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Brave Carrigdhoun fall to the champs

IT WAS a case of "so near and yet so far" for the Carrigdhoun senior camogie team who took on reigning county champions Bishopstown in the first round of this year's championship.

At the final whistle victory went to the Bishopstown girls on a 1-7 to 1-6 scoreline but how close the Carrigdhoun girls came to causing the upset of the year in camogie circles.

They led at half-time 1-2 to 0-4 and should have been further in front.

When the city side took a one point lead for the first time in the game midway through the second half it looked all over for the battl-

ing Carrigdhoun side.

But the south-east side fought back and two points gave them the lead once more and a huge upset looked likely. But it was not to be as Bishopstown, with three unanswered points, were back in front again.

Efforts

Despite the best Carrigdhoun efforts they held on to their lead to advance to the next round.

But what a marvellous performance from a very young Carrigdhoun side and it once again highlights the huge strides that have been made in Camogie in the division.



Bishopstown's Ciara Healy is tackled by Carrigdhoun's Sara Hayes in the Cork Senior Camogie championship at Ballincollig.
Picture: Eddie O'Hare



Carrigdhoun's Sara O'Donovan and Bishopstown's Dervla Quigley tussle for the ball.

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The Father O'Neils camogie team who won their Cork County Senior Championship tie against Seandun at Carrigtwohill.

'Town pushed to the limit

Bishopstown 1-7
Carrigdhoun 1-6

by Tom Higgins

A VERY fit and enthusiastic Carrigdhoun team gave holders Bishopstown a real fright in this first-round Cork Senior Camogie championship tie at Ballincollig last evening.

They were the better side in the opening half when playing with the aid of the sun. With Rachel Moloney in particular having an excellent game at centre half forward, they created a lot of trouble for the Bishopstown defence and should have been further ahead then 1-2 to 0-4 at the break.

It was only the do-or-die attitude of the Bishopstown defence that kept the score down. Outstanding were goalkeeper Rose Desmond, who brought off some excellent saves, and Eithne Duggan at centre back who did excellent work to keep out the attacking waves. In the second half, after Moloney had scored a

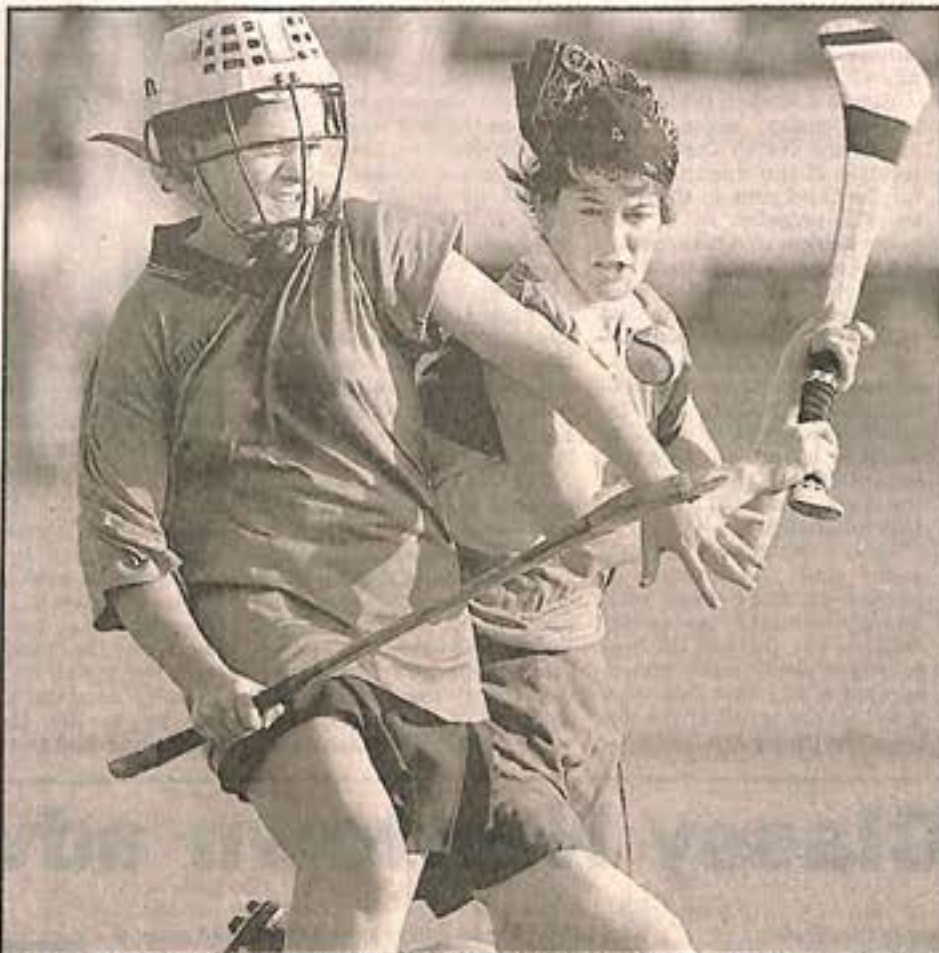
point for Carrigdhoun, Bishopstown went ahead for only the second time in the game.

They scored the first point when Jean O'Sullivan forced the ball home in a melee in the goalmouth to leave it 1-4 to 1-3.

But points from Catriona Kelly and Moloney put Carrigdhoun back in front and they looked like creating a major surprise.

However Bishopstown fought back with eight minutes to go, taking three points to leave them two points in front entering injury time. But Carrigdhoun had the last say with Emer Dillon scoring with the last puck of the game.

BISHOPSTOWN: R. Desmond; D. Guiney, M. Treacy, A. Buckley; C. Enright, E. Duggan, T. Doyle; R. Cahalane (0-1), V. Harris (0-2); J. O'Sullivan (1-0), C. Healy (0-2, 0-1 free), S. O'Callaghan (0-2); C. Kenny, L. O'Neill, A. White.
CARRIGDOUN: R. Harrington; C. Murphy, C. Hannon, D. Crowley; M. Scully, S. Hayes, B. Shiell; A. O'Regan, E. Dillon (0-2), L. Bulger, L. O'Sullivan, R. Moloney (0-3, 0-1 free), C. Kelly (1-1), E. Burke, S. O'Donovan. Sub. M. O'Regan for L. O'Sullivan.
Referee: D. Daly (Sarsfield).



Barryroe's Geraldine Collins holds off Cloughdub's Marie Corkery during the Cork Senior championship at Ballincollig last night.

Picture: Eddie O'Hare

Dunlea gets late winner

Cloughdub 3-8
Ballyroe 3-6

by Tom Higgins

A PALMED goal by Cork star Lynn Dunlea in the second minute of injury time gave Cloughdub victory in this second round Cork Senior Camogie tie at Ballincollig last evening.

The winning team made a great start to the game with a point from Una O'Donoghue after 30 seconds.

However, after that Ballyroe took a grip on proceedings to build up a 2-3 to 0-1 lead after 13 minutes.

Then, the Cloughdub selectors made a shrewd change when they brought Stephanie Dunlea from centre-half forward to centre back. This shored up their defence somewhat.

At the break, however, Ballyroe maintained a good lead, 3-4 to 2-2.

Cloughdub made hard work of getting back into the game and had to rely on the accuracy of Lynn Dunlea. Five points from the ace free-taker between the 32nd and the 44th minute brought them to within a point of their rivals — 2-7 to 3-5 — and, when Jennifer O'Leary put Barryroe two points ahead, it looked as if they might hold out. Jackie Dunlea, however, cut the deficit to the minimum in the first minute of injury time and then came the clinching goal.

CLOUGHDUB: A. Murray; C. Cronin, J. O'Callaghan, S. Buckley; S. Shannon, S. Corkery, O. McCarthy; C. Corkery, M. Corkery (0-1); C. O'Donoghue, S. Dunlea, J. Dunlea (0-1); U. O'Donoghue (0-1), L. Dunlea (3-5, 0-5 free), A. Buckley. Sub. Z. McDonnell for C. Cronin (half-time).
BALLYROE: C. Keohane; A. Sheehy, R. Holland, P. O'Leary; A. M. Fleming, E. O'Regan, E. O'Donovan; K. McCarthy, L. Dineen; M. Moloney (1-0), R. Barry, J. O'Leary (2-4, 0-2 free); G. Collins (0-2, 0-1, "45"). E. McCarthy, J. Cahalane.
Referee: J. McGrath (Carrigaline).

Fr O'Neills win the day after a tough encounter

Fr O'Neills 1-12
Newtownshandrum 0-9

FR O'NEILLS' dream of taking a Cork county senior camogie championship title went a step closer yesterday when they defeated Newtownshandrum in a tough quarter-final encounter at Mayfield.

Mary Kennefick and Caoimh Harrington had swapped points in the opening eight minutes before Fiona O'Driscoll edged Fr O'Neills ahead with two well taken points.

With the O'Neills' forwards being

allowed maximum space Mary Kennefick won possession on the wing, evaded the Newtown defence and finished superbly past Geraldine Coleman to get the game's opening goal 14 minutes into the contest.

Undaunted by the setback, Newtownshandrum settled down.

Points by Paula O'Connor and Caoimh Harrington cut the deficit but, continuing to win ample possession, Fr O'Neills popped over three points to which O'Connor and Harrington again replied to leave the East Cork girls ahead 1-6 to 0-5 at the interval.

A determined second-half rally which yielded three points without reply from Carina Carroll, Paula O'Connor and Caoimh Harrington had Newtownshandrum within one point of the leaders 1-6 to 0-8 inside six minutes and, with their senior inter-county star Ursula Troy dominating at centre-field, Fr O'Neills were in trouble.

Mary Kennefick and Fiona O'Driscoll took the pressure off with two points in the tenth and 12 minutes and then O'Neills pulled a master stroke switching Fiona O'Driscoll to centre

field where she curbed her inter-county team-mate Ursula Troy and effectively cut off the supply to the Newtownshandrum forwards.

With the Fr O'Neills defence in which captain Mags Finn, Liz Sweetnam and Sharon McCarthy were excelling, they introduced Nora Aherne who pointed with her first touch.

Taking control O'Neills added points from Sinead Cahalane and Mary Kennefick (2). Newtown did have a Caoimh Harrington point but it failed to rally her side who's inexperience in front of goal was evident.

Fr O'Neills to their credit never panicked when the pressure was on and ran out deserving winners.

Scorers for Fr O'Neills: M. Kennefick 1-4 (0-2 45'), F. O'Driscoll 0-4, K. O'Sullivan, F. Slavin, N. Aherne, S. Cahalane 0-1 each.
Newtownshandrum: C. Harrington 0-5 (0-1 free), P. O'Connor 0-3, C. Carroll 0-1.
FR O'NEILLS: A.M. Brennan; A. O'Neill, L. Sweetnam, S. McCarthy, S. Meade, M. Finn (captain), F. Hennessey, S. Cahalane, V. O'Sullivan, R. Corcoran, F. O'Driscoll, K. O'Sullivan, M. Kennefick, F. Slavin, A. Corcoran. Sub: N. Aherne for A. Corcoran.
NEWTOWNSHANDRUM: G. Coleman; F. Kelleher, K. Hickey, S. Reidy, M. Harrington, H. Kelleher, C. Giltinan, A. Kelleher, U. Troy, N. Bowles, P. O'Connor, B. Keane, C. Browne, C. Harrington (capt), C. Carroll.
Referee: Mr. D. Daly (Sarsfield).

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O'Neills pile on scores to win

FR O'NEILL'S proved much to strong for Seandun when the sides met at Carrigrohilly in the senior championship on Tuesday evening last.

Leading at half time 1-19 to 0-1, O'Neill's piled on the scores in the second half and ran out convincing winners to set up a quarter-final meeting with Newtownshandrum.

In the second game of the evening, played at Newcestown, Cloughduv beat Muskerry.

Missed opportunities could have cost the Cloughduv girls.

Leading at half time 2-2 to no score they had to withstand a terrific Muskerry revival in the second half. An Una O'Donoghue goal gave them breathing space to run out 3-4 to 0-6 winners and advance to meet Barryroe in the quarter final.

Cloughduv, who led only in the first and last minute of an enthralling quarter final clash with a youthful Barryroe side, went through to meet Fr O'Neills in the semi-final of the Senior County Championship.

Una O'Donoghue opened the scoring 30 seconds into the game with a Cloughduv point, however, it failed to ignite her side and a rampant Barryroe with Jennifer O'Leary enjoying the freedom of the pitch slammed in two goals to rock the mid-Cork girls. Points by Ger Collins and O'Leary stretched Barryroe's advantage.

Cloughduv moved Stephanie Dunlea to centre back and her long deliveries into the forward line brought them more into the game.

Lynn Dunlea had Cloughduv's opening goal 19 minutes into the half and a second goal three minutes later again from Lynn Dunlea cut the deficit. But back came Barryroe with a Marie Maloney goal to send them in leading 3-4 to 2-2 at half time.

Cloughduv bossed the second half with Catherine Corkery on top at midfield and Stephanie Dunlea solid at centre back.

Jennifer O'Leary had a fourth minute point but that was to be their only score for 15 minutes as Lynn Dunlea knocked over five points to leave just one between the sides 20 minutes into the half. O'Leary pointed a Barryroe free to maintain their advantage.

Dunlea had likewise with 20 minutes on the clock. Then came drama. A long ball from Stephanie Dunlea found sister Lynn, she seemed to be fouled, play continued and Dunlea palmed to the net to give Cloughduv the lead.

It was heartbreak for Barryroe who in their first year in the senior grade can take pride in the display of a young team whose day will surely come.

Rebels should be good enough to repeat league victory



The Cloughduv camogie team, who beat Muskerry and Barryroe in the Cork Senior Championship.

Picture: Eddie O'Hare

Cork bid to go through to semis

ACTION continues for the Cork inter-county senior team on Saturday next when Limerick provide the opposition in the Bord na nGaeilge All-Ireland Championship quarter-final in Cork with a 3pm throw-in.

In their opening game against Wexford the Cork girls notched up an impressive 7-24 scoreline. However, they know that on Saturday they will come up against a lot tougher opposition.

Whilst having already defeated Limerick in the National League Cork will be on their guard.

Backbone

All-Ireland Club Champions, Grenagh-Ballingarry provide the backbone of this Limerick side.

An ironic feature of the game is that Cork's Mary O'Connor plays her club camogie in Limerick and will be lining out against her Grenagh-Ballingarry club mates, while Glen Rovers captain, Mary Burke, will line up against her sister Kay, who is a member of the Limerick outfit.

Home advantage may swing it in Cork's favour but they know they face a Limerick outfit deter-



Barryroe's Jennifer O'Leary holds off Una O'Donoghue and Aoife Buckley.

mined to make the breakthrough in the senior ranks.

Last weekend Tipperary kept their championship hopes on course when they recorded a 1-19 to 1-6 win over Clare. This set up a semi-final meeting with Down, who defeated Dublin 3-14 to 3-9.

The second quarter-final will see Galway and Kilkenny meet to determine who meets either Cork or Limerick in the penultimate stage.

Galway, who have lost the last two finals to Cork, face a Kilkenny side who have been steadily improving with every game. Not having contested a final since 1995, the Kilkenny girls are determined to reach Croke Park.

Galway, having struggled since last year's final defeat have this year appointed a new trainer to replace Tony Ward, who led them to All-Ireland victory in 1996.

'Town leave it very late

Bishopstown 1-7
Carrigdhoun 1-6

COUNTY champions, Bishopstown, had to pull out all the stops in an exciting clash against Carrigdhoun at Ballincollig to win 1-7 to 1-6.

Bishopstown can thank goalkeeper Rose Desmond for keeping them in the game in the first half.

They finished the half strongest with points from Ruth Cahalane and Viv Harris to which Rachel Maloney replied to leave Carrigdhoun ahead 1-2 to 0-4 at half-time.

Catriona Kelly gave Carrigdhoun the lead with seven minutes left but Bishopstown with a Sinead O'Callaghan point levelled matters and Viv Harris stretched the lead. Carrigdhoun pressed hard for the equaliser but credit to Bishopstown who held out.

MAGIC MOMENTS

8. THE Science Cup trophy, presented to the winners of The Cork Senior County championship, was first played for in 1932.

It was won that year by the city's St. Aloysius School.

Since then, many clubs have engraved their names on it with Old

Aloysius making it four-in-a-row on two occasions 1938 to 1941 and 1943 to 1947.

East Cork side Imokilly recorded five-in-a-row 1972 to 1976.

Glen Rovers have on two occasions taken seven-in-a-row 1962 to 1968 and won it again from 1990 to 1996.

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Pat brings his Limerick team to Leaside more in hope than confidence

Heffernan brings new vitality to Limerick



Therese O'Callaghan

AT the best of times a manager's job can be quite a difficult task - but imagine how demanding it can be, when your first assignment is to dethrone the defending All-Ireland champions.

Such is the dilemma that Pat Heffernan finds himself in tomorrow afternoon, when he brings a young Limerick camogie team to Leaside for the quarter-final of the Bord Na Gaelige All-Ireland Senior Championship.

Pat was a Limerick senior hurler up to 1997, when at a young age, a cruciate injury forced him temporarily out of the game.

He is the proud owner of two National League medals, and also has achieved Munster senior championship success.

A little over a month ago, he tasted inter-county action once again, when he played against Waterford in the Munster Intermediate championship, at Paire Uí Chaoimh.

Club

He plays his hurling with the Blackrock club in Limerick.

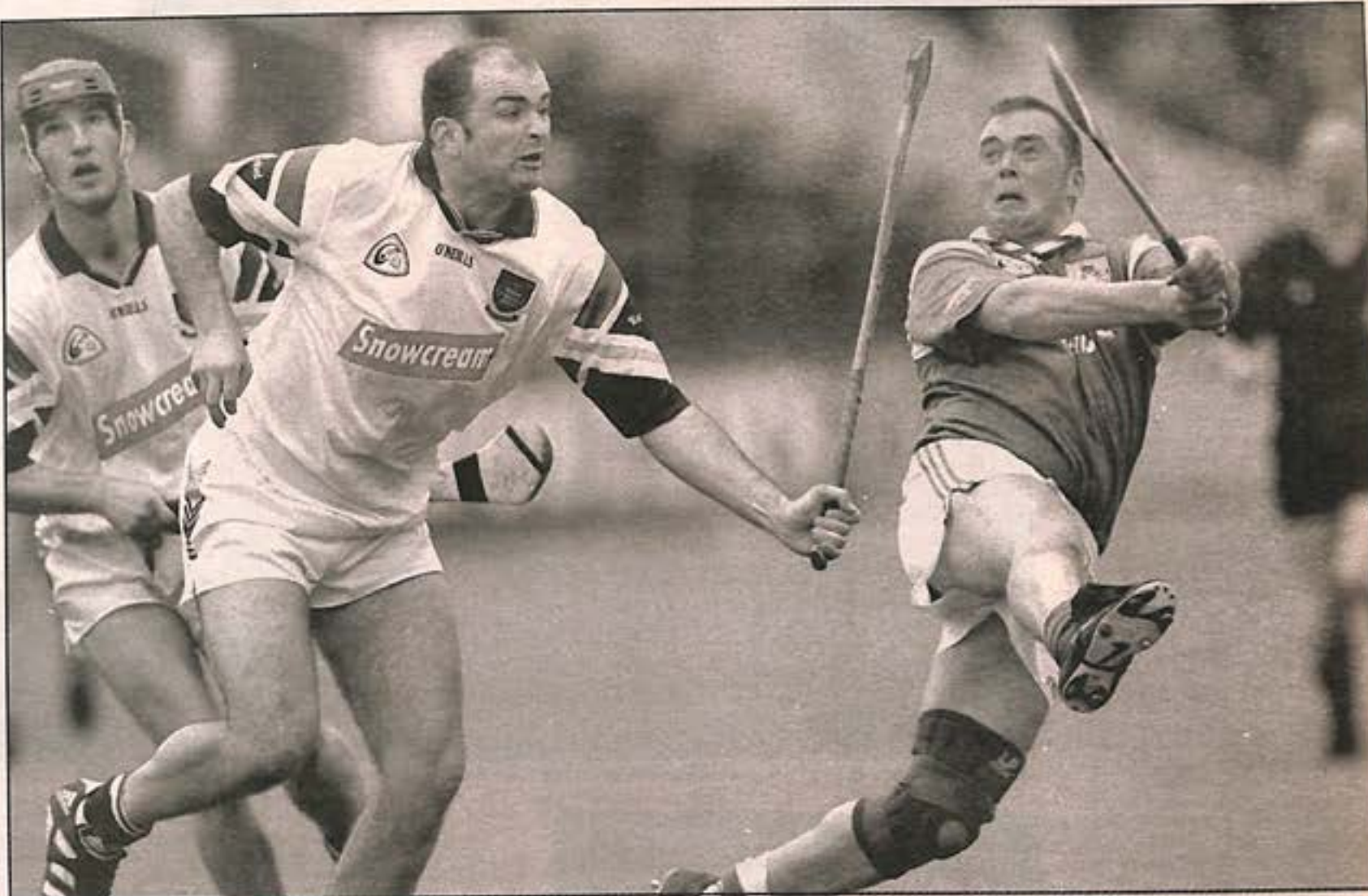
He is no stranger though to the southern capital, having spent five years as a student in U.C.C., but since has returned to his native soil as a secondary school teacher.

His passion for the game still continues - epitomised by the difficulty of pinning him down this week, as he helped out with summer camps in nearby county Tipperary.

So why exactly did he take over as manager?

"I knew a lot of the girls playing with Granagh / Ballingarry who won the All-Ireland club title last season.

"The county side were looking for someone to train them, and seeing the commitment and sacrifices that were made by all concerned, it amazed me that nobody was



Above former Limerick hurler Pat Heffernan brings his charges to Cork tomorrow. Right and far right, action from last weekend's games between Cloughduv and Barryroe, and Carrigdhoun and Bishopstown.



interested".

It baffled him more that the players had to, more or less, go it alone and provide for themselves.

"We've trained very hard for this game, and the way I look at it, we have nothing at all to lose. Cork are a very talented side and will prove hard to beat".

However, he rues the recent loss of Deirdre

Sheehan and Jean Cullinane. Both of these girls have emigrated for the summer months, and their departure will lessen the severity of the Limerick challenge already without Ida Quaid.

Visitors

The visitors to Paire Uí Rinn tomorrow - a pitch Pat himself has played on -

have never won a national senior championship.

In fact, they have only once ever appeared in an All-Ireland final, and that was nineteen years ago against a Cork side captained by Mary Geaney.

Remarkably, Pauline McCarthy who lined out in the forward line that day will also be in action this time round.

Two players who definitely were not involved in that 1980 final are Vera Sheehan and Eileen O'Brien.

Teenagers

Both are in their teenage years, and have greatly impressed the Limerick manager with their ability to poach goals. Eileen O'Brien was earlier this

year chosen as *The Examiner* youth sports winner for her display with All-Ireland club champions Granagh/Ballingarry.

All in all though, and despite the great effort, it is unlikely that Pat Heffernan's side will topple the champions, a team who between them can boast over fifty All-Ireland senior medals.

CORK

- 1) Cora Keohane (Barryroe)
- 2) Stephanie Dunlea (Cloughduv)
- 3) Eithne Duggan (Bishopstown)
- 4) Margaret Finn (Fr. O'Neills)
- 5) Paula O'Connor (Newtownshandrum)
- 6) Denise Cronin (Glen Rovers)
- 7) Vivienne Harris (Bishopstown)
- 8) Sarah Hayes (Courcey Rovers)
- 9) Ursula Troy (Newtownshandrum)
- 10) Mary O'Connor (Granagh - Ballingarry)
- 11) Linda Mellerick (Glen Rovers)
- 12) Sinead O'Callaghan (Bishopstown)
- 13) Lyn Dunlea (Cloughduv)
- 14) Fiona O'Driscoll (Fr. O'Neills)
- 15) Miriam Deasy (Kilbrittain)

SUBS

- 16) Leonie Nolan (Innishannon)
- 17) Una O' Donoghue (Cloughduv)
- 18) Caoimhe Harrington (Newtownshandrum)
- 19) Trish Doyle (Bishopstown)
- 20) Mary Burke (Glen Rovers)
- 21) Ciara Healy (Bishopstown)
- 22) Rachel Moloney (Courcey Rovers)
- 23) Linda O' Sullivan (Ballinhassig)

LIMERICK

- 1) Breda O'Brien (Grenagh - Ballingary)
- 2) Rose Collins (Milford)
- 3) Bernie O'Brien (Grenagh - Ballingary)
- 4) Liz Leonard (Bruff)
- 5) Paula Cronin (Bruff)
- 6) Mary Lonergan (Bruff)
- 7) Laura Leslie (Grenagh - Ballingary)
- 8) Kay Burke (Grenagh - Ballingary)
- 9) Marian Neville (Croke - Kilfinny)
- 10) Michelle Casey (Killeedy)
- 11) Vera Sheehan (Grenagh - Ballingary)
- 12) Pauline McCarthy (Bruff)
- 13) Deirdre Fitzpatrick (Killeedy)
- 14) Kathleen O'Connor (Croke - Kilfinny)
- 15) Eileen O'Brien (Grenagh - Ballingary)

SUBS

- 16) Edel Reale (Bruff)
- 17) Catherine Hayes (Killeedy)
- 18) Maureen Sheehan (Grenagh - Ballingary)
- 19) Catherine Leslie (Grenagh - Ballingary)
- 20) Edek O'Brien (St. Patrick's)
- 21) Maeve Nash (Newcastle West)

Cork girls face tough Limerick test

THE Cork selectors made one change from the side which had an impressive win over Wexford in the first round of the All Ireland senior championship for their quarter-final with Limerick at Paire Uí Rinn today (3pm).

Fiona O'Driscoll, who missed the game because of injury, returns at full-forward and Miriam Deasy, who was at full-forward in the first round, moves to right corner-forward in place of Stephanie Dunlea who now moves to right full-back in place of Mary Burke who is a sub. In their opening game, Cork chalked up a massive 7-24 to 0-2

victory over Wexford. However they know that today's opposition are going to provide a much sterner test.

The incentive for the Limerick side to succeed will surely be the fact that the county has never won a senior All-Ireland title. Having taken a Junior in 1995 and an Intermediate in 1996, they have proved that the talent to succeed lies within the county. They have excellent players in Eileen O'Brien, a member of the St. Mary's Charleville, All-Ireland Colleges winning side and selected as Examiner Camogie Player of

the Year, Laura Lesley and Vera Sheehan, whilst stalwarts Pauline McCarthy and Kay Burke provide the vital experience. With a semi-final date against Kilkenny or Galway awaiting the winners, a tough hour's action is predicted with the Cork girls expected to march on.

CORK: C. Keohane (Barryroe); S. Dunlea (Cloughduv); E. Duggan (Bishopstown); M. Finn (Fr. O'Neills); P. O'Connor (Newtownshandrum); D. Cronin (Glen Rovers); V. Harris (Bishopstown) capt; S. Hayes (Courcey Rovers); U. Troy (Newtownshandrum); M. O'Connor (Granagh/Ballingarry); L. Mellerick (Glen Rovers); S. O'Callaghan (Bishopstown); L. Dunlea (Cloughduv); F. O'Driscoll (Fr. O'Neills); M. Deasy (Kilbrittain).

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CAMOGIE

ALL-IRELAND QUARTER-FINALS
CORK 5-18 **LIMERICK** 0-2
ALL-IRELAND senior camogie champions Cork trounced hapless Limerick by a massive 31 points at Paire Uí Rinn on Saturday to qualify for the semi-finals of the Bord na Gaioige championship. Rampant Cork led by 4-7 to 0-0 at half-time with goals from Lynn Dunlea (2), Fiona O'Driscoll and Linda Mellerick.

Cork: L. Dunlea 2-2, F. O'Driscoll 1-5, C. Harrington 1-2, L. Mellerick 1-0, S. Hayes, M. Deasy 0-3 each, S. O'Callaghan, U. Troy, S. Dunlea 0-1 each. Limerick: P. McCarthy, C. Hynes 0-1 each.

KILKENNY 2-8 **GALWAY** 1-8
GALWAY, who have contested the last three All-Ireland finals, were sent crashing out of this year's championship when they were beaten by an impressive Kilkenny side in Saturday's quarter-final at Loughrea. Kilkenny led by 1-4 to 0-6 at half-time thanks to a goal from Catherine Dunne. Galway's Sandra Tannian goaled with a sizzling shot after the break, but minor star Lizzie Lyng gave Kilkenny victory with the all-important goal. Brigid Mullally, Sinead Miles, Margaret Comerford and Margaret Hickey were most impressive for Kilkenny who now play Cork in the semi-final.

Kilkenny: B. Mullally, S. Miles 0-4 each, L. Lyng, C. Dunne 1-0 each. Galway: S. Tannian 1-0, T. Maher, A. Hilary 0-3 each, V. Curtin 0-2.

INTERMEDIATE CHAMPIONSHIP
At Midleton — Quarter-final: **Armagh** 4-8 (P. McEvoy 2-1, K. Kelly 2-0, M. Black 0-3, O. McGowan 0-2, B. McBride, E. Donnelly 0-1 each). **Galway** 1-5 (C. Conroy 0-5, E. Keenan 1-0).

CAMOGIE: Inniscarra enriched at present, with a splendid young panel of camogie players at U12 level. Noreen Healy, Carmel Cronin, Niamh Dineen, Lisa Kavanagh, Niamh Dillworth, Mary Buckley, Danielle Fleming, Caitríona O'Riordan, Rena Buckley, Margaret Congrave, Helena Fogarty, Aonaidh O'Neill, Sinead O'Connor, Christine Buckley, Maeve Buckley, Laura Griffin, Ann Marie Casey, Deirdre O'Mahony, Jacinta Buckley, Claire Moloney, Claire Healy, Rachel O'Riordan had mixed luck in the Co semi-final, and final games. In the semi final tie they beat Milford by 5-5 to 5-2 in a high scoring game, but lost the subsequent county final to Ballyhea, to the tune of 4-1 to 1-2.

Cork through to semi-finals

CORK 5-18 **LIMERICK** 0-2

CAMOGIE: Champions Cork had little difficulty in advancing to the All-Ireland semi-final, in which they will play Galway, when they had a comprehensive 5-18 to 0-2 victory over Limerick in the quarter-final at Paire Uí Rinn yesterday. Cork laid the foundations for victory in the opening half when they led 4-7 to 0-0 and the game as a contest was over at that stage.

SCORERS: Cork — L. Dunlea 2-2 (0-1), F. O'Driscoll 1-5, C. Harrington 1-2, L. Mellerick 1-0, M. Deasy 0-3, S. Hayes 0-3 (0-1 0-1 0-1 0-1), S. O'Callaghan, U. Troy, S. Dunlea 0-1 each; Limerick — P. McCarthy 0-1, C. Hynes 0-1.

CAMOGIE
U12, League final, Ballyhea 4-1, Inniscarra 1-2; U12 League semi-final, Inniscarra 5-5, Milford 5-2; Junior B League, Bandon 1-6, Courcey Rovers 2-2.



Cork's Linda Mellerick shooting for goal during the All-Ireland quarter-final against Limerick at Páirc Uí Rinn, Cork. Picture: Des Barry

Champions dominate in every department

Cork 5-18
Limerick 0-2

by Tom Higgins

"WE have won two matches so far and we haven't had a game," said left full-back Mags Finn after Cork had an comprehensive win over Limerick in this All-Ireland senior camogie quarter-final tie at Páirc Uí Rinn, Cork on Saturday.

The All-Ireland champions dominated in all departments, and Limerick's grit and determination was not sufficient to upset such seasoned campaigners, whose skill and off-the-ball running was a treat to watch. The game was over as a contest after 15 minutes when Cork led by 2-4 to 0-0, and the score could have been much larger had the home side not overused the ball on numerous occasions instead of using direct methods to pick off their scores. This allowed the hard-pressed Limerick defence to break up some promising moves. Cork shot six wides in the opening eight minutes and nine in total in the first period, when they turned over leading by 4-7 to 0-0. Cork, who played with the wind in the second half, continued where they left off and it took until the 52nd minute for Limerick to register their first score, a point from Pauline McCarthy. Cork began to take their foot off the pedal after this, and

they were able to give three of the subs a run. With Limerick's Eileen O'Brien getting little change out of Eithne Duggan and Vera Sheehan outplayed by Denise Cronin, the Limerick attack were given little opportunity to score, while Fiona O'Driscoll, who played a roving game, caused immense problems for the Limerick defence. She got excellent support from Lyn Dunlea and Linda Mellerick, and this trio picked off a lot of excellent scores.

"The fifteen-a-side game has done nothing for camogie as we have met weak opposition, which is little use to us," said trainer Tom Nott.

Limerick trainer Pat Heffernan commented: "we are a young team and lack the experience of Cork."

"The fifteen-a-side game does not help us as we haven't got the strength in depth which Cork have."

Scores: Cork - L. Dunlea 2-2 (0-1 free), F. O'Driscoll 1-5, C. Harrington 1-2, L. Mellerick 1-0, M. Deasy 0-3, S. Hayes 0-3 (0-1 free, 0-1 45), S. O'Callaghan, U. Troy 0-1, S. Dunlea 0-1 each.
Limerick: P. McCarthy 0-1, C. Hayes 0-1.
CORK: C. Keohane, S. Dunlea, E. Duggan, M. Finn, P. O'Connor, D. Cronin, V. Harris (capt); S. Hayes, U. Troy, M. O'Connor, L. Mellerick, S. O'Callaghan, L. Dunlea, F. O'Driscoll, M. Deasy. Subs: C. Harrington for L. Mellerick (40th minute); T. Doyle for M. Finn (48th minute); M. Burke for V. Harris (55th minute).
LIMERICK: Breda O'Brien; R. Colling, Bernice O'Brien, L. Leonard, P. Cronin, M. Loneragan, L. Leslie, K. Burke, M. Neville, M. Casey, V. Sheehan, P. McCarthy, D. Fitzpatrick, K. O'Connor, E. O'Brien, Subs: M. Sheehan for M. Loneragan (21st minute), E. Reale for Breda O'Brien and C. Hayes for D. Fitzpatrick (41st minute).
Referee: Bridie Phillips (Tipperary).

Ulster Club Camogie Championship quarter-finals

Top trio of title favourites all set for action

THE three teams which are most likely to win the 1999 Ulster Club Camogie title were in action at the weekend and all had resounding victories. All three will be in action this coming weekend but only two of them will still be in the running.

Dunloy should have no problem in securing a semi-final spot as the Donegal champions are not in the same class as a team that can score a 21 point victory over 1997 champions Loughiel.

Dunloy look to be the club team to defeat this year after a spectacularly high-scoring Antrim campaign when they also encountered old foes Portlennone, who won an Ulster title in 1992, by over 30 points.

They will want to watch Sunday's other Ulster championship game which will be a much closer affair. Its a repeat of the 1995 final when Liatroim Fontenoys edged home against the then first-time Derry champions Lavey.

Lavey retained the Oak Leaf title but unfortunately could not take part in the Ulster title-race as Comhairle Uladh had imposed a ban after the 1995 final following incidents involving spectators.

So Sunday will be Lavey's first game in Ulster since 1995, while Liatroim have reached the intervening three finals, winning two of them.

Very little can be read into Sunday's one-sided preliminary round fixture when the Fontenoys wiped out Fermanagh champions

Teemore while later in the evening Lavey convincingly defeated Slaughtneil for the Derry crown on a 4-6 to 0-1 scoreline.

Liatroim claim to have lost Brenda Gallagher and Rosaleen Cunningham on holidays but welcome back Nicola Magee after her month in the USA. Lavey for their part have not missed the presence of Eileen Devey at the back.

Four years ago, the freetaking of Mairin McAleenan and Martine Mulholland was a feature of the game, both are on excellent form this year. However frees alone will not win this one - goals will and both sides look adept enough at snatching those.

In the Derry semi-final three first half goals were crucial in dethroning Swatragh. Something from Bronagh Birt and young Paula McCloy would do the same with the Ulster title-holders.

This is a difficult game to call. Home venue may favour Lavey, although Liatroim have shown a tremendous resilience over the past five seasons to win on the road.

Lavey will be all out to avenge 1995, but - after an hour of tough camogie - Liatroim should have the experience to snatch a narrow victory and go through to a mouth-watering probable semi-final with Dunloy on August 22nd.

