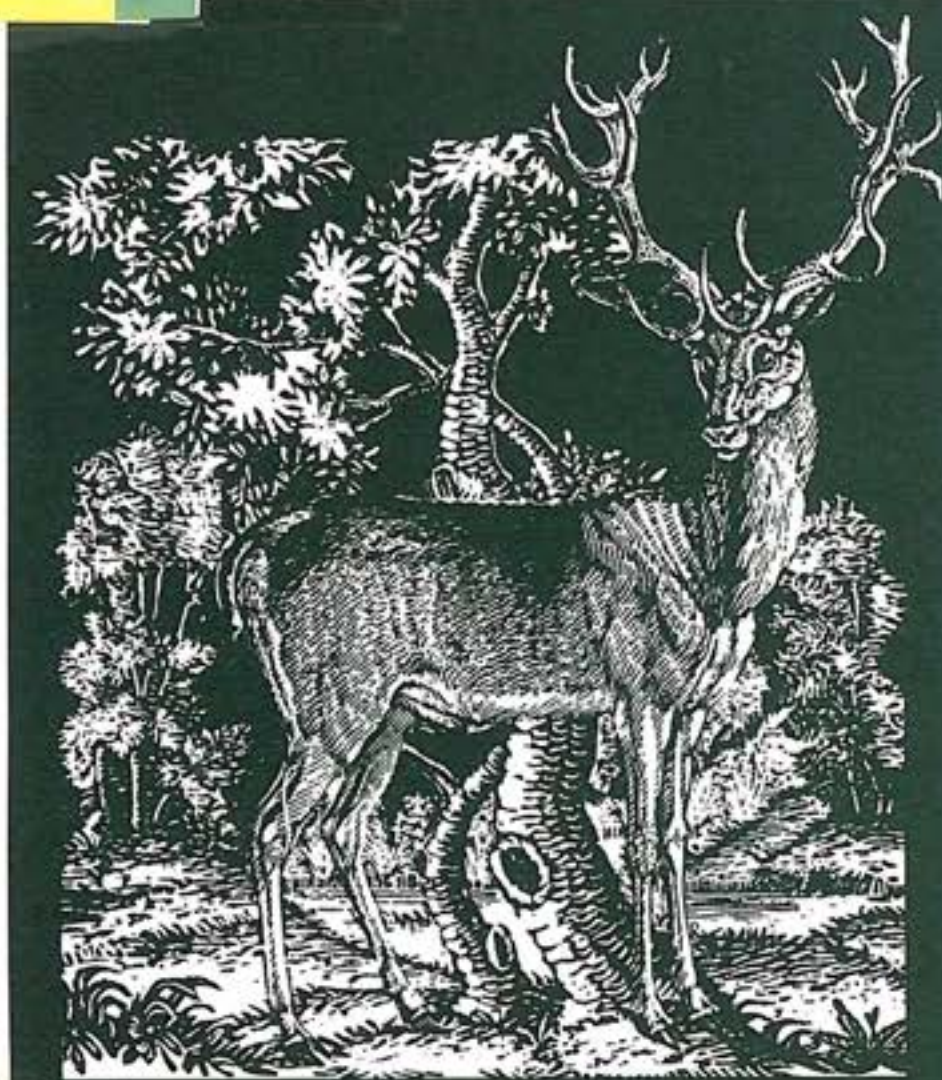


25
SHEETS • FEUILLES
BLATT • HOJAS

109

IE
ndhurst



AUG -
SEPT 2001

DALER~ROWNEY

16 in x 12 in
406 mm x 305 mm

25

135 g/m²

Made by Daler-Rowney,
Bracknell, Berkshire, England



Ref. 405 431 612

Strong Galway see off Limerick

Galway 6-14
Limerick 0-10

ALAS, it proved a bridge too far for Limerick in the Foras na Gaeilge All-Ireland senior camogie championship quarter-final played at Loughrea on Saturday afternoon, writes **Therese O'Callaghan**.

It was always going to be a difficult assignment, therefore the visitors needed to get off to the best of starts.

Not to be, however. They failed to get out of the starter's block and as a result it was the home side that took the game to the Shannonsiders. They were chasing a losing battle right from the throw-in, but this is not to say that the Limerick girls threw in the towel.

They travelled north with great hopes. Having beaten Kilkenny in a recent challenge match, they rightly felt that they could match the best.

Therefore, this loss was a bitter pill to take. "We were overawed," said Limerick selector Vera Mulcahy. "They got in for four goals in the opening half, and we just could not match their speed. Galway were very focused and I would now fancy them to make it all the way to the All-Ireland final."

"It is awfully disappointing. We went up with high hopes, but you do not get anything soft from Galway. They were physically much stronger than us and when we had to move centre back Vera Sheehan up to the forward line, we left ourselves more exposed."

Galway, who had made a couple of changes from the Cork defeat in their opening round game, brought Sharon Glynn into their forward line. Glynn, along with full forward Veronica Curtin and Lourda Kavanagh posed all sort of problems for the Limerick defence.

On this latest performance, it appears now that the Maroon and White will be fancied to overcome the winners of today's other quarter-final between Clare and Kilkenny.

The feeling though is that Limerick are at a huge disadvantage with little or no players coming through from college camogie within the county. Mulcahy says, it is not the predominant sport in many city schools, therefore the county is at a disadvantage when it comes to selecting teams."

CAMOGIE: Leeside ladies are tops as camogie minors claim their 11th

Eleven is the magic number for Cork

Cork
Kilkenny

6-15
0-7

CORK'S first class display was straight out of the top drawer. Yesterday, they underlined why they are top of the ranking order claiming their 11th All-Ireland Minor A camogie title at the Eire Og GAA grounds in Nenagh.

Simply stated Cork are a phenomenon. The true test of any team is durability. Cork were as strong at the final whistle yesterday as they were after the throw-in.

Great credit to the back-room team of John Cronin, Ann Watson and John Quinn. Cronin, not anxious to stake a claim for any of the credit says it is all down to the players themselves.

"We had a great panel this year," he said. "They worked very hard for the last six months and did whatever was asked of them. The goals that we got in



CAMOGIE FOCUS

By THERESE O'CALLAGHAN

ON THE ALL-IRELAND MINOR CAMOGIE FINAL

the run up to half time set us up for this victory."

These goals (three in total) broke the hearts of the Kilkenny chase. Up to then they matched their opponents in all departments and with Aoife Neary (daughter of former Kilkenny hurler, Paddy) showing years beyond her age.

It was anybody's game.

However, with Captain Marie Watson, Marie O'Neill and Gemma O'Connor shooting the three majors for the Leesiders, their half time lead of 3-5 to 0-5 was proving to be an insurmountable mountain to climb. They needed a positive start after the break.

No such luck. The Watson sisters



Rachel Moloney goes highest to win this ball during the All-Ireland quarter-final tie against Dublin at Bishopstown.

Picture: Gerard McCarthy

Minor B win should ease Limerick's pain

By THERESE O'CALLAGHAN

echo.ed@eecho.ie

Limerick
Carlow

3-18
1-1

LIMERICK people have suffered a lot, more than most. Defeat was more the norm, as successive teams at all levels bit the dust.

But yesterday in Nenagh, the winds of change blew for Limerick's camogie team who proved that they are among the best.

When Joanne Clifford accepted the All-Ireland Minor B trophy she said that her county's camogie record was back on track and that this was a momentous day for the Green and White.

This minor team have come a long way since Cork beat them in the first round of the Munster championship.

An ecstatic manager, John Lacey said: "I am absolutely thrilled for the girls. This means everything to Limerick camogie. It was badly needed. The important thing now is

that we build on this victory and that these girls progress to senior panel."

There will be no doubt but better days lie ahead for these girls. Mairead Sheedy and Joanne Clifford cut a swathe through the Nenagh sod, while Sinead McAuliffe (aged 13), Maria McGrath and Player of the Match Nora Collins, will be major players in years to come. Between the three they amassed 2-11 of the Green and White tally.

Carlow stayed with the winners for the opening 20 minutes. The Shannonsiders held a 2-5 to 1-1 lead at the break, but five successive points 10 minutes after the restart left the Leinster side mesmerised.

"Our forwards really clicked," explained Lacey. "We got the scores when needed and the girls stuck with the task, playing to the end."

This win is a much needed boost for camogie in Limerick. All-Ireland titles do not come knocking on your door. Yesterday these girls showed that they have the steel that is needed to go on to bigger and better things.



Denise Cronin brings the ball out of defence against Dublin at Bishopstown.

Don't miss our All-Ireland camogie special in Wednesday's Grassroots

All-Ireland Minor A camogie title, despite brave Kilkenny challenge



Cork's Lynn Dunlea take command against Dublin at Bishopstown.

Picture: Gerard McCarthy

struck again. First Emer and then Marie rattled the net to set Cork on their way. This game was long over before the long whistle of referee John Morrissey. Cork were unstoppable.

Sheila Burns, Sharon Lenihan and Niamh O'Connell led a defiant defence. Player of the Match, Elaine O'Riordan

had the game of her life, alongside the hard-working Gemma O'Connor at midfield.

All six of their forward line produced a massive hour's hurling, but Breege Corkery destroyed the Cats' defence almost single handed with her long surging runs down the middle that ripped

open the spine of the Kilkenny rear-guard.

More intriguing about this win is the fact that nine of the team will again be under age for the minor competition next year.

But, in all reality, the foundation for yesterday's victory was surely laid a

few weeks back in Carrigaline when they pulled on all their reserves to beat defending champions Galway in the semi-final.

Two in-a-row is not out of the question, but for the moment Cork are celebrating bringing Corn Tailteann home for the 11th time.

Cork ease into semi with emphatic win over Dubs

Cork
Dublin

4-11
1-5
By THERESE O'CALLAGHAN

At Bishopstown

THERE were never any anxious moments in this Foras na Gaeilge All-Ireland Senior Camogie quarter-final championship tie at Bishopstown.

But what will concern the Cork back-room team is the number of injuries they have picked up ahead of their glamorous semi-final clash with Tipperary in two weeks time.

Captain of the team, Eithne Duggan cried off before throw-in with a back injury, while during the course of the game her club colleague Clara Healy limped off the field with a knee injury.

Rosarie Holland, who came into the team to replace Duggan at full back also had to abandon proceedings at half-time with a sprained ankle.

Mags Finn was not toggled out due to a damaged rib, and Linda Mellerick is still sidelined, recovering from a broken thumb.

Worrying times indeed for the Leesiders who won Saturday's clash with con-

siderable ease. It's hard to judge how good or bad the Rebel County are due to the different standards portrayed by Dublin and Cork.

Linda Mellerick, however, believes that her team will have to up their performance if they are to turn the tables on last year's All Ireland final result, which saw the Premier County take the honours.

"There is definitely room for improvement, but with the Tipperary match two weeks away we have time to do that. 4-11 here today is a good score, but with all respects to Dublin they did not challenge us at all.

"The focus all year has been on Tipp. We have beaten them in the league and Munster championship, but it will take one hell of a game to overcome them in a fortnight's time.

"We will have to be totally focused. However, I feel the staging of the Cork

championship semi-finals this Wednesday, ten days before the game, is not giving Cork much time to prepare."

Cork showed a rearranged side for the Dublin clash. Some enforced, but the switching of Lynn Dunlea to centre forward where she distributed the ball effectively, and Fiona O'Driscoll to full forward worked very well.

When the home side settled they scored at will. Denise Cronin made a great run down the centre for the Leesiders' second goal, which helped them to a five-point interval lead in what was an entertaining first period.

It was all one-way traffic for the final 30 minutes, and when second-half sub, Jennifer O'Leary scored Cork's fourth goal at the death to kill off the Dubs, it was enquiries all round to find out who had won in Semple Stadium between Tipperary and Wexford.

So, now all attention will turn to that much-awaited Cork/Tipperary semi-final clash on August 18 which promises to be a cracker of a game with the Rebels looking for revenge.



Cork's Fiona O'Driscoll claims this ball against Dublin.

Cork coast to minor title

CORK took their 11th All-Ireland minor camogie title when they defeated Kilkenny 6-15 to 0-7 in Nenagh yesterday.

Three goals in the space of just four minutes, two from Captain Marie Watson and one from Marie O'Neill, just before the break gave the Leeside girls a half-time lead of 3-5 to 0-5.

Two second half goals shortly after the re-start from Marie Watkins and a third from Noelle Collins in the 19th minute saw Cork regain the Tailteann Cup they last held in '99.

Limerick collected their first All-Ireland Minor B title when they beat Carlow by 3-18 to 1-1.

An early goal from 'Player of the Match' Nora Collins and a second from Marie McGrath gave Limerick a 2-5 to 1-1 lead at the break, the Carlow goal coming from Aisling Taylor in the 18th minute.

Limerick dominated the second half with a fine, long-range goal coming from Joanne Clifford.

Tipperary comfortably through

Tipperary..... 4-9 Wexford..... 2-8

CAMOGIE: Champions Tipperary comfortably saw off the challenge of Wexford in the Foras na Gaeilge All-Ireland senior quarter-final at Thurles yesterday.

Tipperary's path was made easier by two softish first half goals. The first came after four minutes when Noelle Kennedy pushed the ball home after it fell from Wexford goalkeeper Ursula Jacob's hand.

Wexford hit back for an Aine Codd goal from a penalty in the 14th minute but Tipperary had two further goals from Noelle Kennedy (17 minutes), and Clare Grogan (22nd minute), to lead 3-4 to 1-4 at the interval.

A goal by Philly Fogarty, nine minutes into the second half put Tipperary in a commanding position. Michelle Hearne kept Wexford's hopes alive with a goal five minutes later but Tipperary stayed in control to the finish and were deserving winners.

TIPPERARY: J. Delaney, S. Kelly, U. O'Dwyer, C. Madden, S. Nealon, C. Gaynor, P. Bullin, E. Hayden, T. Brophy, P. Fogarty (1-1), N. Kennedy (2-5), J. Ryan, E. McDonnell (0-1), D. Hughes (0-2), C. Grogan (1-0).
WEXFORD: U. Jacob, C. O'Loughlin, H. Jacob, B. Holohan, M. Lacey, S. Carr, R. Breen, A. Codd (1-4), A. O'Connor, L. Holohan, K. Kelly (0-6), M. O'Leary (0-2), M. Kelly, M. Ahern (1-0), E. Quigley. Sub: G. Heffernan for B. Holohan.
Referee: A. Derham (Dublin).

CAMOGIE

Minor A All-Ireland: Cork 6-15 (M. Watson 4-4, M. O'Neill, N. Collins 1-0 each), G. O'Connor, B. Corcoran 0-3 each, E. Watson, E. O'Riordan 0-2 each, G. Kearney 0-1). Kilkenny 0-7 (A. Neary 0-5, E. Maher, T. Muldowney 0-1 each).
Minor B All-Ireland Final: Limerick 3-18 (N. Collins 1-7, J. Clifford 1-1, M. McGrath 1-0, S. McAuliffe 0-4, A. O'Connell 0-3, A. O'Brien 0-2, A. Sheehan 0-1). Carlow 1-1 (A. Taylor 1-0, D. O'Neill 0-1).
Tipperary 4-9 (N. Kennedy 2-5, P. Fogarty 1-1, C. Grogan 1-0, D. Hughes 0-2, E. McDonnell 0-1).
Wexford 2-7 (K. Kelly 0-6, A. Codd, M. Hearne 1-0 ea., M. O'Leary 0-1).
Cork 4-11 (E. Burke 1-2, D. Cronin, U. O'Donoghue, J. O'Leary 1-0 each, L. Dunlea 0-6, V. Harris, R. Moloney, F. O'Driscoll 0-1 each).
Dublin 1-5 (L. O'Hara 1-0, S. Crosbie 0-3, S. McCort, G. McCuskey 0-1 each).
Galway 6-14 (S. Glynn 2-3, M. Harkin 2-0, V. Curtin 1-5, C. Murray 1-0, T. Maher 0-3, L. Cavanagh 0-2, C. Nevin 0-1).
Limerick 0-10 (E. O'Brien 0-6, V. Sheehan 0-2, M. Keating 0-1, G. McNamara 0-1).

Fr O'Neills face difficult test against Seandun in county semi-final

Carrigdhoun have tricky challenge as Cloughduv pin their rising hopes on place in the final

by Mary Newman

THERE is little rest for the inter-county players as several of the county minor and senior sides who were in action last weekend focus their attentions on the county semi-finals which take place tomorrow evening.

In Middleton East Cork side Fr O'Neills will meet Seandun in a clash that is sure to attract a lot of attention. Ironically, the last time Seandun contested a county final in 1994 they also played in Middleton, while Fr O'Neills will be no strangers to the venue either. O'Neills come into the clash having stopped reigning champions Bishopstown in their quest for five-in-a-row, no small achievement by a club who down through the years have had to endure heartbreak, losing out in three county finals.

Tomorrow is another huge test of O'Neills as they do battle with a Seandun side who recorded victories over Muskerry and Glen Rovers in their path to the semi-final.

Mags Finn, Fiona O'Driscoll, Sharon McCarthy and Liz Sweetnam know what is required to

book a final spot. The divisional side, who can call on no fewer than nine clubs, will look to Amanda O'Regan, Eileen Clifford, Oral O'Sullivan and Elmarie Cronin as

they set about knocking out O'Neills. They may also include Linda O'Connell who missed the previous games as she was away in America. The second semi-final

will be at the other end of the county in Ovens where another divisional side, Carrigdhoun, will be striving to make it to their first every senior county final, but to

make the dream a reality they must stop a Cloughduv side who since the beginning of the championship have looked likely contenders for the crown.

Strong in all sectors, the Cloughduv side have strength, and with almost all of the side having inter county experience, it will be hard for Carrigdhoun never the less they will fight to the end to make it through.

Captained by Stephanie Dunlea the Cloughduv back room team will be looking for a repeat performance from Marie Corkery, Zelia McDonnell, Joanne O'Callaghan and Una O'Donoghue as they plot the downfall of a Carrigdhoun side who have class performers in Maura Lane, Marion Jaego, Elaine Burke and Emer Dillon.

Inter county
On Sunday next Derry travel to Cork for the Intermediate championship and with the competition being played this year on a semi league basis Cork face a big challenge from a Derry side who last season took All Ireland junior honours.

It's a huge task but one which is not about the reach of a Cork side who will look to Emer O'Sullivan, Val O'Keefe and Nora Ahern to lead the way.

Fixtures
Tomorrow (Wednesday) county senior championship semi finals Seandun v Fr O'Neills at Middleton 7.30 Carrigdhoun v Cloughduv at Ovens 7.30

Sunday, August 12
Intermediate Championship, Cork v Derry. Time and cork venue to be named later in week.

Cats clinch semi-final place

Kilkenny
Clare

5-17
0-0

KILKENNY clinched their place in the All-Ireland senior camogie semi-final against Galway after they hammered Clare at Nolan Park yesterday.

The Cats sailed into a 2-8 to no-score lead by the interval, due to sharp-shooters Catherine Doherty, Martina Maher and Brigid Mullaly.

The punishment continued in the second half for Clare who leaked a further 3-9 without reply.

Scorers for Kilkenny: C. Doherty 1-5, B. Mullaly 1-3, S. Milea 0-5, Martina Maher, M. Downey 1-1 each, A. Neary, E. Maher, L. Lyng 0-1 each.

KILKENNY: B. Barnaville, B. Grennan, S. Costelloe, Marie Maher, E. Kennedy, K. Long, M. Costelloe, E. Maher, B. Mullaly, L. Lyng, Martina Maher, A. Neary, C. Doherty, I. Kennedy, S. Milea. Subs: P. Comerford, F. Dowling, M. Downey, S. O'Gorman, G. Dillon-Maher.

CLARE: L. Moloney, A. Collieran, T. Moloney, M. Keane, S. McMahon, A. Keane, S. Daly, M. O'Halloran, S. Twomey, A. Ryan, T. Naughton, L. Lenane, N. Murphy, P. Moloney, A. O'Regan. Subs: A. McCormack, C. O'Loughlin, C. McMahon, D. Lynch, S. O'Loughlin.

Referee: John Morrissey (Tipperary)

AUG. 2001

FITZPATRICK CUP FOR CAVAN CAMOGIE BOARD

The Cavan Camogie Board recently received a new cup for the senior championship. The cup was presented by the Fitzpatrick family from Crosskeys who have a great tradition with Cavan camogie. When camogie first started in Cavan the Fitzpatrick sister's were founder members. Katie and Ann first played for Denn and then later on for Crubany. They won Ulster championship medals in 1940 and '41. In the latter year they did not receive their medals because the person who had them never turned up to present them. What are the chances of that happening in present time? Katie retired from her beloved game after getting married in 1947, while Ann emigrated to America.



Limerick camogie captain Joanne Clifford celebrates historic win over Carlow, in Nenagh



Sinead McAuliffe makes a run for Limerick

All-Ireland title for Limerick

Limerick 3 - 18
Carlow 1 - 01
A BRILLIANT display of skill spirit and craftsmanship earned Limerick a well deserved All Ireland minor camogie title in sunny conditions in McDonagh Park, Nenagh on Sunday.

Limerick won the loss and team captain Joanne Clifford played against a slight wind in the opening half. Aisling O'Brien opened the scoring with a point in the second minute. Two minutes later talented full forward Nora Collins shot a bullet to the roof of the net. Limerick continued to dominate as Claire Mulcahy, Amanda Sheehan and Nora Collins combined for their third point. Carlow improved considerably thanks to the forceful play of Debbie O'Neill and Lyndsel Condell, the Leinster champions had their opening score in the 15th minute when Debbie O'Neill lofted over an opportunist point. In a swift counter attack Marie McGrath restarted the Shannonsiders confidence with a brilliant goal

after a magical run. It seemed a pulsating contest lay in store when Carlow's full forward Eilis Meaney scored an opportunist goal, but points from powering full forward Nora Collins gave Limerick a commanding lead at the interval. The second half was all one way traffic with Limerick being monarchs of all they surveyed, giving an exhibition of camogie. Their defence ably marshalled by Joanne Clifford were invincible and with Martha O'Connor and Claire Mulcahy dominating the exchanges in the middle of the field, their forwards added on points at will, with Nora Collins rifling over six points, including two magical efforts from acute 30 metre angled shots. The game was over as a contest in the 12th minute when a long distance shot from captain fantastic Joanne Clifford deceived custodian Kelly Dalton and hopped into the net. All the forwards were absolutely fantastic and were most accurate.

Team coach John Lacey beamed with emotion when Westmeath referee

Rita McGrath sounded the final whistle. The Limerick girls were overcome with emotion and a beaming Joanne Clifford shed tears of joy as she received the All Ireland trophy. Overall a major boost for camogie in the county. Well done to the entire panel, the back-room team of John Lacey, Jack Dillon, Rita O'Connell, John White and Theresa Galligan, and to all the supporters who travelled to Nenagh.

Limerick: Marie Corkery, Carol Hickey, Marina Cremin, Janice White, Mairead Sheedy, Joanne Clifford, Christine Carroll, Martha O'Connor, Claire Mulcahy, Amanda Sheehan, Aisling O'Connell, Sinead McAuliffe, Marie McGrath, Nora Collins, Aisling O'Brien. Sub: Fiona Morrissey.

Carlow: Kelly Dalton, Erin Doyle, Anne Marie Kelly, Niamh Kelly, Ann Marie Ralph, Noreen Coady, Ann Comiskey, Elaine Fox, Fiona Byrne, Mary Ellen Doyle, Aine Byrne, Debbie O'Neill, Aisling Taylor, Eilis Meaney, Lyndsey Condell. Referee: Rita McGrath (Westmeath).



Aisling O'Brien charges past the Carlow defence



Limerick's Claire Mulcahy under pressure



A jubilant Limerick team parade their All-Ireland trophy



Amanda Sheehan in control for Limerick

AUG 2001

Great adventure is shattered

Limerick 3-18
Carlow 1-1

THE great adventure is over. Carlow's historic march to a first ever appearance in an All-Ireland Camogie final, the Minor 'B', ended in agony at sultry MacDonagh Park, Nenagh on Sunday when the girls in red, yellow and green were forced to bow the knee to a super Limerick side whose sensational skills, terrific team-work and amazing accuracy saw the Shannonsiders, inspired by a few brilliant individuals hit Carlow with a deluge of top-quality scores.

The Carlow caillins have experienced the agony and ecstasy of sport this Summer, from the 'highs' of beating Westmeath, Offaly, Kildare and Down with wonderful displays of camogie to Sunday's 'low' when, truth to tell, the Leinster champions did not produce the standard of play of which they are capable.

These young Under 16's, though, have given camogie in Carlow a wonderful lift and, in the long term, Sunday's setback will be viewed as an important step in the learning process that, in time, will bring the Barrowside County the big breakthrough at adult level.

The Limerick lassies had in their armoury a few extremely talented individuals who, despite their tender years, had oceans of big time experience. Take their strong centre-half-back and captain, Joanne Clifford, the long striking No. 6 won a Munster Club senior medal as a scoring corner-forward with Granagh/Ballingarry last Winter.

Then you had stylish left half forward, Sinead McAuliffe, the No. 12, who was winning her third All-Ireland medal of the year,

having earlier starred with St. Mary's Charleville, that great camogie nursery, in their senior/junior 'double', a double in which knacky left corner forward Aisling O'Brien also shared.

That kind of big time experience was invaluable to Limerick against a Carlow side new to the All-Ireland stage and the Munster champions game plan, to unsettle Carlow early on, worked a treat, the girls in white and green posting 1-2 by the 7th minute.

The goal came from the stick of full-forward Nora Collins and by games end the No. 14, scorer of 1-11 in her sides stunning 8-34 to 0-1 All-Ireland semi-final triumph over Roscommon, had truly tormented Carlow, her agility and accuracy, be it left or right, yielding seven sizzling points.

Indeed all six Limerick forwards scored, with McAuliffe, so comfortable and assured on the ball, winging over four fabulous points, No. 13 Maria McGrath's 16th minute first-timed goal a big blow to Carlow, and while the normally free-scoring Aisling O'Brien did not raise a flag until late in the game, when she did the No. 15 followed up with another,

two splendid scores.

To lend support to her forward sextet, the Shannonsider's skipper Joanne Clifford, chipped in with a goal and a point, her 40th minute goal the result of a mighty left handed stroke from the half way line which dipped dangerously in the Carlow goal-mouth.

Limerick would have had a couple of more goals but for some fine goalkeeping by Carlow net guardian Kelly Dalton, who made some good 'stops' but brought off one particularly memorable save when diving to her left to turn a stinging Maria McGrath ground stroke around the post.

At the other end Debbie O'Neill and Ashling Taylor wrote themselves for ever into the record book. Debbie's neat shot from the left wing between the dressing room posts in the 15th minute, produced Carlow's first ever point in an All-Ireland camogie final; three minutes later Ashling Taylor's alertness and bravery in a hectic scramble saw the No. 13 force the sliothar over the line for Carlow's first ever goal in an All-Ireland camogie final.

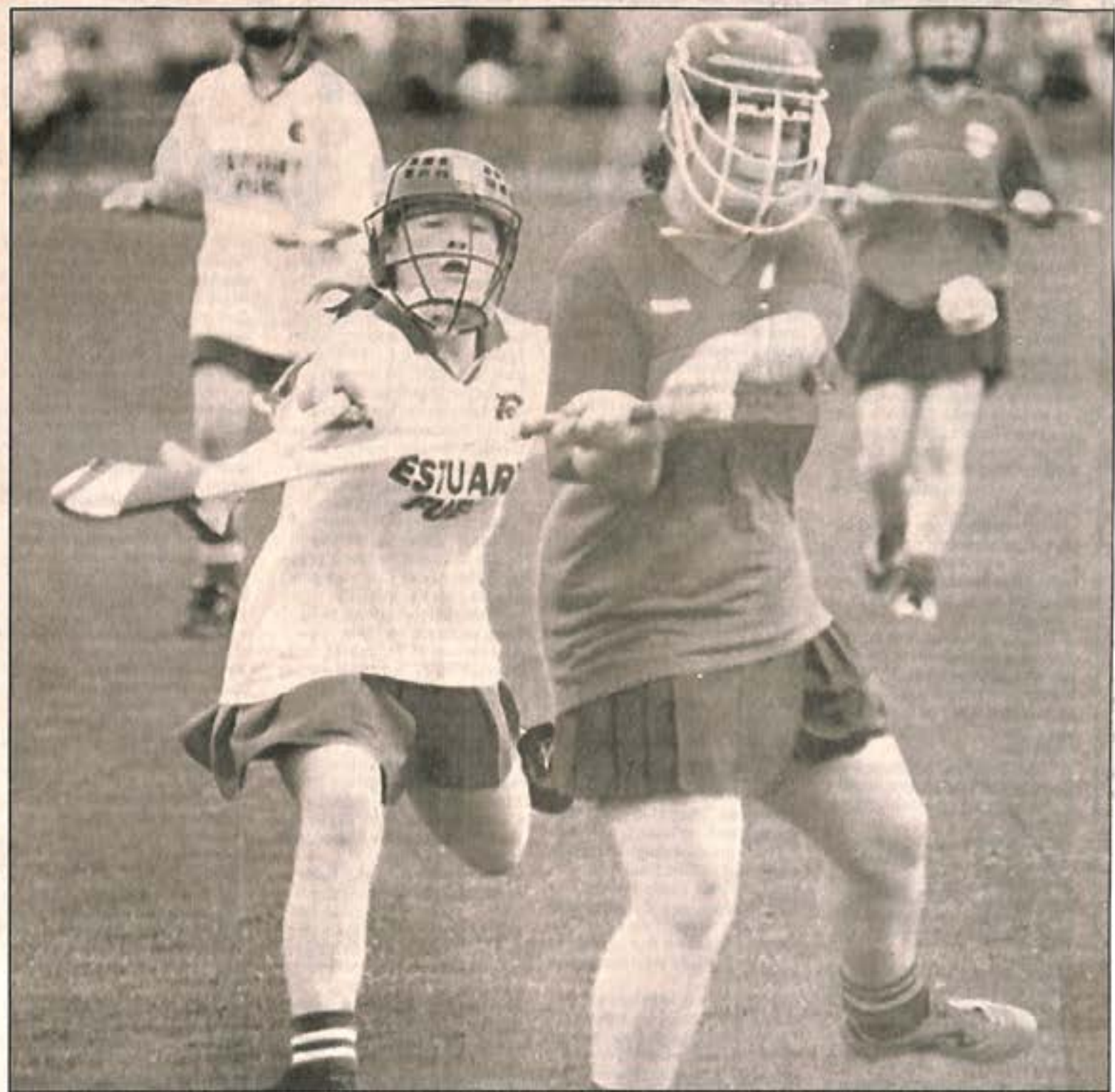
Carlow might have had a couple of more scores, Mary Ellen Doyle denied a goal in

the 20th minute when her powerfully directed ground pull was well saved by Marie Corkery in the Limerick goal, another few half chances around the square were cleared to safety, while a shot for a point from the right wing in the second half struck the upright.

When Debbie O'Neill's historic point came Limerick had already posted 1-3 and added a goal before Ashling Taylor raised the green flag. Come half-time it was 2-5 to 1-1 and the sizeable Carlow following at the Eire Og grounds still held hopes of a Carlow victory but those hopes were well and truly extinguished in the opening five minutes of the second half when lethal full-forward Nora Collins swept over four lovely points and No. 10 Amanda Sheehan added another. Limerick never let up and tacked on a further 1-8 while holding Carlow scoreless for the entire second half.

Carlow battled bravely to the bitter end and Tom D'arcy and his backroom colleagues can be justly proud of a fine group of girls. Alright, things didn't work out for them on the day, but, as stated earlier, they can learn from this experience to go on and make an impact for Carlow at higher levels.

Such has been the girls "all for one and one for all" battle-cry it would be unfair to individualise in the aftermath of what was a huge occasion for Carlow camogie. Suffice to say that the 'Sweet Sixteen's' of 2001 have won themselves a special place in Carlow GAA history, the first ever side from the county to contest an All-Ireland camogie final.



● Carlow's Erin Doyle about to connect during Sunday's All-Ireland under 16 'B' camogie final against Limerick at Nenagh.

Carlow - Kelly Dalton (Ballinacorney); Erin Doyle (St. Mullins); Anne Marie Kelly (Naomh Bríd); Niamh Kelly (Kildavin); Anne Marie Ralph (Mount Leinster Rangers); Noreen Coady (St. Mullins); Anne Comiskey (Kildavin); Elaine Fox (Myshall); Fiona Byrne (Mount Leinster Rangers); Mary Ellen Doyle (St. Mullins); Aine Byrne (Kildavin); Debbie O'Neill (Mount Leinster Rangers) 0-1; Ashling Taylor (Naomh Bríd) 1-0; Eilish Meaney (Ballinacorney); Lindsey Condon (Naomh Bríd). Subs - Fiona Kavanagh (Kildavin) for Aine Byrne; Deirdre O'Brien for Anne Marie Ralph; Kathy Kehoe for Niamh Kelly.

Limerick - Marie Corkery (Knockaderry); Carol Hickey (Granagh/Ballingarry); Marina Cremin (Killeedy); Janice White (Ballygran); Mairead Sheedy (Blackrock); Joanne Clifford (Granagh/Ballingarry) (Captain) 1-1; Christine Carroll (Patrickswell); Martha O'Connor (Killeedy); Claire Mulcahy (Ahane); Amanda Sheehan (Galbally) 0-1; Aisling O'Connell (Galbally) 0-3; Sinead McAuliffe (Ballygran) 0-4; Maria McGrath (Knockaderry) 1-0; Nora Collins (Milford) 1-7; Aisling O'Brien (Granagh/Ballingarry) 0-2. Sub - Fiona Morrissey (Granagh/Ballingarry) for McGrath.

Referee - Rita McGrath (Westmeath).

AUG 2001

Minor side put on a fantastic display

Cork
Kilkenny

6-15
0-7

THE honour of bringing the county its first All-Ireland title for 2001 fell to the minors who gave a display which will long live in the memories of those present.

Such was Cork's dominance that the game was over as a contest long before the final whistle, a factor which is a tribute to the hard work put in by the panel and selectors John Quinn, Ann Watson and John Cronin.

A close opening quarter saw the sides level at three points each, but with Cork curbing Kilkenny's danger player Aoife Neary, the Leesiders confidence grew.

Neary shot Kilkenny into a narrow lead with an 18th minute point, but it was to be short-lived as Cork took over from the 20th minute when Gemma O'Connor's long range free was kept in play by Noelle Collins and finished to the net by Marie Watson.

Keeping on the pressure, Cork struck for further goals two minutes apart, the first coming from Marie O'Neill after Briege Corkery and Marie Watson combined to deliver well to the inside line and, with Emer Watson striking for the second, Cork looked in command.

Corkery and Gemma O'Connor added points to which Aoife Neary replied for Kilkenny but, looking comfortable, Cork led 3-5 to 0-5 at the break.

Within two minutes of the resumption the Watson sisters combined to stretch Cork's lead with further goals, Marie setting Emer up for the first and the second coming from Marie herself.

Kilkenny did try to salvage the game and added a Therese Muldowney point, but continuing to call the shots, Cork had added seven points from Marie Watson, Marie O'Neill and Briege Corkery before Noelle Collins added their sixth goal.

An Edel Maher point only helped put a better reflection on the score board as the Leesiders, with further points from Emer Watson and Gemma O'Connor, took the title for the 11th time in the county's history.

Selector John Quinn was thrilled with his side's performance and spoke to **Grassroots** after the game.

"It's hard to describe our reaction only to say we're absolutely thrilled. We knew it would take a good side to beat us but we exceeded even our own expectations. They are a great team and I want to pay tribute to all the panel for the hard work and especially to my fellow selectors Ann Watson and John Cronin. It was a team effort and it's great to be champions again."

Now in his third year with the minor side and having won two All-Ireland titles, Quinn when asked where does it go from here, answered with a smile: "Sure if they want us back we will probably give it another go next year."

For selector Ann Watson it was a special day with daughter Marie captaining the side and Emer also playing a vital role in the victory.

"It's great to win after losing out to Tipperary in last year's Munster championship. We made a vow to be back and everybody worked so hard, I am just so happy for them all."

It was also a proud day for former Cork hurler Denis Burns who watched his daughter Sheila follow in his footsteps winning an All-Ireland medal.



Action from Cork v Dublin All-Ireland Camogie Senior quarter-final in Bishopstown.

Picture: Gerard McCarthy

Rebels power to semi final

Cork
Dublin

4-11
1-5

DESPITE starting this game without captain Eithne Duggan and Linda Mellerick, who are both injured, Cork still had enough power to advance to the All-Ireland semi-final.

They overcame Dublin in the championship quarter-final at Bishopstown on Saturday.

Cork opened the scoring with an Elaine Burke point, but the Dubs hit back and took the lead when Louise O'Hara's long-range free was deflected to the net by a Cork defender.

But Cork did not panic and replied within five minutes when Elaine Burke finished Lynn Dunlea's pass to the net to restore her side's advantage.

Lynn Dunlea had added two further points before Sarah Crosbie kept Dublin in touch with a pointed free. Again a goal proved vital for Cork, this time coming from Denise Cronin when she took on the Dublin defence and left several of them in her trail before crashing the ball to the roof of the net.

Limerick took the county's first minor B All-Ireland title, 3-18 to 1-1, outclassing a Carlow side, who had no answer to the more skilful opponents.

Nora Collins, with a personal contribution of 1-6, set the trend for her team-mates as they proceeded to tear the Carlow defence to shreds.

Collins and Ashling Taylor's first-half goals gave Limerick a 2-5 to 1-1



NO question about this week's winner.

Elaine O'Riordan who gave one of the finest displays in a Minor All-Ireland final. From the start she played as if her life depended on it. she can be proud of her contribution as Cork took their eleventh All Ireland Minor title...

By **MARY NEWMAN MCCARTHY**
In Bishopstown

Crosbie and Dunlea swapped points and with Dunlea adding another, Cork led 2-5 to 1-3 at the break.

With wind advantage in the second-half, Cork got the perfect start to the half when Una O'Donoghue left the defence flat-footed and blasted to the net. From here on, there was only going to be one result as Cork dominated.

Five points in-a-row from Vivienne Harris, Elaine Burke, Rachel Moloney, Lynn Dunlea and Fiona

O'Driscoll had stretched Cork's lead before Gillian Mc Cluskey pointed a Dublin penalty just after the Cork defence had saved a close-in free.

Lynn Dunlea tapped over a free and long before Jennifer O'Leary, who had replaced the injured Ciara Healy, grabbed an injury-time goal Cork were safely through to a meeting with All-Ireland champions Tipperary who were made fight hard to earn their spot by a determined Wexford side in Semple Stadium.

After the game selector Rose Desmond was reasonably pleased with the result.

"At the back of our minds we were probably always knew we were going to win and we probably were a little laid back in the opening half. However, we played well in the second half and we look forward now to meeting Tipperary on August 18."

The other quarter-final games saw Tipperary advance at the expense of Wexford in a game where the All-Ireland champions had to fight all the way for their win.

Galway easily brushed off the challenge of Limerick on a 6-14 to 0-10 scoreline and Kilkenny demolished Clare by 5-17 to no score.

Tough choice for fans with two semis to choose from

FANS must choose this evening as county senior championship action resumes with both semi-finals down for decision at different venues.

Fr O'Neill's 1 meet Seandún in the East Cork division in Middleton while Carrigdhoun will play Éire Óg in the Mid-Cork division at Cloughduv.

It's an historic occasion for the Carrigdhoun side as they are the first team from the division to participate in a senior county semi final.

They're facing a tough challenge in Cloughduv who are favoured by many to take the Science Cup this year.

The fortunes of Carrigdhoun are guided by Billy Dillon and Jack McGrath and they are under no illusions as to the task they are facing.

"Cloughduv are tipped to go all the way and we know it will be tough. Against Éire Óg we had to work hard and were almost caught. If we allow this to happen again we will be in trouble."

"However, it is great to be in the semi-final for the first time in the division's history and we are going all out for victory," Billy Dillon told **Grassroots**.

County semi-finals are nothing new to Fr O'Neill's. Having contested the last four, this year, they are head-to-head with Seandún which is comprised mainly of city clubs - Douglas, St Finbarrs, Brian Dillons, Delanys, St Vincents and Mayfield.

O'Neill's strove gallantly to take the Science Cup to Ballymacoda but had to endure the heartbreak of losing three county finals in a row to Bishopstown between 1997 and 1999.

Last year, they went out at semi-final stage to the holders, but in 2001 they finally achieved their goal and defeated Bishopstown, this time in the quarter final.

Last season they contested the U-18 B final and despite losing out at the final hurdle, players such as Gearoidín Kearney, Roisin Corcoran, and Catherine O'Shea have blossomed, fitting in well with established players like Fiona O'Driscoll, Mary Kennefick and Mags Finn.

With the boost of a victory over the champions behind them, O'Neill's will be hoping to make it to another county final.

Seandún last contested a county senior final in 1994, but with two victories under their belt they are in confident mood.

They will be hoping to include Linda O'Connell - recently returned from the US - in tonight's line-out and they have stars in Amanda O'Regan, Elmarie Cronin, Valerie Maher and Rachel Myers, who will not be in awe of Fr O'Neill's record of making it to finals.

With just O'Neill's standing between them and a first final appearance in seven years, the city representatives will give it one hell of a shot.

Limerick make history by sinking Carlow

LIMERICK took the county's first minor B All-Ireland title, 3-18 to 1-1, outclassing a Carlow side, who had no answer to the more skilful opponents.

interval lead and with Joanne Clifford adding a third 10 minutes into the second-half, the Cup was on its way to Shannonside.

Sinead McAuliffe, Ashling O'Brien and Amanda Sheehan all shone on a day when Limerick centrefield player, Claire Mulcahy, made her own bit of history becoming the third generation of her family to win All-Ireland medals.

Coming from the famous Mackey family, Claire's grandfather John is the proud holder of the Celtic Cross as is her mother Vera who won honours with Limerick juniors in 1977.

Ironically, on the Limerick team that day was Ann Sheehy who also witnessed her daughters Emer and Marie Watson carry on the tradition by taking minor A honours with Cork.

FIXTURES

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 8
Senior County Championship
Semi-Finals: Cloughduv v Carrigdhoun at Éire Óg grounds Ovens 7.30, Fr O'Neill's v Seandún at Middleton 7.30pm.
SUNDAY, AUGUST 12
Under 16 B League Quarter Final
2000: Douglas v Rockbawn, Douglas, noon. **ALL IRELAND Intermediate Championship:** Cork v Derry, Cork venue, TBC.



Grainne Brennan, Kilkenny, moves ahead of her opponent in the All-Ireland Minor Camogie final against Cork at Nenagh. (Photo: Michael Brophy)



Kilkenny - All-Ireland Minor Camogie Finalists 2001.

Cork goal glut sinks minors

CORK 6-16
KILKENNY 0-7

THREE minutes of defensive madness ruined Kilkenny's chances of winning their fourth minor camogie All-Ireland at Nenagh on Sunday. After 20 minutes of play, the Cats were leading 0-4 to 0-3, their scores coming from Aoife Neary. Then, in the space of three successive minutes the Cork forwards blasted three goals and a point past goalie Jackie Frisby to leave the Rebels 3-4 to 0-4 ahead and well on the road to victory.

The goals lifted Cork spirits and their forwards could do no wrong after this as the Leesiders raced to a facile 6-15 to 0-7 victory.

