), 18.5.49. Right full back. S.C. Corintians Paulista (Sao Paulo). 16 caps.



(linesmen)

We owe a special word of thanks to the Music Makers and Majorettes of the St. Patrick's Brass and Reed Band, Kilkenny, and to the Artane Boys' Band who welcomed the World Champions from Brazil on their arrival at Dublin.

NE OUT.

### BRAZIL 4

**LEAO** WENDELL **RENATO** RODRIGUES NETO MARINHO LEIVINHA **PALHINHA** DIRCEU **CHIQUINHO** LUIS PEREIRA **VALDOMIRO** CARBONE **JAIRZINHO** DARIO **EDU** PIAZZA PAULO CEZAR CLODOALDO RIVELINO MARCO ANTONIO ZE MARIA

Team Manager:
Mario Zagalo.
Technical Staff:
Admildo Chirol, Carlos
Alberto Parrerras, Mario
Americo, Abilia Jose da
Silva.
Medical Officers:
Dr. Lidio Toledo, Dr. Mauro
Pompeu de Souza Brazi.

The Shamrock Rovers
Strip exclusively
designed to Rovers'
specifications by
Le Coq Sportif in
collaboration with
Cougar Sports Ltd.,
Dublin.



Our Master of Ceremonies is Ireland's most sought after personality, Mike Murphy. Mike has kindly rearranged his hectic schedule to help the UNICEF and the Irish Cancer Society causes tonight. Jan Doyle, the Sooperhoops favourite D.J., is assisting Mike and Patricia Collins is leading the lovely Sooperhoops. We are grateful to you, one and all.



ALAN HUNTER



PAT RICE

IRISH
STARS
IN
THE
ROVERS'
XI



PADDY MULLIGAN



#### ROVERS "IRELAND" SELECTION WHO'S WHO



#### JOHNNY GILES

It's not surprising that Johnny Giles should be captain of the Rovers XI tonight. He has won most honours in the game among them being five F.A. Cup final appearances. Add to this his winning of the Texaco Soccer and Supreme Sportstar of the Year award and you will begin to get some idea of the importance of this man of "sheer brilliance", to quote Sir

Alf Ramsey.

The all-time great, Alfredo de Stefano, has said that Giles is "the greatest in Europe". Bobby Charlton puts Johnny in "a class of his own". Sir Matt Busby simply describes Giles as "my biggest mistake". (He transferred him to Leeds in 1963). Peter Storey of Arsenal is not so complimentary, but says of Johnny "the roughest player". Liam Tuohy sums it up with "if John had been with us for all our World Cup games we would now be preparing for Munich".

His ability to lead and inspire his team-mates has given Johnny Giles for two years running 'The Players player' Award and this comes from English Club captains. Who are we to add

to this list of credits?

#### DEREK DOUGAN

Chairman of the Professional Footballers Association, Author, Television personality and a feared striker. That is a brief summary of the man known as "The Doog" throughout the football world.

This remarkable and controversial striker assisted Liam Tuohy and Johnny Giles to select the All-Star side for this evenings encounter

with the World Champs.

"Doog" has just returned from South Africa. where he did some missionary work amongst football followers in that Dark Continent!!!

#### PAT JENNINGS

This one-time Gaelic football player is now without question the Worlds Number One

goalkeeper.

Newry born, he is the most internationally honoured goalkeeper in Tottenham Hotspurs long history. He played his first match for 'Spurs against Sheffield United in 1964 and has never looked back since. Apart from gaining over forty Irish "caps" Pat has also played for the Post of the United Kingdom and for the the Rest of the United Kingdom and for the Irish Under-23 side. Pat, a great buddy of Joe Kinnear, has been more than favourably compared with the legendary Irish 'keeper of the nineteen thirties, Elisha Scott.

#### MICK MARTIN

Seldom has a player from these shores made such a dramatic and successful entry into English football as did Mick Martin. **Tommy Docherty** took him straight from Bohemians into the United first team and has held his

place ever since.

Mick is a nephew of another great Sooperhoop of the past, the great Sonny Molloy. A clever, ball playing midfield man, Mick is assured of a long and successful football career. In the Mini World Cup last year he played particularly well when marking Eusebio in Irelands' game against Portugal in Recife. In the recent World cup tie against France he scored Irelands' equalising goal.

#### PADDY MULLIGAN

When Crystal Palace paid £75,000 to Chelsea for Paddy be became the most expensive Irish

footballer of all time.