The other two quarter-finals are set for Sunday week.

Ulster Club Camogie quarter-finals
Sunday: 7pm in Gulladuff: Lavey v Liatroim Fontenoys, Time TBA in Dunloy: Dunloy v Donegal champions



● GIRL POWER: P11

'Barrs on song

ST. FINBARR'S easily overcame Watergrasshill, 2-10 to 1-1, in the Cork county senior B camogie championship at Caherlag last night.

St. Finbarr's thanks to goals from Orla O'Sullivan and Collette O'Mahoney, led 2-9 to 0-0 at half time and, despite adding just one point in the second-half, comfortably advanced to the next round.

At Carrigaline, Kilbrittan overcame Newcestown, while Courcy Rovers got the better of Aghabullogue, 1-8 to 2-3.

Bishopstown on the march again

Bishopstown 1-9
Glen Rovers 0-1

CHAMPIONS Bishopstown advanced to the final of the Cork county senior camogie championship with a comfortable win over Glen Rovers at Delany's Ground last evening.

Glen Rovers will rue a number of missed opportunities in the opening quarter when backed by the strong breeze.

Indeed it took them 21 minutes to open their account, a pointed from Karen Riordan but by then Bishopstown had 1-2 on the scoreboard.

Ciarra Healy had their first score on 11 minutes, four minutes later she finished Liz O'Neill's pass to the net for the game's only goal.

Vivian Harris added a further point and at the break Bishopstown led 1-3 to 0-1.

With the breeze at their back in the second half, they were well in control and a succession of long range points secured their place in the final long before the finish.

Scorers for Bishopstown: C. Healy 1-3, S. O'Callaghan 0-3, V. Harris 0-1.
Glen Rovers: K. Riordan 0-1.
BISHOPSTOWN: R. Desmond, S. Quigley, M. Treacy, A. Buckley, C. Enright, E. Duggan, T. Doyle, R. Cahalan, V. Harris, G. O'Sullivan, C. Healy, S. O'Callaghan, A. White (capt.), L. O'Neill, S. Morley, Subs: C. Kenny for A. White 43 mins.
GLEN ROVERS: L. O'Donovan, K. Newman, J. Hannon, P. Murphy, A. Guheen, D. Cronin, M. Burke (capt.), L. Mellerick, E. Riordan, E. Harte, S. Fitzgibbon, N. Goulding, O. Murphy, N. Kennefick, K. Riordan, Subs: G. McCarthy for M. Kennefick 24 mins.
Referee: G. Webb (Ballymartle).

Under-12s are camogie champions

BALLYHEA U12 camogie team brought the first county title in camogie to the parish on Friday evening last, when they had a good victory over Inniscarra at Grenagh.

This was a marvellous achievement as camogie in Ballyhea is only in its infancy. Hopefully it will be the forerunner to greater achievements in the future. Congratulations to the team, and mentors on a historic occasion for the Parish.

Ballyhea

July 1999

Fired up Tipp will be tough to beat

CORK and Tipperary will meet next Tuesday to decide the destination of the Munster junior championship.

Tipperary, the holders, contested last year's All-Ireland final, losing out to Galway.

On their way to victory they defeated Cork in the semi-final.

Since last year Tipperary have lost just one player to the senior team.

Angela McDermott, who formerly played with Cork club Bishopstown, is now a senior player. However the side can still call on the experience of captain Maeve Corcoran, Sheenagh Howard and Derbhilla Quigley, who plays with Bishopstown.

It's a strong Tipperary side which is coached by Sile Delaney. Her fellow selectors are Marion Graham and Bernie O'Dowd.

Cork are not without their stars also and are going into the game quietly confident of toppling the champions.

Following a superb league campaign, the side were disappointed to lose out to Derry in the league semi-final.

Since this defeat the side has put in an enormous effort and had a superb victory over Clare in their opening game.

The side has lost Sarah Hayes to the seniors but can still call on the experienced Muireann Harrington, Jill Hannon and Rachel Maloney to rally the troops and answer the call.

Coached

Coached by Pat Murray, the selection committee of Mairéad O'Callaghan, Lillina Zincent and Kay Dunne have their charges in tip top shape and ready to go.

For the second game in a row the Cork senior team had an easy win in their bid for three in a row of All-Ireland titles, when Limerick offered no resistance at Pairc Ui Rinn on Saturday.

The scoreline tells its own story. At half-time it was 4-7 to 0-4, and the mis-match continued in the second period with Limerick getting just two points with Cork adding 1-11 to their total.

Lyn Dunlea, Fiona O'Driscoll, Caoimhe Harrington and Linda Mellerick were among the goal-scorers while Denise Cronin, Ursula Troy and Mags Pinn all played their part.

While Cork will be glad to make the semi-finals, the lack of quality opposition could be a cause for concern as they face old rivals Kilkenny in the semi-final. They had a surprise but deserved win over Galway on a 2-8 to 1-3 scoreline.

The semi-final will take place on August 7 in Parnell Park, Dublin.

Glen will give Bishopstown girls a run for their money



Cork's Mary O'Connor about to hit a point despite the attention of Limerick defenders in their championship game at Pairc Ui Rinn.

Picture: Des Barry

Town look good for three-in-a-row

IT'S down to the last four in the county senior championship with the semi-finals down for decision tonight and Friday evening.

Champions Bishopstown meet Glen Rovers in tonight's semi-final clash at Delaney's with a 7.45pm throw in.

In their opening game Glen Rovers came from behind to defeat a determined Inniscarra outfit. Having taken the title from 1990 to 1996 the northsiders are in something of a transition period where they are blending in younger players to join the more experienced squad members.

Captained

They are captained by inter-county player Mary Burke and include the experienced Sandie Fitzgibbon, Linda Mellerick and Denise Cronin. Younger players making their championship debut are Niamh Goulding, Aileen Guillon, Eileen Riordan and Kelly Newman, while Karen Riordan, Mandy Kenefick, Orla Murphy, Trisha Murphy and Laura Donovan have had senior cham-



Cork's Mary O'Connor wins possession from Limerick's Liz Leonard in their game last weekend.

Picture: Des Barry

pionship experience and are all holders of senior honours.

Bishopstown, the holders, are going for three-in-a-row. Others to have achieved this include Old Aloysius, Glen Rovers, South Presentation Past Pupils, Killeagh, Eire Og and Imokilly. Therefore they will be conscious of being about to join an elite

group should they achieve this.

In their semi-final outing against divisional side Carbery, they had to pull out all the stops when two late points from Vivien Harris and r/w signing Sinead O'Callaghan secured victory.

It's a very formidable and impressive line-out and one which will take some effort

Magic moments

BREDA KENNY (Sarsfields) has won Gael Linn senior medals with Munster junior, with Connaught and played junior with Leinster.

from Glen Rovers if they are to succeed. However, mindful of this, the Bishopstown side will be on their guard.

Second

In the second semi-final Cloughduv meet Fr O'Neills at Glen Rovers on Friday night.

O'Neills, who have been so impressive throughout their campaign to date, make no secret of their desire to take senior honours. Having lost the last two finals to Bishopstown, they are putting in an enormous effort this year. The throw-in for this game is timed for 7.45pm

Ballyhea make history

Ballyhea 4-1
Inniscarra 1-2

HISTORY was made at Delaney's GAA grounds on Friday evening last when the camogie players of Ballyhea took their first ever title winning the county u-12 league at the expense of a gallant Inniscarra.

In their semi-final outing, Inniscarra defeated favourites Milford whilst Ballyhea had a fine victory over Barryroe.

Goals

Three first half goals from Rachel Waters, Rena Garvey and Mary Coleman gave them an interval lead of 3-1 to 0-2, the Inniscarra points coming from the impressive Rena Buckley.

A determined second half rally from the Inniscarra girls yielded a goal courtesy of Rena Buckley, but try as they might they could not breach a strong Ballyhea side.



S
es season

By Mary Moran



July 1999

Lynn Dunlea ready for battle as Cloughduv bid for place in camogie final

Cloughduv's goal ace will have final say



Therese O'Callaghan

CLOUGHDUV mentors may not get unduly concerned if they fall behind in tonight's Cork county senior camogie championship semi-final.

Exactly twelve days ago plan B was put into operation.

The mid-Cork side found themselves three goals down coming up to half-time. They moved centre-forward Stephanie Dunlea to centre-back and at just about the same time, her sister Lynn settled into destruction mode in front of the Barryroe goal - despite a great tussle between herself and young Rosalie Holland, a successful minor of '98.

Lynn hits them like bullets, and that night when the need was greatest, netted a spectacular 3-5 out of her sides 3-8.

It gave them a narrow two-point victory over Barryroe in one of the best championship displays so far this season.

Fortunate

The Coachford-based primary school teacher regards herself as "very fortunate to have won so much and describes camogie as "an excellent past-time, a great way to get fit, and a helpful aid to succeed in life."

She still has a lot to offer, and reminds me that she is just one of four players on this Cloughduv team who are over the age of twenty (her sisters Jacky and Stephanie are two others).

Tonight's game sees the Muskerry side renew rivalry with Fr O'Neills for the third year-in-a-row, and again at the same penultimate stage.

Lynn classifies their opposition as "strong and vastly experienced", but nevertheless her wish is that: "we do go out and play to our potential - we have failed to do so on previous occasions, we have girls who have represented the county at minor, junior,



Above: Lynn Dunlea, Cloughduv need look no further for a heroine against Fr O'Neills. Right, Linda Mellerick and far right, Mary O'Connor in action for Cork against Limerick recently.



intermediate and senior level so it's not as if we don't have experience," she says.

At this stage I interrupt to hear more about her own inter-county career.

Nine counties had been won at different age levels with Cloughduv, before she and her sisters transferred to Glen Rovers in the early nineties - a club with whom

their mother (Nuala Humphries) played her camogie.

There, Lynn played her part in four senior county titles, and went on to win two Munster club championships and an All-Ireland club title in 1993.

She was also a member of the Cork Junior side, before stepping up to the adult grade in the same year.

She has since collected four All-Ireland medals at this level.

With those All-Irelands also has come six provincial medals and five national league honours.

Regular

She has been a regular member of the Munster inter-provincial team that has been victorious six

times in this decade.

Two years ago the Dunleas returned to Cloughduv. "Now that we have got this far, we will give it everything on the night" the leading attacker said. The result of this game is probably less predictable than the others, as both teams have a realistic chance of winning.

However, the twice recipient of the Jury's Sports Award, realises that her team are only one step from a county final meeting with defending champions Bishopscourt, concludes "We are not overconfident, but we will not go into it quietly either."

If Cloughduv need a heroine - they need look no further than Lynn.

Senior final is top attraction

CAMOGIE

THERE is considerable interest in next Sunday's senior championship final at Mick Neville Park between Granagh-Ballingarry and Bruff at 2.

Granagh-Ballingarry are of course odds-on favourites. Without even pulling out all the stops the All Ireland champions have negotiated their passage through the preliminary rounds and will be in no mood to falter with a county title and entry into the club championship at stake. They have tried and trusted quality players in all positions and their skills and resilience have been sharpened at the highest levels in club, school and county.

Faced with such formidable opponents, Bruff might be expected to

capitulate. However, such an attitude is not in the sporting manuals of such a famed club that boasts of Pauline McCarthy, Helen Clifford, Mary Lonergan, Pamela Cronin, Anne O'Callaghan, Liz Leonard etc.

An illness and subsequent death relative to Galbally, resulted in the postponement of the Co. Junior championship, Adare v Galbally, fixed for Kilfinane on Sunday last. The game has been refixed for Friday July 25, again at Kilfinane starting time 7.30. Galbally, losing finalists in 1997 and 1998 must be favoured to make it third time lucky, but Adare are a young fit eager team and could spring a surprise. A game worth seeing is the confident prediction.

It's the bread and butter of League for the Junior's again on Sunday after the champagne of championships. Round four is down for decision and you can catch the action as follows. Section 1: Patrickswell v Galbally. Adare v Mungrat. Feenagh-Kilmeedy v Milford. Section 2: Abbey Gaels v Murroe-Boher. Fr. Ryans v Garrysillane. Bruff a bye. The first named team has home venue, all games have a throw-in time of 12 noon.

For some clubs the vacuum of under 16 and post under 14 competition are being filled by local tournaments. Knockaderry have four teams taking part in its u14 league. Three rounds have been played, all in Knockaderry. Feenagh-Kilmeedy are out, while New-castlewest are into the semi-final against the loser of Knockaderry and Croagh.

"Champions dominate in every department" was the headline on Monday following Limerick's exit from the All-Ireland Championship at Paire Uí Rinn on Saturday last. The scorelines tell it's own story: Limerick 0-2, Cork 5-18. Limerick were totally outclassed by the best team camogie has seen since the Downey sisters were winning all before them with Kilkenny. The Limerick team in action in the quarter-final was: Breda O'Brien, Rose Collins, Bernie O'Brien, Liz Leonard, Paula Cronin, Mary Lonergan, Laura

Leslie, Marian Neville, Kay Burke, Michelle Casey, Vera Sheehan, Pauline McCarthy (0-1), Deirdre Fitzpatrick, Kathleen O'Connor, Eileen O'Brien. Subs: Maureen Sheehan, E. Reale, Catherine Hayes (0-1).

Cork and

PJ Fulham reviews affairs in the camogie world.

All-Ireland senior camogie champions Cork gave an excellent performance against Limerick in the Bord na Gaeilge All-Ireland Senior Championship quarter final tie played at Paire Uí Rinn on Saturday last. The 'Leesiders' took control of the game from the start, producing lots of fire power. Their industrious forwards proved more than a handful for a Limerick side that fought all the way but could not cope with the experience of their opponents. The game was over as a contest at half time after goals by Lynn Dunlea (2), Fiona O'Driscoll and Linda Mellerick left Cork leading 4-7 to 0-0.

Ten minutes into the second half the champions introduced a number of substitutes. One of these subs, Caoimhe Harrington notched a goal and two points as her side cruised into the All-Ireland semi-final on a score of 5-18 to 0-2.

Scorers: Cork: Lynn Dunlea 2-2, Fiona O'Driscoll 1-5, Caoimhe Harrington 1-2, Linda Mellerick 1-0, Sarah Hayes and Miriam Deasy 0-3 each. Cork: Sinead O'Callaghan, Ursula Troy, Mary O'Connor, Linda Mellerick, Sinead O'Callaghan, Lynn Dunlea, Fiona O'Driscoll, Miriam Deasy. Subs: Caoimhe Harrington for L. Mellerick, Mary Burke for V. Harris, Trish Doyle for M. Finn.

Limerick: Breda O'Brien, Rose Collins, Bernie O'Brien, Liz Leonard, Paula Cronin, Mary Lonergan, Laura Leslie, Kay Bourke, Marian Neville, Michelle Casey, Vera Sheehan, Pauleen McCarthy, Deirdre Fitzpatrick, Kathleen O'Connor, Eileen O'Brien.

Subs: Maureen Sheehan for M. Lonergan, Edel Riall for B. O'Brien, Catherine Hayes for D. Fitzpatrick.

Ref - Biddy Phyllips, Tipperary

Kilkenny gave notice that they are on the way back when they got the upperhand of Galway in a closely contested Bord na Gaeilge All-Ireland senior championship quarter-final at Loughrea. Galway who contested the last three All-Ireland finals had their hopes dashed by a gutsy Kilkenny side. However, this was a game that could have gone either way up until the final five

Bord na Gaeilge Galway through to semi's

minutes. After a pulsating first half Kilkenny led 1-4 to 0-6 with the goal coming from Catherine Dunne. During that half Veronica Curtin, Therese Maher and Aine Hillary notched off some well taken points for Galway.

In the second half Sandra Tannian sent a sizzling ball to the Kilkenny net. However, it was Kilkenny's minor Lizzie Lyng who got the all important score when she goaled. Brigid Mullaly, Margaret Hickey and Margaret Commerford put in good displays for the winners with Fiona Ryan, Aine Hillary and Therese Maher prominent for Galway.

Final score: Kilkenny 2-8 Galway 1-8. Scorers: Kilkenny: Brigid Mullaly and Sinead Millea 0-4 each, Lizzie Lyng and Catherine Dunne 1-0 each.

Galway: Sandra Tannian 1-0, Therese Maher and Aine Hillary 0-3 each, Veronica Curtin 0-2.

Ref - John Morrissey, Tipperary

Armagh had a convincing win over Galway in an All-Ireland Intermediate Championship quarter final played at Middleton on Sunday last. The 'Orchard County' dominated this encounter and led 3-3 to 1-1 at the break. Final score: Armagh 4-8 Galway 1-5.

Scorers: Patricia McEvoy 2-1, Karen Kelly 2-0, Mary Black 0-3, Olive McGeown 0-2, Bernie McBride and Ellen Donnelly 0-1 each.

Galway: Claire Conroy 0-5, Elaine Kearns 1-0.

Ref - Geraldine Butler, Antrim

Results

Ulster Club Championship:

Liatroim/Fontenoy's, Down 13-24 Teemore, Fermanagh 2-1.

Ulster Under 18C semi-final:

Derry 5-20 Fermanagh 0-1.

County Championship Finals:

Offaly Senior:

Drumcullen 5-4 Shinrone 3-3

Offaly Junior:

Birr 4-10 Kilcormac/Killoughy 1-3

Carlow Senior:

Naomh Bhrí 2-5 Myshall 0-6

Cavan Senior:

Crosserlough 2-7 Castletara 0-12

Cavan Intermediate:

Cornafean 4-2 Ballinagh 3-1

Antrim Senior:

Dunloy 5-15 Loughgriel 1-6

Wicklow Intermediate:

Annacurra 2-1 Dunlavin 0-0

Wicklow Minor:

Gleneally 4-2 Aughrim 2-2

Dublin Senior Championship Semi-Finals:

St. Vincent's 2-12

Good Council 2-3

Ballyboden St. Enda's 2-6

Erin's Isle 0-8

On Saturday next Connacht Junior Champions Roscommon travel to take on London in an All-Ireland Junior Championship quarter final tie. Only once has London reached a semi-final slot, that was in 1994 when they recorded a 2-8 to 0-5 win over Leinster champions Kilkenny. Roscommon were All-Ireland junior championship finalists in 1996 and their last meeting with London was in 1995 when they had just one point to spare on home ground, Roscommon 1-11 London 2-7. London will be anxious to reverse that result on Saturday. It should be a close entertaining tie with little separating the sides at the end.

The Leinster club championship gets underway this weekend. St. Munnas, Westmeath Champions for twelve consecutive years host Drumcullen who have just secured their tenth Offaly senior title in a row. Drumcullen had a good win over Trim, Meath in the opening round last year and lost to St. Laurences, Kildare in the semi-final.

St. Munnas fell at the first hurdle last year to St. Laurences. This will be the first ever meeting of the sides and it should be a cracker. The Offaly champions won this competition in 1994. They have many members of the Offaly team who won the Leinster Championship. St. Munnas will be going all out to impress on home ground.

July 1999

July 1999

O'Neills to meet 'Town in the final

COUNTY championship action continued last week with the senior county semi-finals and the opening rounds of the senior 'B' championship all decided.

In the Bishopstown versus Glen Rovers clash at Delany's on Wednesday night.

Glen, aided by the strong wind in the opening half, enjoyed ample possession but failing to avail of numerous chances struck ten wides in the opening quarter.

Bishopstown settled and, on the turnover, took control to run out winners and book a final spot to defend their coveted title.

The second semi-final was a much closer affair at Glen Rovers on Friday evening, with Cloughduv putting in a mighty effort to almost upset a Fr O'Neill's side who were hot favourites to advance.

Goals inside five minutes from O'Neill's Frances Flavin and Clare O'Donoghue for Cloughduv had the sides level.

Cloughduv dictated terms and turned over leading by one point.

Finish

Fiona O'Driscoll rallied the East Cork girls when she hand passed to Frances Flavin to finish to the net.

Cloughduv did put on the pressure but could not get back in front and it was Fr O'Neill's who went through to set up an intriguing county final meeting on August 18 with old rivals Bishopstown.

It's the third year in a row that the sides will have met in the final and it has all the ingredients of a classic.

The Senior 'B' championship started off on Tuesday with newly promoted Watergrasshill facing last year's defeated finalists St Finbarra. The southside girls served notice of their intentions by running out comprehensive winners.

Kilbrittain and Newcestown served up a cracker at Carrigaline in the first game of a double header.

Despite trailing at half-time 1-3 to 1-1, the Kilbrittain girls ran out winners when an Eiblish O'Regan goal mid-way through the second half was enough to secure victory.

In the second game of the evening at Carrigaline, Courcey Rovers had to see off a determined Aghabullogue challenge before booking their passage to the semi-final stage.

Two Louise Murphy goals early in the second-half gave Aghabullogue a 2-2 to 0-6 lead, but with their inter-county pair of Sarah Hayes and Rachel Maloney in top form, Courcey's rallied to be ahead at the final whistle.

Girls from the banks of the Foyle provide test for Rebels



Frances Flavin of Fr O'Neills scores in the county camogie semi-final against Cloughduv at the Glen.

Picture: Michael Macsweney

Cork should get better of Derry

All-Ireland minor championship semi-final time has at last come around with Cork defending their title with a 1pm meeting against a Derry side they defeated in last year's final.

It's been a long break since the minor championship title was annexed on May bank holiday Monday but since then exams and study have been put aside as the long summer evenings lend themselves to thoughts of camogie and championship action both at club and county level.

Services

Opening their campaign with the services of eight of last year's winning side, Cork easily accounted for a disappointing Limerick side to record a 4-7 to 0-2 victory and in the process set up a meeting with Clare in the Munster final. Played at Paire Donal O'Ceallachain, Ballyanley, the Cork girls totally out-classed a spirited Clare side and in the process created their own bit of history becoming the county's first team to take a championship title at 15-a-side.

Magic Moments

10. Four Munster clubs have taken the prestigious Kilmacud All-Ireland sevens title Drom-Inch (Tipperary) 1977 and 1996, Killeagh (Cork) 1981, Glen Rovers (Cork) 1990, and Toomevara (Tipperary) won it in 1997.

Following on the long break, training has resumed with a determination to hold on to their title.

An absentee on Sunday will be Catriona Kelly who is presently out of the country on holidays and her experience will be a loss to the side. However they have excellent players in Marie Watson, Joanne O'Callaghan and Aine Kelleher.

The side is captained by Niamh Bowles from the Newtownshandrum club.

Derry will field five of the



Lynne Dunlea of Cloughduv goes past Fr. O'Neills' Sharon McCarthy in the county semi-final.

side that contested last year's final. They are captained by Lorna Mulholland who won an All-Ireland colleges medal with St Mary's Magherafelt in 1996.

Several members of the Derry side will have had colleges experience both

with St Pat's and St Mary's Maghera.

In the Ulster final, they defeated Antrim 2-8 to 3-2 and are determined to reverse last year's result on Sunday next. However on Cork's performances to date they look set to book a final place.

Rebels set to advance

THE intermediate side are also in action this weekend when they take on Wexford.

Since its inception in 1992, the intermediate title has been won by Dublin, Clare, Armagh, Limerick and Tipperary.

Cork reached the final last season but lost out to a superb Down side.

Panel

Having lost only one player to the senior side Cork aim to go one better.

They face a Wexford side who can call on all of the side defeated by Cork in the opening round of the senior championship.

However Wexford offered little or no challenge to Cork in the senior code and it will take a huge effort to re-organise and regenerate interest in a county that seems to be going through a transition period.

With the talent at their disposal, Cork are taken to advance.

Camogie veterans set to meet again as Cork take on Derry

by Mary Newman

WITH three Cork teams qualified for All-Ireland semi-finals, the minors get the show on the road tomorrow at Ballincollig when they play host to a Derry side they defeated in last year's All-Ireland final.

While it's hard to predict the outcome at minor grade, a look back at the survivors each panel has left since last year is a good indication of what might happen.

Here Cork can call on six of last year's All-Ireland winning side. Derry have five remaining since that campaign. In their opening round versus Limerick, Cork scored a comfortable victory and totally outclassed and outplayed a poor Clare side in the Munster Final.

An absentee from the side who contested the Munster campaign will be Catriona Kelly, who is presently out of the country on holidays, and being a survivor from last year's campaign her experience will be hard to replace.

Notwithstanding this is a strong Cork panel, captained by Niamh Bowles. With several of the side, though still under 16, having played Senior Championship at club level, they are a vastly experienced side.

The team will not be announced until before tomorrow's game, but will be sure to include Aine Kelleher, Aoife Murray, a sister of Cork senior hurler, Kevin, and the stylish Jennifer O'Leary.

A doubt does surround the availability of Joanne O'Callaghan, who was injured while

playing with her club, Cloughduv, in the Senior County Championship semi-final. However, the selectors will wait before a final decision will be taken with regard to her injury.

Derry are captained by Lorna Mulholland, who also played in last year's decider. An All-Ireland Colleges medalist in 1996 with the St. Mary's, Magherafelt, team, Mulholland contributed six points of her side's total in their Ulster final victory over Antrim.

In that game, the centrefield pairing of Shauna Mulholland and Pauline McCloy dictated matters, and it's here that the main threat to Cork will lie.

If they can contain this lively pairing they should be well on their way to a final meeting with either Galway

or Kilkenny, who clash on Tuesday evening.

Only one point separated Cork from Galway in last season's semi-final, and while Kilkenny have put in an enormous effort with this year's minors, the indications are that Galway, with most of last year's team available, should advance.

The Intermediate side are also in action this afternoon when St. Finbarr's, take on Wexford in the All-Ireland quarter-final.

Cork reached the final last season and lost out to a superb Down side. Having only lost one player to the senior side this year, Cork are determined to go one better and with the added incentive of the Seniors, Juniors and Minors already in the semi-final, it may be just the boost the

Cork side need.

They face a strong Wexford side who can call on all of the team defeated by the Cork seniors in the opening round of the Championship earlier in the season. However, with such talented players as Enda Dineen, Sinéad Cahalane and Muireann Harrington on the side Cork should gain a semi-final slot.

The Senior B quarter-final on Wednesday night has an all-Seandun pairing with St. Finbarr's meeting Brian Dillons at Delany's. The Barrs, with the advantage of its opening round victory over Watergrasshill, will be favourites to come away on Wednesday night with a semi-final spot booked. The sides met in last year's Championship, the Barrs running out winners and while they will be without

their Cork minor player, Gemma O'Connor, who will be away on holidays, they should still have too much experience to overcome a young Brian Dillons side.

Cork Minor Panel: A. Murray (Cloughduv), M. Watson (Millfield), N. Bowles (Newtownshandrum), Capt., C. O'Gorman (Millfield), A. Kelleher (Newtownshandrum), J. O'Leary (Barrymore), K. McCarthy (do.), E. Dillon (Ballygarvan), S. Corkery (Cloughduv), O. McCarthy (do.), R. Corcoran (Fr. O'Neill), J. Towhee (Aghabullogue), G. O'Connor (St. Finbarr's), S. Deasy (Newtownshandrum), S. O'Donovan (Valley Rovers), J. O'Sullivan (Bishopscourt), K. Newman (Glen Rovers), J. O'Callaghan (Cloughduv), C. Desmond (Newtownshandrum), O. O'Callaghan (Cloughduv), E. Hayes (Innis-carra), N. Murphy (Carrigaline), C. Crowley (Eire Ogl. S. Quinn (Courcy Rovers). Fixtures: Today: All-Ireland Intermediate Championship Quarter-Final - Cork v Wexford at St. Finbarr's, 1.30 pm. Tomorrow: All-Ireland Minor Championship Semi-Final - Cork v Derry, Ballincollig 1pm. Wednesday: At Delany's - Senior B Championship Quarter-Final - St. Finbarr's v Brian Dillons, 7.45pm.

Cork conquer Derry to reach final

Cork 0-11
Derry 1-0

ALL-IRELAND minor camogie champions Cork booked their place in this year's decider when they proved too strong for Derry in the semi-final at Ballincollig, Co. Cork, yesterday.

It took Cork seven minutes to open the scoring with a Marie Watson point. Then captain Niamh Bowles took over, shooting three unanswered points.

Despite enjoying maximum possession, Cork were guilty of wasting chances, shooting nine wide in the opening half. However, further points from Bowles, Emer Dillion, Gemma O'Connor and Sarah O'Donovan saw the holders lead comfortably by 0-8 to nil at the interval.

Derry fought hard to get back in the game after the restart and their defence managed to limit the Cork attack in the second half.

Points from Gemma O'Connor and Eimear Dillion (2) were sufficient to keep Cork ahead, but with six minutes to go Patricia Bateson scored for Derry. Cork will meet Galway or Kilkenny in the final.

Scorers: Cork — E. Dillon, 0-4; N. Bowles 0-3; G. O'Connor 0-2; S. O'Donovan 0-1; M. Watson 0-1. Derry — P. Bateson 1-0. Cork: A. Murray; S. Deasy; J. Twomey; C. O'Gorman; J. O'Sullivan; A. Kelleher; S. Corkery; N. Bowles (captain); O. McCarthy; K. McCarthy; E. Dillon; G. O'Connor; M. Watson; J. O'Leary; S. O'Donovan. Subs: C. Desmond for M. Watson; E. Hayes for K. McCarthy; K. Newman for S. Deasy. Derry: A. O'Kane; P. Irwin; J. Carey; G. McGoldrick; N. O'Hagan; D. McGuigan; S. Mulholland; S. Moore; S. Cushehan; P. McCloy; L. Mulholland (captain); O. Mullan; B. McNichol; P. Bateson; C. McColegan. Subs: P. Bell for S. Mulholland; S. Keatley for N. O'Hagan. Referee: B. McPhillips (Tipperary).

Cork 5-19
Wexford 2-6

THE result could be predicted as early as eight minutes into this one-sided All-Ireland intermediate championship quarter-final at St. Finbarr's, Cork, on Saturday.

Cork's Ciara Healy finished to the net to get the opening goal after Wexford goalie Brenda Murphy failed to hold a shot from Una O'Donoghue.

With Cork leading 1-2 to 0-1, points by from Rachel Maloney (2) and Una O'Donoghue stretched the lead. Full forward Ciara Healy then caught an Orla O'Sullivan delivery on the end line and finished to the net.

Cork were now in control of all sectors and enjoying maximum possession.

Wexford responded with points from Kate Kelly and Elaine O'Connor but Cork's dominance continued with O'Donoghue scoring one minute from half-time to leave the home side ahead 3-10 to 0-4.

If Wexford had any hopes of a revival they were quashed by goals from Orla O'Sullivan and Emer O'Donoghue in the opening minutes of the second half.

Wexford responded, and goals in the seventh and 13th minutes from Jenny Cod put a more respectable look on the scoreboard.

Scorers: Cork — R. Maloney 0-8 (freesh); U. O'Donoghue 2-2; O. O'Sullivan 1-1; C. Healy 2-2; S. Cahalane 0-3; C. Harte 0-2; E. Burke 0-1. Wexford: K. Kelly 0-3 (freesh); J. Cod 2-1; E. O'Connor, M. Kelly 0-1. Cork: G. Casey; E. Dineen; S. Buckley; R. Holland; L. O'Connell; G. Hannon; E. O'Sullivan; m. Corkery; H. Walsh (captain); S. Cahalane; O. O'Sullivan; R. Maloney; U. O'Donoghue; C. Healy; C. Harte. Subs: E. Burke for U. O'Donoghue; V. O'Sullivan for H. Walsh; A. O'Regan for m. Corkery. WEXFORD: B. Murphy; F. Cullen; L. Jacobs; J. Murphy; L. Corrigan; E. O'Connor; E. Roche; S. Carr; m. Henne; M. Murphy; K. Kelly; M. Walsh; G. Hefferan; M. Kelly; J. Cod. Referee: Celine Duddy (Limerick). U-14 league final: Carrigaline 4-1 Rockbeun 0-0.

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Cork Minors through to All-Ireland Camogie final

Cork 0-11
Derry 1-0

Holders Cork advanced to the final for the third year in a row when they proved much too strong for a spirited Derry outfit at Ballincollig on Sunday last.

Cork opened the scoring seven minutes into the game with a well struck point from Marie Watson. Niamh

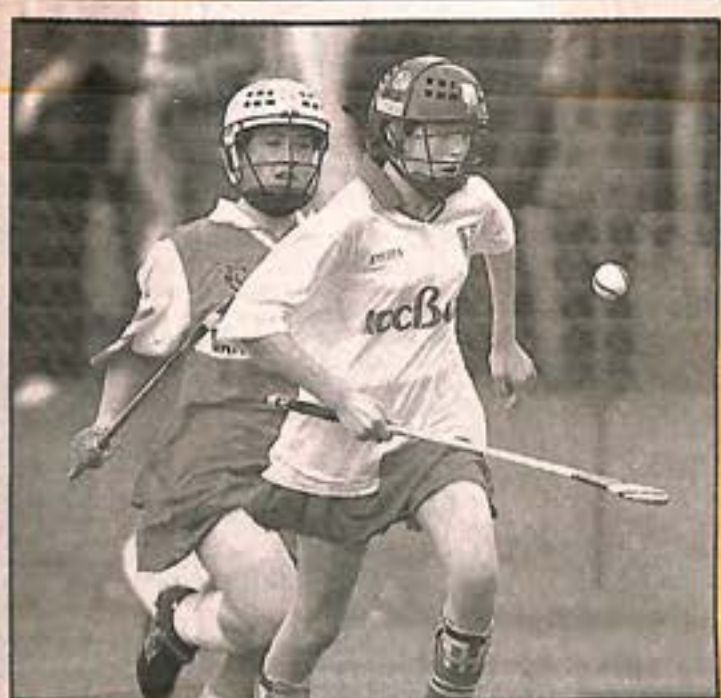
Bowles playing as captain struck three great points in the 8th, 11th and 14th minutes. Despite enjoying maximum possession Cork found it difficult to shake off a gritty Derry defence in which Shauna Mulholland and Nuala O'Hagan were excellent. Derry did

enjoy their share of possession but failed to capitalise. Despite shooting nine first half wides Cork led 0-8 to 0-0 at the interval.

With Derry fighting hard in the second half the Cork forwards were made work for their scores and an indication of Derry determination is that Cork only managed three points from Emer Dillon (2) and Gemma O'Connor. Derry did

have a goal twenty five minutes into the half when Patricia Bateson finished to the net but it did little to further their challenge as by now Cork had their passage booked. They will know that on another day the shooting of fifteen wides will not suffice if they are to hold on to their title. They now meet either Galway or Kilkenny in the All Ireland final on August 21 or 22.

Cork: A. Murray, S. Corkery, S. Deasy, C. O'Gorman, Jo Sullivan, N. Bowles, (C) 0-3; A. Kelleher, J. Twomey, O. McCarthy, K. McCarthy, E. Dillon 0-4; G. O'Connor 0-2; M. Watson 0-1; J. O'Leary, S. O'Donovan 0-1. Subs:



Cork's Gemma O'Connor passes Derry's Charlene Moore during their semi-final match at Ballincollig, Co. Cork. Picture: Mark Kelleher

HOLDERS Tipperary will take on treble-chasing Cork in the Munster junior camogie final at Carrigtwohill, Co. Cork tomorrow night.

With the senior and minor titles already safely tucked away, Cork will be hoping to make it title number three but they face a tough task if they are to do so. Tipperary, having lost out to Galway in last year's All-Ireland junior final are in a determined mood this year and are hell-bent on capturing the title.

Since last year Tipperary have lost just one player to the senior team, Angela McDermott, who formerly played with Cork's Bishopstown club, having been promoted to the Tipperary senior side.

However, they can still call on the experience of captain Maeve Corcoran, Sheena Howard and Bishopstown player Derbhilla Quigney.

The side is coached by Sheila Delaney whose fellow selectors are Munster Council chairperson Marion Graham and Bernie O'Dowd. On paper its a

strong Tipperary side that will take beating.

Cork scored a comprehensive victory over a disappointing Clare side in the opening round and whilst that game provided a useful workout, the Leesiders know that the opposition tomorrow is much stronger.

Like their opponents they have also lost one player to the Cork senior squad with Sarah Hayes being promoted.

The side can still boast fine players in Rachel Maloney, Muireann Harrington, Jill Hannon and Ger Casey.

Following a superb league campaign, Cork were disappointed to lose out to Derry in the league semi-final, but since that defeat they have put in an enormous effort under the watchful eye of Pat Murray and the selection committee of Mairéad O'Callaghan, Lillian Zinchant and Kay Dunne.

