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Camogie - A Review of 2010

Armagh Camogie goes from strength to strength in a year of success on and off the field



Ulster Minor Shield Winners - 2010



This year has been a very successful one for Cumann Camogaiochta Ard Mhacha, having had considerable success with county teams, fantastic achievements at club level and a number of prestigious individual awards for Armagh camogies.

It was another fine year for our County Senior Team, having come through a difficult national league campaign; they began to find their feet and progress steadily through the Nancy Murray Cup Championship. Under the guidance of Patsy Magee and his dedicated backroom team the girls advanced to the All Ireland Nancy Murray Cup Final for the second consecutive year. Having been narrowly defeated, after a replay, in last years final the Orchard Cailini approached the final with great determination and hope. However, despite leading at half time, the hard work throughout the year did not see them gain success and they were unfortunately defeated by a superb Kildare side. Nevertheless, the resolve of these young players shone through in the end, as having suffered defeat in the All Ireland Final they bounced back to obtain the Ulster Intermediate Championship title only a few weeks later.

The County Minors also had a very successful year, winning the Ulster Shield competition and progressing to an All Ireland Final against Carlow. However, despite a superb performance, showing a very high standard of skill, they were narrowly defeated by an outstanding Carlow team who have contested the Minor Final for two consecutive years. The achievements of this squad is testament to the management team of Micheal Murphy and Olive McGeown. This very young panel produced some fantastic performances



Brid O'Hagan & Orlagh Kearns - Ulster Colleges All-Stars 2010

throughout the season and are most definitely the future stars of Camogie in the Orchard County.

Under the management trio of Margaret McKee, Bernie McBride and Roisin O'Neill, our Under 16 panel achieved success. They produced some exceptional displays of skill throughout the Ulster competition and went on to claim the Ulster Shield title. Having done so they progressed to the All Ireland series where they performed well against a strong Derry squad who went on to win the competition.

Our Under 14 squad continues to be the foundation of our County Teams for future years. This year's squad saw 40 children benefit from having a number of coaching sessions with a variety of experienced coaches from within the County. They participated in the Ulster Blitz and showed



a great display of talent for the future of Armagh Camogie.

A year in Armagh Camogie never goes without a huge number of prestigious awards or memorable events for individuals and clubs within our sport. This year St. Brenda's, Ballymacnab and Sinead Kiernan, Madden represented Armagh in the All Ireland Feile and Skill competition respectively. Despite no silverware on this occasion, both were great ambassadors for our County.

Armagh have been extremely honoured in recent years to have a number of girls from various clubs within the County who receive Ulster Colleges' All Star Awards and this year has been no

different. There were two recipients at this year's awards ceremony; Orlagh Kearns of Sacred Heart Newry and Brid O'Hagan of St. Patrick's Dungannon. Orlagh Kearns is one of the youngest players to receive an all star, she plays her club camogie with Meabh O'Neill's in Camlough and is part of the Armagh U16 and U18 County teams. Brid O'Hagan plays her club camogie with An Port Mor and she is also a member of the County Senior team.

Further All Star honour was bestowed upon Armagh when County Senior team captain Bernie Murray from Cullyhanna was selected by Cumann Camogaiochta na nGael to be the recipient of a 'Soaring Star' award. This award is the Junior equivalent to a Senior All Star award and has been given to Bernie for a fantastic individual display throughout the season.





SENIOR CAMOGIE FINAL

Imokilly v Inniscarra

at 2.30p.m. Sunday
14th November 2010 at C.I.T.



€2

Referee:
Walter Cole, Buttevant

IMOKILLY



INNISCARRA



1. Sefanie Beausang
(Killeagh)



2. Naimh O Keeffe
(Killeagh)



3. Niamh Barry
(Castleyons)



4. Sandra Smiddy
(Killeagh)



5. Annmarie Walsh
(Killeagh)



6. Mary O Connor
(Killeagh)



7. Yvonne Murphy
(Fr O Neils)



8. Edel Murphy
(Sarsfields) (C)



9. Sarah Harrington
(Fr O Neils)



10. Shona Cunningham
(Youghal)



11. Angela Walsh
(Killeagh)



12. Gearoidin Kearney
(Fr O Neils)



13. Claire Keohane
(Killeagh)



14. Marie O'Neill
(Watergrasshill)



15. Emer O Farrell
(Sarsfields)

16. Michelle Barry
(Castleyons)

19. Bríd Stack
(Killeagh)

23. Marie Smiddy
(Killeagh)

26. Ella Ryan
(Killeagh)

17. Edel Murphy
(Watergrasshill)

20. Ursula Day
(Fr O Neils)

24. Asling Whooley
(Sarsfields)

27. Siobhan Downig
(Youghal)

18. Orlaith Keane
(Sarsfields)

21. Jenny Murphy
(Sarsfields)

25. Noelle O Donovan
(Killeagh)

22. Annie Walsh

Emmet Fennell - Sarsfields
Franky Flannery - Carrigtwohill

Mags Finn - Fr O'Neils
Don Ryan - Watergrasshill



1. Sinead Ni Riain



2. Karen Jones



3. Liz Hayes



4. Mary Buckley



5. Rosemary O Mahony



6. Rena Buckley



7. Aoife Kavanagh



8. Margaret N O Sullivan
(Captain)



9. Orla Healy



10. Fiona O Connell



11. Niamh Dilworth



12. Katie O'Mahony



13. Joanne Casey



14. Margaret Cosgrove



15. Niamh Mc Carthy

16. Amanda Twohig

22. Aine Ní Riain

28. Deirdre O Callaghan

17. Roslyn McCarthy

23. Aine O Connor

29. Caitlin Looney

18. Emma Kingston

24. Yvonne Twomey

30. Mary Desmond

19. Laura Burke

25. Allannah Twohig

31. Susan Buckley

20. Treasa McCarthy

26. Claire Sheehan

32. Rachel McCarthy

21. Liz Buckley

27. Catherine O'Brien

Ballygarvan make amends for last year's minor defeat

Ballygarvan 1-9
Mallow 1-8

IT COULDN'T have been tighter as Ballygarvan and Mallow met to decide the Minor B championship title, writes MARY NEWMAN.

It was a battle to the finish as both sides fought it out to take the title, and with both defences marking tight there was little between the sides through a sporting contest.

At the break just one point separated the sides as Ballygarvan held a 0-5 to 0-4 lead. In the opening 30 minutes, Lorraine Browne and Maeve Moynihan showed their accuracy from frees for Ballygarvan, while Rachel Keohane had one from play as they put the Mallow defence under a lot of pressure.

Mallow enjoyed plenty of first-half possession also, and likewise found the Ballygarvan defence hard to overcome. Katie Buckley was a big threat upfront, as was Bronagh Ganley, who were both on target as Mallow kept in touch in a close opening 30 minutes.

Mallow showed great determination from the restart and were quickly back on level terms. Aisling Byrne replied to level matters again and, as they play swung from end to end, Ballygarvan got the vital break 10 minutes into the half thanks to a goal from Rachel Keohane, which gave them the cushion either team were looking for.

Mallow held their composure and continued to work away.

Ballygarvan goalkeeper, Mary Ellen O'Donovan, had to be at her best to deny them with two excellent saves, and with her defence solid under pressure Mallow found the going tough.

Ballygarvan stretched their advantage with points from Christina Murphy and Aisling Byrne, but Mallow, fighting hard, replied with a Katie Buckley point before Bronagh Ganley cut the Ballygarvan lead to just a point with a goal with four minutes remaining.

From here to the finish Mallow gave it their all in search of an equaliser but Ballygarvan held their lines under a lot of pressure to ensure they were not going to be denied the title on this occasion.

Ballygarvan defender Lorraine Browne was named player of the match following a superb display.

Scorers for Ballygarvan: L. Browne 0-4 (0-3f, 0-1 45), A. Keohane, M. Moynihan 0-1 each, A. Byrne 0-2, R. Keohane 1-1.

Scorers for Mallow: K. Buckley 0-6 (0-2f) and B. Ganley 1-2.

BALLYGARVAN: M. E. O'Donovan; A. Walsh, L. Browne, C. White; A. Keohane, L. O'Callaghan, L. Kennelick (C); M. Moynihan, C. Murphy; A. Byrne, R. Murphy, K. O'Donovan, S. Quilligan, R. Keohane; C. O'Sullivan. Subs: C. Keohane for R. Murphy (60), R. O'Halloran, A. Kelleher, M. Coveney, G. Dowling, H. Walsh.

MALLOW: L. Hayes; J. Long, L. Tanner, J. O'Donnell; M. O'Connell, K. Healy, S. Coakley, B. O'Sullivan, E. Coakley; S. Fitzgerald, M. Linnick, A. O'Connor, S. O'Brien, C. Buckley, B. Ganley. Subs: E. Coakley for S. Fitzgerald, M. Linnick, A. O'Connor, S. O'Brien, C. Buckley, B. Ganley.



Ballygarvan, Minor B Championship winners, who defeated Mallow in a close contest.

Pendulum has swung in favour of Inniscarra but late fixture not conducive

IT'S BEEN a while coming but the senior county final replay tomorrow, five weeks' after the drawn game, should still hold its sparkle for the 1,600 or so attendance which attended the humdinger first time round.

Much has happened in between for Inniscarra. Crowned Munster champions a fortnight ago, the first Cork club in 16 years to capture the title, their confidence is surely at its peak after two closely fought Munster championship clashes.

Buoyed also by the return of Rena Buckley it does look as if Inniscarra have secured advantage heading into the replay.

Imokilly's preparations have been hampered by the involvement of Inch Rovers in the Tesco Senior Munster and All-Ireland championship campaigns.

Eight of the Imokilly panel won't have been eating, breathing and sleeping the county final replay.

I've no doubt it's on their minds, but it's fighting for precedence in that little cranial space with winning an All-Ireland football title.

The break hasn't done Imokilly any favours. Only once during this period has the entire squad managed to get together on a given night. Inch Rovers' progression has prevented any real drive forward for the divisional side.

They also have their share of in-



LINDA MELLERICK

jury worries to Angela Walsh, Emer O'Farrell, Shona Cunningham and Brid Stack, a definite non runner due to a cruciate injury.

Many of the Inch Rovers' players will have done very little, if any, hurling during the past number of weeks. Having said that, they are super fit and manager Emmet Fennell is hoping that will stand to them in the face of adversity.

"Our training has been completely hampered, we've had the full panel together only once since the drawn game and it is a concern.

"We also have a few niggling strains. But, having said that, the players are superbly fit and the hunger remains to win a county title so hopefully that will stand to us."

Not being so pre-occupied may stand in Imokilly's favour. You can think too much about a game. It does look however as if their momentum has taken a dive. Can they find it again for one more game?

Inniscarra have one vision, one purpose, and winning this county title is everything to them.

You would have to assume that the pendulum has swung in Inniscarra's favour with the mantle of Munster champions resting firmly

on their shoulders after two impressive victories over highly fancied Burgess/Duharra of Tipperary and Limerick's Granagh Ballingarry.

Inniscarra are riding on a crest of a wave at present, the perfect build-up in my view to the final.

Manager Irene O'Keeffe agrees to a certain extent.

"Yes, at the outset we were basically fulfilling fixtures.

"Winning the Munster title wasn't uppermost in our minds. But winning has certainly helped us keep the momentum going."

Irene feels however that this is the worst possible time to be playing a county final. While they may not have had to contend with ladies' football fixtures, much of their panel is gone back to college and with the hour going back at the end of October they can't get much hurling in mid-week.

"We are heading into possibly the worst weekend of the year weather wise," she added.

In addition, Inniscarra had a junior shield final and U16 final to play, the U16 final going to a replay. With four of the senior panel members of the U16 side, getting their full squad together was difficult.

However, camogie has remained the club's focus and without doubt the five weeks have made Inniscarra stronger as a unit, whereas one would have to feel it has weakened Imokilly somewhat.

Clearly winning the Munster title

will mean nothing to Inniscarra if they don't take the Punch Cup.

It is very evident when talking to Irene what 2010 is all about for them.

"It (Munster) was a lovely distraction but it will be meaningless unless we win the county."

I have to say it doesn't feel right playing a county final post the Munster championship; it's a bit like putting the cart before the horse.

I feel the county board is going to have to become tougher on fixtures thus ensuring this doesn't happen in the future.

Cork are lucky that a club and divisional side formed this year's finalists which provided early clarity as to who would represent Cork.

Were two clubs involved it would have been a different scenario.

It would be unforgivable if Cork didn't enter the Munster competition.

I doubt it would ever come to that; the county final would have been played earlier if it had to be.

But we need to give Cork clubs a chance in the provincial and All-Ireland series too.

We can't be squeezing in county finals a few days before they set off on that trail. Seeking Munster and All-Ireland success with their club has to become important to players.

It isn't their focus at all if it's pushed on top on them within days of winning, what is for many, their first county title.

Regret comes later.

Club championship results

Compiled by Máire Uí Scoiláí

ALL-IRL JUNIOR CLUB CHAMPIONSHIP SEMI-FINALS:

COROFIN, CLARE 2-10, (C. Commene 2-9 (0-8f), A. Davoren 0-1)
TIR na nOG, ANTRIM 1-8, (M. Convery 1-8 (0-4f, 0-2'45))

FOUR ROADS, ROSCOMMON 2-13, (I. Glennon-Tully 1-7, A. Rogerson 1-0, N. Coyle 0-2, G. Dowd, D. Kelly, G. Egan, P. Lennon 0-1 each)
KILMESSAN, MEATH 0-6, (A. Donnelly 0-6)

CAMOGIE
All-Ireland Junior Club Championship
semi-finals
Corofin, Clare 2-10 (C. Commene 2-9 (0-8f), A. Davoren 0-1) TIR na nOG, Antrim 1-8 (M. Convery 1-8 (0-4f, 0-2'45))
Four Roads, Roscommon 2-13 (I. Glennon-Tully 1-7, A. Rogerson 1-0, N. Coyle 0-2, G. Dowd, D. Kelly, G. Egan, P. Lennon 0-1 each)
Kilmessan, Meath 0-6 (A. Donnelly 0-6)

McCarthy's scoring spree sees Inniscarra take shield

By MARY NEWMAN

Inniscarra	5-10
Courcey Rovers	1-1

THE second adult team for Inniscarra showed plenty of skill and determination as they annexed the junior shield title when they defeated Courcey Rovers.

Three first-half goals proved vital for Inniscarra as it helped give them a 3-2 to 0-1 interval advantage.

This was something they worked on increasingly through the second-half as Courcey Rovers battled valiantly to keep the pace going.

Claire Sheehan had the game's opening score when she finished to the net after just nine minutes, and with Marie Corkery and Treasa McCarthy adding to the goal tally it helped settle Inniscarra.

Courcey's battled hard to get on the score sheet and their reward was a point from Aoife Keating, but with Aine O'Connor and Marie Corkery adding points to the Inniscarra tally, they enjoyed a 10-point interval lead.

Through the second-half, Courcey's tried and tried, but they failed to match the physically stronger Inniscarra side which had benefited enormously from



Ros McCarthy, captain of Inniscarra, receives the Junior Shield Camogie Cup from Sheila Golden, secretary, Cumann Camogaíochta Chorcaí, after Inniscarra defeated Courcey Rovers in the final last Sunday in Cloughduv.

the success of their senior side given that several of the junior panel are also members of the senior squad.

The second-half saw Inniscarra pick off the scores that helped put the game beyond Courcey's reach.

Niamh Byrne and Amanda Twohig added further

goals, while points from Amanda Twohig, Aine O'Connor, Treasa McCarthy and Marie Corkery ensured no way back for a spirited Courcey's side who battled to the finish.

They were rewarded with a well-taken goal from Fiona Ryan, but on the day there was no denying that the title

was heading back to Inniscarra.

Scorers for Inniscarra: T McCarthy 1-3, M Corkery and A Twohig 1-2 each, N Byrne and C Sheehan 1-0 each, and A O'Connor 0-3.

Courcey Rovers: F Ryan 1-0 and A Keating 0-1.

INNISCARRA: E O'Donovan; Ros McCarthy (C), C O'Brien, M Collins; S Buckley, A Ni Riain, D O'Callaghan; M Desmond, Rachel McCarthy; C Sheehan, A O'Connor, Y Twomey; M Corkery, A Twohig, C

Looney.

Subs: T McCarthy for C Sheehan (15), N Byrne for Aine Ni Riain (HT, inj), E Looney for M Collins (38), C Sheehan for Rachel McCarthy (46), and T Nelligan for D O'Callaghan (52 inj).

COURCEY ROVERS: S O'Reilly; A O'Sullivan, L O'Donovan, J L Condon; K Crowley (C), O Twomey N O'Reilly; A Keating, P Barnett; F Ryan, A O'Sullivan, L O'Sullivan; A O'Reilly, L Collins, S Moloney.

Subs: E Crowley for J L Condon.

Barryroe do enough in first half to secure title

Barryroe	1-10
Youghal	2-1

FROM the throw-in of the minor D championship final played in Castle Road, Barryroe set the foundations for victory with their high work-rate, writes MARY NEWMAN.

They struck eight points, all but two coming from play as they took every chance that came their way.

Denise O'Sullivan proved to be a constant threat to the Youghal defence and she continued to cause them problems over the hour.

She pointed after just three minutes to open the Barryroe account and she added three further first-half points to their tally.

A goal from Patricia O'Donovan extended the Barryroe lead as Youghal continued to battle to get into the game but they met strong resistance from a solid and reliable Barryroe defence, Roisin O'Keefe got Youghal off the mark with a first half point but it was to be their only score of the half as Barryroe continued to hold the upper hand in defence and led 1-6 to 0-1 at the break.

Barryroe started the second half well with Denise O'Sullivan (2), Emma Deasy and Rachel McCarthy all pointing inside the opening five minutes but from here on Youghal dug deep to close down the Barryroe attack. Emily Roche added two goals to the Youghal tally but despite a lot of pressure they failed to breach the gap as Barryroe had done in the first half.

Scorers for Barryroe: D O'Sullivan 0-6, P O'Donovan 1-0, R McCarthy 0-2 (0-1 45), E Deasy, C O'Dwyer (45) 0-1 each.

Youghal: E Roche 2-0, R O'Keefe 0-1.

BARRYROE: J Madded; A O'Donovan, L Dullea, M O'Regan; D Sexton, C O'Dwyer, O O'Donovan (C); T McCarthy, R McCarthy; N Madded, D O'Sullivan, A Weldon; P O'Donovan, E Deasy, C Sexton.

Subs: C Tyndall for T McCarthy (inj), O O'Regan for D Sexton (inj), F O'Regan for P O'Donovan (inj).

YOUGHAL: Daly; A Siachra, A Motherway, N Sheehan, J Walsh, M Dalton, S Watson, N Quill, L Broderick; R O'Keefe, S Bulman-Joyce, S Fitzgibbon; A Finn, SA Quill, E Roche.

Sub: E Budds for S A Quill (ht).

Douglas to host Go Games talk

THE importance of the new rules which will now see players under 12 participate at a non-competitive level has evoked huge discussion.

As a result, the Cork Camogie Board will host a 'Go Games Workshop' on Monday at Douglas GAA Club at 7.30pm.

The meeting will be presented by regional camogie development officer Deirdre Murphy, and all clubs are requested to have at least two delegates at this meeting with at least one of the delegates having an involvement with coaching at under 12 level downwards.

The workshop will include a demonstration of a game with and without 'Go Games' rules at under 8 and under 10 age levels, and a PowerPoint presentation on these rules.

A busy weekend for juvenile camogie finals

By MARY NEWMAN

IT'S THE second weekend in November and five finals on the fixture sheet to be completed over another busy weekend.

Underage competitions dominate today's schedule as the juvenile board's most prestigious competition, the U16 A championship, reaches its conclusion when champions Douglas put their title on the line when they meet Valley Rovers in the second game at camogie headquarters at 1.30pm today.

Here Douglas will be looking to players such as Alison Peate Siobhan O'Mahony and Clodagh Duggan to help them retain their crown but they will meet a stern test from a very focused Valley Rovers side who have excellent players such as Tessa Crowley, Connie Hawkes, Susan O'Leary and Julie Callanan.

County U16B champions Newtownshandrum bid for the double when they meet Kilbrittain in the league final at Castle Road at 11.30am, impressive in their capturing of the championship title

their challenge will once aging be spearheaded by Becky Ryan, Roisin Twohill, and Chloe Ryan.

Glen Rovers and Millstreet get tomorrow off to an early start when they meet in the Junior B plate final in Cloughduv at 10.30am, Millstreet with Cork U16 players Muireann Murphy, Alanna Barry and Kayleigh Sheehan in their line out will be hoping to put one over on a Glen Rovers' second string adult team that includes captain Lisa Cotter, Trisha Kenneally, Emma Dunlea and Orla Collins.

Another team bidding for a double will be the Mallow intermediate team who are bidding to round off what has been tremendously successful season for them as they battle it out with Tracton for the league title.

It took two games to separate the sides when they met in the championship semi-final and if tomorrow's meeting in Castle Road at 11.30am is anything as

good as either of these games supporters are in for another thriller.

Both sides have excellent performers in their ranks, Mallow are captained by the lion-hearted Kathleen O'Brien, while Katie Buckley, Michelle Browne and Jane Fitzpatrick have all contributed enormously to making it a successful season for Mallow.

Tracton, disappointed at not having progressed to the championship final, will be hoping to put one over on the side that knocked them out Julie Ann Kingston, Marion Jagoe, Mary McGuinness and Aoife Kiely are among the players in their line-out who will trouble Mallow.

The afternoon is rounded off with a trip to CIT at 2.30pm where Inniscarra and Imokilly renew rivalry in a bid to be crowned Evening Echo senior county champions.

I have a feeling that this time out Inniscarra should complete the job. Since the drawn game they have been crowned Munster

club champions following two tremendous games where they defied the odds to come out on top, the confidence gained from this will stand to them enormously.

Imokilly will be tough, and again, there will not be much in it but this time out I think the pendulum may have shifted in the club side's favour and with Rena Buckley fit and ready for action, it should be enough to give them their first senior county title.

Let's hope weather conditions don't spoil what we hope will be a good weekend of final action, best wishes to all the teams involved over another busy weekend.

FIXTURES

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 13

U16 B league final: Newtownshandrum v Kilbrittain, Castle Road, 11.30am. U16 A Championship Final: Douglas v Valley Rovers, Castle Road, 2.30pm.

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 14

Evening Echo Junior C Plate final: Glen Rovers v Millstreet, Cloughduv, 10.30am. Evening Echo Intermediate league final: Mallow v Tracton, Castle Road, 11 am. Evening Echo Senior Championship final replay: Inniscarra v Imokilly, CIT, 2.30pm.

Buckley blasts Inniscarra to victory

Cork county camogie final

Inniscarra	1-8
Imokilly	1-7

by Sarah O'Donovan

CORK senior star Rena Buckley stole a march on divisional side Imokilly with a last-gasp goal to claim the senior county camogie title for Inniscarra by a point at CIT yesterday.

The replay proved a dogged affair with defences controlling proceedings. Free-takers Joanne Casey and Gearoidin Kearney exchanged points

early on but a goal from Emer O'Farrell with 10 minutes played gave Imokilly the impetus.

With Annmarie Walsh and Sarah Harrington prevalent for Imokilly, they retained their lead to the half-time whistle, leading 1-2 to 0-4.

For much of the second half Imokilly had the edge on the Munster club champions. But Inniscarra drew level through player of the match Niamh Dilworth in the 45th minute.

A Niamh McCarthy point gave Inniscarra the lead, but points from Kearney and O'Farrell had Imokilly 0-2 ahead in injury time.

But a probing free from Inniscarra's

Dilworth found Buckley who finished to the net to leave the divisional side no time to recover.

Scorers for Inniscarra: J Casey (0-3 10-14), R Buckley 1-0, N McCarthy 0-2, N Dilworth 0-2 (0-10), E Kingston 0-1.

Imokilly: E O'Farrell 1-1, G Kearney 0-5 (0-21, 0-145), S Cunningham 0-1.

INNISCARRA: S Ni Riain; K Jones, L Hayes, M Buckley; R O'Mahony, R Buckley, A Kavanagh; E Kingston, M N O'Sullivan; O Healy, P O'Connell, K O'Mahony; J Casey, N Dilworth, N McCarthy.

Subs: M Cosgrave for A Kavanagh (29), L Burke for K O'Mahony (53), T McCarthy for O Healy (59).

IMOKILLY: S Beausang; N O'Keefe, N Barry, S Smiddy; A Walsh, M O'Connor, Y Murphy; E Murphy, S Harrington; S Cunningham, A Walsh, G Kearney; C Keohane, M O'Neill, E O'Farrell.

Subs: S Downig for S Cunningham (45), A Walsh for E Murphy (49).

Referee: W Cole (Buttevant).

Nov 2010

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Inniscarra capture first senior county

SENIOR COUNTY CAMOGIE FINAL

By LINDA MELLERICK

Inniscarra 1-8
Imokilly 1-7

THERE'S a very thin line between agony and ecstasy in sport. It can be so cruel and yet so kind. It was kind to Inniscarra yesterday and it hit Imokilly a sucker-punch.

Leading by two points entering the fourth minute of injury-time, it looked as if Imokilly had done enough to win their first title in 34 years. Inniscarra won a 45. Seemingly undecided at what option to take, Niamh Dilworth didn't cleanly connect. Imokilly defended and Inniscarra won a free nearer the posts. Dilworth had to go for goal now. Her low strike was blocked. In the scramble for possession, Rena Buckley reacted best connecting to the net and sending the Inniscarra supporters into frenzy.

Gearoidin Kearney had a last grasp chance to send the game to extra-time with a 45 but it dropped short and with it came the final whistle.

Winning the toss Inniscarra played into the watery sun. They had the better of the early exchanges but came up against good Imokilly defending where Niamh O'Keefe and Mary O'Connor were on top. Two points from Joanne Casey and one from Gearoidin Kearney from placed balls settled the teams.

As has happened so often this season, Imokilly took the lead despite Inniscarra winning the possession stats. In the mucky conditions, a Marie O'Neill cross hung around the goalmouth too long and Emer O'Farrell kicked home to give the divisional side a 1-1 to 0-2 lead 12 minutes in.

Niamh McCarthy hit an excellent point from out around the 40 and



Inniscarra left corner-forward Niamh McCarthy fires over a point during the Evening Echo Cork County Senior Camogie Championship final replay against Imokilly.
Picture: Larry Cummins

this looked to be the better option for Inniscarra as they were finding Imokilly tougher to breakdown the closer they got to goal. Shona Cunningham blasted over a point, Joanne Casey followed with a top class score.

The remaining nine minutes of the half saw the sides deadlocked. Play went end to end. Physically, Imokilly were the stronger side yet

the one Inniscarra player who matched them in that regard was Player of the Match Niamh Dilworth. Strong, holding possession, laying off good ball and winning frees, she led her side forward.

Inniscarra played very deep leaving just three players inside against four. Considering they were already struggling up front this was playing into Imokilly's hands. Mary O'Con-

nor swept up a lot of ball.

Inniscarra lost Aoife Kavanagh, who was playing well, in added time to an ankle injury. With Imokilly leading 1-2 to 0-4 at the break the game was still hard to call.

Gearoidin Kearney stretched Imokilly's lead to two within three minutes of play resuming.

With scores hard to come by it was Inniscarra who took the lead for the first time since early in the game with 44 minutes gone on the clock after Emma Kingston, Niamh Dilworth and Niamh McCarthy struck points. Imokilly upped the pace, looked strong and seemed to be finishing the strongest. Two pointed frees from Kearney and an Emer O'Farrell point saw them regain a two-point lead in the 48th minute.

Joanne Casey's free-taking wasn't as punishing as usual and recognising this, the responsibility was passed over to Dilworth. Her first strike went right between the posts. The gap was down to one. Gearoidin pointed a free. Imokilly had a chance to increase the lead to three with a 45 but it sailed wide.

With additional time of five minutes announced and the clock running down, a two-point lead is the most vulnerable of all positions to be in.

And so it proved to be amid incredible scenes of jubilation for Inniscarra who took their first senior county title yesterday in dramatic fashion.

Scorers for Inniscarra: J Casey 0-3 (0-1 45, 0-1), R Buckley 1-0, N McCarthy 0-2, N Dilworth 0-2 (0-1 f), E Kingston 0-1.

Imokilly: G Kearney 0-5 (0-1 45, 0-3), E O'Farrell 1-1, S Cunningham 0-1.

INNISCARRA: S Ni Riain; K Jones, L Hayes, M Buckley; R O'Mahony, R Buckley, A Kavanagh; M N O'Sullivan, E Kingston; F O'Connell, N Dilworth, K O'Mahony; J Casey, O'Healy, N McCarthy. **Subs:** M Cosgrove for A Kavanagh (34, inj), L Burke for K O'Mahony (54), T McCarthy for O'Healy (56).

IMOKILLY: S Beausang (Killeagh), N O'Keefe (do), N Barry (Castletyons), S Smiddy (Killeagh), AM Walsh (do), M O'Connor (do), Y Murphy (Fr O'Neills); E Murphy (Sarsfields), S Harrington (Fr O'Neills); S Cunningham (Youghal), Angela Walsh (Killeagh), G Kearney (Fr O'Neills); C Keohane (Killeagh), M O'Neill (Watergrasshill), E O'Farrell (Sarsfields). **Subs:** S Downing (Youghal) for S Cunningham (39), Annie Walsh (Killeagh) for E Murphy (46).

Ref: Walter Cole (Buttervant).

O'Leary praises players and backroom team

INNISCARRA trainer Fergal O'Leary was quick to point out that his input was not the only one that had helped Inniscarra reach their goal to be crowned Evening Echo Senior champions for the first time in the mid-Cork clubs history, writes **MARY NEWMAN**.

"Irene O'Keefe, Paula Goggins and Sean Twohig are on the sideline team as well and to be fair they have put every bit as much working into this victory as I have.

"Twelve months ago, Milford beat us in the quarter-final and after that game the girls were gutted but they said after it that they knew they could have won the match.

"We sat for 40 minutes in the dressingroom afterwards and we discussed what it would take to win a county and every body was willing to put in the effort and believe me it was huge.

"We set out our stall to try and win all of our

MATCH REACTION

league games and get to the semi-final stages of that and we succeeded, in between we played in the Ballincollig tournament and it got the year off to a good start when we won it as it got us back training. The main goal was always to win the senior county title and once they got it into their heads that they were good enough to do it they got down to business. Huge credit must go to every one of them, we had a lot of scares along the way no more so than today but again they dug deep and they have got their reward."

Commenting on the game, O'Leary was quick to praise Imokilly.

"To be fair I don't think we deserved to win today, we never played to our potential or as good as we have been in all of our other games and that was down to the way Imokilly played.

"They were superb but we stuck at it and never gave up and we managed to snatch a win, words cannot describe how delighted we are, it means everything to win our first senior county title and we can celebrate now.

"Despite winning the Munster club title we stayed focused and didn't get carried away we were waiting for this and now we can finally celebrate in style."

While there is no denying this was very much a team effort on and off the field, the input from O'Leary was huge. His own playing career in the blue and white of the mid-Cork club was prematurely ended at just 18 years of age following a serious leg injury but without doubt his determination and efforts are one of the main factors in this fairytale story for Inniscarra, one which no doubt he hopes to take them all the way to Croke Park on the first weekend in March.

CORK CAMOGIES LITTLE ALL IRELAND

By MARY NEWMAN

Since the competitions inception in 1932 nineteen names have been engraved as holders of Cork Camogie most prestigious title. Fifteen clubs, three divisions, one university and one school have garnered the honour of being crowned Cork senior county champions. Today Inniscarra and Imokilly will be hoping to be added to the roll of honour, Inniscarra looking for a historic first imokilly for their seventh title.

In 1932 a group of school girls made history taking the Science Cup for the first time when the pupils from St. Aloysius became the first winners. 1933 saw Nora Kelleher carry the trophy in triumph as Muskerry took their first title they had to wait until 2007 before Catriona Foley follow in her footsteps. Kitty Cotter led Mayfield to their crown in 1935 and in 1936 there were new champions as U.C.C. led by Lil Kirby defeated Hillside.

Lee Hosiery were led by Mary Valley to the first of their successes in 1937, again in 1938 new champions climbed the victory rostrum as Old Aloysian's Past pupils were crowned champions captained by Renee Fitzgerald, the club would later go on and add fourteen more titles to their collection.

1947 heralded success for another divisional side when Imokilly defeated Lee Hosiery. Imokilly in later years added a further five titles taking five in a row from 1972 to 1976. Mary Delea led Blackrock to glory in 1948 when the Rockies proved to strong for the champions Imokilly as they brought the first of two titles to the famous club.

1950 was Glen Rover's year as Siobhan O' Brien led her side to victory over Blackrock. Glen went on to add a further twenty one titles to lead the roll of honour with the most titles to their credit, achieving a historic seven in a row on two occasions 1962 to 1968 and again from 1990 to 1996.

We had to wait until 1969 before another new name was added to the roll of honour and it was again past pupils who were creating their own bit of history when Mary Crowley led the South Pres., girls to title number one, in later year's two more titles were added.

Again a big gap until 1977 when Mid Cork were to the fore with the emergence of Eire OG as champions led by Marion Mc Carthy (Reck) The Ovens girls have added to their achievements on three further occasions.

East Cork was to the fore as Breda Landers led Killeagh to their first success in 1980 four more titles followed.

A big gap between 1980 and 1997 before new champions emerged when Eithne Duggan led Bishopstown to the first of their four county championship successes. In less than two year's we again had new champions when Stephanie Dunlea held the trophy aloft for the girls from Cloughduv, they retained the title the following year.

In 2003 Fr O Neills finally broke the hoodoo that had followed them when Fiona O' Driscoll carried the Punch Shoe Care Trophy in triumph to Ballymacoda as Fr O' Neills defeated Inniscarra. The following year divisional side Carrigdhoun took their first title led by Ballygarvan's Catriona Kelly. Cloughduv were back the following year as Inniscarra again suffered heartbreak.

Twenty one year of trying came to an end for Colette O' Mahony in 2006 as her beloved Blues finally took the title Lynda O' Connell receiving the trophy from her fellow club member and Barrs selector on the day county board chairperson Marian Mc Carthy.

Divisional side Muskerry bridged a seventy two year gap in 2007 to take the cup out to Mid Cork as Rockbans Cathriona Foley captained her side to victory. 2008 saw Douglas reach the top to take their first crown spearheaded by the youthful Julia White and the Mackey twins Pamela and Katriona with proud captain Amanda O' Regan becoming the first Douglas player to lift the trophy.

A new chapter was written last year as St Catherine's Faith Noonan became the first player from her club to lift the coveted trophy after they held off the challenge of Milford at their first attempt. Today Inniscarra will be hoping that it will be third time lucky for them having lost out in 2003 and 2005 they are hoping today is the day, Imokilly will be battling to reach the top as in the former glory days of the seventies. A late Inniscarra point from Margaret Cosgrove has ensured we are all back again today for what we hope will be another thrilling contest. Will it be Edel Murphy or Margarter Noelle O' Sullivan who gets to lift the famous trophy????

We wish both sides the best of luck in their endeavours.

CORK COUNTY SENIOR CAMOGIE CHAMPIONS ROLL OF HONOUR

Glen Rovers22	St.Aloysius School2	Sarsfields.....1
Old Aloysians15	Lee Hosiery.....2	Fr O Neills.....1
Imokilly.....6	Blackrock2	Carrigdhoun1
Killeagh.....5	Cloughduv.....3	St Finbarrs.....1
Eire Og.....4	Muskerry2	Douglas1
Bishopstown.....4	Mayfield1	St Catherines1
South Presentation P.P.3	U.C.C1	



Is cuis athas dom faillte a chur romhaibh go leir go dtí C.I.T. ar ocaid an Cluiche Cheannais Camogaíochta Sinsear 2010. Tá suil agam go mbeidh la iontach again agus cluiche den scoth a imirt so staid iontach seo.

I would like to extend a Cead Mile Failte to the players of Inniscarra and Imokilly, team management, Club officials, supporters, Referee Walter Cole and his officials to the eagerly awaited replay of our county senior final where Inniscarra and Imokilly will once again do battle to decide the destination of the Punch Shoe Care Cup for 2010.

The drawn game was a thrilling contest in every way - fantastic scores, excellent skill level and above all fantastic sporting entertainment for the huge crowd in attendance. This afternoon we are looking forward to another exciting contest between two teams who have served up some fantastic games in this years championship.

Congratulations to Inniscarra who since the drawn game have been crowned Munster Club Senior Champions with two great victories over Burgess Duharra Tipperary and Granagh Ballingarry Limerick in the Munster Club Final. They now play the Ulster Champions in the All Ireland semi final next February with the final being staged in Croke Park on March 6th. We wish them well as they carry the Cork Flag in this prestigious competition.

On behalf of the County Board, I wish to express my sincere thanks to all clubs, players, mentors and officials who took part in the Senior Championship of 2010 and I would like to acknowledge your efforts for promoting Camogie in your club.

A special word of thanks to the Evening Echo who have generously sponsored our Championships this year and for their ongoing support of our game.

Sincere thanks to CIT for the use of their fantastic facilities this afternoon and to Miriam Deasy, Ger Neff and Clive Thompson for their help and support.

Finally I wish all involved on this great occasion - players, team mentors, referee, match officials, county board personnel, club officials, the media every success on what I know will be another great sporting day to savour and remember - Enjoy the game and may Camogie be the real winner.

Maire Ni Charthaigh
Cathaorleach



Owen with Wexford's Clara O'Connor and Offaly's Michaela Morkan

Charleville withstand Blarney pressure to claim first trophy



The Charleville team that won the club's first adult trophy by beating Blarney to take the Junior C Plate.

Charleville 0-8
Blarney 0-5

THERE was delight for Charleville as they annexed the club's first adult trophy, defeating Blarney to take the Junior C Plate in a thrilling final.

Tina Coughlan put Charleville on the scoreboard with an early point, to which Blarney replied with a point from Laura Walsh but

Charleville went ahead again with three Sinead Dennehy pointed frees and a point from play by Kate Keane to lead at the break 0-5 to 0-1.

If the first half belonged to Charleville, Blarney made sure they were in the game in the second half as they took control from the restart and drew level with four points from Stephanie Murphy.

With both sets of forwards battling

to gain control, Sharon Curtin edged Charleville ahead with two points and Keane added one to stretch the lead to three points.

It was back to the wall for the remaining minutes as Blarney threw everything at the Charleville defence, who had to withstand a lot of pressure to hold firm.

But hold on they did, to take the title amid scenes of great jubilation.

Ballygarvan scrape it

Ballygarvan 1-9
Mallow 1-8

JUST a point separated Ballygarvan and Mallow in the Minor B championship final at Castle Road as the Ballygarvan girls hung on to be crowned champions, and having lost out in last year's final Ballygarvan were determined to get it right.

Ballygarvan held a 0-5 to 0-4 at the break thanks in the main to Lorraine Browne and Maeve Moynihan who showed their accuracy from frees, while Rachel Keohane added a point from play as they put the Mallow defence under pressure.

Mallow Katie Buckley and Bronagh Ganley were both on target as Mallow kept in touch in a close opening 30 minutes.

Mallow were back on level terms but again Aisling Byrne replied and Ballygarvan grabbed a vital goal thanks to Rachel Keohane to edge ahead. Ballygarvan's Christina Murphy and Aisling Byrne were on target with points, but Mallow replied with a Katie Buckley point. Bronagh Ganley with a Mallow goal had the lead down to just a point but to no avail.

Inniscarra 5-10
Courcey Rovers 1-1

Inniscarra took the Junior Shield title as they defeated the second's

adult team from Courcey Rovers in a final they dominated from the early stages goals proved vital for Inniscarra and in the first half they hit three and it gave them a 3-2 to 0-1 interval lead. Adding to it in the second half they ran out winners as Courcey battled to the finish to get something from the contest. Claire Sheehan had a goal inside nine minutes, and with Marie Corkery and Treasa McCarthy adding to the goal tally Inniscarra set the pace of the game.

Courcey's gave it everything and they were on the score sheet with an Aoife Keating point, but Aine O'Connor and Marie Corkery added points for Inniscarra as they raced into a 10 point interval lead.

Through the second half Courcey's battled hard, but they found the going tough against a physically stronger Inniscarra side. Inniscarra picked off the scores that helped put the game beyond Courcey's Niamh Byrne and Amanda Twohig added further goals while points from Amanda Twohig, Aine O'Connor Treasa McCarthy and Marie Corkery ensured no way back for a spirited Courcey's side who battled to the finish and were rewarded with a well taken goal from Fiona Ryan.

However, on the day there was no denying Inniscarra the title.



Press Release

18.11.2010

First term completed for camogie administrators at Athlone IT

A group of 19 students have completed their first term on the new Certificate in Sports Administration for camogie administrators at Athlone Institute of Technology (AIT).

The course introduces participants, who are drawn from club and county administrative positions in the Camogie Association, to the principles and practices of administering a sports club with particular reference to assisting the development of the Camogie Association.

The ten-week programme commenced in October and will conclude in mid-January 2011.

Course participants are covering a number of topics including an introduction to financial management; ethics and legal issues in sports administration; introduction to training and methods of instruction skills and leadership and management skills. The certificate is a level six single module award on the National Framework of Qualifications.

Speaking about the Certificate in Sports Administration, President of the Camogie Association, Joan O'Flynn, said:

"Under the Camogie Association's five year national development plan "Camogie – Our Game Our Passion", Volunteer Development and Leadership and Excellent Governance and Organisational Development are two of five key objectives.

"Our Administrators have identified a need for training to us as an Association. This course provides a fantastic opportunity to those intending to improve their existing skills and knowledge in their roles while also receiving a recognised qualification from AIT – one of the country's leading institutes for sports and related programmes."



Offaly captain Michaela Morkan lifts the Jack McGrath Cup after defeating Wexford in the Gala All-Ireland Intermediate Camogie Championship Final.

Nov. 2010

Corofin secure final spot

Corofin 2-10 - Tir na nÓg (Antrim) 1-8



Dermot Hogan of the Clare People reports from Corofin

Approaching Corofin GAA field it was evident something special was in the air. The village itself was covered in red and white while parades of natives young and old made their way to see their club's special day.

Entering, what for a day matched any sporting arena around the world in terms of atmosphere, one immediately noticed the loudspeaker hammering out what must have a collection of Ireland's greatest every rebel song. Whether this was for the enjoyment of the travelling Antrim supporters or a tool of inspiration and motivation it didn't matter, the tone of what was to come in this battle was established. When the game finally got underway it took a mere 30 seconds for Corofin to put their mark on the scoreboard. Claire Commane took responsibly of the first free of this encounter, in front of the posts and she was never going to miss. The positive start had been found.

A minute later however and Tir na nÓg settled too. Their number eleven repeated the feat and pointed an equally impressive free. This knockout fight was going to go the distance.

The first half continued in this manner for the entire thirty minutes. Every score for one team was matched by the other. The lead was swapped over and back and the loud supporters of both sides could not, like the players, take their eye of the ball for even a second. The scoreboard continued to increase only due to the incredible duel between Commane and Michaela Convery. Their free taking ability was immense. The odd punts from play that they managed were even more impressive.

The final five minutes of the half saw the away side crucially pop over two on the trot. Convery's first arrived in the form of a free near the sideline while the second was a 45 that split the posts in her typical stylish manner to crucially leave Corofin trailing by a solidarity score at half-time on a score of 0-6 to 0-5.

The second half needed an immediate Corofin response and that's what they achieved. Two more frees in quick fire succession restored a lead for the Clare representatives that they would hold onto for the remainder of the hard fought clash. Obviously at this stage Commane was never going to fail to take an opportunity. Both Commane's day and Corofin's year got a lot better however in a result sealing eight minute period. In this purple patch the awesome attacker found the net on two occasions. The first came from a set play that for once she was not standing over herself. Muireann Kelleher's free landed perfectly into the outstretched arms of the warrior that is Edel Keating.

Under great pressure she broke free to unleash a powerfully driven pass low into the full forward line. Commane took control from here. Her initial first time strike was

stopped but her follow through was not and the green flag caused an eruption of sounds of joy that's probably still echoing around north Clare.

The second three pointer came after fifty minutes. A piece of pure skill and opportunism saw Commane sneak in and flick the ball out of the Tir na nÓg's goalkeeper's grasp just as she readied herself to make a clearance. Corofin got to its feet as she rounded the helpless Emma O'Neill before driving the sliotar over the goal line.

Victory was surely sailed with ten minutes to go, or was it? The northern outfit manged the next two scores. Of course it was Convery who carried out the honours. The first was a free from 30m that some expected to be goal bound. It wasn't though and just the point was taken. Her desire for a goal quickly intensified moments later however. A magnificent march forward through the Corofin rearguard was always going to end in only one outcome.

Her fabulous almost sniper-like shot rifled into the top corner of the Corofin goal. Now the home spectators were abruptly feeling a bit more nervous. Five minutes left and only four points in it, anything could happen. Thankfully it didn't. Some last ditch heroics in defense prevented the concession of another score but they did find another for themselves in the 61st minute. Commane gleefully put the icing on the cake with her ninth free of the match.

This left the final score at 2-10 to 1-8. The final whistle saw a stampede of Corofin die-hards onto the pitch. There was no plan B only floods of congratulations and respect for the very deserving women who just made history for the club. If All-Ireland glory can now be found in the following weeks it will be Corofin, rather than their appropriately named semi-final opposition, that will find their place in the land of GAA eternal youth and beauty.

Corofin

Carmel Tierney (7), Neasa Carkill (7), Lisa Clancy (7), Donna Courtney (7), Brenda O'Donoghue (7), Muireann Kelleher (8), Niamh Shannon (7), Edel Keating (8), Niamh O'Dea (9), Linda McMahon (7), Claire Commane (10) (2-9, 9f), Aislinn Kelleher (7), Aoife Davoren (7) (0-1), Marie Rafferty (7), Caitriona McMahon
Subs Maeve Davoren (6) for Shannon, Siobhan Keller (6) for McMahon, Caitriona Kelleher (6) for Davoren

Tir na nÓg

Emma O'Neill (7), Kelly O'Neill (7), Aine McNicholl (7), Aine Sherrin (7), Siobhan Poulter (6), Sarah McNicholl (7), Dervla O'Neill (7), Sandra Wilson (7), Shaune O'Neill (7), Bernaden Letters (7), Michaela Convery (9) (1-8, 5f, 2 45s), Orla Carey (7), Emma McQuillan (6), Ciara Heffron (6), Aimee McAtamney (7)
Subs Orla O'Neill (6) for Poulter

Player of the match
Claire Commane (Corofin)

Four Roads reach All Ireland Junior Club Final



Ian Cooney of the Roscommon Herald reports from Ballyforan

Four Roads.....2-13
Kilmessan.....0-6

All-Ireland Junior Club Camogie Championship Semi-Final

A wonderful display of commitment, passion and skill catapulted Four Roads into this season's All-Ireland junior club final after they proved far too streetwise for Leinster champions Kilmessan in Sunday's semi-final at Ballyforan. The South Roscommon girls produced their best performance of the season to dominate their Meath opposition and leave themselves on the cusp of the ultimate accolade.

Twelve months ago, Four Roads were left floored on the canvass after a chastening experience against Lavey from Derry at the same stage of the competition. But Simon Coyle's charges were not to be denied for the second year in succession on their home patch as they outplayed Kilmessan for large periods of Sunday's semi-final.

A good start certainly proved to be half the battle as far as Four Roads were concerned. They pulverised Kilmessan from the opening whistle. Lizzie Glennon-Tully and Niamh Coyle were on fire up front and, aided by the dominance of Gertie Dowd and Catherine Rogerson at midfield, they quickly established a six-point interval advantage, 0-9 to 0-3.

A feature of that prosperous opening 30 minutes was Four Roads' sheer desire not to let Kilmessan any time to settle in possession. That pressure resulted in numerous Kilmessan turnovers and Four Roads duly reaped the rewards with a succession of brilliant scores.

Kilmessan matched Four Roads for the third quarter but they had left themselves with far too much to do. A heroic defensive effort from the Tisrara girls blocked off numerous avenues to goal. The three-pointer that the Meath girls needed to make life nervous for the home side wouldn't come, and two late goals in the final five minutes from substitute Aisling Rogerson and Glennon-Tully sealed the deal for a delighted home side.

Four Roads were imperious during the opening half. They were far stronger than Kilmessan and showed the hunger necessary to build up a substantial lead. They didn't get off to the best of starts, however, as referee Cathal Egan signalled for a debatable penalty in the opening minute. No one was quite sure what the penalty was for but wing-forward Aileen Donnelly drove the sliothar over the bar.

Kilmessan wouldn't score again for another 14 minutes as Grainne Egan, Niamh Coyle, Glennon-Tully and Donna Kelly posted excellent points from play.

Kelly's score was particularly impressive as the Four Roads captain had been badly injured as a result of a wild pull from one of her own players only minutes earlier.

Donnelly reduced the gap to two points with an impressive free from distance in the 15th minute but a Glennon-Tully free was followed by three more points from play by Patricia Lennon, Gertie Dowd and Glennon-Tully to open up a 0-8 to 0-2 advantage. Both sides swapped scores before the break from frees, Glennon-Tully and Donnelly predictably on target.

Kilmessan enjoyed far more possession in the third quarter but they were confronted by a Four Roads brick wall in defence. Donnelly was presented with a few opportunities from close-in frees but she couldn't manufacture the goal her side required. She did manage two points but Coyle and Glennon-Tully were also on target from frees.

Frustrated by their inability to make inroads, Kilmessan visibly tired as the half wore on and this allowed Four Roads the latitude to finish with a flourish. Glennon-Tully pointed from play before substitute Aisling Rogerson announced her arrival with a goal within 60 seconds of her introduction as she took possession around Kilmessan netminder Noreen Sheridan to fire into an empty net.

Lizzie Glennon-Tully kept her composure to grab a second Four Roads goal two minutes from time and the Player of the Match finished the scoring with a free to leave her side dreaming of All-Ireland glory against Corofin from Clare on Sunday week.

FOUR ROADS: B. Mannion; C. Glennon, O. Hughes, M. Glennon-Kelly; A. Fallon, S. Coyle, D. Kelly (0-1); G. Dowd (0-1), C. Rogerson; N. Coyle (0-2, one free), G. Egan (0-1), S. O'Brien; L. Glennon-Tully (1-7, four frees), E.Treacy, P. Lennon (0-1). Subs used: A. Rogerson (1-0) for Treacy (55 mins), B. Hughes for O'Brien (55 mins).

KILMESSAN: N. Sheridan; C. Ní Choileáin, K. Ward, E. Doyle; S. Ross, Alison Lynch, Alva Lynch; C. O'Leary, F. Lynch; S. Horan, L. Tyrrell, A. Donnelly (0-6, four frees, one penalty, one '45); M. Ní Choileáin, A. McLoughlin, K.Ní Choileáin. Subs used: A. M. Dennehy for Tyrrell (38 mins), L. Irwin for Alison Lynch (38 mins), T. King for McLoughlin (48 mins), M. E. Sheridan for Horan (60 mins), E. Fitzgerald for Alvan Lynch (60 mins).

Wides: Four Roads - 3; Kilmessan - 5.

Referee: C. Egan (Cork)

Player of the Match: Lizzie Glennon-Tully (Four Roads). On a day when Four Roads had stars all over the field, the veteran corner-forward pitched in with a match-winning 1-7 to fire her side into the All-Ireland final at the end of the month. She proved to be a vital outlet for possession, winning frees and dusting herself down to nail the all-important scores. Catherine Glennon, Orla Hughes, Marie Glennon-Kelly, Donna Kelly, Siobhán Coyle, Niamh Coyle and Patricia Lennon also delivered big performances for their team. Frances Lynch and Aileen Donnelly were Kilmessan's best players with the latter accounting for all of her side's scores.

Banteer hold out to take the title

By MARY NEWMAN

Banteer	3-2
Carrigwohill	2-3

THIS U16 D county final replay lived up to its expectations and in the finish just two points separated the sides after another thrilling clash. Banteer hit the front with an early goal and continuing to pile on the pressure they hit two further goals — Aisling O'Brien on target with two and Emer Forde adding one as they stormed into a three-goal lead. Carrigwohill's response was a point from Holly Breheny as Banteer held their advantage to lead 3-0 to 0-1 at the interval. Carrigwohill had it all to do in the second half, but they showed great determination as they put the Banteer defence under a lot of pressure. Holly Breheny added a point to their tally, but Banteer responded as they continued to hold the upper hand, Vicky Withers striking two points as they applied huge pressure on the Carrigwohill defence. With second half weather conditions deteriorating it was hard on both sides, but all credit to the players who gave it everything. Carrigwohill upped their game as Ciara Dixey goaled from a 45-metre free and she added a point as Carrigwohill kept the pressure on. Emma Lynch grabbed a Carrigwohill goal and as the pressure intensified Banteer had to be at their best to hold off the strong Carrigwohill challenge. With their backs to the wall the Banteer girls were not going to be denied and they held on to the finish to run out winners, despite huge Carrigwohill pressure. Lynda Dunlea, Banteer, was awarded the Player of the Match award for her performance on the day.

Scores for Banteer: A O'Brien 2-0, E Forde 1-0, V Withers 0-2.
Carrigwohill: C Dixey 1-1, E Lynch, H Breheny 0-2.
BANTEER: T Sheehan, M O'Neill, K O'Donoghue, M McAuliffe, L Murphy, G Cashman.
Subs: E Hartnett for S Marshall, L Dunlea, V Withers, L Howard, H Moore, L Flanagan, S Neenan, E Forde, A O'Brien.
CARRIGWOHILL: N O'Sullivan, R McCourt, C Dixey, H Breheny, J Foley, R Sheehan, S Dorgan, A Morgan, A Buttner, E Corry, R J Butler, E Lynch, C Rohen, S Curtin.
Subs: C Lynch for J Foley, A Crowley for R McCourt.

Inniscarra win



Inniscarra captain, Margaret Noelle O'Sullivan receives the Punch Cup from camogie chairperson, Marion McCarthy.



I'VE no doubt it's been a great week in and around the Inniscarra vicinity after the club, founded in 1967, achieved senior county title success for the first time last Sunday.

It continues the trend we have witnessed dominating the noughties with eight clubs/divisional sides in eight years winning the title, six of them for the very first time.

Fr O'Neill's, Carrigdhoun, Cloughduv, St Finbarr's, Muskerry, Douglas, St Catherine's and Inniscarra have all claimed senior titles since 2003 and it's marvellous for the clubs and districts involved.

It also gives great hope to other clubs, an indicator that if they persevere and work hard the dream can become a reality. Ballincollig for example entered the top flight this year and gave a great account of themselves, losing narrowly at the semi-final stage to Imokilly after a replay. They are a team for the future.

Anyone thinking that winning the senior title last Sunday didn't mean as much to Imokilly as it did to Inniscarra needed only to have looked at the faces of the players as they left the field. It's the worst possible way to lose any game, not to mind a final.

Gracious in defeat they stayed and applauded the presentation, but all you want to do at that stage is get to the safety of the dressing room and never come out. Of course Monday morning is when it hurts the most.

Imokilly gave us some great entertainment this season, some wonderful goals. This isn't the end of them. There's a county title there and I hope their focus doesn't diminish as can so easily happen with divisional sides.

All Imokilly needed was a good management team and they got that in 2010 with Emmet Fennell, Frank Flannery, Mags Finn and Bob Ryan. Let's

Charleville win first trophy at adult level

Charleville	0-8
Blarney	0-5

By MARY NEWMAN

CHARLEVILLE took the Junior C plate trophy overcoming Blarney in closely contested final. Tina Coughlan gave Charleville the lead with an early point to which Blarney replied with a point from Laura Walsh. Charleville hit the front through three Sinead Dennehy pointed frees and a point from play from Kate Keane as they held the advantage to

the break, 0-5 to 0-1. Blarney came into the game in the second half and they began to control matters and they were back on level terms — Stephanie Murphy hitting four points without reply. As the sides battled to gain control Sharon Curtin edged Charleville ahead with two points and with Kate Keane adding one they held a three-point advantage. Blarney threw everything at the

Charleville defence in search of an equaliser, but Charleville stood firm under huge pressure to take the title, the first at adult level for the club.

Scores for Charleville: S Dennehy 0-3 (0-3 f), K Keane, S Curtin 0-2 each, S Coughlan 0-1.
Blarney: S Murphy 0-4 (0-3 f), L Walsh 0-1.
CHARLEVILLE: C O'Keefe, M Murphy (c), M Coughlan, D Nash, M O'Sullivan, S Dennehy, T Cagney, C Hudner, J O'Flynn, K Keane, S Coughlan, A O'Mahony, L O'Regan, S Curtin, N O'Brien.
Subs: M O'Connell for L O'Regan.
BLARNEY: C Coleman, E O'Brien, N Dulohery, M Alo, A Fogarty, E O'Regan, T O'Keefe, S Ryan, C Sands, K Manley, Y Horgan, M McGuire, G Lynch, L Walsh, N McCarthy.
Subs: S Murphy for G Lynch, C Costello for N McCarthy.

Jackman scoops camogie award

GAA: Waterford star Patricia Jackman is winner of the 2010 Bord Gáis Energy Munster GAA Camogie award. The All-Ireland Poc Fada champion will receive her prize at the awards ceremony in the Malton Hotel, Killarney on November 27.

Another player to be honoured is Geraldine O'Flynn, the Cork and Lis Carroll defender who won the Ladies Football Award. Meanwhile, the Handball Award

went to Limerick's Padraig O'Carroll, who recently took the Minor Doubles crown at the All-Ireland Handball Championship.

UCC got their league campaign off to a winning start against neighbours CIT. Played in terrible conditions in CIT, UCC played against the wind in the 1st half and were made to battle for every ball against a determined CIT team. The UCC forwards were doing an excellent job against the wind and scored eight points with Julia White and Niamh Goulding in excellent form.

CIT were too reliant on the centre forward Denise Luby who scored all of their first half scores. Indiscipline by the UCC defence gave away frees and a penalty which the accurate Luby popped over the bar. The score at halftime was 0-08 to 1-06 in favour of UCC. Aided by the breeze UCC completely dominated the second half and scored some excellent points from Pamela and Caltriona Mackey, Julia White and Laura Wall. Final score 0-21 to 1-06.

The next two matches were too prove much tougher and tighter matches for the Cork College. Last years Ashbourne Cup and Division 1 winners WIT travelled to the Mardyke pitch. In a superb game in which all the skills of Camogie were showcased it was WIT who made the brighter start, immediately putting pressure on the UCC defence. Points from Michelle Quilty and Karina Parrock got the visiting side off to a good start before UCC began to dominate with their midfield pairing of Roisin de Faoite and Orla Cotter on top.

UCC continued to pile on the pressure and UCC went into the break four points up on a scoreline of 0-09 to 0-05. The second half was to prove a much tighter affair with WIT now on top and eating away at the UCC lead. The WIT half back line dominated and the UCC defence were under constant attack but they tackled ferociously and forced WIT to shoot under pressure. UCC had to rely on the free taking of Cork captain Orla Cotter to steady the ship and with ten minutes to go looked to have secured victory when substitute Clodhna MacSweeney found the net.

WIT rallied however and points from Edwina Keane and Michelle Quilty narrowed the gap. A free conceded in the WIT half back line resulted in WIT getting a free were the ball landed on the 21yard line, centre back Patricia Jackman took the free but a superb save from Susan Earner and a clearance from Sarah Collins saw the pressure relieved. With minutes remaining Ann Dalton got a goal for the Waterford side but it proved too late as UCC held on for a one point win.

In their first game of the year UL travelled to CIT in what was the Cork teams final league game on 3rd November. It was a close first half with the teams swapping scores regularly. Denise Luby was again scorer in chief with a goal and four points

inspires others



CAMOGIE FIXTURE

SUNDAY NOVEMBER 21

Minor A County Final: Douglas v
Inniscarra Castle Road Camogie
Grounds Blackrock 2pm

Evening Echo reporter
Linda Mellerick presents
the Evening Echo senior
camogie county final
Player-of-the-Match award
to Inniscarra's Niamh
Dilworth.

Valleys crowned after epic encounter

By MARY NEWMAN

Valley Rovers 1-10
Douglas 2-6

A THRILLING contest saw Valley Rovers capture the U16 A championship title at the expense of holders Douglas recently.

In a game of non-stop action both sides battled to the final whistle for victory. Douglas were first on the scoreboard with a Shannon Dempsey point, but Valley's hit back. Susan O'Leary pointed a 45-meter free before sending a free to the Douglas net to give her side the lead. Douglas upped their game and hit 1-4 without reply. Aisling Fox had two points before a goal and a point from Claire Shine gave Douglas the advantage. Valleys worked hard and battling away they kept their opponents in sight with two points from Tessa Crowley. Aoife Downey hit one for Douglas as they led 1-5 to 1-3 at the break.

Douglas quickly stretched their advantage to three points on the resumption with Dempsey on target, but three in-a-row from Aoife Cummins, Susan O'Leary and Tessa Crowley had the sides level. Douglas again hit the front with a Shine goal, but from the puck out Aoife Cummins struck a superb long range effort over the bar to again put just two points between the sides.

Valleys were back level when Susan O'Leary pointed a free and a 45 before Valley's took the lead. Susan O'Leary pointed a free to give them the advantage they held to the final whistle which brought huge celebrations as they achieved their goal in taking the title.

A superb display saw from Tessa Crowley saw her named Player of the Match.

Scorers for Valley Rovers: S O'Leary 1-5 (1-1f, 0-3 45m), T Crowley 0-3 (0-2f)

A Cummins 0-2.

Douglas: C Shine 2-1, S Dempsey, A Fox 0-2each, A Downey 0-1.

VALLEY ROVERS: N Glavin, L McCarthy, C Hawkes, C Richardson; M O'Sullivan, S O'Leary, L Murphy; A Cummins, J M O'Leary; O Ryan, T Crowley, J Callanan; A O'Callaghan, E Cummins, V Crowley.

Subs: M E Sweetnam for A O'Callaghan, E Palmer for V Crowley.

DOUGLAS: C Noonan; R Quinn, A Peate, A Hourihane; E Lynch, E Kavanagh, M Mulrooney; C Hickey, C Shine; A Fox, E Martin, S Dempsey; A Downey, S O'Mahony, C Duggan.

Subs: L Cooney for C Hickey (h/t), A McDonald for C Duggan (h/t).

hope they don't call it a day.

It was fantastic for Inniscarra and one would have to be delighted for the likes of Sheila Golden who has given a lifetime to camogie and Inniscarra. I doubt anyone looked prouder on the podium.

Initially with the weather conditions it was hoped to keep the crowd off the pitch. Anyone brave enough to try and stop the Inniscarra supporters from invading after such a dramatic climax would earn their right on any SWAT team.

I can appreciate where Irene O'Keeffe was coming from when she said that winning the Munster title would mean nothing to them if they didn't win the county. If Inniscarra had won the county in the past it

might not have been so relevant, but having not done so there would have always been a feeling of unfinished business in that regard. The All-Ireland series now awaits and they need to go all out for this.

I took serious notice of Inniscarra possibly for the first time 12 months ago when they lost narrowly to Milford at the quarter-final stage. I won't say their success has been overnight because Inniscarra's underage development has been excellent over the past number of years and those who nurtured this homegrown talent deserve their moment in the sun.

Neither Imokilly nor Inniscarra reached the heights they are capable of last Sunday. With so much at stake and the heavy conditions that was to

be expected. The CIT pitch held up extremely well during the week but it can only do so much. We were blessed with a glorious day and the stand was once again packed.

I thought right corner-back Niamh O'Keeffe had a fine game for Imokilly, in a position that rarely gets much of the limelight. Rena Buckley's return after her shoulder injury paid dividends. Outside of striking the winning goal she physically got stuck into many a tackle.

Niamh Dilworth who has certainly taken on a leader's role this season was outstanding. She was clearly the 'Player of the Match'.

We all knew that Imokilly were the physically stronger side and while tipping Inniscarra I felt the conditions

might work more in the divisional side's favour.

Certainly that proved true defensively, but out around the field Niamh more than matched any challenge. She held the ball up brilliantly at times, while surrounded. Normally a player panics in that situation and can often hold on too long or throw the ball.

On at least three occasions Niamh remained composed and let off the perfect handpass. She also won a considerable number of frees.

The lead swapped back and forth in the remaining 16 minutes until that wonder goal, one that Rena Buckley can live on for a long long time.

Congratulations to Fergal O'Leary, Irene O'Keeffe, Sean Twohig, Paula Goggins and the entire community.

ably supported by Michelle Reidy who had a fine game. The first half finished with the Limerick side ahead by four points on a scoreline of 1-09 to 1-05. The second half belonged to UL who scored 4-06 compared with just six points for CIT. The final score was 5-15 to 1-11.

UL again travelled to Cork to take on UCC. Played under lights in the Mardyke UCC took advantage of the UL journey and raced to an early lead. With Orla Cotter again deadly from placed balls UL were under pressure from the throw in. UL began to settle and with their full forward causing havoc anytime the ball came in UCC were forced into conceding frees and UL were able to stay in touch. UCC went into the break leading by five points 0-09 to 0-05.

The early pressure in the second half came from UCC but they couldn't convert possession into scores. On a counterattack UL scrambled home a goal and this gave the visiting side confidence. A second goal minutes later put the UL side in front for the first time midway through the second half. UCC were under constant attack at this point and their defence looked nervous, a number of substitutions by UCC helped them to regain a foothold on the game and in the final ten minutes UCC outscored UL by seven points to win by five. Final score 0-19 to 2-08.

In the other section UUJ recorded three wins from three to take their place in the Division 1 final for quite a number of years. The Belfast side got off to an excellent start beating UCD, with their forwards clinical. In their second match UUJ played host to neighbours QUB. UUJ completely dominated the first half and led by nine points at the break. However the second half was to prove a different story and a spirited fight back from QUB had UUJ under constant pressure. Despite narrowing the gap to a point, UUJ managed to tag on a few scores and UUJ managed to cling on by their fingernails to record a victory.

UUJ had only NUI Galway to play and knew that a victory would propel them into the final, the Galway side couldn't field and so the points went to UUJ who will now take on Cork College UCC in the Division 1 League Final.

Nov 2010



Valley Rovers crowned champs

Valley Rovers 1-10
Douglas 2-6

VALLEY ROVERS overcame holders Douglas to be crowned under 16 A county champions in a close contest at Castle Road.

Shannon Dempsey pointed to give Douglas an early lead, but Valleys replied with Susan O'Leary pointing a 45 meter free before she put Valleys ahead sending a free to the Douglas net. Douglas responded well and sitting 1-4 without reply they took the lead. Aisling Fox had two points before Claire Shine hit a goal and a point without reply to give Douglas the advantage. Valleys continued to work away and two points from Tessa Crowley kept them in contention as Aoife Downey hit one for Douglas to leave them two ahead at the break, 1-5 to 1-3.

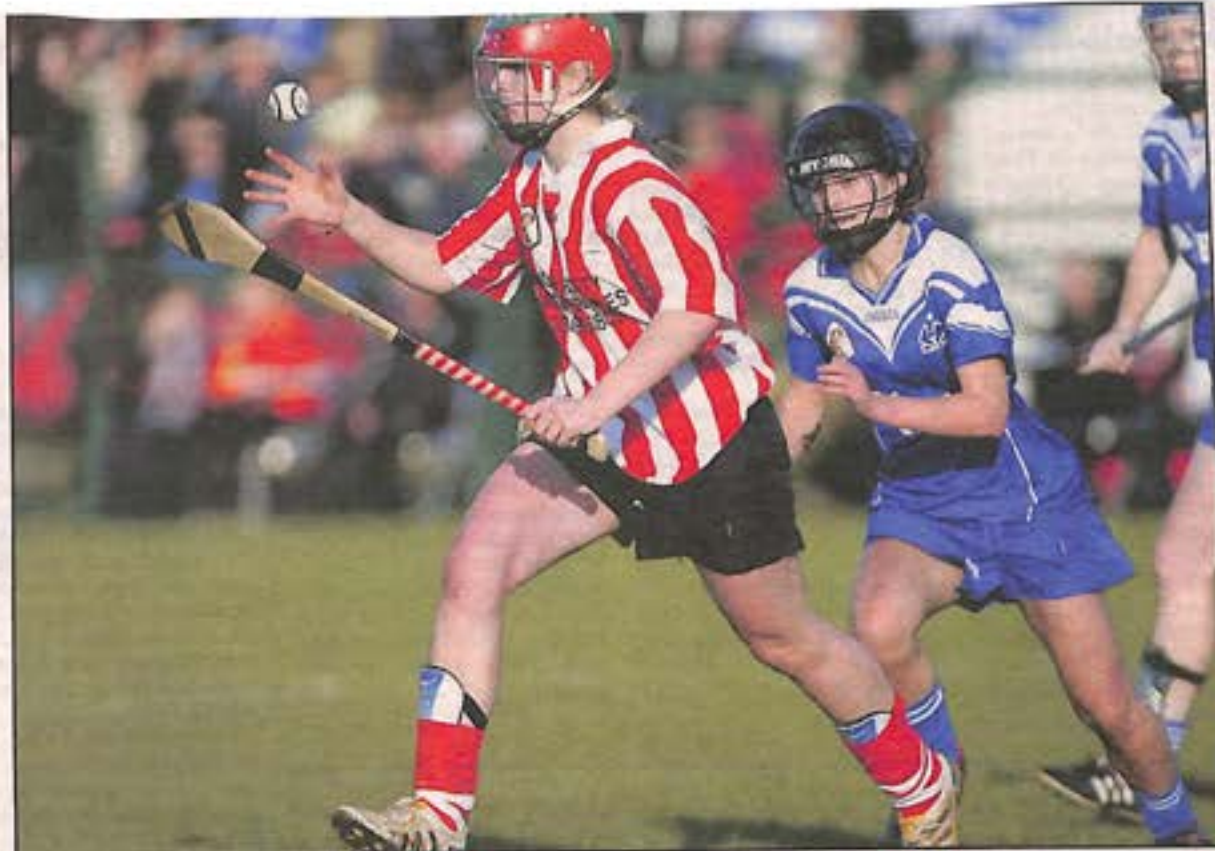
Shannon Dempsey pointed early in the second half to put Douglas three ahead three points in a row from Aoife Cummins Susan O'Leary and Tessa Crowley had the sides on level.

Douglas took the lead with a goal from Claire Shine, but Aoife Cummins struck a superb long range effort to again cut the deficit to two points.

With the game there for the taking Valleys dug deep and were back level. Susan O'Leary pointed a free and a forty five before Valleys took the lead, Susan O'Leary pointing a free to give them the advantage they held to the final whistle which brought huge celebrations as they achieved their goal in taking the title.

Valley Rovers: N Glavin; L McCarthy, C Hawkes, C Richardson; M O'Sullivan, S O'Leary, L Murphy; A Cummins, J M O'Leary, O Ryan, T Crowley, J Callanan; A O'Callaghan, E Cummins, V Crowley. Subs: M E Sweetnam for A O'Callaghan, E Palmer for V Crowley. Scorers: S O'Leary 1-5 (1-11, 0-3 45m), T Crowley 0-3 (0-21) A Cummins 0-2.

Douglas: C Noonan; R Quinn, A Peate, A Hourihane; E Lynch, E Kavanagh, M Mulrooney; C Hickey, C Shine; A Fox, E Martin, S Dempsey; A Downey, S O'Mahony, C Duggan. Subs: L Cooney for C Hickey (h/t), A McDonald for C Duggan (h/t). Scorers: C Shine 2-1, S Dempsey, A Fox 0-2 each, A Downey 0-1.



Imokilly midfielder Sarah Harrington makes a break for it on the way to victory over Imokilly in the Evening Echo Cork County Senior Camogie Championship Final replay at CIT last Sunday week. Picture: Larry Cummins.

Historic first for Inniscarra

Inniscarra 1-8
Imokilly 1-7

A HISTORIC first for Inniscarra as they overcame Imokilly with a goal five minutes into injury time to be crowned Evening Echo Senior county champions.

Two points from Joanne Casey and one from Gearoidine Kearney from frees got the game up and running, and with Imokilly taking the lead thanks to a goal from Emer O'Farrell it was they who set the pace of the opening half as they led 1-1 to 0-2 after 12 minutes.

Niamh McCarthy pointed for Inniscarra to which Shona Cunningham replied. Joanne Casey followed with a point for Inniscarra and it was nip and tuck but Imokilly led 1-2 to 0-4 at the break.

Gearoidine Kearney stretched

Imokilly lead to two within three minutes of the restart and with scores hard to come by Inniscarra took the lead with Emma Kingston, Niamh Dilworth and Niamh McCarthy striking points. Imokilly upped the pace and two pointed frees from Gearoidine Kearney and one from Emer O'Farrell from play had them two points in front.

Niamh Dilworth replied to bring the gap down to one. Gearoidine Kearney pointed a free to put Imokilly two ahead again. As the time tickled away Inniscarra won a free. Niamh Dilworth's effort held up around the goal and it was Rena Buckley who was the heroine as she sent the ball to the Imokilly net.

Imokilly swept upfield and should have grabbed an equaliser their attempt was stopped by Inniscarra and with it came the final whistle and

joy for Inniscarra.

Niamh Dilworth was named as players of the match following an excellent display.

Inniscarra: S Ni Riain; K Jones, L Hayes, M Buckley; R O'Mahony, R Buckley, A Kavanagh; M N O'Sullivan, E Kingston; F O'Connell, N Dilworth, K O'Mahony; J Casey, O Healy, N McCarthy. Subs: M Cosgrove for A Kavanagh (34, inj), L Burke for K O'Mahony (54), T McCarthy for O Healy (58). Scorers: J Casey 0-3 (0-1 45, 0-1 fl), R Buckley 1-0, N McCarthy 0-2, N Dilworth 0-2 (0-1 fl), E Kingston 0-1.

Imokilly: S Beausang (Killeagh), N O'Keefe (do), N Barry (Castletown), S Smiddy (Killeagh); AM Walsh (do), M O'Connor (do), Y Murphy (Fr O' Neills); E Murphy (Sarsfields), S Harrington (Fr O' Neills); S Cunningham (Youghall), Angela Walsh (Killeagh), G Kearney (Fr O' Neills); C Keohane (Killeagh), M O'Neill (Watergrasshill), E O'Farrell (Sarsfields). Subs: S Downing (Youghall) for S Cunningham (39), Annie Walsh (Killeagh) for E Murphy (46). Scorers: G Kearney 0-5 (0-1 45, 0-3 fl), E O'Farrell 1-1, S Cunningham 0-1. Referee: Walter Cole (Buttevant).

Kilbrittan hold out for victory

Kilbrittan / Timoleague 1-6
Newtownshandrum 1-5

A CLOSE battle saw Kilbrittan/Timoleague take the Under 16 B league title denying county champions Newtownshandrum a double in an exciting contest in Castle Road.

All the Kilbrittan/Timoleague first half scores came from Caroline Murphy who scored 1-4, pointing two frees she struck for a first half goal and two points from play as Kilbrittan kept pace with the county champions.

Kilbrittan/Timoleague opened the scoring with a point to which Katie Coughlan replied pointing a Newtownshandrum 45 metres free, Newtown hit the front with a Ciara Copps goal and points from Aoife Twohill Kara Clifford, Ciara Copps saw the sides level at the break 1-4 a piece.

The second half was a close affair as both defences held their lines, Caroline Murphy edged Kilbrittan ahead with a point but again it was level with Sara Moloney pointing a Newtownshandrum 45 metres free. Weather conditions made it hard for both teams and scores were hard to come by, with five minutes remaining the sides were still deadlocked. Kilbrittan applying pressure on the Newtown defence won 45 metres free, but Laura O'Callaghan's attempt was blocked, but she showed plenty of calmness to slot it over the bar.

With their noses ahead Kilbrittan dug deep and despite a lot of pressure they held firm to take the title.

Kilbrittan/Timoleague: L Moloney; A Hickey, G O'Brien, N Moloney; E Kearney, L O'Callaghan, A Crowley; C Harte, S Moloney; M O'Donovan, D O'Mahony, E Wall; A Dowling, C O'Neill, C Murphy. Subs: E O'Neill for A Hickey (20), S Burke for E Wall (35). Scorers: C Murphy 1-5 (0-2fl), L O'Callaghan 0-1.

