

PARK UNITED AFC

Official Souvenir Matchday Programme
PRICE: £1.00

Celebrating 21 Years in Football

with the

OFFICIAL OPENING
OF PLAYING GROUNDS
& DRESSINGROOM COMPLEX

at: Brigown, Mitchelstown, Co. Cork. on: Sunday 21st July 1996

Followed by:

FAI National League Exhibition Match

COBH RAMBLERS
VS.
SHELBOURNE





Cumann peile na hÉireann

FOUNDED 1921

Constructions to park united ACC on your wonderful achievements

THE FOOTBALL ASSOCIATION OF IRELAND



1.00PM OPENING CEREMONIES

followed by Blessing of Grounds & Complex by Rev. Donal Vaughan C.C. Mitchelstown & Archdeacon Frazier



will be performed by: MR MILO CORCORAN (WATERFORD)
Senior Vice-President Football Association of Ireland
Music by: Mitchelstown Brass Band

2.00PM CHALLENGE MATCH PARK UNITED 1975 vs PARK UNITED 1996

3.00PM EXHIBITION MATCH
COBH RAMBLERS (1st Div.) vs SHELBOURNE (FAI Senior Cup Holders)

AMHRAN NA BHFIANN

Sinne Fianna Fáil, atá faoi gheall ag Eireann Bufonn dár slua thar toinn do ráinig chughainn, Faoi mhóid bheith saoir, sean tír ar sinsear feasta, Ní fhágfar faoin tiorán ná faoin tráil, Anocht a théam sa bhearna baoil, Le gean ar Ghaeil chun báis no saoil, Le gunta scréach, faoi llámach na bpiléar Seo libh canaig Amhrain na bhFiann

Dark United AFC MITCHELSTOWN, CO. CORK.

AFFILIATED TO FAI & MFA (MEMBERS OF CORK AUL & CORK SL)



When I first began playing soccer as a founder member of Park United AFC back in 1975, I do not think that I ever imagined that 21 years on, I would still be playing first team football with the Club or indeed that I would be privileged enough to be elected Chairman in this the most important season in our short but proud history. I think that it is important to mention at this juncture that when our first committee was formed in 1975 they had absolutely nothing to call their own and as the seasons went by incoming committees had more and more foundations which to build the future growth of our Club, and each and every person who has touched Park United over the last 21 years should be justifiably proud of their contributions which has culminated in what we see here

facilities which they always placed at our disposal down through the years.

It is safe to say that without our Club "Lotto" Draw we would not be here today to celebrate our official opening as a fitting finale to our 21st Anniversary celebrations. To this end I must offer our most sincere gratitude to our dedicated group of people who perform the essential day to day functions of our "Lotto" thus ensuring the smooth operation of our greatest fundraising project. We are also most grateful to our loyal band of "Lotto" ticket sellers who week in and week out graft away for the cause of Park United. To the general public of Mitchelstown and adjoining areas we thank you for your

WELCOME TO BRIGOWN

today. It must be said that during our 21 years in football we owe a lot of gratitude to the officers of the various Leagues in which we participate for all their help and encouragement. To our employers, wives and girlfriends for the understanding shown for the long absences from the family home and workplace.

At this juncture I wish to place on record our sincere thanks to all our voluntary helpers, our contractors and suppliers, all who have played their part in the development of our grounds and dressing room complex. Sincere thanks also to Mitchelstown Community Council, the VEC and Michael Finn for the kind use of their

continued support which is gratefully received and acknowledged. We hope that our facilities on view here today is proof that all your efforts and generosity is being put to good use indeed. In conclusion I would like to thank both Cobh Ramblers and Shelbourne for honouring us with their presence here today and to all the Junior clubs who have helped to make this our 21st Anniversary celebration such a memorable one.

Yours in Sport, MICHAEL WHELAN Chairman (Park United AFC)







Your Image is Our Goal



Bertie O'Mahony Football Publications

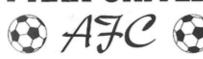
SPECIALISING IN CLUB PROGRAMMES, HANDBOOKS & HISTORIES

We Will Give Your Club a Professional Presentation

CORK ROAD, KILLEAGH, CO. CORK. TEL: (024) 95347 & (088) 594299
PRODUCERS OF THIS PROGRAMME FOR PARK UNITED AFC



PARK UNITED



A BRIEF HISTORY ..

