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UNITED WE STAND

WITH PARAIC COLLINS



Welcome back to Eamonn Deacy Park for tonight's SSE Airtricity Men's First Division clash between Galway United and Longford Town.

It's been three weeks to the day since we saw United put six past Finn Harps. The league leaders maintained their ten-point lead at the top of the division with a 0-2 win away to Wexford Town down in Ferrycarrig Park two weeks ago. That game saw our club captain Conor McCormack score his first goal for the club. The Skipper isn't known for scoring, so it was nice to see him get off the mark for Galway.

Before the Harps game, the Galway United faithful was stunned at the passing of Paul Cahill, a life-long supporter of United, and a mainstay in the 'old stand'. Local journalist and blogger Ciaran Tierney has eloquently penned a heartfelt tribute to his friend, and we are more than honoured to publish it tonight. The online version of the programme will be viewed by Paul's many family and friends across the globe. Ar dheis Dé go raibh a anam dílis.

On a lighter note, we all know about Eamonn 'Chick' Deacy but it was his brother Don that stole all the headlines on Monday evening after an interviewer with Off The Ball went viral. If you haven't seen it I'd really suggest checking it out to see the man, the myth, and the legend that is Don Deacy.

Our women's team side won their inaugural Avenir Sports Cup fixture up in Belfast and Julian Canny was on hand to review it. They face Athlone Town, tomorrow at 5 pm, right here at EDP. Your support would be appreciated.



CAPTAIN'S LOG

WITH CONOR McCORMACK

Tell us what the team got up to during the two-week break?

We're all very excited to be back after a well-earned week off from matches and training. Everyone has come back last Sunday afternoon for training well refreshed energised and ready to go. The real hard work starts now though and we know that. We're only halfway gone in the season and we know it's going to be very tough run in. A lot of teams will up their games against us so we have to be ready.

It's Longford Town tonight, how have you prepared for them?

Longford come to Eamonn Deacy Park tonight and we know what they can do. They will be well organised and make it difficult for us. They beat us earlier in the season so we've to be at our best to win the game. Our first day back after the break and we were right on them their strengths and weaknesses we watched them back in recent games and also were we went wrong last time we played. We're looking forward to the game and hopefully come out on top.

You scored your first club goal down in Wexford, must be a relief to finally get off the mark for us?

I don't get many goal-scoring opportunities but I got off the mark down in Wexford from a set piece. We do a lot of work on them in training and lucky enough it paid off without anyone getting a touch on it. As much as we would all like to score every week we all have different jobs on the pitch. If we could perform every week and win games. I'd happily sacrifice never scoring again haha

I hope to see a big crowd tonight they've been so important to us all season and coming to the second half season we will need them more then ever. Us players want to thank the fans for their continued support.

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In attendance at the Sports Direct Men's and Women's FAI Cup First Round draws at the Conference Centre on the Sports Ireland Campus in Dublin, are Brendan Clarke and his son Zac, aged 11, with the Sport Direct Men's FAI Cup.



Dressed for the occasion: Pictured are Dolores and Kate Thompson at the FAI Awards this evening in Dublin, congrats again to Kate on her nomination for the U19s International POTY



One of the Ireland's most promising young strikers, Brian Cunningham (left) pictured at the FAI Awards Congrats again to Brian for being nominated for the Schools International Player of the Year



FROM THE DUGOUT

WITH JOHN CAULFIELD

This is another important game in the SSE Airtricity League First Division for Galway United Football Club. Welcome to Stephen Henderson, his staff, players, and Longford Town supporters.

I always say that at this stage you are halfway through a marathon. Waterford and ourselves are at the top with the rest of the clubs chasing play-off spots. The crucial thing for us is that we get back to the levels we were at before the break and that we are firmly focused.

It is vital that the lads keep their feet on the ground and that the supporters continue to really get behind the team. Undoubtedly it has been an exciting season so far for Galway United, I want to make sure that the second half of the season remains so.

We restart against the only team that has beaten us in 2023. In the home game earlier in the year they caused us a lot of problems too. We had a 1-0 victory, but the games between us have been very tight over the years. With Stephen Henderson in charge, we know defensively that they are very solid, and that they play on the counter attack. We know that we have to be at our best.

Everyone had their week off, they are refreshed and we look forward to this match.

The FAI launched its new strategy and vision recently so hopefully, we will see action. To develop the game the Government needs to be heavily lobbied and that clubs get commitments and money is handed over. We all know that our league has been neglected. In the last 40 years there has been so little investment.

Being the most participated sport in the country, the stadiums across the country most of them aren't up to scratch. So we need urgent investment. The plan is ambitious and the Government will come under scrutiny from other sports, who won't want to see that kind of money invested in football.