With Cork determined on gaining revenge for last year's defeat in the opening round game and Tipp equally determined to hold onto their title a hectic struggle.

Cork 3-14
Tipperary 2-7

by Mary Newman

CORK took the Munster Junior Camogie Championship title they last held in 1997 when they dethroned holders Tipperary at Carrigtwohill last evening.

Cork, backed by the strong wind in the opening half, set about their task from the off with a Marie Corkery point inside two minutes.

A Rachel Maloney goal two minutes later settled the Cork girls who led 1-2 to no score before Norma Coffey opened the Tipperary account with a well struck pointed 45.

Cork responded instantly with points from Rachel Maloney, Ruth Cahalane and Sheena Morley but despite being backed by the strong wind they failed to

shake off a gritty Tipperary side who worked hard to contain a lively Cork attack.

Two points in the 23rd and 25th minutes from Norma Coffey and Grainne Shanahan kept Tipperary in contention. But it was Cork with a Sheena Morley point on the half-time whistle who led 1-5 to 0-3.

It was evident that Tipperary meant business in the second-half as inside four minutes they had the deficit down to one point when Norma Coffey pointed in the third minute they quickly followed with a Siobhain Ryan goal one minute later after the Cork defence failed to clear.

Two pointed Rachel Maloney frees gave Cork a breathing space but back came Tipperary once again with a Norma Coffey pointed free. With the Cork defence and centre field working tirelessly Tipperary despite be-

ing backed by the wind found the going tough. Three points without reply from the superb Rachel Maloney and one from Una O'Donoghue had Cork ahead 1-10 to 1-5 going into the last quarter.

By the 20th minute Cork led 1-12 to 1-6 and were looking confident with seven minutes remaining. Grainne Shanahan sparked a brief Tipperary revival when she finished a Norma Coffey free to the net but Cork responded from the puck out with Una O'Donoghue goaling after keeper Louise Ryan batted the ball directly into her path.

Any hopes of a Tipperary comeback were shattered by Cork substitute Ciara Healy two minutes later when she soloed through the Tipp defence and rattled the net.

Rachel Maloney added two further points to which Siobhain

Ryan responded but by now Cork were well on their way to a semi-final meeting with Offaly.

Cork have now taken three Munster camogie titles at senior, junior and minor level and go on to contest the semi-finals of all three competitions in the coming weeks.

Scorers for Cork: R. Maloney (1-9, 0-7 frees, 0-1 45), U. O'Donoghue (1-1), C. Healy (1-6), S. Morley (0-2), M. Corkery and R. Cahalane (0-1 each).

Tipperary: N. Coffey (0-5, 0-2 frees, 0-1 45, 0-1 sideline), G. Shanahan (1-1), S. Ryan (1-1).

CORK: G. Casey, M. Harrington, R. Holland, S. Buckley, R. Cahalane, J. Hannon, L. O'Connell, H. Walsh (Capt.), S. Morley, G. O'Sullivan, M. Corkery, V. O'Sullivan, U. O'Donoghue, C. Harte, R. Maloney, Subs: E. Burke for V. O'Sullivan, C. Healy for C. Harte, E. O'Herlihy for S. Morley.

TIPPERARY: L. Ryan, D. Quigney, P. Fogarty, J. Ryan, D. McDonnell, J. O'Connor, M. Corcoran (Capt.), J. Delaney, L. Burke, G. Shanahan, S. Howard, A. Deane, J. Ryan, S. Ryan, N. Coffey, Subs: F. Loughmans for D. Quigney, N. Maher for D. McDonnell, M. Luby for J. Delaney.

Referee: L. Davitt (Westmeath).

Another camogie title comes to Leeside with junior victory

Cork 3-14
Tipperary 2-7

CORK camogie continues to grow and grow. At Carrigtwohill last night the junior team regained the Munster title with a 10 point victory over Tipperary.

The new champions looked in trouble when they could only manage a five point half-time lead after playing with the aid of the strong wind.

However, a couple of shrewd substitutions by their mentors which saw Ciara Healy and Elaine Burke come on, worked extremely well and with Rachel Maloney unerring from frees and play - she finished the game with a personal tally of 1-9 - Cork took control to run out comfortable winners.

This latest success now means the Leesiders are through to the All-Ireland semi-finals at minor, junior and senior level, positive proof that camogie in the county is at an all time high.

Reflecting on the junior team's success, Mairéad O'Callaghan said it was all down to the excellent team-



Marian Graham, chairperson, Munster Camogie Council, watched by Rose Malon, secretary Munster Camogie Council, presents the Munster Junior Championship trophy to Cork's Helen Walsh. Picture: Des Barry

By BRENDAN LARKIN

work of the girls, and in particular to the substitutions that were made in the second half.

"It didn't look good for us at half-time when we turned to face the strong wind with

just a five point lead, and when Tipperary reduced the deficit with a goal soon after the restart it looked as if we were going to lose.

"But fair play to the girls, they responded superbly to the danger and with Rachel Maloney, Marie Corkery, Helen Walsh and Ciara Healy in excel-

lent form, Cork recovered superbly to record a great win.

"We now go on to meet Offaly in the All-Ireland semi-final in Offaly on August 14 and with a league victory over them already under our belt, I would be reasonably confident we can complete the double over them", said

Mairéad.

Ciara Healy who is a member of the senior squad, showed just how valuable a sub she was when she raced through before rattling the net from close range to finally kill off the Tipperary revival.

So it's a case of the Cork bandwagon rolling along relentlessly.

Below par Galway crash out of senior camogie title race at Loughrea

Kilkenny.....2-8 :: Galway.....1-8

GALWAY'S interest in the Bord na Gaelge All-Ireland senior camogie championship ended in timid fashion in Loughrea on Saturday last when they went down to Kilkenny in the All-Ireland quarter-final. This was a disappointing Galway performance with the concession of two soft goals proving costly.

Kilkenny will be delighted with this win as they were poor on the day but their ability to take scores at vital times was the crucial difference in an otherwise poor game.

The crossfield breeze made conditions difficult and it took both teams some time to settle. Only two points were scored in the opening 18 minutes, both from frees, Galway's from Aine Hillary and Kilkenny's from Bridget Mullaly.

The Cats then struck for a vital score. Galway 'keeper Louise Curry saved from Catherine Dunne but failed to clear and Dunne shot the rebound to the home team's net. Sinead Millea quickly shot a point to give Kilkenny a 1-2 to 0-1 lead.

With eight minutes to half time Galway opened up and added 0-5 to Kilkenny's 0-2. Their five points coming from Aine Hillary (2 frees), Veronica Curtin (0-2) and the point of the day from Therese Maher from at least 65 yards out. This left the half time

score at Galway 0-6 Kilkenny 1-4.

A major impact on that half came with ten minutes to half time when the influential Ann Downey had to leave the field due to injury. Within two minutes of the restart Kilkenny struck for their second goal. After a defensive mess-up, sub Mary Ellen Butler scrambled the ball to the net with a weak kick and Galway trailed by four points. As with the first goal, Kilkenny pointed a free almost immediately to cement the goal and give them a 5 point lead.

Galway went 17 frustrating minutes in that second half without a score and this was to be costly. Aine Hillary pointed a free to register their first flag of the second half only to have Sinead Millea reply at once for Kilkenny. Sandra Tannian replaced Ann Hardiman up front and with ten minutes remaining Lourda Kavanagh came in for Martina Haverly.

Bridget Mullaly eased Kilkenny six ahead, but Galway nearly stole the show.

Three times in the closing minutes they saw goal chances saved - in hindsight points would have sufficed because a super Sandra Tannian goal on 55 minutes gave Galway hope at 2-7 to 1-7.

However, Sinead Millea pointed a free to leave four points between the sides and Miriam Holland in the Kilkenny goal made some excellent saves from Therese Maher, Aine Millary and Denise Gilligan. Maher pointed a final minute free.

Galway, who appeared in the last three finals, were gone at the first hurdle in 1999. This was a disappointing defeat at the team did not do themselves justice against a poor Kilkenny side.

Galway: L. Curry, A. Broderick, O. Brodrick, F. Healy, F. Ryan, T. Laheen, P. Nevin, A. Hillary, A. Kelly, A. Hardiman, T. Maher, D. Gilligan, C. Nevin, V. Curtin, M. Haverly. Subs: L. Kavanagh for A. Hardiman and S. Tannian for M. Haverly.

Intermediate side fail to lift gloom

Armagh.....4-7 :: Galway.....1-6

LAST weekend was not a memorable one for Galway camogie. On Saturday the senior team made their exit and on Sunday the intermediate team did likewise.

Played in wet and windy conditions in Middleton in Armagh, Mary Black opened the scoring for the home side before Galway free-taker Claire Conroy replied to level. However, Galway were always chasing this game after Armagh scored two quick goals in succession from Bernie McBride and Eileen Towney.

Galway's best move of the game came when full-forward Brenda Daniels hand-passed to Elaine Kerins on the run and she shot to the Armagh net. Mary Black added two further points for Armagh and coming up to half time, the Ulster county struck for their third goal from Maggie McGee to leave Galway with an eight point deficit at half-time.

The Westerners tired hard in the second half but Armagh were not prepared to give up. Claire Conway pointed three frees and Mary Black added three for Armagh before their four goal from McGee ended any hopes of a Galway revival.

Galway: F. Goherty, O. Watson, A. Dolan, H. Ryan, S. Mannion, R. Broderick, K. Huban, V. Sweeney, M. Mahoney, E. Kerins, A. Lynskey, C. Murray, P. Carrig, B. Daniels, C. Conroy. Subs: D. Kelly for P. Carrig and L. Fahy for K. Huban.



Cork forward Ciara Healy on the attack against Tipperary in the Munster Junior Camogie Championship final. Picture: Des Barry

Limerick are well beaten by Antrim

CAMOGIE

THE Green Glens of Antrim are famous for their beauty and there was a warm Cead Míle Fáilte for the county camogie team when they travelled north for the All Ireland Intermediate Championship quarter final at Dunloy on Sunday last.

Warm though the welcome was however, it did not get in the way of the primary business of the weekend and the girls in green were sent flying out of the '99 championship.

Playing against the wind in the first half, Limerick had the worst of starts conceding 2-3 in the opening 10 minutes. For the rest of the half they recovered somewhat, confining Antrim to a further 1-5, scoring 0-2 themselves to be 0-2 to 3-8 behind at the interval and close enough to the edge.

The second half saw a brave effort to close the gap. The result of their hard work was 0-5 with almost 10 minutes left. At this stage an injury to the experienced Mary Loneragan broke the momentum, Antrim recovered to add to their total and at the end of a hard fought and exciting hour they were into the semi-final. Confident of winning Limerick were very disappointed.

Pauline McCarthy top scored with 1-4, Michelle Casey and Eileen O'Brien had 0-1 each, while Vera Sheehan scored the other goal.

Camogie: A rather fortuitous Mairin McAleenan goal on the stroke of half time was the crucial score as Liatroim Fontenoy's kept on course for the sixth successive Ulster Club championship final appearance as they defeated Derry champions Lavey 4-12 to 0-7. In an evenly balanced first half Lavey shot a number of wides yet still kept in touch until McAleenan's goal put five points between the sides at the break.

After half-time the experienced Liatroim team moved the ball faster while Lavey held it too long and ran out of space.

Liatroim second goal came in the eighth minute of the second half from Brenda Gallagher, their third in the 19th minute from live wire full forward Catriona McCrickard and the final score in the 24th minute from Roisin O'Higgins.

All three goals came from close in and were all poached.

Liatroim now meet Dunloy in an eagerly awaited semi-final which is a repeat of last year's final, but the Down champions will need to move up a gear or two before that match.

Liatroim: J. Brown, E. McCrickard, D. Greeran, E. O'Higgins, B. Kelly, N. McGee (Capt), C. McGovern, M. Murray (0-1), S. McGovern, L. McCrickard, M. McAleenan (1-8), B. Gallagher (1-0), R. O'Higgins (1-0), C. McCrickard (1-3), L. Quinn. Lavey: T. McCann, C. Ward, S. Convery, J. Scullion, D. Scullion, C. McCann, K. Cushnahan, R. McClelland, M. Mulholland (Capt 0-7), B. Burt, E. McPeake, D. McCann, P. McCloy, O. Downey, H. Collins, subs. A. McVeigh for D. McCann 56 mins, C. O'Neill for D. Scullion 56 mins.

Referee: C. O'Hara - Antrim

CAMOGIE:
All-Ireland IC: Cork 5-19 Wexford 2-8; Clare 4-14 Dublin 4-8; Antrim 4-12 Limerick 2-8;
All-Ireland MC: Cork 0-11 Derry 1-0.

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Cork star is bound to realise her Croke Park dream sooner rather than later

Hot shot Rachael is heading for the top



Therese O'Callaghan

THE Cork junior team made a successful raid on the Munster championship beating Tipperary last Tuesday night.

Rachael Moloney, too, further boosted her status as one of the most promising younger players to emerge on the current camogie scene.

At only 17, she is hurling with great maturity.

She scored 1-9 three nights ago in that game against Tipperary, and seven days earlier was again on song with her club Courcsey Rovers, scoring all of her side's 1-8 in the Senior B Championship quarter-final.

Cork supporters will remember her minor exploits of 1998.

She acted as somewhat of a saviour against Galway in last year's All-Ireland semi-final with her late insurance point from a close in free.

Great moments will always be remembered and that one in particular will not easily be forgotten.

Score

When referee Miriam O'Callaghan informed Rachael that she had to score direct, the then 16-year-old duly obliged.

Free taking is her speciality, and not surprisingly she mentions Seanie McMahon of Clare as her hurling hero. "His free taking is brilliant and always so accurate."

In the semi-final she scored eight points and a few weeks later on All-Ireland final day she helped Cork to victory with another six points.

Gaelic sports were and still are a huge part of life in the Moloney household.

Older brother Gary is a member of Courcsey's hurling and football teams, while sister Shirley (currently spending six months in Spain) was, prior to her departure, secretary of the Cork County Board.

Raymond and Imelda Moloney are also fanatical



supporters of their daughter.
"Dad is our trainer too at club level."

Rachael also enjoys camogie at Kinsale Community School.

Last year they won the Senior B county final defeating St Aidans.

This season they lost out to Clonakilty, the eventual All-Ireland champions.

Being on a team is all about personal competitiveness.

A lot of energy is transformed through speed, fitness and skill into the winning and losing of matches, the be all and end all of any game.

During the 1998 Munster campaign, this blonde corner-forward clocked up 1-29 and put Cork on the road to a minor victory after a lapse of 13 years.

Graduating to the senior panel a few months back is another milestone in this young girl's sporting career, and is a step nearer achieving a lifetime ambition of playing in Croke Park.

Exciting win for Valleys

Valley Rovers.....2-5
Eire Og.....0-7

Valley Rovers secured an exciting victory over Eire Og in the first round of the Cork County senior B camogie championship which was played at Ballinhassig on Thursday of last week.

Aided by the breeze, the Rovers laid the foundation for the success in the first half and more especially in the last ten minutes of the period. Up till then, there was little between the sides, in fact they were level after 15 minutes. But the Valleys would rue their many misses early in the half.

Eire Og, in fact, opened the scoring after 30 seconds, when Deirdre Healy fired over a great point. By the third minute, the Rovers went ahead when from an Elizabeth Bugler delivery

from the right, Elaine Burke got the final touch for goal, after the keeper had failed to clear.

SPURRED

Spurred on by the strong play of centre-back Helen Walsh, Eire Og levelled the game with excellent scores from their elusive corner-forward Ellen O'Herlihy. A Bernie Shiels 65 restored Rovers lead in the 22nd minute, following which the Mid Cork girls missed a great goal chance, following good work by Alanna McKenna and Deirdre Healy.

But the Rovers finished the half in style, when the skilful Sarah O'Donovan goaled, after Elaine Burke had a centre from the left wing, and then on the stroke of half time the Rovers full-forward hit over a good point, to leave the Innishannon girls 2-3 to 0-4 in front.

Eire Og pressed strongly fol-

lowing the resumption, and despite some excellent defensive play by the Valleys full-back line, Ellen O'Herlihy notched a brace of points by the 8th minute. However, Valleys, with Helena Bugler and Bernie Shiels playing well at midfield, and Caroline Riordan strong at wing-back, they cancelled out Eire Og's scores with equally good efforts from their twin spearheads of Elaine Burke and Sarah O'Donovan, to regain a five point lead, thirteen minutes into the half.

An Eire Og free miss and an excellent save by the Muskerry girls' keeper, former county star Marion McCarthy, was followed by another point from Ellen O'Herlihy with eight minutes remaining. And the losers gave it their all for the remainder of the game, but the Rovers defence would not yield in the face of strong pressure and at the end deservedly claimed the spoils.

Scorers - Valley Rovers: E. Burke 1-3, S. O'Donovan 1-1, B. Shiels 0-1 (65). Eire Og: E. O'Herlihy 0-6, D. Healy 0-1.

Valley Rovers: Eileen Foley, Sinead Deasy, Dolores Crowley, Sinead Burke, Ann Marie Murphy, Grace Murphy, Caroline O'Riordan, Helena Bugler, Bernie Shiels, Elizabeth Bugler, Catherine O'Mahony, Nancy O'Donovan, Majella McCarthy, Elaine Burke, Sarah O'Donovan.

Eire Og: Marion McCarthy, Yvonne O'Leary, Sandra Reck, Nicola O'Leary, Emily Foley, Helen Walsh, Niamh O'Connell, Frances O'Keane, Yvonne Corkery, Louise O'Leary, Mary Howard, Alanna McKenna, Deirdre Healy, Yvonne Malone, Ellen O'Herlihy, and sub, Carol O'Callaghan, Clodagh Cronley, Gillian Barry.

Referee, Dave Daly, Mayfield

— Carrighoun

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Bord na Gaeilge Camogie World

By P.J. FULHAM

Next weekend there are three matches in the All-Ireland Intermediate Championship. On Saturday Clare host Dublin. The Banner County won this competition on two occasions, 1993 and 1995 and contested in '97. Dublin won the inaugural in '92 defeating Down 4-11 to 4-4. The only time the sides met was in the final of '93, with Clare winning 1-8 to 1-5. There have been many changes on both teams since then. They took part in the Bord na Gaeilge All-Ireland senior championship. Clare lost to Tipperary 1-18 to 1-6 while Dublin went under to Down 3-14 to 3-9. It promises to be a good tussle, close at the finish.

Cork have the venue against Wexford. This is Wexford's first time in the competition. They were deemed eligible if defeated in the senior championship. This defeat was to Cork 7-24 to 0-2. It will be interesting to see how they do against Cork's Intermediate side who are in their third final. They lost to the eventual winners Tipperary in '97 and last year, after victories over Armagh and Limerick went under to Down in the final 1-12 to 1-8. They will be going all out to go that step further this year. However, they will meet with stiff opposition in the 'Slaneysiders' who will be putting all their energies into securing an All-Ireland title, and may get the verdict here.

On Sunday Antrim take on Limerick. Both are beaten semi-finalists of last year. Limerick were defeated by Cork 3-5 to 1-10, while Antrim lost to Down the eventual winners by just one point 2-14 to 3-10. Limerick won the title in 1996 while this is

Antrim's second year in the fray. Limerick also failed to Cork in the Bord na Gaeilge Championship recently 5-18 to 0-2. They appear to be two evenly matched sides. This tussle should go down to the wire.

Also on Sunday the All-Ireland Minor Championship semi-finals are down for decision. Cork show their hospitality to Derry in a repeat of last year's final when 'The Leesiders' secured the title 3-18 to 1-5.

Cork had an easy passage in Munster and made it three in a

row by defeating Limerick 4-7 to 0-2 in the decider.

Derry retained the Ulster Crown with a 2-8 to 3-2 victory over Antrim. An Ulster team has not figured in an All-Ireland minor final since Armagh in 1988. With home venue advantage Cork may advance.

In the other semi-final Galway host Kilkenny. The 'Western County' have figured in five finals in the last six years. Kilkenny were the last Leinster county to contest an All-Ireland Minor final in 1992. The last time the sides met was in the final of 1991 when 'The Noreiders' secured victory 4-12 to 3-7.

Galway won their 21st Connacht title on the trot when they overcome a Roscommon challenge. Kilkenny retained the Leinster Crown with a 5-5 to 2-4 win over Wexford in the final. It should be close with little separating the sides at the finish.

Results:

All-Ireland Junior Championship quarter-final:

Roscommon 5-8 London 2-5

Ulster Club Championship:

Liatroim/Fontenoy's Down 4-12, Lavey, Derry 0-7

Leinster Junior Club Championship Quarter-finals:

Drumcullen, Offaly 1-11, St Munnas, Westmeath 0-5

St. Laurences, Kildare 1-11, Camross, Laois 1-5

Leinster Under 18 Championship quarter-finals:

Kilkenny 3-7 Dublin 0-5



The Clare Intermediate side of '97

Ladies first as Miriam excels

IT is mostly a male line-up in the Civil Service and Local Authorities Golfing Society in Cork but this situation held no fears for Miriam Murphy who left them all in her wake in Dermot Punch's Captain's Prize competition at Muskerry last week.

Fifteen handicapper Miriam, a well known figure on the camogie fields of Ireland both as a player and an administrator down the years, compiled a fantastic 47 points to win top prize by a six points margin.

Bandon club member Miriam became the first female to win such a major award in the Society's long history but, of course, it is not the first time that she has outgunned her male counterparts.

Just 12 months ago she won Diarmuid O'Connor's Captain's Prize to members of the Income Tax Society but, with her handicap now reduced to 12, she fears her chances of achieving a hat-trick are somewhat remote.

Fr O'Neill's made fight all the way by battling Cloughduv

Fr O'Neill's
Cloughduv

3-6
1-8

by Tom Higgins

FR O'NEILL'S set up a repeat of last year's Cork senior camogie final against Bishopscourt having defeated Cloughduv in the semi-final at the Glen Field, Cork on Friday night.

Cloughduv put it up to their more fancied rivals with a tremendous display in the first half. After Frances Flavin had put Fr O'Neill's ahead with a goal in the third minute, Claire O'Donoghue had Cloughduv level with an excellent goal two minutes later, and although Nora Ahern goaled for the winners in the 8th minute it was Cloughduv from then to almost half-time. Stephanie Dunlea outplayed Fr O'Neill's star Fiona O'Driscoll for most of the first half, and this gave the Cloughduv forwards a good supply of the ball which allowed them to pick off some excellent points. Fr O'Neill had to wait until the first minute of injury-

time for their only other score — a point from O'Driscoll to leave it 1-5 to 2-1 in Cloughduv's favour at the break.

But with defences very much on top, scores were hard to come by.

The crucial goal came after 34 minutes. O'Driscoll picked up a ball about 45 metres out and palmed to Frances Flavin, who beat keeper Aoife Murray. Lynn Dunlea kept Cloughduv in the hunt with a point in the 35th minute. Fr O'Neill's added two points in the closing stages.

FR O'NEILL'S: A. M. Brennan, A. O'Neill, L. Sweeney, S. McCarthy, S. Meade, M. Finn, F. Hennessy, V. O'Sullivan, S. Cahalane, R. Corcoran, F. O'Driscoll (0-2), K. O'Sullivan, M. Kenefick (0-1, free), F. Flavin (2-1), N. Ahern (1-2). Subs: C. Flavin for R. Corcoran (32nd minute); A. Corcoran for K. O'Sullivan (48th minute).
CLOUGHDUV: A. Murray, S. Buckley, J. O'Callaghan, S. Buckley, S. A. Sheehan, S. Dunlea, O. McCarthy, C. Corkery, M. Corkery, J. Dunlea, U. O'Donoghue, A. Buckley, C. O'Donoghue (1-2), L. Dunlea (0-4, 0-2 free), C. Cronin (0-1). Sub: Z. McDonnell for C. Cronin (49th minute).
Referee: D. Daly (Sarsfields).

● Due to production difficulties, this report failed to appear in Saturday's edition.



Cloughduv's Claire O'Donoghue and Fr O'Neill's Mags Finn tussle for the ball in the county camogie semi-final at the Glen.

Picture: Michael MacSweeney/Provision

Strong finish sees Clare through to semi-final

Clare4-14
Dublin4-8

Clare advanced to the All-Ireland intermediate camogie championship semi-final and a meeting with Cork later this month when they proved too strong for Dublin at Ogonnelloe on Saturday evening last.

Dublin held a two point lead at half time - 3-4 to 1-8 - but the Clare girls got on top in the second half and deservedly won through in the end.

Ann Keane gave Clare the lead with a good point and further points followed from Moira McMahon and Deirdre Murphy before Louise O'Hara opened Dublin's account.

Things did not look good for the home side when they conceded two goals inside three minutes.

To their credit, they bounced back quickly with points from Marie Collins and Ann Keane before Sylvia O'Brien goalied seven min-

utes from the half time whistle.

Little separated the sides throughout the third quarter but a Dublin goal at the turn of the final quarter put Clare in serious trouble. Again they hit back and a three goal blitz proved decisive in putting them through to the semi-final.

Full forward Pauline O'Brien scored two of those goals with team captain Moira McMahon accounting for the other.

On the day, Marie Collins, Sinead O'Brien, Moira McMahon, Sylvia O'Brien, Ann Keane, Pauline O'Brien, Deirdre Murphy and Noelle Comyns did well for Clare.

Scorers: Clare - Moira McMahon (1-5) Pauline O'Brien (2-0) Sylvia

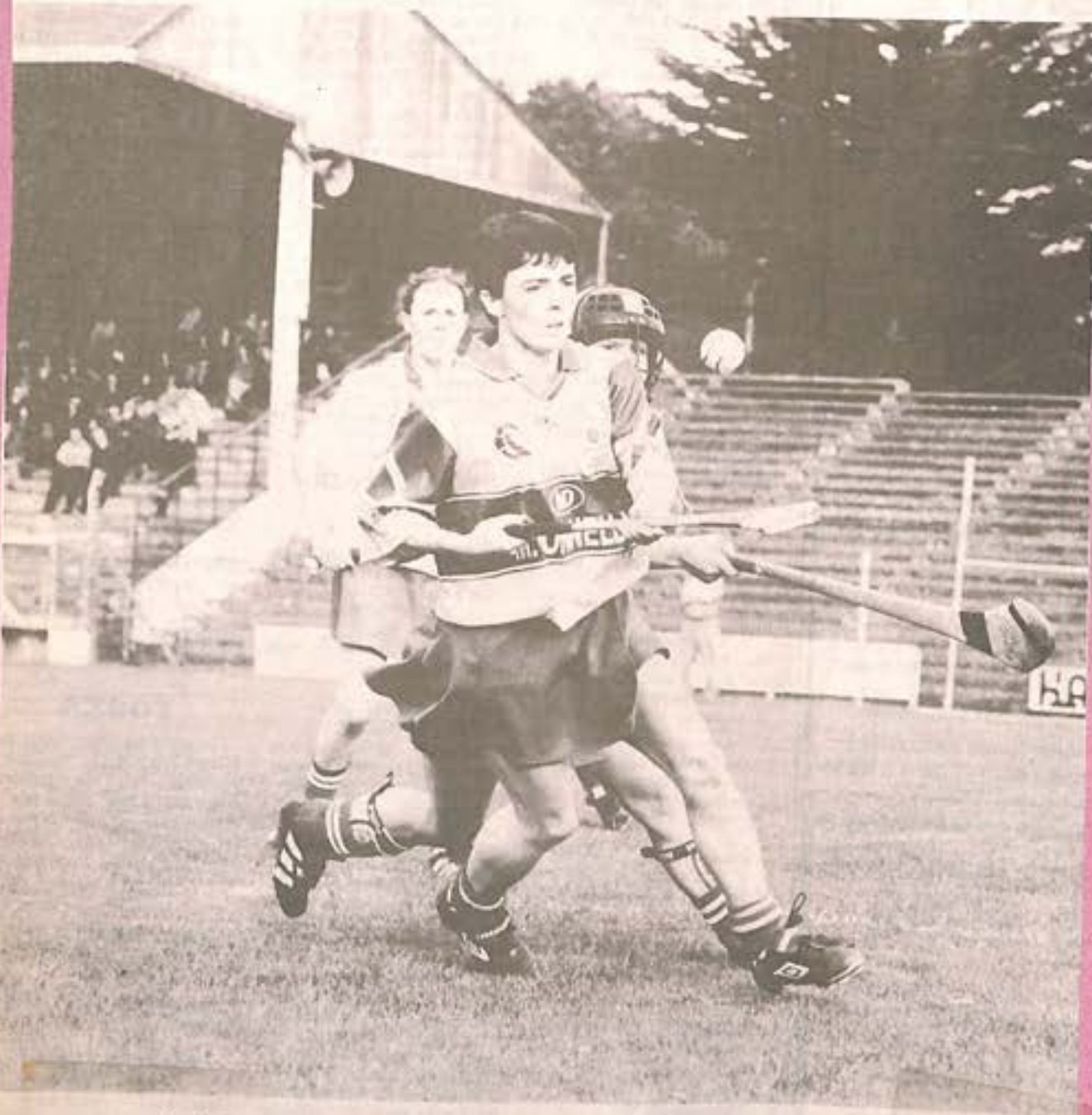
O'Brien (1-0) Ann Keane (0-3) Deirdre Murphy (0-2) Marie Collins (0-2) Catherine O'Loughlin (0-2)

Clare: Aine Ni Cormaich (Wolfe Tones) Sinead Daly



Ann Keane scored some good points as Clare beat Dublin in the intermediate camogie championship

(St. Josephs) Sinead McMahon (St. Josephs) Carmel Duggan (St. Josephs); Sinead O'Brien (Bodyke), Marie Collins (Bodyke) Debbie McDonagh (Wolfe Tones); Cathy Hally (Truagh) Moira McMahon (Newmarket); Sylvia O'Brien (Wolfe Tones) Deirdre Murphy (Clooney) Noelle Comyns (Kilnamona); Catherine O'Loughlin (Kilnamona) Pauline O'Brien (Bodyke) Ann Keane (Kilnamona).



Marie Collins helped Clare to a good win over Dublin in the camogie championship

Eithne's medal haul just keeps on growing

FOR a lady with so many honours already to her credit Cork camogie star Eithne Duggan is almost too blasé about her various accomplishments.

With a roll of honour that reads six Munster titles, three All-Irelands, five league championships, two senior counties and one Ashborne Cup with UCC it is not hard to understand just why she is the envy of her club.

26 year old Duggan has quickly established herself as one of the genuine stars of the national camogie circuit.

Her solid performances at full-back with county and at centre-back with her club Bishopstown, have won her many admirers but for a lady with so much to boast about she comes across as, almost bashful when recounting her many accomplishments.

Such is the manner with which she carries herself that when she actually struggles to remember the exact number of Munster titles in her possession, it is obvious that she is doing so without even a hint of arrogance.

Clear

One however, does stand out clear in her memory and was the championship win two years ago when she captained Cork following Bishopstown's historic first ever senior championship title.

"Captaining Cork was really special because I was the first Bishopstown player to do so.

"We beat Fr O'Neills in the senior club championship for our first title win the year before.

"To follow it up by captaining Cork and retain the club county the following year was great," said Duggan.

The second youngest in a family of three boys and two girls sport has always featured in Eithne's life, a passion that is all time-consuming.

"At this stage of the season I spend three nights with Bishopstown and two with Cork but we will soon be increasing that to three nights with Cork," revealed the enthusiastic Duggan.



Conor George

Six night out of every week and yet Eithne still retains the same enthusiasm levels for the game as she did when she first broke into the Cork panel in June of 1994 when she was a mere 21 year old.

"When you look at it the commitment only takes up a couple of months of the year and you can make up for missing out on things during the winter months.

Hardship

"There is no way that I would consider all the training and matches that we go through a hardship. To play at the top level with both club and county is an honour and one to be relished," she added.

Such is Duggan's commitment that during the week preceding last Wednesday night's Cork county semi-final meeting with Glen Rovers that she was undergoing physiotherapy on an injured ankle every day.

Questioned as to whether or not she would be fit enough to play in the game her reply was typical: "Ah sure we'll strap it up and it'll be grand," as if a minor inconvenience like a twisted ankle was going to keep her on the sidelines.

That level of commitment is commonplace with all top class sports people but unfortunately, we are still living in an era where camogie is still trying to gain the recognition it fully deserves.

"Things are improving with the level of coverage that the game is getting and the fact that last year's All-Ireland was televised live opened a lot of people's eyes.

"That said though we still have a bit to go before we are treated on a level footing with hurling but I must say that my own club Bishopstown are very good to us.

July 1999

Courceys through in championship

Courcey Rovers .. 1-8
Aghabullogue 2-3

By 'CARRIGDHOUN'

COURCEY Rovers are through to the next round of the Cork County senior 'B' camogie championship, following their hard-fought victory over Aghabullogue at Carrigaline on Wednesday of last week.

While Rachel Moloney once again displayed her scoring skills — she was her side's only scorer — one must laud the total commitment of the South East girls, especially in the second half, when Aghabullogue forged in front, then lost the lead and pressed strongly at the end for that vital victory goal.

The winners, on a beautiful evening, had the aid of the breeze in the first half and went two points up after three minutes, before Marie McSweeney hit a sweet score for the Mid Cork girls in the sixth minute.

With unerring accuracy from play and placed balls, Rachel Moloney extended her side's lead by 0-5 to 0-1 at the end of the first quarter while she had a goal also disallowed in that period.

SET UP

Louise O'Leary, loose in front of the posts, pointed for Aghabullogue in the 18th and for the remainder of the half, they were under pressure from short puck-outs and just before the break, centre half back Sara Hayes set up Rachel Moloney for another score, as the sides retired with the Carrigdhoun girls in front 0-6 to 0-2.

Aghabullogue resumed full of commitment and within seconds of the throw-in, their outstanding wing back, Mairead Twomey had placed Louise Murphy, who finished to the

net.

A short puck-out by Courceys saw Treasa Walsh gain possession and only two minutes of the half had elapsed when Marie Nolan billowed the net for her side's second goal, and the lead for the first time, 2-2 to 0-6.

But for the excellence of Rovers' keeper, Jennifer Murphy, their situation would have been worse, as Marie McSweeney extended the Muskerry girls' lead, 2-3 to 0-6 at the 34th minute.

NARROWED

They were not to score again, and despite the excellence of the centre back, Sinead Buckley, Courceys had managed to narrow the margin to the minimum at the 42nd minute. Three minutes later, following good work by Sarah Hayes and Rosemarie Moloney, Rachel Moloney, after keeper Sheila Crowley had first saved, got the rebound to finish with a fine goal and thus reclaim the lead for Rovers which they never lost

and in an exciting ten minute spell Courceys clung to their lead and at the end secured a hard-earned victory.

Scorers: Courcey Rovers: R. Moloney 1-8. Aghabullogue: L. Murphy 1-1; M. Noonan 1-0; M. McSweeney 0-2.

Courcey Rovers: Jennifer Murphy, Mary Murphy, Carol Hannon, Marion O'Donovan, Mairead O'Donoghue, Sara Hayes, Maura O'Regan, Rosemarie Moloney, Theresa Moloney, Mary O'Leary, Cora Murphy, Aine O'Regan, Samantha Quinn, Rachel Moloney, Noelle Collins, Sub. Sinead O'Regan.

Aghabullogue: Sheila Crowley, Ann Ennequess, Linda Ronan, Tricia Murphy, Mary Ennequess, Sinead Buckley, Mairead Twomey, Joan Twomey, Deirdre Twomey, Treacy McCullagh, Marie McSweeney, Karen Murphy, Marie Noonan, Theresa Walsh, Louise Murphy. Subs. Katie Crowley, Tricia O'Flynn.

Referee Jack McGrath, Carrigaline.

Camogie Senior B Championship Results

| | |
|--------------------|--------------------|
| Valley Rovers 2-7 | Eire Og 0-6 |
| Kilbrittan 2-8 | Newcestown 2-5 |
| St Finbarrs 2-10 | Watergrasshill 1-1 |
| Courcey Rovers 1-8 | Aghabullogue 2-2 |

McCarthy leads the way as Barrs banish Dillons

St. Finbarr's 1-11
Brian Dillons 1-1

DESPITE the appalling weather conditions St. Finbarr's and Brian Dillons served up an exciting Senior B Championship quarter-final at Delany's last evening.

