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MAROON VIEW 2021 #4 GALWAY UNITED VS BRAY WANDERERS
MAY 7TH 2021 - EAMONN DEACY PARK - KO 7.45^{PM}

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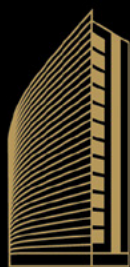
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A person is seen from behind, holding a large, open umbrella with a vibrant rainbow pattern. The umbrella's segments transition through colors from dark blue at the top, through light blue, green, yellow, orange, and finally to red at the bottom. The person is wearing a light pink or lavender long-sleeved top. The background is a blurred city street with buildings and a sidewalk.

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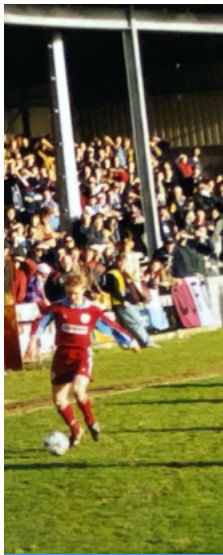
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It is a fate that will befall us all but it was a tragic week for Irish football, with the departures from this world of Alan Keely at 38 and Alan McLoughlin at 54.

Keely, of course, was a son of Dermot, one of the iconic figures of the League of Ireland over the past half-century. Alan Keely enjoyed stints at Shelbourne, Finn Harps and Waterford. He played in the league for almost a decade, enjoying two spells with Shels while also representing Kildare County and Dublin City, two clubs, like Keely, no longer with us.

Alan McLoughlin's death around the centenary of Northern Ireland's founding will not have been lost on many, since it was at Windsor Park during one of the most regrettable football games ever played on this island that McLoughlin was immortalised. The South Belfast ground was a cesspit of hatred that night and McLoughlin's goal ensured Ireland scraped into the 1994 World Cup.

Born into an Irish family in Manchester, McLoughlin was called up to the Ireland B squad in early 1990, scoring in a 4-1 win over England in a 'B' international in Turner's Cross in March of that year. McLoughlin made his first team debut for Ireland in a pre-World Cup friendly against Malta in June 1990.

He was included in the Republic of Ireland squad for both Italia 90 and USA 94. He won the Republic of Ireland Player of the Year award in 1996 and earned his final cap in a fateful 1-1 draw against Macedonia in November 1999. In 2012, he had been diagnosed with a kidney tumour and underwent

a successful operation. However, in November 2019, he received news that his cancer had spread to his remaining kidney, chest wall and lung.

The death of the two ex-footballers show how precious and volatile life is. Ultimately, football is a trivial aside, but at the same time we feel privileged to be able to live and breathe the air in Galway night; to bear witness to two teams competing against each other; to look forward to the days when we can meet our fellow supporters again; to understand that we must enjoy our time on this earth.

United's players certainly enjoyed their trip to Cobh. This is a long journey to the south of Ireland and a particularly long journey if you get an unfavourable result but that never really looked likely at St Colman's Park as United enjoyed a convincing victory, albeit against ten men.

The performance against UCD suggested that United were coming to hand and the goals duly arrived in Cobh but a hugely positive feature has been the performances of players off the bench so far. Everyone is itching to get a game.

It is amazing that Bray are six games in and have yet to win any of those. They have lots of talent but an incredible run of injuries at this stage of the campaign. Still, we know that tonight's challenge is a big one, and we welcome the Seagulls to Terryland.

Enjoy the game.