In the summer of 1975 a group of people came together and decided to form a soccer club and enter their team into the Cork Athletic Union Football League, after years of playing local street leagues in Captain O'Sullivan's field situated between Peter O'Neill Crowley Terrace and Liam Lynch Park. Thanks to the efforts of Michael O'Brien and the generosity of Mitchelstown Creameries a playing pitch was acquired on the Limerick Road (New Grain Store). They now had a pitch to call home and up to their new League standard the next decision was what to call their new Club. After much discussion the name Park United was decided upon, the name of course being derived from Liam Lynch Park in whose area they originally played.

On the 15/8/75 which turned out to be a wet and windy day a bus load of enthusiastic players and supporters arrived in Tallow where Park United were to make their debut against Bride View United. Park went about their business early and went 2 up against 9

Bride View players through goals from Billy Crowley (first ever Park United goal) and Denis Murphy. A full strength Bride View team came storming back and went 3-2 up. A Timmy Crowley equaliser levelled the match which finished at 3 all. Park United were on their way.

The original team was as follows:

Paddy Lane; Paddy Moloney, Michael Barrett, Gerry Aherne, Johnny Crowley; Billy Cahill, Denis Murphy, Billy Crowley; Richard Cahill, Willie Casey, Timmy Crowley; Patsy Burke (12th man); Michael O'Brien (Reserve who travelled).

Original Selectors were:

Michael Aherne, Michael Brazil and Michael Walsh.

Original Club Committee:

G. Donegan, Chairman
P. Cotter, Vice-Chairman
M. Brazil, Hon. Secretary
T. O'Gorman, Hon. Treasurer
Committee: T. O'Keeffe, L. Colman,
B. Cahill, D. Cahill and B. Murphy.

Since their formation the Club has gone from strength to strength and currently boast 2 Junior, 1 Youth and 3 Schoolboy teams at competitive level. Park have enjoyed large success on the field since that day back in the Autumn of 1975 - major successes include:

1980/81

Runner-Up Cork AUL League Championship Division 3

1982/83

Winners Cork AUL League Championship Division 2A

1986/87

Winners Cork AUL Second Division League Cup

1987/88

Winners Cork AUL Presidents Cup

1988/89

Runners-Up Cork AUL Saxone Cup

1989/90

Winners Cork AUL League Championship Division 2A

1992/93

Winners Cork AUL League championship Division 1A

1993/94

Winners Cork AUL League Championship Division 3A (Won by Second Junior Team Park Albion)

1993/94

Winners Cork AUL Coca Cola Youths Cup

As impressive as their trophy haul is Park's achievements off the pitch since their formation has even been more impressive - having purchased land here in Brigown for a

sum of £15,000 in 1985. They have proceeded to develop the green field site by completely levelling, draining and re-seeding what is now 2 full size playing pitches. In addition they also erected a 10ft high front boundary wall and large entrance gates complete with Club name and Crest. Before they put the icing on the cake with the building of this fine dressing room complex comprising of Lobby, Reception Room, 4 Dressing Rooms, 2 Store Rooms, Committee Rooms, Shower Blocks and Toilet facilities. This work was supervised by Gary Cotter a great clubman over the years who with current Chairman and Hon. Secretary Michael Whelan and Conor O'Keeffe respectively are spearheading the on going development of this most progressive North Cork Club.

To date Park United have poured just over £130,000 into this Brigown development without any Grant Aid from the State Lotto or Sport Agencies. This wonderful facility which will be of immense benefit to the entire community in the future, is indeed a fitting testimony to the many, many members and supporters mighty efforts for the cause of Park United right throughout 21 glorious years in football.



