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## Camogie

# Camogie

## review

PJ Fulham reviews the camogie year, a year that saw teams from Munster claim the pick of the titles.

### First senior championship for Tipperary

Tipperary's absence from the winners podium in Croke Park came to an end on Sunday September 5th when they overcame Kilkenny in the 'Bord na Gaeilge' All-Ireland senior championship final to take the 'O'Duffy Cup' for the first time. On seven previous occasions they were forced to the runner up slot. Their last appearance was in 1984.

Tipperary defeated Clare and Kilkenny knocked out Galway to reach the semi-finals which were staged at a neutral venue for the second year in succession. Parnell Park, Dublin was the setting. Three provinces were competing which drew a great attendance.

The opening match between the holders Cork and Kilkenny proved to be an edge of the seat affair. Sinead Millea was the jewel in Kilkenny's crown when she delivered a 45 metre free to the back of the Cork net with the last puck of the match to give her side a two point win.

It was score for score throughout with Cork holding a one point lead at the break. By the end of the third quarter Cork had built up a five point lead. The introduction of Ann Downey for Kilkenny in the 20th minute made a significant difference as almost immediately Margaret Commerford netted the 'Noresiders' first goal. Sinead Millea sent over the bar to leave just one point separating the sides. Sinead's free on full time was expected to level the match ... instead, it went straight to the net to clinch victory 2-12 to 1-13 as the final whistle sounded.

The other semi-final was one way traffic for Tipperary against Down. The match was over as a contest at half time when Tipperary led 4-12 to 0-2. It was only shooting practice for the winners as Deirdre Hughes notched off 4-3. Final score: Tipperary 6-22 Down 1-3.

Thus the scene was set for a grand finale. The sides had met earlier in the season in the National league when the Munster County got the verdict. Tipperary had previously tasted All-Ireland success at minor, junior and intermediate level and their hopes of clinching the senior crown were finally realised in a closely contested final against Kilkenny on a scoreline of 0-12 to 1-8.

Caitriona Hennessy from the Drom/Inch club was introduced in the 40th minute and ended the game as a legend after putting over two frees to snatch victory.

Both teams put up a great performance that had the large crowd on their toes all through the game. Tipperary were the hungrier side fighting for possession. Kilkenny were always there and in the early stages of the second half it looked as if they would take their 13th title. Tipperary's Deirdre Hughes put over three fantastic frees from awkward angles and deserved the 'Player of the Match' award.

This was the first All-Ireland final played on the full size pitch with 15 players aside. There seemed to be a lot of tension and anxiety between the sides. The first half was close with it going point for point. Kilkenny's goal came



Tipperary - All-Ireland Senior Camogie champions



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Cork - All-Ireland Junior Camogie winners

when Sinead Millea who was responsible for seven points of her teams total went on a solo run. Sinead was fouled and her subsequent free went low to 16 year old Lizzie Lyng who banged it to the net, to leave just one points separating the sides at the break. Kilkenny 1-5 Tipperary 0-7

The sides were level at the end of the third quarter. It was stalemate for the next 13 minutes and it looked as if a draw was on the cards, but Caitriona Hennessy sent over the all important point to clinch the issue for Tipperary.

The O'Duffy Cup was presented to Meadhbh Stokes by Phyllis Breslin, Uachtaran Cumann Camogaiochta na nGael.

### Clare claim third intermediate crown

Clare became the only county to take All-Ireland Intermediate honours on three occasions when they

accounted for Antrim in an exciting final played at Dunloy. Antrim knocked out a fancied Limerick side in the quarter final 4-12 to 2-6 and Armagh in the semi-final, 1-9 to 0-4. Clare recorded a 4-14 to 4-8 victory over Dublin in the quarter-final and accounted for last years finalists Cork in the semi-final 4-5 to 1-5.

The sides were evenly matched but Clare took over when it mattered. Three points by Moira McMahon inside the first ten minutes stopped Antrim from securing their first All-Ireland Intermediate title. Antrim's goalie, 15 year old Ciara McKinley, brought off a number of brilliant saves, while the 'Banner County's' centre back Marie Collins had an outstanding game. It was a low scoring first half. Clare had 1-3 on the scoreboard before Antrim opened their account in the 25th minute with a goal by Oonagh Elliott. Anne McKee sent over two points to leave it all square at the break, 1-2 each. Clare took the lead early in the second

half and with ten minutes remaining the sides were level again. Moira McMahon sealed victory for Clare when she landed three points without replay from 'The Glensiders'. Final score: Clare 1-8 Antrim 1-5.

### Second All-Ireland Junior for Cork

Cork collected their second All-Ireland junior championship title in three years with a one point win over a gallant Derry side in the curtain raiser to the senior decider at Croke. This was Derry's third All-Ireland junior final appearance and the third time to be defeated by Cork. Both recorded



Cork - National Camogie League winners



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decisive wins in their respective Provincial final and in the semi-finals Derry, national junior league holders defeated Connacht champions Roscommon 4-11 to 1-3 at Athleague while Cork had a 2-13 to 2-8 win over Offaly at Rath.

The sides had met in the junior league semi-final earlier in the year when Derry had a 3-8 to 1-10 victory.

In the final, Cork's Rachel Moloney's nine point tally destroyed the 'Oakleaf County'. The Courcy Rovers players fantastic display earned her the 'Player of the Match' award. This was a ding dong affair with the sides drawing level on five occasions in the opening half. A goal by Derry's captain Mary O'Kane on the 18th minute was cancelled out a minute later when Orla O'Sullivan raced through the Derry defence to lodge the ball in the net. At the end of the first half the sides were level at 1-5 each.

The second half was just 12 minutes old when Derry took a three point lead with a Paula McAtamney goal. Cork levelled again and as full time approached the Munster side were leading by two points when Martina Mulholland reduced the lead to one point. Time ran out and Cork claimed the trophy on a score of 1-13 to 2-9.

### Cork retain minor championship

Cork carved its name on the All-Ireland minor cup for the tenth time when they got the verdict over Galway by a



Derry - All-Ireland Junior Camogie finalists

whisker at Ardahan. Both counties have a great record in this grade. When they last met in the All-Ireland semi-final last year only one point separated them, Cork 0-13 Galway 1-9. In this year's semi-finals the Munster County had an 0-11 to 1-0 win over Derry while Galway recorded a 2-11 to 2-3 win over Leinster champions Kilkenny.

The final lived up to all expectations, with both sides producing plenty of speed and skill. Cork held the upperhand in the opening half with Emer Dillon and Jennifer O'Leary notching off some great points. A goal by Orla Curtin left the half time score Cork 0-8 Galway 1-2.

The second half continued to be an edge of the seat affair as Orla Curtin added two further goals for Galway which were matched by goals by Gemma O'Connor and Maria Watson. Cork kept their nose in front to gain a one point victory. Final score Cork 2-12 Galway 3-8.

### Granagh/Ballingarry secure 1998 club championship

Granagh/Ballingarry, Limerick secured its first All-Ireland club championship title when they defeated a gallant St Vincent's Dublin side at Ballingarry. This was the last final of 1998 and the last to be played with 12 players aside on the reduced pitch. On the path to this final they accounted for Cashel of Tipperary to take their third Munster title and Pearces of Galway in the All-Ireland semi-final, 2-11 to 2-4. St Vincents took their first Leinster title when they disposed of St. Lactain's, Kilkenny and recorded a 3-12 to 1-8 victory over Ulster champions Liamtroim/Fontenoy's, Down.

St Vincent's were slow to get off the mark and Granagh had eight points on the board before Denise O'Leary got St Vincent's first score, a point on the 16th minute. The killer blow came when Ida Quaid rattled the Vincent's net just before the break to give Granagh a cushion of 1-12 to 0-2. Granagh star Eileen O'Brien was responsible for seven points in the first half and a total of eleven in all.

The Leinster club came more to grips with the game in the second half with Denise O'Leary giving a star performance. Her goal on the 20th



Tipperary captain Meadhbh Stokes proudly displays the All-Ireland Senior Camogie Championship Cup



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minute reduced the deficit to nine points, despite getting the better of their opponents on the scoreboard in this half, the first half deficit was too great to overcome. Final score: Granagh 1-19 St Vincent's 1-8

### Cork take fifth successive senior league

Eleven teams took part in the senior league in two divisions with the two top teams qualifying for semi-finals slots. Galway and Down emerged from division one and Cork and Tipperary from division two.

In the semi-final Tipperary had a 3-14 to 3-7 win over Galway while Cork registered a 3-13 to 1-5 victory over Down.

In the final Cork confirmed their superiority when they secured their fifth National Senior League title on the trot with a massive 9-19 to 2-7 win over Tipperary at Semple Stadium, Thurles.

The home side proved no match for this rampant Cork team who gave an exhibition of speed, skill and determination. The match was over as a contest at half time when Cork led 5-13 to 0-3. Tipperary fought hard to the end and were rewarded with two consolation goals.

### First Junior league title for Derry

Derry secured its first ever National Junior League by defeating a gallant Wexford side at Gorey. It was both teams first appearance in a junior league final and also the first time for the counties to meet in a final at any grade.

21 teams took part in four zones with the two top teams from each zone qualifying for quarter-finals, where Cork, Wexford, Dublin or Derry advanced to the semi-finals.

Derry defeated Cork 3-8 to 1-10 while Wexford knocked out Dublin 2-15 to 2-12 after extra time. It was a thrilling final. The first half was very closely contested with Derry holding a slender one point lead at the break 1-3 to 0-5.

The Northern County got the better of the second half exchanges and sent home two more goals. This was a severe blow to the Slaneysiders who found Derry defence a stonewall.

Final score: Derry 3-7 Wexford 0-7

### 14th senior Gael Linn for Munster

The Gael Linn Inter-Provincial took place in St Anne's Bohernabreena and the four provinces came together for



Cork captain Helen Walsh raises aloft the All-Ireland Junior Camogie Championship Cup

the junior and senior competitions. The competition received a much needed boost this year when 'Schwarzkopf' agreed to sponsor 'A player of the Match' in both the senior and junior sections. The lucky player received a replica cup and her club a cheque for a substantial amount. Senior semi-finals: Connacht 1-13 Ulster 1-8; Munster 7-38 Leinster 0-4

Munster retained the Gael Linn Cup for the sixth year in succession when they fought off a strong challenge from Connacht who were solely represented by Galway in the final. The first half was very evenly contested with Vera Sheehan recording the only goal of the half for Munster to leave the sides level at the break 1-5 to 0-8.

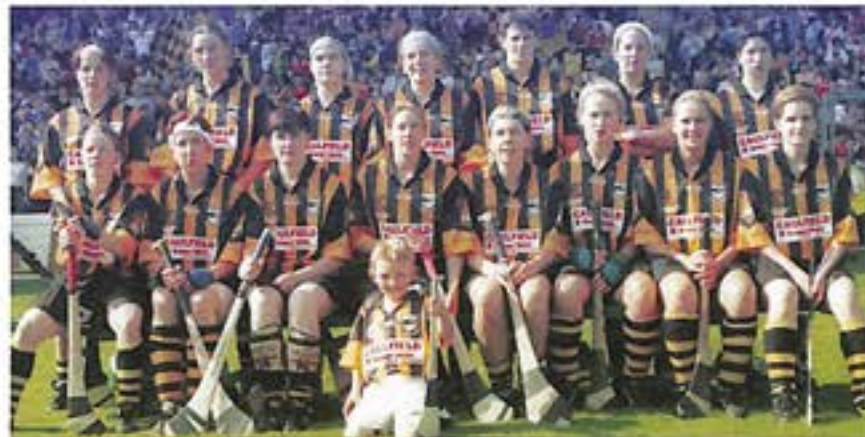
Munster got the upperhand in the early stages of the second half and dominated throughout. Connacht's goal came ten minutes from time from Aoife Lynskey's. Final score: Munster 1-18 Connacht 1-9

Schwarzkopf senior player of the match: Fiona O'Driscoll, Fr. O'Neill's Cork

### Leinster take Junior Gael Linn after a 13 year lapse

Semi-finals: Connacht 1-11 Ulster 1-7 Leinster 2-10, Munster 2-8

Leinster bridged a 13 year gap when they collected the Junior Gael Linn Shield by defeating Connacht 3-17 to 4-6 in the final. Leinster played with the wind advantage in the first half and led 2-12 to 0-1 at the break. In the second half Connacht came more into the game and



Kilkenny - All-Ireland Senior Camogie finalists



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despite goals by Doreen Kelly and Elaine Kearns, Leinster held onto a comfortable lead.

Schwarzkopf Junior Player of the Match: Lizzie Lyng, The Rover/Inistioge, Kilkenny

### Whirlpool Rest of Ireland Team v Bord na Gaeilge All-Ireland champions Tipperary

The Whirlpool Rest of Ireland side came out the better of this Challenge with Bord na Gaeilge All-Ireland Senior Champions Tipperary at O'Connor Park, Nenagh. A special feature of this event was the unlimited number of substitutions allowed during the course of the hour.

The rest were selected from the remaining senior counties. It was an exciting first half which saw the sides draw level on three occasions. The rest were ahead by two points at the break 2-5 to 1-6. The rest pulled ahead in the second half and claimed this first challenge on a score of 4-12 to 2-8.

#### Player of the Match

Marie Collins, Clare. Marie was presented with a beautiful piece of crystal by Phyllis Breslin, Uachtaran Cumann Camagiochta na nGael. The award was sponsored by 'Rocky's'.

#### Jubilee Team

For the first time ever a jubilee team was introduced to the crowd during the All-Ireland finals. The team chosen for this inaugural event was Kilkenny team of 1974. Sponsorship of the event was undertaken by 'Schwarzkopf'. The black and amber side that were honoured defeated Cork 3-3 to 1-5 after a re-play to take their first All-Ireland senior championship.

They were presented with a memento of the occasion at a special lunch in Croke Park

#### Feile na nGael

Feile na nGael was once again hosted by Wexford and was a most enjoyable weekend, 24 teams from all over the country were catered for.

Results: Div 1: Oulart the Ballagh, Wexford 2-3 Milford, Cork 0-0

Div 2: St Enda Ballyboden, Dublin 1-3 Harps, Laois 0-1

Div 3: Granagh/Ballingarry, Limerick 6-0 Oran, Roscommon 1-0

Div 4: Kiltegan, Wicklow 6-0 Slaughtneil, Derry 2-1

Individual Skills Star: Cathy Bowers, Galway

#### Pan Celtic

Pan Celtic Tournament was held in Tralee and was a huge success. It was divided into four categories, under 16A and B, Senior A and B

Results: Senior A: Bishopstown Cork 2-2 - Burgess Tipperary 0-3

Senior B: Courcy Rovers, Cork 2-8 St Finbarr's, Cork 1-3

Under 16 A: Milford, Cork 8-5 Kinvara, Galway 0-3

Under 16 B: Good Council, Dublin 2-0 Newcastle, Limerick 0-1

#### Camogie Roll of Honour for 1999

**Bord na Gaeilge All-Ireland Senior Championship:**

Tipperary 0-12 Kilkenny 1-8

**All-Ireland Intermediate Championship:**



Micheál O Muircheartaigh, Cathaoirleach Bord na Gaeilge, launching its sponsorship of the All-Ireland Senior Camogie Championship in Croke Park with Carmel Grey, Dublin, Mairin Nic Giolla Fhinnéin, Down, Sile Nic Coitir, Dublin, Marie Harkin, Tipperary, Claire McGrath, Down, Ruth Lyons, Dublin and Cathy Mulholland, Down

Clare 1-8 Antrim 1-3

**All-Ireland Junior Championship:**

Cork 1-13 Derry 2-9

**All-Ireland Minor Championship:**

Cork 2-12 Galway 3-8

**1998 Club Championship:**

Granagh/Ballingarry, Limerick 1-19 St Vincent's, Dublin 1-8

**National Senior League:**

Cork 9-19 Tipperary 2-7

**National Junior League:**

Derry 3-7 Wexford 0-7

**Senior Gael Linn:**

Munster 1-18 Connacht 1-9

**Junior Gael Linn:**

Leinster 3-17 Connacht 4-6

**Kilmacud All-Ireland Whirlpool Sevens:**

**Div 1:**

Pearse's, Galway 6-7 Shamrock's Galway 1-3

**Div 2:**

Drumcullen, Offaly 5-4 Myshall, Carlow 1-2

**Ashbourne Cup:**

Waterford IT 1-6 UCC 0-4

**Ashbourne Shield:**

UL 3-7 Athlone IT 1-2

**Purcell Cup:**

Limerick IT 0-8 Mary I 1-2

**Purcell Shield:**

St Mary's Belfast 0-6 St Patrick's Drumcondra 0-0

**All-Ireland Senior Colleges:**

St Mary's Charleville 3-10 Colaiste Bhríde, Enniscorthy 0-5

**All-Ireland Senior B Colleges:**

Sacred Heart, Clonakilty 3-13 Kilcormac VS 2-5

**All-Ireland Junior B Colleges:**

St Mary's Charleville 2-8 Seamount, Kinvara 0-6

**All-Ireland Junior B Colleges:**

Colaiste Mhuire Ennis 2-10, Loreto Mullingar 1-2

**All-Ireland 'Sevens':**

St Mary's Charleville 4-9 Mercy New Ross 5-3



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# Bord na Gaeilge's support of camogie

It is rare for a government body to become included in sports sponsorship, but Bord na Gaeilge have their reasons.

