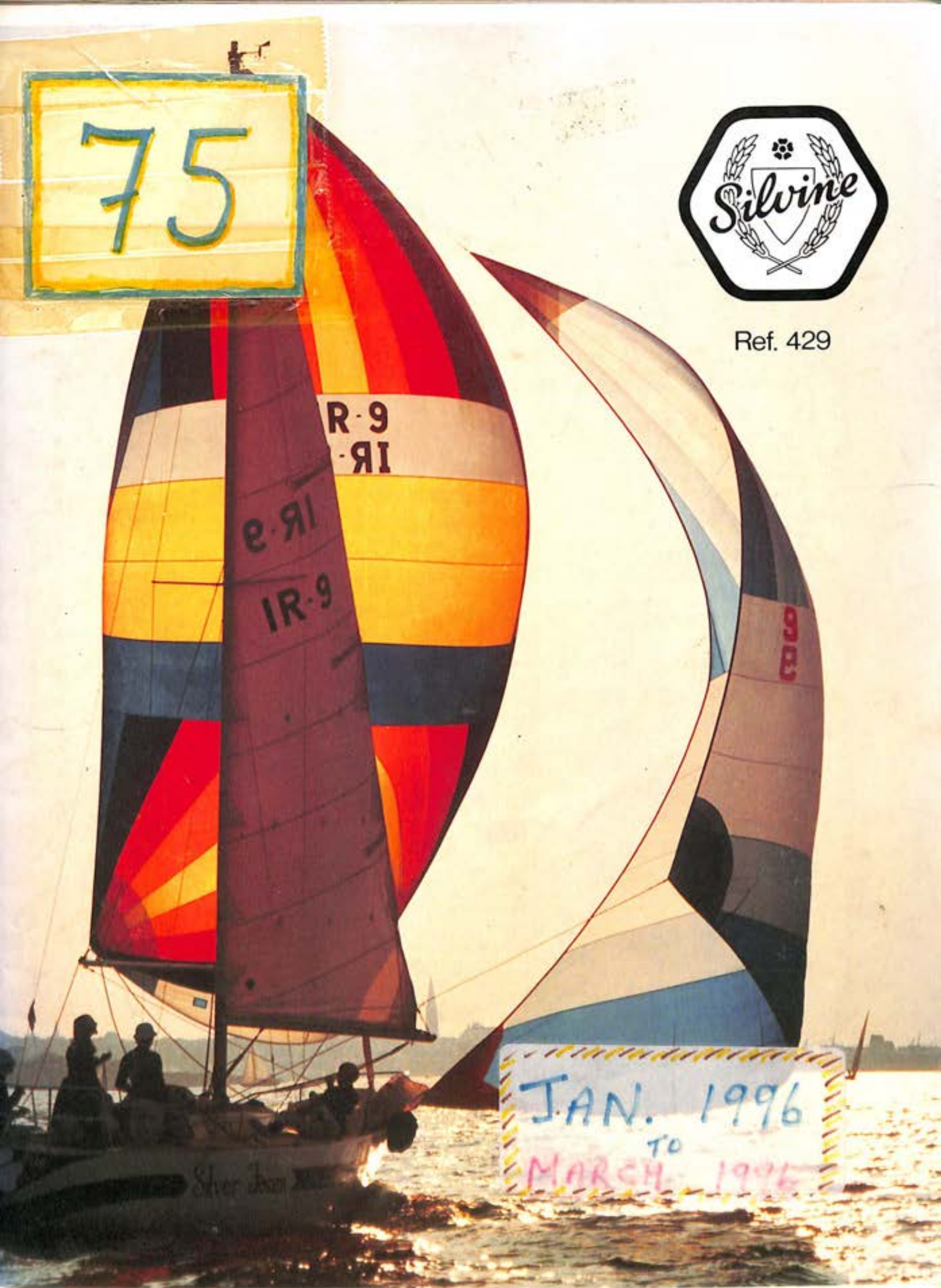


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JAN. 1996
TO
MARCH 1996

COAST BOOK

JAN. 1996

A FIRST FOR RATHNURE



CAMOGIE BY P.J. FULHAM

Club championship is always a keenly contested affair and this year was no exception with the holders Lisdowney, Kilkenny, falling by the wayside in their own county. Last years finalists Glen Rovers, Cork met with a surprise when they were defeated by Toomevara, Tipperary. After some interesting games the scene was set for the All-Ireland semi-final with Toomevara aiming to bridge a 29 year gap since the last Tipperary club's

win producing great speed and determination they led 2-7 to 0-4 at the break. A hat-trick of goals midway through the second half by Ann Reddy wiped out any chance the Down Club had of reaching their first All-Ireland final. Final score: Rathnure 5-11 Leitrim/Fontenoy's 1-9. Scorers: Rathnure: Ann Reddy 4-1, Geraldine Codd 1-10. Leitrim Mairin McAleenan 0-7, Nuala McGee 1-2. Referee: Mary Connor, Louth.

(2) and Ann Reddy. Final score: Rathnure 4-9 Toomevara 1-5. Scorers: Rathnure: Bernie Higgins 2-0, Ann Reddy 1-3, Geraldine Codd 0-6, Marguerite Somers 1-0. Toomevara: Deirdre Hughes 1-1, Noelle Kennedy 0-2, Ann Gleeson 0-2. Referee: Marie Pollard, Waterford.



Golden Memories... President Mary Robinson in happy mood with Cork Captain Denise Cronin and Camogie Association Secretary Sile De Bhailis after the All Ireland Senior Camogie Final. Cork beat Kilkenny for the title.

success in 1966, when Glengoele won its second All-Ireland title in succession. Toomevara gained a two point victory over Davitt's, Galway, who were also making their first appearance in an All-Ireland semi-final, after extra time in a keenly contested tie at Craughwell.

Toomevara came from behind with a goal by Deirdre Hughes to put the match into extra time. It was a close encounter all the way. A goal by Olivia Broderick gave Davitt's a 1-5 to 1-3 lead at the break. A brace of goals by Deirdre Hughes in the second half kept her team in touch, and at the end of normal time the score-board read: Toomevara 3-4 Davitt's 2-7. Deirdre Hughes was Toomevara's girl of the match as she got the most vital score, a goal in the opening half of extra time. Despite great work by Olivia Broderick of Davitt's, the Tipperary club held on for a two point victory. Final score: Toomevara 4-6 Davitt's 3-7. Scorers: Toomevara: Deirdre Hughes 3-1, Noelle Kennedy 0-5, Grainne Shanahan 1-0. Davitt's: Olivia Broderick 1-5, Brenda Daniels and Joanne Frost 1-0 each, Claire Lynch 0-2. Referee: Fiona McKenna, Armagh.

In the other semi-final the Ulster champions, Leitrim/Fontenoy's, Down, also newcomers hosted Rathnure, Wexford who contested the 1992 final. Rathnure had a comprehensive

win over Toomevara at the latter venue to take their first All-Ireland title. The first half was evenly contested until Marguerite Somers sent a sizzling ball to the net to give Rathnure a 1-5 to 0-3 lead at the break. Then a dramatic third quarter saw the winners crash home 3-1 inside of eleven minutes, the flurry of goals coming from Bernie Higgins

In January we turn our attention to the Ashbourne and Purcell Cups which are always interesting competitions. The qualifying rounds are over and the following is the quarter-final draws for the Ashbourne Cup: The holders University of Limerick meet U.C.G. in what should be a cracker. U.L. have a good squad despite losing Cork star Fiona O'Driscoll. Sinead Millea, Kilkenny is one of their greatest assets. They are sure to meet with stiff opposition from U.C.G. who have quite an abundance of talent in their side. U.C.D. will host the Ashbourne and they would like to be involved in the final stages, but they come up against stiff opposition in U.C.G. University of Ulster, Jordanstown and Waterford R.T.C. should produce good fare, while last year's Purcell Cup winners Athlone R.T.C. take on Trinity College Dublin.

In the Purcell Cup quarter-finals last year's Shield winners St. Patrick's Maynooth tussle it out with Dublin City University, while two Northern Universities oppose each other: University of Ulster, Coleraine v Queens, Belfast. Mary, I, Limerick should be too experienced for Tralee R.T.C. St. Mary's Belfast can prove too strong for Dundalk R.T.C.

The National Junior league has been shelved for the winter break. There are lots of interesting games to look forward to in the Spring.

The following is the league table to date:

Zone A:	P.	W.	D.	L.	Pts	Zone B:	P.	W.	D.	L.	Pts
Limerick	2	2	0	0	4	Antrim	2	2	0	0	4
Wexford	2	1	0	1	2	Derry	2	2	0	0	4
Tipperary	1	1	0	0	2	Dublin	2	1	0	1	2
Cork	1	0	0	1	0	Monaghan	2	0	0	2	0
						Tyrone	2	0	0	2	0
Zone C:	P.	W.	D.	L.	Pts	Zone D:	P.	W.	D.	L.	Pts
Down	2	2	0	0	4	Roscommon	1	1	0	0	2
Cavan	2	2	0	0	4	Galway	1	1	0	0	2
Carlow	2	0	1	1	1	Offaly	1	0	0	1	0
Kildare	2	0	1	1	1	Clare	1	0	0	1	0
Armagh	2	0	0	2	0						

Leinster Convention takes place in Aras Laighean, Portlaoise on Saturday January 27th 1996 commencing at 1.30pm.

JAN. 1996

Camogie World

by P.J. Fulham

County Conventions have now drawn to a close. Quite a number of new Officers face a hard task in '96.

Wexford Convention was held in Murphy Flood's Hotel, Enniscorthy, and was well attended. Outgoing Chairman Ray Quigley did not seek re-election. The Secretary, Christine Delaney, in her report stated that it was quite a good year for Wexford, especially at underage level with the Minors winning the All-Ireland title for the first time. Rathnure took the Senior All-Ireland Club Championship, also for the first time. She complimented the Under 14 squad who secured Leinster honours for the fourth year in a row. She is satisfied to see all competitions were finished on time. The following officers were elected: President - Lily Furlong, Chairman - Jim Bolger, Vice-Chairperson - Bernie Higgins, Treasurer - Mary Canning, Registrar - Jacinta Roache, PRO - Anne Ryan, Delegate to Leinster - Ray Quigley.

At Kildare convention there was quite a scuffle when Chairperson Máire Woods stood down after giving a service of 25 years to the Board, during which time she held every Officership. There was a vacancy for Secretary which was not filled. Acting Secretary Gillian Stagg declined to take the position. PRO Marianne Feeney did not seek re-election. Trainer Pat Herbert lost his position to Sarsfields Sean O'Sullivan.

The following are the Officers for the coming year: President - Mrs Corcoran, Chairperson - Mary McMullan, Vice Chairperson -

Helen Byrnes, Secretary to be elected, Treasurer - Margaret Murray, Registrar - Loretto Shinnars.

Offaly was no different to any other county. Their outgoing Secretary, Caroline McCarthy takes over the Chair while Deirdre Cahill, Birr is the new secretary. Caroline stated in her report that she was not satisfied with Offaly's performance at inter-county level, especially with the Junior team. She hopes for better organisation this year, that will put the county back as a strong force. All competitions ran off smoothly and were finished on time. There were five young girls from Drumcullen representing Offaly in the Mini-Sevens in Croke Park on All-Ireland Hurling Final day; Edel Watkins, Sinead Colgan, Mary Lyons, Michelle Corcoran and Karen Nugent.

Other officers returned: Vice Chairperson - Miriam O'Callaghan, Treasurer - Molly Guinan, Registrar - Mary Murray, PRO Mollie Guinan.

Wicklow too, have a new Chairperson. Cathy O'Toole takes over from William Cullen who fills the position of Secretary when the outgoing Secretary, Martina Kelly, did not seek re-election. The "Garden County" ran competitions for all age groups. However, the outgoing Secretary, in her report, expressed concern at the problem of getting a county team together and urged for a greater effort in '96.

Rest of officers: Vice-Chairperson - Breda Byrne, Treasurer - Mary Byrne, Registrar - Breda Donnelly, PRO - Majella O'Malley.

Louth have a new Chairperson and Secretary. Susan McGuinness takes over the Chair from Mary Connor who did not seek re-election. The Secretary's position goes to Mary McGivern when the outgoing Annemarie King did not let her name go forward.

Rest of officers: Vice-Chairperson - Bernie Kirk, Treasurer - Nuala Hoey, Registrar - Anne Colgan, PRO - Peter Hoey, Leinster Delegate - Mary Connor.

Carlow have a new Secretary after the outgoing Valerie Crean decided not seek re-election. The following are the Officers for 1996: Chairperson - Joan Gibson, Vice-Chairman - Nuala Quirke, Secretary/PRO - John Maye, Treasurer - Kathleen Tompkins, Registrar - Joan McDonald, Leinster Delegate - Peter O'Rourke.

Meath elected a new Vice-Chairman and PRO. The Chairperson Brigid Carney fought off a challenge for her position.

Chairperson - Brigid Carney, Vice-Chairman - Paddy Brady, Secretary - Anne Dempsey, Treasurer - Terry Tormey, Registrar - Breda McKenna, PRO - Anne Gorman, Delegates to Leinster - Brigid Carney and Breda McKenna.

All-Ireland champions Cork had a good convention with only one change on the executive. Registrar Lily O'Sullivan did not seek re-election. The following are the officers for 1996: President - Mary Moran, Chairperson - Shiela Golden, Vice-Chairperson - Marian McCarthy, Secretary - Tracey Sheehan, Treasurer - Mary McSweeney, PRO - Mary Newman/McCarthy, Registrar - Kay Dunne.

Dublin made no changes. The following officers were returned - Chairperson - Maura Brady, Vice-Chairperson - Kathleen Timmins, Secretary - Patricia Rafferty, Treasurer - Chris Green, Registrar - Sophia Brack, PRO - Maire Scully.

COUNTY CONVENTIONS ARE NOW OVER

JAN. 1996

Camogie World

By: P.J. Fulham

OLD RIVALS CORK AND KILKENNY CANNOT MEET IN ALL-IRELAND SENIOR FINAL

Old rivals All-Ireland champions Cork and Kilkenny will not meet in the All-Ireland Senior Camogie Championship final this year.

The Senior open draw made recently shows, that if they are to meet it will be in the semi-final, with Cork having the venue. Last year the meetings of the sides in the final brought one of the largest crowds to Croke Park in recent years.

This year Kilkenny have a bye in the first round, while Cork play Armagh. Galway will be making an all out effort for a final spot. They have been knocking on the door for the past three years, having reached the final in '93 when defeated by Cork. They won the National Senior League in '94 and were ousted at the semi-final stage of the Championship by Kilkenny last season. Dublin are still looking for that lucky break. There will be strong opposition from Wexford and the newly crowned Intermediate champions Clare.

The following is the draw for the All-Ireland Senior Championship:

First round - (A) Wexford v Clare; (B) Dublin v Galway;

(C) Armagh v Cork; (D) Kilkenny a Bye.

Semi-finals: (A) v (B) (D) v (C).

First named team has the home venue in the opening round.

The All-Ireland Senior champions Cork returned from their holiday in the Canary Islands recently. If hurlers and footballers can have sunshine holidays after winning an All-Ireland well, the girls thought they should have it too. They raised the money themselves.

Leinster Convention will take place on Saturday next in Aras



Frank Darcy, Mildred Fox T.D. Wicklow (centre) and Kathleen McAllister pictured at the Ardriston re-union

Laighean, Portlaoise, commencing at 1.30pm. All outgoing Officers will be returned unopposed, with the exception of the position of Registrar. Long serving Sophia Brack, Dublin faces a challenge from Mary Canning, Wexford.

Munster Convention takes place this Sunday in the Queens Hotel, Ennis. Marie Carney, Cork will take over as Chairperson from Bernie O'Dea, Limerick who has completed her three year stint. Bernie is nominated for PRO. Vice Chairperson Vera Mackey, Limerick will have opposition from Marie Pollard, Waterford. Rose Malone, Cork Secretary. Mary Casey, Cork Treasurer and Brid Naughton, Limerick, Registrar will retain their positions.

SHORT HISTORY OF ARDRISTON CLUB, CARLOW

Ardriston camogie club was formed in 1960. The following Officers were elected: Chairman, Frank Darcy, Vice-Chairperson, Nan Crean, Secretary, Rita Dunbar, Treasurer, Ned Dunbar. As only one grade of camogie existed at that time, Senior, Ardriston fielded one of the youngest teams in the Senior Championship. Most of the players were

pupils in the Brigantine Convent, Tullow which was a stronghold of camogie during the 50's and 60's. The club went on to win the Championship in 1960 at their first attempt and successfully defended the title in 1961. Nan Crean was team captain on both occasions. The highlight of 1960 was the selection of Teresa Nolan on the Leinster team, with whom she won a Gael Linn medal that year. In '61 five Ardriston players were selected on the Carlow County panel which reached the Leinster final for the first time.

The club developed close ties with Annacurra club in Wicklow, playing frequent challenge and tournament matches. These matches were of great benefit to both clubs.

Down the years close ties were maintained between the two clubs and in August 1995 a re-union was arranged. A match was played by past players and refereed by Frank Darcy and ended in a draw.

A great evenings entertainment followed. The trophies were sponsored by Frank Darcy and were presented to both teams by Canon Pat Foley PP. The event was organised by Kathleen McAllister, Annacurra and Frank Darcy and plans are already underway for this year when Ardriston will host Annacurra.



Past players and members of Annacurra and Ardriston teams who took part in the 35 year re-union. Front, left to right: Teresa Nolan, Licia Lacey, Kathleen Darcy, Kathleen Hill, Anne Sweeney, Sr. Breda Byrne, Judy Fleming, Statia Ivers, Brid Doyle. Back, left to right: Mrs. Lacey, Kathleen McAllister, Susan Moloney, Nan Crean, Sal Turner, Betty Whelan, Pamela Byrne, Margaret O'Brien, Katie Byrne, Betty Byrne, Rita Dunbar. Seated, in front: Frank Darcy

JAN. 1996

UCC ladies play UCD

UCC camogie team are to meet UCD in the Ashbourne Cup qualifier at Dr Cullen Park, Carlow to-morrow (2.30).

UCC, last years Ashbourne Shield winners, have a strong panel to choose from which includes inter-county stars, Stephanie Dunlea from Cork, and Maggie Hickey from Kilkenny. However the Dublin side will be sure to put up a great fight and a tough closely fought match is to be expected.

Easy for UCC girls

UCC 4-8, UCD 0-2

UNDERDOGS UCC surprised favourites UCD with a comprehensive 18 points margin in the Ashbourne Cup Higher Education camogie quarter final at Carlow yesterday.

Outstanding for Cork was Stephanie Dunlea who contributed 1-6 and scored the 20th minute goal which proved the turning point of the match.

UCC led 1-6 to 0-1 at half time.

Scorers UCC—S. Dunlea 1-6, F. Connery 2-0, C. Kirby 1-0, O. Murphy 0-2. UCD 1 Kirby, V. Treahy 0-1 ea.

Teams UCC—C. Keohane, P. Dowling, L. Kelleher, M. Hickey, A. O'Leary, G. O'Grady, A. McDermott, T. Brophy, C. Kirby, S. Dunlea, O. Murphy, F. Connery. Sub: D. Delane for O'Grady. UCD—L. Adams, N. Treacy, L. Sweetnam, A. Martin, T. Collins, H. Kiely, R. Treacy, M. Brady, I. Kirwan, V. Bolger, M. Dooley, M. Coady. Sub: N. Ryan, for Brady, J. Breen for Sweetnam, Inr. V. Trehy for Kiely.

Ref: Pat Moran, Laois.

Ruby Anniversary of a great Antrim win

by Seamus MacGiolla Fhinen



Madge Rainey, the Antrim Captain, in Croke Park with the O'Duffy Cup and its donor Mr. Seán O Dubhthaigh after the 1956 All-Ireland final.

Antrim were the team to break one of the best winning sequences in the history of Gaelic games. Dublin took every All-Ireland senior camogie title from 1948 to 1966 inclusive - bar 1956, which went to the Glens. And it was left to Antrim again in 1967 to finally put an end to Dublin's domination of Camogie's top competition. But let us see how good was that great Antrim side of 40 years ago?

The decade 1944-54 had proven the most successful for Ulster camogie teams in their quest for the O'Duffy Cup. Antrim became the first side to appear in an All-Ireland camogie final in 1944, although they failed to lift the coveted trophy at the first attempt. Máire O'Gorman captained the Saffrons to their first title the following year and in 1946 and 1947 Antrim added another two titles.

Those victories significantly raised both the standard and profile of the game in Ulster, and other counties pushed for recognition on the national stage. In 1948, Antrim lost their Ulster title in the semi-final in Derry, but Down then defeated the Oak Leaf cailini to not only claim their first provincial title but march on into the All-Ireland final. However, as with Antrim, Dublin ended their O'Duffy Cup dream and sadly Down were never to reach the final again, despite retaining their provincial crown in 1949 and again lifting it in 1953.

Derry finally became Ulster champions in 1954 and like Down won through to the National final at the first attempt, where Dublin again spoiled the party.

While these new counties were making their bid for glory, Antrim were far from fading into the shadows. They were Ulster Champions 1950-52 and reached both the 1951 and 1952 All-Ireland finals. Dublin therefore were going for their ninth title in succession in 1956 when they met Antrim in a brilliant semi-final in Casement Park.

Agnes Hourigan in *The Irish Press* the following day described the game as "thrilling stuff from start to stop, with the lead switching from side to side in almost exact rotation". By half-time Antrim led narrowly by 4-1 to 4-0, with scores from Grace Connolly (2-0) and Maeve Gilroy (2-1).

Una O'Connor put Dublin in front soon after the break, but according to *The Irish News* reporter, "a switch which brought Winnie Kearns into the centre gave Deirdre O'Gorman more scope on the left wing, and the defence was steadier. Marion Kearns also came into the picture in the second half with some clever crossing...The stars of the Antrim team were Moya Forde, Maeve Gilroy, Chris Hughes, Grace Connolly and Madge Rainey."

