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Cork and Wexford share 12 All Stars

Camogie

by Colm O'Connor

All-Ireland champions Wexford and defeated finalists Cork dominated the Camogie All Star awards at Citywest on Saturday night.

The pair shared six awards each, with Offaly's Sheila Sullivan along with Galway pair Niamh Kilkenny and Niamh McGrath grabbing the three remaining places on the team.

Outgoing Wexford boss JJ Doyle collected the O'Neills Manager of the Year Award for the second year in

succession. Wexford defenders Claire O'Connor, Catherine O'Loughlin and Deirdre Codd collected awards as did forwards Katrina Parrock, Kate Kelly and All-Ireland final player of the match Ursula Jacob.

It was also a memorable night for the Cork contingent as Gemma O'Connor collected her seventh All Star while the Mackey sisters, Pamela and Katrina, became the first twins to win All Stars. Goalkeeper Aoife Murray, midfielder Jennifer O'Leary and forward Briege Corkery also received awards.

Doyle, who now takes charge of the Wexford U21 hurling side, hopes that the success of the camogie squad will

rub off on their male counterparts.

"These girls have left a great legacy behind them and hopefully camogie in Wexford will continue to grow and maybe we'll win something with the hurlers as well."

"I think I learned from the camogie girls that every team in the country has talented players, but it takes getting a little bit more out of them to win an All-Ireland."

"You have to believe in yourself, you have to believe in your team-mates. Maybe in Wexford we have been a bit negative and been a bit too down."

"It's time to start believing in ourselves a bit more and hopefully

from what the girls have achieved the lads can continue on."

2012 ALL STAR TEAM: A. Murray (Cork); C. O'Connor (Wexford); C. O'Loughlin (Wexford); S. Sullivan (Offaly); P. Mackey (Cork); G. O'Connor (Cork); D. Codd (Wexford); N. Kilkenny (Galway); J. O'Leary (Cork); K. Kelly (Wexford); N. McGrath (Galway); B. Corkery (Cork); K. Mackey (Cork); K. Parrock (Wexford); U. Jacob (Wexford).

2012 SOARING STAR TEAM: E. Mangan (Meath); K. Tinnelly (Down); C. Coffey (Meath); F. O'Neill (Meath); L. McCrickard (Down); S. Anne Fitzgerald (Leois); A. Thompson (Meath); C. McGourty (Down); K. Troy (Meath); S. O'Carroll (Kildare); J. Dolan (Meath); A. Donnelly (Meath); N. Mallon (Down); S. Hackett (Meath); S. Louise Carr (Down).

2012 INTERMEDIATE SOARING STARS: Sinéad Cassidy (Derry); Katie McAnenly (Derry); Sarah Noone (Galway).

2012 MANAGER OF THE YEAR: JJ Doyle, (Wexford).



REBELS WITH A CAUSE: Cork All Star nominees left to right: Jennifer O'Leary, Katrina Mackey, Pamela Mackey, Rena Buckley, Oria Cotter, Gemma O'Connor, Briege Corkery, Jenny Duff, Aoife Murray and Sile Burns strike a pose at Saturday's awards gala at Citywest, Dublin. Picture: Caroline Quinn



ALL SMILES: Aileen Lawlor, President of the Camogie Association, and Mary O'Connor, Acting Ard Stiúrthóir of the Camogie Association, in the front row with 2012 Camogie All-Star nominees at the 2012 Camogie All-Stars in association with O'Neills

CAMOGIE: All-Ireland finalists Wexford and Cork have six representatives each on the 2012 camogie AllStar team which was last night: Aoife Murray (Cork), Claire O'Connor (Wexford), Catherine O'Loughlin (Wexford), Sheila Sullivan (Offaly), Pamela Mackey (Cork), Gemma O'Connor (Cork), Deirdre Codd (Wexford), Niamh Kilkenny (Galway), Jennifer O'Leary (Cork), Kate Kelly (Wexford), Niamh McGrath (Galway), Briege Corkery (Cork), Katrina Mackey (Cork), Katrina Parrock (Wexford), Ursula Jacob (Wexford).

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Olympian Annalise Murphy, guest speaker at the 2012 Camogie All-Stars in association with O'Neills, front fourth from left, Aileen Lawlor, front fifth from left, President of the Camogie Association and Mary O'Connor, front third from right, Acting Árd Stiúrthóir of the Camogie Association. Back row l-r, Jennifer O'Leary (Cork), Kate Kelly (Wexford), Niamh McGrath (Galway), Briege Corkery (Cork), Katrina Mackey (Cork), Katrina Parrock (Wexford), Ursula Jacob (Wexford), Pamela Mackey (Cork), Sheila Sullivan (Offaly) and Gemma O'Connor (Cork). Front row l-r, Aoife Murray (Cork), Claire O'Connor (Wexford), Catherine O'Loughlin (Wexford), Deirdre Codd (Wexford) and Niamh Kilkeny (Galway), at the Citywest Hotel, Saggart, Co Dublin.

Picture: Caroline Quinn

Gemma in seventh heaven at All-Stars



BARBARA O'CONNELL

CAMOGIE

WHILE All-Ireland champions Wexford and defeated finalists Cork dominated the Camogie All-Star awards at City West on Saturday night, one Cork player was in seventh heaven.

Gemma O'Connor picked her seventh All-Star award in nine seasons of the awards to confirm her status as one of the greatest players ever to play the game.

She has now won All-Stars playing in four different positions, midfield, centre-back, wing-back, and centre-forward, and the Barrs star is still only 27, so who knows how many awards she will end up with when she decides to retire.

While winning an All-Star is a great personal achievement it doesn't soften the blow of losing the All-Ireland to Wexford.

"Receiving an All-Star is something of a bonus, and I am very grateful for getting the award," Gemma O'Connor said.

"However, no All-Star award will replace the feeling of losing, but being acknowledged for your effort and per-



Cork's Gemma O'Connor is presented with her 2012 Camogie All-Star award by Olympian Annalise Murphy (left). Also included is Aileen Lawlor (right), president of the Camogie Association, at the 2012 Camogie All-Stars awards, in association with O'Neills, at Citywest Hotel.

Picture: Caroline Quinn

sonal performance throughout the year is nice.

"I love the game for so many reasons, and to be able to share winning my seventh All-Star with so many of my family present in City West on the night was really special."

Cork and Wexford shared six

awards each, with Offaly's Sheila Sullivan along with Galway pair Niamh Kilkeny and Niamh McGrath grabbing the three remaining places on the team.

Outgoing Wexford boss JJ Doyle collected the O'Neill's manager of the Year Award for the second year in

succession.

Wexford defenders Claire O'Connor, Catherine O'Loughlin and Deirdre Codd collected awards as did forwards Katrina Parrock, Kate Kelly and All-Ireland final player of the match Ursula Jacob.

It was also a memorable night for the Cork contingent as the Mackey sisters, Pamela and Katrina, became the first twins to win All-Stars.

Veteran goalkeeper Aoife Murray, midfielder Jennifer O'Leary and forward Briege Corkery also received awards.

"It was a great night as a team for Cork. It was great to see so many of my team-mates honoured.

"I was thrilled to see the Mackey twins, Pamela and Katrina win their first award and create history as the first set of twins to be honoured.

"Also Aoife in goal, Jennifer in midfield and Briege in attack were all very deserving of their individual awards.

"Hopefully Briege can add a football All-Star this weekend to the camogie one.

"She deserves it. This was a nice way to end the season, but we want to win the All-Ireland.

"That will be our goal again next year. I'd rather have an All-Ireland winners medal today than a seventh All-Star."

2012 ALL STAR TEAM: A Murray (Cork); C O'Connor (Wexford); C O'Loughlin (Wexford); S Sullivan (Offaly); P Mackey (Cork); G O'Connor (Cork); D Codd (Wexford); N Kilkeny (Galway); J O'Leary (Cork); K Kelly (Wexford); N McGrath (Galway); B Corkery (Cork); K Mackey (Cork); K Parrock (Wexford); U Jacob (Wexford).



**CAMOGIE
ALL-STARS
2012**

In association with
O Neills
THE CHOICE OF CHAMPIONS

ALL-STARS

1
AOIFE
MURRAY
CORK

2
CLAIRE
O'CONNOR
WEXFORD

3
CATHERINE
O'LOUGHLIN
WEXFORD

4
SHEILA
SULLIVAN
OFFALY

5
PAMELA
MACKEY
CORK

6
GEMMA
O'CONNOR
CORK

7
DEIRDRE
CODD
WEXFORD

8
NIAMH
KILKENNY
GALWAY

9
JENNIFER
O'LEARY
CORK

10
KATE
KELLY
WEXFORD

11
NIAMH
McGRATH
GALWAY

12
BRIEGE
CORKERY
CORK

13
KATRINA
MACKEY
CORK

14
KATRINA
PARROCK
WEXFORD

15
URSULA
JACOB
WEXFORD

MANAGER of the YEAR

11
DOYLE
WEXFORD

INTERMEDIATE SOARING-STARS

SINÉAD
CASSIDY
DERRY

KATIE
McANENLY
DERRY

SARAH
NOONE
GALWAY

SOARING-STARS

1
EMILY
MANGAN
MEATH

2
KAREN
TINNELLY
DOWN

3
CLAIRE
COFFEY
MEATH

4
FIONA
O'NEILL
MEATH

5
LISA
McCRICKARD
DOWN

6
SARAH ANNE
FITZGERALD
LAOIS

7
AOIFE
THOMPSON
MEATH

8
CATHERINE
McGOURTY
DOWN

9
KRISTINA
TROY
MEATH

10
SUSIE
O'CARROLL
KILDARE

11
JANE
DOLAN
MEATH

12
AILEEN
DONNELLY
MEATH

13
NIAMH
MALLON
DOWN

14
SINÉAD
HACKETT
MEATH

15
SARA-LOUISE
CARR
DOWN



PRIDE: The All Stars with Olympian Annalise Murphy (front, 4th from left) and Camogie President Aileen Lawlor (front, 5th from left)

WEXFORD AND CORK DOMINATE

THERE was an Olympic feel to the 2012 Camogie All Stars in Citywest on Saturday night.

Special guest was Olympian Annalise Murphy — accompanied by her sister Claudine — while boxing coach Billy Walsh was also in attendance.

All-Ireland champions Wexford and finalists Cork dominated the awards, with six awards each.

It was celebration on the double for Wexford, as JJ Doyle collected the O'Neills Manager of the Year Award for the second year in a row.

Wexford's Claire O'Connor, Catherine O'Loughlin and Deirdre Codd collected awards.

And forwards Katrina Parrock, Kate Kelly and All-Ireland final player of the match, Ursula Jacob, made it six awards for the Leinster side.

Cork's Gemma O'Connor collected a remarkable seventh All Star while the Mackey sisters, Pamela and Katrina became the first twins to win Camogie All Stars.

ALL-STAR CAMOGIE TEAM: Aoife Murray (Cork), Claire O'Connor (Wexford), Catherine O'Loughlin (Wexford), Sheila Sullivan (Offaly), Pamela Mackey (Cork), Gemma O'Connor (Cork), Deirdre Codd (Wexford), Niamh Kilkeny (Galway), Jennifer O'Leary (Cork), Kate Kelly (Wexford), Niamh McGrath (Galway), Briege Corkery (Cork), Katrina Parrock (Wexford), Ursula Jacob (Wexford).

SOARING STAR TEAM: Emily Mangan (Meath), Karen Timoney (Down), Claire Coffey (Meath), Fiona O'Neill (Meath), Lisa McCrickard (Down), Sarah Anne Fitzgerald (Leicis), Aoife Thompson (Meath), Catherine McGourty (Down), Kristina Troy (Meath), Susie O'Carroll (Kildare), Jane Dolan (Meath), Aileen Donnelly (Meath), Niamh Mallon (Down), Sinéad Hackett (Meath), Sara-Louise Carr (Down).

INTERMEDIATE SOARING STARS: Sinéad Cassidy (Derry), Katie McAnenly (Derry), Sarah Noone (Galway).
2012 MANAGER OF THE YEAR: JJ Doyle, Wexford



ALL SMILES: Billy Walsh with O'Neills Manager of the Year JJ Doyle and (right) special guest Annalise Murphy with RTE's Evanne Ni Chuilinn



Mighty Milford turn on the style to rule Munster

Munster Camogie Club final

Milford (Cork)	1-7
Burgess/Duharra (Tipperary)	0-6

by Rose Mannion

Milford were crowned Munster senior camogie champions for the first time at Lattin Cullen on Saturday.

The Cork champions, hugely impressive in their county final win over St Catherine's, were too powerful for their hosts in a game which struggled to come to life in difficult conditions.

Milford, thanks to a Marie Watson goal, led 1-4 to 0-3 at half-time while her sister Emer added four points for the winners.

Tara Kennedy and captain Trish O'Halloran were best for the losers but had no answer to the Milford challenge led by the Watsons, Anna Geary, Elaine O'Riordan, Maria Walsh and the impressive Deirdre O'Reilly.

Scorers for Milford: M. Watson 1-1, E. Watson 0-4f, M. O'Neill, R. Curtin 0-1 each.

Scorers for Burgess/Duharra: T. Kennedy 0-4f, A. Kennedy 0-1, C. Maher 0-1.

MILFORD: R. Finn, K. Galvin, O. O'Mahony, L. Healy, E. O'Riordan (C), A. Geary, S. Sexton, D. O'Reilly, A. Thompson, M. Walsh, E. Watson, A. Watson, M. O'Neill, R. Curtin, M. Watson.

Subs for Milford: L. O'Flynn for A. Watson, S. O'Flynn for M. Walsh.

BURGESS/DUHARRA: N. O'Driscoll, E. King, A. Cremin, E. Dwan, D. McDonnell, T. O'Halloran (C), J. O'Halloran, C. Maher, A. Mulcahy, R. Barry, S. Howard, S. Hayes, T. Kennedy, E. McDonnell, A. Kennedy.

Subs for Burgess/Duharra: A. Egan for S. Hayes, C. McKeogh for S. Howard, M. Moloney for R. Barry, N. O'Donoghue for A. Kennedy.

Referee: Fintan McNamara (Clare).

Barryroe take honours after Burns hits double

Cork Senior B Camogie final

Barryroe	3-9
Clonakilty	0-7

by Sarah O'Donovan

Two goals from Cork star Sheila Burns ensured Barryroe were crowned Cork senior B champions at Brinny.

The derby had ended all square two weeks ago but on this occasion there was no disputing the winners.

Burns hit a goal in each half to kill off a gutsy Clonakilty outfit who fought hard but had little luck.

Clonakilty were awarded two penalties in the course of the game but both times Cork senior sub-keeper Eimear White was equal to the task. White also brought off a crucial save to deny substitute Sinéad O'Donovan a game-changing goal.

Burns' goal had put Barryroe six ahead but a scoring spurt from Clon closed the gap to 1-5 to 0-5 at the break.

The deficit was down to two after a well-taken Whelton free from the sideline in the second half but goals from Burns and Denise O'Sullivan nullified Clonakilty progress.

Scorers for Barryroe: S. Burns 2-4, J. O'Leary 0-4 (3f), D. O'Sullivan 1-0, K. McCarthy 0-1.

Scorers for Clonakilty: S. Whelton 0-6 (5f), C. O'Regan 0-1.

BARRYROE: E. White, L. Duffe, E. Carroll, J. White, K. McCarthy, N. O'Driscoll, C. Dineen, I. Dineen, J. O'Leary, L. Gannon, R. Dineen, G. Collins, P. Moloney, S. Burns, D. O'Sullivan.

Subs: A-M Fleming for J. White, E. O'Regan for L. Gannon (50).

CLONAKILTY: A. O'Hea, A. Kearns, S. O'Brien, C. Nagle, C. O'Mahony, H. O'Regan, L. Kemp, C. O'Regan, B. McManus, A. O'Leary, J. Brennan, S. Whelton, S. O'Neill, A. Deasy, S. Forristal.

Subs: S. O'Donovan for A. Deasy (40), G. O'Regan for L. Kemp (56).

Referee: D. Kirwan (Eire Og).

Nov. 2012

Milford can kick on after first county title

MILFORD and Burgess/Duharra go head-to-head in this year's Munster club final in Tipperary this Saturday, writes **LINDA MELLERICK**.

Burgess aren't new to the scene in the top flight despite their first county title being in 2010. They lost the previous year's final to Cashel by a single point with Cashel going all the way to claim their second All-Ireland club title.

After winning their first title in 2010 Burgess travelled to Ballyanly where they were favourites to overcome Inniscarra in the Munster club semi-final but a powerful second-half display by the home side saw them deny Burgess by four points.

Burgess have been there or thereabout for the past four seasons and won't be an easy task for Milford. They have fa-

TOMORROW
Munster Senior club final: Milford v Burgess Duharra (Tipperary), Lattin/Cullen GAA Field, Tipperary 2.30pm

miliar names in Therese Brophy, Clara Gaynor, Sinéad Nealon and Eimear McDonnell, all former big names on the intercounty scene.

In an extremely hard fought Tipperary senior championship final Burgess/Duharra defeated last year's champi-

ons and All-Ireland finalists Drom-Inch by the narrowest of margins, 0-9 to 1-5 and at this stage feel that a Munster title is now overdue. Teams that have narrowly denied Burgess over the past few years in Tipperary have reached the All Ireland final

and Burgess believe that it's now their turn.

Every bit as confident of prolonging their season is Milford, exuberant from their first county title just a few weeks ago. Many believed over the years that once Milford made the breakthrough they would express themselves more freely and do even greater things. Now is their chance.

Milford declare a clean bill of health although midweek there was a doubt over Niamh O'Brien starting due to flu.

Eimear McDonnell is the key scoring forward for Burgess. Elaine O'Riordan will no doubt be handed the task of marking this fast forward and it's a battle worth the entrance fee alone. This will be a tough encounter for Milford but they can win.

Whelton delays departure as Clon get a second chance

SUNDAY
Evening Echo Senior B, Championship Replay, Barryroe v Clonakilty, Brinny, 2pm

IT TOOK a point deep into injury time from the stick of Jennifer O'Leary to bring the sides back to Brinny tomorrow where Barryroe and Clonakilty will once again battle it out for the Evening Echo Senior B championship title, writes **MARY NEWMAN**.

After leading from the throw-in Clonakilty were gutted to have had victory snatched from their grasp and they now have to refocus once again and turn in a similar display if they are to take the title for the first time.

Once again the clash will generate huge interest in West Cork and a big

crowd is expected in Brinny.

Barryroe went into the last game as hot favourites to take their second Senior B crown having been regraded this season from Senior to Senior B they impressed all season and to date remain undefeated in both league and championship.

Clonakilty showed little regard for this and from the word go showed fierce determination as put their opponents under pressure. All over the field they played with their hearts on their sleeves and they hurled with huge intensity opening up a three-point interval lead after playing with the aid of the strong wind.

From the throw-in they never allowed Barryroe any space they used their physical strength to good effect as they

CAMOGIE

matched Barryroe in all sectors. The big talking point before the clash was would they be able to close down the threats posed by intercounty duo O'Leary and Sile Burns and this they did.

They moved the ball around fast and all through they kept the pressure on the Barryroe defence and they were worth their three-point interval lead.

Three times the sides were level but with Clon winning the key battles for possession they remained focused as they went six points clear.

Barryroe began to settle into the game and with Noreen O'Driscoll solid in defence and Rosemary Dineen and Geraldine Collins working hard up front

they began to gain a grip and forcing Clon into errors they won frees which O'Leary duly pointed to cut the deficit to three points and as the half wore on Clon were jut about hanging on. In the finish Barryroe with three late points finished stronger to force a replay.

It's all to play for now again many feel Clonakilty have lost their chance but if they can reproduce the same display of heart and determination there is no reason why they cannot take the title.

Barryroe will feel they did not do them selves justice last time out and that they are capable of much more, once again Jennifer O'Leary will be a key player for them whilst Rosemary Dineen and Noreen O'Driscoll are players who will have key roles to play.

In the final they lost their intercounty

U16 player Claire Sexton at half-time with a shoulder injury and she continues to be a huge loss to their inside line.

Clonakilty will be without the services of Aileen McCarthy who came on at half-time last day as she has departed to Tanzania on charity work, however on the plus side for them is the news that Sharon Whelton has delayed her departure to Canada for employment until after the replay.

Sharon she was due to fly out on Friday but is now staying back to play what will be her last game for the club for the immediate future.

It's a tough one to call, Barryroe showed tremendous fighting spirit to fashion a draw out of nothing, the big question now is will they be able to up their game sufficiently this time.

CAMOGIE

By SARAH O'DONOVAN

Barryroe 3-9
Clonakilty 0-7

SUPERIOR firepower ensured Barryroe captured the Senior B camogie trophy at the second time of asking in Brinny.

Sile Burns contributed 2-4 from play while Jenny O'Leary, who collected another camogie All-Star on Saturday night, hit four points over the hour.

Barryroe's defence was excellent in the opening half; Eimear White superb on the goal line and backs Eileen Carroll and Noreen O'Driscoll diligent to a lively Clonakilty attack.

It was felt Clonakilty had left it behind them the first day out but yesterday they had no luck; two penalties saved and the breaking ball favouring Barryroe.

Sharon Whelton's tally of 0-6 kept Clonakilty in the running but they needed a goal and their best effort from substitute Sinéad O'Donovan was bravely saved by Cork sub keeper Eimear White.

White's significant inter-county experience was instrumental in securing victory for Barryroe as she showed immense composure in saving both of Whelton's penalties.

Barryroe started brightly with a Sile Burns point inside the opening minute.

A Jenny O'Leary goal chance followed but she was pushed out through expert defending from goalkeeper Anna O'Hea and backs Sinéad O'Brien and Clare O'Mahony.

Clonakilty were awarded a penalty in the next exchange but Barryroe survived, White clearing off the line.

Clon then survived another Jenny O'Leary goal chance, Anna O'Hea getting in a crucial block to keep them in contention but Barryroe hit three further points before Sharon Whelton opened Clonakilty's account with a pointed free.

Geraldine Collin's pace caused Clon all sorts of problems and the relentless pressure eventually told with Sile Burns raising a green flag in the 25th minute to extend the deficit to seven points.

Credit to Clon they didn't panic, Whelton, Aine O'Leary and Clodhna O'Regan worked hard in the closing minutes of the half to bring them back within three points at the half-time whistle on



The Barryroe team celebrate their victory over Clonakilty in the Evening Echo Senior B Championship final replay at Brinny.

Picture: Martin Walsh

Síle Burns Clon to help give Roe title

a scoreline of 1-5 to 0-5.

Whelton pointed from the sideline to buoy Clon for the opening score of the second-half, but the side scored just one further point in the half.

Jenny O'Leary pointed a free to steady Barryroe but it was in the 36th minute that Barryroe cemented their dominance.

Geraldine Collins struck a rasper that was heading over the crossbar but Clon keeper Anna O'Hea managed to pull it down.

The ball broke to Burns who rifled the net from outside the six-yard box to extend Barryroe's

lead to six points.

Burns hit two further points and captain Karen McCarthy struck a point from midfield to put nine points between the sides before Clon enjoyed a period of dominance.

Clon substitute Sinéad O'Donovan looked to have the Midas touch when she let fly on her introduction, but Eimear White came off her line to smother the shot and deny Clon a certain goal.

Clon engineered a second penalty when Susan Forristal was fouled, but White was coolness personified to ensure a deserved

3-9 to 0-7 victory for the Carbery outfit in a derby tie that captured the imagination in West Cork.

Scorers for Barryroe: S Burns 2-4, J O'Leary 0-4 (0-35), D O'Sullivan 1-0, K McCarthy 0-1.

Clonakilty: S Whelton 0-6 (0-55), C O'Regan 0-1.

BARRYROE: E White; L Dullea, E Carroll, J White; K McCarthy, N O'Driscoll, C Dineen; I Dineen, J O'Leary, L Gannon, R Dineen, G Collins; P Moloney, S Burns, D O'Sullivan.

Subs: A-M Fleming for J White, E O'Regan for L Gannon (50).

CLONAKILTY: A O'Hea; A Kearns, S O'Brien, C Nagle, C O'Mahony; H O'Regan, L Kemp; C O'Regan, B McManus; A O'Leary, J Brennan, S Whelton; S O'Neill, A Deasy, S Forristal.

Subs: S O'Donovan for A Deasy (40), G O'Regan for L Kemp (56).

Referee: D Kirwan (Eire Og).

Final win elementary for Milford's Watsons

Milford 1-7
Burgess Duharra 0-6

DELIGHTED to be Munster champions after a real dogged game, was how Milford manager Frank Flannery expressed his team's delight on Saturday afternoon after they took Munster honours for the first time, writes **LINDA MELLERICK**.

While Milford were certainly the better team throughout it took a determined second half dis-

play to see them through.

Marie Watson goaled early giving Milford a 1-1 to 0-1 lead inside 10 minutes but on a day when they found it hard to capitalise on possession just four points separated the sides at the break; 1-4 to 0-3.

The move of the game, from Milford's perspective, was the switch of Deirdre Reilly to centre forward and Emer Watson to midfield and with Player of the Match Anna Geary, Aishling Thompson, Maria

CAMOGIE

Watson and Elaine O'Riordan excellent on the day Milford held that four point interval lead to the end.

It was a day when Milford's half-back line controlled the game, the substitution of Burgess Duharra's entire half-forward line testament to their domination and with O'Riordan holding star player Emer McDonnell to a single point at full-forward, it was once again a

solid defensive display.

"We didn't play particularly well throughout," admitted Frank, "but we dug out a good result. We were up four points at half time but had missed so much you'd be worried that it wasn't our day. We're thrilled and looking forward now to the All-Ireland semi-final against Oulart de Ballagh."

Scorers for Milford: E Watson 0-5 (1), M Watson 1-1, A Watson 0-1.

Burgess Duharra: T Kennedy 0-3 (1), A Kennedy 0-2 (1), E McDonnell 0-1.

MILFORD: R Finn; K Galvin, E O'Riordan, L Healy; O O'Mahony, A Geary, S Sexton; D O'Reilly, A Thompson; M Walsh, E Watson, A Watson; M O'Neill, R Curtin, M Watson.

Subs: L O'Flynn for A Watson (34), S O'Flynn for M Walsh (40).

BURGESS DUHARRA: N O'Driscoll; E King, T.A. Cremin, E Dwan; D McDonnell, T O'Halloran, J O'Halloran; C Maher, A Mulcahy; R Barry, S Howard, S Hayes; T Kennedy, E McDonald, A Kennedy.

Subs: G Grace for E Dwan (20), C McKelvie for R Barry (40), N O'Donohue for S Howard (43), M Moloney for S Hayes (60).

Referee: Fintan McNamara (Clare).

Championship warm up for minor grades

MINOR CAMOGIE

THE minor championships continue to progress as competitions reach their conclusion at all grades, **writes MARY NEWMAN.**

In the Minor A championship, Killeagh recorded a semi-final victory over Valley Rovers in Brinny in a close clash to book their place in the final on a 3-8 to 2-2 scoreline.

Laura Tracey, Ali Rose Sisk, Aoife Walsh and Hannah Looney were to the fore for the Killeagh girls as they held out under huge Valley Rovers pressure to secure their final place.

Glen Rovers overcame Douglas in a tight clash in Douglas to ensure themselves of a place in the final. Captain Nicole O'Brien, Leeann O'Sullivan, Lauren Callanan and Kaylynn Lee were impressive as the Glen girls stood firm to take the place in the last two.

In an all Mid-Cork Minor B Championship semi-final in Cloughduv Éire Óg with Siobhán Hutchinson and Maeve Ellen Desmond working hard overcame Cloughduv to make it to the final where they will meet the winners of the Kilbrittan/Timoleague / Brian Dillon's semi-final game down for decision today.

The Minor C Championship is moving along with round two and three games on the fixture programme for this weekend and next weekend.

Already Blackrock, Banteer and Bishopstown are through to the quarter finals and they await winners from these games.

Carrigtwohill goals prove to be the difference

MINOR CAMOGIE

Carrigtwohill 3-3
Cobh 1-4

A SPIRITED performance from Carrigtwohill saw them overcome Cobh to take the Evening Echo Minor D Championship title recently in Castle Road.

Shauna McCrossan-Donnachie gave Cobh an early lead as she struck for a goal and it was 10 minutes before Carrigtwohill opened their account when Rachel Sheehan's goal levelled matters.

Twice the sides swapped points before Sheehan pointed a 45 to give Carrigtwohill the lead. Erica Field replied with a pointed free but Carrigtwohill hit two goals before the break with Holly Brethany and Rachel Sheehan on target to leave it 3-3 to 1-3.

Both defences were superb in the second half and the only score of the half came from Katie Sheehan, who pointed a Cobh free. Throughout the half the ball swung from end to end but the defences stood firm. Thanks to a superb closing 10 minutes of the opening half Carrigtwohill had the upper hand and they held on to take the title.

Carrigtwohill captain Rachel Sheehan was named as Player of the Match.

Scorers for Carrigtwohill: R. Sheehan 2-10 (145), H. Brethany 1-0, C. Dixey, C. Behan 0-1 each.

Cobh: S. McCrossan-Donnachie, E. Field 0-3 (ft), K. Sheehan 0-1 (ft).

CARRIGTWOHILL: C. Cronin, S. Kane, S. Curtin, S. Dorgan, H. Kierans, A. Horgan, D. Holmes, R. Hickey, J. Foley, R. Jenkins-Butler, C. Rohan, A. Crowley, H. Brethany, R. Sheehan (c), C. Dixey.

Subs: A. Buttler for D. Holmes (40), E. Corry for S. Kane (41), L. Hinchliff for R. Hickey (57), G. McConville for C. Rohan (57).

COBH: N. O'Sullivan, L. Stanton, N. Meaney, N. Cashman, C. Mc Grath, K. Sheehan (c), E. Moynihan, L. Van Wijnen, M. Damerly, E. Field, N. Sawani, J. Rohan, L. Farrell, E. Spriggs, S. McCrossan-Donnachie.

Subs: E. O'Riagan for L. Farrell (41), N. O'Connor for N. Cashman (41).

Referee: Dave O'Connell (Glen Rovers).

Cobh delight at historic first title

Cobh 1-7
Ballinora 0-8
JUNIOR CAMOGIE

A FIRST adult title for Cobh since the club was reformed as they captured the Junior C league after an exciting battle with Ballinora in Castle Road recently, **writes MARY NEWMAN.**

It was nip and tuck all through and as the game entered injury time it looked as if the sides would have to meet again but a late Cobh rallied saw Eilish Walsh and Eadaoin Tallon striking points to ensure victory was secured.

Erica Field was on target for Cobh with a goal after just five minutes and she added to her side's tally with two points to leave it 1-4 to 0-4 at the break.

Eadaoin Tallon also had a Cobh point while Fiona Fitton hit three and Karen Lane one as Ballinora stayed in the hunt for the title.

Twice Fiona Fitton pointed to cut the deficit before Erica Field responded pointing a free as Cobh continued to hold the advantage.

Ballinora responded with Fiona Fitton striking two in row to level matters and now it

was Ballinora who held the upper hand and they were applying huge pressure but they struck three wide's in a row as the Cobh defence stood firm.

As the final minute approached a replay looked to be on the cards but a strong Cobh finish ensured the title was secure with Walsh and Tallon's late strikes enough to give them the title and ensure the best present possible for corner back and bride to be Marguerite Tierney who get married on Friday next.

Scorers for Cobh: E. Field 1-4 (0-3 ft), E. Tallon 0-2, E. Walsh 0-1.

Ballinora: F. Fitton 0-7 (0-4 ft, 0-2 45), K. Lane 0-1.

COBH: N. O'Sullivan, M. Tierney, D. Walley, O. Mc Grath, A. McKiernan, K. Sheehan, A. Hart, L. Van Wijnen, A. Richardson, N. Sawani, E. Tallon, S. Looney (c), C. Smith, M. Moynihan, E. Field.

Subs: E. Fen for A. Richardson (41), E. Spriggs for N. Sawani (46), E. Walsh for K. Sheehan (56).

Ballinora: C. Hourihane (c), C. O'Keeffe, A. Mc Grath, J. Sorenson, T. Hourihane, J. O'Donnell, D. Hourihane, J. Cronin, A. Fitzgerald, F. Fitton, L. O'Shea, M. Murphy, K. Lane.

G. Hourihane, L. Walsh.

Subs: N. McCarthy for G. Hourihane (56), J. Murphy for L. Walsh (56).

Referee: Andrew Larkin (Douglas).



Cobh Captain Siobhan Looney holds aloft the Junior C league trophy after her side's victory over Ballinora.

Intermediate level needs attention

WHILE Milford remain in the hunt for Munster and All-Ireland club honours, the local senior club and inter-county scene is effectively at a close.

Would many consider that it's been a good year for Cork?

Any year that Cork don't win a senior All-Ireland title would be viewed as an unsuccessful year.

But you need to look at where you're starting from before you (a) pass judgement and (b) plan for moving forward.

Cork hasn't won a senior title since 2009. Not an age by any means but for a county that has accumulated 10 titles in 21 years, an approximate average of one every two years, we would want to be getting back to winning ways pretty quickly.

Cork is such a large county, yet if we're honest we are struggling to find top calibre players at senior level.

A national league title and senior championship finalists in 2012 has to be seen as progression, but let's not kid ourselves that because we're there or thereabouts year in and year out that we're still a major force and the future is bright.

There is little point in clapping ourselves on the back; a kick in the backside is never far away.

My concern is our lack of minor



OPINION

and intermediate titles and that is where we are failing more so than on the senior stage; we can't have the latter without the former.

I admit to not seeing many inter-county minor championship games in the past but since I have become re-involved in training underage and minor teams I see strong talent in the county and that's typically only in the B grade.

Why aren't we capitalising on this? Where is it breaking down? I hear the 'politics' talk, you will always get those that feel certain players should be played before others and that club favouritism is high on the agenda.

How true is that I wonder?

I know for a fact that in the late eighties that was certainly happening at senior level and it was only when it was eradicated did Cork start winning titles again.

I can't comment on whether it is happening at minor now but something is amiss.

It is hard to comprehend that we have gone nine years without

a minor title, admittedly we've lost a few finals in between.

When players leave minor, where do they go in camogie?

There is no U21 competition, so for many progression would be making the intermediate grade.

However in Cork, there seems to be little enthusiasm among players to play and commit at this level. Why?

Maybe a number of years ago you could understand it as there was little emphasis placed on the grade and it was often played in the latter stages of the year.

However, it now runs concurrent with the senior championship and has its hour of glory preceding the senior final every year, televised live.

The intermediate finals have been outstanding these past couple of years. Why would any player not want to be a part of that?

We are failing in Cork in marketing this competition to the players.

We aren't taking it seriously enough. More often than not the intermediate and senior managerial teams are often at odds over players instead of working together.

It beggars belief and is a prime example of lack of co-operation when senior panel members aren't selected for the Intermediate squad or indeed refuse to play

for them. That is a sin.

Both Wexford teams trained together in 2011 and won both All Irelands. Many of those intermediate players won All-Ireland senior titles this year.

The rest, those who didn't make the senior panel, are apparently chomping at the bits, bursting to get on.

They have a taste of success, they have a taste of top class training and they want more. That desire is sorely missing in Cork.

Previously I wasn't a fan of both teams training together but my mindset has changed somewhat. It's tough on the management that's for sure come match day, but from a training perspective there are more positives than negatives and I believe such a scenario would reap huge benefits.

I see Paudie Murray at all the club games searching for new talent. Yet he is only looking at it from a senior panellist perspective.

If he was looking at it from both senior and intermediate it would open the door for dozens of others and you would be amazed how players would blossom from training at the top level.

Someone you may never have considered in the past could become a player you couldn't do without in the future.

There is room for thought here. Something's gotta give.

ON ^{THE} BALL



WINTER 2012

Inside

- All Stars & Soaring Stars
- Ursula Jacob talks 'three-in-a-row'
- All Ireland Championships & Irish Daily Star National Leagues in Review
- Development News
- And much more



THE OFFICIAL MAGAZINE OF



**THE
CAMOGIE
ASSOCIATION**
An Cumann Camógaíochta

Clare gear up for Shinty International

By Camogie Association
Posted 25/10/2012



Clare Camogie are on the cusp of the most prestigious weekend in their history since their inception in 1934 as this coming weekend sees them host the International Shinty Festival in their new grounds, the Fr McNamara Field reports Clare PRO Brid McNamara

The Ladies Shinty International throws in at 11.00am. The Scottish team is managed by Fiona Mathie, and the panel is made up of Annie Buterworth (Glenary), Karen Cameron (Glenary), Yvonne Connaughton (Tir Conail Harps), Orla Coughlan (Tir Conail Harps), Kristy Deans (Badenoch & Strathpey), Niamh Donnelly (Aberdour), Katie Drain (Glasgow Mid Argyll), Jonny Duffin (Aberdour), Laura Gallacher (Glenary), Joanne Gilanders (Glenary), Alana Harrison (Glasgow Mid Argyll), Lucy MacLeod (Strathglass), Lorna Macrae (Skye), Laura McCafferty (Glasgow Mid Argyll), Rachel McCafferty (Glasgow Mid Argyll), Elizabeth McGregor (Badenoch & Strathpey), Jeanette McGregor (Badenoch & Strathpey), Jane Nicol (Badenoch & Strathpey), Katy Smith (Aberdour), Elaine Wink (Glenary) with Reserves: Jenna Boston (Skye), Kathleen Cameron (Ludhader), Christy Doherty (Glasgow Mid Argyll), Kristy Gray (Glasgow Mid Argyll), Geraldine Murphy (Tir Conail Harps).

The Irish team is a Clare representative side of all the Camogie clubs in the host county of Clare. All clubs were welcome to nominate one non county player for the side.

The panel is as follows: Sheelagh Duffy (Clooney Quin), Sinead Collins (Corfin), Maria Brody (Scarl/Ogonelloe), Orla Chaplin (Somlebridge), Ruth Lillis (Éire Óg Iris), Claire McDonnell (Ruan), Cúshla Hehr (Kikishen), Aida Grifley (Kilmaley), Kim Moloney (St. Josephs Doora Banfield), Deirdre Cassidy (Newmarket on Fergus), Lauren Gaulty (Feakle), Alison Carrig (Ballyea), Michelle Wynne (Inagh/Kilmara), Annmarie Fitzgerald (Bodyke), Aoife Conlon (Kilmara), Aisling McNamara (Tulla), Teresa Roseingrave (Crusheen), Aileen Burke (Whitegate), Deirdre Boland (Broadford), Maria Lyons (Clarecastle), Aoife Nihil (Wolfe Tones), Sothian Fahy (Truagh/Clontara).

The Irish Management team is Catherine O'Loughlin Inagh/Kilmara and Niall Malone Éire Óg Iris.

The Irish Visitor Girls are Emma Hall (Cratloe), Niamh O'Kelly (Pateen), Rosie Farrell Smith (O'Briens), Erin Urquhart (Burton).

Following the match, there will be a parade through the town of Ennis from the Holy Family School to Cusack Park, where the Men's International game will take place at 2.00pm.

The Parade will be comprised of the 26 Clare Camogie Clubs, Clare County Teams, Inagh-Kilmara Div 2 Féile na nGael winners, and these groups will be joined by 5 Clubs representing Clare GAA. There will also be a group to represent Diversification and Integration.

The Clare Camogie Munster Champions at both Senior and Minor will lead the parade behind the world renowned Tulla Pipe Band, while the Irish Shinty Team will close the Parade.

Living history for Clooney-Quin camogie

By Carol Glynn

Thursday 11 October 2012 12:39

This Saturday will be a momentous day for Clooney-Quin camogie as they celebrate their first appearance in a senior camogie finals in 68 years. For another long associate of the club, the day will mark another high point. Honorary president of Clooney-Quin Camogie Club, Fanny Corbett, nee O'Neill, coincidentally celebrates her 100th birthday this Saturday.

Clooney camogie club was the first club to be founded in Clare and was formed in 1933 by Clooney native, hurler and GAA administrator Mick Hennessy.

Fanny Corbett was among the camogie squad in the 1930s and early '40s that dominated Clare camogie and won no less than six county senior championships, the Dr Daly Memorial Cup and Munster Championship. Fanny was among the stars of that team along with Chris Markham, Babs Clune, Annie Conheady and Dokey McNamara.

Fanny was asked to be the honorary president of the club, when it was reformed approximately 22 years ago, when the then chairman Sean Earls asked her to consider the role.

Then in her '80s, Fanny told him she would have to think about it, but after some thought she donned the role.

The former Clooney-Quin camogie player has always had a large involvement in club activities in the village, and any cup to come to the club had to pay a visit to Fanny.

"When Clare won the Junior All-Ireland in 2008, Deirdre Murphy was captain and she had to call to Fanny with cup," Breda Daffy, chairperson of Clooney-Quin Camogie said.

Indeed if the local team are successful on Saturday, Breda said the cup will most definitely have to pay Fanny a visit.

Fanny turning 100 has also inspired the senior team, according to Breda.

"Fanny is really well known in the village and is a cornerstone in the parish. The current senior team all know her and would always remember her involvement and when they won the senior B they all wanted to talk to her about it. Fanny would always be out at her door waiting to greet the team.

"It's a really unusual coincidence and it would be marvelous to be able to bring the cup to her, and obviously it would be marvelous to win it anyway. We've been aiming for it since 2006 when we went senior and we are so delighted to be there and we hope to get the next step on now," she said.

After an interval of almost 70 years, the senior camogie players hope to see a return of the club's former glory when the team dominated the Clare Camogie Championship, taking six senior championships and a Munster Championship as well as many inter-county tournaments.

The senior final will be played on Saturday at 1.30pm in Clarecastle where the team will face Kilmaley, who have won the championship as recently as 2009.

In the face of this strong opposition, club officials say they are confident the Clooney-Quin team will provide a worthy opposition with the strong management team of Raymond Ryan, Ger O'Halloran and Mike Duggan behind them.

"We are the underdogs and that's the big thing, but the girls are out to give it their all. We are delighted to get this far and the girls would be hoping for nothing short of victory. Our goal is to position camogie in Clooney-Quin to again relive this golden era in camogie in the parish," Breda concluded.

Nov. 2012

Brian Dillon's take Junior A title

Brian Dillon's
Enniskeane 1-8
1-6

Brian Dillon's overcame Enniskeane in this replay of the Evening Echo Junior A championship to take the title in another exciting clash. Both sides once again served up a cracking contest and it went down to the wire before the champions were crowned.

Enniskeane took an early lead when Orla Cronin pointed a free, but a Donna Carroll goal 13 minutes into the contest got Brian Dillon's off to a good start.

Aided by the strong breeze, Enniskeane settled in and turned over leading 1-3 to 1-2.

Jane Dooley and Donna Carroll having added to the Brian Dillon's tally with points whilst Sinead Hennessy grabbed the Enniskeane goal — points from Orla Cronin and Katie Buttiner helped keep them in control.

It was nip and tuck as the sides battled it out and it took an excellent save from Brian Dillon's goalkeeper Saoirse Rodgers in the last

minute of normal time to keep her side ahead.

Through the second half, Therese Drummond kept Brian Dillon's in the game as she struck five pointed frees and added one from play to bring her tally to six.

For Enniskeane Orla Cronin, Caroline O'Donovan and Sinead Hennessy were on target and it took two late points — one from play and one from a free in added time from Therese Drummond — to ensure the game didn't go to extra time as Brian Dillon's hung on despite huge Enniskeane pressure to be crowned champions.

Brian Dillon's Therese Drummond was named as player of the match following her contribution to her side's success.

Brian Dillon's S Rodgers; S Cotter, A O'Brien (c), S Ring; R Brosnan, A Dorgan, O Ni Suilleabhain; S K Brosnan, D Ring; C Dooley, T Drummond, J Dooley; C Rodgers, R O'Mahony, D Carroll.

Sub: E Keane for R O'Mahony.

Enniskeane M O'Regan; M O'Leary, M A Hayes, K O'Shea; D Jackson, K Mc Carthy, A O'Callaghan; S Curtin, O Cronin; C O'Mahony, C O'Donovan, A O'Leary; K Buttiner (c), L Duggan, S Hennessy.

Glen Rovers
Killeagh 2-10
2-7

In a day filled with emotion, Glen Rovers were crowned Evening Echo County Minor champions as they overcame Killeagh after a superb final in Castle Road.

Glen captain Nicole O'Brien dedicated the win to the recently deceased Graham O'Connell, the son of selector Dave, and brother of player Edel who passed away unexpectedly on August 27 at just 14 years of age. Certainly his clubmates did his memory proud as they wore their hearts on their sleeve.

Killeagh, playing with the aid of the strong wind in the opening half, put the Glen defence under a lot of pressure but as the Glen dug in, it was 0-2 apiece before Killeagh hit two points in a row to take the lead.

A superb goal from Hannah Looney stretched their lead to five points and the same player pointed to put six between the sides.

Lauren Callanan steadied her side with a pointed a 45 before the break but Killeagh lead 1-5 to 0-3 at the interval. On the turnover they stretched it to six points with a pointed free from Leah McEvoy but, with the wind to their backs, the Glen drove forward. With captain Nicole O'Brien leading the

Glen captain dedicates Minor A victory to deceased young clubmate, Graham O'Connell

way, they put a lot of pressure on the Killeagh defence.

Aisling Wallace and Edel O'Connell pointed to narrow the gap and, with their pacy forwards causing a lot of bother for the Killeagh defence, they grabbed a goal, Nicole O'Brien cutting the Killeagh lead to a point. Lauren Callanan sent a long-range effort all the way to the net and she followed up twice, pointing long-range frees to put the Glen in control.

Killeagh worked hard to get back into the game but the Glen defence stood firm while, up front, their forwards worked hard and kept the Killeagh defence busy.

Killeagh's Leah McEvoy pointed a difficulty free against the strong breeze but in response Callanan pointed three in a row as the Glen laid siege to the Killeagh goal and won two free and a 45 and now sensing victory was within their

grasp they pushed for more.

Edel O'Connell pointed to put six points between the sides and, as the game moved into added time, Killeagh still battled to get something and a goal from Leah McEvoy had them within three points once again. Again the Glen attacked from the puck-out but Killeagh stood firm and, sweeping down field, they won a close-in free. Their superb effort was handled well by the Glen defence to the sound of the full-time whistle as the city girls held firm to be crowned champions. Glen Rovers captain Nicole O'Brien was named Player of the Match and presented with her memento by Mairead O'Donovan, the County Board development officer.

Scorers for Glen Rovers L Callanan 1-4 (1-2's, 0-2 45's), E O'Connell 0-4 (1's), N O'Brien 1-1 A Wallace 0-1.

Scorers for Killeagh L McEvoy 1-4 (0-3's), H Looney 1-2, A Walsh 0-1.

Referee Mike O'Kelly (Ballyhea).



President's Address

Aileen Lawlor, President of the Camogie Association
Eibhlín Uí Leathlóbhair, Uachtarán, An Cumann Camógaíochta

Welcome to the 7th Edition of On The Ball Magazine

The highlight of this year was undoubtedly our All Ireland Finals on September 16th which were fantastic showcases for the game of Camogie, watched by over 300,000 people on the Sunday Game. Such was the standard of play, that for days and indeed weeks after, the games were a topic of conversation amongst many, including people who wouldn't normally follow Camogie but who had a great appreciation for what was on show.

As I cast my mind back over the year other highlights include:

- Cork securing the Irish Daily Star Division 1 League by defeating Wexford
- Wexford winning their third successive All Ireland in a row
- Meath winning their first All Ireland Junior Title
- Kerry competing in two All Ireland Finals

Nadine Murphy from Dublin's St. Vincent's club was the first player (recorded) to have scored a point directly from a side-line cut at the Cooper U14 Inter-county Blitzes in September. The new playing rule was adopted at Congress 2012 and thus earned Nadine's county team two points through this skill. Well done Nadine!

The first adult player recorded to master this skill was Anne Griffin from the Ballyboden St. Enda's club Dublin. Well done Anne!

Camán to Croker in association with John Torpey Hurls - Budding Stars in Croke Park

48 teams from 28 Counties packed full of budding camogie stars took to the hallowed turf of Croke Park in May of this year. All of the players were under the age of 12 and while they gazed around the iconic venue, they were reminded that this was merely an introduction to a stadium, that they would become familiar with in the following years.

Tremendous skills and abilities were displayed by these eager young athletes; providing a great indication of a vibrant and exciting future for Camogie. The participating clubs hailed from a mixture of traditionally strong Hurling/Camogie counties, and the not so strong counties; yet all were equal on the playing field of Croke Park.

All Stars in association with O'Neills

It is a great pleasure to present the 2012 All Star and Soaring Star Awards, to so many of our Camogie role models, in Senior, Intermediate, and Junior grades. These awards are in recognition of their skill, athleticism, dedication and contribution to the game of Camogie. Míle Buíochas for all the excellent entertaining games you have given us this year.

Camogie is thriving Abroad

The 2012 Continental Youth Games were held in Chicago. Approximately 2,000 children travelled from different parts of the U.S.A. to take part in these Annual Championships. It was a remarkable sight to see children who were born in America playing our Gaelic Games of Camogie, Football and Hurling and seeing them play as passionately and competitively as their counterparts at home in Ireland.

There is great coaching and development work going on throughout the United States, and it's a credit to the volunteers, parents and full-time teams in the U.S. who are continuously driving this development and nurturing Gaelic Games.

North American Championships

The NAC took place this year in Philadelphia. This is the Adult Championships run by the North American County Board. Again it was an inspiration to watch all Gaelic Games codes played outside of Ireland. This was my second experience seeing this championship taking place. The progress I saw on this visit was the introduction of a Junior competition where the girls playing Camogie were all American; born to American parents, and only started playing Camogie in their adult life. This is a real sign that Camogie in the U.S. is growing each year.

European Championships

Development work is also very evident on the European Continent.

There was a great Camogie representation at the European games, held in Thurles at the end of July, with teams from France, Belgium, Luxembourg, Switzerland and Holland taking part in both Hurling and Camogie. The Camogie team from Paris were winners on the day.

I was honoured to meet Nicola McEvoy, playing for Luxembourg who later this year went on to become the Rose of Tralee. I'm sure she is promoting Camogie on her travels in her year as an Ambassador for Ireland.

Nov. 2012

Féile in the Capital

Dublin hosted the 2012 Féile na nGael competition. Dublin city centre came to a standstill, for the fantastic parade on the Thursday night where 200 teams from Camogie, Hurling and Handball paraded from Croke Park into the centre of Dublin. It was a huge spectacle which was watched and enjoyed by thousands.

The Feile competition itself was a huge success. Well done to all of the Dublin Host Committee and the clubs and families who hosted the visitors so well. It was and always is a tremendous experience for our youth – an experience that stays with them for the rest of their lives.

Camogie for all

Camogie for All is an initiative run by the Camogie Association to include all children in sport, and in particular Camogie, whether they are able bodied or disabled.

This initiative which is funded by the Equality Authority sees Coaches receive special training for adapted training sessions and methods to include children with all kinds of abilities in all activities. All children may not like or want to be involved in the actual playing of sport, but they should be given the opportunity to decide that for themselves. We also introduce them to many other aspects of participation in sport other than actual playing on the field.

It is probably very fitting here to mention Gaelic Games for all. The three Presidents of the three field sports Liam O'Neill GAA, Pat Quill LGFA, and myself are committed to working together in promoting Gaelic games for all, both at home and abroad. We are three separate organisations and while respecting each others identity, we recognise that each code has the same goals and wishes to make Gaelic games accessible to as many children and adults as possible. Individually we can achieve a lot, but collectively we can achieve so much more.

President Aileen Lawlor accompanies Úachtarán na hÉireann, Michael D. Higgins at the teams presentation prior to the All Ireland Final at Croke Park in September

The Olympic Torch

History was made when the Olympic Torch arrived into Croke Park in June this year. One of Ireland's greatest Ambassadors for sport, Henry Shefflin had the honour in carrying the torch. It was only the second time in history that the torch, appeared out of the Olympic hosting country. It was history in the making and I felt privileged to be a part of such a momentous occasion.

Make-A-Wish® Foundation

The Camogie Association were delighted to announce the Make-A-Wish Foundation as their chosen charity earlier this year at the All Ireland Camogie Finals. I extend a warm welcome to Clodagh Swords and Susan O'Dwyer of the Make-A-Wish Foundation who have joined us here this evening as well. Make-A-Wish® in Ireland has one simple aim - to grant the wishes of children aged between 3 and 17 years living with a life-threatening medical condition. The Camogie Association are delighted to partner with this organisation and we look forward to supporting their work over the next three years.

New Year – New Games

I am really looking forward to the 2013 Championship and League season. Perhaps we will see new champions emerging or maybe current champions remaining at the top; who knows!

One thing is for certain though, thousands of girls and women will have great fun competing and taking part in our wonderful game of Camogie - the fastest field sport in the world for women.

Eibhlín Uí Leathlóbhair

Uachtarán

An Cumann Camógaíochta



OULART CLUB CHAMPIONSHIP PREVIEW

THE TEAM TO BEAT

says Gerry O'Sullivan

With the inter-county season safely sorted for another year, camogie fans now turn their attention to the destination of the highly coveted club championships. The question on most observers lips is can anyone stop Oulart the Ballagh?

Since 2003 the club has won every Wexford senior championship bar one. Four wearers of the red and black have captained the Model County to All-Ireland senior glory including this year's skipper Karen Atkinson. With 9 members on the All-Ireland winning three in a row squad – they are a formidable side to beat.

Yet for many the amazing statistic is that they have won only one All-Ireland club title which they did emphatically last year when they overwhelmed Drom-Inch holding the Tipperary champions scoreless in the first half.

Despite their undoubted pool of talent (although minus Ciara Storey – Australia, Tanya Stamp and Aideen Brennan from last year's team), until last March, the dream of a club All-Ireland had proven elusive – something that did not sit well with the club that won five All-Ireland Féiles on the trot in the '90s.

Now that the milestone has been reached – with some "outside" management assistance – has their appetite been satisfied? Their 12 point dismissal of Mullinavat in the Leinster semi-final answers that question even if at one stage they saw an eleven points lead cut to three. New manager James Meagher from Kilkenny would appear to have his team firmly focused on retaining their title.

But statistics don't win matches and despite the huge obstacle in their path – clubs like Ballyboden St Enda's, Milford, Burgess-Duharra, O'Donovan Rossa and the Galway champions will relish being the underdogs.

Ballyboden St Enda's have been the dominant team for the last decade in the capital winning every senior title bar two since 2006. Currently they haven't a member on the Dublin

senior squad but this year's team has been augmented by four of Dublin's All-Ireland winning Under 16 team – Sarah Nagle, Doireann Mullaney, Aisling O'Leary and Martha O'Donoghue.

Awaiting the winners of the Leinster final will be the Munster champions. This year's provincial decider on November 3rd will see debut winners.

Milford backboned by Anna Geary and Regina Curtin won their first Cork title this year at their fourth attempt and they will take on Tipp's top team – Burgess-Duharra who can call on the likes of Eimear McDonnell and the O'Halloran sisters Trish and Jenny.

In Ulster – O'Donovan Rossa could be the dark horses. They have already seen off the challenge of Slaughtneil of Derry in the Ulster Final. Under new boss Mickey Johnson from rival club St John's, Rossa reclaimed their Antrim title after losing out to Loughgiel in 2011. There is no denying the super talent of the likes of Jane Adams, Colleen Doherty, Aisling and Orla McCall and Nathalie McGuinness. Mickey Johnson brought Armagh senior hurlers to an Ulster final for the first time in over 50 years last year and the word from West Belfast is that training is "intensive".

Over in the west, the Connacht champions will come from the Galway last four of Killimor (2010 champs) led by the likes Brenda Hanney, Anne Marie Starr and Anne Marie Hayes), previous finalists Mullagh (Therese Menton, Sinead Cahalan) and Davitts backboned by Maria Brehony and Lorraine Farrell and the up and coming Sarsfields spearheaded by the McGrath sisters – Niamh and Clodagh as well Tara and Aoibheann Kenny and Aisling Spellman.

So, can anyone stop Oulart? Perhaps not, but the slower sod in the months of November and February is capable of throwing up a surprise package or two!

ANNA GEARY

CAMOGIE STAR AND YOUTH ON THE MOVE AMBASSADOR

Around this time of year the minds of thousands of Leaving Certificate students and their parents are turning to completing the CAO form next February. With nearly 1600 courses to choose from, the choice is great and the challenge is daunting. The great majority will undertake all of their studies in Ireland. But when Cork All-Ireland medal winner Anna Geary was heading to the University of Limerick a few years ago, she had a broader ambition in mind. The Milford native wanted to spend some of her education in another European country.

"Luxembourg is one of the top business cities in Europe so for a Business Studies student it ticked the box immediately" remembers Anna who is nominated again this year for an All-Star having been honoured already on four occasions.

Thanks to the EU's Erasmus Programme, Anna was able to spend eight months in Luxembourg working for a French accounting company. It wasn't all work and no play as she managed to find time to win a European Camogie Championship with Luxembourg; take part in the Grand Duchy's Rose of Tralee final and travel to many other parts of Europe including Budapest, Munich as well as Belgium and the Netherlands. Supplies of Barry's Tea and Cadbury's chocolate kept her from losing touch with home!

The Erasmus Programme is celebrating its 25th Anniversary this year and the Higher Education Authority in Dublin is the Irish National Agency (NA) for the action. Over thirty Irish higher education institutions including the Universities, Institutes of Technology, NCAD, Colleges of Education and some independent colleges participate in the Programme and the advice of Gerry O'Sullivan of the Irish NA is "if you would like to spend some of your higher education studying or working in one of 32 other European countries make sure the course you select on the CAO form is covered by the programme. This you can do by contacting the International Office of the college you plan attending before you complete the form. Also check our website www.eurireland.ie for more information."

This year 3,000 students from Ireland will receive financial support under the programme. Gerry adds "such study periods start in Year 2 so now is the time to begin putting aside some money for the trip. The Erasmus support is a help but it won't cover the full cost of the mobility. The benefits of this experience – improved language skills, intercultural competence, deeper subject knowledge, personal development – are all hugely valued by employers."

In 2011, Anna Geary was appointed Ireland's Youth on the Move Ambassador – the EU's programme of initiatives aimed at improving education and training



Ireland's Youth on the Move Ambassador Anna Geary with visiting students at the Irish Times Higher Options in Dublin

opportunities for young people. Currently employed with a software company in Cork, she is full of praise for Youth on the Move and the Erasmus programme. "An Erasmus study or placement period is more than an experience. It is a chapter in your life where you will uncover things you never knew about yourself. This experience was the gateway to discovering the unknown, and my travelling through Europe was both life changing and enriching."

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SEASON REVIEW



URSULA JACOB

BY DARAGH Ó CONCHÚIR

*"she is a performance player.
she is a big game, big day player
and she always pulls it out
whenever you want her to."*



So said Wexford captain Karen Atkinson last September, after Ursula Jacob had performed All-Ireland final heroics for the second successive season to cement an historic three-in-a-row for the Model County.

In 2011, Jacob was the skipper, scoring 1-2 in the final ten minutes to break the stranglehold Galway had on the game.

The goal was a cracker – a strong catch with her back to goal and under heavy pressure from her marker, a few steps to the right and a blistering shot to the roof of the net off her left side – but she bettered it 12 months later with what one YouTube clip describes, not unreasonably, as the "best goal in camogie ever". In all Jacob scored 2-7 of her side's 3-13.

Having had to be incredibly patient, she exploded into the game with two goals in two minutes at the beginning of the last quarter. The exocet missile she arrowed off the sod from just inside the 13m line but to the right of the large square and into the opposite corner, will live long in the memory.

Two more points followed, including one from close to the right sideline, and a magnificent Cork resistance was finally overcome.

It brought to a conclusion an unforgettable year that also included Oulart-The Ballagh annexing the All-Ireland club title. Having been involved in numerous Ashbourne Cup successes as well with WIT, where she now works, she has certainly had her share of glory.

Her father, Mick was one of the best hurling centre-backs of his generation. He was Wexford's first All-Star in 1972 and added two more gongs. Mother, Breda (née McClean) was a stalwart of the camogie

team for many years, who played in the All-Ireland junior final – also in 1972.

Breda was "a nippy, little corner-forward" according to Ursula. "She says I got the hurling skills from her." Certainly, the genetic mix has yielded rich dividends.

Brothers, Michael and Rory have soldiered with Wexford for the guts of a decade and Michael will always be remembered for his stunning goal that snatched the 2004 Leinster title in memorable fashion. Interestingly, like all three of Ursula's majors at Croker in the last two seasons, that too was at the Davin Stand goal.

My parents would always have said to us to enjoy it. If you enjoy it you'll play a lot better anyway and I think that helped.

Sister, Helena is a goalkeeper on the Wexford panel, who has served with Oulart for many years.

In short, with that type of a background, having a hurley in your hand was as natural as breathing.

"We were never forced but I suppose we'd little choice when

Mammy and Daddy were so heavily involved in camogie and hurling" says Jacob. "From an early age we would have played in the lawn, and in the primary school where my mother was a teacher. And every lunch time we were out too so there was little other option.

"My parents would always have said to us to enjoy it. If you enjoy it you'll play a lot better anyway and I think that helped. We're enjoying playing with Wexford at the moment so you're going to train hard and want to win.

"They always would have encouraged us to practice on our own as well, to constantly try and improve."

She smiles just thinking of all the happy memories on the pitch, particularly from the time she helped Wexford end a 22-year drought to win the 2007 All-Ireland. They seemed satisfied with that, but having

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made it back to 2010, and also won three league titles in a row before losing the 2012 decider to Cork, it seems that there is no satiating their hunger now.

"I don't think I fully realise at the moment what we've achieved but I do know I'm part of an incredibly talented bunch of girls at club and county. We have had some great success but I think it's something you reflect on when you're a bit older. At the moment I'm enjoying playing so much, maybe I'm not after fully realising what we're after achieving."

"(You) want to constantly keep winning and improving. There's more I want to achieve and win. Why stop now? You might as well better yourself. If you're happy enough with what you did last year or the last couple of years you'd never get better."

They will move on without JJ Doyle and his backroom team, and Jacob puts the departing manager in the same bracket as Brian Cody, extolling his ability to keep the set-up fresh, the lack of ego that enabled him to introduce different voices and most of all, the way in which he seemed to have them peaking at the right time, every year.

He is a massive loss, but they will move on. After all, most of the players will still be around. Certainly, Wexford's proven match-winner will be.

Needless to say, she wouldn't describe herself in such a way. What she will say though, is that just as she heeded

her parents' advice about always looking to improve, she was listening too when they talked about enjoying the game. That has always helped on the big occasion.

"I'd be a lot more calm playing than watching a game. Last year against Galway, people were saying it was a tense game and Galway were on top but I wouldn't have seen it like that. I would have the confidence and belief that we are good enough."

"It was the same this year when Cork got on top of us at stages. I knew if we got the right ball into us we could win it, we could get the scores."

"I know I have done it before so I tell myself 'come on, keep going'. I suppose it's a lot of things as well that I've done in psychology (she has an MA in sports psychology); self-believing, self-talk. I bring some of that to the game as well."

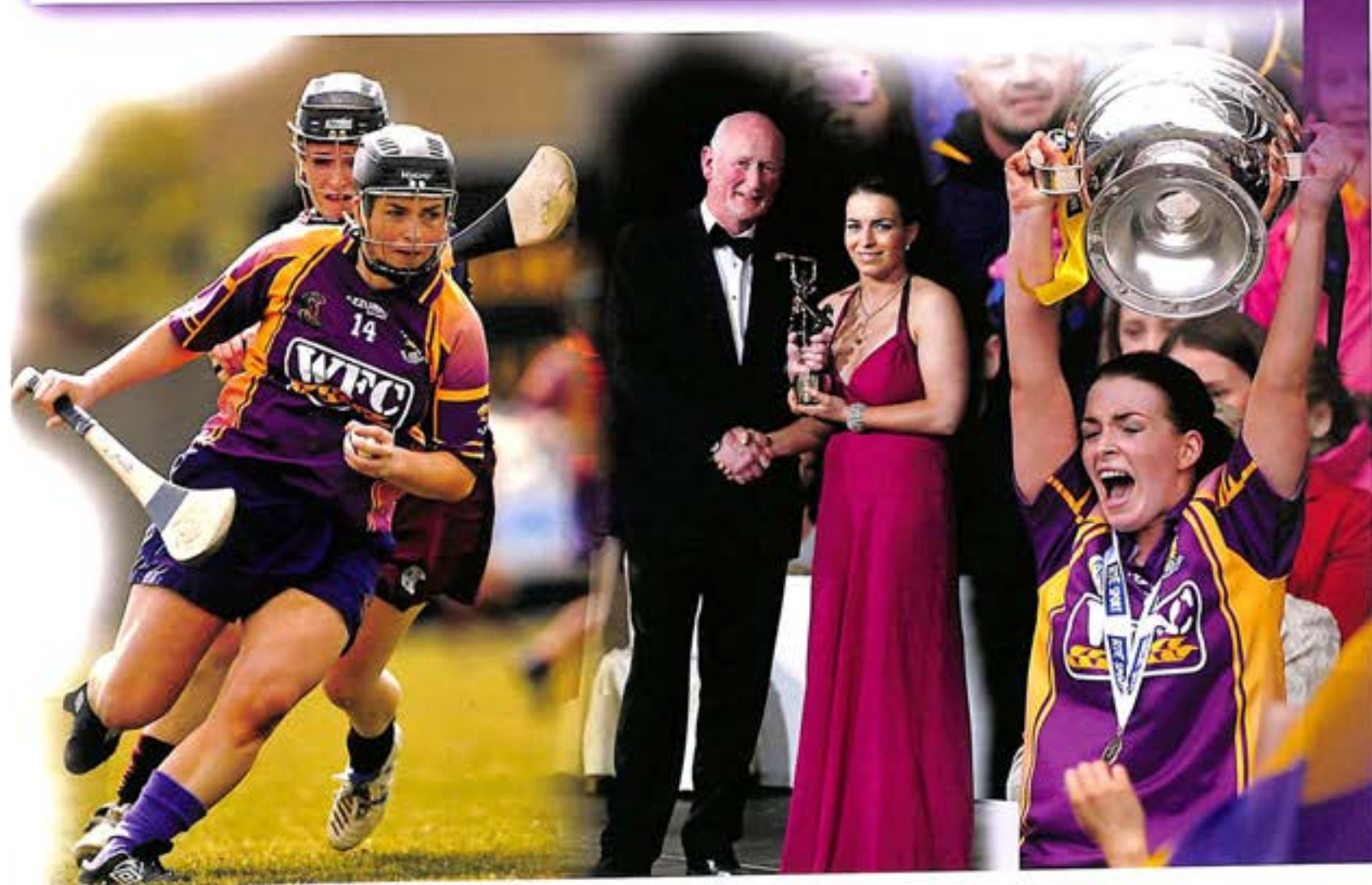
"There's no point in getting caught up and nervous in the occasion. I fully

enjoy it. You're not going to be getting to All-Irelands every year and constantly winning them. So you may as well enjoy it. If not the game will pass you by and you'll have regrets. So it's a case of unleashing the shackles and being able to do the best you can."

She knows everyone is going to want to knock Wexford off their perch. But she is up for the challenge.

Just as you'd expect.

I don't think I fully realise at the moment what we've achieved but I do know I'm part of an incredibly talented bunch of girls at club and county.



THE CHAMPIONSHIP

Daragh Ó Conchúir takes a look back over this year's Camogie Championship

Camogie's leadership has never been afraid of change. It is rare for such innovation to be approved universally but at the conclusion of this year's championship, there were very few dissenting voices about the structure of the All-Ireland camogie championships in association with RTÉ Sport.

The senior campaign was one of the most competitive in years, with Offaly reaching the All-Ireland semi-final for the first time, while Clare and Dublin made it to the last six in reaching the quarter-finals.

Fittingly, the final was one of the best in recent memory. It ended as the previous two had done, with Wexford being victorious, but only after a titanic tussle with the Cork team that had beaten them in the Irish Daily Star league Division 1 decider.

We were given a taste of what lay ahead in the opening round when it took a 60th minute free for Cork to snatch a one-point victory over a Clare team that had beaten them in the Munster final.

The Leesiders were subsequently overturned by a highly-motivated Wexford in Bellefield, but the champions were themselves well beaten by Galway. Goals from Brenda Hanney and Martina Conroy sent the Tribeswomen on their way to a 13-point victory and the only 100% record at the end of the round-robin series. That earned them automatic qualification to the semi-finals along with Wexford.

Tipperary were another side to make giant strides during this campaign, with wins over Clare, Kilkenny and Offaly almost earning them a place in the quarters. With Joanne Ryan leading a nice blend of youth and experience, they lost in a play-off to Cork before tiredness took hold and they bowed out to a Fiona Lafferty and Claire McMahon inspired Clare in the battle for a quarter-final spot.

Dublin confirmed their growing belief as they overcame Kilkenny after a tense, extra time battle. Mairi Moynihan was unerringly accurate while player of the match, Arlene Cushen hit the winning point after storming forward from wing-back.

Moynihan struck an early goal in the quarter-final against Offaly but Dublin had no answer to the high-scoring Elaine Dermody, who finished with 1-7 as John Troy's crew turned around a seven-point deficit to advance by the very minimum.

Cork were tested severely by Clare once again before progressing to the semi-finals with a goal to spare. There was never very much between the teams as Chloe Morey tagged on six points for Clare, but goal machine, Katrina Mackey found the net early in the second half and added a brace of points to keep the valiant Banner girls at bay.