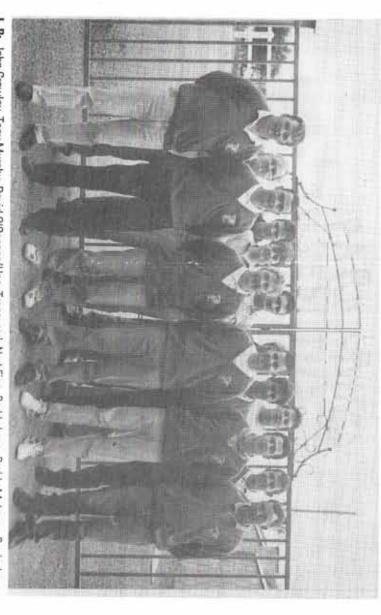
MUNSTER FOOTBALL ASSOCIATION

Cumann Déile na Múman

32 POPE'S QUAY, CORK.

on 21 years service to pootball and your Community

PARK UNITED AFC - COMMITTEE 1996/97 SEASON



L-R: John Crowley, Tony Murphy, David O'Connor (Hon. Treasurer), Ned Finn, Paddy Lane, Paddy Moloney, Pa Jackson. Thomas Gallagher, Conor O'Keeffe (Hon. Secretary), Mossie Lane, Eddie Walsh, John O'Shea and Billy Cahill. Photograph Courtesy of S. Burke



MUNSTER FOOTBALL ASSOCIATION

Cumann péile na múman

32 POPE'S QUAY, CORK.

It is indeed a great privilege and pleasure for me to offer warmest congratulations to Park United AFC on achieving 21 years in football with pride and honour, and on the official opening of their wonderful complex here in Brigown today.

All the Club's Committees, Players, Members and Supporters down through the years can stand proudly today, for these wonderful facilities being unveiled here this afternoon will forever be a monument to their foresight, hard word and no little financial support.

On behalf of football's provincial governing body

I wish to place on record our sincere gratitude to you all. By your trojan efforts you have not alone ensured the future of our game in Mitchelstown, but you have also provided a much needed amenity for your community at large.

Again renewed congratulations and wishing you every success in the future.

Yours in Sport,

John O'Donovan

Chairman (Munster Football Association)

SRAITH Deile Aontas Luthchleasa Chorcaí

CORK ATHLETIC UNION FOOTBALL LEAGUE

(rounded 1947)

Offer Heartiest Congratulations to Park United on 21 Glorious Years in Football

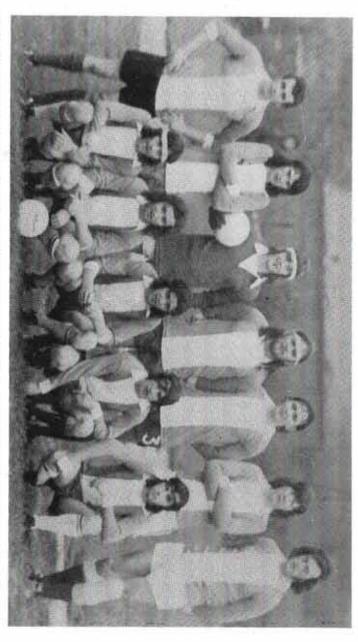


Well Done Park United Congratulations & Best Wishes from

AIB Cork Schoolboys League



IN THE BEGINNING ...

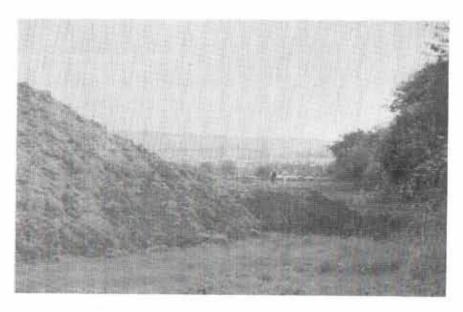


PARK UNITED TEAM PHOTOGRAPHED PRIOR TO THEIR FIRST EVER COMPETITIVE GAME ON 15TH AUGUST 1975 Back Row (L-R) Billy Crowley, John Crowley, Paddy Lane, Denis Murphy, Gerry Ahern, Wilie Casey and Mick Barrett Front Row (L-R) Paddy Moloney, Patsy Burke, Billy Cahill, Timmy Crowley and Dick Cahill IN TALLOW, CO. WATERFORD AGAINST BRIDE VIEW UNITED (3-3 DRAW).

