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all Ireland Senior Camogie Champions 2005



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CORK REACH THEIR TWENTY FIRST

Camogiechat
With Mary Newman

A GLORIOUS day in Croke Park on Sunday last as Cork topped three in a row seeking Tipperary to take the counties twenty first All Ireland senior championship title. From the throw in Cork tore into the champions and despite conceding a goal four minutes from the break they held their composure to record a victory that will go down in the records book as one of the finest from a Cork camogie team.

Twice in the opening half Tipperary opened up a four point lead but they were never allowed to pull away by a Cork side that were dogged and determined. Cutting the lead to one point Cork conceded a dreadful goal but from the puck out they continued to apply the pressure on the Tipperary defence and importantly they grabbed the last score before the break a point from Jennifer O Leary as Tipperary turned around five points ahead.

Through the first half Cork had problems and the backroom team were not slow to address this. Rena Buckley had looked uncomfortable in the corner back position while Vivienne Harris and Rachel Moloney were finding it hard to gain the upper hand at mid

field. While it would have been simple to make a straight replacement in their defence the selectors reshuffled their team. They introduced Joanne O Callaghan to replace Vivienne Harris with O Callaghan going to corner back, Rena Buckley stepping out to her more familiar role in the half back line where she proceeded to produce a superb performance. Brieghe Corkery moved to centre field to partner Gemma O Connor who had switched with Rachel Moloney who now operated at half forward till

From the restart Cork began to get a grip at mid field with O Connor and Corkery driving forward the Tipperary defence was under constant pressure. Through the second half Cork began to pick off their points as the gap was narrowed Emer Dillon and Jennifer O Leary breaking the stronghold of the Tipperary defence while Rachel Moloney and Stephanie Dunlea gave the illustrious Ciara Gaynor and Una O Dwyer a torrid time. Inside ten minutes the Tipperary lead was down to one point and the goal Cork looked like grabbing finally arrived but not as we expected. A long accurate free floated into the Tipperary square from

Amanda O Regan looked to be out of the reach of Stephanie Dunlea but as Una O Dwyer attempted to gather she somehow deflected past keeper Jovita Delaney and into the net.

Now in the driving seat there was only one thought in the Cork girl's minds and that was the title, but Tipp had other ideas and points from their captain Deirdre Hughes and a pointed Clare Grogan had their noses back in front with five minutes remaining. With tension at fever pitch this Cork team dug deep and it was Emer Dillon with two superb points in the fifty eight and fifty ninth minute that helped regain control. Seconds from normal playing time substitute Angela Walsh struck for a gem of a point quickly followed by similar scores from Brieghe Corkery and a pointed Jennifer O Leary free to ensure the title was heading Leaside.

Outside of the county nobody gave Cork a chance but credit where it's due, here in the county the mood was positive something that radiated from the team and its management. Attending the press night two week ago many of us commented on the relaxed attitude of the player and the

confidence of their backroom team as on the night the girls were relaxed and at ease. On Tuesday week last I travelled to Croke Park as the captains met the media for what is traditionally called "The Captains Day". On the journey home in the pleasant company of Elaine Burke, Joanne O Callaghan and John Cronin I again observed the same easy and relaxed attitudes and the very positive vibes. Earlier in the day I had spoken to Tipperary captain Deirdre Hughes and coach Paddy McCormick and I observed a different attitude, I got the feeling that Tipperary were afraid of what Cork would produce and Hughes did not strike me as a players with huge confidence about the approaching final. I felt it was something that had an air of uncertainty about it for Tipp, later in the week Linda Mellerick and I spoke about this and we both agreed Cork were under no pressure what so ever and were in a very positive frame of mind, much more relaxed and at ease with the task ahead. On Sunday this is how they played, full of determination and self belief they were a credit to the county, what a pity the county did not turn out in larger numbers when



Cork All Ireland Camogie Champions Celebrate on Monday with the O Duffy Cup.

they returned home on Monday night.

Plaudits to our star inter county hurler Brian Corcoran who over the years has maintained his support by turning out on Monday night to welcome home the side accompanied by his two young daughters who will no doubt wear the Erins Own and Cork colours one day.

This victory was not just won on Sunday last it was won as far back as last November when John Cronin, Ollie Hallihan and Lillian Zinkant got on board one of the counties finest former players Fiona O Driscoll. Having had

an illustrious playing career Fiona could simply have walked away for the game but she chose to keep her involvement, incidentally also coaching her club under16 team. Fiona instilled in cork the same spirit and determination she herself had as a player and the girls responded magnificently. To the players, selectors, backroom to numerous to mention and the county board and the supporters club goes a huge congratulations this victory is a credit to the huge amount of effort being put into the game in the county, enjoy your coming of age.

SHAPE I'M IN

Elaine Burke

CAPTAIN of the winning All-Ireland Cork camogie team Elaine Burke is 24-years-old and a trainee solicitor.

From Innishannon, she plays in the full-forward line for the Rebels and has already won a junior All-Ireland medal with Cork, as well as a senior All-Ireland title.

On the day after they were declared 2005 national camogie champions, Elaine said the news that all their dreams had come true hadn't sunk in yet. "It'll sink in over the next few days. I'm just relieved at the moment. The whole match flew by so quickly. At half-time, realising we were five points down, it was do or die. After that, a lot of girls stood up to the responsibility — it was great to see 15 or 16 players willing to do that."

The youngest of six children, Elaine is single and lives at home with mum and dad Teresa and Billy. "I'm the only one at home at this stage — all the others have flown the nest."

What shape are you in?

Pretty good at the moment. I've been doing a huge amount of training — a lot of running and hurling and loads of strengthening. I'll relax now for a while, but there's a few years left in us yet, so the team doesn't want to winter too well. I'll be going to the gym two or three times a week again after a while.

Do you drink or smoke?

I don't smoke and I wouldn't drink while training. Once the June Bank Holiday came, the whole team made a decision not to drink at all while the championship was on. I might have a few in the next couple of weeks. I drink Budweiser or a gin and tonic.

Do you worry about your weight?

I suppose I do, but it would be sport related, not so much for appearance sake. Our weight is monitored on a daily basis so as to maximise our performance on the pitch. You don't want to be carrying excess weight on the pitch.

Do you have any weaknesses, food-wise?



High jump: Cork camogie captain Elaine Burke says her only vice is a bag of crisps.

I like crisps. That's about it.

What are the healthiest things you do, food-wise, each day?

I ensure I get fresh fruit and vegetables every day. Living at home helps with that because my mother cooks dinner. I make sure my fruit intake's good by watching how I snack. I'll grab an apple rather than anything else. I drink up to four litres of water daily. These habits become natural after a while.

How much sleep do you need?

I need a lot. I definitely need eight hours or more.

How do you deal with stress?

Everybody has stress in their lives, though I am fairly laid back. I don't let things bother me. Everyone in my family has a 'come what may' attitude, and being the youngest of six, my parents were a bit more willing to let me go my own path. But when I do get stressed, I find there's nothing like getting out on the pitch after a day's work and doing what I love.

What motivates you?

Maximising my opportunities while they're there. I always want to give a good performance, both at work and in sport.

What's your best asset?

Being laid back. My mum says I have a bit of a unique smile. I don't like it, but she loves it.

Do you pray?

I would to a certain extent. My mother would be very religious. She was in Medjugorje last week and she prayed for the team.

What makes you happy?

Just giving a good account of myself and being the best I can be, no matter what it is.

by Helen O'Callaghan

We'll be back, say players

by Noel Dundon

DESPITE Tipperary's loss at the hands of Cork in Sunday's Foras na Gaeilge All-Ireland senior camogie final in Croke Park, there is a real determination amongst the players to return to the fold and "go out on a high note". The underlying message stemming from the players as they assembled on the pitch after the game was that Tipperary will be back. Despite almost a decade at the very top for many of these players, the thoughts of leaving the game on a downer is not on. They will go to the well once more to see if they can deliver the title again for The Premier County. Manager Paddy McCormack was lavish in his praise for his charges after the game and said that he

could ask no more of them. They had given their all but Cork made the final push and earned their victory. "We always knew that Cork were going to come at us. They ran through us in the first half and put a few points up and if our supply of ball to our forwards dried up we were going to be in trouble. That's exactly what happened — we were not getting the necessary ball into the forwards and we were struggling as a result. I thought when we got the point after their goal that this could go down to the wire — maybe even a draw — but Cork came good and got the scores to win the game," he said. Paddy was also conscious of the fact that the players have been giving their all for over seven years with

the Tipp team and he was disappointed that captain Deirdre Hughes did not get to lift the cup. It would have been a real honour for her, he said, and a fitting tribute to a great player. "It would have been great for Deirdre Hughes to lift the cup. She has been a great servant. I am very proud of the players — they worked very hard all year and they are still great hurlers. They took Cork right to the end again and they will be back for another shot at the title," Paddy said. Selector Martin Burke was also disappointed that the victory alluded his side and said that seven years of non stop action with club and county possibly caught up with the players. "This is a great bunch of players and they have given everything for Tip-

perary down through the years. But, it is very hard to stay fresh and we met a Cork side that was eager and hungry for a title. Our girls gave it everything and our supporters were great again. We had a great crowd in Croke Park and camogie is being well supported now in Tipperary thanks to the efforts of our girls," he said. The players were very generous in their praise and congratulations for Cork. The Rebels had put in a mighty effort to get to the All-Ireland and they were really up for it against Tipp. Jill Horan who fired over two of Tipperary's points said that Cork were a lot more physical than last year and were more fired up for the game. "They got the breaks as well and there was no way they were going to be beaten. They were really up for it and through no fault of ours, their game plan worked a treat. They tried to upset our game and they succeeded. Fair play to them, they are deserving champions but we will be back again," she said.

Last year's captain Joanne Ryan was also lavish in her praise for Cork and said that the goal was a turning point. She also alluded to the fact that Cork were a much fresher side and said that the pace of the game was very fast. Midfielder Angie McDermott — another long servant for Tipperary — found the going tough. Cork were coming at Tipp from all sides in the second half, she said, and they worked very hard to find holes in the Tipperary rearguard. The general consensus from the Tipperary camp was that Cork deserved their win and they were not going to begrudge it to them. The treble bid did not add pressure to the side, they said, and they looked forward to 2006 when they will attempt to win back the O'Duffy Cup.

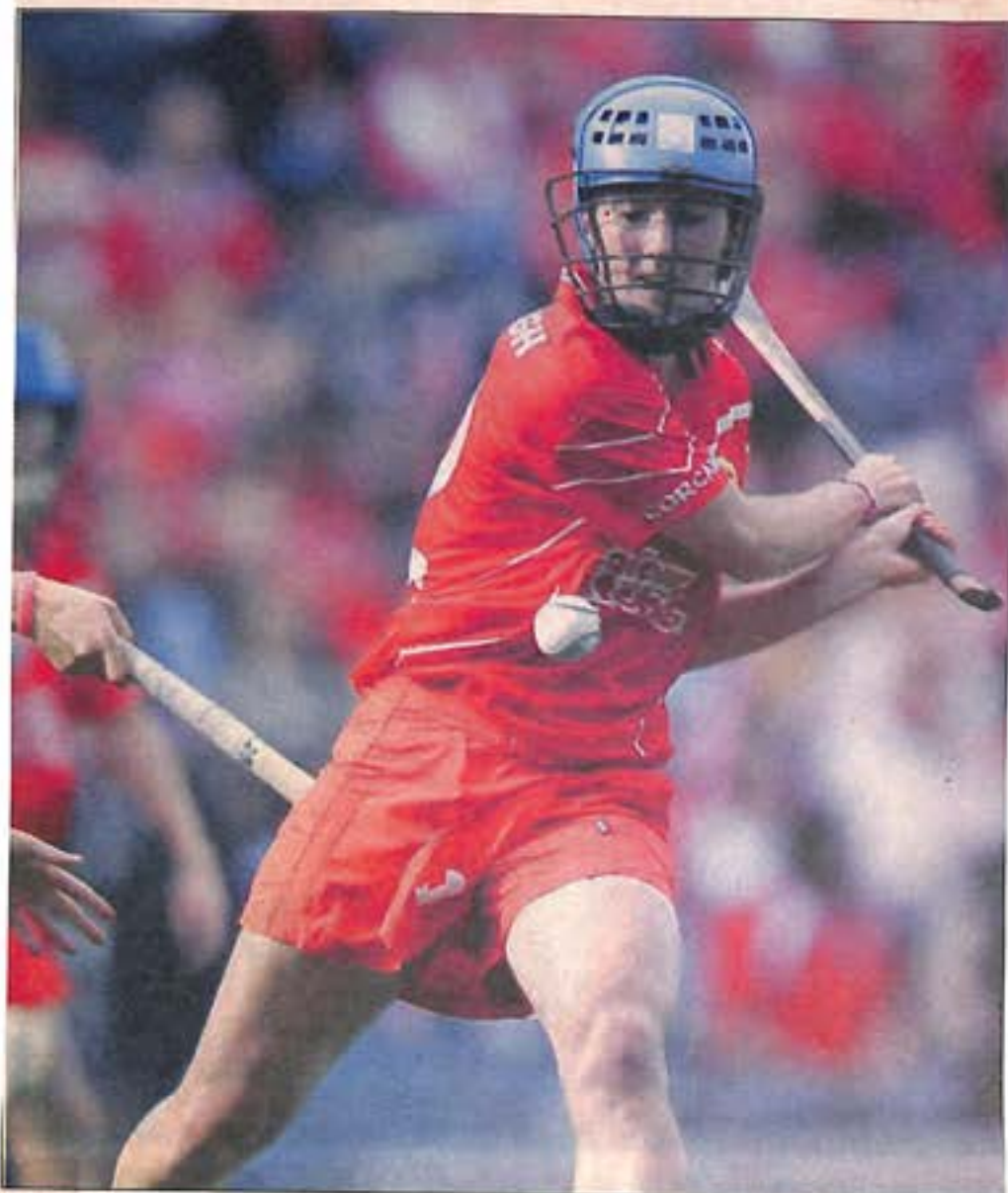


Philly Fogarty's effort sails over the bar in the opening half at Croke Park.



Limerick's Grace McNamara and Cork's Elaine Burke and Jennifer O'Leary

Barryroe girl in action

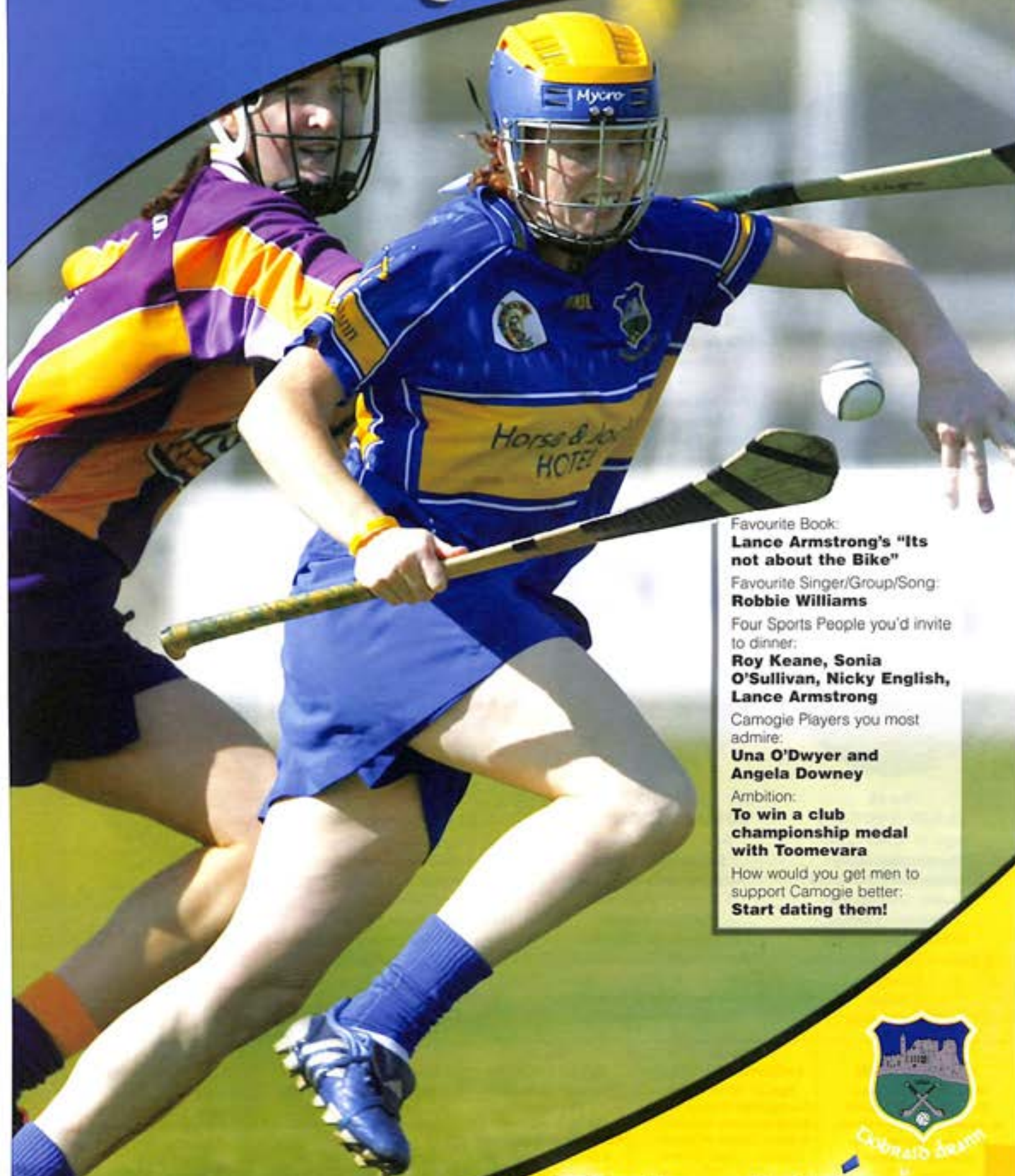


Barryroe girl Jennifer O'Leary in action for Cork during the All-Ireland senior camogie final in which her team defeated Tipperary. (Pic: Brian Lawless, Sportfile)



Tipp fullback Una O'Dwyer puts Cork forward Stephanie Dunlea under pressure in Sunday's final in Croke Park.

Deirdre Hughes



Favourite Book:

Lance Armstrong's "Its not about the Bike"

Favourite Singer/Group/Song:

Robbie Williams

Four Sports People you'd invite to dinner:

Roy Keane, Sonia O'Sullivan, Nicky English, Lance Armstrong

Camogie Players you most admire:

Una O'Dwyer and Angela Downey

Ambition:

To win a club championship medal with Toomevara

How would you get men to support Camogie better:

Start dating them!

Photo: John Kelly



Tiobraid Árann

Elaine Burke

Favourite Book:

The Client

Favourite Singer/Group/Song:

Counting Crows

Four Sports People you'd invite to dinner:

Roy Keane, Lance Armstrong, Christy Ring, Jimmy Barry Murphy

Camogie Players you most admire:

Fiona O'Driscoll and Sandie Fitzgibbon

Ambition:

To win another senior All Ireland medal with Cork

How would you get men to support Camogie better:

Combine hurling and camogie games

Photo: John Kelly



Corcaigh



Gemma O'Connor, St Finbarr's, a member of the Cork camogie All-Ireland winning team. Picture: Eddie O'Hare

Congratulations to Gemma

CONGRATULATIONS to Gemma O'Connor, who was a member of the victorious Cork camogie team which won the All-Ireland last weekend. Gemma is a former pupil

of Presentation Secondary School in Ballyphehane and is presently a member of the Defence Forces.

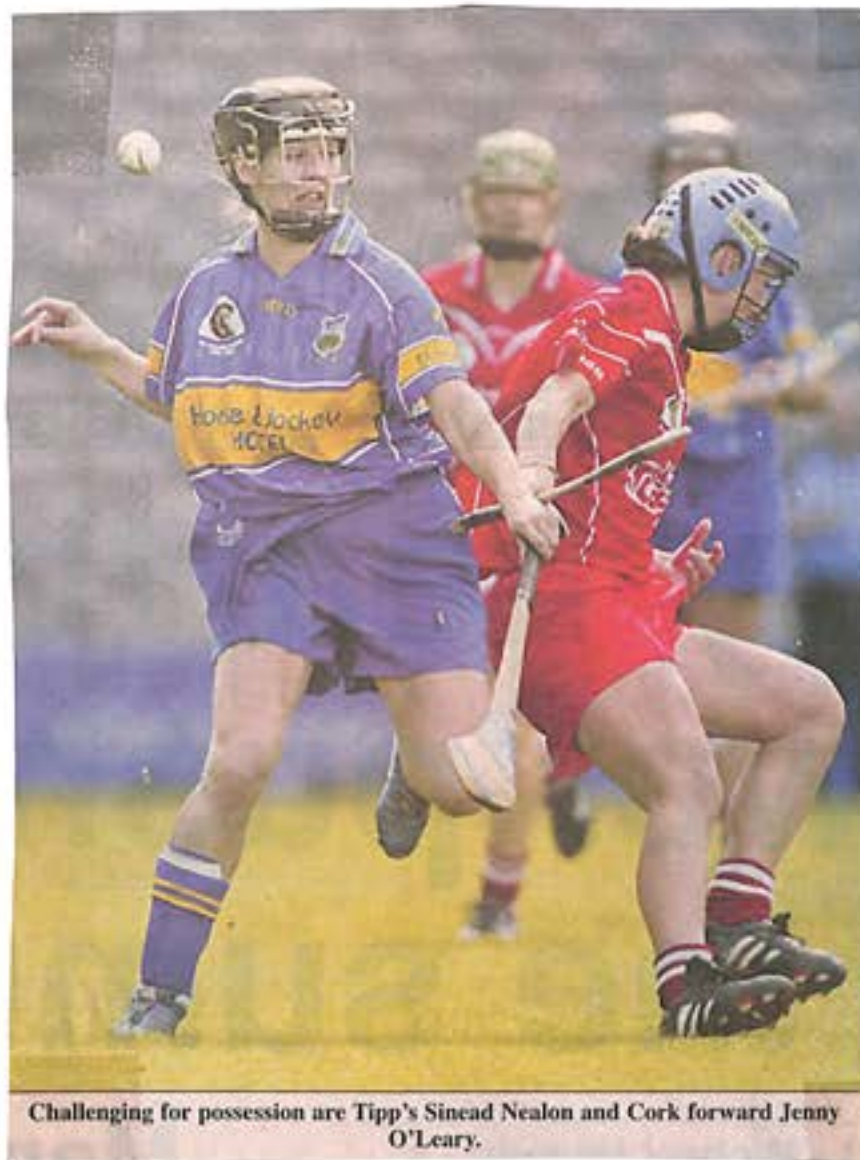
She was also named on the All-Star Camogie team last year.



Noelle Kennedy sets up a Tipperary attack early in the game. Photograph: Bridget Delaney.

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2005



Challenging for possession are Tipp's Sinead Nealon and Cork forward Jenny O'Leary.



Tipp corner forward Eimear McDonnell finds her route to goal blocked by Cork's Rena Buckley.

Congratulations

'REBELS abd aris' a fabulous quote from Elaine Burke as she lifted the O'Duffy Cup on the steps of the Hogan Stand as Cork claim their 21st All-Ireland Senior Camogie title and in the process deny Tipperary a third successive crown.

It was a stunning performance which is a tribute to the players for the character they showed in the second half, and also to the backroom team of John Cronin, Ollie Hallihane, and Lillian Zinkant.

Fiona O'Driscoll was singled out for special praise by players and selectors alike and how good it is to see a former player putting something back into a game she herself adorned with such splendour in a distinguished career, that included scoring three

goals against Tipperary the last time the C'chip was won, how fitting that she should now mastermind their downfall.

It was a special day for all the players none more so than those girls who were winning their first senior medals, but equally for long serving stalwarts like Mary O'Connor and Stephanie Dunlea the win gave them extra satisfaction considering the outstanding service with the county, and of course best of luck to Mary in her new role with the Camogie Association.

I am sure the girls will enjoy the celebrations over the coming days and weeks it is no more than they deserve, tow All-Irelands in seven days for Cork, little wonder the rest of the country look on in envy, long may it continue.

Homecoming at Innishannon

By JOHN SEXTON



Cork player Joanne O'Callaghan, Cloughduv, celebrates her team's victory over Tipperary in the All-Ireland camogie final as she leaves the Croke Park pitch on Sunday.

(Pic: Brian Lawless, Sportsfile)

IT was a nostalgic moment at Kent Station on Monday night as thousands assembled to give a rousing homecoming to the Cork senior camogie team as they returned to Leaside with the O'Duffy Cup. Getting on to the top of the "open top" touring bus, they were driven through all the principal streets of the city, led by the Blarney Street Brass Band.

As they turned into the South Mall, three Garda outriders showed the way down to the reviewing platform beside the Imperial Hotel, where they were met by leaders of Church and State.

In an address of welcome, the Lord Mayor, Councillor Deirdre Clune, paid a glowing tribute to the team for their outstanding display and the endurance they showed in coming from behind to win a great All-Ireland.

Bishop John Buckley said that playing in Croke Park in any All-Ireland was quite an ordeal and in congratulating the team he also commended

them for their attention to training as he had seen them being put through their paces so often up in Pairé Uí Rinn.

SWEETER

Team manager, John Cronin, spoke in similar vein and the fact that he had never trained a losing team in an All-Ireland final made the victory all the sweeter for him.

Representing the Cork County G.A.A. Board, Michael Dolan said this team did us proud as they ran the legs off the Tipperary team in the last quarter and to beat Tipperary is always an achievement in itself he said. Marion McCarthy, president of the Cork County Camogie Board, thanked everybody present, the selectors, manager, John Cronin, and coach, Fiona O'Driscoll, and all the supporters who travelled to Croke Park.

Elaine Burke responded and displaying the O'Duffy Cup on high, introduced all the team to the massive crowd which had filled the Mall. After the reception in the Imperial Hotel, the cavalcade moved on to Innishannon.

Arriving at the outskirts of the village, a piper led the parade through the main street up to the Hall, which had an overflow attendance as well-known broadcaster Paudie Palmer, who acted as M.C., introduced the platform party, where up to twelve made it to the podium. It was indeed a pleasure to see the man with such loyalty to Valley Rovers for over 60 years, Con Murphy, speak with such eloquence on his admiration for the advancement of the game of camogie in the county and the contribution being made by his beloved Valley Rovers and Carrigdhoun, remarking how pleased he was to see a girl from the parish lead Cork to an All-Ireland victory.

Jim Forbes, chairman of the County Board G.A.A., remarked how pleasing it was to see two All-Irelands come to Cork in the space of a week and like the hurlers he could see a bright future ahead of this camogie team.

John Coleman, chairman of the Carrigdhoun Division G.A.A., remarked how pleased he was to see the contribution that girls like Eimear Dillon, Sarah O'Donovan, Rachel Moloney, Jennifer Browne and team captain Elaine Burke had made to this great victory, as well as the players from so many other clubs throughout the county.

Marion McCarthy, president, County Camogie Board, and Elma Cottrell, Valley Rovers club, also spoke as did Joe O'Sullivan, Valley Rovers G.A.A., and Fr. John Kingston, parish priest, who extended a special welcome to everybody to the village and the parish.

And with the preliminaries over, the celebrations went on well into the morning and we understand that the O'Duffy Cup will find its way into the schools where all the team got their basic education during the next few weeks.



John McHale, Evening Echo Sports Editor, presenting Cork Manager John Cronin with a team photograph at a reception for the All Ireland winning Cork camogie team in the Evening Echo offices.

Picture: Cillian Kelly



Team-mates, Lynda O'Connell, Elaine Burke and Vivienne Harris with the O'Duffy Cup at a reception for the All-Ireland winning Cork camogie team in the Evening Echo offices last night.

Picture: Cillian Kelly

Burke pays tribute to her winning team-mates

CELEBRATIONS continued last night for the Cork senior camogie team when they visited the Evening Echo offices for their traditional post All-Ireland Final reception.

Special tribute was paid to the team by Evening Echo Sports Editor John McHale and Deputy Editor Vincent Kelly while the Evening Echo reporting team of Linda Mellerick, PJ Aherne and Mary Newman also came in for praise.

"Your second half performance, in particular, was outstanding and you are very deserving of all the plaudits that have come your way this week.

By CONOR GEORGE

Camogie news

"After the disappointment of losing last year's final it showed tremendous character and determination to win through last Sunday and that is to be applauded," said Mr Kelly.

A special presentation of a framed photograph of the All-Ireland winning team was made to every member of the squad and backroom team at last night's reception by the Evening Echo.

The Cork captain Elaine Burke also spoke, extolling the virtues of her team-mates and their efforts in bringing the O'Duffy Cup back to Cork for the 21st time.



Cork camogie captain Elaine Burke with fans Sharon White, left, and Amy O'Sullivan and the O'Duffy Cup at the reception for the Cork team in the Evening Echo offices last night.

Picture: Cillian Kelly



Echo camogie writers Linda Mellerick, PJ Aherne and Mary Newman with Cork captain Elaine Burke and the O'Duffy Cup at the reception for the Cork team in the Evening Echo offices last night.

Picture: Cillian Kelly

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Sóisir An Chláir

No.1 Rachel Lynch
 Club: Clooney
 Occupation: Student
 Position: Goalkeeper
 Honours
 Club: 1 Intermediate League, 1 Intermediate Championship
 County: Munster Minor B Championship,
 2 Munster Junior Championships
 Schools/Colleges: 2 Ashbourne medals

No.2 Jane Scanlon
 Club: Clarecastle
 Occupation: Student
 Position: Corner/Full back
 Honours
 Club: Minor Championships
 County: 2 Munster Junior Championships
 Schools/Colleges: Munster Junior Colleges
 Camogie, All Ireland Junior Colleges
 Camogie

No.3 Deirdre Corcoran
 Club: Celbridge
 Occupation: Student
 Position: Corner/Full back
 Honours
 Club: 1 Senior Championship,
 2 Minor Championships, 1 Poc Fada
 County: 2 Munster Junior Championships,
 1 Munster Poc Fada
 Schools/Colleges: Colleges League

No.4 Catriona McMahon
 Club: Newmarket-on-Fergus
 Occupation: Service Air employee
 Position: Left Corner Back
 Honours
 Club: Intermediate Championship,
 5 Senior Leagues, 3 Senior Championships
 County: 2 Munster Junior Championships
 Schools/Colleges: 1 Munster Junior Colleges

No.5 Edel Keating
 Club: Corofin
 Occupation: Student
 Position: Centre/Wing Back
 Honours
 Club: Minor Championship
 County: Minor Munster Final,
 Munster Junior Championship '03 + '05

No.6 Cathy Halley
 Club: Wolfe Tones na Sionna
 Occupation: Stryker employee
 Position: Full/Wing Back
 Honours
 Club: 1 Senior Championship
 County: 2 Munster Junior Championships,
 1 Intermediate All Ireland

No.7 Erica Minogue
 Club: Whitegate
 Occupation: Student
 Position: Full/Wing Back
 Honours
 County: 1 Munster Junior Championship,
 1 Intermediate All Ireland

No.8 Moira McMahon
 Club: Newmarket-on-Fergus
 Occupation: Primary School Teacher
 Position: Mid-field
 Honours
 Club: 8 Senior County Championships
 County: 2 Munster Junior Championships,
 3 All Ireland Intermediate Medals
 Schools/Colleges: 1 Ashbourne Cup medal,
 2 Ashbourne Shield medal



No.9 Deirdre Murphy (Captain)
 Club: Davitts
 Occupation: Teacher
 Position: Midfield
 Honours
 Club: 2 Senior Leagues, 2 senior
 Championships
 County: 2 Munster Junior
 Championships,
 1 All Ireland Intermediate
 Schools/Colleges: 2 Ashbourne Shields

No.10 Laura Linnane
 Club: Wolfe Tones na Sionna
 Occupation: Student
 Position: Wing Forward
 Honours
 Club: Senior Championship, Feile na Gael
 County: 2 Munster Junior
 Championships,
 1 Intermediate All Ireland
 Schools/Colleges: All Ireland Senior
 Schools,
 2 Ashbourne Shields

No.11 Aine O'Brien
 Club: Scariff
 Occupation: Student
 Position: Centre Forward
 Honours
 County: 2 Munster Junior Championships

No.12 Fiona Lafferty
 Club: Kilnamona
 Occupation: Student
 Position: Wing/Full Forward
 Honours
 Club: Minor County Championship, 1
 Senior Championship, 1 Munster Junior
 Club Championship
 County: Minor A Munster Championship,
 1 Munster Junior Championship
 Schools/Colleges: Colleges County
 Championship, Munster Colleges
 Championship,
 All Ireland Colleges Championship

No.13 Claire MacMahon
 Club: Kilmaley
 Occupation: Student
 Position: Corner Forward
 Honours
 Club: Intermediate League +
 Championship 2004
 County: Munster Junior Championship
 '05
 Schools/Colleges: All Ireland Schools,
 Ashbourne Shield

No.14 Catherine O'Loughlin
 Club: Kilnamona
 Occupation: Bank Official
 Position: Full forward
 Honours
 Club: 2 Senior County Championships, 1
 Senior League,
 1 Munster Junior Club Championship
 County: 3 Munster Junior Championships
 1 Junior All Ireland, 3 Intermediate All
 Irelands, 5 Gael Linn Inter Provincial
 medals
 Schools/Colleges: 2 Munster Colleges
 Championship medals

No.15 Claire Commene
 Club: Corofin
 Occupation: Student
 Position: Corner Forward
 Honours
 Club: Minor Championship
 County: 2 Munster Junior Championships

No.16 Denise Lynch
 Club: Kilmaley
 Occupation: Student
 Position: Centre back
 Honours
 Club: Minor Championships,
 2 Intermediate Leagues,
 1 Intermediate Championship,
 2 Poc Fada
 County: 2 Munster Junior
 Championships, 2 Munster Poc Fada, 2
 All Ireland Poc fada titles
 Schools/Colleges: Junior Schools All
 Ireland, Ashbourne Cup, Schools
 National League

No.17 Siobhan Lafferty
 Club: Kilnamona
 Occupation: Bank Official
 Position: Full/Wing Back
 Honours
 Club: Minor County Championships,
 2 Senior Championships, 1 Munster
 Junior Club Championship
 County: Minor B Munster Championship,
 2 Munster Junior Championships
 Schools/Colleges: Junior Colleges
 Championship, Senior Colleges
 Championship

No.18 Marie O'Halloran
 Club: Kilnamona
 Occupation: Student
 Position: Wing Forward
 Honours
 Club: 2 Senior Championships,
 1 Munster Junior Club Championship
 County: 2 Munster Junior
 Championships, 1 Intermediate All

Ireland
 Schools/Colleges: 1 Munster Colleges
 medal, Schools County Final,
 Schools All Ireland

No.19 Marie O'Looney
 Club: Newmarket-on-Fergus
 Occupation: Engineer
 Position: Wing back
 Honours
 Club: Minor Championship, Junior
 Championship, 4 Senior Leagues,
 3 Senior Championships
 County: 2 Munster Junior Championships
 Schools/Colleges: 3 All-Ireland Colleges
 medals

No.20 Elaine Gallery
 Club: Wolfe Tones na Sionna
 Occupation: Student
 Position: Wing Forward
 Honours
 Club: Senior County Championship, Feile
 na Gael Camogie
 County: Munster Junior Championship '05
 Schools/Colleges: Purcell Shield Medal

No.21 Marie Whelan
 Club: Clarecastle
 Occupation: Student
 Position: Wingback/Midfield
 Honours
 Club: Intermediate Championship
 County: 2 Munster Junior Championships
 Schools/Colleges: Munster Junior Colleges
 Camogie, All Ireland Junior Colleges
 Camogie, Ashbourne Cup '05

No.22 Jane O'Leary
 Club: Newmarket-on-Fergus
 Occupation: Student
 Position: Wing back
 Honours
 Club: 5 Senior Leagues
 3 Senior Championships
 County: Munster Junior Championship '05

No.23 Siobhan White
 Club: Kilmaley
 Occupation: Civil Servant
 Position: Centre Field
 Honours
 Club: Junior Championship,
 Intermediate Championships
 County: Munster Junior Championship
 '05, Minor Munster Championship

No.24 Catriona Naughton
 Club: Feakle
 Occupation: Student
 Position: Half back
 Honours
 Club: Intermediate League +
 Championship
 County: Munster Junior Championship '05
 Schools/Colleges: Colleges County
 Championship, Ashbourne Shield '04

No.25 Claire Arthur
 Club: Newmarket-on-Fergus
 Occupation: Student
 Position: Forward
 Honours
 Club: 5 Senior Leagues,
 3 Senior Championships
 County: Munster Junior Championship
 '05
 Schools/Colleges: Senior Schools Football



Bainisteoir: Michael Maher (Michael Ó Meachair)

Club: Kilmaley

Occupation: Retired

Management experience: This is Michael's third year with the Clare camogie team. A legendary hurler with the Kilmaley hurling club Michael went on to manage club hurling teams before progressing to the Clare camogie team. Michael led the team to the All Ireland final in 2003 and to a Munster title earlier this year.



AN CLÁR



Ar chúl (ó chlé): L. Nic Giolla Riabhaigh, S. Ní Laifeartaigh, D. Ní Chocráin, D. Ní Mhurchú (Capt.), M. Ní Allúráin, M. Ní Fhaoláin, R. Ní Loinsigh, Á. Ní Bhriain, S. Ní Scannláin, E. Ní Mhuineog, E. Chéitinn, C. Ní Neachtáin, S. Ní Laoire, D. Ní Loinsigh.
Chun tosaigh (ó chlé): A. Nic an Airchinnigh, L. Ní Aodha, M. Ní Luanaigh, L. Ní Linneáin, M. Nic Mhathúna, C. Nic Mhathúna, C. Nic Lochlainn, C. Nic Mhathúna, C. Ní Chomáin, C. Ní Ailche, F. Ní Laifeartaigh, S. de Faoite, C. Nic Artúir



1
RACHEL LYNCH
Rachel Ní Loinsigh
Clooney

2
JANE SCANLAN
Sinéad Ní Scannláin
Clarecastle

3
DEIRDRE CORCORAN
Deirdre Ní Chocráin
Celbridge

4
CATRIONA McMAHON
Caitriona Nic Mhathúna
Newmarket-on-Fergus

5
EDEL KEATING
Edel Chéitinn
Corofin

6
CATHY HALLEY
Caitriona Ní Ailche
Wolfe Tones

7
ERICA MINOGUE
Erica Ní Mhuineog
Whitegate

8
MOIRA McMAHON
Máire Nic Mhathúna
Newmarket-on-Fergus

9
DEIRDRE MURPHY (Captaen)
Deirdre Ní Mhurchú
Davitts

10
LAURA LINNANE
Lára Ní Linneáin
Wolfe Tones

11
ÁINE O'BRIEN
Áine Ní Bhriain
Scarriff

12
FIONA LAFFERTY
Fiona Ní Laifeartaigh
Kilnamona

13
CLAIRE McMAHON
Clár Nic Mhathúna
Kilmaley

14
CATHERINE O'LOUGHLIN
Caitriona Nic Lochlainn
Kilnamona

15
CLAIRE COMMANE
Clár Ní Chomáin
Corofin



16 DENISE LYNCH
Denise Ní Loinsigh
Kilmaley

17 SIOBHÁN LAFFERTY
Siobhán Ní Laifeartaigh
Kilnamona

18 MARIE O'HALLARON
Máire Ní Allúráin
Kilnamona

19 MARIE O'LOONEY
Máire Ní Luanaigh
Newmarket-on-Fergus

20 ELAINE GALLERY
Leán Nic Giolla Riabhaigh
Wolfe Tones

21 MARIE WHELAN
Máire Ní Fhaoláin
Clarecastle

22 JEAN O'LEARY
Sinéad Ní Laoire
Newmarket-on-Fergus

23 SIOBHÁN WHITE
Siobhán de Faoite
Kilmaley

24 CATRIONA NAUGHTON
Caitriona Ní Neachtáin
Scarriff

25 CLAIRE ARTHUR
Clár Nic Artúir
Newmarket-on-Fergus



Sóisir Áth Cliath

No. 1

Eimear Butler
Club: St. Vincent's
Age: 19
Occupation: Student
Achievements: Provincial
1 Junior Championship
Club
1 Juvenile Championship

No. 2

Sylvia Hanks
Club: Crumlin
Age: 25
Occupation: Care Assistant
Achievements: Provincial
1 Junior Championship

No. 3

Anne McCluskey
Club: Erins Isle
Age: 23
Occupation: Primary School Teacher
Achievements: Provincial
1 Minor Championship,
Colleges
1 Leinster Colleges, Fr. Maher 2004,
Purcell Shield 2005, Purcell All-Star
2005

No. 4

Aoife Cullen
Club: St. Vincent's
Age: 24
Occupation: Garda
Achievements: Provincial
1 Club Championship, 1 Junior
Championship
Club
1 County Championship,
Colleges
1 Purcell Cup

No. 5

Andrea Fitzpatrick
Club: Naomh Mearnog
Age: 20
Occupation: Nursing student
Achievements: Provincial
1 Junior Championship

No. 6

Sinead Cunnane
Club: Skerries Harps
Age: 20
Occupation: Student
Achievements: Provincial
1 Junior Championship
Club
1 Senior B County Championship

No. 7

Caítriona Power
Club: Naomh Mearnog
Age: 21
Occupation: Student
Achievements: Provincial
1 Junior Championship

No. 8

Ciara Lucey
Club: Ballyboden St. Endas
Age: 20
Occupation: Student
Achievements: Provincial
1 Junior Championship,
Colleges
Ashbourne Allstar 2005

No. 9

Aine Fanning
Club: Naomh Uinsinn
Age: 20
Occupation: Student
Achievements: Provincial
1 Junior Championship



No. 10

Eimear Brannigan
Club: St. Vincent's
Age: 26
Occupation: Electronic engineer
Achievements: Provincial
1 Junior Championship, 1 Senior Club
Title
Club
1 All-Ireland Senior Championship,
3 Senior Championship, 7 Senior League
Titles

No. 11

Gillian McCluskey
Club: Erins Isle
Age: 23
Occupation: Bank Official
Achievements: Club
Dublin Club Championship 2004
Provincial
1 Junior Championship

No. 12

Ciara Durkan
Club: Skerries Harps
Age: 18
Occupation: Student
Achievements: Provincial
1 Junior Championship

No. 13

Joyce Donnelly
Club: St. Peregrines
Age: 24
Occupation: Stenographer
Achievements: Provincial
1 Junior Championship
Club
Junior County Championship,
Intermediate County Championship

No. 14

Louise O'Hara
Club: Erins Isle
Age: 26
Occupation: Montessori Teacher
Achievements: Provincial
1 Junior Championship
Club
1 Senior A Championship

No. 15

Emer Lucey
Club: Ballyboden St. Endas
Age: 17
Occupation: Student
Achievements: Provincial
1 Junior Championship

No. 16

Elizabeth McGuinness
Club: Good Counsel
Age: 22
Occupation: Barperson
Achievements: Provincial
1 Junior Championship

No. 17

Elaine Ryan
Club: Crumlin
Age: 18
Occupation: Student
Achievements: Provincial
1 Junior Championship

No. 18

Jean Murphy
Club: Skerries Harps
Age: 18
Occupation: Student
Achievements: Provincial
1 Junior Championship
Club
1 Senior B Championship

No. 19

Sandra Martin
Club: Good Counsel
Age: 23
Occupation: Bank Official
Achievements: Provincial
1 Junior Championship
Club
2 Senior Championship

No. 20

Gemma Flynn
Club: Crumlin
Age: 23
Occupation: Gym Instructor
Achievements: Provincial
1 Junior Championship

No. 21

Maria O'Sullivan
Club: Na Fianna
Age: 19
Occupation: Student
Achievements: Provincial
1 Junior Championship

No. 22

Julie Draper
Club: Erins Isle
Age: 21
Occupation: Sales
Achievements: Provincial
1 Junior Championship
Club
1 Championship 2003

No. 23

Eve Talbot
Club: Good Counsel
Age: 26
Occupation: Teacher
Achievements: County
2 Championships
Provincial
1 Junior Championship
Colleges
1 Ashbourne Cup

No. 24

Niamh Taylor
Club: Naomh Mearnog
Age: 20
Occupation: Student
Achievements: Provincial
1 Junior Championship

No. 25

Siobhan Curran
Club: Raheny
Age: 25
Occupation: Accommodation Officer
Achievements: Provincial
1 Junior Championship
Club
1 Junior A Championship, 1 Senior B
Championship



Bainisteoir: Peter Lucey

Occupation: Primary Teacher – Bishop Galvin N. S.

Camogie achievements:

Leinster Junior Camogie Championship 2005. St Jude's Adult hurling leagues and championships '93 to 2001. 2nd level Camogie championship and league with Our Lady's School 2001. Cumann na mBunscol Ath Cliath Senior Div 1 Camogie Championship 2004 and 2005.

Peter has been training teams for 25 years. He has spent eight years with county teams from under 18 to senior level and has been with the current panel for two years. Peter has two daughters on today's team – Emer and Ciara.