A Sophie Brack goal for Dublin put her side ahead with only minutes remaining but up stepped Marion Kearns with a goal to release the capital's grip on the Cup.

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Ruby Anniversary of a great Antrim win

by Seamus MacGiolla Eimhin

From page 41

The final against Cork on September 30th 1956 in Croke Park did not live up to the standard set by Antrim in Casement Park a month earlier. Mitchel Cogley, writing in the Irish Independent the following day, noted little between the sides "in fleetness of foot, skilful stickwork and length of striking, but Antrim's defence was the sounder under pressure and the positional play of their forwards was better than that of Cork girls".

Cogley went on to pick out the contribution of 14 year old Dunloy goalie Teresa Kearns as being most significant... "with Antrim leading 4-3 to 4-2 and Cork pressing desperately, she brought off a save from star Cork forward Noreen Duggan which equalled that of Art Foley from Christy Ring the previous week". High praise indeed!

In front of her, Ahoghill's Moya Forde was a tower of strength at fullback, with her lengthy clearances initiating most of Antrim's attacks. Cogley again...

"Deirdre O'Gorman was the best of the other backs, and in a middle line which came off second best Maeve Gilroy alone more than held her own".

"The fast and clever forwards were all dangerous, with Chris Hughes the star of the line. Many of her clever touches would have done credit to Christy Ring himself.

"Marion Kearns, Madge Rainey, the captain, and Grace Connolly also played their parts well in giving the Cork defence a testing time".

The game's scoring can be broken down to first half goals from Marion Kearns, Madge Rainey and Chris Hughes just keeping the Ulster champions in touch 3-2 to 3-0 at half time.

Points from Maeve Gilroy (off a "30") and Ita O'Reilly put Antrim level, before Marion Kearns crashed home a great goal for the lead. Angela Lane replied with a similar score for Cork, but due mainly to the heroics of the Antrim goalie, this was to prove the Leesiders' last score.

Chris Hughes struck a fine point, and then straight from that brilliant Art Foley-like save, Antrim struck for gold when Grace Connolly raced through for a goal.

Antrim fielded the same side in both semi-final and final: Teresa Kearns (Dunloy), Moya Forde



(Ahoghill), Eithne Dougan (Dunloy), Deirdre O'Gorman (St. Teresa's), Winnie Kearns (Dunloy), Eilis McCamphill (Dunloy), Ita O'Reilly (Deirdre), Maeve Gilroy (St. Malachy's), Marion Kearns (St. Malachy's), Madge Rainey (Dunloy) capt., Chris Hughes (St. Malachy's), Grace Connolly (Loughgiel).

Subs: Agnes Dillon (Dunloy), Margot Kane (St. Teresa's), Lil Forrester (Deirdre).

Antrim naturally held down most of the places on the Ulster side which competed in the first ever inter-provincial competition later in the autumn, but the Dublin-backed Leinster side took the Gael-Linn Cup, beating the northerners in the final.

The following year, practically all the Antrim side were back in Croke Park and leading Dublin with only two minutes remaining only to concede a goal, as Eilis McCamphill recovered from a head injury.

Sophie Brack, who captained Dublin to six of their eight All-Ireland's in succession prior to 1956, had high regard for the Antrim side of the fifties.

"They were always close to the title. Some years we won because other sides were over-awed from appearing in the final. That happened to Down, Derry and probably Antrim in the early fifties".

"1956 was my last match, and an intense rivalry built up between both counties just after that and through to 1967. They were very unlucky not to relieve us of more titles during some great semi-final and final encounters. We often got the run of the ball at crucial stages, like a minute from time in 1957."

Only Ita O'Reilly survived from the forties team. She already held All-Ireland medals from 1946 and 1947, but she was not the only link with those great sides. Captain Madge Rainey and Deirdre O'Gorman were both continuing family traditions.

Kathleen Rainey played in all three victories 1945-7, while Deirdre occupied the same centre-back position as sister Máire, the 1945 captain. And of course another of Antrim's stars of the forties, Lily Spence, as President, was proud to hand over the O'Duffy Cup to Madge.

Five players from the 1956 side survived to collect a second medal 11 years on in 1967, quite a high percentage given that marriage as well as age ended most players' careers at the time. Goalie Teresa Kearns (now Cassidy), full-back Moya Forde, wing-back Eithne

The Antrim camogie side, the 1956 All-Ireland champions, pictured immediately after their 5-3 to 4-2 victory over Cork in the final in Croke Park.

Dougan, centre-back Maeve Gilroy and centre-forward Marion Kearns (now McFetridge) all climbed the steps of the Hogan Stand in '67 as winners. Chris Hughes missed out on the '67 win, but returned to star in the 1973 final, although she failed to add a second medal.

Pat Dougan of Mackies Engineering fame, and himself an inter-county footballer, lived most of his early life in the shadow of sister Eithne's achievements, while Teresa Kearns may be better known around Bellaghy nowadays as Damien Cassidy's aunt.

Deirdre Canning in 1995 helped Antrim on their way back to glory in winning the Ulster Junior title. She is the daughter of Eilis McCamphill, who had sons on the Dunloy panel which drew with Birm in last year's club hurling decider.

Eilis and her captain Madge Rainey are themselves full cousins and also full cousins of the Dooey twins, medalists in the 1940's. This family connection in 1956 brought their All-Ireland medal collection to 10 spread over 6 players.

Madge married Brian Mullan in 1957 and a year later, Brian played in Derry's unsuccessful outing in the All-Ireland Football final.

And what of "the finest camogie full-back of all time" (The Irish Press 1967 preview)? The great Moya Forde first played in an All-Ireland final in 1950 and 20 years later was captaining her county and club Ahoghill to provincial titles. In those two decades, she appeared in 10 All-Ireland finals, but only claimed two medals - a paltry return for such great service.

A triple All-Ireland winner Nancy (Milligan) Murray was as coach the main architect of this second coming of Antrim, and she was to move on to referee four All-Ireland deciders 1958-70, before her election in 1973 as President of the Association.

Maeve Gilroy refereed two deciders (1961 and 1962) and probably would have done more had she herself not been playing in the final. Nancy and Maeve were also top golfers as were many of the 1956 team once their playing careers were over.

Dublin and Antrim met in eight All-Ireland finals 1950 - 1967 and quite a few semi-finals, making the Glensfolk Dublin's most consistent challengers. While the Dubs may have won practically all the titles, Antrim gained their highest respect and of course the O'Duffy Cup in 1956.

1996 marks the Ruby anniversary of the Saffron county's fourth All-Ireland and no doubt those great players of yester year will meet up to replay some of their finest games.

Sadly Chris Hughes died a few years ago, but the health of all the others should allow them to toast that great All-Ireland run which broke Dublin's O'Duffy Cup dominance.



The Antrim camogie side prior to their defeat of champions Dublin in the 1956 All-Ireland semi-final in Casement Park, Belfast.

Back row (l to r): Grace Connolly, Eithne Dougan, Winnie Kearns, Marion Kearns, Moya Forde, Deirdre O'Gorman, Maeve Gilroy. Front: Ita O'Reilly, Eilis McCamphill, Chris Hughes, Teresa Kearns, Madge Rainey (capt).



The University College Cork camogie panel of players who defeated UCD in the Ashbourne Cup Inter-Varsities qualifier in Carlow recently.

UCC score a hard fought victory

THEY were celebrating well into the night after UCC had captured the Ashbourne Cup (All-Ireland Colleges Camogie Championship) in Dublin yesterday.

The Cork side, who won the Plate last year, faced a very fancied UUJ in the final and won by 3-3 to 1-6.

It was eleven years since the title had come to the Banks of

By TOM HIGGINS

the Lee and after last year's disappointment, the Cork Students were determined to go all the way this time.

Last year they fancied their chances, but were beaten by University of Limerick in the preliminary round with the Treaty based college eventually go-

ing on to win out.

This year they had a good win over UCD in the preliminary round and went on to beat Athlone R.T.C in the semi-final on Saturday, but they were far from impressive, and UUJ were strongly fancied to come out on top yesterday.

But they reserved their best form for the final, and after leading by a point at the

break, 1-3 to 1-2, Orla Murphy banged in two goals in the second half, which put them on the road to victory.

Jordanstown fought back gallantly however and began to reduce arrears, but the Cork defence which was outstanding, stood firm and they held out in a thrilling finish to take the title much to the delight of their followers.

FEB.

1996

UCC regain cup after 11-year wait

UCC
UUJ

3-3
1-6

UNIVERSITY COLLEGE, CORK bridged an eleven year gap when they collected the Ashbourne Camogie Cup by disposing of a fancied University of Ulster Jordanstown side in a thrilling final played at University College Dublin yesterday.

The winners took the game to their opponents from the start, when Stephanie Dunlea pointed from a free and Clare Kirby

added a similar score. Edel Mason opened Jordanstown's account when she pointed from a free. In an end-to-end tussle, a well-taken goal by Clare Kirby in the 15th minute was followed by a similar score by Jordanstown's Deirdre Connolly. Just one point separated the sides at the interval, UCC 1-3 UUJ 1-2.

A brace of goals by Orla Murphy in the second half left UUJ with a fight on their hands but they whittled away with points from Edel Mason, Deirdre

Connolly and Grace McMullen.

However the Cork side survived the final five minutes of pressure to take the cup to the Banks of the Lee.

Scorers: UCC - O. Murphy 2-0, C. Kirby 1-1, S. Dunlea 0-2. UUJ - E. Mason 0-4, D. Connolly 1-0, G. McMullen 0-2.
UCC - C. Keon, T. Dowling, A. O'Leary, M. Hickey, L. Kelleghan, A. McDermot, T. Brophy, G. O'Bredy, C. Kirby, S. Dunlea, O. Murphy, F. Connolly.
UUJ - C. McGarry, S. McOrlain, G. Haughey, G. Connolly, C. McGovern, E. Mason, D. O'Boyle, C. Higgins, G. McMullen, D. Connolly, S. McGovern, R. Pickering.
Referee - Marie Pollard (Waterford).

UCC's charge towards the Fitzgibbon Cup continues next Saturday next in Dublin, when QUB provide the opposition in the quarter-final.

It is only their second meeting in the Fitzgibbon Cup in recent years. On the last occasion UCC had a comfortable victory in 1992 at the same stage. A notable feature of the QUB was the inclusion of Adrian Kelly (ex UCC) at midfield.

This was not a vintage display from college against DIT last Saturday had they been playing a team capable of inflicting worry then UCC would have been in trouble. Once more Joe Deane and the Enright brothers played a key role in the UCC win.

In defence Denis Twomey and Dan Murphy continued to impress. The quarter-final meeting with QUB should not unduly trouble UCC but then the college will have to improve on the last outing.

Revised Fitzgibbon Cup draw: Final UCC v QUB. UL v UCG. Garda College v Waterford RTC (holders). UCD v Maynooth.

Camogie
The ladies of UCC's camogie team emblazoned their name on the Ashbourne Cup in an emphatic victory last weekend. The Ashbourne Cup, the All-Ireland title in camogie's inter-varsity is nestling in the Boole Library UCC after a lapse of years.

Last weekend the UCD sports complex in Dublin was the setting for UCC's victory over a widely fancied UUJ team trained by Antrim's Jim Nelson. The camogie players UCC answered the call of Tom Kingston and Brian Smith in their first year in charge.

The sweet success of the Ashbourne Cup is due to the immense training, commitment and pride in the women who adorn the 'skull and crossbones' but also is a testimony to the organisational of Tom Queally GAA Development Officer at UCC and to the preparatory work of Joe McGrath over the previous two seasons.

The seeds were planted in the McGrath era, the winning of the Purcell Cup in

FOCUS ON THIRD LEVEL SPORT

1994 was followed by the Ashbourne Shield in 1995, all of which paved the way for the return of the Ashbourne in 1996. It really is the classic case of a rags to riches fairytale as each year the expectations rose so too did the training and the performances matches.

This year, the UCC camogie team are currently in the league semi-final having defeated Waterford RTC and UL. In this section of the league all the teams finished level on points; on the second time round college won the section.

In the Ashbourne quarter-final, played in Carlow the Cork girls dominated the game throughout. Fiona Connery (Kilkenny) hit the net twice in the second half to seal the issue. Stephanie Dunlea scored the score of the game when she started the move in her own square and she duly finished off the play when she doubled on the ball to the back of the net.

After the Carlow victory it was onwards to Belfield and a meeting with Athlone RTC in the semi-final. In a dower contest the Cork girls scraped home in anything but an impressive fashion.

Sunday's final was a different story as the U.C.C. team to bride an 11-year wait. They outplayed UUJ straight from the throw in and were rewarded with a Clare Kirby goal - however Deirdre Connolly pounced for a UUJ to leave just a point between the teams. At half-time UCC led 1-3 to 1-2.

As in the first-half UCC scored first in the form of two Orla Murphy goals, her second score was UCC's final score. In a pulsating final 10 minutes UUJ added four points, but a combination of good defending and some outstanding goalkeeping by Clare Keoin UUJ could not breach as UCC went on to lift the trophy.

UCC host this year's handball intervarsities this weekend at Kilworth, Fermoy, Conna and in The Barrs. Together.



Clair Kirby showing her determination during the Fitzgibbon Cup game.

Claire's double victory success

CAMOGIE star Claire Kirby was enjoying double celebrations this week after UCC took their first Ashbourne Cup title in 11 years.

Togher girl Claire battled it out with the university team at the UCD playing fields, to take the title over the University of Jordanstown in the keenly fought final.

The win topped off an excellent season for Claire who has been one of the side's key players during the year. A personal tally of 2-1 in the final was her contribution to securing the cup.

St. Finbarrs camogie club have also benefited from her agility at wing forward and view her as a valuable addition to their side.

As well as taking the title at UCD, Claire's excellent run in the championship resulted in her selection on the combined universities team, chosen from all the participating colleges.

COUNTY LIMERICK CAMOGIE

THREE NEW CLUBS JOIN

The first meeting of the 1996 County Limerick Camogie Board took place at the Dunraven Arms on Tuesday, February 6th at 8.30p.m.

Three new clubs were welcomed to the Board: Murroe, Blackrock and Mungret. Feohanagh/Castlemahon Camogie club is disbanded and Singland changed their name to St. Patrick's club. The officers for 1996 are as follows: President - Eithne Neville; Vice-President - Eileen Doody; Chairperson - Bernice O'Dea; Vice-Chairperson - Vera Mulcahy; Secretary - Kathleen Coffey; Assistant Secretary - Claire O'Herlihy; Treasurer - Marguerite Guiry; Assistant Treasurer - Helen McCarthy and P.R.O.

- Brid Naughton.
Sub Committees: Fixtures - Claire O'Herlihy; 'I'Ger McNamara, Kathleen Coffey, Sheila Heffernan and Catherine Hurley. Finance: Marguerite Guiry, Helen McCarthy, Brid Naughton, Margo O'Connell, Eileen Doody and Madge Fleury. C.C.D: Claire O'Herlihy, Margo O'Connell and Rose Moriell. Feile na nGael: Ger McNamara, Lizzie O'Dea, Marguerite Guiry, Bernice O'Dea and Kathleen Coffey. History: Eithne Neville, Lizzie O'Dea, Vera Mulcahy, Brid Naughton and Secre-

CAMOGIE

Connacht Colls Senior A Final: St Rappin's 5-7 Mercy Roscommon 0-2

CLUICHE CEANNAIS CRAOBH NA MUMHAN

MUNSTER COLLEGES SENIOR FINAL

3rd FEBRUARY, 1996

at

NEWTOWN @ 2.30

ST. MARY'S, NENAGH

v

ST. MARY'S, CHARLEVILLE

Referee: Betty Joyce

Luach: 10p



ST. MARY'S, NENAGH
Red and Blue

1. Susan Kenneally (Capt)
2. Eimear Guilfoyle
3. Natalie Ryan
4. Ciara Gaynor
5. Siobhan Malone
6. Stephanie Lawlor
7. Suzanne Kelly
8. Sheenagh Howard
9. Eimear McDonnell
10. Lena Woods
11. Grainne Shanahan
12. Nessa O'Driscoll

Subs:

13. Olive Slattery
14. Sandra Guilfoyle
15. Anna Woods
16. Caroline Mounsey
17. Carmel Brislane
18. Denise Ryan
19. Deirdre Kyne
20. Deirdre Troy
21. Mary Rose Ryan

Coaches:

Ger Dullea
Ger Fitzgerald

SCOIL NAOMH MUIRE, RATHLUIRIC

St. Mary's, Charleville
Navy and Blue

1. Aoife Moloney
2. Breda O'Brien
3. Marie Foley
4. Deirdre Sheehan
5. Muireann Harrington
6. Vera Sheehan
7. Jean Cullinane
8. Katie O'Shea
9. Caoimhe Harrington
10. Sinead O'Callaghan
11. Eileen O'Brien
12. Angela Sheehy

Subs:

13. Mairead Keane
14. Laura Leslie
15. Marie O'Brien
16. Sharon Kelly
17. Kim Hickey
18. Karina Carroll
19. Pauline Lynch

Coaches: Vincent Harrington
Anne Marie O'Keefe
Fr. Tim Hazelwood

Charleville girls start favourites

HOLDERS St. Marys Convent, Charleville take on their sister school from Nenagh in the Munster schools senior camogie championship final at Ballyagran on Saturday at 2.30 p.m.

Both schools have dominated the scene in recent years. The North Cork side are seeking their third title in four years while the Nenagh girls, who lost the 1995 final to Charleville, last won the title in 1994.

Twelve months ago the Tipperary girls were the defending Munster and All-Ireland champions but were stripped of their titles by the Cork girls after a replay. However, they did exact some compensation later in the season when they reversed the result in the Munster senior league final.

For Saturday's final, both sides have lost the

services of only three players, but Charleville will start favourites on the strength of being able to pick from two junior All-Ireland winning teams of 1994 and 1995.

Charleville will also include four members of the victorious Limerick junior All-Ireland winning team of 1995 in the Sheehan sisters Deirdre, and Vera, Breda O'Brien and Jean Cullinane and this quartet will have a huge say in the outcome.

Nenagh can call on three members of their 1994 winning team in goalkeeper and captain Susan Kenneally, Suzanne Kelly and Ciara Gaynor. They also include Eimear McDonnell, a niece of Cork football coach Billy Morgan.

To qualify the Tipperary girls had wins over St. Caimins and Templemore while Charleville beat Cashel and Scariff.

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TODAY'S FINAL

This afternoon's decider brings together the top two schools in Munster in the nineties. Between them, these schools have captured three senior and five junior titles in this decade.

Charleville have the more impressive record. In all, they have claimed four Munster senior and five Munster junior titles. On four occasions, Charleville junior sides advanced to take the All-Ireland crown.

Nenagh have been successful twice in the Munster Junior Championship and once in the Munster Senior Championship. However, on each occasion that they won the Munster title they proceeded to lift the All-Ireland crown.

To reach today's final, Nenagh overcame St. Caimin's and Templemore. Charleville got the better of Cashel and Scariff en route to the final.

Nenagh field a number of players who have worn the blue and gold of Tipperary. Some of their players were in action with the Toomevara side which reached the final of the All-Ireland Club Championship.

Charleville draw players from the Newtownshandrum, Granagh, Ballyagran, Croagh and Bruff. They had four representatives on the Limerick team which won the 1995 All-Ireland Junior Championship.

Today's final has all the ingredients of a classic and memorable match.

Munster Colleges Council wish to express their
gratitude to

MYCRO SPORTS GEAR LTD., BALLINCOLLIG

for their generous sponsorship for today's final



Action from last Saturday's Munster Senior Schools Camogie Final in Newtown.
(See page 26 for report and more photos).

Charleville overcome spirited Nenagh challenge

St. Mary's, Charleville
St. Mary's, Nenagh

1-11
0-5

by Tom Higgins

A VERY well balanced St Mary's (Charleville) side retained their Munster Colleges Senior camogie title at Newtownshandrum, Co. Cork on Saturday when they overcame a strong Nenagh challenge.

Charleville, fielding four of the side that won last year's All-Ireland Junior title with Limerick, were undoubtedly the

better side on the day but it was only in the last quarter that they really showed their superiority with some well taken scores.

In fairness to Nenagh they tried very hard but found the Charleville defence, in which Breda O'Brien at full back was outstanding, difficult to breach and it is interesting to note that only two of their scores came from play.

Charleville began in good style and had two points on the board, from Vera Sheehan, within four minutes. However Nenagh took

control and for the next fifteen minutes and put the Charleville defence under severe pressure.

Fitness began to tell and Charleville took complete control in the final quarter to pick off some excellent points, their goal coming from Caoimhe Harrington with the second last puck of the game.

The winners will now go on to meet the Ulster champions in the semi-final.

This is Charleville's fifth success in the competition since 1987 and although they have

reached three All-Ireland finals they have yet to taste All-Ireland glory.

Scorers - Charleville: C Harrington 1-1, E O'Brien 0-4 (0-3 frees), V Sheehan 0-4 S O'Callaghan 0-2, Nenagh: L Woods 0-4 (0-3 '30's), E McDonnell 0-1.

ST. MARY'S, CHARLEVILLE: A Moloney; B O'Brien; M Foley, D Sheehan (capt), M Harrington; V Sheehan, J Cullinane, K O'Shea; C Harrington, S O'Callaghan, E O'Brien; A Sheehy.

ST. MARY'S, NENAGH: S Kenneally (capt); E Guilloyle; N Ryan, C Gaynor, S Malone; S Lawlor, S Kelly, S Howard; E McDonnell, L Woods, Q Sheehan; N O'Donoghue. Sub: A Woods for Q Sheehan (45th minute).

Referee: B Joyce (Kilbegh).