Cork led by 3-5 to 0-5 at half time and any hopes Kilkenny had of reviving their fortunes were dashed at the start of the second half when Cork shot two goals from point blank range to leave Kilkenny reeling.

Aoife Neary set off panic buttons in the Cork defence any time she got the ball, but elsewhere the Kilkenny players found the going very tough.

Aoife scored five of Kilkenny's seven points with the others coming from Therese Muldowney and Edel Maher, who rounded off a fine 70-yard solo with a splendid point.

There was some consolation for Neary and her fellow minor star Edel Maher as they were part of the senior team that beat Clare in the All-Ireland quarter-final on Monday.

Kilkenny: Jackie Frisby (Carrickshock), Laoiseach Quigley (Clara), Susan Kennedy (Dicksboro), Grainne Brennan (Daneafort), Lisa Ryan (Shamrocks), Danielle Minogue (St Lachtain's), Aine Fahey (Emeralds), Mary Love (St Martin's), Edel Maher (St Anne's), Therese Muldowney (St Brigid's), Eileen Fitzpatrick (St Lachtain's), Aoife Neary (James Stephens), Catherine Kavanagh (St Lachtain's), Sinead Corrigan (St Lachtain's), Marie Ryan (Tullagher). Subs: Tara Warren (St Anne's), Deirdre Connolly (Mooncoin), Elaine O'Neill (James Stephens), Georgina Kelly (St Martin's), Rebecca Phelan (Carrickshock).

Cork: Denise Treacy, Marian O'Donovan, Sile Burns, Catriona Foley, Anna Geary, Sharon Lenihan, Niamh O'Connell, Gemma O'Connor, Elaine O'Tiordan, Noelle Collins, Marie O'Neill, Brieghe Corcoran, Emer Watson, Marie Watson (capt), Margaret McCarthy.



Laoiseach Quigley retains control under pressure in the All-Ireland Minor Camogie final at Nenagh. (Photo: Michael Brophy)

AUG 2001

Fr O'Neill's know that all their hard work will have been for naught if they fail

Cloughduv fearful of Carrig girls

IT might not be as frightening as Lynn Dunlea predicts, but the Cork star says that Cloughduv are fearful of tonight's Cork County senior camogie championship semi-final tie with Carrigdhoun.

"We are terrified of Carrigdhoun. They have a pick from all over the division, and as we have yet to perform fully, it will be a very difficult game for us."

Cloughduv are the people's choice to take this year's championship, but according to Dunlea, this is rubbish, as they have not yet played to their potential so far this season.

"How we can be favourites beats me. We still have a good game to play and have barely come through all our matches. We have not done anything yet, we will all have to perform for the entire game if we are to win this one."

Despite this prophecy, the mid-Cork side have all the big names in their line-out. The Dunleas, the Corkerys, Aoife Murray, Joanne O'Callaghan, Sinead Buckley and Una O'Donoghue could pose problems for Carrigdhoun, who will have to curtail the scoring ability of Cork stars Dunlea and O'Donoghue.

This was a weakness in the divisional side's victory over Eire Og in the quarter-final when they let the club side in for six goals over the hour. They will have to tighten up in this area if they are to have any chance of qualifying for the final this evening. Here, we could see Emer Dillon switching back from her midfield spot to help steady their defensive ship.

Otherwise, Carrigdhoun have a strong selection. Jennifer Brown captains the side from the half-back line. Dillon and Jacqui O'Keeffe are as good a midfield pairing as you will get and in attack, Caitriona Kelly, Liz Bugler, Marion Jagoe and Elaine Burke are the players who will be expected to repeat their scoring prowess from the last day out.

And with reports from the South-East indicating that their team is ready for the fray, they are capable of causing an upset. However, they will have to settle quicker and play right from the start.

In their last win, they did all the hard work in the second half, but against a side as formidable as Cloughduv, that may be too late.



TOUGH TASK: Fr O'Neill's ace Mags Finn is expecting a tough game Seandún this evening.

O'Neill's will have a tough game in Seandún

IF WE lose tonight, there will be no final. Simply put by the Fr O'Neill's stalwart Mags Finn ahead of their glamorous Cork County senior camogie championship semi-final against Seandún at Midleton this evening.

By **THERESE O'CALLAGHAN**
Camogie

And knocking out the defending County Champions Bishopscourt in the opening round will all go to waste if the Ballymacoda side cannot capitalise on that huge victory.

"If we don't perform here tonight, that is the end of the road for us. We know Seandún will be very hard to beat. They have been coming good for a few years and it is obvious that they are putting in a fierce effort this year. They beat the Glen in the last round. This will give them a big boost when they meet us."

Fr O'Neill's appear to have their act together this year. While they depend to a large extent on inter-county seniors, Fiona O'Driscoll and Mags Finn, they can also look to Nora Ahern, Mary Kennefick and Cork Minor Gearoidin Kearney for inspiration. Without doubt their progress so far has been a team effort.

However, there is a slight worry about the fitness of Mags Finn.

Meanwhile, Seandún will face the toughest test of their campaign when they come face to face with the East Cork side, and according to manager, Mick O'Regan this will be a good indication of the City division's form. "This will be a good test for us. You have to remember that Muskerry were minus the Eire Og players when we beat them in the opening round. In that game we played very well in the first half and then struggled for times in the second. Against O'Neill's we will have to play for the hour."

Seandún, this season, have put an amount of work into the championship, and with players like Gemma O'Connor and Amanda O'Regan commanding the pivotal positions they will give it everything in the hope of getting to the final.

"This team is as good as any divisional side I have ever been involved with," added O'Regan. "Getting over the Glen was a psychological boost, but we will have to raise our game again tonight."

With either side just a step away from a final appearance this one will be fought to the bitter end.

Titans Cork and Tipperary clash in semi-final

SO, who is strong enough to triumph? After last weekend's results the scene is set for the Foras na Gaeilge All-Ireland senior camogie championship semi-finals.

Both will be played in Mullingar on Saturday August 18.

The first will see Galway and Kilkenny clash and the second is between Cork and Tipperary.

The backdoor has been kind to the first semi-finalists.

Both Galway and Kilkenny failed in their opening round games to Cork and Tipperary respectively and one thing is for sure, the winners will pose no easy opposition for either Cork or Tipperary.

And so, to the big game of the

afternoon. The Premier County did just enough to ward off the challenge of Wexford last Saturday at Semple Stadium and it would appear that they are playing this year's championship very cleverly.

They are gradually upping the pace as the case presents, and in 11 days time, it will come down to personal duels.

One inspiring hour last September capped off a wonderful season for Tipperary and for Cork, it is vital that they capitalise on the new talent that has been unearthed these past few months.

Pa Finn must have a few minor worries about his charges. It is en-



VIEW FROM THE GROUND

TALKING SPORTS

By **THERESE O'CALLAGHAN**

couraging to see him sprinkle his team with youth, but bigger bounties are required if the Red and White brigade wish to see Croke Park in September.

They have not played consistently in any of their games. Against Galway, they died coming up to half time, letting the Westerners back in to play their best hurling over the

60 minutes. In their quarter-final tie with Dublin, they struggled at times. Granted, their momentum was interrupted when they had to rearrange their side at the 11th hour.

Tipperary are a formidable team by any standards, but for once they will arrive in the midlands carrying the unbearable pressure of instant delivery. They have made their name; they now have to stand by it. However, they have a depth of talent, and progression under manager, Michael Cleary is difficult to halt. A lot will hinge on how Lynn Dunlea will test Ciara Gaynor, or if the posi-

tioning of Fiona O'Driscoll at full forward will please the Cork aficionados.

Gaynor is rated highly by all camogie enthusiasts and once again was as solid as a rock in her usual number six jersey last weekend.

Despite the vibes from Tipperary that they are not playing well this year, and that they were not at their best against Wexford last Saturday, there will be no worries about them raising their game for this much looked forward-to clash. One look at a Cork or Tipp shirt for either side will be enough for this collision to explode into action.

One thing is sure, it will not be one-sided for either team.

O'Neills face a stern test in decider

Fr O'Neill's
Seandun

1-9
0-8

By THERESE O'CALLAGHAN
At Midleton

THE greatest test of any club team is to survive their own county championship.

Last evening, Midleton was at boiling point as Fr O'Neills greater experience saw them squeeze home with a three-point volley in the closing five minutes.

And as with any great success story, victory was achieved simply by the raging desire that the Ballymacoda girls still have to claim their first senior county championship title.

Last evening, they moved the last big step to the ultimate stage. Regrettably for a mighty Seandun side, it appeared that no team was going to deny them their place in the county final on August 24.

The confidence in their play was blatantly obvious.

Liz Sweetman was superb at centre back, Nora Ahern did trojan work in the middle of the

park, and in attack the Kearney sisters, Fiona O'Driscoll, Mary Kennefick and Francis Flavin lifted the team spirit with some well taken scores.

However Seandun tenaciously fought back a six-point deficit at half time to come to within one with 15 minutes remaining to have the large crowd enthuse about the performance.

The introduction of Linda O'Connell and Trish Kearney for the second half gave them an added impetus around the middle of the field. Amanda O'Regan starred at centre back, while Gemma O'Connor, Orla O'Sullivan and Valerie Maher fought to the bitter end.

So, the million-dollar question now is if Fr O'Neills can complete what they set out to do.

Do they genuinely believe that they are good enough to win the county championship? Trainer, Sean O'Sullivan says they will not be found wanting.



Seandun's Linda O'Connell is tackled by Carrigdhoun's Siobhan Kearney during last night's senior semi-final. Picture: Gavin Browne

"I believe that there is a county championship in us. We have a great fighting spirit which was shown here tonight."

On hearing that Cloughduv would be their opponents in two weeks time, O'Sullivan added: "We will use the next couple of weeks to prepare for the final, but on tonight's performance we will have to improve if we are to beat Cloughduv."

Meanwhile, one alarming statistic from this semi-final victory was the fact that the East Cork girls went 25 minutes of the second half without getting a score, but against this, when the need was greatest they delivered the goods.

Their biggest test has yet to come, but for the moment they can celebrate a much-deserved win.

Lynn reigns supreme in Cloughduv win

By JOHN McHALE

At Ovens

Cloughduv 6-8
Carrigdhoun 3-3

YOU can always improve, was the immediate reaction of Cork and Cloughduv star Lynn Dunlea after she virtually clinched her side's first appearance in a senior county final.

Lynn hit 3-5 of her side's tally with 2-5 coming in the first half.

Her first goal was a contender for goal of the season and worthy of the admission price alone.

Picking the ball up 40 yards from goal, the Cork star turned her marker and

had only one thought on her mind and that was to blast the ball to the back of the Carrigdhoun net.

She advanced about five feet before unleashing a shot that goalkeeper Rose Harrington did not see until it came back out of the net.

Luckily for the goalkeeper, she did not get in the way of the strike as she would have also ended up in the net such was the power and accuracy of Dunlea's effort.

That goal made it 1-2 to no score after only three minutes play and the writing was very much on the wall for a Carrigdhoun side who, to their credit, never stopped battling.

"It's a fantastic feeling to

reach a county senior camogie final," said Dunlea.

"It's absolutely superb and to win a senior county with my club side would be a dream come true."

We are in the final now and we have a chance."

Fr O'Neills will provide the opposition to Cloughduv in the final on August 24, and if they are to win the message is simple.

Stop Lynn Dunlea and you have a chance. But that is easier said than done as inter-county sides have found to their cost in the past.

If there is a better, more balanced team player in camogie today than Lynn Dunlea then she is some player.

Dunlea ended the half

with 2-5 and the game over as a contest with Cloughduv ahead 3-7 to 1-0.

Carrigdhoun improved a great deal in the second half with Emer Dillon in midfield superb and scoring 2-1 in the second half and centre forward Caitriona Kelly who gave inter-county star Stephanie Dunlea a torrid time, particularly in the second half.

"Carrigdhoun never gave up and they played very well in the second half but I always felt we were in control. I was pleased with the way the team played."

"It's onwards and upwards for us now and the county final can not come quick enough," Dunlea added.



LYNN DUNLEA: Star of the show at Ovens.

Kennedy in flying form as Tipperary advance

by John Guiton

Tipperary 4-9
Wexford 2-7

WITH the vastly experienced Noelle Kennedy accounting for 2-5 of their total, All-Ireland Senior Camogie champions, Tipperary, advanced their chances of a historic three-in-a-row, with an emphatic victory over a young Wexford side, in the quarter final, at Semple Stadium, on Sunday last.

Curtain-raiser to the historic football encounter between Kerry and Dublin, the game was mildly entertaining with the prospect of a Tipp victory never in any real doubt. All credit to a young, inexperienced Wexford side, they battled hard all through the game, and their determined approach kept Tipp

on alert. However, the champions' craft was always in evidence, and they were more than capable of stepping up the pace, whenever threatened.

Tipp missed the services of the injured Sheena Howard, and Niamh Harkin, but, seldom was the side fully extended in a contest they put their mark on from the very start. With the strong breeze to aid them, they were given an instant boost with a point from Deirdre Hughes, following the first attack of the match within four seconds. Wexford, showing a litany of positional switches from the line out on the match programme, were trying to settle into the game when Kennedy struck for the first of her two goals. After four minutes, star of many a

Tipp performance Deirdre Hughes dropped a high ball into the goalmouth. Unfortunately, for goalie Ursula Jacob, she lost control of the ball, and Kennedy was in like a flash to finish it to the net. The early goal was a dream come true for Tipp, and they immediately established a pattern.

It took nine minutes for Wexford to score, thanks to a sweet effort from play by their top scorer Kate Kelly. The Tipp defence particularly Paula Bulfin, and Ciara Gaynor, was very much in charge of matters, and by the end of the first quarter the champions were well in control (1-3 to 0-1). The Leinster girls were given a tremendous confidence boost entering the last quarter when midfielder Aine Codd crashed home a goal from a penalty,

after Michelle Hearne, who had been operating at full-forward from the start, was fouled.

Noelle Kennedy proved to be the real difference between the sides at this stage, however, and after converting her second free of the match she whipped home her second goal in 18th minute (2-4 to 1-1). Four minutes later, Philly Fogarty combined with Deirdre Hughes and the Toomevara lady fired in a low shot that was well stopped by keeper Jacob. However, young Claire Grogan, alert as ever, pounced to bang home the rebound. Tipp were coasting now (3-4 to 1-2) and might have had another goal only that Deirdre Hughes was unfortunate to see the ball slip from her grasp. Proof of Wexford's fighting spirit was evidenced in their two quick scores in response, from Kate Kelly's frees, to reduce the deficit to six points at the break (3-4 to 1-4). Noelle Kennedy was the star of the show with 2-3 (2-1 from play), while Kate Kelly displayed great accuracy with four points from frees.

An interesting third quarter prevailed with Tipp in control but anxious about Wexford's marked improvement. Eimer McDonnell set up Philly Fogarty for a point that gave Tipp the perfect start. However, Kate Kelly (free) and the impressive Michelle O'Leary with scores cut the margin down to five after seven minutes. Forced to raise their game, Tipp had the perfect response when Philly Fogarty availed of slackness in the defence to strike the champions fourth goal after thirty eight minutes. Eimer McDonnell added a point and Tipp looked set to stroll to victory. Certainly, they made their passage as easy as possible, but, they had another hur-

dle to clear after Michelle Hearne struck for her sides second goal, in 42nd minute, reducing arrears once more to six points, (4-6 to 2-6).

Clear the hurdle Tipp did in convincing style, however, and with their defence, inspired by Sinead Nealon, on top, Noelle Kennedy and Deirdre Hughes delivered the goods with three vital scores, Kennedy's from frees. Kate Kelly had the last say with a Wexford point in 51st minute, and while, remarkably, neither side scored in the last eleven minutes (injury time included), a Tipp victory was virtually guaranteed.

Tipp justified their favourites tag without having to 'push' themselves to the limit. No doubt, they were capable of responding to an 'emergency' if it had arisen on Sunday, and had plenty more 'fuel' in reserve. Team Manager, Michael Cleary, and selectors, Biddy Phillips, and Jim Madden, will be pleased with the outcome, but, they and their charges, know that a severe test of their mettle await them in the semi-final, against either Cork or Antrim. Although they have lost some of last year's squad, Tipp look an accomplished outfit, well capable of achieving

the magnificent three-in-a-row. However, there's a long road ahead, and Tipp know that a great deal more will be required of them as the battle for the big prize intensifies. Goalie Jovita Delaney, and the entire defence, stuck to their task very well any time Wexford applied pressure. Una O'Dwyer and Ciara Gaynor formed a strong defensive axis. Emily Hayden and Therese Brophy did their share at midfield, while the attack showed good combination play, with newcomer to the side this season, Joanne Ryan, giving a fine display.

With more experience,

Wexford should be quite a force in the coming years. Legendary hurler Dan Quigley, and Peggy Kelly, had prepared the team very well, following their victory over Dublin, and they certainly have plenty talent in the ranks to work on for the future. Michelle O'Leary, Aine Codd, Kate Kelly, Michelle Hearne, were always busy, while goalie Ursula Jacob, although in hard luck for the first goal, made some good saves.

Tipperary — J Delaney (Cashel); S Kelly (Toomevara); U O'Dwyer (Cashel); C Madden (Portroe); S Nealon (

Burgess); C Gaynor (Kilruane MacDonagh's); P Bulfin (Cashel); E Hayden (do); T Brophy (Burgess); P Fogarty (Cashel) 1-1; N Kennedy (Toomevara) 2-5; J Ryan (Drom-Inch); E McDonnell (Toomevara) 0-1; D Hughes (Cashel) 0-2; C Grogan (Burgess) 1-0.

Wexford — U Jacob; C O'Loughlin; H Jacob; B Holohan; M Lacey; S Carr; Rose Marie Breen; A Codd (1-0); A O'Connor; L Holohan; K Kelly (0-6); M O'Leary (0-1); E Quigley; M Hearne (1-0); M Kelly. Sub- G Heffernan.

Referee- A Derham (Dublin).



Tipperary's Paula Bulfin (right) grips the ball tightly as she is challenged by Wexford's Lennie Holohan during Saturday's senior camogie All-Ireland quarter-final at Semple Stadium



The Tipperary team that qualified for the All-Ireland senior camogie semi-final by defeating Wexford in the quarter-final at Semple Stadium on Saturday last. Standing — Noelle Kennedy, Suzanne Kelly, Therese Brophy, Joanne Ryan, Claire Madden, Claire Grogan, Sinead Nealon, Jovita Delaney. Seated (l. to r.) — Deirdre Hughes, Paula Bulfin, Eimer McDonnell, Emily Hayden (captain), Ciara Gaynor, Una O'Dwyer, Philly Fogarty. In front is mascot Michaela Graham.

Aug 2001

Cats show their claws

Kilkenny.....5-17
Clare.....0-0

By Trevor Spillane

KILKENNY'S senior camogie team showed their claws when they mercilessly crushed Clare in their All-Ireland quarter-final clash at Nowlan Park on Monday.

Not even words of inspiration from senior hurler and mentors Davy Fitzgerald could help the Banner girls, who were simply no match for a more determined and skilful Kilkenny side.

Despite making a slow start to the game, it wasn't long before Kilkenny got into the swing of things, Sinead pointing an early free.

Little over ten minutes had elapsed in the game before they scored their first goal. Martina Maher's hopeful ball forward was fumbled by Clare goalkeeper Lisa Moloney and rolled into the net. The

Freshford forward followed it up with a point from play to leave the Cats purring with a five point lead after the first quarter (1-2 to 0-0).

Score at will

Further points flew Lisa Moloney's crossbar as Kilkenny seemed to score at will. Sinead Millea, Catherine Doherty (2), Lizzie Lyng, Edel Maher all knocked over points without reply.

Clare seemed shy in front of goal. The only time they managed to breach the Kilkenny defence came in the 20th minute when full forward Patty Moloney burst through the backline, but her shot was well saved by Kilkenny goalkeeper Brigid Barnaville.

Marie O'Halloran also had two frees in scorable positions, but neither shot hit the target. That was as close as the Munster girls came to scoring in the first half.

Kilkenny continued to press forward and hit a fortunate goal with two minutes

left in the half. Brigid Mullally began another raid into the Clare half, soloing down the wing towards the John's Park goal.

She tried to send in a teasing cross, but the sliothar dipped at the last minute and dropped into the net. Another point from Catherine Doherty gave Kilkenny a healthy 2-8 to 0-0 lead at the interval.

Backed by a strong breeze, many thought it would only be a matter of time before Clare fought their way back into the game in the second half, but it was not to be.

Put to the sword

To be honest, they were not given the slightest chance to mount a comeback as Kilkenny put them to the sword within minutes of the restart.

Catherine Doherty restarted Kilkenny's scoring spree with another point in the 32nd minute, before Brigid Mullally pointed another score for good measure.

Clare's backs were to the wall by now, but sub-keeper Aine McCormack made a good first touch to the game when she denied Sinead Millea a goal with a brilliant save. Unfortunately, Clare's rotten luck continued, as the rebound was swept home by Aoife Neary.

The Cats continued to taunt Clare, and more points from Doherty and Millea only served to heap misery on their opponents. If there had been any doubt, Catherine Doherty made sure of the result with a great goal, following some good work by Neary, in the 41st minute.

Under the cosh

And still Clare could not get off the mark. Both Nora Murphy and Laura Lennane had close calls with shots at goal, but they both drifted wide at the last second. Patty Moloney had another chance for a goal in the 47th minute, but her kick flashed across the face of the Kilkenny goal.

Despite holding a sizeable lead (24 points), Kilkenny still continued to keep Clare under the cosh. Another barrage of points from Brigid Mullally (2), Sinead Millea (2) and Marina Downey pushed the Banner girls even further behind.

You could almost see the Clare team wishing they could sink off early like their supporters, but there was just enough time for the Cats to plunder one last goal through Marina Downey before the final whistle.

Despite both teams using their maximum number of substitutes in the second half, referee John Morrissey didn't allow for any extra time.

The damage was done. Best for Kilkenny in the quarter-final were Brigid Mullally, Martina Maher, Catherine Doherty and Sinead Millea. Special mention must also be made to full-forward Imelda Kennedy, who constantly taunted and tormented the Clare defence, setting up her fellow felines for score after score.

Kilkenny will play Galway in the All-Ireland semi-final at Mullingar on August 16, with a place in the final against Cork or Tipperary up for grabs.

The scorers

Kilkenny: C. Doherty (1-6), B. Mullally (1-3), S. Millea (0-5, 0-2 frees, 0-1 45), Martina Maher, M. Downey (1-1 each), A. Neary (1-0), E. Maher, L. Lyng (0-1 each).

The teams

Kilkenny: B. Barnaville, B. Greenan, S. Costelloe, Marie Maher, E. Kennedy, K. Long, M. Coetelloe, E. Maher, B. Mullally, L. Lyng, Martina Maher, A. Neary, C. Doherty, I. Kennedy, S. Millea, Sub: P. Comerford, E. Dowling, M. Downey, S. O'Gorman, G. Dillon Maher. Clare: L. Moloney, A. Callinan, T. Moloney, M. Kease, S. McMahon, A. Keane, S. Daly, M. O'Halloran, S. Twomey, A. Ryan, T. Naughton, L. Lennane, N. Murphy, P. Moloney, A. O'Reagan, Sub: A. McCormack, C. O'Loughlin, C. McMahon, D. Lynch, S. O'Loughlin.

Referee: John Morrissey (Tipperary).

O'Driscoll's goal proves crucial for Fr O'Neills

Fr O'Neill's Seandun 1-9
0-8

A THRILLING contest where Seandun made Father O'Neill's fight to the end before qualifying for their place in the County Senior Camogie Championship final, took place at Middleton last evening.

With Fr O'Neill's holding a slender 0-3 to 0-2 lead 10 minutes into the opening half, Fiona O'Driscoll grabbed a vital goal to stretch their advantage.

Aided by the strong wind, O'Neill's enjoyed maximum possession and dominated. Three points from Frances Flavin, Mary Kennefick and Gearóidín Kearney saw them in a comfortable position by the three-quarters stage. Seandun came more into the game in the closing stages with a pointed free from Amanda O'Regan narrowing the gap and keeping on the pressure. Five points without reply, three

from Gemma O'Connor frees and two from Orla O'Sullivan had them within a point of O'Neill's. But O'Neill's defended mightily and with Mags Finn and Liz Sweetnam showing their experience in defence they broke several Seandun attacks. Clinging to their lead O'Neill's rallied and had their first score of the second-half with just six minutes left. A strong final five minutes saw O'Neill's hold out for the win.

Scorers for Fr O'Neill's: F. O'Driscoll (1-2), M. Kennefick (0-3; 2 from frees), F. Flavin (0-2), G. Kearney (0-2). Seandun: G. O'Connor (0-2; all from frees), O'Sullivan (0-3; 2 from frees), A. O'Regan (0-1 from free), R. Myers (0-1 from play).

FR O'NEILL'S: C. O'Shea, S. McGrath, M. Finn, A. O'Neill, A. Corcoran, L. Sweetnam, V. O'Sullivan, N. Ahern (capt), R. Corcoran, S. Kearney, F. O'Driscoll, G. Kearney, M. Kennefick, U. Day, F. Flavin. Sub: C. Flavin for U. Day. SEANDUN: E. Clifford, C. Harrington, Colette Kirby, E. Cronin, K. Buckley, A. O'Regan, C. Barry, Claire Kirby (capt), G. O'Connor, J. Duffy, O. O'Sullivan, V. Maher, M. Cotter, C. Barrett, R. Myers. Subs: L. O'Connell for C. Barry, T. Kearney for J. Duffy, C. Buckley for M. Cotter. Referee: P. Downey (Inniscarra).

Superb Dunlea shoots Cloughduv to first final

Carrigdhoun 3-3
Cloughduv 6-8

IT was the Lynn Dunlea show, particularly in the first half, as she helped Cloughduv reach their first ever Cork senior camogie championship final at Ovens last evening.

The Cork star was her side's top scorer with 3-5 and her first goal after only a minute and half was worth seeing.

Cloughduv kept a tight rein on the Carrigdhoun forwards who could only get one score in the opening half, a goal from Marian Jago in the 20th minute. At that stage, Cloughduv had 1-4 on the board and should have had a lot more had they taken their numerous chances. However, they finished strongly in the final ten minutes to turn over leading 3-7 to 1-0 at the break.

Carrigdhoun brought Elaine Burke

to midfield at the beginning of the second half to partner Emer Dillon and this pair began to take control and within 14 minutes they had reduced the lead from 4-7 to 3-2. Dunlea had her third goal two minutes into the half when her lobbing ball was misjudged by goalkeeper Rose Harrington. After this resurgence, Cloughduv took control again in the final ten minutes.

Scorers: Carrigdhoun: E. Dillon 2-1 (1-0), M. Jago 1-0, M. Conlan, C. Kelly 0-1, Cloughduv: L. Dunlea 3-5 (1-1, 0-1 45), E. Murray 1-1, B. Corkery 1-1, C. O'Donoghue 1-0, U. O'Donoghue 0-1, C. Corkery 0-1, CARRIGDHOON: R. Harrington, A. O'Neill, C. O'Riordan, M. Lane, M. McCarthy, J. Browne, C. O'Keefe, E. Dillon, J. O'Keefe, N. Murphy, C. Kelly, E. Bugler, M. Jago, E. Burke, M. Conlan, sub: A. Murphy for C. O'Keefe (15th min), S. Deasy for C. O'Riordan (25th min), D. Daly for M. McCarthy (45th min). CLOUGHDUV: A. Murray, J. O'Callaghan, D. O'Callaghan, S. Corkery, C. Cronin, S. Dunlea, S. Buckley, O. McCarthy, M. Corkery, E. Murray, C. Corkery, A. Buckley, U. O'Donoghue, L. Dunlea, B. Corkery, sub: C. O'Donoghue for A. Buckley (1st), J. Lucey for E. Murray (50th min). Referee: B. Joyce (Killeagh).

AUG
2001

Home venue should give Rebels the advantage

WHEN Cork and Derry meet in tomorrow morning's (11.30am) All-Ireland Intermediate camogie championship at Bishopstown, there will be an air of familiarity between the sides, as both these counties have already met in the All-Ireland Junior finals of '99 and '00.

There will be nothing more than pride at stake in this tie, as both teams look likely to go through to the semi-finals in four weeks time.

However, Cork will need to give a

good account of themselves if they are to have any hopes of reclaiming the title that they won so admirably last year.

They will be without their number one goalkeeper, Ger Casey, but Ellen Clifford is expected to fill the void in her absence.

Two weeks ago, when Cork met Antrim in Belfast they were overwhelmed by a very strong Antrim side, and on this occasion, Derry could also pose a serious threat.

By THERESA O'CALLAGHAN

All-Ireland focus

Meanwhile, the home side can call upon Fr O'Neill's players Liz Sweetnam, Roisin Corcoran and Nora Ahern, who all turned in sterling performances in their club championship victory last Wednesday night.

Valerie Maher, Mary Bridget Ennaguess, Jean O'Sullivan and Emer O'Sullivan will also be available.

Selector Sheila Golden says that it is going to be a difficult assignment for her charges: "Northern teams are always hard to beat. We discovered that a few weeks ago in Belfast, and with three teams from the Ulster province vying for honours in this competition, it will take a big effort from us."

Derry are again managed this season by Dominic McGinley.

Mary O'Kane, Paula McAtamney and her cousin Aileen Tohill of the

Tohill football dynasty are the stars to watch out for in this side.

The Oak Leaf County are also backboned by players from St Mary's College in Magherafelt and St Patrick's of Maghera.

Derry were beaten by Antrim a few weeks ago in this competition, therefore there should not be much between themselves and Cork, however the Leesiders should have the edge in this encounter where home advantage should make a difference.

Cork's second-half revival not enough against spirited Derry

Cork 1-6
Derry 3-10

by Tom Higgins

A BETTER balanced and determined Derry team proved too good for Cork in this All-Ireland Intermediate camogie championship game at Bishopstown, Cork yesterday. The

visitors had this game in safe keeping after 13 minutes when they built up a 3-5 to 0-0 advantage, and although Cork showed marked improvement in the second half with wind advantage, they never looked like troubling Derry.

Gráinne McGoldrick had Derry's opening goal after three minutes and two more followed — penalty from

full-back Gráinne Maguire in the 10th minute, and Paula McAtamney a minute later.

At the break, it was 3-8 to 0-2 in Derry's favour. With Cork beginning to take control at midfield at the beginning of the second half as Valerie O'Keefe and Gemma O'Connor began to master Aisling Kealey and Sinéad O'Neill, the Cork forwards

saw more of the ball and were rewarded after a minute when Marie O'Connell had their only goal.

Derry withstood the second-half challenge and finished strongly to get two points in the last three minutes.

Scorers for Derry: P. McAtamney 1-3 (0-2 frees), G. McGoldrick 1-0, G. Maguire 1-0 (penalty), A. Kealey 0-4, A. Tohill 0-2, P. Bell 0-1. Cork: M. O'Connell 1-1, G. O'Connor 0-4 (0-2 free, 0-1 penalty).

CORK: E. Clifford; E. O'Sullivan, L. Sweetnam, C. O'Gorman; A. M. Fleming, J. O'Sullivan, R. Corcoran; V. O'Keefe, G. O'Connor; N. Bowles, L. Dorgan, V. Maher; M. B. Ennaguess, M. O'Connell, E. McCarthy.
Subs: V. O'Sullivan for V. O'Keefe (36th minute), C. Murphy for V. O'Sullivan (42nd minute), E. O'Sullivan for A. M. Fleming (53rd minute).
DERRY: A. Cribb; S. Stevenson, G. Maguire, J. Carey; C. Moore, S. Convery, A. O'Loughlin; A. Kealey, S. O'Neill; A. Tohill, P. McAtamney, C. McColgan; G. McGoldrick, M. Kane, P. Bell. Sub: K. McAuley for P. Bell (43rd minute).
Referee: R. Kelleher (Limerick)

Cloughduv beat Carrigdhoun to reach decider

Cloughduv.....6-8
Carrigdhoun.....3-3

THE Cloughduv senior camogie team turned on the style at the Eire Og G.A.A. headquarters at Ovens on Wednesday evening last when their determination to reach a senior championship final for the first time was clearly evident.

Cloughduv faced Carrigdhoun in last Wednesday's semi-final and the manner in which they overcame the challenge of the divisional side would seem to indicate that this is the year that this talented camogie side will achieve the ultimate. Cloughduv went on the offensive right from the throw-in in last week's semi-final and they had two points on the board in as many minutes when Lyn Dunlea converted a free and Una O'Donoghue was on target form play.

Those scores were promptly followed by the first of Cloughduv's goals and an in-form Lyn Dunlea was the scorer. Winning possession she headed goalwards and unleashed a powerful drive that gave the goalkeeper no chance.

TO FORE

The south-east side found it hard to stay in contention as the game progressed as Cloughduv stayed very much on the offensive. It was inevitable that the Mid Cork ladies would increase their lead and they came close to securing a couple of additional majors before Eimear Murray and Lyn Dunlea raised white flags to make their position more comfortable.

Carrigdhoun did succeed in opening their account in the 19th minute when Cloughduv paid the price for not promptly clearing the ball out of the danger zone and the end result was a goal for the south-east side from Marian Jagoe.

That score did not alter the trend of the game as Cloughduv slotted home two more goals before the short whistle when Eimear Murray from play and Lyn Dunlea from a free found the Carrigdhoun net. The score at the interval was 3-7 to 1-0 in Cloughduv's favour and the Mid Cork side were looking good for a place in the final at that stage.

HIT BACK

Muiriam Conlon got a point back for Carrigdhoun but Cloughduv replied promptly and Lyn Dunlea raised another green flag. Carrigdhoun then made a brave fight back when

Dillon, made her presence felt at centrefield so they consequently went on the offensive.

Eimear Dillon herself reduced the arrears when she scored a goal and then a point from frees and Carrigdhoun's position further improved when Caitriona Kelly scored a goal in the 45th minute.

There was no doubting Cloughduv's superiority however and a goal by substitute Claire O'Donoghue ensured that the game was very much out of Carrigdhoun's reach.

Cloughduv scored a sixth goal in the 54th minute when Bridge Corkery did the needful and a point by Catherine Corkery in the 58th minute brought the curtain down on a satisfying evening's activity for the Mid Cork side.

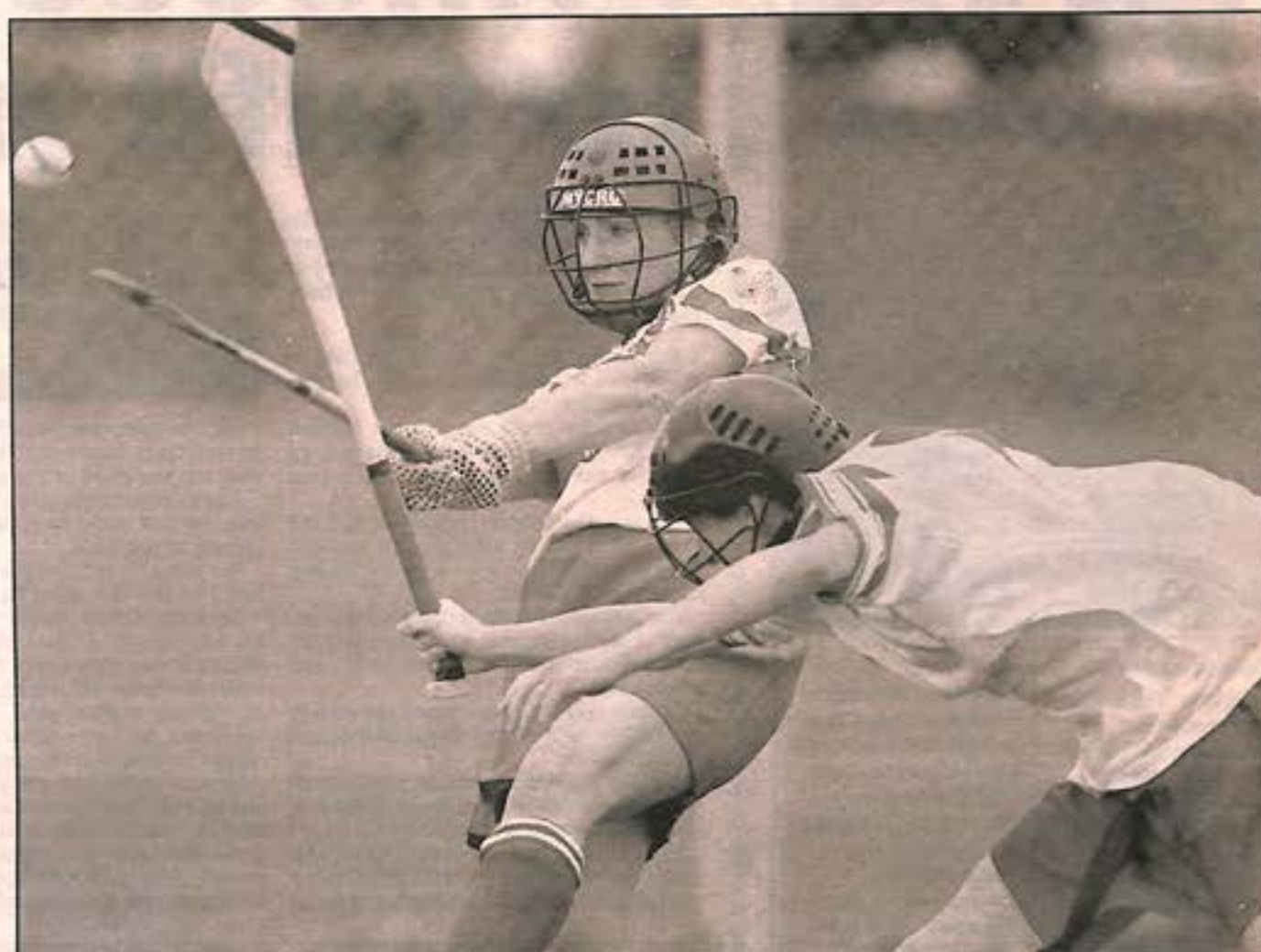
It was an excellent display by Cloughduv whose team as a whole has reliable performers with some being particularly impressive in this semi-final success. Lyn Dunlea, who was in a scoring mood, was Cloughduv's leading player and others who stood out over the hour were Aoife Murray, Joanne O'Callaghan, Ciara Cronin, Marie Corkery, Bridge Corkery and Una O'Donoghue.

Scorers: Cloughduv — Lyn Dunlea (3-5, frees 1-3), Eimear Murray (1-1), Claire O'Donoghue (1-0), Bridge Corkery (1-0), Una O'Donoghue (0-1), Catherine Corkery (0-1). Carrigdhoun — Emer Dillon (1-1 frees), Marian Jagoe (1-0), Caitriona Kelly (1-0), Miriam Conlon (0-1).

Cloughduv: Aoife Murray; Joanne O'Callaghan, Ora O'Callaghan, Sinéad Corkery; Ciara Cronin, Stephanie Dunlea, Sinéad Buckley; Orla McCarthy, Marie Corkery; Bridge Corkery, Catherine Corkery, Aoife Buckley; Una O'Donoghue, Lyn Dunlea, Eimear Murray. Subs. — Claire O'Donoghue for Aoife Buckley, Jean Lucey for Eimear Murray.

Carrigdhoun: Rose Harrington (Carrigaline); Aileen O'Neill (Ballygarvan); Caroline O'Riordan (Valley Rovers); Maura Lane (Ballygarvan); Majella McCarthy (Valley Rovers); Jennifer Browne (Ballygarvan); Caroline O'Keefe (Carrigaline); Emer Dillon (Ballygarvan); Jacqui O'Keefe (Carrigaline); Niamh Murphy (Carrigaline); Caitriona Kelly (Ballygarvan); Elizabeth Bugler (Valley Rovers); Marian Jagoe (Tracton); Elaine Burke (Valley Rovers); Muiriam Conlon (Carrigaline). Subs. — Amanda Murphy (Ballygarvan) for Caroline O'Keefe; Sinéad Deasy (Valley Rovers) for Caroline O'Riordan; Deirdre Daly (Valley Rovers) for Majella McCarthy.

CAMOGIE: Oak Leaf County fobs off acorn challenge



Cork's Marie O'Connell trying to block Derry's Gráinne Maguire during the All-Ireland Intermediate camogie championship at Bishopstown.
Picture: Richard Mills.

Derry dominate lacklustre Cork

Derry 3-10
Cork 1-6

By THERESA O'CALLAGHAN
In Bishopstown

THE Northern teams continue to dominate the All-Ireland Intermediate camogie championship, when yesterday in Bishopstown, the Oak Leaf County surged ahead of the Rebel County in this round-robin competition.

Granted, this is Cork's second string, but nevertheless they could not contain Dominic McKinley's Derry side.

However, there is some light at the end of the tunnel as the Cork girls still qualify for the All-Ireland semi-finals on September 8.

But, on yesterday's performance they would need to up the ante somewhat, if they are to reclaim the trophy that they won 12 months ago.

Cork were not at full strength for this latest tie, and according to selector Kay Dunne, this is disappointing

from a managerial point of view.

"We were missing some of our key players and unfortunately did not find out about some of them until we met before the game. Cork is a big enough county that we should be able to field strong teams in all grades," she said.

Derry had 3-5 on the scoreboard before the home side opened their scoring with a point from a penalty by Gemma O'Connor after 20 minutes of play.

Scores were hard to come by as they were playing into a

strong wind, and Derry were strong at midfield and in the half-back line.

Cousins Aileen Tohill and Paula McAtamney posed problems for the Cork defence, and their half time tally of 3-8 to 0-2 was insurmountable.

The Leesiders' best forward, Marie O'Connell hit 1-2 in the opening 10 minutes after the restart but despite their best efforts, they fell by the wayside for the closing stages.

The semi-finals in four weeks time will see Cork, Derry, Antrim and Down vie for the two remaining places.

AUG

2001

O'Neills pressed hard by game Seandún

by Mary Newman

FR O'NEILLS were made fight to the end before making it to a county camogie final meeting with Cloughdun who had too much strength for divisional side Carrighdoun on Wednesday last.

Opening up an early lead after Fiona O'Driscoll's goal O'Neills led 1-6 to 0-3 at half-time having played with the wind.

From the resumption it was all Seandún and now dominating they had five points without reply from Gemma O'Connor and Orla O'Sullivan to leave just one between the sides.

With the game balanced on a knife edge Seandún pressed for an equaliser but stout defending from O'Neills kept them at bay.

With Lynn Dunlea, Brid Corkery, and Una O'Donoghue in devastating form Cloughdun made it comfortably to their first Senior County Championship final with a victory over Carrighdoun at Ovens.

Carrighdoun had a Marion Jaego goal twenty minutes into the game, but found the Cloughdun defence hard to get through.

A big improvement in Carrighdoun for the second half saw them come into the game and with Emer Dillon and Elaine Burkley getting a grip at mid field they added further goals.

Cloughdun with Marie Corkery, Stephanie Dunlea and Una O'Donoghue working hard stood firm to the challenge and adding further goals booked their final spot.

Coming up are the finals of the Under 16 A and Junior B grades.

It will be a repeat of their championship meeting when Milford and Ballygarvan renew rivalry in the Under 16 clash, with St Catherine's and Carrigaline meeting in the Junior B decider.

Milford the county champions can call on no fewer than six of the Cork minor side who captured All Ireland honours last weekend.

In the under 16 B League semi finals Eire Og and Barryroe will meet. The Barryroe team is fighting fit.

Magical Oulart!

Maire Ui Scolai pays tribute to the amazing feat of the Wexford club who created Feile history.