Newtownshandrum: A Ryan; E O'Connor, C Watson, R McNamara; L Hooper, A Twohill, C O'Callaghan; D Cagney, S Moloney; K Coughlan, R Twohill, C Ryan; K Clifford B Ryan C Copps. Scorers: C Copps 1-1, S Moloney, A Twohill, K Clifford 0-1, K Coughlan, (fl) each.



Under 16 A County Champions, Valley Rovers.



Under 16 D County Champion, Banteer.

Goal-blitz hands crown to Mallow

Mallow 4-10
Tracton 0-10

MALLOW made it a double as they secured the Intermediate league title defeating Tracton recently. Earlier in the season they took the championship crown and showing the same determination they added their first Intermediate league title.

Mallow led 2-5 to 0-7 at the break and it was their ability to grab two goals in each half that proved to be the difference between the sides at the full time whistle.

First half goals from Katie Buckley and Jane Fitzpatrick, plus points from Michelle Browne, Katie Buckley and Jane Fitzpatrick helped Mallow build up their interval 2-5 to 0-7 lead. Jennifer Lynch hit five first half Tracton points while Chloe Castleton and Aoife Kiely hit one each as they kept Mallow in sight.

From the restart Mallow set about extending their advantage and with their defence on top they restricted the Tracton attack to three second half points, while up

front they continued to hold the upper hand over the Tracton defence.

Mallow added two further goals through Michelle Browne and Katie Buckley while Bronagh Ganley, Michelle Browne and Jane Fitzpatrick added points. Tracton worked hard to get into the game but found the going hard against the strong Mallow defence. Clodagh Fitzgerald and Jennifer Lynch (2) added their second half scores to their tally, but the Mallow girls who were determined to finish the season on

a high claimed their championship crown.

Tracton: R Walsh; E Collins, T Harrington, C Lynch; A Dempsey, K O'Sullivan, N Mullane; J Lynch, M McGuinness; C Fitzgerald, M Jagoe, C Castleton; A Kiely, J Griffin, E Harrington. Subs: G Hurley for N Mullane (38), C Murray for E Harrington (57), J Dempsey for C Fitzgerald (57), T O'Callaghan for M McGuinness (57). Scorers: J Lynch 0-7 points (0-5 fl, 0-1 45"), C Castleton, A Kiely, C Fitzgerald 0-1 each.

Mallow: S O'Connor; L Tannet, K O'Halloran, B O'Sullivan; K Healy, K Coakley, A O'Rourke; M Byrne, E Coakley; E Forde, K O'Brien (cl), Fitzpatrick; B Ganley, K Buckley, M Browne. Scorers: M Browne 1-6, K Buckley 2-1, J Fitzpatrick 1-2; B Ganley 0-1.

Nov. 2010

Press Release

22.11.2010

Camogie stars rewarded for top performances

Eight of the country's top camogie stars were honoured at a gala lunch at Croke Park Hotel, this afternoon (Monday, November 22nd) for their impressive displays throughout the Gala Senior Camogie Championship.

Wexford's All Ireland winning duo, Mary Leacy and team mate Aoife O'Connor along with Galway star Brenda Hanney were among the recipients.

In association with the Irish Daily Star and Gala, players were chosen for their top class displays during the championship.

Galway, this year's All Ireland finalists picked up three awards with wing forward Brenda Hanney, sharpshooter Aislinn Connolly and wing-back Regina Glynn all selected. Cork trio, Gemma O'Connor, Jennifer O'Leary and Anna Geary (a double recipient) were also feted at the award winning lunch.

Wexford's Mary Leacy, collected on the double for her performances against Tipperary and in the All Ireland semi-final win over Kilkenny with wing back Aoife O'Connor also rewarded for her display against the Cats, during the round robin stages of the championship.

Speaking about the awards President of the Camogie Association Joan O'Flynn:

"The Camogie Association would like to congratulate all of this year's recipients who were noteworthy for their fantastic displays during an extremely exciting championship. We would also like to acknowledge the support of Gala, our championship sponsors, whose commitment to the association, is reflected in yet another great initiative. And finally, to the Irish Daily Star we are very thankful for their strong and consistent coverage of camogie. As an association we are constantly striving to increase our profile and naturally we rely upon the media for this. The Irish Daily Star have been excellent throughout this season in support of our goal."

- This is the Inaugural year of the Irish Daily Star/Gala Performance Award scheme.
- Galway trio Brenda Hanney, Aislinn Connolly and Regina Glynn were also chosen as 2010 Camogie Association All Stars as was Cork wing back Anna Geary and Wexford centre back Mary Leacy.
- The recipients are as follows:
 Gemma O'Connor (Cork) v Tipperary on June 12th
 Anna Geary (Cork) v Kilkenny on June 19th
 Aislinn Connolly (Galway) v Wexford on June 26th
 Brenda Hanney (Galway) v Cork on July 3rd
 Mary Leacy (Wexford) v Tipperary on July 10th
 Anna Geary (Cork) v Wexford on July 17th
 Aoife O'Connor (Wexford) v Kilkenny on July 24th
 Mary Leacy (Wexford) v Kilkenny on August 14th
 Jennifer O'Leary (Cork) v Galway on August 14th
 Regina Glynn (Galway) v Cork on August 14th (All Ireland Semi-final replay)

President's November Blog President's Blog November 2010

At this time of the year the action moves away from the pitches and the glamour moves centre stage.



Camogie parties in full swing

Apart from the outstanding night that was this year's All Stars in City West, I've been to several other Camogie parties recently.

Two of these were big club birthdays!

Congratulations to St. Ibars/Shelmaliers in Wexford who celebrate their Silver Jubilee and to St. Laurence's in Kildare who've reached the 30 year mark.

I had the pleasure of joining their very successful events to mark the occasion with St. Ibars/Shelmaliers Camogie joining their GAA and Ladies Football families in opening a fabulous new club complex.

Youghal Camogie did it in style too when they celebrated their Cork junior championship and league double at a fabulous presentation night with their GAA counterparts.

Lots of county medal presentations on also at the moment.

Wexford led the way in mid October. A night of stars.

This was the case also at Antrim's (Premier Junior) All Ireland presentation and Kildare's (Nancy Murray Cup) presentation nights.

Camogie representatives for One Club Working Group
 At many of these social events the close links at club level between the various Gaelic codes has been noticeable. Many of the presentation nights are joint affairs with all codes being recognised.

At national level, a working group is examining the feasibility of a single administrative structure to support and promote all Gaelic Games at club level.

The Camogie representatives on the 'One Club Model Working Group' are:

- Orla Considine, Chair of Clare Camogie Board, Munster Council PRO and member of Clooney Camogie
- Geraldine Beattie Greene, Chair of Roscommon Camogie Board, member of Camogie Association National Resource Management Committee and member of St. Dominics Camogie/GAA/Ladies Football
- Colm Hoban, former Chair of Kildare Camogie Board and Treasurer of Maynooth Camogie/GAA/Ladies Football.

The working group's first meeting is December it will report in Spring 2011.

Senior Championship 2011

Central Council (Ardchomhairle) had its last meeting of the year recently and decided that the format for next year's championship would remain as in 2010.

So for the first time in recent years, with Offaly stepping up, eight teams will contest the Gala All Ireland Senior championship. The championship will be a single round robin basis - each team playing each other - followed by open draw semi finals

The Division 1 National League will remain as in 2010 - two groups with semi finals.

Forthcoming dates

Don't forget

- 4th December - Coaching Conference in Croke Park
- 5/6th February - All Ireland Intermediate and Senior Club semi finals
- 6th March - All Ireland Intermediate and Senior Club Finals in Croke Park.

In meantime, hope all AGMs and Conventions are progressing well.

Joan O'Flynn
 Siobhán Ní Fhloinn
 Uachtarán

Eoghan Cormican looks ahead to the All Ireland Junior Club Final
 Eoghan Cormican looks ahead to the All Ireland Junior Club Final. With Christmas just around the corner, the All Ireland junior crown up for grabs this afternoon is undoubtedly top of the wish list for Munster Champions Corofin and Four Roads of Roscommon, who lock horns in this eagerly awaited joust.



Today's encounter may not carry the same appeal as other deciders around this time of year, or generate the same media interest but you can be sure that there's not many sporting enthusiasts in North Clare or South Roscommon who won't make the short journey to Kenny Park, Athenry for what promises to be a riveting contest.

Adding to the Nancy Murray Cup captured last year, an All Ireland club title for Four Roads would represent another major step in the development of camogie in Roscommon. Nevertheless, their presence in today's final is proof positive of the huge strides made by all involved in the small ball game in the county.

Boosted by provincial success, Corofin will certainly not be lacking in confidence ahead of their first All Ireland final appearance.

Their talented centre-forward Clare Commene stepped up to the plate in the semi-final shooting 2-9, while, on the other side, Four Roads sharpshooter Lizzie Glennon-Tully tallied 1-7. Indeed, both teams possess a potent forward division and it may come down to which defence can best stamp their authority on proceedings.

Four Roads manager Simon Coyle will be hoping that his half back line and midfield can get the kind of possession grip that they enjoyed in their historic semi-final win against Kilmessan, for there's enough will to Lizzie Glennon-Tully and power in Niamh Coyle to turn the screw on the Corofin rearguard. Although at the other end Corofin will be confident that they too can inflict damage.

Centre-forward Clare Commene-whose battle with Siobhan Coyle should be one of the intriguing subplots of Sunday's tie-will spearhead the attack, ably assisted by Aoife Davoren and Marie Rafferty, both of whom are well capable of finding the target.

Dead ball specialist Commene amassed an incredible 2-9 in the semi-final, with Edel Keating and Clare minor Niamh O'Dea forming a formidable midfield partnership. Further back the field, full back Muireann Kelleher, Lisa Clancy and Brenda O'Donoghue operate a frugal rearguard.

Certainly, Four Roads semi-final win was a statement in itself, decorated with unrelenting commitment, flair, skill and electrifying pace from a potent offensive unit. Each of these ingredients contributed to a comfortable 2-13 to 0-6 win over Leinster Champions Kilmessan.

Interestingly, Four Roads were unsuccessful at provincial level losing out to Sarsfields of Galway who will represent Connacht at intermediate level.

That said, for Four Roads, this afternoon represents a shot at redemption. Having lost out to Lavey of Derry in the semi-final twelve months ago, their semi-final victory over Meath outfit Kilmessan ensured their passage in the showpiece event.

Corofin, however, were made to work all the way at the penultimate stage with two goals in the third quarter proving vital in carving out the win. Despite trailing Ulster champions Tir na nOg (Antrim) at half time, the Clare side who defeated Cappoquin to capture the Munster title rallied superbly to seal a final berth.

The outcome may be very much in doubt, but what is a certainty is that an intriguing tussle lies in store as two parish's battle for the ultimate accolade.

Preview of Corofin v Four Roads Camogie

Preview of Corofin v Four Roads Camogie

Eoin Brennan

When Corofin hosted Four Roads this year in the All-Ireland Féile na nGael competition, little did they ever contemplate that the clubs would meet again so soon and at such a critical stage of the championship season.

Back in the Féile weekend in June, both clubs simply had their eye on county titles although admittedly from totally different perspectives. Four Roads were intent on completing a three-in-a-row of county senior titles while Corofin were hoping to avoid a three-in-a-row of intermediate final losses and finally make the leap to senior for the first time.

However, Clare supporters' familiarity with Four Roads doesn't simply end with their Féile links and no, before you say it, it has nothing to do with Big Tom's greatest hit either, a song that has probably haunted the residents of Glenamaddy ever since. No, the connection stems from the Roscommon side's meeting with Kilmaley in the All-Ireland semi-final equivalent only two years ago. You would be forgiven for not remembering it as the game was hardly a classic, with the Clare champions strolling to a 4-11 to 0-03 victory that in hindsight was of scant preparation for the final.

However, how much information Corofin can extract from that game is questionable as there were mitigating circumstances for the one-sided result that November day in Gurteen. Clare camogie was on a high at the time, having just won the All-Ireland junior championship, with three Kilmaley players in the squad as well as four on the county minor panel that also reached the All-Ireland decider in early September. That buoyancy plus the first-half dismissal of Four Roads' county senior Donna Kelly ensured that Kilmaley cantered through their challenge but more significantly, the inequality in the championship was perhaps as pertinent to the final scoreline.

Kilmaley were the Clare senior champions and realistically should not have been in the same competition as the Roscommon senior champions when viewing it from a neutral camogie viewpoint. That format has since been restructured to provide a more level playing field and therefore after two successive losses, Four Roads finally got past the semi-final stage to meet the Clare intermediate champions, Corofin.

It makes this a difficult game to judge but in general terms, Corofin will go into this game with nothing to lose. The north Clare side have endured far more stringent tests along the way than their Roscommon counterparts and that alone has instilled a great bond within the camp than no domestic championship ever could. In contrast, Four Roads, despite an average winning margin of 15 points, don't really know how they will react when really put to the pin of their collar. Outside of their own county final against rivals Athleague, they have pretty much had it their own way against London side Tara and Meath's Kilmessan, hardly world beating camogie regions in the broader scheme of things. In fact, their only real challenge to date came in the form of Galway intermediate champions Sarsfields in the Connacht Intermediate decider but that ended in defeat.

Corofin may not have the All-Ireland series experience of their opponents but on the flip side they also are without the baggage caused by repeated defeats at the business end of the competition that Four Roads carry. Momentum has carried Corofin this far and as a once-off experience, they are fresher and not as war weary as their opponents and will be more than willing to give it everything in order to create further history for both club and county.

Opportunity knocks for Four Roads

Opportunity knocks for Four Roads

Ian Cooney of the Roscommon Herald looks ahead to Sunday's final



Four Roads are appearing in their first All-Ireland junior club final in six years. Roscommon Herald Sports Editor Ian Cooney looks at the South Roscommon side's prospects and hones in on their desire to make the most of this opportunity...

Roscommon camogie is on a bit of a roll following last year's Nancy Murray Cup triumph. Since then Four Roads have captured the Connacht intermediate championship and a stirring second-half performance from Athleague landed the provincial junior title a few months ago. But All-Ireland recognition at club level is the only currency work talking about in Four Roads as they prepare for today's eagerly anticipated All-Ireland junior club final against Corofin.

Victory would mean everything to the Four Roads girls. A 4-13 to 0-8 defeat against Leitrim Fontenoy's in 2004 pointed to a team in its infancy. The intervening years have witnessed Four Roads make progress, albeit they have always struggled at the semi-final stage against superior opposition.

This year has been different though. A restructuring of the championship has provided a more even playing field and Four Roads have prospered as a result. They will parade the perfect mix of youth and experience and they feel that their time has come to deliver a much-coveted All-Ireland final.

Their semi-final dismissal of Kilmessan from Meath bore all the hallmarks of a team determined to end the famine. Apart from the concession of a penalty in the opening minute, Four Roads dominated from pillar to post. Niamh Coyle and Lizzie Glennon-Tully were immense up front.

Gertie Dowd and Catherine Rogerson provided the platform at midfield, while Siobhan Coyle and Marie Glennon-Kelly hurled as if their lives depended on it in defence.

In an interview with the Roscommon Herald ahead of today's final, Simon Coyle, who is joined by Joe Mannion, Mark Crosbie and Marie O'Brien, on the management team was in no doubt what was required for All-Ireland success. "In sport you challenge yourself to improve. We want to get back to the level we were at against Kilmessan but it won't be easy.

"Winning an All-Ireland would mean everything to the girls. We've covered a lot of ground over the last two years. The girls have been so dedicated and I would be delighted to see them win on Sunday. "We're dedicated to hurling. When a team hurt to the best of their ability, you can ask for no more. That's the key on Sunday," he assessed.

With those words of wisdom ringing in their ears, Four Roads are primed to deliver on the big stage. The challenge is huge but Four Roads like nothing better than a challenge to be reckoned with.



While 12 of the current Four Roads side also played

against Kilmaley in 2008 and 11 represented the county in their All-Ireland Junior A (Nancy Murray) victory last year, Corofin also have their aces in the pack in the form of All-Ireland Junior title winner from 2008, Claire Commene who has been their stand-out performer in recent years as well as rising star Niamh O'Dea who is surely one of the country's finest dual talents.

Corofin certainly didn't expect to make it this far. A long awaited county intermediate title was essentially their Holy Grail when setting out at the start of the year after two successive heartbreaking final defeats. However, now that they have made it this far, they will be determined to finish the job, no matter what their opponents or indeed the weather throws at them.



Michaela Morkan, Offaly, in action against Siona Nolan, Wexford, Gala All-Ireland Intermediate Camogie Championship Final, Wexford v Offaly, Croke Park, Dublin. Picture credit: Paul Mohan

Millstreet
finish in
style to
bag title

Millstreet 6-5
Glen Rovers 3-4

MILLSTREET produced a strong second half display to overcome Glen Rovers and take the Junior B Plate in Cloughduv recently, writes MARY NEWMAN.

Just two points separated the sides at half-time, Millstreet ahead by 2-1 to 1-2 after goals from Aileen Buckley and Kayleigh Sheehan.

A Lauren Callanan goal and points from Orla Collins and Stephanie Callanan kept the Glen girls in touch.

Millstreet stretched their advantage in the second half with further goals from Kate O'Keeffe and Muireann Murphy but the Glen battled hard against the strong Millstreet defence.

The Glen cut the deficit with goals from Lauren Callanan and Aisling Wallace.

They continued to apply pressure on the Millstreet defence and cut the lead to six points but they could find no way past Elmarie Cronin in the Millstreet goal who denied them with three superb saves.

This inspired Millstreet and they finished strongly with two late goals from Muireann Murphy and Kate O'Keeffe to take the spoils.

Scorers for Millstreet: A Buckley, K O'Keeffe 2-0 each, M Murphy 1-3, K Sheehan 1-2, D Looney 0-1.

Glen Rovers: L Callanan 2-0, A Wallace 1-0, O Collins 0-2, S Callanan 0-1, J Hosford 0-1.

MILLSTREET: E Cronin; E Twomey, Dennehy, Murphy; O Kiely, Murphy, J Dunne; A J O'Reilly, A Barry, A Frazer, D Looney, Murphy; A Buckley Sheehan, E O'Sullivan. Sub: K O'Keeffe for E O'Sullivan.

GLEN ROVERS: E Dunlea; N O'Sullivan, S Busted, C O'Keeffe; C Walsh, A Murphy, L Cotter; L Callanan, J Hosford; L Crowley, O Collins, S Callanan; M Sheehan, S Cullinane, T Kenneally.

Ref: Diarmuid Kirwin (Eire Og).

Copps cannot stop Kilbriittain express

Kilbriittain/Timoleague 1-6
Newtownshandrum 1-5

A COMBINED team of Kilbriittain/Timoleague denied Newtown a double as they held on to take the U16 B league title, edging out the county champions in a thrilling final in Castle Road.

Caroline Murphy struck 1-4 for K/T in the opening half all but two points coming from frees as K/T kept Newtown in sight.

K/T were first on the score board with a point, to which Katie Coughlan replied, pointing a Newtown 45-metre free.

Newtown took the lead with goal from Ciara Copps and points from Aoife Twohill Kara Clifford, Ciara Copps saw the side's level 1-4 each at the interval.

Both defences came under huge pressure in the second half Caroline Murphy edged K/T ahead with a point but Sara Moloney had the sides all square again pointing a Newtownshandrum 45m free.

Conditions made it hard for both teams but they battled hard to overcome the rain and wind and with five minutes remaining were still level as neither side could get the vital break needed to take control.

Kilbriittain/Timoleague put the Newtownshandrum defence under pressure and won 45 but in the heavy conditions Laura O'Callaghan's attempt was blocked and cleared. But she held her nerve to confidently send it over the bar seconds later to give K/T the lead.



The Kilbriittain team which won the U16 B league title defeating county champions Newtownshandrum in the final.

Despite a lot of Newtownshandrum pressure, K/T held their lines to the full-time whistle.

Kilbriittain/Timoleague full-back Grainne O'Brien was selected as player of the match after a superb performance in defence.

Scorers for Kilbriittain/Timoleague: C Murphy 1-5 (0-2f), L O Callaghan 0-1.

Newtownshandrum: C Copps 1-1, S Moloney, A Twohill, K Clifford, K Coughlan (f) 0-1 each.

KILBRIITTAIN/TIMOLEAGUE: L Moloney; A Hickey, G O'Brien, N Moloney; E Kearney, L O'Callaghan, A Crowley; C Harle, S Moloney; M O'Donovan, D O'Mahony, E Wall; A Dowling, C O'Neill, C Murphy. Subs: E O'Neill for A Hickey (20), S Burke for E Wall (35).

NEWTOWNSHANDRUM: A Ryan; E O'Connor, C Watson, R McNamara; L Hooper, A Twohill, C O'Callaghan; D Cagney, S Moloney; K Coughlan, R Twohill, C Ryan; K Clifford, B Ryan, C Copps.

Curtain falls on the season

THE last competition to be decided for 2010 will see Douglas and Inniscarra come face to face for the second time in six days when they meet this afternoon in Castle Road in the Senior League final at 2pm.

With the senior county championship title already safely secured and their place in the All-Ireland club championship semi-final pencilled in for February 6 next, Inniscarra will be hoping to continue

what has been remarkable season to date and take the senior league crown for the first time. Already this season they have also added the Minor A championship crown and the junior shield to their haul of trophies and they will be hoping to continue their run by capturing the league for the first time. Douglas lost out in the minor final to Inniscarra last weekend will be hoping to reverse that result and be the first side to

topple the new county champions, it promises to be an interesting clash as the county board bring down the curtain on a hectic fixture schedule of games and one for which they can take a bow. The huge fixture schedule in all grades will by 4pm this afternoon be completed and certainly having their own grounds at Castle Road has helped enormously in achieving the target of completing their fixture programme.

Inniscarra dethrone minor champs Douglas

Inniscarra 4-4
Douglas 0-7

THE fairytale that has been the season of 2010 continued for Inniscarra as they overcame holders Douglas to be crowned Minor A county champions for the first time in the club's history, writes MARY NEWMAN.

On the day, Inniscarra looked the better side and their ability to grab goals was crucial, Laura Burke striking two in the opening half with Joanne Casey grabbing one in each half as they put the

Douglas defence under a lot of pressure.

Douglas made the better start and they opened up a three-points lead with Katriona Mackey on target twice from two frees and a 45.

Inniscarra found the early stages of the half difficult as they battled with the Douglas defence, but they got a vital break 20 minutes in when Joanne Casey's free from out on the wing deceived the Douglas defence and ended up in the net, the dipping sun making life difficult for the Douglas defender.

Three minutes later Laura Burke fired Inniscarra into the lead when she turned her marker and headed straight for goal to fire the ball into the net.

Four minutes of injury-time produced three further scores, Laura Burke adding to their tally with a second goal before Aine O'Donovan and Katriona Mackey pointed to keep Douglas in the hunt as Inniscarra led 3-0 to 0-5 at the interval.

Both defences were on top for the opening 10 minutes of the second half, but eventually Inniscarra extended their advantage

when Joanne Casey grabbed their fourth goal.

Allanah Twohig added a point and it was all Inniscarra as Douglas struggled to come to grips.

Katriona Mackey worked hard to get her side into the game but up front they never looked like breaking the strong hold the Inniscarra defence had.

Katriona Mackey pointed two frees, but Inniscarra continued to hold the upper hand and points from Joanne Casey, Laura Burke and Aine O'Connor sealed victory for the mid-Cork girls.

Inniscarra's Rosie O'Mahony was named player of the match following a superb display at the heart of the Inniscarra defence.

Scorers for Inniscarra: L Burke, J Casey (0-1f) 2-1 each, A O'Connor A Twohig 0-1 each. Douglas: K Mackey 0-6 (0-5f, 0-1 45f) Aine O'Donovan 0-1.

INNISCARRA: E O'Donovan; S O'Callaghan (cl), A Twohig, S Buckley; E Kingston, R O'Mahony, A Ni Riain; M Desmond, O Healy; J Casey, A O'Connor, C Sheehan; L Burke, N McCarthy; M Corkery.

Sub: E Buckley for C Sheehan (29). DOUGLAS: J Kavanagh (cl), A Potts, E O'Sullivan, E Kavanagh; C Lynch, P Mackey, S Duggan; D Cotter, Aine O'Donovan, R Baxter, Aine O'Donovan, L Jenkins; R Hickey, N O'Donoghue, C Shing. Subs: S Dempsey for A O'Donovan (19), C Duggan for R Baxter (49). Referee: Colette O'Mahony (St Finbarr's).

Nov. 2010



Gearing up for another shot at Rebel glory next year

Anna Geary was Cork's only recipient of a camogie All-Star this year, **Sarah O'Donovan** discovers how the Milford star keeps striking success



THIS year, for the first time, just one Cork camogie player was awarded with a coveted All-Star award at the glittering awards ceremony in the City West Hotel. In previous years Cork's appearance in an All-Ireland final would have ensured that the Rebels would have been handsomely represented on the All-Star team but a semi-final loss to Galway, after extra-time, was critically looked upon and only Milford's Anna Geary was deemed to have made the cut.

Geary was back in the fray in 2010 after a two-year absence and wasted no time in getting back to her best, picking up two Gala Players of the Week performance awards over the course of the season.

It was a difficult summer for the Rebels, with below-par performances against Kilkenny and Galway during the group stages of the championship but wins over Tipperary, Wexford, Clare and Dublin secured a semi-final clash with Galway in Nowlan Park in the middle of August. Cork came back from the dead to salvage a replay that day but couldn't withstand the momentum of an in-form Galway side the following week and were forced to bow out of the All-Ireland series at the penultimate stage for the first time in nine years.

Geary admits it was extremely disappointing to lose an All-Ireland semi-final.

"To be honest, we were shell-shocked at the final whistle and couldn't believe that we had left it behind us but we knew that we had no one to blame but ourselves.

"In saying that, the Galway team that lined out this year was a different team to previous years and I suppose we realised after that we saw in them that tenacity and drive that they would have previously seen in us, so it has been a wake-up call."

The fact that the side were chasing a three-in-a-row dream for the second time in eight years made the loss all the harder to take.

Anna has collected nearly every honour available to a camogie player with three All-Stars, three senior All-Ireland medals and a coveted player of the match award under her belt but admits success came only through hard work.

"I was what you would have called a slow-starter when it came to camogie and certainly wouldn't have been the strongest player by any means at the beginning but under the guidance of Milford coach Anne Watson and personal one-to-one sessions with my dad in the back garden I couldn't but improve!"

"Coupled with that, I went to St Mary's Charleville, a renowned camogie school and because we were so competitive and the training was so intense, it quickly became a goal of mine to achieve as much as I could in the sport.

"I have 10 All-Ireland medals with St Mary's, which is a significant collection and I suppose it shows the level of commitment we pledged to the sport in the school in our efforts to be successful.

"The year we won the U16 county with Milford, Anne Watson was a selector with the Cork minors and I was brought along to the Cork set-up.

"It was my first introduction to minor camogie and it wasn't the best of starts considering that we were beaten by Tipperary, despite coming in to the game as All-Ireland champions but it was probably a wake-up call in one sense in that I realised quickly that playing with Cork doesn't automatically mean a silver-spooned upbringing.

"We went on to win a three-in-a-row of All-Ireland titles after that and I was lucky enough to be captain of the three-in-a-row winning team.

"What is significant and a little worrying about that victory is that Cork have failed to win a title at that level since 2003 and that has become a major concern for Cork camogie in recent years as the conveyor belt of players coming to senior level with experience of winning seems to be slowing down rapidly."

Geary made the step-up to senior level at a relatively young age but was thrown in at the deep end and had to learn some tough lessons almost immediately.

"I came on to the senior panel in 2003 with a month to go to the All-Ireland final and the training alone would have been a bonus that year but I did make my debut as it happened and was drafted in at full-forward on Tipperary's Una O'Dwyer in the second half.

"Una went on to win player of the match, which didn't do much for my standing that particular day but it was a

STAR ATTRACTION:
Cork's Anna Geary with her 2010 Camogie All-Star award at the awards ceremony at Citywest Hotel earlier this month.

Picture: SPORTSFILE
Word: nebnau

Nov. 2010



EYE ON THE BALL: Cork's Anna Geary brings the ball out of defence against Tipperary in the Camogie National League final back in 2006.
Picture: Des Barry

ANNA GEARY ON...

COMBINING WORK AND SPORT IN THE RECESSION

"THE level of commitment required at senior level is huge but I'm lucky enough that my company, VMware in Ballincollig, have been extremely flexible and obliging.
"They were willing to accommodate me for the All-Stars and the different functions that have been on throughout the year and that has been such a help."

TOUGHEST OPPONENT

"Claire Grogan down through the years has been a thorn in my side, right from U14 level up to senior.
"She is the type of player who has not just the skills but a fantastic brain for the game and that makes it all the more difficult to mark her because if things aren't going right for her she can dispense with plan A and commence with plan B.
"From a club point of view, I hate marking Rena Buckley!
"You can put Rena in any position on the field and she will adapt, it doesn't matter where she is.
"She has an awareness that is second to none, just look at the goal she got at the death in this year's county final.
"Within our club Elaine O'Riordan is a serious talent and that is evidenced by the fact that she was pushing hard for a starting place with the Cork seniors this year right through the season."

FAVOURITE PLAYER OF ALL TIME

"From a camogie point of view, players like Mags Finn and Lynn Dunlea were obviously players I aspired to be like but from a hurling perspective I was a bit unorthodox in that I snubbed the Cork greats for Offaly's Brian Whelan and Tipperary's Tommy Dunne."

THE MISSING PIECE IN THE JIGSAW

"SOME people would call us the nearly queens in Milford because we have been agonisingly close to winning a senior camogie championship on a number of occasions since coming up to the grade in 2003.

"As they say 'nearly never milked a cow' so not achieving a senior championship title win with Milford is my one regret.

"Ultimately your club is going to be where you start and finish your career.

"We were so successful underage that I think we thought our initial transition to senior would have been a little easier but again it was a hard lesson learned early.

"The Cork county championship is probably one of the hardest ones to win because you have two or three inter-county players playing with every team and there are six or eight teams who could genuinely win it in any one year if they have the momentum behind them.

"Granted the epic final of 2004 against Carrighoun where we

ANNA GEARY ON...

lost 6-11 to 5-11 was a great spectacle for camogie but that was little consolation for us when we were on the losing side!

"Last year against St Catherine's we were the favourites because we had the experience but they were just up senior and I think they had no inhibitions, no fear and just gave it a go.

"We under performed and they took their chances and I don't think it is our ambition that is blinding us, I think it's simply getting all the parts of the puzzle in place on the one day that is what needs to happen."

COMMENTATING WITH MÍCHEÁL Ó MUIRCHÉARTAIGH

"Croke Park asked if I would comment on the All-Ireland final this year with Micheál and to say it was an honour was an under-

THE VOICE: Micheál Ó Muircheartaigh was lucky enough to commentate with Geary before his retirement.

statement. To say he is a professional would do the man an injustice because in truth he is a god when it comes to commentary.

"I don't think I was right for about a day afterwards because I was still shell-shocked that I had got to work with him.

"It was looking at the All-Ireland for me from a different perspective and it took my mind off the fact that we weren't there.

"What better way to take your

mind off something than do a live commentary with Micheál.

"Unfortunately he did announce his retirement four

days later and there was

the slag since that he

commented for decades

and one hour with me

was enough to send

him in to retirement!"



learning curve and another example of that fact that we were really going to have to work hard in the Cork jersey if we wanted results. 2005 was our breakthrough year and I will never forget coming on to the pitch in Croke Park that day.

"The noise was deafening as there was over 25,000 people at the game.

"If you go from a few hundred people to that kind of a crowd in the space of a week, needless to say it can be a bit overwhelming.

"Tipperary were going for the three-in-a-row and I suppose for some of the older players it would have been nerve-wracking to face the old nemesis after two consecutive losses but we were fresh and used to beating Tipperary at underage level so we had respect but wouldn't have feared them.

"That day it went down to the wire and after the final whistle I couldn't speak because of the realisation that we had done it and that all the hard work and sacrifice of the year had actually paid off."

The accolades followed with Geary picking up her first All-Star alongside player of the match Emer Dillon and if it was possible to eclipse 2005, she managed it in 2006.

"From a personal point of view, being recognised as the player of the match in the 2006 final was a stand-out moment. It is of course only a bonus in a team sport where the goal is to train together and win together.

"I think that particular year I was at home and had that little bit more flexibility to train and do that bit extra and I would say the All-Star and the award in that year had the most meaning because I worked the hardest that year. It wasn't all plain sailing though as Cork were landed back to earth with a bang in 2007 with a heart-breaking loss to Wexford.

"I think the fact that Wexford hadn't won an All-Ireland title since 1976 had a huge bearing on the game.

"There was a positive pressure on them to do something for Wexford camogie that hadn't been done since the time some of their mothers had graced a Wexford jersey and credit to them, they relished that pressure.

"It came down to those two goals they scored in the first five minutes. We recovered and fought our way back in to the game but simply ran out of time, five minutes more and I think we would have won that game, hand on heart."

Geary took a year out after the 2007 loss and ventured to Luxembourg on a work-placement with college before

returning to the fold again in 2009.

"There was a fear when I left that I might come back and not be good enough for the team anymore because as with all things, life can move on without you.

"I found myself on the outside looking in when I did come back to the panel in 2009 and they won an All-Ireland without me ever pucking a ball in Croke Park.

"The 15 the management picked to play did the job and I suppose it was a motivation for me, coming into 2010, to work harder and earn my place back.

"Constantly this year I reminded myself of where I was in 2009 and it made me committed to every aspect of playing with Cork, from the training to the league games and obviously the championship games."

Regardless of Geary's efforts though, Cork were the ones on the outside looking in at this year's All-Ireland final and Geary hopes there can be a reversal of fortunes in 2011.

"Losing is never nice and not making the cut this year was a difficult pill to swallow.

"Picking up the All-Star was a small consolation but to be honest it was a bit lonely being on that stage without my teammates, as in previous years, so hopefully next year we can right the wrongs of 2010."

Inniscarra prevailed after a stunning year



LINDA MELLERICK

IT'S little wonder that the Cork County Camogie championship is viewed as the best in the country after once again producing some tremendous battles during the season.

Imokilly advanced from their own divisional playoff after a first round victory over Carbery and a comprehensive defeat of Carrigdhoun which very early on signalled their scoring prowess. Muskerry provided a walkover to Carrigdhoun in round one and Seandún didn't field, which was disappointing.

There were some shocks in the opening round of the championship proper, most notably with the shock defeat of St Catherine's by championship newcomers Ballincollig.

A Patricia Buttner goal with three minutes remaining made it a dream senior championship debut for the newly promoted side.

Imokilly continued their high scoring victories with a 3-16 to 0-1 victory over Rockbawn in July. Cloughduv had a one-point victory over Barryroe after a thrilling final six minutes saw them hit 1-2 without reply. Jennifer O'Leary gave a magnificent performance, scoring 11 points of her side's 1-12 total.

The losers of round one went into a second round qualifier. Again there were some games which went to the death. Courcy Rovers edged out Ballygarvan 0-9 to 0-8.

St Catherine's had 13 points to spare over Barryroe, while eight goals and 20 points saw St Finbarr's knock Rockbawn out of the 2010 championship.

A draw was very much on the cards until Rachel Myers showed up



Player of the Match in the Under 16A county championship final Valley Rovers' Tessa Crowley receives her trophy from Mary O'Sullivan, vice-chairwoman Juvenile Camogie Board.

for her third goal to put the game beyond the reach of a worthy Rockbawn side.

With nine teams remaining an additional round was drawn and it fell to Cloughduv and St Finbarr's to battle it out for a quarter-final spot. An injury-time point by the excellent Katherine Corkery granted Cloughduv their passage into the last eight.

Douglas reversed the pain inflicted on them last year when they faced Millford. Despite a late revival by the north Cork side which saw them hit 1-4 in seven minutes Douglas had done enough with their 1-10 to 1-1 lead entering the final quarter to hold on.

Ballincollig continued to defy the odds over Courcy Rovers.

The pick of the quarter-final previews was the clash of Imokilly v St Catherine's. By the end of the game Imokilly were fast becoming favourites to win the title. A second-half goal onslaught (three) knocked their opponents for six.

Inniscarra comfortably accounted for Cloughduv, 3-12 to 0-5.

Events were hotting up. The semi-final pairings became Inniscarra v Douglas and Imokilly v Ballincollig. Both games ended in a draw. Niamh Dilworth grabbed the equaliser for Inniscarra in the final minute while two Marie O'Neill goals in the space of two minutes

gave Imokilly another bite of the cherry after it looked as if Ballincollig had done enough to see them through to their first senior county final. It was Ballincollig who levelled the match a minute into injury time to force a replay.

Inniscarra and Douglas served up another enthralling encounter when they met again seven days later with the game nearly heading for extra time. Level five times, it was Laura Burke's point eight minutes into injury-time which sent Inniscarra to their first final appearance in five years.

In a replay which never really came to life, except in the final 10 minutes, Imokilly finally saw off the

challenge of Ballincollig to reach their third final in 34 years.

Amidst greasy underfoot conditions the sides were level four times in the opening period, six in total. The physical strength of Angela Walsh again proved crucial as casting aside the defensive challenge 49 minutes in she finished clinically to the net. Setting up teammate Emer O'Farrell for a second a minute later proved to be decisive as Imokilly emerged with a 2-8 to 1-8 victory.

The final was eagerly anticipated and extremely hard to call. And so it proved to be with it finishing all square in CIT, 4-9 a piece.

The atmosphere was electric. Substitute Margaret Cosgrove hit the equalising point as the third of the three minute's injury-time struck the clock. Inniscarra were rocked by the injury to Rena Buckley who failed to line out with a heavy shoulder injury. Imokilly too were hit for six when star player Angela Walsh had to leave the field 13 minutes in with ligament damage to her ankle. She re-appeared heavily strapped as the second half got underway, making a powerful impact, hitting 1-3.

It took five weeks to schedule the replay due to Inniscarra's involvement in the Munster series which they won in spectacular fashion and Inch Rovers' involvement in the Munster and All Ireland ladies football championship.

The replay was worth the wait.

Utter agony for Imokilly yet sheer jubilation for Inniscarra as a Rena Buckley goal five minutes into injury-time denied Imokilly at the death.

Inniscarra had claimed their first senior county title and how their supporters celebrated.

It was a tremendous championship. Games went down to the wire, others ended in deadlock. There were some magnificent individual displays and some magnificent team performances.

Inniscarra
Douglas

44
0-7

THE good times continued for Inniscarra as they added the Minor A county championship to their impressive haul of trophies in 2010 as they defeated champions Douglas for the first time.

From the throw-in Inniscarra were determined to take this title and it was goals that proved crucial as they made all the running. Laura Burke was on target with two in the first half while Joanne Casey again showed her ability to grab vital scores hitting one in each half as Inniscarra put huge pressure on the Douglas defence.

Douglas hit the front early and were three points ahead as Katriona Mackey pointed two frees and a 45, Inniscarra battled hard against the Douglas defence but struggled to get on the score board early. They got a vital break 20 minutes in when a Joanne Casey free from out on the wing deceived the Douglas defence and ended up in the net as the dipping sun made it difficult for the Douglas defender.

Three minutes later Laura Burke fired Inniscarra into the lead when she turned her marker and headed straight for goal to fire the ball to the net. Four minutes of injury time produced three further scores, Laura Burke adding to their tally with a

second goal before Aine O'Donovan and Katrina Mackey pointed to keep Douglas in the hunt as Inniscarra led 3-0 to 0-5 at the interval.

In the second half Inniscarra extended their advantage when Joanne Casey grabbed their fourth goal and Allannah Twohig added a point.

Katriona Mackey gave it everything as Douglas tried to get into the game but up front they never looked like breaking the strong hold the Inniscarra defence held. Katriona Mackey pointed two frees but Inniscarra continued to hold the upper hand and points from Joanne Casey, Laura Burke and Aine O'Connor sealed victory for the mid-Cork girls.

Inniscarra's Rosie O'Mahony was named as player of the match.

Inniscarra: E O'Donovan; S O Callaghan (c), A Twohig, S Buckley; E Kingston, R O'Mahony, A Ní Ráin; M Desmond, O Healy; J Casey, A O'Connor, C Sheehan; L Burke, N McCarthy; M Corkery. Sub: E Buckley for C Sheehan (29). Scorers: L Burke, J Casey (0-1) 2-1 each, A O'Connor A Twohig 0-1 each.

Douglas: J Kavanagh (c); A Peate, E O'Sullivan, E Kavanagh; C Lynch, P Mackey, S Duggan; D Cotter, Aine O'Donovan; R Baxter, Aine O'Donovan, L Jackson; C Hickey, N O'Donoghue, C Shine. Subs: S Dempsey for N O'Donoghue (41), C Duggan for R Baxter (49). Scorers: K Mackey 0-6 (0-5), 0-1 (45), Aine O'Donovan 0-1.

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

Banteer
Carrigtwohill

3-2
2-3

IT was another close contest in the replay of the U16 D county final where just two points separated the sides after another close encounter. Banteer set the foundations for victory with a superb opening thirty minutes where they hit three goals.

Aisling O'Brien had two and Emer Forde one as they put Carrigtwohill under a lot of early pressure. Holly Breheny had a Carrigtwohill point as Banteer held a half time lead of eight points 3-0 to 0-1.

Carrigtwohill showed great fighting spirit from the start of the second half as they applied a lot of pressure on the Banteer defence. Holly Breheny hit a point but Banteer replied with Vicky Withers striking two points. Weather conditions deteriorated in the second half and it was hard on both side but they gave it everything in quest of the title.

Cara Dixey goaled from a 45 metres free and she added a point as Carrigtwohill continued to up the pace. Emma Lynch grabbed a Carrigtwohill goal and as the pressure

intensified Banteer had to be at their best to hold off the strong Carrigtwohill challenge. With their backs to the wall the Banteer girls were not going to be denied and they held on to the finish to run out winners despite huge Carrigtwohill pressure. Lynda Dunlea Banteer was awarded the player of the Match award for her performance on the day.

Banteer: T Sheehan; M O'Neill, K O'Donoghue, M McAuliffe; L Murphy, G Cashman; L Dunlea; V Withers, L Howard; H Moore; L Flanagan, S Neenan; E Forde, A O'Brien; S Marshall. Subs: E Hartnett for S Marshall. Scorers: A O'Brien 2-0, E Forde 1-0, V Withers 0-2.

Carrigtwohill: N O'Sullivan; R McCourt, C Dixey, H Breheny; J Foley, R Sheehan, S Dorgan; A Horgan, A Buttner; E Corry, R J. Butler, E Lynch; C Rohan, S Curtin, D Holmes. Subs: E Lynch for J Foley (inj), A Crowley for R McCourt. Scorers: C Dixey 1-1 E Lynch, H Breheny 0-2.

Millstreet
Glen Rovers

6-5
3-4

Millstreet and Glen Rovers played out an exciting junior B plate final recently with the title going to Millstreet after their strong second-half display was enough to see them through.

Just two points separated the sides after a close opening 30 minutes as

Millstreet led 2-1 to 2-2. Goals from Aileen Buckley and Kaitlyn Sheehan helped them hold the lead after Lauren Callanan with a goal and points from Orla Collins and Stephanie Callanan kept the Glen girls in touch.

Millstreet stretched their advantage in the second half with goals from Kate O'Keefe and Muireann Murphy.

Scores were hard to come by but the Glen cut the deficit with goals from Lauren Callanan and Aisling Wallace and applying a lot of pressure on the Millstreet defence they cut the lead to six points. Elmarie Cronin in the Millstreet goal further denied them with three superb saves. This inspired Millstreet and they finished strong with two late goals from Muireann Murphy and Kate O'Keefe to run out winners after a good contest.

Millstreet: E Cronin; E Twomey Dennehy Murphy; O Kiely Murphy, J Dunne; A J O'Reilly, A Barry; A Frazer, D Looney Murphy; A Buckley Sheehan E O'Sullivan. Sub K O'Keefe for E O'Sullivan. Scorers: A Buckley, K O'Keefe 2-0 each, M Murphy 1-3, K Sheehan 1-2, D Looney 0-1.

Glen Rovers: E Dunlea; N O'Sullivan, S Busted, C O'Keefe; C Walsh, A Murphy, L Cotter (c); L Callanan, J Hordford; L Crowley, O Collins, S Callanan; M Sheehan, S Cullinane, T Kennaally. Scorers: L Callanan 2-0, A Wallace 1-0, O Collins 0-2, S Callanan 0-1, J Hordford 0-1.

Referee: Diarmuid Kirwin (Eire OG).

Inniscarra take senior league title

Inniscarra 0-10
Douglas 0-1

INNISCARRA rounded off a tremendous season as they added the senior league title to their trophy cabinet for the first time when they overcame Douglas at Castle Road on Saturday last.

Already this year Inniscarra captured the senior county title for the first time, and having added the Munster club championship title and the minor A championship crowns they were determined to take the league title.

Despite playing against the strong wind in the first half Inniscarra led 0-5 to 0-0 at the break.

Joanne Casey, Niamh McCarthy, Rena Buckley and Katie O'Mahony were on target

as Inniscarra made all the running and built up an early advantage to lead at the break.

Inniscarra, aided by the wind in the second half, won a lot of possession but they found it hard to get past Jessica Kavanagh in the Douglas goal who gave an inspirational display as she denied them on numerous occasions.

Inniscarra were sharper all over the field, their long

season and continuous involvement showing as in recent weeks they have come through a lot of tough games, Douglas to their credit battled hard and should have had more to show for their endeavours, Katriona Mackey pointed a late free to get them on the score board, but with Katie O'Mahony, Joanne Casey and captain Margaret Noelle O'Sullivan all pointing, Inniscarra ensured another title was secured to round off a tremendous season for the mid Cork side who contest the All Ireland club championship semi-final on February 6.

Inniscarra: Ni Riain; K Jones, L Hayes, M Buckley; R O' Mahony, R Buckley, E Kingston; M N O Sullivan; O Healy; F O'Connell, N Dilworth, K O' Mahony; J Casey, M Cosgrave, N McCarthy. Subs: T McCarthy for M Cosgrave (ht), A Twohig for N McCarthy (50), A O'Connor for K O' Mahony (50), A Ni Riain for M N O Sullivan (54), C Sheehan for E Kingston (57).

Scorers: K O' Mahony 0-3, J Casey 0-3 (0-2 45'), N McCarthy 0-2, R Buckley, M N O Sullivan 0-1 each.

Douglas: J Kavanagh; S Long, L O'Regan (cl), E Jordan; A Barrett, A O'Regan, S Duggan; P Mackey, C Murphy; C Lynch, K Mackey, Ailin O'Donovan; Aine O'Donovan, C Kavanagh, L O'Mahony Subs: T McCarthy for S Long (28), S O'Regan for C Murphy (45), J Kelleher for C Lynch (47), M O'Donovan for C Kavanagh (50).

Scorers: K Mackey 0-1 (ft).



Above: TRACY SHEEHAN presents the Under 16 B League Cup to Sinead Lordan Kilbrittan.

Left: Mary Bugler presents the Junior B Plate to Millstreet captain Deirdre Looney.



Nov. 2010



Four Roads take All Ireland Junior Club Title

By Daragh Ó Conchúir

The weather didn't claim all the sporting fixtures over the weekend and though it took an 11th hour change of venue, the All-Ireland junior club camogie final went ahead, much to delight of Four Roads.

With Athenry falling foul to snow, fog and frost, the game was swiftly transferred to Ballinasloe and it was the Roscommon team that took the honours in a keenly contested affair that was in doubt right until Gráinne Egan's injury time goal.

The sunshine couldn't mask the biting cold that clearly had an impact on early stages as the players struggled to gain an attacking edge.

Four Roads had most of the early play but were unable to breach a defence in which Lisa Clancy dominated at full-back. Indeed Corofin scored on their first attack in the sixth minute when Claire Commene converted a free.

Lizzie Glennon-Tully replied with a brace to give Four Roads the lead but with the skilful Niamh O'Dea doing well at midfield, Corofin had a sustained period of superiority, and an equalising point by Commene was scant reward for that.

They paid for some profligate shooting when Four Roads' half-backs and midfield pairing took charge in the final 10 minutes of the half, and points from Sinéad O'Brien and Gertie Dowd gave the Connacht champions a half time interval advantage of 0-4 to 0-2.

The game opened up more after the resumption, with both teams having goal-scoring opportunities. A combination of some fine defending by the likes of Orla Hughes, Marie Glennon-Kelly and inspirational captain Donna Kelly for Four Roads, and Clancy and brilliant goalkeeper Carmel Tierney kept the opposition forwards out until Egan's late strike.

Instead it was a private battle between Glennon-Tully and Commene on the scoreboard, with both players converting placed balls from prodigious distances.

Crucially though, Glennon-Tully was able to contribute from play and two excellent scores from the player of the match pushed the winners four points clear. The first was an outstanding effort, as the corner-forward quickly gathered possession before rounding Donna Courtney and then cutting onto her left before flashing the sliotar over the bar.

Corofin responded impressively though and a sensational point from the left flank by newly situated full-forward Edel Keating that brought to mind John Mullane's wonder score in the Munster hurling final against Cork, halved the deficit.

Just before that, Clancy had cleared a Commene shot off the line but the Corofin sharpshooter drove the resultant 45 straight over the bar and the temperature raised quite a bit, metaphorically at least.

The hour had just elapsed though when the heroic Tierney was finally beaten, Egan collecting a rebound from another save by the Corofin custodian before lashing to the net and a Niamh Coyle point was the last act of a famous day for the new All-Ireland champions.



Four Roads: B Mannion; C Glennon, O Hughes, M Glennon-Kelly; A Fallon, S Coyle, D Kelly; G Dowd 0-1, C Rogerson; N Coyle 0-1, G Egan 1-0, S O'Brien 0-1; L Glennon-Tully 0-6(3fs), P Lennon, E Treacy. Sub: A Rogerson for Treacy (ht)

Corofin: C Tierney; N Carkill, L Clancy, D Courtney; B O'Donoghue, M Kelleher, N Shannon; E Keating 0-1, N O'Dea; L McMahon, M Raftery, A Kelleher; A Davoren, C Commene 0-5(4fs), S Kelleher

Referee: C Egan (Cork)

Nov. 2010

cua4kidz

PURPLE AND GOLD STAR!

“It doesn't matter what the sport, play because you LOVE it but be prepared to work very hard if you want to succeed”



STAR FILE!

Name	Claire O'Connor
Age	29
Team	Wexford
Debut	1999 v Limerick
Position	Right Corner-Back
Honours	2 All-Ireland Senior titles, 1 All-Ireland U16 title, 5 Leinster Senior titles, 2 National Camogie League titles, 1 All-Ireland Club title, 3 Leinster Club titles, 5 Wexford Senior titles, 3 Leinster Senior Colleges, 1 All-Star Award, 1 Purple and Gold All-Star Award.
Club	Rathnure
Fav Food	Sushi and Lasagne
Fav Band	The Script
Fav Book	Marching Powder
Fav TV	Glee or Fringe
Fav Film	The Bourne Films
Hobbies	Sport, Singing and Acting
Occupation	Primary School Teacher

CLAIRE O'CONNOR WEXFORD

For Rathnure star, Claire O'Connor, 2010 has been an outstanding year for herself and her Wexford team-mates. A stunning victory over a tough Galway side gave the Yellow Bellettes their 5th All-Ireland title and they also added a National League by beating Kilkenny to win back-to-back titles. When the Camogie All-Star team was announced there were no surprises with the mighty Wexford girls having eight players named in the side, including Claire who was in the form of her life throughout the year. She was phenomenal in 2010 and did not concede a single score in 8 Championship matches from her corner-back position. Even sweeter for Claire was that she was also picked as the Player of the Match in the All-Ireland final. With a lot of confidence in the team and players in top form, Wexford will be around for some time to come!

Winning your 2nd All-Ireland Senior title with Wexford this year must have been amazing?

It was so amazing, even better than the first. Especially being able to stand on the pitch and look into the stand at our amazing supporters!

You must have a great squad of players and a great team spirit?

I feel very lucky to be part of a great squad. We are fortunate in Wexford at the moment to have a squad of fantastic players but also great friends. Years of playing on a team together creates a great bond between players, especially when you're always playing in a pressure, high performance situation.

What's the best game you were involved in during the year?

I was named as Player of the Match in the All-Ireland final so that's the highlight for me!

Which was the toughest team?

Galway.

And toughest opponent?

Lenny Holohan from Wexford. Training sessions are sometimes harder than matches!

Who do you admire the most?

All the other defenders on the Wexford team, including our goalkeeper.

Who was your childhood sporting heroes?

Catherine Murphy, a fantastic camogie player from my club with whom I had the pleasure of playing with.

What club do you play for and who are your biggest rivals?

My club is Rathnure; greatest sporting rivals would be Oulart The Ballagh.

What's your top club memory?

Winning the Senior Club Camogie Championship in 2008. We had waited eight years to win it.

What's the most important skill in your opinion?

Ability to strike the sliotar well on both sides, after that, reading the game, it always helps to be a step ahead.

What advice would you give to young players?

It doesn't matter what the sport, play because you LOVE it but be prepared to work very hard if you want to succeed.

What are your hopes for the future?

I would love to win another All-Ireland and a County Senior title with my club.



The whole family is steeped in GAA. Claire's Dad Teddy played corner-back for Wexford. She has four sisters, all of whom play with her for Club and County and in 2010, Claire and her sister Clara collected a Senior and Intermediate Soaring Star Award respectively.

2010 CAMOGIE ROLL OF HONOUR

CHAMPIONSHIPS

SENIOR ALL-IRELAND
WEXFORD
INTERMEDIATE ALL-IRELAND
OFFALY
JUNIOR ALL-IRELAND
ANTRIM
MINOR A ALL-IRELAND
GALWAY

NATIONAL LEAGUES

DIVISION 1 CHAMPIONS
WEXFORD
DIVISION 2 CHAMPIONS
WEXFORD
DIVISION 3 CHAMPIONS
LAOIS
DIVISION 4 CHAMPIONS
TYRONE

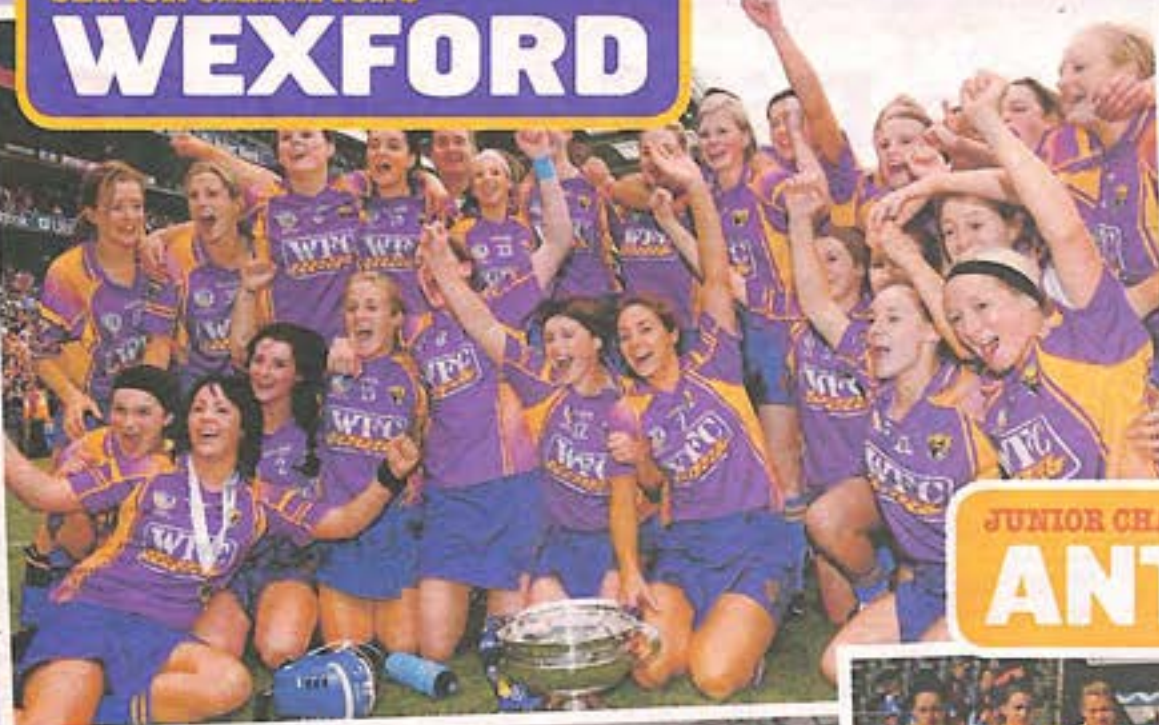
COLLEGES

ASHBOURNE CUP
HIT
ASHBOURNE SHIELD
UL
PURCELL CUP
DIT
PURCELL SHIELD
QUEENS

Fans of Camogie had plenty to cheer about in 2010 with loads of exciting matches and top class performances from the stars of the game. Wexford won their second All-Ireland title in four years with a hard fought victory over a promising Galway side. Offaly took the honours in the Intermediate grade and Ulster's finest, Antrim, took the Junior title. Make way - it's time for the Camogie gals to shine!

SENIOR CHAMPIONS

WEXFORD



Yellow Bellettes just wanna have fun!

Wexford players celebrate with the O'Duffy Cup after winning their second Gala All-Ireland Senior Camogie Championship title in four years.

JUNIOR CHAMPIONS

ANTRIM



Saffron superstars! The Antrim team who won the Gala All-Ireland Junior Camogie title after defeating Waterford in Croke Park.

INTERMEDIATE CHAMPIONS

OFFALY



Offaly good! Offaly players from left, Shelia Sullivan, Karen Nugent, Emma Dunne, Karen Brady and Linda Sullivan celebrate with the cup after winning the Gala All-Ireland Intermediate Camogie Championship final versus Wexford.

COOL CAMOGIE! STICKING AT IT IN DONEGAL!

In this issue of Cúl4kidz we take a look at some cool Camogie happenings away up there in Donegal!

U-12 CAMOGIE HAVE A GO DAY GO GAMES BLITZ



Over 50 Camogie players took to O'Donnell Park for an U-12 Blitz on the 18th September 2010. The heavy rain didn't dampen the spirits of these future Donegal stars while they

exhibited some excellent skill, determination and enthusiasm. Camdonagh, Burt, Four Masters and St Eunan's all produced some great team performances. It was particularly heartening to witness the displays of the Four Masters Club who have been striving hard to develop the game of Camogie in Donegal Town. Well done to everyone who took part.

DONEGAL HALLOWEEN ACADEMY

50 girls attended a two-day Halloween Camogie Academy in Burt on the 26th and 27th of October 2010. The girls ranged in age between 11 and 14. Clubs represented in the Academy included Four Masters, Letterkenny Gaels, St Eunan's, Burt and Camdonagh.

The girls received specialist training in the basic skills of camogie from top coaches Deirdre Grant and Mickey Glover. By the end of the Academy the improvement was notable. A Mini League was also run over the two days with the girls split into eight teams playing seven games each. The games were very competitive and played with great energy.



ST. PATRICK'S COLLEGE DRUMCONDRA



Camogie 2010-2011

Back row L to R: Neil Kirwan, John Ryan, Sinéad Kenefick, Laura Burns, Eimear Doherty, Eilish Cantwell, Brenda Fennelly, Christine Campion, Fiona Keating, Liz Leacy, Sheena O'Brien, Eimear Sheehan, Siobhan Doyle, Orla Keely, Ruísín Shanghnessy, Lynn Bradley, Deon Wright, Nathan Unwin.
Front row L to R: Brid Kehoe, Áine Manning, Niamh Walsh, Aisling Butler, Ciara Lyng, Margo Nolan, Orla McCormack, Rosemarie Bermingham, Maibh Kehoe, Glodagh Cleary.



St. Pats v Trinity 13.10.201



Phoenix Park - New Pavilion

Dec. 2010



Dublin Camogie

by GERRY O'SULLIVAN AND SEAMUS MASSEY

Of the gaelic games family of sports, Dublin has a special affinity for camogie. It is the only gaelic games association to have been founded in the capital and it is the only game where Dublin leads the crop in terms of All-Ireland senior titles won. The game has enjoyed a special relationship with the wonderful resource that is the Phoenix Park where the game has been played for over a century.

In 2010, the construction of the much needed Dressing Rooms Pavilion in association with St Oliver Plunketts/Eoghan Ruadh and Dúchas was completed. An official opening is ear-marked for 2011 but already the facility has been critically acclaimed.

The onfield programme was hectic – more matches; new teams; extra competitions and more numbers all joint to a steady upward curve. In these times of economic hardship it is pleasing to be able to report growth in any sector.

The highlight of the playing season was the success of the Under 16 team (Tom Humphries, Martina McGilloway, Colm Berkeley, Bernie Flaherty) in capturing the Leinster title after a thrilling win over Kilkenny. The first such title since 1996.

The Under 14 (Paul Beecher, Eimear Butler, Áine Anning, Fiona Ní Shúilleabháin, Joan Twomey) teams showed the huge potential that is on the way in the county with a wonderful win in the James Hurley All-Ireland competition in Cork. This followed on a great performance in the Leinster Final against Kilkenny.

The Under 13 development panel (Dave Pearson, Barbara Grennell, Pat Martin, Ken Nyhan, Pío McCarthy,

Declan Doran, Máirtín MacConlomaire, Tom Quinn, Tony Lynch) also performed superbly and held a superbly organised intercounty blitz in Naomh Bríd. One of the highlights of their year was the visit to Cllr Emer Costello, Lord Mayor of Dublin in the Mansion House.

The U15 squad (Pat Clinton, Maria Grandfield, Pat O'Shea, Declan Feeney) worked hard at preparing for the return to serious competitive action in 2011.

The participation of Dublin in the Coillte Under 14 Development Programme was another welcome development and the wonderful success of the Pink Day for Under 16 teams from a number of counties was a great playing success and financial reward for the Marie Keating Foundation.

The remarkable second All-Ireland Féile na nGael success of Lucan Sarsfields was particularly noteworthy. Well done to all at the 12th Lock.

On the senior front (Mick Byrne, Dave Dunning, Ann Colgan, Doreen Golden, John Hunt with assistance from Brendan Cooper and Gerry O'Sullivan in addition to physio Fiachra Power), a countywide trawl for players attracted a great response but a combination of a spate of injuries at key times of the year, inexperience and the absence of some key players due to travels and work and educational commitments hit the squad. Nevertheless the team pulled off a fine league win over Clare – the first for a number of years. Sincere appreciation to Parnells (St David's CBS); St Patrick's College, Lucan Sarsfields, Naomh Mearnóg, Erins Isle, Kilmacud Crokes, Ballyboden St Endas, Thomas Davis, Craobh Chiaráin, Naomh Maur, Trinity Gaels, Naomh Peregrines, Naomh Bríd and Ballinteer St Johns for the use of their facilities.

Adult Results 2010

Championship	Winners	R-Up
Senior A	Ballyboden St Endas	Erin Isle
Senior B	Naomh Uinsinn	Skerries Harps
Intermediate A	St Marks	Na Fianna
Intermediate B	Lucan Sarsfields	Trinity Gaels
Junior A	St Oliver Plunketts/Eoghan Ruadh	Naomh Bríd
Junior B	C.B.C	Naomh Barróg
Shield	Winners	R-Up
Senior A	Regional Team	Raheny
Senior B	Ballinteer St Johns	Good Counsel
Intermediate A	Raheny	Ballyboden St Endas
Intermediate B	Kilmacud Crokes	Round Tower
Junior A	Setanta	Erins Isle
Junior B	Faugh's/Celtic	Good Counsel
Summer Cup	Winners	R-Up
Senior A	Ballyboden St Endas	Erins Isle
Senior B	Portobello	Naomh Bríd
Intermediate	Crumlin	Na Fianna
Junior	Faugh's/Celtic	C.B.C
Leagues	Winners	R-Up
Senior A	Ballyboden St Endas	Naomh Uinsinn
Senior B Div 1	Naomh Bríd	Lucan Sarsfields or Skerries Harps
Senior B Div 2	Kilmacud Crokes	Ballyboden St Endas
Intermediate 1	Na Fianna B	St Marks or Crumlin
Intermediate 2	Lucan Sarsfields B	Clanna Gael Fontenoy
Junior A	St Oliver Plunketts/Eoghan Ruadh	Faugh's/Celtic
Junior B	Naomh Maur	Na Fianna C



Dublin Under 16 Camogie team - Leinster Champions 2010

Back Row L-R Olivia Rush, Aishling Spillane, Deirdre Dillon, Roisin Collins, Elaine O'Leary, Claire Rigney, Jade Wilson, Lizzy McSweeney, Jade Carey, Eva-Marie Elliot, Aoife Kelly (Captain) Siobhan Grimes

Front Row L-R Niamh O'Meara, Aishling Maher (0.01), Meggan O'Reilly, Eleanor Buggy, Alison Twomey, Ciara Berkeley, Kate Whyte, Louise Walshe, Kassie McEvoy, Grainne Smith
Picture Credit: iLivephotos.com

Leacys keep it in family as Wexford triumph

Wexford 1-12
Galway 1-10

They made a brave effort to steal it in the dying stages, but Croke Park proved 'Heartbreak Hotel' yet again for Galway camogie as Wexford narrowly held out to clinch their second senior title in four years.

Defeat in the intermediate final thwarted the Slaneysiders' big double ambitions, but their seniors added the championship to this year's league crown and, with their fifth title, proved that their 2007 victory was no one-hit wonder.

And one Wexford family was able to celebrate its own unique double, as Una Leacy lifted the O'Duffy Cup to match her equally brilliant older sister

M D'Arcy 7, C O'Connor 9, C O'Loughlin 8, M Atkinson (Inj), N Lambert 8, M Leacy 8 A O'Connor 7, C Murphy 7, D Codd 7, K Kelly 8, U Leacy 8 (Capt), M O'Leary 7, K Parrock 8, U Jacob 8, J Dwyer 6. Subs: C Storey 7 for Atkinson (13), L Holohan 6 for Codd (53).

Galway: S Egan 7, S Tannan 7, S Dervan 6, R Glynn 6, N Kilkenny 8, AM Hayes 6, T Marton 6, B Hanney 6, O Kilkenny 7, C Murray 5, T Maher (Capt) 8, A Connolly 8, T Rutledge 6, J Gill 6, V Curtin 7. Subs: L Ryan 7 for Murray (28), E Kilkenny 7 for Rutledge (in-1), H Cooney 6 for Marton (39), N McGrath 7 for Gill (56), A Lyttiskey for Orla Kilkenny (60).

K O'Brien (Dublin).

Mary, who captained the county in 2007.

Daughters of Margaret O'Leary, who herself made camogie's 'Team of the Century', the Leacy girls led by example again here when Wexford's seven-point half-time lead dwindled to just two, after they conceded a silly goal just as the game moved into injury-time.

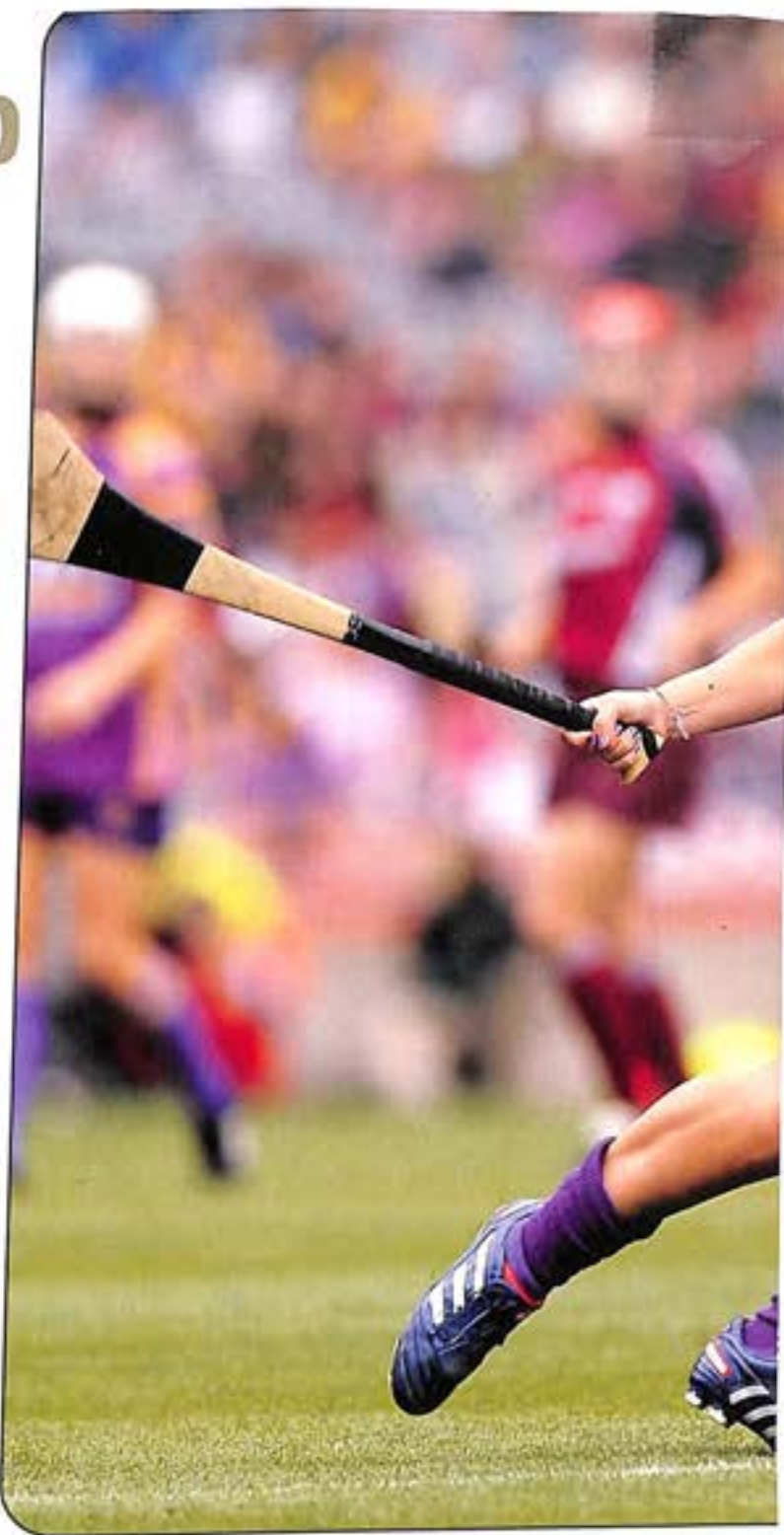
"It's the best feeling in the world, I never thought this would happen," said Una Leacy after equalling her older sister's achievement.

But the centre-forward, whose barnstorming surging runs did so much to open up Galway's defence in the first half, admitted that there were times during that second-half siege when she got flashbacks to their last victory.

"It was very like the 2007 final - we got off to a brilliant start again and were under pressure in the second half. But thankfully that's two years we're after holding out now. Our defence stood out all year. You couldn't ask for tighter or more dependable backs - they've given everything," Leacy enthused.

A brilliant start saw Wexford lead by 1-8 to 0-4 at half-time but their goalkeeper Mags D'Arcy had to be alert just five minutes after the re-start when Jessica Gill stood up to take a penalty that she had earned herself.

The St Martin's keeper deflected it well but she and a few more defenders were at fault in the dying minutes when Aisling Connolly's 35 metre free somehow crept over all their heads and into the top left



Katrina Parrock, Wexford, in action against Regina Glynn, Galway.

corner of the net to set up the cliffhanger finish.

But, in truth, Wexford always had a far greater scoring threat and, while they failed to find the target in those dying seconds, they always looked the side more capable of doing so throughout. That was little consolation for Galway's player-of-the-match contender Niamh Kilkenny, or veterans like Veronica Curtin and captain Therese Maher, whose efforts to lift them in the second half couldn't be faulted.

Curtin was the only starter involved when Galway won their

only senior title back in 1996. For Maher, losing her second final in three years, and fourth in total, was gut-wrenching.

"It's an absolutely devastated dressing-room in there," she admitted. "No amount of words is going to console anybody. You come to Croke Park to win but it's another day over, another All-Ireland lost."

Like manager Noel Finn, she pointed out that Galway's U-16 and minor titles this year gives them plenty of optimism for the future, but their pain was plain to see.

Finn's decision to start Jessica Gill, who had cruciate surgery last winter, in her first game of the summer will be debated. It meant reshuffling their attack and starting in-form Veronica Curtin at corner-forward. She didn't get into the game until moved to the wing after 25 minutes and finished the game with just one late score.

Finn had hoped Gill's quality and good form in training might help unlock Wexford's teak-tough defence but that was not to be, thanks to the brilliance of full-back Catherine O'Loughlin.

Mary Leacy and corner-back Claire O'Connor.

O'Connor's resilience, particularly in the second half, nicked her the player-of-the-match award in a great team defensive performance where Ciara Storey (Martin's daughter) did well after replacing early injury victim Karen Atkinson.

It is worth noting that even against a player like Curtin, O'Connor maintained her record of not conceding one score to any of her direct markers all summer, the litmus test of any corner-back.

In the first half, all of Wexford's stars were up front. Una Leacy and Ursula Jacob's power was immense and, despite the attention of Regina Glynn, the brilliant Katrina Parrock continued her virtually telepathic partnership with sparkling club-mate Kate Kelly.

Wexford were four points clear after 26 minutes and their goal, from Parrock, came just before half-time and was brilliantly set up by Michelle O'Leary. Kelly and Una Leacy.

Five of Wexford's forwards had scored by the break when only

one of Galway's four scores, from Orla Kilkenny, came from play.

Despite seeing their penalty saved, Lorraine Ryan and Emma Kilkenny rallied Galway at midfield on the re-start, and Aisling Connolly's excellence from placed balls kept them in touch.

But only three of their scores came from play and, just like their 2008 final loss, their inability to score freely from play ultimately proved their downfall.

Cliona Foley
Report courtesy of the Irish Independent

Wexford duo feted at gala lunch

EIGHT OF the country's top camogie stars were honoured at a gala lunch at Croke Park Hotel recently for their impressive displays throughout the Gala Senior championship.

Wexford's All-Ireland winning duo, Mary Leacy and Aoife O'Connor were among the recipients.

In association with the Irish Daily Star and Gala, players were chosen for their top-class displays during the championship.

Wexford's Mary Leacy, collected on the double for her performances against Tipperary and in the All-Ireland semi-final win over Kilkenny, with wing-back Aoife O'Connor also rewarded for her display against the Cats during the round robin stages of the championship. Mary is in Australia at present so her awards were collected by her parents, Margaret and Matty.

Galway picked up three awards, with wing-forward Brenda Hanney, sharpshooter Aislinn Connolly and wing-back Regina Glynn all selected. Cork trio, Gemma O'Connor, Jennifer O'Leary and Anna Geary (a double recipient) were also feted at the award-winners' lunch.

Speaking about the awards, President of the Camogie Association, Joan O'Flynn, said: 'the Camogie Association would like to congratulate all of this year's recipients who were noteworthy for their fantastic displays during an extremely exciting championship. We would also like to acknowledge the support of Gala, our championship sponsors, whose commitment to the association is reflected in yet another great initiative. And finally, to the 'Irish Daily Star' we are very thankful for their strong and consistent coverage of camogie. As an association we are constantly striving to increase our profile and naturally we rely upon the media for this. The 'Irish Daily Star' have been excellent throughout this season in support of our goal'.

Denise Lord, Customer Services Manager, Gala Retail Services, commented: 'the Gala Performance Award recipients are worthy winners from this year's Senior camogie season. Each of these players demonstrated an outstanding commitment to their team, and gave award-winning performances on the pitch. It's their individual contribution that we are celebrating today, highlighting the breadth of skill in the Gala All-Ireland camogie championships'.



Joan O'Flynn, National President of the Camogie Association; award recipient Aoife O'Connor, Denise Lord, Customer services manager at Gala; and Eoin Brannigan, Irish Daily Star sports editor.