COLLEGES CAMOGIE

Nenagh girls bow to greater experience

St Mary's, Charleville (holders) 1-11

St Mary's, Nenagh 0-5

by Gerry Slevin

A nine point defeat is comprehensive enough in any language and though the girls from St. Mary's Nenagh cannot complain in taking second place in last Saturday's Munster Colleges Senior Camogie final, the margin between the sides hardly does justice to the competitiveness of the game and to a Nenagh side that fought extremely hard and conceded the game's only goal just on full time.



Match referee Betty Joyce with team captains, Deirdre Sheehan (St. Mary's, Charleville) and Susan Kenneally (St. Mary's Nenagh), before Saturday's colleges' camogie final.

Experience and all round cohesiveness were the factors that separated the sides. The Charleville girls had them in abundance and their defence was especially sturdy, with continuous repulsion of Nenagh attacks, particularly in the opening quarter when opportunities to score were created but not availed of. But the longer the game went on, the more frustrating it became for the Nenagh attack and the fact that only two points came from play in the entire fifty minutes, tells a story that cannot be questioned.

Played at Newtownshandrum, between Charleville and Kanturk and very much in 'enemy' territory for the Nenagh lassies, it was a game that never flagged in interest and the great rivalry that has been built up between the two schools in the '90's saw to it that both sides went all out and in the process played some excellent, skilful camogie.

Entering the game as champions and having won the All Ireland junior title for the past three seasons gave Charleville a decided advantage in the experience stakes while their line-out also included four members of Eamonn Cregan's Limerick team that won last year's All

Ireland junior title. Most of the Nenagh girls are very young and will be there for the next couple of years at least, a factor that will have tempered greatly the disappointment of Saturday's defeat. In fairness to Nenagh, they were in the game with a chance until the closing minutes when the Charleville attack at last found their scoring touch and they notched 1-3 without reply.

HIT BACK

It was 0-6 to 0-3 in favour of Charleville at half time, Vera Sheehan having opened the scoring for the home side in the 3rd and 4th minutes. Nenagh hit back to equalise by the 7th minute, thanks to points from Lena Woods from a 30 and an Eimear McDonnell point from play. With quite a plentiful supply reaching the attack, mainly from Ciara Gaynor and Suzanne Kelly, the Nenagh attack could not make sufficient use of it and once the Charleville defence got to grips with their opponents they moved the ball quickly away and intense pressure was then placed on the Nenagh defence. Admirably led by Ciara Gaynor, Nenagh coped very well in this department and when Charleville did seem able to get through, their hopes were dashed by team captain Susan Kenneally between the posts who brought all her experience

to bear in executing a number of fine saves. Susan, Ciara and Suzanne were the only survivors from the All Ireland senior winning team of '94 and their leadership qualities were vital in keeping Nenagh in the game for so long. The third quarter of the game was very evenly contested, each side managing just two points. Lena Woods sent over Nenagh's brace in the 6th and 13th minutes but that was the end of it as far as the visitors were concerned.

TOOK OVER

Charleville took over in the final quarter and try as Nenagh did, they simply had no answers to their opponents incisiveness and scoring ability. Nenagh needed goals and there was never any real hope they would emerge. The attack lacked guile and the back up service for players in possession was poor. The nearest they came to a goal was just prior to their final point, midway through the second half when behind 0-4 to 0-8, Nenagh were awarded a close-in free. Charleville stocked up the goal mouth and also lined up a group, soccer-style, in front of them. Suzanne Kelly came down to take the shot and it was blocked but no attacker was alert enough to follow up the deflection and Charleville were happy to concede a 30 which Lena Woods pointed.

Having scored rather freely in the lead-up games, Nenagh found the no-nonsense approach of the Charleville defence too much to cope with on this occasion and the best efforts of Lena Woods, Nessa O'Driscoll and Eimear McDonnell were not enough. Farther back Suzanne Kelly tried very hard as did Stephanie Lawlor while Ciara Gaynor lorded it in the centre of the defence and played her heart out all through.

There was no caste lost in this defeat. Charleville had too many big guns in all sectors and with players like Vera Sheehan, Caoimhe Harrington, Breda O'Brien, Eileen O'Brien and

Sinead O'Callaghan in their ranks, there was little Nenagh could do to stem the tide.

SCORERS

Scorers for Charleville were C. Harrington 1-1, V. Sheehan 0-4, S. O'Callaghan 0-2, E. O'Brien 0-4 (2 frees).

Nenagh's replies came from L. Woods 0-4 (3, 30's), E. McDonnell 0-1.

Nenagh had five wides in all, four of them in the first half, to their opponents three, two of which were in the first half. Nenagh were awarded a total of sixteen frees, ten of them in the second half, to Charleville's total of four, just one in the first half. Nenagh forced four 30's to Charleville's one.

ST. MARY'S CHARLEVILLE: Aoife Moloney, Breda O'Brien, Marie Foley, Deirdre Sheehan (capt.), Muireann Harrington, Vera Sheehan, Jean Cullinane, Katie O'Shea, Caoimhe Harrington, Sinead O'Callaghan, Eileen O'Brien, Angela Sheehy.

ST. MARY'S, NENAGH: Susan Kenneally (capt), Eimear Guilfoyle, Natalie Ryan, Ciara Gaynor, Siobhan Malone, Stephanie Lawlor, Suzanne Kelly, Sheenagh Howard, Eimear McDonnell, Lena Woods, Grainne Shanahan, Nessa O'Driscoll.

Sub -- Anna Woods for Grainne Shanahan.

Referee: Betty Joyce, Killeagh.



FEB.
1996

TWO IN A ROW FOR CHARLEVILLE

MUNSTER CHAMPIONS AGAIN

FEB. 1996

St. Mary's Charleville.....1-11
St. Mary's Nenagh.....0-5

After a very tightly contested game at Newtownshandrum on Saturday last, St. Mary's Secondary school, Charleville won their third Munster Senior Camogie title in four years by defeating old rivals Nenagh.

These two teams produced a marvellous game of camogie and even though Charleville appeared the more skillful side, it was not until the last quarter of the game that this became apparent from the score board.

The scoring was opened by Vera Sheehan of Charleville who was just superb all through. She scored the first 2 points from play before Nenagh replied with another from a 30m free. The play was very closely contested during this first half. The Nenagh girls were physically stronger in most areas of the field and used this advantage to put the home side under considerable pressure. But the Charleville girls were up to the challenge and with Lisa Moloney doing very well between the posts and very ably assisted by her defence, they edged ahead on the scoreboard. Eileen O'Brien scored a free and before the half time whistle Sinead O'Callaghan, Vera Sheehan and Caoimhe

Harrington scored some glorious points leaving the interval score Charleville 0-6, Nenagh 0-3.

On the changeover it was Vera Sheehan again who raised the first white flag. Sinead O'Callaghan who played very well added another point. She was marking Nenagh's most dangerous player Ciara Gaynor and indeed the Nenagh girl found herself with quite a job for the afternoon. Nenagh added 2 further points from frees. At this point in the game the Charleville defence really began to dominate. Nenagh seemed to be overly concerned with scoring goals but each attempt was failed. Deirdre Sheehan and Breda O'Brien in particular were outstanding in the centre of defence, showing great confidence and determination in their battles for possession. Marie Foley came to terms with Emer McDonnell who was Nenagh's most dangerous

forward. Muireann Harrington held her own throughout. At midfield Jean Cullinane cancelled out the threat of Tipperary county player Susan Kenneally and delivered some great ball to her forwards. Katie O'Shea covered all areas of the field driving many clearances from defence. Up front Angela Sheehy was very busy. Eileen O'Brien was in excellent form. She had her best game to date, giving the Nenagh defence many worrying moments and scoring the last 3 points of the game. With the second last puck of the hour Caoimhe Harrington raised the only green flag of the game leaving the final score at Charleville 1-11, Nenagh 0-5.

On the day the Charleville girls fully deserved their victory. They were the more skillful of the 2 sides and while there were some outstanding individual performances from Breda O'Brien, Deirdre Sheehan, Sinead O'Callaghan, Eileen O'Brien, Jean Cullinane and Vera Sheehan, in particular the overall teamwork was excellent and their determination second to none.

As usual the Newtownshandrum club had their pitch in great order and are to be commended on a very well organised event. St. Mary's Charleville now continue on to the All Ireland Semi-Final. They will travel to Ulster where their opponents will be either Maghera or Magherafelt of Co. Derry and this fixture will be on March 9th.

Team: Liza Moloney, Muireann Harrington, Breda O'Brien, Deirdre Sheehan, Marie Foley, Vera Sheehan (0-4), Jean Cullinane, Katie O'Shea, Eileen O'Brien (0-4), Sinead O'Callaghan (0-2), Caoimhe Harrington (1-1) and Angela Sheehy. Subs: Mairead Keane, Marie O'Brien, Sharon O'Kelly, Laura Leslie, Karina Carroll, Kim Hickey and Pauline Lynch.



St. Mary's senior camogie panel, which was defeated by Charleville in the Munster final. Back row, left to right: Caroline Mounsey, Sandra Guilfoyle, Edel Hogan, Mary Rose Ryan, Carmel Brislane, Lena Woods, Suzanne Kelly, Emer Guilfoyle, Stephenie Lawlor, Ciara Gaynor, Jenny Bracken, Amy Kissane, Olive Slattery, Geraldine Conroy. Front row: Sinead Gaynor, Denise Ryan, Deirdre Kyne, Deirdre Troy, Anna Woods, Sheena Howard, Natilie Ryan, Eimear McDonnell, Susan Kenneally (capt), Siobhan Malone, Grainne Shanahan and Nessa O'Driscoll.

ANOTHER CAMOGIE TITLE FOR ST. MARY'S OF CHARLEVILLE

PHOTOS BY WILLIAM CASEY



FEB.
1996

Brave Nenagh Girls Ousted

By Eugene Hogan

St Mary's Charleville . 1-11
St Mary's Nenagh . . . 0-5

This Munster senior schools camogie final was one occasion when fortune did not favour the brave.

Favourites St Mary's Charleville, the scoreline may indicate, enjoyed a comfortable victory over their Nenagh counterparts at Newtown, Charleville on Saturday last but this was far from the case.

Granted, the Cork school was fully deserving of the title but how they were made fight for it by a wholehearted, determined Nenagh side.

With barely six minutes remaining Charleville were pulling out all the defensive stops to keep a Nenagh side trailing by just three points at bay.

The Nenagh girls exhausted every morsel of effort in trying to bridge the three point gap, so much so that they tired visibly over the closing minutes, enabling their rivals to pull away for a flattering nine point margin.

This was a tie which was always going to be difficult for Nenagh facing as they did a team with no less than four of the Eamon Cregan trained Limerick junior team which won all-Ireland honours last season.

The young Nenagh girls - just two of them will be unavailable next year - certainly rose to the challenge, however, giving their vaunted rivals plenty of anxious moments, particularly in a frenetic second half.

The Charleville girls, however, did show their class at various stages during the intensely fought and entertaining title showdown, and,

in fact, looked like they were going to have far too much firepower for Nenagh in the opening minutes.

Two points from impressive midfielder Vara Sheehan in the opening stages had the Cork school looking like certainties almost but very soon were to know just how much a fight they had on their hands.

Lena Woods and Eimear McDonnell combined to bring Nenagh level by the sixth minute with a point each as the visitors began to find their feet.

The exchanges were tough and hard fought and what Nenagh may have lacked in skill they certainly made up for in heart as they gave more than their best.

By the interval, though, Charleville had opened a three point gap at 0-6 to 0-3 - Lena Woods notching Nenagh's third point - and it was a lead which proved to be decisive.

Nenagh tried might and main throughout the second half to narrow the leeway but found the Charleville girls just one slight step ahead when it came to the scoring stages.

Vara Sheehan added to Charleville's tally three minutes after the resumption with her third point but Nenagh had the margin back to three thanks to another Lena Woods point three minutes later.

The sides swapped further points approaching the fifteenth minute of the half but try as they undoubtedly did, Nenagh were just not able to breach the stout hearted Charleville defence for the goal they so badly needed.

Nenagh did go close on

three occasions in that second half to grabbing what could have been a game saving goal but it was not to be and with their energy now spent, it was the Charleville girls who showed the greater turn of pace over the closing stages.

Three points in succession brought their lead to six as the Nenagh girls ran out of steam and then, with almost the last puck of the ball, the impressive Caoimhe Harrington bagged the game's only goal, putting a final and perhaps undeserved seal on Nenagh's coffin.

Defeat may have been their lot but the Nenagh girls lost no honour thanks to a resilient and determined display. This was typified by Cira Gaynor who, at centre back, had a mighty game. Likewise, Stephanie Lawlor, Suzanne Kelly, Sheenagh Howard and Lena Woods were others to impress in the Nenagh jersey.

In the Charleville girls Nenagh met, as skilled a side as you are likely to come across in schools camogie, and a side which is well capable of going on to All-Ireland honours.

St Mary's Charleville - A. Moloney; B. O'Brien; M. Foley, D. Sheehan, M. Harrington; V. Sheehan, (0-4), J. Cullinane, K. O'Shea; C. Harrington (1-1), S. O'Callaghan (0-2), E. O'Brien (0-4); A. Sheehy.

St Mary's Nenagh - S. Kenneally; E. Guilfoyle; N. Ryan, C. Gaynor, S. Malone; S. Lawlor, S. Kelly, S. Howard; E. McDonnell (0-1), L. Woods (0-4), G. Shanahan; N. O'Driscoll. Sub - A. Woods for Shanahan.

Referee: B. Joyce.



Maeve Falvey, Elaine Burke and Maria Hurley, members of Valley Rovers club who attended the combined GAA-camogie dinner dance.

Rovers girls making a big impression

BACK in the Spring of 1943, a camogie team was founded in the Ballinacurra area of Innishannon, known as the Shamrock Maids and competed in Mid-Cork and West-Cork competitions until its break-up in 1946.

The current Innishannon based camogie club, known as Valley Rovers, was founded in 1987, with only a two member Committee Board, namely, Mary Bugler, Chairperson and Margaret McCarthy as Secretary/Treasurer, but since then, Valley Rovers Camogie Club have grown in strength and now have an Officership Board of six members.

Looking back through the years, undoubtedly, 1995 will be remembered as one of their most successful playing seasons to date. History was finally created by winning a first-ever title, when the Junior "B" team were crowned County Champions following a deserving victory over near neighbours, Courcey Rovers.

Valley Rovers entered Junior ranks in 1990 and even though they did not make a County Final appearance until the Junior "B" Championship of 1993, they have contested many semi-finals in various grades in past seasons.

The club participated in county competitions at Junior "B", Minor and U-14 levels, while in U-13 and U-15 under the Carrigdhoun Camogie Association, which Mary Bugler of Valley Rovers was recently elected as Chairperson, having held the position of treasurer for the past two years.

The juvenile members are well catered for, not only do they participate in outdoor games, they also com-

CAMOGIE

pete in skills competitions and indoor camogie leagues.

The U-14 team coached by Junior "B" captain, Bernie Shiels, participate in the "B2" competition and did exceptionally well, as they were the only "B" graded team to qualify for the semi-finals of the Féile na nGael. Unfortunately, St. Finbarrs provided strong opposition on the day and denied the Rovers of a first-ever Féile na nGael Final appearance.

Elaine Burke won the Carrigdhoun Féile na nGael skills competition and achieved runners-up award in the county section and Maria Hurley was awarded a runners-up position in the Carrigdhoun Competition. Elaine is currently training with the Cork minor panel and best wished are extended to her.

The U-13 and U-15 teams contested the semi-finals of the Carrigdhoun Leagues. Meanwhile, the Junior "B" team guided by Gerard Crowley and Martin Cronin can certainly be proud of their county achievement and even though Cobh denied them of the County League honours.

I am sure with the same commitment and dedication from all concerned,

Valley Rovers will be no easy pushover when they compete in the Junior "A" grade for the first time in 1996.

Officers elected for 1996: Chairperson, Mary Crowley; Vice-Chairperson, Ann Halahan; Hon. Secretary, Dolores Crowley; Asst. Secretary, Bernice Lynch; Hon. Treasurer, Caroline O'Riordan; P.R.O., Bernie Shiels.

FEB. 1996

MUNSTER COLLEGES JUNIOR FINAL

FEB. 1996



10th FEBRUARY, 1996

at

TEMPLEMORE @ 3.00

OUR LADY'S, TEMPLEMORE

v

ST. PATRICK'S, CORK

Ref. Eileen Kinsella

Luach: 10p

S T. PATRICK'S, CORK

Green and Yellow Coach: John Ring

Our Lady's bid for Munster Junior A

On Saturday next in the Garda College GAA pitch, Templemore, Our Lady's Secondary School take on St. Patrick's, Cork, in the Munster Junior A colleges camogie final at 3 p.m.

This is the first time the school has reached the A final, having won the B final on two previous occasions in 1993 and 1994 when the opposition on both occasions was St. Patrick's.

In the first round in Clonmore on October 10th Our Lady's had an easy victory over Borrisoleigh on the score 6-12 to 1-3 and in the next outing in Cashel on October 25th they disposed of Cashel Community School on the

score 4-8 to 2-4. B group winners they had a comprehensive victory over St. Mary's, Macroom, in Elton on November 15th on the score 8-11 to 1-2. On December 1st in Cashel they staged a great comeback in the second half to defeat a fancied Charleville side on the score 4-4 to 3-5.

No stone has been left unturned in the preparation of the team for the final and a big turnout of supporters on Saturday would be much appreciated.

The team will be selected from the following: Ciara Ormond (Templemore), Michelle Purcell (Templemore), Patricia O'Brien (Templemore), Siobhan Bourke (Killea), Helen Collier (Tem-

plemore), Maire Brennan (do.), Linda Grogan (do.), Carol Stapleton (do.), Elizabeth Jones (do.), Ailish Meagher (do.), Edel McDermott (do.), Siorcha Loughnane (do.), Fiona Collins (do.), Bridin Jones (do.), Leona Bohan (Killea), Laura Carton (Templemore), Majella Stapleton (Templemore), Lorraine Bourke (Castleiney), Niamh Harkin (Drom), Cathriona Hennessy (Drom), Triona Maher (Drom), Elizabeth O'Connor (Borrisoleigh), Deirdre Delaney (Borrisoleigh), Muireann O'Dwyer (Clonakenny), Lorna Byrne (do.), Catherine Byrne (do.), Mairead Costigan (do.), A. Webster (Loughmore).

- 1 Samina Mangan
2. Jackie O'Sullivan
3. Laura Keating
4. Anthea O'Brien
5. Nicola Kenny
6. Therese Drummond
7. Gillian O'Connell
8. Sabrina Buckley
9. Sinead Kelly
10. Colette Brown
11. Therese Deane
12. Rebecca Williams
13. Sarah Manley
- 14 Aoife Hurley

OUR LADY'S, TEMPLEMORE

Colours: Maroon and White. Coach: Teresa Brennan

1. Ciara Ormond
2. Michelle Purcell
3. Siobhan Bourke
4. Niamh Harkin
5. Patricia O'Brien
6. Elizabeth Jones
7. Helen Collier
8. Elizabeth O'Connor
9. Linda Grogan
10. Catriona Hennessy (Capt)
11. Deirdre Delaney
12. Carol Stapleton

- Subs:
13. Bridin Jones
 14. SORCHA LOUGHANE
 15. Lorraine Bourke
 16. Maire Brennan
 17. Teresa Maher
 18. Edel McDermott
 19. Laura Carton
 20. Catherine Byrne
 - Majella Stepleton
 - Elaine Ryan
 - Mairead Bourke
 - Jemeel Devaney
 - Muireann O'Dwyer
 - Mairead Costigan
 - Ailish Meagher
 - Leona Bohan
 - Lorna Byrne
 - Fiona Collins

Our Lady's, Templemore defeated St. Joseph's, Borrisoleigh; Cashel Community, St. Mary's, Macroom and St. Mary's, Charleville to reach top

Munster Colleges Camogie:-

Brave Effort Not Enough For Our Ladys

By Noel Dundon

St Patrick's (Cork). . . 3-4
Our Lady's Templemore 0-2

Meeting for the third time since 1993, this time in the Munster Final in junior camogie. Our Lady's Templemore and St Patrick's Cork, battled it out once more at the windswept and soaked pitch at the Ragg on Saturday afternoon last but it was to be sweet revenge for the Cork girls.

The Templemore school had previously won the "B" competition in 1993 and 1994, both times at the expense of St Patrick's but in the "A" final this year the tables were turned and St Patrick's emerged victorious much to the delight of their dedicated followers who made the journey to The Ragg.

The weather conditions played a major role in this game with the Cork girls playing wind assisted for the first half they races into the lead and were 2-2 to no score ahead at the interval.

though did not do justice to the Templemore girls who had battled hard throughout the first half but St Patrick's just seemed to have the edge when it came to getting the scores.

Goals from Gillian O'Connell and Sabrina Buckley in the 10th and 15th minutes respectively gave them the cushion they required. Templemore would be playing with the breeze for the 2nd half they were always going to put on the pressure.

Indeed that is exactly what they did and for much of the second half Our Lady's were camped in the Cork half of the field but were just unable to get the scores. Had it not been for the brilliance of Samina Mangan in the St Patrick's goals, Our Lady's could well have been parading the trophy around the school in Templemore but the Cork keeper kept her side in the game with a string of fine saves when the pressure was really on.

Although Cathriona Hennessy had two pointed frees for Templemore, Our Lady's

St Patrick's defence to any major extent and a number of missed chances led to the downfall of the Tipperary girls.

It wasn't for the lack of effort though that Templemore played second fiddle in this game, as they tried their hearts out to try and get back on terms with the Cork girls. In every sector they did all in their power but the champions were just too strong and despite the best efforts of Cathriona Hennessy, Helen Collier, Niamh Harkin, Linda Grogan and keeper Ciara Ormond, St Patrick's still managed to come out on top. Their 3rd goal right at the end from Collette Brown confirmed the Cork girls as victors.