Mackey was on target once again in the semi-final and with Síle Burns and Brieghe Corkery also adding goals and Cork laid waste to Galway's ambitions for another year after an absorbing contest.



Celebrating the announcement that Make-A-Wish® Ireland are set to partner with the Camogie Association for the next three years, from left to right are, Caroline Murray, Acting Director of Camogie Development, Carol Nolan, Regional Development Co-ordinator in Dublin and Kildare, Clodagh Swords, fundraising officer, Make-A-Wish, Aileen Lawlor, President of the Camogie Association and Hazel Mulligan, camogie player with Kildare.

2012 IN ASSOCIATION WITH RTE

Offaly's odyssey finally came to an end in fairly shuddering fashion against Wexford in the other semi-final, but the Faithful have shown enough in the manner of their stunning rise from the junior ranks in 2009 to suggest that they will learn from the experience. On this occasion though, they had no answer to the scoring power of Katrina Parrock and Ursula Jacob.

And it was Jacob who was to prove the defining protagonist of a thrilling All-Ireland final. Although there were seven points between the sides in the end (3-13 to 3-6), it was only when Jacob cut loose in the pivotal closing quarter – just as she had done 12 months previously – that the destination of the O'Duffy Cup became clear.

She plundered 2-7, with the goals coming within two minutes of each other and each side of a Mackey major that had appeared to put Cork on the front foot. Jacob followed up her magnificent second goal with two brilliant points and Cork's wonderful effort proved ultimately in vain.

While Wexford's three-in-a-row feat was the undoubted highlight of the season, the sense of increasing depth was confirmed right through the grades, with Derry sealing their spot in the top tier for 2013.

The process of winning the Intermediate final was the stuff of Hollywood drama as it needed a replay to separate them from Galway. The westerners led by two points in injury time of the drawn encounter but Kate McAnenly goaled from a penalty to give Derry the lead. Rachel Monaghan pointed a free at the other end though to salvage the draw.

It was a case of déjà vu in the second game as Galway led by two points once more when Karen Kielt unleashed a bullet of a shot to the net. There was to be no reprieve for the Maroons this time though.

Down suffered the heartbreak of defeat in the All-Ireland Premier Junior final for the second time in a row, as Meath just held the upper hand by two points. Sinéad Hackett's third minute goal gave the winners a perfect start and though Sara-Louise Carr responded in kind, the Royals held out for a deserving success against the gutsy Ulster contingent.

Having endured the agony of losing last year's Junior A decider in a replay, Westmeath enjoyed the ecstasy of making sure at the first attempt against Dublin. The sides were level with five minutes of normal time remaining but the Lakesiders scored six points from that juncture to win by five, Denise McGrath, Dinah Loughlin and Pam Greville all playing huge roles.

Kerry marked their return to the inter-county scene after an absence of more than 30 years by reaching the Junior B final but despite the brilliance of Patrice Diggin, they could not match the experience of Carlow. Marion Doyle scored a goal and Katie O'Byrne slotted six points to ensure that the Máire Ní Chinnéide Cup was Carlow's for a second time.



New RDO in Ulster

In October Ulster Camogie received a boost with the appointment of Ross Corbett as new Regional Development Officer from October 3rd for a period of six months for counties Armagh, Antrim, Down, Derry and Tyrone. Ross has begun organising coaching and referees courses as well as various skills and strength and conditioning based workshops for players and coaches in the 5 counties. His other main focus is increasing participation in camogie both on and off the playing field in the 5 counties from underage coaches including primary schools, secondary schools, colleges and clubs.



Camogie girls win All-Ireland contest

GLANMIRE Community College won the All-Ireland U16 Camogie Competition in the Phoenix Park last Saturday. Captained by Elaine Connolly and representing Munster, the team defeated Rosbercon by the narrowest of margins in a thriller in the park. Glanmire Community College faced Leinster champions Rosbercon of Wexford. Team manager Angela Sheehan said it was a very close encounter, with GCC going into the second half one point down. With grit

and determination and a few wise words from Cathriona Foley (former captain of the Cork senior camogie team and past pupil of Glanmire Community College) and coaches Angela Sheehan and John Baldwin, it was full steam ahead in the second half, and the team emerged winners by a one-point margin. The final score was 2-6 to 2-5. The team was: Elaine Connolly (captain); Chloe Casey; Lauren Cassidy; Chloe Aherne; Emma Casey; Ciara Tobin; Ciara Mullane; Holly Herlihy; Amy O'Lehane; Donna Kerrigan; Jade Laerne

Daragh Ó Conchúir reviews an eventful Irish Daily Star National Camogie League campaign

For almost the entire campaign, it looked like Wexford were going to annex the Irish Daily Star camogie league Division 1 crown for the fourth time in succession. Even at half time in the final, played at Semple Stadium before the hurling equivalent, JJ Doyle's super outfit looked in pole position, having had all the air of a dominating force in the opening period.

But with Orla Cotter, Gemma O'Connor, Briege Corkery and Rena Buckley showing all their experience, Cork took over in the second half to claim their first title since 2007.

It had begun so well for Wexford back in February, when second quarter goals from Fiona Kavanagh and Josie Dwyer set them on the way to a comfortable win over Offaly in the first round. This was despite being unable to call on their considerable Oulart-The Ballagh contingent, who were preparing for what would ultimately prove a successful All-Ireland campaign.

Cork also got their campaign off to a comfortable start against a Kilkenny side managed once again by Brendan Williams. Jenny O'Leary inflicted much of the damage with 2-4, while substitute Finola Neville also found the net.

Wexford cruised through to the semi-finals with a flawless record. Kilkenny and Galway went close to lowering their sails but typical of the game's premier outfit in recent years, they found a way to emerge on the right side of a one-point margin in both outings.

Despite those reverses, both Kilkenny and Galway made it to the semi-finals, with the latter looking most impressive in pushing their old rivals so close and winning three other games. They really caught the eye when proving nine points too strong for Cork in Martinstown.

Jessica Gill was back in the fold and looking good, Veronica Curtin showed plenty of dash from centre-forward and Sarah Dervan was an inspirational force at centre-back. Aislinn Connolly scored six points and Brenda Hanney goaled to put Galway out of reach.

That was Cork's only setback though and they registered the highest aggregate tally of points scored (88) en route to a place in the last four. Once there, they turned around the earlier defeat by Galway to the tune of 14 points, having five in hand in Sixmilebridge to secure their berth in the final.

O'Leary pounced for a goal at the end of the first quarter but Galway responded with four points in six minutes from Connolly (two), Hanney and Therese Maher. Regina Curtin slotted three points before half time though and O'Leary added five to her overall tally by the time the game concluded to put paid to the Galwegians.

Wexford were tested severely for the second time in the campaign by Kilkenny, who led at half time by two points thanks to three Aoife Neary frees in the last eight minutes. The key moment arrived in the 40th minute, when Ursula Jacob sent in a long ball that was finished to the net by Evelyn Quigley, after Kilkenny goalkeeper Caitriona Ryan had saved her initial effort. Points from

Katie Power and Aoife Neary brought the sides level but it was the champions who came up with the winner, courtesy of a Jacob free four minutes from time.

That set up a repeat of the 2007 final and just as happened then, it was Cork who came out on top, claiming their 14th title on a 1-8 to 0-9 scoreline. It didn't look likely at the interval though as they trailed by three points and were lucky to do so as Jacob had driven a penalty over the bar.

There was no hint of fortune about the second half performance though. Cotter's switch to midfield proved a masterstroke on the part of Paudie Murray and his selectors, and she went on to give a player-of-the-match display. Katrina Mackey and Anna Geary had points in the first five minutes of the second half and Mackey followed up with a hand-passed goal to give Cork a lead they would never relinquish.

Derry earned the first leg of a famous double when landing the Division 2 title. The final certainly proved a good indicator of championship form with the Oak Leafers annexing the intermediate crown and Meath bagging premier junior honours.

The Ulster girls were never threatened in the league final though, despite the excellence of Meath sharpshooter, Jane Dolan. Karen Kielt, Gráinne McGoldrick and Katie McAnenly scored 2-10 between them and that was more than enough to claim the spoils.

An injury time free by Siobhán Hurley earned Kildare the Division 3 silverware, two years after winning Division 4. Armagh were the victims on both occasions and the Orchard County crew began in determined fashion with the first three points from Bernie Murray, Colette McSorley and Ciara Donnelly. Significantly though, McSorley had a well-struck penalty saved by Bríd Byrnes and the Kildare custodian made another splendid stop just before half time.

Clíodhna McSweeney was introduced at the interval and she made an immediate impression by sending a blistering drive to the Armagh net. Armagh remained in touch and though Hurley landed a couple of points, McSorley drew the sides level with five successful frees. Hurley was given a late chance from 45m though and the player of the match made no mistake.

Dublin camogie was given a huge boost in a memorable season that also included a place in the senior championship quarter-final for the first team and an U16A title, when the second string garnered the Division 4 title at the end of a very tight and cagey affair, overcoming Carlow by 1-6 to 0-5.

Carlow were over-reliant on Emma Brennan, with the centre-back responsible for all their scores. They just couldn't break down a rearguard in which goalkeeper and player of the match, Stephanie Carthy was sensational. Instead, it was Dublin sub, Laoise Quinn who struck for the game's only goal, ten minutes into the second half and that decided the affair.

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2nd Level News with Mary Moran

LORETO, KILKENNY ON CREST OF WAVE

There is no disputing who are the present day kingpins of colleges' camogie. St. Mary's, Charleville, St. Raphael's, Loughrea, Presentation, Athenry and Colaiste Bride, Enniscorthy enjoyed a spell in the sun. But the crown has undoubtedly passed to Loreto, Kilkenny. They made their All-Ireland breakthrough in 2006 when their seven-aside squad captured Corn Una. Since then, their winning statistics have been most impressive.

Three All-Ireland senior A, five All-Ireland junior A and five All-Ireland sevens titles have been captured by the Kilkenny school. Becoming the first college to make a hat-trick of consecutive titles has earned Loreto a unique niche in the history of colleges' camogie. Behind these remarkable figures lies a combination of skilful players, exceptional coaching and hard work. Brendan Williams, a member of the teaching staff, deserves special mention for his part in Loreto's success. He possesses a marked talent for coaching teenage players which he has proved time and again with both Loreto and Kilkenny.

The winners list for the 2011-2012 season comprises past champions and newcomers to the victors rostrum. Their ability to score goals paved the way for a decisive win by Loreto, Kilkenny, over St. Brigid's, Loughrea, in the All-Ireland senior A final at Templeberry. Captain Claire Phelan, Sarah Dunphy, Lydia Fitzpatrick and Sarah-Anne Quinlan were Loreto's goal scorers. Excellent work by Rachel Monaghan, Maria Cooney and Aoibhin Kenny kept St. Brigid's in the game for a long period but Loreto ran out convincing winners by 4-11 to 1-10.

Colaiste Bride, Enniscorthy, joined in the heady days of Wexford camogie by capturing the All-Ireland senior B title at the expense of Coachford College. A close first half was followed by a string of five points without reply for Colaiste Bride. These scores were critical in the final outcome where the Enniscorthy side had only four points to spare, 0-11 to 1-4. Shauna Sinnott, the Colaiste midfielder, enjoyed a marvellous season. She added an All-Ireland club medal with Oulart The Ballagh and an All-Ireland senior medal with Wexford to her colleges award.

Kinsale Community matched the achievement of the

school's hurlers when they won the All-Ireland senior C title defeating St. Mary's, Midleton by 3-6 to 2-4 at Castle Road. Much will be heard of their up and coming stars, Linda Collins, Julie Mulcahy, Jacinta Crowley, Niamh Sheehan, Aisling Moloney and Chloe O'Callaghan, in the coming years.

A top class showing by Colaiste Íosagáin, Stillorgan, in the first half of the All-Ireland senior D final against St. Mary's, Macroom, at The Ragg proved to be the winning of the game. The side defended heroically against the elements to protect their fourteen point lead and ran out winners by 3-7 to 0-4. Shauna Nic Ghiolla Bhríde (2) and Anneka Nic Ghiolla Rua were the goal scorers.

It took two days to separate Loreto from Presentation in an all Kilkenny final of the All-Ireland Junior A championship. It was score for score on the first occasion at Nowlan Park but the Loreto players made no mistake in the replay at Clara. In spring-like conditions, Loreto produced top class camogie to win by 4-9 to 0-8.

Coláiste Dún Iascaigh, Cahir, experienced heartbreak for the second year in succession, losing to worthy winners, St. Mary's, New Ross in the final of the All-Ireland Junior B championship. The ability of the New Ross side to register goals at crucial times meant that the Wexford school came out of top. As the score, 5-9 to 3-9 suggests, this was a fabulous game of camogie.

Seamount, Kinvara, built up a seven point lead in the opening half of the All-Ireland Junior C final against Coláiste Phobal, Roscrea. Great work by captain, Megan Carr, Clíodhna Walsh, Eleanor Stafford, Courtney Lally and Emma Helebert helped Seamount to withstand a late fight back before they were crowned champions on the score of 1-8 to 2-1.

Ahead for sixty minutes of the All-Ireland Junior D final, St. Joseph's, Rochfortbridge were undone by an injury time goal blitz by Mount Mercy, Cork. St. Joseph's lead by 2-8 to 0-3 at the break and seemed to have two hands already on the cup. The Westmeath side stretched their advantage to twelve points but were rocked back on their heels by a succession of goals from Emma Buckley (3), Gráinne Cahalane and Meadhbh Ellen Desmond to give the Cork side victory by 5-9 to 4-8.

Carrigtwohill Cobh

3-3
1-4

Carrigtwohill were crowned Evening Echo minor D champions overcoming the challenge posed by Cobh in Castle Road recently.

Shauna McCrossan-Donnachie gave Cobh a great start grabbing a goal with the first attack inside 30 seconds of the throw-in. Ten minutes later the impressive Rachel Sheehan levelled matters. Twice the sides swapped points before Sheehan pointed a 45 to give Carrigtwohill the advantage. Erica Field

levelled matters with a pointed free but a strong closing 10 minutes saw Carrigtwohill hit two goals via Holly Brethany and Rachel Sheehan.

Both defences were superb in the second-half and such was their dominance that we only had one score, a pointed Katie Sheehan free for Cobh. The sides gave it their all but it was Carrigtwohill who held on to take the title, thanks in the main to a superb opening 30 minutes. Carrigtwohill captain Rachel Sheehan was named as Player of the Match after a superb display of leadership and determination.

Carrigtwohill: C Cronin; S Kane, S Curtin, S Dorgan; H Kierans, A Hoogan, D Holmes; R Hickey, J Foley; R Jenkins-Butler, C Rohan, A Crowley; H Brethany, R Sheehan (c); C Dixey. Subs: A Buttner for D Holmes (40), E Corry for S Kane (41), L Hinchliff for R Hickey (57), G McConville for C Rohan (57). Scorers for Carrigtwohill: R Sheehan 2-1 (0-145), H Brethany 1-0, C Dixey, C Behan 0-1 each.

Cobh: N O'Sullivan; L Stanton, N Meaney, N Cashman; C Mc Grath, K Sheehan (c), E Moynihan; L Van Wijnen, M Damsy; E Field, N Sawani, J Rohan; L Farrell, E Spriggs, S McCrossan — Donnachie. Subs: E O'Regan for L Farrell (h/t), M O'Connor for N Cashman (h/t). Scorers: S McCrossan — Donnachie, E Field 0-3 (f), K Sheehan 0-1 (f).

Referee: Dave O'Connell (Glen Rovers).

Cobh Ballinora

1-7
0-8

Two late points ensured the Junior C league title headed down river to Cobh after an entertaining contest in Castle Road on Saturday.

As the game entered injury time it looked as if they would have to do it all again but Cobh rallied with Eilish Walsh and Eadaoin Tallon pointing to ensure victory was secured.

Erica Field hit two first half points while her goal after just five minutes ensured Cobh led 1-4 to 0-4 at the interval. Eadaoin Tallon was

on target with a Cobh point while Fiona Fitton with three and Karen Lane with one ensured Ballinora were well in the contest.

Twice Fiona Fitton pointed to cut the deficit before Erica Field responded with a free to hold the Cobh advantage. Ballinora responded with the excellent Fiona Fitton striking two in row to level matters and with Ballinora holding the upper hand they applied all the pressure they struck three wides in a row.

A strong Cobh finish ensured the title was secure with Walsh and Tallon's late strikes enough to give them the title

and ensure the best present possible for corner back and bride-to-be Marguerite Tierney who get married on Friday next.

Cobh: N O'Sullivan; M Tierney, D Walley, O Mc Grath; A Mc Kiernan, K Sheehan, A Hart; L Van Wijnen, A Richardson, N Sawani, E Tallon; S Looney (c), C Smith, M Moynihan, E Field. Subs E fen for A Richardson (h/t), E Spriggs for N Sawani (46), E Walsh for K Sheehan (56). Scorers: E Field 1-4 (0-31), E Tallon 0-2, E Walsh 0-1.

Ballinora: C Hourihane (c); C O'Keefe, A Mc Grath, J Sorenson; T Hourihane, J O'Donnell, D Hourihane; J Cronin, A Fitzgerald; F Fitton, L O'Shea, M Murphy; K Lane, G Hourihane, L Walsh. Subs: N Mc Carthy for G Hourihane (55), J Murphy for L Walsh (56). Scorers: F Fitton 0-7 (0-41 0-2 45), K Lane 0-1. **Ref:** Andrew Larkin (Douglas).

Division finals will be a fitting end to season

MINOR CAMOGIE

By MARY NEWMAN

THE divisional committees in Muskerry and Seandún were busy recently as both held their respective finals.

They were great occasions for the young players in both divisions as Castle Road and Ballyanley camogie grounds hosted their respective finals.

First into the fray were the Muskerry board who held their U15 and U13 finals and there was a huge crowd present to enjoy the occasion.

The U15 competition was held on a blitz basis and a great day's camogie was enjoyed in Ballyanley with very little between the teams.

The U15A title was won by Inniscarra as they held on to a goal lead to beat Éire Óg in an exciting final.

Inniscarra led by three goals at the interval and despite huge Éire Óg pressure they held on to be crowned champions with goals from Grace Leach, Rebecca Keane and Angela O'Leary.

In the U15 B final there was also an exciting finish as Ballincollig took the title with a point to spare over Blarney with a goal in the last minute from Ciara O'Callaghan deciding the issue.

The Muskerry U13 competitions were also keenly contested and here it was Aghabullogue who took the A crown thanks to their strong mid field and half-back line, two goals



Brian Dillon's, Junior A championship winners.

and two points from Ciara Healy in the first half ensured victory for Aghabullogue over Éire Óg.

It took extra time to find a winner in the U13B final as normal time failed to separate Ballincollig and Inniscarra. Goals from Megan Hennigan and Eimear O'Brian helped Ballincollig cancel out goals from Kate O'Herlihy and Rebecca Keane.

Again in extra time it was very close all through, a goal from Kate O'Herlihy sealing victory for Inniscarra, after 90 minutes of superb camogie.

Seandún headed to Castle Road

for their U13 A and B finals and in the A decider St Finbarr's were victors as they overcame the challenge of Glen Rovers to be crowned winners. Saoirse Noonan was named as player of the Match while Megan Fitzpatrick captained the side to victory.

In the U13B final there was victory for Na Piarsaigh as they proved too strong for St Finbarr's second team. Both divisions are to be complimented on their promotion of their finals at such prestigious venues and the turn out of supporters for those finals.

Milford won't have time to rest on their laurels

TOMORROW
Evening Echo Minor B
County Championship final

Milford v Éire Óg,
Castle Road, 3pm.

NO rest for senior county champions Milford as their younger members head to Castle Road today in a quest to add more silverware to their ever-increasing trophy cabinet as they go in search of the Evening Echo Minor B championship title.

Éire Óg provide the opposition and they will be hoping to put a stop to the north Cork club's march as they battle it out for the title they last won three years ago.

In recent years Milford may not have enjoyed the same huge level of underage success they had become accustomed to but they are working hard to address this.

Éire Óg participate in the A grade at U16 level and they have been go-

ing well in championship. Eimear Scally will take some watching while Siobhan Hutchinson, Maeve Ellen Desmond and Maeve Corkery have all lined out at senior level with the club and they are excellent performers.

Milford, boosted by the success of their senior side, will be battling for more, Katie Galvin and Louise O'Flynn are both members of the senior side and the experience gained in both the senior county and Munster championship campaigns is of huge benefit to these players.

Milford have an experienced side and they will battle to add another trophy to the cabinet and won't be overcome easily.

TODAY
Evening Echo Minor C
13 a side final
Millstreet v Sliabh Rua
Castle Road noon
The 13-a-side Minor D final has Millstreet and

Sliabh Rua in action and this is a competition which enable clubs who have not the numbers for 15 a side to compete at minor level and ensure games for their older players.

Sliabh Rua have enjoyed a great year having already won the Junior B championship title and they will be looking to several of the players that helped them win that including Chelsea Campbell, Aislinn Dwyer and Nicola Coleman to lead the way to another title for the club.

Millstreet area strong outfit and have excellent players in Cork minor Alanah Barry and cork under 16 Maire Ellen O'Connor.

They have made huge progress in firmly establishing their club and with a progressive underage structure they will no doubt be competing in fifteen side minor competitions shortly.



no repro fee 28 Aug 2012 Offaly team celebrate with the cup. All Ireland U16B Camogie Championship Final. Derry v Offaly. Donaghmore/Ashbourne GAA club, Ashbourne, Co Meath.

Clooney Quin



Senior Camogie County Finalists

Back row: Jenny Costello, Hannah O'Brien, Megan Kitson, Emily Maloney, Emma Sheehy, Loraine Ryan, Marie Halpin, Kelly McClean, Sheelagh Daffy (Capt.), Nicole O'Riordan, Jessica O'Neill, Louise Henchey, Siobhain Lee, Sarah Doyle, Edwina O'Brien. Front row: Marie Keating, Shauna Ryan, Aisling Corbett, Orlaith Duggan, Christine Collieran, Deirdre Murphy, Imelda Collieran, Aisling Hannon, Mary Clune, Claire Ryan.

CAMOGIE
All Ireland Junior Camogie Club
Championship semi-final: Four
Roads 2-6 Tara 1-5.

Nov. 2012

Glen girls are crowned minor champions



Glen Rovers, who recently won the County Minor Championship when they defeated Killeagh in Castle Road.

Teens will learn from coaching

ON WEDNESDAY Cork Institute of Technology Sports Arena hosted a very successful CIT Camogie Workshop.

In total, 60 young camogie players between the ages of 15 to 18 from 15 Cork camogie clubs took part in an evening of intense camogie coaching.

The clubs represented were St Finbarr's, Glen Rovers, Na Piar-saigh, St Vincents, Douglas, Bishop-stown, Ballincollig, Carrigaline, Éire Óg, Cobh, Tracton, Ballinhassig, Ballygarvan, Inniscarra, Ballinora, Blarney, Buttevant and Charleville.

Former Cork senior player and CIT sports officer Miriam Deasy also addressed the girls in relation to the benefits of playing camogie and aiming to get involved in development and Cork squads.

CIT coaches Frank Flannery, who guided Milford to county and Munster success in 2012, Fergal O'Leary who did like wise with Inniscarra in 2010, and Ross Cashman, who was a member of the 2012 Cork senior hurling panel were among those who were on hand to deliver the coaching.

They were assisted by members of the CIT Purcell Cup side Christine O'Neill of Courcey Rovers, Jessica Kavanagh, Douglas, Nicole O'Brien, Glen Rovers and Sarah Buckley, Ballincollig.

The girls participated in a coaching session on the field which was followed for a break for refresh-

FIXTURES

TODAY
Evening Echo Minor C Championship Semi final Enniskeane v Sarsfields in Sarsfields 6pm.
U16A Championship quarter-final: Éire Óg v Kilbrittain / Timoleague, Ovens

SUNDAY NOVEMBER 18
3pm
Junior A League Semi Final Brian Dillon's v Na Piar-saigh Castle Road 10.45am.

CAMOGIE

By MARY NEWMAN

ments and then a indoor session to participate in information sessions on diet and nutrition and lifestyle.

There was also a practical gym sessions on exercise and fitness and this was delivered by second year students of Recreation and Leisure Management in CIT under the leadership of Dr Con Burns, those involved included Michelle O'Sullivan, Emma Farmer, Nicole Hickey, Aishling Harrington and Sinead Power who gave the talks on lifestyle/nutrition and strength and conditioning for young adult sports women.

The aim of the evening was to reinforce to the participating teenage players the benefits of a healthy lifestyle, physical fitness and skill development as they strive to become the best player they can be.

For a lot of players coming out of underage grades and becoming young adults they are getting to the

stage that the choices they make in terms of eating habits, sleep and practice of the skills of the game will impact on the level of enjoyment and fulfilment they get from camogie.

The camogie association is putting a lot of emphasis and education around these topics and are seen as very important for future generations playing the game.

The workshop also gave the participants an opportunity to see just what is available to them sports wise when they head to college whilst it also showcased the superb sporting and educational opportunities that exist in CIT.

CIT Camogie club chairperson Lisa-Maire O'Mahony (Éire Óg) and secretary Semma Long (Douglas) were instrumental in helping this event be the success it was and they were ably assisted by Clara Kavanagh of Douglas who is also a committee member.

The College did a tremendous job hosting and organising the event and GAA officer Keith Ricken helped to get it off the ground as-

sisted in no small way by the coaches, presenters and helpers from the Exercise and Leisure course and the CIT camogie club.

Cork Camogie development officer Mairead Donovan promoted the workshop to the clubs and organised the bookings in liaison with Munster Camogie Development Officer Deirdre Murphy.

CIT GAA Officer Keith Ricken expressed his delight with the efforts of all the participants and was loud in his praise of the students' work.

"Here in CIT we have some great people who volunteered their time to ensure that we put on an excellent evening for these young camogie layers.

"We are very proud of the facilities and people that we have here in CIT and see it as an opportunity to showcase the college and give our students the chance to use what they are learning academically in a practical way.

"Also we hope that tonight's activities will encourage girls to think about the benefits of a third level education and perhaps be future stars for CIT on the playing fields and within our academic structure."

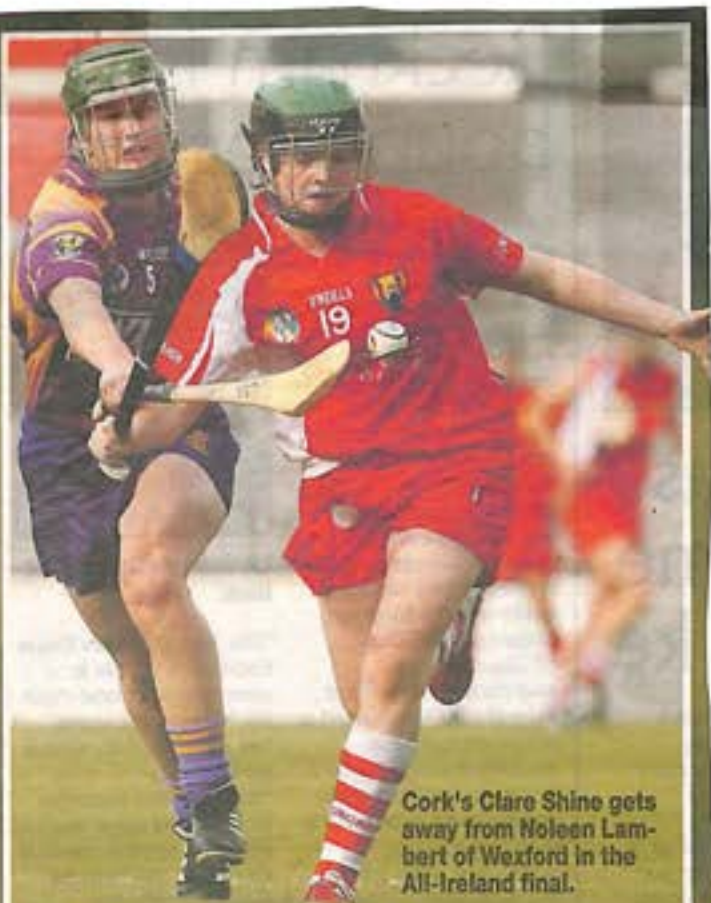
Feedback from the young participants was positive and all who attended enjoyed the evening and are looking forward to more of the same in the not to distant future and it is hoped that CIT will organise a similar event over the Christmas break.

Middle: Fiona Lafferty receiving the Munster Camogie Player of the Year Award from Robert Frost Vice Chairman of the Munster Council in the presence of Seam Walsh (L) and John Mullins C.E.O. Bord Gais on the right.



On top of her game

"I always have a good breakfast"



Cork's Clare Shine gets away from Noleen Lambert of Wexford in the All-Ireland final.

Camogie to go on hold

CLARE SHINE'S inter-county camogie career blossomed this year — she even unexpectedly started in the All-Ireland final against Wexford — but the small ball code will be taking a backseat for the foreseeable future she revealed. The precocious youngster is presently in her Leaving Cert school year and explained that she wants to focus on excelling in her soccer career. "At the end of last year and the start of this year particularly I was out training and playing matches nearly every night and I didn't have time for anything else," Shine mused. "I ran myself into the ground, was absolutely wrecked and drained myself completely over time so after the All-Ireland final this year I took a step back. "And I definitely won't be involved with the Cork camogie team in 2013, especially when I have my Leaving Cert to consider, too. "Besides, if I really want to get somewhere playing soccer I probably have to put the camogie on the backburner." Nevertheless, Shine felt the experience of competing at senior inter-county level this year was more than worthwhile though she admitted to being "shocked" at being named in the starting 15 in Croke Park on September 16. "It was a surreal experience for me on All-Ireland final day really. I was shocked when the team was named and I was on it. "I didn't think I would be

playing at all this year, just training so when I started against both Offaly and Kilkenny I was surprised but then I suffered groin and hamstring problems afterwards so missed the quarter- and semi-final which made starting against Wexford all the more out of the blue. "I have taken a lot from playing with Cork this year though. It was another learning curve for me," she stated. A beneficial year it was indeed however unfortunately Cork were felled by JJ Doyle's unit in the All-Ireland decider. Wexford overcame Cork 3-13 to 3-6 and despite Shine ceding the Slaneysiders were the more accomplished team on the day she also felt Cork did not perform to their optimum. "We had been training so well up until the All-Ireland final that we all felt really confident but for whatever reason we just didn't perform on the day. "Yeah Wexford were far better than us on the day but we knew afterwards that we also hadn't performed as well as we could have." Still, Shine enjoyed the experience and feels Cork can even improve on reaching an All-Ireland final next season, even in her absence. "Travelling in on the bus under the tunnel in Croke Park I felt myself almost daydreaming trying to take it all in. Heading into the dressing room, out to the pitch, walking around the pitch behind the pipe band, it was all amazing."

BEFORE captaining Cork ladies' football team to all-Ireland victory last month, Rena Buckley had to get over a disappointment. Just a few weeks earlier she had been on the Cork camogie team that had lost out to Wexford in Croke Park.

"Mentally, it took a week or so to get over the disappointment of the camogie.

"You have to move on and when I met up with the [football] gang — who were looking forward to the next match — what was in the past was in the past," says the 25-year-old.

"Thankfully we got a win in the football and that was fantastic. They're a lovely bunch of girls and it was a privilege to be their captain."

Rena's planning to open up a physiotherapy practice alongside another physiotherapist in Macroom in January. She's single and lives in the family home at Berrings. Her twin sister, Mary, plays club camogie and football and their brother, Jerry, 28, is doing a PhD in maths in Barcelona.

What shape are you in?

I'm in relatively good shape. We played a county final with Donoughmore four weeks ago. I haven't done much training since then, but I'll get back into it soon. In the run-up to Christmas I'll do some running and weights twice a week.

Do you have any health concerns?

I had problems with my digestive system during the year — ulcerative colitis — but that's under control now. It was mild enough.

What are your healthiest eating habits?

I always have a good breakfast — porridge, some fruit, flaxseeds and a pint of water. That's my healthiest meal of the day.

What would keep you awake at night?



NON-STOP: Rena Buckley, captain of the Cork women's GAA football team, relaxes by exercising.

Picture: Denis Scannell

I'm a good sleeper. Something bothering me at work might keep me awake though.

What's your guiltiest pleasure?
Desserts and chocolate.

How do you relax?
By exercising. That's when I'm carefree.

Who would you invite to your dream dinner party?

I'm not very interested in celebrities. I wouldn't mind having Katie Taylor and Sonia O'Sullivan over. And Seanie O'Brien because he's great craic.

What's your favourite smell?
The smell of a turf fire because it reminds me of home.

What would you change about your appearance?
I try not to get too obsessed about appearance. I'd like to be an inch or two taller.

When did you last cry?
In 2010 our club in Inniscarra got to the county final, which was a big thing. I got injured in the semi-final and knew I wouldn't be able to play — I was disgusted.

What trait do you least like in others?
Dishonesty — being two-faced. You want people to be straight up.

What trait do you least like in yourself?
I wish I was more optimistic. Sometimes I can be a bit pessimistic about things.

Do you pray?
Yes, I'm a regular Massgoer. I enjoy Mass, being alone and thinking.

What would cheer up your day?
An act of kindness or a smile from a friend.

Helen O'Callaghan



Rena Buckley, Cork, makes her way to the stage to receive her TG4 O'Neill's All-Star award in Citywest Hotel, Dublin. Picture: Brendan Moran / SPORTSFILE

Sixmilebridge

Congratulation & well done to:..

- Flan McInerney, Chloe Morey, Katie Connor, Maire McGrath, Naomi Carroll & Sinead Touhy who were all a part of the Clare Senior Team who won the Munster Final.
- Maire McGrath - on her recent All-Star nomination
- Hayley Brooks - on her community games camogie all-star
- Naomi Carroll - who earned her first international u21 and senior hockey cap for Ireland this year, Naomi also went onto to win senior club player of the year at the Irish Hockey Awards.

Buckley is Sportswoman of the Month

Cork Ladies Football captain, Rena Buckley has been named Sportswoman of the Month for October. The nod follows her performance at this year's All-Ireland Ladies Senior Football final in Croke Park, beating out rivals Kerry to lift the Bren-

dan Martin Cup. It was the seventh time in eight seasons that Cork have been crowned All-Ireland champions.

The 24 year-old dual player also plays camogie for Cork and her club, Donoughmore. A physiotherapist by trade,

she is now the 11th name up for this year's Irish Times/Irish Sports Council Sportswoman of the Year, with the awards ceremony taking place next month. Established in 2004, the aim of the event is to recognise the abilities and achievements

of women in Irish sports.

Buckley will compete against fellow Cork woman, Audrey O'Flynn for the overall honour, after the hockey player was named the March winner. Olympian gold medalist Katie Taylor is also among the nominees.



Brid MacNamara with Eire Og & Ruan U12 Captains

Push on to complete all games before convention

Cork Camogie hosts fundraiser for Castle Rd

A call is going out to all camogie players' mentors and supporters to get behind the fundraising drive to get their complex in Castle Road completed.

The County Board holding a Bingo Session at St Finbarr's GAA Club on Sunday, Dec 2 at 7.30pm.

Since the pitch opened in mid 2008, temporary dressing rooms have been in use but the Board hope to finish the development by the end of 2013.

There is a big push to get all competitions completed before Dec 2. This is last day the County Board intend playing matches before thoughts turn to the convention on Dec 10, followed by a well-earned rest for county and club officials, players and mentors over the festive season.

There are still a few competitions at adult level to be completed.

■ On Saturday, Brian Dillon's and Sliabh Rua meet in the Junior A league final.

Sliabh Rua participated in the A league and it's a huge credit to them to be in the final — they won the B championship, but on Saturday they come up against the A championship winners Brian Dillon's.

■ On Sunday it's the turn of Barryroe and Glen Rovers to renew rivalry as they return to Castle Road to replay the Senior B league final which ended in a draw back in May. A lot of things have happened since the sides last met: Barryroe went on to take the championship crown as they overcame Clonakilty in a final that went to a replay. Glen Rovers

lost out to Barryroe and Clon in the round robin series of championship and they will be determined to reverse that result. They are boosted by their minors who recently captured the championship title and they will look forward to a meeting with the new county champions.

■ The summer cup final is also down for decision and here Ballincollig and Killeagh will meet in Castle Road after the league final. Killeagh are the holders of the cup but Ballincollig will be hopeful that they can take the silverware and round off the year with a title. Killeagh will have other ideas on that.

■ On Sunday, Dec 2 Courcey Rovers and Douglas meet in the replay of the Senior League final again. This was a draw first time out, two late goals for Courcey's ensuring another day out for them. Douglas are senior league champions while Courcey are hoping to take their first senior title.

■ The Minor C championship final takes place the same day with St Finbarr's and Sarsfields meeting in Castle Road.



Marion McCarthy Chairperson Cork Camogie Board presents the Minor D championship trophy to Carrigtwohill captain Rachel Sheehan



Cork's Katrina Mackey is presented with her 2012 Camogie All-Star award by Olympian Annalise Murphy, left, and Aileen Lawlor, right, President of the Camogie Association. 2012 Camogie All-Stars in association with O'Neills. Citywest Hotel, Saggart, Co. Dublin.

Picture: Caroline Quinn



Karen Hopkins, Dublin, John and Irene Duffy, Cork, at the Camogie All Star Awards dinner at City West Hotel, Dublin.

Picture: Adrian Mellis



Denise Cronin from Ballincollig and Erin Corkery from Ovens at the Reardens GAA Hurling and Football All-Star team of 2012 function last night. ABOVE RIGHT: Sarah O'Donovan, compere; Joanne O'Callaghan and Anna Geary, both members of the Cork Camogie team at the Reardens All-Star function last night.



Nov. 2012

Millstreet worthy winners with an impressive tally

Millstreet
Sliabh Rua

13-10
4-8

A stronger and more experienced Millstreet took the Evening Echo Minor C 13-a-side championship title as they overcame a spirited Sliabh Rua side in Castle Rd.

In the inaugural year of a competition organised to help clubs unable to field at 15-a-side level the competition proved successful, but in the final Sliabh Rua had no answer to their opponents.

Four eight would win in a lot of games but on this occasion Millstreet had the ability to grab the scores and with Kate O'Keefe superb they were worthy winners. Maire Ellen O'Connor gave them an early lead striking 1-1 before Cathy O'Mahony found the range for a Sliabh Rua point. Kate O'Keefe proved a handful for the Sliabh

Rua defence and striking three goals inside seven minutes she set the foundations for victory. At the break Millstreet led 7-6 to 0-5 and there was no way back for Sliabh Rua.

Chelsea Campbell grabbed a goal for Sliabh Rua on the resumption but Aileen Buckley responded with a similar score. Sliabh Rua battled away and got some excellent scores. Cathy O'Mahony and Nicole Coleman on target with goals but again Millstreet were able to respond and Leeann Kelleher, Aileen Buckley and Alanna Barry all added to their tally as they ran out winners.

Player of the Match went to Kate O'Keefe after notching up 5-3.

Fundraiser for Castle Road dressing rooms

■ Cork Camogie is holding a bingo session at St Finbarr's GAA Club on Sunday Dec 2, starting at 7.30pm, as a fundraiser for the Castle Rd dressing room development.

Eire Óg
Milford

6-16
0-2

Eire Óg took the Evening Echo Minor B county championship title as they turned in a splendid display to deny Milford in Castle Road.

From the early stages Eire Óg controlled matters, in defence they were solid and strong, while in midfield and attack they showed tremendous fitness and pace.

Milford were unlucky not to be first on the scoreboard when they struck the upright with the first attack of the game but Eire Óg swept upfield and a point from Maeve Ellen Desmond had them in front. With Emer Scally showing the Milford defence a clean pair of heels they found the net early and they proceeded to dominate with Scally grabbing a second goal inside three minutes of the first half.

Emma Crowley and Alanna Murphy had found the net before the break again as the Milford defence had no answer to Eire Óg.

Milford battled hard but the Eire Óg defence remained strong but a

Crowley stars for dominant Eire Óg

Nicole O'Connor point before the break was just reward. However, with Elaine Scally, Aine Cronin, and Emma Crowley finding the range Eire Óg had the title secured by half time leading 4-10 to 0-1.

Elaine Scally, Emma Crowley and Grainne Hutchinson added to the winner's tally. Crowley added two goals but Milford never dropped their heads and added a point from Katie Galvin. Eire Óg's Emma Crowley was presented with the player of the match award by Camogie Board president Kay Dunne.

Eire Óg: R Murray; N Gleeson, M Corkery, R Murphy; S Hutchinson, O Meaney, L Hayes; A O'Callaghan, E Crowley; M E Desmond, Elaine Scally (c), A Cronin; G Hutchinson; Emer Scally, A Murphy; Subs: L O'Shea for N Gleeson (45), L O'Keefe for A Murphy (45), A Murphy for Emer Scally (58).
Scorers: E Crowley 3-1, Eimear Scally 2-3, Elaine Scally 0-7 (0-4), 0-1 (45), A Murphy 1-1, G Hutchinson 0-2, A Cronin, M E Desmond 0-1 each.

Milford: R Duggan; A Fitzgibbon, C Watson, S Connolly; G O'Connor, K Galvin (c), M Lordan, K Hodgson; N McCarthy, L Quirke, L O'Flynn, M Falvey; G Fitzgibbon, N O'Connor, R Connolly; Sub: C Hannigan for M Lordan (39).
Scorers: N O'Connor, K Galvin 0-1 each.

Referee: Cathal Egan (Glen Rovers).



Cobh, the winners of this year's Junior C League.



Éire Óg, who defeated Milford to win the Evening Echo Minor B County Camogie Championship title in Castle Road yesterday.

Crowley bangs in a hat-trick as Éire Óg capture the title

Éire Óg 6-16
Milford 0-2

CAMOGIE

By MARY NEWMAN

AS THE score indicates this was a one-sided contest as a strong well-balanced Éire Óg side took the Evening Echo Minor B county championship title overcoming Milford in Castle Road yesterday.

In all sectors they controlled matters, their defence was superb with Siobhán Hutchinson superbly marshalling the centre back berth, and she had good support from Ruth Murphy and Orla Meaney.

At midfield they dictated, whilst up front captain Elaine Scally, Maeve Ellen Desmond, Emer Scally and Emma Crowley were inspirational.

Milford were unlucky not to be first on the scoreboard with a superbly hit line ball hitting the upright and bouncing back into play.

Éire Óg sweep upfield and a point from Maeve Ellen Desmond settled them into a contest they always controlled from here on.

Emer Scally's pace and skill proved handful for the Milford defence and

she grabbed an early goal as her side proceeded to dominate, the same player hit a second goal inside three minutes of the first and with the hard working Emma Crowley and Alanna Murphy also on target with first half goals Milford were in trouble as Éire Óg continued to pick off points.

Milford battled hard but the Éire Óg defence remained strong however a Nicole O'Connor point before the break was just reward for Milford's efforts but with Elaine Scally, Aine Cronin, and Emma Crowley finding the range it was Éire Óg 4-10 Milford 0-1 at the break.

Credit to the Milford defence who fought for everything in the second half but Éire Óg continued to hold the upper hand picking off points as Elaine Scally, Emma Crowley and Grainne Hutchinson adding their tally. Despite Crowley adding to the Éire Óg haul with two further goals, Milford never dropped their heads and added a point from Katie Galvin but the day belonged to Éire Óg as

they took a title they last won in 2009.

Crowley was named as player of the match after an inspirational display.

Scorers for Éire Óg: E Crowley 3-1, Eimear Scally 2-3, Elaine Scally 0-7 (0-4), 0-1 (45), A Murphy 1-1, G Hutchinson 0-2, A Cronin, M E Desmond 0-1 each.

Milford: N O'Connor, K Galvin 0-1 each.

ÉIRE ÓG: R Murray, N Gleeson, M Corkery, R Murphy, S Hutchinson, O Meaney, L Hayes, A O'Callaghan, E Crowley, M E Desmond, Elaine Scally (c), A Cronin, G Hutchinson, Emer Scally, A Murphy.

Subs: L O'Shea for N Gleeson (45), L O'Keeffe for A Murphy (45), A Murphy for Emer Scally (58).

MILFORD: R Duggan, A Fitzgibbon, C Watson, S Connolly, G O'Connor, K Galvin (c), M Lordan, K Hodgson, N McCarthy, L Quirke, L O'Flynn, M Falvey, G Fitzgibbon, N O'Connor, R Connolly.

Sub: C Hannigan for M Lordan (39).

Ref: Cathal Egan (Glen Rovers).

RESULTS

Evening Echo minor B Championship final: Éire Óg 6-16 Milford 0-2.

Evening Echo Minor C 13-a-side Championship final: Millstreet 13-10 Sliabh Rua 4-8.

Evening Echo Minor C Championship semi-final: St Finbarr's 1-8 Ballinora 1-5.

Junior A League semi-final: Sliabh Rua 1-9 Enniskene 1-7.

U16 B Championship semi-final: Brian Dillon's 3-7 Tracton 2-4.

U16 C Championship semi-final: Charleville 4-16 Youghal 2-3.



Teammates with Rana Buckley

	Camogie	Football
Best trainer	Briege Corkery	Briege Corkery
Laziest	Aoife Murray	Valerie Mulcahy
Most skilful	Aoife Murray	Valerie Mulcahy
Biggest moaner	Jenny O'Leary	Norita Kelly
Style icon	Joanne O'Callaghan	Juliet Murphy
Worst fashion sense	Lynda O'Connell	Valerie Mulcahy
Best singer	Regina Curtin	Brid Stack
Best dancer	Anna Geary	Angela Walsh
Worst dancer	Rana Buckley	Rana Buckley
Teacher's pet	Jenny O'Leary	Orlagh Farmer
Class clown	Katie Buckley	Laura MacMahon



Reardens GAA All-Star player of the year recipients: from left, Damien Cahalane (Castlehaven SFC); Anne Marie Walsh, Inch Rovers, Ladies Footballer of the Year; Paul Montgomery, Reardens (sponsors); Eimear Watson, Milford, Camogie Player of the Year and Pa Cronin, Bishopstown, SHC.

Picture: Brian Loughed

Watson rewarded for year of hard work

CAMOGIE

By SARAH O'DONOVAN

MILFORD camogie starlet Emer Watson was an extremely popular choice for the Reardens' All-Stars club camogie player of the year.

The award was one of the four player of the year awards handed out on Monday night at the packed Washington Street venue.

Watson was completely in the dark and was visibly shocked when she was called out as the winner.

"I had no idea, I thought we were invited up as a team by Reardens after winning the county championship and Munster championship.

"There was a great turn out from the team and people involved with the club and it had the makings of a great night already but I'm blown away by the award."

Milford have been incredibly successful over the years, winning numerous underage championships and had won all the adult titles bar one — the senior A camogie championship.

They had come heartbreakingly close on three occasions prior to 2012 and the fear was that the senior A title would be the only title to allude them.

In 2004 the club lost a thrilling county final to Carrighoun on a scoreline of 6-11 to 5-11.

They were favourites to beat St Catherine's in their second county final but failed to show up and St Catherine's buoyed by midfielder Orla Cotter and a dynamic attack which included Denise Twomey walked away with the prize.

In 2011 Milford engineered a way back to the county final where they met rivals Douglas.

It was a day when nothing went right for Milford, their stars unable to shine and Marie Watson's rasping shot to give them the impetus, swept off the line by Douglas corner-back Emma Jordan.

Emer admitted there was enormous disappointment before their eventual success.

"We worked so hard over the past eight years to win the senior county championship and after each disappointment it was extremely hard to pick ourselves up.

"As far back as 2004 we had been on the losing side at the final whistle of a county final and there is nothing worse than hearing that sound.

"I think last year we were especially devastated but in January we met again and felt there was no reason why we should give up on our ambition.

"Frankie Flannery came on board then and he re-invigorated



Paul Montgomery (right) of Reardens (sponsors) and Frank Murphy of O'Neill's, presenting Emer Watson of Millford Camogie Club with the Camogie Player of the Year award at the ceremony in Reardens of Washington Street.

Picture: Brian Loughheed



David Limrick and Jacqueline Hazel from Skibbereen at the Reardens of Washington Street Player of the Year awards ceremony. RIGHT: Dermot Hurley of Castlehaven with his wife Ita at the Reardens awards night.



Picture: Brian Loughheed

the set-up.

"It's been a massive commitment for players based in Cork to drive down to Milford two to three times a week to train so to finally get a return has been phenomenal."

Watson, a primary school teacher, is the daughter of club stalwart Anne Watson and her sisters Marie and Aine were also a part of the county winning side.

It was a real family affair but Watson is slow to take praise for the family's contribution.

"Ah look we genuinely love the club but there is a panel here that

shares our sentiment.

"Anna Geary, Regina Curtin, Elaine O'Riordan, Sarah Sexton, Ashling Thompson, to name a few, have held the same ambition as we had for the club from the outset.

"Crucially this year we were all available to train and play, in recent years because of travelling, college etc. it was sporadic.

"We took each game as it came but naturally the Douglas game was a real confidence boost.

"Winning so convincingly affirmed any questions we had regarding our progression.

"The training was having a positive impact and we were improving.

"The Courneys game was a real battle, which we expected, they weren't willing to give an inch.

"Getting over that allowed us to contemplate winning a county again.

"Winning against St Catherine's in the final eased all of the heart-break, it was also a massive relief, the monkey is off our backs.

"The Munster championship was the icing on the cake but now that there is a possibility that we can get to Croke Park we are grasping

it with both hands.

"No-one likes training in the winter but I think few can argue that the prize — to play in Croke Park in a Milford jersey with the teammates you have grown up with is priceless.

"You could say we were handed the tougher side of the draw by drawing Oulart from Wexford, but if you are being realistic there are four teams left in the competition, four teams in the whole country, anyone of these four teams deserves to be taken seriously if they have come this far."



Marion McCarthy, chairperson Cork Camogie Board, presents the Junior C championship trophy to Bride Rovers captain Sinead Walsh.

Mary McSweeney, treasurer Cork Camogie Board, presents the junior C league trophy to Cobh captain Siobhán Looney.

Bingo to raise funds

FUNDRAISING

CORK Camogie will hold a bingo session at St Finbarr's GAA Club on Sunday, December 2 at 7.30pm.

The night is in aid of the fund-raising for the Castle Road dressing room development.

A lot of hard work went into getting the facility up and running and the call is going out to all supporters to help bring the final phase of their plan to fruition.

County Board chairperson Marion McCarthy is calling all to come along on the night.

"We are eager to get the final phase of our complex completed and make it one of the best camogie grounds in the country. Times are tough and money is tight but we have got huge support for all our fund raising ventures so far and once again we hope that we will have the support of everybody."

"There is huge goodwill towards Cork Camogie and we are hugely grateful to everybody who has and who continue to support us and we are hoping to see big crowds on December 2 for our Bingo Night at the St Finbarr's club in Togher," she said.

Senior league to be decided

FIXTURES

TODAY

Junior A League final: Sliabh Rua v Brian Dillon's, Castle Road, 2pm.

TOMORROW

Senior B League final replay Barryroe v Glen Rovers, Castle Road, 12pm.

CAMOGIE

By MARY NEWMAN

THE unseasonable weather conditions have helped enormously as ground conditions have remained superb and the weather continues to be favourable as the big push is on to get the remaining competitions completed before December 2.

That is the last day the Senior County Board intend playing matches before thoughts turn to convention on December 10.

After this it will be a well-earned rest for county and club officials, players and mentors as they unwind and relax in the run up to the festive season.

Before this happens there are still a few competitions at adult level to be completed and today in Castle Road proceedings get under way as Brian Dillon's and Sliabh Rua meet in the Junior A league final.

It's a huge day for Sliabh Rua who this year requested that they be allowed participate in the A league and it's credit to them to be in the final.

They are a Junior B team and won the B championship recently and today they come up against the A championship winners Brian Dillon's.

Dillon's will be expected to take the title and they will look to Player

of the Match in the championship final Thérèse Drummond, Anthea O'Brien and Claire and Jane Dooley to lead the way.

Sliabh Rua will look to Aisling Whitnell, Chelsea Campbell, Nicola Coleman and Cathy O'Mahony for one big effort as they bid to bring the curtain down in style on what has been a superb year for them.

On Sunday it's the turn of Barryroe and Glen Rovers to renew rivalry as they return to Castle Road to replay the Senior B league final which ended in a draw back in May.

Since the sides last met, Barryroe have been boosted by the presence of inter-county senior player Sile Burns and she proved to be a huge asset as they went on to take the Senior B Championship crown when they overcame Clonakilty in a final that went to a replay.

Since the league final the sides met in championship where Glen Rovers lost out to Barryroe and then Clonakilty (in extra time) in the round-robin series of championship and they will be determined to reverse that result on Sunday.

They are boosted by the success of their minors who recently captured the championship title and they will look forward to a meeting with the new county champions who will no doubt go in as favourites to make it a double.

Cork senior Jennifer O'Leary will be to the fore for Barryroe, ably assisted by Geraldine Collins, Isla Dineen, Patricia Moloney, Rosemary Dineen and Noreen O'Driscoll.

Glen Rovers will be hoping for another good display from minor players Nicole O'Brien, Leanne O'Sullivan and Lauren Callanan, while the experienced Lydia Cunningham, Sinéad Fahy and Aoife Walsh will give it everything they have in quest of victory for their club as the bid for a title they last won in 2009.

On Sunday, December 2, Courcey Rovers and Douglas meet in the replay of the senior league final. This was also a draw the first time the sides met, with two late goals for Courcey's ensuring another day out for them.

Douglas are the holders of the senior league title, while Courcey are hoping to take their first ever senior title.

Douglas will look to their All-Star duo of Katriona and Pamela Mackey to lead their challenge for honours, ably assisted by Louise and Amanda O'Regan, Jessica Kavanagh and Julia White.

Courcey's continued to make good progress this season and reaching the league decider is a huge step in the right direction for them.

They have excellent young players in Julia Mulcahy, Linda Collins and Jacinta Crowley whilst new signing this season Kildare inter-county player Clionadh McSweeney is a huge and valuable addition to an up and coming side that also have former inter-county senior players Rachel Moloney and Christine O'Neill.

The Minor C Championship final is also down for decision on the same day with St Finbarr's and Sarsfields meeting in Castle Road and this will complete the senior board's programme of competitions for 2012.



Munster GAA Awards

Fiona Lafferty, (Clare, Camogie Award);

Myshall make history to claim first All-Ireland

By Camogie Press
Posted 25/11/2012



Myshall (Carlow) 1-3
Four Roads (Roscommon) 0-3

Conditions ensured that it was never going to be the prettiest game at Donaghmore Ashbourne but the wholly admirable traits of doggedness, grit and determination were in monumental evidence as Myshall won the All-Ireland junior club title for the first time, writes Daraugh Ó Conchúir

It was dark, cold and in the second half, very wet and the defences dominated, with hooking, blocking and adroit flicks very much to the fore.

Niamh Quirke, her mother Nuala and sweeper Marian Doyle were outstanding in the Myshall rearguard and the Carlow girls managed to produce that little bit better finishing in the end to claim the honours.

Overall, it was a success they deserved as Four Roads' Breda Mannion was the busiest goalkeeper, making three very good saves.

Having said that, Joanne Joyce made the best stop of the day from Donna Kelly at the other end, deflecting the wing-back's angled drive around the post in the 25th minute. Cailt Kenny converted the 45 to put her side

within a point of the winners at the break, trailing 1-0 to 0-2.

Myshall had the better start but the normally reliable free-taking technique of Cara Quirke – sister of Niamh and daughter of Nuala – left her down on a couple of occasions.

It was Four Roads that opened the scoring though with a Kenny free from their first attack.

Mannion denied Myshall on a couple of opportunities before they found the net six minutes from the interval. Kate Nolan went on a strong solo run and sent a good ball towards Cara Quirke but once more, Mannion was able for the full-forward's low shot.

The subsequent clearance found its way to Alison Rushitzko though and her attempt at a point dipped awkwardly for a crucial goal.

The floodlights were turned on at the break and the play remained very congested in the middle third.

We had to wait until the 46th minute for the half's opening score, Sinéad O'Brien taking a pass from Kenny before finishing well to bring the sides level.

Instead of prompting a push towards a second title in three seasons for Four Roads, that equaliser actually inspired Myshall to move up another gear with three points in two minutes to secure the silverware.

Tara Wilson restored the Carlow side's lead before Cara Quirke rifled over a tremendous score on the run from a tight angle on the left.

Less than 60 seconds later, team captain, Katherine Foley grabbed the sliotar over her head, turned and fired an unerring shot over the bar to open a three-point gap and her celebration confirmed what we all felt, that in these conditions, a three-point lead would be hard to peg back in ten minutes.

As it happened, hard though they tried, Four Roads never really looked like scratching the goal they needed and it was Myshall who prevailed.

Scorers – Myshall: A Rushitzko 1-0, T Wilson, C Quirke, K Foley 0-1 each

Four Roads: C Kenny 0-2 (1f, 1 45), S O'Brien 0-1

Myshall: J Joyce, F Jordan, Niamh Quirke, E Doyle, T O'Neill, Nuala Quirke, Marian Doyle, C Mullins, T Wilson, Marian Doyle, K Foley, O Jordan, K Nolan, C Quirke, A Rushitzko

Four Roads: B Mannion, C Rogerson, B Hughes, M Glendon-Kelly, D Kelly, P Lannon, M Hoey, G Dowd, L Dowd, E Treacy, G Egan, S O'Brien, C Kenny, L Glendon-Tully, O Gately. Subs: G Dufficy for Gately (16); S Kelly for Treacy (52); O Hughes for Glendon-Kelly (52)

Referee: P Walsh (Monaghan)



Camogie

President of the Camogie Assoc Aileen Lawlor presents the POTM to Niamh Quirke of Myshall



THE Camogie Association is running a campaign to have the new bridge over the river Liffey named in honour of former Dublin camogie star Kay Mills.

And what a fitting tribute it would be to a remarkable athlete. Mills, who began her playing career with Dublin at the age of 14, won the first of a staggering 15 senior All-Ireland medals in 1942 and her last in 1961. She captained the side in 1959.

In addition to her All-Ireland medals, Mills won 20 Leinster championships, six Dublin senior county championships and four inter-provincial medals.

Letters of support can be posted to The Manager, Dublin City Council, 4th Floor Dublin City Council Civic Offices, Wood Quay, Dublin 8 or email manager@dublincity.ie.

Camogie Association campaign to have Kay Mills honoured

By Camogie Association
Posted 28/11/2012



The Camogie Association and Dublin Camogie Board are campaigning to have the new bridge over the river Liffey named in honour of former Dublin camogie star Kay Mills who won fifteen senior All Ireland medals.

Kay Mills is the only Gaelic games team player to hold such an honour, eclipsing hurling legends such as Christy Ring, John Doyle and Henry Shefflin.

Kay began her playing career with Dublin at the age of 14, winning her first All Ireland medal in 1942 and her last in 1961. She captained the side in 1959.

She was a player noted for her athleticism, fantastic skill level and was a superb ambassador for camogie. In addition to her All Ireland medals, she won twenty Leinster Championships, 6 Dublin senior County Championships and 4 Inter-provincial medals. She was an automatic choice on the Camogie Team of the Century chosen in 2004 and was inducted into the Cuchulainn Hall of Fame. She was also an accomplished soccer player, gymnast and table tennis player.

Speaking about Kay Mills, President of the Camogie Association Aileen Lawlor said:

"Kay Mills is a fantastic role model for women in sport. The holder of 15 All Ireland senior titles and numerous accolades during a distinguished playing career, she is a true Dublin legend. The Camogie Association is very proud of her achievements and would love to see Dublin City Council recognise her contribution and name the bridge over the Liffey in her honour."

Her medal collection is currently on display in the GAA Museum Croke Park while in 2011 a plaque was unveiled at her place of residence, 1 Abercorn Terrace, following a joint initiative of the Inchicore/Kilmainham Heritage Committee, Dublin City Council and the Camogie Association.

The Camogie Association and Dublin Camogie Board, with the permission of George Hill, husband of the late Kay, request all involved in camogie to support the proposal to name the new bridge in her honour, an appropriate tribute to this iconic Dublin sports woman.

Letters of support to name the new Liffey bridge in honour of Kay Mills can be posted to the Manager, Dublin City Council, 4th Floor Dublin City Council Civic Offices, Wood Quay, Dublin 8 or email manager@dublincity.ie.

Nov. 2012



Cork nominees Pamela Mackey, left, and twin sister Katrina Mackey, right, with their mother Mary and sister Jessica at the 2012 Camogie All-Stars in association with O'Neills at Citywest Hotel.

Pictures: Caroline Quinn



Cork nominees Anna Geary, left, and Jennifer O'Leary at the 2012 Camogie All-Stars in association with O'Neills, Citywest Hotel, Saggart, Co Dublin.

Camogie

Mary Newman

Double delight for Barryroe

Barryroe
Glen Rovers

2-11
2-3

Despite the terrible weather conditions, Barryroe and Glen Rovers battled it out in the replay of the Senior B league final at Castle Road.

The sides were evenly matched and it was level-pegging one point each as the game entered the second quarter. Barryroe were grateful to 'keeper Eimear White who denied Aisling Wallace a goal with a point-blank save and it rallied her side as they finished the half stronger. Inter county duo Jennifer O'Leary and Sile Burns fired over five points between them, opening up a 0-6 to 0-1 interval lead.

Denise O'Sullivan stretched it with an early second-half point to which Sinead O'Halloran replied.

Jennifer O'Leary showed her class as she grabbed the game's opening goal and with Burns and O'Leary adding points they stretched their lead. Mary Sheehy grabbed a second

goal but the Glen battled on with Denise Luby finishing a close-in free to the net before Lauren Callanan added a point.

O'Leary and Denise O'Sullivan pointed before Aisling Wallace finished to the net for a Glen goal but, boosted by the performance of Burns and O'Leary, Barryroe had done enough to add the league title to the championship title won earlier in the season.

Barryroe: E White; L Dullea Carroll, J White; K Mc Carthy (c), N O'Driscoll, P Moloney; I Dineen, C Tyndall; E Deasy, J O'Leary, C Griffin; D O'Sullivan, S Burns, E Mc Carthy. Subs: D O'Leary for E Mc Carthy, M Sheehy - Cahalan for C Tyndall. Scorers: J O'Leary 1-7 (0-3f 0-14f), M Cahalan-Sheehy 1-0, S Burns, D O'Sullivan 0-2 each.

Glen Rovers: K Lee; A Gilton, L O'Sullivan, B Walsh; S Busted, L Cunningham, N O'Brien; A O'Keefe, L Callanan; A Wallace, S O'Halloran, S Fahy; K Fitzgerald, A Walsh, D Luby. Subs: C O'Sullivan for B Walsh, N Gowen for A Walsh, M Sheehy for S Fahy, T Cunningham for A Gilton, S Brickley for S Busted. Scorers: A Wallace, D Luby 1-0 each, L Callanan 0-2, S O'Halloran 0-1.

Referee: Michael Sheehan (Liscarroll).

Brian Dillon's
Sliabh Rua

2-5
1-3

Junior A county champions Brian Dillon's had to fight to the end to overcome the challenge of Junior B county champions Sliabh Rua in the Junior A league final in Castle Road.

Two first-half goals were the difference between the sides at the full-time whistle as they gave Brian Dillon's a cushion under enormous Sliabh Rua second-half pressure.

Inside two minutes of the throw-in Caoimhe Rodgers goaled to give Brian Dillon's the lead. Cathy O'Mahony replied, pointing a free but despite having a lot of possession Sliabh Rua failed to capitalise putting five scoreable frees wide. As the 25th minute approached Brian Dillon's won penalty which Theresa Drummond dispatched to the net and the same player and Claire Dooley pointed to stretch their side's lead — 2-2 to 0-1 at the break.

Donna Carroll stretched the lead further with an early second-half point but Sliabh Rua continued to win plenty of possession, putting the Brian Dillon's defence under pressure and grabbing a goal courtesy of Chelsea Campbell.

Emily O'Regan pointed as they



Marion McCarthy presents the Junior A trophy to Brian Dillon's captain, Anthea O'Brien.

Dillon's deliver the double

maintained the pressure but Caoimhe Rodgers and Donna Carroll kept Brian Dillon's in front with two points in-a-row.

Ciarra Cremin found the target as she pointed a long-range free and again Sliabh Rua laid siege to the Brian Dillon's goal but they failed to add to their tally. Brian Dillon's have now completed the double.

Brian Dillon's: S Rodgers; S Ring, A O'Brien (c), R Myers; R Brosnan, A Dorgan, O Ní Súilleabhain; S K Brosnan, D Ring; A Smith, T Drummond, J Dooley; C Rodgers, D Carroll, R O'Mahony. Sub: C Dooley for R O'Mahony. Scorers: C Rodgers 1-1, T Drummond 1-1 (1-0p), D Carroll 0-2, C Dooley 0-1. **Sliabh Rua:** A Coleman; A Mc Carthy, J Mc Auliffe, N O'Brien; J O'Leary, A Rice, C Cremin (c); A Whittell, S Hallissey, C Murphy; P O'Mahony, E O'Regan, N Coleman, Sub J O'Meara for C Murphy. Scorers: C Campbell 1-0, E O'Regan, C Cremin (f) C O'Mahony (f) 0-1 each. **Referee:** John Horgan (Sliabh Rua).

Dillon's are made battle all the way in decider

JUNIOR CAMOGIE

By MARY NEWMAN

Brian Dillon's	2-5
Sliabh Rua	1-3

BRIAN DILLON'S had to battle hard to overcome the challenge of junior B county champions Sliabh Rua when the sides met in the junior A league final in Castle Road.

Sliabh Rua, who are graded junior B, had opted to play in the A league this season and they showed plenty of determination as they made it all the way to the final.

Having already won the championship title, the city girls went into the contest as favourites and in the finish it was their two first-half goals that were difference between the sides as Brian Dillon's hung on under enormous Sliabh Rua second-half pressure.

Inside two minutes of the throw in Caoimhe Rodgers first time the ball to the net to give Brian Dillon's the lead. Cathy O'Mahony replied pointing a free, but despite having a lot of possession Sliabh Rua failed to capitalise shooting five score able frees wide in the opening half.

As the 25th minutes approached Brian Dillon's won a penalty which Therese Drummond dispatched to the net, and the same player added a point before Claire Dooley pointed to stretch their lead to 2-2 to 0-1 at the break.

Donna Carroll pointed inside five minutes of the restart to give her side an eight-point lead, but Sliabh Rua put the Brian Dillon's defence under pressure.

Chelsea Campbell was on target to cut the deficit with a goal and Emily O'Regan pointed as they maintained the pressure. Caoimhe Rodgers and Donna Carroll kept Brian Dillon's in front with two points in a row which were to prove vital, as Ciara Cremin found the target pointing a long range free and again Sliabh Rua laid siege to the Brian Dillon's goal.

Battling hard Sliabh Rua failed to add to their tally as the Brian Dillon's defence stood firm and hung on under huge pressure to take the league title and add it to their championship crown, but not before a stern test from a Sliabh Rua side, who must be complimented on their performance.

Given that Sliabh Rua opted to play in the Junior A grade league this year to gain experience, they will look forward with optimism to their full participation in the higher level for 2013.

Scorers for Brian Dillon's: C Rodgers 1-1, T Drummond 1-1 (1-0 pen), D Carroll 0-2, C Dooley 0-1.

Sliabh Rua: C Campbell 1-0, E O'Regan, C Cremin (f), C O'Mahony (f) 0-1 each.

BRIAN DILLON'S: S Rodgers; S Ring, A O'Brien (c), R Myers; R Brosnan, A Dorgan, O Ni Shuilleabhain; S K Brosnan, D Ring; A Smith, T Drummond, J Dooley; C Rodgers, D Carroll, R O'Mahony. Sub: C Dooley for R O'Mahony.

Sliabh Rua: A Coleman; A McCarthy, J McAuliffe, N O'Brien; J O'Leary, A Rice, C Cremin (c); C Campbell, C O'Mahony; A Whelan, S Hallissey, C Murphy; P O'Mahony, E O'Regan, N Coleman. Sub: J O'Meara for C Murphy.

Referee: John Horgan (Sliabh Rua).



Marion McCarthy presents the Minor B championship trophy to Éire Óg captain Aoife Scally.

Barryroe go back senior in some style

Barryroe
Glen Rovers

2-11
2-3

SENIOR CAMOGIE

By MARY NEWMAN

DESPITE THE horrific weather conditions Barryroe and Glen Rovers served up an entertaining contest as they battled it out in the replay of the Senior B league final at Castle Road.

The sides were evenly matched and it was level pegging one point each as the game entered the second quarter. Barryroe keeper Eimear White denied Aisling Wallace a goal with a superb point-blank save and it rallied her side as they finished the half stronger thanks, in the main to their intercounty duo Jennifer O'Leary and Sile Burns, who fired over five points between them as the county champions opening up a 0-6 to 0-1 interval lead.

Denise O'Sullivan stretched it with an early second-half point to which Sinead O'Halloran replied, and it was nip and tuck as both sides created several scoring chances but were denied by two strong defences.

Jennifer O'Leary showed her class as she grabbed the game's opening goal mid way through the second half and with Burns and O'Leary adding points they stretched their lead.

Mary Sheehy grabbed a second Barryroe goal but the Glen battled on Denise Luby finished a close-in free to the net before Lauren Callanan added a point.

Jennifer O'Leary and Denise O'Sullivan pointed before Aisling Wallace finished to the net for a Glen goal.