Joan O'Flynn, National President of the Camogie Association; Margaret and Matthew Leacy (on behalf of Mary Leacy); Denise Lord, Customer services manager at Gala; and Eoin Brannigan, Irish Daily Star sports editor.

Eoin Brannigan, Sports Editor of the 'Irish Daily Star', paid tribute to all of the recipients: 'we are delighted to be involved with the Camogie Association and Gala and to reward the dis-

plays of the country's top inter-county players throughout the season. Congratulations to all involved, it is a fantastic achievement to be chosen for this award'.

But the Morleys made their mark on Gaelic games. Pat's mother Joan was Cork camogie star.

Camogie

"I played for Old Aloysians and we won six counties," says Joan. "I don't really like talking about it though it's a bit like boasting."

Joan should boast. She played in two all-Ireland finals and also won a Gael Linn Cup medal with Munster.

Joan is happier talking about her daughter Sheena's exploit on a camogie pitch.

"Sheena won four county titles with Bishopstown. She was on the Cork team who won minor, intermediate and junior All-Ireland titles. She also has an All-Ireland senior medal."

Dad Jackie is still hitting a mean ball. He now enjoys his golf. Pat is also a golfer playing off a three handicap.

Sport still rules in the Morley family.



JOAN AND JACKIE MORLEY. PHOTO: JIM O'SULLIVAN.

DEC. 2010



Orlagh Kirwan, Sheila Sullivan, Katie Bergin, Michelle Gleeson, Audrey Kennedy and Arleen Watkins from Birr at the Offaly All-Ireland Intermediate Camogie Champions Homecoming Celebrations in Birr. Ger Rogers/HR Photo.



Ballyboden St. Endas Senior A Championship Winners

Back Row: Aoife O'Leary, Gráinne Ní Chorcóráin, Maeve Gaynor, Jane Nolan, Darrelle Dolan, Kim Hickey, Natalie Hyland, Roisin Keaney, Fiona Hughes, Elaine Hickey, Dearbhla Brennan, Susan Kennedy, Fiona Ní Chorcóráin
Front Row: Sarah Crosbie, Paula McGrath, Clíodhna McNamara, Rachel Ruddy, Orla Smith, Anne Griffin, Emer Lucey, Ciara Lucey, Joanne O'Sullivan, Ciara Ruddy, Síle ní Coitir



Camogie Club notes



The Youghal camogie team, the 2010 U12D camogie champions.

Jerseys available at Páirc

CLUB mentors have informed us that Santa Claus has been getting requests regarding the availability of the Bord Gáis Cork camogie jersey. Parents or young camogie players anxious for Santa to get one can drop in to Páirc Uí Rinn, Monday to Friday from 9.30pm-4pm, where they will be helped to get their request off to Santa Claus in time for the big day.

All sizes from age five to small adults are available.



Marion McCarthy, the chairwoman of the Cork County Camogie Board presents the Cork Féile na nGael trophy to Courcey Rovers captain Aisling O'Reilly.



The Valley Rovers team which was crowned under 16 A county champions recently.

Juvenile Board hold Convention

THE Juvenile County Board, under the stewardship of Tracy Sheehan, reviewed a busy season at underage level when they held their Convention in the Silversprings Moran Hotel recently.

Chairwoman Tracy Sheehan, in welcoming delegates, spoke about the huge volume of work undertaken by the board, and thanked everybody for the hard work being put in.

Secretary Tina Sheehan reviewed another busy year and reported that the board ran 19 competitions for underage teams from age 12 to 16 and these came in the form of league, championship and two blitzes. In total, 569 games were played with 59 clubs entering competitions.

The meeting heard that the board again held special competitions at U14 level for clubs who did not reach the semi-final or finals of their competitions.

Given the success of the inaugural competition in 2009, it was de-

Senior convention

WEATHER conditions forced the postponement of last Monday's senior county board convention, but it will now go ahead on Monday, December 13 at the Rochestown Park Hotel at 7.30pm.

By MARY NEWMAN

cided to hold a similar competition at U12 level in 2010.

Such was the interest that there were two competitions, nine teams participated in division A with 10 teams taking part in division B.

Milford and St Vincent's contested the A final with St Vincent's winning out, while the B final saw Millstreet take the honours.

On the day each player was presented with a medal and a goodie bag, the occasion was further enhanced by the at-

tendance of Cork senior players captain Orla Cotter, Caitriona Foley, Sile Burns and Rena Buckley and the day was made extra special by the attendance of Joan O'Flynn, President of Cumann Camogaiochta.

On presenting the trophy to St Vincent's, Joan praised all the young camogie players and their mentors for a wonderful display.

Joan also praised the juvenile board for the fantastic work they do and on having the vision to hold these special competitions for the clubs who didn't make it to the closing stages of

DEC. 2010

Camogie Club notes



The Banteer team which captured the U16D league and championship double.



Kate McCarthy, the captain of Fr O'Neill's, holds the U14 C trophy aloft.



Eamonn Crotty Financial Services are to sponsor the Imokilly camogie team for the next three years. Pictured at the presentation of jersey are (from left) Emmet Fennell, Team Manager; Eamonn and Rebecca Crotty; Edel Murphy, Team Captain; Vince Cashman, Chairman of Imokilly Division. Picture: John Walsh

Club notes

BISHOPSTOWN

This is the last week of training until the New Year, exact date to be confirmed.

The medal presentation that was to be held last week had to be cancelled due to the icy weather. This will be re-scheduled for a future date also.

GLEN ROVERS

Our U13, U15 and U16 teams have concluded their training until after the New Year when preparations will continue for the U15 final and the U15 and U16s finals, the date for return to training for these groups is Monday, January 24.

Our beginners up-to-and-including age 12 will continue training tomorrow, Sunday and next Tuesday, December 14 at the usual times.

We will hold our annual camogie underage Christmas Party in the club hall on Sunday, December 19 1pm-3pm. Any underage players who wish to attend, parents are pick up the details at training this Sunday or Tuesday as we need to know who is attending.

Our Senior and junior players, team mentors and parents, are welcome to the club on Saturday, December 18 from 8.30pm onwards for our annual Christmas get together; we hope that as usual we will see a big attendance present.

the competitions.

While the sun did not shine, it was a superb afternoon for all the young participants.

The U14 competition was another huge success with 16 clubs taking part. Again there were two divisions with Glen Rovers and Killeagh making it to the A final with Killeagh taking the spoils.

The B was contested by St Vincent's and Clonakilty and Clonakilty came out on top.

2010 WINNERS
U12A League Ballinacorney; U12B League Ballyhea; U12C League Barryroe; U12D League Youghal; Cork Féile na nGael Courcy Rovers;

U14 A League Éire Óg; **U14 B League** Cloughduv; **U14 C League** Fr O'Neill's; **U14 D League** Sarsfields; **U16 A Championship** Valley Rovers; **U16 A League** Down to semi-final stages: Inniscarra v Courcy Rovers, Glen Rovers v Valley Rovers; **U16 B Championship** Newtownshandrum; **U16 B League** Kilbrittan; **U16 C Championship** Douglas; **U16 C League** Down to semi-final stages: Clonakilty v Blarney, Bishopstown v Ballyhea; **U16 D Championship** Banteer; **U16 D League** Banteer;

OFFICERS FOR 2011: Chairwoman: Tracy Sheehan, Sarsfields; Vice-chairwoman: Mary O'Sullivan, Brian Dillon's; Secretary: Tina Sheehan, Douglas; Treasurer: Siobhán O'Callaghan, Ballincollig; PRO: Eileen O'Brien, Sliabh Rua; Registrar: Ger Sheehan, Douglas; Child Welfare Officer: Noreen Daly, Ballygarvan; GPC: Mike O'Kelly, Ballyhea; John O'Leary, Mallow; Maire Scully, Carrigaline; Eileen Healy, Aghabullogue; Vincent Cashman, Carrigrohilly.



Cloughduv won the U14B county championship.

Crumlin celebrate All-Ireland club title of 1985

by MÁIRE UÍ SCOLAI

Crumlin

All-Ireland Club Camogie Champions 1985



Back Row (l to r): P Gough, L Byrne, A Redmond, Y Redmond, Ann Redmond, G Brady, B Toner, G Byrne, E Peelo, L Weaver, R Byrne, A Heavey.
Front Row (l to r): J Courtney, M Peelo, M Mernagh, B Redmond, A Byrne (Captain), A McManus, C Walsh, M Keane, P Lindsay, R Lyons, C Feehan
Inset: B Maloney, J Boggan

Crumlin team which won the All-Ireland Club title in 1985. Members reunited for a special event to celebrate the Silver Jubilee of their great achievement.

Cuchulainn is a name that might well be associated with a famous hound in history but it is also a name linked with one of the most famous of Dublin clubs, Cuchulainn nowadays known as Crumlin.

Some decades ago Camogie clubs did not form part of GAA clubs as they do these days. Many clubs had close ties with their local GAA club, but it was not until the late 1970's or thereabouts that Camogie clubs began amalgamating with their local GAA counterparts.

The Cuchulainn club was founded in 1968 and always wore a smart blue and white outfit. They were always a smart outfit and when you met them in the Phoenix Park which back then ('70's/'80's) was the Mecca of Dublin Camogie you knew it would be a good game of camogie. They were always a tough side and competed well at various levels including senior A for a long number of years.

In 1980 a major decision was taken by the club to join up with the local GAA club - Crumlin. At that stage Crumlin had just won the Dublin senior hurling championship and had taken the Leinster title as well. This writer recalls the Cuchulainn club when they joined up they became known for some time as Crumlin Cuchulainn. They later became known as Crumlin.

It was a brave decision but one that put them on a firm path leading to an All-Ireland club title in 1985. By joining forces with Crumlin the camogie club suddenly found they had a great base as a large number of their girls came from the immediate area and many of the members already knew each other and had attended many matches over the years.

From 1982 until 1986 it might be hard for some to believe now but Dublin competed in every senior All-Ireland final, sadly only winning one in 1984. Many players from the Crumlin side were honoured during that glorious time by wearing the Blue and Navy of Dublin.

In 1983, Dublin hosted Feile na nGael which had a hugely positive impact on Dublin Camogie. Crumlin were one of the clubs that took part that year in the National Festival. More and more young players took up the game of Camogie in Crumlin and so Camogie was set for a bright future.

The girls were very fortunate that Crumlin were steeped in hurling history and that two dedicated men - Jimmy Boggan (RIP) and Billy Maloney were there to lend a hand to the Camogie team. The two men saw there was a lot of talent among the girls and so the hard slog began. Much

work was put in towards building a senior team of the future. Training under the two gentlemen took on a different aspect. It now became structured and suddenly the skill of the girls began to shine and it all fell into place when they won the county senior championship in 1985 beating UCD.

It was a huge day for the Crumlin club, but then they realised they might go on further and so the campaign began for Leinster and All-Ireland glory. They had a tough task in Leinster. Their first opponents were St. Anne's of Louth, they then took on the mighty St. Paul's of Kilkenny home to many famous Kilkenny players including the famous Downey twins Ann and Angela. Having overcome the Black and Amber champions it was on then to face the Wexford champions Buffers Alley who had won a remarkable four All-Ireland senior titles on the trot. Among the many famous players who played with Buffers in those winning All-Ireland sides was one Elsie Walsh who is now married to Brian Cody. With their first Leinster title now safe, they were a step closer to the coveted prize, but they knew they did not have an easy final ahead. No other GAA club in Dublin have managed to win a Leinster senior title in both hurling and Camogie.

Celebration time

Back in those days the All-Ireland final was played in one of the competing club grounds and so Crumlin were fortunate to have the All-Ireland played in their home ground of O'Toole Park. Their opponents in the final were the Galway champions Athenry who had many players who had won Colleges All-Ireland titles with Presentation Athenry. The Dubs knew it was a tough side, but any team who came under the influence of Jimmy Boggan were well trained and they ran out confidently on to the pitch that day. It might have been rather a dull-day weather wise but let me say the celebrations that night in Crumlin were anything but dull! The Bill Carroll Cup was safe in the hands of the Crumlin side for the first time ever.

Once again, Dublin Camogie was back in the lime-light where it deserved to be. After all the hard work over the years the Crumlin side achieved glory. From there they made it back to back county titles, winning again in 1986. They were now the side to be reckoned with in Dublin. 1987 saw them complete the double of senior League and championship. They missed the title in 1988 but made up in 1989 by again winning the senior championship. Since then they have not won a senior title but like many Camogie clubs they are on the way back up.

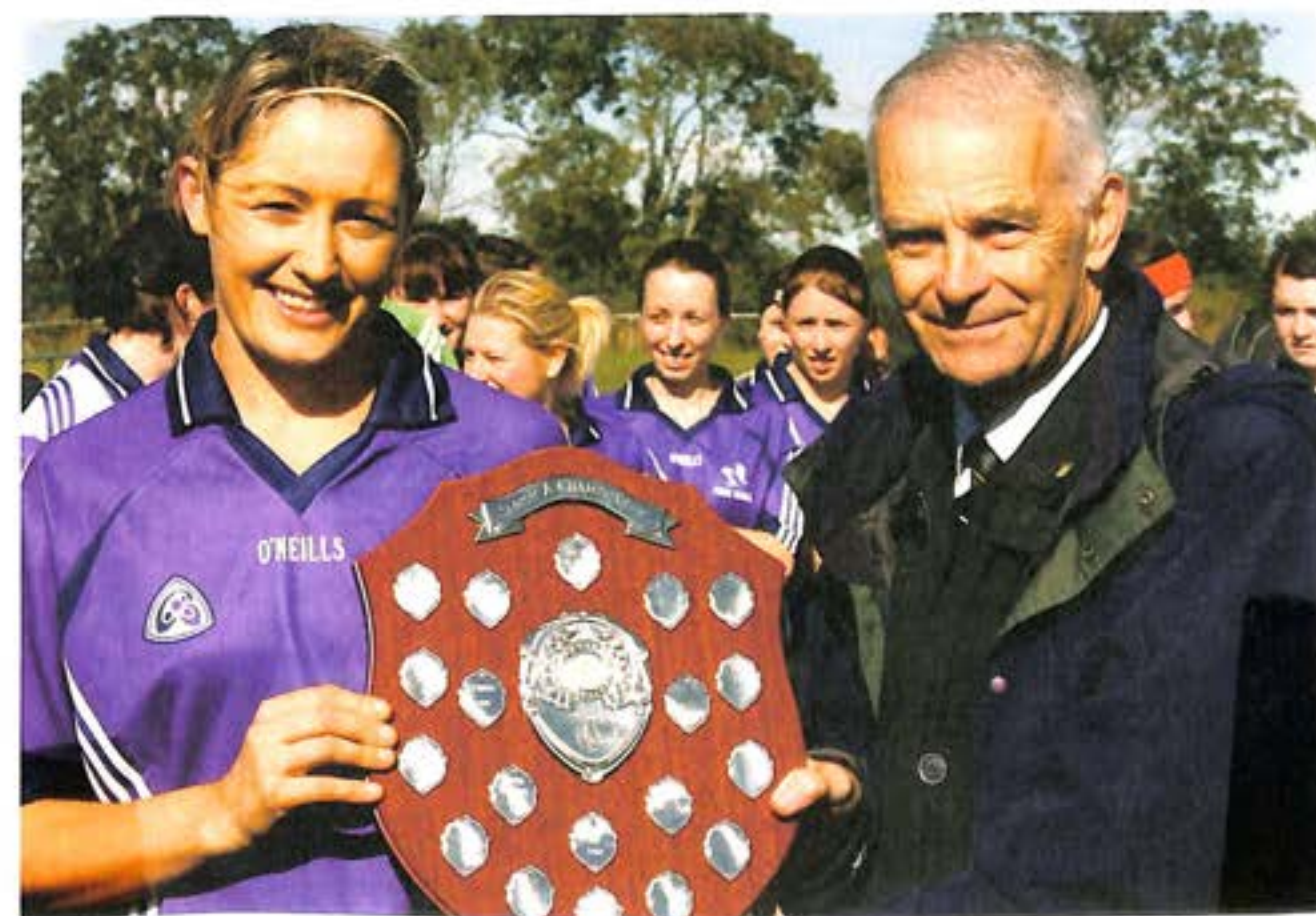
New generation

With the assistance of GPO's the juvenile section is now flourishing and once again they are competing well at juvenile level. Many of the girls who played in the glory days of the 80's now have daughters playing in the juvenile ranks!

While many of the Crumlin girls played for Dublin many of them also became very involved in administration. Phil Gough (nee Barry) became the first female in Dublin to hold the position of Chairman of a GAA Club. Anne Redmond went on to referee at senior intercounty level and had the honour of officiating the 1987 All-Ireland senior Final. Her younger sister Aileen also became a very respected senior intercounty referee. When the Club won in 1985 four Redmond sisters played that day, Yvonne in goals, as well as Anne, Barbara and Aileen. All four sisters also played for Dublin.

It might be hard to credit that it is 25 years since the Crumlin outfit won that title, having been at the game it only feels like yesterday. It would be nice to see another Dublin club win an All-Ireland title, but it might be a little bit down the road yet.

Earlier this Autumn they re-enacted that glory day of 1985 when they had a puck around in Pearse Park where under the guidance of both Jimmy and Billy all the tough training of 1985 took place. They finished the day with a nostalgic night in O'Toole Park club-house where many recalled that famous day of 1985. Thanks for the memories girls.



Jack Ryan presents the Orla Ryan Shield to Lorraine O'Connell captain of the "Regional" Senior team who won the Shield in their inaugural year

Board reviews busy Juvenile camogie season



Ballyhea captain Mary Claire Carroll receives the Under 12 B trophy from Tracy Sheehan, chairperson Juvenile Camogie Board and Siobhan O'Callaghan, treasurer of the Juvenile Board.

AN extremely busy season for juvenile camogie was reviewed recently when the juvenile board held their convention at the Silversprings Hotel.

Chairperson Tracy Sheehan spoke about the huge volume of work undertaken by the board and thanked everybody for their hard work.

Secretary Tina Sheehan reported that the board ran 19 competitions for underage teams aged from 12 to 16 and these came in the form of league, championship and two blitzes.

In total, 569 games were played with 59 clubs entering competitions. Following on the success of the boards special under 14 competition in 2009 for clubs who did not reach the semi-final or finals of their competitions, the board expanded the competition to also include one for under 12 level in 2010. This proved to be a huge success despite taking place on a very wet July afternoon. Such was the interest that there were two competitions: nine teams participated in division 'A' with ten teams taking part in division 'B'. Milford and St. Vincent's contested 'A' final with St. Vincent's winning out, the 'B' final saw Millstreet take the honours.

On the day each player was presented with a medal and also a goodie bag, the occasion was further enhanced by the attendance of Cork



Charleville's captain Maebh Murphy is presented with the Junior C Plate by Marion McCarthy, chairperson of the County Board.

senior players captain Orla Cotter, Caitriona Foley, Sile Burns and Rena Buckley, and the day was made extra special by the attendance of

Joan O'Flynn, president of Cumann Camogaiochta. On presenting the trophy to St. Vincent's, winners of the 'A', Joan praised all the young

camogie players and their mentors for a wonderful display of camogie. Joan also praised the Juvenile Board for the fantastic work they do

Roll of honour

Co Cork Camogie competition winners

- Under 12A League Ballinhassig
- Under 12 B League Ballyhea
- Under 12 C League Barryroe
- Under 12 D League Youghal
- Cork Felle Na nGael Courcy Rovers
- Under 14 A League Eire OG
- Under 14 B League Cloughduv
- Under 14 C League Fr O Neills
- Under 14 D League Sarsfields "2"
- Under 16 A Championship Valley Rovers
- Under 16 A League down to Semi Final Stages: Inniscarra V Courcy Rovers, Glen Rovers V Valley Rovers.
- Under 16 B Championship Newtownshandrum
- Under 16 B League Kilbrittan
- Under 16 C Championship Douglas
- Under 16 C League down to Semi Finals Clonakilty V Blarney, Bishopstown V Ballyhea
- Under 16 D Championship Banteer
- Under 16 D League Banteer

The following officers were elected for the coming year

Chairperson Tracy Sheehan, Sarsfields, **Vice-chair** Mary O'Sullivan, Brian Dillon's, **Secretary** Tina Sheehan, Douglas, and **Treasurer** Siobhan O'Callaghan, Ballincollig. **PRO** Eileen O'Brien Sliabh Rua, **Registrar** Ger Sheehan, Douglas, and **Child welfare officer** Noreen Daly, Ballygarvan.

GPC: Mike O'Kelly, Ballyhea, John O'Leary, Mallow, Maire Scully, Carrigaline, Eileen Healy, Aghabullogue, Vincent Cashman, Carrigrohilly.

in promoting camogie and she complimented them on having the vision to hold these special competitions for the clubs who didn't make it to the closing stages of the competitions.

On such a dreadful day weather-wise, while the sun did not shine, it was a superb afternoon for all the young participants.

The Under 14 competition was another huge success with 16 clubs taking part. Again there were two divisions with Glen Rovers and Killeagh making it to the 'A' final with Killeagh taking the spoils. The 'B' was contested by St. Vincent's and Clonakilty and Clonakilty came out on top.

December Blog President's December Blog – 2010 Review

Everybody in Camogie can be proud of the achievements of 2010. It was a fantastic year. It's impossible to do justice to the year in this Blog but I want to acknowledge some key accomplishments including some notable 'firsts'!



January

Settling into our new offices in Jones' Road and welcoming the Association's first Director of Communications and Marketing, Claire Egan, were significant moments early in 2010.

February

Hosting the premier third level competitions - the Ashbourne and Purcell Cup and Shield Finals - together over one weekend was an early 'first' in 2010. The Committee of Comhairle Camógaíochta an Ard Oideachais (CCAO) under its then President Lynn Kelly and the local organising committee in the Cork Institute of Technology did a superb job.

The facilities and games were outstanding. I heard the 'off field' fun was pretty good too! Standard is now set for the 2011 competition in NUIG!

March

The Association's six year National Development Plan, Our Game Our Passion was ratified at the annual National Congress in Newbridge.

The Plan was developed by a very hard working Central Council sub-committee, under the chairmanship of Louise Byrne.

It signposts the future development of more clubs, competitions, coaches and referees, more people coming to our games, greater public profile and strong governance and organisational standards.

April

In Semple Stadium, Thurles, Wexford put everybody on notice by coveting back to back national league titles in Division 1 and Division 2 - another first! Laois and Tyrone get their name on the Division 3 and Division 4 league titles.

May

We were back in the meeting rooms for Special National Congress in Croke Park. This considered proposals to amend our governing instrument, the Official Guide or An Treoir Oifigiúil from a review group, again chaired by Louise Byrne.

Special Congress used e-voting for the first time and ratified several innovations including:

- helmets mandatory for all;
- a designated home club;
- new procedures to deal with transfers, hearing and disciplinary issues;
- age ranges for participation in competition;
- new procedures around player gradings;
- adoption of modified games for under 12 competition;
- designation that a player's native county is automatically her county of representation regardless of where she lives;
- new rules in relation to offences in games and abuse of referees and
- setting five years maximum service in any one administrative role and ten years in total.

June

Launch of Gala All Ireland championships. Great profile. Camogie TV is launched on our website.

Annual Féile na nGael hugely successful in Clare with support of RDO and Clare native Deirdre Murphy, Orla Considine and Mary Hogan, Clare Camogie Board. Cillard from Kerry win their first national title at Division 4. Wonderful young players of future there.

VHI Cúl Camps underway with more girls than ever getting opportunity to play Camogie for the first time.

July

Busy month. Gala All Ireland championships were active in the best playing conditions. Inaugural system of referees' assessment introduced. County u14 Development Squads have a ball at annual activity day in Croke Park - one of the best days of the year!

Pioneering development work continues under the leadership of Ard Stiúrthóir Sinead O'Connor and Director of Camogie Mary O'Connor.

Over 20 new club start ups throughout the year including in Sligo, Mayo, Donegal, Wicklow, Cork, Kerry, Limerick, Tipperary, Galway, Westmeath.

New Coaching Plan adopted. Significant increase in number of Camogie coach tutors. New Player Pathway, launched at Congress, taking effect with new structure of supporting players from nursery to adult to off the field.

Competitive summer camogie for under 16s - they said it couldn't be done. The inaugural Leinster under 16 inter county club tournament proved different. With the moniker 'the pink weekend' in recognition of its support for the Marie Keating Foundation, Eve Talbot, Leinster Camogie Council and Thomas Davis Camogie club all combined to put on a great show. Intention in 2011 is for all Provinces to adopt the inter county interclub u16 model.

New Camogie acorns planted in the US and Britain. The annual Continental Youth Championships of Gaelic Games in Long Island incorporated underage Camogie for the first time. Players and teams from San Francisco, Philadelphia, Chicago, New Haven and a couple of new juvenile teams from New York take to the game with great gusto. Hope to build on this at 2011 Games in Boston.

Similarly across the pond, underage Camogie development squads commenced in London with lots of support from Jacqueline Thornton, Ronan McCarthy, Katie Forde and Rita McGrath.

August

Senior semi finals month. Two great games in Nowlan Park. Wexford best the locals Kilkenny. Cork and Galway produce a thriller that ends evens.

These were the best ever attended semi finals.

In Nenagh, Clare and Galway also produce a memorable game in the Gala All Ireland Minor Finals in front of another very big crowd. These teams couldn't be separated either.

September

Has to be the best month of the year every year.

Historic occasion as first time three All Ireland Camogie finals take centre stage in Croke Park. President McAleese watches as Wexford rejoice. Offaly take their first Intermediate title. Antrim overcome Waterford in replay.

There was excellent attendance and presentation of games on the big day. Great feedback and appreciation from 600 families and community leaders we invited from minority ethnic groups to join us on All Ireland Day as part of our work on social inclusion.

Young camogie and hockey players from St. Enda's and Bredagh Camogie and Mossley Hill Hockey in Belfast also enjoyed All Ireland Finals Park as part of an interesting peace and reconciliation cross-community initiative.

October

We announced some money in October! Good news in the middle of a recession. Paula Bruen Finance Director passed on the good news to several counties who benefited from development grants from central funds. The monies will be used to support the implementation of our national development plan at county level.

The inaugural national meeting of County Chairs and Secretaries Network was held in Croke Park. This initiative is intended to strengthen the dialogue between key administrators at county and central level.

Congrats to Ireland on retaining Shinty title v Scotland. We were captained by Niamh Breen and managed by Tom O'Mahony (Kildare), Paul Ward (Monaghan) and Mary Connor (Louth). Amongst those wearing an Irish jersey it was great to see two Camogie personnel- well done Regina Gorman and Brid Boylan.

Great to see Development Committee established in Ulster.

November

This month is always deceptive. Expect it to be a bit quiet but not so.

The Presidents of the three Gaelic Associations - Camogie, Ladies Football and GAA jointly announced an initiative to explore the feasibility of a single administrative structure at local level to promote and develop all gaelic games. This 'one club model' is a strategic initiative that has the potential to benefit and strengthen all. An initial report is due in Spring 2011.

Camogie and Ladies Football Associations, also convened a joint meeting at central and Provincial level chaired by both Association Presidents. The meeting sought to co-ordinate fixtures planning. The Presidents of both Associations are also jointly writing to county boards in both codes urging them to co-ordinate at local level.

Highlight of the month, and maybe of the year though was the annual All Stars Dinner and Presentation. Truly memorable.

69 players nominated for awards and all 'dressed to kill'.

The words and presence of special guest President McAleese made everybody ten feet taller.

We acknowledged the life long contribution of Micheál Ó Muircheartaigh. He told us he has watched 50 All Ireland finals. He went to his first Camogie All Ireland to watch Dublin legend Kathleen Mills whom he called the Christy Ring of Camogie.

Inaugural Intermediate All Stars were presented along with the All Stars and Soaring Stars.

On the field action continued pre the snow! Jenny Duffy, Ger Gribben and Eve Talbot pulled off a huge Leinster Schools Blitz in Rathcoole under the auspices of Leinster Camogie and supported by Leinster GAA. Yvonne Byrne got several new Donegal players involved in Go Games. Four Roads claimed their first All Ireland Junior title.

The inaugural Provincial Intermediate club finals were held as a fore runner to the new All Ireland Intermediate club championship. The cup for this inaugural competition was named after Agnes O'Farrelly, a Cavan woman who an exceptional activist in the Gaelic revival, a pioneering academic and nationalist and former President of the Camogie Association.

We also announced this and the All Ireland Senior Club Finals will be played as a double header in Croke Park on March 6th 2011 for the first time.

I'm delighted with this development. It gives club players the genuine aspiration of playing for one of the highest honours in the game in the best stadium in the country. It's a shot in the arm for our premier club competitions.

There are not too many Camogie clubs that celebrate a silver jubilee so congrats to St. Ibar's Shelmalsiers on their special birthday which they marked in November.

We now have 5,000 facebook fans signed up, don't forget to join the page. The Hope Foundation announced as official charity partner of Camogie Association

December

These achievements - and there are more than are sketched here - are underpinned by tremendous commitment, ambition, talent and belief. We are lucky. Our membership and our full time staff combine into one team. We share the one passion - to expand the opportunities to play Camogie to the highest standards and to promote life long participation in our sport.

Of course there are areas we can improve on and we will. Let's take inspiration, confidence and drive from our achievements in 2010, and as always, build on these, year on year, into the future.

If you've got this far in the Blog well done! I didn't expect it to be so long!

For now though, its time to say a generous thank you for your support and hard work and I wish you and your family a very peaceful Christmas.

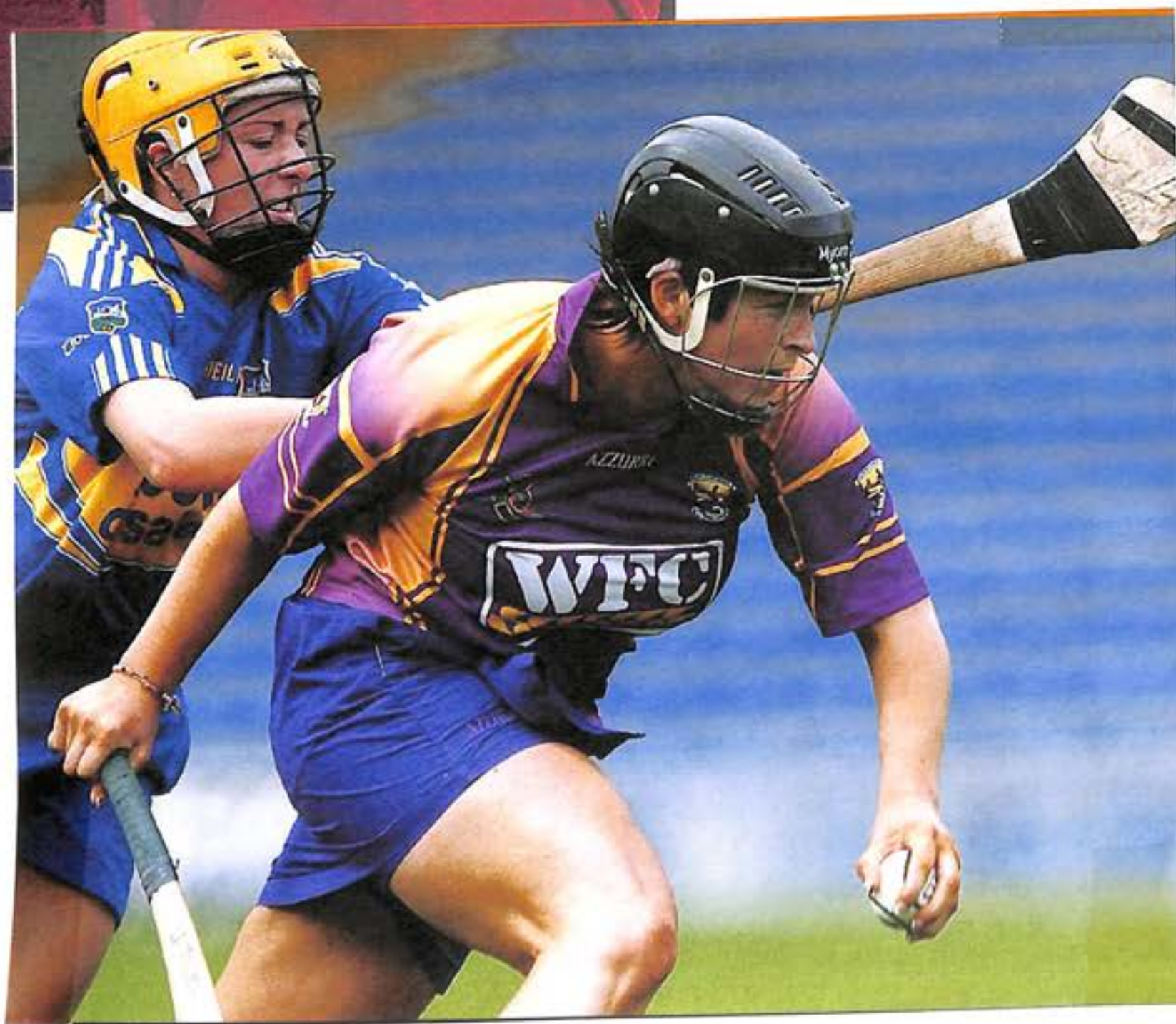
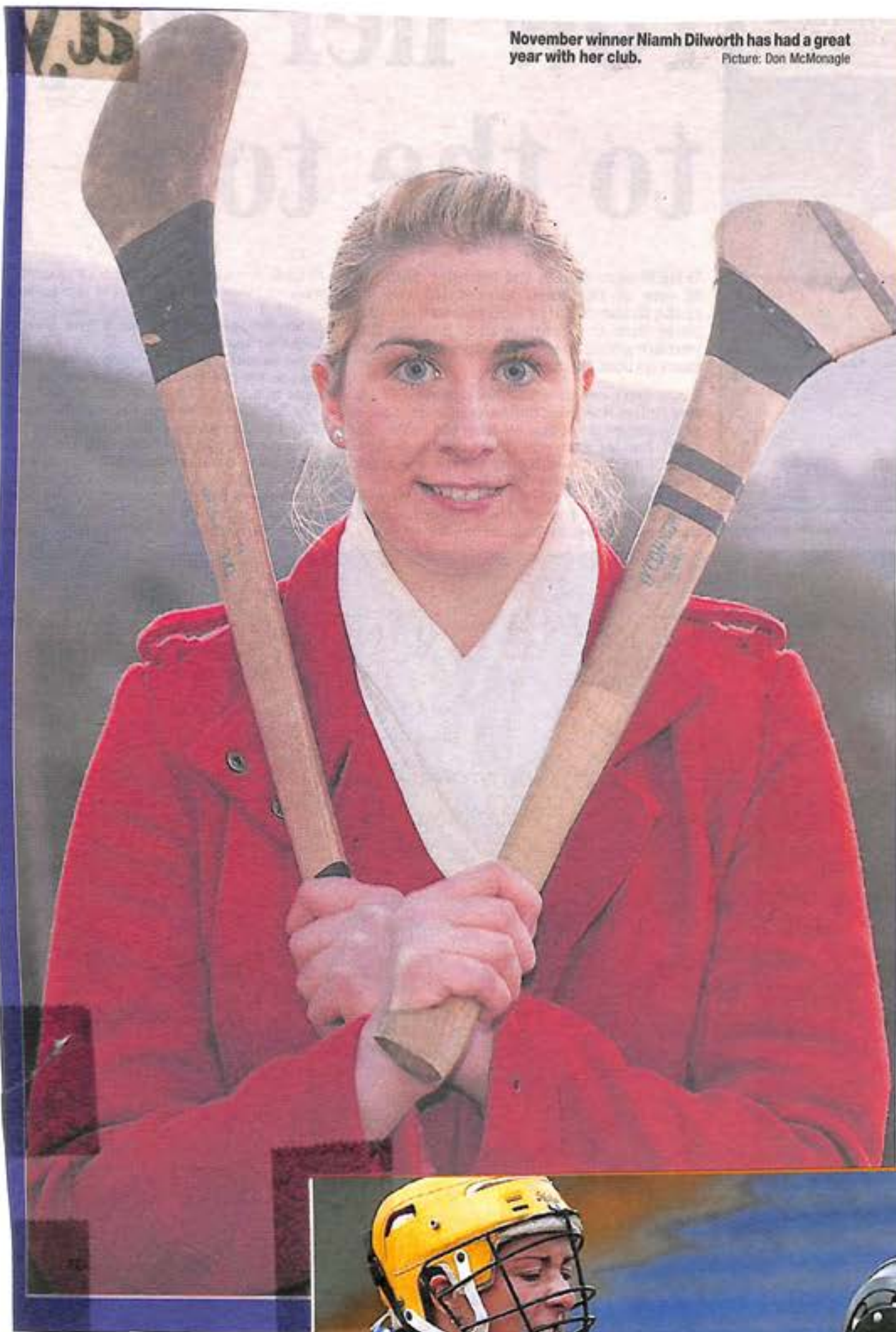
Come the New Year, hopefully there'll be a lot less snow and some green grass and lengthening evenings and we can all get back out there enjoying ourselves between the white lines!

November winner Niamh Dilworth has had a great year with her club.

Picture: Don McMonagle

Niamh ends year in style

DEC. 2010



URSULA
JACOB
(WEXFORD)

Sky's the

NIAMH DILWORTH FACTFILE

Age: 20.
Born: Cork.
School: Berrings NS, Coachford CC, Tralee IT.
Studying: Third year general nursing.
Sports: Camogie, swimming.
Club: Inniscarra.
Honours: (Club) Cork U16 league and championship, Cork senior championship, Munster club senior championship; (Cork) All-Ireland U14, Munster U16, U18, intermediate.
Position: Wing-forward.
Hobbies: Music, socialising, swimming, reading.
Favourite drink: Fanta orange.
Favourite food: Mom's Sunday roast.
Favourite film: The Blind Side.
Favourite book: My Sister's Keeper.
Pet hate: Spiders.

November monthly award
winner Niamh Dilworth.

Picture: Don McMonagle



Evening Echo

LADIES SPORTSTAR AWARDS



limit for Niamh

ALL year long they had one word drilled into their heads... believe.

Now, they faced the moment of truth as the county final replay against Imokilly dipped well into injury-time and Inniscarra were chasing down a two-point deficit.

How fitting then that two of their leading players should be central characters in what proved to be a sensational climax.

Niamh knew what was required. Her free had to drop deep into the danger zone to sound the alarm bells in the divisional side's defence and hope a colleague might get a decisive touch.

The ball was blocked, but not cleared and in the subsequent mother of all scrambles Rena Buckley somehow managed to squeeze it into the corner of the net for the winning goal in a 1-9 to 1-8 triumph.

There was no way back for gallant Imokilly after that and the immediate final whistle brought unbridled joy for the Inniscarra club, the crowning glory in an incredible season.

Niamh's importance to the side was reflected in her player-of-the-match award, a fitting tribute for the 20-year-old forward, who notched 1-9 in the championship.

"I suppose a small part of us thought the game was gone all right, but, as I say, we had that belief all year that we could do it and we were never going to give up until the final whistle.

"We did it, just in the nick of time, and again it showed the belief that's there in the team," Niamh said.

It's been one of the hallmarks of this young side, like in the remarkable 4-9 each drawn game, when substitute Margaret Cosgrove pointed in stoppage time to force a second meeting.

In between the two games Inniscarra represented Cork in the provincial championship on the basis they were the last surviving club, following earlier round victories over Douglas, again after a replay, Cloughduv and St Finbarr's.

And once more their dogged refusal to accept defeat was evident, that mule-like stubbornness, that sheer bloody mindedness combining to pull off an unlikely Munster title against formidable and more experienced opponents.

Niamh's three-point contribution in the 2-11 to



Sheena Howard, Burgess Duharra, tries to stop Niamh Dilworth, Inniscarra, as she heads goalwards during the Munster senior camogie semi-final.

IT'S been a roller-coaster year for Inniscarra camogie, featuring an historic Cork County Senior Championship title and similar success at Munster level. One player, Niamh Dilworth, has been the stand-out performer in the club's historic rise and is our November Sportstar winner. She talks to **MARK WOODS** about an amazing season.



2-6 semi-final win over Tipperary champions, Burgess-Duharra, was invaluable, while her foraging and willingness to chase what seemed lost causes helped in the nail-biting 0-10 to 0-7 final success against Limerick powerhouses, Granagh-Ballingarry, when Joanne Casey's free-taking was the difference.

"It was definitely a bonus and what really stood to us from the games was the actual matches themselves. They really brought the team on.

"There's fierce competition for places in the team and no one is really guaranteed their place, yet the spirit is great, because everyone encourages each other and is determined to win for each other.

"The team is always being changed and I can't recall the same team ever going out for two games in a row. We've used over 22 players in the senior championship.

"The juniors and U18s also train with us. Both won their county titles as well and the U16s are in a county league semi-final in January. We've two U16s training with the seniors," Niamh added.

Like Douglas in 2008, Inniscarra's success is the end product of years of patient dedication

in nursing the youth of the parish. Under-age achievements are no guarantee of anything at adult level, more laying the foundation stones and instructing the girls on how to cope with the greater demands at senior level.

Niamh is a product of that system.

"We're up senior A now about 12 years. We're a very young team and winning the county was a direct result of the major emphasis placed on under-age camogie in Inniscarra.

"The side has a lot of players in the 18-20 age bracket and we've all come up through the same way. I'm not surprised with the success we've enjoyed this season.

"Last year we got to the quarter-finals, where we lost to Milford, but there was a lot of belief in the squad that we could go places this year.

"On top of that we've a fantastic management team of Fergal O'Leary, Irene O'Keefe, Sean Twohig and Paula Goggins, all of whom have the same belief as the players.

"And that belief was evident all year, because players battled and fought for one another and showed the willingness that you must have to succeed.

"Everyone put in a huge effort. We've 32

players in the squad and hardly anyone missed a training session during the year."

The third year nursing student at Tralee IT has had little time to dwell on a great season, because it's back to training this week to prepare for the All-Ireland semi-final against St Mary's of Belfast at a neutral venue on February 6.

There's added incentive for the Inniscarra girls to do well, because the club final will be played at Croke Park a month later, when Wexford's Oulart-the-Ballagh are likely to be the hot favourites to land the spoils.

And to make sure there's only a remote chance of putting her feet up, Niamh is an integral part of the Tralee IT side operating at Purcell Cup level.

"We got to the final last year, but lost to DIT. We've a few from Kilkenny in the side, but we're restricted enough in terms of numbers and we're rebuilding again for 2011. The finals are in Galway, so we hope to make them."

On a loftier note, Niamh has ambitions of staking a claim for a place in the Cork senior side for next summer's championship and her club exploits have certainly enhanced her prospects, particularly as she figured at inter-county underage level, too.

"I was captain of the U18 team in the Munster championship which was a great thrill for me and everyone in the club.

"We managed to get to the final okay, but lost by two points, which was unfortunate.

"I also represented Cork in the Féile skills competition in Tullamore when I was U14 and at second level in school I was picked for the Munster Colleges Allstar team. Leinster beat us by a point.

"I played for Cork intermediates last season and made the senior panel this year without playing. I didn't finish Tralee until June, so I was late starting out.

"It's been a fantastic year, beyond our wildest dreams really. At the start of the season, I suppose, winning the county championship was our only goal and, to be honest, the Munster championship never entered the equation."

Now, Niamh and the rest can dream of running out on the biggest stage of all. From Ballynaly to Croke!

Camogie Champions: Inniscarra



Niamh with senior mentors Paula Goggins, Fergal O'Leary, Sean Twohig and Irene O'Keeffe.

Picture: Larry Cummins

DEC. 2010



Niamh with brother John and mum Eileen.

Picture: Larry Cummins



Cork Dethroned

by Linda Mellerick

The 2010 championship saw holders Cork dethroned. Nothing too out of the ordinary there. What was significant however was the fact that it was the first time in nine years that Cork didn't appear in an All-Ireland final. Galway and Wexford was the pairing on September 12 with both teams previously there in 2008 and 2007 respectively. Wexford of course were victorious in '07 and took the O'Duffy Cup again this season while Galway still await that elusive second title.

What sort of championship did we have in 2010?

I couldn't understand the reasoning behind commencing this year's championship on June 12 with the Leaving Cert exams starting in and around the same time. With senior inter-county camogie panels younger than ever almost every county has secondary school students in their squad. Many counties commenced their campaign without these players. Cork started theirs without Katrina and Pamela Mackey and Julia White.

I can't grasp either the idea behind compelling teams to play six championship matches in seven weeks in a round robin format, with Galway and Wexford playing six weeks on the trot. An abundance of games during the National League would have been welcomed with open arms. That is the time to bombard counties with matches, not during championship. Some got just two league games.

Cork were fortunate enough to advance to the league semi-final and got a third match, but defeat to Wexford saw their league campaign over in early April after commencing in early March. It seemed counties had only started competitive playing when they stopped again. Nothing then for two months until all counties were thrown into an abyss of games. The intensity of championship was possibly lost at times with the volume of games. Most knew they could afford to

lose a couple and still advance. It's hard to build yourself up for championship week in and week out. While they say that a match is worth a week's training, training is crucial for working on areas of weakness exposed in a game, weighing your options and assessing the form of your panel.

I'd flip the league and championship formats.

At the outset the top five in the running to reach the knock out stages were Cork, Wexford, Galway, Kilkenny and Tipperary. Yet I felt it was always going to be the first four. Kilkenny and Galway topped the leader board with ten points a piece having dropped points to Wexford and Kilkenny in that order. There were no draws throughout the championship. Cork and Wexford both dropped four points. Cork suffered defeats to Kilkenny and Galway while Galway and Cork took points from Wexford.

The results table showed very little between the top four with points picked up and dropped by all along the way. There was many an exciting game; Galway and Wexford in Athenry, Kilkenny and Tipp in Nowlan Park, Clare v Galway in Corofin and Cork and Wexford in Páirc Uí Chaoimh. It was as certain as it can be on July 3 who was going to emerge to the semi-finals after Tipperary lost their third game with Wexford still to come. Wexford's scoring prowess stood tall with 131 pts for and 62 against [14-89 to 4-50] from six games.


The semi finals on August 14 saw Cork take on Galway while it was an all Leinster affair between Kilkenny and Wexford in a double header in Nowlan Park. Cork lived to fight another day after a pulsating draw. It took two late Síle Burns frees to pull Cork back level after they had led by four entering the last quarter. In a game which swung back and forth and had the large crowd on the edge of their seats a draw was the fairest result for both teams. It was Galway who did all

the early running aided by a strong wind as a typically slow starting Cork team failed to settle. In general play Galway were well on top. Great fielding, teamwork and speed saw their midfield and half forward line in control as Cork couldn't match them for pace. Twenty six minutes in Galway led Cork 1-7 to 1-2. A game can turn in minutes. Numerous stoppages led to referee Karl O'Brien announcing six minutes of additional time. And from here on it was all Cork.

Orla Cotter was instrumental in Cork's revival while the move of Gemma O'Connor to midfield also bore fruit. Five points from play, two from the excellent Jennifer O'Leary, one from Julia White, Emer O'Sullivan, Rachel Moloney and a Burns' free saw Cork take the lead in a sensational eight minute spell. Galway's heads were low as they trooped off the pitch at half time. Two Galway points from play within four minutes of the re-start signalled they weren't going to lie down.

Entering the final quarter Cork led 1-13 to 1-9. In spite of this lead it was Cork who had to fight to equalise as the game turned on its head yet again. Therese Maher won a great ball at half forward and raced through. Her hand pass to Veronica Curtin saw the latter rocket the net. With a point still separating the sides with five minutes of normal time remaining, Veronica Curtin again gained possession and sidestepping the defence struck the net. Síle Burns' two frees saved the day. Wexford comfortably booked their place in the Gala All Ireland senior final thanks in the main to a superb second half performance where they produced three goals to which Kilkenny had no reply.

The semi-final replay failed to live up to the expectations of the drawn encounter due to the stop/start nature brought on by poor referring. That is an area of concern I have, the poor standard of inter-county referring. Because referees are regularly at the receiving end of criticism in most sports, justified criticism tends to be overlooked and thrown into the pool. Galway hung on despite Cork having an opportunity to level the game in the sixth minute of injury time to bring the game to extra time. But Cork could have no complaints against a Galway side which had their homework done since the drawn encounter. Galway advanced to their second final in three years with a 0-10 to 0-9 victory. Cork never really got into their stride this season and it was no real surprise when they took their exit.

All-Ireland final day was a great occasion with the junior, intermediate and senior finals all taking place. It wasn't the best of senior finals, not as free flowing as we'd hoped for but I'm sure Wexford won't care. They added the O'Duffy cup to the National League they won in April. No disputing the team of the year. 

Camogie scholarships for NUI Galway duo

Thursday, 30 December 2010 10:54

NUI Galway camogie club received a timely boost this week as they prepare to compete in, as well as host, the 2011 Ashbourne Cup, as two of their star players were awarded camogie association scholarships.

Two Clare players, Sixmilebridge's Chloë Morey and Crusheen's Anne Marie McMahon received the scholarships. Both come from well-known hurling families in Sixmilebridge and Crusheen and both have lined out with their clubs and county with distinction.

Chloë has played for the Clare senior team and for the Clare minor side for the last four seasons and is underage for minor once more in 2011. She has won many honours with Sixmilebridge and joined NUI Galway this year. Her brother, Caimin, who is a final year engineering student in NUI Galway, was an integral part of the successful Fitzgibbon Cup side last season.

Anne Marie is a second-year student in NUI Galway and after a bright fresher year in which she made the Ashbourne Cup side with a number of sterling performances, is this year's vice-captain. She commenced her playing career with Kilnamona, winning all club honours in Clare, before Crusheen formed their own club at the start of 2009 and contested the junior final in only their second season in 2010. Anne Marie, like Chloë, has played all levels for Clare and is a current member of the county senior side. Anne Marie's brother, Brendan, also played in the Fitzgibbon Cup for NUI Galway earlier in the decade and continues to line out with Crusheen, captaining them to junior league and championship honours in 2010.

NUI Galway Games officer, Michael O'Connor congratulated both students on their success and said, "It is a rare honour for NUI Galway to have two camogie scholarships but it is not a surprise, considering the abilities and dedication of both players in question".

He continued, "As NUI Galway are once more hosting the Ashbourne Cup and with one of the largest influx of new talent in recent years, hopes are high of doing well in the event".

Already this season, under the management of Richard McNicholas and Tipperary hurler and current student Seamus Hennessy, the fresher side has captured the fresher title with Killanena's Evelyn Glynn and Chloë Morey to the fore. In the opening round of the Ashbourne Cup played in late November, NUI Galway scored a 2-19 to 2-6 win over DIT with McMahon, Morey, Glynn and Kilmaley's Shónagh Enright in the starting line-up.

A fairytale year

by Linda Mellerick

New crowned county champions for the eighth time in eight years after Inniscarra took their first senior county title after a replay against Imokilly with an injury time goal. It's little wonder that the Cork County championship is viewed as the best in the country after once again producing some tremendous battles throughout the season.

Imokilly advanced from their own divisional play off after a first round victory over Carbery and a comprehensive defeat of Carrigdhoun which very early on signalled their scoring prowess. Muskerry provided a walkover to Carrigdhoun in round one and Seandun didn't field which was disappointing.

There were some shocks in the opening round of the championship proper most notably with the shock defeat of holders St Catherine's by championship newcomers Ballincollig. A Patricia Buttimer goal with three minutes remaining made it a dream senior championship debut for the newly promoted side. Torrential rain and a swirling wind made the game a battle. Ballincollig hit three points without reply to take a half time advantage of 0-7 to 0-5. Orla Cotter got St Catherine's back on level terms inside ten minutes. Goalkeeper Aisleen Sheehan denied the champions numerous opportunities as Buttimer's goal became the deciding factor.

Imokilly continued their high scoring victories with a 3-16 to 0-1 victory over Rockbawn in July. Cloughduv had a one point victory over Barryroe after a thrilling final six minutes saw them hit 1-2 without reply. Jennifer O'Leary gave a magnificent performance scoring 11 points of her side's 1-12 tally while Joanne O'Callaghan and the industrious Katherine Corkery were Cloughduv's driving force.

The losers of round one went into a second round qualifier. Again there were some games which went to the death. Courcy Rovers edged out Ballygarvan 0-9 to 0-8. St Catherine's had thirteen points to spare over Barryroe while eight goals and twenty points saw St. Finbarr's knock Rockbawn out of the 2010 championship. Lining out without the services of Gemma O'Connor St Finbarr's pulled out all the stops in the remaining six minutes. With scores coming fast and furious and sitting at 3-11 to 4-8 it was anyone's guess as to who would emerge victorious. A draw was very much on the cards. That was until Rachel Myers showed up for her third goal to put the game beyond the reach of a worthy Rockbawn side. With nine teams remaining an additional round was drawn and it fell to Cloughduv and St Finbarr's to battle it out for a quarter final spot.

An injury time point by the excellent Katherine Corkery granted Cloughduv their passage into the last eight. Three points behind with five minutes of normal time remaining things didn't look good for Cloughduv but a spirited last seven minutes epitomised by the lion hearted Corkery denied St Finbarr's. St Finbarr's could only look at themselves after failing to capitalise in the opening half where they dominated for long periods. They didn't get their just reward on the scoreboard and paid the price.

Douglas reversed the pain inflicted last year when they faced Milford. Despite a late revival by the north Cork side which saw them hit 1-4 in seven minutes Douglas had done enough with their 1-10 to 1-1 lead entering the final quarter to hold on.

Ballincollig continued to defy the odds over Courcy Rovers. The pick of the quarter final previews was the clash of Imokilly V St Catherine's. By the end of the game Imokilly were fast becoming favourites to win the title. As was becoming the norm a second half goal onslaught (three) knocked their opponents for six.

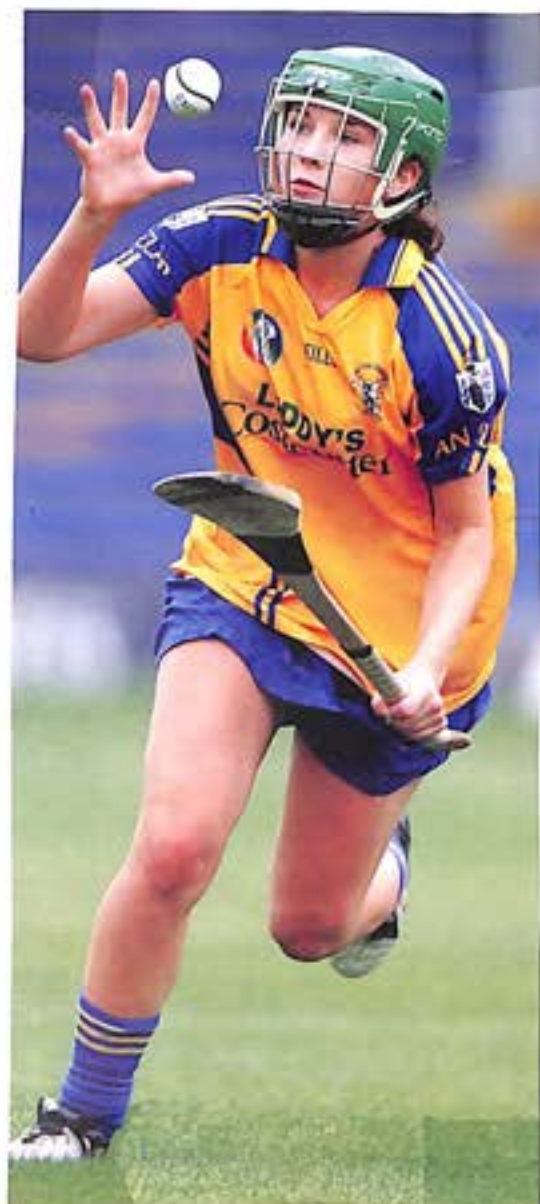
Inniscarra comfortably accounted for Cloughduv, 3-12 to 0-5. Now things were really hotting up. The semi-final pairings became Inniscarra V Douglas and Imokilly V Ballincollig. Both games ended in a draw. Niamh Dilworth grabbed the equaliser for Inniscarra in the final minute while two Marie O'Neill goals in the space of two minutes gave Imokilly another bite of the cherry after it looked as if Ballincollig had done enough to see them through to their first ever senior county final. It was Ballincollig who levelled the match a minute into injury time to force a replay. Inniscarra and Douglas served up another enthralling encounter when they met again seven days later with the game very nearly heading for extra time. Level five times it was Laura Burke's point eight minutes into injury time which sent Inniscarra to their first final appearance in five years.

In a replay which never really came to life, albeit the final 10 minutes, Imokilly finally saw off the challenge of Ballincollig to reach their third final in 34 years. Amidst greasy underfoot conditions the sides were level four times in the opening period, six in total. The physical strength of Angela Walsh again proved crucial as casting aside the defensive challenge forty nine minutes in she finished clinically to the net. Setting up team mate Emer O'Farrell for a second a minute later proved to be decisive as Imokilly emerged with a 2-8 to 1-8 victory.

The final was eagerly anticipated and extremely hard to call. And so it proved to be with it finishing all square in CIT, 4-9 apiece. The atmosphere was electric and we had a highly charged crowd at the final whistle. Substitute Margaret Cosgrove hit the equalising point as the third of the three minutes informed injury time struck the clock. Inniscarra were rocked by the injury to Rena Buckley who failed to line out with a heavy shoulder injury. Imokilly too were hit for six when star player Angela Walsh had to leave the field 13 minutes in with ligament damage to her ankle. She re-appeared heavily strapped as the second half got underway, making a powerful impact, hitting 1-3.

Two goals in the seventh and eighth minutes by Niamh McCarthy and Laura Burke gave Inniscarra a six point lead they themselves possibly didn't envisage. Their joy was short lived when from the puck out Marie O'Neill found Emer O'Farrell who finished to the net from the edge of the post. By the end of the half Inniscarra led 3-4 to 3-3. Play swung end to end during the second half. The tension was palpable, the crowd playing every ball and disputing every decision which went against their side. Angela Walsh hit what seemed the winner on full time. Margaret Cosgrove saved the day in injury time.

It took five weeks to schedule the replay due to Inniscarra's involvement in the Munster series which they won in spectacular fashion and Inch Rovers' involvement in the Munster and All Ireland ladies football championship. The replay was worth the wait. Utter agony for Imokilly yet sheer



A busy year for the County Senior board at adult level was reviewed recently when the Annual Convention took place at the Rochestown Park Hotel. A large gathering of delegates listened as county secretary Sile Golden gave a comprehensive report and analysis of the year gone by. She paid tribute to the superb facility that the board now have in Castle Road, a venue which enabled the board to complete its programme of fixtures for the season gone by. She expressed disappointment at the failure to win anything on the inter county scene this year, however there was much praise for the quality of fare served up in all competitions, no more so than in the Senior county championship where a superb final had to go to a replay before Inniscarra finally edged home to take the Punch Trophy for the first time.

Chairperson Marion McCarthy in addressing delegates expressed her delight that the board has completed

Senior County convention

its full programme of games in all competitions and this was attributed to the hard work being put in at all levels of the board by the officers and by the clubs.

With only three motions on the agenda for discussion the big one was in relation to the formation of the senior selection committee. The meeting passed a motion proposed by the Coiste Chontae that the county board will appoint a manager for the Cork senior team, the manager will have the power to select his/her selectors one to be a representative from the senior county champions. In previous years selectors were elected at convention but the train of thought was that time had come to change the process and with no dissenting voice the motion was carried.

A motion from the Bishopstown club seeking to introduce re grading

in the Senior B grade only was defeated while a motion from the Coiste Chontae seeking to raise the fine to €100 for teams failing to field for competitions entered was also passed.

There were a lot of transfers on the table and one of the high profile ones was of former Cork senior player Marie O'Neill from junior A club Watergrasshill to Milford. Marie was a prominent member of the Imokilly senior team that lost out narrowly to Inniscarra while she played a leading role with WIT in this season's Ashbourne Cup win. Cork Intermediate player Aileen Sheehan switched from Junior B club Grenagh to senior county champions Inniscarra.

The Intermediate selection committee for the coming year saw the outgoing Sile Golden, Lelia Long and Esther O'Leary re-elected. The

county board elected a manager and selectors for the under 16 and minor teams. The minor committee for 2011 is up and running while the under 16 selection committee is to be announced shortly.

Former senior inter county player Fiona O'Driscoll gave a report on the development committee's activities during 2010 while setting out plans for 2011. The board also elected a new officer with Mairead O'Donovan, Ballincollig, who takes on the role as development officer. Mairead comes to the post with huge experience having served in previous years as county board treasurer and secretary.

Chairperson Marion McCarthy wished all present seasons greetings and said Cork camogie can look ahead with confidence as the game continues to grow the big aim for 2011 is the completion of the Castle Road project and a return to the victory rostrum for the Inter county teams.

President: Kay Dunne Ballincollig

Chairperson: Marion McCarthy St Finbarr's

Vice Chairperson: Mary Baglin Rovers

Secretary: Sile Golden Inniscarra

Treasurer: Mary Mc Sweeney Bandon

PRO: Mary Newman Glen Rovers

Registrar: Yvonne Lane Ballygarvan

Development Officer: Mairead O'Donovan Ballincollig

Child Welfare Officer: Noreen Daly Ballygarvan

Before the meeting concluded medals were presented to the winners of the board's championship and league competitions for 2009 as follows.

Senior County Champions: Inniscarra.
Senior League: Inniscarra, **Senior B County Champions:** Killeagh, **Senior B League:** Killeagh, **Intermediate County Champions:** Mallow, **Intermediate League:** Mallow, **Junior A County Champions:** Blackrock, **Junior A League:** Enniskeane, **Junior B County Champions:** Kildorrey, **Junior B League:** Kildorrey, **Junior C County Championship:** Youghal, **Junior C League:** Youghal, **Junior Shield:** Inniscarra, **Junior B Plate:** Milstreet, **Junior C Plate:** Charleville, **Minor A Championship:** Inniscarra, **Minor B Championship:** Ballygarvan, **Minor C Championship:** Newtownshandrum, **Minor D Championship:** Barryroe.

jubilant for Inniscarra as a Rena Buckley goal five minutes into injury time denied Imokilly at the death.

Leading by two points entering the fourth minute of injury time it looked as if Imokilly had done enough to win their first title in 34 years. Inniscarra won a free. Player of the Match Niamh Dilworth's strike was defended. In the scramble for possession Rena Buckley reacted best connecting to the net and sending the Inniscarra supporters into frenzy. Inniscarra had claimed their first senior county title and how their supporters celebrated.

It was a tremendous championship. Games went down to the wire, others ended in deadlock. There were some magnificent individual displays and some magnificent team performances in a championship that has become increasingly difficult to call. ■



SENIOR CLUB CAMOGIE RESULTS

1st Round Divisional

Imokilly 0-13 Carbery 1-7
Muskerry v Carrigdhoun W/over provided by Muskerry

Divisional section playoff

Imokilly 4-14 Carrigdhoun 0-6

1st round Proper

Milford 3-5 Courcey Rovers 1-3
Ballincollig 1-11 St Catherine's 0-12
Inniscarra 5-11 St Finbarr's 0-10
Douglas 1-13 Ballygarvan 1-11
Imokilly 3-16 Rockbawn 0-1
Cloughduv 3-7 Barryroe 1-12

2nd Round qualifier

Courcey Rovers 0-9 Ballygarvan 0-8
St Catherine's 1-15 Barryroe 0-5
St Finbarr's 5-9 Rockbawn 3-11

Additional Round

Cloughduv 1-8 St. Finbarr's 0-10

Qtr finals

Douglas 1-11 Milford 2-5
Ballincollig 2-10 Courcey Rovers 1-9
Imokilly 4-5 St Catherine's 1-12
Inniscarra 3-12 Cloughduv 0-5

Semi Finals

Inniscarra 0-12 Douglas 2-6
Imokilly 3-8 Ballincollig 2-11
Inniscarra 0-9 Douglas 0-8
Imokilly 2-8 Ballincollig 1-8

County Final

Inniscarra 4-9 Imokilly 4-9

County Final Replay

Inniscarra 1-8 Imokilly 1-7

Club Team of the Year 2010

A Sheehan (Ballincollig)
R O'Mahony (Inniscarra), A Coughlan (Ballincollig)
A O'Regan (Douglas)
E O'Riordan (Milford), M O'Connor (Imokilly), R Buckley (Inniscarra)
O Cotter (St Catherine's), K Corkery (Cloughduv)
J Casey (Inniscarra), N Dilworth (Inniscarra), K Mackey (Douglas)
N McCarthy (Inniscarra), A Walsh (Imokilly), M O'Neill (Imokilly)

Player of the Year Angela Walsh (Imokilly)

Angela tormented defences throughout the entire championship. Scoring a personal tally of 3-7 it was the scores she set up for her teammates which really stood out. Her athleticism and strength wasn't equaled. A great season.



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CORK SENIOR CAMOGIE RESULTS

Qualifiers

Tipperary 0-15 Cork 1-16
Cork 2-6 Kilkenny 0-13
Dublin 1-6 Cork 1-23
Galway 1-14 Cork 0-11
Cork 2-10 Wexford 1-10
Cork 2-20 Clare 0-8

All Ireland semi-finals

Cork 1-17 Galway 3-11
Galway 0-10 Cork 0-9 (Replay)

All-Ireland final

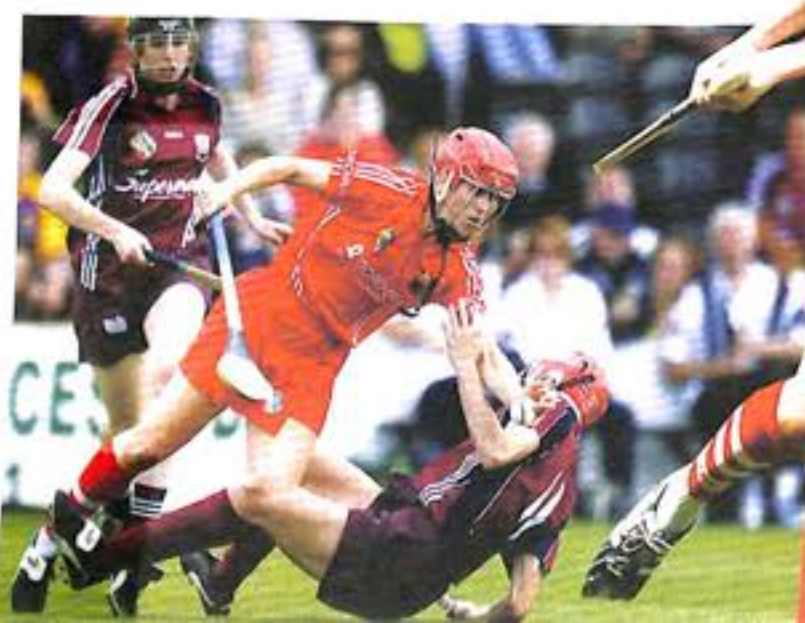
Wexford 1-12 Galway 1-10

My All-Star Team 2010

M O'Leary (Wexford)
C O'Connor (Wexford)
E O'Riordan (Wexford)
N Lambert (Wexford)
M Leary (Wexford)
E Aylward (Kilkenny)
O Cotter (Cork)
A Dalton (Kilkenny)
K Kelly (Wexford)
U Leary (Wexford)
T Maher (Kilkenny)
K Parrock (Wexford)
U Jacob (Wexford)
A Connolly (Galway)

Player of the Year Katrina Parrock (Wexford)

My player of the match from the All-Ireland semi-final. I felt before the final the in-form Parrock was going to be the one to watch. And she won the RTE Player of the Match for the final. A fitting reward at the end of a great season!



Dec. 2010



CORK INTERMEDIATE ROUND-UP

by Mary Newman

On the club scene it was another year of non-stop action and once again a huge fixtures programme was completed outside of senior, from senior B to down to U12.

The senior board was again fortunate to have the all of their adult championship competitions sponsored by the Evening Echo and it ensured a huge burden was taken off the shoulders of the board, as they continue the work in getting their complex at Castle Road completed.

At senior B level Killeagh finally realised their dream by annexing their first championship title in the grade, thus ensuring promotion to senior level when they held off the challenge of Éire Óg who once again experienced the heart break of losing out in a final for the third year in a row. Both side had come through the round robin series of the championship and emerged from the same section to contest the final. Killeagh were focused from the throw-in and set the pace of the game with Mary O' Connor, Annie Walsh, Claire Keohane and Stefanie Beausang to the fore they had to much strength for the Mid Cork side. Killeagh's Angela Walsh named as player of the match as her side were crowned champions. To round off a great year Killeagh made it a double as they took the league title defeated Clonakilly in the final.

The intermediate championship was also played on a round robin series with four teams emerging to contest the semi-finals after a lot of superb games. Fr O'Neill's, Mallow and Tracton and Sarsfields battled it out for a place in the final. Fr O'Neill's defeated Sarsfields to book their spot but it took two games to separate Mallow and Tracton before Mallow made it through after a close replay.

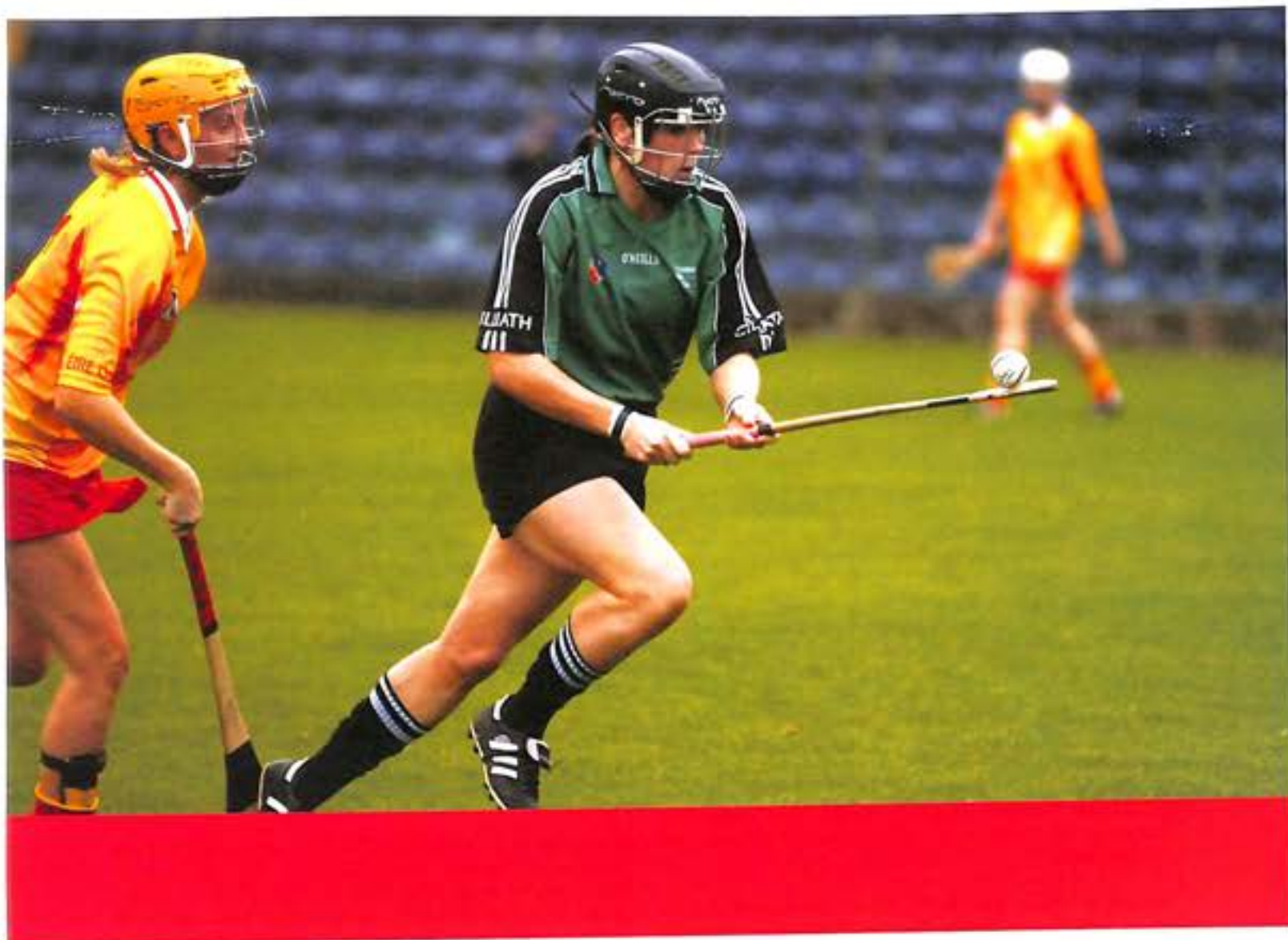
In the final Mallow overcame the challenge posed by Fr O'Neill's to take the Nano Nagle trophy, heroine of the hour for Mallow was Katie Buckley who found the net with four goals which set her side on their way to victory. Sister Patricia from the Presentation Order who kindly donated the trophy to the county board in honour of the founder of their order, the late Nano Nagle was in attendance to present the trophy to Mallow captain Kathleen O'Brien, while Katie Buckley was selected as player of the match after her contribution of 4-3 to the Mallow score line. Mallow held their focus to go on to make it a double as they defeated Tracton to add the league title to their championship crown and cap of a superb year, they went on to represent Cork in the Munster intermediate club championship but lost out to a strong Newmarket-on-Fergus side in the final.

At junior A level it was a great season for Blackrock who after many years of trying took the championship title under the guidance of former hurler Liam Meaney. A superb display under the lights of Cloughduv in horrific weather conditions saw the young Blackrock girls defeat Enniskeane in a final where captain Roisin De Faoite gave a magnificent acceptance speech as Gaelge after the trophy presentation. Fifteen year old Blackrock player Katelynn Hickey was named player of the match following a superb performance. Enniskeane turned the tables in the league final as they defeated Blackrock to be crowned champions.

The junior B championship as always proved to be one of the county's most competitive and this year's championship didn't disappoint, in an exciting final Castlemagner and Kildorrey gave it their all in quest of the title in the finish Kildorrey hanging on to take the spoils as Laura Hanley was



The St. Ibar's/Shelmallee crew met up with Castlebridge native and Fr. Murphy's stalwart, Josie O'Leary (extreme right, back row), when they played the exiles in Colindale recently. Back (from left): Peggie Kelly, Mairéad Potter, Mary Cullen, Michelle Harding, Áine Lacey, Lisa Quill, Ceara O'Brien, Kathleen Lacey, Deirdre McMahon, Aine Donohoe, Kate Kelly (capt.), Sinéad Cowman, Bridget Curran, Alan Aherne (manager), Fiona Cullen, Elaine Banville, Shelly Doyle, Deirdre Fox. Front (from left): Sinéad Kelly, Leona Tector, Clara Donohoe, Caroline Curran, Niamh Potter, Anne-Marie Kelly, Sandy Carr, Maeve Quill, Jacqui O'Connor.



named Player of the Match, they also made it a double adding the league title at the expense of Na Piarsaigh.

Youghal hung on under severe pressure to take the Evening Echo Junior C championship title as they overcame Ballinascarty in a close final in Castle Road, Ballinascarty battled to the finish and almost grabbed a late goal by Youghal. Having waited 30 years they were not going to be denied. Shonagh Cunningham was named as Player of the Match following her performance and they added the league title to their collection to make it a year to remember.

Success also for the second team from Inniscarra as they defeated Courcey Rovers second string to take the junior shield title, the junior plate competitions were a big success as Charleville took the C title with the B going to Millstreet. Inniscarra collected the minor A cup, the B crown was won by Ballygarvan, Newtownshandrum added the minor C title while Barryroe as they took the D title.

UNDERAGE

Again the juvenile county board did a superb job in running competitions from U12 to U16 level and there was no shortage of action in every competition.

The premier competition was the U16 A grade where Valley Rovers defeated holders Douglas by a point in a nail-biting final, at the time of going to print four sides remain in the hunt for league honours holders Courcey Rovers, Glen Rovers, Valley Rovers and Inniscarra are all still in contention for the title.

At U16 B level Newtownshandrum took the championship

crown but they were denied a double when they lost out in the league final to Kilbrittain / Timoleague.