The scoreline though was not at all flattering to Templemore and did not reflect the close nature of the game. While Samina Mangan pulled off some fine saves from St Patrick's. Our Lady's hit 11 wides in the game and even taking the weather conditions into account, some of these chances should have been scored.

Hennessy points were not enough to trouble St Pat's, who put the issue beyond doubt when Colette Browne netted their third goal near the finish.

St Pat's were recording their third success in the grade. Apart from goalkeeper Samina Mangan they had top class displays from Anthea O'Brien, Gillian O'Connell, Sabrina Buckley and Colette Browne. For Our Lady's Niamh Harkin, Helen Collier, Linda Grogan, Cathriona Hennessy tried hard.

Scorers: St. Patrick's - S. Buckley 1-2, C. Brown and G. O'Connell 1-0 each, T. Drummond 0-2. Our Lady's - C. Hennessy 0-2. ST. PATRICK'S: S. Mangan, J. O'Sullivan, L. Keating, A. O'Brien, N. Kenny, T. Drummond, G. O'Connell, S. Buckley, S. Kelly, C. Browne, T. Deane, R. Williams. OUR LADY'S: C. Ormond, M. Purcell, S. Burke, N. Harkin, P. O'Brien, E. Jones, H. Collier, E. O'Connor, L. Grogan, C. Hennessy, D. Delaney, C. Stapleton. REFEREE: E. Kinsella.

Junior title won by St Patrick's

St. Patrick's, Cork 3-4
Our Ladys Templemore 0-2

ST PATRICK'S of Cork reclaimed the Munster Colleges Junior Camogie title, when at rain-soaked Inch on Saturday they outplayed Our Lady's of Templemore in a hard-fought final.

In atrocious conditions, driving rain made constructive play impossible. With the aid of the strong wind St. Patrick's had the better of things in the first half. A goal by Gillian O'Connell in the 10th minute steadied them and a further goal in the 20th minute by Sabrina Buckley enabled them to lead 2-2 to nil at the interval.

Our Lady's pressed very strongly in the second half but the excellence of Samina Mangan in the St Patrick's goal denied them scores. Two Cathriona

Apart from Samina Mangan who was superb Sabrina Buckley, Gillian O'Donnell, Anthea O'Brien, Therese Drummond, Collette Brown and Laura Keating were also prominent for St Patrick's.

Scorers - St Patrick's, S. Buckley 1-2, C. Brown, G. O'Connell 1-0 each, T. Drummond 0-2. Our Lady's - C. Hennessy 0-2.

St Patrick's: S. Mangan, J. O'Sullivan, L. Keating, A. O'Brien, N. Kenny, T. Drummond, G. O'Connell, S. Buckley, S. Kelly, C. Brown, T. Deane, R. Williams.

Our Lady's: C. Ormond (Templemore), M. Purcell (do), S. Bourke (Killea), N. Harkin (Drom), P. O'Brien (Templemore), E. Jones (Templemore), H. Collier (do), E. O'Connor (Borrisoleigh), L. Grogan (Templemore), C. Hennessy (Drom), D. Delaney (Borrisoleigh), C. Stapleton (Templemore) Subs - B. Jones (Templemore), L. Bourke (Castleiney), S. Loughane (Templemore).

Referee: E. Kinsella.

CAMOGIE

Munster Colleges Junior Final: St Patrick's Cork 3-4 (S. Buckley 1-2, G. O'Connell and C. Brown 1-0 each, T. Drummond 0-2). Our Ladys Templemore 0-2 (C. Hennessy 0-2).
Ashbourne Cup Semi-Finals: UUJ 2-15, UCG 2-4, UCC 3-7, Athlone RTC 0-6.
Ashbourne Shield Semi-Finals: UL 0-13, UCD 2-6, Waterford RTC 1-10, TCD 0-2.
Friday at UCD Grounds - Ashbourne Shield Final: (Ballyvaughan) RTC 1-20, Ashbourne Cup Final: UCG v DUL 2-0.

FEB

MUNSTER JUNIOR COLLEGES FINAL PENNED IN FOR SATURDAY

On Saturday next the Munster Junior Colleges final takes place between **Our Lady's, Templemore** and **St Patrick's, Cork** at **Templemore 3pm.**

"Our Lady's" have made great strides in the short time they are in camogie. They reached the Munster Senior final last season. This year it is the turn of their Juniors. On the way to the final they ousted Borrisoleigh, Cashel, Macroom and Charleville. Their semi-final victory over a fancied Charleville side certainly raised eyebrows. Templemore have excellent players in Niamh Harkins, Helen Collier, Linda Grogan, Carol Stephenson, Caitriona Hennessy and Michelle Purcell. St Patrick's contested last year's final against Charleville. The battled very hard in that game but lacked scoring power. They, too, had some notable victories on their way to the final. They got the better of St Aidan's, Loreto, Fermoy, Presentation, Bandon and Charleville's second side.

St Patrick's field six of the team which contested last year's final. Their hopes lie with Sabrina Buckley, a Cork Minor, Gillian O'Connell, Anthea O'Brien, Therese Drummond, Therese Deane and Jackie O'Sullivan. Templemore will be making a strong bid to win their first Munster Championship title but St Pat's will not give in easily.

In the **Ulster Senior Colleges** semi-final St Mary's, Magherafelt coasted to an 8-12 to 2-2 victory over St Louis, Ballymena.

Scorers: St Mary's - Tracey Kelly 3-0, Catherine Pickering 2-0, Eilis O'Neill 1-5, Simone Forbes 1-3, Triona McAteer 1-0, Brid Mulholland and Blathin McIvor 0-2 each.

St Louis - Collette Downey and Rosie Watson 1-0 each, Carla Doherty 0-2. The final will be on February 17th.

Dates for All-Ireland Post Primary Championships:

9.3.96 All-Ireland Senior Semi-Finals
23.3.96 All-Ireland Junior Semi-Finals
20.4.96 All-Ireland Finals
4.5.96 All-Ireland Sevens

Vocational Schools:

Before Christmas, the Vocational Schools GAA Council voted to hand over the running of their Championships to the All-Ireland Post Primary Schools Council for the next two years.

The Ashbourne Cup:

Semi-Finals and final will be hosted by UCD this weekend.

Ulster Championships:

Antrim and Derry will not meet in the Ulster Junior Championship final this year. If they are to meet it may well be in the semi-final. Last year a big crowd witnessed an outstanding final between the sides at Glenlough when

they ended level. The replay in Dunloy was also a thriller. Antrim emerged winners to take their first Ulster title in 13 years.

Antrim have to take on Fermanagh in a preliminary round with Cavan to play the winners. Cavan proved a surprise packet in 1994 when they defeated a fancied Antrim team to take the title. Antrim have a difficult enough passage in defence of their title. On the other side Derry should prove too strong for Donegal and will play the winners of Cavan/Antrim/Fermanagh in the first semi-final.

Down and Armagh could well benefit from this draw. They meet in a quarter-final tie in May, both sides fielding second strings.

There is a tremendous appetite for success in these counties. Monaghan and Tyrone meet in another first round tie.

In the Under 18 Championship, Down, the 1995 champions are fancied to make it to the final again. They may well prove too strong for Donegal in the quarter-final. A win here would see them face the winners of Antrim v Armagh. Neither were impressive in the Minor Championship two years ago.

All-Ulster Championship Draws for 1996:

Junior

Prelim: Antrim v Fermanagh
Quarter-Finals (A) Cavan v Antrim/Fermanagh
(B) Tyrone v Monaghan
(C) Armagh v Down
(D) Donegal v Derry
Semi-finals: A v D C v B

Under 18:

Prelim: Tyrone v Cavan
Quarter-finals: (A) Monaghan v Derry
(B) Armagh v Antrim
(C) Down v Donegal
(D) Fermanagh v Tyrone/Cavan
Semi-finals: A v D B v C

Minor:

Prelim: Donegal v Cavan
Quarter-finals: (A) Fermanagh v Derry
(B) Monaghan v Armagh
(C) Donegal/Cavan v Down
(D) Tyrone v Antrim
Semi-finals: A v D C v B

Senior:

Semi-finals: Down v Antrim
Armagh a bye

Club:

Prelim: Derry v Armagh
Quarter-finals: (A) Down v Tyrone
(B) Monaghan v Derry/Armagh
(C) Donegal v Fermanagh
(D) Antrim v Cavan
Semi-finals: A v C B v D

Ulster Convention:

There was a good turn-up at Ulster's Convention which was held in Carndonagh Community School. The following Officers were returned unopposed:

Cathaoirleach: Tom Monaghan, Armagh
Leas-Cathaoirleach: Pat Richardson, Armagh

Runar: Marcella Leonard, Fermanagh

Leas-Runar: Rita Black, Armagh

Cisteoir: Pat Cox, Fermanagh

PRO: Seamus Mac Giolla Fhinnéin, Down

Delegate to Ardchomhairle: Helen McAleavey, Down.

Camogie duo face ban in transfer drama



Requesting a transfer: Jill Hannon and Laura Holland.

Picture: Ted McCarthy

by Helen Kelleher

TWO camogie players who have played for Cork at county level are embroiled in a transfer controversy.

Jill Hannon (18) and Laura Holland (17) want to transfer from Brian Dillon's to Glen Rovers in Blackpool, Cork city, but Dillon's won't sign the transfer forms.

They face a two-year ban if they don't withdraw the request.

The two players have played since they were 11-years-old at St. Patrick's School.

"It is not fair that the home club should have such power", Jill's fa-

ther, Declan Hannon said yesterday. "They want to hold on to the players but the players do not want to stay".

According to Breda Fleming, chairwoman of Brian Dillon's, the club does not sign any transfer forms as it would be detrimental to the club's membership. "We are a small club and we need to try and hold on to our players", she said.

The chairwoman of the Cork County Board, Sheila Golden said that under the rules of Cumann Camogaíochta na nGael, if a player wants to leave a club to go to another, she has to get a transfer from the home club. The rule, she

said, is designed to protect clubs.

"Obviously any club does not want to lose players. In the absence of a signed transfer form, a player has to wait 2 years from the date of the last match with her home club before leaving."

Jill captained the Cork under-18 team which won the Munster title last year and played in the junior team which reached the National League final last year.

She said about players expressed a desire to transfer to another club at the County Board convention in November.

Laura was in the Cork minor panel in 1994.

FEB 1996

'95 a happy year

Fond memories for Fr. O'Neills

SWEET memories of the past year will linger for many a day to come in the East Cork parish of Ballymacoda and Ladysbridge.

Winning the Senior "B" Championship and having three representatives on the All-Ireland winning Cork Senior team are some of the highlights.

Fiona O'Driscoll, Mags Finn and Mary Kennefick expressed themselves well for Fr. O'Neills and Cork during the past year and are worthy medal winners.

The current Fr. O'Neills club was established in 1976. Prior to that in 1945 a group of ladies from Ballymacoda played the game. At that time rationing of food was in existence and transport as we know it today was non-existent, thus walking or cycling was the means of transport to away matches.

Ballymacoda team, as it was known then, had a certain amount of success winning the East Cork League Final defeating Castlemartyr by a point. Records for the intervening years are vague.

1976 saw a keen interest being taken in Camogie. One club was formed comprising of the whole sprawling parish from Knockadon along the coastline to Garryvoe into Ladysbridge and back to Ballymacoda. It was agreed to affiliate under the name of Fr. O'Neills.

Seeds

It was decided to field a Junior "B" and Under-14 team. From that humble beginning the seeds were sown.

Major success eluded the club for many years. Without ever winning the Junior "B" Championship Fr. O'Neills made the decision to compete in the Junior "A" Championship. The reason being that the Junior "A" Championship would be run off earlier in the year with better conditions.

Little did they know that they would reach the final of this higher grade competition in our first year, but St. Finbarrs beat

CAMOGIE SCENE

them by the narrowest of margins and the cup was back to the city.

Colette O'Mahony and Paula Carey caused fierce problems for the Fr. O'Neill back line on that occasion.

The following year 1985 Fr. O'Neills defeated Killeagh in the Junior "A" Championship Final. A youngster called Fiona O'Driscoll of 13 years of age scored a goal to help the O'Neills side to victory.

The winning team was Eileen Hennessy, A.M. Griffin, Breda O'Donoghue, Norma O'Driscoll, Carrie Shanahan, Fiona O'Driscoll, Frances Bernard, Mags Finn, Mary Kennefick, Capt. Margaret Aherne, Josephine Rumley, Joan O'Flynn, Frances O'Sullivan, Miriam Sloane, Patricia Rumley, Nuala Duhig, Una O'Donoghue.

The following year Fr. O'Neills won the Intermediate Championship defeating Cloyne on the score, Fr. O'Neills 3-8, Cloyne 1-2.

Fr. O'Neills entered the Senior ranks in 1987 and from that period to 1995 dark clouds hung over the parish.

For the nine intervening years the club had struggled valiantly to obtain the cherished dream only to be defeated on several occasions at the first round stage.

Structure

However in the past year with a new structure in the championship Fr. O'Neills had an extra spring in their step and in October 1995 were crowned in glory with a convincing win over St. Finbarrs in the Senior "B" Championship Final.

The Cork Senior "A" Championship holds a very special place in the hearts of all Camogie players. Fr. O'Neills are eagerly looking forward to this years championship draw.

A stretch in the evenings signalled a return to outdoor training and serious preparation for the championship gets underway.

Can Fr. O'Neills win two championships back to back as was the case in 1985 - 1986?



Top - Fr. O'Neills team parading before the Senior B final which took place in October 1995 and above Fr. O'Neills players who were members of the Cork squad.

Hefty pucker, still chasing the ball... when she's 64

WHEN Nan Doorley from Nurney lined out at centre-field for the Carlow county camogie team in a Leinster championship match in 1944, she was 12 years of age. In August 1995, at the age of 63, she played in the same position for her club side against Ardistan... and she plans to swing the hurling stick again this year.

Nan Doorley's name has changed to Crean; her husband Owen was playing full back for Carlow footballers in the 1950s at the same time his wife played with the women. He died in 1969 when he was just 47.

Nan Crean is a remarkable woman. She still goes to Nurney camogie team's training, especially as her daughter, Valerie, an inter-provincial player, is captain of the squad. "I chase after the ball for the young ones on the pitch and it keeps me in trim," Nan says.

She first played competitive camogie when she was 10 years old and scored three points. "There were no distractions then," Nan recalls. "When you finished milking the cows and feeding the pigs, you joined your big brothers in the fields for a kick about. Then I got a camán and a sliotar and belted the ball all over the place."

Nan was a hefty pucker, winning the poc fada for ladies in Dundalk for two years running, from 1958. She captained the Carlow team in 1961 when they were beaten by Laois in the Leinster final. Laois in turn lost to Armagh in the All Ireland semi-finals, who went on to win the title.

Nan Crean played her first camogie match in 1944, at the age of 12, and 52 years later she still hasn't played her last

She was thrilled when Carlow juniors took their Leinster championship in 1993; Valerie, a school sports coach in Carlow, was captain and she herself was a county selector. There are two other children, Philip and Bernadine, and grandson David, aged 12.

Her biggest regret is never having had the opportunity to play in Croke Park. "The nearest I got was Parnell Park in Dublin. But I did see all the camogie greats: Kay Coady and Kathleen Mills of Dublin, they were something special, and Evelyn Morrissey from Wexford was a wonderful player."



Nan Crean née Doorley: has had a passionate affair with Gaelic games for 50 years

Nan Crean has had a passionate affair with Gaelic games for 50 years. "It was the way of life in the parish, and rivalry went out the window when the final whistle sounded. There would always be supper dances in the local hall and the socialising was fantastic. No TV then, no discos, no nothing but great fun and music."

Valerie, 30, used to ride point to point and worked as a stable girl with horse trainers Noel Meade and Paddy Mullins before joining the coaching staff of the RTCV in the town.

Valerie, 30, used to ride point to point and worked as a stable girl with horse trainers Noel Meade and Paddy Mullins before joining the coaching staff of the RTCV in the town.

Valerie, 30, used to ride point to point and worked as a stable girl with horse trainers Noel Meade and Paddy Mullins before joining the coaching staff of the RTCV in the town.

Nan says that her first county game 52 years ago was memorable for another reason: it was the same year that Carlow footballers won their one and only Leinster title. "And we had a man from the parish playing on the winning side, Johnny Lawler, from the Fighting Cocks, just a crossroad up the hill from here. He's still hale and hearty."

Nan Crean then went out to the yard at the back of her wooden bungalow and started hitting the rubber ball with the camán as the winter sleet threatened the ribbon of roads from Carlow to Dublin.

By: P.J. Fulham

ST. PAT'S WIN PURCELL CUP DCU TAKE PURCELL SHIELD

St. Patrick's College, Maynooth collected the Purcell Cup when disposing of the fancied Queens University, Belfast outfit in the final played in Limerick. It was a keenly contested game. The victors led 1-5 to 1-1 at the break, and in an exciting second half held onto a three point victory, winning 1-9 to 1-6. Scores: Maynooth: Eimear Brennan 0-5, Edel Arthur 1-1, Martina Harkins, Siobhan Weir and Roisin Houlahan 0-1 each. Queens: Elaine Dowds 1-1, Roisin O'Neill 0-3, Valerie Hynds 0-2. Referee: Biddy Phillips, Tipperary.

Dublin City University swept to victory over University of Ulster, Coleraine to lift the Purcell Shield. The winners led 0-5 to 0-0 at the break and took the title on a 1-9 to 1-0 scoreline.

Scorers: D.C.U. Triona Hegarty 1-6, Pamela Nevin 0-2, Criona Harrington 0-1.

Coleraine: Siobhán McKernan 1-0. Referee: John Morrissey, Tipperary.

St. Mary's, Charleville retained the Munster Senior Colleges title when they fought off a challenge from St. Mary's, Nenagh in an entertaining final played at Charleville. It was a closely contested affair throughout, with the winners leading 0-6 to 0-3 at the break.

It was in the final ten minutes that Charleville stamped their authority on proceedings with a goal by Caoimhe Harrington and well taken points by Vera Sheehan

and Sinéad O'Callaghan to run out winners on a score of 1-11 to 0-5.

Scorers: Charleville: Caoimhe Harrington 1-1, Eileen O'Brien and Vera Sheehan 0-4 each, Sinéad O'Callaghan 0-2.

Nenagh: Lena Woods 0-4, Emer McDonald 0-1.

Referee: Betty Joyce, Cork.

In the Ulster senior Colleges semi-final St. Patrick's, Maghera defeated newcomers St. Mary's, Newry. Maghera fielded a number of players who had collected Provincial Minor medals in the past couple of seasons. Their experience was too much for a young Newry side.

Maghera got off to a good start with goals from Karen McGrath and Bronagh Bradley. A St. Mary's goal by Deirdre Quinn after twenty minutes reduced the deficit. Two more goals from the winning side left them in front 4-4 to 1-1 at half time.

A goal and a point by Shauna McCaul early in the second half put the issue beyond doubt. Final score: St. Patrick's 6-4 St. Mary's 1-1.

Scorers: Maghera: Karen McGrath 3-2, Bronagh Bradley 2-0, Shauna McCaul 1-1, Aileen Tohill 0-1.

Newry: Deirdre Quinn 1-1.

On Saturday next St. Patrick's, Maghera will meet near neighbours St. Mary's, Magherafelt in the Ulster Senior Colleges final. This should be a cracker.

Camogie's National Coaching Development Committee, in conjunction with the National Coaching and Training Centre (N.C.T.C.) last year implemented a

four level Coaching structure.

Foundation level course is primarily geared to cater for people coaching at juvenile level. Having successfully completed each course participants then advance.

The second of this year's two day courses takes place on Saturday next as follows: Northern Region at Queens University, Belfast (Antrim), Western Region at Loughrea, (Galway), Southern Region, Thurles, (Tipperary), Eastern Region at St. Enda's, Ballyboden, Dublin. Courses commence at 9.30 a.m. at all venues. Courses will be given by qualified tutors: Brendan Williams, Collette Kennedy, Grace O'Neill and Cathy Hannigan. The tutors will be assisted by trainees Sarah Russell and Bonnie McGreevy and members of the Central Coaching Committee.

Counties should support this venture by making sure they are well represented.

There was a large attendance at the Leinster Convention in Portlaoise. Arising from the Secretary's Report, there was a long debate on Gael Linn both at Senior and Junior level. Delegates felt there was enough talent in the Province to win a Junior Gael Linn, which was last recorded in '86. However, selectors were not to blame and counties were urged to make a better effort. Chairperson Patricia Rafferty (Dublin) emphasised the great development work being done by Sub-Committees and that all Counties should avail of them.

All Officers were returned unopposed after Mary Canning, (Wexford) withdrew her name from the race for the Registrar's position.

Officers: Chairperson: Patricia Rafferty, Dublin, Vice-Chairperson: Miriam O'Callaghan, Offaly, Secretary: Maureen Fulham, Westmeath, Treasurer: Marie Woods, Kildare, Registrar: Sophia Brack, Dublin, P.R.O., P.J. Fulham, Westmeath, Central Council Delegate: Phyllis Breslin, Dublin, Junior Gael Linn Selectors: Marie Woods, Kildare, Brian McCormack, Westmeath, Camillus King, Offaly.

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Camogie by P.J Fulham

CORK-KILKENNY

No Final Clash this Year!

Old rivals All-Ireland Champions Cork and Kilkenny will not meet in the All-Ireland senior Camogie Championship final this year.

The open draw made recently shows that if they are to meet it will be in the semi-final, with Cork having the venue.

Last year the meeting of the sides in the final brought one of the largest crowds to Croke Park in recent years.

This year Kilkenny have a bye in the first round while Cork play Armagh. Galway will be making an all out effort for a final spot. They have been knocking at the door for the past three years, having reached the final in 1993 when defeated by Cork. They won the National Senior League in '94 and were ousted at the semi-final stage of the Championship by Kilkenny last season. Dublin are still looking for that lucky break. There will also be strong opposition from Wexford and the newly crowned Intermediate Champions Clare.