Oulart the Ballagh of Wexford recently entered the history camogie books for ever when they won an incredible fourth Feile na nGael Division 1 title on the trot.

It is a fair assumption to say that when their mentors won their first of four county titles in a row four years ago they did not dream of four consecutive titles. It is also possible that this year due to the foot and mouth disease that they thought their elusive dream was shattered.

But Cork County Board came up trumps when they offered to organise the Coca Cola Feile na nGael.

It was a fine weekend weatherwise and Oulart got off to a good start when they overcame Cork sides Athabullogue and Inniscarra, and the Antrim champions. They met strong opposition in the semi-final, the Davitts club of Galway.

Many predicted that this might be the final, but while it was a very close match 1-05 to 1-01 a very intense final followed. Davitts who had good wins over Milford, Ballyhea and Ballyboden St Endas were very disappointed losing to Oulart.

The final

The final saw the Oulart up against Laois side The Harps and what a final it was. Oulart winning 4-03 to 3-04. Harps who won the Division 2 last season almost pulled it off but the sheer determination of the 'Ballagh saw them through.

The 'Ballagh keeper Ciara Storey, daughter of hurler Martin had a fine game, as did Una Leacy daughter of Mary nee O'Leary who won among other medals three All-Ireland with her native Wexford.

History makers

For Una, captain Tracey McCormack and Emma Moran it was a dream come through as these three girls won their fourth Feile na nGael medal. And let it be known that young Una is still eligible next season!

This team however did not get where they are today without the hard work of Margaret Leacy, Ann Kirwan, Aidan Moran, Hughie O'Connor and Tom Whelan, the Chairman of the club, and who was also a selector with the boys team.

This club deserves special mention because not alone did they win the fourth in a row for the very first time, they became the first club to win a Division 1 Feile title in both hurling and camogie in the same year.

It was a weekend for the Storey family never to forget, with Martin managing the boys team, his son Anthony while captaining the team got the winning goal in the dying moments against Offaly's St. Rynagh's to leave it 2-05 to 1-05 in their favour.

The Division 2 title went to Clare side Cillnomena who beat Derry champions Bellaghy 5-04 to 2-04, with Derry's Aishling Diamond knocking in a personal tally of 2-01, while the mighty Cathy Quinn of Cillnomena struck 2-0.

The Division 3 title went to Armagh side Ballymacnab who defeated Enniskeane of Cork 2-04 to 0-03.

The skills competition saw consolation for Galway as Mullagh representative Sarah Dervan took the first place and was hotly pursued by last year's winner Charlene Fanthorpe of Cullaville, Armagh while third place went to the Banner County with Sharon McMahon of the Newmarket on Fergus club taking the title.

With all this success at underage level in Wexford, the future



The history making Oulart na Ballagh panels

must look rosy and while the younger generation were on the winning ways, the seniors seemingly took a leaf from their book.

Foras na Gaeilge

Loch Garman 1-8 Ath Cliath 2-03

The very first championship match of the season got off a fine start with a highly entertaining match between old rivals Wexford and Dublin. The Dubs got off to a flying start with a goal in the seventh minute from Gillian McCluskey, while Wexford had to wait until a Kate Kelly free in the 17th minute to record their first score, however, the Dubs held on to a narrow half time lead of 1-2 to 0-04.

The second half saw the Dubs, start off with a goal from Shauna Keogh and indeed the girls may have thought they had it within their grasp while still leading with three minutes to go.

That very fine Wexford player Aine Codd took a side line beyond the halfway line and midfielder Michelle Hearne palmed the ball to the net, to leave a point in it. While Dublin raced down the field, it was not their moment of glory, and when Kate Kelly knocked over a fine free the writing was on the wall.

The moment of glory belonged to Loch Garman and to the Manager Dan Quigley who had his daughter Evelyn on the team and former hurling hero Mick Jacob, who had his two daughters Ursula and Helena on the team.

Wexford are now through to meet the winners of Tipperary/Kilkenny on August 6th, while the losers Ath Cliath meet the losers of An Clár/An Dun/Luimneach on July 29th.



Skills winners at the Feile na nGael, lr: Charlene Fanthorpe, Armagh; Sharon McMahon, Clare; Patricia Rafferty, Camogie President; and Sarah Dervan, Galway

There's no place like home for Kilfinny

WHAT a great week it has been for Limerick ladies.

The All-Ireland Minor B camogie trophy came Shannonside for the first time last Sunday week.

Six later, the Green and White scored another first, bringing home the Munster Junior ladies football cup.

Which leads me to another first. The Croagh/Kilfinny camogie club will officially open their own playing field on August 26.

Not too many camogie clubs in the country that can boast this achievement.

It is almost five years since they undertook the project which came



CAMOGIE FOCUS

By THERESA O'CALLAGHAN

A GREAT WEEK FOR LIMERICK

about due to an offer they received from their own GAA club.

"We were approached by the GAA in September 1996. They had completed their field development and had 2.5 acres lying idle. We had just bought 2.1 acres and combining the two would give us a new playing pitch, said chairperson, Marguerite Guiry Quinn.

The field was purchased for £6,500, paid for by a house-to-house collection in the parish, a membership levy and a sponsored cycle by club member, Denis O'Kelly.

But, a lot more money had to be raised to drain the land - fashion shows, a ladies mini-marathon, a sponsored cycle and a race night.

Presently, the pitch is being fenced in, the car park is being renovated and the dressing rooms are being revamped. But, unbelievably, not only have the club met their developmental targets, they also cleared their debts.

"While success on the field has faded a little, this venture has kept

the club together with players and members rallying around to help," said Marguerite.

But, the occasion is tinged with sadness. Helen Sheehy Fitzgerald, the scheme's driving force, passed away recently.

Helen - along with her three sisters Ann, Esther and Agnes - was a prominent member of the club and her daughter Mairead plays at underage level.

On Sunday week, President of the Camogie Association, Pat Rafferty will officially open Páirc Na Camogachta, which is being dedicated to the memory of one of their greatest servants.

O'Neill's through after a thriller

By MARY NEWMAN-MCCARTHY

Camogie correspondent

Fr O'Neill's 1-9
Seandun 0-8

FR O'NEILL'S and Seandun served up a thrilling County Senior Championship semi-final before O'Neill's made it through to the county final at Middleton on Wednesday last.

O'Neill's took an early lead with points from Mary Kenefick and Fiona O'Driscoll but Seandun were quickly on level terms with points from Rachel Myers and Orla O'Sullivan.

With the strong wind advantage Fr O'Neill's enjoyed maximum possession and with Mary Kenefick pointing to restore their lead they played with confidence.

Ten minutes into the half Mary Kenefick turned provider when she rounded her marker and set up Fiona O'Driscoll for the game's opening goal.

O'Neill's enjoyed total dominance for the next quarter and with Frances Flavin, Mary Kenefick and Gearoidin Kearney adding points, stretched their advantage and were it not for the shooting of seven wides would have been closer.

A strong closing five minutes saw Seandun settle and with Amanda O'Regan pointing a free to close the gap. They could have been closer having struck two scoring chances wide.

O'Neill's turned to defend their 1-6 to 0-3 interval lead with the strong wind in their faces and it was a determined Seandun, who now held all the aces.

With Gemma O'Regan pointing two frees and a 45 inside 10 minutes of the restart they were back in the game.

Orla O'Sullivan added two points and there was just one between the sides. Seandun were now dominant and continued to put the O'Neill's defence under tremendous pressure, but with Mags Finn and Liz Sweetnam showing their experience, O'Neill's thwarted attack after attack.

With six minutes remaining Fiona O'Driscoll put two points between the sides with a superbly struck long-range point and it lifted O'Neill's who, up to now, had failed to score in the second half.

Showing great determination they pushed forward and points from Frances Flavin and Gearoidin Kearney again put daylight between the sides but Seandun, to their credit, battled on.

A relieved Fr O'Neill's chairperson Joan O'Driscoll said after the game: "We're delighted to be in the county final but we got a hard game from Seandun. Our experience told in the end, but we will have to improve considerably if we are to go all the way," added O'Driscoll.

Seandun selector Tracy Sheehan said: "I'm very disappointed with the result. We were down six points at half time and having pegged it back we had several chances to take the lead. We played exceptionally well in the second half and credit to the girls for that."

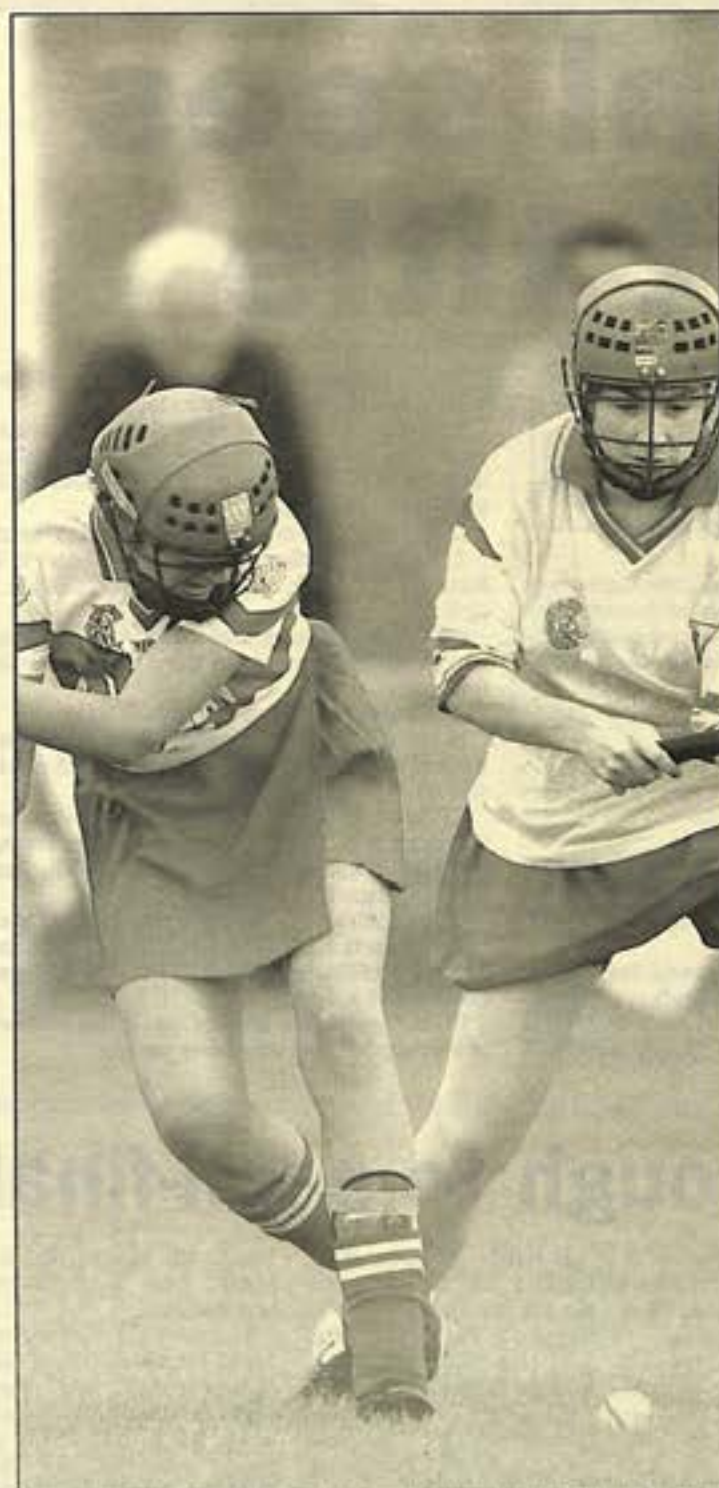
Fr O'Neill's captain Nora Ahern was just happy that the game was over: "Relieved more than anything to hear the final whistle," she said. "It was a great game but we still have a lot to do if we are to win."

Saturday's meeting of the respective All Ireland and National



Cork's Liz Sweetnam about to grab the ball as she is challenged by Derry's Paula Bell, at Bishopstown.

Picture: Richard Mills



Cork's Elaine McCarthy and Derry's Siobhain Convery battle for possession at Bishopstown.

Picture: Richard Mills

Rebels aiming to trip up Tipp

ALL roads lead to Mullingar on Saturday for the Foras na nGaeilge All-Ireland Championship semi-finals.

By MARY NEWMAN MCCARTHY
Camogie correspondent

All-Ireland champs Tipperary and national league champions Cork will renew rivalry in a game that has fans waiting in anticipation since the draws were made.

As the dominant county for many years, Cork, for the past two years have found themselves in the unaccustomed role of challengers.

However, this has not unduly concerned the backroom team of Pa Finn, Rose Desmond, Sheila O'Brien and Sandie Fitzgibbon, who have worked hard to achieve the ultimate honour - bringing the O'Duffy Cup to Leeside.

In order to achieve this, Tipperary must be disposed of, a task that will require huge effort.

In a change to former years, the championship now has a back door system. As a result, Cork met Galway in their preliminary game with both teams going through to a quarter-final spot. Nevertheless, the game was played as if on a knock-out basis with the sides going all out for victory.

In their quarter final outing against Dublin, they never looked in danger and at times seemed to be going through the motions.

What is cause for concern is the amount of injuries the panel must contend with. Both Linda Mellerick and Eithne Duggan (capt) missed the Dublin clash.

Mellerick is recovering from a broken thumb and Duggan is suffering from a back injury.

Replacement fullback Rosalie Holland has a broken ankle, while cornerforward Ciara Healy is doubtful having picked up a leg injury in the Dublin clash.

The loss of key players will be a blow to Cork and the backroom team are keeping their fingers crossed that some of the players will be ready for Saturday's clash.

Selector Sheila O'Brien told Grassroots: "We are the underdogs and are somewhat unsettled due to the injuries we sustained. However we are determined to dethrone the champions."

On the plus side is the return of Lynn and Stephanie Dunlea and

AUG. 2001

League champions will be a no-holds-barred clash of old rivals



Cork's Emer O'Sullivan about to clear the ball from Derry's Charlene Moore during the weekend camogie game at Bishopstown.

Picture: Richard Mills

Dunlea puts Cloughduv on the road to the final

Cloughduv 6-8
Carrighoun 3-3

A GOAL two minutes into the opening half from Lynn Dunlea helped settle Cloughduv, who went on to qualify for their first senior county final.

The mid Cork side led 1-4 to no score by the midway stage.

A Marion Jaego goal 20 minutes into the half opened the Carrighoun account but with the tight marking Cloughduv defence in form the divisional side found the going tough.

They dominated in the opening half and led 3-7 to 1-0 at the break. Cloughduv stretched their lead just two minutes after the restart when a long lobbing shot went all the way to the net.

With Emer Dillon moving to midfield Carrighoun now settled and Dillon grabbed two goals.

But Cloughduv, with the cushion of their half-time lead behind them, continued to pick off scores and added further goals from Emer Murray, Briege Corkery and Catherine O'Donoghue.

Cloughduv: A Murray, J O'Callaghan, O O'Callaghan, N Callaghan, S Corkery, C Cronin, S Dunlea, S Buckley, O McCarthy, M Corkery, E Murray, C Corkery, A Buckley, U O'Donoghue, L Dunlea, B Corkery.

Carrighoun: R Harrington, A O'Neill, C O'Riordan, M Lane, M McCarthy, J Browne, C O'Keefe, E Dillon, J O'Keefe, N Murphy, C Kelly, E Bugler, M Joego, E Burke, M Conlon.

Milford bid to retain league title

THE long awaited under 16 2000 A league final between Milford and Ballygarvan takes place next Sunday.

Milford will start favourites to retain the league title and complete the double, having won the championship late last year.

Marie and Emer Watson, Sharon Linehan and Anna Geary form the backbone a strong side who look to hold all the aces.

However, county junior champions Ballygarvan also boast a quality line-up and will have revenge on their minds, having lost to Milford in the championship.

Catriona Kelly, Aileen O'Neill, Sally Ann O'Halloran, Julie Sullivan and Katie Brown showed in Ballygarvan's junior success that they have the skill and determination and are capable of causing an upset.

In the South East division of Carighdoun, Ballygarvan and Ballinhassig will contest the under 11 final at a date yet to be arranged.

The Seandun under 11 league is at the semi-final stage, with Douglas and Glen Rovers meeting in one semi-final and Blackrock and Bishopstown meeting in the second.

The final is pencilled in for September 1 while the under 13 competition begins on Thursday, August 23, and will run every Thursday until September 13.



Seandun's Clare Barry jumps with Carrighoun's Anna Corcoran and Maura Ahern during the senior camogie semi-final at Midleton.

Picture: Gavin Browne

the inclusion of new faces - Sinead Buckley, Jennifer O'Leary, Criona Harte and Rachel Moloney.

The All-Ireland champions are aiming for three-in-a-row this year, something that has only been achieved by Dublin, Cork, Antrim and Kilkenny.

Following the defeat by Cork in the league final of 1999, a new management team under the influence of ex-Allstar hurler, Michael Cleary, was put in place. From this blossomed a determination never before seen in Tipperary, culminating in the county's first All-Ireland senior crown when defeating Kilkenny. To show that it was not a one-off victory, they returned last year, defeating Cork.

Emily Hayden captains the side that has two changes to last year. Angela McDermott is in Australia and Catriona Hennessy has taken a year out to concentrate on her studies.

They beat Kilkenny in their

Grassroots



LIZ SWEETNAM at centre back for Fr O'Neill's was an inspiration to her team.

She broke the hearts of Seandun with her clearances and her determined play in a contest where the result was balanced on a knife edge until the closing minutes of a thrilling encounter.

opening game and went on to record a 4-9 to 2-7 win over Wexford. While it was not a runaway win they never looked in danger but according to coach Michael Cleary had to fight to the end.

"Wexford were very focused. They looked well organised and with one or two changes, will be a force to be reckoned with. We had

Fixtures

SATURDAY AUGUST 18
Foras na nGaeilge All Ireland semi final:
Galway v Kilkenny; Cork v Tipperary, Mullingar 5.15pm.
SUNDAY AUGUST 19
Under 16 A League Final 2000: Milford v Ballygarvan at Mallow, 7pm.
Under 16 B League semi final 2000: Eiro Og v Barryroe at 7pm.

to work hard to get on top and we were lucky to grab two early goals. We must improve on our performance to defeat Cork," he said.

The sides have met twice this year, in the national league and the Munster final, with Cork coming up trumps on both occasions.

However, it will be a different ball game on Saturday with much higher stakes. Can the champions survive?

This is a question I put to Michael, who said: "There is little be-

tween the sides. It's 50/50. Cork are motivated and we will have to improve on our displays."

Are Cork motivated?

Selector Sheila O'Brien thinks so. "We have worked hard since the beginning and always felt that it would come down to a Tipp v Cork clash," she said.

"The girls are focused on the task in hand and we are anxious to make it to Croke Park."

Therese Brophy and Emily Hayden are a formidable Tipp centrefield partnership and if Cork can succeed in winning this sector, it will have a bearing on the result.

If Linda Mellerick is passed fit, she will take up that role, partnered by Vivienne Harris.

The opening game is Galway v Kilkenny, with Galway tipped. But, Kilkenny are tough campaigners and, following a disastrous league campaign, got their act together for the championship, trouncing Clare 5-17 to no score.

Cork will have to be on guard as Tipp may step up a gear

by Tom Higgins

THE two semi-finals of the Foras na Gaeilge All-Ireland senior camogie championship take place in Mullingar today. In the opener, Galway oppose Kilkenny (1.45) while reigning champions Tipperary take on Cork in the second semi-final at 3.15.

In the opening round, Cork defeated Galway while Tipperary accounted for Kilkenny. Then in the quarter-finals Cork were victorious against back-door entrants Dublin, who had lost to Wexford in the first round and then beaten Down in the second round. Tipp also kept their unbeaten record in the quarter-final, accounting for Wexford in an exciting tussle. Kilkenny had little diffi-

culty in beating Clare at the same stage while Galway easily accounted for Limerick.

Tipperary will be seeking to make it a hat-trick of titles this year, but they will be outsiders today having been beaten by Cork in both the League and the Munster championship. However, they usually step up a gear at the knockout stage and Cork will have to be on their guard. They have no injury worries apart from Niamh Harkins and Sheenagh Howard who are listed as subs.

They have the bulk of the 1999 and 2000 winning sides and won't be short on confidence. Jovita Delaney is a very capable keeper and she will be well protected by the experienced Suzanne Kelly, Una O'Dwyer and Claire Madden. Ciara

Gaynor is a very solid centre back while in the crucial midfield area Emily Hayden and Therese Brophy will have their hands full against Vivienne Harris and Linda Mellerick. Mellerick has been nursing a broken thumb but the indications are that she will be fit for the game. Up front Tipp will be relying on Noelle Kennedy and Deirdre Hughes. Cork, far from impressive when beating Dublin in the quarter-final, will be strengthened by the return of captain Eithne Duggan and Mellerick. Last year, the Leesiders badly missed the Dunlea sisters, Stephanie and Lynn — in Australia — and their return will be a major boost.

Cork are particularly strong down the middle, with where Eithne Dug-

gan, Mary O'Connor the centrefield pairing, Fiona O'Driscoll and Lynn Dunlea are all class players. They have only one injury worry — Ciara Healy, who damaged ligaments in the Dublin game. Galway make only one change from the side which defeated Limerick in the quarter-final for their game with Kilkenny.

Tracy Laheen comes in at left half back for Martina Haverly, who is getting married.

With quite a few of the 1996 winning side still available Galway will be fancied to get the better of Kilkenny, who have been team building over the past few years. With the likes of the experienced Aine Hillery, Ann Broderick, Pamela Nevin, Martina Harkins, Sharon Glynn and captain Veronica Curtin

to call on they must be respected. However, Kilkenny have defied the odds a number of times already and will not give in easily. Sinéad Costelloe, Lizzie Lyng, Brigid Mullally and Sinéad Millea are very experienced and they will be joined by up and coming players, such as Marie Maher and Martina Maher.

Cork: K. Keohane; S. Buckley, E. Duggan (capt), S. Dunlea; D. Cronin, M. O'Connor, S. Hayes; U. Mellerick, V. Harris; R. Moloney, F. O'Driscoll, E. Burke; U. O'Donoghue, L. Dunlea, C. Harle.
Tipperary: J. Delaney; S. Kelly, U. O'Dwyer, C. Madden; S. Nealon, C. Gaynor, P. Bulfin; E. Hayden, T. Brophy; P. Fogarty, N. Kennedy, L. Gooden, E. McDonnell, D. Hughes, C. Grogan.
Galway: L. Curry; R. O'Connor, A. Hillery, A. Broderick, T. Laheen, P. Nevin, F. Healy; C. Nevin, T. Maher; L. Kavanagh, C. Murray, E. Kerins; M. Harkins, V. Curtin, S. Glynn.
Kilkenny: C. Ryan; M. Costello, S. Costello, Marie Maher; E. Kennedy, K. Long, E. Maher, B. Mullally, L. Lyng; I. Kennedy, Martina Maher, S. Millea, C. Doherty, A. Neary, M. Downey.

Cork, crunch test for champions Tipp

By JOHN GUITON

All-Ireland Camogie champions, Tipperary, put their title on the line at Mullingar, on Saturday next, in a 'replay' of last year's final against old rivals Cork.

While the County's hurlers will be heading to Croke Park for their engagement with Wexford, the ladies will have equally serious business on their minds as they take the route to the midlands venue. What a pity that both fixtures clash. The camogie game fixed for some time will go ahead at 3.15pm, thereby, allowing the teams to watch the hurling semi-final, on TV, at 5pm.

Camogie followers are really looking forward to the clash of last year's finalists at the penultimate stage of the 2001 series. It should be a cracker. After all the sides met in this year's Munster final, and Cork had some measure of revenge with a victory. They are very determined to make it a double success over the Premier County, and clinch a place again in the final.

Tipperary are not inclined to put too much emphasis on the Munster final defeat, pointing to the absence of a number of players through injury on that day. However, the fact remains that Cork have received a major psychological boost with the provincial win, and, therefore, the All-Ireland champions face an even

bigger task.

The absence of injured players Sheena Howard, and Niamh Harkin, is a blow to Tipperary, but, so far, the side has come through the All-Ireland series impressively, with wins over Kilkenny and Wexford. Manager Michael Cleary, and selectors Biddy Phillips, and Jim Madden, have been busy putting the side through their paces since the quarter final victory over Wexford, and, preparations have worked out to satisfaction.

County Camogie, PRO, Marion Graham, told the Tipperary Star that Tipp face an "enormous task" on Saturday. She added: "Cork are very strong, and they are really determined to reverse last year's result. They will be very confident after their Munster win, and Tipp will need to be on their game to stop them."

However, we are really focussed on this game. We know what to expect, and hopefully, we will come through it.

So, barring a draw, Tipp should know by 4.30pm on Saturday, whether their dream of an historic All-Ireland three in a row is still intact. The Tipp-Cork game is preceded by the other semi-final between Kilkenny and Galway, at 1.45pm.

The Tipperary team is-

J Delaney (Cashel);

S Kelly (Toomevara), U O'Dwyer (Cashel), C Madden (Portroe);

S Nealon (Burgess), C Gaynor (Kilruane MacDonaghs), P Bulfin (Cashel);

E Hayden (Cashel) Capt; T Brophy (Burgess);

P Fogarty (Cashel), N Kennedy (Toomevara), L Young (do);

E McDonnell (Burgess), D Hughes (Toomevara), C Grogan (Cashel).

Subs- L Ryan (Holycross-Ballycahill), J Ryan (Drom-Inch), G Shanahan (Toomevara), N Connolly (Templemore), L Bourke (do).

Cork camp hopes injuries will be healed for clash with Tipp

by Mary Newman

THE long awaited clash of Cork and Tipperary takes place on Saturday next in Mullingar with Galway and Kilkenny meeting in the curtain raiser of the Foras na Gaeilge All Ireland semi-finals.

Since the draws were made these have been the four predicted to make it through.

Twice already this year Cork and Tipp have met with victories going to the Leesiders in outings. The league clash way back in March was an opening game for both sides. Nevertheless it was played at championship pace with both sides giving their all and Cork holding out for a narrow victory.

In the Munster final which is run on a separate basis to the All-Ireland series Cork recorded a good victory in a game played in atrocious weather conditions. On the night the All Ireland champions were fielding a team, minus three of their original championship line out.

Both have come through similar paths to Saturday's meeting easily accounting for their opposition. Tipp had good wins over Kilkenny and Wexford with Cork disposing of Galway and Dublin.

Injury worries to Linda Mellerick, captain Eithne Duggan, Ciara Healy are foremost on the Cork management team minds and they are keeping their fingers crossed that all will fully fit. A definite non-starter is Rosalie Holland who suffered a broken ankle in the Dublin game.

Tipperary have no injury worries but manager Michael Cleary feels that another week's preparation would not have gone awry. "It's very hard with club county championship games just finished in Tipperary. We lost three weeks before the Wexford game and I felt we were just off the boil a bit. They were very focused and we had a hard job to put them away. It will be tough against Cork with little between the sides".

Rebels face tough tie against Tipp champs

By THERESA O'CALLAGHAN

Camogie Reporter

TIPPERARY are going for three-in-a-row. Cork have been out of the limelight for these three years. These are the basic statistics going into tomorrow's crunch Foras Na Gaeilge All-Ireland senior camogie championship semi-final at Cusack Park, Mullingar.

And what's more, it will take

one hell of a game from the Rebels to knock the Premier County out of this year's series.

Tipp selector Biddy Phillips says there will be very little in the outcome of this tie.

"Cork are up for this one after last year's defeat. But I think whoever gets the best opening 20 minutes will survive this contest."

Both Cork and Tipperary have rung the changes from last year's selections.

The Blue and Gold will have a new midfield pairing in Emily Hayden and Therese Brophy. Likewise the Red and White will have a new duo in Linda Mellerick and Vivienne Harris.

Cork show two changes from their quarter-final win over Dublin.

Linda Mellerick comes back in after a lengthy lay off due to broken thumb, and Captain Eithne Duggan resumes at full-back.

Rosalie Holland, who ably

deputised for Duggan the last day, broke her ankle, while Ciara Healy also had to leave the field with a knee injury.

This means that Rachel Moloney holds on to a starting position but switches from midfield position to the half-forward line.

"Meanwhile, RTE's Sunday Game will show highlights from the double bill in Mullingar. This will include the other semi-final involving Kilkenny and Galway.



Croagh/Kilfinny Camogie Club

cordially invites all past and present players, mentors and supporters to the

OFFICIAL OPENING

of their New Camogie Field by

Pádraichín Ní Raifeartaigh

Uachtarán, Cumann Camógáfochta na nGael

On Sunday, 26th August, 2001

at 2 o'clock

- Followed by -

Limerick v. Tipperary

(All-Ireland Champions, 2000)

(0125-01-0230)

Kilkenny's third semi-final

CAMOGIE

WHILE the attention of the Kilkenny sporting public will be on Croke Park and Sunday's double header, Kilkenny will also compete in an All-Ireland senior semi-final on Saturday.

Following their 5-17 to 0-0 quarter-final victory over Clare, Kilkenny's senior camogie side will face a much tougher test when they line out against

Galway in Mullingar at 1.45 p.m. on Saturday. This game is part of a double-header with the eagerly awaited Cork-Tipperary semi-final clash as the second game on the programme.

Most camogie pundits have predicted a Galway victory, but the steady improvement shown by the Kilkenny girls in recent weeks, added to the fillip of seeing Marina Downey in action from the

start could well tip the balance in Kilkenny's favour.

Kilkenny: Catriona Ryan (Tullagher); Mairead Costelloe (St Lachtain's), Sinead Costelloe (St Lachtain's), Marie Maher (St Lachtain's), Esther Kennedy (St Lachtain's), Kelly Long (Lisdowney), Edel Maher (St Anne's), Brigid Mullally (Glenmore), Lizzie Lyng (Rower Inistioge), Marina Downey (Lisdowney), Martina Maher (St Lachtain's), Sinead Millea (St Brigid's), Catherine Doherty (St Anne's), Aoife Neary (James Stephens), Imelda Kennedy (St Lachtain's).

Edel's Maher-vellous scoring spree

St Anne's6-5

St Martin's1-0

Intercounty star Edel Maher went on a scoring spree in this U-16 tie at Johnstown with an amazing tally of 5-2. St Anne's led by 3-3 to 0-0 at the break and were never troubled by St Martin's.

It was a good hard match but Muckalee were unable

to break down a resolute St Anne's defence. The best duel of the game was between St Martin's centre-half Miriam O'Keeffe and St Anne's centre-forward Tara Warren, with both girls playing excellent camogie from start to finish.

Best for St Anne's were Edel Maher, Claire Phelan, Tara Warren, Mary Loneragan, Orla Hughes and the team's scoring machine, Edel Maher. Mary Love, Miriam O'Keeffe and Grainne Daly impressed for St Martin's.

Edel Maher (5-2), Orla Hughes (1-0) and Tara Warren (0-3) completed the St Anne's tally, with Mary Love's goal being the only reply from St Martin's.

Camogie and Minor hurlers take centre stage



by Finbarr McCarthy



THIS coming weekend is dominated by All-Ireland semi-finals with the minor hurlers facing Kilkenny in Croke Park, while Cusack Park in Mullingar is the venue for the Senior camogie semi-final with Tipperary.

In the TSB Bank senior football the big game is Nemo Rgs v Dohenys, and a number of very attractive Intermediate games are also down for decision.

Day of reckoning for camogie girls

Ever since the draw decreed that Cork and Tipperary would meet in the semi-final of the Foras Na Gaeilge Senior C'ship, the Cork camp has focused on this game and planned their season accordingly.

It affords them an opportunity to not only reach the final, but also to avenge last season's final defeat, which saw Tipp put titles back to back, in a game that was practically decided in the opening ten minutes when the champions scored two goals.

Pa Finn is now the coach, and his work over the last few months has been geared towards this game. The genial Barrs man has been suitably impressed by the players at his disposal.

Cork went through their League campaign unbeaten, but because of the disruption with Foot and Mouth, that will not be completed until the autumn. In the meantime they retained their Munster title with a good win over Tipperary.

In fact Cork will be concerned that in the last couple of years, while winning the league was an achievement itself, they failed to translate that form to where it counted most - in crucial C'ship games - a situation they hope to reverse this year.

Galway were their first round opponents and after surviving a difficult period just before half time they regrouped and won convincingly in the end, while Dublin offered only token resistance in the last round.

Unfortunately injuries threaten to disrupt their plans, with doubts about Eithne Duggan and Ciara Healy. Definitely out is Rosalie Holland while Linda Mellerick is only just returning after breaking her thumb. The injury caused her to sit out the last two games, as well as her club's C'ship encounter, and match fitness will be a worry in her case.

That said, Cork has a very strong panel, and the desire to reverse last season's result is a powerful motivating factor. The experienced players are well aware of what is required to achieve that aim.

Goalkeeper Cora Keohane is as competent as ever, while the defence is superbly anchored by Mary O'Connor, Denise Cronin, and Stephanie Dunlea, and they will need to be extra vigilant as the Tipp attack is a potent one.

Deirdre Hughes did the damage early last year, and here Eithne Duggan will need to be at her very best to curb the Toomevara girl, while Claire Grogan, Noelle Kennedy and Threasa Brophy are proven scorers. The result could very well be decided in this area of the field.

Since the game went to fifteen a side, midfield has become a vital sector, and if Cork can gain a grip here, it will certainly be a big help as the Tipp attack thrives on quality ball.

It is essential that Cork do win this sector, and a fit Linda Mellerick is important as her work rate and distribution plus her leadership qualities have seen them win many a lost cause in the past. Expect the same again from the talented Glen Rovers star.

In attack Fiona O'Driscoll, and Lyn Dunlea are the main threat, while Una O'Donoghue is also well capable of notching vital scores, as is Jennifer O'Leary, who will probably start if Ciara Healy fails to respond to treatment. The contribution of Viv Harris is also crucial as her general play is top class as is her ability to take long range points.

In last year's final Cork's insistence of going for goals early on proved fatal as they found goalkeeper Jovita Delaney in inspired form, while Ciara Gaynor and Sinead Nealon are quality defenders, who will not yield much.

Cork are without doubt the form team entering the game, as Tipp struggled against Wexford. However, as champions they will be determined to maintain their grip on the title and in the process prolong Cork's absence from H.Q. for another year at least. As with all Cork v Tipp clashes in any code, form goes out the window.

Cork will be confident of success and the win in the Munster C'ship will have helped, even if Tipp professed to have had little done prior to that game. I have been impressed by Cork's

approach and the manner in which they have performed all year would suggest that the hunger and determination is as strong as ever, which may not be the case with Tipperary.

Remember in last year's final that apart from the two early goals Cork more than matched Tipp in every other facet of play. Thus a good start and a reasonable return from mid-field leads me to believe that Cork can end the champion's reign in a game that promises much.

The choice of venue will undoubtedly deter some people from travelling, but if you can at all, make the effort to get there because supporters have a vital role to play, particularly in the closing stages of what is expected to be a close contest.

It has a 5.15 pm start and we will have up to the minute reports on 103 FM in the county and 102.6 in the city.

County Final

As expected Cloughdun and Fr O'Neills will face each other in this year's decider which is fixed for Friday 24.

Cloughdun were way too strong for Carrighoun in their game, but it was much closer in the second semi-final. Indeed for a long period in the second half the gap was just a point and with wind advantage Seandun looked set to advance. However an inability to raise their game when most required proved their undoing and O'Neills finished the stronger to secure their place in the final for the fourth time. It should be a cracker.

Courceys take regatta committee title

Courcey Rovers won the very first Regatta Camogie tournament which was held in Kinsale, by defeating Ballinhassig A 2-1 to 1-1 in a hard, well fought final after extra time after the sides were level at the end of the normal time.

Taking part in the inaugural tournament were Carrighoun camogie clubs Courcey Rovers, Ballinhassig A and B teams and Sliabh Rua from the Belgooly and Ballymartle area, who all showed that the standard of camogie was exceptionally high in the division with some fine individual and team performances worthy of any intermediate and senior stage.

The Regatta Perpetual Plate Winners were Sliabh Rua, who defeated the Ballinhassig B Team, while Courcey Rovers took the Kinsale Regatta Perpetual Trophy, with all of the players who took part receiving a special Kinsale 400th Anniversary medal to mark the event.

Con Cadogan, one of the organisers of the event, con-

gratulated all of the teams, their players, mentors and referees and officials who took part in the tournament, and added that he hoped that next year's tournament would attract more teams from the division and beyond making it one of the premier camogie tournaments of the year.

- H. Crowdy



The Courcey Rovers team, who won the inaugural Kinsale Regatta Perpetual Trophy by defeating Ballinhassig A in the final, which was played in the Kinsale GAA Grounds, recently.



Cill Chainnigh

Dubh agus Ómra



ar chúil (6 chlé): B. Ni Mhaolaidh, M. Ni Mheachair, E. Ni Chinnéide, S. Ni Mhaolaidh, K. Ni Longáin, I. Ni Chinnéide, E. Ni Toinn.
chun tosaigh (6 chlé): S. Nic Costello, B. Ni Ghrianáin, C. Ni Dhocharaigh, M. Nic Costello, Captain, M. Ni Mheachair, A. Ni Níraigh, E. Ni Mheachair, B. Bhearnabháil.

1. Caltriona Ni Rlain
Catherine Ryan
Tullagher
2. Máire Ni Mheachair
Maire Maher
Freshford
3. Sinéad Nic Costello
Sinéad Costelloe
Freshford
4. Máiread Nic Costello
Mairéad Costelloe
Freshford Captain
5. Elistir Ni Chinnéide
Esther Kennedy
Freshford
6. Kelly Ni Longáin
Kelly Long
Lisdowney
7. Edel Ni Mheachair
Edel Maher
St. Anne's
8. Bríd Ni Mhaolaidh
Brigid Mullaly
Glenmore
9. Éilis Ni Loinn
Lizzie Lyng
Rower Instigo
10. Sinéad Ni Mhaolaidh
Sinéad Miles
St. Brigid's
11. Martina Ni Mheachair
Martina Maher
Freshford
12. Imelda Ni Chinnéide
Imelda Kennedy
Freshford
13. Caltriona Ni Dhocharaigh
Catherine Doherty
St. Anne's
14. Aoife Ni Níraigh
Aoife Neary
James Stephens
15. Marina Ni Dhúnaigh
Marina Downey
Lisdowney

Ionadaithe	17. Laura Nic Cumascaigh Laura Comerford, Emeralds	19. Gillian Dhioláin Uí Mheachair Gillian Dillon Maher, Freshford
16. Bríd Bhearnabháil Brigid Barnaville, Lisdowney	18. Póilín Nic Cumascaigh Pauline Comerford, St. Brigid's	20. Fiona Ni Dhubhlainn Fiona Dowling, Freshford



An Ghaillimh

Marún agus Bán



ar chúil (6 chlé): T. Ni Mheachair, L. Chaomhánach, L. Ni Chamhráil, A. Ni Ighile, C. Ni Mhuiri, S. Nig Fhionn, R. Nic Conchubhair, P. Nic Crámbhín.
chun tosaigh (6 chlé): C. Nic Crámbhín, M. Ni Eanáin, L. Ni Chéirín, A. Ni Bhrúadair, M. Ni Ábhartagh, F. Ni Éalaithe, V. Nic Curtin Captain.

1. Labhaoise Ni Chamhráil
Louise Curry
Na Píarsaigh
2. Róisín Ni Chonchubhair
Róisín O'Connor
Kinvara
3. Aine Ni Ighile
Aine Hillary
Na Píarsaigh
4. Aine Ni Bhrúadair
Ann Brodnick
Davitts
5. Martina Ni Ábhartagh
Martina Haverly
Na Píarsaigh
6. Pamela Nic Crámbhín
Pamela Nevin
Mullagh
7. Fiona Ni Éalaithe
Fiona Healy
Craughwell
8. Treasa Ni Mheachair
Therese Maher
Shamrocks
9. Colette Nic Crámbhín
Colette Nevin
Cappataggle
10. Lourda Chaomhánach
Lourda Kavanagh
Davitts
11. Cearúilín Ni Mhuiri
Caroline Murray
St. Thomas
12. Léan Ni Chéirín
Elaine Kenne
Clarinbridge
13. Martina Ni Eanáin
Martina Harkin
Na Píarsaigh
14. Veronica Nic Curtin
Veronica Curtin
Craughwell Captain
15. Sharon Nig Fhloinn
Sharon Glynn
Na Píarsaigh

Ionadaithe	17. Orla Ni Bhrúadair Olivia Brodnick, Davitts	19. Cairmél Ni Annáin Carmel Hannon, Na Píarsaigh
18. Fiona Ni Ghothraigh Fiona Gothery, Davitts	20. Róisín de Nais Róisín Nash, Castlegar	



Mór-lá na Sinsear

-Tiobraid Árann on the march for three-in-a-row-
 -Corcaigh eager to reverse 2000 result-

Foras na Gaeilge
 All-Ireland Senior
 Championship 2001

Tiobraid Árann 2-09
 Cill Chainnigh 0-08

Corcaigh 3-12
 An Ghaillimh 1-10

Corcaigh 4-11
 Áth Cliath 1-05

An Ghaillimh 6-14
 Luimneach 0-10

Tiobraid Árann 4-09
 Loch Garman 2-07

Cill Chainnigh 5-17
 An Clár 0-00

Cuireadh tús le Craobhchomórtaí na Sinsear i 1932 agus, seachas Áth Cliath, tá Corcaigh agus Cill Chainnigh chun tosaigh ar na contaetha eile. Lying second and third, respectively, on the Roll of Honour, Corcaigh agus Cill Chainnigh have plenty of experience of All-Ireland Semi-finals and Finals.

Corcaigh has contested thirty four of the sixty nine Finals played to date having reached and won its first Final in 1934. Cill Chainnigh first reached a final in 1970, won its first title in 1974 and went on to win eleven more between then and 1994.

Bhain An Ghaillimh an chéad Chluiche Ceannais amach i 1932. The county contested ten Finals in all but waited until 1996 to make its historic breakthrough and win Com Ua Dubhthaigh for the first time.

Tiobraid Árann reached its first Final in 1949 and, fifty years later, won its first title. It has contested eight Finals in all and holds a special place in the history books with victories at the end of one millennium and the beginning of another.

Go n-éirí go geal leis na himreoirí uilig inniu.

Na Buaiteoirí, Craobhchomórtaí na Sinsear 1932 - 2000

Áth Cliath (26), Corcaigh (19), Cill Chainnigh (12),
 Aontroim (6), Loch Garman (3),
 Tiobraid Árann (2), An Ghaillimh (1).

AUG. 2001



Pádraicíní Ní Rífeartaigh

Teachtaireacht ón Uachtarán

Fearaimse fíor-chaoin fáilte roimh chách chuig cluichí Leathcheannais na hÉireann de Chraobhchomórtaí na Sinsear. Cuirim fáilte faoi leith roimh mhuintir **Foras na Gaeilge**. Táimid go mór faoi chomaoin ag **Foras na Gaeilge**, príomh-urral an Chumann. Is breá linn é sibh uilig a bheith linn inniu, idir ár gcuid soidheanna speisialta, na foirne, na Réiteoirí agus na Maor, lucht leanúna na bhfoireann agus lucht leanúna na camógaíochta i gcoitinne.