ÁTH CLIATH



Ar chúl (ó chlér): A. Ní Ghriofa, S. Draopar, E. de Buitléir, A. Nic Chuilín, E. Ní Bhranagáin, L. Ní Eára, A. McCluskey, S. Ní Chorráin, S. Ní Mhairtín. Lár (ó chlér): Gemma Ní Fhloinn, L. Ní Mheára, S. Ní Dhonnaile, C. de Paor, É. Nig Aonasa, S. Ní Mhurchú, L. Ní Riain, S. Ní Chuinneáin. Chun tosaigh (ó chlér): E. Ní Luasaigh, Á. Ní Fhainín, C. Nic Dharcáin, G. McCluskey, A. Nic Giolla Phádraig, S. Hanks, C. Ní Luasaigh, N. Ní Tháillíúir, M. Ní Shuilleabháin. Missing from photo: E. Tablóid.



Cluichí Ceannais na hÉireann sa Chamógaíocht



- 16 **ELIZABETH McGUINNESS**
Éilis Nig Aonasa
Good Counsel
- 17 **ELAINE RYAN**
Léan Ní Riain
Crumlin
- 18 **JEAN MURPHY**
Sinéad Ní Mhurchú
Skerries Harps
- 19 **SANDRA MARTIN**
Sandra Ní Mhairtín
Good Counsel
- 20 **GEMMA FLYNN**
Gemma Ní Fhloinn
Crumlin
- 21 **MARIA O'SULLIVAN**
Máire Ní Shuilleabháin
Na Fianna
- 22 **JULIE DRAPER**
Síle Draopar
Erin's Isle
- 23 **EVE TALBOT**
Eve Talbóid
Good Counsel
- 24 **NIAMH TAYLOR**
Niamh Tháillíúir
Naomh Mearnóg
- 25 **SIOBHÁN CURRAN**
Siobhán Ní Chorráin
Raheny

1
EIMEAR BUTLER
Eimear de Buitléir
St. Vincents

2
SYLVIA HANKS
Sylvia Hanks
Crumlin

3
ANNE McCLUSKEY
Áine Nic Bhloscaidh
Erin's Isle

4
AOIFE CULLEN
Aoife Ní Chuilinn
St. Vincents

5
ANDREA FITZPATRICK
Andrea Nic Giolla Phádraig
Naomh Mearnóg

6
SINÉAD CUNNANE
Sinéad Ní Chuinneáin
Skerries Harps

7
CAITRÍONA POWER
Caitríona de Paor
Naomh Mearnóg

8
CIARA LUCEY
Ciara Ní Luasaigh
Ballyboden St. Enda's

9
ÁINE FANNING
Áine Ní Fhainín
St. Vincents

10
EIMEAR BRANNIGAN
(Captaen)
Eimear Ní Bhranagáin
St. Vincents

11
GILLIAN McCLUSKEY
Gillian Nic Bhloscaidh
Erin's Isle

12
CIARA DURKAN
Ciara Nic Dharcáin
Skerries Harps

13
JOYCE DONNELLY
Seolighe Ní Dhonnaile
Naomh Peregrine

14
LOUISE O'HARA
Labhaoise Ní Eára
Erin's Isle

15
EMER LUCEY
Eimear Ní Luasaigh
Ballyboden St. Enda's

Bringing back that *Fryday Feeling*

By: NIAL SCULLY,
Sports Journalist 'Evening Herald'

LIKE so many things in life, it started with a phone-call. Arnold O'Byrne was about to leave the office, but, suddenly, the bell sounded.

One thing the Opel chief couldn't ever do was to leave a phone unanswered. The FAI were on the other end of the line, and so began Opel's great adventure with the Irish soccer team.

Denis Murphy is more into sausages than cars, but when he dipped his hand in his pocket, Dublin Camogie suddenly began to sizzle.

Denis is the Olhausen MD, but he also knows the Dublin GAA trenches better than most.

And so does the leader of this expedition, Peter Lucey. Peter and Jack Charlton could easily sit down over an ale and discuss the merits of man and woman-management.

Like big Jack, Lucey lives every tackle. When he arrives into Bishop Galvin on a Monday morning, himself and Dublin Minor Hurling mentor, Jimmy O'Dwyer, don't waste time talking about 'Big Brother.'

Lucey is the teacher who believes in doing his homework, and that's easy to see in this Dublin team who have turned grey skies to blue.

Right from his first whistle, there has been a professional polish to their attitude. Bringing industry to the training field, and, consequently, seeing the value rise on the Stock Exchange.

There's a swagger to their stride and a refreshing spirit in the camp that tells of a Happy Family. Lucey's Lieutenants have contributed handsomely to the journey - Pat Fanning, Caroline Duggan and Dóirín Golden.

The Fab Four have struck up a rich rapport with the squad. That was easy to see when Dublin held their Media-Night in Parnell Park.

As a cluster of Dublin players were getting their picture taken out on the pitch, Pat Fanning lobbed a sliotar in their general direction.

It came back with bells on it, but that was no problem to the former Waterford and Dublin hurler, whose Dad, Pat Senior, was President of the GAA in the early seventies.

Inside in the clubhouse, Pat was humming 'Summertime'. And it was hard to blame him. The sun, at long last, had come out for Dublin Camogie.

The management and players have

banished the bleak days, of which there were so many. Over the years, camogie's call for a winning Dublin team went, unlike Arnold O'Byrne's phone, unanswered.

Too many days when, approaching games, nobody was giving a sausage for Dublin's chances.

The Queens, that ruled the sport with such grace for so long, were now renting the Gate Lodge, and the walls were crumbling in all around them.

Then the hard decision was made to vacate the property altogether, and move to the Junior ranks.

It was a brave step, and sometimes, as they say, you have to move two steps back before you are able to get out of the car-park.

The squad went back to basics on the factory floor, and with the wins, came the confidence.

Sean Boylan said recently that Meath were absolutely thrilled to have won the Centenary Cup. It was a significant sign-post that began a magical Royal procession.

Now, Dublin are ready to start Reeling in the Years as they look to the future with optimism.

And, like everything, it will take bags of

cement to get the job done. And starting today when nobody has to tell the Dubs that Clare are in with more than a shout.

Dublin's semi-final victory over Armagh was all about conviction and courage. The charm, on that sunny Parnell Park Sunday, came in the last chapters.

All six forwards were on the mark, with Gillian McCluskey striking six delicious points from play in a superb exhibition of craftswomanship.

Alongside her, the skipper, Eimear Brannigan, showed class in every touch, and on the other wing, Louise O'Hara was showing good form. In the Dublin Club Championship semi-final earlier this month, Louise scored all four goals against Good Counsel. Her fourth goal almost sent the net hurtling over the wall in the direction of the winning post at Leopardstown Race-Course. Those fortunate enough to see it were saying that the effort would have decorated the stick of any hurler - man or woman.

Lucey demands quality, but most of all a high work ethic, and he's getting it. And that has been the theme of Dublin's march so far. As the old saying goes - 'Skill and determination - what a Combination.'

Dublin have both in abundance. Following the Armagh triumph, Phyllis Breslin applauded the merit of the Dublin display. Praise from Phyllis is praise indeed. Nobody knows their camogie onions better.

And anybody who doubts the stature of the game in the capital should have been at the St. Vincent's - Ballyboden St. Enda's Senior Championship semi-final. That was an absolute cracker.

It's been too long since the Dubs were last in Croke. The stadium, and the old town, was a different place then.

Now the Spire watches over the city that never sleeps. Hopefully this morning, the smell of the big fry-up, Olhausens of course, was wafting from the homes of Dublin supporters.

The sweet smell of a Dublin success would be a tonic for the sport, although not just yet, proclaim the Banner.

Yet one thing is sure - Lucey's Lassies have put the bite back into Dublin Camogie.

And, all over the nation, even the dogs on the street are barking their approval.

Dublin Camogie has brought back that FRYDAY Feeling.



Clara Durkin in action against Sherran Moylan of Laois in the Leinster Camogie Final.
Photo: SEAMUS MASSEY

Claire McMahon



Favourite Book:
Human Anatomy Volume 2!

Favourite Singer/Group/Song:
Rachel Lynch

Four Sports People you'd invite to dinner:
Ronan O'Gara, Paula Radcliffe, Tiger Woods, Kieran McGeeney

Camogie Players you most admire:
Eimear McDonnell

Ambition:
To win a senior All Ireland medal

How would you get men to support Camogie better:
Give them a challenge match against us!



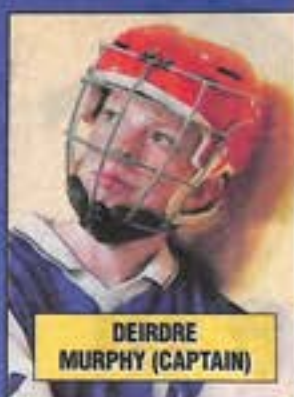
An Clár

Photo: Sportsfile

CLARE JUNIOR CAMOGIE PANEL '05



AIMEE
McINERNEY



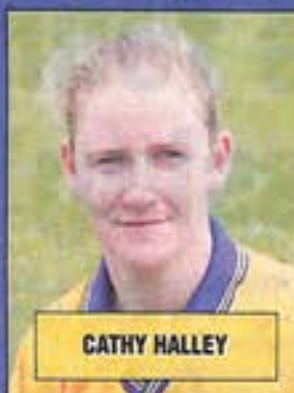
DEIRDRE
MURPHY (CAPTAIN)



AINE O'BRIEN



CATHERINE O'LOUGHLIN



CATHY HALLEY



CATRIONA
McMAHON



CATRIONA NAUGHTON



CLAIRE
COMMENE



CLAIRE
McMAHON



DEIRDRE
CORCORAN



DENISE LYNCH



EDEL KEATING



ELAINE GALLERY



ERICA MINOGUE



FIONA LAFFERTY

Going out on a high note



Six years since Clare last took the All-Ireland junior camogie crown an experienced Dublin side now stands as the last hurdle. **SEAMUS HAYES** asks, can the Banner triumph?

ALL involved with Clare camogie will be hoping that history will be repeated when Clare take on Dublin in the All-Ireland junior camogie final at Croke Park on Sunday (throw in 12.45).

Thirty one years ago Clare won their first All-Ireland junior camogie crown when they defeated Dublin in the final by two points. On their way to that game, Clare beat Limerick in the Munster final and Galway in the All-Ireland semi-final. This year's team have done exactly the same.

Back then it was a real journey into the unknown for Clare as it was their first time in the All-Ireland decider. Since then they have won this title in 1981 (beating Antrim) and 1986 (beating Kildare) while they have won intermediate titles in 1993, 1995 and 1999.

Two years ago a Clare junior team that included ten of the current panel was unlucky to lose in the All-Ireland final to Galway after a replay. That defeat made those involved more determined than ever to bounce back and they are now just one step away from achieving the top prize at this level.

A very experienced Dublin side stands between them and glory on Sunday. Dublin last won this title in 1983 and after a number of lean years at inter-county level, the county's top team was relegated to junior level. A very experienced squad will face Clare on Sun-

day and their supporters are confident that the celebrations will be in the capital on Sunday evening.

Clare go into the game in a confident mood which is not surprising given their performances during the year. They are unbeaten at this level in league and championship and there is a belief amongst the players and management that they can complete the season on a high note.

They lost out on league honours when they were deducted points after the camogie authorities ruled that they had played a player who wasn't properly registered.

Players and mentors were disappointed and it would have been easy then to throw in the towel but this group had made a promise at the beginning of the year that they would make an all out effort to win the All-Ireland title.

The management trio of Helen Murphy, Francie Mahon and Michael Maher were satisfied that there was a strong squad of players available and, so far, their view has held up.

In any team game it takes a mixture of youth and experience to make a strong team and there is certainly a good mixture in this Clare panel. Players like Catherine O'Loughlin, the sole survivor from the last team to win this title in 1986, Moira McMahon, Cathy Halley, Deirdre Corcoran and team captain Deirdre Murphy provide the experience while Claire McMahon, Erica Minogue and

Fiona Lafferty are just some of the young stars in Clare camogie at this time.

Kilmaley's Claire McMahon, sister of county player Diarmuid, has amassed a total of 2-21 in Clare's four games on their way to this final while Catherine O'Loughlin, despite struggling with injury for part of the season, had added 3-7. Deirdre Murphy has contributed 1-10 in the wins over Tipperary, Cork, Limerick and Galway.

All involved accept that they face a huge task this week. In the words of team trainer Helen Murphy, "Dublin are a very experienced outfit and they will have huge support".

The experience of having played in the final in 2003 may well prove decisive on Sunday. Deirdre Murphy, Catriona McMahon, Marie O'Looney, Laura Linnane, Claire McMahon, Marie Whelan, Catherine O'Loughlin, Jane Scanlan, Moira McMahon and Deirdre Corcoran were all part of that panel.

They have been vital cogs in the Clare side all season and the experience of having played in the 2003 drawn and replayed final should prove a huge asset this week.

Clare's form this season suggests that they will have cause to celebrate on Sunday and return to a warm welcome in Ennis on Monday evening.

SEPT 2005

How they got here...

Áth Cliath agus An Clár: Paths to the Finals

AN CLÁR		
Clare	vs	Cork
0-11		0-10
Clare	vs	Limerick
5-18		0-07
Clare	vs	Galway
4-12		2-08
ÁTH CLIATH		
Dublin	vs	Offaly
3-07		2-04
Dublin	vs	Wexford
5-14		0-03
Dublin	vs	Kildare
5-10		2-03
Dublin	vs	Laois
4-11		0-06
Dublin	vs	Armagh
1-15		0-07

COUNTY	TITLES	YEARS
An Clár	3	1974, 1981, 1986
Áth Cliath	3	1970, 1971, 1975

PRÍOMH SCÓRAÍ 2005

This years top scorers in the junior All Ireland Championship series.....

Ainm	Contae	Scór	Iomlán
G McCluskey	Dublin	6 - 10	28
E Talbot	Dublin	5 - 07	22
C Commane	Clare	4 - 07	19
M Dunne	Galway	2 - 10	16
C O'Loughlin	Clare	3 - 05	14
D Murphy	Clare	1 - 10	13
C Durkin	Dublin	2 - 07	13
N Taylor	Dublin	1 - 08	11
P McAvooy	Armagh	2 - 05	11
C Healy	Cork	0 - 10	10
C McKeever	Armagh	2 - 04	10
J Donnelly	Dublin	2 - 04	10
E Brannigan	Dublin	2 - 03	9
C McMahon	Clare	0 - 08	8
L O'Hara	Dublin	1 - 05	8

SEPT

2005



POINT: Niamh Taylor

Taylor is saviour for Dubs

Dublin 1-7 Clare 1-7 JUNIOR CAMOGIE

THIS entertaining junior camogie final must go to a replay after Niamh Taylor's free in the fourth minute of injury time handed Dublin a dramatic equaliser yesterday.

Dublin had started the game in very confident manner, rattling off a score of 1-3 without reply.

But the Clare team were soon back in business when Clare captain, Deirdre Murphy found the back of net a few moments later.

Murphy had attempted to score a long-range effort from inside her own half, but her effort crept under the crossbar to put an entirely different complexion on the game.

Trailing

Dublin did get another score through Ciara Durkin, but back-to-back frees from Murphy left Clare trailing by just two points at half time.

Dublin then opened up a three-point lead courtesy of points from Durkan and Aine Fanning.

However, following introduction of Denise Lynch on 34 minutes, Clare began to dominate in the final third.

And four points from Murphy, Lynch and Claire McMahon (2) looked to have put them in the driving seat until Taylor's last-gasp effort.

DUBLIN: E Butler, S Hanks, A McCluskey, A Cullen, A Fitzpatrick, S Cumane, C Power, C Lucey (0-1, a 45), A Fanning (0-1); E Brannigan, G McCluskey, C Durkan (0-3); J Donnelly, L O'Hara (1-1), E Lucey. Subs: N Taylor (0-1, a free) for J Donnelly (28 mins), E Talbot for G McCluskey (57 mins).

CLARE: R Lynch, J Scanlan, D Corcoran, C McMahon, E Keating, C Halley, E Minogue, M McMahon, D Murphy (1-4, 0-3 from frees, 0-1 from 45); L Urmann, A O'Brien, F Lafferty, C McMahon (0-2, two frees), C O'Loughlin, C Commane. Subs: D Lynch (0-1) for A O'Brien (35 mins), S Lafferty for E Keating (39 mins), E Galley for C Commane (45 mins).

Referee: U Ní Chearnáigh (Armagh).

Camogie Junior Final

Taylor rescues Dublin in the nick of time

Dublin 1-7
Clare 1-7

GAVIN CUMMISKEY
AT CROKE PARK

When a team leads by 1-3 to no score after the first quarter of an All-Ireland final things can only go wrong. That is what happened to Dublin yesterday as they self-destructed until the third minute of injury time, when a free from substitute Niamh Taylor ensured a replay on October 8th.

Dublin moved into a dominant position from the start thanks to 1-1 from full forward Louise O'Hara and a point each from Ciara Lucey and Ciara Durkan.

Clare responded through Deirdre Murphy's accuracy from frees, with 1-2 before the break, but Dublin replied early in the second period with scores from Aine Fanning and Durkan.

Two frees each from Murphy and Claire McMahon, along with a Denise Lynch point, left Dublin needing Taylor's intervention.



Dublin's Gillian McCluskey at Croke Park yesterday. (Photograph: Dara Mac Donnail)

DUBLIN: E Butler, S Hanks, A McCluskey, A Cullen, A Fitzpatrick, S Cumane, C Power, C Lucey (0-1, a 45), A Fanning (0-1); E Brannigan, G McCluskey, C Durkan (0-3); J Donnelly, L O'Hara (1-1), E Lucey. Subs: N Taylor (0-1, a free) for J Donnelly (28 mins), E Talbot for G McCluskey (57 mins).

CLARE: R Lynch, J Scanlan, D Corcoran, C McMahon, E Keating, C Halley, E Minogue, M McMahon, D Murphy (1-4, 0-3 from frees, 0-1 from 45); L Urmann, A O'Brien, F Lafferty, C McMahon (0-2, two frees), C O'Loughlin, C Commane. Subs: D Lynch (0-1) for A O'Brien (35 mins), S Lafferty for E Keating (39 mins), E Galley for C Commane (45 mins).

Referee: U Ní Chearnáigh (Armagh).

Dubs ace Taylor holds nerve second time around to deny brave Banner

CLARE 1-7
DUBLIN 1-7

Claire Foley
All-Ireland Junior final

AT THE second time of asking, Dublin substitute Niamh Taylor got the injury-time equaliser to earn a replay in the All-Ireland Junior camogie final yesterday.

Taylor stepped up to a 50-metre free three minutes into five of injury-time, having just missed a similar chance to equalise but she made no mistake the second time.

In a classic game of two halves, Dublin completely

dominated the first, disappeared in the second in which Clare still never really got into their stride and a replay on Saturday, October 8 was a fair result.

While Taylor and Ciara Durkan proved the Dubs' life-savers, Clare had their own in brilliant midfielder Deirdre Murphy.

Dublin totally dominated the first quarter, going 1-3 up after 24 minutes through a Louise O'Hara goal.

Yet Clare pulled a goal back after 24 minutes when Dublin 'keeper Eimear Butler let in a long free by Murphy from close to half-way.

Denise Lynch and Claire

McMahon chipped in then to level things for Clare and they pulled into their first lead thanks to a McMahon free with two minutes left.

But with five minutes of injury-time, O'Hara was fouled and Taylor got the equaliser.

SCORES — Dublin: L O'Hara 1-1 (16), C Durkan 0-3, A Fanning 0-1, C Lucey 0-1 (45), N Taylor 0-1 (1). Clare: D Murphy 1-4 (46), C McMahon 0-2 (28), D Lynch 0-1. DUBLIN — E Butler, S Hanks, A McCluskey, A Cullen, A Fitzpatrick, S Cumane, C Power, C Lucey, A Fanning, E Brannigan (Capt), G McCluskey, C Durkan, J Donnelly, L O'Hara, E Lucey. Subs: N Taylor for Donnelly (28 mins), E Talbot for G McCluskey. CLARE — R Lynch, J Scanlan, D Corcoran, C McMahon, E Keating, C Halley, E Minogue, M McMahon, D Murphy (Capt), L Urmann, A O'Brien, F Lafferty, C McMahon, C O'Loughlin, C Commane. Subs: D Lynch for O'Brien (35 mins), S Lafferty for Keating (45), E Galley for Commane (45), M O'Looney for Minogue (52).

REF — U Kearney (Armagh).

Joanne Ryan, who lifted the trophy a year ago, wins the ball here ahead of Rosalie Holland but the game

Pictures: SPORTSFIL



SEPT 2005

NEEDLE MATCH



A STITCH IN TIME: Dr. Moira Woolfson continues with her knitting as she attends the All-Ireland camogie finals in Croke Park.
Photograph by John Kelly

Clare draw on inner strength at the end

by AUSTIN HOBBS

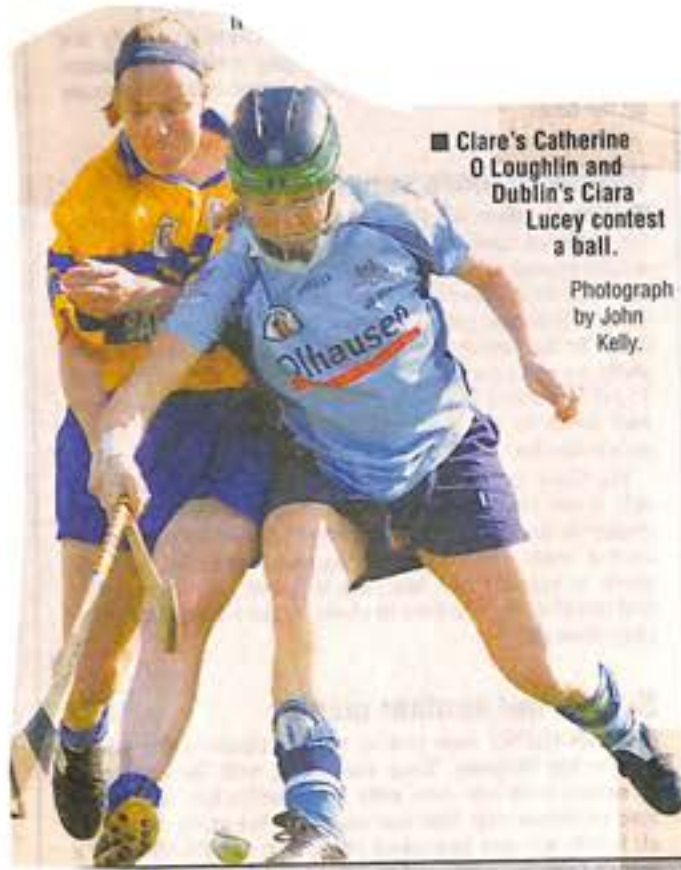
IT COULD have been won; it could have been lost but the All Ireland junior camogie title is still up for grabs after Clare and Dublin played out a draw at Croke Park on Sunday.

It was a very strange sort of game, which Clare almost won despite scoring just a solitary point from play. The quality of the hurling, which at times was quite good, was secondary to the high drama which unfolded in the closing stages.

Almost wiped off the field for 20 minutes, Clare got a lucky break

when captain, Deirdre Murphy goaled from a long range free. Things improved from there and they ran to the tunnel just two points down (1-4 to 1-2). They were well fired up in the second half. Adding five points, only one from play, Clare hit the front (1-7 to 1-6) with a couple of minutes remaining but Dublin snatched a draw in injury time.

There was an air of a disappointment among the Clare players at having victory snatched from under the noses. However, Clare camogie board secretary Brid McNamara delivered a vote of confidence in the team when she declared: "They gave it all. Roll on the replay."



■ Clare's Catherine O'Loughlin and Dublin's Clara Lucey contest a ball.

Photograph by John Kelly.



(Top) ■ Clare's Claire McMahon and team mates come to terms with the draw. (Above left, right) ■ Keeping the Banner colours to the fore in Croke Park.

(Above centre) ■ Mary Hannifin is introduced to the teams before final. (Left) ■ Dublin's Emer Lucey has a close encounter with Clare duo Laura Linnane and Jane Scanlan. (Right) ■ Captain Deirdre Murphy gets tangled with Dublin's Catriona Power.

Photographs by John Kelly

Replay venue to be named this weekend

by SEAMUS HAYES

PORTLAOISE is being mentioned as the likely venue for the All-Ireland junior camogie final between Clare and Dublin but a final decision won't be made until this weekend at the earliest.

Saturday October 8 has been confirmed as the date for this game and Clare return to training on this Thursday to prepare for that date.

It's the second time in three years that Clare will be involved in an All-Ireland final replay and all agree that this will be another tough contest.

"We have a few injuries after Sunday but hopefully there is nothing major", commented team trainer Helen Murphy on Monday of this week.

The team's full back when the county won the title in 1986 is confident that the game will stand to Clare when the replay takes place. "We didn't play in the opening twenty minutes but we did well after that", she added.

Clare struggled in the opening stages of the drawn game and were fortunate not to have gone further than six points behind.

A fortunate goal from a Deirdre Murphy free helped settle the side and they fought back to trail by just two points at the break.

In the end it was the

Dubs who had to come from behind and they levelled in injury time from a rather dubious free.

One of the big talking points after the game was the performance of referee, Una Kearney from Armagh. The Ulster official who was in charge of the senior decider last year, made a number of surprising decisions and allowed some rather heavy tackles to go unpunished. Late in the game she hauled back Clare's Fiona Lafferty as she headed for goal and while Clare pointed from the resultant free, there was a real goal chance for the Banner girls at the time.

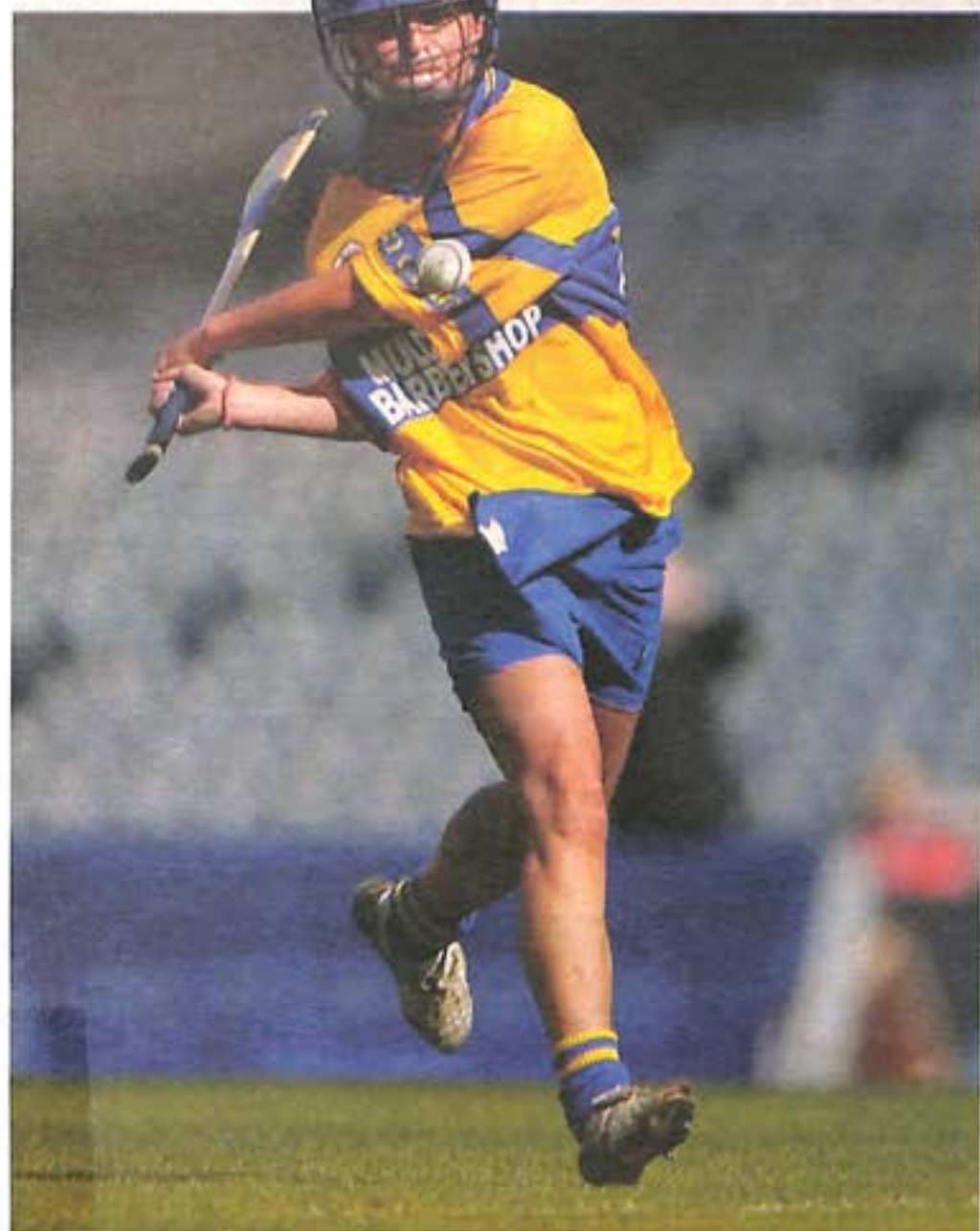
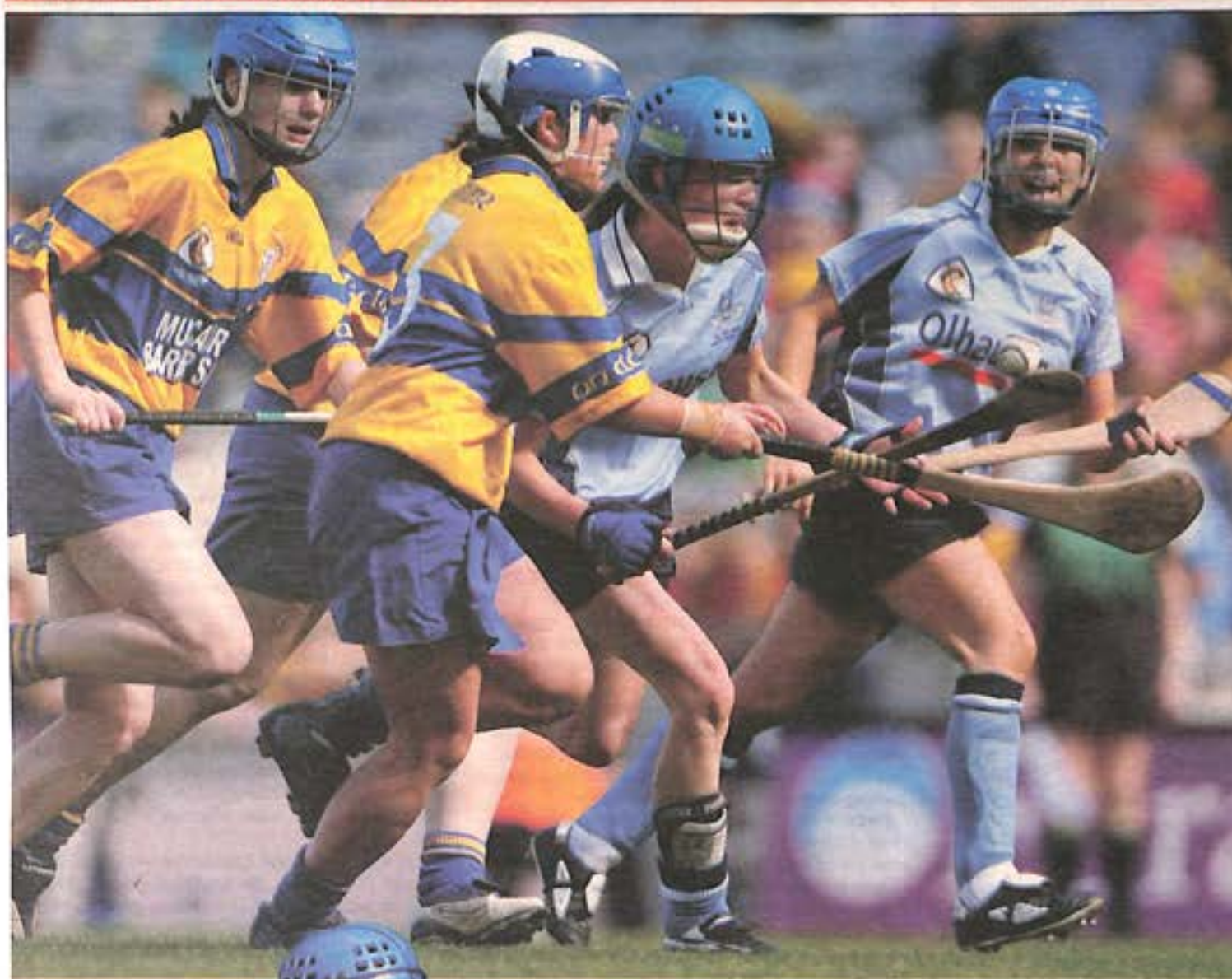
"It was a tough game but hopefully we will learn from it for the replay" said selector Francie Mahon on Monday evening after the squad had arrived back in Ennis.

This was a view shared by long serving Catherine O'Loughlin, a key member of the Clare side, who was tightly marked throughout Sunday's game as Dublin clearly realised her value to the Banner side.

For camogie officials, the attendance at Sunday's final was disappointing. The turnout of just over 16,000 was well down on last year and this is sure to give cause for concern to those charged with the promotion of the game.

For now, however, its all systems go for the replay. "We will get back to training and, hopefully, learn from Sunday. It probably will be another tough game but we are determined to win the title", selector Francie Mahon said on Monday evening.





Banner Ju



Clare 1-07
at Croke



Brian McDonnell

THE Clare Junior Camogie side, led by the outstanding Deirdre Murphy, fought back from a six-point deficit to earn a draw against a physical Dublin outfit on Sunday last in Croke Park.

Although Clare will be disappointed by this performance, during which they only managed to score a single point from play, they now have three weeks to re-assert themselves and show what they are capable of in the re-played fixture on October 8th.

Clare started nervously and markedly so in the full-back line. Dublin's Louise O'Hara regularly threatened, and before long it told.

After points from Ciara Lucey ('45), Ciara Durkan and Louise O'Hara (free) Clare looked dangerously adrift.

The Banner were in trouble, edgy, struggling to clear their lines and were lucky that a long stoppage for treatment of an injury to Joyce Donnelly saved them from further punishment.

It proved only a short reprieve however, and in the 14th minute Gillian McCluskey strolled through the Clare half-back line to set-up Louise O'Hara, who dispatched a neat shot past

Denise Lynch in the Clare goal.

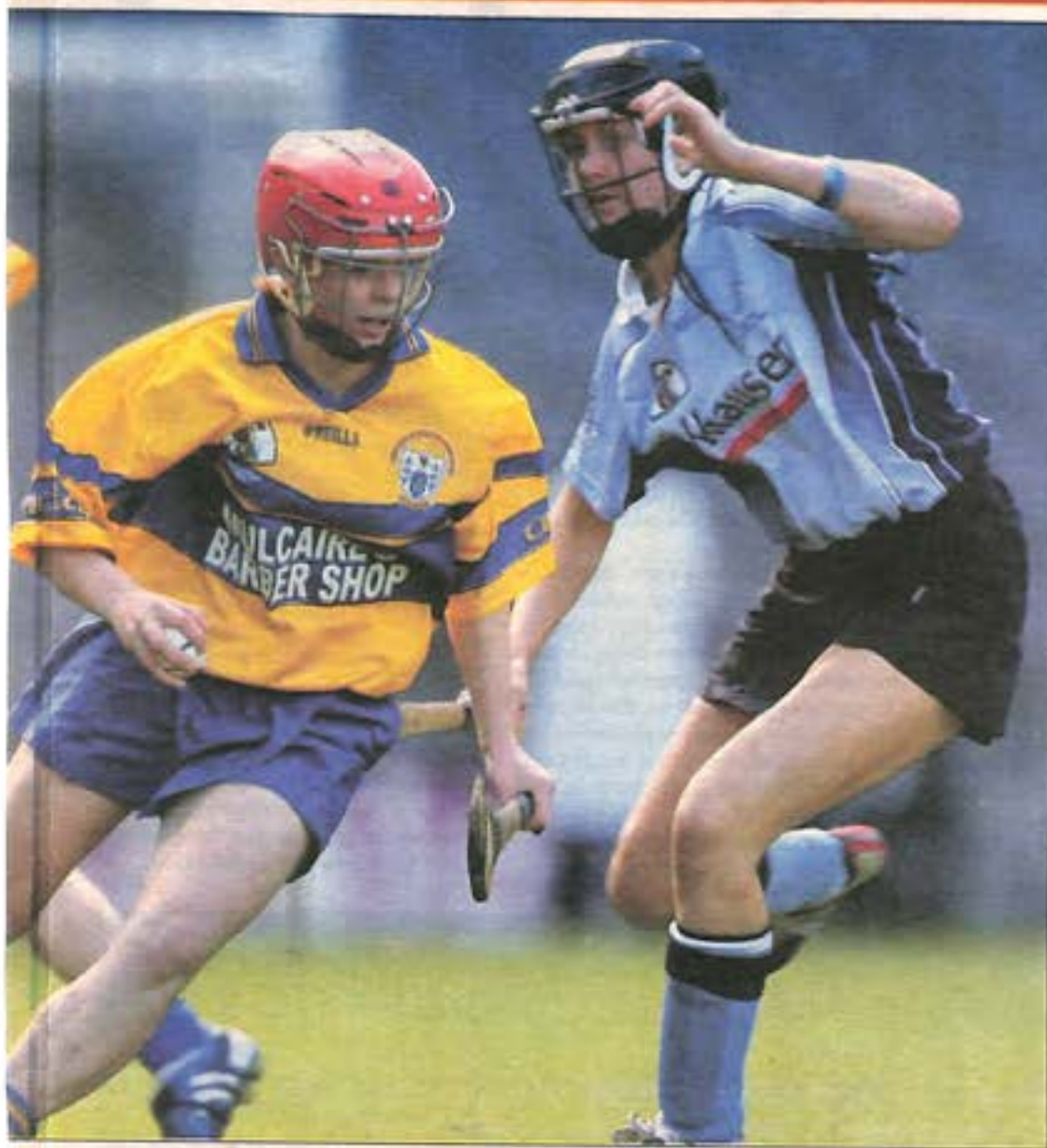
Dublin, by now, were playing a nice brand of hurling, switching the sliotar neatly across the field, with each and everyone of their players eager to get on the ball.

Until the 23rd minute all Clare could muster were wayward shots from Catherine O'Loughlin and Claire McMahon at goal, that is until the hurling gods smiled on the Banner. From Dublin's '65 Deirdre Murphy floated in a free, and thankfully, from Clare's point of view, Eimear Butler in the Dublin goal misjudged the pitch of the shot and it sailed in past her - Clare were fortunate to be back in contention.

This filip inspired Laura Linnane and Deirdre Murphy to surge into the game, Clare got a grip at midfield and two frees from Murphy left Clare a mere two points down at the break - 1-2 to 1-4.

Considering the prevailing pattern of play at this stage Clare were incredibly lucky to find themselves in contention with a Dublin side who were playing and moving well.

A minute into the second half Clare cut the margin to one following another Deirdre Murphy free and the Banner faithful could sense something. Dublin's Ciara Lucey almost broke their hearts however in the 36th minute when she caught everyone, bar Deirdre Corcoran by surprise, when she went for goal from an innocuous-looking '21 yard free. Thankfully



st Survive

Dublin 1-07

Park, Dublin

Corcoran saved, and although Ciara Durkan scored from a resulting half-clearance a disaster had been avoided.

Dublin pushed themselves further ahead three minutes later when substitute Niamh Taylor set-up Aine Fanning for a neat point.

The Clare mentors then made some critical changes - Catherine O'Loughlin moved to centre-forward, Laura Linnane switched to centre-field and Denise Lynch was introduced. The latter supplied an immediate dividend as she notched Clare's only point from play and the Banner caught fire. Lynch had reduced the deficit to one following another free from Deirdre Murphy, and Dublin were rattled.

At midfield Murphy and Linnane were outstanding as they squeezed Dublin for the equaliser, which duly arrived when O'Loughlin was fouled and Claire McMahon clipped the resultant free over in the 44th minute.

The ensuing 11 minutes proved a struggle as both sides strove for the lead. With four minutes to go Laura Linnane embarked on a terrific run through the Dublin backline before she was fouled and Claire McMahon's free meant that Clare led for the first time.

A minute into injury time Dublin's Niamh Taylor missed a guilt-edged opportunity to equalise, but no matter she took a further opportunity to do so three minutes later.

Top: Deirdre Murphy, Clare, in action against Dublin's Aine Fanning and Eimear Brannigan in Sunday's match in Croke Park.

Top left: Dublin's Andrea Fitzpatrick tries to break free from Claire McMahon.

Left: Clare's Laura Linnane in action during the All-Ireland Junior Camogie Final.

match details

Clare - R Lynch, J Scanlan, D Corcoran, C McMahon, E Keating, C Halley, E Minogue, M McMahon, D Murphy (1-4, 5 frees), L Linnane, A O'Brien, F Lafferty, C McMahon (0-2, 2 frees), C O'Loughlin, C Commene. **Subs** - D Lynch (0-1) for A O'Brien, 39th minute S Lafferty for E Keating, 45th minute E Gallery for C Commene, 61st minute M O'Looney for E Minogue.

Dublin - E Butler (St. Vincent's) (6), E Hanks (Crumlin) (8), A McCluskey (Erin's Isle) (9), A Cullen (St. Vincent's) (7), A Fitzpatrick (Naomh Mearnóg) (7), S Cunnane (Skerries Harps) (7), C Power (Naomh Mearnóg) (7), C Lucey (Ballyboden St. Enda's) (9) (0-1, 1 free), A Fanning (St. Vincent's) (7) (0-1), E Brannigan (St. Vincent's) (7), G McCluskey (Erin's Isle) (7), C Durkan (Skerries Harps) (9) (0-3), J Donnelly (Naomh Peregrine) (7), L O'Hara (Erin's Isle) (8) (1-1, 1 free), E Lucey (Ballyboden St. Enda's) (7) **Subs** - N Taylor (Naomh Mearnóg) (7) (0-1, 1 free) for J Donnelly.

Referee - Una Kearney (Armagh) (8)

Player Of The Match -

Deirdre Murphy (Davitt's)
Deirdre played the role of captain. Early on as Clare struggled to find their collective feet, Murphy hurred hard and well at midfield, while her free-taking was accurate throughout, and her deliveries forward consistently thoughtful.

player ratings

Rachel Lynch Clooney

Rachel had an exceptional day, although she could do little about Louise O'Hara's 15th minute goal, she was careful and steady when she needed to be.

Rating: 8



Jane Scanlan Clarecastle

Although Jane endured some worrying moments early on she came out of this encounter with her reputation intact.

Rating: 7



Deirdre Corcoran Celbridge

Dublin's Louise O'Hara presented Deirdre with numerous problems during the first period, but once O'Hara was moved further outfield Corcoran came into her own.

Rating: 8



Catriona McMahon Newmarket-on-Fergus

Catriona fought tooth and nail on behalf of the Clare cause, and late in the second half made a crucial interception as Dublin surged toward goal.

Rating: 7



Edel Keating Corofin

Edel battled hard with the Dublin captain Eimear Brannigan, made some telling clearances and crucially won her position.

Rating: 8



Cathy Hally Wolfe Tones

Although Cathy seemed a little at sea during the first period, and really should have done more to curtail Gillian McCluskey who set up the Dublin goal, she came good late on and single-handedly held Dublin at bay during the last quarter.

Rating: 8



Erica Minogue Whitegate

For long periods Erica struggled to contain Dublin's Ciara Durkan, but to her credit she never resorted to fouling, nor did she get frustrated with her lot and battled on bravely.

Rating: 7



Maira McMahon Newmarket-on-Fergus

Maira had a tough day, and struggled particularly when presented with the threat of opposite number Ciara Lucey.

Rating: 7



Deirdre Murphy Davitts

Deirdre gave an outstanding performance, her contribution from open play, her crucial frees and her determination displayed best her qualities as a leader.

Rating: 9



Laura Linnane Wolfe Tones

With Clare under so much pressure in the first half Laura struggled to get on the ball, but once she was released to midfield after the break she excelled.

Rating: 9



Aine O'Brien Scariff

Aine really struggled to get into the game. She didn't lack in endeavour, but things simply didn't happen for her. Next day out she'll improve.

Rating: 7



Fiona Lafferty Kilnamona

For some bizarre reason this game seemed to bypass Fiona for long periods. But for the last twenty minutes she was outstanding and made a crucial contribution.

Rating: 8



Claire McMahon Kilmaley

Claire struggled against the hard-hitting Dublin full-back line, had Clare lost she would have regretted her misses from placed balls.

