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Launch of the Evening Echo Cork Camogie Championship: Michelle Browne, Mallow, Niamh Ni Chaoimh, Killeagh, Diarmuid O'Donovan, Evening Echo, Marion McCarthy, chairperson of Cork Camogie Board, Sinead Ni Riain, Inniscarra and Rosin De Faoite, Blackrock. Picture: Jim Coughlan



# Injury crisis for reigning champions

**INNISCARRA** versus **Milford** would typically be a mouthwatering clash in the senior championship.

They meet in the first round on Sunday evening in Mounseabbey.

But how this game will now go is anyone's guess. So much has happened in the past five months. Inniscarra, All-Ireland club finalists last March, and Milford, the side so near and yet so far, will still produce a close affair and for no other reason but that both sides, Inniscarra in particular, are seriously depleted.

Inniscarra are without a significant number of the side which took their first senior county title last July. Cruciate injuries to star forward Niamh McCarthy, Orla Healy and Aoife Kavanagh rules them definite non-starters. Last season's captain Margaret Noelle O'Sullivan is unavailable due to the fact that she is to marry shortly. Karen Jones and Katie O'Mahony are in the States while Laura



Preview by  
**LINDA  
MELLERICK**

Burke seems to be taking a break from the game. Add in the fact that Sinead Ni Riain is struggling with a back injury, Margaret Cosgrave cannot last a full game due to a hip injury, Emma Kingston hasn't trained in seven weeks, Fiona O'Connell lands back in Ireland from Asia Saturday night and Mary Buckley is working up the country, you can hear the frustration and disappointment in manager Fergal O'Leary's voice.

"We're ferociously depleted," explained Fergal. "It's going to be very difficult against Milford on Sunday. At this moment we're struggling to pick the team as we wait on one or two injuries to hopefully clear a bit."

"We've a strong panel but it is hard to replace so many. But we won't give up our title easily. We'll be dogged and we'll give Milford a game."

Milford, on the other hand, are

serious title contenders. The return of Regina Curtin after a period abroad and the transfer of Marie O'Neill to the club are major inclusions. However the three Watson sisters, Aine, Maria and Emer are currently in Australia. It is hoped all three will be back in time for the second round/back-door scheduled for the weekend of August 20th but for now they are a huge loss to the north Cork side.

It evens matters up a bit though and Cork right half-back Anna Geary, a starring player with Milford, is under no illusions as to the task facing her side.

"It is both daunting and motivating to be playing the All-Ireland finalists. The fact that no Cork club has reached an All-Ireland final since the Glen in 1994 speaks volumes about the strength of Inniscarra. I think we have a similar style but Inniscarra have hurlers all over the pitch. Inniscarra have never beaten us and it is a motivating factor for us to maintain that re-

cord. We have had very close games though.

"If we can beat them it will bring great confidence."

Donal Roche trains the side and brings a fresh approach. Milford also welcome back the experienced Ted Sheehan who was instrumental in Milford's rise to senior camogie. Julie Hickey, a former player, is also in the backroom team so Milford are primed to give it their best shot this season. However Milford have thrown away potential titles before; what's different now?

"It's an open title every year and every year is a different ball game. We realise the importance of winning and what it takes to win. Winning a senior county medal is something we would all relish; it's the one medal a lot of us don't have."

Courcey Rovers could well be this year's dark horse. They could well figure in the latter stages of this competition. Slow starters, how they begin their season is important.

**SUNDAY,  
Evening Echo Senior  
Camogie Championship,  
Inniscarra v Milford,  
Mounseabbey, 7.45pm**

● With both sides depleted this one is hard to call. The Watsons are a huge loss to Milford and it evens matters out somewhat against a Inniscarra side heavily depleted through injuries and travel.

**CALL IT...**

Milford, however, welcome the return of Regina Curtin and new signing Marie O'Neill.

Star Player: Anna Geary.

Verdict: Milford.

**CALL IT...**

**TODAY,  
Evening Echo Senior  
Camogie Championship,  
Ballincollig v St Finbarr's,  
Castle Road, 7pm.**

● Ballincollig had a great season in 2010. They have the potential to rattle this championship.

Have they progressed or regressed? St Finbarr's will give this game a good run.

How Gemma O'Connor performs will have a big bearing.

Star Player: Denise Cronin (above).

Verdict: Ballincollig



**SUNDAY,  
Evening Echo Senior  
Camogie Championship,  
St Catherine's v Rockbawn  
Mounseabbey, 6pm**

● THE 2009 champions St Catherine's won't want to fade into the background so fast.

Their loss to Imokilly in the quarter-final last year will have hurt.

Expect them to have too much balance in their side for Rockbawn. They will require a marker on Sile Burns (pictured with Orla Cotter).

Star Player: Orla Cotter.

Verdict: St Catherine's.



**MONDAY,  
Evening Echo Senior  
Camogie Championship,  
Ballygarvan v Courcey  
Rovers, Brinny, 6pm**

● With a very good underage structure in Courcey Rovers, the cycle of players is coming through.

Ballygarvan, on the other hand, doesn't have such comfort, although they did contest the minor B final two years ago. A repeat of last season's back door clash.

Star Player: Rachel Moloney (above).

Verdict: Courcey Rovers.



**MONDAY,  
Evening Echo Senior  
Camogie Championship,  
Cloughduv v Douglas,  
Brinny, 7.45pm**

● With Mick O'Regan back at the helm expect Douglas to have a greater focus on this year's title. Cloughduv have lost the services of magnificent servant Marie Corkery while Breige continues to recover from illness.

Marie Lucey is working abroad while former Cork footballer Caoimhe Creedon lines out.

Star Player: Katrina Mackey.

Verdict: Douglas



## Club notes

### DOUGLAS

OUR senior team are playing Cloughduv in the first of the Championship on Monday next in Brinny, throw in is at 7.45pm. Good luck to the team and coaches. All support is welcome.

### ST FINBARR'S

On Saturday last we travelled to Ballinhassig to take part in their pitch party, two blitzes were held U10 and U8. We played Bishopstown, Ballincollig and Ballinhassig in both age groups and the games were played in splendid sunshine and there was very little between the teams in all the matches. Well done to Chloe Sweeney, Emma Olden, Abby O'Sullivan, Eimear Hurley, Amy Winning, Sophie Hickey and Kaitlin Crowe from the U10s. The U8s were best served by Tara O'Callaghan, Aisling Collins, Ciara Hurley, Nicole Olden and Aine O'Callaghan. Special thanks to Marion McCarthy Ballinhassig for the invite and for all the arrangements and hospitality on the day.

### GLEN ROVERS

Our U8s and U10s enjoyed another county board-organised Go Games blitz last weekend when they travelled to Na Piarasigh. Well done to everybody who helped with transport and lent a hand on the day.

Senior championship takes centre stage in the week ahead as our senior team get their campaign underway when they meet Kilbrittain/Timoleague in their opening round game on Tuesday next in Riverstick at 7.30pm, best of luck to everybody, support welcome for this game. Training for under age teams continues as normal during summer holidays.

### BRIDE ROVERS

We travelled in great numbers to Castle Road for the final of the Junior C League where our opponents were Ballinascarty. We had beaten them by two points in a previous league encounter but with all players available for the first time this season, we felt confident that we had the winning team. We started well and the two teams were even for the first 10 minutes.

Level at a point each we conceded three goals and two points as our defence failed to deal with the ball around the goal area. Grace Kearney who sent the ball to the net before the half ended with a point each to leave the score 3-5 to 1-3.

At half time, we rearranged our team, putting Jenny Barry to centre-back, Sinead Walsh came to mid-field and Jenny Cahill moved to wing-forward. Beginning to win the battle all over the field, our level of play improved and two pointed in a row settled us down. Sinead O'Driscoll got a great goal to leaving the score 3-5 to 3-5 and we were on level thanks to a Grace Kearney goal.

Ballinascarty converted a free to edge ahead but that was their only score in the second half. A pointed free from Grace Kearney tied up the scores once again. In the last few minutes of the game we had a couple of chances but couldn't take them and the game ended in a draw.

And so to extra time where despite tiredness but our greater fitness levels began to tell, Grace Kearney scored two great points as Ballinascarty replied with one. With the breeze at our backs, we dominated the second period of extra time. The forwards won great ball which resulted in two pointed frees and a point from play as we ran out winners to take the title with four points to spare.

Marion McCarthy, chairperson of the Cork County Board presented the cup to Sinead Walsh our captain who thanked the trainers, selectors, supporters and everyone who helped the team in any way.

Team: I Hogan, E Cashman, B Forde, L Finnegan, C Noonan, S Walsh, B Bartley, E Ahern, M Hazelwood, C O'Flynn, I Dorgan, J Cahill, A O'Flynn, S O'Driscoll, R Howard.

Sub's: Vaughan for R Howard, Y Bloemhoff, A Crowley.

### BRIAN DILLON'S

Brian Dillon's summer camp for boys and girls is on from August 8-12 and from August 15-19 from 2pm to 5pm. Contact Liz O'Mahony on 086-7976839

### KILLEAGH

It has been a very busy week for us. Our second U18 game met a fit and able Mallow team were our opposition recently and they had 1-3 on the scoreboard before we got into the game. Kate Murphy opened our scoring with two well struck frees. However, pressure in the backline saw us concede frees which Mallow scored easily.

At 1-7 to 0-2 we looked to be in trouble, but Roisin Culligan began the turn around with a lovely point followed up by a point from Jessica Tracey and three pointed frees from Kate Murphy.

Great defensive play from Elaine Terry, Nora Walsh and Eileen Benaim, coupled with superb hurling from Aoife Walsh and Laura Tracey at mid-field prevented further scoring from Mallow. Kate scored a much needed goal from a free and with two further points from Mallow the full time score was Killeagh 1-7 to Mallow 1-10.

Team mentors JP Murphy, Tadgh Landers and Mattie Tracey spoke to the girls at the break, encouraging them and reinforcing their confidence in their abilities and made a few positional changes and we were ready to go and with a great effort by everybody we ran out winners on a 3-10 to 1-11 score line.

In the absence of the management team it was still game on as our senior team took on Tracton in the last game of the Summer Cup. With victories over St Finbarr's, Aghabullogue and Kilbrittain/Timoleague we were all set to make it a grand slam and this we did.

Tracton opened the scoring with a point and this was quickly equalled by Kate Murphy. Ann Marie Walsh added a point but Tracton responded with two points. Mary O'Connor drove up the field and put the ball over the bar. The final ten minutes belonged to Kate Murphy as she added a further 1-2 to our tally.

Elizabeth Kelly opened the second half with a well taken goal. Tracton hit two points followed by two goals Noelle O'Donovan settled our nerves with two points and Shauna Landers finished a great pass from Mary O'Connor to the back of the net as we ran but victors on a 3-8 to 2-5 victory.

# Lack of depth on



The return to the Milford jersey for Regina Curtin has made a huge difference to the north Cork club. Picture: Richard Mills

## Kearney is the Bride hero

Bride Rovers  
Ballinascarty

(cont)

3-11  
3-7

DESPITE trailing by eight points at the interval Bride Rovers knuckled down to turn in splendid second-half performance to see them crowned Junior C League champions at the expense of Ballinascarty. Points from Grace Kearney and Jennifer Barry gave Bride an early lead but a Marie Condon goal followed by a Caroline Sugrue point had Ballinascarty two points in front. The sides swapped goals inside two minutes of each other and with Jennifer Cahill hit a point, The gap was a point. Ballinascarty finished the half in blistering fashion three Caroline Sugrue points one from Emma Walsh and an Ella Ryan goal ensure they led 3-5 to 1-3 at the interval.

The second half belonged to Bride Rovers as they piled on the pressure led superb by the excellent Grace Kearney who pointed a free before Sinead O'Driscoll fired home a goal to narrow the gap. Kear-

ney and Caroline Sugrue exchanged points before a blistering solo run from Grace Kearney ended with the ball in the net. With time almost up Grace Kearney converted a long range free from the half way line to ensure extra time.

Two tired teams gave it everything in the added time Kearney and Sugrue swapped points in the early minutes but four in row from the stronger finishing Bride Rovers ensured the title was secured.

**Scorers for Bride Rovers:** G Kearney 2-8 (0-5f), S O'Driscoll 1-0, C O'Flynn, J Cahill, J Barry 0-1 each.

**Ballinascarty:** C Sugrue 0-6 (0-3f, 0-1 45), Ella Ryan, M Keohane, M Condon 1-0 each, E Walsh 0-1.

**BRIDE ROVERS:** I Hogan, E Cashman, B Forde, L Finnegan, C Noonan, S Walsh, B Bartley, E Ahern, M Hazelwood, C O'Flynn, I Dorgan, J Cahill, A O'Flynn, S O'Driscoll, R Howard.

**Subs:** M O'Brien for E Ahern (h/t), E Donovan for C O'Flynn (42), C Vaughan for C Noonan (48), for C Power for A O'Flynn.

**BALLINASCARTY:** M O'Brien, Eva Ryan, K O'Donovan, S Walsh, S Hennessy, R Nyham c 1, D Moloney, N Desmond Collins, K O'Donovan, C Sugrue, E Walsh, M Condon, M Keohane, Ella Ryan, E O'Brien.

## Aghabullogue produce stylish display

Aghabullogue  
Newtownshandrum

3-9  
0-4

### CAMOGIE

By MARY NEWMAN

AGHABULLOGUE got their Evening Echo Intermediate Championship campaign off to a good start with victory over Newtownshandrum in the opener of a round-robins series of matches.

Having taken a step down from senior b grade this season Aghabullogue are working hard to re-establish themselves.

Two first half goals from Caroline Kiely and Mary Buckley help them to settle into the contest and, with Emma

Healy and Caroline Kiely adding points to their tally, they controlled the opening half.

Newtownshandrum worked hard to get on the scoresheet but the strong Aghabullogue defence repelled their efforts.

Paula O'Connor did register a point for Newtownshandrum to make it 2-2 to 0-1 at the break.

Newtownshandrum gave it everything in an attempt to break Aghabullogue's hold on the game, but despite adding three points they were unable to

match the Aghabullogue girls.

Mary Buckley added five points to their tally while Michelle Healy added one before a Nicola Doherty goal gave Newtownshandrum no way back into the contest.

The next game in the section for Aghabullogue is a meeting with Ballyhea which should be a close enough encounter while the Newtown girls have their next game against Tracton.

**Scorers for Aghabullogue:** M Buckley 1-5, C Kiely 1-1, N Doherty 1-0, E Healy 0-2 (0-1f), M Healy 0-1.

**Newtownshandrum:** P O'Connor 0-3, B Ryan 0-1.

**AGHABULLOGUE:** N Moynihan, A Duff, M Twomey, E O'Connell, C Dennehy, J Twomey, D Twomey, A Twomey, T

Roche, M Twomey, E Healy, M Buckley, C Kiely, M Healy, S Dineen.

**Subs:** N Doherty for M Twomey, E O'Mahony for S Dineen.

**NEWTOWNSHANDRUM:** M O'Connor, C Griffin, V O'Keefe, C Herlihy, E Reidy, N Bowles, Siobhan Curtin, M O'Connor, Sharon Curtin, B Ryan, P O'Connor, M Doyle, A Doyle, M Harrington, S Moloney.

**Subs:** S Cagney for C Griffin, J Herlihy for M Doyle, E Coughlan for S Moloney, C Watson for C Herlihy.

Tracton  
Ballyhea

6-15  
1-2

A DEPLETED Ballyhea side failed to match the intensity of a focused Tracton in the opening game of the round-robins series of matches.

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# bench is a worry



Pictured at the launch of the Evening Echo County Camogie Championship were, Diarmuid O'Donovan, assistant CEO Evening Echo and Marion McCarthy, chairperson Cork Camogie Board, (centre) with the club captains at the Cork Camogie Grounds, Castle Road, Cork. Picture: Jim Coughlan

and Kilkenny. No other side defeated Offaly or Dublin as heavily as Cork.

Cork's defence too must take credit.

They leaked just three goals in the group series, all coming in their last two outings.

All that is irrelevant now; it's Cork v Wexford and it's knockout.

This week gave Cork a breather and the chance to start the club championships.

The senior championship kicked off last Tuesday with Killeagh recording an eight-point victory over Barryroe.

The draw fell kindly for Killeagh, as debutants, and sets them on their way.

Barryroe unfortunately are struggling and the loss of Rosalie

Holland working abroad didn't help their cause.

Ballincollig and St Finbarr's will be a close affair and Ballincollig should take this one. They had a great season in 2010. Whether they have built on that or regressed, time will tell.

St Finbarr's need some new blood coming through the ranks if they are to become serious contenders again.

Douglas would be one of the favourites to take the title.

I would like to also throw Millford into the favourites' hat but it is difficult to continue to give them such a title when they fail to live up to expectations time and again.

The transfer of Marie O'Neill to the club is a huge asset as is the return of Regina Curtin. I'll tag them

one last time to be in the mix.

St Catherine's will rue their second-half performance against Imokilly last year which saw them exit at the quarter-final stage and relinquish their title.

Catherine's were well on top in the opening half but a hat-trick of second half goals caused their demise. St Catherine's will provide a strong test for anyone but I wonder again about the cycle of players come through and the strength in depth they have.

Inniscarra will struggle this year with a plethora of injuries hitting the squad, prolonged injuries which will see a number of last year's starring side not field this season. I don't envisage Inniscarra still in the race towards the latter stages of the competition though.

Ballygarvan and Courcy Rovers will give challengers a difficult outing. The sides face each other in Brinny on Monday, a repeat of last season where Rovers won by a point. Rovers have a very good under age structure going. The players are coming through. They could well be in with a shout come the quarter-final/semi-final stage.

Cloughduv will line out without the services of long-serving player Marie Corkery and her heart on the field will be sorely missed.

They will have their work cut out for them against Douglas.

It's a new year and we could well have a new champion again at the end of it.

One thing is for sure; it promises to be another exciting senior club championship season.

## to get campaign off to a flying start

Minus several key players through holidays and injury Ballyhea battled hard to stay in contention but by the half-time whistle Tracton had raced into a 3-10 to 0-2 lead, the goals supplied by Erin Harrington and Marion Jagoe (2).

After the re-start, Tracton continued to pick off their scores but all credit to Ballyhea who contested every ball in a fair and sporting manner.

Stephanie McInerney struck what was the best goal of the game when she took on the Tracton defence and finished superbly to the net.

Scorers for Tracton: M Jagoe 2-5, K Sullivan 2-2, A Kiely 0-4, J Lynch 0-3 (0-2ft), R Lyons, E Harrington 1-0 each.

Ballyhea: S Mc Inerney 1-0, M Walsh 0-2 (freesh).

TRACTON: C Murray; G McCarthy, P Harrington, N Mullane; M McGuinness, J A Kingston, C Lynch; J Lynch, K O'Sullivan; E Harrington, M Jagoe, J Griffin; C Fitzgerald, A Kiely, E Collins.

BALLYHEA: M C Waters; C O' Doherty, V Hennessey, L O'Kelly; G Crowley, Maria Walsh, M McCarthy; O Carroll, S O'Kelly; J Reidy, Michelle Walsh, N Morrissey; A Sheehy, L Hennessey, S Mc Inerney (C). Sub: E O'Brien for O'Carroll (inj 44). Ref: John Horgan (Glan na Laol)

There were first round victories for Sarsfields over Carrigaline on a 3-2 to 0-8 scoreline while Fr O'Neill's recorded a six points victory over Blackrock, 1-9 to 1-3.

We will have reports on these

games in next week's camogie pages.

**Sarsfields 3-2**  
**Carrigaline 0-8**

A CLOSELY contested game with Sarsfields grabbing a late goal from substitute Aine Barry to edge it.

Goals proved vital for Sarsfields in a game where they scored more goals than points with Claire Holland, Aisling Whooley and Aine Barry hitting one apiece.

They held firm against a Carrigaline side who had Sarah Cot-

ter on target with seven points and Donna Smyth contributing three as they battled to get something from third round robin series game in the Evening Echo Intermediate championship.

Scorers for Sarsfields: A. Whooley 1-1 (0-1ft), C. Holland, A Barry 1-0 each, O. Barry 0-1.

Carrigaline: S Cotter 0-7 (3ft), D Smyth 0-1. Sarsfields: E Meaney; R Hyde, A Edwards, N O'Callaghan; A Griffin, J Murphy, D Murphy; Edel Murphy, Ellen Murphy; C Holland (C), O Barry, A Whooley; M O'Farrell, R Crowley, Yvonne O'Callaghan.

Subs: A Barry for Y. O' Callaghan (hvt), O Keane for M. O'Farrell (55).

CARRIGALINE: R Harrington; S Moran, A Collins, T O'Connor; G Harrington, J O'Keefe, D Smyth; M Moran, L Kelleher; S Cotter, E Power, G O'Keefe; C O'Keefe; N Crowley, T Scully.

Referee: Ger Sheehan (Douglas).

## Piarsaighs win junior league title

Na Piarsaigh 3-6  
Castlemagner 0-11

Week 7

CASTLEMAGNER

were first off the mark in this junior C league final as they opened the scoring with a point. Na Piarsaigh responded with a point from Orla Bourke and they hit the front with a Christine Mc Carthy goal. Castlemagner kept in touch thanks to Una Twohig, Mairead O'Connor and Susan Falvey who were all on target and it was nip and tuck, but with Trish Coleman and Orla Bourke pointing twice Na Piarsaigh led at the break, 1-5 to 0-6.

Castlemagner applied pressure from the start of the second half Susan Falvey and Shelly Twohig adding points to their tally, but the Na Piarsaigh defence held firm. They stretched their lead with a goal from Aisling Hannon and a Trish Coleman point. Susan Falvey pointed as Castlemagner kept the pressure on but they failed to

	P	W	L	D	Pts
Galway	7	6	1	12	
Wexford	7	6	1	12	
Cork	7	5	2	10	
Kilkenny	7	5	2	10	
Clare	7	2	5	4	
Tipperary	7	2	5	4	
Offaly	7	2	5	4	
Dublin	7	0	7	0	

### JUNIOR A

breach the Na Piarsaigh defence for the vital goal. Up front Na Piarsaigh kept the pressure on and they grabbed their third goal when Leona Crowley finished to the net.

Scorers for Na Piarsaigh: C Mc Carthy, A Hannon, L Crowley 1-0 each, T Coleman, O Bourke 0-3 (0-1ft) each.

Castlemagner: S Falvey 0-6 (0-5ft), U Twohig, M O'Connor 0-2 each, S Twohig 0-1.

NA PIARSAGH: A Lee; C O'Sullivan, C Sloane, N Kelly; R Bourke, L Burns, G Morrissey; D Moynihan, A Hannon; S Roche, T Coleman, O Bourke; L Crowley, C McCarthy, A Moynihan.

Sub: L Aherne for Hannon (55).

CASTLEMAGNER: N Long; M O'Keefe, E O'Donovan, Y Coleman; E Gayer, C Healy, M Weathers; R Twohig, S Twohig; C Twohig, M O'Connor, S Falvey; K O'Callaghan, U Twohig, J Lynes.

## Course will help with key roles in clubs

### SENIOR

EARLIER in the year the county board held a very informative and helpful course for the club PROs and following on from the success of this, the county board in association with the Cork sports partnership is holding an administration course for all camogie clubs.

The course will be held on Monday August 22 at the VEC offices, Yeats house, Ballincollig starting at 6.30pm.

The cost of the course is head or € three club officials the Itinerary/Agenda for the evening will look

at the role of the chairperson, secretary and treasurer and the responsibilities of those roles.

The evening will finish up with a questions and Answers session.

The board are requesting that all clubs have a representative or two there to take advantage of this opportunity.

The course can be booked by contacting the County Camogie Board development officer Mairead O'Donovan 41 Beech Park, Ballincollig, Co Cork.



# Rebels routed, now Kilkenny get ready for Galway

MICHAEL O'LEARY

Kilkenny ..... 2-16  
Cork ..... 1-13

KILKENNY and Cork may have met on the field in the senior camogie championships, but the real drama was saved for after the final whistle.

With both teams safely through to the last four of the All-Ireland championship along with Galway and Wexford, Saturday's game in Jenkinstown was effectively a dead rubber. The high point of the day came in the Jenkinstown clubhouse, where the semi-final draw was made.

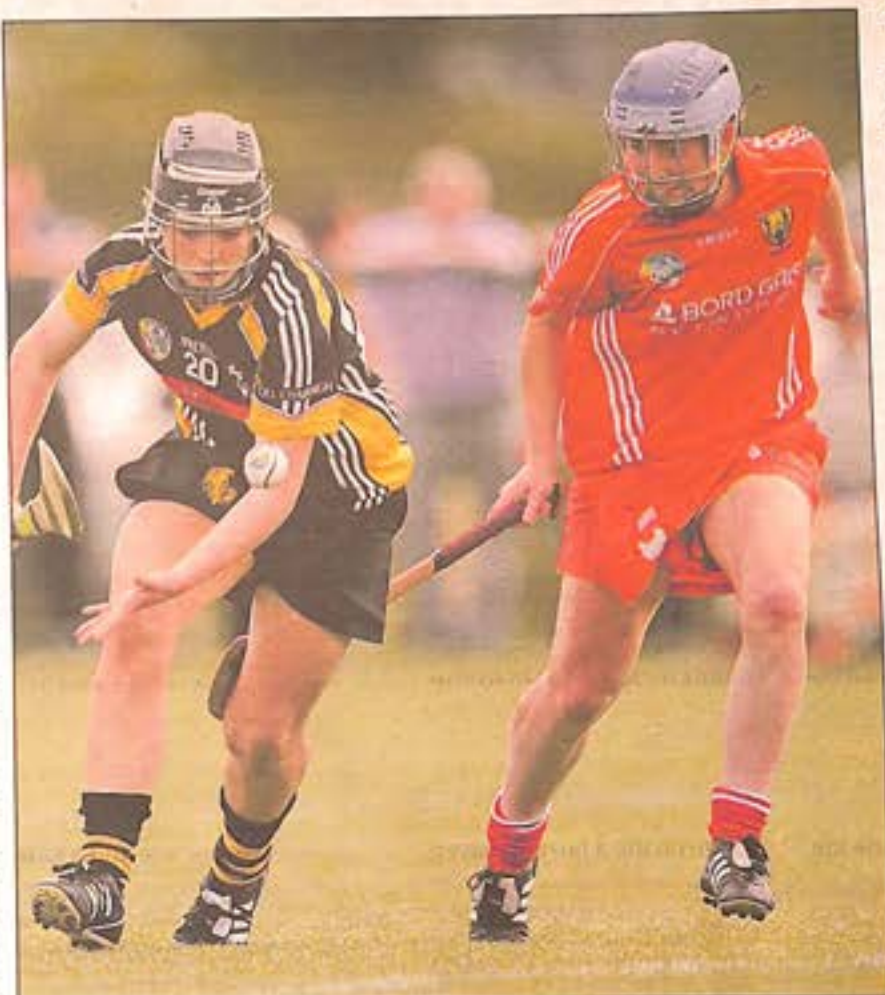
Kilkenny were first out of the hat. They were swiftly followed by Galway, setting up a repeat of the 2009 semi-final.

That contest was one of the most memorable games ever played in Nowlan Park as Kilkenny produced a late surge to snatch victory deep in injury-time to qualify for their first final since 2001.

Kilkenny appear to be peaking at the right time, laying down a marker with an impressive display at a sun-drenched Jenkinstown on Saturday.

Netminder Catriona Ryan had to be alert just 30 seconds in the game, pulling off a point-blank save to deny Sile Burns. That scare aside, it didn't take Kilkenny long to get into gear as they racked up 1-3 inside four minutes.

Anne Dalton, Marie Dargan and Aine Fahey all found the target, while Edel Maher goaled when she followed up on the rebound after initial



Sarah Ann Quinlan (Kilkenny) gets away from Rena Buckley (Cork) during their All-Ireland senior camogie championship clash in Jenkinstown. Photo: Matt Browne/SPORTSFILE

hand-passed attempt hit the post.

Kilkenny were in exhibition mode. By the 13th minute their tally had reached 1-8 as Anne Dalton, Aoife Neary (2) and Michelle Quilty (2) all made their mark. With further points following in quick succession from Neary (free), Quilty and Marie Dargan, the Cats were a whopping 13 points clear (1-11 to 0-1) after 20 minutes.

Cork took stern action, introducing Orla Cotter to the fray. They got a lifeline after 22 minutes when a Sile Burns free ended up in the roof of the Kilkenny net. Burns added three more points, but a fine score from captain Elaine Aylward saw a hard-working Kilkenny lead by eight at the break (1-12 to 1-4).

## Superb goal

While Neary and Burns exchanged pointed frees early following the restart, the game was over as a contest when Kilkenny rattled off a superb team goal after six second half minutes.

The ever-busy Denise Gaule laid the foundations with a long range delivery down the left wing. Edel Maher, racing across at speed, took possession before setting up Michelle Quilty to hand-pass the sliotar to an empty net (2-13 to 1-5).

The rest of the game was a non-event as Kilkenny took their foot off the gas. Although they were outscored by Cork (0-8 to 0-3) they never looked in danger of being caught. Marie Dargan scored three excellent second half points, while

manager Anne Downey emptied the bench during the second-half introducing Kelly Hamilton, Sarah Anne Quinlan, Shelley Farrell and Deirdre Delaney.

Kilkenny, who had top performers in Catriona Ryan, Grace Walsh, Elaine Aylward, Marie Dargan and Michelle Quilty, will now turn their attentions to that semi-final clash with Galway on August 13. Nowlan Park will host a double-header that day, with Cork and Wexford doing battle in the second semi-final later that afternoon.

**SCORERS: Kilkenny** - Michelle Quilty (1-3); Marie Dargan (0-5); Aoife Neary (0-4, 0-2 frees); Edel Maher (1-0); Anne Dalton (0-2); Aine Fahey, Elaine Aylward (0-1 each). **Cork** - Sile Burns (1-6, 1-4 frees, 0-1 45); Orla Cotter (0-3, 0-2 frees); Eimear O'Sullivan (0-2); Gemma O'Connor, Katriona Mackey (0-1 each).

## Teams -

**Kilkenny** - C. Ryan, R. Jones, C. Dormer, G. Walsh, C. Phelan, E. Keane, E. Aylward, A. Dunphy, A. Dalton, A. Neary, A. Fahey, D. Gaule, M. Dargan, M. Quilty, E. Maher. Subs: K. Fennelly, S. Farrell, K. Hamilton, S.A. Quinlan, D. Delaney.

**Cork** - A. Murray, J. Duffy, R. Buckley, N. O'Keeffe, C. Motherway, A. O'Regan, A. Geary, G. O'Connor, M. Reidy, D. Cronin, M. Walsh, E. O'Sullivan, J. White, S. Burns, J. Casey. Subs: E. O'Riordan, O. Cotter, K. Mackey, M. Browne, Referee - A. Lagrue (Kildare)

# Can minors Tipp the balance and regain title?

MICHAEL O'LEARY

KILKENNY will be in hot pursuit of an All-Ireland crown lost last year when they take on Tipperary in the minor camogie decider this weekend.

Since the minor championship was upgraded to under-18 in 2006 Kilkenny have dominated the scene, achieving the four-in-a-row back in 2009.

It wasn't just at inter-county level that the Cats excelled. During that intervening period, St Brigid's Callan achieved consecutive All-Ireland colleges titles in 2008 and 2009, while Loreto Kilkenny have dominated over the last years, winning four junior All-Irelands since 2007. In March the city school retained their All-Ireland colleges senior A title with victory over St Patrick's Maghera.

The Loreto school formed the backbone of Kilkenny's starting 15 in their comprehensive semi-final victory over Galway in Nenagh on Wednesday. Included were senior panellists Grace Walsh, Noelle Maher and Claire Phelan, as well as Loreto All-Ireland winning captain Aisling Curtis and star forward Aoife Murphy, who were other key members of the Loreto contingent.

Fellow minors Kelly Hamilton and Megan Farrell were central to Grennan College's success when winning the All-Ireland colleges senior B title,

while Jennifer Cunningham and Niamh Phelan were squad members of the St Brigid's Callan outfit that retained their All-Ireland in 2009.

## Wealth of winners

A look through the subs shows there is a wealth of colleges winners - 27 members of the 33-strong squad have won All-Ireland medals with their schools.

Despite that strength the campaign began on a low note for Kilkenny, who produced a poor display when losing to Clare (1-9 to 0-8) in their opening game.

Kilkenny were short five of their senior inter-county panel that night, but made amends by destroying Derry (6-12 to 0-0) a week later.

That landslide win set up a semi-final showdown with Galway, a repeat of last year's semi-final in which the Westerners prevailed by a single point (1-14 to 2-10).

Warm favourites in Nenagh last Wednesday, Galway boasted a number of players from their last two under-16 All-Ireland winning teams along with last year's victorious minors.

However, Kilkenny tore up the form book as, with the benefit of their senior contingent, they easily accounted for the Westerners, winning by 3-16 to 3-9 in a superb team display.

Claire Phelan was magnificent at centre-forward, scoring 0-7 while Aisling Curtis, Aoife Murphy and

substitute Sarah-Anne Quinlan were goalscorers in an excellent performance.

Miriam Walsh, who excelled for the Kilkenny under-16s in their one-point defeat to Tipp, played a key role last Wednesday, scoring three excellent points from play.

Overall it's a strong Kilkenny team. Seven of the team who started against Galway will be under-age again next year, with nine more panellists eligible for minor in 2012.

Barring injury, the starting 15 next Sunday (venue to be confirmed) is expected to be much the same as the line-up from the Galway match.

Goalkeeper Aine Kinsella won a senior county medal with Mullinavat last year. The half-back line is very strong and features Megan Farrell and the Tullaroan duo Grace Walsh and Noelle Maher.

Midfielder Kelly Hamilton is a proven performer at senior level, while Lydia Fitzpatrick at wing-forward was part of the under-16 outfit that reached the All-Ireland final.

Their final opponents Tipperary beat Dublin and Cork in their opening championship games before overcoming Clare by a point (3-9 to 1-14) in the second semi-final.

Tipp have a number of skilful players in attack, and their under-age talent gives them hope for the future as the county's senior team is being rebuilt following a golden era of five

All-Irelands between 1999 and 2004.

Brid Quinn and under-16 player Caoimhe Maher are a solid midfield partnership for the Premier County. The Fryday sisters, Eimear and Sarah, are sharp while Michaela Graham and Ciara McGrath are also potent attacking players.

The full Kilkenny minor camogie squad is:

Aine Kinsella (Mullinavat). Age: 17. School: Abbey Community College Ferrybank.

Niamh Phelan (Windgap). Age: 17. School: St Brigid's, Callan.

Jennifer Cunningham (Danesfort). Age: 17. School: St Brigid's, Callan.

Laura Norris (Piltown). Age: 17. School: Scoil Mhuire, Carrick-on-Suir.

Megan Farrell (Thomastown). Age: 16. School: Grennan College.

Grace Walsh (Tullaroan). Age: 18. School: Loreto Kilkenny.

Noelle Maher (Tullaroan). Age: 18. School: Loreto Kilkenny.

Kate Holland (Lisdowney). Age: 17. School: Loreto Kilkenny.

Kelly Hamilton (Rower-Inistioge). Age: 17. School: Grennan College.

Lydia Fitzpatrick (St Lachtain's, Freshford). Age: 16. School: Loreto Kilkenny.

Claire Phelan (Lisdowney). Age: 18. School: Loreto Kilkenny.

Miriam Walsh (Tullaroan). Age: 16. School: Loreto Kilkenny.

Aisling Curtis (Clara). Age: 18. School: Loreto Kilkenny.

Orla Hanrick (Dicksboro). Age: 17.

School: Loreto Kilkenny.

Aoife Murphy (Lisdowney). Age: 18. School: Loreto Kilkenny.

Laura Walker (Windgap). Age: 18. School: St Brigid's, Callan.

Rachel Hogan (Danesfort). Age: 17. School: St Brigid's, Callan.

Orlaith Walsh (St Martin's). Age: 18. School: Castlecomer Community School.

Tracey Brennan (Lisdowney). Age: 17. School: Loreto Kilkenny.

Emma Kavanagh (Lisdowney). Age: 18. School: St Mary's, New Ross.

Aoife Lyng (Rower-Inistioge). Age: 18.

Laura Moore (Windgap). Age: 18. School: St Brigid's, Callan.

Sarah-Anne Quinlan (Young Irelands, Gowran). Age: 17. School: Loreto Kilkenny.

Niamh Bambrick (Windgap). Age: 17. School: Loreto Kilkenny.

Sonya Buggy (Dicksboro). Age: 18. School: Loreto Kilkenny.

Ciara Holden (Mullinavat). Age: 17. School: St Brigid's, Callan.

Laura Dunne (Danesfort). Age: 18. School: St Brigid's, Callan.

Emma Comerford (Young Irelands). Age: 18. School: Loreto Kilkenny.

Sarah Crowley (Mooncoin). Age: 17. School: Mercy Secondary School.

Jane Cullen (Rower-Inistioge). Age: 18. School: Grennan College.

Niamh Donnelly (Thomastown). Age: 16. School: Grennan College.

Niamh Dowling (Tullaroan). Age: 18. School: St Brigid's, Callan.

Orla Ryan (St Brigid's, Kilmanagh). Age: 18. School: Loreto Kilkenny.



Gemma O'Connor, Cork, in action against Aisling Dunphy, Kilkenny during the All-Ireland Senior Camogie Championship in Jenkins-town, Co. Kilkenny. Picture: Matt Browne / SPORTSFILE



# Tipperary end campaign on poor note

All-Ireland Senior Camogie Championship  
(in association with RTE Sport)

Tipperary 1-11  
Galway 3-20

Report and Photograph by  
Rose Mannion at The Ragg

Tipperary ended their championship campaign in disappointing fashion with a heavy loss to a good Galway side on Saturday afternoon.

After such a good performance against Cork last week, it was hoped that the visitors would be

pushed to the pin of their collar, and while this was evident throughout the opening half, with a solid workrate, great defending and attacking, in particular from Mary Ryan and Jill Horan, sadly the game folded on Tipperary three minutes in the second half.

This was an important game for Galway as a win sealed their place in the semi-final but for Tipperary it was a case of playing for pride. On paper this team look impressive enough and supporters know that the girls in the Blue & Gold jersey can produce the goods, so both followers and players must now be asking the question, where to go from here and what went so terrible wrong throughout this disappointing campaign.

The visitors opted to play with the aid of a slight breeze in the first half but Tipp hit the front early on through points from Cora Hennessy and Jill Horan. Galway were hoping for an early goal and were testing the Tipp keeper Rita Bourke, but she brought down several efforts aided by her club-mate Sabrina Larkin at full back and both worked well together over the hour.

Galway opened their account seven minutes in when Martina Conroy split the uprights. Tipperary were given a huge boost goalkeeper Rita Bourke saved Conroy's penalty soon after. Points were swapped but for every Tipperary score, Galway responded on the double and Rita Bourke was busy between the posts which left Galway settling for points, four of which was



Maria Tynan (Tipperary) is challenged by Martina Conroy (Galway) during Saturday's All-Ireland Championship clash.

their advantage at the break.

Galway changed their keeper Susan Earner and corner forward Martina Conroy for the second half and this move proved fruitful. Jill Horan gave her side an early score, however Tara Rutledge's shot bounced off the Tipp keepers hurl and into the net for Galway's opening goal three minutes in and

any hopes Tipperary harboured about a turnaround quickly faded as Galway split the uprights twice before Martina Conroy's effort landed in the Tipperary net.

At this point, Tipperary were beginning to show signs of tiredness yet, keeper Rita Bourke brought off another fantastic save.

Wanting to give players

that toggled out a chance, Tipperary manager John Lillis also made changes and bringing sub goalie Rosie Kenneally into the corner forward position, she struck for Tipperary's only goal. However, Galway sub Niamh Kilkenny responded in kind while Joanne Ryan made a great late effort only to be denied by Galway keeper Helen

Campbell. Galway finished the scoring with two points coming from sub Aisling Connolly and to give them a comfortable victory.

## Match Digest

**Player of the Match:** Ann Marie Hayes (Galway)  
**Scorers:** Tipperary: Jill Horan 0-4; Cora Hennessy 0-4, 3 frees; Rosie Kenneally 1-0; Siobhan McGrath, Alison Loneragan, Joanne Ryan 0-1 each.  
**Galway:** Tara Rutledge 1-2; Aislinn Connolly 0-4, 1 free; Martina Conroy 1-1; Sandra Tannian 0-3; Veronica Curtin 0-3, 1 free; Jessica Gill 0-3, 2 frees; Niamh Kilkenny 1-0; Orla Kilkenny 0-2; Fionnuala Keely, Brenda Hanney 0-1 each.

**Tipperary:** Rita Bourke (Shannon Rovers); Maria Tynan (Toomevara); Sabrina Larkin (Shannon Rovers); Geraldine Stapleton (Silvermines); Julie McGrath (Cashel); Julie Kirwan (Moneygall, Capt); Michelle Shortt (Drom & Inch); Mary Ryan (Moneygall); Jill Horan (Cashel); Cora Hennessy (Clonoulty); Siobhan McGrath (Drom & Inch); Alison Loneragan (Cashel); Noreen Flanagan (Holycross); Eimer Shanahan (Drom & Inch); Amy Kennedy (Burgess/Duharra). **SUBS:** Joanne Ryan (Drom & Inch) for Shanahan; Delvina Dunne (Drom & Inch) for Kennedy; Claire Ryan (Cashel) for Stapleton; Rosie Kenneally (Drom & Inch) for Loneragan; Maria Kirwan (Moneygall) for Tynan.

**Galway:** Susan Earner; Theresa Manton, Regina Glynn, Lorraine Ryan; Ann Marie Hayes; Theresa Maher; Sarah Dervar; Eimer Haverly; Orla Kilkenny; Jessica Gill; Sandra Tannian; Martina Conroy; Tara Rutledge; Brenda Hanney (Capt); Veronica Curtin. **SUBS:** Aislinn Connolly for Conroy; Helen Campbell for Earner; Ann Marie Starr for Kilkenny; Niamh Kilkenny for Haverly; Fionnuala Keely for Curtin.

Referee: Mike O'Kelly (Cork).



# AN CUMANN CAMÓGAÍOCHTA



Dé Domhnaigh  
31ú Iúil, 2011

**All Ireland Minor A Championship Final**  
2.30pm, Semple Stadium  
**TIPPERARY V KILKENNY**

**All Ireland Minor B Championship Final**  
2.30pm, Donaghmore Ashbourne  
**LIMERICK V ANTRIM**



## Fáilte ón Uachtarán



**C**ONGRATULATIONS to all the players involved in this week's two All Ireland Minor finals. You are excellent exponents of our sport. The Minor grade is crucially important in its own right and a Minor All Ireland medal is much coveted. The grade is also significant as it supports young players to make the transition from underage to adult Camogie.

The achievement of Tipperary, Kilkenny, Limerick and Antrim in reaching an All Ireland Final reflects your commitment to being the best. It also reflects the selfless commitment of many people at club, school and county levels who have supported the players to develop and appreciate the skills of Camogie. I thank you for your hard work and expertise.

One of the new developments in Camogie this year is a national consultation on how Camogie is played. Like many sports, Camogie is continuously evolving, reflecting new trends in coaching, technical development and player development. In this context it is good every once in a while to do a stock take and consider what kind of game do we want for the future.

I want to know what you think so check out our website [www.camogie.ie](http://www.camogie.ie) or the Camogie page on Facebook where you can participate in a national online survey. The survey is anonymous. It asks just ten questions and you can only participate once!

From time to time aspects of the game come on the radar, particularly during the championship season. The perception of a growing level of physical contact in the game, similarity or differences between Camogie and hurling, the playing uniform, the advantage rule, scores from a handpass are some of the regular discussion items.

Through the survey, I'd like as many players, referees, coaches, mentors and supporters to give the Playing Rules Review Group your opinion. The Review Group will report to Central Council (our governing body Ardchomhairle) who will consider their recommendations; consult further with the counties and then bring any necessary motions to next year's Congress which will decide on how we want the game to played.

Today, I wish good luck to all the teams, referees, match officials and generously acknowledge the support of the GAA in hosting our games.

*Joan O'Flynn*

JOAN O'FLYNN

Uachtarán, An Cumann Camógaíochta



Dé Domhnaigh, 31ú Iúil 2011

**All-Ireland Minor 'A' Championship Final**

Semple Stadium – 2.30 p.m.

**Cill Chainnigh v Tiobraid Árann**

Referee: MIKE O'KELLY (Cork)  
Line Umpires: Aiden O'Brien (Wexford),  
Justin Heffernan (Wexford)



2.00pm Cill Chainnigh on pitch  
2.03pm Tiobraid Árann on pitch  
2.15pm Referee and Match Officials on pitch  
2.30pm Throw-in



**All-Ireland Minor 'B' Championship Final**

Donaghmore Ashbourne – 2.30 p.m.

**Aontroim v Luimneach**

Referee: CON Ó CÉADAIGH (Wicklow)  
Line Umpires: Noel McEntee (Kildare)  
Ciarán Quigley (Kildare)



2.00pm Aontroim on pitch  
2.03pm Luimneach on pitch  
2.15pm Referee and Match Officials on pitch  
2.30pm Throw-in



Check out

[www.camogie.ie](http://www.camogie.ie)

and follow us on

[facebook.com](https://www.facebook.com/camogie)



LIZ HOWARD chats to . . .

**Aine Kinsella**  
(Kilkenny)



Q: At what age did you pick up a hurley?

A: I first picked up a hurley when I was 8, and absolutely loved it. I haven't left it down since.

Q: Three people who influenced your camogie career?

A: My Dad (Jim) is one. He's my biggest critic but has always made me want to be a better player. My Granddad (Bill) who goes to all my matches and encourages me, and the players and trainers in Mullinavat, all who have made me enjoy the game even more.

Q: Favourite position on team and why?

A: Midfield, because I like the freedom of being able to move up and down the field, and I can follow the ball.

Q: What does your club mean to you?

A: I love my club, Mullinavat, because it's there that I can improve my game. I always look forward to training and matches with my club; winning or losing, it's great to play beside the players I have known since I started playing camogie.

Q: Three camogie players you admire

A: Elaine Aylward, such a strong, skilful player; Michelle Quilty, who has an unbelievable first touch on the ball and Briega Carkery who is a brilliant mid-fielder.

Q: Best victory so far and why?

A: Winning the 2011 Senior County Final with Mullinavat. After years of trying, we finally won, and it was such a great feeling.

Q: Favourite TV programme?

A: "Outnumbered"

Q: Favourite song or piece of music?

A: Everything by Michael Buble

Q: Six male sports stars you would invite to dinner/why?

A: Henry Shefflin, best hurler I've ever seen; Brian O'Driscoll, such a brilliant rugby player; Rafael Nadal, really cool; Lionel Messi, I can watch a full soccer match when he's playing, he's so skilful; Michael Fennelly, brilliant mid-fielder; Lar Corbett, the kind of forward you wouldn't like to mark.

Q: Who would you like to see elected as President of Ireland?

A: David Norris

Q: What do you do to chill out?

A: I really like reading, and getting into a good book helps me to relax. I also like to play on the Wii with my little sisters.

Q: Are you aware of social media on the camogie website. If so what aspect?

A: No, but I will check it out now!

**Caoimhe Maher**  
(Tipperary)



Q: At what age did you pick up a hurley?

A: At 12 months!

Q: Three people who influenced your camogie career?

A: My mother and father, Ailis and Timmy and Pat Cremin, trainer with my club Burgess Duharra

Q: Favourite position on team and why.

A: Midfield because you're right in the middle game from the very start and I think it allows me to play my own game and the freedom to move around more to support the team.

Q: What does your club mean to you?

A: My club is the first team I played with and where I learnt all the skills. There are some great people working behind the scenes and I am proud to play for Burgess Duharra every time I line out in the jersey.

Q: Three camogie players you admire

A: Eimear McDonnell, Therese Brophy and Jill Horan

Q: Best victory so far and why?

A: All Ireland U16 this year because we put in very hard work all through the year. It was my third U16 All Ireland Final in a row and it was a case of third time lucky.

Q: Favourite TV programme

A: "Home and Away"

Q: Favourite song or piece of music?

A: I don't have one in particular. I enjoy listening to all sorts of music.

Q: Six male sports stars you would invite to dinner/why?

A: Rafael Nadal, I really admire his level of fitness and his ability to just wear his opponents down physically and mentally in a game. Navak Djokovic, one of the best athletes I admire and I think he'd be good craic as well; Patrick (Bonner) Maher – his work rate off the ball and his ability to win the 'dirty ball' and do all the horse work is something I really admire; I don't think he gets enough credit for this; Joe Canning – I would love him to teach me how to take sidelines like he can and his skill level is amazing; Usain Bolt, I'd love to see and meet the fastest man in the world; Dan Carter, he'd be nice to look at from across the table!

Q: Who would you like to see elected as President of Ireland

A: Mary Davis

Q: What do you do to chill out?

A: Sit down, have a cup of tea and watch some telly, as little as possible really!

Q: Are you aware of social media on camogie website. If so what aspect?

A: No, I'm not aware of it but will check it out now!





# Cill Chainnigh

Dathanna: Dubh agus Ómra

## Minor 'A'

(1)

**Aine Kinsella**  
A. Cisealach  
Mullinavat

(2)

**Niamh Phelan**  
N. Ni Fhooláin  
Windgap

(3)

**Jennifer Cunningham**  
S. Nic Cuinneagáin  
Danesfort

(4)

**Laura Norris**  
L. Noireis  
Piltown

(5)

**Meighan Farrell**  
M. Ni Fheorail  
Thomastown

(6)

**Grace Walsh**  
G. Breatnach  
Tullaroan

(7)

**Noelle Maher**  
N. Ni Mheachair  
Tullaroan

(8)

**Kate Holland**  
C. Ni hAoláin  
Lisdowney

(9)

**Kelly Hamilton**  
C. Hamaláin  
Rower-Inistioge

(10)

**Lydia Fitzpatrick**  
L. Nic Giolla Phódraig  
Freshford

(11)

**Claire Phelan**  
C. Ni Fhooláin  
Lisdowney

(12)

**Miriam Walsh**  
M. Breatnach  
Tullaroan

(13)

**Aisling Curtis**  
A. de Cuirteis  
Clara

(14)

**Orla Hanrick**  
O. Ni hAnraic  
Dicksboro

(15)

**Aoife Murphy**  
A. Ni Mhurchú  
Lisdowney

**MANAGERS:** Brendan Williams, Vincent Sheil

**SELECTORS:** Ted Brown, Ann Carroll, Pierce Dargan, Helen Farrell

**TEAM SECRETARY:** Martin Quilty

## FIR IONAIÐ

- (16) **Niamh Bambrick**  
N. Boimbric  
Windgap
- (17) **Tracy Brennan**  
T. Ni Bhroanáin  
Lisdowney
- (18) **Sonia Buggy**  
S. Ni Bhoghaigh  
Dicksboro
- (19) **Emma Comerford**  
E. Nic Cumascaigh  
Young Irelands
- (20) **Sarah Crowley**  
S. Ni Chruaíoch  
Moanoin
- (21) **Jane Cullen**  
S. Ni Chuilinn  
Rower-Inistioge
- (22) **Niamh Donnelly**  
N. Ni Dhonnale  
Thomastown
- (23) **Niamh Dowling**  
N. Ni Dhúllaing  
Tullaroan
- (24) **Laura Dunne**  
L. Ni Dhoinn  
Danesfort
- (25) **Rachael Hogan**  
R. Ni hÓgáin  
Danesfort
- (26) **Emma Kavanagh**  
E. Nic Caomhánaigh  
Rower-Inistioge
- (27) **Aoife Lyng**  
A. Ni Laim  
Rower-Inistioge
- (28) **Laura Moore**  
L. Ni Mhóra (Capt.)  
Windgap
- (29) **Sarah-Ann Quinlan**  
S. A. Ni Chaoimhín  
Young Irelands
- (30) **Orla Ryan**  
O. Ni Riain  
St. Brigid's

# Tiobraid Árann

Dathanna: Gorm agus Ór

## Minor 'A'

(1)

**Orla McEniry**  
O. Nic Innéiri  
New Inn

(2)

**Julie Ann Burke**  
S. A. de Búrca  
Toomevara

(3)

**Sheila Ryan**  
S. Ni Riain  
Toomevara

(4)

**Louise McLoughlin**  
L. Nic Lochlainn  
Silvermines

(5)

**Clodagh Quirke**  
C. Ni Chairc  
Clonoulty

(6)

**Aisling Cremin**  
A. Ni Chroimin  
Burgess/Duharra

(7)

**Mairéad Barry**  
M. de Barra  
Drom/Inch

(8)

**Brid Quinn**  
B. Ni Choinne (Capt.)  
Silvermines

(9)

**Caoimhe Maher**  
C. Ni Mheachair  
Burgess/Duharra

(10)

**Andrea Loughnane**  
A. Ni Lochlainn  
Thurles

(11)

**Eerena Fryday**  
E. Fryday  
Knockavilla

(12)

**Nicole Walsh**  
N. Breatnach  
Toomevara

(13)

**Sarah Fryday**  
S. Fryday  
Clonoulty

(14)

**Michaela Graham**  
M. Ni Ghréacháin  
Maycarkey

(15)

**Ciara McGrath**  
C. Nic Craith  
Menagh

**MANAGER:** Tim Meagher **COACH:** Andy Ryan

**SELECTORS:** Maureen Connolly, Clodagh Loughnane

**PHYSIO:** Fiona Connolly



## FIR IONAIÐ

- (16) **Siobhán Hennessy**  
S. Ni hAonasa  
Thurles
- (17) **Tara Kennedy**  
T. Ni Chinnéide  
Burgess/Duharra
- (18) **Claire Kennedy**  
C. Ni Chinnéide  
Kilruane
- (19) **Aoife Ryan**  
A. Ni Riain  
Toomevara
- (20) **Elizabeth Cahill**  
E. Ni Chathail  
Moneygall
- (21) **Mairéad Teehan**  
M. Ni Théacháin  
Moneygall
- (22) **Maria Ryan**  
M. Ni Riain  
Silvermines
- (23) **Theresa Ryan**  
T. Ni Riain  
Toomevara
- (24) **Marianne Murphy**  
M. Ni Mhurchú  
Maycarkey
- (25) **Aoife McGrath**  
A. Nic Craith  
Drom/Inch
- (26) **Aisling Carroll**  
A. Ni Chaoimhín  
Shannon Rovers
- (27) **Anne Eviston**  
A. Eviston  
Drom/Inch
- (28) **Alice Fogarty**  
A. Ni Fhógartaigh  
Thurles
- (29) **Sarah Cuneen**  
S. Ni Choinn  
Silvermines
- (30) **Rosemarie Hanafin**  
R. Ni hAinlinn  
Thurles

LIZ HOWARD chats to . . .

## Aine Kinsella (Kilkenny)



- Q:** At what age did you pick up a hurley?
- A:** I first picked up a hurley when I was 8, and absolutely loved it. I haven't left it down since.
- Q:** Three people who influenced your camogie career?
- A:** My Dad (Jim) is one. He's my biggest critic but has always made me want to be a better player. My Granddad (Bill) who goes to all my matches and encourages me, and the players and trainers in Mullinavat, all who have made me enjoy the game even more.
- Q:** Favourite position on team and why?
- A:** Midfield, because I like the freedom of being able to move up and down the field, and I can follow the ball.
- Q:** What does your club mean to you?
- A:** I love my club, Mullinavat, because it's there that I can improve my game. I always look forward to training and matches with my club; winning or losing, it's great to play beside the players I have known since I started playing camogie.
- Q:** Three camogie players you admire
- A:** Elaine Aylward, such a strong, skilful player; Michelle Quilty, who has an unbelievable first touch on the ball and Brieghe Corkery who is a brilliant mid-fielder.
- Q:** Best victory so far and why?
- A:** Winning the 2011 Senior County Final with Mullinavat. After years of trying, we finally won, and it was such a great feeling.
- Q:** Favourite TV programme?
- A:** "Outnumbered"
- Q:** Favourite song or piece of music?
- A:** Everything by Michael Buble
- Q:** Six male sports stars you would invite to dinner/why?
- A:** Henry Shefflin, best hurler I've ever seen; Brian O'Driscoll, such a brilliant rugby player; Rafael Nadal, really cool; Lionel Messi, I can watch a full soccer match when he's playing, he's so skilful; Michael Fennelly, brilliant mid-fielder; Lar Corbett, the kind of forward you wouldn't like to mark
- Q:** Who would you like to see elected as President of Ireland?
- A:** David Norris
- Q:** What do you do to chill out?
- A:** I really like reading, and getting into a good book helps me to relax. I also like to play on the Wii with my little sisters.
- Q:** Are you aware of social media on the camogie website. If so what aspect?
- A:** No, but I will check it out now!!

## Caoimhe Maher (Tipperary)



- Q:** At what age did you pick up a hurley?
- A:** At 12 months!
- Q:** Three people who influenced your camogie career?
- A:** My mother and father, Ailis and Timmy and Pat Cremin, trainer with my club Burgess Duharra
- Q:** Favourite position on team and why?
- A:** Midfield because you're right in the middle game from the very start and I think it allows me to play my own game and the freedom to move around more to support the team.
- Q:** What does your club mean to you?
- A:** My club is the first team I played with and where I learnt all the skills. There are some great people working behind the scenes and I am proud to play for Burgess Duharra every time I line out in the jersey.
- Q:** Three camogie players you admire
- A:** Eimear McDonnell, Therese Brophy and Jill Horgan
- Q:** Best victory so far and why?
- A:** All Ireland U16 this year because we put in very hard work all through the year. It was my third U16 All Ireland Final in a row and it was a case of third time lucky.
- Q:** Favourite TV programme
- A:** "Home and Away"
- Q:** Favourite song or piece of music?
- A:** I don't have one in particular. I enjoy listening to all sorts of music.
- Q:** Six male sports stars you would invite to dinner/why?
- A:** Rafael Nadal, I really admire his level of fitness and his ability to just wear his opponents down physically and mentally in a game; Novak Djokovic, one of the best athletes I admire and I think he'd be good craic as well; Patrick (Bonner) Maher - his work rate off the ball and his ability to win the 'dirty ball' and do all the hard work is something I really admire; I don't think he gets enough credit for this; Joe Canning - I would love him to teach me how to take sidelines like he can and his skill level is amazing; Usain Bolt, I'd love to see and meet the fastest man in the world; Dan Carter, he'd be nice to look at from across the table!
- Q:** Who would you like to see elected as President of Ireland
- A:** Mary Davis
- Q:** What do you do to chill out?
- A:** Sit down, have a cup of tea and watch some telly, as little as possible really!
- Q:** Are you aware of social media on camogie website. If so what aspect?
- A:** No, I'm not aware of it but will check it out now!



# CILL CHAINNIGH



Back row: Emma Kavanagh, Niamh Bambrick, Sarah Ann Quinlan, Lydia Fitzpatrick, Aisling Curtis, Niamh Phelan, Orlaith Walsh, Orla Ryan, Claire Phelan and Aoife Lyng. Middle row: Miriam Walsh, Jennifer Cunningham, Laura Dunne, Jane Cullen, Kelly Hamilton, Orla Hanrick, Meighan Farrell, Aoife Murphy, Niamh Donnelly and Kate Holland. Front row: Grace Walsh, Laura Norris, Rachel Hogan, Emma Comerford, Noelle Maher, Niamh Dowling, Sonia Buggy, Tracy Brennan and Aine Kinsella.

# TIOBRAID ÁRANN



Back row (L-R): Aoife Ryan, Ciara McGrath, Eerena Fryday, Aoife Maloney, Janette Collins, Síle Ryan, Brid Quinn, Caoimhe Maher, Michaela Graham, Aisling Cremin, Niamh Maher, Clodagh Quirke, Paula Kelly, Anne Eviston, Elizabeth Cahill, Jenny Logue, Mairéad Teehan. Front row: Teresa Ryan, Eimear Kennedy, Nicole Walsh, Sarah Cuneen, Aoife McGrath, Louise McLoughlin, Orlagh McInroy, Mairéad Barry, Andrea Loughnane, Aisling Carroll, Maria Ryan, Tara Kennedy, Claire Kennedy, Rosemarie Hanafin.





# Aontroim

Dathanna: Bui agus Bán

## FIR IONAID

- (16) Megan Coyle  
M. Nic Giolla Chomhaill  
Loughiel
- (17) Sorcha Cosgrove  
S. Nic Oscair  
Cushendall
- (18) Lauren Elliott  
L. Nic Uilleisid  
Dunloy
- (19) Caoimhe Quinn  
C. Ni Chainn  
Dunloy
- (20) Aine Mulholland  
A. Ni Mhaolchallan  
Portlennane
- (21) Lucia McNaughton  
L. Ni Meechtain  
Loughiel
- (22) Meabh Mulholland  
M. Ni Mhaolchallan  
Gort na Mona
- (23) Anna Kelly  
A. Ni Cheallaigh  
Portlennane
- (24) Danielle Quinn  
D. Ni Chainn  
Dunloy
- (25) Danielle Scally  
D. Nic Scalsi  
Brigini Óg
- (26) Maeve McCoug  
M. Nic Chaig  
Ballycastle
- (27) Aoife Rooney  
A. Ni Ruanaidh  
St. John's

## Minor 'B'

- (1) Danielle McMichael  
D. Nic Michil  
Ballycastle
- (2) Nuala Kelly  
N. Ni Cheallaigh  
Portlennane
- (3) Maria Donnelly  
M. Ni Dhonnaile  
Ballycastle
- (4) Shauna O'Neill  
S. Ni Neill  
Tir na nÓg
- (5) Eimear McGarry  
E. Nic Fhearraigh  
Loughiel
- (6) Michaela Beattie  
M. Nic Bhiataigh  
Ballycastle
- (7) Shannon Woulahan  
S. Ni Uallacháin  
Dunloy
- (8) Laura Connolly  
L. Ni Chonghaile  
Loughiel
- (9) Shauna Devlin  
S. Ni Dhoibhlin (Capt.)  
Loughiel
- (10) Colleen Patterson  
C. Nic Pháidin  
Cushendall
- (11) Niamh Donnelly  
N. Ni Dhonnaile  
Ballycastle
- (12) Meabh Lavery  
M. Ni Laibheartaigh  
St. John's
- (13) Chloe Drain  
C. Ni Dhreáin  
Dunloy
- (14) Ruby Marie Rice  
R. Máire Ni Ris  
Craggan
- (15) Sinéad Cosgrove  
S. Nic Oscair  
Cushendall

MANAGER: Chris McAuley  
MENTORS: Aidy McGill, Brona McIntyre  
PHYSIO: Martina McTear

# Luimneach

Dathanna: Glas agus Bán

## Minor 'B'

- (1) Claire O'Riordan  
C. Ni Riordáin  
Newcastlewest
- (2) Emma Quaid  
E. Nic Uaid  
Croagh/Kilfinny
- (3) Grace Lee  
G. Ni Laoi  
Newcastlewest
- (4) Aisling Enright  
A. Nic Ionnrachtaigh  
Newcastlewest
- (5) Michelle Browne  
M. de Brún  
Newcastlewest
- (6) Lisa Scanlon  
L. Ni Scannláin  
Killeedy
- (7) Patricia Liston  
P. Liastún  
Newcastlewest
- (8) Elaine Kennedy  
E. Ni Chinnéide  
Newcastlewest
- (9) Rebecca Delee  
R. Ni Dhuile  
Newcastlewest
- (10) Brid Hannon  
B. Ni Hannon  
Croagh/Kilfinny
- (11) Martina McMahon  
M. Ni Mathúna  
Croagh/Kilfinny
- (12) Kristy Carroll  
C. Ni Chearúill (Capt.)  
Galbally
- (13) Caoimhe Costello  
C. Nic Coisteala  
Adare
- (14) Elaina Mullane  
E. Ni Mhaoláin  
Killeedy
- (15) Claire Keating  
C. Ceitinn  
Cappamore

MANAGEMENT TEAM: Willie Hurley, Jim Moynihan, Jim Dowling,  
Timmy Larkin, Rose McMahon, Liz Carroll



## FIR IONAID

- (16) Caroline Scanlon  
C. Ni Scannláin  
Killeedy
- (17) Niamh Ryan  
N. Ni Riain  
Bruff
- (18) Joanne Dowling  
S. Ni Dúlaing  
Cappamore
- (19) Emma Coughlan  
E. Ni Chochláin  
Ballybrown
- (20) Kate Carmody  
C. Ni Cheamada  
Crecora
- (21) Lisa Barrett  
L. Bairéid  
Crecora
- (22) Alison O'Connell  
A. Ni Chonail  
Crecora
- (23) Catriona Neville  
C. Ni Nua  
Croagh/Kilfinny
- (24) Aoife Wilson  
A. Nic Liam  
Na Piarraigh
- (25) Jane Wilson  
S. Nic Liam  
Na Piarraigh
- (26) Breda Larkin  
B. Ni Lorcáin  
Killeedy
- (27) Muireann Creamer  
M. Nic Threáin  
Cappamore
- (28) Emily Colhane  
E. Ni Chathláin  
Croagh/Kilfinny
- (29) Joanne Murray  
S. Ni Mhuiri  
Killeedy
- (30) Megan Quinn  
M. Ni Chainn  
Crecora



# AONTROIM



Back row (l-r): A. Kelly, M. Coyle, D. McMichael, C. Quinn, R.M. Rice, L. Elliott, S. O'Neill, S. Woulahan, M. Donnelly, M. McCoug, N. Donnelly, A. Mulholland. Middle row (l-r): Sinéad Cosgrove, M. Beattie, C. Patterson, U. McCotter, O. O'Hara, S. Devlin (Capt.), N. Dobbin, N. Kelly, M. Mulholland, D. Quinn. Front row (l-r): D. Scally, Soracha Cosgrove, N. Adams, A. Rooney, C. Drain, E. McGarry, K. Donnelly, L. McNaughton. Missing from picture: M. Lavery, L. Connolly.



# LUIMNEACH



Back row: Katie Hurley, Kate Carmody, Joanne Dowling, Elaine Kennedy, Claire O'Riordan, Brid Hannon, Michelle Browne, Niamh Ryan, Aisling Enright, Kristy Carroll, Aoife Wilson, Breda Larkin, Martina McMahon. Front row: Alison O'Connell, Catriona Neville, Caoimhe Costello, Emma Coughlan, Elaina Mullane, Patricia Liston, Rebecca Delee, Grace Lee, Claire Keating, Joanne Murray, Jane Wilson.

## LIZ HOWARD chats to...

### Shauna Devlin (Antrim)



- Q: At what age did you first pick up a hurley?
- A: I started playing for my local hurling club St. Bridgid's at the age of 7.
- Q: Three people who influenced your camogie career?
- A: My older brother, Michael, has had a huge influence on me from a young age, also Claran Connolly ("CC"), Aidan "Flash" McKeown.
- Q: Favourite position on team and why?
- A: I enjoy playing in the backline and in the middle of the field, just not so good up in the forward line without my Sat Nav.
- Q: What does your club mean to you?
- A: At a younger age I used to play for Cloughmills and then transferred to Loughgiel at U-14. Loughgiel Shamrocks made me the player I am today. My club rocks my world!
- Q: Three camogie players you admire
- A: Bernie McKinley, Siobhan McCloskey, Charlene Homill (Loughgiel), Fiannuala Carr (Down), Therese Maher (Galway)
- Q: Best victory so far and why?
- A: Last year in the semi-final of the All Ireland against Waterford!! Waterford were the hot favourites to reach the All Ireland, going in as the under dogs and coming out the winners was a great achievement for us. Plus the fact it was the first All Ireland final that I had ever got to.
- Q: Favourite TV programme
- A: "Dumb and Dumber"
- Q: Favourite song or piece of music?
- A: "Little Lion Man"
- Q: Six male sports stars you would invite to dinner/why?
- A: Usain Bolt to get some speedy tips and to hear that Jamaican accent of his; Ronaldo, quite simply just to look at!! Tommy Walsh, Eoin Kelly, Joe Canning and Paul McFlynn for some GAA banter!!
- Q: Who would you like to see elected as President of Ireland.
- A: I don't know the people who have declared an interest! So it must be Hannah Devlin, because she's the best sister in the whole world and she already thinks she runs the world anyway!!
- Q: What do you do to chill out?
- A: This is a tough one! I spend my time watching Harry Potter!
- Q: Are you aware of social media on camogie website. If so what aspect?
- A: Yes, I like the way the Association is now using Facebook and how all updates are published as well.

### Lisa Scanlon (Limerick)



- Q: At what age did you pick up a hurley?
- A: When I was 5 or 6
- Q: Three people who influenced your camogie career?
- A: My family, Tim Larkin, Denis Casey, John Cunningham
- Q: Favourite position on team and why?
- A: Centre back because you have control and get plenty of ball!!
- Q: What does your club mean to you?
- A: I play club camogie with Killeedy and I love it. Team mates on the senior team and underage teams are very encouraging and have a huge influence on me. Coaches have always been most supportive and have taught me everything I know about the game!
- Q: Three camogie players you admire
- A: Michelle Casey and Dymphna O'Brien who play club camogie with me in Killeedy and Limerick; Brieghe Corkery, Cork
- Q: Best victory so far and why?
- A: Winning the Munster final with the Limerick Intermediates this year and winning the Minor All Ireland final in 2009 against Waterford because they were two of the toughest games we've ever played. Coming 3rd in the All Ireland Féile na nGael Camogie skills in 2008.
- Q: Favourite TV programme
- A: "Criminal Minds"
- Q: Favourite song or piece of music?
- A: "Galway Girl"
- Q: Six male sports stars you would invite to dinner/why?
- A: Lar Corbett, Bernard Bragan, Alan McCrabbe, Christy Ring, Brian Geary and John Galvin (Limerick footballer) because they are all serious sports men and I'd like to know their secrets!! Might be difficult to get Christy Ring!!
- Q: Who would you like to see elected as President of Ireland?
- A: Mary Davis because of her interest in helping people with special needs.
- Q: What do you do to chill out?
- A: I don't have a lot of time to "chill out" but when I do I go driving.
- Q: Are you aware of social media on camogie website. If so what aspect?
- A: No but will start now!!



## Tipperary

Senior: Tipperary ended their senior championship campaign with a 3-20 to 1-11 defeat at the hands of Galway with Noel Finn's charges dismantled Tipperary in the second half to run out eventual fifteen point victors.

The Tribeswomen outscored their rivals by 2-5 in the second period to set up a mouthwatering semi-final clash with Kilkenny on August 13th.

Tipperary will look back on this campaign knowing that they failed to perform against the top four sides (Wexford, Galway, Cork and Kilkenny), conceding 3-13 on average. The performances of Jill Horan and Mary Ryan are worthy of note, and perhaps we will see them rewarded with All-Star nominations in the near future.

**All-Ireland Minor Final:** The Tipperary Minor Camogie team take on Kilkenny in the All-Ireland Final this coming Sunday in Semple Stadium, Thurles at 2.30pm. The girls have put in a massive effort this year under the guise of Tim Maher and Andy Ryan. The U16s recently completed the double, securing the Munster title with a victory over neighbors Clare. We are very fortunate in Tipperary to have a great core of camogie supporters and mentors, and the County Board would be very grateful for a large turnout on Sunday.

Clubs are urged to hire buses and rally supporters, young and old, for the big day. If you need any help whatsoever, please contact any member of the Camogie Board or David Kelly (PRO) on 087-7547233, and I will do my utmost best to help you with your query. Once again we wish all those involved the very best of luck.



HIGH AND MIGHTY: Brendan Cummins (left) and Waterford's Patricia Jackman

## Cummins goes the distance on Annaverna

TIPPERARY senior goalkeeper Brendan Cummins claimed his fifth McDonnell All-Ireland Poc Fada title on Saturday evening on the Annaverna Mountain in Cooley, Co. Louth.

The five-time All-Star took honours on the 50th Anniversary of the event, ahead of last year's champion Graham Clarke, finishing the five kilometre course in 50 pocs.

"It's you against the mountain," Cummins said.

"It's not too dissimilar to golf. It's all down to how you perform on the day and thankfully it worked out ok for me.

### Cult

He added, "There's a great cult following to the whole thing and it was great to see GAA President Christy Cooney present also."

Cummins also took the pairs title, with Down's Karol Keating, with a combined score of 109 pocs, ahead of Wexford's Mark Butler and Down's Graham Clarke, who had a combined score of 111 pocs.

Waterford's Stevie Brenner won the longest first puck title, having five inches to spare over Cummins.

Meanwhile, Waterford's Patricia Jackman claimed three-in-a-row of Camogie titles in 28 pucks.

Jackman, in her sixth year in the competition again proved impressive; finishing ahead of Galway's Rachel Monaghan, who registered 31 pocs on her first visit to the mountain.

"It was tough, as Rachel was only two shots behind me at the turn," she said.

Jackman played through the pain barrier, having suffered a finger injury earlier in the week.

"On Tuesday I was practicing and I bruised my fin-

ger, so I didn't get to puck a ball again until the Friday."

Offaly's Cillian Kiely was the Under-16 boys winner, after he claimed the title in 24 pucks — two ahead of Munster Champion, and Cork's Darragh O'Callaghan of Watergrasshill.

Kiely (15) will get the chance to retain his title next year, as he is once again eligible in 2012.



LETTING RIP: Patricia Jackman of Waterford in action on the Annaverna Mountain in Louth

## Tipp in stunning comeback

TIPPERARY produced a stunning second-half comeback to record a dramatic 4-4 to 2-9 victory and win the All-Ireland minor A camogie title at Semple Stadium.

Nicole Walsh pointed a free with just two minutes remaining to snatch the honours for the home side after a titanic tussle with Kilkenny.

With Grace Walsh dominant at centre-back, Kilkenny drove forward and a Hanrick goal on the stroke of half time had them in a commanding position at the interval, leading by 2-6 to 1-0.

The task of turning

### CAMOGIE round-up

around that nine-point deficit was helped considerably by Fryday when the senior player goalied three minutes after the resumption.

### Buried

When Michaela Graham buried to the net 10 minutes later, the margin was down to two.

A Tara Kennedy point reduced it to the minimum but Fitzpatrick slotted a

45, followed by a free to put three between them again.

Crucially though, Walsh restored parity with a 52nd-minute goal.

Kilkenny's Emma Kavanagh and Tipperary's Alice Fogarty exchanged scores before Walsh came up trumps to clinch the honours.

Meanwhile, Limerick came out on top of a tough battle with Antrim to win the minor B final in Ashbourne, 1-10 to 2-8.

**CAMOGIE RESULTS**  
**ALL-IRELAND MINOR CHAMPIONSHIP FINALS:**  
A: Tipperary 4-4, Kilkenny 2-9  
B: Limerick 4-10, Antrim 2-8  
**ALL-IRELAND PREMIER JUNIOR CHAMPIONSHIP IN ASSOCIATION WITH RTE SPORT**  
Meath 4-14, Roscommon 0-5  
Down 9-15, Dublin 1-11  
**ALL-IRELAND JUNIOR CHAMPIONSHIP IN ASSOCIATION**  
A: Armagh 0-15, Tyrone 0-3  
B: Monaghan 4-9, Meath 0-1  
**LEINSTER MINOR B CHAMPIONSHIP FINAL**  
Offaly 4-12, Galway 3-9

### CAMOGIE

#### ALL-IRELAND PREMIER JUNIOR CHAMPIONSHIP

**Meath 4-14** (K. Mullen 3-1, J. Dolan 1-4/0-5f), **A. Donnelly** 0-3, **K. Hackett** 0-2, **L. Oakes**, **F. O'Neill** 0-1 each; **Roscommon 0-5** (**K. Hopkins** 0-4/0-1f), **C. Regan** 0-1)  
**Down 9-15** (**N. Mallon** 3-4, **S. L. Carr** 2-3, **C. Mc Gurdy** 1-3/0-1f), **L. McCracken** 1-1, **N. Braid** 1-0f, **Carr** 1-0p, **L. Mc Polard** 0-2, **L. Hughes**, **A. O'Neill** 0-1 each)  
**Dublin 1-11** (**E. Maher** 0-8/2f), **A. Bagler** 1-0, **C. Canning** 0-2, **K. Mulvey** 0-1)

Aug. 2011

KILKENNY  
HOTEL PEOPLE  
KILKENNY

## SPORTS STAR of the MONTH

## The Loreto are winners all the way in camogie

THE Kilkenny school with the golden touch on the camogie scene has been honoured as the star performers in the Hotel Kilkenny and Kilkenny People sports star of the month awards scheme.