It is five years ago since Bord na Gaeilge first began its sponsorship of the All Ireland Camogie Championship. Not alone has this particular sponsorship being beneficial to the Bord, the Irish language most especially and to the sport of camogie, but it has also shown how important and beneficial it can be for those bodies promoting various aspects of our culture to support each other.

Sports sponsorship predominates all over the world. In the majority of cases though this is undertaken by commercial companies wishing to maximise the benefit of extensive media coverage, with examples such as the Guinness All Ireland Hurling Championship, The Hennessy Gold Cup, Bank of Ireland Football Championship, The Heineken Rugby European Cup, The Eircom FAI League prevalent. An increased awareness of their brand is what is most important to these companies, as they hope the repeated naming of their product will lead to an increase in sales. Though Bord na Gaeilge welcomes any increase in the awareness of it as a body generated by this deal, this is not its principle aim. As a state body the success of any particular sponsorship deal is judged primarily on how it helps to further our aim which is that of promoting Irish.

Irish people have always held their native language as with their native games in great regard and affection and today more and more people are realising that the Irish language emerged from the same treasure chest as did the

Riverdance spectacular, Gaelic Games, and so many other cultural events. Interest in the language has never been greater. This revived interest is evident in various aspects of everyday life in Ireland. Since 1972 the number of all Irish schools have increased from 16 to 154 today. This increased interest in Irish is also evident in the business sector where more and more companies such as Superquinn, The Body Shop, Top Garages, and Easons, are using bilingual signage. Perhaps this growth is best reflected however though in the rapid progress made by the Irish media of late. The potential for even greater success is endless and it is Bord na Gaeilge's belief, that undertaking in certain sponsorship arrangements can help achieve this.

It is vital as a sponsor when choosing a client one chooses carefully and ensures the client has the appropriate image and profile so that any publicity generated by the sponsorship will reach the target audience. Hence the sport of camogie in many ways represents the ideal choice for the Bord. As with an Ghaeilge the number of people involved with camogie is continually increasing, and those that are involved are predominantly young. The organisation presently boasts a playing membership of 70,467 and a total membership of 78,801, and runs competitions each year catering for all ages and levels. This year saw Down, a new competitor not alone enter the championship, but also succeed in reaching the semi-finals. Cumann Camogiochta na nGael also have a National coaching Development Programme up and running, with eight tutors



Mary McAleese wishes the best of luck to the All Ireland final referee



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and two trainee tutors travelling the width and breadth of the country teaching the various skills of the game. This new Development programme, will no doubt eventually lead to many new counties competing for the O'Duffy Cup. The emphasis Cumann Camogiochta na nGael have placed on the youth is well founded as it is the youth that always determine the future. Similarly the future of the Irish language is dependent on our young people and so it is the young people of Ireland Bord na Gaeilge primarily wish to target. It would be difficult to find another client that would represent the same youthful vibrant image, that of a growing force, that the Irish language should be associated with.

The sponsorship deal is regarded as an area of business life, which can and should be a win, win situation for both parties involved. The increased profile that camogie games have recently received is evidence of this. This year's All Ireland Senior Camogie Championship shown on the 5th of September this year received viewership figures of around 208,000, a large audience by any standards. Bord na



*The clash of the ash.....camogie style*

Gaeilge would like to believe that its sponsorship has helped to generate increased interest by both participants and media in the sport. The Bord's sponsorship of the All Ireland Camogie championship guarantees that young and old will come in direct contact with the language. They will also see the language being used at large public events, giving the language a higher profile, and consequently we hope encouraging them to use whatever Irish they may have.



*Competitive fare in the junior final*

There is no doubt that in this reign of the Celtic Tiger in Ireland the country is witnessing unprecedented economic success and that generally we are as a people enjoying a better standard of living. However cultural matters do not always flourish during such periods. It wasn't today or yesterday was it said "economists know the cost of everything but the value of nothing."

For that reason it is very important that during this vibrant tone those organisations promoting various aspects of our culture stand side by side and support each other, as is being done by Bord na Gaeilge and Cumann Camogiochta na hEireann. Since the Bord began its sponsorship of the senior camogie All-Ireland Championship five years ago the Irish language and the sport of camogie have both grown in strength.



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## Ballyhea capture their first honours

DURING the year many new clubs took honours at under age level and this is a huge step forward in any club's progression.

Ballyhea took the club's first trophy by capturing the Under 12 League.

Newcestown did likewise, winning the Under 16 'B' County Championship, with Carrigaline taking the Under 14 'B' honours.

Milford continue to be the most successful under age club in County Cork at present, taking the Under 14 'A' and 16 'A' championship titles.

They also took the Cork Feile na nGael title and represented the county at the National Finals, losing out in the 'A' final to Oolart from Wexford.

1999 was a great year also for Laura Noonan, who was victorious in the Cork Feile na nGael skills and also represented the county at National Feile.

## Title so easy for Courcey

WITH newly crowned junior champions Watergrasshill joining the ranks of senior 'B' there were ten clubs participating in the championship this season.

Again the fiercely contested opening rounds left us with Kilbrittan and Courcey Rovers to contest the final at Newcestown.

With the teams being local rivals, the build up to the game was exciting.

However, it failed to live up to the pre-match expectations, with Courcey taking the title at ease.

They now confidently join the ranks of senior A for the new millennium.

## Munster take title

MUNSTER recorded another famous victory in the senior inter-provincial camogie series.

Cork's Fiona O' Driscoll turned in top drawer performances and was named Player of the Tournament.

Fiona was honoured by Schwarkpoff and returned to Leeside with a £1,000 cheque for her club Fr O'Neills.

All camogie titles come to the province as Cork, Clare and



1999 All-Ireland Junior champions. Back: Jill Hannon, Aoife Murray, Karen O'Sullivan, Emer O'Sullivan, Sinéad Buckley, Elaine Burke, Orla O'Sullivan, Linda O'Connell. Middle row: Sheenagh Olden, Rosarie Holland, Ger Casey, Rachel Moloney, Muirenn Harrington, Helen Walsh (captain), Ciara Healy, Ruth Cahalan, Criona Harte. Front: Marie Corkery, Trisha Murphy, Caroline Giltinane, Cliona Meaney, Aine O'Regan, Ger Collins, Ellen O'Herlihy. Mascot: Aileen Corkery.

# Munster grabs

By MARY NEWMAN-McCARTHY



Lord Mayor of Cork Cllr Damien Wallace with Cork's minor captain Niamh Bowles and junior captain Helen Walsh at a celebration of the city's camogie double at City Hall.

THE past season has been a tremendously successful one for the camogie players of Cork, whose junior and minor teams brought Munster and All-Ireland titles to Leeside.

The Senior side, while not retaining their All-Ireland crown, did retain their National League and Munster titles, the U18 side rounding off the season with a thrilling victory in a nail-biting Munster final against Limerick.

Tipperary recorded their first Senior All-Ireland success, Clare took their third Intermediate All-Ireland title and Grenagh-Ballingarry made it a clean sweep for Munster sides in retaining their All-Ireland Club title, thus ensuring all the All-Ireland titles played for in 1999 found a home in Munster, a unique achievement for the province.

The big talking point on the camogie scene at the beginning of '99 was the 15-a-side which came into operation at the beginning of the season for a two-year trial period.

As we look back on the first year of the ex-

periment on the Inter County scene, the project seems to have been a reasonable success with the players adjusting well and enjoying the extra space on the playing field.

Adult camogie at club level also seems to have adjusted well but many clubs have experienced difficulties in fielding 15 players.

### Struggled

Under age players at club level have also struggled with the bigger pitch.

The experiment is due to continue in the year 2000 and on the feedback to date looks set to stay.

Once again Cork, were to the fore at Inter County level, taking two All-Ireland titles, four provincial titles and the Senior National League.

But the talking point has to be the disappointment at the senior team's defeat at the hands of Kilkenny in the All-Ireland semi final.

The year began on a high note for the Senior side. With a successful National League campaign behind them they

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## Limerick sides make a clean sweep of the All-Ireland honours



1999 All-Ireland Minor champions. Back: Orla McCarthy, Gemma O'Connor, Niamh McCarthy, Joan Twomey, Sinéad Corkery, Catriona Kelly, Jean O'Sullivan, Róisín Corcoran, Elizabeth Hayes, Aine Kelleher, Kathleen Healy (selector). Middle: Eimear Dillon, Kelly Newman, Karen McCarthy, Aoife Murray, Jennifer O'Leary, Joanne O'Callaghan, Clodagh Crowley, John Cronin (selector). Front: Christine O'Gorman, Marie Watson, Niamh Bowles (captain), Sarah O'Donovan, Collette Desmond, Samantha Quinn.

# the glory

## Cork take eight titles

FORTY five schools participated in an extremely successful year's activities at Munster Colleges level.

Eight titles came to Cork, two to Tipperary and one to Clare.

The senior A and B championships were won by St Mary's Charleville and Clonakilty respectively, who later went on to take the All-Ireland titles.

St Mary's made it a double taking the junior A crown and added the first year competition and the A sevens titles for good measure.

Cork's Presentation Ballyphehane,

took the junior B plate. Also making a welcome return to the victory rostrum were Loretto, Youghal who won the B Sevens event.

In the Sciath na Scoil competition final extra time failed to separate Scoil Oilibeir, Dublin Hill and St Patrick's, Gardiners Hill, with the title being shared.

The C2 title went to Brooklodge who defeated Middleton Convent. Watergrasshill and St. Catherine's did battle for C3 honours with the Hill girls coming out on top.

### MAGIC MOMENT OF 1999

WITHOUT doubt the display given by the Cork Minor team in this year's All-Ireland final will live in memory for a long time.

The commitment, skill and spirit shown that day by the Cork girls in taking the title was sheer magic.

## Bishopstown make it three in a row

IN THE Senior County Championship eight clubs and four divisional sides went into the hat for the Senior championship draw.

Newcomers Barryroe, promoted from Senior 'B', were tipped by many to be the dark horses of the championship.

Champions Bishopstown, strengthened by the inclusion of senior Inter county player Sinéad O'Callaghan and Melanie Treacy, were favourites to make it three in a row.

After some exciting opening rounds only Bishopstown, Fr O'Neills, Glen Rovers, and Cloughduv remained.

The first semi-final saw Bishopstown overcome Glen Rovers to qualify for the final. Fr O'Neills and Cloughduv fought out a thrilling contest with the experienced Fr O'Neills going through against a young but impressive Cloughduv side.

With the final a repeat of the previous two years close rivalry existed.

Starting well the champions were made work to retain their title and only a Ciara Healy goal separated the teams at the end. Aine White accepted the Science Cup to make it three in a row for Bishopstown.

### Hopes

Hopes were high that this was to be the year when a Munster and All-Ireland club title would return Leeside.

In their opening game the Cork champions over powered Waterford representatives Butlerstown, to set up a tilt with champions Grenagh/Ballingarry from Limerick. Totally in control the Cork side dominated proceedings but seemed to lose their concentration and despite leading by seven points with eight minutes remaining lost to Grenagh on a 4-10 to 2-8 scoreline.

Grenagh went on to retain their Munster crown with a win over Cashel and to crown a tremendous season retained their All-Ireland Club championship title at the hands of Davitts from Galway on only what could be described as an horrific day for camogie such were the appalling weather conditions that prevailed.

## Cork in under 18 Munster triumph

EVEN though the Under 18 championship only goes up to provincial level it is nevertheless a fiercely contested championship.

This season many expected Tipperary to be the team who would lift the Munster crown, given that the county had taken three Munster under 16 titles in 1995, 1996 and 1997.

Glen Rovers was the venue for Cork's meeting with the Tipperary girls and with Cork fielding six of their All-Ireland Senior winning panel, they travelled in confidence.

### Awesome

However, an awesome display saw Cork run out easy winners and book a Munster final tilt with Limerick.

The stylish Eileen O'Brien quickly put the Limerick girls in the driving seat and Cork looked to be in danger.

But vital positional changes saw Cork come into the game and record a well deserved victory after a fine hour's hurling.

With the local club camogie scene growing by the minute, the Cork County Board organises league and championship competitions for 53 clubs.

Break this down into the different grades from under 12 to senior level and it gives an outline of the vast amount of games which are played in the county throughout the season.

## Milford on the upgrade

MILFORD have made a major impact on the camogie scene since their formation a mere three years ago.

Crowned junior 'B' champions last season, they underlined their rapid rate of progress when lifting the junior 'A' championship at the first attempt.

### Progress

Ballygarvan did put in a tremendous hour in the final but the Milford ladies held the aces and now join the ranks of the senior 'B' clubs in the season ahead.

Carrigaline and Inniscarra are scheduled to meet in the junior 'B' championship final.

Both clubs are seeking their first success at this level.

faced Tipperary in the League final.

In a one-sided final, totally outplaying and out classing their opponents, Cork took the title and in the process set themselves up as raging favourites to retain their All-Ireland crown.

In hindsight, the National League final was probably the downfall of the side. Such was their winning margin that the pressure it brought with it was enormous.

The opening games of the Championship saw Wexford and Limerick provide little opposition and set up a semi final meeting with old rivals Kilkenny in Parnell Park.

With three minutes injury time played, Cork led by one point as Sinéad Millea stepped up to hit a Kilkenny free 50 metres out.

### Dreams

A replay was on everybody's minds but the ball ended up in the net and with it went Cork's title and dreams of three in a row.

Tipperary defeated Down in the second semi final and the rest is history as they went on to take the county's first All-Ireland Senior title, defeating Kilkenny in the final.

The championship draws for 2000 were made recently and it's ironic that the Cork Seniors have been pit-

ted against Kilkenny in the opening round. It's a unique pairing and one which will surely spur the Cork girls into action.

● Having experienced the disappointment of losing in '97 in the All-Ireland final and early in '98 in their Munster campaign, the Junior side were determined to take an All-Ireland title.

Knocking out the Munster champions, Tipperary, they took on Offaly in the semi-final.

The accuracy of Rachel Moloney from frees helped book a place at Croke Park and a final tilt with National League champions Derry, who earlier in the year defeated

Cork in the League semi-final.

In a class final Cork had to dig deep and again a superb team performance, ably led by captain Helen Walsh, ensured victory.

● 1999 was always going to be a tough one for the County Minor side, who began the year as title holders.

They retained their Munster title at the expense of Clare and in a repeat of the previous year's final Cork defeated Derry at the semi-final stage.

Cork then travelled to Galway and retained their title and made history, becoming the first team in any grade to take an All-Ireland title at 15-a-side.

CONTACT MARY NEWMAN-McCARTHY WITH ALL YOUR CAMOGIE NEWS, VIEWS AND RESULTS



# **ulster camogie** **The 1999 Camogie Year**

**15** a side has changed camogie? It has made players and administrators alike think about change. Some have concluded that it is not the ideal game despite the obvious advantages that it has in that the GAA field does not have to be altered in size, nor clubs provide a set of temporary posts. Others are determined that we cannot go back to 12-a-side when the 2 year experiment is complete.

## Option

Both arguments have a solid point and this is why 13-a-side looks like an obvious option. There is little doubt that the disappearance of the temporary posts has provided an improved visual impact for TV. The fitness



Captains of Camogie Teams that have brought All Ireland success to Ulster were honoured during the year.



It was a busy year for the Derry Camogie Team pictured here in Croke Park.

and strength of the top players has made 12-a-side very frustrating for them. The bigger pitch though (and bigger goals) has not resulted in the expected avalanche of scores. The reason is that teams have not yet learnt how to create and exploit space in the new pitch lay out.

That is why I believe 13-a-side on the full GAA pitch is the answer. Not only do the fitter and more skilful players have the space to perform, but the complaints about 15-a-side ruining small clubs will also be redundant.

There are bigger problems facing the Camogie Association four years away from its centenary but the change this year has resulted in 15-a-side being the main point of debate.