Photo : Ger Ryan

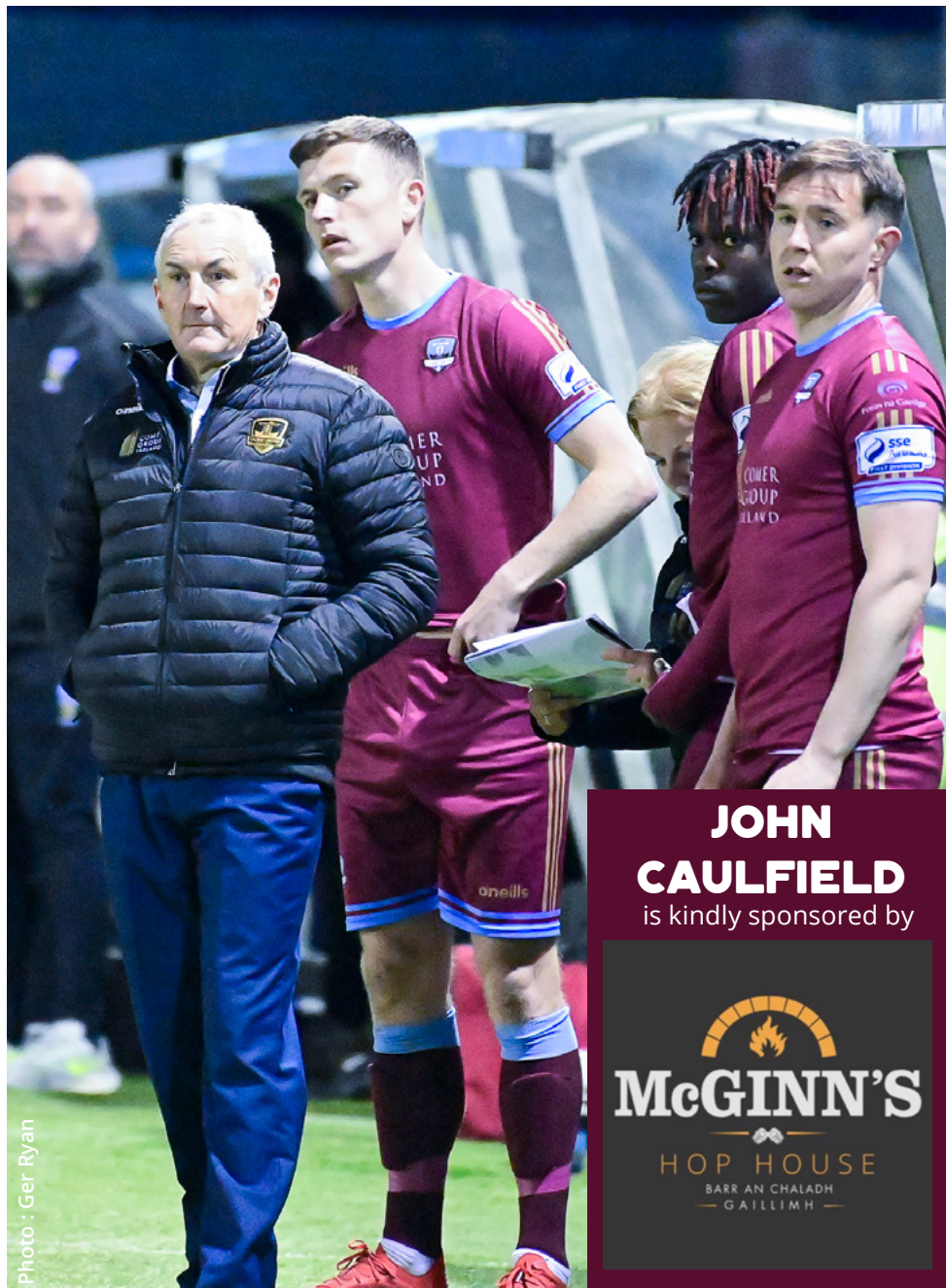


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The win against Cobh Ramblers was a significant boost ahead of two home fixtures at Eamonn Deacy Park.

I keep saying every week that you have to be ready from the start. If your performance isn't good enough, you will drop points.

We knew going to Cobh that the game was going to be on a tight pitch against a hard-working team but right from the start we were at it. I thought that in the opening 25 minutes we were really good. Initially, we had three great chances; their 'keeper made a fantastic save, they had a couple of last-ditch blocks.

Overall we felt we needed the first goal because we had gone behind in most of our games so far this season. Obviously then the ball was handled on the line, Ruairi Keating stuck the penalty, and they were down to ten men. To be fair to them they stayed in the game and they battled hard. We had a couple of opportunities to get a second goal but Podge Cunningham came on and had an instant impact, making a fantastic run which led to him being taken down for the second penalty.

He did brilliantly for the third goal and, obviously, he scored the fourth from a penalty too. It was great to keep a clean sheet and it was nice for the lads to knock in a few goals. The most important thing in the bigger context it brings us into the top part of the table.

Even though it is only early days, we are only four points off the top. During the last couple of weeks, I felt that the performances had turned; Saturday night was an indication of that too.

This will be a very tough match against Bray Wanderers, who have kept most of the squad from last year and have

brought in Conor Clifford, who is a huge signing for them. They have brought in Darren Craven from Malahide, one of the top junior players in the country, and Brandon Kavanagh on loan from Shamrock Rovers. So they have increased their attacking options.

They've drawn with Shelbourne, UCD, Cobh, Treaty, and Cork. They are there or thereabouts and probably just need a win to kick them on. There is no doubt that they will be competing at the end of the season. So we know how difficult this game is.

Defensively they are very good, with Aaron Barry at the back and he marshals them very well. It is another game for us to look forward to, but we have to be at it right from the very start. If we aren't you leave points behind you. It will be no different this week because Bray are one of the top sides in the division.

People are saying about the draws in our home games, but the frustrating thing at the moment is that home games haven't the same relevance when you haven't got a crowd behind you. It is something we are certainly missing because with the buzz around the city and county there is no doubt we'd have a couple of thousand people at the matches.

We are certainly missing that, but the plus is that we are used to playing without crowds. Also the other side is that it looks like crowds will be back in the second half of the season. That will be great.



Photo : Ger Ryan

L leading up to another massive game versus Bray, the mood in the camp is really good. We fought back hard against a tough UCD side. Which then gave us the confidence to go down and comfortably beat a tricky side in Cobh Ramblers.

Every player in the last couple of games gave it everything and that work rate has given us the confidence to get the results on the pitch. It's very important that we set that standard of effort and willingness to win as each game in this league is going to be extremely tough.

We face a good Bray side who will be hard to beat as they've a great squad who will also be pushing for promotions this season. They've been unlucky in a few of their games coming away with draws when they've gone a head. We will be ready for then we've done a lot of work on the training field how they play and their key players strengths and weaknesses.

It's great that our forward players are off the mark, which is very important to us. A big positive for us over the last few games is the quality coming off our bench to impact the game: Podge Cunningham in the most recent games and before that Wilson Waweru; their attitude from not starting the game but coming in and making that vital impact for us. It's a long season and we're going to need everyone in the squad so it's vital we keep everyone fit and sharp.

On a personal note I am happy how we've started; I don't mind filling in any position John asks me to do a job. The most important thing is for us as a team

to come away from games having given it everything we have and hopefully that results in us getting a positive result.

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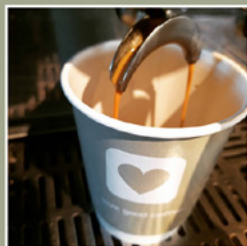
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- offering community-based programmes aimed at better informing, supporting, educating and empowering young people and those around them, in places where they live, learn, work and play
- undertaking pioneering research and robust evaluation leading to transformative evidence
- providing a wide range of e-mental health supports, services and programmes through jigsaw.ie
- rolling out a comprehensive secondary schools programme (One Good School™) aimed at supporting the mental health and wellbeing of young people by developing a shared

responsibility for mental health across the whole school community.

For more information on Jigsaw and the services and supports we provide, please

What our partnership means

We are so genuinely delighted to be partnering with Galway United FC. It provides both

Galway United FC and Jigsaw with a fantastic opportunity to raise awareness of the services and supports we provide to young people in our community.

It also means we will be engaging the Galway United FC's first team players, academy players, coaching staff, supporters, and the wider soccer community in Galway, on the role we all play in supporting the mental health of the young people in their lives. Because our young people need all our help, now more than ever.