Boosted by the performance of

their inter-county duo Burns and O'Leary, Barryroe held on as they had done enough to add the league title to the championship title won earlier in the season, as they finished their short stay in the senior B division with a double before returning to senior ranks for 2013.

Scorer for Barryroe: J O'Leary 1-7 (0-3 f, 0-145), M Cahalane-Sheehy 1-0, S Burns, D O'Sullivan 0-2 each.

Glen Rovers: A Wallace, D Luby (f) 1-0 each, L Callanan 0-2, S O'Halloran 0-1.

Barryroe: E White; L Dullea, E Carroll, J White; K McCarthy (c), N O'Driscoll, P Moloney; I Dineen, C Tyndall; E Deasy, J O'Leary, C Griffin; D O'Sullivan, S Burns, E McCarthy.

Subs: D O'Leary for E McCarthy, M Sheehy-Cahalan for C Tyndall.

Glen Rovers: K Lee; A Gilton, L O'Sullivan, B Walsh; S Busted, L Cunningham, N O'Brien; A O'Keefe, L Callanan; A Wallace, S O'Halloran, S Fahy; K Fitzgerald, A Walsh, D Luby.

Subs: C O'Sullivan for B Walsh, N Gowen for A Walsh, M Sheehan for S Fahy, T Cunningham for A Gilton, S Brickley for S Busted.

Referee: Michael Sheehan (Liscarrow).

Cracking conclusion to summer competition

SUMMER CUP

By MARY NEWMAN

Killeagh	4-4
Ballincollig	1-9

DESPITE the late finish to the competition, Killeagh and Ballincollig served up an excellent game in the Summer Cup competition held under lights last Friday in Killeagh. Noelle O'Donovan gave Killeagh the lead with a point and an Angela Walsh goal gave them the upper hand.

Ballincollig replied with an Elaine Casey point, but a goal and a point from Kate Murphy kept Killeagh ahead.

Angela Walsh stretched the lead but three point in a row from Samantha Coomey, Jess Hennigan and Sinead O'Sullivan before the break brought Ballincollig back into the game as Killeagh led 2-4 to 0-4.

Ballincollig hit three points in a row on the resumption, Patricia Buttimer, Sarah Buckley, and Samantha Coomey on target as they took the game to Killeagh. Angela Walsh and Kate Murphy rallied the Killeagh girls with a goal each before Ballincollig replied with a point and a Patricia Buttimer goal, but despite a lot of Ballincollig pressure it was Killeagh who held firm to retain the Summer Cup.

Scorer for Killeagh: Angela Walsh 2-2, K Murphy 2-1, N O'Donovan 0-1.

Ballincollig: P Buttimer 1-2, S Coomey, S Buckley 0-2 each, J Hennigan, S O'Sullivan E Casey, 0-1 each.

KILLEAGH: S Landers; Aoife Walsh, M Smiddy, N O'Keefe; M O'Connor, Anne Marie Walsh, Aileen Walsh; B Stack, J O'Shea; Annie Walsh, N O'Donovan (c), G Cunningham; J Swayne, Angela Walsh, K Murphy.

Subs: D Cunningham for J Swayne, S Harnedy for A Walsh.

Ballincollig: A Hennigan; B O'Callaghan, A Kiely, A Coughlan; C Irish, E O'Sullivan, A Cotter; S Coomey, S Buckley, P Buttimer, D Cronin, J Hennigan; E Casey, S O'Sullivan, A Lovett.

Subs: K O'Donoghue for A Lovett, C O'Riordan for B O'Callaghan, K Green for S O'Sullivan, S Barry for A Cotter.

CAMOGIE FUNDRAISER

ALL camogie players, mentors and supporters are being urged to get behind the fundraising drive complete the complex in Castle Road, with the county board holding a bingo session at St Finbar's GAA Club tomorrow at 7.30pm, writes MARY NEWMAN. The night is in aid of the fundraising for the dressing room development, which is the third and final phase of the work.

Anybody who has played on the pitch agree it is one of the best in the county.

Since the pitch opening mid-2008 temporary dressing rooms are in use but the board hope to finish the development by the end of 2013.

Harty cup time for Ballyhea as Rachel fires them to victory

Ballyhea 4-3
Charleville 0-3

Two first-half goals from Rachel Harty in the seventh and 21st minute of the under 16C championship final proved crucial as they went on to be crowned champions at the expense of Charleville.

Both sides were evenly matched in a close opening half where strong defending by Ballyhea helped them hold their lines under a lot of Charleville pressure.

An injury time free from Iman O'Connell had Charleville on the scoreboard before the break where Ballyhea led 2-0 to 0-1.

The second-half was against action-packed stuff as two committed sides gave it everything. Natalie O'Brien had an early Charleville point to cut the deficit but Ballyhea responded well, with points from Chloe Dundon and Megan Kelleher.

Working hard Ballyhea kept the pressure on and nine minutes into the half Susan Walsh extended their lead with a goal, Moira

Fitzgibbon pointed with eight minutes remaining but Charleville responded with Iman O'Connell pointing a free.

Keeping pressure on Ballyhea Aine O'Shea finished to the net for her side's fourth goal deep in injury time and despite Charleville working hard Ballyhea took the title.

An excellent display from Ballyhea's Roisin Killeen saw her named as player of the match.

Ballyhea: C Keogh; Eilish O'Keefe, N Killeen, A Walsh; R Killeen, M Fitzgibbon, R O'Connell; L Dundon, M C Carroll; S Hudner, M Kelleher, C Dundon; A O'Shea, S Walsh, R Harty. **Scorers:** R Harty 2-0, S Walsh, A O'Shea 1-0 each, C Dundon, M Fitzgibbon, M Kelleher 0-1 each.

Charleville: C Reynolds; F McCarthy, A Buckley, C Collins; I Lee, M O'Connell, J Corrigan; J McCarthy, M Buckley; I O'Connell, N O'Brien, M Jones; T Collins, S Leahy, C O'Donnell. **Subs:** E Moloney for J Corrigan, J Corrigan for F McCarthy, N Savage for Ciara O'Donnell, B Mupada for T Collins.

Scorers: I O'Connell 0-2, N O'Brien 0-1.



Tina Sheehan, secretary Juvenile Camogie Board, presents the County Under 16 C trophy to Ballyhea captain Eilish O'Keefe.

Killeagh prove too much for 'Collig

Killeagh 4-4
Ballincollig 1-9

Killeagh captain Noelle O'Donovan lead by example as the summer cup competition drew to a late conclusion with the opening point. Angela Walsh followed with a goal. Ballincollig replied with an Elaine Casey point but a goal and a point from Kate Murphy kept Killeagh ahead. Angela Walsh stretched the lead but three points in-a-row from Samantha Coomey, Jess Hennigan and Sinead O'Sullivan before the break brought Ballincollig back into the game. Ballincollig hit three points in-a-row on the resumption Patricia Buttimer, Sarah Buckley, and Samantha Coomey on target as they took the game to Killeagh.

Angela Walsh and Kate Murphy rallied Killeagh with a goal each before Ballincollig replied with a point and a Patricia Buttimer goal.

Killeagh: S. Landers, Aoife Walsh, M. Smiddy, N.O'Keefe, M. O'Connor, Anne Marie Walsh, Aileen Walsh, B. Stack, J. O'Shea, Annie Walsh, N. O'Donovan (c), G. Cunningham, J. Swayne, Angela Walsh, K. Murphy. **Subs:** D. Cunningham for J. Swayne, S. Harnedy for A. Walsh. **Scorers:** Angela Walsh 2-2, K. Murphy 2-1, N. O'Donovan 0-1.

Ballincollig: A. Hennigan, B. O'Callaghan, A. Kiely, A. Coughlan; C. Irish, E. O'Sullivan, A. Cotter; S. Coomey, S. Buckley, P. Buttimer, D. Cronin, J. Hennigan; E. Casey, S. O'Sullivan, A. Lovett. **Subs:** K. O'Donoghue for A. Lovett, C. O'Riordan for B. O'Callaghan, K. Green for S. O'Sullivan, S. Barry for A. Cotter. **Scorers:** P. Buttimer 1-2, S. Coomey, S. Buckley 0-2 each, J. Hennigan, S. O'Sullivan E Casey, 0-1 each.

BARRS BOXING FACT-FILES

LYNDA O'CONNELL

Age: 22/31— depending what day it is!
Lives: Ballyphehane
Occupation: Accountant
Nickname: Lynd
Favourite food: Pasta and chicken with brown bread
Favourite music: All sorts, depending on humour.
Mobile ringtone: Vibrate and beep once
Other hobbies: All team sports and socialising
Sporting idols: Anyone who works hard to achieve their dreams and goals.
Most memorable personal sporting event: County camogie final in 2006
You'd run 10 laps to avoid doing what? Sitting down!
What do you hope to achieve after the 12 weeks? Win my fight! Ha! Also to increase upper body strength to enable me to give camogie a good lash next year.

CATHERINE MCCARTHY

Age: 29
Lives: Togher
Occupation: Garda
Nickname: K2 Mac
Favourite Food: Lasagne and pavalova
Favourite music: Lauryn Hill, Beyonce, Luke Kelly, Pink, Adele.
Mobile ringtone: Standard



Lynda O'Connell, Charlotte Kearney and Catherine McCarthy are looking forward to stepping into the ring at the St Finbarr's boxing fundraiser.

Samsung
Other hobbies: Attending GAA matches, pilates and socialising.
Sporting idols: Lynda O'Connell, Katie Taylor, Roy Keane and Donal

Og.
Most memorable personal sporting event: Winning Sciath na Scol with Togher GNS.
You'd run 10 laps to avoid doing

what? To avoid getting stuck in a small lift with Lynda or Ciara, or getting into a car driven by a certain friend of mine.
How enjoyable is the training?

Very tough, intense physically and mentally challenging but very enjoyable. We do 30 minutes spinning with Jennifer; 30 minutes floor/core work and 45 minutes on pads with Trevor, Anthony, Mickey, Luke and Mikey and also we do sparring.

CHARLOTTE KEARNEY

Age: 24
Lives: Farranree
Occupation: Fitness instructor Sanovitae Health Club
Nickname: 'The Bull' thanks to Ciara Sargent
Favourite food: Not very fussy but my nan's Sunday roast — you can't beat it.
Favourite music: Westlife and whatever is in the charts at the time.
Mobile ringtone: Boring iPhone tone
Other hobbies: Coaching, cinema, socialising with my friends.
Sporting idols: Roy Keane, Seán Óg.
Most memorable personal sporting event: The FAI intermediate cup final in 2004 with Wilton.
You'd run 10 laps to avoid doing what? Sparring against Gemma O'Connor; thank God she's not doing the boxing!
Why did you decide to do boxing? Camaraderie, different training and to give something back to the club, and getting to know other members.

This year's Camogie championship was one of the most competitive in years, with Offaly reaching the All-Ireland semi-final for the first time, while Clare and Dublin made it to the last six when reaching the quarter-finals.

Fittingly, the final was one of the best in recent memory. It ended as the previous two had done, with Wexford being victorious, but only after a titanic tussle with a Cork team that had beaten them in the Irish Daily Star League Division 1 decider.

It was Ursula Jacob once again who was to prove the defining protagonist of a thrilling All-Ireland final. Although there were seven points between the sides in the end (3-13 to 3-6), it was only when Jacob cut loose in the pivotal closing quarter that the destination of the O'Duffy Cup became clear.

The process of winning the Intermediate final was the stuff of Hollywood drama as it needed a replay to separate Derry from Galway. Both games saw goals very late in the game but Karen

Kielt's goal in the second game saw no reprieve for the Maroons and handed the title to Derry.

Down suffered the heartbreak of defeat in the All-Ireland Premier Junior final for the second time in a row, as Meath just held the upper hand by two points. Having endured the agony of losing last year's Junior A decider in a replay, Westmeath enjoyed the ecstasy of making sure at the first attempt against Dublin and won by five points in the end.

Kerry marked their return to the

inter-county scene after absence of more than 30 years by reaching the Junior B final but despite the brilliance of Patrice Diggin, they could not match the experience of Carlow who claimed the Máire Ní Chinnéide Cup for a second time.

Earlier in the year, Derry collected the Irish Daily Star Division Two crown with Kildare and Dublin collecting the Division Three and Four titles respectively.



ORLA COTTER



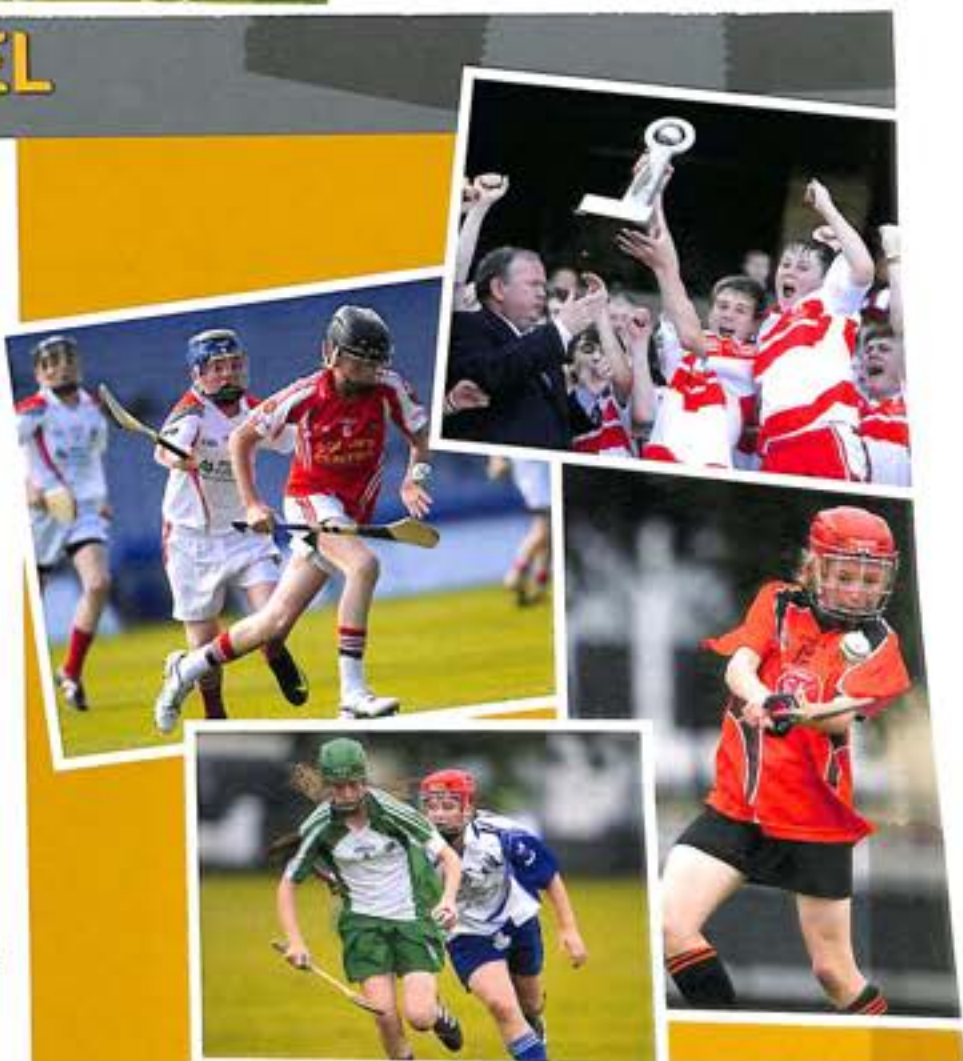
FÉILE NA nGAEL

In its 42nd year, Féile na nGael has gone from strength to strength, with several current inter-county players fondly recalling their own individual experiences of the event. The 2012 tournament was hosted by Dublin from July 5-7 and proved to be another resounding success with games across Hurling, Camogie and Handball.

The parade on Thursday evening was an outstanding occasion for all involved and the colour and atmosphere as the teams marched down O'Connell Street was a joy to behold. The legendary GAA commentator, Micheál Ó Muircheartaigh was also present to give a quick history on each club as they walked by the review stand.

The Division 1 and Division 2 teams in hurling and camogie played their finals in Croke Park while Divisions 3, 4 and 5 in both codes played their finals in Parnell Park. St. Brigid's, Dublin took the Division 1 Hurling title while Newport/Ballinahinch of Tipperary overcame Davitts of Galway to claim the Division 1 Camogie crown.

In their second year as title sponsors, gratitude must go to Bus Éireann for their generous sponsorship and fantastic support. Tributes must also be paid to the local and national committees for their hard work in preparing for Féile 2012 and to the countless volunteers who helped out over the couple of days to make Féile 2012 a truly memorable occasion for all involved. The county of Limerick will play host to the competition in 2013.



O'Leary gives a top-class display

U16 A CAMOGIE

Cloughduv 2-10
Kilbrittain/Timoleague 3-2

TWO strong sides battled it out for the U16A county championship title in Castle Road and huge credit must go to Cloughduv and Kilbrittain/Timoleague as they served up an entertaining contest despite the lateness of the year.

Cloughduv made an early statement of intent as they fired over two early points with Ciara O'Leary on target with a free and Megan Buckley on target with one from play.

The Kilbrittain/Timoleague response was instant as Caroline Murphy grabbed the games first goal.

Both sides battled hard to maintain the strong level of commitment shown and Cloughduv regained control with three in a row two from Ciara O'Leary and Niamh O'Leary with one.

Again Caroline Murphy led the Kilbrittain/Timoleague response with a goal to leave her side ahead by a point 2-0 to 0-5 at the half time whistle.

Cloughduv began the second half strong and putting huge pressure on the Kilbrittain/Timoleague defence they hit the front goals from Ann Marie Ryan and Ciara O'Leary while points from Ciara O'Leary and Ann Marie Ryan put them in the driving seat.

Kilbrittain/Timoleague rallied again and a Caroline Murphy point was followed by a goal from Ailbhe Dowling and keeping on the pressure Dowling pointed a free as they continued to cut the gap.

However, despite a lot of pressure the Cloughduv defence rallied and battling down the hatches, they stood firm as they withstood anything that was thrown at them as they ran out winners after a superb contest by two excellent teams.

Ailbhe Dowling from Kilbrittain/Timoleague was named as player of the Match following a superb display in her side's quest for the title

Scorers for Cloughduv: C O'Leary 1-7 (0-3), A N Ryan 1-1, M Buckley 0-1, N O'Leary 0-1.

Kilbrittain/Timoleague: C Murphy 2-1, A Dowling 1-1 (0-1).

CLOUGHDUV: N Dennehy, A Buckley, A Kelleher, N McCarthy, A Corkery, O O'Driscoll, A Dunne, M Corkery, D Ahern, N O'Leary, M Buckley, K O'Sullivan, A M Ryan, C O'Leary, R Hurley.

KILBRITTAIN/TIMOLEAGUE: S Butler, A Considine, L Taplin, E Harte, U Sheehan, C Guinevan, C Walsh, C Murphy, A Crowley, N Butler, S Burke, E O'Neill, A O'Sullivan, A Dowling, S O'Donovan.

Subs: M Holland for A O'Sullivan, K Wall for N Butler.



Maeve McCarthy, Sarsfields, is presented with the Player of the Match in the Minor C final by Mary Bugler, vice chairperson of the Camogie Board.

Sars come good in second half of cracking final

Sarsfields 4-10
St Finbarr's 1-7

MINOR CAMOGIE

By MARY NEWMAN

A STRONG second-half performance helped Sarsfields take the Evening Echo Minor Championship title at the expense of St Finbarr's at Castle Road.

The score doesn't fully reflect the closeness of the contest between two determined sides.

A goal from Alannah O'Kelly-Lynch helped to give Sars a four-point interval lead. Points from Lucy Allen, Hollie Herlihy and Alannah O'Kelly-Lynch were struck in reply to St Finbarr's points from Meabh Cahalane, Kayleigh Mullins, Katie Crowley and Stephanie Punch.

From the restart Sars stretched their

lead thanks to a goal from Hollie Herlihy and they added to it with two points from Lucy Allen.

St Finbarr's worked hard and they were rewarded with a Niamh McGreevy and points from Meabh Cahalane and as play swung from end to end there was never more than four points between the sides as St Finbarr's responded quickly to any Sarsfields scores.

Lucy Allen converted two frees and an Emma Casey point stretched the Sars lead before two late goals from Alannah O'Kelly-Lynch and Emma Casey ensured the title was secured by Sarsfields.

The Player of the Match was awarded

to the hardworking Sarsfields midfielder Maeve McCarthy who was presented with a memento.

Scorers for Sarsfields: L Allen 0-7 (0-3), A O'Kelly-Lynch 2-1, H Herlihy, E Casey 1-1 each.

St Finbarr's: M Cahalane 0-4, N McGreevy 1-0, K Mullins, K Crowley, S Punch 0-1 each.

SARSFIELDS: C Casey, E Connolly, L Cesserly, N Connery, E Murphy (c), K Barry, K Walsh, M McCarthy, E Casey, K Marnell, C Cashman, H Herlihy, A O'Kelly-Lynch, A Byrne, L Allen. **Subs:** A O'Lehan for E Connolly, R Kelleher for K Marnell, L Burke for K Barry, J Allen for A Byrne, C Tobin for C Cashman.

ST FINBARR'S: G Conway, N Carroll, S McCann, C McNamara, O McCarthy, C Ryan, J Keating, R Finn (c), E Ryan, K Crowley, A Leisk, S Punch, N McGreevy, M Cahalane, K Mullins.

Referee: John O'Leary (Mallow)

FIXTURE

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 8

U16B Championship final: Blackrock v Brain Dillon's Castle Road, noon.

Harty stars in Ballyhea victory

U16 C CAMOGIE

Ballyhea 4-3
Charleville 0-3

GOALS in the seventh and 21st minute of this U16C championship final from Rachel Harty proved to be important as Ballyhea were crowned champions when they defeated Charleville.

The sides were evenly matched in a close opening half where strong defending by Ballyhea helped as they came under a lot of pressure from Charleville. A pointed free from Iman O'Connell had Charleville on the score board before the break as Ballyhea led 2-0 to 0-1.

The second half was against action packed stuff as two committed sides gave it everything in quest of the title Natalie O'Brien had an early Charleville point to cut the deficit but Ballyhea's responded well with points from Chloe Dundon and Megan Kelleher.

Working hard Ballyhea kept the pressure on and nine minutes into the half Susan Walsh extended their lead with a goal, Moira Fitzgibbon pointed with eight minutes remaining but Charleville responded with Iman O'Connell pointing a free.

Keeping pressure on Ballyhea's Aine O'Shea finished to the net for her sides fourth goal deep in injury time and despite Charleville working hard Ballyhea held on to take the title.

An excellent display from Ballyhea's Roisin Killeen saw her named as was named player of the match.

Scorers for Ballyhea: R Harty 2-0, S Walsh, A O'Shea 1-0 each, C Dundon, M Fitzgibbon, M Kelleher 0-1 each.

Charleville: I O'Connell 0-2, N O'Brien 0-1.

BALLYHEA: C Keogh, Elish O'Keefe, N Killeen, A Walsh, R Killeen, M Fitzgibbon, R O'Connor, L Dundon, M C Carroll, S Hudner, M Kelleher, C Dundon, A O'Shea, S Walsh, R Harty.

CHARLEVILLE: C Reynolds, F McCarthy, A Buckley, C Collins, I Lee, M O'Connell, J Corrigan, J McCarthy, M Buckley, I O'Connell, N O'Brien, M Jones, T Collins, S Leahy, C O'Donnell.

Subs: E Moloney for J Corrigan, J Corrigan for F McCarthy, N Savage for C O'Donnell, B Mupada for T Collins.

Dunne to step down as camogie president

ON MONDAY evening next Cork camogie board sit down in the Rochestown Park Hotel to take stock of a busy year season just finished.

It will be a nostalgic occasion as three officers step down while president Kay Dunne goes out of office having completed her five year term in the role.

Vice-chairperson Mary Bugler has decided to retire as registrar Yvonne Lane while children's officer Noreen Daly is also

CAMOGIE

By MARY NEWMAN

stepping aside.

Tracy Sheehan who chaired the juvenile board for the last five years is stepping into the role of senior board vice chairperson and she will be joined by Taryn Lynch from Na Piarsaigh who will be the new registrar, the position of child welfare officer is an appointment

that is filled by nomination of the county board general purposes committee.

Kathleen Healy from Cloughduv takes over the role as president.

A former inter-county player Kathleen has given huge service as a selector at different levels with both club and county and is deserving of the honour.

All other officers continue in their roles with chairperson Marion McCarthy heading up a

strong officer board which does tremendous work promotion camogie in the county.

There are just two motions down for decision one seeking to change the set up of the General Purposes Committee to ensure not more than two members of the same club may sit on the committee and the second motion is that the county board set up an executive committee separate to the general purposes committee.

Dec. 2012



DIARMUID O'DONOVAN

CAMOGIE

CAMOGIE has been played in Cork for more than 100 years.

The first camogie club, Fáiinne an Lae was founded in 1905.

No club can survive without opposition, so Fáiinne an Lae encouraged the formation of a second club. That club was called Clan na nGael. It was driven largely by Annie and Ellis Walsh (she later married Lord Mayor Tomás Mac Curtain).

The two teams played Cork's first camogie match at Victoria Cross. Fáiinne an Lae won and, according to Mary Moran's *Cork's Camogie Story*, they were presented with a set of hurleys and were paraded back to the city centre on a wagonette.

More clubs were formed after that and the game developed both in Cork city and county.

The founding of the UCC Camogie club in 1913 was the next major boost to the game and the college team have kept the camogie flag flying ever since, although not always in club competitions.

By 1914 there were four secondary schools playing camogie. They were St Angela's, South Presentation Convent, Drishane Millstreet and the Ursuline Convent.

Two more schools joined them in the next few years. Coláiste Ite, a school based on Wellington Road and founded by Mary McSwiney (sister of Lord Mayor Terence McSwiney), entered competition in 1916 and St Aloysius joined them the following year.

Six schools may not seem to be very many, but in the context of the era, and the fact that there were probably no more than 500 girls attending secondary school in Cork at that time, it was a significant number.

The schools played an important role during the 1920s by introducing the sport to many teenage girls.

This was just as well because the club scene was pretty stagnant.

Many clubs preferred to play in tournament and exhibition games rather than take part in the county board competitions.

As a result many competitions took more than one season to complete, and some competitions were never completed at all.

The Middleton Cup tournament was the big summer attraction for clubs in 1932.

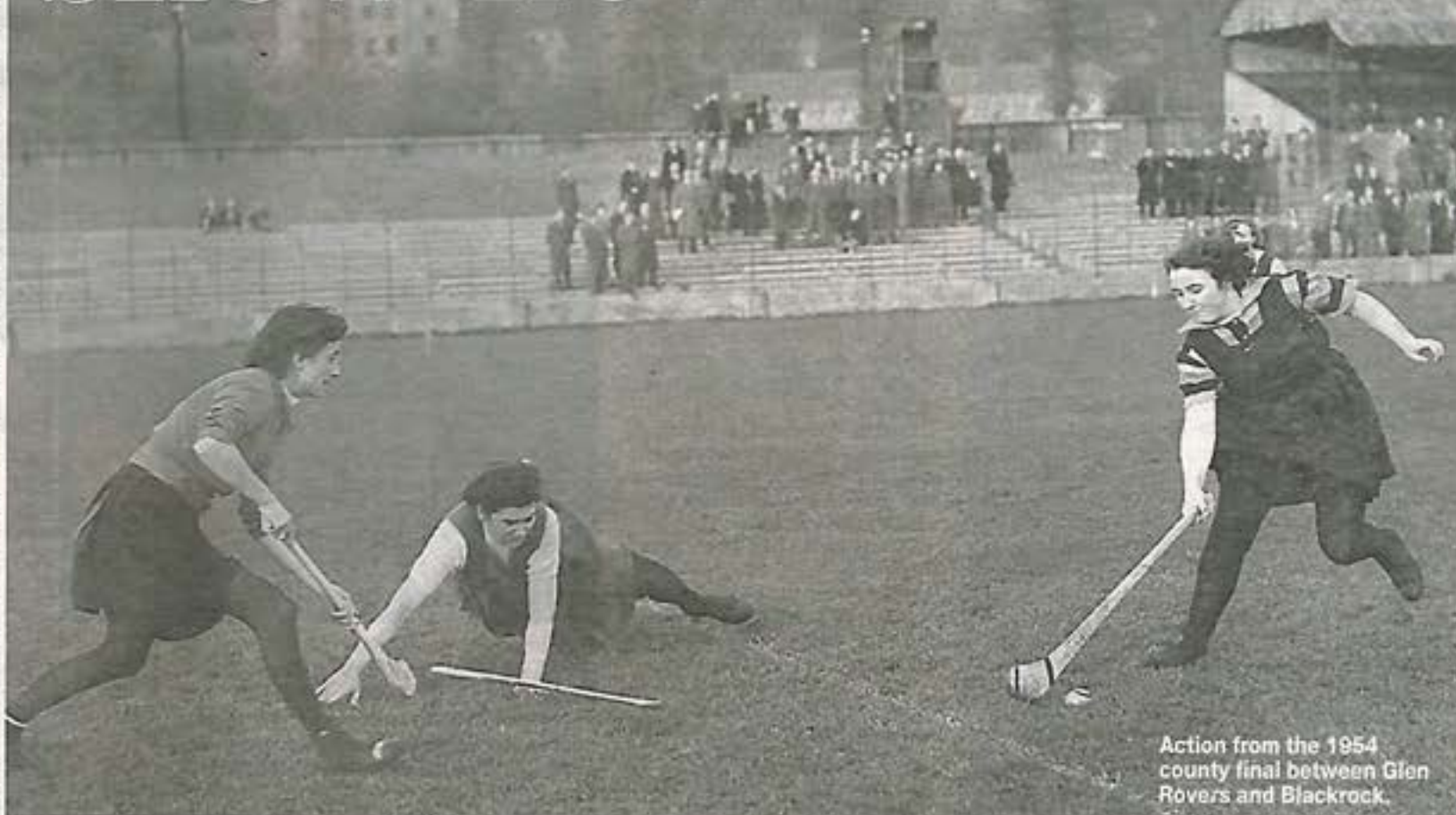
The tournament drew entries from Blackrock, Middleton, Cobh, Ballincollig, St Philomena's Ceili Dancing and Camogie Club, and a new club from Blackpool called Glen Rovers.

The Glen reached the final where Blackrock defeated them.

It was November 1932 before the County Camogie Board got around to making the draw for the 1932 senior championship and it took another five months (April 1933) before the competition began.

There was a significant development however, when Punch & Co. donated a new silver cup to be

Mná na hÉireann show how its done



Action from the 1954 county final between Glen Rovers and Blackrock.

presented to the winners of the championship.

The cup was to be named the Science Cup as 'Science' was the brand name of the polish products made by Punch & Co.

St Aloysius School and Cobh eventually reached the final and St Al's became the first winners of the new cup on a scoreline of 2-3 to 0-2.

There was a huge geographical spread of teams that entered the senior and junior competitions of 1934 - the golden jubilee year of the GAA.

They included St Al's, Blackrock; St Teresa's, Fr Mathew Hall, Cara Clodhna, St Joseph's, UCC, Cobh, Owenacurra, Ballinora, Newmarket, Kanturk, Glen Rovers, Marshallstown, Oldcastle, Charleville, Fermoy, Macroom, Hillside, UCC, St Michael's, Lee Hosiery, St Finbarr's, Lough Rovers, Barryroe, Muskerry, Malville, Columbine's, Middleton, Mallow, Killavullen and Mayfield, who fielded one of the strongest teams of all.

St Al's won the senior county championship, Glen Rovers won the city championship and Ballinora won the junior championship.

As can be seen from the list above, many of the clubs of the 1930s era have disappeared off the camogie map.

In other cases the clubs disappeared for several years, or even decades, only to re-emerge and be stronger than ever.

This has been a feature of camogie through the years.

This year's senior B champions Barryroe for example, were vibrant in the 1930s, and then they disappeared.

The club re-emerged in 1985, won the junior B county in 1993 and have been improving ever since.

Other clubs like St Aloysius morphed into new identities.

Having won the county senior titles of 1932 and 1934 as a school team, many past pupils retained a strong affiliation with the school.

Old Al's was founded in 1938 to help maintain this link.

Thanks to strong camogie ethos of the school, Old Al's had a steady stream of quality players coming into the club every year for the next four decades.

St Aloysius, the school was completely dominant in schools' championships.

It won 40 senior school championships in the 47 years between 1927 and 1973.

While Old Al's, the club won the county senior championship 15 times in 24 years, between 1938 and 1961.

No club however, has had such an extraordinary cycle of ups and downs as Glen Rovers have over the last 80 years.

The Glen was founded in 1932. They won several competitions in the next few years, only to go out of existence in 1938.

The Glen reformed in 1946. This was mostly due to the good work of Chrissie Donovan.

Two other things happened about this time to boost the re-born camogie club.

Firstly, Paddy O'Connell, who

had trained the successful camogie teams of the 1930s returned to Blackpool from England where he had been working during the Emergency.

Secondly, the North Presentation Convent began to produce very good school teams.

Many of these players joined the Glen and some went on to play for Cork.

With the drive of Paddy O'Connell and Chrissie Donovan and the exuberance of the new talent from North Presentation, allied to the club's own stars like Siobhán O'Brien and the O'Brien sisters, Nancy and Nora, and Eily O'Donovan, the Glen were on their way.

The club moved from the junior to the senior grade in three seasons.

They lost the 1949 county final to Old Al's and won the Science Cup for the first time in 1950 with a 3-2 to 1-2 victory over Blackrock.

Four more titles were added in the 1950s, but it would be 1962 before things really got going.

That year the Glen dethroned champions Old Al's in the county final and started a seven-year winning streak which lasted until 1968.

By the early 1970s however, the club was back in the intermediate grade. A rebuilding project had to begin. The intermediate title was won in 1973 but it would be a further 10 years before they were senior title winners again.

In 1986 the club won the Cork, Munster and All-Ireland club title. In 1987 they equalled Old Al's re-

cord of 15 county championships and between 1990 and 1996 the club won another seven county titles in-a-row as well as three more All-Ireland titles.

Glen Rovers now top the camogie roll of honour with 22 county titles.

The club fortunes took another dive after 1996.

It dropped out of the senior grade again. The work put in at under-age level for the past few seasons has begun to pay dividends however.

The club is back in the senior B grade. The capturing of the minor county title this season may suggest that the current famine is near an end.

Camogie as a sport has had to cope with more changes in players and clubs than almost any other sporting body.

This lack of continuity must have hindered progress at different times since 1905.

It is a great tribute to the county board that the sport continues to develop when so many have come and gone.

Even the Science Cup, once the holy grail of Cork club camogie, has been replaced in recent years by a new Punch Cup.

On Saturday, January 5 next, Glen Rovers Camogie Club is hosting a dinner at the Rochestown Park Hotel to celebrate its 80th birthday.

As a club who have survived longer than most, their story is a microcosm of the sport and proof that nobody should underestimate the resilience of Mná na hÉireann.

Sars relentless as they beat St Finbarr's in Minor C final

Sarsfields 4-10
St Finbarr's 1-7

Their ability to up the pace considerably in the second half ensured Sarsfields did enough to run out winners of the Evening Echo Minor C championship at the expense of St Finbarr's in Castle Road.

The full-time score line doesn't reflect the closeness of the contest between two determined sides, but in the finish Sars grabbed the vital goals needed.

Alannah O'Kelly-Lynch was on target with a first half goal and it helped give Sarsfields a four point half-time lead. Lucy Allen, Hollie Herlihy and Alannah O'Kelly-Lynch pointed for Sarsfields as they kept in touch with St Finbarr's who had points from Meabh Cahalane, Kayleigh Mullins, Katie Crowley and Stephanie Punch.

An early second half goal from Hollie Herlihy helped Sars stretch their advantage and they extended it further with two points from Lucy Allen. St Finbarr's battled

away and a Niamh McGreevy goal and points from Maeabh Cahalane ensured little divided the sides.

Both defences were busy as the forwards laid siege to either goal mouths in quest of vital scores. Lucy Allen converted two Sarsfields frees and a point from Emma Casey stretched their advantage. Alannah O'Kelly-Lynch and Emma Casey ensured the title was secured with two goals late in the game.

The Player of the Match was awarded to the hardworking Sarsfields midfielder Maeve McCarthy.

Sarsfields C Casey; E Connolly, L Casserly, N Connerly; E Murphy (c), K Barry, K Walsh; M McCarthy, E Casey; K Marnell, C Cashman, H Herlihy; A O'Kelly-Lynch, A Byrne, L Allen. Subs: A O'Leary for E Connolly, R Kelleher for K Marnell, L Burke for K Barry, J Allen for A Byrne, C Tobin for C Cashman. Scorers: L Allen 0-7 (0-3 F), A O'Kelly-Lynch 2-1, H Herlihy, E Casey 1-1 each.

St Finbarr's G Conway, N Carroll, S McCann, C McNamara; O McCarthy, C Ryan, J Keating; R Finn (c), E Ryan; K Crowley, A Leisk, S Punch; N McGreevy, M Cahalane, K Mullins. Scorers: M Cahalane 0-4, N McGreevy 1-0, K Mullins, K Crowley, S Punch 0-1 each.

Referee John O'Leary (Mallow)

Cloughduv take U16A crown

Cloughduv 2-10
Kilbrittan/Timoleague 3-2

Despite trailing at the interval by a point Cloughduv held their composure to be crowned Under 16 A county championship as they overcame a strong Kilbrittan/Timoleague side in Castle Road.

Despite it being December the camogie headquarters was in pristine condition. Both sides were evenly matched and they battled it out to the finish in their quest for the title. Cloughduv had two early points, one from a Ciara O'Leary free and with Megan Buckley also on target with one from play.

Kilbrittan/Timoleague replied quickly. Caroline Murphy gave them the lead with the games opening goal and as the sides continued to be evenly matched Cloughduv hit the front with three points in a row two from Ciara O'Leary and one from Niamh O'Leary. Caroline Murphy restored the Kilbrittan/Timoleague lead as she responded with a goal to leave to ensure they led 2-0 to 0-5 at the break.

Cloughduv began the second half in determined fashion and putting they put the Kilbrittan/Timoleague defence under huge pressure and goals from Ann Marie Ryan and Ciara O'Leary and points from Ciara O'Leary and Ann Marie Ryan restored their lead. Kilbrittan/Timoleague responded with a Caroline



Cloughduv Under 16 team who were crowned Under 16 A county champions after they defeated Kilbrittan/Timoleague.

Murphy point and this was followed by a goal from the hard working Ailbhe Dowling.

Ailbhe Dowling pointed as the gap was narrowed, but despite a lot of Kilbrittan/Timoleague pressure the Cloughduv defence held firm and holding their composure they gave little away and it was enough to see them through as they ran out winners after a superb contest by two excellent teams.

Ailbhe Dowling from Kilbrittan/Timoleague was named as player of

the Match following an excellent display for a battling and committed Kilbrittan/Timoleague side

Cloughduv N Dennehy; A Buckley, A Kelleher, N McCarthy; A Corkery, O O'Driscoll, A Dunne; M Corkery, D Ahern; N O'Leary, M Buckley; K O'Sullivan; A M Ryan, C O'Leary, R Hurley. Scorers: C O'Leary 1-7 (0-3 F), A N Ryan 1-1, M Buckley 0-1, N O'Leary 0-1.

Kilbrittan/Timoleague S Butler; A Considine, L Taplin, E Harte; U Shahan, C Guinevan, C Walsh; C Murphy, A Crowley; N Butler, S Burke, E O'Neill; A O'Sullivan, A Dowling, S O'Donovan. Subs: M Holland for A O'Sullivan, K Wall for N Butler. Scorers: C Murphy 2-1, A Dowling 1-1 (0-1 F).



The Dungourney team who won defeated Carrigtwohill in the Imokilly U13 A camogie plate final.

Dungourney delight at camogie victory

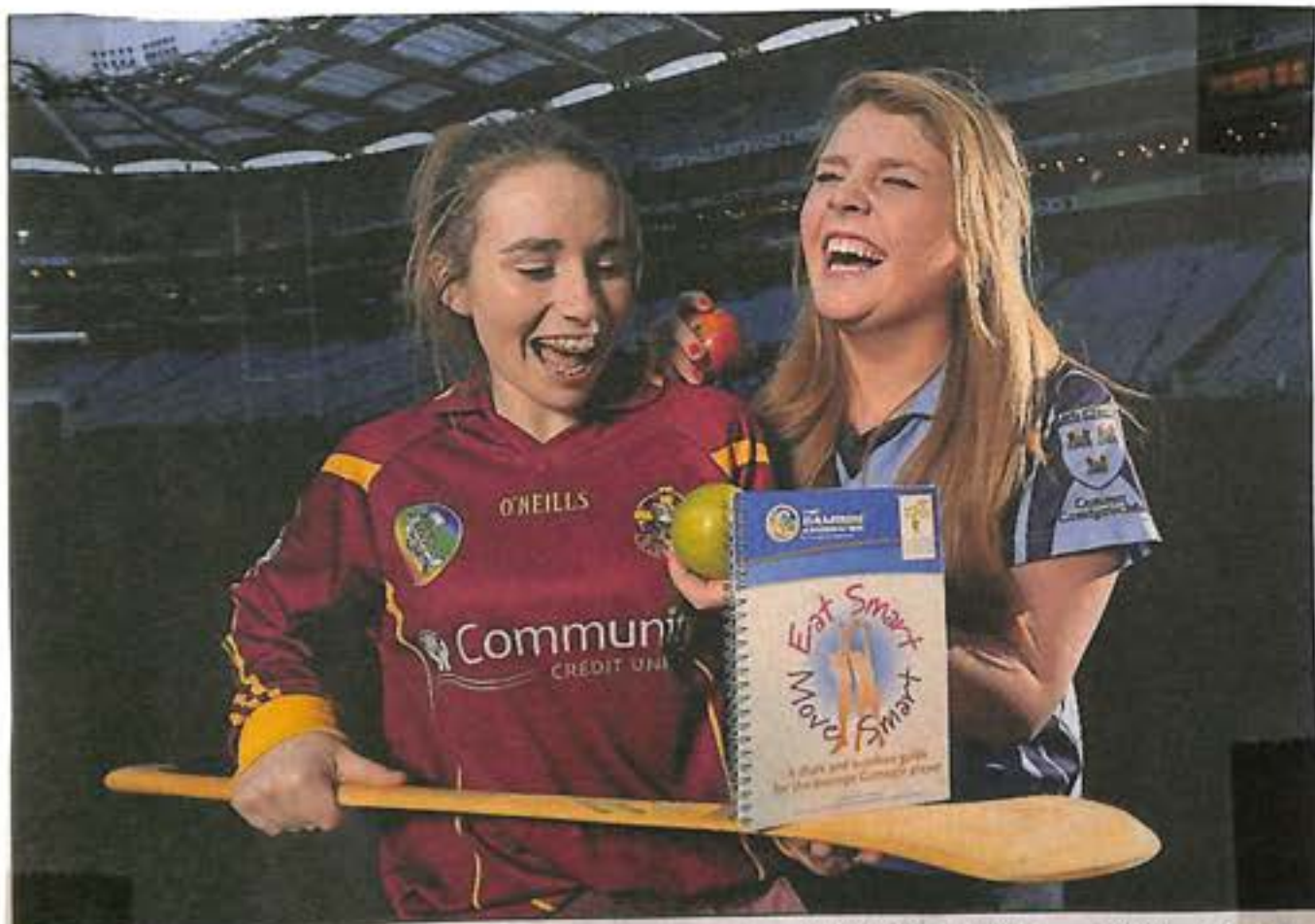
THERE was great excitement recently in Aghada when Dungourney took on Carrigtwohill in the U13 A Imokilly plate final.

The large gathering of parents and supporters of both clubs were treated to a top-class game and both sides were praised for the high standard of camogie.

It turned out to be a close game and Dungourney's ability to get goals was the difference in the end as they won 5-0 to 3-3.

Dungourney would like to congratulate the team and their manager, JJ Ahern, and all involved in the camogie club for all their hard work this season.

The Dungourney team was: Caoimhe Harney, Anna O'Sullivan, Lucy O'Gorman, Amy O'Callaghan, Katie Cullen, Katie Ahern, Meg Ahern, Ciara Buckner, Paula Cody-Byrne, Megan O'Keeffe, Clidna Casey, Catherine Walsh, Eva Flynn, Kate Gravina and Shauna Horgan.



BALANCING ACT: Camogie players Sophia Martin, right, from the Naomh Brid club, and Ella Carr, of St Oliver Plunkett Eoghan Rua, at the launch of Eat Smart Move Smart: A Diary & Nutrition Guide for the Teenage Camogie Player at Croke Park yesterday.

Picture: Paul Mohan/Sportsfile

Watson crowns top

Milford star collects Echo monthly gong



EAMONN MURPHY

LADIES AWARDS

AFTER a run of heartbreaking county final defeats, a talented Milford camogie team delivered in style in this year's decider against St Catherine's.

And eager to make up for previous disappointments, they captured the Munster title as well in early November. That performance saw Marie Watson recognised with the *Evening Echo* Ladies Sportstar of the Month award, which she received in the Rochestown Park yesterday.

Watson was joined at the luncheon by her family, friends, team manager Frankie Flannery and members of Milford camogie club.

Milford have enjoyed their celebrations recently, but are now back in training ahead of an All-Ireland semi-final showdown with the powerful Wexford side, Oulart the Ballagh next February 3.

Watson was presented with the November trophy by the *Evening Echo*'s John McHale and Diarmuid Donovan, and also got a voucher for a day in the spa in the Rochestown Park Hotel from sales and marketing manager Mandy Gabriel.

In addition she received a necklace from Colette Cremin, Newbridge Silverware, who were recent winners of a Cork Business Association award themselves.

Also present at the awards was *Evening Echo* camogie reporter Mary Newman.



Marie Watson receives her necklace from Colette Cremin, shop manager of Newbridge Silverware.

Picture: Eddie O'Hare



Marie receives her presentation from Mandy Gabriel, sales and marketing manager of the Rochestown Park Hotel.



Marie with John McHale, sports editor of the *Evening Echo*.

Evening Echo **LADIES SPORTSTAR AWARDS**

NEWBRIDGE
SILVERWARE

at RPH
ROCHESTOWN PARK
HOTEL

DEC. 2012

year with award

pictures by
Eddie O'Hare



Marie Watson, Milford camogie player, and winner of the Evening Echo ladies sports star of the month for November, with her parents Tony and Ann and sisters Aine and Emer; club members Ellen Ann Geary, chairperson; Elaine O'Riordan, ladies club captain; Kayo Galvin, treasurer, Frank Flannery, coach and manager; Pat Riordan, committee and family friend Mike O'Donnell.



Marie Watson with Eamonn Murphy, deputy sports editor of the Evening Echo and Mary Newman, Cork Camogie Board.



Marie Watson with Diarmuid O'Donovan, deputy CEO of the Evening Echo.



Marie with her parents Tony and Ann and sisters Aine and Emer at the presentation lunch.

Evening Echo **LADIES SPORTSTAR AWARDS**

NEWBRIDGE
SILVERHIRE

ROCHESTOWN PARK

Evening Echo SPORT



Marie Watson, Milford camogie player and winner of the Evening Echo Ladies Sportstar of the month for November at the presentation lunch at Rochestown Park Hotel yesterday. See pages 48-49 for more. Picture: Eddie O'Hare



The Cork and Tipperary teams in a parade prior to their National League game at the opening of the Castle Road grounds.

Camogie board gets cash boost

CHRISTMAS arrived earlier than expected yesterday for the Cork Camogie Board with the news that they are to receive €280,000 funding under the 2012 Sports Capital Programme.

The funding will go towards the building of a clubhouse with dressing rooms, indoor sports hall and a first aid room at the board's complex in Castle Road and the announcement is a reward for the work being put in on the ground by all its members.

The Board, who cater for 61

€280k grant for Castle Road development

CAMOGIE

By MARY NEWMAN

clubs, will receive a total of €280,000 from the Sports Capital Programme and it's a substantial boost as they embark on funding phase three of their ambitious project in Mahon.

Reacting to the announcement today, Cork Camogie Board chairperson Marion McCarthy expressed delight that they had been successful in their application.

"We are absolutely thrilled with the news. It's a huge boost for us as we embark on the final leg of our

project in Castle Road."

Earlier this year we had the official opening of our playing pitch and it was a dream come true for so many people involved in Cork camogie.

"As soon as we had the work completed on the pitch, we set ourselves a target to get phase

three up and running and we are constantly fund-raising to achieve this.

Everybody involved in the sport in Cork will benefit from the funding, she told the *Evening Echo*.

"This announcement will be of huge benefit to us as we drive on to raise the money that we need to complete the project.

"It is our intention to begin work as soon as possible and, hopefully, we will be cutting another ribbon in Castle Road in the not to distant

future."

"We are delighted to end 2012 on such a great note and we look ahead to 2013 with confidence and we will continue our promotion of camogie in the county."

Among the other Cork projects to receive funding were Cork Constitution RFC who are to receive €140,000 towards the upgrade of existing dressing-rooms including a new physiotherapy room and gym fit-out, and Irish Coastal Rowing Federation who were allocated €22,000 for coastal rowing boats and oars.

● See P50 for more GAA

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Camogie Club notes

NOTES

BRIAN DILLON'S

Our U16s lost out narrowly to Blackrock in the Championship final held at Castle Road.

We were defeated by two points in what was a very exciting contest.

The match started brightly for us with a point from a free from Caoimhe Rodgers and a goal from Emma Carroll.

Another point from Caoimhe from play and in reply Blackrock scored four points all from play as we led 1-2 to 0-4 at half time but we went in up at half time thanks to Shauna Walsh who made some great saves.

Blackrock levelled the score early in the second half with a point from a free. Caoimhe Rodgers scored a superb point from play before Blackrock scored the opening goal after 14 minutes of the second half, and we were dealt a huge blow when Caoimhe had to be substituted after an injury.

Blackrock then scored three points without reply to make the score 1-3 to 1-8.

We dug deep to get back in the game Ruth Brosnan was outstanding at wing back and Niamh O'Leary was rock solid at full-back we scored a late goal again from Emma Carroll but it was not enough as Blackrock won on a score line of 1-9 to 2-4.

Heartbreak for the girls, coaches and mentors after a great effort the team still have the opportunity to win the league so there is still a chance for a trophy.

Shauna Walsh, Niamh Cotter, Niamh O'Leary, Deirdre Keane, Ruth Brosnan, Emma Sharpe, Essie O'Connell, Alison Smith, Shauna Collins, Sinead Mills, Caoimhe Rodgers, Lauren Barry, Chloe O'Mahony, Rachel Carroll, Kayleigh Looey, Emma Carroll, Stephanie Mangan, Rachel O'Connor, Caroline O'Connor, Fiona McGuckian, Laura O'Donovan, Lucy Burke and Sarah Carroll.

Our Junior A Team created history by winning the Junior A League following their tremendous championship win last month.

The match was played at Castle Road against a very skilful Sliah Rua side.

We got off to a good start with a goal from Caoimhe Rodgers and a second from Therese Drummond from the penalty spot.

Sliah Rua replied with a point from a free. We responded with two points from play from Caoimhe Rodgers and Therese Drummond. The score at half time was 2-2 to 0-1.

Sliah Rua came back strong at the start of the second half and scored an excellent goal from play.

We had to dig deep and big performances from Saoirse Rodgers on goal, Anthea O'Brien at full-back and Ruth Brosnan at wing back steadied the ship. We scored three points from play from Caoimhe Rodgers and two from Donna Carroll. Sliah Rua replied with two points, one from play and one from a free but we held out and the match finished 2-5 to 1-3.

What an achievement from the team, the panel and the coaches. 2012 will be remembered in the club's history for a long time.

Saoirse Rodgers, Shauna Ring, Rebecca Myers, Ruth Brosnan, Amanda Dorgan, Orla Ni Suiabhain, Susan Kate Brosnan, Deirdre Ring, Jane Doolley, Therese Drummond, Alison Smith, Donna Carroll, Caoimhe Rodgers, Rebecca O'Mahony, Claire Doolley.

ST FINBARR'S

For the first time in many years our minors reached a championship final which was played in front

of a fantastic Barrs support in Castle Road.

Although losing out on the day to a stronger Sarsfields side the game was a closer contest than the final score would suggest with our girls showing great heart to battle on to the final whistle.

Reaching this final is a huge achievement for the Barrs and justification for the tremendous effort of the girls concerned.

The club acknowledges also the work that mentors Michael Ryan, Toinette Santry, Colette McCarthy and Charlotte Kearney have done with this group.

With all but four of our players still under 16 we will take a lot of positives from the campaign.

Panel Gemma Conway, Neidin Carroll, Sinead McCann, Chloe McNamara, Orlagh McCarthy, Carole Ryan, Jessica Keating, Rachel Finn (C), Erin Ryan, Katie Crowley, Ali Leisk, Stephanie Punch, Niamh McGreevy, Meabh Cahalane, Kayleigh Mullins, Emma O'Donovan, Cliona O'Connell, Rebecca O'Sullivan.

GLEN ROVERS

On the field, activities have come to a conclusion for 2012 but thoughts turn to party time and it the turn of our underage section to enjoy their Christmas Party tomorrow Sunday in the club at 12 noon we hope to see all our young underage camogie players in attendance.

Don't forget we are having a club reunion to celebrate eighty years of camogie in Glen Rovers and to honour our minor county winning championship team with a victory dinner dance/reunion to be held on Saturday, January 5 2013 in Rochestown Park Hotel.

We hope to see current and former players, selectors, trainers, mentors and parents turn out to help celebrate eighty fantastic years and toast our county minor champions of 2012.

Tickets can be purchased in the club bar any evening or by contacting the club from 6pm at 021-4395050 or by email at secret.glenrovers.cork.camogie@gmail.com, or send us a message on our facebook page with your name and details and our secretary will get back to you.

We will be in the club on Monday next 7pm to 8.30pm for anybody who wants to collect tickets which have been reserved.

Tickets are flying out the door so remember to get them quickly as all tickets must be collected by December 20. Please pass the word around to any former players or mentors that you know as we do not have contact with a lot of former players, help us make it a night to remember.

THANKS

Thanks to senior captain Lydia Cunningham and vice captain Denise Luby who organised our Christmas night out which was enjoyed by everybody who attended.

Thanks to Dunnes Stores in Ballyvolane who again facilitated us with a Bag Pack last weekend. Thanks to the wonderful staff in Dunnes and to our own girls and parents who all helped out.

BLACKROCK

We held our AGM recently thanks to all those who attended. Our underage is now training indoors on Friday nights: 6pm-7pm ages 5, 6 and 7, 7pm-8pm ages 8 and 9, 8pm-9pm ages 10, 11 and 12.

Blackrock claim title in a tight final



The Blackrock team who won the U16 B Championship last weekend.

Blackrock 1-9
Brian Dillon's 2-4

MINOR CAMOGIE

By MARY NEWMAN

BLACKROCK pulled out all the stops as they overcame Brian Dillon's to take the U16B championship title in an exciting final in Castle Road on Saturday last.

Conditions were excellent both over head and under foot and it led to an excellent contest played out by two sides committed and determined all through.

Brian Dillon's got off to a great start as Caoimhe Rodgers converted a free nine minutes into the open half and when Emma Carroll found the back of the net for the game opening goal two minutes later Brian Dillon's were settled into the contest.

Blackrock showed signs of nerves and found the going tough against a strong Brian Dillon's defence and it was 16 minutes into the half before they were on the score board with Hayley Ryan pointing.

Captain Michelle Murphy struck a magnificent point from an acute angle to narrow the gap but again Caoimhe Rodgers showed her accuracy with a pointed free to keep Brian Dillon's ahead.

Blackrock continued to show improvement and with their defence tightening up considerable Brian Dillon's could find no way through as the Blackrock mid field pairing

of Kate Laneghan and Aine Kearney did huge work in keeping the ball moving forward. Hayley Ryan was hugely influential up front for Blackrock and she led the fight back striking two points without reply before the break where Brian Dillon's led by a point 1-2 to 0-4.

The second half was evenly matched as both sides battled to get on the scoreboard and it was thirteen minutes into the half before Blackrock captain Michelle Murphy leading by example fired over the equaliser from a free thirty metres out. Caoimhe Rodgers edged Brian Dillon's back in front with an excellently struck point as her sides regained the lead but only briefly.

Play swung quickly down field from the puck out and with hard working hard working Hayley Ryan winning possession Blackrock were back on the attack, a good effort fell perfectly for in rushing Megan Delaney who finished the ball to the net with a smart ground stroke.

Blackrock having now gone two points ahead pushed for more and three points in a row from the excellent Hayley Ryan (niece of former Cork captain Fergal Ryan) Megan Delaney and Ryan again saw them stretch their lead.

Brian Dillon's gave it everything they had as they responded well driven on by the committed Ruth Brosnan and they cut the deficit with an Emma Carroll goal two minutes into injury time.

Hayley Ryan and Ruth Brosnan traded points as Brian Dillon's continued to press but the Blackrock defence stood firm despite a further five minutes of injury time.

Aideen Nagle, who had an excellent hour, Clodagh O'Keefe and Carol Ryan were all impressive as they held their lines under huge pressure to run out winners.

Blackrock midfielder Kate Laneghan was named as player of the Match and presented with a memento by county juvenile secretary Tina Sheehan before Tracy Sheehan presented the trophy to Blackrock captain Michelle Murphy.

Scorers for Blackrock: H Ryan 0-6, M Delaney 1-1, M Murphy 0-2 (0-1 f).

Brian Dillon's: E Carroll 2-0, C Rodgers 0-3 (0-2 f), R Brosnan 0-1.

BLACKROCK: C Coughlan; A Mc Curtain Ryan Nagle; A O'Leary, A Nagle, C O'Keefe; K Laneghan, A Kearney; S Broderick, M Murphy (c); M Brennan; K O'Neill, F Deegan, H Ryan. Sub: M Delaney for M Brennan (f/b).

BRIAN DILLON'S: S Walsh; N Cotter, N O'Leary, D Keane; R Brosnan, E Sharpe (c), E O'Connell; A Smith, S Collins; S Mills, C Rodgers, L Barry; C O'Mahony, R Carroll, E Carroll. Sub: K Luby for C Rodgers (f/b).

Referee: Mike O'Kelly (Ballyhea).

Iman is star of league title win

U16 C CAMOGIE

By MARY NEWMAN

Charleville 3-5
Ballyhea 3-4

CHARLEVILLE denied neighbours Ballyhea a double as they turned the tables to capture the U16C League title when the sides met recently in Castle Road.

Just two weeks ago Ballyhea had defeated Charleville to be crowned county champions but this time out Charleville showed fierce determination to reverse that result. Conditions on the day were excellent and Charleville went into the clash with several positional changes to their championship encounter.

Ballyhea made the better start and two Rachel Harty goals helped them settle and they added to their tally with a point before Charleville responded with three goals before the break two from Iman O'Connell and one from Meadhbh Buckley helping them lead at the break 3-0 to 2-2.

The second half was close all through but Charleville, with their noses in front, showed fierce determination as they put huge pressure on the county champions' defence.

By the three-quarter stage they had stretched their advantage further with Iman O'Connell and Michelle Jones contributing five points without reply.

Ballyhea regrouped and battling back, grabbed a goal from Rachel Harty and with Moira Fitzgibbon and Rosin Killeen also prominent they cut the deficit to a point.

Despite a lot of pressure from Ballyhea for an equaliser, the Charleville defence held firm to run out worthy winners.

Charleville's Meadhbh Buckley was selected as player of the match following on a superb display.

Scorers for Charleville: I O'Connell 2-4, M Buckley 1-0, M Jones 0-1.

Ballyhea: R Harty 3-0, M Fitzgibbon, 0-1 R Killeen 0-1 (f).

CHARLEVILLE: C Reynolds; C Collins, A Buckley, N Savage; J Corrigan, J McCarthy, I Lee; M O'Connell, I O'Connell; E Moloney, M Buckley, T Collins; S Leahy, M Jones, N O'Brien.

Subs: F McCarthy for Collins; B Mupada for E Moloney.

BALLYHEA: C Keogh; Eilish O'Keefe, N Killeen, A Walsh; R Killeen, M Fitzgibbon, R O'Connor; L Dundon, M C Carroll; S Hudner, M Kelleher, C Dundon; A O'Shea, S Walsh, R Harty.

SPECIAL NIGHT



■ Chloe Mahon and Shauna Kelly.

FRIDAY LAST was a special occasion for the past and present members of St. Ibar's/Shelmaliar camogie club as a large crowd gathered in Hotel Curracloe for the launch of the 'Look Small...Pull Big' history book.

National President Aileen Lawlor was guest of honour on a night of recalling former glories and looking forward with confidence to the future as young and old alike came together to celebrate a key milestone in this thriving outfit's proud existence.

St. Ibar's/Shelmaliar are one of the first camogie clubs in the entire country to publish their own history book, and the full-colour 400-page volume presents a comprehensive account of past deeds in words and pictures.

Initially founded in Castlebridge village in the summer of 1960, they quickly established themselves as the leading Senior team in the county and won a four-in-a-row of championship titles from 1964 to '67 before providing the first-ever All-Ireland winning Wexford captain in '68 - the late Mary Walsh who passed away at a young age seventeen years later.

While the club went through a lean spell in the early 1970s and went out of existence for four years, it came back better than ever before and has been thriving since 1977, winning county titles in Junior (1978) and Intermediate (1979) before returning to Senior and adding another four championships in 1997, 1998, 2001 and 2002 when the All-Ireland Club final was contested.

All of those achievements and many more besides are outlined in some detail in this impressive A4 book which retails at €25 and carries an eye-catching photograph on

the cover featuring a group of the club's youngest players with current All-Ireland medal winners and All Stars, Kate Kelly and Katrina Parrock.

Aileen Lawlor told those present that the title 'Look Small...Pull Big' had a special significance for her as it could be applied to her own playing days with Crumlin in Dublin when they came from nowhere to win an All-Ireland crown.

Club Chairman Mick Lanigan was M.C. for the occasion, and the speakers also included Eileen O'Leary, one of the co-founders and a member of the book committee, and the author, Alan Aherne, who spent three years on this project.

Eileen outlined what life was like in the early days of the club in a fascinating address, and good wishes were expressed for a speedy recovery to her fellow founder, Bessie Barville, who was unable to attend owing to illness.

Alan Aherne expressed his thanks to the book's generous patrons for their patience and singled out Kate Kelly, John Furlong and Eileen O'Leary for special praise as this trio played huge roles behind the scenes and were a constant source of help and encouragement.

The book launch was followed by another pleasant task as medals were presented to the Junior 'A' league and championship-winning squads and the Minor championship runners-up by Aileen Lawlor with assistance from Kate Kelly, while Alan Aherne gave a brief outline of each player's role in these fine achievements.

Those in attendance to receive their medals were Lisa Quill (Junior captain), Aine Lacey (Minor captain), Therese Sheil (Junior vice-captain), Mary Cullen, Caroline Curran, Sinéad Kelly, Aine Barron, Catherine Doyle, Niamh Doyle, Niamh Potter, Nikki Scallan, Jane Mythen, Ceara O'Brien, Róisín Tobin, Sarah Lacey, Hazel O'Leary, Ciara Donohoe, Ciara Neville, Deirdre McMahon, Sandy Carr, Chloe Thomas, Eadaoin Fitzgerald, Maeve Doyle, Chloe Mahon, Niamh Walsh, Linzi Lanigan, Katie Lacey, Megan Murphy. In addition, Kirsty Hynds, Clara Corrigan, Lill Roche, Geraldine Doolan, Leanne Corrigan, Hannah Duggan and Megan Smith shared in those successes but were unable to attend.

Presentations were also made by Lisa Quill and Therese Sheil to the Junior team mentors, Alan Aherne (manager), John Kelly (coach), Fionnuala Hearne (selector) and John Furlong (selector).

'Look Small...Pull Big' is now available throughout the parish of Castlebridge and will be in The Book Centre, Wexford, from today (Tuesday). It would make an ideal Christmas present for anyone who has played with or against the club down through the years as it paints a picture of life on and off the field in vivid detail.

With over 220,000 words, 450 photographs and images, and a comprehensive records section, there is more than enough between the covers to provide hours of entertainment.



■ The club committee. Back (from left): John Kelly, Kate Kelly (Vice-Chairperson), Aine Donohoe, Caroline Curran, Patricia Fielding (P.R.O.), Alan Aherne, John Furlong (President), Fionnuala Hearne, Barry Hearne (Assistant Treasurer). Front: Clara Donohoe (Assistant Secretary), Kathleen Lacey, Therese Sheil, Sinéad Kelly (Secretary), Mick Lanigan (Chairman), Aileen Lawlor (national President), Mairéad Potter (Treasurer), Peggie Kelly (President).



■ Hazel O'Leary and Róisín Tobin.



■ The Minors who received their championship runners-up medals. Back (from left): Fiona Cullen (selector), Kate Kelly (manager), Niamh Doyle, Niamh Walsh, Linzi Lanigan, Chloe Thomas, Hazel O'Leary, Róisín Tobin, Ciara Neville, Alan Aherne (selector). Front (from left): Megan Murphy, Shauna Kelly, Chloe Mahon, Katie Lacey, Eadaoin Fitzgerald, Aine Lacey (capt.), Maeve Doyle.

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'LOOK SMALL.....PULL BIG' HISTORY BOOK LAUNCHED BY NATIONAL PRESIDENT

FOR THE IBAR'S



■ The book committee - back (from left): John Furlong, Therese Sheil, Kate Kelly, Alan Aherne. Front (from left): Mary Sheil, Eileen O'Leary (co-founder), Aileen Lawlor (national President who performed the official launch), Peggie Kelly.



■ First cousins Aine Lacey, Ballyruane, Screen, and Ciara Donohoe, Ballaghblake, Curragloe, at the launch.



■ The Junior 'A' championship and league winners. Back (from left): Eadaoin Fitzgerald, Chloe Thomas, Sarah Lacey, Mary Cullen, Ceara O'Brien, Hazel O'Leary, Róisín Tobin, Sandy Carr. Middle (from left): John Furlong (selector), John Kelly (coach), Niamh Doyle, Niamh Potter, Ciara Donohoe, Michelle Harding, Aine Barron, Ciara Neville, Maeve Doyle, Deirdre McMahon, Fionnuala Hearne (selector), Alan Aherne (manager). Front (from left): Aine Lacey, Caroline Curran, Sinéad Kelly, Therese Sheil (vice-captain), Lisa Quill (captain), Catherine Doyle, Nikki Scallan, Jane Mythen.



■ Anne-Marie Kelly and Jacqui O'Connor.

Brian Dillons edge Millstreet to win title

Having lost out in the championship final just a week earlier Brian Dillons turned disappointment into joy as they captured the under 16B league title in a tight clash with Millstreet in Castle Road.

The result could have gone either way but Brian Dillon's just about edged it with a point with a minute remaining.

All through it was a close affair and in a low scoring opening half Shauna Cronin's third minute goal remained the vital score as it helped give Brian Dillon's a 1-1 to 0-2 interval advantage.

With Brian Dillon's enjoying most of the early possession they laid siege to the Millstreet goal but the Millstreet defence stood firm. At the other end of the field the Brian Dillon's defence closed down the Millstreet attack and never allowed them any space and we had to wait until the 23rd minute of the half before we had the second score of the game, Sinead Mills pointing for Brian Dillon's to extend their lead.

Millstreet upped the pace in the closing minutes of the half and points from A Kate O'Keeffe free and one from Ava Barry cut the Brian Dillon's lead to just two points.

Millstreet started the second half in determined fashion, and applying huge pressure on the Brian Dillon's defence they hit four points inside eight minutes, Kate O'Keeffe, Leanne Kelleher Ava Barry and O'Keeffe again giving Millstreet a two point advantage and now it was they who held the upper hand.

A Sinead Mills point cut



Mary O'Sullivan, chairperson Juvenile Camogie Board, presents the Under 16B league trophy to Brian Dillon's captain Emma Sharpe.

the deficit ten minutes in and as both sides dug deep Millstreet clung to their one point lead.

With 11 minutes remaining Brian Dillon's keeper Shauna Walsh denied Maire Ellen O'Connor a certain goal with a superb save and it effectively turned the game in her side favour.

Spurred on by the excellent and hard working Ruth Brosnan, Brian Dillons regained their composure and shape, Shauna Cronin pointed to level matters and now the game was there for the taking.

Both sides gave it everything in quest of victory. Millstreet struck three wides in a row as they looked to regain control, and with the clock ticking towards full

time Sinead Mills won possession from a clearance around the goal and confidently struck it between the posts to give Brian Dillon's the lead. Millstreet battled for an equaliser, but the Brian Dillons defence stood firm to deny them.

Brian Dillon's Ruth Brosnan was named as player of the match following an excellent performance.

Brian Dillons S Walsh; N Cotter, N O'Leary, D Keane; R Brosnan, E Sharpe(c), E O'Connell; A Smith, S Cronin; S Mills, S Mangan, L Barry; C O'Mahony, E Carroll, K Luby. Sub: R Carroll for E Carroll (h/t). Scorers: S Cronin 1-1, S Mills 0-3.

Millstreet C Murphy; L Smyth, L O'Reilly, S Dennehy; M Lane, J Dunne, L Murphy (c); K O'Keeffe, M E O'Connor; C O'Keeffe, L Kelleher, S Sheehan; C Collins, A Barry, M Ring. Sub: C Byrne for M Lane (56). Scorers: K O'Keeffe 0-3 (0-2f), A Barry 0-2, L Kelleher 0-1.