Paddy is a product of Home Farm and from them he joined Shamrock Rovers. Before leavthem he joined Shamrock Rovers. Before leaving Rovers for Chelsea he played for a short time in America. Unhappily for Paddy, Palace tasted the bitter dregs of relegation last season but under the flamboyant and talented Malcolm Allison, they could very well be back on top again next year. Paddy captained Ireland in the Mini World Cup in Brazil, last year.

#### TERRY CONROY

Little did the famous Conroy footballing family realise that one day their boy Terry would be valued at £300,000 on the transfer market. But such is the case with this former market. But such is the case with this former Home Farm and Glentoran star who has the happy knack of scoring vital goals. It was this flair that enabled Stoke City to win the Football League cup in that great 1972 Wembley final. Terry cost Stoke £12,000 when he signed for them from the "Glens" and considering his process. present form and current value that must rate as one of the all-time bargain transfer fees.

#### BRYAN HAMILTON

This Belfast-born player was a power behind Ipswich Town's great effort in the First Division last season. When he moved from Linfield to his present club in July, 1971 the fee of £35,000 represented a new record for a Northern Ireland player and he has more than repayed the amount since. It was his tremendously impressive form during the 1971 Home international tournament that convinced the talent scouts that Bryan was tailor-made for stardom. Now that he has successfully negotiated the "acclimatising" stage in the First Division he can look forward to many years of exciting and rewarding football.

DON GIVENS

Don Givens has established himself as one of the top strikers of all time as his goalscoring exploits last season show. His forceful finishing and lethal shooting undoubtedly played the major role in getting Queens Park Rangers back to Division One. In fact, Don established a new club record for the most goals scored by a winger in the clubs history, beating the achievement of Mark Lazarus which was set up in 1966/67 season when Lazarus hit twenty-one goals.

Don's career really began when he signed for Manchester United on December 11th, 1966. He joined Luton in 1970 and moved to Queens Park Rangers in July last year. His manager has said of him: "Don is far quicker in everything he does than most people anticipate. He has two good feet and is exceptionally good in the air". His full name is Daniel Joseph Givens and he was born in Limerick on August 9th, 1949. Don made his international debut for Ireland against Denmark in Copenhagen in 1969.

#### DAVID CRAIG

David was spotted playing schoolboy football in his native Belfast through Newcastle's highly efficient scouting system. He joined United in 1960 and signed professional forms a year later. He eventually graduated through the junior and reserve sides to Newcastle's first team where he has now made close to \$00 appearances. This first-class right-back is now an automatic choice for club and country and made his international debut in 1967 against Wales.

#### LIAM O'KANE

This Derry-born player has been the "pin-up" boy of Nottingham Forest ever since he joined them from the now defunct Derry City club in December, 1968.

Half way through the following season he was a regular choice for Forest and received the first of his international "caps" in 1970. Since becoming a member of the Northern Ireland squad their defence has benefitted enormously from his presence.

#### MARTIN O'NEILL

Martin is one man who could have gone down in history as one of the all-time greats of Gaelic football. Indeed, his loss to that sport can never really be measured now that he has committed himself to a career in Association football.

He won an Irish Cup winners medal with Distillery. Nottingham Forest had to contend with a great deal of opposition before finally getting him on their own books in October, 1971. Martin has played with commendable success in midfield and will link up with Johnny Giles at midfield this evening.

#### ALLAN HUNTER

Allan is one of the back four men for Northern Ireland and his powerful five foot eleven inches and twelve stone seven pound frame has given trojan service to his country in nearly a score of internationals.

Born at Sion Mills, Co. Tyrone, he began his cross-channel career with Oldham Athletic and then went to Blackburn Rovers. Then, in September, 1971, he went to Ipswich in a transfer that involved Bobby Bell and the deal was valued at £65,000. Like Bryan Hamilton, Allan's commanding play had a lot to do with Ipswich's great form that almost brought them into the honours list.

#### MIAH DENNEHY

Miah is down in the record books as being the only man ever to score a "hat-trick" in an F.A.I. Cup final. He achieved this feat against Waterford in last years final and what a scorcher of a feat it was!

Miah made his international debut during Irelands participation in the Mini World Cup in Receife last year. He was also selected by Ireland at Amateur international level and towards the end of last season he made his first appearance for Nottingham Forset who bought him from Cork Hibernians towards the end of last seasons League of Ireland campaign. This fair haired will o' the wisp should continue to make things hot for many defences over the next few years and he looks assured of a long spell at full international level.