### Camogie capital

Over the past five years the Loreto Secondary School in the City has captured a remarkable 11 All-Ireland crowns at various levels to earn the reputation as the undisputed camogie capital

of the country.

The glory run included back-to-back wins in the senior All-Ireland championship, with the most recent capture being a comprehensive 4-10 to 1-6 win over St Patrick's (Maghera) this season; the completion of a hat-trick at junior level, with the most recent success being a 3-11 to 0-7 win over St Patrick's.

On top of that, the talented Loreto girls claimed five successive wins in the All-

Ireland 7-a-side camogie championships during what has been a golden era for the school in the game.

### Defending titles

A quality crop of players was moulded into champions by teachers, Brendan Williams and Gerry Bolger, who head up the camogie section in the school.

The Loreto will head into the new academic year defending national titles on a number of fronts, including

senior, junior and 7-a-side level.

To mark what has been an outstanding run, the Loreto Secondary School camogie players and management were honoured as the sports stars of the month for April, when the last title was won.

Representatives of the school will be honoured with the various other monthly award winners when the annual banquet is held in Hotel Kilkenny early next year.



Aisling Curtis (Clara) captained the Loreto Secondary School to their senior Roinn A success this season.



AUG. 2011



St Catherine's Deirdre Twomey.

## Saints run riot against Rockbán

CAMOGIE

By LINDA MELLERICK

St Catherine's  
Rockbán

11-25  
2-5

IT WAS the hardest of days at the office for Rockbán last evening as they suffered an humiliating defeat at the hands of St Catherine's in the Evening Echo Cork senior camogie championship opening round in Mounseabey.

Rockbán will obviously apply to downgrade for next season and attempt to rebuild from there. As far as last evening went, it was a very long hour for the player's involved.

But credit to Rockbán who refused to brood and kept battling regardless of how in vain it was.

St Catherine's, to be fair, could have brought on substitutes from early on but to do so would have rendered them illegible for junior so they stuck with their starting 15 throughout.

From as early as 20 seconds into the game St Catherine's struck their opening score, a Fiona Cotter goal. They controlled all areas of the wide open pitch with Rockbán doing little to curb their speed and flair.

Goals and points came fast and furious with the Twomey sisters, Deirdre and Denise and 16-year-old Rachel O'Callaghan thoroughly enjoying themselves.

Trailing 6-12 to 1-3 it must have been hard for Rockbán to reappear for the second half.

There was no let up from St Catherine's. With the Cotters completely in control they continued their exhibition with Jill Hurley and the Twomey's notching up score after score.

St Catherine's will have learned little, Rockbán will want to forget it.

**Scorers for St Catherine's:** Denise Twomey 4-3, O Cotter 2-5 (1-2 ft), J Hurley 3-2, Deirdre Twomey 0-10, R O'Callaghan 1-2, F Cotter 1-1, M Tobin, E Ronayne 0-1 each.  
**Rockbán:** S Burns 1-4 (0-3 ft), C Conway 1-0, C Cronin 0-1.  
**ST CATHERINE'S:** O Leahy, F Noonan, N Mulcahy, Y O'Neill, C Neville, C Motherway, A Fitzgerald, O Cotter, M Tobin, R O'Callaghan, E Ronayne, F Cotter, Denise Twomey, J Hurley, Deirdre Twomey.  
**ROCKBÁN:** O Mulcahy, M McSweeney, C Foley, E Hourigan, L Ryan, D Foley, L Crowley, V Mulcahy, S Buckley, N Hurley, S Burns, S Dilworth, M Foley, T Howard, C Denney.  
**Subs:** C Cronin for E Hourigan (12), N Downing for S Dilworth (47), S Dilworth for C Conway (in 52).  
**Referee:** John O'Leary (Mallow).



LINDA MELLERICK

## CAMOGIE

Ballincollig  
St Finbarr's

1-9  
1-6

BALLINCOLLIG hung on to their half-time lead to advance to the knock-out stages of the senior camogie championship after a tough battle at Castle Road on Saturday evening.

St Finbarr's will rue some missed scoring opportunities which may have seen them at least draw the game, but outside of Niamh Goulding's early second-half goal they failed to find the target for the closing 34 minutes.

A strong wind favoured the Barrs initially yet it was Ballincollig who held the lead at the break, 1-6 to 0-6, after Linda Dorgan dominated the first half. It took the Barrs 24 minutes to make the change, by which time Dorgan had scored 1-2 from corner-forward.

Ballincollig were winning good possession, despite the wind. The Barrs remained in contention from placed balls, as just two of their opening six scores were from play. However, it was Aisleen Sheehan who was the busier of the two goalkeepers throughout, denying the Barrs repeatedly.

At half-time you would have expected Ballincollig to push on, with the wind at their backs. Yet it was St Finbarr's who took the game to their opponents from the re-start.

Lynda O'Connell switched from centre-back to left corner to mark Linda Dorgan, who eventually moved to centre-forward, where Jenny Duffy now held rank. Dorgan's influence was significantly reduced. Ballincollig were under pressure.

Denise Cronin pointed a free and thereafter neither side scored for 19 minutes. It became a battle with both sides guilty of giving away silly frees, some soft and questionable, it must be said.

Inside the final quarter with just a point separating the sides it was Ballincollig who won the last 10 minutes. Kate O'Donoghue, Sam-

antha Coomey, Patricia Buttimer and Denise Cronin led the charge and a great block inches from goal by Leah Weste rallied the troops. Two points from Cork senior Denise Cronin, one from play, sealed their hard-fought victory.

**Scorers for Ballincollig:** D Cronin 0-6 (0-4 ft), L Dorgan 1-2, S O'Sullivan 0-1.  
**St Finbarr's:** G O'Connor 0-5 (0-2 ft, 0-1 45), N Goulding 1-1 (0-1 ft).  
**BALLINCOLLIG:** A Sheehan, L Driscoll, K O'Donoghue, B O'Callaghan, C Irish, L Weste, A Cotter, P Buttimer, S Coomey, D Cronin, A Lovett, S Buckley, L Dorgan, M O'Donoghue, S O'Sullivan.  
**Subs:** J Hennigan for A Lovett (45), E O'Sullivan for B O'Callaghan (56).

**ST FINBARR'S:** B A Corcoran, C Sargent, T Doyle, M McCarthy, C Barrett, L O'Connell, J Duffy, M Cahalane, G O'Connor, C Kearney, C Spellman, R Myers, V Hosford, N Goulding, H Morgan.  
**Subs:** B O'Mahony for V Hosford (34), N Varian for R Myers (43), R Finn for H Morgan (49).  
**Referee:** Walter Cole (Buttervant).

Ballincollig's Linda Dorgan has her shot blocked by St Finbarr's Maria McCarthy during their Evening Echo Senior Camogie Championship game at Castle Road on Saturday

Picture: Jim Coughlan

# Dorgan hits key scores for Collig



Leah Weste, Ballincollig, puts pressure on Claire Spellman, St Finbarr's, during the Evening Echo Senior Camogie Championship game at Castle Road.

Picture: Jim Coughlan

AUG 2011



# Sharp Anna cranks up the Gears for Milford

CAMOGIE

By LINDA MELLERICK

Milford	3-13
Inniscarra	0-9

A HAT-TRICK of second-half goals from intercounty star Anna Geary gave Milford their passage into round three of the Evening Echo senior championship.

With both sides heavily depleted it proved to be a highly entertaining encounter with the final score possibly flattering Milford a little against the reigning champions.

Milford had strong scorers up front in Marie O'Neill and Anna Geary. They could afford to allow those players hold their position and wait for the opportunities such as their strength throughout the field.

Inniscarra however found many of their top players playing deep in a bid to win possession and struggled against an excellent Milford rearguard.

The opening half was tight. Little separated the sides as twice Inniscarra ran into a two-point lead only to be pegged back by the accuracy of Marie O'Neill.

Inniscarra were marginally winning the outfield battle with Yvonne Twomey and Niamh Dilworth causing problems.

Trailing 0-5 to 0-4 with 23 minutes gone, a shrewd move by the Milford management swung the game heavily in their direction. Anna Geary moved to centre-forward with Marie O'Neill switched to full. Both players capitalised. Five points inside three minutes; two a piece from the aforementioned gave Milford a speedy and surprising four point advantage. Rena Buckley had to drop back to curb Geary.

Milford began the second half with points from Deirdre Reilly and an O'Neill free, but it was Anna Geary's goal which shook Inniscarra.

Milford were truly in the driving seat with Deirdre O'Reilly ably assisting Curtin in the middle of the park where Milford were in control.

But champions Inniscarra fought back. They began to regain control around the middle of the pitch. Milford became guilty of giving away needless frees and stopped their fast direct hurling. Opting instead to run with the ball Inniscarra pounced on the delays and struck two points.

Milford became under sustained pressure but their defence was excellent, in particular Sarah Sexton, Elaine O'Riordan and Lisa Healy. The wind was knocked out of Inniscarra's momentum once again when Anna Geary struck another gem of a goal from an acute angle giving the keeper absolutely no chance with 10 minutes remaining.

There was no way back for the champions. Geary's third goal, from out the field, which defied Emily O'Donovan, was the icing on the cake for the North Cork side.

**Scorers for Milford:** A Geary 3-3, M O'Neill 0-7 (0-4 f, 0-2 45), A O'Flynn, Deirdre O'Reilly, A Thompson 0-1 each.

**Inniscarra:** J Casey 0-3 (0-1 f, 0-1 45), N Dilworth 0-2, R Buckley 0-2 (0-1 f), T McCarthy, Y Twomey 0-1 each.

**MILFORD:** S Flaherty, D Hayes, N O'Brien, L Healy, O O'Mahony, E Riordan, S Sexton, D O'Reilly, R Curtin, A Thompson, M O'Neill, A O'Flynn, S O'Flynn, A Geary, L O'Flynn. **Sub:** A Dillon for L O'Flynn (40).

**INNISCARRA:** E O'Donovan, R McCarthy, A Sheehan, L Hayes, C Looney, R O'Mahony, E Kingston, E O'Connell, B Buckley, N Deworth, J Casey, Y Twomey, T McCarthy, M Cosgrove, L Buckley. **Sub:** C Sheehan for M Cosgrove (inj 45).

**Referee:** Colette O'Mahony (St Finbarr's).

# Courceys strike for goals at key times

CAMOGIE

By MARY NEWMAN

Courcey Rovers	2-11
Ballygarvan	1-9

COURCEY Rovers will be pleased with the performances of the younger members of their side in the Evening Echo senior camogie championship in Brinny last night.

Caron O'Reilly, Julia Mulcahy and Ashling Moloney were excellent though the experience of Sara Hayes, Rachel Moloney and Christine O'Neill was vital too as Courceys carved out victory.

There was little between the sides in the opening 20 minutes and it was 0-5 each five minutes before the break, but it was here that Courcey's hit the vital scores. Having just got level with an excellent Rachel Keohane point Ballygarvan conceded a goal.

Courceys centre-forward Christine O'Neill won the puck-out, before setting up Julia Mulcahy with an excellent pass to fire home the game's opening goal. O'Neill pointed two minutes later and with the sides swapping points before the break, it was 1-7 to 0-6 in Courceys' favour.

Rebecca Murphy and Catriona Kelly hit early Ballygarvan points as the sides settled into the second half, but again the Ballygarvan defence were caught seven minutes into the half, with the lively Ashling Moloney evading them to set up Ursula Quinn for Courceys' second goal.

Ballygarvan — with Eimear Dillon and Catriona Kelly prominent — threw everything at the Courceys defence, but they held firm.

Keeper Claire Duggan denied Catriona Kelly with an excellent save from 20 metres as they piled on the pressure.

Rachel Moloney pointed to extend the lead, before Rachel Keohane's shot across the face of the goal bounced into Catriona Kelly's path and ended up in the net to put just a goal between the sides.

Moloney pointed twice as Courceys again settled and upped the tempo, with Ballygarvan continuing to find no way past a resolute Courcey defence where Sara Hayes was superb.

Catriona Kelly pointed a Ballygarvan free but the final word went to pacey corner-forward Julie Mulcahy, deep into injury time, as Courceys marched on to round two, while Ballygarvan must now contest the losers round as they bid to stay in the championship.

**Scorers for Courcey Rovers:** R Moloney 0-6 (0-4 f, 0-1 45), J Mulcahy 1-1, U Quinn 1-0, C O'Neill 0-2, A Moloney, S Hayes 0-1 each.

**Ballygarvan:** C Kelly 1-5 (0-4 f), R Murphy 0-2, R Keohane, S Lynch 0-1 each.

**COURCEY ROVERS:** C Duggan, K Keohane, M O'Donovan, P Collins, A Keating, S Hayes, C Hayes, U Quinn, C O'Neill, C O'Driscoll, J Mulcahy, A Moloney, C O'Reilly.

**Subs:** O Twomey for A Keating (45), P Barnett for U Quinn (50).

**BALLYGARVAN:** M E O'Donovan, M Hallahan, J Browne (c), S A O'Halloran, A Keohane, O'Donovan, L Browne, V Browne, C Murphy, S Lynch, E Dillon, L O'Callaghan, R Keohane, C Kelly, R Murphy.

**Subs:** L Kennelick for M Hallahan (45), D Daly for C Murphy (47).

**Referee:** Charmid Kirwin (Eire Óg).

## Walsh points the way for Tipperary in thriller

By Daragh Ó Conchúir

Tipperary 4-4  
Kilkenny 2-9

Nicole Walsh's pointed free two minutes from the end of normal time set the seal on a magnificent comeback as Tipperary overturned a nine-point interval deficit to win the All-Ireland minor A title at Semple Stadium.

The winners got off to a brilliant start with a fourth minute goal by Sarah Fryday but failed to score for the remainder of the half as Kilkenny dominated proceedings.

Points from Claire Phelan, Orla Hanrick and Aisling Curtis had the teams level by the time the excellent Phelan goaled in the 11<sup>th</sup> minute after Lydia Fitzpatrick split the Tipperary defence open with a blistering run.

With Grace Walsh dominant at centre-back and a strong wind in their favour, Kilkenny continued to drive forward. Miriam Walsh and Curtis added points before a Hanrick goal on the stroke of half time had them in a commanding position at the interval, leading by 2-6 to 1-0. Tipperary had already made two changes by that stage and the introduction of Anne Eviston was significant, as the Drom & Inch player went on to give a performance that earned her the player of the match award.

Tim Meagher's side started the second half in similar fashion to the first, with Fryday goaling three minutes after the resumption.

The task of pegging back Kilkenny was helped considerably by Fryday when the senior player goaled three minutes after the resumption. Brid Quinn landed a point before Michaela Graham reacted quickest when Áine Kinsella batted out a Walsh free to bury the sliotar to the net.

When Tara Kennedy raised a white flag soon after, the margin was down to the minimum entering the final quarter.

Fitzpatrick showed good nerve to convert a 45 and a free to stretch the lead to three points once again however, and Kilkenny were looking good.

Crucially though, Walsh restored parity with a 52<sup>nd</sup> minute goal. Kilkenny's Emma Kavanagh and Tipperary's Alice Fogarty exchanged scores before Walsh came up trumps to clinch the honours.

**Tipperary:** O McEniry; JA Burke, S Ryan, L McLoughlin; C Quirke, A Cremin, M Barry; B Quinn 0-1, C Maher; A Loughnane, E Fryday, N Walsh 1-1(0-1f); S Fryday 2-0, M Graham 1-0, C McGrath. **Subs:** A Eviston for Barry; T Ryan for Loughnane; T Kennedy 0-1 for Loughnane; A Fogarty 0-1 for McGrath; M Teehan for Quinn.

**Kilkenny:** A Kinsella; N Phelan, J Cunningham, L Norris; M Farrell, G Walsh, N Maher; K Holland, K Hamilton; L Fitzpatrick 0-2(1f, 1 45), C Phelan 1-1, M Walsh 0-2; A Curtis 0-2, O Hanrick 1-1, A Murphy. **Sub:** E Kavanagh 0-1 for Curtis.

**Referee:** M O'Kelly (Cork)

## Limerick see off Antrim in final quarter

By Daragh Ó Conchúir

Limerick 4-10  
Antrim 2-8

Limerick came out on top of a tough battle with Antrim to win the minor B final in Ashbourne. The Shannonsiders had goals from Martina McMahon and Niamh Ryan in the first half to lead by 2-6 to 2-5 at the break, with Ruby Marie Rice and Orlagh O'Hara having scored goals for Antrim.

McMahon's scoring contribution was vital to Limerick's win as she recorded a personal tally of a goal and seven points, a tally that included three points frees and two successful 45s.

Antrim had much of the play in the second half but failed to capitalise on some excellent scoring opportunities. Indeed, they only managed three points in the second half and that was never going to be enough to win a coveted All-Ireland.

Caoimhe Costello struck for a goal which gave Limerick increased confidence. With centre-back Lisa Scanlon giving a player-of-the-match performance, Limerick kicked on in the final final 10 minutes and Ryan bagged her second goal to confirm the result.

**Scorers - Limerick:** M Mc Mahon 1-7(0-3fs, 0-2 45s); N Ryan 2-0; C Costello 1-1; B Hannon, L Scanlon (f) 0-1 each.

**Antrim:** O O'Hara 1-1; M Lavery 0-3 (1f); RM Rice 1-0; M Cotter, C Drain 0-2 each.

**Referee:** C Ó Céadaigh (Wicklow)



Three players on the victorious Tipperary All Ireland Under 16 panel. Left to right: Kora Kerrane, Rosemarie Hanafin, Laura Loughname.





Golden girls: The Limerick minor camogie team celebrate their All Ireland 'B' final win over Antrim in Ashbourne last weekend.

# Glory days for camogie

Jerome O'Connell

LIMERICK camogie is on the up.

Last Sunday they county minor team won the All-Ireland B championship and now the next target is for the flagship team to add the All-Ireland intermediate title.

They face Antrim in the All-Ireland semi-final on August 20 with a potential September 11 Croke Park final awaiting against either Wexford or Derry.

That side is managed by Paul Finn with Pauline McCarthy and James Moynihan.

Moynihan is the current chairman of Limerick camogie. Last Sunday in Ashbourne in Co Meath he was part of the minor management team along with Willie Hurley, Jim Dowling, Timmy Larkin and Rose McMahon.

"It was a great win for us and the good news is that a lot of the girls are underage again next year. From speaking to officials in Croke Park I know that our minor team will play in the A grade next year and so too will our U-16 team," explained the chairman.

Just a few weeks previous to the 4-10 to 2-8 minor win over Antrim, the county U-16 side also claimed county honours, with an overlap of five players.

"We need to be playing in the top level in all grades and



Captain fantastic: Limerick captain Kristy Carroll lifts the cup after the All Ireland minor camogie final

hopefully the intermediates can win now as well and get back into the seniors," said Moynihan.

The minor success came on the back of wins over Wexford, Offaly and Carlow.

In last Sunday's final, Limerick were led by Player of the Match, Lisa Scanlon, with the Killeedy girl lining out at centre back.

The scoring charts were headed by Martina McMahon, who finished with 1-7 and Niamh Ryan, who scored two goals.

Limerick lined out without the injured Elaine Mullane but by half time, Limerick were one point clear, 2-6 to 2-5.

Martina McMahon and Niamh Ryan scored Limerick goals in

the first half with Brid Hannon and McMahon adding points.

The game turned in Limerick's favour mid-way through the second half when Caoimhe Costelloe added a third goal to put her side in the driving seat after some fine work by Kristy Carroll.

When Niamh Ryan scored her second goal, Limerick were eight points clear with just five minutes to play.

The victory was made all the sweeter given that Limerick had suffered final heartbreak last year when Derry were victorious.

Limerick also won this title back in 2009, when they were final winners over Waterford.

"Five of last Sunday's minor panel are on the intermediate panel and hopefully their winning will continue," said James Moynihan. "A lot of work has been put into these underage teams and it is a great reward to get up to play in the A grades," added the chairman.

**LIMERICK:** Claire O'Riordan; Emma Quaid, Grace Lee, Aisling Enright; Michelle Browne, Lisa Scanlon, Patricia Lister; Elaine Kennedy, Rebecca Delee; Brid Hannon, Martina McMahon, Kristy Carroll; Caoimhe Costelloe, Niamh Ryan, Claire Keating. Subs: Caroline Scario, Elaine Mullane, Joanne Dowling, Emma Coughlan, Kate Carmody, Lisa Barrett, Alison O'Connell, Catriona Neville, Aoife Wilson; Eimear Wilson, Breda Larkin, Muireann Creamer, Emily Culhane, Joanne Murray, Megan Quinn, Kate Hurley, Deirdre Cunningham, Anna Kennedy, Niamh Foley, Siobhán Mulcahy, Mary Cunningham.



All action: Claire Keating (above) and Aisling Enright (below) in action against Antrim in last weekend's final



## Minor win a boost for camogie

ALL Ireland titles don't come to Limerick that often and it was great to see the Limerick Minor Camogie team achieve such success last weekend when they defeated Antrim in Ashbourne.

The team has worked very hard this season and such a victory will be a major boost to the game in Limerick. There was a time when the game had a high profile in Limerick and we produced so many fine players.

That time players played with great pride and we didn't have the nonsense that we have seen in recent times where some players took the easy option not to play. This win over Antrim came about because of the huge effort put in by players, management and parents who have all worked together and the end result is now their just reward.

The management team of Timmy Larkin, Willie Hurley, James Moynihan, and Jim Dowling has done a great job in getting the best from all the girls and they now can build upon this success. Many of the girls in this All Ireland winning team come from great GAA backgrounds and that is always a help in bringing people to the game.



# Inspired comeback yields All Ireland for Tipperary

All Ireland Minor 'A' Camogie  
Championship Final

Tipperary 4-4  
Kilkenny 2-9

Report and Photographs by  
Rose Mannion at Semple Stadium

Tipperary's Minor camogie team were crowned All-Ireland champions on Sunday afternoon in the home of hurling when they overcame Kilkenny by the narrowest of margins completing a remarkable comeback in the process.

Six of the Tipperary side are already holders of Under 16 All-Ireland medals won just twelve weeks ago under the same management team and again the opponents were Kilkenny and once again they were one-point to the good at the final whistle.

It was Nicole Walsh's pointed free two minutes from the end of normal time that saw Tipperary complete their recovery from a nine-point deficit in the first half to leave Kilkenny shell-shocked.

Tipperary were first on scoreboard three minutes into play when dangerous corner forward Sarah Fryday caught a high ball and fired to the roof of the net, deceiving Kilkenny keeper Aine Kinsella. Within three minutes, Kilkenny were level with points from Claire Phelan, Orla Hanrick and Aisling Curtis.

Tipperary struggled with several of the Kilkenny players, in particular at midfield and the half forward line where they were winning a lot of ball and applying fierce pressure on the Tipperary back line. A tenth minute Kilkenny attack lead to Claire Phelan splitting open the

Tipperary defence and blasted to the net. Miriam Walsh added a point shortly after as Tipperary were in severe difficulty, as they struggled to get the ball past the Kilkenny half back line.

Tipperary keeper Orla McEniry had a busy first half such was the pressure Kilkenny were exerting as Claire Phelan continued to add to her tally with a further point.

The premier county introduced Theresa Ryan and Anne Eviston to great effect as the positional switches helped Tipperary to win more ball, but it looked all over for the home side when Phelan and Miriam Walsh set up full forward Orla Hanrick for their second goal two minutes before the to the break and Walsh tagged on a point to leave Kilkenny in a commanding position 2-6 to 1-0 lead at half time.

A nine-point deficit looked too great even for Tipp to come back from but crucially they were first on the scoreboard on resumption when the hard working Sarah Fryday caught Caoimhe Maher's sideline cut and struck in the net four minutes in. Almost immediately, Tipp captain Brid Quinn tagged on a great point from long range. Winning a lot more possession, the girls in the blue and gold took charge and turning the game totally around they fought hard for possession and kept Kilkenny pinned back in

their own half. Tipperary had reduced the lead to just two points in six minutes after Nicole Walsh went for goal, Aine Kinsella saved with Michaela Graham pulling the loose ball to the Kilkenny net.

Tipp substitute Tara Kennedy reduced the margin to one entering the last quarter but fighting back, McEniry denied Phelan a goal with Lydia Fitzpatrick converting the resultant 45 and added a free and after a long solo run through the Tipp defense, sub Rachel Hogan was halted as Kilkenny reopened a three-point lead.

Tipperary leveled with eight minutes to go when Nicole Walsh raced through the Kilkenny defense and stuck the ball in the net to bring the sides level. Emma Kavanagh and Alice Fogarty exchanged points and it looked as if the game would go to a replay as time ticked away but cool as a breeze and with great composure and nerve, Nicole Walsh converted a free to bring All-Ireland honours to Tipperary.

In the aftermath of the game, jubilant captain Brid Quinn praised the determination of the team to come back. "At half time I knew there was more left in us but I wasn't sure if we could get it back or not. We didn't give it our all, there was no fight in us but when we came out in the second half we were determined to win and they weren't going to beat us in our own home ground in Thurles."

With two All-Irelands under his belt in just three months, Manager Tim Maher said: "The first half we didn't hurl, maybe we were just overawed by the occasion, I just don't know.



Anne Eviston accepts the Player of the Match award from Catherine Neary, Camogie Ardchomhairle.

"Kilkenny's gameplan pulled our forwards way out field and we didn't stand with them so when the ball broke, it broke to Kilkenny players and they were running then from midfield in the whole time, we just couldn't handle it."

An optimist in many ways is how he described his feelings at half time. "I never think the game is gone beyond you and I know it was a big ask of the players, but I felt if we could hurl and get into our game, got a few breaks which we did get in the second half, we could rattle Kilkenny. We felt then that if we stood up to them, one to one marking they wouldn't have the space they wanted to have so we did that in the second half and thankfully it worked out," he said.



Sarah Fryday (Tipperary) heads towards goal in the Minor All-Ireland Final.

## Match Digest

Player of the Match: Anne Eviston (Tipperary).

Scorers: Tipperary: Sarah Fryday 2-0; Nicole Walsh 1-1, 0-1 free; Michaela Graham 1-0; Tara Kennedy, Brid Quinn, Alice Fogarty 0-1 each.

Kilkenny: Orla Hanrick 1-1; Claire Phelan 1-1, 0-1 free; Miriam Walsh, Aisling Curtis 0-2 each; Lydia Fitzpatrick 0-2, 1 free, 1 45; Emma Kavanagh 0-1.

Tipperary: Orla McEniry (New Inn); Julie Ann Burke (Toomevara); Sheila Ryan (Toomevara); Louise McLoughlin (Silvermines); Clodagh Quirke (Clonoulty); Aisling Cremin (Burgess/Duharra); Mairead Barry (Drom & Inch); Brid Quinn (Silvermines, Capt); Caoimhe Maher (Burgess/Duharra); Andrea Loughnane (Thurles); Eirena Fryday (Knockavilla); Nicole Walsh (Toomevara); Sarah Fryday (Clonoulty); Michaela Graham (Moycarkey); Clara McGrath (Nenagh Éire Óg).

SUBS: Anne Eviston (Drom & Inch) for Cremin; Theresa Ryan (Toomevara) for Barry; Tara Kennedy (Burgess/Duharra) for Loughnane; Alice Fogarty (Thurles) for McGrath; Mairead Teehan (Moneygall) for Quinn.

Kilkenny: Aine Kinsella; Niamh Phelan, Jennifer Cunningham, Laura Norris; Meighan Farrell, Grace Walsh, Noelle Maher; Kate Holland, Kelly Hamilton; Lydia Fitzpatrick, Claire Phelan, Miriam Walsh; Aisling Curtis, Orla Hanrick; Aoife Murphy.

SUB: Emma Kavanagh for Holland.

Referee: Mike O'Kelly (Cork).



Tipperary Minor Camogie team - All Ireland Champions 2011. Back Row (L to R): Andy Ryan (coach), Clodagh Loughnane (selector), Sheila Ryan, Sarah Cuneen, Caoimhe Maher, Tara Kennedy, Sinead Delaney, Aoife Moloney, Maria Ryan, Niamh Maher, Mairead Teehan, Michaela Graham, Rosemary Hanafin, Sarah Fryday, Marianne Murphy, Janette Collins, Aisling Cremin, Louise McLoughlin, Aoife Ryan, Tim Maher (manager). Front Row (L to R): Maureen Connolly (selector), Eirena Fryday, Claire Kennedy, Aisling Carroll, Elizabeth Cahill, Aoife McGrath, Mairead Barry, Paula Kelly, Orla McEniry, Clodagh Quirke, Nicole Walsh, Anne Eviston, Emer Kennedy, Julie Ann Burke, Theresa Ryan, Andrea Loughnane, Siobhan Hennessy, Alice Fogarty. Sitting: Clara McGrath, Brid Quinn.



# All-Ireland agony for Kilkenny

Tipperary ..... 4-4  
Kilkenny ..... 2-9

**SCORERS: Tipperary** - Sarah Fryday (2-0); Nicole Walsh (1-1, 0-1 free); Michaela Graham (1-0); Tara Kennedy, Brid Quinn, Alice Fogarty (0-1 each). **Kilkenny** - Claire Phelan (1-1, 0-1 free); Orla Hanrick (1-1); Lydia Fitzpatrick (0-2, 0-1 free, 0-1 45); Aisling Curtis, Miriam Walsh (0-2 each); Emma Kavanagh (0-1).

KILKENNY'S quest to regain their minor camogie All-Ireland title ended in agony as a last-gasp rally saw Tipperary snatch the crown from their grasp.

The Cats were within touching distance of the spoils in Semple Stadium on Saturday, but they were sunk as a late Nicole Walsh free saw Tipp cap a fine second half performance in which they rallied from nine points down.

The Premier County girls had made a fine start, dashing into the lead thanks to Sarah Fryday's fourth minute goal, but they were kept quiet for the remainder of the half as Kilkenny took control. The Cats were level within a matter of minutes thanks to points from Claire Phelan, Orla Hanrick and Aisling Curtis, before Phelan grabbed Kilkenny's first goal on 11 minutes, the Lisdowney player rattling the net after Lydia Fitzpatrick had carved Tipp open with a searing burst.

Kilkenny looked good for their lead. With an iron-clad half-back line of Laura Nor-

ris, Megan Farrell and Grace Walsh keeping the Tipp attack quiet the Cats were able to use the stiff breeze at their backs to pile the pressure on the hosts.

## Scores flowed

The scores continued to flow as Curtis and Miriam Walsh (0-2) led the charge with more points before Orla Hanrick wriggled free from Tipp full-back Sheila Ryan's challenge and drilled the sliotar to the net on the stroke of half-time.

Kilkenny had purred throughout that first half. The performance left them nine points to the good as the sides trooped in at the break (2-6 to 1-0).

With the wind in their favour now Tipp wasted little time in mounting their comeback. As in the first half, they got off to a fine start when Fryday broke through for her second goal of the game just minutes after the restart. A Brid Quinn point shaved another score off the deficit, before Michael Graham pounced to smash a loose sliotar to the Kilkenny net in the 43rd minute after 'keeper Aine Kinsella had stopped a Nicole Walsh free.

## On a high

Tipperary were on a high after that, moving to within a point of the long-time leaders (2-6 to 3-2) when Tara Kennedy grabbed a minor score to leave the game delicately poised with 15 minutes to play.

Kilkenny were looking over their shoulders by that stage,

but their nerves were settled somewhat when Lydia Fitzpatrick remained ice-cool to convert two placed balls (a 45 and a free) to ease her side three clear again. With ten minutes left to play it looked like Kilkenny would kick on from here, but they were left flattened when Walsh cracked home Tipp's fourth

goal to level the game with eight minutes to play.

Neither side wanted to let the game escape now. Kilkenny sub Emma Kavanagh swapped points with Alice Fogarty, as the game moved into the final stages, but Walsh's late free saw the Tipp girls take the title almost at the death.

**Kilkenny** - A. Kinsella, N. Phelan, J. Cunningham, L. Norris, M. Farrell, G. Walsh, N. Maher, K. Holland, K. Hamilton, L. Fitzpatrick, C. Phelan, M. Walsh, A. Curtis, O. Hanrick, A. Murphy. Sub: E. Kavanagh for Curtis.

**Tipperary** - O. McNiry, J.A. Burke, S. Ryan, L. McLoughlin, C. Quirke, A.

Cremin, M. Barry, B. Quinn, C. Maher, A. Loughnane, E. Fryday, N. Walsh, S. Fryday, M. Graham, C. McGrath. Subs: A. Eviston for Barry, T. Ryan for Loughnane, T. Kennedy for Loughnane, A. Fogarty for McGrath, M. Teehan for Quinn.

Referee - M. O'Kelly (Cork).



Kilkenny's Orla Hanrick in action against Tipperary duo Julie Ann Burke (left) and Sheila Ryan during the All-Ireland minor Roinn A camogie final at Semple Stadium. Photo: Caroline Quinn.



Anne Eviston (Tipperary) earned Player of the Match for her performance when introduced late in the first half of the Minor All-Ireland Final. Here she is supported by Clodagh Quirke.

Aug 2011



# Corkery goal is vital as Douglas are shocked

CAMOGIE

By MARY NEWMAN

Cloughduv 1-7  
Douglas 0-9

CLOUGHDUV caused a major surprise by defeating Douglas in the Evening Echo Senior camogie championship in Brinny last night.

Douglas, despite lining out without the service of inter-county defender Pamela Mackey, would still have entered the contest as hot favourites, but they had to play second fiddle to a lively and focused Cloughduv side, who had strength all over the pitch.

In defence they held a close reign on Douglas' Katriona Mackey and Julia White, with Joanne O'Callaghan, Sinead Corkery and Emma Dunne blotting out attack after attack.

At midfield Cloughduv got a superb hour from the hard-working and talented Jean Lucey, while in attack Una O'Donoghue, Caoimhe Creedon and Aoife Barry-Murphy ensured ball was kept moving towards their inside line where Briege Corkery made a huge contribution at full-forward.

A Corkery goal proved telling, coming at the end of the opening quarter as the sides were deadlocked at 0-2 each.

Caoimhe Creedon split the Douglas defence before parting to Una O'Donoghue, who slipped the ball quickly through to the in-running Corkery. She side-stepped two defenders before finishing to the net to give Cloughduv a lead they held to the final whistle.

Douglas found it hard to regain their composure.

Sinead Duggan had their first score from play 19 minutes in. Joanne O'Callaghan and Katriona Mackey converted frees, but it was Cloughduv who finished the half stronger with Katriona Corkery and Una O'Donoghue giving them a 1-5 to 0-4 interval lead.

Douglas started the second half well. Katriona Mackey pointed twice as they began to wear down the Cloughduv defence. Twice the sides swapped points but still Cloughduv clung to their lead.

Douglas battled hard but they continued to meet strong resistance from a disciplined and hard working Cloughduv.

With nine minutes remaining just two points separated the sides. Cloughduv hit four wides in row as they battled to put the game beyond Douglas.

In injury time Louise O'Regan pointed a long-range effort. Douglas won a free on the 65-metre line. Amanda O'Regan had to score direct, but her effort dropped wide on the full-time whistle.

A superb victory for Cloughduv, but no doubt Douglas will have learned a lot and will look forward to getting their title hunt back on track when they contest the losers round in three weeks.

The draws will be made this evening.

Scorers for Cloughduv: B Corkery 1-0, K Corkery 0-3 (0-1 ft), A Barry-Murphy 0-2, J O'Callaghan (ft), U O'Donoghue 0-1 each.

Douglas: K Mackey 0-8 (0-4 ft, 0-1 45), S Duggan, J White, L O'Regan 0-1 each.

CLOUGHDUV: A Murray, M Byrne, S Corkery, G O'Sullivan, E Healy, J O'Callaghan, E Dunne, J Lucey, K Corkery, U O'Donoghue, C Creedon, A Barry-Murphy, S Buckley, B Corkery, J Down.

DOUGLAS: J Kavanagh, A Peate, T Maher, E Jordan, L O'Regan, A O'Regan, T McCarthy, E Kavanagh, A O'Donoghue, K Mackey, G Lynch, J White, R O'Sullivan, M Harkin, S Duggan. Sub: J O'Donoghue for C Lynch (40).

Referee: Mike O'Kelly (Ballyheal).



Tipperary captain Brid Quinn, Ciara McGrath and Nicole Walsh, who scored the winning point in the Minor All-Ireland final on Sunday last.



Pointing the way: Niamh Ryan celebrates Limerick's fourth goal in the All Ireland Minor 'B' camogie final in Ashbourne last Sunday - see report on

# Eire Og set for a tough game with Mallow

CAMOGIE

By MARY NEWMAN

DESPITE the Cork senior camogie side being in action next weekend there is still a full fixture list of Evening Echo camogie action down for decision with championships from senior B down to junior C down for decision.

## FIXTURES

### FRIDAY AUGUST 6

Evening Echo Senior B Championship: Eire Og v Mallow, Castle Road 7.30pm

Evening Echo Junior A Championship: Brian Dillon's v Kildorrery, Watergrasshill 7.30pm, St Catherine's v Buttevant, Glen Rovers 7.30pm

### SATURDAY AUGUST 6

Evening Echo Junior A Championship: St Vincent's v Sliabh Rua, St Vincent's 7.30pm, Charleville v Cobh Charleville 7pm

### SUNDAY AUGUST 7

Evening Echo Junior B Championship: Na Piarasigh v Ballygarvan 2 Na Piarasigh Noon, Glen Rovers 2 v Castlemagner Glin Rovers 4.30pm, Ballincollig 2 v Youghal Ballincollig 7pm

Evening Echo Junior C Championship: Castleyons v Brian Dillon's 2, Castleyons 6.30pm

### MONDAY AUGUST 8

Evening Echo Junior A Championship: Douglas 2 v Inniscarra 2 Blarney 7.30pm

### WEDNESDAY AUGUST 10

Evening Echo Junior B Championship: Newcestown v Clonakilty, Enniskane 7.30pm

### THURSDAY AUGUST 11

Evening Echo Junior C Championship: Carrigrohilly v Sarsfields 2, Sarsfields 7.30pm

### FRIDAY AUGUST 12

Evening Echo Junior A Championship: Enniskane v Brian Dillon's, Ballinhassig 7.30pm, Kildorrery v Watergrasshill, Castleyons 7.30pm

Evening Echo Junior B Championship: Youghal v Glen Rovers 2, Youghal 7.30pm, Castlemagner v Ballincollig 2, Castlemagner 7.30pm



## Camogie Club notes

# Ballinhassig post a massive score to get their year off to a flyer

Ballinhassig 3-16  
Newcestown 4-7

A HIGH scoring contest where Ballinhassig hit 16 points which helped them overcome the challenge of Newcestown in the first round game in the group series of the Evening Echo Senior B championship in Bandon, writes MARY NEWMAN. Ballinhassig led 2-9 to 0-3 at the interval and looked to be in command of the game with Eimear O'Sullivan, Deirdre Coomey, Sinéad O'Callaghan, Aisling O'Brien, Lisa and Emma Jordan all picking off scores as they built up their 12 point interval lead. Newcestown are renowned championship campaigners and they showed it in the second half as they

upper their performance to apply pressure on Ballinhassig. Three goals from Colette Desmond and one from Coleen Long had them back in the contest but Ballinhassig boosted by their first-half display dug deep and adding a goal and seven points to their tally they had enough in reserve to hold off the Newcestown challenge.

**Scorers for Ballinhassig:** E O'Sullivan, D Coomey 0-5 each, S O'Callaghan 0-4, A O'Brien 1-2, L Jordan 0-1, E Jordan 1-0 each.  
**Newcestown:** C Desmond 3-1, C Long 1-5 (0-3), E Coomey 0-1.  
**BALLINHASSIG:** G O'Callaghan, A Kilmartin, K Coleman, A Coleman, M Reardon, H Cullinane, E O'Sullivan, M Kelleher, L Jordan, D Coomey, S McCarthy, E Jordan, S O'Callaghan, A O'Brien.  
**NEWCESTOWN:** L O'Sullivan, F Deasy, M Crowley, K Murphy, F Crowley, A Coughlan, E Coomey, T McCarthy, R Desmond, C Long, C Desmond, A Crowley, A Keane, A Buckley, E Kenneally.  
**Subs:** G O'Mahony for Keane, G Cronin for A Crowley, T Hurley for Kenneally.

FIVE of my six predictions in last weekend's senior championship first round clashes proved correct with Cloughduv defying the odds and overcoming hot favourites, Douglas.

Full credit to them; I get the feeling that Douglas themselves fancy their chances this year in regaining the title they took for the first and only time in 2008, but nothing is guaranteed in sport.

Cloughduv impressed many people on the night. They were really up for the game and aren't to be taken lightly.

The next round of fixtures were made last Tuesday evening and Cloughduv couldn't have asked for a tougher task ahead.

They are straight through to the quarter-final where they face another title favourite, Milford.

Milford's performance against Inniscarra was strong when they played direct hurling.

They fell back at times into a running and hand-passing game and got caught around the middle of the park.

The Watson's should also return to the side in time for the quarter-final and they're a massive addition.

However, both Emer and Maria are guilty of trying to walk the ball into the net time and again with

## O'Neill's and Carrig both win

THERE were second round victories for Fr O'Neill's over Sarsfields and Carrigaline over Blackrock in the Evening Echo intermediate championship this week. There will be reports on these in next week's camogie

pages along with reports from the senior B championship games Éire Óg versus Mallow and Clonakilty versus Newcestown as the battle to come out of the various sections continued over the coming week.

# Cloughduv shock



LINDA MELLERICK

## CAMOGIE

an abundance of point scoring opportunities going abegging.

If Milford can play it fast and not become obsessed with rattling the net they will be very hard to beat. Anna Geary is a great asset up front and Milford should hold her there even when the Watson's return.

Inniscarra should account for St Finbarr's in the back door which will give them a bit of time to re-group, get over a few injuries and hopefully welcome the return of Margaret Noelle O'Sullivan.

Rockbawn deserve plenty of credit for the manner in which they endured their awful 11-25 to 2-5 defeat to St Catherine's.

Never once giving up, never once letting their frustration overtake by resorting to foul, aggressive play, Rockbawn played with dignity.

They could hold their heads up walking off the pitch, although it was quite obvious that many felt embarrassed.

Rockbawn will seek relegation. Whether they seek to downgrade

to senior B or Intermediate is the question.

I believe they should just take the one step down and see how they get on.

If they find they aren't too far off the mark it would be an incentive for them to move forward.

They face Ballygarvan next who will advance. The winners of Ballygarvan/Rockbawn are one of four teams drawn to play an additional round along with Killeagh, St Catherine's and Ballincollig; the rest advance to the quarter-finals.

Douglas also got a handy back-door where they should account for Barryroe.

The back door games are down for decision the weekend of August 20. Round two is scheduled for in and around the 27th, pending a draw with Wexford on August 13.

Thereafter, should Cork advance to the All-Ireland final, the quarter-finals will be played the weekend of September 24/25.

Should Cork fail to reach the final these will be brought forward.

Killeagh and St Catherine's should be an interesting affair, although I would expect St Catherine's to advance.

I don't see Killeagh having the strength in numbers defence wise to cope with Fiona Cotter, Denise Twomey, Deirdre Twomey and Rachel O'Callaghan.

Having said that, St Catherine's can't afford to let Angela Walsh

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(AUGUST 13<sup>TH</sup> 2011)



Maria O'Donoghue, Ballincollig, battles with Trish Doyle, St Finbarr's during the Evening Echo Senior Camogie Championship game.

Picture: Jim Coughlan

## Glen defence

Glen Rovers  
Kilbrittain/Timoleague

2-11  
0-8

A HARD fought encounter saw Glen Rovers come away with the points on offer in this first game in the Evening Echo senior B championship in Riverstick.

Goals were vital and it was the Glen girls who grabbed two while there was no way past their defence as Kilbrittain threw everything at them.

The Glen got off to a superb start and with Leeann O'Sullivan and Lauren Callanan excelling in their forward division they were in command as they opened up a 2-6 to 0-3 advantage.

### ST VINCENT'S

Best of luck to our junior playing second round of championship tonight at home at 7.30pm versus Sliabh Rua. They have put in great work this year and hopefully it will pay off. Best of luck to everyone. Our minor team had a great game against Carrigaline and were unlucky not to win, but a fantastic performance from our three half forwards — Amy Wilson, Amy O'Connor and Amy O'Connell. Great team-work was shown all over the field, best of luck to our minors in their next game.

### SARSFIELDS

Intermediate: On the strength of two late goals, our intermediates just pipped Carrigaline by 3-2 to 0-8 in the first round of the championship. Aisling Whoolley scored from a free and substitute Aine Barry found the net just before the final whistle to ensure victory. Claire Holland showed great leadership throughout and Aisling Whoolley was never found wanting. Goalie Edel Meaney's handling of the high ball in the square was very impressive and was ably marshalled by Aisling Griffin, Amy Edwards and Jenny Murphy in defence. Orla Barry was a constant threat and scored a lovely point. Fr O'Neill's await us in Round two.

Team: E Meaney, R Hyde, A Edwards, N

## CLUB NOTES

O'Callaghan, A Griffin, J Murphy, D Murphy, Edel Murphy, Ellen Murphy, C Holland, O Barry, A Whoolley, M O'Farrell, R Crowley, Y O'Callaghan.

**Subs Used:** A Barry and O Keane.

**Summer camp:** From Monday, August 15 to Wednesday, August 17 we will hold a summer camp in Riverstown (10am to 1pm). Fully paid up members only, six to 15-year-olds, the cost is €25 per child/€40 for two/€50 per family. Application forms can be downloaded from the Ser's website — [www.sarsfields.ie](http://www.sarsfields.ie).

### IMOKILLY LEAGUES

**U13 A:** Sarsfields 3-3 Dungourney 0-3. We held Dungourney to just a point at half time having clocked up quite a few wides. The second half was a different matter as we found the target, scoring 3-3 to Dungourney's 0-2. Clare Mullins, Elizabeth Guinnane, Ciara O'Sullivan and Meabh Mullins excelled for us.

**Scorers:** Michelle Barry 1-2, Roisin O'Donovan 1-0, Lucy Kelly 1-0 and Elizabeth Guinnane 0-1.

**Team:** Roisin O'Donovan, Shona McCarthy, Sinéad O'Brien, Jane McAllen,

Meabh Mullins, Clare Mullins, Lucy Kelly, Donna Kerrigan, Kelly Lyons, Hollie Ferguson, Elizabeth Guinnane, Aisling O'Brien, Jessie Lyons, Kelsey Mullane and Michelle Barry.

**U15 A:** Sarsfields 4-3 Fr O'Neill's 3-7.

We started the stronger side with quick goals from Julie Allen and Clara Tobin and it looked like we would pull ahead with Clara Tobin adding another goal and Amy O'Lehan and Lucy Allen tapping over two further points leaving the half time score 3-2 to 1-1. Nip and tuck after that as we just about kept in front. O'Neill's were the fresher side in the last quarter when we tired somewhat. Our defence was under constant pressure with Mary Fleming, Lauren Casserly and superb goalie Chloe Casey called into action on numerous occasions. It looked good for us when Lucy Allen's free went straight to the net and she added a further point from play. But O'Neill's weren't finished; a minute before time they pounced for a late goal to seal victory by a single point in a thrilling contest.

**Scorers:** Clara Tobin 1-0, Lucy Allen 1-2, Julie Allen 1-0, Amy O'Lehan 0-1.

**Team:** Chloe Casey, Mary Fleming, Lauren Casserly, Aine Connolly, Chloe Ahern, Hollie Kelly, Lucy Allen, Amy



## Camogie Club notes

# Douglas in opening round

'walk' in for four goals either.

Ballincollig await the winners of Ballygarvan and Rockban.

Should Ballincollig and Inniscarra advance, their meeting in the quarter-final will be an interesting one.

Courcey Rovers should account for Carrigdhoun while Douglas, should they advance at the expense of Barryroe, won't have it too easy against St Catherine's, if that's how my predications turn out.

Next weekend is the big one. Cork versus Wexford in Nowlan Park. The only injury worry at this point in time is to Pamela Mackey, who has been receiving treatment on a shoulder injury for the past number of weeks.

She is back doing light training this week and hopefully fit for a full session today.

The rest of the Cork panel came through last weekend's fixtures injury free which is a relief for Joe O'Brien and his management team.

**Cork senior championship schedule**  
Back door (1st round losers round): (G) Inniscarra v Barra; (H) Ballygarvan v Rockban; (I) Douglas v Barryroe.

Round 2: Four teams play off for place in quarter-finals — (J) Killeagh v St Catherine's; (K) Ballincollig v Ballygarvan or Rockban.

Quarter-finals: (L) Milford v Cloughduv; (M) Winners of Ballincollig/Ballygarvan or Rockban v Inniscarra or Barra; (N) Courcey Rovers v Carrigdhoun; (O) Killeagh or St Catherine's v Douglas or Barryroe.  
Semi-finals: O v M; N v L.



Denise Cronin, Ballincollig, battles with Lynda O'Connell, St Finbarr's, during the Evening Echo Senior Camogie Championship game at Castle Road.

Picture: Jim Coughlan

## on top in convincing win over Kilbrittain

### CAMOGIE

By MARY NEWMAN

Aoife Walsh ensured O'Sullivan's shot ended up in the net for their opening goal and a superb long effort was flicked to the net by Aoife Walsh for their second goal after O'Sullivan, Denise Luby and Callanan had all struck points.

Marion Murphy and Miriam Deasy were on target with Kilbrittain points and as the half wore on they began to exert huge pressure on the Glen defence where Lydia Cunningham and Aileen Guiton stood firm.

Goalkeeper Kelly Newman denied Kilbrittain on several occasions as the Glen

absorbed the pressure and with Marion Murphy and Mairead Dullea hitting points it was 2-6 to 0-4 at the interval.

Kilbrittain started the second half well, Marion Murphy pointed a 45 after the Glen keeper again denied them a goal, a second pointed free cut the deficit and still winning a huge amount of possession they put the Glen defence under pressure but again with their keeper in superb form they denied Kilbrittain the vital goal.

Regaining control, the Glen girls hit four points without reply, Sinead Gallen, Denise Luby (2) and Edel O'Connell putting them ten points clear.

Again Kilbrittain searched for goals, but there was no way past the Glen defence, who were left off the hook as Kilbrittain

wasted chances from frees, hitting six wide's as they kept the pressure on.

Miriam Deasy and Marion Murphy added points to Kilbrittain's tally, but the final say was with Leeann O'Sullivan who pointed to ensure the Glen were in control at the full-time whistle.

**Scorers for Glen Rovers:** L O'Sullivan 1-4, A Walsh 1-0, D Luby 0-4 (0-1f) E O'Connell, S Gallen, L Callanan 0-1 each.

**Kilbrittain/Timoleague:** M Murphy 0-4 (0-2f) M Deasy 0-3 (0-1f), M Dullea 0-1.

**GLEN ROVERS:** K Newman (c); Z Buckley, A Guiton, K O'Connell; N O'Brien, L Cunningham, J Hosford; S Gallen, S Fahy; D Luby, A O'Keefe, L O'Sullivan; E O'Connell, A Walsh, L Callanan.

**KILBRITTAIN/TIMOLEAGUE:** A Casey; L Nyhan, E O'Sullivan, A Foley; D O'Sullivan, L O'Callaghan, M Dullea; M Murphy, S Moloney; D O'Mahony, S Sexton, M O'Donovan; L Moloney, M Deasy, R O'Mahony. **Sub:** S O'Sullivan for O'Mahony.

**Referee:** Ken Healy (Ballymartle).

**Underage:** Training resumes for our U13 and U14 panels on Monday at 6.30pm, a reminder to everybody to be in attendance. U15 and U16 training at 6.30pm Monday and Wednesday everybody asked to be in attendance.

### FR O'NEILL'S

On a damp and dreary evening last Wednesday in Carrigrohilly, our intermediate team started their championship campaign against Blackrock. The skill and experience of Fionn O'Driscoll made a huge contribution on the night. It was great to see Kate Harrington return to action after cruciate ligament damage. Full time score was Fr O'Neill's 1-9 Blackrock 1-3.

**Scorers:** F O'Driscoll 1-8 (0-5f), K Harrington 0-1.

**Team:** T Cusack; C McGrath, L Sweetnam, R Ahern; F Wiggins, Y Murphy, S Harrington; G Kearney, D O'Leary; M Finn, N Ahern, C Phelan; F O'Driscoll, N Nagle, K Ahern.

**Sub:** K Harrington for Nagle (25), C O'Shea for R Ahern (1-1).

## Barry's late goal gets Sars off to the perfect start

### INTERMEDIATE

Sarsfields	3-2
Carrigaline	0-8

THREE goals proved vital for Sarsfields as they overcame Carrigaline in a closely contested Evening Echo intermediate championship. A goal from Sarsfields substitute Aine Barry proved to be the winner as the game entered injury time and it gave them the two points on offer in this round robin series game to get their campaign off to the perfect start.

Claire Holland and Aisling Whooley had Sarsfields goals as their defence held firm against a Carrigaline side who had Sarah Cotter on target with seven points while Donna Smyth contributed three points as the sides battled to gain the upper hand in a game that was nip and tuck all through.

**Scorers for Sarsfields:** A Whooley 1-1 (0-1f) C Holland, A Barry 1-0 each, O Barry 0-1.

**Carrigaline:** S Cotter 0-7 (3f) D Smyth 0-1.

**SARSFIELDS:** E Meaney; R Hyde, A Edwards, N O'Callaghan; A Griffin, J Murphy, D Murphy; Edel Murphy, Ellen Murphy; C Holland (c), O Barry, A Whooley; M O'Farrell, R Crowley, Y O'Callaghan.

**Subs:** A Barry for O'Callaghan (1/1) O Keane for O'Farrell (55).

**CARRIGALINE:** R Harrington; S Moran, A Collins, T O'Connor; G Harrington, J O'Keefe, D Smyth; M Moran, L Kelleher; S Cotter, E Power, G O'Keefe; C O'Keefe; N Crowley, T Scully.

**Referee:** Ger Sheehan (Douglas).

## Tracton make it two wins on the bounce

### INTERMEDIATE

Tracton	3-20
Newtownshandrum	1-2

TRACTION made it two wins out of two in the Evening Echo intermediate championship as they overcame Newtownshandrum's in Castle Road. Sharp up front, they were always in control. Aoife Kiely hit two goals with Anne Sinclair adding one while Marian Jagoe, Jennifer Lynch, Jennifer Griffin, Clodagh Fitzgerald and Erin Harrington all chipped in with points as they ran out winners.

**Scorers for Tracton:** A Kiely 2-5, M Jagoe 0-4, J Lynch 0-6 (0-4f), J Griffin 0-2, C Fitzgerald 0-2 A Sinclair 1-0, E Harrington 0-1.

**Newtownshandrum:** K Clifford 1-0, P O'Connor, B Ryan 0-1 each.

**TRACTON:** C Murray; P Harrington, C Lynch, N Mullane; M McGuinness Kingston, G Hurley; J Lynch, K O'Sullivan; E Harrington, J Griffin, C Fitzgerald; M Jagoe, A Kiely, E Collins.

**Subs:** R Lyons for Fitzgerald; G McCarthy for Hurley; A Sinclair for Collins; G Hurley for McGuinness.

**Newtownshandrum:** Marie O'Connor C Herlihy, V O'Keefe C Griffin; C Watson, N Bowles, L Hooper; S Curtin, Michelle O'Connor, S Curtin, P O'Connor, S Moloney; K O'Farrell, M Harrington, B Ryan.

**Subs:** F Twomey for Michelle O'Connor; S Coughlan for Herlihy; A Ryan for Marie O'Connor; E Coughlan for Clifford; A Doyle for Twomey.

O'Lehan, Emma Casey, Julie Allen, Shannon Croker, Clara Tobin.

**Subs used:** Courtney Casey, Clara Mullane, Jennifer Murphy.  
In round 2 of the competition we beat Youghal with the scores coming from Chloe Ahern, Hollie Herlihy, Amy O'Lehan (1-1 each); Chloe Casey, 1-0, Lucy O'Lehan 0-2; Julie Allen, Rebecca Hyde, Aileen 0-1 each.

Check out the camogie section of the Sarsfields website, [www.sarsfields.ie](http://www.sarsfields.ie), for latest news, fixtures/results.

### NA PIARSAIGH

**Junior:** Our junior team played Castlemagner in the league final in Whitechurch. Castlemagner opened the scoring early with a point, but we quickly responded with a point from Orla Bourke and a goal from Christine McCarthy. Castlemagner added a further two points to bridge the gap, but again we added more points from Trish Coleman (2) and Orla Bourke (2) to leave the half time score 1-5 to 0-0.

From the throw-in Castlemagner applied pressure by adding points to their tally, but we were not backbit and held firm protecting the goal with outstanding displays in the corners from Cairne O'Sullivan and Natalie Kelly with Lisa Berry dominant at centre

back. We increased our lead with a goal from Aisling Hannon and another point from Trish Coleman.

Castlemagner kept ploughing at us but a third and final goal from Leona Crowley sealed a well deserved victory. Previous to the league final we beat St Vincents in the first of three round robin games in the championship on a score line of 2-6 to 2-1.

We travelled to Riverstick to play Sliabh Rua in the second round of championship and it was a tough physical game with outstanding performances from Rebecca Rourke and Orla Bourke.

In the closing minutes we were four points up but Sliabh pulled back a goal in the last puck of the game, but we held on to win by a point. We are at home tomorrow, Sunday, August 7, to Ballygarvan game fixed for 12pm, Support welcome.

**Underage:** We are now on our summer break for the month of August players will be notified for underage blitz in Castle Road, August 27, when details are available to us.

### GLEN ROVERS

Our senior team got their championship campaign off to a good start when we overcame the strong challenge posed by Kilbrittain on Tuesday last. We got off to a

great start with two first half goals and with Aoife Walsh, Leeann O'Sullivan Lauren Callanan and Denise Luby all adding to our tally we were 2-6 to 0-2 ahead. Kilbrittain came storming into the game but our defence held firm with Kelly Newman proving impassable in goal as she denied them a way past on numerous occasions and at the half-time whistle it was 2-6 to 0-4 in our favour. Kilbrittain applied huge second half pressure and added two points to their tally but with our defence on top they were denied a vital goal. We added five points with Denise Luby, Edel O'Connell, Sinead Gallen and Leeann O'Sullivan finding the range, however we were lucky as Kilbrittain hit a huge amount of wide's as they kept the pressure on. Well done to everyone on an excellent performance.

**Team:** We play the second game in the round robin series against Valley Rovers on Sunday next August 14 in Carrigaline at 3pm so make a date in your diary and come along and lend support.

**Junior:** We play the first game in the junior championship tomorrow Sunday when we meet Castlemagner at 4.30pm in the Glen Field, the second round is on Friday next August 12 when we travel to Youghal to meet the home side.



## Camogie team moves closer to All-Ireland final

By Conall Cullen

Meath 4-14, Roscommon 0-5

Meath advanced to the semi-final of the All-Ireland Premier Junior Camogie championship with a comfortable victory over Roscommon at Athleague on Saturday.

The chances of success were boosted when Jane Dolan passed a late fitness test to take her place in the starting line-up, but the talented Blackhall Gaels player was tightly marked by a hard-working Roscommon rearguard in the opening half.

As a result of their endeavours, Roscommon were well in contention at the break after Meath laboured through the opening half against the wind and established a hard-earned 1-4 to 0-2 interval advantage.

Dolan could only muster a brace of points during that opening half and she also saw her penalty saved in the second-minute of injury-time.

Her effort was blocked on the line by Roscommon goalkeeper Caroline Connaughton who, like her Meath counterpart, Emily Mangan, had a fine game.

Meath also tallied five wides in the opening half, a feat they repeated after the break, as some good chances were squandered and it was only when Katie Mullen finished to the net in the 18th minute that they enjoyed some breathing space.

Dolan created the opening for the goal with a superb cross-field pass that picked out Aileen Donnelly.

The Kilmessan player's effort was blocked on the line by Connaughton, but Mullen finished to the net as Roscommon failed to clear the parried effort.

Donnelly and Mullen claimed a point each from play for Meath while wind-assisted Roscommon managed a paltry return of two points from Kelley Hopkins, both frees.

Hopkins also equalled that feat in the second-half, but those scores were of little consequence as Meath blitzed Roscommon out of the competition in a whirlwind 10-minute period immediately after the resumption.

Katie Hackett's point had Meath on the second-half scoreboard inside 30 seconds and Dolan added a brace (one free) before she effectively ended the game as a contest with a well-taken goal.

Roscommon showed plenty of determination, but manager Bosco Gallagher made what appeared to be a puzzling substitution when he re-introduced Sinead O'Brien six minutes into the second-half, she was taken off a minute before the interval.

There was also the introduction of a player who had returned from Australia the previous week and, obviously, had not been training with the team since the beginning of the current campaign.

However, the Roscommon manager has also had to deal with the impact of emigration and had lost up to eight players from last year's panel due to that problem.

A Roscommon official also explained to the Meath Chronicle that another player from Saturday's team, a doctor, would be leaving the country this week in search of work in Australia.

Against that background, it was hardly surprising that Meath, boosted by the return of players of the calibre of Aileen Donnelly, Elizabeth Lynch, Frances Lynch and Aoife Maguire, were able to forge further ahead and they piled on the pressure in the closing stages.

Mullen finished with a hat-trick of goals and the team had a solid appearance, in the second-half. The first-half performance, if repeated in the All-Ireland semi-final on Saturday 20th August against Down, would probably lead to the exit door.

Meath have three weeks to iron out those problems and based on the second-half performance, have the ability to make it to Croke Park in front of the live television cameras a few weeks later.

Meath - E Mangan; N Guy, A Thompson, E McNally; A Keogh, K Troy, L Donoghue; S Horan, E Guy; C Coffey, J Dolan (1-6 five frees), S Hackett; K Hackett (0-2), K Mullen (3-1), A Donnelly (0-3). Subs - A Maguire for Coffey half-time, E Lynch for S Hackett 44mins, E Oakes (0-1) for Dolan 50m, F Lynch for Guy 53m, F O'Neill (0-1) for K Hackett 54m.

Roscommon - C Connaughton; R Fallon, C Morris, R Connaughton; O Gately, S Coyle, C Killeen; E Treacy, G Dowd; P Lennon, S Spillane, K Hopkins (0-4 three frees); C Regan (0-1), S O'Brien, A McGeeney. Subs - C Curley for O'Brien 29 mins, O'Brien for Curley 36m, C Kelly for Spillane 37m, N McCormack for R Connaughton 40, M Lohan for Killeen 58m.

Referee - Donal Ryan (Dublin).



Kristina Troy in action for Meath in the All-Ireland Premier Junior Camogie championship against Roscommon at Athleague on Saturday. Photo: John Quirke Photography

## Wexford ready for a battle

RTÉ SPORT

When a team is just one step away from the final in any sport it is human nature to begin to dream and take your eye off the ball.

This Saturday in Nowlan Park there is no time for day dreaming as Galway take on Kilkenny and reigning All Ireland champions Wexford lock horns with Cork. The 'Big Four' have finished top of the O'Duffy Cup table and both games are very much in the mix.

"I wouldn't be able to make a call in either of the matches. In the previous seven weeks of championship it was safe to say that no-one was at their best. The level of intensity in Nowlan Park on Saturday from the four teams will be a world away from what has been seen earlier in the season," insists Model County All Star Claire O'Connor.

"Every team in the semi-finals has the ability to win the All Ireland. Whoever puts in a good performance on Saturday and gets a bit of luck can win and then the same can be said in the Final for whichever two make it."

Before the champs take to the field they will be interested spectators in the first semi between Kilkenny and Galway.

"We played Galway earlier in the year and they looked sharp and we also played Kilkenny who have been suffering from a number of injuries throughout the campaign. If Kilkenny can strike form they always seem to be able to get one over on Galway but having been beaten by Galway I know how good they are," says the Rathnure star.

O'Connor has been representing her county with distinction for 20 years having started out playing camogie as a "miniature hero" in full size goals in primary school. She eventually made her senior debut in 1999. Then, after 28 years of waiting, Wexford finally reached the Promised Land four years ago.

"We had been building for a few years and year on year we added something with people like Aidan Breen and Willie Carley coming in before we finally did it. In 2007 Stellah Sinnott brought everything together and it was the culmination of all the previous work. 2010 was like that as everything and everyone was so fresh and it all just came together. We had so many regrets from the previous two years it nearly made it better than 2007."

With Cork involved the Duffy Cup holders are fully aware that the Rebelettes are never beaten until the final whistle as encounters in recent years have seen Cork come back from the death to snatch victory. In the 2007 League Final they hit three late goals to record an amazing comeback. That bitter loss gave the losers that day the drive to reverse the result come September.

Last year was the first time since 2002 that the Munster marvels did not contest an All Ireland final so now they are the ones chomping at the bit to knock Wexford off their perch.

"When it comes to the big day Cork always perform. Nobody in Wexford is thinking we are going to have it our own way and we certainly know what we are coming up

against. As a back I'm looking at the danger of the Cork forwards who are brilliant and they also have a serious midfield. They are a very attacking team so we will have to have all our avenues covered to keep them at bay. I'm just thinking about the first 30 minutes on Saturday," insists the All Star.

After a midweek briefing at training the Wexford camp were told to watch what they say to the media. Thus there is no hint of over-confidence from their corner back when it comes to their own chances.

"As for ourselves all I know is that we have been training hard all year and getting good commitment so if we work hard enough on the day we can do it. I have no doubt they are thinking the exact same as us and you have two teams capable of beating each other. There is only ever a score or good defending at the other end that has brought the game our way or their way in turn. We'll just have to wait and see," finished O'Connor.

# Mini Games

Referees provided by Allianz Primary Whistlers Project

## UNDER-10

### Ballyvary

Mayo

- Shauna Brogan
- Sinead Comer
- Elizabeth Comer
- Bethany Doocey
- Elizabeth Gallagher
- Antoinette Grady
- Catrina Mallon
- Grace Maloney
- Ruth Maloney
- Brianna McGhee
- Katie Reid
- Saoirse Timothy

Mentors:

Emmet O'Brien  
Rebecca Comer

### Feale Gaels

Kerry

- Finola Keane
- Annya Mulvihill
- Faye Mulvihill
- Mary Kate Reidy
- Lena Murphy
- Aisling Hayes
- Ali Cahill
- Ciara Larkin
- Amanda Tony
- Orialth Donovan
- Lisa McCarthy
- Aoife Murphy

Mentors:

Tina Enright  
Irene O'Keefe

### Commercials

Dublin

- Molly Larkin
- Lauren Palmer
- Aoife Richardson
- Emily Smyth
- Sophie Strumble
- Clara Clohesy
- Oria Keane
- Louise McBrien
- Caoimhe O'Byrne
- Sarah Morris
- Rachel Verling
- Brianne Flood

Mentors:

Elaine Keane  
Jennifer Flood

### Ballygalget

Down

- Olivia O'Brien
- Glenn Dwyer
- Aoife Doran
- Alexandra Haggit
- Brianne Savage
- Jordan Brunkle
- Cara McGrath
- Sarah Clancy
- Alce Coulter
- Bern Coulter
- Cushla McMahon
- Rachel McGeehan

Mentors:

Sonia Clancy  
Carol Quaker

## UNDER-12

### Abbeyknockmoy

Galway

- Una Fox
- Maire Keane
- Amy Maher
- Alison Murphy
- Maeve O'Connell
- Leona Rabbitt
- Aisling Forde
- Sinead Connolly
- Chloe Burke
- Anna Lally
- Aoife Miller
- Sinead Laffey

Mentors:

Brian Cooley  
Sharon Gannon

### Killeagh

Cork

- Carl Delaney
- Glenn Fitzgerald
- Graine Tyrrell
- Rachel Fogarty
- Oria Cusack
- Donna Coleman
- Kate McCarthy
- Cora Barry
- Chloe McIlroy
- Elven Casady
- Megan Treacy
- Patricia Hegarty

Mentors:

Helen Cusack  
Siobhán Loughan

### Loughgiel

Antrim

- Eimear Boyle
- Eimear McCloskey
- Megan Boyle
- Louise McKillop
- Leah Martin
- Meadhbh McCormick
- Katie Lynn
- Finola McVeigh
- Rebecca Hargan
- Ciara McMullan
- Reisin Cummins
- Kirsty McKendry

Mentors:

Karen McCormick  
Declan McKillop

### St. Jude's

Dublin

Winners of the St. Jude's U13 Tournament, which was held yesterday, Saturday 10th September will compete in today's Mini Games



#### Galway and Kilkenny get ready for battle

Eoghan Cormican of the Connacht Tribune looks ahead to the clash of Galway and Kilkenny...read more...

RTÉ SPORT

A repeat of the 2009 fixture and in truth, there has been little difference in the build up in this latest installment of Galway and Kilkenny clashes. The Tribeswomen enter the tie as slight favourites determined to return to Croke Park after losing the All Ireland the year previous. Kilkenny, as always are determined to upset the apple cart.

The Cats have enjoyed better fortunes on the field over the last couple of years and due to their excellent underage talent they are once more, emerging as a serious force on the camogie landscape.

Four All Ireland minor crowns between 2006 and 2009 coupled with two Kilkenny schools sharing the last four All Ireland senior colleges' titles has provided Ann Downey with a wealth of emerging talent. Grace Walsh, Michelle Quilty, Shelly Farrell, Edwina Keane, Aisling Dunphy and Denise Gaule have been regulars on the Kilkenny team this year having come up through the ranks.

Furthermore, coming off the back of a 2-16 to 1-13 victory over Cork in the final round robin game, Ann Downey's charges look to be hitting form at just the right time.

Michelle Quilty remains their most potent attacker, scoring 5-26 in the championship to date, with 5-16 of that total coming from play.

Aoife Neary, as expected, has also featured prominently in the offensive, tallying 2-19, while Aine Fahey (3-6) and Denise Gaule (0-10) have also showed a key eye for the target.

As for Galway, they boast a clean bill of health ahead of the tie. Noel Finn's squad, of course, was bolstered earlier in the year by Killimor's success in the All Ireland club championship. This gave the management an excellent starting point to rebuild the side after last year's All Ireland final defeat to Wexford and in Ann Marie Hayes, Ann Marie Starr and Brenda Hanney, he could not have asked for three more determined and willing competitors.

Added to this, the positional changes introduced at the beginning of the championship which saw Therese Maher fill the centre half back berth and Sandra Tannian move to centre forward have worked a treat. Probably the most astute switch by the management was the redeployment of Sinead Cahalan from corner to full back. Indeed, Cahalan's battle with Michelle Quilty should be one of the intriguing sub-plots of the tie.

Already this year the sides have clashed twice, with Galway claiming the spoils on both occasions. In their most recent meeting at Duggan Park Ballinasloe, Galway emerged victorious on a scoreline of 0-12 to 0-9. However, Galway will be mature enough though to realise that this is an entirely different ball game with everything to play for.

#### Cork's All Star aiming for final landing

RTÉ SPORT

If you are a Cork camogie player the second Sunday in September has been a significant date for the past eight years. It's the day when they would take on all challengers in a bid to capture the O'Duffy Cup.

The 2010 final saw that great run come to an end as Wexford defeated Galway in the ladies small ball showpiece event. For Cork star Gemma O'Connor it wasn't easy to take.

"I'll be honest I didn't go to it last year. As a player that might seem strange but after being there every year since 2002 not being there on the day was soul destroying. I actually had a football game on that day so I didn't even watch on television and I was glad to be able to be doing something on the day," admits the St Finbarrs player.

"To not be there for the first time in so long was almost surreal but at the end of the day all things must come to an end and that is especially true in sport where everything has to come to an end."

O'Connor joined the Cork panel in 2002 at the start of that amazing run and success followed.

"For so long it was ourselves and Tipp and the rivalry was great and there were some great games but over the last few years new teams have come on the scene. Cork and Tipp had been setting the standard and raising the bar but now teams like Wexford and Galway have come along and they have raised it again and now we have to get back with them."

Cork's dominance also saw their player picking up individual All Stars and last year saw O'Connor not being selected for the first time since they began seven years ago.

"The All Stars are a real bonus at the end of the year. It really gives you a feel good factor. Last year we didn't produce the goods and to be fair I didn't deserve one. But, as I said everything has to end. I would try not to think about an All Star as my main objective is to get an All Ireland this year."

The Munster player feels Saturday's semi-finals will be unbelievably intense and close affairs and points that a number of things will have to go right for any side to book their place in the Final.

"Obviously you need a bit of luck and then it's down to who wants it more and of course who plays best for the hour. People say you have to create your own luck and that can be true as when a ball bounces in the square late on it is a case of who wants it more. Everything has to be factored in. Things need to go right for any team to come out on top. As I said it will literally come down to the puck of a ball," says the multiple All Star.

"Everyone is ok and there are no major injury worries, except for a few small niggles. Everything is looking ok and hopefully things will go alright for us."

The Cork players will get to see a small bit of the first match which throws in at 2pm and their midfielder has a sneaky suspicion that the Cats can do it.

"Similarly to ourselves and Wexford Galway and Kilkenny is going to be a very tough game. We played Kilkenny a few weeks back and they were very impressive and physical. It's really hard to predict but going on the last game we played I'd tip Kilkenny against Galway," says O'Connor.

All four teams have beaten each other this year and have shown that each can take the other's scalp meaning that, despite plenty of healthy respect among the sides, there will be confidence in each camp that they can take another step closer to claiming the O'Duffy Cup. Let's finish with a cliché - it's too close to call!

AUG 2011

# Duffy behind enemy lines

## Fintan O'Toole

### Camogie preview

REIGNING champions Wexford put their All-Ireland senior camogie title on the line when they face Cork in this afternoon's semi-final in Nowlan Park (4pm).

Wexford have displayed good form this season as they claimed league honours back in April against Galway while only scoring difference stopped them from finishing top of the table after the round-robin stages of the championship.

Ursula Jacob, Una Leacy and Evelyn Quigley will share the scoring burden as they aim to repeat their 2007 All-Ireland camogie final triumph over the Rebels, while Michelle O'Leary and Kate Kelly are key figures at midfield.

Cork will be aiming to atone for their three-point defeat in round two of the group stages when Wexford triumphed by 0-14 to 1-8 in Páirc Uí Chaoimh. Rena Buckley will captain the Cork side from centre-back with Jenny Duffy and Anna Geary also lining out in defence, while Orla Cotter and Gemma O'Connor combine well at midfield.

In attack, Briege Corkery, Jennifer O'Leary and Sile Burns carry the mantle to put scores on the board.

Cork defender Duffy is in a unique position of having the inside track on their opponents as her day job is a camogie development officer in the south Leinster area.

"It's interesting this week," she said. "Every time I get a phone call, there's talk about how I'm set for the game. I work very closely with the Kilkenny and Wexford county boards. I'd be down in both counties a lot with work as well. So I know a lot of the people that I'll be coming

across on the pitch first of all and people on the sideline as well." Last year was the first time since 2001 that Cork were not challenging on All-Ireland senior camogie final day. That fact has been a driving force in their efforts this season to get back to that level, according to Duffy.

"Last year was our first year in 10 years I think not reaching the All-Ireland final. That was a hard blow. It's only after you realise how tough that was and how tough it is to actually get there.

"I suppose when you come into a set up that automatically gets to an

All-Ireland final every year, it's a bit of a wake-up call then when you don't reach it. You need to get the finger out and start working harder then."

The curtain-raiser to this clash is the other semi-final tie between Kilkenny and Galway in Nowlan Park at 2pm. Galway finished top of the table after the group stages and demonstrated their scoring power in their last game when they dismantled Tipperary by 3-20 to 1-11.

Sandra Tannian, Veronica Curtin, Jessica Gill, Tara Rutledge and Aisling Connolly supply the

firepower as last season's beaten finalists seek to return to this year's decider on September 11.

Standing in Galway's path is a Kilkenny team seeking to get back to the final after last participating at that stage in 2009.

