

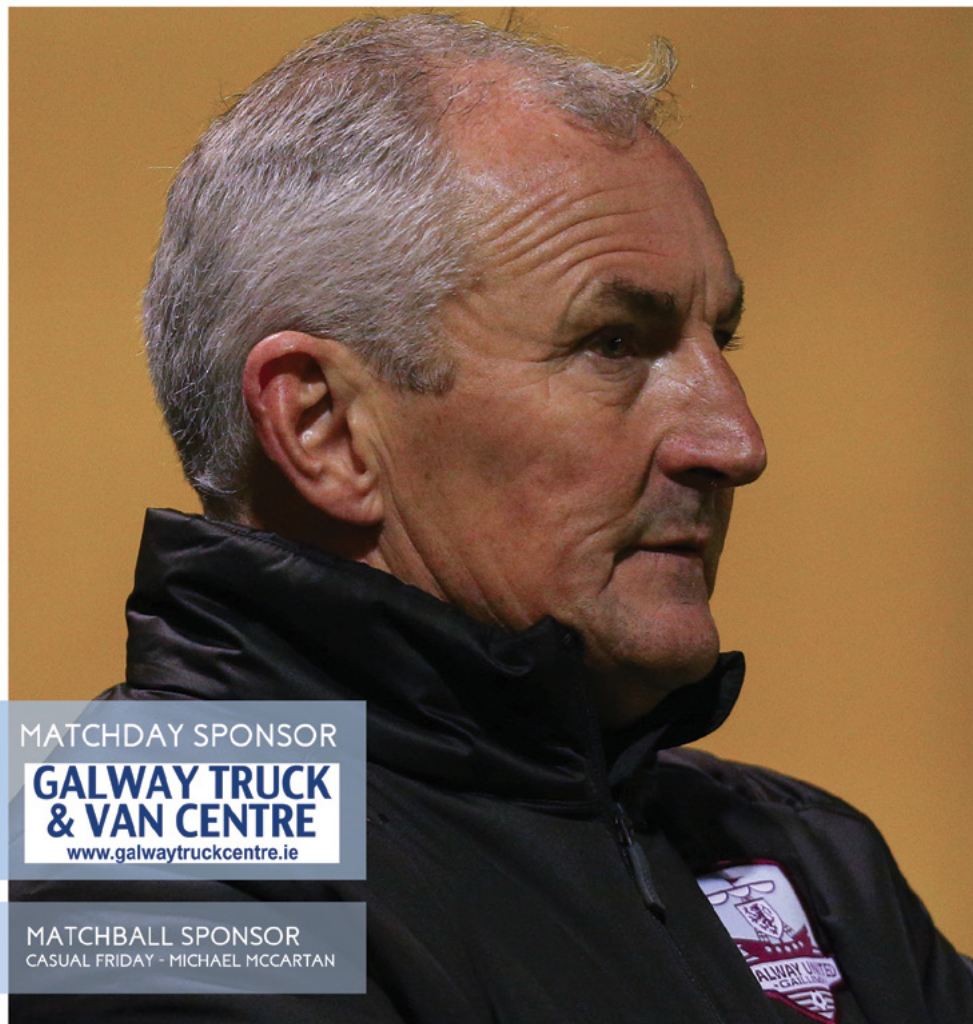
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GALWAY UNITED VS SHELBOURNE FC

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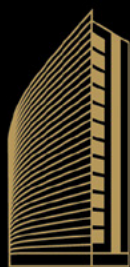
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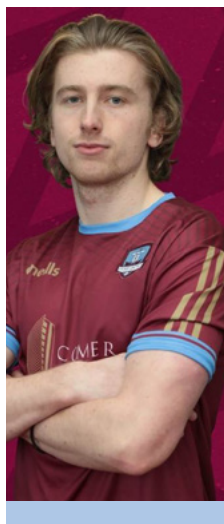
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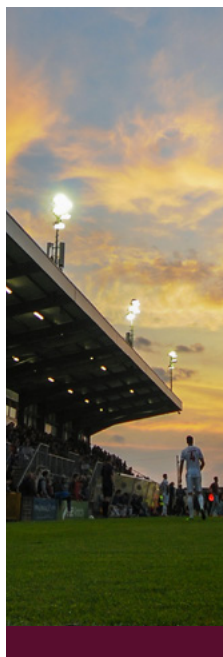
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Welcome to Eamonn Deacy Park... actually, wait a minute.

We have a regular style as programme writers that usually starts with the above and ends along the lines of: "Best of luck to our opponents (insert name here) this season - except for tonight!"

Unfortunately, a mere select few are here tonight, with what we hope will be a record number of fans - of United, Shelbourne and other teams - watching on the stream. I expect crowds to be back sooner than most, though I said the same thing about 12 months ago.

It's been desperately frustrating, but we must believe that the end is near. Having come to Galway for the first time since the Shelbourne FAI Cup game two weeks ago for the visit of Bohemians, it was deeply depressing how a great city had become a town of ghosts.

In that context, it was overwhelming to bear witness to the spirit of the volunteers and staff at the Bohemians game. An unbelievable number of fans have volunteered to help the club and that is in the media team alone.

We are really proud of 'Maroon View' and deeply appreciative of any support this season until such time as we can print a match programme again. This is not how we want it to be and we hope you enjoy reading in PDF format.

It is remarkable, given that fans are still barred from going to games, how much of a buzz there is about the League of Ireland and by extension the First Division this season. It is hard to

recall there being so much expectation in Galway ahead of a campaign in the second tier and there are a few factors involved.

John Caulfield's arrival is one. The incredible run that nearly brought us to the Premier Division last season is another. The fact we have so many young players cannot be underestimated. And the signings we made in the off-season will also encourage United fans that we are on the right path.

It is interesting to note how bullish Caulfield is ahead of the season in the match programme notes. He appreciates there is pressure but if anything seems inspired by it. The players have been impressive in pre-season, including Francely Lomboto.

Francely is a genuine prospect and what befell him in Wexford was cruel and horrific. We wish you all the best in your recovery, Francely.

Shelbourne came here at the start of the Caulfield era and, though they hammered us in the end, there was enough about United that night to suggest to people the Caulfield reign would be exciting. We've scored a lot of goals but our defence has tightened up a lot and the squad depth is quite something this season, with quality all over the park.

We think of those United fans who passed away since we were last here and we consider all those tonight, especially the elderly and those with conditions that render them especially vulnerable, who are still waiting to resume normal

life: a normality that would involve watching Galway United in Eamonn Deacy Park.

We've a wealth of talent and vigour among the volunteer team this season but please feel free to play your own role. This has the makings of an amazing season on many levels, even if we do not achieve promotion, though there is no lack of belief with that in mind.

Enjoy the game.





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McGINN'S
— HOP HOUSE —
BARR AN CHALADH
— GAILLIMH —

We are thrilled to be back tonight: we've done a lot of work with 12 players added to the squad to augment the retention of half of the one we had.

That means a lot of work but the lads have shown a great attitude. Much of what we worked on in training has come off in games. Now, we are starting as hot favourites for the First Division, and it's a big test we are looking forward to.

No manager gets every player he wants I guess - we all want more - but we specifically targetted players since I took the job, certainly since September. Podge Cunningham, Ruairi Keating, Conor O'Keefe and Gary Boylan were initial targets; then we had to try to get Conor McCormack in; he was contracted somewhere else. I wanted to have an energetic team with skill and pace; overall I am very happy with the squad. If you can stay Covid- and injury-free that's what you wish for.

I like teams who can score goals. You need options and alternatives depending on how you play and who you are playing against. We've a lot of options in midfield, up top and wide. I'm very excited. A lot of the lads have done really well in pre-season.

I get the feeling around the city and county of renewed interest. Maybe some had switched off because we hadn't been challenging. Maybe the run at the end of last season got people watching us again. I think we'd have very big crowds and will when we can get them in. People are looking out for our results. If we can hit the start running and keep that buzz, we can have full houses in Terryland.

I have to mention Francely Lomboto. You feel for the kid, who came through underage. At 20, we were trying to

develop his potential and full-time training really improved him. He scored against two teams pre-season and had a big impact.

It's a setback to lose him for the season but for us we need to get him the right treatment. He is a strong kid. He has improved a lot and I just hope it makes him more determined to come back. You either feel sorry for yourself or come back to be a better player; he can do that.

In terms of pre-season generally, we did eight weeks or so. Shelbourne at home is a great opener. They have invested heavily. Arguably they've a better team than they had in the Premier. They need to go straight back up but that's the ambition of many others.

We all can play the bluff game but I've come in and there has to be expectation. The board is ambitious: it wants to get out of the First Division. Every team has invested. Cork, Athlone, Bray and UCD are probably better than last year too. We have to deal with the level of expectation. If you can, you've a chance. I'm talking to players all the time, telling them: train to be a winner. You need to cope with this. It's simple enough when you boil it down.

Lisa Fallon came in. You must have a team that has expertise and work-ethic. Lisa is highly qualified. She has been in a lot of exceptionally high-performance environments: Cork City, Northern Ireland, Dublin footballers, Chelsea women's team. You thus keep expanding your knowledge. So we've a great team of Colin Fortune, Danny Broderick, Gianluca Aimi and Gary O'Connor. I was desperate to get Lisa in. I could see she'd expanded her coaching ability.

Enjoy the game.



I am really happy to be a Galway United player for the upcoming campaign. I want to thank John Caulfield and everyone involved in the hard work they put in to make it all happen.

I've worked with John and Lisa Fallon before and I know how determined and driven they are to win. They're really successful manager/coaches so it's great to be back working alongside them.

I can't wait for the season ahead and what a game to start with at home to Shelbourne. It's just a pity there will be no Galway United fans there to drive us on from the first whistle. I know they will be all watching/listening from far and near supporting us all the way to hopefully a good positive result.

We're all very pleased how pre-season has gone there has been a lot of hard work put in behind the seasons by John, Lisa all his staff to making sure we're ready.

We've had a good pre-season under our belts with some impressive performances. All the lads have worked extremely hard and put in serious effort to be ready for this game. We're all raring to go.

It's a very exciting team we have; it's full of energy, enthusiasm, power, pace and skill to name a few so I am really looking forward to playing with these group of lads. They work tirelessly hard each day in training to make themselves better so it's a good positive hungry bunch that all want to us to be successful come the end of the season.

I hope before the end of the season

there will be supporters back in Eamonn Deacy Park because it's a great place to play football.

We as a group would all like to wish Francely a very speedy recovery from his injury. No doubt he will come back stronger. He's a great guy with loads of ability and he will be hugely missed.



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"IT HAS BEEN AN UNBELIEVABLE
FIRST FEW WEEKS PLAYING FOR
GALWAY"



David Hurley joins Galway United after impressing for Cobh Ramblers last season. Club reporter Tom Byrne sat down with the Cork native to discuss his football journey so far, which includes playing for Ramblers, representing his country at the University Games, and settling into Galway.

Like many youngsters growing up in Cork, David Hurley had one main sporting hero.