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SHANE DOHERTY

'GALWAY UNITED HAS ALWAYS BEEN THERE FOR ME'

Everyone has a story. None comes much more moving than that of American-born Shane Doherty. Club reporter Tom Byrne sat down with Doherty to discuss his captivating journey through life so far and how he is currently living his dream of playing League of Ireland football.

Growing up in Delran, New Jersey, Doherty explains how he was always

intrigued by his Irish heritage, a heritage that resulted in him supporting the Boys in Green.

"I'd be a Celtic fan but I certainly wouldn't be a die-hard," he says with a chuckle. "I have watched the Irish team since I was a child so I was a huge fan of Robbie Keane but as I got older my football inspiration was Wes Hoolahan. I honestly scoured the internet for every clip of him playing. He was such a baller

and still is!

"In my first year with Galway United we played against Shelbourne at Tolka Park, Hoolahan's old club," he adds. "It was a very special moment for me as my Dad was there, who is my biggest idol of all time and always will be. Between that and it also being Wes' first club it was a memorable occasion even though we lost the game."

Doherty began youth football with a Delran side, where his father John was his first coach. After playing with a number of underage teams in the area, he moved to Washington United, who are Doherty's player sponsor for the 2021 season.

"The town where I am from (Delran) is big into football," he says. "When I was younger I signed up for one-on-one training sessions with Carli Lloyd along with my brother and sister. Years later she would score a hat-trick for the USA at the World Cup, which is mad."

"The main sports in the US back then were American football, basketball and baseball," he adds. "I did play baseball and basketball but football was always my number-one sport. Nowadays, it is a top game in the country and there are a lot more academies around. The MLS has improved and grown in the last few years also."

After impressing for Washington United, Shane earned a scholarship for Rowan University, New Jersey. The speedy attacker earned various accolades in college football, including being selected on the All South Atlantic Region First Team, the NJAC All Conference First Team and the NSCAA All America Second Team.

"I enjoyed my time at Rowan, I made some fantastic memories," he says. "My

most cherished memory from my time there was in 2016. My Dad had just been diagnosed with stage-four cancer and he came to my match the same day.

"I scored and we won the game so to see him there was something I will never forget, even though it was a tough day. I have a picture of us from that game as well so it was a special moment. There were probably bigger games and bigger moments while playing with Rowan but little things like that mean a lot to me."

Moving to Ireland to play League of Ireland football was always an ambition for Doherty. After finishing college, he bit the bullet and moved across the water to pursue his dream.

"I have family all over Ireland and they are always super supportive of what I do," he says. "My grandfather is from Donegal and he was always onto me to get my dual citizenship. I knew about the League of Ireland and I did a bit of research on it. After looking into the league, it became my goal to play for a club in Ireland. I finished University and left for Ireland immediately. I didn't even go to my graduation ceremony! All my eggs were in one basket."

Doherty's commitment to the cause was evident as he got a trial with a Premier Division club before Alan Murphy gave him the opportunity to join the Tribesmen.

"I was actually up at Finn Harps originally on trial," he says. "Things didn't work out at Harps but we played against Galway in a friendly. I got in contact with Alan Murphy and with all credit and respect to him, he gave me the chance I needed. He gave me another opportunity to re-sign when I came back to Ireland in 2020 also. I wouldn't be as lucky as I am without Alan giving me that chance."



Photo : Ger Ryan



"It was a crazy time as I was still living up with my cousin in Letterkenny," he adds. "I was taking a five-hour bus journey down to Galway to get to training. I would stay in a hostel and then get the bus back in the morning. I eventually got accommodation in Galway when I was working in Lifestyle Sports on Shop Street. I was willing to do the travelling as I wanted to make it. This was my only hope of making it in football. That is why it is special to be here, this is the club that gave me the chance."

Doherty's first campaign with United in 2019 was cut short due to a deterioration in his father's health. The Delran man went home in July to spend all his time with his father, a decision he needed and wanted to make.

"At that time, moving back home was the best decision I made," he says. "If anything, I wish I had more time with him. At the same time, Dad was upset that I had to come home and cut things

short playing football for a while. It was what I needed to do.

"I was by my Dad's side every day before he passed away. I remember watching the Philadelphia Phillies with him. It was our team, win or lose. That's why I give it my all when playing for Galway United as I know there are fans that get enjoyment out of watching their team play, similar to what Dad and I had watching the 'Phillies'. Sport can bring everyone together."

The winger returned to the West of Ireland in July 2020 and signed back with United for the remainder of the campaign.

"I needed the time when my dad passed away before I came back to Ireland," he says. "At that time, I fell in and out of love with the game. There was probably a spell when I was ready to be done with it. My Dad was the one that went to all my games and when he's not there it doesn't feel the same. Even



when something is going well, it doesn't feel as good. I wanted to give it another shot though and, once I got back, I fell back in love with it. Especially with the run we went on last year, how could you not fall back in love with that?"

The 24-year-old is keen to take it one game at a time under the guidance of John Caulfield and is pleased to be living his dream of being a full-time professional for Galway United.

"John's full focus is on us," he says. "Every match I've played under John, you have the feeling that we can win it. Even if it isn't going well, we still have the belief that we can bring it back. He always instils the confidence that we can get the goal that we need.

"A big thing for me is that I need to work on my game," he adds. "I'm under no impression that I'm some polished player. The full-time training has and will help with improving everyone's game, including my own. The more time I spend around the top coaches at training, the more I will grow as a player. At the end of the day, the goal is always going to be gaining promotion with the team. We are all very way aware of how tough of a division it is. Anyone can beat anyone on their day. The most

important thing is to take it one game at a time."

It has been a rollercoaster journey for Doherty in the maroon jersey on and off the pitch to date. He hopes that he can deliver for a side that he is honoured to be playing for.

"Playing for Galway United is incredibly special," he states. "With everything that has happened to me in my personal life, there have been so many brilliant people to support me in this club. Galway United has always been there for me.