When the teams clashed in Duggan Park in Ballinasloe in July, Galway got the better of Kilkenny by 0-12 to 0-9. Kilkenny will enter this clash with good momentum on the back of their 2-16 to 1-13 victory over Cork in the last round with Edel Maher, Michelle Quilty and Marie Dargan all in fine scoring form.



**DEEP UNDERCOVER:** Jenny Duffy spends her time as a camogie development officer in south Leinster where she has links with many of the players she'll be facing this afternoon.  
Picture: Sportsfile



# Zinkie is focused and ready for the challenge

AS THE final preparations are put in place for today's All-Ireland semi-final, Cork selector Lillian Zinkant is focused and ready for the challenges that lie ahead for her side.

The five-time All-Ireland medal winner (three at junior level and two minor) is no stranger to the task facing Cork and 'Zinkie' as she is affectionately known is looking forward in confident mood.

"There is only a puck of a ball between the four teams left in contention for honours. We know Wexford are no soft touch.

They are All-Ireland champions, but they are there to be toppled off their perch and that is what we hope to do. We are ready for them and hopefully things will go our way on Saturday."

Lillian is well used to the pressure role of selector with an inter county team brings, having served Cork camogie at many levels over a number of years.

When she finally departed the inter county playing scene after winning her third junior All-Ireland medal in 1996 she quickly became immersed in the other side of the game. Since 1999 she has been involved as selector to either the junior intermediate or senior teams, coaching the junior team of 2004 to All-Ireland success and her progression as a senior team mentor in 2005 came as no surprise.

"That year lot of clubs approached me and asked me to go forward and I was delighted and honoured to be chosen. We had great years winning the senior title in 2005 and 2006 and I stepped down for a year after that. I came back as an intermediate selector in 2008 and in 2009 I was with Denise Cronin when we won the senior title."

Defeat last year at the hand of Galway at the semi-final stage still hurts.



LINDA MELLERICK

## CAMOGIE

"Last year we didn't make it to the final and it was awful again — just a puck of the ball was all it took to deny us but we are determined to make it this year."

Lillian knows her stuff and she feels there is little between the four teams that remain.

"There is so little between Cork, Wexford, Kilkenny and Galway. Already we have beaten Galway this year and we lost out to Kilkenny and Wexford in the round robin championship series — a game can go either way. We should have drawn with Wexford."

A lot of work behind the scenes goes into preparing a team and with just 60 minutes between a place in Croke Park or a September of pondering and wondering what might have been, the margin for error is tight.

"The girls come to training and put in a huge effort, but behind the scenes we must be prepared as well. We have analysed videos and tried to see where we as a unit can improve."

"We are always looking for that little bit extra that could just be the difference between winning and losing."

The 'we' that Lillian refers to are her fellow selectors Joe O'Brien and Con Hayes and not forgetting the backroom team that have done huge work — Mick O'Regan, their video specialist, and Landy Hill the teams physical therapist.

"As selectors we have combined well together."

Cork camogie management team member Lillian Zinkant feels there is little between the four teams that remain in contention for honours.



**TODAY,**  
All-Ireland Senior  
semi-final,  
Cork v Wexford,  
Nowlan Park, 4pm

**CALL IT...**

It's all or nothing now for Cork. Wexford are the champions and they will be hard to beat. Cork have prepared well and are as ready as they will ever be.

Last time the sides met in the round-robin series Wexford were lucky to just shade it. They may be champions but Cork are hungry for this one, the enthusiasm is back and the hunger is there and import-

antly should things go wrong they have a strong bench.

Briege Corkery has recovered from illness and if Cork possess even half of the fighting spirit shown by her recovery they are halfway there. Pamela Mackey returns from a shoulder injury too.

**Key Player:** Anna Geary  
**Verdict:** Cork

er. Its Joe's first year involved and he has been great. He is a hurling man through and through; his contribution has been enormous.

"It's also Con's first year and he, like Joe, has done huge work and we work great together. We each have our own jobs and we all get on and do what we must do."

"We are all involved in every aspect and at training; we all take an active role, no standing around, just everyone helping out and getting involved. Joe is the boss and gives the orders, he is great to work with and the girls have responded well to him."

Retirements and emigration have seen a few changes to the panel since last year, but this is something that has not caused any disruption. "The panel has been freshened up with a few new faces this year and the girls who have made the step up to the team have fitted in well, most would have been either on the periphery last year or have been on the Senior B team, so they are well versed with what is required of them. Over the year a few faces have

changed and younger players are stepping up to the mark and that has been good as it has kept everybody sharp and battling for a place on the starting 15 and this can only help keep things fresh."

The game has changed dramatically since Lillian won her last All-Ireland medal, now its 15-a-side and much faster and more technical.

"It is now a 20-player game and no longer will it suffice to hope that 15 players will win a game for you."

"A strong back-up is vital and we have built up a good squad. Determination is vital and you must want to win."

Saturday's trip to Nowlan Park is one Lillian has made many times with Cork teams and they will be going through the usual routine — pre-match light refreshments on the way to Nowlan Park; a good warm up; and then into the action.

A move here or a switch there could make all the difference, but 'Zinkie' and her co-pilots Joe and Con are ready to go.

## Valleys face the Glen in battle of the Rovers

IT MAY be All-Ireland semi-final weekend, but camogie games in the *Evening Echo* Championships continue. There is a full schedule of games down for decision as all clubs continue to battle it

out for places in the concluding stages of competitions at all levels.

### FIXTURES: TOMORROW

**Junior A championship:**  
Enniskeane v Brian Dillon's, Ballin-hassig 8.45pm; Kildorney v Water-grasshill, Castletyons 7.30pm.

### CAMOGIE

By MARY NEWMAN

**Junior B Championship:**  
Glen Rovers 2 v Youghal, Youghal 7.30pm.

### SATURDAY

**Junior A Championship:**  
Buttevant v Douglas 2 Grenagh 7pm.

### SUNDAY

**Senior B championship:** Valley Rovers v Glen Rovers, Carrigaline 3pm.

**Junior A Championship:** Inniscarra 2 v St. Catherine's 2, Castle Road 11am.

**Junior B championship:** Ballygarvan 2 v Sliabh Rua 7.30pm.

**Junior C Championship:** Blarney v Castletyons, Blarney 5pm; Brian

Dillon's 2 v St. Fanahan's, Brian Dillon's, time to be confirmed; Ballinora v Charleville, Ballinora 2pm.

### WEDNESDAY AUGUST 19

**Senior B championship:** Ballin-stown v Kilbrittan, Belgooly 7pm.

### THURSDAY AUGUST 18

**Senior B Championship:** Ballin-hassig v Eire Og, Castle Road 7pm.





John Barry, managing director of Bord Gáis Networks, sponsors of the Cork camogie team, wishes Katrina Mackey and Aoife Murray all the best for their All-Ireland semi-final clash with Wexford tomorrow.  
Picture: Daragh Mc Sweeney/Provision

# Cork craving another title

**TOMORROW**  
All Ireland camogie semi-final  
Cork v Wexford  
Nowlan Park, 4pm

**CORK** are at their best when their backs are to the wall and without doubt Wexford enter this All-Ireland semi-final contest as favourites.

There has been a lot of changes in the Cork camp since they relinquished their title to Galway twelve months ago after a semi-final replay.

Joanne O'Callaghan, Catriona Foley, Mary O'Connor and Rachel Moloney have retired and it is particularly difficult to replace such experienced players when three of them lined out in one area of the pitch.

Cork also has a new management team led by Joe O'Brien with Lillian Zinkant the only link to the team of 2010. Inniscarra's Con Hayes is the third selector.

Matters remain pretty much in situ with Wexford as they bid for two in a row.

Cork has been hit by a number of injuries over the past few weeks. Panellists Mariah Reidy, Roisin de Faoite and Christine O'Neill will not figure at any stage tomorrow. Jennifer O'Leary and Pamela Mackey continue to nurse their shoulders, while Briege Corkery's energy levels will be tested having been ill recently.

Jennifer, Pamela and Briege will start for Cork and it is hoped all three last the hour.

Cork's management has named the same side to that which lined out against Galway on June 26th last. Cork's performance that day was their best throughout their championship campaign and it is hoped that this fifteen will find the same form again.

Emer O'Sullivan is unlucky to lose out and is a strong substitute.



**CAMOGIE**

The Cork players were annoyed with themselves over their three point defeat to the All-Ireland champions in round two.

That defeat is still vivid in their minds and having spoken with some of them during the week it is very apparent that they want another go. Cork has always been a county that forgot all too easily what it's like to lose.

A couple of All-Irelands under their belt and the desire to win waned. All it takes is one defeat to make them crave again and the players are craving another All-Ireland title.

The midfield battle of Orla Cotter and Gemma O'Connor versus Michelle O'Leary and Kate Kelly should be a great one.

It was Cork's lack of finishing in front of goal which gave Wexford the points last June yet one had to admire how when the game hung in the balance Wexford played some outstanding camogie, hitting four points out of the top drawer, Ursula Jacob's in particular an absolute gem.

Catherine O'Loughlin is magnificent at full-back with Mary Leacy is a pivotal sweeper.

Wexford, on paper, have the most lethal forward division in the country. They are the goal-getters. Jacob is in particularly good form this season. Una Leacy is another finding the target regularly with 4-11 to her credit to date.

Player of the match in the last year's final Katrina Parrock can't be given half a chance while Evelyn Quigley is also finding the

net, having goaled five times in four games.

Cork's half-back line is strong with Elaine O'Riordan slotting in nicely at right half-back. Captain Rena Buckley controls centre-back with Anna Geary to her left.

If unprotected, Cork's full-back line could be tested. It's a new line-out from 12 months ago.

Nineteen year old Pamela Mackey lines out at left corner-back. Her championship performances to date have been highly commendable yet she has sat out the last four weeks with that shoulder injury.

Jenny Duffy, typically at right half-back for Cork, takes the other corner; she is having a good season while Amanda O'Regan lines out at full.

Cork's half-back line can't allow themselves to be sucked out leaving the inside line exposed. Wexford will possibly endeavour to play a third midfielder and leave two inside forwards. If Cork aren't managing the extra player they need to drop players back from corner-forward out and likewise play two inside.

Cork's forward division needs to work their socks off and prevent Wexford any free clearance. Should Wexford's half-back line get on top Cork will be putting themselves under immense pressure.

Orla and Gemma can't play too deep, too defensive.

One of them at least needs to drive forward and attack. Cork can't become consumed with Wexford's forward play.

They need to play it fast. If they do deliver fast quality ball into the on form Jennifer O'Leary and Katrina Mackey in particular then they have every chance.

**CORK:** A Murray, J Duffy, A O'Regan, P Mackey, E O'Riordan, R Buckley, A Geary, O Cotter, G O'Connor, B Corkery, L Dorgan, J O'Leary, J Casey, S Burns, K Mackey.

## O'Brien: Cork can pass Wexford test

**CAMOGIE**

IT'S new territory for Cork manager Joe O'Brien as he leads his side for the first time into an All-Ireland semi-final tomorrow.

Joe took the plunge and took over at the helm last February.

He had a lot to do; familiarise himself with the abilities of his panel as well as get to know the various personalities involved.

Joe didn't have the time to ease himself in gently.

He was five days in charge when the team took on Tipperary in their first league outing where they lost by a point.

Just seven weeks later and it was very evident that he was making a swift impact when in the Munster semi-final Cork turned the tables on Tipp with a 2-20 to 2-08 victory.

Despite finishing third in the championship group table Cork topped it on scoring average by 25 points, 30 ahead of tomorrow's opponents Wexford.

They slipped to third place on the last day after an insignificant final group game defeat to Kilkenny where both sides had already qualified for the semi's and Cork fielded just eight of their regular starting 15.

Cork could afford to drop points in the qualifiers but this is where it gets serious, an All-Ireland semi-final and the opposition doesn't get any tougher.

It's Joe's first real big day and how is he coping?

"I believe that this is like an exam;

if you have your homework down you'll be capable of answering questions and confident of passing.

"It's the same with this team. We have our homework done and I'm confident of passing this test.

"I'm not just saying that, I genuinely believe we're capable of beating Wexford.

"The players have done everything that was asked of them.

"Myself, Lillian (Zinkant) and Con (Hayes) have gone through this inside out and upside down. There is no stone left unturned. We'll give it everything."

From speaking with the players, the momentum in training is peaking at the right time.

Joe agrees: "Training has gone very well, the atmosphere is great. I took the foot off the gas after the Tipperary game. We would have liked to have beaten Kilkenny but it meant nothing.

"After the way the championship was run the players were tired and when that happens the appetite goes so it was important to pull back a little and give them a break."

Joe is happy with the fact Cork are playing the All-Ireland champions in the semi-final, he holds no fear.

"Past champions like to be in the final. At times they can look at the semi-final as just a means of getting there. It's a good time to beat them."

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**BEST OF LUCK  
TO THE CORK  
SENIOR  
CAMOGIE TEAM**

**ALL IRELAND  
SEMI-FINAL  
(AUGUST 13<sup>TH</sup> 2011)**



**DON'T MISS LINDA MELLERICK'S COLUMN TOMORROW**

Aug. 2011



## O'Neill's keep 100% record intact

INTERMEDIATE

By MARY NEWMAN

Fr O'Neill's 1-14  
Sarsfields 0-4

FR O'NEILL'S made it two wins out of two in the Evening Echo intermediate championship when they overcame the challenge of Sarsfields at Delanys. From the start Fr O'Neill's were sharper up front and at the break they led 1-9 to 0-4, a goal from Kate Harrington plus points from Fiona O'Driscoll, Gearoidin Kearney, Nora Ahern, Denise O'Leary and Caroline Phelan helping them set the foundations for victory. Sarsfields worked hard but they came up against a strong Fr O'Neill's defence that held their lines despite a lot of pressure. On the turnover, Sarsfields battled hard to get into the contest but they were unable to break the hold Fr O'Neill's had on the game despite Aisling Whoolley and Orla Barry adding to their tally with point. Fr O'Neill's extended their advantage with further points to record their second victory in the competition. Fr O'Neill's have one game to go versus Carrigaline while Sars will meet Blackrock in their last game as they battle to get a second victory.

Scores for Fr O'Neill's: K Harrington 1-5, F O'Driscoll 0-4 (0-3f), G Kearney 0-2, N Ahern, D O'Leary, C Phelan 0-1 each.  
Sarsfields: A. Whoolley 0-3, O. Barry 0-1.  
FR O'NEILL'S: T Cusack, C McGrath, Y Murphy, C O'Shea, F Wiggins, L Sweetnam, S Harrington, G Kearney, D O'Leary, K Harrington, C Phelan, N Ahern, M Finn, F O'Driscoll, K Ahern.  
Subs: L Hayes for K Ahern, N Nagle for M Finn, A Broderick for D O'Leary, R Ahern for L Sweetnam.  
SARSFIELDS: E Meaney, A Edwards, S O'Leary, N O Callaghan, A. Griffin, J. Murphy, R. Hyde, E. Murphy, O. Keane, C. Holland, O. Barry, A. Whoolley, A. Barry, R. Crowley, Y. O Callaghan.  
Sub: S. Gaffey for A. Griffin (50).  
Referee: Ger Sheehan (Douglas)

# Signs are good for



Ballincollig's Maria O'Donoghue battles with St Finbarr's Trish Doyle during their recent Evening Echo Senior Camogie Championship game at Castle Road Camogie Grounds. Picture: Jim Coughlan

## Emily Powers ahead with impressive 2-1

Carrigaline 3-5  
Blackrock 2-7

INTERMEDIATE  
By MARY NEWMAN

THIS was a closely contested game in the Evening Echo intermediate championship second round clash in the round robin series of game as Carrigaline edged it with a point to spare over Blackrock. At the break Carrigaline held a two point lead and they worked hard to protect it through the second half. Blackrock had Katelyn Hickey on target with four first half points while Andrea Brennan grabbed a goal as they kept in touch with a Carrigaline side that had Emily Power, Laura Kelleher and Sarah Cotter to the fore as they gained the upper hand in the opening 30 minutes. It remained close through the second half as the sides battled it out, Roisin De Faoite hit three Blackrock

points while Cait Kelleher found the net for her side's second goal as they applied pressure on Carrig's defence. Up front Carrigaline added to their tally with Emily Power adding her second goal while points from Grainne O'Keeffe and Sarah Cotter helped Carrigaline take the two points on offer.

Scorers for Carrigaline: E Power 2-1, S Cotter 0-3 (0-2f), L Kelleher 1-0, G O'Keeffe 0-1.  
Blackrock: K Hickey 0-4, C Kelleher, A Brennan 1-0 each, R de Faoite 0-3.  
CARRIGALINE: R Harrington, J Kiernan, A Collins, T O'Connor, S Moran, J O'Keeffe, G Harrington, M Moran (c), L Kelleher, S Cotter, D Smyth, G O'Keeffe, C O'Keeffe, E Power, S Barry.  
Subs: E Phelan for Barry, T Scully for Kelleher.  
BLACKROCK: A Murray, T Cummins, C Meaney, S Hennessey, M Hurley, R De Faoite, J Irwin, E Fielding, C Kelleher, D Ni Mhuirí, K O'Brien, K Hickey, Grace Mulqueen, Andrea Brennan.  
Sub: D O'Leary for Fielding.

LINDA MELLERICK

## CAMOGIE

IN THE week leading up to the semi-final draw the hope amongst Cork supporters was that they didn't draw Wexford.

But as events transpired that's how it turned out.

I initially shared their feelings, but actually felt quite okay about the pairing when news filtered through.

Speaking with the players during the week, they also wanted Wexford.

Those signs are good. I'm optimistic about our chances. But each and every one of the players will need to leave everything they have out on the pitch and take every opportunity that comes their way. There's no point in having regrets afterwards.

I reiterate what I said in my match preview; Cork need to attack this game. Cork will line out in standard 15 format, but I doubt Wexford will hold the same once the ball is thrown in. They will crowd their midfield, attempt to draw Cork's half-back line out line and leave oceans of space inside to play possibly two on two, with Ursula Jacob the danger woman at full forward.

We can't allow that to happen and may well end up having to match their style of play if, at midfield, the extra player is causing problems.

Wexford's defence is physically strong, particularly Catherine O'Loughlin at full-back, Deirdre Codd and Mary Leacy.

There is little point in us standing shoulder to shoulder with them and tussling for 50/50 balls. We need to play it fast into our forwards who in turn need to be buzzing about the place for the full hour. At no time should any of our forwards be static.

I believe we need a couple of goals to win this. I have been critical of Cork's inability to create opportunities against the likes of Wexford, Gal-

## Juvenile board will launch U14 shield competition

UNDER 14 BLITZ  
By MARY NEWMAN

THE juvenile board are in the process of organising a shield competition for U14 teams who did not progress from their league section. With league competitions at this age-level having finished in June, clubs who did not make it to the semi-final stages were finished the season early. The big emphasis of the weekend is that it will be a fun day out for all teams who participate. It's proposed to divide the competition into two grades with teams who participated in the A and B league groups together in Division 1 and the teams that participated in the C and D league grouped in Division 2.

Each panel will consist of 20 players and there will be a trophy for the Division 1 and Division 2 winners with medals for the winning and runners-up panels. The competition will take place Saturday August 20th in Ballincollig where two pitches will be in operation on the day ensuring the games are run off quickly and within a balanced timeframe. The whole idea is one which has been hugely welcomed by the mentors from all the U14

clubs as it is an excellent opportunity to extend the U14 season for the clubs who did not make it to the closing stages of competitions.

The competition also allows the girls an opportunity to play competitive games and meeting new clubs who they may not have been paired with in their league sections. County board development officer Mairead O'Donovan is competition coordinator and she is looking forward to a successful event. "It's a great opportunity to keep the young girls playing as for many of the clubs the season ended with their final league game and if a club did not qualify, then the year is

effectively over. The thought behind this weekend is to give the girls something to look forward to and to keep them playing camogie.

"This is our third year holding this competition and the clubs are hugely supportive of it and we hope for a big entry for the competition and we look forward to a great weekend of U14 camogie." Clubs interested in participating can get their entries with the €30 entry fee to: Mairead Donovan, Competition Coordinator, 41 Beech Park, Ballincollig, Co Cork. Entries must be in by Tuesday next 16th August 2011.



AUG. 2011

# a Cork victory



The Bride Rovers Junior Camogie panel who recently won the league title beating Ballinascorthy in the final.

way and Kilkenny. We pop up with a goal here and there but in truth few of them were the result of impressive teamwork.

Considering the possession Cork has enjoyed in a lot of their championship outings, the return should have been greater.

Cork can right that today and go for the jugular. We are capable of hitting the net. Should Cork play it wide and fast there are very few defenders who will halt Jennifer O'Leary, Katrina Mackey and Breige Corkery in full flow. However, we have been guilty of striking over without glancing up to see if a goal is on.

I'd like to see all three intermittently head for the danger area.

When Katrina rounds her marker she tends to drift wide instead

of cutting in. Once these players round their markers, as they often do, they need to burst towards the middle and draw Wexford to create openings.

I've a feeling Wexford fear Cork at the moment, possibly more that Cork fears them.

We've got to be careful not to give Wexford a strong start. They tend to pounce for goals early whereas the second half is typically when Cork perform best. From a confidence point of view Cork needs to be there or thereabouts at half-time.

For the second time in three years Kilkenny and Galway meet in the second semi-final, actually out on the field first at 2pm.

This is the eighth clash of the counties over the last four years

with Kilkenny coming out on top on five of those occasions.

However, Galway has won the two previous clashes between the counties so far this season.

I'm actually going to tip Kilkenny for this one, on the basis that if Veronica Curtin is held I don't believe Galway has the quality forwards to see this through.

They have been kept in games in the past by the accuracy of free-taker Aisling Connolly.

Brenda Hanney is a strong name to have, but she is only popping up for a couple of points here and there. Tara Rutledge is a promising young player and does cause problems, but the finish isn't there yet.

Galway's defence is good — Therese Maher, Ann Marie Hayes and Sinead Cahalane are all excel-

lent players.

I was impressed with Kilkenny three weeks ago when they defeated Cork. True, Cork were minus a number of players, but I was impressed none the less.

They hold a very solid defence with Collette Dormer, Catherine Doherty and Jacqui Frisby the first line and the magnificent Elaine Alyward at left-half-back.

Ann Dalton at midfield/centre forward is having her best season in a Kilkenny jersey and the Cat's forward division seems solid.

They also have a strong bench. I had felt that Kilkenny lacked the physical strength required at this level, yet they certainly stood up to Cork and if they enter tomorrow's game with the same mentality they should take it.

## Places still available for admin course

A REMINDER to club officers that there are still places available on the administration course which is being organised by the County Board in association with the Cork Sports Partnership for all camogie clubs. The course will be held on Monday August 22 at the VEC offices, Yeats House, Ballincollig starting at 6.30PM. The cost of the course is € head or three club officials. The Itinerary/Agenda for the evening will look at the role of the chairperson, the secretary and treasurer and their role in the Club and responsibilities. The evening will also look at the dos and don'ts associated with the roles and it will finish up with a questions and answers session.

### CLUB COURSES

By MARY NEWMAN

The board are requesting that all clubs have a representative or two there to take advantage of this opportunity as there have been many changes with the Camogie Association over the past few years and personnel within the club structure has changed so they feel it is important that all clubs prioritise the course and attend. Any clubs who wish to attend are asked to note there are a limited number of places available due to seating the course can be booked by contacting the County Camogie Board Development officer Máiréad Donovan 41 Beech Park, Ballincollig, Co Cork

## Supporters announce fundraiser

THE Cork Camogie Supporters Club have done huge work over the last number of years by organising fundraising events which help lift the burden of fundraising and they help organise the little extras for the intercounty teams. The supporters' clubs have helped with things such as training weekends for the teams, and to help fund events such as these, they are holding a fundraising raffle. Cards for this were circulated to every club in the county and chairperson of the supporters' club, Irene Duffy, is sending out a reminder to everybody that the

### FUNDRAISER

By MARY NEWMAN

raffle will take place on Sunday August 23 at St. Finbarr's at 8pm. Clubs and anybody that have cards for this are asked to ensure that all cards sold or unsold are returned to the secretary of the supporters' club, Grainne White, 62 Woodview, Pinemore, Grange, Douglas, Cork by Thursday August 18. The club wishes to thank everybody who made the effort to help them in their endeavours to support the Cork camogie teams at all levels.

## Aghabullogue coast past Ballyhea challenge

Aghabullogue  
Ballyhea

4-11  
0-7

INTERMEDIATE  
By MARY NEWMAN

GOALS proved the difference in this Evening Echo intermediate championship clash as Aghabullogue hit four to seal victory over Ballyhea. Caroline Kelly had two in the first half after Mary Buckley had opened the Aghabullogue account with a point. Maria Walsh and Mary Coleman kept Ballyhea in the hunt with first half points.

Aghabullogue kept the pressure on with Emma Healy, Caroline Kiely and Michelle Healy adding to their tally to give them a 2-5 to 0-4 interval lead.

Aghabullogue kept the pressure on from the start of the second half Emma Healy fired over an early point before goals from Michelle Healy and Tina Roche put the game out of Ballyhea

reach. Despite trailing, Ballyhea never gave up and they added points to their tally with Maria Walsh, Stephanie McInerney and Mary Coleman on the scoresheet. Aghabullogue finished strong with points from Emma Healy Mary Buckley and Máire O'Leary to give them their first victory in the round robin series of games which helps keep their championship aspirations alive.

Scores for Aghabullogue: E Healy 0-8(0-8), C Kiely 2-1, Michelle Healy 1-1, Tina Roche 1-0, Máire O'Leary 0-1.

Ballyhea: M Walsh 0-5, M Coleman and S McInerney 0-1 each.

AGHABULLOGUE: N Moynihan; A Duff, M Twomey, E O'Connell; C Denny, J Twomey, D Twomey; A Twomey, T Roche; Máiread Twomey, E Healy, M Buckley; C Kiely, M Healy, S Dineen.

Subs: E O'Mahony for Dineen, L Ronan for Máiread Twomey, M O'Leary for Kiely, N Doherty for M Healy.

BALLYHEA: S McInerney (c); C O'Doherty, V Hennessey, L O'Kelly; M McCarthy, G Hanley, M Coleman; M Walsh, G Crowley; S O'Kelly, N Morrissey, J Reidy; L Hennessey, M Walsh, E Hanley.

Sub: S Douglas for M McCarthy (h-t inj).





LINDA  
MELLERICK

## CAMOGIE

**THEY are the All-Ireland champions.**

It's an extra incentive for us to go out and beat them.

They are the words of Cork's left-half forward Jennifer O'Leary ahead of Saturday's crunch senior All-Ireland semi-final tie with Wexford in Nowlan Park.

"This will be the toughest semi-final we've had in a long time," Jennifer O'Leary said.

But Jennifer is confident the team is ready and has been particularly pleased with the way training has gone.

"The tempo in training over the past number of weeks has increased significantly with a lot of drills, speed work and snappy hurling.

"It's been very enjoyable."

After Cork lost their final group game to Kilkenny three weeks ago the players were disappointed and wanted to go back to the training ground as soon as possible to rectify any failings.

But manager Joe O'Brien knew it wasn't the right thing to do, particularly with a number of club games on the horizon.

He gave the players the week off, against their will, and Jennifer admits it was the absolute right thing to do.

"The players wanted to go back mid-week, but Joe was right to refuse us that request.

"We came back both mentally and physically a lot fresher, and the improvement is evident.

"We had seven championship games on the trot, and the emotion as well as everything else that goes into each game is pretty intense.

"We were tired, we needed a little break."

Looking ahead to the game, Jennifer gives her views.

"Wexford are renowned for playing a tight game.

"They are physically a strong side. We need to play to our strengths.

"We need to use our speed and play it wide. I believe we are faster and more skilful.

"We need to keep it simple, trust each other, and stop them running through the middle.

"There is plenty of talent in this team. We need to make the most of our opportunities. We need to ensure the ball comes through to our forwards.

"No one will catch Katrina Mackey if she turns a player.

"When Sile Burns gets the ball in her hand she is very hard to stop in front of goal.

"Our forwards haven't really gelled since we played Galway.

"That day we hunted in packs, we were fired up for that game after last year's semi-final defeat and we played very well.

"We're underdogs going into this game and that suits us fine.

"This is knockout and against Wexford we'll be fired up.

"Wexford are our greatest rivals, they are the team to beat.

"We wanted to meet Wexford. Be-

fore the draw was made we were talking among ourselves and the team was hoping for Wexford.

"We have to believe in ourselves. We have to rid ourselves of this nervousness, and prove to people that we are the team to beat.

"I mean last year was the first time in nine years that we didn't contest the final.

"We've been the team over the past 10 years. Wexford have won a couple of All-Irelands over the past few years, and while we will and do respect them, we shouldn't be in awe of them."

While Cork has goaled in almost every game this season, it has been a concern that with the amount of possession they enjoyed the return in front of goal isn't higher.

Does this remain a concern?

"Goals win games and one of our

weaknesses has possibly been that we seemed content to stack up the points.

"But at training we are encouraged every time to go for goal when the opportunity is there.

"If our full-forward line get the ball and take on their marker I know without doubt that the goals will come.

"As a team we've gelled a lot more this year. We all get on really well and that has helped us a lot and driven us on.

"Joe has placed a lot of emphasis on the team since he arrived.

"He said at the outset that everything we do, we'll do as a team.

"Even at training we go out on to the field together, we come in together at the end.

"It's all team, team, team; and

when you have that you'll have respect and trust in the player beside you.

"We'll need that on Saturday."

On the panel since 2002 and having missed the 2008 and 2009 seasons due to travel, Jennifer is back to her best.

Truly on form this season she will be one of the fastest players on the pitch on Saturday.

With lightening speed, Cork need to ensure that Jennifer gets a plentiful supply.

She is capable of splitting Wexford's defence wide open.

Cork need to attack this game and have confidence in their ability.

Jennifer believes this team has the necessary attributes.

"This is the time to get it right. We're ready for it."



Cork's Jennifer O'Leary is determined ahead of Saturday's Senior All-Ireland semi-final clash with Wexford in Nowlan Park.

# O'Leary can't wait to take on Wexford



# Cork Ladies continue their march to Croke

**T**he hurlers and footballers may have been knocked out of their All-Ireland Championships before the beginning of August but Cork's Ladies football team and camogie panel are both involved in the latter stages of their respective competitions over the coming eight days.

Eamonn Ryan's side made it eight consecutive Senior Munster football titles with a comfortable victory over Kerry in July and now face into a quarter-final fixture against Dublin at St. Brendan's Park in Birr next Saturday (August 20th).

First into action, however, will be the Rebel County's

**Niamh O'Mahony**



sport@thecorknews.ie

camogie stars, who take on reigning All-Ireland champions Wexford at Nowlan Park tomorrow (Saturday, 4pm). Having already narrowly lost out to the Leinster side this season, manager Joe O'Brien has said his players know exactly what to expect second time around.

"The Championship has gone quite well for us so far and we are in the last four of the competition now," O'Brien told the *Cork News*.

"It's been hectic - the girls have had to play seven games in seven weeks but we were very conscious of the fixture list from the outset. With a schedule like that, we were bound to get injuries so we focused on having a panel capable of dealing with anything that came up.

"Particularly towards the end of the campaign, where by we were qualified (for the semi-final) before we played the last match, we were able to give some players a break and get experience for others by playing them against Kilkenny. It was very much a balancing act because you can't keep the kind of momentum you need for the Championship up for such a long period."

**"We have improved in every game and the results reflect that."**

Joe O'Brien  
Manager

Wins over Clare, Galway, Dublin, Offaly and Tipperary were enough to see Cork through and, in Wexford, O'Brien's team will now play the best camogie side in the country at the moment. He added: "We are very much aware of their capabilities. Of the seven matches we played this year, I would have thought they were the best we played against. They beat us, and even though we did have an opportunity late on to get something from the game... it didn't happen.

"We have improved in every game and the results reflect that. The Wexford match was our first real competitive fixture and we went on to have a really comprehensive win over Galway the follow-

ing week. The question now though is what Wexford have done themselves, since as I'm assuming that they have also got better.

"We've worked hard for the past two weeks and had a look at past videos of Wexford in action - to see where we might possibly turn the tables on them. They are a good side and this Cork team has lost a number of influential players over the last two years. We've lost eight in total, more than half a team, but the players that have come in have filled shoes admirably and I've no doubt that we will be there or thereabouts on Saturday afternoon."

## 'The standard is exceptional'

continued from page 75

Should Cork triumph and set up another Croke Park date, it will be the county's ninth final appearance in ten years - an incredible record and one to be very proud of. O'Brien himself has enjoyed his first campaign in charge, having never seen a live camogie match before last March, and said that he has been impressed by the quality of players in Cork as well as the level of commitment involved.

"The personal challenge for me was how I would manage taking on women as distinct from training men. However, if I knew going back those years what I know now about the ladies games - both football and camogie - I would have attended a lot more matches. The standard is exceptional and the entertainment is second to none.

"It's disappointing to see

small crowds turning out to inter-county games. I've been to a lot of club matches over the last month and they are fairly well attended, unlike some of the early rounds of the Championship. The crowds do get bigger once we get into semi-finals and finals but the players need support in the early stages too. It's been good being involved so far though and it will be a lot more pleasurable if we reach an All-Ireland final!"

Cork's game against Wexford will be broadcast live online at rte.ie with coverage starting with the tussle of Kilkenny and Galway at 2pm.



Joanne Casey in action during the All-Ireland Senior Camogie Championship clash against Tipperary in July.  
Picture: Barry Cregg /

## Model can close in on double

AFTER failing to retain the All-Ireland senior camogie crown they won in 2007, Wexford have looked hell bent on keeping their hands on the prize this time by adding the league to last year's Championship.

It's no surprise to see Cork in the final four. But after failing to maintain their incredible run of finals appearances last year, there has been a changing of the guard.

Joe O'Brien is now at the helm of the Rebels and there have been a number of departures from the high achieving team of old.

After relinquishing their All-Ireland title to Galway after a semi-final replay, Joanne O'Callaghan, Catriona Foley, Mary O'Connor and Rachel Moloney retired and this has ushered in a wave of change. To their credit they looked the part in the qualifying stage with their ability to score goals a standout fea-

**Cork v Wexford (4.0 Today)**  
**ALL-IRELAND CAMOGIE SEMI-FINAL**

ture of their run to the semi-final. The one misfire they had was when they played Wexford in the second round and were beaten by three points on a day when their finishing touch deserted them. Since then however, Cork have looked in a different class and are targeting the champions. But JJ Doyle's Wexford boast their own impressive fire power.

### Support

Ursula Jacob (below) is leading the way and has able support from captain Una Leacy who has scored 4-11 in the campaign so far. Cork centre back Rena Buckley is a commanding presence for the Rebels, but the experience and determination of this Wexford side who have shown their ability to maintain good form, should shade a tight battle.

**VERDICT: WEXFORD**



## Galway seek some revenge

ANN DOWNEY'S Kilkenny caused a major shock when they struck in the last minute of injury time to beat Galway in the 2009 semi-final.

The chance for revenge is here at last and the Galway girls are not expected to be found wanting.

Kilkenny, however, are coming with a talented young team that is looking to build a new era of dominance to match Brian Cody's hurlers.

Four All-Ireland minor titles between 2006 and 2009 have given the Cats a conveyor belt of exciting talent such as Grace Walsh, Michelle Quilty, Shelly Farrell, Edwina Keane, Aisling Dunphy and Denise Gaule, who have all been regulars on the Kilkenny team this year.

Quilty has scored 5-26 in their

**Kilkenny v Galway (2.0 Today)**  
**ALL-IRELAND CAMOGIE SEMI-FINAL**

march to the last four and will take watching.

Noel Finn's Galway are influenced by the Killimor side who won the All Ireland club championship this year.

Elsewhere, the team has benefited from the positional switch of There Maher from attack to centre back, where her reading of the game is a serious advantage.

Sinead Cahalan has moved from corner to full back and if she gets to grips with the Quilty threat, then Kilkenny could struggle for scores and a more experienced Galway can pull through.

**VERDICT: GALWAY**

Aug. 2011





# 2011 ALL IRELAND SENIOR CAMOGIE CHAMPIONSHIP SEMI-FINALS

in association with

RTÉ SPORT

**NOWLAN PARK, KILKENNY**  
SATURDAY • AUGUST 13th • 2011

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Ard Stiúrthóir

**GALWAY V KILKENNY**  
@ 2.00 pm  
**CORK V WEXFORD**  
@ 4.00 pm

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## Fáilte ón Uachtarán

FÁILTE ISTEAICH chuig cluichí an lae i gCill Chainnigh. Táim cinnte go mbeidh sárchomortas idir na foirne inniu.

The championship is in overdrive now and Croke Park on Sunday, 11th September, is on the horizon for six outstanding teams.

With Wexford aiming for a back to back double in the National League and All Ireland series, the open draw for the semi-finals has paired a showdown between them and the 2009 champions Cork. The 2010 All Ireland finalists Galway will also want to make it back to Croke Park. They will have to overcome the 2009 finalists Kilkenny. I've no doubt there are two very exciting games in prospect.

The semi-finals are taking place against a backdrop of a national consultation on how Camogie is played. A review of Camogie playing rules happens on a three year cycle. This is an excellent opportunity to consider how we can continuously improve the game for the future.

During the championship, different aspects of the game come on the radar. Physical contact in the game, similarity or differences between Camogie and hurling, the playing attire, the advantage rule, scores from a handpass are regular discussion items.

To have your say on the playing rules, check out our website [www.camogie.ie](http://www.camogie.ie). Click on the heading *Playing Rules Review* underway. You can also check out the Camogie page on Facebook. The survey asks ten questions and closes on 21st August.

I'd like as many players, referees, coaches, mentors, administrators and supporters to give your opinion. The Playing Rules Review Group will report to Central Council who will consider their recommendations; consult further with the counties and then bring any necessary motions to the Camogie Association's National Congress in 2012 which will decide on how we want the game to be played.

Nowlan Park is now synonymous with All Ireland Senior Camogie semi-finals. This is the 8th consecutive year of the semis being here. Kilkenny GAA's annual facilitation of the date and the consistent excellence of the facilities are of huge value to the promotion of the game and very much appreciated by the Camogie Association. Sincere thanks also to Kilkenny Camogie Board for their assistance today.

I also extend a very special thanks to all in RTÉ Sport. The Camogie Association and RTÉ have enjoyed a very successful season during which the profile of the game has increased on radio and TV.

I wish the players, managers, administrators and our match officials every success today and I hope you, the supporters, enjoy our game - our passion.

*Síle Ní Átháin*

JOAN O'FLYNN

Uachtarán, An Cumann Camógaiachta



## MATCH PREVIEW

**Linda Mellerick looks ahead to the clash of All Ireland champions Wexford and Cork**

CORK are at their best when their backs are to the wall and without doubt Wexford enter this contest as favourites.

Since Cork relinquished their title to Galway twelve months ago after a semi-final replay, Joanne O'Callaghan, Catriona Foley, Mary O'Connor and Rachel Moloney have retired. They also have a new management team with Lillian Zinkant the only link to the team of 2010. Joe O'Brien manages the side with Con Hayes as the third selector.

Matters remain pretty much in situ with Wexford as they bid for two in a row.

Despite finishing third in the table, Cork topped it on scoring average by 25 points, 30 ahead of Wexford. They slipped to third place on the last day, after an insignificant final group game defeat to Kilkenny where both sides had already qualified for the semi-finals.

Cork goalied in six of their seven outings, but taking just the top three opposing defences into consideration Cork struggle to be creative and create opportunities.

Cork must be itching for another go at Wexford having been somewhat annoyed with themselves over their three point defeat to the All Ireland champions in round two. It was Cork's lack of finish which gave Wexford the points. When the game hung in the balance Wexford played some outstanding camogie hitting four points out of the top drawer.

Both sides have improved significantly since. The midfield battle of Orla Cotter and Gemma O'Connor versus Michelle O'Leary and Kate Kelly is one not to be missed.

Catherine O'Loughlin is magnificent at full back with Mary Leacy a pivotal sweeper. Wexford, on paper, has the most lethal forward division in the country. Jacob is in particularly good form this season. Una

Leacy is another finding the target regularly with 4-11 to date. Player of the match in last year's final Katrina Parrock can't be given half a chance while Evelyn Quigley is also finding the net, having goalied five times in four games.

Cork's half back line is strong with Elaine O'Riordan slotting in at right half back. Captain Rena Buckley controls centre back with Anna Geary to her left.

Cork's full back line is a new line-out from twelve months ago. Pamela Mackey, at left corner back, has been highly commendable this season yet she has sat out the last four weeks with a shoulder injury. Jenny Duffy, typically at right half back, takes the other corner while Amanda O'Regan lines out at full. Cork's half back line can't allow themselves to be sucked out leaving their inside line exposed.

Winning midfield is critical. Cotter and O'Connor can't both play too deep or too defensively. Cork need to attack, play it fast and if they deliver quick quality ball to the in-form Jennifer O'Leary and Katrina Mackey in particular, then it's game on.



Katrina Parrock (Wexford) in action against Kilkenny's Denise Gaule (centre) and Jacqui Frisby (left) during Round 3 of the All-Ireland Senior Camogie Championship in association with RTÉ Sport at Wexford Park. Photo Sportsfile

## MATCH PREVIEW

**Eoghan Cormican previews the clash of Kilkenny and Galway**

A REPEAT of the 2009 fixture and in truth, there has been little difference in the build up in this latest installment of Galway and Kilkenny clashes. The Tribeswomen enter the tie as slight favourites determined to return to Croke Park after losing the All Ireland the year previous. Kilkenny, as always are determined to upset the apple cart.

The Cats have enjoyed better fortunes on the field over the last couple of years and due to their excellent underage talent they are once more, emerging as a serious force on the camogie landscape.



Niamh Kilkenny (Galway)

Four All Ireland minor crowns between 2006 and 2009 coupled with two Kilkenny schools sharing the last four All Ireland senior colleges' titles has provided Ann Downey with a wealth of emerging talent. Grace Walsh, Michelle Quilty, Shelly Farrell, Edwina Keane, Aisling Dunphy and Denise Gaule have been regulars on the Kilkenny team this year having come up through the ranks.

Furthermore, coming off the back of a 2-16 to 1-13 victory over Cork in the final round robin game, Ann Downey's charges look to be hitting form at just the right time.

Michelle Quilty remains their most potent attacker, scoring 5-26 in the championship to date, with 5-16 of that total coming from play.

Aoife Neary, as expected, has also featured prominently in the offensive, tallying 2-19, while Aine Fahey (3-6) and Denise Gaule (0-10) have also showed a keen eye for the target.

As for Galway, they boast a clean bill of health ahead of the tie. Noel Finn's squad, of course, was bolstered earlier in the year by Killimor's success in the All

Ireland club championship. This gave the management an excellent starting point to rebuild the side after last year's All Ireland final defeat to Wexford and in Ann Marie Hayes, Ann Marie Starr and Brenda Hanney, he could not have asked for three more determined and willing competitors.

Added to this, the positional changes introduced at the beginning of the championship which saw Therese Maher fill the centre half back berth and Sandra Tannian move to centre forward have worked a treat. Probably the most astute switch by the management was the redeployment of Sinead Cahalan from corner to full back. Indeed, Cahalan's battle with Michelle Quilty should be one of the intriguing sub-plots of the tie.

Already this year the sides have clashed twice, with Galway claiming the spoils on both occasions. In their most recent meeting at Duggan Park, Ballinasloe, Galway emerged victorious on a scoreline of 0-12 to 0-9. However, Galway will be mature enough though to realise that this is an entirely different ball game with everything to play for.

CAMOGIE ALL-IRELAND SENIOR CHAMPIONSHIP SEMI-FINALS 2011

CAMOGIE ALL-IRELAND SENIOR CHAMPIONSHIP SEMI-FINALS 2011



# Susan EARNER

(Galway)

**Q: Three people who have had an influence on your career/why?**

**A:** My parents (Mary and Jimmy) had a huge influence, they drove me the length and breadth of the country. I'll pay you back some day Mam and Dad! The principal in the National School was the first person to put me into goals and my neighbour Damien Howe, former Galway goalkeeper whom I plagued night and day to hurl with me.

**Q: Skort or togs?**

**A:** I think that goalkeepers should continue to be allowed to wear tracksuit bottoms

**Q: One playing rule you would change?**

**A:** Get rid of hand pass goal rule.

**Q: The toughest opponent outside of your county?**

**A:** I suppose there is competition with fellow goalkeepers Aoife Murray and Mags Darcy.

**Q: Four words to describe yourself as a player?**

**A:** Vocal, calm, brave and of course quick ha ha!

**Q: Three most fun camogie colleagues?**

**A:** Oh it's hard to choose. There are a few comedians on the panel but I have to say you can always depend on the Killimor girls for some banter; I can't leave out the girls from the club, the gang from N.U.I.G and U.C.C. They all have their unique sense of fun.

**Q: Venue for girl's night out?**

**A:** Anywhere that will have us. We're not fussy! But you can depend on Galway City for a good night out

**Q: Six sportsmen you would invite**



**to dinner?**

**A:** Dan Carter, Stephen Gerard, David Beckham, need I say more! Brendan Cummins to have a chat about my goalkeeping skills; Brian O'Driscoll, he might give me tickets for the World Cup; Lance Armstrong an inspirational sportsman

**Q: Deep and meaningful conversation, Ryan O'Dwyer or Lar Corbett and say why?**

**A:** Lar Corbett, because he knows how to make extra bucks out of the game.

**Q: Who would you like to see elected President of Ireland?**

**A:** Sean Gallagher, he may have some of that money left after the Dragons Den

**Q: Favourite song/piece of music?**

**A:** Pit-bull and Ne-yo, Give me everything, it's a good song to get you going. I am loving Adele at the moment too.

**Q: Three things, outside of camogie that you are serious about?**

**A:** Friendships, family and teaching.

**Q: Personal motto?**

**A:** Anything is possible, the impossible just takes longer.

**Q: Do you click on to www.camogie/social media?**

**A:** Yes, I log on frequently to check on match results.

# Deirdre CODO

(Wexford)

**Q: Three people who have had an influence on your career/why?**

**A:** Firstly my parents, Ruth and John who started camogie in my club, My Aunt and Uncle for bringing me to Croke Park for the first time to see Wexford play in the 1994 All-Ireland camogie final; Elva Moriarty for the professionalism and high standard of camogie in Colaiste Bride

**Q: One playing rule you would like to change?**

**A:** Allow shouldering as it happens in the game anyway!

**Q: Skort or togs?**

**A:** Togs but skorts looks nice and feminine!

**Q: The toughest opponent outside of your county?**

**A:** Brenda Hanney (Galway)

**Q: Four words to describe yourself as a player?**

**A:** Oh definitely stylish will be one!

**Q: Three most fun camogie colleagues?**

**A:** All fun in different ways, but Locky (Catherine O'Loughlin), Noeleen and Mary, they're always up to something.

**Q: Venue for girl's night out?**

**A:** McGovern's if a certain individual who is barred isn't out with us! Camogie night out would be Wrens, M17 and Stores whenever we're let in!

**Q: Six sportsmen you would invite to dinner?**

**A:** Lance Armstrong after everything he's been through he's an inspiration; Roy Keane because he's just a legend;



Gordon D'Arcy, we'd have loads to talk about as he is a Wexford man; Roger Federer to give tips on motivation; Ger Cushe my first Wexford hurling idol and Ciarán Kenny my current.

**Q: Deep and meaningful conversation, Ryan O'Dwyer or Lar Corbett?**

**A:** Lar Corbett as I don't know who the other fellow is! (Ryan will not recover from this!)

**Q: Who would you like to see elected President of Ireland?**

**A:** Sean Gallagher from Dragons Den, he seems to be fairly down to earth.

**Q: Favourite song/piece of music?**

**A:** Bat out of Hell or anything by Johnny Cash

**Q: Three things, outside of camogie, that you are serious about?**

**A:** Castledockrell United, Celtic Cross Primary school in Calcutta and Raft Racing on four wavin pipes!

**Q: Personal motto?**

**A:** Never give up.

**Q: Do you click on to www.camogie/ do you use social media**

**A:** Yes it's good to see results from other matches and linking up with friends on Facebook too.

# Grace WALSH

(Kilkenny)

**Q: Three people who have had an influence on your career/why?**

**A:** My parents Michael and Frankie, great encouragement always and Mattie Butler.

**Q: One playing rule you would like to change?**

**A:** Sideline cuts should be worth two points.

**Q: Skort or togs?**

**A:** Skort

**Q: The toughest opponent outside of your county?**

**A:** Karen Kielt from Derry

**Q: Three words to describe yourself as a player?**

**A:** Determined, hard working and honest.

**Q: Three most fun camogie colleagues?**

**A:** Aisling Dunphy - Chris Kamara impersonations (Unbelievable Geoff!); Edel Maher - 'Good job guys'; Miriam Walshe - 'Are bears real?'

**Q: Venue for girl's night out?**

**A:** The Field Bar

**Q: Three sportsmen you would invite to dinner?**

**A:** Mostly hurlers to talk about the game, J.J. Delaney, his ability in the air is outstanding; John Mullane who has great determination and will never give up; Joe Canning who can master any skill; Henry Shefflin, best hurler



I have ever seen; D.J. Carey for incredible vision on the field and one footballer Bernard Brogan because he looks good!!

**Q: Deep and meaningful conversation, Ryan O'Dwyer or Lar Corbett?**

**A:** Lar Corbett - he could give me a few tips on how to score!

**Q: Who would you like to see as President of Ireland?**

**A:** Michael D. Higgins

**Q: Favourite song/piece of music?**

**A:** Birdy - Skinny Love

**Q: Three things, outside of camogie, you are serious about?**

**A:** Family, hockey and socialising with friends.

**Q: Personal motto?**

**A:** Hard work beats talent if talent doesn't work hard enough

**Q: Do you click on to www.camogie/ do you use social media?**

**A:** Yes I find it very useful.

# Elaine O'RIORDAN

(Cork)

**Q: Three people who have had an influence on your career/why?**

**A:** My parents (Pat and Margaret) who always supported me; Vincent Harrington, from my former school (St Mary's Charleville) and Ann Watson, from Milford, both great trainers through the years.

**Q: One playing rule you would like to change?**

**A:** Get rid of the 'hand-pass goal'.

**Q: Skort or togs?**

**A:** Skorts definitely.

**Q: The toughest opponent outside of your county?**

**A:** Vera Sheehan, Limerick

**Q: Four words to describe yourself as a player?**

**A:** Tough, dedicated, committed and small I suppose!

**Q: Three most fun camogie colleagues**

**A:** So many to choose from, I suppose Briege "the Butt" Corkery, her bright ideas always seem to get me into big trouble! Anna Geary and Eimear Sullivan my partners in crime for creeping our way into the VIP section of Havana's. Sorry Monty!

**Q: Venue for girl's night out?**

**A:** Reardon's Bar, Cork of course or Collins' Pub, Milford where they serve the creamiest pints in North Cork - you can't bate it with a shtick! Not that I drink them!

**Q: Six sportsmen you would invite to dinner**

**A:** Emmet Bolton, Bernard Brogan, Dan



Carter, Martin Kaymer, Shane Long all for obvious reasons, easy on the eye, then the man himself Willie "Big Bang" Casey!

**Q: Deep and meaningful conversation, Ryan O'Dwyer or Lar Corbett?**

**A:** First of all they are both Tipp men so it wouldn't be a deep and meaningful conversation!! Lar for the craic!

**Q: Who would you like to see elected President of Ireland?**

**A:** Well since Anna Geary surprisingly hasn't put her name forward this time I would have to say I hope Brian Crowley declares, he gets my vote. A Fianna Fáil and Cork man sure you can't go wrong!

**Q: Favourite song/piece of music?**

**A:** Jasssssooonnn Deerrruuulloo!

**Q: Three things, outside of camogie, you are serious about?**

**A:** Football, my job at Ballyhass Lakes, Jersey Shore

**Q: Personal motto?**

**A:** Get rich or die tryin'...ha!

**Q: Do you click on to www.camogie/ do you use social media?**

**A:** Yes I use Facebook; it's what all the cool kids are at these days.





# Corcaigh

Dathanna: Dearg agus Bán

## FIR IONAIÐ

- (16) Eimear White  
E. de Faoite  
Barryroe
- (17) Maria Walsh  
M. Breatnach  
Ballyhea
- (18) Denise Cronin  
D. Ni Chroinin  
Ballincollig
- (19) Eimear O'Sullivan  
E. Ni Shuilleabhain  
Ballinhassig
- (20) Michelle Browne  
M. de Brún  
Mallow
- (21) Carolyn Motherway  
C. Madartha  
St. Catherine's
- (22) Julia White  
S. de Faoite  
Douglas
- (23) Sarah Hayes  
S. Ni hAodha  
Courcy Rovers
- (24) Niamh Ni Chaoimh  
N. Ni Chaoimh  
Killeagh
- (25) Lydia Cunningham  
L. Nic Cuinneagáin  
Glen Rovers
- (26) Patricia Buttmer  
P. Buitimair  
Ballincollig
- (27) Roisin de Faoite  
R. de Faoite  
Blackrock
- (28) Mariah Reidy  
M. Riada  
Newtownshandrum
- (29) Christine O'Neill  
C. Ni Néill  
Courcy Rovers

(1)  
**Aoife Murray**  
A. Ni Mhuiri  
Cloughduv

(2)  
**Jenny Duffy**  
S. Ni Dhufuigh  
St. Finbar's

(3)  
**Amanda O'Regan**  
A. Ni Riogáin  
Douglas

(4)  
**Pamela Mackey**  
P. Ni Mhaca  
Douglas

(5)  
**Elaine O'Riordan**  
E. Ni Riordáin  
Milford

(6)  
**Rena Buckley**  
R. Ni Bhualacháin (Capt.)  
Inniscarra

(7)  
**Anna Geary**  
A. Ni Ghodhra  
Milford

(8)  
**Orla Cotter**  
O. Nic Cotter  
St. Catherine's

(9)  
**Gemma O'Connor**  
G. Ni Chonchúir  
St. Finbar's

(10)  
**Briege Corkery**  
B. Ni Chorca  
Cloughduv

(11)  
**Linda Dorgan**  
L. Ni Dheargáin  
Ballincollig

(12)  
**Jennifer O'Leary**  
S. Ni Laoire  
Barryroe

(13)  
**Joanne Casey**  
S. Ni Chasthasaigh  
Inniscarra

(14)  
**Sile Burns**  
S. Ni Bhroin  
Rockban

(15)  
**Katrina Mackey**  
C. Ni Mhaca  
Douglas

**SELECTORS:** Joe O'Brien, Lillian Zinkant, Con Hayes  
**PHYSIO:** Landy Hill

# Loch Garman

Dathanna: Corcora agus Ór



## FIR IONAIÐ

- (16) Helena Jacob  
L. Jacob  
Oulart the Ballagh
- (17) Evelyn Quigley  
E. Ni Choigligh  
Rathnure
- (18) Brid Gordon  
B. Ni Mhuirneachain  
Blackwater
- (19) Fiona Kavanagh  
F. Coomhanach  
Buncloody
- (20) Ciara Storey  
C. Ni Stóirí  
Oulart the Ballagh
- (21) Lisa Bolger  
L. Ni Bholguir  
St. Martin's
- (22) Ciara O'Connor  
C. Ni Chonchúir  
Rathnure
- (23) Bernie Holohan  
B. Ni hUallachain  
Rathnure
- (24) Áine Codd  
A. Nic Óda  
St. Martin's
- (25) Louise O'Leary  
L. Ni Laoire  
Rathnure
- (26) Louise Codd  
L. Ni Óda  
Duffry Rovers
- (27) Colleen Atkinson  
C. Nic Aidin  
Oulart the Ballagh
- (28) Siona Nolan  
S. Ni Nuallain  
Manager-Boolevogue
- (29) Stacey Redmond  
S. Nic Reamainn  
Oulart the Ballagh
- (30) Fiona Rochford  
F. de Rosfort  
St. Anne's

(1)  
**Mags D'Arcy**  
M. Ni Dhorchai  
St. Martin's

(2)  
**Claire O'Connor**  
C. Ni Chonchúir  
Rathnure

(3)  
**Catherine O'Loughlin**  
C. Ni Lochlainn  
Manager-Boolevogue

(4)  
**Karen Atkinson**  
C. Nic Aidin  
Oulart the Ballagh

(5)  
**Noeleen Lambert**  
N. Laimbéart  
St. Martin's

(6)  
**Mary Leacy**  
M. Ni Leitheasa  
Oulart the Ballagh

(7)  
**Aoife O'Connor**  
A. Ni Chonchúir  
Rathnure

(8)  
**Deirdre Codd**  
D. Nic Óda  
Duffry Rovers

(9)  
**Josie Dwyer**  
S. Ni Dhuibhuir  
Fenns St. Aidan's

(10)  
**Kate Kelly**  
C. Ni Cheallaigh  
St. Ibar's - Shelmalier

(11)  
**Una Leacy**  
U. Ni Leitheasa  
Oulart the Ballagh

(12)  
**Michelle O'Leary**  
M. Ni Laoire  
Rathnure

(13)  
**Lenny Holohan**  
L. Ni hUallacháin  
Rathnure

(14)  
**Ursula Jacob**  
Ú. Iacob (Capt.)  
Oulart the Ballagh

(15)  
**Katrina Parrock**  
C. Ni Pharóg  
St. Ibar's - Shelmalier

**MANAGER:** J.J. Doyle  
**SELECTORS:** Joe Brennan, Tommy Roche, Ger O'Reilly, Geraldine Murphy  
**TRAINER:** Gerry McQuaid



# Cill Chainnigh

Dathanna: Dubh agus Ómra

## FIR IONAIÐ

- (16) Siobhán Murphy  
S. Ni Mhurchú  
Tullagher
- (17) Shelly Farrell  
S. Ni Fhearail  
Thomastown
- (18) Grace Walsh  
G. Breatnach  
Tullaroan
- (19) Keava Fennelly  
C. Ni Fhionnalaigh  
Ballyhale Shamrocks
- (20) Sarah Ann Quinlan  
S. A. Ni Chaoimh  
Young Ireland's
- (21) Lizzie Lyng  
L. Ni Longáin  
Rower-Inistige
- (22) Marie O'Connor  
M. Ni Chonchúir  
St. Lachlain's
- (23) Deirdre Delaney  
D. Ni Dháilínne  
St. Lachlain's
- (24) Noelle Maher  
N. Ni Mheachair  
Tullaroan
- (25) Ruth Jones  
R. Nic Sheoin  
Glenmoro
- (26) Kelly Hamilton  
C. Ni Hamaltin  
Rower-Inistige
- (27) Katie Power  
C. de Paor  
Piltown
- (28) Niamh Phelan  
N. Ni Fhailín  
Windgap
- (29) Áine Kinsella  
Á. Oisealach  
Mullinavat

(1)  
**Catriona Ryan**  
C. Ni Riain  
Tullagher

(2)  
**Collette Dormer**  
C. Ni Dhuidhiarma  
Poultown

(3)  
**Catherine Doherty**  
C. Ni Dhochartaigh  
St. Anne's

(4)  
**Jacqui Frisby**  
S. Ni Fhiosbaigh  
Ballyhale Shamrocks

(5)  
**Claire Phelan**  
C. Ni Fhailín  
Lisdowney

(6)  
**Edwina Keane**  
E. Ni Chatháin  
St. Martin's

(7)  
**Elaine Aylward**  
E. Ni Aighleart (Capt.)  
Mullinavat

(8)  
**Aisling Dunphy**  
A. Ni Dhonnchaidh  
St. Brigid's

(9)  
**Ann Dalton**  
Á. Ni Dháilín  
St. Lachlain's

(10)  
**Aoife Neary**  
A. Ni Náraig  
James Stephens

(11)  
**Áine Fahey**  
Á. Ni Fhathaigh  
Tullaroan

(12)  
**Denise Gaule**  
D. Nic an Gaill  
Windgap

(13)  
**Marie Dorgan**  
M. Ni Dheargáin  
St. Martin's

(14)  
**Edel Maher**  
E. Ni Mheachair  
St. Anne's

(15)  
**Michelle Quilty**  
M. Ni Chaoilte  
Mullinavat

**JOINT MANAGERS:** Ann Downey, Frank Flannery  
**SELECTORS:** Alan Roche, James Meagher  
**PHYSIO/FIRST AID:** Charlie Foley  
**BACKROOM TEAM:** Marina Downey, Imelda Kennedy, Ester Kennedy

# Gaillimh

Dathanna: Marún agus Bán



## FIR IONAIÐ

- (16) Helen Campbell  
L. Nic Cathmhaoil  
Kilmar
- (17) Noreen Coen  
N. Ni Chadhain  
Athenry
- (18) Sarah Dervan  
S. Ni Dhoirbheain  
Mullagh
- (19) Regina Glynn  
R. Ni Ghloinn  
Athenry
- (20) Jessica Gill  
S. Nic an Ghaill  
Athenry
- (21) Martina Conroy  
M. Ni Chonraoi  
Kilmar
- (22) Emer Haverty  
E. Ni Abhartáigh  
Kilmar
- (23) Finola Keely  
F. Ni Chaoilte  
St. Thomas
- (24) Julie Brien  
S. Ni Bhriain  
Kilmar
- (25) Sinéad Keane  
S. Nic Catháin  
Kinvara
- (26) Shauna Healy  
S. Ni hÉilí  
Ardrahan
- (27) Collette Gill  
C. Nic an Ghaill  
Kinvara
- (28) Rebecca Hennelly  
R. Ni hIonáire  
Ardrahan

(1)  
**Susan Earner**  
S. Ni Shoolagh  
Eyecourt

(2)  
**Therese Mantion**  
T. Ni Mhantáin  
Mullagh

(3)  
**Sinéad Cahalan**  
S. Ni Chatháin  
Mullagh

(4)  
**Lorraine Ryan**  
L. Ni Riain  
Kilmar

(5)  
**Ann Marie Hayes**  
A. M. Nic Aodha  
Kilmar

(6)  
**Therese Maher**  
T. Ni Mheachair  
Athenry

(7)  
**Heather Cooney**  
H. Ni Chuana  
St. Thomas

(8)  
**Niamh Kilkenny**  
N. Nic Giolla Chainnigh  
Pearses

(9)  
**Ann Marie Starr**  
A. M. Starr  
Kilmar

(10)  
**Orla Kilkenny**  
O. Nic Giolla Chainnigh  
Pearses

(11)  
**Sandra Tannian**  
S. Ni Thanaidheáin  
St. Thomas

(12)  
**Aislinn Connolly**  
A. Ni Chonghaile  
Castlegar

(13)  
**Tara Rutledge**  
T. Ni Mhaoileirg  
Portanna

(14)  
**Brenda Hanney**  
B. Ni hAnnaigh (Capt.)  
Kilmar

(15)  
**Veronica Curtin**  
V. Ni Churtin  
Kinvara

**MANAGER:** Noel Finn  
**SELECTORS:** Noel Power, Peter Kelly, Helena Huban  
**PHYSIO:** Ian Egan



## Senior All-Ireland Championship Semi Final in association with RTÉ Cork v Wexford

All Ireland Senior Camogie Championship  
Semi-Final  
Wexford 2-11  
Cork 1-9

Wexford set up a repeat of last years All Ireland Final as they put Cork to the sword in Nowlan Park on Saturday. After a sluggish and off colour first half they showed why they are the top team in the country with a vastly improved second half showing. They outscored Cork 1-7 to 1-3 after the change of ends and their players stepped it up immeasurably. The only blip was the late concession of a goal while the management will worry about the fact their multiple All Star full back Catherine O'Loughlin who was carried off with an ankle injury.

The opening half hour had been disappointing with the concession of too many frees and injuries to Cork's Jennifer O'Leary and Wexford Captain Mary Leacy resulting in an extremely stop-start affair.

The Rebelettes were the ones who should have been happier with their performance but that would be of little solace to them as Ursula Jacob hit 1-1 just before half-time to give the champions a one point lead going in at half-time.

We had to wait 23 minutes for the game's first point from play as up to then each side were relying on their respective free-takers Ursula Jacob and Jennifer O'Leary to get the umpires working. Katrina Mackey was enjoying the space on the wing and she hit two points in quick succession to edge the Munster side in front.

Cork were really starting to get on top at this stage and Gemma O'Connor split the posts from way out on the right sideline. Then Wexford decided to go direct with great effect.

Una Leacy, well known for her aerial ability, fetched a free that dropped in and showed her vision to feed her Oulart the Ballagh club mate Jacob who stroked home. The latter then converted a free from an acute angle to see her side go in leading 1-4 to 0-6 at half time which was hardly deserved.

Dressing rooms are often the scenes of rousing speeches as teams reappear transformed and although they went in winning JJ Doyle must have had some strong words as his charges had failed to ignite. Straight from the throw-in the O'Duffy Cup holders looked sharper and hungrier.

Players like Kate Kelly came into the game and Ursula Jacob continued her great display, one which earned her the player of the match award. Lenny Holohan and Deirdre Codd got the scoring going after the restart with Kelly then opening her account.

Katrina Parrock then grabbed 1-1 in the space of two minutes. Her goal was what you expect from a corner forward as she gambled and won as the Cork backs got in a mix-up and Parrock gathered and fired to the net. Then she showed her long distance shooting as she eased over from way out on the left sideline.

Gemma O'Connor and Orla Cotter kept Cork in touch converting placed balls before the Munster side were given a ray of hope as Katrina Mackey got in and blasted past Mags D'Arcy.

However, up stepped Jacob and Kate Kelly to see out the game and give Wexford the insurance points that allowed their large support breathe a little. In one month it remains to be seen can they defend their title but on their second half display it's highly likely.

SCORERS: Cork: K Mackey 1-2, J O'Leary 0-3 (3f), G O'Connor 0-2, O Cotter, S Burns 0-1 (f) each. Wexford: U Jacob 1-6 (5f), K Parrock 1-1, K Kelly 0-2, D Codd, L Holohan 0-1 each.

Player of the match: Ursula Jacob (Wexford)

WEXFORD: Mags D'Arcy; Claire O'Connor, Catherine O'Loughlin, Karen Atkinson; Noleen Lambert, Mary Leacy, Aoife O'Connor; Deirdre Codd, Josie Dwyer; Kate Kelly, Una Leacy, Michelle O'Leary; Lenny Holohan, Ursula Jacob, Katrina Parrock. Subs: Evelyn Quigley for Codd (49mins), Ciara Storey for O'Loughlin (56mins), Fiona Kavanagh for U Leacy (57mins)

CORK: Aoife Murray; Jenny Duffey, Amanda O'Regan, Pamela Mackey; Elaine O'Riordan, Rena Buckley, Anna Geary; Orla Cotter, Gemma O'Connor; Briege Corkery, Linda Dorgan, Jennifer O'Leary; Joanne Casey, Silé Burns, Katrina Mackey.

Subs: Eimear O'Sullivan for O'Leary (h/t), Denise Cronin for Burns (48mins), Sarah Hayes for Dorgan (53mins), Jennifer O'Leary for Casey (55mins)

## Senior All-Ireland Semi Final Galway v Kilkenny

All Ireland Senior Camogie Championship  
Semi-Final  
Galway 2-13  
Kilkenny 2-7

Two years ago Nowlan Park was the graveyard for Galway's All Ireland campaign. On Saturday they banished those demons with hard-fought win over Kilkenny in their own back yard. The game hung in the balance right until Tara Rutledge pulled on a loose ball to fire past Catriona Ryan with two minutes left to play. Up to then the Cats had kept in touch thanks mainly to the accuracy of Aoife Neary from frees.

Ironically it was one of her poorer efforts that helped to give her side the impetus to mount a comeback that made for a gripping second half. Neary's free dropped short and Edel Maher was on hand to finish. From then on the game ebbed and flowed right until Rutledge raised the green flag.

Galway dominated the first half with their defence snuffing out any threat and even when danger did loom Therese Maher and her half-back colleagues dropped back excellently. Still, despite having the vast majority of possession the women from the West were not making it count on the scoreboard.

After 22 minutes they led by 0-6 to 0-2 with Niamh Kilkenny hitting four points, three from frees and one from play after a barnstorming run. Aoife Connolly and Brenda Hanney had opened the scoring for the eventual winners before Aoife Neary got Kilkenny off the mark with a free eight minutes in. It was actually her side's first shot of the match, such was Galway's superiority.

Then, just before the break game moved up a notch as Brenda Hanney buried it. The full-forward was following up after her effort had been cleared off the line. Niamh Kilkenny immediately tagged on a point as the scoreboard began to give a truer reflection of what had been happening in this contest.

The green flag seemed to awaken the 'home' side as suddenly the previously peerless Galway rearguard was looking shaky. After they failed to clear a ball bodies piled in and around the square and eventually the sliothar fell to Aisling Dunphy who treated everyone in Nowlan Park to a textbook ground stroke that flew into the net.

Veronica Curtin scythed through the Cats moments later to tap over to register the last score of a half that had really exploded in the last minutes. The score read 1-8 to 1-2 with Galway knowing that they would have to make their dominance count after the change of ends.

The high tempo continued after the restart as Maher got Kilkenny back into it with her goal.

Aoife Neary and Aisling Dunphy's efforts sandwiched a point from Galway sub Noreen Coen.

Neary hit her fourth and fifth free to make it a one point match as we entered the final quarter. Player of the match Niamh Kilkenny was on target on the double with a free and another great score after a trademark run. Kilkenny sub Shelly Farrell then split the posts with ten minutes to go and it looked like the game was beginning to turn. A free from Niamh Kilkenny kept the Westerners out in front as the nerves began to fray.

Galway failed to capitalise with their next three attacks before Rutledge put the game beyond doubt with her goal. Captain Brenda Hanney got the last point of the day and then it was batten down the hatches down the other end as Galway stood firm and denied Kilkenny a late late goal.

SCORERS: Galway: Niamh Kilkenny 0-8 (4f), B Hanney 1-2, T Rutledge 1-0, A Connolly, N Coen, V Curtin 0-1. Kilkenny: A Neary 0-5 (5f), A Dunphy 1-1, E Maher 1-0, S Farrell 0-1.

KILKENNY: Catriona Ryan; Collette Dormer, Catherine Doherty, Grace Walsh; Jacqui Frisby, Claire Phelan, Elaine Aylward; Aisling Dunphy, Ann Dalton; Aoife Neary, Aine Fahey, Denise Gaule; Marie Dargan, Edel Maher, Michelle Quilty.

Subs: Edwina Keane for Jacqui Frisby (h/t), Shelly Farrell for Dargan (34mins), Marie O'Connor for Fahey (39mins), Keeva Fennelly for Dunphy (21mins).

GALWAY: Susan Earner; Therese Manton, Sinéad Cahalan, Lorraine Ryan; Ann Marie Hayes; Therese Maher, Heather Cooney; Niamh Kilkenny, Ann Marie Starr; Orla Kilkenny, Sandra Tannian, Aislinn Connolly; Tara Rutledge, Brenda Hanney, Veronica Curtin.

Subs: Martina Conroy for Tannian (20mins), Noreen Coen for O Kilkenny (28mins).

## Jacob helps steady Model ship

WEXFORD 2-11  
CORK 1-9

### ALL-IRELAND SEMI-FINAL

WEXFORD set up a repeat of last year's final as they put Cork to the sword in Nowlan Park on Saturday. After an off-colour first half they showed why they are the top side in the country.

They outscored Cork by 1-7 to 1-3 after the change of ends and their players stepped it up immeasurably. The only blip was the late concession of a goal, while the management have concerns over multiple All Star full-back Catherine O'Loughlin, who was carried off with an ankle injury.

The opening half hour had been disappointing, with the concession of too many frees and injuries to Cork's Jennifer O'Leary and Wexford captain Mary Leacy resulting in an

extremely stop-start affair.

The Rebelettes would have been happier with their first-half display but that would be of little solace to them as Ursula Jacob hit 1-1 just before half-time to give the champions a 1-4 to 0-6 lead going in at half-time.

Straight from the second throw-in the O'Duffy Cup holders looked hungrier. Lenny Holohan and Deirdre Codd got the scoring going, with Kate Kelly then opening her account.

Katrina Parrock then grabbed 1-1 in the space of two minutes, her goal blasted home after some

Wexford's Mags D'Arcy and Aoife O'Connor



clever corner-forward play.

Gemma O'Connor and Orla Cotter kept Cork in touch by converting placed balls before the Munster side were given a ray of hope as Katrina Mackey blasted to the net. However, up stepped Jacob and Kelly to see out the game and give Wexford the insurance points.

Player of the match: U Jacob

(Wexford)  
SCORERS - Wexford: U Jacob 1-6 (5f), K Parrock 1-1, K Kelly 0-2, D Codd, L Holohan 0-1 each. Cork: K Mackey 1-2, J O'Leary 0-3 (3f), G O'Connor 0-2, S Burns 0-1 (f) each.

WEXFORD - M D'Arcy, C O'Connor, C O'Loughlin, K Atkinson, N Lambert, M Leacy, A O'Connor, D Codd, J Dwyer, K Kelly, U Leacy, M O'Leary, L Holohan, U Jacob, K Parrock. Subs: E Quigley for Codd (49), C Storey for O'Loughlin (56), F Kavanagh for U Leacy (57).

CORK - A Murray, J Duffey, A O'Regan, P Mackey, T O'Riordan, R Buckley, A Geary, O Cotter, G O'Connor, B Corkery, L Dorgan, J O'Leary, J Casey, S Burns, K Mackey. Subs: E O'Sullivan for O'Leary (h/t), D Cronin for Burns (48), S Hayes for Dorgan (53), J O'Leary for Casey (55).  
REF - F McNamara (Clare)

## Rutledge kills off battling Kilkenny

GALWAY 2-13  
KILKENNY 2-7

### ALL-IRELAND SEMI-FINAL

TWO years ago, Nowlan Park was the graveyard for Galway's summer campaign, but on Saturday they banished those demons with a hard-fought win over Kilkenny in their own back yard.

The game hung in the balance right until Tara Rutledge pulled on a loose ball to fire past Catriona Ryan with two minutes left. Up to then, the Cats had kept in touch thanks mainly to the accuracy of Aoife Neary from frees.

Ironically, it was one of her poorer efforts that helped to give her side the impetus to mount a comeback that made for a

gripping second half. Neary's free dropped short and Edel Maher was on hand to finish.

From then on the game ebbed and flowed right until Rutledge raised the green flag.

Galway dominated the first half and after 22 minutes they led by 0-6 to 0-2, with Niamh Kilkenny hitting four points.

Just before the break the game moved up a notch as Brenda Hanney fired to the net. Niamh Kilkenny immediately tagged on a point as Galway turned the screw.

The Cats responded though and Aisling Dunphy stroked home to give them hope. On the resumption Maher's goal had Kilkenny flying. Neary and Dunphy's efforts sandwiched a point

from Galway sub Noreen Coen, before Neary hit her fourth and fifth free to make it a one-point match heading for the final quarter.

Galway's star performer Niamh Kilkenny kept the Westerners out in front with a free as the nerves began to fray, before Rutledge then put the game beyond doubt with her late goal.

Player of the match: N Kilkenny (Gal)

SCORERS - Galway: N Kilkenny 0-8 (4f), B Hanney 1-2, T Rutledge 1-0, A Connolly, N Coen, V Curtin 0-1 each. Kilkenny: A Neary 0-5 (5f), A Dunphy 1-1, E Maher 1-0, S Farrell 0-1.

GALWAY - S Earner, T Manton, S Cahalan, L Ryan, AM Hayes, T Maher, M Cooney, N Kilkenny, AM Starr, O Kilkenny, S Tannian, A Connolly, T Rutledge, B Hanney, V Curtin. Subs: M Conroy for Tannian (20), N Coen for O Kilkenny (28).

KILKENNY - C Ryan, C Dormer, C Doherty, G Walsh, J Frisby, C Phelan, E Aylward, A Dunphy, A Dalton, A Neary, A Fahey, D Gaule, M Dorgan, E Maher, M Quilty. Subs: E Keane for J Frisby (h/t), S Farrell for Dorgan (34), M O'Connor for A Fahey (39), K Fennelly for Dunphy (21).  
REF - M O'Kelly (Cork)

Aug. 2011



# Ruttledge goal seals victory for Galway

**Ronan Flanagan**

**Camogie**

GALWAY banished nightmares of Nowlan Park with a 2-13 to 2-7 victory over Kilkenny in the All-Ireland semi-final.