"It's always been Roy Keane," says the 22-year-old. "Especially with him being from Cork and playing for Cobh Ramblers. I'm a Manchester United supporter as well, so it was always great following Keane from a young age. He was an unbelievable player."

Hurley, a midfielder himself, started out in youth football with local side Tramore Athletic, before joining Avondale United after Under-13 level. He would later join Ringmahon Rangers and spend three years with the schoolboy club, before moving to First Division Cobh, Keane's one-time club, in 2016. On the way, he rubbed shoulders with some top talents.

"I was on the same team as Liverpool's Caoimhin Kelleher at Ringmahon," he says. "We won two leagues, a local cup and got to a national final before I moved to Cobh."

"I had just finished at Under-18s with Ringmahon and then I joined Cobh's academy," he adds. "I played for Cobh Under-19s for a year and a half and

joined the senior team in 2017. We had a brilliant season with both the Under-19s and the first-team that year. We finished top of the Under-19 Southern Division, and second in the First Division with the seniors. I made four appearances for the first-team that season, so it was a great experience for me."

In all, Hurley would spend four seasons plying his trade at senior level at St. Colman's Park, making 82 appearances for the Rams.

"I had to learn quickly when I made the step up with Cobh," he says. "Stephen Henderson (Former Cobh coach) was very helpful and kept faith in me which gave me confidence.

"I have some great memories of my time there. Beating Dundalk in the EA Sports Cup semi-final in 2018 was the best moment, it was a brilliant occasion. Playing Derry in the final was also fantastic, even though it didn't go the way we wanted it to."

Hurley, who attended University College Cork while playing for Ramblers, also represented Ireland in the 2019 University Games in Naples, alongside his new Galway United teammate Maurice Nugent.

"It was an honour to represent my country," he says. "It was a competitive environment as well, so it was brilliant. The opening ceremony was something special, walking out in the then-San Paolo stadium in front of 40,000 was surreal.

"We played countries like Russia, South Korea and Uruguay, teams you never get the opportunity to play against. It was with a group of lads your own age too, so we all got along. It was such an experience."

Hurley signed for Galway United in November 2020, a move Hurley says he couldn't turn down after talking to United boss John Caulfield.

"John outlined the vision of the club to me and it convinced me to join Galway," he says. "If John is going to do something, it will be a full commitment and he will go for it. The objective is to get out of this division and win the league. After talking to John, you get his hunger and desire to win straight away. It really rubs off on you and it was a no-brainer to move west. Galway United is such a big club, the facilities here are top class and it is a club that deserves to be in the Premier Division."

Hurley has appeared in all three of United's pre-season games to date, and has been impressed by Caulfield's guidance.

"The training is intense but in a good way," he says. "It was a tough transition from training two or three times a week to training five times a week, but I have adjusted to it now and I have also got to know all my teammates.

"You learn a lot from John," he adds. "When he gives you advice, you take it on board. He wants to help you, which will in turn help the team. He's a manger whose reputation speaks for itself. All the players buy into his plans, and we're all loving pre-season so far."

Hurley, who can operate in a number of positions beyond central midfield, is keen to take advantage of the full-time training, calling it a "luxury."

"When I finished college I was working full-time in a stock room in Cork," he says. "It was one of those jobs where you were working 8 p.m. to 5 p.m., coming home and then going to training. When you are at training, then,



you can't give 100 per cent as you don't have your full energy. With full-time training in Galway you have a structure, so there are no excuses not to give 100 per cent and to improve as a player.

"Hopefully I can play as many matches as I can this season and help the team with goals and assists," he adds. "It's one of those things, if you can contribute to the team it will help to get us positive results. That's what it is all about in the end — I'm willing to do any job that the manager asks of me."

Hurley knows the First Division won't be an easy one to escape, but is relishing his first campaign in the maroon.

"It is going to be tough this season, there are some very good teams," he says. "But we are striving to be the best. We want to stay as consistent as possible and get on a run of winning games. Hopefully that will be good enough to earn promotion.

"It has been an unbelievable first few weeks playing for Galway," he adds, reflecting on his short time in the city to date. "It's been great getting to know the lads and we are all there to train to the best possible standard that we can. I'm loving it at the moment and hopefully, it can only get better."

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Léiríonn tubaist na paindéime seo an fulaingt, cruatan, strus agus imní chomh maith leis an gcaillteannas ollmhór nach féidir linn riamh a bheith cinnte faoi aon cheo. Tá muid ag dul i dtaithí ar na cuinsí nua agus ag deighleáil leis más go drogallach agus go faiteach féin é.

Mar fhear a rugadh agus a tógadh i mBarr an Chialadh bhí áit faoi leith ag Páirc Thír Oileáin i mo shaol. Ba mhíorúilt dom nuair a chuaigh Ruagairí na Gaillimhe isteach sa tSraith.

Chiallaigh sé an t-uafás an céim ollmhór seo.

Tá cuimhnithe faoi leith agam ar na sluaite ag bualadh suas An Dyke ar an Domhnach. Bhí laethanta gruama go leor sna seachtóidí i nGaillimh ach d'oscail an aistir sacair seo aislingí agus spriocanna nua dúinn. Tóg an siúlóid féin suas thar na Plots, abhainn na Coiribe ar chlé, an sean fothrach don Sean Chaisleáin, na hoibreacha uisce agus imeacht thar títhe na Farrellys agus muintir Céitinn. Sean suíomhanna don ach domhain nua ag oscailt istigh agus Gaillimh i lár an aonaigh. Thabharfá airgid mhór le go mbeadh tú i ndon iad seo go léir a shíúil agus a roinnt le do chomh leantóirí inniu.

Tá a rithim féin ag an séasúr sacair agus bíodh sé sa ngeimhreadh nó sa samhradh bhí a chuid aislingí féin ag gach ceann. T'éis don paidéim a theacht chugainn caithfear dearmad a dhéanamh ar sluaite agus comhlúadar an pobal peile. Is muid atá buíoch anois as deis ar bith amharc ar bith a fháil ar ár gcuid laochra. Ba mhaith mar a d'éirigh leis an gclub aicsean na bliana as Páirc Eamonn Deacy a thabhairt chugainn. Is mór linn go bhfuil an deis sin arís againn.

Bhí rudaí simplí ann sa saol nár chuir muid mórán suantas iontu go dtí gur baineadh dínn iad. Comhlúada, sluaite, siopadóireacht, bleid cainte a bheith

agat le duine, taisteal ní áirírm sláinte nó fostaíocht. Tá tábhacht faoi leith ag an spórt sa saol mar bhealach éifeachtach chun éalú ó chúraimí an tsaoil. Is aisteach an rud é go bhfuil an árdán spórt i nGaillimh fágtha don sacair idir fir agus mná mar aon le gaiscigh rugbaí Chonnachta.

Duine ar bith a chasann isteach o fíorúil ag an gcluiche seo idir muid féin agus Shelbourne níl amhras orm go mbeadh siad i láthair dá bhféadfaidís. Is maith sin agus léiríonn sé suim agus dílseacht leantóirí. Níl amhras ar bith ach go bhfuil sár fhoirne in aghaidh a chéile tráthnóna agus súile lucht sacair na hÉireann ar thoradh an chluiche mar treoir don rás d'ardú céime. Chuir sé iontas ar mhórán gur thit Shels aníos anuraidh, ní bheidh siad ag iarraidh fanacht i bhfad thíos.

Is maith mar atá an réiteach uilig réamh shéasúrach ag dul dúinn faoi stiúir John Caulfield agus Lisa Fallon. Ba thubaist pearsanta agus don club an droch ghortú a bhain do Francely Lomboto. Lead óg cumasach a las suas cluichí go leor anuraidh agus a dhéanfas an méid céanna agus tuilleadh amach anseo. Guíonn muid gach rath air. Go mba seacht n-uaire níos fearr a bheas sé an t-am seo an bhliain seo chugainn.

Cluiche mór le tús a chur le ré na cumasach a chur i stair an chumainn. Traoslaíom leo siúd ar fad atá rannpháirteach i réiteach an chluiche, forbairt an chumainn agus na himreoirí a chaitheann geansaí na Gaillimhe. Sé mo ghuí go bhfíorófar ár gcuid aislingí peile i mbliana. Idir an dá linn fanaimis slán.

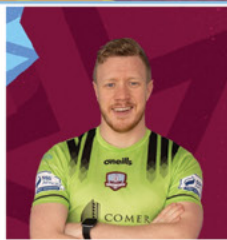




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1 GK



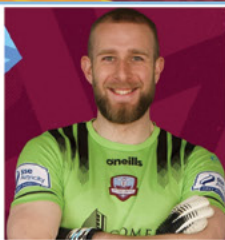
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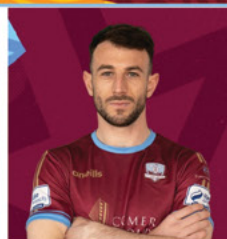
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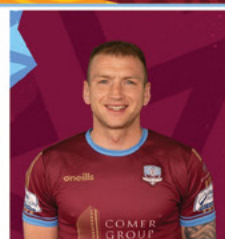
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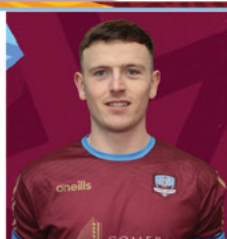


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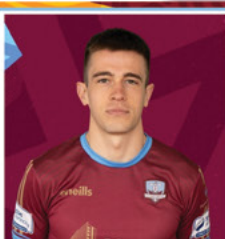


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SHANE DUGGAN

8 MF

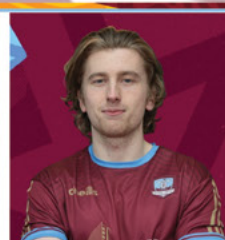


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10 MF

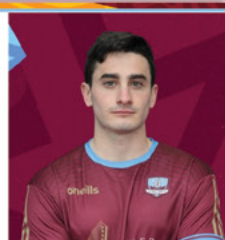


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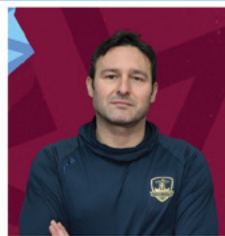
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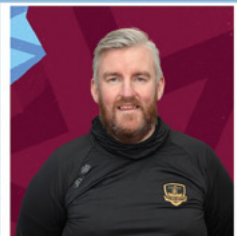