"I'm very lucky and very happy to play here. It means the world to me when I put on the United jersey. There is so much intertwined here, with my Dad, my family, which makes it all the more special. I realise how fortunate I am to be training every day and hopefully we can have the crowds back soon. Anytime you get to play in a League of Ireland match, it makes you feel very lucky."

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Fáiltíonn Gaillimh Aontaithe roimh Fáinnithe Bré anseo i bPáirc Eamonn Deacy anseo tráthnóna. Tá an-mheas againn anseo i nGaillimh ar ár gcuairteoirí agus is mór linn iad a bheith ar ais i dTír Oileáin don chluiche sraithe seo.

Ach an oiread linn féin níl tús iontach déanta ag Bré sa séasúr nua. Is ait linn é seo nuair a chuimhníonn duine go bhfuil talann mar Brandon Kavanagh, Conor Clifford, Gary Shaw, Aaron Barry agus Brian Maher ar bord acu. Go dtí seo níl aon chluiche buaite acu fós agus ní mór dúinne anseo a bheith san airdeall nach nathraíonn foireann Gary Cronin an scéal sin tráthnóna.

Rud amháin cinnte ná go mbeidh a gcuid obair baile déanta ag John Caulfield agus Lisa Fallon faoi láidireachtaí na gcuairteoirí ach cuirfear an béim mar is ceart ar an taispeántas againn féin. Bhí ríméad orainn uilig leis an mbua agus an taispeántas a thug an fhoireann i gcoinne Cobh Ramblers Dé Sathairn. Bhí slacht ar an imirt agus cur chuige éifeachtach le feiceáil ag na Gaillimhigh. Ba mhaith freisean cúpla cúl a fháil i gCorcaigh.

Tá leagan amach na foirne an shuimiúil i láthair na huaire. Áirím anseo an ról cosantach ag an gcaptaen Conor McCormack. Beidh le feiceáil an tionchar a bheas ag an máistir ar chúrsaí agus é i bhfad siar. Tugann an athrú seo deis do David Hurley an ról lárnach aige i lár na páirce a thógáil sa ngeansaí baile. Lasann cumas peile Shane Duggan cluichí go leor agus d'fhéadfadh an páirtnéireacht úr aicsean go leor a dhéanamh.



Dúirt tráchtairé aitheannta ar an bpeil liom an tseachtain seo caite go dtaitníonn sé go mór leis ná go bhfuil ár dtosaithe go léir ar an marc le gairid. Tá cumas Rory Keating aitheannta le fada anseo. Má éiríonn leis na cúil a aimsiú chomh maith leis an obair fiúntach aige ag stiúradh cúrsaí chun tosaigh beidh rudaí ag feabhsú go mór.

Tá Padraic Cunningham ag taispeáint go leor ón mbinse le cúpla seachtain agus bhí tionchar ollmhór aige i gCobh t'éis a bheith tugtha isteach. Ba mhaith an chomhartha é.

T'éis an t-aicsean aige i ngeansaí sinsir peile na Gaillimhe is mór an rud é a bheith ar bord againn féin arís i dTír Oileáin. Peileadóir agus carachtar den scoth.

Níl maith ar bith dúinne anseo a bheith ró-chinnté fúinn t'éis an mbua i gCobh. Má tá tada foghlamtha againn sa tsraith i mbliana s'éen fírinne spóirtíúil ná go bhfuil gach cluiche difriúil agus go bhfuil gach oíche ina chath faoi leith. Tá cás Bré gach pioc chomh práinneach agus atá sé againn féin. Caithfear meas a thaispeáint dóibh.

Is deacair a mhíniú an fáth a thaitníonn cluichí idir Gaillimh agus Bré thoir chomh mór sin liom. Airíonn duine

go bhfuil fáilte roimhe agus gur daoine gnaiúil atá ag tacú le na Fáinnithe. Níl aon ard nósachas ag baint leo. Tá seirbhís saol tugtha ag laoch mar Vincent Kirwan dóibh. Bhí omós acu don Ghaeilge ar nós muid féin agus preas bosca chomh fáilteach agus a bhí sa tír.

Bhí an trua agam Dé Sathairn seo caite do pheileadóirí ban an chondae nuair a bhí droch thoradh acu i Loch Garman. Níl an form baile acu le sonrú chomh mór sin agus iad ar an mbóthar. Tá siad dímhaoín an tseachtain seo rud a chinnteoidh go mbeidh Billy Clery agus Dave Bell ábalta iad a réiteach i gceart don turas acu chuig Shelbourne.

Is maith an rud go mbeidh an stiúir agus taithí sin ar fáil acu. Tá imreoirí cumasacha ansin agus scoth riarthóirí ag tacú leo. Ba mhór an rud dá néireodh leo craitheadh a bhaint as na mór fhoirne fós an séasúr seo. Bhí sé iontach gur tugadh roinnt acu suas ag traenáil leis an bhfoireann náisiúnta an tseachtain seo caite. Guíonn muid chuile rath orthu.

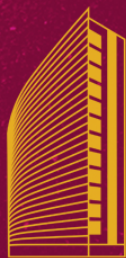




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CAOILHIONN O'DEA




SPONSORED BY

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17 MF

MIKIE PLACE



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GerRyan
PHOTOGRAPHY KINVARA

20 MF

CONOR MCCORMACK



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JIM McDERMOTT & BILLY COMER

22 MF

RONAN MANNING



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TRIBECA
CAPITAL PARTNERS

23 MF

RUAIRI KEATING



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THE CORCORAN FAMILY

7 ST

PADRAIC CUNNINGHAM



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WILSON WAWERU



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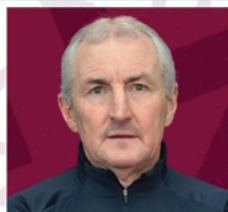
DNG

24 ST



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JOHN
CAULFIELD



MANAGER

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LISA
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1ST TEAM COACH