The U16 C championship title was won by Douglas 2 while the league is down to four teams Clonakilty, Blarney, Bishopstown and Ballyhea still in the hunt for honours.

A great year for the Banteer club who took championship and league titles at under 16 D.

Éire Óg won the U14 A league title while the Cork Féile na nGael crown was won by Courcey Rovers, the U14 B title went to Cloughduv, Fr O'Neill's took the U14 C while Sarsfields 2 were victorious in the U14D grade.

The U12 competitions were a huge success and with the Go Games set to replace U12 competitions in 2011 the last championship titles in all grades were hotly contested. Ballinhassig were crowned U12 A but it took a replay with Sarsfields before they secured the crown, the B title went to Ballyhea, and the U12 C winners were Barryroe while Youghal annexed the D title.

Erin McElhinney from Na Piarsaigh won the Cork Féile na nGael skills and represented Cork at national Féile.

A long year but one which was enjoyed by all, credit must go to the officers of both county boards who successfully completed their programmes of fixtures.

The work at Castle Road is ongoing as the county board pushes ahead with their dream of getting their complex completed. We wish them continued success in the year ahead. ■

Biddy Phillips, one of camogie's greatest ambassadors

An Appreciation

When news broke of the untimely death of Biddy Phillips in July, an air of gloom descended on all associated with Camogie in Tipperary and further a field.

Biddy, a native of Ballytarsna which was her first club, later transferred to Thurles Camogie club. Throughout her long association with Thurles, Biddy won 5 senior county titles, 2 Munster club championships. In 1972 Thurles embarked on a 14 day American tour, and the club had the honour of playing in Gaelic Park New York.

Biddy also represented Tipperary at junior and senior level. In 1980 she became involved at administrative level with Tipperary County Board. From 1988 to 2000 Biddy served as assistant secretary and as treasurer. In addition, she was a selector of the senior team with Timmy Delaney and Bernie O'Dowd. Throughout to 1980s, Biddy was totally committed to the rehabilitation of Tipperary Camogie, and was synonymous with the development of the game from junior to senior levels, which culminated in winning the All Ireland Senior title for the first time for Tipperary in 1999. Tipperary went on to win three in a row under the stewardship of Biddy, Michael Cleary and Jim Madden. Also in 1999, Biddy was awarded with a Tipperary sports star Cidona award for her contribution to Camogie.

Refereeing was another of Biddy's major inputs into the game. She served on the National referee's committee for many years, and she took charge of the All Ireland Junior final in 1993, a Senior final in 1997, and had the honour of refereeing the senior All Ireland club final in 1999.

Biddy will be sadly missed by all who knew her, and her passing leaves a huge void in Tipperary Camogie.

Ar dheis De go raib a hanam dílis



Camogie Board review

CAMOGIE

By MARY NEWMAN



Inniscarra had a great year and their junior team defeated Courcy Rovers in the Junior Shield. Back (l-r): Yvonne Twomey, Erin Looney, Caitlin Looney, Aine Ni Riain, Susan Buckley, Meig Collins, Tara Nelligan, Catherine O'Brien, Emily O'Donovan, Orla Coleman, Rachel McCarthy, Amanda Twohig. Front row (l-r): Deirdre O'Callaghan, Niamh Byrne, Aine O'Connor, Roslyn McCarthy, Claire Sheehan, Mary Desmond, Sheila Walshe, Treasa McCarthy and Marie Corkery.



Ballygarvan captain Lauren Kennefick with player of the match in the Evening Echo minor B county final Lorraine Browne.



Evening Echo Ladies Sport Star of the Month for November Niamh Dilworth with her neighbours Catherine and Jim Fleming. Picture: Larry Cummins

CORK Camogie board reviewed the season at adult level at their annual convention on Monday last at the Rochestown Park Hotel where a large gathering of delegates were present.

Secretary Sile Golden gave a superb report where she made reference to the wonderful help the Castle Road pitch has been to the promotion of camogie in the county.

Sheila reported on all competitions but expressed disappointment at the failure to win anything on the inter-county scene this year, however there was much praise for the quality of fare served up in all the Board's championship competitions no more so than in the senior county championship where a superb final had to go to a replay before Inniscarra finally edged home to take the Punch Trophy for the first time.

Chairperson Marion McCarthy, in addressing delegates, expressed her delight that the Board has completed its full programme of games in all competitions and this was attributed to the hard work being put in at all levels of the Board by the officers.

With only three motions on the agenda for discussion, the big one was in relation to the formation of the senior selection committee.

The meeting passed a motion proposed by the Coiste Chontae that the county board will appoint a manager for the Cork senior team, the manager will have the power to select his or her selectors with one to be a representative from the senior county champions. In previous years, selectors were elected at convention but the train of thought was the time had come to change the process and with no dissenting voice, the motion was carried.

A motion from the Bishopstown club seeking to introduce re-grading in the senior B grade only was defeated while a motion from the Coiste Chontae seeking to raise the fine to €100 for failing to field for competitions entered, was also passed.

There were a lot of transfers on the table and one of the high profile ones

Burgess/Duharra's Glorious Year

In looking back over our camogie activities for the year 2010, there is no doubt but that it was unquestionably the club's most successful year ever - our "annus mirabilis" in every sense of saying. We had more girls than ever well in excess of 100, playing camogie throughout the year and eight teams in all were fielded i.e. u8, u10, u12, u14, u16, u18, Junior A and Senior, Which was a major achievement in any man's language.

Thankfully, success came our way too, most notably our first ever County Senior Title in a never to be forgotten victory over Toomevara after extra time.

Our Junior A team retained their Co. League Title as well as reaching the Co. Championship final. We were also crowned All-Ireland Pan-Celtic Champions in Dingle in early April in both Junior A and u16 A competitions. Not to be undone by the older girls, our u14 team won runners up honours in the Feile na nGael Division One competition in Ennis in June and very importantly also, we had more personnel than ever and committee members. It is this type of volunteerism that brings continued success to the club.

Junior Team Our Junior Team had a very busy schedule of games, reaching the Intermediate/Junior League Semi-Final unbeaten in their four games. In a hard fought semi-final Clonoulty were defeated by 3-12 to 1-10 and they then easily accounted for Knockavilla in the final to retain the league title for the second year in succession.

In the Junior A championship they lost their first round match to Clonoulty by 6 points (0-12 to 1-3) but recovered very well to win their next five games in convincing style only to have to fall to Clonoulty once more in the final at the Ragg on October 24th. With our goalie and backs defending gallantly we were only 3 points in arrears entering the final quarter but Clonoulty's greater speed and class told from there on to record a deserving 11 point victory (1-12 to 0-4). Our Juniors played a total of 18 games during the year, including League, Championship and Challenges and will be striving hard to go one better in the 2011 Championship. Congratulations Juniors on a very enjoyable and fruitful year.

DEC. 2010



Burgess/Duharra Junior 'A' team. Back l-r: Catriona Kenny, Ciara Holohan, Louise Hayes, Geraldine Courty, Maive Mohnney, Mary Cremen, Jenny Grace, Karen O'Brien, Mags Hogan, Aine Murphy, Mary Ryan, Aisling Grogan, Danielle Curtin, Front - Sarah Maxwell, Aine O'Halloran, Cara Cottam, Ciara McKeogh, Lisa Mulqueen, Laura Reid, Simon Quinlan, Gemma Grace, Niamh O'Donoghue, Amanda Egan, Claire Kearns.

year of real progression



The Cork senior and the All-Star selections who played in the Hope Foundation charity game in Cork during 2010.

was of former Cork senior panellist Marie O'Neill from junior A club Watergrasshill to Milford.

Marie was a prominent member of the Imokilly senior team that lost out narrowly to Inniscarra while she played a leading role with WIT in this season's Ashbourne Cup win. Cork intermediate player Aileen Sheehan was another player on the move, switching allegiances from junior B club Grenagh to senior county champions Inniscarra.

The intermediate selection committee for the coming year saw the outgoing Sile Golden, Lelia Long and Esther O'Leary re-elected, last in the season, the County Board elected a manager and selectors for the U16 and minor teams and already the minor committee for 2011 is up-and-running while the U16 selection committee is to be announced shortly.

Former senior inter-county player Fiona O'Driscoll addressed the meeting and gave a detailed report on the development committees' activities during 2010 while setting out the committees' plans for 2011.

The Board also elected a new officer with Mairead O'Donovan, Ballincollig, taking on the role as development officer. Mairead comes to the post with huge experience hav-

ing served in previous years as County Board treasurer and secretary.

Chairperson Marion McCarthy wished all present seasons greetings and said Cork camogie can look ahead with confidence as the game continues to grow.

The big aim for 2011 is the completion of the Castle Road project and a return to the victory rostrum for our inter-county teams.

President: Kay Dunne, Ballincollig.
Chairperson: Marion McCarthy, St Finbarr's.
Vice-Chairperson: Mary Bugler, Valley Rovers.

Secretary: Sile Golden, Inniscarra.
Treasurer: Mary McSweeney, Bandon.
PRO: Mary Newman, Glen Rovers.

Registrar: Yvonne Lane, Ballygarvan.
Development Officer: Mairead O'Donovan, Ballincollig.

Child Welfare Officer: Noreen Daly, Ballygarvan.

Before the meeting concluded, medals were presented to the winners of the Board's championship and league competitions for 2009 as follows.

Senior county champions: Inniscarra; **Senior League:** Inniscarra; **Senior B county champions:** Killeagh; **Senior B League:** Killeagh; **Intermediate county champions:** Mallow; **Intermediate league:** Mallow; **Junior A county champions:** Blackrock; **Junior A League:** Enniskeane; **Junior B county champions:** Kildorrery; **Junior B League:** Kildorrery; **Junior C County Championship:** Youghal; **Junior C League:** Youghal; **Junior Shield:** Inniscarra; **Junior B Plate:** Millstreet; **Junior C Plate:** Charleville; **Minor A championship:** Inniscarra; **Minor B Championship:** Ballygarvan; **Minor C Championship:** Newtownshandrum; **Minor D Championship:** Barryroe.



Evening Echo Ladies Sport Star of the Month for November Niamh Dilworth with camogie PRO Mary Newman and Evening Echo Deputy Sports Editor Eamonn Murphy.



Yvonne Crotty, Ballindereen, Veronica Curtin, Kinvra, Caroline Murray, Kilchreest, Aoife Lane and Niamh Kingston, both from Ballindereen, at the Ballindereen Camogie Club victory dinner at Paddy Burkes, Clarendridge.



Martina and Noel Linnane, Lorraine Larkin, Garry Helebert, with Carmel and Noel Lane, all from Ballindereen, attended the Ballindereen Camogie Club victory dinner at Paddy Burkes, Clarendridge.

Camogie All Stars for 2010

Goalkeeper
Mags D'Arcy, Wexford

Backs
Claire O'Connor, Wexford
Catherine O'Loughlin, Wexford
Niamh Kilkenny, Galway
Regina Glynn, Galway
Mary Leacy, Wexford
Anna Geary, Cork

Midfield
Orla Kilkenny, Galway
Anne Dalton, Kilkenny

Forwards
Kate Kelly, Wexford
Una Leacy, Wexford
Brenda Hanney, Galway
Katrina Parrock, Wexford
Ursula Jacob, Wexford
Aislinn, Connolly, Galway



Anne Dalton, Kilkenny, is presented with her 2010 Camogie All-Star award by President Mary McAleese and President of the Camogie Association Joan O'Flynn at the 2010 Camogie All-Stars.

She touched the lives of all who knew her

Dad pays tribute to his daughter Aoife killed in tragic accident

By HELEN WALSH

THE heartbroken father of teenager Aoife Downey, who died following a sledding accident, paid a touching tribute to his daughter today.

The 15-year-old was killed when the homemade sleigh she was travelling on crashed into a tree at Frankfield Golf Club on Saturday afternoon.

This morning her dad Seán described how the bubbly and popular teenager touched the lives of everyone she met.

"Aoife was an amazing girl and touched the lives of so many people. She was a real homebird and loved Douglas. She could never consider leaving it. She seemed to know everyone. We have been overwhelmed with the support from everyone who knew her."

The young girl is remembered by everyone in the community and at her school, Christ King, as a sports-loving teenager. Aoife was a member of Douglas Camogie Club and Douglas Ladies Football Club and had won U12 and U14 county championship medals with the camogie club.

Her dad said: "Aoife lived for sport. She was on the team that won the Féile All-Ireland camogie title this year and she had scored the winning goal in the final. Last year, when she was just 14, she was on the U16 Cork football team and she was very proud of that."

He recalled how Aoife would bring her hurley with her on family holidays to Portugal and they would play on the beach.

The eldest of three girls, Aoife was looking



Chelsea Noonan, left, pictured with Aoife at a camogie function at Douglas GAA Club. Chelsea was also injured in the accident.

forward to spending Christmas with her family and was hugely excited about one of her presents — tickets to see Rihanna in concert next October.

This morning her devastated classmates at Christ King Secondary School gathered in the school library to remember their friend.

Aoife was a third year student at the school. Her classmates were being offered counselling today to help them come to terms with her death.

Her PE teacher, Pauline Hayes, described Aoife as a very bright girl, who always had a smile on her face.

"She was very loving with her friends and always friendly."

Her close friend, Chelsea Noonan, who was injured in the accident, remains in a stable condition in hospital this morning, with a

● Continued on page two.



TRAGEDY: Aoife Downey who was killed in a sledding accident.

Camogie Association pays tribute to Aoife Downey

Aoife, a member of the Douglas Camogie Club, was a highly talented camogie player and had won numerous accolades with her club and school most notably a national Féile Camogie Division 1 title with Douglas in 2009.

President of the Camogie Association, Joan O'Flynn, expressed her deep sadness at the news of Aoife's premature death: "Aoife was a very talented camogie player and all round sportsperson. She had a bright future ahead of her not only in camogie but also in ladies football and soccer. On behalf of the Camogie Association I express our deepest sympathy to her heartbroken family and to the many friends she had in sport and beyond. I know that Aoife will be sadly missed but I hope that the support of her friends in sport and in particular the members of the Douglas Camogie and GAA Clubs will help her parents Siobhán and Seán and her sisters Éadaoin and Caoimhe at this very sad time."

CAMOGIE

Munster Colleges fixtures: Tomorrow: Junior B final at Mallow 1pm: Coachford v Presentation Thurles (Ref. J O'Leary)
Senior B final at Mallow 3pm: Hazelwood, Dromcollogher v St Mary's Mallow (O Webb)
Junior C final at Ballynoe 1 pm: St. Mary's Midleton v Coláiste Dun Iascaigh, Cahir (C Egan)
Junior D final at Slieverue 2pm: Abbey CC v St. Declan's Kilmacthomas (D Daly)



Four Roads, Roscommon 1-9 Corofin 0-6

Soaring sliothar in Dublin

It was great to be at my first game of the New Year recently. Dublin Camogie faced a Dublin All Stars selection as part of an annual double header with Ladies Football.

Heartening to see the sliothar soaring again. Everybody shaking off the winter comfort! The game finished at 1-9 apiece. Catriona Power and Louise O'Hara shared the cup. Congratulations to all involved in a novel event.

More Camogie in Croke

Great also to see Dublin camogie fielding in the hallowed Croke Park turf in the Division 1 National League game v Kilkenny. Sure to be interest in that as it precedes the Dublin v Kerry National Football League on 26th February.

I'm delighted that more Camogie players than ever will get the opportunity to play in Croke Park this year.

It's fantastic that we will have four days there in 2011.

The Dublin game on Feb 26th will be a wonderful platform. The club finals on March 6th will be special. Our Development Squads' day is just the best in the summer. The second Sunday in September is definitely the day of the year.

Camogie Scholars taking to the field

There was probably little winter indulgence for the Ashbourne, Purcell and All Ireland Intermediate and Senior Club contenders and the post primary school teams too. There are big days ahead for all those players over the next few weeks. It was good fun meeting some of them recently at the presentation of the Third Level Education Bursaries. Camogie Scholars all with Ulster scooping 7 out of 11 bursaries!

'Must see' events

Games are the best entertainment and there's plenty in the days ahead - put these in your diary as 'must see' games! Watch out as well for the National League throw in.

Date Event

6th February All Ireland Senior and Intermediate Club Semi Finals
12th February All Ireland Post Primary Senior Finals
19th/20th February Ashbourne and Purcell weekend (higher education finals) in NUI Galway and Pearse Stadium, Galway
26th February Division 1 National League Dublin v Kilkenny Croke Park
6th March All Ireland Senior and Intermediate Club Finals in Croke Park

Functions are still in full swing along with Provincial Conventions.

It was good fun meeting many friends recently at Fr. O'Neill's Juvenile Camogie Awards, Killeagh Camogie Presentation, Antrim Camogie Presentation in Stormont, Derry Camogie Awards and Munster Camogie Convention.

Great to see Munster President Rose Malone in attendance and heartening to see excellent reports from Provincial Secretary Marian Graham and all the counties.

Congratulations to Eamonn Browne who takes over as Munster Chair and sincere thanks to outgoing Chair, Waterford's Morgan Conroy for his work over the past three years.

Had a chance to be in attendance at the annual Coaching Conference in Croke Park also - excellent presentations, workshops and practical sessions. Caroline Murray, one of our development team along with Damien Coleman from Galway have developed an excellent new training drill! Paudie Butler, GAA Director of Hurling was inspiring.

Curtain raiser sets standard



Niall Scully

THE perfect end to Dublin camogie's opening chapter for 2011 as Dublin and the Ozo Dub All-Stars drew 1-9 each at Glenalbyn last Saturday.

All that was missing from Stillorgan's Saturday spectacular was a saw to cut the OZO trophy in half.

But the two captains, Louise O'Hara and Catriona Power, happily agreed to polish the silver for six months each.

Dublin official, Brendan Cooper, was delighted. "Nobody lost here today," he declared.

Certainly, not the folks that stood on the hill. The tidy attendance had to endure wind and rain, but they were rewarded with a fine duel.

Conditions weren't ideal, but in no way did they reflect the climate at last year's inaugural offering.

The Kilmacud sod held up well. There was a neat programme and the electric scoreboard was in operation.

The one thing we really have to work on is our first touch.

- Denis Murphy

Camogie president, Joan O'Flynn, was in the house, and Declan Drake was on sound. There were mini-games at half-time.

Conor Dodd, one of Dublin's top referees, had the whistle. And he kept the music flowing. This was no end-of-season testimonial or harmless exhibition.

New Dublin manager, Denis Murphy, meant business. And he was content at the end.

"We were pleased with the work rate. Particularly after the first ten or fifteen minutes when the girls got up to the pace," he reflected.

"It was effectively an inter-county team that we were playing. Granted, the speed of the game was never going to be as fast as you'd get in the summer, but the girls did well.

"They denied their opponents space, and they were able to get



HONOURS EVEN: Camogie Association president, Joan O'Flynn, presents the cup to captains Catriona Power and Louise O'Hara (right).

WELL MATCHED: (Above) The Ozo Dub All-Stars and (Below) Dublin teams who faced each other in last Saturday's game in Kilmacud Crokes, Glenalbyn.



their sticks in. I felt overall it was a good game.

"The danger is that when you have a high wind and a muddy surface, the ball can get stuck, but apart from one or two schmozzles, both sides kept the ball moving.

"The one thing we really have to work on is our first touch.

"We have been working on it, but the first touch let us down a couple of times.

"From the 45 metre line in, your first touch is crucial. That's the area you really have to be sharp to be able to take your scores."

Before the throw-in, a minutes silence was observed for the lovely Michaela Harte and family.

The two number six's, Joanne O'Sullivan and Elaine O'Meara, showed their class time and again. Clara Burgess was busy in the Dublin midfield. She received the Player-of-the-Match accolade.

Aisling Carolan, at top of the left

for Dublin, also had reasons to be cheerful. She did many fine things.

Her contribution included the opening goal, which came at the Ball Alley end in the 19th minute. Danielle Smith's delivery was batted out but there was Carolan to sweep up the last of the Christmas cake.

IMPRESSING

Prior to that, the sides had been level three times. Carolan's goal - and she was to get a point soon afterwards - helped Dublin lead at the break, 1-6 to 0-5.

Raheny's Aoife Kelly was also impressing for Dublin, as was their free-taker, Fiona Hayes, who hardly missed a putt.

Aoife Kelly of St Jude's was on form for the OZO crew at left corner-forward, while O'Hara began to hum after the tea.

The second half provided plenty of entertainment, especially the conclusion. A Hayes free had edged

Dublin five points clear, but then came a belter of a goal from the excellent Edel Reid that reduced the deficit to two points in the 45th minute.

It was exactly the fire-lighter the All-Stars required. O'Hara's point from play left just a point between them.

Hayes converted another free for Dublin. O'Hara responded for the All-Stars.

It had really got interesting. Then Miriam Twomey was foiled of a Dublin goal by the save of the day from Colette Coady.

Five minutes from time, another Hayes free pushed Dublin two points clear. A minute from the end, the All-Stars earned a free slightly to the right of the posts and about 30 yards out.

Up stepped Ciara Lucey. Would she go for the match-winning goal? Páirc de Burca held its breath. She settled for the point.

BOARD NOTES

■ The 2nd Annual OZO Dub Stars games at Kilmacud Crokes was a great success. Many thanks to partners the Ladies Football Board; Kilmacud Crokes; Sponsors OZO; Referees; players, mentors and supporters. Sincere appreciation to Camogie Association President Joan O'Flynn and Ladies Football Association President Pat Quill for their attendance.

The camogie game was a very tight encounter and at the end the honours were shared on a scoreline of OZO Dub Stars 1-9 Dublin 1-9. A lively Clara Burgess won the Player of Match Award. Camogie Association presented the cup jointly to captains Catriona Power (Dublin) and Louise O'Hara (OZO Dub Stars).

■ A special presentation was made on behalf of the Camogie Board by Brendan Cooper to Maureen King, Chair of the Dublin Ladies Football Board to mark Dublin's first All-Ireland Senior title win.

■ Sincere sympathy to former Dublin senior team trainer Dave Dunning on the death of his father.

■ GO Games Rules for 2011 are now published on the website under the Coaching Section. Forthcoming Coaching Sessions - Coaching the Tackle: Tutor: Eamonn Ryan, Cork - Commercial Monday Jan 31 @8PM - cost €10 Foundation Camogie course - "Camogie Get a Grip" - Thomas Davis Friday Feb 11 @6pm/Saturday Feb 12 10-4pm - €30 To book your place on the above courses please contact Eve Talbot - 085 1128669 or email eve@camogie.ie

■ OZO Raffle Results from Draw at Kilmacud Crokes on 15 January 2011: 1. Cathal O'Reilly 32" TV, 2. Niamh Barnett Hi Fi, 3. Roisin McLoughlin Mini ipod, 4. Una Kilpatrick Mini ipod, 5. Pat & Mick Design Edge Vouchers, Pavilions Shopping Centre, Swords, 6. Aoife Maguire Teddy Bear, 7. David McCabe Mini ipod, 8. Emer Fitzgerald Signed Dublin Ladies Football, 9. Declan O'Reilly Teddy Bear, 10. Imelda Staunton Teddy Bear, 11. Karl Deegan Signed Dublin Camogie Hurley.

The hour was almost up. The All-Stars pressed on. They were awarded another free from around forty yards distance. O'Hara sent it sweetly home. Justice for all.

SCORER - Dublin: F Hayes 0-6 (5f), A Carolan 1-1, A Kelly, E Gallery 0-1 each. **Dub All-Stars:** E Reid 1-1, L O'Hara 0-4 (3f), A Kelly 0-2 (2f), A Fanning, C Lucey (f) 0-1 each.

DUBLIN: S Carthy; A Kirwan, E O'Meara, E Ryan; R Markham, R Costello, C Power; D Smith, C Burgess; M Moynihan, F Hayes, A Kelly; P McGrath, E Gallery, A Carolan.

Subs: J Russell, S Kennedy, M Twomey, K Farrell, J Hoary, E Hickey, C Bolger, S Ryan, G Ryan, S O'Toole, A Cushen, L Devine, H McInerney, L Twomey.

OZO DUB ALL-STARS: S Nic Coirir; A Murphy, L O'Connell, M Gaynor; G Quinn, J O'Sullivan, T Corrigan; L O'Hara, C Lucey; C Durkin, A Murphy, E Reid; C Canning, A Fanning, A Kelly.

Subs: C Coady, L Crennan, J Cooper, A McCluskey. **REF:** C Dodd (Clanna Gaels/Fontenay).



Kay Dunne, minister Billy Kelleher, Linda Mellerick, Sheila Golden, Nora Newman and Mary Newman of Cork Camogie Board.

Picture: Larry Cummins

JAN 2011

Club notes

BISHOPSTOWN

THE Bishopstown camogie club would like to pass on their sincere sympathy to Megan Delaney and her family on the recent death of her father Padraig. Megan was on the Féile winning team this year as well as being a prominent member of the U15 and U16 squads. The AGM has been scheduled for Tuesday, January 11 at 7.30pm in the GAA club. New and old members welcome.

ST VINCENT'S

We held our puc fada recently and even on such a wet day we had a great turnout and everybody had lots of fun. First place went to Emma Healy, Amy O'Connell, and Nicole Crean. Second was Michelle Gould, Trudy Buckley, Karen Daly and Shelly O'Hanlan while in third were Amy Wilson, Sinead Hendrick and Laura Connelly. We had a longest drive competition before the puc fada started and Emma Healy won that. Well done to everybody that took part and thanks to all that helped out and made the day what it was.

We are in the Seandun final waiting to play the winners of Glen Rovers v Piarasigh.

Training: U13s restart training on Wednesday, January 12 at 6pm.

U11s resume training also on the 12th at 6pm and the U8s are back the same day at 5pm. We would like to thank all the players for the great work of 2010 and let 2011 be even better we wish a Happy New Year to everybody.

GLEN ROVERS

Happy new year to all our members, bad weather forced a lot of postponements over the Christmas our under age and adult Christmas party falling by the way side. Our underage training from beginners to age 12 will resume on Sunday, January 23 at the usual time of 11.45am when we will hold a back-to-training party to make up for missing out on the Christmas event.

Training for U13s to U16s resumes on Monday, January 24 at the usual time of 6pm. A reminder that we will be holding our AGM on Sun January 23. Time TBC.

Inniscarra shine in



Killeagh captain Claire Keohane hangs on the cup as the team celebrate their win over Éire Óg in the senior B final.

Picture: Larry Cummins



Mallow's Katie Buckley gathers the ball from Fr O'Neill's Liz Sweetnam during the Evening Echo Cork Intermediate Camogie Championship final.

Picture: Eddie O'Hare



Blackrock players Amy Roberts, Jennifer Irwin, Cait Kelleher, Grace Mulqueen, captain Roisin De Faoite and Theresa Cummins celebrate their sides victory in the Evening Echo junior A championship over Enniskeane.

ANOTHER busy camogie year saw plenty of new historic achievements.

It was a year of non-stop action from start to finish with a huge volume of fixtures from senior down to U12 in both championship and league. Both were organised superbly by the senior and juvenile county boards.

The senior board was again fortunate to have the all of their adult championship competitions sponsored by the Evening Echo and it ensures that a huge burden was taken off the shoulders of the board as they continued to make huge progress in getting their complex at Castle Road completed.

SENIOR

Without doubt the team of the year were Inniscarra, who swept all before them to take the long-awaited senior county champions title for the first time in their history.

They had to go to a replay and extra time before shaking off the challenge of champions Douglas, but do it they did and it was divisional side Imokilly who provided the final opposition.

Again, as was the case in several games through what was a superb championship, the final ended in a draw Margaret Cosgrave hitting a late equaliser to give Inniscarra a second chance just when it looked as if Imokilly had done enough to take their first title since 1976.

The replay was a tremendous battle that again went down to the wire, Imokilly led with the clock ticking towards injury time but in a last-ditch attack Niamh Dilworth dropped a long-range free in around the goalmouth and Rena Buckley reacted to send the ball to the net to break Imokilly hearts and give Inniscarra the title.

Previous to the replay, Inniscarra represented Cork in the Munster club championship and defeated the Limerick representatives to book their place in the All-Ireland club semi-final which goes ahead on February 6 against Ulster champions O'Donovan Rossa. Inniscarra also added the senior league title to their trophy cabinet for the first time.

SENIOR B

At senior B level Killeagh finally

Season runs smoothly for county board

REVIEW

By MARY NEWMAN

realised their dream by annexing their first championship title in the grade, thus ensuring promotion to senior level, when they held off the challenge of Éire Óg, who, once again experienced the heartbreak of losing out in a final for the third year in-a-row.

Both side had come through the round-robin series of the championship and emerged from the same section to contest the final.

Killeagh were focussed from the throw-in and set the pace of the game with Mary O'Connor, Annie Walsh, Claire Keohane and Stefanie Beausang to the fore they had too much strength for the Mid-Cork side.

Killeagh's Angela Walsh was named as player of the match as her side were crowned champions. To round off a great year Killeagh made it a double when they took the league title by defeating Clonakilty.

INTERMEDIATE

The intermediate championship was also played on a round robin basis with four teams emerging to contest the semi-finals and after a lot of superb games Fr O'Neill's, Mallow and Tracton and Sarsfield's battled it out for a place in the final. Fr O'Neill's defeated Sarsfield's to book their spot but it took two games to separate Mallow and Tracton before Mallow made it through.

In the final Mallow overcame the challenge posed by Fr O'Neill's to take the Nano Nagle trophy.

Mallow's hero was Katie Buckley, who found the net with four goals which set her side on their way to victory. Sister Patricia, from the Presentation Order, who kindly donated the trophy to the county board in honour of the founder of their order the late Nano Nagle, was

year to remember



Inniscarra's Niamh McCarthy causes problems for the Imokilly defence in the Evening Echo Senior Camogie final at CIT.

Picture: Larry Cummins

in attendance to present the trophy to Mallow captain Kathleen O'Brien while Katie Buckley was selected as player of the match.

Mallow held their focus to go on to make it a double as they defeated Tracton to add the league title. They went on to represent Cork in the Munster intermediate club championship but lost out to a strong Newmarket-on-Fergus side in the final.

JUNIOR

At junior A level it was a great season for Blackrock, who, after many years of trying took the championship title. They were guided by former hurler Liam Meaney,

a superb display under the lights of Cloughduv in horrific weather conditions saw the young Blackrock girls defeat Enniskeane in a final where captain Roisin De Faoite gave a magnificent acceptance speech as Gaeilge. Fifteen year old Blackrock player Katelynn Hickey was named Player of the Match following a superb performance. Enniskeane turned the tables in the league final as they defeated Blackrock to be crowned champions.

The junior B championship as always proved to be one of the county's most competitive and this year's championship didn't disappoint. In an exciting final, Castle-magner and Kildorrery gave it their all in their quest for the title. In the finish Kildorrery hung on to take the spoils as Laura Hanley was

named Player of the Match. They also made it a double adding the league title at the expense of Na Piar-saigh.

Youghal hung on, under severe pressure, to take the Evening Echo Junior C Championship title as they overcame Ballinascarty in a close final in Castle Road. Ballinascarty battled to the finish and almost grabbed a late goal, but Youghal having waited 30 years were not going to be denied.

Shonagh Cunningham was named Player of the Match following her performance and they added the league title to their collection to make it a year to remember.

Success also for the second team from Inniscarra as they defeated Courcey Rovers second string to take the junior shield title. The junior plate competitions were a big success as Charleville took the C title with the B going to Millstreet.

MINOR

Inniscarra rounded off a tremendous year as they defeated Douglas to take the minor A county title for the first time. The minor B title was won by Ballygarvan while Newtownshandrum added the minor C title to make it a great double as they had also won the U16 B championship while Barryroe took the minor D title.

UNDERAGE

The juvenile county board did a superb job in running competitions

from U12 to U16 level and there was no shortage of action in every competition. The premier competition was the U16 A grade where Valley Rovers defeated holders Douglas by a point in a nail-biting final. At the time of going to print four sides remain in the hunt for league honours. Holders Courcey Rovers, Glen Rovers, Valley Rovers and Inniscarra are all still there.

At U16 B level Newtownshandrum took the championship crown but were denied a double when they lost out in the league final to Kilbrittain/Timoleague.

The U16 C championship title was won by Douglas 2 while the league is down to four teams Clonakilty, Blarney, Bishopstown and Ballyhea still in the hunt for honours.

A great year for the Banteer club who took championship and league titles at U16 D.

Éire Óg won the U14 A league title while the Cork Féile Na nGael crown was won by Courcey Rovers, the U14B title went to Cloughduv, Fr O'Neill's took the U14 C while Sarsfield's 2 were victorious in the U14D grade.

The U12 competitions were a huge success and with the Go Games set to replace U12 competitions in 2011 the last championship titles in all grades were hotly contested. Ballin-hassig were crowned U12A but it took a replay with Sarsfield's before they secured the crown.

The B title went to Ballyhea, and the U12 C winners were Barryroe while Youghal annexed the D title.

Erin Mc Elhinney from Na Piar-saigh won the Cork Féile Na nGael skills and represented Cork at national Féile.

Among the camogie players to be honoured with awards were Anna Geary who was Cork's only AllStar award winners, Marie O'Neill, Mary O'Connor and Niamh Dilworth kept the camogie flags flying as they were honoured with monthly Evening Echo Ladies Sportstar awards.

It was a long year and enjoyable season on the local club scene and a huge word of praise must go to the officers of both the senior and juvenile county boards who successfully completed their programmes of fixtures by the last Sunday in November.

With just two underage competitions to be completed it speaks volumes for the co-operation given to the boards by the clubs over the course of the season.

The huge amount of work at the Camogie grounds at Castle Road is ongoing as the county board pushes ahead with their dream of getting the third and final phase completed with the aim being to start the building of their changing and meeting room facilities in 2011.

No doubt they will reach their goal with the same efficiency and dedication that has been the hallmark of the season gone by.

Aoife Downey RIP

IT WAS with great sadness and regret that we learned of the tragic and untimely death of Aoife Downey from the Douglas club.

Aoife was a great camogie player and all round sportsperson and indeed at the time of her untimely passing she was actively pursuing one of her favourite pastimes out in the open air enjoying herself with her friends.

From an early age Aoife showed great promise as a camogie player and I would have watched her from playing at U10 level upwards as our clubs' paths crossed on a number of occasions both in county board and Seandún competitions.

Last March Aoife lined out with Douglas in the Seandún U15 final against us at the Glen Field and she put the first score on the board when she pointed that day. We prevailed but Aoife and her team mates were first to offer congratulations to us after a superb game.

Her parents Siobhan and Sean were great supporters of Aoife and of her sisters Eadaoin and Caoimhe and they could be seen at all of club games.

One of their proudest moments came at the All-Ireland Féile Na nGael final in 2009 when Aoife scored the winning goal to give Douglas the title and there was no one prouder than Aoife of her All-Ireland Féile medal.

With her school, Christ King, she also won many honours and through the years she was an excellent attended at training and matches and there was nothing but praise for her commitment from coaches such as Philip Kavanagh, Paul Lynch, Helen Duggan Catherine Jordan and Tina Sheehan who would have helped guide her fortunes at the Douglas club.

Aoife was a member of the Cork U15 development squad in 2010 and was earmarked for a career in the Cork jersey in the years ahead.

Coaches with the squad Miriam Deady, Fiona O'Driscoll and Nora Ahern had huge praise for her commitment and dedication.

To say we are all saddened at Aoife's passing at such a young age is an understatement, in her short lifetime she won honours from U12 to minor with the Douglas club she was an extremely talented likeable and friendly youngster, always sporting and first to extend the word of congratulations to opponents when her own team were defeated.

The immense pride she had in her club Douglas was evident and she was proud to wear the Cork jersey I am sure I speak for all camogie clubs, club and county officials when I extend to the Douglas players and mentors our deepest sympathy.

To her parents Sean and Siobhan, her sisters Eadaoin and Caoimhe and to her extended family we extend our thoughts, sympathy and prayers.

Codladh c. Aoife.

MN.

JAN 2011



Camogie

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All-Ireland Colleges Mini-Sevens 2010

hide article...

MUNSTER COLLEGES FINALS 2011

Sat 22nd Jan

Junior B. Coachford College v Presentation, Thurles
Ref: John O' Leary. 1pm @ Mallow GAA

Senior B. St. Mary's, Mallow v Hazelwood, Dromcollogher.
Ref: Ollie Webb. 3pm @ Mallow GAA

Junior A. Colaiste Choilm or St. Mary's, Nenagh v St. Mary's, Charleville.
Ref: Eamonn Browne. 2pm @ Ballincollig or Nenagh.

Junior C. Cashel CS or St. Mary's, Midleton v Laurel Hill or Col Dun Iascaigh, Cahir.
Ref: Cathal Egan. 2pm @ Venue TBA.

Junior D. Abbey CC v St. Declan's, Kilmacthomas or Ballincollig CS.
Ref: Dave Daly. 2pm @ Slieverue, Waterford.

Wed 26th Jan

Intermediate A. Coachford College v St. Mary's, Midleton.
Ref: Cathal Egan. 6.30pm @ Cloughduv.

Sat 29th Jan

Senior C. St. Joseph's, Doon or Laurel Hill FCJ v Roscrea CC.
Ref: Mike O' Kelly. 1pm @ Doon or Limerick.

Senior A. Colaiste Choilm v Presentation, Thurles.
Ref: Mike Sheehan. 3pm @ Mallow GAA.

Senior D. St. Declan's, Kilmacthomas or St. Aidan's v Ard Scoil, Dungarvan or Ballincollig CS
Ref: Dave O' Connell. 2pm @ Kilmacthomas or Glen Rovers.

Hayes Intermediate. Abbey CC v Colaiste Dun Iascaigh, Cahir.
Ref: Tyler Walsh. 1pm @ Slieverue, Waterford.

U16 1/2 A North. Desmond College or Hospital v St. Joseph's, Doon or St. Joseph's, Tulla.
Ref: Ger Curtin. 2pm @ Venue TBA.

Sat 5th Feb

Senior A League.

BCS Lismore or St. Mary's, Nenagh v St. Joseph's, Borrisoleigh or St. Mary's, Charleville.
Ref: TBA. 2pm @ Borrisoleigh or Charleville.

CAMOGIE: Munster Intermediate A: Coachford College v St. Mary's, Midleton, Eire Og. 1pm.
Munster Senior A: Colaiste Choilm v Presentation, Thurles, Mallow, 3.30pm.
Munster Senior C: St. Joseph's, Doon or Laurel Hill FCJ v Roscrea CC, Doon or Newport (if Laurel Hill), 1pm.
Munster Senior D: Ard Scoil, Dungarvan v St. Declan's, Kilmacthomas, Dungarvan, 2pm.
Munster Hayes Intermediate: Abbey CC v Colaiste Dun Iascaigh, Cahir, Slieverue, Waterford, 1pm.
Cork Colleges Intermediate C: Col An Phiaraisigh v Ballincollig CS, Ballincollig, 3pm.
All-Ireland Senior B quarter-final: Hazelwood, Dromcollogher v St. Killian's, Garron Tower, Trinity Gaels, Malahide, 1pm.
All-Ireland Senior C quarter-final: St. Dominic's, Cabra v Mercy, Ballinasloe, Oliver Plunketts, 2pm.
All-Ireland Senior D quarter-final: St. MacDara's, Templeogue v Mercy, Roscommon, St. Jude's, 1pm.
Connacht Senior A: St. Brigid's, Loughrea v Gort CC, Tynagh, 3.30pm.
Connacht Senior B: St. Killian's, New Inn v Holy Rosary, Mountbellew, Tynagh, 2pm.
Leinster Junior A: Loreto, Kilkenny v Pres, Kilkenny, Nowlan Park, 1.30pm.

Camogie

The Camogie Association and CCAO (Higher Education Camogie Council) awarded 11 camogie players with third level bursaries totalling €7000 at Croke Park yesterday.

The presentations were made by president of the Camogie Association Joan O'Flynn and Shane D'Arcy, president of CCAO.

The eight recipients were Sinead Cassidy, a student at Queens University, Belfast; University of Ulster Jordanstown quartet Shauna Murphy, Karen Tinnelly, Sara Louise Carr and Gemma McCullagh; NUI Galway duo Anne-Marie McMahon and Chloe Morey. Emma Connolly and Dervagh McGuigan, both St Mary's, Belfast also received bursaries, while Meath star Jane Delahy (a student of Dublin Institute of Technology) and Marie Floyd, Froebel College, filled the list.



RISING STARS: At the announcement at Croke Park of third level bursaries for camogie players are, from left: Clare's Anne Marie McMahon, NUI Galway; Derry's Shauna Murphy, UUJ; Tipp's Marese Floyd, Froebel College of Education, Dublin; Down's Karen Tinnelly, UUJ; Clare's Chloe Morey, NUI Galway; Derry's Dervagh McGuigan, St Mary's, Belfast; Antrim's Emma Connolly, St Mary's, Belfast and Down's Sara Louise Carr, UUJ.

Picture: Brian Lawless/Sportfile



Mary O'Connor, winner of the Boardwalk Sports Star of the Month award for December with her parents Diarmuid and Mary outside the Boardwalk Bar & Grill.
Picture: Richard Mills



John Gately, Proprietor Boardwalk Bar & Grill with Mary O'Connor and Lady Mayoress Catherine O'Connell and the Lord Mayor of Cork Cllr Michael O'Connell.
Picture: Richard Mills

Spreading the camogie word is Mary's mission

INCH ROVERS and Killeagh dual All-Ireland star Mary O'Connor, director of camogie development with the GAA, wants to see the game developed and established in the "weaker counties" of Donegal, Mayo and Offaly.

"It's a broad-ranging brief, but essentially it's all about trying to grow the game in the weaker areas and trying to consolidate in the likes of Cork, Tipperary and Kilkenny."

"I have seven regional development officers and I work closely with them."

"There have been huge advances in camogie in places like Mayo and Donegal which would be non-traditional areas but we are putting the effort in because we want to have a



NOEL SPILLANE

presence in every county," said Mary as she collected the Boardwalk Sports Star of the Month award yesterday.

"The football counties are obviously going to be mainly football counties, but it's no harm for them to get a taste of camogie as well," said Mary who has been working with Croke Park for the last two years.

"One stat to prove the growing popularity of the game is that in 2006 we had 490 clubs and, at the moment in the Association we have 557 clubs

and that's a huge growth rate by any standards," she said.

On the club front, Mary is delighted that Killeagh are back in the spotlight again.

"It's great that we are back senior and great for the club. It's our first year back since 1988 and for a club like Killeagh with such a history in men and women GAA, it's great to be back senior."

"With Inch Rovers we have been knocking on the door for a while and Donoughmore had been the dominant force in ladies football in Cork for a number of years - they won 10 or 11 county titles in a row - but then we came through the intermediate ranks and we had players that came back and we won the county and the All-Ireland."

"We certainly weren't lacking in

motivation on All-Ireland final day having lost twice to the opposition," O'Connor said.

The high point of the year for her were the two county final victories in camogie and ladies football and she said they were on a par because without them, she would not have got to the All-Irelands.

"Our aim was to win counties in both and once we put our shoulders to the wheel and gave it a lash, things came right for us."

"With Inch we'd love to win it again and prove that it was not a flash in the pan."

"The team is young but that does not always augur well for the future, but we are hoping we can keep the team together and for Killeagh in the camogie we just want to compete in the senior A grade."

"We know we are on a learning curve and we want to do ourselves justice."

"It's a year for us to consolidate - nothing more, nothing less," said Mary at yesterday's lunch where Munster's James Coughlan was also honoured after that famous win over Australia at Thomond Park.

And the bottom line for Mary is that she has no intention of hanging up her boots or hurley and retiring.

"I am re-charging the batteries at the moment but I have no intention of calling it a day."

"If you go back too soon, you will only be going through the motions and that's not me."

"It's not something that has crossed my mind to be honest. Retiring is not in my thoughts at the moment, not at all," she added.

Inniscarra bid for a place in All-Ireland final

ALL roads will lead to Newbridge on Sunday next as Inniscarra carry the Cork and Munster banner into the All Ireland stages when they meet 2009 All Ireland club champions O'Donovan Rossa of Antrim.

Only two Cork club have won the prestigious title - Killeagh have one to their credit, while Glen Rovers are the holders of four. It's 1993 since the title last rested in Cork and all eyes will be on Inniscarra as they battle to bridge the gap.

They were superb in taking their first senior county title as they defeated a strong Imokilly side in a game that went to a replay. They then accounted for Granagh-Ballingarry from Limerick to take the Munster crown.

Inniscarra are a well-balanced side and players such as Niamh Dilworth, Joanne Casey, Rena Buckley, and captain Margaret Noelle O'Sullivan will leave no stone unturned as they strive to reach Croke Park.

Teams get ready for camogie blitz

THE first camogie title for 2011 in Cork is up for grabs on Sunday as the U16 Inter-divisional championship blitz gets competitive action up and running after the break. Once again, Mallow will play hosts to a competition that has over the years gone from strength to strength with participation by players from every club in the county and it has been of huge benefit to the Cork U16 selectors as they make their championship preparations. The cork selectors have already been busy casting their eyes over the talent and if last seasons U15 development squads are anything to go on there is certainly plenty of talent available as Cork go in search of an U16 All-Ireland title.

Over the last number of weeks, the divisions have been busy preparing and now all is in readiness. The competition is divisions into two sections with the top team from each section qualifying for the final and with all games taking place on the same day it's sure to be a test of endurance. Games will be 15 minutes a side basis with the final 25 minutes a side. Six divisions will vie for the title with teams divides into two groups of three.

Inter-divisional U16 Championship

Holders Avondhu are going for three in row and they will be determined to hold their crown once again. It will be an early start to the day with registrations at 10.15 am and with two games going ahead at the same time the first games are scheduled for 11 am and running through to 1.30pm. Players will have a break until 3pm when the final is scheduled to begin.

With all six divisions having put in huge preparations it promises to be another exciting day as the Avondhu girls battle to make three in a row but they are sure to come up against strong opposition.



Glen Rovers camogie mentors Lorraine O'Sullivan and Dan O'Riordan with Lisa O'Riordan, Megan O'Sullivan and Cathal Murphy at the Glen Rovers long puck.



UCC signal their intent ahead of the Ashbourne

CAMOGIE

By SARAH O'DONOVAN

UCC 3-10
UUJ 0-6

UCC HAVE bridged a gap to win their first third-level senior camogie title in seven years and the result sends out a clear signal of intent for the upcoming Ashbourne campaign.

Backbone by Cork senior camogie players Orla Cotter, Pamela and Katrina Mackey and Denise Cronin, the Rebel side proved far too strong for the Northern outfit.

On a difficult day for camogie UCC got off to the best possible start with a goal from mid-fielder Miriam Crowley within the first five minutes. Despite playing against a strong wind UCC took advantage of a UJJ side who were missing a number of regulars.

With the midfield pairing of Cork duo Orla Cotter and Crowley on top, UCC dominated the first half and despite a strong performance from UJJ captain Maebh McGoldrick, UCC continued to pile on the pressure and were rewarded with goals from Niamh Goulding and Clodhna MacSweeney.

UUJ did threaten the UCC defence for a period but some resolute defending from Sarah Collins, Julie Brien and Pamela Mackey kept them at bay. UCC tagged on further points from Orla Cotter, Katrina Mackey and Denise Cronin, to leave the half-time score 3-5 to 0-3.

UUJ improved greatly in the second half but could not turn their possession into scores and with Elaine O'Shea sweeping up in defence it was difficult for UUJ to find a way through.

Sara Louise Carr went on a strong solo run where she was fouled and she put over the free herself to encourage UUJ further.

Midway through the second half both teams made changes which allowed the managers to assess their options before the Ashbourne quarter finals in three weeks.

An excellent save from UUJ keeper Brona McIntyre saw her keep a clean sheet in the second half.

Referee Donal Ryan signalled the end of the match and UCC captain Grainne Kenneally was delighted to pick up the silverware which saw UCC collect their first trophy since 2003.

While matters are looking extremely positive on the college front for Cork's senior camogie players, it is a different matter on the inter-county front as the side are still without management for the 2011 campaign.

Former All-Ireland winning trainer Frankie Flannery has taken over the reins in Kilkenny while manager Denise Cronin has opted out after a two-year term.

With national league fixtures in the pipeline the players are anxious for the matter to be resolved quickly as Kilkenny, Wexford and Galway have stolen a march and have gone back in to training in the last number of weeks.

Scorers for UCC: C McSweeney 1-2, K Mackey 0-4, N Goulding, M Crowley 1-0 each, O Cotter 0-2 f, G Kenneally 0-1, D Cronin 0-1 45.

UUJ: S-L Carr 0-6f.

UCC: S Earner, J Brien, S Collins, E O'Shea, P Mackey, F Carr, E McNamara, M Crowley, O Cotter, G Kenneally (c), D Cronin, K Mackey, P Buttner, N Goulding, C McSweeney. Subs: S O'Neill for Crowley, C Brennan for Buttner, S Kiernan for Goulding, N Butler for O'Shea, R de Faoite for McNamara.

UUJ: B McIntyre, S McNicholl, S Maguire, G Kelly, K Tinnelly, M McGoldrick, C Carey, P Gribben, C Hamill, C McCoy, S-L Carr, M McGilligan, E McMullen, S Cosgrove.

Referee: D Ryan.

Inniscarra recall



Karen McCullagh, Katie O'Mahony and Aisling Punch at the Inniscarra camogie victory dance in the Oriel House Hotel.

Picture: Larry Cummins

Plenty of silverware on show as the Mid-Cork club celebrate

CAMOGIE

By MARY NEWMAN

INNISCARRA Camogie Club recently celebrated an historic achievement when they held their victory dinner dance in the Oriel House Hotel Ballincollig.

A large attendance was present and included camogie board chairperson Marion McCarthy.

The club had plenty to celebrate and the huge array of silverware on display was testament to a great 2010.

Pride of place was given to the Punch Trophy the symbol of Cork camogie superiority which was won in such superb fashion by Inniscarra as they overcame Imokilly to be crowned senior county champions for the first time in the club's history.

The Munster Club Championship trophy and the Senior County League cup both sat on the table, while the county MAC trophy and the Junior Shield Cup were also on display.

Club chairman Sean Twohig congratulated the girls on a wonderful year and paid tribute to the players and mentors on their achievements.

He thanked everybody for their work and support over the past year.

"We are not finished yet," said Sean and our thoughts are now firmly fixed on finishing the job and bringing the All-Ireland club title back to Inniscarra and Cork."

He encouraged continued support in the All-Ireland semi-final where Inniscarra will meet Ulster champions O'Donovan Rovers on February 6.

County chairperson Marion McCarthy congratulated Inniscarra on their achievements in 2010.

She had huge praise for the club commending them on their attitude in winning the senior championship and for staying the course during lean and disappointing times.

She said that they had lost out in two finals yet had never given up and reached their goal, taking an historic first title after contesting two superb games against Imokilly.

Marion wished Inniscarra well in the club semi-final. She also paid tribute and thanked Inniscarra members Sheila Golden, Joe McCarthy and Con Hayes for their unselfish contribution to Cork camogie and she also acknowledged the contributions of Inniscarra players to Cork teams.

The senior county championship, Munster club and senior county league medals were framed in a beautiful presentation and presented to the players by Marion McCarthy. Terry McMahon presented the junior play-



Danielle, Shauna, Rita, Aoife, Ger and Paul Kavanagh at the Inniscarra dinner.

Picture: Larry Cummins



a top class year



Winning team captains, Mary Buckley, Ballincollig Blitz winners; Roslyn McCarthy, junior team captain; Deirdre O'Callaghan, minor captain and Margaret Noelle O'Sullivan, captain of the Cork County Championship and Munster Championship winning team at Oriel House Hotel for the Inniscarra Camogie Club victory dinner.

Picture: Larry Cummins

ers with their junior county shield medals, while Joan O'Leary presented the minor team with their county medals, Sheila Golden presented the medals from the Ballincollig Tournament which the club also won earlier in the season.

Senior selector and coach Fergal O'Leary thanked the panel for their commitment and dedication. He spoke of a decision the team made when they were beaten in the 2009 championship, and their effort and the significance of winning the Ballincollig tournament in the beginning of 2010.

He spoke of how the squad developed and matured as the year progressed something which helped get them through the county and Munster Championship unbeaten.

He thanked the girls for their enormous effort to date and asked for one final push in their quest for All-Ireland glory. Selector Irene O'Keefe accepted the Hannah Kelly Cup on behalf of the management team, the trophy is presented annually to clubperson of the year.

While many clubs are beginning preparations for 2011, Inniscarra still have some unfinished business and we wish them well in their quest for a place in the All Ireland club championship final.

While many clubs are beginning preparations for 2011, Inniscarra still have some unfinished business and we wish them well in their quest for a place in the All Ireland club championship final.



Players Joanne Casey and Meig Collins at Inniscarra Camogie Club victory dinner.

Picture: Larry Cummins



Con O'Leary and Noel Hennessy at Oriel House Hotel for the Inniscarra camogie dinner.

Picture: Larry Cummins



Bob Ryan, vice-chairman Cork County Board with wife Teresa and daughters Sinead and Aine Ni Riain at the Inniscarra Camogie victory dinner.

Picture: Larry Cummins



Liz Buckley, Inniscarra and James Cahill, Grenagh at the Inniscarra dinner.

Picture: Larry Cummins

Camogie club notes

YOUGHAL

Our AGM was held recently and we had a great representation from all sections of the club. Committee elected as follows: Janette Power chairperson, Debbie Murphy secretary, Katie Sloane PRO, Sinead Swayne treasurer, Kelly McCarthy children's officer, Deborah Hickey, registrar.

Thanks to the outgoing Kelma McCarthy and Kelly McCarthy for their work as secretary and chairperson. New members have come on board this year and we are delighted to welcome them, training has resumed this week with the junior team are back into the swing of things after the Christmas break.

Training every Monday and Wednesday night at 7.30pm. Underage training will commence in February dates and time will be confirmed.

Our juvenile awards night was held recently with awards going to Chloe Landers U12, Emily Roche U14 and Michaela Dalton U16.

Chloe Landers was part of the U12 D team that won the county league playing corner back, Emily Roche played U14, U16 and U18 for the club and she scored two goals in the minor C championship final and she our top scorer in the U16 league.

Michaela Dalton has been the back bone of the underage teams all the way up, she captained the Under16 team that reached the semi final of the championship, she was an inspiration to her team mates she also played with the junior team and it is so encouraging to have this talent in our underage teams.

Please join us on Face book or email Youghalcamogie@yahoo.com for any upcoming fixtures and news on the club.

GLEN ROVERS

Things are beginning to return to normal and tomorrow will see our younger members return to their Sunday morning coaching sessions at noon.

These will continue on Tuesday at 8pm again we look forward to welcoming everybody back and encourage new girls who may wish to join to come along everybody welcome.

Our U13, 14 15 and 16 teams return to the training field on Monday night at 6pm.

We will hold our AGM tomorrow Sunday at 3pm in the club and we look forward to seeing everybody in attendance.

Important meeting for Go Games

A MEETING regarding the new camogie Go Games for U12s will take place in Ballincollig on Wednesday next January 26 at 8.30pm.

All mentors involved with club U12 teams are very asked to be in attendance.

As this is the first year of the Go Games, there is a lot guidance needed by mentors in order to be able to implement this new venture.

County development officer Mairead Donovan is asking every club to be represented at what is a very important meeting as it is hoped to get the games organised and started as soon as possible in all divisions.

Jan. 2011

Presentation Thurles Deliver An Historic Title

PRESENTATION, THURLES 1-12

COLAISTE CHOILM 2-8

PRESENTATION Secondary School Thurles made sporting history on January 29th 2011 when they captured the Munster Colleges Senior A Camogie trophy; the first time ever the trophy made it to Thurles and the first time in more than fifteen years that the trophy returned to Tipperary soil.

Mallow GAA Sports Complex hosted the fixture between last year's All-Ireland Senior B champions and All-Ireland Senior C champions, a contest which proved almost too tense to watch at times such was the closeness throughout and the most exhilarating of climaxes.

Having won the Senior C All-Ireland in 2010, Presentation were due to compete in the B grade this year but the school believed such was the talent in the senior squad that the top tier would be the best place for the girls to showpiece the strength in depth in camogie in Presentation. That proved a decision that would rewrite the record books forever.

Delayed by an inter-county football challenge between Cork and Laois, the game eventually threw in at 3:40pm. From the off it was clear that both sides were well up for it; captain Cait Devane pointed within twenty seconds of the start, only for the favourites to score a goal from their first attack two minutes later. Both teams battled hard over the next ten minutes but despite Presentation matching the Cork girls for possession, territory and scoring opportunities, it was the Ballincollig outfit who were more clinical and they opened up a four point lead. Scores from Cait Devane and Michaela Graham kept the Thurles girls in touch as the game raced on twenty minutes.

Cait Devane was steady as a rock in the goal and her full back line of Claire



The Presentation Secondary School Thurles squad which won the Munster final on Saturday

Walsh, Shauna Brett and Bernie Bergin battled like warriors for every breaking ball. Aimee Quinn, Rosemarie Hanafin and Clodagh Quirke came more and more into the game as the time passed and all three were involved in breaking down Colaiste attacks as well as instigating moves at the other end. Sarah Fryday broke the line of defence every time she moved with the ball, Emer Kennedy doing the same on the other wing.

Presentation started to create more but still failed to take their chances. Courtney Ryan and Cliona O'Dwyer were in-

dustrious as ever, fighting for every ball on the floor, while Marianne Murphy and Michaela Graham offered a pass or a run for every attack.

Then, with eight minutes remaining in the first half the girls in red suddenly found another gear and quick-fire scores from Andrea Loughnane and Cait Devane were followed by a long range goal from Loughnane.

The girls in blue seemed rattled and further scores from Cait Devane from frees saw Presentation go in at the break two points up. Ballincollig needed the break

to regroup. Presentation would have loved another ten minutes in the first half. Presentation's work ethic and fight was paying dividends. 1-6 to 1-4 at half time.

The second half started with the same intensity as both sides tried to take the scores that would deliver one of them their first ever Senior A title.

Colaiste halved Presentation's lead after five minutes but then for the next fifteen minutes it was a sea of red as Thurles bombarded the Ballincollig goal. Unbelievable scores from Cait Devane from way out the field, coupled with masterful points from

Cliona O'Dwyer, Sarah Fryday, Andrea Loughnane and Michaela Graham gave Presentation a six point lead as the game entered its last ten minutes. Support on the line and from the stands was powerful as the cheers rang out with every clearance and score from the girls in red. The underdogs had the game by the scruff of the neck. Emer Kennedy proved the biggest thorn in Colaiste's side as her constant running and endless energy saw her first to every single ball.

The game then entered a stop-start period as both sides picked up injuries. The

game lost its flow as the clock ticked closer and closer to sixty minutes.

Colaiste pointed a free and then in the last minute of normal time managed to power in another goal to cut their deficit to just two points. With neither side certain of how long the referee was going to add both sides tried gallantly. Presentation tried to see out the game with Rosemarie Hanafin's huge clearances from the half back line leaving Marianne Murphy and Michaela Graham to chase balls into the corners. Ballincollig needed more scores and found another point after seven minutes of added time. There was only a point in it now and still the referee didn't look like he was ready to call a halt. The ball then broke to Ballincollig in the midfield and they raced towards the Presentation goal. With hearts in mouths on the sideline and in the stand, Claire Walsh broke down the attack and the ball bounced on the floor. If Colaiste claimed possession they would surely score the equaliser. The sliotar squirted out from a clash between Clodagh Quirke and a Colaiste forward and Cait Devane claimed possession. She struck the clearance and as the ball flew past the half way line the final whistle sounded. Presentation had done it. History was made. Final score: 1-12 to 2-8.

Presentation now march on to face the Ulster Senior A winners in the Senior A All-Ireland Camogie semi-final. Date, venue and details to follow.

Presentation Panel: Elaine Devane, Bernie Bergin, Shauna Brett, Claire Walsh, Rosemarie Hanafin, Clodagh Quirke, Aimee Quinn, Emer Kennedy, Sarah Fryday, Cait Devane, Andrea Loughnane, Cliona O'Dwyer, Michaela Graham, Marianne Murphy, Courtney Ryan, Aine Devane, Aine McCarthy, Sarah Bergin, Karl Bohan, Catherine Mockler, Edel O'Dwyer, Eva Ryan, Kora Kerrane.



The St. Brigid's Vocational School, Loughrea senior camogie panel which defeated Gort Community School in the Connacht Schools A Final on Saturday in Tynagh. Back row, left to right: Niamh Connolly, Lisa Callanan, Deirdre Kelly, Tracy Murray, Karen Kennedy, Amy Murphy, Rachel Callanan, Miriam Reynolds, Maria Cooney, Aisling Spellman, Niamh Murphy, Cathriona Daly, Rachel Cahill, Niamh O'Brien (Capt), Rachel Monaghan. Front row: Azara Gordon, Marie O'Brien, Laura Porter, Jessica Healey, Linda Porter, Aoibhinn Kenny, Shauna Coen, Aisling Coen, Lorraine Farrell.

Monaghan's scoring exploits proves the difference as St. Brigid's take Connacht title

St. Brigid's VS Gort CS 0-15 to 0-9

MONAGHAN CORMICAN TYNAGH

IT may have taken three attempts but St. Brigid's Vocational School, Loughrea finally got their hands on the Connacht Senior schools camogie title following victory over Gort Community School on Saturday last in Tynagh.

The game was delicately poised entering the final ten minutes, but six unanswered points from St. Brigid's ensured the Loughrea school avoided an unwanted hat-trick of final defeats.

In truth, while Gort lacked anything by the way of heart or sheer commitment, it was St. Brigid's who hurled with greater purpose and conviction throughout with Monaghan's Rachel Monaghan pro-

viding the necessary accuracy from placed balls.

The game itself was as tough and as competitive a game of camogie you are likely to see all year with both sides going hammer and tongs from the off, St. Brigid's drawing first blood through Rachel Monaghan. Indeed, the wing-forward would prove instrumental in the win shooting 11 points over the hour in a fantastic individual display.

Subsequently, Rebecca Hennelly opened Gort's account, raising white flags either side of a converted Monaghan free. The unerring accuracy from both sides continued apace as Hennelly (2) and Olivia Keehan traded scores with Tracey Murray and Monaghan.

Trailing 0-5 to 0-4 after 28 minutes, St. Brigid's got going again in first half stoppages with three Rachel Monaghan points propelling the Loughrea School into a two point interval lead.

Gort started the brighter at the change of ends, but a combination of poor shooting and wastefulness in front of goal ensured they failed to make any inroads on the deficit as St. Brigid's forged further ahead courtesy of a superb Monaghan effort.

That said, Rebecca Hennelly fired over two successive points (one free) to leave Gort just one in arrears approaching the final quarter, but that was as good as it got for them as they would go 15 minutes without registering a score by which time St. Brigid's had the result all but wrapped up.

Monaghan pointed two frees and a '45 while Linda Porter, Lorraine Farrell and Tracey all hit the target from play. Gort, to their credit, battled gamely to the finish, but late assaults on Cathriona Daly in the St. Brigid's goal yielded only two points which proved insufficient at the death.

Aisling Spellman and

Deirdre Kelly did a mountain of subtle and selfless defending for the winners, while Lorraine Farrell and Linda Porter covered a lot of ground at midfield chipping in with a point apiece.

Tracey Murray, Aoibhinn Kenny and Rachel Monaghan impressed in attack.

Gort meanwhile had strong performances from Shauna Healy at full back, keeper Roisin Gardiner, Sarah Keehan and Andrea Mullins, but it was their inability to score more freely from play that proved their downfall.

St Brigid's VS: C Daly; N Murphy, N O'Brien, A Spellman; A Coen, D Kelly, R Callanan; L Farrell (0-1), L Porter (0-1); R Monaghan (0-11, 0-6 frees, 0-1 '45) T Murray (0-2), A Kenny; K Kennedy, M Cooney, R Cahill.

Gort CS: R Gardiner; C Linnane, S Healy, E Geoghegan; S Forde, L Coen, S Skohill; N Murphy, S Keehan; A Mullins, R Hennelly (0-8, 0-6 frees), O Keehan (0-1); A Caulfield, A Callanan, D Divney. Subs: N Gardiner for Divney (42 mins).

Referee: K Kelly



Presentation of tracksuits and jackets to the Killimor senior camogie team and management by Duffy's Killimor (left to right): Dermot Duffy, Tommy Callagy, Manager, Emer Haverty, Vice-Captain, Eugene Duffy, sponsor, and Brenda Hanney, Captain.

Killimor face massive test against Wexford camogie aristocrats in Ballinasloe

Callagy's charges must hit new high in All-Ireland senior semi-final as Oulart rivals will take beating

EOGHAN CORMICAN

WHEN the whistle sounded at the end of last October's County camogie semi-final, Killimor must have surely thought their toughest hour was behind them. In retrospect, it was just the calm before the storm.

Having finally seen off their great Athenry opponents, Killimor were odds on to land their first ever county title at the expense of an inexperienced Mullagh outfit. In the end, however, Killimor staggered over the finishing line courtesy of two gift wrapped goals.

Now within just sixty minutes of a place in the All-Ireland decider, Killimor face their toughest challenge to date, a joust with Wexford's Oulart the Ballagh on Sunday, at Duggan Park (3pm).

The County champions have enjoyed a lengthy lay off since that memorable Saturday, but preparations over the winter months which included four challenge games, have gone well according to manager Tommy Callagy.

"We've a lot of hard work done. We played four challenges and Bertie Sherlock has worked really hard with the girls. We were in Kiltormer complex on St. Stephen's morning with brilliant numbers and we were in Ballinasloe last weekend and we had 28 girls."

In any event, both the management and players will be acutely aware that they will need to be at their very best if they are to compete, never mind overcome, an Oulart the Ballagh side fleeced with inter-county talent.

The enormous challenge facing the East Galway outfit is underlined by the fact that between Wexford's senior and intermediate camogie teams that lined out in Croke Park last September, 11 were of Oulart origin while a further two were substitutes on the



Killimor's Martina Conroy who was Player of the Match in the county final.

intermediate side.

On this evidence alone, one would have to favour Oulart the Ballagh to advance. The central spine of the team is remarkably strong with Cara Storey - daughter of Martin Storey - and Mary Lacey, at full and centre back respectively, anchoring the defence.

Emma Moran and Stacey Redmond, both of whom lined out for Wexford in last year's All Ireland Intermediate final, more than likely will form their midfield pairing.

All-Ireland winning Captain Una Lacey will lead a formidable attack that also includes All-Star full forward Ursula Jacob and Stacey Kehoe.

Brendan O'Connor's charges possess that near perfect mix of youth, experience and an ability to grind out the win even when not at their best, a trait very much evident in their Leinster final triumph over Ballyboden St. Enda's.

Consequently, Callagy was

quick to acknowledge the massive task facing his side: "We're up against, it's going to be a very tough task, but we'll have a right crack at it and hopefully we'll give a good account of ourselves. Its important we're still in it at half time."

In terms of physicality and experience the Wexford girls may have the upper hand but Callagy insists Killimor won't be phased by their opponents. "We've talked about them (Oulart the Ballagh), we know they've won a lot and were only beaten in last year's All-Ireland semi-final, but we have four county seniors and a good few girls were involved with the Galway Intermediate side that won the All-Ireland there in 2009."

For Killimor, who boast a clean bill of health ahead of the tie, Helen Campbell is an assured goalkeeper. Although slight in stature the defence is an extremely hardworking unit backed by Nicola Lawless,

Karen Brien and Ann Marie Hayes.

Ann Marie Starr and Emer Haverty will renew a midfield partnership which has served Killimor well in recent times while All Star recipient Brenda Hanney will carry the threat up front ably assisted by player of the match in the county final Martina Conroy and Susan Keane. Indeed, Hanney's battle with Mary Lacey is sure to provide an intriguing subplot to the tie.

The Killimor management will be hoping their half back line and midfield can get the kind of possession grip they enjoyed in their historic county final win in Loughrea for there is enough strength and guile in Hanney and Martina Conroy to turn the screw on any defence, even one as talented as Oulart the Ballagh's.

At the end of the day, it's difficult to envisage anything other than an Oulart the Ballagh victory, but if Killimor can hang in there until the final quarter, few would bet against what would be a truly sensational scalp.

Sunday's senior game will be preceded by the meeting of Sarsfields and the Harps of Laois in the All-Ireland Intermediate semi-final (1pm).

Having secured the Galway championship with a 0-14 to 2-5 win over Portumna last October, Sarsfields subsequently added the Connacht crown when dismissing the Four Roads challenge a fortnight later.

Like Killimor, Sarsfields will have it all to do against a side who has won the last five Leinster championships, securing All-Ireland junior titles in 2006, '07 and '08.

Still, Sarsfields are unquestionably the emerging force in Galway camogie, capturing last year's county minor title to add to the Intermediate crown. Backboned by exciting young talents Niamh McGrath and Tara Kenny, they won't be far off come the final whistle.

Inniscarra in good shape for semi-final

CAMOGIE

All-Ireland Club semi-final,
Inniscarra v O'Donovan Rossa, Antrim,
St Conleth's Park, Newbridge,
Sunday, 2.30pm

INNISCARRA will fly the County's colours this weekend when they take on O'Donovan Rossa of Antrim in the All-Ireland club championship semi-final, writes LINDA MELLERICK.

They are the first club since 1994 to represent Cork for national honours and the entire county wishes them well.

The parish is buzzing, the mood in the camp is good, and Inniscarra are as positioned as well as they can be as they head into the biggest game in their club's history. An even bigger game could await them on March 6 should they succeed on Sunday.

Winning the county title for the very first time last November, Inniscarra were understandably jubilant. That was their goal for 2010.

But when you achieve your goal, there's always the next challenge and it's the ambition in sportspeople which takes them to greater heights.

The hard ground over the past number of weeks has inflicted its share of injuries, but that's to be expected this time of the year.

With respect to O'Donovan Rossa, there was a time when the mere mention of competing against a northern side in a camogie semi-final had you thinking ahead to 'final' glory. Not so anymore and Inniscarra will suffer the consequences if they hold such a belief. In fact it is Inniscarra who head into the game as underdogs.

Champions in 2008 with a 2-15 to 1-12 victory over Tipperary's Drom and Inch, All Star Jane Adams is Rossa's driving force, scoring 2-9 that particular day. O'Donovan Rossa became the first Ulster club to capture the Bill Carroll cup in the 44-year history of the competition. Having previously lost the 2006 final to St Lachtain's of Freshford, Kilkenny, there is the crucial experience of both the highs and lows in the side. Speed, anticipation and strength are the hallmarks of Rossa who won their eight senior Antrim title in 2010.

Inniscarra as a unit have progressed in leaps and bounds following a highly competitive Cork county championship where both semi-finals and the final ended in deadlock. An injury time goal in the county final replay by Rena Buckley set Inniscarra up in the history books.

An outstanding second half display against Tipperary's Burgess/Duharra in the Munster semi-final and a final victory over Granagh Ballingarry set up this weekend's showdown.

FEB. 2011

Eoghan Rua get a little help from rugby club

ALL-IRELAND INTERMEDIATE CLUB SEMI-FINAL

Eoghan Rua v Lismore

Sunday, Donaghmore-Ashbourne, 2.00pm

Ref: Owen Elliott

IT MIGHT be a continuation of last year's Championship, but Sunday's All-Ireland semi-final has the feel of a whole new season for Eoghan Rua as the Derry side bid to book their place in a Croke Park All-Ireland decider.

It's been a tough winter, doing the hard slog and basically going through a second pre-season in the space of 12 months, but according to captain Meabh McGoldrick it was all worthwhile. And it also involved a little helping hand along the way as they made use of Dunloy's impressive indoor facilities, while they also became the first Eoghan Rua team to use the training ground of Coleraine rugby club, and McGoldrick was more than happy to let the neighbours help out.

"The rugby club deserve huge credit because they really looked after us. They have great facilities and especially over the bad weather we couldn't have functioned only for them and Dunloy as well. The people up at the rugby club were really nice to us, asking us about the game and wishing us well. So we're very much indebted to them for their help.



THREAT... Grainne McGoldrick will have to play her part

"We took a bit of a break, near enough eight weeks, after the Ulster final. After that we did a bit of almost pre-season training to get the fitness levels back up again. Those were tough sessions, but when you know that you've got a game like this ahead of you then it makes it easier. It's an awful lot easier to get motivated for an All-Ireland semi-final than for the start of the league, that's for sure!"

Some teams might be content to sit back on a maiden county and Ulster success, but not Eoghan Rua. They're only too aware that greater achievements are within their grasp, and McGoldrick is determined to do all she can to make it happen.

"There's work still to be done. To win the Derry title was great as we hadn't done that before, and to go on to win Ulster was great, but we want more. We celebrated the county win, we celebrated Ulster, but that's all forgotten now. We want to go as far as we can go. We're not going to be satisfied unless we keep pushing on."

The 21 year-old is enjoying a dream first stint as captain of what is a very young Eoghan Rua outfit with four Under-16's on the team. McGoldrick is keen to share the accolades among her colleagues, and she knows that each and every one of her troops are going to have to bring their A-game if they are to see off the sizeable challenge which the Deise girls pose. But one more win away from Croke Park, success is the only thing on her mind.

"We would know quite a bit about them, and we know that Lismore have a lot of experience for starters. They've been winning titles for years compared to us in our first season out. They've played for the likes of Waterford IT who have won the Ashbourne for three years in a row now. They have a lot of big players who are used to the big occasion.

"We have respect for them as a team, but we're here on merit as well and when it comes to Sunday we're just going to go out there and do our thing.

We have respect for them as a team, but we're here on merit as well and when it comes to Sunday we're just going to go out there and do our thing

Belfast girls out to prove that they are not just a good team, but a great one



UNCONFINED JOY... Maorisa McGourty (right) holds tight to Bronagh Orchin as they celebrate last year's All-Ireland success

Rossa in defence

ALL-IRELAND SENIOR CLUB CHAMPIONSHIP SEMI-FINAL

O'Donovan Rossa v Inniscarra

Sunday, 2.00pm, Newbridge

Ref: Fintan McNamara

BY CIARAN WOODS
c.woods@gaeliclife.com

ROSSA put their All-Ireland senior camogie crown on the line this Sunday as they clash with Cork and Munster champions Inniscarra in the All-Ireland semi-final.

The Belfast outfit put their club and county well and truly on the map last year as they claimed the ultimate glory, but they will be all too aware that holding onto a trophy can often prove more difficult than winning it in the first place.

Confidence, however, is a great thing. The key difference between Rossa last year and Ulster representatives of the past is that Rossa didn't take to the field with the sort of inferiority complex which plagued their predecessors. They respect their opponents, but they knew that they were just as good and just as skilful as any opposition they were going to face.

Now, they head back into the lions den as All-Ireland champions. The best in the country. And now it's up to everyone else out there to prove that they are better than Rossa, instead of the other way round.

The Antrim champions are a side laced with quality, with seasoned campaigners like captain Kerrie O'Neill and scorer-in-chief Jane Adams personifying the sort of battling qualities



TWO IN A ROW?... O'Donovan Rossa broke new ground with winning an All-Ireland title last year, now they have a shot at becoming legends

They've been down this path before, with the bitter taste of defeat having hit them more times than the highs of last year

mixed with amazing camogie talent which make Rossa the force that they are.

They've been down this path before, with the bitter taste of defeat having hit them more times than the highs of last year. The difference is that last year they cracked the code, they delivered the All-Ireland, and now they're back and hungry for more.

It's been a long time since they last graced a field in competitive action, and if they don't hit the ground running on Sunday then the game could be over before it even begins. The Cork champions, packed with quality all over the park, will certainly make Rossa work hard for it.

They're no longer the surprise packet, and the top teams across the country will have been studying Rossa in depth over the winter months in the hope of getting a crack at them in the All-Ireland series.

To run at the same level as they did last year will not be enough to bring the same results for Rossa, as they have to raise the bar and bring something fresh.

Good teams win one All-Ireland, but great teams win more. The challenge is there for them, a place in another All-Ireland final is up for grabs, and now it's time to deliver.