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ACADEMY STAFF

JOHNNY GLYNN



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JG

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ATHLETIC DEVELOPMENT

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GH

ADRIAN CRONIN



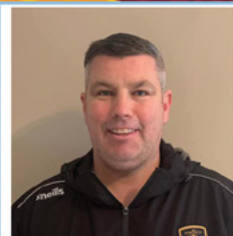
GK COACH

AVAILABLE FOR
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AC

UNDER 19 STAFF

BRENDAN O'CONNOR

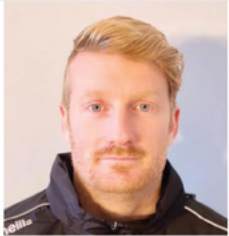


U-19 MANAGER

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BOC

PAUL SINNOTT



U-19 COACH

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SPONSORSHIP

PS

ADRIAN CRONIN



GK COACH

AVAILABLE FOR
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AC

UNDER 17 STAFF

MARTIN DEVLIN



U-17 MANAGER

AVAILABLE FOR
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MD

GERRY MARTIN



U-17 COACH

AVAILABLE FOR
SPONSORSHIP

GM

GERRY HEANEY



U-17 COACH

AVAILABLE FOR
SPONSORSHIP

GH

UNDER 15 STAFF

ANTHONY O'NEILL

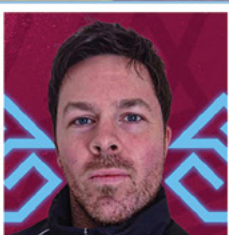


U-15 MANAGER

AVAILABLE FOR
SPONSORSHIP

AON

MICHAEL FLANNERY



U-15 COACH

AVAILABLE FOR
SPONSORSHIP

MF

COLM BRANNIGAN



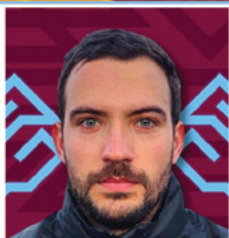
U-15 COACH

AVAILABLE FOR
SPONSORSHIP

CB

UNDER 14 STAFF

XAVI VAZQUEZ



U-14 MANAGER

AVAILABLE FOR
SPONSORSHIP

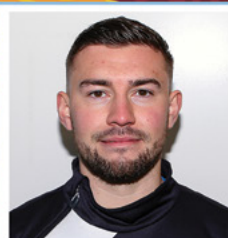
GARY TRAYNOR



U-14 COACH

AVAILABLE FOR
SPONSORSHIP

JASON MURPHY



U-14 COACH

AVAILABLE FOR
SPONSORSHIP



Club Directory

Board of Directors

Jonathan Corbett, Colin Coyle, Ruairi Guckian, Emmett Hartigan, Rosemary Killilea, Stephen Long, Cormac Lyons, Dominick Walsh.

Club Management Structure

Secretary: John Flannery
Commercial Manager: Francis Kelly
Office Administrators: Damien McEvoy, Brian Mullholland
Groundskeeper: Noel Connolly
Covid Compliance Officer: Rosemary Killilea
Protection of Children: Club Designated Person for Child Welfare – Rosemary Killilea
Protection of Children: Club Deputy Designated Person – Stephen Long
Club Children's Officer: Dominick Walsh
Supporters Liaison Officer: Dominick Walsh
Disability Officer: Emmett Hartigan
Events Controller: Peadar Ryan
Supporter Travel: Dominick Walsh, Stephen Dowling



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ACADEMY FOCUS *with Johnny Glynn*

Good evening and welcome back to a new season. Being involved with the senior team I am very optimistic that the season ahead will be one to remember for Galway United supporters. John has put an excellent structure in place which will ensure that the players at his disposal will be well prepared for the challenges that await.

In the senior squad of 22 players we have a total of eight who have played with our Academy teams and going forward our vision for the Academy is clearly aligned to getting players into the senior team and squad.

Michael Garrighy, Alex Murphy and Aaron Curtis are three additional players on the fringes of the first-team squad from the academy.

Meanwhile at the Galway United Academy we have our staff in place for the new season with some new faces added.

Xavi Vazquez will lead the U14 squad assisted by Gary Traynor and Jason Murphy.

Anthony O'Neill has joined the club and will lead the U15 squad assisted by Michael Flannery and Colm Branagan.

Martin Devlin, who has managed the U15 squad for the past years will lead the U17 squad assisted by Gerry Martin and Gerry Heaney.



Our U19 squad is now led by Brendan O'Connor and his coaching team includes Paul Sinnott, Adrian Cronin and John O'Connor.

Gerry Heaney is head of our Athletic Development and Adrian Cronin is head of goalkeeper development.

Now more than ever, with the Brexit rule not allowing players to sign for players in the UK until they are 18, there is an onus on National league clubs to have a plan in place that ensures we are maximising the coaching & training environment for player development.

The smarter clubs will benefit most from this new rule and we as a club need to become leaders in this process instead of waiting for others to take the lead.



MIDWEST
FIRE AND SECURITY

dci

GALWAY UNITED 1 FINN HARPS 0

21/02/2021

Eamon Deacy Park

“Our football at times was very good. Obviously, there is a lot to work on and our final pass did let us down at times but overall, I thought there was a lot of positives.”

Galway United began pre-season with a 1-0 victory over Premier Division side Finn Harps thanks to a Francely Lomboto goal late on in the second half.

It was evenly contested in the opening exchanges, with both sides having a fair share of the ball. The first real opportunity of the game came the way of United in the 17th minute. Defender Gary Boylan found Ruairi Keating with a long ball over the opposition defence and the forward attacked down the wing and tried to find Padraic Cunningham in the box, but the Finn Harps defence was able to block the attempted effort. Finn Harps first chance of the match came in the 21st minute when Adam Foley took a shot just outside the box and forced a fantastic one-handed

save from Conor Kearns. The Donegal outfit continued to press and had a big chance on the 24th minute when a high looping ball into the box was met with a header from Jamie Browne, who narrowly headed the ball over the crossbar.

United grew into the game and had a chance in the 26th minute when Padraic Cunningham was sent in behind the Harps defence but could only head the ball straight at the onrushing keeper. Both teams continued to attack and either side could have taken the lead before the interval, with efforts from Karl O'Sullivan for Harps and Colin Kelly for United, but it remained scoreless at the half-time break.

After a number of changes on either side, the second half began. The first chance of the second half came in the 54th minute when Harps striker Sean Boyd had a powerful strike just outside the area superbly saved by Kevin Horgan.

The following twenty minutes was once again an even affair, with little clear cut chances coming the way of both sides as both defences held firm.



United struck to take the lead in the 84th minute after a back pass error from Harps sent Francely Lomboto in on goal and the striker finished coolly passed the Finn Harps keeper.

The home side retained their one goal advantage for the last five minutes and held on for a well-earned victory on the opening day of pre-season.

John Caulfield's post-match reaction:

The most important thing was that we wanted to give everyone a game so the majority of the squad got 45 minutes and some lads got more, but we were just very happy



Photo : Vinny O'Connor

to get a game under our belt.

It was one of those games where Finn Harps and we were both trying out different things but the lads worked very hard which is great and that is all I can ask for. Sometimes in these games, it is not about the result, it is just about getting the performance in.

“Our football at times was very good. Obviously, there is a lot to work on and our final pass did let us down at times but overall, I thought there was a lot of positives.”
“It is difficult when you are mixing up the team but all I ask of the lads is to go out there, but the

effort in and show a good attitude. A lot of work to be done and that’s what we will be doing over the next week and a half.”

Team:

First Half Starting XI

C Kearns, C Horgan, M Nugent, G Boylan, S Walsh, C Kelly, C Ubaezuonu, S Christopher, M Rowe, P Cunningham, R Keating

2nd Half – Starting XI

K Horgan, C Horgan, M Nugent, K Brouder, M Rowe, S Duggan, D Hurley, C McCormack, M Place, F Lomboto, W Waweru

Subs:

72' Mikie Rowe Off / Stephen Christopher On
| Christopher Horgan OFF
– Ethan Connolly On | Stephen Christopher OFF
– Liam Corcoran ON

GALWAY UNITED 1 SLIGO ROVERS 1

03/03/2021

Eamon Deacy Park

“The whole team played well and there were a lot of positives. There is still a lot to work on but we did create chances which we could have taken but it is just a friendly match and it is all about building up to the start of the season against Shelbourne.” – John Caulfield, Manager.

United were quick out of the blocks and opened the scoring in the second minute thanks to a Padraic Cunningham goal. Conor O’Keeffe lifted a pass down the right-wing to Ruairi Keating and the forward found Cunningham with a low driven cross into the penalty area which the striker coolly slotted past McGinty.

United continued to press and in the ninth minute Keating, who looked lively up front, slipped a lovely pass through to O’Keeffe who found Cunningham with a pin-point cross. Cunningham headed the ball past McGinty but the linesman’s flag was already

raised, Cunningham was adjudged to have drifted off-side. Midway through the half, Conor McCormack was forced off due to an arm injury after a clash in the middle of the park. Caoilfhionn O’Dea replaced the midfielder.

The rest of the half lacked any clear cut opportunities as both teams settled into some bouts of possession, United did have a chance to double their lead in the 44th minute when Stephen Walsh had a glancing header cleared off the line following a corner kick. There were no substitutions at half-time as United lined up with the same team after the break. The first opportunity of the second half came the way of Keating in the 55th minute. Cunningham glanced a header in behind the Sligo defence and Keating showed a real turn of pace to get in behind but the striker was unable to hit the target as he shot his attempt over the crossbar.

Sligo’s first real opportunity of the game came in the 58th minute when an attempted effort from outside the box was well saved by Conor



Kearns to keep United in front.

United made six changes midway through the second half as Stephen Christopher, Carlton Ubazuonu, Wilson Waweru, Francely Lomboto, Christopher Horgan and Mikey Place all entered the pitch. Following an error from United, Sligo scored an equaliser against the run of play in the 71st minute when striker Johnny Kenny headed past Kearns from close range.

Sligo continued to grow into the game and could have taken the lead in the 77th minute when Kenny was slipped in on goal but his effort sailed over the crossbar. The



scoreline remained level at the full-time whistle as United continued pre-season with a positive performance against a Premier Division outfit.

Post-match reaction from John Caulfield:

"I am very happy with today's game, it was a great workout. Sligo were very strong and made us work hard but we did very well and played some fantastic football. We got a brilliant goal and had another two or three chances in the first half which we could have scored. But overall, the attitude and the effort from the lads was brilliant. You could definitely see the stuff

that we worked on in the last ten days came off.

"The whole team played well and there were a lot of positives. There is still a lot to work on but we did create chances which we could have taken but it is just a friendly match and it is all about building up to the start of the season against Shelbourne. The team tired a little bit in the second half and we made a number of changes which can effect the fluency but the most important thing is that the team got good game time. We look forward to the Longford game which will give the players a chance to get more match minutes again."

Team:

Starting XI

C Kearns, C O'Keeffe, S Walsh, G Boylan, D Hurley, M Nugent, R Keating, M Rowe, P Cunningham, C McCormack, S Duggan

Subs:

26' C McCormack Off / Caoilfhionn O'Dea On | 51' M Rowe Off / S Doherty On | 67' P Cunningham, R Keating, S Walsh, C O' Dea, D Hurley, C O.Keefe Off / C Ubaezuonu, W Waweru, F Lomboto, C Horgan, M Place On | 78' S Doherty Off / C Kelly

LONGFORD TOWN 1 GALWAY UNITED 2

06/03/2021

City Calling Stadium

“Certainly in the second half we were playing better, the two lads got great goals and overall I am happy. It is another game under our belt and we move onto training on Monday.” – John Caulfield, Manager

United continue their pre-season with an impressive 2-1 away victory over Premier Division side Longford Town at Bishopsgate.