Rating: 7



Catherine O'Loughlin Kilnamona

In the first half Catherine really struggled against Dublin's Anne McCluskey, but once switched to centre-forward for the second period she made a telling contribution.

Rating: 8



Claire Commene Corofin

Claire struggled against an unforgiving full-back line.

Rating: 7



Subs:

Denise Lynch (Kilmaley)

Once introduced Denise made a telling contribution to the collective effort with her fine point.

Rating: 8

Siobhán Lafferty (Kilnamona)

Fought hard and got through a huge amount of work.

Rating: 7

Elaine Gallery (Wolfe Tones)

Worked hard and made life difficult for Dublin at every opportunity.

Rating: 7

Marie O'Looney (Newmarket-on-Fergus)

Brought on a minute into injury time and will hope to enjoy more time on the field next time out.

Rating: 7

Ratings by Brian McDonnell.

ballhop

with Marty Morrissey



Since I started working for RTE, initially on a freelance basis back in 1989, I have always been assigned to the camogie and ladies football finals. These are two of my favourite days in Croke Park. What red-blooded male could possibly complain about visiting dressing rooms filled with beautiful women? It beats the men any day for me I can tell you. And all under the guise of research.

Consistently the Monday morning reaction after the All-Ireland Camogie and Ladies Football Finals has always been the same.

"The game yesterday was great... the girls were fantastic," and "why don't we see more women's sport on TV?" All pertinent questions to be fair, but there are not always simple straightforward answers available.

I have experienced and witnessed personally the growth of ladies football at national level. My old comrade in arms Paschal Brooks and I had been asked by the ladies football association, Cumann Peil na mBan, to cover on video the All-Ireland Ladies Football Finals in Croke Park. Hard to believe that in the mid to late 80s when we travelled to Dublin attendances were averaging around 3,000. On October 2nd next the attendance for the finals will be somewhere in the region of 30 to 40,000 probably. This is phenomenal growth by any measurement parameters over such a short period of time.

Again you may ask why? Infrastructure and organisation are two logical simple explanations. Add to the mix imaginative, visionary leadership, cultural change, more comprehensive coverage of men's football on TV, thereby making it trendy, and a game that is easy to play and has a 32-county base and appeal.

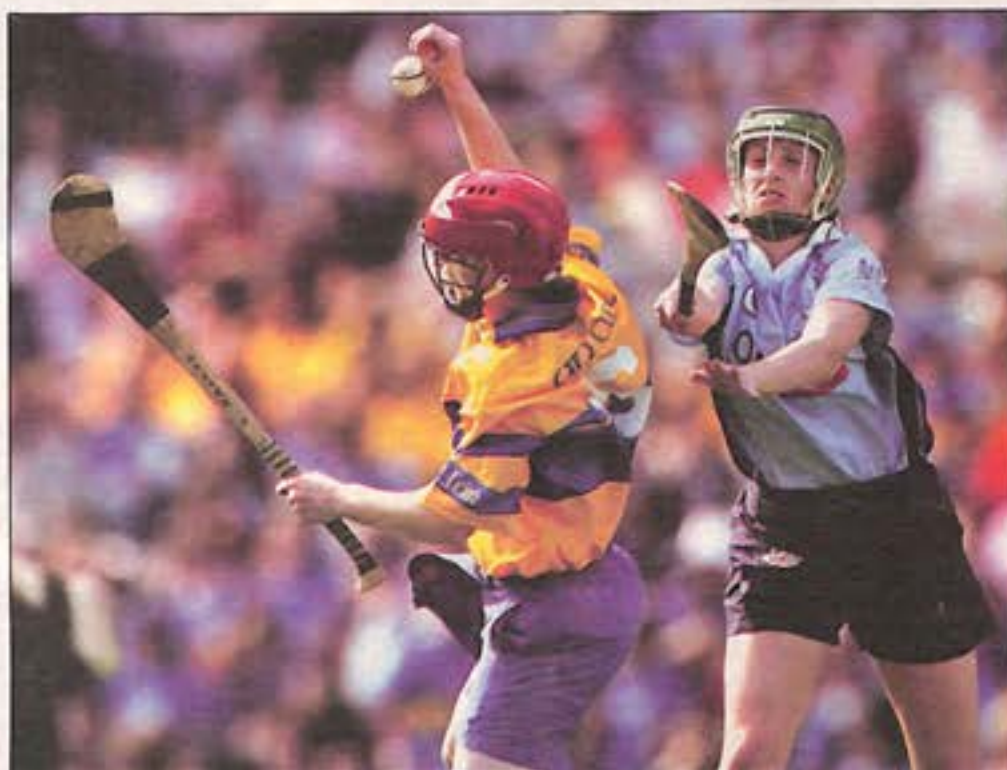
For most of the 90s RTE televised the Ladies Football Finals live and there is clear statistical evidence to show that viewing figures were growing with each passing season. In fact research will reveal that viewing figures were extraordinarily high. For the last few years TG4 have acquired the television rights, and now cover the championship matches either live, or recorded, from the quarter-final stages. There is also an agreement with RTE that we would televise the draw for the quarter-finals. Consequently each time ladies football or any sport for that matter hits the airwaves, it has an impact in some shape, or form.

This season Camogie has 'hit' the television airwaves twice courtesy of The Sunday Game. The All-Ireland semi-finals played in Nowlan Park were shown in highlight form, while the All-Ireland Senior Final was transmitted live last Sunday. In a society where the media now play such an influential role, this is not nearly enough.

Let me put this in to perspective because sometimes the messenger can be shot, rather than take on board what's being said. Camogie is a beautiful game. Personally I have had the pleasure of commenting on games that contained stars like Linda Mellerick, Angela Downey, Lynn Dunlea, Ciara Gaynor, Eimear McDonnell and Deirdre Hughes.

The gospel needs to be spread around, heard more by the people of Ireland. Just over 14,000 attended last Sunday's finals.

The organisation and management of camogie over the last few decades from the top has been inadequate to say the least. I really think it was an attitude thing. It requires strong leadership from within and persuasive powers



Clare's Cathy Halley in action against Gillian McCluskey, Dublin during the All-Ireland Junior Final.

within the GAA itself to bring about change.

If Rule 42 and the use of Croke Park can be altered, then so too can the attitude to the game of camogie. The sisters need to shout, need to be heard and quite simply the brothers have to listen. Any media coverage at national level will be side column rather than centre page unless the product that is being sold is displayed on the best stage, at the best venue.

Why can't the All-Ireland semi-finals be played before some of the big hurling, or football games? At least twice this season there were no curtain raisers to live televised football matches in Croke Park. These were matches that were virtually sold out. With the cameras already in place, it would only require negotiation between the GAA and RTE to ensure that these matches would be televised. If the good will is there to show the Tommy Murphy, Christy Ring and Nicky Rackard Cup finals live, then camogie should be asking for at least a slice of the action. But I emphasise this is a GAA problem, not an RTE one.

Sometimes silly policies get in the way of sound judgement. The Clare team asked for permission to puck a few balls around Croke Park last Saturday. They were refused, but were allowed to walk around the perimeter of the pitch once they stayed outside the white line. Yet on Sunday thousands of kids ran wild before the senior final as they chased Brush Shields around the pitch.

It may have been an accident, or a logistical nightmare, but Clare pucking a ball around on Saturday evening couldn't have done as much damage. To be fair to Croke Park, the administrators work very hard, but sometimes their love of the game blinds them from judging the harsh reality of the sporting landscape that presently exists in Ireland. Today there is a huge spectrum of choice. Golf, soccer, tennis, horse riding and athletics are all available to young women in every town and village.

The Camogie Association are waking up to the demands of this competitive environment.

As we head to an All-Ireland Final replay on October 8th let's get behind this Clare junior team and the wonderful game of camogie. Both are treasures we should cherish.

According to Clare manager Michael Maher "camogie in Clare is unworkable the way it is constituted." That's not surprising when you consider that only 12 teams compete at either senior, or intermediate level with just two, Killaneena and Inagh operating at junior level.

In 2001 and 2002 we didn't even enter a team for the inter-county championships. And this in a county that had won the senior men's All-Ireland in '95 and '97.

It also amazes me that in the town of Ennis there is no adult camogie side. Read this again please because this came as a shock to me. In our capital town we do not have an adult camogie team. Isn't that amazing? It's easy to blame county boards, but in this instance they are doing their best. People like Bríd McNamera, Orla Hayes, Seamus O'Sullivan, Michael O'Halloran, Rita Clancy and Mary Hogan have to be complimented.

Like at National level integration has to take place with the local GAA club, camogie must not be seen as a separate entity, or worse still qualify for second class citizenship. Newmarket-on-Fergus and Kilmaley have employed this strategy and it seems to function quite well. Great work is being done by primary school teachers in Clare and it was encouraging to see Killaneena National School represent Clare in the 'Go Games' exhibition in Croke Park last Sunday.

At secondary level St. Flannan's, Coláiste Mhuire, Shannon Comprehensive, Scariff Community College and the Convent of Mercy in Tulla continue to do trojan, work but after that what happens to these players?

Only a small number of clubs are providing an infrastructure for further development. More clubs are needed and can I just ask you to consider putting forward at your local AGM later on this year some motion about camogie so that one of our national games can prosper.

It's estimated that it cost €30,000 to operate the team last year. Let's credit the true camogie lovers in our county. Volunteers have raised huge amounts of money through flag days, race nights and donations. The draw for the right to have the name on the team's jersey was a novel idea and entry was €150 per ticket. The winner was Michael Mulchaire, a barber near the Railway Station in Ennis. And as always the great Martin Donnelly supported his own by providing the t-shirts and track suits.

The camogie community are a dedicated group of people. But they need our support and because of the draw last Sunday we now have an opportunity to provide that support. Let the Clare County Board provide Cusack Park whenever Michael Maher and his team want to train there. Let the clubs get off their backsides and support our fellow Clare people and provide proper infrastructures so these extremely talented women can wear the saffron and blue with pride. What Michael Maher, Francie Mahon and Helen Murphy have done so far is remarkable. Since coming together in 2003 and working with limited resources they have guided the Banner to two All-Ireland Junior Finals. Colin Lynch took the team for a session recently and the girls were still talking about it on Sunday night in the Green Isle Hotel.

As we head to an All-Ireland Final replay on October 8th let's get behind this junior team and the wonderful game of camogie. Both are treasures we should cherish.

Lynn Kelly has been appointed National Development Co-ordinator, with Mary O'Connor (who won her 4th Senior All-Ireland medal on Sunday) and Caroline Murray as Regional Co-ordinators. This initiative has come about as a result of the €250,000 allocated to camogie by the Irish Sports Council earlier this year.

New ground will be broken too with the progress of the integration process. It is anticipated that there will be on-going co-operation particularly in the areas of coaching, refereeing and promotional material.

The Clare performance in the junior final was a bit like the curate's egg - good in spots. The first half display was poor and the Banner were fortunate enough to be still in contention at half-time.

The goal by Deirdre Murphy was quite soft, as Dublin goalkeeper Eimear Butler lost sight of the sliothar in the blinding sunshine as it dropped from the sky. On the turnaround the Clare girls were much better as they chased, blocked, hooked and scored five great points.

It was a test of character for this Clare team and personally I thought they came through with flying colours.

Considering their first-half performance, a draw was probably a fair result and getting Dublin out of Croke Park for the replay will be an advantage.

Goalkeeper Rachel Lynch was confidence personified between the posts and her handling was impressive. Defenders like Cathy Halley and especially Erica Minogue caught the eye. Deirdre Murphy was outstanding in the second-half while wing-forwards Laura Linnane and Fiona Lafferty displayed tremendous skill, speed and a good work ethic.

Clare have beaten Cork, Limerick and Galway, and I'm confident enough that with some improvement that Dublin can be added to their list of scalps. In many ways it is a remarkable achievement that we are in contention at all for All-Ireland honours and playing in Croke Park.

Ladies fight back to earn a second chance



But for an inspired recovery Clare supporters would have left Croke Park on the business end of a beating for the second time in a number of weeks, writes **SEAMUS HAYES**.

CLARE camogie's dream of capturing the All-Ireland junior title in 2005 is still very much alive. Fifteen minutes into last Sunday's final at Croke Park, it looked as if Clare fans would, for the second time in a few weeks, leave Croke Park disappointed.

They were 1-3 to nil down at that stage and everything pointed to a Dublin win as the Clare girls struggled to get a grip on the game.

Inspired by team captain Deirdre Murphy, they clawed their way back and it was Dublin who had to come from behind to snatch the equalising point in injury time. A draw was, probably, the fairest result on the day and they will have to do it all again on Saturday, October 8, at a venue yet to be decided.

Meanwhile, the race for the Canon Hamilton (hurling) and Jack Daly (football) cups continues this weekend with a number of mouth-watering contests down for decision.

Despite a couple of below par performances, the defending champions Kilmurry (brickane and Kilmaley are still there. Last week Kilmurry produced something like the form that brought them the Clare and Munster crowns last year when they defeated Shannon Gaels comprehensively to book a quarter final date this Saturday against Liscannor.

Hurling title holders

Kilmaley will be hoping to follow suit but they will have to step up considerably on last week's form if they are to stay in the title race. They face Scariff on this Sunday at Cusack Park in a winner take all game with St Josephs awaiting the winners in the quarter final a week later.

Two hurling quarter finals are down for decision this week. Wolfe Tones, now the popular fancies for honours, take on Ogonelloe on this Saturday evening while, twenty four hours later, Crusheen and Newmarket clash in what many expect could be one of the games of the championship.

Back West, three senior football quarter finals will be played this Saturday. Kilmihil will host a doubleheader with St Senans Kilkee tipped to account for Lissycasey in the opening game while Eire Og will be fancied to overcome Doonbeg in the second match. The winners of these two games will meet in the semi-final. Miltown hosts the meeting of champions Kilmurry-Ib and Liscannor. The remaining quarter final between St Breckans and surprise packets Wolfe Tones is to be played on Saturday week.

There will also be action in the intermediate and junior hurling and football championships this weekend. Kilmihil and Clooney-Quin meet at Cusack Park on this Friday evening with the winners going through to play Ennistymon in the intermediate football.

ball final.

In what will be a busy weekend for Clooney-Quin, they will turn their attention to hurling on Sunday when they renew rivalry in the play off for a semi-final place. It won't be the end of the world, however, for the losers who will have a further opportunity to progress when they face Killanena a week later.

The second of the junior A hurling semi-finals will take place on Sunday in Shannon when Meelick face up to Corofin. A win for Meelick will ensure an all parish final as Parteen booked their place in the decider with victory over Kilmaley last week.

Both junior football semi-finals will be played this week. Doonbeg and Eire Og clash on this Friday evening while Naomh Eoin will take on O'Callaghans Mills on Sunday.

The race for the various minor titles is also at an advanced stage and semi-final games will be played over the coming two weeks. The meeting of Wolfe Tones and Doora-Barefield in the minor football semi-final on this Friday should be well worth a look.

Meanwhile the colleges GAA season will get under way next week and the race for the prestigious Dr. Harty cup (Munster colleges senior hurling title) will begin on Wednesday with three Clare schools in action. Competition specialists St Flannan's as the defending champions while St Caimins from Shannon and Rice College Ennis will also be participating this year. The senior football championship (Corn Ui Mhuiri) will begin a week later and there will be two Clare teams here, St Flannan's and Shannon schools, an amalgamation of St Caimins and St Pats.

A Star in the Offing

PROBABLY the best prospect since the arrival of Clare Grogan on the camogie scene in Cashel is twelve-year old Shauna Butler from the village of Boherlahan. Though young in years she has already revealed a precocious talent, reflected in her considerable achievements to date.

Shauna has been playing camogie for about three

years but she was playing hurling before then, representing Boherlahan in the under-10 grade. She joined Cashel Camogie Club in 2003, before the club was formed in Boherlahan, and she has been playing for that club, for Boherlahan National School, and for the Boherlahan juvenile team since then.

She had no sooner joined the Cashel club than she

was drafted into the under-16 team and was on the side which won the 2003 county final, which wasn't played until 2004. As an eleven year old at the time, she was, without a doubt the youngest player on the field.

She gets the hurling from both sides of the family. Her parents are Patrick and Sandra and she is the youngest of four girls and one boy. She attributes her progress to the principal of Boherlahan N.S., Paul Byrne, and teacher, Irene Dwan, who coached and trained her, and also to her mentors in the Cashel Camogie Club.

Her achievements with her primary school, until last June when she finished, were impressive. She won a county final with the school in 2003, won the girl's and boy's under-11 in 2004, captaining the girl's team, won the county and Munster mini-sevens as captain in 2005, and a county final with the school also.

At the county level she was on the under-14 team in 2004, played in the Primary Game at Páirc Uí Chaoimh against Cork this year, and scored 1-2 of Tipperary's 1-3 winning total.

This year she is playing under-14, under-16 and junior for Cashel. They are already in the junior semi-final. And, she's not letting the boys of Boherlahan down either: she's playing on the under-14 side that

has reached the Mid semi-final!

Last week she joined another team! She started as a First Year at Cashel Community School, and she's looking forward to playing with the school team. There is no doubt that the team mentors are also looking forward to getting a player of her talent.

She plays midfield and wing-forward and hopes to have time in secondary school to continue playing the game she loves. Her ultimate target is to play with the Tipperary seniors.



"A star in the offing" Shauna Butler, from Boherlahan. See Seamus King's article on same.

Blarney

CAMOGIE: Cork U12 'B' Camogie Championship Final. **BLARNEY** 3-3 **COURCEY ROVERS** 2-3. THE chant of "champions" rang out round Riverstick's GAA pitch as Blarney celebrated a famous victory in Friday's County U12 'B' Camogie final. In a pulsating encounter that had the crowd on tender hooks, the Blarney girls defeated a gallant Courcey Rovers.

Courcey opened the scoring with a point. But Girl of the match Laura Walsh levelled the scores in the 15th minute. Moments later, she registered the first of her two goals.

Courcey, who were the pre-match favourites, hit back with a goal and a point to lead 1-2 to 1-1 at the break.

Two points in quick succession from Laura Walsh regained Blarney's lead early in the second half. As the game entered the final quarter, Natalie Dewale put Blarney four points up with a goal from close range.

But, Courcey were far from finished.

A point followed by a goal brought the sides level. But in a dramatic finish, Laura Walsh crashed home the winning goal.

It was a terrific weekend for Blarney camogie. In addition to the U12s triumph, the U11s reached the last four of the Mid Cork championship, and the U16s qualified the county semi-final. An added bonus for the victorious Blarney girls was a trip to Croke Park to see Sunday's All-Ireland final between Cork and Tipperary.

Blarney panel: Claire Coleman, Fiona Morgan, Niamh Duloherly, Sinead Morgan, Tara O'Keeffe, Jane Mitchell, Niamh McCarthy, Laura Walsh, Megan Maguire, Sylvia Ryan, Katherine Manley, Stephanie Murphy, Natalie Dewale, Eva O'Brien, Natasha Dewale, Amy Oregano, Meath O'Neill, Ellen Manley, Clara Murphy, Leanne Bachelor, Megan Alo.

Blarney	3-3
Courcey Rovers	2-3

THE only pity about this U-12 B County Championship camogie final was there had to be a loser.

Both sides played some great camogie and the difference between them in the end was the clinical finishing of Blarney midfielder, Laura Walsh.

Scoring 2-3 of their total she rarely, if ever, missed an opportunity and her two goals came from a free and a 45.

Her midfield partner, Megan Maguire, backed her up, particularly in the second-half when they needed it.

Laura is destined to go on to wear the red of Cork in years to come if she fulfils the potential she is showing at such a young age.

Courcey too have their stars in the making and their half-back line of Naomi McCarthy, Paula Collins and Anna McCarthy were all superb on the night.

Others to shine for them were centre-forward Ashling Moloney who scored three magnificent points and corner-forward Alice O'Sullivan, who was the star of the game.

The swirling wind didn't help either side and it took a while for both of them to settle as they missed early chances.

Courcey Rovers were unlucky not to open the scoring when Emily O'Leary bore down on goal but her shot was blocked by Fiona Morgan and she cleared the danger.

However they did take the lead after five minutes when Ashling Moloney ran at the Blarney defence and was eventually fouled and she tapped the resultant free over the bar.

They started to put Blarney under a lot of pressure and it took some great defending to keep them at bay and somehow in a goal-mouth scramble they managed to stop Courcey getting the first goal of the game.

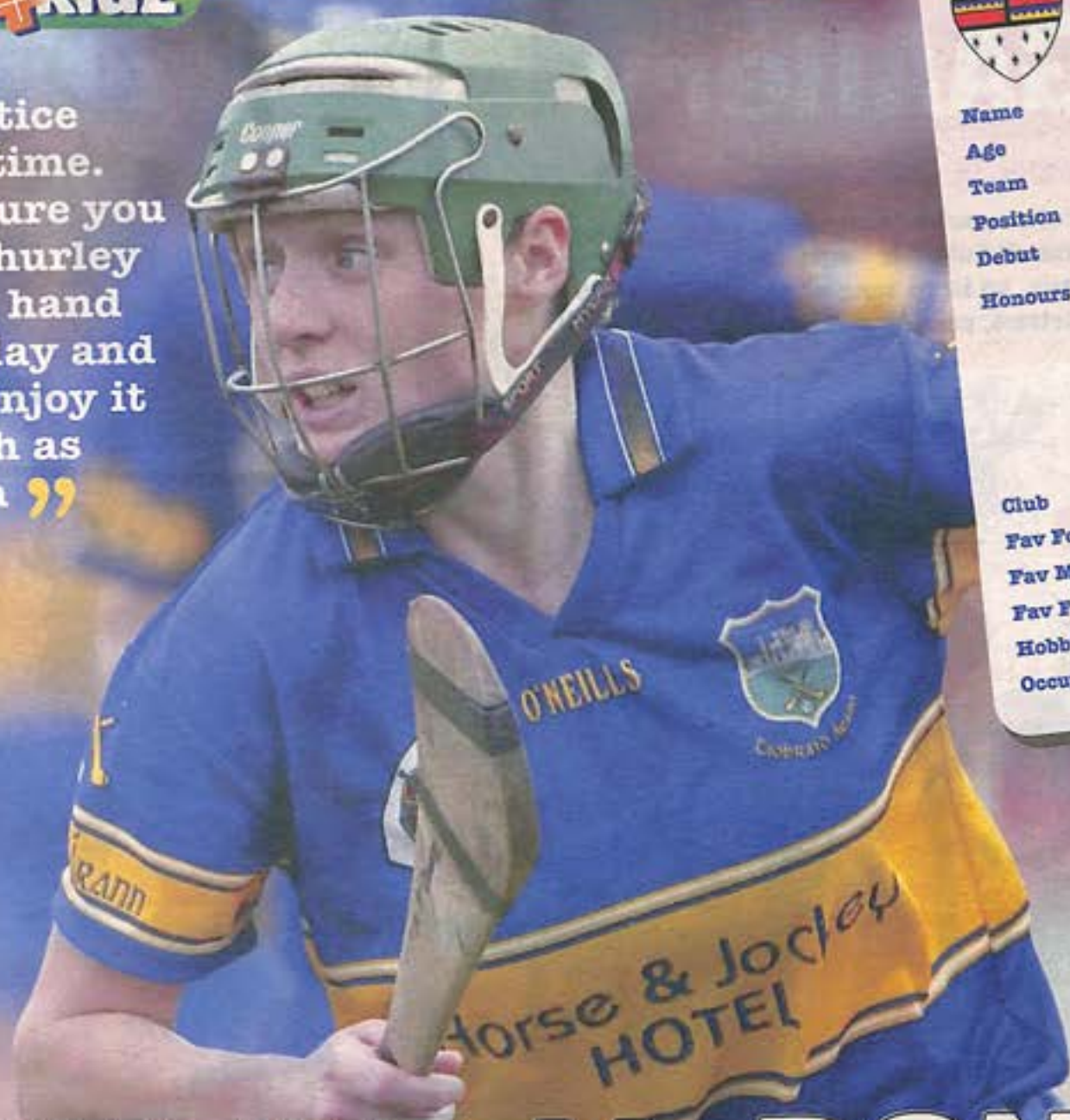
SEPT

2005



Clare team manager Brandy Mahon talks to a player after the game.

“Practice all the time. Make sure you have a hurley in your hand every day and try to enjoy it as much as you can”



STAR FILE

Name	Eimear McDonnell
Age	24
Team	Tipperary
Position	Corner-Forward
Debut	v Kilkenny '98
Honours	5 All-Ireland Senior titles, 1 National Camogie League title, 1 All-Ireland Schools title, 2 Ashbourne Cup titles, 2 Munster Senior titles, 1 Lynchpin Award 2003, Texaco Camogie Player of the Year 2003.
Club	Duharra
Fav Food	Pepper Pork Chop
Fav Music	I love everything
Fav Film	Romantic comedies
Hobbies	Horse riding
Occupation	Student Accountant

EIMEAR McDONNELL

TIPPERARY

Still only 24, Tipperary sharp-shooter Eimear McDonnell is no stranger to All-Ireland success. Since first picking up a hurley at the age of 14, she has become one of camogie's most dangerous forwards, with the ability to pick off scores from any angle.

Eimear, a niece of Cork football boss Billy Morgan, is a top class forward with a blend of skill and speed. In 2001, she scored 1-2 in Tipperary's All-Ireland final win and she was also picked as the RTE 'Player of the Match'.

This year, she plays in her seventh successive All-Ireland final, some achievement for a player so young! A hard fought semi-final victory over a rising Wexford team, set them up for another All-Ireland showdown. Eimear got 'the Premier County' off to a perfect start in that game as she swept home Tipp's goal after just 30 seconds. She later added two more points to help her team get past a brave 'Model County' in a scoreline of 1-13 to 1-8 and set up a repeat encounter with arch rivals Cork.

What has been your greatest moment in sport?

Winning the All-Irelands with Tipperary. I can't single one out but I guess the first one was really special. I also won schools competitions in secondary school which I really enjoyed.

Who have been your toughest opponents?

I think marking the Tipp backs in training is the toughest. Of course other counties also have talented backs, like Cork and Wexford. But some of our own defenders, Una O'Dwyer and Suzanne Kelly, can be very hard to get past.

Which player do you admire the most?

It would have to be our own Una O'Dwyer, a fantastic player.

What are your hopes for the future?

To continue being as successful as we can be and to play to our potential. Of course we want to continue winning All-Ireland's but I also would like to win a County Championship with my club Duharra.

What advice would you give to young players?

Practice all the time. Make sure you have a hurley in your hand every day and try to enjoy it as much as you can.

Cúl Fact!

It's lucky thirteen for Eimear. In all her appearances for Tipp, she has worn the number thirteen left corner-forward's jersey.





Ballinhassig's Grace O'Callaghan clears from Milford's Caroline Watson during the U12 County League semi-final in Mallow. Picture: Eddie O'Hare

Ballinhassig in superb form

Ballinhassig
Milford

1-2 By MARY NEWMAN
1-0 U12 A league Ladies football

A CLOSE encounter saw Ballinhassig lead from the start to book their place in the final of the U12 A league.

In a close opening quarter both defences were under pressure but to their credit did not concede a score and it was 20 minutes into the game before we had the first.

Ballinhassig grabbed it thanks to Clodagh McCarthy, who showed she has all of her father, All-Star hurler Seanie's, talents.

Ballinhassig held their advantage to the break while holding the Milford attack thanks in the main to an excellent display from 'keeper Emer Cadogan who had to be at her best to deny the Milford forwards.

On the resumption it continued to be nip and tuck as Milford battled to find a way through the strong Ballinhassig defence while Ballinhassig strove to extend their lead.

Captain Ashling O'Brien led the way with a Ballinhassig point 20 minutes into the half but Sinead O'Flaherty breached the

Ballinhassig rearguard with a Milford goal seconds from full time.

Through the added injury time Milford tried for a winner but Ballinhassig stood firm and, indeed, added to their tally with a late Emma Jordan point ensuring victory and a place in the final again a Glen Rovers side they defeated earlier in their league section.

BALLINHASSIG: E. Cadogan, M. Riordan, K. Bracken, M. Kiely, E. O'Donovan, V. Desmond, A. O'Brien, E. Jordan, O. Murray, S. O'Callaghan, A. Cullinane, A. Lee, C. McCarthy, J. O'Leary

MILFORD: N. O'Connor, M. Falvey, S. O'Flaherty, H. Bradley, C. Watson, N. O'Brien, K. Galvin, L. O'Flynn, A. O'Flynn, K. O'Leary, N. Brown, K. Dillane, K. Hodgkins, M. Flanagan, G. O'Connor, Subs: G. Shanahan for Dillane (in) K. Dillane for K. O'Leary S. Dorgan for G. O'Connor
Referee: M. Sheehan (Mallow)



Milford's Amy Cullinane is tackled by Ballinhassig's Niamh O'Brien during their U12 County league semi-final in Mallow. Picture: Eddie O'Hare

Glen Rovers stand firm late on to reach final

Glen Rovers
Valley Rovers

3-0
2-2

DISPLAYING a never-say-die attitude and showing a fierce determination to succeed, Glen Rovers booked their place in the U12 A league final.

Appalling weather conditions failed to dampen the enthusiasm both teams gave it their all; Patricia McCarthy opened the scoring with a Valley Rovers goal inside thirteen minutes and they held their lead under severe

pressure until the 22nd minute when the alert Ashling O'Keeffe finished to the net after good work from Maria Sheehan.

It was level pegging until 20 seconds from the break when Clare Duggan struck a magnificent long range point to edge Valley's ahead at the interval.

With both defences at their best, scores were hard to come by.

We had to wait until the 19th minute before the opening score of the second half arrived and it was worth

By MARY NEWMAN
U12 league semi-finals

waiting for.

The Glen's Sinead O'Halloran expertly converted a penalty after Ashling O'Keeffe had been fouled in the small parallelogram.

Inside a minute we had a second penalty, this time for Valley Rovers' Clare Duggan, who proved to be content to tap over the bar to cut the deficit.

With play swinging from end to end, Glen Rovers held their lead but eventually

Cornelia Hawks broke down the barriers with four minutes remaining when she was allowed solo run from midfield to crash to the net.

From the puck out, Glen attacked but strong Valley Rovers defending held their line and with two minutes remaining O'Halloran and her forwards bombarded the Valley goal and were rewarded with a brave run from O'Halloran ending up in the roof of the Valley Rovers net.

Again from the puck out Valley attacked, and, winning a free they did have a

chance but strong defending from the Glen Rovers girls ensured that they will have their day in the sun as they booked themselves a final spot.

GLEN ROVERS: E. O'Sullivan, S. O'Sullivan, C. O'Sullivan, N. O'Sullivan, K. Barry, Sinead O'Halloran, A. Murphy, S. Fahy, A. O'Keeffe, E. O'Connell, A. Dowling, N. O'Brien, S. Busted M. Sheehan N. Curran

VALLEY ROVERS: S. O'Connell, L. McCarthy, O. Sullivan, M. Barry, O. Ryan, T. Crowley, N. Glavin, E. O'Regan, J. Hawkes, C. Hawks, C. Duggan, A. Cummins, P. McCarthy, O. Leary, J. Callanan Subs: S. O'Leary for J. Callanan

Referee: P. Downey (Inniscarra)



Tipp's Deirdre Hughes and Wexford's Deirdre Codd.



(Clockwise from top left) ■ The Clare juniors listen to trainer Helen Murphy at training in Ballyline. ■ Cathy Hallov. Claire McMahon, Claire Commene and Catherine O'Loughlin practice their stickwork in advance of Sunday's game

Three degrees of separation

As Tipp prepare for next Sunday's All-Ireland Final, the *Nenagh Guardian* look back on the careers of three former county players whose lives are interlinked through sport. Rose Fletcher was born in Dublin and won seven All-Irelands with her native county in the thirties and forties. She married Johnnie Hogan and moved to live in Tipperary. The couple's daughter Maura hurled with Tipperary between 1976 and '84. She played in two All-Irelands 1979 and '84 and one of her team-mates was Deirdre Lane who began her career with Lorrha before transferring to the Celtic Club which is now known as Eoghan Rua. Rose Fletcher, a former player with Dublin and holder of seven All-Ireland medals. She was also a noted referee and administrator with Dublin County Board. Liam Hogan reports.

In 1949, Rose Fletcher won the last of her seven All-Ireland Senior Medal playing against Tipperary, who were playing in their first All-Ireland Final.

Later that year Rose announced her retirement as a player and Chairman of the Dublin Junior Camogie Board. She left Dublin having just married and moved to Tipperary. In the forties and fifties, there was an unwritten "Married Rule", marriage usually signalled the end of a player's career. It was a rule that operated more strictly in some areas of the country than others.

So ended the Camogie career of a very talented player and an efficient and effective administrator. She came to live in a townland called Urna near Puckane. Rose and her husband, John reared four children.

Rose played in the back-line, normally at centre back. Her brothers played hurling for the Fontenoy's.

Rose came from a very Gaelic orientated family and all of the family are reputed to have been excellent Irish speakers. Rose

worked in the Civil Service. Every year the Civil Service organised a Camogie Inter-Departmental Competition, and Rose lined out for the Department of Finance. In the late forties, one of her departmental team-mates was none other than Eileen O'Duffy who played her club Camogie for Celtic, and who was recently selected as the Goalkeeper on the Camogie Team of the Century. Rose's last game for Dublin in 1949 was also Eileen's first appearance in an All-Ireland Final for Dublin.

Scoil Brighide were not Club, one of a few Hurling clubs only, based in Irish town near Sandymount, Dublin. Nowadays it is known as Clanna Gael/Fontenoy's having amalgamated with the Clanna Gael Football Club.

They still have their extensive modern grounds and clubhouse in Dublin, by the seashore near the Poolbeg ESB Power Station.

Rose and her sister May played with the Scoil Brighide Club in Dublin, an all-Irish school for girls. The team was made up of past pupils, as in those days, College players were not permitted to play in the Dublin Adult Leagues, and the Colleges had their own competitions.

So ended the Camogie career of a very talented player and an efficient and effective administrator. She came to live in a townland called Urna near Puckane. Rose and her husband, John reared four children.

Association, with various splits, and the even formation of a separate Camogie Association.

She was also active as a referee and umpire. Rose was always a very popular girl with her team-mates and other Camogie players and officials alike; she was always joking and is reputed to have had a droll sense of humour. But she could also be very forthright and fair minded, as demonstrated in her administration skills.

Rose Fletcher is credited with winning Seven All-Ireland medals with her

County Dublin.

1937: Dublin defeated Galway by 9-4 to 1-0

1938: Dublin defeated Cork by 5-0 to 2-3.

1942: Dublin defeated Cork by 4-1 to 2-2 after a replay.

1943: Won her third medal as a sub against Cork Dublin 8-0 Cork 1-1.

1944: Won her fourth medal against Antrim 5-4 to 0-0.

1948: Dublin represented by C.I.E. easily defeated Down by 11-4 to 4-2

1949: Won her seventh and last All-Ireland medal against Tipperary after an 8-6 to 4-1 victory.

• Many thanks to Pat Rafferty, Fermanagh and former Uachtarán Cumann Camogaíochta na nGael, who helped me with information on Rose Fletcher. Pat was born in Dublin and is currently compiling a history of Dublin camogie. She holds an All-Ireland Junior Camogie medal which she won with Dublin in 1971.

Maura Hackett, Portroe and Tipperary – a star of the past

Maura Hackett can be proud of her contributions to the fortunes of camogie in Tipperary. From the day she began as a young player with Kilruane to the time she played with Portroe she proved herself to be a great defender and had the ability to play camogie at any level and it became no surprise that she would succeed in making it to the top with her County and Province.

Her ability to be a great camogie player was not too difficult. Her mother was Rose Fletcher, a seven time All-Ireland medal holder who played with Dublin. Her late father, Johnnie Hogan from Kildangan was also a tremendous influence on her. He took her to every game. A shrewd observer of the game, according to Maura, he was always there to advise her before and after every match.

In 1996, both Maura and her mother Rose decided to donate a cup in his honour. The Johnnie Hogan Cup was presented for the County Junior A League.

Maura's inter-county career began in '76 and ended in 1985. She won a National League medal plus two Munster Finals while she played in two All-Ireland finals with Tipp.

The first All-Ireland was in 1979 when Tipp lost to Antrim by a single goal. On route to the final, Tipp trained in The Ragg under the guidance of Timmy Delaney from Borris-Ileigh. The team had wins over Down and Limerick before qualifying for a tilt against Antrim in the decider.

"We should have won that final. It is one of my biggest disappointments. Tipp had every chance of winning but the Antrim goalkeeper, Carol Blaney was very good that day," recalled Maura who played at left corner back.

Tipp did not reach the final for another six years when they were easily defeated by Dublin on a scoreline of 5-9 to 2-3. The lead up to the final is what Maura remembers most. "We drew with Wexford in the semi final. The replay was played in Borrisokane and it drew a very big crowd. All this in a parish where there was no camogie played," enthused Maura.

In 1969, Maura began playing with Kilruane. "I used travel on a Honda 50 with my friend Ann McCarty and head to Cloughjordan every week," she recollected.

Maura continued playing for Kilruane until 1972. While there, she became a player of note and it was only a matter of time before she made it on the Tipp Junior County team. In 1973, she travelled to America but returned for the '74 campaign when she transferred to Portroe. Eventually she won promotion to the senior side in 1976.

"She was a most underrated player," claimed Deirdre Lane. "Maura would be the player to mark key players like Orlaith Ryan Dublin and Angelo Downey Kilkenny. She was a marvellous player," said Deirdre.

In 1977, the National Hurling League of 1976 had run into March of the following year. Tipp reached the final and defeated Wexford in Thurles. Maura played in the backline.

"I scored a goal in that league final win against Wexford at Thurles. Don't ask me how, or, how I managed to get that position," she recalled. The goal helped Tipp to a 4-2 to 1-3 win but there was more success to come later in the year. "We won the Munster Final that year also and the game was played three days

before I got married," she added.

At the time, the Tipp team included players like Deirdre Lane, Monica Butler, Maol Mhuire Tynan and Siobhan Tynan.

Throughout her club career, she enjoyed a lot of success with Portroe. With Port, she won four County senior finals; four Ann Frazer cups and three National seven-a-sides titles. The club reached its zenith in 1984 by making it to the Munster club final before losing to Eire Og from Cork.

Apart from playing with her county, Maura played with Munster in the Gael Linn Cup.

Now the sporting tradition is being handed down in the Hackett household. Maura's son, Dan is a well-known player with Kildangan seniors who are in the last 12 in the county senior hurling championship. Her daughters, Roisin and Bridin played camogie also while Bridin played with Tipp U-16 team in 2000. Sean is currently on the Kildangan U-16 team while Eadaoin, the youngest, is a very promising camogie player.



Rose Hogan and her daughter Maura with the Johnnie Hogan Cup. The cup was named in honour of Rose's husband and was competed for by teams in the Junior A Hurling League.

Sept 2005

ARMAGH CAMOGIE AND MONE FUELS INSPIRE SUCCESS

Camogie in general may not be one of the most high profile games in the GAA. However, the recent Ulster junior final between Armagh and Down proved to be a great advertisement for the sport as the Orchard County won their second title in three years.

Sponsor Jim Mone, team captain Olive McGeown and Armagh camogie P.R.O Eileen Canavan tells the Hogan Stand how much work has been put into the game in the county over the past few years and what it means to be preparing for an All-Ireland semi-final.

Mone Fuels has been the main sponsors of the Armagh camogie team for the past four years and during that time, they have won the Ulster title twice. When asked about why they sponsor the Orchard county in camogie, Jim admitted that although the sport has not the highest of profiles, it has generated a great interest over the past few years.

"The initial venture began when Tom Monaghan (Ulster Council) approached me to sponsor the team. I was already involved with the local camogie club's Derrynoose and Keady. I met with Ursula McGivern (Armagh manager) the same year and after speaking to her I had no hesitation in getting involved," said Jim.

"I know there are probably more high profile teams that could be sponsored, but there is great interest in the game now and the people involved are very dedicated and passionate about promoting the sport. Winning the two Ulster titles has helped promote camogie in the county."

Mone Fuels has been operating for the past seven years and distribute their products to a large volume of customers, both in Armagh and Monaghan and the company employ 20 people as their reputation for good service is second to none.

Jim admits that seeing Armagh win an All-Ireland camogie title would be huge boost to the game in the county and following their impressive victory over Down in the Ulster final, he believes that this feat could well be achieved in the next few months.

"They are a dedicated bunch of girls who have put in a huge effort. The win over Down just proved that. It was a tremendous win and who knows where they can go from here. Hopefully they can win the All-Ireland, they thoroughly deserve it," added Jim.

Team captain Olive McGeown was obviously delighted with the win over Down in the Provincial decider, but she admitted that a lot of hard work and effort had been put into the team since last year's first round defeat to the same opposition.

"We were very happy to win the final. Last year, Down beat us easily in the Ulster championship. We have a couple

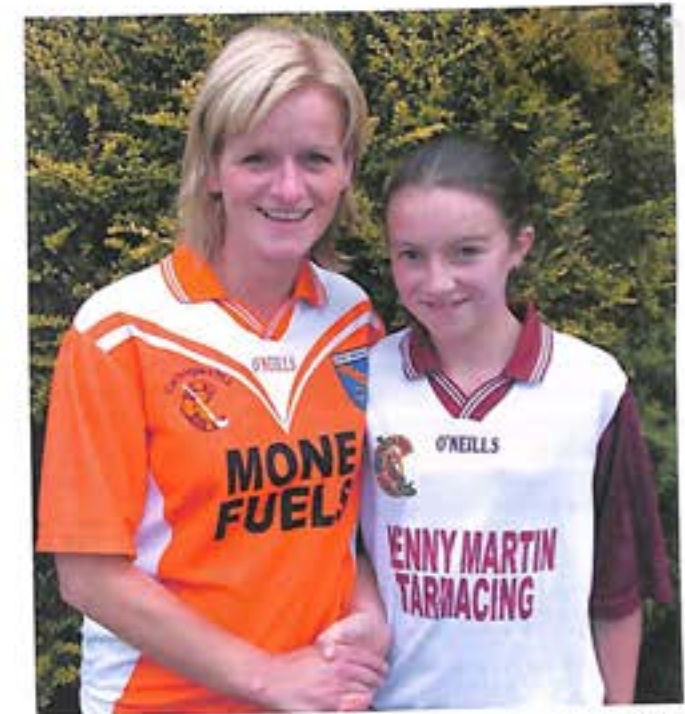
of new players on the team this year and there is a good mix of experience and youth in the side. The team have been training three times a week for the past few months and there is a great interest and buzz around the place," said Olive.

The match itself was played in St Tiernan's Park Clones prior to the Ulster senior football championship clash between Tyrone and Cavan which, ended in a draw. Armagh got off to the perfect start when Ciara Hayes dispatched the sliothar to the net after a long ball in by Patricia McAvooy came back off the crossbar.

However, it was Down who dominated proceedings for the following 20 minutes and the Mourne County swung over five points to put them in front by 0-5 to 1-0. Matters then got worse for Ursula McGivern's side as they conceded a penalty, fortunately for Armagh; a point was all that Down could manage. Colleges All-Star Colette McSorley pointed a forty-five to keep the Orchard County in touch.

This was soon followed by a Patricia McAvooy point, before Down struck for their second goal of the match. Down were back on top. However, the talented Colette McSorley pointed a free to leave five points between the sides at half time, 2-5 to 1-3.

McSorley was causing all sorts of problems for Down and on resumption of the second half, the Colleges' All-Star sent in a high ball that was caught by Colette McKeever and the Keady player fired home a cracking shot to the back of the net. With the Clones venue filling up with supporters



Keep it in the family. Armagh camogie captain Olive McGeown and her eleven-year-old daughter Hannah, who is a budding star of the future

jubilant captain Olive McGeown accepted the Cup from Ulster chairperson Mrs Belle O'Loughlin.

"It was a great feeling to lift the Cup, but that is behind us now and we have to look forward to the semi final. There is still a lot of work to do. We play the Leinster champions and camogie is very strong down there. It will be a tough match, although we know we can win," stressed Olive.

The Armagh skipper works as a GAA Development Officer for the Armagh County Board and has been busy trying to promote camogie in the county and she revealed that the game is strong in certain parts of Armagh, while others are relatively weak.

"Mid-Armagh is where most of the teams come from and while there a few clubs in North and South Armagh, camogie is not as strong in these areas. We are trying to promote the game through the schools and other areas. The help that Jim and Rosemary Mone has given us is also greatly appreciated," Olive added.

P.R.O Eileen Canavan is in agreement with Olive's sentiments about promoting the game and admitted that the help of Jim Mone has been a major asset to the county, while she also revealed that the progress being made in the



Olive McGeown presents Naomi Campbell with the Camogie Cup at St Patrick's Primary School Armagh Annual Awards Presentations

of Tyrone and Cavan, the atmosphere was electric and when substitute Mary Black narrowed the gap to a solitary point, the underdogs had a genuine belief that they could win.

The excellent McSorley scored the equaliser moments later and Armagh were now totally in control. The Orchard County went in front for the first time since early in the match when McAvooy scored a fine point after an impressive move involving five players.