Treáslaim leis na foirne uilig, Cill Chainnigh, Corcaigh, An Ghaillimh agus Tiobraid Árann, a bhfuil na Cluichí Leathcheannais bainte amach acu. These four teams have won their way to this stage of the Senior Championship through the new structure set up this year. The addition of a losers' group has given all of the teams extra matches and has heightened both interest and speculation as the competition proceeded. These counties are renowned for their flair and skill and for the excitement which they generate every time they meet. The games today will, undoubtedly, be of the highest standard possible.

Go raibh barr ar obair na n-imreoirí, na roghnóirí agus na gCoistí Contae inniu.

Gabhadimid fíor-bhuíochas le muintir Chumann Lúthchleas Gael agus le muintir Chumann Camógaíochta na nGael, iarmhíche, agus leo siúd a bhaineann le Páirc Chiosóg, An Muileann gCearr, as ucht na socráithe a rinneadh ar ár son.

Go mbaine sibh spórt agus taitneamh as imeachtaí an lae.

Pádraicíní Ní Rífeartaigh, Uachtarán.

Tiobraid Árann

Gorm agus Órga



ar chúl (6 chlé): S. Ó Madáin, N. Ni Chinnéide, S. Ni Cheallaigh, T. Ni Bhróithe, S. Ni Rian, C. Ni Mhóidín, C. Ni Ghrugáin, S. Ni Niallín, J. Ni Dhubhshláine, L. de Búrca, G. Ni Sheanacháin, S. Nic Iomhair, N. Ni Eanáin, M. Ó Cléirigh (Oifúnaí).
chun fosaigh (6 chlé): S. Ni Dhubhshláine, D. Nic Aodha, P. Bhulfin, E. Nic Domhnaill, E. Ni Eideáin, Captaen, C. Nig Fhionnbhair, Ú. Ni Dhubhshláine, F. Ni Fhógartaigh, L. Ni Rian, N. Ni Chonghaille, P. Ni Alláin, L. de Siún, B. Mhic Philib.

	1 Jovita Ni Dhubhshláine Jovita Delaney Cashel							
2 Slobhán Ni Cheallaigh Suzanne Kelly Toomevara	3 Úna Ni Dhubhshláine Úna O'Dwyer Cashel	4 Clár Ni Mhadáin Claire Madden Portroe						
5 Sinéad Ni Niallín Sinéad Nealon Burgess	6 Clara Nig Fhionnbhair Clara Gaynor Kilruane McDonagh	7 Póilin Bhulfin Paula Bullin Cashel						
	8 Eimile Ni Eideáin Emily Hayden Cashel Captaen	9 Treasa Ni Bhróithe Therese Brophy Burgess						
10 Fílimíne Ni Fhógartaigh Philly Fogarty Cashel	11 Nollaig Ni Chinnéide Noelle Kennedy Toomevara	12 Labhaoise de Siún Louise Young Toomevara						
13 Eimhear Nic Domhnaill Emer McDonnell Burgess	14 Deirdre Nic Aodha Deirdre Hughes Toomevara	15 Clár Ni Ghrugáin Claire Grogan Cashel						
<table><tr><td>Ionadaithe</td><td>17. Slobhán Ni Rian Joanne Ryan, Drom/Inch</td><td>19. Niamh Ni Chonghaille Niamh Connolly, Templemore</td></tr><tr><td>16. Labhaoise Ni Rian Louise Ryan, Holycross/Ballycahill</td><td>18. Gráinne Ni Sheanacháin Gráinne Shanahan, Toomevara</td><td>20. Lorraine de Búrca Lorraine Bourke, Templemore</td></tr></table>			Ionadaithe	17. Slobhán Ni Rian Joanne Ryan, Drom/Inch	19. Niamh Ni Chonghaille Niamh Connolly, Templemore	16. Labhaoise Ni Rian Louise Ryan, Holycross/Ballycahill	18. Gráinne Ni Sheanacháin Gráinne Shanahan, Toomevara	20. Lorraine de Búrca Lorraine Bourke, Templemore
Ionadaithe	17. Slobhán Ni Rian Joanne Ryan, Drom/Inch	19. Niamh Ni Chonghaille Niamh Connolly, Templemore						
16. Labhaoise Ni Rian Louise Ryan, Holycross/Ballycahill	18. Gráinne Ni Sheanacháin Gráinne Shanahan, Toomevara	20. Lorraine de Búrca Lorraine Bourke, Templemore						

7



Corcaigh

Dearg agus Bán



ar chúl (6 chlé): D. Ni Chroínin, S. Ni Bhuchalla, P. Ni Chonchubhair, Ú. Ni Dhorchá, L. Ni Mhaoligheiric, C. Ni Aghairt, E. de Búrca.
chun fosaigh (6 chlé): E. Ni Dhuagáin, Captaen, B. Ni Earchaí, S. Ni Aodha, M. Ni Chonchubhair, R. Ni Mhaolomhnaigh, C. Ni Cheocháin, M. Ni Fhinn, F. Ni Dhrisceoil.

	1 Córa Ní Cheocháin Cora Keohane Barryroe											
2 Sinéad Ní Bhuachalla Sinéad Buckley Aghabullogue	3 Eithne Ní Dhuagáin Eithne Duggan Bishopstown Captaen	4 Stíofáin Ní Dheinnlé Stephanie Dunlea Cloughduv										
5 Denise Ní Chroínín Denise Cronin Glen Rovers	6 Máire Ní Chonchubhair Mary O'Connor Granagh Ballingarry	7 Sorcha Ní Aodha Sarah Hayes Coursey Rovers										
	8 Linda Ní Mhaoligheiric Linda Mellerick Glen Rovers	9 Béibhlíonn Ní Earchaí Vivienne Harris Bishopstown										
10 Rachel Ní Mhaolomhnaigh Rachel Maloney Coursey Rovers	11 Fiona Ní Dhrisceoil Fiona O'Driscoll Fr. O'Neill	12 Líán de Búrca Elaine Burke Valley Rovers										
13 Úna Ní Dhoenrchú Úna O'Donoghue Cloughduv	14 Lynn Ní Dhoineálé Lynn Dunlea Cloughduv	15 Carina Ní Aghairt Carina Harle Inniscarra										
<table><tr><th colspan="2">Ionadaithe</th></tr><tr><td>16. Gearóidín Ní Chathasaigh Ger Casey, Inniscarra</td><td>17. Póilín Ní Chonchubhair Paula O'Connor, Newtownshandrum</td></tr><tr><td></td><td>18. Sinéad Ní Laoire Jenny O'Leary, Barryroe</td></tr><tr><td></td><td>19. Slobhán Ní Cheallacháin Joanne O'Callaghan, Cloughduv</td></tr><tr><td></td><td>20. Clara Ní Éalaithe Clara Healy, Bishopstown</td></tr></table>			Ionadaithe		16. Gearóidín Ní Chathasaigh Ger Casey, Inniscarra	17. Póilín Ní Chonchubhair Paula O'Connor, Newtownshandrum		18. Sinéad Ní Laoire Jenny O'Leary, Barryroe		19. Slobhán Ní Cheallacháin Joanne O'Callaghan, Cloughduv		20. Clara Ní Éalaithe Clara Healy, Bishopstown
Ionadaithe												
16. Gearóidín Ní Chathasaigh Ger Casey, Inniscarra	17. Póilín Ní Chonchubhair Paula O'Connor, Newtownshandrum											
	18. Sinéad Ní Laoire Jenny O'Leary, Barryroe											
	19. Slobhán Ní Cheallacháin Joanne O'Callaghan, Cloughduv											
	20. Clara Ní Éalaithe Clara Healy, Bishopstown											

6

AUG.

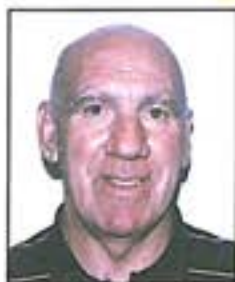
2001

Cill Chainnigh



An Ghailimh

Corcaigh



Tiobraid Árann

Seán Ó Muirios
Tiobraid Árann
 Ionadaí: Seán Ó Piondair, Cill Dara

Seán Ó Briain
Loch Garman
 Ionadaí: Áine Derham, Áth Cliath

Na Maoir Line

Rita Mhic Craith, Iarmhíde
 Seán Ó Piondair, Cill Dara

Na Maoir Line

Áine Derham, Áth Cliath
 Seán Ó Piondair, Cill Dara

Na Foirne Bainistíochta

Cill Chainnigh Breandán Mac Uilliam (Brendan Williams) Bainisteoir	Corcaigh Pádraig Ó Finn (Pa Finn) Bainisteoir Róis Ni Dheasúnaigh (Rose Desmond)
An Ghailimh Damien Ó Colmáin (Damien Coleman) Bainisteoir Liam Ó Ceara (Billy Carr)	Tiobraid Árann Micheál Ó Cléirigh (Micheal Clery) Bainisteoir Brid Mhic Philib (Biddy Phillips), Seánas Ó Madáin (Jim Madden)

AUG 2001

Tipperary force draw with Cork in injury time



Cork's Mary O'Connor gets her pass away as Tipperary's Louise Young challenges during the All-Ireland camogie semi-final at Mullingar.

Picture: Maurice O'Mahony

Cork
Tipperary

0-14
2-8

by Tom Higgins

A point by Deirdre Hughes over two minutes into injury time, kept Tipperary's hopes of a third title in-a-row alive when they forced a draw with Cork in a thrilling Foras na Gaeilge All-Ireland Senior Camogie Championship semi-final at Cusack Park, Mullingar on Saturday.

"Both teams played brilliantly and considering the conditions I feel a draw was a fair result," said Tipperary selector Bridie Phillips. "I suppose we were lucky to get the draw in the end, but we could have won as Deirdre could have goaled."

The teams adapted well to the conditions and played some excellent camogie. Both sides had two points from play in the opening seven minutes before the holders got a goal in the 9th minute. A rasping shot from Noelle Kennedy was brilliantly saved by Cora Keohane but Deirdre Hughes, Tipp's top scorer with 2-2, hit the rebound home.

After that setback Cork, with the half back line of Paula O'Connor, Mary O'Connor and Sarah Hayes very much on top, and Linda Mellerick and Vivienne Harris dominating

midfield, took control and set up some excellent scoring chances for the forwards. Although they gradually reduced the deficit they found Tipperary's full back, Una O'Dwyer and centreback Ciara Gaynor in tremendous form.

However Cork must have been the happier at the break only a point behind, 0-6 to 1-4 and looking forward to the wind at their backs. But they were dealt a severe blow three minutes into the second period when Deirdre Hughes latched on to a delivery from Clare Brogan to beat the advancing keeper.

Cork refused to panic with most of the play they took the lead with a point from a free by top scorer Lynn Dunlea. Then came that late equaliser from Hughes. The sides meet again on September 1, venue to be decided.

Scorers: Cork: L. Dunlea 0-7 (0-4 frees), V. Harris and E. Burke 0-2 each, L. Mellerick, F. O'Driscoll and J. O'Leary 0-1 each. Tipperary: D. Hughes 2-2, E. McDonnell 0-3, N. Kennedy 0-2 (frees), C. Grogan 0-1.

CORK: C. Keohane; S. Buckley, E. Duggan (capt), S. Dunlea; P. O'Connor, M. O'Connor, S. Hayes; L. Mellerick, V. Harris; R. Moloney, F. O'Driscoll, E. Burke; U. O'Donoghue, L. Dunlea, C. Harte. Sub: J. O'Leary for C. Harte (45th minute).

TIPPERARY: J. Delaney, S. Kelly, U. O'Dwyer, C. Madden; S. Nealon, C. Gaynor, P. Bulfin; E. Hayden (capt), T. Brophy, P. Fogarty, N. Kennedy, L. Young; E. McDonnell, D. Hughes, C. Grogan. Subs: L. Ryan for E. Hayden (42nd minute).

Referee: S. O'Brien (Wexford).

Kilkenny produce big upset

Kilkenny
Galway

2-12
1-9

by Tom Higgins

KILKENNY produced a major upset in the Foras na Gaeilge Senior Camogie Championship, when they defeated Galway in Cusack Park, Mullingar, on Saturday.

The victors showed much more passion and commitment and gave their more fancied opponents little time to settle, particularly in the latter half of the opening period.

Galway were the better side in the opening quarter and led 0-5 to 0-3 after 16 minutes. However Kilkenny hit back by scoring 1-4 in the ten minutes before the interval. Sinead Millea converted a number of frees while a brilliant goal by Martina Maher in the 26th minute gave Kil-

kenny a cushion of 1-7 to 0-5. On the turnover, Kilkenny had two more points from placed balls from Millea to leave Galway trailing 1-9 to 0-5. However, after Sharon Glynn and Millea had swapped points from frees, Galway upped the tempo and put the Kilkenny defence under severe pressure. Another free by Glynn in the 41st minute was followed by a goal by Therese Maher.

Then in the 48th minute Galway were awarded a penalty, after Therese Maher was fouled, but Sharon Glynn's rasping shot was saved at the expense of a point. Imelda Kennedy left a goal between the sides once more two minutes later when she popped over a point from play for Kilkenny and then came the score that really settled it.

A brilliant run by Martina Maher from centre-field resulted in Kilken-

ny's second goal and sealed the issue.

Galway have only themselves to blame for their defeat. They gave away too many scorable frees and would have been much closer had they picked off points instead of going for goals in the second half. Kilkenny were much sharper and used their chances better and will no doubt fancy their chances in the final.

Scorers for Kilkenny: S. Millea 0-10 (0-8 frees), M. Maher 2-0, B. Mullaly and I. Kennedy 0-1 each. Galway: S. Glynn 0-8 (0-5 frees, 0-1 penalty), T. Maher 1-1, L. Kavanagh 0-1.

KILKENNY: C. Ryan; M. Maher, S. Costelloe, M. Costelloe; E. Kennedy, K. Long, E. Maher; B. Mullaly, L. Lyng; S. Millea, M. Maher, I. Kennedy; C. Doherty, A. Neary, M. Downey. Subs: G. Dillon-Maher for C. Doherty (40th minute).

GALWAY: L. Curry; R. O'Connor, A. Hillary, A. Broderick; T. Laheen, P. Nevin, F. Healy; T. Maher, C. Nevin; L. Kavanagh, C. Murray, E. Kerins; M. Harkin, V. Curtin, S. Glynn. Subs: C. Hannon for T. Laheen (26th minute), O. Kilkenny for C. Nevin (40th minute); A. Connolly for C. Murray (53rd minute), O. Broderick for M. Harkin (56th minute).

Referee: S. Morrissey (Tipperary).



Galway's Collette Nevin is challenged by Kilkenny's Ester Kennedy in the All-Ireland camogie semi-final at Mullingar.

Picture: Maurice O'Mahony

Late Hughes point gives Tipperary another chance

Cork
Tipperary

0-14
2-8

CORK and Tipperary fans are a bit like Oliver - they cannot help but ask for more, writes **THERESE O'CALLAGHAN**.

On Saturday week next the stage is set once again for the Foras Na Gaeilge All-Ireland camogie championship semi-final replay, and if it is as exciting as last Saturday's fare served up in a superb Cusack Park, Mullingar, they

certainly will not be disappointed.

After earlier watching Kilkenny surprise Galway in the other semi-final, this contest exploded right from the throw-in. And at the death, it was Tipp's danger lady, Deirdre Hughes, who earlier bagged their brace of goals that steered over the vital equaliser to dramatically save the day for the defending All-Ireland champions. But, who were the happier with the result?

Tipperary, you would imagine coming from a point down, but having

lead from the 10th minute right up to the 55th, they will have been disappointed to leave Cork back into the game at a time when many punters thought that the Blue and Gold had earned their ticket for All-Ireland day.

"I never thought it was gone from us," said an elated Cork manager, Pa Finn soon after the final whistle.

"I have great faith in all the girls on this team. They had to dig deep out there today, and I simply thought they were outstanding when the need was

greatest. We had to contend with the Tipperary goals in the first and second-half but we still came back."

Cork introduced Jennifer O'Leary mid way through the second-half. Her contribution was enormous.

"She is playing very well at the moment and has served us well any time we have called on her," said Finn.

So, it is all to play for once again. The replay, which will be staged at a Munster venue in twelve days, will be much awaited.

Heroic victory for battling Kilkenny

Kilkenny.....2-12

Galway.....1-9

THE Kilkenny senior camogie team, underestimated against Clare and overwhelming underdogs for the All-Ireland semi-final against Galway, showed steel and skill in abundance to overcome the Westerners at Mullingar on Saturday.

Five star displays from everyone saw Kilkenny take the lead after 25 minutes. The players then show the grit needed to hold on even when Galway came within two points of them with 12 wind-assisted minutes left.

Kilkenny played with the wind in the first half. They were soon in arrears.

Colette Nevin put Galway ahead in the opening minute. A Sinead Millea free - one of ten scored by her - brought Kilkenny back on terms.

Sharon Glynn, Galway's main sharpshooter with a seven points total, scored three unanswered points. Kilkenny pulled them back slowly.

Points from Sinead Millea and Brigid Mullally, a brilliant effort, were answered by a Lourda Kavanagh point. A brace of Sinead Millea points brought the winners level after 24 minutes.

Then came the first Kilkenny goal. It was a one-handed effort by the tireless Martina Maher, after Mairead Costelloe had worked hard to get the ball upfield.

Two more points by Sinead Millea before the interval left Kilkenny 1-7 to 0-5 in front, but with the wind to face in the second half.

Galway needed a good start after the change. Two more Sinead Millea frees put her side seven points clear.

The losers had to wait seven minutes for their first score of the half, a pointed free by Sharon Glynn. This score co-inciding with the introduction of former Kilkenny All-Ireland captain, Gillian Dillon-Maher.

Sinead Millea and Sharon Glynn swapped points. After 13 minutes Galway got within three points of the opposition when captain, Veronica Curtin, hammered the ball to the net.

Kilkenny stood firm in the face of intense pressure. Eventually this fine defence cracked, and conceded a penalty.

Sharon Glynn stepped confidently forward. Sinead Costelloe brilliantly deflected the fine effort over the bar.

Imelda Kennedy eased Kilkenny back into a three point lead with a well taken score after she ran on to a Sinead Millea pass.

Then came the crushing blow. Kilkenny goalie Caitriona Ryan cleared the ball to youthful wing-back Edel Maher.

Edel steered the ball to midfielder Lizzie Lyng. The Rower-Inistioge star sent a long ball over the heads of

the Galway full-back line. Martina Maher looked to be bottled up, but she found room to steer the ball into the Galway net.

The losers continued to press hard. They forced two close in frees. Both were taken by Sharon Glynn, and both were deflected over the bar, the first one by Sinead Costelloe (again) and the second by Caitriona Ryan.

In injury-time Aoife Neary looked set to score, but she was dragged down. It was apt that Kilkenny's most accurate forward, Sinead Millea, should close the scoring with a point.

Kilkenny - Caitriona Ryan (Tullagher); Mairead Costelloe (St Lachtain's); Sinead Costelloe (St Lachtain's); Marie Maher (St Lachtain's); Esther Kennedy (St Lachtain's); Kelly Long (Lisdowney); Edel Maher (St Anne's); Brigid Mullally (Glenmore); Lizzie Lyng (Rower-Inistioge); Imelda Kennedy (St Lachtain's); Martina Maher (St Lachtain's); Sinead Millea (St Brigid's); Catherine Doherty (St Anne's); Aoife Neary (James Stephens); Marina Downey (Lisdowney). Sub - Gillian Dillon-Maher (St Lachtain's).

Galway - Louise Curry; Roisin O'Connor; Aine Hillary; Ann Broderick; Tracy Laheen; Pamela Nevin; Fiona Healy; Colette Nevin; Theresa Maher; Lourda Kavanagh; Caroline Murray; Elaine Kerins; Martina Harkin; Veronica Curtin; Sharon McGlynn. Sub - Orla Kilkenny.

Maher in goalden form for Kilkenny

Kilkenny.....2-12 Galway.....1-9

GAA: KILKENNY have booked their place in the All-Ireland Forus na Gaelge final following a 2-12 to 1-9 win over Galway yesterday in the semi-final. Martina Maher was the hero with a goal in the 26th minute of the first half to give Kilkenny a 1-7 to 0-5 lead at the break. A goal from Galway's Veronica Curtin in the twelfth minute of the second half left it 1-10 to 1-7 but a second Maher goal in the 52nd minute had the Cats purring.

Kilkenny 2-12 (S Millea 0-10, M Maher 2-0, I Kennedy and B Mullally 0-1 each). Galway 1-9 (S Glynn 0-7, V Curtin 1-0, T Maher and L Kavanagh 0-1 each).

Tipperary.....2-8 Cork.....0-14

A POINT two minutes into injury time from Deirdre Hughes saved the day from All Ireland champions Tipperary as they drew with Cork in the second semi final. On a 2-8 for Tipp to 0-14 for Cork. A first half goal from Deirdre Hughes 8 minutes into the first half gave the champions a narrow half time lead 1-4 to 0-6. Tipp were enjoyed a tonic within two minutes of the re-start with a second Hughes goal, but well taken points from Lynn Dunley, Jenny O'Leary and Vivienne Harris kept Cork very much in the game. It was Lynn dunley who levelled with a free in the 58th minute but Deirdre Hughes made another trip possible for the champions on September 1 for the replay.

Tipperary 2-8 (D Hughes 2-2, E McDonnell 0-3, N Kennedy 0-2 and C Grogan 0-1). Cork 0-14 (L Dunley 0-7, V Harris and E Burke 0-2 each, L Mellerick, F O'Driscoll and J O'Leary 0-1 each).

"Dee Day" for Tipperary

Tipperary.....2-8

Cork.....0-14

A POINT into injury time by the superb Dee Hughes saw Tipperary come away from Cusack Park, Mullingar with their championship ambitions in the Foras na Gailge All-Ireland series still intact.

Tipperary led from the 7th minute in this classic encounter until the 59th minute when Lyn Dunlea pointed from a free which put the Leesiders celebrating on the sideline. But a game is never over until the final whistle and the two minutes of injury time was pure pulsating stuff. Hearts stopped beating when Deirdre Hughes collected from Philly Fogarty and to everybody's delight watched the ball sail beautifully between the posts.

So Tipperary must do it all over again in the replay, which is fixed for Saturday September 1st in The Gaelic Grounds, Limerick.

The game started at a ferocious pace and Deirdre Hughes pointed for Tipperary in the 2nd minute. In fact this point turned out to be one of the most important of the day, one umpire signalled wide while the other signalled a point. Hughes put up a fierce plea to the officials, but the referee Jack O'Brien (Wexford) was having none of it, took his umpires one side and Tipperary were on the scoreboard for the first time in the afternoon.

Vivienne Harris levelled matters in the 4th minute with a point from play and Elaine Bourke put Cork ahead in the 6th minute. Tipperary replied almost immediately when Eimear McDonnell collected a well-executed pass from Claire Grogan and levelled.

From the puckout Tipperary took control and a long delivery from Theresa Brophy was collected by Claire Grogan who made a major run for goal but her attempt was saved and blocked to the waiting Deirdre Hughes and the ball was in the back of the Cork net. Cork replied with an Elaine Bourke point and Eimear McDonnell put a beauty over for Tipperary in the 8th minute.

From the 8th to the 19th

minute both sides failed to add to the score. Both sets of backs were put under extreme pressure, Tipperary backs were outstanding, particularly Ciara Gaynor and Una O'Dwyer. It was Cork's Lynda Mellerick who got the better of the exchanges to secure Cork's fourth point in the 19th minute. Eimear McDonnell replied immediately to leave the goal dividing the sides going into the closing stages of the first half. Cork had the upper hand in the final ten minutes, but Jovita Delaney made three excellent saves to keep the Cork attack fruitless. The gap began to get smaller as Lyn Dunlea pointed for Cork in the 25th and 27th minute. Michael Cleary's charges headed towards the dressing rooms by 1-4 to 0-6.

Tipperary came out in the second half with fire in their eyes and in the 32nd minute a brilliant flick past Cork's Cora Keohane by Deirdre Hughes after a Philly Fogarty delivery had the huge support from Tipperary on their feet.

Cork's midfielder collected in the 37th minute and the ball went right between the posts from 45m out.

Noelle Kennedy tapped over Tipperary's fifth point in the 40th minute from a foul on Louise Young and Lyn Dunlea replied for Cork at the other end in the 41st minute.

Tipperary replaced the tiring Emily Hayden, who was not having one of her better days, with Joanne Ryan. Cork narrowed the margin in the 43rd minute with a Lyn Dunlea free and a great score from Fiona O'Driscoll.

Claire Grogan was fouled and Noelle Kennedy converted in the 45th minute.

Claire Grogan collected in the 47th minute and headed for goal. Cora Keohane was alert and Claire's attempt was deflected over for a point. From this point on Tipperary had their backs to the wall.

Lyn Dunlea converted in the 51st minute from a free and substitute Jenny O'Leary tapped over their 12th point in the 53rd minute. In the 55th minute

Lyn Dunlea levelled form a 50m free.

Tipperary's backs were playing tremendous stuff and were under sever pressure, Una O'Dwyer had no option but to bring down Una O'Donoghue and Cork took the lead in the 59th minute when Dunlea tapped over their 14th point.

We were into injury time, Philly Fogarty collected and delivered to Deirdre Hughes, then the cheers as the ball sailed beautifully between the posts. We had no complaints when Jack O'Brien stretched out his arms and blew the final whistle.

The team and mentors wishes to convey their sincere thanks to the huge support they had in Mullingar on Saturday.

Tipperary led for most of the hour, Jovita Delaney in goals guarded the posts in her usual calm approach and had the defence line on their toes throughout. Tipp's full back line Suzanne Kelly, Una O'Dwyer and Claire Madden were outstanding, particularly Una O'Dwyer.

The half back trio comprised of Sinead Nealon, Ciara Gaynor and Paula Bulfin and cleared everything that came their way in particular Ciara Gaynor was outstanding throughout the hour.

Tipperary's duo at mid field Emily Hayden and Theresa Brophy both had a difficult task in containing Lynda Mellerick and Vivienne Harris who set up some excellent scoring chances for Cork.

The half forward line, Philly Fogarty, Noelle Kennedy and Louise Young created many problems for Cork's Paula O'Connor, Mary O'Connor and Sara Hayes and when switched to mid-field Philly Fogarty worked tirelessly and ensured plenty of ball to Tipp's forwards. Tipperary's full forward line Eimear McDonnell, Deirdre Hughes and Claire Grogan had Sinead Buckley, Eithne Duggan and Stephanie Dunlea in the horrors at times particularly Deirdre Hughes putting 2-2 to her tally. Joanne Ryan when introduced played her part

and was unlucky not to have got the winning score.

Kilkenny came through the other semi-final in style with a comprehensive 2-12 to 1-9 victory over a subdued Galway side.

Juniors play Galway in All-Ireland semi-final

TIPPERARY Juniors have a huge task in keeping their championships dreams intact on Saturday evening next in the County Camogie Grounds at 5.15 p.m. when they play rivals Galway. This pairing last met in 1998 in the All-Ireland Final where Galway took the title by one point.

With the home advantage and the experience gained at senior level by a number of players Tipperary should come through to the final comfortable. They have many experienced players on this unit, Louise Young who did Trojan work on the senior squad on Saturday will be one to watch in the attacking line, she will be ably assisted by the Grogan sisters Linda and Helen.

Other players who have senior experience are Noelle O'Dwyer, Lorraine Bourke, Niamh Connolly, Julia Delaney and Siobhan Ryan, while Tipperary also have fine players in Meadh Corcoran, Deirdre Delaney and Deirdre McDonnell, Sharon Ralph and Sara O'Brien. The team will be finalised this Thursday evening.

Management Martin Browne and selectors Bernie O'Dowd and John O'Donnell have done a powerful amount of work with this outfit and have been assisted by Brendan Murphy (Cashel) since last February. They had a win over Limerick in the opening round and had a comprehensive win over Waterford in the semi-final, while they had a stiffer task in the final against Cork but still came out with a seven point win last July and have had many challenge games since. They have prepared well, have no injury problem and have a full panel to pick from, hopefully by 7 p.m. on Saturday evening they will be on their way to Croke Park.

Level pegging leads to replay

By MARY NEWMAN MCCARTHY

Camogie correspondent

Cork 0-14
Tipperary 2-8

SHOWING tremendous fighting spirit, Cork made All-Ireland champions Tipperary depend on a last gasp point from Deirdre Hughes before it finished level in the All-Ireland senior semi-final on Saturday.

The opening half was dominated by Cork, thanks to the brilliance of centrefield pairing of Linda Mellerick and Vivienne Harris.

Tipp nosed ahead nine minutes into the game, which was level on two points when Deirdre Hughes volleyed to the net.

By the 20th minute, the holders held their goal lead 1-4 to 0-4, but working hard, Cork with two points from Lynn Dunlea had the minimum between the sides at the break.

Cork were rocked within two minutes of the restart when Deirdre Hughes grabbed her second goal.

However, with Cork's Noelle Kennedy and Viv Harris exchanging points it was evenly matched and the Leesiders kept their nerve, narrowing the gap.

A Noelle Kennedy point took the pressure off the champions and when Claire Grogan added another, the gap widened further.

But, Tipp never looked like shaking off a determined Cork and, with Mary O'Connor and Paula O'Connor superb in defence, Tipp forwards had to fight for every score.

Lynn Dunlea knocked over a 20th minute point and from here on it was all Cork.

Points from substitute Jennifer O'Leary and Lynn Dunlea had the sides level with four remaining and, sensing victory, Cork again came forward.

A blistering solo run from Rachel Moloney yielded a free and when Lynn Dunlea tapped it over with two minutes remaining, this augured well for Cork.

The Leesiders defended heroically and looked to have weathered the storm, however, Tipp dug deep and won a line ball.

Superbly hit, it landed to Deirdre Hughes who put it over the bar.

Cork selectors Rose Desmond and Sheila O'Brien gave their reactions after the game.

"The players showed great heart and never gave up," said Rose. "Twice we came back from being four points down to take the lead. We could have won, but we're still in with a chance and look forward to the replay."

Sheila O'Brien felt that Cork showed great determination and a will to succeed.

"Our more experienced players led by example today and the younger ones rallied. Vivienne Harris, Linda Mellerick and Mary O'Connor were inspirational."

Tipperary captain, Emily Hayden, was relieved at the game's end, saying: "We looked comfortable early in the second half being four points ahead, but to give Cork credit they came at us and it looked as if we were gone. It's a relief to be still in with a chance."

Vital goals from Martina Maher, one in each half, were enough to secure Kilkenny's place in the All-Ireland final. Leading at half time, 1-7 to 0-5, Kilkenny worked hard to stay ahead, although a goal did give Galway hope. However, Maher's second goal eight minutes from time, clinched victory for the Cats.

Friday's senior decider sees Cloughduv face a side determined



Cork's Vivienne Harris is challenged by Tipperary's Therese Brophy during the All-Ireland semi-final in Mullingar.

Picture: Maurice O'Mahony



Fr O'Neill's stalwart, Mags Finn, is under no illusion as to the difficult task facing the team on Friday night.

O'Neills going for four in a row final

SINCE the competition's inception in 1932, 14 names have graced the base of the Science Cup, with 12 clubs and two divisional sides having taken the reward as the winners of the Cork Senior Championship.

Of course, with that reward come the prestigious and coveted county medals and traditionally, once the championship draws are made, the almost annual ritual begins. Who are the favourites? Will the champions survive? Will there be new winners?

The roll of honour is led by Glen Rovers, who amassed 22 titles, followed by Old Aloysious with 15.

Other sides to have won one title are Muskerry, UCC, Mayfield and Sarsfields.

But, by 9pm on Friday this will change, with a new name being engraved on the base of Cork Little All-Ireland trophy following the Fr O'Neill's and Cloughduv encounter to decide the destination of honours for 2001.

Fr O'Neill's are no strangers to county finals having contested three, however it's with disappointment that they look back on their

By MARY NEWMAN MCCARTHY
Camogie correspondent

final appearances, ironically enough losing all three to Bishopscourt.

Their first came in 1997, when after knocking out holders Glen Rovers, they went in as hot favourites only to lose out by three goals.

The following year, again anticipation was a high in Ballymacoda, only to suffer a narrow one goal defeat.

1999 again brought heartbreak, with the same narrow margin separating the sides.

Last season O'Neill's again suffered at the hands of Bishopscourt, this time at the semi-final stage and one wondered was it ever going to happen for them.

Surviving a mighty scare before overcoming a strong challenge from Courcy Rovers in their opening game, O'Neill's set up a quarter-final meeting with their old enemy who shook off Inniscarra.

This time, O'Neill's showed a determination and hunger to succeed and kept the champions on their toes. They were neck and neck through the hour, with a goal from

to erase the memory of three successive county final defeats



Paula O'Connor of Cork is challenged by Tipperary's Paula Bulfin and Therese Brophy.

Picture: Maurice O'Mahony

St Catherine's set their sights on the double

CARRIGALINE and St Catherine's meet in the junior B league final next Sunday.

St Catherine's are county champions and have been promoted to the junior A grade while Carrigaline, still graded junior B, participate in the A league. St Catherine's championship win was a tribute to hard work at both under age and adult level. The aim now is to make it a double.

Both sides have Cork minor stars in their ranks. Denise Twomey has made a terrific impact with her club and Imokilly and, at just 15, is one for the future. Noreen Mulcahy, Debbie Mangan and Yvonne O'Neill will also

put the pressure on Carrigaline.

Muireann Conlon, Jackie O'Keeffe, Rose Harrington and Niamh Murphy will strive to bring Carrigaline their first junior honours since the old club took the county A title in 1954.

This season's junior A championship gets underway on Monday evening when neighbours Ballinhassig and Tracton meet in Tracton.

Tracton will be looking to Marion Jaego to rally their side while Ballinhassig, league semi-finalists last season, will be looking for big performances from Linda O'Sullivan and Therese Finn to book their place for a second round meeting with Sarsfields.



Vivienne Harris of Cork and Emily Hayden of Tipperary clash during the All-Ireland semi-final.

Underage leagues to resume when schools re-open

THE under 12 and 14 league competitions, which have reached the closing stages, will resume in full when the schools reopen after the summer holidays.

Games in all section have been completed and the draws were held at a recent county board meeting.

It is hoped to play off the competitions in the first and second week of September and dates will be put down at the next meeting of the board on Monday, August 27.

Section A sees Douglas and Bishopstown or Glen Rovers coming through.

Blarney will play either Bishopstown or Glen Rovers.

The winners will meet Douglas in what promises to be an outstanding fixture.

Section B sees Ballygarvan and Eire Óg drawn to meet Courcey Rovers and Bandon, who came out of Section C, respectively.

Rockbawn and Milford are paired together after emerging from Section F and E respectively.

The other qualifiers from those groups - Dungourney await the winners of Rockbawn and Milford while Buttevant will meet the victors of Ballygarvan and Courceys.

The tremendous work being put in down in Riverstown saw Sarsfields progress from section D, along with Blarney.

The full under 12 league draws is as follows:

Qualifiers for quarter-final places - Rockbawn v Milford; Eire Óg v Bandon; Glen Rovers or Bishopstown v Blarney; Ballygarvan v Courcey Rovers.

Quarter-finals: Buttevant v Ballygarvan or Courcey Rovers; Sarsfields v Eire Óg or Bandon; Douglas v Blarney or Glen Rovers or Bishopstown; Dung-

Fixtures

FRIDAY AUGUST 24
Cork County Senior Championship Final: Cloughduv v Fr O'Neill's at Pairc Uí Rinn 7pm.
SUNDAY AUGUST 25
Junior B League Final 2000: Carrigaline v St Catherine's at Sarsfields 7pm.
MONDAY AUGUST 26
Junior A Championship: Ballinhassig v Tracton at Tracton 7pm.

ourney v Rockbawn or Milford.

The under 14 A and B leagues also progressed smoothly in the month leading up to the school holidays and are also close to the concluding stages.

The county board this year introduced a 12-a-side under 14 competition, aimed at clubs who would not be in a position to field 15-a-side.

The competition was a huge success and all of the clubs agreed that without it several of them would have lost players.

Instead there is now renewed interest and several of the clubs hope to be in a position to re-enter at 15-a-side in the future.

The under 14 A and B leagues also ran smoothly and the draws for the various competition are as follows: Under 14 A - Milford v Ballygarvan; Inniscarra v Ballyhea.

Under 14 B league quarter finals - Na Piarraig v St Catherine's; Eire Óg v Mallow; Enniskeane v Courcey Rovers; St Finbarr's v Ballincollig.

Semi-finals - Na Piarraig or St Catherine's v St Finbarr's or Ballincollig; Enniskeane or Courcey Rovers v Eire Óg or Mallow.

Under 14 12-a-side league semi-finals - Sliabh Rua v Grenagh; Kildorrey v Tracton.

Clare Falvin in the closing minutes finally killing the champions.

Their tussle with Seandún was again a close affair with the result wavering in the balance until the final moment.

However, a strong finish with three unanswered points was enough to book a fourth county final appearance.

On Friday night they face their stiffest challenge, against a Cloughduv side appearing in their first final.

Mags Finn, who has given tremendous service to Fr O'Neill's, is under no illusions as to the task ahead.

"It's going to be very tough, but we know what we're up against," she said.

"It's a county final, we will give it our all. Hopefully it will come right for us."

As Mags predict, it will be tough and looking at the Cloughduv line-out it's easy to understand why.

Grassroots



Player of the week

CORK senior midfielders Vivienne Harris and Linda Mellerick are this week's joint winners. The pair performed superbly against Tipperary, helping out in defence and attack. It's a tribute to Vivienne and Linda that neither of their opponents, who began at midfield, finished in their starting positions.

They will field 12 players who have worn the county colours at different grades from senior to minor and that is vital experience.

In their path to the final they accounted for last year's finalists Barryroe and went on to defeat divisional sides Carbery and Carrighoun. Selector Paudie Murray feels that despite the talk of his side be-

ing favourites, they are going in as underdogs.

He told *Grassroots*: "We're a very young side, appearing in our first county final. But, O'Neill's will be under more pressure to perform and that may suit us."

"Any team who has beaten the county champions must be treated with respect and that it how we will be approaching Friday's final."

While neither team has taken the title previously, experience will not be lacking in either camps.

Senior inter-county players Fiona O'Driscoll and Mags Finn will be coming head to head with their inter-county teammates Lynn and Stephanie Dunlea, Una O'Donoghue, Joanne O'Callaghan and Marie Corkery.

Despite it being a first final appearance for Cloughduv, captain Stephanie Dunlea and her sister Lynn are no strangers to county final appearances, being holders of honours won with Glen Rovers.

Champions are rattled as late Hughes point earns them a fortunate draw

Tipp can count themselves lucky that Cork failed to capitalise on their first-half dominance

by Mary Newman

It took a late Deirdre Hughes point to earn the All-Ireland champions a replay after an exciting semi-final meeting in Mullingar on Saturday last.

Cork trailed 1-4 to 0-6 at the interval after a Deirdre Hughes goal nine minutes into game gave the champions a three-point lead. Settling in well after the setback, Cork proceeded to dominate and indeed were in not for missing six scorable chances could have led a the interval.

With the Cork midfield pairing of Linda Mellerick and Vivienne Harris in total control, Cork looked set to continue their first half dominance in the second period, but were dealt a blow when Deirdre Hughes grabbed her second goal within two minutes. Undaunted, Cork battled on with good points from Lynn Dunlea and Fiona O Driscoll, but Tipp held their lead with points from Noelle Kennedy and Claire Grogan.

With their defence on top, the Cork inside line enjoyed a steady supply, and points from Dunlea and substitute Jennifer O'Leary had

just one between the sides. Then, with the excitement rising, Dunlea knocked over a free and it was level pegging. Rachel Moloney won a valuable free and with Dunlea tapping it over, Cork hit the front with two minutes remaining. The champions pressed and, with a last gasp effort two minutes into injury time, grabbed the equaliser to force a replay on September 1.

In the opening game, Kilkenny made it through to the final after Martina Maher's goal four minutes from half time gave them an interval lead of 1-7 to 0-5, thanks mainly to excellent point-scoring of Sinéad Millea. Galway fought back and a Veronica Curtain goal within 12 minutes of the restart had them back in contention, but Kilkenny had a second Maher goal eight minutes from full time.

Milford 9-7
Ballygarvan 1-6

Despite a spirited display, Ballygarvan failed to stop Milford adding the Under-16 A league title for 2000 to the championship crown.

With Marie and Emer Watson, Sharon Linehan and Imelda Sexton all getting on the scoresheet Milford led 6-3 to 1-6 at the interval. The Ballygarvan goal was a beauty, coming from the stick of Catriona Kelly, who was outstanding through the hour.

After the resumption it was all Milford, but despite this Catriona Kelly, Suzanne Lynch and Aileen O'Neill tried hard to the finish.

Barryroe 7-5
Eire Og 2-3

Last year's Under-16 B champions



Above: Cork's Sarah Hayes tussles with Phil Fogarty, Tipperary. Below: Tipp's Ciara Gaynor gets away from Lynn Dunlea.

Picture: Maurice O'Mahony



Barryroe advanced to the league final for 2000 when they defeated an Eire Og side who made all the first half running to lead 2-14 to 1-3 at the break.

Barryroe's Marie Moloney was the heroine, with a contribution of 5-4 in the second half. Emer O'Regan, Carol Ann O'Donovan and Patricia Moloney were

amongst the Barryroe stars but credit must go to Eire Og Clodagh Crowley, Aoife McCarthy and Avril Desmond, who all performed well for a gallant Eire Og side.

In the Junior B League final on Sunday next, Carrigaline will have the added incentive to take the honours when they face county champions St Catherines, as the

trophy being played for is none other than the Jackie O'Connor trophy which was donated by Mr O'Connor to the county board. Having been involved with the old club in Carrigaline Mr O'Connor immediately renewed his interest when the camogie club was re-formed and was honoured to be chosen as their president.

Facing the county champions is a task which the club are looking forward to; St Catherines showed last season that they are a force to be reckoned with. Lisa Higgins, Laura Noonan, Sandra O'Brien and Helen Lane already have county championship medals to their credit and a league medal would make a it a nice double.

In the Junior county championship on Monday next at Tracton, the home side take on Ballinahisig in their opening game and here the visitors will look to Mairéad Holland and Linda O'Sullivan to quash the challenge of a Tracton side who will be looking to Marion Jaego and Nicola Lynch to lead the way.

At the time of going to print it was as yet unclear if the County Senior final between Fr O'Neill and Cloughduv — originally fixed for Friday night next — would go ahead, as the replay of the Cork / Tipperary senior All-Ireland championship is scheduled to take place on Saturday September 1st.

Cork representatives must be known by September 23rd, when the winners are to meet Grenagh-Ballinagarry, however, as one of the clubs has problems with the dates regarding the re-scheduling of the county final. A decision was not as yet finalised at the time of going to print.



The Croagh Kilfinny intermediate camogie team which has qualified for the county final

Great day promised for Croagh-Kilfinny

SUNDAY next sees the end of five years hard work and commitment by the members and friends of Croagh-Kilfinny Camogie Club with the opening of their magnificent new pitch.

Many activities have been planned for this weekend to celebrate this historic event for the club.

Friday sees the finishing touches to the field and their U-14 team have invited a local team to be the first players to play them.

Though Saturday is an important day in GAA circles for Limerick, what with Limerick Ladies footballers entertaining Donegal and the U-21 hurlers playing Galway, our U-11's will be hosting an invitational tournament.

Sunday is the day that all camogie enthusiasts are invited to join Croagh-Kilfinny as Pádraichín Ní Ráifeartaigh, Uachtarán Cumann Camógalochna nGael performs the official opening of the field at 2.15 p.m.