The game hung in the balance right until Tara Ruttledge pulled on a loose ball to fire past Catriona Ryan with two minutes left to play. Up to then the Cats kept in touch thanks mainly to the accuracy of Aoife Neary from frees.

Ironically, it was one of her poorer efforts that helped to give her side the impetus to mount a comeback that made for a gripping second-half. Neary's free dropped short and Edel Maher was on hand to finish. From then on the game ebbed and flowed right until Ruttledge raised the green flag.

Galway dominated the first half but, despite having the vast majority of possession, were not making it count on the scoreboard.

After 22 minutes they led by 0-6 to 0-2 with Niamh Kilkenny hitting four points. Aoife Connolly and Brenda Hanney had opened the scoring for the winners before Aoife Neary got Kilkenny off the mark.

Then, just before the break, the game moved up a notch as Brenda Hanney buried the ball in the net.

Niamh Kilkenny immediately tagged on a point as the scoreboard began to give a truer reflection of the pattern of the game.

Then a green flag by Aisling Dunphy, a classic ground stroke, seemed to wake the home side.

Veronica Curtin scythed through the Cats defence moments later to tap over to register the last score of a half that had really exploded in the last minutes. The high tempo continued after the restart as Maher got Kilkenny



**MY BALL:** Galway's Tara Ruttledge goes for the ball against Kilkenny's Aisling Dunphy and Grace Walsh in the All-Ireland Senior camogie championship semi-final at Nowlan Park, Kilkenny on Saturday.  
Picture: Pat Murphy/Sportsfile

back into it.

Aoife Neary and Aisling Dunphy's efforts sandwiched a point from Galway sub Noreen Coen. Neary hit her fourth and fifth free to make it a one point match as the final quarter dawned.

Player of the match Niamh Kilkenny was on target on the double with a free and another great score after a trade-

mark run. Kilkenny sub Shelly Farrell then split the posts with ten minutes to go and it looked like the game was turning. But a free from Niamh Kilkenny kept the Westerners out in front as the nerves began to fray.

Ruttledge then put the game beyond doubt with her goal. Captain Brenda Hanney got the last point of the day

and then it was time to batten down the hatches as Galway stood firm.

Meanwhile Wexford set up a repeat of last year's final as they put Cork to the sword, 2-11 to 1-9, at Nowlan Park on Saturday.

They outscored Cork 1-7 to 1-3 after the change of ends and upped their game immeasurably. The only blip was the

concession of a late goal while the management will worry about the fact their multiple All Star full back Catherine O'Loughlin who was carried off with an ankle injury.

The opening half hour had been disappointing with the concession of too many frees, and injuries to Cork's Jennifer O'Leary and Wexford Captain Mary Leary resulting

in an extremely stop-start affair.

The Rebels were the ones who should have been happier with their performance but that was little solace to them as Ursula Jacob hit 1-1 just before half time to give the champions a one-point lead.

23 minutes passed until the game's first point from play as, up to then, each side were relying on their respective free-takers, Ursula Jacob and Jennifer O'Leary.

Katriona Mackey was enjoying the space on the wing and she hit two points in quick succession to edge the Munster side in front.

Cork were really starting to get on top at this stage and Gemma O'Connor split the posts from way out on the right sideline.

Then Wexford decided to go direct with great effect. Una Leary then showed her vision to feed her Oulart the Ballagh clubmate Jacob who stroked home.

The latter then converted a free from an acute angle to see her side go in leading 1-4 to 0-6 at half-time.

On the changeover, Kate Kelly came into the game and Ursula Jacob continued her great display, one which earned her the player of the match award.

Lenny Holohan and Deirdre Codd got the scoring going after the restart with Kelly then opening her account. Then Katrina Parrock grabbed 1-1 in the space of two minutes.

Gemma O'Connor and Orla Cotter kept Cork in touch, converting placed balls, before the Munster side were given a ray of hope as Katriona Mackey blasted past Mags D'Arcy.

However, up stepped Jacob and Kate Kelly to see out the game and give Wexford the insurance points.

See teams and scorers on Page 19.

## CAMOGIE

All Ireland Senior Camogie Championship semi-finals  
Wexford 2-11, Cork 1-9  
Scorers for Wexford: U Jacob 1-6 (5th), K Parrock 1-1, K Kelly 0-2, D Codd, L Holohan 0-1 each. Scorers for Cork: K Mackey 1-2, J O'Leary 0-3 (3th), G O'Connor 0-2, O Cotter, S Burns 0-1 (1st) each.  
WEXFORD: M D'Arcy, C O'Connor, C O'Loughlin, K Atkinson, N Lambert, Leary, A O'Connor, D Codd, J Dwyer, K Kelly, U Leary, M O'Leary, L Holohan, A Jacob, K Parrock. Subs: E Quigley for Codd (4th), C Storey for O'Loughlin (5th), F Kavanagh for U Leary (5th).  
CORK: A Murray, J Duffy, A O'Regan, P Mackey, E O'Riordan, R Buckley, A Geary, O Cotter, G O'Connor, B Corkery, L Dorgan, J O'Leary, J Casey, S Burns, K Mackey. Subs: E O'Sullivan for O'Leary (4th), D Cronin for Burns (4th), S Hayes for Dorgan (5th), J O'Leary for Casey (5th).  
Referee: Frían McNamara (Clare)  
Galway 2-13, Kilkenny 2-7  
Scorers for Galway: Niamh Kilkenny 0-6 (4th), B Hanney 1-2, T Ruttledge 1-4, A Connolly, N Coen, V Curtin 0-1. Scorers for Kilkenny: A Neary 0-5th, A Dunphy 1-1, E Maher 1-0, S Farrell 0-1.  
KILKENNY: C Ryan, C Doherty, Catherine Doherty, G Walsh, J Fribby, C Phelan, E Aylward, A Dunphy, A Dalton, A Neary, A Finney, D Gault, M Dorgan, E Maher, M Quilty. Subs: E Keane for Fribby (4th), S Farrell for Dorgan (4th), M O'Connor for Finney (5th), K Fennelly for Dunphy (21).  
GALWAY: S Earner, T Manton, S Cahalan, L Ryan, AM Hayes, T Maher, H Cooney, N Kilkenny, AM Glair, O Kilkenny, S Dalton, A Connolly, T Ruttledge, B Hanney, V Curtin. Subs: M Conroy for Ryan (20), N Coen for O Kilkenny (25). Referee: Mike O'Kelly (Cork)



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by Mary Moran

Aug. 2011





LINDA MELLERICK

## CAMOGIE

Wexford 2-11  
Cork 1-9

THIS was one that got away. For the second year in a row Cork failed to reach the All-Ireland senior camogie final after a five point defeat to Wexford in Nowlan Park on Saturday.

Being eliminated at any stage throughout a championship is hard to take but to lose knowing that the game was there for the taking is an even harder pill to swallow.

A three minute Wexford purple patch just before half time saw Ursula Jacob hit 1-1 and instead of going in at the break three points up Cork went in one down from which they never recovered.

Cork failed to gain parity after. They came within three points with 10 minutes to go and had the momentum. Star full-back Catherine O'Loughlin was stretchered off while ace forward Una Leacy was substituted and Wexford were beginning to panic.

Cork pushed Anna Geary up to half-forward and sensing a chance they were attacking the game with all they had.

An appalling referee decision against Sarah Hayes dashed their dreams and as Ursula Jacob stepped up to convert the simple strike to give Wexford their insurance point Cork were out.

It was a position Cork should never have been in as they dominated 15 minutes of the opening half but failed to get the return up front. It was a problem all season that eventually caught up with them.

Nothing went right for Cork and you need a bit of luck. Star forward Jennifer O'Leary took ill 10 minutes into the game. She remained on the field until half time, switched into corner-forward, but it was obvious she wasn't on form.

Two opportunities came her way, one in particular, when she was unmarked and on another day Cork would have had two goals. Emer O'Sullivan replaced Jennifer at half time.

It took 24 minutes for the game's first point from play as up to then Jennifer O'Leary and Ursula Jacob kept their sides ticking over converting frees, many awarded by poor refereeing.

# Luckless Rebels fall to reigning champions



Wexford's Karen Atkinson tries to find a way past Cork's Joanne Casey during the All-Ireland Senior Camogie Championship semi-final at Nowlan Park, Kilkenny. Picture: Sportfile

Wexford's fixation with tactics threatened to be their downfall as they packed midfield drawing out Cork's two wing-backs. Rena Buckley held Ursula Jacob well in the centre as Elaine O'Riordan and Anna Geary became additional attackers and aided by Gemma O'Connor Cork owned the ball for much of the first half.

Una Leacy was heavily strapped in at full-forward and Amanda O'Regan was first to the ball during any break.

Katrina Mackey was enjoying space on the wing and two points from the Douglas player plus a great score by O'Connor gave Cork a three point advantage 28 minutes in. It should have been more as aided by

the wind Cork wasted opportunities to strike over the bar.

But that lapse in concentration cost Cork dearly. Una Leacy caught a free that dropped in and feeding the unmarked Jacob, who had switched into the left corner, she gave the advancing Aoife Murray no chance.

Jacob then converted a free from a difficult angle as Cork went in at the break with a one point deficit they hardly deserved.

With the wind advantage Lenny Holohan and Deirdre Codd pushed Wexford's lead to three within three minutes. Sile Burns converted a free. Kate Kelly, who became highly influential in the second half, replied and then Cork were dealt an

other sucker punch.

Katrina Parrock struck 1-1 in the space of two minutes.

Cork had possession up front and Mackey was brilliantly dispossessed by Claire O'Connor. The ball broke up the field. A defensive mix-up saw the ball fall kindly for Parrock and she made no mistake.

Her follow-up point was a classic from the left wing.

Entering the final quarter, Cork trailed by seven points but they never gave up. Orla Cotter (f) and O'Connor pointed, Jacob replied.

Then a lifeline for Cork. Catherine O'Loughlin burst out of defence, dropped possession and Mackey pounced to rattle the net with a great strike.

Just a goal behind, the momentum was with Cork as they pushed everything at Wexford but they just couldn't draw level.

**Scorers for Wexford:** U Jacob 1-6 (0-5 f), K Parrock 1-1, K Kelly 0-2, L Holohan, D Codd 0-1 each.

**Cork:** J O'Leary 0-3 (f), K Mackey 1-2, G O'Connor 0-2, S Burns 0-1 (f), O Cotter 0-1 (f).

**WEXFORD:** M D'Arcy, C O'Connor, C O'Loughlin, K Atkinson, N Lambert, M Leacy, A O'Connor, D Codd, J Dwyer, K Kelly, U Leacy, M O'Leary, L Holohan, U Jacob, K Parrock.

**Subs:** E Quigley for D Codd (48), C Storey for C O'Loughlin (inj 56), F Kavanagh for U Leacy (57).

**CORK:** A Murray, J Duffy, A O'Regan, P Mackey, E O'Riordan, R Buckley, A Geary, O Cotter, G O'Connor, B Corkery, L Dorgan, J O'Leary, J Casey, S Burns, K Mackey.

**Subs:** E O'Sullivan for J O'Leary (inj 47), D Cronin for S Burns (47), S Hayes for L Dorgan (51), J O'Leary for J Casey (55).

**Referee:** F McNamara (Clare).

## STORY OF THE GAME

### PLAYER OF THE MATCH

A TOSS up between Ursula Jacob and Kate Kelly. Kelly just shaded it. Highly influential, particularly in the second half, her work rate contributed heavily to Cork's downfall.

### SCORE OF THE MATCH

HARD to choose between Gemma O'Connor's point 28 minutes in and a wonderful strike over the bar from Katrina Parrock on 41 minutes.

### TURNING POINT

THAT three minute purple patch by Wexford just before half time which saw Ursula Jacob strike 1-1. Cork never recovered from that killer blow.

### TALKING POINT

WITHOUT question the free awarded by referee Fintan McNamara against Sarah Hayes after she had brilliantly dispossessed Wexford. It broke Cork's momentum.

## Galway set up a repeat of last year's All-Ireland final

Galway 2-13  
Kilkenny 2-7

A SUPERB display from midfielder Niamh Kilkenny helped Galway overcome Kilkenny to book their place in Croke Park for the second year in a row, writes MARY NEWMAN.

The Galway defence did a superb marking job blotting out Kilkenny forwards Michelle Quilty and Denise Gade, and at centre-back they had an excellent hour from Therese Maher who broke up attack after attack.

### ALL-IRELAND SEMI-FINAL

Maher regularly sent long clearances down field where Breda Hanney and Tara Rutledge caused headaches for the Kilkenny defence.

Dominating the opening half, Galway led by six points at the break, 1-8 to 1-2. Brenda Hanney hit a 24th minute goal to seal a good 30 minutes for Galway, who had Niamh Kilkenny on target with five points while Hanney, Aisling Connolly and Veronica Curtin were also on the scoresheet as they took the game to the home side.

Aisling Dunphy grabbed a lifeline

for Kilkenny with a goal two minutes before the break, their first score from play, as the Galway defence held the upper hand.

Edel Maher got Kilkenny back into the game with a goal inside two minutes of the restart and with Aoife Neary and Aisling Dunphy pointing either side of a Noreen Coen point, it was game on. And as Kilkenny continued to apply pressure Aoife Neary pointed two frees to put one between the sides as the game entered the final quarter.

Galway star Kilkenny showed her accuracy pointing a free before she split the Kilkenny defence to hit a

great point after a superb solo run.

Still Kilkenny battled on, substitute Shelly Farrell pointed but again Niamh Kilkenny kept Galway in front by two with a pointed free.

As Galway strove to put the game beyond Kilkenny they hit three wides in a row before Tara Rutledge sealed it for them with a superb goal after player of the match Niamh Kilkenny had done all the hard work. Captain Brenda Hanney had the final say with a Galway point but not before they had to withstand a late Kilkenny raid that almost yielded a goal but for keeper Susan Earner, who saved well from

Michelle Quilty's effort as Galway advanced to a repeat of last year's final against champions Wexford.

**Scorers for Galway:** N Kilkenny 0-8 (4f), B Hanney 1-2, T Rutledge 1-0, A Connolly, N Coen, V Curtin 0-1.

**Kilkenny:** A Neary 0-5 (0-5f), A Dunphy 1-1, E Maher 1-0, S Farrell 0-1.

**GALWAY:** S Earner, T Manton, S Cahalan, L Ryan, A M Hayes, T Maher, H Cooney, N Kilkenny, A M Starr, O Kilkenny, S Tannian, A Connolly, T Rutledge, B Hanney, V Curtin.

**Subs:** M Conroy for S Tannian (20), N Coen for O Kilkenny (28).

**KILKENNY:** C Ryan, C Dorman, C Dolan, G Walsh, J Frisby, C Phelan, E Aykard, A Dunphy, A Dalton, A Neary, A Fahey, O Gault, M Dorgan, E Maher, M Quilty.

**Subs:** E Keane for J Frisby (h-0), S Farrell for M Dorgan (34), M O'Connor for A Fahey (39), K Fennelly for A Dunphy (21).

**Referee:** Mike O'Kelly (Cork).





**JOY:** Ursula Jacob gets the Player of the Match Award from Camogie President Joan O'Flynn and Irish Star Sports editor Eoin Brannigan

# JACOB SHINES AS REBELS PUT TO THE SWORD

WEXFORD set up a repeat of last year's All-Ireland final as they put Cork to the sword in Nowlan Park on Saturday.

After a sluggish first half they showed why they are the top team in the country in the second period. They outscored Cork 1-7 to 1-3 after the change of ends and their players stepped it up. The only blip was the late concession of a goal, while their multiple All Star full-back Catherine O'Loughlin was carried off with an ankle injury.

The opening half hour featured injuries to Cork's Jennifer O'Leary and Wexford Captain Mary Leacy, resulting in an extremely stop-start affair. Ursula Jacob hit 1-1 just before half-time to give the champions a one-point lead going in at half-time.

## Relying

We had to wait 23 minutes for the game's first point from play as up to then each side were relying on their respective free-takers Jacob and Jennifer O'Leary.

Katriona Mackey was enjoying the space on the wing and she hit two points in quick succession to edge the Munster side in front. Cork were really starting to get on top at this stage and Gemma O'Connor split the posts from way out on the right sideline.

Una Leacy, well known for her aerial ability, fetched a free that dropped in and showed her vision to feed her Oulart the Ballagh club mate Jacob who stroked home.

The latter then converted a free from an acute angle to see her side go in leading 1-4 to 0-4 at half-time.

Straight from the throw-in the O'Duffy Cup holders looked sharper.

## Wexford 2-11 Cork 1-9 CAMOGIE SEMI-FINAL

Players like Kate Kelly came into the game and Ursula Jacob continued her great display.

Lenny Holohan and Deirdre Codd got the scoring going after the restart with Kelly then opening her account.

Katriona Parrock then grabbed 1-1 in the space of two minutes. The Cork backs got in a mix-up and Parrock gathered and fired to the net. Then she showed her long distance shooting as she eased over from way out on the left sideline.

Gemma O'Connor and Orla Cotter kept Cork in touch, converting placed balls, before the Munster side were given a ray of hope as Katriona Mackey got in and blasted past Mags D'Arcy.

But up stepped Jacob and Kate Kelly to see out the game and give Wexford the insurance points that allowed their large support breathe a little. In one month it remains to be seen can they defend their title but on their second half display it's highly likely.

**WEXFORD:** Mags D'Arcy, Claire O'Connor, Catherine O'Loughlin, Karen Atkinson, Noeleen Lambert, Mary Leacy, Aoife O'Connor, Deirdre Codd 0-1, Josie Dwyer, Kate Kelly 0-2, Una Leacy, Michelle O'Leary, Lenny Holohan 0-1, Ursula Jacob 1-6 (5/6), Katriona Parrock 1-1, Sub: Evelyn Quigley for Codd (45min), Clara Storey for O'Loughlin (50), Fiona Kavanagh for U Leacy (57). **CORK:** Aoife Murray, Jenny Duffy, Amanda O'Regan, Pamela Mackey, Elaine O'Riordan, Rena Burgess, Anna Geary, Orla Cotter 0-1 (1), Gemma O'Connor 0-2, Briega Corkery, Linda Dorgan, Jennifer O'Leary 0-3 (3/3), Joanne Casey, Burns 0-1 (1), Katriona Mackey 1-2, Sub: Eimhear O'Sullivan for O'Leary (11/1), Denise Cronin for Burns (45min), Sarah Hayes for Dorgan (53min), Jennifer O'Leary for Casey (55min). **PLAYER OF THE MATCH:** Ursula Jacob (Wexford).

# GALWAY REAP THEIR REWARD

TWO YEARS ago, Nowlan Park was the graveyard for Galway's All Ireland campaign.

On Saturday, they banished those demons with a hard-fought win over Kilkenny.

The game hung in the balance right until Tara Rutledge gulled on a loose ball to fire past Catriona Ryan with two minutes left to play.

Up until then, the Cats had kept in touch thanks mainly to the accuracy of Aoife Neary from frees.

Ironically, it was one of her poorer efforts that helped to give her side the impetus to mount a comeback.

Neary's free dropped short and Edel Maher was on hand to finish.

Galway dominated the first half with their defence snuffing out any threat. Even when danger loomed, Theresa Maher and her half-back colleagues dealt with it.

But despite the vast majority of possession, the women from the West were not making it count.

After 22 minutes, they led by 0-6 to 0-2 with Niamh Kilkenny hitting four points.

Then, just before the break, the game moved up a notch as Brenda Hanney buried it.

The full-forward was following up after her effort had been cleared off the line.

## Galway 2-13 Kilkenny 2-7 CAMOGIE SEMI-FINAL

majority of possession, the women from the West were not making it count.

After 22 minutes, they led by 0-6 to 0-2 with Niamh Kilkenny hitting four points.

Then, just before the break, the game moved up a notch as Brenda Hanney buried it.

The full-forward was following up after her effort had been cleared off the line.

## Shaky

Niamh Kilkenny immediately tagged on a point. However, the previously peerless Galway rearguard was looking shaky.

After they failed to clear a ball, bodies piled in around the square and eventually the sliotar fell to Aisling Dunphy, who hit a textbook ground stroke that flew into the net.

The high tempo continued after the break, as Maher got Kilkenny back into it with a goal.

Neary hit two more frees to make it a one-point match as we entered the final quarter.

Player of the match Niamh Kilkenny was on target with a free and a great score after a trademark run.

Kilkenny sub Shelly Farrell then split the posts with ten minutes to go.

A free from Niamh Kilkenny kept the Westerners out in front as nerves began to fray.

Rutledge then put the game beyond doubt with her goal.

Brenda Hanney got the last point, and then it was batten down the hatches at the other end as Galway stood firm.

**KILKENNY:** Catriona Ryan, Collette Dwyer, Catherine Doherty, Grace Walsh, Jacqui Frisby, Claire Phelan, Elaine Aylward, Aisling Dunphy (1-1), Ann Dalton, Aoife Neary (0-5), Aine Fahy, Denise Gault, Marie Dorgan, Edel Maher (1-0), Michelle Duggan, Sub: Edwina Keane, Shelly Farrell (0-1), Marie O'Connor, Keely Fennelly. **GALWAY:** Susan Eames, Theresa Maher, Sinéad Cahalan, Eimear Ryan, Ann Marie Hayes, Theresa Maher, Heather Cooney, Niamh Kilkenny (0-2), Ann Marie Starr, Orla Kilkenny, Sinéad Tannian, Aislinn Connolly (0-1), Tara Rutledge (1-0), Brenda Hanney (1-2), Veronica Curtin (0-1), Sub: Martina Conroy, Noreen Coen (0-1). **REF:** Mike O'Kelly (Cork).

**GUTTED:** Kilkenny's Lizzie Lyng (left) and Catherine Doherty show their disappointment after the heartbreaking defeat

REF: Mike O'Kelly (Cork)

# Cork fail at semi-final stage

CORK failed at the semi-final stage in the All-Ireland Senior camogie championship for the second year in a row after defeat to Wexford in Kilkenny on Sunday.

Cork had started the brighter but were a point behind at the short whistle, 1-4 to 0-6, after the concession of 1-1 at the end of the half. It gave Wexford the boost they needed and they outscored Cork by four points in the second-half to set-up a repeat of last year's final.

Free-takers Ursula Jacob for Wexford and Jennifer O'Leary for Cork were busy early on as the game stuttered, then Katriona Mackey took two points in quick succession to edge Cork in front.

Cork were really starting to get on top at this stage and Gemma O'Connor split the posts from way out on the right sideline. Then Wexford decided to go direct with great effect.

Ursula Jacob goaled to give Wexford a huge fillip, she collected a pass from

Una Leacy to billow the net, Jacob was then on hand to point a free to give her team a one point half-time advantage.

Lenny Holohan and Deirdre Codd got the scoring going after the restart with Kate Kelly also getting on the scoresheet as the champions began to assert their dominance.

Katriona Parrock then grabbed 1-1 in the space of two minutes to shatter the Cork challenge. Two Cork backs got in a mix-up and Parrock gathered and fired to the net. Then she showed her long distance shooting as she eased over from way out on the left sideline.

Gemma O'Connor and Orla Cotter kept Cork in touch, converting placed balls before the Munster side were given a ray of hope as Katriona Mackey goaled. Jacob replied for the Slaneysiders before Kate Kelly finished the scoring as Wexford held on for a 2-11 to 1-9 victory and a repeat All-Ireland final with Galway.



Katriona Parrock, Wexford, in action against Anna Geary, left, and Jenny Duffy, Cork in the All-Ireland Senior Camogie Championship Semi-Final at Nowlan Park, Kilkenny. **First Sunday Photo: Pat Murphy/Sportsfile**

# RTE meet their match as Ryan up for camogie

## CALL FOR A LADIES 'UP FOR THE MATCH'

### ANNE MARIE O'CONNOR

RTE HAVE been told to show some 'gender equity' by broadcasting an 'Up for the Match' programmes to coincide with the camogie and ladies Gaelic Football All Ireland's.

Traditionally RTE only broadcast GAA specials on the eve of the hurling and football finals, but ignore the women's competitions.

In view of Wexford's qualification for the camogie All Ireland against Galway on September 11, Labour Cllr. Joe Ryan has now demanded fair play from the national broadcaster for the women's sports.

'I have written to the Controller for Programmes at RTE to ask that it would be considered in the interest of gender equity,' he said.

Cllr. Ryan said that given that the pairings for this year's All Ireland hurling final are the same as in 2009 and 2010, the concept of the programme would be boosted by extending participation to counties which qualify for the sports female equivalent.

'I acknowledge the achievement of Wexford's camogie team in qualifying again for another All Ireland. As mayor last year my path and that of the camogie team regularly crossed. I was struck by the level of commitment of all players and management to training, diet, social discipline and lifestyle,' he said.

'I see no difference in terms of what female and male players do at the top level to succeed and I would like to see RTE accept this in terms of its national coverage of the national games. Gender Equity has benefitted tennis enormously and will benefit Gaelic Games too,' he added.

■ RTE's 'Up for the Match' host Grainne Seoige would be presenting a camogie edition of the show if Cllr. Joe Ryan had his way.



AUG. 2011



# Galway skin Cats thanks to a razor sharp display

Midfielder Kilkenny steals the show as Tribeswomen book place in decider

Galway 2-13  
Kilkenny 2-7

EOGHAN CORMICAN  
AT NOWLAN PARK

ELEVEN of the Galway team that started in last year's semi-final victory over Cork lined out at Nowlan Park on Saturday, but there was something different about this particular effort from the Westerners, for it contained a freshness, drive and vigour incomparable with previous campaigns.

No doubt, the crucial score was Tara Rutledge's priceless strike in the 58th minute. Ahead by two, Galway were clearly anxious to further add to their tally as memories of 2009, when their two point advantage was wiped out through an injury time Kilkenny goal, played on the mind of every Galway supporter in the 5,100 strong crowd.

There was to be another late goal this time around, but thankfully it came courtesy of those sporting the maroon and white. Niamh Kilkenny's free from the stand side, after Collette Dormer needlessly fouled Veronica Curtin, was batted into the path of Rutledge who made no mistake from close range. Brenda Hanney added the insurance score thereafter, to seal the win.

Unquestionably, the management will be extremely happy with the character Galway showed in the second period after enduring a torrid opening to the second half where they were hit for 1-3. Consequently, the remaining 20 minutes was to be a test of Galway's temperament and resolve. It would determine how far they have come this year. Their response was emphatic and for what they brought to this contest, they were more than deserving of their win.

There were many outstanding performances on Saturday, but the display of Niamh Kilkenny embodied the spirit and desire of the entire panel. The Peases woman was a force of nature all afternoon, patrolling midfield and surging forward at every turn, hitting four memorable points from play while in attack, Tara Rutledge and Brenda Hanney raised the questions which Kilkenny never looked like



Galway's Ann Marie Starr gets in her strike despite the attentions of Kilkenny's Elaine Aylward at Nowlan Park on Saturday.

answering.

If the offensive unit displayed a keen eye for the target, then credit the Galway defence for their resilience and stubbornness at the back. Sinead Cahalan and, in particular, Lorraine Ryan dealt more than adequately with the threat posed by their direct opponents.

Outside them, Therese Maher, Ann Marie Hayes and Heather Cooney built the security wall in the half back line which rendered Kilkenny scoreless from play for the first 26 minutes of action.

Unable to gain a foothold at midfield, the home side were under immense pressure at the back and inevitably, that led to them conceding scoreable frees which Niamh Kilkenny gladly converted. In contrast, Kilkenny struggled in attack underlined by the fact that full forward Edel Maher was the only starting forward to score from play.

Nonetheless, it was clear right from the off that Galway had arrived in a positive frame

of mind determined to exorcise the demons of two years ago. They dominated the early stages, outscoring their rivals 0-4 to 0-1 in the first quarter, while also shooting three wides and squandering a guilt edge goal chance where Tara Rutledge's strike, after being put through by Hanney, lacked sufficient bite to take it past Catriona Ryan in the Kilkenny goal.

Those stats reflected the possession ratio, but enjoying the aid of the wind, it was imperative Galway build an advantage that would hold up against whatever Kilkenny threw at them at the change of ends.

In any event, Aislinn Connolly - a terrific effort over the right shoulder - Brenda Hanney and Niamh Kilkenny (two, one free) were all on target in the opening exchanges, with Aoife Neary posting the home side's sole response.

Neary (free) cut the deficit with her second, but Niamh Kilkenny (free) restored Galway's three point cushion and

when Ann Marie Starr was taken down in full flight, Kilkenny registered her fourth of the semi-final.

On 24 minutes, Galway pounced for their opening goal, one which gave the scoreboard a truer reflection of proceedings. Catriona Ryan made a mess of Veronica Curtin's probing delivery and though Hanney's first attempt failed to cross the white paint, the captain retrieved the sliotar and rattled the net with a blistering strike. A brilliant Niamh Kilkenny score from out near the left touchline followed and all of a sudden, Galway were eight clear.

Kilkenny, to their credit, didn't lose heart responding with a major of their own in the 27th minute. Corner forward Maria Dargan was pivotal in setting up the goal and though Galway kept out the first two efforts, they were powerless to do anything about Aisling Dunphy's ground stroke which rose high into the roof of the net.

Significantly though, it was

Galway who had the final say of the half with a score that was a parable of the game itself. Therese Maher robbed Dargan of possession before finding Ann Marie Starr with a succinct pass. The Killimor midfielder moved the sliotar first time into the full forward line where Curtin burst onto the breaking ball before dissecting the posts.

Kilkenny, trailing by six, couldn't have asked for a better start to the second half with Edel Maher finding the net after Eamonn batted an Aoife Neary free back into the danger area. Noreen Coen pointed for the Westerners, but when Aisling Dunphy and Neary (free) split the posts in the ensuing passages of play, it was obvious this one was going to right down to the wire.

Following a superb fetch and offload by Hanney, Niamh Kilkenny edged Galway two in front, but Neary was again on target after Therese Maher coughed up possession before committing the foul on Edel

Maher.

Yet again Galway responded, producing a carbon copy of their previous score. Hanney broke possession to Kilkenny who, at the end of a terrific solo run, fired over. An illegal challenge on Curtin subsequently, allowed Niamh Kilkenny nudge Galway two clear in what was her eighth point of the tie. Rutledge's goal arrived minutes later and with it the realisation that Galway were back in an All-Ireland final.

Not surprisingly, there were plenty of positives to be taken from this semi-final win, Galway's third in four years. Their hunger and commitment to the cause never wavered throughout, especially in the second period when Kilkenny reduced arrears to the minimum on two occasions.

Their distribution of the sliotar, exemplified by centre-half back Therese Maher, was superb. Consequently, the inside line, thriving on the plentiful supply of ball filtering through, ripped the Kilkenny full back line to shreds.

Furthermore, the intensity which Galway brought to the encounter was phenomenal as they hassled, harried and out-classed their opponents all over the field.

That said, Wexford will be a completely different proposition on September 13th. They might have been less than impressive in overcoming Cork, but have a strong tradition of delivering the goods when the occasions demands.

Lest we not forget they lifted the O'Duffy Cup in 2007 and again in 2010. As for Galway, their Croke Park experiences are a familiar tale of All Ireland heartache.

It's time to turn a new leaf in the fortunes of Galway camogie and where better than All-Ireland final day to do so.

Galway: S Eamonn; T Manton, S Cahalan, L Ryan; AM Hayes, T Maher; H Cooney; N Kilkenny (0-8, 0-4 frees), AM Starr; O Kilkenny, S Tannian, A Connolly (0-1); T Rutledge (1-0), B Hanney (1-2), V Curtin (0-1); Subs: M Corry for Tannian (20 mins), N Coen (0-1) for O Kilkenny (28 mins)

Kilkenny: C Ryan; C Dormer, C Doherty, G Walsh; J Frisby, C Phelan, A Aylward; A Dunphy (1-1), A Dalton; A Neary (0-5, all frees), A Fahy, D Gault; M Dargan, E Maher (1-0), M Quill; Subs: E Keane for Frisby (17), S Farrell (15) for Dargan (34 mins), M O'Connor for Fahy (39 mins), K Fennelly for Dunphy (45 mins).

Referee: M O'Kelly (Cork)



# Madigan secures win for Buttevant

CAMOGIE

By RORY NOONAN

Buttevant	0-9
Douglas	0-8

A POINT two minutes from time by Emma Madigan secured the Evening Echo County Junior A camogie title for Buttevant at Blarney yesterday.

The win saw them complete the league and championship double, beating Douglas in both finals. The wind was a huge factor, with Douglas having it in the first half and by the break they led 0-8 to 0-2 and it was a question of whether this would be enough.

In the end it wasn't, as they failed to score in the second half and Buttevant hit seven to win by a point, inspired by the likes of Madigan, Dawn Farrell, Tracy Roche, Elaine Murphy and Eimear Harrington.

Douglas can't be faulted for their efforts with Maire O'Mahony, Ashling Barrett, Jill Kelleher, Shannon Dempsey and Lavina O'Mahony the pick of their side.

Douglas took the lead after four minutes when Clodhna Murphy set up Clana Driscoll to point. It took a great save from Buttevant goalkeeper Dawn O'Keefe to prevent them from goalling when she saved superbly from Moira O'Donovan.

Kelleher pointed from the resultant 45 with O'Mahony also on target.

Eimear Healy scored from a free for Buttevant, but two from Kelleher and one from Clara Kavanagh saw Douglas lead 0-6 to 0-1 with 22 minutes played.

Healy got Buttevant's second point with Kelleher and Marie Cullane scoring for Douglas as they led 0-8 to 0-2 at half-time.

Healy got the first score of the second half and two from Murphy has the lead down to three with 43 minutes played.

The momentum was now with Buttevant and points from Sharon Sheehan and Madigan had only one between them with eight minutes to go. Sheehan pointed again to level with five minutes to go and once they were level there was only going to be one winner.

All credit to Douglas, they worked hard defensively to keep Buttevant at bay, but with two minutes to go Madigan got the vital score to see her side win the championship, adding it to the league title they had already won.

Scorers for Buttevant: E. Healy 0-3f, E. Murphy, S. Sheehan, E. Madigan 0-2 each.

Douglas: J. Kelleher 0-4 (0-3 45, 0-1f), C. Driscoll, L. O'Mahony, C. Kavanagh, M. Cullane 0-1 each.

BUTTEVANT: D. O'Keefe; C. Gammell, E. Harrington, S. Breen; N. Curran, T. Roche, M. O'Keefe; D. Farrell, N. Walsh; E. Madigan, E. Healy, R. Harrington; E. Murphy, S. Sheehan, D. O'Callaghan. Subs: L. Curtin for M. O'Keefe, A. Madigan for E. Murphy, M. O'Keefe for N. Curran.

DOUGLAS: S. O'Mahony; E. O'Sullivan, F. McSweeney, M. O'Mahony; A. Barrett, S. O'Regan, S. O'Brien; J. Kelleher, C. Murphy; L. O'Mahony, C. Driscoll, S. Dempsey; M. Cullane, C. Kavanagh; M. O'Donovan. Subs: N. Leo for E. O'Sullivan, A. O'Donovan for S. Dempsey, J. Kavanagh for M. O'Mahony.

Referee: Dermot Kirwan (Eire Og).

CAMOGIE ALL-IRELAND SENIOR CHAMPIONSHIP SEMI-FINAL

# WEXFORD WONDERS

DEAN GOODISON

In Nowlan Park

WEXFORD	2-11
CORK	1-9

A YEAR ago, having let two All-Ireland semi-finals slip away with a whimper, after looking dejected trudging off the Nowlan Park pitch after defeats to Galway and Cork in 2008 and '09 respectively, the Wexford mantra was 'believe'.

Well, where in 2010 they 'believed' and followed through with victory, now they don't just believe, they 'expect'. Indeed, the county expects.

Expect to stay in the game, expect to tick-tock their way through a competitive first-half, expect to pick off scores - and crucial goals - at vital times, and most importantly, they expect to win.

And Saturday in Nowlan Park against old foes Cork, they did just that, yet again.

The only blemish on a yearly record that reads: played 15, won 14, lost one, now looks fluorescent in the rear-view mirrors - a thumping loss against Galway in the opening round of the championship. Now a mouth-watering rematch in Croke Park awaits where both sides seek their own form of revenge.

Galway booked their place in the showpiece before their 2010 All-Ireland conquerors, seeing off a disappointing Kilkenny side by six points (2-13 to 2-7), leaving Wexford to complete the rematch.

They set about that task with a surprise inclusion in the starting 15 as Lenny Holohan got the nod over Evelyn Quigley who looked favourite to take the corner-forward spot after grabbing an impressive five goals in four championship starts.

It was the added pace of the experienced Rathnure woman that got her the nod over her club-mate. That aspect of her game was in immediate focus as she won Wexford a second-minute free that Ursula Jacob converted.

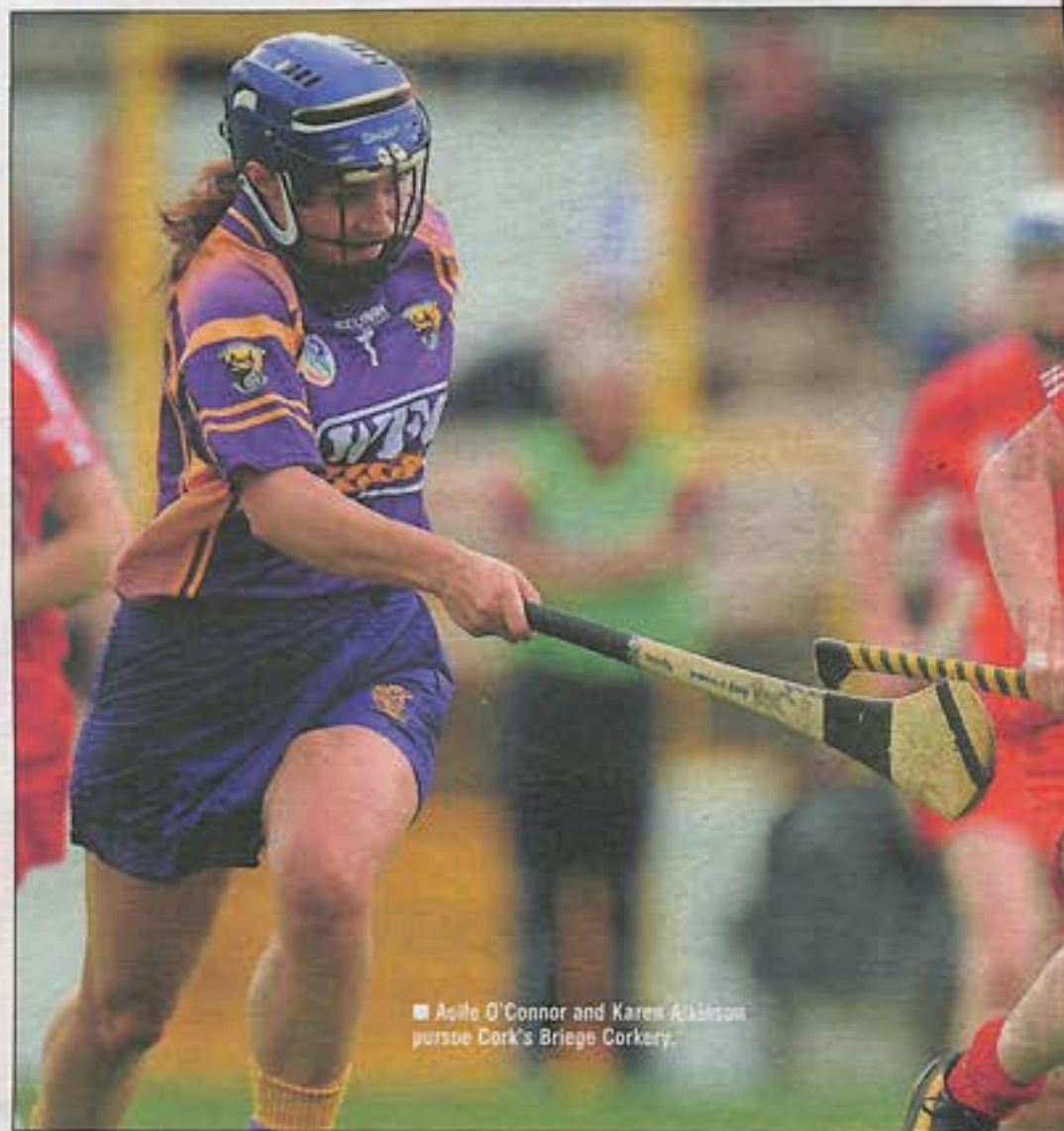
The first quarter won't live long in the memories of the largest crowd ever to witness All-Ireland Senior camogie championship semi-finals as it disjointedly lumbered from end to end with only frees offering scoring chances.

Adjudged indiscretions from Catherine O'Loughlin and Claire O'Connor gave Jennifer O'Leary the opportunity to pick off a placed ball double, giving Cork their first lead in the seventh minute.

Jacob levelled after she herself was fouled in the 14th minute, while Holohan quickly won her second free, with Pamela Mackey penalised for hurl pulling, as the captain gave her side a 0-3 to 0-2 lead with her third free.



Ursula Jacob converts one of her five frees.



Aoife O'Connor and Karen Adkinson pursue Cork's Briege Corkery.

Four points in the next ten minutes would prove to be the Leesiders' best spell of the contest as they controlled proceedings and Wexford struggled.

O'Leary levelled with her third pointed free before she turned provider with a clever flick to Katrina Mackey for her first minor.

The corner-forward doubled her tally two minutes later before the National League champions grabbed a reprieve when the anonymous Briege Corkery, shackled into submission by Aoife O'Connor, over-did a handpass when O'Leary had a clear route to goal (0-5 to 0-3).

Veteran Gemma O'Connor made it double scores in the 28th minute as her side continued to dominate, but a jolt from nowhere in the final minute of the half changed the course of this semi-final in Wexford's favour.

Una Leacy looked almost lifeless, struggling badly with a quad injury picked up in midweek, however the Oulart-The Ballagh club lady can catch a ball as proved countless times in the past. She plucked a long Kate Kelly ball from the air and became engulfed in Cork defenders before releasing for Ursula Jacob - all alone in the large rectangle - to smash past Aoife Murray.

In the three minutes of first-half injury time, Jacob converted her fourth free, meaning she claimed all her side's first-half salvo of 1-4, and with it led her warriors in one point ahead at the interval.

With the goal the only Wexford score from play of the opening half, they set about righting that wrong. Holohan picked off a superb point when darting around her marker seconds after the re-start and Kate Kelly fed Deirdre Codd two minutes later for a second in quick succession (1-6 to 0-6).

Sile Burns' free was quickly can-

celled out when Noeleen Lambert, playing just three weeks after breaking a finger, picked out Kelly on the right side of the attack, yet it was a second goal three minutes later that put a serious dent in Cork's hopes.

A long ball over the top by Kelly was misjudged by two Rebelette defenders and Katrina Parrock was on hand to collect and smash past a hopelessly exposed Aoife Murray (2-7 to 0-7).

Parrock then grabbed the point of the game from the left to give her team a game-high seven-point lead, only for the Cork midfield duo of O'Connor and Orla Cotter to pick of their first scores in 17 minutes.

Jacob claimed her first score of the half with seven minutes remaining but back came the opposition as Catherine O'Loughlin crumbled under a badly sprained ankle - which shouldn't keep her out of September's final - and Katrina Mackey raced through to goal (2-9 to 1-9).

A fifth Jacob free, after a foul on Kelly, settled the nerves and when the St. Ibar's/Shelmallee clubwoman grabbed her second point Wexford had a lead they wouldn't come close to losing.

And now, it's Galway again, September 11 in Croke Park. What's more is Wexford won't just believe they can win, they will expect it.

## WEXFORD

Mags O'Arcy; Claire O'Connor, Catherine O'Loughlin, Karen Adkinson; Noeleen Lambert, Mary Leacy; Aoife O'Connor; Deirdre Codd (0-1), Josie Dwyer; Kate Kelly (0-2), Ursula Jacob (capt., 1-6, 0-5 frees), Michelle O'Leary; Lenny Holohan (0-1), Una Leacy, Katrina Parrock (1-1), SUBS: Evelyn Quigley for Codd, inj., (50), Clara Storey for O'Loughlin, inj. (55), Fiona Kavanagh for U. Leacy, inj. (57).

## CORK

Aoife Murray, Jenny Duffy, Amanda O'Regan, Pamela Mackey, Elaine O'Riordan, Rena Buckley (capt.), Anna Geary; Orla Cotter (0-1 free), Gemma O'Connor (0-2); Briege Corkery, Linda Dorgan, Jennifer O'Leary (0-3 frees); Joanne Casey, Sile Burns (0-1 free), Katrina Mackey (1-2), SUBS: Eimear O'Sullivan for O'Leary, inj. (31), Denise Cronin for Burns (48), Sarah Hayes for Dorgan (52), O'Leary for Casey (55).

VENUE: Nowlan Park, Kilkenny.  
REFEREE: Fintan McNamara (Clare).



# TARGET DOUBLE



Katrina Parrock comes under heavy pressure from Cork's Anna Geary and Jenny Duffy.

## 'We didn't want to be a one-year team'

**WEXFORD GOALSCORERS** Katrina Parrock and Ursula Jacob were thrilled to be heading back to their third All-Ireland final in five years as their majors proved vital in overcoming Cork in Nowlan Park on Saturday last.

'It's brilliant, it hasn't sunk in yet but it's great to be back. We knew today was going to be so tough, we didn't want to be a one-year team so we're back again,' said Oulart-The Ballagh star Jacob.

Meanwhile, Parrock was having trouble hiding her delight. 'Oh my God, words can't explain the feeling. That last four minutes of injury time I thought it would never end. Mags had the ball in the air and I was like "what's she doing? She's pulling a stunt!". And then it was over and I was over the moon. I just can't believe it, All-Ireland final again.'

'First-half we were very slow to start,' continue the St. Ibar's/Shelmallee club-woman. 'The first-half goal was vital, Ursula finished it very well. We knew going in at half-time we were playing very bad, we said we were playing bad but winning by a point so let's get going and we'll fire home.'

'We knew that there was definitely one hundred per cent more in every girl out on the pitch so we had to come out fighting. That's what we did and we won by five points in the end which is a good victory against Cork, a tough team.'

Jacob was equally sure of the importance of her team-mates' effort after the break.

'I suppose Katrina's goal helped a lot when she got it. We got a few points after that and we kept tipping them over and then Cork, like we knew they would, came back and they got it back

to three points.

'We responded well and that was the important thing all day - behind in the first-half and came back, ahead in the second-half and they got a few scores but the important thing for us was we came back down the field and got a score and that stood to us in the end.'

The Wexford captain was, however, worried about the ankle injury to full-back lynchpin Catherine O'Loughlin, as well as some other key players.

'Catherine, in all the time I've ever played with her, or against her, has never went off in a match so it is obviously something serious. I haven't even seen her yet to see how she is but I'd say she has done some damage anyway and hopefully in the next four weeks she'll be okay.'

'A few of the other girls like Una today was injured as well, and she was struggling to be fully right. And Dee (Deirdre Codd) went off injured as well. We need everyone and we need the full panel and we don't want to be losing any players and we need all starting 15 and our subs as well to give us options.'

Looking ahead to the final, Jacob believes it will be quick in coming around.

'The build-up does go fast. The intermediates are in the All-Ireland semi next week so we'll be mainly focusing on them and we have county semi-finals with club in between as well so between those two things the next two weeks is going to fly by.'

'Obviously the week before, the build-up and that, it always flies but we want to focus on ourselves and not the hype and that because there is no point in being in the final if we are not going to win it. We want to win it.'



Michelle O'Leary puts the pressure on Cork's Elaine O'Riordan.





Only star Niamh Kilkenny leaves Kilkenny's against Claire Phelan trailing in her wake during Saturday's All-Ireland senior camogie semi-final at Nowlan Park. PHOTOS: PAT MURPHY/SPORTSHILE



Galway goalkeeper Susan Earner celebrates after their victory over Kilkenny.

## SPORTS STAR OF THE WEEK

### Niamh Kilkenny:

#### Midfield ace in top form for Galway

THE Galway camogie team set up a second consecutive All-Ireland senior showdown against champions Wexford when defeating Kilkenny at Nowlan Park on Sunday. They had many excellent performers on the day, but pride of place goes to Niamh Kilkenny.

The team's midfield dynamo produced an outstanding display, highlighted by an impressive haul of eight points, four of which came from play. Kilkenny's sterling



contribution earns her the Tribune Sports Star of the Week award ahead of club footballers, Barry Cullinane (Claregalway), Seamie Crowe (Salthill Knocknacarra), Darren Mullahy (Milltown) and Niall Ó Briain (An Cheathrú Rua).



Galway's Niamh Kilkenny is presented with the Player of the Match award by Joan O'Flynn, President of the Camogie Association, and Eoin Brannigan, Sports Editor, Irish Star, after the All-Ireland semi-final at Nowlan Park.

AUG 2011



# Team manager Finn knew Galway were ready for major test

EOGHAN CORMICAN

WHATEVER doubt remained over the quality of Galway's stickwomen has surely been put to bed following their hugely impressive All Ireland semi-final victory over Kilkenny.

Another All Ireland final now awaits and no doubt, it's another exciting time for all those involved with the side, including team manager Noel Finn.

The Cappataggle man was quick to praise his charges for their sterling efforts in Nowlan Park, the defence in particular, earning special recognition.

"The defence were excellent, but if you can get the central spine of the team working you can build around it. Therese (Maher) was fantastic on Saturday. She is a natural leader. Putting (Sinead) Cahalan full back has settled the defence.

"In saying that, there are girls on the line chomping at the bit. The girls that are playing are not guaranteed they will be playing the next day. They are under serious pressure because we have a very strong panel.

"Importantly, we haven't leaked goals this year and the first one on Saturday was just unfortunate they way it came back across the goal. But as Sharon Glynn said to me after the game, if we could bottle that performance and bring it to Croke Park we'll get a result."

In all, six Galway players found the target over the hour, with the work rate of the likes of Ann Marie Starr and Therese Maher as good as another six scores. Player of the match Niamh Kilkenny finished as the game's top scorer, tallying 0-8 (four from frees), while the towering Brenda Hanney again delivered, hitting 1-2 from play.

Tara Rutledge, who struggled to break into the team earlier in the year, showed prominently in the corner taking her goal well, with Aislinn Connolly, Veronica Curtin and substitute Noreen Coen all chipping in with a point apiece.

"I knew myself prior to the game that we were going very well. The fitness levels were good, everything was excellent. I was a bit concerned with the club matches and what injuries might arise, but thank God at the moment we have no injuries and we will have a clean bill of health going into the All Ireland", continued Finn.

But he acknowledged there were aspects of Galway's game that they need to work on in the four weeks leading up to the final. "Looking at the stats

from the game, our work rate was up 10% with every other match. We did give away a few silly frees, but I'd rather give away frees than a goal."

After enduring a rough opening to the second half where Kilkenny quickly wiped out Galway's interval advantage, the collective character of the squad was pinpointed by the manager as vital in reaching the decider for a second successive year.

"I never had any problem with their mentality. Their mentality has always been very strong. When Kilkenny hit their purple patch at the beginning of the second half, we didn't panic and stayed hurling. One thing I have been very happy with this year is that when we need scores we are getting them. We have been driving home to the girls that when we have a lead, we don't defend it we drive on and try to win by six or seven points.

"We always knew we would get our purple patch on Saturday and it was important when we did that we were clinical, which we were. When we ran at them we caused them a lot of problems. When they hit 1-2 we grabbed the bull by the horns and Niamh took a great point. When we were under pressure that is when our work rate kicked in. Noreen Coen chipped in with a point as well and that killed their momentum.

Looking ahead to September 13th, Finn dismissed the suggestion of Sunday Game analyst Therese O'Callaghan that this was now "Galway's All Ireland to lose."

"Favourites mean nothing to me. Ever since last year we wanted to get back to the All-Ireland. We didn't perform and it's still biting them that they didn't deliver. They wanted to get back and give a performance. We are delighted to be back, but it's a 50/50 ball game.

"We have a job to finish that we didn't finish last year. If we had played like we did in the second half of last year's All Ireland in the first, we could be looking for two-in-a-row.

"If we can bring what we did to them in Wexford back in June, we have a serious chance. They (Wexford) had to work twice as hard to get scores on the board, whereas we were getting scores much easier and our movement that day was fantastic.

"The girls really want to atone for last year. I know it will be a bigger crowd, bigger arena, but the goal was to get back and we are."

President's Blog August 2011  
President's Blog: August 2011

August is some month.

Its jam packed with All Ireland championship semi finals. And what a day in Nowlan Park at the senior semis. Record crowd, great family entertainment and superb action on the pitch. Well done to the four teams, referees, match officials and of course Kilkenny GAA and Camogie Boards for excellent pitch and facility. Roll on the Intermediate and Junior semi finals now.

County championships have started; some of them already at semi finals including those in Wexford, and then there is also the 8th Continental Youth Championships in Boston.

Not to mention the Playing Rules Review Survey. This has generated the highest ever number of hits on our website. Have your say if you haven't completed it yet. Closing date is 21st August.

Throw in the launch of the first history of Cavan Camogie (amazing publication 550 pages and 1,000 pics); 20 teams participating in our new Camán Club Challenge in Kilkenny and closing date for entries for the All Ireland Kilmacud 7s in September and you'll know that Camogie, at home and abroad, is in overdrive.

Camogie internationally

There's a lot happening on this front. I've just come back from Boston where under 8, 10, 12 and 14 Camogie players participated for the second consecutive year in the Continental Gaelic Games Youth Championships.

Well done to players from St. Brigids, Rockland, Shannon Gaels (all NY); New Haven (Connecticut), Philadelphia, San Francisco and of course Boston itself. It was truly inspirational to see so many young girls carrying hurleys, sliothars and helmets and showing the same enthusiasm as young players here.

It would be wonderful to see an equivalent tournament commence in Britain and even Europe for the many young Irish families settled there and for the wider community with an interest in our game.

Great to hear of new Camogie clubs starting up in Canada so here's wishing Toronto and Montreal well in their endeavour.

Looks like the Asian Gaelic Games Championships in Seoul this October may include an inaugural Camogie match and the Australasian Finals incorporating their first Camogie championships. Its exciting to see new frontiers being broken as the game continues to expand.

Well done too to all involved in the European Hurling and Camogie finals recently. The Belgians team wrapped up the title with tournament wins in Den Haag, Budapest and Zurich. Camogie has witnessed the highest growth in participation of any of the Gaelic Games on the European continent this year.

Martin Donnelly All Ireland Poc Fada

Back here, I have to mention the Martin Donnelly All Ireland Poc Fada held at the end of July. It was my first opportunity to attend and it blew me away. As an individual contest, it is a serious test of endurance, skill and concentration. Lots of admiration to all the contestants and a special congratulatory word to Waterford's Patricia Jackman who earned the title for the third consecutive year, to debutant Galway's Rachel Monaghan who finished second and Carlow's Lyndsey Condell who was third.

Big games before the end of August

11th September is the annual Camogie showdown in Croke Park for the All Ireland Senior, Intermediate and Junior Finals. I know you have that date already in your diary! Check out these big games before then:

Date	Time	Venue/Competition	
20 <sup>th</sup> Aug	1.30	Navan: Jack McGrath Cup - All Ireland Intermediate s/f	Wexford v Derry
20 <sup>th</sup> Aug	3.00	Navan: Jack McGrath Cup - All Ireland Intermediate s/f	Limerick v Antrim
20 <sup>th</sup> Aug	2.30	Nowlan Park: Kay Mills Cup - All Ireland Premier Junior s/f	Waterford v Laois
20 <sup>th</sup> Aug	t.b.c.	t.b.c. Kay Mills Cup - All Ireland Premier Junior s/f	Meath v Down
28 <sup>th</sup> Aug	t.b.c.	t.b.c. Nancy Murray Cup - All Ireland Junior A s/f	Westmeath v Offaly
28 <sup>th</sup> Aug	t.b.c.	t.b.c. Corn Mháire Ní Chinnéide - All Ireland Junior B final	Monaghan v Wicklow
28 <sup>th</sup> Aug	t.b.c.	All Ireland Minor C final	Armagh v Meath

See you at the games!

Joan O'Flynn  
Siobhán Ní Fhloinn  
Uachtarán  
Lúnasa 2011



Ulster Camogie Awards Lunch 2010



## SENIOR CHAMPIONSHIP

### Defending champs hold on to secure four point victory

CROSSERLOUGH	1-11
LACKEN	1-07

CROSSERLOUGH defeated Lacken in an exciting Senior Camogie Championship match in Stradone on Sunday evening last. Crosserlough opened well but were unable to convert their early possession into scores.

Lacken registered the first score of the match, a point. Crosserlough equalised quickly through an excellent long range free from Brenda Lynch. Exchanges were close but Crosserlough forged ahead through two more frees from Brenda Lynch and a goal from Emer McVeety.

Lacken to their credit stayed in touch and a late flurry of scores left the defending

champions ahead at the break on a score line of Lacken 1 05 to Crosserlough 1 04. The second half continued at a fast pace with little or nothing between the teams.

As the half wore on Crosserlough kept the score board moving with three more frees, and were unlucky when a Brenda Lynch's shot hit the bottom of the upright. A point from Orla Smith left the score at 1-09 for Crosserlough to 1-07 for Lacken.

A further free from Brenda Lynch and a point from play from Sinead McKenna closed out the scoring. Crosserlough withstood strong Lacken pressure in the final minutes and held on for their victory.

**Crosserlough:** Denise Wilton, Georgina O'Reilly, Siobhan Reynolds, Aine O'Reilly, Eirinn Galligan, Sinead Coyle, Caltriona Byrd, Aislinn O'Reilly, Angela O'Reilly, Orla Smith (0-01), Lorraine Day, Eileen Smith, Emer McVeety (1-00), Brenda Lynch (0-09), Erica Joyce. Subs: Sinead McKenna (0-01), Brenda Keane, Claire O'Reilly.

### Camogie: Déise set up All-Ireland final date with Down

All-Ireland Junior Camogie Semi-final  
WATERFORD 2-17 LAOIS 2-3

On Saturday last on a splendid Nowlan Park pitch Waterford Junior Camogie Side extended their unbeaten run beating Laois in the All Ireland Semi-Final Junior Premier Championship. Waterford opened the game with early points from Karen Kelly and Trish Jackman but then Laois thundered into the game with a goal on 10 minutes and a point to lead 1-01 to 0-02. Waterford then settled down and scored 3 points in a row then on 19th minute Nicola Morrissey crashed the ball into the Laois net. For a great team score with at least 7 players involved into the build up to it. The Déise girls then hit 4 points in succession when on the struck of half time when Karen Kelly hit the back of the net to leave Waterford Leading 2--09 to 1-01. The Déise girls regrouped and came out and ready to achieve their target of getting to Croke Park. Waterford opened their account in the first minute of the second half by the sending the ball between the goal posts. Laois came fighting back with a point. Waterford never took their foot off the pedal and landing 2 more points on the scoreboard. On the 10th minute Laois responded with a great goal. The score at this stage of the match was 2-14 to 2-02 to the girls from the Déise. Laois managed to add another point to their score while the Déise girls put away another 3 points leaving the full time score 2-17 to 2-03. This was a great team performance although the management know they must keep their eye on the prize which is to claim All Ireland Glory and know that more work has to be done.

**WATERFORD:** Ashling O'Brien, Emma Hannon, Jennie Simpson, Kate-Marie Hearn, Gráinne Kenneally, Charlotte Maher, Shauna Kiernan (0-1), Trish Jackman (0-3), De Fahey, Niamh Rockett (0-1), Nicola Morrissey (1-1), Aoife Hannon (0-1), Ruth Geoghegan, Karen Kelly (1-9), Zoe O'Donoghue (0-1), Tracey Kiely, Margo Heffernan, Jenny McCarthy, Máiread Murphy, Marie Russell, Sarah Fenton, Pauline Cunningham, Jessie Gleeson.

# Book charts the highs and lows of a century of Cavan Camogie

## National president performs official launch

By Eamonn Gaffney

THE establishment of camogie in Cavan from struggling in its formative years through to its many decades of uncertainty, its subsequent reorganisation in 1967 and its recent achievements have been charted in a new book, 'The History of Cavan Camogie 1909-2009'.

The tome which weighs in at 540 pages was launched in the Imperial Hotel, Cavan on Sunday last by national camogie president Joan O'Flynn. Its size is testament to its thoroughness as it boasts almost 1,000 Cavan related pictures spanning the last century in addition to countless fascinating accounts of notable events. The growth and development of the game at club, school, community games and county and provincial levels are covered, from the early days of covert practice to the skilful, challenging, popular and entertaining game that it is today.

There was a capacity attendance at the launch drawn from clubs throughout the county, as well as TDs and public representatives. Also present was a former Chairman of Cavan Camogie Board Fr Oliver O'Reilly and other former office holders.

In the course of her address national camogie president, Joan O'Flynn said that reading the history of camogie in Cavan was a process of both discovering and remembering the past. Few people would have known that there had been 40 camogie clubs in Cavan down through the years. Not many were aware of the formative influence of a Virginia-born woman, Agnes O'Farrelly, on Irish sport and Irish independence.

"It is indeed fitting that a publication of Cavan camogie should claim and proclaim one of its own as a true pioneer of the 20th century," noted Ms O'Flynn.

### O'Farrelly's drive

Agnes O'Farrelly was a native of Raffoney, Virginia and was a member of the executive of The Gaelic League who ensured that the fledgling game received the full support of the League throughout the country.

She was born on June 24,

1874. Her parents, Peter and Anne, were large landowners and Agnes was privileged to receive a good education, an advantage that was denied to most people at that time.

Throughout her life her activities spanned the academic, political, literary, cultural and sporting fields with considerable influence. She wrote three books of prose and two of poetry in the Irish language and in her early writings used the pen name 'Uan Uladh' (Lamb of Ulster). She was appointed an examiner of Irish for the Intermediate Board examinations.

Agnes became friends with Dr Martin Comey, a priest based in Cavan town and who was a language and hurling enthusiast. She persuaded him to organise camogie in his parish and as a result a number of clubs emerged around the town.

The Anglo-Celt of 19 May 1928 reported "Cavan Lady Honoured". At Jury's Hotel of the Dublin Camoguidheacht League made a suitable presentation to Miss Agnes O'Farrelly, M.A. (a native of Raffoney, Virginia), for her special interest in the game and to mark the league's appreciation of her kindness in presenting a beautiful solid silver cup of Irish manufacture and design for competition in the senior league.

The cup was called The O'Farrelly Cup. She continued to dedicate her time to promoting the game and attended the annual congress each year until her death on November, 1951. She is buried in Deansgrange cemetery, Dublin. The attendance at her funeral included the then President Sean T. O'Ceallaigh and Taoiseach Eamon de Valera.

### Birth of game in Cavan

The first reference to the sport in Cavan was on November 7, 1908 in The Anglo-Celt which carried the heading "Ladies Hurling team in Cavan". The first officers of the new club were Mrs A Kirwan, captain; K. Kirwan, secretary and M. McGennis, treasurer.

The team held its first practice near Cavan town in Killymooney on December 6. Although the club was still in existence in 1909 the revival

of the sport ended there. The pattern of the game changed in the county through birth, growth and decline and was moribund for long periods. While the game may have ceased over periods of time the tradition never quite died and it was left to a small band of dedicated people prepared to take up the challenge and try again where others had failed.

Camogie always seemed to struggle financially at club and county level and there was a far from happy relationship with the GAA. Venues were difficult to find when football matches were fixed by the football board and it rarely, if ever, obtained financial support in those early days.

### No hurling tradition

There was also the handicap that Cavan had never a hurling tradition, and was deprived of its natural ally, and in the main struggled to maintain its identity due to the strength of the football clubs. In 1917 a second and more successful attempt was made to revive the sport in Cavan. This time it was boosted by the wave of nationalist feeling arising out of the Rising in 1916 and the early years of the War of Independence. The revival this time was centred around Belturbet and was largely the work of Fr Michael McLaughlin, who was curate in the town. He was aided by Dr Stuart and Pat McEnaney.

The sport spread to Cavan town where it had as its patron Dr Martin Comey, CC and from there it developed in Ballinagh, Drumbo and Lavey. At the 1921 camogie convention it was decided to run a county championship competition for the first time. Belturbet became the first winners when they defeated Lavey in the final by 0-1 to 0-0.

The 1922 championship was won by Cavan who defeated Belturbet by 2-0 to 0-0. Five teams contested the 1923 competition: Belturbet, Ballinagh, Ballyhaise, Tullyco, and the winners, Alacken. However this marked the end of another chapter in the sport in the county and the game was not revived again until 1932 when the centre of gravity shifted to Virginia.

Dr Comey brought his enthusiasm for the game to Virginia where he was appointed parish priest in 1930. When the first convention of the revived Cumann Camogalochta was held on 25 May 1932, four of the six clubs represented

were from the immediate vicinity of Virginia - Ardlow, Maghera, Munterconnaught and Virginia. The other two were Cavan and Loreto College.

Fr Comey was appointed president of the camogie board and presented the board with a trophy. A league was formed on a home-and-away basis in which Virginia, Cavan, Lurgan, Munterconnaught and Maghera took part. In the final, Munterconnaught defeated Maghera in Virginia on November 13.

### Flourished

Camogie, like all other gaelic games, flourished in the thirties. From 10 clubs in 1933 the number increased to a record 25 in 1935. After this great burst of enthusiasm the game declined until 1940 when there were only five clubs left in the county and all of these were centred around Cavan town.

The year 1935 was a peak one in the fortunes of the sport in the county. With 25 clubs affiliated they were able to run a senior and junior championship. For the first time, a Cavan town lady, Miss Anna McEntee, took over the duties of chairman from P. J. Bartley, Mountnugent.

### County team

In 1936 the county was strong enough to enter a team in the Ulster championship. From here on the association was in steady decline until in 1940. One of the big problems was the lack of finance. Attempts to raise funds through raffles, carnivals and ceilidhe, all proved a failure. In the late thirties the early enthusiasm gave way to objections, disputes and failure to fulfil fixtures.

In 1934 the county board was faced with a rather novel objection. Cornafean objected to Belturbet on the grounds that they played a boy dressed up as a girl! A similar problem arose in 1951 when Laragh claimed that Kingscourt played two boys against them dressed as girls with headscarves and gloves. When challenged at half-time they withdrew.

Killygarry dominated the championship, winning it every year from 1935 to 1945. In the early 1940s people like Con Browne, Limerick; Jackie Coogan, Kilkenny and Tommy O'Donnell, Tipperary, all contributed to boosting the strength of the club. At that time there was great rivalry





A special presentation of The Cavan Camogie History Book was made to Camogie President Joan O'Flynn during Sunday's launch. Pic l-r Fr Ollie O'Reilly, Cavan Camogie Chair Madeleine Argue, Camogie President Joan O'Flynn, Dolores Flynn and Philip McDonald.

PHOTOS SHEILA ROONEY



Treasurer of Cavan County Camogie Board Ann McConnell sells another book to satisfied customer Elizabeth Cassidy from Templeport



Fr Ollie tells the crowd about the making of the Cavan Camogie History Book.

between neighbours, Cavan, Crubany and Killygarry. A game between Killygarry and Crubany in 1940 attracted 2,800 spectators.

#### First Ulster title win

It was not until 1940 when the game was on the decline that Cavan won its first Ulster title. They complained that after nearly 30 years they received no medals from the Ulster Council. Cavan went on to the All-Ireland semi-final but were beaten by Galway.

The following year Cavan retained their provincial title and drew with Dublin in the All-Ireland semi-final at Brehin Park but were beaten in the replay by what The Anglo-Celt described as 'rather savage play'. The loss of Nancy Cody through injury was a major blow to Cavan.

The Board was in such serious financial difficulty that the transport for those two games had to be obtained on credit and some of the outstanding debt remained until 1945.

The war years, with their transport difficulties, dealt a

severe blow to the game and it continued to struggle.

#### Junior Championship

In 1956 the Ulster Council started a junior championship in order to help weaker counties. Cavan ran out easy winners defeating Donegal by 7-1 to 0-0. Cavan was well served by Joan McCarville, Dodo Gaffney, Kathleen Moore and R. Farrell. However the toast of Cavan was Evelyn O'Hare who scored six of the seven goals.

The game died out in the early sixties and was not revived until 1967. Six clubs, Cavan, Butlersbridge, Cootehill, Castletara, Cornafean and Killygarry attended the convention on April 9, 1967. The league wasn't completed until May, 1968 and was won by Ballyhaise who were subsequently suspended from the Association for their behaviour after the final. Kill won the 1968 title at the expense of Cornafean and this was the beginning of Kill's dominance. They won it again in 1970, '71 and 1972, and scooped the double in

'71.

#### Schools involvement

By 1970 the game was going well in the various schools throughout the county, among them St Clare's, Cavan; Loreto College and St Aidan's, Cootehill. St Clare's became the first holders of the Fr Davis trophy in 1971 and their seniors were beaten in the Ulster final by Sacred Heart College, Newry, in the same year.

Cavan schools continued to win trophies including the Ulster Colleges' First Year title for four consecutive years. In 1976 Templeport made history by winning the All-Ireland U-16 title in the National Community Games and this was repeated the following year by the Knockbride area.

Fr Oliver O'Reilly, then a curate in Denn, became Co Board Chairman in 1972 and a primary schools league was organised. Towards the end of the 70s teams like Craobh Rua, Drumgoon, Maghera and Ballymachugh were senior title winners with teams like Castletara making an

impact in the league and would go on to dominate the championship in the '80s and '90s.

The current members of Cavan Camogie Board who are working to maintain the high standards it set itself.

#### Achievements

The book contains a history in text and photographs of all the camogie teams which were affiliated throughout the county as well as the success of teams at community games, club, county, provincial and All-Ireland, as well as the achievements of the various colleges in the county.

The book cover was designed by Raymond Fadden, B. Des., Cavan, and is published by Cumann Seanchais Bhreifne (Breifne Historical Society). It was printed by Turner Print Group, Convent Road, Longford.

Copies of the book can be obtained in Cavan in Crannog book shop, Black's Newsagents, Cedar Flowers, Easons, and Cavan County Museum.

## Antrim in final after late goal by O'Hara

### CAMOGIE round-up

ANTRIM are just one step away from winning the All-Ireland Intermediate Camogie Championship — a year after taking the Premier Junior title.

Teenage substitute Orla O'Hara bagged an injury-time goal to snatch a dramatic victory from broken-hearted Limerick, 2-11 to 2-9 at Páirc Tailteann.

The Shannonsiders were leading by a point when 17-year-old O'Hara collected a pass and hammered the sliotar to the Limerick net in the tie's last act.

The sides were level at the interval, Nora Collins' goal helping Limerick to keep in touch with Antrim, for whom Jane Adams was outstanding in both a scoring and play-making capacity.

Last year's Premier Junior champions began the second-half in impressive fashion but Limerick, with Niamh Mulcahy unerring from placed balls, edged in front with time running out.

O'Hara struck to keep alive Antrim's hopes of emulating Offaly and winning the intermediate title, 12 months after the junior.

### Advance

In the other semi-final, Wexford were pushed all the way by Derry but just held out to advance thanks to a 3-8 to 2-10 scoreline.

A Fiona Rochford goal gave Wexford a four-point lead at the break despite playing into a strong wind.

But the magnificent Karen Kiehl had a goal for Derry within seconds of the resumption and the sides were level soon after that.

Wexford responded with goals from Linda Bolger and Tracy Nolan to move seven points clear.

Derry continued to chip away at the deficit courtesy of points from Kiehl, Attracta McPeake and Gráinne McGoldrick but they fell agonisingly short at the death.

Waterford and Down will meet in the Premier Junior decider. There was no doubting Waterford's superiority over Laois as they prevailed 2-17 to 2-3.

Down will provide much sterner opposition though, as evidenced by their 1-17 to 2-11 win over Meath.

In the Junior A semi-final, Westmeath defeated Offaly, 0-12 to 1-2.



## Murphy on top form with an amazing 3-10 total

Kilbrittain/Timoleague 3-22  
Bishopstown 1-3

KILBRITTAIN/TIMOLEAGUE proved way too strong for a spirited Bishopstown in their second round game in the Evening Echo Senior B championship in Belgooly.

The opening quarter was close but once Kilbrittain/Timoleague began to find their range they began to pick off scores.

Up front Miriam Deasy and Mairead Dullea were a constant threat while Marion Murphy at centre forward was superb finishing the game with 3-10 to her credit. All through she proved a handful for the over-worked Bishopstown defence.

She had excellent support from Miriam Deasy, Mairead Dullea, Lisa Moloney and Dinah O'Mahony.

At the break Kilbrittain/Timoleague led 3-10 to 0-2, Maeve Scannell getting on the score sheet twice for a Bishopstown side that had worked hard.

On the resumption Marion Murphy, Lisa Moloney and Mairead Dullea added points to the Kilbrittain/Timoleague tally before Eileen Foyle grabbed a goal back for Bishopstown.

Miriam Deasy and Siobhán Sexton added three points before Ciara Healy had one back, but as they did all through the game, Kilbrittain/Timoleague continued to land points, adding six to their tally without reply as they ran out comfortable winners.

Scorers for Kilbrittain/Timoleague: M Murphy 3-10 (0-3f), M Deasy 0-5, L Moloney 0-3, M Dullea 0-2, S Sexton, D O'Mahony 0-1 each.

Bishopstown: E Foyle 1-0, M Scannell 0-2, C Healy 0-1 (f).

KILBRITTAIN/TIMOLEAGUE: A Casey, L Nyhan, E O'Sullivan, A Foley, D O'Sullivan, L O'Callaghan, N Moloney, S Moloney, D O'Mahony, S Sexton, M Murphy, R O'Mahony, L Moloney, M Deasy, M Dullea.

Sub: E O'Donovan for N Moloney (35).

Bishopstown: D Coughlan, A Noone, P Finn (c), A Foley, N Christie, E Foyle, M Egan, F Shanahan, S Murphy, R Hayes, M Scannell, R Nunan, M O'Mahony, C Healy, O Lane.

Sub: A Donegan for M O'Mahony (19), O Crowley for N Christie (10), N Byrne for P Finn (inj 40), M O'Mahony for A Foley (44), N Christie for M Scannell (inj 49).

Referee: Anthony Cummins (Ballymartle).

# Cork need more of



LAST SATURDAY was very disappointing. The gloom that hovers in the air after a championship exit is both silent and heavy.

Cork's post-match dressing room was deathly quiet and the atmosphere in Hotel Kilkenny afterwards was just as dispirited.

Despite the fact that Cork has problems up front which was evident all season, they could still have won. To dominate for such a long period in the first half and score just three points from play highlighted my concerns all through this championship about their scoring capabilities.

Even as Cork topped the table on scoring average I felt this statistic camouflaged the reality. Against the strong counties the Rebels weren't creative, weren't breaching defences, and weren't scoring goals. Wexford got two from two chances and Cork lost.

Good were the days when Lynn Dunlea, Fiona O'Driscoll or Irene O'Keeffe won possession and the hairs stood up on the back of your neck as you waited for the net to rattle.

Cork's bench wasn't strong enough either. Again that has been a problem over the past couple of years. You need to bring on subs that are realistically going to make an impact; when players see their teammate running onto the pitch they should feel lifted.

Yet no one on the panel or management is to blame; the players aren't coming through at the rate they used to.

I worry about the quality of player that Cork are forced to in-



Kate Kelly, Wexford, in action against Anna Geary, Cork in last week's All-Ireland Senior Camogie semi-final.

## Desmond goal seals victory for Newcestown

Newcestown 2-8  
Clonakilty 2-6

APPALLING weather conditions in this Evening Echo Senior B Championship clash in Enniskeane made it difficult for the teams as they battled it out for the points on offer in the round robin series of the championship, writes MARY NEWMAN.

All through it was nip and tuck in a close game but in the finish Newcestown held on to record their first victory in the series.