Every Picture Tells a Story

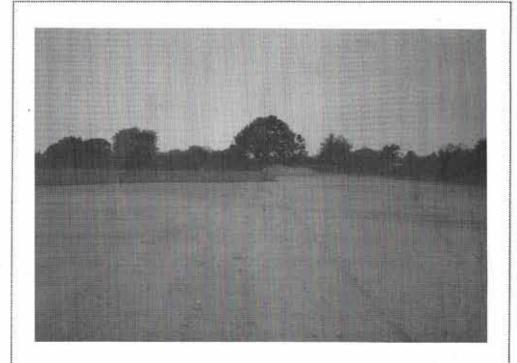
THE FOLLOWING FOUR PAGE PHOTOGRAPHIC RECORD SHOWS PARK UNITED'S BRIGOWN DEVELOPMENT UNFOLD.

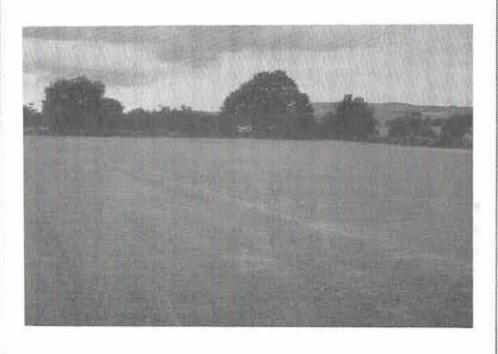


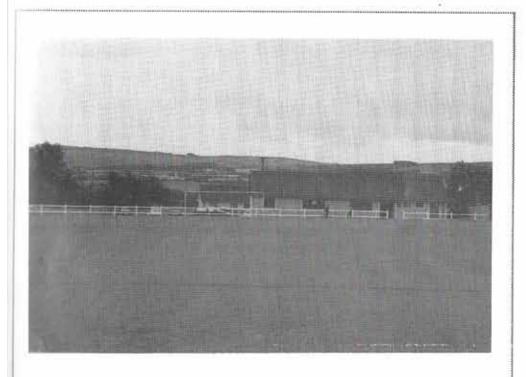


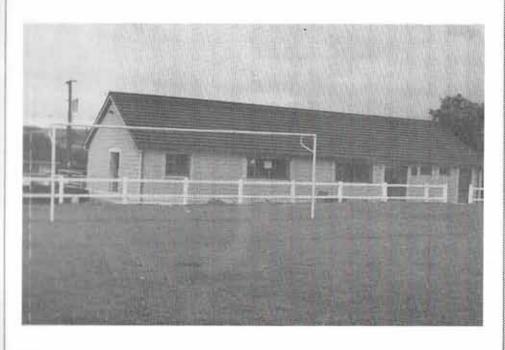












INTRODUCING THE

Cobh Ramblers

PLAYERS



MICHAEL DEVINE

23 year old former Republic of Ireland Schoolboy International who commenced his football career with Cobh's famous nursery Springfield. Holder of an FA Youth Cup Runners-Up Medal with Middlesboro (losing out to Spurs in the Final). Michael also had a six month spell on loan with Newcastle. The most agile of goalkeepers was most instrumental in securing Ramblers wonderful defensive record last season and is the 13th goalkeeper to don the 'keeper jersey since Ramblers entered League of Ireland football. Born on 19-3-73, Michael is son of former Ramblers legend Alfie Devine.

JOHN MURPHY

Described by Manager Liam McMahon as a "rolls royce type full back", 21 year old John holds 20 Republic of Ireland International Caps at Schoolboy and Youths levels - the highlight at International level being the European U-16 Championships held in Cyprus in which John really excelled. Born on 9-9-75 John first played with St. Mary's (Cork) at the tender age of 8!!! Had a number of seasons in Villa Park during which time he captained Aston Villa Youths to League Cup success and RU in League Championship to Nottingham Forest. Swopped the Claret & Blue of Villa for Ramblers last summer and scored for the Cobh side on his debut against Darlington in a pre-season game on 22-7-95.

PAKIE KELLY

This most unassuming local lad born on 25-3-68 has made the right Full Back position his very own since making his LOI debut against Monaghan United in February 1987. Surpassed the Club's League appearance record of 162 games held by Eddie O'Halloran in February 1995 against today's opponents Shelbourne, and the ever dependable

skipper has now clocked up over 180 appearances in League football without any sign of a let-up. A dedicated servant to the "Claret & Blue" Pakie has played under all 5 managers appointed by Ramblers since they entered League of Ireland football in 1985/86 season.