A Ciara Hayes point was soon followed by the score of the match as Colette McKeever rounded the Down goalkeeper before coolly slotting the sliothar into an empty net. Down responded quickly with a goal of their own, but time was running out for the Mourne girls and when McSorley scored her fourth point of the match and then McKeever added another, it was Armagh's title and amid scenes of



Armagh camogie manager Ursula McGivern and Olive McGeown display the Ulster Cup along with sponsors Jim and Rosemary Mone

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Limerick, Cork and Galway Women take Three Top Camogie Jobs



The victorious Armagh squad, back, l/r: Joan Murphy, Colette McKeever, Marie Larkin, Bernie McBride, Colette McSorley, Bronagh Keenan, Joanne Mallon, Patricia McAvoy, Eimear Carragher, Laura Gribben, Julie O'Neill, Bernie Murray. Front, l/r: Emma Farrell, Laura Lavery, Aoibheann Murphy, Katrina Curry, Olive McGeown, Ciara Hayes, Mary Black, Michelle Murray, Ciara Keenan, Aoibheann McKenna. Mascot: Niamh Rafferty

schools has also been a huge benefit.

"Jim has been great and what he has given us has certainly helped. He could have supported some of the men's teams as they would have a higher profile, but thankfully he decided to help us out and it's greatly appreciated," pointed out Eileen.

"A lot of work has been done in the schools and Cumann na mBun Scoil have helped promote the game over the last two years and that is already reaping the rewards. It also helps that Armagh City and District Council have given us funding and we can't thank them enough for that. Darren McArdle is the sports officer and he has done amazing work over the past couple of years.

"In all fairness, it's our own fault that we don't do enough to promote the game. It's hard to find the time. Most of us have full-time jobs and it can make it difficult. It is a great honour to be in the semi-final and regardless whether we win or not, we will enjoy the occasion.

"Playing the Ulster final in Clones before the Tyrone v. Cavan semi-final was also a huge boost to the game. There was a nice crowd there at the start of the match, but by the time it was over, the place was packed and it generated a wonderful atmosphere for the girls," said Eileen.

The profile of camogie has been rising dramatically over the past couple of years and it is all thanks to people like Eileen Canavan, Marie Fonthorpe, Olive McGeown, Jim and Rosemary Mone and many others, who have given up their spare time to help promote camogie in the county. For all their hard work and endeavour, no one could begrudge



Armagh skipper Olive McGeown raises the Ulster Cup as Mrs Belle O'Loughlin, Chairperson of Ulster Camogie Council, looks on

the Orchard County an All-Ireland camogie title this year.

For the record the victorious Ulster title winning Armagh panel was: Bronagh Keenan, Marie Larkin, Eimear Carragher, Emma Farrell, Olive McGeown, Bernie McBride, Michelle Murray, Colette McSorley, Katrina Curry, Ciara Keenan, Patricia McAvoy, Bernie Murray, Julie O'Neill, Colette McKeever, Ciara Hayes, Mary Black, Joanne Mallon, Laura Lavery, Joan Murphy, Aoibheann McKenna, Laura Gribben, Colette Byrne, Niamh McGeown.

The most exciting news in camogie in recent weeks has been the appointment of Lynn Kelly as National Development Co-Ordinator and that of Mary O'Connor and Caroline Murray as Regional Co-Ordinators. Michael McClements who already fills the Regional role in Ulster completes the team. This initiative has come about as a result of the €250,000 allocated to camogie by the Irish Sports Council earlier this year when €1.5 million was set aside in the Budget by Minister O'Donoghue to develop the games promotion of hurling and camogie.

Lynn Kelly a native of Limerick brings a combination of business and sporting experience to her role as National Development Co-Ordinator. She worked with AIB before joining Limerick Institute of Technology as Sports Officer. She then moved to UL as GAA Development Officer in 2003. In October 2004 she was appointed Gaelic Games Promotions Officer with responsibility for co-ordinating specific programmes for the promotion and development of all Gaelic Games in UL. There were fourteen teams under her wing and she rates the back-to-back Ashbourne Cup victories as the outstanding achievement during her

tenure. The teams included Cork stars Jenny O'Leary, Amanda O'Regan and Niamh Bowles while Galway was represented by top players Orla Kilkenny, Aislinn Connolly, Regina Glynn, Lorraine Lally, Deirdre Burke and Aoife Lynskey. Lynn took on her new appointment last week and is based in Croke Park.

Mary O'Connor from Killeagh is one of the top stars of camogie and Ladies Football. A brilliant centre back, highly competitive and a natural leader Mary holds three senior All Ireland medals and seven National Leagues in camogie and recently won a second Munster Ladies football. She plays in the camogie senior All Ireland final here today. Mary qualified in Leisure and Recreation Management and joined Limerick Institute of Technology as GAA Games Promotion Officer. She combined that with a role with the Limerick Co. GAA Board coaching in primary schools and Summer Camps. In 2001 she moved back to her native county as East Cork GAA Development Officer and held this position until her recent appointment. Mary will be based in Limerick.

Caroline Murray is a senior inter-county player with Galway but took a

break this year. She expects to be back in the Maroon and White next year. She plays her club camogie with Ballyboden St. Endas. A Sports Science graduate from UL, she did her H.Dip in Health Promotion in NUIG where she played in the Ashbourne Cup. She worked as a Health Promotion Officer with the Irish Cancer Society and like Mary O'Connor takes on her new portfolio at the end of the month.

All three bring energy and enthusiasm to their roles plus a passion for camogie. With Michael McClements they will be an effective and highly motivated team. They have a formidable task ahead and the various Provincial Councils, County Boards, Second and Third Level Colleges have to work in conjunction with them to meet the targets of the Strategic Plan for Camogie. New ground will be broken too with the progress of the integration process with the GAA. It is anticipated that there will be ongoing co-operation particularly in the areas of coaching, refereeing, promotional material and club training programmes. Sean Kelly continues to give great support to the women's Gaelic games but there is much to be done at all levels to really progress integration.



26 August 2005: Two of Camogies star players Caroline Murray, Galway, centre, and Mary O'Connor, Cork, right, who were appointed as Regional Development Co-ordinators with Lynn Kelly, Limerick, who was appointed as National Camogie Development Co-ordinator, Croke Park, Dublin.

(Photo: Pat Murphy / SPORTSFILE)



CAMOGIE 2011

MONAGHAN

Friday July 15th : Monaghan Senior Final
Castleblaney 0-6 Clontibret 1-3

Sunday July 17th : Monaghan Senior
Final replay :
Clontibret 1-8 Castleblaney 1-3

This weekend of camogie action will go down in Clontibret folklore as the club bridged a 29 year gap to land Corn Gael Linn - their fourth success in the competition.

The draw was a tense affair right to the final whistle with Clontibret's Helen Hughes in outstanding form. Her team trailed by one point at half-time but 6 minutes into the second half Marie Greenan levelled with a 45m. free and incredibly, this was to be the last score of the game.

Rockcorry was again the venue for the replay and the more youthful Clontibret side seemed to adapt better to the hot

conditions, despite conceding a 6th minute goal to Rosemary Merry. Clontibret tapped over a steady supply of points from Kathy McManus, Marie Greenan (3) and Eleanor McQuaid to put them ahead 0-5 to 1-0 at the break. On the resumption Charlene Fanthorpe narrowed the gap with a point but it was 1-1 from free-taker Marie Greenan that opened the way for Clontibret celebrations. Castleblaney going for 8-in-a-row fought bravely to hold on to the title but Clontibret managed to hang with late points from Player of the Match Marie Greenan and 16 year old Eleanor McQuaid.

Castleblaney scorers : Rosemary Merry 1-0, Charlene Fanthorpe 0-1, Mary McElroy 0-1, Orla McCarthy 0-1. Clontibret (panel used over two games) : Rosita Finnegan, Aisling Greenan, Nicola McCully, Donna Moen, Grainne McKeown, Joanne McSkane, Shauna McElvaney capt., Helen Hughes, Laura McManus, Tara McElvaney, Kathy McManus

0-1, Eleanor McQuaid 0-2, Shauna Finnegan, Angela Kerr, Marie Greenan 1-5, Shauna Leonard, Eilish Clarke, Nicola Neeson, Christina Duffy.

DOWN

Sunday July 17th : Down
Senior final :
Liatroim Fontenoy's 1-12 Ballycran 1-6

Winners of the All-Ireland Junior championship last November, Liatroim Fontenoy's collected their 15th consecutive Down title with a six point win over Ballycran. Their defence of the Down championship was

not without incident though.

After a very easy quarter-final win over Ballyholland, the Fontenoy's were held to a draw by Clontibret in an action-packed semi-final on a wet Tuesday evening in early July.

All-star Máirín McAleenan made her first appearance of an injury-blighted season in that game - as an emergency goalkeeper. She was at corner-forward for the replay and banged home 1-3 in a 1-12 to 1-6 win despite a brilliant individual display by Fionnuala Carr for the losers.

Liatroim needed an injury-time point last season to beat Ballycran, and the final looked like developing the same way as the challengers hit some fine long-range points through Amanda Coulter, Cathy McGourty and Jenny Braniff

to lead by 0-4 to 0-2 at the break. The second half was also tightly contested until a goal from Kelly O'Higgins followed by points from Caitriona McCrickard and Máirín McAleenan opened a

gap that Ballycran couldn't close despite a goal from Laura Smyth. Ballycran - like Clontibret in the semi-final - played well, but Liatroim survived because of their experience and the presence of players such as the McCrickards, Anne Morgan, goalie Nuala Magee and Máirín McAleenan. Ballycran scorers : Laura Smyth 1-0, Catherine McGourty 0-2, Amanda Coulter 0-2, Jenny Braniff 0-1, Michelle Dorrian 0-1.

Liatroim Fontenoy's line-out and scorers : Nuala Magee, Ann Morgan, Donna Mullan, Elaine McCrickard, Karen McMullan, Lisa McCrickard capt., Claire McGovern, Ciara McGovern, Rosaleen McCann, Caitriona McCrickard (0-2), Majella O'Reilly, Niamh O'Higgins, Sinéad Brackenbury (0-1), Kelly O'Higgins (1-1), Máirín McAleenan (0-7). Subs : Sinéad O'Prey for E. McCrickard,

Castletara retained the Senior Championship title for the sixth year running making it their 13th title in all since the first in 1991.

However it was Lacken who started off at a blistering pace and built up a 5 point lead in the first quarter with two goals from Marie Brady. Castletara though fought back with goals from Colette Smith and Elaine Prior to lead at the break 2-6 to 2-4.

Colette Smith added her second goal early in the second half, leaving Lacken with an uphill task. They narrowed the gap with a Linda Shanaughy goal to 3-6 to 3-9, but it was as close as they got and Castletara triumphed again.

Lacken enjoyed a lot of possession, but clocked up too many wides, while Castletara's reserve goalie Pauline Reilly, who played in place of the ill Geraldine Mulvanny, brought off some superb saves.

Pauline's daughter Elaine, the team captain, picked up the Player of the Match award making her 20th birthday all the more memorable.

Lacken scorers : Marie Brady 2-3, Linda Shanaughy 1-0, Miranda Crowe 0-1, Susan Mulligan 0-1, Laura McGaurahan 0-1.

Castletara: Pauline Reilly, Anne Marie Fay, Marie McPhillips, Carmel Fay, Aisling Smith, Lorraine Brady, Máiréad McCabe, Agnes Mundy 0-1, Kate O'

Gorman, Glenda Fitzpatrick 0-1, Elaine Reilly (capt) 0-2, Majella Smith 0-6, Colette Smith 2-0, Colette McCaul, Elaine Prior 1-1. Subs: Maggie Watters for C McCaul, Aisling Reilly, F. Fay, E. Reilly, C. O'Brien, L. Smith.

Ulster club championship ties :

Ulster Junior club
Quarter-final :
Sunday August
14th : Castletara
1-5 Liatroim
Fontenoy's 7-15

The repeat of last season's Ulster Junior club camogie final turned out to be a one-sided affair in Ballyhaise. Holders Liatroim Fontenoy's advanced to play Clontibret in the semi-final after a 7-15 to 1-5 win over Castletara. The winners dominated the game from the start and led by 3-8 to two Majella Smith pointed frees at the turn-over. Castletara's Elaine Prior scored the goal of the game during the second half,

but Liatroim continued to pile on the scores with no fewer than 11 different players making the score-sheet. Castletara : Elaine Prior 1-1, Majella Smith 0-4. Liatroim Fontenoy's : Nuala Magee, Sinéad O'Prey, Donna Mullen, Elaine McCrickard, Karen McMullan 1-0, Lisa McCrickard 0-5, Claire McGovern, Ciara McGovern 0-1, Roseleen McCann, Caitriona McCrickard 0-2, Kelly O'Higgins 0-2, Niamh O'Higgins 1-2, Denise O'Prey 2-0, Sinéad Brackenbury 1-1, Anne



Morgan 1-1. Subs Lisa Quinn 0-1 for K O'Higgins, Corinna Cunningham 1-0 for D O'Prey, Emma McCormick for K McMullan.

Ulster Junior club Semi-finals : August 28th :

Clontibret v. Liatroim Fontenoy's
Keady v. Eglis

Ulster Junior club final : September 10th / 11th

Ulster Senior club final : September 10th :
Antrim winners v. Derry winners

Corn Aoife
Offaly 2-14 Armagh 3-9

This year's All-Ireland Minor B final in Parnell Park on Sunday August 7th was possibly the best ever with the result in doubt until the very end. Offaly got off to a dream start and were 4 up before Armagh's Corinna McKee fired home the first goal of the day past the Offaly 'keeper Claire Birmingham.

A further Armagh goal from player of the match Colette McSorley three minutes from the half time break put the Orchard county ahead 2-3 to





olla Fhinnéin

Offaly's 0-8.
The second half was even more exciting with the lead changing hands on several occasions, before a cliff-hanging final 10 minutes. Colette McSorley's second goal put Armagh ahead 3-7 to Offaly's 0-12 with nine minutes remaining. It appeared the Orchard county were safe, but Siobhán Flannery had other ideas and she sent a free all the way to the Orchard net with four minutes remaining. One minute later she repeated the dose this time from open play to put Offaly ahead. Armagh were stunned but still not finished. Once again Colette McSorley sent over a free to equalise as the game crept into injury time. A replay looked on the cards, but Siobhán Flannery found enough time to send over two more frees and break Armagh hearts. The Faithful county in writing their name on Corn Aoife collected the county's first ever All-Ireland title at any level and Camogie President Miriam O'Callaghan was indeed a proud woman in handing over the trophy. Offaly: C Birmingham, S Daly, L A Scully, L A Troy, K McCann, K McKenna 0-1.



0-1, Orla O'Hare, Lucy Conway, Corrina McKee 1-0.
Subs: Laura Comiskey for C McGuigan, Kerry Mone for L McGuinness, Ciara Donnelly for O'Hare, Louise Toner, Aideen Canavan, Shauna Leonard, Roisin Mallon, Brid O'Hagan, Martina Fisher, Eimear Mooney, Leon McGuigan, Danielle Mone and Emma Conlon.

Kilkenny claimed Corn Tailteann the All-Ireland Minor A trophy for the fourth time ever when they defeated close

neighbours Tipperary 4-7 to 2-7. After Tipperary got their opening score from Aoife McLoughney, daughter of manager Pat, the former Tipperary All-Star, Kilkenny settled and Katie Power and Edwina Keane shot two goals inside a minute to put 2-3 to 1-1 up and they never looked back. Katie Power bagged a third Kilkenny goal on the restart and although a Tipperary goal from Aoife McLoughney narrowed the gap to 3-7 to 2-7, Kilkenny held out and Marie Dargan secured the title with a late goal.

Armagh: Catherine Toner, Grainne Kelly, Sunniamha Quinn, Fionnuala Bradley, Connie Conway, Emma McParland, Colleen McGuigan, Noeleen McKenna Capt 0-2, Nicole Conway, Colette McSorley 2-5, Laura McGuinness 0-1, Ailbheann Murphy

Kilkenny: M T O'Neill, L Phelan, R Madigan, M Nolan, E Cantwell, M O'Keeffe, M Murphy, C Dormer 0-1, L Gahan 0-1, S Fahey 0-1, E Keane 1-2, M Dargan 1-1, K Power 2-0, N Corrigan 0-1, M Quilty.
Subs: A Farrell for M Quilty, K McDonald for M Murphy, E Kenny for M Dargan.

Tipperary: K Kenneally, M Ryan, S Morrissey, G Stapleton, N O'Connell, F Young, D Ryan, T Shortt, C Maher, A Shinnors 0-4, S Hayes, M Gleeson, B Kennedy, S McGrath 0-1, A McLoughney 2-2.
Subs: A O'Connell for S Hayes, Laura Young for M Gleeson, T Flanagan for N O'Connell.

CASTLETARA



Camogie Increasing in Popularity But!

By Liam Hogan

Today's Foras Na Gaeilge All-Ireland Senior Camogie final will probably attract the biggest audience for a women's sporting event in Europe.

A crowd of around 25,000 will attend the game and there will be live coverage on TV in what will be an historic final.

The teams are meeting in their fourth final in a row, something not equalled in either Hurling or Gaelic Football. Tipperary will also be searching for its sixth All-Ireland win, and its second three in a row win in seven years.

In contrast, Cork are hoping to regain the O'Duffy Cup for the first time in three years. They have won the title twenty times and are second in the role of honour, six behind Dublin.

Winning three in a row is not unusual in camogie circles but it is very new to Tipp.

These are great times for Tipperary Camogie circles. Players like Jovita Delaney, Una O'Dwyer, Ciara Gaynor and Deirdre Hughes are sporting idols in their county, replacing the hurling greats such as Nicky English, Pat Fox, and, in more recent times, Tomas Dunne.

CAMOGIE NEVER HAD IT SO GOOD OR HAS IT?

Behind the big crowds, TV coverage and anything else that is positive for the game, there is a worrying trend. Only three teams look any where near the required standard needed to win the O'Duffy Cup. Perhaps that will change in time but, at the moment, Tipperary, Cork and Wexford are the top three.

Dublin were the kingspins of yesteryear and are here today in the junior final. Antrim were a great side one time but they failed to take part in this year's All-Ireland campaign. Another problem is the growing popularity of Ladies Football. It is becoming very popular in Dublin and Cork and, similar to the men's game, there are more counties capable of winning the All-Ireland.

Cumann Camógaloichta na nGael are not standing idly by. They have recently appointed Mary O'Connor, Cork to the role of Camogie Development Co-ordinator and she will work with Lynn Kelly, nationally, and Caroline Murray, the other two appointees. It's a positive move and the three girls need every help possible.

Meanwhile, the teams in today's final will be well focussed on the task of winning the 2005 All-Ireland.

As defenders of the title, Tipp's campaign began under the new management of Paddy McCormack, Martin Bourke and Olivia Hogan. They replaced the successful trio of Ramie Ryan, Conor Ryan and Marian Graham.

After a poor league run, Tipp easily defeated Cork in the Munster

Final having nine points to spare.

The opening round of the All-Ireland campaign saw Tipperary receive a walk over from Antrim. They travelled to Nowlan Park for the second round and came away with a four point win over Kilkenny. Tipp may not have looked comfortable in that game, but things improved when they defeated Limerick with a whopping 5-17 to 0-8 victory.

Wexford provided the opposition for the semi-final. Tipp needed no reminding, that they were lucky in defeating the model county in the penultimate game in 2004.

This time, Tipp looked convincing in the opening half and held a nine point lead at the break. In the second half, Wexford rallied and could have taken the laurels but were denied by some great saves by Jovita Delaney. In the end, Tipp held on taking some needed scores in the final minutes to make it to the final.

Having lost to Tipp in the last two All-Irelands, Cork will be keen to regain the form they had when they defeated Tipp in the 2002 final. A third loss in a row would be difficult to take but many feel this could be their year.

Fiona O'Driscoll has joined the backroom team as team trainer and the team has gone from strength to strength. She joined a new manager John Cronin who has previous successes with Cork minor teams.

Cork began well, reaching this year's league final. However, they were defeated by Galway in Thurles. The loss to Tipp in the Munster Final was a further set back.

When the All-Ireland championship began, Cork gained revenge over Galway, winning by a single point after coming from behind. Wexford were next to fall to what seemed an improving Cork side. This resulted in a semi-final tilt with Limerick where the rebels won very easily.

Looking at the players on view it would appear that Tipp have a more talented pool at their disposal. They have the experience of Jovita Delaney, Una O'Dwyer, Sinead Nealon, Ciara Gaynor, Therese Brophy, Noelle Kennedy and Deirdre Hughes. For them it may be their last All-Ireland and they will want to leave Croke Park on a winning note.

To complete the list, players like Eimear McDonnell, Julie Kirwan, Angie McDermott, Joanne Ryan, Claire Grogan, Sheena Howard and Jill Horan are equally determined to ensure victory and, with Trish O'Halloran and Michelle Short in the background waiting to take a place in the starting line up, there is real competition for places.

In addition the sight of Deirdre Hughes lifting the O'Duffy Cup would be a fitting reward for the best full forward in modern times.

Cork are talented also. The team has a very good centre back in Mary O'Connor. Newcomer, Amanda O'Regan is a strong player while Rosalie Holland is doing well at full back since Stephanie Dunlea moved to full-forward.

Dunlea is in her first year playing in the full-forward position and she is very crafty. With the experience of Jennifer O'Leary and Emer Dillon, and with Rachel Moloney and Vivienne Harris providing good backup at midfield, Cork will not be found wanting.

With Cork also in the Ladies football final, dual players such as Briege Corkery, Mary O'Connor (sub), Rena Buckley and Angela Walsh will want to create their own history by helping Cork to win the double. Cork have the Liam McCarty Cup as well and the county is buzzing.

However, the one sided victory over Limerick in the semi-final has to leave certain question marks as to how good the Rebels really are.

On the other hand, Tipp will view the Wexford game as the wake up call they needed. Having got over that hurdle we hope they will be champions by 5.30pm.



Photo: John Kelly

Joanne Ryan, Tiobraid Árann, agus Aine Codd, Loch Garman sa cluiche leathcheannais i bPáirc Nualláin.

It's all change for camogie competitions



Bernie McNally (Cathaoirleach)

Next season will see significant changes to almost all competitions under the auspices of Cumann Camógalochta na nGael. The Camogie Association recently approved the setting up of a two-year pilot to test out some of the recommendations of the recent competitions committee's report.

The committee, chaired by Bernie McNally with representatives from across the camogie world, reported on widespread support throughout the camogie membership for modernisation and change. The report identified key issues which emerged during the consultation process and provided a number of recommendations for improvement.

The key issue for concern for the Association is the small number of counties now participating at senior level. Everyone wants to see a system of inter county camogie which can facilitate bottom up development to encourage and enable more counties to compete successfully at senior level. The committee felt that the changes required were in the development of counties below senior level.

The committee conducted research into the winning patterns of all competitions and found that a small number of senior counties were winning all competitions, even those junior competitions which were supposed to encourage development across all counties. The committee concluded therefore that the single biggest barrier to development of so called "weaker" counties was the system itself, which seemed to be skewing all success to the senior graded counties.

This issue, the committee felt, was closely related to the grading system of individual players. The committee reported that the biggest area of discontent among the membership was the system of grading and re-grading players. It seems that the different systems in different provinces have resulted in unfair and inequitable outcomes as provinces are not comparing like with like.

The committee also reported that most people believe that a simple championship knockout format is outdated and counter productive to development. The committee found that most counties had exited the championship before the summer season had even begun, with girls training all winter for just one championship game. Any new system, it was argued, needed to facilitate and encourage players to train and develop their skills during the summer months.

A very worrying revelation from the research of the committee was that, although very small in number, some developing counties had no inter-county competition at all. Again such a state of affairs it was felt was counter productive to the development of the sport a whole.

A strong plea also came from the membership for the minor grade to come into line with other Gaelic codes by increasing the age band

to under 18. This, it was argued, would help retain that age group playing the sport when there are so many other attractions with which to compete.

Among the many ideas for improvement which will be tested out during the next two seasons are

The demarcation of competitions: the pilot will test the principle of confining junior competitions to junior counties. It is believed the "new junior championship" (which incidentally will have a new name) will create a level playing field for junior teams who will now compete with their peers. A new system of group stages in this championship will mirror the already successful senior format and will move us a way from a very outdated "one game and your out" system. For the first time ever at junior level the competition will be seeded with stronger teams kept apart at the group stages. Of course the knockout element of championship will not be completely eradicated as the top two teams from each section at the group stages will then be drawn into a system where once again the winner takes it all. Those teams who do not make it through to the knockout stages of the cup will still have a part to play in inter-county camogie with the establishment of a "new Junior shield." This too will be an All Ireland title which should mean the every county competing at junior level has a realistic chance of progressing to an all Ireland final.

Second teams of senior counties will also be catered for with a revamped intermediate championship which will be an exact replica of the senior format but confined to senior counties.

The main benefit of the new system will be the abolition of the grading system of individuals.

Other recommendations which will be tested during this pilot include:

- giving junior counties the option of playing Senior club championship,
- A revamped league format which better facilitates promotion and relegation
- A more prestigious inter-provincial / international series
- An open draw group system for under 16 competitions which will retain the A and B element
- A "novices" competition to encourage the participation of new counties

The Competitions Committee will closely monitor the implementation of the pilot during the next two seasons and will report on the evaluation of it to congress 2008.

COMMITTEE:

Bernie McNally (Cathaoirleach), Linda Mellerick (Rúnaí), Germaine Noonan, Mollie Guinan, Marie O'Brien, Helen McAleevy.

KILLANENA'S

skirts hurlin' in Croker



By Pat and Kathleen McNamara
co-authors of "Skirts Hurlin"

The aptly entitled 'First Touch' exhibition games which take place today during the Junior Final interval, will feature a team representing Clare. These seven starlets are members of the Killanena Camogie Club, which was fortunate enough to be drawn to represent the Banner County at headquarters today. They will surely remember this day for the rest of their lives – how many 7 or 8 year olds, in any code or country, will get the opportunity to play in a world class stadium with a big match atmosphere? The organisers deserve great credit for enabling this to happen.

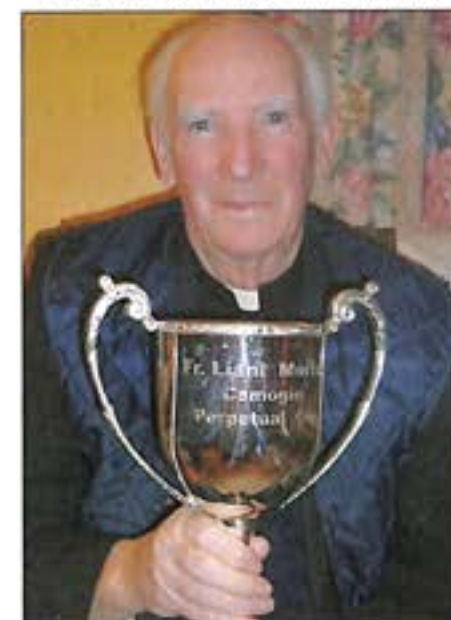
The Killanena camogie girls haven't arrived out of the blue. The club was founded in 1959 by a young curate, Fr. Liam Murray, who became one of the great camogie figures of Clare and Munster for decades. As a founder, administrator and coach to various clubs and Clare teams for many years, Fr. Murray is well deserving of his present position as President of the Clare Camogie Board.

As a Centenary project, it was decided to publish the history of Killanena Camogie Club in 2004. The club had captured eight Clare Senior titles from 1959 to 1967 – a remarkable achievement for a rural club with a tiny population, nestling in the hills of North East Clare close to the border with Galway. As we set about researching our history in the winter of 2002 we were quite unprepared for the groundswell of goodwill which the project generated amongst the players, mentors and supporters of that era.

Fr. Murray was inspirational. His memory bank is of Windows XP standard, but more reliable.

The title 'Skirts Hurlin' was chosen after an interview with a staunch supporter of the team. He described to us how an old-timer, Joey Connors, raised on hurling as a 'man's game', was moved to comment: "Begod, I never thought I'd see the day that you'd have Skirts Hurlin'." The description is from Joey's first sight of camogie in 1959. We can imagine him in a peaked cap, with his overcoat draped over his arm, totally bemused at the new fad for women!

The arrival of camogie into Killanena



Fr. Murray, one of the great camogie figures of Clare, with the Murray Cup which Killanena Camogie Club presented to Clare County Board in his honour.

changed completely the lives of its teenage female population. "We were brought to places we had hardly even heard of before," one player recalls fondly. The game presented the opportunity to escape from the drudgery of rural living and farm chores – saving hay and turf and milking the cows by hand. Some prayed for rain so that hay-saving would be abandoned leaving the evening free for training. The social and economic background of the girls prepared them well for the physical exertions of many a tough Championship encounter.

We derived enormous enjoyment from those television and computer-free

nights as we gathered our stories for what was now shaping up to be a much thicker volume than we anticipated. Lasting friendships were forged with players from that era whom we had never met before. On the other hand the project afforded us the opportunity to visit many homes in the district, in the search for photographs of both camogie and the rural lifestyle from which the players emanated. Sport does not exist in isolation. The homes of Killanena players and supporters were opened to us with great generosity and friendship. No stone (or attic!) was left unturned in search of a priceless photograph which helped to make the book more than simply an account of camogie matches. The more the people were willing to assist the more we realised that much of our material was leading us to a social and economic history of our parish as well.

We were determined that our younger players would receive their rightful due in the story of our club. The under-age structure at the moment is strong and their story is reflected in the later chapters. The reaction of our younger members on seeing their achievements and photographs in a 'real' book was a joy to behold. The link between the old and the new was very important in the minds of the authors. Our club would not have its "chicks with sticks" playing with such pride in the club today if it wasn't for the sacrifices and foresight of a previous generation.

Rachael English of RTE launched 'Skirts Hurlin' in November 2004 at a function attended by 300 former players, supporters and guests. Fr. Murray spoke as only he can of the formative years. Guests from Ardchomhairle, Munster Council and Clare County Board enjoyed the unique dinner-dance and book launch.

If your club has survived and prospered over any reasonable period of time, you should seriously consider writing a 'Skirts Hurlin' of your own. You will find it a most enriching and rewarding experience.

Our great game deserves a larger share of the limelight.



Waterford Institute of Technology is one of the largest Institutes in the Country. Catering for over 6,000 full time students and spread over three campuses there are numerous courses from undergraduate to postgraduate in the six schools, Business, Humanities, Health Sciences, Engineering, Science and Education. WIT continues its innovative and progressive drive by introducing Ireland's first taught MA in Sports Psychology this September.

The infrastructure of the Institute has also developed considerably in recent years and now boasts an award winning library and Information Technology building. In addition services in the college have grown also and there is an extensive range of on-campus accommodation that is purpose built and fully equipped, an on campus gym, bank, book store and six different food outlets.

At the centre of this is WIT GAA Club which was founded in 1981 and now has developed into one of the largest and most successful in the third level sector. In October 1985, the Club embarked on the initiative of a scholarship scheme. This scheme has evolved over time and today it not only provides financial assistance to players but also a range of support services which helps in their pursuit of sporting and academic excellence. The services include academic supports, access to recreational facilities, physiotherapy and medical services. Some of the recipients in 2004 include Michael Walsh (Waterford), Kevin Hynes (Galway), Conor Phelan (Kilkenny), Ursula Jacob (Wexford), Geraldine Kinnane (Tipperary) and Lizzie Flynn (Galway).

Below are of some of the WIT Students, past & present who have played in this year's championship:



Kate Kelly, (Wex), All Star '04, 2 Ashbourne Medals with WIT; Sinead Nealon, (Tip), 1 Ashbourne Medal with WIT; Ger Kinnane (Tip); Ursula Jacob (Wex); Lizzie Flynn (Gal); Michelle Short (Tip) & Patricia O'Halloran (Tip)

If you are interested in applying for a GAA Scholarship or one of the College Sports Bursaries please contact Damian Young, GAA Development Officer at 051-302239; e-mail gaa@wit.ie



Sept 2005



Cloyne fitness coach Valerie O'Sullivan has been putting the East Cork players through their paces for the past season. Picture: Ger Bonus

Valerie makes sure that the Cloyne lads stay on their toes

WHEN CLOYNE take to the field this Sunday to contest their second senior hurling final in as many years, one thing they won't be lacking in is fitness.

That's because at the helm for the past season — 124 training sessions to be exact — they've had Valerie O'Sullivan leading the way, and she's been working them hard all season to prepare them for this day.

Valerie is well known on the Cork GAA circuit, as she's a long serving member of the Fr O'Neill's camogie team and she also has two junior All-Ireland medals to her name.

She came on board at the start of the season and she's confident Cloyne have reached a very high standard on that level at least.

"It's been easy for me to work with them because it's really a very well organised set up in Cloyne and it doesn't matter if you're male or female when you're out there with them because the lads put in huge effort."

"In fairness I'd say that they've worked very hard for me this year without ever dropping off."

Valerie, 26, is the duty manager at the Mardyke Arena and studied leisure and recreation management before she took this role.

She's taken a break from camogie playing this year, to concentrate her efforts on the Cloyne team, and they are sure to reap the benefits.

"We've really focused this year on speed building and

By ALISON DONNELLY

alison.donnelly@eecho.ie

we've incorporated a lot of SAQ (speed, agility, quickness) sessions throughout the year. I would see a fairly big difference now in the standards than from when we started first.

"I sat down with Donal Óg at the start of the season and we worked out different plans and levels of training that we'd emphasise during the year and I think it has worked well although how well the players have done depends on a number of factors such as their weight, age or individual discipline."

"It would be fair enough to say though that because of the work the lads have all put in that they're very sharp at this stage and we'd expect them to have an extremely high level of fitness now."

A lot of the credit for the professionalism of this Cloyne team has gone toward their inspirational goal-keeper Donal Óg Cusack, who first approached Valerie at the start of this season.

Inis O'Brien



Blackrock edge out Ballincollig

Blackrock 46
Ballincollig 38

by Mary Newman

BLACKROCK held off the challenge of Ballincollig to book their place in the Mercury Restaurant and Lounge Junior B camogie championship final.

Ballincollig settled with a Denise Cronin point, but Cáit Kelleher quickly levelled matters. Two goals from Gillian Cleary and Eileen Collins shot Blackrock into the lead, Ashling Lovett grabbing one back for Ballincollig as they

worked hard to stay in touch.

Ballincollig's Ashling Collins found the net early in the second half, and with Denise Cronin adding points they began to grow in confidence. Blackrock had a penalty attempt saved, but a goal from Rosin de Faoite gave the Blackrock girls the lift they needed. Minutes later Gillian Cleary finished to the net after a good save from the Ballincollig keeper. With Róisín De Faoite and Cáit Kelleher extending the lead with points Blackrock looked secure, but Ballincollig battled on. A goal from Denise Cronin and several points cut the margin before

Lynda Coughlan pointed to keep Blackrock one point ahead.

BLACKROCK: A Collins, T. Cummins, S. Murphy, A. Murray, A. Roberts, D. Ni Mhuirí, J. Irwin, C. Kelleher (0-2), A. O' Riordan, G. Mulqueen, L. Coughlan (0-2, 0-1 fr.), R. de Faoite (1-2), O. O' Riordan, E. Collins (1-0), G. Cleary (2-0). Subs used C. Ni Chatháin for Gillian Cleary (45 min) K. Fleming for A. Roberts (in 50 min).

BALLINCOLLIG: T. O'Donnell, M. Glavin, B. O'Callaghan, C. Donovan, L. Weste, A. Cotter, A. Kiely, M. O'Donoghue, A. Collins, M. O'Sullivan, C. McSweeney, D. Cronin, S. Donovan, C. Ryan, A. Lovett, Subs: M. Morrissey for C. McSweeney, V. St Ledger for A. Lovett.

REFEREE: C. O Mahony, St Finbarrs.

Douglas secure passage to the senior B camogie ranks

Linda Mellerick
Douglas 2-10
Ballyhea 1-4

DESPITE a spirited display by Ballyhea, the outcome was never in doubt as Douglas took the Cork County Junior A camogie championship title for the first time since 1980 and now advance to senior B status for the 2006 campaign.

The result was just reward for a club whose work at under age level is an example to all. For Ballyhea, a club formed only eight years ago, yesterday was part of a learning curve and one they will certainly take on board.

Cork senior and Player of the match Amanda O'Regan capped a tremendous week with another excellent display. Her huge clearances and magnificent point scoring took the sting out of the Ballyhea challenge as Douglas eased to a comfortable victory.

They got the perfect start. O'Regan hit over a spectacular free from the narrowest of angles after four minutes. Rachel O'Sullivan was causing endless problems at left corner forward and by the seventh had set up team mate and full forward Jenny O'Donovan for 1-1.

Douglas led by 1-4 after 12 minutes and it looked as if the game was going to be all one way. Ballyhea refused to wilt and pushed forward. A fortuitous goal from Mary Coleman on 16 minutes narrowed the gap to three. They put the pressure on Douglas, whose defence stood up well, particularly full back Louise Sheehan who gave a steady solid performance throughout.

A Karen O'Leary point reduced it to two but again Douglas upped a level. One always felt that Douglas had more in the tank if needed and they became



Ballyhea's Stephanie McNery blocking down Douglas' Helen O'Mahony during the Cork County Camogie junior A final in Ballinlough. Picture: Richard Mills.

stronger as the game wore on.

Lavinia O'Mahony worked tirelessly at left half forward and their full forward line of O'Sullivan and Jenny and Niamh O'Donovan had too much pace for the Ballyhea defence.

Three further points from Deirdre Murphy, Jenny O'Donovan and O'Mahony edged Douglas to 1-7. A pointed free from Coleman left Ballyhea four points behind at the break.

O'Regan rose to the top for Douglas in the second half and swept up all that came her way. Scores from open

play were a minimum. O'Regan hit a free on 35 minutes. It was an end to end battle. Francis Kileen, showing magnificent vision, grabbed the sliothar on the goal line and cleared. However, it fell 75 yards out to O'Regan, whose long return went straight between the posts.

Douglas were on their way.

Niamh O'Donovan and O'Regan again pointed leaving it 2-10 to 1-3 and almost on the stroke of full time Maria Walsh hit over for Ballyhea.

Ballyhea fought hard but couldn't match Douglas, who were the new

Cork County Junior A champions long before the final whistle blew.

Scorers for Douglas: J O'Donovan 1-3, A O'Regan 0-4 (0-3 f), N O'Donovan 1-0, R O'Sullivan, D Murphy and H O'Connor 0-1 each.

Blackrock: M Coleman 1-1 (f), M Walsh 0-2, K O'Leary 0-1.

DOUGLAS: C Conway, T Buckley, L Sheehan, L O'Shea, A Barrett, A O'Regan, L O'Regan, D Murphy, H O'Mahony, H O'Connor, S O'Leary, L O'Mahony, R O'Sullivan, J O'Donovan, N O'Donovan.

Subs: F McSweeney for T Buckley (56min), M Harrington for J O'Donovan (57 min), Z Dunlea for N O'Donovan (57min).

BALLYHEA: F Kileen, S O'Leary, A Morrissey, V Hennessy, O Carroll, E Waters, M Walsh, M O'Brien, K O'Leary, M Coleman, S Douglas, M Walsh, R Waters, S McNery, N Morrissey.

Subs: A Copse for M Walsh (27 min).

Jagoe excels as Tracton claim title

Tracton 1-6
Blackrock 1-4

By LINDA MELLERICK
camogie

TRACTON were crowned Cork county junior B camogie champions for the first time at Ballinlough yesterday.

Beaten finalists in the two previous years, Tracton weren't to be denied on this occasion.

Tracton played with wind advantage in the opening half and, apart from the early minutes when Blackrock threatened, they dominated the opening quarter.

From the outset it was obvious that Marion Jagoe was going to be one of Tracton's key players.

She forced the Blackrock defence to work overtime as Tracton repeatedly took the game to their rivals.

Scores were slow to come by,

however. The game was tight with very little open play.

The Blackrock defence, superbly marshalled by Cliona Meaney, coped admirably with the amount of pressure they were under.

Despite Tracton's dominance they only managed to score two points in the opening quarter, Jagoe converting a couple of frees.

Tracton's persistence finally paid off in the 18th minute.

After numerous attempts the ball finally hit the net after Jagoe let fly from the wing. Tracton now led by five points and Blackrock had yet to register.

Rather than open the floodgates for Tracton the goal spurred on Blackrock

and they were level seven minutes later.

Goalkeeper Nicola Hayes attempted stop from a long delivery by Grace Mulqueen skimmed her hurley and ended up in the net.

A Nicola Lynch 45 and an excellent point from Orlaith O'Riordan ensured Blackrock now had the upper hand.

Both sides exchanges scores soon after to leave the half-time score reading 1-3 apiece.

The intensity was evident in the second half as both sets of players, urged on by the spectators, gave it their all.

Patricia Harrington and Julianne Kingston came more into the game for Tracton at centre and left half back respectively and had a huge bearing on the outcome. Jagoe moved more out centre-field.

Blackrock continued to enjoy the lion's share of the possession but failed to translate it into scores.

The game hung in the balance before 'Player of the Match' Jagoe pushed Tracton ahead with two points in the 42nd and 49th minutes.

Roisin deFaoite narrowed the gap to one but up stepped Kingston to knock over the insurance point and give Tracton their first Cork county junior B title.

Scorers for Tracton: M Jagoe 1-5 (0-4f), J Kingston 0-1.

Blackrock: G Mulqueen 1-0, L Coughlan 0-2 (0-1f, 0-1 45), O O'Riordan and R DeFaoite 0-1 each.

TRACTON: N Hayes, G McCarthy, E Collins, P O'Callaghan, K O'Sullivan, P Harrington, J Kingston, J Lynch, J Kind, C Guinnane, N Lynch, C O'Mahony, C Coughlan, N Harrington, M Jagoe.

Subs: A Sinclair for C Guinnane.
BLACKROCK: A Collins, T Cummins, C Meaney, A Murray, A Roberts, D Ni Mhuir, J Irwin, C Kelleher, A O'Riordan, G Mulqueen, L Coughlan, O O'Riordan, G Cleary, E Collins, R DeFaoite.

Cork's All Ireland camogie heroes continued their lap of honour

SEPT

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Cork County Board Officers, Mary Newman, PRO; Pat Murray, Secretary; Marian McCarthy, Chairperson; Kay Dunne, Registrar; and Mary Bugler, Vice Chairperson; at a reception for the All Ireland winning Cork Camogie Team, at the Evening Echo offices. Picture: Cillian Kelly/News Digital



Catrina Foley, Angela Walsh, Mary O'Connor and Briega Corkery, four of the five members of the Cork ladies football team who were part of this year's All-Ireland winning Cork camogie team. The fifth dual star is Rena Buckley. Picture: Ger Bonus



Amanda O'Regan, Joanne O'Callaghan and Gemma O'Connor at the reception. Picture: Cillian Kelly/News Digital



Lynda O'Connell, Elaine Burke and Vivienne Harris with the O'Duffy Cup. Picture: Cillian Kelly / News Digital



Ollie Hallahan, Captain Elaine Burke, Manager John Cronin and Lillian Zinkant show off the Cup.

Picture: Cillian Kelly/News Digital

JUNIOR A CROWN FOR DOUGLAS

YEARS of disappointment were put aside as Douglas lifted the junior "A" championship crown for the first time since 1980 as they defeated last years junior B champions Ballyhea in a contest where the city girls were totally focused from the word go.

Ballyhea stuck to their task and made Douglas fight all the way for victory a goal

ten minutes into the second half from Jenny O'Donovan finally sealing Douglas's victory. Well done to my good friend Mary Maher who after all the years has finally got her championship medal. Mary has given trojan service to the game and was thrilled to win the medal in the Ballinlough pitch where she started out playing camogie so many years ago.

Under-16 Championship Round Up

IN the under 16 A championship holders Eire Og held off the challenge of Milford to advance, in the Under-16 B Championship, Ballygarvan defeated St Finbarr's while a strong Inniscarra side were to good for Glen Rovers. Sliabh Rua defeated Watergrasshill when they met in the Under-16 C championship in Watergrasshill. There was a victory for Blarney who accounted for Ballinora in the Under-16 twelve-a-side championship.

TAKE JUNIOR B TITLE

THIRD time lucky for Tracton who were crowned Junior B champions in a tight contest that saw a spirited Blackrock battle to the end. Tracton hung on with two points to spare at the full time whistle and the victory is just reward to the many hard working Tracton mentors who have kept faith in their side down through the years.

Ballygarvan and St Catherine's meet in Final

ANOTHER busy weekend ahead as Ballygarvan and St Catherine's meet on Sunday in Caherlag at 1.30pm to decide the destination of the Mercury Restaurant and lounge senior B camogie title for 2005.

Ballygarvan will go in as slight favourites and given that they are contesting the final for the second year in a row they will be determined to make amends for last years defeat at the hands of Aghbullogue. St Catherine's will not be unduly worried and in fact will relish the tag of underdogs, they are a young side who have made a huge effort to reach the decider and it would not come as a shock to see them lift the title.