Ulster Club Champions 1999 - Liatroim Fontenoy's.

## Odd Results

On the field of play it is safe to say that 1999 threw up some very odd results. None greater than a first ever O'Duffy Cup success for Tipperary. Yes they have been knocking on the door after a lot of Minor success over the past decade. But how can you turn around an embarrassing 34 point defeat in the National League final in late May and win an All-Ireland with the same players?

Down played in the Senior championship for the first time in nearly two decades and their defeat of Dublin marked a first victory for an Ulster side at this level since Antrim went all the way in 1979. Their subsequent collapse



6. Left to right: Michael Daly, vice-chairman of the Ulster writers, Mary O'Kane, Camogie award winner, Joe McDonagh, Mickey Convery, "Referee of the year" and Mary McGonigle representing Bass.



against the future champions in the semi-final surprised everyone.

At Intermediate level, there have also been surprise results, culminating in both Antrim and Armagh making up one semi-final pairing. Antrim won and did fairly well in the final. However it is not unfair to say that the Saffrons' level of preparation can be improved and provided they have the hunger this championship is a realisable goal for 2000.

Derry did everything this year but win the Junior All-Ireland. While this was a sore disappointment for everyone, now is the time to reflect on the achievement of a first ever National Junior League title in May and the defeat of Down in the Ulster Senior final in October. The latter in particular should provide the inspiration for Croke Park glory and more next season.

### Mixture

The club championships threw up the usual mixture of the old

At under age and colleges' level, Derry have continued their domination but there is still no breakthrough at All-Ireland level although the introduction of a Minor B championship may throw up a change.

### Dominant

St. Patrick's Maghera consolidated their claim as the most dominant camogie school of the past decade and a half with a clean sweep of the provincial titles including a seventh title at both Senior and Junior level.

At Third level, UUJ still look the strongest Ulster side in the Ashbourne Cup but neither they nor Queen's look the genuine contenders both were in the early nineties. St. Mary's, Belfast are the hosts of the Purcell Cup in February and they must have high hopes of landing the trophy albeit that it is now very definitely second rate to the Ashbourne.

At representative level, Down's Máirín McAleenan and Nuala

at many levels, much more could have been achieved. Lack of ability is not hindering the progress of our teams.

No it is a lack of ambition by some and a lack of dedication by others and both translate into a lack of confidence against players driven by both.

The new Millennium should be a time of reflection, a time to set

new goals for everyone. Teams at every level in other provinces will set their All-Ireland goals. Ulster teams should be doing the same. Individual players must be single minded in their pursuit of success.

If they are, then the next decade will be brighter than the last and, who knows, some team may even reach the Promised Land, where Antrim once dwelt. ☺

## CAMOGIE SCOREBOARD

### All-Ireland Senior Championship Final

Tipperary 0-12 Kilkenny 1-8

### All-Ireland Intermediate Championship Final

Clare 1-8 Antrim 1-3

**Antrim Team:** Ciara McKinley, Clare Maguire, Brenda McNeill, Sinéad McMullan, Maureen Duffin, Hannah Healey, Ciara Nelson, Gráinne Connolly, Ciara McGinley, Jane Adams, Anne McKee (capt), Elaine Woods, Oonagh Elliott, Carla Doherty, Kerri O'Neill. **Subs Used:** Denise O'Boyle for C Maguire, Maureen Barry for K O'Neill, Róisín Duffin for C Nelson. **Scorers:** Oonagh Elliott 1-0, Anne McKee 0-3.

### All-Ireland Junior Championship Final

Cork 1-13 Derry 2-9

**Derry Team:** Aileen Crilly, Claire Scullin, Gráinne Maguire, Paula McKenna, Kathy McDonald, Siobhán Convery, Claire Doherty, Martina Mulholland, Anna O'Loughlin, Shauna McCaul, Aileen Tohill, Paula McAtamney, Claire McNicholl, Mary O'Kane, Karen Rafferty. **Subs Used:** Sinéad Stevenson for K McDonald, Aileen O'Kane for C McNicholl. **Scorers:** Mary O'Kane 1-2, Paula McAtamney 1-1, Martina Mulholland 0-2, Shauna McCaul 0-1, Aileen Tohill 0-1, Karen Rafferty 0-1, Claire McNicholl 0-1.

### National Senior League Final

Cork 9-19 Tipperary 2-7

### National Junior League Final

Derry 3-7 Wexford 0-7

**Derry Team:** Aileen Crilly, Claire Scullin, Gráinne Maguire, Paula McKenna, Claire Doherty, Siobhán Convery, Kathy McDonald, Martina Mulholland, Anna O'Loughlin, Shauna McCaul, Mary O'Kane, Aileen O'Kane, Claire McNicholl, Aileen Tohill, Karen Rafferty. **Subs Used:** Bernie Agnew for A O'Loughlin, Catherine Pickering for M Mulholland. **Scorers:** Aileen Tohill 1-2, Karen Rafferty 1-1, Claire McNicholl 1-0, Mary O'Kane 0-3, Shauna McCaul 0-1.

### All-Ireland Minor Championship Final

Cork 3-14 Galway 3-12

### Ulster Senior Championship Final

Derry 2-9 Down 0-6

**Derry Team:** Aileen Crilly, Claire Doherty, Gráinne Maguire, Siobhán Convery, Kathy

McDonald, Paula McKenna, Claire Scullin, Róisín McCloskey, Anna O'Loughlin, Shauna McCaul, Aileen Tohill, Martina Mulholland, Claire McNicholl, Mary O'Kane, Aileen O'Kane. **Subs Used:** None. **Scorers:** Martina Mulholland 2-4, Claire McNicholl 0-3, Shauna McCaul 0-2.

### Maguire Cup

### Ulster Senior League Final

Down 2-13 Derry 1-4

**Down Team:** Teresa McGowan, Deirdre Savage, Donna Greenan, Pauline Green, Majella Murray, Edel Mson, Brenda Gallagher, Jennifer Braniff, Joan Henderson, Valerie Hynds, Máirín McAleenan, Bridgeen Coulter, Siobhán Savage, Angeline Fearon, Michelle Murphy. **Subs Used:** Claire McGrath for M Murphy, Cathy Mulholland for S Savage, Kitty Fagan for A Fearon. **Scorers:** Máirín McAleenan 1-9, Michelle Murphy 1-0, Valerie Hynds 0-3, Edel Mason 0-1.

### Ulster Junior Championship Final

Derry 6-15 Tyrone 1-7

### Ulster U-18 Championship Final

Derry 3-7 Antrim 2-1

### Ulster Minor Championship Final

Derry 2-8 Antrim 3-2

### Ulster Minor League Final

Derry 2-7 Down 1-7

### Ulster U-14 Championship Final

Antrim 3-8 Down 1-2

### Ulster Club Final

Liatroim 2-9 Crosserlough 3-2

### All-Ireland Club Final

Granagh/Ballingarry 2-4 Davitts 1-3

### Ashbourne Cup Final

Waterford I.T. 1-6 U.C.C. 0-4

### Corn Uí Phuirséil

Comórtas Ard-Oideachais

### Limerick I.T. 0-8 Mary Immaculate, Limerick 1-2

### 1999 Purcell Shield Final

St. Mary's Belfast 0-6

### St. Patrick's, Drumcondra 0-4

### All-Ireland Colleges' Senior A Championship Final

St. Mary's Charleville 3-10

### Coláiste Bhríde, Enniscorthy 0-5

### All-Ireland Colleges' Senior B Championship Final

Sacred Heart, Clonakilty 3-13

### Kilcormack Voc. Sch. 2-5

### All-Ireland Colleges' Junior A Championship Final

St. Mary's Charleville beat

### Seamount, Kinvara

### All-Ireland Colleges' Junior B Championship Final

Coláiste Mhuire, Ennis beat

### Loreto, Mullingar



Ulster Club Runners Up 1999 - Crosserlough.

reliables and the surprise packets. Last year's finalists Liatroim Fontenoy's and Dunloy returned as county champions and their meeting predictably decided the title race. The Antrim champions were short 4 of the side which ran up 5-15 to clean out neighbours Loughgiel in the Antrim final. It proved too great an obstacle and Liatroim went on to beat Crosserlough of Cavan in the final and collect a fourth title in 5 seasons and set a new record of appearing in 6 successive provincial finals.

Elsewhere the fall of Eglis was completed this season when they failed to take the Tyrone title for the first time in 26 years. Clonoe defeated them in the semi final and Ardboe then caught Clonoe in the final. That certainly opens up the championship for the future.

In Armagh, there was a repeat of last year's final and a repeat result. However if Crossmaglen had taken their chances they would have gone through to Ulster. There was no indication though that Ballymacnab had improved so much from last year to hand out a drubbing to Ardboe in the Ulster quarter-final.

Neither was there an indication that Crosserlough could win through in Cavan and subsequently overrun both Castleblayney and Ballymacnab.

Magee both proved their talent in the first Rest of Ireland versus All-Ireland champions challenge in November. They and others similarly dedicated have the ability to take on and defeat the best but everyone on the team, be it at college, university, club, minor or intercounty level, must also believe that teams from the so called stronger provinces can be beaten.

The success of Queen's and UUJ in the early nineties proved that Ulster could compete at the top and this translated into the Junior and Intermediate success that we deserved after the barren eighties. Down, Armagh and Antrim lifted both Junior Leagues and championships. Then Down and Armagh went on to win the Intermediate. Armagh even contested the National Senior League final.

### Breakthrough

Sadly the breakthrough which should have been made in the mid nineties at Senior interprovincial level never came. Ulster lost several Gael Linn finals including one with Munster which went to extra time. We did not lose out here because our players were inferior to others. Rather some of our best refused to turn out for their province and for that drawn game with Munster for example there were no substitutes.

While Ulster sides have succeeded during the past decade



Bridlín Uí Mhaolagáin (President, Irish Ladies Handball Council) presents the Belfast Crystal Bowl to Ladies Open winner Fiona McKenna (Antrim).



DEC. 1999

# **ulster camogie**

## **Máirín McAleenan**

**of Liatroim Fontenoys, Down, Ulster and (most recently) the Rest of Ireland**

Máirín McAleenan has been one of the most skilful and consistent camogie players in the country since she made her debut for the Down senior side at the age of 15. Her prolific scoring has been a huge factor in both the successes of her club Liatroim Fontenoys and Down during the past decade. She has played nearly all her inter-county camogie at centre-forward. Last month she was selected at corner-forward on the first ever Rest of Ireland side to play the All-Ireland champions. Her team defeated Tipperary by 4-12 to 2-8 and Máirín scored two cracking goals. Ulster Gaelic caught up with her as she finally winds down after yet another long and successful season.

**Full Name**  
Máirín Patricia McAleenan

**Date of Birth**  
22th May 1971

**Occupation**  
Múinteoir Gaelscoile in Bunscoil an Iúir

**Club**  
Liatroim Fontenoys

**Married or Single?**  
Single

**What car do you drive?**  
Peugeot 205

**Favourite Drink?**  
I very seldom drink alcohol

**Favourite Food?**  
Chicken in white wine sauce

**Favourite Film?**  
Braveheart

**Favourite Sports Programme?**  
Ard San Aer and Spórtiris on TG4

**First Camogie Memory?**  
Shiela McCartan giving me a club jersey to stand on the field during a club Senior Reserve game because some players had not turned up. I was 8 or 9.

**First team played for?**  
Liatroim Fontenoys U-12's

**Where did you go to school?**  
Legananny P.S. (now closed), Assumption Grammar, Ballinahinch, University of Ulster Coleraine and St. Mary's College.

**Any qualifications?**  
B.A. Hons in Irish, PGCE

**Did you enjoy your school days?**  
It was OK - except that there was no camogie team.

**Greatest moment in camogie?**  
A few - the 1991 All-Ireland Junior semi-final and final, 1998 Ulster Club Final



Máirín McAleenan - Ulster Camogie Player of the Year 1998.

**Biggest disappointment in camogie?**

Too many - failure to reach an All-Ireland club final is the greatest though.

**Ambitions?**

To reach an All-Ireland club final and an All-Ireland Senior final.

**Favourite GAA venue?**  
Croke Park

**Best players of your era?**  
Sinéad Millea, Fiona O'Driscoll, Pamela Nevin

**Best team-mates?**  
Anyone who is committed to the team and really wants to play to their optimum potential. I have played with a lot like that.

**Best ever sports person?**

Carl Lewis, Mickey Linden (for his ability and modesty) and DJ Carey (for his pure skill)

**Toughest Opponent?**

It could be anyone on a particular day. I respect all opponents.

**Other sports enjoyed playing or watching?**

I like watching hurling at any decent level, and also Down football.

**Where was your last holiday?**

Two days in Kilkenny 3 years ago (don't have time during school holidays)

**Have you a lucky number?**  
It used to be 10 but now in 15-a-side it would be 11.

**Who would be your ideal date?**

A hurler who is also good craic, agus Gaeilge aige.

**Is there any way that the game of camogie could be improved?**

Women's sports in general and camogie in particular, need a higher media profile. It is the biggest participation sport for women in Ireland but you would not believe that from the media profile. Camogie also needs better skills' coaching from the very start.

**Any advice for our young readers?**

Be committed to training and to your team. Practise your skills until you can't do them wrong. Always be disciplined in your approach and in your play. Accept both victory and defeat with dignity.



Máirín McAleenan has been one of the most skilful and consistent camogie players in the country since she made her debut for the Down senior side at the age of 15.







Senior Camogie Championship and League Winners 1999 . . . Back row (l-r) Dermot Hughes (Vice-Chairperson, Camogie Committee), Tomás Ó Reachtabhra (mentor), Anne McNamara (mentor), Niamh Smith, Helena Byrne, Gráinne Ní Chorcórdáin, Darrelle Dolan, Róisín Kenney, Joan McNamara, Fiona Ní Chorcórdáin, Niamh Regan, Máirín Uí Reachtabhra (mentor), Iris Kirwan (First Aid), Martina Ring (Secretary, Camogie Committee). Middle row (l-r) Fergus Reid (team sponsor Ferguson TV and Video), Tommy O'Brien (Club Registrar), Pat Nash (Club Treasurer), Ciara Blair, Gemma Browne, Fiona Hughes, Maeve Gaynor, Ciara Conway, Siobhán O'Dwyer, Orla Smith, Sinead McNeela, Tríona Ní Reachtabhra, Conor Doolan (Club Secretary), Danny Griffin (Club Sponsorship Manager). Front row (l-r) Valerie Small, Síle Nic Coitir, Sarah Dowling, Eimear Ring, Gerry O'Sullivan (Club Vice-Chairman), Donal Regan (Chairperson, Camogie Committee), Irene Kirwan (team captain), John Kirwan (Club Chairman), Daithí Scollard (Club President), Gráinne McNeela, Sorcha Farrelly, Sarah Crosbie.

## BALLYBODEN ST. ENDAS



All-Ireland Féile na nGael Division II Camogie Champions . . . Back row (l. to r.): Jim Cremin (mentor), Carmel Cremin, Ciara Lucey, Róisín Barrett, Aisling Hayes, Avril Brady, Aoife Scallan, Ciara McDermott, Eilis Smith, Grace Fee, Julie Hogan, Joanne Cummins, Siobhán Moriarty, Mona O'Sullivan (mentor), Anne Scallan (mentor). Front: (l. to r.): Sinead Treacy, Kathryn Corrigan, Sarah Pope, Fiona O'Sullivan, Mary Hyland, Jennifer Sinnott, Aoife Tobin, Zoe Feenan, Ciara Dolan, Emma Seery, Sinead Clarke, Jill Seery.

## Áth Cliath Camogie – A Year of Many Changes

By MÁIRE UÍ SCOLÁI

**T**he largest female sporting organisation in the country certainly made an impact in '99, a year that saw the game go to a fullsize pitch with 15-a-side, and some wonderful matches with it.

'99 was possibly a year that many people intended to mark in some significant way, and indeed Cumann Camógaíochta nGael made their impact too.

Down through the years, many people often spoke about the "small goalposts and smaller field - why can the girls not use the big field just like the men"! Well '99 was the year that changed all that. Gone were the days of marking out smaller pitches, fetching smaller posts. Instead we have three more players getting their places on club teams, three more lucky players getting medals.



At the announcement of this year's Schwaartzkopf's sponsorship of the Gael-Linn Interprovincial Championship were Sile Nic Coitir on the left, and her sister Siobhán with her young son Cúan who made his Páirc and Chrócaigh debut.



A proud moment for Naomh Mearnóg U-15 victorious Championship captain Derbhla Crowe, with her Mum, and selectors (l. to r.) Paddy Walsh and Donnie Power.