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ADRIAN
CRONIN



GK COACH

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UNDER 17 STAFF

MARTIN
DEVLIN



U-17 MANAGER

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MD

GERRY
MARTIN



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SPONSORSHIP

GM

GERRY
HEANEY



ATHLETIC
DEVELOPMENT

AVAILABLE FOR
SPONSORSHIP

GH

UNDER 15 STAFF

ANTHONY
O'NEILL



U-15 MANAGER

AVAILABLE FOR
SPONSORSHIP

AON

MICHAEL
FLANNERY



U-15 COACH

AVAILABLE FOR
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MF

COLM
BRANNIGAN



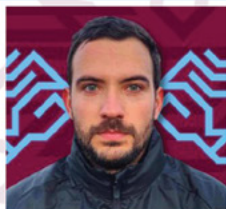
U-15 COACH

AVAILABLE FOR
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UNDER 14 STAFF

XAVI
VAZQUEZ



U-14 MANAGER

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SPONSORSHIP

XV

GARY
TRAYNOR



U-14 COACH

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SPONSORSHIP

GT

JASON
MURPHY



U-14 COACH

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JM



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**GALWAY
UNITED
COBH RAMBLERS**

MATCH REPORT



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**COMER
GROUP
IRELAND**

MATCH REPORT

TOM BYRNE

@TomJournalism

Photos : Ger Ryan

COBH RAMBLERS 0 GALWAY UNITED 4

01/05/2021

St. Colman's Park

“We want to create chances and score goals. We want to be an exciting team so it's great to see the lads make that impact tonight.” – John Caulfield, Manager

Galway United emphatically defeat Cobh Ramblers 4-0 at St Colman's Park.

Galway United began proceedings on a cloudy Saturday evening in Cobh.

It was an evenly contested opening ten minutes, with both sides

settling into the game.

United had the first opportunity of the match in the 13th minute. Former Ramblers man David Hurley slid a delicate pass into Shane Duggan and the midfielder found Mikey Place at the back post, but the attacker was unable to get a connection on his attempted volley.

A few minutes later, Stephen Walsh almost put United in front from a Conor McCormack corner but Sean Barron made a fantastic save to stop the defender's header.

The Tribesmen continued to put pressure

on the Cobh backline as they searched for the opening goal, which came in the 19th minute.

McCormack lofted a free-kick into the opposition penalty area which the Cobh defence were unable to deal with. The ball was headed goalwards by Ruairi Keating but his effort was stopped on the goal line by the hand of Charlie Lyons, who prevented a certain goal. Lyons was subsequently sent off by referee Gavin Colfer and a penalty awarded to United.

Keating took the resulting penalty and made no mistake from 12 yards as he struck it past



Barron to give the away side the advantage.

The extra man was paying dividends for United as they began to take control of the game.

A further half-chance fell to Keating midway through the first period but ten men Cobh weathered the United storm to go into the break just one down.

The home side got the game back underway in the second period.

United were keen to take advantage of the extra man as they searched for the second goal early on in the half.

Place sent Keating in behind in the 56th minute and the attacker tried to catch Barron out at his near post but the Cobh shot-stopper did well to stop his strike.

Cobh fought back, as they chased for an equaliser. Half-chances fell for the Rams outside the box but they were unable to test Conor Kearns.

Substitute Padraic Cunningham made an immediate impact in the 70th minute. The striker took on Naythan Coleman in the penalty area and was taken down by the Cobh defender. Another

penalty awarded to United.

Keating stepped up to the penalty spot once again and duly converted to double United's lead as he sent Barron the wrong way.

As Cobh pushed players forward, United began to find gaps in the home side's defence. Cunningham, who looked lively since his introduction, got in behind the Cobh backline in the 79th minute and searched for a United player in the area. His low cross was put into his own net by John Kavanagh to make it 0-3 United.

It was an impressive finish to the game from the Tribesmen as they sealed victory with a fourth goal.

Substitute Carlton Ubaezuonu raced down the wing in the 91st minute and crossed a low ball into the box which fell at the feet of Mikie Rowe. Rowe jinked past Kavanagh and was taken down by the defender in the area, a third penalty awarded to United. Padraic Cunningham took the spot-kick and confidently sent Barron the wrong way to make it a resounding victory for the away side.

Post-match reaction from John Caulfield:

"It was great to come to Cobh, keep a clean-sheet and get the four goals.

"You could see that the team had a bit of

confidence tonight and we played very well at times. It is always a difficult venue to come to and win, so we are very happy with that.

"We want to create chances and score goals. We want to be an exciting team so it's great to see the lads make that impact tonight.

"You need players coming off the bench and making a difference. We saw Padraic Cunningham and Mikie Rowe come on and do that this evening.

"Hopefully, the goals and the victory will drive us on from now. We have an important game against Bray next week."

Galway United

Kearns, Walsh (Ubaezuonu 85'), Boylan, Brouder, Keating (Kelly 85'), Duggan (Christopher 81'), Hurley, Waweru (Rowe 46'), Place (Cunningham 69'), C. Horgan, McCormack

Goalscorers: Ruairi Keating (19', 71'), John Kavanagh O.G. (79'), Padraic Cunningham (92')

Cobh Ramblers

Barron, Kavanagh, Walsh, Devitt, Lyons, Turner, (Hegarty 73') Cooper, O'Leary, Murphy, Coleman, O'Reilly

Booked: Walsh (22'), Turner (57'), Kavanagh (91')

Sent Off: Charlie Lyons (18')

Referee: Gavin Colfer



SSE Airtricity. Official Sponsor of the First Division.



Every week we'll meet a rival fan to get some lowdown. Tonight we talk to Wanderers supporter Vincent Kirwan.

What do you make of Bray's chances this season?

Pre-season I would have said that I was confident that Bray would be challenging for automatic promotion while knowing that yourselves, Shelbourne, Athlone and UCD would be strong. However, at this stage, I'd say Bray fans would take a place in the playoffs. We hadn't a fit striker available for any of our first five games and last weekend seven players were unavailable for selection.

How long are you supporting the team?