St Finbarr's camogie club reward its budding stars

TO celebrate St Finbarr's camogie street league section's success last year, the club held an end of season party in the club recently.

All the medals won throughout the year were presented to the teams. These included the U10 team who won the May O'Connor Tournament and were runners-up in the Seandún U11B final and the U11 team who were runners-up in the U11 premier final.

All the girls from U5 up to U11 were given 'Barrs Camogie Girls Rock' wristbands for all their hard work at training throughout the year.

Chairperson Colette Hurley expressed her delight at seeing both the U11 girls and U10 girls reaching finals in the U11 Seandún leagues.

She also thanked the committee, mentors and parents who sacrifice a lot of their time at weekends and evenings to attend matches and training from early February right through to the end of November, but the reward is when they see the girls get such enjoyment out of the game.

St Finbarr's Camogie Street League Section kicked 2011 off with their AGM which took place last month.

Secretary Linda Keane compiled a comprehensive report on the section's activities over the past year and there were lengthy discussions on issues such as how to continue the growth of the section over the coming year.

Another topic discussed was the introduction of Go Games into camogie this year.

It was generally agreed by the meeting that Go Games were going to be of benefit to the club with the prospect of more girls enjoying camogie for longer.

Colette Hurley was re-elected as chairperson, Linda Keane as secretary, Fionan O'Neill as treasurer and Des Collins as PRO.

Colette Hurley congratulated Ivan O'Mahony on being appointed as Games Development Officer (sponsored by Ryan's SuperValu) and Claire Harrington as Child Welfare Officer for St Finbarr's Hurling, Football and Camogie Clubs.

These appointments show how St Finbarr's is prioritising the welfare and development of its youngest players.

Training has resumed on the astroturf with U5 to U11 girls at 11.45am-1pm and U12s 1-2pm. New players are always welcome.



The St Finbarr's team which won the U10 May O'Connor Tournament and contested the U11B Seandún final.



The St Finbarr's U11 team which contested the Premier Seandún final pictured at the Barrs Camogie Club end of year party.



Members of the St Finbarr's U10 camogie team enjoy the end of year party.



St Finbarr's U11 team members pose for the camera at the club's end of year party.

GALWAY ALL-IRELAND U16 CAMOGIE CHAMPIONS



Back row left to right: Azarah Gordon, Sarah Skehill, Aisling Mitchell, Leanne McAndrew, Siobhan Gardiner, Rachel Callanan, Michelle Dunleavy, Hazel Kilkelly, Niamh Cuniffe, Rebecca Hennelly, Olivia Keehen, Sinead Cormican, Rachel Monaghan, Sarah Keehen, Lorraine Farrell, Lorraine Donnellan, Maria Brehany, Catriona Daly, Kate Forde.
Front Row Left to Right: Maria Cooney, Laura Glynn, Aisling Spellman, Ciara Donohoe, Donna Larkin, either Sarah or Claire Curley, Aoife Dolan, either Sarah or Claire Curley, Clodagh McGrath, Orlaith McGrath, Aoibhin Kenny, Ailish O'Reilly, Ciara Hanniffy, Lisa Hynes, Aine Dervan
Aine Ni Dhubhghaill, Edel Murray.

GALWAY ALL IRELAND U18 CAMOGIE CHAMPIONS



Back row left to right: Deirdre Ward, Tracey Murray, Aoife Callanan, Lisa O'Neill, Catriona daly, Niamh OBrien, Lorraine Reynolds, Olivia Lane, Laura Mitchell, Siobhan Coen, Lorraine Farrell, Rebecca Hennelly, Finola Keely, Maria Brehany, Serena Walshe, Mairead Linnane, Claire Kavanagh, Ciara Cuniffe, Rachel Monaghan, Niamh McGrath
Front row left to right: Maria Cooney, Ruth Mooney, Siobhan Kelly, Lorraine Coen, Sheila Forde, Noreen Murphy, Aoife Donohue, Shauna Healy, Tara Kenny, Laura Donnellan, Ailish O'Reilly, Karen Brien, Clodagh McGrath, Orlaith McGrath, Aoibhin Kenny, Bridie Scully, Aine Mannion, Kathy McDonagh.

GALWAY SENIOR CAMOGIE



Galway Senior Camogie Panel Which Reached The All-Ireland Final

Back Row: Niamh McGrath, Sarah Noone, Sandra Tannian, Heather Cooney, Veronica Curtin, Susan Earner, Therese Maher, Brenda Hanney, Sarah Dervan, Jessica Gill, Sinead Keane, Caroline Murray, Sinead Cahalan, Ann Marie Starr, Molly Dunne, Stephanie Gannon

Front Row: Laura Mitchell, Emma Kilkelly, Lorraine Ryan, Niamh Kilkenny, Ann Marie Hayes, Tara Rutledge, Orla Kilkenny, Therese Manton, Regina Glynn, Aoife Lynskey, Colette Gill, Aislinn Connolly, Nicola Lawless, Siobhan Coen.

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CAMOGIE ALL STARS 2010



Galway Camogie All-Stars, from left, Orla Kilkenny, Brenda Hanney, Aislinn Connolly, Regina Glynn and Niamh Kilkenny.



Therese Maher and Aisling Connolly, at the 2010 Camogie All-Stars awards night.



Laura Mitchell being presented with her 2010 Camogie Young Player of the Year award by President of the Camogie Association Joan O'Flynn and Cormac Farrell, Marketing Director, O'Neills, at the 2010 Camogie All-Stars.



President of the Camogie Association Joan O'Flynn with 2010 Camogie All-Star nominees.

PEARSE'S SISTERS ALL-STARS



Michelle Glynn, Aine Hillary, Martin Kilkenny, Mary Kilkenny, Collette Walsh, Jacinta Flannery, Marion Flannery, Sharon Glynn, Front row, Sinead Kilkenny Thompson, Orla Kilkenny, Niamh Kilkenny, Aoife Kilkenny, Martina Carr.

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U16 SUCCESS FOR GALWAY CAMOGIE

Galway 2-11 Tipperary 2-7

A year after Galway defeated Tipperary in the All Ireland U16 camogie final, the 2010 decider threw up the same final pairing, the same scoreline, but most importantly the same outcome.

The scenes of unbridled joy at O'Connor Park, Tullamore after a much fancied Galway outfit outfought Tipperary in a thrilling contest to emerge as deserving four point winners, will be savoured in the County for some time to come.

Unquestionably, the state of underage camogie in Galway received a tremendous endorsement following the successful exploits of Johnny Kane's charges. Building on the success of this latest triumph at U16 level must now be the next step in the development of the game in the West, but an 11th title at this grade will suffice for the time being.

This year's crop of U16's were identified early in the year as a side of serious potential, that however is no guarantee of ultimate success, but under the guidance of manager Johnny Kane, the training of Tom Page and the sideline contributions of Noel Kelly and Emer Kearney, Galway produced a performance of real substance thus ensuring the residency of the All Ireland crown west of the Shannon once again.

Despite leading the contest from pillar to post, Galway supporters -who travelled in large numbers-were left fretting during the games final minutes as a Teresa Ryan goal in injury time reduced the arrears to just three points. However, the defence led by the majestic Maria Cooney held out and when Rebecca Hennelly slotted over a close range free, the two-in-a-row was complete.

The decider represented the first time Galway were put under serious pressure after an uneventful campaign where Galway recorded comfortable victories over Kilkenny (4-12 to 2-7), Dublin (9-14 to 2-9), Wexford (4-22 to 1-2) before a one-sided semi-final encounter with Cork (1-20 to 1-00).

Playing with the aid of a stiff breeze, the defending champions led by four at the break, but it was the performance rather than the scoreline that was causing concern amongst the Galway supporters as several scoreable chances were spurned.

Rebecca Hennelly opened the scoring on 51 seconds with a converted free, but, they would not score from play until the 24th minute. In the interim period three placed ball efforts from Hennelly were answered to by Aoife Ryan (45), Michaela Graham and Andrea Loughane.

No doubt, one of the major failings of Galway journey's en-route to the final was that they were never put to the pin of their collar by the opposition and forced to respond. Consequently, Tipperary's physical approach clearly rattled the tribeswomen in that opening half and they were made work like dogs for every score.

Crucially, Galway made the wind advantage count with three late scores from Orlaith McGrath, Hennelly (45) and the outstanding Aoibhin Kenny.

Tipperary badly needed a bright start to the second half and their plight was not helped by two early wides. Then came arguably the key score of the game-a goal from Davitt's Maria Brehony.

Clodagh McGrath initiated the score dispossessing Anne Eviston in the middle of the park before sending the sliotar in the direction of Sarsfields club mate Aoibhin Kenny. The wing forward flicked possession to the onrushing Ailish O'Reilly who in turn, moved the sliotar to the inside Brehony who drilled low for her tenth goal of the championship.

Scarcely another minute had elapsed when Galway struck again. Rachel Monaghan set up O'Reilly, whose effort from outside the 21 dipped under the crossbar to leave the tribeswomen ten to the good.

Tipp, to their credit, didn't lose heart, ratcheted up a notch and responded with three points on the trot-Anne Eviston and Ciara McGrath (0-2) both finding the mark for the

BY EOGHAN CORMICAN

Premier County. In truth, they were desperately unlucky not to find the net when Sinead Cormican was adjudged to have brought down Aoife Ryan in the Galway square. The penalty, however, was excellently stopped by 'keeper Catriona Daly.

Subsequently, Aoibhin Kenny and Ailish O'Reilly sniped a pair of points to leave Galway eight clear with only seven minutes left on the clock. That said, Tipperary starting down the barrel of second consecutive All Ireland defeat roused themselves for a grandstand finish. Ciara McGrath's free was well blocked by Daly, but Tara Kennedy latched onto the rebound that whizzed into the Galway net.

Orlaith McGrath, whose pace was causing all sorts of problems for the opposing defence struck a terrific point to ease Galway nerves, but Teresa Ryan ensured the title would not be decided without it's fair share of drama drilling a peach of an effort into the top left hand corner of Daly's goals to leave just one score separating the sides.

With time elapsed, the next score would prove pivotal and thankfully enough it went the way of the maroon and white.

On the day, Catriona Daly oozed confidence between the sticks, pulling off a number of important stops. Despite, a nervy opening the full back line looked extremely assured, in particular Michelle Dunleavy who turned in a terrific display at corner back.

A half back line that appeared in dire straits in the opening quarter, soon got the house in order marshalled superbly by Player of the match Maria Cooney, with Lorraine Farrell also impressing in the second half.

Clodagh McGrath provided telling leadership at midfield showing an excellent aerial prowess, while sharpshooter Hennelly was instrumental from the placed ball.

The half forward line of Ailish O'Reilly, Rachel Monaghan and Aoibhin Kenny was unmistakably Galway's strongest line. As well as contributing two points Kenny worked her proverbial socks of, while O'Reilly and Monaghan were the architects to the majority of their side's scores.

Inside them, McGrath and Brehony tormented the Tipp defence with Brehony's goal proving the catalyst in the Galway win.

Scorers: R Hennelly (0-6, 0-3 free's, 0-2 45's), A O'Reilly (1-1), M Brehony (1-0), A Kenny (0-2), O McGrath (0-2).

Galway: Catriona Daly (Mullagh), Sarah Keehan (Ardrahan), Sinead Cormican (Kiltormer), Michelle Dunleavy (Turloughmore), Lorraine Farrell (Davitts), Maria Cooney (Sarsfields), Aine Dervan (Davitts), Clodagh McGrath (Sarsfields), Rebecca Hennelly, Ailish O'Reilly (Oranmore), Rachel Monaghan (Mullagh), Aoibhin Kenny (Sarsfields), Sara Skehill (Ardrahan), Maria Brehony (Davitts), Orlaith McGrath (Sarsfields)

Subs used: Aoife Dolan (Kiltormer)

Senior Camogie began 2010 full of hope and ambition and concluded with their second Croke Park appearance in three years. After leading the intermediate team to All-Ireland glory the previous year, Noel Finn took up the mantle of senior manager again after a six year break and was joined by Basil Larkin, Noel Power, Helena Huban and Bertie Sherlock.

In March and April, the Tribeswomen focused on their league campaign and qualified for the semi-finals after victories over Clare and Dublin and headed to Tullamore for a league semi-final with Kilkenny determined to overturn their 2009 All-Ireland semi-final loss. However, old ghosts returned to haunt them in a sensational setback that saw Galway throw away an eight point advantage with 10 minutes to go to go down by 2-12 to 1-12.

Galway. Shaking off the cobwebs of this loss proved difficult in the Gael Linn interprovincial competition as Connacht went down to Leinster in the semi-final but with injuries starting to clear (long term victims Sinead Cabalan, Jessica Gill and Molly Dunne aside), their was still a quite confidence that things would turn around come the championship.

The quest for the O'Duffy Cup didn't start smoothly in Nowlan Park in June as Kilkenny had the proverbial sign on Galway again holding out for a three point victory but a comfortable win in Ballinasloe over Tipperary the following week seemed to get Galway's campaign on track.

But two consecutive Saturdays in Kenny Park would prove decisive as they recorded important victories over reigning League champions Wexford and All-Ireland champions Cork.

Struggling to close out games in recent times, Jessica Gill's marked her return in emphatic fashion as her 80 yard free four minutes into injury time found its way to the net and Galway beat Wexford by 1-8 to 0-10.

Then seven days later in arguably their best performance of the season, the Tribeswomen dominated the Rebellettes with Tara Rutledge's early goal and Aislinn Connolly's scores setting them on their way before a strong second half resistance led by Anne Marie Hayes, Brenda Hanney and Veronica Curtin ensured Noel Finn's side ran out 1-14 to 0-11 winners.

Qualification for the semi-finals was secured in their next game against Clare but their encounter in Corofin was anything but comfortable as it took four late points for Galway to snatch a two point victory. The squad players got their chance to impress against Dublin in the last encounter and 20 points separated the teams.

The semi-final draw saw Galway pitted against Cork and in what many considered the game of the season; the teams couldn't be separated playing out a 1-17 to 3-11 thriller. Tara Rutledge got the early Galway goal as they went 1-7 to 1-2 ahead but were a point down at the interval. Cork stretched that lead to four by the three quarter mark but Galway's new found resilience was in abundance in the final 15 minutes as they fought back with Veronica Curtin's two goals crucial.

It wasn't as open eight days later in Semple Stadium when the teams met to decide again but that fighting spirit of the Tribeswomen would be required again. A strong defensive performance led by Sandra Tannion and Regina Glynn kept the Cork score down and a critical free from Aislinn Connolly plus a stunning run from Brenda Hanney leading to a point turned the game Galway's way and the Westerners had achieved their target of returning to headquarters in September.

Preparation seemed perfect leading to the All-Ireland and confidence was high after but sometimes things don't go according to plan and Wexford came out of the traps quickest with Katrina Parrock's giving them a seven point half-time lead.

Yet again, Galway responded and had they more time (only one minute of injury time was played), they could have nicked it. Aislinn Connolly's goal from 50 yards got them back to within a puck of the ball but other little factors would eventually deny them - a Parrock point that wasn't in the second half, a missed penalty and the fact they only got three points from play in total proved their downfall ending up on the wrong side of a 1-12 to 1-10 score line.

It would be hoped all involved stay again for another crack at glory and with some promising underage players set to make an impact over the next 12 months, there's every reason to be positive. This is the challenge that stands in front of this team if that deserved All-Ireland medal is to be achieved!

KILLIMOR CAMOGIE CLUB REIGN SUPREME - 2010 AN HISTORIC YEAR

After 18 years Killimor Camogie Club secured their first ever senior camogie title on 24/10/2010. They achieved glorious redemption for the heartbreaking defeat of last years final as they saw off a stern challenge from a determined Mullagh Team. The epic game played in glorious sunshine in front of a huge crowd in Loughrea displayed all that is great about the game in a grippingly entertaining and sporting game. The first half was tit for tat and at half time Killimor trailed by 1.5 to 0.4. The second half however saw Killimor take a stranglehold on the game and had the ball in

the Mullagh net just 12 seconds after the restart. Killimor who had de-throned the reigning county champions Athenry in the semifinal were not about to give up and the final quarter which saw a firm Killimor defence prevail, proved crucial in deciding the destination of the County Cup. Killimor outscored their gallant opponents in the second half by 3.3 to 1.2 and in the end Killimor ran out winners on a scoreline of 3.7 to 2.7 and the Catherine Donnellan cup was heading to Killimor with proud captain Brenda Hanney for the very first time. Great credit goes to the Management team of

Tommy Callagy, Vinnie Brien, Pauline Mitnell and Annette Porter for their tireless work throughout the year.

At underage Killimor also won the U13A county title defeating Davits on a scoreline of 1-9 to 0.1 in the county final. Under the management of Martin Fahy, Colette Fahy, Anna Moran and Alan Moran and captained by Antoinella Lagana Killimor reached the final with wins in all group games and a narrow win over Turloughmore in a close and exciting semifinal. No doubt the Club will have high hopes for this team in the 2011 Feile which is being held in Galway.



Senior Team

Front Row (L-R) Ciara Mooney (Medical Officer), Tommy Callagy Manager, Ruth Groves, Emer Haverty, Mairead Mooney, Claire Conroy, Susan Keane, Martina Conroy, Brenda Hanney Captain, Nicola Lawless, Helen Campbell, Julie Brien, Amanda Casey, Serena Brien, Bertie Sherlock, Pauline Mitchell Selector.

Back Row (L-R) Barry Kilroy (Lough Rea Hotel and Spa), Vinnie Brien (Coach), Lorraine Keary, Annamaria Lagana, Helen Quinn, Karen Brien, Annemarie Starr, Denise Starr, Mairead McEvoy, Niamh Hanney, Aisling Brehony, Sinead O'Hara, Ciara Brien, Marie Duane, Lorraine Donnelly, Amanda Broderick, Lorraine Donnelly, Annemarie Hayes, Annette Porter Selector.

GALWAY ALL IRELAND MINOR CAMOGIE CHAMPIONS 2010

BY EOGHAN CORMICAN

Galway were crowned All Ireland minor camogie champions for the first time in 2010 following a well merited 2-12 to 2-8 victory over Clare in Semple Stadium, Thurles.

For Johnny Kane and his background team of Tom Page, Noel Kelly, Emer Kearney and Tommy Kenny, this proved a sweet success adding to the U16 title captured in May. Consequently, Johnny's record at underage level is quite phenomenal considering the Turloughmore man has presided over the three All Ireland titles Galway captured in the past two years.

This was powerful stuff from a Galway side of which just four are overage next year, who displayed terrific composure in dismissing emphatically the Clare challenge to ensure a clean sweep of underage titles for Galway in 2010.

In truth, Galway should have won by more had they showed a real ruthless streak at the turnaround before allowing Clare a glimmer of hope deep in second half stoppages.

In a peerless performance from the front eight where Killimordaly's Laura Mitchell was awarded player of the match, although the accolade could easily have gone to either of the Galway corner backs, there was excellent showings from Rebecca Hennelly, Ailish O'Reilly, substitute Niamh McGrath and the aforementioned Mitchell.

Lacking nothing by the way of commitment and spirit, the young tribeswomen defended their lead vigorously, epitomised by the ferocious nature of Galway's full back line who were quicker and hungrier in the scavenge for possession.

In fairness there were very few weak links in Thurles with Siobhan Coen and Lorraine Farrell outstanding on the left flank of defence. Tara Kenny and Karen Brien didn't put a foot wrong in the full back line, while outside them Noreen Murphy and Laura Donnellan did a lot of mopping up which made a big contribution to possession supplied to the attack. A measly return of just 1-3 from Clare's starting forward unit speaks volumes about Galway's dominance in this area.

In any event, All Ireland success in August was the last thing on peoples mind in the aftermath of Galway's first round defeat

at the hands of Kilkenny with the concession of three soft goals condemning Galway to a 4-5 to 1-9 loss.

Galway though, regrouped and recorded a comfortable 3-16 to 0-7 over Limerick to leave them just sixty minutes from a first All Ireland appearance since 2006.

The semi-final clash pitted Galway against Kilkenny, where in a tight and tense affair the young tribeswomen achieved glorious redemption for the defeat in the earlier rounds of the championship, but not before surviving a late comeback from the Noreddiers which saw the sides deadlocked entering injury time.

Galway, however, refused to panic and Clodagh's McGrath dissecting run through the heart of the black and amber defence brought about the game's defining score and, in the process, ended Kilkenny's dream of five-in-a-row.

In negotiating the penultimate hurdle winning out by 1-14 to 2-10, there were splendid displays from Tara Kenny, and the outstanding Lorraine Farrell in defence. Laura Mitchell hurled with great gusto in the middle of the field, while Aoife Donoghue, Rebecca Hennelly and Clodagh McGrath showed promisingly in attack.

In the decider, Galway forced a replay first time out with Rebecca Hennelly holding her nerve to tie proceedings deep in injury time after Clare's Chloe Morey appeared to have dealt the killer blow with time almost elapsed.

Johnny Kane's charges started all guns blazing in the replay hitting four points without reply in the opening eleven minutes. Clare, on the other hand, could only manage four score's in the entire first period and this proved their ultimate downfall. In stark contrast, all six Galway forwards were on the board after just 22 minutes.

The turning point of the first half came on the quarter hour mark when Ailish O'Reilly carved open the Banner defence for the game's first goal. Shauna Healy snapped up possession before dispatching the sliotar with a perceptive pass to O'Reilly who still had three blue and gold jersey's to negotiate before rattling the net with a low drive. The

goal diluted Galway's scoreboard dominance with Rebecca Hennelly (free), Aoife Donoghue and Finola Kelly splitting the posts subsequently and it looked as if Clare were in danger of being whitewashed.

Trailing by seven points it was crucial for Clare to make a positive start to the second half and that they duly did finding the net to pare the margin back to four. Rachel O'Halloran pounced on a Chloe Morey delivery and blasted to the Galway net to raise hopes of a Banner comeback. The champions though, responded in true fashion with Rebecca Hennelly tallying two further score's from the placed ball.

Thereafter, Niamh McGrath exchanged efforts with Chloe Morey, before Marie Brehony capitalised on a mistake by 'keeper Suzie O'Shea to register her side's second goal. It put Galway seven points to the good after fifty six minutes of action and well on their way to a first minor All Ireland.

Clare, to their credit, outscored Galway by 1-2 to 0-1 in the final nine minutes, but Galway were safe in the knowledge they were not going to be caught.

Scorers on the day were:

R Hennelly (0-6, 0-4 free's, 0-1 '45'), M Brehony (1-1), A O'Reilly (1-0), N McGrath (0-2), C McGrath (0-1), F Keely (0-1), A Donoghue (0-1).

Galway: Olivia Lane (Turloughmore)

Tara Kenny (Sarsfields)

Karen Brien (Killimor)

Siobhan Coen (Ballindereen)

Noreen Murphy (Ardrahan)

Laura Donnellan (Mountbellew-Moylough)

Lorraine Farrell (Davitts')

Laura Mitchell (Killimordaly)

Shauna Healy (Ardrahan)

Rebecca Hennelly (Ardrahan)

Clodagh McGrath (Sarsfields)

Ailish O'Reilly (Oranmore)

Finola Keely (St. Thomas')

Marie Brehony (Davitts')

Aoife Donoghue (Mullagh)

Subs: Niamh McGrath (Sarsfields),

Maria Cooney (Sarsfields).

FRANK O'GRADY



In September Galway Camogie lost one of its greatest ever servants with the passing of Frank O'Grady. Frank was honoured several years ago by Camogie in Galway when he was named as the first ever lifelong President.

Frank was a native of Castlepollard in Westmeath and came to live and work in Galway in the sixties. A founding member of Mervue GAA club and Mervue Camogie club, Frank quickly became a leading light in both associations.

Frank O'Grady made a tremendous contribution to Camogie in Galway, serving as an official of Galway Camogie spanning six decades. While Camogie is strong today

in Galway, this would not be the case without the enormous effort that Frank O'Grady put in during days of difficult communication and transport. Frank took over as Chairman of Galway Camogie Board in the mid sixties and served in the position over three decades. He also served as President of Connacht Council and as a delegate to Central Council for many years. Frank O'Grady was instrumental in starting a minor camogie team in the county and acted as manager and selector for many teams. In 1971 Frank O'Grady was instrumental in getting Galway regraded from senior to junior and the following year, success eventually came, when Galway won the All Ireland Junior title in 1972, a victory that came just months after Oranmore Presentation Convent brought the first ever All Ireland Camogie title to the province. When Frank went to organise something there was attention to detail, and the fruits of his efforts can still be seen today,

From those first successes in 1972 Frank O'Grady watched many more success come to Galway in schools and colleges and in various levels and was involved as a selector with many successful county teams, including All Ireland minor in 1977 and an All Ireland Junior title in 1988. However by the time that Galway eventually made the ultimate success at senior level in 1996, when the county won their only All Ireland Senior Camogie title Frank O'Grady was proud to be still involved as President of Galway Camogie Board. Frank was honoured with the distinction of being the first ever live long President of Galway Camogie Board, an honour he humbly accepted, but was a deserved recipient. May his gentle soul rest in peace. Ar Deig De Go Raibh ar Anam Dilis.

Ann Kearney (Secretary, Galway Camogie Board).

CAMOGIE IN CROKE PARK



The winning Galway Panel who represented Galway in the annual Coillte School of Excellence day in Croke Park on Monday 19th July.
Back row L-r, Roisin O'shea, Roisin Cunningham, Ellen Connolly, Alison Confield, Niamh Keely, Ailana Ni Bhraonain, Ciana Ni Churruain, Christine Nic Ghiolla Choinnigh, Emma Helebert, Neill Ni Chonlain, Sarah Comerfort, Shauna Fox, Anje McPeak, Niamh Halloran.
Middle Row L-r, Ciara Walsh, Tara Harte (capt), Aisling Downey, Eva Dolan, Mairead Burke, Laura Loughane, Roisin Ni Fharrgaiss, Elaine Kennedy, Carrie Dolan, Lauren O'Dea, Leanne Helebert, Ciara Helebert, Alice Meagher.
Front Row L-R, Hazel Travers, Blathnaid Burke, Eva Gilmore, Aine Kilkelly, Rachel Murphy, Siobhan McGrath, Katie Naughton, Deirdre Ni Chaoimh, Sorika Ni Bhraonain, Cathara Cantillon.



L-r Tara Harte, Portumna (Capt), Laura Loughane - Eyrecourt, Niamh Halloran Salthill, Alice Meagher Salthill, Christine Nic Ghiolla Choinnigh, Cois Ferraige, with The Camogie Association President Joan O'Flynn on Monday 19th after beating Wexford in the Final at the annual Coillte School of Excellence day in Croke Park

GALWAY WIN 5 ALL-STAR CAMOGIE AWARDS

All Ireland champions Wexford dominated this year's Camogie All Star team with eight players named in the side with finalists Galway winning five All Star awards. This is the 7th year of the Camogie Association All Star Awards in association with O'Neill's. President Mary McAleese presented the recipients with their awards at a gala banquet at City West hotel on Saturday, November 6th.

Winning Captain Una Leacy and Sister Mary both collected awards; veteran attacker Kate Kelly picked up her fourth accolade

while Katrina Parrock, Player of the Match in the Gala All Ireland final received her first award. Galway sisters, Niamh and Orla Kilkenny collected their first awards at corner back and midfield respectively, and became the first Galway sisters to be honoured. Athenry's Regina Glynn picked up her third All-Star while Brenda Hanney, who won a first County championship with her club Killimor two weeks previously, and joint championship top scorer Aislinn Connolly were also honoured.

Sisters Mary and Una Leacy (Wexford)

also collected All Star awards to join the Kilkenny sisters, while Claire O'Connor and Sister Ciara O'Connor collected a senior and Intermediate Soaring Star award respectively. Joachim Kelly was honoured with the Manager of the Year accolade.

Galway's Laura Mitchell was named as the O'Neill's Camogie Young Player of the Year. It tops off a wonderful season for the Killimordaly who won a Minor All Ireland earlier in the season.

CAMOGIE ALL STARS 2010 IN ASSOCIATION WITH O'NEILL'S

- | | | |
|------------------------------|----------------------------------|------------------------------|
| 2. Claire O'Connor, Wexford | 1. Mags D'Arcy, Wexford | 4. Niamh Kilkenny, Galway |
| 5. Regina Glynn, Galway | 3. Catherine O'Loughlin, Wexford | 7. Anna Geary, Cork |
| 8. Orla Kilkenny, Galway | 6. Mary Leacy, Wexford | |
| 10. Kate Kelly, Wexford | 9. Anne Dalton, Kilkenny | 12. Brenda Hanney, Galway |
| 13. Katrina Parrock, Wexford | 11. Una Leacy, Wexford | 15. Aislinn Connolly, Galway |
| | 14. Ursula Jacob, Wexford | |



Oranmore Morce captain Eimear O'Donovan receiving the U12A trophy from County Board Chairperson Geraldine McGrath.



The Shamrocks Camogie Club's David Dillon, Pat Donoghue, Sean Flannery, and Donal Burke, pictured receiving specially commissioned hurleys from players, Lorraine Burke, Fiona Shaughnessy, and Aine Callinan, in appreciation for all their work over the years, at a special ceremony in Lough Rea Hotel.

FEB. 2011



Shamrocks Junior A Camogie Team Which Won The County Final

Back Row: Ailish Loughmane, David Dillont(Manager), Aoife Joyce, Valarie Callinan, Jessica Deeley, Lisa Callinan, Aine Callinan, Shauna Murphy, Imelda Hynes, Mary O' Connor, Aishling Coen, Lorna Deeley, Sinead Burke, Donna Leahy, Katie Moran, Mags Naughton, Rita Coen, Danica Mitchell, Ciara McDonald, Pat Donoghue(Sel), Donal Burket(Sel).
Front Row: Tara Treacy, Shauna Maher, Sharon Flaherty, Laura Burns, Racheal Callinan, Katie Kelly, Ciara Donoghue, Helen Pearse, Fionn Shaughnessy (Capt), Louise Geraghty, Lorraine Burke, Emma Lawless, Aibhne O' Toole, Charlotte O' Regan, Marie Barrett, Una Mitchell.



Sarsfields Intermediate Camogie Team Connacht and County Champions 2010

Back Row: Chloe McGann, Emma Sheridan, Aoife Cooney, Ciara Cooney, Claire Kelly, Ruth Kelly, Gemma Flynn, Mairead McMahon, Eimear Cuskelly, Aisling Spellman, Tara Cooney, Niamh McGrath, Clodagh McGrath, Elaine McMahon, Cathrine Kelly, Laura Scully, Laura Glynn.
Front Row: Caoimhe Stanton, Maresa Flanagan, Caoimhe Kenny, Noreen McMahon, Stephanie McMahon, Elaine Kelly, Tara Kenny, Maureen Kelly, Ciara Ward, Aibhlin Kenny, Orlaith McGrath, Teresa Madden, Karen Earls, Sorcha Noone.

PORTUMNA CAMOGIE WINNERS



Portumna Intermediate League Winners 2010

Back Row: Trevor Moran, Johnny Keane, Tara Harte, Caoimhe Horan, Niamh Hackett, Ciara Molloy, Mary Burke, Lindsay McClearn, Tanya Fallon, Nicola Muldown, Emma Keane, Megan Moran, Roisin Ryan, Niamh Molloy, Niamh McClearn, Katie O'Brien, Joe Keane.
Front Row: Aoife Burke, Rhona Geraghty, Shamon Whelan, Brenda McClearn, Sarah Conboy, Brid Gordon, Trish Burke, Orla Hayes, Triona Byrne (Capt), Maeve Moran, Emma & Tara Rutledge, Philippa Coleman, Sile Ryan.



Enniskeane Junior A County league champions with Cork Senior player Rena Buckley at their victory celebrations at the Celtic Ross Hotel.

Clare Camogie Roll of Honour 2010

U11 & 'Amber Fire Protection' u15 competitions ran by Tulla Camogie Club

U13 competition ran by Broadford Camogie Club

COMPETITION

PK Coaches Senior Championship
'Glenomra' Senior B
PK Coaches Senior League
Intermediate Championship
Intermediate Shield
Intermediate League
Junior Championship
'Hamilton' Junior Shield
Junior League
Clare People u18 A
Clare People u18 B
Clare People u18 C
Clare Champion u16 A
Clare Champion u16 A Shield
Clare Champion u16 B
Clare Champion u16 C
Amber Fire Protection u15 Cup
Amber Fire Protection u15 Shield
Glor na nGael u14 A
Glor na nGael u14 A Shield
Glor na nGael u14 B
Glor na nGael u14 C
U13 Cup
U13 Shield
U13 Division 3
U13 Division 4
Real Print u12 A Cup
Real Print u12 A Shield
Real Print u12 B Cup
Real Print u12 B Shield
Real Print u12 C Cup
Real Print u12 C Shield
U11 Division 1 - Cup
U11 Division 1 - Shield
U11 Division 2 - Cup
U11 Division 2 - Shield
U11 Division 3 - Cup
U11 Division 3 - Shield

WINNER

Newmarket-on-Fergus
Scariff/Ogonelloe
Kilmaley
Corofin
Inagh
Truagh-Clonalra
Kilnamona
Kilanea
Kilnamona
Sixmilebridge
Kilkishen
Ballyea
Newmarket-on-Fergus
Wolfe Tones
Ballyea
Eire Og
Sixmilebridge
Kilkishen
St. Joseph's
Clooney-Quin
Eire Og
Kilnamona
Kilnamona
Ballyea
Eire Og
Broadford
Newmarket-on-Fergus
Sixmilebridge
Feakle
Clooney-Quin
Kilnamona
Ruan
Feakle
Kilkishen
Truagh-Clonalra
Wolfe Tones
Tulla
Clarecastle

RUNNER-UP

Kilmaley
Kilkishen
Clooney/Quin
Truagh-Clonalra
Scariff
Scariff
Crusheen
Kilkishen
Crusheen
Newmarket-on-Fergus
Clooney/Quin
Eire Og
Sixmilebridge
Kilmaley
Kilkishen
Broadford
Eire Og
Kilmaley
Sixmilebridge
Newmarket-on-Fergus
Kilkishen
Kilanea
Corofin
Kilmaley
Truagh
Ruan
Clarecastle
Corofin
Inagh
Kilkishen
Whitegate
Kilanea
Sixmilebridge, Kilnamona, Ruan
Broadford, Clooney-Quin, St. Joseph's
Newmarket, The Burren, Eire Og
Ballyea, Kilanea, Kilmaley
Scariff, Bodyke.
Sixmilebridge B, Corofin, Parteen

WHITEGATE/ MOUNTSHANNON

Fr Liam Murray

V. Rev. Liam Murray, retired Parish Priest of Whitegate/Mountshannon, Co. Clare died in May 2010. He served as priest of the Killaloe Diocese for 58 years.

Fr Liam was a native of O'Callaghan Mills, Co. Clare where he was born in 1926. He studied for the priesthood at St Patrick's College, Maynooth where he was ordained in 1952. After ordination he served in the Diocese of Brentwood for four years before returning to become curate in Killaneena in 1956. He was appointed curate in Whitegate, in 1960 and in Castleconell, Co. Limerick in 1965. He served there until 1969 when he was appointed curate in Cloughjordan Co. Tipperary. He was appointed Parish Priest of Coolmeen/Cranny, Co. Clare in 1986 and returned to Whitegate/Mountshannon as Parish Priest in 1989 where he served until he retired from that post in 1998. He was Assistant Pastor in Whitegate/Mountshannon from his remaining years, bringing his total time in our parish to over a quarter of a century. Fr Murray had a deep and abiding interest in the promotion of Camogie and he was the founding father of Camogie clubs in Killaneena, Cloughjordan and Whitegate. His unwavering interest in the promotion of Camogie allowed him to hold key posts on the Clare Camogie County Board for many years. In March 2010 the Whitegate Camogie Club held a presentation in the clubhouse to celebrate his 50 years involvement in the sport and Fr Liam was on hand to unveil a plaque and to remind us of the importance of Camogie and sport in general to local communities. At the time of his death he was President of the Whitegate Camogie Club and the Clare County Board. This year, the Intermediate championship cup was named after the late

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Detailed report of Féile na nGael 2010 by Féile Secretary Declan Hogan
pictured above with Presidents Tony Hannon Handball, Joan O'Flynn Camogie and Christy Cooney



Siobhán Tuohy, Clare Skills Competition Winner 2010

Féile Results - Camogie

CocaCola Feile camogie div 1 final
LUCAN SARSFIELDS..... 6-4
BURGESS-DUHARRA.....0-2
by Michael O Connor.

Dublin camogie received a timely boost with an emphatic win over Tipperary champions Burgess-Duharra in sweltering heat at Cusack Park in the division one final. Goals win games at any level and the ability of Lucan to create and execute proved the winning of the premier camogie crown. A five goal salvo in the first half with the first three coming in the opening five minutes as Burgess were rocked to the core. The Lucan goalscorers in the first half were Sarah Boland (2), Aoife Clancy (2) and Amy Conroy with all goals coming from play. Burgess hit back in the opening half with a brace of points from midfielder Jenny Grace to retire (5-1) to (0-2) in arrears at the interval. Little changed in the second half for Lucan as they attacked with confidence as Burgess improved their performance markedly but could not score despite a spirited rearguard action. The only goal of the second half went to Charlotte Rooney as Laura Morrissey and Orla Beegan added points to spark off wild celebrations at the final whistle.
LUCAN SARSFIELDS: J Ryan, N Power, A Flynn, A Gorman, N Byrne, C Rooney (1-0), A M Courtney, O Beegan (0-2), A O Connor, A Clancy (2-1), O Maloney, S Boland (2-0), L Morrissey (0-1), A Conroy (1-0), M Ward. Subs: A Greene for Boland, R Mulligan for Clancy, R Leonard for Ward, R Downes for Gorman, C Devereux for Rooney
BURGESS- DUHARRA: C Burke, A O Halloran, G Gleeson, S Quigley, E Byrne, S O Donoghue, A Gill, A Seymour, J Grace (0-2), T O'Brien, A Neylon, R Hodgins, C Maher, D Curtin, U Quigley. Sea Referee: Fintan McNamara Killanena)

Coca Cola Feile na nGael camogie div 4 final
History for Kerry camogie as Cillard take crown

Div 4 camogie final
Cillard (Kerry).....4-5
Killanena.....0-0
By Michael O'Connor.



Another first on Clare feile year as Cillard from Kerry became the first Kerry side to win a feile camogie title with a convincing win over a young Killanena side in a perfectly appointed Clarecastle grounds. After five minutes there was never doubt as to winners with the dominant full back Aoife Fitzgerald repelling all oncomers and adding (1-2) from frees. At the interval Cillard were (2-4) to (0-0) ahead. Killanena's defence were their stars with Michelle O Connor, Roisin McNamara and Amy McArthur to the fore but in the end further goals from Clodagh Walsh, Orla Young and Kristle Curran sealed a famous day for Kerry camogie.

CILLARD: J O Keffe, M Godley, A Fitzgerald (1-2), S Fitzgerald, A O Connor, J Fitzell, A Maunsell, O Casey O Young (1-2), N McGarty, C O Carroll (0-1), C Walsh (1-0), K Curran (1-0), M Nolan, A O Sullivan. Subs: Rachel Mahony, Eilish Harrington.
KILLANENA: D Brady, G Conlon, L Jamie, M O Connor, L Kelsey, R McNamara, A Hayes, A McArthur, L Canny, C McMahon, C Taaffe, P E O'Neill, E Noonan, M Gardner, O Broderick. Subs: S Canny, E Sparks. Referee: Fergal Gray (Feakle).

Coca Cola Feile na nGael camogie div2 final

Devitt stars as Eire-og deny Camross

EIRE-OG.....2-3 CAMROSS.....1-1
By Michael O Connor.

Displaying a standard way ahead of their years Eire-og and Camross served up a tremendous division 2 final. Both sides had some of the best individual performers over the weekend in Orla Devitt and Grainne Nolan (Eire-og) with Michelle Holmes (Camross) leading the way for the Laois outfit. Karol Roche opened the scoring with an Eire-og point before Grainne Nolan added an Ennis goal. Michelle Holmes hit a stunning Camross goal before (1-1) in response from Orla Devitt to leave Eire-og (2-2) to (1-0) clear at the break. A hard fought second half resulted in only two points from Kim Cuddy and Devitt materialising as both sides went close for goals but Eire-og were not to be denied a famous camogie win for Clare.

Eire og: F Kelly, L Browne, R Wall, L Hurley, M Clune, C Chadda, S Redmond, O Devitt (1-2), E Bradley, C Walsh, G Nolan (1-1), A Broderick, S Mulcahy, A O'Neill, K Roche (0-1).
Camross: L Keys, A Collier, C Lally, M Delaney, K Cuddy (0-1), L Ryan, R Hogan, S Carroll, M Collier, G Donnery, M Holmes (1-0), L Jones, M Lalor, A Burke, A Delaney. Subs: B Cuddy for Burke Referee: A Monahan (Tubber).



represented at Senior level by Fiona Lafferty and Team Selector Catherine O'Loughlin.

A carnival of Camogie, Hurling and Handball

A carnival of camogie, hurling and handball - that's the best way I can describe the incredible experience of Féile 2010 i gCo. an Chláir. There was huge enthusiasm and excitement during the visits to primary schools in mid May. This carried through to the actual games during the Féile week in June.

There was an exceptionally high level of awareness amongst the school children about Féile, no doubt reflecting the work done by teachers and local clubs. The children's artwork was amazing, giving expression to so many different aspects of gaelic games. The event itself was a carnival in every sense of the word. It was a street party, a parade and a festival. It brought together economic, social and cultural aspects of the community and during it strangers became friends.

From a Camogie point of view, the high standard of the young players showcased the invaluable and often unseen work of coaches and volunteers in clubs and schools. It showcased the pride and hospitality of the clubs in Clare who hosted visiting teams. Most of all, Féile showcased the huge appetite and interest that's out there to play or support Camogie as a fun and healthy interest and pastime. Events like Féile are made to happen - otherwise, they don't happen. The Féile organising committee in Clare, with Camogie, hurling and handball working in unity, was extremely dedicated and professional. Their focus and work ensured that 2010 Féile na nGael was one of accomplishment and happy memories.

Míle míle buíochas ó Chumann Camógaiochta don ghaisce sin.
Joan O'Flynn, Camogie President



Club Star Awards

Last year was the first year of the club star awards. As there is no inter county championship for u12, u13, u14 and u15, we do not count these as county players. The awards from u16 to senior are given to non-county players, for their displays and contributions throughout the current year. Recent high profile county players were not considered either as these awards aim to raise the profile of club players.

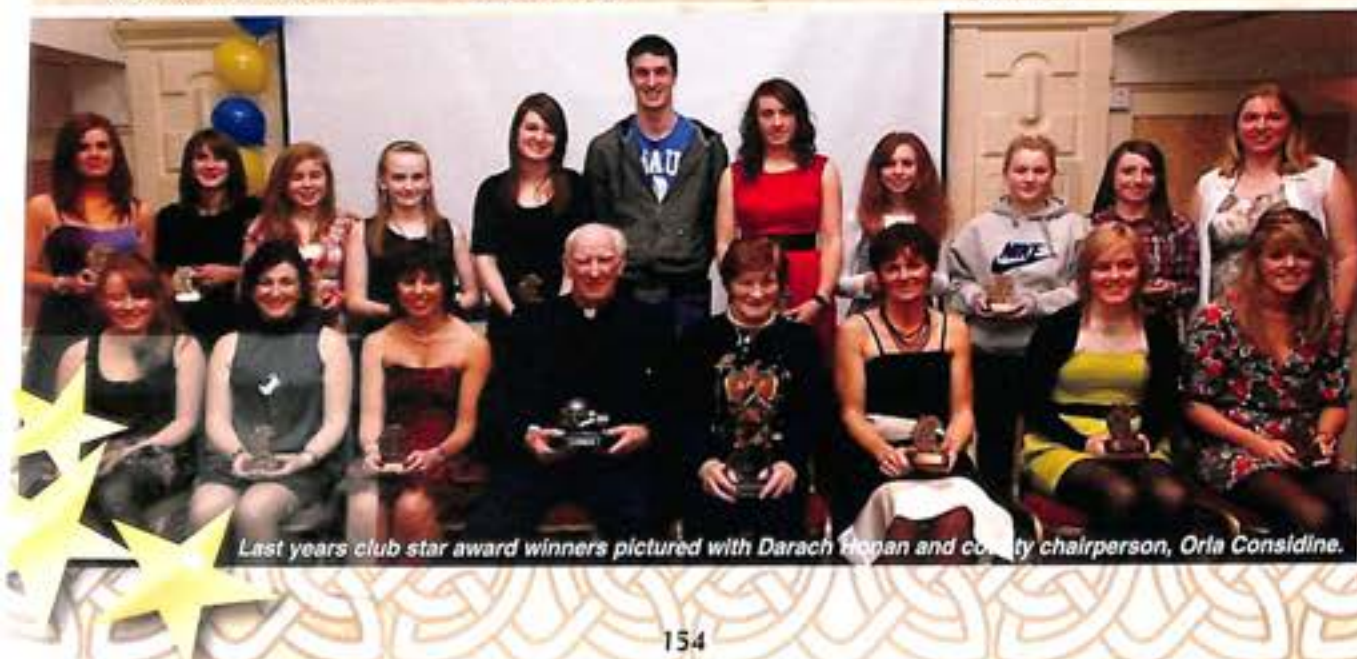
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2009 CLUB STAR AWARD WINNERS

Competition	Player	Club
U12A	Niamh Whyte	Sixmilebridge
U12B	Lauren Touhy	Clarecastle
U12C	Rebecca Collins	Corofin
U14A	Nikki Kaiser	Newmarket-on-Fergus
U14B	Sophie Hannah	Eire Og
U14C	Lisa O'Donoghue	Whitegate
U16A	Rachel Scanlon	Sixmilebridge
U16B	Ellen Keane	Ballyea
U16C	Aideen Burke	Whitegate
U18A	Eimear O'Connor	Kilmaley
U18B	Marie Halpin	Clooney/Quin
U18C	Sile McKee	Feakle
Junior	Patricia McNamara	Inagh
Intermediate	Marie Nash	Kilkishen
Senior	Siobhan Maher	Kilmaley
Hall of Fame	Kitty McNicholas	Eire Og
Special Award	Fr. Liam Murray	Whitegate/Kilanena

2010 CLUB STAR AWARD WINNERS

Competition	Player	Club
U12A	Rachel Kelleher	Newmarket-on-Fergus
U12B	Regan Conway	Feakle
U12C	Chloe O'Neill	Kilnamona
U14A	Rebecca Divine	St. Joseph's
U14B	Orlaith Devitt	Eire Og
U14C	Aoife Keane	Kilnamona
U16A	Aislinn Keogh	Newmarket-on-Fergus
U16B	Aoife Daly	Ballyea
U16C	Aoife Sheehan	Eire Og
U18A	Trisha Fawl	Sixmilebridge
U18B	Marie Collins	Kilkishen
U18C	Sharon Coffey	Ballyea
Junior	Sonya Maher	Kilnamona
Intermediate	Carmel Tierney	Corofin
Senior	Carol Toomey	Newmarket-on-Fergus
Contribution to Camogie	Maura Sheedy	Ogonelloe



Last years club star award winners pictured with Darach Hogan and county chairperson, Orla Considine.



Captains receiving a memento from Féile na nGael 2010 on behalf of their club

PHOTO'S FROM MUNSTER FINAL



Naomi Carroll receives player of the game and Clare captain Chloe Morey, with sponsor Tom Liddy.



Tom Liddy presents polo t-shirts before All-Ireland final.
From left to right: Rachel Whelan (county PRO), Tom Liddy, Chloe Morey (Captain), Niamh Corry & Mary Hogan (county secretary)



**Fr. Liam Murray
remembered**

Fr. Liam Murray with
President of the Camogie
Association, Joan O'Flynn



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Kathleen McNamara receives Ireland Involved
Award for Sports & Recreation from President
Mary McAleese

Deirdre Murphy

5 times nominated for an All Star and
captain of the 2007 All Ireland Junior
Camogie side.

"In terms of camogie the winning of the
Junior All Ireland final was so special as it
was a hard journey. The 2007 success was
just what Clare camogie needed at the
time and this was the platform for more
recent success and in particular when we
reached the All Ireland Minor Final."



Colette McSorley - Soaring All Star Award
O'Connell's GAC congratulates Colette McSorley on being



awarded the Soaring All Star Award. This Camogie All
Star is the most recent of the many awards that Colette has
accumulated during her most impressive camogie career.
Colette has been an excellent role model within the club
and the list of accolades that she has accumulated include
College All Star awards, All Ireland Young Player of the
Year 2005 and county minor and senior awards.
The most recent of Colette's accomplishments was the part
she played on this year's All Ireland winning Armagh team
that won the Nancy Murray Cup in Ashbourne. Colette's
personal contribution was impressive scoring 2 - 4 in the
final. Colette has been a great leader on the field of play
for her club and county and she is a great all round sports
woman playing for Tullysaran Ladies Football in addition to
the Tullysaran Senior Camogs.
Our 2011 senior camogs are a very talented bunch of girls
who have who have won the league and will be promoted to
the Premier League next year.
Colette McSorley is a dedicated camog who has massively
contributed to the achievements of her club and county
and she is an excellent athlete who is truly deserving of the

ST. FLANNAN'S



All-Ireland Jnr. 7-a-side Champions

JUNIOR CAMOGIE TEAM ALL-IRELAND DOUBLE:

This year proved to be a very successful one for the junior camogie team who remained undefeated throughout all competitions and in doing so claimed two Munster and All-Ireland titles for the first time in the college's history. The road to success began with the Munster 7-a side blitz. In a highly competitive campaign St. Flannan's took on teams from Limerick, Tipperary and Cork and overcame strong opposition in Dromcollogher from Cork in the closely contested final.

The Munster champions travelled to Blanchardstown in Dublin for the All-Ireland blitz. In the initial stages they defeated Gort Community college and Presentation Kilkenny, but it was the Ulster champions, St. Patrick's Dungiven that proved their most difficult opposition. Having accounted for them in a closely contested game in the group stages, they again faced them in the final. Despite having already played three tough games the girls saved their best performance for the final. Goalkeeper Suzy O' Shea was alert to any challenge thrown her way and her long relieving clearances set up

numerous attacks. Katie Cahill and Clodagh Lawlor were solid in defence and Nikki Kaiser was in lethal form scoring with ease as she tormented the Dungiven defence. The panel in its entirety was again needed to overcome the Ulster challenge on a score line of 6-7 to 2-3. A delighted Rebecca Culligan accepted the cup on behalf of an excellent St. Flannan's team.

The panel included Suzy O' Shea, Clodagh Lawlor, Katie Cahill, Christina Glynn, Alana O' Brien, Aishling Darcy, Kate O' Neill, Sarah O' Keefe, Nikki Kaiser, Rebecca Culligan (Capt.) The second half of the season proved to be equally fruitful. The main objective for the year was to capture the Munster title for the first time. The girls took to the challenge valiantly and overcame Lismore of Waterford at home and then travelled to Cork for the semi-final against Coachford.

After two strong performances the team were well prepared for their battle against Ballincollig, Cork. The Munster final was played in the Eire Og grounds and fine performances from Alana O' Brien, Aishling Darcy and Kate O' Neill steered them to victory, winning on a margin of 6-3 to 2-7. Clare camogie secretary Mary Hogan presented team captain Aishling Darcy with the trophy, a

moment greeted with jubilant scenes.

Eire Og GAA grounds in Ennis was once again the venue for the All-Ireland semi final against St. Mary's Ballinasloe. Confident and comfortable on this ground St. Flannan's had too much fire power for an overwhelmed Ballinasloe who couldn't match St. Flannan's skill, fitness or hunger on the day.

The All-Ireland final was played against Ulster opposition again, this time St. Louis Grammar school from Ballymena stood between them and an unprecedented double. Ballymena overcame the Kilkenny and Leinster champions in their hard fought semi-final and were a physically tough outfit. The team made the long journey to Rathoath in Meath for the final. St. Flannan's started the game at a blistering pace and their first seven shots at the posts all hit the target.

An outstanding team performance on the day had supporters cheering all the way home. Louise De Loughery formed a formidable rear-guard, ably assisted by Sinead Quinn and Christina Glynn. The mid-field duo of Rachel Mulcaire and Aishling Darcy were dominant and worked tirelessly throughout. Up front Orla Devitt, Sarah O' Keefe and Rebecca Culligan were economical in front of



All-Ireland Junior Champions

goal and split the posts on numerous occasions.

Captain Aishling Darcy accepted the All-Ireland cup on behalf of her exceptional team who accounted for their opponents on a score line of 2-17 to 2-3, with all scores coming from play, testament to the prolific scoring power of the forwards. The road to success was very

much underlined by a strong committed panel, congratulations to all involved. The junior camogie panel is Suzy O' Shea, Claire Mc Mahon, Clodagh Lawlor, Louise DeLoughery, Edel Hehir, Christina Glynn, Alana O' Brien, Rachel Mulcaire, Aishling Darcy (Capt.), Kate O' Neill, Sarah O' Keefe, Orla Devitt, Nikki Kaiser, Rebecca Culligan, Sinead O' Keefe, Shaunagh O'Brien, Aine

Meehan, Niamh Daly, Sinead Quinn, Lauren Mc Guane, Sophie Hanna, Aoibheann Malone, Chloe Mc Aleer, Sally Carrig, Sarah Molloy, Deirbhile Ryan, Emma Carey, Katie Malone, Clara Mulcaire, Rebecca Crowe, Kate O' Halloran, Kate O' Callaghan, Shauna Hill, Laura Commene

St Flannans Junior 7's Camogie Report

St. Flannans College won the Junior 7's A Camogie title for the first time ever in Charleville on Wednesday last 29th September. This followed their victory in the B grade of this competition 12 months ago.

In the first round St. Flannans were in a group of 4 teams which included St. Mary's Nenagh, St. Caimins Shannon and Dromcollogher. St. Flannans won their first game against St. Mary's on a scoreline of 4-6 to 3-4. The Ennis College followed this up with a 5 point victory over St. Caimins, on a scoreline of 4-6 to 4-1. Their final group game with Dromcollogher ended in a draw, the final score being 1-5 to 1-5. This draw ensured they finished top of their group going forward to the semi-final.

In the semi-final St. Flannans played the second placed team from the other group, Christ the King, Cork and were victorious on a scoreline of 4-3 to 2-1.

In the final, St. Flannans were playing the hosts on the day, Charleville, and after a poor start they pulled away to win by 5-3 to 2-5. After the final the trophy was presented to St Flannans winning captain Rachel Mulcaire. They will now go on to represent Munster in the All-Ireland series on Saturday 16th October in Dublin.

The St. Flannans panel on the day was Suzy O'Shea, Louise Deloughery, Claire McMahon, Shaunagh OBrien Clodagh Lawlor, Alana O'Brien, Aoife Keane Nikki Kaiser, Orla Devitt, Aoibheann Malone Sinead O'Keefe, Kate O'Neill, Sinead Quinn and Rachel Mulcaire (capt.).

COUNTY TEAMS

Clare Primary Squad who travelled to Cahir for Munster blitz



Panel: Regan Conway, Jodi Guilfoyle, Rachel Minogue, Rachel Gooney, Clodagh Nash, Laura Browne, Fiona Quinn, Lorna Crowe, Eimear Neylon, Katie McGreanor, Shonagh Bently, Niamh McMahon, Anna Carroll, Niamh Whyte, Joanne O'Gorman, Marie O'Looney, Aoife Keane, Amy Broderick, Leanne Casey, Katie Minogue, Louise McDonnell, Jane Fitzgerald, Ciara Fitzgerald, Rachel Kelleher, Rachel O'Callaghan & Edel McNamara. Mentors: Alan Whyte, Marie Halpin, Kim Maloney, Cian Dillon.

Clare u13 development squad



The Clare u13 development squad were in their first year of formation and took part in a special u13 blitz with other counties from Munster.

Earlier in the year, some of these girls had also competed in the Clare u14 blitz and the team also travelled to Tipperary to take part in the u14 blitz there. The squad trained every Friday morning during the summer. In the blitz hosted by Clare, Cork provided two teams, while Limerick were the girls' other opponents. Many thanks to Sixmilebridge camogie club who hosted the blitz in Clare and to the girls and mentors who helped out in this as preparation

for the girls' future in the game.

Panel: Nicole Shanahan, Deirdre Cotter, Miqueala Culloo, Megan Flannagan, Leah Fox, Anne-Marie Hayes, Sinead Hogg, Rebecca Keane, Jessica Leamy, Olwynn McInerney, Aisling McMahon, Aisling McNamara, Edel McNamara, Emer Mullane, Emer Nilan, Samantha O'Connor, Aoife O'Riordan, Michelle Powell, Kealy Power, Aoife Roche, Nicole Shanahan-Marsh, Anne Vaughan, Niamh Whyte, Jodie Guilfoyle, Niamh McMahon, Aileen Moloney, Amy Tuohy, Niamh McInerney. Mentors: Carmel McGrath, Sheelagh Daffy, Roisin McMahon, Kate Lynch, Aine McNamara

Clare u14 panel



The Clare u14 team was very active again this year and had many outings. They travelled to blitzes in Limerick, Tipperary, Cork and Galway. While they hosted one blitz in Clare. They trained every Tuesday and Thursday morning in Clooney throughout the summer. The team grew in both skill and bonding over the season and look forward to moving through the grades next year. Panel: Alice Akers (Feakle), Staine Carey (Sixmilebridge), Eimear Casey (St. Joseph), Eimear Kelly (Parteen), Laura Commane (Newmarket), Deanna Considine (Sixmilebridge), Sinead Collins (Corofin), Ellen

Culloo (Tulla), Orla Devitt (Eire Og), Aoife Dillon (Broadford), Rebecca Divine (St. Josephs), Eimear Donnellan (Sixmilebridge), Aine Duggan (Feakle), Siobhan Fahy (Truagh-Clonlara), Doireann Hennessey (St. Josephs), Aisling Hunt (Tulla), Lisa McGrath (Feakle), Leighanne McMahon (Kilmaley), Fiona Murphy (Kilmaley), Haley Nolan (Wolfe Tones), Hannah O'Brien (Clooney-Quin), Kate O'Gorman (Kilkishen), Aine O'Shea (Ballyea), Lauren O'Donoghue (Ruan), Claire Taffe (Kilanena), Siobhan Tuohy (Feakle), Rae Wall (Eire Og), Clodagh O'Halloran (Kilkishen). Mentors: Joe O'Gorman, Kieran O'Shea, Orla Considine



Clare Long Puc: Glóac Mearry (2nd), Aine McNamara (1st) & Sorcha Loughmane (3rd)
(Aine went on to the Munster competition in Thurles race course where she finished joint third)



Former Camogie President Liz Howard was the special guest who launched the Tipperary Camogie Confined Draw on Thursday night last in Young's, The Ragg. Pictured here at the launch are Kieran Slattery (Draw Co-Ordinator), Liz Howard, Joe Cahill (Co. Board Chairman) and Carmel Harkin (Co. Board Secretary).

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Turning hurling into a fun, non contact sport for all

It may have been some time in the pipeline but the GAA has finally come up with its answer to tag rugby – as Portumna hurling enthusiasts have discovered to their joy over the past three months.

Camán Abu is the hurling recreational sport being cultivated by the National Coaching & Games Development Committee, under Pat Daly, and they have entrusted Portumna GAA Club, in conjunction with local community group, Sign Out Youth Company, to formulate a practical version of the game.

While the Gaelic football equivalent is very similar to tag rugby, modifying the game of hurling as a recreational sport has proven much more challenging. However, hurling and camogie enthusiasts in Portumna, under the guidance of Connacht Hurling Director Damien Coleman, have devised a set of rules which should form the basis for the new game's success.

In summary, Camán Abu comprises of five-a-side mixed teams, with games lasting between 10 to 20 minutes. Carbon fibre hurleys – with rubber bases – and a soft sponge ball are used, which means there is no need for helmets, while there is no physical contact permitted. Also, huris cannot be raised above shoulder level.

"I suppose, this is the GAA's response to tag

TALKING SPORT



STEPHEN GLENNON

Portumna is leading the way in making game a version of tag rugby

rugby, but it is also to give a huge majority of GAA people, who may have nothing really to do in the evenings, a sporting and social outlet," says Coleman.

"It is for both those who are traditional to the game and those who are not traditional to the game. Really, it is an opportunity for some people to get out in the evenings and become fit by playing a game that they love. For others, who might not have played before, it gives them an opportunity to play a game they have seen on TV and they like the look of it."

With no contact permitted, he says there is no risk of injury, and, indeed, in the 14 weeks so far that Portumna have piloted the game, there has been not one injury. Already, they have submitted their feed-

back to Croke Park and the powers-that-be will now finalise their plans before rolling the game out nationwide.

According to Coleman, if the response to the game from both young and old alike in Portumna is anything to go by, Camán Abu has the potential to become a massive success. "I can see this game developing like wildfire throughout the country. You could even have an inter-club competition on a recreational basis, where Craughwell might invite down Portumna or Kinvara or Athenry. Whatever clubs you care to mention."

He also says there is scope there to develop a competition for retired inter-county players, or, indeed, promote the sport internationally, particularly given that competitions can be run on a five-a-side basis and on outdoor, indoor or Astro turf facilities.

"There is no reason why other countries couldn't play," states the Chairman of Portumna Hurling Club. "It is a lot like hockey, so I could see other countries taking part. Again, though, Croke Park will be the decision makers on all this and where it develops from here. The National Research and Development Committee have the ideas from the pilot scheme that we ran in Portumna and, hopefully, they will be launching it nationally over the next couple of months."

No doubt, the game has

captured the imaginations of not only those in Portumna GAA Club, but the wider community as a whole. Central to promoting Camán Abu has been the input of Portumna's Sign Out Youth Company, a voluntary organisation, which provides a social outlet for teenagers through its many projects, youth café and all-weather pitch. It is supported by County Galway VEC.

'It is a sport everyone can play. It is never too late and it just makes you a bit more active.'

Through the group – and both Connacht and Galway Coaching & Games Committees – the GAA were able to access the wider community. Indeed, Sign Out project coordinator, Susan Royston, who never played any sport, never mind hurling before, was one of those to join the Tuesday night sessions.

"For us, who never played hurling before, it is great to come in and meet new people," says the Cork City native. "So, there is a great social side to it. I have lived in this town for the last 24 years, but I hadn't talked to half of the people out there before."

"So, it was just great from that point of view. It is also

great exercise and it is safe. The sliotar is really soft, so you could get walloped by that and you are not going to get hurt. I really am getting into now."

Of course, in addition to the recreational and fitness elements of Camán Abu, there is also the social aspect. "We had a tournament, where we made these homemade badges and we gave them out for 'The Most Stylish Player' – the player who looked the best – and 'The Most Breathless Player' – the one who was giving out the most, not the one who was running the most!" laughs the mother of four.

"Then, 'The Most Absent Player' (badge) went to the one who was in the sin-bin the most! So, it was a real fun event. We just went down to the pub afterwards and had a few drinks. It was a great night and it helped to bring everybody back to basics. That this is non-competitive. It's social and recreational."

Another to experience the joys of the sport for the first time is Christine Gantley, who, like Susan, attends weekly with her husband Noel. "I used to play volleyball years ago, but I hadn't done much else. Then I heard this was starting up and I thought I would try it, have a bit of fun, a bit of craic, and get fit," says the fifty-something-year-old.

"For people who never got into sport when they were younger, never made teams or anything, this will



Camán Abu, a new GAA recreational hurling game that is being piloted in Portumna, caters for those who wish to return to the game they love or, for some, offers them the opportunity to experience the sport for the first time. Pictured are just some of the Portumna participants. Back row (left to right): Damien Coleman (Connacht Hurling Director and Chairman of Portumna Hurling Club), Matthew Loughnane, Vincent Treacy, Sean Donoghue, Mark Conroy, Christine Gantley, Fabienne Geraghty, Eoin Donoghue. Front row: Catriona Fogarty, Caroline Fallon, Susan Royston, Bernie Treacy, Nolene Fogarty, Aileen Geraghty.

catch on, particularly among the older people. You have a social side to it as well. You make an effort to get ready every Tuesday night to come hurling. I hope it takes off because it is something that should. It is a sport everyone can play. It is never too late and it just makes you a bit more active."

It is a sentiment shared by former Portumna hurler, Vincent Treacy, who attends with his wife Bernie. "To the hurling purist, it might not look the thing. But for recreational

purposes, it is absolutely brilliant," says Treacy. "For lads who finish up hurling, there is nothing unless you get involved in five-a-side soccer. However, when you have played hurling all your life, it is great to be able to go back and start swinging again. As well as that, when you are playing here for an hour and a half, the sweat does be pumping out of you," he laughs.

In all, a core group of 30 adult participate in Portumna, although the youth club and local schools have also taken the

new game to their hearts. "Youngsters from the school take part during the day. They come out here and boys and girls who wouldn't normally be on school teams take part," says Coleman.

"Of course, it can get competitive as well, at times, but the big thing here is the refereeing of it. If the refereeing is done strictly, it is safe. Otherwise, people can get over enthusiastic. The whole philosophy, though, behind the game is recreational and social hurling."

Civic Reception for Cashel Camogie Club



Mayor Cllr. Eddie Bennett, presenting a framed scroll to Cashel Camogie Club Chairperson Emily Hayden, at the civic reception afford the club in honour of winning the All-Ireland club championship 2009. Also in the photograph are Marie McGovern, (Town Clerk) and Joan O'Flynn, (President of the Camogie Association).



Morgan Conroy, vice-president, Cumann Camogachta na nGael presenting the All-Ireland Sevens trophy to Philly Fogarty, captain of the victorious Cashel team.

Cashel Senior Camogie Success

Cashel retain their All Ireland Camogie Sevens title

It was indeed a proud day for Cashel Camogie when on September 11 the Kilmacud-Crokes All-Ireland camogie sevens was won back to back by the senior team for the first time in the history of the Club.

In the group games Cashel defeated St. Catherine's of Cork by 7-7 to 2-5, St Lactans of Kilkenny by 4-6 to 1-4 and Devitts of Galway by 8-10 to 1-2.

Cashel went on to the Semi-Final where they played Milford of Cork in a ding dong match coming out on top on a scoreline of 7-4 to 4-3. Clare Grogan: 2-1, Emily Hayden 2-1, Jill Horan 2-1, Clare Ryan 1-0, Julie McGrath 0-1.

The final saw Cashel meet Leitrim Fontanoy's/Down and in front of a huge crowd of spectators Cashel came out on top on a scoreline of: Cashel 4-6 Leitrim Fontanoy's 2-2. Clare Grogan 1-3, Jill Horan 1-1, Emily Hayden 1-0, Julie McGrath 1-0, Clare Ryan 0-1 Sharon Hayes 0-1.

Cashel: Linda Grogan, Una O'Dwyer, Philly Fogarty, Jill Horan, Julie McGrath, Clare Grogan, Emily Hayden, Nolette O'Dwyer, Clare Ryan, Sharon Hayes.

County Senior Championship:

In the senior championship Cashel played eight matches and in winning six of their matches they qualified for the semi-final. In a classic match Cashel came from four points down with two minutes to go to draw level on a scoreline of Cashel 1-11 Duharra: 0-14. In the replay we saw another classic match when with one minute to go and Cashel leading by two points Duharra were awarded a penalty and duly scored, winning the match on a scoreline of Duharra 2-5 and Cashel 0-10.

Congratulations to Paula Bulfin, Helen Breen and Helen Grogan on the birth of their baby son Billy and baby daughters Emily and Emma.

Back in March the team were honoured with a civic reception by Cashel Town Council in recognition of their capture of the All-Ireland club championship in 2009.



Cashel Camogie Club players pictured at the civic reception in their honour in the Civic Offices. Front l-r, Ciara O'Sullivan, Sheila O'Donnell, Emily Hayden, Sharon Hayes, Alison Loneragan. Back l-r, Una O'Dwyer, Nolette O'Dwyer, Paula Bulfin, Linda Grogan, Cora Hennessy, Claire Grogan.

Seandun U16s prove too strong for Muskerry

Seandun 3-5
Muskerry 0-2

HORRIFIC weather failed to dampen the enthusiasm as the Inter-divisional Under 16 championship blitz took place in Mallow.

Five divisions battled it out from early morning for a place in the final and noticeable absentees were holders for the last two years Avondhu who did not field on the day, thus ensuring a new name would be engraved on the trophy for 2011.

After some thrilling encounters Muskerry and Seandun made it to the final. Seandun, aided by the gale force wind in the opening half, laid the foundations for victory as they notched up the vital scores and through the second half they worked tirelessly to protect their sizable lead.

First half goals from Joy Leo, Katelynn Hickey and Claire Shine put Muskerry under enormous



Seandun Under 16 team who won the interdivisionals title defeating Muskerry in the final.

pressure and with Seandun using the wind to their advantage they continued to pressurise the Muskerry defence. Muskerry goalkeeper Orla O'Driscoll denied Claire Shine with an excellent save from a penalty, but continuing to hold the upper hand Seandun added points, Claire Shine Katelynn Hickey and Lauren Callanan all getting on the score sheet as Seandun added to their tally.

At the break Seandun led 3-5 to no score, but with wind advantage to come in the second half Muskerry certainly were not out of contention.

From the restart Muskerry threw everything at Seandun, but with Shauna Ring, Lauren Callanan, Claire Shine, Erin Lynch and Maebh Cahalane all prominent for the city girls Muskerry found the

going tough. Seandun continued to put pressure on the Muskerry defence, but they stood firm and with the howling wind in their favour they had points from Ciara O'Leary and Maebh Ann Desmond, however, Seandun, despite not adding to their first half tally, maintained their momentum and never allowed Muskerry any leeway, thus ensuring the title was secured. Claire Shine was named as player of the match in the final.

Seandun: S. O'Sullivan; E. Martin, S. Ring, N. Foley; E. Lynch, S. Hendrick, E. Kavanagh; R. Brosnan, L. Callanan; M. Cahalane, C. Shine, K. Hickey; C. Rodgers, J. Leo, M. Murphy.
Subs: A. Wallace for C. Rodgers, A. Hannon for E. Lynch. **Scorers:** C. Shine 1-3, K. Hickey 1-2, J. Leo 1-0, L. Callanan 0-1.
Muskerry: O. O'Driscoll; M. Corkery, R. Nevin, K. O'Driscoll; A. O'Donovan, S. Hutchinson, C. O'Riordan, E. Looney; J. Hennigan, B. Hennigan, N. Dwyer; N. McCarthy; N. Lambert, M. A. Desmond, C. O'Leary.
Subs: K. Coleman for N. Dwyer, A. Cronin for K. O'Driscoll, L. O'Farrell for R. Nevin, C. Costello for R. O'Riordan, S. Gould for N. Lambert.
Scorers: C. O'Leary, M. A. Desmond 0-1 each.
Referee: Frank Fitzpatrick (Clayda Rovers).

Go Games referee course

WITH preparations underway in all clubs for the implementation of the Go Games for players up to and including aged 12, the County Board has organised a referees course tonight at the Silversprings Moran Hotel Convention Centre starting at 8pm. The short course will be given by referee Cathal Egan and it will go over the rules of the new system. It is hoped that clubs will get younger players involved in refereeing the Go Game and tonight's course is to guide them through the set up and rules. Clubs are reminded that anybody in their clubs who are interested in refereeing the Go Games can come along this evening to the course.

Camogie in Tipperary, Club & Inter County

www.camogie.tipperary.gaa.ie
By Kieran Slattery, County Camogie P.R.O.

Camogie in Tipperary continues to grow in popularity, as more girls take up the sport. The work that all the clubs throughout the county put into the promotion of the game must be commended. With all this superb work at the grass roots, hopefully it will translate into success at county level in the not too distant future.

At inter county level this year, Tipperary competed at the top level in all competitions, and while the coveted All Ireland titles eluded the County, some Munster titles came our way in 2010.

The senior panel started off their year with some of their experienced players hanging up their boots after serving the county with great distinction. Despite this, Tipp competed with great gusto in all their games. Unfortunately, despite some spirited performances, Tipp failed to reach the final four in the All Ireland championship.

The Munster championship saw Tipperary record a superb win over Cork in the semi final before holding out against Clare in the final to claim the title. To cap the evening off, Tipperary's Michelle Shortt was presented with the player of the match award.

Our intermediate panel also tried hard in the All Ireland series, but unfortunately failed to reach the final four, while in the Munster championship, Limerick had a comprehensive win over the Tipp girls in the Camogie grounds.

The U18s recorded a good win at home against Wexford, but unfortunately found the challenge from Clare too strong, which ended their interest in the All Ireland series. Meanwhile, the hard working u16s again played their way to the All Ireland final, putting in some commendable displays along the way. However, the final saw them pitted against their old rivals from Galway, and again the title went west across the Shannon. Some consolation for the panel later in the year when in the Munster championship a thrilling victory over Cork in the semi final was followed with a well deserved win over Clare in the final.

The work being done with the county U14s throughout the year again reaped its rewards for the two panels as they competed in various inter county blitzes throughout the year. The highlight of their year was their fantastic double victory in the Tipperary hosted blitz in August, when Semple Stadium was the venue for the two finals.

The club scene in Tipperary continues to be as competitive as ever. In the senior, Cashel came into 2010 as All Ireland club champions, so all eyes were on this year's club championship. Following a replay in the semi final, Cashel narrowly lost to Burgess/Duharra, setting up a final with Toomevara. This final was an absolute classic, and had to go to extra time before Burgess/Duharra finally claimed that elusive title they had chased for so long.

The juvenile competitions also threw up some great moments, and prove that the future of Camogie in Tipperary is in safe hands. None of the success of clubs or county teams could be possible without the support and encouragement of parents around the county who sacrifice so much of their time to ensure their children's involvement. So, from all involved in Camogie, a big thank you.

Development of Camogie in Tipperary.

2010 saw many new camogie initiatives piloted and developments take place within the county in the areas of coach and referee education, games development, schools and club promotion. All of this work was co coordinated and spearheaded by our County development officer, Siobhan Ryan.

GO-GAMES WORKSHOP

On Thursday the 20th May a Go-Games workshop was held in the County Grounds. All clubs interested in participating in U10 go-games blitzes in June-August were represented at this

workshop. The practical demonstration ensured that trainers and players would become knowledgeable re. Go-games format before the start of the blitzes.

U10 GO-GAMES

The Tipperary U10 camogie scene has been buzzing with action with the commencement of the county's go-game blitzes. The first of the blitzes took place in Dr. Morris Park Thurles. Onlookers were amazed to see 10 games of camogie taking place in the one venue at the one time! Despite intermittent heavy rain showers the young players displayed all the best aspects of camogie and sport such as great skills, teamwork, fun, fairplay and spirit. Twenty teams representing thirteen clubs gave their all in 10-a-side mini-games.

Toomevara GAA Grounds hosted the second go-games blitz on July 4th with over 200 under 10 camogie players representing 14 clubs took part. All clubs were in action for over two hours and great displays all round were enjoyed by players, mentors and parents alike. Young stars from Annacarty Donohill, Drom Inch, Ballina, Borrisoleigh, Burgess Duharra, Kilruane McDonaghs, Moneygall, Nenagh, Newport, Portroe, Silvermines, St.Cronan's Roscrea, Thurles and Toomevara participated in the blitz with Boherlahan, Cahir, Drom Inch, Holycross/Ballycahill, Moycarkey Borris also taking part in the previous blitz.

The third blitz took place in Cahir on Saturday the 17th July

Elsie O'Dwyer Memorial Cup

Last March, at a specially arranged function held in memory of the later Elsie O'Dwyer, R.I.P. at Clonmel, a cup was presented by the O'Dwyer family to the chairman of the county camogie board, Michael Browne.

Elsie O'Dwyer, who hailed from Fethard and Coolmoyne, was an outstanding camogie player in her youth and represented Tipperary on many occasions. She was on the Coolmoyne team which won the first two county senior championships played in 1932 and 1933.

Elsie came from a noted G.A.A. family, the Ahearns, with her brothers, Joe and Paddy, outstanding hurlers and footballers in their day.