Ballygarvan will be boosted by the display of Emer Dillon in Corks All Ireland final victory over Tipperary and they will be hoping for a repeat performance from the all round sportswoman who is also an inter-provincial hockey player. Emer showed tremendous

class picking off marvellous points from all angles and certainly on form she will trouble the St Catherine's defence.

Ballygarvan have also had huge input through this campaign from Catriona Kelly who is without doubt one of the counties most stylish camogie players. Last season's in Carrigdhoun championship campaign she was superb, having spent the earlier months of this year in Australia she has now returned home to play a big part in Ballygarvan's march to next Sunday's final.

They have been determined to reach the final again coming through a group that contained Glen Rovers, Bishopstown and Ballinhassig they met fellow divisional side Valley Rovers in a tough semi final where the Innishannon girls made them fight to the finish before victory was secured. Backboned by Cork seniors Emer Dillon who was named as Player of the Match in the All-Ireland final, Sarah

O'Donovan and Jennifer Browne they also have strong performers in Margaret Murphy, Caoimhe Dillon and Catriona Kelly.

The tag of slight underdogs will not trouble the Conna side, Denise Twomey was a member of the Cork senior panel, Deirdre Twomey Orla Cotter, and Lisa Higgins have been to the fore through a campaign that has seen them emerge from their group that included Eire Og, Carrigaline, Newcestown and Valley Rovers before they advanced to meet Bishopstown at semi final stage and here they again gave it their all as they booked their place in the final.

They have also been very focused from the start of this championship and having now reached the final will not give in easily, Ballygarvan have been there before and they are strong favourites to negotiate the final hurdle but don't write off St Catherine's just yet.

KILLEAGH BOOK PLACE IN FINAL

TWO first half goals from Katie Murphy and one from Aoife Mc Carthy helped Killeagh book their place in the Under-12 C final where they will meet Mallow.

UNDER 12 FINALS

ON Sunday at 5pm Glen Rover and Ballinhassig contest the Under-12 A county final in what is an eagerly awaited game. The sides met earlier in the season in a superb game with Ballinhassig coming out on top and they now renew rivalry in what will be a keenly contested final.

In the Under-12 C final Killeagh and Mallow clash on Saturday both clubs having recorded good semi finals victories will go into Saturdays clash in determined form. Venues for both games to be confirmed.



Ballyhea's Mary Coleman breaks away from Douglas' Lavinia O'Mahony during the Cork County Camogie junior A final in Ballinlough. Picture: Richard Mills.

Ballygarvan full of determination

BALLYGARVAN, having lost out in last year's decider to Aghbullogue will go into this weekend's Mercury Restaurant and lounge Senior B camogie final full of determination to atone for last season's defeat.

They will have learned a lot from last season, the main lesson being never to underestimate the opposition, the train of thought last season having been that the final was a matter of form and that Ballygarvan, backboned by the majority of the Carrigdhoun senior county winning team, would coast to the Senior B title. How wrong that was.

Again this year they have looked likely winners from day one, having come through a group that contained Glen Rovers, Bishopstown and Ballinhassig. They met fellow divisional side Valley Rovers in a tough semi-final where the Innishannon girls made them fight to the finish before victory was secured.

They are a good all round side that are backboned by Cork seniors Emer Dillon, who was named as Player of the Match in the All Ireland final, Sarah O'Donovan and Jennifer Browne, while Margaret Murphy, Caoimhe Dillon and Catriona Kelly will trouble the St Catherine's defence. Deirdre Daly has made a

return to full fitness this season following a knee injury which kept her out of last year's decider, and she is a big asset to Ballygarvan.

The tag of slight underdogs will not trouble the Conna side who, while relatively young, possess plenty of experience performers, Denise Twomey was a member of the Cork senior panel, while sister Deirdre has been turning in exciting performances at inter county minor level. Orla Cotter, Orna Neville and Lisa Higgins have all shown their class through a campaign that has seen them emerge from their group that included Eire Og, Carrigaline, Newcestown and Valley Rovers before they advanced to meet Bishopstown at semi-final stage. In that encounter St Catherine's notched up 2-19, and their ability to pick off points in all their championship games has been a big feature of their game.

The Conna girls have been very focused from the start of this championship and make no secret of their ambitions. Ballygarvan have been there before, and having suffered the heartaches of defeat last year will not want to make the same mistake. Given the strength in depth possessed by Ballygarvan expect them to prevail.

Battling Blarney u-12's win

Blarney 3-3
Courcy Rovers 2-3

CELEBRATIONS for Blarney as they annexed the Under 12 B title in a thrilling contest with Courcy Rovers. With Laura Walsh in top form notching up 2-3 of Blarney's total they managed to edge out a Courcy side who were not without their stars, and what a pity there had to be a loser as two totally committed sides gave it their all.

Ashling Moloney opened the scoring with a Courcy Rovers point from a free, and putting the Blarney defence under severe pressure they were unlucky not to grab a goal, but resolute defending kept them at bay.

Laura Walsh had the sides level with a pointed 45 inside the first quarter, and seconds later the same player came close to grabbing the game's first goal, but strong defending from Ailish McCarthy diverted danger. Minutes later Laura did breach the Courcy's defence when her long range free from midfield found the net. Ashling Moloney replied with a point, and a Jacinta Crowley minutes from the half time whistle gave Courcy's a 1-2 to 1-1.

Inside eight minutes of the restart Laura Walsh had Blarney back in the lead with two unanswered points, and a Natasha Dewale goal at the three quarter stage looked to have sealed it for Blarney.

Courcy's produced a storming rally led in the main by Jacinta Crowley, Ashling Moloney and Karen O'Reilly who cut the Blarney lead to a point with a well taken goal.

Blarney battled to keep their noses ahead, but Moloney pointed to tie it up with just five minutes remaining, and now as both sides battled for supremacy the defences were under pressure.

Heading into injury time with a reply looming Blarney won a 45 metres free and the accuracy of Walsh again paid dividends as her shot floated to the net.

Courcy battled furiously for an equaliser, but solid Blarney defending ensured no way back.

Ballygarvan miss late chance

St. Catherine's 2-5
Ballygarvan 0-11

A draw was a fair result in this thrilling Mercury Lounge and Restaurant Senior 'B' Camogie final played in Caherlag yesterday even though Ballygarvan had a late chance to win the title with Catriona Kelly's 45 metre free from an acute angle struck the post before the ball was eventually scrambled to safety.

Ballygarvan started well and Kelly's free taking was instrumental in them building up an early lead. However with limited possession St. Catherine's struck for a goal in the 16th minute from Deirdre Twomey and in the 22nd minute from Denise Twomey to give them an interval lead of 2-2 to 0-6.

St. Catherine's were looking likely winners for long periods of the second half but Ballygarvan benefited from the switch of Emer Dillon to midfield and her presence helped them spark a fight back during which she also landed a magnificent point.

However, they still trailed with time running out but their pressure was rewarded when Kelly landed a free on 58 minutes to force a replay.

She did have one last opportunity to win the game but it was have been rough justice on St. Catherine's had they lost such an exciting encounter.

Report: C. Egan (Clos D.)

CORK CAMOGIE BOARD

SENIOR B COUNTY FINAL
BALLYGARVAN V ST. CATHERINE'S

ERIN'S OWEN SAA Ground
Sunday 2nd October 2005 @ 1.30

OCT

2005



ballygarvan

Sally-Anne O'Halloran
Team Captain

1. Áine Moynihan

2. Barbara Browne

3. Jennifer Browne

4. Mary Hallahan

5. Sally-Anne O'Halloran
(Capt)

6. Emer Dillon

7. Denise Crowley

8. Valerie Browne

9. Sarah O'Donovan

10. Suzanne Lynch

11. Nora Hallahan

12. Deirdre Daly

13. Margaret Murphy

14. Caitriona Kelly

15. Caoimhe Dillon

16. Zelda Forest
17. Davinia O'Mahony
18. Rosanne Byrne
19. Anne Browne
20. Maeve Ryan

21. Leanne Ryan
22. Michelle Dunne
23. Marian Keohane
24. Bernadette Keohane
25. Clodagh O'Hea

26. Aoife O'Hea
27. Sabrina O'Mahony
28. Róisín Ni Shea
29. Francesca O'Halloran
30. Gráinne Lynch



Orla Cotter
Team Captain

ST. CATHERINE'S



1. Yvonne O'Neill



2. Sandra Noonan



3. Annemarie Hayes



4. Helen Lane



5. Marie Twomey



6. Orna Neville



7. Noreen Mulcahy



8. Faith Noonan



9. Emer O'Keeffe



10. Aileen Hogan



11. Orla Cotter
(Capt.)



12. Teresa Leahy



13. Lisa Higgins



14. Denise Twomey



15. Deirdre Twomey

16. Denise Leahy
17. Ann Galvin
18. Annette Fitzgerald

19. Maria Daly
20. Meave O'Keeffe
21. Mary Mulcahy



ON THE DOUBLE: Rena Buckley, Mary O'Connor, Brid Corcoran, Angela Walsh and Catriona Foley who were double All-Ireland winners this year as they were on both the football and camogie teams.

● **INNISCARRA POWER:** Inniscarra came away winners of this u13A Muskerry Camogie final on a scoreline of 6-7 to 1-1.

Inniscarra turned on the style in the second half and within 10 minutes of the restart ran in four goals to effectively kill off the game.

Inniscarra played well as a unit with good displays from Joanne Casey, Amanda Twohig, Rose O'Mahony, Clare Sheehan and Laura McCarthy.

THIS highly exciting Cork County Senior B final between Ballygarvan and St Catherine's finished all square in Caherlag yesterday afternoon and after a lively hour of camogie both teams deserve another shot at the title.

Ballygarvan started the stronger and took the game to St Catherine's from the throw-in. Emer Dillon was dominating centre-back and driving forward. Up front Catriona Kelly was covering ground and causing problems.

Despite their early dominance Ballygarvan weren't converting their possession into scores. Kelly pointed her third on 16 minutes.

From the puck-out the ball broke to St Catherine's left corner forward Deirdre Twomey who drove to the back of the net. With limited possession St Catherine's were a point ahead. They lifted their game. Four minutes later a long ball fell to the out-rushing Denise Twomey. She gathered and turned her marker. Bearing down on goal she came under huge pressure but maintained her composure to drill a magnificent shot past goalkeeper Aine Moynihan. The same Twomey sister hit a point four minutes later and Catherine's were in control.

Ballygarvan relied too much on Catriona Kelly for scores. A tendency to give away frees led to Kelly pointing in the 26th and 27th minute. Ballygarvan began to gain momentum again and when Suzanne Lynch pointed just before the break the gap was down to two.

With Noreen Mulcahy wearing her heart on her sleeve and Orla Cotter coming more into the game St Catherine's began the second half on top. It was clear that once the ball went in to the Twomey sisters a score threatened. Denise Twomey was fouled after seven minutes and Cotter hit over the free. Six minutes later Cotter again increased Catherine's lead to four with an excellent strike from the halfway line. Ballygarvan were losing the battle at centre-field and making little headway. With 10 minutes remaining their mentors made the switch which gave Bally-



Ballygarvan's Emer Dillon contests the dropping ball with St Catherine's Helen Lane and Lisa Higgins.

Picture: Gerard Bonus

Another day out for finalists



garvan another day out. Emer Dillon moved to centre-field and almost single-handedly turned this game around. She won everything that came her way and Ballygarvan were in total control of the last 10 minutes. Points in the 19th, 20th,

21st and 25th minutes brought the teams level and the tension and excitement was at fever pitch.

Roared on by the large crowd both teams went in search of a winning score. Cotter put Catherine's in front with four minutes remaining. Kelly equalised shortly after.

Kelly had a chance to win the game in injury time with a 45 from the tightest of angles. Her shot came off the post and Catherine's breathed a sigh of relief.

Scorers for Ballygarvan: C Kelly 0-7 (0-6), S Lynch 0-2, E Dillon and M Murphy 0-1 each.

St Catherine's: Denise Twomey 1-1, O Cotter 0-4 (0-3f), Deirdre Twomey 1-0 **BALLYGARVAN:** A Moynihan; B Browne, J Browne, M Hallahan; S A O'Halloran, E Dillon, D Crowley; V Browne, S O'Donovan; S Lynch, N Hallahan, D Daly; M Murphy, C Kelly, C Dillon. **Subs:** Z Forest for B Browne, L Ryan for C Dillon, A Browne for N Hallahan.

ST CATHERINE'S: Y O'Neill; S Noonan, A M Hayes, H Lane; M Twomey, O Neville, N Mulcahy; F Noonan, E O'Keefe; A Hogan, O Cotter, T Leahy; L Higgins, Denise Twomey, Deirdre Twomey. **Subs:** M Daly for F Noonan.

O'Halloran leads way for 'Hassig

Ballinhassig
Glen Rovers

4-7
2-1

A STRONG and skilful Ballinhassig outfit took the Cork County U12 A title in Ballincollig last evening **writes LINDA MELLERICK.** Two goals inside the first three minutes by four-goal heroine Grace O'Callaghan put the writing on the wall at a very early stage and Glen Rovers just couldn't recover.

Throughout the pitch Ballinhassig were strong but it was at midfield where they really shone. Aisling O'Brien gave a magnificent performance. Showing hurling skills beyond her tender years,

she covered acres of ground and broke the Glen's heart. Up front Aisling Lee was nifty and quick and took on the Glen defence.

Rovers tried in vain to make headway. Sinead O'Halloran pointed a free after 11 minutes but it was to be the Glen's only score of the half.

After 15 minutes Ballinhassig led by 2-2 to a point. Their early scoring burst ceased but they continued to dominate play. A total of nine wides kept the Glen in contention and they began to tighten up. With five minutes to half time the score stood at a respectable 2-4 to 0-1. But just like she did early on O'Callaghan pounced to score another two goals in the 26th and 29th

minutes. Credit the Northside club for a spirited second-half performance. A gutsy display saw them limit Ballinhassig's scoring to just three points.

Nicole O'Sullivan, Aoibhinne Murphy and Alison Dowling gave it their all and with some excellent striking from Sinead O'Halloran Rovers found the net 11 minutes into the half.

O'Halloran's 45 went all the way and it lifted the players. Three minutes later O'Halloran found the net again when her long-range free went through the crowded goalmouth to the left corner of the net.

Aisling O'Brien decided enough was enough and upped the ante again for

Ballinhassig. Points in the 15th, 18th and 20 minutes from O'Brien ensured Ballinhassig finished strongest. They played some magnificent camogie throughout the game and are worthy winners of the U12 A title.

Scorers for Ballinhassig: G O'Halloran 4-1 (0-1f), A O'Brien 0-4 (0-1f), A Cullinane and A Lee 0-1 each.

Glen Rovers: S O'Halloran 2-1 (1-1f, 1-0 '45) **BALLINHASSIG:** E Cadogan; S J Hurley, M Riordan, K Bracken; M Kiely, E O'Donovan, V Desmond; A O'Brien, E Jordan; O Murray, G O'Callaghan, A Cullinane; A Lee, C McCarthy, J O'Leary. **Subs:** U O'Leary for O Murray.

GLEN ROVERS: E O'Sullivan; S O'Sullivan, C O'Sullivan, N O'Sullivan; K Barry, S O'Halloran, A Murphy; S Fahy, E O'Connell; N O'Brien, A Dowling, N Curran; A O'Keefe, M Sheehan, E O'Leary. **Subs:** D Griffin for S O'Sullivan, E Dowling for E O'Leary, K Arnold for A O'Keefe.

Ballinhassig lift U-12 county crown

Ballinhassig
Glen Rovers

4-7
2-1

by Mary Newman

BALLINHASSIG were crowned under 12 A county camogie champions after

defeating Glen Rovers.

Two goals inside the opening two minutes from Grace O'Callaghan gave Ballinhassig a great start and it gave them the upper hand. Sinead O'Halloran was named as player of the

match following a superb performance for Glen Rovers.

Ballinhassig: E Cadogan, SJ Hurley, M Riordan, K Bracken, M Kiely, E O'Donovan, V Desmond, A O'Brien, E Jordan, O Murray, G O'Callaghan, A Cullinane, A Lee, C McCarthy, J O'Leary. **Sub:** U O'Leary

for O Murray.

Glen Rovers: E O'Sullivan, S O'Sullivan, C O'Sullivan, N O'Sullivan, K Barry, S O'Halloran, A Murphy, S Fahy, E O'Connell, S Busted, N O'Brien, A Dowling, N Curran, A O'Keefe, M Sheehan. **Subs:** D Griffin for S O'Sullivan, E Dowling for E O'Brien, K Arnold for A O'Keefe, L Callanan for S Busted.

Healy points the way for a clinical Aghabullogue

Aghabullogue
Sliabh Rua

4-7
1-1

SLIABH RUA had no answer to the excellent play of Aghabullogue full-forward Michelle Healy in the U16 C County final played in Ballinhassig yesterday, **writes LINDA MELLERICK.**

Mucky, slippery conditions did not take from a whole-hearted and lively encounter.

Aghabullogue had too much strength throughout the field. They had some strong hurlers — particularly in Caroline Kiely, Brid Twomey and Aileen Twomey — who ensured a plentiful supply went into Healy, who needed just one chance.

Healy got Aghabullogue off the mark after just two minutes. Sliabh Rua's first attack of the day, a good ball in from Paula O'Mahony, who was excellent throughout, led to Joanne Ryan finding the net. Their joy was short-lived as within six minutes Healy had another 1-1 to her credit, giving her side a two-point advantage.

Rua weren't to score again until the stroke of full-time, a Sandra Hallissey free, but the statistic belies their never-say-die attitude, particularly in the second half, when they attacked frequently but were beaten back by a determined Aghabullogue defence in which Maggie O'Connell and Brid Twomey were top class.

The juvenile board 'Player of the Match' award went to the tireless, fast and skilful Aileen Twomey, who was a constant thorn in Sliabh Rua's side. Continuously wandering out in search of action and carrying numerous balls into the danger area, she set up scores inside for the alert Healy. Further points from Healy and a Martha Murphy goal gave Aghabullogue a 2-5 to 1-0 lead after 25 minutes and there was no way back for Sliabh Rua when another shot from Healy skimmed off the wet hurley of goalkeeper Aisling Coleman and finished in the net.

Rua put their heart and soul into the second half but couldn't make headway despite the efforts of Ciara Cotter, Sandra Hallissey and O'Mahony. Substitute Aileen Scannell goalied for Aghabullogue 18 minutes in and they finished strongly with points from Twomey and Ronan.

The winning margin does little justice to a game in which both can be proud of their contribution.

Scorers for Aghabullogue: M Healy 2-5, M Murphy and A Scannell 1-0 each, M Ronan 0-1, B Twomey 0-1(f).

Sliabh Rua: J Ryan 1-0, S Hallissey 0-1(f).

AGHABULLOGUE: E McSwiney; E O'Callaghan, M O'Connell, A O'Sullivan; E O'Mahony, B Twomey, C Dennehy; C Kiely, U Murphy; A Twomey, M Ronan, K Cotter; M Murphy, M Healy, S Fitzpatrick. **Subs:** A Scannell for S Fitzpatrick (36min), S Dineen for M Murphy (49min).

SLIABH RUA: A Coleman; R O'Donovan, N O'Brien, S O'Brien; L Walsh, C Cotter, C Sheehan; Sandra Hallissey, M C Daly; P O'Mahony, F O'Brien, T Walsh; J Ryan, C O'Sullivan, A McCarthy. **Subs:** Sinead Hallissey for C Sheehan, B Coleman for A McCarthy (both 52min).



Cork and Ballygarvan Senior Camogie players Emer Dillon and Jennifer Browne photographed with Derek Dunne of the "Bull McCabe's" Kinsale Rd. at reception following their County Final game v St. Catherine's which ended all square. Emer received the "Player of the Game" award in the All-Ireland Final. The other Ballygarvan representative on the Cork team Sarah O'Donovan was unavoidably absent.

Picture: Mike English

Ballgarvan and St Catherine's end all square

Ballygarvan 0-11
St Catherine's 2-5

THEY will have to do it all again after a thriller failed to produce a winner in the Mercury Restaurant and Lounge senior B camogie championship final in Caherlag on Sunday.

Few will argue with the result, after the two sides gave it their all.

Inside six minutes Ballygarvan led by two points thanks to the accuracy of Catriona Kelly from frees. Orla Cotter opened the St Catherine's account to which Kelly had replied by the midway stage.

St Catherine's were ahead from the puck out thanks to a Deirdre Twomey goal and this rallied the Conna girls four minutes later: sister Denise repeated the feat with a second Catherine's goal to increase their lead. Points from Catriona Kelly in the 26th and 27th minute kept Ballygarvan in touch and an important point from Suzanne Lynch just before the break had the gap down to two.

Two pointed frees from Orla Cotter increased Catherine's lead to four inside 10 min-

utes of the restart. Ballygarvan switched Cork inter county player Emer Dillon to centre field and with 10 minutes remaining she made her presence felt immediately as they began to pick off their points; four in the 19th, 20th, 21st and 25th minutes brought them level.

Orla Cotter pointed a free to put Catherine's in front with four minutes remaining but Catriona Kelly equalised for Ballygarvan.

In injury time Ballygarvan won a 45. Kelly struck it superbly but her shot came off the post.

The replay date is still to be announced.

Scorers — Ballygarvan: C Kelly 0-7 (0-6f), S Lynch 0-2, E Dillon and M Murphy 0-1 each.

Ballygarvan: A Moynihan; B Browne, J Browne, M Hallahan; S A O'Halloran (capt), E Dillon, D Crowley; V Browne, S O'Donovan; S Lynch, N Hallahan, D Daly; M Murphy, E Kelly, C Dillon. Subs: Z Forrest for B Browne, L Ryan for C Dillon, A Browne for N Hallahan.

St Catherine's: Y O'Neill; S Noonan, A M Hayes, H Lane; M Twomey, O Neville, N Mulcahy; F Noonan, E O'Keefe; A Hogan, O Cotter (capt), T Leahy, L Higgins, Denise Twomey, Deirdre Twomey. Subs: M Daly for F Noonan.

Referee: C Egan (Glen Rovers).



FAMILY PRIDE: Christina O'Regan, (centre), who played when the team last won a junior championship in 1980, with her daughters Amanda and Louise, captain Douglas camogie team, winners of the recent County Junior A Championship. Amanda was also on the Cork team which won the All-Ireland senior camogie title recently.

Picture: Richard Mills

O'Regan family play huge part in Douglas camogie victory

THERE were plenty of reasons for the O'Regan family to celebrate Douglas' win in the Junior A camogie final recently. The win saw the club promoted to the senior ranks for the first time and all four members of the family played their part in the win.

Louise was captain of the side and her sister Amanda, who

starred for Cork in their All-Ireland camogie win, was the star player on the day.

Dad, Michael was trainer of the side and mum, Christina, was a selector.

This was Douglas' first trophy win at this grade since they were promoted from Junior B in 1980. And they are linked to that team as Christina was a player on that

side and Michael was the coach. All expressed their delight at the win and Louise said they were already in training to play in the senior ranks.

To mark the occasion of Amanda's part in the All-Ireland win the Cork camogie will be celebrated in the club on Friday night at 7.45pm. All are welcome to come along on the night.

OCT. 2005

Ballygarvan make no mistake against St Catherine's

Ballygarvan 3-5
St Catherine's 1-7

by Mary Newman

BALLYGARVAN made no mistake in the replay of the Mercury Restaurant and Lounge Cork Senior 'B' Camogie Championship at Castlemartyr yesterday.

In a bold move, Ballygarvan completely re-shuffled their starting line-out from last Sunday, with goalkeeper Aine Moynihan the only one staying put. The most important move was the naming of Emer Dillon and Deirdre Daly at midfield with Dillon inspirational. Leanne Ryan repaid the selectors' faith when she finished to

the net inside three minutes for the game's opening score.

Orla Cotter replied with a pointed free but two from Emer Dillon maintained Ballygarvan's dominance. A second Orla Cotter pointed free was all St. Catherine's could add as they battled to contain the constant bombardment from Ballygarvan who extended their lead with points from Catriona Kelly and Sarah O'Donovan.

With half time looming Catriona Kelly floated a 20 metres free to the roof of the net and it gave the new champions a 2-5 to 0-2 points lead.

St. Catherine's started the second half in determined fashion and cut the Ballygarvan lead down to two goals.

Catriona Kelly again came up

trumps dropping a 20 metres free to the net at the halfway stage. St. Catherine's battled bravely but it was too little too late.

Scorers Ballygarvan: C. Kelly 2-2 (all frees), L Ryan 1-0, E. Dillon, S. O'Donovan 0-2 each.

St. Catherine's: O. Cotter 0-7 (all frees), D. Twomey 1-0.

BALLYGARVAN: A. Moynihan; M. Hallahan, S.A. O'Halloran (capt), D. Crowley, V. Browne, J. Browne, N. Hallahan, E. Dillon, D. Daly, A. Browne, C. Kelly, S. Lynch, M. Murphy, S. O'Donovan, L. Ryan. Subs: C. Dillon for A. Browne, Z. Forrest for M. Hallahan.

ST. CATHERINE'S: Y. O'Neill; S. Noonan, A. Hayes, H. Lane, M. Twomey, O. Neville, N. Mulcahy, S. Noonan, E. O'Keefe, L. Higgins, O. Cotter, T. Leahy, A. Hogan, Denise Twomey, Deirdre Twomey.

Referee: Cathal Egan (Glen Rovers)

Ballygarvan crowned champs

Ballygarvan 3-5
St Catherine's 1-7

by Mary Newman

A stronger, well organised Ballygarvan side were crowned Senior B Camogie champions at the expense of St Catherine's in a replay that failed to live up to the excitement generated by the first meeting of the side last weekend.

Emer Dillon was named as player of the match following a superb performance.

Ballygarvan: A Moynihan, M Hallahan, S A O'Halloran (capt), D Crowley, V Browne, J Browne, N Hallahan, E Dillon (capt), A Browne, C Kelly, S Lynch, M Murphy, S O'Donovan, L Ryan. Subs: C Dillon for A Browne, Z Forrest for M Hallahan.
St Catherine's: Y O'Neill, S Noonan, A Hayes, H Lane, M Twomey, O Neville, N Mulcahy, F Noonan, E O'Keefe, A Hogan, O Cotter (capt), T Leahy, L Higgins, Denise Twomey, Deirdre Twomey.
Referee: C Egan (Glen Rovers).

● **BALLINORA WIN:** The U13B Muskerry Camogie final played in Blarney saw Ballinora emerge victorious on a scoreline of 1-1 to no score. Both goalkeepers, Gillian Beasley for Ballinora and Stephanie McGill for Grenagh, brought off fine saves.

During the second half Grenagh's hard-working Ellen O'Sullivan was taken off injured and this allowed Ballinora to gain a better grip on the game.

Ballinora full forward Eileen O'Donovan took advantage of improved supply with a goal and Susan Power added a point from a free.

Taylor and Talbot in for Dublin

by Therese O'Callaghan

DUBLIN have made two changes from the team that drew with Clare in last month's All-Ireland junior camogie final in Croke Park for Sunday's replay at Birr.

Niamh Taylor, who replaced the injured Joyce Donnelly and scored the equalising point, retains her place. She starts at right half forward in a switch that sees captain Eimear Brannigan move to centre-forward. Eve Talbot, who was also used as a substitute, keeps the number 13 shirt in place of Gillian McCluskey.

Clare manager Francy McMahon has kept faith with his lineup. However, he wants a much-improved per-

formance this time around.

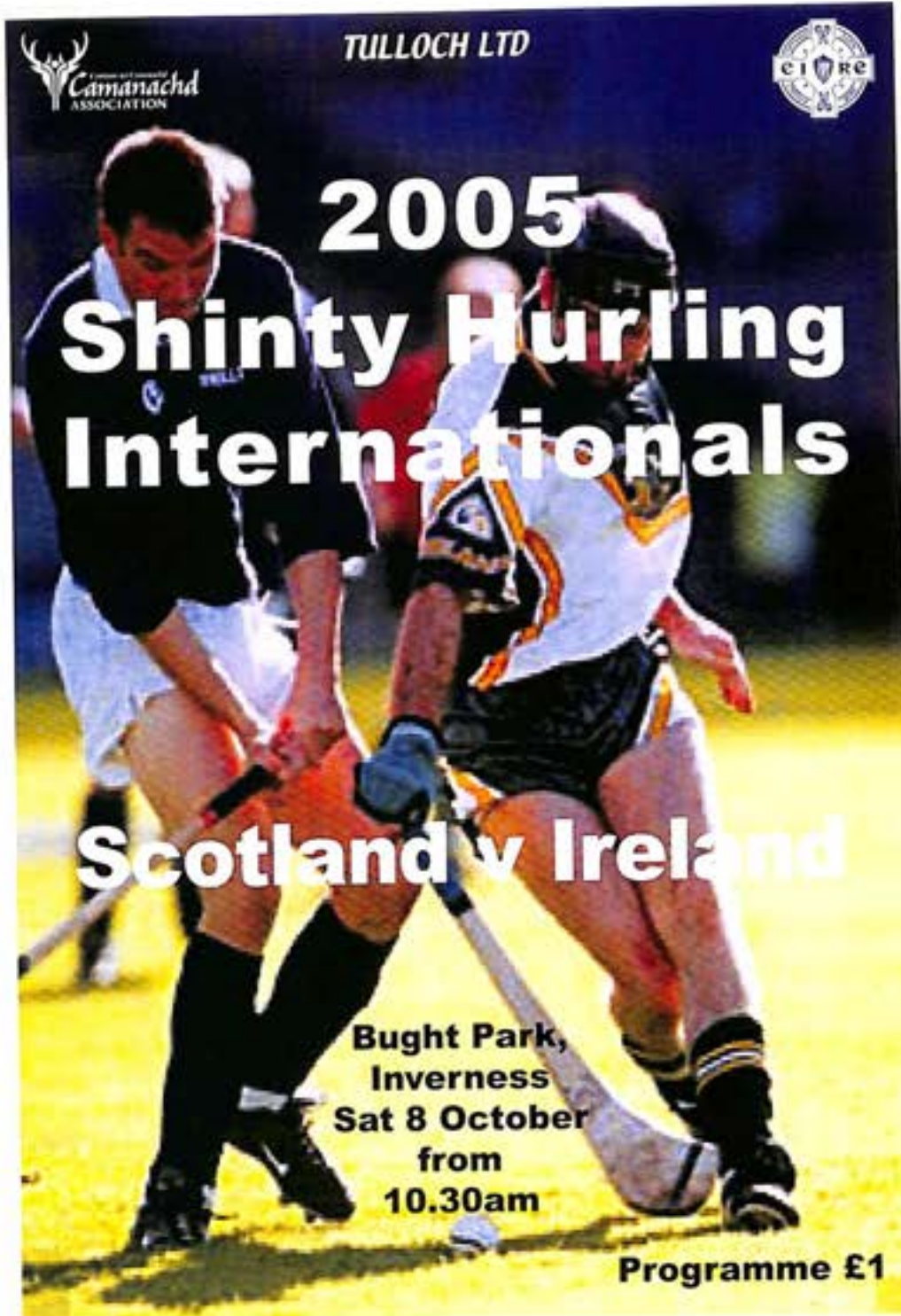
"We didn't do ourselves justice. The tension seem to get to the girls and they were somewhat overawed by the occasion. We only scored one point from play and certainly we would be looking to do better on that. I would be looking for at least half of the team to up their performance considerably."

"I feel Sunday, though, will be a different ball game to Croke Park. Both sides looked nervous that day and didn't play to their ability. The two teams will be more comfortable playing in Birr. The standard should be much higher and the game should be more open. We only came into the game in the second half and if we are to win, we will have to give it every-

thing for the full 60 minutes."

Captain Deirdre Murphy was the outstanding player four weeks ago. The midfielder was the leader along with centre back Cathy Halley. Rachel Lynch turned in a fine performance in goals, but up front they will need to register more scores. They were overly dependent on Murphy, but Catherine O'Loughlin, Moira McMahon, Fiona Lafferty and Laura Linnane give plenty of reason for optimism.

CLARE: R Lynch; J Scanlon, D Corcoran, Caroline McMahon; E Minogue, C Halley, E Keating; D Murphy (capt), M McMahon; F Lafferty, A O'Brien, L Linnane; Claire McMahon, C O'Loughlin, C Commans.
DUBLIN: E Butler; S Hanks, A McCluskey, A Cullen; A Fitzpatrick, S Cunnane, C Power; C Lucey, A Fanning; N Taylor, E Brannigan (capt), C Durkan; E Talbot, L O'Hara, E Lucey.



SCOTLAND LADIES TEAM PEN PICTURES

1. Name: **Katie Drain** Age: 18 Club: Glasgow Mid Argyll Occupation: student. Honours for Club : 1 South league Winners medals, 1 National league winners medals, Honours for area : 4 South of Scotland Select winners medals. Honours for Country: 2 International Caps
2. Name: **Lisa Norman** Age: 26 Club: Glasgow Mid Argyll Occupation: Sports Development Officer. Honours for Club : 1 South league Winners medals, 1 National league winners medals, Womens Camanachd Cup Winners Medal. Honours for area : 5 South of Scotland Select winners medals. Honours for University: 3 Little John Winners Medals, 1 Scottish University select winners medal and Captain. Honours for Country: 2 International Caps
3. Name: **Lucy Kenworthy** Age: 23 Club: Edinburgh University Occupation: Hospitality Management. Honours for University : 1 Little John winners medal and league winners medals, 1 Scottish University select winners medal. Honours for Club : 1 South league Winners medals, 1 National league winners medals. Honours for area : 2 South of Scotland Select winners Medals. Honours for Country: 2 International Caps
4. Name: **Laura McCafferty** Age: 15 Club: Glasgow Mid Argyll Occupation: school student. Honours for Club : 1 National league winners medals, U/14 South of Scotland Champions medal. Honours for area : Represented Central Area U/14 Squad winning South area champs, 1 Senior South of Scotland Select Winners Medal. Honours for Country: 2 International Caps
5. Name: **Elaine Wink** Age: 19 Club: GLENGARRY Occupation: SPORTS STUDENT. Honours for Club : 4 North league Winners medals, 3 National league winners medals, 3 Womens Camanachd Cup winners medals. Honours for area : 1 North of Scotland select Winners Medal. Honours for Country: 2 International Caps
6. Name: **Kirsten Munro** Age: 17 Club: Glasgow Mid Argyll Occupation: school student. Honours for Club : 1 South league Winners medals, 1 National league winners medals. Honours for area: 4 South of Scotland Select winners medals. Honours for Country: 2 International Caps
7. Name: **Gillian Currie** Age: 25 Club: Glasgow Mid Argyll Occupation: Retail management. Honours for Club: Womens Camanachd Cup Winners Medal, National League winner medal. Honours for area: 3 South of Scotland Select Winners Medals. Honours for Country: 2 International Caps
8. Name: **Jane Nicol** Age: 34 Club: Glengarry Occupation: Primary Teacher. Honours for Club : 1 Womens Camanachd Cup Winners medal. Honours for area: 1 North of Scotland Select Winners Medal. Honours for Country: 2 International Caps
9. Name: **Hilda Dooley** Age: 28 Club: Tir Conaill Harps (originally played for Kinnitty Camogie Club). Occupation: Horticulture. Honours for Club : Scottish National B leaguer winners medal, and various other Camogie school, club and county medals. Honours for area : 2 South of Scotland Select winners medals (played for Offaly County Junior 3 years). Honours for Country: 2 Scottish International Caps
10. Name: **Sarah Corrigan** Age: 14 Club: Glengarry Occupation: school student. Honours for Club : 2 National league winners medals, 2 Womens Camanachd Cup winners medals. Honours for area : North of Scotland U/14 Winners Medal. Honours for Country: 2 International Caps
11. Name: **Fenella MacRae** Age: 16 Club: Glengarry Occupation: School Student. Honours for Club : 2 National league winners medals, 2 Womens Camanachd Cup winners medals. Honours for Country: 1 International Cap
12. Name: **Sara Lopez** Age: 19 Club: Oban Lorne Occupation: Student. Honours for Club : 2 South league Winners medals, 1 National league winners medals. Honours for area : 4 South of Scotland Select winners medals. Honours for Country: 2 International Caps
14. Name: **Katy Smith** Age: 24 Club: Edinburgh University Occupation: Buisness Development Associate. Honours for University : 1 Little John winners medal and league winners medals, 1 Scottish University select winners medal. Honours for area : 3 South of Scotland Select winners medals. Honours for Country: 2 International Caps
15. Name: **Fiona MacIntosh** Age: 21 Club: Edinburgh University Occupation: Student. Honours for University : 1 Little John winners medal and league winners medals. Honours for area: 1 South of Scotland Select winners Medal. Honours for Country: 1 International Cap

16. Name: **Katie Walker** Age: 29 Club: Glasgow Mid Argyll Occupation: Mechanical Engineer. Honours for Club : 1 South league Winners medals, 1 National league winners medals, 1 Womens Camanachd Cup Winners Medal. Honours for area : 2 South of Scotland Select winners Medals. Honours for Country: 2 International Caps

17. Name: **Stephanie Dunstaffnage** Age: 14 Club: Oban Lorne Occupation: School Student. Honours for Club : U/14 Development League Winners medal. Honours for Country: 1 International Cap

18. Name: **Gemma Strachan** Age: 23 Club: Edinburgh University Occupation: Exercise Rehabilitation Officer. Honours for University : 1 Little John winners medal and league winners medals, 1 Scottish University select winners medal and Captain. Honours for area: 1 South of Scotland Select winners medal, Honours for Country: 1 International Cap

19. Name: **Kirsty Gray** Age: 24 Club: Glasgow Mid Argyll Occupation: Planning Assistant. Honours for Club : 1 South league Winners medals, 1 National league winners medals, Womens Camanachd Cup Winners Medal. Honours for area : 3 South of Scotland Select winners medals. Honours for University: 3 Little John Winners Medals, 1 Scottish University select winners medal. Honours for Country: 1 International Cap

20. Name: **Laura MacKay** Age: 22 Club: Glengarry Occupation: Care Assistant. Honours for Club : 4 North league Winners medals, 3 National league winners medals, 3 Womens Camanachd Cup winners medals. Honours for area : 1 North of Scotland Select Winners Medal. Honours for Country: 2 International Caps

21. Name: **Elaine Cameron** Age: 26 Club: Glengarry Occupation: Office Assistant. Honours for Club : 4 North league Winners medals, 3 National league winners medals, 3 Womens Camanachd Cup winners medals. Honours for area : 1 North of Scotland Select Winners Medal. Honours for Country: 2 International Caps

IRISH LADIES TEAM PEN PICTURES

1. Name: **Sandra Greville** Position: Goalkeeper Club: Raharney County: Westmeath Age:28. Occupation: Educational welfare officer. Honours Schools/College 1 Purcell Cup Colleges Medal, Athlone IT Player of the Year 1997. Club 2 Junior Club Championship Medals, 5 Senior B Club Championship Medals
2. Name: **Elaine Reilly** Position: Back Club: Castletara County: Cavan Age: 20. Occupation: Student. Honours: Schools/Colleges 5 Senior County Medals. Club 6 Junior League Medals, 6 Senior Championship Medals, 6 Senior League Medals
3. Name: **Orlaith Donnelly** Position: Back Club: Kilcoole County: Wicklow Age:18. Occupation: Student. Honours Club Camogie Player of the Year, Kilcoole Camogie Club 2003
4. Name: **Sheila Sullivan** Position: Back Club: Birr County: Offaly Age:19 Occupation: Student of physical education and Gaelic. Honours: Schools/Colleges 2 Ashbourne Cup Medals, 1 Leinster Schools. 1 Colleges League Title. County 1 Leinster Junior Championship Medal
5. Name: **Mary Molloy** Position: Back Club: Kinnitty County: Offaly Age:23 Occupation: Student. Honours County 2 Leinster Junior Medals, 1 National League Medal
6. Name: **Anne Marie Dennehy** Position: Back Club: Kilmessan County: Meath Age: 29 Occupation: Site engineer. Honours: Club 4 senior club championships. Other 1 junior All Ireland - ladies football, 1 ladies football All Star (1998)
7. Name: **Susan McCann** Position: Back Club: St. Patricks County: Tyrone Honours Club 5 Senior Club Championship Medals, 5 Senior League Medals. County 1 Minor Ulster Championship, Medal. Other 1 All-Ireland Kilmacud
8. Name: **Annette McGeeney** Position: Back Club: Athleague County: Roscommon Age:23 Occupation: Student. Honours: Schools/Colleges 1 Purcell Cup Medal. County 3 Connaught Championship medals. Other International Camogie Player of the Year 2004, Roscommon Sportstar of the Year 2004, Camogie Scholarship to Sligo IT

9. Name: **Lizzie Glennon** Position: Back Club: Four Roads County: Roscommon Age:24 Occupation: Student. Garda Honours Club 3 senior club Championship medals. County 3 Connacht junior championship medals Colleges 1 Purcell Cup (Garda College) 1 Ashbourne Shield (NUIG). Other 1 combined colleges All-Star, 1 intermediate All Ireland medal - ladies football
10. Name: **Tanya McDonald** Position: Midfield Club: Avoca County: Wicklow Age:17 Occupation: Student. Honours Club 1 Junior County Championship Medal. Other Club highest scorer 2003, 2004
11. Name: **Rosemary Noelle Crowe** Position: Midfield Club: Lacken Camogie Club County: Cavan Age:22 Occupation: Accounts clerk. Honours: Club Junior Championship Medal, Intermediate Championship Medal
12. Name: **Angela Lyons** Position: Midfield Club: Celbridge County: Kildare Age:21 Occupation: Student of Physical Education. Honours: Club 1 Kilmacud 7's Shield, 1 Clane 7's Cup Kildare Senior Championship Title
13. Name: **Bernie Farrelly Kennedy (Captain)** Position: Forward Club: Broadford County: Kildare Age: 34 Occupation: Childcare Worker. Honours: Schools/Colleges 1 Leinster Colleges Medal. Club, 1 Senior League Medal w/Crumlin, 10 County Championship Medals. County, 3 All-Ireland Junior Championship Medals, 6 Leinster Junior Championship Medals. Other All-Star Award Kildare Team of the Century
14. Name: **Mary Kennedy** Position: Forward Club: Castlebar Mitchells County: Mayo Age:35 Occupation: Textile Manager. Honours: Club Junior, Intermediate, Senior Championship medals w/Athenry. County 1 Junior All-Ireland medal
15. Name: **Sinead Muldoon** Position: Forward Club: Castlebar Mitchells County: Mayo Age:28 Occupation: Secondary School Teacher. Honours: Club Underage county medals
16. Name: **Sharon Raleigh** Position: Forward Club: Killyon County: Meath Age:33. Occupation: Chef. Honours Club 1 Junior Club Championship Medal County 6 Meath Senior Championship Medals. Other Meath Player of the Year 1995
17. Name: **Grainne O'Neill** Position: Forward Club: Clonoe County: Tyrone Age:20 Occupation: Pharmacy Assistant. Honours Club 1 Senior Club Championship Medal, 1 Senior Club League Medal. County 1 Ulster Junior Championship Medal
18. Name: **Pauline Cunningham** Position: Forward Club: St. Annes County: Waterford Age:18 Occupation: Student. Honours Schools/Colleges 3 Munster Colleges Medals 1 All-Ireland Colleges Medal Club 5 Senior Medals
19. Name: **Dinah Loughlin** Position: Forward Club: St. Munnas County: Westmeath Age:20 Occupation: Childcare assistant. Honours Schools/Colleges 1 Leinster Colleges Medal. Club 6 Senior County Championship medals, 1 Senior B Championship Medal
20. Name: **Aisling O'Brien** Position: Goalkeeper Club: Lismore County: Waterford Age:18 Occupation: Student. Honours Schools/Colleges 1 Munster Colleges Junior Medal, 1 Munster. Colleges Intermediate A Medal Club, 1 Senior County Medal. County 1 Munster Minor Championship Medal 1. All-Ireland Minor Championship Medal

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Ladies Senior Team Scotland Squad

1. Katie Drain (Glasgow Mid Argyll)
2. Lisa Norman (Glasgow Mid Argyll)
3. Lucy Kenworthy (Edinburgh University)
4. Laura McCafferty (Glasgow Mid Argyll)
5. Elaine Wink (Glengarry)
6. Kirsten Munro (Glasgow Mid Argyll)
7. Gillian Currie (Glasgow Mid Argyll)
8. Jane Nicol (Glengarry)
9. Hilda Dooley (Tir Conaill Harps)
10. Sarah Corrigan (Glengarry)
11. Fenella McRae (Glengarry)
12. Sara Lopez (Oban Lorne)
14. Katy Smith (Edinburgh University)
15. Fiona MacKintosh (Edinburgh University)
16. Katie Walker (Glasgow Mid Argyll)
17. Stephanie Dunstaffnage (Oban Lorne)
18. Gemma Strachan (Edinburgh University)
19. Kirsty Gray (Glasgow Mid Argyll)
20. Laura MacKay (Glengarry)
21. Elaine Cameron (Glengarry)

Alasdair Rothe (Team Manager)

Ladies Senior Team Irish Squad

1. Sandra Greville (Westmeath)
2. Elaine Reilly (Cavan)
3. Órlaith Donnell (Wicklow)
4. Sheila Sullivan (Offaly)
5. Mary Mollo (Offaly)
6. Anne Marie Dennehy (Meath)
7. Susan McCann (Tyrone)
8. Annette McGeeney (Roscommon)
9. Lizzie Glennon (Roscommon)
10. Tanya McDonald (Wicklow)
11. Rosemary Noelle Crowe (Cavan)
12. Angela Lyons (Kildare)
13. Bernie Farrelly Kennedy (Cap) (Kildare)
14. Mary Kennedy (Mayo)
15. Sinead Muldoon (Mayo)
16. Sharon Raleigh (Meath)
17. Grainne O'Neill (Tyrone)
18. Pauline Cunningham (Waterford)
19. Dinah Loughlin (Westmeath)
20. Aisling O'Brien (Waterford)

Farrelly to lead Irish camogie team in Scotland

BERNIE FARRELLY of Kildare will captain the Irish side contesting the Camogie/Shinty Compromise Tournament in Scotland at the weekend.