I have been a Bray fan for maybe 67 years and have had many good times: two FAI Cup wins, three League titles and promotions and trips to Turkey and Switzerland in European competition, all since Bray entered the league in 1985. Before that there were many successes

at the junior level: FAI Junior Cup, Leinster Junior Cup and Metropolitan Cup wins as well as Leinster Senior League titles. Then there were the disappointments of relegations and Cup final and semi-final defeats and near-misses like last season, losing out on the final day of the season. Some amazing memories and more importantly so many friends made around the League.

What do you make of the management team?

Manager Gary Cronin is in his third season with Bray and he and his coaching staff are doing a fine job. Bray are playing some excellent football but so far this season you could say Gary is having to work with his hands tied behind his back so serious have his injury problems been. He has yet to be able field his strongest eleven.

Are things solid off the pitch?

Off the pitch everything is fine, the club is in good hands and I would have no worries on that front. Our owners are good businessmen that know football and that's what you want for a successful club. It's not just what happens on the field, it's also what the club means to the wider community.

Who should we be looking out for?

Brandon Kavanagh joining from Shamrock Rovers on loan for the season is a big plus and then add in Conor Clifford, the midfield wizard who came from Derry City; these two will surely keep you guys on your toes.

Do Bray have a weak link?

Our weakness is we are finding it difficult to hit the back of the net. But hopefully, the tide will turn at Eamonn Deacy Park tonight.



Galway United Conor Melody is tackled by another former United player John 'The Truck' Sullivan on 23rd June 2017. Bray Wanderers won this one 2-1 with goals from Anthony Flood and Mark Salmon. Stephen Folan scored Uniteds goal. Photo : Sean Ryan

What's your prediction?

We are short on strikers so goals will be few while I know you guys scored four against Cobh last Saturday. I feel the Bray defence are strong enough to keep your firing line at bay so I'll say Galway Utd. 0 Bray Wanderers 1. Don't forget we owe you one after what you did to us last season!

Will you be at the match?

Sadly no I won't be able to be there, I'm having my second Covid jab on

Friday afternoon. However thanks to Loitv.ie I'll be able to watch the game.

Who at Galway are you afraid of?

Bray will never go into a game afraid, because if you are afraid there is no point in stepping over the whiteline. We know that you have a strong squad but at the end of the day it's 11 against 11 and may the best team win and may that team be Bray Wanderers!

THE STATZONE

WITH JULIAN CANNY & SHANE CROTTY

HEAD TO HEAD

GALWAY UNITED -V- BRAY WANDERERS

| PLAYED | WON | DRAW | LOST |
|--------|-----|------|------|
| 63 | 24 | 14 | 25 |

| GOALS FOR | GOALS AGAINST | FORM HOME | FORM AWAY |
|-----------|---------------|-----------|-----------|
| 85 | 87 | W D D L D | D D L D D |

FIRST DIVISION RECORDS

| PLAYED | WON | DRAW | LOST |
|--------|-----|------|------|
| 14 | 3 | 5 | 6 |

| GOALS FOR | GOALS AGAINST |
|-----------|---------------|
| 16 | 21 |

| POSITION | LAST PLAYED | POSITION |
|-------------|------------------------------------|-------------|
| 6TH 2PTS | BRAY 0-1 GUFC 31-10-2020 | 7TH 8PTS |

0 - 1 81' W. Waweru

TOP GOALSCORERS 2020

| | |
|---------------------|----------------------|
| RUAIRÍ KEATINGE - 3 | BRANDON KAVANAGH - 3 |
|---------------------|----------------------|

| AVERAGE AGE | CLEANSHEETS |
|-------------|-------------|
| 23.4 17.9 | 2 3 |

| FAILED TO SCORE | BIGGEST VICTORY |
|-----------------|-----------------|
| 1 3 | 4-0 - |

| SCORED/CONCEDED p/m | AVG. TIME 1ST GOAL SCORED |
|---------------------|---------------------------|
| 1.6 / 1.2 0.83 / 1 | 58' 29' |

FIXTURES

GAMEWEEK 7

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

RESULTS

GAMEWEEK 6

| | | |
|----------------|-------|---------------|
| Bray Wanderers | 0 - 0 | Cork City |
| Athlone Town | 1 - 2 | Cabinteely |
| Wexford | 0 - 6 | UCD |
| Shelbourne | 2 - 2 | Treaty United |
| Cobh Ramblers | 0 - 4 | Galway United |

DIVISION 1 TABLE

| | P | W | D | L | F | A | D | PTS |
|------------------|---|---|---|---|----|----|-----|-----|
| 1 Athlone Town | 6 | 4 | 1 | 1 | 12 | 6 | 6 | 13 |
| 2 UCD | 6 | 3 | 3 | 0 | 18 | 5 | 13 | 12 |
| 3 Shelbourne | 6 | 3 | 3 | 0 | 12 | 7 | 5 | 12 |
| 4 Treaty United | 6 | 2 | 4 | 0 | 7 | 5 | 2 | 10 |
| 5 Cabinteely | 5 | 3 | 0 | 2 | 7 | 9 | -2 | 9 |
| 6 Galway United | 5 | 1 | 3 | 1 | 8 | 6 | 2 | 6 |
| 7 Bray Wanderers | 6 | 0 | 5 | 1 | 5 | 6 | -1 | 5 |
| 8 Cobh Ramblers | 6 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 5 | 13 | -8 | 5 |
| 9 Cork City | 6 | 1 | 1 | 4 | 4 | 8 | -4 | 4 |
| 10 Wexford | 6 | 0 | 0 | 6 | 2 | 15 | -13 | 0 |

TOP GOALSCORERS

| | | |
|---------------|------------|---|
| C. Whelan | UCD | 8 |
| B. Kavanagh | Bray | 3 |
| R. Keating | Galway Utd | 3 |
| L. Kerrigan | UCD | 3 |
| S. Meaney | Athlone | 3 |
| R. Brennan | Shelbourne | 2 |
| K. Byrne | Athlone | 2 |
| D. Casey | Cabinteely | 2 |
| C. Coleman | Cork | 2 |
| P. Cunningham | Galway Utd | 2 |

Today sees the club take part in the 1565th competitive match and the 64th against Bray Wanderers.