Prior to this Fr Mulvi-

hill, Croagh will have a special blessing for the field to set off the proceedings. From early morning there will be a lot of Camogie to be seen with club teams from Limerick, Cork, Galway and Clare playing a seven-a-side tournament.

It is hoped that this competition will become an annual event for the club. Following the opening the Limerick County camogie team will play Tipperary in a Senior Tournament game. This team continued to have success as they won the championship for a fur-

ther two years. The 1963 Croagh team will be honoured. They won the County championship in their first year.

Many people have helped to ensure that Croagh have now got a playing field of their own but one person worked tirelessly for the club Helen Shuehy Fitzgerald was the driving force behind the development and her untimely passing has left a void. As a mark of respect to Helen and as an acknowledgement to all she did for the club, the field will be dedicated in her memory.

AUG. 2001

CAMOGIE: Ballymacoda ladies bravely step into the Rinn

Six of the best

Nora Ahern (Captain): Nora leads by example from the middle of the field. A fearless player whose skill has earned her much respect in her club. Has suffered a lot with injuries over the years but her commitment is always total.

Mags Finn: A sterling fullback for O'Neills and is utterly dependable in the number three shirt. An intelligent distributor of the ball, she is very determined and instils confidence in those around her. She is an invaluable member of the O'Neill's team.

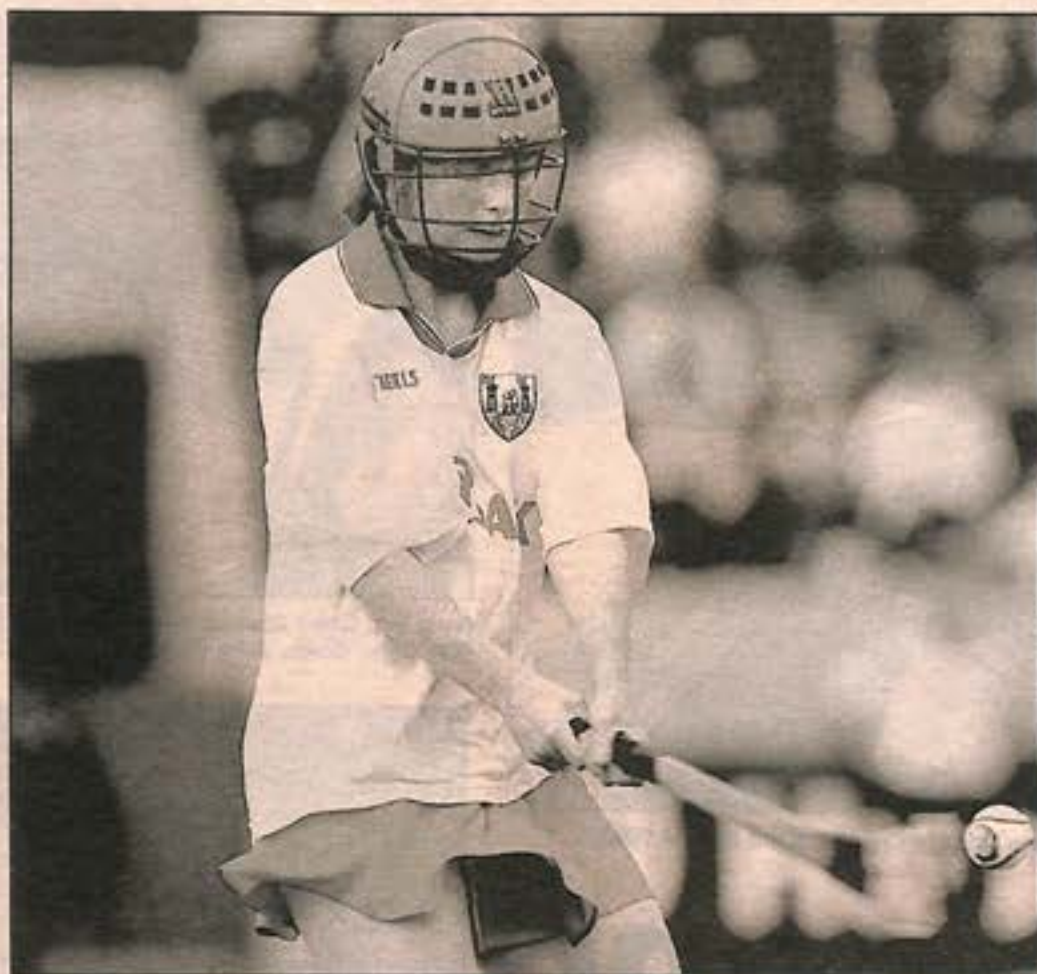
Fiona O'Driscoll: A prolific scorer from any angle and a deadly finisher, which makes her any back's nightmare. Her skill and distribution ability makes her a joy to watch. Fiona will give everything for her club and you can be guaranteed will play herself to a standstill on Friday.

Liz Sweetnam: Liz is proving to be amongst the top centrebacks in Cork at the moment.

A most unassuming player, she likes to come forward. She is a great striker of the ball, has a good hand and is composed under the dropping ball.

Mary Kennefick: The longest serving member of the Fr O'Neill's team. A reliable free taker, she has won many matches for the Ballymacoda side with her accurate shooting. She has made the corner forward position her own and is always a handful for any defence.

Sharon McGrath: Sharon will not concede an inch at corner back. She is a very determined player who revels in championship action. Will always involve her teammates in the action and is an inspirational player for O'Neills.



Fiona O'Driscoll: has unfinished business to complete tomorrow night against Cloughduv.

Picture: INPHO

Hearts are set on final victory

THE message from Ballymacoda is loud and clear. Fr O'Neills are not going to leave this county final behind them.

For the past five years the East Cork girls have claimed the silver, the bronze, and sometimes even lower. Now the time has come for them to stand up and be counted.

On Friday, Pairc Ui Rinn will be adorned with Red and Green as Fr O'Neills lay down the gauntlet to this year's other finalist Cloughduv.

There has been much tear jerking in Ballymacoda up to now. In fact, too much, according to club stalwart Fiona O'Driscoll.

"What we have suffered over the past number of years only ourselves

By THERESE O'CALLAGHAN
camogie correspondent

will ever know. To be beaten time and time again, it is soul-destroying. People have no idea how hard it is to pick up the pieces and get back on the pitch and get going again.

"But we did, and now we have unfinished business to complete this Friday night.

"This year we applied a low key approach and it has worked for us so far. Twelve months ago we put in a huge effort, so much so, that when we did not achieve our goal the fun went out of it. And then to be knocked out in the first round was the ultimate heart-break.

"We decided not to take it too seriously this year and enjoy the craic as well. We contested the U-16 and U-18B county finals and the spin off from these games developed the enthusiasm again to get back on the road.

"We won the 2000 senior league earlier this year and now we are in the county final," she added.

There is no denying that the younger players have brought renewed zest to this vibrant club that boasts 45 players at U12 level.

The likes of Gearoidin and Siobhan Kearney, Roisin and Anna Corcoran, Marie O'Brien, Catherine O'Shea, Sinead Kennefick, Katie Ahern and Ursula Day have been through the mill at underage level and were prominent in the O'Neill's revival this year.

Fr O'Neill's set sights on first senior title

THE written history of Fr O'Neill's camogie club is aptly entitled 'On our road to success'.

How ironic that 15 years later the East Cork club hope to complete that tireless journey with a first ever Cork County senior camogie championship title against Cloughduv tomorrow.

The club dates back to the end of the Second World War, when in 1945 a group of lades from Ballymacoda formed a camogie club in the village at a time when there was little else to do.

Rationing was in existence at the time, therefore walking, cycling and even the back of a lorry were

methods used to travel to games.

Camogie seemed to end in Ballymacoda in 1948, but was getting back on track again by the early '70s. 1976 saw the establishing of the current Fr O'Neill's club, which fielded teams at U12, U14, U16, U18 and Junior B level.

They won their first Jun-

ior A championship against neighbours Killeagh after a replay in 1985. 12 months later they did the unbelievable and went all the way to claim the Intermediate title. 1995 was the year the Senior B trophy headed East.

A lot of water has passed under the bridge since then and with people like

Joan O'Driscoll, Ann Marie Griffin, Carrie Higgins, Margaret Hyde and Leslie Ahern carrying on the tradition to the present day squad.

Manager Sean O'Sullivan says they will be taking nothing for granted: "You have got to earn every accolade that you desire," he said.

Mullingar cracker well worth the trip



GAA FOCUS

By THERESE O'CALLAGHAN

VIEW FROM THE GROUND

THOSE who made the trip to Mullingar last weekend for the All-Ireland camogie championship semi-finals were the lucky ones.

Many people cribbed about the placing of such games in the heart of football country in Westmeath, but by Saturday evening this feeling was replaced by one of awe and admiration after a splendid afternoon of top-class fare in a superb stadium.

From the outset, everything was in place down to the last detail. On arrival at the sod in Cusack Park, personnel from the Westmeath County GAA Board were waiting to greet officials from all four counties.

Among them was referee Paddy Collins who is secretary of the county board.

Denise Fulham, who is a granddaughter of former national PRO PJ Fulham sang songs of each county's origin during the relevant interval breaks. And the electronic scoreboard and clock were avidly watched, particularly in the second game between Cork and Tipperary as the seconds ticked away and it ended in a welter of excitement.

But before this game, it was the turn of Galway and Kilkenny for a little tête-à-tête. In typical Kilkenny fashion, the team who had failed to set the world alight in the national league campaign made it blatantly obvious that there is only one competition in their camogie calendar.

And what's more, any Black and Amber team who have made it to Croke Park in the past have rarely left without the honours.

Next up was the collision of the Munster titans. Cork and Tipperary have become the greatest sporting rivals of modern camogie.

In her match programme address, the president of the Camogie Association Pat Rafferty said that Cork, Tipperary, Kilkenny and Galway are renowned for their flair and skill and for the excitement they generate every time they meet. She could not have said truer words. All four delivered.

The replay between Cork and Tipperary will not come fast enough.

Reaction from the Tipp camp suggests that they consider themselves very lucky to have survived the drawn game and that they were greatly impressed with the Cork performance.

The Premier County lost their bearings for a while in the first half but then again, the equalising shot from Deirdre Hughes could just have easily gone under as over the bar.

The replay will come down to three key areas.

Midfield, which was won hands down by Vivienne Harris and Linda Mellerick, will once again be vital.

Tipp full back Una O'Dwyer dictated matters in the small square, but it was the paramount display at centre back of Clara Gaynor that broke the Cork hearts time and time again. She was simply supreme sweeping all before her from left to right in that sector of the field.

This time the venue is the Gaelic Grounds in Limerick and the date is Saturday, September 1. It should be a cracker of a day out in Limerick.

TOMORROW: See Echo Sport for a profile of Cloughduv

CAMOGIE: Cloughdub must lay O'Neill ghost to rest in county final

Six of the best for Cloughdub

Stephanie Dunlea (Captain): Stephanie's commitment to her side is always total. A player with great ability her workrate is staggering. As a midfielder, she will control her area while helping out her defence and going forward to support her attack.

Joanne O'Callaghan: A great ball controller and a very stylish player. Would be effective in any position in the defence and has a great clearance. She is very dedicated and has performed heroically for any inter-county team she has been selected on.

Una O'Donoghue: Una has made her own name in the past year or two. Her incisive runs opening up the opposing defences have been her hallmark. Her speed and skill make her a delight to watch and she can always be relied upon to deliver.

Lynn Dunlea: Lynn has had an unrivalled career to date. Has the capacity on her own to bring this county title back to Cloughdub. She has breathtaking power and finish and is extremely fast off of her mark. A potential match winner any day.

Sinead Buckley: Sinead is a very strong and steady defender. Has had a great season so far with Cloughdub. She will make life difficult for any forward, and with her shrewd eye for the ball, she will be a key member of the Cloughdub machine.

Catherine Corkery: Catherine has looked a great prospect even from an early age. Her free-flowing athletic style compliments her huge work rate. She is very quick to the ball, well able to make room for herself and is a wonderful striker.



Joanne O'Callaghan, Lynn Dunlea and Catherine Corkery during a training session for the county camogie final. Picture: Gerard McCarthy

Dunlea's dream within her grasp

THEY will arrive in their droves to Páirc Uí Rinn tonight, to support the ladies in green and gold who travel from Cloughdub to the city venue in search of an elusive dream.

A first is always special. To win their first-ever Cork county senior camogie title would surpass their wildest expectations.

Memories, though, will have to be banished before tonight's clash with Fr O'Neills. The last three times these sides met in the championship, Cloughdub have come out on the wrong side and on each occasion the margin has been four points.

However, it would appear that they have had enough. Now is the hour to put

By THERESE O'CALLAGHAN
camogie correspondent

that right once and for all. No better stage than the biggest, and no better lady than the best. Lynn Dunlea was unstoppable against Carrigrohoun, but the modest goal poacher says it all boils down to the supply she receives:

"The credit always seems to be pinned on the scorers, but recognition has to be given to the suppliers. If I am scoring then it means that I am getting the right type of ball," she says.

Despite the perception that Cloughdub are a seasoned side, the nucleus of this team is under 20-years-old. Great success at underage level has resulted in this team sticking together and coming of age.

"Reaching the county final is a new phenomenon and is very exciting for the younger players. But they have reacted well and are all looking forward to tonight," said Lynn.

"We know we are up against it, but we have won county championships all the way up - U-16 and U-18, so most will have played in a county final before. A lot of our girls have represented Cork at some stage therefore, we know we have the capabilities.

"I think it will go down to heart and determination. Whichever side has these qualities will produce the winner."

With five sets of sisters in the make-up of this Cloughdub team; Murrays, Corkerys, Dunleas, O'Donoghues and O'Callaghans - you can be sure that heart and determination will be in no short supply.

Cloughdub are bidding to make camogie history

By THERESE O'CALLAGHAN
Camogie Correspondent

IN 1931 Kitty O'Donovan, Joe Conroy and Nora Kelleher founded the Muskerry Maids.

Their club colours were black and amber. Thirty years later saw the emergence of the Canovee club, which enjoyed great success winning a county title in 1962 and two Intermediate championships in 1970 and 1973.

During the late '70s the parish was without an active camogie club. On December

17th 1981 the first meeting of the Cloughdub camogie club was held at the Barry Murphy home in Coolmakee. Anne Barry Murphy was elected chairperson.

This evening, many memories will come flooding back when the Cloughdub team run out onto Páirc Uí Rinn to contest their first senior county final.

From the Intermediate team of 28 years previous, Kathleen Healy, Kitty Corkery and Nuala Dunlea will watch their daughters adorn the now famed green and gold.

There will be many tense moments as the girls from mid cork seek to bring the Science Cup west. There should not be much between the sides. At least this is the view of Cloughdub trainer, Paudie Murray.

"Both teams have equal chance in this decider," he said. However, he was adamant that his side could never be deemed favourites ahead of tonight's clash. "This is our first appearance in a senior final. O'Neills have been there before and will have the experience in that area.

"Genuinely, if we win it will be a great bonus. If we play to our potential and loose I will still be very happy. It is an outstanding achievement to get to the final.

"There will also be some very interesting duels, especially the battle between the two centre forwards, Fiona O'Driscoll versus Stephanie Dunlea, and Liz Sweetnam on Lynn Dunlea. The winning of the match could well be decided in these two positions," said Murray.

Murray's backroom colleagues include John Dunlea,

Kathleen Healy, Tim Barry Murphy and John Cronin who managed the Cork Minor team to All-Ireland honours a few weeks back.

Cloughdub have built on their youth success over the years winning numerous U14, U16 and U18 county titles. These players have been introduced over the years.

Lynn and Stephanie Dunlea, Una O'Donoghue, Joanne O'Callaghan, Sinead Buckley and Catherine Corkery will head up the challenge this evening for another famous victory.

Final in prospect;

A new name will be engraved on the Science Cup on Friday night when Fr O'Neills and Cloughdub do battle in the County Senior Camogie Final in Páirc Uí Rinn at 7 p.m.

It is O'Neill's fourth final, and having lost the last three to Bishopstown, the girls from Ballymacoda will be anxious to avoid a quartet of defeats which would deal a severe blow to their morale.

Along the way they exacted some revenge over the reigning champions with a dramatic late win, and the manner in which they held off a strong Seandun challenge will have come as a timely boost in advance of this game.

Cloughdub have looked impressive in reaching their first decider and are many people's fancy to collect the famous Cup. However, for two players Lyn and Stephanie Dunlea it is nothing new as between them they already have seven winners medals, won with Glen Rovers.

They are favourites and along with the Dunlea sisters, they can call on Una O'Donoghue, Joanne and Ora O'Callaghan the Corkery sisters Maire, Catherine and Breige, and talented goalkeeper Aoife Murray - whose brother Paudie is joint team coach with Tim Barry Murphy.

Fiona O'Driscoll and Mags Finn are key players for O'Neill's who will also look to Liz Sweetnam, Roisin Corcoran, Claire Flavin, Mary Kennedick and Ann O'Neill as they endeavour to put past results behind them and get the weekend off to a good start for the club, as their junior hurlers contest the East Cork final on Sunday.

Form would suggest a Cloughdub win and if Lynn Dunlea is not contained, O'Neill's task will be all that greater, as on her day as a forward she can be lethal. However, in Mags Finn she will face a tough hour as this fiercely committed defender will strain every sinew in an effort to collect that coveted medal.

Cloughdub look better balanced and are strong in all areas, especially in attack, while O'Neill's are probably relying a bit too much on Fiona O'Driscoll for scores. On that basis the cup could head in the direction of Mid Cork, but Fr O'Neill's will not succumb easily and expect a rousing battle but at the end of the day it looks like a Cloughdub win.

One group who will be watching the outcome with interest are the Cork senior selectors, as they prepare to face Tipperary in the All-Ireland semi-final re-play in Limerick on Saturday week September 1st.

The drawn game was a thrilling encounter where Cork recovered from conceding two goals against the run of play, and it took a late Deirdre Hughes point to save the champions.

Cork had a number of outstanding performers, Paula O'Connor, Mary O'Connor and Sarah Hayes in defence. Midfielders Linda Mellerick and Viv Harris also played their part but a better return will be required from the attack if a final place against Kilkenny on September 16th can be secured.

Carrig camogie players shine

Two camogie players from Carrigaline were in seventh heaven recently when they were part of the Cork minor camogie team who won the All-Ireland title by defeating Kilkenny in the final which was played in Ennis and, in doing so, doubled the amount of All-Ireland medals in the Carrigaline Club.

Jacqui O'Keeffe and Ann Kiely became only the second and third players respectively to win an All-Ireland camogie medal in the club, and also join two other players, Declan Fitzgerald, who won All-Ireland medals with Cork at both under 21 and junior levels, and Niamh Murphy, who won the club's very first camogie medal with Cork in the All-Ireland minor final in 1999.

Both girls have also had some degree of success with their respective schools, Jacqui winning the Munster Cup with Carrigaline Community School and Ann being part of the Colaiste Mhuire, Crosshaven, team who won the Munster Plate competition.

Jacqui and Ann have also

taken a number of club honours, including South East under 11, 13 and 15 and junior league titles and played in the Munster minor All-Ireland series.

The Carrigaline Camogie Club was re-established about ten years ago and so far this has been one of the most successful years in the club's history. Camogie was always very strong in Carrigaline, with honours in both South East and county going to the Carrigaline club.

However, as the years rolled on, interest waned, and the club folded, only to be re-established and is now becoming one of the most respected and competitive in the county. The club to date has won titles in all grades from under 12 to junior, in the South East and boasts over 180 members, and now has three All-Ireland medals in less than three years.

A great deal of credit must go to the current committee, headed by Des O'Connell and Tom Kiely, who have brought success to the Carrigaline camogie club after many hard training sessions and much determination. "We have a good working committee and have excellent working facilities with the GAA club, and it was an honour not only



Ann Kiely and Jacqui O'Keeffe of Carrigaline proudly show off their medals which they won with Cork after defeating Kilkenny in the All-Ireland minor camogie final in Nenagh.

for us, but for Carrigaline, to host the All-Ireland minor camogie semi-final match between Cork and Galway only recently," said Tom Kiely, assistant chairman.

Indeed, with such a strong and talented club, more All-Ireland medals could be coming to the banks of the Owenabue in the not too distant future.

— H. Crowley

Fr O'Neill's and Cloughduv battle it out for first title

by Tom Higgins

HISTORY will be made in the Cork County senior camogie championship final at Páirc Uí Rinn this evening at 7pm as both finalists, Fr. O'Neill's and Cloughduv, have never won the championship.

Fr. O'Neill's are no strangers to finals, having contested three of the last four. However, they were beaten by Bishopstown each time.

Having beaten their old adversary in the quarter-final this year they will be hoping this will be their year. However, they face stiff opposition in Cloughduv who will be contesting their first final.

Fr. O'Neill's started off their campaign with a win over Courcy Rovers before getting the better of Bishopstown. In the semi-final they came up against Seandún and had a hard fight for victory.

Cloughduv, on the other hand, accounted for last year's finalists Ballyroe in the opening round and then overcame division side Carbery in the quarter-final. They looked most

impressive in the semi-final against Carrighdown.

Fr. O'Neill's have a very balanced side with a particularly strong defence which includes Mags Finn, who has four All-Ireland medals to her credit.

However, it is up front that Fr. O'Neill's are most dangerous. With the free scoring Fiona O'Driscoll, Mary Kennefick and Francis Flavin they will be hoping that they will get a sufficient supply of the ball to get the vital scores.

But Cloughduv go into the final as slight favourite with 12 of their side having played for Cork in various grades. Their main scorer in chief is Lynn Dunlea, who is one of two players in the final – the other being her sister and captain Stephanie, who have county medals to their credit with Glen Rovers.

It looks an intriguing contest and should be close but Cloughduv should shade it in a low scorer.

On Sunday at Sarsfield's Ground St. Catherine's and Carrigaline meet in the Junior "B" League final.

Cork County Camogie Board

Senior A County Final

Cloughduv

v's

Fr. O'Neill's

Réiteoir Collette O'Mahony (St. Finbarr's)

in Páirc Uí Rinn

Friday 24th August 2001

at 7.15pm

Price £1.00

CAMOGIE: Heroic performance sees Cloughduv win their first ever county title

Brilliant ladies win the title after a thriller

Cloughduv
Fr O'Neills

4-13
2-12

By THERESE O'CALLAGHAN

echo.ed@echo.ie

THE waiting is over. Cloughduv's first Cork County camogie championship victory will go down in history as their most cherished.

Not only did they sweep up most of the attention from the huge crowd, but also they gave one of the most impeccable performances ever seen in a county final.

They were heroic to a woman. Every section of the team played their part in this sensational county final, but on this occasion, it was the defence that made them a team apart.

Time and time again, they fastened down the shutters as O'Neills drove forward and thus denied the Ballymacoda girls three certain goals.

Joanne O'Callaghan and Catherine Corkery, before being moved to the forward line, were outstanding.

Aoife Murray was also inspirational in goal, giving a five-star display.

Up front the opportunism of their attack created nightmares for O'Neills

with the devastating duo, sisters Breedge and Catherine Corkery getting two vital goals either side of the half to break the heart of the East Cork fight back.

Corner forward Emer Murray was also on song and Una O'Donoghue's darting runs killed the opposition with her powerful finishes.

For Lynn Dunlea, it was simply unbelievable. "I can not believe we have won the senior championship. For such a young team to come in here and win, and do exactly what they were told from the sideline is something else.

"The elation is superb, but I know O'Neills are hurting and I can feel their disappointment."

Yes, spare a thought for the losers who last evening lost their fourth county final in six years. It was a brave performance from such a spirited side. If heart could win county titles for them alone then they would have many, especially with Mags Finn, Liz Sweetnam, Nora

Ahern, Mary Kennefick and Fiona O'Driscoll playing themselves to a standstill.

But unfortunately for the red and green, they were chasing this game for most of the hour.

From once Emer Murray goaled after 10 minutes they never looked at ease.

And with chances going a begging

at the other end, they couldn't shake off their county final taboo and the throne they have so desperately fought to seize in the past few years. Above all else, though, the 2001 county final was 60-plus minutes of non-stop action.

If ever a sport needs a shot in the arm, there is no better place to shine than on its biggest stage.

MAN OF THE MATCH

CLOUGHDUV keeper Aoife Murray had the game of her life. She was a key figure in her side's first county championship victory.



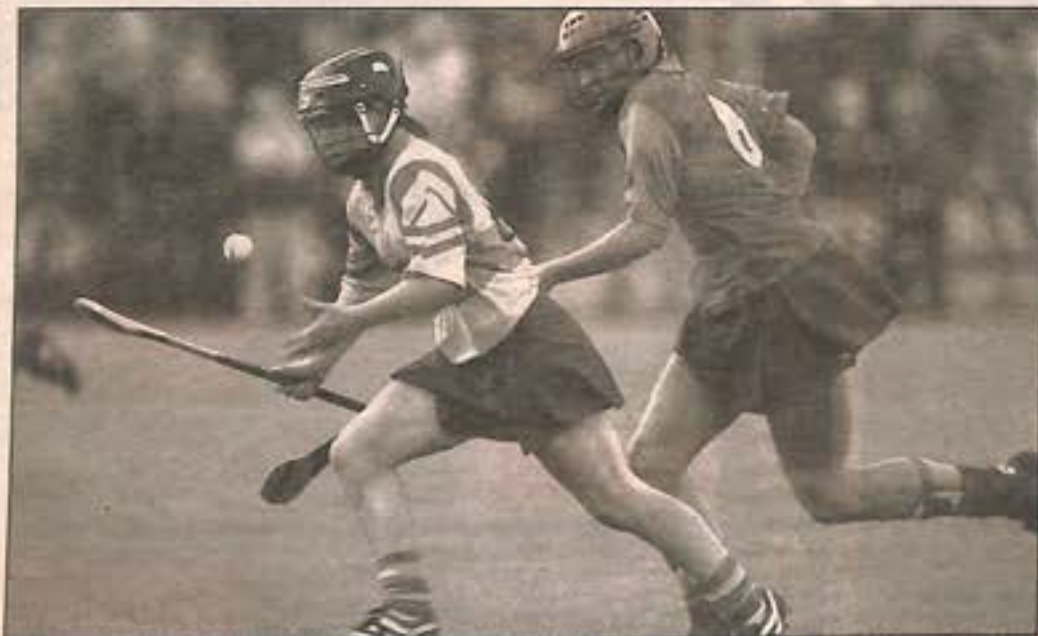
Una O'Donoghue lifts the cup after Cloughduv's thrilling county final win.

Picture: Gavin Browne

SCORE OF THE MATCH

A super point from Fr O'Neill's Fiona O'Driscoll midway through the second-half.

She steered over a magnificent score from an almost impossible angle close to the sideline 40 metres out to reduce the deficit to just one goal.



Cloughduv's Una O'Donoghue is chased by Fr O'Neills' Roisin Corcoran.

Picture: Gavin Browne



Fr O'Neills' Sharon McGrath breaks past Cloughduv's Emer Murray.

Picture: Gavin Browne



- | | | |
|-----------------------|------------------------|--------------------|
| 1. Aoife Murray | | |
| 2. Ciara Cronin | 3. Orla O'Callaghan | 4. Sinead Corkery |
| 5. Joanne O'Callaghan | 6. Steph Dunlea | 7. Kathryn Corkery |
| 20. Maria Corkery | 8. Orla McCarthy | |
| 10. Breige Corkery | 11. Lynn Dunlea | 12. Sinead Buckley |
| 13. Emer Murray | 14. Una O'Donoghue | 15. Aoife Buckley |
| 16. Leonie Nolan | 17. Zeile McDonald | |
| 18. Claire O'Donoghue | 19. Siobhán Corkery | |
| 20. Jean Lucey | 21. Ann Marie McCarthy | |
| 22. Rita O'Sullivan | 23. Edel Conlon | |
| 24. Maria Lucey | | |



- | | | |
|---------------------|------------------------|-----------------------|
| 1. Catherine O'Shea | | |
| 2. Sharon McGrath | 3. Mags Finn | 4. Ann O'Neill |
| 5. Anna Corcoran | 6. Liz Sweetnam | 7. Val O'Sullivan |
| 8. Roisin Corcoran | 9. Nora Aherne (Capt.) | |
| 10. Marie O'Brien | 11. Fiona O'Driscoll | 12. Siobhan Kearney |
| 13. Mary Kenefick | 14. Frances Flavin | 15. Gearóidín Kearney |
| 16. Claire Flavin | 17. Ursula Day | |
| 18. Katie Ahern | 19. Ann Marie O'Keeffe | |
| 20. Sinead Kenefick | 21. Claire O'Leary | |
| 22. Caroline Phelan | | |

Joy for Cloughduv as O'Neill's lose again

Cloughduv 4-13
Fr. O'Neill's 2-12

by Tom Higgins

"SPORT is so cruel. I thought we would win when we got within a point of them in the second-half," said Fr O'Neill's coach John O'Sullivan after his side had lost for the fourth time in five years, this time to Cloughduv in the final of the Cork County camogie championship at Páirc Uí Rinn last night.

Fr. O'Neill's got off to a good start with three Mary Kenefick points, two from frees, before the winner's opened their account with a point from Player of the Match Una O'Donoghue in the 8th minute. A minute later came a lucky goal for Cloughduv as Emer Murray blasted home in a crowded goalmouth and they added two further points before the 13th minute to leave them leading 1-3 to 0-3.

Fr. O'Neill's hit a purple patch after that and added a point from Fiona O'Driscoll before a fine save by Aoife Murray in the Cloughduv goal in the 17th minute at the expense of a 45 denied the East Cork side the lead. After Mary Kenefick had converted the 45 she set up O'Driscoll for the goal of the game in the 19th minute. O'Driscoll slipped her marker at the edge of the square to give Aoife Murray no chance from close range to leave it 1-5 to 1-3 in Fr O'Neill's favour.

After Kathryn Corkery had cut the deficit to the minimum with an excellent strike from the wing for Cloughduv, disaster again struck for Fr. O'Neill's. A lobbing ball from Breige Corkery, which looked like going over the bar, hit off goalkeeper Catherine O'Shea's stick and dropped into the net in the 22nd



Fr O'Neill's Sharon McGrath breaks through Cloughduv's Emer Murray during the camogie final at Páirc Uí Rinn.

minute. Cloughduv added a further three points, one from a penalty, to one for Fr. O'Neill's in the closing eight minutes to leave it 2-7 to 1-6 at the break.

Fr. O'Neill's on the resumption put the Cloughduv defence under severe pressure. After Claire O'Donoghue and Mary Kenefick had swapped points in the opening two minutes Fr. O'Neill's got back into the game with a magnificent point from Fiona O'Driscoll and a goal in the 39th minute from Nuala Aherne to leave

only a point between the sides 2-9 to 2-8.

But Fr. O'Neill's joy was short-lived as a minute later a lobbing ball from Kathryn Corkery again ended up in the net to put four points between the sides. Both sides swapped points afterwards until the last minute of the game. With Cloughduv leading 3-12 to 2-12, and a draw looking likely, Una O'Donoghue flicked the ball off goalkeeper Catherine O'Shea's stick into the net to assure her side of their first title in

their first final, and a point by the same player in injury time put the icing on the cake.

Scorers: Cloughduv: U. O'Donoghue 1-4, E. Murray 1-2, K. Corkery 1-2, B. Corkery 1-1, L. Dunlea 0-3 (0-1, 0-1 penalty), C. O'Donoghue 0-1. Fr. O'Neill's: F. O'Driscoll 1-5, M. Kenefick 0-7 (0-4 frees, 0-2 45's), N. Aherne 1-0. Cloughduv: A. Murray, C. Cronin, O. O'Callaghan, S. Corkery, J. O'Callaghan, S. Dunlea (capt), K. Corkery, M. Corkery, O. McCarthy, B. Corkery, L. Dunlea, S. Buckley, E. Murray, U. O'Donoghue, C. O'Donoghue. Fr. O'Neill's: C. O'Shea, S. McGrath, M. Finn, A. O'Neill, A. Corcoran, L. Sweetnam, V. O'Sullivan, R. Corcoran, N. Aherne (capt), M. O'Brien, F. O'Driscoll, S. Kearney, M. Kenefick, E. Flavin, G. Kearney, Subs: C. Flavin for A. Corcoran (half-time); A. Corcoran for M. O'Brien (49th minute). Referee: Ms C. O'Mahony (St. Finbarr's).

Aug.
2001

Cloughduv take senior county title as O'Donoghue flicks home the clincher

Fr O'Neill's battle to the finish but suffer the heartbreak of losing fourth final

by Mary Newman

Cloughduv 4-13
Fr O'Neill's 2-12

CLOUGHDUV were crowned senior county champions when they defeated Fr O'Neill's in an exciting final at Pairc Ui Rinn on Friday last.

Despite their seven-point winning margin, Cloughduv were made fight to the end by an O'Neill's side who played with determination as they fought to inscribe their name on the Science Cup for the first time.

The East Cork girls got the perfect start and led by three points inside the opening eight minutes after Mary Kennefick had two from play and one from a '45.'

Cloughduv opened with an Una O'Donoghue point and were fortunate to grab the lead when Emer Murray

finished to the net after a mix-up in the O'Neill's defence. Two further points extended the lead, but O'Neill's fought back and with points from Fiona O'Driscoll and Kennefick they were again back in the game.

Midway through, Fiona O'Driscoll shot O'Neill's ahead when she scored what must surely be one of the finest goals ever at the venue, dodging the defence and turning with style to crash the ball past Aoife Murray. But Cloughduv rallied, and with Breige Corkery's lobbing shot deceiving Catherine O'Shea, and ending up in the net, they regained the initiative.

However, they were thankful to Aoife Murray who turned Mary Kennefick's goal shot around the upright for a '45' which Kennefick converted, but with Lynn Dunlea adding two points and Emer Murray one Cloughduv led 2-7 to 1-6 at the interval.

The opening stages of the second half had both sides add two points before Mary Kennefick had just one between the sides with a goal, from the puck-out.

Cloughduv responded with a Catherine Corkery goal, but O'Neill's battled on. Fiona O'Driscoll and



Cloughduv's Siobhán Corkery beats Fr O'Neill's Siobhán Kearney in the senior A county final played at Pairc Ui Rinn on Friday last.

Picture: Gavin Brown

Murray swapped points to leave just the goal between the sides.

Lynn Dunlea stretched the Cloughduv advantage to four points, but again O'

Neill's cut it back to three with a Mary Kennefick point.

Now pressing furiously O'Neill's were denied a certain goal when Aoife Murray dis-

possessed Gearoidin Kearney. Una O'Donoghue grabbed the clinching goal when she flicked the ball off the stick of Catherine O'Shea to the net. A minute later she added a point and the celebrations began for Cloughduv. For O'Neill's there was the heartbreak of losing another county final having now contested four and losing out on each occasion.

Defeat is a bitter pill to swallow for Fr O'Neills

CAMOGIE SCENE

By THERESE O'CALLAGHAN



VIEW FROM THE GROUND

WHAT a revelation it was to watch the crowds pour into Pairc Ui Rinn last Friday night for Cork's own mini All-Ireland camogie final, writes THERESE O'CALLAGHAN.

The occasion, which brought together a brand new pairing, had caught the imagination of both young and old.

It would have been a first for either side, but there was a huge sympathetic vote going to Fr O'Neills, who after five years of trying were desperately seeking to bring back the silverware to Ballymacoda.

However, it was not to be. In one of the best finals ever (great credit to the intelligent refereeing of Colette O'Mahony and her officials), Cloughduv stole the show with youngsters like Aoife and Emer Murray; Joanne and Ora O'Callaghan; and the outstanding Corkery sisters Maria, Catherine and Breedge all coming of age.

The Science Cup has a new home out in Muskerry and I'm sure Stephanie Dunlea is making sure that their new acquaintance is being made very welcome in the many hostels around Mid Cork.

But, isn't it a funny old game. By the law of averages O'Neills should have claimed their first title last weekend. It does not work that way, though. Instead, they had to agonisingly suffer the pain of yet another defeat.

A few days before the final, I chatted with O'Neill's stalwart Fiona O'Driscoll. She told me, the hardest thing of all to do is face into Cork training after losing a county final.

And that was exactly what Fiona and Mags Finn awoke to on Saturday morning. They were heading off to the Gaelic Grounds in Limerick for a run out ahead of their replay with Tipperary in the All-Ireland semi-final next Saturday.

There would be nothing callous in it either, but there is no denying that it is difficult to look your team mates (opposing from the evening before) in the eye. It takes a lot more resolve to pick up the pieces and move on.

Six to nine months of hard training only to be runners-up yet again. Constantly explaining to the know-alls, who in fact know nothing at all, how and why you had to loose once more.

And being told by these people, that sure it is only a game and that you would be back next year.

Nice try, but it does take time to come to terms with second place.

Meanwhile, on a more positive note, Cork trained on Shannonside last Saturday. Reports are that the ground compares favourably with the magnificent sod of Mullingar where Cork and Tipp battled two weeks ago.

The Premier County was in Limerick on Sunday for their run out. So, patrons be warned, neither county is taking anything for granted, you are in for another collision in this weekend's replay.

● **CARRIGALINE'S TITLE:** Carrigaline took the Cork county junior B league camogie title when they had two points to spare, 2-5 to 2-3, over county champions St. Catherine's in Caherlag last evening.

Carrigaline led by a point, 2-1 to 1-3, after a close first-half but St. Catherine's took the lead just two minutes from the restart when Helen Lane finished Noreen Mulcahy's free to the net.

But Carrigaline, with two points from Trisha O'Sullivan and Muireann Conlon, were soon back on level terms.

Jackie O'Keeffe tapped over a pointed free to regain the Carrigaline advantage and a Mulrean Condon point sealed their victory.

CORK CO. S. CAMOGIE FINAL

Played in Pairc Ui Chaoimh on 24/08/01

Cloughduv 4-13 Fr. O'Neills 2-12

Cloughduv: Aoife Murray, Ciara Cronin, Ora O'Callaghan, Siobhán Corkery, Joanne O'Callaghan, Stephanie Dunlea (Capt), Catherine Corkery, Marie Corkery, Orla McCarthy, Breige Corkery, Lynn Dunlea, Sinead Buckley, Emer Murray, Una O'Donoghue, Claire O'Donoghue.

Fr. O'Neills: Catherine O'Shea, Sharon McGrath, Mags Finn, Ann O'Neill, Anna Corcoran, Liz Sweetman, Val O'Sullivan, Roisin Corcoran, Nora Aherne (Capt), Marie O'Brien, Fiona O'Driscoll, Siobhán Kearney, Mary Kennefick, Francis Flavin, Gearoidin Kearney. Subs: Claire Flavin for Anna Corcoran and Anna Corcoran for Marie O'Brien.

Ref: Ms. C. O'Mahony (St. Finbarrs)

Team spirit is key to Cloughduv's win

CLOUGHDUV'S incredible triumph in the Cork County senior camogie championship over east Cork side, Fr. O'Neill's bridged a 68-year gap for the club.

Cloughduv came into existence in 1932 and they won the senior crown the following year.

They later became known as Canovee and won the junior county in 1962 and won Intermediate titles in 1970 and again in '73 before they were re-born as Cloughduv in the early 1980's.

The bulk of their county senior winning team have been together since they

played at U-14 level and the majority of the girls involved are still under-20.

"It's the pick of the U-16's, county champions from 1997, and the U-18 team that won in 1999 but we have a good blend of youth and experience in the side," explained former Glen Rovers and Cork star, Lynn Dunlea whose sister, Stephanie captained this year's victorious side.

"I was away in Australia for 12 months and Stephanie was on a bit of a world tour herself but we came back to play for Cloughduv this year and it's all been very worth-

CLUB Focus

while," said Lynn who like the rest of her team-mates is now eagerly-looking forward to their Munster Club championship clash with former All-Ireland champions Granagh-Ballyingarry from Limerick.

"We have three games to play in the Munster Club

series and we have to play Ballingarry away from home and that's a very tall order.

"Obviously the Munster title is the next target for this team and hopefully we will make the All-Ireland as well," she added.

Other Cork players in the green-and-gold of Cloughduv are Una O'Donoghue, Joanne O'Callaghan and the Corkery sisters, Marie and Catherine.

Apart from the age profile of the newly-crowned County champions Cloughduv have a tremendous team spirit that always goes with

being a team with fierce local identity.

"All the players come from the same parish and we all know one another so well. It can give you an edge in sport and I think we proved that last week when we won the county against a Fr. O'Neill's team that were contesting their fourth final in five years," she added.

The club's chairperson is Kathleen Healy and the others working behind the scenes include selectors John Dunlea, John Cronin (minor trainer), Paudie Murray (senior trainer) and Tim Barry-Murphy.



Val O'Sullivan of Fr O'Neill's holds on to Cloughdub's Una O'Donoghue in the County Senior Camogie final.

Picture: Gavin Browne

Honour and glory go to Cloughdub

Cloughdub 4-13
Fr O'Neill's 2-12

CLOUGHDUB were crowned Cork County senior champions for the first time when they defeated a Fr O'Neill's side who had to endure the heart-break of losing their fourth final in five years.

This encounter was an absolute classic, with never more than four points between the sides. O'Neill's made the early running and settled quickly thanks to three Mary Kenefick points. Una O'Donoghue opened the Cloughdub account with a point and the mid-Cork girls got a vital break when Emer Murray finished to the net after a Cloughdub forward pulled and missed with the goal at her mercy.

With Marie Corkery and O'Donoghue increasing the lead with points, Cloughdub looked to be taking over but O'Neill's struck back with points from Fiona O'Driscoll and Mary Kenefick, leaving the minimum between the sides.

Playing with determination O'Neill's hit the front when Fiona O'Driscoll scored what was without doubt the score of the match. Evading the Cloughdub defence, she turned superbly to



CLOUGHDUB'S Una O'Donoghue is Player of the Week for helping her club take their first senior county championship crown.

She shot her side's opening score, encouraged her team mates and was instrumental in setting up many of the team's scores. In grabbing her side's fourth goal, she showed tremendous presence of mind.

By **MARY NEWMAN MCCARTHY**
Camogie correspondent

blast to the net. Catherine Corkery put the minimum between the sides with a point and from the puck out Cloughdub regained the lead when Breige Corkery's lobbing shot deceived the O'Neill's defence to finish in the corner of the net.

Lynn Dunlea and Emer Murray had added points but Mary Kenefick did likewise for O'Neill's and it was Cloughdub who led 2-7 to 1-6 at the break.

Midway through the second half Cloughdub still held their four point lead but Fiona O'Driscoll cut the advantage with an O'Neill's point.

Lynn Dunlea and Corkery steadied Cloughdub with two points but O'Neill's fought on and a Mary Kenefick point had again just two between the sides.

O'Neill's won clear possession in front of goal and missed a golden opportunity to take the lead. Down field came Cloughdub and when Una O'Donoghue cheekily flicked the ball off Catherine O'Shea's stick to the net, Cloughdub were on their way to taking their first title.

A last minute O'Donoghue point sealed the result and to cap a wonderful evening, the Cork star was named after the game as the Gerald McCarthy Player of The Match.

An elated Tim Barry Murphy, coach of the Cloughdub side, told *Grassroots*: "We knew it was going to be tough and Fr O'Neill's made us fight to the end. Determination was a big factor and the girls gave it everything. I'm proud of every one of them and just delighted that we are county champions."