The O'Dwyer family gave the honour of presenting the cup on their behalf to another noted hurler, footballer and athlete, John Donovan from Killurney. John has the distinction of being a founder member of ladies football in the county and gave outstanding service as a player over a long number of years to his club, Kilsheelan-Kilcass.

Derry O'Dwyer, who was accompanied by his sister, Patricia Dunne, thanked all present for coming to the function and said it was an honour for the family to be able to give something back to camogie.

Michael Browne thanked the O'Dwyer family for the cup and said it would always be there to perpetuate the memory of an outstanding camogie player, the late Elsie O'Dwyer.



Battle of scholars is sure to test credentials

TONIGHT

Ashbourne Cup quarter-final,
CIT v UCC,
Mardyke, 6pm.

A GAME to look forward to tonight is the meeting of the students as CIT and UCC battle it out for a place in the last four of the prestigious Ashbourne Cup competition, writes MARY NEWMAN.

UCC lost out to WIT in last season final and they will be determined to go one better this year and stop the holders making it three in-a-row, but first they need to get over the stumbling block that CIT are sure to put in their way.

UCC will have home advantage against their local rivals but this will not worry the CIT girls who have prepared well under the guidance of former player Charlotte Kearney.

They have plenty of talented and experienced players in their line out Erin Corkery (Éire Óg), Mariah Reidy (Newtownshandrum), Sarah Buckley (Ballincollig), Denise Luby (Glen Rovers), and Ailin O'Donovan (Douglas) have all worn the county colours and they will relish the challenge that UCC are sure to pose.

UCC are backboned by last seasons Cork senior captain Orla Cotter and her inter county team mates, the Mackey twins, Katriona and Pamela, Douglas; Denise Cronin, Ballincollig; and Irish hockey international, Miriam Crowley, Bishopstown. The UCC side also includes Galway senior goalkeeper, Susan Earner, and Limerick's Aileen McNamara.

UCC were boosted recently when they were crowned Division 1 league champions with a comprehensive victory over UUJ to take their first major title since 2003 and the victory could not have come at a better time for them as they battle to reach the semi-final stages of the Ashbourne Cup.

They have the added incentive to set up a repeat of last year's semi-final against UCD who are already through to the Ashbourne Cup following their victory over Athlone IT.

UCC are captained by Gráinne Kenneally while Lisa Marie O'Mahony leads the CIT girls.

The winners of the quarter-finals go through to the Ashbourne Cup semi-finals while the losers will enter the Ashbourne Shield semi-finals — both of which will be held in NUI Galway on February 19 with the finals at the same venue on February 20.

Killimor and The Harps through to All-Ireland finals

By Daragh Ó Conchúir

Killimor emerged from a desperately hard-fought battle at Duggan Park to book their place in the All-Ireland senior club camogie final at the expense of Oulart-The Ballagh by just a solitary point.

Both sides showed tremendous battling qualities in very heavy conditions as the Ballinasloe pitch understandably cut up in its second game after torrential rain.

Scoring was undeniably going to be difficult in such circumstances but neither side shirked the physical challenge that resulted.

Killimor led at half time by 0-5 to 0-4, Martina Conroy converting a 45 and a free to go with a point from play for the Galway team. Ursula Jacob slotted two frees for Oulart-The Ballagh and added two more points after the resumption, while Una Leacy brought her tally to two from play.

But Conroy brought her tally to six points by converting another 45 and two frees, and with Brenda Hanney, Emer Herbert and Susan Keane providing scoring back-up, it was Killimor who had their noses in front at the final whistle, prevailing by 0-9 to 0-8.

The other semi-final between Cork champions Inniscarra, and O'Donovan Rossa of Antrim, was postponed due to the waterlogged St Conleth's Park in Newbridge.

The intermediate semi-final between Waterford side Lismore and Eoghan Rua of Derry, which was due to take place in Ashbourne, also fell foul of the intemperate conditions.

The other intermediate semi-final did go ahead however as a curtain-raiser in Ballinasloe, and it was The Harps who prevailed over a gritty Sarsfields 2-12 to 1-7.

The Laois unit was the more experienced one having won three All-Ireland junior titles in a row from 2006-2008 but they were made to fight all the way by Sarsfields, who led at half time 1-5 to 0-7 thanks to four points from Niamh McGrath - who finished with six - and a 27th minute goal by Orla McGrath.

But The Harps gradually overpowered their Galwegian opponents in the second half, and goals from Aisling Phelan and Laura Saunders sealed their progression to the decider.

Indeed, the margin might have been greater in the end but for two tremendous saves by Sarsfields goalkeeper, Laura Glynn.

CAMOGIE

Saturday
All-Ireland Schools Senior A semi-final: Pres, Thurles v St. Patrick's, Maghera, Trim, 12.30pm; Loreto, Kilkenny v St. Brigid's, Loughrea, Palmerstown, 2pm.
Senior B semi-final: St. Mary's, Mallow v St. Louis, Ballymena, Trim, 12.30pm; Grennan College, Thomastown v Hazelwood, Dromcollogher, Thomastown, 1.30pm.
Senior C semi-final: Laurel Hill v St. Pius X, Magherafelt, Trim, 2.30pm; Castlecome v St. Dominic's, Cabra, Ballycomey, 1pm.
Senior D semi-final: St. Declan's, Kilmacthomas v Our Lady's Grammar, Newry, Trim, 2.30pm; Pres, Wexford v Mercy Roscommon, Tagmon/Camross, 3pm.
Junior C quarter-final: St. Killian's, New Inn v Maryfield College, Druincondra, Duggan Park, 6pm.

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Conroy the star as Killimor march on



Shelley Keane, Oulart-the-Ballagh, evades Killimor's Emer Haverty and Marie Duane, in the All-Ireland Senior Club camogie final. Picture: Brian Lawless/Sportsfile

Camogie

by Daragh Ó Conchúir

KILLIMOR emerged from a real dogfight at Duggan Park to book their place in the All-Ireland senior club camogie final at the expense of Oulart-The Ballagh.

Both sides showed tremendous battling qualities in heavy conditions as the Ballinasloe pitch cut up during its second game after torrential rain.

Scoring was always going to be difficult in such circumstances but neither side shirked the physical challenges.

Killimor led at half time by 0-5 to 0-4, Martina Conroy converting a 45 and a free along with a point from play for the Galway team.

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But The Harps gradually overpowered their Galway opponents in the second half.

Goals from Aisling Phelan and Laura Saunders sealed their progression to the decider.

Indeed, the margin might have been greater in the end but for two tremendous second-half saves produced by Sarsfields goalkeeper, Laura Glynn.



National Administrator of the Year Liz Howard from Tipperary, is presented with her award by Irish Olympian Dr. Ronnie Delany, left, and Martin Cullen, TD, Minister for Arts, Sport and Tourism, at the Volunteers in Irish Sports Awards 2009, Farmleigh, Castleknock, Dublin.



Pictured with Liz Howard at the Volunteers in Irish Sports Awards 2009, Farmleigh, Castleknock, Dublin were Ann O'Meara (sister of Liz Howard), Pat O'Driscoll (sister of Liz Howard), Miriam O'Callaghan, Camogie Association, Liz Howard, Sínead O'Connor Camogie Association, Elaine Cullinan, North Tipperary Sports Partnership, Claire Egan, Camogie Association. Pictures credit: Brendan Moran / SPORTSFILE



UCC's Orla Cotter scored 0-9 against CIT in their Ashbourne Cup clash at the Mardyke last night.

Powerful UCC ease past CIT into semis

ASHBOURNE CUP

UCC 2-16
CIT 0-5

UCC made light of the difficult weather conditions at the Mardyke last night as they powered their way past local rivals CIT to book themselves a place in the Ashbourne Cup semi-final where they will meet UCD, writes **MARY NEWMAN**.

Torrential rain fell for the opening half, but the strength of UCC was evident from the start and with a host of inter-county players in the line out they were clearly the stronger side and all over the field they were on top.

In defence Fionnula Carr and Pamela Mackey were superb, while the midfield pairing of Cork's Denise Cronin and Orla Cotter kept the ball moving, ensuring a plentiful supply to their inside line.

Katriona Mackey had the game's opening score inside six minutes when she found the net from close range, they piled the pressure on the CIT defence and had stretched their lead with five unanswered points — Sinead O'Neill, Orla Cotter and Pamela Mackey all on target before Denise Luby converted a CIT free.

UCC continued to hold the upper hand and with Niamh Goulding and Orla Cotter pointing they led 1-7 to 0-1 at the break and they were full value for their nine-point advantage.

CIT had the first score of the second half — Denise Luby pointing a free — but their attack never looked as if they would trouble the UCC defence and this was increasingly evident as the half continued.

As the UCC dominance continued Orla Cotter and Denise Cronin stretched their advantage with points before Luby converted a CIT free, and by now it was just a matter of playing down the clock as the gap widened.

Niamh Goulding added a goal to the UCC tally and with a strong finish Orla Cotter and Katriona Mackey fired over two points each to assure last season's defeated finalists of a place in the last four.

Scorers for UCC: O Cotter 0-9 (0-4, 0-1 45), K Mackey 1-2, N Goulding 1-1, S O'Neill, D Cronin, P Mackey, M Crowley 0-1 each.

CIT: D Luby 0-5 (0-4 f).

UCC: S Eamer, J Brien, S Collins, E O'Shea, A MC Namara, F Carr, P Mackey, D Cronin, O Cotter, S O'Neill, G Kenneally (c), K Mackey, C McSweeney, N Goulding, C Brennan.

Subs: M Crowley for S O'Neill (43), S Hayes for C Brennan (47), P Buttner for G Kenneally (53), N Butler for J Brien (54), R De Faoite for S Collins (58).

CIT: L M O'Mahony, M Egan, C O'Neill, S Long, E Forde, E Casey, S Fennelly, E Reidy, A O'Donovan, M Reidy, S Cunningham, D Luby, E Conboy, S Brennan, S Buckley.

Subs: C Kavanagh for E Casey (51), T McCarthy for A O'Donovan (52), L Kelly for C Kavanagh (54), E Casey for M Reidy (55).

Referee: John O'Leary (Mallow).

Tipperary Under 16s - Munster Champions and All Ireland finalists 2010



Tipperary Under 16s - Munster Champions and All Ireland finalists 2010. Back l-r: Siobhan Hennessy, Louise McLoughlin, Mary Walsh, Aisling Cremen, Andrea Loughrauc, Sara Gleeson, Rosemarie Hanafin, Clodagh Quirke, Michaela Graham. Front l-r: Aoife Ryan (Capt), Orla McEniry, Anne Eriston, Tara Kennedy, Ciara McGrath, Megan Ryan, Cavinche Maher, Rachel Kennedy. Missing from photo: Sarah Fryday, Teresa Ryan.



STARS: Mary Lacey (Wexford), Joan O'Flynn, Camogie Association President, Paul Cooke, MD Irish Daily Star and Galway's Aislinn Connolly.

A winning partnership

THE CAMOGIE Association has announced that the Irish Daily Star will sponsor the National Camogie Leagues in a two-year deal.

The move was announced yesterday at a photo call to mark the beginning of the National League on Sunday.

Camogie President Joan O'Flynn said: "We are delighted that the Irish Daily Star has come on board as the title sponsor for this major competition. It's a further boost for the Association and we are looking forward to raising our profile even further with the Irish Daily Star."

"The commitment of the Irish Daily Star to this series is a massive boost to the organisation and further endorses the strong role of female sport, specifically camogie in Irish society."

Paul Cooke, Managing Director of the Irish Daily Star, said: "We at the Irish Daily Star are committed to providing the very best coverage of sport at all levels in Ireland to our 410,000 readers."

"We have enjoyed an excellent relationship with the Camogie Association over the years and are honoured to be the title sponsor of the Irish Daily Star Camogie Leagues for the next two years."

Croke Park is offering a one-day course for club PROs

CLAIRE EGAN, the communications and marketing director of the Camogie Association is reminding clubs that Croke Park are holding a one day course for those who are working in a public relations role for their clubs.

It will take place on Saturday March 5 from 10.30am to 4pm.

The course will cover a wide range. Course fee is €15 and this includes a ticket to All-Ireland Camogie Club Finals which take place the following day, March 6 in Croke Park. Lunch is included and a booklet on the course will also be provided. Anybody wishing to attend must reserve a place by February 28.

Tickets are also available to purchase for the Camogie Association/RTE Media Awards presentation which take place in Croke Park on March 5 at 7pm. Contact Claire Egan on 087-9030755 or Claire@camogie.ie.



Mariah Reidy, CIT, hand-passing while under pressure from Sarah Collins, UCC, during their Ashbourne Cup quarter-final match at the Mardyke, Cork.

Picture: Dan Linn

FEB. 2011



The panel of players who claimed Loreto's first ever Senior 'A' All Ireland Camogie title.



Loreto Hockey captain, Laura Hennessy comes away with the ball despite the attention of two player from the Royal School, Armagh during the third place play-off match in the All Ireland Schools Hockey Championship held in Galway. (Photo: Pat Moore)



Aisling Dunphy (Captain, Loreto) lifts the Senior Colleges Camogie All-Ireland cup. (Photo: Eoin Hennessy/www.ehp.ie)



Aoife Murphy (Loreto) breaks inside the challenge of Shauna Prendergast (B.C.S., Lismore) during the Senior Colleges Camogie All-Ireland Final in Ardfinnan. (Photo: Eoin Hennessy/www.ehp.ie)

Historic Year for LORETO



The Loreto Kilkenny Senior Team, All-Ireland Colleges' Camogie Roinn A Champions who won this title for the first time by defeating Blackwater Community School, Lismore in the final.

Back: Isobelle Robinson, Sarah Dunphy, Niamh Kelly, Grace Walsh, Niamh Byrne, Claire Phelan, Sinead Maher, Aine Curran, Aoife Nolan, Nicola Butler.

Middle: Emma Maher, Noelle Maher, Aisling Dunphy (Captain), Sarah Dunne, Lydia Fitzpatrick, Aisling O'Grady, Orla Hanrick, Stacey Quirke, Caoimhe Shiel, Sarah-Ann Quinlan.

Front: Sonia Buggy, Tara Hogan, Laura Hennessy, Miriam Walsh, Emma Comerford, Tracey Brennan, Aisling Curtis, Orla Ryan, Kate Holland, Aoife Murphy.

The Loreto Secondary School had, unquestionably, its most successful year ever in Camogie, achieving not only a grand slam of all eight of the available titles but also, all of its teams remained undefeated in every match in every competition during the year.

The Senior team (captained by Aisling Dunphy (Graigue-Ballycallan)) defeated St Brigid's College Callan in the Leinster final, in Nowlan Park, by 6-12 to 0-6 and St Patrick's College Maghera, in Slaughtneil, by 2-11 to 3-7 before defeating Blackwater Community School Lismore by 2-5 to 1-7 to win this All-Ireland for the first time in Ardfinnan.

The Junior team (captained by Kate Holland (Lisdowney)) defeated Borris Vocational School in the Leinster final, in Clara, by 4-13 to 1-5 and St Patrick's College Maghera, in Nowlan Park, by 3-6 to 2-7 before retaining this All-Ireland by defeating St Brigid's Vocational School Loughrea, in Toomevara, by 1-16 to 2-7. The 7-a-side team (captained by Miriam Walshe (Tullaroan)) defeated Presentation Kilkenny in the Leinster final, in Larchfield, by 6-12 to 3-2 before winning the All-Ireland for the fifth year in a row by defeating St Brigid's Vocational School Loughrea, in Blanchardstown, by 8-8 to 7-6, after extra time.



The Loreto Kilkenny 7-a-side team, 5-in-a-row All-Ireland Colleges' Camogie Roinn A Champions.

Back: Kirsty Maher (Dicksboro), Nicole Lawlor (James Stephens), Lydia Fitzpatrick (Freshford), Tracy Brennan (Lisdowney), Kate Holland (Lisdowney).
Front: Orla Hanrick (Dicksboro), Rachel Lynch (Dicksboro), Miriam Walshe (Captain) (Tullaroan), Ciara Byrne (Clara), Jenny Clifford (Dicksboro).

The Minor Camogie team (captained by Clodagh Power (Freshford)) won their Leinster title, for the fifth time in a row, when they defeated St Brigid's College Enniscorthy by 8-25 to 1-3 in Borris and the

First Year Camogie team (captained by Róisín Kealy (Clara)) defeated Castlecomer Community School in their final which was played in the Presentation to complete the unique Grand Slam.



The Loreto Kilkenny Junior Team, All-Ireland Colleges' Camogie Roinn A Champions who retained their All-Ireland title by defeating St Brigid's Vocational School Loughrea in the final.
Back: Róisín O'Neill (O'Loughlin Gaels), Kate Holland (Captain) (Lisdowney), Orla Hanrick (Dicksboro), Ciara Tyrrell (Dicksboro), Maureen Walsh (Freshford), Tara Hogan (Graigie-Ballycallan), Miriam Walshe (Tullaroan), Niamh Browne (Dicksboro), Amy Bryan (O'Loughlin Gaels), Lydia Fitzpatrick (Freshford), Ciara Byrne (Clara), Anna Buggy (Freshford), Claire Healy (Lisdowney), Niamh Leahy (Emeralds), Gráinne Egan (Graigie-Ballycallan), Kirsty Maher (Dicksboro).
Front: Marie Doheny (Graigie-Ballycallan), Sarah-Ann Quinlan (Young Irelands), Sarah Lanigan (Freshford), Fionnuala Quinlan (Young Irelands), Tracy Brennan (Lisdowney), Rachel Lynch (Dicksboro), Róisín Kealy (Clara), Róisín Breen (Paulstown/Goresbridge), Eva Maher (Dicksboro), Ciara Phelan (Emeralds), Megan Walsh (Danesfort), Laura Murphy (O'Loughlin Gaels), Stacey Nugent (Graigie-Ballycallan), Katie Doheny (Freshford), Dervla Gannon (Lisdowney). Mascot: Elizabeth Keher.



Mullinavat Senior Camogie team who defeated St. Lachtains in the League Final in Callan. (Photo: Eoin Hennessy/www.ehp.ie)



The Kilkenny under-16 camogie season of 2010 could be described as one of inconsistent displays. They reached the all-Ireland semi-final and were beaten by Tipperary on a score line of 0-13 points to 1-4 which was disappointing considering the much vaunted forward-line at Kilkenny's disposal. Tipperary out-fought the Kilkenny girls and were more clinical in front of the goal and deserved the victory on the day. The under 16 campaign started with defeat against the 2009 champions Galway by a score-line 4-12 to 2-7. Kilkenny were nip and tuck for the first 15 minutes but Galway scored 3-2 in a 12 minute period without reply and effectively ended the contest. Kilkenny tried hard in the second half and outscored the Galway team but that period in the first half was their downfall. Next up was Wexford who Kilkenny beat by 3-12 to 1-2 and the score-line would suggest an easy victory but for long periods in the second half Wexford were physically stronger in the tackle and cause Kilkenny numerous problems. Dublin were next and Kilkenny won by a score-line 2-12 to 0-2 and on the day Kilkenny showed what they are capable of with a display of accurate point scoring and defensive brilliance and this display should have been a springboard for better things, but this was the highlight of the season and Dublin would exact some comfort with a one point win in the Leinster final later on in the season and which they thoroughly deserved as they were hungrier and more focussed on the day. The Leinster final score in Dublin's favour was a one point victory at 3-9 to 2-11. The Kilkenny U-16 camogie season was punctuated with some good individual performances from these players but therein could have lain the problem as they never really got a consistent team performance which is really needed to land all-Ireland titles. Kilkenny have had success at this grade by winning four titles in the last six years, but before this period, it took nearly 15 years to win an all-Ireland title. Hopefully it won't take as long before they capture another title.

Panel:
 Aine Kinsella, Amy Bryan, Antonette Power, Aoife Butler, Catherine Foley, Chelsea Power, Christine Lyng, Ciara Holden, Clare Nolan, Emma Ayres, Fiona Walsh, Julie Ann Malone, Kate Holland, Katie Doheny, Kelly Comerford, Kelly Hamilton, Laura Dunne, Leasa Byrne, Lydia Fitzpatrick, Maureen Walsh, Miriam Walsh, Niamh Bambrick, Niamh O'Connor, Niamh Phelan, Noelle Murphy, Orla Hanrick, Rachel Hogan, Rachel Lynch, Sarah Crowley, Shauna Doyle, Siobhan Corcoran, Stacy Nugent, Tara Hogan, Tracy Brennan.



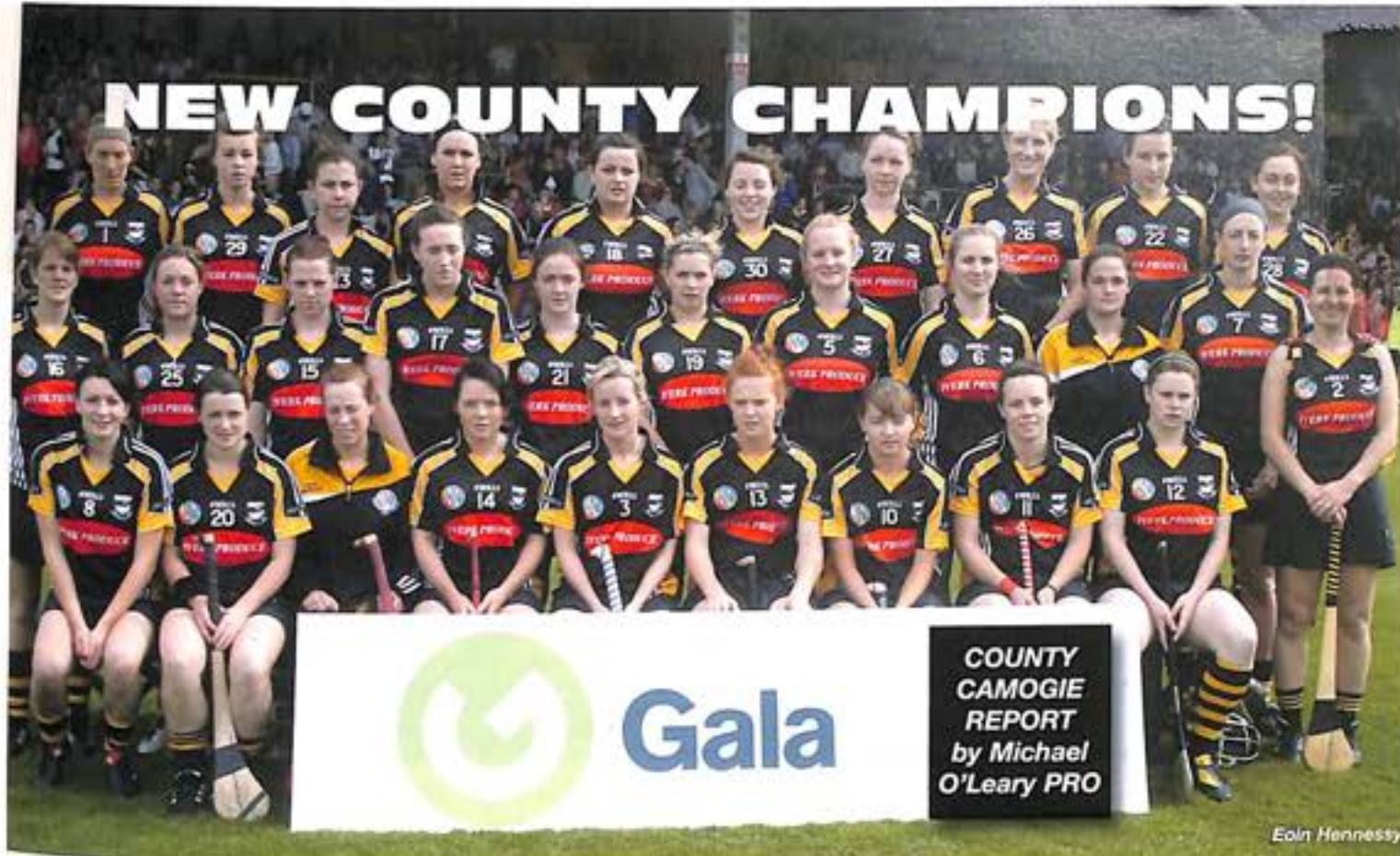
Rower/Inisboge Intermediate Camogie team who defeated Dicksboro in the League Final. Back row L to R: Gerry Lyng, Aoife Lyng, Emma Hynes, Eimear Lyng, Andrea Lyng, Brid White, Briona Langton, Elaine Fleming, Christian Lyng, Sarah Mahoney, Laura Muldoon, Michelle Murphy, Rachel Lyng, Debbie Mahoney, Aileen Leahy, Aine Gannon, Bridgette Doyle, Becky Doyle, Donal Kavanagh. Front row L to R: Edel Rowson, Fiona Carroll, Emma Kavanagh, Ciara Lyng, Lizzie Lyng, Kelly Hamilton, Aoife Hanrahan, Nora Hanrahan, Jane Cullen, Ruth Kavanagh, Lisa Gannon, Deirdre Meaney, Mairead Grace, Michael Doyle. (Photo: Eoin Hennessy/www.ehp.ie)



Mullinavat Senior Camogie Captain, Sinead Aylward, is presented with the League Cup from Teasie Brennan, President, St. Canice's, Kilkenny, Credit Union and Catherine Neary, Chairperson, Kilkenny Camogie County Bord. (Photo: Eoin Hennessy/www.ehp.ie)



Rower/Inisboge Intermediate Captain, Lizzie Lyng, is presented with the League Cup from Teasie Brennan, President, St. Canice's, Kilkenny, Credit Union and Catherine Neary, Chairperson, Kilkenny Camogie County Bord. (Photo: Eoin Hennessy/www.ehp.ie)



Mooncoin Junior 'B' Captain, Sarah Crowley, is presented with the League Plaque from Teasie Brennan, President, St. Canice's, Kilkenny, Credit Union and Catherine Neary, Chairperson, Kilkenny Camogie County Bord. (Photo: Eoin Hennessy/www.shp.ie)

Kilkenny - All Ireland SC Semi-Finalists 2010
Back: Triona Ryan, Grace Walsh, Laura Kavanagh, Claire Phelan, Emma Stanton, Megan Farrell, Caltriona Brennan, Briona Langton, Aisling Dunphy, Sarah Dermody.
Middle: Siobhán Murphy, Kelly Hamilton, Marie Dargan, Denise Gaule, Amy Butler, Keena Feenelly, Edwina Keane, Leann Feenelly, Ann Dalton, Elaine Aylward.
Front: Anna Farrell, Eimear Lyng, Jaquie Frisby, Michelle Farrell, Catherine Doherty, Colette Dorner, Michelle Quilty, Aoife Neary, Katie Power.

INTER-COUNTY CAMOGIE REVIEW

Senior

Hopes were high of Kilkenny breaking their All-Ireland famine for the first time since 1994 following last year's All-Ireland final defeat. The National league campaign began up in the Ragg as a hat-trick of goals from Aoife Neary secured a 5-5 to 0-11 victory away over Tipperary. They guaranteed themselves a league semi-final spot as a brace of goals from Deirdre Delaney, and a wonder goal from Anne Dalton contributed to a 3-4 to 1-6 victory over Cork. Kilkenny played Galway in the first semi-final up in Tullamore. A Lazarus-like comeback was produced, as inspired by a brilliant display from Leanne Fennelly, goals from an Anne Dalton free and Collette Dorner helped overturn an eight point deficit as they won 2-12 to 1-12. A dramatic finish unfolded in the league final where Wexford emerged victorious 1-7 to 1-6 in a low-scoring encounter. A goalmouth scramble saw a Katie Power goal give Kilkenny the lead. However, Wexford responded and points from Una Leacy and Ursula Jacob gave the Slaneysiders the first part of a league/championship double.

Kilkenny began their championship campaign with victory over Galway, before travelling to Cork seven days later to record a memorable victory.

Up to 11 minutes of injury-time were played, and 16-year-old Kelly Hamilton was the match-winning heroine as she superbly struck over the winning point to defeat the Rebels 0-13 to 2-6. Further victories over Tipperary, Dublin and Clare secured a semi-final spot.

However, there was disappointment for the Kilkenny girls as Kate Kelly and Katriona Parrock caused all the damage with Kilkenny's All-Ireland dream ending for another year losing out 3-12 to 1-11.

Intermediate

The league campaign began with defeats by Offaly and Tipperary, before producing a spirited display to draw 3-6 each with Cork. A 20-point drubbing at the hands of Derry completed their league campaign.

Their championship campaign began at home to Galway. An excellent first-half performance saw Kilkenny lead by seven points. However, some crucial unforced defensive errors proved costly as they lost 3-10 to 3-8. Heavy defeats by Wexford and Offaly ended their participation in the championship.

Minor

Kilkenny were attempting to win the minor All-Ireland for the 5th consecutive year, and they safely negotiated their semi-final spot as they defeated Galway and Dublin. Their semi-final clash with Galway was a superb wholehearted contest.

Trailing by 8 points 10 minutes into the second-half, Kilkenny produced a storming fightback with goals from a Claire Phelan and Shelley Farrell as the match reached its dying stages. However, credit to eventual champions Galway who displayed great character and a superb winning point by Rebecca Hennelly snatched victory to break Kilkenny hearts as they won 1-14 to 2-10.

Under-16

Kilkenny began their under-16 campaign with an 11-point defeat away by Galway in Ballinasloe, before ensuring their semi-final spots following comprehensive victories at home over Wexford and Dublin.

However, their semi-final contest with Tipperary was a disappointment as they lost out 0-13 to 1-3 against a Tipperary outfit who were stubborn in defence.

Further disappointment occurred as they lost a thrilling Under-16 Leinster final to Dublin 3-9 to 2-11.

Under-14

The under-14s were the only inter-county outfit to win silverware this year, as they defeated Dublin in the Leinster final, 4-7 to 2-10. However, the year got off to a bad start as they were well beaten by Dublin in the first game of the group stages, 4-8 to 1-5. Things improved immeasurably and they defeated Dublin in Thomastown in the last of their group games, 5-5 to 5-4 in a thrilling contest.

That meant Kilkenny and Dublin contested the Leinster final. Dublin led 1-8 to 0-5 entering the last quarter, before Kilkenny hit a purple patch scoring four unanswered points as they won a thriller 4-7 to 2-10.

CLUB CHAMPIONSHIP REVIEW

Senior

MULLINAVAT BREAK LACHTAIN'S LONG STRANGLEHOLD OF SENIOR DOMINANCE

Finally, St. Lachtain's (Freshford) long standing successful reign as Kilkenny senior camogie champions ended, as Mullinavat for the very first time landed senior spoils following a dramatic finish in the county final.

The South Kilkenny girls laid down a marker for the year from day



GRENNAN COLLEGE CAMOGIE TEAM 2009 / 2010
Back: Ms. O'Donnell, Teresa Cassin, Alison Murphy, Niamh Donnelly, Niamh Quigley, Claire Forristal, Kelly Hamilton, Kayleigh Begley, Jessie Carroll, Leanne Walsh.
Front: Emer Donnelly, Roisin Bolland, Sinéad Naddy, Aisling Begley, Lucy Johns, Niamh O'Shea, Sinéad Whelan, Sophie Kavanagh. (Missing from photo Meighan Farrell.)

SENIOR CAMOGIE		PRIMARY SCHOOLS CAMOGIE	
Senior Championship Final	Mullinavat 1-7 St Lachtain's 0-9	Roinn "A" Final	Piltown 4-7 Thomastown 3-4
Senior League Final	Mullinavat 1-14 St Lachtain's 1-7	Roinn "B" Final	Kilmanagh 7-8 Gaelscoil Qsarí 1-2
Senior All County Final	St Brigid's 3-10 Ballyhale S'rocks 2-6	Roinn "C" Final	Bennetsbridge 3-2 Gowran 2-2
Senior Relegation Final	St Brigid's 3-6 St Annes 3-5	Roinn "D" Final	Glenmore 4-9 Conahy 0-1

INTERMEDIATE CAMOGIE	
Intermediate Championship Final	Lisdowney 1-11 Rower-Inistioge 1-6
Intermediate League Final	Rower-Inistioge 2-13 Dicksboro 0-9
Intermediate All County Final	Dicksboro 2-16 Clara 4-5
Intermediate Relegation Final	James Stephens 0-14 Emeralds 1-8

JUNIOR CAMOGIE	
Junior Championship Final	Tullaroan 1-15 Young Irelands 4-5
Junior "A" League Final	Tullagher 2-13 Blacks and Whites 0-8
Junior All County Final	Tullagher 3-5 Young Irelands 0-8
Junior "B" Championship Final	O'Loughlin Gaels 0-10 Mooncoin 0-4
Junior "B" League Final	Mooncoin 0-11 O'Loughlin Gaels 0-7

UNDER 21 CAMOGIE	
Under 21 "A" Final	Thomastown 1-14, Mullinavat 2-1
Under 21 "B" Final	Rower/Inistioge v Paulstown

MINOR CAMOGIE	
Minor "A" Final	Windgap 2-10 Thomastown 1-8
Minor "B" Final	Lisdowney 2-7 Rower Inistioge 1-4
Minor "C" Final	Danesfort 0-14 Emeralds 2-6
Minor "D" Final	Tullaroan 4-16 Glenmore 1-4

UNDER 16 CAMOGIE	
U16 "A" Final	Dicksboro 2-9 Windgap 0-8
U16 "B" Final	Clara 8-12 Rower Inistioge 4-5
U16 "C" Final	Mullinavat 2-10 Piltown 4-3
U16 "D" Final	St Anne's 5-7 Paulstown 4-4

UNDER 14 CAMOGIE	
U14 "A" Final	Piltown 4-11 Windgap 0-6
U14 "B" Final	Danesfort 8-6 St Brigid's 0-4
U14 "C" Final	St Annes 3-5 Naomh Brid 3-0
U14 12-a-side Final	Mooncoin 3-2 Paulstown 1-4
U14 Féile Final	Danesfort 2-1 Windgap 0-0



Attending the Evening Echo Ladies Sports Star of the Year Awards lunch at the Rochestown Park Hotel recently were, October winner Mary O'Connor (middle, camogie) with Micheal Slattery, Inch Rovers, Mary Collins, Sheila Spillane and Mary O'Connor (snr).
Picture: Larry Cummins



Attending the Evening Echo Ladies Sports Star of the Year Awards lunch which was held at the Rochestown Park Hotel recently were, from left, Allanah Twohig, Sean Twohig, Niamh Dilworth (November winner camogie) and Niamh Sheehan.
Picture: Larry Cummins



Enniskene camogie players Sinead Curtin, Kate McCarthy and Orla Cronin celebrating at the Enniskene Junior A team victory dinner dance at the Celtic Ross Hotel in Rosscarbery.

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HOPE
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HOPE**

Partners for Change



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FEB. 2011

AN GUMANN CAMÓGAÍOCHTA



Dé Domhnaigh
13ú Feabhra, 2011

All Ireland Senior Club Championship Semi-Final

2.00pm, Nowlan Park, Kilkenny

INNISCARRA V O'DONOVAN ROSSA

All Ireland Intermediate Club Championship Semi-Final

2.30pm, Cloughjordan, Tipperary

LISMORE V EOGHAN RUA

Clár Oifigiúil • Luach €2

Sinéad Ní Chonchúir

Sinéad Ní Chonchúir
Ard Stiúrthóir

Inniscarra

Gorm agus Bán



Back row (from left): Laura Burke, Aine O'Connor, Sinéad Ní Riain, Niamh Dilworth, Susan Buckley, Amanda Twohig, Aine Ní Riain, Emma Kingston, Deirdre O'Callaghan, Rachel McCarthy, Claire Sheehan, Allannah Twohig, Mary Desmond, Roslyn McCarthy, Liz Hayes and Treasa McCarthy. Front row (from left): Joanne Casey, Margaret Cosgrave, Fiona O'Connell, Mary Buckley, Margaret Noelle O'Sullivan, Niamh McCarthy, Katie O'Mahony, Karen Jones, Rena Buckley, Rosie O'Mahony, Orla Healy, Aoife Kavanagh, Liz Buckley and Caitlin Looney.

(1)
SINÉAD NÍ RIAIN
S. Ní Riain

(2)
KAREN JONES
C. Ní Sheoin

(3)
LIZ HAYES
L. Ní hAodha

(4)
MARY BUCKLEY
M. Ní Bhualachalla

(5)
ROSIE O'MAHONY
R. Ní Mhathúna

(6)
RENA BUCKLEY
R. Ní Bhualachalla

(7)
EMMA KINGSTON
E. Ní Clochaire

(8)
MARGARET NOELLE O'SULLIVAN
M. N. Ní Shúilleabháin (Capt.)

(9)
ORLA HEALY
O. hÉili

(10)
FIONA O'CONNELL
F. Ní Chonail

(11)
NIAMH DILWORTH
N. Ní Dhúluachra

(12)
LAURA BURKE
L. de Búrca

(13)
JOANNE CASEY
S. Ní Chasthosaigh

(14)
KATIE O'MAHONY
C. Ní Mhathúna

(15)
NIAMH MCCARTHY
N. Ní Chárthaigh

(16) Amanda Twohig

(17) Roslyn McCarthy

(18) Margaret Cosgrave

(19) Aileen Sheehan

(20) Allannah Twohig

(21) Aoife Kavanagh

(22) Aine Ní Riain

(23) Aine O'Connor

(24) Catherine O'Brien

(25) Treasa McCarthy

(26) Mary Desmond

(27) Caitlin Looney

(28) Deirdre O'Callaghan

(29) Claire Sheehan

(30) Liz Buckley

(31) Ní Bhualachalla

Selectors: S. Twohig, F. O'Leary, P. Goggins, I. O'Keeffe. First Aid: A. O'Keeffe.

O'Donovan Rossa

Gorm agus Ór



Back row (l-r): Hannah Healy, Seannín Daykin, Máiréad Rainey, Fiona Kennedy, Ash Rogan, Pauline Green, Natalie McGuinness, Theresa McGowan, Roslin Walsh, Sinéad O'Neill, Bronagh Orchin, Grainne Connolly, Roslin McNulty, Bronagh Bell. Front row (l-r): Maureen Stewart, Orla McCall, Colleen Doherty, Maureen Quinn, Moanissa McGourty, Kerrie O'Neill, Jane Adams, Teresa Adams, Laura Adams, Ashling McCall.

(1)
THERESA MCGOWAN
T. Ní Gabhann

(2)
CAOIMHE QUINN
C. Ní Choinne

(3)
PAULINE GREEN
P. Ní hUaigine

(4)
MAURIN QUINN
M. Ní Choinne

(5)
ASHLING MCCALL
A. Ní Camhóil

(6)
COLLEEN DOHERTY
C. Ní Dhochartaigh

(7)
BRONAGH ORCHIN
B. Orchin

(8)
SHAUNEEN MCGOURTY
S. Ní Dhorchaidh

(9)
KERRIE O'NEILL (Capt.)
C. Ní Néill

(10)
MAIRÉAD RAINEY
M. Ní Ráine

(11)
NATALIE MCGUINNESS
N. Ní Gaois

(12)
ORLA MCCALL
O. Ní Camhóil

(13)
MOARISSA MCGOURTY
M. Ní Dhorchaidh

(14)
JANE ADAMS
S. Ní Adaim

(15)
GRAINNE CONNOLLY
G. Ní Chonghaile

(16) Kathleen Connolly

(17) Fiona Kennedy

(18) Roslin McNulty

(19) Eimear Byrne

(20) Brona Bell

(21) Laura Adams

(22) Jessica Savage

(23) Rachael Connolly

(24) Kerry Slane

(25) Seannín Daykin

(26) Teresa Adams

(27) T. Ní Adaim

Manager: M. Devine. Selector: G. Kennedy.



LINDA
MELLERICK

CAMOGIE

SUNDAY
All-Ireland club semi-final:
Inniscarra v
O'Donovan Rossa, Antrim
Nowlan Park, 2pm

THERE'S nothing worse than being in the right frame of mind and ready for a game only for it to be cancelled due to poor weather conditions.

That's what happened last weekend as Inniscarra headed to Newbridge for their clash with O'Donovan Rossa in the All-Ireland Club semi-final.

But it's the same for both sides and it hasn't unduly affected the Inniscarra squad, according to selector Irene O'Keeffe.

"Last week's cancellation was disappointing as we were on the road when we got the news, but it's an All-Ireland semi-final, so it won't be hard to pick the girls back up as the prize is huge."

Irene reflects on the season gone by and the potential glory of what's to come.

"O'Donovan Rossa are experienced campaigners with a proven pedigree having won the All-Ireland club title two years ago. They are a strong outfit, well drilled and will be hard to beat. But we like a challenge."

"It's been a long season that started back in February 2010; the girls have had only a three-week break in that time and that was after we won the county final. The commitment they have shown us has been fantastic."

"We hope to have a big crowd supporting us on Sunday. The parish have really taken this team to their hearts and the financial and vocal support all through this campaign has been immense."

"Inniscarra is probably the one place where chats on the economy/policies is coming a poor second to camogie talk at the moment. It would be lovely to keep that going. The county final was our goal for 2010 so we are in bonus territory now. The Cork championship is a seriously hard one to win with a large number of teams capable of lifting the spoils."

"Now that they have achieved

Inniscarra want to make most of their bonus run



Sheena Howard of Burgess Duharra (left), chases Niamh Dilworth of Inniscarra during their Munster Senior Camogie Championship semi-final clash at Ballyanly.

Picture:
Jim Coughlan

this the girls realise that on any given day they are a match for any outfit so now we have refocused to give it our all to try to land an All-Ireland for club and county.

"You need to take these chances in life when they present them-

selves as who knows if or when we will be back in this position again. Playing in Croke Park is an enormous prize for any club player and we are one match away."

"We have a good few of the team playing with third level colleges

and to be fair the Colleges have been understanding of the girls giving Inniscarra their first commitment. Winning the Ashbourne should be a goal for any camogie player, but a club All-Ireland would be a story for the grandkids."

FEB. 2011

SENIOR CLUB HISTORIES

Inniscarra Camogie Club

THE CLUB was founded in 1967, the founding members and first officers were Fr. Michael Twohig (President), Mary O'Callaghan (Chairperson), Mary O'Connell (Secretary), Ann Buckley (Treasurer), Pat O'Sullivan who was first captain and Nora O'Brien (vice captain). Tim Berrings provided a field for training and playing of matches. The GAA club and camogie club work closely together and on July 25th July 2004 Miriam O'Callaghan, the then President of the Camogie Association, opened Páirc Camógaíochta Inis Cartha in Ballyanly. This was the first pitch in Cork and the third in Ireland to be dedicated to camogie only. It was a wonderful achievement to mark Centenary year and demonstrated the vibrant spirit of an ambitious club. The facilities are first class in picturesque Ballyanly a few miles from Blarney. Inniscarra won three Féile na nGael titles and thirteen county championships. They graduated to senior ranks in 1996 and contested the county finals in 2003 and '05, defeat was their lot until 2010 when they beat Divisional side Imokilly in a close and thrilling replay. They went on to become Munster champions on October 30th.

Former Inniscarra and Cork star Irene O'Keeffe won five Senior All Ireland Medals with Cork, and was Player of the Match in two finals. Dual current star Rena Buckley holds four Senior All Ireland camogie medals and five football medals, while Ger Casey won both Senior and Junior All Ireland medal and was Player of the Match in the junior final. Joanne Casey and Niamh Dilworth are members of the Cork senior panel. Rena Buckley is secretary of CCAO and won Ashbourne Cup medals with UCD. Captain Noelle O'Sullivan served as club secretary for a spell.

Inniscarra club members have played a significant administrative role in camogie, the late Mary O'Callaghan was President of the Association, a wonderful and colourful character. Sheila Golden has filled many roles including County chairperson and is at present County secretary. Con Hayes and Tim Buckley were founding members and officers of Cumann Camógaíochta na nÓg in Cork. The club has also won three All Ireland Scór Question Time titles.

CLUB OFFICERS

Chair: Sean Twohig
Secretary: Mary Manning
Treasurer: Liz Hayes
PRO: Tim Buckley

O'Donovan Rossa Camogie Club

O'DONOVAN ROSSA camogie club was established in 1985, as part of the O'Donovan Rossa CLG. Lily Spence was the driving force in establishing Rossa. One of the leading figures in camogie for decades, she is still very much involved; she is President of the club.

Underage structures were firmly established and the U14 team won Féile na nGael Division 3 in 1995. Three players who were part of the Féile winning team are in action to-day, Jane Adams, Kerrie O'Neill and Seainin Daykin. Interestingly, Seainin Daykin is the current club chairperson and Kerrie O'Neill the treasurer, while goalkeeper Theresa McGowan is the secretary. That success was a huge boost for Rossa and they won several underage Antrim championships and featured in two other Féile finals.

Now Rossa camogie club fields teams in every age group from U8 to senior level. The first adult championship was won by the junior team in 1989, followed by another in 1991. A minor title was picked up in 1992, a talented side that includes a number of the present senior side.

The seniors started to establish themselves as a real force in the late 90's and won the first county championship in 2000. They went on to claim the title in '02, '04, '05, '06, '07, '08 and '10. Provincial honours came their way in '04, '05, '06, '08 and '10. They crowned their achievements in 2008 by winning the All Ireland club championship, defeating Drom and Inch in the decider. A dazzling performance by Jane Adams won her Player of the Match. Michael McCullagh managed that team, a very committed and shrewd mentor. Martin Devine is the manager now and Gavin Kennedy is selector.

O'Donovan Rossa recorded success in the Kilmacud senior 7's in 2003 and '08. They are 7's specialists and have won many tournaments.

Jane Adams picked up an All Star Award in 2008 and a Soaring Star Award in 2010. Kerrie O'Neill was also a Soaring Star recipient in '10. She was also a recipient of the Ulster GAA Writers Award. Another Rossa player to be awarded that accolade was goalkeeper Theresa McGowan.

Jane and Theresa Adams, Colleen Doherty, Kerrie O'Neill, Natalie McGuinness, Orla and Ashling McCall, Bronagh Orchin and Maurin Quinn were on the Antrim All Ireland winning squad.

The current team manager is Martin Devine and Gavin Kennedy is selector.

CLUB OFFICERS

Chair: Seainin Daykin
Secretary: Theresa McGowan
Treasurer: Kerrie O'Neill
PRO: Colleen Doherty

Dilworth and Buckley on fire for Croker-bound Inniscarra

Camogie



Daragh Ó Conchúir

O'Donovan Rossa gave as good as they got for the opening half, with Adams unerring from placed balls. Indeed all the Glenswomen's points, apart from one, came from placed balls and all came from Adams.

They were a little unlucky to trail at the break, 1-4 to 0-4, with Niamh McCarthy's cracking goal the difference.

Adams responded with a brace of frees but with captain Margaret Noelle O'Sullivan on target and Dilworth adding two from frees, the mid-Cork outfit kept their noses in front at the change of ends.

Adams brought her tally to six points after the resumption and it took a brilliant Orla Healy interception to deny O'Donovan Rossa's a certain goal.

Natalie McGuinness netted 10 minutes into the second-half but they could not cope with Inniscarra's power in the middle. Dilworth brought her tally to seven and she had good support from the likes of McCarthy who added two points from play including a wonderful effort from an acute angle. With Fiona O'Connell, Buckley and Joanne Casey also on the mark, Inniscarra gradually pulled away to cement their berth in the decider. Eoghan Rua made sure that there was some joy for Ulster camogie when overcoming Lismore in the intermediate semi-final on a 2-6 to 1-6 scoreline.

The National League also kicked off yesterday with champions Wexford defeating Galway at Ballinasloe, in a repeat of the

All-Ireland final (3-9 to 2-6).

An Evelyn Quigley goal after eight minutes helped the visitors to a four-points lead. They held that advantage until the 20th minute when Veronica Curtin finished a Niamh Kilkenny delivery to the net. Jessica Gill and Aislinn Connolly added frees before Gill goaled from a 20m free to fire the Tribeswomen four points clear.

Perhaps significantly though, Wexford hit back for two late points and by the time Gill converted a free less than three minutes before the end of normal time, Kate Kelly had done likewise from three opportunities at the other end, while Ciara O'Connor had scored from play and it was the Model County outfit ahead.

O'Connor made sure of the points

with a goal on the hour and though Curtin raised a white flag for Galway's only score from play of the second half, Quigley found the net for her second goal almost immediately after.

Meanwhile, Offaly marked their first ever game in the top tier by securing a 1-10 to 0-13 draw against Clare while the only scheduled game in Group 2, between Dublin and Tipperary, was postponed due to the waterlogged pitch.

In Group 1 of Division 2, Galway beat Wexford by 2-9 to 1-8 at Duggan Park.

In Division 2, Limerick and Tipperary played out a 1-11 to 2-8 draw while in Division 3, last year's double-champions, Kildare, just edged out Armagh 2-4 to 2-3.

CHAMPS OFF TO MODEL START

Wexford still too strong

TUSSELE: Lenny Holohan of Wexford takes on Galway's Sinead Keane

IRISH DAILY
STAR
NATIONAL CAMOGIE LEAGUE

ALL-IRELAND champions Wexford kicked-off the defence of The Irish Daily Star Camogie League Division 1 title with this comfortable six-point win in Ballinasloe.

Wexford were missing a host of All Stars, including both Leacy sisters, Ursula Jacob and All-Ireland final player-of-the-game Katrina Parrock for the trip north west.

Little

But it mattered little as a brace of Evelyn Quigley goals helped the Slaneysiders to victory.

After Kate Kelly and Aislinn Connolly exchanged early frees, Wexford hit the front with a blistering goal in the seventh minute.

Pinpoint build-up play by Lenny Holohan and Josie Dwyer sent Quigley away down the left and the Rathnure club woman

**WEXFORD 3-9
GALWAY 2-6**
CAMOGIE DIVISION ONE

unloaded an unstoppable effort past keeper Susan Eamer.

Points by Quigley and Ciara O'Connor had Wexford four clear by the midpoint of the half.

The Slaney girls looked to have survived the scare of a goalmouth scramble in the 20th minute, only for Niamh Kilkenny to pump the ball back into the danger area. Veronica Curtin beat Mags D'Arcy to the ball and lashed it home from the sky.

A brace of placed-ball efforts then gave Galway the lead for the first time.

Niamh Kilkenny went sprawling to the turf 20 metres from the sticks and with Jessica Gill trotting towards it, an effort on goal was certain to follow.

The Galway full-forward fired her shot over D'Arcy for the Tribeswomen's second goal and despite a late brace of Wexford frees, Galway led 2-4 to 1-5 at the break.

A brace from the stick of

Kate Kelly drew them level, before Ciara O'Connor grabbed her third point.

Kelly's fifth point from 60 metres out edged Wexford two clear.

Gill slotted Galway's first point of the half with seven minutes remaining, but Wexford's second goal soon followed.

Kelly launched another long free and Ciara O'Connor got on the end of it to bundle over the line at the second attempt.

It was into time added on when Galway finally registered a point from play through Curtin, but there was still time for a fifth goal as Quigley pulled home from a flick down by Siona Nolan.

GALWAY: S. Eamer; R. Glynn, S. Dervan, S. Cahalan; H. Cooney, S. Keane, L. Ryan; N. Kilkenny, O. Kilkenny (0-1 free); V. Curtin (1-1), F. Keely, E. Kilkelly; T. Rutledge, J. Gill (1-2 frees), A. Connolly (0-2 frees). **Subs:** C. Gill for Cooney, N. Coen for Rutledge, N. McGrath for Connolly, S. Tannon for Keely.

WEXFORD: M. D'Arcy; J. Hayden, C. O'Loughlin, C. O'Connor; N. Lambert, D. Codd, A. O'Connor; K. Kelly (0-5 frees), M. O'Leary; C. O'Connor (1-3; 0-2 frees), B. Gordon, J. Dwyer; L. Holohan, F. Kavanagh, E. Quigley (2-1). **Subs:** Siona Nolan for Dwyer (in).

REFEREE: Mike O'Kelly (Cork).

CAMOGIE ROUND-UP

OFFALY marked their first-ever game in the top tier by securing a 1-10 to 0-13 draw against Clare.

The only scheduled game in Group 2, between Dublin and Tipperary, was postponed due to the waterlogged pitch at Naomh Mearnóg.

In Group 1 of Division 2, Galway beat Wexford 2-9 to 1-8.

In Division 2, Limerick and Tipperary played out a 1-11 to 2-8 draw — while in Division 3, Kildare edged out Armagh 2-4 to 2-3.

INNISCARRA will play Killimor in the All-Ireland senior club camogie final at Croke Park next month after they beat O'Donovan Rossa by 1-14 to 1-6.

Eoghan Rua provided some joy for Ulster camogie, beating Lismore in the intermediate semi-final 2-6 to 1-6.

RESULTS P84



Fiona O'Connell, left, and goalkeeper Sinéad Ní Rian celebrate Inniscarra's victory over O'Donovan Rossa in the All-Ireland Senior Club camogie semi-final.

Picture: Ray McManus

CAMOGIE: All-Ireland Schools Senior A
Senior: Pres. Thurlis v St. Patrick's, M1
11.30am; Loreto, Kilkenny v St. Brigid's,
Loughrea; Palmerstown, 2pm.
Senior B semi-final: St. Mary's, Mallow v St. Louis,
Ballymena, Trim, 12.30pm; Grennan College,
Thomastown v Hazelwood, Dromcollogher,
Thomastown, 1.30pm.
Senior C semi-final: Laurel Hill v St. Pius X,
Magherafelt, Trim, 2.30pm; Castlecomer v St.
Dominic's, Cabra, Ballycomney, 1pm.
Senior D semi-final: St. Declan's, Kilmacthomas v
Our Lady's Grammar, Newry, Trim, 2.30pm; Pres.
Wexford v Mercy Roscommon, Tagmon/Carrigrohane,
3pm.
Junior C quarter-final: St. Killian's, New Inn v
Maryfield College, Drumcondra, Duggan Park, 4-12.

CAMOGIE
National Camogie League Div 1: Wexford 3-9
Galway 2-6; Clare 1-10 Offaly 0-13; Dublin 2-10
Tipperary 1-11; Div 2: Galway 2-9 Wexford 1-8;
Limerick 1-11 Tipperary 2-8; Div 3: Kildare 2-4
Armagh 2-3; Meath 1-7 Dublin 0-5; Div 4: Carron
4-10 Tyrone 2-6.

All-Ireland Club Championship semi-finals:
Senior: Inniscarra, Cork 1-14 O'Donovan Rossa,
Antrim 1-6; **Intermediate:** Eoghan Rua, Derry 2-6
Lismore, Waterford 1-6;
All-Ireland Colleges Senior A semi-final: Pres.
Thurlis 3-4 St. Patrick's, Maghera 1-11; Loreto,
Kilkenny 2-13 St. Brigid's, Loughrea 1-11; **Senior B**
semi-final: St. Mary's, Mallow 1-8 St. Louis,
Ballymena 1-9; Grennan College, Thomastown 1-4
Hazelwood, Dromcollogher 0-7. **Senior C**
semi-final: Laurel Hill 2-6 St. Pius Magherafelt 2-9,
Castlecomer 1-4 St. Dominic's, Cabra 0-6. **Senior D**
semi-final: St. Declan's, Kilmacthomas 3-14 Our
Lady's Grammar, Newry 0-7, Pres. Wexford 1-6
Mercy Roscommon 2-5. **Junior C quarter-final:** St.
Killian's, New Inn 4-7 Maryfield College, Drumcondra
4-12.

COLLEGES
Munster Colleges: Intermediate A League final:
Coachford College 3-4 St. Mary's, Midleton 2-3.
Junior A final: Colaiste Cholm 2-10 St. Mary's,
Charleville 0-4. **Senior A League semi-final:** St.
Mary's, Nenagh 4-9 BCS Lismore 0-6. **Munster**
Colleges SAFC semi-final: Colaiste Christ Rí
1-11 Tralee CBS 1-8.
Leinster Colleges SBHC final: Col Mhuire,
Mullingar 2-14 Gorey CS 1-12. **SAHC quarter-final:**
Good Counsel 0-12 42 Brindans, Bar 0-6. **SAFC**
quarter-final: Colaiste Ede 2-7 Moine CS 2-4.

FEB. 2011

Inniscarra finish the job off in style to

INNSISCARRA
O'Donovan Rossa

1-14
1-6

CAMOGIE

By LINDA MELLERICK

A STORMING final 20 minutes saw Inniscarra qualify for their first All-Ireland senior club final on March 6. It's the first time since 1994 that a Cork club has represented the county in a senior final. There was no denying the difference in class once Inniscarra got motoring in Nowlan Park on

Sunday.

The first half was jittery, played in fits and starts, not helped by the 26 frees. Even with little continuity it was obvious from an early stage that Inniscarra were a superior side. Inniscarra had their tactical homework done on danger woman

Jane Adams, who failed to score from play. O'Donovan Rossa played right into Inniscarra's hands. Whatever slight wind advantage there was, Rossa had it in the opening half. For reasons only they can explain they opted to play a two player inside forward line, their corner forward lying idle between their own full and half back. Rossa did their fair share of attacking and tried to feed Adams but the odds were stacked against

her and she was snuffed out every time. The game's opening goal nine minutes in was the difference at the half-time break. Niamh McCarthy burst through on the right wing and her head high strike beat goalkeeper Theresa McGowan. O'Donovan Rossa failed to score from play in the opening 30 minutes. While Inniscarra didn't have it all their own way in play it was



Inniscarra selector Fergal O'Leary.

Inniscarra display their mettle again

CAMOGIE

IT was hard not to spot Inniscarra selector Fergal O'Leary among the supporters such as his broad smile after Sunday's All-Ireland club semi-final win, writes LINDA MELLERICK.

He was understandably very proud of his team as the club heads towards history book territory.

"The last 15 minutes of our performance was superb. I thought Orla Healy's interception with about 15 minutes to go as she cut out Jane Adams was fantastic.

"Niamh Dilworth when she came out won great ball, Rena came really into it in the second half.

"I thought player for player, our subs that came on, everyone was fantastic. Laura (Burke) came on as a blood substitute and won a free for us. Our full-back line was solid."

Fergal and his team played a 'tactical blinder' and he acknowledged the work his co-selectors put into this.

"O'Donovan Rossa won the All-Ireland two years ago so you have to give them respect. We travelled up to Belfast four weeks ago to watch them when they played Queens. We then travelled to Dublin and watched them play WIT and we set our system up to beat them.

"Our big rule was not to lose the game in the first half. We won the toss, we played the way we wanted to and things worked out for us.

"Our response after the goal went in, the character, the heart was brilliant. They're doing it the whole time for us.

"We might not be the flashiest team in the world but we've got great heart. They don't give up; they don't know how to lose.

"We came up here during the week and we spoke about positive attitude. The mood was very good on the way up and the moment we walked in here (Nowlan Park) the girls were switched on. You could see it."

Fergal's co-selector Irene O'Keeffe reiterated her colleague's words.

"When the Rossa goal went in (41st minute) we said 'they'll either collapse now or they'll take off' and they did what they've been doing for us all year — took off.

"Orla Healy's interception was crucial and that's what really turned it for us. Niamh Dilworth was on antibiotics all week so she probably didn't have an hour on the 40 in her but when she came out for the second half she was fantastic.

"We wanted to hold O'Donovan Rossa in the first half and have the girls in the race. In fairness the girls that came on played very well as well."

"The Cork championship helped us an awful lot because there's such physicality in it so we knew we'd probably have the upper hand on that side of things.

"And any one of ours can score from out around the 40 and that was the difference," she said.

qualify for first All-Ireland senior final

which saw Rossa forced to play second fiddle in key positions and they trailed by three points at the break, 1-4 to 0-4. Niamh Dilworth switched to the 40 and turned in a superb second half performance. Niamh McCarthy continues to astonish at such a tender age, her ability and confidence a joy to watch, while Rena Buckley had a storming last quarter as it all fell into place for Inniscarra. Forty one minutes in the side's

were level after a ball which was heading wide was kept in play by a defender and Moarissa McGourty punished Inniscarra's error. But that goal awoke Inniscarra from their slumber and they struck over point after point from every angle. Dilworth, McCarthy, Buckley, Fiona O'Connell and Joanne Casey hit sublime scores from difficult angles and distance, something that Rossa could not do as they attempted time and again to get

into the square.

The game was over long before the final whistle and the large contingent of Inniscarra supporters relaxed, enjoyed and roared their team to victory in the last quarter. Inniscarra are only an hour away from becoming the first Cork club to win the All-Ireland senior crown since 1993.

Scorers for Inniscarra: McCarthy 1-2 (0-1 f), Dilworth 0-7 (0-5 f), J. Casey 0-2 (0-1 f), M N O'Sullivan, F O'Connell, R Buckley 0-1 each.

O'Donovan Rossa: J Adams 0-5 (0-1 f), M McGourty 1-0, O McCall 0-1.

INNSISCARRA: S Ní Ráin; K Jones, L Hayes, M Buckley, R O'Mahony, R Buckley, E Kingston; M N O'Sullivan, O Healy; F O'Connell, N Dilworth, M Cosgrove; J Casey, A Sheehan, N McCarthy.

Subs: K O'Mahony for E Kingston (43), T McCarthy for M Cosgrove (48), L Burke for R Buckley (blood sub 55-58m).

O'DONOVAN ROSSA: T McGowan; C Quinn, P Green, M Quinn; A McCall, C Doherty, B Orchin; S McGourty, K O'Neill; M Rainey, N McGuinness, O McCall; M McGourty, J Adams, G Connolly.

Subs: F Kennedy for C Quinn (h/t), K Slane for B Orchin (66).

Referee: Fintan McNamara (Clare).

President's Blog

President's Blog - February 2011

Camogie stars in The Irish Daily Star

I'm delighted that in 2011 our National Leagues have a first-time sponsor. The Irish Daily Star is now on board as our media partner. This is a great boost to this competition. Pre- and post-match coverage every Saturday and Monday will definitely add to the game's growing national profile. Check out the pics of the sponsorship announcement on the Camogie facebook by logging onto facebook.com

More people coming to our games

I am convinced that the more people we get to our games the more people will return as they appreciate the phenomenal skill of the players and the competitiveness of the sport.

The All Ireland Club Finals in Croke Park on Sunday 6th March are a huge opportunity for us now to put Camogie 'in the shop window' once again.

The four teams - Inniscarra (Cork), Killimor (Galway) Eoghan Rua (Derry), The Harps (Laois) - not only represent their club, but also their county and province.

International Women's Day (8 March) celebrates the achievements of women past, present and future. The finals on 6 March are a great way for the wider Gaelic games family in these counties and beyond to acknowledge and celebrate our achievements by supporting our players in Croke on the first Sunday in March.

After all, a large and loud crowd creates a great atmosphere. We've already seen that in the Club semi-finals so let's keep that going! Keep your eye on our website for further details re the Finals

Learning to be more effective administrators

A night in Athlone Institute of Technology was one of the most rewarding events I attended the over the past few weeks. Nineteen club and county administrators concluded a HETAC (Higher Education Training Awards Council) accredited Certificate in Sports Administration.

The course was spread over several weeks. The participants came from as far away as Wexford, Kilkenny, Mayo, Kildare, Wicklow, Dublin, Meath along with the 'locals' from Galway and Roscommon.

The course focused on learning about effective meetings, running events, public relations, fundraising, planning to develop Camogie, fitness and well-being and so on. This group are the first Camogie graduates from the Programme.

We will mark their achievement at our Annual Congress in Belfast on 25th/26th March where they will also present some of their work.

Well done to all on the commitment, enthusiasm and expertise that was so evident amongst the participants, the course presenters, Athlone IT and our own full time team who supported the initiative.

New info on child welfare and protection

There was a strong Camogie attendance at the second GAA National Seminar on Child Protection and Welfare recently. The Seminar was for Children's Officers across the Gaelic games' associations.

In my capacity as Chair of the GAA Code of Best Practice in Youth Sport Implementation Group I chaired the morning session which focussed on tackling

bullying. There was also a very thought provoking session on the psychology of winning and its impact on children.

- A new information leaflet on The Role of the Club and County Children's Officer was published for the Seminar. It is jointly endorsed by GAA/Camogie/Ladies Football/Handball and Rounders' Associations.

- A new leaflet on Tackling Bullying for display in clubs is also available.

Get copies by contacting Mairéad Ní Mhaioleoin mairleadnimh@eircom.net who heads up the Camogie Association's child welfare and protection committee.

Focus on Camogie in the Universities

- The Ashbourne and Purcell Cups are key events in February so check out the Higher Education Camogie Council (CCAO)'s website and Facebook for details of games and results www.ccao.ie NUIG are hosts and Camogie of the highest standard is a guarantee.

Joan O'Flynn
Siobhán Ní Fhlóinn

Rossa feel the pain of defeat

All-Ireland run comes to an end but poor performance hurts



CIARAN WOODS

It wasn't supposed to end this way. As the Rossa players gathered themselves from the Nowlan Park surface last Sunday, their All-Ireland dreams shattered, Croke Park seemed further away than ever, when just sixty minutes before it was within touching distance.

Instead, it is Cork side Inniscarra who progress to contest for the All-Ireland club crown at Headquarters on March 6, while Rossa are left to rue what might have been. They tasted the ultimate glory back in 2008, but now those dreams are back on hold for one more year at least.

For Kerrie O'Neill, the chance to climb the steps of the Hogan Stand as an All-Ireland winning captain has been snatched away, and it's going to take some time to get over. Even though the dust has now settled on the defeat, emotions are still raw and the hurt cuts deep.

"It's bad enough when you lose in any game, but when you miss out and you know you haven't played to your full then that's hard to take. If we'd gone out and gone hell for leather and still been beaten, then that's maybe easier, but coming off the pitch knowing that you haven't performed makes it tougher.

"We had an up and down sort of a season. We had a few managers in and out at the start of the year, and if

They beat us at our own game. We might not have the most skilful players in the country, but we work hard and we tackle in packs and play to our strengths

you miss out on that foundation at the start then you're always playing catch-up. We knew ourselves that we hadn't done the sort of work and preparation that we'd put in other years. At the same time, so many teams would love to be in the position we've been in, and we don't lose sight of that."

All but one of Rossa's scores last weekend in their 1-14 to 1-6 loss to the Munster outfit came from the stick of Jane Adams, and it was no coincidence that Rossa were very much closed down from open play.

As well as bringing an unbelievable hunger to the game, Inniscarra had also done their homework on their Belfast rivals. Rossa had recently played QUB in a challenge match at the Dub, and Inniscarra had sent representatives to watch the game. Rossa had also travelled to Dublin to take on Waterford IT, and again their rivals took the opportunity to observe Rossa first-hand.

They had also studied their successful 2008 final against Drom and Inch. Come last Sunday, Inniscarra's gameplan was very much in place, and Rossa struggled to cope.

"They beat us at our own game. We might not have the most skilful play-

ers in the country, but we work hard and we tackle in packs and play to our strengths. But on Sunday, every time one of our girls was on the ball there were three or four of their players around her, instead of the other way round.

It was obvious that they had their homework done, and it worked for them."

Within the next fortnight, many of Rossa's players will be back in competitive action with Antrim in the National League.

Then before too long they will be back in club colours for the start of the Antrim league, and in turn the defence of their Antrim championship. All of that seems a long way right now, but O'Neill can look ahead with confidence and is adamant that despite having plenty of miles on the clock, her side can come back stronger than ever for another All-Ireland title tilt.

"When we set out at the start of the year, for us it was all about getting that Antrim title back. Losing to Loughiel last year cut us really deep, but walking off Casement Park that day we knew we would be back this year. So in that regard it's been a success.

"I think there have been about two changes, but this team has basically been on the go non-stop since 2005. We're tired, there's no point saying different.



THE DREAM DIES... Shauneen McGourty at the final whistle

"The challenge now is to go away, recharge the batteries, and come back with something new.

"Everyone will be back on board for next year, and we have to use this defeat to push us on again. If we can

get a few of our younger players through, and get them buying into the sort of belief and strong mentality that the older players have, then we'll be coming back stronger than ever."

Eoghan Rua looking ahead to Intermediate final



DRIVING RAIN... Ruth Geoghegan, Lismore, in action against Aisling Carey, left, and Adelle Archibald, Eoghan Rua

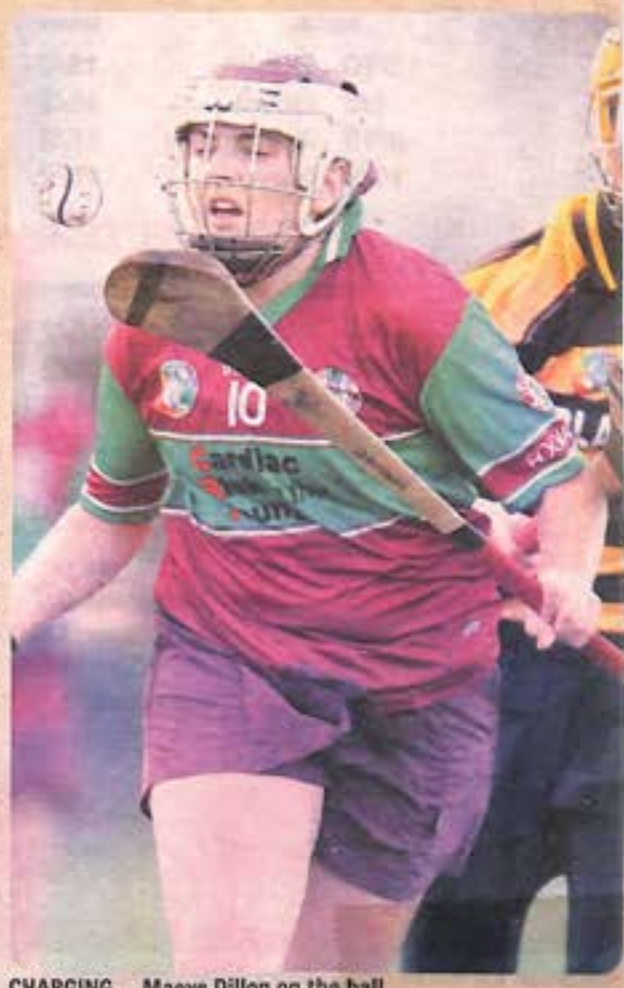
Pictures by Caroline Quinn

If Eoghan Rua camogs have any difficulties figuring out how to get to Croke Park for next month's All-Ireland Intermediate final, at least they won't have far to go for advice, with their mens football side having already walked that path a couple of years ago.

The Coleraine girls booked their place in the decider courtesy of a stunning late goal from substitute Katie Mullan to earn her side a 2-6 to 1-6 win over Waterford's Lismore. Having led by five points at one stage in the first half, Eoghan Rua found themselves just a point in front at the break, and in a nip-and-tuck second half the sides were level heading into injury time, but up stepped Mullan to turn the ball into the back of the Lismore net and spark scenes of jubilation amongst the Eoghan Rua faithful.

The Derry champions displayed great hunger throughout, and although they were not able to play the sort of attractive free-flowing game they had done in previous outings, they showed great resolve to grind out a well-deserved victory.

The reward is an All-Ireland final appearance at Croke Park on Sunday March 6, something which most club players can only dream about. They've won nothing yet, but Eoghan Rua are already guaranteed the greatest day in the history of their camogie club, with the ultimate goal of becoming All-Ireland champions just one win away.



CHARGING... Maeve Dillon on the ball

Orla McCall, O'Donovan Rossa, left, in action against Aileen Sheehan, Inniscarra in the All-Ireland Senior Camogie Club Championship Semi-Final at Nowlan Park, Kilkenny. Picture: Ray McManus / SPORTSFILE



Cork name Zinkant and Hayes as selectors

CAMOGIE

By MARY NEWMAN

CORK put the finishing touches to their senior camogie management team with the announcement that new coach Joe O'Brien will be joined by Lillian Zinkant and Con Hayes as selectors.

The Rebels start the season when they travel to Tipperary on Sunday for the opening game in the national league.

Zinkant is no stranger to the job as she was a member of Denise Cronin's back-room team and returned as a senior selector in 2009 after a year's absence.

This will be Lillian's fourth time involved with the senior county senior side, she has served Cork camogie at many levels.

Having won her third All-Ireland junior medal, she quickly became involved as selector to the junior county teams whom she coached to All-Ireland success in 2004.

A five time All-Ireland medal winner (three at junior level and two minor) she is the holder of many honours at club and county level and won a senior county championship medal with her club Sarsfields.

Con Hayes is the nominee from county champions Inniscarra and it is his first time involved as an inter-county selector.

He is a member of the Inniscarra club where he has a long involvement with the senior and underage teams.

Meanwhile, scans have revealed that Cork and UCC camogie star Orla Cotter has broken her jaw in an injury suffered in Sunday's Ashbourne Cup final in Pearse Stadium.

The highly-rated St Catherine's player was forced off in the second-half which ended in three-in-a-row titles for Waterford IT.

Cotter was taken to Galway University Hospital and, despite the injury, was in good spirits yesterday.

"I'm hoping to have the operation today and will then look forward to getting back home after that," she said.

Cotter, captain of the Cork senior team in 2010, will be a huge loss to the county squad as they get their league campaign underway against Tipperary on Sunday.

Weekend results

Irish Daily Star Camogie League

Div 1:
Wexford 3-9 (C O'Connor 1-3(0-2f), E Quigley 2-0, K Kelly 0-5 (0-4f), J O'Dwyer 0-1)
Galway 2-6 (J Gill 1-2f, V Curtin 1-1, A Connolly 0-2(0-1'45), O Kilkenny 0-1)

Clare 1-10 (C Morey 1-1 (1-0pen), D Murphy 0-6 (0-2f), L Linnane, S Enright, M Scanlon 0-1 each)
Offaly 0-13 (A Watkins 0-3, E Dermody 0-3(0-2f), S Flannery, O Kirwan 0-2 each, T Hannon, R Coughlan 0-1 each, M Morkan 0-1f)

Dublin v Tipperary off due to pitch unplayable

Div 2:
Galway 2-9 (R Hennelly 1-2f, N McGrath 1-0, L Farrell 0-3, R Monaghan 0-2(0-1f), J Gill, N Coen 0-1 each)
Wexford 1-8 (L Bolger 1-0, S Nolan 0-4(0-3f, 0-1'45), F Rochford 0-2, B Curran, S Mc Govern 0-1 each)

Limerick 1-11 (C Dubhal 1-1, N Mulcahy 0-7 (0-4f, L Scanlon 0-3(0-1f)
Tipperary 2-8 (E Hough, N Ryan 1-0 each, A Ryan 0-4, T Greed 0-2, S Ryan, S O'Dwyer 0-1 each)

Div 3
Kildare 2-4 (R O'Connell 2-0, S O'Carroll 0-3 (0-2f, 0-1'45), M Murtagh 0-1)
Armagh 2-3 (C Donnelly 1-1, B Murray 1-0, C Mc Sorley 0-2f)

Meath 1-7 (E Mc Nally 1-1, J Dolan 0-4f, E Guy, E Mc Mullen, 0-1 each)
Dublin 0-5 (F Hayes 0-3, H Mc Inerney, E Gallery 0-1 each)

Div 4
Cavan 4-10 (R O'Keeffe 1-5, M Brady 1-4 (0-2f) C Fitzpatrick 2-0, B Boylan 0-1)
Tyrone 2-6 (C Rafferty, N Gavin 1-0 each, A Corr 0-6)

Westmeath v Carlow off

All-Ireland club championship semi-finals:

Senior:
Inniscarra, Cork 1-14 (N Mc Carthy 1-2, N Dilworth 0-8, J Casey 0-2, R Buckley, N O'Sullivan 0-1 each)
O'Donovan Rossa, Antrim 1-6 (J Adams 0-6, N Mc Guinness 1-0)

Intermediate:
Eoghan Rua, Derry 2-6 (G Mc Mullan R Mc Aleese 1-0 each, G Mc Goldrick 0-5 (0-2f), J Carey 0-1)
Lismore, Waterford 1-6 (R Geoghegan 1-1, N Morrissey 0-2, A Hannon 0-2f, C Mc Glone 0-1)

All-Ireland Colleges Semi-Final -
St Louis (Antrim) 1-09 Mallow (Cork) 1-08
All-Ireland Colleges Senior A Semi-Final
St Pat's Maghera (Derry) 1-11 Presentation College Thurles (Tipperary) 3-04

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1) What are your hopes for camogie this season?
To retain All Ireland and league titles with Wexford and win a Club All Ireland with Oulart- The Ballagh.