This will be the 15th regular-season First Division meeting between the clubs (not including last season's promotion playoff). Last weekend's win at Cobh was the 42nd meeting between the clubs in the lower tier of League of Ireland, Cobh being the club we have faced most often at this level (Athlone with 38 Division 1 encounters the next most frequent).

Back to Bray and those who like a nice symmetry in their lives will be hoping for a two-goal United win tonight!

Of the previous 63 meetings in all competitions, Bray lead by 25 wins to 24 having scored 87 goals compared to 85. A two-goal home win would see everything perfectly level!

One unusual stat of the encounters that was finally broken in the 61st meeting last year was that the clubs had never played out a 0-0 draw; this run came to an end in Alan Murphy's last game as manager on August 21.

On to the archive that I have been working on: I am now satisfied that records are complete and I will publish some of these in coming editions. There are 527 players who have featured for the club since 1976/'77, 54 making just one appearance!

Looking at the record of United's current squad, should Stephen Walsh take the pitch tonight it will be his 209th appearance for the club; this would put him level with Paul Sinnott and Gerry

Daly in 18th on the all-time list: 220 appearances to bring him into the top 15 should be achievable this season but Ronan Killeen's mark of 252 to reach the top ten may require a few more seasons!

Padraic Cunningham lined out for the 88th time against Cobh last weekend, scoring his 18th goal, which puts him into the top 30 all-time goalscorers for the club. Colm McGonigle and Colin Fortune are both one goal ahead of 'Podge' while Ollie Neary, Donie Farragher, Conor Barry and Enda Curran are all on 20 goals for their career.

Maurice Nugent (66) is the only other player in the squad to have played more than 50 times for the club.

In terms of goals the squad is not blessed: another goal for Stephen Walsh would be his 11th putting him into the top 50, joining Marc Ludden and Ollie Keogh.

Carlton Ubaezuono and Wilson Waweru have both notched eight times for the club while Ruairi Keating's brace in Cobh brought him up to four goals in total alongside Mikey Place and Maurice Nugent but behind 94 other players who have scored five or more goals.

FIXTURES, RESULTS & LINEUPS

[illegible][illegible]

SQUAD STATS

| Name | Age | Pos | Min | App | Starts | Sub on | Sub off | Sub | Goals | Yellow | 2nd Y | Red |
|----------------|-----|-----|-----|-----|--------|--------|---------|-----|-------|--------|-------|-----|
| M. Garrihy | 19 | G | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| K. Horgan | 24 | G | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 5 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| C. Kearns | 22 | G | 450 | 5 | 5 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| G. Boylan | 25 | D | 443 | 5 | 5 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| K. Brouder | 22 | D | 187 | 3 | 2 | 1 | 0 | 3 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 |
| C. Horgan | 21 | D | 173 | 2 | 2 | 0 | 1 | 3 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| C. O'Keeffe | 27 | D | 180 | 2 | 2 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| S. Walsh | 30 | D | 301 | 4 | 4 | 0 | 3 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 |
| S. Christopher | 24 | M | 10 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 4 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| S. Doherty | 24 | M | 219 | 4 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 3 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 |
| S. Duggan | 32 | M | 440 | 5 | 5 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 2 | 0 | 0 |
| D. Hurley | 22 | M | 294 | 4 | 4 | 0 | 3 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| R. Manning | 20 | M | 130 | 2 | 2 | 0 | 2 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| C. McCormack | 30 | M | 450 | 5 | 5 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 |
| M. Nugent | 22 | M | 360 | 4 | 4 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 |
| C. O'Dea | 20 | M | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| C. Ubaezuonu | 23 | M | 136 | 3 | 1 | 2 | 1 | 4 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| P. Cunningham | 24 | A | 237 | 5 | 3 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| R. Keating | 25 | A | 442 | 5 | 5 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 3 | 1 | 0 | 0 |
| C. Kelly | 19 | A | 65 | 4 | 0 | 4 | 0 | 5 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| F. Lomboto | 20 | A | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| M. Place | 23 | A | 155 | 3 | 1 | 2 | 1 | 4 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 |
| M. Rowe | 24 | A | 165 | 5 | 2 | 3 | 2 | 3 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 |
| W. Waweru | 20 | A | 113 | 5 | 1 | 4 | 1 | 4 | 2 | 0 | 0 | 0 |

7th May

As May was generally after the end of season in the old “winter” season Galway United have only previously played 4 times on today’s date - and lost all 4 - hopefully not an omen for tonight’s match! All previous matches on this date were away from home.

2003

Sligo Rovers 3 Galway United 2

John Burke; Mixie Harty, Breen Geraghty, Kevin Walsh, Mike Quirke; Tony Folan, Nigel Keady, Stephen Maguire, Alan Quinlan (Padraic Lee); Barry Moran, Dave Goldbey

Galway United lost 3-2 at the Showgrounds in this League Cup Group game. United would beat a Mayo League XI the following week but Sligo Rovers topped the group and qualified.

Barry Moran put United ahead after 22 minutes and after having fallen behind in the second half Moran equalised before a late winner for Sligo who were managed by ex-United manager Don O’Riordan and included a number of his former players at this time in Galway.

2004

Bray Wanderers 1 Galway United 0

Alan Gough; Nigel Keady, Conor Frawley, Ronan Frawley, Mike Quirke; John Russell, Colin Fortune, Mixie Harty, Adrian Carberry (David O’Dowd); Barry Moran, Dave Goldbey (Ryan Casey)

Galway United lost 1-0 to a Kieran ‘Tarzan’ O’Brien goal at the Carlisle Grounds in the First Division match.

This was United’s 8th match of the league season having picked up 11 points from the opening seven.

Ultimately it was a disappointing season under Tony Mannion, finishing 5th, 13 points behind Bray who finished 3rd - the last automatic promotion place to an expanded Premier Division for the 2005 season.