The opening exchanges in the game were scrappy as both sides struggled to keep possession at times.

The first opportunity of the match came the way of United in the 29th minute. After a Longford Town error, Francely Lomboto had a clear opening on goal but the striker was unable to pull the trigger as the Longford defence recovered just in time.

Lomboto's pace caused real problems for the Longford back-line throughout the first 45 minutes. The young

striker had a superb run through the opposition's defence in the 42nd minute and found Carlton Ubaezuonu with a backheel inside the area. But Ubaezuonu fired his shot over the crossbar after an impressive nutmeg past the Longford defender.

The game remained scoreless at the half-time break as both sides lacked quality in front of goal, United looking the most dangerous in attack.

There were no substitutions for United at half-time as they lined up with the same team in the second half.

United started the half superbly when they scored straight after the break in the 46th minute. Lomboto, who looked dangerous up front all game, latched onto a breaking ball inside the penalty area and fired past Longford keeper Michael Kelly to make it 0-1.

United made four substitutions midway through the second half as David Hurley, Padraic Cunningham, Ruairi Keating and Gary Boylan joined the action.



Keating made an instant impact to double United's lead in the 68th minute when he finished emphatically past Kelly after a back-pass error from Longford Town.

The game came to life when Longford Town responded immediately to United's goal as Dean Byrne controlled the ball inside the area and finished past Kevin Horgan to reduce the deficit in the 70th minute.

Byrne almost scored again a few moments later when he had an effort from outside of the box go narrowly wide of Horgan's post.

Cunningham and Keating almost got



Photo : Vinny O'Connor

United's third goal of the game towards the end of the match. Cunningham hit the post in the 80th minute and Keating shot narrowly wide from a tight angle just before the full-time whistle.

United held out to earn a well deserved and impressive away pre-season victory against Longford Town.

Post-match reaction from John Caulfield:

"I think it was another really good work out. All the players that didn't start the other day got game time, which was very important.

"Longford dominated possession in the first

half but at the same time, I felt we created four great chances.

"Certainly in the second half we were playing better, the two lads got great goals and overall I am happy. It is another game under our belt and we move onto training on Monday."

Team:

First Half Starting XI

C Kearns, C Horgan, M Nugent, G Boylan, S Walsh, C Kelly, C Ubaezuonu, S Christopher, M Rowe, P Cunningham, R Keating

2nd Half – Starting XI

K Horgan, C Horgan, M Nugent, K Brouder, M Rowe, S Duggan, D Hurley, C McCormack, M Place, F Lomboto, W Waweru

Subs:

72' Mikie Rowe Off / Stephen Christopher On | Christopher Horgan OFF – Ethan Connolly On | Stephen Christopher OFF – Liam Corcoran ON

BOHEMIANS 2 GALWAY UNITED 1

21/02/2020

Eamon Deacy Park

Bohemians upped the tempo in the second half but I thought we still played well. We were disappointed with the goals but the lads kept going until the end and got the goal" - John Caulfield, Manager.

United defeated by Bohemians at a wet and windy Eamonn Deacy Park.

A tale of two halves tonight in Eamonn Deacy Park, it was evenly contested in the opening exchanges as both sides had an even share of possession, with John Caulfield's side looked well capable of matching the visitors in pace and possession.

The first opportunity of the game came the way of United in the ninth minute. Ruairi Keating had a menacing run down the wing and found Shane Duggan in the penalty area. Duggan laid the ball off to Padraic Cunningham at the edge of the box and the striker tested James Talbot with a

powerful strike.

A few moments later, United almost took the lead when Shane Doherty raced onto a ball in behind the Bohemians defence but the attacker's attempted finish was cleared off the line by Anto Breslin.

The Tribesmen continued to threaten the Bohemians goal. Further chances fell to Stephen Walsh and Shane Doherty mid-way through the first half, Doherty coming the closest with a header that hit the post. The rain poured down on Corribside as United proceeded to look lively up-front. Bohemians were struggling to deal with United's high tempo.

Both Thomas Oluwa and Keating came close before the end of the half but their efforts hit the side netting. It remained level at the half-time interval, United looking the more dangerous out of the two sides.

There were no substitutions for United at half-time as they lined up with the same team in the second half. The opening interchanges of the second half were more even as Bohemians



began to grow into the game.

The deadlock was broken in the 67th minute when Liam Burt took a speculative effort from 35 yards out which Conor Kearns was unable to save. A superb strike from the midfielder. Bohemians doubled their lead two minutes later thanks to an Oluwa goal in the 69th minute. Oluwa headed the ball into the back of the net from a free that Kearns was unable to gather.

Bohemians started to control exchanges as their Premier Division experience was starting to show. Conditions were also beginning to get treacherous as the rain



Photo : Vinny O'Connor

continued to lash down.

United grabbed a consolation goal just before the full-time whistle in the 91st minute. Place scoring from an indirect free-kick after Hurley laid it off to the forward inside the box. Bohemians held onto their one-goal advantage as the full-time whistle came soon after. Another productive work-out for United who may feel unlucky to lose this pre-season game.

Post-match reaction from John Caulfield:

"Bohemians are a top team. First half I thought we played really well, we had a good few chances and could have scored

but the lads worked very hard.

"The conditions were desperately difficult but they were difficult for both sides. Bohemians upped the tempo in the second half but i thought we still played well. We were disappointed with the goals but the lads kept going until the end and got the goal.

"It was a great work-out once again and I am very happy with that.

"The main thing is that our football is very good and overall it is going to be a huge season for us and highly competitive."

Team:

Starting XI

C Kearns, C O'Keeffe, S Walsh, M Nugent, R Keating, S Duggan, P Cunningham, D Hurley, S Doherty, C Horgan, C McCormack

Subs:

75' P Cunningham, R Keating, S Doherty Off / M Place, F Lomboto, C Kelly On | 87' C McCormack Off / C O'Dea On



Every week we'll meet a rival fan to get some lowdown. Tonight we talk to Shelbourne supporter Darren Cleary.

What do you make of Shels' chances this season?

The squad assembled by Ian Morris is very impressive: the spine is a lot stronger than the one that was at the club for last year's Premier Division campaign, which brings with it its own frustrations. Why did we enter into that campaign without significantly strengthening? Attacking-wise in particular, Shels are a lot stronger. Those who left have been replaced with the likes of Yoyo Mahdy, who is one of the most highly-rated young forwards in the country and wasn't short on options after leaving UCD. Michael O'Connor and Glen McAuley could play a key role, and the experience of Brendan Clarke, Ryan Brennan, and Luke Byrne is huge.

How long are you supporting the team?

Shels has been part of my life since I was a kid. I've made friends for life,

travelled to places I otherwise would never have seen, and have many happy memories.

What do you make of the management team?

Again, a little frustratingly, it seems stronger than last year. Jay McGuinness was a big loss from the staff when he left in 2019. The management team was a bit light on experience last year, Alan Reynolds has come in and replaced Craig Sexton. A solid appointment, who will create a good atmosphere and get the players to buy in.

Are things solid off the pitch?

The club is in better shape than it has been for almost two decades, it makes relegation all the more galling. It feels like we sleepwalked into relegation, never particularly fearful of the drop, looked to have enough quality to stay up, seemed safe after the win over Sligo with two league games remaining, and then came capitulation. There are about 450 season ticket holders, the club shop is doing a roaring trade, by every measurable metric the club is in good shape.

Who should we be looking out for?

Ryan Brennan has that spark, fully fit he'll be a handful. If Yoyo Mahdy and Michael O'Connor can strike up a partnership it should be guaranteed goals. Between himself and Colm Whelan they got 30 goals in 18 games for UCD last season.

Do Shels have a weak link?

We were very poor defensively on



Ryan Connolly in action against Shlebourne on 17th October 2014. United won 2-0 in the first leg of our promotion playoff. Photo : Steve Alfred

second balls and dealing with danger in our own six-yard box last season. If that hasn't been fixed something is desperately wrong.

What's your prediction?

Our last match ended 5-2 but could have ended 6-6. I'm going 1-0 Shels, Yoyo to open his account.

Will you be at the match?

I will, luckily as part of the Shels media team I was privileged to get to all of our games last season. I shouldn't say it because I don't want to seem ungrateful. I know people would do anything to be at the games. But football behind closed

doors is awful, without supporters it's a soulless and vapid experience. It wasn't until it was all stripped back that I realised that what made it such an important part of my life wasn't the actual 90 minutes of watching two teams scrap, but everything that comes with that night.

Who at Galway are you afraid of?

Trying to shake off the PTSD of last year's cup pasting, if I never see Ronan Manning again it will be too soon! Ubaezuonu could have a big year, he has the attributes. Always liked the look of him. I hear good things about Mikey Place as well.

THE STATZONE

WITH PADRAIC COLLINS & JULIAN CANNY

HEAD TO HEAD

GALWAY UNITED -V- SHELBOURNE FC

PLAYED

73

WON

17

DRAW

18

LOST

38

GOALS FOR

86

GOALS AGAINST

128

FORM HOME

LWDWL

FORM AWAY

WLLLL

FIRST DIVISION RECORDS

PLAYED

10

WON

1

DRAW

1

LOST

8

GOALS FOR

8

GOALS AGAINST

21

POSITION

-
OPTS

LAST PLAYED

GUFC 2-5 SFC

28-8-2020

POSITION

-
OPTS

0 - 1 33' D. Rooney
E. Curran 52' 1 - 1
1 - 2 71' C. Kidduff
M. Place 73 2 - 2
2 - 3 79' R. Brennan
2 - 4 84' D. Rooney
2 - 5 90' A. Dobbs

AVERAGE AGE

23.4 24.9

BIGGEST VICTORY 2020

2-6 2-5

V LONGFORD

V GALWAY UNITED

TOP GOALSCORERS 2020

MIKEY PLACE - 4

GARY DEEGAN - 3

DIVISION 1 TABLE

	P	W	D	L	F	A	D	PTS
1 Athlone Town	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
2 Bray Wanderers	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
3 Cabinteely	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
4 Cobh Ramblers	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
5 Cork City	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
6 Galway United	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
7 Shelbourne	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
8 Treaty United	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
9 UCD	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
10 Wexford	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