THE DRAW

The following is the draw for the 1996 senior Championship first round: (A) Wexford v Clare, (B) Dublin v Galway, (C) Armagh v Cork, (D) Kilkenny a bye. The first named team has home venue.

Semi-finals: (A) v (B)...(D) v (C)

All-Ireland Intermediate Championship First Round: (A) Galway v Down, (B) Dublin v Armagh, (C) Tipperary v Limerick, (D) Clare a bye. First named team has home venue.

Semi-finals: (C) v (B)...(D) v (A)

Cork's Sandie Fitzgibbon is one of the most inspiring players in the game of Camogie. She played a major role in the Rebel County's victory last year. Sandie made her Cork debut at the age of 14 with the minor squad and became the first player to win three All-Ireland minor Championship medals in '78, '79 and '80 when she captained the team.

She has five All-Ireland senior medals '82, '83, '92, '93, and '95. She was captain in '92. Sandie also holds five National Senior League medals and captained the winning teams in '84 and '92.

Undoubtedly one of the top performers in Camogie, her high work rate and all round ability inspires the players around her. Sandie has always been very popular with her playing colleagues both in her own club, Glen Rovers, and those of other clubs.

Combining Camogie with Basketball, both at the highest

level, for many years Sandie has been a regular member of the Irish international Basketball team. Her Club in Basketball is "Lee Strand".

This Cork idol looks forward to another successful year in '96.

TWO DAY COURSE

Camogie's National Coaching Development Committee, in conjunction with the National Coaching and Training Centre (N.C.T.C.) last year implemented a four level Coaching structure.

Foundation level Course is primarily geared to cater for people coaching at juvenile level. Having successfully completed each course participants then advance.

The second of this year's two day Course takes place on Saturday February 17th as follows:

Northern Region at Queens University, Belfast, Western Region at Craughwell G.A.A. Club, Galway, Southern Region at Thurles Sarsfields G.A.A. Club, Thurles, Eastern Region at Ballyboden/St. Endas G.A.A. Club, Dublin. Courses commence at 9.30 am at all venues. Courses will be given by Qualified Tutors: Brendan Williams, Collette Kennedy, Grace O'Neill and Cathy Hannigan. The

Tutors will be assisted by trainee tutors

Sarah Russell and Bonnie McGreevy and members of the Central Coaching Committee. Counties should support this venture by making sure they are well represented.

NATIONAL LEAGUES

The National Senior League commences and the National Junior leagues re-commence on March 3rd. The following are the Senior Zones:

Zone 1: Armagh, Dublin, Down, Galway.

Zone 2: Kilkenny, Clare, Cork, Wexford, Tipperary.

Kilkenny start the ball rolling when they take on Clare on March 3rd at a home venue.

Dublin, who did not take part in Senior League last year travel to face Armagh. On March 10th Wexford v Tipperary and Galway v Down.

Junior Fixtures: March 3rd: Derry v Antrim, Monaghan v Tyrone, Offaly v Galway.

The All-Ireland final of Ceoil Caint agus Damsha takes place on Sunday February 25th in Dublin.



Sandie Fitzgibbon (Cork) and Ann Downey (Kilkenny) who have sparkled in so many games.

St. Finbarr's going from strength to strength

INTEREST in camogie is certainly on the increase in St. Finbarr's and this was very evident at their recent A.G.M. when a very large crowd gathered to review the activities for the past season.

The present section which was formed late in 1971 can since then proudly look back on some notable successes.

The year got off to a great start when the Under 16 team won the All Ireland Pan Celtic competition in Tralee.

Seven days later the Junior "A" team defeated Barryroe to take the Junior "A" County League title.

However the highlight of the year was undoubtedly the winning of the Under 14 County League Championship title.

With victories over Ballinhassig, Cloughduv, Bishoptown, Inniscarra, Kilbrittain, Courcy Rovers and Eire Og

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behind them they went on to defeat City rivals Brian Dillons in a very keen contested final.

This was a just reward for a very dedicated panel of players. The victory was celebrated recently at a very pleasant function in the club when club President Denis McCarthy presented the players with their medals.

The u-16 team also finished their year with a clean sheet in the league and as a result have qualified for the final. The final, against Aghabullogue is scheduled for Sunday, March 10.

A number of individual members of the club also gained distinction during the year.

Colette O' Mahoney was a member of the Cork senior

panel which won the All Ireland Championship and as a result collected her third Senior All Ireland medal.

Joanne Browne and Laura Kelleher were on the Cork u-18 panel which won the Munster Championship, a team which was coached by Barrsman Jerry O' Shea.

Linda O'Connell, Bernadine Maher and Margaret Bradley helped Seandun to win the u-15 inter-divisional blitz while on a more recent success pride of place must go to Claire Kirby who played a significant role in U.C.C.'s victory in the Ashbourne Cup. Claire was a top scorer in the final scoring 2-1 of her sides total tally of 3-3. Her displays during the full campaign earned her selection on the combined universities team. Well Done Claire.

The 1996 season is now underway and officers and



Linda O'Connell, captain of the victorious U-14 team and Bernadine Maher, picked for this seasons Cork minor panel.

committee elected for the coming year are as follows: President: Marie Santry; Chairperson: Marian McCarthy; Vice - Chair: Marie O' Sullivan; Secretary: Toinette Santry; Treasurer: Louise Enright; Senior Captain: Deirdre Clarke. Committee: Derek McCarthy, Colette O Mahony, Claire Barry, Fiona O' Sullivan, Roisin O' Donovan, Del-

ores O' Sullivan, Deirdre Clarke.

Underage training has also commenced for the coming season and is as follows: Saturdays at 2.30 - under 12 training; Saturdays at 3.30 - under 14 training; Wednesday at 6.15 under 16 training and beginners.

New members welcome at any time.

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By: P.J. Fulham

National Leagues Continue

The National League continues on Sunday next with five games down for decision, two in Senior and three in Junior. In Senior, Wexford have the venue against Tipperary (Belfield, Enniscorthy) at 3pm. Tipperary are an intermediate side taking part in Senior. They were unlucky not to have captured the Intermediate title last season when they went under by one point to Clare. The Premier County contested the Senior League final in 1994 when they went under to Galway.

Wexford are an experienced side. They have recently appointed a new manager, Christy Jacob. The Oulart man will want to start on a winning note. Wexford are sure to have a number of players from Rathnure that won the All-Ireland Club Championship when they beat Tipperary's Toomevara in the final. The Slaneysiders have good performers in Stella Synott, Catherine Murphy, Fiona Dunne, Marian O'Leary, Esme Murphy and Paula Rankin. Tipperary will be looking to Deirdre Hughes, Noelle Kennedy, Alice Deane, Kay Bourke, Méadbh Stokes and Helen Kiely to give them victory, but Wexford may be hard to overcome on home ground.

In the other Senior tie, Galway host Down in what should be an entertaining encounter. Galway are tipped to do well this year and could kick off with a win on Sunday. However, Down will be no pushover. They have a good spirited side which include Máirín McAleenan, Bonnie McGreevy, Pauline Hynes, Edel Mason, Monica McCartan and Jennifer Branniff.

Galway may carry too much strength on the day. They have reached the 1993 Championship final and won the Senior League in '94. They have experienced players in Claire Lynch, Sharon Glynn, Martina Harkins, Olivia Broderick, Imelda Hobbins and Carmel Hannon.

In Junior Wexford take on All-Ireland champions and Zone A table toppers, Limerick, as the curtain raiser to the Senior tie at 1.30pm. Wexford are two points behind their opponents and have put together quite a useful squad which include Bernie Higgins, Marguente Doyle, Aine Codd, Kate Kelly, Geraldine O'Grady and Margaret Boyle. Limerick will be confident of staying on the winning trail and will be looking to Pauline McCarthy, Helen Clifford-McCarthy, Ann Lenihan, Vera Sheehan and Ida Quaid to see them through. It should be close at the finish.

Cavan will show their hospitality to Kildare. The Breffni girls share the top of Zone C with Down, while the Lilywhites have just got one point to their credit from two games. This will be Kildare's first outing under new manager Seán O'Sullivan, Sarsfields. Miriam Malone will lead the attack and should be ably assisted by Bernie Farrelly, Claire Moloney and Michelle Aspel.

Cavan have been very much to the fore in recent years having won the Ulster Championship in 1994 and are sure to be well served by Eimear Brennan, Cindy Ledwith, Marie Brady, Orla Sullivan, Rosemary Mulligan and Mairead



Model County defender Stella Synott is looking forward to the clash with Tipperary Lynch, and may do enough to collect the points.

Beaten All-Ireland finalists, Roscommon, have Clare at home at Athleague, 2.30pm. This should be a sparkling encounter. Roscommon have two points from their only outing while Clare have yet to gain victory. The home side should take the points.

University of Ulster, Jordanstown, had a 3-11 to 0-1 victory over University College Cork in the final of the CCIA League. This is UUJ's third title on the trot. The pairings were the same as the Ashbourne Cup final when UCC came out on top.

Scorers: UUJ: Róisín Pickering and Denise O'Boyle 1-2 each, Edel Mason 0-4, Deirdre Connolly 1-0, Grace McMullan 0-3. UCC - Stephanie Dunlea 0-1.

The following are the results of the All-Ireland final of Ceol, Caint agus Damsha: Céili Dancing - Clonduff, Down. Set Dancing - Patrickswell, Limerick. Table Quiz - Lough Léin Gaels, Westmeath. Ballad Group - Na Píarsaigh, Galway. Recitation - Michael Shinnors, Patrickswell, Limerick.

Solo Instrumental - Betty Nally, Drumraney, Westmeath.

Solo Singing - Christine Pierse, St Dominicks, Roscommon.



Cavan full back Siobhán Smyth (centre) will be in action against Kildare this weekend

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By: P.J. Fulham

SENIOR LEAGUE GETS UNDERWAY

JUNIOR LEAGUE RESUMES

The National Senior League commences and the Junior League re-commences on Sunday next. In Senior All-Ireland Championship finalists Kilkenny host Clare. Kilkenny will be fielding without the presence of Angela Downey who has called it a day. Nevertheless they have an abundance of experienced talent in Ann Downey, Marina Downey, Deirdre Malone, Gillian Dillon and Sinead Millea. Sinead has proved to be an excellent free taker and must lead the attack. The Noreiders were defeated by Cork in the semi-final of the League last year.

Clare have a good outfit and captured the Intermediate Championship last season. They have stylish players in Sinead O'Brien, Debbie McDonagh, Moira McMahon, Catherine O'Loughlin, and Ann Keane. The last time the sides met was in the first round of the 1994 open draw, when Kilkenny had just three points to spare, 2-16 to 3-10. Sunday's game should be a cracker. Home venue should suit Kilkenny.

In the only other Senior tie down for decision, Dublin travel to face Armagh. Dublin, under new management of Finian Christie, are sure to have changes. However, they have good performers in Paula Carroll, Geraldine Dunne, Niamh Keamey and Denise O'Leary. The Orchard County will prove to be a formidable force. They are always hard to crack on home ground, and with players such as Margaret Moriarty, Geraldine Haughey, Orlagh Murphy, Mary Black, Ursula McGivern and Mary Donnelly they could well secure the points.

In Junior, Antrim and Derry tussle it out. Both are on level points at the top of Zone B. This encounter should produce good fare. When the sides met in the competition last year Antrim had a 3-8 to 1-6 victory.

Antrim are the Ulster Junior champions and field players of the calibre of Oonagh Elliott, Carla Doherty, Roisin McAuley, Brona McCorry and Anne McKee. The Oakleaf County will be confident on home ground and will look forward to good service from Roisin McCloskey, Susan McEneaney, Pauleen McGuigan and Sarah McNicholl. It should be close with Antrim to shade it.

Junior League champions Galway travel to Offaly. Galway have two points from their only outing while Offaly are seeking their first points. When the sides met at this stage last year Galway were victorious 4-8 to 1-1. While Offaly have some great talent in Geraldine Mahon, Michelle Davis, Dymphna White and Eileen Kinsella, they may find the 'City of the Tribes' carrying too much strength on the day.

Monaghan host Tyrone. Both sides were defeated in their two outings. Monaghan even with home advantage may get it hard enough to hold their opponents.

The Kildare Camogie Presentation night held in Clane GAA Centre was a great success. Guests of honour were Patricia Rafferty, Chairperson of Leinster Council, Ms Ciss Corcoran, President of Kildare Camogie Board and Mr and Mrs Donal O'Donovan, Chairman of Clane GAA Club.



Pictured at the Kildare Camogie Board Presentation Dinner Dance in Clane are: Front, left to right: Pauline O'Callaghan, Sarsfields (U.13A League), Deirdre O'Callaghan, Sarsfields (U.16 League), Mrs. Ciss Corcoran, President, Mrs. Mary McMullan, Chairperson, Claire Finnerty, Clane (U.15 League), Linda Grogan, Cappagh (U.13 League). Back, left to right: Ciara Fallon, St. Laurences (U.18 Championship), Eadoin O'Grady, Rathcoffey (Junior League), Susan Keatley, St. Laurences (Senior Championship), Una Cusack, Broadford (U.14 Championship)

Kildare Camogie Board Chairperson Mary McMullan (left) with fellow Lilywhite Marie Woods, who has entered her 22nd year as Leinster Council's Treasurer

Marie Woods in her address welcomed all present and congratulated the clubs who won titles during the year, also Kildare's Juniors on winning the Leinster Championship and the County Under 14 team that reached the Leinster final. She thanked Pat Herbert, Ernie McMullan and Jimmy Donnelly for the work they had done for camogie during the year.

The Presidents Award went to Nuala Kerrigan and Christine O'Reilly, captain of the Under 14 team. A special presentation was made to Marie Woods by the incoming Chairperson Mary McMullan on behalf of the County Board for her work through the years for the county. Mrs Corcoran also presented Marie with a claddagh pin in recognition of her being Leinster Treasurer for twenty one years.

Mary McMullan thanked the Clane club, especially Mariane Feeney for a very enjoyable evening and all the clubs for their support.

A familiar face was missing from the top table

WHEN the Cork County Camogie Board resumed their meetings last month, one very familiar face was missing from the top table. Lillie O'Sullivan, from the Ballincollig Club retired as an Officer of the Board at Convention last November, after giving 14 years of outstanding service to Camogie in Cork.

She was first elected to the Board as P.R.O. in 1981. In 1982, she was elected Registrar.

In the same year, her daughter Mairéad was elected Treasurer. She held the position of Registrar in 1982, '83 and '84 before reverting back to the position of Registrar once again and held this position up to her retirement.

During these years Lillie also served as a Cork Junior Selector and acted as a Cork delegate to Annual Congress and Munster Convention on numerous occasions.

Lillie was a very honest, efficient and hard working officer for Camogie in Cork and no doubt will be missed in the year ahead.

On the playing front, the Cork Junior team play their first game of the year on Sunday, when they take on Tipperary in a National League game at Mayfield GAA grounds at 2.30.

Already defeated by Limerick, Cork will no doubt be anxious to start the current season on a winning note.

At the time of writing, the

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Cork Selectors had not named their side but it is expected to include regulars Hilda Kennelly, Antoinette O'Connell, Niamh O'Regan, Alison Dilworth, Mary O'Connor and Linda O'Sullivan.

Faces

In addition to these players the selectors are expected to try out a number of new faces including players like Claire Kirby and Orla Murphy, who were members of the UCC team which recently won the Ashbourne Cup.

At club level, the Under 18 Championship gets off to a

start with five preliminary rounds for decision. St Finbarrs make the long journey to Mitchelstown to play the home club St Fanahans and here the city side will be expected to advance.

Ballygarvan face strong opposition in Cloughduv when they clash at Ballygarvan at 12 noon, while in the remaining games Mayfield should have the edge on Killeagh.

Inniscarra, spearheaded by Tracy Ryan, Catherine O'Leary and Leona Nolan, should prove too strong for Delaneys and in the final game Courcy Rovers should have too much experience for newcomers Mallow.

In the only other game listed Eire Og are at home to Fr O'Neills in the semi final of the

'95 Under 16 "B" League.

These sides already met in the quarter final of the Championship when Eire Og emerged winners.

Fixtures.
Tomorrow.
National Junior League: Cork v Tipperary, Mayfield, 2.30.

Under 18 Championship: St Fanahans v St Finbarrs, St Fanahans, 3.00, Ref St Catherine's; Ballygarvan v Cloughduv, Ballygarvan, 12.00, Tracton; Mayfield v Killeagh, Mayfield, 11.30, Glen Rovers; Inniscarra v Delaneys, Inniscarra, 11.30, Aghabullogue; Courcy Rovers v Mallow, Courcy Rovers, 3.00, Kilbrittain.

Under 16 "B" L.S.F. Eire Og v Fr O'Neills, Ovens, 12.00.

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by P.J. Fulham

University College Cork bridged an eleven year gap when they collected the Ashbourne Cup by disposing of a fancied University of Ulster Jordanstown side in a thrilling final played at University College Dublin. The winners took the game to the opponents from the start when Stephanie Dunlea pointed from a free and Claire Kirby added another point. Edel Mason opened Jordanstown's account when she pointed from a free. It became an end to end tussle. A well taken goal by Claire Kirby on the fifteenth minute was followed by a similar score by Jordanstown's Deirdre Connolly. Just one point separated the sides at the interval; U.C.C. 1-3, U.U.J. 1-2.

A brace of goals by Orlagh Murphy in the second half left U.U.J. with a fight on their hands, but they whittled away at the deficit with points from Edel Mason, Deirdre Connolly and Grace McMullan. The Cork side survived the final five minutes pressure to take the Cup to the "Banks of the Lee" on a score of 3-3 to 1-6.

Scorers: U.C.C.: Orlagh Murphy 2-0, Claire Kirby 1-1, Stephanie Dunlea 0-2. U.U.J.: Edel Mason 0-4, Deirdre Connolly 1-0, Grace McMullan 0-2.

U.C.C.: C. Keoin, T. Dowling, A. O'Leary, M. Hickey, L. Kellaghan, A. McDermott, T. Brophy, G. O'Grady, C. Kirby, S. Dunlea, O. Murphy, F. Connery.

U.U.J.: C. McGarry, S. McOrlein, G. Haughey, G. Connolly, C. McGovern, E. Mason, D. O'Boyle, C. Higgins, G. McMullan, D. Connolly, S. McGovern,

R. Pickering.

Referee: Marie Pollard, Waterford. In the Ashbourne Shield final also played at U.C.D., last year's Cup winners University of Limerick collected the Shield with a convincing win over near neighbours Waterford R.T.C.

The winners led 0-6 to 0-2 at the break. Final score: U.L. 0-10, W.R.T.C. 0-2.

Scorers: U.L.: Sinéad Millea 0-8, Anna Stack 0-2. W.R.T.C.: Anne Barry and Sinéad Neilan 0-1 each.

U.L.: M. Holland, N. Dowling, A. Brennan, E. Bulfin, Y. O'Callaghan, E. Mangan, S. Millea, S. Ryan, P. Carroll, A. Stack, C. Egan, D. O'Neill.

W.R.T.C.: F. Holden, E. Phelan, E. O'Connell, C. Aiken, F. Sheehan, A. Nolan, C. Skallan, A. Barry, O. Hernan, R. Matthews, S. Neilan, S. Shore.

Referee: Catherine McAllister, Antrim.

Munster Colleges Junior Final: St. Patrick's Cork 3-4, S. Buckley 1-2, G. O'Connell and C. Browne 1-0 each, T. Drummond 0-2. Our Lady's, Templemore 0-2. C. Hennessy 0-2.

The draws for the Leinster Championships were made at Convention recently. As a result of a Kilkenny motion last year the Minor Championship is now divided. The Junior counties play to a final and the winners join Wexford, Dublin and Kilkenny in the semi finals proper. The Under 14 Championship is also run in two divisions on a League basis.

Following is the fixture list for Senior, Junior, Minor and club championships: Minor Roinn B: April 14. (A)

Westmeath v Louth. (B) Kildare v Meath. (C) Laois v Offaly. (D) Carlow v Wicklow. April 21. Semi finals: (A) v (C). (B) v (D). May 5. Final:

Roinn A: Semi finals May 12 Wexford v Kilkenny, Dublin v Roinn B winners. May 26. Final.

Junior: May 19. Round 1. (A) Laois v Kilkenny. (B) Dublin v Wicklow. (C) Westmeath v Louth. June 9. Quarter finals: (D) Wexford v (A), (E) Kildare v (B), (F) (C) v Offaly, (G) Carlow v Meath. June 23. Semi finals: (D) v (E). (G) v (F). June 7. Final.

Senior: June 30. (A) Kilkenny v Wexford. June 21. Final. Dublin v (A).

Junior club: July 14. Round 1. (A) Westmeath v Wicklow, (B) Louth v Kildare, (C) Meath v Carlow, (D) Laois v Offaly. July 21. Semi finals: (D) v (A), (B) v (C). August 4. Final.

Senior club: August 11. Semi finals: Dublin v Kilkenny, Wexford v Junior winners. Sept. 8. Final.

On Saturday next there will be a meeting of Leinster Council in the Aisling Hotel, Dublin. Leinster Officers will meet with Officers of each County Board at 11 a.m. This will be followed by the meeting at 1.30 p.m. Also on Saturday there will be a National Referees Seminar for all Intercounty Referees at Croke Park commencing at 10 a.m. All Counties should support this worthwhile venture.

On Sunday next the All-Ireland final of Ceol Caint agus Damsha (The Association's National Talent Competition) takes place in St. Patrick's College, Drumcondra at 1 o'clock.

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Aghabullogue juveniles take on the Barrs

ON the playing front the pick of the games this coming weekend will be the clash of Aghabullogue and St. Finbarrs in the '95 Under 16 "A" League Final.

Aghabullogue have already won the championship and no doubt will be anxious to make it a double and on form will be fancied to take the honours again on this occasion.

Spearheaded by players like Tina Roche, Louise Murphy, Sinéad Buckley and Mary Ene-gess, the Mid Cork side are a strong all round outfit and will no doubt provide strong opposition for the city side.