Colette Desmond got their opening goal, and as they kept the pressure on Clonakilty, Colleen Long, Desmond and Emma Coomey were all on target.

Aoife Deasy had a Clonakilty first-half goal and with Sinead O'Neill on target with a point and Marie O'Donovan striking four pointed frees, they trailed Newcestown by a point at the break 1-6 to 1-5.

Through the second half the sides continued to battle hard again, the weather condition not helping matters, however both sides gave it their all. Newcestown held their composure and as Clonakilty battle to take control of the game they kept their noses ahead as they added two points to their tally.

Marie O'Donovan pointed for Clon but a Colleen Long goal helped Newcestown hold their lead. They failed to panic as the weather conditions took their toll when

they conceded a goal, which was deflected to the net by a defender, and then hung on bravely to take the points on offer despite a lot of Clon pressure.

Scorers for Newcestown: C Long 1-6, C Desmond 1-1, E Coomey 0-1.

Clonakilty: A Deasy 1-0, 1-0 og, M O'Donovan 0-5 f, S O'Neill 0-1.

NEWCESTOWN: L O'Sullivan, T Hurley, F Deasy, M Crowley, K Murphy, R Desmond, A Coughlan, T McCarthy, F Crowley, E Coomey, C Long, C Desmond, A Crowley, G Cronin, A Buckley.

Subs: J O'Mahony for T Hurley, E Kenneally for K Murphy, J O'Donovan for A Buckley.

CLONAKILTY: C O'Flynn, A O'Hea, S O'Brien, A O'Neill, A Kearns, H O'Regan, C Nagle, C O'Mahony, S Forristal, S O'Neill, C O'Regan, J Brennan, A Deasy, M O'Donovan, E Jennings.

Subs: S Whelan for A O'Hea, H Coughlan for E Jennings.

## Inniscarra could well edge out the Barrs on Sunday

**SUNDAY**  
Senior championship Round 2:  
Douglas v Barryroe, Cloughduv,  
2.30pm. St Finbarr's v Inniscarra  
Cloughduv, 4.30pm.  
Ballygarvan v Rockbá, Glen  
Rovers, 5pm.

THREE clubs will exit this season's senior championship by 6.30pm Sunday evening as the back door qualifiers take place.

First out is Douglas and Barryroe in Cloughduv. Douglas was on the receiving end of the first shock of the season when underdogs Cloughduv gave a sterling performance to push one of the championship favourites in through the back-door.

Douglas should pay heed to such a lesson and assuming they will, it is hard to see Barryroe beating them. Barryroe received a hefty defeat at the hands of debutants Killeagh in round one. They just don't have strength in depth and Rosalie Hol-

**CAMOGIE**  
By LINDA MELLERICK

land is also a big loss to the side. Katrina Mackey should find herself with oceans of space to do damage.

St Finbarr's and Inniscarra is the game of the day. The Barrs suffered a three point defeat to Ballincollig in their opening round due to a lack of scoring power. Having failed to find the target for 34 minutes of second-half action after Niamh Goulding struck in the first minute, they can have no complaints.

Inniscarra, despite their absences gave a good account of themselves for 20 minutes against Milford and just slightly for a while won the possession stats in the middle of the pitch. They led by a point but with Anna Geary and Marie O'Neill striking four points within three minutes the tables turned,

and the increased pressure applied by Milford thereafter forced Inniscarra into reverse.

The four-goal winning margin however, did flatter Milford somewhat as Anna Geary struck three wonderful goals. Inniscarra will not want to exit this championship at such an early stage and will do everything they can to cling onto their title. It should be tight with Inniscarra possibly shading it.

The final game sees Ballygarvan take on Rockbá in the Glen field. How Rockbá respond to their trouncing at the hands of St Catherine's will test their character.

Catriona Foley will possibly mark danger woman Catriona Kelly; she has to or Rockbá will face another heavy defeat. Ballygarvan will win this one.

**FIXTURES TONIGHT**  
Evening Echo Junior A championship: Brian Dillon's v Watergrasshill, Delany's, 7pm; Kil-

derrery v Enniskeane, Castle Road, 7pm; Buttevant v Iniscarra 2, Whitechurch, 7pm.

**Evening Echo Junior B Championship:** Castlemagner v Youghall, Castlemagner, 7.15pm.

**Evening Echo Junior C Championship:** Ballinascearty v Carrigrohilly, Innishannon, 7pm.

**TOMORROW**  
**Evening Echo Junior C Championship:** Ballinora v Cobh, Ballinora, 6.30pm.

**SUNDAY**  
**Evening Echo Senior County Championship:** Douglas v Barryroe, Cloughduv, 2.30pm; Inniscarra v St Finbarr's, Cloughduv, 4.30pm; Ballygarvan v Rockbá, Glen Rovers, 5pm.

**Evening Echo Junior B Championship:** Glen Rovers v Ballincollig, Glen Rovers, 7.15pm.

**Evening Echo Junior C Championship:** Brian Dillon's v Blarney, Brian Dillon's, 7pm.

**MONDAY**  
**Evening Echo Intermediate Championship:** Ballyhea v Newtownshandrum, Aghabullogue v Tracton, Castle Road 7pm.

**WEDNESDAY**  
**Evening Echo Intermediate Championship:** Blackrock v Sarsfields, Castle Road, 7pm.

**FRIDAY AUGUST 26**  
**Evening Echo Intermediate Championship:** Fr O'Neill's v Carrigaline, Castle Road, 7pm; Clonakilty v Ballinhassig, Bandon, 7pm.

ALL IRELAND INTERMEDIATE CAMOGIE CHAMPIONSHIP SEMI-FINALS  
Limerick 2-5, Antrim 1-11, Sligo 0-12, Donegal 1-6  
ALL IRELAND PREMIER JUNIOR CAMOGIE CHAMPIONSHIP SEMI-FINALS  
Monaghan 1-10, Down 1-17  
ALL IRELAND JUNIOR A CAMOGIE CHAMPIONSHIP SEMI-FINALS  
Wexford 0-12, Clon 2-5

Aug. 2011



# a forward threat

## Valleys make the Glen work for their victory



The Cork U15 development squad with coaches Nora Ahern and Irene Hogan.

roduce on to their panel in the absence of a higher standard.

The problem is, as I referred to a number of months back, that secondary schools in Cork city and county are no longer the force they used to be. The knock-on has been no underage All-Ireland title in eight years and Cork now have a problem at senior level.

I never believed it was solely the club that provided quality players to Cork. I always believed it typically started in the schools and the clubs benefited. Of course the clubs enhanced the players but the school was the nursery.

We have a problem. We should see some fruition from the work of the development squads coming through, yet I wonder about the real upshot they will bring.

The squads, while excellent, are brief. Even in a short period of time you can see players improving but sustained repetition isn't there.

These are all voluntary efforts. It would be great if Cork had the funds to put two or three full-time personnel on the job

### Supporters' club fundraiser

THE Cork Supporters club draw takes place tomorrow in St Finbarr's at 8pm. Clubs and anybody that have cards for this are asked to ensure that all cards sold or unsold are

dropped into the Barrs before tomorrow.

The club wishes to thank everybody who made the effort to help them in their endeavours to support the Cork camogie teams.

but they don't and that's a drawback.

I was disappointed the highlights on *The Sunday Game* last week didn't show the appalling refereeing decision against Sarah Hayes two minutes from time which gave Wexford their insurance point. Wexford pointed again after this, but at this stage the game was gone.

The way Sarah dispossessed Kate Kelly was a skill that should be applauded yet it was considered an infringement.

Both games last weekend were lifeless I felt for the most part.

I'm drained from raising the issue about the poor standard of refereeing in our game. You could argue that the rules are

there and refs are just doing their job, but there is a big difference between enforcing a rule to the ridiculous and using common sense.

Cork suffered last Saturday, but taking that out of the equation and looking at the bigger picture, camogie will never grow with the stop-start nature of the games inflicted on spectators.

On top of the plethora of frees there were 19 sideline cuts between Cork and Wexford; it was just one of those days.

Cork lost many of the 50/50 balls last Saturday. They were too weak and it wasn't even the most physical of games. The majority of the Cork players are ex-

tremely thin; Wexford are lean. There's a difference.

I've watched the game again since and the amount of possession they gave away was disappointing. Cork just didn't perform at all, particularly up front where our weak hand-passes and careless striking played right into Wexford's hands.

Maybe Cork were too tense, even players you would expect big performances from, failed to deliver.

Katrina Mackey had a fine game though. Anyone who scores 1-2 and wins frees against Claire O'Connor deserves praise. Katrina's goal was a cracker.

Equally I thought Claire O'Connor had an outstanding game. It was a great battle.

Mackey is the one we need to re-build our forward line around. Anna Geary is maybe another.

Trouble is you weaken your defence by moving Anna up the field and Cork aren't as strong as they used to be there either.

It leaves plenty of food for thought.

Glen Rovers 3-6  
Valley Rovers 0-13

By MARY NEWMAN

GLEN ROVERS had to battle all the way to hold on to lead as they made it two wins out of two in the Evening Echo Senior B championship.

Glen were out of the blocks fast hitting three goals inside 10 minutes of the throw-in.

Denise Luby got inside the Valley Rovers defence to bat the ball to the net for the first before Edel O'Connell finished to the net for the second.

Connie Hawkes had Valley Rovers on the score sheet with a point in response, but Aoife Walsh gathered the puck-out and made no mistake for goal number three for the Glen.

Valleys settled into the game and playing against the strong wind they responded well, with Elaine Burke Mary Ann Hawkes and Clodagh Deasy cutting the deficit with points.

Denise Luby pointed a 45 as the Glen began to find it hard to get through the Valley Rovers defence. Valleys finished the half strong with Elaine Burke pointing a free and a 45 but the Glen were ahead 3-1 to 0-6 at the break.

Aided by the strong wind for the second half, Valley Rovers exerted huge pressure and they cut the deficit to three points as Elaine Burke again showed her accuracy from a 45 and Katie Richardson pointed as well.

Denise Luby landed two superb long-range efforts as the Glen again stretched it to five, but the response was instant and four Valleys points — three frees from Elaine Burke and one from Liz Bugler — left just one point in it.

Valley Rovers threw everything at the Glen defence but with Karen O'Connell and Aileen Guiton superb there was no way through.

Denise Luby again hit a huge long range effort to give the Glen breathing space.

Elaine Burke did likewise for Valleys and with the game delicately poised Glen half-back Jennifer Hosford split the Valleys defence with a blistering solo run to put her side two ahead.

Valley Rovers pressed for the vital goal but the Glen defence stood firm.

Scorers for Glen Rovers: D Luby 1-5 (0-4 f, 0-1 45), E O'Connell, A Walsh 1-0 each, J Hosford 0-1.

Valley Rovers: E Burke 0-8 (0-6 f, 0-2 45), C Hawkes, M A Hawkes, C Deasy, K Richardson, L Bugler 0-1 each.

GLEN ROVERS: K Newman (cl); Z Buckley, A Guiton, K O'Connell; N O'Brien, L Cunningham, J Hosford; S Gallen, M Hegarty; D Luby, A O'Keefe, L O'Sullivan; E O'Connell, L Callanan, E O'Connell, L Callanan, E O'Connell.

Subs: S Fahy for N O'Brien (h-t), S O'Halloran for L Callanan (48), B Walsh for M Hegarty (58).

VALLEY ROVERS: G Harrington; A M Murphy, J Hawkes, E Coughlan; T Crowley, E O'Mahony, O Deasy; A Cummins, C Deasy; K Richardson, C Hawkes, E O'Regan; L Bugler, M A Hawkes, E Burke.

Sub: J C. Ilanan for E Coughlan.

Referee: Colette O'Mahony (St Finbarr's).

Newcestown  
Clonakilty

2-8  
2-6

THE teams had to battle with appalling weather conditions in this Evening Echo Senior B championship clash in Enniskeane and it made it difficult for both sides as they gave it everything in the round robin series of championship.

Colette Desmond got Newcestown's opening goal and Colleen Long, Colette Desmond and Emma Coomey added points.

Aoife Deasy had a Clonakilty first half goal, and with Sinead O'Neill striking a point and Marie O'Donovan hitting four pointed frees they trailed Newcestown by just a point at the break 1-6 to 1-5.

Through the second half the sides continued to battle hard, but the weather did not help matters. Newcestown held their composure and as Clonakilty battled to take control they kept they added two points. Marie O'Donovan pointed for Clon, but a Colleen Long goal helped Newcestown hold their lead even when they conceded a goal which was deflected to the net by a defender. They hung on bravely to take the points despite a lot of Clonakilty pressure.

Newcestown: L O'Sullivan; T Hurley, F Deasy, M Crowley; K Murphy, R Desmond, A Coughlan; T McCarthy, F Crowley, E Coomey, C Long, C Desmond; A Crowley, G Cronin, A Buckley, Sub: J O'Mahony for T Hurley, E Kennedy for K Murphy, J O'Donovan for A Buckley. Scorers: C Long 1-6 C Desmond 1-1 E Coomey 0-1.

Clonakilty: C O'Flynn; A O'Hea, S O'Brien, A O'Neill, A Kearns, H O'Regan, C Nagle; C O'Mahony, S Forristal; S O'Neill, C O'Regan, J Brennan; A Deasy, M O'Donovan, E

Jennings. Scorers: Aoife Deasy 1-0, 1-0 (o.g.), Marie O'Donovan 0-5 (f), Sinead O'Neill 0-1. Subs: S Whelton for A O'Hea, H Coughlan for E Jennings.

Kilbrittan/Timoleague  
Bishopstown

3-22  
1-2

KILBRITTAN/Timoleague proved way to strong for Bishopstown in the second round game in the Evening Echo Senior B championship clash in Belgooly.

Bishopstown held their own in the opening quarter but Kilbrittan/Timoleague began to gain control as they picked off scores. Up front Miriam Deasy and Mairead Dullea were a constant threat while Marion Murphy at centre forward was superb, finishing the game with 3-10 to her credit. She had excellent support from Miriam Deasy, Mairead Dullea, Lisa Moloney and Dinah O'Mahony.

At the break Kilbrittan/Timoleague led 3-10 to 0-2, Maeve Scannell getting on the score sheet twice for a Bishopstown side that battled to stay in contention.

On the resumption Marion Murphy Lisa Moloney and Mairead Dullea added points to the Kilbrittan/Timoleague tally before Eileen Foyle grabbed a goal back for Bishopstown.

Miriam Deasy and Siobhan Sexton added three points before Ciara Healy had one back but Kilbrittan/Timoleague added six to their tally without reply.

Kilbrittan/Timoleague: A Casey; L Nyhan, E O'Sullivan, A Foley; D O'Sullivan, L O'Callaghan, N Moloney; S Moloney, D O'Mahony; S Sexton, M Murphy, R

O'Mahony; L Moloney, M Deasy, M Dullea. Sub's E O'Donovan for N Moloney (35). Scorers: M Murphy 3-10 (0-3f), M Deasy 0-5, L Moloney 0-3, M Dullea 0-2, S Sexton, D O'Mahony 0-1 each.

Bishopstown: D Coughlan; A Noone, P Finn (cl), A Foley; N Christie, E Foyle, M Egan; F Shanahan, S Murphy; R Hayes, M Scannell, R Nunan; M O'Mahony, C Healy, O Lane. Sub's: A Donegan for M O'Mahony (19), O Crowley for N Christie (h-t), N Byrne for P Finn (in 40), M O'Mahony for A Foley (44), N Christie for M Scannell (in 49). Scorers: E Foyle 1-0, M Scannell 0-2, C Healy 0-1 (f).

Referee: Anthony Cummins (Ballymartle).

Glen Rovers  
Valley Rovers

2-8  
0-13

GLEN Rovers held out under a lot of pressure from Valley Rovers to take the points in this Evening Echo Senior B championship game in the round robin series of matches as they made it two wins out of two in their group stages of games.

The Glen girls hit Valley Rovers with three fast goals which set the foundations for their victory. Inside 10 minutes Denise Luby had the first goal when she evaded the Valley Rovers defence and batted the ball to the net. The in running Edel O'Connell finished Lauren Callanan's long ball into the square to the net for the second and in response Connie Hawkes had Valley Rovers on the score sheet with a point, but from Kelly Newman's long puck out Aoife Walsh struck for their third goal.

Valley's settled into the game with Elaine Burke Mary Ann Hawkes and Clodagh Deasy cutting the deficit with points. Denise Luby pointed a 45 but now the Glen were finding it hard to get through the

Valley Rovers defence. Valleys finished the half strong with Elaine Burke pointing a free and a 45 to leave the Glen ahead 3-1 to 0-6.

Valley Rovers cut the deficit to three points. Elaine Burke again showed her accuracy, pointing a 45 with Katie Richardson pointing from play. Denise Luby pointed two superb long range efforts as the Glen again stretched their lead to five points, but the response was instant and four Valley Rovers points, three frees from Elaine Burke and one from Liz Bugler, had just one point in it.

Valley Rovers threw everything at the Glen defence but Karen O'Connell and Aileen Guiton were solid in defence and there was no way through. Denise Luby hit a huge long range effort to maintain the Glen lead and Elaine Burke did likewise for Valley's. With the game in the balance Glen half back Jennifer Hosford pointed to put her side two ahead, Valley Rovers pressed for the vital goal, but the Glen defence stood firm under enormous pressure and were going to be denied.

Glen Rovers: K Newman (cl); Z Buckley, A Guiton, K O'Connell; N O'Brien, L Cunningham, J Hosford; S Gallen, M Hegarty; D Luby, A O'Keefe, L O'Sullivan; E O'Connell, L Callanan, E O'Connell. Sub's: S Fahy for N O'Brien (h-t), S O'Halloran for L Callanan (48), B Walsh for M Hegarty (58). Scorers: D Luby 1-5 (0-4 f 0-1 45), E O'Connell A Walsh 1-0 each, J Hosford 0-1.

Ref: Colette O'Mahony (St Finbarr's).



Aug. 2011



LINDA MELLERICK

## CAMOGIE

Inniscarra 1-12  
St Finbarr's 1-7

THE second game in the double-header at Cloughduv yesterday proved a highly entertaining encounter with a closely fought second round qualifier finally eliminating St Finbarr's.

This game was there for either side to take on the stroke of full-time with additional time on the cards after a number of stoppages.

A Fiona O'Connell goal however put the game beyond the reach of the Barrs as Inniscarra welcomed the final whistle four minutes later.

It was a great battle between two fully committed sides.

Both defences were on top with St Finbarr's, in particular, regularly called upon to deliver and deliver they did with Jenny Duffy leading the way followed closely by Catherine Barrett.

The midfield battle of Rena Buckley and Gemma O'Connor was worth the entrance fee alone as both players contributed enormously to their sides' efforts.

Inniscarra, while failing to create the opportunities they have in the past, still had the better forwards and that was where the game was won and lost.

With the sides level on no fewer than six occasions the tension was palpable.

It was point for point in the opening quarter.

Inniscarra got the upper hand and pushed three points ahead before Charlotte Kearney and Gemma O'Connor brought the Barrs back within a point.

A Joanne Casey free gave the champions a two point advantage at the break.

Just as she had in their opening round, Niamh Goulding pounced just after the break to hit home and the lead changed hands again.

With scores hard to come by it was always going to be a tight finish. Each score was precious and Inniscarra hit three between the 39th and 58th minutes to give them a two point lead as the clock ticked down.

St Finbarr's pushed forward but

# Barrs bow out to Inniscarra

## Blistering starts sets Bally on their way

By MARY NEWMAN

Ballygarvan 4-16  
Rockbawn 0-2



St Finbarr's Ciara Sargent is blocked by Inniscarra's Treasa McCarthy and Margaret Cosgrove during the Evening Echo Senior camogie championship game at Cloughduv.

Picture: Richard Mills

their weakness up front proved costly.

As it stood it was Inniscarra that won the sprint to the finish with O'Connell's goal as they hold on to their title for another while at least.

**Scorers for Inniscarra:** J Casey 0-9 (0-5f, 0-1 45), F O'Connell 1-0, T McCarthy 0-2, R Buckley 0-1.

**St Finbarr's:** G O'Connor 0-4 (0-2f), N Goulding 1-0, C Kearney 0-3.

**INNISCARRA:** E O'Donovan, R McCarthy, L Hayes, C Looney, E Kingston, R O'Mahony, A Sheehan, R Buckley, F O'Connell, N Dilworth, Y Twomey, T McCarthy, K O'Mahony, M Cosgrave, J Casey. **Subs:** C Sheehan for Y Twomey (23), E Looney for M Cosgrave (35), K Jones for C Looney (47).

**ST FINBARR'S:** B A Corcoran, L O'Connell, T Doyle, C Sargent, C Harrington, J Duffy, C Barrett, M Cahalane, G O'Connor, R Myers, C Spellman, C Kearney, N Goulding, V Harris, B O'Mahony. **Subs:** H Morgan for R Myers (58).

**Referee:** M O'Kelly (Ballyheal).



Inniscarra's Joanne Casey racing away from St Finbarr's Lynda O'Connell in the senior camogie championship game at Cloughduv.

Picture: Richard Mills

FROM the early stages it was obvious that it was going to be a mountain to climb for Rockbawn if they had any hope of overcoming Ballygarvan in this Evening Echo senior championship clash at Glen Rovers yesterday.

Rebecca Murphy had the ball in the net inside three minutes of the throw-in and Ballygarvan dominated in all sectors as they picked off their scores with ease. Emer Dillon, Suzanne Lynch and Catriona Kelly had stretched their lead with points before Rachel Keohane grabbed their second goal 18 minutes into the game.

Rockbawn, to their credit, worked hard and contested every ball with determination and they showed fierce pride as they battled for their opening score which came from Sile Burns two minutes before the break but at this stage it was 2-8 to 0-1 in Ballygarvan's favour and it was going to take a huge effort from Rockbawn to get themselves back into contention.

Ballygarvan continued to dominate in the second half and by the three quarter stage they had stretched their lead with five unanswered points before Suzanne Lynch added a third goal to their tally.

Sile Burns pointed a Rockbawn free but a goal from substitute Barbara Browne and points from Emer Dillon (2) and Laura O'Callaghan saw Ballygarvan finish strong.

While Rockbawn were well beaten, they participated with great pride and played every ball in a sporting manner.

They showed a united front as they gathered after the game in their post match huddle, sometimes sport is not all about winning and Rockbawn certainly did their club proud in the manner in which they accepted defeat in this contest.

Ballygarvan now go on to meet Ballincollig next weekend in a bid to reach the quarter-finals.

**Scorers for Ballygarvan:** C Kelly 0-6 (0-3f, 0-2 45), S Lynch 1-3, E Dillon 0-4 (0-1f), R Keohane 1-1, B Browne, R Murphy 1-0 each, M Moynihan, L O'Callaghan 0-1 each.

**Rockbawn:** S Burns 0-2 (0-1f).

**BALLYGARVAN:** M E O'Donovan, M Hallahan, J Browne, L Kennefick, S O'Donovan, L Browne, A Keohane, C Murphy, V Browne, R Murphy, E Dillon, M Moynihan, R Keohane, C Kelly, S Lynch. **Subs:** D Daly for V Browne (39), L O'Callaghan for C Murphy (43), B Browne for C Kelly (43), K O'Donovan for S Lynch (48), A Walsh for R Murphy (47).

**ROCKBAWN:** S Keohane, M Mc Sweeney, S Ryan, C Foley, C Drinan, C Foley, N Keohane, S Brackley, L Crowley, M Foley, S Burns, S Dilworth, N Coleman, T Howard, C Conway. **Subs:** O Mulcahy for M Foley (25), L Ryan for C Drinan (33), N Hurley for C Foley (41), E Foley for T Howard (47), E Houghan for M Mc Sweeney (50).

**Referee:** Cathal Egan (Glen Rovers).

## Ruthless Douglas see off Barryroe challenge

Douglas 2-27  
Barryroe 0-6

AS expected, Douglas had little resistance to their title challenge as they comprehensively booked their place in this year's quarter-final in Cloughduv yesterday.

From the outset this was going to be a tall order for Barryroe and so it proved to be as Douglas, leading 2-11 to 0-2 at half time, continued to score with relative ease in the

second period with substitute Jenny O'Donovan also contributing as she took up her position.

With Pamela Mackey lining out at centre-back on Barryroe's Jennifer O'Leary, the supply was plentiful and Katrina Mackey lauded it as she tore the Barryroe defence apart.

Emma Kavanagh had a good day in the Douglas jersey as in truth Douglas were on top throughout the field.

Barryroe managed just

CAMOGIE  
By LINDA MELLERICK

three points in the opening half, all scored by Jennifer O'Leary, with one coming from play.

Once Aine O'Donovan struck Douglas' first goal nine minutes in to leave the score 1-5 to 0-1 it was clear that Barryroe were out of their depth.

What Douglas learnt from this particular outing will be very little as they head into the difficult stages.

They had oceans of space to make mistakes and recover, something they won't be allowed down the line. Their teamwork was impressive at times with some excellent points scored. They overcame the challenge yesterday and that was what they came to do.

Having suffered an opening round defeat to debutants Killeagh and a comprehensive defeat yesterday, Barryroe will be undoubtedly seek to downgrade for 2012.

**Scorers for Douglas:** K Mackey 0-12 (0-3f), J White 1-4, A O'Donovan 1-2, S Duggan 0-3, R O'Sullivan, J O'Donovan 0-2 each, M Harkin, A O'Regan (f) 0-1 each.

**Barryroe:** J O'Leary 0-5 (0-3f 0-1 45), G Collins 0-1.

**DOUGLAS:** J Kavanagh, S Long, A Peate, E Jordan, A O'Regan, P Mackey, L O'Regan, E Kavanagh, T McCarthy, S Duggan, J White, K Mackey, R O'Sullivan, M Harkin, A O'Donovan. **Subs:** C Lynch for R O'Sullivan (48), T Maher for A Peate (51), J O'Donovan for A O'Donovan (51).

**BARRYROE:** E White, N O'Driscoll, A M Fleming, L Duffe, P Moloney, E Carroll, A O'Donoghue, K McCarthy, R McCarthy, G Collins, J O'Leary, C Griffin, D O'Sullivan, M Sheehy-Cahalane, C O'Dwyer. **Subs:** C Tyndall for R McCarthy (19), E O'Regan for P Moloney (30), J White for C O'Dwyer (41), D O'Leary for C Griffin (38).

**Referee:** W Cole (Buttevant).



## 2011 All Ireland Camogie Championship in association with RTÉ Sport

## All Ireland Intermediate Semi-Finals

Wexford v Derry, Pairc Tailteann, Navan, 1.30pm, John O'Neill (Cork)

Wexford bid to emulate the feat of their senior counterparts by qualifying for their second All Ireland Intermediate Final in a row. However, they face a formidable challenge against a Derry side which includes All Ireland Club winners Meabh McGoldrick, sister Grainne and Jane Carey of Eoghan Rua. The midfield battle of Carey and Karen Kieft against Shelly Kehoe and Siona Nolan will be crucial. Upfront, Wexford would appear to have the more experienced unit, with Clara O'Connor, Louise Codd and Stacey Redmond a formidable scoring trio. Wexford, fuelled by last year's disappointment, should come through.

Antrim v Limerick, Pairc Tailteann, Navan, 3.00pm, Aiden O'Brien (Wexford)

The 2010 Premier Junior champions face an experienced Limerick outfit, bidding to banish the disappointment of last year's semi-final defeat. Powered by Soaring Star Jane Adams at full-forward along with Emma Connolly at centre back, the Saffron County is in with a strong chance of reaching their second final in a row. Rhona Torney forms a strong midfield with Colleen Doherty. Limerick's full-forward line of Dymphna O'Brien, Vera Sheehan and Niamh Mulcahy are crucial for their side's All Ireland aspirations, while the match-up of Rose Collins, at full back, against the mercurial Adams, will be one of the duels of the match. Limerick's experience should see them shade this tie, by the slimmest of margins.

## All Ireland Premier Junior Semi-Finals

Down v Meath, Pairc Ui Neill, Clontibret, 2.00pm, John Dolan (Clare)

An interesting tie is in store with two up and coming sides. Down powered by the Carr sisters; Fionnuala at centre back and Sarah Louise at full-forward will fancy their chances of securing a final berth on September 11th. Lisa McCrickard, captains the side from centre forward and her performance along with that of Niamh Mallon is vital to Down's chances of success. Meath, who collected League final honours earlier this season, will look to Edel Guy, at midfield and the formidable Jane Dolan at centre-forward to lead the way. A difficult tie to call, but Meath should have enough to secure a win.

Laois v Waterford, Nowlan Park, 2.30pm, Malachy McToal (Derry)

Waterford will be highly motivated to return to Croke Park and stage a bid to secure a crown which has so far eluded them. Powered by triple All Ireland Poc Fada winner, Patricia Jackman at midfield as well as Karen Kelly at full forward and Niamh Rockett,

at wing forward, the Déise have proven quality. Laois, backboned by the famous Harps camogie club, will fancy their chances. The O'Mahony sisters, Louise and Aine along with Caitriona Phelan, are the lynchpins of a balanced side. Waterford's big game experience, however, should see them edge past.

## All Ireland Junior A semi-final

Offaly v Westmeath, Rath, 3.00pm, Gerry McGough, (Dublin)

Leinster neighbours Offaly and Westmeath meet in what is bound to be an exciting clash between these long time rivals. Westmeath, led by the superb Sandra Greville at centre forward, Pamela Greville at midfield along with captain Aisling Conaty at centre back, enter the tie as slight favourites. However, Offaly won't lack for motivation and with Leanne Scully, at centre back, Mary Molloy at centre forward and Valerie Meagher in the full forward berth the Premier County will pose a formidable threat.

## Wexford face Antrim in intermediate final, Waterford-Down to battle in premier junior

By Daragh Ó Conchúir

Wexford will be represented on the double on camogie's final day at Croke Park on September 11, after the county's intermediates won their semi-final of the All-Ireland championship in association with RTÉ Sport at Pairc Tailteann. Antrim stand in the way of their bid to go one step further than last year, when Offaly wrecked the Yellowbellies' dreams of matching senior and intermediate glory. Wexford were given the fright of their lives by a powerful Derry unit that recovered from a slow start and the concession of two second half goals to fall just on the wrong side of a 3-8 to 2-10 scoreline.

A Fiona Rochford goal gave Wexford a four-point lead at the break despite playing into a strong wind but the magnificent Karen Kieft had a goal for Derry within seconds of the resumption and the sides were level soon after.

Wexford responded with goals from Linda Bolger and Tracy Nolan to move seven points clear but Derry continued to chip away at the deficit courtesy of points from Kieft, Attracta McPeake and Grainne McGoldrick.

The margin was down to one when Wexford's top scorer, Clara O'Connor registered her fifth point and though Kieft replied in similar fashion in injury time to bring her personal tally to 2-5, time just ran out on the Oak Leafers.

Apart from their scorers, Wexford can be thankful for the defensive contributions of Áine Codd and Francis Doran, and especially the spectacular saves made by goalkeeper Helena Jacob that denied Derry a famous victory.

The second game at Navan had the most dramatic ending possible, when teenage substitute Orla O'Hara bagged an injury time goal to snatch victory from broken-hearted Limerick, 2-11 to 2-9. The Shannonsiders were leading by a point when 17-year-old O'Hara collected a pass and hammered the sliotar to the Limerick net in the tie's last act.

The sides were level at the interval, Nora Collins' goal helping Limerick to keep in touch with Antrim, for whom Jane Adams was outstanding in both a scoring and play-making capacity. Last year's premier junior champions began the second half in impressive fashion but Limerick, with Niamh Mulcahy unerring from placed balls, edged in front with time running out. O'Hara struck to keep alive Antrim's hopes of emulating Offaly and winning the intermediate title, 12 months after the junior.

Like Wexford, Waterford will be looking for a shot at redemption when they go toe-to-toe with Down in the premier junior decider. The Suirsiders have been runners-up in the past two campaigns but having won the Division 2 league title earlier this term, seem intent on shedding the bridesmaids tag this time around.

There was no doubting their superiority over Laois as they prevailed 2-17 to 2-3, having led by 11 points at half time. Goals from Karen Kelly and captain, Nicola Morrissey helped them earn that advantage, despite Elaine Mahony's major at the other end of the pitch.

Kelly was in sensational form, finishing with 1-10, while Poc Fada champion Trish Jackman showed that she has accuracy to go with her power-striking by converting a free from the half-way line and adding two points from play that were struck outside 65m. With debutant Aoife Hannon adding two points, it was a very satisfactory day's work for Waterford.

Down will provide much sterner opposition though, as evidenced by their 1-17 to 2-11 win over Meath. Katie Mullan hit two goals for the Royals, while the fantastic Jane Dolan added eight points but such contributions weren't enough to derail the ambitions of their opponents. Niamh Mallon was a significant reason for that, as was the excellence of Catherine McGourty, who scored nine points and was also very good from open play. With Fionnuala Carr also scoring a goal, the Mourne girls held a two-point advantage at the interval and in a close second half, it was McGourty's accuracy that ultimately decided proceedings.

In the junior A semi-final, Westmeath defeated Offaly, 0-12 to 1-2.

## All-Ireland final place at stake in Clontibret

by Conall Collier

Comments (0) | Print | Email

Meath camogie manager John Davis will be hoping that his team can maintain a winning habit when they travel to Clontibret for the All-Ireland Premier Junior camogie semi-final against Down on Saturday, 2.0.

The other semi-final between Waterford and Laois will be played at Nowlan Park, Kilkenny, also on Saturday, 2.30.

A return to Clontibret might evoke some memories of a previous visit in the distant past for Davis when he was in charge of the Meath hurlers.

On that occasion, the local officials had to remove grass from the pitch as it had been cut that morning and wasn't really in any state to host a game.

Times have changed and something like that would not occur now?

The challenge facing Meath in this semi-final is fairly daunting as Down have the experience of playing in a higher grade, Div 2 of the league, and that will be a major plus for the Ulster side.

Meath camogie is certainly on an upward curve at the moment and Saturday's assignment will answer some questions - how much has the team improved, can they raise the level of performance, have they the ability to survive in Div 2 next year?

Already this year Meath have achieved promotion to the National Camogie League Div 2 following a solid campaign that produced a final victory over Kildare.

The Royal County girls recorded victories against Dublin, Roscommon, Armagh and Kildare on the way to that decider against the Lilywhites while in the championship they defeated Laois by 2-12 to 1-9 and Roscommon by 4-14 to 0-5.

The only encouraging result from that series of games, ahead of the Down challenge, was the six-point victory over Laois at Trim.

Meath enjoyed some good fortune this year as they were drawn in a three-team group in comparison to the other semi-finalists, Down and group winner Waterford, the likely favourites for the title.

Kildare and Dublin were also in the other group and neither caused Down or Waterford too much difficulty.

Add in the fact that Laois did not fulfil their Div 2 League fixtures, conceding walkovers to all the other teams, including Down, and Meath's task looks a lot more difficult.

There is a chink of light at the end of what could yet be a dark tunnel in Clontibret, Down only won once in the league and that was against Wexford by 3-10 to 2-12.

They were beaten by Galway, Antrim and Derry, but the key fact there is that they have been playing at a higher level and will be expecting to cope with Meath quite comfortably.

Meath played Wexford in a challenge game about a month ago and, according to reports, performed well as the manager used the game to give everyone a chance to impress. That was before the last outing against Roscommon.

Meath also have the experience of last year's semi-final defeat by Waterford to build on and they also can point to a great victory against Antrim at Kildare two years ago.

The return to the panel of players like Aileen Donnelly, Elizabeth Lynch and Frances Lynch will be a major boost and will make the job of the selectors more difficult.

There are some doubts about the availability of Jane Dolan who played against Roscommon despite the handicap of a broken rib, but if the Blackhall Gaels player is available for selection it will also be a major boost.

The Meath defence has shaped up in terms of tackling without conceding frees and another big performance will be expected from minor player Kristina Troy at centre-back. She will also be looking forward to the All-Ireland Minor C decider the following week against Armagh.

The pressure will be on Down to deliver a victory. They will be looking to players like Niamh Mallon and Catherine McGourty in the forwards along with Nicola Branniff and Laura Hughes to get the vital scores.

At the back Karen Tinnelly, Kelly O'Higgins, Orla Maginn and Paula Gribben will make life tough for the Royal County girls, but not tough enough. Meath can win.

## Meath exit camogie race

by Conall Collier

Comments (0) | Print | Email

## Down 1-17 Meath 2-11

Meath were edged out of a place in the All-Ireland Premier Junior camogie final by a hard-working Down side in the long grass at Clontibret this afternoon.

Down finished strong and were worthy winners although Meath gave it everything and enjoyed some good moments.

Jane Dolan closed the scoring for Meath with a late pointed free for a tally of 1-8.

"We could have won the game if we were a bit more tuned-in and it's very disappointing," Meath manager John Davis told the Meath Chronicle.

Meath - E Mangan; N Guy, A Thompson, E McFally; A Keogh, K Troy, L Donoghue; F O'Neill, E Guy; S Horan (0-1), J Dolan (1-8), A Donnelly (0-1); K Hackett, K Mullen (1-0), E Oakes. Subs - H. Geraghty for McNally 20 mins A Maguire (0-1) for K Hackett 38m, S Hackett for E Guy 41m, F Lynch for Horan 48.





# Antrim and Down fly the flag for Ulster on finals day

BY CIARAN WOODS

ULSTER will have double representation in Croke Park on Camogie All-Ireland finals day next month with both Antrim and Down having won through to their respective deciders.

Unfortunately the dream of an all-Ulster All-Ireland intermediate final came unstuck as Derry fell to Wexford in a hard-fought semi-final last weekend. The Oak Leaf girls recovered from a slow start and the concession of two second half goals to fall just short on the wrong side of a 3-8 to 2-10 scoreline, Karen Kieft responsible for 2-5 of her sides' tally.

The Saffrons kept their side of the bargain as they staged a late surge to see off Limerick by 2-11 to 2-9. Teenage substitute Orla O'Hara was the Antrim saviour as she hammered the ball to the back of the Limerick net in the last action of the game to snatch victory for her side and send them through to another All-Ireland final.

Down also made sure of a Croke

Park appearance as they attempt to emulate Antrim's achievement of last year by beating Waterford to claim the All-Ireland Premier Junior title.

The Mourne girls secured a 1-17 to 2-11 win over Meath, with Catherine McGourty leading the way in the scoring stakes with nine points. Niamh Mallon and goal-scorer Fionnuala Carr also made telling contributions as they now turn their attention to that All-Ireland final where they will be doing all they can to ensure that it's third time unlucky for the Deise girls.

Ulster have representation in every final other than the Senior grade as Armagh and Monaghan will contest the Junior A and B deciders respectively.

The Orchard side will take on Westmeath in the Junior A decider on September 17, Westmeath having seen off the challenge of Offaly in last weekend's semi-final with Armagh's place in the final having been already secured courtesy of finishing top of the table.

This weekend it's Monaghan who will bid to lead the Ulster title charge as they take on Wicklow in the Junior B decider. There has been nothing to separate the pair all season, and this Sunday's showdown will be no different.

It finished as a 3-9 to 2-12 stalemate when they met in the group stages, but it is the much greater scoring returns which the Farney girls have managed which makes them favourites to claim the title when they meet at Donaghmore Ashbourne (Sunday, 2.00pm)

▶▶▶▶▶

Also this weekend, Armagh will be bidding to take an All-Ireland title northwards when they take on Meath in the All-Ireland Minor C decider.

The Orchard girls reached the same stage last year only to lose out to Carlow, and with the bulk of last years side still available, they will be hoping for a very different result this time around and deliver a first ever All-Ireland minor crown



PUT 'EM UNDER PRESSURE...Antrim's Michaela Convery lets Nora Collins of Limerick know she's there during the intermediate semi-final  
Picture: Caroline Quinn

to the county.

Meath have shown themselves to be a very skilful and well-drilled side, but the Armagh management team of Michael Murphy and Olive McGeown will head into the final confident that they can turn the tables and come out on the right side of the result this time out.

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ORCHARD AMBITION...The Armagh minors who will take on Meath in the All-Ireland minor C final

## Club titles decided as county goes final crazy

WHILE the efforts of Joe Baldwin's Antrim senior camogie side may have grabbed all the headlines last weekend as they booked their place in the All-Ireland Intermediate final at Croke Park, there was also domestic action in the Saffron county with two county finals having taken place.

It was Cushendall who took the spoils in the Antrim intermediate championship final, running out comfortable winners over Ahoghill on a final score line of 3-14 to 2-4. Also last weekend, it was St Paul's who emerged victorious when they took on Rasharkin in the Antrim Junior championship Final, 2-6 to 0-6 the final result.

This weekend the county's u-14 camogs will take part in the Ulster blitz, which will be held on Saturday at Truagh Gaels in Monaghan. The competition is scheduled to get underway at 11am, and transport will be leaving Logan's Fashions at 7.45am and Dunsilly roundabout at 8.30am. Further details and arrange-



MAIN FOCUS...Michaela Convery, Antrim, in action against during Antrim's All-Ireland Intermediate Camogie victory over Limerick in Navan  
Picture: Caroline Quinn

ments are available from [www.antrimcamogie.com](http://www.antrimcamogie.com)



## 'Inters' make final after stiff Derry test

Wexford 3-8 Derry 2-10

IN A REAL heart-stopper right up to the final whistle, the Wexford intermediate camogie team held out for a one point victory over Derry in Saturday afternoon's All-Ireland championship semi-final at Pairc Tailteann in Navan, County Meath to secure a final showdown against Antrim.

Despite leading at halftime by 1-5 to 0-4, Wexford had to dig very deep during the second-half to fend off a strong and determined Derry challenge, and only for the goalkeeping brilliance of Helena Jacob combined with the hard-working Wexford backs, the result could have been very different.

Wexford have already beaten final opponents Antrim in the group stages of the current championship, when the purple and gold came away 2-11 to 1-7 victors on July 9th last. But the Glens-women will pose a major test as they look to build on last year's outright success in the All-Ireland Premier Junior championship.

Karen Kieft gave Derry the first taste of the lead with a pointed '45 on six minutes.

Ciara O'Connor equalised from a free before Wexford gained a huge breakthrough. Aine Codd cleared to Stacey Redmond and she picked out Fiona Rochford who had found some space to get through and fire straight to the net in the eighth-minute. Wexford picked off the next two scores with a point apiece from Linda Bolger and O'Connor.

The backs, and particularly Aine Codd and Frances Doran were working tirelessly to keep Derry at bay.

Meanwhile, at the other end Ciara O'Connor added a point from play on eleven minutes. Derry had struck several wides before O'Connor added another point for Wexford after 24 minutes.

Kieft eventually ended Derry's scoring impasse with a pointed free in the 25th-minute, before sub Maria Mooney and Kieft grabbed late scores to reduce Wexford's interval lead to 1-5 to 0-4.

Determined Derry wasted time in setting about trying to make in-roads, and Kieft really boosted the Oak Leaf County when she netted in the opening minute. It was quickly followed by an equalising point from Attracta McPeake.

But Wexford were back in front on 35 minutes when Siona Nolan pointed after she had been impeded.

Frances Doran and Lisa Bolger combined to stop some Derry advances before Wexford were lifted hugely when Louise Codd gained possession in midfield and picked out Linda Bolger, who blasted to the net in the 40th minute.

It got even better for the Slaneysiders a minute later when Fiona Rochford located sub Tracey Nolan, who struck to the net in the 41st minute to put Wexford clear by seven points.

Derry were not giving up though, and Attracta McPeake pointed before they forced a penalty, which Kieft blasted to the net in the 45th-minute.

The gap was reduced further when Kieft added a pointed free. Wexford kept working hard though, and Linda Bolger pointed in the 52nd-minute, only to see it negated by a similar score from Grainne McGoldrick.

Fiona Rochford was on the end of a heavy tackle which resulted in a free that Ciara O'Connor pointed just on full-time.

But there was still injury-time to be played, and Derry really dug deep in a last desperate effort.

A free taken by Grainne McGoldrick was stopped on the goal-line by Helena Jacob and parried out at the expense of a '45. McGoldrick pointed same to leave just two points between the sides, before Kieft cut the margin to the minimum with a further point.

But, as the Ulster women went on a final attack in search of at least an equaliser, the referee blew the final whistle, much to the relief of all Wexford connections, as they ensured it will be another great double All-Ireland finals appearance for the camogie women, as their intermediate showdown with Antrim on September 11th forms the curtainraiser to the senior rematch against Galway.

## Munster Junior Camogie Championship Final

Tipperary 1-6 Cork 1-15

Report and photograph by Rose Marnion at The Ragg

Cork travelled to Tipperary in the hope of success and were rewarded when an opening minute goal from Sinead Duggan gave them the best possible start and they never

looked back as they went onto win the Munster junior camogie title on Monday evening.

Tipperary were slow to settle while Cork were setting the pace all over the

## Match Digest

Player of the Match: Niamh Dillworth (Cork)

Scorers: Tipperary: Aoife Shimmers 0-4 frees, Andrea Loughane 1-0, Catriona Short, Claire Kennedy 0-1 each. Cork: Niamh Dillworth 0-5, 4 frees; Kate Harrington, Caroline Sugrue 0-4 each; Sinead Duggan 1-1; Doireann Ní Mhuiri 0-1.

Tipperary: Ciara Houlihan (Burgess/Duharra); Tricia McGrath (Drom & Inch); Julie Delaney (Borisoleigh); Mairead Barry (Drom & Inch); Aoife McGrath (Drom & Inch); Mary Walsh (Kilnashane MacDonaghs); Capt. Louise McLoughlin (Silvermines); Linda Fanning (Holycross); Claire Kennedy (Kilnashane MacDonaghs); Antonette Kennedy (Drom & Inch); Aoife Shimmers (Newport); Andrea Loughane (Thurford); Alice Fogarty (Thurford); Maria Ryan (Silvermines); Catriona Short (Drom & Inch).  
Cork: Jessica Kavanagh; Alana Barry; Yvonne Murphy; Leanne O'Sullivan; Sarah Harrington; Rose O'Mahony; Emma Jordan; Louise O'Regan; Aisling Thompson; Caroline Sugrue; Niamh Dillworth; Sinead Duggan; Doireann Ní Mhuiri (Capt.); Kate Harrington; Treasa McCarthy.

Referee: David O'Carroll (Clare).

pitch, and were allowed to do too much damage that the home side just couldn't recover from no matter how hard they tried in the second half.

The visitors had opened a 1-3 to 0-2 point lead within the opening twelve minutes as they made full use of possession.

Aoife Shimmer's accuracy from a free opened Tipp's account five minutes in, but Cork doubled the scores to pull further ahead. All six backs along with keeper Ciara Houlihan withstood huge pressure as Cork went in search of a second goal and Tipp can thank Aoife McGrath, Julie Delaney and Mairead Barry who cleared many attacks. Tipp missed a couple of good chances to close the gap and while Cork had the upper-hand in the middle of the field and in the back line, Tipp had their chances.

While Tipperary made two changes at half time, Cork made positional changes on the pitch and the home side tore into an early attack with Aoife Shimmers offloading to Catriona Short for Tipp's



Tipperary Junior Camogie team - Munster finalists: Front: Deirdre Delaney, Catherine O'Moara, S. McDoughlin, Antonette Kennedy, Siobhan Hennessy, Aisling Butler, Aoife McGrath, Catriona Short, Linda Fanning, Tricia McGrath, Mairead Barry, Alice Fogarty, Ciara Houlihan, Maria Ryan, And Shimmers, Mary Walsh (Captain), Julie Delaney, Claire Kennedy.

opening point. Both sides had upped their performance as Tipperary threw everything at the visitors. Points were swapped before Aoife Shimmers stepped up to take a free and instead of pointing, she passed to the waiting

Andrea Loughane who turned sharply and fired low past a stannied Cork defense line where Jessica Kavanagh tried to block but the ball bounced off her hurley, hit the cross bar and over the line. An follow up point from Claire

Kennedy was set up by workhorse Shimmers and the margin was now down to four points as the large crowd of supporters got behind the home side.

Tipperary tried valiantly to build on their comeback and to stay in touch but

further Harri Sugrue Cork ran on.

## BATTILING FOR THE BALL



Wexford full-forward Fiona Rochford battles it out with Derry's Meabh McGoldrick in the All-Ireland Intermediate Camogie Championship semi-final in Navan on Saturday last.

After Burgess/Duharra managed to get the better of Cashel and Toomevara gaining a win against Drom & Inch, it's still all to play for with these four top teams in this competition.

Only the puck of the ball has even laid between all four clubs through the years, so another good week end of camogie is guaranteed when Drom, who will be determined to avenge for last weekend, meet Burgess/Duharra at The Ragg on Saturday evening August 23 at 7pm. Unless Drom can create a turn around and up their performance on the evening and concentrate on the game in hand, the verdict is with the never say die, Duharra.

Toomevara will travel to Cashel the following day Sunday 28th and 5.00pm where they will be eager to tag on a further two points but Cashel can never be written off as the League champions can produce the goods as witnessed in the past, but going on form from last week, the verdict must be with Toomevara.

Meanwhile in the Senior 'B' competition, one wonders could any one of these clubs step up to the mark and claim the Senior 'A' crown this year? After three rounds, topping the group with full points is Moneygall which is indeed no surprise whatsoever. Shannon Rovers and Silvermines are lying in joint second place having won two out of three games each while Moycarkey and Templemore have one win each and Holycross have yet to record a win.

There will be little or nothing between all sides come Saturday evening in the fourth round with Moneygall having home advantage when they take on Templemore. Verdict: Moneygall.

Moycarkey travel to Ballinacorney to play Shannon Rovers in what is expected to be a real cracker of a game. Verdict: Shannon Rovers.

Holycross will be bidding for their opening points against Silvermines in Ballyshill and the verdict here is Silvermines. All games are set for 7pm.

## County Senior Camogie Championship Round 1

Burgess/Duharra 1-15 Cashel 1-11

Report and photographs by Rose Marnion at The Ragg

Holders Burgess/Duharra set out their intentions to retain the county senior camogie championship on Saturday evening when they got the better of an under strength Cashel side in a highly entertaining game.

Played in ideal conditions, it was nip and tuck for the entire sixty minutes with the final outcome hanging in the balance right up to the end. Had the south club been more accurate with their free-taking and picked off their points instead of pushing for goals, the outcome could very well have been different.

Going into the campaign, Burgess/Duharra had worried about the players they have lost since last year but clearly their replacements proved they can produce the goods. Cashel on the other hand are struggling with numbers, and while they had a shortage of seven from last year's line out, they still cannot be written off entirely in the latter

break and were leading by two points.

Helen Butler's goal within the opening minute of the restart put Cashel into a five point lead and when Claire Grogan dropped a long ball around the house and Butler pulled and when Elaine King fouled Claire Grogan going through, the margin was six.

However, Duharra stepped up to the mark, created chances and took them. Eimear McDonnell ate into the lead and with Duharra in attacking mode with Caoimhe Maher winning a lot of ball she passed to Tara Kennedy who found Eimear McDonnell who in turn set-up Sinead Nealon who pointed to reduce the margin to two points.

McDonnell reduced the lead further and the tension was building as Caoimhe Maher was instrumental in setting up another attack where Ruth Barry caught the dropping ball, passed to Sinead Nealon who pointed to



Gemma Grace (Duharra) goes high for the ball above Julie Kennedy (Cashel).

## Match Digest

Player of the Match: Tara Kennedy (Duharra)  
Scorers: Burgess/Duharra: Eimear N. Tara Kennedy 1-3; Caoimhe Maher 0-3; Sinead Nealon 0-1 each.  
Cashel: Claire Grogan 0-8, 6 frees; Helen Butler 0-2, 1 free; Julie McGrath 0-1.

Camogie





# INTERERS PASS BIG TEST

DEAN GOODISON

In Navan

**WEXFORD** 3-8  
**DERRY** 2-10

IT SEEMS the words 'history-making' follow the Wexford camogie sides around these days.

Well, they've done it again as the Intermediates joined their Senior counterparts in the 2011 All-Ireland final after a stunning one-point victory over Derry in an enthralling game in Páirc Tailteann on Saturday last.

Wexford, to their credit, always looked to have the upper hand, but in a contest that they went into as warm favourites, they were made to fight every step of the way by a resilient northern outfit.

It was a nervy start for those favourites as four wides preceded Derry taking a seventh-minute lead. Yet that lead was more than fortunate as they benefited from a clear square ball infringement with Karen Kieft pointing from a '45 that Helena Jacob shouldn't have been credited with conceding.

Yet the bad luck wasn't a sign of things to come for Jacob as she put in a superb performance throughout the 60 minutes. Indeed, she was called into action moments after Ciara O'Connor drew Wexford level as she saved well from Gráinne McNicholl.

That stop would prove more significant mere seconds later as Wexford marched down the other end with the excellent O'Connor finding Fiona Rochford who smashed past Claire O'Kane for the opening goal (1-1 to 0-1).

Also bright was the growing-in-confidence Linda Bolger who picked up Wexford's second point, as well as being involved in most of their good first-half moves.

O'Connor's pulled shot in the eleventh minute was fantastically flicked over the crossbar by O'Kane before the Rathnure hot-shot added a further brace of points as Wexford led by 1-5 to 0-1 with seven minutes of the half remaining.

Playing with the breeze, Derry hauled themselves off the ropes with a strong finish to the opening half. The main protagonist, Kieft, picked off a pair of frees while early tactical substitute Maria Mooney sandwiched a point in between to leave four in the tie at the interval (1-5 to 0-4).

The previous eight-point lead evaporated completely two minutes after the break. Kieft, who, in an inspired move, was put at full-forward midway through the opening period, broke through to goal before Attracta McPeake pointed to level the scores (1-5 each).

Siona Nolan flashed a 20-metre free narrowly over the bar when Derry only had two players on the goal-line in the 34th minute but better was soon to follow.

A powerful run by Louise Codd gave Linda Bolger the opportunity to pull home a vital second goal, and with the wind in their sails Wexford moved seven clear when Fiona Rochford picked out substitute Tracey Nolan at the back post and she collected before lashing last year's beaten finalists seven clear.

A second McPeake point dragged her side one point closer with 17 minutes remaining which helped Derry build up a head of steam which Kieft took advantage of as she went to ground in the large rectangle to win her side a penalty.

The midfielder-cum-forward lashed home the penalty, via the hurl of an unfortunate Jacob, and followed it with a pointed free to narrow the gap to two with 13 minutes remaining (3-6 to 2-7).

Linda Bolger's second point increased her side's lead to a slightly more comfortable three - a lead an exchange between Gráinne McGoldrick and Ciara O'Connor did little to dent.

Leading by those three heading into injury time almost proved to be too few as Jacob made a stunning point-blank save from Katie McAuley although Derry did pull closer through McGoldrick and Kieft.

However, time ran out on Derry as they broke forward one last time and Wexford clung on to join the Seniors in Croke Park on September 11 where they will meet Antrim, who they will be confident of beating following a comfortable win over the Saffrons in their final group game.



Stacey Redmond in action against Eilish Cassidy of Derry.



Determined duo Lisa Bolger and Frances Doran apply heavy pressure on Derry's Karen Kieft.

## WEXFORD

**SCORERS:** Ciara O'Connor (0-5, 2 frees), Linda Bolger (1-2), Fiona Rochford and Tracey Nolan (1-0 each), Siona Nolan (0-1 free).

1. Helena Jacob
2. Colleen Atkinson
3. Bernie Holohan
4. Frances Doran
5. Louise O'Leary
6. Aine Codd
7. Lisa Bolger
8. Shelley Kehoe
9. Siona Nolan
10. Louise Codd
11. Bridget Curran
12. Stacey Redmond
13. Ciara O'Connor
14. Fiona Rochford
15. Linda Bolger

**SUBS:** Tracey Nolan for Linda Bolger (temp.), T. Nolan (1-0) for Redmond, Shauna Sinnott for Shelley Kehoe, Eimear O'Connor for L. Codd, Stacey Kehoe for Curran.

## DERRY

**SCORERS:** Karen Kieft 2-5 (0-3 frees, 1-0 pen., 0-1 '45), Attracta McPeake (0-2), Gráinne McGoldrick (0-2, 1 '45), Maria Mooney (0-1).

1. Claire O'Kane
2. Danielle McCrystal
3. Katrina O'Kane
4. Shauna Murphy
5. Eilish Cassidy
6. Aileen McCusker
7. Meabh McGoldrick
8. Karen Kieft
9. Jane Carey
10. Attracta McPeake
11. Briege Convery
12. Gráinne McGoldrick
13. Sinéad Cassidy
14. Gráinne McNicholl
15. Ashling Diamond

**SUBS:** Maria Mooney for Diamond, Edelle Henry for Convery, Gemma McCullagh for McNicholl, Katie McAuley for McPeake.

**REFEREE:** John O'Leary (Cork).

**VENUE:** Páirc Tailteann, Navan.





Niamh Dilworth, seen here in action for Inniscarra against Douglas, put in a player of the match performance for Cork against Tipp last night, scoring an impressive 1-6 total.

# Cork get better of Tipp in Munster

Cork 1-15  
Tipperary 1-6

## CAMOGIE

By MARY NEWMAN

**CORK** outfoxed neighbours Tipperary to capture the Munster Junior Championship crown at the Ragg recently.

Niamh Dilworth put in a player of the match type performance for Cork notching an impressive 1-6, 1-2 of which came from play.

She was ably served by forward partners Caroline Sugrue and Kate Harrington, who contributed a healthy eight point haul between them, 0-3 and 0-5 respectively.

The latter reeled off four consecutive long range points to put the game beyond doubt midway through the second half.

Cork started superbly with Dilworth flicking Harrington's pass

to the net in the opening minute.

Further points from sharpshooters Sinead Duggan, Caroline Sugrue and Niamh Dilworth had Tipperary stunned.

Cork were dominant in defence and as a result Tipperary failed to score from play in the first half, Aoife Shinnars keeping her side just about in touch with three placed balls.

Cork dominated proceedings in the midfield department, Louise O'Regan putting in a gritty hour as Cork kept Tipperary at bay, while Emma Jordan was hugely impressive at wing-back.

Tipperary had stand out performers in full-backs Máiréad Barry and Julie Delaney, while

Louise McLoughlin also impressed.

The home side outscored their rivals early in the second period to cut the lead to four points.

Andrea Loughnane's shot taking a wicked bounce before wrong footing a helpless Jessica Kavanagh.

However, Cork were not in buoyant mood and although Catriona Shortt came agonisingly close to a second green flag, the Leesiders refused to wilt as they stood firm to take the title.

Caroline Sugrue's 45th minute strike stemmed the tide for them.

Four inspirational points followed from Kate Harrington effectively killing off the tie and ensured the Munster title headed to Leeside.

**Scorers for Cork:** N Dilworth 1-6 (0-4f), T McCarthy 0-4, C Sugrue 0-3, S Duggan, D Ni Mhuiri 0-1.

**Tipperary:** A Shinnars 0-4 (0-4f), A Loughnane 1-0, C Shortt, J Delaney 0-1 each.

**CORK:** J Kavanagh, A Barry, Y Murphy, L O'Sullivan, S Harrington, R O'Mahoney, E

Jordan, L O'Regan, A Thompson, C Sugrue, N Dilworth, S Duggan, D Ni Mhuiri (cl), K Harrington, Treasa McCarthy.

**Subs:** Tracy McCarthy for Treasa McCarthy, S Long for E Jordan, A Murray for D Ni Mhuiri, K O'Connell for A Barry, K Jones for K Harrington.

**TIPPERARY:** C Houlihan, T McGrath, J Delaney, M Barry, A McGrath, M Walsh, L McLoughlin, L Fanning, C Kennedy, A Kennedy, A Shinnars, A Loughnane, A Fogarty, M Ryan, C Shortt.

**Referee:** D O'Carroll (Clare).

### FIXTURES

#### FRIDAY AUGUST 26

**Evening Echo Senior B Championship:** Clonsilla v Ballinhassig Bandon 7pm

#### SATURDAY AUGUST 27

**Evening Echo Senior B Championship:** Mallow v Newcastown Ballincollig 6.30pm

#### SUNDAY AUGUST 28

**Evening Echo Senior Championship:** Ballincollig v Ballygarvan Castle Road 3.30pm, Killeagh v St Catherine's Carrigtwohill 6.45pm

**Evening Echo Junior A Championship Semi Finals:** Douglas v Enniskenne, Brinny 12 noon, Buttevant v Kildorney Doneraile 12.30

#### TUESDAY AUGUST 30

**Evening Echo Intermediate Championship:** Fr O'Neill's v Carrigaline Castle Road 7pm

## Ballincollig expected to narrowly edge past Ballygarvan

THERE are two appealing ties down for Sunday as the Evening Echo Cork senior camogie championship rolls on. With 10 teams left after the second round last weekend, an additional draw was made for a place in the quarter-finals.

Those drawn out were Ballincollig v Ballygarvan and St Catherine's v Killeagh.

One would expect Ballincollig to just

### CAMOGIE

By LINDA MELLERICK

about shade the first game but a strong challenge from Ballygarvan could upset the odds.

For the second year in a row they suffered a narrow defeat to Courcy Rovers in the opening round and predictably accounted for Rockbawn last

Sunday. Big performances from Emer Dillon and Catriona Kelly could see Ballygarvan enter the final eight.

Ballincollig, despite running Imokilly to a semi-final replay last season and losing out eventually by three points, didn't continue that good form into their earlier clash against St Finbarr's. It was their first championship outing and they also lined out without the services of Alison Coughlan and Holly Coomey.

Alison returns to duty from injury while Holly has emigrated.

St. Catherine's were dethroned in 2010 by Imokilly with the Killeagh players hugely influential in their downfall. Catherine's will recall only too clearly how Angela Walsh ran ragged 12 months ago, the instigator for Ann Marie Walsh's three goals and will be conscious of placing the shackles on both players. With their defence having

Aug. 2011



## Battling Éire Óg go down fighting

Ballinhassig 2-10  
Éire Óg 1-7

BALLINHASSIG and Éire Óg battled it out for the points on offer in this Evening Echo senior B championship clash at the camogie grounds in Castle Road, writes MARY NEWMAN.

Ballinhassig came into the contest with a victory under their belts over Newcestown, while Éire Óg were battling to get their first win having lost out to Mallow in round one.

Éire Óg got the perfect start and led by three points inside eight minutes of the start as they were boosted by a Margaret O'Herlihy goal and it was 1-1 to 0-1 with 10 minutes played.

Margaret O'Herlihy, Emma Crowley and Aoife McCarthy were all prominent for Éire Óg as they kept the pressure on the Ballinhassig defence.

Ballinhassig regained their composure and began to gain the upper hand with Lisa Jordan, Shauna McCarthy and Deirdre Coomey adding points before Aileen Kilmartin struck for a goal. Lisa Jordan added a point to give them an interval lead of 1-7 to 1-4.

Ballinhassig stretched their lead on the restart Sinead O'Callaghan striking early with a goal to extend their advantage to six points.

Éire Óg added three points to their tally but they were unable to break down the strong Ballinhassig defence.

Up front Ballinhassig added points from Aileen Kilmartin (2) and Deirdre Coomey as they ran out winners with another very impressive display. On form they have installed themselves as one of the front runners to take ultimate honours this season.

They are a well balanced side with a good defence marshalled by inter-county senior player Eimear O'Sullivan, up front they had the ability to pick off scores and will trouble any opponent.

**Scorers for Ballinhassig:** A Kilmartin 1-2, S O'Callaghan 1-0, L Jordan, D Coomey 0-2 each, S McCarthy 0-1.

**Éire Óg:** M O'Herlihy 1-3, A McCarthy 0-2, E Crowley, E Scally 0-1 each.

**BALLINHASSIG:** G O'Callaghan; K Coleman, M Reardon, E O'Donovan; H Cullinane, E O'Sullivan, A Coleman; S McCarthy, M Kelleher; L Jordan, D Coomey, A O'Brien, A Kilmartin, S O'Callaghan, O Murray.

**ÉIRE ÓG:** M Gleeson; M Corkery, C McKenna, A Hennessy, S Hutchinson, K McCarthy, C O'Keefe; C Mooney, E Crowley, A McKenna, M O'Herlihy, A Scally, E Corkery, A McCarthy, E Scally. Sub: O Mooney for S Hutchinson.

# Inniscarra get off



Kelly McCarthy and Emer Dwyer from Sliabh Rua, seen in between matches at the Declan Crowley Memorial U10 camogie tournament in Ballinhassig recently.

Picture: Howard Crowley



LINDA MELLERICK

## CAMOGIE

INNISCARRA, Ballygarvan and Douglas all came through their respective games last weekend, Ballygarvan and Douglas with relative ease.

Inniscarra and St Finbarr's was an entertaining hour, with things getting a bit heated at times, but it was a clean game all the same. St Finbarr's, as expected, lost through their lack of scoring prowess and it is something they have to seriously address if they hope to remain in the big time. The underage players aren't coming through as they used to.

The Barrs have always been a side to be reckoned with down through the years. Indeed, many a battle the Glen had with them. They more or less kept it up while the Glen went through barren years and took their first title in 2006.

Losing finals in '07 and '08 hurt them badly and they are now a long way off from reaching those heights again. Whatever about losing the '08 final to Douglas, which they lost heavily, the Barrs should never have lost to Muskerry in '07 and they must truly rue that defeat.

Inniscarra are certainly missing their injured players yet are getting through their challengers. Margaret Noelle O'Sullivan will hopefully be available for the quarter-finals and her experience will help. Inniscarra are fortunate in that they meet the winners of tomorrow's Ballincollig / Ballygarvan clash and I foresee either encounter to be close.

Despite Cloughduv's hugely impressive performance against Douglas, Milford will be hot favourites to come out of that quarter-final tie.

Emer and Marie Watson have returned from their travels while at this stage it is doubtful that sister Aine will return and line out his season.

## Tracton go through as top dogs

Tracton 3-9  
Aghabullogue 1-1

VICTORY here for Tracton ensured they top their group in the Evening Echo Intermediate Championship, writes MARY NEWMAN.

Despite the result, Aghabullogue had done enough in earlier rounds to ensure their passage through to the semi-finals.

Tracton laid the foundations for victory with three first-half goals. Jennifer Lynch's 18th minute free dropped to the net for the first, and

two inside as many minutes from Marion Jagoe and Ann Sinclair set Tracton up nicely.

Aghabullogue battled to keep in touch but the strong Tracton defence held firm, confining them to just a point in the opening half with Emma Healy on target.

Tracton extended their advantage with points from Jennifer Lynch, Clodagh Fitzgerald, and Marion Jagoe to lead at the break 3-4 to 0-1.

Through the second half they maintained their dominance as they added to their tally with points from Jennifer Lynch, Marian Jagoe, and Clodagh Fitzgerald.

agh Fitzgerald.

Emma Healy had an Aghabullogue goal as they battled to cut the deficit but on the night a stronger Tracton maintained their lead to the finish to run out winners.

**Scorers for Tracton:** M Jagoe 1-4, J Lynch 1-3, A Sinclair 1-0, C Fitzgerald 0-2.

**AGHABULLOGUE:** E Healy 1-1.

**TRACTON:** C Murray; G McCarthy, C Lynch, A Dempsey; M McGuinness, J Kingston, E Collins; E Harrington; K O'Sullivan, R Lyons; J Lynch, C Fitzgerald; M Jagoe, A Sinclair, R Walsh.

Sub: T Harrington for R Walsh.

**AGHABULLOGUE:** N Moynihan; A Duff, Marian Twomey, M O'Leary; C Dennehy, J Twomey, L O'Gorman; T Roche, A Twomey; C Kiely, E Healy, Mairead Twomey; S Dineen, L Ronan, E O'Mahony.

AUG. 2011

## Meath eclipsed by Armagh

by Conall Collier  
Armagh 3-5 Meath 1-10

Meath's bid for All-Ireland Minor C camogie honours was foiled by a brave Armagh side in a thrilling decider at Drogheda today.

Meath looked like they would go on and win the game on a couple of occasions, but the concession of soft goals proved costly.

Roared on by a large crowd, both teams produced an action-packed encounter with the atmosphere 'getting to' a couple of Armagh officials near the end.

The duo raced on to the pitch and were involved in what looked like a 'beated' verbal exchange with the umpires after a Meath point was awarded.

That incident apart, the game was played in a good spirit and Meath were ahead by 1-5 to 1-3 at the interval.

Joanne Mullen (two) and Eadaoin Murphy got the vital goals for Armagh while Meath's Kristina Troy was awarded their 'player-of-the-match' award.

Full report in this week's edition of the Meath Chronicle.



Kristina Troy took the 'player-of-the-match' award today.

## No hope for camogie 'Up for the Match'

CALLS FOR an 'Up for the Match' RTE broadcast for the camogie and ladies football finals appear to have fallen on deaf ears.

Last week Labour Councillor Joe Ryan demanded that the national broadcaster show some 'gender equity' by broadcasting an 'Up for the Match' programme before the women's All Ireland finals, similar to the broadcasts they make annually before the men's hurling and football.

He wrote to the Controller for Programmes of RTE and while he received a response, Joe doesn't expect that his appeal will make much head way.

They referred my letter on to Ryle Nugent, the head of sport even though I think it's more of a variety programme. They thanked me for my interest and said my comments were noted, he said adding that he doubt-

ed there would be any women's 'Up for the Match' any time soon.

Even though Wexford meet Galway in the All Ireland camogie final on September 11, Joe insists that his interest is not purely out of Wexford bias.

'I think they are missing an opportunity. It's a no-brainer,' he said adding that

women's sports deserve recognition.

'It doesn't matter where the teams come from. You rarely see a camogie player on TV though,' he said, adding that even on radio womens sports - with the exception of beach volleyball - are often largely ignored by programmers.

'I'm not hopeful that RTE will suddenly decide to do an 'Up for the Match' for womens sports. Hopefully over the winter they might examine it again and reconsider,' he said.





# to a winning start

## Blackrock are too strong for Sars

Blackrock 2-8  
Sarsfields 0-3

BLACKROCK kept their hopes of booking a semi-final spot in the Evening Echo Intermediate Championship alive in their last game in the round-robin series.

From the throw-in Blackrock were focused and aided by the wind they put in good opening 30 minutes, despite Aisling Whoolley getting Sarsfields off to a good start with an early point.

With Katelynn Hickey, Doireann Ni Mhuiri and Roisin de Faoite pointing Blackrock took the lead.

Orla Barry had one back for Sars but a Donna O'Leary goal a minute from the break gave Blackrock a 1-5 to 0-2 interval lead.

Through the second half the Blackrock defence came under pressure but they were strong all through with Cliona Meaney and Roisin de Faoite impressive.

Doireann Ni Mhuiri and Katelynn Hickey stretched their lead with points to which Edel Murphy replied, however Blackrock finished strong with a Doireann Ni Mhuiri goal and a point from Grace Mulqueen to consolidate victory.

Fr O'Neill's, with four points, are through to the semi-final.

Sarsfields, Blackrock and Carrigaline are on two points each, so if Carrigaline defeat Fr O'Neill's in the last game in the group they go through with Fr O'Neill's.

However, if Fr O'Neill's win there will be a play-off between the other three to decide the second team going through to the semi-finals from the group.

**Scorers for Blackrock:** D Ni Mhuiri 1-2, K Hickey 0-4 (0-3), D O'Leary 1-0, G Mulqueen, R De Faoite (H) 0-1 each.

**Sarsfields:** A Whoolley, A Barry, Edel Murphy (H) 0-1 each.

**BLACKROCK:** S Naughton, T Cummins, C Meaney, S Hanessy, M Hurley, R De Faoite, A Murray, K O'Brien, E Fielding, C Kelleher (C), D O'Leary, K Hickey, G Marum, D Ni Mhuiri, G Mulqueen.

**Subs:** N Wedel for D Ni Mhuiri, N O'Leary for G Marum, C O'Connor for G Mulqueen.

**SARSFIELDS:** E Meaney, R Hyde, A Edwards, N O'Callaghan, A Griffin, D Murphy, C Cashman, Ellen Murphy, Edel Murphy, A Whoolley, O Barry, C Holland, Y O'Callaghan, A Barry, M O'Farrell.

**Sub:** O Keane for Y O'Callaghan (45).  
**Referee:** Oaver Webb (Tracton).

The Carrigaline U14 team that won the Division 2 County Camogie Blitz recently. Pictured here with their team mentors.



## U16 champion gets under way

THE county juvenile board recently made the draw for the U16 championships in all grades, and with underage players returning to school in the next week game will get under way in the first week in September.

In the preliminary and first round games the first club drawn out has home advantage, if games are a draw at full time, extra time will be played.

We will have all the dates and venues in next week's camogie pages.

### U16 A CHAMPIONSHIP

(A) Newtownshandrum v Ballinacorney  
(B) Inniscarra v Buttevant  
(C) Courcey Rovers v Eire Og

### Quarter-finals

(D) Winners of A v Douglas  
(E) Winners of B v C  
(F) Valley Rovers v Cloughduv  
(G) Killeagh v Carrigaline

### Semi-finals

F v D  
G v E

### U16 B CHAMPIONSHIP

**Preliminary round**  
(A) Aghabullogue v Barryroe  
(B) St Finbar's v Na Piarasigh  
(C) St Vincent's v Carrigrohilly  
(D) Fr O'Neill's v St Catherine's  
(E) Ballyhea v Blackrock  
(F) Sliebh Rua v Mallow

### First round

Enniskeane v winner of B  
Ballinacorney v winner of D  
Bishopstown v Glen Rovers  
Sarsfields v Clonsilla  
Winner of E v Tracton  
Winner of F v Millstreet

### Quarter-final

Kilbrittan/Timoleague v Winner of Blackrock/Ballyhea/Millstreet

Brian Dillon's v winner of Sarsfields/Clonsilla

### U16 C CHAMPIONSHIP

#### Preliminary round

(A) Bride Rovers v Dungourney  
(B) Ballinascorney v Sarsfields 2  
(C) St Fanahan's v Douglas 2  
(D) Kildorrery v Charleville

#### First round

(E) Ballygarvan v St Colum's  
(F) Castlelyons v Milford  
(G) Winners of D v Newcestown  
(H) Cobh v winners of A  
(I) Blarney v Ballinora  
(J) Winners of B v Youghal  
(K) Watergrasshill v Grenagh  
(L) Banteer v winners of C

#### Quarter-final

(M) H v J; (N) E v F; (O) I v G; (P) K v L

#### Semi-final

M v P; N v O

Milford boast the strongest all round club team at present. They have strength all over the pitch. I believe this is their greatest chance to take the title, but that doesn't mean they'll do it.

I've been an admirer of Cloughduv's full-back Sinead Corkery for a long time. Once again she gave an outstanding performance three weeks ago. She would be a great asset to the

Cork panel but has been unable to commit. Maybe next year.

Predicting St Catherine's to win over Killeagh tomorrow, I think the St Catherine's and Douglas quarter-final will be a great game. Both sides have two good sets of forwards with St Catherine's coming out on top in that division with the Twomey's, Fiona Cotter, Finola Neville, Jill Hurley and Rachel O'Sullivan. Douglas have Kat-

rina Mackey, Julia White and Aine O'Donovan as their main scorers.

Should Mackey be curtailed, you would have to fancy St Catherine's. Then again Douglas's defence is strong enough with Pam Mackey, the O'Regan's and Emma Kavanagh. This could be a cracker.

First though, St Catherine's need to get over Killeagh and I expect them to have too much firepower up front for

## Oulart advance to another final

OULART-THE BALLAGH 2-17  
ST. MARTIN'S 2-3

REIGNING CHAMPIONS Oulart-The Ballagh stayed on course for another WFC Senior camogie championship title when they recorded a comfortable semi-final victory over St. Martin's in Wexford Park on Wednesday last.

The outcome was never in doubt as they stormed into a 1-4 to nil lead by the eleventh minute when corner-forward Aileen Brennan finished the rebound to the net after an Una Leacy shot was saved by county colleague Mags D'Arcy.

St. Martin's did receive a momentary boost when Lisa Bolger's delivery was struck off the ground past Helena Jacob six minutes before the break to make it 1-7 to 1-2. However, they had the worst possible ending to the half as Una Leacy goalied in added time to leave the holders ahead by ten points (2-9 to 1-2) at the break.