The Camogie/Shinty tournament began last year as part of the centenary year celebrations when Scotland travelled to Ratoath, Co Meath.

This year a panel of 20 players, selected from the junior counties that participated in the early rounds of the national league and the championship, will travel to Inverness.

Farrelly, from the Broadford club, has won three All-Ireland junior medals with Kildare.

The camogie/shinty game

will be played between the senior men's and U-21 hurling/shinty games on Saturday.

The team is managed by Dublin's Tom Ryan, who was with the Dublin U-21 hurlers this year, along with selectors Mary Moran of Cork, Morgan Conroy of Waterford and Eileen Hamill of Down.

Accompanying the players will be Uachtarán Miriam O'Callaghan and Ardstiúrthóir Sheila Wallace.

Ireland team to travel to Scotland: E. Reilly, R. Noelle Crowe (Cavan); B. Farrelly (captain), A. Lyons (Kildare); M. Kennedy, S. Muldoon (Mayo); S. Raleigh, A.M. Dennehy (Meath); S. Sullivan, M. Mollo (Offaly); A. McGeeney, L. Glennon (Roscommon); G. O'Neill, S. McCann (Tyrone); P. Cunningham, A. O'Brien (Waterford); S. Greville, D. Loughlin (Westmeath); O. Donnelly, T. McDonald (Wicklow).

OCT 2005

Hurling/Shinty	International:
Scotland 20 Ireland 17.	
U21 Hurling/Shinty:	Scotland 14 Ireland 8.
Camogie/Shinty:	Scotland 0 Ireland 13.
CAMOGIE	
Munster semi-final:	Club Championship
Cashel (Cork) 0-5.	(Tipperary) 1-13 Cloughduv (Cork) 0-5.

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Shinty/Camogie victory for Éire, assisted t
Sport's Council >> 185 times
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HISTORY was made at the weekend when the first Camogie team travelled abroad to take part in the Camogie/Shinty Tournament in Inverness. Scottish ladies may have been beaten but the Irish girls who defeated Ireland 3-4 to 0-0 and thus they held on to Ceilteach which was played for the very first time in Ireland.

Selected from the weaker counties it gave players a once in a lifetime opportunity to wear a jersey. Ten counties were represented including Mayo who have an intercounty side but who take part in the Leagues. Played in glorious sunshine it took the 1st quarter of an hour to record their opening score a player of the Tournament Annette Mc Geeney of F

Once Ireland found their shooting boots there was in them and a goal two minutes later from fellow player Lizzie Glennon put the holders ahead 1-3 to break. Scotland's goalkeeper Katie Grain pulled off a second half save, but ironically so did her opponent Sandra Greville of Westmeath who took over from O'Brien at the break. Scotland tried so hard to get the inform Greville was intent on keeping her she

However, when the Irish captain Bernie Farrelly scored it goal number two the mountain was becoming a Scottish lass. Despite the very best effort from Corrigan for Scotland at midfield, the further experienced players like Susan McCann of Tyrone, Pauline Cunningham of Waterford and captain fantastic Bernie Farrelly beat third goal from Annette Mc Geeney insured the Irish was travelling across the Irish sea for 2005.

The cost of this trip was largely made possible due from the Irish Sport's Council and to this every player than appreciative of being given his great opportunity

Scorers: 3-4: A. Mc Geeney 1-3, B. Farrelly 1-1, L. Player of the Tournament: Annette Mc Geeney, R.

Date of this item added :

2005-10-09

Annette is Player of the Tournament

The County Board extends heartfelt congratulations to International Camogie Player for 2004 — Annette McGeeney from Athleague Club who picked up the 'Player of the Tournament' in the International Shinty game in Inverness, Scotland at the weekend. Ireland emerged victorious on the scoreline of 3 goals 4 pts. Annette scored 1 goal 3 pts whilst the other Roscommon representative Lizzie Glennon from Four Roads Club also got on the

Council hopes to attract more women to sport

by Brendan O'Brien

BINGO aerobics, 'Dry Row' rowing and 3x3 basketball are just some of the innovative ways in which the Irish Sports Council hope more girls and women can be persuaded to participate in sport.

The Women in Sport Initiative was officially launched by Sports Minister John O'Donoghue at the National Stadium in Dublin yesterday with the ISC providing funding of €750,000 for the project.

Half a million euro of that has been directed into 14 projects devised by various national governing bodies (NGBs) with another €131,000 being distributed across the 16 local sports partnerships.

"At present, only 10% of women in Ireland are participating regularly in sport and physical activity to gain health benefits from it," said the minister. "This is something that we must work together to address."

"We want women of all ages to become involved in these projects and develop a lifelong relationship with sport."

"Society must ensure that no obstacles or barriers exist that preclude people becoming involved in sport. Every opportunity must be provided to ensure equal opportunity and access to quality programmes and training



Irish sports stars Elisha Hickey, left, Alison Clancy, centre, and Riona Buckley at the announcement of the Women in Sport Grant Scheme. Picture: Pat Murphy

facilities, resources and services."

Many of the individual projects envisage using the funds in traditional ways, for example coach education, underage participation and primary schools initiatives.

Others have taken very different routes. The Laois Sports Partnership will use part of their funding to offer aerobic sessions prior to bingo in community centres in towns to introduce women to physical activity.

At present, only three schools in the country offer rowing as part of PE or extra-curricular activities so the Irish Amateur Rowing Union is developing its 'Dry Row' programme.

Initially, it will target 27 schools by

providing rowing machines and mentoring by local club athletes.

Software will also be provided to teachers to allow students track their progress and the programme will culminate with a 'wet' element when participants will get the opportunity to develop their skills on the water.

"Attracting more women into sport is a key element of our participation strategy, which is all about breaking down barriers and increasing participation in sport," said ISC chief executive John Treacy.

"These projects are the means by which many women can rekindle their relationship with sport, or be introduced to it."

Captain's Call

Clare captain Deirdre Murphy won her third Galway county senior title with Davitts last week, but the All-Ireland Junior title is the one she really wants, writes Joe Ó Muircheartaigh.

DEIRDRE Murphy was always going to pick up a hurley – there were so many hurleys around the home house in Clooney and so much talk about the game that it came as sporting nature.

Her father Mike Murphy was a member of the great panel of players brought together by Fr. Harry Bohan in the seventies. The countyman's daughter was destined to be a countywoman.

Deirdre had more than just caught the camán in her hand by the time she went to Clooney NS – she could wield it well and by third class she was on a school team full of boys. By the time she was ten a camogie team had started in the parish.

Since then it's been camogie all the way – she played in the All-Ireland Intermediate Final of '97 as a 16-year-old; she was also on the All-Ireland team two years later and now is captain of the Clare team bidding to win the All-Ireland Junior title. She's packed a lot of camogie into her 24 years.

"In that first All-Ireland we went down to Tipp in the Ragg. We were as good as them, but on the day they were the better team and beat us by five points. Look at what Tipp did afterwards, going on to dominate senior camogie.

"Two years later we won the intermediate title, beating Antrim in their own back yard. It was great, but at the time camogie wasn't getting much publicity and there wasn't much made of the win."

All that's changed now – camogie's profile has grown and the Clare team are trying to grow with it. Vital to growth is winning the All-Ireland Junior title. That would be real growth, when a few short years ago there was nothing at all, as Deirdre explains.

"After my Leaving Cert I went to UCG for four years. During that time the Clooney team that won an intermediate championship in '98 fell away and then a few years later the same happened to the county team.

"I was 22 and had no club camogie or county camogie to look forward to. I wanted to be playing camogie so I joined the Davitts in Galway. It was a great move for my game, we've won the last three county

senior championships and I've become a much better player because of it.

"The standard of club camogie is very high up there – all players are expected to be able to strike of both sides. Sometimes in Clare you might have only three or four players on a team who are good at rising the ball and the rest of the team are told to drive it away on the ground. It's not like that in Galway."

Still, Deirdre points to the quality of players involved with the Clare panel and underage players that will come through the ranks over the next few years. All the game needs is this All-Ireland Junior title – a title to kick-start a new era of Clare camogie.

"There is a great work ethic in this Clare squad," she says. "We all get on great together and are able to pull out big performances. The exception was the drawn All-Ireland against Dublin when we didn't perform."

"It's vital that we perform on Sunday. It's crucial for Clare camogie. Some of our older players like Cathy Hally and Catherine O'Loughlin have been a great example and inspiration to all of us – the younger players coming through need them around for a few more years to help make Clare a force at senior level.

"If we lose on Sunday I'd say we haven't got a chance of keeping those players – it's hard to keep going and give the commitment when you lose, so we have to win."

However, Deirdre knows that getting the better of the Dubs in Birr represents a formidable challenge. She's expecting another hard game, because all All-Irelands are hard won.

"A bit too much was made of how physical Dublin were the last day – they were dirty enough at times but it's up to us to respond to that.

"I'd be very slow to harp on about dirty tactics, you can't use that as an excuse for us not performing the last day. We have to perform to win, everyone knows what we have to do."

There's a grim determination in her voice as she speaks.

It's the captain's call.



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Mick Maher got his hands on the All-Ireland match video at the weekend and watched it over and over again – each time he was looking for something, anything that could give Clare the All-Ireland edge.

The smallest thing would do, a pointer that could point Clare towards the title in St. Brendan's Park in Birr on Sunday afternoon.

A weakness in the Dublin defence that could be exploited maybe, or a Clare strength that should be used to better effect second time out. Which or whether, he's not about to reveal the secrets of his own personal piece of video evidence.

However, Mick Maher, Francie Mahon or Helen Murphy didn't need the video to tell them that a repeat of the performance against Dublin in Croke Park won't be good enough to win Clare's fourth All-Ireland Junior title.

One point from play over the hour gives a context to the problems Clare experienced on All-Ireland day. Clare are determined that this poor return will be but a memory come Sunday

evening.

"We have to learn from that and hopefully we have," says Mick. "Something is seriously wrong when you only score one point from play in the hour."

"It was obvious that some of our players didn't perform on the day. However, we have learned from that, indeed you learn from every game you play when the stakes are high," adds Mick.

And, the stakes couldn't be higher than an All-Ireland Final replay – Clare's second such occasion in the last three years. In 2003 they went down to Galway on the second day out and two years on are determined to write a different closing script.

"The players that were there in 2003 know about playing in replays, so they'll have learned from that Galway game. A lot of the team weren't there two years ago, but they are learning as they go on too," says Mick.

"It's all part of a process in Clare camogie. Last year was a non-event for us in that we

were beaten in the first round of the championship, so this team has really only come together this year.

"It takes time for a proper team to come together – for instance, the bulk of the team are in third level and are on a big learning curve. Winning this junior All-Ireland is all part of that," he adds.

And, Clare will go into the challenge on Sunday with a full hand. The Newmarket-on-Fergus sextet involved with the county panel came through their Munster quarter-final on Sunday unscathed, as did Deirdre Murphy from county final duty in Galway last week.

"Our biggest worry was Deirdre Murphy – she helped Davitts to a great county final win over Athenry. Any injury to her would have been a huge blow to our chances," says Mick.

"She is one of our best players – her performance in the drawn game was brilliant when she got the player of the match award."

She is more than a captain, she is a great motivator and drives the rest of the team on," he

adds.

Now for the last drive of the year in Birr and the All-Ireland will be Clare's. Mick Maher is convinced that it's there for Clare. It's about seizing the All-Ireland day from the first whistle, unlike the last day when they gave Dublin a 1-3 start.

"We have to start playing camogie from the word go," says Mick. "We know that it will be a different challenge on Sunday but we are ready for that."

"The last day it was summer camogie in Croke Park – now with the deteriorating weather we have winter camogie conditions. That's a new situation and we have to adapt to it."

"I am confident that we will. The attitude is right and the spirit is great. The fact that the match is on in Birr is an advantage as well. I'm expecting a huge turn out of support from people in Scariff, Whitegate and Tulla who are great supporters of camogie. Hopefully that will spur us to victory."

Photographs by Yvonne Vaughan

Second chance

The Clare junior camogie team will be well prepared for Dublin's physical game this time

"A GOOD start is half the battle", the saying goes and Clare will certainly be hoping for a good start on Sunday when they line out against Dublin in the All-Ireland junior camogie final replay at St Brendan's Park in Birr (throw in 3pm).

Mindful of the start they made in the drawn game in Dublin a few weeks back when they failed to score in the opening twenty minutes at which stage they were seven points down, they will be determined not to leave themselves with the same mountain to climb this time around.

It's a familiar route for Clare who had a similar experience two years ago when their All-Ireland final with Galway went to a replay. Many of the Clare girls now preparing for Sunday's contest were part of the squad in 2003 and they will certainly want a different result this time (Galway won the '03 replay in Tullamore by a narrow margin).

In the drawn game in Croke Park Clare could hardly have asked for a worse start but the team members showed their resilience by battling back to earn another chance. Indeed it was Dublin who, in the end, had to come from behind and snatch a draw with a point from a free deep in injury time.

Dublin's physical approach may have caught Clare a little by surprise in Croke Park but the Banner ladies will know what to expect on this occasion. They have a full squad from which to select their starting fifteen and while there are unlikely to be many changes, some positional switches are expected from the management team of Michael Maher, Francis Mahon and Helen Murphy.

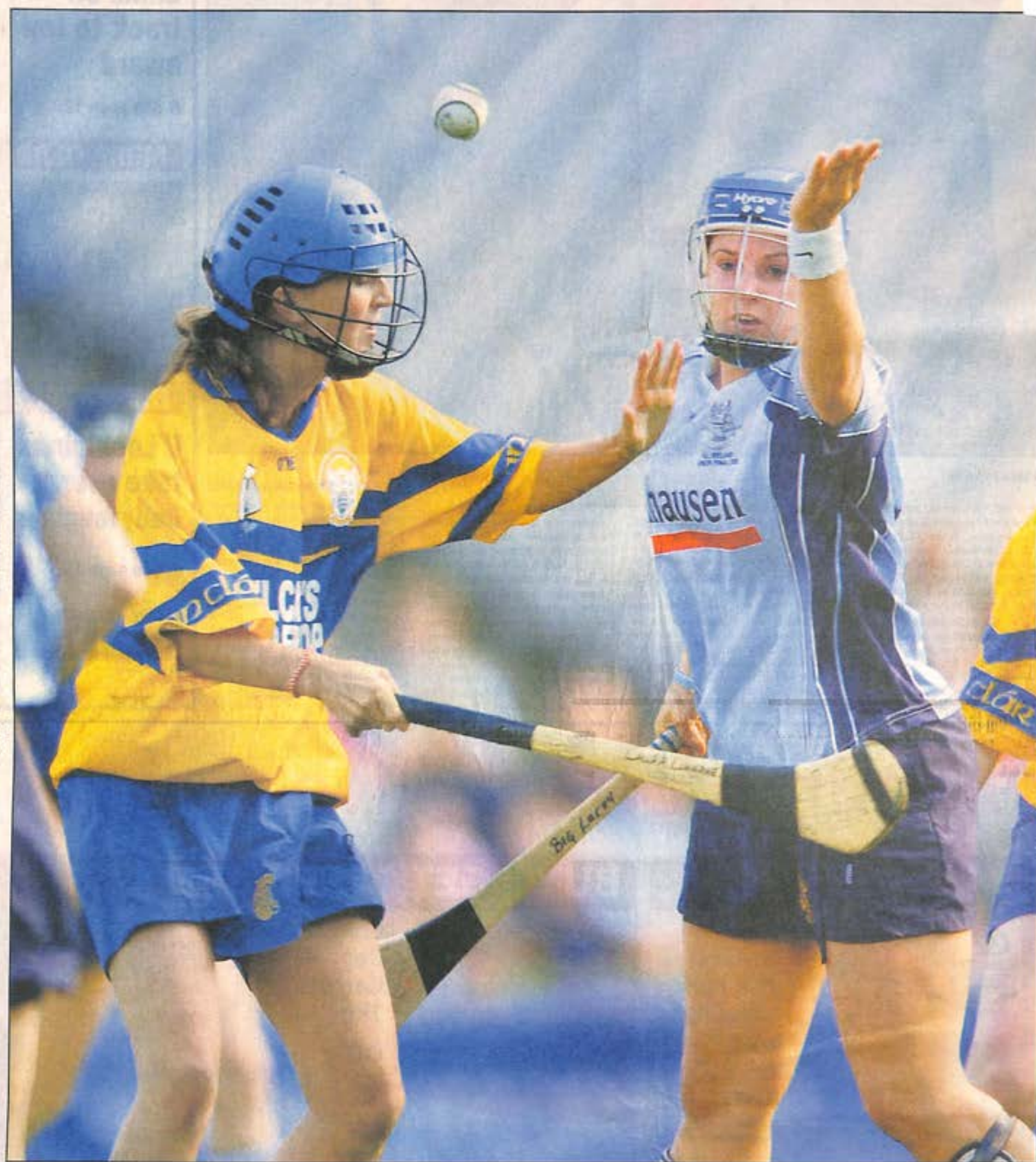
This trio have put in a huge effort with the county side over the last three seasons and they are, like the players, determined to atone for the disappointment of losing the final of 2003 by capturing the title on this occasion.

They have an inspiring captain in Deirdre Murphy, who was outstanding in the drawn game. Dublin are sure to have taken note of this and they will be doing all in their power to keep the ball away from the Clare midfielder, a native of Clooney.

Clare's most experienced player, Catherine O'Loughlin went into the drawn game after struggling through injury for a number of weeks. The extra few weeks should have helped the Kilmahona lady's fitness greatly and the full forward could well prove to be Clare's match winner on Sunday.

Last time out the Clare defence looked a little nervous in the opening stages but this time they will be hoping to settle faster. In Deirdre Corcoran, a native of Truagh, Clonlara who plays her club camogie with Cellbridge in Kildare and Cathy Hally, also from Truagh but playing her club camogie with Wolfe Tones they have an experienced central defensive unit.

Deirdre Murphy's midfield partner is the experienced



Maura McMahon from Newmarket and if Clare can manage to get a grip on proceedings in this sector it could well pay dividends for the side.

Up front Catherine O'Loughlin will be looking to the likes of her clubmate, sixteen year Fiona Lafferty, along with Laura Linnane from Wolfe Tones and Kilmaley's Claire McMahon to get the scores that will help bring the title to the Banner county.

It is, without doubt, a huge task for the Banner outfit as this is a strong and experienced Dublin side. After all, they played at senior level up to recently and many of their players have experienced senior inter county camogie for a number of seasons.

They feel that they should have won the title last time out and will be determined to prove this on Sunday.

Aoife Cullen, Sinead Cunnane, Ciara Lucey, Gillian Mc-

Cluskey and Joyce Donnelly are just some of their players.

They had huge support at the drawn game but whether or not these supporters will travel in as big numbers this week remains to be seen. Certainly, Clare will be hoping to have a bigger following now that the game is nearer to home and County officials believe that a big following will help Clare enormously.

Its going to take a huge effort from the Clare girls to capture this title but the fact that they are unbeaten in competitive action at inter county junior level this season is sure to be a huge boost to them as they put the finishing touches to their preparations. Another close contest is expected as Clare have good reason to believe that there will be bonfires blazing on their return from Birr on Sunday evening.

(Clockwise from above)

■ Ciara Lucey of Dublin gets the ball away under pressure from Clare's Laura Linnane during the Croke Park stand-off.

Capital punishment



Dublin 2-09

Clare 1-04

at St. Brendan's Park, Birr



Marty Morrissey

IT was windy to the point of being stormy last Sunday in St Brendan's Park, Birr, for the All Ireland Junior Camogie Final Replay and it certainly wouldn't take a rocket scientist to predict in advance that whoever maximised that vital wind factor would travel home with the New Ireland Cup for the fourth time in their county's history.

Getting the Dubs out of Croke Park seemed to be an advantage to Clare, but like any sport and using writer's privilege here by tweaking Roy Keane's philosophy a little, if you fail to score, prepare to fail.

Clare played towards the town end in the first half with the wind to their backs and incredibly didn't manage a single score for 21 long agonising minutes.

The point from a free came off the stick of Kilmaley's Claire McMahon, and it was a free that was dubiously awarded by referee Una Kearney after a late challenge on Catherine O'Loughlin. Within two minutes the Kilmaley star scored a fine goal herself when she dropped the hurl to handpass the sliotar past the Dublin keeper Eimear Butler. The opportunity was created by a scintillating incisive run by Laura Linnane who caused hassle for the Metropolitans all afternoon.

While Dublin failed to raise a flag in that first half, they did enough to suggest that the

second half would be different. Leading 1-1 to no score at half-time didn't inspire confidence amongst the Clare fans but the Banner had displayed great resilience all through the campaign. This was going to be severe test. And it was.

Within three minutes of the re-start Ciara Lucey opened Dublin's account with a point after a nice one-two with Niamh Taylor. But the Banner did what Dublin couldn't do in the first half by scoring a great point. Claire McMahon was the finisher but Laura Linnane was the creator.

Dublin's Ciara Lucey and Clare's Claire Commene exchanged points and with 11 minutes played in the second half the Banner were doing well especially at half back where Cathy Halley was dominant in the middle supported by two top quality players on either side in Edel Keating and Erica Minogue. Clare at this stage were leading by four points 1-3 to 0-2.

Then came turning point number one. Goal-keeper Rachel Lynch came under extreme pressure in clearing the ball and when the loose sliotar became available Dublin's Emer Lucey stroked the ball in to an empty net. Immediately Clare substitute Maire O'Halloran tagged on a point to give Clare a two point cushion but sadly that was to be Clare's final score in this replay.

Twenty minutes in to the second half came turning point number two. Dublin midfielder

Aine Fanning got inside the Clare cover and fed full forward Louise O'Hara who turned and shot a smashing goal. For the remaining 10 minutes Dublin tagged on six points through Niamh Taylor, Eimear Brannigan, Eve Talbot, Louise O'Hara and two Ciara Lucey frees to give Dublin a fully deserved victory even if the final score doesn't do justice to a brave, resilient Banner side.

For Clare Deirdre Corcoran was outstanding at full back with Cathy Halley equally impressive at number six. Edel Keating and Erica Minogue were quite simply superb while captain Deirdre Murphy was powerful at midfield. Laura Linnane's performance beside her was equally admirable.

Claire McMahon and Claire Commene showed some nice touches up front but in truth the attack lacked incisiveness and creativity. Ultimately that's where this All Ireland bid failed.

Above: Teammates Erica Minogue and Catriona McMahon battle for possession against Ciara Durkan (Dublin).

Above left: Claire Commene and Fiona Lafferty try to regain control against Sylvia Hanks (Dublin).

Below left: Fiona Lafferty, Claire Commene and Moira McMahon battle it out with Sylvia Hanks (Dublin) and Sinead Cunnane (Dublin) in the Camogie All-Ireland Final at St Brendan's Park, Birr.

Photographs by Cathal Noonan/Press22 (2051579, 2051580, 2051583)

matchdetails

Clare - R. Lynch (5), J. Scallan (6), D. Corcoran (9), C. McMahon (6), E. Keating (8), C. Halley (9), E. Minogue (8), L. Linnane (8), D. Murphy (capt) (8), M. McMahon (5), A. O'Brien (5), F. Lafferty (5), C. McMahon (7), C. O'Loughlin (5) 1-0. C. Commene (6) 0-1. Subs - M. O'Halloran (6) 0-1, S. Lafferty

Dublin - E. Butler (6), S. Hanks (7), A. McCluskey (7), A. Cullen (7), A. Fitzpatrick (8), S. Commene (9), C. Power (7), C. Lucey (9), A. Fanning (8), N. Taylor (7) 1-1. E. Brannigan (6) 0-1, C. Durkan (5), E. Talbot (6) 0-1, L. O'Hara (7), E. Lucey (7) 0-1.

Referee - Una Kearney (Armagh) (8)

Player Of The Match

A toss up between Deirdre Corcoran, Cathy Halley, Edel Keating and Erica Minogue. Despite Louise O'Hara scoring Dublin's crucial second goal, Deirdre Corcoran was still masterful all the way through. It is noticeable that all contenders are defenders.

Match Quote - Michael Maher (Clare selector)

"We needed this one, the task is that bit harder now to keep Camogie going in Clare. It's up to ALL GAA people, not just Camogie people...these girls deserve that much at least."

Referee Watch - Una Kearney from Armagh made some very strange decisions frustrating players, fans and journalists alike. Not a good day in the office for Una but to be fair none of her decisions affected the result.

Dublin end their 30-year drought

DUBLIN 2-9
CLARE 1-4

Junior Camogie Final replay
Maire Uí Scalai

DUBLIN were crowned Junior All-Ireland champions for the first time since 1975 following their victory against Clare in yesterday's replay in Birr.

The opening half belonged to the Banner and a Claire McMahon point, followed by a Catherine O'Loughlin goal, left Clare ahead, 1-1 to no score.

The Dubs got their opening point two minutes into the second-half from Ciara Lucey, but Claire McMahon replied for the Banner. Corner-forward Emer Lucey fired home Dublin's opening goal to cut the deficit to a point, 1-2 to 1-3.

Louise O'Hara got Dublin's second goal to put ahead 2-3 to 1-4 before Louise O'Hara and Ciara Lucey bagged two more points each to seal the win.

SCORERS - Dublin: L. O'Hara 1-1, E. Lucey 1-0, C. Lucey 0-4 (0-2, 0-1, 0-1), N. Taylor 0-2 (0-1, 0-1), E. Talbot, E. Brannigan 0-1 each. Clare: C. O'Loughlin 1-0, C. McMahon 0-2 (0-1, 0-1), C. Commene, M. O'Halloran 0-1 each.
DUBLIN - E. Butler, S. Hanks, A. McCluskey, A. Cullen, A. Fitzpatrick, S. Commene, C. Power, C. Lucey, A. Fanning, N. Taylor, E. Brannigan, C. Durkan, E. Talbot, L. O'Hara, E. Lucey. Subs: A. Griffin for E. Lucey (54 mins).
CLARE - R. Lynch, J. Scallan, D. Corcoran, C. McMahon, E. Keating, C. Halley, E. Minogue, M. McMahon, D. Murphy, L. Linnane, A. O'Brien, F. Lafferty, C. McMahon, C. O'Loughlin, C. Commene. Subs: M. O'Halloran for A. O'Brien (40), S. Lafferty for F. Lafferty (47).

DUBLIN LOWER THE BANNER

THEY will be singing Molly Malone for a long time to come this winter in Dublin following Dublin's All-Ireland ladies junior championship final replay against Clare in Birr.

Despite the backing of the wind it took Clare 22 minutes to register the opening score. Two minutes later their full-forward Catherine O'Loughlin got their only goal of the day when she handpassed to the Dublin net.

It was the Dubs who were first on the scoreboard after the restart with a free from player of the

■ Dublin 2-9 Clare 1-4

match Ciara Lucey. Three minutes later Claire McMahon pointed for the Banner. Both sides exchanged further scores before corner forward Emer Lucey got Dublin's opening goal to leave them trailing by a just point.

Straight away second half Clare substitute Marie O'Halloran sent over a point for the Banner, their final score of the game.

Dublin got a second goal with 10 minutes remaining. It came from midfielder Aine Fanning who

found the waiting full-forward Louise O'Hara who crashed the ball past Clare keeper Rachel Lynch. That gave Dublin a lead of 2-3 to 1-4 and they never looked back after that.

DUBLIN - E. Butler, S. Hanks, A. McCluskey, A. Cullen, A. Fitzpatrick, S. Commene, C. Power, C. Lucey (0-4, 0-2, 0-1, 0-1), A. Fanning, N. Taylor (0-2, 0-1), E. Brannigan (0-1), C. Durkan, E. Talbot (0-1), L. O'Hara (1-1), E. Lucey (1-0). SUBS: A. Griffin for E. Lucey (54 mins).

CLARE - R. Lynch, J. Scallan, D. Corcoran, C. McMahon, E. Keating, C. Halley, E. Minogue, M. McMahon, D. Murphy, L. Linnane, A. O'Brien, F. Lafferty, C. McMahon (0-2, 0-1), C. O'Loughlin (1-0), C. Commene (0-1). SUBS: M. O'Halloran (0-1) for A. O'Brien (40), S. Lafferty for F. Lafferty (47 mins).



■ Dublin's Aoife Cullen and Clare's Claire McMahon

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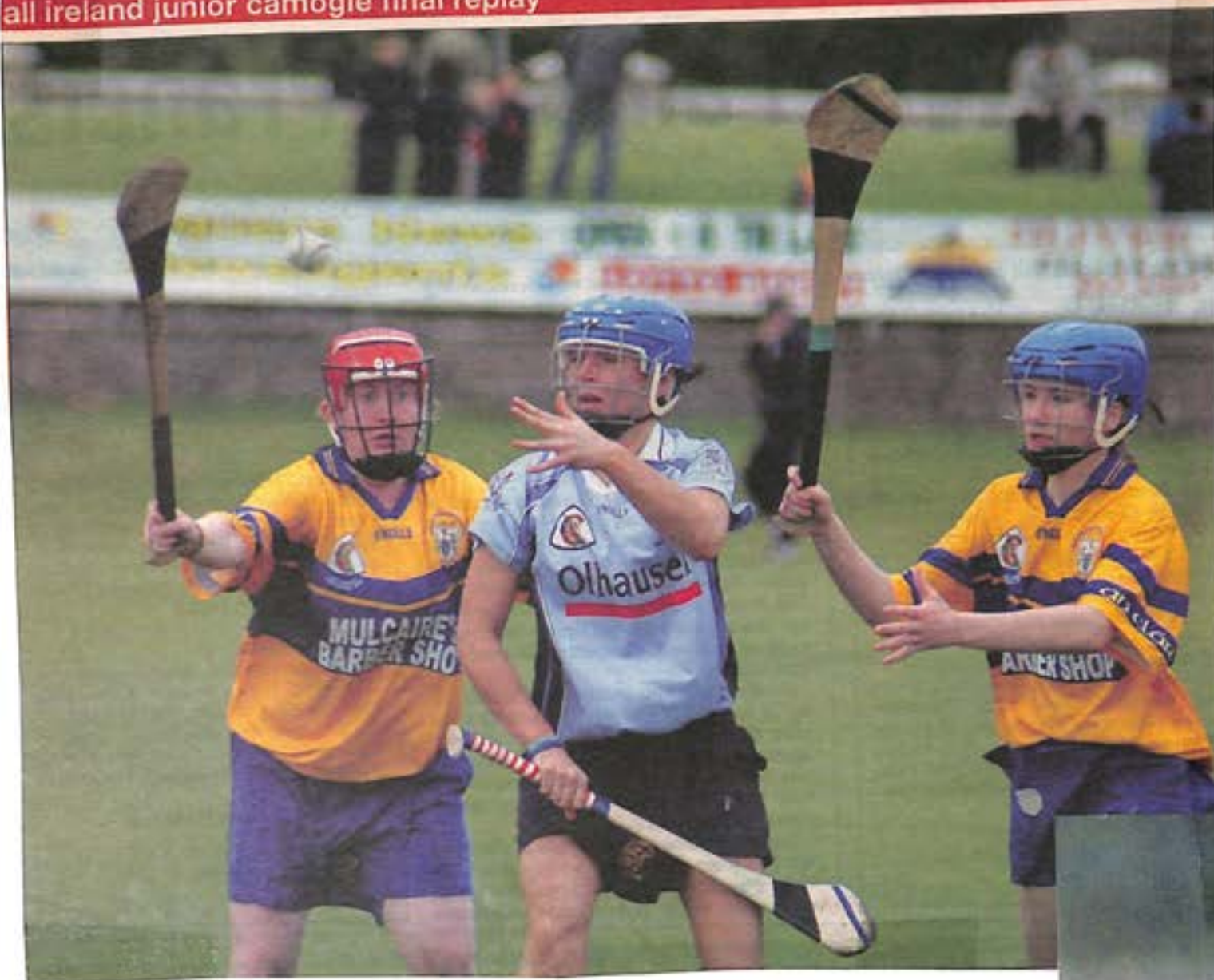
2005



(Clockwise from above) ■ Dublin's Sinead Cunnane and Clare's Moira Mc Mahon go for a high ball. ■ Clare's Erica Minogue in action against Ciara Durkan. ■ Goalie Rachel Lynch comes under pressure during the closing stages of the final replay. ■ Captain Deirdre Murphy is run over by Dublin's Aine Fanning ■ Deirdre Corcoran moves in on Dublin's Louise O'Hara.

Photographs by Inna Kelly

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(Clockwise from above) ■ Clare's Claire McMahon moves in on Dublin's Aoife Cullen. ■ Clare mentor Francie Mahon can only look on in the closing stages of the final. ■ Clare captain Deirdre Murphy is "locked in". ■ The Clare team stand for the national anthem. ■ Dublin celebrate as a disappointed Clare player Deirdre Corcoran hangs her head in Birr. Photographs by John Kelly.



CAMOGIE
CORNERBallygarvan pull
through with goals

Ballygarvan 3-5
St Catherine's 1-7

BALLYGARVAN are the Cork County Senior B camogie champions for 2005.

In heavy underfoot conditions at Castlemartyr yesterday afternoon they finally saw off the spirited challenge of St Catherine's after last week's encounter finished all-square.

Displaying no fewer than 13 positional switches to the team which lined out first time round, Ballygarvan were a better, more balanced outfit and had strength in all sections of the field.

Blustery and wet conditions 15 minutes before throw-in threatened to have a big impact on the game. Though they eased somewhat, a fair wind still blew and St. Catherine's opted to play against the elements.

Ballygarvan got the dream start when a long ball in from Emer Dillon found Leanne Ryan who first-timed it to the net.

'Player of the match' Dillon, operating at centre-field, was magical from the throw-in. Covering miles during the course of the game, she read the play intelligently. A good pass from Suzanne Lynch after six minutes led to Dillon's first score, a strike from 45 yards. She added another two minutes later after patiently waiting for the break from a melee of players.

Orla Cotter, once again, worked tirelessly for St Catherine's. She, at times, appeared a lone figure however and needed more support out around the middle of the field. Ballygarvan hunted in packs and closed Cotter down whenever she came into possession. Ballygarvan's work ethic throughout the entire game showed a burning desire for victory.

Cotter hit over two frees for St Catherine's in the 4th and 9th minutes and they were to be her side's only scores of the first half.

Despite a good effort from Emer O'Keefe, Ballygarvan were on top in too many sections of the pitch.

Sally Ann O'Halloran, Jennifer Browne, Dillon, Catriona Kelly and Sarah O'Donovan operating from full-back to full-forward respectively were



Ballygarvan's Sarah O'Donovan under pressure from the St Catherine's defenders during the Camogie Senior B Camogie final replay in Castlemartyr. Picture: Gerard Bonus



keys players for Ballygarvan.

Helen Lane and Marie Twomey tightened things up at the back for St Catherine's and it slowed down Ballygarvan's early burst. Two points from Kelly, one from a free, in the 11th and 22nd minute and a Sarah O'Donovan point five minutes later gave Ballygarvan a 1-5 to 0-2 lead.

Then on the stroke of half-time the writing was on the wall after Kelly's long-range free from the wing went all the way to the net. Nine points separated the sides at the break and the mountain looked too high for Catherine's to climb.

But climb it they tried. St. Catherine's attacking second-half game won them a string of frees and Cotter duly converted three by the 7th minute.

They were putting pressure on Ballygarvan but were dealt a killer blow when for the second time in the game an excellent Kelly free which looked to be going over the bar dipped at the last second and ended up in the net.

It was to be Ballygarvan's only score of the second half but it took the sting out of the St. Catherine's challenge.

St. Catherine's, and in particular Denise and Deirdre Twomey, could find no way through a resolute Ballygarvan defence. With Dillon and Kelly falling back there was limited space in which to do damage.

Hegarty delighted by Ballygarvan's will to win

What they said

BALLYGARVAN trainer Billy Hegarty felt a great deal of personal satisfaction with the win.

"For me personally this is a wonderful achievement. Coming from a hurling background, it was different getting involved with girls.

"I really enjoyed it and I'm delighted for everyone concerned.

Asked where he felt the game was won, Billy commented: "The braveness and commitment of the girls was tremendous. Our defence was superb. We played to our own strengths this week more so than last week and it paid off.

"I just want to congratulate St. Catherine's on their never-say-die attitude. They're a young team and will be back," he said.

A disappointed Pat Clancy paid tribute to Ballygarvan. "They have some great players and were just too strong for us. We don't have the strength in depth that Ballygarvan have. But we're a young side and we'll learn from this and improve."

A free and a '45 from Cotter narrowed the deficit to seven with only minutes remaining and on the stroke of full-time Denise Twomey finally found a way through to drive to the net.

It was a case of too little too late as with the goal came the final whistle and a Cork county title for Ballygarvan.

Scorers for Ballygarvan: C Kelly 2-2 (2-10), L Ryan 1-0, E Dillon 0-2, S O'Donovan 0-1.

St Catherine's: O Cotter 0-7 (0-6), 0-1'45) D Twomey 1-0.

BALLYGARVAN: A Moynihan; M Hallahan, S A O'Halloran (Capt), D Crowley; V Browne, J Browne, N Hallahan; E Dillon, D Daly; A Browne, C Kelly, S Lynch; M Murphy, S O'Donovan, L Ryan.

Subs: C Dillon for A Browne (41 min), Z Forest for M Hallahan (47 min).

ST CATHERINE'S: Y O'Neill; S Noonan, AM Hayes, H Lane; M Twomey, O Neville, N Mulcahy; F Noonan, E O'Keefe; A Hogan, O Cotter (Capt), T Leahy; L Higgins, Denise Twomey, Deirdre Twomey.

Cashel out muscle Cloughduv

Cashel 1-13
Cloughduv 0-5

NOT a good day at the office for Cork County Champions Cloughduv who had to give way to a physically stronger and sharper Cashel side in the Munster Camogie Club championship semifinal tie in Cashel yesterday.

The Tipperary representatives had the advantage of only contesting their county final last weekend which ended in

a draw against divisional side Dualla, where as the Cork representatives were crowned champions two months ago, but that does not take away from the Cashel side's victory.

Fielding a line out dotted with Tipperary inter county names such as Philly Fogarty, Clare Grogan, Emily Hayden Jovita Delaney, Una O'Dwyer, Paula Bulfin and throw in Kilkenny's Sinead Millea and you see just how big a task faced a Cloughduv side forced

By MARY NEWMAN

Munster Camogie Club championship semi-final

to field minus the injured Brieger Corkery and Lynn Dunlea from their county winning side.

The home side set the pace from the throw in and led at the interval 1-6 to 0-2.

Cora Hennessy was on target with a goal and two points while Clare Grogan slotted over three pointed frees and Philly Fogarty added one,

Stephanie Dunlea showing her accuracy from placed balls with two Cloughduv points. Jovita Delaney denied Marie Lucey and Catherine Corkery in an opening half where the sharpness of the home side paid dividends.

Through the second half, Cashel held the upper hand helped again by Delaney who denied Cloughduv's Catherine Corkery a goal before Cora Hennessy, Linda and Clare Grogan and Philly Fogarty ensured Cashel's place in the

final despite the accuracy of Stephanie Dunlea who pointed three Cloughduv frees.

CLOUGHDUV: A Murray, Sinead Corkery, Siobhán Corkery, O'Callaghan, S Lucey, J O'Callaghan, E Dunne, J Lucey, M Corkery, A Buckley, S Buckley, U O'Donoghue, M Lucey, and S Dunlea (0-5 frees), C Corkery. **Sub:** A O'Connor for S Dunlea (inj).

CASHEL: J Delaney, N O'Dwyer, U O'Dwyer, S Morrissey, P Bullin, S Millea, F O'Dwyer, C Hennessy (1-4), C Grogan (0-5, 0-5 from frees 0-1 play), P Fogarty (0-2), E Hayden, H Grogan, D O'Connell, A Lornegan, L Grogan (0-1). **Subs:** K O'Connell for E Hayden, L Twomey for D O'Connell.

Ref: J O'Donnell (Clare)

Aughrim are
Intermediate
champions

Aughrim 4-6, Kilcoole 2-2: The Intermediate Final Camogie Final saw Aughrim taking the title and returning to the senior ranks for next season at the expense of a brave Kilcoole side.

INTERMEDIATE CHAMPIONSHIP FINAL

This game was very slow to start, with both teams taking awhile to settle, but it was Kilcoole who settled the first and spent the first 15 minutes the stronger side. They got the first goal in the 16th minute through Emily Hannay.

The Aughrim side got back into this game and replied two minutes later with a goal through Lorraine Cummins.

With the teams on level scores the game began to build up momentum. The first point came by way of Aughrim's Christine Byrne in the 25th minute, followed two minutes later with Kilcoole scoring their first point by Mairead Berkery to level up the game once again.

This is the way the first half ended with both teams on 1-1.

The second half began with great expectation with both teams on level pegging this game was anybody's.

The introduction of Kathy Forde at half-time was the much needed boost for Aughrim, when she scored the team's next two points on the first and fourth minute of the second half.

This game was picking up great speed with Aughrim's second goal coming by way of Aoife Kavanagh on the eighth minute, and then Kathy Forde scoring another point a short time later.

It was then the turn of Kilcoole, who got back into the game with Orlaith Donnelly scoring their second point from a free in the 16th minute.

Aughrim's Aoife Kavanagh took the next scores by adding a goal and two points in the space of five minutes. Team captain Lorraine Cummins completed the scoring for Aughrim with a goal.

The Kilcoole side closed this game by scoring a goal in injury time of the game by Mairead Berkery.

Credit to both teams for a fine game of camogie. No doubt Kilcoole girls will return next year stronger, but congratulations to the Aughrim side who will be an added boost to the Senior grade.

County Board Chairperson Winnie O'Hanlon presented the cup to Aughrim's victorious captain Lorraine Cummins.

Aughrim: Catriona O'Brien; Amy O'Neill; Jennifer Byrne; Annette Keenan; Ann O'Connor; Aine Byrne; Norah O'Connor; Catriona Byrne; Aishling Byrne; Anna Byrne; Michelle Kinsella; Aoife Kavanagh 2-2; Geraldine Doyle; Lorraine Cummins (cpt) 2-0; Christine Byrne 0-1; Kathy Forde 0-3; Debbie Tallon; Mary Furlong; Niamh Lambert; Nicola Lacey; Amy Lacey; Charlotte Murray-Holden; Catherine Roache. **Trainer:** Christy O'Brien. **Selector:** Tom Tallon and Margaret Byrne.

Kilcoole: Jenny O'Brien; Aileen McDermott; Caoilfhionn Deeny; Rita O'Toole; Orlaith Donnelly 0-1(free); Roisin Mulford (c); Mary Berkery; Fionnuala Britton; Mairead Berkery 1-1; Grainne Devine; Eithne Byrne; Sarah Pratt; Ann Vickers; Maureen Whiston; Emily Hannay 1-0; Francis Kearns; Linda Fagan; Aoife Mulford. **Trainer:** Jimmy Sutherland. **Selector:** Breda Donnelly.

Referee: Eamonn Molloy, Rathvilly.

■ Report on Junior Final in next week's paper.