FIXTURES

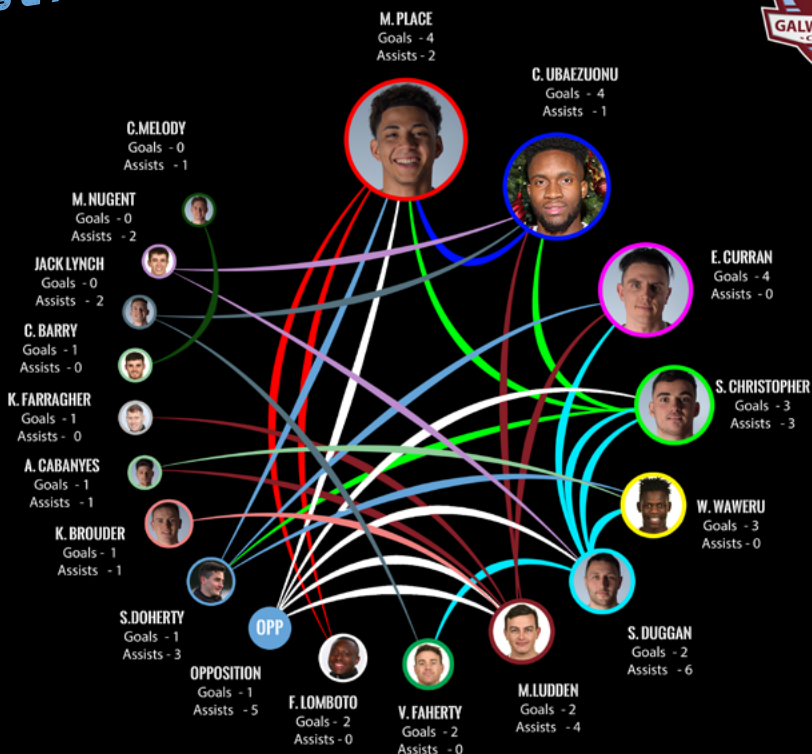
Bray Wanderers	V	Treaty United
Galway United	V	Shelbourne
Cork City	V	Cobh Ramblers
UCD	V	Athlone Town
Wexford	V	Cabinteely

TOP GOALSCORERS - 2020

Y. Mahdy	UCD	15
C. Whelan	UCD	14
M. Doyle	Drogheda	13
B. Kavanagh	Shamrock II	9
R. Manley	Longford	9
R. Manning	Athlone	8
G. Shaw	Bray	8
D. Lynch	Bray	6
S. Verdon	Longford	6
S. Barnes	Cabinteely	5
B. Bermingham	Drogheda	5
L. Kerrigan	UCD	5
K. Fitzsimons	Wexford	4

GALWAY UNITED

GOALS & ASSISTS 2020



GOALS

Mikey Place	4
C. Ubaezuonu	4
Enda Curran	4
S. Christopher	3
Wilson Waweru	3
Shane Duggan	2
Marc Ludden	2
Vinny Faherty	2
F. Lomboto	2
opposition	1
Shane Doherty	1
Killian Brouder	1
A. Cabanyes	1
Kevin Farragher	1
Conor Barry	1

ASSISTS

Shane Duggan	6
opposition	5
Marc Ludden	4
Mikey Place	3
S. Christopher	3
Shane Doherty	3
Jack Lynch	2
Maurice Nugent	2
C. Ubaezuonu	1
Killian Brouder	1
A. Cabanyes	1
Conor Melody	1

MINS PLAYED

S. Duggan	1571
J. Lynch	1412
K. Brouder	1328
M. Ludden	1327
S. Christopher	1164
S. Warde	1135
M. Place	1127
K. Horgan	1126
M. Nugent	1107
S. Doherty	1032
K. Farragher	816
T. Molloy	777

When looking at a football statistic, it makes me think in one of two ways. It confirms what I thought, backing up my preconceived bias I have about a team or player. The other thing it shows me is the gap between what I think and the reality.

You don't need to look at stats to see the impact John Caulfields tenure has had on Galway United results. While the sample size is still small, in the 13 games he has been in charge, we have won over 60% of the games with just under 2 goals per game on average. 2020 was not a normal year for anyone and of all teams, our form both before and after the 4 month break in the middle of the season, epitomises this.

In total we played 22 games, winning 10 (45%), drawing 6 (27%) and losing 6 (27%) scoring 32 goals (1.45 per game) and conceding 26 goals (1.18 per game). Comparing this to the average over the last 4 seasons it shows a slight improvement across results and goals scored and conceded. With Caulfield this is P13 W8(62%) D1(7%) L4(31%) with 25 goals for (1.92 per game) and 17 goals against (1.31 per game).

Two games have skewed these numbers, the 5-2 defeat to Shelbourne in the cup and the 6-2 victory over Longford but even by removing these the signs of improvement are there. Like all cycles in sport, our current upward trajectory is an opportunity for United to re-establish ourselves in a better place.

From the players point of view, such a truncated and fractured season was difficult. Without a proper run of

games, form could have been patchy but thankfully our end of season made up for the poor start. Changes in management, personnel and systems made any combinations between players less obvious.

For me the two standouts are Shane Duggan and Marc Ludden. Duggans 2 goals and 6 assists in 18 appearances is indicative of his influence on our game, particularly in the second part of the season. Indeed it was his late equalising goal against UCD that brought us to the playoffs. His strength of character and never say die attitude will be one of our greatest assets this season.

Mr. Consistent, Marc Ludden has left us for pastures new. His ability to connect across the team will be tough to replace, along with his long throw ability. One player I think may fill this void is Stephen Christopher. With 3 goals and 3 assists, on-field relationships with the likes of Shane Duggan and Mikie Place seems to be building. His drive and energy will serve us well.

Mikie Place has a big year ahead. There is no doubting he has the skill and a steel to his game so hopefully he can push on. With 4 goals and a couple of assists, he has connected well with many players but 2 assists from the frighteningly talented Francely Lomboto could be the start of an exciting partnership up front.

Like many clubs in the League of Ireland with a high turnover of players from season to season, predictions based on stats is a fool's errand. Just 11 of our 24 players were in last season's squad. An average age of less

Year	P	W	D	L	F	A
2020	22	10	6	6	32	26
%		45.45	27.27	27.27	1.45	1.18
2019	31	10	5	16	43	47
%		32.26	16.13	51.61	1.39	1.52
2018	31	12	12	7	46	39
%		38.71	38.71	22.58	1.48	1.26
2017	40	11	16	13	54	56
%		27.50	40.00	32.50	1.35	1.40
Avg. 2017 - 2020		35.98	30.53	33.49	1.42	1.34
GUFC Under John Caulfield						
	P	w	D	L	F	A
	13	8	1	4	25	17
		61.54	7.69	30.77	1.92	1.31

than 23.5yrs, we find ourselves with a youthful attacking squad assembled by Caulfield.

Galways own Wilson Waweru is another player I am hoping to establish themselves in the starting XI. He faces competition from the returning Cunningham, Keating and Kelly. Can he add to his 3 goals from last year and put himself ahead of the pack?

John Caulfield has set his standards incredibly high this year and when Waweru's chance comes, he will need to take it.

Welcome to the 1555th competitive match at senior level for the club!

About a month ago I embarked on a project I had threatened to take on for years: putting together a record of all Galway Rovers/United matches since joining League of Ireland level for the 1976/'77 League Cup.

At this stage I'm pretty confident that my record of 1554 matches, 508 wins, 406 draws and 640 defeats is correct, but there have been a few false dawns. The latest unearthed matches were from the League of Ireland Shield competition in the 1983/'84 season; according to Wikipedia this competition didn't happen! (Updating Wikipedia has been put on hold!)

A quick question to think about: which club have we played most often?

The next stage of the project has been to fill in all the line-ups and goalscorers. This task has involved reading through newspaper archives and reading match reports from each of the 1550 matches. This is incredibly time consuming but rewarding too.

Some gems have been unearthed including goals scored against us by future Irish footballing legends, Paul McGrath and Ronnie Whelan.

I also came across match reports from the first match attended by the programme editor, which brought back memories. Personally I remember seeing an action-shot from one of my first games being printed in the Galway Advertiser and I could see myself in the background; I have yet to come across

this again but those late '80s/early '90s years will be tackled next week.

This raises an important point. We're very easily influenced when we're younger and something as simple as seeing myself in the background of a photo over 30 years ago gave me an attachment to the club that I've never lost. Get them in young!

I hope to complete the whole project by the end of May, as once I reach the mid-'90s and the age of the internet there will be far more resources available to me.

Once complete I will share the records in a series through the programme - looking at all our player records - from Kevin Cassidy with over 300 appearances down to the one-hit wonders!

So back to my question earlier: the answer is Athlone Town who we have met 101 times in competitive fixtures with a record of 39 wins, 30 draws and 32 losses. For those with good memories the 1996/'97 season saw us meet seven times in three different competitions.

If anyone would like to revive memories from their very first match feel free to contact me at cannyjf@gmail.com and I will see if I can find the old match reports.

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KIDS UNITED



PLAYERS QUIZZES ACTIVITIES STATS & MORE

TERRY

THE TIGER MASK



- 1) PRINT ME OUT ON A4 PAPER OR CARD.
- 2) GET HELP TO CUT OUT ALONG THE LINES, THE EYES AND HOLES.
- 3) USE STRING OR ELASTIC BAND TO KEEP IT ON.
- 4) ROOOOOAAAAARRRRRR!



oneills



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ITSA **TRIBAL** THING™

MERCALY © 2019



ILLUSTRATED BY: MORGAN O'BRIEN



TERRY THE TIGER

COLOURING SHEET



HANDWRITING PRACTICE



Trace the letters below

TERRY THE TIGER

GALWAY UNITED

FOOTBALL PITCH

CURRY CHIPS

YELLOW CARD

MAROON VIEW

DYKE ROAD

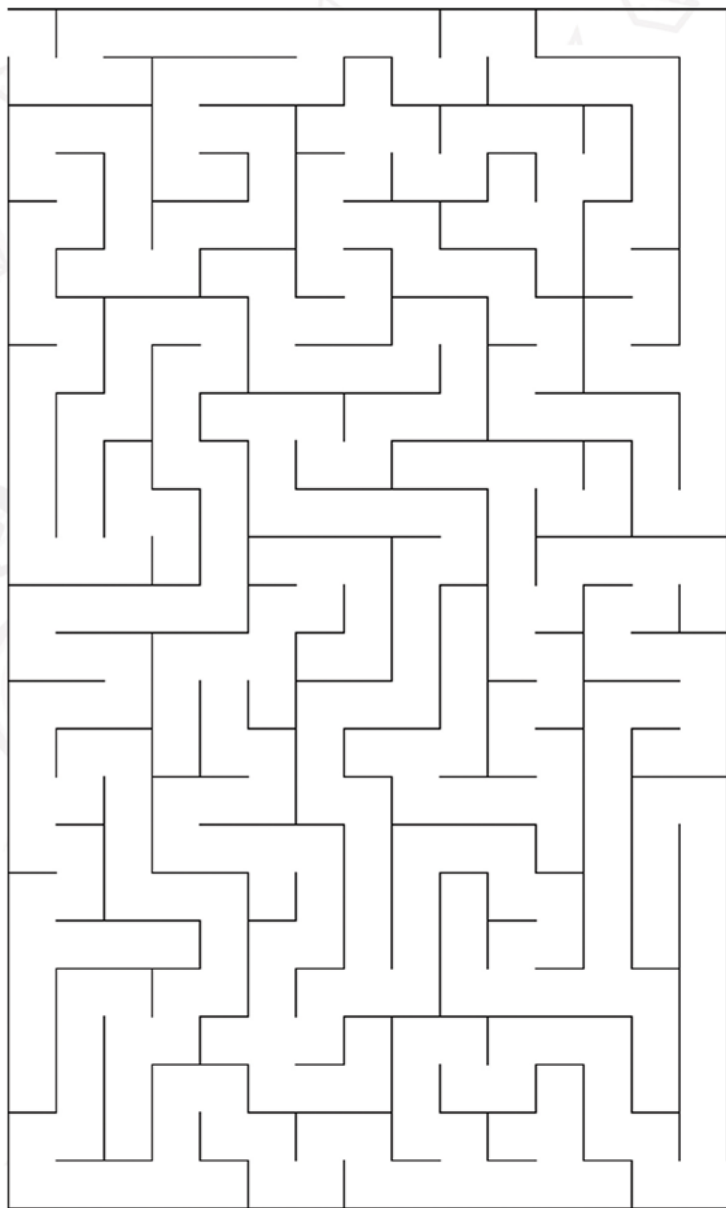
MATCH PROGRAMME

MAROON ARMY

COMER GROUP



SCORE-A-GOAL MAZE



MATCH MASCOTS



Name: Naoise Crotty

Age: 4 years old

From : Nun's Island, Galway.