#### ALAN KELLY

Alan Kelly is now the longest serving, though by no means the oldest, international goalkeeper in the world. It is fair to say that only Pat Jennings would be capable of keeping Alan out of to-days first eleven.

It requires only three more international "caps" for Alan to become the first Republic of Ireland player to turn out for his country in fifty full international matches, a truly remarkable record by any standards.

#### PAT RICE

Belfast-born Pat was only nine years old when he moved to London and not surprisingly he became a fervid fan of Arsenal. When Arsenal signed him it realised the biggest ambition in his life up to then and he has never let them down. In fact he has turned in many a super show for the Londoners and partly helped to keep Bob McNab sidelined when the English world cup star lost his place in the "Gunners" first eleven.

## LIAM TUOHY-A PROFILE OF A SOOPERHOOP

By Tony Reid



It has been said that the position of team manager in football is perhaps the loneliest job that one can hold in the game. This, of course, is a matter of opinion but it certainly takes a man of great courage and character to undertake the task in the first place.

Such a man is Liam Tuohy, who, to-day, officially manages the Shamrock Rovers selected side. What sort of man is Liam Tuohy?

He started his football career more than twenty years ago in the East Wall district of Dublin an area of the city that has long been a hot-bed of football. He came to prominence playing for a team in the parish called St. Mary's East Wall. From there he went to Shamrock Rovers and played for their 'C' team twenty one years ago this year. Almost immediately his immense talent was recognised and he was soon on the Shamrock Rovers side that was just building up the team that was to dominate football in the 1950's.

Liam's boyhood was spent largely haunting Tolka Park and it's environs where he watched his heroes in the blue and gold hoops of Drumcondra F.C. playing and training. He never missed an opportunity to study the star performers of the Drumcondra side in those days and his sudden promotion to the first eleven at Milltown proved that he had learned his lessons well. Supporters of the "Hoops" will remember the great names that played alongside Liam in

the fifties, men like Noel Peyton, Shay Keogh, Paddy Coad, Ronnie Nolan, Eamonn Darcy, "Maxie" McCann, Paddy Ambrose and others who wrote a glorious chapter in the Shamrock Rovers success story.

Then, in 1960, Liam was transferred to Newcastle United where he spent several happy seasons before returning to Rovers in the 1963/64 season. He was appointed Rovers player/coach that season. Although he was an established left-winger he was equally adept as an inside-forward and possessed a fine goal scoring record.

His appointment to the position of Republic of Ireland team manager saw the fortunes of the side take a sharp upward swing and the future looked rosy indeed. In Brazil, during the Independence Tournament, Liam built up a tremendous feeling of team spirit among the players and two wins out of four games were the happy results of his professional approach to the job. Irelands memorable win over France in the World Cup tie at Dalymount was further testimony of his inestimable value to the international side. The shock news that Liam was resigning from the Irish team managers position was a great disappointment to every football fan in the country. Fortunately he was prevailed upon to make a brief come-back to see out our World Cup engagements. Now it would appear that Liam is once again to be lost to the future of our some at international level. This future of our game at international level. This is a real tragedy as both fans and players alike have the utmost faith in this man who not alone possesses the "know-how" to succeed at the very top level of the sport, but whose humourous personality has made him popular with all who have come in contact with him. It is the blending of his personal warmth and his technical knowledge that has earned him the respect of all his players—at Club and International level.

His fortunes are now bound up with the NEW SHAMROCK ROVERS and he has started to build a team that will restore the name of this great club to its rightful position at the TOP of Irish football. Liam has won practically every honour open to him in Irish football. That his name will rank with those of the all-time greats of the game there is no doubt.

#### WARNING

When the match has finished and you are leaving the ground, remember to take your time and walk slowly. If you do this, you will ensure your own safety and the safety of those around you.

YOUR NEAREST

## MOONEY'S BARS

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## UNITY

## By BRENDAN McKENNA (Evening Press)

#### SOCCER WRITER OF THE YEAR

If others can do it, then why can't we? So often words along these lines can be heard when the chat comes round to the question of the All-Ireland

Association Football team, the mythical team,

you might say.

The Rugby people, the boxers, the hockey players . . . . to mention just a few from each side of the line dividing our country, get along like the proverbial house-on-fire when it comes to representing the island as a whole.

But why does this line also divide our Football teams? It is a thorny question and it is one which seldom fails to prick at the hearts of all Football loving Irish folk. It is such a delicate subject but yet such a revered one.

Is it possible? Will the day ever dawn when the two bodies, now poles apart in many respects, sit astride that same pole and work together for the benefit of a game which, literally, in this country, is dying on its feet.