Áth Cliath Féile na nGael skill's representative Sarah Ferguson from the O'Tooles club.



Three of the best, Clodagh Bolger, Jean Murphy, and Sinead Kinnane who played on this year's Áth Cliath U-14 team from Skerries Harps.

Next year will be the crucial year for the 15-a-side when a vote will have to be taken at Congress to retain it. We need to look at this in a practical way. In my opinion it is the way forward, especially for inter county. Some clubs may initially have found it difficult to field 15 players, but think of it as a challenge to find three more players at least. Sometimes we need to push ourselves and this is one of those occasions.

### PARNELL PARK

This year through the introduction of the 15-a-side we were in a position to play our Senior County Final in Páirc Pharnell without any hardship, and likewise Scoil Uí Chonaill, Innis-falls to name but a few. With the possibility of a merger with Cumann Lúthchleas Gael looking stronger each day this type of co-operation is very important. Coiste Camógaíochta Áth Cliath thank Cumann Lúthchleas Gael Áth Cliath most sincerely for all the co-operation we receive during the year from them. As the saying goes, "Ar scáth a chéile a mhaireann na daoine".

### TOM MONAGHAN

Another major change for the better was the appointment of Tom Monaghan from County Armagh as Manager of the Áth Cliath senior team.

This was a first for Áth Cliath to go outside of the County and it is a trend that is growing in Camogie.

The appointment was some weeks before Áth Cliath's first Bord na Gaeilge Championship match v An Dún. It was heartening to see so many young girls wanting to play for Áth Cliath this year. Training took place on a Friday night, and again on a Saturday morning at 7.30 a.m.

Many a time I went through the Phoenix Park early in the morning on my way to some county, but I never dreamt that one day I would see the Dublin seniors training there at that hour. The peace of the place, with a few deer, squirrel running across the field as Tom put the girls through their paces was something I will remember from summer '99.

Although the girls trained hard, they were beaten by An Dún. That day

DEC

1999



DEC.  
1999



Action from this year's Cumann na nBanscol Finals, Páirc an Chorrcaigh.



Ag urraíocht Craobhchomórtas na Síneair '99 i bPáirc an Chorrcaigh bhí Micheal Ó Muircheartaigh, Cathaoirleach Bhórd na Gaeilge, Síle Nic Coitir, agus a hathair Don, iar Chathaoirleach Cumann Lúthchleas Gael Áth Cliath.

**ROLE OF HONOUR '99**

- Senior "A" Championship: - Ballyboden St. Endas
- Senior "A" League: - Ballyboden St. Endas.
- Senior "B" Championship: - Naomh Mearnóg.
- Senior "B" League: -
- Intermediate Championship: - Naomh Bríd.
- Junior "A" Championship: - St. Peregrines.
- Junior "A" League: -
- Junior "B" Championship: - Ranehy.
- Junior "B" League: -
- U16 Championship: -
- U16 League: -
- U15 Championship: - Naomh Mearnóg.
- U15 League: - Ballyboden St. Endas.
- U14 Championship: - Ballyboden St. Endas.
- U14 League: - Ballyboden St. Endas
- U13 Championship: - St. Johns
- U13 League: -
- U12 Championship: Ballyboden St. Endas.
- U12 League:
- U11 Championship: St Vincents.
- U11 League, South: - Ballyboden St. Endas.



St. Peregrine's Captain Sharon Hilliard celebrates with team mates following her side's win over Liffey Gaels in the Junior "A" championship final. They are watched by Jim Carroll, Cathaoirleach, Coiste Cómógaíochta Áth Cliath.

they realised the work they had to do to reach their ultimate goal of an All-Ireland title. They possibly turned a new leaf that day, even though beaten, had a new era just begun? I think so.

The road did not end there as Manager Tom wanted to turn "a disadvantage into an advantage" and was already thinking towards next year, so were the girls. They know the long

Billy Maloney and Gerry Quinn got to the semi-final of the National Junior League, only to be beaten by Loch Gar-



The smile that says it all - yes girls we have it! So says Ballyboden St. Endas Senior captain Irene Kirwan when they won the Senior "A" Championship for the first time.



U-14 Championship Final; L to R Ballyboden, St. Endas captain Ciara Lucey; Referee Christine Priest, Cuala; and Niamh Taylor, Naomh Mearnóg Captain.

hard road ahead, but they know they can reap an award in the near future.

**JUNIOR**

Our Junior side under Crumlin duo

man in extra time. Likewise they met Loch Garman in the championship and were beaten in a replay. A talented bunch of players, many of whom have now graduated to the seniors and are well capable of it.

Our under-18's, Minors and under-14's had mixed fortunes. Early season training is essential for any team, in terms of team building and morale. This is something we need to think about much more in the future, when



The two gentlemen! (L. to r.) St. Vincent's former Senior Camogie Manager, Ben Dorney in good company with "Evening Herald" journalist Niall Scully.

elected as mentors, we do not need to wait for someone else to tell us when 'to start', to get a team motivated one needs to start early.

**GAEL-LINN TRIUMPH**

This was a significant year for the Gael-Linn Tournament, (the Inter provincial Tournament) with Schwarzkopf Profession IRL. coming on board with major sponsorship. It was also the first time in 13 years that Leinster won the Junior title and with it was a historic note for two Dublin



St. Vincent's Senior "B" defeated captain Emer Dunne gets a helping hand from her 4 year old niece Louise.

Clubs; Raheny who had Lisa Ryan on the panel and Good Counsel had Eve Talbot. It was the first time for both clubs to have representations on the Gael-Linn team. For the Leinster senior side, that day was one to be forgotten, when they were outclassed by Munster. Improvement has to be in this sector, the players must have pride in playing for their Province.

**REST OF IRELAND TEAM V TIPPERARY**

Again, this was another milestone in the history of Cumann Camógaíochta na nGael when in November down in Semple Stadium the newly crowned All-Ireland Champions Tiobraid Árann took on the 'rest'. Of course the



Children from Thomas Davis get ready for the Indoor Naomh Bríd Tournament.





Na Fianna players who represented Dublin Senior Camogie team in National League v Antrim, 24th April 1999. Back Row: Ann-Marie Gray, Veronica Trehy, Mary McKeon, Rachel Kelly. Front Row: Carmel Gray, Roisín Kelly, Colette Murphy, Tara Duane.



EXHIBITION - 14 Cumann na mBunscol girls gave a camogie exhibition during the All-Ireland Camogie final in Croke Park. They are pictured with Teacher Clare Harrington.



The new supremo - Dublin Senior Camogie Manager Tom Monaghan.

Dubs were represented! Tom Monaghan was their Manager, while Irene Kirwan (Ballyboden St. Endas) and Germaine Noonan (St. Vincents) were the Dubs on this historic team. Whirlpool IRL. LTD. are the sponsors of this very prestigious event.

'99 was the year when one All-Ireland title did come to Áth Cliath, with Ballyboden St. Endas winning Féile na nGael Division 2. This was a particularly proud moment for Uachtarán Fileas Ní Bhreasláin, herself a Dub, as it was the only opportunity she had during her reign to present an Áth Cliath team with an All-Ireland award. The night of their return to the Firhouse Road will stay in my mind for some time.



Marie Uí Scoláin, Uachtarán Caidreamh Poiblí Coiste Camógaíochta Áth Cliath.

#### MEDIA IMPACT

The live television coverage of our games in the recent past has made a huge impact on the game. Suddenly, our game is available to a much wider audience, and a lot more people are made aware of our game. Local radio has also increased big time. This is an area in which I have huge interest and it has given me a lot of enjoyment. It has also meant a huge amount of work, and work that must be done to tight deadlines, radio like television



Loreto High Beaufort, Senior Dublin Colleges Championship winner '99.

works like clock work.

To the following radio stations, I am most grateful:

CKR with Clem Ryan, even though he gave me a hard time sometimes, but sure I was always able for him! I think!

Cumann Camógaíochta na nGael. Go maire tu cead Clem. Anna Livia with Mick Hanley, Jim Clune. The regular Wednesday night slot is always of interest to us Dubs. Over the years, Mick has interviewed many people



Áth Cliath Senior Team '99. Back row: L-R Rachel Kelly, Louise O'Hara, Eimear Brannigan, Veronica Trehy, Denise O'Leary, Cathy Walsh, Gillian McCluskey, Sonya Byrne, Germaine Noonan, captain and Anne McCluskey. Middle row: L-R Ruth Luons, Sarah Crosbie, Eve Talbot, Ann Marie Gray, Catherine Boyle, Irene Kirwan, Carmel Gray, Denise Fox, Sile Nic Cúitir. Front row: L-R Eimear Ring, Catherine Reaney, Lorraine Roche, and Collette Murphy.

The coverage that was afforded to me as County PRO and Camogie correspondent was next to nothing. The best tribute that I can pay to Clem is the amount of people who come to me during the year from various sectors and say "I heard you on CKR", the important thing to me was not my voice but the coverage afforded to

from around the clubs and long may it continue. Near FM with Declan Maher. Declan and I chatted several times on the radio. The funniest or most difficult was this year, when one Saturday we were on our way to sunny Wexford with our under-14 team. The team bus was picking me up in Cabinteely and it was arranged that Manager Peter



The day, doggy - came to celebrate! A group of Ballyboden players with mentor Ann McNamara in happy mood following their historic Championship win.

DEC

1999



DUBLIN





The Hawaii-Five-O gang from Naomh Mearnóg who represented Ath Cliath on this year's U-14 team. Sarah Neville, Lisa Cahill, Fionnuala Rooney, Andrea Fitzpatrick and Niamh Taylor.

Lucey would do a piece with Declan. However, the bus was not coming. I saw the time of the arranged interview drawing close, here I am standing on a noisy dual carriageway and yes you guessed it — my phone went off! I just went ahead and did the interview there and then, and of course when the bus did arrive and Peter Lucey smiling, knowing that I had taken him out of a situation! Such are memories of a PRO!

INN with Gerry O'Sullivan have afforded Cumann Camógaíochta na nGael a huge amount of coverage in the past season. This works both ways, I supply the information and the radio crew do the rest. Many interviews were



Ath Cliath U-14 squad looking smart before this year's Leinster semi-final.

held during the year and the reaction from around the country to this has been great, none more so perhaps than young Eimer Dillon of Corcaigh, the Belleek player of the match. She had just won the All-Ireland Minor title against An Ghaillimh. I gave Gerry the result from a rather dismal Ardahan, and immediately he asked me for an interviewee, we picked the right girl, not knowing at this stage that she would be the recipient of the Belleek award, she was thrilled to be asked. This interview showed me the huge impact of local radio when the next day I had people ringing me at home from Cork complimenting us on it, such was the impact in Cork. It might have only been a short interview, but it certainly made the headlines! Well done Gerry and INN.

TV3 with Trevor Welch have afforded

me and Camogie good coverage during the season prior to the National League Final, the Press night involving the announcement of Schwarzkopf Professional IRL sponsorship of this year's Gael-Linn and of course this year's All-Ireland Bord na Gaeilge Final preview. 98FM and 104FM continue to give the results out, and how about the cheer that went up on the team bus, when the result went out the day the seniors beat Offaly in the Leinster senior Championship semi-final. I am sure Manager Tom Monaghan would agree that we would all like to hear more of those cheers! So come on girls! During the past year I was on Clare FM, Northwest Radio and RTÉ radio.

The live television coverage given by RTÉ, the coverage on sports programmes and the general coverage given this year has done so much to heighten an awareness of our game.

The publication of "Camogie Abú" last year was another mile stone in the history of the Association, it was some 20 years since the publication of an annual. The task of bringing one out fell to three Dubs — Máire Ní Cheallaigh, Ráth Éanna, Donal Ó Murchu, Croimghlinn, and mé féin (Cuala). The same team will bring a bigger and better one out this year. So all Camogie folk and non-Camogie, don't forget to purchase a copy. You could find yourself mentioned in it!

To the print media, many thanks for all the coverage afforded to me as Áth Cliath PRO over the last number of years. I know, I hounded you people at times, but I now say a big THANK YOU.

While other people sit back on a Sunday night, I am busy getting the reports ready for the next day, all of which must be faxed to the papers for the following morning. Papers, as some of us know, have tight deadlines and these must be met, if they are not met the journalist will not ring you. They are too busy on a Sunday night or Monday morning, and instead the space can be allotted to another sport. For the last six years, I have worked with the following papers:

Evening Herald; Star; Echo; Final In- sol team in Croke Park, 1998, with teacher Brendan Grey.

ten or eight teams in this division. A number of these girls have developed their skills to the extent that they contributed strongly to the Senior B team this year.

#### SENIOR B:

The Harps took the brave step of entering their first adult camogie team straight into the senior B grade. Fielding a mixture of experienced players and the first girls to come

through the juvenile section the team have finished third in this year's league. On their way they took some notable scalps and the progress made under Denis Murphy has raised the expectation levels for this team.

In developing the game in the town the Harps club have further increased their involvement in the local community and the breadth of their membership base. Many townspeople who,



St. Marks with friends from Scotland who took part in a compromise Shinty/Camogie match during this year's Kilmacud Crokes Seven's.



The 1999 Dublin Minor Camogie panel who were defeated by Kilkenny 3-3 to 2-2 in the Leinster Semi-Final in Ballyhale. Back (L to R) Pat Duncan (Team Manager), Susan Heaney (Thos. Davis), Suzanne Waine (N. Jude), Brona Maher (N. Jude), Karen Blood (Good Counsel), Sarah Jordan (O. Plunketts), Ashling Kennedy (Good C.), Joanne King (N. Mearnóg), Siobhán Bernard (N. Mearnóg), Sarah Reaney (Erins Isle), Ciara Burgess (Raheny), Elaine O'Meara (O'Tooles), Grainne Madden, Capt. (N. Mearnóg), Aoife Hayes (K. Crokes), Linda Byrne (Good C.), Cathy Walsh (Coach). Front (L to R) Jacinta Purcell (St. Annes), Claire Mangan (N. Jude), Orla Kennedy (N. Mearnóg), Ciara Duffy (N. Mearnóg), Leanne Noble (O. Plunketts), Elizabeth McGuinness (Good C.), Shona Inukey (Good C.), Elaine Duncan (N. Peregrine), Rhona Quirke (St. Vincents), Eimear McFadden (O'Tooles), Geraldine Mangan (Selector).

The under-11s, ably coached by Lucy Halpin and Dave Fenton performed in Division Two North. These girls, all graduates of the nursery and summer camps, improved throughout the season and it is hoped will progress to the first division like their predecessors.

#### UNDER-13:

This team has been strengthened by the inclusion of a number of girls from the local St. Patrick's senior primary school team. Guided by Moya O'Leary, one of the founding members of the camogie section and playing in the first division they have performed very well and currently lie fifth of nine teams in this strong division.

#### UNDER-14:

Another team which has benefited from the primary school efforts they have been very close to breaking the Ballyboden St. Endas / Naomh Mearnóg stranglehold at this level. Under Cathy Fay's guidance there are great hopes for this team in the coming years.

#### UNDER-15:

A most enthusiastic group of players at this level have progressed over the years. Last years beaten Féile Division Two finalists they competed in the First Division this year. At the time of going to press they are lying



Skerries Harps Under-14 Féile finalists 1998 with mentor Denis Murphy

DEC

1999

## ES HARPS

# is bring sweet seaside life



JAN. 2000

## School camogie final a cracker

IT'S been a busy season for the Cork colleges camogie since the schools returned for business in early September.

Thirty schools all eager for honours at the various levels of competition were organised under the championship of James Hurley from St Aloysius, ably assisted by Coachford's Rob Lotty as secretary and Glen Rovers Trisha Murphy, who acts as treasurer.

Having organised and played 33 games already-to-date, many of the competitions are at the concluding stages and this shows just how well-organised both the committee and the participating schools are in keeping to their schedule.

The Senior A final is sure to attract a lot of interest with Charleville, last season's All-Ireland Post Primary Senior A winners, taking on last year's All-Ireland Senior B Post Primary champions Clonakilty.

Both sides will have lost the services of many of their big named stars.

But the seemingly endless flow of talent onstream at both schools ensures us that coaches Vincie Harrington, Charleville and his near neighbour and fellow parishioner Liam Nash, who coaches Clonakilty, will be anxiously working to ensure just who is top of the class.

The Senior B final has Coachford qualified to meet either Christ the King or St Aidan's, en route to the final.

Coachford recorded victories over Loretto Fermoy, Kinsale and Loretto Youghal.

It's a busy time for the Coachford school whose Intermediate team are also through to a final meeting with St Fanahan's, Mitchelstown.