However, it has come to the stage where it is the turn of football and the League of Ireland that proper investment is carried out. We need to have proper stadiums and academies in order to ensure there is a real industry in this country. We don't want to have young players running all over NEurope on trials, they should have a proper structure to come through and develop into professional players in Ireland.

Enjoy the game.

John



WOODQUAY WANDERER

WITH BERNIE O'CONNELL

T'éis an briseadh lár téarma againn fáiltíonn Gaillimh Aontaithe roimh Baile Longphoirt don chluiche sraithe seo. Is iad na cuairteoirí an t-aon fhoireann a fuair an ceann is fearr orainn sa gcéad leath. Ní bhreathnaím ar an gcluiche seo mar deis díoltais ar fhoireann Stephen Henderson mar tá na trí phoinntí sraithe mar duais iontu féin. Caithfidh foireann John Caulfield an deis seo a thapú chun comhartha a thabhairt don saol Fódla go bhfuileadar ar ais i mbun gnímh.

Bhí contúirt ag baint leis an gcluiche ó dheas i gcoinne Loch Garman. Rinne fir na Gaillimhe an beart agus roinnt le spáráil. Bíonn duine airdeallach faoi cluichí roimh an mbriseadh ar fhaitíos go bhfuil aird na nimreoirí ar an saoire. Níl dochar ar bith taithí agus críonnacht John agus Ollie a bheith ina nintinn. Thosaigh an athréiteach don chluiche seo tráthnóna Dé Domhnaigh seo caite. Beidh le feiceáil an toradh ar obair na foirne anocht. Ní bhíonn aon blas éasca le Longphoirt ar aon chuma.

Comhgairdeas ó chroí le foireann buacach na Gaillimhe a bhuaigh Corn Kennedy an tseachtain seo caite. Éacht aisteach ó na buachaillí óga seo leis an mbua stairiúil acu. Is iontach freisean an dul chun cinn ag mná an chumainn. Go nÉirí leo anseo amárach. Guíonn muid chuile rath leis ar bháireoirí agus peileadóirí an chondae an deireadh seachtaine seo.

Is deacair cur síos i bhfocla an méid a bhain David Daly(RIP) ina shaol speisialta. Más aon léiriú é an trácht fairsing a deineadh air i go leor clubanna peile i nGaillimh le gairid ba léir don dall go raibh fear agus saol faoi leith i gceist. Fear clainne, fear spóirt, réiteoir, comhairleoir agus crann taca le daoine i bhfad agus i ngearr.

Bhí drochthinneas ar David ar deireadh ach níor chuir sin cosc dá laghad air stop a chur lena rudaí agus na daoine a raibh dlúth caidreamh aige leo. Ba sampla é do chrógacht agus spiorad. Nuair a tháinig an criú ar an tairne níor chriog ar an spiorad céanna aige.

Ar ár mbealach amach chuig Áth Cinn trí seachtaine ó shoin le cailíní West United stopamar ag teach Dave le Paddy Grant a bhí ar chuairt ag Dave a bhailiú. Amach le Dave féin agus bhí leath uair spraoi agus magadh leis chomh maith agus a d'fhéadfaí a fháil. Bhí oícheanntaí mar é freisean ag leads West agus Hibs. Bhí páirt mór ag Boys Club ina shaol agus cion dochreidte air thiar i gCnoc na Cathrach.

Bhí scil faoi leith aige mar réiteoir. Dhá chraobh idirmheánach na hÉireann faoina stiúir. Údarás aige,é ciúin, tuisceannach agus meas aige ar imreoirí. Ní raibh sé de nós aige a bheith glórach ná a bheith ag fógairt ar dhaoine. Thuig chuile duine cé bhí i gceannas agus dhírigh siad ar an gcluiche. Ba mhinic cúpla focla ciúin uaidh a chur imreoirí ar a gcompord. Ní raibh mórán réiteoirí eile chomh tuisceannach leis. Bhí bua faoi leith aige.

Labhair mé le William Grant bainisteoir West United ag fiafriú dhó cén rud is mó a chuaigh i bhfeidhm air ón aithne fada a bhí aige ar Dave agus mar coachálaí leis. 'S'én rud is mó a chonaic mé faoi Dave ná gur chuir sé chuile dhuine chun tosaigh air féin sa saol. Níor chuimhnigh sé air féin ar chor ar bith.' Uaisleacht go smior.