Cork must make most of second chance

ANTICIPATION is high as the clock ticks towards the weekend and Saturday's eagerly awaited All-Ireland senior championship semi-final replay.

Two weeks ago a late Deirdre Hughes point for Tipperary had the sides finish all square in Mullingar and so the saga continues as we head for the Gaelic Grounds in Limerick.

A look back at the drawn game shows that the All-Ireland champions were lucky to grab the life line last time out.

However, it will be a source of concern to the Cork backroom team that they allowed themselves that little lapse when they looked to be heading to an All-Ireland showdown with Kilkenny.

We must however look at the many positive aspects from a Cork point of view, twice the champions looked to be pulling away and twice Cork showed determination to peg them back.

Another pleasing aspect was Cork's point shooting as they hit five in-a-row to take the lead.

However, despite this only one of the five Cork forwards performed to their capabilities and a repeat performance will not suffice on Saturday.

On the plus side the Cork mid field pairing of Vivienne Harris and Linda Mellerick dominated proceedings and it was here that Cork dictated matters.

The Tipperary pairing of Captain Emily Hayden and Therese Brophy were totally outclassed. On Saturday this is a sector which will have a huge bearing on the result.

With injuries ruling out Rosalie Holland and Ciara Healy, Denise Cronin, who missed the draw game due to a family bereavement, will make a welcome return to the Cork side.

While we await the selectors to announce the starting 15 such has been her contribution in previous outings that the Glen Rovers player is comfortably at home in a defensive or attacking role and her inclusion will be a boost to Cork's chances at the weekend in what should be a highly competitive tie.

Carrigaline hold out to take the crown

Carrigaline 2-5
St Catherine's 2-3

THE Junior B league final saw Carrigaline take the honours at Caherlag against St Catherine's on Sunday last.

Two goals inside the opening five minutes from Marie Kiely and Emma Green gave Carrigaline the dream start, but St Catherine's grabbed a vital goal when Denise Twomey finished to the net.

Noreen Mulcahy had the sides level with two points, but Jackie O'Keeffe with a point two minutes from half time gave Carrigaline an interval lead of 2-1 to 1-3.

On the turnover St Catherine's quickly reversed this when the alert Helen Lane grabbed her side's second goal after Noreen Mulcahy's long-range free dropped short in the square.

Carrigaline worked hard and two points inside the first 10 minutes of the half from Trisha O'Sullivan and Muireann Conlon had them back on level terms.

Carrigaline grabbed the lead with a well-struck Jackie O'Keeffe pointed free. Minutes later Muireann Conlon's point put Carrigaline two points in front.

St Catherine's defence came under pressure but managed to hold firm while at the other end they went on the attack.

They forced Carrigaline to concede two frees but a sound Carrigaline defence with Amy Collins, Caroline O'Keeffe, and Emily Power in control held firm to take the title.

● Milford added the county under 16 league title for 2000 to their championship crown with a flawless display against a spirited Ballygarvan, winning 9-07 to 1-6.

Ballygarvan made the early running with Catriona Kelly pointing, but Milford took the lead after points from the Watson sisters Marie and Emer.

Kelly had the sides level by the 10th minute with a pointed free but with Regina Curtain setting up Emer Watson for the opening goal Milford regained control.

Ballygarvan responded with the goal of the match coming from Catriona Kelly, who added two further points. Milford began to dominate and a Maire Watson goal gave them breathing space.

Ballygarvan replied with a point but three goals in the space of four minutes finished any chances for Ballygarvan as Milford led 6-3 to 1-6 at the break.

Milford goals from Imelda Sexton and Emer Watson inside seven minutes of the restart gave Ballygarvan no way back.

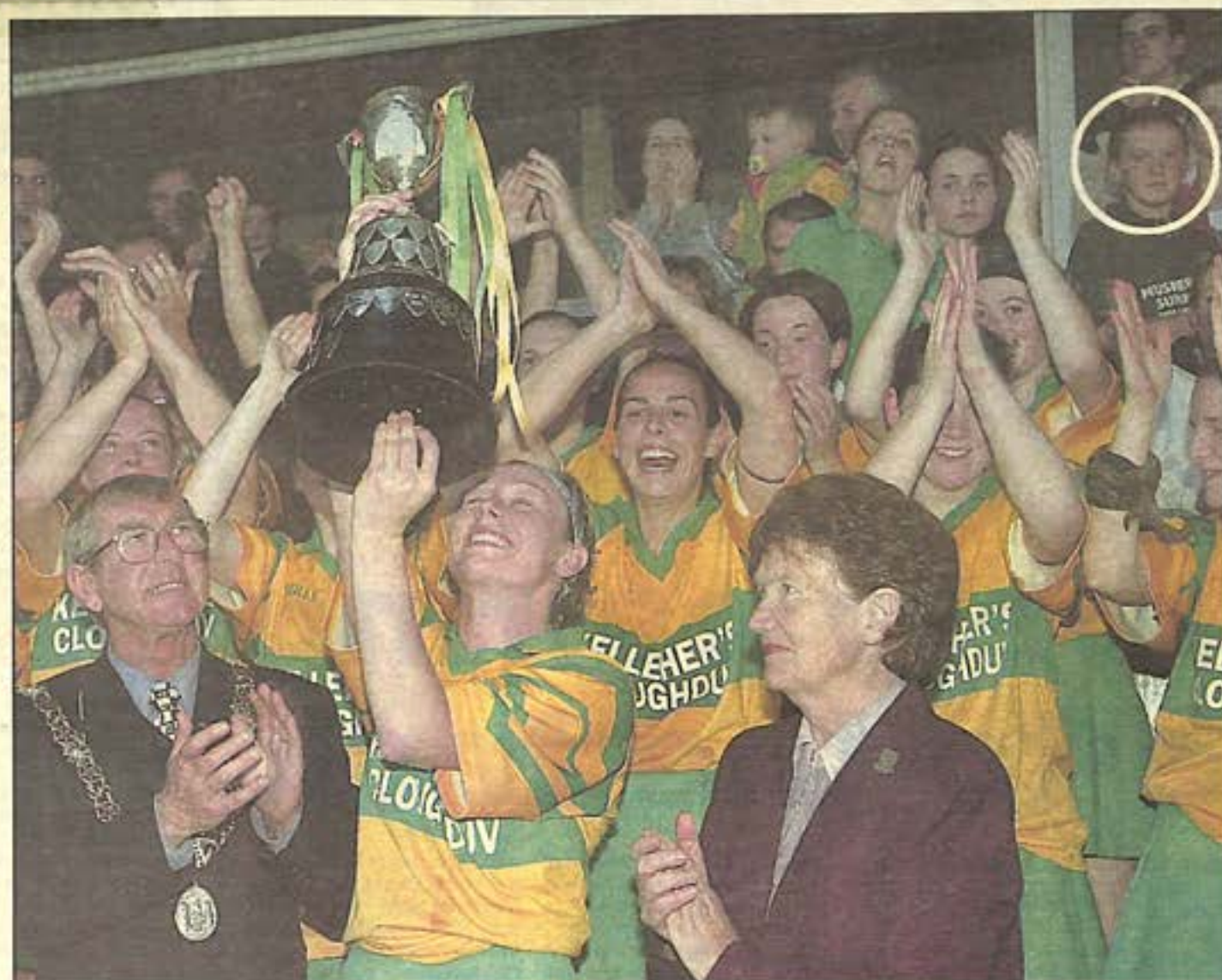
Fixtures

FRIDAY AUGUST 31
Under 14 12-a-side League Semi Final: Kildorrey v Tracton at Kildorrey 7pm.
Under 12 League: Rockbawn v Milford at Rockbawn 7pm.

Under 14 B League Quarter Final: Enniskillen v Courcy Rovers at Ballinacarra 6.45pm.
SATURDAY SEPTEMBER 1
All Ireland Senior Championship Semi Final Replay: Cork v Tipperary, Gaelic Grounds, Limerick 2.30pm.
Junior A League Final 2000: Ballygarvan v Douglas at Carrigaline 7pm.

SUNDAY SEPTEMBER 2
Under 16 B League Semi Final 2000: Fr O'Neill's v Carrigaline at Fr O'Neill's 6pm.
Junior A Championship: Iniscarra v St Catherine's at St Catherine's 12 noon.
Junior B Championship: Mayfield v Delaneys at Delaneys 12 noon; Courcy Rovers v Castlemagner at Courcy Rovers 12 noon; Bishopstown v Castlyons at Castlyons 12 noon.

TUESDAY SEPTEMBER 4
Under 14 12-a-side Semi Final: Slahh Rua v Groganah at Slahh Rua 7pm.



Face in the crowd

Were you snapped by our **Grassroots** photographer at the Cork Senior A County Camogie Final? If your face is the one circled you can claim a framed photograph from our archives by calling in person to our offices at Academy Street, Cork or O'Connell Street, Limerick.

Fountainstown ref



Sorcha McGrath, aged 15, from Fountainstown, who was the youngest official referee at this year's Feile na Gael camogie tournament, pictured at the recent Ballygarvan and Silvermines, Tipperary match in Ballygarvan.

Junior camogie players display prowess and skill

by Howard Crowdy

THE second Under 10 Declan Crowley camogie blitz took place in the Ballinhassig GAA grounds recently, and attracted 12 teams from Cork city and county who played some excellent matches during the competitions with County players in the making.

Teams which took part in the tournament were Carrigaline, Ballinhassig 1 and 2, Valley Rovers, Eire Og, Buttevant, Bandon, Courcey Rovers, Ballygarvan, Sliabh Rua, Glen Rovers and St Finbarrs, who were all divided into three separate sections, with the winners going through to semi-finals, and the weaker of the teams competing in a Plate competition.

In the Plate competition, Carrigaline proved to be too strong for the second Ballinhassig team, while Buttevant qualified for their final in any competition by defeating St Finbarrs in the other semi. The final between newcomers Buttevant and defending champions, Carrigaline was a very keen affair, with both sets of teams playing extremely well, but in the end, Buttevant took the honours on a scoreline of 3-02 to 1-00 to give the north Cork side their very first silverware since being formed four years ago.

The Cup Final was between Ballinhassig (who defeated Glen Rovers in the semi final) and Eire Og, who defeated Ballygarvan in their semi final encounter which

was played later in the afternoon. After a tense first ten minutes of play, it took Caitriona Collins of Ballinhassig to open the scoring with two fine goals within two

minutes, followed by a swift response from Eire Og with another goal which left the scoreline of Ballinhassig 2-0 to Eire Og 1-0 at half time. However, after the

break, Ballinhassig's strength and experience bore through and ran riot scoring another nine goals and two points without reply.

The Declan Crowley Cup was presented to Ballinhassig captain Caitriona Collins by Mary Crowley who also presented the Plate Final trophy to Buttevant, with runners up medals for both beaten finalists.

All in all, it was a great days camogie, and judging by the response and remarks made at the end of this year's competition, the Under 10 age group in Cork City and County can now look forward to competing in next year's event, much to the excitement of players, mentors and parents.

Buttevant, winners over Carrigaline in the Plate final..

Picture: Crowdy



Ballygarvan overcome Douglas to make it a glorious double

BALLYGARVAN added the junior A camogie league crown to their championship title when they staged a wonderful second half comeback to record a 1-8 to 1-4 victory. Douglas made all the running in the opening half and led 1-4 to 1-1, fighting back after an early Amanda Murphy goal had given Ballygarvan the lead.

Amanda O'Regan and Louise O'Regan slotted over points to cut the gap before Amanda O'Regan found the net with a superb long-range free.

Adding a further point, Douglas were well worthy of their interval

lead and were making the champions fight hard.

On the turnover, aided by the wind, Ballygarvan opened with a Caitriona Kelly point and it spurred her side into action.

With Emer Dillon and Kelly dominant up front, and their backline tightening up considerably, Ballygarvan pressed ahead, picking up excellent points from Kelly, Sally Ann O'Halloran and Emer Dillon to add the league title to their championship crown.

In local championship action, St Catherine's recorded a comfortable 9-8 to 1-1 win over Inniscarra.

In the B championship, Delaneys had two points to spare over divisional rivals, Mayfield, on a 3-4 to 3-2 margin. Castletons had just a goal to spare over Bishopstown in a 3-4 to 2-4 contest, while Castletons were far too strong for a young Courcey Rovers side.

Carrigaline made it to the Under-16 B 2000 final with a comprehensive win over Fr O'Neill's.

Antrim travel to Cork to contest the All-Ireland semi-final on Saturday at noon.

As the competition has been played on a semi league basis this year the sides have already met up

north where Antrim proved much too strong for the young visitors from the south.

On home ground Cork will be looking for an improved performance to book a final spot and retain the title won in style last season.

Local championships will continue with the Seandun under-11 league final down for decision on Wednesday night when Douglas and Bishopstown meet in Douglas. Friday night has Brian Dillons and Watergrasshill meeting in the Junior A championship, and Inniscarra take on Ballyhea in the under-14 A

league semi-final.

On Saturday, in under-12 competition, Eire Og and Bandon meet in Ovens and Ballygarvan and Milford have an under-14 league semi-final meeting also on Saturday.

Glen Rovers or Bishopstown will meet Blarney in the under-12s, while the Barrs and Ballincollig will be in action in Togher in the under-14 B quarter-final.

On Sunday, in the junior championship, St Catherine's second string play Barryroe in the Junior B competition, and in the A championship St Vincent's meet Douglas in St Vincent's.

Final is a family affair as sisters set new record

IT was very much a case of sisters to the fore (or five to be exact) last Friday when no fewer than five sets of siblings helped Cloughduv lift the Cork Senior County camogie title for the first time.

Family ties have long since played a big part in Cork camogie's historic senior county championship competition.

In 1937 the Cotter sisters, Joan and Kitty, helped Lee Hosiery take their first title, having also played on the Mayfield team that took the honours in 1935.

In the 1948 decider, the Cashman sisters, Maureen,

By MARY NEWMAN MCCARTHY
Camogie correspondent

Rita and Eily helped the Rockies to their first title.

The trend continued in the 50s when Glen Rovers took the first title to Blackpool with three sets of sisters, two different sets of Luceys, Bessie and Bridie Mary and Peg and the O'Briens, Nancy and Nora.

The Buckleys, Carrie and Margaret, continued the sister trend when the Glen defeated Seandún in the 1968 final while the Deanes, Noelle, Bernie and Pauline, all took county honours with the Glen.

The sixties saw the Clancys, Joan and Mary, take



Cloughduv's five sets of sisters - the O'Donoghues, the Dunleas, the Corkerys, the Murrays and the O'Callaghans - after winning the Senior County Camogie final.
Picture: Gavin Browne

honours with Old Aloysius, the Browns, Maura and Kathaleen, with the Glen in 1966 while Bridie and Sheila O'Sullivan (now Sheila Golden chairperson of Cork county board) helped South Pres Past Pupils take titles.

Imokilly emerged as a force with which to be reckoned and had four Higgins sisters, Angela, Elizabeth, Margaret and Nora, as well as the Costines, Marie and Bernie, in their ranks when taking the first of their

five-in-a-row county titles.

A new name was engraved on the Science Cup in 1976 with mid Cork side Éire Óg, helped by the O'Leary sisters Rose and Breda and the four O'Driscolls, Nancy, Aileen, Noelle and Mary, scaling the heights.

The Spillanes, the Landers and the Costines helped Killeagh to take make it three-in-a-row in 1982 and were again prominent in 1984.

1989 saw Sarsfield realise a

cherished ambition and take their first title and the trend continued with the coveted county medals going to the homes of the Brady sisters, Ann and Mary, and the Twomeys, Valerie and Lillian.

It was 1994 before another set of sisters featured on a county championship winning side when the Dunleas, Lynn and Stephanie, took honours with Glen Rovers.

With the emergence of Cloughduv as county cham-

pions for 2001, a record which will be hard to beat has been achieved with the Murray sisters, Emer and Aoife, the O'Donoghues, Una and Claire, the Corkerys, Marie, Breige, Catherine and Siobhan, the O'Callaghans, Joanne and Ora, and the Dunleas Lynn and Stephanie all on the winning team.

All in all a case of 12 sisters hogging the limelight, only on this occasion for their club.

● Camogie news: P17.

win over Carrigdhoun.

In that game she had a personal tally of 3-5 and she was also Cork's top scorer in the senior encounter with Tipperary on Sunday, August 19 when Tipperary forced a draw with Cork in injury time. In that game she hit over seven points in Mullingar where the All-Ireland semi-final was played.

To return to the Cork Co senior semi-final against Carrigdhoun, Lynn Dunlea making her first appearance in a county senior championship in this grade hit a goal early in the first half and went on to add 2-5 in the second half.

Strangely, Fr O'Neill's appeared unusually subdued in the early phase of the game and did not really make an impression until the second moiety, when Emer Dillon, superb at midfield, from where she scored 2-1.

Lynn Dunlea's sister Stephanie captain of the Cloughduv side was not so lucky in this game having taking a hammering from Caitriona Kelly. Other Carrigdhoun girls who played well were Marion Jaego and Emer Dillon.

On the Cloughduv side additional goals came from Emer Murray Brieghe Corkery and Catherine O'Donoghue and with 6-8 under their belt to 3-3 for the defeated opposition, Cloughduv felt they need not fear Fr O'Neill's in the final.

Cloughduv: A Murray, J O'Callaghan, O'Callaghan

O'Callaghan S Corkery, C Cronin, S Dunlea, S Buckley, O McCarthy, M Dorkery, E Murray, C Corkery, A Buckley, U O'Donoghue, L Dunlea, B Corkery.

Carrigdhoun: R Harrington, A O'Neill, C O'Riordan, M Lane, M McCarthy, J Browne, C O'Keefe, E Dillon, J O'Keefe, N Murphy, C Kelly, E Bugler, M Jaego, E Burke, M Conlon.

COUNTY FINAL: Cloughduv have been moulding a good team for the past couple of years, but, like many other teams throughout the country in camogie, hurling and football, an expression usually heard at the conclusion of a championship is "we want at least one, if not two, outstanding players to give leadership in finals". Fortunately for Cloughduv they got them this season.

The two Dunlea sisters, Lynn and Stephanie, daughters of former Cloughduv intermediate hurler and Canovee footballer. But that is not to infer that Cloughduv were solely dependent on these star camogie sisters, one of whom, Stephanie was appointed captain.

Over the past couple of years an unbeatable star of Cloughduv sides from underage upwards has been Una O'Donoghue, who has been selected and played on different grades of county teams.

Along with her there are Sinead Buckley, the Murray sisters, the Corkery sisters, along with Aine Buckley, who all formed a formidable Cloughduv outfit.

However, as the saying

goes, "credit where credit is due", the laurels deservedly go to Lynn Dunlea who in this year's championship made up the difference of the missing link which Cloughduv have sought to mould an unbeatable side.

In the county final, Fr O'Neill's got off to a whirlwind start with three points, all frees, from Mary Kenneffick, before Cloughduv with an 18-pounder of a goal from Player of the Match, Una O'Donoghue on the eighth minute of play, gave the East Cork girls a taste of what was to come.

Emer Murray, a minute later, came in like a tornado to blast home Cloughduv's second goal from the goalmouth, to which two further points were added to place Cloughduv in the lead with 1-3 to 0-3 after 13 minutes of play.

This early warning raised Fr O'Neill's dander. Almost in all positions of the pitch the East Cork girls were seen to play above themselves, gaining possession in split seconds, and really put it up to Cloughduv with fire and passion.

In this period of Fr O'Neill's pressure they were denied a goal by Aoife Murray on the 17th minute, who had one of her best ever days between the uprights. Yet the goal of the game came on the 19th minute after Mary Kenneffick converted a free on the '45' and followed by placing Fiona O'Driscoll for a goal which gave Fr O'Neill's a two points lead.

Cloughduv with their second wind hit back with a point from Kathryn Corkery. But disaster

struck for Fr O'Neill's when a lobbing ball from Cloughduv's Brieghe Corkery which seemed destined to go over the bar hit off the upraised stick of goalkeeper, Catherine O'Shea and dropped into the net.

To this lucky break, Cloughduv added two points, one from a penalty. There was a point from the East Cork girls in arrears at the break when the scores were Cloughduv 2-7, Fr O'Neill's 1-6.

On resumption there were switches in Fr O'Neill's outfit, with Claire O'Donoghue and Mary Kenneffick swapping positions and each had a point within two minutes of the re-start. More encouraging for the East Cork girls they got back with a fine goal from Fiona O'Driscoll, that put Cloughduv under severe pressure.

Resilient Cloughduv refused to wilt and were rewarded when another lobbing ball from Kathryn Corkery ended up in the net, placing them four points ahead. Points in rapid swapping order followed which left the scores 3-12 to 2-2 and a draw looked likely.

However, Cloughduv put in a storming finish which yielded a point, followed by a goal which gave Cloughduv their first Cork county senior camogie final. The final scores were Cloughduv 4-15, Fr O'Neill's 2-12.

The referee was Ms C O'Mahony, St Finbarrs. This column congratulates Cloughduv on their success.

AUG.

2001

Draw will have done us a power of goodCleary

TIPP AND CORK INTO BATTLE AGAIN

By Gerry Slevin

While the Tipp-Cork hurling relationship has always been keen but at the same time healthy, it is fast becoming somewhat similar in regard to the cailini of both counties.

Saturday in Limerick's Gaelic Grounds (2.30) sees these great modern-day camogie rivals draw out the best in each other for a place in the All Ireland senior final in Croke Park on September 16th.

Two weeks ago in wet Mullingar, a late Deirdre Hughes point enabled Tipp to continue to keep a grip on the title they won at Cork's expense last September. That was their second title in succession and now, Cork stand between them and a final bid against Kilkenny to attain that eagerly sought three-in-a-row achievement of All Ireland titles.

Asked on Monday what he thought Tipp had learned from the drawn match, team coach and manager MICHAEL CLEARY was quick to respond that they had learned nothing about Cork that they didn't know going into the game. They are a very good side, he added. Also learned was the fact that Tipp are still on form and he would be hoping that the draw will have done them a power of good.

FIRST REAL GAME

"It was, effectively, our first real game in eleven months and we rose to the challenge in a big way. Okay, we were lucky in that we got that equalising point in injury time, but we would have been very unlucky to come away losers that day" said Michael.

The Nenagh man admitted that having looked at the video, it was easy to see that ten minutes either side of half time, Cork were the better team but over the hour there was nothing between them and Tipp, actually, were the

better team over the hour.

Having said that, it was going to take a hell of an effort to beat them on Saturday.

"Cork are a fine team but it's a whole new ball game, another new sixty minutes, maybe eighty minutes. We are ready for them and I also feel the extra two weeks will also have done us good", the manager said.

LOUISE OUT

As for the line out for Saturday, Tipp will be without their championship debutante of two weeks ago, Louise Young. The Latteragh (Toomevara club) lass had to leave the scene in the Ragg on Saturday in the junior All Ireland semi final against Galway with injured fingers and according to Michael will not be available for the replay.

So, into her place will step Joanna Ryan from Drom 'n Inch in what will be the only change from the drawn match. Thirteen of the Tipp side played against Cork in last year's All Ireland final and it is probably a measure of the immense strength in depth there is in Cork that only eight of the Cork side remain. Also back for them of course is Lyn Dunlea, after a year's absence.

The promise of yet another intriguing match between these great rivals is sure to bring a large crowd to the Limerick venue on Saturday.

Hopefully the weather will be kinder than it was in Mullingar two weeks ago. Kilkenny await the winners, having got there via the back door which operated in camogie for the first time this season.



Not too difficult to discern where Jovita Delaney plays, with that hurley! (left). With her in a break from training for Saturday's replay are Una O'Dwyer and Eimear McDonnell.



Grainne Shanahan, Sinead Nealon, Therese Brophy and Paula Bulfin listen to words of advice from their manager Michael Cleary.

Another action packed few days in store

THE evenings may be shortening and the 6.30 pm start is an indication of that, but there is no shortage of quality games to look forward to.

This weekend alone you have an All-Ireland semi-final, two county semi-finals, a quarter-final and a host of divisional action to satisfy the needs of most supporters.

Renewed rivalry in Limerick

Two weeks ago the camogie players of Cork and Tipperary played a thrilling draw in the Foras na Gaeilge All-Ireland semi-final at Mullingar. This time it's the more central venue of the Gaelic Grounds in Limerick for the re-play on Saturday at 2.30 pm.

Cork can feel aggrieved that they did not finish the job last time out, as they played brilliantly in the second half when hauling back a six point deficit. All that without scoring a goal!

Tipperary as champions will probably start as favourites but they will be looking for an improvement all round if they are to remain on course for a third title in a row.

Pa Finn, the Cork coach, is confident that victory can be achieved, and he feels that the tremendous spirit within the squad is one of the principle reasons for this. While he was disappointed that they were caught late on the last day, "the game and the manner in which we played will help us enormously."

There are areas in which they will need to improve. For example, the full back line will need to be a bit tighter, and Eithne Duggan will be only too well aware that she must curb Deirdre Hughes, on whom Tipperary relies so much for scores.

The Cork half back line was superb in the drawn encounter and with Denise Cronin now available, the selectors have a number of options open to them. It will be interesting to see what combination they arrive at - certainly a player of her class would greatly strengthen the team.

Linda Mellerick and Viv Harris were the dominant pair in midfield and if they repeat that display, Cork will be happy. Not so in the attack, where players failed as a unit to deliver, despite receiving some quality ball.

However Lynn Dunlea, Fiona O'Driscoll and Una O'Do

Do

exj

and they more than anyone know they must perform.

Elaine Burke was excellent, while the form of Jennifer O'Leary when introduced means serious consideration will be given to starting the talented Barryroe player on this occasion.

Replays very rarely follow the pattern of the drawn game, so for that reason Cork would be foolish to assume that they will enjoy the dominance they had the last day.

Weather conditions could also play a part this time round, and with the possibility of a dry day, it may suit Tipperary.

Cork though is moving in the right direction and despite the distraction of the county final, which was agreed by all parties, they will have benefited from the last game. A bit more vigilance in the full back and a better return from the attack should take them into the final against old rivals Kilkenny on September 16.

Congratulations to Cloughdun on winning their first senior title, although it was number four and five respectively for Stephanie and Lyn Dunlea. What can you say to Fr O'Neill's who have been in four finals without winning? It will take some effort to come back from this defeat.

Well done also to Carrigaline on winning the Junior 'B' League, and in the process collecting a trophy that was donated to the Board by Jack O'Connor. He is himself a stalwart of the old Carrigaline camogie club, and is its current President.

Despite the All-Ireland semi-final there is a host of Junior 'A' and 'B' grades, while the Junior 'A' league final between Douglas and Ballygarvan is in Carrigaline on Saturday at 7 pm.

CAMOGIE: Cork v Tipp game promises to be a Titanic battle

Duggan versus Hughes clash is the key

WHENEVER Eithne Duggan talks about Cork and Tipperary, invariably she ends up talking just about one person, Deirdre Hughes.

You can hardly blame her, with the two players shaping up to each other every time the two counties meet.

And with Hughes arguably the best forward in the game at the moment, no wonder Eithne has her on her mind.

Since the emergence of the Premier County on the camogie stage, there have been some tremendous tussles between these two players.

The Cork full back and captain is also well aware that if she can contain the talented Toomevara player, then the Rebel County has a very good chance of overcoming Tipperary in tomorrow's Foras na Gaeilge All-Ireland championship semi-final replay at the Gaelic Grounds in Limerick.

This, however, is a very tall order with Hughes being the most lethal attacker in the Tipp forward line.

By THERESA O'CALLAGHAN
Camogie correspondent

In the drawn game, Tipperary played a third midfielder to make more room for their number 14 who revels in the open space. This puts tremendous pressure on Duggan, but the Cork player did well in staying with the pace and power of her marker.

Tomorrow's affair will be a whole new ball game though, according to the Cork captain.

"We will have to forget the last game. We didn't know whether to be happy or disappointed with that performance, but I suppose we could have lost just as easily," she explained.

"The selectors have made changes for tomorrow, so I hope they will work for us."

"Denise Cronin's return is a big boost and the mood in the camp is very positive."

"It is also a bit strange as this is the first time that any of us have replayed an All-Ireland championship game."

"However any doubts that we might have had are gone, now we know we can beat them. I hope



HUGHES: Tipp star is one of the best forwards in the game.

everything goes right for us on the day," she concluded.

Meanwhile, one of the biggest crowds ever for an inter-county camogie match is expected to converge on the popular Limerick venue for this mouth-watering clash.

It has caught the imagination of many people from all over the

south of the country since both sides involved showed unbelievable resolve 12 days ago in Mullingar.

Who will prevail in tomorrow's game, is anybody's guess.

But do not be surprised if another 60 or 90 minutes of play does not decide the outcome of this clash.

Cork's defence makes them favourites to take Tipp in replay

by Tom Higgins

ON a wet afternoon in Mullingar two weeks ago, Tipperary, All-Ireland champions for the past two years, and Cork served up a tremendous game in the Foras na Gaeilge All-Ireland senior camogie semi-final before the sides finished level thanks to a late point from Tipperary's Deirdre Hughes.

This afternoon in the Gaelic Grounds in Limerick the sides meet again to decide who will oppose Kilkenny in the All-Ireland final.

Cork make three changes. Ger Casey takes over in goal from Cora Keohane while Paula O'Connor,

who lined out in place of Denise Cronin who was unable to play due to a bereavement, replaces Sinead Buckley at right-back.

Cronin returns to her usual position at centre-back.

There is also a change up front where Jenny O'Leary, who replaced Carina Harte in the drawn game, retains her position at left corner-forward.

These changes should strengthen the side. Paula O'Connor had quite a good game last time out while the return of Denise Cronin will be a big boost for the Rebels.

The forwards played well in the drawn game and if they can show the

same spirit they will be hard to hold.

Tipperary are forced to make one change. "Louise Young has two broken fingers and is replaced by Joanne Ryan."

"Otherwise the team is the same as that which started the last day," said Tipperary selector Biddy Phillips.

In Mullingar, Una O'Dwyer at fullback had a tremendous game and gave goalkeeper Jovita Delaney, who was rarely troubled by the Cork forwards, great cover.

The Premier County will be hoping she can repeat that performance this afternoon.

Another player who stood out was Ciara Gaynor, a tower of strength at

centre-back, and she got great support from Sinead Nealon.

At midfield Linda Mellerick and Vivienne Harris dominated for most of the game against Tipp's Emily Hayden and Therese Brophy in Mullingar.

The wearers of the blue and gold will have to improve in this department if they are to advance to the decider.

In the forwards Noelle Kennedy played well in patches but she got little change out of Mary O'Connor and will find it difficult again.

Still, she is able to pick off point from all angles and needs watching. Deirdre Hughes outplayed Eithne

Duggan the last day and if she gets a good supply of the ball she could create problems for the Cork defence.

If the weather remains dry it should suit both sides as they like to play fast attractive camogie.

There should be little in it at the finish but I feel the Cork defence is slightly stronger this time and this could swing the game in favour of Cork.

CORK: G. Casey; P. O'Connor, E. Duggan (capt), S. Dunlea; D. Cronin, M. O'Connor, S. Hayes; L. Mellerick, V. Harris; R. Moloney, F. O'Driscoll, E. Burke; U. O'Donoghue, L. Dunlea, J. O'Leary.

TIPPERARY: J. Delaney; S. Kelly, U. O'Dwyer, C. Madden; S. Nealon, C. Gaynor, P. Bullin; E. Hayden (capt), T. Brophy; P. Fogarty, N. Kennedy, J. Ryan; E. McDonnell, D. Hughes, C. Grogan.

Corcaigh

Tiobraid Árann



Dearg agus Bán



Foras na Gaeilge

Gorm agus Órga



1
Gearóidín Ní Chathasaigh
Ger Casey
Inniscarra

1
Jovita Ní Dhubhshláine
Jovita Delaney
Cashel

2
Denise Ní Chróinín
Denise Cronin
Glen Rovers

3
Eithne Ní Dhuagáin
Eithne Duggan
Bishopstown Captáen

4
Stiofáinín Ní Dhoinnlé
Stephanie Dunlea
Cloughduv

2
Siobhán Ní Cheallaigh
Suzanne Kelly
Toomevara

3
Úna Ní Dhuibhir
Una O'Dwyer
Cashel

4
Clár Ní Mhadáin
Claire Madden
Portroe

5
Póilín Ní Chonchubhair
Paula O'Connor
Newtownshandrum

6
Máire Ní Chonchubhair
Mary O'Connor
Granagh Ballygarry

7
Sorcha Ní Aodha
Sarah Hayes
Courcy Rovers

5
Sinead Ní Nialláin
Sinead Nealon
Burgess

6
Ciara Nig Fhionnbhairr
Ciara Gaynor
Kilruane McDonagh

7
Treasa Ní Bhroithe
Therese Brophy
Burgess

8
Linda Ní Mhaoligheiric
Linda Mellerick
Glen Rovers

9
Béibhionn Ní Earchaí
Vivienne Harris
Bishopstown

8
Eimilé Ní Eideáin
Emily Hayden
Cashel Captáen

9
Póilín Bhulfin
Paula Bulfin
Cashel

10
Rachel Ní Mhaolomhnaigh
Rachel Maloney
Courcy Rovers

11
Úna Ní Dhoonchú
Una O'Donoghue
Cloughduv

12
Léan de Búrca
Elaine Burke
Valley Rovers

10
Fílimín Ní Fhógartaigh
Philly Fogarty
Cashel

11
Nollaig Ní Chinnéide
Noelle Kennedy
Toomevara

12
Siobhán Ní Riain
Joanne Ryan
Drom/Inch

13
Fiona Ní Dhrisceoil
Fiona O'Driscoll
Fr. O'Neill's

14
Lynn Ní Dhoinnlé
Lynn Dunlea
Cloughduv

15
Sinead Ní Laoire
Jenny O'Leary
Barryroe

13
Eimhear Ní Domhnaill
Emer McDonnell
Burgess

14
Deirdre Ní Aodha
Deirdre Hughes
Toomevara

15
Clár Ní Ghrugáin
Claire Grogan
Cashel

Ionadaithe

16. Córa Ní Cheocháin
Cora Keohane, Barryroe

17. Sinead Ní Bhusacháin
Sinead Buckley, Aghabullogue
18. Criona Ní Aghairt
Criona Harle, Inniscarra

19. Siobhán Ní Cheallacháin
Joanne O'Callaghan, Cloughduv
20. Máiread Ní Fhinn
Mags Finn, Fr. O'Neill's

Ionadaithe

16. Labhaoise Ní Riain
Louise Ryan, Holycross/Ballycahill

17. Sheena Ní Iomhair
Sheena Howard, Burgess
18. Niamh Ní Earcáin
Niamh Harkin, Drom/Inch

19. Gráinne Ní Sheanacháin
Gráinne Shanahan, Toomevara
20. Lorraine de Búrca
Lorraine Bourke, Templemore



Team captain, Emily Hayden (left) with Philly Fogarty and Grainne Shanahan.

TIPPERARY TEAM

1.
Jovita Delaney

2. Suzanne Kelly 3. Una O'Dwyer 4. Claire Madden

5. Sinead Nealon 6. Clara Gaynor 7. Paula Bulfin

8. Emily Hayden (capt.) 9. Therese Brophy

10. Philly Fogarty 11. Noelle Kennedy 12. Joanna Ryan

13. Eimear McDonnell 14. Deirdre Hughes 15. Claire Grogan

Subst: Louise Ryan, Grainne Shanahan, Niamh Connolly, Lorraine Bourke.



Happy mentors, Jim Madden, Biddy Phillips and Michael Cleary at last week's training session in MacDonagh Park, Nenagh.

Tipperary book final spot

Tipperary..... 3-13 Cork 1-12

CAMOGIE: Tipperary will grace Croke Park on September 16 following their epic battle against Cork 3-13 to 1-10 in the All Ireland Foras na Gaeilge senior championship semi-final replay in Limerick's Gaelic Grounds.

Tipperary's saviour of the drawn game, Deirdre Hughes, opened the scoring in typical fashion with a point in the third minute. Playing with wind advantage Tipperary were level, 0-6 each, at the break.

An exciting second half saw Una O'Donoghue getting Cork's first goal in the 29th minute only for Clara Grogan to reply a minute later with a Tipp goal to leave the scoreline Tipperary 1-12 Cork 1-11.

Two goals in injury time from Emer McDonnell and a Noelle Kennedy free 40 metres out went all the way to the Cork net to set Tipperary up for a possible three in a row against Kilkenny in the final.

TIPPERARY: J. Delaney, S. Kelly, U. O'Dwyer, C. Madden, S. Nealon, C. Gaynor, T. Brophy, E. Hayden (capt), P. Bulfin, P. Fogarty, N. Kennedy, J. Ryan, E. McDonnell, D. Hughes, C. Grogan. Sub: N. Harkin for E. Hayden (52).
CORK: G. Casey, D. Cronin, E. Duggan, S. Dunlea, P. O'Connor, M. O'Connor, S. Hayes, L. Mellerick, V. Harris, R. Moloney, U. O'Donoghue, E. Burke, F. O'Driscoll, C. Harle, J. O'Leary. Sub: C. Corkery for E. Burke (53).
Referee: J. O'Brien (Wexford)

Tipp's three in-a-row dream remains alive after thrilling win

Tipperary 3-13
Cork 1-12

by Tom Higgins

TIPPERARY'S dream of a third All-Ireland Senior camogie championship title in a row remains alive following their thrilling win over Cork in the All-Ireland semi-final at the Gaelic Grounds, Limerick on Saturday.

However, their seven point winning margin, was a somewhat misleading representation of the game.

In fact, an injury time effort by Cork's Paula O'Connor left just a point between the sides, and a grandstand finish in prospect. But as Cork went in search of an equaliser, their rearguard was left completely unprotected.

That proved to be their downfall as a long ball reached the unmarked Niamh Harkin whose initial shot was blocked by goalkeeper Ger Casey, but the rebound fell kindly for Emer McDonnell who made no mistake and buried the ball in the back of the net. It went from bad to worse for Cork moments later, as a wild sideline effort from Noelle Kennedy, dipped in for a goal, to truly end the game.

Those few minutes of madness aside, there had been little between

the sides on Saturday but the Premier County won this match because they were the fitter sides and had the better forwards.

Cork, who in the drawn game were in trouble in defence managed to cure that situation but it was their forwards who failed them. Admittedly the Rebels cause was dealt a severe blow before the game when Lynn Dunlea was ruled out due to a suspected broken bone in her wrist and was replaced by Criona Harte. Sadly though Harte had no answer to the brilliant Una O'Dwyer.

Cork played against the wind in the opening half and must have felt happy to turn over level at the break at 0-6 apiece. Their back division was superb in the opening period with Eithne Duggan blotting out Tipperary's star forward Deirdre Hughes while Denise Cronin making a big difference at right back. Beyond them Paula and Mary O'Connor were in control in the half back line.

However, on the turn over Cork shot four wides in a row and it was Tipperary, with a new centrefield pairing of Suzanne Kelly and Philly Fogarty, who went ahead with a pointed free from Noelle Kennedy in the 37th minute. Cork did put over four points without reply however Tipperary themselves upped the

tempo and took over to score five unanswered points between the 51st and 55th minutes to leave it 0-12 to 0-10. But Cork fought back once more and a point by Vivienne Harris followed quickly by a goal from Una O'Donoghue in the 59th minute put the Rebels two points in front.

However, Cork's joy was short lived. A Ciara Gaynor delivery was latched onto by Clare Grogan who rattled the back of the net and when Deirdre Hughes added a further point Tipperary were in the driving seat. Then came the three and a half minutes of injury time and Cork's collapse.

"It is out of this world" said trainer Michael Cleary. "I thought we were gone when Cork got that goal but Tipperary then showed their fighting spirit".

Scorers for Tipperary: N. Kennedy 1-4 (1-3 frees), C. Grogan 1-3, E. McDonnell 1-1, D. Hughes 0-3, P. Fogarty 0-2.
Cork: U. O'Donoghue 1-3, R. Moloney 0-3 (0-1 free, 0-1 "45"), F. O'Driscoll 0-3, P. O'Donoghue 0-1, V. Harris 0-1, J. O'Leary 0-1.

TIPPERARY: J. Delaney, S. Kelly, U. O'Dwyer, C. Madden, S. Nealon, C. Gaynor, T. Brophy, E. Hayden (capt), P. Bulfin, P. Fogarty, N. Kennedy, J. Ryan, E. McDonnell, D. Hughes, C. Grogan. Sub: N. Harkin for E. Hayden (52nd minute).

CORK: G. Casey, D. Cronin, E. Duggan, S. Dunlea, P. O'Connor, M. O'Connor, S. Hayes, L. Ellerick, V. Harris, R. Moloney, U. O'Donoghue, Burke, F. O'Driscoll, C. Harte, J. O'Leary. Sub: C. Corkery for E. Burke (54th minute).

Referee: S. O'Brien (Wexford).



Tipperary's Philly Fogarty keeps her eye on the ball as Cork's Linda Mellerick closes in during their game played in Gaelic Grounds Limerick. Picture: Brian Gavin

Hughes: Lucky break may Tipp balance

By THERESE O'CALLAGHAN
Camogie Correspondent

WHICH ever side has the luck will win next Saturday's All-Ireland camogie semi-final championship replay between Tipperary and arch rivals, Cork says Tipperary's star full forward, Deirdre Hughes.

"It is not who is going to want it the most because we both do.

"Everybody will be expecting a cracker again this time, but in a replay you don't know how it is going to go. I have a feeling, though, it will be close again and will have the typical Cork/Tipperary rivalry.

"We know Cork will be up for it. They very nearly stole it from us the last day. I think they are much stronger this year than they were when we met 12 months ago.

We have huge respect for them and will always be cautious. I am probably more negative than my teammates but I am always wary of Cork."

Meanwhile, Michael Cleary has made one enforced change in personnel to the 15 that started the last day against Cork.

Joanne Ryan, who came on early in the second-half, gets the nod to start because of a hand injury picked up

by Louise Young last weekend.

Captain, Emily Hayden, who was surprisingly off form in the drawn game, gets an opportunity to perform once more at midfield, but this time will be joined by Paula Bulfin who played at wing-back two weeks ago.

In a direct swap Therese Brophy moves to her position in the back line.

It's no surprise Tipperary are worried about their mid-

field partnership.

This was one area where Cork ruled the roost two weeks ago.

Hughes admits it is a key area that her side will have to win: "We have had to work on midfield, so hopefully we will see an improvement there.

"We were fortunate that Cork did not capitalise on their possession. They missed a fair few scores," she said.

Camogie

CORK had to give way to All-Ireland champions Tipperary in a classic semi-final that had fans on the edge of their seats until the final whistle.

Cork lined out minus the services of Lynn Dunlea who picked up a hand injury last weekend, whilst Tipp lost Louise Young who broke fingers lining out with the Tipp Junior side.

In an opening half where the sides swapped points throughout it was level 0-6 each at the interval and having played against the strong wind in that opening period Cork turned around reasonably happy.

Dominating the early exchanges of the second half, Cork failed to turn scoring chances into points shooting four wides in a row. Grabbing the opportunity Tipp led with a Noelle Kennedy pointed free but Rachel Moloney had Cork back on level terms inside seven minutes. With the tempo rising Cork rose to the challenge and three unanswered

Cork go under as Tipp storm home to victory



Cork's Rachel Moloney gets away from Joanne Ryan, Tipperary. Picture: Press 22

points had them 1-10 to 0-7 ahead with ten minutes on the clock. A serious head injury to impressive centre fielder Linda Mellerick saw Cork start to lose the vital grip at mid field and Tipp stormed back with points from Clare Grogan (3),

Deirdre Hughes and Noelle Kennedy. Holding their nerve Cork again rallied with the hard working Vivienne Harris pointing and when Una O'Donoghue split the Tipp defence and finished past Jovita Delaney to the net it

Mary Newman

looked all over for the champions, but again they fought back. Grogan slotted to the net from close range with one minute remaining. Deirdre Hughes stretched it to two points a minute later.