Hobbies: Super Mario Lego, music, exploring & having the craic!

Favourite thing about Galway United: Terry the Tiger is so cool! I love looking through the gate when we are passing the stadium on the way up Nana's house. I can't wait to go in.



**WOULD YOU LIKE TO BE
ONE OF OUR
VIRTUAL MATCH MASCOTS
PLEASE EMAIL US ON
INFO@GALWAYUNITEDFC.IE**



Noggin Sport are two brothers who are dedicated to raising awareness of mental health in sport.

They're a Community Interest Company, where the profits we make go straight into supporting mental health awareness projects across the UK & Ireland.

Noggin create custom hats and masks for teams, universities and businesses to help spark a conversation on mental health. Their aim is to keep heads in the game for as long as possible through the creation of a unique headwear range, designed to share and promote the positive effects of mental health awareness.

We've recently donated £2000 to charities on behalf of our #BobbleMyNoggin competition winners. Really recently we donated €500 to Pieta House. We were also involved with Dublin's FM104 Mind Your Noggin day which raised over €23,000.

Kieran from Noggin Sportspoke to Maroon View and offers this advice.

What practical advice would you give to younger readers about dealing with the current lockdown and the future?

Have empathy towards yourself - Try to understand that what you see on social media is not what is happening in real life.

We can all very easily get engrossed by social media and the view of ourselves can quickly become distorted as we compare ourselves to those around us.

The connection between mental health and exercise is well known. What are your experiences of the benefits and what should people avoid?

Exercise is a great tool to use to release endorphins, have a positive release of dopamine and enjoy yourself around your friends in a competitive environment. Since lockdown it will be evident that we have maybe lost a step or a yard of pace. By slowly working back into a routine and training regularly, you will be able to quickly get back up to speed and be at your best. The first few sessions will always be the hardest!



RIP FRANK WORTHINGTON



Maroon View would like to extend its sympathies to the family of Frank Worthington who passed away this week. Frank played just twice for Galway United in 1989 against St Patricks Athletic and tonights opponents Shelbourne FC. He made over 840 appearances between 1966-1992 making his name with Huddersfield Town , Leicester City and Leeds United. The photo also features Stephen Lally.

TWITTER WITH KEVIN BRETT

Jack @Jack16Lynch: Not the way we wanted it to end but that's football. A season I don't think I'll ever forget with probably the best dressing room I've been a part of. We'll be back.

Vinny Faherty @vinnyfaherty: All good things come to an end

Ruairí Keating @RuairiKeating: Best of luck Vinny, legend
Padraic Cunningham @PadraicCun: Pleasured to learn from you. Happy retirement boss

Shane Keegan @ShaneKeegan81: An out and out gent who had a fantastic career. I reckon we'll see plenty more of ya in some form or another yet Vin

Gavan Holohan @Gav_Holohan34: What a servant to the LOI, an absolute pleasure to share a dressing room with you vinchenzo. Happy retirement my man

Con Murphy @ConMurphySport: Congrats on a fantastic career Vinny. See you at a match soon

Mayor Mike Cubbard @Mcubbard: All the best Vinny. Legend over the years and no doubt passed on some excellent advice to the next generation

Padraic Cunningham @PadraicCun:

Delighted to be back at @GalwayUnitedFC. Looking forward to getting going!! Hopefully be a good year!

FAIreland @FAIreland: What a night for Ryan Manning as he makes his senior international debut

Age | 24

A former @FAISchools and #IRLU19 International POTY

#IRLU21 Apps | 9

#IRLU21 Goals | 3

A product of @MervueUnitedAFC and @GalwayUnitedFC, and now at @SwansOfficial

Shane Doherty @shanedoh_: Great feeling to be back #GUFC

Mikie Rowe @MikieRowe10: Buzzing to be back in the League of Ireland and excited for the new challenge ahead #GUFC

David Hurley @davidhurley98: Delighted to

sign for @GalwayUnitedFC. Can't wait to get going now

Marc Ludden @marc_ludden: All the best to @GalwayUnitedFC for the future #gufc #3

Lisa Fallon @lisafallonsport: Very grateful for this opportunity. It's been a long road and really looking forward to seeing the footballs rolling in pre-season!

Rob Carr @Rob_Carr: This is an incredibly impressive appointment. United really mean business this year...

Marc O'Reachtaire @o_reachtaire: Wow that CV is impressive, she has no business being in this division really

Conor McCormack @ConorMc22: Delighted to join @GalwayUnitedFC Big thanks to John and all the board for the hard work they put in to make this happen. Looking forward to getting started already

Vinny O'Connor @VinnyGUFC: Delighted. What a player and figure to bring into the club. I hated when we faced Conor in the games against Cork City - He's a leader, tenacious, an absolute winner, and a pest on the pitch. He's a player we've badly needed for a few years. This signing will drive us forward.

Damien Costello @damo_costello: Great work by #GUFC and JC to get this deal done. To entice a player of this quality to the first division is some feat. He is a proven winner and leader. He has won pretty much everything domestically apart from a first division which will hopefully be corrected this year.

Tom Timothy @GUFC1977: The biggest signing we have made since @GalwayUnitedFC signed Neville Steadman from Shamrock Rovers back in the 1980's. I wonder does he have the same dress sense!!!

Ronan Coleman @coleman_ronan: Barcelona FC wishes to confirm that the club has agreed a deal with Galway United for the transfer of Lionel Messi. We would like to thank Lionel for his service to the club and wish him every success for the future.

Terry The Tiger @TheGalwayTiger: Lionel gonna find it difficult to get a game with Podge and Wilson up front!



BORD GÁIS

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FIRST DIVISION**

Wrangler



Champions



Galway United V FinnHarps



£1.00

Terryland Park

Saturday, April 3rd. 1993

V.P. SHIELDS & SON

Kick Off 3.30 p.m.



Galway United V Finn Harps Saturday April 3rd, 1993, Terryland Park.

The one and only time that Galway United won the First Division. Tony Mannion's team were promoted with 6 points to spare.

The 1993 First Division winning team was managed by Tony Mannion. He also managed the club to our two highest finishing positions in the Premier Division; runners-up in 1986 and third in 1994. The final game was against Finn Harps who had four ex Galway United players in their squad; Declan McIntyre, Paul McGee, Colm McGonagle and Tommy Keane RIP. The Galway United team that were on the front page of the match programme were:

BACK ROW: Pa Dunne, Johnny Kenny, Ollie Cunningham, John Brennan, Ronan Kileen, Keith Lambert, Gerry Mullan,

FRONT ROW: Derek Rogers, Peter



Carpenter, Noel Mernagh, John Mannion, Stephen Lally, Eugene Hallion RIP.

The other players in the squad were Eamonn Sherlock, Donal Murray, Damien Murphy, Terry O'Regan, Mick Lawlor, Paul Reidy, Mark Devlin, Jimmy Nolan, Mick Sheehan, Kevin Cassidy, Tommy McDonald & Paul Henry.

Paul McGee played 16 games for Galway United before moving to Finn Harps. He scored 10 goals for United before he moved.

Noel Mernagh, Galway United captain, with the First Division trophy before the game. The trophy was presented by Derek Wilkinson from the FAI.

Compiled by Paul O'Brien who is writing a book about Galway United FC. If you have any stories or photos, please email paulgaillimh@icloud.com or on twitter @GUFCbook

MIKO NOLAN

I was at the under-19 final last year when a lady beside me informed me that her dad played for Galway United. "What was his name?" I asked in the hope that he was one of our most famous players. I wasn't disappointed.

"Miko Nolan," replied his daughter Caroline so I immediately asked her if I could do a feature on him. Miko was an original Galway Rovers/United legend. This guy was teak-tough. Having being brought up in an era of watching Norman Hunter, Tommy Smith and to a lesser extent Chopper Harris, I was delighted to witness Miko playing for Galway Rovers and Galway United.

He was very popular around town because we always love to see a local lad make the team and, along with Chick Deacy, Tommy and Tony Murphy, Gerry Daly, Jimmy Duffy, Tommy Lally, Kevin Cassidy and many other local heroes, the fans loved Miko Nolan.

There was an urban legend that Miko practiced his tackles on lamp posts but I reckon this guy's tackles had the effect of an earth remover.

When I see Kalvin Phillips and before him David Batty and Terry Yorath play for Leeds, I appreciate Miko's value to the side. We all love flair players and ball players, goalscorers and intricate passers but every team needs someone who can make that vital tackle, break up the play, win back possession and stop an attack to be effective.

But there was more to the Bohermore native than just hard tackles! He was quite the midfield dynamo for Our Lady's Boys Club in the mid-'70s alongside other future Galway United stalwarts Kevin Cassidy and John Cleary! These guys featured alongside more other Galway United stars of the future in Chick Deacy, Tommy Lally, Jimmy Duffy, and Mickey McLoughlin for Galway Town as well as lining out for the Galway & District League at the same time.