Maria McCarthy's fourth minute point opened the scoring for a Barrs side who totally dominated the game's opening quarter.

With Claire Kirby and Joanne Browne dominating at centre field the Barrs enjoyed ample possession. The goal which they threatened to get arrived 12 minutes into the contest after Brian Dillons' goalie Niamh Cotter saved but failed to hold from Colette O'Mahony and Maria McCarthy slotted home.

Brian Dillons, switching Christine O'Mahony to centre back, came more into the game. A long ball into the square was superbly flicked by full-forward Liz O'Mahony to open the Dillons account 19 minutes into the contest to leave St. Finbarr's leading 1-5 to 1-0 at half-time.

Colette O'Mahony stretched the Barrs lead 30 seconds into the second half with a well taken point. Two minutes later the Barrs were down to 14 players after referee Dave Daly dismissed one of their side. Sabrina Buckley converted a Brian Dillons free but it was to be their only score of the half as the Barrs took over completely. Colette O'Mahony converted three frees and when Natasha Nash in the 19th and Col-

lette in the 22nd minute pointed there was no way back for Dillons who can thank goalie Niamh Cotter whose display denied the Barrs on numerous occasions.

St. Finbarr's now meet Kilbrittan in the semi-final on Wednesday next. Both sides deserve credit for their performances on a night which was unsuitable for any outdoor sports.

Scorers — St. Finbarr's: C. O'Mahony (0-7 - 0-4 frees, 0-2 45), M. McCarthy (1-1), N. Nash (0-2), O. O'Sullivan (0-1). **Brian Dillons:** L. O'Mahony (1-0), S. Buckley (0-1 free).

ST. FINBARR'S: E. Clifford, D. Clarke, C. Barry, C. Cronin, C. Kirby, J. Duffy, L. O'Connell, J. Browne, C. Kirby, C. O'Mahony, O. O'Sullivan, M. McCarthy, B. Maher, N. Nash, R. Myers. **BRIAN DILLONS:** N. Cotter, J. O'Connell, L. Keating, A. Dilworth, C. O'Mahony, A. O'Brien, S. Buckley, T. Drummond, S. Kelly, L. Fleming, D. Sheehan, G. Healy, L. O'Mahony, T. Deane, M. Brennan.

AUG 1999

Rebels through to third decider

Cork Derry 0-11 1-0

HOLDERS, Cork advanced to the final for the third year in a row when they proved much too strong for a spirited Derry outfit at Ballincollig on Sunday last.

Despite enjoying maximum possession, it took until seven minutes into the game for the winners to open their account with a well struck point from Marie Watson.

Niamh Bowles, playing a captain's part led by example, slotting over three great points. Despite enjoying maximum possession Cork found it difficult to shake off a gritty Derry defence in which Shauna Mulholland and Nuala O'Hagan were excellent. Despite shooting nine first-half wides Cork led 0-3 to 0-0 at the interval.

With Derry fighting hard in the second-half the Cork forwards were made work for their scores and an indication of Derry's determination is that Cork only managed three points despite dominating.

Derry did have a goal twenty five minutes into the half when Patricia Bateson finished to the net but it did little to further their challenge as by now Cork had their passage booked.

Wides

The Cork girls will know that on another day the shooting of fifteen wides will not suffice if they are to hold on to their title.

They now meet either Galway or Kilkenny (who met last night) in the All-Ireland final on August 21 or 22.

Cork 5-19, Wexford 2-6

The scoreline tells its own story of what was in effect a total whitewash by the Cork intermediate side over a Wexford team who's determination on the day was no match for the Cork girls.

Opening with a Ciara Healy goal just eight minutes into the contest Cork controlled the game from the off. Scoring at will Cork had built up an impressive half-time lead of 3-9 to 0-4, the goals coming from Una O'Donoghue and Ciara Healy.

The second-half opened with Cork once again took control, two goals inside the opening three minutes from Orla O'Sullivan and O'Donoghue consolidated Cork's lead.

Wexford did stage a revival and were rewarded with two goals from the hard-working Jenny Codd in the 7th and 13th minute. However, it mattered little as by now Cork were well on their way to a semi-final against Clare on August 28 or 29.

Cork have now three teams qualified for All-Ireland semi-finals.

Dublin prepares for the weekend's influx of camogie fans



The Cork minor team who beat Derry when they met in the All-Ireland semi-final in Ballincollig over the weekend.

Picture: Mark Kelleher

Rebels favoured to advance to final

IT'S a total take-over of the capital city at the weekend by the Rebels when the senior camogie team contest the Bord na Gaelige All-Ireland semi-final just 24 hours before their male counterparts go into action in Croke Park against Offaly.

Kilkenny provide the opposition in what will be a tough stumbling block to the champions. Going in as favourites Cork will be expected to advance but when one takes into consideration that Kilkenny have already disposed of last year's finalists Galway, they are more than worthy of respect.

Rivalry

Cork, Kilkenny rivalry has always been keen, in the eighties Kilkenny dominated camogie taking six senior titles, the nineties has had Kilkenny taking three whilst Cork with titles coming in 92, 93, 95, 97 and 98 have now come to expect success.

Kilkenny are anxious to return to Croke Park having last contested a senior final in 1995. They now feel that the time has come to

MAGIC MOMENTS

11. 1942 was the first year that an All-Ireland senior camogie final was broadcast live on national radio.

1998 was a milestone in that the first live televising of a senior final, for the record Dublin defeated Cork in 1942, whilst Cork defeated Galway in 1998.

return to centre stage.

When the sides last met earlier in the year in the national league Cork scored a hard fought victory over a determined Kilkenny outfit who showed signs that a revival was very much underway within the county.

The county took a minor all-Ireland title in 1991 and players to have come through from the side include Mags Hickey, Sinead Costello and Margaret Comerford. With Ann Dow-



Derry's Breige Ni Nicholl beats Cork's Christine O'Gorman.

ney still playing inter-county camogie, the experienced Sinead Millea, Gillian Dillon, Marina Downey and Brigid Mullaney, Kilkenny are a formidable outfit.

Cork won the national league title earlier in the year and go in as hot favourites.

Disposed

On their way to Saturday's encounter they disposed of Wexford and Limerick with ease.

The fifteen-a-side has helped Cork. Cork's style of play, the fast hurling on an open pitch is ideally suited to the new format.

Newcomers to the team who have slotted in so well are last year's minor Sarah Hayes, who was selected as player of the All-Ireland minor final in their victory over Derry, Miriam Deasy and Stephanie Dunlea.

Bord na nGaelige All-Ireland senior semi-finals Cork v Kilkenny, Parnell Park 2pm. Tipperary v Down, Parnell Park 2.30pm.

Barrs take on Dillons in city clash

THIS evening at De-laney's grounds St. Finbarr's and Brian Dillons meet in an all city clash in the senior B championship quarter-final.

The Barrs, having already defeated Watergrasshill in an opening round game, will go in as favourites to advance.

Losing out to Barryroe in last year's final, they will make a bold bid for honours this year.

Cork juniors Orla Sullivan, Linda O'Connell and Natasha Nash are all young players who are establishing themselves on the Barrs senior side whilst the experience of former Inter county senior star Colette O'Mahony and Claire Barry is invaluable to the side.

They come up against a young but determined Brian Dillons side who are going all out to reach the semi-final. Though young in age many of the Brian Dillons side will have had Inter county experience behind them.

AUG. 1999

VELVET REVOLUTION

AT THIS STAGE OF THE CAMOGIE YEAR, WE CAN LOOK BACK AND ASSESS THE INTRODUCTION OF THE 15-A-SIDE. EIRCELL PLAYER OF THE YEAR FOR 1998, AND CORK STAR, LINDA MELLERICK REFLECTS ON THE NEW FORMAT.

From the onset I was always in favour of this, not because I felt it would suit Cork, but because I felt that until we moved towards this we would never really be taken seriously and would always be in the shadow of other associations. At the top, the skill level, the fitness, the physical strength that camogie is now played at demanded an increase in the pitch size.

I feel that at the moment a large number of clubs and smaller counties are however 'feeling the pinch'. At club level with 12-a-side, you could get away with carrying two or three weak players, but you cannot carry six, likewise at inter-county level where we have jumped from a panel of fifteen to eighteen players. Finding another top class three players is difficult.

Having said that I feel we have to persevere. It was always going to be tough to adjust, but we have to stick with it. The future of our game demands and depends on it. Adjusting on the field of play was also difficult - room was at a premium. 'Why', you might ask when the pitch has been increased! Well, the difference between a camogie pitch and a hurling field is thirty yards - thirty yards that you need to put three extra adults in.

I found it difficult at first. Used to playing midfield I tend to get the ball and run at defences. Not so easy anymore! In the beginning of the 15-a-side, I found myself turning and banging right into this new line of defence that was not there before. We all tended to cross over and get in each other's way. Now as the months have gone by, we are creating more and more space for ourselves, and playing the game much faster.

One particularly pleasing aspect of this new format and one that has struck me as awesome at times is the point scoring opportunities taken. Used to playing with smaller posts and tiny uprights all our lives, the hurling posts were always going to be a thrill and welcome relief. The accuracy is at times impeccable, and the willingness and confidence of players in taking more scoring chances is paying dividends (for all counties, and the image

of the game).

The National League provided all counties with the opportunity to experiment with the new format. Cork and Tipperary seemed to adjust the quickest and met in the National League Final in Semple Stadium - and what a stadium, what a pitch, and what an honour to have played there. Cork conceded home venue for that clash and did so with a heart and a half, as it was the first time a camogie match was curtain raiser to a Munster Senior Hurling Championship fixture - another giant step forward. Anyway, who wouldn't concede to playing on a pitch like that.

The Gods must have felt we deserved a miracle for that decision, because they certainly provided one that evening. Cork couldn't put a foot wrong. Tipperary are a strong, skilful and fast team, therefore

ALL IN ALL, THE FUTURE OF CAMOGIE LIES IN THE 15-A-SIDE.

the margin of victory shocked us both, as we are not that superior to the Blue and Gold. They know that, and we know that. A truer reflection on how close we really are came ten days later, when in the Munster semi-final we had to come from behind and produce a rallying final ten minutes to win by seven points. If the games are good to both counties in the forthcoming championship and we meet in the All Ireland final, a puck of the ball could separate the sides. We will treat Tipp with the utmost respect and caution - to do otherwise would be at our peril." With the first round against Wexford safely behind Cork, we now take on Limerick in the quarter-final, and should, barring a catastrophe, win that one. The semi-finals are what I call no man's land, because you are one step away from the promised land which is a scary position to be in.

All in all, the future of camogie lies in the 15-a-side.



Down are appearing in their first Senior All-Ireland semi-final in over 40 years. Joan Henderson, now in her third season with Down, formerly played with Tipperary (known then as Joan Tobin).

Therese O'Callaghan

Ladies aiming to get Rebels away to winning start

CORK camogie followers head to Dublin this afternoon hopeful that the Rebels will get the weekend off to a good start when they face Kilkenny at 2.00 in Parnell Park in the first semi-final of the Bord na Gaelige All-Ireland Senior Championship.

The second semi-final pits Tipperary against Down at 3.30. Cork go into this afternoon's contest having not really had a game following their huge wins over Wexford and Limerick. Kilkenny, on the other hand, had a tough opener against Galway, whom they defeated 2-9 to 2-6, and will fancy their chances.

Kilkenny last contested a senior final in 1995 when they lost out to Cork and will be anxious to get back on the victory rostrum. Such is their desire to attain their goal, earlier in the season they acquired the services of former Limerick hurling trainer and University of Limerick supremo Dave Mahedy to help with their physical prepara-

tions. They are a relatively mixed side with experienced players Sinéad Millean, Mags Hickey, Gillian Dillon, Bridget Mulally and Ann Downey helping to blend in younger players such as Lizzie Lyng, who earlier this week lined out with the county minor side, Una Murphy and Sandra Gleeson, and they now feel that the blend is right within the county and the glory days of the '80s are about to return.

However, they face a Cork team driven by the incentive of a three-in-a-row, who will want to bring the curtain down in style on the '90s when the O'Duffy Cup has rested at Leeside in 1992, 1993, 1995, 1997, 1998. As National League holders, Cork will face their challenge in a confident mood. This season the 15-a-side has enabled the selectors to give three extra players a chance, and the inclusion of Stephanie Dunlea, Miriam Deasy and last year's minor player Sarah Hayes

throughout the league campaign to a side that has only lost one player - Irene O'Keefe - from last year's winning one.

Tipperary take on Down in the second semi-final and Tipperary will be strongly fancied to advance. The Premier County were beaten by Cork in both the National League Final and the Munster Senior Championship decider this year and are improving with every game.

The side have shown a fierce appetite for the game and with such stalwarts as Deirdre Hughes, Noelle Kennedy, Ciara Gaynor, Maeve Stokes and captain Claire Madden to call upon they could prove a match for most sides in the championship. They have trained hard under the supervision of coach Biddy Phillips and will face the game with a great deal of confidence.

Down are quietly confident they can upset the odds as they have trained

very hard for the game and will really put it up to Tipperary. The won last year's Intermediate title and have most of that side to call upon. The last Ulster side to reach the decider was Antrim in 1979 when took the title at the expense of Tipperary by 2-3 to 1-3.

CORK: C. Keshane (Barryroe); S. Dunlea (Cloughduv); E. Duggan (Bishopstown); M. Finn (Fr. O'Neill's); P. O'Connor (Newtownshandrum); D. Cronin (Glen Rovers); V. Harris (Bishopstown) capt; U. Troy (Newtownshandrum); S. Hayes (Courcey Rovers); M. O'Connor (Glenagh-Ballingarry); L. Mellerick (Glen Rovers); S. O'Callaghan (Bishopstown); L. Dunlea (Cloughduv); F. O'Driscoll (Fr. O'Neill's); M. Deasy (Kilbrittain).

KILKENNY: M. Holland; T. Mitea; M. Hickey; M. Costello; K. Long; G. Maher; S. Costello; M. Downey; S. Miley; M. Comerford; B. Mullally; L. Lyng; A. Downey; M. Maher; C. Dunne.

TIPPERARY: J. Delaney; S. Kelly; U. O'Dwyer; C. Madden; M. Stokes (capt); C. Gaynor; S. Nealon; E. Hayden; A. McDermott; N. Kennedy; T. Brophy; H. Kiehy; E. McDonnell; D. Hughes; N. Harkin.

DOWN: T. Magowan; D. Savage; D. Greer; B. Kelly; C. McGovern; N. Magee; P. Green; J. Henderson; J. Branniff; V. Hynds; M. McAleenan; M. Murray; C. McGrath; C. Mulholland; C. Hynds.

AUG 1999

Kilkenny without success for some years want to put the record straight Cats want to put one over on Rebel rivals



Therese O'Callaghan

LINDA Mellerick calls it "No man's land" because she says: "In an All-Ireland semi-final, you are neither here nor there".

Nobody likes that sinking feeling either, therefore whomever the sun shines on tomorrow afternoon, will wake up to a beautiful place on Sunday morning. The burning question is, will that place be Leeside or on the banks of the River Nore.

Both counties have a great familiarity with success. Twenty nine years ago, they met for the first time ever in an All-Ireland final, and since then, both have remained the top two occupants of that roll of honour - Cork with thirteen, Kilkenny just one behind them.

The Cats, have not participated in an August match since the summer of '95.

Break

While other teams were availing of a well-earned break, they engaged in pre-season training with well-known instructor Dave Mahedy.

"I knew a few of the girls from the College (University of Limerick) and therefore agreed to help out. This was the height of the winter, and the idea was to improve their physical fitness."

Since then they have worked extremely hard under the watchful eye of Coach Bobby Jackman, and according to Ann Downey: "didn't play at all to their potential against Galway three weeks ago".

The 12 times All-Ireland medallist picked up a hamstring injury herself that day, and will be in a race against time to be fit for the big showdown.

But, according to selector Maura Costello, they are hopeful that the player, who broke Cork's hearts on so many occasions, will be able to line out.

Costello quips: "We believe Cork are flying,

they are obviously favourites, but Kilkenny will go in fighting. Every game has to be played for and won on the day".

Kilkenny have 10 of the side that last won a major title back in 1994, and the pressure is sure to be on them to produce the goods.

Cork's boss Tom Nott is a shrewd man. It's his job to be concerned about his Parnell Park opposition.

Crest

But surely Cork camogie is riding on the crest of a wave. Probably not what a coach wants to hear.

However, Tom says "We will have to be at our very best, and as fit as if it is an All-Ireland final."

"Kilkenny are reportedly very fast, so will be very hard to beat," adds Nott.

He is pleased with their own preparations, but lack of competitive matches can be a hindrance. "We beat two teams who subsequently didn't figure in the intermediate championship," he says.

However, his optimism

seeps through with his final comment, "I'm hoping we will beat them, but it is a match that is going to be very hard to win, he concludes."

Meanwhile, Tipperary and Down contest the second semi-final of the attractive double header. The northern county hasn't played at that stage of the competition in over four decades, and according to PRO Seamus McAleenan: "There is tremendous hype and excitement in the county."

The fact also, that their star forward Joan Henderson previously played her camogie with Tipperary is a big talking point.

Tipperary have improved immensely from the National League final, and with the help of Colm Bonnar and Michael Cleary have become a more balanced outfit. A view shared by manager Biddy Phillips: "Tipp are a more skilful side, but we will be up against a professionally prepared Down team."



Above: Cork's Mary O'Connor about to hit a point despite the attention of Limerick defenders at the All-Ireland Championship game at Páirc Uí Rinn. Right: Cork's Linda Mellerick.

AUG 1999

As Down prepare to take on Tipperary in today's All-Ireland Senior Camogie semi-final **John Haughey** met two of the Mourne county's stars **Mairin McAleenan** and **Joan Henderson**...

All-Ireland Senior Camogie semi-final: Down v Tipperary
(Today 3.30pm Parnell Park)

Red and Black missing Mason

DOWN'S preparations for today's match have been disrupted by the withdrawal of defender Edel Mason from the squad.

No reason was given for the highly regarded Dunloy player's withdrawal.

Team selectors were believed to be last night trying to persuade the player to return and have made her available to play by including her on the substitutes bench should she change her mind.

At the start of the nineties both Down and Tipperary were languishing in junior camogie. One of them will be appearing in a senior final on the first Sunday of September 1999.

They represent the breath of fresh air the game at top level requires, but which of them is best equipped for progress to a probable showdown with Cork?

Down beat Tipp for the 1991 Junior title. Tipp made up the leeway a year later and with a few seasons of successful minors, passed through the intermediate ranks quite rapidly.

Down on the other hand struggled to eclipse national titles until last season, they did not have much under age success but careful husbandry of what young talent there was, resulted in a strong panel of players.

The draw has favoured Down this year. They have been mastering Dublin for the past half dozen seasons while Tipperary has not the psychological baggage that either of the other semi-finalists carry.

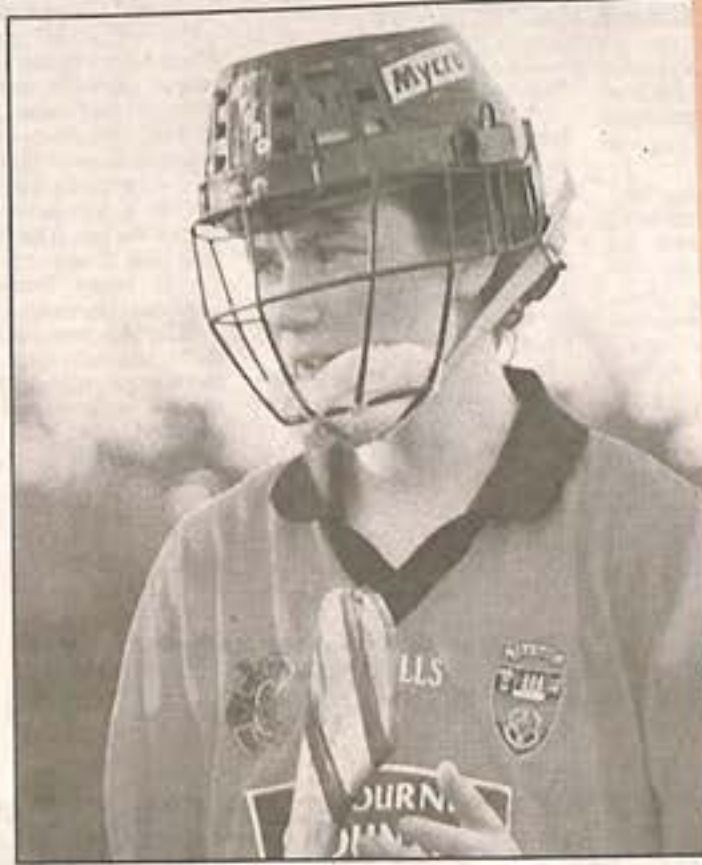
Down played in patches against Dublin - nerves possibly, perhaps team changes enforced by injury and the late withdrawal of goalie Teresa McGowan. An improvement is required.

Teresa will probably start in goals - although young Ciara McCarthy was an excellent deputy - and Colleen Hynds returns to the attack. On the minus side though, defender Anne Morgan and Maeve McNeill are ruled out by injury with Bernie Kelly and Claire McGovern probable replacements.

It will not weaken the defence but it will need to be very tight to hold experienced score-takers like Deidre Hughes and Noelle Kennedy.

The Tipperary defence looked very suspect in the league final against Cork. Down do not have as experienced an attack as the Leesiders but they need to settle early and put the Tipperary into the tail-spin they experienced with Cork.

Games between Down and Tipperary have witnessed a 16 point turnaround inside 12 months in recent seasons. Either team can win this tense battle. With stakes so high, those with least nerves will prosper.
Down: T McGowan, D Savage, D Greeran (cap), B Kelly, P Greene, N Magee, C McGovern, J Henderson, J Braniff, V Hynds, M McAleenan, M Murray, C Hynds, C Mulholland, C McGrath.
Tipperary: J Delaney, S Kelly, U O'Dwyer, C Madden, M Stokes, C Gaynor, S Nealon, E Haydon, A McDermott, N Kennedy, T Brophy, H Kiely, E McDonnell, D Hughes, N Harkin.



● **MOURNE MAESTROS...** Mairin McAleenan (left) and Joan Henderson (right) will be crucial to the Down county's chances of defeating Tipperary in today's All-Ireland Senior Camogie semi-final
Pictures: G. McKeown

Duo to Tipp balance in Down girls' favour

MAIRIN McAleenan remembers those three-a-sides in the garden at home and pretending to be Jimmy Barry-Murphy, John Fenton or Noel Skehan.

"At half-time during the televised matches, we go outside and pretend we were the stars."

Maybe during the half-time interval in this year's All-Ireland Final at Croke Park on September 5 which will be broadcast live for the first time by RTE, some budding young Down camogs will be out on their lawns pretending to be Mairin McAleenan.

But Tipperary have to be overcome tomorrow if Mairin and her colleagues are to have their live TV date.

Down, however, are reckoned by most pundits to have a great chance of reaching the decider. Logically, a place in the final would be the summit of Down's ambitions as Cork are unbackable favourites to claim this year's All-Ireland crown.

McAleenan, described by Sambo McNaughton last year as being good enough to play hurling for most counties, looks upon tomorrow's contest as being an "historic" day for

her county.

"It's the first time in 46 years that we've reached the semi-final stage of the senior. There aren't too many people about who remember the last time so we're out to enjoy the match."

Amazingly, it nearly two decades since 28-year-old Mairin made her senior debut for her beloved club Liatroim Fontenoys.

"Liatroim were short a few players one day. I was only about nine or 10 but they asked me to stand in. Shiela McCartan, who was a massive influence on my career, was in charge and I'll never forget after the match she went over to her car got a Liatroim jersey and told me I could keep it. I couldn't wait to get home."

Mairin, who works as a teacher in Newry, made her Down senior debut as a 14-year-old and has been a regular ever since in the attack.

"I don't know what age I started playing. There was always a few hurls about the house. We've a big family. There's 10 of us and we were always pucking about, five-a-side at home. We always took a great interest in all things Irish - the

language and the culture, the gaelic games are an extension of that."

Mairin's team-mate Joan Henderson will be playing against her native county tomorrow and a cousin of her's will even line out for the Premier County.

Joan played for Tipp in the 1991 All-Ireland Junior Final against Down when a goal with the last puck of the game claimed the title.

"But I've been with Down for the last three years and I've very much part of the side now. No divided loyalties."

Now married and living in Belfast, Henderson hails from the Cashel club in Tipperary which spawned such hurling stars as the Bonner brothers Conall and Cormac.

Joan's talents are not confined to the sporting fields as one of the many songs she has written finished third in the Galway International Song Festival earlier this year. Not surprisingly, she usually leads the singsong after Down camogie victories.

The Drumaness club player is optimistic both for the future of Ulster camogie and the sport

generally.

"Hopefully more of the games will be televised now. The 15-a-side in comparison to the old 12-a-side with the small goals is a much better game. It allows players to show the skill now. There's more movement off the ball. That in itself has improved the game."

Inevitably the game is becoming more professional. Five nights of camogie a week have been commonplace for the Down ladies this summer between county and club commitments.

But an All-Ireland Intermediate title last year showed the Down women the rewards that could be gleaned from hard work.

The only real form guide between the teams ahead of tomorrow is encouraging. Tipperary were destroyed by Cork in the National League decider in May while Down ran the Rebels to a respectable margin a league tie a month or so later.

Down were also hindered in that match by only having 12 players for most of the first half after several of the squad arrived late.

The All-Ireland Camogie semi-final between Tipperary and Down is scheduled for Sunday week, August 8th but it may come too soon for Down midfielder Joan Henderson who picked up a knee injury in training last week. Understandably, Joan is keener than most of her colleagues to line out in this game ... she is a native of Tipperary and won an All-Ireland Junior medal with the Premier County in 1992. Twelve months earlier she was also on the Tipp team that was, ironically, beaten by Down in the final! On that occasion, she scored a last minute goal to put her team ahead but Down won the puck-out and Bonny McGreevy scored the last-gasp goal that enabled the Mourne girls to collect the first of their three junior titles in the current decade. After signing up for Down Joan helped her adopted county to Intermediate glory and played a crucial role in the recent Senior quarter-final win over Dublin. Incidentally, Down will be appearing in the Senior semi-final for the first time in 46 years.

Camogie: The teams for tomorrow's two All-Ireland SC semi-finals are as follows:

Cork: C Keohane, S Dunlea, E Duggan, M Finn, V Harris (captain), D Cronin, P O'Connor, S Yayas, U Troy, M O'Connor, L Mellerick, S O'Callaghan, L Dunlea, F O'Driscoll, M Deasy
(v) Kilkenny: M Holland, T Millea, M Hickey, M Costelloe, K Long, G Maher, S Costelloe, M Downey, S Millea, M Comerford, B Mulvey, L Lyng, A Downey, M Maher, C Dunne
Down: T McGowan, D Savage, D Greeran (cap), B Kelly, P Greene, N Magee, C McGovern, J Henderson, J Braniff, V Hynds, M McAleenan, M Murray, C Hynds, C Mulholland, C McGrath
(v) Tipperary: J Delaney, S Kelly, U O'Dwyer, C Madden, M Stokes, C Gaynor, S Nealon, E Haydon, A McDermott, N Kennedy, T Brophy, H Kiely, E McDonnell, D Hughes, N Harkin.

● Preview in tomorrow's Irish News

AUG 1999

CAMOGIE GIRLS GEAR UP FOR SEMI-FINAL



Pushing for the big win... Super Valu Loughboy are the main sponsors to Kilkenny camogie. Kilkenny meet Cork in the All-Ireland camogie semi-final and Super Valu have presented the Kilkenny senior team with a sponsorship cheque. Pictured on the occasion were Majella Costelloe, Freshford; Tracy Millea, Graigue-Ballycallan; Pauline Comerford, Graigue-Ballycallan; Sinead Costelloe, Freshford; Miriam Holland, Lisdowney (members of the senior camogie team). At back (from left): Bob McMunn, P.R.O., Kilkenny Camogie Board; Colm Caulfield, Managing Director, Super Valu; Peter Curtiss, Assistant Manager, Super Valu, Loughboy and Pilot Conway, Chairman, Kilkenny Camogie Board.

(Photo: Michael Brophy)

Concern at demise of camogie

● I WISH to express my concern at the demise of camogie in the northside of Cork city.

Traditional powers such as Na Píarsaigh no longer field a team at senior level while Brian Dillons only field at senior 'B' level.

The balance of power seems to have shifted to the southside as in a recent senior 'A' county championship semi-final, Glen Rovers, once the pillars of camogie, were totally outclassed by Bishopstown and only managed to get one score during the entire match, a pointed free, and were fortunate to lose by 1-9 to 0-1.

Furthermore, Brian Dillons were well beaten by St Finbarr's in the senior 'B' championship.

Further evidence of the decline is the fact that the Cork minor team, who recently qualified for the All-Ireland final, have no representative from a northside club on the team.

Perhaps the problem lies with the coaching structure. I hope that something can be done to address this problem.

Johanna McCarthy
Ballyhooly Road, Cork

Bord na Gaeilge Camogie World

By P.J. FULHAM

On Saturday next, the Bord na Gaeilge All-Ireland Senior Championship semi-finals are down for decision at Parnell Park, Dublin.

In the first tie at 2pm, Kilkenny face the champions Cork in what should be a cracker. The last time these met in the championship was the semi-final of 1996 when Cork won 1-13 to 0-11. To date, the 'Leesiders' have won all their matches convincingly with more than half of the team notching off scores. In the first round they recorded a 7-24 to 0-2 win over Wexford. Kilkenny, who reigned supreme for seven years in a row up to 1992, have been gradually getting back in line. Defeating Galway 2-8 to 1-8 in the first round at Loughrea was a great boost. Michael Fennelly has taken over as trainer and is getting a great response. All the panel are in top form except Ann Downey who is recovering from injury but is expected to be ready for Saturday.

The panel of 29 is selected from nine clubs and includes many stars. The youngest Lizzie Lyng is under 16 and is the 'Schwarzkopf Junior Player of Gael Linn'. The Millea sisters, Tracey and Sinead, the Costelloe sisters, Mairead and Sinead, Brigid Mullaly, Marina Downey, Jillian and Martina Maher are all experienced players.

Cork also have a star studded outfit which includes Fiona O'Driscoll 'Schwarzkopf Senior Player of Gael Linn', Linda Mellerick, Una O'Donoghue, Eithne Duggan, Lynn Dunlea and Denise Cronin. They are chasing their third title on the trot and will be hard to overcome.

In the second match, Tipperary and Down meet at 3.30. Down will be anxious to reach their first All-Ireland Senior Championship final in 51 years. They only entered the fray this year after winning the All-Ireland Intermediate title last year.

Tipperary returned to senior ranks last year following their success in Intermediate in '97 year and had a great campaign getting the verdict over Kilkenny by just one point in the quarter final 3-11 to 3-10 and failed by a mere three points to Galway in the semi-final 2-11 to 0-14. This year 'The Premier County' reached the National senior league final failing to Cork 9-19 to 2-7 and in the 'Bord na Gaeilge' quarter final had a 1-18 to 1-6 win over Clare.

Down also had a good campaign in the league, knocked out by Cork in the semi-final 3-13 to 1-5. In the championship they recorded a 3-14 to 3-9 win over Dublin. The last time the sides met was in the All-Ireland Intermediate Championship semi-final in 1995 when Tipperary were victorious 2-16 to 3-8.

Tipperary are a very experienced outfit which include players of the calibre of Noelle Kennedy, Deirdre Hughes, Caitriona Hennessy, Meadhb Stokes, Emily Hayden and Sinead Nealon. Down also have a very talented side. Mairin McAleenan is one of the best forwards of the day and has amassed a huge tally. Jennifer Branniff, Cathy Mulholland, Valerie and Coleen Hynds, Edel Mason and Claire McGrath will be expected to give a good performance. Joan Henderson (nee Tobin) playing for her adopted county in the red and black won an All-Ireland junior championship medal with Tipperary in 1992.

It promises to be an edge of the seat affair going down to the wire.

Results:

All-Ireland Junior Championship Quarter-Final
Roscommon 5-8
London 2-5

Munster Junior Championship Final:
Cork 3-14
Tipperary 2-7

Ulster Club Championship Quarter-Final:
Liatroim/Fontenoy's Down 4-12, Lavey, Derry 0-7
Scorers: Liatroim: Mairin McAleenan 1-8, Caitriona McCrickard 1-3, Roisin O'Higgins and Brenda

Gallagher 1-0 each, Majella Murray 0-1.
Lavey: Martina Mulholland 0-7
Referee: Catherine O'Hara, Antrim

Leinster Club Championship Quarter-Finals:
Trim, Meath 5-5 Naomh Bhrí, Carlow 2-11
Scorers: Trim: Christine O'Brien 1-1, Brid Guy, Dearbhla O'Carroll, Blathin Joyce and Irene Kelly 1-0 each, Yvonne Quinn 0-2, Suzanne Kelly and Jackie O'Connor 0-1 each.
Naomh Bhrí: Valerie Crean 1-6, Marie Sheehan 1-2, Patricia Sheehan, Margaret Kavanagh and Kathleen Brennan 0-1 each.
Referee: Brendan Williams, Kilkenny

Drumcullen, Offaly 1-11 St Munnas, Westmeath 0-5
Scorers: Drumcullen: Maggie Lynch 1-5, Karen Nugent 0-3, Edel Corcoran 0-2, Elaine Dermody 0-1.
St Munnas: Annette Heffernan 0-3, Dinah Loughlin and Aileen Lawlor 0-1 each.
Referee: Christine Priest, Dublin

St. Laurences, Kildare 1-11 Camross, Laois 1-5

Leinster Under 18 Championship
Kilkenny 3-7 Dublin 0-5
Scorers: Kilkenny: Lizzie Lyng 2-5, Linda Crennin 1-0, Ann Marie Young and Aoife Neary 0-1 each.
Dublin: Gillian McCloskey 0-3, Shile Cotter 0-2.
Referee: John Codd (Wexford)

Offaly 10-17 Wicklow 2-1
Scorers: Offaly: Karen Nugent 4-3, Jean Feighrey 2-4, Edel Corcoran 1-6, Sabrina Carroll and Karina Carroll 1-2 each, Emma Tierney 1-0.
Wicklow: Debbie Greene and Miriam Byrne 1-0 each, Nicki Keddy 0-1.
Referee: Brendan Williams, Kilkenny



Michéal Ó Muirheartaigh, Cathaoirleach, Bord na Gaeilge, launching its sponsorship of the All-Ireland Senior Camogie Championship in Croke Park with Carmel Gray, Ath Cliath, Máirín Nic Giolla Fhinnéin, An Dún, Síle Nic Coitir, Ath Cliath, Marie Harkin, Tiobraid Arainn, Claire McGrath, An Dún, Ruth Lyons, Ath Cliath and Cathy Mulholland

SIOBHAN O NEILL (TYRONE)

The Camogie fraternity in Tyrone and Ulster was saddened recently with the news of the tragic death in a road accident in Co. Donegal of Siobhan O'Neill. Siobhan, who was 23 years old, was a top-class player and had played in the Ulster Junior final against Derry on the Sunday prior to the fatal accident and she had also lined out with her club, Clonoe, in the Tyrone final against Ardara four days before the tragedy.

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ALL IRELAND CAMOGIE SEMI FINAL

Tipp face Down for All Ireland final place

By Gerry Slevin

Saturday is All Ireland senior camogie semi final day in Dublin's Parnell Park, with Tipp seeking a final place for the second successive year, Down providing the opposition.

Cork and Kilkenny will meet on the same programme, thus providing camogie enthusiasts with a veritable feast of all that is good in this very popular and skilful game.

A year ago in Nowlan Park, Kilkenny, Tipp succumbed to a late Galway rally in the semi final and in defeat they became very determined that the following season would see that setback reversed.

Down accounted for Dublin in the quarter final on the same day that Tipp were booking their passage against Clare in The Ragg and while the odds would appear to favour Tipp, to be remembered is the fact that Down deprived Tipp of an All Ireland junior title some years ago in Croke Park and their recent performance against Dublin showed them to be a most formidable outfit.

Tipp needed a good performance against Clare following their disastrous showing against Cork in the League final. That such a performance was not a true reflection of Tipp's worth was demonstrated a couple of weeks later when Tipp fared much better, if unsuccessfully to the same opposition in the provincial championship.

