



CONNACHT FINAL 2010

• Roscommon v Sligo • McHale Park, Castlebar • Throw-in: 4pm



McDermott relishing the challenge

■ Seamus Duke

Seanie McDermott is one of the most experienced players on the Roscommon team, yet he will play in his first Connacht final on Sunday next. The Western Gaels clubman has been telling Roscommon People that it is by far the biggest game of his career and he is really looking forward to the big day.

"I came on to the Roscommon panel in 2005 so I wasn't there in 2004 for the final. I never thought it would take five years to get to a Connacht final but here we are. It's the biggest game of my life so far. I have been in Sigerson finals, county finals and other big games, but this is by far the biggest and I am really looking forward to it," he says.

Seanie says that when the Roscommon players and management saw the championship draw for 2010, a Connacht final appearance was the target. "We were not taking anything for granted by any manner of means, but it was a realistic target. We played poorly enough against London but we got through well in that game. Against Leitrim we played below par in the first half but I thought we put on a very good performance in the second half, and since then there has been a great buzz in the camp."

"I am delighted to be playing with this team because I am convinced that there is far more in this team. I don't think we have

played up to our potential at all yet, but we are improving. There are several young players like Donie Shine and David Keenan and David O'Gara and others who have lots more to give. I think we can only improve."

Seanie says that Roscommon will be the underdogs for Sunday's game but that won't be any disadvantage. "Sligo deserve to be favourites but we will not fear them at all. Over the years Sligo/Roscommon games have been very tight affairs and this one will be the same, mark my words. The team who make the least mistakes on the day will win and there will not be much in it either way. We certainly have a team good enough to win it."

Seanie says that the Roscommon supporters will have a big part to play on Sunday too. "The Roscommon fans have travelled in numbers to every game - even when we were going very bad - and they will be there in force on Sunday and that's always a great boost to us," he said.

McHale Park in Castlebar has been a graveyard for so many Roscommon teams in the past. Has Seanie any fears about playing there on Sunday? "It would be the greatest day of my life if we can go to Castlebar on Sunday and bring back the Nestor Cup. We have had a few bad days there in the past but we will not be paying any heed on that on Sunday next. It's a big day for Roscommon football and there is no reason why we cannot win it."

Best wishes to Roscommon in the Connacht Final

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Best wishes to David and the Roscommon in the
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