Referee: Sean Olliphant (Youghall).

Charleville take U16 C league crown



Charleville, the winners of the Under 16 C League.

A determined Charleville turned the tables on neighbours Ballyhea to deny them a double to capture the Under 16 C League title in Castle Road. Just two weeks earlier Ballyhea defeated Charleville to be crowned county champions.

They showed fierce determination to reverse the result as they were crowned league champions amid much excitement at Cork Camogie headquarters.

Both ground and overhead conditions on the day were excellent and Charleville went into the clash with several positional changes to their championship clash with the same opposition.

Ballyhea made the better start and two Rachel Harty goals helped them settle. They added to their tally with a point before Charleville responded with three goals before the break, two from Iman O'Connell and one from Meadhbh Buckley helping them lead at the break 3-0 to 2-2.

The second half was close

all through but Charleville put huge pressure on the county champions defence. By the three quarter stage they had stretched their advance further with Iman O'Connell and Michelle Jones contributing five points without reply.

Ballyhea regrouped and battling back. They grabbed a goal from Rachel Harty and with Moira Fitzgibbon and Rosin Killeen also prominent they cut the deficit to a point, however, despite a lot of pressure from Ballyhea for an equaliser, the Charleville defence held firm to run out

worthy winners.

Charleville Meadhbh Buckley was selected as player of the match following a superb display as her side captured the title.

Charleville: C Reynolds; C Collins, A Buckley, N Savage; J Corrigan, J McCarthy, I Lee; M O'Connell, I O'Connell; E Moloney, M Buckley, T Collins; S Leahy, M Jones, N O'Brien.

Sub's: F McCarthy for Collins, B Mupada for E Moloney. Scorers: I O'Connell 2-4, M Buckley 1-0, M Jones 0-1.

Ballyhea: C Keogh; Eilish O'Keeffe, N Killeen, A Walsh; R Killeen, M Fitzgibbon, R O'Connor; L Dundon, M C Carroll; S Hudner, M Kelleher, C Dundon; A O'Shea, S Walsh, R Harty. Scorers: R Harty 3-0, M Fitzgibbon, 0-1 R Killeen 0-1(f).

CAMOGIE PLAYER OF THE YEAR

LOUISE DOUGAN

Slaughtneil

A hard-working and no-nonsense wing-back, Dougan encompasses everything you want in a defender. Her understanding of the game and her perception mean that she is always out in front, clearing the danger before it materialises, and possesses all the skills necessary to play her way out of trouble. Although defensive duties are always at the forefront of her thoughts, she is also partial to the odd foray up-field, and has proven time and again that she is more than capable of finishing off a fine solo run with a well-taken point. A real leader of her side, Dougan has shown she is a player at the very top of her game.



CATHERINE

MCGOURTY

Ballycran

There is little left to be said about a player whose exploits for both club and county have proven her to be one of the very best in the game. Operating as a midfielder with Ballycran, an accurate illustration of her importance to her side was the 1-9 she hit against Keady in the Ulster semi-final. She was the driving force behind much of Ballycran's good work as they marched through their 2012 championship campaign, attracting many plaudits. With the provincial title in the bag, she can now look forward to displaying her impressive array of talents on the All-Ireland stage.



NATALIE

MCGUINNESS

O'Donovan Rossa

While Natalie McGuinness may not attract the same level of headlines as some of her colleagues, her job in keeping the key players for the opposition quiet is just as important to the Rossa cause. She is strong and athletic, with the sort of game-reading skills that makes her a fine option at centre-back. Despite having only recently entered her 20s, she has cemented her position in the side and is a mainstay of the team, lining out in the All-Ireland club final as a 16 year-old, and has since added an hefty medal haul which includes triumphs at county, provincial and All-Ireland level.



Galway's three-time All-Star Niamh Kilkenny (right), seen here with her sister Orla, will present championship medals the Craughwell Junior 'A' camogie squad at their social in the Lough Rea Hotel this Saturday.



The Brian Dillon's team that recently won the U16 B league title.

League victory is a delight for Dillon's

U16 B CAMOGIE

By MARY NEWMAN

Brian Dillon's	1-4
Millstreet	0-6

THE last trophy of 2012 was presented in Castle Road on Saturday last as Brian Dillon's put the disappointment of losing the U16B championship final a week earlier to Blackrock behind them as they proved best in a tight U16 B league final decider against Millstreet.

The result was in doubt to the final whistle and in truth could have gone either way but having experienced the pain of defeat seven days earlier Brian Dillon's showed plenty of fighting spirit as they carved out an excellent victory for themselves. In the finish just a point separated the sides a late score with a minute remaining ensuring the title was secured by the city girls.

The game was a close affair all through and as the lead changed hands both sides enjoyed a period of dominance, in a low scoring contest a third minute goals from Shauna Cronin's was to prove a vital score as it helped give Brian Dillon's a two point interval lead.

Brian Dillon's were the better side in the opening 25 minutes and they enjoyed plenty of the early possession and as a result they put the Millstreet defence under huge pressure as they battled to extend their early advantage.



Brian Dillon's Junior A team. Left to right: Saoirse and Caoimhe Rodgers, Ruth and Susan Brosnan, Claire and Jane Dooley, Shauna and Deirdre Ring.

The Millstreet defence stood firm under a lot of pressure and as their confidence grew they came more into the game as they began to win vital possession around key areas.

The Brian Dillon's defence closed down the Millstreet attack and never allowed them any space and we had to wait until the twenty third minute of the half before we had the second score of the game Sinead Mills pointing for Brian Dillon's to extend their lead.

Millstreet upped the pace in the closing minutes of the half and points from A Kate O'Keeffe free and one from Ava Barry cut the Brian Dillon's lead to just two points.

Millstreet started the second half in determined fashion and applying huge pressure on the Brian Dillon's defence they hit four points inside eight minutes Kate O'Keeffe, Leanne Kelleher Ava Barry and O'Keeffe again giving Millstreet a two point advantage and now it was they who held the upper hand.

A Sinead Mills point cut the deficit 10 minutes in and as both sides dug deep Millstreet clung to their one point lead.

With 11 minutes remaining Brian Dillon's keeper Shauna Walsh denied Maire Ellen O'Connor a certain goal with a superb save and it effectively

turned the game in her side favour. Now spurred on by the excellent hard working Ruth Brosnan who worked tirelessly to keep her sides spirits alive Brian Dillon's regained their composure and their shape and pushing forward Shauna Cronin pointed to level matters and now the game was there for the taking for which ever side wanted it most.

Both sides gave it everything in quest of victory. Millstreet struck three wide's in a row as they gave it everything to try and gain control but with the clock ticking towards full time and extra time looking on the cards Sinead Mills won possession from a clearance around the goal and she steadied her self and confidently struck it between the posts to give Brian Dillon's the lead.

From the puck out Millstreet battled for an equaliser but the Brian Dillon's defence stood firm to deny them.

Brian Dillon's Ruth Brosnan was named as player of the match following an excellent performance which merited the accolade which was presented by outgoing county board president Kay Dunne.

Scorers for Brian Dillon's: S Cronin 1-1, S Mills 0-3.

Millstreet: K O'Keeffe 0-3 (0-21), A Barry 0-2, L Kelleher 0-1.

BRIAN DILLON'S: S Walsh; N Cotter, N O'Leary, D Keane; R Brosnan, E Sharpe (c), E O'Connell; A Smith, S Cronin; S Mills, S Mangan, L Barry; C O'Mahony, E Carroll, K Luby.

Sub: R Carroll for E Carroll (h/t).

MILLSTREET: C Murphy; L Smyth, L O'Reilly, S Dennehy; M Lane, J Dunne, L Murphy (c); K O'Keeffe, M E O'Connor; C O'Keeffe, L Kelleher, S Sheehan; C Collins, A Barry, M Ring.

Sub: C Byrne for M Lane (56).

Referee: Sean Olliphant (Youghal).

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The 1992 Cork minor camogie team pictured in Semple Stadium on Munster final day. Back: Fiona O'Donovan, Frances Flavin, Maria Corkery, Niamh O'Mahony Cliona Long and Cora Keohane. Front: Mary O'Connor, Deirdre Holland, Val O'Mahony, Niamh O'Regan, Alison Dilworth and Miriam Deasy.

Picture: Ref Exam Photo



The Cork senior camogie team, 1989 All-Ireland finalists. Back: Therese O'Callaghan, Liz O'Neill, Cathy Landers, Betty Joyce and Colette O'Mahony. Front: Mags Finn, Clare Cronin, Liz Dunphy, Linda Mellerick, Ger McCarthy, Sandie Fitzgibbon and Marion McCarthy.

Picture: Ref Exam photo



North Presentation Convent team which defeated Assumption Walkinstown in the All-Ireland Senior Colleges Camogie Championship in 1980. Back: Collette Spillane, Lisa Corcoran, Catriona Geasley, Martha Kearney, Claire McCarthy, Tina O'Sullivan, Francis Hurley, Mary Owens. Front: Deirdre O'Shea, Vivenne Brown, Paula Goggins, Paula Healy, Imelda Cronin, Sandie Fitzgibbon, Jackie Courtney, Sandra Twomey. North Pres were trained by Fr Michael O'Brien with teachers John O'Riordan and Sr Stanislaus.

Picture: Ref Exam photo.



Cork All-Ireland Camogie champions 1970. Back: Marie Costine, Pat Moloney, Hannah Dineen, Sile Dunne, Mel Cummins, Anne McAuliffe and Liz Garvan. Front: Peggy Dorgan, Marion McCarthy, Rosie Hennessy, Anne Comerford (Capt), Mary Jo Ryan, Betty Sugrue and Mary Moran.

Corkery hopes to cut out the crisps in bid to do the double

BRINGING the double back to Cork is one of the main aims for Cork football and camogie star Brieghe Corkery (right).

The All-Ireland winning dual star is hoping to bring the football title back to Leeside for the eighth time in nine years and win the camogie title and put a halt to Wexford's plans for four in-a-row.

"The camogie team are back training for the past two months and the footballers will be back in mid-January. We'd love to do the double and have a repeat of 2009.

"It's hard work and we take nothing for granted so we're going to be focused throughout the year.



Cork dual star Brieghe Corkery hopes 2013 will bring her a county final medal.

It's total commitment but worth it; every win is precious.

"Another aim for 2013 would be to win a county final with my own club, St Val's. And during 2013 I'm also hoping to give up sweets and Tayto crisps, but I think the chances of that are slim!" said Brieghe.



Mayo's Claire Egan is shown a yellow card by referee Shaun Duane in the Division 2 final against Galway. Picture: SPORTS ILLUSTRATED



Cork dual star Brieghe Corkery

DEC. 2012

Code will be of help to clubs

THE recent joint publication by the GAA, The Camogie Association, Ladies Gaelic Football Association, GAA Handball Ireland and the Rounder Council of Ireland *Our Games - Our Code* is a momentous occasion for the organisations.

The joint code of best practice in youth sport has brought together the family of gaelic games and is relevant document for all those who work with underage players and vulnerable adults in the respective Associations.

The code brings together the collective good practice experiences of the various associations.

It recognises the legislative, organisational and statutory guidance that governs the work being done with young people and children who participate in games.

Our Games - Our Code will assist them in supporting and directing members and all units of the associations in their work with underage teams in a coordinated and developmental manner.

The Camogie Associations in common with all others who work with young people and children on a daily basis will continue to abide by and integrate child welfare legislation and statutory guidance into their work. The upholding of this principle, the welfare of the child shall always be the paramount consideration, whether it is on the playing fields, in the training of underage players, the recruitment of coaches or the many other developmental and social opportunities that are offered to underage players on a regular basis.

All who work with children at club and at county level are now being made aware of this new Joint Code which can be downloaded on the national camogie web site www.camogie.ie

Charleville, the U16 C league winners.



New camogie diary is really different

CAMOGIE

By MARY NEWMAN

THE Camogie Association recently launched the first ever diary and nutrition guide for teenage camogie players.

The diary and nutrition guide which totals 136 pages has been organised between the Camogie Association and the Nutrition and Health Foundation and is packed with information on what foods to eat while playing and training for camogie.

It also categorises the importance of fluids, information on the food pyramid and how our young camogie players can best balance their busy sporting and school schedule in their 52 week diary.

Eat Smart Move Smart is a must for the teenage camogie player as it is packed full of information on nutrition, foods and fluids for training and playing. It also gives tips on how to balance sport and study and it is a great knowledge source for all teenage camogie players.



Marie O'Neill, of Milford Camogie Club with the winning team from their recent fund-raising table quiz at the Rock Bar. The Hunt Bar, Watergrasshill, where Marie works, sponsored the top prize on the night. Also included is Danny Corkery, owner of The Rock Bar.

The handy booklet was developed with the input of dietitians, nutritionists, physiotherapists, welfare officers and also involved a number of groups of teen camogie players from urban and rural areas.

Priced at € and packaging the *Eat Smart Move*

Smart diary is available to order by downloading the form on the national camogie web site or by calling the Camogie Association on 01 865 8652 or by email at paula@camogie.ie or Claire Egan on 01-865 8618 email claire@camogie.ie. Payments can be made over the phone via Credit/Laser or Visa Debit.

Time to honour stalwarts

CORK COUNTY BOARD is seeking nominations from clubs for a Volunteer of the Year for the season 2012. writes MARY NEWMAN.

Last year this new award was inaugurated and Sheila Spillane from Killeagh was nominated by her club and was chosen as Cork winner.

The award, the brainchild of the Camogie Association, was brought in to acknowledge the huge effort put in by many people in clubs within the county during the year.

Many of these people are who tirelessly promote our game.

The award recognises the huge amount of work these people put in and the huge role behind the scenes they put in away from the playing fields and the awards give them due recognition for all their hard, unheralded toil.

The County Board will pick the overall winner from the nominations received and the recipient will be honoured at a special lunch All-Ireland Club final day on March 3 in Croke Park.

Nominations for the award should be forwarded by club secretaries or to County Board secretary Sheila Golden on or before Monday January 14 which is the last day for entries.

Any nominations received after this will not be considered.



Mairéad O'Donovan, County Camogie Development Officer, presents Glen Rovers captain Nicole O'Brien with the County Minor Championship trophy.

Postponed poc fada on tomorrow

THE Glen Rovers Puc fada which was postponed on St Stephen's Day, due to weather conditions, goes ahead tomorrow Sunday, December 30, with registration at the club from 10.30am to 12.30 for underage and adult hurlers, camogie players and families.

Munster Senior Camogie Final

2012 for Clare Camogie has no doubt been a historic year, and a year that dwell in the minds of so many for a long time to come. Every organisation sets out their stall at the start of the year, their hopes of what they want to achieve, their dreams. Its probably safe to say now as the year reaches its conclusion that for Clare Camogie their hopes were exceeded, their dreams fulfilled. Silverware in the cabinet, National awards & titles, Munster titles at Senior & Minor level plus Junior and Intermediate Munster Club title, Feile success, and of course the pinnacle of the year – the opening of the Fr McNamara Camogie Grounds during the weekend of the International Shinty Festival.

Club Scene

With close on 500 games on the domestic fixtures calendar in 2012, great credit is due to all Clubs – Officers, mentors and of course players that these fixtures were played within their time frames. The Fixtures Committee and especially our County Secretary Marie Louise Kaiser kept on top of a hectic schedule and saw to it that packed as it was, the Fixtures Calendar is completed. Congratulations to all the winners. Special mention to Kilmaley and Truagh Clonlara who won the County Senior & Intermediate Championships in 2 cracking Finals, and then went on to take Munster Club titles at Intermediate & Junior Club Championship level respectively. Kilmaley brought home the Trixie Twomey Cup back to Clare for the first time. Truagh Clonlara were denied by Myshall, Carlow in the Junior Club All Ireland Semi final, while Kilmaley will play their Intermediate All Ireland semi final in early February. Parteen & Cratloe both contested the U13C Plate Final, a huge achievement for 2 burgeoning Clubs in the County. 2012 saw the introduction of the inaugural U21 Championship with Kilmaley lifting the U21A Cup, Sixmilebridge the U21A Shield, Kilkishen the U21B cup and Ballyea the U21B Shield.

County Scene

Development Squads continue to go from strength to strength within the County – with close on 200 girls in these squads competing at all levels the future of Clare Camogie is secure. Our U16s didn't have the success of previous years but much work has been done with this group of girls. At Minor level, we won the inaugural Munster Minor Shield, Clare is the first county to be engraved on the Anne Maher Shield, a fitting tribute to a woman who gave so much to Clare Camogie over the years. Our Seniors had a good run in the National League. The winning of the Munster Senior Championship and bridging a 66 year gap since the Banner last won this title was a high point for this group of players. The Senior Championship saw Clare reach the quarter final stages where Cork avenged their Munster Final defeat. Great credit is due to the players and management team for the progress made, and no doubt 2013 will see much more of the same.

Clare Munster Senior Camogie Champions 2012

Clare 0-9 Cork 0-7

Clare were crowned Munster Senior Camogie Champions on the 3rd June 2012 in a tremendous contest with League Champions Cork at the Ragg in Thurles Co Tipperary. In doing so they bridged a 66 year wait since Clare last won this the Morrissey Cup.

On the back of a good league Campaign which featured good wins over Offaly and Tipperary and narrow defeats to both Kilkenny and Galway Clare's Senior Camogie team approached the Munster Championship with Confidence.

Limerick failed to field in the Semi Final to the disappointment of players and management. This afforded us time to train well and also play both Offaly and Kilkenny in Challenge games in the lead in to this Final. Training went particularly well with a full commitment from the panel and this was evidenced in an emphatic 3.16 to 1.9 win against Kilkenny the week before the Final.

The final itself was a tremendous game with Clare outplaying Cork all over the field. Cork had no answer to Clare's physicality, hunger and skill on the evening. We had to field without Siobhain Lafferty through injury and lost Fiona Lafferty after five minutes and Laura Linnane at half time who had an outstanding first half. This underlines the strength in depth in the county at present. All players who saw action were outstanding on the night.

This team is a blend of very experienced players who won the Junior All Ireland in 2008 and players from successful Minor teams in recent years. The team has developed significantly in 2012 and Clare Camogie at this level is now a match for anyone. This victory we hope is a catalyst for much further success in the coming years if all players are prepared to make the commitment and sacrifices

associated with all successful teams.

I would like to thank our all of our County Board officers particularly Orla Considine, Marie Louise Kaiser, Michael Maher and Brid MacNamara who gave us excellent support in 2012. Also Orla and Marie Louise who also acted as Physio to the team this year.

Thanks to Lorna Barry Fitness and Conditioning trainer and Jill Bourke on Stats and Analysis. Thanks to Pat Barry and Clarecastle GAA for the use of their facilities this year and also the Newmarket and Whitegate Clubs and all of our Clubs for their assistance in 2012. Special thanks to our Head Coach Peter Casey and fellow Selectors Trish O Grady and Flan McInerney for a great job in 2012.

Finally and most importantly well done to our players on a fantastic win which hopefully is only the start of their success in a Clare Jersey.

Clare Panel: Deirdre Murphy ClooneyQuin, Claire McMahon Kilmaley, Fiona Lafferty InaghKilnamona (Joint Captain), Susan Fahy Whitegate, Suzy O Shea Ballyea, Kate Connors Sixmilebridge, Ann Marie McMahon Crusheen, Niamh O'Dea Kilmaley, Denise Lynch Kilmaley, Maire McGrath Sixmilebridge, Siobhain Lafferty InaghKilnamona, Carol O Leary Newmarket on Fergus, Kate Lynch Kilkishen, Susan Vaughan Scariff Ogonnellloe (Joint Captain), Chloe Morey Sixmilebridge, Alish Considine Kilmaley, Aishling Hannon ClooneyQuin, Sinead O Loughlin Inagh Kilnamona, Aimee McInerney Newmarket on Fergus, Naomi Carroll Sixmilebridge, Sharon McMahon Newmarket on Fergus, Marian O'Brien Scariff Ogonnellloe, Laura Linnane Wolfe Tones, Sinead Tuohy Sixmilebridge, Katie Cahill Kilmaley, Orlaith Duggan Clooney Quin, Louise Woods St Josephs, Shonagh Enright Kilmaley.

John Camody
Clare Senior Camogie Manager



Clare Camogie Roll of Honour 2012

COMPETITION

PK Travel Senior Championship
PK Travel Glenomra Senior Shield
PK Travel Senior League
Intermediate Championship
Intermediate Shield
Intermediate League
Junior A Championship
Junior A Shield
Junior B Championship
Junior A League
Junior B League
U21A Championship
U21A Shield
U21 B Championship
U21 B Shield
The Clare People Minor A Championship
The Clare People Minor A Shield
The Clare People Minor B Championship
The Clare People Minor B Shield
The Clare People Minor C Championship
The Clare People Minor C Shield
The Clare Champion U16A Championship
The Clare Champion U16A Shield
The Clare Champion U16B Championship
The Clare Champion U16B Shield
The Clare Champion U16C Championship
The Clare Champion U16 C Shield
U14A Championship
U14A Shield
U14B Championship
U14B Shield
U14C Championship
U14C Shield
U13A Shield
U13B Championship
U13B Shield
U13C Championship
U13C Shield
U13C Plate
Munster Junior Club Championship
Munster Intermediate Club Championship
Clare Féile n nGael Competition
Clare Féile n nGael Skills winner
Clare Long Puck

WINNERS

Kilmaley
Kilkishen
Newmarket on Fergus
Truagh-Clonlara
Whitegate
Truagh-Clonlara
Eire Og
Killanena
Ruan
Eire Og
Bodyke
Kilmaley
Sixmilebridge
Kilkishen
Ballyea
Newmarket on Fergus
Feakle
Eire Og
Clooney-Quin
Truagh-Clonlara
Scariff-Ogonnellloe
Inagh-Kilnamona
Eire Og
Corofin
Ballyea
Truagh-Clonlara
Tulla/Bodyke
Inagh-Kilnamona
Clarecastle
Scariff-Ogonnellloe
Corofin
Truagh-Clonlara
Killanena
Feakle
Truagh-Clonlara
Kilmaley
Broadford
Whitegate
Parteen
Kilmaley, Clare
Truagh-Clonlara, Clare
Inagh-Kilnamona
Aoife Tuohy, Feakle
1) Aisling Corbett,

RUNNER UP

Clooney-Quin
Inagh-Kilnamona
Kilmaley
Scariff-Ogonnellloe
Clarecastle
Scariff-Ogonnellloe
Bodyke
Tulla
Feakle
Feakle
Killanena
Newmarket on Fergus
ClooneyQuin/St Josephs
Eire Og
Inagh-Kilnamona
Ballyea
Sixmilebridge
Corofin
Kilkishen
Wolfe Tones
Tulla/Bodyke
Sixmilebridge
Clooney-Quin
Kilmaley
Wolfe Tones
Killanena
Scariff-Ogonnellloe
Sixmilebridge
Newmarket on Fergus
Broadford
Kilkishen
Tulla/Bodyke
Ballyea
Clarecastle
Scariff-Ogonnellloe
Newmarket on Fergus
Killanena
Corofin
Cratloe
St Annes, Waterford
An Rinn, Waterford
Feakle

Clare Camogie 2012



Eamon Browne Chairman Munster Council and Joan O'Flynn President of Camogie Association with Brid MacNamara recipient of the RTE Mick Dunne/Camogie Association PRO of the year 2011

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Munster Minor A Shield Final

Clare overcame a second half comeback from Limerick to claim the inaugural Munster Minor A shield title in early April. Clare having led throughout found themselves trailing by 2 points mid-way through the second half as a resurgent Limerick side battled hard to take honours. However Clare stepped up the pace and with many stalwart performances all over the field, it was the Banner girls who will be inscribed on the Ann Maher Memorial Shield for the first time. A fitting tribute to the memory of a lady who gave so much to Clare Camogie.

Clare Minor Panel 2012: Suzy O'Shea Ballyea, Jane Flanagan Ballyea, Laura McMahon Newmarket on Fergus, Shauna Fleming Kilkishen, Louise Griffin Ballyea - Capt, Ellen Roche Sixmilebridge, Kate O'Neill Newmarket on Fergus, Alana O'Brien Eire Og, Fiona Murphy Sixmilebridge, Sinead Tuohy Sixmilebridge, Vera Loughnane Feakle, Niki Kaiser Newmarket on Fergus, Shauna O'Brien Eire Og, Kate O'Gorman Kilkishen, Orla Devitt Eire Og, Pauline McNamara Kilkishen, Rebecca Devine St Josephs, Rachel Mulcaire Newmarket on Fergus, Orlaith Lynch St Josephs, Rebecca Culligan Ballyea, Katie Malone Eire Og, Aislinn Keogh Newmarket on Fergus, Lorraine Ryan Clooney Quin, Brid Enright Newmarket on Fergus, Karen Ryan Broadford, Claire O'Brien Wolfe Tones, Jane Ryne Kilmaley, Ali Quinlan Sixmilebridge, Lauren Guilfoyle Feakle, Eimear Casey Eire Og, Dawn Ryan Wolfe Tones, Jenny Costelloe Clooney Quin, Manager: Francis Browne Selectors: Alan Duggan, Lorraine O'Loughlin, Brendan Mulcaire, Pakie Healy First Aid: Marie Louise Kaiser



Michael Maher presents the Ann Maher Shield to Clare captain Louise Griffin



Victorious Clare Minor Camogie panel

Clare U16 Camogie 2012



Clare U16 team who contested Munster U16A Shield Final

Management: John Moloney, Brendan Lynch, Cushla Hehr, Ruth Lillis and Enda McNamara

U16 Panels 2012: Shauna Ryan Clooney Quin, Sinead Collins Corofin, Aine O'Shea Ballyea, Eimear Kelly Parteen, Lauren McGuane Kilmaley, Sinead Quinn Inagh-Kilmamona, Rae Wall Eire Og, Fiona Murphy (Capt) Sixmilebridge, Laura Ryne Inagh-Kilmamona, Slaine Carey Sixmilebridge, Claire Taaffe Kilmaley, Rachel O'Brien Leighanne McMahon Kilmaley, Kate O'Gorman Kilkishen, Amy O'Brien Corofin, Lauren Tuohy Clarecastle, Rebecca Devine St Josephs, Eimear Casey St Josephs, Emily Maloney Clooney Quin, Lauren O'Donoghue Ruan, Clodagh O'Halloran Kilkishen, Siobhan Fahy Inagh-Kilmamona, Lisa O'Donoghue Whitegate, Grainne Nolan Eire Og, Aislinn Malone Corofin, Caroline Walsh Eire Og, Hannah O'Brien Clooney Quin, Aislinn Keane Inagh-Kilmamona, Orla Devitt Eire Og, Amy McArthur Kilmaley, Eimear Donnellan Sixmilebridge, Hannah King Burren, Siobhan Tuohy Feakle, Aislinn Corofin, Niamh Whyte Sixmilebridge, Zoe McNamey Wolfe Tones, Annemarie Hayes Newmarket on Fergus, Lisa McGrath Feakle, Sarah Daly Scariff Ogonnell, Kealy Power Scariff Ogonnell, Rosalyn McNamara Kilmaley, Hayley Nolan Wolfe Tones, Shannon McNamara Scariff Ogonnell, Aisling Hunt Julia, Nicole McNamara Clooney Quin, Emma Kavanagh Inagh-Kilmamona, Aislinn Dillon Broadford, Deanna Considine Sixmilebridge, Laura Commey Newmarket on Fergus.

The 2012 U16 squad began training in early February. A number of eligible players were already training with the Minor squad and remained with this squad until early April when the Munster Championship began. It was decided to field two teams at U16 level this year to get more players involved in the panel and allow more girls

to play on county teams as an active encouragement to the development of players. One team was entered into the U16C Munster competition which began on April 1, this team didn't fare well in their competition. An A team was also entered in the Munster Championship, defeat to Cork saw Clare

contest the Shield Final against Limerick, with the match going decisively the way of Limerick.

In the All Ireland Championship, Clare played both Galway and Dublin. Despite home advantage in both games, victory was with the visitors on both occasions.

Clare Underage Development

Clare U14 Camogie

Development

This year has been a one of the most progressive years for under age camogie in the county. There has been huge work put in to coaching and training these development squads since early April of this year and underage camogie is really going in the right direction. They have participated in blitz competitions all over county and this has been a great experience for all the players and coaches involved. As the year has

progressed the players have become stronger, very fit and a great style of play has emerged. It has to be revealed that the standard of camogie being played is very high and the county is currently competing very well with all the top traditional camogie counties. For first time in over ten years Clare camogie competed in Division 1 of these U14 competition's and they have contested the finals of the Dublin and Tipperary Blitz. The current squad of U14 players had a very significant and progressive year. They competed in a total of seven inter-county blitz competitions including the All Ireland U14 Championship blitz in Dublin. The level of camogie being played was very impressive and encouraging for the future. It can be stated that as a camogie county, the banner girls are able to compete with the best of the camogie counties which include Cork, Tipperary, Kilkenny, Dublin, Wexford and Galway.

Lauren Solan, Whitegate, Emma Kennedy, Sixmilebridge, Aoife Tuohy, Feakle, Orlaith Cotter, Inagh-Kilmamona, Keelin Lyons, Sixmilebridge, Saoirse Glynn, Kilmaley, Siobhan Lane, Corofin, Aislinn Duggan Clooney-Quin, Abigail Connellan, Kilmaley, Louise Brown, Corofin, Evelyn Duggan, Feakle, Regan Conway, Feakle, Polly Edge O'Neill, Kilaneena, Andrea O'Keefe, Inagh-Kilmamona, Clare Hehir, Inagh-Kilmamona, Roisin Begley, Tuagh-Clonlara, Niamh Mulqueen, Broadford, Teresa O'Keefe, Inagh-Kilmamona, Chloe Devitt, Ballyea, Doireann Murphy, Clarecastle, Karen Gallagher, Amy Keating, Inagh-Kilmamona, Rebecca Keating, Inagh-Kilmamona, Claire Commons, Clarecastle, Aislinn Malone, Corofin, Orla Moloney, St Josephs-Doora Barefield, Clodagh Nash, Scariff-Ogonnell, Chloe Eustace, Ballyea, Rachel Minouge, Scariff-Ogonnell, Louise McDonald, Ruan, Katie Minouge, Bodyke, Jane Fitzgerald, Inagh-Kilmamona, Laura McGrath, Feakle, Corina McMahon, Corofin, Amy Broderick, Eire Og, Joanne O'Gorman, Kilkishen, Sarah Moloney, Sixmilebridge, Daire Ni Cathain, Kilmaley, Jade O'Rourke, Wolfones, Shannon, Rachel Kelly, Sixmilebridge, Sarah Cotter, Inagh-Kilmamona, Meave Donnellan, Tuagh-Clonlara, Amy Wiley, Clarecastle, Nora O'Rourke, Kilmaley,

Nora Casey, Eire Og, Aine Feehily, Newmarket, Megan Crowley, Kilmaley, Aine O'Grady, Broadford, Aoife O'Connor, St Josephs-Doora Barefield, Siobhan O'Connell, Broadford, Aine Ronan, Kilmaley, Catherine Donnellan, Broadford, Chloe Foudy, Inagh-Kilmamona, Roisin O'Loughlin, Ruan, Rebecca O'Leary, Inagh-Kilmamona, Alex Potter, Clarecastle.

The Clare U14 development squad is managed by Anne McMahon, Kilmaley, assisted by Marian Broderick, Eire Og. Coached and trained by Alan Whyte, Sixmilebridge, Brendan Lynch and Stephan Powell, Eire Og.

opposition but our girls dug deep to take a well-deserved victory.

Our last two blitzes were participation based. The girls enjoyed success in Rathkeale winning all their matches and eagerly awaited their final blitz in Kilkenny. Here the girls had success again defeating Wexford and Down, experiencing their only loss of the season to Kilkenny.

The girls had a successful season. Their commitment and dedication to training ensured their skill levels increased throughout the season. This was evident as the girls played 15 matches winning 14. Clare Panel: Ria Flanagan Emma O'Connell Carol Browne Leah Irwin Laura McCarthy



Clare U14A Dublin 2012

CLARE U15

DEVELOPMENT 2012.

This year saw Ard Comhairle outline the programme for 2012 U15 development squads. This development squad was open to all girls who were 15 years but were not part of the u16 county panel. Our year began in April and following a number of trials, a panel of 35 girls were chosen to be part of our county panel. The first outing took us to the phoenix park in Dublin where the girls took home the honours defeating Dublin's home side in the final.

Following on from this victory hopes were high for success at our Clare blitz. Our girls defeated both Cork teams and Dublin to reach the final. Tipperary proved stiff

(Ballyea) Hannah King Louise Stringer (Burren) Samantha O'Connor (Broadford) Jessica Leamy Maebh Clune (Clooney) Lauren Tuohy (Clarecastle) Aisling McMahon Megan O'Brien Caoimhe Hoey (Doora Barefield) Laura Brown Sarah Redmond Elana Bradley (Eire Og) Amy Tuohy Jodi Guilfoyle (Feakle) Marie O'Looney (Inagh/Kilmamona) Edel McNamara Deirdre Cotter (Kilkishen) Rebecca Conlon Alisha Pyne (Kilmaley) Anne Marie Hayes Roisin Whyte (Newmarket) Kealy Power (Ogonnell) Eimer Neelan (Ruan) Niamh Whyte Niamh McNamey Nicole Shannahan Aoife Roche Rachel O'Callaghan (Sixmilebridge) Sinead Hogg Michelle Powell (Tuagh) Mentors: Carmel McGrath Alan Whyte Michael McMahon.



U14 B Clare Dublin 2012

Fr. McNamara Camogie Field

When Clare won the Intermediate All Ireland Championship in 1986, then Chairperson Kitty McNicholas set the wheels in motion to secure grounds that Clare Camogie could call their own. Over a quarter of a century later this dream was finally realised when the Fr McNamara Park was officially opened on Saturday 27th October 2012.

Back in '86 it was unheard of that a Camogie Board would have their own grounds and Kitty to make that step showed the determination she had to secure a home for all Camogie players in the County. The mantle was carried on by successive Executives but as can be the case in these matters the project got somewhat sidelined. Maura Sheedy in her time as Chairperson again raised the issue. With the winning of the Junior All Ireland Championship in 2008 the drive was back on to secure a camogie field. Current Chairperson Orla Considine took the bit between her teeth after she took over as Chairperson at the end of 2008. Numerous calls, meetings and discussions took place with the people who could help realise the dream and on January 09th 2012 a 99 year lease was granted by Clare County Council to Clare Camogie Board for the use of a playing field in Doora.

On Monday 12th March, Clare Camogie Board hosted the official launch of their development plans for the site in Bunnaw, Doora. Members of the public, Doora Barefield Parish, Ladies Football Clubs and County Board, Cumman na mBunscoil, GAA Clubs, GAA County Board and all Camogie Members, Clubs and Supporters, Clare County Council, Ennis Town Council, along with various Community Groups were present to view the plans. Then President of the Camogie Association Joan O'Flynn addressed those gathered and was whole hearted in her praise for all those who had worked so hard to deliver on the promise of a home for Camogie in Clare.

Fundraising plans were announced as the Board needed to raise a substantial sum of money in order to complete the development. Treasurer Michael Maher along with Orla Considine prepared paperwork throughout the Spring and Summer to secure the funding necessary and on 04th October the news was announced that all their hard work had paid off as the application for funding was granted.

From earlier in the year it had been agreed that the official opening would feature as

part of the Shinty International Festival during the October Bank Holiday weekend and with the funding now secure Clare Camogie Board drove on with those plans. Working in conjunction with Clare GAA and the local Shinty Committee plans were put in place for a spectacular weekend.

Saturday 27th October dawned sunny and bright, a sharp ground frost could not dispel the excitement in the air though down at Fr Mac Namara Park. It was all hands on deck to put the final touches in place for the official opening in the presence of President Michael D Higgins, Camogie President Aileen Lawlor and GAA President Liam O'Neill, along with Clare GAA, Clare County Council, Ennis town Council, and of course the Camogie Clubs of Clare.

The playing of the National Anthem before the Ladies International Shinty match was a poignant, bittersweet moment for so many of us-foremost in our thoughts were those who had worked to help us achieve this dream but were no longer with us. However we knew the sun shone brightly that day as they smiled proudly down on us. The Irish Ladies Shinty team was a unique team in that all the players were from Clare, with each Club in the County represented - 22 players from Clubs fielding at Adult level, the 4 four Clubs who field only at Juvenile level were not left out of this historic occasion as they each provided their water girls. While the game itself may not have gone the way of the Ireland, it was the events after the match that gladdened the hearts of the huge crowd in attendance. Following on from the official speeches by Chairperson Orla Considine, Camogie president Aileen Lawlor, Mayor of Clare Pat Daly, it fell to Tom McNamara & Eileen Mc Namara, brother and sister of the late Fr McNamara in whose honour the Park has been named to unveil the commemorative dedication plaques before former Bishop of Clare Willie Walsh performed a Blessing on the Park.

After 26 long years, and so much work, Clare Camogie has finally a place to call its own. The number of people who down through the years carried Kitty McNicholas's dream and those who helped bring it to fruition are to be commended. There are so many people who deserve thanks for the part they played throughout those long years, and so many more who worked so hard in the latter stages of this process and during the months, weeks and days before the Official Opening - to name everyone would require a long time so from all in Clare Camogie to all of you who helped us - *Mile mile buiochas go leir.*



Kilmaley Camogie Club

2012 has been a fantastic year for the club!

A huge thank you to all our hard working officers, all the mentors of the various teams who give voluntary of their time and especially to the girls who are representing their club and county with pride on the playing field.

Development of new pitches in Kilmaley are ongoing at present and the use of the astro turf has been a huge boost to the club.

Congratulations to John Carmody, Clare Mc Mahon, Denise Lynch, Katie Cahill, Niamh O'Dea, Shonagh Enright, Ailish Considine, on their success winning Munster Senior championship with Clare and also to Niamh O'Dea on her nomination for an All Star.

Club Committee 2012
Chairperson: Rachel Maher
Secretary: Mary Griffey
Treasurer: Brid Higgins

Congratulations to all our club players who have gone onto represent their club with the various county teams.

Congratulations to Aida Griffey on having the honour of being captain of the Ladies Shinty Team.

Many thanks to our Main Sponsor PJ Murphy of Kilmaley Inn and everyone who supported any fundraising endeavours.

Summary of all our teams in 2012

- U/6-U/10 age groups, they participated in various go games and also tournaments during the year.
- U/11s were defeated by Sixmilebridge in the U/11 tournament in the Div 2 cup final
- U/12 won their final against Feakle in a thrilling game @ Gurteen
- U13 won Shield Final
- U/14B were defeated by Broadford in the semi final
- U/16B were defeated by Corofin in final
Minor were defeated by Feakle in the semi final of shield competition
- U21 won the Final against Newmarket on Fergus
- Senior County Champions 2012 & Munster Intermediate Club Champions



Inagh Kilnamona Camogie Club

Inagh Kilnamona - Féile na nGael Champions 2012

In the Group stages they played Castleknock, their hosts on Thursday in beautiful sunshine and had a good win. On day two they travelled to Silverpark to play Kilmacud Crokes and Kilmessan from Meath. The weather was atrocious with constant rain and wind. However, the girls and mentors were focused on what they had to do and that was to win all games to avoid the conundrum of extra time and possible shoot outs.

It was evident from these group games that this team of girls were hungry to win. All through the group they played superbly with excellent team play and work rate.

However, tough games (that the score did not reflect) took their toll on limbs and joints and the girls returned to Bewley's Hotel to eat, and the all important physio work of Carmel McInerney and Margaret Lafferty who worked tirelessly on the injuries they had incurred. With exhausted limbs and carrying injuries the management had to be worried going into the semi-final stages to play St. Patricks, Portlaoise, Co. Down in St. Jude's grounds in Templeogue. They did not need to have worried however as the pure determination and motivation of the girls to reach Croke Park produced the game of the tournament. In driving rain and wind they continued to improve, the skill and striking was just a pleasure to watch in a game of camogie at any level. Again, a big score did not reflect how good the opposition were. All Ireland Final day in Croke Park beckoned the following day.

Saturday, 7th July 2012, the sun shone as the team and mentors woke to prepare for the biggest game of their lives to-date. To play in Croke Park is the Holy Grail for any Gaelic Games player- to be doing so at such a young age is a massive accomplishment. However before getting to Croke park some running repairs on the gear and equipment was required after the soaking the day before, hurleys hung on nets to dry out and gear was becoming scarce and girls were getting tired. Would these factors impede the girls was the underlying concern of the team mentors.

On arrival at Croke Park the team walked across from the Cusack to the Hogan Stand and eyed their position on the field and took in their surroundings. With nerves running high they prepared themselves for strong opposition, De la Salle of Waterford.

These were their strongest opposition in the tournament as you would have expected. With penalties awarded to both teams and a yellow and red card produced this showed the intensity and strength that both teams played at and the hunger they had to win. At half time Inagh Kilnamona were up a point and supporters were worried, would De la Salle equalise and push ahead in the second half? However, team and mentors stayed focused and with the arrival of a goal from Amy Keating fed by Chloe O'Neill (a lethal combination all weekend) early in the second half the team lifted and drove home to a historical win, the first for InaghKilnamona.

Outstanding team play from the forward line of Amy Keating (Capt), Chloe O'Neill, Sinead Power, Laoise Ryan, Chloe McNamara and Chloe Foudy. The tireless work rate and striking of Jane Fitzgerald and Andrea O'Keefe (Capt) in mid field and the rock solid defence of Teresa O'Keefe, Clare Hehir, Sarah Cotter, Orlaith Cotter, Rebecca O'Leary, Roisin Clancy and Michaela Roughan who were able to stand up when needed and an unbelievable performance from Rebecca Keating (who had a clean sheet going into the final) in goal and the sharpness of substitutes Michelle Flanagan, Fiona Kennedy, Natasha Moloney, Eimer O'Looney, Chloe Shannon, Ciara Hehir, Aoife Sexton, Ciara O'Connor. The team arrived home to a huge welcome as All Ireland Division 2 Féile na nGael Champions. To be introduced at the half time interval in the Senior Hurling Championship Clare v Dublin



game meant so much to these youngsters; great credit is due to both Clare GAA and Clare Camogie for ensuring the girls were accorded this honour.

The team mentors, Rita Clancy, Joe Ryan, Veronica Cotter, Nuala Cotter, Maeve O'Looney, Mary Moloney would like to thank Carmel McInerney and Margaret Lafferty for huge amount of work they put in over the weekend. The group of parents who were amazing and were outside dressing rooms offering assistance throughout the whole weekend, they played a huge role in not only supporting their daughters but the team mentors also. To the many supporters who travelled to Dublin to support the team. To the bus driver, Dan, who was always on hand to help. To Inagh Kilnamona U14 hurling team for putting them to the test, Clare U14 and U13 Camogie teams, Clarinbridge/Kinvara Camogie and Crecora for helping them in their preparations. To their main sponsors Donnellans Centra also to Inagh/Kilnamona Hurling Club, Dillons Restaurant and Rynnes Foodstore and all their other sponsors. To Brid McNamara, County Camogie PRO for all the coverage and keeping all the wider community in touch what was going on.

This weekend showed what Camogie & the GAA is, and should always be about, a community getting together to achieve what in other codes only paid professionals can! Well done to all.



Evening Echo



LADIES SPORTSTAR AWARDS

NEWBRIDGE
silverware

RPH
ROCHESTOWN PARK
HOTELS

January, 8 2013

Amy's a busy girl

Pages 4-5

O'Sullivan stays on
track with her dreams
Pages 2-3

Aine is keen on more
hoops success: Page 6

JAN. 2013

O'Connor is Amy for

IT may still be the season of goodwill with rest and relaxation on the minds of most people, but not for the *Evening Echo* Ladies Sports Star of the month award winner for December.

Amy O'Connor, who this week has just returned from a three-day Irish soccer training camp in Dublin is rewarded for her efforts with her club side Wilton United, who she helped complete the treble by winning the Munster Senior Cup in impressive style beating Killenale 6-1 in the final in UL to go with the Intermediate Cup against Peamount and helped her side win Premier League in Cork and wins the December ladies monthly sports star award of the year.

Amy was inspirational in the semi-final win over Caherdavin, and in the final she created three of the goals with her selfless play, and was unlucky not to score herself on two or three occasions. She also dropped back into midfield at a vital stage of the game where her pace and aggressive style of running with the ball was a great help to a Wilton team that were coming under pressure from Killenale.

Amy also hit the winner in the FAI Intermediate Cup final against Peamount and helped her team to retain the Premier League in Cork to make the year 2012 a great one for the talented Churchfield girl. When she was not staring with Wilton United or Ireland, she was leading by example for her camogie club St Vincent's, and her divisional side Seandun in the senior camogie championship.

In their clash with Carbery she hit five goals from play out of a total of 5-6, while she is a star every time she plays with her beloved St Vincent's.

This type of success comes from lots of hard work and dedication to the teams she plays with. And there are lot of those. In fact Amy plays with seven different teams in three different sporting codes, and that doesn't give 16 year-old star time for much else in her life... and she wouldn't have it any other way.

"It's been a great year for me," O'Connor said.

"We had another great year with Wilton, winning the treble was a highlight for me as was playing soccer with Ireland. Playing gaelic football and camogie when I can with my club is also very important to me.

"I enjoy playing with Wilton. They are a great side with great players and if I can add to that mix with my style of play I am thrilled. It all ended very well for us this year. "Winning the Munster final was a great way to end the season. I was pleased with how I played in the semi and final, and it is great to end the year with a personal award like this, but I would not have won it without the support of my team mates, so I accept it on their behalf."

Amy's commitment to training and games sees her out every night of the week.

On Monday it's soccer, Tuesday, camogie, Wednesday, soccer, Thursday, camogie, Friday, soccer, Saturday, gaelic football and on



At just 16, Wilton United soccer star and talented St Vincent's camogie ace Amy O'Connor is one of our youngest *Evening Echo* Ladies Sports Star winners. **Barbara O'Connell** talks to her about an incredible 2012.



Sunday it's a GAA match. Not to mention the two weekends a month training in Dublin coming up an international soccer tournament.

"Sport is what I love most and I couldn't imagine a day where I wouldn't have a hurley in my hand or a ball at my feet or sometimes both at the same time," laughs the

enthusiastic youngster.

For a lot of people they come to a stage in their life where they have to decide and choose one sport, but not for Amy, who still manages to give 100% in all three sports. "Playing three different sports is great.

"I play soccer with Wilton, camogie with St Vincent's and football with

Douglas.

"I love all three sports and couldn't possibly pick just one, not just yet." Playing with so many teams means training with everyone on a regular basis and that can be hard to achieve but Amy, thanks to the co-operation of the many different coaches makes as many sessions as she can.

"Trying to fit in training for all teams can be difficult.

"At the moment I am playing with seven different teams - soccer with club, county and country, camogie with club and county and football with club and county.

"Thankfully, my clubs are understanding, and once I'm training they don't mind who with, although I like to train with clubs as much as I can, and sometimes I manage two sessions a night, one with club, and one with county."

Amy, who has played soccer 21 times for Ireland, has played county camogie since U12s, county football since U14s and has the ability to become a huge star in the coming years in all three sports.

"Amy is the most natural hurrier that I have had the pleasure of coaching," St Vincent's camogie

the stars on all fronts

MAIN PICTURE: Amy celebrates scoring the winner against Peamount in the Intermediate Cup final. **RIGHT:** Amy shows her skills at Ireland training camp. **LEFT:** She is not just a talented soccer player and has shone on the GAA scene with her club St Vincent's as well as Cork.



coach Ross Corcoran said. "She has an amazing work ethic, and very willing to learn. "Her footwork is second to none - this buys her a lot of time on the ball. "Amy has all the attributes to make it at the top level in camogie and soccer. "But with all this going for her she is also very down to earth, and gets on with everyone in the club." Not surprisingly her soccer coach at Wilton, where she is also a star forward and has been earmarked as a future senior international, Pat Bowdren is fulsome in his praise for the talented teenager. "She is a great kid to deal with," Pat Bowdren said. "She has great ability and is so exciting to watch. "I'm delighted that she's able to play

senior for us this year. "She has been a huge asset to us. There's never a bother with her. "She will play anywhere which is great for any manager or coach." Our December winner started playing soccer with Temple United schoolboys. She played with them for two years before moving to Wilton. There she has become one of the most talented soccer players to have played for Wilton and has come through the ranks in all age groups. She has represented the Cork league in the Gaynor Cup, and her greatest achievement to date was captaining her country at U15 level. "I was vice-captain of the U15 international squad in 2010, and then in 2011, I was made captain of the U15 team. "This was a huge honour for me

and my family. I don't come from a sporting family, but the support I get from them is brilliant. "My dad, mam, brother and my dog go to all of my games." Having played against teams such as Northern Ireland, Scotland, England, Wales, Romania, Germany, Italy, Belgium, Poland, France, Norway and Macedonia in the space of two years which is a fantastic achievement, Amy has come to the attention of Irish senior manager Sue Ronan, but playing for the senior side in not one of her goals for now. Her goal and biggest ambition at the moment is to break into the Cork senior camogie team next year. "I began playing camogie with Na Piarsaigh, but moved to St Vincent's soon after. "I've enjoyed and loved my camogie

ever since. "I've played at county level at U12, 14 and 16s, but my dream is to play with the senior team as soon as possible. "I'm too young this year, but next year I hope to be working hard on trying to break into the team." She is also part of the St Vincent's school teams for both camogie and soccer who have being very successful over the years. The fifth year St Vincent's student believes that being in fourth year is probably the reason why she has so much time to play sport, but is aware that it could be a lot more difficult when she goes into fifth year and preparing for her Leaving Cert. "Obviously, being in fifth year and not having any exams makes it easier for me to train however, I'm

trying to convince my mam and dad that things shouldn't change too much next year," laughs Amy. What may seem a surprise to some people, but more understandable to those who spend so much time playing sports is that she doesn't intend to find employment in the sporting world when she finishes school. She believes playing it as a hobby is more than enough. "I have no idea yet what I'd like to do after school however, I was never interested in working in a gym or anything like that. "I feel when I spend so much time playing sport I'd like to do something else as a job and if, like many people nowadays when they are fed up of their job, at least I can still look forward to training after work."



Nora Newman with her family, sons Brian, Gerard and Jonathan and daughters, Joan and Mary, at the recent Glen Rovers celebrations.

Nora takes centre stage at Glen gala

GLEN ROVERS Camogie Club staged a gala banquet last Saturday night in the Rochestown Park Hotel to celebrate their 80th anniversary, a record to be proud of.

With the 2012 minor A champions the toast of the evening having breached a 23-year gap, many memories and laughs were shared among the huge attendance well into the early hours.

Glen Rovers holds the distinction of being the oldest camogie club in Cork with the first trophy brought home in 1934, captained by Mary Dorgan. A survivor from that team, Chrissie Buckley, is the club's current honorary president.

The sixties were glorious years for the club as the Glen set a record unbroken to this day in Cork camogie circles when the senior county championship was won seven years in a row; 1962-1968. This seven-in-a-row was repeated again from 1990 to 1996. The club won their first All-Ireland club title in 1986 and went on to take the title again in 1990, 92 and 93. Munster senior titles were won in 1968, 86, 87 and 1990-1994 inclusive. The All-Ireland sevens title was also won in 1990.

One of the biggest cheers of the evening raised the roof when treasurer Deirdre Sutton made a present-

CAMOGIE

By LINDA MELLERICK

ation to chairperson Nora Newman for her incredible love, commitment and dedication to Glen Rovers as a player, official, rule book guru and friend over many years.

Nora has given and continues to give tremendous service to Glen Rovers Camogie Club.

She played on the first team to win a senior county championship title in 1950 and is the holder of three senior county medals.

When she finished playing, Nora took on the role of mentor and selector and was at the helm as a selector and chairperson when the Glen won seven in a row of senior county championship titles on two occasions.

Last year marked 50 years of unbroken service as an officer with the club; this is outside of the many years Nora spent as a player, making it over 70 years involvement with Glen Rovers.

Before many players or mentors had transport Nora could be seen walking to bus stops to make her way to games with the club jerseys hanging on a buggy as she headed to venues such as Tramore Road, Blackrock, the Mardyke and the Glen field. Such spirit and dedica-



Deirdre Coleman, treasurer, (left) and Denise Luby, senior-vice captain Glen Rovers Camogie, make a presentation to Nora Newman.

tion is what has made her unique.

Her guiding light and leadership has helped a legion of players and selectors through many a rough patch, quietly and without fuss.

She also served Cork as county board president for a five-year term and as the county board's vice chairperson and a Cork senior selector.

Energetic and sprightly as ever an emotional Nora deservedly received

a standing ovation as she walked to collect her award.

For what Nora has given to Glen Rovers and Cork camogie we owe her a huge debt of gratitude.

Presentations were also made to Mary Newman who continues the proud family tradition and Deirdre Sutton for their tireless work over the years along with medals to the victorious minor team and mentors.


The Board of Trustees, Staff and Volunteers of the
Cork ARC Cancer Support House
are deeply saddened by the death of our esteemed
volunteer,
NUALA GUILLY, R.I.P.
and extend our sincere sympathies to her sister Rosaleen
and brothers Sean, Kieran, Kevin, Brendan and Anthony.
Rest in peace



Pictured at the Glen Rovers Camogie Dinner, Niamh Gowen, Eimear Foley, both White's Cross, Chloe Cotter, Ballyvolane, Aisling O'Brien, Dublin Hill, and Sarah Bridgeman, Ballyvolane, at the Rochestown Park Hotel.

Picture: Jim Coughlan



Cork People
With Sarah Horgan

Glen girls enjoy club dinner dance

IT was a Women's Little Christmas of nostalgia for guests at the Glen Rovers Camogie Dinner Dance in the Rochestown Park Hotel last weekend.

The occasion was filled with sentiment as players from the club, old and new, restored links with one other, embracing their motto: "Once a Glen girl, always a Glen girl."

The event honoured the club's minor county winning championship team who recently took home the premiere title for the first time in 23 years as well as marking 80 years of camogie in the club.

The Under 15 team who won championship honours last year were also acknowledged.

Glen Rovers hold the distinction of being the oldest camogie club in Cork. Former and current mentors, train-

ers, players of the club as well as parents turned out on the night to toast its success through the years. Chairperson of the club, Nora Newman was presented with a brooch resembling their crest to honour her 70 years with Glen Rovers.

She was met with a standing ovation by the crowd which was made up of more than 250 people.

Mary Sheehan, the club's vice chairperson said: "We were delighted to see Nora receive the recognition she deserves. To celebrate this milestone is a significant achievement and we are looking forward to the next 80 years with the same enthusiasm of old."

Meanwhile, West Cork ladies celebrated Women's Little Christmas in aid of Cork Simon Community at Fernhill House Hotel in Clonakilty. The event was organised by a local committee of loyal volunteers who have raised

more than €80,000 for the charity since their Women's Little Christmas tradition began seven years ago. An official number is yet to be confirmed but it is expected that this year's event will have raised €11,000 for the organisation which works to combat homelessness. Campaigns and Community Assistant for the Simon Community, Sophie Johnston said: "We are so grateful for the people of Clonakilty's loyalty."

"The event is organised by the same group every year which consists of Colette Twomey, Adrienne Crowley, Anne Lehane, Catherine Murray and Patricia Sutton, all of whom are local women. Every year women in West Cork celebrate the event together."

Lunch was followed by music from The Clonakilty Singing Club which included Karen O'Regan on vocals and pianist Sean Ruddy.



At the Glen Rovers Camogie Dinner at the Rochestown Park Hotel were, clockwise from top left, Denise Luby, Karen and Edel O'Connell; Aoife Walsh and Michelle Hegarty; Kelly Newman, Selector, and Nicole O'Brien, Captain, with the Minor County Cup.

JAN. 2013

Munster colleges title for Colaiste Phobal

Colaiste Phobal Ros Cre 2-2; Scoil Mhuire Carrick-on-Suir 1-3
A superb second half display helped secure a Munster title for the young students from Colaiste Phobal Ros Cre when they eventually got the better of a talented Scoil Mhuire from Carrick-on-Suir on Saturday afternoon in Templemore.

The stiff diagonal breeze did little for either side and it was certainly the hard graft all over the pitch that clinched the title in the end for Colaiste Phobal. Both teams had some fine players, a solid set of backs and two very reliable goalkeepers in Carly Wright and Aoife Norris. The sides were slow to settle and went into defensive mode for the opening quarter with Roscrea having a couple of chances but Mairead Teehan dropped her frees just a little too short and Carrick cleared them away.

Debbie Phelan had the Carrick-on-Suir school on the scoreboard six minutes from the break from a placed ball and when they tried to add another score, Clara Murphy and Stephanie Kenny worked hard to deny and the sides left the pitch for the break with just the one score on the board after the first thirty minutes.

Two very even sides gave the second half everything they could with Roscrea's Amy Ryan and Grace Toohey pushing hard for a goal but were denied. Roscrea's hard working captain Clodagh Shanahan linked up with Courtney Lally who delivered the ball into her forwards where the reliable Siobhan Dermody cleared but Kelly Sammon won the ball to fire over Roscrea's first score, five minutes into the second half.

Carrick hit back through a Roisin Crowley goal after good work by Debbie Phelan, Edel Long, Sorcha Phelan and Niamh Dermody. However, the lead was short lived when Roscrea's response came within two minutes when Siobhan Dermody fouled Courtney Lally and Mairead Teehan's low free was finished to the back of the net by Grace Toohey.

Carly Wright was busy minding the Roscrea net while Carrick got the chance to pull ahead but Lorraine Long sent two chances wide. When Ellen Commins fouled Mairead Teehan, it gave Roscrea the chance to take the lead as Teehan made no mistake.

Roscrea were pushing forward and winning more and more ball in the middle third with Mairead Teehan coming into her own, upping her performance and firing another low shot off the stick of Siobhan Dermody's hurl and into the net.

Carrick had ten minutes to fight back and while Roscrea was wasteful, the girls from down South reduced the lead to three through a Niamh Dermody point.

A draw looked increasingly likely as Carrick pushed hard to equalize and after a titanic struggle with the Roscrea backs, Lorraine Long's shot skimmed the crossbar as the game entered injury time.

Roscrea claimed the puck out, worked back in with Courtney Lally offloading to Mairead Teehan who fired it over as Roscrea celebrated their hard-earned victory shortly afterwards.

Captain: Colaiste Phobal captain Clodagh Shanahan is presented with the Munster Cup by Sr. Patricia Coughlan, Sec. Munster Colleges.
Report and Photos by Rose Mannon



Pictured at the West Cork Ladies Lunch in aid of Cork Simon at Fernhill House Hotel in Clonakilty were Geraldine Murray, Linda O'Brien and Aine Loughnan; and, above right, Karen Bohane, Clonakilty.

Picture: Denis Boyle



REVIEW

By MARY NEWMAN

BARRYROE made the drop down from senior to senior B at the end of last season and took the league and championship title and will be senior again in 2013.

Two groups played off in a round robin series of games in championship before two teams emerged from each group. Barryroe were undefeated as they qualified with Clonakilty from section one while Éire Óg and Kilbrittain/Timo-league came through from group two to book their semi-final spots.

Clonakilty secured their place in the final as they overcame the challenge posed by Kilbrittain/Timo-league, both sides battled hard to win the final spot and it was Clonakilty who showed greater hunger as they opened up a 1-7 to 1-1 interval advantage. Aoife Deasy Sharon Whelton and Aine O'Leary were to the fore for Clonakilty while Marion Murphy and Lisa Moloney battled hard for Kilbrittain/Timo-league but Clonakilty added to their tally in the second half to run out winners and book their place in the final.

Éire Óg made Barryroe fight to the finish to win their final spot but in the finish their inter-county senior duo of Jennifer O'Leary and Sile Burns proved match winners as they ran out the right side of a 3-9 to 2-7 scoreline to set up an all Carbery final.

"Cometh the hour, Cometh the woman" was very much the case in Brinny as a late point from All Star nominee, and Cork senior star, Jennifer O'Leary's in the second minute of injury time rescued Barryroe from the jaws of defeat and denied Clonakilty their first *Evening Echo* Senior B county championship title.

Clon led from the first to the 61st minute of a thrilling final watched by a huge crowd but O'Leary gave Barryroe a second chance.

It was relief for Barryroe but disappointment for a Clon side who surely thought they had done enough.

The replay was another cracker but having got a wake-up call the first day, Barryroe were in tip top form. With Sile Burns to the fore, Clonakilty had no answers. Sile Burns was named as Player of the Match and it's a return to senior grade for Barryroe after their short stay at Senior B.

Earlier in the season Barryroe blazed a trail as they qualified for the league final and again they hit a late equaliser to earn a draw to deny Glen Rovers the title.

Battling to hold their advantage, the Glen girls worked hard but Barryroe pressed and a Ger Collins point four minutes into stoppage time set up a replay.

Despite the horrific weather conditions the sides battled it out in the replay, boosted by the inclusion of Sile Burns in their line Barryroe proved stronger in a closely contested game.

The Intermediate championship was also played on a round robin basis with four teams emerging to contest the semi-finals. After a lot of superb games Aghabullogue, Carigaline, Blackrock and Newtown booked their semi-finals spots.



The Brian Dillon's team which won the Evening Echo Junior A County championship.

Barryroe make a quick return to top



Sr Patricia presents the Intermediate Championship trophy to Aghabullogue captain Deirdre Twomey.

Aghabullogue showed steady improvement all season and they continued to do so as they defeated Carigaline, their ability to grab goals proving vital.

Newtownshandrum overcame a young Blackrock side and so the scene was set for a great final.

In the final Aghabullogue showed heart, passion and fiery determination to succeed. From the word go they had their foot on the pedal as they put a fancied Newtownshandrum side under pressure.

At midfield, they had a superb pairing in Ciara Murphy and player of the match Brid Twomey who were all over the pitch attacking and defending constantly and always working hard to ensure the ball moved quickly.

Aileen Twomey grabbed Aghabullogue's opening score 10 minutes in, whipping the ball to the net for the game's opening goal. Ciara Murphy, Healy and Aileen Twomey pointed as they settled into the game to lead 1-4 to 0-2 at the break.

Turning to defend against the strong wind, Aghabullogue had to be strong. And with two minutes remaining Mariah Reidy had the gap down to a point as she billowed the net for a Newtown goal, four minutes of injury time saw Newtown come close but a determined and disciplined Aghabullogue stood firm to the full time whistle which was greeted with jubilant scenes by the large Aghabullogue following.

Huge credit to Aghabullogue who at the start of the season feared they

would not have a team, but the spirit and commitment to the game shown so often by this famed club carried them through to finish the year on a high.

Tracton again took the league title as they overcame the team that had defeated them in Junior A. It was a great season for Brian Dillon's who made it a double by winning the Junior A championship and league titles.

In the championship final a pointed free from Therese Drummond four minutes into added time tied it up for the fifth time and it gave both sides a second bite of the cherry.

The replay was another exciting clash as the sides once again served up a cracking contest that went down to the wire before the champions were crowned.

Enniskeane took an early lead with an Orla Cronin pointed free but a Donna Carroll goal 13 minutes into the contest got Brian Dillon's off to a good start. Aided by the strong breeze, Enniskeane settled and turned over leading 1-3 to 1-2, Brian Dillon's regained the lead but Enniskeane again took control. It was nip and tuck as the sides battled it out and it took an excellent save from Brian Dillon's goalkeeper Saoirse Rodgers in the last minute of normal time to keep her sides ahead. Through the second half Therese Drummond kept Brian Dillon's in the game as she struck five pointed frees and one from play and it took two late point one from play and one from a frees in added time from Therese Drummond to ensure the game didn't again go to extra time as Brian Dillon's hung on despite huge Enniskeane pressure to be crowned champions.

Brian Dillon's Therese Drummond was named as player of the match

following her contribution to her side's success.

The league final was equally as exciting as Junior A county champions Brian Dillon's had to fight to the end to overcome the challenge of Junior B county champions Sliabh Rua in the league final in Castle Road.

Sliabh Rua, who were graded Junior, took the decision to participate in the A league and it paid off for them as they reached the league final and got some quality games which helped them in their championship preparations.

Two first-half goals were the difference between the sides at the full time whistle as they gave Brian Dillon's a vital cushion they had to hold on to under enormous Sliabh Rua second-half pressure.

Caolmhe Rodgers first-timed to the net to give Brian Dillon's the lead, Cathy O'Mahony replied pointing a free but despite having a lot of possession Sliabh Rua failed to capitalise. Brian Dillon's won a penalty five minutes from half time and Therese Drummond dispatched it to the net to give them a 2-2 to 0-1 interval lead.

Sliabh Rua laid siege to the Dillon's goal in the second half but Dillon's hung on under huge pressure to add to their championship crown but not before a stern test from a Sliabh Rua side who must be complimented on their performance given that they opted themselves to play in the Junior A grade league this year.

It's promotion to intermediate in 2013 for Brian Dillon's and they will look forward to this with enthusiasm.

Next week we take a look back at the stories that dominated the headlines in the Junior B, C and Minor grades during 2012.

CAMOGIE

Munster Post Primary Camogie Senior finals

Senior A: Presentation, Thurles 3-10 St. Mary's, Nenagh 1-3.

Senior B: Lauret Hill, Limerick 3-12 Hazelwood College, Droichead Átha 0-3.

Senior C: Roscrea CC 2-3 Greenhill College, Carrigrohilly 1-3.

Senior D: St. Declan's, Kilmacthomas 2-2 St. Joseph's, Tuila 4-5.

JAN. 2013



At the Rochestown Park Hotel for the Glen Rovers Camogie Dinner were, above with the Minor County Cup, Jennifer Hosford, Leanne O'Sullivan, Nicole O'Brien and Ciara O'Sullivan. Left, Mary Sheehan, vice chairperson of Glen Rovers Camogie, Cecilia Fitzgibbon, Commons Road, and Sadie Fitzgibbon, Richmond Hill.

Picture: Jim Coughlan



Clockwise from above, Ann and Pat Fitzgerald, Ballyvolane, with Marie Petrassi and Herbie Plumber, Turner's Cross; Marion McCarthy, centre, chair of Cork County Camogie Board, and her partner Dave McGrath with Mary Newman, secretary of Glen Rovers Camogie; Susan Collins and James Fitzgerald, both Ballyvolane; Una Wall, Dublin Pike and Jo Martin, Whitechurch; and Martin and Cliona Hurley, The Glen, at the Rochestown Park Hotel.

Picture: Jim Coughlan



Glen Rovers stars reunite for club's 80th anniversary

● From page one.

While she was not present on the night, club officers paid a special visit to Ballincollig Residential Nursing Unit where Chrissie blew out the candles on the birthday cake. Chrissie was a member of the club's first team and played in 1934 when they won the city divisional championship title.

At the function, the club also recognised the service of chairperson Nora Newman, when Deirdre Sutton made a surprise presentation to acknowledge Nora's huge contribution to Glen Rovers camogie spanning over seventy years. A wonderful evening of music, song and dance went on into the small hours as Glen Rovers rolled back the years and also looked forward with renewed determination to what is to come in the future with the vibrant amount of young emerging talent they have in their club.

Presentation work continues to reap rewards

Camogie

by Terry Reilly

It is a story of success.

Presentation Thurles have forged ahead with a camogie project that has seen them rise from Munster C to the top of the A competition in just three years.

In defeating St Mary's, Nenagh, in the provincial A final at the weekend they claimed their second senior title since winning the 2010 All-Ireland C competition.

With players from Thurles, Moycarkey-Borris, Clonoulty and Kilkenny they are a formidable outfit

Presentation Secondary School Thurles, after their victory in the Munster Senior A Colleges camogie final.

and following their 3-10 to 1-3 victory over their Nenagh rivals they can now target an All-Ireland.

"There has been a lot of effort gone in and the girls have been training at lunchtimes in the gym to get themselves ready for this," said teacher Margaret O'Dwyer.



"We have 11 or 12 leaving this year so it is a big year for them."

All-Ireland camogie champions Wexford will line out against Oulart-the-Ballagh this weekend in aid of the Make-A-Wish foundation.

The match will be held this Sunday at St Mary's in Rosslare with admission

only €5 with all money going to the charity.

"We would encourage as many people as possible to support this and help grant the wishes of children living with life-threatening illnesses," Susan O'Dwyer, chief executive, Make-A-Wish Ireland.

Munster Second Level Schools Round-Up

Upcoming Fixtures Saturday January 19th 2013

Junior A

St Flannan's v St Mary's Nenagh, Templemore GAA 1.00 pm, Ger O Doed

Junior C

St Mary's Midleton v Laurel Hill Cork Camogie Grounds 1.00pm, Peter Downey

Hayes Intermediate Final

John the Baptist Hospital v Scoil Paol Kilfrane, Ballybricken GAA 2.00pm, Done Broome

U16 & a half A North Division

St Mary's Charleville v Desmond College Marree College Pitch Charleville, 12 Noon, Denis Curtin

Munster Schools Camogie Round-Up

Munster A Final Report

Presentation Thurles 3-9 St Mary's Nenagh 1-3

Presentation Thurles regained the Munster Senior 'A' Camogie Championship following a convincing victory over close rivals St Mary's Nenagh in Templemore on Saturday January 12th.

A Presentation goal from Marianne Murphy gave the Thurles girls an early lead combined with points from Andrea Loughrane, Sarah Fryday, Megan Ryan (0-2) and another score from Murphy to leave Thurles in control.