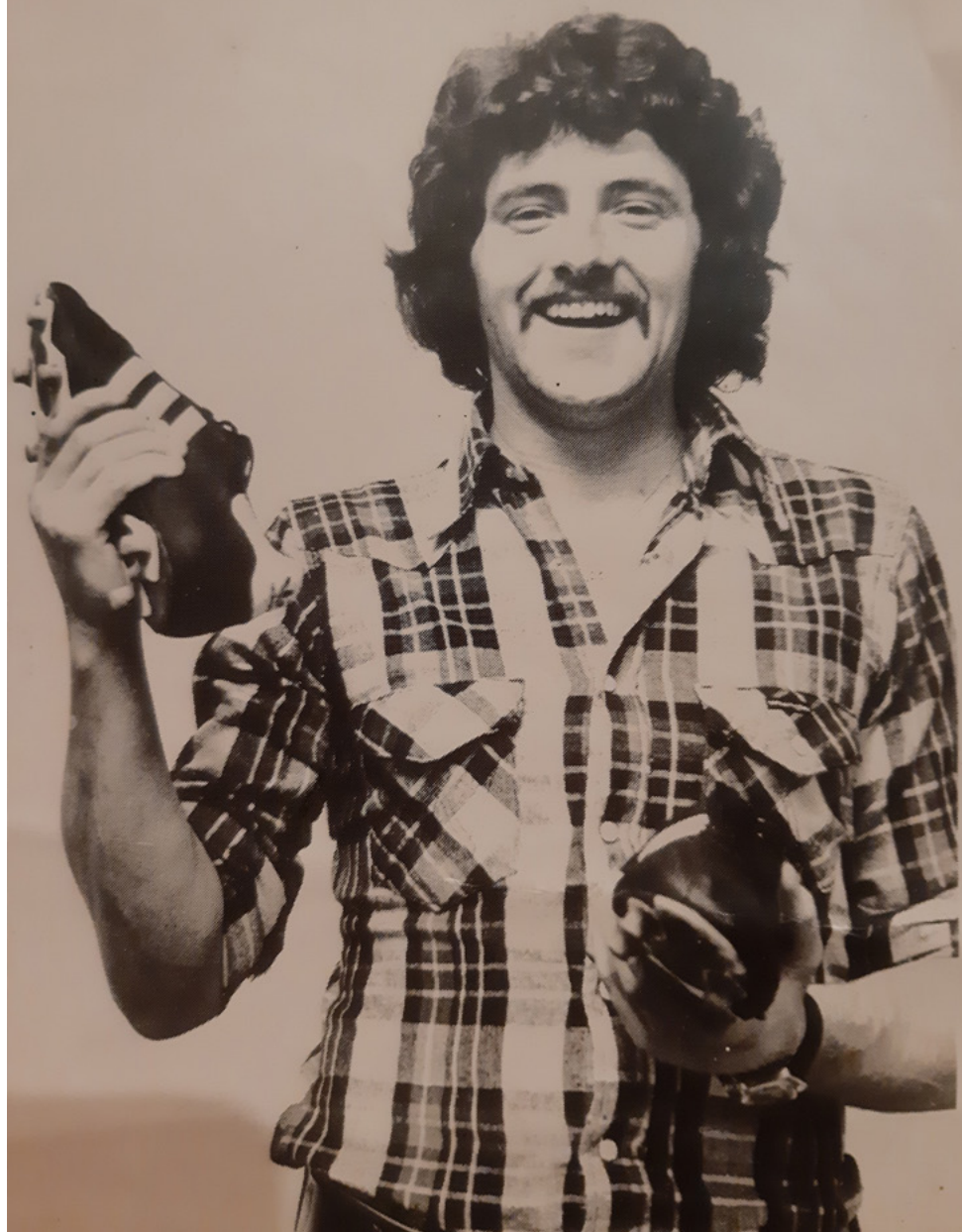
Miko also played Rugby for Boys' Club and Gaelic football with Fr Griffin's where he won County Senior Football Championships and a Connacht Club title. The sporting all-rounder also made the County Senior Football team and he was on the fringes of the Galway Senior side defeated by Cork in 1973.

However, it was Miko's exploits on Galway Rovers' entry to the League of Ireland that captured the attention of us football followers! I was there with my dad when Galway Rovers took part in the 1976 Bass League Cup campaign and played Athlone Town at Terryland. This was the start of a great on/off relationship of supporting the lads that continues today.

Amby Fogarty was the manager of Rovers and Trevor Hockey his Athlone counterpart. Chick, Cass, Tommy Murphy, Tony Collins and Jimmy Duffy also played but unfortunately Tommy was in goal for the midlands team having trained The Tribesmen. It was a 0-0 draw but a cracking match.

As avid followers of cross-channel football many of us were enthralled at the prospect of former Ireland and

Miko Nolan



Welsh International managers locking heads. We knew it was going to be the start of something special. It was a good start as Athlone had surprised the mighty AC Milan in a European tie the previous season.

John Minnock, who missed a penalty in the match at St Mel's Park against the Italian giants, caused all sorts of problems for Rovers but some fine goalkeeping by Eddie Wallace kept it scoreless.

In the second match Rovers picked up another point, drawing 1-1 away to Finn Harps. Miko moved back from midfield to defence and alongside captain Gerry Lyskey did a fine job limiting Bomber Bradley to one goal. This guy was a veritable goal machine and would go on to be record goalscorer in the League of Ireland.

Chick scored the Rovers goal to give them a shot at a semi-final spot in the League Cup. Unfortunately Sligo, with a raft of professional players, proved a step too far and an early goal from future Galway United record scorer Paul McGee (since overtaken by Alan Murphy) proved decisive. The ever-passionate Chick got sent off as Rovers valiantly tried to claw it back. However, the amateur Rovers mainly selected from local sides had done us proud and Miko was subsequently capped on the Irish Junior team versus Wales.

The next season Galway Rovers entered the League of Ireland but had a poor start. Injury prevented Miko from making his League debut until the fifth match against Bohemians. This was a high-quality side featuring Mick Smyth, Turlough O'Connor and Eamonn Gregg. I remember watching Chick; he moved to right-back to check cross-channel target Gerry Ryan, to literally blank out the jet-heeled winger as Rovers earned a

hard fought point. The ever-young Amby Fogarty came on as sub and joined Miko and Chick in the referees' book in a blistering duel.

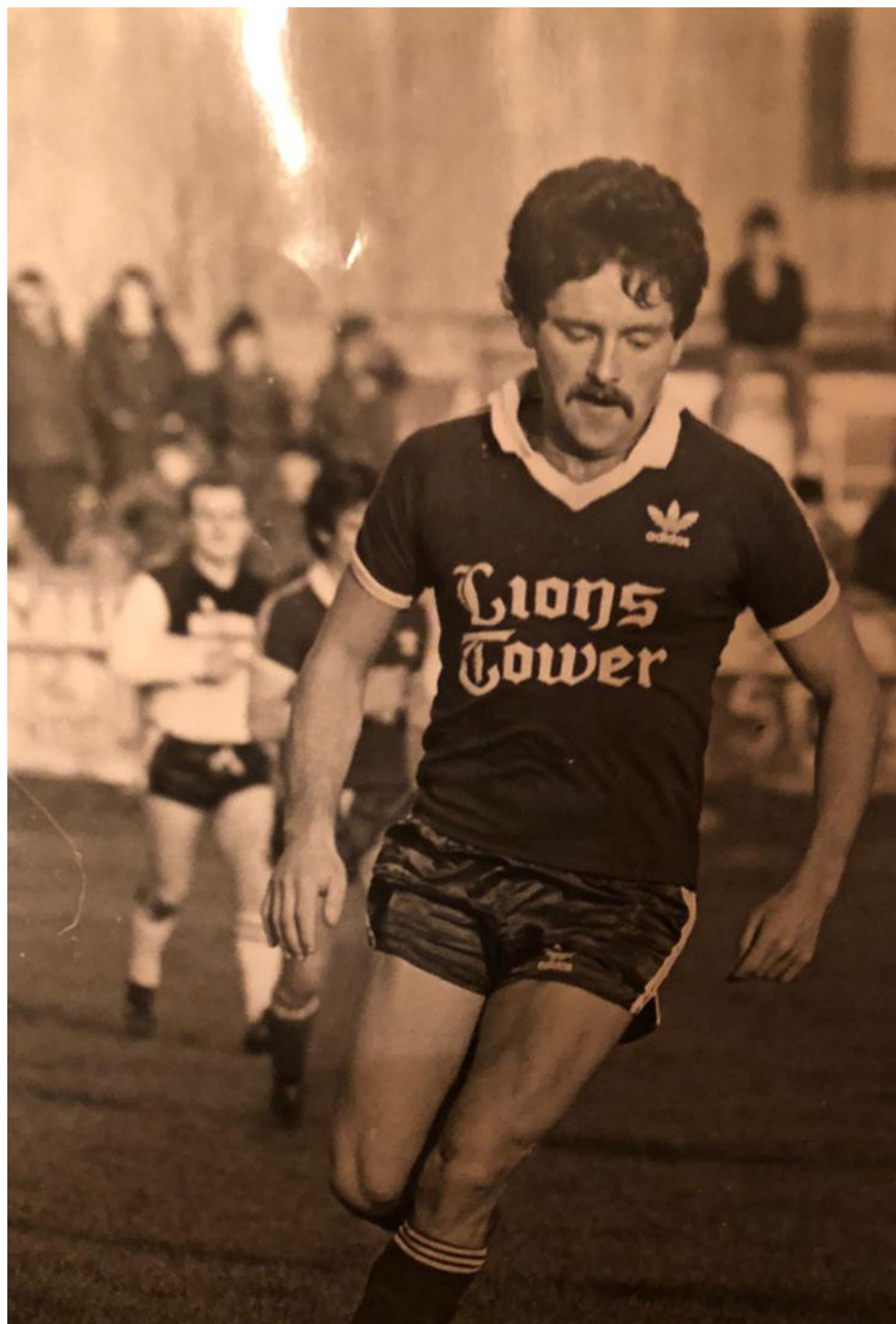
Rovers struggled throughout their first season with former Celtic star Tommy Callaghan being brought in to replace Amby Fogarty and, with the exception of Fran Brennan, it was now an all-Galway-based team. In O'Callaghan's first match the one player who continued to show a hunger for the battle, Miko Nolan, was harshly sent off!

The team now featured, as well as player-manager Callaghan: Tommy McGrain, brother of Celtic and Scotland Legend Danny, with 17-year-old Gerry Daly making a huge impression too. There was a story at the time that every time Miko bought a new pair of boots he scored but unlike tennis star Pete Sampras, who never wore the same shirt twice; this proved economically unviable for the local sharpshooter and the modest club from the west!

Georgie Quinlivan and Kieran McDaid were two of the top performers as Rovers battled to establish themselves throughout that second season in 1978/'79. Miko battled away in midfield and Tommy Murphy switched from centre-back to centre-forward back to midfield and eventually back to centre-back! If Tommy McGrain were compared with Archie Gemmill then I reckon there must have been something of Graeme Souness' style about Miko.

He was teak tough but had the ability to score some cracking goals as well as create many more, none more famous than a scorcher against Dundalk in 1981 at Terryland as the team trailed by 2-1. Miko hit a screamer past Richie Blackmore and the ground erupted!

His tough, never-say-die attitude



summed up the core of the Rovers attitude to senior League of Ireland football. The squad was so wafer-thin that Tommy Lally completed one game in goal with a broken arm! The rugged midfielder got some terrific accolades for his performances that season: "A wholehearted contributor who has added vision to his game with time."

Miko was obviously maturing into his role in the progression of Galway football. He and McGrain became a very effective duo in the middle of the pitch with player/manager Callaghan sweeping up in front of the defence.

In March 1979 the coppersmith from Ballybane gave an interview with a local paper and indicated that he loved playing in midfield due to the constant involvement. He loved attacking football and trained religiously as he felt that led to consistency of performance. Loyalty was a huge factor in Miko's make-up as he only played for one junior club OLBC with his biggest influences being Billy Carr at junior level and Amby Fogarty who gave him his break with Galway Rovers.

He felt the league would benefit from better pitches and facilities for players and better refereeing. "I think referees have a very hard job and I would not do it for any money because everybody is against them." Very true Miko and such a pity that Noel Connolly's perfect pitch wasn't there when you were in your prime!