Colaiste Eoin Youghal, continuing to make steady progress, will meet Dunmanway in the Intermediate B final. En route, the Youghal girls had a fine semi-final win over Scoil Gan Smal Blarney.

The junior A competition is at semi-finals stage with Charleville facing a tough hour against Bandon, who field a strong side.

Clonakilty will be hoping to spoil the party for Coachford, who are aiming to reach their third final being already through to the senior B and intermediate deciders.

The four sides are evenly matched. Predicting finalists is impossible — such has been the closeness to date of the sides.

The Junior B grade had sixteen teams entered but the side to watch here has been St Aloysius. They recorded fine wins over Bandon.

St Aidan's are tipped to go the whole way and take ultimate honours.

## O'Leary emerges as star of show with brilliant hat-trick



Some of the members of the Inniscarra County Junior B team that defeated Carrigaline in the county final.

# Inniscarra juniors scale the heights

Inniscarra  
Carrigaline 0-4

4-3

## Magic Moments

**INNISCARRA'S** Junior B team made it a very merry Christmas when they won the club's first ever championship in the grade, defeating Carrigaline in an entertaining contest.

Despite the appalling weather conditions the Rathpeacon pitch was in superb condition and a credit to the host club.

An early goal from Catherine O'Leary three minutes into the contest settled the Mid Cork girls and, playing with supreme confidence, they dominated the opening exchanges.

Evelyn Moynihan pointed a free to stretch the lead after nine minutes.

### Dominate

Clodagh Fitzgerald opened the Carrigaline account with a well taken point but Inniscarra continued to dictate and, enjoying ample possession, led 2-1 to 0-1 at the interval, the second goal coming from Catherine O'Leary after goalkeeper Rose Harrington had saved the initial shot.

A determined rally from Carrigaline saw them dominate the opening quarter of the second half.

Three points from Niamh Murphy, Emma Green and Clodagh Fitzgerald cut the deficit, but they were unable to prise open a resolu-

ute Inniscarra rearguard for the all important goal.

Inniscarra, with Margaret O'Sullivan at centre-field working tirelessly, and Evelyn Moynihan always dangerous up front, upped the tempo to regain control.

Breaking downfield they were rewarded with a gem of a goal when Catherine O'Leary first timed to the net with a magnificent ground stroke.

Now back in control, Inniscarra again pushed forward and a Teresa McCarthy goal with five minutes remaining, quickly followed by a pointed Evelyn Moynihan free, saw the title on its way to Mid Cork.

For Inniscarra, Catherine O'Leary, with three goals, Treasa McCarthy and Margaret O'Sullivan were superb while Carrigaline's Niamh Murphy, Emma



Sheila Golden, county chairperson, presents the county trophy to Inniscarra captain Geraldine Keohane.

Greene and Clodagh Fitzgerald tried hard but could not match the Inniscarra side's determination.

For county chairperson Sheila Golden the presentation of the trophy to Inniscarra captain Ger Keohane was special as Sheila herself is a member of the Inniscarra Club.

### Inniscarra

E O'Keefe, R McCarthy, C O'Leary, G Murphy, A O'Sullivan, M O'Connell, A O'Mahony, M O'Sullivan, E O'Sullivan, G O'Mahony, E

Moynihan, C Hogan, C O'Leary, B O'Regan, T McCarthy.

Subs M Lynch for C Hogan, M Hegarty for G O'Mahony and G Keohane for B O'Regan.

### Carrigaline

R Harrington, C O'Mahony, S Cooney-Deasy, A Cooney, M Scully, J Fogarty, M Brogan, C Fitzgerald, J O'Keefe, E Greene, N Murphy, S Harrington, M Conlon, S O'Connell and J O'Keefe.

Ref: D Daly (Sarsfields).

## Blitz plans for Cobh

THE junior C colleges camogie competition will not be held until early February and this year a one day blitz is planned.

The event will be held in Cobh where Colaiste An Phiarsaigh, Cobh, Coachford, Colaiste Eoin and Glanmire will participate.

Carrignavar and Clonakilty come head to head in the first semi-final of the Second Year A Championship whilst the second semi will have Coachford and Charleville clashing.

In the Second Year B semi-finals Glanmire and Colaiste Choilm have qualified, but are awaiting the winners from the Macroom/Kinsale and St Ais/Blarney clashes to see who will be their opponents.

A firm date has not been announced for the senior B and intermediate finals which are scheduled to take place in Blarney a date will be announced after the Cork colleges fixture meeting on January 20.



# Shamrocks' county triumph recalled

1949 was a period of great historical interest. On Easter Monday of that year Ireland declared itself a Republic.

It was the golden jubilee of the Pioneer Total Abstinence Association and Glen Rovers and Collins won the county senior hurling and football championships respectively.

## Local

On the local scene it is also remembered in a very special way due to the feat of Shamrocks camogie club.

Shamrocks scaled the heights by winning the junior county championship, overcoming Cobh in the decider.

The team was trained by one of Shamrock's all-time greats Geor-

gie Andrews and team members were the Harding sisters, Hannah, Kathleen and Noreen, Mary Hayes, Pauline Nugent, Norrie Dunne, Nell Braley, Minnie Jeffords, all now deceased, Ettie Hayes, Maureen O'Sullivan, Dolly Crowley, Pat Livesey, Kathleen Farrell, Marie Murphy and Faye Kind.

The Shamrock club recently organised a special commemoration ceremony on the 50th anniversary of the event.

A Mass was held in the Shanbally Church followed by a luncheon in the Monkstown Golf Club.

Following the meal, presentations of Irish cut glass were made by the club's senior lady vice-president Mrs. Peig McCarthy.



Mrs. Peig McCarthy presents a piece of Irish crystal to Maureen O'Sullivan at the Shamrock camogie team commemoration ceremony.



## PLAYER PROFILE NOELLE KENNEDY

NAME: Noelle Kennedy

DATE OF BIRTH: 28-12-75

HEIGHT: 5'7"

WEIGHT: 9 1/2 stone

CLUB: Toomevara

COUNTY: Tipperary

HONOURS: 6 senior county club, 1 Munster club, 1 junior and 1 senior colleges All-Ireland, 1 junior, 1 senior and 1 intermediate All-Ireland, 2 senior Gael Linn

TOUGHEST OPPONENT: Denise Cronin (Cork)

FAVOURITE GROUNDS: Semple Stadium

HOBBIES: Working out in gym, soccer

FAVOURITE POSITION: Centre field

THE WORST PLAYER TO TRAIN THAT YOU KNOW: Ciara Gaynor

MOST EMBARRASSING MOMENT ON OR OFF THE FOOTBALL FIELD: Interview with RTE

FAVOURITE PLAYERS: Deirdre Hughes, DJ Carey

INFLUENCES ON YOUR CAREER: Parents and Catherine Byrne (Offaly)

THE HIGH POINT OF YOUR CAREER TO DATE:

Getting player of the match and winning the All-Ireland intermediate final 1997; winning the All-Ireland senior title last September

BIGGEST DISAPPOINTMENT: Losing the All-Ireland senior semi-final to Galway in 1998

OTHER PLAYERS WITH A PROMISING FUTURE:

Una O'Dwyer (Cashel), Elaine Dermody (Offaly), Emer McDonnell (Burgess), Carina Carroll (Offaly)

WAYS OF IMPROVING THE GAME:

Get more parents involved in camogie

DISLIKES ABOUT THE GAA: Don't reward players for the amount of effort and time they put into the sport

RELATIVES INVOLVED IN GAELIC GAMES:

Brothers play for Toomevara

PERSON YOU WOULD MOST LIKE TO MEET:

Ger Loughnane (not)

FAVOURITE PERSONAL SAYING OR TERM OF ABUSE:

'Put your two hands on the hurl and pull'

FAVOURITE MUSIC: Pop music

FAVOURITE FILM: Notting Hill

WHAT WOULD YOU DO IF YOU WON THE LOTTO?:

Travel the world

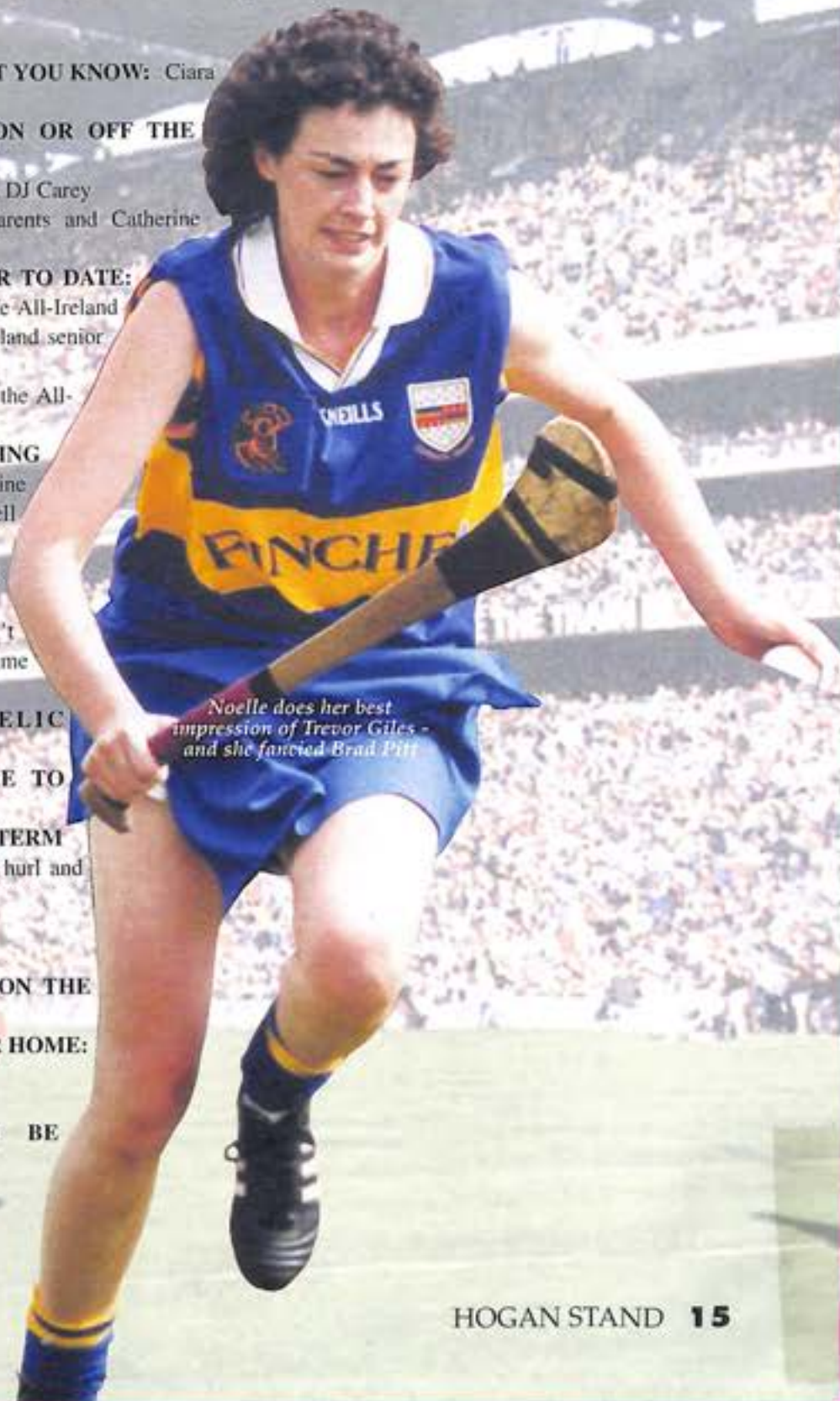
PERSON LEAST WELCOME AT YOUR HOME:

TV license inspector

IDEAL DATE: Brad Pitt

HOW WOULD YOU LIKE TO BE REMEMBERED:

A sporting player



Noelle does her best impression of Trevor Giles - and she fancied Brad Pitt

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# Milford camogie teams celebrate their best year yet at victory social

MILFORD Camogie Club celebrated their most successful year to date, at a victory social, marking their successes over the past year. It was held in Collins' Lounge in the village before Christmas.

The club which is only in existence since 1997, has certainly had a major impact in Cork camogie circles, and in the past year has won the U16 B Cork Co final of 1998, when they beat Kilbrittain in the final played in January 1999. In April, Milford won the All-Ireland Pan Celtic U16A final in Tralee when they beat Shannon, Templemore and Kinvarra.

They also took the 1998 junior and U16 Co leagues the finals of which were not played until May of 1999.

In the 1999 season they won the Cork Co Feile Na nGael competition, defeating Na Piarraigh, St Finbarrs, Fr O'Neills, Douglas and Carrigaline in the county final.

They unsuccessfully competed in the All-Ireland final against Wexford representatives, Oulart The Ballagh, after defeating Templemore of Tipperary and Kinvarra of Galway on the path to the final.

The Milford U14 team won the Cork Co A championship, when they beat Inniscarra in the final, however the latter side had a measure of consolation, when the two clubs met in the U12 decider with victory going to Inniscarra after a cracking match.

Players from the club helped the Cork U16 camogie team to win the first ever 15 a-side All-Ireland final, when

they beat Galway. The Milford players involved were Christine O'Gorman and Maria Watson and the team was captained by Newtownshandrum's Niamh Bowles who also had her team mate Aine Kelliher on the side.

Milford also won the Co final of the Junior A League competition, beating Sarsfield in the final, the Junior A championship when they beat Ballygarvan in the final and the U16 Co championship by defeating Aghabullogue.

Yet another Milford player, Noelle O'Riordan was a member of the Cork under 18 panel, which won the Munster title in that category and club Secretary Leila Long played on the Cork Intermediate team.

Addressing the attendance, Ms Ann Watson, the club chairperson, congratulated all the girls for the huge effort they had put into their preparation for the games at all levels over the past year. Their dedication was rewarded with tremendous success on the field of play, and she congratulated each team on their wonderful achievements.

Ms Watson also thanked all the people who had worked very hard in many ways to help the girls to achieve their many victories, the many sponsors who had given the club financial and other support during the past year.

Ms Sheila Golden, Chairperson of the Cork Camogie Board, congratulated the club on a fantastic year, and wished them continued



Members of the Cork Under 16 All-Ireland winning camogie team who received their trophies from Sheila Gallen (right) at the Milford club's victory social recently. From left; Christine O'Gorman (Milford), Aine Kelliher (Newtownshandrum) and Maria Watson (Milford).

## Michael McGrath's Charleville

success in the future. She then presented the medals to the members of the various teams, to loud applause from the packed attendance.

Four members of the club, Deirdre O'Reilly, Sinead O'Reilly, Ann Marie O'Reilly, Carmel O'Reilly and Regina Curtin also lined out with Rockchapel ladies football team, which won the All-Ireland

inter-club championship.

The club chairperson is Anne Watson, while the honorary Secretary is Leila Long. The joint treasurers are Sarah Broderick and Breda Fitzgibbon, the PRO is Ellis Roche, while the delegate to the Co Camogie Board is Clare Donegan. The evening came to a close with a very enjoyable social.



Four of the Milford camogie club who figured on Rockchapel's All-Ireland winning football team during last year. From left; Deirdre O'Reilly, Sinead O'Reilly, Carmel O'Reilly and Regina Curtin.

As Cork minor captain Niamh Bowles awaits for the cup, our little lady with arms folded wonders what all the fuss is about.





JAN. 2000

## Sports scheme reaps reward

IN order to support students who wish to continue their sporting careers while in third level education, Cork Institute of Technology last year introduced its sports bursary award scheme.

The scheme is a timely boost and reflects CIT's determination in the pursuit of excellence through the medium of sport.

The year gone by was no exception as again a very successful year on the playing fields was rewarded with 44 students at 20 clubs within the college receiving bursaries for their sporting endeavours.

Camogie was well represented and among the recipients were Kibrittain's Emer O'Sullivan and St Finbarr's Orla O'Sullivan.

Also on the night four Comhairle na Mumhan scholarships were awarded and here again camogie was to the fore with Paula O'Connor from Newtownshandrum one of the proud recipients.

CIT Camogie team has gone from strength to strength over the last two seasons.

The side are top of the Southern Division league. The club has a very strong foundation on which to build and are fortunate to have as coach Cork senior player Miriam Deasy.

### Student

Deasy is a member of the sports staff at the college and having been a former student at CIT, Miriam is well versed in the competitions and the organising of the college camogie team.

Also a member of the CIT line-out this season is former Cork senior player Paula Goggins from the Inniscarra club who has returned to her studies, her experience is invaluable to the young CIT side who will be hoping to go on to take major honours this season.

