



Olly Neary, Capt. Galway United, who launched the Renmore A.F.C. Calendar with committee members Noel Greaney, Dermot Coll Kevin McCaffrey, Bernard Shapiro, Rob Alone and Eoin Corcoran.

McNamara and Thornton set to feature in Monaghan race

Next Sunday, the National Intermediate and Veterans' Cross-country competition takes place in Scotstown, Co. Monaghan. Galway City Harriers will have a strong team in the men's intermediate event, where Paul McNamara will be a strong contender for an individual placing. McNamara has been making his mark on both road and cross-country events since his return from the US and turned in a solid performance in the Connacht cross-country competition last month.

Each year, at least one newcomer emerges from the Intermediate competition to

finish in the top dozen in the National Senior event, so competition can be very keen. However, McNamara must be in with a fighting chance to take the title, which would be a major milestone in his very successful athletics career.

But young Gary Thornton will not be far behind. In this his first year out of junior competition, Thornton continues to make good progress and should finish in the top ten on Sunday.

So, with these two leading the way, the Galway City Harriers team will be well positioned to take the team title. But the team title usually goes to the wire, so Galway City Harriers will be

dependent on good performances from four other runners on Sunday.

Liam Morris is getting stronger each time he races and was not far off the pace when finishing third in the Connacht Cross-country recently. Stephen Folen Danny Carr, Paul Hallinan and Eamonn Hornibrook will all be fighting to score on the GCH team and if they can pack well, are strong enough to bring home the title.

Galway City Harriers have a strong tradition in the Veterans' section. Martin McEvilly runs in the over 50 section and will be hoping for a place in the top three.

Bid for table tennis glory

THE Galway table tennis team, made up of members of Commercial Club players Terry Dolan, Sean Spellman and Michael Burke, travel to Clontarf this weekend for the Inter County team Championships.

Galway have a good record in this event winning it two years ago and making the semi-final last year. If they are to regain the title they will face stiff opposition with Cork, Dublin, Down, Westmeath, and Wexford providing the main opposition. The Dublin team with three players in the top ten individual national rankings will be favourites, however the Galway team are confident of a good performance.

The Dublin trip will also be used as preparation for the upcoming inter provincials where the players would hope to further improve their national rankings.

THE week gone by was a very busy one for Galway handballers competing in county and provincial championships at venues as far apart as Salthill and Castlegar.

Local players had mixed results but standards throughout were highly satisfactory and followers really enjoyed the alley action.

The Connacht Final in Golden Masters between Moycullen's Morgan Darcy and Roscommon's Pat Clarke provided top class handball throughout with Darcy being forced to relinquish an early lead through Clarke's determined fightback.

This match went to a tie-breaker to the utter delight of a packed gallery and, with the lead changing hands so many times, it was drama all the way until Clarke, notching up the last three aces, took the title qualifying to meet the Munster representative in the All-Ireland semi-final.

In the Emerald Masters, Mayo's Seán Heaney had the edge over Galway's N.J. Clancy who had one of those off days having qualified for

the final with a convincing win over the highly experienced Paddy Walsh of Sligo.

In the Golden Masters Doubles, Mick O'Malley and Oliver Burke kept the Galway flag aloft with a straight sets win over the Sligo pair to qualify for the Connacht Final.

In Golden Masters A, Morgan Darcy and Bert Kelehan beat the Mayo pair by 2 sets to one in the provincial final. At the Castlegar venue, Bernie McDonagh overcame Galway hurler, Michael Coleman to become Novice county champion.

In an exciting Masters Final at Salthill, Bert Kelehan after a brilliant first game win (21-16) was unable to contain the Darcy challenge and the Moycullen man took the two sets and the championship crown in convincing fashion.

The most interested spectator in the gallery at Salthill was Spiddal's Séamus Ó Cualáin. Co-founder of the excellent Tír an Fhia Complex with Séamus Ó Fatharta, Tadhg Ó Curraoin and Noel Thornton, Ó Cualáin has done outstanding work in handball promotion in Connemara. An

annual competition has continued since 1983 when Pat Delaney and Eamonn Conneely staged exhibition games before the first finals won by Mick Lally, Morgan Darcy and Tony Audley.

For the coming successive three Sundays, there will be competitive farce at the Pearse Stadium alleys commencing at 2.00 p.m. each day and featuring players from the four provinces as well as locals.



At the Salthill GAA Club annual dinner in the Ardilaun House Hotel, Salthill, footballers Peter Hughes, Kevin Connaughton, Bernard Mulhern and Paul O'Connor.