However, the Barrs came through their section of the league unbeaten and if they can find form again this time out will not give into defeat too easily. They have fine performers in Full Back - Aoife Fitzpatrick, Linda O'Connell, Bernadine Maher, Natasha Nash and Barbara Ann Corcoran, and if these girls produce the goods we could have a close contest in store. Whatever the outcome, it promises to be a great game be-

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tween two excellent sides.

Over 300 people assembled recently at Pzifers Sport Club to celebrate the unique achievements of Ballygarvan Camogie Club in 1995.

Grateful

The Ballygarvan Camogie Club is very grateful to Sheila Golden, Chairperson of the Cork County Camogie Board, Theresa Murphy who has made a huge contribution to Camogie in the Carrigdhoun Division, Therese O'Callaghan, All Ireland Senior star with Cork and Senior All Ireland Coach, Tom Nott for making the occasion a most memorable one.

On presenting the medals to the South East winners, Theresa Murphy praised the club for their achievements and especially for their commitment to be fair and sporting at all times. Therese O'Callaghan, who made a huge impression, presented the

girls with their U12 and U14 County Medals.

Having presented the U16 medals to the County Champions, Sheila Golden praised the club for their tremendous success. She also mentioned the efficient way the club is administered and praised especially the performance of the Club's Board delegates.

Sheila also called for more assistance for Camogie and stated that the Board was working under severe pressure.

In recognition of this unique county treble, enterprising Treasurer Pat Carolan, produced an excellent colour calendar featuring the three winning teams.

Selling at £3 they are a must for every household in Ballygarvan. A special presentation was made to Norma Brady by Sheila Golden, in recognition of the fact she became the first player from Ballygarvan to win a Munster Camogie Medal with Cork. Norma was a star member of the Cork U18 team that won the Munster Championship in

1995.

The Club made presentations also to the trainers of the county winning teams.

These presentations were made by the Captains of the successful teams.

Ballygarvan Camogie Club can look back with pride on an outstanding year and they would like to take this opportunity to thank our excellent Officers, Committee Members, Board Delegates, Trainers, Supporters and their very generous sponsors.

A total of eighty-five games were played in 1995 with teams fielded in all grades from U10 to Junior "B". With so many games we are very lucky that Ballygarvan G.A.A. Club are most generous with their facilities.

FIXTURES,

TOMORROW

U-16 "A" League Final - Barrs v Aghabullogue at Cloughduv at 3.00 pm. Ref - T. Sheehan. U-18 Championship - Sars V Kilbrittain at Kilbrittain at 12.30 pm. Ref - Courcy Rovers.

First trophy of the season for the 'Barrs

St Finbarrs started their season on a winning note on Sunday last when they defeated a fancied Aghabullogue side at Cloughduv to take the 95 Under 16 "A" League title.

On the day the Barrs were the more eager and determined side and gave notice of their intentions early in the game with a well taken goal from their top scorer Natasha Nash.

Some superb goalkeeping by Barrs keeper Veronica Nash denied, Aghabullogue of scores on numerous occasions and at half time the score was St. Finbarrs 1-2 Aghabullogue 3 points.

In the second half the Barrs were again the better side with some excellent scorers coming from Natasha Nash and Aisling McGregor. The final score was St. Finbarrs 4-4 Aghabullogue 2-3.

The Barrs victory was due mainly to a marvellous team performance with players like Rachel Myers, Barbara Ann Corcoran, Veronica Nash, Linda O'Connell and Aoife Fitzpatrick catching the eye. Tina Roche, Abbie Lebane, Mary Eneuss and



St. Finbarrs who defeated Aghabullogue in the under 16 league final

Sinead Buckley tried hardest for Aghabullogue.

At the end of the game Sheila Golden Chairperson of the Cork Camogie Board presented the trophy to the Barrs captain Maria McCarthy and praised both teams for an excellent game.

On the playing front the Under 18 Championship dominated the fixture list this weekend with five

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second round games for decision.

On Sunday Tracton are at home to Courcy Rovers and here the homeside could have their work cut out to curtail a Courcies side that can call on players like Sarah Hayes, Clare Murphy and Rachel Moloney. On Monday Bishopstown take

on St. Vincents and this game has all the ingredients of a great contest. Bishopstown will be spearheaded by Cork Senior player Vivienne Harris, Linda Hefernan and Nicole Barry but these girls will have to be at their best to overcome a Vincent's side that can call on players of the calibre of Sandra Ricken, Orla O'Shea, Gillian Morrissey and Donna O'Leary.

In the remaining games Ballygarvan will be expected to come out on top when they clash with Barryroe at the latter venue.

Mayfield should have too much in hand for Newcestown while the clash of Kilbrittain and Ballinhassig at Ballinhassig should be a close one.

Saturday next will be a big day on the Colleges scene when St. Patrick's, Cork take on St. Mary's, Magherfelt in the All Ireland Junior Colleges semi finals at Mayfield at 11.30.

Sunday March 17
Under 18 Championship: Courcy Rovers v Tracton at Tracton at 3p.m. Ref: Kilbrittain.

Monday March 18
Under 18 Championship: Bishopstown v St. Vincents at Bishopstown at 11.30. Ref: T Sheehan; Barryroe v Ballygarvan at Barryroe at 3p.m., Ref: M McSweeney; Newcestown v Mayfield at Newcestown at 3p.m. Ref: Cloughduv; Kilbrittain v Ballinhassig at Ballinhassig at 3p.m., Ref: Valley Rovers.

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Leinster camogie title for Colaiste Bride girls

Colaiste Bride 2-14, Presentation Kilkenny 3-1: Colaiste Bride are back in big time camogie. The school's senior side is tops in Leinster for the first time since 1974.

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On Saturday, they had too much all-round craft for a stubborn Presentation Kilkenny side at Thomastown. Now coach Patricia Hession must pit her wits against Cyril Farrell and his St. Raphael's team at Loughrea next weekend in the All-Ireland semi final.

For several years, the Enniscorthy school has enjoyed great success at junior level but now this has filtered through to senior grade.

In the Leinster final, the side backed by talent groomed in

Monageer and Rathnure was never headed by their Presentation rivals.

They had seven points on the board before the Kilkenny girls raised a flag and the interval scoreline was 0-9 to 2-0 in their favour. A third Pres goal shortly after the interval might have sent tremors through a lesser team but instead Colaiste Bride drew away.

Midfielder Barbara Sludds, with her long range accuracy from both play and frees, was a critical element in the winning formula.

Then there were two goals - the first an absolute beauty from Rose Mary Breen whose catch and shot on the run were quite spectacular.

The second green flag was raised by Elaine Holohan, doubling on the sliotar in a crowded

goalmouth to rub in the winners' superiority at the end.

It was a result founded on a defence in which the contribution of sisters Aoife and Claire O'Connor was vital.

Among the spectators was their mother Anne (nee Maher), who was on the winning Enniscorthy side of 1974. Another link with 22 years ago is provided by Jo Sinnott, whose daughter Annette lined out in goal with the new provincial champions.

COLAISTE BRIDE: Annette Sinnott, Orla Gahan, Aoife O'Connor, Noelle Murphy, Claire O'Connor, Anne-Marie Daly (0-1), Barbara Sludds (0-8), Rose Mary Breen (1-0), Michelle O'Leary (0-4), Elaine Holohan (1-0), Antoinette Murphy, Roisin O'Grady.

Cork girls gain points

CORK gained two valuable points in the Junior Camogie National League at Mayfield on Sunday.

Leading at half time by 1-2 to 0-0, Cork added two further points to which Tipperary replied with 1-3.

However, Cork with Clare Kirby, Orla Murphy and Mary Kenefick in form were much too strong.

U-18 c'ship - Mayfield 4-3 Killeagh 0-3.

CAMOGIE

ALL-IRELAND SENIOR COLLEGES — semi-final: St Mary's Charleville Cork 2-6 (E O'Brien 2-3, K O'Shea 0-2, S O'Callaghan 0-1) St Mary's Maghera Derry 1-6 (E O'Neil 1-6, C Pickering, T McAteer 0-1 each).

St. Finbarr's win

St. Finbarr's
Aghabullogue

4-4
2-3

ST. FINBARR'S camogie team were crowned U-16 A league champions when they defeated Aghabullogue in the final at Cloughduv last Sunday.

Leading 1-2 to 0-3 at the break, the Togher side added a further 2-2 in the second half to clinch the title.

Scorers: St. Finbarr's — N. Nash 2-3, A. McGregor 2-0, B. Maher 0-1. Aghabullogue — L. Murphy 0-3, M. Eneuss 2-0.

F.C.J. Secondary School Bunclody

CAMOGIE

Well done to the Junior Camogie team who defeated Colaiste MacDara, Dublin, 10-4 to 0-0 in the Leinster Colleges semi-final last week. Best of luck to the girls when they play Loreto Kilkenny.

Camogie
Higher education All Ireland Camogie League
final
UJ) Belfast 3-11 UCC 0-1

MARCH 1996

Camogie World

By: P.J. Fulham

Kilkenny Get Better Of Clare

Kilkenny got the better of Clare by 1-14 to 2-4 in a keenly contested Senior League tie at Ballyraggett. After seven minutes Kilkenny were trailing by two goals, but a goal by Imelda Kennedy just before half time gave the winners a 1-7 to 2-1 lead at the break. Sinead Millea played a captain's part having a personal tally of thirteen points. Scorers: Kilkenny: Sinead Millea 0-13, Imelda Kennedy 1-0, Anne Downey 0-1. Clare: Sylvia O'Brien and Patricia O'Mahoney 1-0 each, Cathrine O'Loughlin 0-4. Referee: Betty Joyce, Cork.

New look Dublin squad found what it was like in the higher grade when they were outclassed 6-13 to 0-8 by the more experienced Armagh side in this National Senior League encounter played at Derrynoose. The winners led 2-5 to 0-9 at the break. Scorers: Armagh: Mary Donnelly 3-1, Colette Byrnes 0-8, Mary Black, Bernie McBride and Deirdre Connolly 1-0 each, Geraldine McCloskey 0-2, Donagh McCusker and Orlagh Murphy 0-1 each. Dublin: Geraldine Dunne 0-8 (all frees). Referee: Catherine McAllister, Antrim.

Offaly had a good win over current National Junior League champions Galway in their National Junior League clash played at Rath. It was an entertaining tussle with the home side showing great flair and determination. Great defensive work kept the Galway forwards under control in the opening half. A goal by Offaly's Mattie Lynch gave them a 1-4 to 0-1 lead at the break. A hat trick of goals by Galway in the second half

did not dampen the spirits of the girls from the Faithful County who came through with four points to spare. Dymna Whyte, Eileen Kinsella, Lorraine Corcoran and Michelle Davis were prominent for the winners, while Denise Gilligan, Alisha McNamara and Rita Coen served Galway well.

Final score: Offaly 2-9, Galway 3-2. Scores: Offaly: Michelle Davis 1-3, Catherine Byrne 0-5, Maggie Lynch 1-0, Maureen Dooley 0-1. Galway: Denise Gilligan 1-1, Colette Nevin and Aoife Tannian 1-0 each, Emer Hardiman 0-1. Referee: Liam Davitt, Westmeath.

Derry had a good win over Antrim in this National Junior League match played at Ballinascreen. Derry led 0-4 to 0-3 at the break. Antrim held a slender lead going into the final minutes. Derry shot back with goals from Sinead O'Neill and Claire Mulholland to head the top of the table on a score of 2-7 to 1-5. Scorers: Derry: Claire Mulholland 1-4, Sinead O'Neill 1-0, Michelle Kealey, Martina Mulholland and Pauleen McGuigan 0-1 each. Antrim: Bronagh McCorry 1-3, Elaine Dowds and Oonagh Elliot 0-1 each.

Tyrone collected their first points when they got the upperhand of Monaghan in the closing stages of this National Junior League tie. It was a close encounter all the way through. Monaghan led 1-3 to 0-5 at the interval. Tyrone fought on to win by

the minimum score 1-7 to 1-6. Tyrone scorers: Maeve McGuirk 1-0, Mary Rose McGrady, Brenda Burke and Frances Lennon 0-2 each, Catherine Finnegan 0-1.

The Meacher Shield Tournament was held recently and produced some excellent contests. Results: Semi Finals: U.U.J. 0-4, U.J. 0-2. U.C.C. 1-5, U.C.D. 0-2. Final: U.U.J. 1-3, U.C.C. 0-5. Player of the Tournament Sinead O'Neill, U.U.J.

Dublin made the draws for their Senior Championship and League at a recent Meeting. They are as follows: Championship: Ballyboden St. Enda's v Celtic; Crumlin v Good Council; Erin's Isle v St. Laurence O'Toole's; Marino v Na Fianna.

League First Round: Crumlin v St. Laurence O'Toole's; Celtic v Erin's Isle; Good Council v Ballyboden; Na Fianna v Marino (as in the Championship). There are no fixtures this Sunday because of St. Patrick's weekend, but there will be quite a number of games down for decision on the 24th. Meanwhile, preparations are in hand for Annual Congress, which, this year takes place in the Burrendale Hotel and Country Club, Newcastle, Co. Down on March 30th and 31st. This is the year for the change of playing rules which occurs every four years. Counties have the opportunity to put forward new rules and motions.

It will be interesting to see what changes may arise.

Dubs fail to rob 'Orchard'

ARMAGH.....6-13
DUBLIN.....0-8
NEW LOOK Dublin squad found what it was like in the higher grade when they were completely outclassed by the more experienced Armagh side in this National Senior Camogie League tie played at Derrynoose yesterday.

SCORERS — Armagh: M. Donnelly 3-1, C. Byrne 0-8, M. Black, B. McBride and D. Connolly 1-0 each, G. McCloskey 0-2, D. McCusker and O. Murphy 0-1 each. Dublin: G. Dunne 0-8 (all frees).

REF — C. McAllister (Antrim).

CAMOGIE ROUNDUP

OFFALY 2-9 GALWAY 3-2
CURRENT National Junior Camogie League champions Galway dropped two points to Offaly in this National Junior League tie played at Rath yesterday.

It was an entertaining tussle with the home side showing great flair and determination.

A goal by Offaly's Mattie Lynch gave the winners a 1-4 to 0-1 lead at the break.

SCORERS — Offaly: M. Davis 1-3, C. Byrne 0-5, M. Lynch 1-0, M. Dooley 0-1. Galway: D. Gilligan 1-1, C. Nevin and A. Tannian 1-0 each, E. Hardiman 0-1.

REF — L. Davitt (Westmeath).

DERRY..2-7 ANTRIM..1-5
DERRY had a good win over Antrim in this National Junior Camogie League tie played at Ballinascreen.

Derry led 0-4 to 0-3 at the break. Antrim held a slender lead going into the final minute.

Derry shot back with goals from Claire Mulholland and Sinead O'Neill to head the top of the table.

SCORERS — Derry: C. Mulholland 1-4, S. O'Neill 1-0, M. Kealey, M. Holland and P. McGuigan 0-1 each. Antrim: B. McCorry 1-3, E. Dowd and O. Elliot 0-1 each.

National Junior League: Tyrone 1-7 Monaghan 1-6.

Camogie congress on horizon

THE National Camogie Congress takes place in the Burrendale Hotel and Country Club, Newcastle, Co. Down on March 30 and 31.

As the association rules can only be changed every four years, it will be interesting to see what new proposals are put forward by the counties.

The start of the National Senior League and restart of the Junior league are on March 3 with the top two teams in each Senior division going into the semi-finals. The divisions are — Div One: Armagh, Dublin, Down and Galway; Div Two: Kilkenny, Clare, Cork, Wexford and Tipperary.

The National Coaching committee and the National Referees' committee are making full use of the lull in playing activity. The latter hold a seminar in Croke Park on Saturday for all intercounty referees commencing at 10.0.

On Sunday, the All-Ireland final of Ceol Caint agus Damhsa, the Association's National Talent Competition takes place in St Patrick's College Drumcondra at 1.0.

MARCH 1996

CAMOGIE AFFAIRS <<< BY MARY MORAN

Congress 1996 at Newcastle. Co. Down will have a heavy agenda. Every four years motions to amend the playing rules may be tabled. 1996 is a year to review the playing rules.

The playing rules of camogie were formulated in 1904. Minor changes have been made here and there, e.g. the throw-in to start the game, the alteration from yards to metres and the updating of playing uniforms. But the only significant change to be made over the years was the abolition of the Points Bar.

For those who are relatively new to the game, the Points Bar joined the uppermost ends of the two goalposts creating a point scoring space. In practice, it was more difficult to score a point than a goal. This rule was a real bone of contention for many years. It was only used in parts of the country notably Dublin and Ulster. Other areas refused to conform to what they considered to be a ridiculous rule.

Over the past decade, Kilkenny have sought to make sweeping changes to the game. They advocated a 15 aside game on a full sized G.A.A. pitch. They staged an inter-county experimental rules weekend in Kilkenny in May 1987. Games were played with twelve, thirteen and fifteen players aside.

Galway, Cork, Wexford, Clare and Down sent inter-county teams to participate and see at first hand what was involved. The following year Kilkenny asked to have the National Leagues and Inter-provincial series played with the experimental rules. Permission was granted.

However, when the trial period for the experimental rules had elapsed, there was no great enthusiasm to extend the trial. Many considered that while the top players could cope with the new look game, it would not be beneficial at the lower levels of the game. At the time of writing, Kilkenny have a few weeks in hand to decide whether or not to put these motions to Congress.



LINDA MELLERICK *The Glen Rovers Star helped Cork to All-Ireland Success in 1995*

There will, of course, be other motions relating to the rules. An interpretation by Ard Chomhairle on

the rule governing the handling of the ball did not meet with widespread approval and it is likely that a motion will be tabled to have this matter sorted out.

President, Belle O'Loughlin will be on home ground for Congress. The former Down player and official will commence her final year as Uachtaran. Speculation as to her likely successor will be rife on the fringes of the meeting.

Satisfactory progress is being made by the Camogie Association on the coaching front. Cumann Camogaiochta na nGael was one of the first governing bodies of sport to enrol in the National Coaching and Training Centre's programme to improve the standard of coaching in the country.

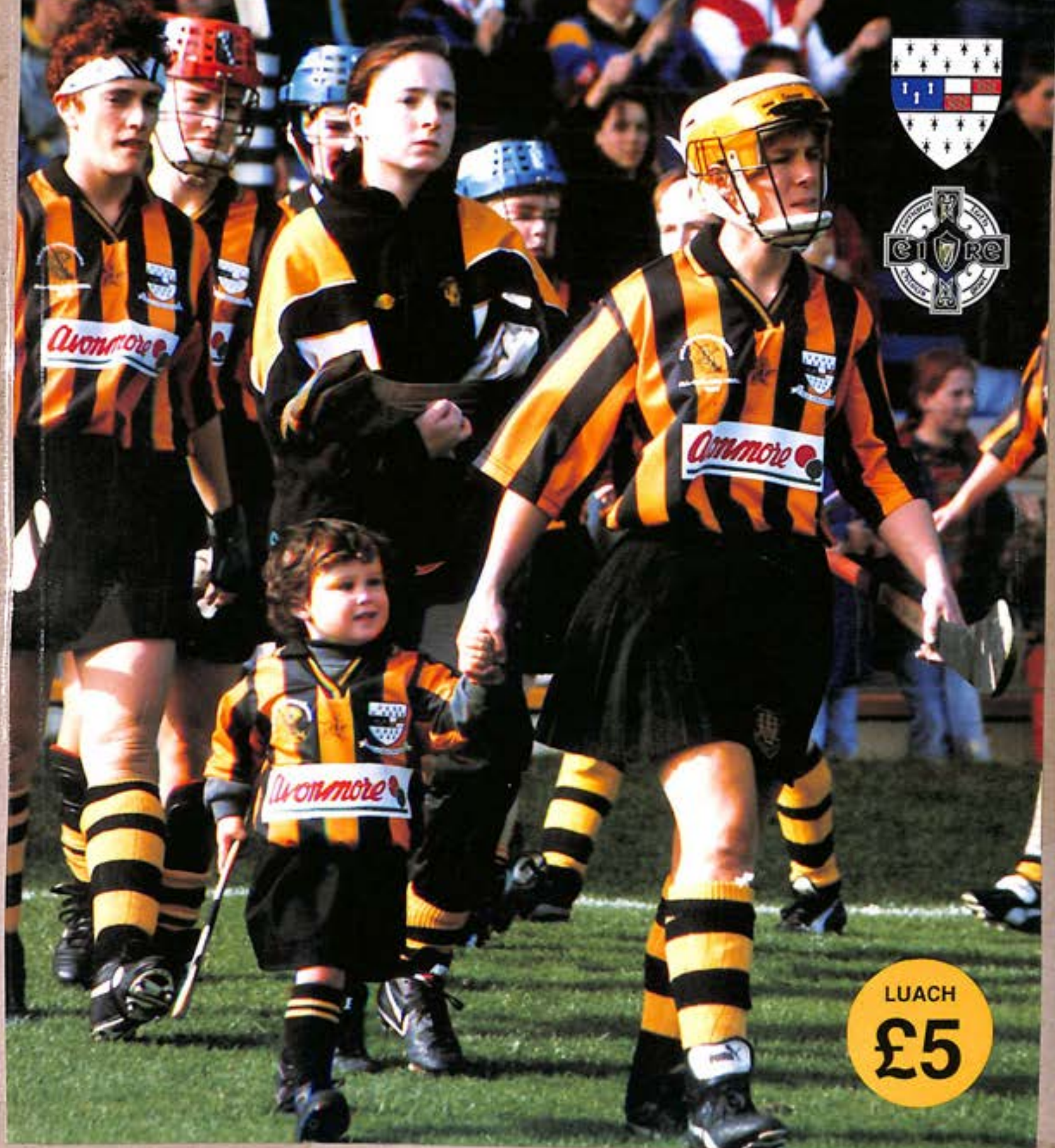
Prior to this initiative, camogie coaches were produced from within the Association and appointed largely on previous experience. The Association was quick to recognise what the N.C.T.C. had to offer by way of specialised training which would broaden the range of skills and knowledge base of camogie coaches.