Laighin

Datanna: Glas agus Bán

1 Lyndsey Condell Lyndsey Condell Ceatharlach	3 Grainne Brennan Grainne Ni Bhraonáin Cill Chainnigh	4 Niamh Concannon Niamh Ni Choncheannain Cill Chainnigh
2 Sarah Cuddy Sorca Ni Chuláithe Lois	6 Sinead Cunnane Sinead Ni Chumneáin Ash Closh	7 Deirdre Delaney Deirdre Ni Dhúlaíne Cill Chainnigh
5 Vhena Heffernan Vhena Ni Iffernáin Cill Chainnigh	8 Clara Lucey Clara Ni Luasaigh Ash Closh	9 Mary Coady Máire Nic Óda Ceatharlach
10 Louise Mahoney Labhaoise Ni Mhathúna Lois	11 Eimear Brannigan Eimear Ni Bhrannáin Ash Closh	12 Orla Banbury Orlaith Ni Bhambaire Cill Dara
13 Eve Talbot Eve Talbóid Ash Closh	14 Valerie Crean (Captain) Valerie Ni Chroideáin Ceatharlach	15 Eileen Fitzpatrick Eibhlín Nic Giolla Phádraig Cill Chainnigh

IONADAITHE
16 Eimear Delaney
Eimear Ni Dhúlaíne Lois
17 Lizzie Lynch
Ella Ni Loinnigh An tSúil
18 Sula O'Carroll
Sóibhán Ni Chonáil Cill Dara
19 Ann Dalton
Aine Ni Dháilín G'Orange
20 Karen Cuddy
Karen Ni Chuláithe Lois
21 Therese Keenan
Therese Ni Chuláithe Lois
22 Louise O'Hara
Labhaoise Ni Eirí Ásh Closh
23 Aine Fahy
Aine Ni Phádraig G'Orange
24 Aine Fanning
Aine Ni Pháin Ásh Closh

BAINISTEOR:
Stephen Dorman
Scott O'Donoghue
G'Orange
ROGHNOIRI:
Alice Dowling
Aili Uí Dhúlaíne Lois
Liam Dunne
Liam O'Donnell G'Orange
Stamus Hickey
Stamus Hickey Ásh Closh



Connachta

Datanna: Bán agus Gorm

1 Róisín Callinan Róisín Ni Chaillean An Ghallmh	3 Sarah Dervan Sorcha Ni Dhoirbháin An Ghallmh	4 Collette Gill Collette Nic an Ghallmh An Ghallmh
2 Aoife Kilkenny Aoife Nic Giolla Chainnigh An Ghallmh	6 Siobhán Coyle Siobhán Nic Giolla Choin Roscomáin	7 Julie Brien Síle Ni Bhriain An Ghallmh
5 Therese Menton Tressa Ni Mhancáin An Ghallmh	8 Clodagh Glynn Clodagh Nig Fhloinn An Ghallmh	9 Lizzie Glennon Ella Ni Ghlonáin Roscomáin
10 Paula Kenny Paula Nic Cionnáil An Ghallmh	11 Niamh Coyle Niamh Nic Giolla Choin Roscomáin	12 Paula Carrig Paula Nic Concharráige An Ghallmh
13 Niamh Kilkenny Niamh Nic Giolla Chainnigh An Ghallmh	14 Patricia Lennon Pádraicín Nic Leannáin Caroline Connaughton	15 Caroline Connaughton Ceannáil Ni Neachtáin Roscomáin

IONADAITHE
16 Sharon Fineran
Sharon Ni Fineran
Roscomáin
17 Catherine Glennon
Cát Ni Ghlonáin
Roscomáin
18 Sinéad O'Brien
Sinéad Ni Bhriain
Roscomáin
19 Grainne Egan
Gráinne Nic Aodáin
Roscomáin
20 Annette McGeeney
Annette Ni Ghallmháin
Roscomáin

BAINISTEOR:
Larry Byrnes
Labhrá O Broin
ROGHNOIRI:
Michael Kennedy
Michael O Connéide
An Ghallmh



Alumba

Datanna: Gorm

1 Aisling O'Brien Aisling Ni Bhriain Portlárige	3 Niamh Harkin Niamh Ni Eardáin Tobrad Áran	4 Lucy Hawkes Laoiseach Hawkes Corcaigh
2 Jane Scallan Sinéad Ni Scannláin An Clár	6 Cathy Halley Caitríona Ni Ailche An Clár	7 Edwina Waters Eadaoin Ni Thuairisc Corcaigh
5 Michelle Short Michelle Nic an Gheairr Tobrad Áran	8 Deirdre Murphy Deirdre Ni Mhuirchú An Clár	9 Orla Coughlan Orlaith Ni Chochláin Corcaigh
10 Aine Lyng Aine Ni Loinn Portlárige	11 Aine Waterson Aine Nic Ualláir Corcaigh	12 Laura Linnane Lára Ni Uinnéin An Clár
13 Eimear O'Friel (Captain) Eimear Ni Fhriol Corcaigh	14 Catherine O'Loughlin Caitríona Nic Lochlainn An Clár	15 Deirdre Twomey Deirdre Ni Thuama Corcaigh

IONADAITHE
16 Rachel Lynch
Rachel Ni Loinnigh An Clár
17 Erica Minogue
Erica Ni Mhuineag An Clár
18 Orla Coster
Orlaith Nic Oisín Corcaigh
19 Claire McMahon
Clár Nic Mhathúna An Clár
20 Ellen O'Halliday
Eibhlín Ni Iarlaíde Corcaigh
21 Deirdre Corcoran
Deirdre Ni Chonáil An Clár
22 Lorraine Davis
Lorraine Ni Dháilín
Tobrad Áran
23 Mary Ryan
Máire Ni Riain Tobrad Áran

BAINISTEOR:
Kay Dunne
Caitín Uí Dhóir Corcaigh
ROGHNOIRI:
Margaret Conroy
Margaret O'Connell Fingliffe
Bridie Phillips
Bridie Phillips Tobrad Áran
Vera Uí Mhuineag
Vera Uí Mhuineag Linnane
Frances McMahon
Frances McMahon An Clár



Ulaidh

Datanna: Dubh agus Orga

1 Bronagh Keenan Bronagh Ni Chianáin Ardmhacha	3 Laura Gribben Lára Ni Ghribbín Ardmhacha	4 Niamh McGeown Niamh Nic Eogháin Ardmhacha
2 Karen McMullan Karen Ni Mhuiláin An Dún	6 Lisa McCrickard Lisa Nic Riocaird An Dún	7 Laura Lavery Lára Nic Labhráin Ardmhacha
5 Clara McGovern Clara Nig Shamhráin An Dún	8 Cathy McGourty Cáit Nig Thoirnealaigh An Dún	9 Jenifer Braniff Sinéad Ni Bhrannáin An Dún
10 Caitríona McCrickard Caitríona Nic Riocaird An Dún	11 Colette McKeever Colette Nic Ionhair Ardmhacha	12 Colette McSorley Colette Nic shamhairle Ardmhacha
13 Clara Keenan Clara Ni Chianáin Ardmhacha	14 Máirín McAleenan (Captain) Máirín Nic Giolla Fhinnéin An Dún	15 Cathy Mulholland Cait Nig Mhuilchalláin An Dún

IONADAITHE
16 Kate Lavery
Cát Nic Labhráin Dún
17 Aileen Lavery
Eibhlín Nic Labhráin Dún
18 Stephanie McPartland
Stéapán Nic Phárláin
Ardmhacha
19 Deborah Clelland
Gulnais Nic Gailín Aodáin
An Dún
20 Rhona Torney
Rhona Ni Thóirne Aodáin
21 Bernadette Lavery
Bernadette Nic Concharráige
Aodáin
22 Aileen Jackson
Aileen Nic Shamhráin Aodáin
23 Emma McGovern
Emma Nig Shamhráin An Dún
24 Naomi McCurry
Naomi Ni Chionnáil Aodáin
25 Fionna Carr
Fionna Ni Chionnáil An Dún

BAINISTEOR:
Máire Magill
Máire Magill an Ghallmháin
Catherine O'Hara
Caitríona Ni Eirí Aodáin
ROGHNOIRI:
Chris Clarke
Chris Clarke O'Connell
Máire Magill
Máire Magill An tSúil

SINSEAR



Laighin

Datanna: Glas agus Bán

1 Caitríona Ryan (Captain) Caitríona Ni Riain Cill Chainnigh	3 Caitríona O'Loughlin Caitríona Ni Lochlainn Loch Garman	4 Keira Kinahan Keira Ni Choinneacháin Cill Chainnigh
2 Aoife Cullen Aoife Ni Chuláin Ash Closh	6 Aine Codd Aine Nic Óda Loch Garman	7 Eimear Lyng Eimear Ni Loinn Cill Chainnigh
5 Andrea Fitzpatrick Andrea Nic Giolla Phádraig Ash Closh	8 Lizzie Lyng Ella Ni Loinn Cill Chainnigh	9 Kate Kelly Cáit Ni Cheslaigh Loch Garman
10 Aoife Neary Aoife Ni Néaraigh Cill Chainnigh	11 Orla Hernan Orla Ni Iarnáin Loch Garman	12 Clara Durkan Clara Nic Dhúrcáin Ash Closh
13 Marie O'Connor Máire Ni Chonchúir Cill Chainnigh	14 Valerie Reaney Valerie Ni Rhiáine Ash Closh	15 Deirdre Codd Deirdre Nic Óda Loch Garman

IONADAITHE
16 Anne McCloskey
Aine Nic Bhrannáin Ásh Closh
17 Gemma Flynn
Gemma Ni Fhloinn Ásh Closh
18 Niamh Taylor
Niamh Thailéir Ásh Closh
19 Caitríona Power
Caitríona Ni Pháir Ásh Closh
20 Jacqui Friday
Jacqui Nic Fhridáigh G'Orange
21 Catherine Doherty
Caitríona Ni Dhochartaigh
G'Orange
22 Bridie Brennan
Bridie Ni Ghlonáin G'Orange
23 Bernadette Minogue
Bernadette Ni Mhuineag G'Orange
24 Rose Marie Brown
Rósa Máire Ni Brown Loch Garman
25 Margaret O'Arcy
Margaret Ni O'Arcáin Loch Garman
26 Bernice Molohan
Bernice Ni Ualláilín
Loch Garman

BAINISTEOR:
John Pender
John O'Pender G'Orange
ROGHNOIRI:
John Pender
John O'Pender G'Orange
Jack O'Brien
Jack O'Brien Loch Garman
Anthony McCormack
Anthony McCormack G'Orange
Aine Mac Cormack G'Orange



Alumba

Datanna: Gorm

1 Aoife Murray Aoife Ni Mhuirí Corcaigh	3 Caitríona Caitríona Ni Fhoghlá Corcaigh	4 Amanda O'Regan Amanda Ni Riagáin Corcaigh
2 Julie Kirwan Síle Ni Chianáin Tobrad Áran	6 Mary O'Connor Máire Ni Chonchúir Corcaigh	7 Anna Geary Aine Ni Ghadhra Corcaigh
5 Rena Buckley Riona Ni Bhucalla Corcaigh	8 Gemma O'Connor Gemma Ni Chonchúir Corcaigh	9 Joanne Ryan Siobhán Ni Riain Tobrad Áran
10 Noelle Kennedy Noelle Ni Chionnáide Tobrad Áran	11 Rachel Moloney Rachel Ni Mhuiláin Corcaigh	12 Jenny O'Leary Siobhán Ni Laoire Corcaigh
13 Denise Twomey Denise Ni Thuama Corcaigh	14 Stephanie Dunlea Stéapán Ni Dhoinéil Corcaigh	15 Deirdre Hughes (Captain) Deirdre Nic Aodáin Tobrad Áran

IONADAITHE
16 Angela Walsh
Angela Bhreathnach
Corcaigh
17 Suzanne Kelly
Siobhán Ni Cheslaigh
Tobrad Áran
18 Rose Collins
Rósa Ni Cholláin Linnane
19 Joanne O'Callaghan
Siobhán Ni Cheslaigh
Corcaigh
20 Geraldine Kinnane
Gearáidín Ni Chionnáil
Tobrad Áran
21 Una O'Donoghue
Una Ni Dhonacháin
Corcaigh
22 Elaine Burke
Eilín Ni Búrca Corcaigh

BAINISTEOR:
Lillian Zinkant
Lillian Zinkant Corcaigh
ROGHNOIRI:
Lillian Zinkant
Lillian Zinkant Corcaigh
Martin Bourke
Martin de Búrca Tobrad Áran
Pauline McCarthy
Pauline Ni Chionnáil Linnane



Connachta

Datanna: Bán agus Gorm

1 Stephanie Gannon Stéapán Nig Fhionáin An Ghallmh	3 Aine Hillary Aine Ni Irighile An Ghallmh	4 Nicola Gavin Nicola Ni Ghabháin An Ghallmh
2 Regina Glynn Rionach Nig Fhloinn An Ghallmh	6 Sinead Cahalan Sinéad Ni Chatháin An Ghallmh	7 Ailbhe Kelly Ailbhe Ni Cheslaigh An Ghallmh
5 Colette Glennon Colette Ni Ghlonáin An Ghallmh	8 Brenda Hanney Brenda Ni Annaigh An Ghallmh	9 Katharine Glynn Caitríona Nig Fhloinn An Ghallmh
10 Deirdre Burke Deirdre Ni Búrca An Ghallmh	11 Therese Maher Tressa Ni Mheachair An Ghallmh	12 Lourda Kavanagh Lourda Ni Chomhnaigh An Ghallmh
13 Susan Keane Siobhán Ni Catháin An Ghallmh	14 Veronica Curtin Veronica Nic Curtáin An Ghallmh	15 Orla Kilkenny Orla Nic Giolla Chainnigh An Ghallmh

IONADAITHE
16 Susan Earner
Sóibhán Ni Shamraigh
An Ghallmh
17 Lizzie Flynn
Ella Ni Fhloinn An Ghallmh
18 Caroline Kelly
Caitríona Ni Cheslaigh
An Ghallmh
19 Aileen Connolly
Ailbhe Ni Chionnáil
An Ghallmh
20 Catherine Moran
Caitríona Ni Mhuirí
An Ghallmh
21 Brenda Kerins
Brenda Ni Chionnáil
An Ghallmh
22 Lorraine Lally
Lorraine Ni Mhuiláin
An Ghallmh

BAINISTEOR:
Sharon Glynn
Sharon Nig Fhloinn An Ghallmh
ROGHNOIRI:
Damen Coleman
Damen O'Connell An Ghallmh
PJ Mulvey
PJ O'Mahoney An Ghallmh
Martin Naughton
Martin Nic Naughtáin An Ghallmh



Ulaidh

Datanna: Dubh agus Orga

1 Claire O'Kane Clár Ni Chatháin Doire	3 Mairéad Graham Mairéad Ni Ghreagháin Aontroim	4 Clara Cushman Clara Nic Oisín Doire
2 Sinead Stephenson Sinéad Nic Stiofáin Doire	6 Claire Doherty (Captain) Clár Ni Dhochartaigh Doire	7 Jane Carey Sinéad Ni Chiardha Doire
5 Caitríona O'Kane Caitríona Ni Chatháin Doire	8 Gráinne McGolderick Gráinne Nic Ghuiláic Doire	9 Briega Convery Brid Nig Connhaigh Doire
10 Kerri O'Neill Kerri Ni Néil Aontroim	11 Katie McAuley Cáitín Nic Anghalláin Doire	12 Elaine Dowds Eilín Ni Dhúda Aontroim
13 ???	14 Sinead Lagan Sinéad Ni Leagáin Aontroim	15 Sinead Cassidy Sinéad Ni Chaiside Doire

IONADAITHE
16 Chrístie Doherty
Chrístie Ni Dhochartaigh
Aontroim
17 Carla Doherty
Carla Ni Dhochartaigh
Aontroim
18 Orla Donnelly
Orla Ni Dhonnáil
Aontroim

BAINISTEOR:
Mairéad Magill
Mairéad Magill an Ghallmháin
Catherine O'Hara
Caitríona Ni Eirí Aodáin
ROGHNOIRI:
Chris Clarke
Chris Clarke O'Connell
Mairéad Magill
Mairéad Magill An tSúil



CORK COUNTY GAA BOARD FIXTURES

TOMORROW

Evening Echo IFC Semi-Final, Glanville v Kilavullen, at Páirc Uí Rinn, 6.15pm (B. O'Keefe)

Evening Echo SFC semi-final, Nemo Rangers v Aghada, at Páirc Uí Rinn, 8pm (J. Geaney) @ Bantry, Evening Echo JAF: Adrigole v O'Donovan Rossa, at Páirc Uí Rinn, 4.30pm (P. O'Leary)

Evening Echo J.B.F.C., Glengarriffe v St. James, at Páirc Uí Rinn, 3pm (Pat Lehan)

SUNDAY OCTOBER 16

Evening Echo Co. S.H.C. Final, Newtownshandrum v Cloyn, at Páirc Uí Chaoimh, 4pm (D. Kirwan)

Evening Echo S.F.C. Semi-Final, Muskerry v Dohenys, at Páirc Uí Chaoimh, 2.15pm (G. Sweeney)

Cloughduv's Aoife Murray will be hoping to add an interprovincial medal to her haul over the weekend.

CAMOGIE: MUNSTER teams dominated the 2005 Interprovincial Gael-Linn Championships played in Ballinteer St John's yesterday. Munster retained both the senior and junior Gael-Linn trophies defeating Ulster in the Junior 2-14 to 2-4, while the senior team beat Connacht 3-14 to 2-8. The vast experience of a largely Cork side showed and in particular senior player of the Tournament Anna Geary of Cork. The junior award went to Deirdre Murphy of Clare.

Camogie: U16C final: Aghabullogue 4-8 Sliabh Rua 1-1; **U16 B final:** Sarsfields 3-1 Bride Rovers 2-3; **U18 Championship:** Cloughduv 4-1 Newcestown 1-3; St Finbarrs 3-7 Glen Rovers 3-0.

OCT. 2005

Munster to show they are queens of camogie

THE senior and junior interprovincial championships take place in Dublin this weekend and Cork are well represented in both.

Equivalent to the hurling Railway Cup, the Gael Linn Championships are in existence since 1956 (senior) and 1975 (junior) and Munster have 18 and 14 titles respectively to date.

A casual, pressure free competition after the intensity of the All-Ireland championship is very welcome and over the years many players have expressed their sentiments on the enjoyment of the competition.

At times, depending on the pressure of club and county commitments, players have opted out and for this reason the date for the competition has varied somewhat.

The competition will be held at St John's Grounds, Ballinteer, Co. Dublin. The juniors are first out against Leinster at 11.30am and the seniors play Leinster at 12.45pm.

Both finals will take place the same afternoon. The Munster senior squad has been selected and re-selected numerous times due



Linda Mellerick

to the Tipperary County final ending all square two weeks ago.

The replay takes place on Sunday and so seven of the starting 15 had to withdraw. It's mainly Cork who make up the numbers and along with the original selection of players the Rebels now account for the majority of the Munster lineout.

Aoife Murray, Amanda O'Regan, Jennifer O'Leary and Rachel Moloney are just four out of a possible 12 that represent Cork. Julie Kirwan and Joanne Ryan are two definites for Tipp and Rose Collins of Limerick is also selected.

Despite being heavily depleted, Munster should still account for themselves well and could take their 11th title in 12 years.

The Munster junior selection is captained by Cork's Emer O'Friel. The Rebel County have six players selected; Lucy Hawkes,

Orla Coughlan, Edwina Waters, Áine Watson, Deirdre Twomey and O'Friel. Clare has five players, Tipperary two and two also from Waterford in the starting line up. The Munster junior squad are heading for their third title in a row.

With the end of the Camogie season not too far away a number of fixtures take place over the weekend. The U16 C County final sees Aghabullogue and Sliabh Rua battle for honours.

The U16 B league semi-final takes place between Valley Rovers and Rockban and the junior A League semi final gives Sarsfields home venue against Watergrasshill.

FIXTURES:

TOMORROW

Interprovincial Championship-St. John's, Ballinteer, Dublin:

Under 16 D championship final Sars v Bride Rovers, Castletyons, 11.30.

SUNDAY OCTOBER 16

Junior A League semi-final - Sarsfields V Watergrasshill - Sarsfields at 11.30am

Under 16 C County Final - Aghabullogue V Sliabh Rua - Ballinacorney at 11.30am.

TITLE FOR AGHABULLOGUE

AGHABULLOGUE took the under 16 C championship title at the expense of Sliabh Rua on Sunday last. Right through their team Aghabullogue had strength Michelle Healy, Brid Twomey and Caroline Kiely proving handfuls for the Sliabh Rua girls through the hours.

Michelle Healy opened the scoring with an Aghabullogue point inside two minutes but with their first attack Sliabh Rua's first attack Paula O' Mahony set up Joanne Ryan for a goal Six minutes later Michelle Healy had her side back in

control adding 1-1 to their tally. Through the opening half Aghabullogue held the upper hand but credit to Sliabh Rua who battled to stay in contention. By the half time whistle Aghabullogue led 3-5 to 1-0 thanks to good play from Michelle Healy, Aileen Twomey and goals from Martha Murphy and Michelle Healy.

Through the second half a determined Sliabh Rua fought to get back into the contest with Ciara Cotter, Sandra Hallissey and Paula O' Mahony impressive but they met

stern resistance from an Aghabullogue defence who gave nothing away. Substitute Aileen Scannell grabbed an Aghabullogue goal 18mins into the second half and points from Aileen Twomey and Mary Ronan ensures no way back for Sliabh Rua.

The Player of the match award went to Aileen Twomey who played a huge role in Aghabullogue's victory on a day when both sides are to be credited for the superb efforts in trying conditions.

John Cronin & Elaine Burke honoured

AT A very enjoyable function on Wednesday last as John Cronin and John Allen were jointly honoured with the 96/103FM Rochestown Park Hotel Sports award for September. The naming of the two managers was a fitting end to a glorious September when the hurlers and Camogie players painted Croke Park red and white on consecutive Sundays. John Cronin has contributed enormously to the success story that has been Cork camogie especially in the last ten years, having coached five minor teams to All Ireland glory he made the step up in 2005 to the Senior ranks and in doing so maintained his record of never losing an All Ireland final. Both managers are people who do not court the limelight so last

Wednesdays award were fitting tributes to the huge amount of work they both have done for their respective teams. Fitting testament to their popularity was the manner in which the announcements of the awards were received, they were joined by county board officers, family and friends while senior Camogie captain Elaine Burke led a representation of the players that included Joanne O Callaghan, Rachel Moloney, Ciara Healy and Colette Desmond. Thanks again to all at the Rochestown Park for a superb meal and to our good friend manager Liam Lally.

The following evening Elaine Burke was the recipient of the Celtic Ross Hotel 103 FM sports Award for September and here again a fitting

accolade to a great leader, a worthy recipient who has done her county and club proud. My apologies to Mr Palmer and his organising committee for my non attendance but a bout of flu dictated terms, again thanks for the invitation.

VICTORY CELEBRATION

TO celebrate the All Ireland success the county board have organised a victory dinner dance which will take place at the Rochestown Park Hotel on Sunday, October 30 (Bank Holiday Sunday) on the night the victorious team will be presented with their All Ireland medals as will the victorious junior national league side.

Tickets for the function are available from any county board officer or from your local club or the players who will put you in contact with the county board. Its hoped that following on the success of last years function many clubs will again come along and celebrate in a year when camogie in Cork reached its hundred year winning the counties twenty first title.

Camogie chat

With Mary Newman

Sarsfields take honours

THE first name to be engraved on the Edward Sheehan memorial trophy presented by the Sheehan family for the Under 16 D championship is Sarsfields as they proved to strong for Bride Rovers in a thrilling final. Sarsfields made all the early running and set the foundations for victory, two goals from Karen Comerford and one from Aine Barry helping

them build up a 3-1 to 0-1 interval lead. from the start of the second half Bride Rovers played with determination and goals from Sinead Walsh and Martina Healy bringing them back into the contest. Points from Sarah Barry, and Sinead Walsh narrowed the deficit but a determined Sars hung on to record victory.

MUNSTER DOUBLE

A GREAT weekend for Munster as they recorded double in the Gael Linn inter provincials on Saturday last. In the Senior semi finals Munster had a 1-12 to 0-2 victory over Ulster to set up a final meeting Connacht who held off the challenge posed by Leinster on 2-6 to 1-8 score line. In the final Munster held all the aces with Joanne

Ryan contributing five points, Jemma O Connor, Denise Twomey Jennifer O Leary Angela Walsh, Stephanie Dunlea, Rachel Moloney and Suzanne Kelly all contributing to the score sheet as they defeated Connacht on a 3-14 to 2-8 margin. Corks Anna Geary was named Player of the tournament following splendid displays through the day.

In the junior competition Munster edged past Leinster with two points to spare while Ulster had a 3-1 to 0-7 victory over Connacht. In the final Connacht had no answer as Munster who had ten points to spare at the final whistle. Deirdre Murphy from Clare names as player of the tournament here.

Well done to all the Cork players on both teams and to selectors Lillian Zinkant with the senior's and Kay Dunne of the juniors.

■ NATIONAL STRATEGIC SEMINAR

Croke Park gathering to assess the National Development Plan

Camogie review time

BY PAUL WELSH

OVER the last 18 months the National Development Committee has travelled the length and breadth of the country advising and guiding counties, provincial councils along with primary and post primary school bodies in relation to the Camogie Association's National Strategic Plan.

Tomorrow, the committee will host a National Strategic plan half day seminar in Croke Park and as committee secretary Sheila O'Donohue explained, it will give everyone a chance to review the work done to date.

"Last November we hosted a one-day seminar to look at common issues that were arising right across the board in strategic plans," said O'Donohue.

"We then produced a report in February which was a synopsis of some of the key issues that came to the fore at the November seminar.

"So now we are at a place of review and this is what the seminar is about."

While many strategic plans have already been submitted, O'Donohue said that tomorrow she will reveal the names of those who so far have submitted nothing.

"It's a serious matter and I'm going to name and shame them tomorrow," she said. "I've gone through everything we have done and I've listed all the provinces and the meetings we've had."

While O'Donohue revealed she had had a very positive response from most counties in Leinster, Munster and Connacht, Ulster is lagging behind.

"In Munster we've received four plans, seven from Leinster, two from Connacht and two other counties there are working through the Connacht Council.

"I've received two plans from Munster and Leinster Council and Connacht's is on the way.

"However, in Ulster we undertook two briefings involving five counties but we've received no plans to date.



The adoption of the National Strategic Development plan at Congress in 2004 led directly to the recent appointment of National Camogie Development Co-ordinator Lynn Kelly (left), along with Caroline Murray, centre, and Mary O'Connor, right, as Regional Development Co-ordinators

"I'll be telling the delegates at the seminar if their plans aren't in you're going to be left behind."

But what does O'Donohue hope to get out of tomorrow's seminar and does she feel progress has been made to date?

"I suppose really we're hoping to revitalise the whole strategic plan idea again," she said. "But I think we are going forward. It might be slow but it is forcing people to think what can we do and do better."

"There has been a little bit of resistance but not too much. I also think the term 'strategic' frightens some people."

Looking forward, the committee's work should be completed within the

next year to 18 months and at that stage, O'Donohue believes significant progress will have been made.

"I don't think all the counties will develop in the same way," she said.

"Some will make a good bit of progress and some will make a reasonable amount of progress."

"But I'd hope to see that all have developed in some shape or form."

"At the end of the day it is going to be judged on whether a club gets bigger or stronger and if we bring new clubs into the system as well."

On the issue of the lack of Strategic plans from Ulster, Daily Ireland contacted the Ulster Camogie Development Officer Michael McClements

who responded as follows: "Ulster Council do have a Strategic plan. The Ulster Council Development Plan was introduced prior to the Ard Comhairle initiating this process."

"The Ulster Council plan is currently being updated and we are working to ensure an appropriate and achievable plan is put into place for the next five years."

"I have encouraged each county to devise their own plans and have held six meetings to provide advice and a template to follow. I'm aware that little follow up work has taken place, though Antrim, Tyrone and Armagh have all indicated that they are putting in the work to this project."

■ GAEL LINN

Let's face facts now



PAUL WELSH

To comment: p.welsh@dailyireland.com

At the end of the 1990s I'd the privilege, and it was a privilege, to be involved with the Ulster Gael Linn [inter provincial] teams.

After a couple of losing years the Juniors defeated Leinster in the final at St. Vincent's in 1998.

It was great for Ulster and I know the players value their Gael Linn medal with pride and honour.

On all occasions though, we had prepared diligently for some weeks prior to the event.

This week though, Ulster camogs have every reason to be unhappy following last Saturday's Gael Linn.

A directive from Croke Park forced the exclusion of Antrim and Derry players from the Junior team but it appeared that no such instructions had been given to the other three provinces. Ulster found out too late and to their cost.

Such is the depth of feeling that there is even talk of Ulster not competing in Gael Linn again. This initial reaction is understandable considering the players had trained twice a week for the four weeks prior to the Gael Linn.

But I'd caution withdrawing. Let 'official' due process take its course first, and then see.

The concept of the Gael Linn, as a competition is great, but unfortunately this year's competition had its problems from the start.

Early in the week the venue was still unknown and the wrong pairings [last year's Gael Linn fixtures] were posted up on the Camogie Association's website.

On the day itself, both the Connacht and Ulster squads had a 10 minute, or so, 'trek' to their pitch. Alarming it had no changing, toilet or water facilities.

Not good enough. There is no fault or blame being attached to the host club, but the Camogie authorities in Croke Park should have made provision to have these basic facilities available at ALL pitches. Players deserve and should expect more.

After all Gael Linn is supposed to be an All-Ireland competition.

If the Gael Linn is going to remain an integral part of the camogie calendar, somebody is going to have to take it and shake it. Bring it back to life before it fizzles out.

In fairness to the Camogie Association they are doing a lot right at the moment; the recent appointment of a National Camogie Development co-ordinator and two Regional Development co-ordinators for starters, the Strategic Plan too.

All great strides for Camogie indeed but it makes you wonder that if they can do all this so well, how can the Gael Linn have been so spectacularly wrong?

■ PROVINCIAL CLUB CHAMPIONSHIPS

Freshford put titles on the line

BY MÁIRE UÍ SCOLAI

THERE are three Provincial club championship decider this weekend, two senior, in Leinster and Munster respectively and one junior in Munster.

In Leinster, the Storey family of Wexford will have a tale to tell.

Daughter Ciara will play in the Leinster club championship final against reigning All-Ireland club champions Freshford of Kilkenny while her dad Martin, will lineout with Oulart the Ballagh in the Wexford senior county final.

To add to this, Ciara's older brother Anthony will play in the Wexford Minor County hurling final and not to be left out, Martin Óg will play in Wexford Park in an U10 exhibition match at half time of the senior county final, while mum Rosaleen will be doing first aid for the Minors!

With the girls away in Kilkenny, Wexford hurling legend Martin, who manages the senior camogie team,

will miss out on what he knows will be a tough camogie assignment

"We tried to see if it was possible to have the camogie changed, but unfortunately it wasn't," said Storey.

"Freshford are a class act, they are very strong all over, but especially down the middle."

"But we have trained hard for this match all year and we will be hopeful on Sunday."

In preparation for Sunday's clash, Oulart played UCD under lights at the Dublin college and with several players study there, it proved a worthwhile game for Oulart who added the Wexford League title to their silverware last weekend when they defeated St. Ibars in the final.

Determined the Wexford champions may well be, but the same too applies to Freshford. With players the calibre of three times All-Ireland winner Gillian Dillon Maher along with Mairéad Costelloe, Mairéad Lalor, Esther Kennedy and Marie O'Connor,



Gillian Dillon Maher

who have plenty of senior intercounty experience, Freshford, with home advantage will go into the game as favourites.

Having won their first ever All-Ireland club title last year they will be anxious to show it was no fluke.

In Munster, first-time Limerick

champions, Killeady take on Cashel of Tipperary in the Senior final while Croydon of London face Clare's Newmarket-on-Fergus in the Munster junior decider, with both games in Cappaghwhite, Tipperary tomorrow [Saturday].

Cashel should have too much experience for first time finalists Killeady while it is hard to see anything other than a Newmarket victory against Croydon.

Fixtures:

Saturday October 22:
Munster Club Championship Finals (Cappaghwhite, Tipperary)
Junior (1pm): Croydon (London) v Newmarket-on-Fergus (Clare)
Senior (2.45pm): Cashel (Tipperary) v Killeady (Limerick)
Sunday October 23:
Leinster Club Championship Final (Freshford, Kilkenny)
St. Lachtair's (Kilkenny) v Oulart the Ballagh (Wexford) (12pm)

Camogie Round-Up

County Final Replay

This Sunday October 16th sees the meeting of Cashel and Duharra in the replay of the county senior camogie final. After the first meeting the sides couldn't be separated and both teams must do it all again on Sunday. Both Cashel and Duharra will be glad of another bite of the cherry, as victory could have gone either way 2 weeks ago. Duharra for large stages of the game looked to enjoy greater possession but in attack Cashel were more clinical with their shooting to ensure they kept in the lead. This all changed when substitute Niamh Bonner found the back of the net to give Duharra the initiative. And it looked like Duharra were going to claim their first senior county title until in the dying moments Claire Grogan equalised with a fine point. The final moments were extremely tense as both sides worked furiously for the winning score but the final whistle blew and supporters can now look forward to an exciting contest on Sunday next. The game is fixed for Holycross with throw-in at 1.30pm. Once again the question is who will edge out the opposition to be crowned county champions? The sides have shown to be very evenly matched and no doubt Sunday's game will be another close battle. Cashel's win in the Munster championship will surely give them a boost going into the replay on the other hand the longer break and no distractions could work in Duharra's favour. Both sides have plenty of talent and hopefully this will shine through on Sunday.



Alison Lonergan, Cashel gets away from her marker Siobhan Corkery, Cloughduv in the Munster Camogie Semi Final in Cashel.

MUNSTER SEMI-FINAL:-

Cashel in Control

Cashel.....1-13 Cloughduv.....1-5

Cashel booked their place in this year's Munster final with a convincing win over Cork champions Cloughduv in Cashel on Sunday afternoon last. Right from the beginning Cashel dominated this encounter and Cloughduv without the injured Brieghe Corkery were no match for the home side. After 5 minutes Cashel led by a goal and 3 points to the opposition, no score. Cashel's goal came from Cora Hennessey who was prominent throughout, while Claire Grogan had two points from play and Danielle O'Connell also pointed. Cloughduv responded with two pointed frees from Stephaine Dunlea. But Cashel always looked in control and a pointed free from Claire Grogan and scores from Philly Fogarty and Cora Hennessey meant they led at the break 1-6 to 2 points. The second half was also a one-sided affair and despite Cloughduv's best efforts they were limited to 3 points from frees by Stephaine Dunlea. Sinead Millea was excellent at centre back for Cashel and defended brilliantly. While in attack Claire Grogan and Philly Fogarty were on top. In the second half Cashel had points from Linda Grogan, Alison Lonergan, Philly Fogarty and Claire Grogan (3) to ensure victory on a final scoreline of 1-13 to 5 points.

JUNIOR B COUNTY FINAL

On Saturday @ 12 noon in the camogie field, the Ragg Slievenamon and Annacurthy meet in the Junior CEB, county final

U-12 BLITZ

On Saturday in Toomevara starting at 10.30am the u-12 A and B blitz takes place.

Camogie Race Night

The development committee are calling on all the clubs in the County to a meeting on Tuesday night coming the 18th. October at 8.00p.m. in the County Dressing rooms at the Ragg. Notices have been sent to all the club secretary's and we appeal to the respective club secretary that if you cannot be present at this meeting, then do please have someone from the club attend.

Tipperary Camogie have one of the finest playing pitches in the County with equally top quality dressing room facilities. However, this did not come about by chance and many people had to work hard in bringing in the necessary funds to bring the facilities to the level that exist there to-day. While every club have their own fundraising to do for themselves, there is no time a good or a bad time, as there is always fundraising required to survive, regardless of the time of year. If every club is prepared to do a little, it will make all the difference in the long run. After all, this project when completed is of benefit to us all. We look forward to meeting you all on Tuesday 18th.

SYMPATHY

The development committee wish to extend sympathy to it's Secretary Margaret Skehan, Thurles on the untimely death of her brother-in-law Kierie O'Connor, Dublin. Funeral took place in Dublin last week. We also offer our sympathy to Michael and Ann Jordan, the Ragg on the sudden and unexpected death of Michael's brother recently in Thurles. May they rest in peace.

Newmarket make final

Newmarket-on-Fergus	1-13
St Anne's, Dunhill	1-03
munster junior semi-final	

THE Newmarket-on-Fergus ladies made the journey to Dunhill in Waterford a very enjoyable one when they secured a Munster final spot at the expense of the Waterford champions.

The Clare champions confirmed their superiority over their Waterford opponents - having beaten them in the Munster final four years ago, they made it two from two with a comfortable ten-point victory.

The foundations were well and truly laid in the second half when Newmarket were playing against a very strong breeze. St. Anne's broke through for a goal in the opening exchanges, but thereafter the Blues defence stood firm and withstood everything that was thrown at them.

Indeed, they did more than that and raided up the field with regularity to carve out a 0-8 to 1-2 half-time lead. It was a team effort in the forwards, with Aoife Ryan, Ruth Kaiser, Aine O'Brien and Claire Arthur all finding the

range to score points.

This work ethic continued on the resumption - they gave nothing away in defence and restricted the home side to one point from a free over the half hour. Down the other end they bolstered their tally by 1-5, with the goal coming from Claire Arthur.

It was a great team effort from Newmarket, but Aine O'Brien, Karol Kaiser, Moira McMahon and Aoife Ryan were the pick of the performers. They now face London in the Munster final in three weeks time, at a venue to be decided.

Meantime, their attentions will now switch to Munster senior club action - they have a home tie with Limerick champions Killeedy to look forward to on October 16.

Newmarket-on-Fergus - Patricia O'Grady, Eleanor McCormack, Aileen Kilmartin, Mary Higgins, Amy McInerney, Jane O'Leary, Marie O'Looney, Moira McMahon (0-2), Sinead Cullinan, Aoife Ryan (0-3), Ruth Kaiser (0-2), Aine O'Brien (0-2), Claire Arthur (1-1), Sharon McMahon, Sinead Ryan (0-2), Sub - Carol Kaiser (0-1) for Cullinan.

Munster's double thrill

MUNSTER	3-14
CONNACHT	2-8

Camogie Interprovincial championship final

MUNSTER made it title number 19 when they defeated Connacht 3-14 to 2-8 in the Gael-Linn Interprovincial championship final in Ballinteer St John's, Dublin.

Cork's star Denise Twomey scored the first goal of the game to have the scores level at

the break, Munster 1-3, Connacht 0-6. Her Cork team-mate Gemma O'Connor chipped in with another three pointer while Galway's Brenda Hanney responded with a goal of her own 10 minutes into the second half before Susan Keane registered with a late goal.

Munsters juniors made it a double for the province with a 2-14 to 2-4 victory against Ulster.

SCORERS - Munster: G. O'Connor, D. Twomey 1-0 each, J. Ryan 0-5, J. O'Leary 0-4 (ft), A. Walsh 0-2, S. Kelly, S. Dunne, R. Moloney 0-1 each. Connacht: B. Hanney 1-1, S. Keane 1-0, L. Kavanagh 0-5 (ft), O'Kenny 0-2.

IRISH DAILY STAR GAA AWARDS



RECOGNITION: Cork's Brieghe Corkery was the Camogie final Player of the Match; from left: Paul Cooke (The Star) Corkery, Bertie Ahern and Frank Hickey (Waterford Crystal)

Cronin: The man with the Midas touch

LAST Wednesday evening in the Rochestown Park Hotel, John Allen, Cork hurling manager and John Cronin, the Cork camogie manager were joint winners of the 96 and 103fm GAA monthly sports star awards for September.

It was an enjoyable evening with both managers receiving numerous well deserved plaudits.

It is only during the past couple of years that I have come to know John Cronin.

First and foremost we had little chats here and there when he was involved with the Cork minors and more so this year when he took over as manager of the Cork senior side.

Always courteous, obliging and honest, it is little wonder he has won the respect of club and inter-county players alike in a career spanning 13 years.

Through his daughter Ceire, John became involved with Cloughduv Camogie Club in 1992.

He began taking Ceire to training and one of the club's stalwarts Kathleen Healy approached him and asked if he would consider coaching the under age section in the club.

Having previously been involved with the hurlers John took up this new challenge and he hasn't looked back.

Contesting numerous under-age finals the club's strength began to grow.

They won the under 16 championship in 1997 and from that victory John's inter-county career began.

In 1998 as the County champion's representative John took over as manager of the Cork minor team and they won the All-Ireland title after a lapse of 13 years.

During the next six years John was to accumulate another four titles including three in a row from 2001 to 2003.

In 2004 the minor side were defeated in the Munster championship and John decided to call it a day.

If we thought for one moment that was the end of John Cronin we were very much mistaken.

He took a giant step forward in 2005 and walked straight into the position of Cork senior camogie manager. It was a brave move but those that voted for him had the faith.

He duly delivered and in almost fairytale fashion won Cork their 21st All-Ireland title in incredible style four weeks ago.

Never one to look for personal praise or glory this quietly spoken man was quick and eager to send the back slapping in another direction.

His praise of trainer Fiona O'Driscoll and his co-selectors Ollie Hallahan and Lillian Zinkant cannot be emphasised enough.

He credits Fiona and her incred-



Linda Mellerick

ible knowledge and expertise throughout the season as one of the main reasons Cork are All-Ireland senior champions today.

But it takes more than one. As a unit this foursome work well together and with the players. It isn't a teacher / pupil scenario but rather a teacher / friend situation.

Incredibly 10 players out of the 15 that finished on the field on All-Ireland final day had all come up through the minor ranks with John.

Aoife Murray in goal and the entire full back line of Joanne O'Callaghan, Rosalie Holland and Amanda O'Regan all won All-Ireland minor medals with John. Jennifer O'Leary, Emer Dillon and Rachel Moloney were another three.

I put it to John that it must have been a proud moment for him to coach these girls from minor level to senior status in such a short space of time and watch them collect, in what was for many, their first All-Ireland senior medal.

"It was great really," he said. We always got on well. Even when we met in the street we'd always stop and have a chat.

"The camaraderie was always there and it helped make the win extra special."

I asked John what his greatest moments were.

"This year to win the All-Ireland in the way we won it was fantastic and I'll always remember our All-Ireland minor final win in 1999 against Galway."

"We won by a point 2-12 to 3-8 and it was an incredible victory. I remember Emer Dillon was brilliant that day and it always stands out in my mind."

Cloughduv also went from strength to strength, moving up to the senior A grade in 1997 and winning county titles in 2001, 2002 and 2005.

Asked if he is considering staying on at the Cork helm for 2006 John says he is happy to stay if he is wanted.

"Overall I've had marvellous moments with camogie. The support we've had in the past 12 months has been fantastic."

"The county board and the supporters club were magnificent to us as were a lot of others. I also couldn't have done all this without the support of my wife and daughters, Norma, Ceire and Aoife and I'd like to thank them for all their support."

As someone quite rightly stated the other night: "They say that success doesn't always come to the nice guys, well in this case it did."



Finbarr Mc Carthy 96/103 FM presents Camogie manager John Cronin with his award, while Liam Lally Rochestown Park Hotel does the honours with hurling manager John Allen also included left to right Roman Curran, John Cashman 103 FM Sport, Elaine Burke Camogie Captain, Jim Forbes County GAA Board Chairman and Marion Mc Carthy Camogie Board Chairperson.

John and John honoured in September

IT SOUNDS like the name of a company of solicitors, but it's not like that at all - it's just a way of saying that both John Allen and John Cronin are the winners of the 96/103 FM GAA Sports Star of the month award for September in association with the Rochestown Park Hotel, for guiding the Hurling and Camogie teams to All-Ireland glory.

The judging panel had an easy task as it was a fantastic achievement by both men who were in their first year as Baineisteors, and they were presented with their awards at a very pleasant function on Wednesday night last.

It was also the first time in the nineteen months of the scheme that joint winners were chosen and the decision proved a popular one.

Elaine Burke, Camogie captain, brought along the O'Duffy Cup and for company it had the Liam Mc Carthy Cup with Ronan Curran.

Liam Lally, General Manager Rochestown Park

Hotel, said, it was a special night for the two recipients whom he congratulated on their success, even if the hurlers defeated his native county in the final. Managers, he said, give unselfishly of their time and very often their work goes unnoticed and it is only right that their contribution is been acknowledged. The end of year banquet, he acknowledged, now promises to be a great night.

County GAA Board Chairman Jim Forbes was fulsome in his praise for both winners saying, "It was a great month for Cork and it is fitting that the men who guided the teams are to be congratulated on their achievements, and I hope that they would continue to serve the county with the same dedication and commitment in the past. I would also like to thank the sponsors for their continued involvement in this excellent award scheme".

Marion Mc Carthy spoke on behalf of the Camogie Board

saying, "As a Board we are delighted that our senior coach is been recognized in the same month as the hurlers, as it was a very special time for the county. John Cronin enjoyed great success with the minor team and the manner in which he brought that success to the senior team was a factor in Cork winning our 21st title in this, the Centenary Year of Cork Camogie. I would also like to congratulate John Allen on his win with the hurlers which acted as an inspiration for our team".

In reply both men said they were delighted to be honoured but were accepting this award on behalf of their backroom teams who make their jobs all that bit easier by doing an amount of work that is very often unseen.

Despite the obvious attraction of an International soccer match on TV, it was a well attended function and apart from the families of both recipients, among those present

were Joe O'Leary, Ger Cunningham and Eddie O'Donnell members of the Cork hurling backroom team, while Camogie selectors Ollie Hallahan and Lillian Zinkant also enjoyed the evening.