2) The Ashbourne is next weekend how do you rate WIT's chances?
To be honest I think both semi-finals are going to be extremely tough and close games and they will both come down to the wire. WIT face a tough challenge against UL and will need to play to their very best to overcome their challenge. UL have numerous inter-county players all across the field and we will need to perform well if we hope to reach the final. Hopefully, if the girls play to their full ability we are in with a very good chance of winning.

3) How do you find managing compared to playing?
At first I found it really hard as all I wanted to do was be out playing myself!! This is the first time I have been involved in the management of a team. It definitely is a lot different to playing the game, you have to be constantly aware of what's going on around the field and it can be frustrating at times if things aren't going well and it probably is more nerve racking on the sideline also!!

4) What is the atmosphere like within the team?
There is a great bond and unity between all the players and hopefully this will transpire throughout their play over the weekend. The girls have worked extremely hard over the last few months and this has helped them play better as a team. We have girls from all over Ireland on the panel but this doesn't seem to affect how they play with each other and they know the other girls style of play.

5) The Ashbourne is played over the space of a weekend (Sat&Sun) is it hard to keep players focused and motivated?
When it comes down to the Ashbourne weekend, it really is tough playing two games in the space of two days and definitely fatigue can set in but from my point of view I don't think its hard to stay focused or motivated-after all this weekend is what you have trained for over the winter months. Obviously there are lots of distractions with the whole weekend and there can be a lot of hype around the place but as long as the players can avoid these distractions they should be able to stay focused and I doubt any player on any team lacks any motivation to win an Ashbourne medal.

6) You have been involved with so many great teams and done so much in camogie but what has been your proudest achievement in the game?
In the last couple of years, I've experienced some great wins and achieved so much. For my club, there was no better feeling than winning our first club county title and Leinster title. On the college front, winning my first Ashbourne medal 3 years ago was a definite highlight after a couple of disappointments. Not to forget the county team, definitely winning the All Ireland's with Wexford in '07 & '10 were unforgettable days. To cap off a wonderful year, receiving my first All Star was a also a huge honour.

7) What else do you have burning desire to win?
Definitely an All Ireland Title with my club Oulart The Ballagh. After reaching the club All Ireland semi the past two years it would be great to get a chance to win one especially with the girls you first started playing with as a child.

8) Who has been your toughest opponent/ team to play against in the Ashbourne?
Any team that makes it to the Ashbourne Weekend is tough, right throughout the field on any team there are inter-county players and are of a very high standard. I've the bruises to prove it!! To be honest I've played on so many tough players it's hard to single out any one particular player.

9) What player do you most admire?

From an early age I have always admired Fiona Dunne (Oulart & Wexford). She was such an inspirational and brilliant player and would be on any All Star team in any year. Also, I think Tony Browne is a true example of a player who shows how even at his age if you work hard enough and mind yourself you can still perform at the highest level.

10) What advice would you give young players?
Its important to practice the skills of the game yourself outside of training- all you need is a ball and a wall!! I would also advise girls starting college to join the College Camogie team as it is a great place to make lifelong friends.

11) How do you think colleges camogie could be marketed better?

I think in recent years Colleges Camogie has generated more awareness and publicity about the competitions. Third level Camogie showcases the best up and coming talent in Camogie and is so competitive I suppose it would be nice if some highlights were even shown on TV and maybe promotion of the weekend with schools in the area where it is hosted.

Ashbourne and Purcell Finals

Ashbourne Cup Final
WIT 2-10 UCC 2-02
Pearse Stadium

A Katrina Parrock led WIT team claimed a historic Ashbourne cup three in a row in Pearse stadium today. A dominant WIT team did all the hard work in the first half and raced into a 1-6 to 0-1 lead at the break. The first score of the game came from a long Katrina Parrock delivery which deceived UCC keeper, Susan Earner, to find its way to the UCC net. UCC had no answer to WIT's phenomenal work rate and support play. The main difference between the two teams was WIT ability to take scores from play while all of UCC's scores came from placed balls. UCC's were dealt a major blow when they lost key player Orla Cotter through injury ten minutes after the break. Two well taken goals from the stick of Fionnuala Carr brought UCC back to life but proved too little too late, and a late goal from Michelle Quilty ensured victory for WIT.

Scorers WIT:
Michelle Quilty 1-2 (0-1 Free), Kathrina Parrock 1-1, Karen Kelly 0-2, Denise Gaule 0-2, Fiona Morrissey, Katie Power and Patricia Jackman (Free) 0-1 each

Scorers UCC:
Fionnuala Carr 2-0 (2-0 Free), Orla Cotter 0-2 (0-2 Free)

Ashbourne Shield Final
NUIG 4-18 CIT 0-03
Dangan

Host college NUIG captured the Ashbourne Shield with a comprehensive victory over CIT, winning out 4-18 to 0-3. Chloe Morey proved a constant thorn in CIT's side and she was supported fantastically by Captain Michaela Morkan.

Purcell Cup Final
QUB 2-10 DCU 0-07
Pearse Stadium

Queens University went one step further than last year by capturing the Purcell Cup in Pearse Stadium today. Keelin Bradley inspired the Ulster team to a 2-10 to 0-7 points win over DCU.

Purcell Shield Final
DIT 5-11 Trinity 0-07
Dangan

DIT followed up last years success by claiming the Purcell Shield. They overcame a gallant Trinity team, winning out easily in the end on a scoreline of 5-11 to 0-7. Jane Brady and Joleen Hoarn excelled for DIT scoring 2-9 of their team's total.

UCC likely to reach Ashbourne Cup final

CAMOGIE
By MARY NEWMAN

IT'S ASHBOURNE CUP weekend and Galway is the venues as UCC fly the Cork flag in the last four, when they meet UCD in a repeat of last year's semi-final.

2003 was the last time UCC took the title and having lost out in last year's final to WIT, they travel to Galway determined to go one better this year.

Boosted by their victory in the league final they will be confident that they can breach the gap and bring the title back to Cork.

It went down to the wire last season when the sides met at the same stage, UCC made it to the final with just a point to spare and with several survivors on both teams it promises another close encounter.

UCD are captained by Tipperary's Mairead Luttrell while Kilkenny's Leann Fennelly and Galway's Sandra Tannian are amongst the inter-county players in their line out.

UCC are captained by Grainne Kenneally from Waterford and with Cork's Orla Cotter, Denise Cronin, Pamela and Katriona Mackey, Down's Fionnuala Carr, Galway keeper Susan Earner and Kildare's Cliona McSweeney in their line-out they will be hard to stop.

The second semi-final sees holders WIT in action against UL, as they battle to make it a three-in-a-row of Ashbourne Cup titles. Wexford star Ursula Jacob is now managing the side. They overcame UL when the sides met in the league, but they had an impressive Ashbourne quarter-final victory over UUJ. They are a strong side backboned by Wexford's Katrina Parrock and Kilkenny trio Michelle Quilty, Katie Power and Denise Gaule.

However they will be tested by a UL outfit, who will look to Finola Keely Linda Bolger and captain Aimee McInerney to guide them to the final. In the Ashbourne Shield competition CIT carry Cork's hopes when they meet Athlone IT.

It's new territory for Athlone IT, who just recently stepped up to participate in the Ashbourne competition and CIT should have enough strength in depth to ensue a place in the final.

ASHBOURNE FIXTURES TOMORROW

Ashbourne Cup semi-finals: UCC v UCD, 12pm, Dangan Pitch 1; WIT v UL, 2pm, Dangan Pitch 1.

Ashbourne Shield semi-finals: NUIG v QUB, 11am, Dangan Pitch 2; CIT v DIT, 3pm, Dangan Pitch 2.

SUNDAY

Ashbourne Cup final: 11.30am, Dangan Pitch 1.
Ashbourne Shield final: 3pm, Dangan Pitch 1.

Weekend results

ASHBOURNE CUP FINAL, PEARSE STADIUM
WIT 2-10, (1-2 (0-1f), K Parrock 1-1, D Gaule, K Kelly 0-2 each, F Morrissey, K Power 0-1 each, P Jackman 0-1)
UCC 2-2, (F Carr 2-0f, O Cotter 0-2f)

ASHBOURNE SHIELD FINAL, DANGAN
NUIG 4-18, (C Morey 0-10 (0-8f), A Dunphy 2-1, S Enright 2-0, L Ryan 0-3, N Coen 0-2, A Mc Peke, D Twomey 0-1 each)
CIT 0-3, (D Luby 0-2f, M Reidy 0-1)

Purcell Cup Final, Pearse Stadium
QUB 2-10, (C Mc Sorley 0-6f, C Donnelly 1-2, K Bradley 1-0, S Cassidy -2)
DCU 0-7, (E Brennan 0-4(0-3f), M Twomey, E Mc Carthy, H Mc Inerney 0-1 each)

Purcell Shield Final, Dangan
DIT 5-11, (J Hoary 1-6 (0-2f), J Dolan 1-3, N Corrigan, C Bowes, P Mc Grath 1-0 each, C A Canning, A Burke 0-1 each)
CIT 0-7, (M Ni Mhuineacháin 0-5f, R O'Grady, H Larmon 0-1 each)

Another colleges title for Waterford

Camogie

by Colm O'Connor

WATERFORD IT claimed a third consecutive Ashbourne Cup title by defeating UCC (2-10 to 2-2) at Pearse Stadium yesterday.

The Waterford outfit had a dream start when Katrina Parrock's long-range effort went all the way to the net and WIT went on to lead 1-6 to 0-1 at the break.

UCC were dealt a major blow when they lost Orla Cotter through injury ten minutes after the break.

Two Fionnuala Carr goals gave the Cork girls some brief hope but it was too little, too late. A Michelle Quilty goal completed the rout.

Host college NUIG captured the Ashbourne Shield with victory over CIT (4-18 to 0-3), while Keelin Bradley inspired Queens University to a 2-10 to 0-7 points win over DCU in the Purcell Cup decider.

DIT collected the Purcell Shield after crushing Trinity 5-11 to 0-7.

Meanwhile, the Ashbourne and Purcell All-Star teams will be announced today on the CCAO website <http://www.ccao.ie>.

Scorers for WIT: M Quilty 1-2 (0-1 free), K Parrock 1-1, K Kelly 0-2, D Gaule 0-2, F Morrissey, K Power and P Jackman (free) 0-1 each.

Scorers for UCC:
F Carr 2-0 (2-0f),
O Cotter 0-2 (0-2f).

Waterford IT captain Ann Dalton with the Ashbourne Cup after defeating UCC in the final.

Picture: David Maher

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HISTORIC WIN: WIT captain Ann Dalton (left) celebrates with team-mate Collette Dormer

WIT MAKE IT THREE-IN-A-ROW

CLAIMING an historic Ashbourne Cup three-in-a-row, Waterford IT romped home to a 2-10 to 2-02 victory over University College Cork in Pearse Stadium yesterday.

Led by Katrina Parrock, a dominant WIT did all the hard work in the first half, going in at the break up 1-6 to 0-1.

WIT's opening score came from a long Parrock delivery which deceived UCC keeper, Susan Eamer, to find its way into the UCC net.

UCC had no answer to WIT's phenomenal work rate, support play and ability to

CAMOGIE

score from play while all UCC's scores came from placed balls. UCC were then dealt a major blow when they lost key player Orla Cotter through injury 10 minutes after the break.

Goals

Two well taken goals from Fionnuala Carr brought UCC back to life but proved too little too late, and a late goal from Michelle Quilty ensured victory for WIT.

Meanwhile, hosts NUI Galway captured the Ashbourne Shield with a comprehensive

4-18 to 0-3 victory over Cork IT.

Chloe Morey proved a constant thorn in CIT's side and was supported fantastically by Michaela Morkan.

Queen's University Belfast went one step further than last year by capturing the Purcell Cup.

Keelin Bradley inspired the Ulster team to a 2-10 to 0-7 points win over DCU.

Elsewhere, DIT followed up last year's success by claiming the Purcell Shield.

They overcame a gallant Trinity team, winning out easily on a 5-11 to 0-7 scoreline.



GLORY: Delighted players from Queen's University Belfast celebrate their fantastic Purcell Cup Final win

On the ball



Miriam Crowley, University College Cork, in action against Ann Dalton, Waterford IT during the Ashbourne Cup Final at Pearse Stadium, Salthill, Galway. Picture: David Maher / SPORTSFILE

Ashbourne All Star Team 2011

Written by Shane D'Arcy

Sunday 20 February 2011 19:25

Ashbourne All Star Team 2011

Susan Eamer (UCC)

Collette Dormer (WIT) Leanne Fennelly (UCD) Julie Brien (UCC)

Ann Dalton (WIT) Michaela Morkan (NUIG) Patricia Jackman (WIT)

Katrina Parrock (WIT) Chloe Morey (NUIG)

Michaela Convery (UUJ) Katie Power (WIT) Lisa Bolger (UL)

Katrina Mackey (UCC) Denise Gaulie (WIT) Michelle Quilty (WIT)

Cotter blow for Cork

SCANS have revealed Cork and UCC camogie star Orla Cotter has broken her jaw in two places following an injury she received in Sunday's Ashbourne Cup final in Pearse Stadium.

The highly-rated St Catherine's player was forced off injured in the second-half which ended in three-in-a-row titles for Waterford IT.

Cotter was taken to Galway University Hospital and despite the seriousness of the injury was in good spirits yesterday.

"I'm hoping to have the operation today and will then look forward to getting back home after that," she said.

Cotter, captain of the Cork senior team in 2010, will be a huge loss to the county as she led their league campaign under their next weekend against Tipperary.



The St. Brigid's Vocational School, Loughrea Junior Camogie Panel which defeated Portumna Community School in the Connacht final at Craughwell on a 2-7 to 1-1 scoreline. Back row left to right: Ger Lyons (manager), Ciara Hanlon, Laura Sweeney, Maria Cooney, Elaine Treacy, Rachel Callanan, Maria O'Brien, Katie Naughton, Lisa Callanan, Niamh Murphy, Jessica Deely, Ailish Mitchell, Kate Gallagher, Moya Flanagan, Sinead Skehill, Patricia Manning, Tara Murphy, Aine Kenny, Maeve Reynolds. Front row: Lauren Devine, Aoife Kennedy, Holly Whiskey, Shauna Coen, Laura Porter, Lauren Lee (captain), Niamh Lawless, Clara Finnerty, Erica Coen, Aisling Connolly, Hannah Cahill, Niamh Connolly.

Tried and tested Galway fail to deliver in opening round of camogie league

Goals from Curtin and Gill fail to save Finn's squad from disappointing loss against All-Ireland champs

Wexford	3-9
Galway	2-6

EOGHAN CORMICAN
AT DUGGAN PARK

ASPIRATIONS of bridging a 15-year gap to Galway's last O'Duffy Cup success seemed an eternity away on Sunday last as Noel Finn's troops played second fiddle to a livelier Wexford outfit in the opening round of the National Camogie League.

Being as it is early season, Sunday's clash represented the ideal opportunity to blood new faces, but only St. Thomas' Finola Keely made her senior debut as the management opted for a tried and tested starting 15. That said, on the evidence of this lethargic showing, there is still much work still to be put in, by both management and panel alike.

The 100 or so hardy souls who turned out to catch a glimpse of last September's All Ireland final pairing will, no doubt, have been unimpressed with the quality of fare as Galway registered a meagre 1-1 from play over the hour, failing to score in the second period until the 58th minute.

Understandably, it was the first competitive outing for a

number of the Galway players after a long winter lay off, but one would have envisaged a drive and hunger in their endeavours fuelled by the hurt of that All Ireland defeat. Sadly, it never materialised as Wexford completely over ran Galway at midfield where the excellent Kate Kelly dominated, and in attack.

Much of the damage up front was inflicted by Ciara O'Connor, Lenny Holohan and Evelyn Quigley - invariably, they seemed to have that yard of pace on their markers, especially when the supply of ball was quick and accurate. Corner forwards Holohan and Quigley proved particularly troublesome when in possession opting to run at the Galway full back line, while O'Connor finished with an impressive tally of 1-3.

In any event, Wexford's Kate Kelly and Aislinn Connolly traded early scores before the visitors found the net with only eight minutes of action elapsed. In the attacking move of the game, Lenny Holohan rounded three Galway backs before dispatching neatly to Evelyn Quigley, who clean through on goal afforded 'keeper Susan Earner no chance from close range.

Wexford extended their

advantage subsequently with points from Quigley and Ciara O'Connor (free) either side of a brilliantly struck free from Orla Kilkenny.

Galway though, following a sustained assault on the Wexford goal, reduced the deficit to the minimum in the 20th minute. Jessica Gill, showing tremendous awareness, sprayed the sliotar to Niamh Kilkenny whose effort was superbly doubled on mid air by Veronica Curtin into the net despite the efforts of 'keeper Mags Darcy.

Galway enjoyed their best period of the match thereafter as Jessica Gill blasted home a second goal from a '21 yard free and along with points from Gill (free) and Connolly ('45), the home side enjoyed a 2-4 to 1-5 interval lead.

It was to be all Wexford in the second period, however, with Kate Kelly on target from frees and Aoife O'Connor landing a beauty from play. Gill did bring it back to one point ball game but any notions of a Galway revival were dispelled when Ciara O'Connor struck Wexford's second goal after Deirdre Codd's long range free somehow evaded the barrage of maroon jerseys crowded in the large rectangle.

Though Veronica Curtin

response, Galway's only point from play in the second half, Wexford made sure of the victory with an injury time goal from the stick of Quigley.

In retrospect, only Regina Glynn, Sinead Cahalan and Tara Rutledge (first half) rose above mediocrity as Galway's inability to score more freely from play once more proved their undoing.

Wexford: M Darcy, J Hayden, C O'Loughlin, C O'Connor, N Lambert, D Codd, A O'Connor, K Kelly (0-5 all frees), M O'Leary, C O'Connor, (1-3, 0-2 frees), B Gordon, J Dwyer, L Holohan, F Kavanagh, E Quigley (2-1). Subs: S Nolan for Dwyer (47 mins).

Galway: S Earner, R Glynn, S Dervan, S Cahalan, H Cooney, S Keane, L Ryan, N Kilkenny, O Kilkenny (0-1 free); V Curtin (1-1), F Keely, E Kilkelly, T Rutledge, J Gill (1-2, 1-2 frees), A Connolly (0-2, 0-1 free, 0-1 '45). Subs: C Gill for Cooney (30 mins), N McGrath for Connolly (47 mins), N Coen for Rutledge (50 mins).

Meanwhile, the Galway Intermediates made an impressive start to their Division two campaign with victory over Wexford at Duggan Park, on Sunday. Despite trailing 1-6 to 0-4 at the interval Johnny Kane's charges displayed admirable resilience to claw their way back into contention at the turnaround with Rebecca Hennelly and Niamh McGrath raising green flags to leave Galway 2-9 to 1-8 ahead at the finish.

Ex-minor selector is new coach

CAMOGIE

FORMER Cork minor hurling selector Joe O'Brien has been formally ratified as the coach to the Cork senior camogie team, writes MARY NEWMAN.

A native of Glanworth, Joe was involved with the Cork minor hurling team as a selector for two years up to the end of the 2009 campaign and he takes over the reins from Denise Cronin.

Denise stepped down at the end of last season's campaign following defeat to Galway in the All-Ireland semi-final replay.

While it's a new departure for O'Brien, he comes to the job with plenty of experience having been part of the Cork minor hurling backroom set-up for two years. He won senior county championship honours with Glen Rovers in 1969, while he also won honours at intermediate football level with Glanworth.

Joe will be joined by a representative from county and Munster champions Inniscarra, who are expected to announce their appointment this week, while a third selector will join the backroom team to be appointed by the county board.

Following on the defeat at the hands of Galway in last season's semi-final, Cork will be determined to make amends and Joe intimated his intentions of working hard towards bringing the O'Duffy Cup back, when he met with the players last weekend.

His first game in charge will be on Sunday week when they travel to Tipperary to take on the home side in the opening game of the National League.

A further boost to the game came with the news that Bord Gáis Networks are to continue their sponsorship of the Cork Camogie teams for the season ahead. Bord Gáis Networks have been sponsoring the Cork senior team since 2008, but have now extended their sponsorship to all Cork teams for league and championship.

Welcoming the announcement and the appointment of Joe O'Brien board chairwoman Marion McCarthy said: "We are delighted that Joe O'Brien will be involved with us for the season ahead, he is hugely experienced, and a great motivator and the girls are looking forward to the huge challenge that lie ahead in 2011.

"We are also indebted to Bord Gáis, who are staying on board with us as sponsors.

"In these tough economical times it's wonderful that Bord Gáis are willing to support our game and as a county will be doing everything in our power to ensure success."

Camogie chief praises Dublin double decision

by Daragh Ó Conchúir

CAMOGIE association president Joan O'Flynn has hailed the proactivity of Dublin GAA in facilitating the county's camogie team to have its first game of the National League as a curtain-raiser to the Allianz Football League clash between Dublin and Kerry at Croke Park on Saturday night.

While the hurlers provided the warm-up on a hugely successful opening to the imaginative Spring Series last weekend, it is the turn of the women to enter the spotlight this time, with Kilkenny providing the opposition.

With the game being televised live by Setanta, it offers camogie a chance to showcase itself.

"It's fantastic," said O'Flynn yesterday afternoon.

"From our point of view, it's another opportunity to bring camogie to a wider audience.

"Last year we increased our attendances across the board at club and inter-county level and this is

another step in the right direction. "Right now, camogie is participative sport more than a spectator one and this is a step towards making it a spectator sport as well as a participative one.

"Fair dues to Dublin GAA who worked closely with the Dublin camogie board to put the programme in place.

"There has always been good cooperation between the codes at club and county level in Dublin anyway and this is just another illustration of that.

"While Kilkenny will be favourites and are used to playing at Croke Park, Dublin haven't been there since 2005 when they won the All-Ireland junior final so it's a great chance for them under new management to put on a good show in front of their own fans."

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Laura Saunders, The Harps, in action against Catherine Kelly, Sarsfields in last weekend's All-Ireland Intermediate Camogie Club Championship Semi-Final at Duggan Park, Ballinasloe, Co. Galway. (Photo: Brian Lawless/Sportsfile)



The All Ireland Club Camogie finals return to Croke Park after a break of almost 40 years on March 6 with Derry's Eoghan Rua meeting The Harps of Laois in the Intermediate final and Cork champions Inniscarra facing Galway's Killimor in the senior encounter. At Croke Park yesterday were (L-R) Joan O'Flynn (president Camogie Association) with Meabh McGoldrick, Eoghan Rua; Elaine Cuddy, The Harps; Eimear Haverty, Killimor; and Karen Jones, Inniscarra.

Caman and run on All Ireland club finals day

A NOVEL competition will take place during this year's All-Ireland Camogie Club Finals on March 6 which will take place in Croke Park for the first time ever.

Post-primary schools are getting the opportunity to enter a Caman and Run solo and hand-pass relay race and there will be a senior and junior competition where five teams will run in the Junior Relay Race and five will take part in the Senior Race.

The participating teams will be selected via a draw at the Camogie Association Offices on March 1.

Entrants must be under 19 on July 1 prior to the commencement of the school competition.

The age limit for entry to the Junior Relay is participants must adhere to the age limit for the junior championship and be under 16 on the 1st Jan of the academic year.

To enter complete an entry form which can be downloaded on www.camogie.ie

Senior and Intermediate county teams are ready for road

NATIONAL league action gets under way when Cork Senior and Intermediate teams travel next weekend to Tipperary for their opening games in the league competitions.

It's a transition year for the Senior side with several new faces set to make their debuts in the weeks ahead following on the retirement of players such as Joanne O'Callaghan,

Rachel Moloney, Catriona Foley and Mary O'Connor. These are players who have given a lot of service to Cork and certainly they will be missed. However, the Seniors are boosted by the return of Brieghe Corkery following a stint travelling abroad, and with younger players such as the Mackey twins Katriona and Pamela and Joanne Casey having enjoyed and fitted in

well in their first season at Senior level in 2010 they will be expected to play major roles as the county get their campaign under way.

Former Cork Minor hurling selector Joe O'Brien takes over the coaching duties from Denise Cronin who stepped down at the end of last season's campaign following defeat to Galway in the All-Ireland semi-final replay.

Joe will be joined by a representative from County and Munster champions Inniscarra while the third selector will be appointed by the county board.

Following on the defeat at the hands of Galway in last season semi final Cork are determined to make amends and Joe intimated his intentions of working hard towards bringing the O'Duffy Cup

back to Leaside when he met with the players last weekend.

It's all systems go also for the Intermediate team too as they get their campaign up and running.

Gearoid O'Rourke has joined the back room team of Sheila Golden and Esther O'Leary as they look ahead to their opening game in the league.

All eyes on Ballincollig camogie tournament

WITH clubs anxious to get back into training the launch of the Ballincollig camogie club floodlight senior camogie tournament will be a welcome boost. The tournament, which was formally launched on Thursday last, begins on Friday.

For the third year in a row Ballincollig Credit Union have come on board as main sponsors.

Garrett Irish is the organiser of the tournament and he outlined details of the event:

"The last two years have been a great success and we think this is an ideal opportunity for clubs to get their season up and running, we have

five Senior A teams and one from Senior B grade taking part. This year and we have two new teams St Finbarr's and Courcy Rovers, while holders Inniscarra are not participating as they are tied up with preparations for the All Ireland club final. At this time of the year it is all about getting back into training and with each club guaranteed a minimum of three games it will help enormously as clubs are trying to getting back into action"

Ballincollig Camogie club Chairperson Mairead Donovan was on hand to help lunch the venture at a function at the club and she expressed

delight at the organising of the tournament she thanked the clubs central committee for allowing the competition go ahead under lights. She had particular praise for the clubs pitch committee.

Also present at the launch were representatives of the participating clubs and referees Peter Downey and Ger Sheehan who will be joined in officiating by Cathal Egan.

Participating are five Senior A clubs: Ballincollig, Douglas, Ballygarvan, Courcy Rovers, St Finbarr's and Senior B club Glen Rovers.

The competition will consist of six teams divided into

two groups of three teams; each team will play the other two teams in the group. In a change of format there will be no shield final as only the top teams in each group will progress to the final.

The competition will be played under normal rules with 15 players per team and five substitutions allowed. All games must produce a result on the night with extra time being played in the event of a draw. In the event of a tie for the top two teams the decision will then be made on score difference. In the event of a tie for group winner the decision will then be made on score difference, then on

highest scoring average, then on lowest average conceding score.

Fixtures

Friday, February 25
8pm Ballincollig v Ballygarvan
Saturday, Feb 26
6.45pm Courcy Rovers v Douglas
8pm Glen Rovers v St Finbarr's
Friday, March 4
8pm St Finbarr's v Ballygarvan
Saturday, March 5
6.45pm Courcy Rvs v Glen Rovers
8pm Ballincollig v Douglas
Friday, March 11
8pm Ballincollig v Glen Rovers
Saturday, March 12
6.45pm St Finbarr's v Douglas
8pm Glen Rovers v Ballygarvan
Friday, March 18
8pm Glen Rovers v Douglas

Mount Mercy Wins Munster Title

New gradings will see plenty of close games

THE recent grading meeting held by the juvenile camogie board saw clubs grading for competitions from U14 to U16 in leagues competitions.

With over 60 clubs to cater for, there are competitions in grades from A to D to suit every club therefore players can look forward to competing in the grade which is suitable to their abilities.

Good to report that new clubs are springing in areas such as Aghada, Doneraile, Fermoy and Kanturk setting up new clubs while a return is on the cards this year for the Erin's Own club who were such a strong force at underage level a few years ago.

It augurs well for camogie that these clubs are setting up and county development officer Máiréad O'Donovan has in recent weeks been visiting the clubs to help them get started.

Tonight we take a look at the U14 and U16 grades and the teams in each section. Next week we will concentrate on the Go Games and the new structures that have now been put in place for these competitions which are to be run on a non-competitive basis, the emphasis at this level being on sport and enjoyment.

U16 A: 11 teams: Ballinhassig, Buttevant, Carrigaline, Courcsey Rovers, Cloughduv, Douglas, 1 Eire Óg, Inniscarra, Killeagh, Newtownshandrum, Valley Rovers. U16 B: 22 teams: Aghabullogue, Ballincollig, Ballyhea, Barryroe, Bishopstown, Blackrock, Brian Dillon's, Carrigtwohill, Clonakilty, Cloughduv, Douglas 2, Dungourney, Enniskeane, Fr O'Neill's, Glen Rovers, Inniscarra, Mallow, Millstreet, Na Piar-saigh, Newtownshandrum, Slabh Rua, St Finbarr's, Tracton.

U16 C: 19 teams: Ballinascarty, Ballygarvan, Banteer, Ballinora, Bride Rovers, Blarney, Cobh, Charleville Castlelyons, Douglas 2, Dungourney, Grenagh, Kildorrery, Newtownshandrum, Milford, St. Fan-



Bishopstown camogie player Una Stevens receiving her medal from Cork Hurling captain Shane O'Neill.

ahan's, Sarsfields 2, Youghal, Watergrasshill. U16 D: Seven teams: This grade is for new clubs or those just started to compete at U16 level for the first time.

Bantry, St Colm's, Aghada, Doneraile, Fermoy, Erin's Own, Kanturk. U14 A: Nine teams: Ballinhassig, Courcsey Rovers, Douglas 1 Eire Óg, Killeagh Kilbrittan/Timoleague Valley Rovers St. Vincent's 1 Sarsfields 1. U14 B: 25 teams: Aghabullogue, Ballincollig, Ballyhea, Barryroe, Blackrock, Bishopstown, Brian Dillon's, Buttevant, Carrigaline 1, Carrigtwohill, Clonakilty, Cloughduv, Douglas 2, Dungourney, Enniskeane, Fr O'Neill's, Glen Rovers, Inniscarra, Mallow, Millstreet, Na Piar-saigh, Newtownshandrum, Slabh Rua, St Finbarr's, Tracton.

U14 C: 24 teams: Ballinascarty, Ballinora, Ballygarvan, Banteer, Blarney, Bride Rovers, Carrigaline 2, Castlelyons, Charleville, Cobh, Grenagh, Kildorrery, Killeagh, Kildorrery, Milford, Newcestown, Passage, Rockban, St Catherine's, Sarsfields 2, St Fanahan's, Sarsfields 3, Valley Rovers 2, Youghal, Watergrasshill.

U14 D: Seven teams: As with the U16 grade the U14 D is confined to new clubs and clubs just started to compete at U14 level for the first time. Bantry, S. Colm's, Aghada, Doneraile, Fermoy, Erin's Own, Kanturk. So it looks like there's going to be plenty of action this season.

Picture shows Mount Mercy winning team with Pádraigin Uí Riordáin (Principal) and Morgan O'Brien, Team trainer

On Saturday, the 12th February 2011, the Mount Mercy Intermediate Camogie team travelled to Bruff in Co. Limerick intent on winning the Munster Intermediate C title. The team had been improving over the last number of years and were confident of a victory.

On a dry but blustery day the team started slowly and Bruff raced into an early lead thanks to a goal and a point. Mount Mercy were finding the soggy pitch difficult to deal with but the growing influence of Jennifer Ryle at middle field

helped to even up the match. The inside forward line of Amy Murphy and Meabh Ellen Desmond was starting to cause problems and a goal from Amy Murphy was reward for hard work done by Orlaith Jennings and Aimee Corcoran in the half-back line. Maeve Scannell and Jennifer Ryle scored points to ensure Mount Mercy led at half time by 1 - 2 to 1 - 1.

A long range point from Niamh McCarthy and another free by Maeve Scannell increased the lead for Mount Mercy but Bruff proved

to be a tough opponent as they scored a goal to draw the match level. Mount Mercy showed great resolve to respond with an excellent goal by Amy Murphy and this gave the whole team renewed confidence. Meabh Ellen Desmond who had now been switched to the half-forward line began to shine as she won several frees which were converted by Maeve Scannell. Jennifer Ryle added another point while Meabh Cahalane scored an excellent point after a brilliant solo run. The mid-field of Jennifer Ryle, Mia Cronin and Niamh McCarthy began to dominate

while the full-back line of Pamela Finn and Alison Foley proved impassable for the remaining fifteen minutes while Laura O'Neill pulled off some vital saves in the closing minutes. The confidence shown by the backs and goalkeeper spread throughout the field and the team eventually won us a scoreline at 2 - 10 to 2 - 01.

The coach Morgan O'Brien, and the school would like to thank all the players and subs, whose hard work over the last number of years made last Saturday's excellent win possible

Camogie Association Media Awards

Match Programme: Armagh County Final (Commendation: Wicklow County Final)

Local Radio Station: Clare FM-

Provincial Newspaper Offaly Express

Website: Dublin Camogie Board

RTE Mick Dunne Memorial Awards

PRO of the Year: Wexford Camogie PRO Barbara Ryan, (Commendation Cavan PROs Michelle Dunne, Margaret McCabe)

Photograph of the Year: Caroline Quinn (Commendation: Michael Harpur, The Echo Wexford)

Published Work: I Gotta Feeling by Dean Goodison (story of Wexford's All Ireland win)

National Coverage of Camogie: Irish Examiner



The St. Killian's Junior camogie squad which defeated Holy Rosary Mountbellew in the Connacht Final recently. Back row, left to right: Caoimhe Ward, Lauren Malone, Niamh Hogan, Clara Keane, Louise Spelman, Avril Kelly, Amy McMahon, Clara Lohan, Shauna Cuskelly, Sorcha Noone, Chloe McGann, Clara Murray. Front row: Louise Creaven, Amy Kelly, Melinda Earls, Orlaith McGrath, Laura Glynn (capt), Laura Ward, Rachel Earls, Gemma Creaven, Clara Donohue. Missing from photo are Emma Griffin and Emma Sheridan

1996 camogie heroes return

GALWAY'S All-Ireland winning senior camogie side of '96 hope to relive the glory days when they take part in the 'Legends Tournament' at St. Jude's in Dublin on Saturday. The event is part of the All-Ireland camogie club finals weekend and the team will be managed by former boss Tony Ward and Madge Kennedy.

This is an over 35 - or retired for at least five years from inter county camogie - seven a-side

tournament and there are eight teams in all taking part, including Cork, Kilkenny, Wexford and Tipperary. Among those from Galway to feature will be Sharon Glynn, Martina Harkin, Pamela Nevin and Denise Gilligan, who is flying home from London to take part in the event.

Galway Legends: Louise Curry, Tracey Labeen, Rita Coen, Martina Harkin, Pamela Nevin, Carmel Haroon, Sharon Glynn, Denise Gilligan, Emer Hardiman, Imelda Hobbes.

New-look Cork ready for Tipp



LINDA MELLERICK

CORK set off on their 2011 journey with an opening league game against Tipperary in The Ragg on Sunday (1pm).

With their previous fixture with Kilkenny postponed due to Inniscarra's involvement in the All-Ireland club semi-final, this is Cork's first competitive outing and at this stage is a very welcome one.

Joe O'Brien and his selectors of Con Hayes (Inniscarra) and Lillian Zinkant (Sars) make up the new Cork backroom team. Lillian the only remaining link to the management set-up of last year.

Former Cork minor hurling selector Joe O'Brien was formally ratified only two weeks ago and officially took over the training last Tuesday evening.

It will take him a while to familiarise himself with the players and a competitive outing will set him on his way.

Cork will be without a number of key

CAMOGIE

players for the fixture. Rena Buckley, who will captain the side for the 2011 season, and her Inniscarra teammates will not figure as they prepare for the biggest day in their club's history on Sunday week.

Orla Cotter sustained a broken jaw in the Ashbourne Cup final last weekend and will not participate in the league campaign.

Jenny O'Leary is unavailable while notable absentees from last year's starting line-up are Aoife Murray, Joanne O'Callaghan, Catriona Foley and Mary O'Connor.

There is every chance that one/two of those aforementioned may return at a later stage however Joanne and Mary have retired from intercounty camogie.

While such a loss of key personnel is hard to take in one season there is plenty of talent in Cork. An extended training panel was formed a few weeks ago with many potential senior players called upon. Joe has taken over this panel but nothing is set in stone and it is his intention to hold trial games over the coming weeks.

The nucleus of a good side is still there and Cork is in with every chance of regaining the O'Duffy Cup.

First things first and with both the seniors and intermediates out on Sunday, every player will be eager to impress the new senior manager.

Tipperary too has a new set-up in place. Lenny Phillips, son of the great Biddy Phillips, manages the side.

John Lillis, Hugh Coughlan and Carmel Harkin are selectors.

Tipp have a lot of work to do to reach the force they were in the 90s.

With eight teams competing for honours Tipp are not ranked in the top four.

They come in fifth and considering the remaining teams are playing at the top level for only a short few seasons, that's nothing to boast about.

They will possibly give Cork a run for it on Sunday but come championship time I don't expect them to be in the running.

Lenny Phillips has a lot to do. Tipperary spent too long with the one panel during the good years whereas Cork continually introduced two/three players every other season hence their ability to always be there or thereabouts come semi-final stage.

Squad still strong after promotions

SUNDAY
Senior Division 2 NL
Cork v Tipperary
The Ragg, 3pm

CAMOGIE

THE Division Two National League gets off to a start for Cork's second team when they travel to the Ragg to take on Tipperary as the second game in a double header with the Division One clash between the counties, writes MARY NEWMAN.

It's a tough group with Waterford, Kilkenny, and Limerick providing the opposition and with just one team to qualify, each tie is vital and slip-ups could prove costly in the battle for a final spot.

As in previous years the make-up of the county's second team will depend on the availability of players that the first team will release but with co operation all-round Cork should be in a position to field a strong second team given that the division one game is the first game of the double header.

Several of last season's division two panels have been promoted to the division one squad following the retirement of several of last season's senior panel but players such as Charlotte Kearney, Denise Luby, Marie O'Neill, Emer and Marie Watson should feature strongly as Cork go in search of the points on offer.

Cork's opening game versus

Kilkenny was postponed due to Inniscarra's involvement in the All-Ireland club semi-final while Tipperary have the advantage of having played Limerick in their opening game of the league series where on the day it ended level.

In division two it is hard to predict what will be the outcome of games given that the strength of the counties vary from game to game.

Last season Cork lost out to Tipp by a point but this is little indication of what we can expect this weekend. Tipperary are under new management this season.

Brian Boyle takes over from Eoin Brislane and he is joined by selectors Margaret Fanning and Martin Fitzpatrick. Team captain is Helena Costigan from the Templemore club and with players such as last season's minor goalkeeper Orla McInerney, Trisha Greede and Elaine Haugh in their line-up, they will provide strong opposition.

Cork selectors Sheila Golden and Esther O'Leary are joined this season by new coach Gearoid O'Rourke from the Newcestown club and preparations have been good.

KATRINA COMPLETES DOUBLE DOUBLE



Katrina Parrock of St. Ibar's/Shelmallee and Wexford completed a notable 'double double' in Galway last weekend. Not only did she win a second successive Ashbourne Cup camogie medal with W.I.T., she also won the player of the tournament award, presented here by Galway All Star Niamh Kilkenny, for the second year running. Katrina's team-mates included Stacey Redmond of Oulart-The Ballagh, winner of a third successive medal, who was player of the tournament in 2009.

Camogie commemorates memory of late Biddy Phillips

The Camogie Association will commemorate the memory of the late Biddy Phillips with the launch of the Inaugural Camogie Legends tournament this Saturday, March 5th at St Jude's GAA Club, Dublin.

The Camogie Legends Cup will be named in honour of the late Phillips, a national camogie referee and administrator, who passed away on July 6th 2010.

Phillips managed Tipperary to their first Senior Camogie All Ireland title in 1999.

She was a long serving member of the Camogie Association serving on the National Referees Committee. She took charge of the All Ireland Senior Camogie Final in 2007 and was also referee for the Intermediate, Junior & Senior Club All Ireland Finals between 1993 and 1999. She also acted as treasurer of Tipperary Camogie Board from 1988 to 2000.

Speaking about the Biddy Phillips Cup President of the Camogie Association, President Joan O'Flynn: "Biddy's commitment to Camogie on and off the field was exceptional. She gave wonderful service to Tipperary Camogie, Munster Camogie Council and also at National level. The Camogie Association is honoured to have the opportunity to commemorate the memory of Biddy with the Inaugural Legends Tournament and we look forward to a great event on the day."

The Camogie Legends tournament will take place at St Jude's GAA Club, Templeogue Dublin on Saturday March 5th. Cork, Clare, Kilkenny, Galway and Wexford are confirmed for the seven-a-side tournament. The event commences at 11.00am with finals scheduled to take place at 3.30pm.

Former Camogie greats such as Cork's Linda Mellerick, Kilkenny's Ann and Angela Downey as well as Galway's Sharon Glynn are among some of those scheduled to play.

Grogan arrives to thwart Cork

Camogie

by Daragh Ó Conchúir

CLAIRE GROGAN came off the bench to score the winning point for Tipperary against Cork in a cracking Camogie League Division 1 contest at The Ragg.

Playing with a strong wind, the Leesiders led 1-6 to 0-4 at the interval, Gemma O'Connor giving them the upper hand.

With youngster Nicole Walsh scoring six points from frees though, Tipperary got back into contention and Grogan landed the critical score three minutes from time to win the game 0-14 to 1-10.

Kilkenny had a crushing 7-16 to

0-5 win over Dublin in the other Group 2 game at Croke Park. Goals by Aoife Neary, Lizzie Lyng and Denise Gaule gave the Cats a 3-5 to 0-5 interval lead.

Claire Grogan: winning point.



Four further goals completed the rout.

In Group 1, Wexford beat Offaly by 2-14 to 0-10 while Galway out-pointed Clare 0-17 to 0-8. The introduction of Lenny Holohan and Katrina Parrock at half-time was the crucial factor as the champions saw off the Faithful. Offaly failed to a score from play until Orla Kirwan raised a white flag in injury time.

Aisling Connolly hit eight points, six from placed balls, as Galway built on a 0-7 to 0-6 half-time. Claire McMahon and Chloe Morey scored six points between them from frees but Galway had more attacking threat with the vastly experienced Veronica Curtin sniping three points from wing-forward and Orla Kilkenny slotting two.

CAMOGIE
National League Div 1 Grp 1: Offaly 0-10 Wexford 2-14, Galway 0-17 Clare 0-8; Grp 2: Tipperary 0-14 Cork 1-10; Dublin 0-5 Kilkenny 4-16; Div 2 Grp 1: Antrim 3-6 Wexford 3-4; Grp 2: Waterford 1-8 Limerick 0-8.

FEB. 2011

Camogie team outplayed by Kilkenny on Croker bow

DUBS IN TOUGH OPENING NIGHT

WATCHING
BRIEF: Kilkenny
camogie manager
Ann Downey

NEW Dublin manager, Denis Murphy, and his team received a baptism of fire at Croke Park on Saturday night as the Cats romped home by a 33 point margin.

As a dress rehearsal for the Dublin-Kerry main event this Irish Daily Star National League Division 1 game was a disappointment to say the least.

Kilkenny manager, Ann Downey, was gracious in victory.

"In fairness to Dublin we had so many players involved in the Ashbourne Cup and the colleges that we probably had a bit more hurling done than Dublin.

"It's only the league and by the time we meet them in the championship it will be a different kettle of fish.

"Our girls have been in Croke Park before so I say it would have been a bit daunting coming up to Croke Park for the first time.

Nervous

"Even some of our girls haven't played here before and they were a bit nervous before they started and it took them a bit of time to settle down."

Leading by nine points at the end of the first half, Kilkenny who play Tipperary at the Ragg in their next league match, were able to run their bench after the break.

And with Downey handing some valuable game experience to newcomers like Claire Phelan, the 2009 All-Ireland finalists had a good day out at GAA headquarters.

Dublin who were forced to start without centre back, Alison Maguire, struggled to contain a Kilkenny full-forward line that yielded 5-5 between them.

And Murphy admitted that the Metropolitans have a lot of

Kilkenny 7-16 Dublin 0-5
IRISH DAILY STAR NATIONAL LEAGUE

ground to make up.
"They were in control bar the 15 minutes before half time when maybe they sat back a bit.

"We had probably had a few more chances to get one or two more scores and we didn't take them."

Struck

Kilkenny were four points up

when they struck for their first goal on 12 minutes.

Aoife Neary took an inside pass off Lizzie Lyng before shooting past the keeper.

And while Louise O'Hara registered a good point on the turn for the home side, Dublin's stretched full-back line was to then concede its second goal on 22 minutes when Lyng scored off Shelly Farrell's assist.

Two minutes later Denise Gaule soloed through the middle before palming the ball past Helen Cosgrove.

Dublin, to their credit, rallied well in the second quarter with Ciara Lucey's goal-bound effort tipped over the crossbar.

And

the Metropolitans finished off the half with a free from O'Hara to leave the half-time score reading 3-5 to 0-5.

However any hopes Dublin had of a comeback evaporated inside the first five minutes of the restart.

An opening score from Claire Phelan, Shelly Phelan got goalside of the defender before firing in Kilkenny's fourth goal.

And with Katie Power featuring well in the middle for the Cats, Kilkenny kept the score ticking along nicely.

Complete

Phelan added her second goal on 53 minutes before finishing off a fine team move moments late to complete her hat trick.

And there was still time for a seventh with two minutes to go from Claire Phelan before a brace of points from Gaule and a closing point from Shelly Phelan rounded off a fine display from Kilkenny.

DUBLIN: H Cosgrave, E O'Meara, T Corrigan, S Ryan, D Smith, C Power, E Ryan, A Fanning, C Burgess, A Kelly, C Lucey (0-1)(f), A Carolan, A Murphy (0-1), L O'Hara (0-2) (ff), A Carolan (0-1). **SUBS:** G Ryan for S Ryan 15 mins, H McEnerney for Murphy half time, R Costello for E Ryan, G Quinn for Hayes both 40 mins.

KILKENNY: C Ryan, D Delaney, C Doherty, J Frisby, C Dormer, E Aylward, K Fennelly, A Dalton (0-1), K Power (0-3), C Phelan (1-4, 0-1f), D Gaule (1-3), M Dargan (0-1), L Lyng (1-0), A Neary (1-0), S Farrell (3-3). **SUBS:** M O'Connor (0-1) for Quilty half time, K Duggan for Neary 34 mins, K Hamilton for Dargan 38 mins, A Fahey for Delaney 47 mins.

REF: F McNamara (Clare).

IRISH DAILY
STAR
NATIONAL
CAMOGIE
LEAGUE

SCRAMBLE: Amy Murphy of Dublin (left) in action against Grace Walsh of Kilkenny at Croker on Saturday night

SUBSTITUTE GROGAN SEALS WIN FOR TIPP

CLAIRE GROGAN came off the bench to score the winning point for Tipperary against Cork in a cracking Irish Daily Star Camogie League Division 1 contest at The Ragg.

Playing with a strong wind, the Leesiders led by 1-6 to 0-4 at the interval, Gemma O'Connor's free from distance giving them the upper hand.

Sile Burns weighed in with six points from frees for Cork

CAMOGIE round-up

over the hour but the loss of O'Connor with a dead leg had a significant impact as Tipperary thundered into the game.

Younger

Three of the younger brigade, Nicole Walsh, Sarah Friday and Brid Quinn were very much to the fore for John Lillis's team. Walsh converted six frees suc-

cessfully to bring them level before Grogan struck to snatch a 0-14 to 1-10 victory for Tipp.

In Group 1, Wexford beat Offaly by 2-14 to 0-10 while Galway out-pointed Clare 0-17 to 0-8.

The introduction of Lenny Holohan and Katrina Parrock at half-time was the crucial factor as the champions saw off the Faithful.

Both subs scored second-half

goals against a team that didn't manage a score from play until Orla Kirwan raised a white flag in injury time.

Eluded

Offaly led at half time by 0-6 to 0-5 with all their scores coming from Elaine Dermody, but the goal they needed eluded them.

Aislinn Connolly hit eight points, six from placed balls, as

Galway built on a 0-7 to 0-6 half time lead to take the spoils.

Claire McMahon and Chloe Morey of Clare scored six points between them from frees but it was not enough.

In Division 2, Antrim edged out Wexford 3-6 to 3-4 in a thriller, Waterford beat Limerick 1-8 to 0-8, Galway beat Down 0-16 to 1-6 and Cork gained a measure of revenge by overcoming Tip 0-11 to 0-6.

Cork falter despite Burns' contribution

Cork
Tipperary

1-10
0-14

IT'S been a while since Cork were on the receiving end of a defeat to Tipperary yet that's how it turned out at the Ragg yesterday afternoon.

The signs weren't good at the break when Cork, despite turning around 1-6 to 0-4 in front, had scored just one point from play with a gale to their backs.

The home side made far greater use of the elements striking 10 points to Cork's four in the second period thereby holding out for what is for them a very pleasing victory.

Cork were without the services of key personnel such as Rena Buckley, Orla Cotter and Jennifer O'Leary so when Gemma O'Connor was forced off early in the second-half it was a significant additional loss.

With a new look lineout, Cork tried a number of positional switches throughout the game. Amanda O'Regan commenced at full-back and seemed comfortable, catching good ball. The narrow pitch didn't allow for open play with the game scrappy at the best of times. Julie Kirwan at centre-back was having a tough battle with Gemma O'Connor and when both collided midway through the half, O'Connor came off the worse, switching to full-forward shortly afterwards.

What was notable was Cork's lack of threat on goal while it took them 19 minutes to register a score from play. Katrina Mackey the provider. A fortuitous O'Connor goal from a 70-metre free put a rather flattering reflection on the scoreboard.

Five points wasn't a considerable advantage and so it proved when Tipperary hit four unanswered points within five minutes of the restart to narrow the gap to one.

Jill Horan stepped up and started to cause problems while Julie Kirwan played a tremendous role at centre-back. Two inspirational



Sile Burns proved accurate from the dead ball against Tipperary when five of her six points came from frees.



LINDA MELLERICK

CAMOGIE

points from left half-back Mary Ryan and one from Julie McGrath at right half epitomised how strong the wind was and how Cork failed to utilise it to the same degree.

Sile Burns (2) and Mackey hit points in quick succession to stretch Cork's lead to four again after 38 minutes indicating they had weathered the storm. But their failure to win little or no ball in

their half-forward line and struggling at centre-field meant Cork were under immense pressure at the back, where Elaine O'Riordan and Anna Geary in particular did all they could.

Tipp were level with 52 minutes gone after Nicole Walshe, competent with her frees all day, struck two while Ryan hit her two beauties.

Cork conceded 12 frees in the second-half and it pushed Tipp forward. While they must take responsibility for some, referee Karl O'Brien made some petty and questionable decisions.

Substitute Clare Grogan hit over after only three minutes on the pitch which saw Tipp take a two-point advantage into the final minutes. A Burns' free narrowed

the gap. Cork were handed a final opportunity two minutes into injury-time when Amanda O'Regan was called upon to strike a free which would give Cork a share of the spoils. Unfortunately it dropped wide.

Scorers for Cork: S Burns 0-6 (0-5f), G O'Connor 1-2 (f), K Mackey 0-2.

Tipperary: N Walshe 0-6 (f), M Ryan 0-2, S Fryday 0-2, J Horan, J Ryan, C Grogan, J McGrath 0-1 each.

CORK: E White; J Duffy, A O'Regan, P Mackey, E O'Riordan, A Geary, C Moherway, B Corkery, L Dorgan, D Cronin, G O'Connor, E O'Sullivan; S Burns, M Browne, K Mackey. Subs: M Walsh for G O'Connor (inj, 39), D Twomey for M Browne (59).

TIPPERARY: R Kenneally; S Ryan, S Larkin, M Tynan; J McGrath, J Kirwan, M Ryan; M Shortt, B Quinn; D Dunne, J Horan, S Fryday; A Loneragan, J Ryan, N Walshe.

Subs: C Quirke for A Loneragan (43), N Flanagan for S Ryan (43), C Grogan for B Quinn (52).

Referee: Karl O'Brien (Dublin).

Cork get off to a winning start against Tipp

Cork
Tipperary

0-11
0-6

CAMOGIE

A STRONG second-half performance ensured a good start to the opening round of the Division Two National Senior League for Cork as they overcame the challenge posed by Tipperary the Ragg yesterday, writes **MARY NEWMAN**.

Tipperary, playing with the aid of the strong wind in the opening half, could only turn around level at the break after Cork, with their defence well on top, matched them step for step in all sectors and it was 0-4

apiece as the sides went to the dressing room at half time.

In the opening half Marie O'Neill was on target with three Cork points while Emer Watson hit one as Aoife Ryan, Sandra O'Dwyer (2) and Eirena Fryday were on the score sheet for the home side.

Cork hit the front and went three points clear inside 10 minutes of the restart, Marie O'Neill was on target with two pointed frees and one from play as Cork, aided by the elements, pressurised the Tipperary defence.

Despite playing against the wind

Tipp won a lot of possession around the centre of the field and put the Cork defence under pressure but they could find no way past goal keeper Gillian Harrington who had excellent support from Roisin De Faoite, Emma Jordan and Lydia Cunningham in defence.

Aoife Ryan pointed twice to narrow the gap to a point and as Tipp battled to gain control, the Cork rear guard with Cunningham and De Faoite superb, held their lines. Despite the pressure that was as close as it got as Cork, regaining their composure, finished strongly with four points without reply from Mar-

ie O'Neill, Marie Watson, Mariah Reidy, and Marion Jagoe ensured the best possible start to their league campaign.

Scorers for Cork: M O'Neill 0-7 (0-4f), E Watson, M Watson, M Reidy, M Jagoe 0-1 each.

Tipperary: A Ryan 0-3 (0-2f), S O'Dwyer 0-2, E Fryday 0-1.

CORK: G Harrington; E Jordan, R De Faoite, A Kiely, C O'Mahony, C Murphy, L Cunningham; J Lynch, S Buckley; M Jagoe, M O'Neill (c), C Kearney, E Watson, L Bugler.

Subs: A Coughlan for A Kiely (inj 12), M Reidy for C Kearney (28), C Hayes for C O'Mahony (42), L Weste for L Bugler (43).

TIPPERARY: O McEnery; S O'Neill, H Costigan (c), L Cahill; A Fogarty, S Ryan, T Ryan; S O'Dwyer, J Nolan; E Fryday, G Ormande; T Greedy, A Ryan, A Brisbane, E Hough.

Subs: C McGrath for E Hough (49), N Slattery for T Greedy (55).

Referee: Andrew Monahan (Clare).

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Under age

IT'S all systems go as juvenile camogie board announced their grading from under 14 to 16 in leagues competitions for the season ahead. Clubs such as Aghada, Doneraile, Fermoy and Kanturk are making their debut this year, and Erin's Own are set to reform.

The grading for the Under 14 and 16 grades and the teams in each section as follows.

UNDER 16 A 11 Teams

Ballinacorney, Buttevant, Carrigaline, Courcy Rovers, Cloughduv, Douglas, 1 Eire Og, Inniscarra, Killeagh, Newtownshandrum, Valley Rovers.

UNDER 16 B 22 Teams

Aghabullogue, Ballincollig, Ballyhea, Barryroe, Bishopstown, Blackrock, Brian Dillon's, Carrigrohilly, Clonakilty, Enniskerry, Fr. O' Neills, Glen Rovers, Kilbrittain/Timoleague, Mallow, Millstreet, Na Piarasigh, St. Catherine's, St. Finbarr's, St. Vincent's, Sarsfields, Slahh Rua, Tracton.

UNDER 16 C 19 Teams

Ballinacorney, Ballygarvan, Banteer, Ballinora, Bride Rovers, Blarney, Cobh, Charleville Castle Lyons, Douglas 2, Dungourney, Grenagh, Kildorrey, Newcestown, Millford, St. Fanahan's, Sarsfields 2, Youghal, Watergrasshill.

UNDER 16 D 7 Teams

This grade is for new clubs or those just started to compete at under 16 level for the first time. Bantry, St. Colm's, Aghada, Doneraile, Fermoy, Erin's Own, Kanturk.

UNDER 14 A 9 Teams

Ballinacorney, Courcy Rovers Douglas 1 Eire OG Killeagh Kilbrittain/Timoleague Valley Rovers St. Vincent's 1 Sarsfields 1.

UNDER 14 B 25 Teams

Aghabullogue, Ballincollig, Ballyhea, Barryroe, Blackrock, Bishopstown, Brian Dillon's, Buttevant, Carrigaline 1, Carrigrohilly, Clonakilty, Cloughduv, Douglas 2, Dungourney, Enniskerry, Fr. O' Neill's, Glen Rovers, Inniscarra, Mallow, Millstreet, Na Piarasigh, Newtownshandrum, Slahh Rua, St. Finbarr's, Tracton.

UNDER 14 C 24 Teams

Ballinacorney, Ballinora, Ballygarvan, Banteer, Blarney, Bride Rovers, Carrigaline 2, Castle Lyons, Charleville, Cobh, Grenagh, Kiltree, Kildorrey, Millford, Newcestown, Passage, Rockban, St. Catherine's, Sarsfields 2, St. Fanahan's, Sarsfields 3, Valley Rovers 2, Youghal, Watergrasshill.

UNDER 14 D 7 Teams

As with the under 16 grade the Under 14 D is confined to new clubs and clubs just started to compete at under 14 level for the first time. Bantry, St. Colm's, Aghada, Doneraile, Fermoy, Erin's Own, Kanturk.

Camán everybody!

A NOVEL competition will take in Croke Park place during the All-Ireland Camogie Club Finals on Sunday.

Post-primary schools are getting the opportunity to enter a Camán and Run solo and hand-pass relay race and there will be a senior and junior competition where five teams will run in the Junior Relay Race and five will take part in the Senior Race.

The participating teams are being selected in a draw today.



Karen's leading Inniscarra to Croke Park showdown

INNISCARRA are ready and counting down to their big day in Croke Park on Sunday next and ticket prices and arrangements for the All Ireland club finals were announced in the past week as the association puts the finishing touches to their preparations.

The double header will see Eoghan Rua of Derry and The Harps of Laois battle it out to take the inaugural Intermediate club title, with throw-in at 1pm. Cork and Munster champions Inniscarra will be hoping to become the first Cork club to lift the title since Glen Rovers in 1993 when they face Killimor of Galway in the senior final at 3pm.

Inniscarra Chairperson Sean Twohig is looking forward to the day: "It's a dream come through for the club to be in the final and we are really determined to do well, having won the senior county title and Munster title for the first time in our club's history. It would be the icing on the cake if we could go all the way and be crowned All Ireland champions."

Sean paid tribute to everybody who has helped the club in their journey, including players and mentors, the supporters and everybody who has backed them with help.

Speaking at the launch of the finals in Croke Park president Joan



Team captains Eimear Haverty of Killimor (left) and Inniscarra's Karen Jones who will be contesting the senior All-Ireland Camogie Club Championship Final on Sunday. Below, Eimear and Karen along with the captains of the Intermediate sides in the double bill — Meabh McGoldrick (Eoghan Rua) and Elaine Cuddy (The Harps).

Pictures: INPHO/Morgan Treacy

O'Flynn said it was vital that camogie fans nationwide travelled to support the finals:

"March 6th marks another fantastic day in the camogie calendar. Following on from our triple header

championship finals in September of last year the opportunity is now with four further teams to play in this fantastic stadium. Clubs are the backbone of the association and play a thriving part in communities all

across Ireland. March 6th will bring together families and communities to support their camogie club side. There is a strong pride and interest in the players' achievement in representing their clubs and county on our finest stage in Croke Park. It is important that all of the community shows that support by travelling."

"In 2010 more people than ever before watched Camogie. We want to build on that in 2011. We want Gaelic games followers in each county to get behind the clubs involved and bring as much support as possible to Croke Park."

An added attraction is a novelty camán and run relay race for post-primary schools. This will take place during the half-time intervals. Post-primary schools have been invited to submit entries to participate in a Junior and Senior solo relay and handpass race.

Ticket prices for the double header are adult €15, students/OAPS €10, juveniles €5. Group prices are also available with 10 juveniles costing €50 and this included free admission for two adults.

Tickets can be purchased in advance from the GAA Ticket Office by logging on to www.gaa.ie, or from local clubs. On the day they will be on sale at the Hogan Stand entrance, on Jones Rd and Gills Corner.



Purcell All Star Team 2011



Laura Quinn (QUB)	Grainne Quinn (DIT)	Kate Lynch (Mary I)	Laura Twomey (DCU)
Mairead Short (QUB)	Catriona Foley (TCD)	Emma Brennan (DCU)	
Jane Dolan (DIT)		Keelan Bradley (QUB)	
Cathy Bowes (DIT)	Colette McSorley (QUB)	Aoife Burke (DIT)	
Sinead Cassidy (QUB)	Orlaith Murphy (IT Tralee)	Joeleen Hoary (DIT)	

ALL-IRELAND SENIOR CLUB CAMOGIE FINAL PREVIEW



Inniscarra camogie management team, Paula Goggins, Fergal O'Leary, Irene O'Keeffe and Sean Twohig, have worked diligently to ensure that everything is ready for Sunday's All-Ireland final at Croke Park.



Young stars of the Inniscarra team, 16 year-old Orla Healy, left, and 14 year-old Niamh McCarthy. Niamh has, of course strong connections in west Carbery, she is daughter of Andrew McCarthy from Drimoleague, selector with Cork minor footballers, and Rose Breen from Skibbereen, former international basketball player.

Inniscarra bid for glory

Historic appearance in All-Ireland Senior Club Camogie Final for Mid Cork side

BY TIM BUCKLEY

WHATEVER happens on Sunday March 6th this has been a golden year for the parish of Inniscarra. Can it get much better for a Camogie Club in one year. Ballincollig Invitational Tournament February 2010, County U18A Championship, Senior A Championship and League, Junior Shield Championship, Munster Senior A Championship 2010.

Having beaten the Ulster Champions O'Donovan Rossa two weeks ago in the All-Ireland semi-final Inniscarra have now a place in the Senior A All-Ireland final in Croke Park on this Sunday March 6th next against Connacht champions Killimor from near Ballinasloe.

The whole parish has come out in great numbers to support the teams all through the year. An estimated 500 to 1,000 people travelled to Nowlan Park, Kilkenny, to the semi-final against O'Donovan Rossa of Belfast on February 13th and came away very satisfied and proud of their team's performance.

Team coach Fergal O'Leary describes passionately the decisions the team made together especially in the dressing room after they were beaten in the 2009 championship by Milford. Everybody knew this was a game they should have won and came away from that dressing room with a determination for the future to keep going and never give up until the final whistle. This trait has

been the big difference this year. Games have been drawn or won in very tight situations but never lost.

The winning the Ballincollig tournament in the beginning of 2010 was key to building confidence and the development and maturing of the squad as a whole throughout the county and munster championship and now to the All Ireland final.

In the first round of the county Inniscarra accounted easily for the Barr's. Then followed Cloghduv who had no answer for their superior scoring power. After that they accounted for the Barr's who had come through the back door in the third round the word in reports was Inniscarra looked like the finished article but their toughest encounters were yet to come.

In the semi-final against Douglas Inniscarra built up a good lead by half-time. But instead of defending the lead Douglas came back to draw the match. The replay was a tough, bruising encounter in which Cork All Star and winner of nine All-Ireland medals with Cork Rena Buckley got a severe shoulder injury but despite this severe setback Inniscarra went on to win by two points.

In the county final against Imokilly Inniscarra had to line out without injured Rena Buckley and survived a rip-roaring game full of atmosphere, thrills and spills in CIT. The game ended 4-9 apiece. Before the replay of the county the Munster semi-final between Innis-

carra and a very fancied Burgess Duharra (Tipp) went ahead in Ballynaly and what a huge performance in front of the home parish winning 2-10 to 2-6.

One girl Niamh McCarthy stood out in these two high scoring games with a canny ability to score goals at crucial stages to give the team huge confidence. Niamh, who is only 14 years of age, has a brilliant sports career in front of her. She is daughter of Andrew McCarthy from Drimoleague selector with Cork minor footballers, and Rose Breen from Skibbereen, former international basketball player with Ireland. Then it was on to Newtownshandrum for the Munster Senior A Championship final. Inniscarra wrote a brand new chapter in their camogie history beating Limerick champions Granagh/Ballingarry 0-10 to 0-7 on Saturday 30th October, 2010.

It was all getting a little surreal! The driving motivation of all their endeavours since Inniscarra achieved senior status was to win the county. Well, they did it and in what a fashion! Grit, determination and the never-say-die attitude were in full evidence for the county final replay. It looked as if they had given it their best shot, two points adrift and time ebbing away rapidly; supporters were resigned to what seemed inevitable when the indomitable Niamh Dilworth and the magician Rena Buckley combined to conjure and deliver the



The All-Ireland Club Camogie Finals return to Croke Park after a break of almost forty years and President Joan O'Flynn is urging camogie fans to get behind the event and mark the historic occasion. The double header fixture takes place this Sunday March 6th with Cork champions Inniscarra facing Killimor of Galway in the senior encounter, while Eoghan Rua of Derry meet The Harps of Laois in the intermediate final while. At the announcement is Joan O'Flynn, President of the Camogie Association, with senior team captains, Eimear Haverty, Killimor, left, and Karen Jones, Inniscarra. (Photo: Brian Lawless/SPORTSFILE)

mother of all sucker-punches with a sweet strike to the inside netting to send the whole parish into ecstasy!

Inniscarra had secured their first senior county title by a single point over Imokilly in a way that will never be forgotten! Inniscarra 1-8 Imokilly 1-7. Captain marvellous, Margaret Noelle O'Sullivan, gave an

equally memorable acceptance speech worthy of Croke.

During the month of November Inniscarra added to their haul of trophies the Junior Shield Championship, U18 A Championship, Senior League and were unlucky to be beaten in the U16 A championship semi-final replay.

The listing of the achieve-

ments alone does not convey the sheer joy and exhilaration brought to all of Inniscarra by the standard of camogie played in so many close fought encounters. Whatever happens on this Sunday it has been a golden year for the parish of Inniscarra and Camogie in particular.

MARCH 2011

Niamh seeking crowning glory

QUIET and unassuming best describes Inniscarra's Niamh Dilworth, despite her whirlwind 12 months.

In the last year she has picked up a Cork senior county championship and a Munster club championship medal, the *Evening Echo* Player of the Match award in the county final and to cap it all the November *Evening Echo* Ladies Sports Star award. And she isn't finished yet!

It has been a season of non-stop action for the third-year Tralee IT nursing student and with just 60 minutes to go in the 2010 campaign, she has a chance to add to her ever-growing medal collection at Croke Park on Sunday.

"To be honest it is a dream come true to be playing in Croke Park. I always hoped to maybe play there but never in my wildest dreams did I think I would with my club. It's great that the club finals are being held there for the first time in over 40 years."

Looking back on Inniscarra's season, Niamh says that they just took every game as it came.

"We drew St Finbarr's in the first round of the championship and we got over them. We then met Cloughduv and worked really hard to overcome the challenge."

"Having beaten two teams who would have won the championship in recent times we began to believe we could do it."

"Our back-room team instilled the belief in us, and Fergal O'Leary continued to build on the foundations he laid in 2009 when he came on board."

"He worked on improving our basic skills and helped to give us the confidence in ourselves."

Niamh is conscious that everybody on the panel needs to be in top form to hold their place on the team.

"We have a very strong panel and to be honest nobody is guaranteed a place on the team."

"Each game we play we seem to change it around and the competition for places certainly keeps us on our toes."



Inniscarra's Niamh Dilworth in action during the Munster Senior Camogie semi-final last year.

CAMOGIE

By MARY NEWMAN

Niamh took up camogie under the influence of school principal Paul Olden in Berrings National School and her team-mates on the Sciath na Scol teams included Rena and Mary Buckley, Fiona O'Connell, Margaret Cosgrave and Joanne Casey.

"Paul was big into hurling and camogie and it was great to have such enthusiasm in the school. We won two Sciath titles and it was great to have such excitement."

It was a natural progression to

join the Inniscarra club. With the support of her mother Eileen, she soon became a regular on the club's underage teams.

"Many of the girls from school were playing with the club so I got involved as well."

Niamh enjoyed her underage years and represented Cork in the Féile na nGael skills in 2004.

By the time she joined the Inniscarra senior panel in 2005 she had won an U16 B championship medal and won the U16 A league and championship medals the following year.

"We had a very good team but lost out to Douglas at minor level. They were always our main rivals

at underage, so when we met in the county semi-final in 2010 it was great to get one over on them, although it went to a replay before we made it to the final."

Having played at underage level with Cork and having come onto the senior panel for last year's semi-final, Niamh would love to be involved at inter-county level.

For the moment it's hard with studying and hospital placements but she remains hopeful.

"Maybe in the summer I may be able to give it the commitment it needs to play at that level, right now I just couldn't commit to it."

"Coming up from Tralee for the club training. I travel up on Wednesdays with Irene O'Keeffe, who is now based in Listowel, and it is hard travelling but it is great to be getting ready for a club All-Ireland final."

The significance of what lies ahead is not lost on Niamh who was just three years old when the club title last came to Cork in 1993.

"Being so interested in camogie I know that the club title is something very special."

"When you look at the Cork clubs who have won it — Glen Rovers have four and Killeagh have one — it would be nice and a great honour to see Inniscarra's name on the roll of honour alongside two Cork clubs with such huge traditions."

While Niamh is nervous about the occasion she is not going to let it spoil her day.

"I think we have come through tough county and Munster campaigns and we know what we have to do."

"We might get just one chance at it and we have to grab it. We will do everything in our power to bring the title back."

With such a positive attitude from one of their youngest stars, Inniscarra should have no fear of Killimor on Sunday.

It's been a superb seasons to date and one which will hopefully see Niamh add to her impressive collection come 5pm on Sunday. We wish her and her team-mates the very best of luck.

Camogie boss not worried by start

CAMOGIE

IT WOULD be wise for Cork not to get too caught up in Sunday's one-point defeat, writes **LINDA MELLERICK**.

With a relatively new line-up and a new manager in place less than a week before the Tipp league match, it is bound to take time for both to acclimatise. Manager Joe O'Brien hasn't had the opportunity to even commence stamping his mark on the side and without doubt it will be a work in progress. What did he learn from his first competitive outing as manager of Cork?

"Well, I've learned a lot, I've learned about referees and how picky they are but that's the way it is."

"It's our first game, we've lost by a point but as I said to the girls it's our first game, we've little or nothing done."

"Fitness wise we're about 70 percent there, if some of them are even at that, our first touch is practically non-existent so in terms of learning anything... Yeah we've an awful lot of work to do."

Joe no doubt has in his mind the style of hurling he would like the team to play?

"Yes and when I spoke to the team in the dressing room beforehand I kept it simple without over elaborating because really they don't know what I want or expect from them at this stage or what they expect of me."

"You're not going to do that overnight. It's going to take the next two months of real solid hard work I think for them to be at the level that I want them to play."

Cork had no flow and showed little connection with each other and Joe isn't surprised.

"That's what I told them, keep it simple. If the ball is there, hit it. Within the coming weeks and months all that will come."

"They'll know when they get the ball how to hit it and where it's going."

"They'll all know exactly where the ball is going to land."

Killimor boast an never-say-die attitude

KILLIMOR defied the odds to defeat raging-hot favourites Oulart the Ballagh, from Wexford, and secure a place in this weekend's All-Ireland club championship final, writes **MARY NEWMAN**.

Last year saw them crowned Galway champions for the first time in their history, having lived in the shadows of clubs such as Athenry Davitt's and Mullagh for years.

The victory helped give the players huge belief and, with the county title secured, manager Tommy Callagy set his sights on making it to Croke Park. As Galway county champions they automatically represented Connacht at the semi-final stage and showed tremendous battling qualities and a never-say-die attitude to carved out a victory in

CAMOGIE
By MARY NEWMAN

heavy conditions, when torrential rain hampered proceedings and made it extremely difficult for both sides. In the finish they emerged victors by a one point margin and, having shown such spirit and determination, they are

now focused on creating history by taking their first All-Ireland club title at the expense of Inniscarra.

In their semi-final outing it was tough for the entire 60 minutes.

They led at the break by 0-5 to 0-4 and held their lead through the second half, despite enormous pressure from Oulart.

They are backboned by inter-county players Martina Conroy, Brenda

Hanney and Susan Keane while players of the calibre of Ann Marie Hayes, Lorraine Donnelly and Ann Marie Starr firmly underline the strength of the side.

Now just 60 minutes away from creating history, it's a chance that may never come their way again and, having knocked out the favourites, they know what they must do.

Forty-three years of remarkable progress for club

BY TIM BUCKLEY

CAMOGIE has been played in Inniscarra since the early 1940s but it was not until 1967 that the Inniscarra club as we know it today was formed and a great debt is owed to those people who had the vision to embark on a great adventure because an adventure it has been.

Along the way Inniscarra have won 13 county titles and 3 Feile na nGael titles. Since going up to senior A in 1996 Inniscarra are this year's Cork County Champions at the third time of asking having being beaten in the finals of 2003 and 2005.

The founder members must be very proud of the progress the club has made over the last 43 years, especially as on October 30th last Inniscarra became Munster Senior Club Champions for the first time.

On and off the field Inniscarra people have made a great contribution to the game of camogie. Mary O'Callaghan RIP was national president, Sheila Golden county chairperson and county president and is at present county secretary. Con Hayes and Tim Buckley were officers of Cumann Camógaíochta na nÓg at its formation. Also Inniscarra has won three All-Ireland question title titles.

One of our most famous

players is Irene O'Keeffe who won five Senior All-Ireland medals with Cork, and was also voted player of the final on two occasions. Rena Buckley has four senior medals with Cork. Ger Casey also has a Senior and Junior All Ireland medal and was voted player of the final in the Junior All Ireland Final, which was a great achievement as she was goal-keeper. Rena Buckley, Joanne Casey Niamh Dilworth represented the club on this year's Cork Senior team.

Exactly one hundred years and one week since the first official camogie game was played in Navan on July 17th 1904 history was made in camogie circles in Co Cork on Sunday 25th of July 2004 when Miriam Uí Cheallacháin, Uachtarán Cumann Camógaíochta na nGael, officially declared Páirc Camógaíochta Inis Cartha in Ballynanly open for business.

This was the culmination of an extraordinary feat for the Inniscarra club in the historic Centenary Year of Camogie as this was the first pitch in Co Cork and only the third in the country to be dedicated to camogie only.

It was the first camogie pitch in the country to be bought and developed to completion by a club.

A lot done, a lot more to do. Roll on the adventure.

Inniscarra ready for All-Ireland camogie final

IT'S all systems go this weekend as Inniscarra count down to their big day in Croke Park on Sunday with ticket prices and arrangements for the All-Ireland club camogie finals announced in the past week.

Cork and Munster champions Inniscarra, who are looking to become the first Cork club to lift the title since Glen Rovers in 1993, meet Killimor of Galway in the senior final at 3pm.

Eoghan Rua of Derry and The Harps of Laois battle it out in the Intermediate final at 1pm.

Inniscarra Chairperson Sean Twohig is looking forward to the day.

"It's a dream come through for the club to be in the final and we are really determined to do well, having won the senior county title and Munster title for the first time ever in our club's history it would be the icing on the cake if we could go all the way and be crowned All Ireland champions.

"I want to thank everybody who have supported and helped us we need everybody to come along on Sunday next and get behind the team as we face our toughest challenge to date," he added.

All-Ireland Club Camogie Final Sunday, Inniscarra v Killimor

The decision to play this game in Croke Park, at 3pm has greatly enhanced this competition and for both teams it's a unique occasion as they were first time winners of their respective county and provincial titles.

Inniscarra have enjoyed excellent success at under-age in recent years, so a county senior title was always likely to come their way, and it did, now they stand just 60 minutes away from the ultimate accolade and in the process become the first Cork team since Glen Rovers in 1993 to win the All-Ireland title.

There are many similarities between both teams, who have displayed remarkable tenacity to reach this final, with Lorraine Donnelly, Susan Keane, Martina Conroy and Ann Maire Starr key players for the Galway girls.

Rena Buckley, having recovered from injury was inspirational as Inniscarra collected their titles with some outstanding wins with Joanne Casey, Margaret Noelle O'Sullivan and Sinead Ní Riain offering great support there is a unity of purpose about the Cork champions, that makes them hard to beat.