HARD FOUGHT

The Clare game was a very hard fought one and after Noelle Kennedy's early goal, Tipp were in control. Noelle will again be the main focus of attention on Saturday and the Down defence will be well aware that fouling will have to be kept to a minimum if the Toomevara sharp shooter is to be prevented from chalking up the points.

The only injury worry concerns corner back Suzanne Kelly and it is hoped that her shoulder discomfort will have cleared up sufficiently to enable her to line out.

Jovita Delaney is turning out to be a most alert and confident



Sinead Nealon



Noelle Kennedy



Deirdre Hughes



Therese Brophy

keeper while Suzanne, Claire Madden, Sinead Nealon, Ciara Gaynor, Maedbh Stokes, Una O'Dwyer are all very reliable, and sturdy defenders.

Angie McDermott, promoted from last year's junior side that reached the All Ireland final is slotting in well at mid field with Emily Hayden and while Noelle Kennedy is the eager beaver of the attack, such as Deirdre Hughes, Therese Brophy, Eimear McDonnell, Helen Kiely, Caitriona Hennessy, Maria and Niamh Harkin and Helen Campion, all have the potential to do well.

LITTLE KNOWN

Little is known about the Down team but Dublin were expected to do well this year and Down put paid to that hope with a fairly convincing win. Camogie in Ulster is indeed on the up and nothing will be taken for granted at this end.

The addition of former All Ireland hurling stars, Colm Bonnar and Michael Cleary to the back room team has given a new dimension to the team in terms of skill and artistry and, hopefully, that will be reflected in Saturday's performance.

Tipp have been out of the senior limelight for too long. A win on Saturday would see them in the final for the first time since 1984.

The panel from which the team will be selected is as follows: Jovita Delaney, Nora Dwan, Suzanne Kelly, Una O'Dwyer, Claire Madden, Maedbh Stokes, Ciara Gaynor, Sinead Nealon, Emily Hayden, Angie McDermott, Therese Brophy, Helen Kiely, Noelle Kennedy, Niamh Harkin, Deirdre Hughes, Eimear McDonnell, Helen Campion, Caitriona Hennessy, Philomena Fogarty, Louise Ryan, Sheena Howard, Grainne Shanahan, Maria Harkin.

All-Ireland Senior Camogie semi-final
Kilkenny 2-12
Cork 1-13

Sinead stuns fancied Rebels

KILKENNY claimed their place in the All-Ireland senior final at the weekend by defeating Cork in a pulsating game at Parnell Park.

Cork looked in control of proceedings until Kilkenny's remarkable injury-time surge saw them sneak through.

Lynn Dunlea shot a Cork goal in the 15th minute after a brilliant 60-yard run by Linda Mellerick to put them 1-3 to 0-2 ahead.

Kilkenny responded with three points in as many minutes, one from Martina Maher sandwiched between two from inspirational midfielder Sinead Millea.

Cork led by 1-6 to 0-8 at the break and the sides posted three points each during the first 20 minutes of the second half, before Cork seemed to make an attempt to break clear.

Substitute Caoimhe Harrington fired over a point and Lynn Dunlea added two more from frees and suddenly Cork were four points up with only three minutes on the clock remaining.

Margaret Comerford scored a vital goal for Kilkenny before Una O'Donoghue shot a brilliant point in response for Cork.

But Kilkenny weren't to be outdone. Millea scored an injury-time point and in the last puck of the game she added a 60-yard goal to send the Cats through to the final in dramatic fashion. Kilkenny: M Holland, T Millea, M Hickey, U Murphy, M Costelloe, G Maher (capt), S Costelloe, M Downey, K Long (0-1), B Mullaly, S Millea (1-9), ME Butler, M Comerford (1-1), M Maher (0-1), C Dunne Subs: S Gleeson for C Dunne, L Lyng for ME Butler, A Downey for B Mullaly.

Cork: C Keohane, S Dunlea, E Duggan, M Finn, V Harris (capt), D Cronin, P O'Connor, S Hayes (0-2), U Troy, M O'Connor, L Mellerick, S O'Callaghan (0-2), L Dunlea (1-4), F O'Driscoll (0-2), M Deasy Subs: C Harrington (0-2) for M Deasy, U O'Donoghue (0-1) for M O'Connor.

All-Ireland Camogie semi-final: Down 1-3 Tipperary 6-22

Tipperary show no mercy as Down fall

DOWN proved to be no match for Tipperary in Saturday's All-Ireland Senior semi-final.

Tipp manager Biddy Phillips, in the Down changing rooms afterwards, summed up perfectly this incredible scoreline: "We cannot believe that we played so well and I'm sure you are trying to come to terms with your own performance out there."

"Cork humiliated us with a 32 point defeat in the League final three months ago in Thurles in front of hurling supporters arriving for a championship match. Then, we could not believe we had played so poorly. Yet today, we are in an All-Ireland final and Cork are out."

It is difficult to believe that almost everyone saw this game as a close call - that's why it got the top-billing on the Parnell Park double-header.

Down made five changes from the team which defeated Dublin. Two of them were regulars returning, the others, all in defence, forced upon the management by injuries and the withdrawal of Edel Mason. These in hindsight had an unsettling effect on the team.

From the start they were very nervous. Then as they began to concede scores, team cohesion broke down and all that was left was fleeting glances of skill and endeavour from a few individuals, unco-ordinated and ultimately greedily devoured by a Tipperary side really on song.

I doubt if any Tipperary player on the day was bettered by her immediate opponent, but above them all was an unbelievable display of defence-splitting runs and long-range score-taking by Noelle Kennedy.

She set Deirdre Hughes up for the first point in the

opening minute and, during the course of the first half, dismantled Down on countless occasions before her substitution midway through the second half, by which time she had accumulated eight points for herself.

Niamh Harkin shot the first goal after eight minutes, the second came in the 20th minute, after Mairin McAleenan had a shot saved on the line and another come off the underside of the crossbar.

Scores then may have lifted the Ulster side's morale, but once Deirdre Hughes grabbed that second goal to give Tipp a 2-5 to 0-1 lead, the game was over.

The lead was doubled by half-time, and had gone to 5-18 to 0-2 by the midway point of the second half.

Mairin McAleenan took her third point, and Joan Henderson beat her cousin Jovita Delaney for a goal to give the Down support something to cheer about.

However, Tipperary kept up the scoring run with their sixth goal and Deirdre Hughes' third a few minutes from time.

None of the Down players had suffered such a defeat before. None had ever played at this level. Like Biddy Phillips said, they cannot believe they played so bad. Now can they turn it around a la Tipperary? Down: T McGowan, D Savage, D Greaney (capt), B Kelly, P Green, N Magee, C McGovern, J Henderson (1-0), J Brand, V Hynds, M McAleenan (0-3), M Murry, C Hynds, C Mulholland, C McGrath Subs: M McNeill for B Kelly, R Cunningham for C McGrath.

Tipperary: J Delaney, S Kelly, U O'Dwyer, C Madden, M Stokes (capt), C Gaynor, S Nealon, E Hayden, A McDermott, N Kennedy (0-8), T Brophy, H Kiely, E McDonnell (2-6), D Hughes (3-3), N Harkin (1-2) Subs: C Hennessy for N Kennedy, P Fogarty for S Kelly, S Howard for C Madden.



Tipp selectors, Timmy Moloney, Cashel; Biddy Phillips, Thurles and Jim Madden, Portroe.

By Gerry Slevin

Referee: Douglas G. McKeough.
 Puckane, Thurs. 12th. Aug. 7.00.
 Ref. Ger McKeough.
 U/14 Hurling, 'C' Final: Lorrha v.
 Bortisokane in Cloughjordan.
 Thurs. Aug. 12th. 7.00. Ref.
 Vincent O'Connor.
 Sun. 15/8 - U/16 H. B. Semi-Final:
 Ballinahinch v Bortis-Beigh in
 Toomevara. 7.00 p.m. Referee:
 Dan D'Arcy (Sun. 15th. Aug.).
 U/16 H. 'A': Mon. 16/8/99.
 Ballina v Roscrea, in Ballina.
 7.00. Referee: P.J. O'Rourke.
 Gr. 1: U/16 H. 'C': Lorrha v
 Kildangan in Lorrha. 7.30. Mon.
 16/8/99. Bernard Darcy.
 Gr. II: U/16 H. 'C': Bortisokane v
 Templederry in Templederry.
 7.00. Mon. 16th. Referee:
 Bernard Darcy.
 U/16 H. 'A': Tues. 17/8/99.
 Burgess v Toomevara in
 Kilscolman. 7.00 p.m. Referee:
 Martin Darcy.
 U/16 H. 'B' Final: Bortis-Beigh
 Ballina. Nenagh. 7.00. Wed.
 18/8. Referee: Michael McGrath.
 U/16 H. B. Final: Wed. 18/8/99.
 Bortis-Beigh v Ballina in
 Nenagh. 7.00. M.L. McGrath.

Cork fail to put Cats away as Millea snatches victory

Kilkenny
Cork

2-12
1-13

by Mark Gallagher

HIGH drama and a powerful advertisement for the game of camogie saw Cork's reign as All-Ireland champions come to an end at Parnell Park on Saturday. Even Tom Nott's dismay at the end could not cloud that fact, as the distraught Cork manager solemnly surmised, "this would have been a perfect game for the All-Ireland final."

Sinead Millea had sculpted a female impersonation of DJ Carey all afternoon, and her very last touch would even have the master beaming with pride.

The crowd believed Millea would slot a 60-yard free over to bring the game to a replay. Instead Millea dropped the sliotar into the Cork goal and secured the unlikely victory for Kilkenny in a finish that robbed each spectator of their breath.

"I could see it going in when she hit it," Tom Nott said.

"Three players went up for the same ball and when that happens, no one is going to get to it. It is a pity this was only the semi-final, because it would have made a great final."

The match-winner herself, and scorer of 1-9 overall, was surprised to see the ball in the net, believing she had cost her county the chance of a replay.

"It was actually dropping, so I thought I hit it short. But, it was unbelievable to see it hit the back of the net."

Unbelievable too was the comeback of Kilkenny. The All-Ireland champions led this match for its entirety, Fiona O'Driscoll's free within the first minute setting the course.

Although Millea chipped away at any lead Cork attempted to build with a couple of frees, the Rebel county controlled the early stages and when Lynn Dunlea found the net after 15 minutes, it was richly deserved.

Linda Mellerick created the score, with a strong surge through the Kilkenny defence, finding Dunlea with a perfect kick-pass. Dunlea left Miriam Holland with little chance in the

Tipperary book place in final with facile win over Down

Cat's goal, striking the sliotar low and hard.

Kilkenny refused to lie down however, and with Millea picking off scores from around the half-back line, Cork were unable to get into a commanding position. Although points from Susan O'Callaghan and Lynn Dunlea meant the Rebel county stayed ahead by the tightest of margins, and they went into the break, a single point ahead.

Throughout the second-half, Cork maintained their slender lead, with the appearance of Caoimhe Harrington in place of

Miriam Deasey. Harrington added three points to the Rebel total, fitting comfortably into the full-forward line with O'Driscoll and Dunlea.

It was the introduction of Ann Downey, whose left hamstring failed a late fitness test, that swung the game in Kilkenny's favour. Downey's influence was almost immediate, as her mere presence caused consternation in the Cork defence, allowing Margaret Comerford through to get a goal with only four minutes remaining. Kilkenny were now only a point behind, and al-

though Una O'Donoghue put Cork into a two-point lead, Millea wasn't finished, grabbing the last two scores, the goal in the third minute of injury time, capping a sensational win for the Cats.

Many of the Cork players simply stood dumbfounded after the match. Stephanie Dunlea who had scrapped so valiantly for the Rebel backs, could hardly speak.

"I am still in shock. When they got the free, we thought, okay, it is going to be a replay, but then the goal went in."

Terrible taste to the defeat, but there will be few victories sweeter for Sinead Millea and Kilkenny.

Scorers: Kilkenny: S. Millea (1-9, 7 frees), M. Comerford (1-1), K. Long, M. Maher (0-1 each).

Cork: L. Dunlea (1-4, 2 frees), F. O'Driscoll, S. Hayes, C. Harrington, S. O'Callaghan (0-2 each), U. O'Donoghue (0-1).

KILKENNY: M. Holland, T. Millea, M. Hickey, U. Murphy, M. Costelloe, G. Dillon, S. Costelloe, M. Downey, K. Long, B. Mullaly, S. Millea, M.E. Butler, M. Comerford, M. Maher, C. Dunne Subs: L. Long for Butler (22 mins), S. Gleeson for Dunne (11), A. Downey for Mullaly (51 mins).

CORK: C. Keohane, S. Dunlea, E. Duggan, M. Finn, V. Harris, D. Cronin, P. O'Connor, S. Hayes, U. Troy, M. O'Connor, L. Mellerick, S. O'Callaghan, L. Dunlea, F. O'Driscoll, M. Deasey, Subs: C. Harrington for Deasey (24 mins), M. Burke for O'Connor (50 mins).

Tipperary
Down

6-22
1-3

Saturday was a day of sharp contrasts in Parnell Park. Whilst Cork and Kilkenny vied for supremacy, Tipperary overwhelmed a facile Down side, with Deirdre Hughes the hero, snatching four of the Premier county's six goals.

Hughes grabbed many of the plaudits, but it was half-forward Noelle Kennedy who impressed most, at the hub of every Tipperary attack.

The ovation she received as she left the pitch early showed her toil wasn't lost on the fans. This match was always expected to be a walkover, but the extent of Tipp's dominance was humiliating to each Mourne person in Parnell park on Saturday.

Only Mairin McAleenan illustrated the talent needed for this level, a point emphasised by her contribution to the side's tally, all but one score and an import-

ant part in Down's goal, from Joan Henderson, which received the loudest cheer of the match.

The scope of the victory won't frighten Kilkenny as there was simply no opposition. Down collapsed each time the sliotar was sent into their half, and Hughes, Emer McDonnell and Niamh Harkin only had to saunter towards the net for their goals.

Hughes' fourth goal was memorable for its quality, regardless of the opponents. McDonnell was prowling on the left wing, finding Hughes, unmarked as usual in the middle. Hughes swiftly turned the on-rushing Donna Greenan inside out, before firing home.

Tipperary went home ecstatic with the record score they had run up.

Kilkenny, with Millea and the returning Ann Downey, are adversaries that populate far superior stratosphere, though.

Scorers: Tipperary: D. Hughes (4-3), E. McDonnell (1-7), N. Kennedy (0-8, 4 frees), N. Harkin (1-1), C. Hennessey (0-3, 1 free).

Down: J. Henderson (1-0), M. McAleenan (0-3, 1 free).

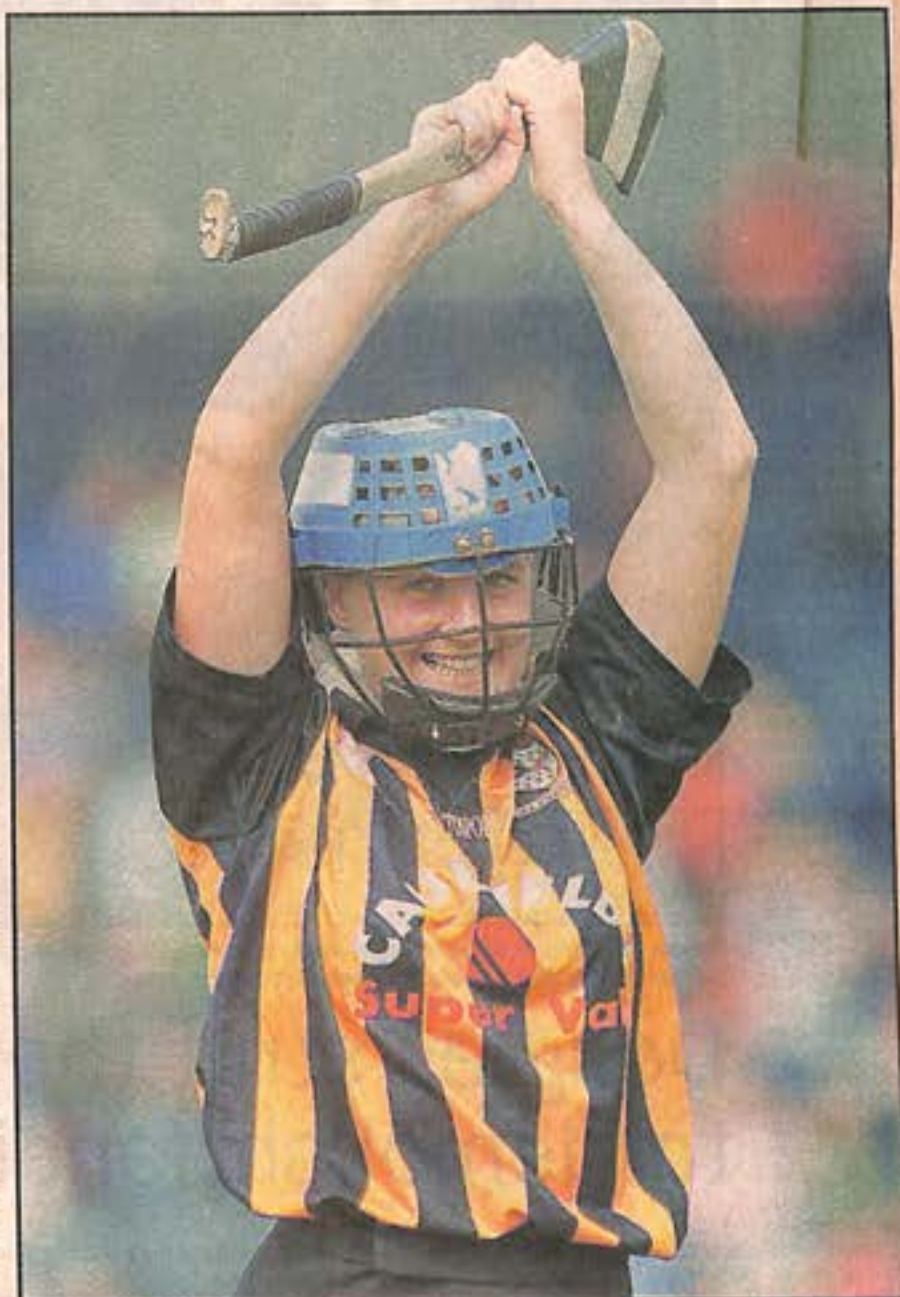
TIPPERARY: J. Delaney, S. Kelly, U. O'Dwyer, C. Madden, M. Stokes, C. Gaynor, S. Nealon, E. Hayden, A. McDermott, N. Kennedy, T. Brophy, H. Kiely, E. McDonnell, D. Hughes, N. Harkin Subs: C. Hennessey for Kiely (45 mins).

DOWN: T. McGowan, D. Savage, D. Greenan, B. Kelly, P. Green, N. Magee, C. McGovern, J. Brann, J. Henderson, V. Hynds, M. McAleenan, M. Murray, C. Hynds, C. Mulholland, C. McGrath Subs: A. Morgan for McGrath (40 mins).



Cork's Sinead O'Callaghan tries to break away with the ball in the All-Ireland camogie semi-final on Saturday.

Picture: INPHO



Kilkenny's Tracey Millea celebrates her side's victory over Cork in the All-Ireland camogie semi-final at Parnell Park on Saturday.

Picture: INPHO

AUG 1999

Cats catch Cork napping

Kilkenny 2-12
Cork 1-13

A CURSORY examination of the facts of this match would initially suggest Kilkenny were lucky.

Not so! It is true that a mis-struck free from Sinead Millea from about 55 meters went all the way to the Cork net to give Kilkenny a two point lead with the second last puck of the ball.

It is also true that Kilkenny only led Cork for about 15 seconds in the match.

However, closer scrutiny reveals that Kilkenny made their own luck. A superb defence limited a vaunted Cork attack to 1-3 from play.

An impressive statistic in itself, and even more so in light of the fact that the same attack had scored 12-42 in the previous two matches in the championship.

Indeed, Kilkenny out-

scored Cork from play with a final tally of 1-5. The difference between these two totals was the eventual winning margin.

Vital factors

The willingness of the winners attack and mid-field to close down opposing players, and the unerring accuracy of Sinead Millea from placed balls were vital factors in fashioning this win.

Cork opened the scoring with a point from a free by Lynn Dunlea. This was replied to by a point from a free from Sinead Millea. The next two scores came courtesy of two converted frees from Sarah Hayes of Cork, to which Kilkenny's sole reply was another converted free by Millea. Lynn Dunlea then scored Cork's only goal.

It was at this stage that Kilkenny gave the first indications of their intent by responding immediately with two magnificent points from play, and a converted 45. The sides traded

three further points apiece before the interval, at which stage the score-line read: Kilkenny 0-8, Cork 1-6.

The winners, playing against a light breeze, opened the scoring in the second half which was replied to with a point from Cork. The sides swapped two further points before Cork scored three unanswered points to give them their largest lead of the game, four points.

Pressure

Astute substitutions and shrewd switches by the management team of Bobby Jackman, Michael Fennelly and Maura Costello contributed to Kilkenny's forward momentum being increased. Ultimately the pressure exerted by the attack led to the final winning surge.

At this stage it was generally recognised that Kilkenny needed to get a goal to resurrect their hopes. This duly arrived. Margaret Comerford half-



Mrs Teresa Dillon, mother of the Kilkenny captain, Jillian Maher, turns away as Sinead Millea takes the last minute free which led to the goal that won the game volleyed the ball to the net after a neat passage of play

which saw the ball worked the entire length of the field by Kilkenny, and fed inside by a slick handpass from Martina Maher.

The sides scored one further point each before the real drama unfolded. A heart stopping, brilliant save from Kilkenny goalie, Miriam Holland kept the Leesiders out, the that free.

Deep in injury-time, centreback and captain, Jillian Maher soloed up the field with the sliotar. She was dragged to the ground about 55 meters from goal on the left hand side of the Parnell Park pitch.

Sinead Millea had to endure a long wait as Maher received treatment before striking a looping shot towards a crowded goalmouth. A forest of sticks crowded the air. The sliotar sailed unimpeded. The net bulged.

Given their absence from the big stage for the last four years, the wild Kilkenny celebrations which followed were entirely predictable and understandable.

Complacency

Kilkenny face Tipperary (who scored a facile 6-22 to

1-3 win over Down in their semi-final) in the All-Ireland final, which will be played in Croke Park on Sunday, September 5.

Tipperary have already beaten Kilkenny in the League, and knocked them out of the quarter-finals of last year's championship.

So, even though Kilkenny have beaten the two sides Galway and Cork, who contested the last three All-Ireland finals, there is absolutely no room for complacency in relation to the final.

However, if the injured Brigid Mullally and Ann Downey can recover, and if the determination shown on this occasions can be recaptured, the ultimate reward lies within their grasp.

THE SCORERS

Kilkenny - S. Millea 1-9; M. Comerford 1-1; K. Long, M. Maher 0-1 each; Cork - L. Dunlea 1-4; S. Hayes, S. O'Callaghan, C. Harrington, F. O'Driscoll 0-2 each, U. O'Donoghue 0-1.

THE TEAMS

Kilkenny - Miriam Holland (Lisdowney); Tracey Millea (Graigie/Ballycallan); Margaret Hickey (Freshford); Una Murphy (Tullagher); Sinead Costelloe (Freshford); Jillian Maher, captain (Freshford); Mairead Costelloe (Freshford); Marina Downey (Lisdowney); Kelly Long (Lisdowney); Margaret Comerford (Graigie/Ballycallan); Sinead Millea (Graigie/Ballycallan); Mary Ellen Butler (Freshford); Brigid Mullally (Glenmore); Martina Maher (Freshford); Catherine Dunne (Lisdowney). Subs: Lizzie Lyng (Rower-Inistioge); for Mary Ellen Butler, Sandra Gleeson (Lisdowney) for Catherine Dunne, Ann Downey (Lisdowney) for Brigid Mullally; Kathleen Atkins (Mullinavat); Brigid Barnaville (Lisdowney); Pauline Comerford (Graigie-Ballycallan); Linda Crennan (Lisdowney); Grace Fennelly (Shamrocks); Eimear Lyng (Rower-Inistioge); Bronagh Neary (Graigie-Ballycallan); Sarah O'Gorman (Emeralds); Fran Shore (Lisdowney); Laura Sweeney (Graigie-Ballycallan); Siobhan White (Rower-Inistioge).

Cork - C. Keohane; S. Dunlea, E. Duggan; M. Finn; V. Harris, D. Cronin, P. O'Connor, S. Hayes, U. Troy; M. O'Connor; L. Mollerick; S. O'Callaghan; L. Dunlea; F. O'Driscoll; M. Deasy. Subs - C. O'Hara (Antrim).



Kilkenny players Sinead Millea (right) and Ann Downey celebrate at the end of the All-Ireland senior camogie semi-final at Parnell Park, Dublin. (Photo: Sportfile)



Kilkenny's Marina Downey about to launch another attack as Cork's Paula O'Connor moves in to tackle.

AUG 1999

AUG 1999

Barrs sweep aside Dillons

St. Finbarrs 1-11
Brian Dillons 1-1

THE Barrs were always in control in this Senior 'B' championship quarter-final at Delanys last Wednesday.

Played in appalling weather conditions, Barrs were soon off the mark, Maria McCarthy pointing after four minutes.

The Barrs continued to press home their advantage and Orla O'Sullivan, Maria McCarthy and Colette O'Mahony increased their lead.

Brian Dillons' keeper Niamh Cotter saved brilliantly from Colette O'Mahony but Maria McCarthy was on hand to finish to the net.

Liz O'Mahony gave Dillons some when replying with a goal to leave the half-time score 1-5 to 1-0.

Barr's Colette O'Mahony and Sabrina Buckley exchanged scores within minutes of the restart but Buckley's effort was to prove Dillon's last the Toghher outfit assumed complete control.

Tally

Colette O'Mahony had three points in a row before Natasha Nash and Maria McCarthy competed the Barrs' tally.

Both teams must be credited for serving up an entertaining game in appalling weather conditions.

In the first of two senior 'B' championship semi-finals down for decision this coming week Kilbrittain take on St. Finbarr's at Ballincollig this evening at 7.30 pm.

Valley Rovers and Courceys go head-to-head at Ballinhassig on Tuesday next, also at 7.30 pm.

St. Finbarrs, so impressive in their win over Brian Dillons, will go in as favourites to advance against a Kilbrittain outfit who had a good win over Newcestown in their opening game.

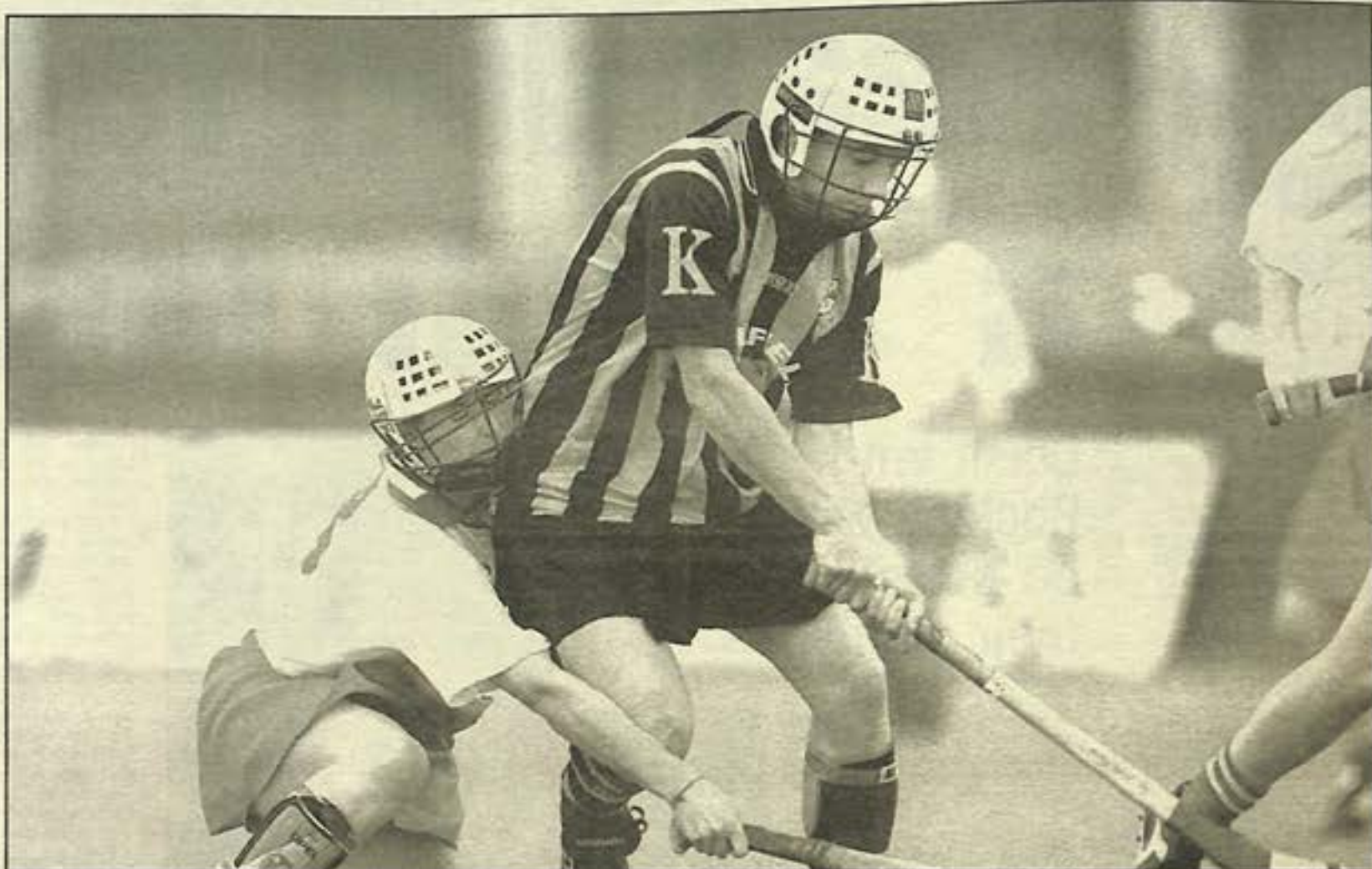
The Valley Rovers and Courceys clash promises to be a close affair.

Courceys, who with Inter county players Sarah Hayes and Rachel Maloney in their ranks, had a good victory over Aghabullogue in their opening game.

Valley Rovers determination was evident in their clash with Eire Og and, if they are able to contain the threat of Hayes and Maloney, are in with a great chance of progressing to the final.

Inter county junior player Elaine Burke, Liz Bugler and Bernie Shields showed in their outing with divisional side Carrigdhoun just what they are capable of but a repeat performance is essential if they are to overcome the Courceys' challenge.

Offaly make their maiden appearance at semi-final stage



Cork's Sarah Hayes tries to win the ball from Kilkenny's Kelly Long during the All Ireland semi final at Parnell Park.

Picture: INPHO/Billy Stickland

Rebels should advance to final

All-Ireland Junior semi-final
Cork v Offaly

INTER-COUNTY action focuses on the junior team this coming weekend when they head for Rath, Co. Offaly on Saturday to contest the All-Ireland semi-final.

It's a big occasion for Offaly, as it's the first time that the county has contested an All-Ireland junior semi-final.

They had a tremendous National League campaign this year where they recorded good victories over Clare, Tipperary and Limerick and qualified for the quarter-final where they lost out to Cork 6-19 to 2-9.

However, minus several players who were tied with exams at the time Offaly will be a much stronger outfit come Saturday next.

In their Leinster campaign they had a good victory over Meath in their quarter-final, a close encounter with Wexford saw Offaly come away with a narrow two points to spare to set up a meeting with Kilkenny in the Leinster final.

Magic moments

Sandie out on her own
SANDIE Fitzgibbon became the first player to win three All-Ireland minor medals.

The Glen Rovers star later went on to win six senior All-Irelands and led Cork to victory in 1992.

She also represented Ireland in basketball.

Here a titanic struggle ensued before Offaly gained the upper hand to record a merited 1-9 to 2-2 victory.

Majella Bergin and Maggie Lynch are two players whom Offaly will look to lead their challenge on Saturday, both played a role in Leinster's Junior victory in this year's Gael Linn competition.

Having won back the Munster title in great style, dethroning holders Tipperary, this Cork side are determined to go all the



Rachael Maloney of Courcey Rovers, top scorer on the junior side. Cork will again look to her on Saturday.

way in 1999 and take an All-Ireland title.

Since losing out two years ago to a superb Antrim side the Cork juniors vowed to come back and take the title.

Lost

Last year they lost out to Tipperary who went on to contest the final.

Having already met Offaly in the league Cork know just what is required of them.

Captained by Helen Walsh the side has the experienced Jill Hannon and Sheenagh Morley both of whom have given great service to Cork junior sides over the years whilst last year's minors Rachel Maloney, Rosari Holland, Clara Healy, Ellen O'Herlihy have all blended in well to the panel.

With the strength and talent available Cork look too have to much in hand and should advance.

Cats are cream of crop

Cork 1-13
Kilkenny 2-12

CORK'S reign as All-Ireland senior camogie champions came to an end in dramatic fashion at Parnell Park on Saturday.

Sinead Millea's injury time goal gave Kilkenny the lead for the only time in a rip-roaring contest.

Cork, aided by a Lynn Dunlea goal, led 1-6 to 0-8 at the interval.

Thriller

It was nip and tuck in the second half before Millea stepped up to break Cork's hearts in injury-time.

In the second semi-final Tipperary recorded a resounding victory over Down.

Cork: C Keohane, S Dunlea, E Duggan, M Finn, V Harris (C), D Cronin, P O'Connor, S Hayes, U Troy, M O'Connor, L Mellerick, S O'Callaghan, L Dunlea, F O'Driscoll, M Deasy.

AUG 1999
Bord na Gaeilge

Camogie World

By P.J. FULHAM

Kilkenny are back in the Bord na Gaeilge All-Ireland Senior Camogie Championship final after a dramatic finish in injury time against Cork, in this semi-final played at Parnell Park, Dublin on Saturday last, which finished 2-12 to 1-13 in Kilkenny's favour.

Sinead Millea, Graigue-Ballycallan was the jewel in the crown when she delivered a 65 metre free to the back of the Cork net, to swipe victory from the holders Cork.

It was a close, keen contest played before a large attendance in favourable weather conditions. There was some great individual performances by both teams. It was score for score throughout. The first goal of the game came on the 13th minute when Cork's Lynn Dunlea rattled the Kilkenny net, and after the first quarter, Cork led 1-3 to 0-4. As half time approached the sides were level 1-5 to 0-8. Sinead Millea was responsible for six of the Noreiders scores.

The pattern of play was similar in the second half with Cork holding a one or two point lead at all times. At the end of the third quarter the scoreboard read Cork 1-9 Kilkenny 0-11.

The introduction of Ann Downey to the Kilkenny side on the 20th minute made a significant difference. Margaret Comerford netted an all important goal to leave two points between the sides on the 28th minute. With ten seconds of normal time remaining, Sinead Millea landed her 9th point from a free to reduce the deficit to one point.

In one and a half minutes of injury time, Cork missed three scoreable chances, two went wide and a Linda Mellerick shot at goal was brilliantly saved by Miriam Holland. As the ball was cleared out, Kilkenny were awarded a free just outside the 65 metre line. Sinead Millea stepped up to take this all important free that could level the match, but to the amazement of the Cork defence, the ball dropped short into the net as the final whistle sounded.

Scorers - Kilkenny - Sinead Millea 1-9, Margaret Comerford 1-1, Kelly Long and Martina Maher 0-1 each.

Cork - Lynn Dunlea 1-4, Sarah Hayes, Sinead O'Callaghan, Caoimhe Harrington and Fiona O'Driscoll 0-2 each, Una O'Donoghue 0-1.

Kilkenny - Miriam Holland, Tracey Millea, Margaret Hickey, Mairead Costello, Kelly Long, Jillian Maher (capt), Sinead Costelloe, Marina Downey, Margaret Comerford, Brigid Mullaly, Mary Ellen Butler, Una Murphy, Martina Maher, Catherine Dunne, Sinead Millea. Subs - Lizzie Lyng for Butler, Ann Downey for Mullaly, Sandra Gleeson for Dunne.