A great fan favourite, Miko admitted to being inspired by Liverpool hard-man Tommy Smith even if the Rovers warrior felt that he played the game fairly but some players overreacted when tackled which in Miko's opinion defeated the whole purpose of the game.

I know that Norman Hunter and Johnny Giles felt the same thing when

they played for Leeds! Tommy and Tony Murphy, his Rovers teammates, were his first cousins and he also played Gaelic football for St Michael's. In 1973 as well as being on the Galway senior panel the versatile Tribesman also won County Senior and under-21 Gaelic football medals with Fr Griffin's. The 5' 9", 12 stone disco-dancing, midfield general's favourite player was Lou Macari, who played for his favourite team, Manchester United. Well nobody is perfect Miko!

Former Ireland international full-back John Herrick replaced Tommy Callaghan; rumours had it that the Scot was unceremoniously dumped with a note through his letter-box; and believe me this guy put the lads through their paces in training. He had a fondness for running if my memories from UCG days are correct! Herrick was player-manager and well capable of bone-crushing tackles still.

Gerry Daly, Carl Humphries, John Mannion and Mickey McLaughlin were all part of a Rovers team that went on an extended run as Herrick set about turning Terryland Park into a fortress. Miko battled hard in midfield as the determined Galway side reached the League Cup Final against Dundalk, none more so when he powered the midfield to a 2-1 semi-final victory over Thurles Town at Terryland. Unfortunately Rovers were denied a win in the final over two legs. They drew both matches, the first leg at Terryland, losing the second leg on penalties at Oriel Park.

Tommy Lally summed up his all-action team-mate's contribution to the cause: "People don't always appreciate Miko's work-rate. He always gives 100 per cent as a wholehearted player in a defensive midfield role. He is a stopper in the Billy Bremner mould (personally I can't think of higher praise!). One aspect of

his game that is not exploited is Miko's ability to make penetrative passes forward. He was exceptional at this in junior football but he has not been used to perform this talent at senior level."

High praise indeed from The Lal! Miko played for Galway Rovers/United from 1976 to 1985 when he guided the reserves to a unique hat-trick of the Connacht Senior League, the League Cup and The Connacht Senior Cup. That was some team featuring the likes of Gerry Daly, Kevin Cassidy, Ricky O'Flaherty, Brian Long and new Irish Youth Cap Johnny Glynn.

Miko became the first Galway United player to be granted a testimonial which speaks volumes for his contribution to establishing Galway in the League of Ireland. For any of us who saw Galway's entry to the League of Ireland and followed them on wet Sundays, long before we had an elaborate stand, we will never forget the whole-hearted efforts of Miko Nolan.

This article appeared in Issues 1 & 2 of the Maroon View 2020. Both games were cancelled so it has been reproduced here in its entirety.



GROUND REGULATIONS

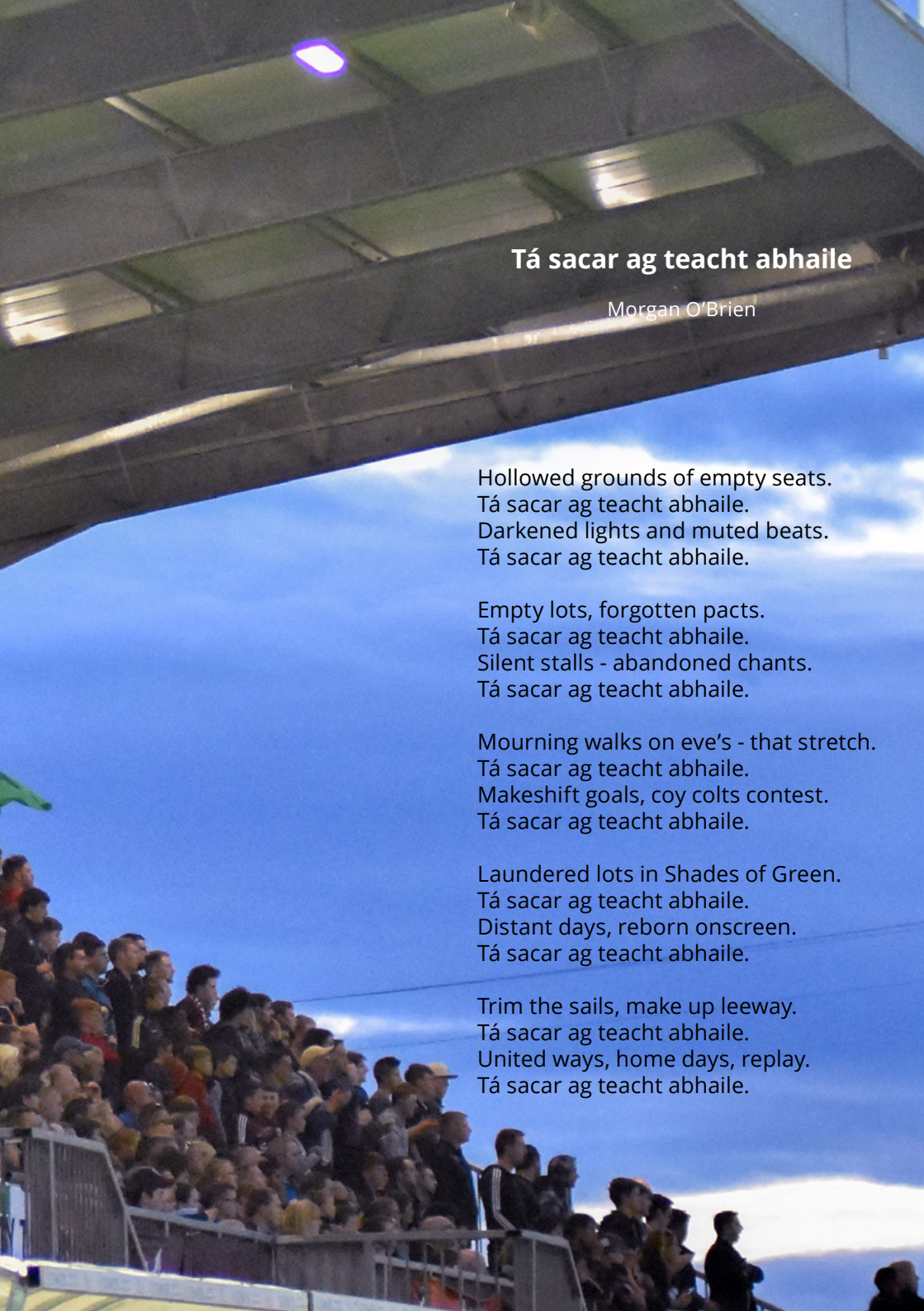
All persons entering Eamonn Deacy Park are admitted only subject to the following ground rules and regulations of Galway United FC. Entry to the stadium shall be deemed to constitute unqualified acceptance of these rules and regulations.

- 1.** Fireworks, laser pens, smoke canisters, bottles, glasses, cans, and other similar articles or containers, including anything which could or might be used as a weapon, are not permitted within the ground, and any person in possession of such an article may be refused entry or ejected from the ground.
- 2.** Offensive banners will be removed and holders of same will be ejected from the ground.
- 3.** The consumption of intoxicating liquors is not permitted and spectators are not permitted to bring alcohol into the ground.
- 4.** The climbing of floodlight pylons, stands, fences or other buildings in the ground is forbidden.
- 5.** Unnecessary noise such as that from the use of radio sets and behaviour likely to cause confusion or nuisance of any kind including foul or abusive language is not permitted in any part of the ground.
- 6.** Any person using racist taunts or language or behaving in a manner likely to be deemed racist towards any other person may be refused entry or ejected from the ground. This applies equally to offensive behaviour of any sort.
- 7.** Under no circumstances is it permitted to throw any object onto the pitch.
- 8.** Spectators are not permitted to enter upon the field of play and will be ejected.
- 9.** Any person who fails to comply with the instructions from a steward may be ejected from the ground.
- 10.** In general, the right of admission is reserved by Galway United FC.
- 11.** Galway United FC reserves the right to refuse admission or eject any person who refuses to be searched by a police officer.
- 12.** Any person who remains in a gangway may be ejected from the ground.
- 13.** Galway United FC reserve the right for its servants or agents to remove from the ground any person who does not comply with the Ground Regulations or whose presence on the ground could reasonably be construed as constituting a source of danger, nuisance or annoyance to other spectators. Eamonn Deacy Park is a flare free zone Galway United FC would like to remind patrons that flares and fireworks are not allowed in Eamonn Deacy Park. Not only are flares against ground regulations but they are a serious hazard and threat to your personal safety.



OFFICIAL CLUB MEDIA PARTNER





Tá sacar ag teacht abhaile

Morgan O'Brien

Hollowed grounds of empty seats.
Tá sacar ag teacht abhaile.
Darkened lights and muted beats.
Tá sacar ag teacht abhaile.

Empty lots, forgotten pacts.
Tá sacar ag teacht abhaile.
Silent stalls - abandoned chants.
Tá sacar ag teacht abhaile.

Mourning walks on eve's - that stretch.
Tá sacar ag teacht abhaile.
Makeshift goals, coy colts contest.
Tá sacar ag teacht abhaile.

Laundered lots in Shades of Green.
Tá sacar ag teacht abhaile.
Distant days, reborn onscreen.
Tá sacar ag teacht abhaile.

Trim the sails, make up leeway.
Tá sacar ag teacht abhaile.
United ways, home days, replay.
Tá sacar ag teacht abhaile.



VS



GALWAY UNITED

KEVIN HORGAN
CONOR KEARNS
MICHAEL GARRIHY
CONOR O'KEEFE
STEPHEN WALSH
CHRISTOPHER HORGAN
GARY BOYLAN
MAURICE NUGENT
KILLIAN BROUDER
MIKEY PLACE
STEPHEN CHRISTOPHER
RONAN MANNING
MIKIE ROWE
CAOILFHIONN O'DEA
CONOR M'CORMACK
DAVID HURLEY
SHANE DUGGAN
SHANE DOHERTY
CARLTON UBAEZUONU
RUAIRÍ KEATING
PADRAIC CUNNINGHAM
FRANCELY LOMBOTO
WILSON WAWERU
COLIN KELLY

MANAGER: John Caulfield

HEAD COACH: Lisa Fallon

ASSISTANT MANAGER: Colin Fortune

SHELBOURNE FC

JACK BRADY
BRENDAN CLARKE
ALLY GILCHRIST
MICHAEL BARKER
KEVIN O'CONNOR
JOHN ROSS WILSON
MAXIM KOUOGUN
ALEX O'HANLON
LUKE BYRNE
GERARDO BRUNA
DENZIL FERNANDES
DAYLE ROONEY
GEORGE POYNTON
RYAN BRENNAN
ALEX CETINER
SEAN QUINN
GERARDO BRUNA
BRIAN MCMANUS
JJ LUNNEY
ALEX CETINER
MICHAEL O'CONNOR
YOYO MAHDY
GLEN MCAULEY

MANAGER: Ian Morris

ASSISTANT MANAGER : CRAIG SEXTON



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COOP

