

# Entertainment

Ethel Simmons editor/644-1100



Thursday, September 29, 1988 O&E

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More members of the musicians association sponsoring Saturday's concert are (above) Mick Reid's wife Lynne, who plays guitar and sings, and (below) Father Dan O'Sullivan of Troy, on the button accordion.



JOHN STORMZANO

Guitarist Mick Reid and tin whistler Justin Manning belong to the Detroit branch of Comhaltas Ceoltóirí Éireann — the Musicians Association of Ireland. The Detroit-area performers, host-

ing Irish entertainers Saturday at Orchestra Hall, stage concerts at 3 p.m. every second Sunday at the Gaelic League/Irish-American Club on Michigan Avenue.

## Happy music Irish entertainers brighten scene

By M.B. Dillon  
staff writer

**A**NOTHER SATURDAY night and no place to go? Don't worry, be happy.

At 7:30 p.m. Saturday, champions of traditional Irish music, dance and storytelling will entertain at Detroit's Orchestra Hall at 3711 Woodward.

Irish performers ranked among the best in Ireland are stopping in the Motor City on a tour of 17 U.S. cities, Europe, Great Britain, Ireland, Canada and Australia.

Concert-goers will hear the lively strains of fiddle, hornpipes and reels played by musicians on the fiddle, concertina, tin whistle, uilleann pipes, bodhran drums, bones and spoons.

Ballads by harpists and vocalists will whisk listeners across the sea to the Emerald Isle.

Titled "Echoes of Ireland," the

concert is sponsored by the Musicians Association of Ireland, or Comhaltas Ceoltóirí Éireann.

Breege Regan-Kelly is secretary of the Detroit branch of the association. The County Leitrim native says those who go "will find it's fun, it's lively, it's relaxing, and it really helps people get away from the anxieties of their work and their life for a short time."

"They will see traditional dances being done by people from the country itself. I don't mean that in a negative way, because we have Americans who are champions."

"But these performers bring with them a flavor of Ireland that might not always be captured by a local demonstration," said Regan-Kelly.

"The musicians themselves have grown up with this tradition, and they have learned it from their fathers and their mothers," she added. "It represents a continuation of that beautiful heritage that is passed on

*"If these concerts were held three or four times a year, I would go. We go because my husband and I are both from Ireland, and this is a bit of Ireland each year."*

— Imelda Foley of Rochester

by word and example. It's not like something they've learned from books. They live this tradition."

The storytellers capture the wit of the Irish, said Regan-Kelly.

"What is so funny about the storytelling is the way they express it and the language they use. They use idioms that are only heard in Ireland. The storyteller (or seanachai) also give people a glimpse of Ireland and

a way of getting in touch with their heritage.

"For people for whom it's not their heritage, this is an expression of another culture that is ancient and still vibrant today," she said.

Motown-bound performers include storyteller Daisy Kearney, singer John Furlong, fiddler Martin McGlinchey, accordionist Michael Sexton,

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