Cork - Cora Keohane, Stephaine Dunlea, Eithne Duggan, Mags Finn, Vivienne Harris (capt), Denise Cronin, Paula O'Connor, Sarah Hayes, Ursula Troy, Mary O'Connor, Linda Mellerick, Sinead O'Callaghan, Lynn Dunlea, Fiona O'Driscoll, Miriam Deasy.

Subs - Caoimhe Harrington for Deasy, Una O'Donoghue for O'Connor.

Referee - Catherine O'Hara, Antrim.

In the other semi-final at the same venue, Tipperary destroyed Down with a 34 point winning margin, 6-22 to 1-3 being the final score. Tipperary were in total control throughout and could score at will as Down were out of their depth, struggling in most parts of the field.

Tipperary led 3-9 to 0-2 after 26 minutes of play and at half time had 4-12 to 0-2 on the board. The goals came from Deirdre Hughes (2), Niamh Harkin and Eimear McDonnell one each. In the second half former Tipperary medal holder Joan Henderson had Down's goal.

Scorers - Tipperary - Deirdre Hughes 4-3, Eimear McDonnell 1-6, Noelle Kennedy 0-8, Niamh Harkin 1-2, Caitriona Hennessy 0-3.

Down - Joan Henderson 1-0, Mairin McAleenan 0-3.

Tipperary - Jovita Delaney, Suzanne Kelly, Una O'Dwyer, Claire Madden, Meadhbh Stokes (capt), Ciara Gaynor, Sinead Nealon, Emily Hayden, Angela McDermott, Noelle Kennedy, Therese Brophy, Helen Kiely, Eimear McDonnell, Deirdre Hughes, Niamh Harkin. Subs - Caitriona Hennessy for Kennedy, Philly Fogarty for Kelly, Sheena Howard for Madden.

Down - Teresa McGowan, Deirdre Savage, Donna Greeran (capt), Bernie Kelly, Pauleen Green, Nuala Magee, Claire McGovern, Jennifer Branniff, Joan Henderson, Valerie Hynds, Mairin McAleenan, Majella Murray, Colleen Hynds, Cathy Mulholland, Claire McGrath. Subs - Maeve McNeill for McGrath.

Referee - Aine Derham, Dublin.

On Saturday next the All-Ireland Junior Camogie Championship semi-final takes place at Rath at 2.30pm, when Offaly make their debut against a Cork side, who are no strangers to competition at this level. The Leesiders won this competition five times, the last in 1996. They were back in the final in 1997 but had to give way to a superb Antrim side. Six of that team are on the current panel.

Last year they failed to Tipperary in the Munster decider. Geraldine Casey and Rosaria Holland won All-Ireland Senior B Colleges medal with Sacred Heart, Clonakilty when they defeated Kilcormac VS in the final. Kilcormac had three members of Offaly panel on board: Edel Corcoran, Elaine Dermody and Nollag Mahon.

Offaly won the Leinster title this year after a lapse of 36 years when they defeated Kilkenny. When they won in 1963 the All-Ireland series was not in being. They contested the Leinster final in 1994 but failed to Kilkenny by one goal. Eight of that team are on Saturday's panel.

The Faithful County are a well balanced side, which include five sets of sisters: Edel and Lorraine Corcoran, twins Sabrina and Carina Carroll, Ann and Majelle Bergin, Michelle Davis and Fiona McLeish, Eileen and Honor Kinsella.

CAMOGIE LOSS

I was sorry for Tom Knott's Cork camogie team but it shows that having an easy passage to any semi-final or final is no help. On the highlights on television it seemed they weren't trying too hard in the first half but looked good after the break. However they got caught with the classic counter-punch as the Downeys came back to haunt, but it was surely the marvellous save by the Kilkenny goalie just before the goal that won the game. It would also seem that the camogie team has the same problem as the hurlers, too many light players up front. Are cork people as a race getting smaller?

Courcey Rovers earn place in final

Courcey Rovers 2-13
Valley Rovers 2-5

COURCEY Rovers qualified for the final of the Cork Senior B camogie championship when they defeated Valley Rovers at Riverstick last evening. However, had the losers played as well in the first half as they did in the second, the result could have been different.

There was little between the sides in the opening ten minutes of the game, but a goal from a long-range free midway through the half gave the winners a 1-7 to 0-3 lead. For

the remainder of the half they were dominant with Senior pannels Sarah Hayes and Rachel Moloney in top form. They went on to lead at half time by 2-10 to 0-3, which left Valley Rovers with a mountain to climb.

However, Valley Rovers moved Elaine Burke from full forward to midfield after the interval, which had a major effect of the play, as she began to dominate. They began to eat into the Courcey Rovers advantage. Two quick points from Marie Healy (free) and Liz Bugler set the tone of the

game after the break and, when Catherine Moloney had a goal, Courcey Rovers began to wane. In fact, the winner's could only manage three points in the second half from numerous chances, which included eight wides, as Valley Rovers began to get their act together.

Another goal from a 21-metre free by Marie Hurley put Valley Rovers within striking distance, but Courcey Rovers picked themselves up and finished the stronger to win by a comfortable margin.

They will have to show a marked im-

provement, particularly in defence, if they hope to take win the final, in which they will play either St Finbarrs or Kilbrittain.

Scorers - Courcey Rovers: Rachel Moloney 0-8 (0-1 free), S. Hayes 1-3, A. O'Regan 1-2. Valley Rovers: M. Hurley 1-2 (1-0 free), C. O'Mahony 1-0, E. Burke 0-1, L. Bugler 0-1, S. O'Donovan 0-1.
COURCEY ROVERS: J. Murphy, M. O'Regan, C. Hannon, C. Murphy, M. Murphy, O'Donoghue, T. Moloney, S. O'Regan, Rosemary Moloney, S. Quinn, S. Hayes, N. Collins, A. O'Regan, Rachel Moloney, M. O'Leary.
VALLEY ROVERS: E. Foley, A. M. Murphy, D. Crowley, S. Deasy, L. Quirk, S. Burke, C. O'Riordan, H. Bugler, M. McCarthy, C. O'Mahony, L. Bugler, M. Hurley, S. O'Donovan, E. Burke, G. Murphy.
Referee: O. Webb (Trillick).

AUG 1999

Cork captain Vivienne aiming to banish demons of horror semi-final defeat

Harris hoping for a night on the 'Town



By THERESE O'CALLAGHAN

THE days following after a big game defeat can be the worst time in one's career.

The effect of losing can be so traumatic, and yet losing is such an integral part of sport.

Vivienne Harris is blessed with versatility and skill and is enjoying the best form of her 20 year career.

Last Saturday was a day Vivienne will want to forget as Kilkenny sprung from the shadows to qualify for their 16th All-Ireland appearance at the expense of the Rebel County.

Understandably, that sinking feeling is still with the Cork captain. But this week she had to settle back into county final preparations with her club Bishopstown, ahead of next Wednesday evenings showdown.

Rivalry

The 'Town meet Fr O'Neills for the third year in a row in Ballinlough on Wednesday.

"To be honest training on Monday night was the last place I wanted to be, said Vivienne.

But she is well aware of the importance of the county final for her club.

There were no special concessions for her either. She trained just the same as everybody else.

Our conversation however, keeps drifting back to the events of last weekend and to that injury time winning goal from Sinead Millea.

Ironically, Sinead is a secondary school teacher in Ballyphehane.

It was devastating to see her shot finish up in the net, and it is still very hard to take.

"Kilkenny were really up for the game, and I wasn't at all surprised that they came at us straight from the start.

Cork have been the dominant force in camogie circles in recent years, which made last weekend's defeat that much harder to

Top: Vivienne Harris had a fine game for Cork in the All-Ireland against Kilkenny. **Right:** Cork's Sarah Hayes tries to get the ball from Kilkenny's Kelly Long. **Far right:** Kilkenny's Tracey Millea celebrates beating Cork in the All-Ireland.

take, for team members and supporters alike.

The Bishopstown player was introduced to the inter-county scene at the tender age of 17.

She came on as a substitute in the 1995 All Ireland against Kilkenny and collected a winner's prize in the process.

Cork were beaten in the '96 decider and unbelievably

since then Vivienne never lost a championship match with the county team - until last weekend that is.

Family

Last Sunday, the Cork captain travelled to Croke Park with family and friends.

That too must have been difficult.

She agrees that it was

very hard to take, especially after watching the Cork hurlers parade around the home of GAA, knowing she had been denied the opportunity to grace the same hallowed turf in her counties' colours next month.

She smiles though, informing this writer that she would prefer to have

been beaten last Saturday, rather than suffer defeat on the first Sunday in September.

Reaction

It's a reaction which goes a long way to explaining why bronze medalists are always much happier than silver medalists.

For those who fill the runner-up slot, the most

compelling thought is usually - so near and yet so far. Vivienne, who will celebrate her 21st birthday on the eve of the Millennium, has a very obvious appreciation of and love for the game.

At least, next Wednesday evenings county final showdown will afford her the opportunity to pick up the pieces.



Bishopstown bid to retain title

CORK club camogie's most prized trophy, the Senior County Championship, reaches its conclusion tonight when Bishopstown and Fr O'Neill's strive to become the last winners of the decade and the first 15-a-side holders of the title.

Bishopstown as champions start as favourites with many and will not fear the opposition having won the last two titles against O'Neill's.

Bishopstown have all of last year's side and are further strengthened by the transfer to the club of senior county star Sinéad O'Callaghan, Kildare All-Ireland Junior medal holder Melanie Treacy, and Tipperary Junior inter-county player Derbhilla Quigney.

They have been very impressive in reaching the final.

In their opening game against Carrigdhoun they put in a late rally to secure victory, whilst against Glen Rovers in the semi-final they dominated in vital areas to win easily.

They welcome back to their panel former inter-county player Liz Towler who retired after last year's final and did not play in the earlier rounds. Her return is a big boost to the side.

Fr O'Neill's harbour a fierce desire to take a Senior County championship title. Long serving stalwarts Fiona O'Driscoll, Mary Kenefick and captain Mags Finn make no secret of their desire for success.

This season they have put in a tremendous amount of work to reach the final. Following on an easy opening round victory

over Seandún they had to fight hard for victory against a determined Newtownshandrum side in the quarter-final and again had a tough battle against Cloughduv in the semi-final.

Cork inter-county star Fiona O'Driscoll is the ace in the pack, commanding affairs around the forward line, whilst captain Mags Finn keeps a tight rein in the back line. They have an excellent full-forward in Frances Flavin who netted two goals against Cloughduv and she is capable of capitalising on the ball she receives.

It's a tough one to call with Bishopstown having the incentive of three-in-a-row and O'Neill's going for their first title. It's sure to be a close contest with O'Neill's just about getting the nod to succeed.

Camogie hopefuls in title clash

BISHOPSTOWN'S senior camogie team will be looking to capture a victory on Wednesday next.

They are hoping to take a third Cork senior A camogie title, when they take part in the 1999 final on August 18.

Their opponents are Fr O'Neill's of East Cork and the venue is Ballinlough pitch, starting at 7.30pm.

By LISA LINGWOOD

On their way to reach this level, the Bishopstown girls met, matched and defeated a number of fine teams, including a recent close encounter against Carrigdhoun in the quarter-final.

The team had a marvellous

victory over Glen Rovers in the semi-final.

Now the girls are fully aware that they have worthy adversaries in the Fr O'Neill's outfit who, having lost to Bishopstown in the last two finals, will be eager to take the title from the reigning champions on this occasion.

However, current Cork senior captain, Vivienne Harris, and her fellow Cork senior panel-

lists, Eithne Duggan, Trish Doyle, Sinéad O'Callaghan and Ciara Healy are spearheading a strong team which is to be captained by Aine White.

Pat Murray, who has been very involved in the club for the past number of years, praised the girls' dedication and commitment to the game and appealed to Bishopstown people to support them in the final.

COUNTY CHAMPIONSHIP MEMORIES DOWN THE YEARS

The most prestigious competition in Cork Camogie and the most coveted title is without doubt the Cork Senior County championship title. Since the competitions inception way back in 1934 the elusive senior county championship medal has held a special place in the hearts of Cork camogie players and there is nothing quiet like the buzz that is participation in the "The County", be it as a player, selector, coach or club official or indeed supporter, nothing compares to the feeling participation in the championship involves, waiting for the draws to be made in late March, the many fixtures meetings before a date is announced and the preparation and endless hours playing league and friendly games before you finally get there and the big moment arrives, from here on fifty minutes decides your fate for the remainder of the season. Indeed for many that fifty minutes is all to short and many have been left with a feeling that the game just flew by before they realised just what it was all about.

For me the county championship holds many fond childhood memories none more so than the familiar trip up "The Dyke" where the final was always played. It was a traditional venue which seemed to add to the whole occasion. The excitement as the teams went to the little dressingrooms with their corrugate roofs that have long since been replaced, the excitement which to a child was beyond compare.

With my mother closely involvement as a mentor with the Glen teams of the 60's I was always privileged to be close to the action with my main ambition in those days to get my Teddy Bear dressed in the club colours into the official photograph, that achieved, my job towards winning the county was done. Rolling back the years many names and faces come to mind Liz Garvan and Rosie Hennessy of Old Als and U.C.C. Sile O Sullivan (Golden), Anne Comerford, Mel Cummins the Bohane sisters Mary and Elenore, South Pres, Joan Clancy who's daughter Sheenagh Morley lines out tonight with Bishopstown and her sister Mary Clancy, Anna Crotty, Peggie Dorgan, Deirdre Sutton, Nora O Mahony, Glen Rovers and of course Kay Dunne South Pres, Lil O Grady and Carmel Desmond, Mary Moran Old Als.

CORK COUNTY CAMOGIE SENIOR "A" COUNTY FINAL

Wednesday 18th August 1999

Bishopstown

v

Fr. O'Neill's

at Ballinlough

Time : 7.30 pm

Price: £ 1.00

AUG 1999

Leesiders will look to last year's glory girls

CORK put their All-Ireland minor title on the line on Sunday when they take on Galway in Ardrahan, Galway.

It's a third final in a row for Cork, who in taking the title last year bridged a 13 year gap since the county's last success way back in 1985.

This week-end they strive to put two titles back to back and relive the glory days of the eighties when Cork were considered the kingpins of underage camogie taking four All-Ireland minor titles in 1980, 83, 84 and 85.

The panel this year has been built around eight survivors from last year's panel.

The experienced gained by these girls has given the team an air of confidence more associated with more senior teams.

On their path to Munster honours, Cork scored a comfortable semi-final victory over Limerick whilst in the final they totally demolished a weak Clare side who had no answer to the Rebels power.

The All-Ireland semi-final was a repeat of last year's final with Derry travelling to Cork.

On the day they could not match the Cork side who ran out 0-11 to 1-0 winners at the Owens venue.

However in doing so the Cork girls did not look overly impressive.

They had 14 wides during what was a lack-lustre affair.

Whilst winning well the selectors will be concerned that the side has as yet not had any real test and they will be anxious to see the side's response were they to meet a tougher side.

Points

The side is captained by Niamh Bowles who played a captain's role in the semi-final shooting over some magnificent points from play.

Emer Dillon, Gemma O'Connor and Christine O'Gorman did extremely well for the Reds.

Galway defeated by Cork in last year's semi-final are determined to win back their crown.

The side is coached by county board PRO Colette Kennedy and is a strong one.

Defeating Kilkenny in their semi-final outing 2-10 to 2-3 they showed they are a more than capable combination.

Their inside pairing of Orla Kilkenny and Mary Keogh, who both played in last year's encounter, are dangerous and the Cork defence will need to be solid and pay particular attention to this lively pair.

Midfielder Shauna Murphy and Orla Curran are amongst the survivors from last year's side.

Cork panel: Aoife Murray, Cloughduv, Niamh Bowles, Newtownshandrum, Marie Watson, Milford, Aine Kelleher, Newtownshandrum, Christine O'Gorman, Milford, Jean O'Sullivan, Bishopstown, Gemma O'Connor, Susan Deasy, Newcestown, Joanne O'Callaghan, Cloughduv, Emer Dillon, Ballygarvan, Sinead Corkery, Cloughduv, Orla O'Callaghan, Cloughduv, Elizabeth Hayes, Inniscarra, Kelly Newman, Glen Rovers, Joan Twomey, Aghabullogue, Roisin Corcoran, Fr O'Neills, Catriona, Kelly, Ballygarvan, Orla O'Callaghan, Cloughduv, Colette Desmond, Newcestown, Clodagh Crowley, Eire Og, Karen McCarthy, Barryroe, Jennifer O'Leary, Barryroe, Niamh Murphy, Carrigaline, Sarah O'Donovan, Valley Rovers, Samanta Quinn, Courcey Rovers.



Fiona O'Driscoll: Has been one of the leading lights for Fr. O'Neill's in this year's senior camogie championship.

Bishopstown make it three



Mags Finn captains Fr. O'Neill's in tonight's senior county final.

SINCE its inception in 1934 the Cork Senior Camogie County Championship has always held a special place in the hearts of Cork followers.

The last county final of the decade takes place this evening and Grassroots made a visit to the Bishopstown and Fr. O'Neill camps to review their prospects.

It's the third year in a row that the sides have met in the final. Bishopstown are the champions and are going for three in a row.

In their opening round the 'Town had to dig deep to overcome the challenge of a determined Carrigdhoun side.

Bishopstown, captained by Aine White, looked a formidable outfit in their semi-

final victory over Glen Rovers.

The inclusion this year of Cork senior inter-county layer, Sinead O'Callaghan, who transferred from Limerick side Ballygarvan, Tipperary's Derbhilla Quinlan and Kildare's inter-county player Melanie Treacy has strengthened the Bishopstown team.

Desire

Fr. O'Neill's make no secret of their desire to inscribe their name for the first time on the Science Cup.

Considered somewhat unlucky not to have taken the title last year they have put in a huge effort this time round.

Their opening game

MEET THE TEAMS - Fr. O'NEILLS

1. **Mags Finn:** Captain of the side, is a current member of the Cork Senior Team.

In a long and distinguished career Mags has won four all-Ireland senior medals and ten Munster senior championships.

2. **Ann Marie Brennan:** A native of Kilkenny with whom she won All-Ireland senior medals in 1981 and 1985. Ann Marie is also the holder of three Ashbourne Cup medals with UCD.

3. **Frances Hennessy:** Long serving corner back Frances is the holder of senior and intermediate county championship honours with the club.

4. **Fiona O'Driscoll:** A superb athlete, it's Fiona's ambition to help O'Neill's win a senior county championship. She holds numerous honours with Cork, among them five All-Ireland senior championship medals. Fiona is a sister of Imokilly hurler Brian O'Driscoll.

5. **Karen O'Sullivan:** A cousin of Cork hurling full back Diarmuid, Karen is also interested in ladies football and has an East Cork under 14 county medal won with the boys.

6. **Sinead Cahalane:** Started her playing career with the Killeagh club with whom she holds a county under 14 medal. Sinead also is the holder of a Junior All-Ireland medal won in 1986.

7. **Valerie O'Sullivan:** Previously played with Cloyne and Killeagh before gaining championship honours with Cork.

8. **Sharon Meade:** Another long serving member of the side, Sharon is the holder of senior and intermediate honours and has an interest in soccer.

9. **Ann O'Neill:** A sister of Cork senior Mary O'Connor, Ann

joined the club from Killeagh where she won county under 14 honours as well as winning Cork and Munster Colleges honours with St. Mary's High School, Middleton.

10. **Mary Kennefick:** Long serving member of the team, Mary holds a whole host of inter-county honours, including senior and junior All-Ireland medals.

11. **Sharon McCarthy:** Has played with the club over a number of years and is the holder of senior B and intermediate honours.

12. **Nora Ahern:** Suffered an injury last year which kept her out of the final but is back to full fitness, holds Munster intermediate championship honours.

13. **Liz Sweetnam:** Played camogie at UCD where she won a Dublin senior B county championship, is also interested in hockey and tennis.

14. **Roisin Corcoran:** One of the younger members of the panel.

A fine prospect, Roisin is the holder of a Munster minor championship medal won this year.

15. **Ann Marie Corcoran:** Has played with the Imokilly under 16 team and is the holder of a Munster championship and Cork colleges medal. Ann Marie is also one of the younger members of the side.

16. **Caroline Phelan:** Is the holder of an East Cork championship medal.

Caroline is a former pupil at St. Mary's High School where

she won Cork colleges honours.

17. **Sinead Kennefick:** Young corner back, Sinead has come through the ranks, winning Sciath na Scoil honours with Kilkedon N.S. as well as enjoying success with St. Mary's High School.

18. **Amy Lane:** Another of the panel who is still under U-18. Like Sinead Kennefick, Amy won Sciath na Scoil honours with Kilkedon N.S. as well as East Cork Championship honours.

19. **Deirdre Pomphette:** Another pupil at St. Mary's High School, Middleton, Deirdre has also tasted success at East Cork level and Sciath na Scoil.

20. **Siothan Kearney:** Only 15 years of age, Siothan is a pupil of St. Mary's High School.

She is the holder of under 14B championship honours with the club.

21. **Gaeoidin Kearney:** Still only 14 years of age, Gaeoidin is the baby of the panel. She holds U-14B county honours.

Gaeoidin was selected as player of the year in badminton circles in 1999.

This all-rounder also won the same award for football in 1998 in her school at St. Mary's Middleton.

22. **Marie O'Brien:** A past pupil of Kilkedon N.S. where she won Sciath Na Scoil medal in 1994. Marie also holds East Cork championship honours.

AUG. 1999

Cork crush Offaly hopes

A TREMENDOUS display saw the junior team qualify for the All-Ireland final when they recorded a fine victory over Offaly in Rath on Saturday last.

With the sides exchanging goals in the ninth and 13th minute of the opening half Offaly lead 1-5 to 1-4 at the interval. The Cork goal came from Rachel Maloney following a good move from Orla O'Sullivan.

Cork took the lead after just 48 seconds after the resumption when Criona Harte scored but it was short lived as back came Offaly with a brilliant Sharon Daly goal.

Level

The sides were level for the fifth time at 2-8 apiece 51 minutes into the contest.

However Cork, inspired by Rachel Maloney, took over with five unanswered points to run out winners.

Cork: G. Casey, M. Harrington, R. Holland, S. Buckley, R. Cahalane, J. Hannon, L. O'Connell, S. Morley, H. Walsh (C), C. Healy 0-3, C. Harte 1-1, O. O'Sullivan 0-1, M. Corkery, E. Burke, R. Maloney 1-8 (0-3 frees).

Offaly: A. Beglin, F. Kinsella, L. Corcoran, N. Mahon, A. Kelly, C. Byrne, C. Carroll, M. David 0-2 (frees), M. Bergin, E. Darmody 0-1, A. Hennessy 1-0, F. McLeish, E. Corcoran, 0-3, M. Lynch (0-3, 0-2 frees), S. Daly 1-0.

Magic moments

1973 was a historic year for the Cork camogie team when they overcame Galway to take the county's first All-Ireland junior title. The New Ireland Cup was accepted by captain Nancy O'Driscoll from Eire Og.



The Bishopstown team that will be bidding for a hat-trick of senior county titles when they take on Fr. O'Neills this evening.

aim to on trot

O'Neills hoping to reverse the trend

against Seandun was a one sided affair.

Fr O'Neills rose to the challenge to see off the challenges of Newtownshandrum and Cloughduv en route to the decider.

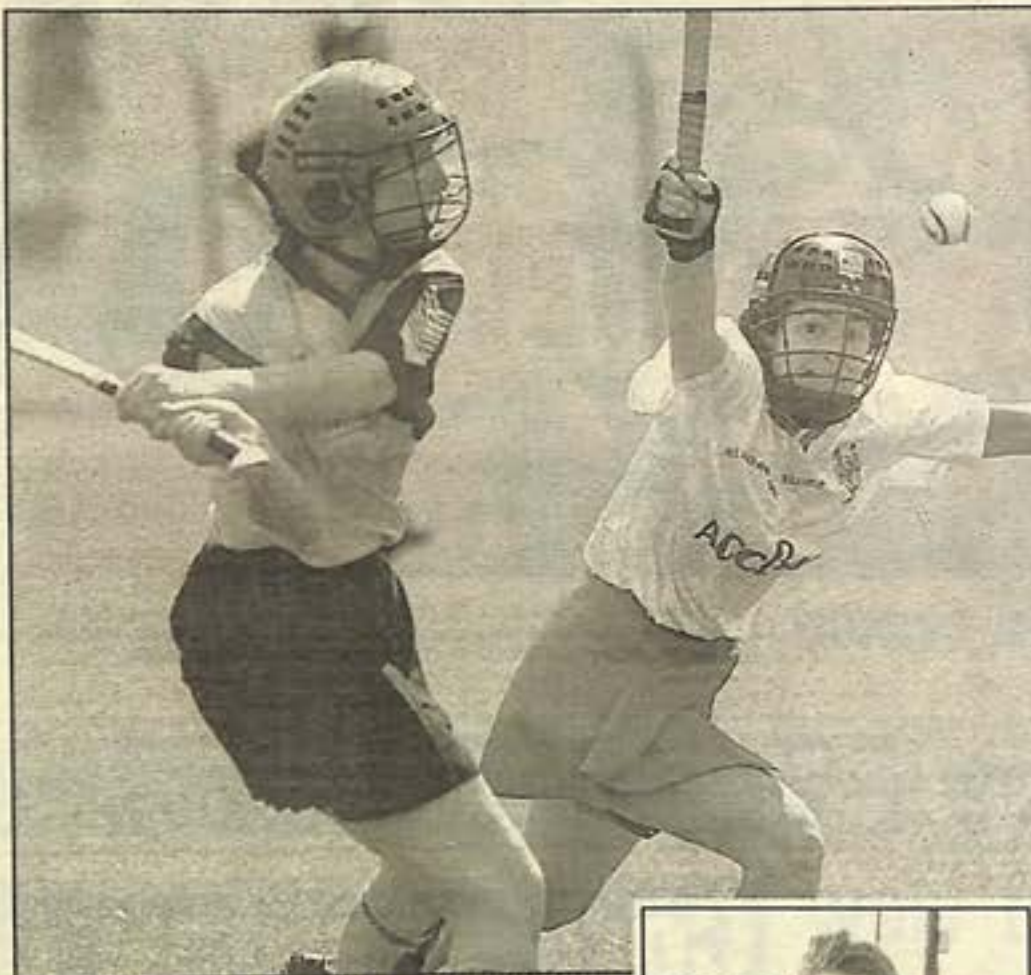
In both those games the influential Fiona O'Driscoll played a major role.

When moved to centre field in the Newtownshandrum contest she quenched the threat posed by Ursula Troy at a time when Newtown were beginning to dominate.

O'Driscoll again displayed her talent in the semi-final and her distribution of the ball to her inside line was influential in O'Neills scoring at crucial stages.

Threat

Long serving Mary Kennefick and Francis Flavin could pose major problems for a Bishopstown defence who will look to Eithne Duggan at centre back and Ruth Callanan and Sheenagh Morley to keep them at bay.



Eithne Duggan: Has a vital role to play for 'Town.

MEET THE TEAMS - BISHOPSTOWN

1. Aine White: Captains the side and has given many years service to the club, where she won All-Ireland Féile Na nGael honours in 1987 as well as numerous championship honours.

2. Eithne Duggan: Captained Cork seniors to All-Ireland last year, holds All-Ireland medals as well as Gael-Linn, Ashbourne, and championship honours with club and county.

3. Sheenagh Morley: A sister of Cork City's Pat, Sheenagh's mother Joan Clancy and aunt Mary won championship honours with Old Aloysius, holds championship honours with club and county.

4. Melanie Treacy: Transferred to the club this year from Kildare club St. Laurence's, where she won senior county championship honours and All-Ireland junior medals with Kildare.

5. Trish Doyle: A current member of the Cork senior panel holds All-Ireland senior as well as county championship honours, has represented Ireland at Badminton.

6. Derbhilla Quigley: Tipperary Junior Inter-County player, transferred this year to the Bishopstown Club from Holycross, a student at UCC.

7. Liz O'Neill: A former inter county senior player, holds numerous honours at county and provincial level, as well as one senior county championship medal. Back this year after retiring after the 1997 final.

8. Clara Healy: Won a minor All-Ireland with Cork last year, has represented Ireland on the international stage at squash.

9. Rose Desmond: Long serving goalkeeper who was played with the club since under age, has honours at club and county level, amongst them All-Ireland senior, National League and Ashbourne honours with UCC.

10. Jean O'Sullivan: A current member of the Cork minor panel who contest the All-Ireland final on August 22. A daughter of former Cork and Doherty's footballer Seamus O'Sullivan.

11. Vivienne Harris: Current Cork senior captain has also represented the country at kickboxing, holds many honours at club and county level including three All-Ireland senior medals.

12. Ruth Cahalan: A native of Galway and a student at UCC, transferred to the club last year, is now a member of the Cork junior and intermediate sides.

13. Clara Enright: Another UCC student, a native of Lis-Dungarvan where she formerly played with the Lis-Dungarvan club before joining Bishopstown, holds Ashbourne cup honours with UCC.

14. Caroline Kenny: Third year with the club, previously played with the Eire Og, holds county championship honours and is a daughter of selector Conor.

15. Liz Towler: Retired last year but has been encouraged back for the final, holds numerous honours with both club and county, including All-Ireland senior.

lor, Munster championship and Gael Linn medals.

16. Sinead O'Callaghan: A current member of the Cork senior side transferred to Bishopstown this year from the Ballingarry Club, is a student at UCC and holds numerous All-Ireland colleges with the famous St. Mary's Charleville side as well as All-Ireland senior honours.

18. Sinead Kelly: Young underage player is a student at Bishopstown Community School and is in her first year on the panel.

19. Brid Sheehan: Daughter of Colm, who won All-Ireland honours with Cork in 1966 and a niece of former Cork camogie star Nancy O'Driscoll.

20. Denis O'Brien: A student at the famous camogie nursery St. Aloysius, holds one senior county championship medal.

21. Barbara Lehane: A student with UCC in her first year on the panel.

22. Orla Kelly: Another student at St. Angela's who is on the panel this year for the first time.

23. Sinead White: A sister of captain Aine, is a teacher at Presentation Bandon and has played with the club since underage level. She has won numerous honours.

24. Sinead O'Donoghue: A student at Mount Mercy in her first year on the panel, is club U-16 captain.



Aine White, who will captain Bishopstown in the Cork SC Championship final.

BISHOPSTOWN

- 16) Rose Desmond
- 2) Dearbhla Quigney
- 3) Eithne Duggan
- 4) Melanie Treacy
- 5) Ciara Enright
- 6) Trish Doyle
- 7) Jean O'Sullivan
- 8) Ruth Caholan
- 9) Vivienne Harris
- 10) Sheena Morley
- 11) Sinéad O'Callaghan
- 12) Áine White (C)
- 13) Caroline Kenny
- 14) Liz O'Neill
- 15) Ciara Healy

SUBS

- 1) Nicola Falvey
- 17) Sinéad White
- 18) Áine Buckley
- 19) Bríd Sheehan
- 20) Denise O'Brien
- 21) Sinéad O'Donoghue
- 22) Orla Kelly
- 23) Barbara Lehane

SELECTORS

- Bernard Olden
- Pat Harris
- Conor Kenny

FR. O'NEILL'S

- 1) Ann Marie Brennan
- 2) Ann O'Neill
- 3) Liz Sweetnam
- 4) Sharon McCarthy
- 5) Sharon Meade
- 6) Mags Finn
- 7) Frances Hennessy
- 8) Sinead Cahalane
- 9) Val O'Sullivan
- 10) Roisin Corcoran
- 11) Fiona O'Driscoll
- 12) Karen O'Sullivan
- 13) Mary Kenefick
- 14) Frances Flavin
- 15) Nora Ahern

SUBS

- 16) Claire Flavin
- 17) Anna Corcoran
- 18) Marie O'Brien
- 19) Sinead Kenefick
- 20) Deirdre Pomphrotte
- 21) Amy Lane
- 22) Gearóid Kearney
- 23) Siobhan Kearney
- 24) Caroline Phelan

SELECTORS

- Phil Ahern
- Anthony McCarthy
- Séan O'Sullivan

Bishopstown thwart Fr O'Neills for third time-in-r



Bishopstown's Liz O'Neill hand-passes away from Fr O'Neill's Liz Sweetnam.

Picture: Eddie O'Hare

Bishopstown 1-8
Fr O'Neills 1-5

by Brendan Larkin

BISHOPSTOWN created history by winning their third Cork county senior camogie championship title in-a-row when they had three points to spare over Fr O'Neills side in Ballinlough last night.

But it was heart-breaking for the East Cork side who were losing their third final in a row to the same opposition. In the heel of the hunt O'Neills just didn't have enough good players of the calibre of Bishopstown's Eithne Duggan, Vivienne Harris, Trish Doyle, Sinead O'Callaghan and Ciara Healy.

The performances of this quintet was pivotal to Bishopstown's triumph and while Vivienne Harris won the player of the championship, it could have gone to any of the above mentioned players.

Backed by the wind in the opening half, Bishopstown were

quickly into their stride with a Sinead O'Callaghan point after 30 seconds, and while Fr O'Neills drew level six minutes later through Mary Kenefick, it was clear that the reigning champions had no intentions of giving up their title.

With Eithne Duggan keeping a close eye on Fiona O'Driscoll, and Vivienne Harris and Ruth Caholan lorded it at midfield, Bishopstown were camped in O'Neills half for long periods and it took some great defending by Liz Sweetnam, Sharon McCarthy and Mags Finn to keep the eager Town forwards at bay.

By the end of the opening quarter Bishopstown had opened up a five points to one lead with Ciara Healy very influential, and two minutes later they struck for a crucial goal when Jean O'Sullivan fed Ciara Healy who made no mistake from close range. That score helped the

Town to a 1-5 to 0-2 half-time lead and only the most ardent O'Neills follower in the huge crowd held out any hope for their side when Vivienne Harris stretched the lead with a point early in the second half.

However O'Neills made a shrewd switch by moving Sinead Cahalane to full forward where she began to cause a lot of problems for the Bishopstown defence and it was from her effort, which came back off the upright to Nora Ahern who first timed the ball to the net, that threw the issue wide open.

Inspired by that score, the East Cork girls laid siege to the Bishopstown goal but they never looked like getting through for a second goal due to the brilliance of Eithne Duggan and Trish Doyle.

As the tension mounted O'Neills threw everything at Bishopstown to save the game, but failed to register anything from a 20 metre

free and a final whistle to a belated defence.

Scores - Bishopstown 1-8, Fr O'Neills 1-5. Goals - Bishopstown: Eithne Duggan (1), Sinead Cahalane (1), Ruth Caholan (1), Vivienne Harris (1), Trish Doyle (1), Mary Kenefick (1), Sharon McCarthy (1), Sharon Meade (1), Mags Finn (1), Frances Hennessy (1), Sinead Kenefick (1), Deirdre Pomphrotte (1), Amy Lane (1), Gearóid Kearney (1), Siobhan Kearney (1), Caroline Phelan (1). Fr O'Neills: Ann Marie Brennan (1), Ann O'Neill (1), Liz Sweetnam (1), Sharon McCarthy (1), Sharon Meade (1), Mags Finn (1), Frances Hennessy (1), Sinead Cahalane (1), Val O'Sullivan (1), Roisin Corcoran (1), Fiona O'Driscoll (1), Karen O'Sullivan (1), Mary Kenefick (1), Frances Flavin (1), Nora Ahern (1).

AUG 1999



Bishopstown keeper Rose Desmond is tackled by Fr. O'Neills Frances Flavin. Picture: Eddie O'Hare.

Bishopstown girls are ahead of posse

By BRENDAN LARKIN

BISHOPSTOWN have taken over as the new kingpins of camogie in Cork city and county.

They are still a long way short of the seven titles in a row won by Glen Rovers, but at Ballinlough last night the 'Town moved a step closer by winning their third county senior championship title in succession with a thrilling three points victory over Fr. O'Neills.

With six inter-county stars

on view, this final, played in front of one of the biggest crowds seen at the city venue, was one of the best in recent years and the real pity was there had to be a loser.

To Bishopstown went the spoils and how the rejoiced in creating their own bit of history. Cork senior Sinead O'Callaghan who joined the

club earlier this year said she was absolutely thrilled at winning her first county senior medal.

"I'm lost for words really to describe how I feel. It's just brilliant."