The recipients of the bursaries and Munster Council sponsorship, Emer O'Sullivan, Paula O'Connor and Orla O'Sullivan need no introduction to camogie followers.

Paula O'Connor, a member of the Newtownshandrum club is already an established member of the Cork Senior Team. Coming onto the Senior panel in 1998, she won Munster and Senior National League honours before coming on in the All-Ireland Senior Final versus Galway where she won her first All-Ireland medal.

A sister of Inter County hurler Ben O'Connor, Paula is a first year student at CIT where she is presently studying in the recreation and leisure course.

Paula is also the holder of Munster U-16 and 18 honours and Munster Interpro honours.

## Teams praised for dedication and commitment to the sport



Cork captains Sinead Buckley (with Munster U-18 Cup), Naoimh Bowles (minor U-16 and All-Ireland U-16 Cup), vice-captain Muirrean Harrington (All-Ireland Junior Cup) at the Cork Camogie team's victory dinner. Included are PRO Mary Newman-McCarthy, chairperson Marion McCarthy, secretary Pat Murray, registrar Kay Dunne and chairperson Sheila Golden.

Picture: Richard Mills

# Minor and junior champs celebrate

**C**ORK celebrated a very successful year where the county took minor and junior All-Ireland titles and also added Munster honour at U-18 level.

At a reception at Castle Hotel, Blarney chairperson Sheila Golden congratulated the teams.

Earlier in the year, the senior team held celebrations after winning the National league and Munster title but on Wednesday last, the minor and junior sides were guests of honour as they celebrated the All-Ireland double.

Rose Molone, representing the Munster Council at the function, praised Cork on a tremendously successful season.

Mrs Malone also spoke highly of the County Board officers and the tremendous work being done for camogie nationwide.

Missing out on the night was Junior captain Helen Walsh, due to illness, but vice-captain Muirrean Harrington led the junior side and was the recipient of a presentation as was the minor captain Niamh Bowles and U-18 captain Sinead Buckley.

The winning teams were presented with their Munster and All-Ireland medals. The selectors also received mementoes from the County Board.

● Last year's All-Ireland senior B champions, Sacred Heart Clonakilty, have been promoted to sen-

## MAGIC MOMENTS

32. PRESENT Lord Mayor Damien Wallace is son of former camogie player Ethel Sutton and nephew of former Cork and Glen star 'keeper Deirdre Sutton.

for A grade this season. It's the first time the West Cork girls have participated at this grade and hopes are high of continuing on the success of last season.

The side is already through to the Cork Colleges A final where they will meet St Mary's Charleville.

However the main focus of attention within the Clonakilty camp is the Munster final on February 5 where they meet St Mary's Nenagh.

It's a huge game for the Clon school who go in as underdogs to a star-studded Nenagh side.

Sacred Heart, having lost three of last year's side, including Ger Collins and Ger Casey are under no illusions as to the task ahead.

In the Munster Senior B final also pencilled in for February 5, Coachford Community College



Noreen Quinn, Courcey Rovers, and Maura Holland, Barryroe, get snap happy at the Cork camogie victory dinner.

will take on St Patrick's Comprehensive.

It's a busy few weeks for St Patrick's Shannon who will also contest the junior A Munster final. Here they take on Munster and All-Ireland champions, St Mary's Charleville.

Two years ago the Shannon first year side were an outstanding outfit and are now coming through. However, the Charleville line-out will include Cork and Limerick inter-county

players, Marie Watson, Aoife Sheehan, Aisling O'Brien and Emer Watson. The final is pencilled in for February 12.

In the junior B Munster final, St Joseph's, Borrisoleigh, are through to their first Munster championship final following victories over neighbours Borrisokane Community, St Joseph's Tulla, Scoil Pol and Mercy Waterford. In the final they will meet either Presentation Ballyphehane or St Patrick's Cork.



JAN. 2000

## Three players shine in every grade

IN TAKING the recent Junior B championship, the Inniscarra club were making it a first in the club's history.

Already the Intermediate Junior A and Senior B titles had come the way of the renowned Mid Cork club based in Ballyanley.

Following on the recent success, three players from the club completed a unique set of championship medals as all three have had the distinction of playing in every grade of championship that the club has ever won.

Margaret O'Sullivan, Evelyn Moynihan and Catherine O'Leary were all members of the Inniscarra team that took Under 14 County honours back in 1991.

Little did the three think that as the decade drew to its conclusion, they would end up having played on every team that was to take honour for the club.

1991 was also the year that the club took the Cork Féile na nGael title for the first time and represented the county at National Féile.

In 1992 and 1993, the Under 16 county title was captured and in 1992 the Junior A county title also rested in the Mid Cork club.

On being promoted to the Intermediate grade, the three girls quickly made their mark winning that title in 1994.

Again just two years after promotion, the club had another big victory taking the Senior 'B' title in 1996 when they defeated Kilbrittain in the final.

Now playing in the Senior A grade, the club is a well established one.

This season the club senior team were minus the services of some of the senior players who were out of the country in America during the summer college break.

On return these girls were eligible to play with the club's Junior B team and as a result played their part in the county championship victory and in the process picked up a unique collection of championship medals for their collection giving them each seven county championship medals all won in different grades.

On the Inter county front, the three have also represented Cork winning two Munster Under 18 championship medals in 1995 and 1996.

A unique collection which the three hope to add to as they continue their careers in the blue and white gear of Inniscarra.

## Presentation turn on style to set up Munster final showdown



Paula O'Connor receives a Munster Council scholarship from Donnie Nealon at the CIT sports bursaries/scholarships presentation.



Emer O'Sullivan receives a CIT bursary from guest of honour Jimmy Barry-Murphy at the CIT sports bursaries/scholarships evening.

# Ballyphehane are in cruise control

Presentation Ballyphehane 3-8  
St Patrick's Cork 0-1

**P**RESENTATION Ballyphehane booked their place in the Munster final of the Junior B Post Primary Championship following a comprehensive victory over St Patrick's Gardiners Hill last Wednesday.

Played in inclement weather at the Tank Field, the Ballyphehane girls opened the scoring with points from Jenny Coughlan and Gemma O'Connor.

### Opportunist

Though playing against the wind, Ballyphehane continued to hold the upper hand throughout the opening half and two opportunist goals from full forward Donna Banks gave them a 2-4 to 0-1 interval lead.

Presentation continued where they let off after the re-start and, with the centrefield combination of Valerie Maher, Jennie Coughlan and Niamh Drummond well on top, the St Patrick's rearguard was forced to work overtime.

Captain Kelly Newman led by example and was ably assisted by Catherine McCarthy and Maria Monaghan.

Denise Tobin and Lynsey O'Donovan battled in vain

## MAGIC MOMENTS

No. 33: ANN-MARIE LANDERS, sister of the victorious Cork senior hurling captain Mark Landers, won an All-Ireland junior medal with Cork in 1983.

She also won All-Ireland minor honours in 1978 and '79 and All-Ireland club championship honours with Killeagh in 1980.

for the St. Patrick's girls, but were unable to curtail the opposition who took their chances well and added a further 1-4 to their tally.

The Ballyphehane girls Tipperary side St Joseph's in the Munster decider.

Recent recipients of the CIT bursaries, Emer and Orla O'Sullivan, need no introduction to camogie followers.

Emer O'Sullivan, from the Kilbrittain club, is a third year student in Chemical Engineering at CIT was a member of the Cork senior panel that took All-Ireland honours in 1996.

A serious knee injury pre-



Inniscarra trio Margaret O'Sullivan, Evelyn Moynihan and Catherine O'Leary.

vented Emer from playing at the start of last year but, displaying true fighting spirit, she was part of the junior panel that took All-Ireland honours over Derry in Croke Park.

### Honours

Emer also lined out with Kilbrittain in the County senior B final against the Courcy Rovers.

She is also the holder of Intermediate, Under 18 and

16 honours at inter-county level.

Orla O'Sullivan is an emerging talent. She joined St Finbarr's from Ballygarvan three years ago and has quickly established herself as part of the club's senior team.

A second year Business Studies student, Orla played a vital role in Cork's Junior All-Ireland success, scoring a great first half goal in Croke Park.

## Inter county camogie draws

THE Intercounty Championship draws for 2000 are:

● All-Ireland Senior Championship: (A) Down v Tipperary; (B) Limerick v Galway; (C) Kilkenny v Cork; (D) Down or Tipperary v Clare; (E) Wexford v Dublin.

Semi-Finals: Kilkenny or Cork v Wexford or Dublin; Down, Tipperary or Clare v Limerick or Galway.

● All-Ireland Intermediate Championship: (A) Antrim A bye; (B) Armagh v Down; (C) Limerick v Galway; (D) Cork v Wexford or Dublin.

Semi-Finals: Limerick or Galway v Antrim; Armagh or Down v Cork, Wexford or Dublin.

● All-Ireland Junior Championship: (A) London v Munster Champions.

Semi-Finals: Leinster v London or Munster Champions; Connacht v Ulster Champions.

● All-Ireland Minor (A) Championship: Leinster v Munster Champions; Ulster v Connacht Champions.



CAMOGIE

# TIPP TOPS

in roller-coaster season

By Mary Moran

**W**hat an amazing season we've had. An All Ireland senior championship title for Tipperary, the new 15 a-side game, Cork's dramatic loss of form, the breakthrough of WIT in the Ashbourne Cup, the rise of Offaly, the clean sweep by Munster schools at post primary level - these were just some of the main talking points in the camogie year that was 1999.

Away from the playing fields, the Development Plan produced thought provoking ideas

and Sheila McAuliffe was honoured with the Life Presidency of the Camogie Association.

But what a roller coaster season it was for the Tipperary seniors. Beaten out of sight in the league final in June by a Cork side that seemed unbeatable they lined out at McDoragh Park in Nenagh in November as All Ireland champions in a challenge against a Rest of Ireland selection.

It is always a special occasion when a county wins a senior All Ireland for the first time. The fact that seven Tipperary sides tasted defeat at the final hurdle in the past made it all the more memorable a victory for the present squad.

The Premier County has certainly ended the century in a complete blaze of glory. A decade ago, no All Ireland championship cup carried the name of Tipperary. Now, as we turn into a new millennium, the full range of trophies - minor, junior, intermediate and senior - have all been inscribed with the name of the Munster county.

Tipp set out on the championship trail with a 12-point win over neighbours Clare. The value of a free-taking expert was clear to all as Noelle Kennedy notched 1-11 from placed balls. Down did not possess the level of skill to pose a serious threat to them in the semi-final.



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It was an all round performance that clinched victory in Croke Park. Kilkenny have always been outstanding championship contenders. While their attack may not be as lethal as it was in the days of Angela Downey, it was obvious from the throw-in that the Cats would contest every ball as if their lives depended on it.

It was the Tipperary rearguard that provided the platform for victory. Suzanne Kelly had an excellent game, while Ciara Gaynor, Sinead Nealon, Maeve Stokes, Claire Madden and Una O'Dwyer relieved pressure time and time again.

Ange McDermott had a huge game in midfield. Noelle Kennedy knocked over six points to cancel a Liz Lyng goal and some early points from Kilkenny captain Sinead Miley. Deirdre Hughes showed her undoubted class with three points from play, while Cathriona Hennessy came on in the dying moments and under extreme pressure, struck two match-winning points from close-in frees.

This is a very young Tipperary side that will benefit considerably from this victory. Talented players like Eimear McDonnell, Emily Hayden, Una O'Dwyer, Ciara Gaynor, Ange McDermott and Therese Brophy have yet to reach their peak. Clearly, this is a team that will be around well into the next cen-

tury. A young Cork junior team drew attention to themselves with a splendid display against Tipperary in the Munster Final. Rachel Moloney struck superb points to leave Cork ahead of a brave Offaly team in the All Ireland semi-final. There was only a puck of a ball between Cork and Derry in the All Ireland decider.

The northerners got the better of their southern rivals in this grade in 1969 and 1978, but Cork pulled one back on this occasion. The majority of this Cork side are under 18 and several of them will move up to join the senior squad.

Niamh Bowles captained the Cork minors in their bid to retain the minor crown. When Tipperary fell unexpectedly to Limerick in the opening round, it left Cork with a free run in Munster. A very committed Derry 15 saw to it that there was no repeat of last season's one-sided contest, but even still, it ended in a win for the Cork girls.

Galway have turned out excellent minor sides in the past decade and this year's crop was well up to standard. The All Ireland final was a marvellous exhibition of all that is good in camogie. Just a single point sep-

DERRY'S MARY O'KANE GETS TO THE BALL AHEAD OF CORK'S ROSARIE HOLLAND



arated the sides at the finish, Cork just about holding on to the cup. Emer Dillon, Cathriona Kelly, Joanne O'Callaghan, Sinead Corkery, Aoife Murry (whose brother Kevin picked up a senior hurling medal) and Christine O'Gorman were instrumental in the victory.

Clare made it a clean sweep for Munster when they won the intermediate championship. A storming final quarter against Antrim at Dunloy earned a famous victory for the Banner County. Marie Collins, Moira McMahon, Sinead Daly, Sinead McMahon and Sylvia O'Brien impressed for Clare and they must be greatly encouraged by Tipperary's win in the senior grade.

#### Ashbourne Cup

Many walked away from the 1998 Ashbourne Cup believing that the better team came off the field empty handed. WIT prepared meticulously for this season's event. Highly impressive displays by Sinead Nealon, Bridget

Mullally, Kate Kelly and Esme Murphy reversed last year's result against arch rivals UCC. The Sheehan sisters from All Ireland Club champions Granagh-Ballingarry were instrumental in bringing the Purcell Cup to LIT.

After Cork made the early running in the season, their players were joined by Deirdre Hughes, Moira McMahon, Vera Sheehan, Claire Madden and Noelle Kennedy to win the Gael Linn Senior Interprovincial Cup for Munster.

Fiona O'Driscoll (Cork) won the Schwarzkopf Player of the Tournament and collected £1,000 for her club Fr O'Neills. Antrim's Jane Adams picked the equivalent award when Ulster claimed the junior trophy.

Camogie players and fans will have another season to evaluate the 15 a-side game. The live coverage of the All Ireland senior final has resulted in increased attendances and greater publicity. A committee is working on the suggestions outlined in the development plan. The next few years are like to see many changes both on and off the field leading to a more vibrant and expansive association.

LIZZIE LYNG AND UNA O'DWYER IN ACTION





# Courceys celebrate victories

Appropriately the year 2000 in Courceys parish, sportwise, has commenced with the celebration of the county wins in Camogie and GAA for 1999. This all happened last weekend at the Courcey Rovers GAA and Camogie dinner held at the Munster Arms Hotel, Bandon on Saturday. Patsy Downing, joint chairperson Courcey Rovers Camogie Club, very eloquently directed the presentation of the county senior 'B' medals, the county U 16 league and championship medals at the dinner. Patsy welcomed the guests such as Chairperson of Cork Co. Camogie, Sheila Golden and her husband Tommy, Public Relations Officer of Cork Co. Camogie, Mary Newman-McCarthy and her husband, Finbarr; chairperson of South East Camogie Clubs, Mary Hurley and her husband, John, the captains of the two All-Ireland winning teams in Helen Walsh, Cork, junior captain and Niamh Bowles, Cork minor captain. Patsy then outlined the success of Courcey Rovers Camogie Club for 1999. The club got off to a great start, winning the U 16 championship of '98, then winning the senior 'B'

camogie Pan Celtic International Festival in Tralee in April. The club has the honour of being the first camogie team in South East Cork to play in senior 'A'. Patsy said the club looks forward to the new challenges. She said the club was fortunate to have very good trainers and selectors, determination and a little bit of luck. She went on to congratulate all the players who held onto the belief that they would win the championship. She said trainer Raymond Moloney had a sense of pride, unity of purpose and always believed they could do it. She thanked the selectors, especially Hilary Calvert. She thanked club secretary Ann Marie Nolan who represented the club at County Board as well as vice-chairperson, Bridie Murphy. County chairperson, Sheila Golden thanked Courcey Rovers GAA and Camogie for the kind invitation. She said Courcey Rovers were worthy winners of the county senior 'B' championship and that it was great to see the club with players on the Cork panels, namely Rachel Moloney, Sarah Hayes, Aine O'Regan and Samantha Quinn. She said all these play-

ers have a bright future ahead of them and that their skill is unquestionable. In spite of Cork seniors being narrowly beaten by Kilkenny, they still had a great year, having won the national league and Munster. Sheila paid tribute on the night to Mary Newman for her work and dedication. Mary Newman addressed the huge gathering in thanking the club for the invitation and also their co-operation during the year with results, etc. She said that Courcey Rovers will be a marvellous asset to the grade. She complimented John Quinn on his re-election to the Cork minor selection panel. Captain of the senior 'B' team, Carol Hannon, was presented with her county medal by Sheila Golden who duly presented all the players with their medals while Patsy Downing gave the audience a very complimentary insight into each player. Mary Newman then proceeded to present the U 16 championship and league medals.