A second goal from Megan Ryan gave Presentation a commanding six point lead at the break 2-5 to 1-2. Thurles were aided by a significant breeze in the second half and began as they left off dominating all sectors of the field. Outstanding scores from Marianne Murphy and Courtney Ryan further strengthened the lead. Megan Ryan scored a superb goal to bring her personal tally to 2-2 all but ending the St Mary's challenge. Two final points from the outstanding Michaela Graham rounded off a brilliant success for Presentation Thurles. A great over-all team display with Eva Ryan in goals, to the full-back line of Aimee Quinn, Aine McCarthy and Niamh Seaveny snuffing out any Nenagh attacks.

The halfback line was led excellently by Captain Clodagh Quirk and flanked by Cora Kerrane and Laura Loughrane were dominant and launched many attacks. The midfield partnership of Rosemarie Hanafin and Michaela Graham was supreme and covered every blade of grass. A young half forward line led by Andrea Loughrane, Courtney Ryan and Karen Kennedy caused the St Mary's defence endless trouble with their pace and accuracy. The inside forward line delivered in style accounting for 3-5 of the sides total with Marianne Murphy, Megan Ryan and Sarah Fryday in superb form.

Special mention must also go to the other panel members Edel O'Dwyer, Laura Ralph, Niamh Ryan, Aine Devane, Catherine Madder, Nicole Kerrigan, Clara O'Donnell and Jenny Durren who contributed enormously throughout the campaign.

Munster Senior C Camogie Final report by Esther O Leary

On Saturday, January 12th Colaiste Phobal Roscrea took on Scoil Mhuire Greenhills, (Carrick-On-Suir) in the Senior C Camogie Final at JK Brackens field, Templemore.

It was an absorbing affair with both sides displaying early nerves as Carrick missed easy chances in the 5th & 9th minutes respectively. Carrick opened the scoring in the 22nd minute with a superbly taken free from Debbie Phelan and continued the pressure in the second half, missing a gilt edged chance in the 31st minute.

Kelly Sammon of Colaiste Phobal responded to put Roscrea on the score-board but a slip up in the 37th minute saw Carrick's corner forward Roslin Crowley grab a crucial goal. Roscrea hit back through Grace Toohy, following an initial save by the Carrick goalkeeper Aoife Norris. A replay looked likely but for the exploits of Roscrea's Maread Teehan who hit 1-02 in the space of two minutes. Carrick responded with two further points but Teehan slotted another point in the 62nd minute to give Roscrea a 2-3 to 1-3 win.

Debbie Phelan, Kelly Ann Doyle, Lorraine Long and Chloe Blackmore were excellent for the Carrick-on-Suir side while for Roscrea Cara Murphy, Steph Kenny, Maread Teehan, Amy Ryan, Grace Toohy and Kelly Sammon played starring roles.

Roscrea now face Connacht opposition on February 9th.

Laurel Hill power to Munster glory

By Camogie Association

Posted 17/01/2013



THE CAMOGIE ASSOCIATION
An Cumann Camógaiochta

Matt O'Callaghan of the Vale Star/Weekly Observer reports on the Munster Colleges Senior B Final

Laurel Hill 3-12

Hazelwood College Drumcollogher 0 - 3

Laurel Hill were crowned Munster Colleges Senior B Camogie champions following a comprehensive win over Hazelwood College, Drumcollogher at Caherelly on Saturday afternoon.

The well-appointed Ballybricken-Bohemore G.A.A. complex in the picturesque rolling plains of County Limerick provided the perfect setting on a pleasant afternoon for a very accomplished Limerick city school to showcase their undoubted skills.

Laurel Hill dominated the game from start to finish and despite spirited defiance from the gallant Drumcollogher college girls, they were full value for their victory margin and now march on to the All-Ireland series with justified high hopes of further success.

Scorers: Laurel Hill: Kate Mulqueen (0-2) Aoife Wilson and Dearbhla Egan 1-3 each, Aoife Coughlan, Emma Coughlan and Sinead McNamara 0-1 each.

Hazelwood College: Cliona O'Callaghan 0-3, Zl, 1-45.

Laurel Hill: Nicole Shanahan (Swanlinbridge), Sorbhan Fahey (Traugh), Eimear Kelly (Pateen), Kasia Camody (Creora), Deanna Considine (Swanlinbridge), Niamh Ryan (Bruff) Captain, Jane Wilson (Na Parsaigh), Sinead McNamara (Na Parsaigh), Aoife Doyle (Na Parsaigh), Emma Coughlan (Ballybreen), Kate Mulqueen (Ballybreen), Aoife Wilson (Na Parsaigh), Aoife Coughlan (Creora), Eimear O'Connor (Ballybreen and Dearbhla Egan (Creora).

Subs: Megan Quinn (Creora) for E. Coughlan (56), Trisha Condon (Creora) for A. Coughlan (57) and Aileen Ryan (Traugh) for E. O'Connor (59).

Hazelwood College: Amy Ryan (Newtownshandrum), Aine Fitzgibbon (Milford), Caroline Watson (Milford), Chloe O'Brien (Ballygran), Emer Cunningham (Kileedy), Graine Sheehy (Newtownshandrum), Tara Fitzgibbon (Ballygran), Katie O'Sullivan (Feenagh), Donna Mulcahy (Kileedy), Orla Cunningham (Kileedy), Cliona O'Callaghan (Newtownshandrum), Katie Coughlan (Newtownshandrum), Rebecca Duggan (Milford), Mare Dasher (Ballygran) and Katie Hodgson (Milford).

Subs: Sarah Shanahan (Kileedy) for A Fitzgibbon (17), Laura Stack (Milford) for R. Duggan (43), Niamh McCarthy (Milford) for G. Sheehy (56) and Denise Forde (Kileedy) for K. Hodgson (57).

Referee: John O'Leary, Cork.

REVIEW

By MARY NEWMAN

THIS week we look back on the action in 2012 from the camogie junior B and C competitions.

JUNIOR B

Castlemagner and St Finbarr's qualified for the Junior B league final after two exciting semi-finals.

In those, the Barrs edged out Glen Rovers and Castlemagner proved too strong for Ballincollig.

The sides could not be separated first day out after a superb fightback by Castlemagner, playing with 14 players for three quarters of the game. The north Cork side battled back to grab a draw and earn themselves another bite of the cherry.

Castlemagner made the early running in the replay as Susan Falvey hit three points in a row, but despite winning a lot of possession found it tough against the St Finbarr's defence.

Rachel Myers got St Finbarr's into the game with two points but a Shelly Twohig pointed free gave Castlemagner a two-point interval lead.

Castlemagner put the game beyond their opponents when Imelda Vaughan set up Cliona Twohig to finish to the net. St Finbarr's battled to get something from the game. Rachel Myers grabbed a goal Niamh Cook pointed a free but by then Castlemagner were on their way to being crowned champions.

The championship threw up many surprises. Sliabh Rua opted to play in the junior A league and the exercise proved a good one for them as they qualified for the final, and did not meet any of their Junior B counterparts until championship time.

They qualified for the championship semi-final and were paired with Ballincollig, while championship favourites Youghal had a tough semi-final pairing with an ever-improving Castlemagner.

Sliabh Rua made it to the final while league champions Castlemagner continued to impress as they defeated Youghal.

In the final Sliabh Rua showed great determination fighting back with a late burst to overcome the league champions to take the Evening Echo Junior B Championship title.

A goal from player of the match Chelsea Campbell 26 minutes into the second half gave Sliabh Rua the lead for the first time and they held on despite huge pressure.

Castlemagner led 2-5 to 0-5 at the break with goals from Susan Falvey and Sinead Casey which gave them the upper hand.

They stretched their lead further with a Shelley Twohig score early in the second half, but failed to score again until the 25th minute as Sliabh Rua fought their way back.

Cathy O'Mahony pointed and Aisling Whitnell and Chelsea Campbell grabbed goals in a two-minute spell, to pile on the pressure and Evelyn O'Regan and Campbell pointed again to level matters.

Castlemagner regained their composure with Shelly Twohig restoring their lead, but a superb Campbell goal from an acute angle swung the game in Sliabh Rua's favour.

Castlemagner fought back with a point from a penalty. From the puck out they attacked again and won another close-in free, but Cliona



Sliabh Rua team which won the Junior B Championship.

Castlemagner win league but miss out on the double



The Castlemagner team which won the Junior B League.

Healy's effort was deflected over the bar and on the puck-out came the sound of the full time whistle.

Delight for Sliabh Rua and disappointment for Castlemagner.

JUNIOR C

Cobh turned in a super display to be crowned Junior C league champions. They got into their stride with early scores to lead 1-4 to 0-4 at the break with Erica Field and captain Siobhán Looney to the fore.

On the restart Ballinora pinned

them down in their own half for 20 minutes as they piled on the pressure. With five minutes remaining and the sides, level Cobh dug deep as they added on two points to take the league title — their first at adult level since the club re-formed.

Agony for Charleville and celebrations for Bride Rovers as a late Grace Kearney goal four minutes into injury time turned the Evening Echo Junior C championship final in on its head.

Charleville looked to have the title

secured but Charleville somehow resurrected themselves with two late goals.

The second from Grace Kearney, who connected to a dropping ball on the edge of the square to send the 45-metre free to the back of the Bride net for the winner.

Charleville enjoyed early dominance and led 2-3 to 0-2 at the end of the opening quarter with two Katie Keane goals. Bride Rovers settled into the game and hit five points without reply but Charleville led 2-3

to 0-6 at the break.

Charleville kept their lead despite huge Bride Rovers pressure, and as the sides swapped points twice the momentum remained with Charleville.

Sixteen minutes in Jane Corrigan finished Kate Keane's long delivery to the net to put them five points clear. Bride responded with a point, but two Kate Keane pointed frees kept Bride Rovers in the lead.

Sinead Walsh pointed to cut the lead to five points but Charleville looked to be in control.

Never giving up, Bride worked away and Catriona Power showed great heart to drive through the Charleville defence to finish to the net to leave just two points between the sides.

Then captain Sinead Walsh who cleverly dropped the ball into the goalmouth where Kearney met it with an over head volley to the net to give Bride the lead for the first time in the contest.

Delight for Bride Rovers but heart-break for Charleville who will wonder just how they let the title slip.

JUNIOR PLATE

The county board ran a junior plate competition for teams defeated in the round robin section of championship and St Vincent's came out on top defeating Ballincollig in the final.

JAN 2013

End to a long wait as O'Brien shines for Glen

MARY NEWMAN continues her series of features on the major 2012 competitions with a review of the minor action

CAMOGIE

GLEN Rovers were the team of the year in the minor A grade as they defeated Killeagh in a thrilling final to take the premier minor county title after a lapse of 23 years.

It was a particularly poignant victory for the Glen in their 80th year of playing camogie, and the county's oldest club celebrated in style as development officer Mairead O'Donovan presented the trophy to proud captain Nicole O'Brien.

From the throw-in the Glen set the pace and they never took their foot off the pedal. Their defence, with Leeann O'Sullivan, Lauren Callahan and Shauna Busteed to the fore, was superb as they closed down the Killeagh attack.

Up front they worked hard and kept the pressure on the Killeagh defence with Aisling Wallace, Edel O'Connell, Aisling O'Keeffe and Kelly Fitzgerald prominent.

Killeagh, played with the aid of the strong wind in the opening half, and it was 0-2 apiece as the 20th minute approached. Killeagh began to gain control and they stretched their lead to six points, but it was 1-5 to 0-3 at the short whistle.

Killeagh got the first score of the second half but aided by the strengthening wind the Glen tore into the game with captain Nicole O'Brien in superb form.

They narrowed the gap and kept the pressure on as they ran at the Killeagh defence causing them a lot of bother, and they took control as they grabbed the vital scores.

The Killeagh attack worked hard but the Glen defence — with U16 players Donna O'Neill and Kelly Falvey superb — weren't giving away an inch of ground. Up front their forwards worked hard and as a unit they kept the Killeagh defence busy.

Glen led by six points with five minutes remaining, but a Killeagh goal had them back in the contest and with the last puck of the game Killeagh won a close in free. However Kaylynn Lee stood firm in the Glen goal to deny them a replay.

The game was a credit to both clubs with an excellent standard of camogie played.

Nicole O'Brien was named as player of the match.



Kay Dunne presents the player of the match award to Rachel Sheehan, Carrigtwohill.

Picture: Supplied



Maeve McCarthy, Sars is presented with the player of the match award in the Minor C final by Mary Bugler, Cork Camogie Board.

Picture: Supplied

MINOR B

Éire Óg took the *Evening Echo* minor B county championship title as they turned in a splendid display to deny Milford.

All through Éire Óg controlled matters. In defence they were solid,

while in midfield and attack they showed tremendous fitness.

With Emer Scally showing the Milford defence a clean pair of heels they found the net early, and she then grabbed a second goal.

Emma Crowley and Alanna

Murphy had found the net before the break as the Milford defence had no answer to the Éire Óg attack.

Milford battled hard but the Éire Óg defence remained strong and with Elaine Scally, Aine Cronin, and Emma Crowley finding the range they had the title secured long before the full time whistle.

Emma Crowley was named as player of the match and presented with her memento by Kay Dunne, president of the Cork Camogie Board.

MINOR C

The ability to up the pace considerably in the second half ensured Sarsfields won the *Evening Echo* minor C championship at the expense of St Finbarr's.

Two determined sides battled it out but in the finish Sars grabbed the vital goals needed to be crowned champions.

Alannah O'Kelly-Lynch was on target with a first half goal and it helped give Sarsfields a four-point half-time lead. Lucy Allen, Hollie Herlihy and O'Kelly-Lynch pointed for Sarsfields as they kept in touch with St Finbarr's, who had points from Meabh Cahalane, Kayleigh Mullins, Katie Crowley and Stephanie Punch.

An early second-half goal from

Herlihy helped Sars stretch their advantage. St Finbarr's battled away and a Niamh McGreevy goal, and points from Meabh Cahalane ensured little divided the sides.

Both defences were busy, but Sarsfields had done enough to ensure the title was their's, with the player of the match awarded to hardworking midfielder Maeve McCarthy.

MINOR D

Carrigtwohill took their first county board trophy as they were crowned *Evening Echo* minor D champions overcoming the challenge posed by Cobh.

Shauna McCrossan-Donnachie gave Cobh a great start grabbing an early goal, but Rachel Sheehan levelled matters before the sides swapped points twice.

Carrigtwohill's Holly Brehany and Rachel Sheehan found the net to give them a 3-3 to 1-3 interval lead.

Such was the strength of both defences that there was only had one score in the second half — a pointed Katie Sheehan free for Cobh.

Both the sides gave it their all but it was Carrig who held on to take the title. Carrig captain Rachel Sheehan was named as player of the match after a superb display of leadership.

● Next week we will look back at the year in under age competitions.

GAELIC LIFE CLUB ALL-STARS AWARDS

CAMOGIE PLAYER OF THE YEAR



IN THE SWING OF THINGS... Mairéad Kelly, North-West News Group, presents the Camogie Player of the Year award to Fra McGuinness on behalf of her daughter Natalie McGuinness

Picture: Michael Cullen

NATALIE MCGUINNESS

Our Camogie Player of the Year on what this award means to them

"THE AWARD came as a total surprise to me. When I saw who was up against me, I thought for sure I wasn't going to get it as both Louise and Catherine are such strong players, especially considering that Catherine has an All-Ireland semi-final of her own coming up as well. "My dad collected the award on my behalf as I had a club match, and my mum was literally on the phone to me while he was still on stage to

tell me that I'd won. I just told her that I hoped he hadn't done anything to show me up!

"I suppose it is true that defenders don't always get the recognition or the awards as often as the forwards do, because a block or a hook might be important but it doesn't get the same headlines as a point or a goal. "It has been a very good season. We set our targets at the start of the year, and thankfully we ticked those off with an Antrim and Ulster win. "Now there's only one more target left, and that's an All-Ireland success, starting on February 3 with our semi-final."

Glen Rovers camogie celebrates 80 years

Louise Cashell

lcashell@corkindependent.com

Glen Rovers Camogie club did not forget its oldest member, 97 year old club President Chrissie Buckley when the club's 80th birthday was celebrated recently with a party at the Rochestown Park Hotel.

Chrissie was not present on the night but club officers made her a special visit when they went to the Ballincollig Residential Nursing unit for Chrissie to blow out the candles on the birthday cake. Chrissie was a member of the club's first team and played in 1934 when they won the city divisional championship title.

Club chairperson Nora Newman said: "Chrissie Buckley is a very special

person and we in Glen Rovers Camogie Club hold her in very high esteem, it was a very special occasion for our club and we wanted her to be a part of it."

Close to 300 people made up of current and former players, mentors and their families gathered as the club celebrated their eightieth year of camogie and also paid tribute to their county minor championship winning team and their Seandún under 15 winning team at a gala banquet. Present also were former club players such as Linda Mellerick and Sandie Fitzgibbon who were member of the Camogie Team of the century and who captained both Glen Rovers and Cork to many honours.

Also present was Mar-

ion McCarthy, chairperson Cork Camogie Board, who paid tribute to the club as did chairman of Glen Rovers hurling club Dermot McAuliffe and Chairman of St Nick's Denis Coughlan.

A wonderful evening of music, song and dance went on into the early hours as Glen Rovers celebrated their club's 80 years history in tremendous style.

Glen Rovers President Chrissie Buckley blows out the candles on the club's 80th birthday cake with club officers Nora Newman, Deirdre Coleman, Mary Sheehan and Mary Newman when they visited her recently at the Ballincollig Residential Nursing unit.



Munster Colleges Camogie Round-Up

By Camogie Association
Posted 21/01/2013

Upcoming schedule of events

By Camogie Association
Posted 24/01/2013



On Sunday, February 3rd the All Ireland Intermediate and Senior Semi-Finals take place with a double-header fixed for Ballinacree and the remaining games taking place in Oulart-the-Ballagh and Nowlan Park respectively. Pop the dates in your diary as in the senior decider, defending champions Oulart the Ballagh play Millfield at 2.00pm in Oulart the Ballagh while 2010 holders, Kilmor play Antrim king-pins O'Donovan Rossa at 3.00pm in Duggan Park, Ballinacree. In the intermediate grade, Castlegar play Ballycran as part of a double-bill at Duggan Park, throwing in at 1.00pm while in Nowlan Park, Kilkenny and Leinster champions Rosser Institute face Clare and Munster holders Kilmaley at 1.30pm.

Third level camogie is also in full swing and on Friday and Saturday, February 15th & 16th all roads led to the University of Limerick for the Ashbourne & Purcell Cup Finals weekend as 16 third level colleges play in the Association's most prestigious and longest running competition. To keep up to date with all the news in third level see www.camogie.com and follow third level camogie on [facebook.com/OfficialCamogie](https://www.facebook.com/OfficialCamogie)

Schools Camogie is also well underway with a busy two months ahead as the Junior and Senior competitions reach the business end. At present, the Junior and Senior competitions are reaching the provincial finals level, with the following pairings as follows.

Junior A semi-final Connacht v Munster and St Mary's Magherafelt play Leinster in the All Ireland semi-final. In the Junior B semi-final, St Patrick's Keady face the Leinster champions and Connacht face the Munster champions. The Junior C Quarter-finals see St Joseph's Luccan play Connacht C on February 9th with the winners playing Munster and St Malachy's Castlebar playing Leinster. In the Junior D, Connacht D face Our Lady's Templeogue on February 9th and the semi-finals take place on February 23rd as St Columban's Kildare play Leinster and Munster play the winners of Connacht/Our Lady's. All semi-finals take place on February 23rd and all finals on March 16th. In the Senior grades, the pairings are as follows: Senior A All Ireland Semi-finals: Presentation Thurles face St Bridget's Loughrea while the Leinster champions play St Patrick's Maghera. In the Senior B Laurel Hill Limerick face Seamount Kinnara while Leinster play Loreto Coleraine. In the Senior C Quarter-finals on February 2nd Calasancius Oranmore face Dublin A and the winners play Roscrea CC in the All Ireland semi-final on February 16th while Leinster play St Catherine's Armagh on February 16th. In the Senior D grade, Dublin B face Mercy Woodford in the All-Ireland quarter-final on February 2nd with the winners playing St Joseph's Tuila in the All Ireland semi-final on February 16th and the Leinster Champions facing Loreto Cavan. All Finals take place on March 9th

On Friday, February 15th, this year's protocol to announce the third annual Irish Daily Star Leagues takes place in Croke Park, while on Sunday February 24th the Irish Daily Star Leagues throw in once again with a full round of fixtures. For more information on fixtures go to fixtures & results on the camogie.ie homepage

On Friday, March 1st the RTE Mick Dunne Memorial Awards and the Camogie Association Media Awards take place in Croke Park beginning at 7.30pm. This year's winners will be announced on **Wednesday February 6th**.

This year's Camogie Association Public Relations workshop, open to all county & club officers takes place in Croke Park, on Saturday March 2nd from 10.00am to 2.30pm. The Camogie Association Social Media Guidelines & Set-Up Guide will also be launched at the Public Relations training event, which will incorporate presentations on the work of a PRO, dealing with print and radio media in addition to using social media effectively. Further information will be issued to all county board units on this event and early booking is advised.

The weekend of March 2nd & 3rd also sees the All Ireland Club Finals take place with this year's pairings confirmed after the weekend of February 3rd. In addition, the 2nd annual Legends tournament will also take place as teams play for the Biddy Phillips Cup. See camogie.ie for more information on this shortly.

Finally, Congress 2013 takes place in Westport on Friday and Saturday March 22nd and 23rd in Westport, Co Mayo.

To keep up to date with all the news, follow camogie on twitter at twitter.com/OfficialCamogie and facebook at [facebook.com/OfficialCamogie](https://www.facebook.com/OfficialCamogie) and sign up to our ezone by clicking the tab Ezone sign-up on the end of the home page

Pictured above: Ann Marie Starr, Kilmor. All-Ireland Senior Camogie Club Championship Semi-Final, Kilmor v Oulart-the-Ballagh, Duggan Park, Ballinacree, Co. Galway February 6th 2011. Picture credit: Brian Lawless /



Munster Intermediate Camogie Final Hayes Cup

John the Baptist Community School Hospital 1-12 Scoil Pol Secondary School Kilmonee 1-6

Scoil Pol started well but despite their early pressure it was wing-forward Meadhbh O'Neill who put Hospital in front from a free and tacked on two further points in the 7th & 10th minute respectively. Scoil Pol despite their high work rate, were failing to notch up scores and registered their first point in the 17th minute, through a free by midfielder Shannon Doherty. Meadhbh O'Neill was causing the Scoil Pol rearward significant problems and it was the wing-forward who added her sides fourth point, a few moments later.

Kristy Carroll of Scoil Pol responded with a superb score on the run to bring the scores to 0-4 to 0-2 in favour of Hospital while Shannon Doherty tacked on their third in the 27th minute. However, two poor clearances led to Meadhbh O'Neill adding another two points, to leave it 0-6 to 0-3 in favour of Hospital at half-time.

Shannon Doherty opened Scoil Pol's account in the second half with a point from a '45 while the defence held firm under relentless Hospital pressure. Both sides exchanged further points, while Meadhbh O'Neill slotted over a point, from a penalty strike in the 43rd minute, following up with a '45 in the 47th minute and another brace in the 48th & 50th minute respectively. Despite immense pressure, Scoil Pol responded superbly with Kristy Carroll scoring a point in the 54th minute followed by a goal from midfielder Shannon Doherty in the 57th minute to cut the margin to three points.

However, Meadhbh O'Neill capped a superb individual display by hitting a goal in the 59th minute to seal a well-earned victory for the John the Baptist Community School, Hospital.

Junior C Colleges Final
Laurel Hill 2-6 St Mary's Middleton 1-3

Laurel Hill and St Mary's played out an exciting Munster Junior C Colleges final in Fr. O Neills GAA field in Ballymacoda.

Middleton started with a strong breeze of which they took full advantage, with a long speculative shot ending up in the back of the Laurel Hill net in the opening moments followed by a smart Hannah Looney point. As the game wore on the Laurel Hill defence got to grips with the strong running of the Middleton attack. The Limerick school's centre forward, Kate Mulqueen, converted a couple of frees and was unlucky not to get a goal having struck the post and shooting the re-bound narrowly wide. At half time the score stood at St Mary's 1-2 to Laurel Hill's 0-3.

On the resumption Laurel Hill's half back line and midfield began to dominate and limited the number of scoring chances for the Middleton attack. Laurel Hill converted a number of frees followed by a Kate Mulqueen goal from a 21 yard free. Middleton tried hard to respond but Laurel Hill's defence led by Aoife Coughlan and Sinead McNamara stood firm. In the 50th minute Laurel Hill's Sinead Madden scored a superb goal to extend her side's account. Both sides exchanged late points with the final score of 2-6 to 1-3 to Laurel Hill.

Munster Colleges Junior A
St Flannans Ennis 3-7 St Mary's Nenagh 2-2

Flannans got off to a good start with a point by full forward Aoife Keane after good inter-play by the Clare school's forward line. This was quickly followed by two Louise Brown goals, a further point by Keane and two pointed frees from Lauren Tushy to leave Flannans 2-4 ahead.

However, Nenagh hit a purple patch before half-time striking 1-1 without reply to leave Flannans 2-4 to 1-1 ahead at the break. Flannans got off to another great start, hitting a goal in the first minute, but Nenagh tapped on a brace of points to cut the deficit to four points. However, Nenagh hit back with a goal of their own through Lucie Ryan. Despite intense pressure on Flannans, they managed to hold their nerve and run out 3-7 to 2-2 winners.

U16 & a Half North

St Mary's Charleville B 0-2 Desmond College Newcastlewest 5-7

Munster Schools Camogie Finals

By Camogie Association
Posted 25/01/2013



Junior B - St. Mary's Newport v Templemore, Newport GAA, 12 noon, Ref Gerard Brown

1st B League - Mildstreet Community School v St. Joseph's Tuila, Rathmore GAA, 2.00pm, Ref John O'Leary

Sen B League - BCS Lismore v Laurel Hill, Lismore School Pitch, 2.00pm, Ref Noel O'Sullivan

U-16 1/2 B North - SMI Newcastlewest v Scariff Community College, 2.00pm, Ref Denis Curtin

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Milford's desire for national glory is key

CAMOGIE

TOMORROW
All-Ireland club senior
semi-final
Milford v Oulart the
Ballagh
Oulart the Ballagh, 2pm

MILFORD won their first senior county title in 2012 after a disappointing few years where they fell short of expectations. Their joy last October was clearly evident, their ambition fulfilled, writes **LINDA MELLERICK**.

However, from the outset of taking the helm last March manager Frank Flannery's aim was to win the All-Ireland title and there is no doubting but that his desire is now matched by his charges.

Milford face the game of their life on Sunday next when they travel to Wexford to play All Ireland champions Oulart the Ballagh in the All-Ireland club semi-final. Wexford of course, backed by Oulart stars Ursula Jacob, Una and Mary Leacy and Karen Atkinson are the 3 in a row All Ireland champions and with Oulart taking the senior club title for the first time in 2012 it further depicted Wexford's stranglehold on the current senior camogie scene.

With eight of the Oulart team on the 2012 senior Wexford panel and Ciara Storey returned to the fray it does look as if Milford have their work cut out. However when did having the best team on paper ever account for anything? What is in Milford's favour is that they are underdogs; many don't expect them to win. They will quietly make their journey to Wexford content to be under the radar.

Oulart have hurlers all over the pitch and while Milford too have a well-balanced side there is no doubting the calibre of the Wexford side. Milford will need to produce a performance out of the top drawer but it is in them.

If the All-Ireland final last September is anything to go by then the heavy ground will suit the physically stronger Wexford outfit. It will surely slow the play down somewhat. Milford need to speed it up as best they can, take advantage of every lapse in their opponent's concentration.

Milford have put in a huge effort. They know that this is the big one. Killmor and O'Donovan Rossa contest the other semi-final an hour later in Ballinasloe. Many feel the eventual champions will come from the Wexford clash.

Hunger will play a factor no doubt and one would hope that Oulart's desire may not be as great as Milford's but that is possibly wishful thinking; Wexford's desire last September knocking that notion out of the water.

U16 CAMOGIE CHAMPIONSHIPS REVIEW

By **MARY NEWMAN**

Cloughdun were top of the pile at underage level in 2012 as they took the U16A county championship title in a splendid final where they edged out a strong Kilbrittan/Timoleague side in.

Many years of hard work came to fruition for the Mid-Cork club who will be hoping to see many of this team backbone their quest to regain a senior title.

Despite trailing at the interval by a point Cloughdun held their composure to be crowned champions.

It may have been the first weekend in December but pitch conditions in Castle Road were superb as was the weather overhead.

Both sides were evenly matched and they battled it out to the finish in their quest for the title.

It was Kilbrittan/Timoleague that lead 2-0 to 0-5 at the break thanks to two Caroline Murphy goals.

Cloughdun began the second half in determined fashion and put the Kilbrittan/Timoleague defence under huge pressure goals from Ann Marie Ryan and Ciara O'Leary and points from Ciara O'Leary and Ann Marie Ryan had them in front.

The west Cork girls responded with a Caroline Murphy point and this was followed by a goal from Ailbhe Dowling.

Keeping the pressure on the Cloughdun defence, Ailbhe Dowling pointed as the gap was narrowed but despite a lot of Kilbrittan/Timoleague pressure the Cloughdun defence held firm and it was enough to see them through as they ran out winners on a 2-10 to 3-2 score line after a superb contest by two excellent teams.

Ailbhe Dowling from Kilbrittan / Timoleague was named as player of the Match following an excellent display.

U16B

Blackrock pulled out all the stops as they overcame Brian Dillon's to take the U16B championship title in an exciting final.

Again unseasonable November weather ensured excellent weather conditions which led to an excellent contest played by two sides committed and determined all through.

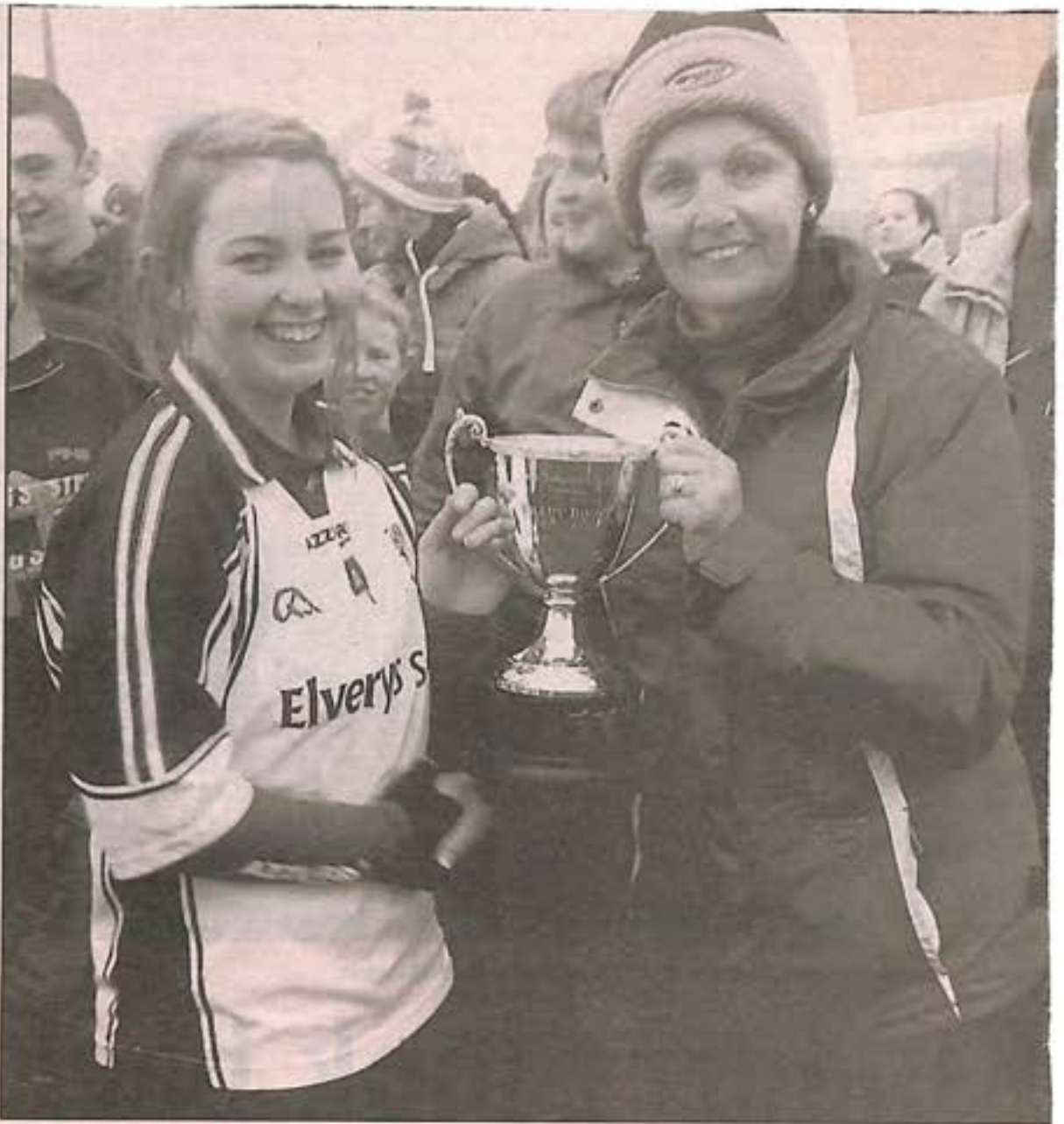
Brian Dillon's got off to a great start as Caoimhe Rodgers converted a free nine minutes into the open half and when Emma Carroll found the back of the net for the game opening goal two minutes later Brian Dillon's looked to be in control.

Blackrock showed signs of nerves and found the going tough and it was 16 minutes into the half before they were on the score board Hayley Ryan pointing. Captain Michelle Murphy struck a magnificent point but Caoimhe Rodgers pointed a free to keep Brian Dillon's ahead.

Blackrock continued to show improvement with Hayley Ryan leading fight back striking two points without reply before the break where Brian Dillon's led by a point 1-2 to 0-4.

The second half was evenly matched and it was thirteen minutes into the half before Blackrock Captain Michelle Murphy fired over the equaliser.

Caoimhe Rodgers edged Brian



Tina Sheehan presents the County U16 C trophy to Ballyhea captain, Eilish O'Keeffe.

Picture: Supplie

Cloughdun come out on top in U16 A

Dillon's back in front with an excellently point as her sides regained the lead.

But with Hayley Ryan leading the way she set up Megan Delaney to finished the ball to the net with a smart ground stroke.

Blackrock were two points ahead and pushed for more and three points in a row stretched their lead.

Brian Dillon's again cut the deficit with an Emma Carroll goal two minutes into injury time and as Hayley Ryan and Ruth Brosnan traded points the Blackrock defence stood firm as they held their lines under huge pressure to run out winners.

Blackrock mid fielder Kate Laneghan was named as player of the Match and presented with a

memento by county juvenile secretary Tina Sheehan before Tracy Sheehan presented the trophy to Blackrock captain Michelle Murphy.

U16 C

Goals in the seventh and the 21st minutes of this U16 C championship final from Rachel Harty proved vital as Ballyhea were eventually crowned champions over coming Charleville.

The sides were evenly matched in a close opening half where strong defending by Ballyhea helped as they came under a lot of pressure from Charleville.

A pointed free from Iman O'Connell had Charleville on the score board before the break as Ballyhea led 2-0 to 0-1.

The second half was action

packed as these local rivals gave it everything in quest of the title Natalie O'Brien had an early Charleville point to cut the deficit but Ballyhea's responded well with points from Chloe Dundon and Megan Kelleher.

Working hard, Ballyhea kept the pressure on and nine minutes into the half Susan Walsh extended their lead with a goal, Moira Fitzgibbon pointed with eight minutes remaining but Charleville responded with O'Connell pointing a free.

Keeping pressure on, Ballyhea's Aine O'Shea finished to the net for her side's fourth goal deep in injury time and despite Charleville working hard Ballyhea held on to take the title.

Roisin Killeen was named player of the match.

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No Briege too

Our July winner, Briege Corkery, is no stranger to success in either camogie or ladies football, but playing twice on the same day in two big games was certainly rare for the bubbly



inter-county star. She spoke to **Mark Woods** about her achievement.

It was bound to happen some time. Just like it did for the now retired Mary O'Connor in 2009 and 2010 and Rena Buckley last year. Cork were scheduled to play Kilkenny in the All-Ireland camogie championship on July 14 in Ballincollig at 1.30 and Kerry in the Munster Ladies Football final at Páirc Uí Rinn less than three hours later and Briege was wanted for both.

All through her inter-county career, which stretches back to 2001, but excludes 2010, when she travelled to Australia, Briege normally played one on Saturday and the other the following day. It was never an issue.

And while some would fret about this latest challenge, Briege simply took it all in her stride in her typical nonchalant manner. What's the big deal, she thought, and went about her business the usual way.

"In the week leading up the games, I would have trained with the camogie on Tuesday and Thursday and with the footballers on the Wednesday.

"It was a normal week's training and the fact I was playing twice on the same day had no bearing on it.

"There was never any discussion about opting for one over the other. Neither management mentioned the subject, probably because none of them wanted to ask the question.

"I was happy enough with the set-up. I mean it would have been a disaster altogether if it happened to be the All-Ireland semi-finals for example. That would have been a different story entirely.

"Even if we had lost both games we still would have had other chances, so it wasn't life or death or anything like that, though, of course, you still wanted to win both to give ourselves better positions in the knockout stages.

"I didn't consider it such a big deal. The one thing I was concerned about was having something to eat in between the two games," she recalled.

On the day itself Briege was collected by Rena around 11.30 for the camogie game, in which she was named at full-forward, not her usual position.

"It's a new role for me, though I've also played centre-forward and on the wing, as well as wing-back, but it's much harder to play, because your first touch has to be spot on and it's also different tactically.

"I always think my hurling isn't great, so I try to create space for the others. That's my theory anyway and I'm sticking to it."

Cork won comfortably enough by 2-15 to 1-7 and Briege contributed 0-2 before Douglas's Pamela Mackey took her place late on.

Once the final whistle sounded, Briege collected her gear bag and hopped into Rena's car for the short trip to Páirc Uí Rinn for the football final.

"I had a packed lunch at the ready, a sandwich with beef, tomato and a bit of cheese, washed down by a bottle of water and I had a Mars bar as well.

"I got there an hour before the start, which was grand. Then it was simply toggling off again and going through another warm-up.

"Mind you I had to do it because I had stiffened up after the



30-second time out

From: Aghinagh
Age: 25
Club: St Val's (football) and Cloughduv
Family: Mam, dad, five brothers and four sisters

Nickname: Brigs Bardot
What is your ringtone? Barking dog
What car do you drive? 1996 Corolla
One website you always check:

far for Corkery



Cork's Brieghe Corkery handpasses the ball away in the recent game against Kilkenny.

first game, though I found it hard.

"I think even if it was two camogie games or football games I'd still have found it difficult. Yet, once I was warmed up I was good to go again."

Brieghe took her customary wing-back position and played her part in one of Cork's best 30-minute performance of the season, storming 2-6 to 0-1 in front at the break.

"We went back to our old style of playing, getting the ball in quickly for space to open up and the forwards did the rest. In the second half I think we probably took our foot off the pedal, which is unusual for us, because it's something we rarely do."

"Kerry are a good young side and they're benefiting from the underage work that's going on there."

"They managed to come within four points of us at one stage and it was definitely a worrying time, but we managed to see them off."

The day's exertions took their toll and Brieghe felt it during the second half, especially when Cork came under pressure. "Definitely, the legs got tired near the end. You're on the ball a lot more at wing-back. I played most of the game again and was replaced by Aisling Barrett from Donoughmore with about five or 10 minutes to go."

"I was just delighted we won, especially after losing to Monaghan in the league final. I was tired alright, but I still had enough energy to go out that night."

Cork won by 3-12 to 2-9 to headed directly to the All-Ireland quarter-finals later this month.

Brieghe's hectic July continued a week later with a 1-13 to 0-9 win over Tipperary in camogie, a result which clinched a home All-Ireland quarter-final against Clare.

She lined out at left half-forward against Tipp and is happy to play anywhere once named in the starting 15.

A couple of nights later she turned out for their club Cloughduv in the first round of the county championship, the opening shots in their attempts to add to the four titles won in five years between 2002 and '06.

It was an encouraging opening, Brieghe chipping in with 2-2 from full-forward in a 3-15 to 0-5 win over Ballygarvan.

"We played very well. You could call it a work in progress, because we've a young team and we'll certainly give it a lash."

Brieghe's career is decorated by a whole host of honours. Half a dozen All-Irelands and leagues in football, four All-Irelands in camogie, All Star awards, a Texaco in camogie in 2006 to name but a few.

There's one obvious missing link, a county football medal with her club St Val's, though Brieghe covets one not for herself, but for the team.

"We've been there or thereabouts in recent years, losing finals in 2006 and 2007 and getting to semi-finals in other years, too. I'd like to win for all the girls who put in so much effort. It's not to tick all the boxes or anything like that, more win with my club. It's not for my benefit at all."

August is set to be a busy, too, and naturally she's hoping September will be another crowning month on both fronts.

"In football Monaghan are obviously the main threat, but you can't write off Mayo, who seem to be going very well. Kerry, Galway and Dublin are also in the hat and it's a very competitive championship."

Cork have a league final win over All-Ireland champions Wexford to their credit, but they remain the front runners, especially with Galway serious contenders, too.

Brieghe achieved renown for her work as a stonemason, but she's on a different track now with the Musgrave Veterinary Clinic in Macroom.

"I was let go from my stonemason job about six months before leaving for Australia, but I got a job with a builder, Frank Flannery, who was coaching the camogie team at the time."

"When I came back from my travels my local vet was looking for someone on a temporary basis, six weeks, and I'm still there."

"They're great to work for. I'm out with the vet on farms and stuff like that on Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday and in the office on Thursday."



Ballygarvan's Grace O'Sullivan tires to block down Cloughduv's Brieghe Corkery in their senior camogie champions game.

with Brieghe Corkery

Hotmail

You'd do 10 extra laps to avoid doing: Office work
If you could be a celebrity, who would you be? Juliet Murphy!
One sporting event I always

watch: The All-Ireland finals

Team you follow: Cork ladies football
Sporting idol: Roy Keane and Diarmuid O'Sullivan
Pet hates: Notions



Marie's passion for camogie from their mother Ann from Limerick who set-up the club in Milford and has been a major influence on her three daughters.

Successful campaign is elementary for Watson

AFTER so many frustrating seasons the girls of Milford finally came good in 2012, winning their first county title and then last month capturing Munster. Our November winner is stalwart Marie Watson who spoke to **MARK WOODS** about their historic breakthrough. reports.



IT was one of those days when the last thing you wanted to be doing was trying to grip a hurley.

Lattin-Cullen's ground in Tipperary was about as inhospitable as it gets at this time of year, wet, sticky and freezing cold.

Milford must have felt a bit short-changed, appearing in their maiden provincial final against such a back-drop, but then again it was the same for Burgess/Duharra, the Tipp champions.

It didn't take long for the 27-year-old second-class teacher at Rathpeacon National School to display her skills which have been honed since she was a nipper up in north Cork.

In fact Marie was more like a mugger and a pick-pocket in the manner in which she stole possession from the unsuspecting full-back before scoring what proved the only goal of a tight game.

"It was the first score of the match. I got lucky because I saw their full-back coming out with the ball and I was able to flick it away from her just as she was about to strike.

"The goalie came out, but I pulled first time and the ball ended up in the net," she recalled.

In the semi-final Milford had to break down a seven-strong Killeady defence before romping to an easy win in the end, but the Tipp girls were competitive to the last.

Marie's early goal was the decisive score in a 1-7 to 0-6 triumph which keeps the fairytale going into the new year, again uncharted terrain for the Cork champions.

It wasn't the clubs' first meeting. Earlier in the year they played in the Munster club

league final in the Gaelic Grounds, when Milford won by a point.

Competition rules prevented Cork players, Anna Geary, Regina Curtin and Maria Walsh, from playing and Milford also had a long injury list.

"Never did we think at the time that we'd be meeting again in a Munster final later in the year, but to win a trophy then was fantastic.

"Conditions were terrible for the final and there was a game on before ours, too. The ball regularly got stuck in the mud which was new to us because the Castle Road pitch in Mahon is always fast and that's to our liking.

"It was a very low-scoring match as a result and that was another aspect of the game we weren't used to because we'd been hitting big scores. It felt like a dog-fight.

"Although we were well on top in the first-half we found it hard to score. We had seven wides and they were terrible really.

"Our management told us to aim for the left post, but what did we do? We went for the right. The only thing in our defence was the cold. It was just bitter, so much so that I asked for gloves for the second-half. I couldn't feel my fingers.

"It was a right test of our character because we weren't used to such a close game in those conditions all year and we probably needed it.

"They brought us back to two points at one stage during the second-half, when they had momentum and we found it hard to break their half-back line because they had an extra player there. There was a bit of panic all right mid-way through.

"Winning was a bit surreal. Who'd have thought at the start of the year that we'd win a county, a Munster and be training over Christ-

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Marie tears past Sarah Dervan of Galway in the Gala All Ireland Intermediate Camogie Championship final at the Gaelic Grounds in Limerick in 2009.



30-second timeout

Name: Marie Watson

From: Milford

Age: 27

Club: Milford

Family: Sisters Emer and Aine, brother Anthony, parents Ann and Tony

Nickname: Watty

What is your ringtone? Nokia

What car do you drive? Audi

A3

One website you always check:

Lipsydresses.com

You'd do 10 extra laps to avoid

doing: Putting out the bins

If you could be a celebrity,

who would you be? Katie

Taylor

One sporting event I always

watch: Olympics

Team you follow: Cork hurlers

and footballers

Sporting idol: Kate Taylor

Pet hate: Smoking

mas for an All-Ireland semi-final?"

Now, Milford are already looking ahead to the next challenge, facing the powerful Wexford girls from Oulart-the-Ballagh on February 3 and in the champions' back-yard at that.

It may be a rare encounter at senior level, but many of the players know each other well as Marie explained.

"It's the same girls we first met playing in the Féile in Wexford when we were U14. We were in the same group and they beat us narrowly in the first game. We also met in the final itself and they beat us well in that.

"It's been nip and tuck all the way up. We've also played at colleges level, where their girls went to Coláiste Brid and we attended St Mary's in Charleville.

"I remember when I was in junior cert they beat us in the final after extra-time and they also got the better of us at senior level, but we also won a lot of times.

"I've Munster and All-Ireland medals in junior, senior and sevens with St Mary's and I loved every minute of it. I think I've about 13 All-Ireland medals with the school.

"Vincent Harrington and Ger O'Donovan had us out training every single lunchtime at ten-to-one until 20-past without fail.

"There we were with our long skirts and helmets. What were we like? Yet, it stood to us, no doubt.

"We're going down there with nothing to lose. First of all we never thought we'd get this far and they'll be warm favourites, but we'll give it our best and see what happens."

Whatever happens one game will always stand the test of time, the county final win over St Catherine's, having beaten a tough

Courcey Rovers side in the semis and dethroning champions Douglas in the last eight.

"The team I was on won every grade up along, but trying to make the breakthrough at senior level has taken us a long time.

"We always knew we were good enough, but we just couldn't make it happen on the day of the final and that was very frustrating.

"We lost three finals, in 2004, 09 and again last year. It got to the stage where I was thinking 'are we going to bottle it again if we get to another final?'"

This year was different, however. New coaches Frank Flannery and James McGrath and new selectors, Leila Long and Sean McAuliffe, introduced a strict, disciplined and professional to everything and the players bought in.

"We're all on the same page. Everyone knows what's expected of them and it's made a huge difference. We're there on time. We train for an hour and everyone puts it in. It's brilliant.

"The hardest game was Courcey Rovers in the semi-final which we won by four or five points. We beat Douglas in the quarter-final.

"We were so geared up for that game after losing the county final to them last season that we were literally waiting all year to have another crack off them.

"After beating St Catherine's in the first round we had a month before the Douglas game and everyone really put in the effort.

"Naturally, we were all ecstatic after winning, but we still had two more steps to take.

"The final was one of those days when we all clicked. Even though we had beaten them in the first round there was no complacency.

"Winning the county was just an unbelievable feeling, the best feeling I've ever had in my life because we wanted this for so long.

"I mean all our lives have been around camogie. This was the one medal missing from our collection and now we've the set."

Marie has two sisters in the forward line. Emer, another teacher, is a year younger and Aine is 24. She's studying radiography in St John's in Limerick.

The girls get their passion for camogie from their mother Ann from Limerick who set-up the club in Milford and has been a major influence on her three daughters.

"I remember the first time I caught a hurley. Sile Thompson, our primary school teacher, asked mammy to do some training in school.

"I was in first class and we trained every Monday afternoon from 3-4 and that's how it all started. I was seven at time and I've not put a hurley down since. It's a part of my life."

Marie has also played with Cork, captaining the U16 team to an All-Ireland against Kilkenny after Milford had won three counties in-a-row and Cork also won the All-Ireland in those three years as well.

"I also played minor and had one year with the seniors when I tore my hamstring so badly that I needed an operation. "I played two or three years with Cork intermediates with whom I've one All-Ireland."

Apart from camogie, Marie has also got bitten by the travel bug during her summer holidays. Australia, the west coast of America, Thailand, Vietnam, Cambodia and Dubai are just some of the places she's visited.

"I love it. See the world while I can is my motto. South America is next on the list."



Marie Watson, Evening Echo Ladies Sports Star of the month winner for November, at her home in Douglas, Cork.

Evening Echo

LADIES SPORTSTAR AWARDS

NEWBRIDGE
silverware

RPH
ROCHESTOWN PARK

Focused Milford bid to take final step

By Denis Hurley
Camogie

Milford Camogie Club waited quite a while for a first Cork county senior title, but since they beat St Catherine's last October the good times have rolled.

The Munster championship followed in quick succession and tomorrow the North Cork side face their biggest test as they travel to play Oulart-the-Ballagh in the All-Ireland semi-final.

For the Milford coach, former Carrigtwohill player Frank Flannery, it was a case of trying to extract that bit extra from the side. "They lost three finals in eight

years, so they were close," he said. "There was always talent within the club, especially at underage level, and maybe it was just a case of instilling a little discipline.

"One big thing last year was that we won the Munster summer league without the county players, so that definitely helped, in terms of belief. It was then a case of success breeding success."

Anna Geary is the marquee name for Milford, sisters Marie, Aine and Emer Watson are also important players, while the addition of Maria Walsh when Ballyhea folded was also a boost.

Flannery refuses to get carried away with the progress made. "Sunday is a huge challenge,

going to the home of the All-Ireland champions and trying to beat them. Oulart had 10 players on the Wexford panel, they beat Cork in the All-Ireland final by seven points. They'll be hot favourites, but I'd give us a real chance."

For Flannery, coaching borders on an obsession, though it took two attempts before Milford lured him. "At the start of 2011, one or two approached me and I said no, but they came back at the start

of last year so I said I'd give it a go. I was with Imokilly for two years and got to a county final with them and had been involved with Cork too, so I knew that there was great talent in Milford. I'm still with the Cork minors and I've done work with Kerry seniors, Glanworth and a few others, since I gave up playing it's almost a full-time night job. I don't watch any TV other than sport, but I love it. You have to, but I think I'm stone-mad cracked sometimes."

Anna Geary: Key player for Milford.

CAMOGIE

All-Ireland Senior Club semi-finals (et if required): Oulart-the-Ballagh (Wexford) v Milford (Cork), Oulart-the-Ballagh, 2pm; Killimor (Galway) v O'Donovan Rossa (Antrim), Duggan Park, Ballinasloe, 3pm.
All-Ireland Intermediate Club semi-finals (et if required): Castlegar (Galway) v Ballycran (Down), Duggan Park, Ballinasloe, 1pm; Rower Inishoge (Kilkenny) v Kilmaley (Clare), Nowlan Park, 1.30pm.



ADAMANT APPROACH...Jane Adams spearheads another Rossa drive for All-Ireland honours

Picture: Paul Mohan / SPORTSFILE

CAMOGIE ALL-IRELAND SEMI-FINAL: ROSSA V KILLIMOR (SUNDAY, BALLINASLOE, 3PM)

Rossa battle with bad weather ahead of Killimor encounter

BY COLM MCGLEENAN

O'DONOVAN Rossa will be hoping their extended break over Christmas doesn't halt their charge for a second All-Ireland senior title in six years.

The Antrim club's bid to reach another All-Ireland final hasn't been helped by the adverse weather conditions, which have hampered preparations ahead of their trip to face Galway and Connacht champions, Killimor in Ballinasloe this Sunday (3pm).

The Belfast girls have only played one challenge game, against Queen's, since their impressive 16-point win over Slaughtneil in the Ulster final.

Despite this lack of match practice, the management team of Danny Quinn and Michael Johnston have had the Antrim and Ulster champions up their training program with indoor and outdoor sessions, whilst sometimes training twice a day, in an attempt to keep fit over the winter period.

Rossa's path to the semi-final hasn't been the toughest, with the

closest defeat coming in the Antrim championship semi-final, a four-point victory over Loughgiel.

Jane Adams, Antrim's first ever Allstar recipient, has been Rossa's main scoring threat this season and the midfield maestro's scoring has been the key to many of the club's recent campaigns.

Her personal tally of 2-9 in the 2008 decider against Tipperary and Munster champions Drom & Inch was the difference on the day and Rossa followers will be hoping Adams and the rest of the squad are in scoring mood once again come Sunday.

Although Rossa have experienced campaigners like Adams and captain Muirinn Quinn, daughter of manager Danny, throughout the panel, Killimor are no novices when it comes to competing at the highest level of club Camogie.

The Tribe girls have reached the semi-final stage of the competition for the last three years in a row, going on to secure the All-Ireland crown in 2011.

And their latest chances of recreating that feat have been boosted by the fact that the game is being played only a stone's throw from their own home ground.

A 200-mile journey awaits the Rossa girls just to reach the venue and the choice of venue might not please too many involved with the Belfast club but they'll be hoping it won't have too much of an affect on the final score.

The game is part of a double header at Ballinasloe which sees Ballycran of Down play Castlegar in the All-Ireland Intermediate semi-final at 1pm.

If it is Rossa who reach the final, then they have the chance of winning national honours at Croke Park for the first time, instead of Ashbourne where they won their first title in 2008.

The winners of Sunday's encounter will face either Cork's Milford or reigning champions, Oulart The Ballagh from Wexford at Headquarters.

Templemore triumph in thriller

By Camogie Association

Posted 29/01/2013



THE CAMOGIE ASSOCIATION
An Cumann Camógaiochta

St. Marys Newport 1-3 Our Lady's Templemore 2-13

St. Marys, Newport played Our Lady's of Templemore on Saturday (January 26th) in a wet and windy Newport GAA grounds. Templemore came out the winners in a well fought battle. Through tough conditions, Our Lady's stalwart Niamh Treacy hammered home some excellent points from long range and difficult angles, which were to prove heart-breaking for St. Marys.

The first half was quite even scoring and play flowed from one end of the pitch with Templemore leading 1-5 to 1-3 at half-time. However St. Mary's had the benefit of a very strong wind in the first half which their opponents used to full advantage in the second period. The atmosphere in the stand was electric as both teams battled for every ball as the game hung in the balance.

In the second half Templemore showed themselves as a much stronger team. With the wind at their backs they repeatedly popped over points and bagged another crucial goal. Niamh Treacy was unstoppable with her strength and skill. St. Mary's tried everything to match the play but Our Lady's came out victorious on a convincing score-line of 1-3 to 2-13.



The Hall of Fame prize went to Nora Newman, the former Cork camogie president and selector, who last year 2012 marked 50 years of unbroken service as an officer with her club, Glen Rovers, who themselves are celebrating their 80th anniversary.

Her family is steeped in the Glen, and her late brother Dava O'Brien was a well-know club and Cork mentor. Her daughter Mary Newman is the Evening Echo camogie correspondent, while her son-in-law Finbarr McCarthy is well-known for his work with 96FM.

FEB. 2013

Focused Milford blow Oulart away

CAMOGIE

By LINDA MELLERICK

Milford 1-12
Oulart the Ballagh 1-7

A FLAWLESS, blistering opening 30 minutes from Cork champions Milford dethroned All-Ireland club champions Oulart the Ballagh in Oulart yesterday, leading the north Cork side into their first ever All-Ireland club final.

It was pure honesty from the visitors with every player playing every ball as if their lives depended on it.

Despite Oulart's late onslaught, an almost certainty that they would at some stage hit a purple patch, Milford made the champions look very average.

Leading 1-12 to no score with 42 minutes gone, Milford's complete dominance justified the gap.

On the scoreboard the final 24 minutes belonged to Oulart, helped in part by the sending off of Ashling Thompson for a second yellow.

A little panic set in, but in truth Milford were never going to relinquish such a significant margin.

Milford won the toss and opted to play with the ferocious wind as they looked to avail of every early advantage. It was a wise decision.

By the 13th minute they led 1-3 to no score with Oulart failing to get any attack going.

Milford were confident and hungry and spread the play with relative ease as they ran Oulart a merry dance.

Some of Milford's scoring was absolutely majestic, Marie O'Neill's and Aine Watson's in particular as well as Regina Curtin's goal.

The signs were ominous even at



Milford's Maria Walsh in action against Oulart The Ballagh's Ciara Storey in the All-Ireland Senior Camogie Club Championship semi-final. INSET Milford's Marie O'Neill and Deirdre Hughes celebrate
Picture: Caroline Quinn

an early stage for a flat-footed, uninspiring and disappointing Oulart side.

Leading by 13 points at the break it was crucial that Milford held their concentration, the wind being such a central factor of the game.

Keep it they did with Maria and Emer Watson extending their lead by a further two after a hard working Milford swarmed Oulart at every opportunity.

As expected Oulart commenced their fight back but Milford were up

to the challenge with Elaine O'Riordan in particular a standout player.

Aisling Moran's goal with four minutes of normal time remaining did get the home side roused, but it merely gave Oulart respectability.

Yesterday belonged wholeheartedly to Milford. There is no doubting the calibre of this team as the ultimate dream is now close to reality.

Scorers for Milford: M O'Neill 0-4, E Watson

0-4 f, R Curtin 1-1, A Watson 0-2, M Watson 0-1.

Oulart the Ballagh: U Jacob 0-7 (0-6 f), A Moran 1-0.

MILFORD: R Finn; K Galvin, A Geary, L Healy; E O'Riordan, M Walsh, S Sexton; O O'Mahony, A Thompson; E Watson, D O'Reilly, A Watson; M O'Neill, R Curtin, M Watson.

Subs: E O'Friel for E Watson (50 in), D Hayes for O O'Mahony (55).

OULART THE BALLAGH: H Jacob; B Redmond, K Atkinson, K Dunne; S Redmond, M Leacy, S Sinnott; S Kehoe, C Storey; S Kehoe, U Leacy, L Sinnott; D Ryan, U Jacob, A Brennan.

Subs: N Sinnott for K Dunne (th), A Moran for A Brennan (53), D Kirwan for S Redmond (55).

Referee: Owen Elliott (Antrim).

Milford blitz champs to set up final clash with Killimor

By Camogie Press
Posted 03/02/2013



Killimor will play Milford in the All-Ireland senior club camogie championship final next month, while Rower-Inistioge must wait to find out who their opponents in the intermediate decider will as Castlegar and Ballycran could not be separated after extra time writes Daraigh Ó Concheir.

Milford made a huge statement when traveling into the lion's den and dethroning champions Oulart-The Ballagh on their own patch, 1-12 to 1-7.

The Cork side's challenge was spearheaded by the midfield dominance of Maria Walsh and Aisling Thompson, as well as the efforts of Emer Watson, Regina Curtin, Marie O'Neill and Anna Geary. They blitzed the home side in the first half, at the end of which they led by a scarcely believable 1-10 to 0-0.

A very strong wind played a significant role in the dominance, but an indication of the superior sharpness and teamwork of the winners was that even when Oulart had the elements in their favour, it took them 13 minutes to register their first score. And that, as much as anything, was the difference in the end.

Watson sent Milford on their way with a fourth minute free and O'Neill added a brace before Regina Curtin gathered Maria Watson's clever diagonal pass before shooting to the net in the 14th minute. Emer and Aine Watson, Curtin and O'Neill added further scores to give them that extraordinary interval advantage.

Maria and Emer Watson extended that lead further before Ursula Jacob finally got Oulart off the mark from a free. The Wexford star added four more scores from play and substitute Aisling Moran pounced for a 27th

minute goal within seconds of her introduction. Jacob and Una Lacey converted a free apiece but even though Thompson received her marching orders for a second yellow-card offence, Milford had more than enough in hand to survive.

Killimor edged out O'Donovan Rossa by 2-9 to 0-12 in Balinascloon. Rossa had the better of it in the first half though, with Jane Adams the orchestrator. Kerrie O'Neill was also prominent and the Antrim girls were 0-5 to 0-1 ahead by the end of the first quarter.

That advantage might have been greater, as Gráinne Connolly missed a tremendous goal opportunity. That proved critical as Susan Keane struck at the other end just before half time to leave the Galwegians trailing by just two at the break, 0-8 to 1-3.

With their tails up, Killimor hit the first four scores of the second half courtesy of Martina Conroy (two), Keane and Ann Marie Hayes. O'Donovan Rossa fought back, with a brace of points from Adams but Aisling Breithy's scrambled goal put Killimor ahead once more.

Maureen McGourty and Connolly came back once more with points that could well have been goals but Brenda Hanny eased Killimor's nerves with two late points of her own.

In the intermediate championship, two first-half goals from Aoife Lyng laid the groundwork for Rower-Inistioge's 2-9 to 1-5 defeat of Kilmaley in Nowlan Park.

Kelly Hamilton top-scored with seven points from placed balls for the Kilkenny team and when Lyng showed her poaching skills with those two opportunistic strikes in the 22nd and 24th minutes, Rower led by 2-7 to 0-1 at half-time.

Kilmaley battled hard after the resumption and Claire McMahon and Denise Lynch helped reduce the margin. Emma O'Driscoll got a goal but the Clare representatives never looked like reeling in their opponents.

Aislinn Connolly scored 11 points but that still wasn't enough to give victory to Castlegar, with their pulsating semi-final against Ballycran finishing at 0-13 to 1-10 after extra time.

Ballycran led 0-5 to 0-2 at half time and should have been further ahead after a dominant display, with Catherine and Eirín McGourty very prominent. Catherine McGourty and Naomi Morgan stretched the margin after the resumption and a Morgan goal looked to have secured it for the Down contingent.

Castlegar turned the game around with the next six scores, including Connolly's equaliser in first minute of injury time from a 45m free tight to the sideline. She hit the first two points of extra time into the wind but Catherine McGourty and super sub, Nicola Torney rescued Ballycran.

Gorey triumph in Junior C Leinster Final

By Camogie Association
Posted 04/02/2013



Leinster Secondary School's Junior 'C' Camogie Final Report by Michael Dwyer

Gorey Community School 2-5 Coláiste Sionna of Banagher 2-4

Gorey Community School's Camogie girls were triumphant over Coláiste na Sionna of Banagher in the Leinster Camogie 'C' Final on Saturday February 2nd.

With five minutes gone, Orla Molloy weaved through the Banagher defence to lodge Gorey's first point. Rosin Pierce assisted Caoimhe Molloy for a second point but their opponents responded sharply as Banagher's courageous captain Gráinne Dolan swept past the Gorey defence to hit the ball to the net. Dolan's next point was sandwiched by two well-taken Ellen Roche points. The intense attacks of Gorey midfielder Hayley Murphy assisted sharpshooter Caoimhe Molloy in earning a major. The valiant work of Gorey's Lorna Cushe, Donna Morrissey and Rosin Egan kept the Banagher attacks at bay as Gorey led at the interval on a scoreline of 2-03 to 1-02.

The second half was low-scoring but featured dogged clashes between both sides. Gorey's Ellen Roche pointed a free but her efforts were negated by Gráinne Dolan's point. The intensity heightened as Orla Molloy's Siobhán Reddin managed to sneak a goal past keeper Rosin Wheatley.

Another exchange of points between Dolan and Orla Crowe meant that Gorey led by the minimum with ten minutes remaining. Gráinne Dolan, Louise Flannery and Sinéad Flannery led exceptional Banagher advances but they were counter-attacked by the diligent Amy Dowdall, Hayley Murphy and Rosin Egan.

With the atmosphere at boiling point, the final whistle sounded leading to profound scenes of jubilation as Gorey captain, Cara Golland, was presented with the 'Coláiste Lougher' Perpetual Trophy. Camogie teams in Gorey Community School have had a good track record in the past year as the Senior girls reached the

Intermediate semi final against the same opposition last month.

The side are trained by the tremendous trio of Mary Leacy, Maireann McCarthy and Fionn Casey. Because of prior appointments, the two female teachers could not manage the team on Saturday last. However, the generous commitment of Margaret Lacey, Joe Roche and Sean O'Brien meant that the girls were keenly focused on victory. They now advance to the All Ireland Semi Final which will be played on Saturday February 23rd.

Gorey GS: Rosin Wheatley, Aislinn Doyle, Aoife Hughes, Rosin Egan (All Naomh Eanna), Cara Golland (Captain), Amy Dowdall, Donna Morrissey, Hayley Murphy, Ellen Roche (1-02), Ellen Kinsella (All Castletown-Liam Molloy), Orla Molloy (0-01), Rosin Pierce, Orla Crowe, Caoimhe Molloy (1-01, All Naomh Eanna), SUBS: Maireann O'Connor, Nadine Kenny (Both Naomh Eanna), Hannah Morrissey, Denise Byrne, Niamh Donnelly, Denise Coads (All Castletown-Liam Molloy).

Banagher: Ruth Fogarty, Siobhán Reddin, Danielle Walsh, Cara McEvoy, Meith Dooly, Ann Daly, Olwyn Kenny, Gráinne Dolan (1-04), Aoife McLoughlin, Louise Flannery, Sinéad Flannery, Helena Sike, Shauna Duane (1-03), Clare Turley, Siobhán Reddin SUBS: Shauna Keane, Róisín Kelly, Róisín McDonagh, Hannah Plunkett, Louise Corcoran, Yvonne Ryan, Coline Cleary, Gráinne Minnock, Eva Camon, Cara O'Sullivan, Cara Tierney, Mary Ellen McMahon, Anne McGarry, Sinéad Moran.

All Ireland Colleges Camogie fixtures

By Camogie Association
Posted 04/02/2013



All Ireland Colleges Camogie Semi Final and Final Dates

Senior

Semi Finals - Saturday February 16th (replay Saturday February 23rd)

A

Presentation Thuries V. St. Bridget's Loughrea
Leinster V. St. Patrick's Maghera

B

Laurel Hill Limerick V. Seamount Kivara
St. Mary's New Ross V. Loreto Coleraine

C

Roscrea Community College V. Winners of Coleraine & St. Joseph's Lurgan (Sat @1.30)
Banagher V. St. Catherine's Armagh

St. Joseph's Tuam V. Lucan Community College
Leinster V. Loreto Cavan

FINALS 9th March Replay 16th March

Junior

Semi Finals - Saturday February 23rd (replay Saturday March 2nd)

A

Connacht V. St. Flannan's Ennis
St. Mary's Magherafelt V. Leinster

B

Connacht V. Templemore
St. Patrick's Keady V. Leinster

C

Winners of St. Joseph's
Lucan & Connacht V. Laurel Hill Limerick
St. Malachy's Castletown V. Gorey Community School

D

Winners of Mercy Roscommon & Our Lady's Templeogue V. Munster
St. Columba's Kilsall V. Leinster

FINALS 16th March Replay 23rd March

FEB 2013

BELOW: Linda Mollerick, Ballyvolane, with Marie and Aileen Corkery, Aghinagh and Nora Newman, The Lough, attending the Evening Echo Ladies Supreme Sports Star Awards ceremony at the Rochestown Park Hotel. Picture: David Keane



Oulart lose grip on crown

DEAN GOODISON

In Oulart

MILFORD (CORK)	1-12
OULART-THE BALLAGH	1-7

AT THE end of the day Oulart-The Ballagh didn't lose their All-Ireland Senior club camogie crown in a woeful first-half when they were held scoreless as their Cork opponents racked up 1-10. The hosts lost their title on Sunday afternoon last in the first ten minutes of the second-half. Just when the local team needed a fast start with a dying wind at their backs, Milford added the only two scores of the period, opening up a 1-12 to nil lead after 42 minutes.

In a spell when the muted home support needed to get behind their team, when the underdogs needed to be put under pressure and have their will tested, it just didn't happen. Oulart-The Ballagh could never shake the disjointed play that blighted the first-half and it just left them with too much to do when a spirited Milford finally tired in the final quarter.

That doesn't take away from a truly horrific first-half. It was played exclusively in the Oulart-The Ballagh half of the field, to such an extent that the home side failed to have a shot at the target of any description.

If Milford held all the aces in the opening 30 minutes, their opponents possessed a pair of spades. Spades that seemed collectively attached to their boots which left them digging in with every stride and moving a step slower all over the heavy pitch.

The visitors looked dangerous from the off as they registered early scores from Emer Watson and Marie O'Neill (two). In between the O'Neill double, Milford almost grabbed the first goal only for Deirdre O'Reilly to pull wide when under pressure from Helena Jacob.

There was no such respite in the 13th minute when O'Neill's shot was saved by Jacob and Regina Curtin followed in and pulled to the empty net.