Under the leadership of former Kilkenny star, Ann Carroll, the Coach Education Programme is progressing well. Tutors Colette Kennedy, Brendan Williams, Grace O'Neill and Cathy Hannigan have gained their qualifications. The next few months will see Foundation and Level 1 Courses take place in Monaghan and Tipperary.

Refreshed from their holiday in Lanzarote, Cork, the All-Ireland Senior Champions, must view the Open Draw as a particularly difficult assignment. Playing Armagh in Cork is one thing but travelling to meet them on their home ground is much more daunting. Should Cork survive they will face a semi-final tilt with old rivals Kilkenny. Cork need no reminding that they barely managed to snatch victory from the jaws of defeat in their last encounter. Wexford, Clare, Dublin or Galway will be their Croke Park opponents should they overcome Kilkenny.

KILKENNY

GAA YEARBOOK 1995



LUACH

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GOODBYE TO THE LEGEND

by
Enda McEvoy

Like all good things it simply had to come to an end. All very well for Frank Sinatra to keep making comebacks, but then Ol' Blue Eyes has nothing much else to be doing with himself at this hour of his life. He isn't a geography teacher at Thomastown V.S., he isn't the parent of a little girl name Katie, he definitely isn't the spouse of a well-known bookmaker called Ted. Being all those things and – almost as an afterthought – a sporting legend in your spare hours, takes time and sacrifice.

After two decades, Angela Downey has given up enough of her time and made sufficient sacrifices. And twelve All Ireland senior camogie medals, in addition to the sackload of other honours the Ballyragget woman won in her starspangled career, would be plenty for most normal human beings.

But Angela Downey is, in a camogie context, not most normal human beings. Angela being Angela, Angela being fiercely competitive, she can't talk about her All-Ireland haul without mentioning the medals that could have been won but weren't. "Twelve medals, I know it's a lot to win, but I firmly believe there were some that got away."

Chief among them, two in the past three seasons. The 1995 Croke Park showdown with Cork remains a fresh scar. Equally painful is the pulsating 1993 All Ireland semi-final at Nowlan Park (Cats 2-18, Rebels 5-10). Two out of three ain't good.

"I honestly thought, travelling to Dublin in September, that we were going to be



"The Queen" in full flight.

(Photo: Tom Brett)

well beaten. We hadn't been training smoothly, we'd been lucky to beat Galway in the semi-final, the team had been chopped and changed a good deal. And I hadn't played at all well against Galway. So my one satisfaction from the final was that I played half-well, and I was genuinely surprised at how well the team hurled. But the way we we lost, having had the game won, was sickening. Just like in 1993 in the Park, although then at least things were neck and neck for the hour, it wasn't as if we threw it away. In 1995 we did."

Fiercely competitive? A woman who hates losing? Understatement of the decade.

It is rare for a person to be so stapled in the public consciousness to his or her sport the way Angela Downey was to camogie. If Pele was a famous footballer, so were Best, Beckenbauer and Bobby Charlton. Martina Navratilova may have been undisputed queen of the tennis court for the 1980s, but Chris Evert and, lately, Steffi

Graf were every bit as well known.

With Angela it was different. For the past ten or 15 years, Angela Downey was camogie. Whether being lumbered with six-months suspensions, banging in the goals on All Ireland day or, on one memorable occasion, losing her skirt in doing so (much to the delight of every photographer present at Croke Park – though would a picture of a hurler or footballer losing his shorts have made the front pages?). Angela was the lady who managed to create an impression on the 99 per cent of the Irish public with little interest in the female game.

From a parochial point of view, there was more to it than that. Think of the great Kilkenny stylists of the century. Meagher, Phelan, Langton, Keher, Carey. Now, if you haven't already done so, add Angela Downey to the list. She had the skill, she had the elegance. The fact of her being a female of the species does not preclude her from membership of the ultimate Black and Amber club. As the joke

LATE, LATE HEARTBREAK AS CATWOMEN ARE POPPED BY CORK

The one that got away.

It's a familiar cliché, but no less true for that. As the Kilkenny senior camogie team won't need reminding.

With twelve minutes remaining at Croke Park on the fourth Sunday of last September, they had the county's 13th O'Duffy Cup in the bag. A quarter of an hour later they were a beaten team – beaten to the tune of four points. So much for the theory that the Black and Amber finish matches like an express train. Here was one occasion when the mistresses of the late burst were themselves overtaken at the death and pipped at the post. So very, very sickening. So sad that Angela Downey-Browne, the captain, leader and powerhouse of her side, was unable to depart the Jones's Road venue the way the script dictated: with yet another All Ireland medal in her kitbag.

A classic meeting of old rivals Kilkenny and Cork, the 1995 ladies' decider was no classic in pure hurling terms. The Cats raised scarcely a gallop in the first half, during which their opponents fared more than well against the strong wind in terms of possession but spoiled their hard work out the field with some quite appalling shooting close to goal. Worse, the referee's strict application of the no-physical-contact rule reduced proceedings to little short of a travesty. With frees being awarded at the rate of two every three minutes, the exciting, flowing encounter that had been hoped for was quickly rendered impossible. Fortunate to lead by 0-5 to 0-2 at the interval, the reigning champions upped their game considerably on the resumption. Gillian Dillon was a rock at full-back. Substitute Tracy Millea,

prevented by injury from starting, added zip and vigour to the midfield area. And Mrs. Downey-Browne was, hardly for the first time in a black and amber jersey, downright devastating.

Shortly after Lynn Dunlea's handpassed goal had levelled matters immediately after the restart, Angela crashed home a free from in front of the posts to give the Noresiders a four-point advantage, 1-7 to 1-3. The next 15 minutes belonged to the champions, who hurled out of their skins. Defying the elements, they took the game to Cork, were unlucky when Marina Downey's ground shot came back off the far upright but got their reward in the 48th minute when the captain ornamented her final appearance (definitely!) at Croke Park by transforming another close-range free into a cannonball: K 2-8, C 1-5.

If a Kilkenny team is never beaten till the closing whistle, neither is a Leaside one. The challengers reserved their best hurling of the hour for the last ten minutes, equalising via goals by Fiona O'Driscoll and Denise Cronin. Angela's 56th-minute free pushed the Cats in front again, 2-10 to 3-6. Was a fabulous and somewhat unlikely victory on the cards once more?

A draw seemed more likely when Linda Mellerick charged forward at the other end and unleashed a drive intended to sail between the Canal End uprights, thus bringing the match to a replay. Imagine her joy, and the general Noreside horror, as the slotar dropped short and hit the back of the net. Injury-time points per Dunlea (free) and O'Driscoll sealed a glorious triumph for Cork on a 4-8 to 2-10 scoreline.

Had Mellerick's shot gone over the bar and the referee ended the match there and then, few in the 9,000 attendance could have complained. As both teams had played well only in patches, and as the standard for three-quarters of the way was so disappointing, a draw – and the prospect of an infinitely more satisfying replay – would have been a fair result. Full marks to the new champions, though. They hurled for most of the hour, whereas Kilkenny impressed for, at most, 20 minutes. The losers can't really complain.

They surely weren't complaining after the All Ireland semi-final at Nowlan Park. An emerging Galway, buoyed by their under-age successes in recent years, hit 1-9 but, critically, missed the same or more again. Thanks to an eleven-point contribution from Sinead Millea and 1-1 from Gillian Dillon, the homesters finished with a total of 1-14 following what was anything but a convincing performance. No wonder the Westerners were kicking themselves afterwards for looking a gift horse in the mouth. Earlier in the season, the Noresiders had had their National League interest terminated by Cork in the southern city on a scoreline of 3-9 to 1-10. Nobody knew it then, but worse was to follow in September. The O'Duffy Cup lost, Angela Downey's magnificent but ultimately vain attempt to bow out on a winning note, Cork's first All Ireland victory against the Black and Amber since 1972.

In previous, honours-laden years, the story of the Kilkenny camogie season had been a case of "what a Downey!". Here it was more like "what a downer!".



KILKENNY - ALL-IRELAND SENIOR CAMOGIE FINALISTS

Front Row L/R: Deirdre Doyle, Deirdre O'Sullivan, Mary McGrath, Sinead Millea, Deirdre Malone, Marina Downey, Ann Downey (Capt.), Katie Downey-Browne (Mascot), Angela Downey-Browne, Brigid Barneville, Cathriona Carey, Marie Maher.
Back Row L/R: Sandra Gleeson, Catherine Dunne, Treacy Millea, Esther Kennedy, Michelle Fennelly, Gillian Dillon, Sinead Costello, Breda Holmes, Margaret Hickey, Imelda Kennedy, Margaret Kavanagh, Fran Shore.

Photo: Sportsfile



Hello Sinead! - President Mary Robinson exchanges greetings with Sinead Millea prior to the All-Ireland Final. Brigid Barneville and Ann Downey have already had the pleasure. Marie Maher smiles demurely, while Gillian Dillon gets ready.

(Photo: Ron Brett)

KILKENNY

YEAR BOOK



Gaelic Stars... Gaelic games were well represented in the 1995 Smithwicks Sports Stars Awards dinner in Springhill Court Hotel and they are pictured with Mr. George Good, Managing Director, Smithwicks Brewery. Included are (from left): Willie O'Connor (Hurling); Deirdre Malone (Camogie); Eddie Keher (Hall of Fame); George Good; Michael "Ducksie" Walsh (Handball); Angela Downey (who won the Achievements Award - for her camogie career)

(Photo: Tom Brett)

LISDOWNEY CAMOGIE CLUB

After the euphoria of 1994, it was on the cards that 1995 would prove to be rather difficult for the club. With only three teams in the Senior championship, every game was scheduled to be a cup-tie experience. So it proved. Played on a league basis, we had a facile victory over St. Brigid's in the first outing. St. Lactain's were next to fall, but in our next outing against St. Brigid's, we came a cropper. We qualified for the County Final by beating St. Lactain's again. In the best County Final "for yonks", the Ballycallan girls nailed us on the line. The final score read, St. Brigid's 2-12, Lisdowney 2-10.

Our Senior panel was: Veronica Wall, Deirdre Delaney, Fran Shore, Bridget Barnaville (Capt.), Catherine Dunne, Sandra Gleeson, Ann Downey, Aine Dunne, Marina Downey, Ann-Marie Hughes, Lizzie Fogarty, Angela Downey-Brownie, Caroline Glendon, Noelle O'Driscoll, Martina Tallis, Olivia Donnelly, Mary Rose Ryan, Deirdre Hosey, Brede Blanchfield.

Our junior team also reached their County Final with good wins over St. Lactain's, Gowran, James Stephen's, and St. Brigid's. In the semi-final we had a

good win over Mullinavat, before facing Gowran for the second time. However the Gowran girls reversed the earlier result, and ran out good winners for the finish.

Panel: Ann-Marie Lacey, Moira Glendon, Deirdre Morrissey, Olivia Donnelly (Capt.), Aisling Fitzpatrick, Annie Murphy, Lesley Stapleton, Angela O'Carroll, Bridget Sharkey, Lisa Skehan, Brede Blanchfield, Deirdre Hosey, Jane Roberts, Stephanie Cummins, Ailish Delahunty, Maria Moore, Katie Kilkenny, Rita Comerford.

Our under-18 team had good wins over Emeralds, and St. Anne's before going out to a stronger St. Lactain's.

Our minor team, wavered slightly after an enthusiastic start, and failed to make

their "semi's".

The under-14 team had an interesting season, but it could have been a little more fruitful, if the interest of some players was a little more enthusiastic.

Our Primary team reached the Roinn "D" semi-final, only to be defeated by O'Loughlin's.

Congratulations to Deirdre Delaney (Ashbourne Shield U.C.C.), Fran Shore, Sandra Gleeson, Mary-Rose Ryan, Deirdre Morrissey, Lorna Callanan, Deirdre Hosey and Ann-Marie Lacey (All Senior Colleges winners with Castlecomer C.C.), Olivia Donnelly (Leinster Gael Linn Junior team), and Angela and Ann, who were honoured by RTE in a "Summer Pride" series.



Bridget Barnaville (Lisdowney) is grounded in All Ireland Camogie Final 1995 - watched by Gillian Dillon.

COLLEGES'
CAMOGIE REVIEW

"Pres" All-Ireland Champs

The long arduous road that led to All-Ireland success started against Castlecomer Community School and Loreto College. Victories for the knockout stages of the competition.

St. Brigid's College, Callan, presented the first obstacle to the mighty "Pres". After an evenly contested first half, the city girls came away with a well-merited victory. So it was on to Enniscorthy, and a meeting with the locals from the Mercy Convent. Triona Kennedy, and Anne Sunderland made welcome returns to the team after injury, and in atrocious conditions, Presentation won with a little to spare by 4-4 to 0-5. "Pres" were looking good. But for one alteration, the team that finished against Enniscorthy would be the team that would bring the blue riband of Colleges camogie back to Loughboy.

Mayfield College, Dublin, were disappointing opponents in the Leinster semi-final, when their challenge was easily put down. F.C.J. Bunclody loomed large and intimidating on the Leinster final horizon. After all, they had won the Leinster crown on no less than six occasions

during the 80's. They certainly were expected to present a formidable barrier to the Kilkenny girl's ambitions of Leinster glory. Down in Thomastown, the Steward Cup was recaptured, when Kilkenny's Presentation, powered by Anne Sunderland, Sinéad Costello, captain Deirdre Phelan, and Imelda Kennedy won by 2-6 to 1-4.

The same Kennedy "slapped in" three goals against Ulster champions, St. Mary's, Magherafelt, which set the topic of conversation around the school – could Corn Sceilge return home to where it had first seen the light of day some 25 years previously?

"Pres" had returned to the "main stage" for the first time since 1970.



Deirdre Phelan with Corn Sceilge after the All-Ireland Colleges Camogie Final.



Anne Sunderland gives the thumbs up after Presentation Convent's All-Ireland Colleges victory.

KILKENNY YEARBOOK

The weeks of waiting were going to be difficult for Gerry O'Dwyer. He would endeavour to shield his charges from mounting pressure, hype, and surging excitement. He would be helped in that regard by Kathleen Brennan. The making of flags, banners, scarves, streamers and slogans took up much of the time that was earmarked for the studying of Shakespeare, Wordsworth, Iosagán, or indeed Peig. It was helpful that Sister Cincillio was still around, and that Mary Brennan (nee Connery) was there too. They were the "crew" that had engineered the victories back in 1969, and 1970.

Buses, and cars streamed towards Tullamore. Gerry O'Dwyer had his charges ready. On a gloriously sunny "April Fools Day", Presentation defended stoutly against a very stiff breeze. Charleville thundered wave after wave of pressure towards the Presentation goal. Michelle Fennelly, Anne Sunderland, Sinead Costello, Breda Dooley and captain, Deirdre Phelan showed their resilience, and thwarted many St. Mary's attacks. At half time, they trailed the Corkonians by just two points (0-3 to 0-1). On the resumption, a Pauline Comerford goal propelled the Kilkenny stalwarts into a lead they were never to relinquish. True, the St. Mary's girls mounted a huge late surge, but the Kilkenny girls weathered the storm, with heroic resolve and unbending character, to insure that for the first time since the halcyon days of Liz Neary, Catherine Conway, Teresa Brennan, the O'Neill sisters, and Mary Tallis, Corn Sceilge "came home".

This victory was truly a magnificent achievement, for a dedicated, enthusiastic, and ambitiously single-minded outfit. They knew what they wanted, and they pursued that goal with a dedicated abandon. Of course, Gerry O'Dwyer was very important to the team, and to the campaign. As Editor of the Kilkenny G.A.A. Yearbook, I am delighted to include a colour photograph of the entire panel. Comhghairdeachais leo go léir.



LORETO SECONDARY SCHOOL SENIOR CAMOGIE TEAM LEINSTER COLLEGES SENIOR SHIELD CHAMPIONS 1995

Back Row: Orla Phelan (St. Ann's), Jennifer Dillon (Clara), Mairead Costelloe (Freshford), Julie Ryan (Freshford), Emma Fitzpatrick (Freshford), Eimear Connery (Freshford), Avril Phelan (St. Ann's), Mary Ryan (Freshford).

Front Row: Ann-Marie Hogan (Dicksboro), Mary Doyle (Emeralds), Ann-Marie Young (Tullaroan), Ann-Marie Trait (Dicksboro), Brenda O'Reilly, Captain, (Dicksboro), Kathleen Ryan (Freshford), Ruth Comerford (Dicksboro), Oonagh Hennessy (Tullaroan), Olive Hennessy (Tullaroan).



LEINSTER POST-PRIMARY SCHOOLS' SENIOR CHAMPIONSHIP SHIELD FINAL

Loreto, Kilkenny 4-2, St. Brigid's College, Callan 3-1

LORETO SECONDARY SCHOOL 7-A-SIDE CAMOGIE TEAM LEINSTER COLLEGES CHAMPIONS 1995

Back Row: Claire Dermody (Freshford), Emma Fitzpatrick (Freshford), Oonagh Hennessy (Tullaroan), Julie Ryan (Freshford), Ruth Comerford (Dicksboro).

Front Row: Orla Phelan (St. Ann's), Jennifer Dillon (Clara), Olive Hennessy, Captain, (Tullaroan), Mairead Costelloe (Freshford), Mary Ryan (Freshford).



LORETO SECONDARY SCHOOLS FIRST YEAR CAMOGIE TEAM KILKENNY SCHOOLS CHAMPIONS 1995

Back Row: Linda Maher (Dicksboro), Laura Hanlon (Clara), Eimear O'Loughlin (Clara), Susan Fitzpatrick (Lisdowney).

Front Row: Brid Fitzpatrick (Lisdowney), Lorraine Maher (Dicksboro), Ann-Marie Young, Captain, (Tullaroan), Elizabeth Teehan (Graigie-Ballycallan), Emma Skehan (Lisdowney).

PRESENTATION SECONDARY SCHOOL, KILKENNY

All-Ireland Senior Camogie Champions 1995



Back Row: Michelle Fennelly, Elaine Dalton, Imelda Kennedy, Ann-Marie Ryall, Sinead Costello, Rosaleigh Comerford, Breda Dooley, Marie Maher. Centre: Triona Kennedy, Miss. C. Brennan, Margaret Dooley, Anne Sunderland, Helena Deevy, Orla Brennan, Sharon Cody, Emer Murray, Nicola Fitzpatrick, Mr. J. O'Dwyer, Angela Grogan. Front Row: Teresa O'Neill, Deirdre Dowling, Pauline Comerford, Deirdre Phelan (capt.), Gillian Meany, Cora Mullen, Suzanne Brennan (inset - Elaine Leahy). Photo Tom Brett

ST. BRIGIDS CAMOGIE TEAM, BALLYCALLAN



Front Row: (l to r) Lyn Holden, Deirdre Treacy, Pauline Comerford, Deirdre Sullivan, Tracy Millea, Sinead Millea, Mary McGrath, Aisling Byrne, Ursula Walton. Back row (l to r): Pat Treacy, (Trainer), Angela Cleere, Mary Purcell, Kay Dunphy, Deirdre Malone, Orla Ryall, Mary Ryall, Ann-Marie Ryall, Margaret Comerford, Breda Cahill, Catherine Keogh. Photo: Ignatius O'Neill.

Graiguel/ Ballycallan are queens of the county

ONLY THREE teams entered the camogie senior championship, Lisdowney, St. Lachtain's (Freshford) and St. Brigid's (Ballycallan). It was decided to run it on a double league system with each team playing one another at home and away with the top two teams contesting the County Final.

It was generally believed that the final would be a repeat of the previous two years deciders between Lisdowney and St. Lachtain's.

Things seemed to be going as planned when Lisdowney beat St. Brigid's easily in Lisdowney and St. Lachtain's also beat them by 3-5 to 1-3 in Shipton. These games were played before the examinations.

On resumption of the competition, Lisdowney beat St. Lachtain's in Freshford, which put them in a strong position to reach the County Final.

When St. Lachtain's played St. Brigid's in Freshford, they were short four of their team, Gillian Dillon, Margaret Hickey, Esther Kennedy and Imelda Kennedy.

The consensus was that if St. Lachtain's lost, the worse that could happen would be a play-off against St. Brigid's on the



Orla, Mary and Ann-Marie Ryall, St. Brigid's.

assumption that Lisdowney would beat St. Brigid's.

The whole scenario changed on a blistering summer's evening in Shipton when St. Brigid's did the impossible and beat Lisdowney by a point with two late points from Sinead Millea. It now meant St. Lachtain's had to beat Lisdowney to stay in contention while Lisdowney had to win to avoid a three way play off. The vital game in Lisdowney was won by the locals so the way was clear for a St. Brigid's - Lisdowney final.

The final game drew one of the biggest attendances ever to a Camogie Final and was played in Nowlan Park. Heavy rain earlier in the evening left the pitch slippery, but it made no difference, as the sides served up an encounter laced with pride, passion, commitment and loads of skill. The sides had traded a pair of points when Angela Downey Brown goaled for Lisdowney. It was nick and tuck through the first half as Lisdowney went in leading 1-5 to 0-4.

At the start of the second half, the sides traded minor scores. Then disaster hit St. Brigid's when three defenders left a ball in the square to one another and in the confusion, Angela Downey-Brown cracked the ball to the net. Points by Angela and

Marina had the reigning All-Ireland champions leading 2-8 to 0-5 and looking all over winners with eighteen minutes left to play.

The remainder of the game will live forever in the folklore of St. Brigid's. A switch between Tracy Millea and Catherine Keogh in defence, the moving of Mary McGrath to midfield and the introduction of Ann Marie Ryall to midfield changed the whole scene and St. Brigid's shot six points on the trot as the supporters in the stand began to realise that something was going to happen.