2010

Shamrock Rovers 2 Galway United 0

Barry Ryan; Thomas Heary (Tom King), Jamie McKenzie, Paul Sinnott, Rhys Meynell; Bobby Ryan, Gary Curran, Cian McBrien, James Creaney (Ciaran Foley); Karl Sheppard (Jonathan Keane), Anto Flood

Two second half goals from Stephen Rice and Dan Murray saw United lose to eventual champions Shamrock Rovers at Tallaght Stadium. A late penalty miss by Anto Flood rubbed salt in the wounds.

The same week the United trio of Stephen O’Donnell, Seamus Conneelly and Karl Sheppard were called up to a home based Irish u23 squad.

2018

Finn Harps 1 Galway United 0

Tadgh Ryan; Gary Shanahan, Robbie Williams, Maurice Nugent, Stephen Walsh; Conor Barry (Stephen Kenny), Conor Melody (Danny Furlong), Ryan Connolly, Carlton Ubaezuono (Conor Layng); Eoin McCormack, Alan Murphy

A Monday night trip to Ballybofey for Shane Keegan's team ended in disappointment with an injury time winner from ex-United player Jesse Devers.

United came into the game on the back of two 3-0 wins but inconsistency was an issue for United and the 6th placed finish in Division 1 was the joint-worst in the club's history.

Finn Harps finished 2nd and qualified for a Promotion/Relegation playoff which they won courtesy of a dramatic injury-time equaliser to beat Limerick.



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FlirtFMSport @FlirtFMSport: #GUFC HT: Galway United 0 UCD 1

Sickener of an end to the half as United switched off when down to 10: Had been better team and looked best they have all season:

Big second half coming up

Ronan Coleman @coleman_ronan: @Padraic-Cun gives the @UCDAFC defence a tutorial !

Gaillimh Aontaithe @GalwayUnitedFC: A big shout out to all the talented local bands, which we showcased on our streaming of tonight's game.

@NewDad

@dannydarcy72

@DolanEoin

@Rofi_James

Eoin Dolan @DolanEoin: Thanks a million!

A great community club supporting local artists. Myself and James Casserly (drummer) have been part of the United family since we were kids. To have my work associated with Galway Utd is a massive honour

Rofi James @Rofi_James: Thanks for playing our song last night! We're big fans of the club and can't wait for the rest of the season

Galway United Archive @gufcarchive: Todays match at St Colmans Pk will be our 60th meeting with @CobhRamblersFC. We've beaten them 27 times and lost 18. 41 of the matches have been in Division One, 11 Premier Division.

FAI Cup Cup : 2 (one win each)

League Cup : 3

First Division Shield : 2 (both scoreless draws)

Dylan O'Connell @JudgeDyl: My game today is Cobh Ramblers vs Galway United.

Former Cork City team mates Stuart Ashton and John Caulfield will have their friendship split for 90 minutes this evening.

Live updates, report, and reaction to come on @ExtratimeNews

Julian Canny @juliancanny: Only one of them has played for Galway United.

Dylan O'Connell @JudgeDyl: Aston has had a brilliant career. Even got yourselves into Europe!

Enda Curran @EndaCurran1: Saturday night sport is sorted! @GalwayUnitedFC down in cobh and the boxing on laptop!

Rob Carr @Rob_Carr: Watching @GalwayUnitedFC play @CobhRamblersFC on LOITV. The productions values aren't exactly Sky Super Sunday (and I'm not expecting them to be) but I'm loving the local commentary. Commentators showing passion for the league and great depth of knowledge about both teams.

cueoneireland @Cueoneireland: @Pixel-lotltd is a great system for what it does. If anything it will promote the game and also unearth a lot of undiscovered commentary talent. Unfortunately the camera is controlled by Ai so it tracks the ball. I think the sea gulls in Cobh might be a factor

Diarmuid Naughton @DN77: It would be great if the FAI would invest in the clubs and support some of the excellent work done by volunteers last season. The production quality of a lot of streams was streets ahead of the pixelot setups.

Cian O'Connell @oconnc62: 19 mins goal for @GalwayUnitedFC - Ruairi Keating penalty. First time United have led in a league game this season

Mark Cobey @cobes1976: Good player ruairi good result there always a hard place to go and Win.

GerardAnthonyB @GerardAnthonyB: Probably our quota of pens out of the way for the season #gufc

Laura Nolan @Lauran975: Great result. Man of the Match goes to @QBALL123456789 for his match videos. Thanks a million Dave

Jonathan @Voyeurism1011: Great win for Galway United. Hon the boys.



1992. Two of the greatest midfielders playing against other; John Mannion (Derry City) and Gerry Mullan (Galway United) in a game at Terryland Park. Mullan played 305 times for Galway United. Mannion played 318 times for Galway United. John's brother Tony managed Galway United over three stints.



2002. Darragh Sheridan running along the wing in Terryland Park. Sheridan played 112 times for United. When he was a child, he was programme seller at home games. His brother Declan played 19 times for Galway United. Their parents John and Bridie have a long association with the club.



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VS



GALWAY UNITED

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CONOR KEARNS
MICHAEL GARRIHY
CONOR O'KEEFE
STEPHEN WALSH
CHRISTOPHER HORGAN
GARY BOYLAN
MAURICE NUGENT
KILLIAN BROUDER
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SHANE DOHERTY
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RUAIRÍ KEATING
PADRAIC CUNNINGHAM
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WILSON WAWERU
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CONOR CLIFFORD
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JOE DOYLE
GARY SHAW
LUKA LOVIC
DARRAGH LYNCH
CIAN MAHER
SEAN CALLAN
STEVEN KINSELLA
GLEN HOLLYWOOD
DEAN O'SHEA
CHARLIE GALLAGHER

MANAGER: John Caulfield
HEAD COACH: Lisa Fallon
AST. MANAGER: Colin Fortune

HEAD COACH: Gary Cronin
COACH: James Keddy



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