Officers of both Boards also attended along with John Motherway PRO, Catherine Tiernan of 02, Bob Honohan, Linda Mellerick, Camogie Board President Sile Golden and Vice-President Nora Newman, Mick Finn and Mick Keating of St Finbarrs, Kathleen Healy and Bina O'Callaghan of Cloughduv, former All-Ireland medal winner Johnny Crowley and Camogie players Joanne O'Callaghan, Rachel Moloney, Ciara Healy and Collette Desmond all enjoyed the proceedings.

The 96/103 FM Sports team were represented by big match commentator John Cashman, Kieran O'Driscoll and Camogie correspondent Mary Newman.



Coláiste Phobal students bring home All-Ireland and Leinster camogie titles to Offaly — Kathryn Browne, Marcella Maloney, Amie Dooley pictured with Camogie Coach Ms. O'Gorman - three Coláiste Phobal students and the unique distinction of bringing back the first ever All-Ireland Camogie title to Offaly. The girls also won the Minor B Leinster title. Both Finals were well-fought matches. Marcella captained the side to both Minor B titles. Congratulations to the girls and may they have many more successes.

Camogie: U16 A county final: Ballyvaughan 2-5 Eire Op 1-6; **JB League final:** Tracton 2-6 Ballinacorney 0-8; **U16B championship semi-final:** Inniscarra 2-7 Ballyvaughan 2-2; **U16C league semi-final:** Ballinacorney 4-2 Kildorney 0-2; **JB Shield semi-final:** Milford 3-7 Aghabullogue 2-4; **St Finbarr's 3-13 St Catherine's 2-4.**

COLÁISTE PHOBAL CAMOGIE

Once again, the camogie season has begun at Coláiste Phobal, Ros Cré. This year we are delighted to welcome a new teacher on board, Ms Ormond, who hails from Templemore. Training resumed immediately after the summer holidays, with a number of practise matches against Birr Community College. These matches are always vital in preparation for the championship. We thank Ms. Frances Dowling from Birr Community College and all the girls.

The first round of the championship begins shortly. Our Junior B team take on the Ursuline Convent in Thurles while our Intermediate team take on Carrick-on-Suir. Sincere good luck to all our camogie players in Coláiste Phobal, Ros Cré.

SENIOR CAMOGIE FINAL REPLAY:

Cashel Are Crowned County Champions

CASHEL.....0-16

DUHARRA.....1-9

The replay of this year's county senior camogie final was another intriguing contest like the drawn game. However on this occasion Cashel were the superior side and edged out Duharra by 4 points. The sides were level on five separate occasions throughout the hour in a tough physical game with some great skill on display. Duharra got off to great start when Eimear McDonnell finished with a point. Five minutes later Eimear had her side's second score when she pointed a 45m. Claire Grogan pointed a free after 6 minutes for Cashel's opening score. Two minutes later the sides were level when Emily Hayden was fouled as she went on the attack and the resulting free was tapped over the bar by Claire Grogan.

The game was more open than when the sides first met two weeks ago. Cora Hennessey pointed in the 9th minute to give Cashel a slender one-point lead. This was quickly added to by Helen Grogan after good play further out the field by Philly Fogarty. After 12 minutes a long range free by Ciara Gaynor deceived the Cashel defence and struck the crossbar before being cleared by Sinead Millea. Minutes later Trish O'Halloran who started well for Duharra pointed to leave a point between the sides again. Sheena Howard and Deirdre McDonnell had to be alert at the other end as Cashel went on search for another score. The ball was eventually cleared and Eimear McDonnell gathered possession and went on the attack. She was fouled and Eimear pointed the resultant free.

Duharra then went into the lead in the 21st minute when Jenny O'Halloran who had a good game throughout the hour stormed onto a loose ball and fired it over to raise a white flag. A minute later Philly Fogarty struck a



Cashel's Philly Fogarty gets away on Trish O'Halloran (Duharra) in the County senior final at Helycross.

fine sideline cut which was superbly caught by corner forward Alison Lonergan. She turned quickly and hit the ball over for Cashel's 5th point. In the 28th minute Eimear McDonnell rounded her marker and went on her dangerous trademark run. She off-loaded the ball to Nessa O'Driscoll who was brought down by Cahel keeper Jovita Delaney for a penalty. Eimear stepped up to take it and her rasping shot went over the crossbar. This point was quickly canceled out by Linda Grogan after a pass from Claire.

As the sides headed for the dressing room at the break the scoreboard read 6 points apiece and it was all to play for in the second half.

Cashel got the second half off to a great start with 4 unanswered points in the space of 5 minutes from Claire Grogan, Emily Hayden, Philly Fogarty and Danielle O'Connell. Duharra looked to be in trouble as they failed to win their puck outs and Cashel showed tremendous accuracy shooting for points. Una O'Dwyer and

Sinead Millea started to come more and more into the game while Claire Grogan and Philly Fogarty impressed switching between the forwards and midfield. After 12 minutes Duharra still hadn't scored in the second half but this all changed when a low ball in by Trish O'Halloran was pulled on to the back of the net by substitute Niamh Bonnar.

It was a score that Duharra badly needed but Cashel responded admirably when Helen Grogan pointed. The tempo of the game then lifted and two points in succession from Sara Hayes and Eimear McDonnell meant the sides were level again 1-8 to 11 points with only 10 minutes remaining.

Two frees by Claire Grogan gave Cashel a two point lead while Duharra continued to battle hard for scores. Ciara Gaynor impressed at centre back and it was her clearance which fell to Trish O'Halloran in the 57th minute. Trish controlled the ball well and headed for goal but was being well marshalled by Sinead Millea. The ball was then given to

Niamh Bonnar who had taken up a good position and she slotted it over the bar.

This was to be Duharra's final score while Cashel finished very strongly in the closing minutes. Two points from Philly Fogarty in the 59th and 60th minute put the game beyond Duharra's reach. While in the 61st minute the final score fell to Claire Grogan as she pointed a 45m. And so Cahel emerged deserving winners by a margin of 4 points.

Duharra: A.Kissane, D.McDonnell, S.Howard, K.O'Brien, S.Nealon, C.Gaynor, T.Brophy, J.O'Halloran, A.Mulcahy, S.Hayes, T.O'Halloran, R.Barry, J.Fennessey, N.O'Driscoll, E.McDonnell, Subs: N.Bonnar for J.Fennessey, L.Reid for R.Barry.

Cashel: J.Delaney, N.O'Dwyer, U.O'Dwyer, S.Morrissey, F.O'Dwyer, S.Millea, P.Bulfin, L.Grogan, C.Hennessey, H.Grogan, E.Hayden, P.Fogarty, A.Lonergan, D.O'Connell, C.Grogan, Subs: H.Breen for D.O'Connell



County Board Chairperson Marion McCarthy Presents the Senior B Camogie Championship Trophy to Sally Ann O'Halloran captain Ballygarvan Following their victory over St Catherine's in the Final on Sunday last

Cashel prove Premier class

Cashel 4-13 Cappaghwhite 2-4 CASHEL won their third Munster senior club championship title when they defeated Killeady of Limerick 4-13 to 2-4 in the Munster club championship final in Cappaghwhite, Tipperary yesterday.

Two first-half goals from Danielle O'Connell and one from senior Tipperary star Claire Grogan set the Tipperary champions up for a half-time lead of 3-7 to 1-2 — the Limerick goal coming from Noreen Barry.

A late goal from O'Connell sealed Cashel passage through to the All-Ireland semi-final on November 6th against the Connacht champions Davitts of Galway.

Meanwhile, Newmarket on Fergus of Clare are the Munster junior club champions following their 6-15 to 1-3 victory at the same venue over Croydon of London.

SCORERS — Cashel: D.O'Connell 3-0, C.Grogan 1-4 (2F), A.Lonergan, E.Hayden, C.Hennessey 0-3 each, Killeady: M.Keating, N.Barry 1-0 each, M.Casey 0-3 (0-3F), M.O'Connell 0-1.



THE following is the list of sports from which the final 10 Texaco sports awards for 2005 will be chosen. Athletics, Bowling, Boxing, Camogie, Cricket, Cycling, Gaelic Football, Golf, Greyhound Racing, Hockey, Horse Racing, Hurling, Motor Sport, Ladies Football, Rugby, Rowing, Sailing, Snooker, Soccer, Swimming.

Camogie seniors honour young stars

by Catherine Ketch

CORK'S camogie seniors, fresh from their All Ireland success, met their U14 counterparts at a function at Ballyanly/Inniscarra.

Elaine Burke, Captain of the senior Cork camogie side that beat Tipperary in the O'Duffy Cup at Croke Park, presented the trophies to Cork's U14 side that won the James Hurley All Ireland U14 blitz played at Inniscarra in July run by Cork Colleges Camogie.

The U14 girls beat Kilkenny in the final and Galway in the semi-final beating Dublin, Wexford, Tipperary, Clare and Waterford in a round robin series.

The girls participated in 25 training sessions and eight inter-county matches en route to the blitz, also



winning the Limerick, Kilkenny and Clare blitzes. The team was captained by Michelle Healy, Coachford College.

As a good omen for the younger girls it was pointed out that no less than eight of the senior girls had progressed to the senior Cork panel

At the presentation of prizes at Inniscarra to the Cork U14 camogie side winners of the 2005 All Ireland Camogie Blitz were: Marie O'Donovan, Clonakilty, Cathleen O'Brien, Inniscarra, Michelle Healy, Aghabullogue, Claire O'Connor and Ciara O'Keeffe Éire Óg and Elaine Burke, senior camogie All Ireland medalist 2005.

Picture: Ketch

from the U14 side of the year 2000. Pat Roche representing Coillte presented a set of fleeces and a set hurleys to Cork Colleges.

GAA honours Irish Hitler

EVEN the GAA's enemies — and there are a few of them out there — could hardly have dreamt this one up.

It turns out that the O'Duffy Cup, awarded to the All-Ireland Senior Camogie champions, is named after Eoin O'Duffy, Irish Fascist leader and self-proclaimed "third most important man in Europe" after his heroes Adolf (Hitler) and Benito (Mussolini).

Somehow the Fifth Column doubts that Juventus would

be all too happy if they found the prize for winning the Italian soccer league was a Benito Mussolini Cup. But in Ireland, it is obviously still OK to name a top sporting prize after a fascist who had his supporters give him the one-armed salute amid cries of "Hoch O'Duffy", a man still hero-worshipped on Neo-Nazi websites.

But then of course there is still the O'Duffy Stand at the GAA ground in Clones. Clones even has an O'Duffy St. Surely Monaghan has enough local

heroes to name streets after without using its local wannabe Hitler?

OK. So O'Duffy was a star organiser for the GAA in the 1910s. But in the Thirties he was also a Garda Commissioner who tried to organise a coup to stop de Valera winning power. And he was willing to become Ireland's Quisling if the Nazis conquered us in the Forties. You'd think he'd be the last person the GAA would want to have a cup named after.

Of course the GAA will probably say it is only commemorating his work for Gaelic games, not his politics. If so, then why doesn't it have an Edward Carson Cup too? After all, Carson tried to set up a hurling club before the GAA was created, and played the game. Or is it OK to name a prestigious cup after a fascist, once they were a Catholic nationalist one, but not OK to name one after a unionist, even one who played hurling?

Jim Duffy

The wrong O'Duffy

A chara — Cumann Camogaiachta na nGael wishes to correct erroneous statements made by Jim Duffy in his article entitled 'GAA honours Irish Hitler' (Fifth Column, October 16).

Corn Ua Dubhthaigh, the O'Duffy Cup, awarded to the winners of the Foras na Gaeilge All-Ireland Senior Camogie Championships, was presented to the association in 1932 by Seaghan Ua Dubhthaigh and is named in his honour and not, as stated in the article, "after Eoin O'Duffy, Irish fascist leader".

Seaghan, having refereed the first All-Ireland Camogie Final in 1932, presented his cup to the

winners, Dublin. Seaghan Ua Dubhthaigh, a native of Cill a' Bhaile, Westport, Co Mayo, was involved in the promotion of camogie from 1906 until his death in 1981, and his contribution over 75 years is of an enduring quality.

Furthermore, although the Camogie Association and the GAA have enjoyed a close alliance since the foundation of the Camogie Association in 1904, the GAA is not responsible for the provision of camogie awards.

**Sile de Bhaillís,
Ardstiuirtheoir, Cumann
Camogaiachta na nGael, Pairc an
Chrocaigh, Ath Cliath 3**

League title means double delight for Tracton

by Mary Newman

Tracton 2-5
Ballincollig 0-8

DOUBLE delight for Tracton as they added the Junior B camogie league title to the championship crown annexed earlier in the season, but not after a hard fought contest against a Ballincollig side that were left to rue squandering some valuable chances.

In an opening half, where all but one of the scores came from frees, Tracton held a slender 0-4 to 0-3 interval advantage, both sides having had periods of dominance through the 30 minutes. Two pointed Marion Jaego frees gave the

county champions the early advantage, but by the midway stage Ballincollig had settled, with Denise Cronin pointing from a free and a penalty.

With eight minutes to the break Cronin pointed to edge Ballincollig ahead, but they squandered some scoring chances before Tracton's Marion Jaego pointed twice.

Despite the heavy rain of the week which made the going tough the Ballincollig pitch held up well, a tribute to the hard working field committee who ensured the game could go ahead. The opening 10 minutes of the second half belonged to Ballincollig as won possession and came at Tracton, but erratic shooting was to cost them

dearly before Denise Cronin equalised on the eighth minute, again from a free. A minute later Clare Ryan gave Ballincollig the lead, pointing a long range free. With Leah Weste superb in the centre back position Ballincollig upped the pace, but failed to breach the strong Tracton defence where Eileen Collins and Patricia O'Callaghan excelled, while at midfield Jane Kind and Jennifer Lynch worked hard to get Tracton back into the game.

Tracton brought corner forward Marion Jaego to a more central role and the move paid dividends with Jaego playing a huge role in the game's opening goal. A foul on Jaego resulted in Trisha Harrington

launching a long ball into the Ballincollig square, and in the ensuing scramble Catriona Ginnane first timed to the net to restore the Tracton advantage. Ballincollig fought back with a Denise Cronin point. With half a minute of normal time remaining Jaego and Cronin again obliged from frees as Tracton hung on for dear life.

Two minutes into injury time Marion Jaego was again the heroine for Tracton, floating a long ball to the square. Catriona Ginnane was quickest to react blasting to net. From the puck out Denise Cronin pointed a free, but there was time for no more as referee Ger Sheehan sounded the full-time whistle before the puck out.

Celebrations for Tracton, but credit to Ballincollig who fought to the finish, no more so that Leah Weste who when moved to centre back proved inspirational, while Aisling Collins and Clare Ryan also tried to the finish, but there was no denying Tracton the double.

Tracton: N Hayes, G Mc Carthy, E Collins, capt; P O Callaghan, K O Sullivan, P Harrington, J A Kingston, J Lynch, J Kind, C O Mahony, N Lynch Ginnane, C Coughlan, N Harrington, M Jaego Sub A Sinclair for C O Mahony (35mins)

Ballincollig: A Kiely Donovan, A Murphy, A Cotter, Leah Weste, A Collins, M O Donoghue, M O Sullivan, C Ryan, D Cronin, A Lovett, C MC Sweeney, Louise Weste, V St Ledger, Sub: M Morrissey for V St Ledger (40mins).

Referee: Ger Sheehan Douglas.



FAB VINCENTS PIP ERINS ISLES FOR DOUBLE

THE Marino Waltz echoed around Pairc Naomh Uinsinn with all the style of James Last on Sunday night, writes Niall Scully.

And why not. There was a party to enjoy, and a Sunday Game to salute.

Earlier in the day, St Vincent's completed the coveted double when they pipped Erin's Isle to win the Othausen Senior A League at Farnham Drive, 1-11 to 1-8.

It was a repeat of the Championship final, but the weather was better, and so was the game.

These two old North Dublin foes lit up the Finglas sunshine with their courage and determination.

Not an inch was spared in the pursuit of the alloter, so much so that referee, Damien Noble, frequently had to throw-in the ball, such was the tangle of sticks and bodies.

The Saints rearguard also underlined what good defending is all about — true grit and

CAMOGIE

composure. As Isles poured on the pressure late on, the Vincent's wall stood tall.

The pace and the striking in the opening period was of the highest order. At the end of it, Vincent's led by a point, 1-7 to 1-6.

The home goal, at the pitch and putt end, arrived in the sixth minute when Anne McCluskey's delivery was helped to the net by Gillian McCluskey, no relation.

Four minutes later, Jordan replied with the Vincent's goal as her 45 managed to avoid a cluster of huris and dip beneath the bar.

Twice more there was parity on the restart

before returns from Elmeor Brannigan and Jordan pushed Vincent's ahead.

Anne McCluskey's 45 reduced the deficit again, but, two minutes from time, Jordan held her nerve to convert another telling free.

Brannigan's shot, from the left, then tumbled back off the inside of the far post and rolled across the mud. No Russian lineemen in Finglas Isles still battled on. With the clock quickly ticking down, Anne McCluskey dropped a 45 into the mix, but Vincent's, as they had done all day, dealt with the danger.

Seconds later, Noble's final shrill of the trumpet provided the sweetest sound of all for the dazzling double-diamonds.

SCORERS — St Vincent's: Aisling Jordan 1-6 (50), Aoife Cullen (1), Danielle Smith, Aine Fanning, Elmeor Brannigan, Rhona Quirk 0-1 each. Erin's Isle: Anne McCluskey 0-6 (51, 1 45), Gillian McCluskey 1-0, Louise O'Hara 0-2, Dawn Barry 0-1.

Cork have 10 up for All-stars

THIRTY SEVEN players have been nominated for the Camogie All-Stars 2005.

All-Ireland champions, Cork, top the bill with 10 nominations while beaten finalists, Tipperary, have seven, Wexford six, Galway and Dublin four, Kilkenny and Clare two and Limerick and Laois one.

The All-Star team will be announced live on Saturday November 12 at a gala banquet in the CityWest Hotel.

The awards, crafted by Jarlath Daly, will be presented by guest of honour, Ossie Kilkenny, chairperson of the Irish Sports Council, and Miriam O'Callaghan, Presi-

By LINDA MELLERICK

Camogie news

ent of Cumann Camógachta na nGael.

Nine of last year's All-stars are nominated again: Aoife Murray, Cork, Suzanne Kelly, Tipperary, Aine Codd, Wexford, Mary Leacy, Wexford, Therese Brophy, Tipperary, Gemma O'Connor, Cork, Kate Kelly, Wexford, Clare Grogan, Tipperary and Jennifer O'Leary, Cork.

Also nominated this year are Rena Buckley and Brieghe Corkery who have the honour of also being nominated for a ladies football All-star.

Four players from the

minor grade have been nominated for Young Player of the Year: Colette McSorley, Armagh, Katie Power, Kilkenny, Siobhán Flannery, Offaly, Aoife McLoughney, Tipperary.

A new addition to the awards this year is the Manager of the Year award.

Nominated are Sharon Glynn, Galway, John Cronin, Cork and Peter Lucey, Dublin.

NOMINATIONS: Manager of the Year: John Cronin (Cork), Sharon Glynn (Galway), Peter Lucey (Dublin).

Goalkeepers: Aoife Murray (Cork), Jovita Delaney (Tipperary), Catriona Ryan (Kilkenny).

Backs: Therese Maher (Galway), Sinéad Cahalan (Galway), Regina Glynn (Galway), Catherine O'Loughlin

(Wexford), Aine Codd (Wexford), Deirdre Codd (Wexford), Mary O'Connor (Cork), Brieghe Corkery (Cork), Anna Geary (Cork), Rena Buckley (Cork), Suzanne Kelly (Tipperary), Therese Brophy (Tipperary), Julie Kirwan (Tipperary), Catriona Power (Dublin).

Midfield: Gemma O'Connor (Cork), Kate Kelly (Wexford), Clara Lucey (Dublin), Philly Fogarty (Tipperary), Deirdre Murphy (Clare), Imelda Kennedy (Kilkenny).

Forwards: Eimear McDonnell (Tipperary), Clare Grogan (Tipperary), Jennifer O'Leary (Cork), Emer Dillon (Cork), Stephanie Dunlea (Cork), Rachel Maloney (Cork), Ursula Jacob (Wexford), Mary Leacy (Wexford), Louise O'Mahony (Laois), Lourda Kavanagh (Galway), Aoife Sheehan (Limerick), Catherine O'Loughlin (Clare), Clara Durkan (Dublin), Louise O'Hara (Dublin).

Young Player of the Year: Colette McSorley (Armagh), Aoife McLoughney (Tipperary), Katie Power (Kilkenny), Siobhán Flannery (Offaly).

Cork get 10 All Star nominations

A TOTAL of 37 players have been nominated for this year's Camogie All Stars. All-Ireland champions Cork top the bill with ten nominations, while beaten finalists Tipperary have seven. Wexford have received six nominees, with Galway and Dublin on four, Kilkenny and Clare on two apiece and Limerick and Laois getting one each.

The All Star team will be announced on Saturday, November 12 at a Gala Banquet in the CityWest Hotel. The awards, crafted by Jarlath Daly, will be presented by Ossie Kilkenny, chairperson of the Irish Sports Council, and Miriam O'Callaghan, President of Cumann Camógachta na nGael.

Nine of last year's All Stars are nominated again — Cork trio Aoife Murray, Gemma O'Connor, and Jennifer O'Leary, Tipperary's Suzanne Kelly, Therese Brophy and Clare Grogan, and three Wexford players, Aine Codd, Mary Leacy and Kate Kelly. Also nominated this year are Rena Buckley and Brieghe Corkery who are also nominated for a ladies football All Star.

NOMINATIONS — Manager of the Year: J Cronin (Cork), S Glynn (Galway), P Lucey (Dublin). **Goalkeepers:** A Murray (Cork), J Delaney (Tipperary), C Ryan (Kilkenny). **Defenders:** T Maher (Galway), S Cahalan (Galway), R Glynn (Galway), C O'Loughlin (Wexford), A Codd (Wexford), D Codd (Wexford), M O'Connor (Cork), B Corkery (Cork), A Geary (Cork), R Buckley (Cork), S Kelly (Tipperary), T Brophy (Tipperary), J Kirwan (Tipperary), C Power (Dublin). **Midfielders:** G O'Connor (Cork), K Kelly (Wexford), C Lucey (Dublin), P Fogarty (Tipperary), D Murphy (Clare), I Kennedy (Kilkenny). **Forwards:** E McDonnell (Tipperary), C Grogan (Tipperary), J O'Leary (Cork), E Dillon (Cork), S Dunlea (Cork), R Maloney (Cork), U Jacob (Wexford), M Leacy (Wexford), L O'Mahony (Laois), L Kavanagh (Galway), A Sheehan (Limerick), C O'Loughlin (Clare), C Durkan (Dublin), L O'Hara (Dublin). **Young Player of the Year:** C McSorley (Armagh), A McLoughney (Tipperary), K Power (Kilkenny), S Flannery (Offaly).

Cork's champions deserving of All-Star recognition

THE announcement of the Camogie All Star nominations for 2005 is going to generate much debate.

Cork, as All-Ireland champions, top the listing with ten.

The All Star team will be announced live on Saturday, November 12 in the City West Hotel.

The Cork players nominated are: Aoife Murray, Mary O'Connor, Brieghe Corkery, Anna Geary and Rena Buckley, Gemma O'Connor, Jennifer O'Leary, Emer Dillon, Stephanie Dunlea and Rachel Moloney.

The Camogie association introduced an All Star selection for the first time last year in its Centenary year. Many thought it was a once off but thankfully not. All Star awards are held in high esteem in the GAA.

It is a tremendous way for individual players to be honoured, particularly those playing for counties which may never win an All-Ireland.

Up to now some of the best players

By LINDA MELLERICK

Camogie News

in the game have gone virtually unrewarded. Now the great players in all counties have a chance to be recognised.

Four players from the minor grade have been nominated for the Young Player of the Year award: Colette McSorley of Armagh, Katie Power of Kilkenny, Siobhán Flannery from Offaly and Tipperary's Aoife McLoughney.

A new addition to the awards this year is the Manager of the Year Award and our own John Cronin, Galway's Sharon Glynn and Dublin's Peter Lucey are the nominees.

In total 37 players have been nominated.

In addition to the Cork players named the nominees are: **Goalkeepers:** Jovita Delaney (Tipperary) and Catriona Ryan (Kilkenny).

Backs: Therese Maher (Galway), Re-

gina Glynn (Galway), Catherine O'Loughlin (Wexford), Aine Codd (Wexford), Deirdre Codd (Wexford), Suzanne Kelly (Tipperary), Therese Brophy (Tipperary), Julie Kirwan (Tipperary) and Catriona Power (Dublin).

Midfield: Kate Kelly (Wexford), Clara Lucey (Dublin), Philly Fogarty (Tipperary), Deirdre Murphy (Clare), Imelda Kennedy (Kilkenny).

Forwards: Eimear McDonnell (Tipperary), Clare Grogan (Tipperary), Ursula Jacob (Wexford), Mary Leacy (Wexford), Louise O'Mahony (Laois), Lourda Kavanagh (Galway), Aoife Sheehan (Limerick), Catherine O'Loughlin (Clare), Clara Durkan (Dublin).

Aoife Murray must be the favourite to take the number one spot for the second year in a row. Catriona Ryan is an excellent goalkeeper for Kilkenny and may run Murray close.

12 backs battle it out for six positions. It is hard to believe that Brieghe

Corkery sat on the bench for some of Cork's opening Championship games.

She played the league at centre field and then lost out only to regain her place in a reshuffled side which took to the field for the All Ireland semi final against Limerick. She excelled at right half back that day and held the position for the final where she ran Tipp ragged. Mary O'Connor is also a must. Anna Geary has been dependable throughout the season and it will be interesting to see if she has caught the neutral eye.

Rena Buckley showed her true worth when moved to her more natural position of right half back at half time in the All Ireland final. Her positioning at corner back for many of the season's games may hinder her selection this time around but you never know. The two Codd's of Wexford are in with a great chance as is Suzanne Kelly at corner back for Tipp.

Gemma O'Connor, Kate Kelly and

Philly Fogarty should be the three fighting for the pair of midfield positions.

Out of the 13 nominees for the forward positions, Mary Leacy, Eimear McDonnell, Clare Grogan and Lourda Kavanagh of Wexford, Tipp (2) and Galway respectively will battle it out with the four Cork nominees, all of who are worthy candidates. I hope the selection is picked purely on merit and not on ensuring that every county is represented.

The victorious Cork Camogie banquet is being held in the Rochestown Park Hotel tomorrow evening and a large crowd is expected.

Demand for tickets has been high and many more are expected to turn up on the evening. It promises to be a great night in what has been a great year.

● Setanta Sports are showing the Ireland/Scotland Camogie/Shinty game played recently in Inverness, Scotland today at 1.40pm and on Monday at 3.40pm.

Buttervant under 16 county champions

A GREAT day for Buttervant who were crowned Cork County under 16 A champions defeating holders Eire Og in a thrilling final on Saturday last. Eire Og led by seven points at the interval after a superb opening thirty minutes. Margaret O'Herlihy struck over four pointed frees in the opening half to settle Eire Og and it took a Dawn O'Keeffe save to deny Eire Og a certain goal but they were undeterred and Margaret O'Herlihy give O'Keeffe no chance from close range to extend the advantage.

Buttervant did have scoring chances through the first half but the strong Eire Og defence held firm, Lisa Marie O'Mahony bringing off an excellent save to deny

Buttervant.

Eire Og led 1-5 to no score at the interval but Buttervant showed fierce determination from the start of the second half and three points inside eight minutes had them back in the game. By the tenth minute Elaine Murphy had just two points between the sides after first timing to the net.

Margaret O'Herlihy pointed an Eire Og free but Buttervant continued the pressure as play swung from end to end it was thrilling stuff with both sides totally committed to their cause. With eight minutes remaining Buttervant Emer Murphy stepping up to drive a twenty metres free the back of the net to give her side the lead for the first time in the con-

test.

Elaine Murphy extended the advantage on thirty three minutes from a free and now Buttervant held a two point advantage.

With the game into injury time Sharon Sheehan pointed to extend the advantage to three but from the puck out Eire Og attacked only to shoot agonisingly wide in front of goal. On the puck out came the final whistle and Buttervant's had annexed their first Cork County Championship under 16 A title.

Credit to Eire Og who fought like true champions to the final whistle but on the day all the plaudits to a superb Buttervant side that are worthy champions.

DOUBLE FOR TRACTON

A DOUBLE for Tracton who they added the Junior B league title to the championship crown won earlier in the season. Ballincollig provided a stern stumbling block to Tracton's aspirations from the word go and in an opening half where all but one of the scores came from frees Tracton held a 0-4 to 0-3 interval advantage.

Two pointed Marion Jaego frees gave Tracton an early advantage but by the mid way stage Ballincollig had settled with two Denise Cronin points. With eight minutes to the break Ballincollig took the lead thanks to a pointed Cronin free but Ballincollig squandered scoring chances before Tracton rallied to

edge ahead thanks to two Marion Jaego points.

Despite the heavy rain of the week which made the going tough the Ballincollig pitch held up well, the opening ten minutes of the second half belonged was all Ballincollig but they shot three wide's in as many minutes before Denise Cronin equalized on the eight minute from a free before Clare Ryan gave Ballincollig the lead pointing a long range free.

With Leah Weste superb in the centre back position Ballincollig upped the pace but failed to get the vital scores against a strong Tracton defense Tracton brought corner forward Marion Jaego to a more central

role and the move paid dividends inside seconds with Jaego helping set up the games opening goal by winning a valuable free, Trisha Harrington launching a long ball into the Ballincollig square and Catriona Ginnane first time to the net to restore the Tracton advantage. Ballincollig battled on with a Denise Cronin point, again Jaego and Cronin swapped pointed frees as Tracton held their lead.

Two minutes into injury time Catriona Ginnane grabbed goal number two to ensure the double for Tracton. Well done to Tracton but credit to Ballincollig who fought to the finish in an exciting contest.

Camogiechat

With Mary Newman

ALL STAR AWARDS

TEN Cork players have been nominated for All Star awards which will be announced on November 12th at a Gala banquet in the City West Hotel.

Cork top the bill with ten nominations while beaten finalists, Tipperary, have seven, Wexford six, Galway and Dublin four, Kilkenny and Clare two and Limerick and Laois one. Nine of last years All Stars are again amongst the thirty seven nominees, Aoife Murray, Cork, Suzanne Kelly, Tipperary, Aine Codd, Wexford, Mary Leacy, Wexford, Therese Brophy, Tipperary, Gemma O'Connor, Cork, Kate Kelly, Wexford, Clare Grogan, Tipperary and Jennifer O'Leary, Cork.

Rena Buckley and Brieghe Corkery are also nominated for awards and they are now in line for a double also having been nominated for a ladies football All Star. Also amongst the nominees are Stephanie Dunlea, Mary O'Connor, Anna Geary, Rachel Moloney, and Emer Dillon.

A Young player of the Year will be named and there are four nominees from the minor grade Colette McSorley, Armagh, Katie Power, Kilkenny, Siobhán Flannery, Offaly, Aoife McLoughney, and Tipperary.

This year a Manager of the Year will be chosen and the nominees are Cork manager John Cronin, Sharon Glynn Galway, and Peter Lucey, Dublin, here Corks John Cronin should be a front runner to pick up

the inaugural award following on the counties success in the senior final.

The evening promises to be one not to be missed as the cream of Camogie gather to celebrate another successful season.

Tickets for the black tie event are available at €80 and can be obtained by contacting Sinéad O'Connor or Phil Clarke in Croke Park at 01 8364619.

Victory celebration

A REMINDER that the county board will celebrate the All Ireland success with a victory dinner dance which will take place at the Rochestown Park Hotel on Sunday, Oct 30 (Bank Holiday Sunday). On the night the victorious team will be presented with their All Ireland medals as will the victorious junior national league side.

Tickets for the function are available from any county board officer or from your local club or the players who will put you in contact with the county board.

It's hoped that following on the success of last years function many clubs will again come along and celebrate in a year when camogie in Cork reached its hundred year taking the counties twenty first title.

Buttevant U16A camogie champions

by Mary Newman

Buttevant 2-5
Eire Og 1-5

BUTTEVANT were crowned Cork County Under 16 A camogie champions as they defeated holders Eire Og in a thrilling contest.

Trailing at the interval by seven points, they turned in a superb second half display to take the crown for the first time in their club's history.

Four pointed Margaret O'Herlihy frees in the opening half settled Eire Og and Dawn O'Keefe had to be at her best to deny Eire Og a

certain goal, but it came eventually with Margaret O'Herlihy giving O'Keefe no chance from close range.

Buttevant did have plenty of chances but failed to take them against a strong Eire Og defence while Lisa Marie O'Mahony had to be at her best with an excellent save.

Eire Og led 1-5 to no score at the interval, but it was a determined Buttevant side in the second half, substitute Darina O'Callaghan getting involved immediately when introduced as her side upped their game.

From the throw in they attacked and three points inside eight minutes had them set-

tled. A first time pull from Elaine Murphy to the corner of the net after 10 minutes had just two points between the sides.

Margaret O'Herlihy pointed an Eire Og free to keep her side in front, but Buttevant continued the pressure as play swung from end to end. It was thrilling stuff with both sides totally committed to their cause.

With eight minutes remaining Buttevant's Emer Murphy showed tremendous calm as she stepping up to drive a 20 metres free to the back of the net to give her side the lead for the first time in the con-

test. Elaine Murphy extended the advantage on 33 minutes from a free and now just two points separated the sides.

With the game well into injury time Sharon Sheehan pointed to extend the advantage to three, but from the puck out Eire Og attacked only to shoot agonisingly wide in front of goal.

On the puck out came the final whistle and Buttevant had annexed their first Cork County Championship under 16 A title.

Credit to Eire Og who fought like true champions to the final whistle, but on the day credit to a superb Butte-

vant side who refused to die.

Buttevant: Elaine Murphy 1-1, T O'Reilly 0-2 (0-1), Emer Murphy 1-0(f), L O'Callaghan and S Sheehan 0-1 each.

Eire Og: M O'Herlihy 1-5 (0-5).

Buttevant: D O'Keefe; J O'Callaghan, T Roche, M Lee; L Harrington, Emer Murphy, O Johnson; E Harrington, T O'Reilly (Capt); F O'Connell, S Sheehan, N Walsh; E Healy, N Curran, Elaine Murphy. Subs: D O'Callaghan for N Curran and A Cullen for E Healy (30mins) K Burke for L Harrington (in) 35 min.

Eire Og: L M O'Mahony; C O'Connor, S Gleeson, D Twomey; S O'Donovan, C McCarthy, L Murphy; E Kelleher, K McCarthy; C Meaney, E Corkery (Capt), C Purcell; C O'Keefe, M O'Herlihy, A Scally. Subs: A McCarthy for C Meaney (50 min).



Tracton captain Eileen Collins lifts the Junior A camogie league trophy after their recent win.

Centenary dinner marks a great year for camogie

THE Rochestown Park Hotel was the venue for the Cork camogie centenary dinner and presentations, marking not only 100 years of the Cork Camogie Association, but the achievements of the Cork teams in what was a particularly successful year, with the highlight being the All-Ireland senior win.

Present at the function were members of the victorious teams which won the National League title, the Munster Intermediate title, the Munster U18 team and the senior team which won the All-Ireland which were pride of place on the top table during the evening.

Without doubt, this was one of the most successful years in the Cork camogie scene with four Munster and national titles to their name, and with the success of the Cork senior hurlers and ladies football team as well as the Cork juniors also winning All-Ireland and Munster titles, certainly a year to remember for all concerned.

Speaker after speaker congratulated the teams, their mentors and selectors, both past and present for the contribution they had made to camogie in Cork with their hard work paying off with plenty of silverware this year.

Also present at the function were: Miriam O'Callaghan, National President Camogie Association; Marion McCarthy, President Cork Camogie Board, Lord Mayor Cork Deirdre Clune; Gerry Kelly, Acting Mayor Cork County; Jim Forbes, Chairman Cork County Board and Munster Council members Eamonn Browne and Rose Malone as well as officers of the Cork County Camogie Board.

All four captains were also present — Linda O'Connell (juniors), Anna Geary (U18), Amanda O'Regan, vice captain of the intermediate team and Elaine Burke of Valley Rovers, captain of the Cork senior team.

During the course of the evening, medals were presented to members of the victorious teams, with some players receiving two and even three medals, while presentations were also made to trainers/selectors. These included Liz O'Mahony, Willie O'Regan and Brendan Coleman (junior team), Sheila Golden, Kay Dunne and Pat Murray of the Intermediate team, U18 selectors Lolla Long, Sheila O'Brien and Ann Marie Healy and to the senior selectors John Cronin, Ollie Hallahan, Lillian Zinkhart and Fiona O'Driscoll. The GAA Presidents' Award, which was announced last June, was officially presented to former president Mary Moran at the dinner.

The evening also celebrated 100 years of camogie in Cork from humble beginnings from the first club called 'Fainne an Lae' back in 1905. The county now boasts 57 clubs and 39 secondary schools affiliated to the Cork Association, making it one of the largest in the country. And with 42 All-Ireland titles (20 being senior), no other county can match the success record of Cork, and long may it continue into its second century!



Professor Gerry Wrixon, President UCC, with students from the university who played in All-Ireland winning Cork teams this year in ladies football, camogie and hurling. (Front from left): Regina Curtin, Colette Desmond, Ronan McGregor, Jennifer Browne, Laura Power, and Caoimhe Creedon. (At rear): Pat Price, PE Officer, Stephen Manning, Athletics Union, Eamonn Ryan, UCC GAA Development Officer and Cork Ladies Football coach, Kevin Hartnett, Tom Kenny, Rachel Maloney, Sarah O'Donovan, Eimear Dillon, Cathriona Foley, Christine O'Donovan, acting Director of Physical Education & Sport, and Shane O'Neill. Larry Cummins.



TROPHIES GALORE: Linda O'Connell, National Junior League cup; Elaine Burke, All-Ireland Senior cup; Anna Geary, Munster U18 Cup and Amanda O'Regan, Munster Intermediate Cup, at the Cork Camogie Association victory dinner at The Rochestown Park Hotel.

Picture: Larry Cummins

Cork team to have victory banquet in their honour

THE Cork senior camogie team will receive their coveted All-Ireland medals on Sunday, October 31 in the Rochestown Park Hotel. The county board will host a victory banquet in the team's honour and a large crowd is expected. Tickets are available from any county board member. It's been a hectic but rewarding year for Cork. Dominated by Cork players, Munster made it title number 19 last weekend when they defeated Connacht in the Gael Linn Interprovincial Championship senior final in Dublin. It turned out to be a Munster double as the junior side defeated Ulster 2-14 to 2-4. Seeking their fifth senior title on the trot, Munster overcame a disappointing Leinster side in the semi-final, 1-12 to 0-2. Leading by six points to one at half-time, a goal just after the break knocked any hopes of a Leinster revival. Cork's Jennifer O'Leary's free was heading over the bar but was caught by Kilkenny keeper Catriona Ryan who let the sliotar slip into the goal. The final was a tighter affair, particularly up to half time when the teams went in level. Munster had the wind in the second period and a Gemma O'Connor goal, an O'Leary point and two from Tipperary star Joanne Ryan put Munster in the driving seat and it finished 3-14 to 2-8. Cork's Anna Geary, at centre back, was in top form throughout the day and was awarded the Player of the Tournament. The junior side, captained by Clare's Deirdre Murphy, who won Player of the Tournament, always had the edge on Ulster in the final. Many players opt not to make themselves available for this competition which is a shame. It's carefree and enjoyable and it's a nice honour and should be treated as such. The provincial club championships are at the final stages. The Leinster club final between reigning All-Ireland champions St Lachtain's and Oulart the Balagh takes place tomorrow as does the Munster final between Cashel and Killeady. With the All-Ireland finals down for decision on November 23, it is going to



Linda Mellerick

be a case of playing almost every fortnight for the teams that are left. The four-year Strategic Development Plan is coming to the end of its first year and a half-day seminar is being held today in Croke Park to assess progress. The four strategic goals identified were: ● Increase participation in camogie at school, college, club and county level. ● Enhance playing skills and coaching, refereeing and administration standards. ● Strengthen management at all levels of the camogie association and ● Improve the image of profile of the camogie association. Since then, county boards, provincial councils and units overseeing camogie at primary, secondary and third-level education levels have worked hard to put in place their own development plans to ensure the national goals are realised. The half day seminar will take the opportunity to: ● Identify the key area of progress in implementing the Development Plan. ● Identify the key challenges in implementing the Development Plan. ● Identify the key steps in implementing the plan going forward. The occasion will also be a chance for people from the different divisions to meet, exchange ideas and work towards keeping camogie the vibrant and popular sport that it is. Once again all are welcome to get involved and those interested should contact the National Development Co-ordinator Lynn Kelly or members of the National Development Committee through Croke Park. The Cork Senior team hope to take a well deserved holiday break next March and are presently putting their heads together to come up with some fund raising ideas. Some events will take more organising than others. Calendars for next year have been printed and are currently available for sale to children in schools and clubs. As events arise I will keep you notified and it would be great if you could support the girls in whatever way you can.

Cork Celebrate 100 Years of Camogie

Within months of the founding of the Camogie Association by the Keating Branch of the Gaelic League in Dublin, the game had spread to Cork. The first Cork club was formed in the Blarney Street area of the City and was called Fainne an Lae. Three more clubs were established in the City before the game fanned out into the county.

Cork's long and continuous tradition in colleges camogie dates back to 1912. St. Angela's College was the first school in Munster to take up the game. Drishane Convent, South Presentation and St. Aloysius School were soon to join in and challenge for the Merriman Cup. A club was formed in UCC in 1913 and they entered for the inaugural Intervarsity Championship in 1915 for which the Ashbourne's Cup was the prize.

Punch & Company presented the Science cup for the Cork Senior Championship in 1932. Cork entered the inter-county arena in 1934 and won six All-Ireland Senior Championship titles in the following eight years and produced some of the finest players that the game had seen. Kitty Buckley, Peggy Hogg, Joan Cotter, Lil Kirby, Kathleen Coughlan, Josie McGrath, Eileen Casey and Renee Fitzgerald became household names.

A long barren period ended in 1970 when Anne Comerford carried the O'Duffy Cup to Leaside. Marie Costine, Pat Moloney, Hannah Cotter, Liz Garvan, Betty Sugrue and Rosie Hennessy were the stars of the side that brought a four-in-a-row to Cork.

Over the next thirty years, the O'Duffy Cup returned to Cork on ten occasions. Marion McCarthy, Mary O'Leary, Cathy Landers, Clare Cronin, Sandie Fitzgibbon, Linda Mellerick, Denise Cronin, Lynn Dunlea, Eithne Duggan, Fiona O'Driscoll and Mary O'Connor played their part. Forty-two All-Ireland titles (20 senior, 2 intermediate, 7 junior and 13 minor) have been won by Cork. No other county can match this record. With 57 clubs and 39 second-level schools affiliated, Cork may look to the future with confidence.

Aghabullgoue crowned U16 C champions

by Mary Newman

Aghabullogue 4-7
Sliabh Rua 1-1

Aghabullogue took the under 16 C camogie championship title at the expense of Sliabh Rua on Sunday last. From the throw in the strength of Aghabullogue was evident with Michelle Healy, Brid Twomey and Caroline Kiely proving a handful for the Sliabh Rua defence.

Michelle Healy opened the scoring with an Aghabullogue point inside two minutes, but Sliabh Rua hit back with a Joanne Ryan goal in their first attack.

Michelle Healy had her side back in control, adding 1-1 to their tally as Aghabullogue held the upper hand, but Sliabh Rua battled to stay in contention as Aghabullogue led 3-5 to 1-0 at the interval thanks to good play from Michelle Healy, Aileen Twomey and goals from Martha Murphy and Michelle Healy.

A determined Sliabh Rua fought to get back into the contest from the restart with Ciara Cotter, Sandra Hallissey and Paula O'Mahony impressive, but they met resistance from a strong Aghabullogue. Substitute Aileen Scannell grabbed an Aghabullogue goal 18 minutes into the second half, and points from Aileen Twomey and Mary Ronan ensured no way back for Sliabh Rua.

The Player of the match award went to Aileen Twomey who played a huge role in Aghabullogue's victory on a day when both sides are to be credited for the superb efforts in trying conditions.

Aghabullogue: E Mc Sweeney, E O Callaghan, M O Connell, A O Sullivan, E O Mahony, B Twomey, C Dennehy, C Kiely, U Murphy, A Twomey, M Ronan, Cotter, M Murphy, M Healy, S Fitzpatrick. Subs: A Scannell for S Fitzpatrick (36mins) S Dineen for M Murphy (49mins)

Sliabh Rua: A Coleman, R O Donovan, N O'Brien, S O'Brien, L Walsh, C Cotter, C Sheehan, Sandra Hallissey, C Daly, P O Mahony, F O'Brien, T Walsh, J Ryan, C O Sullivan, A McCarthy. Subs: Sinead Hallissey for C Sheehan (52 mins), B Coleman for A McCarthy (52 mins)