

# Evening Echo SPORT

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## Mackems can claim a point



**Robert  
O'Shea**

**THE LONGSHOT**

SOMEONE asked me for advice at work recently and after thinking about it for a while I realised I wasn't thinking about their situation at all but my mind had wandered off in a different direction and I came up with the idea of a film about a killer football.

It's amazing how often great ideas can spring up when you are trying to solve a completely different problem.

Anyway, the leather on this ball comes from a cow with BSE and that gets fused with some tight stitching to create a football with a grudge.

The ball is bought by some kid and rolls into the middle of the street and the kid following it gets knocked down by a bread van.

A pro footballer driving by in his Lamborghini later spots it and takes it to training and accidentally kills two defenders by kicking it against their heads.

Then the ball gets mixed up with the other balls so they decide to stab them all to make sure it's destroyed but this just makes all the footballs angry and they didn't manage to puncture the bad ball after all because it floated away on a stream.

The working title of the film is 'Bad Ball'. I'm not sure how it ends yet but after they kill it they discover it shared some DNA with Hitler's scrotum and the lead human character goes: "It just goes to show, one bad ball leads to another."

It's only at draft script stage at the moment but as soon as we get the green light we'll certainly be hiring local wannabe actors.

And don't be concerned that you will need to have MSL-size football talent to bag a role because a lot of the parts will favour an ability to fall over spectacularly when struck in the groin over actual football skills.

You probably imagine there are some cameos from real footballers lined up and you'd be right, because John O'Shea is the first man we are going to talk to about playing a grizzled pro who has seen it all before.

Before that he captains Sunderland as 18/1 outsiders to scupper Liverpool's title hopes tonight at Anfield.

Premier League run-ins invariably throw up a few surprises so we are going to advise you to get on the draw.

**Recommendation:** Liverpool and Sunderland to draw at 8/1 with Bet365 tonight.



Finbarr McCarthy presents the Cork 96FM /C103 GAA Sports Person of the Month Award to Tomás Clancy, UCC Sigerson Cup team and a member of Fermoy GAA Club. Also in picture L to R: Tom Tobin, Head of Operations, Rochestown Park Hotel, Tracey Kennedy PRO, Cork County Board, Kieran McGeary CEO, Cork 96FM/C103, Dr Con Murphy, president UCC GAA Football Club and Gerard Lane, vice-chairman Cork County Board.

Picture: Tony O'Connell Photography.

## AWARDS

By John Tarrant

**TIME and again Fermoy's Tomás Clancy contributed immensely for UCC successful voyage to Belfast to regain a hold of the Sigerson Cup.**

In doing so, UCC had no fear of big reputations, pulling off a dramatic win and collect the silverware representing the third level colleges for the 21st occasion.

Clancy underlined his reputation as one of the most promising young footballers within the county and it earned him selection as monthly winner to the 96/C103 Cork GAA Sports Star of the Month Award at a presentation in the Rochestown Park Hotel.

"We travelled up to Belfast as underdogs and our backs were up against the wall in the semi against NUIJ, finishing with just 13 players. However the players on the field showed the true spirit of UCC when pushing on to win," he said.

Another big task awaited the Cork side in the decider, fancied opponents Jordanstown impressive en route and favourites to land the accolades under the guidance of Jamie Clarke, Colin Walshe and Mattie Donnelly.

"We entered the equation with no fear, pushing on to build a sizeable lead. UCC were always capable of mounting a comeback and a sequence of points gathered parity. Still, we believed in ourselves, because the attack is excellent," said Clancy.

# Clancy gets accolade for UCC win

"The team has terrific heart, evident from the massive ball played by Conor Cox to Conor Dornan to shoot the match winning point."

Clancy hailed the input of team manager Billy Morgan and the management of John Corcoran, Paul O'Keeffe, Kevin Murray, Charlie McLoughlin, Dr Con Murphy and John Grainger.

"The passion of Billy wore off on the team to ensure the mix of a Tipperary player along with Cork and Kerry playing colleagues bonded so well," he said.

Elevated on to the Cork senior panel, Tomás is carrying on a family tradition, his great grand uncle, Dick Harnedy from Dromtariffe helped Duhallow to a county title in 1936 and figured on the county senior side. Looking

ahead, Clancy is hopeful the county can replicate the winning path of UCC with four wins from five starts in the Allianz NFL.

"The result against Mayo was a bit of a blip. Every day you puts on a Cork jersey, you want to win. The two-week break allows us to go back to the training ground to correct elements ahead of the Tyrone and Kerry games," he said.

"We have bought into Brian Cuthbert's plan and it is showing on the field with the exciting brand of football."

Away from college and county, Clancy is optimistic that Fermoy can make inroads in both the county IHC/IFC title races.

"We're a young side. It takes a bit of patience, with no automatic success guaranteed from underage to adult level. Its all about bring-

ing in two or three players each year. We are a work in progress and are capable of contributing positively in both codes," he said.

Vice-chairman to the Cork County GAA Board, Ger Lane congratulated Tomás on his success and paid tribute to a loyal club and county servant.

"Tomas is a talented player, epitomising all the best that making strides in Cork football and contributed to UCC's outstanding success," he said.

Joining Tomás at the function were UCC management, Cork selector Ronan McCarthy, Tom Tobin of Rochestown Park Hotel, 96/c103FM Chief Executive Kieran McGeary, co-ordinator Finbarr McCarthy, county PRO Tracey Kennedy in addition to family and Fermoy club representatives.

## Leevale track meet to be streamed live

ON APRIL 5 & 6, Leevale Athletic Club will once again launch the outdoor Track & Field season with the largest open T&F meet in the country. The Leevale T&F meet is now embedded in the athletics calendar as it allows athletes to benchmark their performance after winter

training and provides the first opportunity of the year for athletes seeking international qualification standards. Year after year athletes who achieve standards and impress at the Leevale meet go on to have high levels of success; Marcus Lawlor, Phil Healy, Louise Shanahan and Sean Tobin to name four

### LEEVALE ATHLETICS

from last year. 'Leevale 2014' Promises to be bigger than ever with online entries well ahead of expectations. There is a substantial audience for broadcast athletic events and this year the meet will be streamed live on the Leevale

website. This was done on a experimental basis last year without promotion and still achieved over 7,000 hits with viewers watching part of or all of the meet. Leevale are thankful for their sponsors, all whom return again to support 'Leevale 2014' Mahers Sports, Permanent TSB, The River

Lee Hotel, Performance Physiotherapy, Athletics Ireland, Kerry Group, McMahon Galvin, Collins Print, Water Technologies and Square Deal. The senior programme will be held on the Saturday April 5 and the Juvenile programme on the Sunday April 6.