It was mainly one-way traffic on the re-start, and Oulart-The Ballagh could afford the luxury of taking off Wexford duo Una Leacy and Karen Atkinson who were carrying injuries while still easing into a 2-16 to 1-2 lead with seven points on the trot.

Lisa Bolger did pull back a late goal for St. Martin's, but it was a mere consolation. Oulart-The Ballagh will be waiting a while to learn their final opponents as the other side of the draw is held up by an objection.

Glynn-Barntown have taken a case to Leinster Council after losing the points from an unplayed game with Duffry Rovers. Whoever emerges will face St. Ibar's/Sheilmallier in the quarter-final, with Rathnure waiting in the semi-final.

**Oulart-The Ballagh:** Helena Jacob; Karen Atkinson, Ciara Storey, Colleen Atkinson; Stacey Redmond, Mary Leacy, Shauna Sinnott, Shelley Kehoe, Diane Ryan (0-1); Emma Moran (0-1), Ursula Jacob (0-5, 4 frees), Tanya Stamp (0-1); Aileen Brennan (1-1), Una Leacy (1-3, 0-1 '45), Stacey Kehoe (0-5). Subs - Kerrie Dunne for U. Jacob (temp.), Sharon Kehoe for Moran, Dunne for U. Leacy, Aoife O'Connor for K. Atkinson, Louise Sinnott for Stamp.

**St. Martin's:** Mags D'Arcy; Ashling O'Connor, Maira O'Connor, Amy Ryan; Tina Bergin, Noelleen Lambert, Julie Kelly; Aine Codd (0-1 free), Lisa Bolger (1-1, 0-1 free); Orla Power, Ciara Howard, Miriam Lambert; Linda Bolger (1-1), Mary Hayes, Shauna Gleeson.

**Referee:** Justin Heffernan (Blackwater).

### MEDIA NIGHT

The Wexford camogie media night will be held on Thursday, September

1, in Wexford Park. The Senior and Intermediate teams will be training from 7 p.m. to 8.15 p.m., and players and management will then be available for photographs and interviews.

We would love to see a large crowd there to wish the girls well before their All-Ireland finals on September 11. There will be jerseys and other items available for purchase on the night.

Ticketmaster will be down to sell tickets for the matches, and the tickets will also be on sale in Wexford Park on Wednesday, September 7, and Thursday, September 8, from 9.30 a.m. to 12.30 p.m. and from 2.30 p.m. to 4.30 p.m. Ticket prices are: adults €30, students/OAPs €15, Juveniles (Under-16) €5. Tickets can also be purchased online at <http://www.tickets.ie/camogie>.

Family tickets are for two adults and two children and cost €60, and each additional child is €5. Group tickets are available by completing a group application form on [www.camogie.ie](http://www.camogie.ie). These will not be on sale any other way. Group applications will be taken up until Wednesday, September 7, but will not be available after this.



Aileen Brennan (Oulart-The Ballagh) races clear of Amy Ryan (St. Martin's).



## Preview of Wicklow's All-Ireland final meeting with Monaghan

By PETER KEOGH (GAA reporter)  
Wednesday August 24 2011

WICKLOW V. MONAGHAN, 2.30 P.M., SUNDAY, ASHBOURNE, CO. MEATH

Wicklow in a camogie All-Ireland final! Certainly hard for anyone not with their finger on the pulse to believe. Equally unbelievable is the turnaround in little over 12 months that has made this possible. In 2010 Wicklow were unable to field an adult team at inter-county level.

So what has happened to bring about this amazing change of fortunes? That is the question we put to the Chairman of Wicklow Camogie Board Dave Murray and this is what he told us.

"The modern game of inter-county camogie requires not only the same levels of skill, commitment and dedication that can be associated with the men's game of hurling but also requires an increased professional approach to be taken by the management and county board executive to back up the panel.

"In May 2010 the Wicklow County Camogie Board conducted a review of the requirements of the county team and decided that if Wicklow was to prosper then we would require someone with the necessary knowledge and experience to bring the county team to that level. Following a recruitment drive the Wicklow County Board appointed Tara Warren to the role of team manager. A former trainer of the Kilkenny Intermediate camogie team, with an Honours Degree in Sport and Exercise Science, a Masters in Business Management added to the experience and skills she had picked up in her time as star of the Kilkenny camogie team.

"Tara who hails from Johnstown in Kilkenny certainly had the background to guide Wicklow in the right direction. Throughout the year Tara has been backed up by Bridie O'Neill from the Donard-Glen Camogie Club. Bridie has huge experience in the game and has also doubled as the team physiotherapist. For the following months Tara went about assembling her panel of players and was a regular attendee at championship games throughout the county. Training began in earnest in January and given the very cold weather we were very lucky to have the new community hall in Aughrim at our disposal.

"Each of the girls gave a personal commitment to their training program and as the months ticked by the intensity of training increased with two sessions a week the fitness and skill level rose dramatically.

"The group stages of the championship began in July with a trip to Monaghan where Wicklow came away with a draw, Monaghan 3-9, Wicklow 2-12. This was followed by the visit of Kildare which saw the girls secure their first win on a scoreline of Wicklow 2-10, Kildare 0-2. Next up was the away match to Meath where on a very windy day the Wicklow girls had to battle all the way to run out 2-10 to 1-02 winners. Everything was to play for when Monaghan came to Avondale for the return leg and despite scoring more times than the visiting team Wicklow went down by three points, Wicklow 0-13, Monaghan 2-10.

"Having dropped these points it was crucial to get back on track as quickly as possible and the away game to Kildare gave just that opportunity.

"Kildare having beaten Monaghan were right back in with a chance to progress so the stage was set for one of the most important games of the campaign. Wicklow were hampered in the run up to the game by losing key players to injury and it was then that the panel would be really tested. In what was a titanic struggle the Wicklow girls dug deepest to secure the points and the ultimate honour of representing their county in the All-Ireland Junior B Championship final where Wicklow will again face Monaghan.

It is a tremendous honour to represent your county in an All-Ireland final at any grade and it is a great credit to Tara, Brdy and their panel that Wicklow have this opportunity. The work in preparing the team has been outstanding and we hope that a large contingent will travel to support on the day. There is a quiet revolution in Wicklow camogie with a new found sense of belief and professional attitude. In hurling Dublin have Anthony Daly and Limerick have Donal O'Grady in Wicklow we have Tara Warren driving us to improved standards. This is only a beginning. Well said Dave, and a beginning crowned with success is what every lover of camogie in the county will be hoping for (Dave Murray is definitely playing down his own role in all of this). Dublin born with strong Wicklow connections, Dave played hurling and football with Round Towers, Clondalkin before marrying Mary Whelan and coming to live in Shanrock.

With Mary still playing camogie for club and county it is not surprising that he became involved in the game. He was Chairman of the Camogie Board from 2004 to 2008; vice-chairman in 2009 and chairman again in 2010 and 11. His dedication and hard work has played a major role in the revival of camogie at this level in Wicklow.

The likely line out and panel: Nicky Keddy (Kilcoole); Frances Kearns (Kilcoole); Nora O'Neill (Donard-Glen); Róisín Mulford (Kilcoole); Teresa Kehoe (Kiltegan); Mary O'Neill (Donard-Glen); Claire Walsh (Donard-Glen); Sile Whelan (Donard-Glen); Karen Walsh (Donard-Glen); Sinead Byrne (Knockananna); Claire Byrne (Knockananna); Amanda Waters (Donard-Glen); Mary Whelan (Donard-Glen); Kellie Byrne (Knockananna); Laura Manley (Glenealy); April Dickson (Glenealy); Niamh Donnelly (Kilcoole); Carol Murphy (Avondale); Stephanie Rathray (Avondale); Andrea Kealy (Donard-Glen); Lindsey Quinlan (Donard-Glen).



Aug 2011

## Grennan propels Monaghan to victory

Monaghan 1-12  
Wicklow 1-7

At half time in the All-Ireland junior B camogie final in association with RTÉ Sport, it looked as if Wicklow might make be in with a very real chance of claiming ultimate honours. But a combination of Monaghan's guile and Wicklow's inability to capitalise on the elements that were in their favour after the resumption ensured that the silverware travelled north from Ashbourne.

Wicklow would have been satisfied with their first half performance when they trailed by just four points at the interval, 0-7 to 0-3, despite having played into a very strong wind and heavy rain.

Defenders Róisín Mulford and Mary O'Neill were outstanding for the Garden County outfit in this period, along with midfielder Laura Manley, who finished with five points in total. Monaghan just had a greater all-round strength however and withstood all Wicklow had to throw with them, as well as the vagaries of the weather to be victorious. Full-forward Marie Grennan was in scintillating form, bringing her tally to seven points, four of which came from play. Michelle Morgan was another outstanding contributor and Nicola Morgan's goal ensured that they were eight points clear by the time Sinead Byrne goalied in the dying seconds for Wicklow.

Scorers - Monaghan: Marie Greenan 0-7(3fs); Eleanor McQuaid 0-2; Karen Boyle, Shauna Finnegan, Michelle Morgan 0-1(f)  
Wicklow: Laura Manley 0-5(3fs); Sinead Byrne 1-0; Mary Whelan, Amanda Waters 0-1 each  
Monaghan: Róisín McKenna; Louise O'Connell, Aisling Greenan, Joanne McSkane; Edel Kieran, Isobel Kieran, Mary Meehan; Michelle Morgan, Siobhán McKenna; Mairéad McCarron, Shauna Finnegan, Eleanor McQuaid; Nicola Morgan, Marie Greenan, Karen Boyle  
Wicklow: Nicky Keddy; April Dickenson, Mary O'Neill, Nora O'Neill; Róisín Mulford, Teresa Keogh, Claire Whelan; Laura Manley, Karen Walsh; Claire Byrne, Sinead Byrne, Amanda Waters; Mary Whelan, Sile Whelan, Kellie Byrne  
Referee: David Carroll (Clare)

## Murphy goal snatches title for Armagh

Armagh 3-5  
Meath 1-10

Two evenly matched units produced a thrilling All-Ireland minor C camogie final in Drogheda that ended in a welter of excitement before Armagh snatched victory with an Eadaoin Murphy goal five minutes from time.

This was a game that ebbed and flowed throughout the hour with each side having a period of ascendancy before Murphy's telling late contribution.

In the end it was the goals that proved the difference between two good teams. Ironically, it was Meath that hit the net first through the excellent Maggie Randle, who was a constant threat to the winners' full-back line.

That gave Meath the upper hand and though Joanne Mullen struck for the first of her two goals with a low shot, it was the Royals that led at half time, 1-5 to 1-3.

Mullen found the Meath net once again four minutes after the resumption but points from Christina Troy and Randle restored the Leinster side's advantage with time running out.

There was another kick in Armagh though and Eadaoin Murphy's delivery from distance deceived Meath goalkeeper Aoife Flynn to go all the way to the net. That pushed the Orchard County representatives into a one-point lead.

Meath deserve tremendous credit though as they battled back once again and created one last opportunity but team captain, Cheyanne O'Brien's shot drifted just wide of the posts.

Mullen and Kirsty Sheridan were amongst the stars for the new champions, while Randle and Troy tried everything they knew to claim the silverware for Meath.

Scorers - Armagh: Joanne Mullen 2-1; Eadaoin Murphy 1-0; Rachael Merry 0-2; Kirsty Sheridan, Laura Smyth 0-1 each  
Meath: Maggie Randle 1-3; Kristina Troy 0-5(3fs); Cheyanne O'Brien 0-1, Lauren McCann 0-1 each  
Armagh: Róisín Hughes; Claire Garvey, Emer Hayes, Orla Fox; Catherine McCooey, Hannah McGeown, Aoife Murphy; Laura Smyth, Caoimhe Smith; Kirsty Sheridan, Eadaoin Murphy, Michelle Morgan; Joanne Mullen, Nicole Nugent, Rachael Merry  
Meath: Aoife Flynn; Susie Gartland, Hazel Coleman, Ellen Burke; Ailbhe Lynch, Adrienne McCann, Lisa Carroll; Kristina Troy, Cheyanne O'Brien; Anna Fagan, Stacey Duignan, Tara Murphy; Lauren McCann, Niamh Kirby, Maggie Randle  
Referee: Justin Heffernan (Wexford)

## Underage finals down for decision

### CAMOGIE

THREE underage finals are down for decision this weekend, writes MARY NEWMAN.

The junior A championship final also takes place on a fixture list that has four championship games at senior B level.

### FIXTURES

#### TONIGHT

Evening Echo Senior B Championship: Clonakilty v Eire Óg Brinoy 6.30pm.

#### TOMORROW

Evening Echo Senior B Championship: Ballinacorney v Mallow Castle Road 6.30pm

U14A League Final: Sarsfields v Kilbrittain / Timoleague Castle Road 7pm.

U16B Championship: Ballyhea v Blackrock, Ballyhea 3pm.

#### SUNDAY

Evening Echo Junior A Championship Final: Douglas "2" v Buttevant, Blarney, noon.

Evening Echo Senior B Championship: Valley Rovers v Kilbrittain/Timoleague Newcestown 1pm; Bishopstown v Glen Rovers Castle Road 2pm.

U14B League Final: Fr O'Neill's v Aghabullogue Castle Road, noon.

U14C League Final: Newcestown v Ballinacorney Enniskeane, noon.

U16B championship: St Vincent's v Carrigtwohill, St Vincent's, 6pm.

U16C Championship: Ballygarvan v St Copt's, Ballygarvan, 6.30pm; Castletyons v Milford, Castletyons, noon.

#### MONDAY

Evening Echo Junior B Championship Semi-Finals: Youghal v Na Paraigh, venue and time to be confirmed, Sliabh Rua v Ballincollig, Ballinacorney, 6.30pm.

#### TUESDAY

U16B Championship: Fr O'Neill's v St Catherine's, Fr O'Neill's, 6.30pm.

#### WEDNESDAY

U16A Championship: Courmay Rovers v Eire Óg, Ballinacorney, 6.30pm

## O'Kelly to referee All-Ireland senior final

**CAMOGIE:** Mike O'Kelly, of the Ballyhea club in Cork, will referee the All-Ireland senior camogie final between Galway and Wexford in Croke Park on Sunday (4pm).

Clarecastle's John Dolan will take charge of the intermediate decider between Wexford and Antrim (2pm) while Walter Cole, (Buttevant) is in the middle for the Premier Junior final between Waterford and Down (12pm).

Sunday: All-Ireland Senior final: Galway v Wexford, Croke Park, 4pm.

All-Ireland Intermediate final: Antrim v Wexford, Croke Park, 2pm.

All-Ireland Premier Junior final: Down v Waterford, Croke Park, noon.



Lynda O'Connell,



### Senior B Championship

6-7  
1-4

ahead with a point before goals from Michelle Barry and Ciara Tobin gave them a cushion heading into the break.

Sars put the game beyond their opponents with a goal on the restart, Lucy Kelly finishing to the net. Holly Herlihy added a point. Kilbrittan battled hard but found Sars keeper Chloe Casey impassable, twice in row denying them with superb saves. Aine Crowley added apoint to the Kilbrittan's tally but goals from Edel Lonergan and Courtney Casey had Sars out of sight. Eileen O'Neill added a point to the Kilbrittan tally but with Edel Lonergan and Holly Herlihy having added points Sars collected their first Under 14A County league title.

**Sarsfields:** Chloe Casey; S McCarthy, L Casserly (c), L Kelly; R Kelleher, K Barry, A O'Lehan; M McCarthy, C Mullane; M Barry, E Casey, C Casey; C Tobin, E Loneragan Herlihy. Sub's: J Murphy for C Mullane (40), R Hyde for C Casey (58), H Ferguson for S McCarthy (58), J Long for L Kelly (59). Scorers: M Barry 2-1, H Herlihy 0-4, E Loneragan 1-1, C Tobin, L Kelly, Courtney Casey 1-each, L Casserly 0-1 (45).

**Killbriar:** Timoleague: S Butler; E Collins, A Conside, L O'Sullivan; S O'Sullivan, E O'Neill, S Byrne; A Dowling, S Burke; S O'Donovan, A Crowley, C Walsh; E Harte, N Butler, E O'Riordan. Sub's: O Sheehan for E Harte (h/t), S O'Neill for A O'Sullivan (50), A Crowley for S O'Donovan (52), K Wall for E O'Riordan (53).  
**Scores:** N Butler 1-0, S Burke (f), E O'Neill (f), A Crowley, A Dowling 0-teach.  
**Referee:** Ger Sheehan (Douglas).

2-11  
2-5

Sinead O'Neill had a first half goal and points from Marie O'Donovan. Sinead O'Neill and Sharon Whelton gave Clon a one point interval lead 1-3 to 0-5. Ballinhassig kept in touch with three Sinead O'Callaghan points while Aisling O'Brien added a fourth before Sinead O'Callaghan hit her fourth. Emma Jordan hit a goal that gave them the lead.

**Ballinhessig:** G. O'Callaghan; K. Coleman, E. O'Donovan, H. Cullinane; E. O'Sullivan, A. Coleman, S. McCarthy; M. Kelleher, L. Jordan; D. Coomey, E. Jordan, A. O'Brien; A. Kilmartin, S. O'Callaghan, O. Murray.  
**Scorers:** S. O'Callaghan 1-6 (1-1f), E. Jordan 1-0 D. Coomey 0-2, A. O'Brien, S. McCarthy, L. Jordan 0-1 each, Sub: C. O'Leary for A. Coleman.

**Clonakilty:** S O'Donovan; S O'Brien, H O'Regan, A O'Neill; A O'Hea, C O'Mahony, C Nagle; S Forristal, J Brennan; M O'Donovan, C O'Regan (cl), S O'Neill; S Whelton, A Deasy, E Jennings. Subs: L Collins for C O'Mahony, H Coughlan for C O'Regan. Scorers: S O'Neill-1, H Coughlan 1-0, M O'Donovan 0-20-10, S Whelton H O'Regan 0-1 each.

Mallow	2-12
Newcastown	1-9

MALLOW overcame Newcestown as they recorded their second victory.

Colleen Long and Colette Desmond were to the fore as Newcestown set about putting Malloy under pressure and with the pair notching up seven points between them in the opening Newcestown led at the break 0-7 to 0-6.

On the resumption Mallow took control, Katie Buckley hitting two goals that in effect was the difference between the sides at the full-time whistle.

**Malloy:** S O'Connor; L Tanner; K O'Halloran, K McAuliffe; J O'Donnell, A O'Rourke, K Healy, E Ferde, B O'Sullivan; E Coakley, J Fitzpatrick, K O'Brien; K Coakley, M Browne, K Buckley. **Scorers:** K Buckley 2-6, M Browne 0-3, K Coakley, K O'Brien 0-teach.

**Newcastle:** L O'Sullivan; T Hurley, F Deasy, M Crowley; R Desmond, A Coughlan, F Crowley; G O'Mahony; T McCarthy; A Crowley, K Murphy, C Long; C Desmond, A Buckley, G Cronin. **Subs:** E Crowley for K Murphy, E Kenneally for A Crowley, S Deasy for G O'Mahony. **Scorers:** C Long 0-6 (0-3F), C Desmond 0-3, G Cronin 1-0.

**Baillinhassig** 2-8  
**Mallow** 0-10

DESPITE finishing with just fourteen players Ballinahassig hung on to make it four wins out of four to finish top of their group in the round robin series of game in the Evening Echo Senior B championship and ensure themselves a semi-final spot. Two goals from effective full forward Maggie Collins was the difference between the sides at the finish with the first coming two minutes into injury in the opening half.

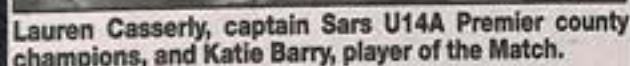
Emma Jordan added a point to give Ballinhassig a 1-5 to 0-4 inter-

Mallow had to dig deep and three points in row from Katie Buckley had them back into the contest. O'Sullivan who had an outstanding game for Ballinhassig steadied the ship with a long range pointed free. With eight minutes remaining Ballinhassig had to battle with all their might to protect their four point lead, but battle they did. Eimear O'Sullivan pointed as they held their composure and lead, Katie Buckley responded for Mallow but it took a triple save from keeper Sinead O'Connor to deny Ballinhassig a late goal.

Mallow now meet Clonakilty in their last game where a win will guarantee them a semi-final spot while a Clonakilty victory would ensure them a play-off with Mallow. If Mallow were to lose and Newcestown beat Eire Og, Newcestown could get into that play-off.

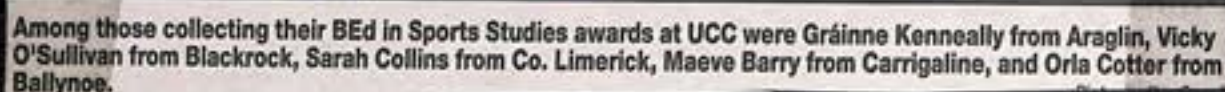
**Ballinhaslig:** G O'Callaghan; K Coleman  
Kilmartin, E O'Donovan, M Reardon, E  
O'Sullivan, H Cullinane; M Kelleher, S  
McCarthy; L Jordan Coomey, E Jordan; O  
Murray, M Collins, A O'Brien. Sub: S  
O'Callaghan for M Collins (52). Scorers: M  
Collins 2-0, E O'Sullivan 0-3 (0-11), E Jordan  
0-2, L Jordan, A O'Brien (1), D Coomey  
0-1 each.

**Mallow:** S O'Connor; K Mc Auliffe, K O'Halloran, L Tanner; B O'Sullivan, K Healy, A O'Rourke; M Browne, E Buckley, A Fitzmaurice, K Coakley, M Byrne; B Gansley, K Buckley, K O'Brien, Sub: E Forde for K Mc Auliffe duty. **Scorers:** K Buckley 0-7 (1-0), B Gansley, M Byrne, M Browne (10-0).



**CONGRATULATIONS** this week to the Sarsfields under-14A camogie team on their recent win in the county premier championship, under the experienced and watchful eyes of coach/ selectors Lillian Zinkant, Ger Casey and Eithne Allen.

The team was captained by Lauren Casserly and this was the team's first year playing in the premier division. They defeated Kilbrittain by 6-7 to 1-4. Player of the match was Katie Barry.





## Hassig class stands to them

By MARY NEWMAN

Ballinhassig 2-11  
Clonakilty 2-5

A CLOSELY contested Evening Echo Senior B championship clash saw Ballinhassig finally get the better of a determined Clonakilty side to record their third victory in a row and as a result ensure themselves of a semi-final spot.

A Sinead O'Neill first-half goal helped Clonakilty set the foundations for their interval lead and with Marie O'Donovan, Sinead O'Neill and Sharon Whelton on target with points, Clon held their slight advantage to the break where it was 1-3 to 0-5 in their favour.

Ballinhassig failed to be rattled by Clonakilty's good start and they kept in touch through the opening half with three Sinead O'Callaghan points in a row.

Aisling O'Brien added their fourth before Sinead O'Callaghan added another as they trailed by just one at the break.

Ballinhassig stamped their mark on proceedings early in the second half. Shauna McCarthy hit a point before Emma Jordan struck for a crucial goal to give them the lead.

With the game delicately poised the sides swapped points Marie O'Donovan and Hazel O'Regan kept Clonakilty in touch with points, but Ballinhassig remained focused with

Deirdre Coomey was on target with a point while Sinead O'Callaghan converted two frees and one from play holding their advantage.

A Hannah Coughlan goal for Clon failed to break the Ballinhassig grip as Lisa Jordan pointed to ensure their place in the competition's closing stages.

**Scorers for Ballinhassig:** S O'Callaghan 1-6 (1-1 f), E Jordan 1-0, D Coomey 0-2, A O'Brien, S McCarthy, L Jordan 0-1 each.  
**Clonakilty:** S O'Neill 1-1, H Coughlan 1-0, M O'Donovan 0-2 (0-1f), S Whelton, H O'Regan 0-1 each.

**Ballinhassig:** G O'Callaghan; K Coleman, E O'Donovan, H Cullinane; E O'Sullivan, A Coleman, S McCarthy; M Kelleher, L Jordan; D Coomey, E Jordan, A O'Brien; A Kilmarin, S O'Callaghan, O Murray.

**Subs:** C O'Leary for A Coleman.

**CLONAKILTY:** S O'Donovan; S O'Brien, H O'Regan, A O'Neill; A O'Hea, C O'Mahony, C Nagle; S Forristal, J Brennan; M O'Donovan, C O'Regan (c); S O'Neill; S Whelton, A Deasy, E Jennings.

**Subs:** L Collins for C O'Mahony, H Coughlan for G O'Regan.

# Excitement builds



The Glen Rovers U10 team, winners of the Declan Crowley memorial trophy in Ballinhassig

## Crowley Cup keeps getting stronger

NOW in its 11th year, the Declan Crowley memorial U10 tournament, organised by the Ballinhassig club, has gone from strength-to-strength as the numbers participating continue to grow, writes MARY NEWMAN.

Over the years the event has generated huge interest amongst underage players and mentors, as the Ballinhassig club honours the memory of one of their former mentors who passed away at a young age. From humble beginnings, with six clubs participating in the cup, the competition has grown to such an extent that there are now two finals for the clubs that don't reach the Cup final — these clubs participate in the

Joan Lucy Shield and Tony Jeffers Plate.

This year, 12 teams battled it out for honours and there was a change of format to previous years with the competition now played under the Go Game rules, but nevertheless the youngsters participated with determination as they gave it their all to reach the various finals. The Joan Lucy Shield, which is sponsored by Kinsale Lions Club, was presented by Patrick Lucey. Denis Healy, who was representing the Lions Club on the day, presented the Tony Jeffers Plate on behalf of the Jeffers family.

Mary Crowley presented the Declan

Crowley memorial trophy in memory of her late husband to Glen Rovers captain Lisa O'Riordan, after they beat Ballinhassig in the final. Angela Murphy, chairwoman of Ballinhassig camogie club, spoke on behalf of the club and paid tribute to the clubs who participated. In the Joan Lucy Shield final Bishopstown came out on top as they defeated Carrigaline; the Tony Jeffers Shield was won by Valley Rovers who overcame Ballygarvan.

The clubs who participated were: Carrigaline, Sliabh Rua, Barryroe, Courcy Rovers, Bishopstown, Ballincollig, Valley Rovers Ballygarvan, Glen Rovers, St Finbarr's, Ballinhassig A, Ballinhassig B.



LINDA MELLERICK

## CAMOGIE

THIS stage of the senior club championship is great, when the cream of the crop is left and the real battles begin.

The dates for the quarter-finals have been made with Cloughduv-Milford and Killeagh-Douglas down for decision this day week, in what will hopefully be a double header and draw a big crowd.

Courcy Rovers versus Carrigdhoun will play while Inniscarra and Ballygarvan go head-to-head on September 17.

Killeagh may have felt a bit offended by my dismissal of their chances against St Catherine's last weekend, yet I believe it suited them down to the ground. To be fair they are senior debutants and had only one senior championship game to their credit ahead of last weekend, an opening round against Barryroe.

Considering Barryroe acknowledge they are not senior status at this point in time, it was difficult to assess just how good Killeagh were.

I don't know what they'll use as a motivating tool in the dressing room ahead of future games, because after last Sunday's performance I will be very slow to write them off as should any team they come across.

It was a great performance. In particular I thought Killeagh's defence was outstanding.

Aoife Walsh hugely impressed me; I love attacking corner-backs. Rather than wait Aoife burst out to every ball that broke down her wing and cleanly gathered.

Niamh O'Keeffe had a very steady game in the opposite corner while Mary O'Connor stood out head and shoulders.

I was disappointed with St Catherine's. They did come across a highly driven Killeagh side that hunted in packs, but I would have expected more

AUG. 2011



The victorious Buttevant junior A camogie team after defeating Douglas in the final. See tomorrow's Evening Echo for two pages of camogie match reports.

Picture: Eddie O'Hare



# as season hots up

## Mallow keep run going

By MARY NEWMAN

Mallow 2-11  
Newcestown 1-9



The Ballinhassig B team, pictured at the recent Declan Crowley memorial U10 camogie tournament in Ballinhassig. Picture: Howard Crowley

## Douglas know what success tastes like

**TOMORROW**  
Evening Echo Junior A  
Championship final:  
Douglas 2 v Buttevant,  
Blarney, 12pm.

BUTTEVANT and Douglas 2 will battle it out for the Evening Echo Junior A crown when they meet to decide the first championship final of 2011, writes MARY NEWMAN.

It's a repeat of the league final played in early May when Buttevant took their first trophy by a five-point margin.

Douglas are fielding their second adult side and it's a great achievement for them to be contesting the final. They overcame a fancied Enniskeane in a high scoring semi-final.

Buttevant had to be at their best to overcome last season's junior B champions Kildorrery by a point.

In the league final, Douglas enjoyed a lot of possession but they failed to breach the strong Buttevant defence for

vital scores. Since the league final, they have lost the services of Tracy McCarthy and Rachel O'Sullivan to their senior team, but they will be hoping to have Claire Shine available this weekend, added to this they have plenty of experience in players such as Fiona McSweeney, Clara Kavanagh, Gemma Long and Siobhán O'Brien.

Buttevant have put in huge preparations for this final and the parish is buzzing with ex-

citement, they are determined to make it a double and win promotion to intermediate.

Dawn O'Keeffe, Eimear Harrington, Dawn Farrell and Darina O'Callaghan all lined out at underage level with Cork, O'Keeffe captaining the U16s in 2006 and they will not lack experience.

Several of the Douglas side have won a huge amount of honours at underage level, but this will not worry Buttevant.

of a resistance.

While they looked to battle on I felt that deep down they gave up before the final whistle. I don't think their opening round against Rockbawn did them any favours.

They have relied on Orla Cotter so much. I believe Orla's nasty injury earlier in the season has affected her more than she may even realise herself. While the visual scares might heal, it's a different story mentally. I

think she'll be back to her brilliant best next season though.

Douglas will have their work cut out for them in what will be an intriguing battle. Their opening round defeat to Cloughduv will have shaken

them and it was hard to judge their response against their back-door victory over Barryroe on a score of 2-27 to 0-6.

The Cloughduv and Milford clash is also a talking point. To many, Cloughduv are the quiet ones in the corner who are working away and ready to pounce. The more you breakdown Cloughduv's starting 15, the more you realise they have oceans of talent spread throughout the pitch.

In defence, Joanne O'Callaghan, Sinead Corkery and Emma Dunne; at midfield Jean Lucey; Una O'Donoghue, Breige Corkery, (should Cloughduv opt to continue with her in the forwards), Aoife Barry Murphy and Caoimhe Creedon lie in wait up front.

Sometimes when strong players are absent from a side others step up to the mark. Milford had a fine outing against Inniscarra and welcome back Emer and Marie Watson for the tie with Cloughduv.

Will that make others rest on their laurels? They need to be conscious of this and not focus every ball in only the Watson's direction.

It's been a while since Carrighoun took to the field after their comprehensive victory over Carbery in the divisional round. They and Courcy Rovers will be a tight affair. Marion Jagoe, Emer O'Sullivan, Liz Bugler won't give Rachel Moloney and Sarah Hayes an easy passage. How the divisional sides' preparation has gone will be a telling factor.

Finally Inniscarra and Ballygarvan will do battle for a spot in the semis. Ballygarvan will give Inniscarra a test but I expect the champions to pull away and reach the semi-final.

The quarter-finals next weekend will be a welcome distraction for the Cork players as the All-Ireland camogie final takes place.

It's hard not being involved once you've been there.

It's a good time for Cork referees with Mike O'Kelly of Ballyhea given the honour of officiating at the All-Ireland senior camogie final and Walter Cole of Buttevant the junior final.

I implore them both to let the games flow. Let the best woman win the 50-50 ball and please don't blow it up for the slightest infringement.

MALLOW continue to impress as they overcame Newcestown to make it two wins out of two in the Evening Echo Senior B championship round-robin series.

Despite trailing by a point at the interval Mallow upped the pace considerably in the second half to run out winners with six points to spare.

Colleen Long and Colette Desmond were a big threat up front as Newcestown set the pace of the game, and with the pair notching up seven points between them in the opening half Newcestown led 0-7 to 0-6.

Once again Katie Buckley proved a hand full up front as she hit two vital goals for Mallow.

In the opening half she was on target with points, ably assisted by Michelle Browne Katherine Coakley and Kathleen O'Brien.

On the resumption Mallow dug deep and with Katie Buckley striking for those two goals they took control.

Buckley added points to the Mallow tally as Newcestown battled to get back into contention. Grainne Cronin had a Newcestown goal while Colette Desmond and Colleen Long added points, however with Michelle Browne Kathleen O'Brien and Katie Buckley finding the range Mallow ran out winners to record their second victory.

With the group games now at the half way stage it's Mallow and Ballinhassig who lead the way as the battle for the two semi-finals spots continues this weekend, with Mallow in action against Ballinhassig, while Clonakilty and Eire Og, who are still also in the hunt also meet.

Scorers for Mallow: K. Buckley 2-6, M. Browne 0-3, K. Coakley, K. O'Brien 0-1 each.

Newcestown: C. Long 0-6 (0-3 ft), C. Desmond 0-3, G. Cronin 1-0.

MALLOW: S. O'Connor; L. Tanner, K. O'Halloran, K. McAuliffe; J. O'Donnell, A. O'Rourke, K. Healy; E. Forde, B. O'Sullivan; E. Coakley, J. Fitzpatrick, K. O'Brien; K. Coakley, M. Browne, K. Buckley.

NEWCESTOWN: L. O'Sullivan; T. Hurley, F. Deasy, M. Crowley; R. Desmond, A. Coughlan, F. Crowley; G. O'Mahony, T. McCarthy; A. Crowley, K. Murphy, C. Long; C. Desmond, A. Buckley, G. Cronin.

Subs: E. Crowley for K. Murphy; E. Kennedy for A. Crowley, S. Deasy for G. O'Mahony.

## Wexford have extra incentive

CAMOGIE

All-Ireland Intermediate Final  
Antrim v Wexford  
Croke Park, 2.0

ANTRIM appear in their fourth final in less than 12 months. They captured the Premier Junior title last year after a dramatic replay, while they lost the League Two final, by the slimmest of margins in April.

The Joe Baldwin-trained team has become accustomed to pressure finals, and the Ulster side will relish today's encounter. They edged through after a dramatic semi-final win over Limerick. Teenage star Orlagh O'Hara scored the match-winning goal in injury time as Antrim won 2-11 to 2-9.

However, they face an entirely different proposition in Wexford who are seasoned campaigners and driven by the pain of last year's defeat.

The performance of the mercurial Jane Adams is crucial to Antrim,

in addition to midfielders Rhona Torney and Colleen Doherty. Wexford will rely upon score-getter Clara O'Connor and the lightning pace of Linda Bolger, while Aine Codd is a vital cog at the heart of the defence. Spurred on by last year, Wexford should prove too strong.

Antrim: M. Graham; C. Carey, A. Martin, A. McCall; B. O'Leary, E. Connolly, A. Jackson; C. Doherty, R. Torney, M. Convery, N. McGuinness, C. Hamill; K. McAleese, J. Adams, L. McAleese.

Wexford: H. Jacob; C. Atkinson, B. Holohan, F. Doran; L. O'Leary, A. Codd, L. Bolger, S. Kehoe, S. Nolan; L. Codd, B. Carran, S. Redmond; C. O'Connor, F. Rochford, L. Bolger.

All-Ireland Junior Final  
Down v Waterford  
Croke Park, 12.0

WATERFORD head to GAA HQ for their third year in a row, determined to capture a title which has so far eluded them after heartbreaking defeats in the last two years. Down, on the other hand, make their first appearance since 2004.

Little separates the teams, and

whichever side displays the greater mental resilience will collect the All-Ireland crown. Can Waterford shake off the shackles of those previous defeats or will Down's youthful exuberance carry them through?

Waterford's Patricia Jackman, a stalwart of the side and a three-time Poc Fada champion, is a crucial cog, while up front Karen Kelly and captain Nicola Morrissey have huge roles to play. Down will be relying on captain Lisa McCrickard at centre-forward while Fionnuala Carr is the linchpin of a team-tough defence.

Waterford defeated the Ulster side in the round robin championship stages but it will matter little today with the stakes higher. Down to win but by a tiny margin.

Down: K. Fegan; O. Maginn, C. McGovern; E. McCormick; P. Gribbin, F. Carr, K. Tinnelly; L. McPolin, K. McMullan; C. McGahey; L. McCrickard, K. O'Higgins; K. Gribbin, S. L. Carr, N. Millon.

Waterford: A. O'Brien; E. Hannon, J. Simpson; K. M. Hearn; S. Kiernan, C. Rafter, G. Kennedy; P. Jackman, D. Fahy; N. Rockett, N. Morrissey; A. Hannon; R. Geoghegan, K. Kelly, Z. O'Donoghue.



# Meet the real



Above from left: junior captains Lisa McCrickard of Down; and Nicola Morrissey of Waterford; senior captains Ursula Jacob of Wexford; and Brenda Hanney of Galway; and intermediate captains Jane Adams of Antrim, and Colleen Atkinson of Wexford. Left: camogie president Joan O'Flynn yesterday. BRIAN LAWLESS / SPORTSFILE

## Ads not so 'Hunky Dory' as campaign sparks fury ahead of camogie final

**Cliona Foley and Grainne Cunningham**

THE GAA's finest female players can beat the socks off scantily clad models as role models for young girls, the organisation said yesterday.

Camogie president Joan O'Flynn lashed out at what she called the "gratuitous" representation of women, dressed as GAA players, in an advertising campaign for Hunky Dorys crisps.

Ms O'Flynn said the multi-media campaign, which features women wearing revealing crop tops in sport poses, was particularly ill-timed given that camogie's top teams will be starring in Croke Park this Sunday.

"This is the week when our very best players - top-class female athletes who demonstrate the very best skills of their gender in sport and are ideal role models for young girls - will be lining out in our All-Ireland finals."

"To see such gratuitous and exploitative images of women being linked with sport, and also taking up

valuable space in the media in the week of our All-Ireland finals, is particularly distasteful and disappointing," she added.

The Wexford senior camogie team will be looking for a two in a row against Galway as part of a treble-header of Gala All-Ireland camogie finals in Croke Park this weekend.

### Provocative

This is not the first time Hunky Dorys has been criticised for its provocative advertising campaigns - last year, the Advertising Standards Authority of Ireland (ASAI) ruled that similar ads for Hunky Dorys, but with a rugby theme, had caused grave and widespread offence and should remain permanently withdrawn from all media, including the advertiser's website.

The ads, which featured women in revealing tops playing rugby under straplines such as "Are you staring at my crisps?" and "Tackle these", provoked a record 300 complaints.

And yesterday, ASAI chief



executive Frank Goodman said his organisation had already received 30 complaints in relation to the new campaign.

But last night, Ray Coyle, CEO of Largo Foods, which owns Hunky Dorys, defended the ad campaign, saying that as a medium-sized Irish

company "we have to attract attention one way or other".

He said that Largo Foods did not have pockets as deep as Unilever, which is currently running the "racy" Lynx advertising campaign.

Mr Coyle said last year's campaign was a huge success,

## TEAM MATES

### CAMOGIE

Mary Leacy,  
Wexford

**Most skilful:** Katrina Parrock, her finish is deadly. I wouldn't like to be a goalie facing one of her shots.

**Best trainer:** Noeleen Lambert, because she always puts in 100% and is very underrated.

#### Worst trainer:

Kate Kelly, she'll kill me for that.

**Best dresser:** Claire O'Connor, she's a very stylish lady.

**Worst dresser:** I won't say a word or I'll be killed but my sister Una always steals my clothes so I'll put her in there for that.

**Fastest:** We presume it's our goalie Mags D'Arcy, but she won't take us on in a race.

**Slowest:** Lenny Holohan is always last in every race.

**Valnest:** Deirdre Codd and Ciara Storey.

**Best with media:** Kate Kelly, she gets most of the interviews.

**Shyest:** Catherine O'Loughlin, butter wouldn't melt in her mouth.

**Best at other sports:** Deirdre Codd, she plays rugby, soccer, kayaking... you could even spot her in the Slaney.

**Best with gadgets:** Mags D'Arcy, she's always downloading music and has given us all CDs.

**Best grubber:** Una Leacy and Bridget Curran are always first in for the food after training.

**Best car:** I'll just leave it like this, I wish we all had boyfriends like Karen Atkinson's.

**Superstitious:** Myself. I couldn't tell you why though.

## Family affair for Croke deciders

IT will be a massive family occasion at Croke Park on Sunday when no less than eight sets of Wexford sisters will play in either the senior or intermediate All-Ireland camogie finals.

Wexford, the reigning senior champions, will play Galway in a rematch of last year's final, while the intermediate side will be seeking to go one better than last year's decider defeat by Offaly.

This year senior boss JJ Walsh is also managing

### KARL O'KANE reports

the intermediate side as they bid to do the double.

The two sides, who train and work together, are an extremely close knit bunch, with players moving between the two sides at stages of the season.

Walsh said: "There is huge competition and I think it does benefit us that they are working together and so many of them are sisters, relations and clubmates."

### Cousins

"There are two Jacobs, five O'Connors, two Atkinsons, two Lacey's, two Keoghs, two Holohans."

"There are eight different sets of sisters and then there are cousins."

Walsh enjoyed senior success last year, but intermediate success eluded a Wexford side, which came close against Offaly.

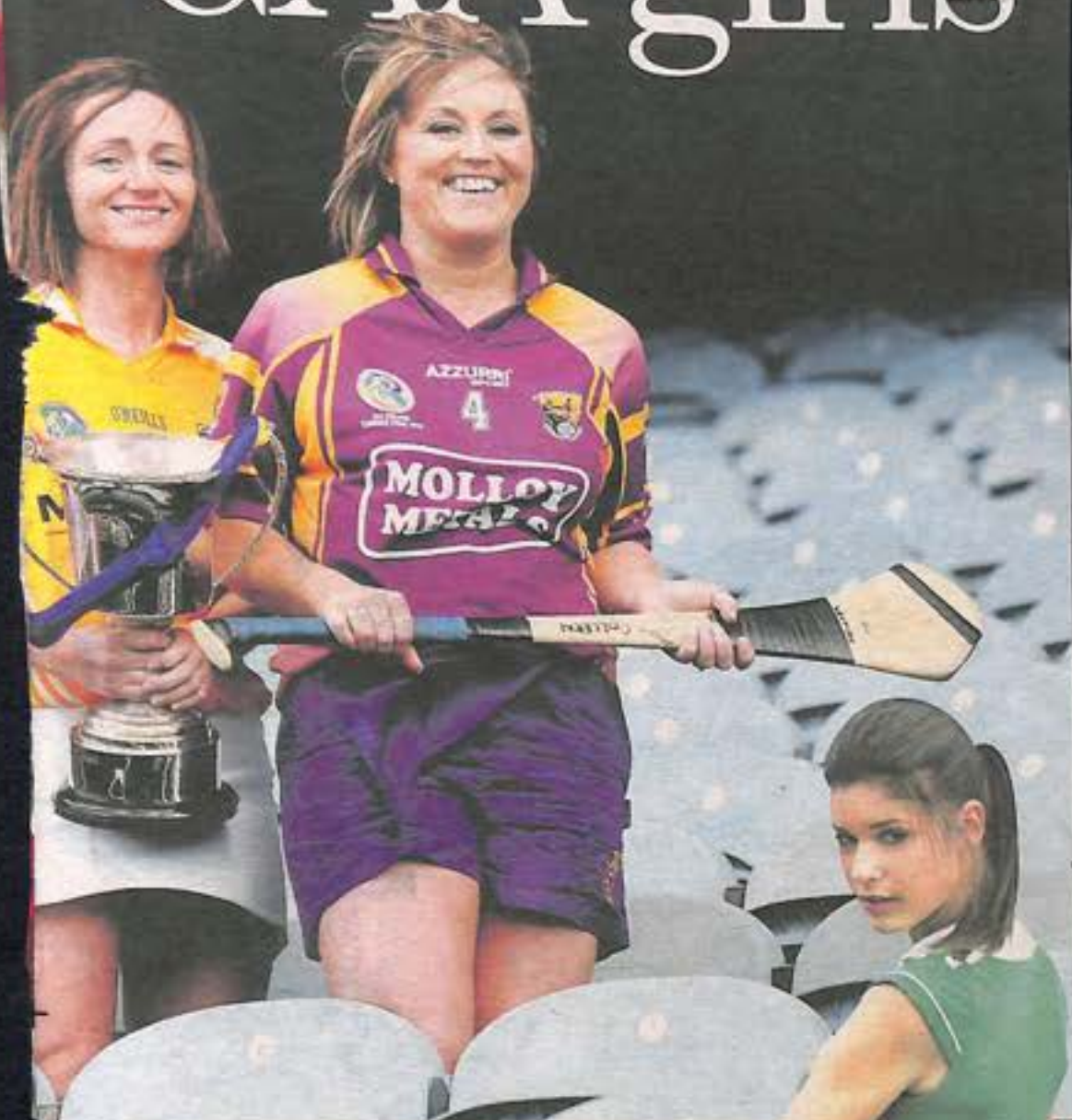
Walsh said: "Offaly didn't get any lucky goals or anything. Wexford didn't perform to their ability and Offaly did."



SPECIAL OCCASION: Senior captains Brenda Hanney of Galway (left) and Ursula Jacob of Wexford



# GAA girls



despite the complaints, and resulted in 300,000 hits on the Largo website.

He said it boosted sales in Ireland by 14pc initially and by 8pc in the long term and increased sales in Northern Ireland, where Hunky Dorys had a smaller foothold, by 25pc.

He said the current campaign, which is mainly print-based but does include a number of outdoor poster sites, had cost in the region of €600,000.

## Supporters

The Ashbourne, Co Meath, company's latest campaign has a tag-line that states 'Proud supporters of Gaelic Football', even though it does not have any formal sponsorship with Croke Park, which means that the GAA may step in now to try to stop the brand piggy-backing on its image.

However, the company does sponsor GAA teams within the Royal County.

It sponsors reigning county senior football champions Skyrne and another local gaelic football side, Curraha, as well as Navan rugby club.

But Mr Coyle proffered a splinter of hope for female athletes when he promised the campaign was the last of its kind.

Ms O'Flynn said she was particularly disappointed to see such a campaign trying to cash-in on gaelic games, particularly when it came out

**Largo Foods's latest campaign has the tagline 'Proud Supporters of Gaelic Football'.**

just before camogie's "real female sports stars performing on their biggest day of their year".

"Thankfully there are increasing numbers of commercial companies getting involved to sponsor and support women's sport and we are fortunate to have one ourselves in RTE," she added, ahead of the televised finals.

They are expected to attract 20,000 supporters to Croke Park on the sport's 80th anniversary and tickets for the big treble-header are €30 for adults, €15 for students/senior citizens and €5 for U16s.

Next Sunday's finalists include inspirational Antrim defender Rhona Torney, who defied a heart condition and medical advice last year to win a junior All-Ireland and returns this season in the intermediate final against Wexford.

Waterford and Down contest the junior decider.

## CAMOGIE

### Cliona Foley

GALWAY manager Noel Finn believes they have fixed the weakness that contributed heavily to them losing two All-Ireland senior finals in the past three years.

The Tribeswomen managed only three points from play in last year's narrow two-point defeat (1-10 to 1-12) by Wexford and struggled similarly in the 2008 decider. But Finn says that his side have addressed that problem and he hopes it will be the key to breaking their All-Ireland

hoodoo in Sunday's big rematch at Croke Park.

"I am happy that we are scoring much more freely from play all around the pitch and we've been getting scores this year when we need them," he said. "We've rarely come out of a match this year without at least five of our forwards scoring from play."

Galway had been overly dependent previously on the excellent free-taking of Aislinn Connolly, who scored 1-6, all from placed balls, in last year's decider.

But they've produced far more scoring options this year and demonstrated that against the

reigning champions in the opening game of the group stages this summer.

"We went down to Enniscorthy and put up a big score (2-14) and had seven scorers that day," Finn said. "On top of that, we only conceded nine points and just two of Wexford's scores came from play, which was just as satisfying."

"Of course, you can't judge anything from group games. Sunday is winner-takes-all and we know this will be another almighty tussle. I have felt all year that the girls are very focused and happy and we seem to be hitting form at the right time."

The only team that beat Galway in

their seven group games was Cork, and they survived a serious onslaught from Kilkenny in their semi-final before winning 2-13 to 2-7.

His side are looking to break an unenviable final record since their only title victory in 1996. Despite players of the calibre of Ann-Marie Hayes, Therese Maher, Veronica Curtin, Niamh and Orla Kilkenny and Connolly, Galway have lost four finals since - two in a row in 1997 and '98 as well as two in the last three years.

Both sides have a clean bill of health as Wexford's multiple All Star full-back Catherine O'Loughlin has returned to full training.



Rival captains Brenda Hanney, Galway and Ursula Jacob, Wexford, with the All-Ireland senior camogie cup at Croke Park yesterday, ahead of this weekend's finals.

Picture: Sportsfile



Ardrahan's Rebecca Hennelly and Shauna Healy.



Mullagh's Sinéad Cahalan, Therese Manton and Sarah Dervan.

## Finn confident Galway have firepower to end final hoodoo



Sept. 2011

CAMOGIE INTERMEDIATE CHAMPIONSHIP FINAL

# Saffron rising

A year on from their junior triumph, Antrim have left a trail of traditional powers in their wake on their way to the intermediate final

BY CIARAN WOODS

GALA ALL-IRELAND INTERMEDIATE CAMOGIE CHAMPIONSHIP FINAL  
**ANTRIM V WEXFORD**  
Sunday, Croke Park, 2.00pm

**C**ROKE Park on All-Ireland day is certainly nothing new for the senior camogs of Antrim. Just 12 months ago, the Saffrons came, conquered and headed home with the All-Ireland Premier Junior title. Now, they're back, and their sights are firmly fixed on the All-Ireland intermediate crown.

It's testament to the progression which Antrim continue to make that they are back to Headquarters and ready to make the step up in grade so soon after their promotion. They showed huge character to win through their semi-final clash with Limerick by 2-11 to 2-9, teenage substitute Orla O'Hara the Antrim saviour as she hammered the ball to the back of the Limerick net in the last action of the game to snatch victory.

But then you'd expect nothing less from a Saffron side who have had more than their fair share of ups and downs over recent years, including a mid-season managerial change this season. Now, it's the hugely experienced Joe Baldwin at the helm and bidding to lead the side to All-Ireland glory for the second consecutive season.

That strength of character and resolve will be tested to its limits this afternoon by a Wexford outfit who deservedly head into the game as hot

## PATH TO THE FINAL

Saturday July 2 @ Ashbourne  
Antrim 3-13 Cork 0-10

Saturday July 9 @ Ashbourne  
Antrim 1-7 Wexford 2-11

Saturday July 16 @ Ballinasloe  
Antrim 1-11 Galway 1-6

**All-Ireland Semi-Final**  
Saturday August 20 @ Navan  
Antrim 2-11 Limerick 2-9

favourites. Last year Offaly scuppered their dreams of a senior and intermediate double, and with the seniors once again hotly tipped for glory, it's up to this intermediate side to deliver the goods.

They have already got the better of one Ulster side in the knock-out stages, seeing off the challenge of Derry with a point to spare in a hard-fought semi-final. A Fiona Rochford goal gave Wexford a four-point lead at the break despite playing into a strong wind, but Derry continued to push them all the way. Second-half goals from Linda Bolger and Tracy Nolan proved crucial. Clara O'Connor top scored for her side with 2-5, but Wexford were thankful for the defensive contributions of Aine Codd and Frances Doran, and especially the spectacular saves made by goalkeeper Helena Jacob that denied Derry victory.

Codd is of course a former All-Ireland senior medallist and an All-Star winner, while the ability to train



LEADING THE WAY...Intermediate captains Jane Adams, Antrim, left, and Colleen Atkinson, Wexford, during captains' day ahead of the 2011 All-Ireland Camogie Championship Finals  
Picture: Brian Lawless / SPORTSFILE

CAMOGIE JUNIOR CHAMPIONSHIP FINAL

## Is it third time lucky for Ulster?

Waterford face Ulster junior final opposition for the third year in a row

BY CIARAN WOODS

GALA ALL-IRELAND PREMIER JUNIOR CAMOGIE CHAMPIONSHIP FINAL  
**DOWN V WATERFORD**  
Sunday, Croke Park, 12.00pm

**WATERFORD** must have felt a shiver go up their collective spine when Down emerged as winners of their semi-final clash against Meath. Another year, another Ulster team to provide the opposition for the Deise in an All-Ireland decider, with Down hoping to maintain the northern monopoly.

Back in 2009, it was Derry who took the spoils. Last year, Antrim secured victory over Waterford, and now Down are hoping to make it a hat-trick of the worst possible sort for Mark Cooney and Shaun McCarthy's side. Despite being one of the most consistent sides in the competition, luck certainly has not favoured the Deise girls, who head to Croke Park hoping that it's third time lucky.

## PATH TO THE FINAL

Saturday 2nd July @ Trim  
Waterford 2-13 (19) v Down 0-8 (8)

Saturday 16th July @ Downpatrick  
Down 2-15 (21) v Kildare 0-11 (11)

Saturday 30th July @ Castletown  
Down 9-15 (42) v Dublin 1-11 (14)

**All-Ireland Semi-Final**  
Saturday 20th August @ Clontibret  
Down 1-17 (20) v Meath 2-11 (17)

They certainly have the quality to claim the All-Ireland crown. Wing-back Grainne Kenneally captained UCC in the year gone by, while Trish Jackman will once again have a huge role to play around the middle and helping out her half-back line. Karen Kelly will lead the Deise attack from full-forward, and Down's rearguard will have its hands full trying to keep

the talented number 14 under wraps.

The Waterford attack showed just how dangerous they are as they racked up the scores in their semi-final against Laois, leading by 11 points at the break and hitting 2-17 over the hour. Kelly accounted for 1-10 of that total, while reigning All-Ireland Poc Fada champion Jackman will also be a threat from '65's and long range frees.

Down though proved in their semi-final success against Meath that they're no soft touch, emerging from a physical contest as 1-17 to 2-11 winners. Catherine McGourty led the way in the scoring stakes with nine points, and is extremely accurate with frees, while there looks set to be an intriguing battle between semi-final goal scorer Fionnuala Carr at centre-back for Down and Waterford captain Nicola Morrissey who will line out wearing number 11 for the Deise. Elsewhere, the Mourne girls will look to corner-forwards Karen Gribben and Niamh Mallon, teenage attacker



FIREPOWER...Down will be looking for forwards like Karen Gribben, above, to generate the scores to get them past Waterford  
Picture: Oliver McVeigh / SPORTSFILE





Picture: Caroline Quinn

**ONWARDS AND UPWARDS...**The Antrim team which took on Limerick at the All-Ireland Intermediate semi-final in Navan.

alongside their senior outfit gives Wexford a huge competitive advantage. They will also look to wing-forward Helena Jacob, winner of three Ashbourne Cup medals with Waterford IT and was voted as Player of the Tournament. Incidentally, that successful side was under the management of current goalkeeper, Helena

Jacob.

Antrim though should not be found wanting in the experience stakes. Backboned by players from the all-conquering Rossa club side, they aren't short of quality themselves. Their star performer is full-forward and captain Jane Adams, as deadly of an attacker as there is in the game,

but it's a pretty impressive support cast she can call upon.

Ashling McCall, Rhona Torney and Michaela Convery are all seasoned inter-county stars, with Convery having bagged the crucial goal as the Saffrons took the spoils in their All-Ireland Premier Junior Final replay against Waterford. Cathy Carey,

Sinead Laverty, Colleen Doherty and Louise McAleese are just some of the changes in personnel who have been introduced to the Antrim side this season, and so far at least they have been reaping the rewards.

Unfortunately for Antrim, the greater experience and firepower in the Wexford side, particularly

around what is an extremely strong midfield and half-back area, should ensure that the Wexford intermediate side do their bit and secure the first part of what would be an historic double alongside their senior colleagues.

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**LEESE OF LIFE...**Antrim's Katie McAleese in action against Janet Garvey of Limerick during the All-Ireland Intermediate semi-final in Navan.

Picture: Caroline Quinn



**TREATY STONED...**Cathy Carey, Antrim, in action against Aileen McNamara, Limerick during the All-Ireland Intermediate semi-final in Navan.

Picture: Caroline Quinn



**IT'S ALL SMILES NOW, BUT WAIT TILL SUNDAY...**Junior captains Lisa McCrickard, Down, left, and Nicola Morrissey, Waterford, during captains' day

Picture: Brian Lawless / SPORTSFILE

Mallon having proven to be a very useful addition to the line-up. Sarah-Louise Carr will be as influential as always at number 14, while at the opposite end of the field the onus will be on full-back Clara McGovern to keep her defence organised in the face of fierce Waterford pressure.

The sides did meet earlier in the season in division two of the National League, with Waterford running out comfortable winners against a Down outfit missing a number of regulars. Down still look to their league victory against eventual title winners Wexford, a team contesting the All-Ireland Intermediate final on Sunday afternoon, as a mark that there is more in them.

Waterford certainly won't lack motivation as they strive to break that hoodoo and Ulster dominance over them, but if Down can get off to a positive start then those flashbacks to 2009 and 2010 will come flooding into the minds of the Deise players. Down missed out by just a point in last year's semi-final to an Antrim team who went on to claim the title, and now see it as their turn to taste similar success.

You can't help but feel that it's going to be a case of third time unlucky for the Waterford faithful.

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# People's champs to reign again

DEAN GOODISON

Senior preview

AS A group they are not unfamiliar with final victories.

Three league titles in a row, a pair of Leinster titles, the All-Ireland title last year, and of course in 2007. The most common term would be 'winners'. That

breathes something.

There are few counties in the country where you can rock up at a Senior club football or hurling tie and hear conversations on the latest triumph for the ladies.

Listen as you go to the football knockout stages on Saturday - you'll hear those conversations, reasonably knowledgeable conversations.

There is genuine pride in those conversations too.

Ask the ten thousand on the Wexford quayfront the Monday after last year's success, or the ten thousand in

Enniscorthy - they were proud.

The reason for that is because they are our winners. We only have one true group of winners and they are embraced.

And Sunday provides another step as they build their legacy. A battle for a third All-Ireland title in just five years.

It's a similar foe in Galway. For a while they held a psychological edge over Wexford.

A late goal in the 2008 semi-final sent the westerners to Croke Park, a powerful comeback eased them to a round-robin win in 2009, while a goal from halfway, again in injury-time, condemned Wexford to another defeat last year.

But then came the final. A controlled victory, clinical and efficient, same in the league final this year. Then bang, Bellefield happened.

A defeat to undo all the good mojo built up, an air of uncertainty left. Now they meet again. And many believe that it's Galway's time to shine.

Sweeping positional changes are the most common reason for hope, with this year's final side set to be

dramatically different from last, and it seems 'camogie' wants this Galway win.

Wexford have had minimal changes. Caroline Murphy continues to live thousands of miles west of Croke Park but her place in the team will be the only difference from last year's.

Josie Dwyer, so uncomfortable yet gallant at corner-forward last September, takes the midfield berth, with the gap at corner-forward almost certain to be taken by semi-final recipient Lenny Holohan.

Catherine O'Loughlin, the only real injury doubt for the last few weeks, will start and be as important as ever, meaning Wexford will be laden with experience. Experience that will be vital in what should be a superb spectacle.

Indeed, with the 30 games played this championship season yet to produce a margin of victory less than three points, this not only has the hallmarks of being the most intriguing tie of the year but also the closest.

The slow start last year is something Galway manager Noel Finn will be preaching against, and early fireworks will be expected from the Tribeswomen.

However, should they not get the lead they will need - at least five or six points - that early effort may do more harm than good as 60 minutes at razor-sharp intensity is difficult to achieve.

That's where Wexford will strike and their experience will prove vital. Expect a hard battle but Wexford can, and will, complete a jubilee double by less than a goal. The people's champions will reign again.



Full-back Catherine O'Loughlin who will be fit to take her place in Sunday's final.

## Intermediates good enough to go one better than last season

DEAN GOODISON

Intermediate preview

IT'S CERTAINLY been an interesting campaign for the Wexford Intermediate camogie side.

Last year, going into the All-Ireland final, they had yet to lose and had beaten their fellow finalists Offaly twice before.

This year they do come in with a comfortable win over Sunday's opponents, however the rest of the season has not been the same procession.

The year started with Wexford as Division 2 league champions, but a raft of defeats put paid to any hopes of a three-timer.

However, there is a real belief, amongst observers and within the camp, that this is a stronger side, a side that believes it's their time.

And why not; the introduction of the returning Aine Codd and Bernie Holohan has added Senior-side quality to the spine of the second string. Indeed, had the Intermediates not progressed so far, both would likely have been back playing part roles for the first team already.

Add to that the experience that a year brings for the younger players - and unlike their Senior counterparts it is a very young side - and they are primed to go one step further than last September.

After the shaky league campaign it was always going to be necessary to up the level of performance.

An opening draw with Galway in Bellefield (2-8 to 0-14) proved to be neither lucky nor unlucky as both had chances to win it. A visit to Cork was next on the agenda and, knowing a win was crucial, a six-point triumph was delivered.

And then on to Antrim in Ashbourne and a winner-takes-all tie. Antrim were safe in the knowledge that should they lose they had a final chance for progression. Wexford didn't have that comfort but produced when it mattered to blow away the Saffrons.

They never reached those heights, certainly defensively, against Derry in the one-point semi-final win, but any win at that stage is perfect as the first goal was reached - another visit to Croke Park.

But what of the final? Both sides have experience of the big day in the showpiece stadium (Antrim beat Waterford in last year's Junior decider, albeit after a replay). In forward Jane Adams the Ulster side also possess arguably the best player on the pitch.

Yet one player does not a team make as Wexford proved in Ashbourne. Anyone who was there that day will likely be of the opinion that this is Wexford's final to lose.

However, a comfortable win over Galway and a surprise upset of favourites Limerick suggest their opponents have come on significantly from that day.

Wexford have the strength in defence, anchored by the ex-Seniors and ably assisted by a young, energetic bunch. The midfield has solidified with Siona Nolan improving all the time and Shelley Kehoe an energetic bundle.

Linda Bolger, Fiona Rochford and Ciara O'Connor can all produce goals as inside forwards and with the talents of Stacey Redmond and Louise Codd added to the mix there's plenty of creativity.

All-in-all it's set up perfectly for a great battle. There's real belief that this is the Intermediates' year and should they not go in complacent they are the better team and should prevail by a goal or so.

## Galway have improved, but Wexford boast more talent

SHARE PRINT EMAIL TEXT SIZE

By TOM DEMPSEY Guest analyst

Tuesday September 16 2011

I MET Liz Howard of Tipperary fame shortly after the All-Ireland semifinals and I found her perspective very interesting regarding Wexford's success over the last few years, which sees the purple and gold girls attempt to secure their third All-Ireland title in five years.

For those of you who don't know of Liz, she is a past President of the Camogie Association and was previously an analyst on the 'Sunday Game', back in its formative years when Michael Lyster was just a chap. She was really thrilled that Wexford were back in the final again because she loved the freshness of our approach along with the colour that our army of fans bring to the special occasion in Croke Park.

We agreed that camogie needs the romance and excitement that Wexford brings and I'm sure that will continue on Sunday when a huge crowd will again travel to headquarters hoping to inspire the girls to get over that finishing line and cement the greatest era of Wexford camogie that any of us are likely to see in our lifetime.

Players and supporters alike are very fortunate to be experiencing these times, and this is where I add a word of caution. Nothing lasts forever and on Sunday we will meet a hugely-motivated and talented Galway outfit, who would like nothing better than to burst our bubble after feeling they had seriously underperformed in last year's final.

It is vital that we focus as never before and approach the game with fire in our bellies and ice on our brains. We need to be ruthless in our approach, not get caught up in the hype, and prepare for one hell of a battle because I believe Galway have improved and are a much more dangerous proposition than they were last year.

Galway have done quite a bit of surgery on their team since last year's final and on the evidence of their semi-final defeat of Kilkenny, a lot of the changes have proven successful. I felt looking at the game they were vastly superior to the Cats even though this wasn't fully represented in the scoreline.

Two of the major positional switches from last year have been Therese Maher from centre-forward to number six and Niamh Kilkenny moving out to midfield. Therese Maher was magnificent in the semi and Wexford will need to find a way to bypass her and get the ball into our full-forward line.

Galway also held sway in the midfield area with Niamh Kilkenny dominating and delivering excellent ball to their potent forward line. Brenda Hanney for me is one of the top forwards in the game and divides her time between full- and wing-forward. She is good in the air and a very strong ball-carrier and it will be vital for Wexford to limit her influence in the open spaces of Croke Park. In short, they hold threats in a lot of areas.

The Wexford team on the other hand is also laden with talent. Without going through them individually, we have some legendary players within our ranks and they rarely fail to deliver on the big stage and have provided the county with some of our most memorable sporting moments over the last number of years. We are very strong in defence and midfield and up front we have an array of match-winners.

If we perform to our ability we will win. We need to start strongly and reinforce any doubts that may linger in Galway minds from last year. We also need to maintain our momentum for the full hour as in the Cork game we had limited periods of dominance and this could be costly if repeated on Sunday. However, overall I would rather be going into battle with the talent at our disposal than Galway's.

Anyone who was in Croke Park last year couldn't have helped but been touched by the heartbreaking defeat in the Intermediate decider, and it speaks volumes for these girls who have lifted themselves back to reach another decider this year. They rode their luck to some extent in the Derry game and can thank two excellent saves from Helena Jacob for bringing them through.

But they did show, particularly in the first-half, that they are a hugely talented outfit. They got a taste of the northern threat from Derry, and Antrim, who graduated from the Junior ranks after last year's epic final against Waterford, will pose similar problems.

They have fine players in Aishling Jackson, Rhona Torney and the high-scoring Jane Adams in their ranks, and I was very impressed with their performance in upsetting the fancied Limerick girls in Navan the last day.

However, I think the Wexford girls have the talent necessary, and bolstered by the addition of Aine Codd at centre-back, they should get through to achieve what will be just rewards for the resolve and dedication shown to bounce back from last year.

Good luck to all the girls and we look forward to the homecoming on Monday night.

Loch Garman abú.

- TOM DEMPSEY Guest analyst



Brenda Hanney, pictured making a spectacular catch against Noeleen Lambert in last year's group clash in Athlone, could pose problems if she's not closely watched

### Also in Hurling

- Wexford's path to the Intermediate final
- Wash may say it with flowers
- Super Quinn saves Pat's at the death
- Cushinstown survive late Goney scare
- Geraldines fight back to dump Rathnure
- Hurling Home

SEPT. 2011



## HEADING TO CROKE PARK



The experienced Veronica Curtin and Sandra Tannian.



St. Thomas' Heather Cooney, Sandra Tannian and Finola Keely.



Marty Hore and Aldeen Parker of Hore's Stores, South Main Street, Wexford, presenting grips to Senior duo Kate Kelly and Katrina Parrock.

# Dee relishes her midfield position

DEAN GOODISON

Sports reporter

OFTEN IN sport, as you get older, you get ushered further out of the limelight. So for Deirdre Codd to make moves from corner-back to wing-back to midfield gives some reflection of how important a player she has become for Wexford.

Having said that, mid-twenties is not exactly over the hill anyway - even these days when you're asked to believe that younger is better.

As well as that, midfield is not necessarily midfield. Codd's position is as often converted into centre-back while Mary Leacy sweeps as it reverts into an attacking instrument from deep, a prong that picked up a score in the semi-final for the first time this year.

'It's funny because for most of the 2010 campaign - well I was only there for the semi-final and the final - but for most of this year, league-wise, I was always told to stay back as a defensive midfielder,' says Codd.

'I like that role from playing in the backs. But then from playing in the forwards when I was under-age I always sort of had the urge to go forward so I don't know, it's nice to be in midfield, it gives you a bit more space for roaming. You know I think the backs have a lot harder job than the forwards, midfield is just in between!'

As one of the duo in midfield, almost certainly with Josie Dwyer, the pair will have to stem the flow of carnage caused by Galway's player of the game in the semi-final, Niamh Kilkenny. Some believe that she won't have the same effect against a more constrictive Wexford side but the fact is she did most of the damage in Bellefield and was far from restrained.

'There's certainly a threat there,' conceded Codd. 'We won't be going by anyone else's gameplan, although we will be staying tight and making sure she doesn't run riot. But Galway are a bit more of a balanced team this year.'

Just lining out against them on the red carpet you can see that they are big, strong, physical girls. They always give a really physical battle no matter what time of the year it is and it's always going to be a tough battle.

'I think from playing them last year we know what to expect. They are a really good team but I think it's nearly like a lucky omen that they beat us earlier on in the championship because it gives us a drive for this time. Hopefully it'll still be lucky in a week's time.'



Deirdre Codd limbers up at training on Thursday last.

## Tickets on sale

A LARGE crowd of well-wishers and supporters turned up in Wexford Park on Thursday last for the media night and training session for the Senior and Intermediate camogie teams as they prepare for Sunday's All-Ireland finals in Croke Park.

Wexford camogie would like to thank County Secretary Margaret Doyle, Wexford Creamery, Staple Diet and The National Heritage Park for their assistance.

We would also like to thank Denny Davitt and 'Heartbeats' for writing and producing a new CD called 'Wexford Heroes' which will be on sale in local shops during this week. We would encourage people to put up signs and flags and flood the county with purple and gold during the week.

The Intermediate team play Antrim at 2 p.m. and the Senior game between Wexford and Galway will be at 4 p.m. We would encourage supporters to come along and make the trip to Croke to cheer the girls on.

Tickets will be on sale in Wexford Park on Wednesday and Thursday from 9.30 a.m. to 12.30 p.m. and from 2.30 to 4.30 p.m. Ticket prices are adults €30, students/OAPs €15, Juveniles (Under-16) €5. Tickets can also be purchased online at <http://www.tickets.ie/camogie>.

Family tickets are for two adults and two children and cost €60, while each additional child is €5. Group tickets are available by completing a group application form on [www.camogie.ie](http://www.camogie.ie). These will not be on sale any other way. Group applications will be taken until Wednesday but will not be available after this.

We would like to wish J.J., his management team and both teams the very best of luck in their quest to bring All-Ireland glory back to Wexford.

## How they reached the Senior final

June 11, Bellefield: lost to Galway 2-14 to 0-9 (Ursula Jacob 0-7 frees, Kate Kelly 0-2, 1 free).

June 18, Páirc Uí Chaoimh: beat Cork 0-14 to 1-8 (Ursula Jacob 0-9, 3 frees, 1 '45, Katrina Parrock, Una Leacy 0-2 each, Josie Dwyer 0-1).

June 25, Wexford Park: beat Kilkenny 1-14 to 1-9 (Ursula Jacob 0-7, 5 frees, 1 '45, Kate Kelly 0-4, 1 free, Evelyn Quigley 1-0, Katrina Parrock, Michelle O'Leary, Una Leacy 0-1 each).

July 2, Cusack Park: beat Clare 3-11 to 0-10 (Ursula Jacob 1-3, 0-3 frees, Evelyn Quigley 2-0, Katrina

Parrock 0-4, Una Leacy 0-2, Brid Gordon 0-1, Kate Kelly 0-1 free).

July 9, Ashbourne: beat Tipperary 5-11 to 0-10 (Ursula Jacob 1-8, 1-4 frees, 0-1 '45, Una Leacy 2-0, Evelyn Quigley, Lenny Holohan 1-1 each, Katrina Parrock 0-1).

July 16, Wexford Park: beat Offaly 3-19 to 1-9 (Katrina Parrock 1-4, Una Leacy 2-0, Ursula Jacob 0-6, 2 frees, Kate Kelly 0-4, 2 frees, Lenny Holohan 0-3, Mary Leacy, Michelle O'Leary 0-1 each).

July 23, Portmarnock: beat Dublin 1-16 to 0-9 (Ursula Jacob 0-8, 7 frees, Una Leacy 0-4, Michelle

O'Leary 0-3, Evelyn Quigley 1-0, Fiona Kavanagh 0-1).

August 13, Nowlan Park: beat Cork 2-11 to 1-9 (Ursula Jacob 1-6, 0-5 frees, Katrina Parrock 1-1, Kate Kelly 0-2, Deirdre Codd, Lenny Holohan 0-1 each).

OVERALL SCORERS: Ursula Jacob 3-54 (1-36 frees, 0-3 '45s); Una Leacy 4-9, Katrina Parrock 2-13, Evelyn Quigley 5-1, Kate Kelly 0-13 (5 frees), Lenny Holohan 1-5, Michelle O'Leary 0-5, Josie Dwyer, Brid Gordon, Deirdre Codd, Mary Leacy, Fiona Kavanagh 0-1 each.



# Morrissey keen to banish final frustration

BY TOMÁS MCCARTHY

Waterford camogie captain Nicola Morrissey believes their previous two All Ireland final defeats are forgotten about as they prepare for a third junior final in a row against Down on Sunday. After falling short to Antrim twelve months ago and to Offaly a year previous the time has come to deliver.

Morrissey claims the team have moved on from their final heartbreak to build for another tilt at an All Ireland medal. "Some might say that we were unlucky on both occasions but at this stage we are not even thinking about the last few years we are just focussing on this year. We've got new players after coming in who don't realise what the last two years have been like. There's a good gel between the new players and the players that have been there with a while. Our minds are just set on this game."



Nicola Morrissey, Waterford's team captain.



Pictured at the Fraher Field, Dungarvan, ahead of next Sunday's All Ireland Final: The Waterford Camogie team are pictured with team management, Mark Cooney and Sham McCarthy. Also included are Cllr Liam Brazil, Mayor of Co Waterford, Cllr Theresa Wright, Mayor of Dungarvan, Cllr Ken Madden, Mayor of Lismore, Tom Cunningham, Chairman Waterford County Board, Patricia McCarthy, Chairperson Waterford Camogie, Cllr Declan Doocey, Cllr Orla Russell, Pat Bennett, Waterford Senior Hurlers, and Ann Ryan, Waterford Supporters Club (Dublin Branch). Photos: Dan McGrath/Editorial Images.

Waterford booked their passage to the decider with a 14 point triumph against Laois last month. After some early jitters they settled to their task to record a comfortable win. "The score line does reflect a good victory but it was a tough game. We knew that playing against Laois that they were going to be a physical team but we were lucky that we stayed focussed. Laois got an early goal in the game but we didn't panic and we got a goal quickly and it kind of set us on from that. We just kept picking over the points after that and it was a good team performance overall."

The captain concedes that playing in Croke Park takes adjustment but after two

previous trips, a visit to GAA Headquarters is not as daunting as it once seemed.

"It definitely does play a factor. The first year for the first ten minutes it was like 'where are we?' so it definitely does play a part. But I think at this stage we have been there twice already and I know a few of the new girls that have joined in haven't played there before. At the end of the day it's still a game, we are just going to keep talking to the girls and concentrate. We know we have a job to do and just focus on that."

Waterford have become accustomed to playing at unfashionable venues down the years but with success comes the reward of a bigger stage to perform. "Normally it's the pitch down the road

and that. But the semi final was at Nowlan Park so it was nice to get a big pitch like that to practice before Croke Park. As I say it does play a bit of a factor in it but it's a game at the end of the day and just to kind of get the first ten minutes, get a good start."

## STIFF CHALLENGE

Morrissey expects a stiffer challenge from Down than their previous meeting in July when Waterford ran out 2-13 to 0-8 victors. "We had a convincing win over Down, but it definitely was a tough game. The team we are going to be playing there will be a few new players on it since the last day we played them. We are under no illusions it will be a tough game. They are like any

Northern team they are strong girls, they are physical and they impose themselves on you straight away. We are not going to get anything easy off them."

The Lismore player forms part of a forward unit that has hit 10-57 in four games to date. While Karen Kelly holds the mantle of scorer in chief, Morrissey is keen to point out the input of the other five attackers. "Karen has been playing well but it has been a team performance by everyone, everyone has been working really, really hard. In the forward line we have gelled really well this year. If you look through most of our matches most of the forwards have contributed in some way. But a few goals would be nice from Karen!"



All set for Croke Park, players from the St. Anne's Club, (l-r) Claire Whyte, Pauline Cunningham, Charlotte Maher, Maitead Murphy, Karen Kelly, Zoe O'Donoghue, Niamh Rockett and Jenny Simpson.