Bhí léargas ag Dave faoin mbeatha. Luachanna láidir aige faoin saol agus spórt a fheabhsú. Léigh sé daoine go rí mhaith agus bhí cion neamhgnách aige orthu. Cé go naireofar go mór é i saol peile na Gaillimhe go ceann i bhfad is ar a bhean Eileen agus a chlann a chuimhníonn muid anois. Leaba i measc na naomh ag David Daly.r

REMEMBERING PAUL CAHILL

WITH CIARAN TIERNEY

One of the best things about being a regular at Eamonn Deacy Park on Friday nights is that you get to meet the same old friends on a regular basis. Like me, Paul Cahill from Shantalla Road was getting a great thrill out of Galway United's push for promotion this season, having witnessed more bad times than good for the club down through the years.

Paul and I grew up right beside each other. His family had a shop for years at Cooke's Corner and, for reasons unknown to both of us, we would always gravitate towards the same section of the "old stand" on Friday nights. No matter how good or bad the football, and it's been mostly great this season, there would be plenty of banter and "slagging" while Paul was around.

We would see the same faces every fortnight, such as the Grants from West United or Eoin Browne from Knocknacarra, who accompanied Paul to every game. The banter would sustain us through the bad nights over the years but, thankfully, we have had far better results and performances to celebrate this season.



At the tense 2-1 win over promotion rivals Waterford a few weeks back, I just happened to sit right beside Paul for the entire game. He told me how he was caring for his mother, Mabel, on Shantallla Road and how he was really looking forward to a holiday in Thailand. We celebrated the important win at the final whistle, and little could I have imagined that I would never talk to Paul again.

Paul, who had worked as a painter and decorator and as a doorman at O'Connor's in Salthill, passed away unexpectedly during his holiday in Thailand. He particularly loved working at the pub in Salthill as it gave him a massive social outlet after he gave up the drink some years ago.

For both of us, a Friday night supporting United at Eamonn Deacy Park was a great way of getting out of the house, enjoying the 'craic' with a few friends and taking in a live event at the start of the weekend. After seeing relegations and even the club going out of business in 2011, Paul was getting great joy out of the performances on the pitch in 2023.

His connection with the club went back a long way. Like me, he started supporting United as a child when he was growing up on Shantalla Road and maintained his interest down through the years.

Between 1999 and 2004, he was one of the organizers of the Galway World Cup event, the brainchild of his friend Paul Tannian, which brought 320 children aged 14 to 16 together, from areas such as Westside, Ballybane, Bohermore, and parts of Dublin and Limerick.

He worked with Ronan Scully of Self Help Africa and then United manager Don O'Riordan on a project which challenged the youngsters to replicate the real soccer World Cup here in Galway, including designing the jerseys themselves.

Paul was very much in the background during the five years of this successful event, but the competition reflected his huge interest in giving something back to the youth.

A lot of Galway United fans were stunned when word filtered back from Thailand that Paul had died suddenly on the holiday he was eagerly looking forward to.

As his family and friends had to wait more than two weeks for his body to be flown home, I know that the minute's silence organized by the club for Paul (and the late Salthill journalist Pat Diskin) gave huge solace to the family at a tough time.

His sister Rosie travelled in from Tuam to sit with Paul's friends during the 6-0 win over Finn Harps and his other two sisters were able to watch the minute's silence online from their homes in the UK and the USA, before flying home for the funeral.

This wonderful gesture by the club, for a fan who rarely sought the limelight, underlined to me just what a big role Galway United FC plays in our community and our lives. As one of his friends joked at the Finn Harps game, Paul would have found it hard to stay silent for 60 seconds. That's how we will remember him in our section of the "old stand" as we gather to cheer on United again on Friday nights.

Hard to believe he won't be with us at Eamonn Deacy Park when hopefully we will see United secure the First Division title and promotion back to the top division later this season.

Paul was cherished by many Galway United fans who enjoyed his irreverent banter during the games and our thoughts are with his mother Mabel, his sisters Jennifer, Mabel, and Rosie, and their families, after his sudden and untimely death on holidays.

"Suaimhneas Síoraí Air"





STATIS WITH

DIVISION 1 TABLE

		P	W	D	L	F	A	D	PTS
1	Galway United	19	17	1	1	53	8	45	52
2	Waterford	19	13	3	3	54	15	39	42
3	Athlone Town	19	9	2	8	33	28	5	29
4	Cobh Ramblers	19	8	5	6	28	26	2	29
5	Bray Wanderers	19	6	7	6	24	30	-6	25
6	Wexford	19	6	4	9	22	29	-7	22
7	Finn Harps	19	5	6	8	20	39	-19	21
8	Treaty United	19	5	5	9	22	34	-12	20
9	Longford Town	19	4	6	9	18	23	-5	18
10	Kerry	19	1	3	15	12	54	-42	6