Paula O'Connor's point with two minutes of injury time remaining had fans urging on Cork to bring it to extra time but there was one kick left in the champions. Emer McDonnell gathered on the edge of the square after a superb save from Ger Casey and finished well, a close in free from Noelle Kennedy went all the way to the net and with it came the final whistle to signal the end of a game where both sides are to be complimented at the high standard served up. Disappointment for Cork but credit to Tipperary for the manner in which they battled on to book their spot and a final meeting with Kilkenny.

Explosive finale keeps Tipp on three-in-a-row trail

CORK'S REVENGE MISSION FAILS

TIPPERARY 3-13 CORK 1-12

Report: Gerry Slevin Pictures: Bridget Delaney

There's not a script writer in the world who would dare to come up with a finale such as we saw in Limerick's Gaelic Grounds on Saturday evening. He/she would be laughed at and told the imagination was simply too fertile!



Back in search of a third successive All-Ireland title, Tipperary's all-conquering heroines. Back, from left: Joanne Ryan, Therese Brophy, Claire Grogan, Suzanne Kelly, Claire Madden, Ciara Gaynor, Jovita Delaney, Noelle Kennedy. Front: Una O'Dwyer, Eimer McDonnell, Deirdre Hughes, Philly Fogarty, Paula Bulfin, Sinead Nealon, Emily Hayden (capt.). Mascots - Michaela Graham (right) and Maeve Delaney.

Tipp and Cork defied the weather to supply an audience - sadly depleted by the weather, the U2 concert in Slane, and the Ireland-Holland World Cup qualifier -- with an All Ireland camogie semi final replay of sheer quality that exploded into a finale of unbearable proportions, as Tipp came back to record probably their greatest achievement since returning to senior ranks in 1998 -- and that includes the winning of the past two All Ireland finals!

It was six points apiece at half time, Tipp having had the advantage of a strong wind. The sides had been level five times in that first half, the quality of camogie was not lessened by the elements but Tipp's position did seem precarious in view of the fact that Cork would have the aid of the wind.

Cork had four wides in the first five minutes of the second half and while a Noelle Kennedy pointed free seven minutes into the half, pepped up Tipp, they failed to score for the following fourteen minutes.

IN FULL SPATE

Meanwhile, Cork's take over bid was in full spate and sharpshooters Una O'Donoghue (2), Rachel Maloney and Fiona O'Driscoll sent them into a three point lead, 0-10 to 0-7.

The Tipp defence was under extreme pressure but defiant all the same, and none more so than wing back Therese Brophy whose inspiration saw the pic-

In a three minute spell between the 20th and 23rd, Tipp had drawn level, Philly Fogarty, Claire Grogan and Deirdre Hughes doing the need-

free Tipp were flying.

Not for long however, because against Cork there is no time for relaxation. Utter folly not to keep up the pressure and

long more must this continue!

Then a long ball to the Cork goal area saw the defence caught out and sub. Namb Harkin picked up and seemed



Joanne Ryan swings into action though opposed by Paula O'Connor

ture change around so quickly. If Cork could notch four points without reply, Tipp could do even better!

ful. Then Deirdre set up Claire Grogan for the lead point in the 25th minute and when Noelle Kennedy added another from a



Noelle Kennedy on one of her penetrating runs.

Tipp grab win while Cork fight to the bitter end

Therese O'Callaghan

at the Gaelic Grounds

IF ONLY competing wasn't about winning and if only effort deserved medals, then Saturday's heartbreak for Cork might be a little easier to take. To see a loser in this replay of the Foras na Gaeilge All-Ireland camogie championship replay just didn't seem to be fair.

After 120 minutes of supreme effort from both teams, uncontrollable joy and sheer anguish were the emotions that spilled on to the Gaelic Grounds in Limerick on Saturday afternoon.

With the quality of the drawn game to live up to, the intense rivalry conjured up another heart-stopping hour of camogie. But with the long whistle that sounded came the end of the championship road for a Cork team who stood their ground for 59 minutes of this game.

It took just over four minutes for the Blue and Gold to become the biggest sensation of the year. Having flirted with defeat two weeks ago in Mullingar, they were trailing by two points with one minute of normal time remaining. But, they found hidden reserves as Claire Grogan began the late scoring burst, Eimer McDonnell and Noelle Kennedy completed an unbelievable three-goal sensation in the closing four minutes for Tipperary to stun the Cork brigade.

This was as dramatic a win as you will ever see. After a tame enough first half, six points a piece, the second half was one hell of a humdinger. It was Una O'Donoghue, on the end of a long Sarah Hayes delivery that shot the Rebels into a two-point lead with one minute to go.

Remarkably, uncertainty at the heart of the Cork defence, who were sterling up until then, agonisingly left Tipp in for the winning scores.

There were some herculean performances on both sides: Eithne Duggan, Mary O'Connor, Linda Mellerick, Vivienne Harris and Una O'Donoghue played their hearts out, while Tipp's backline were rock solid with Therese Brophy and Ciara Gaynor once again indestructible. Philly Fogarty worked tirelessly in their attack with Grogan, McDonnell and Kennedy getting the vital goals.

Meanwhile, for Cork selector Rose Desmond it was a most disappointing afternoon: "I am most sorry for the players and in particular Pa Finn. Their effort was supreme. But, on the day it was the great scoring prowess of Tipp against the wind in the second half that won it for them.

"Unfortunately it is not for us this year. Cork have a lot of young players with a great future," added Rose.



Grogan broke Cork hearts.



Tipp's new midfield pairing of Philly Fogarty and Suzanne Kelly (with helmet) clash with Cork's Vivienne Harris and Linda Mellerick.

stay on one's guard. A Vivienne Harris point left the minimum made it 0-12 to 0-11. Two minutes official time remained and then it happened.

CORK GOAL!

Una O'Donoghue lashed the ball to the Tipp net, to Jovita Delaney's right and well out of her reach. Cork in front by a point.

How long would referee John O'Brien allow for injuries sustained by Cork's Linda Mellerick? One minute? Two minutes? Was it enough for Tipp to send the match into extra time?

Questions; questions but when the ball returned to play, Tipp were awarded a free around the mid field area. Ciara Gaynor knew that a dropping ball to the square might pay dividends, but the wind was strong.

Still...

On the ball sailed and there in the right place at the right time to belt it home was Claire Grogan. Tipp back in the lead, 1-12 to 1-11 and in a quick follow-up attack Deirdre Hughes from a high-impossible angle pointed.

Added time had now arrived and with it a Cork point. The tension was unbearable. How

destined to add a second goal as she soloed through only to fluff her shot. Eimear McDonnell was on hand though, to belt the ball cleanly to the net. A four point lead. Surely Tipp would not now be caught.

Nor indeed were they, but rather was the icing placed on the cake when Noelle Kennedy's long range free dipped into the top left hand corner of the Cork net and what had been a point deficit only three minutes earlier had turned into a seven point winning margin.

EUPHORIA AN RELIEF

The full time whistle was greeted with a wave of euphoria and relief as Tipp supporters laid siege on their conquering heroines. For a while it was disbelief as it all gradually sank in while in the Cork camp, devastation was so evident on players and supporters faces. They had travelled to Limerick quite confident of avenging last year's All Ireland final defeat and while the loss of Lyn Dunlea, through a hand injury sustained in the Cork county final, was a blow to them, nevertheless they fully expected to dethrone the champions.

They were powerless in those

closing hectic moments, as wave after wave of Tipperary pressure surged relentlessly, bringing with it a victory that will be savoured for many a day.

How does one explain a performance that sees a team heading for defeat, only to resurrect itself TWICE and come out on top. It was something akin to what happened in the All Ireland hurling final of 1994, when what appeared to be a dead and buried Offaly team came back to life and ousted Limerick. Then, it was the conversion of a close in free that began the process. On Saturday, no such luxury was presented, the goals were well earned and

tanding team" said Michael.

The Nenagh man said he was worried when Cork moved into a 0-10 to 0-7 lead mid say through the second half, probably more worried than he was later.

Asked what it was that brought about such a transformation, Michael told "The Guardian" that in his view, it is a very good team and they have a serious attitude. One can sense it that this team is not going to be beaten too easily.

THE CHARACTER

"I can't put it into words, I am chipping away all the time, seeing the character that is in them. I see it more than they themselves see it. At half time,

easily, though four minutes into the second half it looked as though Eimear McDonnell might have the distinction of slapping home the first, but having soloed through she was bottled up and dispossessed.

Co-incidentally two players who had the opportunities but failed with them came good when it was most needed.

POSITIONAL SWITCHES

Positional switches before the throw-in saw Tipp corner back Suzanne Kelly move to mid field partnering Philly Fogarty. Paula Bulfin went back to corner back and team captain Emily Hayden switched to the half forward line. It took Suzanne a while to become

Harris, Una O'Donoghue, Fiona O'Driscoll and Rachel Maloney, they had players who never gave up. It was not to be their day as the Tipp quest for that prestigious three in a row All Ireland title achievement remains very much on course.

Roll on Kilkenny on Sunday week!

SCORERS AND TEAMS

Scorers for Tipp were, N. Kennedy 1-4 (1-3 frees), C. Grogan 1-3, E. McDonnell 1-1, D. Hughes 0-3, P. Fogarty 0-2. Cork's replies came from, U. O'Donoghue 1-3, R. Maloney 0-3 (1f 1 45), F. O'Driscoll 0-3 (1f), V. Harris, J. O'Leary and M. O'Connor 0-1 each.

Tipp had three wides in the

an amazing statistic from the match is that in a period of twelve minutes, the Tipp lassies scored no less than 3-6.

Even the man who gave them the confidence required, was at pains to explain it all.

IN DISBELIEF

Michael Cleary, team manager and coach, as he recovered from the mobbing he received from players and fans, could only shake his head in disbelief. He said initially that those present had been privileged to witness one of the great hurling games and even had it finished after Cork got their goal, the same thing was still true and yet there was more to come.

"What can I say? I am preaching their gospel for the past two years. I can't say enough about them. It is going to be a real challenge for all of us, to come down and build again for the final on September 16th. It was a note that would be perfect on which to end the year. We'll savour it to-night but I must say that Cork are now gone away, disappointed, but they are absolutely an out-

standing team" said Michael. The Nenagh man said he was worried when Cork moved into a 0-10 to 0-7 lead mid say through the second half, probably more worried than he was later.

Asked what it was that brought about such a transformation, Michael told "The Guardian" that in his view, it is a very good team and they have a serious attitude. One can sense it that this team is not going to be beaten too easily.

Seven times in the hour, the teams were level, locked together five times in the first half, a half which in spite of the low scoring was brimful of excitement and brilliant play.

Tipp might have goal as early as the opening minute, when Claire Grogan soloed through only to see her shot saved. The Cashel girl certainly made amends later on. Defences were on top generally and forwards found it very difficult to make headway. Clearly, goals were not to come

acclimatised to her new position but once she did, she was most effective. Cork's strong pressure was very capably dealt with by a sturdy defence in which the half line especially, Ciara Gaynor flanked by Sinead Nealon and Therese Brophy, shone.

Philly Fogarty popped up in all positions, working tirelessly, Noelle Kennedy likewise and contributing so much with her accurate free taking. Claire Grogan stormed into the game with devastating effect in the second half and Joanne Ryan made light of her newcomer status with a performance that would do justice to a seasoned campaigner.

Eimear McDonnell too did her job when most needed and even if Deirdre Hughes was a well watched lady, she still managed to loft over three superb points, one of them while on her knees and another from a most acute angle.

Cork were devastated, but they fought to the bitter end and in such as Eithne Duggan, Linda Mellerick, Vivienne

hour, two of them in the first half, to Cork's six, of which four were in the second half. Tipp were awarded nineteen frees, thirteen in the second half, Cork's tally reaching fourteen, eleven of them in the first half. Cork also forced two 45s in the first half.

TIPPERARY -- Jovita Delaney, Paula Bulfin, Una O'Dwyer, Claire Madden, Sinead Nealon, Ciara Gaynor, Therese Brophy, Suzanne Kelly, Philly Fogarty, Emily Hayden (capt), Noelle Kennedy, Joanne Ryan, Eimear McDonnell, Deirdre Hughes, Claire Grogan.
Sub -- Niamh Harkin for Hayden.

CORK -- Ger Casey, Deise Cronin, Eithne Duggan (capt), Stephanie Dunlea, Paula O'Connor, Mary O'Connor, Sarah Hayes, Linda Mellerick, Vivienne Harris, Rachel Maloney, Una O'Donoghue, Elaine Burke, Fiona O'Driscoll, Criona Harte, Jenny O'Leary
Subs -- C. Corkery for Burke.

Referee -- John O'Brien, Wexford.

'BORN TO CAMOGIE'

Amanda O'Regan in Shamrock Lawn here in Douglas with her parents, Michael and Christina and her sister, Louise. Amanda is 18 years of age and her sister is 15. Both girls attend Christ The King Secondary School and Amanda is repeating Sixth Year. Both her parents are very involved as camogie selectors in Douglas and Amanda describes herself as being "Born to camogie".

Amanda normally plays as a back or a forward in the junior team in Douglas. She holds the Under 16 County Medal which she won three years ago. She also holds two All-Ireland medals and a Minor All-Ireland medal, which she won in 1998 after playing Derry in the final. The team lost earlier this year in Croke Park to Derry. Amanda also plays basketball at school and also plays with Cobh. She played with Blarney last year and has played since she was in first year.

The camogie team trains indoors and outdoors on Sunday mornings. Amanda trains with the school basketball team on Friday's after school and trains with Cobh on Wednesday nights.

She began Irish dancing when she was four years old and holds an Under 9 Championship Medal and also has Munster and All-Ireland medals to her credit. She attends the O'Mahony School of Dance with optional classes at Douglas and Blackrock.

She also played piano accordion, until two years ago but gave it up because of her commitment to sport. She only now plays it in her spare time and also plays guitar; she also likes reading and knitting.

Her father, Michael is the coach of the camogie team and is also a selector for the Senior Football team. Her mother holds two All-Ireland medals and her father has minor medals for football. Amanda would like to travel to America to see some NBA matches.

Amanda would like to play with Cork at senior level. Her sister Louise shares the same hobbies and plays on some of the same teams as Amanda.

Amanda speaks glowingly of her teachers at Christ the King and finds them very encouraging. She is somewhat disappointed with sports facilities at the school but the school is waiting on a new sports hall and also has a shortage of classrooms.

She is currently studying Maths, Irish, Physics, Biology, Accounting and Applied Maths. Amanda attended St. Columba's Girls national School in Douglas from where she made her confirmation and began her camogie playing with Sciath na Scoil.

When asked about the changes in the Douglas area she says it is important for it to develop but says part of the community spirit is gone but in the GAA Club, the spirit is still there. She would like Douglas to retain its identity. Most of her friends are involved in the same sports as herself. She has been a very committed Pioneer since her Confirmation and when she was 16, her grandmother presented her with her next badge. She has no interest in drinking or smoking because of the sports, which she plays and says it, is good for you.

Amanda says that smoking and drinking are a factor with many people who drop out of training. Her mother taught her how to knit and Amanda finds it a great way to relax and she knits her own jumpers.

Long-term, she would like to travel to Australia and America.

Christ the King played recently at the National basketball arena Tallaght for the Bank of Ireland Cup. Amanda was senior Captain last February for her score of 44 points she received the M.V.P. (Most Valuable Player) award.



Tipperary's Final Flo Floors Cork

By Noel Dundon

TIPPERRY.....3-13
CORK.....1-12

Tipperary's senior camogie team are on course to make it three All-Ireland titles in a row following a pulsating climax to a fabulous semi-final replay in the Gaelic Grounds, Limerick on Saturday.

Three points adrift with eight minutes to go, Tipperary took the lead with two remaining and then trailed again by two with one remaining. Amazingly by the time the final whistle blew The Premier County were seven ahead and were on course to retain the O'Duffy Cup for the second time.

This was a fabulous game and a brilliant advertisement for the game of camogie. Played on a greasy pitch in wet conditions, the two teams went at it hammer and tongs and even though Tipperary played wind assisted in the first half, they were on level terms with Cork at the interval, 0-6 apiece.

Cork were without star attacker Lynn Dunlea who broke a bone in her wrist in the county championship while Tipperary



Tipperary's Philly Fogarty about the grab the ball as she is challenged by Cork's Jenny O'Leary during the Senior Camogie All-Ireland semi-final replay at Limerick on Saturday last.

spell for the Tipp girls saw Eimear McDonnell, Claire Grogan and Philly Fogarty send Tipp into the lead but Cork were still giving as good as they got.

Tipp keeper Jovita

the breeze in the first half, Cork were full of running while Tipperary looked lethargic. This was very evident in the second quarter and the Cork girls had points from the impish

and would benefit from the breeze in the second half.

Tipp came under a lot of pressure with Cork hitting four wides in the first five minutes of the half. They enjoyed the lions share of possession and it was just a matter of time before they made their dominance pay on the scoreboard. Noelle Kennedy nipped in with a pointed free for Tipp in the meantime but this was cancelled by Rachel Maloney in the 14th minute with a well taken point.

Cork took over for the next 10 minutes. Una O'Donoghue (2) and Fiona O'Driscoll sent them clear and it looked curtains for Tipperary. Cork punished every mistake in the Tipp defence and there looked to be no way back for Tipp.

Michael Cleary, Tipperary's Manager, has stated time and again that he will never cease to be amazed by the achievements of his charges - even he must have been reeling after Saturday's turn-

around. Five points on the trot from Philly Fogarty, Claire Grogan (2), Deirdre Hughes and Noelle Kennedy sent Tipp two points in front in amazing circumstances. Vivienne Harris reduced the lead to one with a well take score for Cork and when Una O'Donoghue nipped inside the Tipp defence to goal in the 29th minute, Tipp were deflated.

It didn't take long for the wind to return to the sails though - 30 seconds to be precise. A long free delivered from the stylish Ciara Gaynor was banged unstopably to the net by the Claire Grogan to restore Tipp's lead. Deirdre Hughes replied with another Tipp point before Eimear McDonnell shot a second Tipp goal after substitute Niamh Harkin broke through.

Tipp were celebrating a famous win but the scoring didn't stop there. Noelle Kennedy topped a fine win with a third goal in the dying moments as a long range free went all the way to the net giving Tipp a seven point margin of victory.

Tipp will be pleased with victory but Michael Cleary knows that some elements of their play have to be tightened up on. Defensively, Tipp lapsed at times and allowed Cork to get easy scores. Nevertheless Paula Bulfin, Ciara Gaynor and the excellent Therese Brophy were to the fore while in attack Claire Grogan, Eimear McDonnell and Noelle Kennedy assisted Suzanne Kelly and Philly Fogarty at midfield.

Cork were best served by the fast running Fiona O'Driscoll. Una O'Donoghue, Linda Mellrick who was in the wars and received two head injuries for her troubles, Mary O'Connor and captain Eithne Duggan who led by example.

Scorers:

Tipperary: N Kennedy 1-4, C Grogan 1-3, E McDonnell 1-1, D Hughes 0-3, P Fogarty 0-2.

Cork: U O'Donoghue 1-3, F O'Driscoll 0-3, R

Tipperary Tops in Camogie Finals

Tipperary have now qualified for the All-Ireland senior and junior finals in Croke Park on September 16th. The seniors will play against Kilkenny and will be bidding to make it a hat trick of titles while the juniors play Offaly in the curtain raiser. It's hoped that Tipp supporters will travel in strength to cheer on the camogie girls.

were robbed of the services of Louise Younge, another injury victim.

The Rebels were 0-3 to 0-2 up after 10 minutes. Rachel Maloney (2) and Fiona O'Driscoll giving them the initiative while Deirdre Hughes and Noelle Kennedy were on target for Tipp. A good

Deleaney was forced to save from Linda Mellrick in the 17th minute after the midfielder took off on a long run through the defence - the run cautioned the Tipp girls as to what could happen if they didn't remain on their toes.

Despite playing against

Fiona O'Driscoll and Jenny O'Leary to level up matters at the interval - Noelle Kennedy grabbing Tipperary's sixth from a free in the 28th minute.

Level pegging at the interval - Cork were certainly the happier of the two sides. They had matched Tipperary's play

Cork camogie team must keep their chins up

CORK'S defeat to Tipperary last Saturday was both unexpected and disappointing.

Some might say that the writing was on the wall, but this is a shattering blow to a young side that came on the scene when the elder members were dominating the inter-county scene.

For me, the saddest part of all is the fear that Jack O'Brien's full whistle might signal the end of the road for players who have given so much to the game, and still were able to give it their all last weekend.

But, they now find that they cannot give it any more. Maybe, we would get

a longer life span out of players if the tug-of-war between the club and county were resolved.

When Cork drew with Tipperary in Mullingar, the Cork County final had already been pencilled in for the following Friday evening.

When the match ended in a draw, there was confusion - would the club final go off because of the proximity of all the matches. Pandemonium continued with a special meeting being called to decide the issue. It was an unfortunate situation, but the reality was if Cork's own little All-Ireland was deferred, it would not



ON THE DIFFICULTY OF BOUNCING BACK FROM DEFEAT

VIEW FROM THE GROUND

By THERESA O'CALLAGHAN

be played for weeks on end. And with Munster club championship looming, it would be unfair not to have the winners decided before the commencement of this competition.

A lot of opinion has been voiced

since then about the staging of the county final, but who is to say that the outcome would have been any different on Saturday had it not gone ahead. Hindsight is a wonderful thing, but we will never know how or if it did impact on the replay. All that is left to do now is wish Cloughduv well in their quest for Munster honours.

It has been a long and hard road for a lot of these Cork players - people like Linda Mellrick, Denise Cronin, Fiona O'Driscoll, Mags Finn and Eithne Duggan have given everything to the game both at club and inter-county level.

And takes its toll. Linda played on some of Cork's losing teams before the Rebels broke through in 1992.

Also on that winning team were Denise Cronin and Fiona O'Driscoll. Mags Finn was around then too. This year's captain, Eithne Duggan won her first medal with Cork in 1995 and has been to the fore with Bishopstown and the county since then.

So, yes a lot of mileage on the clock, but I know they will all agree that it has been well worth the time and effort. Above all else, they are sportspeople and of course will be disappointed with last weekend's outcome.

Tipp turn on style in second half

Tipperary 0-12, Galway 1-4

by Gerry Slevin

Irrespective of how Saturday's eagerly awaited All Ireland senior camogie semi final replay between Tipp and Cork goes, Tipp will have huge interest in the All Ireland final day programme (September 16th), because the juniors will be involved against Offaly, following an impressive entry at the expense of Galway on Saturday evening.

On a beautiful evening and on a well prepared County Camogie Grounds at the Ragg, Tipp's second string after a listless enough first half, really broke loose thereafter, holding their fancied opponents scoreless until they got through for

DECLAN'S SISTER

Into the breach then came one Moira Ryan, a lass with excellent pedigree, being sister of hurling star Declan. It was a good move because Moira managed to inject a surge into the attack that paid handsome

vital with excellent attacking work from Lena Woods, Julia Delaney and Linda Grogan.

Galway tried many moves and subs in a bid to stem the flow of Tipp attacks but all in vain. When, eventually, Rebecca Lal lashed home the

and P. Carrig 0-1 each.

Tipp had three wides in the hour, all in the first half, to Galway's seven of which three were in the second half. Tipp were awarded fifteen frees, eight in the second half, to Galway's fourteen, five in the



The Tipperary Junior camogie team before Saturday's All-Ireland semi-final. Back, from left: Brendan Murphy (trainer), Noelette O'Dwyer, Siobhan Ryan, Helen Breen, Linda Grogan, Helen Grogan, Louise Young, Lena Woods, Patricia O'Halloran (capt.), Bernie O'Dowd (selector). Front: John O'Donnell (selector), Lorraine Bourke, Deirdre McDonnell, Julia Delaney, Maedhbh Corcoran, Sharon Ralph, Sarah O'Brien, Niamh Connolly, Martin Browne (manager).

a goal just on full time.

The sides were level at 0-4 each at half time, Siobhan Ryan being Tipp's top scorer with two of those points from frees. Lena Woods and Louise Young were on target for the other two from play.

The play was tight in that opening half, the marking much too close resulting in a somewhat sub-standard performance that hardly did justice to the eager combatants.

dividends and with the Galway defence under constant pressure, the match winning points were clocked up convincingly.

The Galway challenge that looked so promising in the first half, was found wanting now as Tipp, gaining their proper rhythm, soared to heights that looked beyond them in the first half and managed to keep Galway's scoring efforts down to a minimum.

Solid defensive work from

game's only goal, time was not on Galway's side to profit from this score. Tipp followed it with a Lorraine Bourke point and in the dying minutes, a Susan Keane low free for Galway was saved and cleared the ball eventually going wide.

WELL SATISFIED

Tipp will be well satisfied with this performance which gives them an opportunity to avenge their All Ireland final defeat of '98 when Galway eclipsed them by 3-11 to 2-10. Niamh Connolly and Maedhbh Corcoran are Tipp's lone survivors from that Croke Park outing. Siobhan Ryan after a great year being confined to the bench because of injury.

Under Martin Browne's management and with Brendan Murphy as trainer and Bernie O'Dowd and John

second half.

Galway also forced a 45 in each half.

TIPPERARY -- Sarah O'Brien (Drom 'n Inch), Sharon Ralph (Moycarkey-Borris), Helen Breen (Cashel), Deirdre McDonnell (Burgess), Maedhbh Corcoran (Moycarkey-Borris), Noelette O'Dwyer (Clonoulty-Rossmore), Niamh Connolly (Templemore), Patricia O'Halloran, capt. (Portroe), Lorraine Bourke (Templemore), Julia Delaney (Drom 'n Inch), Louise Young (Toomevara), Helen Grogan (Cashel), Lena Woods (Toomevara), Siobhan Ryan (Holycross-Ballycahill), Linda Grogan (Cashel).

Subs -- Moira Ryan (Clonoulty-Rossmore) for Young.



Siobhan Ryan in full flight.



Team Captain Patricia O'Halloran and impressive sub Moira Ryan.

O'Donnell as selectors, this Tipp side looks more than capable of going all the way this time.

That's for another day however. Meanwhile there is the satisfaction of having reached the final and of having put away Galway, the county that deprived them of All Ireland honours the years ago.

SCORERS AND TEAMS

Scorers for Tipp were, S. Ryan 0-6 (5 frees), L. Woods 0-2, L. Young, L. Grogan, M. Ryan, L. Bourke 0-1 each.

Galway's replies came from, R. Lal 1-0, S. Keane 0-2 (45 and free), C. Conroy (free)

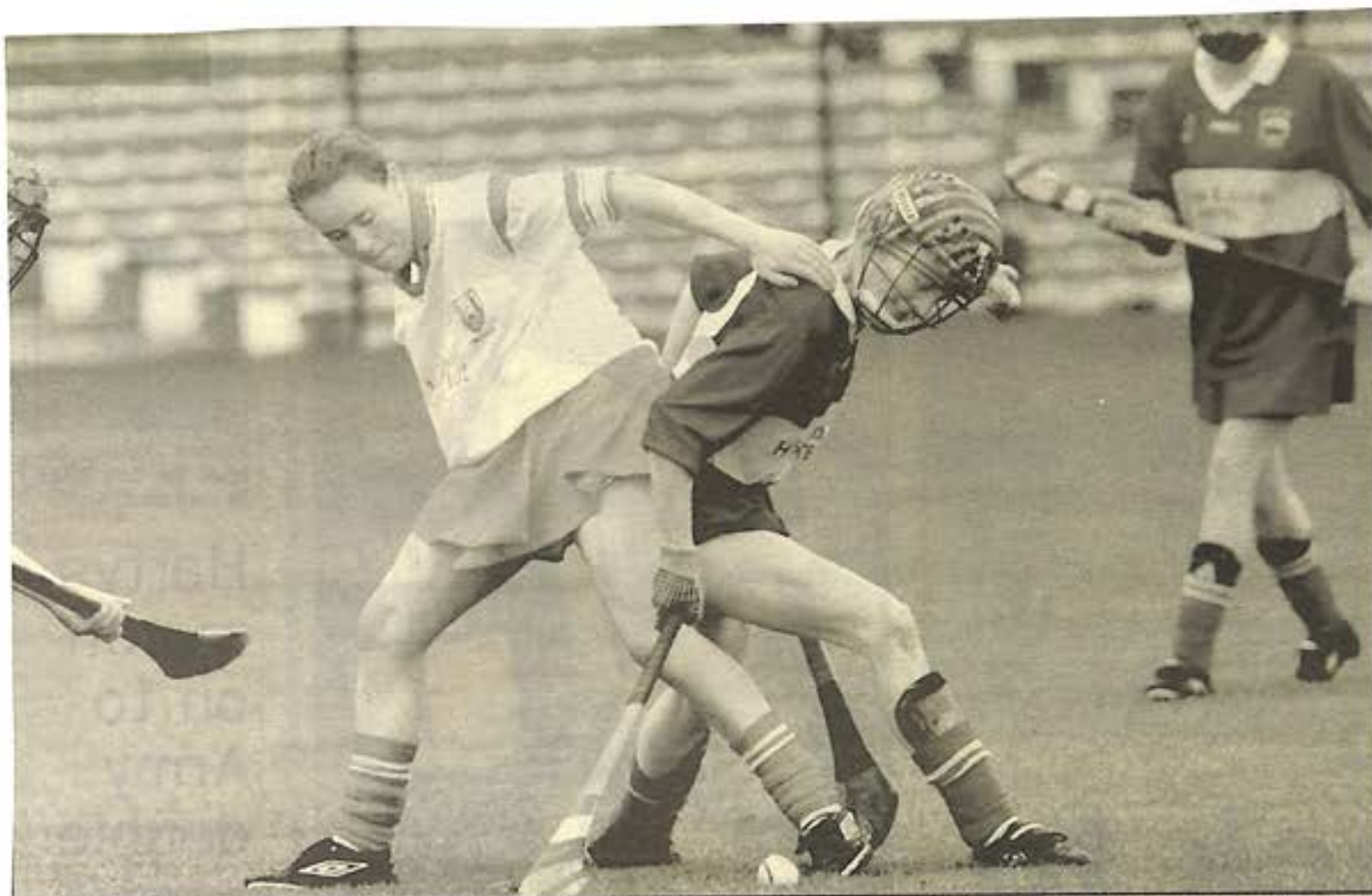
GALWAY -- Susan Earner, Niamh Hanney, Helena Huban, Fiona Pierce, Elizabeth Flynn, Aoife Doherty, Patricia Bourke, Karen Huban, Shauna Murphy, Susan Keane, Paula Carrig, Lorraine Lally, Rebecca Lal, Claire Conroy, Ann Marie Hayes.

Subs -- Karen Ryan for Flynn, Deirdre Bourke for Hayes, Elaine Tannin for Karen Huban, Edel Pierce for Patricia Bourke.

Referee -- Liam Davitt, Westmeath.



Lena Woods gets there first.



Cork's Paula O'Connor and Tipperary's Joanne Ryan battle for the ball during the All Ireland semi final at the Gaelic Grounds, Limerick. Picture: Press 22

Tipp finish on top to claim final slot

Cork 1-12
Tipperary 3-13

DESPITE recording a seven-point win, All-Ireland champions Tipperary had to fight to the end before finally advancing to an All-Ireland final meeting with Kilkenny.

Playing against the strong wind in the opening half, Cork matched their opponents score for score and it was level pegging 0-6 apiece at the interval.

Aided by the elements, Cork won ample possession in the opening stages of the second half, but sloppy shooting saw them waste four point opportunities inside five minutes before Noelle Kennedy slotted over a Tipperary pointed free.

Cork responded well with Rachel Moloney pointing and with Linda Mellerick and Vivienne Harris working tirelessly at midfield, Cork gained the upper hand and took the lead with three points on the trot - Una O'Donoghue (2) and Fiona O'Driscoll (1).

Tipp responded to the challenge and five points without reply from Clare Grogan, Noelle

Grassroots



● THE player of the week award goes to Ballygarvan's Norma Brady, who gave a great performance in their 1-8 to 1-4 league final win over Douglas. She helped keep the Douglas attack at bay as her side came under heavy pressure.

By MARY NEWMAN MCCARTHY

Camogie correspondent

Kennedy and Deirdre Hughes had the champions two in front.

With Vivienne Harris cutting the lead with a superb point, Cork came in search of more and it came in the form of Una O'Donoghue who rattled the Tipperary net with a goal with two minutes of normal time on the stop watch.

But the champions were far from finished. Holding their nerve, they came downfield and with Clare Grogan hitting the net, it was 1-12 to 1-11 with normal time almost up.

Deirdre Hughes knocked over a point but Cork responded with Paula O'Connor putting just one between the sides.

Now into injury time, it looked to be heading for extra time as Cork sought an equaliser, but disaster struck in the form of Emer McDonnell who put the issue beyond doubt with a Tipp goal. And, a close Noelle Kennedy free deceived the defence to finish in the net and with it came the final whistle.

Credit to both sides on another superb game. Cork will be disappointed that they did not get more of a return from their forward division given the amount of ball and possession they had but credit must go to Tipperary who showed that champions fight to the end.

Cork: G Casey, D Cronin, E Duggan, S Dunlea, P O'Connor, M O'Connor, S Hayes, L Mellerick, V Harris, R Moloney, U O'Donoghue, E Burke, F O'Driscoll, C Harte, J O'Leary Sub: C Corkery.
Tipperary: J Delaney, S Kelly, U O'Dwyer, C Madden, S Nealon, C Gaynor, T Brophy, E Haydwen, P Bulfin, P Fogarty, N Kennedy, J Ryan, E Mc Donnell, D Hughes, C Grogan. Sub N Harkin.
Referee: J O'Brien, Wexford.

Rebels aim to avenge heavy defeat

ON Saturday next Antrim make the journey to Cork to meet the home side in the All-Ireland Intermediate semi-final. Cork are holders of the title and as a result must field a new 15 this year.

With the competition organised on a semi-league basis the sides have already met in the competition when Cork travelled to Antrim

and were on the receiving end of a heavy defeat.

Since that meeting Cork have prepared hard under the guidance of coach Pat Murray and are determined to reverse that result and advance to the final.

Niamh Bowles, Ger Casey, Nora Ahern and Liz Sweetnam are experienced campaigners whom the

selectors will look to as they plot the downfall of a strong Antrim side that will have Roisin Duffin, Jane Adams and Grace McMullen amongst their starting 15.

● Another reminder that the wonderful publication *Cork's Camogie Story* by Mary Moran is still available at £10.10. This well-researched book charts

all that is best about the colleges, club and inter-county scene in Cork and is a must for all present and former players.

It will be available on Saturday next at the All-Ireland semi-final in Ballincollig, at the county board meeting at Páirc Uí Chaoimh on Monday night next or from any county board officer.

Another title for BallyG juniors

Ballygarvan 1-8
Douglas 1-4

COUNTY champions Ballygarvan added the 2000 Junior A League title to their championship crown at Carrigaline last Saturday, but were made to fight to the end by a determined Douglas side.

Earlier in the season Ballygarvan had a good win over the same opposition in the county final, but there was little between the sides this time.

Catriona Kelly and Amanda O'Regan had swapped early points before Amanda Murphy gave the county champions the lead when she blasted the ball past Emma Downey in the Douglas goal.

However it failed to lift Ballygarvan, who hit five wides in as many minutes.

Amanda O'Regan pointed a Douglas free and with Louise O'Regan adding a second, Douglas cut the Ballygarvan lead.

With captain Mary Maher and Helen O'Mahony solid in defence and Carmel Downey and Laura Walsh working hard up front, Douglas kept the pressure on the Ballygarvan defence where the hard working Norma Brady and Zelda Forrest played major roles in keeping Douglas at bay.

Ballygarvan: M O'Riordan, S Collins, Z Forrest, M Lane, A O'Neill, N Brady, K Browne, E Dillon, K Dwane, M Hallihane, C Kelly, J O'Sullivan, D Daly, A Murphy, A O'Riordan. Subs: A Brown, A O'Riordan.

Douglas: E Downey, M Maher, F McSweeney, T Buckley, H O'Mahony, A O'Regan, AM Downey, G Burke, E Morgan, F O'Donovan, L O'Regan, C Downey, L Walsh, C Barry, C Kennefick. Subs: S Jones.

Referee: Dave Daly, Sarsfields.
● St Catherine's overcame the challenge of Inniscarra with a 9-8 to 1-1 win in the Junior A Championship last Sunday in Conna.

In the Junior B Championship two points separated Delanys and Mayfield in a close game at Mayfield while Castlelyons defeated Bishopstown by 3-4 to 2-4 and Courcy Rovers lost to Castle-magner.

Fixtures

TONIGHT

Seandún Under 11 Final: Douglas v Bishopstown at Douglas 7pm.

Junior B Championship: Killeagh v St Fanahan's at Killeagh 6.45pm.

Under 14 B League Quarter Final: Eire Óg v Mallow at Ovens 7pm.

Under 12 League Quarter Final: Courcy Rovers v Ballygarvan at Ballygarvan 6.45pm.

FRIDAY SEPTEMBER 7

Junior A Championship: Watergrasshill v Brian Dillon's at Watergrasshill 7pm.

Under 14 A semi final: Inniscarra v Ballyhea at Inniscarra 6.45pm.

SATURDAY SEPTEMBER 8

All Ireland Intermediate Championship Semi Final: Cork v Antrim at Ballincollig 11.30am.

Under 14 A League Semi Final: Ballygarvan v Millford in Mallow 11am.

Under 12 League Quarter Final: Eire Óg v Bandon at Ovens 6pm.

Under 14 B League Quarter Final: St Finbar's v Ballincollig at Barrs 4.30pm.

SUNDAY SEPTEMBER 9

Junior A Championship: St Catherine's v Douglas at St Vincent's 12 noon.

Junior B Championship: St Catherine's v Barryroe at St Catherine's 12 noon.

TUESDAY SEPTEMBER 11

Under 12 League Quarter Final: Glen Rovers v Ballymore at Glen Rovers 6.30pm.



At the Croagh/Kilfinny Camogie pitch opening (from left), Maeve Collins, Ruth Lanagan, and Roisin Shanahan, all members of the club. (LL)

Historic day for Croagh-Kilfinny

What a weekend! The opening of the camogie field, Pairc Na Camógaloichta was a resounding success for the hard working committee. The generous time and help and support received from all club members, parents and friends of Croagh/Kilfinny was also a contributing factor to the smooth running of the weekend.

Friday night was club night when our u14's played a 7-a-side match, had a long puck and a 'beat the goalie' competition.

On Saturday the players of the future invaded the grounds.

Teams from Croagh/Kilfinny, Ballyagran, Adare, Killeedy, Na Piarasigh took part in the blitz and the competition was fierce. The final between Adare and Ballyagran was close but Ballyagran ran out winners.

All our prayers were answered as the senior 7-a-side competition started

bright and early on Sunday morning. Teams travelled from Milford, Co Cork, Ballyagran, Bruff, Killeedy, Co Limerick, Toomevara, Co Tipperary, Wolfe Tones, Truagh, Sixmilecross, Co Clare. This was an enjoyable competition for players and spectators alike. The A Final was on by Milford who were presented with the Helen Sheehy Fitzgerald Perpetual Cup as they defeated Truagh in the final.

The B Final was won by Killeedy who beat Wolfe Tones. As this competition ended a large attendance was arriving for the main event of the day, the official opening by Pádraighín Ní Raifeartaigh, Uachtarán Cumann Camógaloichta na nGaeil.

We were very happy to welcome our invited guests, Chairperson Croagh/Kilfinny GAA James Lenihan, Chairperson Limerick Camogie, Kathleen Coffey, Secretary Camogie Council

Rose Malone, Chairperson Limerick GAA Donal Fitzgibbon, Fr. Mulvihill, Parish Priest Croagh/Kilfinny, Chairperson Limerick County Council Michael Brennan and Dan Neville TD M.C.C.

Following the blessing and the cutting of the ribbon and unveiling of the plaque, where the field was dedicated to the memory of Helen Sheehy Fitzgerald, Limerick played Cork in an exciting tournament game. At half-time we were proud to introduce the Ladies of the 1953 Croagh/Kilfinny Camogie team along with their trainer Mick Bourke. The long day was rounded off with a very competitive Past v Present game. The level of skill on both sides was very evident.

Now to more normal things training begins this week as we are preparing the Intermediate County Final on 9th September. All players are asked to attend as the season draws to a close.

SEPT

2001

Camogie

Cork battle to the finish, but experience tells for Antrim

Mary Newman

ANTRIM made their trip to Cork a winning one as they advanced to the All-Ireland intermediate final after an impressive performance at Ballincollig on Saturday. The Northern side were stronger more experienced having already participated in the senior national league.

They had a 1-4 to 0-2 half-time lead, even though Cork had the aid of the strong wind in the opening half. The Antrim goal came just

five minutes from the break when Elaine Dowd was on hand to finish Ann McKee's pass to the net. This settled Antrim who, despite going into the game as hot favourites, were made to work hard by the Cork side.

Indeed their interval lead was somewhat flattering considering the number of chances Cork squandered in the opening half. On the resumption Antrim stretched

their lead with points from Elaine Dowd and Jane Adams, but a Cork goal from Linda Dorgan, who finished Criona Harte's shot to the net, had just four points between the sides.

With the Antrim defence closing down the Cork attack, scores were hard to come by.

At the other end the Cork defence came under severe pressure

and Antrim picked off three points without reply to stretch their advantage. Criona Harte and Ger Collins narrowed the gap, but again Antrim showed their experience, responding with points from Adams, Dowd and Ann McKee. They had their final place secured before Harte and Linda Dorgan knocked over Cork points.

Club action in the championship continued in Junior A with Water-

grahill recording a 5-8 to 5-0 win over Brian Dillons.

Douglas and St Vincents will have to meet again after the sides finished level 2-3 each in an exciting Junior A championship at St Vincents. In the Under-14 A league semi-finals played on Saturday, Ballygarvan and Inniscarra advanced to meet in the final when they recorded victories over Milford and Ballyhea.

Superb Adams inspires Antrim to semi-final triumph

Cork
Antrim

1-6
1-13

by Tom Higgins

A TREMENDOUS display by Jane Adams inspired Antrim to a good win over Cork in the semi-final of the All-Ireland Intermediate camogie championship at Ballincollig, Cork on Saturday.

She was a real thorn in Cork's side as time and again she slipped her marker before putting over some

excellent points. She got great support up from Anne McKee, who was deadly from frees, and Elaine Dowds, who was brought out to the half-forward forward line shortly after the start.

In the opening nineteen minutes defences were very much on top with Jane Adams opening the scoring for the visitors with a point in the 6th minute and Criona Harte levelling matters with a free in the 19th.

Cork, who shot six wides in the opening half, went ahead for the only

time with a Colette Desmond point after 20 minutes but with Sinead McMullan rock solid at full back they were given little scope afterwards.

After Jane Adams levelled matters, Antrim scored a goal controversially adjudged to have crossed the line.

Antrim added two further points in the last minute to leave the score at the break 1-4 to 0-2.