# Kenneally putting friendship aside in Croke

BY TOMÁS MCCARTHY

Waterford defender Grainne Kenneally and Down's Fionnuala Carr will find it strange to line out on opposite sides for Sunday's Premier Junior camogie final. Both players have soldiered together at UCC in pursuit of the Ashbourne Cup but for sixty minutes at Croke Park their focus switches to the search for All Ireland glory.

"Myself and Fionnuala are great buds. I was playing college with her for the last two years. She is an exceptional player, she's an absolute animal out on the pitch. A warrior is what she is. Come 12 o'clock on Sunday there will be no friends out on that pitch only the ones in blue and white. Fionnuala would be the same the two of us will give a right lash off each other and after that shake hands and friends again. But for the sixty minutes on the pitch we won't be great friends put it that way!"

In their championship opener two months ago, Waterford claimed an eleven point win over Sunday's opponents. Kenneally believes the Mourne County were keeping their cards closely guarded on that occasion, holding their best form in reserve for bigger days. "Down I don't know if they were trying to play



Déise's Grainne Kenneally.

a poker game with us or what they were at. They did go out and they did put in a big effort but they weren't firing on all cylinders at all. I said as soon as the game was over, I predicted that Down would be in the final. They seem to do it every year I don't know is it a tactic of theirs. They start the year off quiet and they kind of come through in the long grass and when it comes to the serious part of the year they are always there or thereabouts."

There are also old scores to settle

for Down after the Déise girls denied them a league title in the recent past. "We know they don't like us from about four years ago when we beat them in a league final. There's bad blood there they think we robbed them of their glory. We were an up and coming team at that stage. We just pipped them in Portlaoise in a Division 3 league final at the time and ever since Fionnuala has reminded me about it."

## BOUNCE BACK

Losing to Antrim after a replay in Ashbourne last year came as a devastating blow to the team after surrendering a winning position. Kenneally admits that they left an All Ireland medal behind on the day but it made their Division 2 success this year against the Ulster side all the sweeter. "I think it was the best closure we could have possibly got to last year. We were absolutely devastated after last year there's no point covering over it. We lost the game ourselves and there's nothing more disappointing than having regrets. So thankfully we had a good league campaign this year and we met Antrim in the Division 2 final and we got the monkey off our back and laid a few ghosts to bed."

The introduction of a new man-

agement team and a host of younger players also helped to ease the pain. Kenneally has noted this positive energy surging around the camp after picking up the pieces from 2010. "At the start of the year things were looking a bit shady but we regrouped and a few phone calls were made. Some players stepped aside, some players kept it going. It was a case of adding in a bit of new blood, something fresh into the team. We have done that now and thankfully the blend has been brilliant. We are playing off a different platform this year, things have really changed throughout the year a new team, a new set-up, a new everything."

She heaps praise on manager Mark Cooney for his impetus and enthusiasm to bring the team to the next level. "He's been brilliant with De La Salle college and the De La Salle club and it's brilliant to have him on board with us. He's been watching us, he knows us inside out. He knew what he wanted us to improve on. He got his chance this year and he's really brought in some new ideas and some new thinking into the team. He's really been blending the team together. We are a real close knit team at this stage. It's a breath of fresh air really."

## PATHS TO THE ALL-IRELAND FINAL

### ALL IRELAND PREMIER JUNIOR CAMOGIE CHAMPIONSHIP SEMI FINALS IN ASSOCIATION WITH RTE SPORT

Waterford	2-17	2-3	Laois
Meath	2-11	1-17	Down

### ALL IRELAND PREMIER JUNIOR CAMOGIE CHAMPIONSHIP GROUP 1 IN ASSOCIATION WITH RTE SPORT

Down	9-15	1-11	Dublin
Kildare	1-11	1-14	Waterford
Down	2-15	0-11	Kildare
Waterford	5-13	0-5	Dublin
Waterford	2-13	0-8	Down
Dublin	0-5	3-15	Kildare

### ALL IRELAND PREMIER JUNIOR CAMOGIE CHAMPIONSHIP GROUP 2 IN ASSOCIATION WITH RTE SPORT

Roscommon	0-5	4-14	Meath
Laois	2-8	2-7	Roscommon
Meath	2-12	1-9	Laois

The Waterford management team of Mark Cooney and Sham McCarthy. Throw-in at Croke Park on Sunday is 12 noon.





**CLIONA FOLEY**  
FRIDAY PROFILE

# Family values drive on Jacob

**N**OT even some make-up can hide the fresh cut that is mending over Ursula Jacob's left eyebrow - but she didn't get a lot of sympathy for it at home, she explains, laughing.

No surprise really, because four stitches over your eye probably counts as a mere scratch in the famous Jacob household in Oulart-The Ballagh, where hurling/camogie is the second religion.

But how Wexford's 26-year-old full-forward got it is revealing. Her teammate Noeleen Lambert clipped her through the helmet during the county semi-final against St Martin's a week ago.

Jacob's father Mick (a three-time All Star) and her brothers Mick and Rory would never have suffered a similar injury.

Yes, they've all played senior for Wexford and would have picked up multiple injuries over the years, but a county senior hurling semi-final would simply never be held two weeks before the All-Ireland final.

And that's one of the reasons that convinces Jacob that the county's female players - the reigning All-Ireland senior camogie champions who have won two titles in the last four years - work just as hard, if not harder, than their male counterparts.

"At this stage of the year it's just as intense for us as the boys," she said. "We're training three nights most weeks with Wexford and then sometimes you're one or two nights with the club as well."

"We played the county semi-final last week and played two club championship games, on Tuesday nights, during the seven weeks of the group stages."

"That'd never happen with Wexford hurling," she points out. "When the lads are with the county it's solely with

the county until they're finished. They get to mind themselves more than we do."

But Jacob is not complaining, thanks to Wexford's new-found success.

After breaking a 32-year gap with their 2007 breakthrough, they contested both the senior and intermediate finals last year, beating Galway in the former and losing to Offaly in the latter.

They're back in both deciders again on Sunday and completing the Jacob family's 'set' is her younger sister Helena, who wears the No 1 jersey for the intermediates and is also back-up goalie for the seniors.

## PROMINENCE

Both sides train together, which many believe is a huge factor in Wexford's rise to prominence, and it isn't just the Jacobs who bring the strong family feel to the Model's success.

Across the two squads are five O'Connor sisters from Rathnure, including senior wing-back Aoife, who is married to Declan Ruth.

There's the inspirational Leacy sisters Una and Mary, Karen and Coleen Atkinson and even three sets of twins: Shelley and Stacey Keogh, Lenny and Bernie Holohan and Lisa and Linda Bolger.

All of that has helped create a strong family atmosphere in the Wexford camp, but their unity is not accidental. Manager JJ Doyle, who took over from Stella Sinnott last year, leaves absolute-

ly nothing to chance and took over the intermediate side this season too. Doyle famously took them on a bonding session last year to Lilliput Adventure Centre, where they did assault courses and ended up wading through rivers of mud together.

"I don't even know where it was, somewhere in the midlands!" Jacob laughs. "It was very enjoyable, but I had to throw out every single piece of clothing I wore there afterwards."

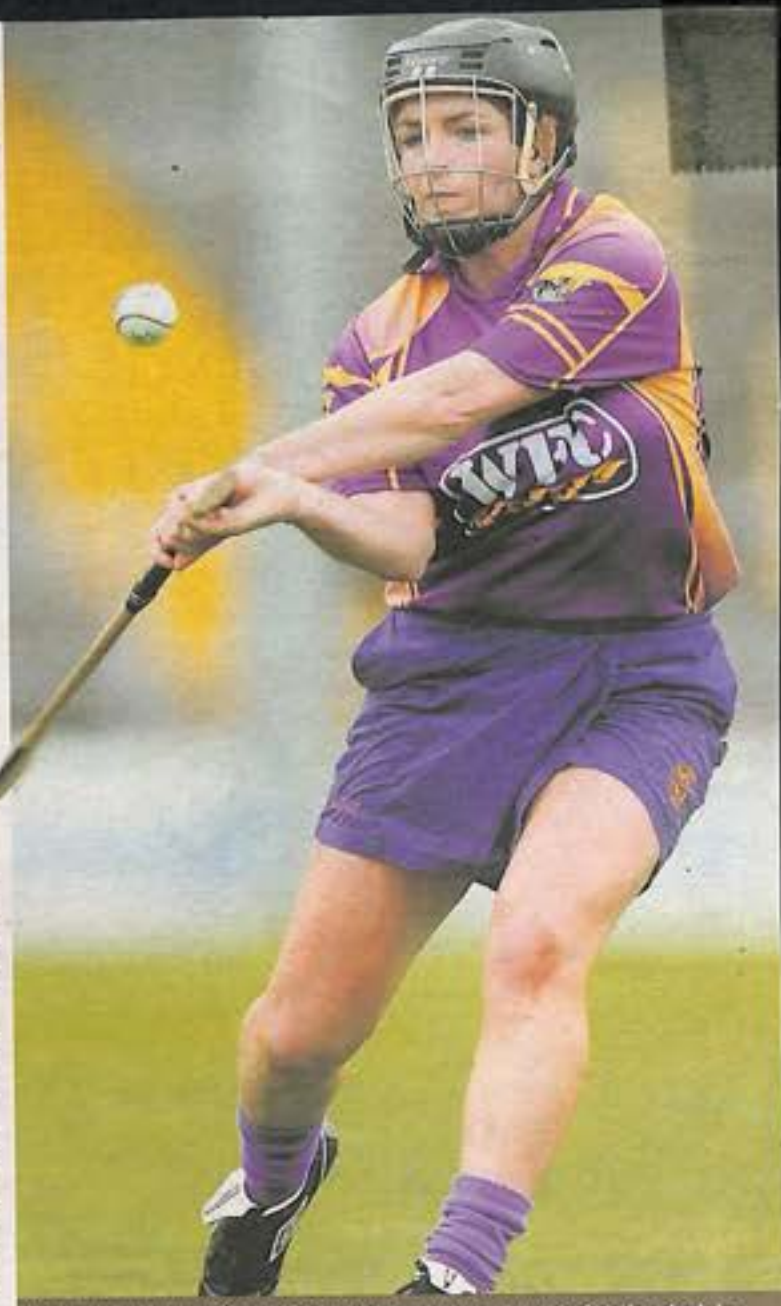
Doyle enlisted a former middle-distance athlete, Gerry McQuaid from Monaghan, to take care of their fitness and he brought people like Mickey Harte and Liam Griffin in to give them motivational speeches.

He has also invited several former county hurling stars to give specialist help at training and Jacob confirms that the likes of Tom Dempsey, Ger Cush, Adrian Fenlon and Gary Laffan have all helped out on different occasions.

And Jacob, who has a masters in sports psychology and has been playing with the county since she was 15, is the first to appreciate what Doyle does to keep training fresh.

"When you're getting to All-Ireland finals it is easier," she admits. "It is always easier to go training when you're successful."

She is now working in accounts at Waterford IT where team-mate Kate Kelly is actually her boss. Her sister



Wexford's Ursula Jacob has no complaints over her current hectic schedule

Helena and forward star Katrina Parrock are also among the WIT crew who travel to training together.

Wexford train just as hard as they play and now there's a chance at a two in-a-row against a Galway side who are hurting badly after last year.

"Yeah, it is a little bit like Kilkenny and Tipp, Galway will be out for revenge," Jacob notes.

"There were only two points in it last year, but they've changed things up a good bit, positionally, since then and they beat us very heavily when we met them in the group stages."

The Tribeswomen's 2-14 to 0-9 victory

in Enniscorthy in that championship opener certainly raised eyebrows and signifies that Wexford can expect a major backlash on Sunday.

"They just absolutely hurled us out of it that day, but they got two goals too that mightn't have gone in another day," she says.

"We couldn't pinpoint what went wrong, we were just stuck to the ground, but it certainly wasn't complacency or anything, because no one would go in against Galway with that attitude."

"That game was a bit of a disaster, but maybe it was no harm either."

## CAMOGIE ALL-IRELAND FINAL

# Jacob and Wexford sticking to what they know best

**SUNDAY MARKS** the 80th All-Ireland camogie final in Croke Park as reigning champions Wexford aim to win a league and championship double back-to-back for the first time in their history.

For any sporting body to survive those number of years is remarkable, but to actually make strides marks it out even more so. Thus, a mouth-watering repeat of last year's final is a fitting way to mark the occasion.

It will see the champions hoping to attain the status that eludes so many - greatness. Last Sunday an excellent Tipperary team bidding to do likewise fell short to a great Kilkenny team and Wexford captain Ursula Jacob took note.

"Well some people are comparing it to last Sunday and there is naturally some talk of winning back-to-back All-Irelands but everyone on the panel is just focused on ourselves and the game in

hand. It's not like we are saying, 'Oh we will be called a great team if we win'. We are a good team and have done well in recent years but in my opinion, even without winning All-Irelands, Galway are a great team," says the All Star.

Of course, Wexford have been highly prominent in recent years and this is down to keeping the core of the team according to Jacob. "We have been lucky enough in the last two or three years in that we haven't lost any players so we had the chance to go on a good streak between league and championship."

Four weeks ago in the semi-finals the captain put in a player of the match performance as did Galway midfielder Niamh Kilkenny. However, with both sides full of talent, Oulart-the-Ballagh's finest doesn't expect any extra attention.

"Both teams have lots of bril-



liant players so I don't think it would be a case of focusing on the likes of me or Niamh Kilkenny. We have played each other so much in recent years that we know each other and there are lots of players

to watch. We need to just go out and play to the best of our ability instead of focusing on stopping certain players."

If the star forward does manage to lift the O'Duffy Cup she will

Wexford's Ursula Jacob: "We need to just go out and play to the best of our ability."

become the third player from her club to do so since Wexford's breakthrough in 2007 as Mary Leacy hoisted the cup before her sister, Una, did likewise last year.

"It was a great honour to be nominated by the club after we won the county championship but at this stage it is not about personal honours, it's about all of us performing on Sunday first and foremost. It's a case of worrying about the game before anything else."

The Jacob family are steeped in hurling and big sister Helena and brother Rory are always on hand for a bit of moral encouragement of sorts.

"Helena is in goal for the intermediates and also is sub 'keeper for the seniors so we will both be

there on the day. We don't get to play in Croke Park that often whereas Rory has so it's always nice to get advice from a different perspective, although to be honest it tends to be more slugging between us than advice," admits the Wexford captain.

Earlier in the week all three panelists on RTE's *The Committee Room* tipped Galway but this has no bearing inside the Wexford dressing room as Jacob says, "It's totally irrelevant to the teams at the moment what is being said. It can be interesting sometimes to listen to opinions but it's two teams on the pitch that decide it."

Before the senior final senior boss JJ Doyle will hope to guide Wexford to an intermediate crown as they take on Antrim.

Another monumental day for camogie throws in at noon as Down and Waterford contest the junior decider.



# 1996 camogie final hero believes Galway can do it

**F**ORMER Galway camogie star Denise Gilligan knows all about the highs and lows of sport. She has seen it all... be it collecting the Player of the Match accolade when guiding the Tribeswomen to their one and only senior All-Ireland victory in 1996 or sustaining an injury which, in effect, ended her playing days with the county.

This Sunday, Galway's senior camogie side - under the direction of manager Noel Finn - will seek to bridge the 15-year-gap since the county's last All-Ireland triumph. For Gilligan, who bagged two vital goals in the Westerners' 4-8 to 1-15 victory over Cork in the '96 decider, this time of year evokes warm and happy memories. Nostalgia reigns.

"When that final whistle went, it was pure shock and elation and it was just a feeling that I can't describe," recalls Gilligan, who returned to her native Craughwell from London, where she now works as an Education Accounts Manager, for her cousin Fergal Healy's recent wedding to another local girl, Karen Ryan.

"I remember, afterwards, walking across the Shannon with the [O'Duffy] cup and [RTE commentator] Marty Morrissey driving past and we all shaking the living daylights out of his car," she laughs. "Another memory was coming into my own village here in Craughwell at 2 o'clock in the morning and seeing my grandparents out in the crowd that was waiting for us. It had taken us about eight hours to come down from Dublin."

"Dancing at the crossroads in Gortymadden was another memory, but, you know, the celebrations really went on for a year afterwards. We brought the cup the

## TALKING SPORT



STEPHEN GLENNON

*Former star Gilligan reflects on county's lone All-Ireland title win of 15 years ago*

length and breadth of Galway and the amount of media coverage we got was absolutely fantastic. Ten years later, I still had people coming up to me and saying 'I remember you playing in the '96 final'. It was really good."

No doubt, Gilligan - who, at 18 years of age, was the second youngest member of the team after 16-year-old Veronica Curtin - was a name on everyone's lips in those days, particularly after her towering performance in the All-Ireland final. It earned her the Player of the Match award.

"To be fair, though, Sharon Glynn was responsible for the two goals I scored," states 'Gilly'. "I remember the first one; I will never forget it. It was coming up to half-time - it was 12-a-side at the time and there were four forwards - and Imelda Hobbins, Martina Harkin and Veronica Curtin had all scored and I was the only forward that hadn't scored. I was like 'if I don't do something quick, I am in trouble'."

"I remember a big, long, high ball coming in from Sharon Glynn and it bounced in the square. I

was literally on my knees and I had to dive for it and it ended up in the back of the net. We had been about six points down at that stage. Then at half-time, the referee gave us another point on the scoreboard because he hadn't registered one of Sharon Glynn's frees in the first half. So, we were only down two points at the break.

"Then, in the second half, about 10 minutes in, another big, long ball from Sharon landed in front of me. I ran onto it, let fly, and it went into the far corner. I think I knew then that we had a chance. With Sharon putting the frees over, Martina Harkin got the next goal before Dymphna Maher got another. Once we had the four goals, we were on our way."

An All-Ireland senior medal, the world was at Gilligan's feet. Already, she had claimed minor and junior All-Irelands with the Tribeswomen in '94 while she also collected a brace of national medals in the mid-'90s with St. Brigid's Vocational School. The trophy cabinet was filling, and, she believed, it would continue to do.

"Of course I did. Even when we won in '96, we were a youngish team and we thought we would be back in '97 and that we could do the same again. And do it again in '98. We did get to the finals those years but we were beaten by Cork in both of them."

"We have watched videos of both of those games and, to be fair, we threw away both of them. Sharon was injured going into one of them - the '97 final - and had she been fit, it would have made an awful difference. The '98 final, we missed so many goals. Definitely, we should have won that game as well."

Gilligan did subsequently win a National League medal in 2002,

but the heartbreaks were beginning to mount. "I took a break from camogie then for a couple of years, before I later went back playing Senior 'B'," continues the 33-year-old.

"I was playing a challenge match with Galway against Pearses over in Ballymacward one Sunday morning and we were doing the warm-up, waiting for Pearses to come out of the dressing-room. I just took off to do some sprints and I ruptured my Achilles tendon, which ruled me out for the rest of the year."

For a competitor like Gilligan to be sidelined for so long, it took its toll on the camogie star. However,

**The County Board weren't willing to help me and I was very upset with that**

this disappointment was nothing compared to the hurt and abandonment she subsequently felt over the ensuing months.

"I didn't play a camogie game for Galway after that, partly because I got absolutely no financial support from the County Board when I hurt my leg. I was out of work for 26 weeks - I was working as a sales rep. at the time - and when I added it all up I lost out on about €16,000 or €17,000 in wages."

"The County Board weren't willing to help me and I was very upset with that. The fact that I had given so much to Galway Camogie, the fact that my mother [Carmel] had served as both Chairperson and Secretary of the County Board for so long, I just decided I had enough and I was not going

back playing camogie with Galway again."

In many respects, that was the culture - and, to some extent, it still is. "Things have improved for players, but not enough," she states. "Camogie players don't get the pat on the back that they deserve. Even when I trained with Galway seniors we used to train up in a field in the corner of Kilrickle. There wasn't even a changing room; there wasn't even a toilet."

"Then you had girls coming from the likes of Cork and Dublin training and, afterwards, they would hop back into their cars, soaking wet, and drive back without even a cup of tea. You would wonder why you did it, but we did it for the love of the game."

"I think, nowadays, players are looked after a lot better, but camogie players still need a lot more support than what they are getting. I feel people don't realise that camogie players put in the exact same effort as their male counterparts. People don't realise that."

In any event, Gilligan - who plays her club camogie with Tara in London, but hopes to return to the green and gold of Craughwell one day - is now looking forward to this Sunday's All-Ireland senior final at Croke Park. She says it is time for new camogie heroines in Galway.

"I think if they don't win it this year, they will never win it," states the former Young Player of the Year ('96). "They have a great chance. The fact that they went to Croke Park last year - some of them for the first time - that experience will stand to them. Then you had Killimor, who had that fantastic win in the All-Ireland club championship as well. All those girls being in Croke Park previously, experiences like that



Former Galway camogie star, Denise Gilligan, who was part of the county's one and only All-Ireland senior win in 1996, standing outside Gilligan Park in her native Craughwell. The grounds are named after her grand uncle, Pakie Gilligan.

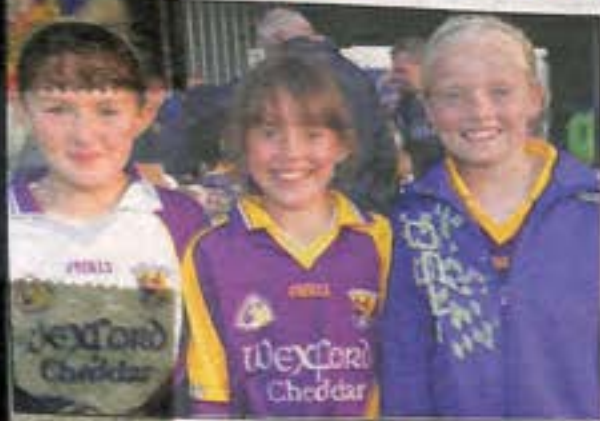
will definitely stand to them.

"I also remember being involved with the Galway minors a number of years ago and we had the likes of Emer Haverly, Noreen Coen, Lorraine Ryan and Niamh Kilkenny and I knew that time that these girls, at 14 or 15, would make the senior team some day. They are fantastic players. A lot of them have improved immensely and fair play to the management,

they have done one hell of a lot of work with them."

"Obviously, I wish them all the best of luck. What I would say is 'give it stick'. There is absolutely no reason why they can't do it. We are sick of looking at Imelda Hobbins ('96 captain) lifting the O'Duffy Cup," laughs Gilly. "We want to see someone else lift it. We want to see Brenda Hanney lift it on Sunday."





Amy Cousins, Grace Cousins and Hannah Bates watched the players train in Wexford Park on Thursday last.

# Michelle is happy to take 'workhorse' tag

DEAN GOODISON

Sports reporter

EXPERIENCED, a battler, dogged, a hard-worker, resilient, versatile - all buzz phrases that have been used to describe Wexford and Rathnure wing-forward Michelle O'Leary. She can even portray herself with one.

'I'm a bit of a workhorse you know,' she says, 'maybe that's what I bring to the team because it's certainly not scoring powers!'

True, she may not be a scoring powerhouse with five points in eight championship games (six if you count the one that was waved wide but she insisted was over against Clare), but every team needs a Michelle O'Leary.

'I always seem to start (the year) midfield and then get drifted back,' she says. 'I suppose as a wing-forward I play a little further out, almost as a third midfielder - which I like.'

It's no secret that Wexford like to suck the half-forward line deep and as such the quasi wing-midfielder is comfortable in the role.

Comfort is an important aspect of high performance in any sport, and being comfortable in the surroundings has always been easy for someone who plays with childhood friends Aoife and Claire O'Connor.

'It's great, I think only for there is so many of us from around the same era I don't think we'd be still playing. You can go into the dressing-room and see people you've been playing with your whole life and think "I suppose if they are still playing I'll give it a go". I suppose we are all waiting for each other to hang up the boots and when one or two do, that will be the last of us.'

It's a pertinent issue for the side with several first-teamers slipping past the 30 years of age barometer of impending doom. O'Leary herself admits she's been saying 'one more year' for almost half a decade and says it's important to her that she plays every final like it's her last.

'You have to enjoy it, you have to go out as if it's your last game - especially when it comes to All-Ireland finals. We've been there before but even last year it felt better to be there and I'm sure this year will be another step up.'

Galway will, in itself, be a step up from recent games. The westerners are firmly established as the land's second-best side and will be looking to claim the scalp of the champions and the elu-

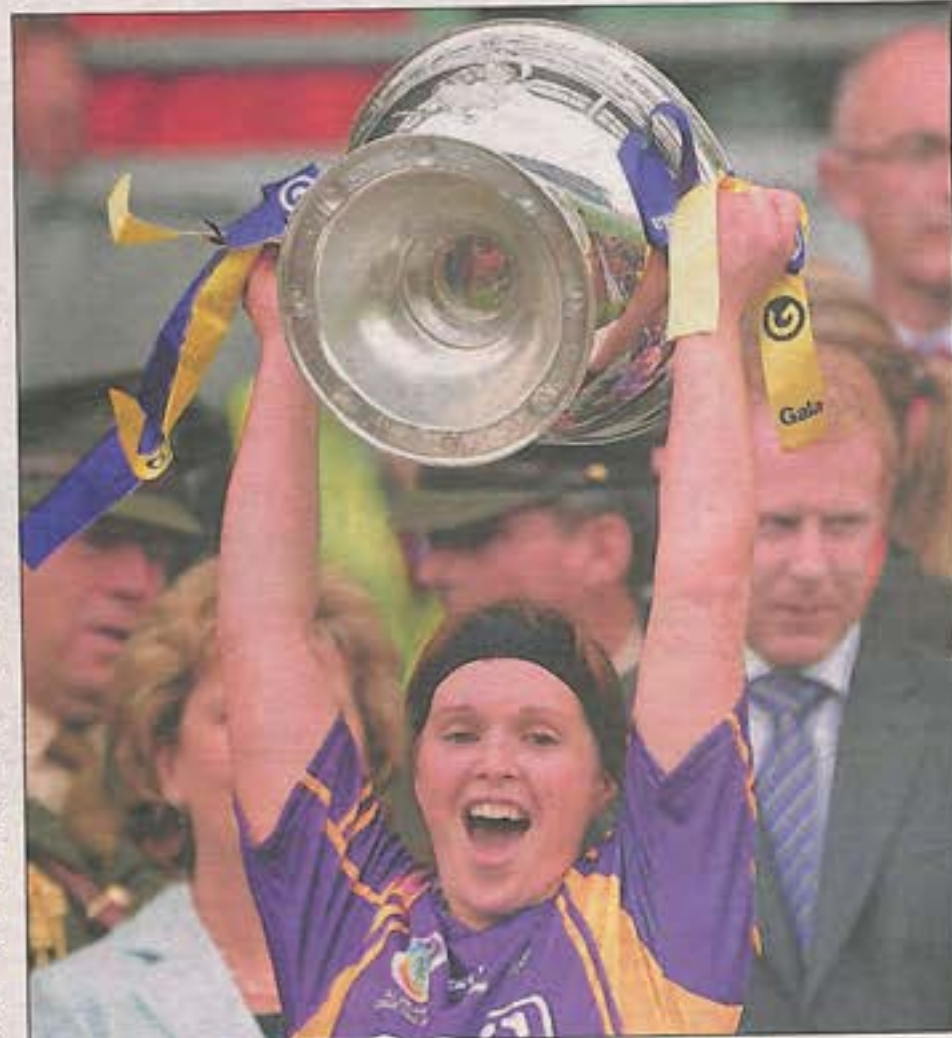
sive title.

'They're probably more of an experienced side than they were in recent years,' says the Wexford stalwart of Sunday's final opponents. 'I think they have taken a lot of hurt out of the last few All-Ireland losses and I think that will drive them on a lot, but I think we have to focus on our own team.'

We have to make sure we play as a team and that we do our best as a team.'

And that's it, the Rathnure star knows you can't rely on a bad day from the opposition to win a championship - she knows from experience. But is it still as exciting?

'Oh God yeah, it's always exciting.'



Michelle O'Leary will be hoping for a repeat of this happy scene on Sunday next.

## Early absence has served Aoife well

DEAN GOODISON

Sports reporter

AT THE end of last year, with medals safely stowed away for safekeeping, all the talk was about who got, and more vehemently, who missed out on All Stars. Aoife O'Connor's name rarely came up.

Indeed, the 'granny' of the team - as she is known in some parts - was one of just three starting finalists that missed out on a nomination, despite picking up a Gala performance award against Kilkenny along the way.

Weird, you might think. Yet it's a situation that's unlikely to be repeated this winter, with the Rathnure club player's absence from the Galway game at Bellefield glaring and her performances since exceptional.

She even acknowledges that she's playing as well as ever. 'I do feel like I'm hurling better, well

not better, but as well as I was when I was younger,' she says.

'I probably regret that we didn't have the calibre of management ten years ago that we have now. I feel there was a lot of potential, not only in myself, but also a lot of the girls that are my age. We didn't realise it at the time.'

Not that O'Connor's season started at the same time as the rest of those team-mates.

She sat on the sideline as Wexford took a thumping in Bellefield at the start of June. It wasn't the result she was expecting.

'I was completely shocked, that was the immediate reaction. Then on reflection you think differently.'

'We probably didn't have our best day, it was our first game, against very, very stiff opposition, and for whatever reason play went against us.'

'We conceded scores that we usually wouldn't concede. It just kind of got away from us you know.'



Aoife O'Connor

She wasn't able to take to the field due to injury. It's the second consecutive year that the wing-back has started the championship season sidelined, only to come back stronger for it.

'I'm 32 and it's probably no harm that you're not training ten months

flat out of the year.

'At the time of course I thought it was a major disadvantage and wondering if it would ever come right, would I ever get back on the team, was I after missing out on too much and would I get a break in the championship.'

'Looking back on it again like last year it probably served me well.'

O'Connor credits husband, former inter-county hurler Declan Ruth, as being instrumental in her continued success.

'I don't even know if I'd still be at it if I didn't have someone as understanding as him,' and his experience will surely help as she heads into a third All-Ireland final.

'I think we can beat them. We can match them player for player, I certainly think we match them in will and attitude.'

'So, it's an old cliché, but I think it will come down to the day, which team wants it more and which team has a better day.'



# Hannee expecting a 'hell for leather' battle in decider

Galway camogie captain believes they can turn the tables on Wexford in intriguing senior final

EOGHAN CORMICAN

IT'S a CV, built up over the past 12 months, that reads like no other. Captaining Killimor to county and All Ireland Club success, not to mention an All Star award at left half forward. Little wonder then, that Brenda Hannee will be expected to lead the Galway charge in this weekend's intriguing All Ireland showdown with old nemesis Wexford.

Taking a seat in the dressing room at Kenny Park, Hannee is in buoyant form. Just one hour away from All Ireland glory, the towering stick-woman is delighted to be back in the final, but certainly not content to play the role of bridesmaids this time around.

A year on from their defeat at the hands of Wexford and the optimism and expectation surrounding the team has resurfaced, more than justified given their recent form. After their tame league final effort, not many expected the Galway camogie side to be up to much this year.

But not alone did they scorch Wexford in their subsequent championship meeting; they overcame a much fancied Kilkenny side to put themselves within reach of capturing the elusive O'Duffy Cup.

"It has been a busy year so far. Killimor was fairytale stuff and a great start to the year, but that was all forgotten then once we got back into the county. We had a new challenge, that day was done. We'd been concentrating hard on getting back to the All Ireland final, now we're there and we're very happy to be there.

"These days, they're hard come by. We're just delighted to be in it and if we can cap it off now. We've a lot of hard work done, just get there, put the performance in that we



Galway senior camogie captain, Brenda Hannee.

know we're capable off and the result will look after itself."

Hannee, who tasted All-Ireland Junior and Intermediate success with Galway in 2003 and '04, believes Killimor's victory at Croke Park back in March won't have any bearing on Sunday. "I suppose the girls that have been up in Croke Park went up and did a job that day and it will be good for us. I think the county team though has its own identity.

"I don't think anyone here is

thinking about Killimor too much. I know going up to Croke Park the next day that I have it in my head that I know I'm able to go out and perform in Croke Park. It won't be a big thing for me and I know it will be the same for the rest of the Killimor girls. Every other girl has plenty of experience at the venue, it's not an issue. It's going and doing a job."

A job they failed to complete on their last two September outings in the Capital. On both

occasions, Galway supporters were left frustrated with the side's attacking shortcomings. Just one score from play in the 2008 final was followed by a mere three last year, but Hannee points out that it is an aspect of their game they have worked relentlessly on to correct.

"I suppose it's something we always hang ourselves for. We're very hard on ourselves and every time we look at the stats, it coming up. It's been something we've been working very hard on. We've been working hard at training throughout the drills to build that forward movement. It's coming around, we've working hard on it since the semi and we'll just be hoping that it all comes out on the pitch at Croke Park."

Still, Galway have plenty of positives to build on ahead of the final, not least a midfield partnership that's improving with every game. The full forward has also been impressed with the injection of new blood into the side, Lorraine Ryan, Heather Cooney and Ann Marie Starr certainly repaying the faith shown in them by the management.

"It's been brilliant to see girls like that breaking into the team. We've been very lucky there's massive competition all through the panel and that's a real positive sign. That's what every management wants, what every team wants, absolute competition. There are so many girls that can step in and do a job."

"There's our dynamic duo (Niamh Kilkenny and Ann Marie Starr). That girl (Starr) covers ground so easily. Niamh is really coming into her own in the last couple of games. She gave an outstanding performance in the semi-final and is absolutely flying it in training. Very confident that she can repeat that in the final."

That said, whether victory is carved out by the backs, midfield or forwards will matter little. All Hannee is contemplating is the win and the opportunity to bring the O'Duffy Cup west of the Shannon for only the second time.

Wexford, without a doubt, have been the form team so far in 2011 annexing their third consecutive League crown in April. Ironically, their only competitive defeat of the year was to Galway, but that by no means hides from the challenge facing Hannee and company.

"The Enniscorthy game was a big game for us. We were after losing badly in the league. I think we were a bit haphazard that day and it was important for us to get a good start in the championship. Now it was a very good start but I suppose we beat a Wexford team who hadn't really started working fully yet, but it set a good platform for us for the championship."

"After that day we had some ups and downs, but we finished strongly. We were happy enough with the semi-final, the team is going well, preparations are going well. There is massive character in the team. We've been through an awful lot together and that's built character."

Acknowledging the victory over Wexford was vital to boost morale after the League final, Hannee is acutely aware that Wexford will be a completely different proposition this weekend.

"Whatever happens in the past is gone. It's all in the 60 odd minutes that is to be played. There is plenty of his-



# It's now or never for Galway girls in big showdown

## Finn's charges aiming to gain revenge for last year's All-Ireland final loss to Wexford

EOGHAN CORMICAN

**AHEAD** of their third All Ireland final appearance in four years, you get the feeling it's now or never for the Galway senior camogie team as they face reigning champions Wexford in what promises to be an explosive final encounter at Croke Park on Sunday (4pm).

The eagerly awaited joust represents the second instalment of All-Ireland final clashes between the two counties and one of the biggest crowds in many years is expected for a contest with countless subplots ready to develop – the big question is whether Galway can go that extra mile in their quest to bridge a 15-year year without a senior title.

Wexford, without a doubt, represent Galway's greatest challenge in this year's championship. The Model County possess that perfect mix of youth, experience and unwavering confidence, which gives them the belief, that even on an off day, they can still do enough to claim the spoils.

This was no more evident than in their semi-final against Cork, where despite playing into a stiff breeze in the opening period and being virtually outclassed in every quarter, they struck for 1-1 approaching the interval to take a one point advantage into the change of ends. Reality is, the further Wexford go in the championship, the more difficult they are to displace.

As for the Westerners, the defeat at Croke Park last September was a real heartbreaker

for the side, after Aislinn Connolly's 59th minute goal left them just two in arrears, but they failed to further add to their tally losing, in the end, by 1-12 to 1-10.

They regrouped for this year's campaign and certainly, over the last four months or so, have the look of a team on a mission. In their opening championship tie at Enniscorthy, Noel Finn's troops trounced the title holders by 2-14 to 0-9; a remarkable result given Wexford had inflicted a similar heavy defeat on Galway in the league decider just a month earlier.

Veronica Curtin, the last remaining link to the '96 team, came off the bench to strike for two goals before the break with Therese Maher and Ann Marie Hayes delivering tour de force performances in the half back



Galway senior camogie players, Orla and Niamh Kilkeny.

line. Galway subsequently clashed with Clare, a game they trailed throughout, until Curtin, again sprung from the bench, hit 1-3 in the final ten minutes to claim a 1-10 to 1-7 win for the home side.

That unbeaten record, however, was unceremoniously ended as Cork inflicted a 14 point drubbing in round three. Galway, though, responded in style recording four wins on the trot, overcoming Offaly, Dublin, Tipperary and Kilkenny to finish top of the table alongside Wexford, before turning in a quality performance against Kilkenny, winning by 2-13 to 2-7, to advance to the decider.

Therefore, given the nature of their display at Nowlan Park, the management team are unlikely, such as they did last year, to tinker with the dynamic of a winning formula. Susan Earner will continue

between the sticks, while Mullagh's Therese Manton and Sinead Cahalan, along with the ever impressive Lorraine Ryan fashion a resolute full back line.

Ann Marie Hayes, Therese Maher – who really has found a new lease of life in the centre half back berth – and St. Thomas' Heather Cooney form a formidable half back line. Among all others, this is the line where will Galway need to gain a stranglehold such is the influence of Una Lacey and Kate Kelly.

The midfield duo of Niamh Kilkeny and Ann Marie Starr may not be the most imposing of figures, but they cover a lot of ground. Probably the most refreshing aspect of the Kilkenny game from a Galway view point was the display of the two such was their ferocious

work rate and scoring contribution.

Up front, Galway have the potential to unhinge Wexford's defence, it's just a question of will they deliver. Curtin, likely to line out at left corner forward, remains their most potent attacker scoring 5-15 in the championship to date, all of that tally arriving from play. Aislinn Connolly, as expected, has also featured prominently, tallying 1-19, while Niamh Kilkeny (1-16) and Brenda Hanney (1-15) have also shown a keen eye for the target.

Indeed, Hanney's battle with All-Star full back Catherine O'Loughlin could be the defining tussle of this final. O'Loughlin was outstanding in the semi-final, before being carried off the field with what appeared to be a serious ankle injury. News from the Wexford camp, however, is that the

Moonageer-Boulavogue stick-woman will be fit for the decider.

As for Hanney, the Galway captain struggled throughout the round robin series to recapture the spark displayed in leading Killimor to All-Ireland club glory. That said, the full forward was nothing short of excellent in the penultimate round, registering 1-2, as well as proving a devastating target woman on the edge of the square.

Wexford, bidding to secure a third title in five years, won't lack anything by the way of confidence after their 2-11 to 1-9 victory over Cork and with the county's Intermediates appearing in the curtain raiser, they are sure to enjoy huge support at GAA HQ.

Their defence, backboned by O'Loughlin, Mary Lacey and

Claire O'Connor, is unchanged from the sextet that limited Galway to a mere three scores from play in the final of 12 months ago.

The All-Ireland champions also pack quite a punch in attack, especially in the full forward line where captain Ursula Jacob has troubled defenders all through the championship amassing an astonishing 3-51, while top of the left, Katrina Parrock, has also notched some critical scores including her side's second goal in last month's semi. That's not forgetting Lenny Holohan of course, the Rathnure speedster wreaked havoc in the League final, a game Wexford dominated, winning by 3-10 to 0-10.

Galway mightn't have the heavy artillery that Wexford possess up front, but they have a balanced team built on the foundation of a rock solid defence. Encapsulating this is the fact that they have conceded the remarkably low average of 11 points per game, but are about to be hit by a Wexford team which has averaged 19 points per game.

JJ Doyle's charges have shown an insatiable hunger for goals, rattling the net on no fewer than 15 occasions in their last six championship encounters. In any event, Galway now have the task of halting the Wexford charge. Despite a ten minute lapse in concentration when they leaked 1-3 to Kilkenny, the Galway rearguard have been faultless.

In their most recent appearances in Croke Park Galway have been forced to chase the game from the off, something

that cannot be allowed to happen this around. Wexford do have natural score getters, but can only thrive on what is fed into them.

If Galway can win the mid-field battle, which they are more than capable of doing, and curtail the dominance of Mary Lacey at centre back, then there is every chance Noel Finn's side will carry the day.

Though Wexford are the 2/5 favourites to retain their crown, encouragingly, Galway is the only team, in both league and championship, to have scalped Wexford this season.

All in all, this is Galway's 14th All-Ireland final appearance. Only once have they emerged victorious. It is a third final for the majority of this current crop, for others it is their fifth and sixth. It really is now or never.

### WHERE ARE THEY NOW?

DENISE GILLIGAN  
(Former Galway camogie player)



IN 1996, Denise Gilligan picked up the player of the match award for her performance in the All-Ireland camogie final. The wing-forward scored two goals as Galway were crowned champions.

Fifteen years later, Galway are back in the final looking to win their first All-Ireland since that day Gilligan shone for them. And she believes that this could finally be their year after last year's defeat to today's opponents Wexford.

"I think they are in their best position ever to win it again," says Gilligan. "I think the experience of being in Croke Park last year plus with the likes of Killimor being there earlier this year in the club championship and them having a few girls on the panel will stand to them against Wexford today."

"And I'd love to see them do it especially for the likes of Veronica Curtin and Therese Maher who have given the county so many years of service."

Remarkably, Gilligan joined the Galway minor panel at just 12 years of age, and the side lost three consecutive All-Ireland finals to Tipperary before they eventually beat their rivals in the final in 1994. That same year she also won a junior All-Ireland title.

Although Gilligan was very young when she started representing her county, she believes that she was ready for the challenge.

"I think if you are good

enough then you are old enough.

"The only problem is that you are expected to train with the minor team, the senior team, the club and the school so burn-out can be an issue."

The talented player made her senior debut in 1995 and went on to play for Galway for almost a decade, winning a National League title in 2002 in which she scored 1-2 in the final. Her greatest memories of her those days are of lining out in Croke Park and that 1996 homecoming.

She moved to London in 2008, where she works as a sales rep for an educational company and plays for the Tara Camogie Club.

They have won their senior championship for the last three years and Gilligan captained the team for two of those victories.

"The standard of camogie is very high in London," she says.

"Lots of the girls that are here would be playing for their county if they were at home."

"The biggest challenge we face is funding, it's always an issue for us over here."



# More streetwise Galway can atone for 2010 defeat – Finn

EOGHAN CORMICAN

**GALWAY** manager Noel Finn believes his side's 11 point victory over Wexford in their championship opener last June has ingrained the belief required to succeed on Camogie's biggest day.

After successive disappointments in the 2010 All Ireland final and this year's League decider, Galway finally delivered a performance of style and substance, leaving the Camogie Queens of Wexford in no doubt as to who were the greatest pretenders to their throne.

"I think that was really a turning point for us that day. The pressure was on going down there. We lost a league final a few weeks before that and that could have had a big bearing, but fair play to the girls they stepped up and got a result. We moved the ball really well and got some great scores.

"A lot of people didn't really think that we would have got a result down there, but I knew myself training was going well. It was a bit disappointing in the league; we just didn't perform. Having said that, we got the result below in Wexford and I felt as the game went on into the second half, we could have beaten them a lot more if we stayed going at them."

With all minor injuries more or less cleared up, Finn anticipates having a full squad to choose from and is well aware that strength in numbers will be required when they face Wexford. "It's not about the 15 that go out, this is the whole panel. You need a good panel and you need girls pushing hard in training and this year we have that."

"We moved Therese Maher back to centre back at the start of the championship and she's been a rock there. She's hurred really well and she's a great leader. The six backs have hurred well, Susan Earner has done well, and all the girls ... you couldn't ask for much more from them."

Like most camogie followers in the county, Finn has been delighted with the performances of the midfield partnership, an area where Galway struggled in recent years. "Their work rate is super. It's a



Pat McDonagh, Supermac's, team sponsors and player Jessica Gill, who works as a receptionist at Supermac's Headquarters.

work rate that will win matches for you. When we needed scores in the semi-final, Niamh Kilkenny came up the field and got them. The rest of the forwards chipped in with their few scores as well. You can't be relying on one or two or frees to keep you in a match. This year, thankfully, that hasn't happened."

No doubt, Galway, boasting of seven wins and only one loss in this year's championship, would appear to have banished the demons of last September's defeat and the manager says this has been the driving force behind their impressive showings.

"We needed to get back because we didn't ourselves justice last year. It has been a long championship, but thankfully we're back there now. Hopefully, we can go up there and get a result this time."

"People were doubting their mental attitude, but I never had a problem with that and I knew myself that we were good enough to get back, but the work had to be done on the training ground and you have to get the results in matches and that's what we have done. They wanted to

atone for last year and it was a big goal to get back."

Aspirations of reaching the final for a second successive year, however, received a setback as Cork inflicted a 2-14 to 0-8 hammering at Pearse Stadium, Galway though, remained focused on the bigger picture.

"We didn't perform that day, nothing went right us. We just didn't get to the pace of the game at all. Cork wanted to settle a score from last year. We beat them twice last year in the championship and I think Cork peaked for that day against us. You'll get days like that, but we were out against Offaly the following week and we put up a good performance."

"There's no point peaking for the third or fourth game. Bertie Sherlock said to me earlier in the year that he was going to try change things around and he has got it spot on. Their fitness levels are excellent and their hurling ability has improved immensely from the start of the championship."

As preparations so, Finn is confident that all has gone to plan. To this end, he acknowl-

edged the contributions of his backroom team comprising of trainer selectors Noel Power, Helena Huban and Peter Kelly along with trainer Sherlock.

"Training, as far as I'm concerned has gone excellent. You couldn't ask for any more from the players they are very committed. It's a relief to be back there because we had a tough year in fairness. We were put to the pin of our collar by Clare but, to be honest, I think we're kinda hitting form at the right time."

"The semi-final performance against Kilkenny showed how strong they are, they (Kilkenny) hit us for 1-2 straight after the re-start and that could have knocked a lot out of them, but the one thing I'm really happy with this year is that we're getting scores when we need scores."

The resilience he charges demonstrated in that semi-final was nothing short of superb, but it was their scoring exploits which eventually killed of the home challenge that was most pleasing.

"They don't panic. I might take us a little bit of to settle down when the game starts, but once we get into our rhythm, we do the simple things right and we're getting the scores. The main thing is the scores are coming easier than last year."

Despite that encouraging win over Wexford in Enniscorthy, Finn is keen to stress that Galway won't have it so easy come Sunday. "Let's not get carried away. The day below in Enniscorthy was the first round of the championship, but the pace on All-Ireland final day will be a lot faster."

"We're not going up there thinking we beat Wexford 11 points. It's going to be a different scenario. We're well prepared for this. We're a lot shrewder, the management have learned from that day. I don't think there is going to be an awful lot between the teams. You need the rub of the green up there and we didn't seem to have that last year."

It's been a long road back for this side, but Finn, once more, has brought them within sight of the summit. It's time to complete the journey.

## D'Arcy older and wiser after baptism of fire

The young Wexford goalkeeper already has a wealth of experience, writes Marie Crowe

WHEN Mags D'Arcy was just 15 she got the call-up to the Wexford senior camogie team. Without thinking, the goalkeeper jumped at the opportunity.

After a few months of hard training, she got the nod for a championship game against Tipperary in Semple Stadium, her idol Jovita Delaney was in the opposite goal and four-time All-Ireland winner Deirdre Hughes was playing at full-forward. D'Arcy was understandably excited – it was games like these she had always dreamed about, but it didn't go to plan.

"Seven goals went past me," she says, looking back. "It was awful and after the game we went back to Wexford and into the pub. I stood at the back with my orange juice and *The Sunday Game* came on, people around me were saying 'who is that Wexford goalkeeper she got destroyed' – and I was thinking 'what am I after getting myself in for?'"

D'Arcy wonders now if it was madness going into the senior goals at 15. But taking everything into consideration she is glad she did it.

"I'm only 23 now and have two All-Ireland medals and I'm hoping for a third today. Learning from those mistakes and experiences made me the person and player I am."

In 2007, Wexford won their first All-Ireland in 32 years. They had been knocking on the door for a while, suffering a few semi-final losses before eventually taking the title.

In the years leading up to the victory, a crop of young players including D'Arcy had come through the ranks to merge with the experience of Aine Codd, Kate Kelly and Aoife O'Connor. In the final they ended Cork's bid for three in a row in front of 33,000 people at Croke Park.

Last year they repeated that feat, beating Galway by two points to add another title to their tally. That time round though there were only 17,000 people watching the final and D'Arcy feels that the game could be promoted better.

"It's very hard to deal with the lack of coverage when you see the build-up to the Kilkenny and Tipperary hurling final last week compared to what we got in the run-up to our game. But the camogie association are not at fault, they can only do so much."

"It's up to the media to come on board and work with the female sports associations in Ireland. And it's not just the Gaelic games, the women's national soccer and hockey teams are doing very well and they don't get the publicity they deserve."

D'Arcy would like to see ladies football and camogie coming together as one association so the two sports can work side by side on promoting their games and improving player welfare.

"If you had two senior finals on in one day, camogie and ladies football, you would definitely get 40-50,000 at it. In order for ladies Gaelic games to try and get to that level, they will have to take that step forward."

"In fairness to the camogie and ladies football associations, they are doing the right things with social media and a lot of work is done at ground level but if we want to try and catch up with the men's games, something will have to be done."

D'Arcy doesn't feel that joining the Gaelic Players' Association is the answer. In fact, she doesn't feel they would benefit at all from coming under their umbrella. She says Wexford are looked



D'Arcy: going for third All-Ireland

after well, they get tea and sandwiches after training and if they need anything they can ask. But in general she thinks that player welfare is still an issue within camogie.

"There is a player welfare committee in camogie, they work from Croke Park. It was set up last year but as of yet I haven't seen any developments being made. They don't go out of their way to tell us what they are there for and that needs to be looked at."

Last week president of the camogie association Joan O'Flynn spoke out against the Hunky Dory advertisements which appeared in national newspapers. The ads showed scantily-clad models in county colours playing football.

**'At the same time if that was us in the pictures we'd have no problem filling Croke Park'**

"I think it is disappointing that when there is large-scale coverage like that that it doesn't emphasise the skill and the athleticism of the athlete," says O'Flynn. "It is preferential that it emphasises abilities and skills of the players rather than focusing on anything else."

Although D'Arcy agrees with O'Flynn, she feels that if camogie players were featured in the ads then the match would be sold out today.

"If it was the first week in January people would probably laugh at it but it's bad timing with the finals on. I'd back Joan in what she was saying but at the same time if that was us in the pictures we'd have no problem filling Croke Park."

Today's meeting between the sides is their fourth of the year and a repeat of last year's final.

Galway have made a number of positional switches since last year, moving Therese Maher to centre-back. Her match-up with Una Leacy will be one of the crucial points of the game, while the duel between captain Brenda Hanney and Catherine O'Loughlin is another vital match-up.

Wexford's forwards can be hard held when in full flow and how the Galway defence fares against the talents of Leacy, Katrina Parrock, Kate Kelly and co will decide the destiny of the title.

Galway: S Earner, T Manton, S Cahalan, L Ryan, AM Hayes, T Maher, H Conney, N Kilkenny, AM Slarr, N Coen, M Corry, A Connolly, T Riddledge, B Hanney, V Durkin, Wexford: M D'Arcy, C O'Donoghue, C O'Donoghue, K Atkinson, N Lambert, M Leacy, A O'Connor, D Codd, J Dwyer, A Kelly, D Lacey, M O'Leary, J Holohan, U Jacobs, K Parrock.

Galway v Wexford, RTE 2, 4.0



The Galway Camogie Board Committee, from left, Sandra O'Donovan, Jackie O'Brien, Edel Shiel, Pat McDonagh, (Supermac's team sponsor), Geraldine McGrath, Board Chairperson, J.J. Manton, Sean Geraghty and Frank Duane, looking ahead to Sunday's All-Ireland final.





Looking ahead to Sunday's All-Ireland camogie final are Susan Earner, (Eyrecourt), Lorraine Ryan, (Killimordaly), Aislinn Connolly, (Castlegar), and Tara Rutledge, (Portumna).

# Sisters seeking double from their familiar defensive spots

DEAN GOODISON

Sports reporter

PAIRS, or even groups, of sisters are not unusual within the Wexford set-up. There are several. The difference with the Atkinson siblings is that they pretty much occupy the same position - but for different teams.

Two years ago they played together in the full-back line for the Intermediates. However, under the current regime, younger sister Karen made the step-up to the Seniors while Colleen remained with the second string.

And there they stayed, through their respective All-Ireland finals to now.

Of course, they don't play in exactly the same position. Colleen takes the right corner while Karen plays left - as they do for their club, Oulart-The Ballagh - but they can still help each other along.

'It's great, we both know where we are going,' says elder sister Colleen. 'I like watching Karen, we are both corner-backs, we always have the same gameplan, the same idea of what we need to do and it's nice.'

'We've always looked out for each other,' says Karen. 'We still pucker to each other. We are very sisterly, very cliquey I suppose.'

Indeed, after her own All-Ireland dreams were wrecked in last year's Intermediate final, Colleen watched in horror as Karen lasted no more than ten minutes before succumbing to a cruciate knee injury - something that ruined the Senior final for the squad member too.

'I was more focused on Karen and it just didn't mean the same when she was gone off, it was hard to watch. I brought her into the Senior dressing-room at half-time and the other girls were shouting "we'll do it for Karen". That was lovely but I was devastated for her not to be running out for the second-half.'

For Karen, Saturday's final offers another opportunity to win the medal on the field

and she knows what her side will be up against.

'The two best teams made it to an All-Ireland final,' says Karen. 'Galway are very physical and strong, we just have to mark each one.'

'Workrate is the main thing within the back line and up front, at least if the forwards put in the work hopefully it won't come down to us so much! Their forwards are very good but we have some very good forwards too so hopefully we can outweigh their strengths.'

Big sister, not old, gets the chance to rewrite the loss from last year but also gets to do it as captain. Something which is unsurprisingly an honour.

'It's great, an absolute honour to get it, I was absolutely delighted to get it and I couldn't be prouder of a group of girls to go out and be captain of and lead them out,' says Colleen.

'We know Antrim, we know all Northern Ireland teams, they are going to be strong, they are going to be physical, that's going to be their main game. I cannot wait for it, I'm really looking forward to it, it's just not going to be a repeat of last year, it's like we have unfinished business to do this year.'



Karen and Colleen Atkinson will be defending with all their might on Sunday.



Killimor players on the Galway camogie squad, back row: Emer Haverty, Ann Marie Starr, Martina Conroy. Front row: Brenda Hanney, Helen Campbell and Julie O'Brien.



## O'Neill's better in second period

U14 CAMOGIE

Fr O'Neill's 3-4  
Aghabullogue 3-2

THIS was a closely contested U14 B league decider with Fr O'Neill's emerging winners with two points to spare in Ballinlough recently, writes **MARY NEWMAN**.

Playing against a strong wind in the opening half Fr O'Neill's got off to a great start with a Keelagh Cullinane pointed 45 inside the first three minutes of the throw-in.

Aghabullogue hit the front with a Cliona Healy goal, and they stretched their advantage with a Katie Ward point.

With their defence under a lot of pressure Fr O'Neill's were made to work hard but they held their composure, Rachel Dunne cut the deficit but Aghabullogue replied through Katie Ward.

With half-time approaching Fr O'Neill's got back level thanks to a Rachel Dunne goal and it was 1-2 each at the break.

Turning to play with the wind in their favour Fr O'Neill's took an early lead with a Keelagh Cullinane point. Keeping the pressure on they stretched their lead with a goal from Keelagh Cullinane.

O'Neill's extended their lead to five points but Aghabullogue responded with a goal from Ella Curtin. Despite playing against the elements Aghabullogue kept the pressure on and they hit the front with a Katie Ward goal with 11 minutes remaining.

The Fr O'Neill's defence regained their composure with goalkeeper Aisling Bernard and her defence in control, as they repelled attack after attack.

With the clock ticking towards full-time play swung from end to end.

Fr O'Neill's continued to press for something and they were rewarded with a Clara O'Neill goal which put them in to the lead.

Fr O'Neill's Rebecca Walsh was presented with the Player of the Match award following her excellent display.

**Scorers for Fr O'Neill's:** K Cullinane 1-3 (0-1 45), R Dunne 1-1, C O'Neill 1-0. **Aghabullogue:** K Ward 1-3, E Curtin, C Healy 1-0 each.

**FR O'NEILL'S:** A Bernard; S Lee, S Broderick, L O'Donoghue; N Harrington, C Sexton, D O'Sullivan; S O'Sullivan, R Walsh; N Bernard, E O'Keefe, K Cullinane; R Dunne, C O'Neill, R Millerick.

**Subs:** A Millerick for R Millerick, M Steele for N Bernard, C O'Keefe for E O'Keefe.

**Aghabullogue:** F Tamm; K McCarthy, A Healy, M Bréwne, T Desmond, E Curtin, R Keefe, E Flanagan, M McCarthy, B Hartnett, A O'Sullivan, C Healy, C McCarthy, K Ward, R McElroy.

# Wexford on course



Senior captains Brenda Hanney, Galway, left and Ursula Jacob, Wexford, during captains' day ahead of tomorrow's All-Ireland camogie championship finals. Picture: Sportsfile



## CAMOGIE

WEXFORD and Galway contest tomorrow's All-Ireland final for the second year in a row.

Galway enter its third final in four years, and if they don't succeed one would have to wonder about their potential to ever win a second title (their only title achieved in 1996).

They have lost 13 finals to date.

Galway will need to improve considerably on their semi-final performance and on last year's final if they hope to win this one.

Twelve months ago Wexford's defence was outstanding on the day, but Galway played into their hands.

They crowded themselves out up front and should they do this again tomorrow they won't win the dirty ball. Three points from play was an awful return.

I didn't see much evidence in Galway's semi-final victory over Kilkenny of a gameplan to amend this, and the only way Galway will break down such a defence as Wexford's, is to spread them. A fast, open, diagonal style of play would work.

Despite the fact that Wexford never looked like losing the final in 2010 they never quite put it beyond Galway's reach. They led by three points with 28 minutes played despite winning many positions on the field.

Almost four minutes of added time did see Wexford head for the dressing room in a far more deserving position after Katrina Parrock goaled with one of the best moves of the game and Ursula Jacob pointed.

Wexford eventually won out by just

## Clon come good with a late burst

Clonakilty 4-9  
Éire Óg 2-8

### SENIOR B CAMOGIE

Sinead O'Neill and Clíodhna O'Regan.

The second half was evenly contested as the sides battled for the points on offer where a win was vital for both to keep their championship interests alive for another game.

Éire Óg kept themselves in front thanks to the accuracy of Elaine Scally, Emma Crowley, Erin Corkery, Aoife McCarthy and Siobhán Hutchinson who were also on target with point over the hour.

The sharp-shooting of Marie O'Donovan proved vital for Clonakilty as she hit five points, while Sinead O'Neill, Hazel O'Regan and Juanita Brennan also added to the tally.

Éire Óg held a two point

lead with 10 minutes remaining but goals from Hannah Coughlan and Marie O'Donovan sealed victory for Clonakilty after an exciting contest.

**Scorers for Clonakilty:** M O'Donovan 1-5 (0-4), S O'Neill 1-2, H Coughlan, C O'Regan 1-0 each, H O'Regan, J Brennan 0-1 each.

**Éire Óg:** E Scally 1-3, S Hutchinson 1-1, E Crowley 0-2, E Corkery, A McCarthy 0-1 each.

**CLONAKILTY:** S O'Donovan; A O'Hea, H O'Regan, S O'Brien; A O'Neill, A Kearns, C Nagle; C O'Mahony, S Forristal; S O'Neill, C O'Regan (c), S Whelton; J Brennan, M O'Donovan, E Jennings.

**Subs:** A Deasy for E Jennings, H Coughlan for S Whelton, G O'Regan for J Brennan.

**ÉIRE ÓG:** M Gleeson; C O'Keefe, C McKenna, A Hennessy; A Barry, M O'Herlihy, K McCarthy; A McCarthy, E Crowley; A Scally, E Scally, L Haynes; E Corkery, M Corkery, S Hutchinson.

**Subs:** A McKenna for L Haynes, O'Mearney for Aine Barry.

## Maggie strikes

Ballinhassig 2-8  
Mallow 0-10

### SENIOR B CAMOGIE

BALLINHASSIG had to call on all their resources to beat Mallow, recording their fourth win in a row to finish top of their group, in the Evening Echo Senior B Championship, writes **MARY NEWMAN**.

Full-forward Maggie Collins hit vital goals in each half.

The first came two minutes into injury time at the end of the opening half when the sides were level at 0-4 each.

Emma Jordan added a point to give Ballinhassig a 1-5 to 0-4 inter-

val advantage.

They stretched it to seven points minutes into the second half as Maggie Collins finished to the net just after Miriam Byrne had pointed for Mallow to cut the deficit.

Trailing by seven points Mallow rallied, and three points from Katie Buckley had them back in the game.

Eimear O'Sullivan, who had an outstanding game for Ballinhassig, pointed a free, but Mallow applied pressure from the

pressure from the



SEPT. 2011

# for two in a row



Sarsfields U14 team, winners of the County U14 A league title for the first time in the club's history.

two points after Aislinn Connolly's free from under the Hogan stand went all the way to the net on the hour, but it would have been an injustice had Galway snatched victory, or even a draw in the end, such was their performance on the day.

Wexford struggled against Cork in their recent semi-final win and but for a second-half defensive error by Cork they could well be sitting in the stand tomorrow.

I believe Wexford's have not yet hit the heights of 2007. Will they hit it tomorrow and take their third title in five years?

Galway don't have the forwards Wexford possess. Very few inter-county teams at present can boost an up front calibre of Kate Kelly, Katrina Parrock, Ursula Jacob and Una Leacy.

Should all four click together they are capable of causing massive destruction.

Aislinn Connolly needs to give a big performance at left half forward, as does Brenda Hanney at full.

Hanney needs to hit the net. Her goal against Kilkenny was well taken. From the moment she gathered possession she had goal on her mind and Galway has to have that same approach tomorrow.

They need goals. Catherine O'Loughlin is the best full-back in the business.

Both players are strong but O'Loughlin would be my slight favourite to win any aerial battle so there is no point in Galway raining balls down on top of her and Hanney. Galway need to play it fast and low and run Wexford.

Claire O'Connor is outstanding at right corner-back. She is a huge player for Wexford and should Veronica Curtin line out at left corner-forward she won't have an easy afternoon at all.

It was only when Curtin switched corners 12 months ago that she got any bit of breathing space.

Twenty-year-old Tara Rutledge wins good possession, but the finish isn't there yet. I'd place her on O'Connor and let them battle it out.

Galway can't afford Curtin to be 100% curtailed.

Too many of Galway's experienced players fail to show when it matters most. That needs to change tomorrow, particularly up front.

Veronica Curtin, Brenda Hanney and Aislinn Connolly need to step up to the mark.

They are big players and big players need to perform on the big days. Wexford's hunger was impressive in the semi-final when I would have thought that Cork should have held the upper hand there.

Galway must surely desire this title more. Galway has made a significant number of changes to 2010.

The changes do seem to have strengthened the squad with Niamh Kilkenny a big plus at centre field, Therese Maher now operating at centre back and the introduction of Ann Marie Starr, who impressed hugely in Killimor's All-Ireland triumph, also in the middle of the Park.

Galway doesn't have a very strong bench; they need their 15 to perform.

With Ursula Jacob back operating at full forward Wexford may well turn to their usual approach of pulling out their wing forwards in an attempt to leave plenty of space in front of her.

Noel Finn will need to react fast and close that gap.

Galway's management team has a huge role to play.

My head tells me this one is Wexford's title, my heart tells me it's Galway's.

## Glen win to ensure they top section

SENIOR B CAMOGIE

Glen Rovers	2-14
Bishopstown	1-3

GLEN ROVERS finished top of their group in the Evening Echo senior B championship when they overcame city rivals Bishopstown in Castle Road, writes MARY NEWMAN.

Despite playing with the strong wind Bishopstown came under a lot of first-half pressure. Sinead O'Halloran goalied three minutes into the game to give the Glen an early lead, which they held to the final whistle.

With Denise Luby adding three points and Aoife Walsh one, they were seven points clear. Ciara Healy hit a superb goal to get Bishopstown off the mark and with Sinead Kelly pointing they cut the deficit.

Three minutes from the break Edel O'Connell grabbed a goal and with Denise Luby and Sinead O'Halloran pointing Glen Rovers led 2-7 to 1-2 at the break.

Aided by the wind for the second half, the Glen added to their tally. Denise Luby and Leeann O'Sullivan were on target with three points each, with Sinead O'Halloran adding one.

Ciara Healy got one back for Bishopstown but with their semi-final spot secured the Glen girls finished strong and were not going to be denied.

They now await the outcome of the Mallow versus Clonakilty game, where a win will guarantee Mallow a semi-final spot.

A Clonakilty victory would ensure a play off with Mallow, and there's a further potential twist because if Mallow were to lose and Newcestown were to overcome Eire Og, Newcestown could also force them selves into that play-off situation.

For Glen Rovers it's just a case of wait and see.

**Scorers for Glen Rovers:** D Luby 0-8 (0-5f), S O'Halloran 1-2, E O'Connell 1-0, L O'Sullivan 0-3.

**Bishopstown:** C Healy 1-1 (0-1f), M Scannell, S Kelly 0-1 each.

**GLEN ROVERS:** K Newman; Z Buckley, A Gilton, M Hegarty; L Callanan, L Cunningham, B Walsh; K O'Connell, L O'Sullivan; J Hosford, A O'Keefe, D Luby; S O'Halloran, A Walsh, E O'Connell.

**Subs:** N O'Brien for L Callanan (half-time), S Gailen for J Hosford, S Fahy for A Walsh (both 42).

**Bishopstown:** D Coughlan; A Noone, P Finn, N Byrne; R Nunan, S Kelly, M Egan; E Foyle, A Murphy; M Scannell, F Shanahan, S Murphy; R Hayes, C Healy, O Lane.

**Subs:** O Ni Dhonnai for M Egan, A Foley for O Lane, G O'Connor for S Murphy, M O'Mahony for N Byrne, R O'Riordan for R Hayes.

**Referee:** Gene Buckley (Glenagh).

## on the double

puckout.

Katie Buckley won possession and was fouled.

Katie Buckley pointed the resulting free and with eight minutes remaining Ballinhassig were now under pressure.

Eimear O'Sullivan pointed as they held their composure.

Calling on all their experience they worked tirelessly.

Katie Buckley responded for Mallow, but Ballinhassig still pushed forward forcing Mallow keeper Sinead O'Connor to deny them with three superb saves.

They now progress to the semi-final when they will meet Valley Rovers.

**Scorers for Ballinhassig:** M Collins 2-0, E O'Sullivan 0-3 (0-1f), E Jordan 0-2, L Jordan, A O'Brien (0-1f), D Coomey 0-1 each.

**Mallow:** K Buckley 0-7 (0-3f), B Ganley, M Byrne, M Browne (0-1f) 0-1 each.

**BALLINHASSIG:** G O'Callaghan; K Coleman, Kilmartin, E O'Donovan; M Reardon, E O'Sullivan, H Cullinane; M Kelleher, S McCarthy; L Jordan, D Coomey, E Jordan; O Murray, M Collins, A O'Brien, Sub: S O'Callaghan for M Collins (52).

**MALLOW:** S O'Connor; K McAuliffe, K O'Halloran, L Tanner; B O'Sullivan, K Healy, A O'Rourke; M Browne, E Coakley, J Fitzpatrick; K Coakley, M Byrne; B Ganley, K Buckley, K O'Brien.

**Sub:** E Forde for K McAuliffe (half-time).

**Referee:** Cathal Egan (Glen Rovers).

## Valleys too strong as they progress

Valley Rovers	4-6
Kilbrittain/Timoleague	1-1

SENIOR B CAMOGIE

WITH victory ensuring the winners progressed to the semi-final stages this last game in the group in the senior B championship proved highly competitive, writes MARY NEWMAN.

Kilbrittain played with the aid of the strong wind in the opening half but despite winning a lot of possession they found the going tough against the strong Valley Rovers defence.

Marion Murphy worked hard for Kilbrittain and she showed great accuracy pointing four first frees while Miriam Deasy grabbed a goal.

Despite playing against the wind Valley Rovers were

level at the break. Katie Richardson and Orla Deasy had goals while Elaine Burke pointed a free.

From the start of the second half they put the Kilbrittain defence under pressure and with the wind in their favour they added to their tally. Elaine Burke and her niece Tessa Crowley added goals to the Valley Rovers tally and with Orla Deasy, Liz Bugler and Burke again pointing, there was no way back for Kilbrittain.

Valley Rovers are into the semi-final where they will meet Ballinhassig.

**Scorers for Valley Rovers:** O Deasy, E Burke (1-1 45, 0-1f) 1-2 each, K Richardson, T Crowley 1-0 each, L Bugler, MA Hawkes 0-1 each.

**Kilbrittain/Timoleague:** M Murphy 0-4f, M Deasy, 1-0.



Miriam Deasy was among the scorers for Kilbrittain/Timoleague.

**VALLEY ROVERS:** G Harrington; A M Murphy, C Hawkes, J Hawkes; T Crowley, E O'Mahony, E Coughlan; A Cummins, C Deasy; K Richardson, MA Hawkes, E O'Regan; O Deasy, E Burke, L Bugler.

**Sub:** J Callanan for T Crowley.

**KILBRITTAIN/TIMOLEAGUE:** A Casey; L Nyhan, E O'Sullivan, A Foley; D O'Sullivan, L O'Callaghan, S Moloney; D O'Mahony, M Murphy; S Sexton, J Cashman, M Dullea; L Moloney, M Deasy, M O'Donovan.



# WE NEVER EVEN GOT STARTED



HOPE: JJ Doyle

## JJ URGES STARS TO HAVE NO REGRETS

■ KARL O'KANE

WEXFORD boss JJ Doyle has urged his side to ensure they harbour "no regrets" at the end of tomorrow's All-Ireland senior camogie final clash with Galway.

Doyle is seeking to guide Wexford to back to back All-Ireland senior titles, something the county haven't achieved since 1969.

And he is also going for a unique double as his Wexford intermediate side go head-to-head with Antrim in tomorrow's curtain raiser.

### Hungry

Doyle said: "We are very hungry for this game (senior). Experiencing defeat in semi-finals in 08, 09, and people were kind of questioning, 'Wexford can win one All-Ireland but can they win another one.'"

"And the girls are very keen to prove a point and prove that last year is no flash in the pan and they really want it this year."

"It's whichever team I believe wants it the most because hurling wise we are probably very much on a par."

"It's the bit of hunger and whoever gets that little bit of luck. We are hopeful and confident and I suppose Galway are the same."

"The one thing you don't ever want is to come off and say, 'Jesus, if I'd only done this, or done that,' because regrets is one thing you can't live with."

GALWAY camogie boss Noel Finn admits the occasion got to his side in last year's All-Ireland camogie final — but he insists his side have learned from the experience.

Finn's team lost out to Wexford in last year's decider, but defeated Kilkenny four weeks ago to set up a repeat of last season's showpiece.

"It was a big learning experience for everybody, players and management."

"We have learned a lot of things as a management team, and you need that bit of luck when you get to Croke Park," said the Galway boss.

"We had a of girls that never played here before and I think the nerves and the occasion got to them. To be quite honest, I know now that they are in a better position."

"They have the experience of last year over them and fit and well and raring to go."

Finn, who had managed sides to All-Ireland junior and intermediate level, is feeling a big start, feeling it will be

## Galway learn from their mistakes



Karl O'KANE

REPORTS  
karl.okane@thestar.ie

crucial to his side.

He said: "We didn't start motoring until the second half and if the same thing happens this year we are going to be in trouble again."

"I think getting settled and an early score will make a big difference to either side, getting into a rhythm and then things will start falling into place hopefully."

### Killed

"Hopefully they will do themselves justice. We just didn't do well last year."

"We gave Wexford a seven or eight-point lead going in at half time and I think the goal kind of killed it."

"If it was three or four points you'd have some chance. When we did start to hurl and came back at them, the clock, we ran out of time."

"There is going to be very little in it. We have met five or six times in the last two years and we've won a couple, they've won a couple."

"But they have won the important one, and we are going to try to make up for that."

Finn feels Galway are a better side this year, and crucially they are injury free.

Last year Galway had injury problems with Therese Maher, Caroline Murray and, to a lesser extent, Tara Rutledge, going into the decider with Wexford.

Finn said: "To be quite honest I think we have hurled really well this year and I think we are hitting form at the right time."

"I think we are better balanced this year to be honest. We have juggled the team around and different players are playing in different positions compared to last year."

"Our league form wasn't too bad. We got to the final but we had a few injuries going into that. We don't have any injuries going into this."

"Kilkenny hit us for 1-2 at the start of the second half (of the All-Ireland semi-final)

and we were only a point up after having a six-point lead, but we didn't panic, and we went upfield and got a few scores."

"This year we are finding our scores easier than last year and the good thing is we always have five or six forwards that come off in every match with three points, two points, one point."

"We are not just relying on one or two players which is a big asset and the girls are going well in midfield."

"The backs are working as a unit and there isn't a lot more you can ask for really. I am delighted with their form and the way they are playing."

Finn isn't too worried about the physical edge Wexford are likely to possess in the one on one exchanges.

He said: "It's just the way the game pans out for you. If it's physical it's probably going to suit Wexford."

"They are a more physical side or whatever, but a big pitch like this I don't think to be honest the physical side will come into it because you have big open spaces."