OULART-THE BALLAGH

Helena Jacob; Bridin Redmond, Karen Aislinn, Kelle Dunne, Stacey Redmond, Mary Leacy, Shauna Sinnott, Shelley Kehoe, Clara Storey, Sharon Kehoe, Una Leacy (0-1 free), Louise Sinnott, Diana Ryan, Ursula Jacob (0-6, 4 frees, 1-45), Aileen Brennan. SUBS: Nicola Sinnott for Dunne, Aisling Moran (1-0) for Brennan.

MILFORD

Rebecca Finn; Katie Galvin, Maria Walsh, Lisa Healy, Elaine O'Riordan, Anna Geary, Sarah Sexton, Orlaith O'Mahony, Aisling Thompson; Emer Watson (0-4 frees), Deirdre O'Reilly, Aine Watson (0-2), Marie O'Neill (0-4), Regina Curtin (1-1), Maria Watson (0-1). SUBS: Eimear Friel for E. Watson, in; Deirdre Hayes for O'Mahony.

VENUE: Oulart.
REFEREE: Owen Elliott (Antrim).

The goal galvanised an already fiery Milford side as they went 1-4 to nil up with a second Watson point in the 15th minute.

A few stoppages dampened the building momentum momentarily, but six points in the final four minutes of normal time, plus five of added time, with Aine Watson and O'Neill grabbing a brace apiece, put Milford in the driving seat.

Big changes were needed at half-time and the first came when the scoreboard operator removed the scores from the board. It certainly didn't give the home side any added confidence as Milford started the second period the way they ended the first.

Maria Watson clipped over inside 60 seconds and, with Oulart-The Ballagh struggling to get a grip in the middle third of the field, Emer Watson added her fourth point (1-12 to nil).

The incredible intensity that the Munster champions played with in the opening half couldn't last forever and Oulart-The Ballagh's first score, in the

42nd minute, was the start of that dip.

Jacob added a '45 and a nice effort from play to her opener to close the gap to twelve (1-12 to 0-3). Another dead-ball double from the multiple All Star finally gave the champions a little belief, a feeling that grew further four minutes from time with Oulart-The Ballagh's only goal.

Una Leacy's long ball came at Rebecca Finn on a low, powerful arc, and she could only bat it in the direction of Aisling Moran who fired to the net from six yards out.

Another Jacob free left six between the sides heading into the last three minutes, and when Leacy was hauled down baring in on goal she was given the chance to pull her side within three entering the last few minutes. However, the forward's free rose high and flew over the bar and with it Oulart-The Ballagh hopes of a successful defence ended as Milford advanced to face Killimor in the March 2 decider.



■ Louise Sinnott is closed down by Milford's Elaine O'Riordan.



■ Una Leacy and Maria Walsh battle for the ball.



■ Shelley Kehoe gets to grips with Aisling Thompson of Milford.

Gorey girls celebrate Leinster glory

LEINSTER JUNIOR 'C' FINAL

In Ballinakill

GOREY COMMUNITY SCHOOL	2-5
COLAISTE NA SIONNA	2-4

GOREY COMMUNITY School's Junior camogie side triumphed over Colaiste na Sionna of Banagher in the Leinster 'C' championship final in Ballinakill, Co. Laois, on Saturday last.

Heywood Community School's astro-turf pitch may not have suited the players, but the weather was beneficial with no breeze or rain. With five minutes gone, Orla Molloy weaved through the Banagher defence to score Gorey's first point.

Róisín Pierce assisted Caoimhe Molloy for a second point but their opponents responded sharply as courageous captain Gráinne Dolan hit the ball to the net. Dolan's next point was sandwiched by two well-taken Ellen Roche points.

The intense attacks of Gorey midfielder Hayley Murphy assisted sharpshooter Caoimhe Molloy in adding a second goal. The valiant defensive work of Lorna Cushe, Donna Morrissey and

Róisín Egan kept the Banagher attacks at bay as Gorey led at the interval on a scoreline of 2-3 to 1-2.

The second-half was low-scoring, with Gorey's Ellen Roche pointing a free before her efforts were negated by Gráinne Dolan. The intensity heightened as Siobhán Reddin managed to sneak a goal past keeper Róisín Wheatley. Another exchange of points between Dolan and Orla Crowe meant that Gorey led by the minimum with ten minutes remaining.

Gráinne Dolan, Louise Flannery and Sinéad Flannery led Banagher advances but they were countered by the diligent Amy Dowdall, Hayley Murphy and Róisín Egan. With the tension at boiling point, the final whistle sounded and led to scenes of jubilation as Gorey captain, Clara Goland, was presented with the Colaiste Laighin Perpetual Trophy.

Camogie teams in Gorey Community School have had a good track record in the past year as the Seniors reached the Leinster semi-final against the same opposition last month. The side is trained by the tremendous trio of Mary Leacy, Muireann McCarthy and Fionán Casey.

Because of prior appointments, the two female teachers could not manage the team on Saturday last. However, the generous commitment of Margaret Leacy, Joe Roche and Seán O'Brien meant that the girls were keenly focused on victory. They now advance to the All-Ireland semi-final which will be played on Saturday, February 23.

Gorey C.S.: Róisín Wheatley; Lorna Cushe, Aoibheann Doyle, Aoife Hughes; Róisín Egan (all Naomh Eanna), Clara Goland (capt.), Amy Dowdall; Donna Morrissey, Hayley Murphy; Ellen Roche (1-2), Ellen Kin-sella (all Castletown-Liam Mellows), Orla Molloy (0-1); Róisín Pierce, Orla Crowe, Caoimhe Molloy (1-1, all Naomh Eanna). Subs. - Muireann O'Connor, Nadine Kenny (both Naomh Eanna), Hannah Morrissey, Denise Byrne, Niamh Donnelly, Denise Coade (all Castletown-Liam Mellows).

Banagher: Ruth Fogarty, Sioibh McIntyre, Danielle Walsh, Cora McEvoy; Méabh Doorley, Ann Daly, Orlaith Kenny; Gráinne Dolan (1-4), Aoife McLoughlin; Louise Flannery, Sinéad Flannery, Helena Silke; Shauna Duane (1-0), Claire Turley, Siobhán Reddin. Subs. - Shauna Keane, Róisín Kelly, Róisín McDonagh, Hannah Plunkett, Louise Corcoran, Yvonne Ryan, Celine Cleary, Gráinne Minnock, Eva Camon, Clara O'Sullivan, Clara Tierney, Mary Ellen McMahon, Aine McGarry, Sinéad Moran.



■ The celebrations begin for Gorey Community School.



PAUDIE PALMER

OPINION

OVER the past few weeks I may have mentioned the lack of a Rebel presence on the All-Ireland club stage. Kildorrery carried the flag to the penultimate peak and then, when they parked up, well we thought that was that.

Big confession here... my knowledge of the world of camogie maybe in need of some serious addressing! Last weekend a few casual comments informed me Milford's chances of defeating the famous Oulart-The Ballagh in the All-Ireland senior camogie club semi-final were on the same scale as Italy upsetting the French in the oval ball showdown in Rome; some double! Now, I know better.

Maybe we should go back to the beginning. In 1995 two ladies, Anne Watson, a Limerick native, and Sheila Thomson got together a group of girls from the outposts of Milford, Tullylease and Freemount and introduced them to the game of camogie for the purpose of participating in the community games which were held in Mosney back in those days.

Before they knew it they had picked up two sets of All-Ireland medals in 1996 and 1997. On finishing their primary education the majority of these young stars of the future enrolled in St Mary's in Charleville where camogie was very much part of extracurricular life.

One problem though, these talented girls from up near the Limerick border had no club and Mr Harrington, the camogie master, informed them that if they were to progress club activity was a must. Back to Anne and Sheila and the process of starting a club began.

At the first meeting Anne spoke to the girls about the flag of convenience. You see, Newtown from over the road played in the Limerick championship, but these young girls wanted to fly under the Rebel flag.

Two members of the Cork camogie board, Sheila Golden and Marian McCarthy were sent for. A new club was born in 1997 and 16 years later their on their way to Croke Park and a meeting with Galway's Kilomer for the right to be deemed the best in the land.

Thus far, it has been some journey. Two years into their existence they won their first county U16 title and followed it up with four more on the trot, and the next five counties in a row at minor level.

In 1998 the first adult title arrived home when the junior B county was won. A year later they hit the jackpot this time the Junior A trophy. The progression continued with the capture of the senior B title and now a short few years after birth they were breathing at the highest level.

In 2004 their first visit to the senior A final day, but after a thriller they lost to Carrigdhon 6-11 to 5-11. They waited five years for their next chance and when St Catherine's inflicted the pain 1-12 to 0-12.

Two years later and again a tearful ending when Douglas got through by a point, 1-9 to 0-11. Self-doubt, maybe but they had leaders.



Aine Watson and Elaine O'Riordan (right) of Milford, celebrate at the final whistle after defeating Oulart-The Ballagh in their All-Ireland Senior Club Championship semi-final in Oulart, Co Wexford.

Picture: Caroline Quinn

Many years of effort behind Milford's win

When Cork won three in a row of All-Ireland U16 titles they had Milford girls making the victory speeches. In 2001 Maria Watson, followed a year later by Elaine O'Riordan and the final capture in 2003, had a future All-Star, Anna Geary on the podium.

The ache of not winning the big one, remained and about 11 months ago Tipperary native Frankie Flannery, whose reputation in the coaching world is on an upward curve, arrived in town.

Frankie's first meeting with his new team finished with a sentence that contained a most ambitious promise. "In 12 months' time ye, will be in an All-Ireland final." And they are.

The new coach's philosophy is built on the premise that variety is important. Guest speakers are part of the plan. Recently, in preparation for last weekend's trip to Wexford they travelled to Dublin to play UCD. A gentleman called Pat Gilroy came and imparted knowledge on the winning experience.

Last September when Frankie felt that another voice could help the process he enlisted the services of fellow county man James McGrath, who had been involved with the Galway intermediate camogie team during the summer. This crowd are deadly serious.

Milford and Oulart-The Ballagh may be miles apart but a deep sense of respect and knowledge has been built up over the years. Going back to the happy schooldays in St Mary's, where many of the Milford girls won up to 10 All-Ireland medals, a real rivalry developed between them and Coláiste Bhríde

from Enniscorthy.

Last Sunday was not just a trip to Wexford but for a day out, they went there with one ambition in which they believed, to be in Croke Park on Saturday, March 2. They departed Milford at 2pm on Saturday last, stayed overnight in Wexford and when Sunday came a calling, they were ready. Oulart, the champions, with up to 10 from the all-conquering Wexford panel in their midst, it was some task.

Regina Curtin's goal grabbed the headlines, but this was a victory built on much more than a green flag. 16 years after the birth, followed by years of commitment, they're almost there.

In the past, the exploits of men's teams had some communities believing in the dream, on this occasion it's a wonderful band of talented sports women who will make Saturday, March 2 a day never to be forgotten by the people of Milford and surrounding area. Mighty women.



MILFORD THROUGH TO FINAL: Marie O'Neill and Deirdre Hughes from Milford celebrate after the final whistle in the All-Ireland club camogie semi-final. Milford beat reigning champions and hot favourites Oulart-The Ballagh 1-12 to 1-7 thanks to an excellent display by players such as Emer Watson, Anna Geary, Maria Walsh and Aisling Thompson, among others. The North Cork club led 1-10 to 0-0 at the break and although they scored only two points in the second half it was enough to see them through to the final against Killimor next month. Photo: Raymond Lohan

Superb first half books Milford girls a date with destiny at Croke Park

Milford (Cork)
Oulart the Ballagh (Wexford)

1-12
1-7

ing half and held Oulart scoreless.

Oulart were not going to go down easily and the last quarter of the game belonged to them. Milford had to play out that last quarter with 14 players as they were minus Ashling Thompson dismissed for a second yellow.

Milford won the toss and opted to play with the gale force wind as they availed of every thing that came their way. By the 13th minute in they led 1-3 to no score and they showed confident and hungry as they spreaded the ball around and backed each other up.

Regina Curtin goaled 13 minutes in and it signalled trouble for Oulart who were second to every ball and looked to be struggling in all sectors and as Milford tacked on the points with splendid efforts from Emer Watson, Marie O'Neill and Aine Watson the gap widened.

Leading by 13 points at the break Milford had to hold their composure as they turned to play against the gale force wind.

They got off to a great start with Maria and Emer Watson extending their lead with a point each but Oulart fought back. Milford re-

sponded with captain Elaine O'Riordan superb as they pushed the Oulart attack back.

Ursula Jacob hit five points, four from place balls, before substitute Aisling Moran grabbed a goal with four minutes of normal time remaining. Jacob pointed two frees but with the Milford defence dominant there was no way through as the day firmly belonged to them.

Croke Park beckons on Mar 2. With current champions Killimor of Galway providing the opposition Milford await the clash with optimism.

MILFORD: R Finn; K Galvin, A Geary, L Healy; E O'Riordan, M Walsh, S Sexton; O O'Mahony, A Thompson; E Watson, D O'Reilly, A Watson; M O'Neill, R Curtin, M Watson.

Subs: E O'Friel for E Watson (50, inj), D Hayes for O O' Mahony (55).

Scorers: M O'Neill 0-4, E Watson 0-4 (ft), R Curtin 1-1, A Watson 0-2, M Watson 0-1.

OULART THE BALLAGH: H Jacob; B Redmond, K Atkinson, K Dunne; S Redmond, M Leacy, S Sinnott; S Kehoe, C Storey; S Kehoe, U Leacy, L Sinnott; D Ryan, U Jacob, A Brennan.

Subs: N Sinnott for K Dunne (47), A Moran for A Brennan (53), D Kirwin for S Redmond (55).

Scorers: U Jacob 0-7 (0-6 ft), A Moran 1-0.

A superb opening half ensured Cork and Munster champions Milford dethroned All-Ireland club champions Oulart-The Ballagh on home soil in Oulart recently and booked them a place in the club final in Croke Park on March 3rd.

Milford played with determination and passion. Leading 1-12 to no score with 42 minutes played Milford's outclassed the champions in all sectors, they played with the aid of a gale force wind in the open-

Lyng leads Rower to final

Rower-Inistioge 2-9

Kilmaley 1-5

MICHAEL O'LEARY

SCORERS: Rower-Inistioge - Kelly Hamilton (0-7, 0-6 frees, 0-1 45); Aoife Lyng (2-0); Catriona Ryan, Lizzie Lyng (0-1 each). **Kilmaley** - Emma O'Driscoll (1-0); Claire McMahon (0-3, 0-2 frees, 0-1 45); Deirdre Lynch (0-2, 0-1 free, 0-1 45).

PLAYING with the elements paid off as the Rower-Inistioge 'breezed' their way into an All-Ireland intermediate camogie final.

The Kilkenny girls used a strong wind at their backs to post an intimidating first half lead which, in the end, proved too much for Clare outfit Kilmaley to scale in Nowlan Park on Sunday.

Although the Rower faded in the second half, the real damage was done during the opening half in which they built up a 12-point advantage on their Munster opponents (2-7 to 0-1).

The Rower opened up a three-point lead (0-4 to 0-1) by the 17th minute thanks to a hat-trick of Kelly Hamilton placed balls, while Catriona Ryan fired over a superb effort from play.

The crucial spell of that first half came inside two minutes. Aoife Lyng weaved her magic, rattling off two goals to propel her side on their way.

Major strike

The first major strike came in the 22nd minute, when strong play saw Kelly Hamilton drive a long clearance into the path of Lizzie Lyng.

Picking up possession, Lyng fired a shot goalwards. Kilmaley goalkeeper Edel Griffey couldn't control the sliotar and was punished when Aoife Lyng pounced (1-4 to 0-1).

Two minutes later, Lyng was at it again. There was a touch of good fortune about her second goal as a point attempt crept under the Kilmaley crossbar at the last second, much to the delight of the Rower players and their supporters.

Although they now had a nine-point cushion (2-4 to 0-1), the Rower weren't finished. Kelly Hamilton tacked on two more frees, to which Lizzie Lyng added an excellent point from play in the 29th minute, to leave the Kilkenny girls boasting a 12-point advantage at the break (2-7 to 0-1).

To their credit, Kilmaley gave a spirited display during the second



Kelly Hamilton (Rower-Inistioge) solos away from Emma O'Driscoll (Kilmaley) during the All-Ireland intermediate camogie club semi-final. Photo: Eoin Hennessy

half. With full-back Deirdre Lynch leading the way they outscored the Rower by four points (1-4 to 0-2).

Under pressure

The Kilkenny club's defence was under more pressure during that second moiety, but with Eimear

Lyng and Kelly Hamilton leading the way they withstood the challenge.

Emma O'Driscoll was Kilmaley's goalscorer, rattling the net in the 41st minute. Claire McMahon and Deirdre Lynch were the point-scorers, bagging a brace apiece - each converted a free and a 45 - to

increase their side's scoring total.

The Rower-Inistioge were not as disciplined in that second half, conceding a number of frees. Their tempo also dropped after the break, but Kilmaley had been left with too much to do to force their way back into the reckoning.

Kelly Hamilton was a class apart at centre-back and flawless too when it came to scoring, converting all seven of her chances. Eimear Lyng was also superb at full-back, making a key block late in the game when Kilmaley threatened to make a comeback.

Others to impress were Briona Langton, who played a key role in midfield, and 16-year-old Aine Gannon, as the Rower roared into their All-Ireland final, which will be played in March.

Rower-Inistioge - E. Kavanagh, J. Cullen, E. Lyng, B. Dempsey, E. Hynes, K. Hamilton, C. Lyng, A. Gannon, B. Langton, S. O'Mahoney, L. Lyng, B. White, C. Lyng, C. Ryan, A. Lyng. Sub: T. Kennedy for O'Mahoney, 41 mins.

Kilmaley - E. Griffey, L. Kennedy, D. Lynch, S. O'Halloran, N. Cahill, K. Cahill, E. Considine, A. Griffey, N. O'Dea, S. Enright, E. O'Driscoll, C. McMahon, H. McMahon, A. O'Halloran, A. Considine. Subs: L. Higgins, S. O'Keeffe for McMahon.

Limerick are first up for Rebel minor girls

THE Cork minors are first team on the inter-county stage when they travel to take on Limerick in the Munster championship semi-final tomorrow, writes **MARY NEWMAN**.

With the All-Ireland series played on an open-draw basis the provincial championship is an invaluable competition as it helps the Cork management get their squad organised and ready for big games to come.

Last season Cork and Limerick had to go to a replay before Cork advanced to the Munster decider after two tough games.

With seven of last season's starting 15 still eligible, new Limerick manager Wille Banks

and his fellow selectors Martin Downes and Seamus Keating will be hoping to go one better this time out and overcome the challenge Cork will pose.

Rebecca Delee captains a Limerick side that contains experienced performers in Muireann Creamer, Claire Keating, Martina McMahon, Meadhbh O'Neill, Orla Cunningham and Aoife Wilson.

On home turf they will be confident of upsetting Cork.

Cork also have a new minor management this season.

Carrigaline's John Middleton heads up the operation with selectors Dave O'Connell, Mary Harrington, Liz O'Mahony and

TOMORROW
Munster Minor Camogie
Championship semi-final:
Cork v Limerick: Boher,
Limerick, 2.30pm

Graham McIver, and with eight of last season panel that reached the All-Ireland semi-final still available for selection, Cork will also fancy their chances.

Lauren Callanan captains the side and survivors from last season include Orla Cronin, Linda Collins, Laura Treacy, Katelynn Hickey and Emma Kavanagh, all experienced players, who have lined out at adult level with their clubs.

Newcomers to the Cork panel include Evening Echo Ladies sports star for December Amy O'Connor, who is also a talented soccer player, plus several of last season's U16 players including Hannah Looney, Sarah O'Sullivan, Ciara Daly, Aisling Wallace and Sarah Fahy.

First game out it is hard to judge form. A win is important to ensure another competitive outing before championship swings into action, and with both the provincial and All-Ireland Championships down to be completed before Leaving Cert, it will be all systems go for the next two months.

Cork Minor panel: Sarah O'Sullivan (Bishopscourt), Amy Lee (Na Piarasigh), Kaylenn Lee (Glen Rovers), Emma Kavanagh (Douglas), Laura Treacy (Killeagh), Shauna Ring (Dillon's), Muiread Mulrooney (Douglas), Mairead Maguire (Carrigaline), Vanessa O'Connor (Piarasigh), Susan O'Leary (Valleys), Miran O'Connell (Charleville), Amy Curtin (Douglas), Ruth Brosnan (Dillon's), Shauna Homan (Vincents), Lauren Callanan (Glen Rovers) (c), Ellen Martin (Ballygarvan), Jennifer Hosford (Glen Rovers), Orla Healy (Inniscarra), Sarah Fahy (Douglas), Ciara Daly (Killeagh), Maebh Cahalane (St Finbarr's), Jessica Hennigan (Ballincollig), Orla Cronin (Enniskeane), Amy O'Connor (Vincents), Hannah Looney (Killeagh), Katelynn Hickey (Blackrock), Linda Collins (Courcy), Rachel Sheehan (Carrigrohilly), Aisling Wallace (Glen Rovers), Caroline Murphy (Kilbrittain), Rachel O'Shea (Carrigaline), Niamh Byrne (Inniscarra), Erin Looney (Inniscarra).



Also at the victory dinner were, clockwise from above left, Marian and Billy Horgan, Montenotte; selectors Ken Cotter, Alan O'Sullivan, Dave Downey and Kieran O'Mahony; Emily Barrett, Aherla, and Emma Hogan, Whitechurch; and Linda Mellerick, Ballyvolane, Liz O'Mahony, Banduff, and Karen O'Leary, Ballyvolane, all smiles at the SilverSprings Moran Hotel. Picture: David Keane

Photo Gallery:
You can see more photographs at www.photosales.echo.ie



Tony and Ann Watson and Ellen Ann Geary, all from Milford, at the Rochestown Park Hotel. Picture: David Keane

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Factfile: Orla Cotter

Date of birth: 27/07/1988

Home town/village: Ballynoe

Club: St. Catherine's (Inch Rovers: Ladies Football)

Position: Midfield

Honours (club): U14 B county winners 2002, U18 A County winners 2005, 2006, junior county winners 2003, senior B county winners 2006, numerous underage divisional titles- East Corks. Senior A county winners 2009

Honours Inch Rovers: Intermediate county, munster and all-Ireland winners 2006, Senior county and munster winners 2007, 2008, Senior county, munster and all-Ireland winners 2010, Senior county winners 2012

Underage Honours (Cork): u16 Munster and All-Ireland winners 2005, Cork u18 Munster winners 05, 06, 07(captain in 07)

Senior debut (Cork): 2006

Senior Honours (Cork): All-Ireland winners 2006, 2008, 2009, Munster winners 2006, 2007, 2008, 2009, 2011, National league winners 2006, 2007, 2012. Team Captain for 2010. Senior B all-Ireland winners 2006. All-star camogie award 2008.

Primary School: (1993- 2001)

Secondary School: (2001 - 2007)

Third Level: UCC 2007 - 2011

Occupation: P.E. and Irish teacher

Orla Cotter

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Sheila Golden, Donoughmore and Kathleen Healy from Carrigadrohid at the lunch.
Picture: David Keane



Rebel Óg Magazine spoke to Cork Camogie Star Orla Cotter. Orla has been one of Cork's leading lights for the last number of years and we thought it would be a great opportunity to pick her brains about all things Camogie. As an all action midfielder, Orla gave us an insight into playing camogie at the highest level.

The year finished with an All Ireland final defeat to Wexford who completed 3 in a row. Is it any consolation that it has been described as one of the best finals in memory?

It's hard to find consolation after losing an All-Ireland final. Hearing it was one of the best finals to watch doesn't help all that much either, especially when you're not on the winning side.

The last time Cork appeared in the final was in 2009, where as Wexford have appeared in and won the last 2, do you think this recent experience gave them an edge?

Wexford have gained a lot of experience over the last few years and it has definitely given them confidence which has led to their success. Perhaps we had some players coming into the game that lacked the experience of playing in an All-Ireland but hopefully it will stand to them next year.

Can you explain how you get over such a devastating defeat in the days and weeks after? What advice would you give to young sports people in overcoming disappointments?

Losing an All-Ireland plays on your mind for a long period after the final. I suppose the first thing is accepting that we were beaten by a better team on the day. Learning from the defeat is also important; what went wrong, what we need to work on. Using the defeat as a motivation for the coming year will hopefully help.

All county players say they love going back to their club after the intercounty scene finishes up, was that the same this year going back to St.Catherines after losing an All-Ireland final?

Yes definitely, I couldn't wait to get back onto the pitch so as to play the next match as they say!

You returned with victory over Killeagh in Round 2 and followed it up with wins over Cloghduv and Inniscarra in the subsequent weeks to set up a county final with Milford. What was the biggest test along the way?

Having lost the first round well, every game for us was a big test and we were underdogs for all those games. I suppose our biggest test was the semi against Inniscarra where we really had to work to the bitter end to get the win. It really could have gone either way.

Is your mind set any different when playing with your club as opposed to the county? Do you feel more pressure being the county star?

Not really, it's the same game you're playing, the same process: the ball has to be won, blocks to be made etc.

How much of a gap is there between the club and intercounty game?

The intercounty game is played at a faster pace. You must win the ball cleanly or with your first touch, you rarely get a second chance.

Having been beaten by Milford in the 1st round St. Catherine's were going in as massive underdogs, did you feel you had a good chance of winning? Where did it go wrong?

We were beaten well in the first round by Milford and so we knew we would really be up against it in the final. Milford have a very balanced team and were fierce hungry on the day. We couldn't match their intensity; maybe we were a bit flat from the semi.



The final against Milford was played just 4 days after the semi-final victory over Inniscarra, it seems like a very short turn around for such a big game. Did this affect the team's performance?

It was tough coming out a few days later to play a county final, with little time for preparation after the semi. Maybe we were a bit flat on our feet in the final, but I don't think it was the reason for our defeat. Milford are a good side and one would expect them to do well in the club championship.

Thinking back to where it all began for you can you remember where and when you started playing camogie?

I started hurling in the local parish league when I was about 9 or 10 as I have a twin brother Shane and so I just tagged a long with him. A year later I started camogie in Conna pitch with Rena O' Leary (RIP) as trainer.

Did you play in primary school? Who were your coaches in school?

Yes we played hurling and football in primary school. Dick Morrison trained us every Thursday afternoon in the school pitch.

Were you successful in Sciath na Scol?

We won a mixed seven a side hurling and a ladies football. It was a big day out in Paire Uí Rinn!

What other sports did you play as a child/teenager?

Badminton, soccer, ladies football, swimming, hockey (only in the last few years).

When was the first time you represented your division/Cork?

I represented Cork for the first time on the u14 Cork colleges team.

What age were you when you joined the senior panel and what was it like joining the big names of camogie?

I got called up to the senior team when I was 17. It was a big step up, especially the indoor sessions at the start of the year. It was a great experience playing alongside some great players. The experienced players, Emer Farrell and Ciara Healy, made me feel very welcome.

You won your first senior All Ireland at 18 in 2006. What was it like in your debut season?

It was a brilliant experience, getting to play in Croke Park for the first time, and winning was surreal.

You added two more All Irelands in 2008 and 2009. What made the team so successful during that 4 year period (winning 3 out of 4)?

We had a great bunch of players at the time who trained extremely hard. We had new players coming in each year also which brought freshness to the panel. There was huge experience on the team also and they knew what it took to win.

The game of hurling has evolved a huge amount in recent years with Kilkenny's physical domination and team's deployment of blanket defences being in vogue, has this filtered through to camogie?

I think the physical aspect is definitely seeping into camogie and that the game is becoming more physical. Blanket defence is currently not an existing feature of camogie. The game has definitely got faster and more physical. It has also become more tactical in the last few years.

What aspect of the game do you think can be improved nationwide?

I think that consistent application of the rules of the game is important. A referee can influence a game hugely. Some refs tend to leave the game go while others seem to give frees more easily.

Is Cork Camogie in a strong position at underage to ensure that the seniors remain challenging for honours?

We haven't won an u16 or minor All-Ireland in the last few years. It would be great to see girls winning at this level and bringing their experience of winning onto the senior panel.



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Victory for St Vincent's

Tickets are now on sale for a victory banquet after St Vincent's Camogie Club retained their Junior Shield title for a second consecutive year. The final between St Vincent's and Ballincollig saw a scoreline of 4-8 to 1-4, with an early goal from Trudy O'Halloran settling the St Vincent's side and proving the turning point of the game.

Ballincollig battled hard but a young St Vincent's team backed by experienced players such as Lisa Lynch, Michelle Gould and Helena Hayes stood solid through-

out. Courtney O'Keeffe and Nicole Cahill gave an exhibition of defending along with Abbey Power and Demi Higgins who proved too strong in defence and made scoring an arduous task for the Ballincollig forwards.

Captain Nicole Crean paid tribute to her team's performance and expressed her appreciation to the team's coach and selectors Ross Corcoran and William Welsh for their dedication throughout the year. The banquet takes place on Saturday, 23rd February with tickets available from 087 7498534.



OFFICERS TRAINING DAY

THE Camogie Association invite all clubs, second and third level officers and members of the Association to attend a PR training day in Croke Park. Topics will be delivered by experienced practitioners in 45minute inter-active workshops.

The PRO Training event is open to all officers and members of the Association and workshops on the day are as follows: The Role of the PRO and how to work effectively, including presentations, dealing with radio and print media, IT and Social Media

The event will also include the official launch of the Camogie Association Social Media Guidelines and Set-Up by President of the Camogie Association Aileen Lawlor.

The event cost is commence at 10am and conclude at 2.30pm. Lunch at 2.30pm is included as is a ticket to the All-Ireland Club Final which takes place later that evening at 5pm in Croke Park. Early booking is advised and the closing date is February 22.

All officers and members of the Association are encouraged to attend. For further information and booking contact Claire Egan, Communications and Marketing Director, at 018658618/0879030 755, or email: claire@camogie.ie

JUVENILE BOARD

THE first meeting of the juvenile board takes place on Tuesday February 12 at 7.30pm in The Conference Centre, Silversprings Hotel, and Tivoli.

The meeting will deal with the proposed gradings for 2013 and this will be followed by the first county board meeting for 2013 to ratify the gradings for the coming year.

The juvenile board meetings for the year will be held on the last Thursday of every month at 8 pm at SilverSprings Moran Hotel in Fort William House. Following on from juvenile convention, the board have now filled the vacant positions at their top table with the following coming on board for 2013. Assistant secretary Linda Cashman (Cobh), child welfare officer Marie Dinan (Sarsfields), GPC Antoinette Kidney (Tracton), Jan Kiernan (Carrigaline), Marie Harty (Ballyhea) and Bernard Aherne (Ballygarvan). The season gets under way in early March so it will be all systems go as underage players sharpen their skills in the coming weeks in preparation for a busy season ahead.

DELEGATES MEETING

CLUBS are asked to take note of an important meeting to be held shortly when Deirdre Murphy, Regional Development Officer will address clubs. On the night, Deirdre will present a New Membership Proposal on behalf of the Camogie Association, this is vitally important as it will affect all clubs if passed at Congress.

The meeting will take place in Páirc Uí Chaoimh on Monday February 18 at 7.145pm and all Clubs are asked to have delegates present at this meeting as it is hugely important that all clubs get the information.

The County Board Meeting will take place after this presentation. Clubs are also reminded that they must be registered with the county board by March 1.

Send Registrations to registrat.cork.camogie@gaa.ie and cheque for the fees due made payable to Cork County Camogie Board to An Runai, Sheila Golden, Gurrane, Donoughmore, Co Cork

Milford's Elaine O'Riordan, left and Anna Geary, celebrate after the final whistle in Wexford at the weekend
Photo: Caroline Quinn



Croke Park beckons after Milford girls win camogie semi-final

THE girls from Milford's senior camogie side have claimed a spot in this year's All Ireland final thanks to an impressive victory over Oulart-The Ballagh in Wexford last weekend.

The Munster champions, who won the semi-final clash by five points (1-12 to 1-7), had to withstand a second half revival from Oulart after leading 1-10 to 0-0 at the interval. Key to the Avondhu side's progression to the final, which will be held on the first weekend in March at Croke Park, was the performances of Maria Watson, Maria Walsh, Aisling Thompson, Emer Watson, Regina Curtin, Marie O'Neill and Anna Geary.

Emer Watson was first to register a score for the victors on four minutes with O'Neill pointing twice soon after. Milford took control of the tie minutes later when Regina Curtin grabbed the game's first goal. Curtin finished impressively after being set-up by Maria Watson. Both Watson's (Maria and Emer) added to Milford's impressive half time tally shortly after the restart before Oulart got their first score.

Ursula Jacob was the star for the 2012 champions as she bagged five quick points with substitute Aisling Moran raising the green flag with almost 10 minutes remaining. Fortunately for the Cork girls they had done all the hard work in the first 30 and the Wexford side weren't able to get back on parity.

Next up for Milford is a clash with Killimor, who are now the only thing standing in the way of what would be a famous and well deserved title for both club and village.



Catriona Ryan (Rower-Inistioge) squeezes through the combined challenges of Kilmaley duo Katie Cahill and Niamh O'Dea during Sunday's intermediate club All-Ireland semi-final. The Kilkenny club won by 2-9 to 1-5.
Photo: Eoin Hennessy

Camogie

The first Cork team into championship action are the minors when they play Limerick on Saturday in Boher at 2.30pm and with a team backed by captain Lauren Callanan, Laura Treacy and Amy Lee they are confident of making it a winning start.

Congratulations to Milford on their magnificent win over Oulart-the-Ballagh in last Sunday's All-Ireland semi-final and they can now look forward to a visit to Croke Park on Saturday 2 March for the final v Killimor from Galway as they bid to end Cork's long wait for this particular title to return to Leaside.

FEB. 2013

Camogie Scene

A busy camogie season is quickly drawing to a conclusion and it's been a good year on the Inter county scene for Cork as the senior side over came holders Wexford to take the National League title. Having reached the All Ireland final Cork had to give way to Wexford but the signs are good for 2013 and Cork will be battling to go one better in the year ahead.

Munster titles at Intermediate, Junior and under 16B were won and again this is a positive sign that Cork has plenty of young talent in the ranks.

At Club level Milford were crowned Senior County champions putting the heartache of losing three final behind them as they over came St Catherine's, Barryroe took the step done from Senior to Senior B and were crowned champions after Clonakilty took them to a replay to secure the title. Aghbullogue annexed the Intermediate championship title they over came Newtownshandrum, it took a replay to separate Brain Dillon's and Enniskeane in the Junior A final with Brian Dillon's edging it in thrilling replay, the Junior B championship crown went to Sliabh Rua who defeated Castlemagner, Bride rovers were crowned Junior C county champions a goal in injury time giving them the title over Charleville.

Glen Rovers were crowned Minor A county champions as they defeated Killeagh and dedicated the win to their club member late Graham O'Connell who passed away at 14 years of age earlier in the year. Eire Og proved to strong for Milford to be crowned Minor B champions, whilst the Minor D crown when to Carrigtwohill who defeated Cobh. At the time of writing St Finbarr's, Enniskeane and Sarsfields are all in contention for the Minor C title whilst the Minor C 13 a side title went to Millstreet.

Draws were the order of the day in four of the league finals, both senior league finals ended in draw Douglas and Courcey Rovers ended level in the A final whilst Glen Rovers and Barryroe were all square in the B decider, both down to be decided in the coming weeks. Tracton and Carrigaline went to a replay before Tracton took the Intermediate league title, Castlemagner and St Finbarr's had to meet twice before Castlemagner defeated St Finbarr's to take the Junior B league title. Cobh took their first adult title in May years as they were crowned Junior C league champions, whilst the A competition is ongoing at present.

Aghbullogue were cork Feile Na n-Gael champions whilst Michaela Buckley Ballygarvan won the Cork Feile Skills title.



Carrigtwohill winners of the Evening Echo Minor D championship title



Eire Og Minor B Championship winners



Feile na n-Gael Skills winner Michaela Buckley Ballygarvan



Milford Cork Senior County Champions



Glen Rovers County Minor Champions



Cork Munster Under 16 B Champions 2012

CAMOGIE GREAT HONOURED



Maggie Hearne (centre), the camogie selection on the annual Seana Gael awards list, with Theresa Kehoe and Mary Loneragan at the function in the Ferrycarrig Hotel.

Countdown to Ashbourne Finals weekend

By Camogie Association
Posted 06/02/2013



After a lapse of six years, the University of Limerick is to the forefront of hosting what one would describe as the elite of Third Level activity reports *Fionnuala Carr* from this year's launch on Monday night at the University of Limerick. The Ashbourne and Purcell Cup will be held in the University on the weekend of the 16th & 17th of February.

The semi-final pairings have already been finalised and will prove to be very entertaining encounters. Hosts UL will face a tricky opposition in NUI Galway while defending champions Waterford IT will take on the Queens of Leinster Camogie, UCD. After a disappointing group campaign University College Cork failed to reach the Cup semi-finals and will now compete in the Ashbourne Shield against Shield Holders University of Ulster Jordanstown.

Maria Walsh captains this year's UL side and the talented Cork player is delighted to be hosting this year's competition:

"University of Limerick Camogie Club is delighted to host the prestigious Ashbourne and Purcell Competitions. The oldest Camogie competition will showcase some of the most talented players in Ireland. We would like to welcome all players, mentors and supporters to Limerick and hope they have an enjoyable and successful weekend." Maria will be hoping that UL can go one better than last year when they were defeated in the final by Waterford IT after a hard fought encounter.

The host college last won the Ashbourne Cup in 2006 when they completed the three-in-a-row, defeating UCD in all three finals. Gaelic games officer Patsy Morrissey welcomes once again the highlight of third level camogie to Limerick. Expressing a wish that all teams in the Ashbourne and Purcell Cups play to their optimum and bring from Limerick, memories of participation and enjoyment that last long after the games have

Chairman of CCAO third level camogie Shane Darcy said:

"The Ashbourne-Purcell weekend is one of the premier events in the camogie calendar with over four hundred camogie players taking part, and is only second to the All Ireland Camogie Finals in September. I wish all of the 10 teams taking part, a wonderful weekend of sport. It is a very exciting and busy time for all involved in third level camogie. I would like to take the opportunity to thank Patsy Morrissey and his organising committee, namely Amanda Hogan, Nessa O'Donnell, Lynn Kelly, Ita Richardson, Ciara Johnston and Maria Walsh for their hard work to date and wish them and their organising team in Limerick all the very best for hosting the 2013 weekend."

Director of Sport in University of Limerick, David Mahedy welcomed all those to the launch stating:

"We at UL are delighted to have the opportunity of hosting the Ashbourne and Purcell Competitions. The games will take place on our newly developed North Campus and all games will be played on a 3G for the first time. The Ashbourne and Purcell Cup Competitions provide plenty of top class camogie action played by players who are fantastic ambassadors for the game of Camogie." David spoke of former UL players who have achieved legendary status in the University, including Cork's Fiona O'Driscoll and he hopes that the current crop of players go on to emulate these players and carve out their own successful careers.

Notes to editor:

- o Comhairle Camógaiochta um Ard-Oideachas (CCAO the Higher Education Camogie Council)
- o This year's Ashbourne, Purcell and Fr. Mochar Finals (third level university competitions) take place in University of Limerick, Limerick on 16th and 17th February.
- o Waterford Institute of Technology are the current holders of the Ashbourne Cup, Dublin City University, Mary Immaculate are the current holders of the Purcell Cup and NUI Maynooth are current holders of the Fr. Mochar Cup.
- o Ashbourne Cup - 1st Division CCAO Championship
- o Purcell Cup - 2nd Division CCAO Championship
- o Fr. Mochar - 3rd Division CCAO Championship
- o For information on third level camogie match fixtures check out www.ccao.ie

FEB. 2013

Cork overcome difficult conditions to earn final spot

Cork
Limerick

1-11
1-6

Cork got their Munster minor championship campaign off to a great start as they overcame a strong Limerick side in Boher. Underfoot conditions were hard thanks to an uneven surface.

Orla Cronin, who was on target with six pointed frees, was to the fore for Cork while goalkeeper Amy Lee and Laura Tracey, Lauren Callanan, and Linda Collins also impressed.

Orla Cronin pointed an early free for Cork but three in a row gave Limerick the advantage as Cork battled to get into the game. Kaitlyn Hickey and Orla Cronin restored Cork's advantage but a Katie Hennessy goal four minutes to the interval gave the home side a two-point lead. Limerick led 1-3 to 0-4 at the break.

Linda Collins and Caoimhe

Costello swapped early second half points but the Cork defence were now closing down the Limerick attack, growing in confidence, and holding their lines.

Limerick had to wait another 17 minutes for a score as Cork piled on the pressure and three points in a row saw Cork lead with 11 minutes remaining. Martina McMahon levelled with eight minutes to go but again Orla Cronin showed her accuracy, pointing a free after a good move from Amy O'Connor and Aisling Wallace earned Cork a vital free.

Amy Lee denied Limerick with a good save and Linda Collins put the result beyond doubt with a superb goal with three minutes remaining.

Orla Cronin and Rachel Sheehan pointed to put Cork six points clear and a late Martina McMahon point did little to affect the result as

Cork ran out winners after a hard physical battle.

A good win for Cork and a place in the final versus Tipperary secured but a lot of work still to be done before their first All-Ireland championship clash against Clare on Feb 23.

Cork A Lee; V O'Connor, L Treacy, S Ring; E Kavanagh, H Looney, M Mulrooney; L Callanan (c), C Daly; C Murphy, K Hickey, O Cronin; R O'Shea, R Sheehan, L Collins. Subs: N Byrne for C Daly (h/t), A O'Connor for C Murphy (h/t), S O'Leary for V O'Connor (40), A Wallace for R O'Shea (41), O Healy for L Callanan (inj 58).
Scorers: O Cronin 0-7 (0-4f 0-2 45), L Collins 1-1, K Hickey 0-2, R Sheehan 0-1.

Limerick C Keating; M O'Grady, M Creamer, S Sheehan; J Wilson, R Delee (c), D Mulcahy; D Murphy, K O'Leary, A Wilson, M O'Neill, M McMahon; K Hennessy, O Cunningham, C Costello. Subs: A Scully for O Cunningham (45).
Scorers: K Hennessy 1-0, C Costello 0-3 (0-2f), M McMahon 0-2, R Delee 0-1.

Referee Ger Browne (Tipperary).



The Cork minors who defeated Limerick in the Munster minor championship semi final.

Ashbourne Cup Semi-Finals previews

By Camogie Association
Posted 13/02/2013



The eagerly anticipated Ashbourne and Purcell Cup takes place this weekend in the University of Limerick UL. The Ashbourne Cup semi-finals will take centre stage on Saturday with UL, WIT, UCD and NUI Galway all vying for a place in Sunday's final writes *Fionnuala Carr*.

Hosts UL will play the first semi final at 1pm on Saturday when they take on Connacht College NUI Galway. UL captain Maria Walsh will be hoping to lead her charges to victory in what will be a tricky encounter against NUI Galway. The Limerick college topped Group A with excellent victories over UCC and UCD. The Bolger sisters Lisa and Linda, Cork Captain Julia White and Tipperary's Cat Devane form the backbone of the team and they along with Maria Walsh will be hoping to go one further than last year when they were beaten by Waterford IT in the Ashbourne Cup final.

NUI Galway go into the game as an unknown quantity. They finished runners-up in Group B behind WIT and ahead of UL. NUI Galway recorded a comprehensive victory over UL before taking on WIT in Waterford. The NUI Galway girls fought valiantly for three quarters of the match before finally succumbing to Ashbourne favourites and defending champions WIT.

In the second semi final Dublin college UCD will take on WIT in what should be a thrilling semi final. UCD have not reached the final of the Ashbourne Cup since 2009 when they were prevented from winning the three in a row.

FIVE SETS OF TWINS PICK UP MEDALS AT SARSFIELD CAMOGIE CLUB



Julie and Lucy Allen; Chloe and Emma Casey; Aisling and Sinéad O'Brien; Kelly and Jessie Lyons; Katie and Tori Brennan, five sets of twins who received medals at the Sars' awards night.

Sars in their eyes as club sees double

AN AMAZING five sets of twins received medals at the recent Sarsfields Camogie Club medal presentation awards night for 2012.

The club proved that not only is it one of the fastest growing camogie clubs in the county, but is also unique in the number of twins that won county medals in 2012 with the club.

Oldest of the twins, Julie and Lucy Allen (U17) and the Casey twins, Chloe and Emma (U16), received Minor county medals. Aisling and Sinéad O'Brien and Kelly and Jessie Lyons were members of the club's victorious U14 county winning team.

The youngest set of twins were Kate and Tori Brennan who received Imokilly U13 medals, and for good measure were also joint captains on the day.

In another twin connection, captain of the clubs winning minor team, Ellen Murphy is also a "half twin".

Eithne Allen one of the club coaches joked: "The club strategy going forward must be to ensure a twin is captain."

Like many clubs, there is a strong family emphasis running through Sarsfields and many former players are not giving back to the club.

Five of the 1989 team — when Sarsfields' Senior Camogie won the clubs County Senior

title — now have children involved in the club.

Liz Dunphy, Cork inter-county player at the time, steered last year's U14 team to victory from the sideline as manager while her daughter, Niamh Power showed on the field that she has her mother's camogie skills in her genes. Liz remains at the helm again for 2013.

In another twist of coincidence, the 1989 captain Ann Brady (who herself is half a twin) now has twin daughters, and one of the twins, Jessica, accepted the 2012 trophy on behalf of her team mates.

Ann was also a member of the 2012 management team. Ann's sister, Mary Brady

played at corner back in 1989 and her daughter Sarah Tyner continues the link with the U14 team. Another star of the 1989 team, Lillian Zinkant, coached the club's 2011 U14 to similar county honours.

Coach to the 1989 team was Vincey Barry while his wife Susan Bermingham lined out at midfield and his sister Geraldine at corner back.

Vincey and Susan's daughter Michelle played a prominent role in the U14 victory over Ballinhassig and has worn the red jersey on numerous occasions to date.

Vincey is actively involved in coaching within the club and is currently manager of the club's U11 team.

NEWS CAMOGIE



Camogie stars to benefit from third level bursaries

The Camogie Association in conjunction with the CCAO (Higher Education Camogie Council) this week awarded six Camogie players with third level bursaries. The joint presentations were made by Acting Ard-Stiurthoir Mary O'Connor on behalf of the Camogie Association and Shane D'Arcy, President of CCAO. The six recipients were: Maureen Heneghan (Derry) a student at NUI Galway; University of Ulster Jordanstown duo Brona McIntyre (Antrim) and Aileen Martin (Antrim); QUB student Shauneen Donaghy (Derry). St Pat's Drumcondra are represented by Fiona Keating (Westmeath) and Dundalk IT Student and Kildare native Tanya Johnston completes the Bursary recipients.

Management teams in place ahead of league's opening ties

CAMOGIE NEWS

EVERYTHING is in place and preparations are well under way as a busy season at club and county levels is almost upon us, writes MARY NEWMAN.

The county board held its first meeting of the year recently, as did the juvenile board, and delegates were in attendance in numbers; a sign that clubs are ready and organised for competitions at local level.

On the inter-county scene the board has been busy in the closed season organising its management teams, and selection committees are now all in place with panels selected and training under way.

The senior selection committee continues as last year with Paudie Murray, who led as manager, and his backroom team will be Brian Barry from Killeagh, Ellen Clifford and a representative of county champions Milford, George Fitzgibbon.

There are changes at intermediate level also with senior manager Murray also managing the second adult team who will work hand in hand with the senior mentors. Those selectors are Carrigaline's Pat Moran and Gerry Murphy of St Finbarr's.

The minor selection committee has been busy since December as it is first onto the playing fields with their first All-Ireland championship game against Clare on Saturday, February 23. Their manager is John Middleton, who was an intermediate selector last season, Mary Harrington of Douglas, Graham McIver of Carrigaline, Dave O'Connell, a representative of county champions Glen Rovers, and Liz O'Mahony of Brian Dillon's.

The U16 A selection committee has two of last season's selectors continuing with Ger Sheehan of Douglas and John Moloney of Newtownshandrum, and they are joined by county champions Cloughduv's representative Liam Lynch.

The U16B selectors are Anthony Nagle representing county champions Blackrock and Ken Bulman from Youghal.

With selection committees in place, it's all systems go. The minor's All-Ireland championship series has an early start and it will finish before the Leaving Certificate exams.

The season for the U16s at both levels won't begin until June 23 which will slot in after the Junior Certificate exams.

February 24 is D-Day for Paudie Murray as his senior and intermediate charges get their season up and running as the National League gets under way with both sides hosting Tipperary in Páirc Uí Rinn.

The first game in senior championship will see Cork also meet Tipperary on June 22 and this is also the championship opener day for the intermediates who meet Antrim on the same day.

It's all systems go as we look forward to what we hope will be a great season on the inter-county playing fields at all levels for Cork.

Shield delight for St Vincent's juniors



St Vincent's, winners of the Junior B Shield.

ST VINCENT'S junior camogie team will celebrate a good season when they gather to present the junior shield winning team with their medals shortly.

The shield competition was an extra competition inaugurated in 2011 to cater for junior teams that did not emerge out of their groups in championship competition and it proved a success as it helped extend the playing season for clubs.

Castle Road was the venue for the final between St Vincent's

CAMOGIE

By MARY NEWMAN

and Ballincollig's second team, and it proved to be a hard fought battle.

Ballincollig threatened in the opening minutes and went three points clear, but a Trudy O'Halloran goal settled St Vincent's. Ballincollig battled hard but points from Amy O'Connell, Helena Hayes, Nicole Crean and Sinéad Hendrick kept them in control.

Amy O'Connor showed her tal-

ent as she hit 2-5 over the hour for a St Vincent's team that had youth and experienced with Lisa Lynch, Michelle Gould and Helena Hayes providing good leadership to younger players such as Courtney O'Keeffe, Nicole Cahill, Abbey Power and Demi Higgins.

Shauna Homan, Sinéad Hendrick and Nicole Crean worked tirelessly in midfield for the northside team as they held their led to the finish.

A late Ballincollig goal in the final minute failed to alter the score line as St Vincent's ran out winners 4-8 to 1-4.

The scoreline was not a true reflection on how well Ballincollig played on the day, and St Vincent's captain Nicole Crean acknowledged this as she was presented with the shield by Cork County Board chairperson Marian McCarthy.

Nicole paid tribute to a wonderful team performance and thanked their coach and selectors, Ross Corcoran and William Welsh, for their hard work and dedication throughout the year.

The club will hold its medal presentation on February 23 where the medals will be presented to the winning team.

CLUB NEWS

ST VINCENT'S

We will hold a victory banquet on Saturday, February 23 in Holymount House and we encourage players and members past and present players to attend. Tickets are selling fast and are available from club members on 087-7498534.

Congratulations to Amy O'Connor and Shauna Homan on making the Cork minor camogie panel for 2013. We wish them the very best for the coming season.

GLEN ROVERS

Underage activities continue as teams get back into the swing of training. Our senior junior and minor teams will begin preparations next weekend and in order to get this up and running a meeting is being held on Wednesday next, February 20, in the club at 7.45pm. All players from the three groups are asked to attend.

U16 and U14 teams are training on Monday nights at the Glen Resource Centre, starting at 6pm sharp. Players are to be in

attendance for 5.45pm, and on Wednesday in the club hall again with a 6pm starting time.

U12s, down to beginners, are training on Tuesday nights from 5.45pm to 7pm, and Sundays from 11.45am to 1pm in the club hall. Players are to bring warm jackets, boots and runners as weather dictates if training is indoor or outdoors.

Reminder that tomorrow is the last chance to get registration insurance and membership in for 2013 season it will be taken in the club hall from 11.30am to 1.30pm.

All players and members must be registered and insured before end of February as our registrar, Beth, must get all of this in and sorted and ready to submit so make sure to get in on time.

Well done to the Cork minor team on their victory in the Munster semi-final over Limerick last weekend. It was great to see a big support from our club there to shout on our girls on the panel and we wish them continued success.

Important delegates' meeting

A REMINDER again to clubs to take note of an important meeting to be held on Monday next, when regional development officer Deirdre Murphy will address clubs.

On the night Deirdre will present a new membership proposal on behalf of the Camogie Association. This is vitally important as it will affect all clubs if passed at Congress.

The meeting will take place in Páirc Uí Chaoimh at 7.145pm.

All clubs are asked to have delegates present as it is hugely important that clubs get the information. The County Board meeting will take place after this presentation.

Clubs are also reminded that they must be registered with the county board by March 1. Send registrations to re-



Regional development officer Deirdre Murphy will talk to clubs next Monday on the issue of membership.

gistrarcork.camogie@gaa.ie and cheque for the fees due made payable to Cork County

Camogie Board to An Rúnai, Sheila Golden, Gurrane, Donoughmore, Cork.

UL to host colleges camogie championship this weekend

Jerome O'Connell

THE cream of camogie talent will descend on the University of Limerick this Saturday and Sunday as the colleges hosts the Ashbourne and Purcell Cup competitions.

UL last hosted the Third Level camogie championship six years ago.

The host side play in the semi-final against NUI Galway. Defending champions Waterford IT will take on UCD in the second semi-final.

Twelve months ago, UL were beaten in the final by WIT.

UL last won the Ashbourne Cup in 2006 when they completed the three-in-a-row, defeating UCD in all three finals.

Director of Sport in UL, Dave Mahedy welcomed the championships to Limerick.

"The games will take place on our

newly developed North Campus and all games will be played on a 3G for the first time. The Ashbourne and Purcell Cup Competitions provide plenty of top class camogie action played by players who are fantastic ambassadors for the game of Camogie," said Mahedy.

In total 18 teams take part over the weekend in the Ashbourne, Purcell and Fr Meachair Cups and Shields.

"The Ashbourne-Purcell weekend is one of the premier events in the camogie calendar with over four hundred camogie players taking part, and, is only second to the All Ireland Camogie Finals in September," said chairman of CCAO third level camogie Shane Darcy, who praised the organising committee, of Amanda Hogan, Neasa O'Donnell, Lynn Kelly, Ita Richardson, Ciara Johnston, Maria Walsh and Patsy Morrissey.



At the launch of the Ashbourne Cup in UL were: Back row from left Sean Herbert, Paul Kelly and Dave Mahedy, Director of Sport, UL. Front row from left Cait Devane, Maria Walsh and Niamh Richardson, UL camogie players

Pucker up! All Star goalie Joe to be blessed among women at camogie Valentine's Ball



Limerick camogie team manager Joe Quaid with team members, Deirdre Fitzpatrick and Katie Campbell preparing for the Valentine's celebration in the Kilmurry Lodge Hotel this Friday

Camogie stars to be belles of ball

Aine Fitzgerald
aine.fitzgerald@limerickleader.ie

ONE Limerick florist could be in for a major windfall this St Valentine's day - former Limerick hurling goalkeeper Joe Quaid has 36 dates this Friday night!

The Murroe-Boher man will be blessed among women when he attends a Valentine's celebrations evening in the Kilmurry Lodge Hotel in aid of Limerick's county camogie teams.

"The Kilmurry Lodge are our main sponsor this year and they have basically supplied everything - and all we have to do is to get people there," said Joe who was appointed as manager of Limerick camogie's most senior side - the intermediate team, last November.

"I have 36 dates so I need to get working on some flowers," he laughed.

All the money from the tickets sales goes directly to the camogie board to finance the teams throughout the year.

"It is a great way of sponsoring a team in these times. It was Pat Hoare [owner of the Kilmurry Lodge] who came up with the idea," Joe added.

The intermediate side have their first outing in the league next Sunday week against Antrim. "We have a panel of 36 players now and they have really bought into it. We are hoping to make great strides this season," said Joe.

Michelle Casey from Killeedy who is captain of the intermediate team, stressed the importance of

supporting fundraising initiatives such as Friday night's event. "There are a lot of young players coming up who need support and the right kind of training strategy," Michelle explained.

The aim of the intermediate team, she said, is to be in Croke Park next September. "To push it on and finance it for the next few months, it is important that we have the support on Friday night and hopefully it will be a great night."

Tickets priced at €25 are available from the camogie clubs, by contacting any member of the county board executive including Sean Condon, development officer, on 087 8109978. Doors open at 7.30pm and dinner is being served at 8.30pm.

WIT clinch dramatic Ashbourne Cup victory

By Camogie Press
Posted 17/02/2013

Waterford IT retained the Ashbourne Cup in the most dramatic of circumstances, needing two periods of extra time before finally repelling the persistent challenge of hosts UL on a 3-13 to 2-15 scoreline with Dara Ó Conchúir.

It was absolutely devastating for the Limerick college team, who had led for so much of the 90 minutes and WIT relying on the nerveless free-taking of Emma Comerford to earn them those second and third opportunities.

UL also led by three points in the second half of the second period of extra time but WIT dug deep once more, a goal from Denise Gaule drawing them level before Trish Jackson pointed a late free to snatch a sensational victory.

UL played with the wind in the first half and Cait Devane gave them a dream start with a good goal. Linda Bolger followed up with a couple of points but with Comerford accurate from placed balls, WIT were in touch at the change of ends, trailing by just 1-5 to 0-5.

Shelley Farrell had them level almost straight after the resumption and with the wind at their backs, one suspected that WIT might pull away in the second half.

When Katrina Parrock found the net to put them a goal clear, that scenario certainly seemed likely but UL, in particular, Devane had different ideas. The Tipperary attacker had already added four second-half points when finding the WIT net for the second time.

That put UL a point ahead with time running out but Comerford kept her nerve from a late free to bring the game to extra time, with the sides level at 2-9 apiece.

The Kilkenny sharpshooter had to repeat the trick after Julia White had put UL ahead to end the extra 20 minutes with the teams inseparable on 2-11 each.

That necessitated another extra ten minutes but when Devane put UL three points clear, it looked like they had finally broken the champions' resistance.

With player of the game, Marie McGrath in inspirational form though, WIT found one last defining surge to deny a valiant UL and get their hands on the famous trophy once more.

DCU beat Mary Immaculate to win the Purcell Cup, 2-11 to 1-9. Mary I actually began well but Orlaith Durkan pounced for a DCU goal. Niamh O'Donoghue responded in kind for Mary I, who led by the minimum at the interval.

The excellent Cathriona Rogan struck for the vital goal for DCU though and with Emma Brennan adding a point, the Dublin-based side tagged the silverware, 2-11 to 1-9.

UUJ claimed the Ashbourne Shield, beating UCC 1-13 to 0-13. Theresa McElroy gave them an early goal and with Karen Keil amongst the points, the Ulster girls led 1-11 to 0-7 at half time. Katrina Mackay led the way as UCC clawed their way back into the game but they ultimately ran out of time.

In the Fr Meachair Cup final, St Pat's beat Carlow IT 2-5 to 1-3.

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Extra special WIT dig deep to deny UL

By Daragh Ó Conchúir

CAMOGIE

Waterford IT retained the Ashbourne Cup in dramatic circumstances yesterday, needing two periods of extra time before finally overcoming hosts UL (3-13 to 2-15). It was devastating for the Limerick college, who had led for so much of the 90 minutes and had WIT relying on the free-taking of Emma Comerford to keep their hopes alive. UL, led by three points in the second half of the second period of extra time but WIT dug deep once more, a goal from Denise Gaule drawing them level before Trish Jackman pointed a late free to win it.



Waterford IT celebrate with the Ashbourne Cup at the University of Limerick yesterday. Picture: Caroline Quinn

UL played with the wind in the first half and Cúit Devane gave them a dream start with a goal. Linda Bolger followed up with a couple of points but with Comerford accurate from placed balls, WIT were in touch at the change of ends, trailing (1-5 to 0-5).

Shelley Farrell had them level almost straight after the resumption and with the wind at their backs, one suspected that WIT might pull away in the second half. When Katrina Parrock found the net to put them a goal clear, that scenario certainly

seemed likely but UL and in particular, Devane had other ideas. The Tipperary star had already added four second-half points before her second goal. That put UL a point ahead with time running out but Comerford kept her nerve from a late free to bring the game to extra time, with the sides level at 2-9 apiece and following more tit-for-tat play, the sides ended at 2-11 apiece, necessitating another 10 minutes each way, where Jackman proved the hero. DCU beat Mary I to win the Purcell Cup, 2-11 to 1-9 while UUJ claimed the Ashbourne Shield, beating UCC 1-13 to 0-13. In the Fr Meschair Cup final, St Pat's beat Carlow IT 2-5 to 1-3.

Geary out for league opener

Camogie

by Daragh Ó Conchúir

Cork get the defence of their camogie division 1 league title under way against Tipperary on Sunday but captain, Anna Geary, will not be lining out.

She is in Madrid working on behalf of Dell. The four-time All Star is currently concentrating on club duties, as Milford prepare for the All-Ireland senior final, which will act as a curtain-raiser to Dublin's Allianz Football League tie against Mayo at Croke Park on Saturday week.

She is looking forward to getting the Rebel jersey back on though and insists that Cork will be doing their best to retain the title they wrested from Wexford at Semple Stadium last year.

"Some teams use the league as an experimental process to try out new players," said Geary. "Whereas last year for us, we hadn't been in an All-Ireland since 2009, so to get back into the league final

was a milestone in terms of where we wanted to be.

"I'm sure the management will be trying some things that will work and other things may not work but that is the beauty of the league. But we're champions and it's not something we're going to take lightly."

Geary expects to be back for Offaly on Mar 13, despite having had by her own reckoning, just a week off in the past 13 months. Throw some pre-Christmas exams into the mix and it has been a hectic period. But as captain, it is something she feels she must do.

She has participated in the pre-season work that commenced at the end of 2012. The 25-year-old is comfortable with the captaincy, and led Cork to a third successive All-Ireland U16 final in 2003 — the year she first made the senior squad. Clubmates Marie Watson and Elaine O'Riordan captained the other two victorious sides.

Just as then, it is the success of Milford that has earned her "a tremendous honour that I won't take for granted".

Gemma to miss season due to Lebanon duties

CAMOGIE All-Star Gemma O'Connor will be unavailable to Cork this summer due to army duty in the Lebanon, writes BARBARA O'CONNELL.

The St Finbarr's half-back departs for the Lebanon in May, and is not returning until November which means she will miss the Barrs and Cork's entire championship campaign. O'Connor has been the county's best

player for the past decade. A powerful athlete and hugely driven, she has won five All-Irelands and seven All-Stars. Her departure will be a huge blow to Cork boss Paudie Murray ahead of the opening league game at home to Tipp this weekend. Elsewhere, Cork football keeper Alan Quirke is due to return from the Lebanon next week.

Camogie final defeats for locals

BOTH UL and Mary Immaculate lost out in camogie finals last weekend. UL lost 2-15 to 3-13 after extra time to WIT in the Ashbourne Cup final, while Mary Immaculate lost 2-11 to 1-9 to DCU in the Purcell Cup final. Ashling McCartan (Newcastle West), Rosemary Rea (Elfin), Katie Campbell (Mungret) Mairead Ryan (Herbertstown) and Elaine Kennedy (Newcastle West) were the locals on the Mary Immaculate panel. Judith Mulcahy (Ahane), Niamh Richardson (Murreboher) and Muireann Creamer (Cappamore) were involved with UL.

CAMOGIE

ALL-IRELAND MINOR CHAMPIONSHIP
Minor 'A' - Cork 6-15 (A O'Connor 2-3, L Collins 2-3 (2fs), O Cronin 0-8 (5f, 1-45), R Sheehan 1-0, J Hennigan, K Hickey 0-1 each) Clare 0-4 (N Kaiser 0-3 (fs), K O'Gorman 0-1)
Galway 1-11 (C Ni Chutrocin 0-6 (5fs), B Harlow 1-0, O McGrath 0-2, M Brehony 0-2, S Gaffney 0-1) Limerick 2-8 (C Costello 2-5 (4fs), D Murphy, C Keating, K Hennessy 0-1 each)
Minor B - Offaly 4-5 (R Brennan 2-0, G Egan 1-4, M Jennings, 1-0, H Dolan 0-1)
Dublin 2-10 (M Cronin 1-6, L Smith 1-1, V Boland, R Baker, A McDonald 0-1 each)
Minor C - Meath 3-4 Kildare 2-2; Carlow 0-6 Kerry 0-6; Armagh 2-8 Laois 1-3

Today
Div 1 Group 1: Kilkenny v Derry, F McNamara; Cork v Tipperary, Páirc Uí Rinn 3.15, A Laguer. Group 2: Clare v Dublin, Sixmilebridge 12.30, M O'Kelly; Galway v Wexford, Duggan Park, Ballinasloe 1.30, J Dolan
Div 2 Group 1: Kildare v Down, Ballykeilly 1.30, D Ryan; Cork v Tipperary, Páirc Uí Rinn 1.30, A Ryan. Group 2: Antrim v Limerick; Meath v Waterford, Dunganny 2.30; Galway v Wexford, Duggan Park, Ballinasloe 3.0, W Cole
Div 3: Armagh v Dublin, Culliville 2.0, P Dowd; Laois v Roscommon, Mountmellick 2.0, P Flanagan
Div 4: Carlow v Cavan, Carlow, G McGough

Camogie players honoured

FOLLOWING last weekend's Ashbourne and Purcell camogie finals, a number of Clare players were named on the teams of the championship.

Orlaith Duggan from Clooney-Quinn, who was a member of the U11 Galway team, was chosen at wing-back, with Sixmilebridge player Maire McGrath, from UL, selected at midfield and named as player of the final, which was won by Waterford IT.

In the Purcell Cup team, Ailish Considine from Tralee IT, who plays her club camogie with Kilmaley and Naomi Carroll from Mary Immaculate, who plays with Sixmilebridge, were included.

Costcutter back ladies

CAMOGIE

IRISH-OWNED retail group Costcutter are the new sponsors of Cork Camogie, writes MARY NEWMAN.

Barry Group's franchise chain signed a six-figure, three-year deal that will see Costcutter sponsor all grades of the Cork county camogie teams from U16 right through to senior level.

"We're thrilled that an Irish company that serves all our communities has come on board as our sponsor," said Cork Camogie County Board Chairman Marian McCarthy.

"Cork Camogie runs throughout the county with more than 10,000 members spread north, south, east and west.

"The players are local heroes now being supported by their local stores."

Barry Group Managing Director Jim Barry said: "Costcutter is proud to be local, and one of the greatest bonds in any local Irish community is the GAA."

"Camogie is at the very heart of that and we are proud to partner with and support the game."

Cork kick off their National League campaign against Tipperary on Sunday at Páirc Uí Rinn.

Camogie Fixtures

Saturday 23rd February
O'Neills Post Primary All Ireland Semi Final
St Brigids, Loughrea v St Flannans Ennis, Time & Venue TBC

All Ireland Minor Championship
Meelick: Clare v Cork, 2.30pm; Referee Ger O'Dowd (Venue TBC)

Sunday 24th February
Irish Daily Star National League Div 1
Sixmilebridge: Clare v Dublin, 12.30pm; Referee Mike O'Kelly

th Finbarr McCarthy

1 and 2 National Leagues with Tipperary as visitors to Páirc Uí Rinn on Sunday. The opener is at 1.30pm, with the senior clash to follow at 3.15pm.

Cork are the current league holders and while they are without a number of regulars, including the Milford players preparing for the All-Ireland club final, they can still call on the experienced Jennifer O'Leary, Eimear O'Sullivan, the Mackey sisters Pamela and Catriona, and Orla Cotter and they will be expected to make it a winning start.

On Saturday, the Cork minors travel to Meelick to play Clare in the opening round on the All-Ireland Championship, 2.30pm start, and with a win in the Munster Championship already under their belts they will look to maintain their winning ways and with Lauren Callanan, Laura Treacy, Amy Lee and Linda Collins in good form they should win.

Congratulations to Milford's Elaine O'Riordan who becomes the first winner for 2013, in this the tenth year of the 96FM/C103 GAA Sports Star of the month awards in association with the Rochestown Park Hotel for January for her contribution to her clubs march to the All-Ireland club final. Elaine will be presented with her award on Monday next.

Camogie

An attractive double-header in the opening rounds of the Division

FEB 2013

Underage grades are ratified and ready to go

CAMOGIE GRADING

THE recent grading meeting held by the juvenile camogie board saw clubs grading for competitions from U14 to U16 in league competitions for the season ahead.

With over 60 clubs to cater for, there are competitions in grades from A to D to suit every club, therefore players can look forward to competing in the grade which is suitable to their abilities.

The D grades are for new clubs and the good news is that clubs continue to come on stream and prosper.

Doneraile, Erin's Own, Crosshaven, St Fanahan's, Kildorrey, St Colum's and Aghada are all continuing to expand and make great progress with several now competing in either U14 and U16 competitions for the first time and this augurs well for camogie.

Tonight we take a look at the U14 and U16 grades and the teams in each section and in two weeks' time we will concentrate on the adult grades when the senior board announces its competition structures and re-grading.

Once again at underage level we will have the GO Games competitions at U12 levels.

These will be run on a non-competitive basis; the emphasis at this level being on sport and enjoyment.

With the grades ratified, it is all systems go. With a projected starting date of the end of March for the U16 leagues and with an April start to the U14 competitions.

Grades are as follows:

UNDER 16

U16 A: Ten Teams: Aghabullogue, Courcy Rovers, Eire Og, Fr O'Neil's, Glen Rovers, Kilbrittain, Timoleague, Killeagh, St Finbarr's, Sarsfields 1.