## HONOURED

Hilary Calvert was honoured for her extreme dedication to the club over the four years as club chairperson. Helen Walsh

and Niamh Bowles were honoured as were the Cork players of Courcey Rovers in Sarah Hayes, Rachel Moloney, Aine O'Regan and Samantha Quinn. Raymond Moloney, selector, complimented the players on their unselfish play. The Tommy Cahalane Perpetual Shield was then presented to Aine O'Regan who was chosen as Player of the Year. Tommy's wife, Margaret, presented the shield.

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## COURCEY ROVERS CELEBRATE AT DINNER



Carol Hanna, captain Senior B team seen holding the Pan Celtic Shield and Cork County Senior B Camogie trophies pictured with Jennifer Murphy, captain under 16 camogie team who won the under 16 League trophy and the under 16 Championship pictured at the recent Courcey Rovers GAA Dinner in the Munster Arms Hotel in Bandon



Noreen Quinn, Tom Golden and Sheila Golden, chairperson, Cork County Camogie Board, pictured at the Courcey Rovers GAA dinner in the Munster Arms Hotel in Bandon.

## CAMOGIE VICTORY



Marion O'Donovan and Noelle Collins pictured with the Cork County under 16 camogie trophy at the recent Courcey Rovers GAA dinner in the Munster Arms Hotel in Bandon.



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# Counties

look back at the year gone by

**PJ Fulham looks at camogie activities in Offaly, Cork, Wicklow and Louth**

**O**ffaly Camogie Board held a very successful Convention recently. Secretary, Molly Guinan in her report states that 1999 was a memorable and historic year for the Faithful County.

The county junior team claimed the Leinster crown after a 36-year-gap. Early in the season they reached the quarter-final of the National junior league where they made their exit to Cork.

In the championship campaign they accounted for Meath and National League finalists Wexford to reach the final.

Kilkenny were their opponents, and after a great display in Nowlan Park they took the Smyco Cup. They were now in the All-Ireland Junior Championship semi-final for the first time as when they won Leinster in 1963 there was no All-Ireland series. This did not commence until 1968.

Cork were again their opponents in the semi-final and after an outstanding encounter they had to give way to the more experienced Leesiders.

The county under 18s won their first ever Leinster title while Drumcullen, 12 times county senior champions, collected the Leinster club championship title for the third time in ten years and also added Division Two of the Whirlpool All-Ireland Sevens.

At Colleges level Kilcormac VS reached the inaugural final of the All-Ireland Colleges Senior B Championship.

Molly hopes that Offaly will feature in an All-Ireland in Croke Park in 2000. On the domestic front ten of the 13 affiliated clubs featured on the honours list. Convention failed to elect a Vice Chairperson, Treasurer or Delegate to Leinster or Congress.

The following are the Officers for the coming year:

Chairperson: Eileen Bergin, Kinnitty,  
Secretary: Molloy Guinan,

Drumcullen;  
Registrar: Mary Murray,  
Drumcullen; PRO:  
Miriam O'Callaghan,  
Tullamore.

Annual Congress will be held in Derry at the end of March. One of the interesting motions to be tabled comes from Cork County Board seeking to have the advantage rule included in the rules. This is not the first time that such a motion has come before Congress and got the thumbs down. However, camogie is in

changing times, with 15 players aside on the full size pitch. This motion is sure to create quite a debate.

Cork County Convention was largely attended and all outgoing officers were returned unopposed.

Chairperson: Shiela Golden, Vice Chairperson: Marion McCarthy, Secretary: Pat Murray, Treasurer: Mary McSweeney, Registrar: Kay Dunne, PRO: Mary Newman-McCarthy.

At Congress a new President will be elected as Phyllis Breslin ends her three-year stint. Patricia Rafferty, Dublin is the only name so far interested in the position. If there are any other candidates they should be soon surfacing.

County Conventions have now drawn to a close. Some counties are experiencing difficulties replacing officers who were not seeking re-election. Adjourned conventions will be taking place to fill the positions.

Louth held their Convention in Bellingham Castle and was well attended. This was one of the gatherings that failed to elect a Chairperson or Vice Chairperson.

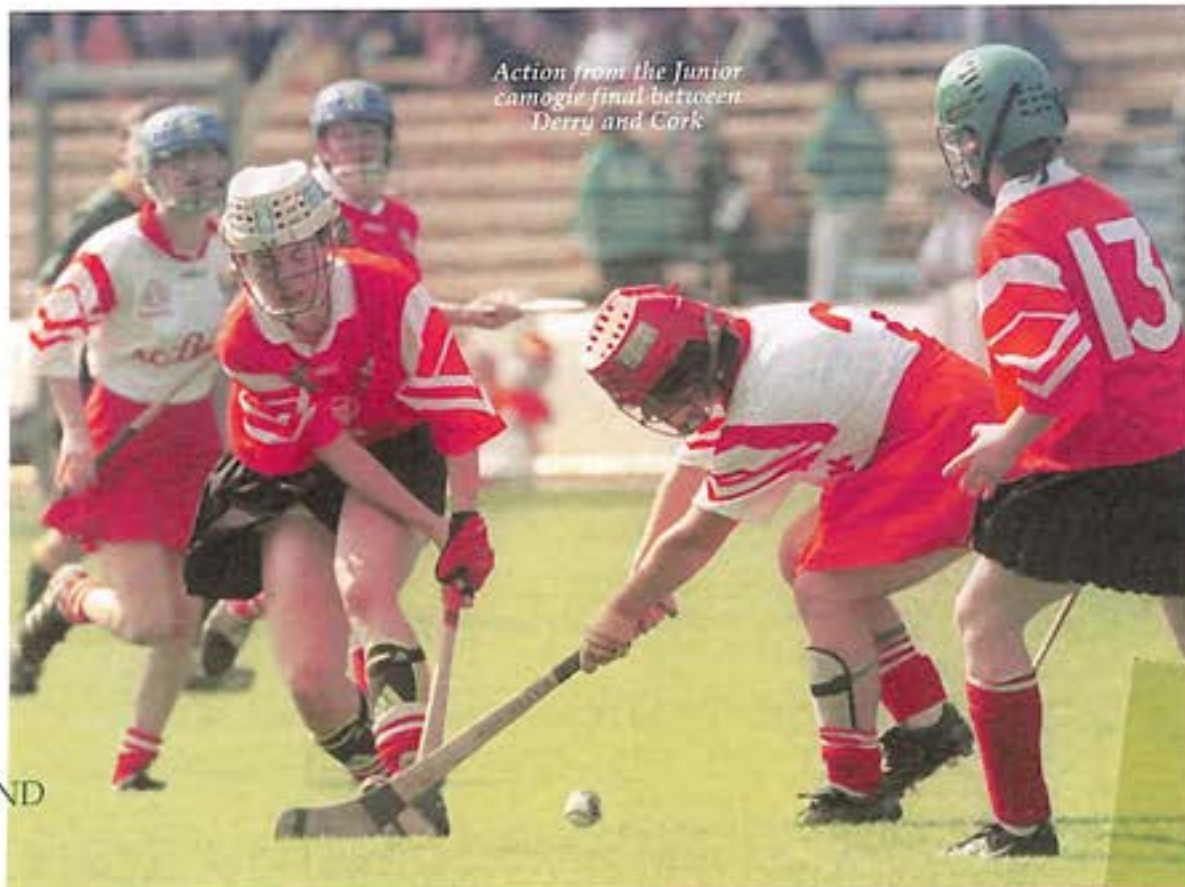
Other Officers:

Secretary: Bernie Kirk, Treasurer: Una Farrell, Registrar: Pamela Magee, PRO: Yvonne Quigley

Wicklow failed to fill the position of Secretary when Martina Kelly did not seek re-election.

Officers elected:

Chairperson: Breda Byrne, Vice-Chairman: Martina Kelly, Treasurer: Mary Byrne, PRO: Billy Burke, Registrar: Mary Mills.



Action from the Junior camogie final between Derry and Cork



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## Munster delight at haul of titles

DELEGATES from Munster will gather on Sunday at the Woodlands Hotel, Adare for the annual convention.

Chairing her first convention, Tipperary's Marion Graham will no doubt express delight at Munster's achievements in various competitions.

Tipperary annexed the senior title for the first time, Cork took the junior and minor double, while Clare won the intermediate title.

Grenagh/Ballingarry retained the All-Ireland club championship title.

With all the outgoing officers returned unopposed, the main topic on the agenda will be the motion from Cork calling for the province to call on central council to have the Under-18 championship extended to go to All-Ireland level.

This is a superb championship which only goes to provincial level but the train of thought within the county is that such is the talent at Under 18 grade the players should have the chance to compete on a higher stage.

Camogie throughout Munster is certainly strong with secretary Rose Malone reporting an increase of clubs in Cork, while all other counties continue to hold their numbers.

### Happy

Limerick are happy that despite not taking a major inter county title the county's development plan is going well under the guidance of Kathleen Coffey, Madge Fleury, Margaret Harte and coach John O'Connor.

All-Ireland senior champions Tipperary ran 25 competitions for its 26 clubs ranging from three under-12 competitions to senior championship.

Kerry continue to strive to promote camogie within the county, with Miltown representing the county at Féile. However, more organisation is needed to help the game survive.

Cork continues to be the dominant county within Munster with a total of 53 clubs registered.

The county took the minor and junior All-Ireland titles, the Senior National League title as well as the Munster titles in under-16, under-18, junior and senior.

A host of Cork players once again received awards for their achievements throughout the year - among them Ger Casey, Emer Dillon, Helen Walsh and Fiona O'Driscoll.

With a July 22 senior championship date already pencilled in against old rivals Kilkenny, the county is already buzzing at the prospect of revenge win over their old enemy.

This is one college which is a classy camogie nursery



The Munster senior camogie team which took Inter-Provincial honours last season.

# A proud tradition of camogie in Coachford

**T**HE Muskerry College of Coachford has a proud tradition of camogie stretching back to the seventies.

Since the amalgamation of the colleges and vocational camogie schools in the mid-nineties the college has carved a niche for itself.

Prior to this Coachford were unable to compete in any colleges competition that went to All-Ireland level and thus an enormous amount of talented camogie players never got the opportunity to compete for such prestigious honours. The college draws its players from the nearby clubs of Cloughduv, Aghabullogue, Éire Óg and Inniscarra.

### Rebels

Fourteen girls from the college have worn the red and white of Cork since 1992 and these include present Cork minor Joan Twomey and victorious Cork under-18 captain Sinead Buckley.

Throughout the eighties Mary O'Driscoll from the famed Éire Óg club did enormous work for camogie and was primarily responsible for maintaining the interest in camogie at the college. Success in the community colleges competition did come their way throughout the eighties.

Amongst its former students are Marion Rock, a former Cork senior star who tells us that in her days at the college they fielded a junior and senior squad. The game has come a long way since those days in the seventies

## MAGIC MOMENTS

No. 34: DOUGLAS club members Michael O'Regan, his wife Christine (nee Pinfield) and their daughter Amanda O'Regan have the distinction of having won All-Ireland medals in under-21 football, junior and minor camogie.

and the college now fields no less than ten camogie teams with a total of 145 girls all playing.

As with all big groups the girls are divided into the appropriate level from senior to the first year B squad. All this would not be possible without a good back-room team and it's here that Coachford excels.

Vice-principal Diarmuid Hickey, Aidan Keane from Duhallow, Ollie Troy from Lismore and former Cork minor coach and Sars/Glanmire player Rob Lotty, who has had a long involvement with camogie, feel it's imperative that every girl gets to play a sport. It raises the students' self esteem and enables them to appreciate the qualities needed for co-operation.

Thanks mainly to the structure mentioned above, fortunes have taken a turn for the better in recent years. In 1993 they won the Munster Intermediate title and



Trish Lehane and Jane Fitzgibbon - two of the highly successful Coachford College intermediate players.



Coachford College senior team captain Ann Enneguess.

the Munster Colleges Intermediate title in 1994. Two titles in the Junior B Cork colleges with the Junior A side losing out to Charleville in the final has not been a bad return for the hard working coaches.

In 1996 the first years won the blitz title, while the first year B side won the Cork Championship the same year.

While the junior side lost out to Charleville in the Munster semi-final this season, the senior squad are busy in their preparations as they eagerly await the Munster Colleges Senior B final where

they will meet Shannon.

The team are also involved in Cork colleges action where they await either St. Aidan's or Christ the King in the final.

Preparations are also underway with the intermediate side who meet St. Fanahan's in the Cork Colleges final. The Junior A girls are anxious to have another meeting with old rivals Charleville.

First and second years are still involved in their respective competitions while the junior C team are eagerly awaiting the blitz to be held in Cobh in early March.



# Leinster Camogie Convention

**PJ Fulham looks forward to Sunday's Leinster Camogie Convention.**

The Annual Leinster Camogie Convention takes place on Saturday next in Leinster GAA Headquarters, Portlaoise commencing at 1.30pm. There is nothing overly exciting on the agenda. All outgoing officers will be returned unopposed and there are only four motions to be tabled. Dublin want the Under 18 championship to be run from September to November.

Wicklow would like to see Camogie played with twelve players aside at club level and fifteen aside at inter-county.

Wexford table two motions, the first seeking that when a player is registered at Under 12 it will not be necessary to register her again and the second requesting that all championship finals be played at neutral venues with neutral officials.

The Secretary Mairin Fulham in her 18th annual report gives a brief account on the state of camogie in each county, outlines the 'Roll of Honour' for the year and congratulates the winners of the various competitions.

She comments on the failure by a number of counties to fill vacancies among their officership when they arise, and appeals to people to get involved, because if counties have not got officers there will be no camogie.

The high note of the year was the winning of Junior Gael Linn after a lapse of thirteen years and she throws laurels where they are due, at the players who turned out to wear a Leinster jersey and the selectors who gave so much of their time and energy. 'Well done to all.'

Unfortunately the senior Gael Linn selections had no success. She congratulates Lizzie Lyng, Rower Instigue, Kilkenny on being awarded the 'Schwarzkopf Player of the Junior Gael Linn Tournament' and Miriam Malone, Kildare who retired during the year. Miriam gave 27 years of continuous dedicated service to Gael Linn both at senior and junior level. Miriam was presented with a replica cup by honorary President of Leinster Council Kay Timmins. Kay became the first Honorary President of the Council at last year's convention after a life time of service to the province.

Finally, Mairin thanks all referees, county secretaries, the Leinster GAA Council for hosting the convention and all GAA clubs throughout the province for the use of their pitches.

Officers for the coming year: Cathaoirleach: Mary Connor, Louth, Leas-Cathaoirleach: Patricia Rafferty, Dublin, Runai: Mairin Fulham, Westmeath, Cisteoir: Marie Woods, Kildare, Clarahoir: Peter Hoey, Louth, PRO: PJ Fulham, Westmeath. Delegate to Central Council: Patricia Rafferty



*Lizzie Lyng, Schwarzkopf Player of the Junior Gael Linn Tournament*

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## Queen's to test experienced UCD

THE Belfield Belles, UCD, entertain Queens of Belfast in the Ashbourne Cup qualifier tomorrow (2.30).

The Dubliners, managed by Ballyboden St. Endas' Grace O'Neill, had excellent wins against St. Mary's, Belfast and Jordanstown last week.

The students have one Dub in their squad, Boden's Sile Nic Coitir, and they hold high ambitions of securing their first Ashbourne, the blue riband of the University season, since 1988.

Last season, UCD reached the semi-final where they were ousted by UCG, and

### CAMOGIE

By NIAL SCULLY

they expect a formidable test against Queens.

Yet O'Neill can avail of impressive inter-county experience with players like Cork's Caoimhe Harington, Tipperary's Una O'Dwyer and the Wexford duo, Michelle O'Leary and Aine Codd.

Meanwhile, across the city in Glasnevin, the DCU squad are preparing for Friday's Purcell Cup qualifier in Kerry against Tralee IT.

A DCU victory would then take them to Jordanstown on Sunday, where a win would secure their entry into the Purcell Cup proper.

They include a cluster of Dubs in their panel, including the skipper, Denise Brunton and her club colleague, Linda Corcoran from Naomh Padraig. St. Jude's have two representatives, Deirdre O'Connor and Ailish Reid.