Cork brought on Christine ÓGorman for Liz Hayes at half time in an effort to curtail Adams and although it improved matters she was still able

to pick off the points. After Antrim had increased their lead with two points in the opening three minutes Cork got back into the game with a goal. Criona Harte's shot hit the post and Linda Dorgan was on hand to scramble the ball home.

But Antrim tacked on another three points before Criona Harte had Cork's second score, a point from a '45' in the 45th minute to leave it 1-9 to 1-3.

After Ger Collins added a further point for the home side Antrim took

control with four unanswered points.

Scorers: Cork: L. Dorgan 1-1, C. Harte 0-3 (0-2 '45', 0-1 free), C. Desmond 0-1, G. Collins 0-1. Antrim: J. Adams 0-7, E. Dowds 1-3, A. McKee 0-2 (frees), G. McMullan 0-1.

CORK: G. Casey (capt), A. M. Fleming, J. O'Sullivan, E. O'Sullivan, C. Dossy, N. Ahern, R. Corcoran, V. O'Keefe, M. O'Connor, C. Harte, L. Dorgan, G. O'Connor, M. Watson, C. Desmond, G. Collins. Subs: C. ÓGorman for L. Hayes (half time); B. Corkery for V. O'Keefe (47th minute); V. O'Sullivan for M. Watson (52nd minute).

ANTRIM: Caroline Doherty, H. Healy, S. McMullan, M. Duffin, C. Gault (capt), M. Stewart, C. McGinley, D. Boyle, G. Connolly, J. Adams, A. McKee, K. O'Neill, M. Graham, G. McMullan, E. Dowds. Sub: Carla Doherty for M. Graham (47th minute); F. Haason for M. Duffin (54th minute); O. McGrath for K. O'Neill (57th minute). Referee: J. O'Brien (Wexford).

Kilmacud in Seven(th) Heaven — again!

UP IN Stillorgan, club members have a special saying: "Seven is our favourite number." Next Saturday, Kilmacud Crokes host the 48th All-Ireland Camogie Sevens, always a red-letter day in the calendar.

Organisers predict that this season's festival will be brighter and better than ever.

Forty-eight teams will be on duty, 24 in the MAIN event, and the other 24 in the Shield competition.

Yet many more clubs want to enter. Presently, Crokes have a waiting list that would resemble a queue for U2 tickets.

Yet expanding this hugely popular tournament would be extremely difficult, as Sean Flynn explains: "At this time of the year, with the light closing in, we'd be under big pressure to make the Sevens any bigger. 48 teams is a number we find manageable."

Three venues will be used, Glanabyn, Silver Park and St Benildus College.

"The Sevens is a very special occasion because the camogie women make a real

CAMOGIE
BY NIAL SCULLY

weekend out of it in Dublin," adds Sean.

"And the social night we have after the Sevens is probably the best we have in the club all year. The girls really know how to party."

There are some quality clubs travelling to Crokes, including many cultured sides from Cork, Limerick, Tipperary, Clare and Galway.

Last autumn, it was a Galway team, Davitts, that took gold, with the semi-final involving Killeedy of Limerick and Dublin's St Vincent's turning into a box-office sensation.

"If we can match the standard of that semi-final and the final itself, we'll be doing well," muses Sean.

Dublin's best offerings should come from Ballyboden St. Enda's, Crumlin and Good

Counsel.

It was sad to note the passing of Matt Treacy who died last week. Matt made a huge contribution to Good Counsel and to Dublin camogie.

He was a very popular figure up at Galtymore Road, where his cheerful presence lit up many a winter's night.

A very selfless personality, Matt did many of the unseen jobs that helped the Drimnagh club grow in stature.

On one occasion he wrote: "It is a sad reflection on a person, that after say 20-25 years playing with a club, he/she can just walk away when they finish playing. This situation is all too prevalent with most clubs and sports, for, sometimes, the players who have an enormous amount of talent are the ones that give nothing back."

Dublin's Aine Derham will referee Sunday's Foras na Gaeilge All-Ireland Senior Camogie final between Tipperary and Kilkenny at Croke Park.

MCDONNELL (Cork): On September 13, 2001, peacefully, at the Mercy Hospital, EILEEN (nee Eily Lyons), Kellehers Buildings, Dillon's Cross, beloved wife of the late Denis and loving mother of Martin. Sadly missed by her loving son, grandchildren Mark and Kevin, relatives and friends. Requiem Mass at 11am on today (Friday) in St. Joseph's Church, Mayfield. Funeral afterwards to Rathcooney Cemetery. May she rest in peace.

Sport

galore for camogie fans

While the first All-Ireland title of the year has gone Leaside with Cork taking the Minor the other major titles are still very much up for grabs, writes Maire Ui Scolai.

Cork minors impressed a lot of people by the manner in which they beat Kilkenny 6-15 to 0-07 in the Minor All-Ireland Final who were seeking a first since title win since '91.

However, at the time of writing their seniors are not there yet following their draw with reigning All-Ireland Foras na Gaeilge champions Tipperary. The Cats however booked

their passage to Croke Park for September 16th following their impressive semi-final victory over favourites Galway.

While Kilkenny may have had one of their worst National League campaigns, they certainly gathered the attention of a number of people lately, including Galway Coach Damian Coleman who thinks they may possibly go all the way this season.

The return to Irish soil of Sinead Millea following her foreign holidays, and the return from injury of Brigid Mullally and Marine Downey has added much needed punch to the forward line.

A team of youth largely they include Aoife Neary and Edel Maher who both played for the county minors this season. They will certainly give of their best as does any team who come out in the Black and Amber and no matter who the opposition are they will not get it easy from the Cats.

While Tipperary are still hoping for a third senior All-Ireland appearance in a row, their Juniors have firmly booked their way for the Croke Park showdown on September 16th following a semi-final victory of 0-12 to Galway's 1-04.

Their opposition will be Offaly who will grace headquarters for the very first time following their highly exciting semi-final victory over defending champions Derry of 4-13 to 4-05.

Offaly who have threatened on a couple of occasions having won Leinster titles are determined to make a mark this year and they have the players too. Full forward, Jeanette Feighery, who won the 'Rigney



Cork minor captain Maria Watson accepts the Corn Tailteann from President of the Camogie Association, Patricia Rafferty



The Cork minor side that defeated Kilkenny by 32 points in the All-Ireland final

Scaffolding' player of the match deserved her award having sent 2-03 to the Derry net.

However, Tipp's juniors have a fine player in Siobhan Ryan, knocking over 0-06 who having played with the seniors, alongside Louise Young who was injured made a difference to this side. This junior Tipperary side have a dream one might say as they are sponsored by "A sports Man's dream" of Nenagh where current senior player Deirdre Hughes works.

While the intercounty scene may be very hectic, some counties are running very successful tournaments themselves.

Recently the Clane club of Kildare ran a very successful 7-a-side event attracting teams from all over Leinster.

The Cup Final became an all Wexford affair between the winners Oylgate/Glenbrien and Bunclody. A very tight affair, Oylgate won on the scoreline of 1-05 to 1-04, Bunclody's Marion Hendrick taking the player of the match award.

Meanwhile the Shield Final went to the home county where Cappagh took the honours 1-05 to Westmeath's Loughlinn Gaels 2-01. Mary Hendrick of O'Loughlin's took the player of the match award for the Shield competition.

Croagh Kilfinny, a Limerick club with a proud tradition, having won an All-Ireland club title in '75 added a further slice of history to their club at the weekend when they opened their own camogie pitch. Officially opened by Uachtaran Cumann Camogaiochta na nGael Padraichin Ni Raifeartaigh it was looking splendid.

Back in 1953 the club won it's first county final and 48 years later they now have their very own pitch.

Back in '96 a decision was made to purchase 2.1 acres when they were approached by the local GAA club. A sum

of £65,000 was secured for the payment of the field. However, the real work now began.

The land required drainage to the tune of £20,000 and some people may have thought it was a bridge too far, but not the late Helen Shee Fitzgerald.

A young player, Helen was sadly taken away from her husband and three young children at a very young age. Helen, with the help of a committee raised the money in various ways and the result is there now for all to see.

The opening of the pitch became a weekend affair with challenge matches arranged for the various teams in the club. Sunday, their biggest day, began with an open air Mass, followed by a Cork v Limerick challenge which ended in a draw!

The All-Ireland club winning side of '75 were introduced to the large crowd at the interval of the senior challenge.

Possibly the best laugh of the day belonged to the novelty match between present and past players. According to a very close source, the referee could not be found afterwards and they thought the best result might be a draw!! Possibly the result might come to light at some extraordinary meeting in the near future! Well done to Marguerite Guiry Quinn and the hardworking committee of Croagh Kilfinny.

Fixtures:

September 16th

Foras na Gaeilge senior All-Ireland final:
Cill Chainnigh v Corcaigh/Tiobraid Arann

Junior All-Ireland final
Tipperary v Offaly

both in Pairc an Chrócaigh

PASSING THE TORCH

This season, camogie has been transformed by the introduction of new rules, new faces and a new format. However, some things never change, as Kilkenny have booked their place in yet another All-Ireland final. After a roller-coaster of a season, where they were humiliated by Cork in the league and then beaten by Tipperary in the first round of the championship, the Cats have bounced back in style.

Former Kilkenny great, Angela Downey, believes the transformed rule book and more forgiving format herald a new era for camogie. "The game has always been progressing, but this season's rule changes have really added something to the sport. Playing on a full-sized pitch has meant that the girls have become much fitter and I believe the standard has risen because of that."

Downey first came to prominence in 1972, when she made her debut in the county jersey. She would go on to become recognised as the best camogie player of the post-war era. Her collection of 12 medals was a healthy return during her 24-year career and she was the linchpin of Kilkenny's remarkable seven-in-a-row team (1985-91).

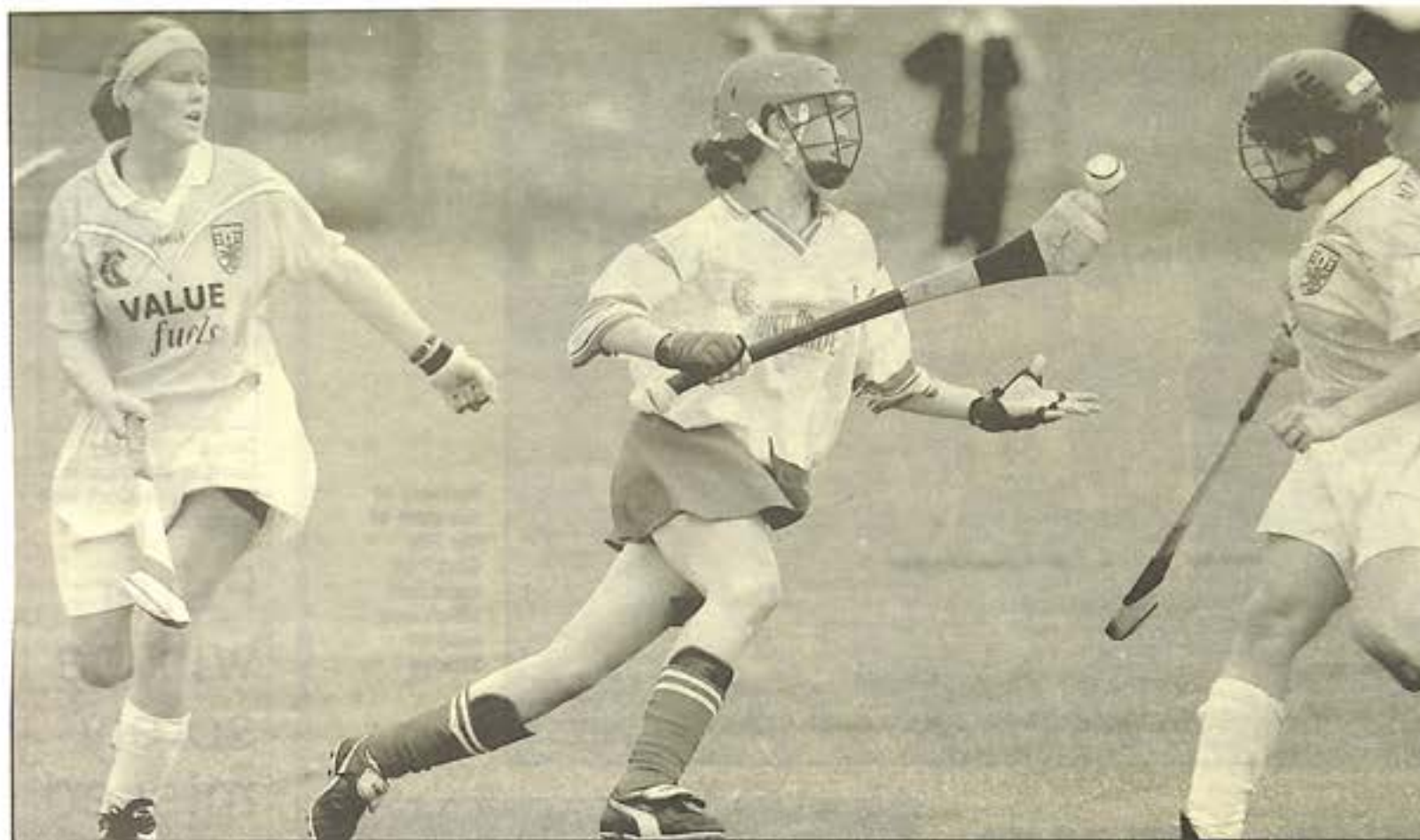
Since then, the Cats have been going through a transitional period. She says: "Tipperary are the team to beat now. They are the All-Ireland champions and they have impressed me again this season."

Kilkenny have a very young team this year and, although they had a poor league campaign, they have bounced back well in the championship. "I have been very surprised at how well the girls have done since losing to Tipp in the first round," says Downey. "I would never have believed that they could make it to another All-Ireland final, but it is typical of their fighting spirit. They never give up."

Downey believes the return of Sinead Millea after injury has been a timely boost for the team. "It has been no coincidence that, since Sinead came back into the team, there has been a reversal of fortune. The side really missed her experience and calming influence and who knows what they can go on to achieve from here."

This year, for the first time, penalties and a second chance format have been introduced to camogie. Kilkenny have emerged as the real benefactors of the back-door rule. After losing to Tipp by a point in the first round, the Cats then faced a fancied Clare team, coached by Davey Fitzgerald. Kilkenny finally found their best form and won convincingly. They then went on to shock Galway in the All-Ireland semi-final. And now, glory beckons.





Ballincollig's Criona Harte on a run in the Cork v Antrim All-Ireland Intermediate semi-final.

Picture: Gerard McCarthy

Inniscarra win through to final

Inniscarra 2-8
Ballyhea 1-4

WITH Rena Buckley in tremendous form, Inniscarra booked their place in the U-14 A league final with a good victory over Ballyhea.

Leading 1-5 to 0-1 at half-time, Inniscarra with Niamh Dineen, Clare Moloney and Christine and Margaret Cosgrove all impressing, worked hard against a determined Ballyhea side who, despite their loss, can be proud of the solid performances of Rena Garvey, Edwina Waters and Mairead Dwane.

On the turnover a Rena Garvey goal for Ballyhea brought her side back into contention, but, unfortunately for them, this was not enough.

And, despite their best efforts, Ballyhea could not get the vital breaks against a solid Inniscarra defence while up front, adding a further goal and three points, the Inniscarra forward division secured their side's place in the final.

Fans of Ballygarvan and Milford were treated to a cracking semi-final before a determined Ballygarvan advanced, 3-2 to 2-3, to meet Inniscarra in the U-14 A league final.

Leading 2-0 to 1-1 at the interval, Ballygarvan showed great determination and spirit as they defended their lead in the second half.

Grassroots



PLAYER of the week is Inniscarra's Rena Buckley who turned in a top class performance in helping her club fashion out an impressive 2-8 to 1-4 victory over Ballyhea in the Under 14 A league semi-final.

By MARY NEWMAN MCCARTHY

Camogie correspondent

Orla Riordan, Susan Lynch and Eithne Lynch were among those who shone for Ballygarvan on a day when Sinead Connolly, Sarah Sexton and Ashling Thompson tried to the finish for Milford.

Watergrasshill's Marion Lynch was the heroine of her side after she grabbed three goals in her side's 5-8 to 5-0, victory over Brian Dillons in the Junior A championship on Friday last.

A 3-3 to 1-0 advantage for Watergrasshill at half-time after solid displays from Marie O'Neill,

Therese O'Regan and Mary Dorgan saw them hold off a strong Brian Dillon's second half revival that was led by Therese Deane, Aoife O'Mahony and Aoife Finnegan.

St Finbarr's overall strength and ability to grab scores made all the difference between the sides in Ballincollig as they ran out comfortable 10-2 to 0-1 winners in the U-14 B league quarter-final. Mary Collins, Val Hosford and Rachel O'Regan were among the Barrs players to shine, while Ballincollig with Susan O'Donovan Laura Cotter and Danika Fenton battled on hard to the final whistle.

Eire Og and Mallow finished level, 1-1 to 0-4, in another of the U-14 B league quarter-final clashes after a late Mallow goal tied it up. The replay takes place this evening at 6.15pm in Mallow.

In the U-12 league played in Ovens, Eire Og, with fine performances from Lisa Marie O'Mahony in goal, Lorraine Murphy and Ella Kelleher, recorded a 5-3 to 2-1 winning margin over Bandon.

St Vincent's and Douglas will have to meet again after it finished 2-3 to 2-3 in the Junior A championship at St Vincent's on Sunday last.

Killeagh simply had too much strength for St Fanahan's when the sides met in the Junior B championship at Killeagh with the home side running out winners on a 1-4 to 0-1 scoreline.

Unlucky Leesiders lose out to mighty Antrim

Antrim 1-13
Cork 1-6

A SPIRITED display was not enough to help Cork advance to the All-Ireland Intermediate final as they had to give way to a stronger, more experienced and more determined Antrim at Ballincollig last Saturday.

With the sides level on two points apiece, Antrim grabbed the lead five minutes from the interval, when Ann McKee set up Elaine Dowd for the game's opening goal.

Cork, in truth, should never have been in the position they found themselves in.

Sloppy shooting in front of goal saw them waste seven scorable chances and, with Antrim adding further points from Jane Adams and Elaine Dowd, they turned over leading 1-4 to 0-2 with wind advantage yet to come in the second-half.

From the restart, Antrim added two points from the superb Jane Adams and Elaine Dowd.

But, six minutes into the half, Cork grabbed a life-line when Nora Ahern's long-range free found Criona Harte whose shot for goal was finished to the net by Linda Dorgan after it struck the post.

The goal should have spurred Cork on but it was Antrim who responded to it with points from Ann McKee, Grace McMullan and Adams to open up a seven-point gap.

Cork had two points in a row, which should have boosted their confidence.

But again, by simply upping the pace, Antrim answered and had stretched the gap to nine points with four minutes remaining.

Linda Dorgan and Criona Harte added late points for a Cork side who were never able to match the experience and determination of their opponents, who now face Derry in the All-Ireland final.

Antrim: H. Healy, S. McMullen, M. Duffin, C. Gault, M. Stewart, C. McGinley, D. O'Sullivan, G. Connolly, J. Adams, A. McKee, K. O'Neill, M. Graham, G. McMullen, E. Dowd. Subs: C. Doherty for M. Graham, F. Hassan for M. Duffin.

Cork: G. Casey, A.M. Fleming, J. O'Sullivan, E. O'Sullivan, C. Deasy, N. Ahern, V. O'Keeffe, M. O'Connell, C. Harte, L. Dorgan, C. Desmond, G. O'Connor, E. O'Sullivan, L. Hayes, G. Collins, M. Watson.

Subs: C. O'Gorman for L. Hayes, B. Corkery for V. O'Keeffe, V. O'Sullivan for M. Watson.

Referee: J. O'Brien, Wexford.

Fixtures

TUESDAY SEPTEMBER 11
Under 12 League: Glen Rovers v Blarney, at Glen Rovers 6.30pm.

WEDNESDAY SEPTEMBER 12
Seandun Under 13 League Semi-Final: Blackrock v Glen Rovers at Glen Rovers 5.30pm.

SATURDAY SEPTEMBER 15
Senior B Championship: St Finbarr's v Newcestown at Ballincollig 6pm.

Under 14 12-a-side final: Sliabh Rua v Tracton at Ballygarvan 12 noon.

Under 12 League Quarter-Final: Blarney or Glen Rovers v Douglas or Blarney 3pm.

SUNDAY SEPTEMBER 16
Under 12 League Semi-Final: Courcy Rovers or Ballygarvan v Buttevant at Buttevant 11.30am.

Stylish Douglas retain U-11 crown

Douglas 2-5
Bishopstown 0-0

DOUGLAS made it three-in-a-row when taking the Seandún under 11 title last Wednesday, beating Bishopstown in the decider.

Douglas, with wind advantage in the opening half, turned over with a seven points advantage, 1-4 to no score, the scores coming from their impressive midfielder Niamh O'Donovan. Inspired by Jessica Jackson, Emma McCarthy and

Mairead O'Mahony, Douglas continued to hold the upper hand after the restart, despite the best efforts of Bishopstown's Katie Hickey, Vivienne O'Mahony, Orla McDonnell and Suin Tobin. Niamh O'Donovan was a con-

stant thorn in the side of the Bishopstown defence and added 1-1 as Douglas firmly underlined their superiority. The Douglas side contained the four O'Donovan sisters - Niamh, Aine, Aileen and Moira.

KILKENNY'S AOIFE NEARY



THE Carphone Warehouse
COMMUNICATION CENTRES

SEPT

2001



The Kilkenny camogie side with Aoife Neary third from right in the front row

FULL NAME: Aoife Neary

HEIGHT: 5'4"

BOOT SIZE: 7

COUNTY: Kilkenny

CLUB: James Stephens

NOTABLE SPORTING ACHIEVEMENTS: 1 All-Ireland Senior Colleges, 1 Leinster Senior Colleges, 1 Leinster Junior Colleges, 1 Feile na nGael skills, 1 U18 Leinster Championship, 4 minor Leinster Championships, 6 Club County championships, 1 All-Ireland Volleyball

INTER-COUNTY DEBUT: Kilkenny v Tipperary

FAVOURITE GROUNDS: Nowlan Park, Kilkenny

HOBBIES: Socialising, watching and playing other sports

FAVOURITE POSITION: Left half forward

INFLUENCES ON YOUR CAREER: Family and friends, school, club and inter-county coaches

THE HIGH POINT OF YOUR CAREER TO DATE:

Reaching Senior All-Ireland this year

BIGGEST DISAPPOINTMENT: Losing minor All-Ireland to Cork this year

OTHER PLAYERS WITH A PROMISING FUTURE:

Lissie Lyng, Edel Maher, Jackie Frisby

DISLIKES ABOUT THE GAA: Camogie could be promoted better. More matches shown on television

PET HATES: Inconsistent referees

FAVOURITE FILM: Snatch

FAVOURITE MUSIC: Any kind

IDEAL BATHTUB COMPANION: Prefer to shower!

HOW WOULD YOU LIKE TO BE REMEMBERED:

Good team player

HOW WILL YOU BE REMEMBERED: Good honest player



At the opening of the Croagh/Kilfinny Camogie pitch (from left) Laura Mulane, Emma Quaid, Catriona Fitzgearld, and Catriona Neville, all from Croagh/Kilfinny.



Cork's Valerie O'Keeffe and Antrim's Kerrie O'Neill tussle for possession during the All-Ireland Intermediate Semi-Final at Ballincollig. Report: P28.

Three-in-a-row achieve great incentive

It is indeed a matter of completing the circle.

Two years ago, Tipp won their first ever senior title, defeating Kilkenny by a point. There were those who felt it was not such a great achievement, seeing that what was on

AND... Cork had not come into Tipp's path en route.

Came 2000, the title retained AND Cork defeated at the last hurdle.

The last All Ireland title of the second millennium had been won by Tipp, as had the first of the third millennium.

What was left to achieve?

Why not three-in-a row!

And that is where we now stand, with final victims of 1999, Kilkenny back and standing between Tipp and that bringing the O'Duffy Cup home for the third successive year.

No incentive needed, is there?

Hardly!

It has been yet another great year for Tipp - so far, Michael Cleary's charges reaching the final the hard way. Because not only have they put the Cork challenge behind them, albeit in a replay, they have also beaten Sunday's opponents in the final.

BACK DOOR

Yes, the back door system came into action in camogie this year. Tipp beat Kilkenny in the opening round. Kilkenny came back, hammered Clare and then surprised Galway and here they are, in the final.

Tipp returned to Leinster for quarter final opposition, Wexford coming to Semple Stadium as a curtain raiser to the Kerry/Dublin football semi final.

That hurdle safely crossed and standing between Tipp and



Three Cashel ladies, honoured with captaincy of the Tipp All-Ireland winning teams. Jovita Delaney (2000) and Maedhbh Stokes (1999) with Emily Hayden (right) who hopes to emulate their feat on Sunday.



Joanne Ryan - new girl on the block - so impressed.

a final place -- Cork.

Now, the opportunity for Cork to put into action the views they entertained in the wake of last year's final. Tipp were inferior to them, they had caught them on a bad day and all the rest. No easy to take, and indeed, there were times, especially close to the end when it did look as though our title retention hopes were to vanish. But no! A draw was manufactured with a Deirdre Hughes

equalising point in Mullingar and two weeks later in Limerick, in one of the most pulsating games imaginable, Cork were forced to concede to a superior Tipp side.

There was no more to say! All the talking had been done on the field.

FAVOURITES

And now it's Kilkenny and though a victory already achieved entitles Tipp to be favourites, the likelihood is that

the wearers of the black and amber on Sunday will differ quite a good deal both in approach and personnel from the side that lost 2-9 to 0-8 over in Nowlan Park in July. The game against Clare brought them on a bit and they were scarcely given a chance against Galway but upset the odds with a thoroughly deserved victory.

Now in the final, you can rest assured they will do all in their power to prevent Tipp's onward march, and still to the good since '99 include Gillian Dillon, Kelly Long, Bridget Mullally, Sinead Millea, Lizzy Lyng, Martina Maher.

Those who saw the Tipp-Cork replay -- and the pity is that the attendance was rather disappointing -- came away in utter bewilderment at the manner in which Tipp resurrected themselves when all hope seemed lost. This never-say-die spirit is one of the team's great attributes and it certainly was needed against Cork.

What has also stood to them has been the teamwork built up over the years. In defence, for instance, five of the six backs of two years ago, with goalkeeper Jovita Delaney, are still to the good, Maedhbh Stokes place now taken by bringing Therese Brophy back from the centre forward berth.

A YEAR OUT

Angie McDermott is a mid field absentee this year while the only forward absent is Caitriona Hennessy, who, like Angie is taking a year out. It was Caitriona, of course, who was sprung from the subs bench in the '99 final against Kilkenny and whose coolness brought the Tipp levelling point and the winning one from frees.

Still to the good are Deirdre Hughes, Emer McDonnell, Noelle Kennedy, Philly Fogarty, Emily Hayden, last year's youthful star Claire Grogan and into that company has emerged another promising star in Joanne Ryan.

An experiment was tried in the Cork replay, taking Suzanne Kelly from the inner line of defence and placing her alongside Philly Fogarty at mid field. Paula Bulfin then went back to the full back line, team captain Emily Hayden moving to attack.

Whether or not that will be continued for Sunday remains to be seen, but while it took some time for the move to work, it did reap rewards, especially in the case of Philly with Suzanne taking it in her stride as the game progressed.

SOLID LINE

Tipp's half back line of Sinead Nealon, Ciara Gaynor and Therese Brophy is as solid as is around while Una O'Dwyer at full back is maintaining the prowess she revealed last season. Claire Madden in the left corner will give little away and Paula Bulfin has the ability to knit in well with her defensive colleagues. Overlooking it all is the majestic Jovita Delaney between the posts, a motivator by word and example to all in front of her.

Tipp can hardly complain that the mantle of favouritism has fallen on them. After all they are defending their title.

The game of camogie has won over many new friends in the past couple of years, with

the televising of the All Ireland finals, and also, one would suspect, with the breath of fresh air which Tipp's input has given the game. It is an extremely skilful game when played at the level Tipp play it. It is pure hurling, as hurling ought to be played, without the rough stuff.

However on Sunday, Tipp will need to apply all their hurling skills and more besides if that eagerly sought three-in-a-row is to be achieved. Kilkenny will not stand back. They were missing some of the first choice players when the teams met in July. Their rag is out now and they see the O'Duffy Cup there to be claimed and the scalps of the much vaunted Tipp side to be taken too.

Tipp will have a fierce fight on their hands, but provided they do not stray from their game plan and show the same heart as was so evident against Cork, then, I feel that whatever Kilkenny can throw at them will not be sufficient to dislodge them.

10 of the best...

Camogie players

1 Kay Mills (Dublin). Holds a record never likely to be matched by any hurler or camogie player: Kay won 15 All-Ireland medals with Dublin. A great distributor of the ball, she struck up a fine playing partnership with Kay Cody. Now, All-Ireland winning captains are presented with the Kay Mills Trophy, a replica of the Duffy Cup, which the captain keeps.

2 Angela Downey (Kilkenny). Tore the hearts of many a defence with her lethal attacking ability and never-say-die attitude. A player of the modern era, Angela and her twin sister Ann collected 12 senior All-Ireland medals each, plus numerous other awards. A prolific scorer, she could turn a game around in minutes.

3 Kathleen Cody (Dublin). The midfielder was instantly recognisable because of the beret she wore. Kathleen, or Kay as she was known, was related to the Kilkenny hurler Jimmy Langton and aerial play was very much a feature of her game. She won seven All-Irelands with Dublin between '42 and '51.

4 Liz Neary (Kilkenny). She collected seven All-Ireland senior medals between '74 (Kilkenny's first win) and '87, two as captain ('81 & '86). With her club, St Paul's, Liz won a further six All-Irelands. A tremendous athlete who generally played in defence, she could adapt to the forward line too and often proved a match-winner.

5 Bridie Martin (Kilkenny). The winner of an astonishing nine senior All-Irelands in a brilliant career, Bridie was one of the most stylish centre backs in the history of the game. She was quick to the ball, distributed it intelligently and was very difficult to dispossess. A master of skill.

6 Una O'Connor (Dublin). The holder of 13 All-Ireland medals,



including a ten in-a-row, a record unlikely to be surpassed. A full-forward of exceptional brilliance, her pinpoint passes created numerous chances for the other Dublin forwards.

7 Liz Garvan (Cork). A forward of sheer brilliance, her overhead striking was in classic mould. As a 17-year-old she had three senior All-Ireland medals, and was also an inter-provincial tennis player. She went to live in Zambia while still very young.

8 Mairéad McAtamney (Antrim). She caught the eye of many people with her ease of play and could control a game from mid-field. Mairéad, a player of great skill, won many awards (including Cuchulainn and B&I awards). Of her two All-Ireland medals, one was as Antrim captain in '79 on the 75th anniversary of Cumann Camogáíochta na nGael.

9 Margaret O'Leary (Wexford). A player with great speed and determination which can now be seen in her daughters, Mary and Una, rising stars in the game. Margaret was equally effective in any position from full-back to mid-field. She won three senior All-Irelands with Wexford, and a club medal with the famed Eoghan Rua club of Dublin.

10 Sandy Fitzgibbon (Cork). The Glen Rovers star was a great athlete, the holder of All-Ireland medals at all levels. She was an international basketball player also. She could play a defensive role or come into the mid-field area. Sandy captained Cork to the league and championship double in '92.

Freeze Frame

Camogie final, 1999: Tippetary 0-12, Kilkenny 1-8. Tipp captain Maedhbh Stokes introduces Ciara Gaynor to President Mary McAleese. Tipp manager Michael Cleary recalls that day.



'FOR me it was very much an extension of being a player. I had no official capacity that day. I wasn't a selector, I was just giving a hand with the training, and I spoke to the team before the game and at half-time.

"I put a big emphasis beforehand on visualising the day. It was their first final, they had never been in the new dressing rooms in Croke Park, the parade, meeting the President -- we had them well prepared from that point of view. People who have played in finals often find that the whole day passes them by and I wanted to guard against that.

"The week before we figured we

had a great chance if we didn't freeze, and by the day we had narrowed it down to three players who could suffer from nerves, but they all had fine games.

"I felt very much a journey come lately -- I had only been to one camogie match before -- and afterwards there were people who had given a lifetime to camogie congratulating me and I felt that they were the people who deserved the plaudits."

SEPT

2001

Michael hands on Tipperary gospel

by Noel Dundon

TIPPERARY senior camogie Manager Michael Cleary is spreading the faith. Just like the gospel according to Babs, Theo, Donie and Len was passed down from the likes of Paddy Leahy and his contemporaries, now the Eire Og Nenagh apostle is doing his bit for the spreading of the word. The fact that he has delivered two All-Ireland's in the process shows that the spirit of the Tipperary hurling creed still has relevance today.

As a player Michael Cleary was a hurler supreme. Silken skill, superb touch, lightning speed and an eye for a score that was rarely bettered in his days in the blue and gold jersey. His mentors encouraged him to believe in his abilities and to harvest the crop of skills which were ingrained in him during formative years. It worked. Cleary played in three All-Ireland's, winning two.

On Sunday he will walk onto Croke Park behind his camogie charges as they bid to put three All-Ireland's back to back. It's quite an amazing feat for the man who took over at the helm in 1999 and managed to help raise the profile of camogie in Tipperary.

Fairytale Stuff

"It all happened by accident really. The first year was real fairytale stuff. Last year we were out to beat the likes of Galway and Cork - that was the challenge for us and we did



Noelle Kennedy

that again. This time round the season has been crammed into five or six weeks due to the foot and mouth scare and we have our challenges again. For the first time we are favourites going into the final and that poses another type of challenge for us," he says.

So what was the Cleary secret? How did the success come about?

"It was always there in the players. I just kept telling them that they had the skill and first touch to succeed. I wanted to get them to believe in themselves. That has been the gospel of Tipperary hurling for generations. Do the simple things, but do them well. I just told them what had been said to me by Babs (Keating), Theo (English), Donie (Nealon),

John O'Donoghue and Len Gaynor — they had been told the same things by Paddy Leahy and his likes. My thinking is that if the message was good enough to deliver 24 odd All-Ireland senior hurling titles, it was good enough for me to pass on," he says.

Cleary also remembers Sarsfields current Manager Paddy Doyle telling him that if the simple things in hurling are done well and the game is played at it's simplest, it is simply unbeatable. Cleary's own unshakeable belief is similar. He equates it with the great All-Black's rugby team which didn't fumble a ball or didn't make mistakes.

So, all of this has brought Tipperary to a third All-Ireland senior hurling final in three years. The road has been rocky, a lot of obstacles put in the way. The Tipperary girls climbed the hurdles like true daughters of Knocknagow and showed a fighting spirit that has amazed all and sundry.

Real Substance

"The semi-final replay was real fairytale stuff as well. But, the real substance in this team was seen when they were 0-10 to 0-7 down with time running out. They turned it about to a 0-12 to 0-10 lead when they looked beaten. I could not see where they were going to get back and all of a sudden they turned it around. They did the same in Mullingar in the drawn game and remember they were playing against a very

good and accomplished Cork team. I have seen this in them from an early stage and I think now they are beginning to believe it themselves."

Hurling hype is everywhere in Tipperary at the moment. It's all about hats, flags, headbands, scarves and jerseys. Everyone wants a piece of the action. Last week, one would have been murdered for a ticket for the hurling final. There will be no such difficulties on Sunday and supporters are encouraged to go along. The camogie All-Ireland is a great day out and the growing profile of the game makes it far more interesting nowadays. But does the hype get to the players and management?

Hurling/Camogie — Difference

"Not at all. It's great and we enjoy it. I'll give you an example of the difference there is at the moment between the hurling and camogie. We trained in Dr Morris Park, Thurles on the Wednesday night before the All-Ireland senior hurling final. The Tipp hurlers were doing their last training session that night - there were more people at that training session that will be supporting Tipp in the All-Ireland camogie final. Don't get me wrong the support is superb and is growing all the time - I think in years to come there will be forty or fifty thousand

attending camogie finals because the interest is growing rapidly in womens sport."

All the smart money was on a Tipp vs Kilkenny All-Ireland in the senior hurling. Smart money also pitted Tipperary against Galway in the camogie final. Turns out Tipp met Galway in the hurling final and Tipp meet Kilkenny in the camogie. Strange thing this sport - Tipp folk are just happy that their end of the deal held up.

Tipp have already beaten Kilkenny in the championship - the Cats have nine lives and are now in the All-Ireland having beaten a fancied Galway.

"They are a serious team. They made four or five

changes for the Galway game and they came out on top. That was a big big upset and it shows how far they have come. We are not foolish enough to dismiss Kilkenny - we know we are up against it and we have to produce the kind of a high octane performance that beat Cork at the end of the replayed semi-final. This is a massive game for us and a very different type of challenge," Michael says.

The challenge is now there for Tipp fans to make the trip to Croke and give the camogie girls all the support possible. It will be an historic day - the first time ever that Tipp are in the junior and senior on the same day.



Senior camogie players go through their routines during a recent training session.

Senior Camogie Team

Jovita Delaney
Cashel

Paula Bulfin
Cashel

Una O'Dwyer
Cashel

Claire Madden
Portroe

Sinead Nealon
Burgess

Ciara Gaynor
Kilruane MacDonagh's

Therese Brophy
Burgess

Suzanne Kelly
Toomevara

Philly Fogarty
Cashel

Emily Hayden
Cashel (captain)

Noelle Kennedy
Toomevara

Joanne Ryan
Drom-Inch

Eimear McDonnell
Burgess

Deirdre Hughes
Toomevara

Claire Grogan
Cashel

Substitutes — Louise Ryan (Holycross-Ballycahill); Sheena Howard (Burgess); Niamh Harkin (Drom-Inch); Grainne Shanahan (Toomevara); Louise Young (Toomevara); Lorraine Bourke (Templemore); Niamh Connolly (Templemore); Julie Delaney (Drom-Inch); Nolette O'Dwyer (Clonoulty-Rossmore); Trish O'Halloran (Portroe); Lena Woods (Toomevara); Siobhan Ryan (Holycross-Ballycahill).



Claire Madden.

SEPT 2001

Tipp's experience should be a telling factor

One thing that Tipperary will have to contend with when their juniors line out against Offaly on Sunday, is the fact that thirty one counties will be shouting for their opponents!

It will be Offaly's first ever final appearance and while Tipp have but one junior title to date in four finals, the role of the underdog and the best wishes of all, bar Tipp, will attach themselves to our Faithful county neighbours.

And neighbours indeed they are because most of the team hails from south Offaly clubs, like Shinrone, Kinnitty, Birr and Drumeallen -- all very near to Tipp, with Tullamore making up the complement.

Three years ago, Tipp also reached the final, only to fail to Galway. Niamh Connolly remains from that side, while Siobhan Ryan would have been there but for sustaining a leg injury earlier in the campaign.

Tipp's previous final appearances were what one might call the fore-runner to the state of affairs that now obtains in senior ranks. Having decided to move back from senior grade in the late '80's, the first seeds were sown with the minors winning their inaugural title in the grade in 1990 (they also won in '92 and '93). The juniors suffered defeat at the hands of both Kildare ('90) and Down ('91), before making it third time lucky with a big win over Galway in '92, moving from there up to Intermediate grade and winning the All Ireland in that grade in '97, having lost the '95 final to Clare.

HOW SUCCESSFUL

That brought them into senior ranks and it is a measure of how successful the game has become in this county over the past decade or so that Tipp can now field a senior and junior team on All Ireland final day.

The Cork hurdle in the Munster final was expected to be somewhat daunting but a 4-7 to 1-8 score line tells a different story and after that Galway came to the Ragg, going away defeated by 0-12 to 1-4, their goal coming late in the match being the visitors only second half score.

This is a strong, well balanced Tipp team, laden with the experience of plenty of school, club and inter-county activity. Nine clubs are represented on the first fifteen, which speaks highly of the fine spread there is and under team manager Martin Browne, with his selectors Bernie O'Dowd, John O'Donnell and trainer Brendan Murphy, nothing is being left undone to open the Croke Park



Junior mentors - Brendan Murphy, John O'Donnell, Bernie O'Dowd and Martin Browne (manager).

programme on a winning note.

Team captain is Patricia O'Halloran from Portroe, who leads by example from the mid field berth. Sister Jenny is also

be back for Sunday, stands a chance of winning TWO medals, both junior and senior.

How come, you may well ask?



Junior sharp shooter Siobhán Ryan, with her father John, Tipperary delegate to Munster G.A.A. Council and Co. Development officer.

on the panel while a most interesting aspect of the set-up is the fact that Louise Young, injured in the semi final but expected to

PECULIAR RULE

A rather peculiar rule this year makes it possible for a player who did not play junior

last season, to do so this year and if also worthy of a place on the senior side, to be able to avail of it without losing one's junior status.

Into such an arrangement has stepped the Lattaragh lass, so influential in her Toomevara club's recent senior county final defeat by Cashel.

That performance following on what she showed in the Munster final, influenced Michael Cleary and his senior selectors to give her her opportunity in the drawn semi final against Cork and Louise took it with open arms.

Unfortunately, reverting to junior grade a week later for the Galway match, she sustained a finger injury in the first half and didn't appear after the resumption.

Now back to full fitness, the likelihood is that Louise will start the junior final on Sunday, and should her presence be required later against Kilkenny, she will be called on.

Another feature of the team is that it contains three players who have sisters on the senior side. Deirdre McDonnell from Burgess is a twin sister of senior forward Emer, while the Grogan household from Cashel will have even more to enthuse about, Linda and Helen paving the way in the junior tie for younger sister Claire, who lines out after them.

STRENGTHEN LINK

And just to strengthen the link between camogie and hurling, we have Moira Ryan, sister of Declan bidding for an All Ireland medal.

It took Tipp quite a while to impose their will on the match against Galway but the second half showed them in their true colours, their experience proving a valuable asset.

And what of their opponents?

On the day Tipp were beating Galway, Offaly were entertaining Ulster champions Derry over in Rath and earning their passage to their first decider.

Derry as All Ireland champions in the grade -- they defeated Cork in last years curtain raiser to the Tipp-Cork senior final -- had to field a totally new team this year but came through Ulster with wins over Tyrone, Antrim and Armagh.



Junior Captain, Patricia O'Halloran from Portroe.

she said.

One of those players, Catherine Byrne has been one of the major stalwarts of Offaly camogie in recent years and she plays her club camogie with Toomevara!

Injury has greatly curtailed her 2001 season and while she came on as a sub against Derry, she was an absentee on the Toome side in their senior final clash with Cashel. On Sunday, Catherine will come up against club mates Louise Young, Lena Woods in her bid to win that elusive All Ireland medal.

And if Tipp have a hurling connection with Declan Ryan's sister, Moira, so too have Offaly in Patricia Dooley-Carey, sister of Joe, Johnny and Billy.

JOHNNY FLAHERTY



Louise Young can win two All-Ireland medals on Sunday.

Extending the hurling link is the fact that one of the Offaly selectors is Johnny Flaherty, whose hand-passed goal, brought the Liam McCarthy Cup to the Faithful County for the very first time in 1981.

Offaly are sure to be warmly welcomed to Croke Park but the Tipp girls will be well tuned into the fact that they will have to play well above themselves to counter the challenge of what is sure to be a hugely determined Offaly side.

Experience is Tipp's most vital element in this confrontation and it should help them immensely. Along with that they have the hurling skill to make Offaly's title bid all the more difficult.