For some years now we have had a variety of reasons thrown at us for the decline in the popularity of the game—too much television, the systems, a general drop in standard, affluence and many others. The situation got to such a state that only last season the English Football Association became genuinely concerned about the drop in support. Already this stage had been reached in Germany, Italy and Holland.

I do not have to mention the situation here in Ireland. Only recently we have had published the hard-hitting, fact-finding report of the Commission set up to examine the game from all its aspects. And, **ironically enough**, one of their recommendations was the need for an All Ireland team.

for an All-Ireland team.

And there is so much truth in the suggestion. For far too long have Northern Ireland and the Republic been struggling at international level. For far too long have both associations been attending the funerals of

their World Cup hopes. It has got to the stage now where the phrase 'gallant in defeat' is something of a sick joke.

This, perhaps, applies more in the case of the Republic. At least our friends from the North will recall with pride their great efforts in Sweden in 1958 when with an injury hit team they were eliminated by France in the quarter finals at Norrkoping while their counterparts from the south have far less to cheer about as we still await our first appearance in the final stages of this world-wide tournament.

How different then might the story be if the two Associations became one. Consider for a moment the individual talent available on both sides which, if moulded into one team, would be capable of challenging the world's greatest strengths with far greater authority and confidence than at present.

Pat Jennings, Alan Kelly, Joe Kinnear, Pat Rice, Paddy Mulligan, Dave Clements, David Craig, Danny Hegan, Bryan Hamilton, Johnny Giles, Steve Heighway, Terry Conroy, Derek Dougan and many more . . . think of the team of talent, strength, skill and experience personalities like these could create.

And, most important of all, consider the reserve resources which would be available—and any manager will tell you that the strength of his side lies in the depth of his reserves.

The thoughts and the possibilities are glowing—but they create a mighty problem. The road along which any steps can be taken where the two bodies might become one is strewn with potholes and difficulties. The ideals, the practices, the procedures and the interests which have been the life-blood of both associations and which have been nurturing for years are deep-rooted and would be hard to dislodge.

Tonight, in many ways, is a memorable occasion for Irish soccer. I wish U.N.I.C.E.F. and the Irish Cancer Society every success in their venture and I applaud Louis Kilcoyne for organising a match such as we have but I wonder, since it is also a charitable occasion, could the powers that govern Football in this small nation of ours not come together and realise that charity, really, begins at home. For the sake of the game in Ireland it would be well worth while.





#### KEEP FIT!

You may not realise it—but even spectators work hard at football matches. Our object is that you should leave Lansdowne Road in better condition than when you arrived. To help any one through the period of discomfort, dizziness or general malaise that long hours of watching, waiting (and perhaps the score-line) might bring here is a tip or two from Rovers physiotherapist Billy Lord . . .

Movement isn't always possible—if you're squashed in the Terrace. Take a tip from the Gardai on sentry duty . . . . get off your heels, rock up and down on your toes. This makes your calf muscles work . . . this increases your circulation and stops downward gravitational flow of body fluids . . . or if you prefer it another way . . . stops your ankles swelling.

Breathe properly. It doesn't matter that you are breathing in a proportion of somebody else's cigarette smoke. It's exhaling which is the important one . . . your getting rid of the body's waste deposits, increasing your circulation. Not just a couple of deep ones . . . . find a consistent rhythm.

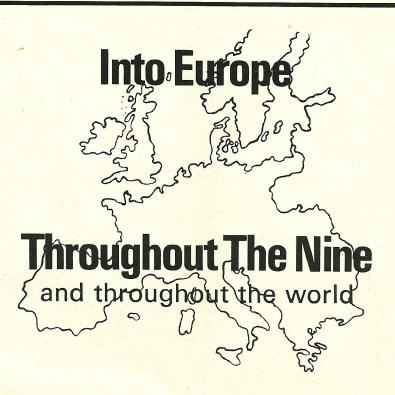
Clothing . . . not too constricting . . . undo your collar button if you are feeling a bit low.

Stand up. Standing is a fatiguing physical activity. It places stress on the joints and if you are not using the joints correctly you will be under extra pressure.

Get your head back . . . . push your shoulders back. Why not try a few head rotational exercises. Don't worry about what the fellow next to you thinks. He probably doesn't have to work as hard as you.

That knee playing up? Contract your thigh muscles . . . . get the circulation going again.

But remember, if you are genuinely not too well, make contact with the St. Johns Ambulance members who have kindly come along to the game.



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