"We had to dig very deep for this victory after our six point half-time lead was reduced to three midway through the second-half."

"We knew O'Neills would come back strongly with the wind in their favour."

"The last five minutes seemed an eternity as they threw everything at us, and I was never more glad to hear the final whistle", she said.

Last year's captain Eithne Duggan who was one of the stars of Bishopstown's latest success said this victory was the sweetest of the three.

"It was an extremely tough match with hard knocks given and taken and we were made to battle all the way for victory."

Night to remember for Bishopstown ladies

FOR the ladies of Bishopstown it was massive. The dominance of city sides continued on Wednesday night in the form of another Bishopstown victory in the Cork County Senior Championship final.

Bishopstown have developed into a formidable outfit in recent years and firmly underlined the fact on Wednesday.

Indeed watching them complete a hat-trick, you couldn't help thinking that this team will be around for quite a while to come.

There is little doubt that success breeds success as far as Bishopstown are concerned. The side possesses



Therese O'Callaghan

enormous self belief, even though this year's first round clash with Carrigdhoun was a match fraught with anxiety and worry.

Aine White, the proud recipient of the Science Cup two days ago, suffered that anxious feeling again on Wednesday.

"I thought it was gone from us towards the end when Fiona O'Driscoll cleared the ball out of her own defence and then travelled the length of the pitch to win it back again."

"I still can't believe we have won. I'm sure it will hit me when we get back to the club," Aine said after the game.

Praise

The captain was also loud in her praise of the 'Town's defensive sextet. "We had an unbelievable backline," she said proudly.

Aine won the toss on Wednesday night and opted to play with the wind in the

opening half.

And Aine's decision paid quick dividends. Bishopstown had the best of the opening half and a Ciara Healy goal in the 17th minute gave them a six points interval lead.

Sinead O'Callaghan, in her first year with the Bishopstown club, was on a high, describing the victory as "sweet".

Trainer Bernard Olden, whose wife Sheena (Morley) was winning her third senior title, was quick to acknowledge that, above all else, this match was a fantastic advertisement for the sport of camogie.

But this was little consolation to a bitterly

disappointed Fr. O'Neills captain Mags Finn.

Losing three county finals in a row cannot be easy, but losing all three to the same team must be heartbreaking.

Mags said afterwards: "O'Neills didn't play at all in the first half which made it all the more agonising, considering there were just three points separating the sides at the final whistle."

Disappointment

There was simply no hiding O'Neill's disappointment.

And Bishopstown had double reason to celebrate when their inter-county star Vivienne Harris was voted Player of the Match.

After enquiring if this victory would compensate somewhat for Corks shock championship exit, she admitted with a grin "maybe, just a little bit."

For one Bishopstown player it was a night of mixed emotions.

In the midst of the dressing room euphoria, Rose Desmond who had a fine year between the posts, declared that she was hanging up her boots.

"I'll see out the club championship."

It's a nice way to go out, with three in a row," said Rose.

Im inclined to think she is far from finished yet!



Fr O'Neills Mary Kenefick and Fiona O'Driscoll battles with Bishopstown's Eithne Duggan and Melanie Treacy during final of the Cork Senior County Championship at Ballinlough. See page 34. Picture: Eddie O'Hare

Cork travel to Offaly in high spirits

CORK juniors set out to reach Croke Park when they travel to Offaly this afternoon to take on the home county in the All-Ireland camogie semi-final.

Having earlier in the year recorded a 6-19 to 2-9 victory over their opponents in the National League quarter-final, Cork will go in a confident mood.

However, they will be very cautious of carrying the tag of favourites.

Offaly not having previously contested an All-Ireland final are determined to do so at the first attempt.

In their path to the semi-final they recorded a tremendous 1-9 to 2-2 victory in the Leinster Final over Kilkenny.

Martina Bergin and Maggie Lynch are two of the more well-known players, having lined out on the Leinster junior side who recorded a superb victory in the Gael-Linn competition, whilst Edel Corkery and Elaine Darmody are class players.

Losing out in the Junior National League semi-final to Derry by just one point, Cork regain their composure coming through a superb Munster campaign, dethroning holders Tipperary in the Munster Final. Helen Walsh captains the Cork side, who have long-serving Sheena Morley and Jill Hannon, ably assisted by last year's young minors Ciara Healy, Rosari Holland and Rachel Moloney, and the blend of youth and experience may give Cork the upper-hand and help them secure a Croke Park spot.

Defeat Cannot Detract From Offaly's Fine Performance

| | |
|--------------|------|
| CORK | 2-13 |
| OFFALY | 2-8 |

As a promotional aid to the spread of the game in the county, this fixture proved of inestimable value, for the very large attendance was treated to an absorbing contest of high quality in which the host county matched their more experienced visitors in every aspect of the game. Nor was there any lack of excitement, for with scores level on no fewer than five occasions in the hour a place in the final remained up for grabs until Cork finally succeeded in pulling away during the closing seven minutes when they scored five points without reply against tiring opponents.

Full marks to the Drumcullen club and to the officers of the Offaly Camogie Board. Between them they had every detail covered to ensure the success of an historic occasion. The pitch itself was im-

ILL-TIMED HAIL SHOWER

While the game itself was played in warm sunshine the teams coming from the dressingrooms were greeted by a torrential hail shower which sent spectators scattering from the embankment to seek shelter in the covered stand. Although of brief duration, the shower left a legacy of a greasy playing surface which had players slipping and sliding all over the place, particularly during the early stages.

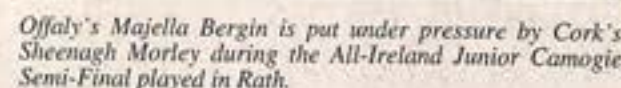
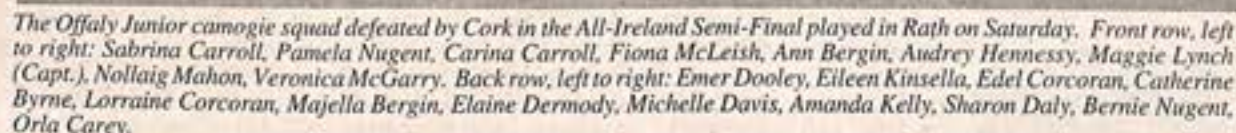
Offaly buckled to their task

That early goal instilled great confidence in the home side, but Cork clawed their way back with points by Criona Harte and Ciara Healy in successive minutes.

A pointed free by Michelle Davis gave Offaly a double scores advantage - 1-1 to 0-2 - and they should have gone further in front following a sweeping attack involving Michelle Davis and Elaine Dermody, but Maggie Lynch's finishing for once let her down.

Offaly experienced a real let-off in the 18th minute following a spectacular high catch by Orla O'Sullivan whose pass inside found Criona Harte unmarked in front of an open goal, but inexplicably the corner forward managed to shoot wide. As if to celebrate this escape Offaly swept downfield for Edel Corcoran to increase their lead.

By now aware that they had a real fight on their hands, Cork



Offaly's Fiona McLeish evades the challenges of Cork duo, Marie Corkery and Orla O'Sullivan, during Saturday's encounter in Rath.

maculately groomed, marked and flagged, and the hospitality of the host club even stretched to providing a very welcome tea and biscuits in the press box during the interval!

Amongst the attendance was National Camogie President Ms. Phyllis Breslin, and she was introduced to six members of the Offaly 1963 team, which was the last team from the county to win the Leinster junior championship at a time when the provincial final marked the end of the season. The six, who were guests of the Offaly Camogie County Board for the day, were team

straight from the throw-in. With Maggie Lynch having won the toss they enjoyed first backing of the breeze, and created the first scoring opportunity of the game after just 90 seconds when a Cork goalkeeper Geraldine Casey had to be alert in dashing out to prevent Maggie Lynch reaching a great through ball from Edel Corcoran.

Custodian Casey was tested again and was not found wanting in saving a kicked effort by the Offaly skipper, so that it was by no means against the run of the play when Offaly took the lead in the 9th minute with a goal by centre-forward

upped the pace a couple of notches and in the space of two minutes wiped out Offaly's lead and went ahead themselves. Rachel Maloney, who was to leave such a deep imprint on this game, pointed in the 20th minute, and two minutes later had the green flag fluttering after the home defence failed to clear Orla O'Sullivan's centre.

If the visitors thought this show of defiance would crush their hosts they quickly learned otherwise. In no way cowed, Offaly struck back and regained the lead when a tremendous free from 60 metres was sent over the bar by Michelle Davis and was immediately followed by another Maggie Lynch "special".

Midfielder Majella Bergin created a possible goal-scoring opportunity for Offaly when she sent a raking centre across the face of the Cork goal, but there was nobody up to apply the finishing touch. Ciara Healy, who had come into the Cork side in place of Una O'Donoghue, one of two Cork players "poached" from the junior team to play with their seniors the previous week, scored an equalising point, but right on the button of half time Drumcullen's Elaine Dermody pointed to give Offaly a 1-5 to 1-4 interval lead.

SECOND HALF

Eileen Kinsella was unable to come out for the second half and was replaced by Orla Carey, and while the rear-ranged home defence was still sorting itself out Cork struck decisively after only 48 seconds. It was sheer perseverance on the part of Criona Harte that earned her a goal that changed the complexion of the game, for she persisted in chasing what appeared to be a lost cause and kept going until she beat Ann Bergin from close range.

That goal put Cork in front, and although Offaly succeeded in getting back to level terms three times, they never again enjoyed the confidence of the lead.

Maggie Lynch pointed a free to reduce the home deficit to the minimum, but Cork were now playing with greater assurance and they replied on the double with points by Rachel Maloney and Orla O'Sullivan. Catherine Byrne, now at full-back in the revamped Offaly defence, was finding Rachel Maloney a real handful, for the Cork full-forward was the outstanding player on the field and repeatedly posed problems for the home defence.

Out of the blue Offaly came thundering back into serious contention with an equalising goal in the 39th minute when

good work by Catherine Byrne sent Audrey Hennessy clear on the left. Although the Birr girl's centre was blocked in the goalmouth, Sharon Daly nipped in to flick the ball past Geraldine Casey and level the scoring again.

Rachel Moroney added to her growing tally by pointing following an exquisite line ball by Sheenagh Morley, but again Offaly had an answer, this time from Edel Corcoran. That was in the 46th minute, and it was to be the home side's last score.

The final quarter saw Cork take control, with Rachel Maloney in particular running riot. She picked off the final five points of the game, three of them from frees, to finish with a personal contribution of 1-8, and although Offaly applied late pressure in a bid to pull the game out of the fire the visitor's defence remained unyielding.

PLAYER OF THE MATCH

Journalists covering the game were charged with the responsibility of nominating the winner of the Player of the Match award sponsored by Mr. Paddy O'Connor, Birr, but their task was made easy by Rachel Maloney's outstanding performance which made her selection unanimous. She was just one cog in a brilliant Cork full-forward line which accounted for all but a single point of the visitor's total.

Others to shine for Cork were Jill Hannon, Sinead Buckley and goalkeeper Geraldine Casey in defence, Sheenagh Morley at midfield and Elaine Burke who was a late replacement on the left wing for Val O'Sullivan.

It would be most unfair to be critical of any of the Offaly players, for Patrick Hector's charges all rose above club



Cheering on the Offaly Junior Camogie team in Rath on Saturday were, Bernard Westman (left) and Brian Francis from Tullamore.



Cork's Rachel Maloney sends the sliotar towards the Offaly goal despite the close attention of Catherine Byrne during the All-Ireland Junior Camogie Semi-Final played in Rath.



Offaly's Edel Corcoran gets in her clearance despite the attentions of Cork duo, Ruth Cahalane and Sinead Buckley during the All-Ireland Junior Camogie Semi-Final played in Rath.

MATCH ANALYSIS

| | Gls | Pts | Wides | Frees | 30's |
|----------|-----|-----|-------|-------|------|
| 1ST HALF | | | | | |
| Cork | 1 | 4 | 3 | 4 | 0 |
| Offaly | 1 | 5 | 4 | 7 | 0 |
| 2ND HALF | | | | | |
| Cork | 1 | 9 | 6 | 7 | 0 |
| Offaly | 1 | 3 | 1 | 6 | 0 |
| TOTAL | | | | | |
| Cork | 2 | 13 | 9 | 11 | 0 |
| Offaly | 2 | 8 | 5 | 13 | 0 |

OFFALY: Ann Bergin (Kinnitty); Nollaig Mahon (Kilcormac/Killoughey); Lorraine Corcoran (Drumcullen); Eileen Kinsella (Drumcullen); Amanda Kelly (Tullamore); Catherine Byrne (Toomevara); Carina Carroll (Tullamore); Michelle Davis (Shinrone); Majella Bergin (Kinnitty); Elaine Dermody (Drumcullen); Audrey Hennessy (Birr); Fiona McLeish (Shinrone); Edel Corcoran (Drumcullen); Maggie Lynch (Drumcullen) (Captain); Sharon Daly (Kinnitty). Subs. Orla Carey (Birr) for Kinsella (30th); Sabrina Carroll (Tullamore) for Daly (55th).

REFEREE: Vera Mulcahy (Limerick).

AUG. 1999



All eyes on the sliotar! This quintet of camogie stars, Offaly's Elaine Dermody, Audrey Hennessy and Fiona McLean and Cork players, Ruth Cahalane and Sinead Buckley have their minds focused on attaining possession, during Saturday's All-Ireland Junior Camogie Semi-Final in Rath.



Offaly's Maggie Lynch leads the chase for the sliotar ahead of Cork duo, Muireann Harrington and Rosari Holland during Saturday's All-Ireland Junior Camogie Semi-Final in Rath.

AUG 1999

Maloney steers Cork to victory

Cork
Offaly2-13
2-8

INSPIRED by magnificent Player of the Match, Rachel Maloney, Cork secured their place in the All-Ireland Junior Camogie final when they defeated Offaly after a highly entertaining semi-final in Rath, Co Offaly, last Saturday afternoon.

Courtesy Rovers player Rachel proved to be Offaly's tormentor in-chief as she scored 1-8 of her team's total, with only three of her points coming from frees.

Indeed, with the sides deadlocked at 2-8 apiece after 51 minutes, a hectic finale looked to be in stock, but Rachel intervened to wreck Offaly's dream of reaching their first All-Ireland camogie decider.

Audrey Hennessy's ninth minute goal meant that the 'Faithful County' went in at the interval leading by a point 1-5 to 1-4.

Cork's goal came in the 13th minute, from who else but Rachel Maloney. She profited from great approach work by Orla O'Sullivan.

Trailing by just a point Pat Murray trained Cork benefited just 48 seconds after the resumption when Criona Harte rattled in their second goal.

A Sharon Daly goal brought Offaly right back into the picture and after 51 minutes the teams were deadlocked for the fifth and final time at 2-8 all. But Rachel Maloney then took centre stage and her five points sent Cork on their way to the All-Ireland final.

Amazingly, 2-12 of Cork's 2-13 final score came from their full forward trio of

Rachel Maloney, Ciara Healy and Criona Harte.

Scorers, Cork: R. Maloney 1-8 (0-3 frees), C. Harte 1-1, C. Healy 0-3, O. O'Sullivan 0-1.

Offaly: M. Lynch 0-3 (0-2 frees), A. Hennessy 1-0, S. Daly 1-0, E. Corcoran 0-3, M. David 0-2 (frees), E. Dermody 0-1.

CORK: G. Casey, M. Harrington, R. Holland, S. Buckley, R. Cahalane, J. Whelan, L. O'Connell, S. Morley, R. Walsh (capt), O. O'Sullivan, M. Colbary, E. Burke, R. Maloney, C. Healy, C. Harte. Subs: V. O'Sullivan for Dermody (53 mins), E. O'Halloran for Harte (60 mins).

OFFALY: A. Bergin, U. Kinnealy, L. Corcoran, N. Mahon, A. Kelly, C. Byrne, C. Carroll, M. Dwyer, M. Bergin, E. Dermody, A. Hennessy, F. McLeish, E. Corcoran, M. Lynch, S. Daly, Subs: O. Carroll for E. Kinnealy (inj), Half time: S. Carroll for S. Daly (55 mins). Referee: Ms. V. Mulcahy (Limerick).

Bord na Gaeilge Camogie World

By P.J. FULHAM

On Sunday, the first 15-a-side All-Ireland minor championship final played on a full sized GAA pitch is down for decision. Galway host Cork in a repeat of last year's semi-final when Cork got the verdict by the minimum score 0-13 to 1-9. The Leesiders went on to take their 9th All-Ireland title by defeating Derry 3-18 to 1-5. Both counties have a great record at this grade and between them have secured the 'Tailteann Cup' on 16 occasions since the competition was inaugurated 25 years ago. Cork 9, Galway 7. 'The Leesiders' are the only county ever to win 'three in a row'. This they achieved on two occasions 1978-80 and 1983-85.

Competition is always very close at minor level and in the last seven years there have been four drawn semi-finals and one final.

In the provincial deciders, Cork had it easy over Limerick and Galway defeated Roscommon. In the All-Ireland semi-finals, the Munster county had a 0-11 to 1-0 victory over Derry while Galway recorded a 2-11 to 2-3 win over Leinster championship Kilkenny.

This is Galway's last chance to secure an All-Ireland this year and they will make a brave bid on home ground to dethrone the champions. It should be a close tie going down to the wire.

Also on Sunday, Roscommon and Derry meet in the All-Ireland junior championship semi-final. This will be the first ever meeting of the sides. Derry have won this competition twice in 1969 and 1978.

Roscommon were to the fore in 1995 and '96. In '95 they defeated London by one point in the All-Ireland quarter-final, played a draw with Antrim in the semi-final and won the replay by the minimum score. That one point was the difference in the final when Limerick defeated them 3-7 to 4-3.

The following year they again drew with Antrim and won the replay by a point, but lost badly to Cork in the final.

Derry contested the semi-final last year and played a draw with Tipperary but lost out in the replay.

Roscommon had a 4-6 to 2-10 win over Galway in the Connacht decider while in Ulster Derry had an easy passage over Tyrone, 6-15 to 1-7.

Derry won their first ever national junior league title earlier this year, defeating Wexford 3-7 to 0-7 and will be strongly fancied to make the double. However, Roscommon with home venue will be no push over.

All-Ireland Intermediate Championship quarter-finals

Cork 5-19 Wexford 2-6 at St Finbarrs Park
Cork completely outclassed their opponents who fielded many short of their regulars. At half time, the winners had built up a lead of 3-9 to 0-4, the goals coming from Ciara Healy (21) and Una O'Donoghue. Three minutes into the second half Cork confirmed their

superiority with two further goals. Jennie Codd got two consolation goals for Wexford in the last quarter. Scorers: Cork: Ciara Healy 2-3, Rachel Moloney 0-8, Una O'Donoghue 2-1, Orla O'Sullivan 1-1, Sinead O'Callaghan 0-3, Criona Harte 0-2, Linda Burke 0-1.

Wexford: Jennie Codd 2-1, Elaine O'Connor and Mags Kelly 0-1 each.

Referee - Celene Doody, Limerick

Clare 4-14 Dublin 4-8 at Ogonnelloe

Clare secured a six-point victory over a fancied Dublin side. The first half was keenly contested. Goals by Veronica Treihy, Louise O'Hara and Rachel Kelly gave Dublin a 3-4 to 1-8 lead at the break with Clare's goal coming from Sheila O'Brien. In the second half, two goals by Pauleen O'Brien and a goal from a free by Moira McMahon put the Banner County on the way to victory.

Scorers: Clare: Pauleen O'Brien 2-0, Moira McMahon 1-5, Sheila O'Brien 1-1, Ann Keane 0-3, Deirdre Moloney and Marie Collins 0-2 each, Catherine O'Loughlin 0-1.

Dublin: Irene Kirwan 0-6, Veronica Treihy, Louise O'Hara, Rachel Kelly and Sarah Crosbie 1-0 each, Sheila Cotter and Denise O'Leary 0-1 each.

Referee - Biddy Phyllips, Tipperary

Antrim 4-12 Limerick 2-6 at Dunloy

Antrim are through to meet Armagh in the semi-final with this win over Limerick. The home side took advantage of the strong wing in the first half. Goals by Jane Adams (2) and Oonagh Elliott gave them a 3-8 to 0-2 lead at the break. Limerick came more into the game in the second half but had numerous wides. Scorers: Antrim: Jane Adams 2-3, Oonagh Elliott 1-2, Kerri O'Neill 1-0, Anne McKee 0-4, Elaine Dowds, Claire Maguire and Ciara McKinley 0-1 each.

Limerick: Pauleen McCarthy 1-5, Vera Sheehan 1-0, Eileen O'Brien 0-1

Referee - Aine Derham, Dublin.



The Roscommon team that reached the 1996 junior championship final

Ladies make it three wins in a row

By BERNIE CROWLEY

BISHOPSTOWN Camogie Club are celebrating a superb three-in-a-row victory.

The club pulled off a great defeat over Fr O'Neill's recently to take the County Senior A title for the third consecutive year.

This is a tremendous achievement given that Bishopstown had never won the title prior to 1997.

Under the leadership of Captain Aine White, Bishopstown claimed victory with a final score of 1-8 to 1-5.

Following the game, the team members and manager Bernard Olden returned to Bishopstown GAA club with family members and friends to celebrate their terrific achievement.

The party went on into the early hours of the morning, with everybody enjoying the food organised by Mary O'Hea, Irene Higgins, Sheila McCarthy, Mary Falvey and Fiona Higgins.

Two team members had special reason to celebrate on the night.

Vivienne Harris was named Player of the Match and Jean O'Sullivan secured her first county medal.

It turned into a fantastic week for Jean, as she won her first All-Ireland medal the following Sunday when the Cork U-16 team beat Galway.

Three members of the team will have another opportunity to shine next Sunday.

Ciara Healy, Sheenagh Morley and Ruth Cahalan will play with the Cork Junior Camogie team in the All-Ireland final.

Cork and Galway minors battle for All-Ireland camogie honours

THE honour of bringing Cork the county's first All-Ireland title in 1999 could fall to the minor camogie team who travel to Adrahan, Co. Galway tomorrow evening to defend the crown they won so gloriously last year.

It's the third final in a row for Cork minors who, in taking last year's title, bridge the 13-year gap and in doing so deprived Galway of three in a row.

Striving to put titles back to back, Cork will be endeavouring to once again re-live the glory days of the 80's when they reigned supreme at minor grade, taking titles in 1980, '83, '84 and '85.

Cork sailed through Munster defeating Limerick in their opening game before demolishing a weak Clare side in the Munster Final. The semi-final was a repeat of last year's All-Ireland Final with Derry once again travelling to Cork and on the day they could not match the Leesiders who ran out victorious on 11 points to one goal scoreline.

However, Cork were guilty of some woeful shooting, striking a total of 14 wides throughout and they know a repeat of this will not suffice tomorrow. A cause of concern to the selectors will be that the side has had no tough

game and are going in against a Galway side who, in a close and exciting semi-final, defeated Kilkenny 2-10 to 2-3.

Niamh Bowles leads a Cork team that has eight survivors from last year's victorious side and whilst the Cork backroom team have opted not to announce their side until tomorrow morning, it is expected to be along the lines of that which started the semi-final. However Joanne O'Callaghan and Catriona Kelly are both expected to be fit and available for selection and their inclusion will be a welcome boost to the Cork side.

Galway are determined to take back the title they lost in last year's semi-final. They are coached by the County Board's PRO Colette Kennedy-Walsh and showed in their semi-final they are more than capable. Their inside pairing of Orla Kilkenny and Mary Keogh, who played in last year's semi-final, are experienced and lively forwards and the Cork defence will need to be solid and hold them at bay.

Other survivors from last year include Shauna Murphy and Orla Curtin and they are determined to end Cork's run. A tough encounter looks to be on the cards but with Gaelic games

on such a high in the County at the moment, the Cork girls are going in determined to get the show on the road in style for the Rebels.

CORK panel: A. Murray (Cloughduv), N. Bowles (capt - Newtownshandrum), M. Watson (Milford), A. Kelleher (Newtownshandrum), C. O'Gorman (Milford), J. O'Sullivan (Bishopscourt), G. O'Connor (St. Finbarrs), S. Deasy (Newcestown), J. O'Callaghan (Cloughduv), E. Dillon (Ballygarvan), S. Corkery (Cloughduv), J. Twomey (Aghabullogue), C. Kelly (Ballygarvan), O. O'Callaghan (Cloughduv), K. Newman (Glen Rovers), E. Hayes (Inniscarra), R. Corcoran (Father O'Neill's), O. O'Callaghan (Cloughduv), C. Desmond (Newcestown), K. McCarthy (Barryroe), J. O'Leary (Barryroe), S. O'Donovan (Valley Rovers), C. Crowley (Eira Ogi), N. Murphy (Carrigaline), S. Quinn (Coursey Rovers). All-Ireland Minor Final Sunday: Cork v Galway, Adrahan, Co. Galway 6.45pm.

Cork girls retain title with thrilling win over Galway

Cork 2-12
Galway 3-8

CORK retained their All-Ireland minor camogie title in tremendous fashion at Adrahan last night and in the process put titles back-to-back.

Aided by the strong wind, Cork were quick to stamp their authority with Jennifer O'Leary, Gemma O'Connor and Emer Dillon popping over points inside six minutes Cork showed they meant business.

Claire Conroy opened the Galway account with a 12th-minute point. Enjoying maximum possession, Cork failed to capitalise playing

with a strong wind and an Orla Curtin goal 17 minutes into the game, gave Galway the lead. But Cork's response was instant with an O'Leary point levelling matters.

Team captain Niamh Bowles gave Cork the lead one minute later, and now with the bit between their teeth, Cork were rampant.

With Orla McCarthy and Bowles on top at centre field, Cork pressed forward and forcing Galway to commit fouls, Cork stretched their lead with superb free-taking from the excellent Emer Dillon with two points, one from 50 yards and a second, 65 yards out on the far sideline.

With the sides swooping points, Cork led 0-8 to 1-2 at the break, but were turning over to

play against a very strong wind.

Cork got the dream start in the second half when Caitriona Kelly billowed the net inside one minute. Galway's Claire Conroy responded with a pointed free and the champions were under pressure.

Two minutes later, Orla Curtin, who was causing the Cork defence all sorts of trouble, gave Aoife Murray no chance from close range. But once again, responding like champions, Cork came down the field from the puck out.

A blistering Emer Dillon shot was saved by goalie Carol Kelly, corner-forward Gemma O'Connor was on hand to finish to the net. Galway, refusing to die, came forward with Orla

Kilkenny, who was now operating at centre-field, giving plenty of supply to her inside line, they had the deficit down to three points.

But once again, Cork responded in the shape of Emer Dillon, who again broke the Galway hearts with two superb pointed frees.

Sensing Cork's hunger, Galway lifted their game. A superb run by corner-forward Regina Glynn found Orla Curtin on the edge of the square, and she finished with precision past Cork keeper Aoife Murray to put just two points between the sides. Orla Kilkenny added a point with nine minutes remaining and it was anybody's game. Cork introduced substitute Colette Desmond to their forward line where

she added the much needed strength, and they came forward in waves and were rewarded with a point from Desmond with her first touch at six minutes remaining.

Scorers for Cork: E Dillon 0-6 (five from frees); G O'Connor 1-1; J O'Leary 0-3 (one from free); C Kelly 1-0; Niamh Bowles, C Desmond 0-1 each.
Galway: O Curtin 3-0; C Conroy 0-5 (three from frees); O Kilkenny 0-3.
CORK: Aoife Murray, J O'Callaghan, J Twomey, C O'Gorman, J O'Sullivan, A Kelleher, S Corkery, O McCarthy, N Bowles (capt.), G O'Connor, C Kelly, E Dillon, J O'Leary, M Watson, S O'Donovan. Subs: K McCarthy for J Twomey; C Desmond for M Watson.
GALWAY: C Kelly, A Doherty, R O'Connor, L Linnane, E Pearse, E Flynn, D Coen, R Glynn, S Murphy, M Keogh, K Ryan, B Kerins, C Conroy, O Curtin, O Kilkenny (capt.), Subs: C Bowles for K Ryan; A Connolly for M Keogh.

Referee: C Doody (Limerick)

Rafferty goals put Derry in decider

TWENTY-ONE years ago Mary Lee played for Derry in the 1978 All-Ireland final. Yesterday her daughter Karen Rafferty shot two first half goals to put Derry on their way to a rematch with Cork on September 5.

Derry completely dominated this All-Ireland Junior semi-final to win by 4-11 to 1-2 and could have won by a wider margin, but manager Dominic McKinley will be happy that he will be back in Croke Park 10 years almost to the day when he started for Antrim hurlers against Tipperary.

Derry led at half time by 3-6 to 0-1, their third goal scored by captain Mary O'Kane.

Nevertheless, she led the forward line well and gave the Roscommon defence a lot of work to do. Cait Kenny played well at the back for Roscommon but further afield only Ursula Hussey did anything to stem the red and white tide for whom Claire Doherty, Anna O'Loughlin and Karen Rafferty were outstanding.

After the break Mary Gannon's goal offered the home side some comfort but there was little hope of catching Derry as Martina Mulholland and Claire McNeill shot two points each either side of Shauna McCaul's goal.

Derry will now look forward to Croke Park and hope for a similar result to that achieved 21 years ago.

Derry: A Celly, C Scully, G Maguire, P McKenna, K McDonald, S Conery, C Doherty, M Mulholland (0-9), A O'Loughlin, S McCaul (1-0), A Tonn, P Mulvaney (0-2), C McNeill (0-3), M O'Kane (capt) (2-1), K Rafferty (2-1). Subs: A O'Kane for S McCaul (50).

Roscommon: N Connelly, O Hynds, C Cernaughan, M Gannon, E Farrell, C Kenny, M Lawless, E Marren (capt), U Hussey (0-2), L Gannon, N Mulhern, A McGee, M Healy, M Gannon (1-0), M Byrne.

● **SHOBHAN Doherty** helped Portlaoine Geraldines lift their second Antrim underage camogie title inside a week when she shot four goals in yesterday's 5-5 to 1-1 minor final against Tír na nÓg.

Doherty had earlier in the week scored for the U18 team, who collected their title at the expense of Dunloy.

Portlaoine scorers: Shobhan Doherty 4-0, Shazzy Baird 1-1, Pádraig Convery 0-3, Shauna Mulvaney 0-1. Tír na nÓg scorers: Sandra Wilson 1-1.

AUG 1999

Cork's minors retain crown

Cork 2-12
Galway 3-8

CORK retained their All-Ireland minor crown with a tremendous display at Ardara, Galway, on Sunday evening last in what was one of the best All-Ireland minor finals in years.

Galway elected to play against the strong wind and it was Cork who dominated the opening period of the game with three points from Jennie O'Leary, Gemma O'Connor and Emer Dillon. 12 minutes into the half Claire Conroy opened the Galway scoring.

Aided by the wind Cork failed to capitalise and were rocked 17 minutes into the half when Orla Curtin goaled to give Galway the lead.

Cork responded well within one minute. Jennie O'Leary and team captain Niamh Bowles popped over points to help Cork regain their composure.

The outstanding Emer Dillon stretched their lead with two superb points, one on the 45 yard line and the second a beauty 65 yards from goal, way out on the sideline.

O'Leary and Conroy exchanged points to leave Cork leading 0-8 to 1-2 at the break.

Dream

Now turning to play against the strong wind Cork got the dream start when Catriona Kelly's long shot from the wing went to the net.

Responding well Galway answered with a Claire Conroy goal and points from Curtin and Conroy and Kilkenny to keep them in touch.

With their defence playing well and the centre-field winning their battle Cork pressed in search of scores and when Emer Dillons blazing shot came off the crossbar, Gemma O'Connor was on hand to finish to the net.

Cork looked to be in control leading 2-9 to 2-6 but Galway having moved Orla Kilkenny to centre-field began to come more into the game and when Regina Glynn found Orla Curtin with a precision pass she gave Aoife Murray no chance in the Cork goal to level matters.

Emer Dillon converted a free and a minute later struck a point but back came Galway and only a tremendous Aoife Murray save, turning over the bar, kept them at bay.

Substitute Colette Desmond added a 23rd minute point to which Orla Curtin again replied.

With excitement at fever pitch Cork defended superbly, Galway did have a chance one minute into added time but Shauna Murphy shot wide and with it went Galway's chance of earning a replay.

O'Neills can consider themselves unlucky not to earn replay



Bishopstown, winners of the Cork County Senior Championship after their 1-8 to 1-5 win over Fr O'Neills.

Picture: Eddie O'Hara

Bishopstown girls are champs again

Bishopstown 1-8
Fr O'Neills 1-5

BISHOPSTOWN made it three-in-a-row of Senior County Championship titles when they recorded a three point victory over Fr O'Neills in an exciting contest at Ballinlough.

The holders got the perfect start after just 30 seconds when Sinead O'Callaghan playing in her first Cork senior championship final slotted over a point.

Fr O'Neills Mary Kenefick replied six minutes later with a pointed free, but it was the holders backed by the strong wind who dictated matters.

With Eithne Duggan, Trisha Doyle and Ruth Cahalan solid in defence the 'Town came forward and 15 minutes into the half had opened up a five point gap.

Crucial

Two minutes later came the crucial score when Jean O'Sullivan's cross to Clara Healy was finished superbly to the net.

Fr O'Neills did miss a goal opportunity when Mary Kenefick's shot, 20 minutes into the half, streamed across the face of the goal and was just missed by the in-running Fiona O'Driscoll and it left the holders ahead 1-5 to 0-2 at the interval.

Favoured by the wind in the second-half Fr O'Neills found themselves further behind when Viv Harris popped over a point to stretch the 'Town's lead.



Bishopstown's Ruth Cahalan and Fr O'Neills' Claire Flavin in action.

Picture: Eddie O'Hara

A shrewd move by O'Neills, moving Sinead Cahalan to full-forward, began to upset the holders, and when her effort came back off the upright Nora Ahern was on hand to crash to the net to set up a grand stand finish.

Now sensing victory was within reach O'Neills laid siege to the Bishopstown goal but failed to get past a solid Bishopstown defence where Eithne Duggan and Trisha Doyle commanded.

With the sides exchanging points in injury time Fr

O'Neill's struck first with a 21 yards free and then a 45, but they failed to get the goal they needed to force a replay and when Dave Daly blew for full time few in the large crowd would have begrudged them a second chance.

Eithne Duggan, Trisha Doyle and Clara Healy all played well for 'Town.

County Board Chairperson, Sile Golden, presented the Science Cup for the last time in the decade to Bishopstown captain, Aine White.

Courcey into first senior B decider

Courcey Rovers 2-13
Valley Rovers 2-5

IN an all South East encounter Courcey Rovers qualified for their first Senior B Championship final when they recorded a good win over Valley Rovers on Tuesday last at Riverstick.

The opening half was dominated by Courceys and as early as the 10th minute they had opened up a six points to two advantage, following some excellent points from Rachel Maloney, Aine O'Regan and an exceptional score from senior inter-county player Sarah Hayes from all of 70 yards.

With Hayes and Maloney dominating Courceys ruled and when first Sarah Hayes and Aine O'Regan goaled within three minutes of each other it looked time up for Valley Rovers, who trailed 2-10 to 0-3 at half-time.

Rovers pressed to the end but the vital scores would not come, they will rue the fact that they didn't play with the same determination throughout the game as they did in the second-half what might have been the outcome.

MAGIC MOMENTS

14. THE first winners of the Intermediate All-Ireland title in 1992 were Dublin who defeated Down 4-11 to 4-4.

Since then Clare on two occasions, Armagh, Limerick, Tipperary and Down have captured honours.

AUG. 1999

Minor camogie team bid for All-Ireland final glory

1999 has not been a great year so far for Galway camogie teams, the seniors went out to Kilkenny in the All-Ireland quarter-final, the juniors failed to Roscommon in the Connacht final and the intermediates went down to Armagh.

So on Sunday evening next in Ardrahan Galway's only hope of an All-Ireland to end this century comes in the form of the minor All-Ireland against Cork (6.45 p.m.)

There has been intense rivalry between these two counties in recent years at all grades including minor. In 1997 Galway won the All-Ireland title with a ten point victory over Cork in Cork and last year with Galway going for three-in-a-row Cork travelled to Loughrea and went away with a one point victory and went on to win the All-Ireland title with 15 points to spare over Derry.

