

# All Stars smashed Clifden

Sligo All Stars hit the "ton" for the first time in the National Cup when they convincingly smashed Clifden by 102-62 in a fast-moving game at Summerhill College, Sligo, on Saturday night.

And if Sligo had been at full strength—they were short John Mc Gowan through injury and Tony O'Hara, victim of 'flu—they might easily have established a new scoring record in the country.

As it was, All Stars were never at any stage troubled by the weak Galway men who could only manage to score eighteen points in the first half. They dominated the game from the start, took an eleven-point lead and never looked back—even when they began to introduce players from the subs' bench.

Clifden did everything in their power to thwart Sligo's well-drilled offence but they had no answer to the superior passing and shooting of the locals.

All Stars were in unstoppable form and picking up some nicely-executed scores against the Clifden zone defence, they had the match sewn up at half time when they led 43-18.

They abandoned all caution in the second period as they went for the elusive 100-mark and they were a long way off (85-44) when the last three minutes was called.

But in a burst of power which has become a feature of their game, Sligo switched on the overdrive and brought the horse down with some great scores in the final minute.

Brian O'Hara had the honour of putting 100 on the scoreboard—a fitting reward for this much-improved player—but another fine performer was Robert Burns who popped up from nowhere for many of his scores.

Anthony Cronnelly had a giant-size job in holding the forceful Matt O'Sullivan, while Joe Palmer was only slightly hampered by an ankle injury which had threatened to keep him out of the game.

Jerry Monaghan, Cormac Carty and Brian McHugh showed their paces for the limited time they had on court and were always on call.

This victory leaves Sligo in a comfortable position near the head of the table and at this stage, it appears that the vital games will be the home fixtures against Corinthians and Austin Stacks in the coming months.

Sligo All Stars:— J. Palmer 21, A. Cronnelly 19, B. O'Hara 16, R. Burns 16, J. Monaghan 14, C. Carty 8, B. McHugh 6, G. Gallagher 2, S. Moloney S. Watson.