Finals can be hard to predict, but on this occasion I fancy Inniscarra to emulate the hurriers of Meelin and Ballymartle by winning an All-Ireland title in Croke Park, and making it an early season hat-trick for the Rebel County.

There is full match commentary on the final on C 103's Cork Sports Sunday.

MARCH 2011

Croke Park date for Inniscarra

Cork camogie champions Inniscarra go in search of All-Ireland glory on Sunday when they take on Galway's Killimor, and the added bonus for travelling fans is that the game will be played in Croke Park. For many of the players taking the field on Sunday, it's a rare opportunity to line out at GAA Headquarters and it's a memory that will stay with them for a long time. For many young people taking up GAA in Cork, playing in Páirc Uí Chaoimh was the aim, so I'm glad to see we've progressed to a stage where all levels of all GAA sports are getting their big day out.

No doubt the venue will add some nerves to the occasion but once the ball is thrown in, those will fade fast. These are two excellent sides that have endured two difficult semi-final battles to get to where they are. For Inniscarra, that road included a hard earned win against 2008 champions O'Donovan

"If the semi-final matches are anything to go by, we can expect another cracking game in Croke Park on Sunday."

Dilworth's move to centre forward, edged the game in favour of the Cork champions. Killimor had an equally difficult game against the well-fancied Oulart The Ballagh. The Wexford champions were touted for the All-Ireland title once they came through Leinster and many were shocked when they heard Killimor had beaten a team laden with Wexford county stars by a point.

If the semi-final matches are anything to go by, we can expect another cracking game in Croke Park on Sunday. It's always nice to see new All-Ireland champions in a sport and it's encouraging to see two young sides making the breakthrough. After the success Cork sides have had in Croker over the last few weeks, it would be nice to see it continue on Sunday afternoon. Judging by the talk about this Inniscarra team, it may not be the last time we see them there either.



A lifelong member of Inniscarra CC, Margaret Noelle is a charismatic figure in the club and in the dressing room. She has won county medals at U12, U14, U16, Junior B and A, intermediate, senior B and A and Munster senior A. Margaret has also represented Cork at U18 and intermediate level. A solicitor by profession she also held the role of club secretary for a number of years. To sum up, Margaret is a true ambassador for Inniscarra Camogie Club.

Killimor boss Callaghy wary of Iniscarra's running game

EOGHAN CORMICAN

KILLIMOR team manager Tommy Callaghy insists his charges will have to counter the strong running game of their opponents if they are to emerge victorious from Sunday's eagerly awaited All-Ireland Club camogie final at GAA headquarters.

With Inniscarra having out-fought previous club champions O'Donovan Rossa and Granagh/Ballingary in their last two outings, Callaghy, speaking to Tribune Sport ahead of the final, is acutely aware of the mammoth task facing Killimor.

"I saw Inniscarra and they are a very strong outfit and as with Cork teams, they play a running game - we will have to try to counter act that. They have two very good corner forwards. There's a young McCarthy girl, she's only fifteen, in corner forward and she's a fine player."

In defence, Inniscarra will look to the likes of Liz Hayes and All Ireland camogie and ladies football winner Rena



Killimor attacker Claire Conroy.

Buckley, but it is further forward where the real threat lies in Niamh Dilworth and

Joanne Casey, a sentiment shared by Callaghy.

"Niamh Dilworth is a very



Killimor defender Marie Duane.

strong player, physically very strong, athletic as well and will pose problems. But our

backline all year has stood the test of some hard matches and some great players and

we hope the occasion won't get to them. Hopefully, we will be there at the death. We are not a bad team to finish games. If we're still there with five or ten minutes to go, we'll be hard beaten."

No doubt, if Killimor are to secure the Bill Carroll Cup it will require an almighty effort, but according to Callaghy one that is not beyond the ability of his charges.

"It's going to be tough on the day, but we're hopeful and we have prepared well. You don't know what will happen on the day, but I believe our girls will do okay."

As preparations go, the Killimor manager is confident everything has gone according to script alluding to the expert contribution of trainer Bertie Sherlock as a primary factor in the side's excellent run of form.

"Preparations are going well. We had a challenge against the Galway senior team last week. The training has been absolutely brilliant. Bertie has a serious effort put

in with us and the girls. Their commitment is second to none. I've been involved with a lot of teams in my time, but these girls are absolutely totally, committed."

Certainly, Killimor's semi-final win was a statement in itself decorated with spirit, heart and an unrelenting tenacity.

Each of these ingredients contributed to a famous one point victory.

That said, flaws were apparent none more so than the side's erratic shooting in front of goal. Almost every forward was guilty of adding to the wides tally, especially towards the latter stages of the tie when the game hung delicately in the balance.

"We probably hadn't enough shooting practice done before that game. It was more about getting the players up to speed and up to fitness," admits Callaghy.

"Looking back at it they probably missed a goal but we missed two or three goals and several points. What I really liked about it was the charac-

ter of the team. Going into injury time we went a point down and we came back and got two points in injury time."

Callaghy, who was at the helm when Killimor suffered final defeat in 2009, points to the Athenry game in which Killimor won out courtesy of a late Lorraine Donnelly goal, as the turning point in their season.

"The girls had to get that out of their system that they be able to beat Athenry. Once you get into that winning feeling, it's very hard even in tight games to accept defeat. I think that carried us through against Mullagh as well. Mullagh had it all to play for because they were underdogs. They put it up to us and we had to answer it in the second half and we did."

With Callaghy at the forefront, Killimor won't be lacking anything by the way of passion or conviction come throw in on Sunday. He has brought them to the gates of immortality. All that remains is for those on the field of play to finish the job.

Past setbacks help Killimor to forge a winning mentality

Hanney and Conroy determined that Galway camogie champions will give it their best shot in All-Ireland final



The four sets of sisters on the Killimor panel, from left: Brenda Hanney, Niamh Hanney, Martina Conroy, Claire Conroy, Serena Brien, Karen Brien, Lorraine Donnelly and Nicola Donnelly.

MARCH 2011

KILLIMOR captain Brenda Hanney believes the strong bond within the panel, forged by past disappointments, has played a key role in bringing the side to within one hour of All-Ireland glory.

After successive County semi-final defeats in 2007 and '08, Killimor finally reached the decider in 2009 only to be denied by Athenry. That said, Hanney insists it is the bad rather than the good days which have been the making of this team.

"We've learned a lot in the last couple of years. We've gone the hard way to get out of Galway, but finally last year we've got that little stroke of luck," says Hanney.

"We've been through so much, up and down, in the last few years and that's what brings teams together. A very strong bond has formed. There is a sole focus in the whole group. Everyone wants the exact same thing. We're lucky we have that team bond and please god it will stand to us."



Killimor vice-captain Eimear Haverty.

Despite experiencing the pain and hurt of All-Ireland defeat on her last visit to the capital, Hanney is relishing a return to Croke Park.

"In Croke Park last year (we) didn't get the result that we had wanted that day so hopefully we can right that

wrong next Sunday when we go there with the club. It's very special honour for the club to be there."

"The All-Ireland series is very new to this team but I don't think we'll be phased too much by it (Croke Park). Hard work creates that little bit of

luck so we're just hoping to have enough to see us through next week," adds the centre forward.

An All-Ireland junior and intermediate medal winner in 2004 and '05, Hanney affirms that coming out on top in tight scraps such as the county semi-final has fostered a winning mentality which was very much evident at Duggan Park a month ago.

"The Athenry game and the Mullagh game stood to us against Oulart. It's all a learning curve and hopefully we can build on it again. We've put ourselves in a very nice position heading up to headquarters next Sunday."

In any event, Hanney is under no illusions as to the joust in store. "It's an All-Ireland final. They're precious for one reason and they're hard to win. Cork teams have this never say die attitude."

"We know we have a big task ahead of us. The challenge, we're looking forward to it, it's a big challenge, it's an exciting challenge, and please god we can keep the head down this week, get the final

leg of preparations right and give this one hell of a shot."

Provider of the winning score against Oulart the Ballagh and a deserved recipient of the player of the match in the county final, Martina Conroy is extremely relaxed as she ponders the showdown.

Looking back at the semi-final, Conroy admits that the free which ultimately swung the tie in Killimor's favour was one of the hardest she ever had to take. "I was thinking put this over the bar or I'll be killed."

"It was brilliant. Everyone just pulled up their socks we didn't have any pressure. We had so much pressure in the county final, but with the semi-final we said we'd give it a lash. We played our hearts out and it really worked."

Conroy, who was an integral link in the successful Galway Intermediate team of '09, acknowledges the manner in

which the squad responded to the crushing county semi-final loss of 2009 steeled the current crop.

"We were gutted that day against Pearses. We really threw it away but thank God we bounced back. We've worked hard for the past couple of years and it's paid off."

"After the county final anything else is a bonus but now we're here and we have a chance to do it, we are going to try our hardest and try to make history for the club."

It was Hanney and Conroy that provided the critical injury time scores to effectively steer Killimor into the final. It's days such as Sunday the pair live for and rarely, if ever are they found wanting when the occasion demands. Once more they will be expected to lead the Killimor charge.

Once more they will endeavour to create history.



KEY PLAYER: Killimor's Claire Conroy in action against Oulart the Ballagh's Shauna Sinnott in the All-Ireland Club semi-final.

Connolly's accuracy helps Galway to a comfortable league win over Clare

Galway 0-17
Clare 0-8

EOGHAN CORMICAN
IN BALLINAKILL

THE Galway senior camogie team registered their first win of the Irish Daily Star National League after comfortably overcoming the challenge of Clare at Ballinakill on Sunday.

Although, in patches, Galway were less than clinical in front of goal, the unerring accuracy of Aislinn Connolly combined with a noteworthy defensive effort headed, by centre back Sinead Keane, ensured the Tribeswomen collected their first points of the campaign.

In contrast to their opening round defeat to Wexford, Noel Finn's side were always in control and for the most part gave the impression that they were almost playing within themselves and that, had the occasion demanded, they would have moved up a gear.

In any event, despite playing into a strong wind, Galway led by 0-7 to 0-6 at the interval with Aislinn Connolly and Veronica Curtin, most effective on the left flank, tormenting the Clare defence.

Little or nothing between separated the sides in the opening quarter as Connolly (two frees and a '45) and Clare McMahon (two frees) exchanged early efforts with Athenry's Noreen Coen grabbing the game's first score 22v seconds in.

The home side enjoyed a productive spell thereafter with Veronica Curtin sniping a pair of points along with a terrific effort from Orla Kilkenny edging Galway three clear, but Clare responded, approaching the break, through Clare McMahon (two frees) following indiscipline in the Galway full back line.

With the wind at their backs, Galway forged ahead in the second period outscoring the visitors by 0-10 to 0-2. Naomi Carroll did level affairs two minutes after the restart, but

points subsequently from Rebecca Hennelly (free) and Aislinn Connolly (free) put Galway back in the ascendancy.

Clare's Chloe Moray (free) narrowed the gap in the ensuing passages of play but it would prove the Banner side's final score of the tie as Galway rattled off eight unanswered points in the final quarter.

Connolly, on target from both frees and play, struck four with Curtin, Niamh McGrath and Orla Kilkenny chipping in with a point apiece. Pearses Niamh Kilkenny, who was a real livewire at wing back, also got in on the scoring act.

Sunday's showing represented a marked improvement on the Wexford performance and victory against Offaly next time out will ensure qualification to the semi-final stage.

Regina Glynn impressed at corner back as did Sinead Keane and Lorraine Ryan in the half back line. The midfield experiment of Orla Kilkenny and Niamh McGrath worked well and is more than deserving of a second go in Galway's

next foray.

Up front, Aislinn Connolly was reliable from the placed ball with Veronica Curtin catching the eye in an encouraging display at wing forward.

Galway: S Eamer; R Glynn, S Dervan, S Cahalan; N Kilkenny (0-1), S Keane, L Ryan; O Kilkenny (0-2), N McGrath (0-1); R Hennelly (0-1 free), E Kilkelly, V Curtin (0-3); N Coen (0-1), F Keely, A Connolly (0-8, 0-5 frees, 0-145). Subs: J Gill for Kilkelly (39 mins), S Healy for Keely (55 mins), T Rutledge for Curtin (59 mins).

Clare: S Vaughan; K Lynch, S Donavan, M O'Brien; E Considine, R McMahon, S O'Loughlin; C Moray (0-2 frees), R Kaiser (0-1); L Linnane, S McMahon, F Lafferty; C McMahon (0-4, 0-4 frees), N Carroll (0-1), M Scanlon. Subs: S Enright for Scanlon (43 mins), N Murphy for Linnane (43 mins), A Harron for Considine (52 mins), A Considine for Carroll (56 mins).

Elsewhere Johnny Kane's intermediate side recorded their second victory in Division 2 of the National camogie league overcoming Down by 0-16 to 1-6 in Cappataggle. Meanwhile, the Galway U16s kick-start their three-in-a-row All Ireland when they face Derry on Saturday at Duggan Park (1pm).



Killimor half-back Karen Brien is thrilled after the semi-final victory over Oulart the Ballagh. Will the Galway champions be celebrating again after Sunday's All-Ireland Club final in Croke Park?

Margaret Noelle looking forward to Croker date

INNISCARRA captain Margaret Noelle O'Sullivan had contemplated hanging up her boots before as her side's most senior stalwart — but thankfully for Inniscarra she gave it one more go.

Just as in her job as a solicitor with PJ O'Driscoll & Sons on the South Mall, O'Sullivan's controlled style in the middle of the field has been key to Inniscarra's offensive build-up, but for her, it's been her side's unwavering commitment.

"It's been a long year but the girls have given it their all, and it's because of their commitment to the cause and the preparation by management that we are where we are."

"Losing in the past has made us more determined. It's easy to get despondent, but with the injection of youth in the panel this year and with every victory we captured, it gave us a great belief in ourselves."

"Killimor showed they're very like us in that regard. They have boundless levels of determination and they're extremely resolute, but knowing that helps us not to get complacent."

It has been almost 40 years since an All-Ireland camogie final showdown has been

played in Croke Park, and for O'Sullivan it's a mammoth privilege to be part of a new era, however she's cautious too of the enormity of doing so.

"It's an iconic venue, and the return of the camogie club finals there gives this game another historical dimension, but it's important we don't let the occasion get to us."

"Rena (Buckley) is the only one on the panel to have played there before, and I'm sure she'll have a few words of wisdom for the rest of us, but we can't let it cost us the game."

With six titles to their name already in the 2010/2011 season, O'Sullivan is quietly confident that Inniscarra can add another in bringing the Bill Carroll Cup to the banks of Leaside — the first time since Lynn Dunlea of Glen Rovers in 1993.

"We've prepared very well as a panel, and management have left no stone unturned, and we're happy with our preparation."

"There's also been great work done behind the scenes as well which has allowed us to concentrate solely on the game and that's been hugely helpful, but, in saying all that, we're acutely aware that we will have to be at our best if we're to win — regardless of what we've done up until now."

"There's also been great work done behind the scenes as well which has allowed us to concentrate solely on the game and that's been hugely helpful, but, in saying all that, we're acutely aware that we will have to be at our best if we're to win — regardless of what we've done up until now."



Margaret Noelle O'Sullivan, left, in action against Coleen Doherty, O'Donovan Rossa in the All-Ireland semi-final. Picture: Ray McManus / SPORTSFILE

Inniscarra



The Inniscarra camogie management team of Paula Goggins, Fergal O'Leary, Irene O'Keeffe and Sean

SHE doesn't say it lightly, but for Inniscarra selector Irene O'Keeffe, a win in Sunday's senior All-Ireland club camogie final would be a dream come true.

She knows only too well the pressures of major finals, having won five All-Ireland titles with Cork in the 1990s, but club glory on a national stage for Inniscarra would top it all off.

As a fresh-faced 11-year-old with sliothar and hurley in her hand, Inniscarra Camogie Club was where O'Keeffe honed her skills to become one of the most memorable corner-forwards in the county, and now it's time to give something back.

Having spent some time over the county bounds in Kerry as part of her work commitments with AIB, a transfer back to Leaside 15 months ago was a blessing as club members approached her to once again give of her expertise as she had done before.

This time however, it was the senior squad that needed her, and although an All-Ireland title was never part of the blueprint, O'Keeffe became a member of a management team which



Inniscarra selector Irene O'Keeffe speaks to **Mary White** about Sunday's All-Ireland Camogie Final.

brought renewed energy and a refreshing blast of professionalism.

"We had a team meeting in January 2010 and we basically told the girls that we weren't going to be there for the good of our health — we'd only be in it if they were willing to give equal commitment."

"We began training three nights a week shortly after that, and it wasn't until two months later that they first picked up a hurley."

"They've made many sacrifices to be fair, and although we never thought at the beginning of last year that we'd be in with a chance of an All-Ireland title, they gave it everything to win the county."

And that they did, albeit in reverse having first ended Cork's 16-year drought in

winning a senior Munster title against Granagh-Ballingarry last October, before eventually lifting their first ever senior county camogie title against Imokilly.

Their domestic clash with the east Cork favourites proved to be a thriller, with the final providing an eight-goal thriller which ended in stalemate — 4-9 apiece — with Margaret Cosgrove notching a late point to ensure another day out for Inniscarra.

But, before they could play the domestic final replay, there was a Munster semi-final against Burgess/Duharra to be dealt with, given they were to represent Cork due to Imokilly's divisional status.

But O'Keeffe believes playing the Munster showdown before the county final replay — which

close to glory



Twohig pictured during training ahead of Sunday's club final.

they won by a solitary point, 1-8 to 1-7 — was a blessing in disguise.

"Our goal at the start of the season was to have a crack off the senior championship because we had never won a senior A title, and anything after that would be a bonus.

"It's been a long season, but I think having won Munster before the county definitely helped us in the long run.

"It worked out well in that had we played the county first we'd probably have been celebrating, but you're out the next weekend in the Munster championship, so it helped us to stay focused.

"As I said, being in Sunday's final wasn't something we'd expected or anticipated because you can never look beyond the Cork senior championship because it's so strong. There's been about eight or nine different title holders in the last decade or so and the standard in Cork is very high.

"I suppose as a county, the Munster championship wasn't taken as seriously because to win Cork alone was such a huge achievement, and the county probably paid for that over the years.

"It's been 16 years since the last club, Glen Rovers, were in this position, and for a county our size and with such a big stature in camogie circles, that's been too long altogether."

With the finals taking place in Croke Park, O'Keeffe is concerned that some of the younger players may be affected by the big venue, but there's experience in the camp which she believes should help settle the nerves come throw-in at 3pm on Sunday.

"Well, we were using playing in Croke Park as a carrot to the girls before the semi-final and it was an added driving force, and perhaps that might affect the younger gang. But, they've grown up winning a lot, whether it's been in ladies football, camogie, hockey, or the other sports they play and that'll help."

As to who are the favourites, O'Keeffe is calling it as anyone's game, with both sides having only just secured their first senior club championship titles last autumn.

"Well, Killimor beat the raging hot favourites Oulart the Ballagh of Wexford in the semis by a point, so people might be looking at them.

"But, then again we beat the second tipped team, O'Donovan Rossa of Antrim, so it's the two underdogs really that have made the final.

"We watched them in their semi and they've a very similar style to ourselves.

"They also have a great appetite for the game, so on that basis I think it's going to be a cracking final. But if we show the same self-belief we've done all year, we're in with a shout."

The hype in Inniscarra has been huge in the lead-up to game, with bunting, painted cars and flags galore, and keeping the girls grounded hasn't been easy.

"The hype has been unreal, and trying to keep the girls from that has been bit of a handful, but it's been great. It's been 10 or 15 years since a local team has been in big final at adult level and the buzz around the place has been excellent.

"The support we've got from local businesses, John Keating of the Wayside Inn in Cloghroe, Centra in Tower, to other GAA clubs in the area like Dripsey and Donoughmore, and the hurlers, the support has been great.

"On top of that, a huge aspect that has been a great help is the finance committee which was set up about six weeks ago. They're a crew of about half-a-dozen and the work they've done has been Trojan. Their efforts have taken a lot of pressure off the management team, and it's allowed us concentrate on what we're supposed to be doing, and we're very grateful to them for that."

And so, to Sunday's final, and O'Keeffe is hoping Inniscarra can bring back an All-Ireland club camogie title, not just for the parish, but for Cork too.

"My heart is in this club and it would be a dream come true to see them lift the cup on Sunday. I'd be out there with them if I could, but I'm not sure the 'ole bones could take it.

"On a good day we're as good as any team in the country, and it would be very disappointing if we didn't come home with the win.

"If we do it, it'll be fantastic for everyone who supported us in Inniscarra, but I think it would be a big boost for Cork camogie too."

Rena relishes chance to give back to beloved club

RENA BUCKLEY is perhaps best known for her dual exploits with Cork and her footballing success with Donoughmore. But, the importance of being in an All-Ireland final with her home club Inniscarra, is obvious from the off.

"It's a new challenge for a start, but I'm just really happy to have been able to give commitment to the girls and the club.

"In the past it's been hard because playing inter-county can take away from your club commitments, and you don't get to train with them as often as you'd like.

"It's hard then to come in for games, and you've been training differently, or even catching up on the news, so I've really enjoyed the last few weeks."

With numerous accolades to her name, Buckley has had the advantage of playing in Croke Park before, but she's not concerned that the venue will be daunting for her teammates who haven't yet played there.

"Croke Park can be daunting, but we were talking about that amongst ourselves. I actually think the pressure on us before the county final was a lot greater than it is on us now in a funny way.

"The county final was our major goal, and we'd never aimed to be here so the pressure feels a little less this time out."

A physio by trade, Buckley has been trained by some of the top coaches in the business, be it Eamon Ryan, Fiona O'Driscoll or Mossie Barrett, but the Inniscarra management team have come in for huge praise.

"They've done such a good job. Their preparation has been immense all season and they've left no stone unturned."

Buckley took a step back from her dual inter-county league campaigns in recent weeks such is her desire to give 100% to Inniscarra in their search for glory, and should they win, she'll hold All-Ireland inter-county titles in both ladies football and camogie at both inter-county and club level.

The camogie club title has eluded her until now, and she's every intention of giving it her all to repay her club's loyalty to her for when she represented them over the years for Cork.

Rena Buckley in action for Inniscarra.



IT'S THE news every team dreads; that one of your key players has picked up an injury and there isn't the slightest chance they'll be taking to the field at any stage in a crucial decider for you.

That's the news Inniscarra received last week when star forward Niamh McCarthy damaged her cruciate ligament in a basketball game which has, in all probability, ruled her out of action for 12 months or more.

She is out for the All-Ireland club final on Sunday and it's a massive blow to the side and Niamh personally.

The open space in Croke Park was made for players like Niamh.

But as in the case when Rena Buckley sat out with a shoulder injury for a number of weeks earlier in the season, Inniscarra played some of their best hurling.

Rena's teammates stood up and answered the call and I have a feeling they'll do the same for Niamh and Aoife Kavanagh.

Aoife is another to miss out having also picked up that most dreaded of injuries in the county final replay.

Her cruciate ligament was operated on last week.

While not participating on Sunday both players remain key members of a squad sixty minutes away from a prize they scarcely dreamt of achieving when they commenced their championship journey last summer.

The mood in the village is incredible ahead of the weekend with houses, cars, billboards, even the animals painted or covered with flags and bunting.

The entire village is surely travelling to Croke Park and those who aren't better not admit to not doing so.

Inniscarra's defeat of O'Donovan Rossa in the All-Ireland semi-final was comfortable; 1-14 to 1-6 despite the sides being level 11 minutes into the second half. It never looked dangerous for Inniscarra; they always looked the better hurlers. But that doesn't necessarily mean you'll go on to win a game.

Niamh will be sorely missed by her side



Inniscarra left corner-forward Niamh McCarthy will miss out on the club's All-Ireland club final on Sunday.



LINDA MELLERICK

CAMOGIE

They play Killimor of Galway in the final. Killimor, like their opponents, won the Galway county senior title for the first time in the club's history.

Relatively little is known about the side, except that they didn't spring up overnight; rather they had many missed opportunities over the years.

Ann Marie Hayes and Brenda Hanney are senior inter-county players and Hayes is one who has impressed me over the years. Holding the centre back position she plays a commanding sweeping role. She is their driving force from the back and reportedly Killimor's defence is as tenacious as you'll get. Oulart-the-Ballagh were hot favourites heading into the All-Ireland semi-final yet it was Killimor who emerged from a dogfight in very heavy conditions. With the fine weather all week and the Croke Park setting this final should be a different ball game and fitness will come into play in the last quarter.

It's been a long season and while you wouldn't have it any other way, it's when limbs get tired that you are most likely to pull a muscle and slight strains are creeping in here and there. Respecting those warning signs is critical.

There was a time Galway would have feared Cork teams but with the county seniors having defeated Cork in the All-Ireland semi-final replay last August that respect may have diminished somewhat. Killimor won't fear Inniscarra on Sunday.

It will be interesting to see how Inniscarra handle Niamh McCarthy's absence.

They may well choose to start Laura Burke but she is such an impact sub, the decision may be to delay her introduction. Niamh Dilworth, switching to the 40 at the right time, has worked every time for Inniscarra and she has had a tremendous club season.

They would possibly be wise to start her inside again and spring her late in the second quarter, if not entering the third. It all depends on how the game is developing.

The second-half is typically Inniscarra's stage and if they are level or close at half time the signs will be looking good.

Their second-half performance in the Munster club semi-final against Burgess Duharra stands out in particular, their never-say-die attitude in both the county semi-final and replay, their injury time winner in the county final replay and their final 20 minutes against O'Donovan Rossa epitomise a spirited team united in their goal, a goal and dream which is only an hour away.

FIXTURE

All-Ireland Senior Club final: Inniscarra V Killimor (Galway), Croke Park, Sunday 3pm.

Local pride makes All-Ireland so important

SUNDAY
All-Ireland final:
Inniscarra v Killimor,
Croke Park, 3pm.

EVERYTHING is ready and there is just two days to go as Inniscarra and Killimor face the biggest day in their history.

To play with your club in a final is special, but to be the first clubs in over 40 years to compete in the All-Ireland club championship final in Croke Park is a huge occasion, and both clubs are fortunate to be afforded such an honour.

There was a time when the final would

CAMOGIE
By MARY NEWMAN

be hosted by one of the participating clubs. It is a dream come true for both clubs and certainly it will be a fairy-tale occasion on the day, both are first time senior county championship winners and therefore first time provincial winners.

The occasion will be huge and no doubt the added pressure of Croke Park may just take its toll, the winning and losing of the game may be

decided by who reacts better to the big occasion.

Both sides have their stars, Rena Buckley has graced Croke Park on many occasions while Killimor's Ann Marie Hayes, Martina Conroy, Brenda Hanney, and Susan Keane have all worn the Galway colours at headquarters but this time out it's a different story on Sunday.

It is do-or-die, playing with your club-mates, the players who you have played with since underage level, the girls who sat beside you at school and headed to Ballyanley or Killimor GAA grounds to start the playing of camogie

with you.

Tomorrow it's for the pride of the parish and the pride of the club, and every single player on both sides will be determined to bring the All-Ireland crown home.

It promises to be superb days as Killimor strive to emulate the feats of Galway sides, Mullagh Davitt's and Athenry, while Cork's Inniscarra will give it everything to add their name to the role of honour beside Killeagh and Glen Rovers.

Let's hope it's a superb occasion and one which is enjoyed by players, mentors and supporters alike.

MARCH 2011



Solicitor Margaret O'Sullivan, captain of the Inniscarra camogie team who play in the Club All-Ireland Camogie Championships tomorrow, getting a send-off from colleagues at PJ O'Driscoll and Sons on the South Mall, Cork. Picture: Dan Linehan

Inniscarra's got a winning feeling for Croke Park

by Dan Buckley

INNISCARRA isn't so much a place as a feeling and, lately, that feeling has been jubilant. The parish, eight kilometres or so from Cork city is home to about 7,000 souls but, right now 33 of them are the ones who really matter.

They make up the panel of players on the village's camogie team. Having beaten the Ulster Champions, O'Donovan Rossa, in the All-Ireland semi-final, only Connacht champions Killimor stand between the mid-Cork team and glory at Croke Park tomorrow.

"It has been a fantastic and exciting year," says team captain Margaret Noelle O'Sullivan, who works as a solicitor with the firm PJ O'Driscoll in Cork. "We won six cups so far and there is only this one coveted title to secure. It



Margaret O'Sullivan in team colours.

has all come together for us after the disappointment of last year."

Support has been central to success and it's as if the whole parish is part of the team. They came out in great numbers so far, with an estimated 1,000 supporters travelling to Nowlan Park, Kilkenny, to the semi-final against O'Donovan Rossa of Belfast.

"The support from the club and parish and surrounding areas is incredible," she says. "This is an historic time for the club. There is bunting all over the parish and there has been phenomenal work being done behind the scenes. We believe we can do it and if we win there will be bonfires and celebrations like you've never seen before."

"It has been 14 years since a Cork club has won so the whole county is behind us. It is very special to be playing in Croke Park and it is the first time in 40 years that an All-Ireland camogie club final is being held there. It is so very special to be part of that."

Team coach Fergal O'Leary remembers the determination of the team after they were beaten in the 2009 Championship by Milford. "Everybody knew this was a game they should have won and came away from that dressing room with a determination for the future to keep going and never give up until the

final whistle. This trait has been the big difference this year. Games have been drawn or won in very tight situations but never lost."

While the team captain, at 33, is the oldest player on

the team, a mixture of youth and experience has been the recipe for success so far. One girl, Niamh McCarthy, is only 14 but she has shown a canny ability to score goals at

crucial stages.

Whatever happens tomorrow it has been a golden year for the parish of Inniscarra and Cumann Camogaíochta Inniscarra, in particular.



The Camogie Association are delighted to welcome the 2010 All Ireland Junior Champions Four Roads to Croke Park this afternoon for the All Ireland Club Finals. Four Roads captured the Junior title defeating Corofin of Clare on November 28th 2010. Four Roads will be presented to the crowd this afternoon, after the All Ireland Intermediate Final. Please show your appreciation.

FOUR ROADS PANEL - 1. Breda Mannion, 2. Catherine Glennon, 3. Orla Hughes, 4. Marie Glennon-Kelly, 5. Aisling Fallon, 6. Siobhán Coyle, 7. Brenda Hughes, 8. Gerlie Dowd, 9. Catherine Rogerson, 10. Sinéad O'Brien, 11. Niamh Coyle, 12. Patricia Lennon, 13. Lizzie Glennon-Jolly, 14. Donna Kelly (Capt.), 15. Cait Kenny, 16. Marie Kelly, 17. Grainne Egan, 18. Edel Treacy, 19. Orla Gately, 20. Nicola Crean, 21. Niamh Cormican, 22. Aisling Rogerson, 23. Mairéad Mulry, 24. Tina Kelly, 25. Kate Kelly, 26. Collette Dowd, 27. Michelle Daly. Manager: Simon Coyle. Selectors: Joe Mannion, Mark Crosbie.

Rena ready to bring it all back home

All-Ireland Camogie Club Senior final



Brian Canty

RENA BUCKLEY'S mantelpiece needs just one more bauble to be complete.

Having collected All-Ireland medals in ladies football and camogie at senior, minor and U16 with Cork, and two senior All-Ireland club football titles with Donoughmore, there's something she'd dearly love to add to her collection, a senior All-Ireland club camogie medal with Inniscarra. "It would be just unbelievable," the 23-year-old physiotherapist offers. "There's a great old buzz and great colour around the parish and you're constantly being reminded of it. It's kind of different to the county and I couldn't call one over the other. We just can't wait for it. It's been some journey for us."

Such an ascent to the summit of club camogie, she admits, hasn't happened overnight, which makes their renaissance as a superpower in the county all the more sweeter. "When I started playing with Inniscarra underage we were competitive, but after that there was a

hull and we were a bit down. We questioned where the club was going so to turn it around the way we have done has been amazing."

To that end, selector Fergal O'Leary can extract a share of the plaudits. "Why it has taken us this long to discover our potential is a question I can't answer but definitely, the structures put in place a few years ago have helped," he said.

"We got all the panel together a couple of years back, discussed our plan for the future and they all seemed to row in behind it. That came to the fore, it meant minors, juniors and seniors all working together to improve things. Some would've questioned bringing young girls into the panel, some as young as 14, but it has benefited us."

Club chairman Sean Twohig must've wondered if he'd ever see such a day. "It's a dream come true for the club to be in the final and we really are determined to do well, having won the senior county for the first time in our club's history. It would be the icing on the cake to be crowned All-Ireland champions."

"They're a fantastic bunch of girls, the best you could hope for. We've a panel of 33 and they'll do whatever it

takes to make it down for training without a complaint. It makes our jobs as selectors very difficult because we've such a panel and we still haven't a team picked for tomorrow. That tells you how hard it is."

He's under no illusions about the job in hand: "We're the underdogs. We went up to see the other semi-final between Oulart-the-Ballagh (Wexford) and Killimor, and Oulart were favourites so to see them beaten tells us what we're up against. It's a massive test but we're up for it."

Twohig pays tribute to the talent on the team.

"People think it's all about our Cork contingent but it's not. We've Rena (Buckley), Joanne (Casey) and Niamh (Dilworth) but Rena's twin sister, Mary's a quality player too. Niamh McCarthy in the corner is going to be a star, I could go on."

"They've won everything at underage, Cloghroe NS — where a lot of them went to school — won Sciath na Scoils by the double, every underage medal to be won it's in Inniscarra, but this is the big one."

Injuries have been part of the course for Inniscarra's odyssey, with Aoife Kavanagh, Katie O'Mahony, Rena



Rena Buckley: a distinguished career.



Teacher Liz Hayes, who will be playing for Inniscarra in the All-Ireland camogie club final at Croke Park, getting a big send off from her fourth class students at Berrings NS, Co Cork. Picture: Des Barry

Buckley and captain Margaret Noelle O'Sullivan all having to sit out important games, and tomorrow they'll be without prolific forward Niamh McCarthy, still only 15.

"She's a massive loss," said O'Leary. "This would have been her stage. Brian Cody saw her playing up in Kilkenny a couple of years ago and said she was the best he'd ever seen and Rena believed she's 10 years

ahead of herself. She's that good and trust me, she'll be a star but we'll focus on what's in our control."

* The Camogie Association confirmed Setanta Sports will broadcast the All-Ireland Club Camogie finals as part of a deferred package on Wednesday. The one-hour programme will include the All-Ireland Intermediate final with Eoghan Rua (Derry) facing The Harps (Londonderry) and the senior decider clash of Cork's Inniscarra and Killimor of Galway. The programme will air on Setanta Sports on March 9 at 5pm.

**AN CUMANN
CAMÓGAÍOCHTA**



ALL IRELAND CLUB CAMOGIE FINALS

**Intermediate Final 1.00 pm
THE HARPS V EOGHAN RUA**

**Senior Final 3.00 pm
KILLIMOR V INNISCARRA**



Croke Park

**Sunday
March 6th
2011**

Clár Oifigiúil • Luach €3

Sinéad Ní Chorichúir

Sinéad Ní Chorichúir
Ard Stiúrthóir

MAR. 2011

Fáilte ón Uachtarán



Is iontach an lá inniu i saol Cumann Camógáíochta mar 'sé an chéad uair atá Cluichí Cheannais na hÉireann idir chlub anseo i bPáirc an Chrócaigh Nua.

Freisin, 'sé an chéad uair atá na gcluichí idir-chlub anseo ó 1973 agus an chéad uair atá comórtas club na hÉireann idir-mhéanach ar siúl againn don chorn nua – Corn Úna Ní Fhaircheallaigh.

Fáilte roimh go léir agus fáilte faoi leith dona h-imreoirí, na réiteoirí agus daoibhse an lucht féachainte.

Four clubs from the four provinces are competing today for two national titles. It's the perfect combination and there is a strong pride and interest in the players' achievement in representing their clubs and county on our finest stage in Croke Park.

For the first time, Croke Park will witness a Camogie club finals' double header comprising the inaugural All Ireland Intermediate final for the Agnes O'Farrelly Cup and the Senior Final for the Bill Carroll Cup.

For the players, the management teams and the communities they represent, this is the pinnacle of not just one year's work but several. At club level, players are nurtured from underage to adult players. Today is fitting a reward for the work of so many coaches, parents, teachers and, of course, the players themselves in perfecting their skills, their competitiveness and their athleticism.

Incredibly, three of today's finalists won their first county titles in 2010 and made it all the way to the All Ireland final stage. For Inniscara, Killimor and Eoghan Rua it's been the dream season. The Harps have enjoyed All Ireland glory three times before, as junior club champions, most recently in 2008. Now, they make their debut at intermediate level.

The four sides are brimming with top class talent including several All Stars and Soaring Stars, the Camogie Association's awards for individual excellence. Rena Buckley, Brenda Hanney, Ann Marie Hayes, Grainne McGoldrick, Louise O'Mahony are sure to be amongst those that will catch your eye.

Continued on page 4

In 2010 more people than ever before watched Camogie. We want to build on that in 2011. Our stars are the sporting equals of others and we recognise this by staging our games at the best venues we can. In the case of the club finals, the GAA and Croke Park Stadium's support in this endeavour is very much appreciated.

The last All Ireland Senior Camogie Club Final to take place in GAA HQ was in 1973 with Dublin side Austin Stacks picking up their second consecutive title. I am delighted that the Austin Stacks team from that era join us here today along with their opponents Portglenone (Antrim) and referee on the day, former President of the Association, Mary Moran.

One club title has already gone to Connacht. It is a great pleasure to welcome the Roscommon club, Four Roads, to Croke Park. Last November, they coveted their first All Ireland Junior club title in impressive style. It was a fantastic achievement, well done.

This weekend has also seen two other Camogie innovations. The first Legends Tournament was successfully hosted yesterday in St. Jude's GAA and Camogie club when teams competed for the Biddy Phillips Memorial Camogie Cup. Biddy was an outstanding administrator, referee and mentor who sadly passed away in 2010 and the Association will proudly commemorate her memory in this way annually.

The involvement of young people in sport is a key priority for us, especially young people in school. Today's Camán and Run relay race for post-primary schools will be great fun.

It's likely that some of you are seeing your first Camogie match today! First hand experience of women's sport often changes, for the better, people's knowledge and perception of it.

I am confident that today's games will be full of skill, speed, strength and stamina.

If you like what you saw get behind you club and county team in the future. Our players put in huge commitment and effort and your active support, by attending our games, is a great way of demonstrating how much you appreciate their talent.

Good luck to all teams and match officials today agus tá súil agam go mbainfidh tú taithneamh as an ócáid náisiúnta seo.

Joan O'Flynn

JOAN O'FLYNN
Uachtarán, An Cumann Camógáíochta

Will the Bill Carroll Cup GO SOUTH OR WEST?

THE YEAR 2010 was a dream one for to-day's All Ireland senior finalists. Both clubs won their first senior county Championship; Inniscarra triumphed in a reply against Divisional side Imokilly while Killimor defeated Mullagh to win the Galway title.

Inniscarra came through Munster at the expense of highly rated Tipperary champions, Burgess Duharra and Limerick's Granagh-Ballingarry. Rena Buckley, recovered from injury, made her return in the Munster final. Niamh Dilworth and Niamh McCarthy were top scorers against O'Donovan Rossa in the All Ireland semi-final. The experience of Rena Buckley and captain Margaret Noelle O'Sullivan

proved invaluable in carving out an eight point win.

Killimor went straight through to the semi-final to meet Oulart/The Ballagh. Oulart had a star-studded side, including three current All-Stars, the Leacy sisters Mary and Una, and Ursula Jacob. It was a day that saw both defences on top. Killimor scoring only four points from play; the other five were from placed balls; Martina Conroy's free taking was impeccable.

Both teams have skilful and brave goalkeepers in Sinéad Ni Riain and Helen Campbell; Campbell made a point blank save in the closing stages of the semi-final against Oulart. It was the winning of the game. Both defences are hard working and tight.



Niamh Dilworth, Inniscarra, in action against Shauneen McGourty, O'Donovan Rossa in the All-Ireland Senior Camogie Club Championship Semi-Final at Nowlan Park, Kilkenny.



Julie Brien, Killimor, in action against Stacey Kehoe, Oulart/The Ballagh in the All-Ireland Senior Camogie Club Championship Semi-Final at Duggan Park, Ballinasloe, Co. Galway.

Killimor have All-Star Ann Marie Hayes at the pivot of the defence; she is well supported by Julie Brien, Emer Hanney, Nicola Lawless and Marie Duane.

The Inniscarra backline is fast and keeps the game simple – Liz Hayes, Mary Buckley and Rosie O'Mahony don't give an inch. Will Rena Buckley line out at number six or at midfield?

Midfield could well be the key to success. The industrious Killimor partnership of Emer Haverty and Ann Marie Hayes ruled against Oulart, while the Inniscarra duo of Margaret N. O'Sullivan and Rena Buckley are serious players. Moving Buckley to centrefield against O'Donovan Rossa made a significant difference.

The Inniscarra forwards move the ball quickly; mobile and forceful Niamh Dilworth, Joanne Casey, Fiona O'Connell and Niamh McCarthy combine well. Killimor have All-Star Brenda Hanney, a great catcher of the ball, she can cause panic in any defence; she is ably assisted by Susan Keane and Martina Conroy.

Killimor look to be the more experienced side; very strong in key positions with oodles of skill. They were super fit against Oulart but need to score more from play. Once Inniscarra had the Cork championship monkey off their back they blossomed in every game. They exude confidence. If Brenda Hanney can be contained, Inniscarra could take the Bill Carroll south.

Sweet music for The Harps or a Derry Air

THE HARPS and Eoghan Rua contest the All Ireland Intermediate Club final to-day. Honours laden Harps, with three Junior All Ireland titles to their credit, swept to the final with a decisive victory over a youthful Sarsfields side from Galway. Eoghan Rua defeated Munster champions Lismore by three points. To play the semi-final, they had to make a trip to Tipp due to more centrally positioned pitches being waterlogged.

The top club in Laois for a number of years, Harps are a well drilled unit, relying on superb team work; they work together almost instinctively. That comes from success and keeping the players fresh and focused. A number of the players won a Nancy Murray Junior All Ireland. They are a most impressive unit. Eoghan Rua, from the Coleraine area of Derry, have a mix of youth and experience. They too have All Ireland winners at Premier Junior level and U16.

Harps have an impressive defence with Denise Quigley, Elaine Cuddy, Caitriona A. Phelan and Michelle Fitzpatrick playing at top form. The midfield combination of Louise Mahony and Joanne Prior is effective. Louise is such an intelligent player, she can turn

a game in seconds, distributing the ball to the best placed forward. All members of the attack are capable of picking off scores – Joan Dollard, Elaine and Aine Mahony, Laura Saunders, Ashling Phelan and Angela Hanlon combine as a unit.

How will Eoghan Rua out-manoeuvre them? The spine of the team is particularly strong and experienced – Kelly Maybin, Meabh McGoldrick, Grainne McGoldrick and Grace McMullan are talented and love the big occasion. Jane Carey at midfield and forward Rosanna McAleese are fine players. Grainne McGoldrick won an All Star in 2009, her battle with Caitriona Phelan should be a highlight of the game.

Harps have moved up to Intermediate with relative ease and form points to victory for the Midlanders, but Eoghan Rua will take the game to them without inhibition.



Denise Quigley, The Harps, in action against Tara Cooney, Sarsfields in the All-Ireland Intermediate Camogie Club Championship Semi-Final at Duggan Park, Ballinasloe, Co. Galway.

Today's Cups

Senior

Bill Carroll Cup

THE first All-Ireland Club Championship was played in 1964 as the main event in the Camogie Association's Diamond Jubilee celebrations. Celtic (Dublin) overcame Deirdre (Belfast) in the final at Croke Park. Celtic were allowed to keep the specially-made Jubilee Cup on a permanent basis.

It was decided to make the All-Ireland Club Championship an annual event and, therefore, a new trophy was required. Bill Carroll, father of well-known Tipperary and Kilkenny star, Ann Carroll, donated a cup for the new competition which bears his name.

A native of Desert, near Callan, in Co. Kilkenny, Bill Carroll worked in London for some years where his daughter, Ann, was born. The family returned to Ireland in 1950 when Bill set up a joinery business in Ballintaggart, Co. Tipperary. Ann, an only child, had a brilliant camogie career.

Ann won her father's cup on five occasions, twice with St. Patrick's, Glengoole (Co. Tipperary) and three times with St. Paul's, (Kilkenny). She was the first player to win All-Ireland club medals with two different clubs.

Intermediate

AGNES O'FARRELL Cup

CAVAN-BORN Agnes O'Farrelly was a noted Gaelic scholar, educationist, writer and champion of women's rights. Cait O'Donoghue, the first Organiser of the Camogie Association, wrote to Agnes O'Farrelly, then lecturer in Modern Irish Poetry at U.C.D., inviting her to become involved in camogie and to use her influence to set up teams in the universities. Agnes presided over the inaugural meeting of the U.C.D. Camogie Club and became its first President, a position she held until her death in 1951. She prevailed on her friend, Edwin Gibson, Lord Ashbourne, to donate the impressive Ashbourne Cup for intervarsity competition. By 1932, Agnes was one of the most prominent women of her time. She was appointed Professor of Modern Irish Poetry at U.C.D., elected to the Senate, held a seat on the Governing Body of U.C.D. and was an established writer.



At the announcement of the All-Ireland Club Camogie Finals at Croke Park are team captains (from left): Meabh McGoldrick, Eoghan Rua, Elaine Cuddy, The Harps, Karen Jones, Inniscarra, and Eimear Haverty, Killimor.



Front row (l-r): Amanda Casey, Lorraine Keary, Julie Brien, Ann Marie Hayes, Brenda Hanney, Helen Campbell, Claire Conroy, AnnMarie Starr, Susan Keane, Ruth Grooves, Aisling Brehony, Lorraine Donnelly, Nicola Donnelly. Back row (l-r): Serena Brien, Sinead O'Hara, Maolica Callagy, Helen Quinn, Nicola Lawless, Karen Brien, Niamh Hanney, Martina Conroy, Marie Duane, Emer Haverty, Anna Maria Lagana, Niamh Connolly, Mairead Mooney, Mairead McEvoy, Denise Starr, Ciara Brien.

KILLIMOR Pen Pictures

AIKLING BREHONY

Age: 15. Position: Forward
Honours: Galway Senior Co. C'ship

CIARA BRIEN

Age: 18. Position: Defender
Honours: Galway Minor A, Senior Co. C'ship, Connaught Colleges C'ship, represented Galway at U16 level

KAREN BRIEN

Age: 18.
Position: Defender
Honours: Galway Senior Co. C'ship; Minor, Intermediate All Ireland C'ships; Connaught Colleges C'ship. Her sister Serena is also on the team and her father Vinnie is a selector

JULIE BRIEN

Age: 22.
Position: Defender
Honours: Galway Minor, junior, intermediate and senior Co. C'ships; Colleges junior and senior Colleges titles with Portumna Community School; member of UCC Ashbourne Cup final team 2011; Senior Player of the Year with the school. Julie also plays soccer.

SERENA BRIEN

Age: 22. Position: Defender
Honours: Galway Minor A and senior Co. C'ship; County and Connaught Colleges C'ships; Intermediate All Ireland 2009

AMANDA BRODERICK

Age: 22.
Position: Forward/Defender
Honours: Galway Minor, junior, intermediate and senior Co. C'ships; Colleges Junior and senior C'ships; Captained Galway minor team. Plays soccer

MAOLICA CALLAGY

Age: 18. Position: Defender
Honours: Galway Senior Co. C'ship; All Ireland Community Games C'ship; Connaught Colleges C'ships with Portumna Community School; Also involved in boxing and soccer

HELEN CAMPBELL

Age: 19. Position: Goalkeeper
Honours: Galway Minor A and senior Co. C'ship; junior and senior Connaught Colleges C'ships. Represented Galway at U16, minor and intermediate level, captained the minor side

AMANDA CASEY

Age: 23.
Position: Defender
Honours: Galway Minor A, junior, intermediate, senior Co. C'ships; Junior and senior Connaught Colleges C'ships

CLAIRE CONROY-CANAVAN

Age: 27.
Position: Forward
Honours: Galway Minor A, Junior, intermediate, senior Co. C'ships; Club senior Player of the Year 2000; Junior and senior Connaught Colleges C'ships with Portumna Community School; Purcell Shield Medal with GMT, 3 Colleges All Stars; GMT Player of the Year 2005, 4 Connaught junior C'ships, Intermediate All Ireland, Senior Gael Linn Inter-provincial title. Sister Martina Conroy on team. Plays golf.

MARTINA CONROY

Age: 22. Position:
Honours: Galway Minor A, junior, intermediate, senior Co. C'ships; junior, Colleges senior C'ships with Portumna Community School; Player of the Match Co. Senior final 2010, Player of the Match twice with GMT, 2 Purcell Cup All Star Awards. Plays Ladies football and soccer also. Her sister Claire is also on the team.

NIAMH CONNOLLY

Age: 28. Position: Forward/Defender
Honours: 2 Roscommon senior Co. C'ships with Athleague; Galway senior Co. C'ship; Connaught Schools C'ship; Connaught junior C'ship, Gola junior All Ireland, Gael Linn Inter Provincial; represented Ireland on Shinty Team. Plays Ladies Football.

LORRAINE DONNELLY

Age: 29. Position: Forward
Honours: Galway Senior Co. C'ship; Colleges senior C'ship with Portumna Community School; Purcell Cup medal with Athlone IT; represented Galway at junior level.

NICOLA DONNELLY

Age: 27. Position: Forward
Honours: Galway Senior Co. C'ship; Colleges C'ship with Portumna Community School; represented Galway at senior level.

MARIE DUANE

Age: 19. Position: Defender
Honours: Galway Minor A, senior Co. C'ships; junior, Colleges senior C'ships; represented Galway at minor level

RUTH GREAVES

Age: 26.
Position: Forward
Honours: Galway Senior Co. C'ship. Played Basketball with Wales University team

BRENDA HANNEY

Age: 25.
Position: Forward
Honours: Galway Junior, intermediate, senior Co. C'ships; played with Portumna Community School and CIT; key member Galway senior team, All Star 2010; Galway Sports Star Award 2010. Her sister Niamh is also on the team

NIAMH HANNEY

Age: 26.
Position: Defender
Honours: Galway Junior, senior Co. C'ships; All Ireland minor and Junior Titles, played with Portumna Community School.

ANN MARIE HAYES

Age: 26.
Position: Defender
Honours: Galway Junior, senior Co. C'ships; Connaught Schools C'ships; junior, Intermediate All Ireland C'ships; Ashbourne Shield with NUIG. She is a key member of Galway senior team, 2 All Star Awards. Her brother David plays hurling with Galway, her uncle Conor Hayes captained Galway to All Ireland success in 1987 and '88. She enjoys horse riding

EMER HAVERTY

Age: 21.
Position: Midfield
Honours: Galway Minor, junior, intermediate, senior Co. C'ships; Colleges junior, senior C'ships; minor All Ireland. Junior Player of the Year. An accomplished athlete, she received a Minor Athlete of the Year Award. She also plays soccer. Her brother Martin plays hurling

SUSAN KEANE

Age: 24. Position: Forward
Honours: Galway Minor A, Junior, intermediate, senior Co. C'ships; Junior, Colleges senior C'ships; Ashbourne Cup medal WIT; junior, intermediate All Ireland C'ships. Her brother Gary played minor hurling for Galway

LORRAINE KEARY

Age: 22. Position: Forward
Honours: Galway Senior Co. C'ship; junior, senior Colleges C'ships. She enjoys aerobics. Her brother Andrew played with Galway minor team in 2006, '07 and '08 and was honoured with the captaincy

ANNA MARIA LAGANA

Age: 17. Position: Forward
Honours: Galway Senior Co. C'ship; Connaught Colleges C'ships with Portumna Community School; All Ireland U16 C'ship; Portumna Community School, Junior Player of the Year 2009. She also plays Volleyball. Her Mother Marion is a member of the Killimor Club Executive Committee.

NICOLA LAWLESS

Age: 25
Position: Defender
Honours: Galway Junior, intermediate, senior Co. C'ships; Colleges Senior C'ships; 2 Purcell Cup; Junior, intermediate All Ireland C'ships. She is now a member of the Galway senior panel.

MAIRÉAD MOONEY

Age: 23
Position: Defender
Honours: Galway Junior, intermediate, senior Co. C'ships; Colleges junior, senior C'ships

MAIRÉAD McEVoy

Age: 15
Position: Defender
Honours: Galway Senior Co. C'ship

SINÉAD O'HARA

Age: 17
Position: Forward
Honours: Galway Senior Co. C'ship; represented Galway at underage. She plays soccer. Her brothers, Cillian and John play hurling with Killimor.

HELEN QUINN

Age: 19
Position: Forward
Honours: Galway Minor A, senior Co. C'ships; Connaught Schools C'ships;

ANN MARIE STARR

Age: 19
Position: Midfield
Honours: Galway Minor A, senior Co. C'ships, junior, Connaught Colleges senior C'ships. She represented Galway at minor level and is a member of the senior panel.

DENISE STARR

Age: 15
Position: Goalkeeper
Honours: Galway senior Co. C'ship. Her father Mike is a member of The Killimor GAA Committee.

Inniscarra



Back row (l-r.): K. Jones, M. Cosgrove, S. Ni Riain, R. O'Mahony, A. Kavanagh, J. Casey, L. Hayes (Vice-Capt), T. McCarthy, R. McCarthy, C. O'Brien, Y. Twomey, N. Dilworth, M.N. O'Sullivan (Capt), S. Buckley, L. Burke, E. Kingston, A. O'Connor, A. Twohig, R. McCarthy, A. Ni Riain, C. Sheehan. Front row (l-r.): O. Healy, N. McCarthy, R. Buckley, D. O'Callaghan, M. Buckley, A. Sheehan, M. Desmond, L. Buckley, K. O'Mahony, C. Looney, A. Twohig, F. O'Connell.

INNISCARRA Pen Pictures

CAITLIN LOONEY

Age: 16. Position: Defender
Honours: Cork U16 B, Minor A, Senior A Co. C'ships; Munster club C'ship; All Ireland Colleges with Colaiste Cholm, plays Ladies football with Dripsey.

SUSAN BUCKLEY

Age: 17. Position: Defender
Honours: Cork Minor A, Junior, Sen. A Co. C'ships; Munster Club C'ship; Colleges Junior B All Ireland, 4 Senior B Cork Colleges with Coachford C.C.

AINE O'CONNOR

Age: 18. Position: Forward
Honours: Cork U16, Minor A, Junior, Sen. A Co. C'ships; Munster club C'ship; Junior B All Ireland Colleges, 4 Sen. B Cork medals with Coachford C.C.

AMANDA TWOHIG

Age: 18. Position: Forward/defender/goalkeeper
Honours: Cork Minor A, Junior, Senior A C'ships; Munster club C'ship; Munster Colleges U16/17 with Scoil Maire Gan Smal.

EMMA KINGSTON

Age: 19. Position: Defender
Honours: Cork Minor A, Junior, Sen. A Co. C'ships; Munster Club C'ship; Colleges Junior B, Senior B All Ireland C'ship with Coachford CC; U16, U18 Munster C'ships; four times Karate All Ireland Champion. Karate Person of the Year 2004.

NIAMH DILWORTH

Age: 20. Position: Forward
Honours: Cork U16 B, U16A, Junior, Sen. C'ships; Munster Club C'ship; Munster U16, U18 C'ship; Colleges Junior B, Sen. B All Ireland C'ships with Coachford CC.

LIZ BUCKLEY

Age: 17. Position: Forward
Honours: Cork U16 B, U18 A, Sen. A Co. C'ships; Munster Club C'ship; Colleges Junior, Senior B All Ireland C'ships with Coachford CC. Plays Ladies Football with Donoughmore.

ROSIE O'MAHONY

Age: 18. Position: Defender
Honours: Cork U18 A, Senior A Co. C'ships; Munster Club C'ship; Colleges Junior, Senior All Ireland C'ship with Coachford CC. Plays Ladies Football with Donoughmore.

ROSLYN MCCARTHY

Age: 28. Position: Defender
Honours: Cork Senior A Co. C'ships; Munster club C'ship Champions; plays badminton, tag rugby and competitive Kick boxing.

YVONNE TWOMEY

Age: 22. Position: Forward
Honours: Cork Sen. A Co. C'ships; Munster Club C'ship; plays Ladies football with Donoughmore; 6 senior Co. C'ships; 1 Club All Ireland; 4 underage All Ireland C'ships.

JOANNE CASEY

Age: 18. Position: Forward
Honours: Cork U16 A, U18, Sen. A Co. C'ships; Munster Club C'ship; Colleges Senior B, with Coachford CC.

NIAMH MCCARTHY

Age: 14. Position: Forward
Honours: Cork U18 A, Sen. A Co. C'ships; Munster Club C'ship. Player Of the Match U14 A County Final 2009; Colleges Senior B All Ireland with Coachford CC; plays basketball and Ladies Football; 2 Schools Basketball All Ireland C'ships; Cork Basketball Player of the Year 2008, '09, '10.

TREASA MCCARTHY

Age: 26. Position: Forward.
Honours: Cork Sen A County C'ships; Munster U16, Munster Club C'ship; Cork and Munster Colleges junior, senior Co. C'ships with St. Aloysius Secondary School; Third Level with UCC, plays badminton.

KATIE O'MAHONY

Age: 20
Honours: Cork U16 B, U16, Senior Co. C'ships; Munster Club C'ship; Colleges Intermediate All Ireland with St. Aloysius Secondary School.

FIONA O'CONNELL

Age: 20
Honours: Cork U16 B, U16 A, Senior A Co. C'ships; Munster Club C'ship; Plays hockey, won U18 All Ireland C'ship.

SINEAD NI RIAIN

Age: 21. Position: Goalkeeper
Honours: Cork U16B, Senior Co. C'ships; Munster Club C'ship; Munster Colleges Intermediate C'ship with St. Aloysius Secondary School. Daughter of Bob Ryan vice chairman Cork GAA Board.

MARY BUCKLEY

Age: 23. Position: Defender
Honours: Cork Senior A Co. C'ships; Munster Club C'ship; Colleges Munster Intermediate C'ship with St. Aloysius; plays Ladies football. Her father, Tim Buckley is a member of Inniscarra club executive.

LAURA BURKE

Age: 17. Position: Forward
Honours: Cork U16 B, U18, Senior A Co. C'ships; Munster Club C'ship; Colleges All Ireland with Coachford CC.

MARY DESMOND

Age: 17. Position: Mid field
Honours: Cork U16 B, U18 A, Senior A Co. C'ships; Munster Club Championship. Plays Colleges with Colaiste Cholm, several underage county athletics medals.

AINE NI RIAIN

Age: 18. Position: Defender
Honours: Cork U16 B, U18 A, Senior A Co. C'ship; Munster Club C'ship. Her sister Sinéad is the goalkeeper.

DEIRDRE O'CALLAGHAN

Age: 18. Position: Defender
Honours: Cork U16 B, U18 A, senior A Co. C'ships; Captained U18 A team; Munster Club C'ship; Munster Colleges U16/17 Munster C'ship with Scoil Maire Gan Smal. Plays basketball.

ALLANAH TWOHIG

Age: 16. Position: Forward.
Honours: Cork U16, U18, senior A Co. C'ships; Munster Club C'ship; Munster Colleges U16/17 C'ship with Scoil Maire Gan Smal, Blarney. Plays basketball and Ladies Football.

RENA BUCKLEY

Age: 23. Position: Midfield/Defender
Honours: Cork Senior A Co. C'ship; Munster Club C'ship; Munster Colleges senior B Intermediate with St. Aloysius School, represented Ireland on Colleges Shinty team against Scotland; 2 Ashbourne Cup with UCD; Cork dual star, 2 U16, 4 senior All Ireland; 2 Carnegie All Star Awards; 4 Ladies Football senior All Ireland; member of CCAO executive.

ORLA HEALY

Age: 15. Position: Defender
Honours: Cork U18, Senior A Co. C'ships; Munster Club C'ship. Plays Ladies Football with Donoughmore; Cork senior A and Munster C'ships.

CATHERINE O'BRIEN

Age: 20. Position: Defender
Honours: Cork Senior A Co. C'ship; Munster Club C'ship; Colleges Junior, Senior All Ireland C'ships with Coachford CC. Involved in athletics.

MARGARET COSGROVE

Age: 23. Position: Forward
Honours: Cork Senior A Co. C'ship; Munster Club C'ship. Colleges Senior B All Ireland C'ship with Coachford CC.

CLAIRE SHEEHAN

Age: 18. Position: Forward
Honours: Cork Senior A Co. C'ship; Munster Club C'ship.

RACHEL MCCARTHY

Age: 18. Position: Forward
Honours: Cork Senior A Co. C'ship; Munster Club C'ship. Colleges County and Munster Senior B, Senior A with Coachford CC. Plays Ladies Football with Donoughmore.

AILEEN SHEEHAN

Position: Defender
Honours: Cork Senior A Co. C'ship; Munster Club C'ship; Munster minor C'ship with Cork. Munster Colleges U16/17 C'ship with Scoil Maire Gan Smal; Interprovincial with Munster Colleges. Plays Ladies Football, Basketball and enjoys swimming.

AOIFE KAVANAGH

Age: 20
Honours: Cork U16 B, U16 A, Senior Co. C'ships; Munster Club C'ship; Munster Colleges Intermediate C'ship with St. Aloysius Secondary School.

LIZ HAYES

Age: 26. Vice Captain of team
Position: Full Back
Honours: Cork Sen A C'ship; Munster Club C'ship; Colleges All Ireland Junior A, Senior B with St. Aloysius Secondary School; Munster Intermediate C'ship with Cork.

MARGARET O'SULLIVAN (Captain)

Age: 32. Position: Midfield
Honours: Cork U16A, Junior B, Junior A, Intermediate, Senior A C'ships; Munster Club C'ship Munster Intermediate C'ship with Cork. Plays hockey.

KAREN JONES

Age: 18. Position: Defender
Honours: Cork U16 B, U16 A, Senior A Co. C'ships; Munster Club C'ship; Colleges Junior A, senior B All Ireland C'ships with St. Aloysius Secondary School. Plays Ladies Football.

MAR. 2011

Killimor

Omra agus Dubh

Inniscarra

Gorm agus Bán

(1)
HELEN CAMPBELL
S. Ní Cathmhaoil

(2)
NIAMH HANNEY
N. Hanney

(3)
NICOLA LAWLESS
N. Laighléis

(4)
JULIE BRIEN
S. Ní Bhriain

(5)
KAREN BRIEN
C. Ní Bhriain

(6)
ANN MARIE HAYES
A. M. Ní hAodha

(7)
MARIE DUANE
M. Ní Dhuáin

(8)
EMER HAVERTY
E. Ní hAbhartaigh

(9)
ANN MARIE STARR
A. M. Starr

(10)
SUSAN KEANE
S. Ní Chatháin

(11)
BRENDA HANNEY (Capt.)
B. Hanney

(12)
MARTINA CONROY
M. Ní Chonraoi

(13)
HELEN QUINN
L. Ní Choinne

(14)
CLAIRE CONROY
C. Ní Chonraoi

(15)
LORRAINE DONNELLY
L. Ní Dhonnaile

- | | | | |
|---|---|--|--|
| (16) Denise Starr
D. Starr | (20) Nicola Donnelly
N. Ní Dhonnaile | (24) Aisling Brehony
A. Ní an Breithiúnaigh | (28) Mairéad Mooney
M. Ní Mhaonaigh |
| (17) Anna Maria Lagana
A. M. Lagana | (21) Ruth Groves
R. Groves | (25) Sinéad O'Hara
S. Ní hÉara | (29) Lorraine Keary
L. Ní Gialla Chéire |
| (18) Niamh Connolly
N. Ní Chonghaile | (22) Ciara Brien
C. Ní Bhriain | (26) Maolice Callaghy
M. Ní Chulgaigh | (30) Amanda Broderick
A. Ní Bhruadain |
| (19) Serena Brien
S. Ní Bhriain | (23) Mairéad McEvoy
M. Ní Fhíabhuí | (27) Amanda Casey
A. Ní Chasthasaigh | |

Manager: T. Callagy. Coach: B. Sherlock. Selectors: V. Brien, A. Porter, P. Mitchell.
Medical Officer: C. Mooney.

(1)
SINÉAD NÍ RIAIN
S. Ní Riain

(2)
KAREN JONES
C. Ní Sheoin

(3)
LIZ HAYES
L. Ní hAodha

(4)
MARY BUCKLEY
M. Ní Bhuachalla

(5)
ROSIE O'MAHONY
R. Ní Mhathúna

(6)
RENA BUCKLEY
R. Ní Bhuachalla

(7)
EMMA KINGSTON
E. Ní Clochaire

(8)
MARGARET NOELLE O'SULLIVAN
M. N. Ní Shúilleabháin (Capt.)

(9)
ORLA HEALY
O. hÉili

(10)
FIONA O'CONNELL
F. Ní Chonaill

(11)
NIAMH DILWORTH
N. Ní Dhúluachra

(12)
AILEEN SHEEHAN
A. Ní Shiocháin

(13)
JOANNE CASEY
S. Ní Chasthasaigh

(14)
KATIE O'MAHONY
C. Ní Mhathúna

(15)
MARGARET COSGROVE
M. Ní Oscair

- | | | | |
|---|--|--|---|
| (16) Amanda Twohig
A. Ní Thuathaigh | (20) Allannah Twohig
L. Ní Thuathaigh | (24) Áine Ní Riain
Á. Ní Riain | (28) Aoife Kavanagh
A. Chaoimhánach |
| (17) Treasa McCarthy
T. Ní Cárthaigh | (21) Liz Buckley
L. Ní Bhuachalla | (25) Mary Desmond
M. Ní Dheasúnaigh | (29) Niamh McCarthy
N. Ní Chárthaigh |
| (18) Roslyn McCarthy
R. Ní Cárthaigh | (22) Caitlin Looney
C. Ní Luanaigh | (26) Áine O'Connor
Á. Ní Choncháir | (30) Claire Sheehan
C. Ní Shiocháin |
| (19) Laura Burke
L. de Búrca | (23) Catherine O'Brien
C. Ní Bhriain | (27) Deirdre O'Callaghan
D. Ní Cheallacháin | |

Selectors: S. Twohig, F. O'Leary, P. Giggins, I. O'Keeffe.
First Aid: A. O'Keeffe.

Stunning Killimor blitz Inniscarra at Croke Park

By Daragh Ó Conchúir
Killimor 3-18
Inniscarra 1-4

Killimor blew Inniscarra away with a stunning all-round team display to claim their first ever All-Ireland senior club camogie title at Croke Park yesterday, 3-18 to 1-4.

A larger-than-expected attendance of 4,724 came through the stiles at Headquarters to watch Brenda Hanney lead the Galwegians to success, while Eoghan Rua took the intermediate honours on a 3-8 to 2-3 scoreline.

Camogie president Joan O'Flynn expressed her delight with the attendance.

"Those are fantastic figures" she said. "It's a great boost for camogie and for the club finals in their first year back at Croke Park and we hope to build on this now."

It was Killimor's day though and they raced into a four-point lead early on as they absolutely flew out of the traps, Claire Conroy, Martina Conroy (two) and the outstanding Susan Keane doing the needful. Inniscarra were very slow to settle and when Helen Quinn goaled in the 17th minute, the signs weren't good for the Cork outfit.

Niamh Dilworth finally got her side off the mark with a pointed free in the 23rd minute but Lorraine Donnelly goaled at the other end directly from the puck out to give her side a scarcely believable 2-4 to 0-1 lead at the break.

Inniscarra were clearly shellshocked and failed to improve after the resumption, as Susan Keane, Martina Conroy (who finished with 1-6) and Hanney kept the scoreboard ticking over. Inniscarra did have plenty of possession but they struggled massively against a resolute Killimor rearguard in which Julie Brien was magnificent.

All the damage was being done at the other end and Martina Conroy sent a stunning shot to the Inniscarra net from 16m after a blistering run from Hanney just approaching the final quarter. She added another couple of points from frees, while Emer Haverty also struck a brace and Hanney also found the target to stretch the margin to 20 points.

Rena Buckley fired over from a 45 before Dilworth scored an excellent 53rd minute goal, catching Joanne Casey's delivery and sending a powerful shot to the roof of the net.

It was scarcely a consolation though and a flurry of points from Serena Brien, Conroy and Hanney set the seal on a wonderful day for the Tribeswomen.

Killimor: H Campbell; N Hanney, N Lawless, J Brien; K Brien, AM Hayes, M Duane; E Haverty 0-2, AM Starr; C Conroy 0-1, B Hanney 0-4(1f), M Conroy 1-6(0-4fs); H Quinn 1-0, S Keane 0-4, L Donnelly 1-0. Subs: AM Lagana for Quinn (52); S Brien 0-1 for Donnelly (52); N Donnelly for C Conroy (57); N Connolly for Keane (59); C Brien for M Conroy (60)

Inniscarra: S Ní Riain; A Sheehan, L Hayes, M Buckley; K Jones, R O'Mahony, E Kingston 0-1; R Buckley 0-1(45), O Healy; J Casey 0-1, MN O'Sullivan, K O'Mahony; M Cosgrove, F O'Connell, N Dilworth 1-1(0-1f). Subs: L Burke for Kingston (21); Kingston for Cosgrove (28); T McCarthy for O'Connell (47); L Buckley for Healy (50)

Referee: O Elliott (Antrim)

1973 finalists return to Croke Park

THE Camogie Association extend a warm welcome to members of the Austin Stacks Camogie team (Dublin) and Portglenone Camogie Team (Antrim) who contested the last All Ireland Club Camogie Final to be played in Croke Park in 1973. Welcome also to Mary Moran, former President and Trustee of the Camogie Association who was the referee for the final.

Austin Stacks retained their title defeating Portglenone by 4-2 to 2-0.

Austin Stacks: S. Murray, M. Ryan, B. Keenan, V. Sullivan, D. Caldwell, L. Feary, L. McEvoy, O. Ní Shiocháin, P. Brennan, A. Sheehy, R. Halpin, M. Sherlock.

Portglenone: S. McLarnon, T. McAtamney, B. Graham, O. Webb, S. McMullen, A. Kelly, M. McAtamney, B. Dillion, E. Webb, P. O'Doherty, P. Graham, B. Kelly. Sub: C. Graham for B. Kelly.

MATCH OFFICIALS

INTERMEDIATE

Referee: MIKE O'KELLY (Cork)
Line Umpire: Donal Ryan (Dublin)
Line Umpire: John Thompson (Carlow)
4th Official: David Carroll (Clare)
5th Official: Mike Sheehan (Cork)

SENIOR

Referee: OWEN ELLIOTT (Antrim)
Line Umpire: John Dolan (Clare)
Line Umpire: Una Kearney (Armagh)
4th Official: Malachy McToal (Derry)
5th Official: Gerry McGough (Dublin)

MAR. 2011

It all goes wrong for Inniscarra

All-Ireland Senior Club Camogie final



Daragh Ó Conchúir

Croke Park

Killimor (Galway)
Inniscarra (Cork)

3-18
1-4

THE expected arm wrestle between two teams that won their first county title last year never materialised, as Killimor blew Inniscarra away with a stunning display to garner the All-Ireland senior club camogie crown at Croke Park yesterday.

A larger-than-expected attendance of 4,724 came through the stiles at Headquarters to watch Brenda Hanney lead the Galwegians to success, while Eoghan Rua took the intermediate honours on a 3-8 to 2-3 scoreline.

Camogie president Joan O'Flynn expressed her delight with the attendance.

"Those are fantastic figures" she said. "It's a great boost for camogie (and) for the club finals in their first year back at Croke Park and we hope to build on this now."

It was Killimor's day though and victorious manager Tommy Callagy revealed that while the margin of victory might have been a surprise, the performance wasn't.

"We had been thinking all year that there is a performance like that in them but it's an incredible achievement to get it out in Croke Park" enthused Callagy.

"In some of the matches this year we haven't started well. It's very important when you come to Croke Park that you do start well and we had focussed on that."

They raced into a four-point lead early on as they absolutely flew out of the traps, Claire Conroy, Martina

Conroy (two) and the outstanding Susan Keane doing the needful. Inniscarra were very slow to settle and when Helen Quinn goaled in the 17th minute, the signs weren't good for the Cork outfit.

"We didn't show up at all," said Inniscarra selector Irene O'Keeffe. "I thought our preparations went well all week, the girls were very focussed this morning but they got a good start and we never came back from it."

"We tried to force the game too much; a lot of our experienced players were trying that bit too hard, dropping ball and fumbling it. They were coming by scores easier. It's hard to explain it to be honest."

Niamh Dilworth finally got her side off the mark with a pointed free in the 23rd minute but Lorraine Donnelly goaled at the other end directly from the puck out to give her side a scarcely believable 2-4 to 0-1 lead at the break.

Inniscarra were clearly shellshocked and failed to improve after the resumption, as Susan Keane, Martina Conroy (who finished with 1-6) and Hanney kept the scoreboard ticking over.

Inniscarra did have plenty of possession but they struggled massively against a resolute Killimor rearguard in which Julie Brien was magnificent.

All the damage was being done at the other end and Martina Conroy sent a stunning shot to the Inniscarra net from 16m after a blistering run from Hanney just approaching the final quarter. She added another couple of points from



DESOLATION: Inniscarra's Tresa McCarthy looking dejected after defeat by Killimor in the All-Ireland Senior Camogie Club final. Inset: Jubilant Killimor manager Tommy Callagy, right, and coach Bertie Sherlock at the final whistle. Pictures: Inpho and Sportsfile



freel, while Emer Haverty also struck a brace and Hanney also found

the target to stretch the margin to 20 points.

Rena Buckley fired over from a 45' before Dilworth scored an excellent 53rd minute goal, catching Joanne Casey's delivery and sending a powerful shot to the roof of the net.

It was scarcely a consolation though and a flurry of points from Serena Brien, Conroy and Hanney put the seal on a wonderful day for the Tribeswomen.

Hanney revealed that she'd had a positive feeling about the game when she saw how calm everyone was when they stopped in Enfield en route for a puck around. The

captain and player-of-the-match admitted that the pain of All-Ireland defeat with Galway last September was a definite personal motivation.

"It's very, very special. We'll wake up (tomorrow morning) and realise just how big of an achievement this was (today). It's just a super, sweet feeling."

KILLIMOR: H Campbell; N Hanney, N Lawless, J Brien; K Brien, AM Hayes, M Duane; E Haverty 0-2, AM Starr; C Conroy 0-1, B Hanney 0-4 (1f), M Conroy 1-6 (0-4f); H Quinn 1-0, S Keane 0-4, L Donnelly 1-0.

Subs: AM Lagana for Quinn (52); S Brien 0-1 for Donnelly (52); N Donnelly for C Conroy (57); N Connolly for Keane (59); C Brien for M Conroy (60).

INNISCARRA: S Ni Riain; A Sheehan, L Hayes, M Buckley; K Jones, R O'Mahony, E Kingston 0-1; R Buckley 0-1 (45), O Healy; J Casey 0-1, MN O'Sullivan, K O'Mahony; M Cosgrove, F O'Connell, N Dilworth 1-1 (0-1f).

Subs: L Burke for Kingston (21); Kingston for Cosgrove (28); T McCarthy for O'Connell (47); L Buckley for Healy (50).

Referee: O Elliott (Antrim)

Irish Examiner comes out top for camogie coverage

THE Irish Examiner was recognised as the leading paper in the country for camogie coverage at Croke Park on Saturday night.

Therese O'Callaghan collected the RTE Mick Dunne memorial award for national coverage of camogie on behalf of the paper at the camogie association's media awards.

Wexford journalist Dean Goodison received the published work award for his book 'I Gotta Feeling' which recounted the county's 2010 All-Ireland-winning camogie season.

Wexford PRO, Barbara Ryan, was named PRO of the year while photographer Caroline Quinn picked up the photograph of the year award.

Other awards were presented to Clare FM (local radio); the Offaly Express (provincial newspaper); Dublin Camogie Board (website) and Armagh County Camogie Board (programme).