Galway has been dominant at minor level in recent years and hope to regain this dominance on Sunday next by regaining the minor title.

Cork, however will be no pushover. They had a comprehensive win over a fancied Derry side in the semi-final and will want to put two titles back to back.

Having already won the college's junior title with Charleville, many of this team will want to add an All-Ireland minor medal to their haul this year.

Players like the impressive Niamh Bowles who scored 0-3 against Derry, Eimear Dillon with 0-4, both members of last year's side, impressed in the

semi-final along with Gemma O'Connor, Sarah O'Donovan and Marie Watson.

Galway are not without good players and had an excellent win over Kilkenny in their semi-final 2-10 to 2-3, on the evening a large crowd in Ardrahan were treated to some excellent camogie, the first 15-a-side game at minor level and it proved to be great value as the players seemed to adjust well to the transformation and the crowd enjoyed some excellent scores, with the Galway defence absorbing some great Kilkenny pressure in the second half.

Galway probably had the toughest of the two semi-finals and this should stand to them. With six of last years side available to Galway they will not lack experience, captain Orla Kilkenny played against Cork on the victorious 1997 team, while Orla Curtin, Roisin O'Connor, Karen Ryan, Claire Conroy and Mary Keogh all played last year.

In goals Carol Kelly did well against Kilkenny as did Elizabeth Flynn, Edel Pierce and Darrell Coen Brenda Kerins with 0-3 on the evening also impressed.

However Cork will be a much more formidable outfit than Kilkenny and Galway will have to be at their best to capture this title.



ALL SET . . . Galway players Claire Linnane, Edel Pierce, Darrelle Coen, Roisin O'Connor, Carol Kelly, Elizabeth Flynn and Louise Linnane who will be hoping to capture the All-Ireland minor camogie title when they take on Cork on Sunday.



GOING FOR GLORY . . . Galway captain Orla Kilkenny who will be hoping to inspire her side to victory in Sunday's All-Ireland minor final at Ardrahan.

Craobhchomórtas na Mionúr

Na Buaiteoirí

Corcaigh (9)
1975, '76, '78, '79, '80, '83, '84, '85, '98

An Ghaillimh (7)
1977, '81, '86, '87, '94, '96, '97

Cill Chainnigh (3)
1988, '89, '91

Tiobraid Árann (3)
1990, '92, '93

Ath Cliath (1)
1982

An Dún (1)
1974

Loch Garman (1)
1995

AUG

1999

Cumann Camógaíochta na nGael

Craobhchomórtas
na MionúirCluiche Ceannais
na hÉireann

1999



Corcaigh

V

An Ghaillimh

Clár Oifigiúil

Luach: £1.00

Ard Raithín
An Ghaillimh
6.45 i.n. 22/08/1999Séile de Shíocháin
Ardrúnaí

Focal ón Uachtarán

Cuirim fíor-chaoin fáilte romhaibh uilig chuig an Cluiche Ceannais de Chraobhchomórtas na Mionúir. Fearaim fáilte faoi leith roimh na foirne, óg-mhuintir Chorcaí agus na Gaillimhe, roimh na roghnóirí agus na hoifigigh atá leo, agus roimh an Réiteoir agus na Maoir. This is a special occasion as it is the first All-Ireland Minor Final to be played on the fifteen-a-side basis. Our Minor players have proved that they are more than equal to the task. Go n-éirí go geal leo arís inniu.



Fileas Ní Bhreasláin

The Minor Final is always a wonderful occasion bringing together, as it does, those among the best of our younger players, their families and friends, and those of us who look to the young people carry on our ancient game and bring it to future generations. Is tógáil chroí dom féin i gcónaí bheith i láthair agus ár n-imreoirí óga a bheith ag imirt.

Ní gan dua a bhaintear An Cluiche Ceannais amach agus tréasláim leis an dá fhoireann atá ann inniu. Through their commitment to training, their skills and their enthusiasm, these young people of Corcaigh agus An Ghaillimh have reached this stage of the All-Ireland Championship. They have, together with the teams from all of the other counties which have participated in this Championship, the many coaches, mentors, officers, teachers and parents, given us another wonderful year of camógaíocht at its best. We look forward to seeing them again and again during the years to come in the All-Ireland Post-Primary competitions and in the various Inter-County competitions. Gura fada buan iad.

We are delighted that *Belleek Pottery* is again sponsoring the "Player of the Match" award. Fíor-bhuíochas a ghabhaimid leo.

Táimid go mór faoi chomaoín ag Coiste Contae na Gaillimhe, ag muintir an Chlub, idir ár muintir féin agus muintir Chumann Lúthchleas Gael, anseo in Ard Raithín as ucht a gcuid cúnamh agus a gcuid tacaíochta dúinn.

Go mbaine sibh ceol agus sport as imeachtaí an lae.

Fileas Ní Bhreasláin, Uachtarán.

An Réiteoir

Celine Ní Dhubhda
Luimneach

Cuirtear céad míle fáilte roimh Celine inniu agus an Cluiche Ceannais de Chraobhchomórtas faoina stiúir don chéad uair aráimh aici. Although refereeing her first Championship Final at national level, Celine has already this year been in charge of the National Junior League Final between Doire and Loch Garman. Imríonn sí camógaíocht lena club Cill Íde i gcontae Luimní. Is múinteoir bunscoile i Celine agus na scoláirí in Ard Pádraig, Cill Mocheallóg, faoina cúram aici. Go n-éirí go geal lei inniu.



Gabhtar fíor-bhuíochas leis an gClub in

Ard Raithín

as ucht a chuid tacaíochta dúinn.

2

Corcaigh



ar chúl (ó chlé): S. Ní Chorca, O. Nic Cárthaigh, É. Nic Aodha, R. Ní Chorcairín, S. Ní Shuilleabháin, C. Ní Cheallaigh, N. Ní Mhurchú, S. Ní Thuama, K. Nic Cárthaigh, S. Dhéiseach, C. Ní Dheasúnaigh, A. Ní Mhuirí.

chun tosaigh (ó chlé): C. Ní Chruaíoch, S. Ní Chuinn, O. Ní Cheallacháin, K. Nuaman, S. Ní Cheallacháin, N. Ní Bhaoill (captaen), M. Nic Uait, Á. Ní Chéilleachair, S. Ní Laoire, G. Ní Chonchubhair, E. Ní Dhiolláin.

An Ghaillimh



Corcaigh

Marúin agus Bán

1
Cearúil Ní Cheallaigh
Carol Kelly
Craughwell

2
Clár Ní Linneáin
Claire Linnane
St. Colman's

3
Róisín Ní Chonchubhair
Róisín O'Connor
Kinvara

4
Labhaoise Ní Linneáin
Louise Linnane
St. Colman's

5
Edel Nic Phiarais
Edel Pierce
Davitts

6
Éilis Ní Fhloinn
Elizabeth Flynn
Davitts

7
Darrelle Ní Chadhain
Darrelle Coen
Athenry

8
Rionach Nig Fhloinn
Regina Glynn
Athenry

9
Shauna Ní Mhurchú
Shauna Murphy
Shamrocks

10
Máire Nic Eochaidh
Mary Keogh
Athenry

11
Karen Ní Riain
Karen Ryan
Craughwell

12
Breanda Ní Chéirín
Brenda Kerins
Ardahan

13
Clár Ní Chonraoi
Claire Conroy
Killimor

14
Orla Nic Cuirtín
Orla Curtin
Kinvara

15
Orla Nic Giolla Chainnigh
Orla Kilkenny
Na Píarsaigh
Captaen

Dearg agus bán

1
Aoife Ní Mhuirí
Aoife Murray
Cloughduv

2
Siobhán Ní Cheallacháin
Joanne O'Callaghan
Cloughduv

3
Siobhán Ní Thuama
Joan Twomey
Aghabullogue

4
Cristín Ní Ghormáin
Christine O'Gorman
Milford

5
Sinéad Ní Shúilleabháin
Jean O'Sullivan
Bishopstown

6
Áine Ní Chéilleachair
Áine Kelleher
Newtownshandrum

7
Sinéad Ní Chorca
Sinéad Corkery
Cloughduv

8
Orla Nic Cárthaigh
Orla McCarthy
Cloughduv

9
Niamh Ní Bhaoill
Niamh Bowles
Newtownshandrum
Captaen

10
Gemma Ní Chonchubhair
Gemma O'Connor
St. Finbarr's

11
Caitríona Ní Cheallaigh
Caitríona Kelly
Ballygarvan

12
Eimhear Ní Dhiollúin
Emer Dillon
Ballygarvan

13
Sinéad Ní Laoire
Jennifer O'Leary
Barryroe

14
Máire Nic Uait
Maria Watson
Milford

15
Sorcha Ní Dhonnabháin
Sorah O'Donovan
Valley Rovers

IONADAITHE

| | | |
|-----------------------------|------------------|-------------|
| 16. Eimhear Ní Mhuiríosa | Emer Morrissey | Athenry |
| 7. Caitríona Ní Bhuaidh | Cathy Bowes | Cappataggle |
| 8. Aislinn Ní Chonghaile | Aislinn Connolly | Renmore |
| 9. Aoife Ní Dhochartaigh | Aoife Doherty | Ballinasloe |
| 10. Muireann Ní Bheaglaoich | | Salthill |

An Bainisteoir

Colette Bhreatnach
Colette Walsh
Na Píarsaigh

IONADAITHE

| | | |
|----------------------------|-----------------|-------------|
| 16. Ora Ní Cheallacháin | Ora O'Callaghan | Cloughduv |
| 17. Colette Ní Dheasúnaigh | Colette Desmond | Newcestown |
| 18. Karen Nic Cárthaigh | Karen McCarthy | Barryroe |
| 19. Siobhán Dhéiseach | Suzanne Deasy | Newcestown |
| 20. Kely Nuaman | Kelly Newman | Glen Rovers |

An Bainisteoir

Seán Ó Cróinín
John Cronin
Cloughduv

An Ghaillimh



ar chúl (ó chlé): M. Ní Fhlannagáin, Á. Ní Dhuibhiolla, C. Ní Cheallaigh, E. Nic Phiarais, S. Ní Mhurchú, Á.M. Nic Aodha,
A. Ní Bhriain, S. Ní Úbáin, A. Ní Chonghaile, K. Ní Riain, P. Ní Úbáin, C. Ní Linneáin.
Sa lár (ó chlé): V. Ní Ghaibhín, E. Ní Mhuiríosa, R. Nig Fhloinn, O. Nic Giolla Chainnigh (captaen), B. Ní Chéirín, C. Ní Bhuaidh,
C. Ní Mhóráin, M. Ní Bheaglaoich, L. Ní Linneáin, E. Ní Fhloinn.
chun tosaigh (ó chlé): R. Ní Chonchubhair, A. Poinard, A. Ní Dhochartaigh, M. Ní Chéirín, M. Nic Eochaidh, D. Ní Chadhain,
D. de Búrca, D. Nic Giolla Chríost, C. Ní Chonraoi.

AUG 1999

Kelly grabs a few hours sleep before she lines out for Cork in minor final

Caitriona comes home for All-Ireland glory



Therese O'Callaghan

It was a case of 'Wake me up before you go girl' - at four in the morning to be precise.

In the dead of the night, Caitriona Kelly made her way to a Spanish Airport after a two week holiday in Santa Ponsa.

At exactly 11am the following morning, this minor camogie player touched down at Cork Airport - the same time her team-mates set off on route to Galway for the All-Ireland minor final.

Caitriona grabbed a few hours sleep, before following the Cork team to Ardahan, where she lined out at full-forward.

Later that night, the 15-year-old Ballygarvan player collected her second All-Ireland minor medal.

You could say though, that Caitriona inherited it all, or as the sport cliché goes - is following in her fathers footsteps.

Senior

James Kelly played senior football with Waterford in the late seventies, and senior hurling with the Decies in 1985.

Was she worried about the huge occasion, or the lack of preparation before the big game? "No, not really. I didn't find out until I arrived back in Ireland that I was on the team, and I was just delighted to be starting

"I did lots of (disco) dancing and swimming she jokes. But, it wasn't just for those two weeks that the now twice All Ireland medalist had to look after her fitness.

On the day of the semi-final against Derry three weeks ago, she was far away in Detroit. I suppose you could say the selectors took a gamble, but it was evident in her absence that the Cork forward line was lacking completion.

Fresh too on their minds was her contribution of 2-6 in the Munster final



Cork Minor captain, Niamh Bowles, receiving the All-Ireland Minor Cup from the President of the Camogie Association, Phyllis Breslin, after their win over Galway.

against Clare.

Their belief in her paid off. In fact, last Sunday night's All-Ireland final was a memorable occasion.

The precious memories that remain are of a thoroughly enjoyable affair, with lots of excitement and a more than decent standard of camogie considering the greasy weather conditions.

The Rebels emerged with one point to spare.

Emer Dillon, also from the Ballygarvan club, played a starring role in the game and was deservedly honoured with the Player-of-the-Match an award sponsored by Beleek Pottery company.

Her five pointed frees, which drew gasps of admiration from the large

crowd, and one from play earned her this prestigious title.

"It was just brilliant, the best day of my life" she said.

Better

Better than last year, I enquire: "yes, even better than last year" she insists.

There were many heroines in Ardahan. Aoife

Murray saved point blank in her own goal-mouth when the game was in the melting pot.

Captain, Niamh Bowles kept the North Cork flag flying, bringing the cup home to Newtownshandrum.

For Jean O'Sullivan, it was a week to remember - on the previous Wednesday night she won a senior

county medal with Bishopstown, and then four days later her All-Ireland medal.

I spare a thought though for young Orla Curtin, who despite scoring three goals ended up on the losing side.

It was simply the survival of the fittest! Cork have now established a conveyor belt of talent for when it is needed.

Camogie World

By P.J. FULHAM

Cork retained the All-Ireland Minor Championship title when they got the verdict over Galway by a whisker in this thrilling final played at Ardahan on Sunday last on a scoreline of 2-12 to 3-8. The encounter lived up to all expectations, with both sides producing lots of fire power. Cork held the upperhand in the first half with some great points by Emer Dillon and Jennifer O'Leary. A goal by Orla Curtin left the half time score Cork 0-8, Galway 1-2.

The second half continued to be an edge of the seat affair. Orla Curtin added two further goals for Galway which were matched by goals by Gemma O'Connor and Marie Watson. Cork kept their noses in front to gain a one point victory.

Scorers: Cork: Emer Dillon 0-6, Gemma O'Connor 1-1, Marie Watson 1-0, Jennifer O'Leary 0-3, Colette Desmond and Niamh Bowles 0-1.

Galway: Orla Curtin 3-0, Claire Conroy 0-4, Orla Kilkenny 0-3, Regina Glynn 0-1.

Cork Team: Aoife Murray, Joanne O'Callaghan, Joan Twomey, Christine O'Gorman, Jean O'Sullivan, Aine Kelleher, Sinead Corkery, Orla McCarthy, Niamh Bowles (Capt), Gemma O'Connor, Caitriona Kelly, Emer Dillon, Jennifer O'Leary, Marie Watson, Sarah O'Donovan. Subs: Karen McCarthy for C O'Gorman, Colette Desmond for M Watson.

Galway Team: Carol Kelly, Claire Linnane, Roisin O'Connor, Louise Linnane, Edel Pierce, Elizabeth Flynn, Darrelle Coen, Regina Gorman, Shauna Murphy, Mary Keagh, Karen Ryan, Brenda Kerins, Claire Conroy, Orla Curtin, Orla Kilkenny (Capt). Sub: Aislinn Connolly for M Keagh.

Referee: Celene Doody, Limerick.

Rachel Moloney's magnificent tally of 1-8 including five points in the last ten minutes of the match was the deciding factor in this All-Ireland Junior Championship semi-final between Cork and Offaly played at Rath, which finished 2-13 to 2-8 in favour of the Leesiders. The match was an edge of the seat affair throughout with the sides drawing level five times during the course of the hour.

Offaly were first to score a goal by Audrey Hennessy after nine minutes. Criona Harte opened Cork's account two minutes later. On the 12th minute Michelle Davis had Offaly's first point from a free. Ciara Healy replied with a similar score for the visitors who were piling on the pressure. Offaly's goalie Ann Bergin brought off two great saves before a goal and a point by Rachel Moloney gave the 'Leesiders' the lead for the first time. This however, was short lived as Michelle Davis pointed to level the scoring 1-3 each of the 22nd minute. Two minutes later the lead returned to Offaly's favour with a Maggie Lynch point. Ciara Healy levelled again on the 29th minute and Elaine Dermody had the last say of the half when she pointed from a 40 metre free to leave the half time score Offaly 1-5 Cork 1-4.

Immediately on the resumption on Ciara Healy had the ball in the Offaly net. Maggie Lynch reduced the deficit by a point but Cork were pressing hard and after 8 minutes led 2-6 to 1-6. Offaly equalised for the third time almost from the puck out. On the 19th minute Ciara Healy took the lead for Cork and again Offaly equalised. This was to be The Faithful County's last score of the game as Rachel Moloney latted five points.

Scorers: Cork: Rachel Moloney 1-8, Ciara Healy 1-3, Orla O'Sullivan 0-1 and Criona Harte 0-1.

Offaly: Edel Corcoran 1-2, Audrey Hennessy 1-0, Maggie Lynch 0-3, Michelle Davis 0-2, Elaine Dermody 0-1.

Referee: Vera Mulcahy, Limerick.

Derry 4-11 Roscommon 1-3

National league holders Derry will be Cork's opponents in the All-Ireland Junior final after easily disposing of Roscommon in the semi-final at Athleague. The 'Oakleaf County' gave an exhibition of skill and stickwork that proved too much for a gallant Roscommon side, who fought all the way to the finish.

Derry played with the wind in the opening half. Paula McAtamney had two points on the scoreboard inside five minutes and Karen Rafferty had the first goal in the 16th minute. Derry had two further goals inside of a minute when Aileen Tohill connected with a rebound of the crossbar and Karen Rafferty netted her second.

Roscommon's Ursula Hussey had Roscommons only score of the half 0-1 from a free just before half time to leave the score Derry 3-7 Roscommon 0-1.

On the resumption the home side were on the attack and Mary Gannon had a great goal on the 4th minute. Derry got a further 1-3 before Roscommon scored two consolation points. Derry had the last say a point by Claire McNicholl.

Scorers: Derry: Karen Rafferty 2-1, Aileen Tohill 1-2, Shauna McCaul 1-0, Anna O'Loughlin and Claire McNicholl 0-3 each, Paula McAtamney 0-2.

Roscommon: Mary Gannon 1-0, Ursula Hussey 0-2, Annette McGeeney 0-1.

Referee: John Morrissey, Tipperary.

Ulster Club Championship Semi-Finals

Crosserlough, Cavan 6-4 Ballymacnab, Armagh 1-7

Scorers: Crosserlough: Helan McCabe 3-0, Brenda Lynch 2-2, Deirdre Kearns 1-2, Olive Farrelly 0-1.

Ballymacnab: Olive McGeown 1-2, Mary Donnelly 0-4, Nicola McGeown 0-1.

Liatroim/Fonenoys, Down 2-10 Dunloy, Antrim 2-3.

Scorers: Liatroim: Mairin McAleenan 1-5, Caitriona McCrickard 1-1, Lisa McCrickard 0-4.

Dunloy: Majella McMullan 1-2, Claire Maguire 1-0, Sinead McMullan 0-1.

On Saturday next the All-Ireland Intermediate championship semi-finals are down for decision. Neighbours Clare and Cork battle it out for a place in the final. This is Cork's third year in the competition and are last year's beaten finalists. Clare contested three finals and are the only county to win this competition, which was inaugurated in 1992, on two occasions: 1993 and 1995. In the first round Clare recorded a 4-14 to 4-8 win over Dublin while Cork had a 5-19 to 2-6 win over Wexford.

This will be the first time for the sides to meet in this grade and it should be a very close entertaining tussle going down to the wire.

The other semi-final is an all-Ulster affair when Antrim host Armagh at Dunloy. Armagh won this competition in 1994.

In the first round Armagh defeated a fancied Galway side 4-8 to 1-5. Antrim, last year's beaten semi-finalists outst 1996 All-Ireland Intermediate champions Limerick 4-12 to 2-6. Another close tie is expected here.

AUG
1999

Corcaigh agus An Ghaillimh i gCraobhchomórtas na Mionúr

First 15-a-side Championship Final

Beidh áit faoi leith i stair na Camógaíochta ag Mionúr Chorcaí agus na Gaillimhe. Not only is this the first Minor Final to be played on the fifteen-a-side basis, it is also the first All-Ireland Inter-county Championship Final in this format.

Thuas seal agus thíos seal

An Ghaillimh agus Corcaigh have met on five previous occasions in the Minor Final since the competition was inaugurated in 1974. Corcaigh a rug an corn lei faoi thrí agus An Ghaillimh faoi dhó. An Ghaillimh has contested fourteen Finals in all, winning seven, while Corcaigh has contested twelve and has won nine.

"Rogha Imreora" i gCluichí Ceannais na Mionúr ó 1994 i leith.

1994
Veronica Nic Cuiirtín
An Ghaillimh

1995
Aine Nic Óda
Loch Garman

1996
Michelle Nig Fhloinn
An Ghaillimh

1997
Veronica Nic Suibhne
An Ghaillimh

1998
Sorcha Nic Aodha
Corcaigh

Na Cluichí Ceannais go dtí seo

| | | | | |
|------|--------------|------|--------------|------|
| 1975 | Corcaigh | 6-02 | An Ghaillimh | 0-03 |
| 1984 | Corcaigh | 2-12 | An Ghaillimh | 5-00 |
| 1985 | Corcaigh | 3-08 | An Ghaillimh | 2-03 |
| 1987 | An Ghaillimh | 1-11 | Corcaigh | 3-03 |
| 1997 | An Ghaillimh | 2-14 | Corcaigh | 1-06 |

Meánscore - Average Score

The average score in these five previous meetings was:

Corcaigh: 15.2 points, An Ghaillimh 12.2 points.

Trí as a chéile

Tá áit faoi leith ag Corcaigh cheana féin sa chomórtas seo. Corcaigh is the only county which has won the title three times in-a-row, a distinction which it achieved twice - 1978-'80 and 1983-'85. Bhain an contae an chéad Chluiche Ceannais amach i 1974 nuair a bhuaidh An Dún an corn.

Go raibh rath ar an dá fhoireann inniu.



Na Cluichí Leathcheannais 1999

Corcaigh 0-11
Doire 1-00

An Ghaillimh 2-11
Cill Chainnigh 2-03

AUG

1999



VANQUISHED . . . the Galway minor camogie panel and mentors pictured after their narrow defeat by Cork in Sunday's All-Ireland final at Ardahan.

Curtin's hat-trick fails to save Galway minors from All-Ireland loss

Cork 2-12
Galway 3-8

BY EMER CONNOLLY

GALWAY'S inability to take their points at ease — in contrast to their physically stronger opponents — cost them dearly in the All-Ireland minor camogie final for despite a three-goal salvo from Orla Curtin, the home team lost out by the narrowest of margins in the first 15-a-side final played in camogie.

The hat-trick aside, the Galway forward division were limited to just three points from play by an extremely impressive Cork defence at Ardahan on Sunday evening. Apart from Curtin and the outstanding Orla Kilkenny at centre-forward, their attack were found wanting in the first half before both sides increased the tempo and served up an enthralling second period in damp conditions.

Although the likes of Aoife Doherty — who replaced the injured Claire Linnane at corner back — Roisin O'Connor at full-back and Edel Pierce did well in defence for Galway, they were simply unable to cope with a rampant Cork forward division where Emer Dillon, Jennifer O'Leary and Caitriona Kelly were in invincible form.

The winners were first to settle and had early points from Dillon (two) and Gemma O'Connor within the opening minutes as Galway showed early nerves in front of goal. The best of those early chances came when a well worked move involving Curtin, Claire Conroy and Mary Keogh culminated in the latter's shot on goal being well

intercepted by Cork's Sinead Corkery.

The Galway forward machine finally ignited after sixteen minutes. Conroy and Keogh were again involved — the latter laid on to the waiting Curtin and the Kinvara teenager shot to the net. But as Cork were to show throughout the game, each time Galway looked like grabbing the initiative, the Leesiders were quick to react. O'Leary immediately responded with an individual run through the opposition defence before firing over from 50 yards for a glorious point.

Cork stepped up a gear and added further points from captain Niamh Bowles, O'Leary and two frees from Dillon in response to a single point from Claire Conroy, to leave the winners with a 0-8 to 1-2 interval lead.

Galway's aspirations were dealt a huge blow within seconds of the restart when a long range Caitriona Kelly shot defied goalie Carol Kelly and skimmed inside the post. But to their credit Collette Walsh's charges were not to be discouraged and backed by a strong breeze their challenge gained impetus.

With Shauna Murphy and Regina Glynn getting a grip at midfield and the energetic Orla Kilkenny covering acres of ground, Galway seized the initiative and began to press forward. They rallied with two Conroy points while Curtin got her second goal when she latched onto a Glynn delivery and rattled the net, giving Aoife Murray in the Cork goal no chance.

Cork once again reacted immediately when the outstanding Dillon made an unstoppable run before forcing Carol Kelly into a save. But unfortunately for Galway, O'Connor pounced quickest and tapped home the rebound from close range.

Galway reacted with a point from Orla Kilkenny before Curtin completed her hat-trick with a rasper, to leave the scores level at 3-5 to 2-9 as the game entered the final quarter. As the pressure intensified in the latter stages of the game, Galway had points from Kilkenny and Conroy while Dillon (two) along with one from substitute Collette Desmond edged Cork ahead with three minutes of normal time remaining.

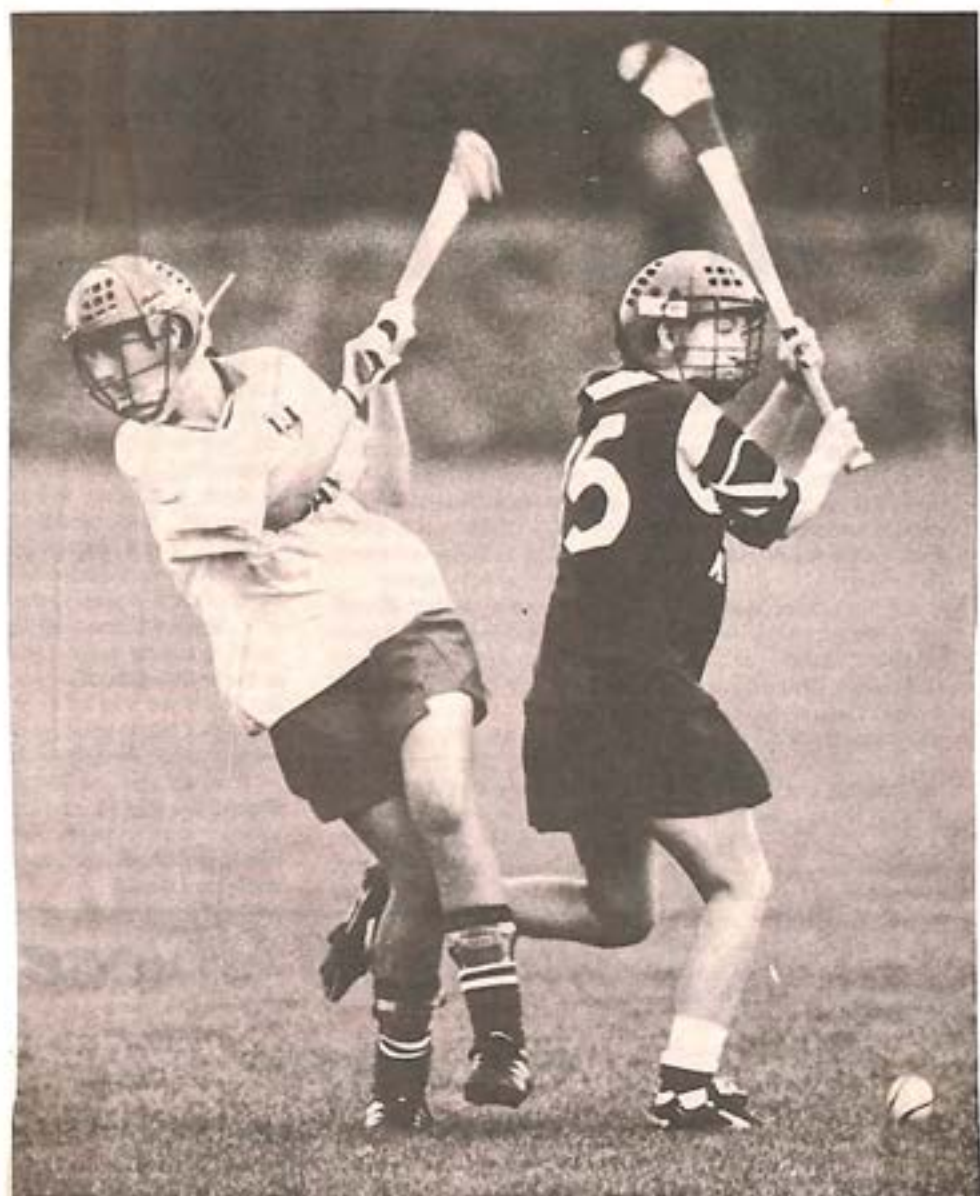
Despite Galway's late efforts to salvage something from the game, they simply couldn't get that all-important point as Cork's superlative fitness and resilience — particularly in the half-back line — stood to them. Indeed Cork looked more likely to edge further ahead as the Galway full-forward line were forced to defend deeply in an exciting finale.

Although they introduced Cathy Bowes and Aislinn Connolly, the Galway girls just couldn't muster any last-ditch effort of notable consequence as Cork completed their two-in-a-row at minor level and, in the process, end their hosts interest in All-Ireland honours in camogie for 1999.

Galway: C. Kelly; A. Doherty, R. O'Connor, L. Linnane; E. Pierce, E. Flynn, D. Coen; R. Glynn, S. Murphy; M. Keogh, K. Ryan, B. Kerins; C. Conroy (0-5, frees), O. Curtin (3-0), O. Kilkenny (0-3). Subs: C. Bowes for Ryan; A. Connolly for Keogh.

Cork: A. Murray; J. O'Callaghan, J. Twomey, C. O'Gorman; J. O'Sullivan, A. Kelleher, S. Corkery; O. McCarthy, N. Bowles (1-1); G. O'Connor (1-1), C. Kelly (1-0), E. Dillon (0-6; five frees); J. O'Leary (0-3; one free), M. Watson, S. O'Donovan. Subs: K. McCarthy for Twomey; C. Desmond (0-1) for Watson.

Referee: C. Doody (Limerick).



BATTLE . . . Galway captain **Orla Kilkeny** challenges for possession during Sunday's All-Ireland minor camogie final at Ardahan.

All-Ireland Intermediate Camogie semi-final

Antrim 1-9 Armagh 0-4

No slip-ups this time as Antrim defeat Armagh

DENIED by a late point in last year's semi-final, Antrim have responded by qualifying for this year's All-Ireland Intermediate final on September 19 - and that despite fielding without three of their top forwards who are on holidays abroad.

The first quarter was evenly contested but three points - two from Carla Doherty and one from Maureen Barry - opened up a 0-6 to 0-3 interval lead.

Both goalies pulled off excellent stops in the first half, but a defensive slip allowed Maureen Barry in behind to beat Rice for a decisive goal four minutes into the second half.

Antrim added three more points - all from frees - before Armagh dominated the final 20 minutes, although at no stage did they look capable of

breaking down a tight Saffron defence.

The McKinley family can now look ahead to two All-Ireland camogie finals over the next three weeks - Dominic as coach of the Derry juniors and daughter Ciara the last line of defence against either Cork or Clare in the Intermediate decider.

Antrim: C McKinley, M Duffin, B McNeill, S McMullan (0-1, free), C Nelson, H Healey, R Duffin, C McGinley (0-2, both frees), G Connolly, K O'Neill, A McKee (0-3, 0-2 frees), C Doherty, C Maguire, M Barry (1-1), C Doherty (0-2). **Subs:** K Coyle for C Maguire (39), H Connolly for C Doherty (56), N McCorry for Christine Doherty (46).

Armagh: J Rice, M Rafferty, C Byrnes, C Donnelly, B Rice, G Haughey, M Donnelly, M Black (0-1, free), A Conroy, C Curry, O McGeown, B McBride (0-1), K Kelly, P McAvoy (0-2), D Connolly. **Subs:** O Smyth for C Donnelly (35), U McGivern for K Kelly (35).

Referee: Margaret Brolly (Derry)

Ulster Club Camogie Championship semi finals

Liatroim Fontenoys (Down) 2-10 Dunloy (Antrim) 2-3

Liatroim hold out for sixth final

IT is difficult to believe from this scoreline that Liatroim were holding on during the last 20 minutes to qualify for the Ulster Club final for a record-equalling sixth time.

But Dunloy - short five of their championship team due to holidays - put it up to the champions in repeat of last year's final and made the home side sweat it out

during the second half.

That wasn't on the cards after the opening half when Liatroim led by 1-6 to 0-1 having played into the stiff breeze.

Three more points at the start of the second half only served to kick start Dunloy's effort and Claire Maguire and Majella McMullan reduced the deficit with two

goals inside a minute after seven minutes of the second half.

They kept pressing and the Fontenoys on a rare break up field were relieved to see full-forward Caitriona McCrickard touch home Mairin McAleenan's centre for their second goal.

However, it was all Dunloy from then until the finish

with the McMullan sisters and Ann McKee particularly prominent.

The winners were relying on Mairin McAleenan and Caitriona McCrickard and a strong defence which held out under severe pressure near the end.

Liatroim: J Brown, B Gallagher, D Greenan, A Morgan, B Kelly, N Magee, C McGovern, S McGovern, M Murray, L

McCrackard (0-3), M McAleenan (1-5 all frees), R Cunningham, R O'Higgins, C McCrickard (1-1), L Quinn (0-1). **Sub:** E McCrickard (for L Quinn, 59).

Dunloy: C McKinley, J Elliott, S McMullan (Capt) (0-1, free), C McDonnell, B Burns, D Brogan, C Downey, H McMullan, O McGrath, A McTaggart, A McKee, C Maguire (1-0), M McMullan (1-2), B Kearns, A-M Molloy. **Referee:** Aoife Woods (Armagh)

Ballymacnab (Armagh) 1-7 Crosserlough (Cavan) 6-4

HELEN McCABE, a sister of Cavan county footballer Dermot, crashed home three goals as the first time Cavan champions upset the odds and sent Ballymacnab out of the Ulster Club camogie championship.

Ballymacnab opened nervously and, despite wind advantage, fell behind to a third minute goal from McCabe.

They did dominate the rest of the first half - but

never made it show on the scoreboard. Olive McGeown's goal in the 14th minute put them ahead and they only shot four more points before Brenda Lynch connected in the 27th minute with a long free from Eveleen Smith to crash home the Cavan champions' second goal.

At half-time Ballymacnab led 1-5 to 2-0 but that changed within a minute with McCabe's second

goal, followed in the seventh minute by another green flag from Olive Farrelly.

Ballymacnab's cup overflowed inside a minute at the three-quarter stage when Lynch and McCabe hit two more hammer blows and then in the final minute their best player Olive McGeown received her marching orders for a dangerous foul on Noleen Kiernan.

Overall Crosserlough

proved the better side but it could have been so different had Ballymacnab used the wind advantage before the break.

Apart from McCabe and Lynch, the winners had good performances from Georgina O'Reilly, Denise Wilton and Geraldine Comiskey, while Ballymacnab's defence held fairly well apart from those goals and elsewhere only Olive McGeown and Mary Donnelly impressed.

Ballymacnab: A Donnelly, P Smyth, S Rafferty, S Gribbin, L King, S Smyth, F Hughes, O McGeown (1-2), R Cosgrove, S Gray, P McConnell, R Smyth, L Gribbin, M Donnelly (0-4), N McGeown (0-1). **Crosserlough:** S Joyce, G O'Reilly, D Wilton, M Lovett, G Comiskey, L Day, S Tully, E Smith (capt), B Farrelly, C Byrd, B Lynch (2-2), N Kiernan, D Kearns (1-2), H McCabe (3-0), O Farrelly (1-0). **Subs:** L Tully for G Comiskey (20), T Lyng for C Byrd (35), N Lynch for N Kiernan (59). **Referee:** Ethne Hanson (Derry)