TOMMY CRAGOE

Local lad who graduated to Ramblers from Springfield with whom he won a host of Schoolboy trophies. Born on 21-2-72 Tommy was a member of the Cork Schoolboy League squad who won the SFAI U-14 Kennedy Cup in 1985/86 season. Joined the Ramblers in 1988 and captained Ramblers Youths to League, League Cup, Super Cup and Munster Youths Cup success in 1989/90. This highly talented Full Back made his LOI debut in Longford (April '91) and has made over 100 Senior appearances for the "Claret & Blue" since.

JASON LYNCH

Last season's captain, Jason became the third Ramblers player to complete 100 LOI appearances when he chalked up his ton at United Park, Drogheda in February '94. Strong Central Defender Jason who came to Cobh from Cork side Rockmount was honoured by both the Ramblers Football Committee and Supporters Club by being the recipient of both "Player of the Year" awards in 1990/91 season. Jason who had trials with both Nottingham Forest and Tottenham Hotspur in 1991 is a member of the Garda Siochana.

PHILIP LONG

Vastly experienced Defender who signed for Ramblers from Cork City. With City Philip won a host of honours including League of Ireland Championship Winners-Medal in '92/93, Runners-Up '90/91, League Cup Winners Medal '86/87, two FAI Senior Cup Runners-Up Medals '88/89 and '91/92, as well as five Munster Senior Cup Medals. A wonderful asset to the "Claret & Blue" since his arrival in the Harbour Town.

FRAN SHERIDAN

Tralee born Fran gave sterling service to and received rave reviews from his playing days with Tralee Dynamos. A cross channel trialist with both Crystal Palace and Southampton, Fran who captained the Kerry & District League to the FAI Youths Inter-League Final came to Ramblers from Longford Town during last season.

EOIN O'FLAHERTY

Brighton born Éoin played all his Schoolboy football with Carrigaline United, with whom he played in the SFAI U-15 Evans Cup Final of 1990/91 season. (The Cork Boy's lost 3-1 to St. Kevin's Boys for whom one Jason Sherlock scored a goal!!) Had cross channel trials with both Exeter City and Nottingham Forest in the summer of 1992. Foin next took the ferry to Cobh with whom he has won a host of provincial Youths honours and he made his LOI debut at St. Mel's Park, Athlone on 14/10/94 capping the occasion with a goal after just 10 minutes of the kick off.

RORY O'CONNOR

Contral Midfielder who finally made the League of Ireland stage last summer when he signed for the Ramblers. Rory who began his football career with Crofton Ceftic went on to win Under Age honours with Tramore Athletic and then played in the FAI Senior Cup with both Midleton and Fermoy on a number of occasions - the most important being Midleton's mighty 2-0 victory over cup holders Bray Wanderers. Rory who had just returned after a second leg break, scored "The Magpies" insurance goal and was voted Harp Lager "Man of the Match".

TOMMY BUTLER

19 year old Midfielder who hails from Dungarvan, Co. Waterford has spent the last two seasons with English League side Gillingham. This highly impressive playmaker should prove to be a wonderful acquisition to Liam McMahon's squad in the push for premier football this season.

RICHIE HYDE

Born 5/9/69 Richie holds a unique record with his nursery club St. Mary's (Cork) by having been voted Club "Player of the Year" at Schoolboy, Youth and Senior levels!! With the exception of a two year stint at Rockmount, Richie played all his football with the famed Northside Club until Liam McMahon lured him onto the LOI stage at St. Colman's Park last summer.

NIALL ABBOTT

Local lad who also graduated from the Springfield nursery. Niall is currently enjoying his third spell at St. Colman's Park. A most pacey striker who never knows when to give up. Niall holds a Munster Senior League Premier Winners Medal and an FAI Intermediate Runners-Up Medal both won in the College Corinthians colours in '94/95. Born in Cobh on 12/6/68 Niall is one of the Cobh supporters most popular players.

