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NEWS

ROSCOMMON GALES GAA

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Gaels stroll hints at brighter days

Roscommon Gaels. Michael Glaveys/Éire Óg...... 2-3 (2-1-1)

Hannon's Hotel U-20 Division One Football Championship Final

Ian Cooney at Rockfield

It's as if Roscommon Gaels wanted to leave the 2025 club season on some sort of cliff-

season on some sort of cliff-hanger.

In a year where the balance of power has stayed in the south of the county, the Gaels — by virtue of this complete performance to retain their U-20 Division One title — sowed the seeds for potentially brighter days ahead at senior level, hinting that the club's quest for a first Fahey Cup since 2004 is being seriously addressed. addressed.

addressed.
Certainly, their conveyor
belt is laced with talent but, of
course, the challenge will be
to translate recent prosperity
at this grade into adult silver-

The Gaels' performances in the last two O'Rourke Cup fin-

nearly out the gap. Rory and Eoghan Carty had kicked two sublime two-pointers inside two minutes before a Michael Glaveys/Eire Og player got his hands on the ball — Luke Ruane making a superb block to deny John McGuinness.

Only the comfort zone they had catapulted themselves into procured a bout of sloppiness, which culminated in corner-back Ciarán O'Reilly receiving a black card for a lazy tackle on Rob Heneghan.

But the damage in O'Reilly receiving a black card for a lazy tackle on Rob Heneghan's lath minute goal. From that point on, the Gaels reasserted their superiority and won pulling up.

In the main, it was a superbyteam display— a superblycoached side that looked comfortable in possession, and worked their socks off without

while Ryan Dowling pitched in with some mo-ments of magic. To Michael Glaveys/Éire Og's credit, they never threw in the towel with Luke Ruane, Daniel Hag-ney, Robert Heneghan, Brian Greene and Niall He-neghan trying hard, But Brian Greene and Riali He-neghan trying hard. But the supporting cast wasn't at the opposition's level and, by the end, their only avenue for scores was re-duced to high deliveries on top of the Gaels full-back line

top of the Gaets turbeco-line.

Shane Moran's side dominated from Dermot McDermott's opening whistle. The Carthy brothers swung over a couple of two-pointers be-fore Eoghan Carthy, Biesty and Dowling tagged on scores to light up a seven-point buffer.

A two-pointer from

point buffer.

A two-pointer from
Brian Greene gave Michael
Glaveys/Eire Og a flicker
of hope, and with O'Reilly
off for ten minutes, Greene

played in Rob Heneghan who soccer-styled the ball to the net to bring his side right back into the game after 14 minutes. But Rory Carthy ended his side's 11-minute scor-ing famine with an orange flag after winning a fortu-nate two-point free outside the 40-metre arc.

flag after winning a fortunate two-point free outside
the 40-metre arc.

The Michael Glaveys/
Éire Ög dam was at breaking point, and the damage
was inflicted in injury time
as Roscommon Gaels
pounced for 1-2.

Eoghan Carthy's brilliant individual point was
followed by a Ryan Dowling '45 before the Gaels
broke up a Michael Glaveys/Éire Ög attack and
moved the ball quickly upfield where Rory Carthy
was in support to rifle the
ball into the net past James
Flynn.

Trailing by 1-11 to 1-2,
Michael Glaveys/Éire Ög
had a mountain to climb,
and their mood didn't im-

prove when Brian Greene's goal was controversially ruled out for a square ball in the early stages of the Niall Heneghan would raise a green flag from a similar route at the three-quarter stage — the Roscommon U-20 player diverting a long delivery from Rob Heneghan to the net — but the game was gone from his side's grasp.

The Gaels continued to dominate the middle third and subsequently moved the ball swiftly and intelligently through the lines.

Dowling, the industrious Sam Hannon and Ciarán Muhry tagged on two points apiece, while Dowling (45) and Rory Carthy (two frees) also punished Michael Glaveys/Eire Og indiscretions.

By the end, the Roscom-

chael Glaveys, Fire Og In-discretions.

By the end, the Roscom-mon Town-based team had left their calling card. The key now will be to make hay while the sun shines.

MATCH STATS

ROSCOMMON GAELS: Conor Mulry, F.
Devane, J. Donnelly, C. O'Relly, M. Gij.
looly, E. Carthy (0-4, one 0-2), C. Grogan; R. Carthy (1-6, one 0-2), A. Killion, I.
Biesty (0-1), R. Dowling (0-5, two '45s),
J. McGuinness. Subs used: A. Dolan for
Grogan (18 mins), R. Dunne for Killion
(56 mins), L. Mulry for Naughten (57
mins), Z. Khan for Biesty (57 mins), D.
Carroll for Devane (57 mins),
MICHAEL GLAVEYS/ÉIRE ÓG: J.
Flynn, J. Burke, C. Donnellan, S. Brehony; D. Hagney, L. Ruane, J. Greene,
S. Gallagher, N. Heneghan (1-1), one
mark); B. Lynch, S. Crawley, O. Kelly, M.
Denning, R. Heneghan (1-0), B. Greene
(0-2, one 0-2). Subs used: J. Noonan for
Brehony (27 mins), C. Carthy for J.
Greene (39 mins), J. Fitzmaurice for
Lynch (44 mins).
Wides: Roscommon Gaels – 7; Michael

Lynch (44 mins).
Wides: Roscommon Gaels – 7; Michael Glaveys/Eire Og – 3.
Yelflow cards: Roscommon Gaels – Donnelly (28 mins); Michael Glaveys/Eire Og – Denning (48 mins), B. Greene (49 mins), Carthy (50 mins).
Black cards: Roscommon Gaels – O'Reilly (12 mins); Michael Glaveys/Eire