DIVISION 1 FIXTURES

Athlone Town	٧	Treaty United
Bray Wanderers	V	Kerry
Cobh Ramblers	V	Waterford
Finn Harps	V	Wexford
Galway United	V	Longford Town

TOP GOALSCORERS - 2023

R. Coughlan	Waterford	25
F. Pierrot	Athlone Town	13
A. Dobbs	Wexford	10
D. Hurley	Galway United	10
V. Borden	Galway United	8
J. Doherty	Cobh Ramblers	8
S. Walsh	Galway United	8
E. Curran	Treaty United	7
R. Kelliher	Kerry	6
V. Dolya	Athlone Town	6
B. Feeney	Bray Wanderers	6
C. Omorehiomwan	Bray Wanderers	5
J. Giurgi	Longford Town	5
S. Griffin	Waterford	5
R. Idowu	Waterford	5
E. McCarthy	Galway United	5
R. Flood	Finn Harps	5

GALWAY UNITED -V- LONGFORD TOWN

PLAYED

WON

24

DRAWN

15

LAST 5 H2H

LWWDD

LAST 5 H H2H

WWDWW

DIVISION 1 RECORD v LONGFORD TOWN

PLAYED

PLAYED

30

WON

DRAWN

HOME RECORD v LONGFORD TOWN

WON

DRAWN

POSITION

52 PTS

LAST PLAYED

LTFC 1 GUFC 0

1st May 2023

M. Boudaf 3 1-0

POSITION

18 PTS

BIGGEST VICTORIES v LTFC

3-0 (H) Aug 1991 & Oct 2022

6-2 (A) 3rd Oct 2020 **BIGGEST GUFC VICTORIES 2023**

9-1 H v KERRY

A v WEXFORD

TEAM TOP LEAGUE GOALSCORERS 2023

DAVID HURLEY - 10

JOSH GIURGI - 5

AVENIR SPORTS GUP 2023

AVENIR SPORTS CUP GROUP A

		P	W	D	L	F	A	D	PTS
1	Shelbourne	1	1	0	0	4	1	3	3
2	Galway United	1	1	0	0	1	0	1	3
3	Linfield	1	0	0	1	0	1	-1	0
4	Athlone Town	1_	0	0	1	1	4	-3	0

GROUP A FIXTURES & RESULTS

Saturday 17th June

Athlone Town 1 - 4 Shelbourne

Linfield 0 - 1 Galway United

Saturday 24th June

Galway United 17:00 Athlone Town

Shelbourne 14:00 Linfield

Saturday 1st July

Galway United 17:00 Shelbourne
Linfield 17:00 Athlone Town

AVENIR SPORTS CUP

WITH JULIAN CANNY

The newly created Avenir Sports Cup kicked off last weekend when the 11 Women's National League clubs and the top five clubs from Northern Ireland's Women's Premiership commenced the group stages of the competition. Galway United have been drawn against Athlone Town and Shelbourne from the WNL and Linfield from Belfast who we visited this weekend.

United came away with an excellent 1-0 win against the 4-time Northern Irish Champions in a game played at Midgley Park in the shadows of Northern Ireland's national stadium, Windsor Park.

The winning goal came after just four minutes when an opportunistic Jenna Slattery strike from 25 yards caught the Blues' 'keeper off guard and nestled into the corner of the net.

With Kate Thompson and Jamie Erickson marshalling the defence Linfield's efforts on Abbiegayle Ronayne's goal were at a premium. A glorious defence splitting pass by the impressive Slattery put Lynsey McKey through on goal with 20 minutes remaining but the Linfield 'keeper was quickly off her line to narrow the angle and block her shot. Linfield tried in vain to get back into the game but the three points, and the only clean sheet of the competition, were secured and brought on the long road home West!

We now host Athlone this weekend (Saturday 24th) and Shelbourne next Saturday (1st July) with both games kicking off at 5 PM in Eamonn Deacy Park. The players and management really appreciate all the support they receive and after the opening day win are in a great position to top the group and reach the semi-finals of the tournament.

MATCHDAY PHOTOS



Congratulations to David Hurley who won the Galway United Friends Co Op player of the month award for May. He accepted the award from Galway United ambassador Gerry Daly and friends. David also won the award for April. The trophy is sponsored by O'Brien's newsagents, William Street, Galway. Photo L to R: Jack Walsh, Jack Curran, Eanna Daly, David Hurley, Gerry Daly & Paddy McCarroll

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

Ben Murphy celebrated his 8th birthday at our last home game against Finn Harps. He was congratulated by Galway United manager John Caulfield.