PAUL COUGHLAN

Born in Passage, Co. Cork, Paul was a member of the victorious Cork Schoolboy League SFAI U-14 Kennedy Cup side of 1985/86. A stylish centre forward who had trials with Newcastle United has also sampled LOI football with Cork City. Helped his native Passage to win back to back Cork AUL. Premier League titles as well as captaining them to AOH Challenge Cup success in 1993/94. Enjoyed last season his first in Cobh, the highlight which had to be his wonderful hat-trick against Home Farm/Everton.

WILLIE O'KEEFFE

Cork born young Striker who came to St. Colman's Park via Cork City, Casement Celtic and Bishopstown Schoolboys. Played in all six games for the Irish Universities team at the World Student Games held in Japan, scoring against both Canada and Uruguay. Willie born on 3/10/73 made over 20 league appearances for Ramblers last season.



Back Row (L-R) William Byrne, Paul Coughlan, Willie O'Keeffe, Michael Devine, John Ryan, Philip Long, Rory O'Connor, Richie Hyde. Front Row (L-R) Sean Hegarty, John Murphy, Pakie Kelly (Capt.), Alan O'Neill, Niall Abbott, Keith Dalton. Photograph Courtesy of Dave Naughton.

15

INTRODUCING THE

Shelbourne







ALAN GOUGH

25 year old Goalkeeper who rejoined "The Reds" from Galway United 2 seasons ago. Alan has also seen service with Newbridge Town, Portsmouth and Fulham. Capped by the Republic of Ireland on 5 occasions at U-21 level.

DECLAN CAMPBELL

Reserve Goalkeeper who made his LOI debut for Drogheda United against Shelbourne in February '92. Declan also saw service at LOI level with both Kilkenny City and St. James's Gate. Aged 25.

GREG COSTELLO

Lovely ballplayer from the right full position. 26 year old Greg has been the target of many English League clubs. Scored Shels Golden Winner in '92/93 FAI Senior Cup Final - former Clubs include Home Farm, QPR and Swindon Town.

DECLAN GEOGHEGAN

31 year old left full, Declan made his LOI debut as a striker with Drogheda United. This most versatile player also saw service with Bohemians and Monaghan United before joining "The Reds" during '94/95 season.

DAVID SMITH

A player of the future. 22 year old David has graduated from Shelbourne's Youth Team. Full Back. David made his LOI debut against Shamrock Rovers in March '94.

MICK NEVILLE

Captain Fantastic, the evergreen Mick now approaching 37 years was selected "Man of the Match" in the drawn FAI Senior Cup Final against St. Pat's last May. When reduced to 10 players in that game, the wonderfully composed Neville marshalled his forces and so ensured that "The Reds" lived to fight another day. A great servant to the game, Mick's former Clubs include Home Farm, Drogheda United, Shamrock Rovers and Derry City with whom he has gathered a vast collection of trophies including many League Championship and FAI Cup Medals.

RAY DUFFY

Outstanding 32 year old defender who has also seen service with Limerick, Athlone Town, Monaghan United and Crusaders in the Irish League.

HENRY McKOP

Joined Shelbourne nearly 12 months ago. Henry has won 32 full International Caps for Zimbabwe. Has played in Austria, Germany and Switzerland during his career and also had a spell in the Endsleigh League with Bristol City. Henry is aged 28.

TONY SHERIDAN

Who will ever forget Tony's wonderful goal

when he caught the St. Pat's 'keeper Gareth Byrne off his line in the drawn FAI Cup Final last May which saved the day for "The Reds". This vastly talented former Republic of Ireland Youth and Under 21 International also scored in the victorious replay - a game in which saw him voted "Man of the Match". Aged 21 Tony who usually operates on the right of midfield has played in English League football with Coventry City ('92/93 season).

JOHN O'ROURKE

Supplying the link between both teams here today. The red haired "Johnno" signed for Shelbourne 12 months ago from Cobh Ramblers! Son of Ramblers Chairman John (Senior) this 25 year old Striker/Midfielder made his LOI debut for Ramblers against Waterford United in December '88. He subsequently played in both France and Belgium before rejoining the Ramblers from KFC Tielt of Belgium. Played a key role in Shelbourne's FAI Cup success last season.