Sandra Gleeson steadied Lisdowney with a point. Sinead Millea brought the lead back to a goal. Marina Downey shot a Lisdowney point from a free which looked the 'insurance' score. By this stage the supporters of both sides were on their feet urging on their heroines.

One minute to go, and Sinead Millea was fouled as she tore through. Eight Lisdowney players lined the goal. To no avail, however, as her face high shot went crashing to the net.

Into injury time and the ball broke to Mary McGrath forty yards out. The murmur in the stand was audible as everyone said "surely the equaliser". Her shot did not have the height, but Veronica Wall had

CLARA CAMOGIE CLUB

Clara camogie has had another competitive and enjoyable year with lots of matches for all, competing in all competitions.

The Primary School girls were very keen with a full turn out for training and matches and credit must go to their trainer and teacher John Bolger for his commitment and effort.

Our under-14 girls had a very busy year taking part in the Féile na nGael league and U-14 championship when they reached the semi-final, bowing out to Freshford in a well fought match. The girls had brilliant success in the Community Games competition, winning the County Final and also the Leinster Final beating Wexford, Wicklow and Dublin on their way.

They travelled to Mosney for a week-

end in September to compete in the All-Ireland Community Games. Here they received beautiful certificates and had a most enjoyable weekend.

Team: Bronagh Ryan, Valerie Mulrooney, Emer O'Loughlin, Karen Healy, Alison Carrigan (Capt.), Jane Foley, Laura Hanlon, Patrice Mullins, Lisa Collins, Mairead Dowling, Sharon McDonald, Teresa Hickey, Sarah Costigan, Pauline Walshe.

Laura Hanlon won the Community Games county Long Puck and went on to win the silver medal in Mosney. This was a very exciting competition with all 32 counties competing in the long puck. Laura also represented the County in the Féile na nGael skills competition. Congratulations Laura and well done. A big thank you to John Phelan for training these girls and also the u-16, u-18, u-21 and junior ladies.

Also well done to Catherine Neary for her hard work over the past few years. Congratulations to the Presentation Secondary School on winning the All-Ireland and our club girls, Gillian Meany, Deirdre Dowling, Susan Brennan and Elaine Brennan who were on the victorious team.

ST. BRIGID'S CAMOGIE CLUB

It was without doubt St. Brigid's greatest year ever with the annexing of the Senior County title, an unforgettable occasion. The club had taken the title for the first time in 1991 but it paled into insignificance after this year's win. Considering that Lisdowney were the reigning All-Ireland champions and were leading by eight points ten minutes into the second half, the comeback and eventual victory will be part of the folklore of this parish for ever. (A full report appears elsewhere). However, in the lesser grades, there was little joy with no team reaching a county final. The under-21s however are in a semi-final against Lisdowney at the time of writing.

The first honour to come was Sinead Millea's winning an Ashbourne Cup medal with University of Limerick. Then followed the winning of three All-Ireland Senior Colleges medals by Ann Marie Ryall, Pauline Comerford, both of whom scored vital goals in the final, and Elaine Dalton, when helping bridge a twenty five year gap for Presentation Convent, Kilkenny.

Tracy and Sinead Millea, and Deirdre Malone were chosen on the Leinster Gael Linn Senior Camogie team, while Mary McGrath was selected on the Leinster Junior team but could not play because of injury. Five members of the club figured on the Kilkenny team which unluckily lost the All-Ireland final to Cork. They were Deirdre Malone, Sinead Millea, both of whom started and Tracy Millea who came on at half time. On the panel were Mary McGrath and Deirdre O'Sullivan. Pauline Comerford, Martina Comerford and Aoife Neary represented Kilkenny at under age level. The year finished on a high note with the selection of Deirdre Malone for the Smithwick's Award for Camogie in 1995. Also congratulations to Deirdre on her recent marriage to Martin Prenderville. Billy Malone was a selector on the County Senior team.



CLARA U-14 COMMUNITY GAMES COUNTY AND LEINSTER CHAMPIONS AND ALL-IRELAND FINALISTS
Front Row: Pauline Walsh, Alice Butler, Teresa Hickey, Jane Foley, Allison Carrigan, Moire Cashin, Laura Hanlon, Sarah Costigan. Back Row: Phil Dowling (Sec.), Patricia Hanlon (Manager), Mairead Dowling, Lisa Collins, Sharon McDonald, Emer O'Loughlin, Bronagh Ryan, Valerie Mulrooney, Karen Kealy, Patrice Mullins, John Dowling (Manager), John Phelan, Trainer.

TULLOGHER CAMOGIE CLUB

The club had quite a successful year with both our under-16 and intermediate teams reaching the county semi-final stages of their respective competitions.

However, it was the Primary School team which kept the club colours flying

when they had a great victory over James Stephen's in the Roinn C County Final. In a tough and exciting match, played in Thomastown, the girls won on a scoreline of 6-1 to 3-0. The match was of a very high standard and the team were deserving winners. Congratulations also to Catriona Ryan who represented the club on the County under-14 team.



PRIMARY SCHOOL ROINN C WINNERS - Back Row: Una Murphy (Trainer), Ciara Malone, Sinead Dooley, Lorraine Long, Nicola Power, Elizabeth Heffernan, Ciara Ryan, Barbara Phelan, Linda Ryan, Emer Ryan, Mairead Ryan, Emer Malone. Front Row: Tara Lee McCarthy, Anne Marie Ryan, Aoife Malone, Linda Cottrell, Catriona Ryan (Captain), Michelle Saunders, Bernadette Phelan, Irene Woods, Helen Ryan. Missing from photo: Brenda Murphy (trainer).

Down Memory Lane



Presentation Convent, Kilkenny - All-Ireland Colleges Senior Champions 1969. Back row: Mella Hennessy, Liz Neary, Catherine Conway, Teresa Brennan, Joanne Phelan, Helena O'Neill, Kay Dooley, Miss Mary Connery (coach). Front row: Patsy Byrne, Bee McEvoy, Claire Dowling, Mary Tallis (captain), Teresa O'Neill, Mary Barry, Carmel Doyle, Patricia Cody. Mascot: Michael Walsh (future Kilkenny goalkeeper).



I'm with my mammy!

Katie Browne meets President Robinson before the camogie All-Ireland

Photo: Tom Brett

Galway ran out easy winners over Down in this National Senior League game played at Ballinasloe. The first half was very close with some great play from both sides. Galway had two points to spare at the break 0-7 to 0-5. In the second half the winners got down to business. A hat-trick of goals by Martina Harkin killed off any chance Down had of victory. Final score: Galway 4-11 Down 1-7. Galway: Martina Harkin 3-1, Sharon Glynn 1-7, Veronica Curtin 0-2, Imelda Hobbins 0-1. Down: Valerie Hynds 1-1, Mairin McAleenan 0-5, Jennifer Branniff 0-1. Referee: Miriam O'Callaghan, Offaly.

Wexford got off to a good start under new manager Christy Jacob when they proved too strong for Tipperary in this Senior League tie played at Enniscorthy.

A goal by Orla Hernan inside the first five minutes gave Wexford a 2-4 to 0-4 lead at the break and they were never headed. Wexford 4-9 Tipperary 1-7. Wexford: Orla Hernan 3-0, Geraldine Codd 1-6, Esme Murphy, Geraldine O'Grady and Marian O'Leary 0-1 each.

Tipperary: Triona Hennessy 0-6, Theresa Burke 1-0, Noelle Kennedy 0-1. Referee: Aine Derham, Dublin.

All-Ireland Junior champions Limerick continued on their winning trail in this Junior League tie against Wexford at Enniscorthy. It was a very close affair throughout. The winners led 1-5 to 1-4 at the break. The second half continued to be an end to end battle with great defensive work by both sides. A goal by Limerick's Kay Burke sealed the issue.

Limerick 2-7 Wexford 1-7. Limerick: Pauleen McCarthy 1-3, Kay Burke 1-1, Aoda Quaid 0-2, Niamh Cregan 0-1.

Wexford: Kate Kelly 1-3, Aine Codd 0-2, Michelle Stafford and Marie Butler 0-1 each. Referee:

Breda Byrne, Wicklow.

Kildare, under new manager Seán O'Sullivan collected their first brace of points in the National Junior League when they got the edge over Cavan in this closely contested affair at Ballyhaise. The sides were level 0-2 each at the break. Some well taken points by Eimear Brennan and Patricia Martin put Cavan three points in front. Back came Kildare's Miriam Malone to send a sizzling ball to the net and Ruth Treacy latted to give the Lilywhites a one point victory.

Kildare 1-3 Cavan 0-5

Kildare: Miriam Malone 1-2,

Charleville 2-6 Magherafelt 1-8. Charleville: Eileen O'Brien 2-3, Kate O'Shea 0-2, Sinead O'Callaghan 0-1. Magherafelt: Eilis O'Neill 1-6, Triona McAteer and Catherine Pickering 0-1 each.

On Sunday next in the National League there are two Senior and three Junior ties. Cork, current Senior League champions, make their debut when they host Clare. The Banner County had an outing against Kilkenny and put up quite a good performance. Cork will be going all out to get off on the right footing. They should be well served by Sandie Fitzgibbon at centre back. Linda Mellerick and Denise Cronin at centre field and their dashing young forward Lynn Dunlea. Clare will be depending on Catherine O'Loughlin, Sylvia O'Brien and Moira McMahon to collect the points, but the Leesiders look set to kick off on a winning note.

Galway travel to take on Armagh at Dromintee at 2.30pm. This should be an entertaining tussle. When the sides met at this stage of the competition last year, Armagh were victorious 3-8 to 0-13. Both sides have two points from first outings. Armagh had it easy over Dublin and Galway had a good win over Down. The Orchard County will be quite confident on home ground but Galway may carry too much strength on the day.

Dublin will show their hospitality to Down at Parnell Park at 3pm. Dublin have a new look side and seem to be team building. Down have the more experienced squad and both counties need to secure their first points. Down can shade it.

In Junior, Dublin take on Zone B table toppers Derry as curtain raiser to the Senior at 1-30 p.m. The Metropolitan side may find the Oakleaf County no pushover.

Carlow travel to Armagh, curtain raiser to the Senior at 1pm. The Leinster County should collect the points here.

Easy Win For GALWAY Over DOWN

Ruth Treacy 0-1. Cavan: Eimear Brennan 0-4, Patricia Martin 0-1. Referee: Paddy Brady, Meath.

Roscommon now head the table in Zone 'D' when they proved too strong for Clares second string at Athleague 2-15 to 0-0.

Roscommon scorers: Mary Healy 2-2, Liz Hanley 0-6, Karina Jones and Mary Gannon 0-3 each, Caroline Connaughton 0-1.

Referee: Noleen Cormican, Galway.

St Mary's, Charleville, Cork are through to the All-Ireland Senior Colleges final when they got the better of St Mary's, Magherafelt, Derry by the minimum score in this All-Ireland semi-final played at Ballymaguigan. Magherafelt led 0-6 to 0-5 at the break and looked as if they were coasting to victory with a 1-8 to 0-6 lead approaching full time. Then disaster struck the Derry College when two well planned goals by Charleville's Eileen O'Brien rescued her side from the jaws of defeat. Final score:

MARCH 1996

Coachford are on a roll

THE mid-Cork camogie stronghold of Coachford Community College has achieved the unique honour of being the first school ever to qualify for both the Cork Colleges U-15 (A) and U-15 (B) finals by virtue of comprehensive victories over Presentation, Ballyphehane and Cobh Convent respectively.

The U-15 A side which is coached by Rob Lotty and strengthened by Cork Minors, Sinead A Buckley,

Sheila Crowley, Mary Ennaguess and Sinead C Buckley, ran out easy victors in their recent game in Ballyanley.

Impressive for Coachford were Claire Sheehan, Linda Ronan, Abby Lehan and Breda O'Reagan. The squad now meets their old rivals, St Mary's of Charleville, in a repeat of last year's final.

The U-15 (B) team meanwhile is captained by Chris Murphy and boasts

star performers the like of Fiona McSweeney, Norma Aherne, Catherine O'Leary and Tracey Martin. The Muskerry school defeated Cobh on their home turf on the same afternoon as their U-15 (A) counterparts qualified for the final.

The Ennaguess sisters from Aghabullogue made it a real family affair with Mary netting two goals in the (A) match and her younger sister, Anne, scor-

ing the first goal for the (B) side. Also on the score sheet were Liz Hogan, Norma Aherne and Chris Murphy. They were ably assisted by Colette Noonan, Theresa O'Sullivan, Claire McCarthy and Sandra Reck.

The college now awaits the outcome of the game between Christ King, Douglas and St Mary's Macroom. Here's wishing the ladies the very best of Cork luck.

Cork girls off on the league trail

CORK open their national League (Senior) campaign with a first round game against Clare tomorrow.

This is Cork's first game since the All Ireland final last September so they will want to get off to a good start.

The panel has been doing light training for the past few weeks under coach Tom Nott and will be stepping his up over the coming weeks in preparation for their forthcoming league games against Kilkenny, Wexford and Tipperary and the first round of the All Ireland Senior Championship which is against Armagh and is scheduled for July 14th at an Armagh venue.

With the exception of Linda Mellerick, who is out through injury, the selectors will have a full panel to choose from. While they have not named their team it is certain to include regulars Kathleen Costine, Sandy Fitzgibbon, Denise Cronin, Irene O'Keefe, Fiona O'Driscoll, Lyn Dunlea, Paula Goggins, Mags Finn and Therese O'Callaghan who will captain the side for the coming season.

At club level Under 18 Championship continues with two games down for de-

CAMOGIE

cision tomorrow. In the first of these Brian Dillons are at home to Inniscarra at 12 noon and this game promises to be a great contest.

On form the Mid-Cork side will be fancied to advance. They are a strong all round side with very experienced performers in Catherine O'Leary, Nicola Buckley, Leona Nolan, Siobhan O'Leary and Criona Harte.

If these girls play to their usual form they should have the edge on what is expected to be a young Brian Dillons side, who will be looking to player like Sabrina Buckley, Therese Drummond, Sarah Mongan and Jackie O'Sullivan to carry them through.

In the second game Aghabullogue travel to Carrigaline to play the home-side at 4p.m. and here Aghabullogue, spearheaded by players like Tina Roche, Sinead Buckley and Mary Ene-guss, should have the edge on the South East Side.

In the only other game listed Eire Og play Fr. O'Neills in the under 16 'B' league semi final and here it is difficult

to see the Ovens side being halted.

Both sides are already met in the semi final of the championship, when Eire Og emerged victorious and the outcome is expected to be no different with Eire Og expected to advance to meet Carrigaline in the final.

Congratulations are extended this weekend to the Eire Og Club. They recently travelled to Birmingham to take part in the International Women's Festival of Camogie and their trip proved to be a very successful one.

After playing a series of games they went on to defeat Cullinan from Mullingar in the final. Well Done to Marian McCarthy who captained the side and the girls from Eire Og on their success and for keeping the Cork flag flying.

FIXTURES

TOMORROW - National Senior league: Cork v Clare, the Mardyke, 1.00p.m.

Under 18 Championship: Brian Dillons v Inniscarra, Brian Dillons, 12 noon, Ref: M. Byrne; Carrigaline v Aghabullogue, Carrigaline, 4.00p.m. Ref: Tracton.

Under 16 'B' League Semi-Final: Eire Og v Fr. O' Neills.

MARCH

1996

Six teams vie for U-15 camogie league title

By Dery Farr

THERE are six teams in the Carrigdhoun Underage Camogie Leagues with the first round of the U-15s grade to be played on Friday, April 12.

The draw is as follows: Tracton v Valley Rovers, Ballinhassig v Courcey Rovers, Sliabh Rua v Ballygarvan.

The U-17 League has five teams involved and will commence on April 15. Round one will see Ballygarvan take on Tacton and Carrigaline entertain Courcey Rovers with Ballinhassig receiving a bye.

It is proposed to com-

mence the U-11 leagues later on in April and here the first round games will be Courcey Rovers v Ballygarvan, Tracton v Sliabh Rua and Ballinhassig v Carrigaline.

In the U-13 leagues seven teams will be in action with the first-round games featuring Valley Rovers v Courcey Rovers, Ballygarvan against Sliabh Rua and Carrigaline opposing Ballinhassig with Tracton receiving a bye.

The U-18 County Camogie Championship of last year is still ongoing and recently Courcey Rovers defeated Tracton while Ballygarvan ousted Ballygarvan.

with game against Clare



Therese O'Callaghan, Cork captain for the coming season.

Rebels' cause for concern

THE Rebels certainly do have a cause on Sunday.

Cork, the current senior league camogie champions, play their first league game this season when they host rapidly improving Clare writes PJ Fulham.

The Banner county put in an excellent performance against Kilkenny recently and Sylvia will look to Catherine O'Leary to overcome the Leesiders.

However, the Rebel forces can depend on Sandy Fitzgibbon at centre-back, Linda Mellerick and Denis Cronin at midfield and Lynn Dunlea to their dashing young forward on a winning note.

Meanwhile, Galway travel to take on Armagh and this should be an entertaining

tussle. When the sides met at this stage of the competition last year, Armagh won 3-8 to 0-13.

Both sides have two points from their first outings. Armagh easily overcame Dublin while Galway had a good win over Down. The Orchard county will be quite confident on home ground but Galway should carry too much strength on the day.

At Parnell Park, Dublin take on Down. Dublin have made a number of changes from the side that went under to Armagh and may just shade it.

SATURDAY - All Ireland Colleges Junior Semi-final: At Buncloody: FCJ Buncloody v Holy Rosary Mountbellew 1.30; At Mayfield: St Patrick's Cork v St Mary's Magherafelt 11.30.

SUNDAY - National Senior League: At Parnell Park: Dublin v Down 3.0; At Dromintee: Armagh v Galway 2.30; (Venue to be arranged) Cork v Clare. National Junior League: At Parnell Park: Dublin v Derry 1.30; At Dromintee: Armagh v Galway 1.0.

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ALL IRELAND JUNIOR COLLEGES SEMI-FINALS — at Mayfield — **St Mary's Magherafelt 3-3** (S. Forbes 2-2, C. Gormley 1-0, D. McCann 0-1) **St Patrick's Cork 0-5** (S. Buckley 0-2, T. Deane and S. Kelly 0-1 each) **At Buncloody** — **FCJ Buncloody 2-5** (M. Murray 1-4, M. Hendrick 1-0, E. Hendrick 0-1); **Holy Rosary, Mountbellew 1-5** (A. Geraghty 1-0, M. Meenan and P. Carrick 0-3 each).

Camogie club is re-formed

A RECENTLY reformed southside camogie club is on the fund raising trail.

Ballypnehane Camogie Club, which now has 60 members in the under 14 and under 12 age groups, needs cash to help cover the cost of kitting out the teams.

The club needs cash to pay a crippling £350 public liability insurance bill.

The club held a successful fundraising cabaret and dinner dance last weekend at Ard-manning House.

After a lapse of many years, Ballypnehane Camogie Club was reformed in 1992 by Denise Walsh, who identified the need for such a group in the area.

Today, the club caters for over 60 girls who play in under 12 and under 14 competitions.

The club officers are:

- Chairman - Sandy Kelleher; Vice Chair - Anne Geary; Hon Secretary - Denise Walsh; Assistant Secretary - Helen O'Leary; Hon Treasurer - Theresa McCarthy; Assistant Treasurer - Georgina Vaughan; PRO - Helen O'Sullivan.
- Committee - Gino Lawless and Eileen Morris.

St. Mary's girls tops

St. Mary's, Magherafelt 3-3
St. Patrick's, Cork 0-5

ST. MARY'S, Magherafelt advanced to the All-Ireland Colleges Junior camogie final when they defeated St. Patrick's, Cork at Mayfield last Saturday.

Conditions were bad for both sides with heavy rain and a thick fog enveloping the pitch. At half-time Magherafelt led 1-1 to 0-2 thanks mainly to a goal by Clare Gormley in the 16th minute.

In the second-half two further goals from Gormley put the issue beyond doubt.

For St. Patrick's, Sabrina Buckley and goalie Samina Mangan tried hardest but on the day St. Mary's advanced to the All-Ireland final after an entertaining game.

Scorers for St. Mary's: C. Gormley 3-0, S. Forbes 0-2, D. McCann 0-1.

St. Patrick's: S. Buckley 0-3, S. Kelly, T. Deane 0-1 each.
Referee: Colette O'Mahony (St. Finbarrs).

CLUICHE LEATH-CHEANNAIS NA
hÉIREANN
sa CHAMÓGAÍOCHT
COLÁISTÍ SÓISEARACHA



SCOIL PHÁDRAIG, CORCAIGH



SCOIL MHUIRE, MACHAIRE FÍOLTA

PÁIRC C.L.G. GORT ÁLAINN

Dé Sathairn, 23 Márta

11.30 r.n.

Réiteoir: Colette Ní Mhathúna

Galway girls set sights firmly on the double

GALWAY, All-Ireland Senior Camogie Championship finalists of '93 and National Senior League Champions of '94, are confident of a place in the National Senior League semi-finals, with full points to date.

Not alone are they confident of doing well in the National League but also have their sights set on taking their first All-Ireland Senior Championship title across the Shannon in September.

CAMOGIE ROUNDUP

WITH PJ FULHAM

There is a tremendous atmosphere among the players where Sharon Glynn and Martina Harkins are very strong performers along with Olivia Broderick, who also plays for UCG, and 18-year-old Denise Gilligan from the Craughwell Club. The team is trained by Tony Ward who won an All-Ireland with Sarsfields.

When they were defeated by Kilkenny in the All-Ireland Senior Championship final in '93 they fielded some very young players. But now they are an experienced squad and won't go down without a fight in either league or championship.

The prospect of the advantage rule being implemented into the game of camogie will have to wait for another day when motions from Wexford and Cork requesting the advantage rule was defeated at National congress which was held in Newcastle County Down last weekend.

There are no fixtures this weekend.