Cobh Ramblers







2023 FIXTURES

17/02/23 Finn Harps 23/06/23 Longford Town

24/02/23 Treaty United 30/06/23 Kerry

03/03/23 Waterford 07/07/23 Cobh Ramblers

10/03/23 Kerry **14/07/23** Athlone Town

17/03/23 Cobh Ramblers 23/07/23 FAI Cup 1st Round

24/03/23 Longford Town 28/07/23 Bray Wanderers

31/03/23 Athlone Town 04/08/23 Finn Harps

07/04/23 Wexford 07/08/23 Treaty United

14/04/23 Bray Wanderers 11/08/23 Waterford

Cobh Ramblers

21/04/23 Kerry 20/08/23 FAI Cup 2nd Round

25/08/23

01/05/23 Longford Town 02/09/23 Longford Town

05/05/23 Waterford 08/09/23 Bray Wanderers

12/05/23 Wexford 15/09/23 Finn Harps

19/05/23 Treaty United 22/09/23 Kerry

26/05/23 Athlone Town 29/09/23 Athlone Town

02/06/23 Bray Wanderers 06/10/23 Waterford

05/06/23 Finn Harps 14/10/23 Treaty United

09/06/23 **Wexford** 20/10/23 **Wexford**

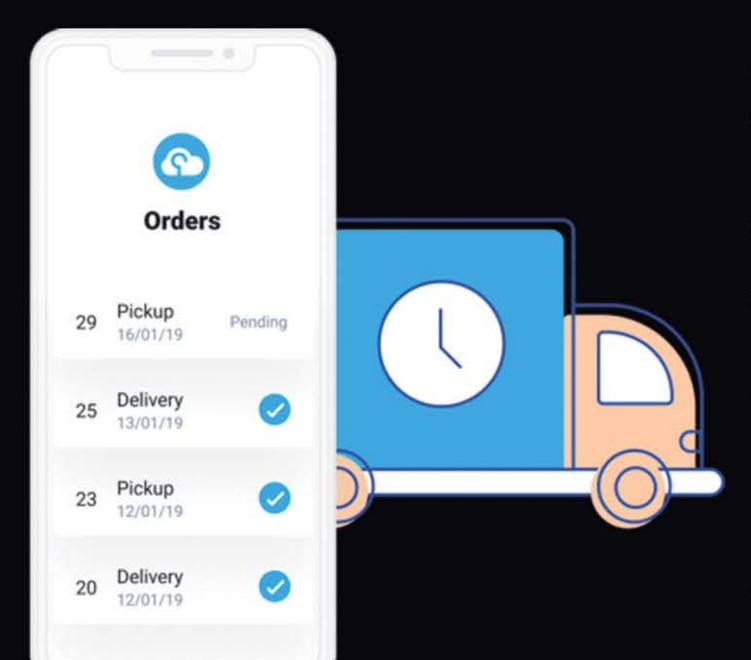


28/04/23



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#DifferentLeague



VS



- 1. Brendan Clarke
- 2. Conor O'Keeffe
- 3. Regan Donelan
 - 4. Rob Slevin
- 5. Killian Brouder
- **6.** Maurice Nugent
- 7. Stephen Walsh
 - 8. Mikie Rowe
 - 9. Rob Manley
- 10. David Hurley
- **11.** Ibrahim Keita
- **14.** Ronan Manning
- 15. Callum McNamara
 - 16. Alex Rutter
 - 17. Vince Borden
 - 18. David Tarmey
- 19. Francely Lomboto
 - 20. Evan O'Connor
 - 21. Colm Horgan
- **22.** Conor McCormack
 - 23. Darren Clarke
 - **24.** Ed McCarthy
 - 25. Aaron Neary
 - 26. Connal Doran
 - 27. Steven Healy
 - 28. Mikey McCullagh
 - 29. Oisin O'Reilly

- 1. Jack Brady
- 2. Shane Elworthy
- 3. Gbolahan Adejumobi
 - 4. Aaron Walsh
 - 5. Beineon O'Brien-Whitmarsh
 - 6. Adam Verdon
 - 7. Josh Giurgi
 - 8. Ross Fay
- 9. Cristian Magerusan
 - **10.** Gary Armstrong
 - 11. Jamal Ibrahim
 - 12. Jack Harrington
 - 13. Cian Byrne
 - 14. James Doona
 - **15.** Ciaran Hodanu
 - 17. Stephen Meaney
- 18. Viktor Serdeniuk
- 19. Mohammed Boudiaf
 - 21. Gavin O'Brien
 - 23. Evan Farrell
 - 25. Marvin Ikharo
- Guilherme Rego Priosti Emmanuel James