DARREN KELLY

Another player of the future. 22 year old Darren made his LOI debut in March '94. Signed from Lorcan Celtic. This Midfielder began his football career with that great Dublin nursery Stella Maris.

BRIAN FLOOD

Aged 24. Local lad Brian has a League Championship Medal won in '91/92 and a FAI Cup Winners Medal '92/93 to add to last season's FAI Cup success. A most versatile player who has played in most positions for the Reds - he will always be remembered as Shels stand in 'keeper who performed heroically when

he stepped into the breach after Alan Gough saw red in the drawn FAI Cup Final against St. Pat's last May.

MARK RUTHERFORD

24 year old speed merchant who has set up many a Reds goal is the holder of both League Championship and FAI Cup Winners Medals since he joined Shelbourne from Birmingham City in 1991. Mark had a brief stint with Shrewsbury Town '93/94 but soon returned to Tolka Park to thrill his legion of Reds supporters.

ANTHONY BRENNAN

Aged 22, Anthony came to Shelbourne from Huddersfield Town and made his LOI debut against Bohemians March '94. Another player of the future for Damien Richardson.

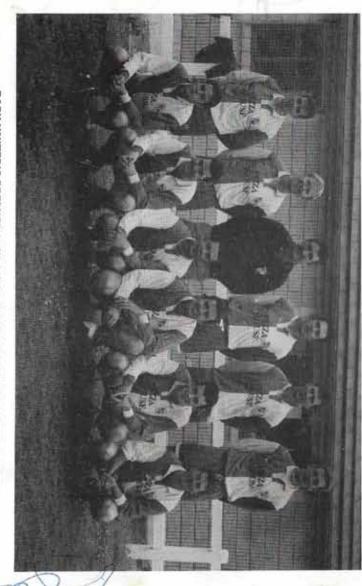
STEPHEN GEOGHEGAN

Former Shamrock Rovers super striker. Younger brother of Declan is a joy to watch and was the leagues leading goalscorer with 20 goals last season, 6 goals ahead of his nearest rival. Lightening fast Stephen scored the winner in the replay of the FAI Senior Cup against St. Pat's last May. This 25 year old is currently attracting cross channel interest.

DAVID TILSON

Without a doubt one of the League's most stylish performers. 27 year old David joined the Reds from Bohemians last October. Formerly with UCD. David who works in the "City", possesses some beautiful touches and last May added another FAI Senior Cup Winners Medal to the one already gained with Bohemians in '91/92 season.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY DEAR PARK



Front Row (L-R) Elton Pierce, Thomas Gallagher, David O'Connor, John O'Shea, Gerry Colbert and Noel Boche Back Row (L-R) Tony Mulally, Mike O'Donnell, Pa Jackson, Eddie Walsh, Ned Finn and John Cleary. PARK UNITED'S PREMIER 21ST ANNIVERSARY TEAM OF 1996/97 SEASON Photograph Courtesy of S. Burke.

TODAY'S TEAMCHECK

COBH RAMBLERS

(COLOURS: CLARET & BLUE)

Michael Devine

John Murphy

Pakle Kelly (Capt.)

Tommy Cragoe

Jason Lynch

Philip Long

Fran Sheridan

Éoin O'Flaherty

Rory O'Connor

Tommy Butler

Richie Hyde

Niall Abbott

Paul Coughlan

Wille O'Keeffe

Stuart Ashton

Keith Dalton

MANAGER:



(COLOURS: RED & WHITE)

Alan Gough

Declan Campbell

Greg Costello

Decian Geoghegan

David Smith

___ Mick Neville (Capt.)

__ Ray Duffy

Henry McKop

Tony Sherldan

John O'Rourke

Darren Kelly

Brian Flood

Mark Rutherford

Anthony Brennan

Stephen Geoghegan

David Tilson

MANAGER: DAMIEN RICHARDSON

SPONSORS OF

M & R
TRUCK
CLEANING
SERVICES



TODAY'S MATCHBALL

TODAY'S OFFICIALS

REFEREE: PAT KELLY LINESMEN: EDDIE FOLEY (RED FLAG) AIDAN O'REGAN (YELLOW FLAG)

(ALL FROM CORK)