U16 B: Twenty four Teams: Ballincollig, Ballinhassig, Ballygarvan, Brian Dillon's, Ballyhea, Barryroe, Blackrock, Blarney, Douglas 1, Carrigrohilly, Carrigrohilly, Charleville, Cobh, Enniskeane, Inniscarra, Mallow, Millstreet, Newcestown, Na Piarasigh, Newtownshandrum, St Vincent's, Tracton, Valley Rovers, Youghal.

U16 C: Fifteen Teams: Ballinora, Banteer, Bishopstown, Bride Rovers, Castlyons, Clonakilly, Douglas 2, Milford, St Catherine's, Sarsfields 2, Aghada, Sliabh Rua, Dungourney, Buttevant, and Ballinasally.

U16 D: Three Teams: St Colum's, Watergrasshill, and Erin's Own.

UNDER 14

U14 A: Sixteen Teams: Aghabullogue, Ballinhassig, Ballygarvan, Ballincollig, Carrigrohilly 1, Cloughduv, Charleville, Douglas 1, Eire Og, Fr O'Neil's, Glen Rovers 1, Inniscarra, Kilbrittain, Timoleague, Killeagh, St Finbarr's, Sarsfields 1.

U14 B: Twenty five Teams: Aghada, Ballinora, Banteer, Buttevant, Brian Dillon's, Bishopstown, Blarney, Carrigrohilly, Cobh, Dungourney, Enniskeane, Mallow, Millstreet, Milford, Na Piarasigh, Newcestown, Newtownshandrum, Rockbar, St Catherine's, St Vincent's, Sliabh Rua, Courcy Rovers, Tracton, Valley Rovers, Youghal.

U14 C: Nine Teams: Ballyhea, Blackrock, Bride Rovers, Castlyons, Clonakilly, Kibree, Ballinasally, Buttevant, and Barryroe.

U14 D: Seven Teams: Crosshaven, Doneraile, Erin's Own, Kildorrey, St Colum's, St Fanahan's, Watergrasshill.

U14 for clubs with Second Team: Five Teams: Sarsfields 2, Glen Rovers 2, St Finbarr's 2, Douglas 2, Carrigrohilly 2.

CAMOGIE

By MARY NEWMAN

TODAY
All-Ireland MCC
Cork v Clare
Meelick, 2.30pm

CORK will be hoping for the perfect start to their All-Ireland championship campaign when they head to Clare this afternoon in the first game of the round-robin series.

Preparations were boosted as the side recorded a hard-earned victory over Limerick in the recent Munster championship semi-final while Clare were not as fortunate as they lost out to Tipperary in the same competition.

A good start is vital, with two games to come against Limerick and champions Galway in what is a tough section.

Against Limerick, Cork were pinned to their collars to come away with a victory and it was hard-earned, but credit where it is due, they didn't panic and held their composure to record a five-point victory.

While always working hard and striving to get the balance right and go one better, the Cork back-room team will have been pleased with the performance of their charges.

Laura Treacy and Shauna Ring both had an excellent hour; goal keeper Amy Lee was cool and calm under pressure and brought off some excellent saves, captain Lauren Callanan performed well in midfield and was excellent when moved to centre back.

Up front Linda Collins was a huge threat while Amy O'Connor, Aisling Wallace and Niamh Byrne all impressed when introduced.

Orla Cronin was again unerring from frees and showed how important a good free taker is.

The Clare management team of Francis Browne, Moria McMahon, Lorraine O'Loughlin, Brendan Mulcaire, Pakie Healy and Alan Duggan have been busy since early January preparing their squad for championship.

They will be missing a few of their panel members due to St Flannan's involvement in the All-Ireland Junior A Colleges semi-final but they still have a strong lineup.

Goalkeeper Eimear Murray is new to the side this season but midfielder Fiona Murphy, Niki Kaiser



Cork players from left to right: Michelle Browne, Pamela Mackey, Katrina Mackey, captain Anna Geary, Denise Cronin and Eimear O'Sullivan along with Jim Barry, MD of Barry Group, who own Costcutter, at the Boardwalk, Cork, where Costcutter were announced as the new sponsor of the Cork county camogie teams. Picture: Sportsfile

Good start is vital if Cork to gain first title

who lines out with the senior side also and Orlaith Lynch are experienced campaigners and they will backbone the challenge of the home side.

A win is vital for both counties. In recent years Clare have made huge progress at underage and adult levels and confidence is high that a minor title is not far away.

Since the competition's inauguration in 2007, three counties have taken titles: Kilkenny dominate with three, followed by Galway with two and Tipperary with one.

Cork aim to join them come the end of the 2013 campaign. The first steps on that road begin this afternoon in Meelick.



Cork captain Anna Geary with Jim Barry, MD of Barry Group at the announcement of Costcutter's sponsorship. Picture: Sportsfile

Evening Echo SPORT

Cork camogie lands new sponsor

Cork players, top row from left to right; Denise Cronin, captain Anna Geary, Michelle Browne, and Eimear O'Sullivan, front row, Pamela Mackey, left, and Katrina Mackey, at the Boardwalk, where Costcutter was announced as the new sponsor of the Cork county camogie teams. Picture: Sportsfile



CUTTING EDGE



TOP DEAL: Cork camogie players Michelle Browne, Katrina and Pamela Mackey, Anna Geary, captain, Denise Cronin, and Eimear O'Sullivan with Jim Barry, MD of Barry Group, who own Costcutter, at the Boardwalk, Cork. Costcutter was recently announced as the new sponsor of the Cork County camogie teams. Picture: Des Barry

Panels working together can help deliver right results

SUNDAY Division 2 National League Cork v Tipperary Páirc Uí Rinn, 3.15pm

CORK and Tipperary's senior division two sides are the second game on the programme on Sunday as part of a double header in the national senior leagues, writes **MARY NEWMAN**

This season, in a change of format, both Cork panels have prepared together under the management of Paudie Murray and the Division 2 panel is a strong one with many former senior and

intermediate players returning to the fold.

In recent years both sides preparing together has worked for counties such as Wexford and Galway and it is definitely the way forward.

Murray is joined by former St Finbarr's hurler Jerry Murphy's selector, who helped guide the St Finbarr's camogie side to championship glory while Carrigaline's Pat Moran remains on board since last season.

Whilst the starting 15 will not be named until Sunday, a few familiar faces are sure to grace the lineout and with a

CAMOGIE

nice blend of experience and youth, Cork have the ability to get their league campaign off to a good start and be there about come the final shake-up.

Preparations have been superb and this is a huge plus this year as in other years the Division 2 team would be waiting to see who the Division 1 team would release. Now with everybody working as one unit, morale in the camp is good and everybody is looking ahead to a good league campaign.

Colette Desmond, Christine O'Neill, Lynda O'Connell and Michelle Browne are experienced players who have played at senior level.

Last season's county minors Laura Treacy, Leeann O'Sullivan Nicole O'Brien and Julia Mulcahy are also part of the squad whilst Jessica Kavanagh, Denise Luby, Roisin De Faoite, Emma Jordan and Trisha Buttner have all lined out with the squad in recent years.

Tipperary's Division 1 and 2 teams are managed by the same selectors with Conor Ryan heading up the manage-

ment teams, former senior player Geraldine Kinnane is coach while selectors are Maureen Connelly and Darrell Tucker.

Tipperary having enjoyed underage success in recent years, guiding along players such as Ciara Johnson, Tara Kennedy, Aoife Ryan and Aoife McGrath and they will feature prominently on the Division 2 team.

Cork have prepared well for this campaign and the mood in the camp is a positive and if they can transfer this to the playing pitch they will come away with the points on offer.

All-Ireland Colleges Camogie A Semi-Final

Pres' Thurles Ready to Rumble

By Noel Dundon

The Presentation Secondary School in Thurles are all set to do battle with Loughrea of Galway in the All-Ireland Senior Colleges Camogie A semi-final in Templetuohy on Saturday afternoon next with preparations for the big game having gone according to plan.

It's a massive day for the Thurles school and despite the fact that they have four Tipperary senior players in their ranks as well as a host of county minors and intermediate players, the feeling is that they are up against a very stern challenge in the Loughrea girls who were defeated in the final last year.

Loughrea will, undoubtedly, be out to reverse that defeat at the hands of Loreto of Kilkenny - but, to do that, they must first of all handle the Thurles challenge, which will be quite potent. Indeed, anyone who monitored the progress of the Thurles outfit will have been impressed with the manner in which they have moved from a C team a few years ago, to being A contenders in the All-

Ireland series and provincial champions. It has been a meteoric rise for the Presentation and it is all down to hard work on the training field, plenty of organisational know-how, and of course having a very talented bunch of players.

The Tipperary seniors involved - Clodagh Quirke, who captains the side, Sarah Fryday (both Clonoulty Rossmore), Michaela Graham (Moycarkey Borris) and Andrea Loughnane (Sarsfields) are backboning a side which has improved with every outing and which scored a sweet win over their great rivals St Mary's of Nenagh in the Munster Final. That was a real test of their character as they had never beaten the Nenagh side and it certainly put a smile on the faces of mentors Andy Ryan, Cian Treacy, Elaine Kenny and Margaret Dwyer. Winning a game like that gives any team a lot of confidence and the Pres' are no different. They have trained since then with a real spring in their step and there is a determination to seize the opportunity presented to them. They have learned valuable lessons from their

CBS and Sarsfields counterparts on the value of taking a chance when it comes and are very much aware that making it count on the field of play, on the day, is what it's all about.

Cian Treacy told The Tipperary Star, "It was a great win for us and we were lucky to have great support there on the day as well. We are also lucky to have won the toss for home advantage in the All-Ireland semi-final and Templetuohy is a pitch we are very familiar with and very happy with. But, it's all down to the day and no matter how hard you train, or how many county players you have, you still have to do it when you go out on the pitch. It's about performing on the day and that's what we are stressing all the time to the players," Cian said.

The schools are on mid term this week, but it hasn't stopped the Presentation girls from making their way to Thurles to train during the week. They did likewise during the Christmas break and their determination to succeed has seen them leave no stone unturned as they gear up for Saturday's

visit of Loughrea to Templetuohy.

Throw in is at 2:00pm and the Presentation girls would appreciate every bit of support possible. There has been great support within the school with Principal Marie Collins pledging to ensure that everything would be put at the disposal of the panel and the management as they bid to put their best foot forward in the All-Ireland semi-final. Sporting and academic excellence goes hand in glove and the Pres' girls commitment to the sliothar and caman is mirrored by their commitment to the studies also.

So do get along and cheer them on - they deserve all the support they can get.

St. Brigid's girls turn the screw in second-half against Thurles

St. Brigid's, Loughrea 3-9
Presentation Thurles 1-6

EOGHAN CORMICAN
IN TEMPLETUOHY

A CHANCE to erase the bitter memories of last year's final defeat awaits the St. Brigid's Loughrea players in next month's All-Ireland post primary schools decider following this thoroughly deserved victory over Munster champions Presentation Thurles on Saturday last.

Not only did Ger Lyons' charges come through their first significant test of the campaign with flying colours, they overcame a much vaunted Thurles outfit with enough skill, resilience and conviction to provide genuine hope that they can bridge a 21-year gap to the last time a Galway school lifted the Corn Scellge.

Having annihilated all opposition en-route to retaining their Connacht crown, there was some fear that St. Brigid's might suffer from a lack of competitive action - instead they were full value for a nine point victory.

The final scoreline, however, does scant justice to the battling efforts of Presentation Thurles who trailed only by the minimum with 12 minutes remaining on the clock.

The tie was very much in the balance by this juncture, but then came arguably the game's key score. A Marie

Cooney sideline cut was gathered by Patricia Manning and the midfielder stampeded right through the heart of the Thurles defence, drawing the last defender she offloaded to Aoibhin Kenny who sent an unstoppable effort to the roof of the net. A Rachel Monaghan placed ball effort in the subsequent action and all of a sudden St. Brigid's were six clear, 3-5 to 1-5.

Sarah Fryday responded with a point for Presentation Thurles, only their second score of the half and first in 18 minutes of action, but the goal they so desperately craved was not forthcoming against a St. Brigid's defence marshalled by the outstanding Marie Cooney.

Rachel Monaghan and Kate Gallagher added late points to ensure a second successive final appearance for the Loughrea School. It was a much different story however, during a first half dominated by Presentation Thurles. Indeed, their interval advantage of three points could - and probably should - have been far greater and in that sense, the mountain facing St. Brigid's at the change of ends was nowhere near as steep as it might have been.

Thurles' Michaela Graham opened the account in a low scoring first quarter and on 16 minutes Sarah Fryday pounced for the opening goal of the contest. The lively half-forward set-up Andrea

Loughnane for the initial chance, but when her effort was well blocked by 'keeper Tara Murphy, Fryday reacted quickest in finding the net.

Fryday and Graham added further points in the ensuing passages of play and trailing by 1-3 to 0-0, St. Brigid's were in dire straits. Their cause wasn't helped by the decision to play a two woman full-forward line. On a number of occasions, possession was worked in from midfield only for the extra defender to return the leather back down the field with interest.

In any event, Kate Gallagher eventually got St. Brigid's of the mark with a 20th minute goal. Aisling Connolly provided the delivery and the Sarsfields stick-woman was on hand to clinically dispatch the sliotar beyond a hapless Eva Ryan.

Graham posted an almost instant reply, but a Rachel Monaghan free in first-half stoppages left St. Brigid's 1-4 to 1-1 in arrears heading for the dressing room.

It was crucial the Loughrea School make a positive start to the second 30 minutes and they duly obliged, hitting an unanswered 1-2 in a hugely productive five minute spell. Having robbed Aine McCarthy of possession close to goal, Lorraine Farrell punished the full-back with a superb goal strike and two frees subsequently from the stick of Monaghan nudged

them in front.

Thereafter, both sides traded efforts until Kenny's goal moved St. Brigid's into a winning position and with the scent of victory in their nostrils, they were not for catching.

St. Brigid's, Loughrea: T Murphy; S Coen, N Murphy, L Sweeney; L Porter, M Cooney; E Coen; L Porter, P Manning; A

Connolly; L Farrell (1-1), K Gallagher (1-1); M O'Brien, R Monaghan (0-6, 0-3 frees, 0-1'45), A Kenny (1-1); Subs: L Connolly for O'Brien (59 mins).

Presentation Thurles: E Ryan; A Quinn, A McCarthy, N Sweeney; K Kerrane, C Quirk, L Loughnane; M Graham (0-4, 0-2 frees), R Hanafin; S Fryday (1-2), A Loughnane, C Ryan; M Murphy; M Ryan, K Kennedy; Subs: E O'Dwyer for Kerrane (40 mins).

Referee: A Lague.

Galway seniors face tough test in first round of National League

Hodgins and Watson join backroom team ahead of home meeting against Wexford

EOGHAN CORMICAN

It may be only mid-February but the early season credentials of the Galway senior camogie team are sure to receive a stiff examination when they welcome All-Ireland champions Wexford to Duggan Park, Ballinasloe on Sunday (throw-in 1:30pm).

This will be the team's first outing since last August's hugely disappointing defeat to Cork in the All-Ireland semi-final and while there have been few changes to the make-up of the panel in the interim period, the management certainly has a much different complexion.

Orla Watson and former Galway hurler Liam Hodgins have joined the backroom team with James McGrath and Sharon Glynn departing the scene. "The two new additions to the management have settled in very well and the players are getting on very well with them. Liam's training so far has been excellent," said Manager Tony Ward.

The Galway panel for the league has been considerably weakened by the absence of the Killimor contingent who are in the midst of preparations for their All-Ireland club decider against Milford and the decision by Therese Maher not to rejoin the panel until closer to the championship.

That said, a handful of players including Mullagh's Aoife Donoghue, Cappataggle's Moira Connaughton and Castlegar's Caitriona Lee, Eva Concannon and Elaine Murphy have been drafted into the squad and the Galway manager is hopeful the injection of new blood will fresh-



Therese Maher who has yet to rejoin the Galway panel.

en up the panel.

"It is all one big panel at the moment, but we'd be looking for a lot of the intermediates to make the step-up this year and for the younger girls to really put down a marker during the league."

Galway's last National League triumph was back in 2005 and with a group containing Wexford and an ever-improving Clare outfit, qualification to the knockout stages is by means a certainty.

Indeed, the team have played just two challenge matches since regrouping early in the New Year and Ward expects that the lack of

competitive action will mean neither side will be anywhere close to their full potential for Sunday's clash.

"We're being thrown right in at the top end against Wexford but I suspect that like ourselves they mightn't be at full strength and that should make for a good contest. Our main aim for the league would be to blood the young players against the top senior players in the country, see how they go and from there we'll build our team for the championship," Ward added.

The Galway Intermediates also face Wexford on Sunday in Division 2 of the National League. Throw-in at Duggan Park is at 3pm. On a busy weekend on the camogie front, the Galway minors begin the defence of their All-Ireland title when they face Limerick at Kenny Park, Athenry on Saturday (3pm).

Laurel Hill camogie girls march on

THE camogie players of Laurel Hill Secondary School in Limerick can be very proud of their achievement last weekend when they beat a very good Seamount College from Kinvara of Galway in the All Ireland Semi Final of the Senior 'B'.

This was a fantastic game from start to finish despite the rain and strong winds; great credit is due to the Ballybricken-Bohermore club who hosted the game in Caherelly. Laurel Hill School is known nationally for its high standards in education but this year's camogie team is setting a very firm foundation for the sport in its school and from what I saw last Saturday I think this school is fast becoming the market leader of camogie in Limerick.

They played against a very strong wind in the opening half but in many ways it was their determination, heart and work

rate in this half that won the game for them.

Camogie is a wonderful game and it was pleasing to see the Laurel Hill girls blessed with all the skills to produce a display in such testing conditions. It's been a great few months for the school and the records show that they haven't lost any game in various championships this year to date. Indeed this weekend the junior team also play in the All Ireland semi final.

The Galway champions Seamount College had many impressive players but when it came to skill and work rate they were found wanting. Niamh Ryan, the Captain of the Laurel Hill team, was very impressive at centre back, she hit some great points from frees and play. Jane Wilson, Sinead McNamara and Aoife Doyle also made a big contribution.

The entire forward line

not only attacked but also defended exceptionally well. Laurel Hill was just one point behind at half time, (0-4 to 0-3) but when wind assisted in the second half they moved up to a higher gear. Goals by Emma Coughlan and Aoife Wilson sealed the day but I was very impressed by Kate Mulqueen, (daughter of Peter who for years made a major contribution to Ballybrown) and also Dearbhla Egan.

It's a great honour for Laurel Hill and Limerick that this team has reached the All Ireland Final and it might be about time they got a bit of support from those involved with camogie in Limerick. This school could play a major part for the long term good of the game in Limerick. Such a strong base is vital and it's so important they get some support in the development of the games and equipment.

FEB. 2013



Easy passage to All-Ireland final for Tulla

St Joseph's, Tulla 10-7
Lucan Community School 1-7

ST Joseph's Tulla qualified for the All-Ireland final of the O'Neill's Senior D Post Primary Camogie Championship with this easy victory over Lucan Community School at Feakle on Saturday.

The Tulla girls got off to a dream start, scoring their opening goal in the first minute to settle any nerves. They played with the aid of a very strong breeze in the first half and in spite of the best efforts of the visitors, St Joseph's led by 6-5 to no score at the break.

Their first goal was scored by Niamh Mulqueen when she capitalised on a blockdown by the Lucan keeper, Courtney Clarke.

Kate O'Gorman added a point from a free two minutes later and in the fifth minute, Aisling McNamara finished a move to the net having received a pass from Kate O'Gorman. By this time, the Tulla girls were well on top and further goals by Kate O'Gorman (2), Aine McInerney and Aoife Dillon in addition to points from Kate O'Gorman (3) and Aoife Dillon meant they went in at half-time leading by 6-5 to no score. The Lucan girls had some chances in that first half but even when they found a way through the St Joseph's defence, Pauline McNamara brought off a couple of great saves.

Lucan made a good start to the second half and scored 1-4 in the opening 10 minutes, the goal coming from a penalty when one of their forwards was brought down in the square. Kate Whyte struck the free, which the Joseph's keeper got her hurley to but the sliothar skidded into the top corner. It was probably just reward for the endeavours of the Lucan girls in those opening minutes.

By the 10th minute, St Joseph's had mastered playing against the wind and when a long, speculative shot from Kate O'Gorman ended up in the Lucan net, the writing was on the wall for the visitors. Niamh Mulqueen added another goal in the 11th minute and Regan Conway also found the net in the 21st and 22nd minutes to put the game well beyond the reach of the visitors.

Points from Mary Kate Moloney and Aoife Dillon completed the scoring for St Joseph's on the day. They can expect tougher opposition in the final but on this performance, they won't fear whomever they face. Lucan tried hard all through but they came up against a more balanced and focused side in Joseph's.

All the Joseph's girls played very well, including the girls who came on but Pauline McNamara must be singled out, she had an outstanding game between the posts and dealt with every ball, whether it came low or high as if she had all the time in the world.

St Joseph's now await the winners of the other semi-final between Trim Community College and Loretto College, Cavan, due to be played in Trim this Saturday to learn who they will play in the All-Ireland final on Saturday, March 9.

St Joseph's, Tulla: Pauline McNamara; Siobhán Tuohy, Aoife Tuohy, Collette Purcell; Kathy Halpin, Shauna Fleming (capt), Vivian Peek; Mary Kate Moloney (0-1), Regan Conway (2-0); Clodagh O'Halloran, Aoife Dillon (1-1), Aisling McNamara (1-1); Aine McInerney (2-0), Kate O'Gorman (2-3), Niamh Mulqueen (2-1).

Subs: Lisa McGrath for Kathy Halpin, Evelyn Duggan for Clodagh O'Halloran, Edel McNamara for Vivian Peek, Ellen Culloo for Niamh Mulqueen and Samantha O'Connor for Collette Purcell.

Lucan Community College: Courtney Clarke; Ashling McHugh, Kate Whyte (capt, 1-2), Deirdre Stapleton; Jane Doran, Sinéad O'Keefe, Clodagh Flanagan; Claire Rigney (0-2), Elaine McClelland; Siobhán Grimes, Laura Connolly, Rachel O'Neill; Aine Keher, Orla Beagan (0-3), Catherine Carron.

Subs: Sophie Flanagan for Aine Keher, Holly Doran for Catherine Carron, Danielle Murray for Rachel O'Neill.

Referee: Philip Kelly.



Clockwise from above left:
■ Clodagh Flanagan of Lucan Community College in action against Kate O'Gorman
■ Aoife Dillon of St Joseph's takes on Elaine McClelland and Clodagh Flanagan
■ Jane Doran of Lucan Community College makes the tackle on Regan Conway.
Photographs by John Kelly

All change on county front as leagues start

DEAN GOODISON

Sports reporter

IT MAY be less than six months since Wexford claimed their third All-Ireland Senior camogie championship in a row with a dramatic victory over Cork, but half a year of inactivity can be a long time in sport.

Since that historic day in Croke, three-in-a-row boss J.J. Doyle has left for pastures new, leaving Martin Lynch - a Dublin native resident in Blackwater - as the man to preside over the wreckage that ensued.

And what wreckage it was. Such was the level of defection from Doyle's squad that only four of last year's starting 15 are available to Lynch for his official baptism as boss against Galway on Sunday next.

Mags D'Arcy, Noeleen Lambert, Josie Dwyer and Fiona Rochford are those available for the trip west but plenty aren't. Catherine O'Loughlin, Claire O'Connor and Michelle O'Leary have retired, Deirdre Codd and Una Leacy have, or will, move down under, Lisa Bolger is away on erasmus, while, for a variety of reasons, Kate Kelly, Katrina Parrock, Mary Leacy, Karen Atkinson and Ursula Jacob are temporarily unavailable.

On top of that, several squad

players are no longer involved, with Clara O'Connor, Lenny Holohan, Evelyn Quigley and Linda Bolger either away or retired while Tracey Nolan is absent through injury. It all means a woefully-inexperienced Wexford squad will be on show Sunday.

Frances Doran, Louise O'Leary, Fiona Kavanagh, Brid Gordon and Eimear O'Connor all boast appearances in Croke Park, but after that the well runs dry and the remainder of the squad is made up of new players and members of last year's unsuccessful Minor squad.

Joining Lynch for the tricky rebuilding task are selectors Mary Walsh (Blackwater), Eamonn Saunders (Faythe Harriers) and Mick Byrne (Ballygarrett). Returning from the previous set-up are Paul Harrington (physio) and Bridget Moran (first aid).

Wexford, who, when going down to Cork in last year's final, lost their first league game in four years, follow their trip to Galway with a visit to the capital to face Dublin (March 10) before finishing the group with a home tie against Clare on the final day of March. Should they progress beyond the round-robin stages, the semi-finals take place April 21 with a potential final two weeks later.

The Leinster championship in May will give the new manager further time to perfect his side before

the main business of the All-Ireland championship, and Wexford's bid for four-in-a-row, begins on June 29 against Intermediate champions Derry.

Meanwhile, with so many of last year's Intermediate side moving into the Senior set-up, new second-string manager Kevin Murphy is also left with a tough assignment with a new squad in the coming months.

The Intermediates start their league campaign with the Seniors in Galway on Sunday before hosting Limerick on March 10. A visit to neighbours Waterford (16th) and Antrim (30th at a half-way venue) will follow before the group stages finish at home to Meath (April 7). An unlikely Division 2 semi-final appearance would take place on April 21, with the final two weeks later.

Senior squad: Mags D'Arcy (St. Martin's), Clara Donohoe (St. Ibar's/Shelmaller), Louise Hammel (Bullers Alley), Noeleen Lambert (St. Martin's), Frances Doran (Bullers Alley), Louise O'Leary (Rathnure), Siobhán O'Regan (Glynn-Barntown), Julianne Murphy (Blackwater), Fiona Kavanagh (Bundoddy), Josie Dwyer (Ferns St. Aidan's), Siobhán Doyle (Naomh Eanna), Brid Gordon (Blackwater), Fiona Rochford (St. Anne's), Aine Lacey (St. Ibar's/Shelmaller), Eimear O'Connor (Rathnure), Susie McGovern (Glynn-Barntown), Rachel Murphy (Naomh Eanna), Victoria Burke (Bullers Alley), Lisa Firman (St.

Martin's), Clara Neville (St. Ibar's/Shelmaller), Anne Whitty (Craanford), Eimear Nolan (Ferns St. Aidan's), Molise McGuckin (Naomh Eanna), Jackie Quigley (Rathnure), Mary Cummins (Horeswood).

To return: Kate Kelly (St. Ibar's/Shelmaller), Katrina Parrock (St. Ibar's/Shelmaller), Tracey Nolan (Bundoddy), Mary Leacy (Oulart-The Ballagh), Karen Atkinson (Oulart-The Ballagh), Ursula Jacob (Oulart-The Ballagh), Helena Jacob (Oulart-The Ballagh), Stacey Redmond (Oulart-The Ballagh), Shauna Sinnott (Oulart-The Ballagh), Shelley Kehoe (Oulart-The Ballagh).

Intermediate squad: Amy Ryan (St. Martin's), Amy Dillon (Rathgarogue-Cushinstown), Fiona Donnellan (Rathnure), Ellen Kelly (Marshallstown), Eimear O'Leary (Bullers Alley), Caoimhe Maloney (Rathgarogue-Cushinstown), Katie Flynn (Rathnure), Emma Lacey (Rathgarogue-Cushinstown), Nancy Dunphy (Duffry Rovers), Elaine Neville (Duffry Rovers), Deirdre Collier (St. Martin's), Aoife Sheil (Glynn-Barntown), Emma O'Connor (Rathnure), Emma Doyle (Naomh Eanna), Niamh O'Connor (Rathnure), Bridget Curran (St. Ibar's/Shelmaller), Shelly Doyle (St. Ibar's/Shelmaller), Emma Walsh (Glynn-Barntown), Cail Doyle (Duffry Rovers), Róisín Murphy (Bullers Alley), Bridin Doyle (Duffry Rovers), Marguerite Doyle (Duffry Rovers), Rachel Collier (Ferns St. Aidan's), Emma Gahan (Monageer-Boolevogue), Louise Hore (Rapparees), Mairéad Lancaster (Kilrush), Margaret Byrne (Kilrush), Mairéad Sheehan (Kilrush), Mary Sinnott (Monageer-Boolevogue), Annie Walsh (Monageer-Boolevogue).



Mia Griffin, introduced as a substitute on Saturday, in action in the Leinster Junior final one week earlier.

Mary's one step away from glory

DEAN GOODISON

In Kilcoole

ST. MARY'S (NEW ROSS)

1-10

LORETO (COLERAINE)

1-3

ST. MARY'S (New Ross) continued to build on their impressive recent history in schools camogie as they advanced to the All-Ireland Senior 'B' championship final in Kilcoole on Saturday last.

Just a week after the Leinster title holders exited the Junior 'A' championship at the hands of Loreto (Kilkenny), nine of that side made the line-up for the Under-18s.

They fared significantly better this time around as a dominant performance was emphasised with a last-gasp Aine Gannon goal to leave a more realistic gloss on the scoreboard.

While the victory looked assured before that last-minute clincher, that certainly wasn't the case as Shannon Williams pulled the Ulster side within two points (0-8 to 1-3) with seven minutes remaining. However, it would have been a travesty had St. Mary's been denied and a deadly double in the final five minutes from Chloe Foxe ensured her side would be in the March 9 decider.

With a damaging crosswind and thick playing surface hampering the game as a spectacle, St. Mary's dominated the opening quarter with an array of perfect points.

Foxe opened the scoring in the first minute and, while Marguerite Hoynes and Gemma Doran were both denied goals, the minors continued to come. Joanne Dillon, a constant thorn in the Coleraine side, clipped over her side's second before scores from Foxe and Doran emphasised the fast New Ross start.

Dillon's second, added to by a Chloe Foxe '45, made it 0-6 to nil after 16 minutes but that was as good as the first-half got for the Wexford school as the Coleraine defence tightened. At the other end there were few bright moments too, however St. Mary's did survive a scare when Shannon McWilliams narrowly failed to turn Aoife Scully's free to the net when flicking wide.

Scully did finally get her side on the scoreboard in the 29th minute but the New Ross lynchpins looked comfortable with a five-point lead at the interval (0-6 to 0-1).

When Scully's free was deflected to the St. Mary's net via a Leinster hurl in the 36th minute the tide could easily have turned, yet the Wexford schoolgirls are made of stern stuff and responded with points from Foxe and Gemma Doran (0-8 to 1-1).

Two quick Coleraine points did change the complexion again but St. Mary's steadied the ship through Foxe, to leave Gannon the goal heroine, and set her side up for a title decider against Laurel Hill from Limerick.

St. Mary's: Aoife Scully, Elish Cullen, Nicola Byrne, Pamela McCormack, Niamh Memagh, Christine Lyng, Leanne Foley, Sarah Banville, Aine Gannon (1-0); Joanne Dillon (0-2), Mary Cummins, Sinéad Ryan, Chloe Foxe (0-6, 2 frees, 2 '45s), Marguerite Hoynes, Gemma Doran (0-2). Subs: - Suzie Aylward for Ryan, Mia Griffin for Hoynes, Nessa Wickham for Cummins.

Loreto: Bronagh McKinney, Therese Corrigan, Jessica Hickinson, Shannon McWilliams (0-1); Kristen Ingram, Clodagh Connelly, Nicole O'Neill (1-2 frees); Rosanna McAleese, Christin O'Kane, Clare Tracey, Megan Kerr, Clodagh McIlvenny, Clare Rafferty, Catherine McNicholl, Elish McNamee.

Referee: Damien Noble (Dublin).



Wexford's Eimear O'Connor (second from right) at the league launch in Croke Park with Michelle McGuigan and Katie O'Brien (Armagh), Leah Weste (Cork), Aileen Lawlor (President, Camogie Association), Eoin Brannigan (Sports Editor, Irish Daily Star), Tara Wilson (Carlow) and Edel Guy (Meath).

Parrock claims fourth Ashbourne title

THERE WAS high drama in Limerick on Sunday last when Katrina Parrock and her W.I.T. colleagues held on to the Ashbourne Cup title for the fifth year running with a dramatic 3-13 to 2-15 win over hosts U.L.

It was a fourth title in the grade for the St. Ibar's/Shelmaller club member who was unable to accept her county player of the year award for 2012 in person on Saturday night owing to her involvement in a dramatic finals weekend.

Linda Bolger of St. Martin's and Wexford scored a brace of points for U.L. as they utilised the wind to establish an interval lead of 1-5 to 0-5.

A goal from Parrock helped to put the holders three points clear early in the second-half, but U.L. grabbed a late major and W.I.T. needed a last-gasp pointed free to force extra-time (2-9 each).

They were still deadlocked after another 20 minutes (2-11 each), and this meant that a

further ten minutes had to be played since the Ashbourne title had to be decided over the weekend.

U.L. looked to have done enough when they moved three points clear, but W.I.T. drew on all their reserves of experience and talent despite the players being physically spent as they emerged victorious with one point to spare.

It was one of the most dramatic finals in the long history of the competition.

FEB. 2013

Clare v Dublin in opening league tie

CLARE take on Dublin in their opening game of the National League on Sunday in Sixmilebridge (throw-in 12.30pm).

Having enjoyed their best season at senior level in 2012, they will be hoping to go a step further in 2013. Dublin showed a much-improved performance also in 2012 and held Clare to a draw in their last game in the championship.

Clare have been going well in training and have been successful in a number of challenge games played. With this the only home game for Clare in the league, the Banner girls will want to take the points in front of the home support.

Team manager John Carmody told *The Clare Champion* this week that the squad is looking forward to this game. "We have been on the go since early November and we have a panel of 34 to 35 players. We have a good bit done and heading into

Sunday's game, we have a clean bill of health."

Kilmaley's Denis Lynch has been named as team captain for 2013 with Sixmilebridge player Máire McGrath as vice-captain. "Maire was named as the player of the tournament at the Ashbourne finals at the weekend when all of the Clare players involved were prominent," the manager explained.

Clare have been grouped with Dublin, Galway and Wexford and will have to travel to play Galway and All-Ireland champions Wexford. "A victory over Dublin would set us up ahead of the two away fixtures. Two will qualify from the group for the semi-finals and it would represent progress if we could get to the semi-final," the manager said.

"Our team made a lot of progress last year. We were very competitive in the league and we then won the Munster championship. We were dis-

appointed to lose to Cork in the All-Ireland quarter-final. That game in Cork was one we should have won," manager Carmody explained. The Kilmaley clubman will again be joined by Peter Casey, Tricia O'Grady and Flan McInerney this year while Declan Noonan from Killanena has been added as the fitness and conditioning coach.

When the teams met in the championship last year, a draw resulted at Parnell Park. "We are expecting a very tight game and they are developing, like us," said Carmody.

The Clare panel for Sunday's game is: Denis Lynch (Kilmaley), Róisín McMahon (Newmarket-on-Fergus), Marian O'Brien (Scariff Ogonnelloe), Carol O'Leary (Newmarket-on-Fergus), Katie Cahill (Kilmaley), Chloe Morey (Sixmilebridge), Emer Considine (Kilmaley), Máire McGrath (Sixmilebridge), Orlaith Duggan (Clooney)

Quin), Fiona Lafferty (Inagh Kilnamona), Kate Lynch (Kilkishen), Niamh O'Dea (Kilmaley), Naomi Carroll (Sixmilebridge), Claire McMahon (Kilmaley), Deirdre Murphy (Clooney Quin), Suzy O'Shea (Ballyea), Ailish Considine (Kilmaley), Aisling Hannon (Clooney Quin), Claire Ryan (Clooney Quin), Aoife Griffin (Newmarket-on-Fergus), Catriona Hennessy (St Joseph's), Cushla Hehir (Kilkishen), Joanne Walsh (Newmarket-on-Fergus), Laura McMahon (Newmarket-on-Fergus), Leanne Horan (Scariff Ogonnelloe), Sinéad Tuohy (Sixmilebridge), Vera Loughnane (Feakle), Michelle Caulfield (Truagh) Caulfield, Sinéad O'Loughlin (Inagh Kilnamona), Susan Vaughan (Scariff Ogonnelloe), Lisa Loughnane (Kilkishen), Sheelagh Daffy (Clooney Quin), Shonagh O'Brien (Eire Og), Kate O'Gorman (Kilkishen).

Absentees gives a chance for new players to stake a claim

SUNDAY
Division One National league first round:
Cork v Tipperary, Páirc Uí Rinn, 1.30pm

CAMOGIE

By LINDA MELLERICK

A NUMBER of new faces could appear in Cork's starting line-up for their opening National league encounter with Tipperary on Sunday.

Due to Milford's involvement in the All-Ireland club final on March 2, Anna Geary will be a notable absentee as will Rena Buckley (exam-tied) and Gemma O'Connor (right) who's secondment overseas with the Irish army has come as a major blow to Cork's plans for 2013. Gemma's loss is

Manager Paudie Murray has a lot of gaps to fill. Positively, both senior and intermediate panels training together should uncover fresh talent. There are also other members of the Milford panel sure to get a phone call once their campaign is over.

Playing Tipp is possibly the best baptism of fire Cork's newcomers could have hoped

for. Tipp haven't impressed in recent years and the retirement of Jill Horan won't help their cause however, Cork's new lineup levels the playing field somewhat.

Holders Cork have a soft run into the semi-finals, avoiding the big guns of Galway and Wexford. Offaly, Kilkenny and Derry follow Sunday's game on March 16, 31 and April 7, respectively.

Last year's beaten finalists Wexford, under the new management of Martin Lynch, will commence their campaign with an away trip to Galway. Wexford were playing for four in-a-row league titles before losing to Cork in Semple Stadium last season.

This year's division one and two League Finals take place on May 5.

Focusing on the current, Kilkenny take on senior debutants Derry and Dublin are away to Clare in Sixmilebridge as 2013 gets underway.



St Flannan's seeking Junior Colleges final spot

ST Flannan's will seek to progress to the All-Ireland Junior Colleges Camogie Championship final when they take on St Brigid's from Loughrea on this Sunday at a venue to be decided.

These sides met last year in the senior semi-final, where St Brigid's took the honours.

The Connacht champions

St Brigid's will have home advantage but this will not unduly worry the Clare side, who have played the vast majority of their games at the opposition venues this year. Backed by players who played on the All-Ireland-winning Inagh Kilnamona Féile team, St Flannan's have experience in all lines of play

and are given a great chance of overcoming the Galway side.

St Flannan's panel: Doireann Murphy, Aleisha Malone, Teresa O'Keefe, Chloe Eustace, Chloe Devitt, Aoiheann Malone, Amie Wiley, Laura Browne, Corrina McMahon, Hannah Dinan, Louise Browne, Lauren

Touhy, Andrea O'Keefe, Aoife Keane, Laoise Ryan, Carol Browne, Ellen Meaney, Caoimhe Carmody, Róisín Clancy, Rachel Collins, Ava Keane, Sarah McGuane, Ellen Barry, Ally Fleming, Ciara Heaghney, Caoimhe Corbett, Lisa Hogan, Lauren Healy, Clodhna O'Dea, Katie McEldowney.

Meeting with Cork to open minor campaign

CLARE face Cork in the opening game of the All-Ireland minor series on Saturday afternoon. It is expected that the game will be played at Meelick at 2.30pm.

With three games in the series, Clare will be targeting this home game to get their campaign off to a good start.

The squad will be without the services of some players who are due to line out for St Flannan's.

Clare panel: Aislinn Keogh (Newmarket), Ali Quinlan (Sixmilebridge), Amy O'Brien (Corofin), Aoiheann Malone (Corofin), Aoife Keane (Inagh Kilnamona), Claire McMahon (Eire Og), Claire Taaffe

(Killanena), Ellen Roche (Sixmilebridge), Eimear Casey (St Joseph's), Emer Murray (Sixmilebridge), Fiona Murphy (Sixmilebridge), Kate O'Gorman (Kilkishen), Lauren Guilfoyle (Feakle), Lauren McGuane (Kilmaley), Lauren Touhy (Clarecastle), Leighanne McMahon (Kilmaley), Lisa Donoghue (Whitegate), Niamh

Murray (Sixmilebridge), Nikki Kaiser (Newmarket), Orla Devitt (Eire Og), Orlaith Lynch (St Joseph's), Pauline McNamara (Kilkishen), Rae Wall (Eire Og), Rea Flanagan (Ballyea), Rebecca Crowe (Ruan), Rebecca Devine (St Joseph's), Shauna Fleming (Kilkishen), Sinéad Quinn (Inagh Kilnamona), Zoe McInerney (Wolfe Tones).

Coaching skills workshop at Tulla Astro

A COACHING workshop will take place on Monday, March 11 at Tulla Astro (7-8pm) for seven to 11-year-olds. The focus will be on basic

skills going on to coaching the tackle.

On Thursday, March 21 (venue, to be confirmed) the workshop for 12-16 year-olds

will take place. The focus will be on coaching the tackle, with drills and skills-based games for team and link play for forwards and backs.

Both of these will need a minimum of 20 people and bookings are to be made by February 28 by texting Orla on 087 2417355.

Double extra time in Ashbourne final

WATERFORD IT retained the Ashbourne Cup at the weekend in the most dramatic of circumstances, needing two periods of extra time before finally repelling the persistent challenge of hosts UL. The final score was 3-13 to 2-15.

In what was the best Ashbourne final in recent years, it was devastating for the Limerick college team, who had led for so much of the 90 minutes with WIT relying on the superb free-taking of Emma Comerford to earn them victory.

UL also led by three points in the second half of the second period of extra-time but WIT dug deep once more. A goal from Denise Gaule drawing them level before Trish Jackman pointed a late free to snatch a sensational victory.

UL played with the wind in the first half and Cúit Devane gave them a dream start with a good goal. Linda

Bolger followed up with a couple of points but with Comerford accurate from placed balls, WIT were in touch at the change of ends, trailing by just a goal, 1-5 to 0-5.

Shelley Farrell had them level almost straight after the resumption and with the wind at their backs, one suspected that WIT might pull away in the second half.

When Katrina Parrock found the net to put them a goal clear, that scenario certainly seemed likely but UL and, in particular, Devane, had different ideas. The Tipperary forward had already added four second-half points when finding the WIT net for the second time. That put UL a point ahead with time running out but Comerford kept her nerve from a late free to bring the game to extra-time, with the sides level at 2-9 apiece.

The Kilkenny sharpshooter had to repeat the trick after Julia White had

put UL ahead to end the extra 20 minutes with the teams at 2-11 each.

That necessitated another extra 10 minutes but when Devane put UL three points clear, it looked like they had finally broken the champions' resistance.

With player of the game Marie McGrath in inspirational form though, WIT found one last defining surge to deny a valiant UL and get their hands on the famous trophy once more.

DCU beat Mary Immaculate to win the Purcell Cup 2-11 to 1-9. Mary I actually began well but Orlaith Durkan pounced for a DCU goal. Niamh O'Donoghue responded in kind for Mary I, who led by the minimum at the interval. The excellent Caitriona Regan struck for the vital goal for DCU though and with Emma Brennan adding a point, the Dublin-based side bagged the silverware, 2-11 to 1-9.

CAMOGIE
National League Div 1 Grp 1: Kilkenny 2-16 Derry 1-7, Cork 0-19 Tipperary 2-10, Grp 2: Galway 1-10 Wexford 2-10, Clare 0-15 Dublin 1-5, Div 2 Grp 1: Cork 3-14 Tipperary 1-6, Kildare 2-16 Down 2-3, Grp 2: Galway 3-11 Wexford 0-2, Div 3: Laois 3-12 Roscommon 1-3, Div 4: Carlow 3-14 Cavan 0-6, All-Ireland MAC: Cork 6-15 Clare 0-4, Galway 1-11 Limerick 2-8, All-Ireland MHC: Offaly 4-5 Dublin 2-10, MCC: Meath 3-4 Kildare 2-2, Carlow 0-6 Kerry 0-6, Armagh 2-8 Laois 1-3.

FEB 2013



MINE: Jackie Quigley challenges Lorraine Ryan

WEXFORD DO JUST ENOUGH TO TRIUMPH

WEXFORD AND GALWAY took the field in their opening Irish Daily Star Division 1 Camogie League tie without many of the regulars that have graced both sides over the years.

For their part, Wexford were operating under new management too, as Martin Lynch took over the reins from JJ Doyle.

Despite all the change, the result had an all-too-familiar hue to it as far as Galway were concerned, with Wexford coming out on top in another tight affair, 2-10 to 1-10.

The crucial period came at the beginning of the final quarter, as Wexford registered 2-2 between the 46th and 48th minutes to turn the game around.

Galway had been leading by 0-8 to 0-5 but the sides were level when a long free from Mags D'Arcy was gathered by Brid Gordon, who hand-passed the sliotar to the net.

Magnificent

The magnificent Fiona Rochford lofted over two points before being set up by Gordon with a very well taken goal from a ground shot.

Rochford added two more points to bring her personal tally to 1-7, but Galway did continue to battle.

Molly Dunne doubled on Orla Kilkenny's hand-pass to grab a goal and Niamh Kilkenny pointed to reduce the margin to three.

Fruitless

Near the end, Niamh McGrath had an opportunity from a penalty, but D'Arcy deflected her low shot out for an ultimately fruitless 45.

Clare came out on top in the other Group 2 game, beating Dublin in Sixmilebridge by 0-15 to 1-5.

The hosts were four points up when Aine Fanning goaled for Dublin, but Clare regained their composure to lead by 0-8 to 1-3 at half-time.

McMahon notched up two early points from frees and Dublin moved goalkeeper Fiona Hayes into their attack to try to increase their potency.

She did register a point but with Máire McGrath following up her imperious Ashbourne Cup form with another brilliant midfield display and Naomi Carroll weighing in with some excellent scores, Clare were comfortable winners.



In Group 1, Cork had no less than eight different scorers as they racked up 0-19 in overcoming Tipperary.

In the final Division 1 game, Kilkenny were surprisingly easy winners over Derry, 2-16 to 1-7.

Sword

In Division 2, Cork completely the double over Tipperary (1-14 to 1-6), while Kildare put Down to the sword, 2-15 to 2-3.

There were wins too for Limerick, Meath and Galway over Antrim (2-11 to 0-5), Waterford (0-8 to 0-5) and Wexford (3-10 to 0-2).

In Division 3, Dublin beat Armagh 1-13 to 1-6 and Laois were much too strong for Roscommon (3-12 to 1-3), while in Division 4, Carlow beat Cavan 1-14 to 0-6.



BATTLE: Denise Cronin of Cork in action against Teresa Ryan



Vice-captain Máire McGrath has been in excellent form this season and was named as player of the tournament at the Ashbourne finals at the weekend.



Cork manager Paudie Murray looks on as Cork take on Tipperary during the Irish Daily Star National Camogie League clash in Parc Ui Rinn last weekend. Picture: Matt Browne / SPORTSFILE

FEB 2013

Changes do Wexford no harm while McGrath inspires Banner

By Daragh Ó Conchúir
Camogie

Wexford and Galway took the field in their opening Division 1 Camogie League tie without many of the regulars that have graced both sides over the years.

Despite all the change, Wexford operating under Martin

Lynch for the first time since JJ Doyle stood down, the result was the same, 2-10 to 1-10 to the Leinster side at Ballinasloe's Duggan Park.

The crucial period came at the beginning of the final quarter, as Wexford registered 2-2 between the 46th and 48th minutes to turn the game around.

Clare came out on top in the other Group 2 game, beating

Dublin in Sixmilebridge by 0-15 to 1-5. The hosts were four points up when Aine Fanning goaled for Dublin. Alice Maguire (free) and Ali Twomey added points but Clare regained their composure with points from Fiona Lafferty, Deirdre Murphy and Claire McMahon to lead by 0-8 to 1-3 at the half-time.

McMahon notched up two early points from frees and

Dublin moved goalkeeper, Fiona Hayes into their attack to try to increase their potency. She did register a point but with Máire McGrath following up her imperious Ashbourne Cup form with another brilliant midfield display and Naomi Carroll weighing in with some excellent scores, Clare were comfortable winners.

In Group 1, Cork had eight

different scorers as they racked up 0-19 in overcoming Tipperary at Páirc Uí Rinn.

Jenny O'Leary was deadly accurate from placed balls, with seven of her eight points coming from frees. Sile Burns, Katrina Mackey and Finola Neville added seven points from play as Cork maintained their advantage throughout.

They led by 0-8 to 0-6 at the

break and with O'Leary, Mackey and Eimear O'Sullivan in outstanding form, they kept their noses in front despite a significant contribution of 1-5 from Nicole Walsh for Tipperary.

In the final Division 1 game, Kilkenny were easy winners over Derry in Bray. The Norersiders were all business and prevailed on a 2-16 to 1-7 scoreline.



Action from the Cork v Tipperary game at Pairc Ui Rinn on Sunday featuring, above, Katriona Mackey of Cork in action against Anne Eviston of Tipperary; below, Gemma Grace of Cork tussles with Sile Burns.

Pictures: Matt Browne/Sportsfile



Denise Cronin of Cork with Tipperary's Teresa Ryan, Tipperary in the National Camogie League game at Pairc Ui Rinn on Sunday.

Picture: Matt Browne / SPORTSFILE

Cork camogie does it in style

It was a busy weekend for Cork camogie with the launch of their new sponsor on Friday and three teams in action on the inter-county stage over the weekend.

On Friday the board announced a deal with Irish-owned retail symbol group Costcutter which is owned and run in Ireland by the Barry Group which is one of Ireland's major wholesale groups.

On the playing field the minor team opened their All-Ireland campaign when they travelled to Meelick Clare on Saturday and it was a good start to the round-robin series as they came out winners on 6-15 to 0-4 scoreline.

Goals from Amy O'Connor, Linda Collins, Rachel Sheehan and Jessica Hennigan ensured Cork were always in control. Orla Cronin was again on target with frees as she contributed eight.

Captain Lauren Callanan, Laura Treacy and Shaun Ring were all impressive for Cork side. Round two will see Cork take on Limerick at the end of March and a win here would see them top the group with one game to go versus Galway.

On Sunday the senior division 1 side got the defence of their national league title under way when they hosted Tipperary in Pairc Ui Rinn, in a game where little divided the sides. Cork finished stronger with points from the impressive Jennifer O'Leary, Sile Burns and Orla Cotter to ensure a 0-19 to 2-10 winning margin.



Marion McCarthy and the Cork camogie players presents Jim Barry of the Barry Group with a Cork jersey at Pairc Ui Rinn to mark the company's sponsorship with the Cork Camogie board.

The contribution of Jennifer O'Leary with eight points seven from frees helped Cork notch up the scores while Katriona Mackey, Finola Neville Aoife Deasy and Nicole O Brine all found the range.

The division 2 side were also in action against Tipperary and they set the foundation for victory in the first half as they led 1-6 to 1-3 at the break. A goal from Aoife Deasy the difference between the sides.

On the turnover Cork were faster and notched up the point to extend their lead. Denise Luby contributed

six points: four from frees, Julia Mulcahy hit four, while substitutes Rebecca Murphy had two and Nicole O'Brien one as Cork ran out winners on a 1-14 to 1-6 scoreline to bring a good weekend to a close as all campaigns got off to a wonderful start for the county.

At the game on Sunday, chairman of the county board Marion McCarthy presented Jim Barry, managing director of the Barry Group, with a framed Costcutter Cork camogie jersey to mark the announcement of the group sponsorship with the county Board.

Grading for juvenile camogie competitions from under 14 to 16 in leagues competitions for the season ahead were announced recently and, with over 60 clubs to cater for, competitions in grades from A to D were organised. Young camogie players can look forward to competing in the grade which is suited to their abilities.

Again at underage level we will have the GO Games competitions at under-12 levels. These will be run on a non-competitive basis the emphasis at this level being on sport and enjoyment.

With the gradings ratified it's all systems go and with a projected starting date of the end of March for under 16s leagues with an April start to the under 14 competitions. Gradings are as follows:

UNDER-16

U16 A, 10 teams: Aghabullogue, Courcy Rovers, Eire Og, Fr O'Neills, Glen Rovers, Kilbrittan/Timoleague, Killeagh, St Finbarr's, Sarsfields 1.

U16 B, 24 teams: Ballincollig, Ballinhassig, Ballygarvan, Brian Dillon's, Ballyhea, Barryroe, Blackrock, Blarney, Douglas 1, Carrigaline, Carrigrohilly, Charleville, Cobh, Enniskeane, Inniscarra, Mallow, Millstreet, Newcestown, Na Piar-saigh, Newtownshandrum, St Vincent's, Tracton, Valley Rovers, Youghal.

U16 C, 15 teams: Ballinora,

Banteer, Bishopstown, Bride Rovers, Castlyons, Clonakilty, Douglas 2, Milford, St Catherine's, Sarsfields 2, Aghada, Sliabh Rua, Dungourney, Buttevant, and Ballinascarty.

U16 D, three teams: St Colum's, Watergrasshill, and Erin's Own.

UNDER-14

U14 A, 16 teams: Aghabullogue, Ballinhassig, Ballygarvan, Ballincollig, Carrigaline 1, Cloughduv, Charleville, Douglas 1, Eire Og, Fr O'Neills, Glen Rovers 1, Inniscarra, Kilbrittan/Timoleague, Killeagh, St Finbarr's, Sarsfields 1.

Under-14 B, 25 teams: Aghada, Ballinora, Banteer, Buttevant, Brian Dillon's, Bishopstown, Blarney, Carrigrohilly, Cobh, Dungourney, Enniskeane, Mallow, Millstreet, Milford, Na Piar-saigh, Newcestown, Newtownshandrum, Rockban, St Catherine's, St Vincents, Sliabh Rua, Courcy Rovers, Tracton, Valley Rovers, Youghal.

Under-14 C, nine teams: Ballyhea, Blackrock, Bride Rovers, Castlyons, Clonakilty, Kilbree, Ballinascarty, Buttevant, and Barryroe.

U14 D, seven teams: Crosshaven, Doneraile, Erin's Own, Kildorrey, St Colum's, St Fanahan's Watergrasshill.

U14 for clubs with a second team: five teams: Sarsfields 2, Glen Rovers 2, St Finbarr's 2, Douglas 2, Carrigaline 2.

FEB 2013

Cork withstand the Tipp challenge

Luby makes it a double camogie win at weekend

DIVISION TWO LEAGUE

Cork 1-14
Tipperary 1-6



Cork's Katrina Mackey breaks past Tipperary's Gemma Grace and Niamh Kelly in their National Camogie League, Division One game at Páirc Uí Rinn.

Picture: Sportsfile



LINDA MELLERICK

CAMOGIE

Cork 0-19
Tipperary 2-10

UNDER new Costcutter sponsorship and handing Glen Rovers' Nicole O'Brien and Ballinascarty's Caroline Sugrue their senior league debuts, Cork withstood a strong Tipp challenge to take the points in their opening National League game in Páirc Uí Rinn yesterday.

With the sides level on 57 minutes, it was Cork that finished strongest with some well-taken points.

Early season lack of match practice and cohesion was evident at times from the Cork camp but 19 points is a good return and the spread of scorers will please management.

Katrina Mackey looked Cork's most potent forward throughout, displaying great speed and style.

She rocked the net after just five minutes only for referee Alan Lagrue to call the play back and award a free when he should have allowed advantage.

Jennifer O'Leary duly converted. The same player was wrongly refused advantage for the second time 10 minutes later as Cork seemed deemed to be denied access to the danger area.

Cork were loose in the middle of the park and in their half-back line and Breige Quinn and Nicole Walshe took advantage, Walshe in particular winning a lot of ball. Tipp led by three points to two 13 minutes in.

Cork at times displayed some good teamwork and picked off some impressive points, but a couple of poor

clearances gifted Tipperary scoring opportunities which again saw them lead by one entering the final minutes of the opening half.

Cork however finished strong with Finola Neville, Briege Corkery and Jennifer O'Leary pointing.

Aided by the wind in the second half, Cork stretched their lead to three points, courtesy of an O'Leary free inside the opening minute. Her free-taking counterpart Nicole Walshe replied and just a minute later Tipp were back in the game after a long range free fell through the attempted grasp of Emer White.

Cork responded well with Mackey (2) and O'Leary (1) converting but once again Cork's hard work was

wiped out in a blink of an eye when substitute Tara Kennedy, on the pitch mere seconds, broke through and offloaded to Any Kennedy who finished a handpass to the net.

Cork's half-time substitute, Clonakilty's Aoife Deasy, a further Cork senior debutante, struck her first competitive point. Walshe replied with another impressive free before Sile Burns and O'Leary (45) gave Cork the slight edge again.

Still Tipp failed to surrender and two fine points from Tara Kennedy swung the pendulum back in their favour.

But as they did in the opening half Cork upped the tempo and with Finola Neville, O'Leary (1), Orla

Cotter and Burns again stepping up Cork ran out deserving victors.

Scorers for Cork: J O'Leary 0-8 (0-6 f, 0-1 45), S Burns 0-3, K Mackey, F Neville 0-2 each, N O'Brien, B Corkery, O Cotter, A Deasy 0-1 each.

Tipperary: N Walshe 1-4 (1-2 f, 0-1 45), A Kennedy 1-0, A Fogarty, T Kennedy 0-2, B Quinn, C Kennedy 0-1.

CORK: E White, L Weste, P Mackey, C Motherway, C Sugrue, G O'Connor, E O'Sullivan, J O'Leary, B Corkery, N O'Brien, O Cotter, K Mackey, S Burns, F Neville, D Cronin.

Subs: A Deasy for N O'Brien (h/t), L O'Connell for L Weste (48).

TIPPERARY: C Holohan, N Kelly, S Ryan, T Ryan, G Grace, J Kirwin, A Eviston, C Kennedy, B Quinn, N Walshe, C Kennedy, N Flanagan, A Kennedy, C Devane, A Fogarty.

Subs: S Larkin for C Kennedy (h/t), S Fryday for S Larkin (40), T Kennedy for A Fogarty (45).

Referee: Alan Lagrue (Kildare).

Polished performance from young Rebels

Cork 6-14
Clare 0-4

A POLISHED performance from a better prepared and balanced Cork side ensured the points were secured long before Ger O'Dowd blew the full time whistle in this All-Ireland Minor championship round robin series game in Meelick on Saturday, writes MARY NEWMAN.

From the throw in, Cork put the Clare defence under huge pressure. Points from

Orla Cronin and Amy O'Connor had settled them into the game before O'Connor finished in style to the net.

Kate O'Gorman pointed for Clare, but it was to be their only score from play as a disciplined Cork defence held a tight grip and never allowed them any room.

Twice the sides swapped pointed frees before Rachel Sheehan first timed to the net with a ground stroke to extend the Cork lead and with Orla Cronin and

MINOR CAMOGIE

Katelyn Hickey pointing before the break Cork led 2-6 to 0-3.

The second half belonged to Cork as they hurried with great composure.

In defence, captain Lauren Callanan led by example as she drove her side forward with some excellent clearances able assisted by Shauna Ring and Mairead Mulrooney. Up front the

Cork attack piled on the pressure with Linda Collins helping herself to 2-3 while

Amy O'Connor substitute Jessica Hennigan and the ever reliable Orla Cronin who continues to impress with excellent free taking all added to the tally as Cork ran up and impressive 4-9.

Niki Kaiser had the home sides only score of the half pointing a late free on day when Clare simply had no response and no complaints as a rampant Cork ran out deserving winners.

Scorers for Cork: O'Connor 2-3, L Collins 2-3 (0-2 f), O Cronin 0-8 (0-5 f, 0-1 45), J Hennigan, R Sheehan 1 each.

Clare: N Kaiser 0-3 (f), K O'Gorman 0-1.

CORK: A Lee, S Ring, L Treacy, A Cortin, E Kavanagh, L Callanan (c), M Mulrooney, H Looney, N Byrne, C Murphy, K Hickey, O Cronin, A O'Connor, L Collins, R Sheehan.

Subs: A Wallace for C Murphy (h/t), M Cahalane for N Byrne (h/t), J Hennigan for R Sheehan (41), E Martin for H Looney (50), M Maguire for E Kavanagh (51).

CLARE: E Murray, C Mc Mahon, E Roche, S Fleming, E Casey, S Quinn, R Flanagan, F Murphy, O Devitt, M Kaiser (c), C Taaffe, O Lynch, L Donoghue, K O'Gorman, A O'Brien.

Subs: A Quinlan for C Taaffe (36), A Keogh for E Casey (36), Z Mc Inerney for L Donoghue (54), R Crowe for F Murphy (56), R Devine for A O'Brien (56). **Referee:** Ger O'Dowd (Limerick).

Camogie results

National League Div 1 Grp 1: Kilkenny 2-16 Derry 1-7, Cork 0-19 Tipperary 2-10.

Grp 2: Galway 1-10 Wexford 2-10, Clare 0-15 Dublin 1-5.

Div 2 Grp 1: Cork 1-14 Tipperary 1-6, Kildare 2-16 Down 2-3.

Grp 2: Galway 3-11 Wexford 0-2.

Div 3: Laois 3-12 Roscommon 1-3.

Div 4: Carlow 1-14 Cavan 0-6.

All-Ireland MAC: Cork 6-15 Clare 0-4, Galway 1-11 Limerick 2-8.

All-Ireland MBC: Offaly 4-5 Dublin 2-10; MCC: Meath 3-4 Kildare 2-2, Carlow 0-6 Kerry 0-6, Armagh 2-8 Laois 1-3.

AWARDS

By JOHN TARRANT

THE long wait ended for Milford last season when they secured their first county senior camogie championship after three previous final defeats, with a historic triumph over St Catherine's.

Subsequently Milford have done what's expected of great Cork sides in the provincial and All-Ireland series, to set up a dream All-Ireland final appearance against Killimor in Croke Park on Saturday.

Central to Milford's triumph was the consistent performances of team captain Elaine O'Riordan and she was a winner of the 96FM/C103 Cork GAA Sports Star of the Month Award at a presentation in the Rochestown Park Hotel.

"It's nice to get individual recognition, a number of the team have collected awards over recent months, and it shows the strength of our side," she said.

And from the past season, Milford firmly banished the disappointment of previous years on county final defeats to Carrighoun, St Catherine's and Douglas to overwhelm the Saints in the 2012 county decider.

"After being so close in a number of finals it's difficult to come back, but we did. The key to our success is the involvement of team coach Frank Flannery. Frank coming on board helped to drive us forward with his enthusiasm," said Elaine.

For a relatively new club — founded in 1997 — Milford weren't content to rest on their county laurels on marching past Burgess/Duharra from Tipperary in a Munster final, and sensationally upstaging holders Oulart the Ballagh in an All-Ireland semi-final on Wexford soil.

"Straight from winning the county, we were pitched into the Munster and the All-Ireland series. New ground for us but we have done of what was asked of us," said Elaine, who is manager at Ballyhass Lakes in Ceciltown.

And the triumphant path sets up an intriguing battle in the final against 2011 winners Killimor from Galway in Croke Park next Saturday.

"All our concentration is on Killimor. We know about them because they beat Inniscarra a few years ago in the All-Ireland. We have experienced players who have played in Croke Park previously, as a team it's a new scene but the entire community is behind us and



Finbarr McCarthy presents the Cork 96FM/ C103 GAA Sports Person of the Month Award to Elaine O'Riordan, Milford Camogie Club, also in picture (L to R): Dick Matthews, C103, Tom Tobin, Head of Operations, The Rochestown Park Hotel, Kieran McGeary, CEO, Cork 96FM C103, Marian McCarthy, chairperson, Cork Camogie Board and Kieran McGann, cultural officer, Cork County Board.

Picture: Tony O'Connell Photography.

Milford ready for one last step to glory

we intend giving it our best shot," she said.

Chairwoman of Cork County Camogie Board Marion McCarthy and Cork

County Board Cultural Officer Kieran McCann congratulated all associated with the Milford success story and paid tribute to the leadership of Elaine.

The formal presentation was made by Tom Tobin of Rochestown Park Hotel and co-ordinator Finbarr McCarthy.

Elaine ready to play her part for beloved club

STANDING at just five foot with immaculate, mid-length, golden blonde hair and a porcelain complexion, you would not think Elaine O'Riordan weathered the winter months training for an All-Ireland final. She is anxious to point out that she was not the only one to spend gruelling hours in Deirdre O'Reilly's gym in Kanturk or the only person from the Milford Camogie Club on a strict and personalised strength and conditioning programme given to her by her manager Frankie Flannery. She and her club-mates travel to Croke Park this Sunday to meet their east Galway opponents Killimor in the All-Ireland Senior Camogie Club final.

Milford have had a ground breaking year in 2012 and their captain, Elaine O'Riordan, can only describe the atmosphere in the village as brilliant. "There's a great buzz. It's a small village and a relatively new club so it's a huge achievement for the club and community," she says. Asked what the key is to Milford's success is? She replies: "Great management. Since Frankie took over he has changed our attitudes. We've had to work harder as individuals and as a team, telling us and giving us spirit." Flannery is only in the managerial position since March 2012 with James McGrath, formally of Galway camogie, Sean McAuliffe and

CAMOGIE

By REBECCA MILNER

Lelia Long. Given only a few weeks off after a Munster final victory over Tipperary club Burgess/Duharra, Elaine and her teammates chose to train throughout. Therefore their preparation has been exactly one year long. Twelve months of three-times-a-week training, team building activities, motivational speakers, arranging challenge games with county and college teams, fundraising to afford all weather pitches and gear to play in. Elaine is a manager in Ballyhass Lakes Activities Centre which Milford Camogie

Club have also utilised as apart of their past team building activities. She seems relaxed as she recounts the past year of training and what lies ahead Saturday. "We're looking forward to it." This nonchalant attitude might initially strike as unusual. One whole year spent training, playing, focusing for one day? One whole year of literally blood, sweat and tears. While the majority of people spend the year watching the calendar for events such as birthdays, new years, Christmas; Milford have spent the past year watching the calendar for county finals, Munster finals and All-Ireland finals. This is their birthday/new

year's/Christmas. This is what they have been anticipating for the last 12 months. Finals like the one on Sunday are what motivates her to tog out every year and enables her to push herself to her limits. That and the love of her club. "The Club. It's my club that I play for. It's my club that I work for." Her reason for interest in camogie is the same answer. "My Club," she says when asked. Any pre match rituals? "Mass on Sunday before the game. Oh and I'll be sitting in-between Sarah Sexton and Lisa Healy in the dressing room. I always sit between them before games." ● Milford meet Killimor in Croke Park on Sunday at 5pm

MAR. 2013

O'Riordan: Coach made a difference

IT'S BEEN a busy week for Milford captain Elaine O'Riordan as the build up to Saturday's All-Ireland club championship final continues.

A trip to Croke Park for captain's day on Friday last and a quick visit to the Rochestown Park Hotel on Monday to pick up the January sports award were fitted in between the last two training sessions as she ticks off the days to D-Day.

Little did the dashing defender think that she would ever grace the hallowed grounds of Croke Park, and get the honour of doing it with her club when she signed up to learn to play camogie in Milford National School under the guidance of Sheila Thompson and Ann Watson.

"We were all around eight-years-old and Ann, who had played with Limerick herself, got together with our teacher Sheila Thompson and started camogie in the school," Elaine said.

"We all signed up, thinking it was just for the bit of fun, but it really took off from there."

The "all" Elaine refers to are none other than her teammates who she will stand shoulder to shoulder with on Saturday.

Players such as Anna Geary, Regina Curtin, Maire and Emer Watson, Deirdre O'Reilly, Lisa Healy, and Deirdre Hayes have all been there with Elaine throughout the years.

They have fought many a hard battle in the blue and white of their



Milford captain Elaine O'Riordan receives the Cork County Camogie Championship trophy from board chairwoman Marion McCarthy.
Picture: Supplied

CAMOGIE

By MARY NEWMAN

beloved club, including their current quest to take a Cork Senior county championship title which Elaine readily admits almost broke them.

"To be honest we were beginning to believe it would never happen, three county senior finals and to lose them all was simply heart breaking," the captain says.

"Losing to Douglas in 2011 was soul destroying. We knew we had it within our grasp and just left it behind us. To lose by just one point was a killer."

Despite another disappointment and with a lot of self-doubt beginning to form in the minds, the club and players hauled themselves up and rallied the troops.

They then made what was possibly their best ever move by approaching Frank Flannery and asking him to train and coach the team.

"We had asked him in 2011 and he said no, but on approaching him a second time he agreed to take us on," Elaine continues.

"He also brought on board James McGrath from Toomevara, who was involved with Galway the year previous."

"Sean McAuliffe, who has a lot of experience with Milford, took his first step into camogie, and former player Lelia Long joined them. That made up the back room team and we were up and running."

Running is an appropriate word, as Milford simply blazed a trail in their senior county championship campaign. They always looked likely contenders from their first game when they overcame St Catherine's.

A hugely experienced defender and determined team leader, O'Riordan has three All-Ireland senior medals in both camogie and football.

Also amongst her array of honours are U16 and senior Pan-Celtic championship titles, as well as a Kilmacud All-Ireland Sevens medal in 2005.

At club level she has championship titles from U12 all the way up to senior level.

She also reminded me to include that her very first title came when Milford as a parish won the Community Games in 1996 and 1997, the

catalyst in the decision to form a club.

"Ann and Sheila decided to enter a team in the Cork competitions and we started at U12 and it went on from there," says O'Riordan.

Captaincy was nothing new to Elaine and it rested easily on her shoulders.

She captained Cork to success in the U16 All-Ireland final in 2002, while also enjoying success at Munster and All-Ireland levels with St Mary's Secondary School, Charleville.