**CAMOGIE ALL-IRELAND SENIOR FINAL**  
**Galway v Wexford**  
Tomorrow, 4.0, Croke Pk, RTE2

**MOTERING AHEAD:** Captains Ursula Jacob of Wexford and Brenda Hanney of Galway ahead of the Camogie All-Ireland senior final and (right) Galway boss Noel Finn



# AN GUMANN CAMÓGAÍOCHTA



## 2011 ALL IRELAND CAMOGIE FINALS

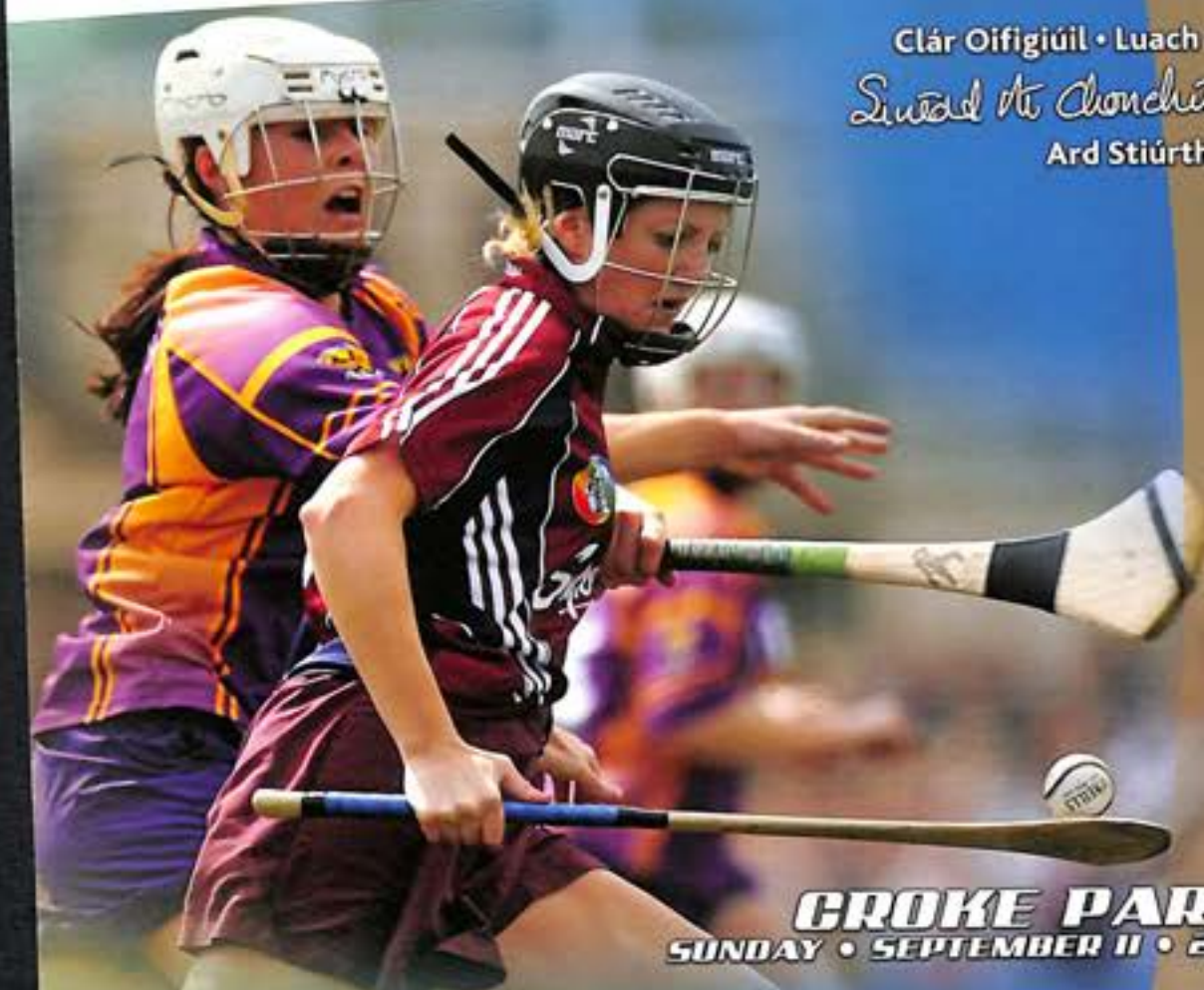
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**CROKE PARK**

SUNDAY • SEPTEMBER 11 • 2011

ALL IRELAND PREMIER JUNIOR CHAMPIONSHIP FINAL

**DOWN V WATERFORD**

@ 12.00 pm

ALL IRELAND INTERMEDIATE CHAMPIONSHIP FINAL

**ANTRIM V WEXFORD**

@ 2.00 pm

ALL IRELAND SENIOR CHAMPIONSHIP FINAL

**GALWAY V WEXFORD**

@ 4.00 pm



## Clár an Lae

12 noon

Cluiche Ceannais na Príomh Sóisear  
**AN DÚN v PORT LÁIRGE**

12.33pm

Camogie Mini Games  
*Ballyvary (Mayo) v Feale Gaels (Kerry)*  
*Commercials (Dublin) v Ballygalget (Down)*

2.00pm

Cluiche Ceannais Idirmheánach  
**AONTROIM v LOCH GARMAN**

2.33pm

Camogie Mini Games  
*Abbeyknockmoy (Galway) v Killeagh (Cork)*  
*Loughgiel (Antrim) v St. Jude's U13 Tournament Winners*

3.52pm

Paráid na bhFoireann Sinsear

3.58pm

Amhrán na bhFiann

4.00pm

Cluiche Ceannais na Sinsear  
**GAILLIMH v LOCH GARMAN**

4.33pm

All Ireland Camán & Run U14 & U16

## Meet the MATCH OFFICIALS

**MIKE O'KELLY** from Cork will join the elite band of All Ireland Senior Championship Final referees today when he takes charge of the Galway v Wexford decider. The Ballyhea clubman took up the whistle for Inter-county games the first time in 2007. An aircraft maintenance project manager by profession, he is married to Denise and has 3 children - Laura, Siobhán and Sean. Mike refereed the All Ireland Junior Club final in 2009 and the All Ireland U16A and Intermediate Club Finals of 2010. Most recently he took charge of the Division 1 National League Final in April, the Minor A All-Ireland Final last July and the Senior Championship Semi-Final between Galway and Kilkenny last month.

His umpires for today are Seamus Sexton, Pa Fitzgerald, Mike Copps and Ciarán O'Regan.

The team is completed by Standby Referee Karl O'Brien, Dublin and Line Umpire Rosemary Hughes Merry, Monaghan.

4th Official: Éadhmonn Mac Suibhne, Dublin.

5th Official: Cathal Egan, Cork.





# Focal ón Uachtarán



**F**ÁILTE ROMHAT chuig Páirc an Chrócaigh. Tá súil agam go mbainfidh gach duine taitneamh as na cluichí. Táim cinnte go mbéidh comórtais den chéad scoth againn agus go dtabharfaidh sibhse, an lucht féachana, aitheantas cuí do na foirme agus iad ag léiriú scileanna ár gcluiche ar an bpáirc imeartha inniu.

## 80 years a growing

All Ireland Sunday is unique. This year is particularly special. 2011 marks the 80th birthday of the All Ireland Senior Camogie Final. Few women's team sports can celebrate such a record.

The involvement of Galway is an interesting link. They lined out against Dublin in the very first All Ireland Senior Final in 1932.

Today, with three titles at stake, four provinces, five counties and six teams all play for the honour of being the 2011 All Ireland champions.

Wexford seek to retain the O'Duffy Cup and secure a special double to match the back to back Division 1 *Irish Daily Star* League title won earlier this season.

Galway, on their third visit to Croke Park in four years, are not crossing the Shannon to be runners-up. They pursue their second ever title.

Antrim too want back-to-back success. All Ireland Premier Junior champions in 2010, they want the Jack McGrath Cup.

Last year's runners-up in the Intermediate final, Wexford, are extremely keen to stop the Saffrons!

The All Ireland Premier Junior Final brings Waterford and Down together. Waterford's yearning for that elusive title is evident. They make a third consecutive visit in pursuit of their first All Ireland title.

Down Camogie are no strangers to these environs who were last here in 2004.

Whilst some counties may carry the favourites tag, there is no such thing as certainties in a final. That's the thrill and promise of today – it's all to play for.

## Our marquee day

Top inter-county action by our star players in the three finals is, unquestionably, the centrepiece of today's programme. And there's also a full package of complementary activities:

- The All Ireland Senior Camogie Referees from 1961-2010 are our special guests at the games. It is a great pleasure to celebrate and recognise their amazing service.
- The Camán & Run relay race made its debut at the All Ireland Club Finals in March and is back today, this time for our U-14 and U-16 clubs.
- The mini-games are a much loved part of the programme.
- The Camogie Association launches *Cairde Camógaitochta*, our new initiative supporting former and current members to stay in contact.
- I am also delighted to welcome club teams from all over the country that played in the Daintree Paper All Ireland Kilmacud 7s tournament yesterday. A special welcome to teams who participated in our inaugural Club Twinning initiative. Visiting teams played challenge games against Dublin clubs this morning and join us here this afternoon.

## Creating equal opportunities to play Camogie

Since that first championship final in 1932 when the Dubs beat Galway, much has changed about women's sport. Eighty years ago, a woman in sport was unconventional. Today, the law expects women to be treated fairly. Social attitudes increasingly expects so too.

Just as gender should not be a barrier to sports participation, geography should not be a barrier to playing Camogie.

The idea that Camogie is particular to certain geographical areas always worries me. The opportunity to enjoy Camogie should not depend on which county a person lives in or which part of the county a person lives in.

Tradition is something to treasure. Creating more opportunity to play Camogie is the best way to enhance and strengthen that tradition. *Our Game, Our Passion*, the Association's development plan, reflects that idea. We are working hard to expand playing opportunities. Camogie is alive with new clubs in, for example, Donegal, Wicklow, Sligo, Longford, Carlow, Kerry and Mayo while the more established counties and urban centres also continue to grow and consolidate.

## Confidently creating the future

The development of Camogie playing grounds around the country is a really strong sign of the well-being of our game. To cater for our growing needs, there are at least nine Camogie grounds under independent management by Camogie clubs and county boards. Twenty years ago, there were little or none. That said, we enjoy fantastic access to Gaelic grounds throughout the country.

- Today is the second consecutive year that Croke Park hosts a triple header of the Senior, Intermediate and Junior Finals.
- The qualifying rounds of our national championships are played in county GAA grounds.
- Our All Ireland senior semi finals in August attracted a record crowd to Nowlan Park in Kilkenny.
- Our 2011 All Ireland Senior and Intermediate Camogie Club Finals will again be played in Croke Park in March 2012. Over five thousand fans flocked here this year for the first occasion of the Camogie club finals in the new Stadium.

These four developments make a huge difference to the profile and status of our game.

Looking ahead, the *Playing Rules Review* report is on the horizon. Our Constitution allows us to examine the rules every three years. The recent national survey on the Rules was our most extensive consultation. It generated the highest number of hits on our website. Further consultation continues with the National Referees' and Coaching and Player Welfare Committees. The Review Group, including Wexford's manager, J.J. Doyle and Down player, Fionnuala Carr, will shortly report to Central Council. Annual Congress in March 2012 will adjudicate on relevant playing rules' motions.

Camogie is in good health on several fronts: high playing standards, growing participation and an expanding profile. This is not an accident but due to the work and commitment of many many people.

## Appreciation

In our busy lives, volunteering is the gift of people's time. I generously acknowledge its importance to Camogie's growth and development and warmly congratulate and thank all our volunteers.

This year RTÉ Sport came on board as the official partners of the All Ireland championship series. We have enjoyed a very successful season. The profile of the game has increased and the relationship between our national game and our national broadcaster has strengthened.

My final word of appreciation is to today's participants – the players, managers, team mentors, referees, match officials, musicians, volunteers, staff of Croke Park Stadium, the Camogie Association's outstanding staff team and you our supporters.

I wish everybody a sporting day to savour and remember.

Go n-éirí libh agus go raibh an bua ag na bhfoirme is fearr i rith an lae.

*Síodhán Ní Shléinn*

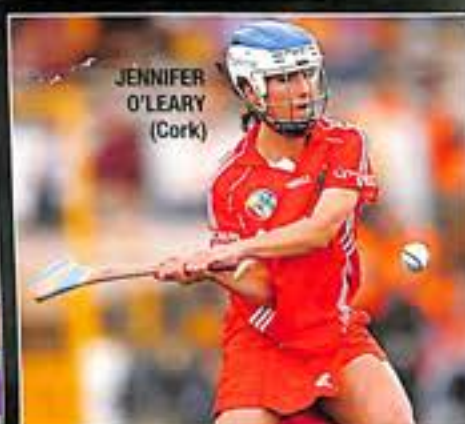
JOAN O'FLYNN  
Uachtarán, An Cumann Camógaitochta



## All-Ireland Senior Championship in association with RTÉ SPORT

### TOP SCORERS FROM EACH SENIOR COUNTY

NAME	COUNTY	SCORE	TOTAL
URSULA JACOB	Wexford	3-54	69
ELAINE DERMODY	Offaly	1-42	45
JENNIFER O'LEARY	Cork	2-38	44
MICHELLE QUILTY	Kilkenny	5-26	41
CLAIRE McMAHON	Clare	0-38	38
VERONICA CURTIN	Galway	5-15	30
JILL HORAN	Tipperary	1-23	26
ALISON MAGUIRE	Dublin	0-16	16



JENNIFER O'LEARY (Cork)



JILL HORAN (Tipperary)  
(Photo: Sportfile)



# GALWAY DESIRE VERSUS WEXFORD'S EXPERIENCE

SENIOR FINAL PREVIEW by LINDA MELLERICK, 'Evening Echo'

IT'S A REPEAT of the 2010 final, Wexford and Galway. Galway enters its third final in four years. They have lost 13 behind them, their luck will turn. Galway will need to improve considerably on their semi-final performance if they hope to win this one. Having been to the 'Well' so many times it's time for Galway's household names to shine in their most important hour.

Twelve months ago Wexford's defence was outstanding on the day but Galway played into their hands. They crowded out up front and should they do this again today they won't win the 'tough' ball. The only way Galway will break down such

a defence as Wexford's is to spread them with a fast open diagonal style of play.

Despite the fact that Wexford never looked like losing the final in 2010 they never quite put it beyond Galway's reach. They led by just three points with twenty eight minutes played despite winning many positions on the field.

Wexford struggled against Cork in their semi-final win and but for a defensive error by Cork they may well be sitting in the stand today. I believe Wexford hasn't yet hit the heights of previous seasons. Will they hit it today?

Niamh Kilkenny was Galway's best performer twelve months ago and in her new role at centre field this season she has carried that form over.

She had an excellent semi-final and Galway will rely heavily on her today.

Very few inter-county teams at present can boast forwards of the calibre of Kate Kelly, Katrina Parrock, Ursula Jacob and Una Leacy. Should all four click together they are capable of causing massive destruction.

Aislinn Connolly is at her best at left half forward with plenty of space. Connolly is crucial to Galway's chances of success and is Brenda Hanney at full forward. Hanney's goal against Kilkenny was superbly taken. From the moment she gathered possession she had goal on her mind and Galway have to have the same approach today. They need goals.

Catherine O'Loughlin is the best full back in the business. Both players are strong but Catherine would be my slight favourite to win any aerial battle and if that is the case Galway will have to resist the high ball approach and opt to play it fast and low and run at Wexford.

Claire O'Connor is outstanding at right corner back. She is a huge player for Wexford and Veronica Curtin won't have an easy afternoon. It was only when Curtin switched corners twelve months ago that she got any bit of breathing space.



Senior captains Brenda Hanney, Galway (left) and Ursula Jacob, Wexford, photographed at Captains Day in Croke Park on Tuesday last, September 6th. (Photo: Brian Lawless/Sportfile)

Tara Rutledge wins good possession but it is vital that she converts this into scores. I'd place her on O'Connor and let them battle it out. Galway can't afford Curtin to be 100% curtailed.

Big performances are required from Veronica Curtin, Brenda Hanney and Aislinn Connolly. They are crucial players for the Westerners.

Wexford's hunger was impressive in the semi-final when I would have thought that Cork should have held the upper hand there. Galway must surely desire this title more yet there is no point in leaving form on the training ground.

Galway have made a significant number of changes to that of 2010; six changes in personnel and only two players holding the same positions. The changes do seem to have strengthened the squad with Niamh Kilkenny a big plus at

centre field, Therese Maher now operating at centre back and the introduction of Ann Marie Starr, who impressed hugely in Kilimor's All Ireland triumph.

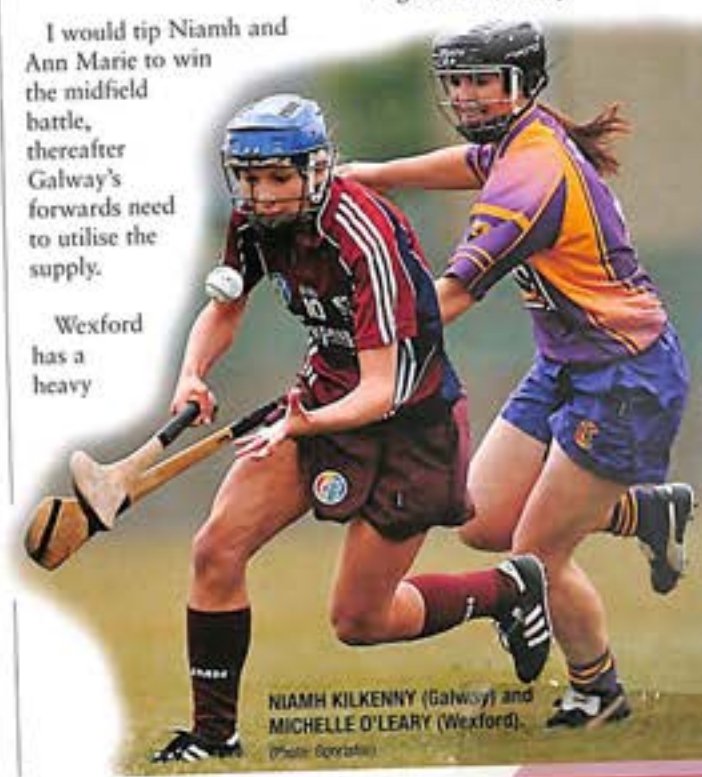
I would tip Niamh and Ann Marie to win the midfield battle, thereafter Galway's forwards need to utilise the supply.

Wexford has a heavy

focus on playing tactics. I believe had Cork taken their chances, this could have been Wexford's downfall. They packed midfield in the opening period by drawing out their two wing forwards, yet it was Cork who won the battle with their wing backs becoming additional attackers. Ursula Jacob reverts to full forward today. She is in great form this season and Wexford will more than likely play that same tactic and endeavour to leave space in front of her. Galway needs to close this gap.

The duel between Therese Maher and Una Leacy promises to be a great battle and it is crucial for Galway that Therese wins the contest. Kate Kelly, in great form, is another itching to cause damage.

My head tells me this one is Wexford's title - my heart goes for Galway.



NIAMH KILKENNY (Galway) and MICHELLE O'LEARY (Wexford). (Photo: Sportfile)

## All-Ireland Senior Championship in association with RTÉ SPORT

### PATHS TO THE FINAL

DATE	RESULT	REFEREE
June 11th	Wexford ..... 0-9 Galway ..... 2-14	Mike O Kelly
June 18th	Cork ..... 1-8 Wexford ..... 0-14	Fintan McNamara
	Galway ..... 1-10 Clare ..... 1-7	Cathal Egan
June 25th	Wexford ..... 1-14 Kilkenny ..... 1-9	Eadhonn Mac Suibhne
June 26th	Galway ..... 0-8 Cork ..... 2-14	Owen Elliott
July 2nd	Clare ..... 0-9 Wexford ..... 3-12	Karl O'Brien
	Galway ..... 1-25 Offaly ..... 2-4	Eadhonn Mac Suibhne
July 9th	Dublin ..... 0-6 Galway ..... 2-18	Cathal Egan
	Wexford ..... 5-11 Tipperary ..... 0-10	Eadhonn Mac Suibhne
July 16th	Wexford ..... 3-19 Offaly ..... 1-9	Eadhonn Mac Suibhne
	Galway ..... 0-12 Kilkenny ..... 0-9	Owen Elliott
July 23rd	Tipperary ..... 1-11 Galway ..... 3-20	Mike O'Kelly
	Dublin ..... 0-9 Wexford ..... 1-16	Fintan McNamara
SEMI-FINALS		
August 13th	Kilkenny ..... 2-7 Galway ..... 2-13	Mike O'Kelly
	Cork ..... 1-9 Wexford ..... 2-11	Fintan McNamara



LEFT: Niamh Kilkenny (Galway) in action against Claire Phelan (Kilkenny) in the semi-final at Nowlan Park.

BELOW: Claire O'Connor (Wexford) fails to stop the ball from crossing the goal line in the first round game at Galway. (Photo: Sportfile)



# Galway



Back row (l-r): Ann Marie Hayes, Sarah Dervan, Emma Kilkelly, Helen Campbell, Veronica Curtin, Ann Marie Starr, Sandra Tannian, Sinead Keane, Jessica Gill, Rebecca Hennelly, Susan Earner, Sinead Cahalan, Therese Maher, Aislinn Connolly. Front row (l-r): Regina Glynn, Julie Brien, Therese Manton, Colette Gill, Emer Haverty, Tara Rutledge, Finola Keely, Niamh Kilkenny, Orla Kilkenny, Heather Cooney, Brenda Hanney, Martina Conroy, Lorraine Ryan.

## GAILLIMH

Dathanna: MARÚN agus BÁN



### SENIOR



	Team	Score
CÓIL		
CÓILÍN		
SEACHAÍ		
AS		
SADR		
POCANNA		

16 HELEN CAMPBELL L. Nic Cattenhuail Killimor	19 SARAH DERVAN S. Ni Dhoirbheáin Mullagh	22 EMER HAVERTY E. Ni Abhartáigh Killimor	25 SINÉAD KEANE S. Ni Chatháin Kinvara	28 REBECCA HENNELLY R. Ni hIonuille Ardaraun
17 SANDRA TANNIAN S. Ni Thanaidheáin St. Thomas	20 REGINA GLYNN R. Ni Ghloinn Athenry	23 FINOLA KEELY F. Ni Chaoiláil St. Thomas	26 SHAUNA HEALY S. Ni hÉilí Ardaraun	
18 ORLA KILKENNY O. Nic Giolla Chainnigh Pearses	21 JESSICA GILL S. Nic an Ghaill Athenry	24 JULIE BRIEN S. Ni Shriain Killimor	27 COLLETTE GILL C. Nic an Ghaill Kinvara	

Manager: Noel Finn. Selectors: Helena Huban, Peter Kelly, Noel Power. Trainer: Bertie Sherlock. Physios: Ian Egan, Deirdre Screenan.



**SENIOR**

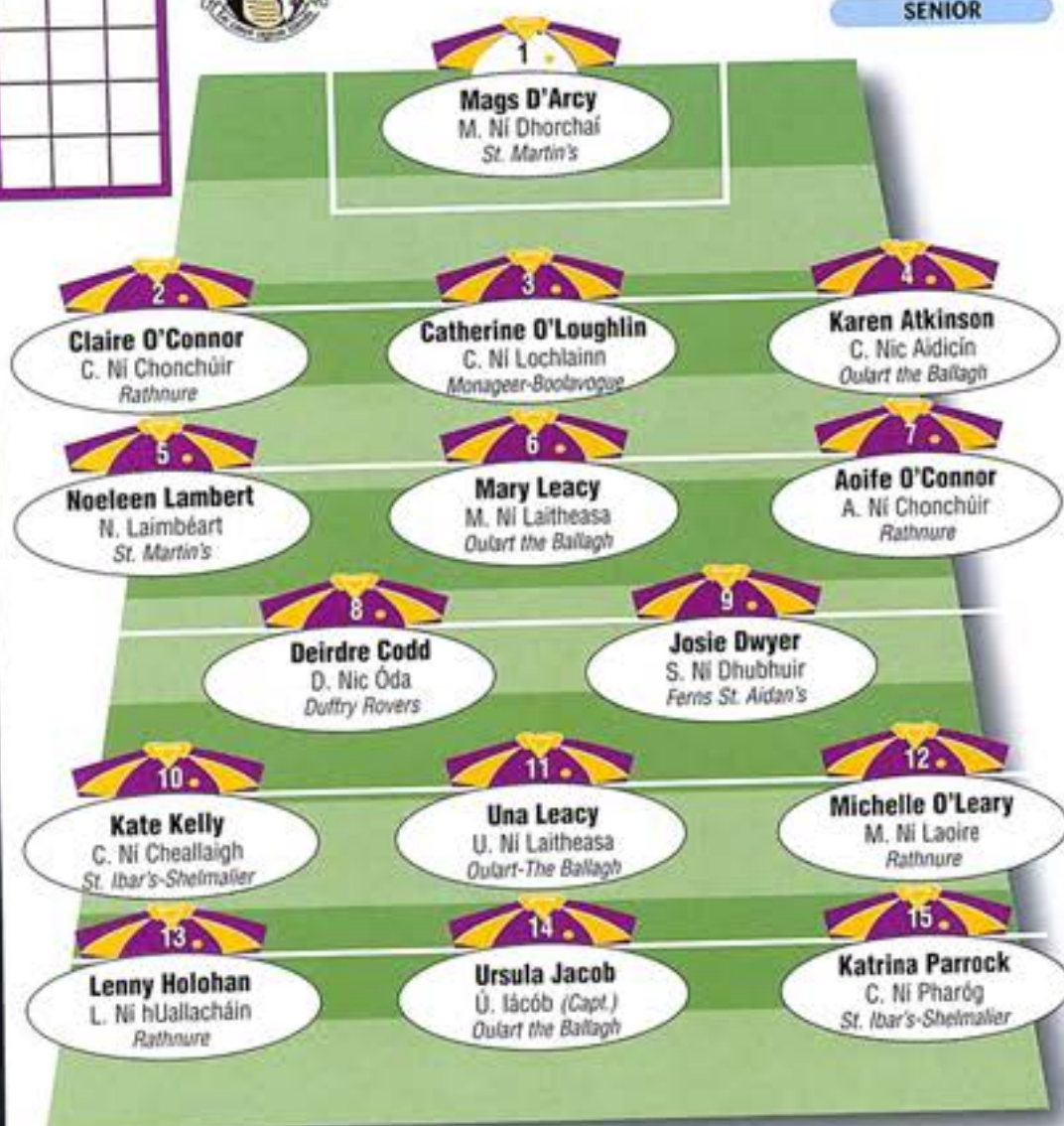
Back row (l-r): Siona Nolan, Mags D'Aarcy, Mary Leacy, Kate Kelly, Catherine O'Loughlin, Una Leacy, Ursula Jacob (Capt), Deirdre Codd, Karen Atkinson, Fiona Kavanagh, Evelyn Quigley, Ciara Storey, Louise Codd, Brid Gordon, Louise O'Leary, Lisa Bolger. Front row (l-r): Aine Codd, Bernie Holohan, Michelle O'Leary, Claire O'Connor, Noeleen Lambert, Aoife O'Connor, Katrina Parrock, Lenny Holohan, Josie Dwyer, Colleen Atkinson, Ciara O'Connor.

**CAMDGIE ALL-IRELAND CHAMPIONSHIP FINALS 2011**

[illegible]

**Dathanna:** CORCORA agus ÓR

## SENIOR



16	<b>HELENA JACOB</b> L. Iacób <i>Outart the Ballagh</i>	19	<b>FIONA KAVANAGH</b> F. Caomhánach <i>Buncloody</i>	22	<b>CIARA O'CONNOR</b> C. Ní Chonchúir <i>Rathnure</i>	25	<b>LOUISE O'LEARY</b> L. Ní Laoire <i>Rathnure</i>	28	<b>SIONA NOLAN</b> S. Ní Nualláin <i>Manager-Soolavogue</i>
17	<b>EVELYN QUIGLEY</b> E. Ní Choigligh <i>Rathnure</i>	20	<b>CIARA STOREY</b> C. Ní Stóirí <i>Outart-The Ballagh</i>	23	<b>BERNIE HÓLOHAN</b> B. Ní Hóallacháin <i>Rathnure</i>	26	<b>LOUISE CODO</b> L. Níc Óda <i>Dultry Rovers</i>	29	<b>STACEY REDMOND</b> S. Níc Réamainn <i>Outart the Ballagh</i>
18	<b>BRID GORDON</b> B. Ní Mhuirneacháin <i>Blackwater</i>	21	<b>LISA BOLGER</b> L. Ní Bholgair <i>St. Martin's</i>	24	<b>ÁINE CODO</b> Á. Níc Óda <i>St. Martin's</i>	27	<b>COLLEEN ATKINSON</b> C. Níc Aidicín <i>Outart-The Ballagh</i>	30	<b>FIONA ROCHFORD</b> F. de Rosfort <i>St. Anne's</i>

Manager: J.J. Doyle. Selectors: Joe Brennan, Tommy Roche, Ger O'Reilly, Geraldine Murphy. Trainer: Gerry McQuaid.



# GALWAY

## Player Profiles



**MARTINA CONROY**  
Killimor  
General Operative  
All Ireland Senior Club  
Championship 2011, Intermediate  
All Ireland 2009, Junior Gael Linn  
2007, Minor All Ireland 2004.



**JESSICA GILL**  
Athenry  
Receptionist  
Honours: All Star 2008, Minor  
All Ireland 2004.



**ANN MARIE HAYES**  
Killimor  
National School Teacher  
All Star 2009, Senior Gael Linn  
2008, Junior Gael Linn 2007,  
All Star 2004, Intermediate  
All Ireland 2004, Junior All Ireland 2003, Minor  
All Ireland 2000.



**AISLINN CONNOLLY**  
Castlegar  
Online Media Sales  
Senior National League 2005,  
Senior National League 2003,  
Minor All Ireland 2000.



**SINÉAD CAHALAN**  
Mullagh  
Primary School Teacher  
Senior Gael Linn 2008, All Star  
2008, Senior National League  
2005, All Star 2005, Intermediate  
All Ireland 2004, Junior All Ireland 2003.



**VERONICA CURTIN**  
Kinvara  
Primary School Teacher - Deputy  
Principal  
Senior Gael Linn 2008, Junior Gael  
Linn 2007, All Star 2007, All Star  
2006, Senior National League 2005, Senior Gael  
Linn 2000, Senior All Ireland 1996, Junior All Ireland  
1995, Minor All Ireland 1994.



**HEATHER COONEY**  
St. Thomas's  
Primary School Teacher  
Intermediate All Ireland 2009.



**REGINA GLYNN**  
Athenry  
Human Resources  
All Star 2010, All Star 2009,  
All Star 2007, Senior National  
League 2005, Senior National  
League 2003.



**LORRAINE RYAN**  
Killimordaly  
Student  
Senior Gael Linn 2008, Minor  
All Ireland 2004.



**NOREEN COEN**  
Athenry  
Student  
Minor All Ireland 2004.



**SANDRA TANNIAN**  
St. Thomas's  
Student  
Senior Gael Linn 2008, Senior Gael  
Linn 2000, Senior National League  
2000, Junior All Ireland 1998,  
Minor All Ireland 1996, Minor All Ireland 1994.



**SHAUNA HEALY**  
Ardrahan  
Student  
Minor All Ireland 2010,  
U16 All Ireland 2007.



**FINOLA KEELY**  
St. Thomas's  
Student  
Minor All Ireland 2010,  
U14 All Ireland 2006.



**TARA RUTLEDGE**  
Portumna  
Student  
Intermediate All Ireland 2009,  
Galway Minor Player of the Year  
2008.



**SARAH DERVAN**  
Mullagh  
Manufacturing Operator  
Connacht Player of the Year 2010,  
Intermediate All Ireland 2009,  
Senior Gael Linn 2008, All Ireland  
Féile Skills 2001.



**ORLA KILKENNY**  
Pearses  
Teacher  
All Star 2010, Senior Gael Linn  
2008, Senior National League  
2005, Senior National League  
2003, Senior Gael Linn, 2000, Minor All Ireland  
1997.



**NIAMH KILKENNY**  
Pearses  
Teacher  
All Star 2010, Senior Gael Linn  
2008, Minor All Ireland 2004.



**SUSAN EARNER**  
Eyrecourt  
Secondary School Teacher  
Senior National League 2005,  
Intermediate All Ireland 2004,  
Junior League 2003, Junior All  
Ireland 2003, Minor A All Ireland 2000.



**SINÉAD KEANE**  
Kinvara  
Accountant  
Senior National League 2005,  
Intermediate All Ireland 2004,  
Junior All Ireland 2003, Junior  
League 2003, Minor A All Ireland 2000.



**COLETTE GILL**  
Kinvara  
Speech and Language Therapist  
Intermediate All Ireland 2009.



**JULIE BRIEM**  
Killimor  
Student  
All Ireland Senior Club  
Championship 2011, Junior Gael  
Linn 2007, Minor All Ireland 2004.



**HELEN CAMPBELL**  
Killimor  
Student  
All Ireland Senior Club  
Championship 2011, Junior  
Gael Linn 2007.



**ANN MARIE STARR**  
Killimor  
Student  
All Ireland Senior Club  
Championship 2011.



**BRENDA HANNEY**  
Killimor  
All Ireland Senior Club  
Championship 2011,  
Senior National League, Junior  
National League, All Ireland  
Intermediate Championship, All Ireland Junior  
Championship.



**EMER HAVERTY**  
Killimor  
Beautician  
All Ireland Senior Club  
Championship 2011, Minor  
All Ireland 2004.



**THERESE MAHER**  
Athenry  
Administrator  
Two All Ireland Minor  
championships,  
two Gael Linn, one National  
League, Galway Camogie Player of the Year,  
two All Star Awards.



**THERESE MANTON**  
Mullagh  
Nurse  
All Ireland Senior Club  
Championship 2011, Senior Gael  
Linn 2008.



**REBECCA HENNELLY**  
Ardrahan  
Student  
Under-14, Under-16, Minor and  
Intermediate All-Ireland  
Championships. Represented  
Galway at Féile na nGael skills.

## Time to chat



**Q: Three people who have had an influence on your career?**  
A: My Parents Stephen and Kathleen have been the main influence. Aileen Roche, our senior club manager because she always believed in us and John, because he had to listen to me whinging last year when I was injured!

**Q: The toughest opponent outside of your county?**  
A: Clare Grogan, Tipperary.

**Q: Most enjoyable part of training?**  
A: Playing a match at training. I also love the banter in the dressing room with the ladies.

**Q: Fittest player on panel?**  
A: Lorraine Ryan.

**Q: Three most influential players on panel?**  
A: Therese Maher for her experience. Anne Marie Hayes for her leadership and ruthlessness and Sandra Tannian (Tanner) for her cuteness!

**Q: Four words to describe yourself as a player?**  
A: Hard-working, determined, strong, fit and very clean! (That's 5!)

**Q: What does wearing the Galway jersey mean to you?**  
A: It is a huge honour for me to wear the maroon and

white and I would never take it for granted. I know the jersey is only on loan to me for a few years and then it is passed onto someone else so I do everything to put my mark in it.

**Q: One playing rule you would change?**  
A: No more playing the hurley. It defies logic. I hate that rule.

**Q: Skorts or shorts?**  
A: Skorts

**Q: Six sportsmen you would invite to dinner?**  
A: Henry Shefflin without a doubt. He is my role model. He proves that hard work can defy all the odds. Michael 'Brick' Walsh because I love his style of play. Tommy Walsh because he is a pure tiger. Ronan O'Gara because he has so many critics and he keeps knocking them back and he is also very cute! Brian Cody because he is such a straight-forward legend and lastly Brian Lohan (former Clare hurler) because he was a complete savage on the pitch in his day!

**Q: Deep and meaningful conversation Eoin Kelly or Brian Hogan?**  
A: Eoin Kelly I would have to say, simply just to get an insight into his sporting mind.

**Q: Outside of camogie three things you are serious about?**  
A: My family are very important to me. My workplace (the kids I teach and the staff I work with), and religion to some extent.

**Q: Personal motto?**  
A: Confidence is a choice. You can choose to be confident.

**Q: Do you access www.camogie.ie and camogie social media?**  
A: Yes, fairly regularly to see how all the other teams are doing.

## Semi-Finalists MATCH PREDICTIONS

### SENIOR FINAL

#### ELAINE AYLWARD (Kilkenny Captain)

This year's final will definitely be a closer affair. Last year's final exposed some weaknesses which I think Galway have ratified, most notably the redeployment of Therese Maher to centre back where she has shone all year, and her battle with Una Leacy will have a telling influence on the game. Niamh Kilkenny has been a revelation at midfield and she will be hoping for a repeat performance of her semi final form. Up front Brenda Hanney is a real target woman at full forward with Veronica Curtin and Aislinn Connolly as more than capable allies. On the other hand Wexford are reigning League and All Ireland champions and for good reason. They have been consistent all year. It's Wexford's six forwards I think will cause the real problems for Galway. Wexford have the ability to score goals from nothing. Galway's hunger is great but I think Wexford's firepower is greater, expect them to shade it by three or four points.

#### RENA BUCKLEY (Cork Captain)

The All Ireland final will be a great battle between two highly skilful and fit teams. Wexford have experience of winning on the big day which will help them settle early. Galway have plenty of experience within the team and was going very well in the semi final. In a match where all the big players will be closely marked it could easily be a less well known player who makes all the difference. A very tough one to call but I'm going to go with Galway as they'll be out to prove a point from last year.





# WEXFORD Player Profiles



**MAGS D'ARCY**  
St. Martin's  
Sports Co-ordinator,  
All Ireland Senior Championship 2010,  
2007; National League 2011; Leinster  
Senior Championships 2011, 2010,  
2009; All Star 2010, All Star 2007.



**NOELEEN LAMBERT**  
St. Martin's  
Quality Assurance Supervisor,  
All Ireland Senior Championship 2010;  
Leinster Senior Championship 2011,  
2010, 2009; All Ireland Senior  
Championship 2007.



**MARY LEACY**  
Oulart/The Ballagh  
Teacher  
All Ireland Senior Championship 2010,  
2007 (Captain in 2007); Division 1  
League 2011, 2010, 2009; Leinster  
Championship 2010, 2011; All Star  
2004, 2010; All Star Nominee 2005.



**UNA LEACY**  
Oulart/The Ballagh  
Sports Coach  
All Ireland Senior Championship 2010  
and 2007 (Captain in 2010); Division 1  
League 2011, 2010, 2009; Leinster  
Championship 2010, 2011; All Star  
2010 and 2007.



**AOIFE O'CONNOR**  
Rathnure  
Medical Rep  
Senior All Ireland Championship  
2010 and 2007; Division 1 League  
2011, 2010, 2009 (Captain in 2009);  
Leinster Championship 2011,  
2010, 2009.



**CIARA O'CONNOR**  
Rathnure  
Pharmaceutical Technician  
Senior All Ireland Championship 2010;  
National League Division 1 2010;  
National League Division 2 2009.



**JOSIE DWYER**  
Ferns St. Aidan's  
Garda  
Senior All Ireland Championship  
2010; National League Division 1  
2010, 2009; Leinster Championship  
2011, 2010, 2009; Leinster Junior 2004,  
2003; Leinster U16 2000.



**CLAIRE O'CONNOR**  
Rathnure  
Primary Teacher  
Senior All Ireland 2010, 2007; National  
League Division 1 2011, 2010, 2009;  
All Star 2010; All Ireland U16 1995;  
Leinster Championship 2011,  
2010, 2009.



**COLLEEN ATKINSON**  
Oulart/The Ballagh  
Branch Manager  
Senior All Ireland 2010 and 2007;  
National League Division 1 2011;  
National League Division 1 and 2 2010  
and 2009; Leinster Championship  
2011, 2010, 2009.



**KAREN ATKINSON**  
Oulart/The Ballagh  
Accountant  
Senior All Ireland 2010 and 2007;  
National League Division 1 2011 2010  
2009; National League Division 2 2009;  
Leinster Championship 2011 2010  
2009; All Star nominee 2010.



**DEIRDRE CODD**  
Duffry Rovers  
Quality Control Analyst  
Senior All Ireland 2010 and 2007;  
National League Division 1 2011, 2010,  
2009; Leinster Championship 2011,  
2010, 2009; Leinster U16 2000; Leinster  
U14 1999; All Star Nominee 2005.



**LENNY HOLOHAN**  
Rathnure  
Primary Teacher  
All Ireland Senior 2010, 2007; National  
League Division 1 2011, 2010, 2009;  
Leinster Championship 2011, 2010,  
2008, 2000, 1999, 1996, 1995; Leinster  
U16 1996; Leinster U14 1994.



**URSULA JACOB**  
Oulart/The Ballagh  
Accounts Administrator  
Senior All Ireland Championship  
2010, 2007; Division 1 League 2011  
(Captain), 2010, 2009; Leinster  
Championship 2011, 2010, 2009;  
Leinster U16 2000; Leinster U14 1999; All Star 2010;  
All Star Nominee 2008, 2007, 2005.



**HELENA JACOB**  
Oulart/The Ballagh  
Accountant  
Senior All Ireland 2010, 2007;  
National League Division 1 2011,  
2010, 2009; National League  
Division 2 2009; Leinster Senior  
Championship 2011, 2010, 2009; Leinster U18 1998;  
Leinster U14 1995.



**FIONA KAVANAGH**  
Buncloody  
Fund Accountant  
Senior All Ireland 2010; National  
League Division 1 2011, 2010; National  
League Division 2 2009.



**KATE KELLY**  
St. Ibar's/Shelmaliars  
Business Development Manager  
Senior All Ireland 2010, 2007; National  
League Division 1 2011, 2010, 2009;  
Leinster Championship 2011, 2010,  
2009; All Ireland U16 1995; All Star  
2010, 2007, 2006, 2004; All Star nominee 2009, 2008, 2005;  
National Player of the year 2007; Leinster Centenary  
Ambassador 2004.



**CATHERINE O'LOUGHLIN**  
Monageer/Boalavogue  
Engineer  
Senior All Ireland 2010, 2007; National  
League Division 1 2011, 2010, 2009;  
All Star 2010, 2008, 2007, 2005; All Star  
Nominee 2006; Leinster Championship  
2011, 2010, 2009, 2007 2004, 2001; Leinster U16 2000.



**MICHELLE O'LEARY**  
Rathnure  
Primary Teacher  
Senior All Ireland Championship 2010,  
2007; National League Division 1 2011,  
2010, 2009; All Star nominee 2008;  
All Ireland U16 1995; Leinster  
Championship 2011, 2010, 2009, 2007, 2004, 2003, 2001,  
2000, 1999; Leinster U18 1998, 1997; Leinster U16 1996,  
1995, 1994.



**KATRINA PARROCK**  
St. Ibar's/Shelmaliars  
Student  
Senior All Ireland Championship 2010,  
2007; All Star 2010; All Star nominee  
2009, 2006; National League Division 1  
2011, 2010, 2009; Leinster  
Championship 2007, 2010, 2011; Leinster U14 2002.



**LOUISE O'LEARY**  
Rathnure  
Student Nurse  
National League Division 1 2011, 2010;  
National League Division 2 2009;  
Leinster Championship 2011, 2010;  
Leinster U14 2002.



**EVELYN QUIGLEY**  
Rathnure  
Primary Teacher  
Senior All Ireland Championship 2010;  
National League Division 1 2011, 2010,  
2009; National League Division 2 2009;  
Leinster Senior 2011, 2010, 2004, 2003,  
2001, 2000, 1999; Leinster U18 1998, 1997; Leinster Junior  
2004, 2003.



**CIARA STOREY**  
Oulart/The Ballagh  
Beautician  
Senior All Ireland Championship 2010;  
National League Division 1 2011, 2010,  
2009; National League Division 2 2009;  
Leinster Championship 2011, 2010.



**BRÍD GORDON**  
Blackwater  
Secondary Teacher  
Senior All Ireland Championship  
2010; National League Division 1  
2011, 2010; National League Division 2  
2009.



**LISA BOLGER**  
St. Martin's  
Student  
National League Division 1 2011;  
National League Division 2 2010.



**BERNIE HOLOHAN**  
Rathnure  
Teacher  
Senior All Ireland Championship  
2007; National League Division 1 2011,  
2009; Leinster Championship 2011,  
2008, 2000, 1999, 1996, 1995; Leinster  
U16 1996; Leinster U14 1994.



**ÁINE CODD**  
St. Martin's  
Engineer  
Senior All Ireland Championship 2007;  
National League Division 1 2010, 2009;  
Leinster Championship 2011, 2008,  
2000, 1999, 1996, 1995; Leinster U18,  
U16, U14; All Star 2004; Centenary Ambassador 2004.



**LOUISE CODD**  
Rathnure  
Teacher  
All Ireland Senior Championship 2007;  
National League Division 1 2011, 2009;  
National League Division 2 2009;  
Leinster Championship 2011, 2007,  
2005, 2003; Leinster U16 2002, 2000; Leinster U14 2000,  
1999.



**SIONA NOLAN**  
Monageer/Boalavogue  
Special Needs Assistant  
Senior All Ireland Championship 2007;  
National League Division 1 2011, 2009;  
National League Division 2 2009;  
Leinster Senior 2007.



**FIONA ROCHFORD**  
St. Anne's  
Student  
National League Division 2 2010.



**STACEY REDMOND**  
Oulart/The Ballagh  
Student  
All Ireland Senior Championship 2007;  
National League Division 1 2009;  
National League Division 2 2009;  
Leinster Championship 2011, 2007;  
Leinster U16 2002; Leinster U14 2002.

## HAPPY 80TH CHAMPIONSHIP BIRTHDAY CAMOGIE!

THIS AFTERNOON'S senior championship final marks another momentous milestone for the Camogie Association as it celebrates its 80th championship birthday.

In 1932, Galway took on Dublin in the Sportsfield in Galway with Dublin claiming their first ever All Ireland senior title. Co-incidentally, Galway create a link with the '32 final as they now line out in today's decider.

Since the championship began, the intervening decades have been marked by wonderful games, fantastic displays and great sporting memories provided by the country's top camogie players - a trend continuing to this day.

This afternoon, Wexford and Galway will bid to create their own personal sporting history with the Model County aiming for two in a row while the Westerners are seeking their first since 1996. In



Pictured at the announcement of the birthday celebrations were Deirdre Gaughan, six years, from Ashbourne, Co Meath (right) and Jenna Boylan, three years, from The Naul Co Dublin.

keeping with the great tradition of championship camogie, it is bound to be a thrilling spectacle served up by truly great sporting ambassadors.

On Tuesday, August 30th President Joan O'Flynn joined with some of the country's young camogie players to celebrate the Camogie Championship birthday, announcing details also on today's events.

Today's finals are undoubtedly the central attraction - complimented by numerous activities which bring together all members of the Association ranging from this afternoon's Caman & Run Finalists to our mini-games participants. In addition to this we welcome participants from the Camogie Club Twinning Initiative, our Camogie Championship referees (1961-2010) and also members of Cairde Camógiaíochta.

Finally, lest we forget please give a big celebratory wave to our match day mascots who have joined in the fun. Happy 80th Championship Birthday Camogie!

Karen

ATKINSON

(Wexford)



Q: Three people who have had an influence on your career?

A: Definitely my parents have been a huge influence from bringing us to all the underage trainings and going to all our matches. My sister Colleen, an inspiration to me. My club under-age trainers who constantly kept me interested in the game.

Q: The toughest opponent outside of your county?

A: Clare Grogan (Tipp) very skilful player.

Q: Most enjoyable part of training?

A: Probably when I know the end is approaching and the endurance and running is over with!

Q: Fittest player on panel?

A: We are all fit in our own way; Gerry has us all in top nick!!

Q: Three most influential players on panel?

A: Noeleen and Josie because they have a great attitude to training. Then Catherine (Locky) because she is such a dominant player

Q: Four words to describe yourself as a player?

A: Determined, fast, physical and clean I'm sure!!!!

Q: What does wearing the Wexford jersey mean to you?

A: It is such an honour to wear your county jersey

especially at the top level and really you need to make the most of it when you do get your chance because you never know when it can be taken from you.

Q: One playing rule you would change?

A: I would change the handpassing rule, I think it's so hard for goalies to stop them. Also camogie should relax the non-contact rule.

Q: Skorts or shorts?

A: I actually don't mind skorts, I think they look more feminine but I suppose togs are more comfortable.

Q: Six sportsmen you would invite to dinner?

A: Rob Kearney and Tommy Bowe - only because of their rugby ability of course; Tommy Walsh and J.J. Delaney to get some hurling tips; Nadal to give him some underwear advice and Cristiano Ronaldo to see if he really does love himself.

Q: Deep and meaningful conversation - Eoin Kelly or Brian Hogan?

A: I think I would pick Brian Hogan because he had the same injury as me just before their All Ireland last year. Hopefully then he could bring me out to meet all the Kilkenny team

Q: Outside of camogie three things you are serious about?

A: My family, my career and friendship.

Q: Personal motto?

A: If you fail to prepare, you prepare to fail!! So give it your best!

Q: Do you access [www.camogie.ie](http://www.camogie.ie) and camogie social media?

A: I do to find out camogie results over the weekend and use social media to be nosy I suppose!



# IRISH DAILY STAR 'PLAYER OF THE MATCH' IRISH DAILY STAR

## June 11th - Wexford v Galway

GALWAY kick-started their championship campaign with a tough away assignment to champions Wexford. On a blistering hot day, former centre forward Therese Maher, made the switch to the heart of the defence giving a five star display in her side's opening round victory.



Therese Maher (Galway) receives her award from President of the Camogie Association Joan Flynn.

## June 18th - Tipperary v Offaly

THE Premier County had a convincing win over senior championship debutantes Offaly at Semple Stadium. In front of a strong home crowd, the former All Ireland champions rolled back the years in a 3-14 to 1-14 win. Midfielder Jill Horan was impressive throughout hitting some fine scores and providing an energetic link between defence and attack.



Jill Horan (Tipperary) receives her award from President of the Camogie Association Joan Flynn.

## June 25th - Wexford v Kilkenny

WEXFORD continued their winning streak with a commanding display over rivals and neighbours Kilkenny at a packed Wexford Park. The champions had strong performances all over the field, but wing-back Noeleen Lambert was a key for the home side with an assured and inspiring display throughout.



Noeleen Lambert (Wexford) receives her award from Catherine Neary, Chairperson of the Leinster Camogie Board.

## July 2nd - Galway v Offaly

GALWAY racked up the scores against a young Offaly side, as part of their double header fixture at a packed Pearse Stadium. The Connacht side amassed an impressive tally of 1-25. Midfielder Ann Marie Starr pulled the strings at midfield and capped a super individual performance.



Ann Marie Starr (Galway) receives her award from Jackie O'Brien, Chairman of the Connacht Camogie Association.

## July 9th - Kilkenny v Clare

THE Cats hit the ground running in a decisive championship fixture, recording a 2-15 to 2-8 win over Clare. Little separated the sides throughout with Kilkenny pulling away in the latter stages due to a large degree to an action packed performance by All Star Ann Dalton.



Ann Dalton (Kilkenny) receives her award from Joan Flynn, President of the Camogie Association.

## July 16th - Cork v Tipperary

TIPPERARY travelled to Cork knowing that a win was vital to their All Ireland aspirations. A rip roaring contest played in true championship style, was noteworthy by the display, once again of Jill Horan in the middle of the field.



Jill Horan (Tipperary) receives her award from Marie Kearney, member of the Camogie Executive.

## July 23rd - Kilkenny v Cork

KILKENNY hosted former All Ireland champions Cork in front of vocal home support at Jenkinson. The Cats won out by 2-16 to 1-13, curbing the influence of a potent Cork forward line. Elaine Aylward gave a captain's display, from her wing back berth with impressive tackling and excellent distribution.



Elaine Aylward (Kilkenny) receives her award from Catherine Neary, Vice-President of the Camogie Association.

## August 13th - Galway v Kilkenny

WITH a place in the All Ireland final at stake, and little separating both sides, it was going to take something special to edge one team over the line. Cue Niamh Kilkenny in the middle of the field. Kilkenny from the Peasars club, led the way with relentless energy and drive, capping an excellent all round display.



Niamh Kilkenny (Galway) is presented with her award by Joan O'Flynn, President of the Camogie Association and Eoin Brannigan, Sports Editor, Irish Daily Star.

## August 13th - Wexford v Cork

WEXFORD'S charge for an All Ireland final appearance faced the challenge of a formidable Cork side, who boasted the most tigerish defence in this year's camogie championship. Ursula Jacob, captaining the side, played with a cool and calm head amassing 1-6 overall and helping to guide her side through to their second final in a row.



Ursula Jacob (Wexford) is presented with her award by Eoin Brannigan, Sports Editor, Irish Daily Star and Joan O'Flynn, President of the Camogie Association.

## Jacob the Wexford hero as brave Galway falter late on

By Daragh Ó Conchúir

Wexford 2-7

Galway 1-8

It may have been overcast day but it was Wexford's day in the sun as they added the All-Ireland senior camogie championship in association with RTE Sport to the league title won earlier this year, less than two hours after the county's intermediates also claimed the ultimate honours in front of 14,974 people.

It was devastation for Galway though, who produced an outstanding performance, but were punished for their failure to turn possession into the golden currency of scores. And so they were condemned to their fifth All-Ireland final loss since winning their only title in 1996. Galway were the better side for much of the proceedings and held a deserved three point lead after Orla Kilkenny's 51<sup>st</sup> minute point.

Tara Rutledge had a shot for a point to give them a vital cushion almost immediately afterwards, but the sliotar rebounded off the upright across the face of goal and crucially there was no Galway player on hand to tap it to the net. Had there been, it would have been game over.

Instead, Wexford worked the ball up the field and team Jacob caught Josie Dwyer's high ball before turning and smashing a shot to the roof of the Galway net, levelling the scores with just over seven minutes remaining.

Kate Kelly did brilliant to gather possession in front of the posts soon after and when she was fouled, Jacob made no mistake from the placed ball.

And it was the same combination that produced the last score in the second minute of extra time, Kelly carrying strongly before hand-passing inside to Jacob, who lofted over from under the Hogan Stand.

Galway tried hard to snatch a dramatic late goal but never looked like doing so and so they were condemned to a fifth All-Ireland defeat since winning their only title back in 1996.

Wexford had the perfect start when Una Leacy goaled from a fourth minute penalty after Kate Kelly was unceremoniously dumped by Therese Manton, but with Ann-Marie Hayes, Maher and Heather Cooney dominant, Galway edged back into proceedings.

Aislinn Connolly, Veronica Curtin and Martina Conroy all had points and Mags D'Arcy pulled off a smart save from Curtin. Jacob slotted two frees though and it was Wexford who led at half time by 1-2 to 0-3.

Galway exploded out of the traps after the resumption, points from Noreen Coen and Rutledge giving them parity before Rutledge pulled first time on a breaking ball from 18, after Maher's free from distance, to billow the net.

They never managed to pull any further clear though, despite having more of the play and that ultimately was to prove their downfall as Jacob and Wexford showed their champion pedigree.

Scorers - Wexford: U Jacob 1-5 (0-4fs); U Leacy 1-0 (pen); J Dwyer, L Holohan 0-1 each  
Galway: T Rutledge 1-1; A Connolly 0-2 (1f); V Curtin, M Conroy, N Coen, N Kilkenny (45), O Kilkenny 0-1 each

Wexford: M D'Arcy; C O'Connor, C O'Loughlin, K Atkinson; N Lambert, M Leacy, A O'Connor; D Codd, J Dwyer; K Kelly, U Leacy, M O'Leary; L Holohan, U Jacob, K Parrock. Subs: F Kavanagh for Codd (54); E Quigley for Holohan (56); C Storey for Atkinson (60+3)  
Galway: S Eamer; T Manton, S Cahalan, L Ryan; AM Hayes, T Maher, H Cooney; N Kilkenny, A Starr; N Coen, M Conroy, A Connolly; T Rutledge, B Hanney, V Curtin. Sub: O Kilkenny for Curtin (39)

Referee: M O'Kelly (Cork)

## WELL KNOWN FACES

### chat about Camogie Finals

#### BRENDAN CUMMINS

(Tipperary)

ALL OF US who play Gaelic games aim to play in Croke Park on All Ireland day, to experience that moment when you run onto the pitch scarcely aware of noise level. We have trained our minds to block out everything except the game ahead - the photograph, the formalities, meeting Uachtarán na hÉireann, marching behind the Artane Band, Amhrán na bhFiann - and wait for the throw-in.

Some players in action today have experienced this already while others have not. Wexford, Galway, Waterford and Antrim all played in All Ireland Finals last year. Does it get easier? I'm not sure, some players love the experience, others not so. The best way is to enjoy it, as you never know if you will get the opportunity again. Wexford are defending their title while Galway hope that it will be third time lucky. Waterford too will hope for a reversal of fortune against Down while Antrim have stepped up to Intermediate and meet defeated 2010 finalists Wexford.

Waterford borders on Tipperary and I have to support them. Patricia Jackman and myself met up at Póc Fada in the Cooley Mountains. She is a fantastic competitor and winner on several occasions. We both enjoy the challenge that the mountain presents. Most people enjoy a new winner so perhaps it is time for Galway to record a second victory. Antrim is very loyal to both hurling and camogie and surely want to get back to senior ranks.

I have experienced the joy of winning and the heartbreak of defeat on All Ireland day. 2001 and 2010 were the culmination of hard work, dedication, team work and a desire to win, while a little luck is also required. In 2009 we felt that we should have won, all the players built on that defeat and vowed that 2010 would be different. It was and I cannot express the joy we felt when the final whistle went. Last Sunday it was Kilkenny's day - they did to us what we did to them the previous year. We cannot quibble with the result but feel that we did not play to our potential. That is always a disappointment. What we learn and take from that is crucially important; I feel that all of us will rise to the challenge. Sport is a great leveller.

Have I any advice? Go out and do your best from the throw in, do not have regrets. Forget the hype, focus on the team and work as a unit. I wish you all a memorable day.



#### LIAM O'NEILL

Uachtarán Tofa, CLG

THESE ARE indeed great times for camogie. There are more females than ever playing the game. The number of camogie clubs is at the highest level ever and the standard of play is at an all-time high. The profile of the game was never higher and there are more people than ever working tirelessly to promote the game.

Apart from Galway, Waterford and Wexford the appearance of Antrim and Down adds a freshness to All Ireland Day. The fact that Westmeath and Armagh have qualified for the Junior A final the following Sunday just adds to the novelty and is indicative of just how wide the camogie net is spreading. It's great to see new counties competing for titles and hopefully it will encourage others to improve also.

Those of us who promote hurling are particularly pleased with the rate and pace of development in camogie. For far too long those who were involved in the promotion of hurling and those involved in the promotion of camogie were content to work in isolation. There was always goodwill but it is only in recent years that real cooperation has become evident. We have at last realised that the hurling and camogie families have to work together. Hurling and camogie will always prosper in the traditionally strong counties and so it is to the developing counties that we must direct our efforts to promote our games. The camogie and hurling development officers are working more closely than ever and we hope to share expertise in coaching in each code to the benefit of both. Coaching qualifications will be streamlined and interchangeable where possible. Our hope is that where new hurling clubs are set up a camogie club will also be included. Likewise where a camogie club is set up in a non hurling area a hurling club will follow.

The potential for improvement is enormous and we are looking forward with relish to greater cooperation and development.

I hope that all players do themselves justice to-day. To win an All Ireland is the ambition of every player.



#### CAMOGIE

##### ALL IRELAND SC FINAL

Wexford 2-7 Galway 1-8

##### ALL IRELAND PREM JC FINAL

Waterford 2-11 Down 1-13

##### ALL IRELAND IC FINAL

Wexford 2-12 Antrim 0-15

##### ALL-IRELAND CAMOGIE 7s

###### CUP FINAL

Toomevara, Tipperary 4-11 (L. Young 2-3, A. Ryan 1-5) (D. 26) M. Tynan 1-1 N. Walsh 0-3 (D. 10) Killeedy, Limerick 2-2 (M. Casey 1-2, E. Mullane 1-0)

###### SHIELD FINAL

Ballycastle, Antrim 5-4 (E. Lavery 2-0, N. Donnelly 1-2, S. McKillen 1-1 each) St John's Antrim 1-6 (S. Lagan 1-2, M. Lavery 0-4)

###### PLATE FINAL

St Joseph's Madden, Armagh 8-4 Na Bridesda May 9-3

###### CUP S/F

Toomevara 4-5 Harps, Laois 2-6, Killeedy, Limerick 3-9 Sixmilecross, Clare 2-7

###### CUP Q/F

Harps, Laois 3-9 St Ibars, Wexford 2-2, Sixmilecross, Clare 4-9, Killeedy, Limerick 2-2, Toomevara, Tipperary 9-4, Kinnara, Galway 4-2, Killeedy, Limerick 5-3, Glynn Barrtown, Wexford 1-2

###### SHIELD S/F

Ballycastle, Antrim 3-7 Kilmacud Crokes, Dublin 1-1 St John's Antrim 5-8 Eyrebow, Galway 6-0

###### PLATE S/F

St Joseph's Madden, Armagh 3-2 Galtrimona, Antrim 0-1 Na Bridesda, May 7-3 Kilcoole, Wicklow 0-0





Galway's Therese Maher in action against Wexford's Katrina Parrock DAVID MAHER / SPORTSFILE



Wexford senior captain Ursula Jacob (R) and Wexford intermediate captain Colleen Atkinson

# Jacob heroics seal Wexford fightback



CLIONA FOLEY

**WEXFORD** 2-7  
**GALWAY** 1-8

ALL-IRELAND CAMOGIE FINAL

**WEXFORD** proved why they are camogie's new queens by pulling off a magnificent All-Ireland double in Croke Park yesterday.

It was the Slaneysiders' first senior two-in-a-row since the Swinging Sixties and their intermediate victory completed a double that only Cork have previously achieved.

Yet only a late flurry and some spectacular heroics from their 'Captain Fantastic' Ursula Jacob, who scored their last 1-3, kept their senior crown intact.

Galway had them on the back foot for a good 45 minutes and Wexford really needed to show the true character of champions to dig out this third title since 2007 and, by doing so, confirmed themselves beyond question as the game's new superpower.

The Tribeswomen were inconsolable afterwards, many of them still sobbing as they left the pitch, and no wonder.

It wasn't just that they'd lost their 14th senior final and a second in a row, by just two points again, to Wexford. It was how they had dominated the defending champions for so long but couldn't kick on and apply the killer blow.

With just one senior title (1996) to their name, Galway camogie has suffered some horrendous heartbreak in Croke Park.

But this, surely, was the worst, especially for veterans like Therese Maher, who put in a magnificent player of the match stint at centre-back yet still suffered what was her fifth All-Ireland final loss.

Noel Finn's gutsy side had done the unthinkable by stopping Wexford from scoring from play for 38 minutes and, after trailing by two at half-time, had quickly gone three points clear after the restart.

They were still three clear with 10 minutes left after Jacob (free) and excellent substitute Orla Kilkenny traded points.

## FATALLY

But Galway, fatally, also missed three great scoring opportunities around the end of the third quarter; Brenda Hanney dropped a shot short, Aislinn Connolly missed from 25 metres and no one was there to pounce when Tara Rutledge had a shot off the upright.

Wexford, smelling blood, finally bared their teeth.

A full 52 minutes had elapsed when their midfielder Josie Dwyer lobbed in a testing diagonal ball from the left wing and Jacob rattled the net to swing the game their way.

"I wouldn't be known for my aerial ability!" the full-forward chuckled afterwards. "A high ball came across the square and I just said I'm going for this, because I knew we weren't going to get many chances."

"I just remember putting my hand up, turning on my left-hand side and shooting and thankfully it went in."

Jacob's superwoman act didn't end with just levelling matters.

Five minutes later, she coolly popped over a 25-metre free to edge them ahead. Then, when hard-working Kate Kelly found her wide on the right wing a full 88 seconds into injury time, she swung over a magnificent long-range insurance point.

A daughter of Mick and sister of current Wexford seniors Rory and Mick, she continued a magnificent family tradition yesterday and as soon as the final whistle sounded bolted for the dugout to find her sister, Helena, who was goalkeeper for the intermediates and also a sub with the seniors.

"The intermediates lost last year which was real heartache so their win gave us a great boost beforehand," she said. "We got the news through the dressing-room and it really spurred us on. This is probably the best day ever in Wexford camogie history."

Things looked particularly grim initially for Galway when they conceded a penalty just three minutes after throw-in, which Una Leacy dispatched without blinking.

But then they largely outfought,

outfielded and out-thought the champions for the rest of the half, with Niamh Kilkenny and Ann Marie Starr completely dominating midfield and Maher and Heather Cooney leading a brilliant half-back line.

Wexford led at half-time (1-2 to 0-3) but didn't score from play until a Josie Dwyer point in the 39th minute.

Galway shot seven costly wides by the break but still looked sharper and hungrier and re-started in similar vein. Noreen Coen and Tara Rutledge quickly levelled it and they went three clear after 36 minutes when the latter got on the end of a long Niamh Kilkenny free to goal.

But, like all true champions, JJ Doyle's side simply refused to yield.

Fiona Kavanagh came off the bench to strengthen midfield, Kelly and Katrina Parrock dropped deep to help out, Mary and Una Leacy won some vital ball and somehow they found the will and the scores to get themselves across the line, noticeably not striking any wides in the second half.

To lose a fifth final since '96 may prove too much for some of Galway's long-time servants to stomach but their side certainly didn't want for skill, bottle or effort yesterday.

"It's really hard to take," said dejected losing manager Noel Finn.

"All of our backs played really well but things just didn't happen for our forwards."

"Other days we put up big tallies but when we went a goal up we missed chances. We really tested their character but instead of going four or five points up we didn't, they came back down, got a point and a goal and then it was game-ball."

**SCORERS** - Wexford: U Jacob 1-5 (4f), U Leacy 1-0 (pen), J Dwyer 1, Hanney 0-1 each, Galway: T Rutledge 1, A Connolly 0-2 (f), N Kilkenny, N Coen, M Cooney, V Curtin, O Kilkenny 0-1 each.

**WEXFORD** - M Darcy 8, C O'Connor 6, C O'Loughlin 7, K Atkinson 6, N Lambert 5, M Leacy 7, A O'Connor 7, D Codd 5, J Dwyer 7, K Kelly 7, U Leacy 6, M O'Leary 5, L Holohan 7, U Jacob 5, K Parrock 7. Subs: F Kavanagh 8 for Dwyer (5-9), E Dwyer 5 for Holohan (5-6), C Storey 6 for Atkinson (5-2).

**GALWAY** - S Eamer 9, T Manton 7, S Cahalan 6, L Ryan 8, AM Hayes 7, T Maher 9, H Cooney 8, N Kilkenny 8, AM Starr 9, A Connolly 8, M Cooney 6, N Coen 7, T Rutledge 7, B Hanney (capt) 6, V Curtin 6. Subs: O Kilkenny 8 for Curtin (3-8).

**REF** - M O'Kelly (Cork)



Galway's dejected Susan Eamer

## THE GAME AT A GLANCE

### PLAYER OF THE MATCH

**Therese Maher (Galway)**  
Wexford's Ursula Jacob was a serious contender after her late game-winning flurry of scores but the Galway centre-back was a colossus throughout and certainly didn't deserve to lose her fifth senior final.

### TURNING POINT

After going three points clear in the third quarter, Galway missed three good chances - one dropped short, one wide and another off the upright - in a five-minute spell. Extending their lead would have made it very difficult for a Wexford fightback.

### TALKING POINT

How well Galway played and yet still lost. They kept the defending champs scoreless from play for 38 minutes and outplayed them for long periods but still couldn't put them away.

### REF WATCH

A very stop-start game which wasn't Mike O'Kelly's fault as he actually let a lot go at times. He appeared to get a few calls wrong but none that were game-changing and rightly overruled his officials when necessary.

### WHAT THEY SAID

**Ursula Jacob (Wexford captain):**  
"We knew we hadn't performed as well in the first half but we knew there was a good second half in us and we kept tipping away. Even when they got the goal, we were resilient."

**Noel Finn (Galway manager):**  
"Wexford fought to the bitter end but we just didn't get the breaks today. When we went three up we had a chance to push on and missed a few scores to go five or six up and I think that was the difference."

### MATCH STATISTICS

**Wides:** Wexford 5 (5); Galway 9 (7)  
**Frees:** Wexford 17 (9); Galway 15 (6)  
**Yellow Cards:** Wexford 0; Galway 1 (Manton 3)  
**Red Cards:** None  
**Attendance:** 14,974



# Wexford withstand late rally

TWO GOALS inside the opening 10 minutes gave Wexford the breathing space to deny a Jane Adams-inspired Antrim in a cracking All-Ireland Intermediate camogie final.

Adams was a central figure for the Saffrons, contributing a whopping 13 points, while also providing a huge amount in open play.

Her heroic efforts were in vain though as Wexford's superior overall scoring threat was just about enough to get them over the line.

The winners had a dream start when Ciara O'Connor beat two defenders before hand-passing beyond Mairéad Graham in the eighth minute.

## Goal

Less than 60 seconds later, Wexford had a second goal as Fiona Rochford capitalised on some poor defending to send a first-time ground shot to the net.

Louise Codd pointed soon after and it was plain sailing for the Yellowbellies.

Adams finally got Antrim off the mark with a 14th minute free.

And with the rear-guard tightening up considerably after those early lapses, they had the margin down to three as their skipper added five points to leave them trailing 2-3 to 0-6 at half time.

## Wexford 2-12 Antrim 0-15 INTERMEDIATE CAMOGIE

Wexford resumed in determined fashion to stretch their lead to seven as Linda Bolger, Siona Nolan and Tracey Nolan all shot a brace of points each.

## Penalty

It might have been even more promising as Bolger was hounded over by Graham for a 39th minute penalty but Nolan's drive was deflected over the bar.

Adams continued to drive her side on from centre-forward.

And when placed ball opportunities were presented, the skipper made no mistake to keep her side in the contest.

Four points in as many minutes, including two in the 57th by Michael Convery and Charlene Hamill, left just three points between them again.

It was Adams who was involved in a last gasp bid to foil Wexford, as she was hauled down just outside the square.

Her resultant free was blocked and cleared though — and Wexford held on for what was to be a deserved victory.

**WEXFORD:** H Jacob; C Atkinson, B Holohan, F Doran; L O'Leary, A Codd, L Bolger; S Kehoe, S Nolan 0-2 (0-1 pen); L Codd 0-2, B Curran, S Redmond; C O'Connor 1-3 (0-1f), F Rochford 1-1, L Bolger 0-2.

**SUBS:** T Nolan 0-2 for Curran (43); S Kehoe for L Codd (54).

**ANTRIM:** M Graham; C A Martin, A McCall; B Orchin, E Connolly, A Jackson; C Doherty, R Torney; M Convery 0-1, N McGuinness, C Hamill 0-1; K McAleese, J Adams 0-13 (8fs, 2 45s), L McAleese.

**SUBS:** M McGourty for L McAleese (23); O O'Hara for K McAleese (36); L McMillan for McCall (46) **REFEREE:** J Dolan (Clare)

**DELIGHT:** Colleen Atkinson lifts the trophy yesterday



**PULLING CLEAR:** Katrina Parrock of Wexford in action against Lorraine Ryan and (above) Wexford manager JJ Doyle celebrates



**PROMISED LAND:** Wexford's Kate Kelly and Katrina Parrock celebrate at the final whistle and (inset right) Wexford's Kate Kelly is presented with the Player of the Match award by Mora McCloy, Camogie Executive



IT was a case of not the boys but the joys of Wexford at Croke Park yesterday as the county retained the All-Ireland senior camogie title with a dramatic victory over Galway.

Wexford's winning margin was identical to that over the same opposition in last year's decider.

But for long periods of this game it looked as if Galway were on course to avenge that setback — they were three points clear with just seven minutes remaining.

If one looks at the match only in terms of scores from play, Galway came out on top by 1-7 to 1-3.

Wexford goaled from an Una Leacy penalty in the fourth minute but, 1-2 to 0-3 ahead at the break, didn't get their first score from open play until nine minutes into the second half.

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## WEXFORD 2-7 GALWAY 1-8

Wexford's Una Jacob — who finished the game with 1-5 — acknowledged that it hadn't been an easy day at the office.

## Chances

"I just remember that a high ball came across the square and while I wouldn't be known for my aerial ability or my catching, I just said 'I'm going for this' because I knew we weren't going to get many chances."

"There were only six or seven minutes left, so I just put the hand up, turned to my left hand side and shot for the goal — and luckily it went in."

"When I got the point off a free to go a point up, I knew there were only about two minutes left but I didn't want to leave it to chance with just that single point lead. Then Kate Kelly hand-passed to me and I just looked up and went for the point."

"Even the two-point lead was dangerous, though, because Galway got a couple of frees right near the end and anything could have happened."

"It's my third All-Ireland but they are getting harder. This was tougher than any of the other finals, it came down to the very last puck."

"We knew that we probably hadn't performed as well as we should in the first half, but we also knew that

we had a good second half in us and we just kept plugging away, even when Galway got their goal. I think our resilience showed."

"With the intermediates winning as well, this is probably the greatest day ever in Wexford camogie."

"We got the news about the intermediates in the dressing-room and that gave us a tre-



Joan O'Flynn, Camogie Association President, at the announcement of the birthday celebrations with Jenna Boylan, three years (left) from The Naul, Co. Dublin; Millie Boylan, six years, from The Naul, Co. Dublin; and Deirdre Gaughan, six years, from Ashbourne, Co. Meath.



The Waterford team celebrate after beating Down in the All-Ireland Junior Camogie Championship final in Croke Park yesterday.

Picture: INPHO/Ryan Byrne



# CHAMPION



**THE RACE IS WON:** Wexford's Ursula Jacob and Kate Kelly celebrate with the trophy and (below right) Galway's Therese Manton is consoled after the game

## Late surge sees Wexford home again

mendous boost.

"We really wanted to win back-to-back titles. There were a lot of people questioning us earlier in the year — asking if we were an ageing team — so it was fantastic to be able to answer them."

"We started well by getting the penalty but we took a few minutes to settle after that."

"Once they got the goal they could have pushed on but luckily enough we tipped away and got a few scores and it eventually worked out for us with the goal. you don't get that many chances to shoot for goal," said Jacob.

Galway manager Noel Finn found it impossible to disguise his disappointment.

"Wexford fought to the bitter end in fairness to them but we just didn't get the breaks," he said.

"We were three or four points up but having said that, we had a chance to push on and missed a few scores that would have put us

five or six up and I think that was the difference. Being four or five points up it was going to be hard for them to come back."

"They got the scores when they needed them. I felt when Tara Rutledge got our goal that we were hurling well and were going to push on but it didn't happen."

### Devastated

"Our backs played very well. We had chances in the forwards. On another day they would go over but today they just didn't."

"The girls are devastated. Last year was very hard to take and our goal was to get back this year. I felt that we were really going well after the semi-final."

"Fair play to Wexford; they were All-Ireland champions last year and they showed why they are All-Ireland champions."

"It was the break of a ball that was the difference between the two sides. We struck the post and

it came across the square. You'd always be hoping there'd be a player there but unfortunately for us there wasn't. It's very hard to take after losing two finals."

"I just felt that if we got the scores when we needed the scores instead of them going wide or whatever, it would have put the pressure on Wexford."

"We really did test their character, but they came up the field and got a point and brought it back to a goal then," said Finn.

**WEXFORD:** M O'Arcy, C O'Connor, C O'Loughlin, K Atkinson, N Lambert, M Leacy, A O'Connor, D Codd, J Dwyer (0-1), K Kelly, U Leacy (1-0 pen), M O'Leary, L Holohan (0-1), U Jacob (1-5, 0-4 frees), K Parrock. Subs: F Kavanagh for Codd, 54 mins; E Quigley for Holohan, 56 mins; C Storey for Atkinson, 62 mins.

**GALWAY:** S Eamer, T Manton, S Cahalan, L Ryan, A Hayes, T Maher, H Cooney, N Kilkenny (0-1, 45), A Starr, N Coen (0-1), M Conroy (0-1), A Connolly (0-2), T Rutledge (1-1), B Hanney, V Curtin (0-1). Subs: O Kilkenny (0-1) for Curtin, 39 mins. Referee: M O'Keely (Cork). Attendance: 14,976. Entertainment: 7.

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**CUP FOR IT** Waterford girls celebrate

## Déise stand firm to seal title success

**WATERFORD** held off a remarkable final quarter comeback from Down to secure the All-Ireland premier junior camogie title at Croke Park.

The Déise recorded their victory at the third time of asking, having fallen at the final hurdle the last two years.

Goals from Ruth Geoghegan and Karen Kelly helped the Munster outfit into a 2-8 to 0-5 interval advantage.

Geoghegan was also unlucky to see a rasper bounce off the upright as Waterford took charge approaching half time.

### Control

And Niamh Rockett also drove a shot over off the top of the crossbar as the Déise looked to continue their dominance of proceedings.

That margin was 11 points by the 42nd minute, as Kelly and Trish Jackman added points.

But a spirited Down refused to give up hope and they chipped away at the deficit.

Catherine

**Waterford 2-11 Down 1-13**  
**JUNIOR CAMOGIE**

McGourty and the electric Niamh Mallon were amongst the scorers as the Ulster side shot eight points in succession to haul themselves right back into contention.

### Crucial

However, Rockett ended a 17-minute scoreless period to put four between them with a minute remaining.

That score was to prove crucial as Down substitute Nicola Braniff goalied seven seconds into injury time to give her side renewed hope.

But Waterford were able to hang on under real pressure to complete a famous league and championship double.

**WATERFORD:** A O'Brien; E Hannon, J Simpson, KM Hearne; S Kiernan, C Maher, G Kenneally; P Jackman 0-2, D Fahey; N Rockett 0-2, N Morrissey, A Hannon; R Geoghegan 1-1, K Kelly 1-5 (0-4fs), Z O'Donoghue 0-1. SUBS: J McCarthy for A Hannon (34).

**DOWN:** K Fegan; O Maginn, C McGovern, E McCormick; P Gribbin, F Carr 0-2 (fs), K Tinnelly; L McPolin 0-1, K McMullan 0-1; C McGourty 0-5 (3fs, 1 45), L McCrickard, K O'Higgins 0-1; N Mallon 0-3, SL Carr, K Gribbin.

SUBS: L Hughes for McCormick (47); N Braniff 1-0 for McCrickard (47). REFEREE: W Cole (Cork).

**DESPAIR:** Paula Gribbin