"It's just about doing the simple things right and leading by example. Every player on the panel would make a great captain."

"I am just honoured that this year, of all years, I am the one that has the huge honour of leading my club onto Croke Park. It will be a dream come true for me."

Having endured the heartbreak of losing in three county senior finals, the Milford captain is determined that 2012 will continue to be her club's year.

She looks to add the biggest prize to her collection on Saturday, but knows it will not be easy.

"Killimor are an excellent side," Elaine said.

"They were champions in 2010 when they defeated Inniscarra and they will know how to cope with the pressure."

"We're ready and waiting though, and to beat us they'll have to be at their very best. We're going to give it one hell of a shot and won't be found wanting."

With such spirit, determination, and bundles of energy and confidence from their leader, we know Milford will come out fighting until the final whistle.

Claire Conroy (Killimor, Galway), and Elaine O'Riordan (Milford, Cork) at captains day in Croke Park ahead of Saturday's All-Ireland Club senior camogie final.
Picture: Caroline Quinn



Killimor on the brink of regaining the All-Ireland club crown

Galway champions in determined mood ahead of big Croke Park collision against Cork opponents

EOGHAN CORMICAN

REWIND 12 months to a bitterly cold February afternoon in Nenagh - Killimor's hopes of a second successive All-Ireland club final appearance torn to shreds. There would be no return to Croke Park to defend their title. Put simply, a fork in the road had been reached and the question surfaced, where now for this bunch of players?

Killimor's stickwomen had enjoyed unprecedented glory during an all-conquering two year period, securing back-to-back County titles and annexing the Bill Carroll Cup in the process - the fifth Galway club to inscribe their name on club camogie's most coveted prize.

Then, out of the blue, they came unstuck against a Drom & Inch outfit, bringing this success story to an abrupt halt. Spring came and went and camogie enthusiasts in the East Galway village wondered if the players which had given them so many unforgettable days had the hunger to rise once more.

Killimor had long knocked at the door of champions and when they finally barged through, the success achieved was almost unimaginable. This group of players had soldiered together since the County Junior A final win of 2003, taking the Intermediate title at the first attempt a year later. Was it now time for Galway's camogie queens to hand over the baton to a new force?



Killimor's Denise Starr, left, and Ann Marie Starr in action against O'Donovan Rossa.

With no injury concerns to report, Callagy asserts that competition for a starting berth is fierce: "Everyone is flying fit and rearing to go, no one is guaranteed a place for Saturday which is the right way to have it."

Unlike previous campaigns, Killimor were rarely troubled in easing to a third consecutive county championship. Old nemesis Mullagh were cast aside in the semi-final, a real confidence injecting win and that was no more underlined when they played with fantastic style to put Sarsfields to the sword in last November's county final.

Midfielders Emer Haverty and Ann Marie Starr delivered tour de force performances in that final, while corner-forward Susan Keane struck for 1-3 in their 2-12 to 1-4 win. Claire and

they achieved the three-in-a-row of county titles but hammering home that a second All-Ireland title won't be handed to them on a silver platter.

Callagy admits the team hadn't enough work put in prior to the O'Donovan Rossa fixture, but says preparations for the final have gone very much according to plan: "We hadn't that much done before the semi-final, we only went back in January but we've had three good challenges in the last three weeks. We played Clare seniors last Tuesday week, UL and Offaly. They were all good physical games."

"We've done everything we can and we're happy with everything we've done. The girls have put in a superb effort. That challenge against Clare was played in Tulla and we had girls down

O'Riordain at full-back, Maria Walsh at midfield and the Watsons up front. We have a good idea of what we're facing. We're not going to make it easy for them if we can."

Indeed, the key to victory for Killimor will be curtailing a Milford forward unit that has been posting impressive tallies of late, no more so that the 5-15 they hit when capturing the Cork county title back in October.

The club waited a quite a while for a first senior title, but since that 25 point hammering of St Catherine the good times have certainly rolled. The Munster championship followed in quick succession courtesy of a 1-7 to 0-6 victory over Burgess/Duharra.

Given it was Oulart the Ballylough they would meet in the All-Ireland semi-final, provincial glory was supposed to be the height of their achievements. Unphased by the task at hand, however, Milford churned out a remarkable performance to spring one of the upsets of the year thus far, winning out by 1-12 to 1-7.

Anna Geary is the their marquee name, sisters Marie, Eimear and Aine Watson are crucial components in attack while the addition of Maria Walsh when her native club Ballyhea folded has considerably strengthened the side.

Whereas Milford find themselves in unfamiliar territory, Killimor have been here before though Callagy maintains it will count for little come 5pm Satur-



Looking ahead to Saturday's All-Ireland Club senior camogie final in Croke Park are Killimor captain Claire Conroy and Elaine O'Riordan of Milford.

Team captain Conroy relishing Killimor's final showdown with Milford of Cork at Croke Park

EOGHAN CORMICAN

IN a forward unit containing Brenda Hanney, Martina Conroy and Susan Keane, it can be difficult to stand out, make your mark as such. Claire Conroy, even without the title of captain, has never struggled in this regard and has been a crucial cog in Killimor's front six long before the glory days came along.

Having just finished a two-hour session on Cappataggle's astro-turf facility, Conroy is in buoyant form. Just one hour away from All-Ireland glory, the wing-forward is delighted to be back in

Oulart and used it to their advantage to build a big as lead as possible. In the second half they defended well and held on like ourselves. There is no doubt they are a very good side," Conroy told Tribune Sport.

Killimor's semi-final opponents also paid little heed to pre-match talk of a one-sided affair, forcing the Galway champions onto the back foot before goals courtesy of Susan Keane and Aisling Brehony severed O'Donovan Rossa's seemingly unyielding resistance. The team captain agrees that the game, a battle from first whistle to last, was the perfect preparation head-

year, Conroy as noted, has been a constant, laying claim to the number 10 jersey long before Killimor's breakthrough in the autumn of 2010.

Indeed, the rural development officer maintains that Killimor's insatiable hunger, ever present in the win over O'Donovan Rossa, is the product of countless defeats, near misses and years of wearing the tag of perennial underachievers.

"The hunger over the last three years has never waned. We're up senior seven or eight years and we're so long knocking on the door, losing by a point here and

indeed, Croke Park outings are nothing new to her and her team-mates, but as they learned by virtue of last year's semi-final defeat, they are by no means a common occurrence.

"Two years ago we went up and just gave it a lash and it worked out splendidly, we're looking to do the same thing again, we're in the same mindset. The first time was really nervous and even looking back on it now, it's almost like a dream how that day worked out. Another couple of days to go, one or two last sessions and all the girls are just rearing to go."

"It's given the whole village

Killimor, however, proved their appetite was still as strong as ever and will look to reclaim the All-Ireland senior club title when squaring off against Milford in what promises to be a fascinating decider at Croke Park on Saturday (5pm).

Reflecting on the semi-final loss to Drom & Inch, manager Tommy Callaghy says the defeat had a massive impact on his troops. "It was a game I think we half expected to win, but after the loss something changed. By god there is a different attitude this year from the girls and there's been no standing back at all."

Martina Conroy were also prominent in attack shooting 1-7 between them.

Ulster champions O'Donovan Rossa provided the opposition in the All-Ireland semi, a game Killimor were expected to see out with minimum fuss. The underdogs from Antrim, however, completely ripped up the formbook and Killimor were forced to exhaust their full arsenal of energy and effort to scrape through.

To some degree, that narrow victory may prove a blessing in disguise for Killimor – not only bringing them back down to earth after the ease in which

from Dugo, up from Cork, up from Waterford, everyone turned up and you can't do anymore than that."

In any event, the manager says the challenge his charges face this Saturday is a 'serious one', noting it was who Milford came out on top when the two sides met in recent challenge games. "We didn't perform against O'Donovan Rossa but I think our girls will step it up a gear on Saturday."

"We played them early in the year in two challenge matches and they beat us fairly well. They have some fine players, Anna Geary at centre-back, Elaine

day. "The fact that we've been there before should be a small bit of an advantage. In saying that, once you cross those four white lines it's all on the day."

It was Cork opposition Killimor discarded two years ago, but Milford pose a far greater threat underlined by the manner in which they dethroned Oulart the Ballagh. Clare Conroy, elsewhere on these sports pages, says Killimor have yet to produce their best. Anything less and it will prove a fruitless sojourn to the capital. Killimor, you expect, will do everything in their power to avoid such a scenario.

club camogie's showpiece event but is firmly aware of the challenge facing Killimor.

Most sporting enthusiasts envisaged a Killimor, Oulart the Ballagh final showdown, but Muster champions Milford showed scant regard for the formbook in turning over the Wexford aristocrats on their own patch. Indeed, Milford rendered the defending champions scoreless in a spectacular first-half display, carving out a 13 point interval advantage in the process.

"I reckon they are a very tactical side. They had the breeze in the first half against

ing into the decider.

"That game really tested us. It was such a physical match. Everyone was put to the pin of their collar all around the field and we just held on. I feel myself that we were running around 80% that day and so we have yet to peak."

"Since the semi-final we have upped the intensity and we know what's ahead of us so, hopefully, we can work together. We know we're just one hour from a second All-Ireland title."

As with any team players come and go from year to

there, losing county semi-finals, a final.

"We're all still hungry, we all remember those defeats, and we have a few more years in us so while we can we want to play at the top level and win. I certainly still have the hunger and I know everyone else does to. We lost for so long so that now we are winning we want to stay winning, if we can at all."

In any event, Conroy is enjoying the build-up to the final and the excitement which it has generated in the village. All-Ireland finals or,

a real lift, everyone is always inquiring 'how's training going?' Everybody is looking forward to it, the buses are filling up and there will be a mass exodus out of Killimor for the day," she continues.

Whatever transpires on Saturday, you won't find Claire Conroy hiding in the wings, relying on Killimor's big name players to carry the side. And while her contribution on the scoreboard mightn't match up to the likes of Brendan Hanney or, indeed, her younger sister Martina, for work rate she's normally unrivalled.

High flying Castlegar striving to upset the odds again

EOGHAN CORMICAN

THE Castlegar players, at this stage, must well be accustomed to being referred to as underdogs. Much like Ballycran three weeks ago and Portumna all the way back in November, there are very few outside of their own camp giving them much chance of overcoming the Rower-Inistioge in the All-Ireland Intermediate club final at Ashbourne on Saturday (1:30 pm).

Yet, here they are on the cusp of becoming the first Galway club to annex the Agnes O'Farrelly Cup, enjoying a season which saw them return to the senior ranks. That said, it doesn't take a statistical boffin to see that Castlegar are really up against it.

En-route to the final, the Kilkenny champions have been simply rampant, crossing each hurdle as impressive as the last. Certainly, their semi-final win was a statement of intent, consummately sweeping aside the challenge of Kilmaley – a team that boasted no less than six Clare seniors amongst its ranks.

By half-time of that particular contest, the Rower-Inistioge led 2-7 to 0-1. Aoife Lyng tallied both goals with centre-back Kelly Hamilton firing over five points in a hugely productive opening 30 minutes. The winners were forced to withstand a resurgence of sorts from the Bannerwomen at the change of ends, but the result was never in any real doubt.

The display was by no means

a flash in the pan as the Rower-Inistioge had built up an impressive head of steam towards the tail end of last year, sauntering to county and provincial championship wins.

Having accounted for Tullaroan, 3-10 to 0-8, to land the Kilkenny Intermediate crown, they then saw off Camross in the Leinster semi-final. The Rower-Inistioge won that penultimate provincial championship game by 1-12 to 1-7, with Catriona Ryan netting a vital goal to secure their place in the Leinster decider against Shinrone.

Once again the Rower-Inistioge, captained by former Kilkenny stalwart Lizzie Lyng, proved a vastly superior outfit in the final, winning out by 3-12 to 2-8. Castlegar manager Lorraine Keane admits she has paid little attention to her side's opponents, concentrating instead on her own troops and ensuring they leave nothing behind them on Saturday afternoon.

"I really don't know much about the Rower-Inistioge and to be honest I am not really concerned about them. I am only concerned with my own players and how they will perform. I expect there will be some nerves, but that is expected on the day of an All-Ireland final. These are a level-headed bunch of girls and I know they will do the business."

Castlegar have one injury concern of note with Katie Connell sustaining a finger injury in the semi-final replay. Keane, however, is hopeful that



Lizzie Lyng, Rower-Inistioge, Kilkenny, and Donna Burke of Castlegar in relaxed mood at Croke Park ahead of the All-Ireland Intermediate Club final on Saturday.

the corner-forward will be eligible for selection, believing that the two games against Ballycran will stand Castlegar in good stead heading into the decider.

"In the final few minutes of the semi-final replay against Ballycran Katie sustained an injury to her index finger. We

later discovered there was ligament damage and since then she has been receiving intense physio in order to be fit for selection. We will wait until the eleventh hour before we make the call on her."

"I think the two semi-final games will give us a little bit of an advantage. They were huge-

ly physical games, extremely tough and really brought on the team as a whole. They definitely benefited us. Since then, training has been going very well, everyone is pushing hard for inclusion and all the players are looking forward to the game."

Keane, whose coaching

background stems from almost two decades of involvement with ladies soccer, was delighted by the manner of victory in Casement Park, but more so impressed with how the players rescued a seemingly lost cause in the drawn fixture. Trailing by 1-7 to 0-4 entering the final quarter, Castlegar hit six points

on the hop to square matters at the death.

"The girls like to sit back in the first half and size up the opposition. That's what they did the first day against Ballycran. They always come out in the second-half, really up the intensity and take the game to their opponents."

While the Galway champions have quality aplenty in the likes of Donna Burke, Catriona Lee, Elaine Murphy and Maria Corcoran, on the scoreboard at least, it has nearly been a one-woman show.

Of the 1-33 registered in their last three games, Aislinn Connolly has accounted for 0-26 of this tally. And while Connolly will once more lead the charge against the Rower-Inistioge, put simply, if Castlegar are to have any chance of success then other players must stand up to be counted.

"Each girl plays a vital role in the team beginning with our goalkeeper right through to the corner forward and indeed the subs that come on. In saying that, Aislinn has great experience having played in two All-Ireland finals and gives confidence to other girls," Keane continues.

Such has been the increasing interest in the team's fortunes of late, the manager is anticipating a mass exodus to the Meath venue. "Three buses have already been filled for the game and we're hopeful one or two more will be filled between now and the game. There has been a great buzz around the place. There has been competition almost between the different areas to see who has the most bunting out, the most flags, the most colour. It's been amazing really."

Underdogs they may be, but the annals of sporting history are brimming with upsets and Castlegar are not without hope in seeking to extend that list.

Rower ready to make club history

CAMOGIE WITH
MICHAEL O'LEARY

THE

COUNTDOWN is well under-way as the Rower-Inistioge get ready for the biggest day in their club's history.

The girls in red and green will head for Meath this Saturday bidding to become the first team in the county to win the All-Ireland intermediate club camogie title.

Standing in their way in Ashbourne (throw-in 1.30pm) will be Galway's Castlegar, who are also keen to end their season on a high.

The final has a real numbers feel to it. Win, and the Rower will become the fourth Kilkenny club to taste national success, following in the footsteps of senior All-Ireland winners St Paul's, Lisdowney and St Lachtain's. Victory would also see the county land a lucky 13th national camogie club title.

Whatever the outcome of Saturday's battle, the cup will have a new name etched on it. Now in its third season, Derry club Eoghan Rua were the only previous winner of the intermediate championship. Indeed, the Rower are the first Kilkenny team to make the final, having captured the county's maiden provincial crown when they beat Offaly's Shinrone back in October.

They will have a tough opponent in Castlegar, a club located on the outskirts of Galway City in the parish of Ballybri. Castlegar are renowned for the Connolly brothers Michael, John and Joe, who



Captains Lizzie Lyng (left) and Donna Burke (right) might be back to back here, but they'll go face to face this Saturday when their clubs Rower-Inistioge and Castlegar battle for the All-Ireland intermediate camogie title. Photo: Caroline Quinn

hurled with club and county points.

A lot of Castlegar's hopes will rest on the shoulders of John's daughter Aislinn. She has been key player in attack for the inter-county seniors in recent years, and was an All-Star in 2010.

Season to remember

For the Rower, making the final is another chapter in what has been a season to remember.

Last October they won their very first intermediate county final, beating Tullaroan by 11

points. Driven on by the heartbreak of back-to-back county final defeats to St Anne's in 2009 (after a replay) and Lisdowney in 2010, the Rower took control from the off. With Emma Hynes giving a sensational display at wing-back and Catriona Ryan and Lizzie Lyng leading the way in attack, intermediate glory was accomplished.

In her post-match acceptance speech team captain Lizzie Lyng promised that the Rower would represent the county as best as

possible in the Leinster championship. She was true to her word, as a hard-earned 1-12 to 1-7 victory over Camross was followed by Leinster title success against a gallant Shinrone outfit in Inistioge.

Since then attention has switched to preparing for the All-Ireland championship. The commitment to training has been very evident with plenty of early morning starts at the weekends. It was also business as usual over the Christmas period, while Coolroe Hill in

nearby Graignamanagh became a regular destination. The dedicated commitment of the girls has paid dividends, as they have been rewarded with a place in the All-Ireland final.

In their four matches since the County semi-final victory against Ballyhale Shamrocks, the Rower-Inistioge defence on average have conceded only 1-1 from play. Give a similar performance this Saturday and All-Ireland glory surely awaits.

Path to final

County semi-final
Rower-Inistioge 3-10, Ballyhale Shamrocks 1-10.

County final
Rower-Inistioge 3-10, Tullaroan 0-8.

Leinster semi-final
Rower-Inistioge 1-12, Camross (Laois) 1-7.

Leinster final
Rower-Inistioge 3-12, Shinrone (Offaly) 2-8.

All-Ireland semi-final
Rower-Inistioge 2-9, Kilmaley (Clare) 1-5.

Big day for Captain Fantastic

SHE HAS had her fair share of disappointments throughout her playing career, but Lizzie Lyng is now on the brink of becoming an All-Ireland-winning captain.

An outstanding servant to club and county, Lyng is one of the most versatile

players in the game. A solid and dependable performer over the years, her versatility has served her well.

She played inter-county at senior level for 13 years up until the 2011 All-Ireland semi-final defeat to Galway, coming closest to winning a senior All-Ireland medal in her debut

season of 1999.

Having started the first 15-a-side final in the sport's history, the 16-year-old Lizzie grabbed a goal before half-time to leave Kilkenny narrowly ahead of Tipp (1-5 to 0-7).

The legendary Anne Downey introduced as a second-half substitute on

her final appearance for the Black and Amber, but it wasn't enough as Kilkenny hearts were broken by an injury-time free which denied them a replay (0-12 to 1-8).

League medal

Lizzie would endure further All-Ireland final dis-

appointment with defeats in 2001 and 2009. She did, however, win a National League medal in 2008, playing at midfield on the team that beat Galway in Nowlan Park by 3-11 to 0-17.

In 2000 Lizzie, along with Eimear Lyng, Becky Dempsey and Briona Langton were part of the Rower-Inistioge team that won the junior county championship, a fitting way to bounce back from successive final losses to Mullinavat (1998) and St Anne's (1999).

Similar to that junior success they endured intermediate final heartache along the way, losing consecutive finals to St Anne's in 2009 and Lisdowney (2010) before making the breakthrough in 2012.

In 2009, they relinquished a nine-point half-time to St Anne's, drawing the game before losing out by a point in the replay.

The league title was captured in August 2010, but the championship wasn't added as they lost by 2-10 to 1-6 to Lisdowney.

The Rower struggled to make an impact in an injury-hit 2011, but it was

all change in 2012, with Lyng named captain once more.

A good league campaign, where they reached the semi-final, was only the preamble for what was to follow.

Having captured the transfer of Catriona Ryan from nearby Tullogher ahead of the start of the championship, they were now a more potent all round force - title contenders.

Evidence was enhanced by an impressive 3-10 to 1-10 victory over a strong fancied and experienced Ballyhale Shamrocks in the semi-final. Come final day, they were certainly determined to ensure it was third time lucky.

Hunger

Their final opponents, Tullaroan, had no answer as the strength, hunger and ferocious determination of the Rower-Inistioge contingent emphatically put the disappointment of their two previous final defeats very much to bed.

A Lizzie Lyng goal in the 18th minute gave them a decisive seven-point advantage at the interval

(1-7 to 0-3). Two further goals from Catriona Ryan ensured the celebrations would begin in earnest, as they ran out convincing 11-point winners (3-10 to 0-8).

Tough contest

With their attentions turned to the Leinster Championship, the Rower travelled to Laois to play Camross in the semi-final. A tough contest emerged with Rower-Inistioge prevailing 1-12 to 1-7, as a Catriona Ryan goal sealed their place in the Leinster final on the October Bank Holiday weekend.

That final, played along the banks of the Nore in picturesque Inistioge, was a memorable occasion.

After beating Shinrone of Offaly 3-12 to 2-8 in an enthralling contest, captain Lyng spoke of how their last training session before the Leinster final was their 99th of the year. They would hit the 100 mark when they turned their attention to All-Ireland glory.

Winning that Leinster title was a high point in Lyng's career. Her proudest moment yet may be just a few days away.



The Rower-Inistioge camogie team who will be going for All-Ireland glory this weekend. Back row (from left): Aisling Carroll, Emma Kavanagh, Bridgette Doyle, Ruth Kavanagh, Jane Cullen, Lisa Gannon, Eadaoin Leahy, Michelle Murphy, Briona Langton, Christine Lyng, Aoife Hanrahan, Emma Kavanagh, Sarah O' Mahoney, Catriona Ryan, Mairéad Grace, Aoife Lyng, Becky Doyle. Front: Elaine Fleming, Mairéad Kennedy, Nora Hanrahan, Laura Muldoon, Aine Gannon, Tara Kennedy, Fiona Carroll, Kelly Hamilton, Eimear Lyng, Lizzie Lyng, Bridin White, Clara Lyng, Andrea Lyng, Aine Holohan.



Going flat out for an All-Ireland! The Rower-Inistioge's Lizzie Lyng (left) and Castlegar's Donna Burke (right) will give their all when they meet again this Saturday and compete in the All-Ireland intermediate club camogie final. The game, which will be played in Ashbourne, will see the Rower girls aim to win a first national intermediate club camogie title for the county and an impressive 13th club title in all. See page six for a full match preview.
Photo: Caroline Quinn caption

Cork see-off Clare to book final place against Tipp

Cork 2-10
Clare 1-5

CAMOGIE

CORK qualified for the Munster U16A championship final as they recorded a victory over Clare on Saturday in Feakle, writes **MARY NEWMAN**.

Hannah Looney was in top form, contributing 1-4, as Cork overcame the home side.

Cork made a good start with points from Hayley Ryan, Katie O'Keefe and Lisa Lynch while Hannah Looney was on target with a goal. Boosted by some excellent play from goalkeeper Lauren Solan, Clare finished the half strongly with Lauren Tuohy on target from frees. Hayley Ryan convert the rebound over the bar after a good save from Hannah Looney and a minutes later Clare's Aoibheann Malone set up Emma O'Connell to strike to the net to reduce the deficit to only the minimum at the break.

Points from Hannah Looney (2), Katie O'Keefe and Lisa Lynch extended Cork's advantage and continuing to keep the pressure

on they dominated, a goal from

Aibhe Dowling saw them comfortable and they extended their advantage before the full time whistle as they added to their tally with ease to book their place in the final against defending champions Tipperary.

Scorers for Cork: H Looney 1-4, A Dowling 1-0, L Lynch, 0-2 (fs), H Ryan, K O'Keefe 0-2 each.

Clare: E O'Connell 1-0, L Tuohy 0-3 (fs), AM Hayes, L Browne 0-1 each.

CORK: C Casey, L Casserly, A Crowley, C O'Callaghan, C Nason, R Walsh, K Falvey, E Ni Dheumsaigh, M Barry, L Lynch, H Looney, M Buckley, H Ryan, A Dowling, K O'Keefe.

Subs: L McEvoy for C O'Callaghan (41), L O'Neill, for M Buckley (36), N O'Leary for H Ryan (36), H Fitzgerald for K O'Keefe (53).

CLARE: L Solan, A Tuohy, M O'Brien, L Brown, A McMahon, A Keane, N Whyte, R Flanagan, A Duggan, J Leamy, A Malone, L Tuohy, AM Hayes, E O'Connell, L Browne 0-1.

Subs: K Lyons for J Leamy (41), S Glynn for N Whyte (49), K Power for A Duggan (54), E O'Dea for E O'Connell (57).

Referee: Noel Coffey (Tipperary).

MAR. 2013



Milford's Deirdre O'Reilly, in action against Oulart The Ballagh's Mary Leacy in the All-Ireland semi-final, is a key player for her side as they bid to bring glory to the parish with their first All-Ireland camogie title.

Picture: Caroline Quinn

MAR. 2013

PRESIDENT'S ADDRESS



s cúis mhór áithais dom fáilte a chur romhaibh go léir go Páirc an Chrócaigh don ócáid speisialta seo. Tá súil agam go mbeidh cluiche den scoth againn inniu. Guim gach rath ar na h-imreoirí agus ar na h-oilgi go léir inniu.

It's a great pleasure to welcome Killimor of Galway and Milford of Cork to this year's AIB All Ireland Senior Camogie Club Final. This evening's game is one which has been eagerly awaited by both counties, not to mention the two participating teams who have been looking forward to this occasion since winning their respective semi-final games on February 3rd. Killimor return to Croke Park, having won the title in 2010 while Milford will be determined to capture their first Senior All Ireland Club crown. Both sides had to battle hard to reach this year's finals with Milford comprehensively defeating the holders Oulart The Ballagh, Wexford and Killimor overturning Antrim kingpins, O'Donovan Rossa.

The All Ireland Senior Club Championships, in existence since 1964 are named in honour of the late Bill Carroll, a fantastic supporter of Camogie. The Intermediate grade named in honour of Agnes O'Farrelly, had its debut on All Ireland finals day in Croke Park in 2010. One thing is for certain and that is the esteem in which the club championships are held by players and supporters.

The Club is the foundation of the Camogie Association, and this evening, two of the country's top sides take centre stage in pursuit of All Ireland glory. The club championships hold a very special place in the heart of all Gaelic Games followers, and unite parishes and communities around the country in a shared passion for their respective side. This evening Milford and Killimor will be supported by their immediate communities and also supporters from their respective counties. The dedication, work, commitment and determination that it has taken, by both sides in reaching this evening's final, has to be commended and I salute the efforts of all the players and those behind the scenes, who play an integral role in their club. I hope that this evening's game will be full of skill, passion, flair



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KILLIMOR RETURN TO CROKE PARK, HAVING WON THE TITLE IN 2010 WHILE MILFORD WILL BE DETERMINED TO CAPTURE THEIR FIRST SENIOR ALL IRELAND CLUB CROWN.

and excitement. We are also delighted that our game will be broadcast live on Setanta Sports tonight.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank AIB for coming on board this year as our partner for the All Ireland Club Finals. We are particularly pleased that AIB, who have been a strong supporter of Gaelic Games, through their partnership with the GAA Club Championships, have now chosen to associate with our club championships. We thank you most sincerely for this.

Finally, I would also like to thank Dublin GAA and all at Croke Park Stadium.

Táim cinnte go mbeidh sárchomórtas idir na foirne inniu agus go mbainfidh go léir taitheamh as an cluiche.

Eibhlín Mí Lestachóir

AILEEN LAWLOR
PRESIDENT, CAMOGIE ASSOCIATION

AIB All-Ireland Senior Club Championship Final.

Killimor v Milford
5.00pm, Saturday 2nd March, Croke Park.



MILFORD

Back Row: Venny Brien, Karen Brien, Mairead McEvoy, Marie Duane, Aisling Brehony, Denise Starr, Maolca Callagy, Ann Marie Hayes, Martina Conroy, Niamh Larkin, Ruth Groves, Naomi Burke, Brenda Hanney, Niamh Hanney, Tommy Callagy, Noeleen Reilly. **Front Row:** Elise O'Hara, Sinead O'Hara, Emer Haverly, Ann Marie Starr, Julie Brien, Susan Keane, Helen Campbell, Clare Conroy, Sinead Fishy, Helen Quinn, Serena Brien.



KILLIMOR

Back Row (L-R): Sarah O'Flaherty, Niamh O'Brien, Geraldine O'Connor, Orlaith O'Mahony, Ashling Thompson, Emer Watson, Maria Walsh, Rebecca Finn, Marie O'Neill, Katie Galvin, Anna Geary, Louise O'Flynn, Katie Dillane, Caroline Watson, Rebecca Duggan, Ashling Dillon, Aileen O'Flynn, Regina Curtin. **Front Row (L-R):** Mairead Geary, Nicole O'Connor, Kallie Hodgins, Deirdre O'Reilly, Aine Watson, Rebecca Connolly, Elaine O'Riordan, Sarah Sexton, Lisa Healy, Maria Watson, Sinead O'Flynn, Deirdre Hayes, Eimear O'Friel

CAMOGIE PREVIEW



AIB All-Ireland Senior Club Camogie Final PREVIEW

DARAGH O'CONCHUR

Killimor (Galway) v Milford (Cork)

When Killimor last met a Cork side in the All-Ireland final two years ago, it was predicted with plenty of confidence that there wouldn't be much more than a puck of the sliotar in it. With skipper, Brenda Hanney in sparkling form though, the westerners blitzed a very talented Inniscarra unit to claim the garlands.

They lost to Drom/Irch in last year's semi-final but after completing a three-in-a-row of Galway championships in comfortable fashion against Sarsfields, and then accounting for O'Donovan Rossa, Tommy Callaghy's crew are now one step away from getting their hands on

the Bill Carroll Cup again.

This time, it is Milford standing in their way and once more, one has to predict a humdinger. Indeed there is an argument to be made that the North Cork outfit should be favourites, given that they dethroned Killimor's successors, Oulart-The Ballagh in very convincing style on the champions' home turf.

Anna Geary kept Ursula Jacob to just one point from play but as a team, Milford gave an exhibition of defensive play, with captain, Elaine O'Riordan also prominent alongside Geary. Maria Walsh and Aisling Thompson ensured midfield dominance and they had the game tied up at half

time, leading by 1-10 to 0-0.

Regina Curtin, Maria Watson, Maria Walsh and Marie O'Neill give them an attacking edge too, as evidenced when they finally won a county title – having lost three finals since 2004 – by overcoming St Catherine's to the tune of 23 points.

It is their defensive structure that is the key however, and certainly, was vital in helping them win the Munster final by four points, despite notching up just 1-7 in difficult conditions.

They will need to be at their best to deny Killimor. The 2011 queenpins were put under huge pressure by O'Donovan Rossa and trailed

by four points early on but as she has done throughout this campaign, Susan Keane pounced for a goal to breathe new life into their challenge.

Hanney and Martina Conroy are two other quality attackers, and with Ann-Marie Hayes providing the ammunition, Killimor had the wherewithal to book their place in Croke Park.

The teams have played each other twice in challenge matches, with Milford coming out on top, but nobody will be reading too much, if anything into that. An All-Ireland final at headquarters is a much more tropical kettle of fish.

Don't expect a one-sided encounter here. ■



MARIA WALSH
MILFORD



ANN-MARIE HAYES
KILLIMOR

AIB ALL-IRELAND SENIOR CAMOGIE CLUB CHAMPIONSHIP FINAL



MILFORD

1 Rebecca **FINN**
R. Ni Fhinn

2 Katie **GALVIN**
C. Ni Ghealbháin

3 Elaine **O'RIORDAN** (Capt)
A. Ni Ghadhra

4 Lisa **HEALY**
L. Ni hÉil

5 Maria **WALSH**
M. Breatnach

6 Anna **GEARY**
A. Ni Ghadhra

7 Sarah **SEXTON**
S. Ni Sheasnáin

8 Orlaith **O'MAHONY**
O. Nic Mhathúna

9 Aisling **THOMPSON**
A. Nic Thomáis

10 Emer **WATSON**
E. Nic Uait

11 Deirdre **O'REILLY**
D. Ni Raghallaigh

12 Aine **WATSON**
A. Nic Uait

13 Marie **O'NEILL**
M. Ni Néill

14 Regina **CURTIN**
R. Nic Cúirtin

15 Maria **WATSON**
M. Nic Uait

FIR IONAIÐ

16. Sarah O'Flaherty, S. Ni Fhionnghaigh
17. Deirdre Hayes, D. Ni hAodha
18. Niamh O'Brien, N. Ni Bhriain
19. Eimear Friel, E. Ni Fhíol
20. Louise O'Flynn, L. Ni Fhionn
21. Nicole O'Connor, N. Ni Chonraí
22. Sinead O'Flynn, S. Ni Fhionn
23. Katie Dillane, C. Ni Dhuláin
24. Aileen O'Flynn, A. Ni Fhionn
25. Rebecca Duggan, R. Ni Dhugáin

26. Kallie Hodgins, K. Nic Houston
27. Geraldine O'Connor, G. Ni Chonchúir
28. Caroline Watson, C. Nic Uait
29. Rebecca Connolly, R. Ni Chonchúir
30. Aisling Dillon, A. Ni Dhúilín
31. Mairead Geary, M. Ni Ghadhra

Manager: Frankie Flannery
Selectors: Lela Long, Sean McAuliffe,
James McGrath
Doctor: Dr. Mary Roche
Team Assistants: Paul McAuliffe &
Jonathan McAuliffe

	1ST HALF	2ND HALF	TOTAL
GOALS			
POINTS			
WIDES			
OSM			
FREES			



AIB ALL-IRELAND SENIOR CAMOGIE CLUB CHAMPIONSHIP FINAL

KILLIMOR

1 Helen **CAMPBELL**
H. Nic Cathmhaoil

2 Julie **BRIEN**
J. Ni Bhriain

3 Karen **BRIEN**
K. Ni Bhriain

4 Niamh **HANNEY**

5 Marie **DUANE**
M. Ni Dhúain

6 Ann Marie **HAYES**
A.M. Ni hAodha

7 Maolicia **CALLAGHY**
M. Ni Chalgáigh

8 Ann Marie **STARR**

9 Emer **HAVERTY**
E. Ni hAbhartáigh

10 Claire **CONROY** (Capt)
C. Ni Chonraí

11 Brenda **HANNEY**

12 Aisling **BREHONY**
A. Nic an Breithiúnaigh

13 Susan **KEANE**
S. Ni Chatháin

14 Martina **CONROY**
M. Ni Chonraí

15 Denise **STARR**

FIR IONAIÐ

16. Niamh Larkin, N. Ni Lorcáin
17. Naomi Burke, N. de Burca
18. Helen Quinn, H. Ni Chonraí
19. Serena Brien, S. Ni Bhriain
20. Mairead McEvoy, M. Nic Fhionnghaigh
21. Sinead O'Hara, S. Ni hÉil
22. Sinead Fahy, S. Ni Fhionnghaigh
23. Ellie O'Hara, E. Ni hÉil
24. Ruth Groves

Team Management:
Tommy Callaghy: Manager/Coach
Vincent Breen: Selector
Noelien Rolly: Selector
Seamus O'Shea: Trainer
Gara Mooney: Medic

	1ST HALF	2ND HALF	TOTAL
GOALS			
POINTS			
WIDES			
OSM			
FREES			

Milford marvels make history



ALL-IRELAND SENIOR CAMOGIE CLUB FINAL
KILLIMOR (GALWAY).....1-6
MILFORD (CORK).....3-6

Daragh Ó Conchúir
Croke Park

A resolute defensive performance fronted by player of the match Sarah Sexton, Anna Geary and team captain Elaine O'Riordan, was at the very core of Milford's historic All-Ireland Senior Club camogie championship-winning display at Croke Park on Saturday night.

Such was the overall work ethic of the North Cork girls they completely snuffed out the considerable threat of Killimor duo, Brenda Hanney and Martina Conroy.

"I'm delighted for the girls" said manager, Frank Flannery.

"It's a monumental occasion. We didn't play particularly well but we won. Finals are for winning and that's the main thing. We were a bit edgy but we said if we conceded no goals we'd win the match."

"I think up to today we conceded 2-6 from play all year. We conceded 1-1 today. Eight games, 3-7. That's good. That's what our game is built on. You see our wing-forwards, they tuck back like footballers and that's the way the game is gone."

"We didn't expect Emer Watson's free to go over the bar and it did so that's a bonus. It was a big score at the time and I think it took off from there. I think Anna [Geary] and Sarah Sexton really brought us into the game as well."

"Regina [Curtin] did so well too. She has been sick all week but you wouldn't have known it out there as she gave absolutely everything. That's what these girls are about."

Two goals from Maria Watson and another by Deirdre O'Reilly augmented those defensive efforts to cement Mil-



The Milford squad from Cork celebrate after beating Galway club Killimor to win the AIB All-Ireland Senior Club camogie championship final at Croke Park on Saturday.

Picture: Caroline Quinn

ford's night to remember.

In particular, it was their quick-fire double in the space of a minute that blew this game wide open.

The first was a wonderfully-crafted effort, as county football star O'Reilly didn't even have to break stride to crash the ball to the net in the 20th minute after a visionary pass from the outstanding Marie O'Neill. Watson scrambled a second almost immediately after and Milford led 2-4 to 0-5 at half-time.

Watson finished expertly from a Regina Curtin pass in the 41st minute and Flannery's charges saw the game out comfortably from there.

Killimor kept plugging away but never threatened to breach the outstanding Milford rearguard until Brenda Hanney doubled a brilliant goal in the 59th minute.

It was much too late for Tommy Callagy's crew to fashion any sort of comeback but even in the couple of remaining minutes, they never looked like denying their opponents a deserved success.

Scorers for Milford: M Watson 2-0, E Watson 0-4fs, D O'Reilly 1-0, M O'Neill 0-2.

Scorers for Killimor: M Conroy 0-5 (4fs, 1-45); B Hanney 1-1.

Milford: R Finn; K Galvin, M Walsh, L Healy; E O'Riordan, A Geary, S Sexton; O O'Mahony, A Thompson; E Watson, D O'Reilly, A Watson; M O'Neill, R Curtin, M Watson.

Subs: L O'Flynn for A Watson (40); D Hayes for Galvin (56); A O'Flynn for Curtin (56); E Friel for M Watson (58); N O'Brien for Healy (58).

Killimor: H Campbell; J Brien, K Brien, N Hanney; M Duane, AM Hayes, M Callagy; AM Starr, E Havery; C Conroy, M Conroy, A Brehony; S Keane, B Hanney, D Starr.

Subs: R Groves for Brehony (39); N Burke for D Starr (49).

Referee: G O'Dowd (Limerick)

THE 60
SECOND
REPORT

The key moment

Deirdre O'Reilly's 20th minute goal. It was brilliantly worked and they never looked back.

Pub talk

The increasing standard of skill and physicality in camogie. The catching, blocking, hooking and shooting would not have been out of place at inter-county level.

Haven't seen that before

Milford winning a senior club championship All-Ireland in the same year they won their first county title.

The main woman

Sarah Sexton got player of the match but Anna Geary and Marie O'Neill must have been close to getting the nod.

The man in black

Excellent performance by Ger O'Dowd. Got the big decisions right and went about his business without any fuss.

What's next?

Celebrations for Milford, a year of pain for Killimor.
Daragh Ó Conchúir

Connolly shoots Castlegar to glory

Castlegar (Galway)1-8
The Rower-Inistiege (Kilkenny)1-6

By Daragh Ó Conchúir
All-Ireland Intermediate Club Camogie final

Aislinn Connolly scored all bar one of her side's total in a player-of-the-match performance as Castlegar won the All-Ireland intermediate club camogie title at Donaghmore-Ashbourne.

The daughter of hurling legend John Connolly was actually uncharacteristically inaccurate with a number of opportunities but her contribu-

tion was certainly the significant one in the game.

A Lizzie Lyng goal helped The Rower-Inistiege into a 1-2 to 0-1 lead but Connolly planted a 20m free to the net at the other end of the field to put the sides level at the break on 1-3 apiece.

Three frees from the outstanding Kelly Hamilton propelled the Kilkenny champions to a two-point lead with ten minutes remaining but they failed to score again.

With Sara Kelly hugely influential, Castlegar finished the strongest, three points from Connolly and another from Katie Connell securing the honours.

Scorers for Castlegar: A Connolly 1-7 (1-4fs, 1-45), K Connell 0-1.

The Rower-Inistiege: K Hamilton 0-6fs, L Lyng 1-0.

Castlegar: E Concannon; K Murphy, D Burke, L Farragher; S Jacobsen, C Lee, O Keane; E Murphy, A Connolly; T Connolly, R Flaherty, S Kelly; K Connell, M Corcoran, M Farragher.

Sub: T Kennedy for White (44).

The Rower-Inistiege: E Kavanagh; J Cullen, E Lyng, B Dempsey; E Hynes, K Hamilton, C Lyng; A Gannon, B Langton; S O'Mahoney, L Lyng, B White; C Lyng, C Ryan, A Lyng.

Sub: K Noone for T Connolly (45)

Referee: M Kelly (Cork).

Evening Echo SPORT

Epic journey
ends in joy for
Milford

Milford captain Elaine O'Riordan lifts the AIB All-Ireland Senior Club Championship cup after victory over Killimor (Galway) at Croke Park, Dublin yesterday. See P51 for match report.

Picture: Caroline Quinn



Milford move in for the Kil'

TWO quickfire first half goals sent Milford on their way to an historic All-Ireland club senior camogie triumph at Croke Park on Saturday night.

The first was a wonderfully-crafted effort, as county football star Deirdre O'Reilly didn't even have to break stride to crash the sliotar to the net in the 20th minute after a visionary pass from the outstanding Marie O'Neill.

Maria Watson then scrambled the first of her two goals almost immediately after and Milford led 2-4 to 0-5 at half-time.

The north Cork girls' work ethic allowed them to completely snuff out the considerable threat of Killimor duo Brenda Hanney and Martina Conroy on their way to the title.

With Oulart-The-Ballagh having been beaten in the semi-final, this was a victory to be cherished, as Milford had accounted for the last two years' champions to get their hands on the Bill O'Carroll Cup.

Watson finished expertly from a Regina Curtin pass

Milford 3-6 Killimor 1-6
All-Ireland Senior Camogie Club Championship final

in the 41st minute and Milford never looked back from there.

Credit

To their credit, Killimor kept plugging away but never threatened to breach the outstanding Milford rearguard until Hanney doubled a brilliant goal in the 59th minute.

However, it was much too late for Tommy Callagy's crew to fashion any sort of comeback and Milford eased their way to the final whistle.

MILFORD: R Finn; K Galvin, M Walsh, L Healy; E O'Riordan, A Geary, S Sexton; O O'Mahony, A Thompson; E Watson 0-4 (0-4fs), D O'Reilly 1-0, A Watson, M O'Neill 0-2, R Curtin, M Watson 2-0.

SUBS: L O'Flynn for A Watson (40); D Hayes for Galvin (56); A O'Flynn for Curtin (56); E Friel for M Watson (58); N O'Brien for Healy (58).

KILLIMOR: H Campbell; J Brien, K Brien, N Hanney; M Duane, AM Hayes, M Callagy; AM Starr, E Havery; C Conroy, M Conroy 0-5 (0-4fs, 1-45), A Brehony; S Keane, B Hanney 1-1, D Starr.

SUBS: R Groves for Brehony (39); N Burke for D Starr (49).

REFeree: G O'Dowd (Limerick)



A TEAM EFFORT: MILFORD

Epic journey ends in joy for Milford

Flannery: Watson point was catalyst

REACTION



LINDA MELLERICK

CAMOGIE

Milford 3-6
Killimor 1-6

INCREDIBLE scenes of joy at headquarters last Saturday evening as Milford took their first All-Ireland senior club title in comfortable fashion.

Despite a little blip on 58 minutes when Brenda Hanney doubled a dropping '45 to the net Milford, from their three minute purple patch on 19 minutes, controlled this final.

Despite their tender years in club terms, Milford had suffered more than their fair share of senior heartbreak. That's all forgotten now.

With perfect weather conditions the elements didn't play a factor. Just two teams on an equal playing field giving it all they had.

The game had an edge despite the low scoring first quarter. Killimor's defence were excellent, composed and tenacious, hunting in packs, closing Milford down at every opportunity. At the other end Sarah Sexton, Maria Walsh and Anna Geary were equal to the task.

Martina Conroy opened Killimor's scoring inside three minutes with her first of five points from placed balls. It took 15 minutes for Milford to register with an Emer Watson free.

Conroy extended Killimor's lead by two but what followed laid the foundation for a Milford victory from early on.

A move involving Elaine O'Riordan, Regina Curtin, Marie O'Neill and Deirdre O'Reilly saw the latter clinically finish past Killimor's keeper Helen Campbell as Milford split Killimor's posts for the first time.

They had hardly caught their breath when school teacher Maria Watson challenged for a high dropping ball into the square and was first to react on the ground to hit the net again within 60 seconds.

It sent the huge Milford support into frenzy.

A now relaxed, confident Milford began to play with fluency as Marie O'Neill added a further point by the 22nd minute to lead Killimor by five.

Two points to one in favour of Killimor reduced the deficit by one but on the stroke of half time a great intervention again by Maria Walsh found O'Neill who struck beautifully between the posts to maintain that five point advantage at the break; 2-4 to 0-5.

When Emer Watson pointed immediately upon the restart and play held up for a few minutes due to a Killimor injury it was all starting to look very good for Milford.



Milford's Deirdre O'Reilly and Elaine O'Riordan celebrate with the trophy at Croke Park on an historic day for the club.

Picture: Inpho

Three reasons Milford won

PURPLE PATCH

With both sides still vying for an edge over the other, it was Milford's 19th to 22nd minute purple patch which swung this game. Despite a game never being over until the final whistle, there didn't seem a way back for Killimor. And so it proved to be. Killimor never recovered.

SUPERB DEFENCE

Milford's defence all season has been exceptional. Before Saturday's final they had conceded just 2-6 from play in 7 championship matches. On Saturday against a side that scored 3-18 on their last visit to Croke Park in 2011 they conceded just 1-1. An incredible performance.

PREPARATION

From the outset of their campaign in early 2012, Milford's preparation has been utterly professional in every way. No stone was left unturned.

Their confidence soared and their hunger was evident.

Every player who graced the pitch last Saturday played their part.

The game was over as a contest after 40 minutes when another lovely, smooth passage of Milford inter-play gave them their third goal of the afternoon.

A brilliant cross ball by O'Neill, caught by Regina Curtin found Maria Watson who made no mistake.

Killimor pushed and pushed to get back into the game but Milford's confidence had peaked and with Sarah Sexton and Anna Geary huge in the final quarter there was no way through.

It was time to give as many Milford players as possible a run in Croke Park and rightly Frank Flannery did so. A double substitution on the 55th and 57th minutes saw their five subs

utilised after Louise O'Flynn had earlier entered the fray.

Despite Hanney's late major, there was no cause for panic. The scene was set. This title was Milford's.

Every player had played their part, every backroom support and supporter had played their part. This was a dream they had harboured for a long time. It's been 20 years since the Bill Carroll cup returned to Cork. It's been too long. It's here now. Looking at Milford's performance last Saturday it could be here for a while.

Scorers for Milford: M Watson 2-0, E Watson 0-4 (ft), Deirdre O'Reilly 1-0, M O'Neill 0-2.

Killimor: M Conroy 0-5 (0-3 f, 0-2 '45), B Hanney 1-1.

MILFORD: R Finn, K Galvin, E O'Riordan, L Healy, M Walsh, A Geary, S Sexton, O O'Ma-



Milford's Orlaith O'Mahony (8), and Ashling Thompson celebrate after the final whistle.

Picture: Caroline Quinn

hony, A Thompson; E Watson, D O'Reilly, A Watson, M O'Neill, R Curtin, M Watson.
Subs: L O'Flynn for A Watson (40), D Hayes for K Galvin, A O'Flynn for R Curtin (55), N O'Brien for L Healy, E Friel for M Watson (57).
KILLIMOR: H Campbell, J Brien, K Brien, N Hanney, M Duane, A M Hayes, M Gallagher, A M Starr, E Haverly, C Conroy, B Hanney, A Brehony, S Keane, M Conroy, D Starr.
Subs: R Groves for A Brehony (38), N Burke for D Starr (49), S Brien for S Keane (58).
Referee: Ger O'Dowd (Limerick).

AN EXUBERANT Milford manager Frank Flannery gave his thoughts after their fantastic victory.

"Delighted for the girls and the lads, a monumental occasion, we didn't play particularly well, but we won."

"Finals are for winning and that's the main thing. We were a bit edgy but we said if we conceded no goals we'd probably win the match."

Asked if he thought Milford's first goal was what relaxed them Frank replied: "I think Emer Watson's free in front of us."

"We didn't expect it to go over and it did so that's a bonus. It was a big score at the time and I think we took off from there."

"I think Marie O'Neill was excellent up front throughout. Anna and Sarah Sexton really brought us into the game," he said.

Defensively, Milford were never really threatened, Hanney's goal being a double overhead strike?

"Yeah, I think up to today we conceded 2-6 from play all year and I think that's been our aim all year. I mean what did we concede today, 1-1? From 8 games, 3-7-that's good!"

Referring to his statement 12 months ago that he wanted to take Milford to Croke Park, Frank laughs; "I did actually tell them believe it or not. You aim for the moon and you get the stars, that's my attitude."

"They always had talent and look I knew that coming down. It was all about getting them together, get unity and discipline. The big thing is discipline. Are you willing to hook and block for the girl beside you, willing to train, not to let down the group and that's what this group has done. Made them above the rest of the teams in the county to be honest with you."

Referring to the fact that the last time a Cork club won this title Milford weren't even formed.

"No Glen Rovers, look they were an outstanding team, we'll never touch their feats but it's nice to be recognised up there near them. It's brilliant to put another Cork team on the podium."

Celebrations? "Oh I'd say five days at least."

MAR. 2013

Community School Camogie team qualify for All Ireland

Castlecomer



with Maurice Shortall

✉ mauriceshortall@eircom.net
ALL IRELAND FINAL HERE
WE GO 1 - Junior B Camogie All
Ireland Championship Semi-
Final
ST. PATRICK'S HIGH
SCHOOL KEADY, CO. AR-
MAGH - 0-4
CASTLECOMER COMMU-
NITY SCHOOL 2-6.

Veni, Vidi, Vici they came, they saw and boy did they conquer, this week we salute the superb Community School Camogie team who have qualified for the All Ireland Final. The girls made light work of the long journey to Keady Co. Armagh and the reward for their endeavors is a clash with Templemore Co. Tipperary on Saturday March 15th at a venue to be decided.

The Comer girls made a bright start and once Danielle Morrissey caught a glimpse of the posts she made no mistake with the opening point of the game. The home side responded well and dominated the play for the rest of the first quarter and two points from placed balls edged them ahead. With team captain Edel Coonan and Sorcha Delaney beginning to control the midfield sector the Comer girls turned the tide with three unanswered points. Two pointed frees from the awesome centre back Katie Nolan and in between a sweet second point from Danielle Morrissey saw the pendulum swing in favour of the winners. Even the most ardent away supporter knew the interval lead of 0-4 to 0-2 slightly flattered the Comer side who made the most of the chances that came their way to have the Armagh team will no

doubt rue five first half wides.

St. Patrick's took the initiative early in the second half and reduced the arrears to the minimum with a point from a close in free. Making the most of the few balls that came her way Danielle Morrissey scored her third point to ease the away supporters tension. Two points is always a dangerous lead and twice in quick succession the Comer defence enjoyed lady luck when a vicious strike rebounded off the crossbar and then Edel Coonan cleared from under the posts. It was heart stopping but few could have foreseen what was to emerge in a dramatic two minute spell. In the 45th minute Niamh Butler scored the best point of the game from play to increase the winners lead to three and then just sixty seconds later the deciding score arrived. Hard working Lorraine Kennedy persisted and crossed to perfection and Aoilean Hennessy finished clinically to break the Keady hearts. Ahead 1-6 to 0-3 Comer at last began to show their true form. Super sub Aine Murphy got a vital touch to stretch the lead to nine points for a sublime goal which really put the icing on the cake. St. Patrick's got in for a consolation point but soon after the final whistle sounded much to the delight of the Kilkenny team and their merry band of supporters. You cannot beat being there for atmosphere, throw in to the equation Mick "Cloney" Brennan former Kilkenny senior star, Danny Coonan former St. Martin's ace forward patrolling the sidelines and off the pitch legendary Tommy Walsh signing autographs while rocking his new born baby to sleep then you know your in good company. The spirit build into the team is mirrored by both determination and discipline which has been well nurtured by the management trio of Gavin Nolan, Nicola Clifford, Ted Browne.

Sarah Brannigan kept a fine goal and capped a steady performance with a brilliant reflex save in the first half. Full back Eilis Regan was solid throughout, in the corners O'Neill worked tirelessly while Cora Delaney popped up time after time with deft clearances. At centre back Katie Nolan was the star of the show and was easily the best player on view. Wing backs Trish Buggy and Amy Nolan were as busy as

beavers throughout the game.

Captain Edel Coonan led by example and when the going got tough she was not found wanting beside her Sorcha Delaney put in a tremendous workmanlike hour. On the half forward line Traci Farrell showed some nice touches, Aoilean Hennessy took her goal well while Niamh Butler was always dangerous and took her point with ease. Full forwards all three grafted hard in trying conditions both Sarah Molloy and Lorraine Kennedy contributed to and aided several scores while three points from three shots at goal was the 100% record of Danielle Morrissey. All three subs introduced were effective Aine Murphy got in for a goal while Amy Morrissey and Catriona Lawlor both had their moments.

TEAM: SARAH BRANNIGAN, CORA DELANEY, EILIS REGAN, ORLA O'NEILL, TRISH BUGGY, KATIE NOLAN (0-2), Amy Nolan, Edel Coonan (Captain), Sorcha Delaney, Traci Farrell, Aoilean Hennessy (1-0), Niamh Butler (0-1), Danielle Morrissey (0-3), Lorraine Kennedy, Sarah Molloy, Subs: Amy Morrissey, Aine Murphy (1-0), Caitlin Brennan, Caitriona Lawlor, Anna Boland, Kate-Lyn Leahy, Marian Morrissey, Shauna Dowling, Frances Farrell, Ciara Cody, Emma Kenny.



NAME: **DEIRDRE O'REILLY**

POSITION: **CENTRE FORWARD**

OCCUPATION: **GYM INSTRUCTOR**

Where do you celebrate after a big victory? Collins Bar, Milford

What was your best ever performance? County Quarter Final v Douglas

What performance would you most like to forget? 2011 County Final

If there was a transfer market, who would you bring into your team? Mary Leacy so I'd have no more nightmares about marking her!

Favourite holiday destination? Thailand

Favourite Clothes Shop? Topshop

Who would you want to play you in a film? Kirsten Dunst

Toughest opponent? Orla Cotter

Worst person to sit beside on team bus? Deirdre Hayes, she never stops talking!

Laps or Sprints? Sprints

Have you any funny rituals or habits before a game? To find a hurley unbroken!

Ash hurley or Cúltec? Ash hurley

Favourite inter-county camogie jersey? Cork

Favourite sportswomen? Sonia O'Sullivan



NAME: **SARAH SEXTON**

POSITION: **HALF BACK**

Where do you celebrate after a big victory? Milford of course. Collins and Hutch.

What was your best ever performance? The County Final 2012 against St. Catharines. It was a great overall team performance.

What performance would you most like to forget? The County Final 2011 against Douglas. we were beaten by a point.

If there was a transfer market, who would you bring into your team? Ursula Jacob.

Favourite holiday destination? Ballybunion, the only place I've ever been.

Favourite Clothes Shop? Zara

Who would you want to play you in a film? Kate Hudson

Toughest opponent? Any of the girls I mark in training!

Worst person to sit beside on team bus? Marie O'Neill, she never stops talking about herself!

Laps or Sprints? Sprints

Have you any funny rituals or habits before a game? I always sit in between Elaine and Lisa in the dressing room.

Ash hurley or Cúltec? Ash hurley

Favourite inter-county camogie jersey? Waterford

Favourite sportswomen? Katie Taylor, Maria Sharapova.

CAMOGIE O&A

MILFORD

Image: Football League 13

Below par Galway minors caught on line by Limerick rivals in first round of camogie championship

Galway 1-11
 Limerick 2-8

EOGHAN CORMICAN
 AT KENNY PARK

BY no means the desired result as the Galway minor camogie team were forced to settle for a share of the spoils in this All-Ireland championship first round tie on Saturday.

Limerick travelled as virtual no-hopers to Kenny Park to face the reigning champions, but in the end it was the visitors who were entitled to feel most aggrieved not to have seized victory.

Leading by 1-11 to 1-8 entering the closing stages, Galway were poised to secure an unlikely win given they had been outplayed for much of the contest. Limerick, however, hadn't come for a moral victory and levelled matters with a 59th minute goal.

Muireann Creamer found Caoimhe Costello inside the cover and the corner forward shrugged off the close attention of Galway full-back Rachel Bannon to find the net.

Limerick tails were up and when Ciara Lohan fouled Deborah Murphy in the subse-

quent action, Costello was presented with a match-winning opportunity. The Limerick sharpshooter, however, drilled the resulting free wide of the left-hand post to leave the Galway players clearly relieved.

While overall the skill levels on show were below par, the Limerick players in particular, couldn't be faulted for the spirit and determination they brought to proceedings. Galway, on the other hand, just couldn't match their opponents' intensity and displayed an over-reliance on free-taker Ciana Ni Churraoin to keep their tally ticking over.

In any event, it was home side that drew first blood with the aforementioned Ni Churraoin finishing a sweeping move involving Marie Cooney, Ciara Burke and Lisa Hynes.

Limerick, in a statement of intent, posted a decisive reply as Caoimhe Costello whipped to the net on six minutes after Galway failed to deal with the initial danger. Orlaith McGrath and Ciana Ni Churraoin reeled off two points in quick succession to narrow the deficit to the minimum and just when the Tribesgirls appeared to be getting to the pace of proceedings, Limerick stepped it up another gear.

Deborah Murphy and Claire Keating both raised white flags to stretch their advantage to 1-3 to 0-4, but Limerick's first-half dominance was to be wiped out in one single movement of play near the interval. Louise Brennan supplied the delivery and though Breda Hanlon's initial effort on goal was well smothered by the Limerick defence, full-forward Marie Breheny reacted quickest to crash home the shot.

It proved a short lived lead as Katie Hennessy equalised for Limerick in the ensuing passage of play and they could - and probably should - have registered a second goal when Orla Cunningham prised open the Galway rearguard only to see her effort cleared off the line by Bannon. Regardless, Limerick headed for the dressing room in front as Caoimhe Costello sniped a pair of frees, sandwiching a Ni Churraoin effort.

No doubt with the management's criticism still reverberating in their ears, Galway commenced the second-half with far more purpose and points courtesy of McGrath and Ni Churraoin moved the them into a one point lead.

Limerick, however, refused to bend the knee and reclaimed the initiative as

Caoimhe Costello continued to display an unerring accuracy from the dead ball. Sensing that their side were in real danger, the Galway management sprung Patricia Manning and Sinead Gaffney from the bench, breathing new life into a struggling forward division.

By this juncture, the high-octane approach of the visitors was beginning to wane and as green shirts began to tire, Galway took full advantage. In a hugely productive ten minute spell, Gaffney, Breheny and Ni Churraoin (two frees) all found the range to open up a three point lead for the home outfit.

Galway searched for that insurance point to make it a two score game, but it was not forthcoming and when Costello goalied at the death, the reigning champions were forced to make do with a draw.

Galway: T Murphy, S Cormican, R Bannon, L Porter, M Dunleavy, N Haniffy, C Lohan, M Cooney, C Burke, O McGrath (0-2), C Ni Churraoin (0-5, 0-5 frees), L Brennan, B Hanlon, M Breheny (1-2), L Hynes; Subs: S Gaffney (0-1) for Hanlon (37 mins), P Manning for Brennan (47 mins).

Limerick: O Condon, S Sheehan, M Creamer, S Tobin, J Wilson, R Deloo, K O'Leary, D Mulcahy, M O'Neill, O Murphy (0-1), C Keating (0-1), A Wilson, K Hennessy (0-1), O Cunningham, C Costello (2-5, 0-4 frees); Subs: M Clancy for Murphy (60 mins).

ACE CONNOLLY SETTLES ROW'

AISLINN Connolly scored all bar one of her side's points as Castlebar won the AIB All-Ireland Intermediate Club Camogie title at Donaghmore-Ashbourne.

The daughter of hurling legend John Connolly was certainly stood out in the game.

A Lizzie Lyng goal helped the Rower-Inistioge into a 1-2 to 0-1 lead but Connolly planted a 20m free to the net at the other end of the field to put the sides level.

Castlebar 1-8
The Rower-Inistioge 1-6
 All-Ireland Inter Camogie Club Championship final

at the break on 1-3 apiece. Three frees from the outstanding Kelly Hamilton propelled the Kilkenny champions to a two-point lead with ten minutes remaining but they failed to score again.

Strongest

With Sara Kelly hugely influential, it was Castlebar that finished the strongest, three points from Connolly and another from Katie Connell securing the honours.

CASTLEBAR: E Concanon, K Murphy, D Burke, L Farragher, S Jacobson, C Lee, D Keane, E Murphy, A Connolly 1-7 (1-4fs, 0-1 45); T Connolly, R Fishery, S Kelly, K Connell 0-1, M Concoran, M Farragher, Sub: T Kennedy for White (44).
THE ROWER-INISTIOGE: E Kavanagh, J Cullen, E Lyng, B Dempsey, E Hynes, K Hamilton 0-6 (fs), L Lyng 1-0; A Gannon, B Langton, S O'Mahoney, L Lyng, B White, C Lyng, C Ryan, A Lyng, Sub: K Moore for T Connolly (45).
 Referee: M Kelly (Cork)



PRIDE: Donna Burke gets the cup from Camogie Association chief Aileen Lawlor

A winning start for Clare

Clare 0-15
Dublin 1-5

CLARE bagged their opening points in Division 1 of the National League on Sunday with a decisive victory over visitors, Dublin. Crisp sunny weather and a good dry sod enabled both sets of players to display their skills and Clare proved to be the stronger and more determined team and ran out deserving winners.

Clare started strong and had four points on the board in the opening 12 minutes. Máire McGrath had the opening point from play in the first minute, followed by points from Claire McMahon and Naomi Carroll. Dublin should have been on the scoreboard but Sarah Ryan's shot hit the side netting from close range, while Marie Moynihan saw her attempts from placed ball go wide of the mark and these misses proved costly.

Dublin were thrown a lifeline at the mid-point of the half when a well-executed move the length of the field ended with Aine Fanning goaling after receiving an Aisling Carolan pass. Dublin added points from Fanning and Alison Maguire to push the visitors in front by the 23rd minute.

This lead was shortlived as Clare fought back, Fiona Lafferty levelling matters in the 27th minute before Deirdre Murphy put Clare back in front two minutes later. Claire McMahon added another two points for Clare, from play and a converted free, leaving Fanning to pull one back with 32 minutes on the clock, Clare in front 0-8 to 1-3 at the break.

On the resumption of play, Clare extended their lead with the help of two pointed frees from Claire McMahon.

Chloe Morey's well-struck, long-range free in the 43rd minute was neatly gathered by the sprightly Naomi Carroll who ran through the Dublin defence to fire over another point for the winners. Maguire pulled a point back for the visitors when she

converted a free in the 45th minute, however, it was the home side who were firmly in control.

Dublin, in an attempt to curb the Clare attack and increase their own tally, moved goalie Fiona Hayes, who plays outfield for her club Ballinteer St John's to an outfield role. Hayes delivered in the 53rd minute with an accurate strike from out on the wing. Carroll added another for Clare after a well-worked move originating with Morey in the half-back line who found McGrath in midfield and the 'Bridge' trio combined well. Morey's free on the 60th minute sealed the win, which was never in doubt throughout the second period.

Clare's backs defended well throughout the hour, while the midfielders and forwards worked well together to create and take scoring chances.

Máire McGrath's dominance at midfield, just a week after her strong performance in the Ashbourne final, caused huge problems for the Dubs.

Clare play Galway away in the next round of the league on Sunday week, March 10. The Connacht side went down to Wexford, 2-10 to 1-10 in Sunday's opening round. In the games in Group 2, Cork and Kilkenny recorded wins over Tipperary.

Clare: Denise Lynch (Kilmaley); Aisling Hannon (Cloonsey-Quinn), Marian O'Brien (Scariff-Ogonnellloe), Carol O'Leary (Newmarket-on-Fergus); Katie Cahill (Kilmaley); Chloe Morey (Sixmilebridge, 0-1); Eimear Considine (Kilmaley); Máire McGrath (Sixmilebridge, 0-1); Ailish Considine (Kilmaley); Fiona Lafferty (Inagh-Killnamona, 0-2); Kate Lynch (Kilkishen); Niamh O'Dea (Kilmaley); Naomi Carroll (Sixmilebridge, 0-3); Clare McMahon (Kilmaley, 0-7 5f); Deirdre Murphy (Cloonsey Quinn, 0-1).

Subs: Laura McMahon (Newmarket-on-Fergus) for Hannon (half-time); Catriona Hennessey (St Joseph's) for Murphy (48 mins); Claire

Ryan (Cloonsey-Quinn) for Considine (54 mins); Orla Devitt (Kilkishen) for O'Dea (58 mins); Leanne Brown (Scariff-Ogonnellloe) for Cahill (60 mins).

Dublin: Fiona Hayes (0-2); Lizzy McSweeney, Gáinne Quinn, Elaine O'Meara, Marie Moynihan, Laura Twomey; Alison Maguire, (0-3); Aisling Kelly, Ali Twomey (0-1); Aisling Carolan St. Sarah Ryan, Aine Fanning (1-1).

Subs: Aoife Bolger for Moynihan (in) 14mins; Emma White for McSweeney 48mins;

Kate White for Aine Fanning 49mins; Claire Rigney for O'Meara 53mins; Eimear McCarthy for Danielle Smith 55mins.

Referee: Mike O'Kelly, Cork.



All Twomey of Dublin in action against Fiona Lafferty and Katie Cahill during their National League match.



Claire McMahon does her best to hold back Dublin's Gáinne Quinn.

Photographs by John Kelly

MAR. 2013

Minors had no answer

CLARE succumbed to a physically stronger Cork outfit in their opening game of the All Ireland Minor Championship on Saturday afternoon in Meelick.

The concession of a goal as early as the fourth minute following confusion in the Clare defence, put this young Clare side on the back foot. Kate O'Gorman pointed from play in the eighth minute for the home side only for Cork to respond with two points of their own. Nikki Kaiser converted two frees but another Cork goal in the 26th minute and two more points put Cork firmly in the driving seat and in front 2-6 to Clare 0-3 at the half-time break.

Cork's dominance continued in the second half and they scored 1-4 in the 10 minutes from the restart. Cork defended strongly, curbing the Clare at-

tack. The sun may have been shining strongly but Lady Luck certainly wasn't as Clare saw shots on goal come off the upright on a few occasions, while others were stopped on the line. Kaiser contributed Clare's only score of the second half with a free in the 56th minute.

Clare: Emer Murray (Sixmilebridge); Claire McMahon (Éire Óg); Ellen Roche (Sixmilebridge); Shauna Fleming (Kilkishen); Eimear Casey (St Joseph's); Sínead Quinn (Inagh-Killnamona); Ria Flanagan (Ballyvaughan); Fiona Murphy (Sixmilebridge); Orla Devitt (Éire Óg); Nikki Kaiser (Newmarket-on-Fergus, 0-3); Claire Taaffe (Killamona); Orlaith Lynch (St Joseph's); Lisa Donaghue (Whitegate); Kate O'Gorman (Kilkishen, 0-1); Amy O'Brien (Corofin).

Cork: Amy Lee, Shauna Flanagan, Laura Treacy, Amy Curtin; Emma Kavanagh; Lauren Callaghan; Michael Mulrooney; Niamh Byrne; Hannah Looney; Caroline Murphy; Katelyn Hickey (0-1); Cilla Cronin (0-6 1' 45f); Amy O'Connor (2-3); Linda Collins (0-3, 2f); Rachel Sheehan (0-1).

Referee: Ger O'Dowd, Tipperary.

Munster U-16A semi-final

CLARE were on Cork on Saturday in the U-16A Munster semi-final. Clare side under the management of Carmel McGrath (female), Alana Whyte (Sixmilebridge), Michael McMahon (St Joseph's) and Sheelagh Duffy (Cloonsey-Quinn) have been in training since early Janu-

ary and will be up for the challenge of the Rebels.

The Clare team will be chosen from the following panel: Ria Flanagan, Emma O'Connell, Carol Browne (Ballyvaughan), Laura Brown, Aoibheann Malone, Eva O'Dea (Corofin), Lauren Tuohy (Clarecastle), Jessica Leamy, Aoibheann Duggan (Cloonsey), Aisling McMahon, Megan O'Brien, Caoimhe Hoey (Doon-Barefield), Laura Brown, Sarah Redmond (Éire Óg), Jodi Guilfoyle, Aoife Tuohy, Regan Conway (Feakle), Marie O'Looney, Aoife Keane, Claire Hehir (Inagh-Killnamona), Edel McNamara, Deirdre Cotter (Kilkishen), Saoirse Glynn (Kilmaley), Anne Marie Hayes (Newmarket), Keely Power (Ogonnellloe), Niamh Whyte, Aoife Roche, Keelin Lyons (Sixmilebridge), Michelle Powell, Sínead Hogg (Truagh), Lauren Solan (Whitegate).