Eimear Brannigan and Lorraine Boland are from St. Vincent's, while Louise Gilhooly plays with St. Peregrine's. The experience of the team is boosted by the pres-

ence of Galway star, Mairead Meehan.

● Resulting from Dublin's motion at Saturday's Leinster Convention at Aras Laighcan in Portlaoise, the Leinster U-18 competition will be played from September to November as distinct from the summer months when many of this age-group are away.

● THE Senior Dubs are back at the office on Friday night at St. Peregrine's (7.30), and again in the Phoenix Park on Saturday morning (9.0). Set the alarm, girls!



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## Courcey Rovers 'away' as honours are handed out

by Howard Crowdy

FOR the first time, the Courcey Rovers GAA Club's Dinner was held outside of the Courcey parish — in the Munster Arms Hotel in neighbouring Bandon recently, but it did not deter over 250 guests in honouring the teams who had yet another phenomenal year in capturing divisional and county titles.

Among the trophies on display were the senior Celtic International Trophy which was won in Tralee; the county senior B, county U-16 league and championship, all in Camogie, while the South East Junior A Hurling and U-21 trophies were also on show.

Special guests were Sheila Golden,

Carol Hanna, left, captain, senior B team, holding the Pan Celtic Shield and county senior B camogie trophies, with Jennifer Murphy, captain, U-16 camogie team winners of the league trophy and U-16 championship, at the Courcey Rovers GAA dinner in the Munster Arms, Bandon.

Picture: Howard Crowdy

Chairperson Cork County Camogie Board; Mary Newman, PRO; Mary Hurley, Chairperson South East Camogie Division; John Twomey, Chairman South East Board and Liam Webb, runai with Helen Walsh, All Ireland Junior Cork Camogie captain and Niamh Bowles, who was the captain of the Cork All Ireland Minor Camogie team.

A number of presentations were made to people who had made a significant contribution to the club, not only over the past year, but in year's gone by. The camogie Player of the Year was presented to Aine O'Regan, a member of the senior B team and a member of the All Ireland Cork junior panel, the Cork intermediate team and holder of a Munster under 18 medal as well, and was presented with the Tommy Cahalane Perpetual Shield by Margaret Cahalane. The junior Player of the Year was Timothy Lordan, who won medals at junior and u-21 level.

Gearoid Coholan the minor Player of the Year following his success with the team that won the county 12-a-

side non examination hurling League title against Kilbrittain, while the Personality of the Past Award was presented to Gerald O'Donovan who played some great games with Courcey Rovers when the club was in the South West Division.

The Club Person of the Year Award went to Margaret Cahalane, who runs the very successful club lotto, which is instrumental in the fund raising for the new clubhouse and complex in the Courcey Rovers pitch in Ballinspittle. Other presentations were made to Hilary Calvert, chairperson camogie club for a number of years and to Michael and Cally Hayes, former chairman of the Junvenile club, both of whom ran the club very successfully over the years, and to Sean O'Riordan, club coach who had put in trojan work for the underage section.

Medals were presented to other players with Patsy Downing giving a brief pen picture on each of the players who had brought county honours to the club at senior B and under 16 level.



## Seanie lauds girls who won crown

by Derry Farr

WHEN Newcestown U-16 girls recently won the club's first ever county under-age camogie title they did so in style. During their history-making achievement they played five matches in which they accumulated a total of 22 goals and 35 points while conceding a mere one goal and three points.

Their swashbuckling play gave their supporters plenty to cheer about and the season was brought to a fitting climax when Cork All-Star hurler Seanie McGrath attended their recent night of celebrations, held in the Newcestown Parish Hall.

Seanie presented the victorious team with their medals and commended them on their historic win which, he said, could be put down to



The Newcestown camogie team with Cork hurler Seanie McGrath at their presentation night, above. Left: Seanie sits in with, from left, Anne O'Driscoll, Fiona Kehilly, Aileen Coughlan and Suzanne Deasy.

hard training under diligent trainers plus a never-say-die spirit."

The All-Star hurler urged the girls to continue to improve their skills while at all times to enjoy the game and cherish the bonds of friendships that develop in the process. Having reached the top in hurling, Seanie knows only too well the dedication and sacrifice that goes into winning, and this squad of U-16 players never shirked their responsibilities on their way into the club's record books.

The first game in their campaign was against Valley Rovers and, after they were overcome, Douglas was next in line.

The city side were also defeated and confidence was growing in a Newcestown squad that then went on to get the better of Eire Og before

taking on Killeagh in the semi-final. Once more success was the lot of the Newcestown girls who marched on to a final with Carrigaline, and their excitement knew no bounds when the coveted county title was won.

They were also in high glee at their night of celebrations which began with club chairperson Yvonne O'Callaghan welcoming Seanie McGrath and praising the girls for the honour they had brought to their parish. The club made a special presentation to the Cork hurling star, who presented medals to the team.

**NEWCESTOWN:** Janice O'Neill, Marie O'Leary, Ashling Holland, Anita Coughlan, Anne O'Driscoll, Aileen Coughlan, Margaret Deasy, Suzanne Deasy, Rachel O'Donovan, Lorraine Holland, Fiona Kehilly, Evelyn Crowley, Helena Walsh, Colette Desmond, Edel Crowley, Sharon Murphy, Olivia Deasy, Claire O'Mahony, Frances Deasy, Aoife Holland, Lisa O'Sullivan and Ashling O'Driscoll.

## Call for more refs by camogie chief

MARIAN GRAHAM, chairperson of the Munster Camogie Council yesterday appealed at their annual convention in Adare for more referees to come forward.

They would also welcome she told delegates extra sponsorship, more publicity and others to become involved in the administration aspect.

**Draws for the 2000 Championships:**  
— Minor A: Limerick v Waterford, with winners to play Cork; Tipperary v Clare; Junior: Tipperary v Waterford (winners v Clare); Limerick v Cork; Intermediate: Tipperary v Cork; Limerick v Clare; U18 A: Limerick v Cork; Clare v Waterford. Winners of Limerick v Cork v Tipperary.  
Club Championship: Cork v Tipperary (winners v Waterford); Limerick v Clare.



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## CAMOGIE AGM

# Good achievements by Carrigdhoun players in 1999

The seventh annual general meeting of the Carrigdhoun Camogie Association was held at the Riverstick Community Hall on Thursday of last week at which there was an excellent attendance of delegates from the various clubs in the division.

Mrs. Mary Bugler, the competition secretary, who did not seek re-election for the coming year, gave a detailed account of camogie activities in Carrigdhoun during 1999.

"The year commenced with indoor camogie in early March at Riverstick with competitions at under 10, with thirteen teams and under 11, where nine teams competed. Following some excellent camogie and keenly contested games, Ballygarvan were the under 10 winners, while Ballinhassig 'A' scooped the honours at under 11."

## SMOOTHLY

"However," stated the secretary, "the outdoor did not go smoothly, with clubs failing to play matches when supposed to and also failing to give results of matches played."

Only the U11 and U13 competitions were finished, with Ballinhassig the U11 champions and Carrigaline the winners of the U13. The U15 final between Ballygarvan and Ballinhassig which was fixed for the 11th of December last was not played due to the bad weather.

In the Carrigdhoun Cup, there are two matches to be played plus a possible play-off to decide who will play Courcey Rovers in the final.

## DID WELL

The Carrigdhoun U16 team played very well in the first rounds of the blitz, but went under to a strong Carbery team in the final.

The Carrigdhoun senior team put up a tremendous performance in the first round of the county championship against Bishopstown, who then went on to win the title. Lack of experience, failing to take scores in the first half and a controversial point to Bishopstown in the second half saw the city side emerge victorious by the narrowest of margins.

## FOR CORK

A total of thirteen Carrigdhoun players wore the county jersey in 1999, and on the Cork minor panel were: Emer Dillon and Catriona Kelly, Ballygarvan; Sara O'Donovan, Valley Rovers; Niamh Murphy, Carrigaline; Samantha Quinn, Courcey Rovers.

The following won Munster and All-Ireland medals with Cork juniors: Rachel Moloney and Aine O'Regan, Courcey Rovers and Elaine Burke, Valley Rovers; Linda O'Sullivan, Ballinhassig. Sara Hayes and Rachel Moloney were members of the Cork senior panel who

won the National league.

The Carrigdhoun representatives on the Cork U18 team which won the Munster championship were: Emer Dillon, B'garvan; Sara Hayes, Rachel Moloney and Aine O'Regan, Courcey Rovers; Elaine Burke, Elizabeth Bugler and Maria Hurley, Valley Rovers. Muireann Conlon, Carrigaline along with Aine O'Regan, Maria Hurley and Elizabeth Bugler were on the Cork intermediate panel beaten by Tipperary.

The secretary went on to extend congratulations to: Courcey Rovers club on winning the county 'B' championship, the 1998 U16 league and championship and also the Pan-Celtic tournament which was played in Tralee; to the Carrigaline club - winners of the U14 'B' championship, the U16 'B' and junior 'B' championships; to Ballygarvan - runners up in the junior 'A' final.

She finally extended thanks to all the referees and the clubs for the use of their pitches and to her fellow officers and club officers for their co-operation during 1999.

The treasurer, Patsy Downing, gave a detailed report, which showed that the association is in a very healthy state, mainly due to the successful draw, and she expressed thanks to the draw sponsors: John McNamara, Kinsale, Kinsale Credit Union, Ross Oil, FBD Insurances, P.J. Fitzgerald Insurances, Courcey Rovers Camogie Club and Keohane Readymix.

The chairperson, Mary Hurley, who welcomed all to the AGM, acknowledged that there was not much interest in competitions which were brought over to the following year. She urged clubs to keep an account of matches played and report same to the board.

She stressed the importance of the indoor competitions, stating that they were only 'fun' games and called on parents and mentors to acknowledge same in the interests of their very young children.

She thanked Mary Bugler for her work despite her commitment with the county board and acknowledged the wonderful work of all the officers.

The P.R.O., Noreen Quinn, who in 2000, will be commencing her fifth year in the position, thanked the media, Southern Star, Carrigdhoun, local radio and photographer Howard Crowley, Jim Forbes and Tom Murphy for their help.

The AGM was also addressed by county board vice-chairman and S.E. treasurer, Jim Forbes.

The election of officers for 2000 resulted as follows - chairperson: Mary Hurley; competition secretaries: Ollie Hallaghan, Ballygarvan, Liz Quinn, Courcey Rovers and Mary Hurley; minutes secretary: Patsy Downing, Courcey Rovers; Treasurer: Brid Buckley, Tracton; Asst. Treasurer: Geraldine Cremin, Sliabh Rua; P.R.O.: Noreen Quinn, Courcey Rovers.

(By Carrigdhoun)



**TOP TEN:** Captains of Ballyboden St. Enda's camogie teams who have a combined total of ten championship/league/tournament successes in 1999 - a club record. Back, from left: Aoife Scallan (U14 C'ship), Niamh Smith (Senior B Marie Durkan Trophy), Irene Kirwan (Senior C'ship), Siobhan O'Dwyer (Senior League), Ciara Lucey (Dublin Feile na nGael). Front, from left: Sarah Benthall (U12 League), Anne Marie Corrigan (U12 C'ship), Fiona O'Sullivan (U14 League), Carmel Cremin (All-Ireland Feile na nGael), Anne Griffin (U11 League).



**Champions all -** Five members of the Tipperary All Ireland Winning Camogie team with Catherine Byrne (seated centre) who won a Leinster Junior Medal with her native Offaly last year. All play their club camogie with Toomevara and are pictured at the club's celebration night. Standing from left: Noelle Kennedy, Nora Dwan, Suzanne Kelly. Front: Gráinne Shanahan, Catherine Byrne, Deirdre Hughes.



FEB 2000

## Rovers' efforts reaping rewards

COURCEY ROVERS camogie club has gone from strength to strength since its re-birth in 1982.

The club ceased to operate in the 50s but a few girls, with the help of the local GAA and Brendan Murphy, got together and reorganised.

Little did the group envisage that as they began a new millennium it would signal the participation of the club in the top grade.

The club put down a firm foundation in the early days, working at under-age level.

Winning the junior B championship in 1996 gave the club its first adult trophy and, more importantly, promotion to the junior A grade.

Courceys also took the Cork Felle na nGael title in '96 and represented the county at the national finals in Waterford.

The following year saw the junior A league and championship wind their way to the vibrant south east club and, with the intermediate grade practically non-existent, the club took the brave decision to participate in the senior B grade in 1998.

### History

The Courceys girls made history last year, securing the first ever senior championship for the club.

Sciath na Scol has also made a huge contribution to the success of the club.

The local schools of Ballinadee and Ballinspittle have always promoted the game and the co-operation of the primary school teachers has been tremendous.

The huge amount of work Kathleen O'Donovan did for the club in her promotion of camogie, hurling and football has helped in no small way in establishing many of the club's players.

The club is also very conscious of the important role of coaching and various club members have participated in courses.

The club has enjoyed considerable success at under-age level and the U-16 B championship in 1997 was followed by the U-16 A double in 1998.

Courceys have also established their name on the inter county scene and a number of their players have tasted national success.

The new year got off to a great start when the club held a Poc Fada with members young and old, male and female, all gathering to participate.

It's quite evident that the work put in down the years at under-age level is reaping rich dividends for the South East club.

## Cork colleges go in search of All-Ireland glory



Cork senior and Courcey Rovers player Sarah Hayes is awarded the Carrighoun gold medal for her project on GAA and camogie by south East coach Joe McGrath.

## UCC out to settle score

UCC take on Athlone IT in the Ashbourne Cup at the Mardyke on Saturday (2pm) in what promises to be a cracking opening round tie.

UCC have a score to settle, having lost to Athlone this season in the league competition.

The Cork side, coached by former Cork and Sarsfield hurler John Considine, are reported to be in top shape and have no major injury worries.

### Quality

UCC, captained by Newtownshandrum's Lisa Kelleher, boast a quality line-up, including Cork senior stars Sinead O'Callaghan and Una O'Donoghue and junior aces Elaine Burke, Sinead A. Buckley and Linda O'Connell.

Athlone too are a power-packed outfit, backed by Galway senior players Aine Hillary and Theresa Maher and Cathriona Hennessy, one of the stars of Tipperary's first senior All-Ireland victory this season.

Catherine Glynn, a sister of Galway star Sharon, is another to note on the Athlone side.

The Cork representatives have won the Ashbourne Cup on no fewer than 27 occasions and, with home advantage and a host of inter-county stars in their ranks, are selected to gain sweet revenge for the league defeat.

# Clon aim to take step up in stride

**SACRED HEART, Clonakilty, winners of the inaugural Munster and All-Ireland Senior B Championship last season, contest the Munster Senior A final against St Mary's, Nenagh, on Saturday.**

This will be a huge challenge for the Clonakilty girls. The step up to the senior A grade is significant in itself, but the test presented by Nenagh will be formidable.

St Mary's looked a class act when dethroning the All-Ireland champions, St. Mary's, Charleville.

Nenagh have a match winner in All-Ireland senior medalist, Eimear McDonnell. She signalled danger every time she gained possession in the semi-final and showed real class with a brilliant second half goal.

Mary Rose Ryan (capt.), Deirdre McDonnell, Anna Woods, Sheeha Howard, Denise Ryan and Olive Slattery are other fine exponents of the game.

St Mary's will start firm favourites to reclaim the title they last held in 1994.

Sacred Heart have lost two players since lifting the B Cup last season. Goalkeeper Ger Casey, who was named player of the match in the All-Ireland junior final, and Ger Collins, their

## MAGIC MOMENTS

No 35. CORK minor player Jean O'Sullivan from the well-known Bishopstown club is a daughter of former Cork football legend Seamus.

Seamus played with the famous Doheney's club.

accurate free-taker, are a big loss.

However Clon have fine defenders in Karen McCarthy, Rosalie Holland and Mary Sheehy and Lisa O'Flynn. Isla Dineen and Eimear O'Donovan are skilful midfield performers.

Up front, Cork minor, Jenny O'Leary will need watching while Fiona Collins, Adelle Foley and Marie Moloney will capitalise on any chances that come their way.

Nenagh - Amy Kissane, Olive Slattery, Mary Rose Ryan (Capt.), Siobhan McCarthy, Deirdre McDonnell, Anna Woods, Niamh Hogan, Aine Mulcahy, Sheena Howard, Denise Ryan, Emer McDonnell, Claire O'Sullivan.



Cork juniors Criona Harte and Elaine Burke who will line out with UCC on Saturday.

Clonakilty: Ella Harrington, Mary Sheehy, Anne Marie Fleming, Karen McCarthy, Rosalie Holland, Lisa O'Flynn, Isla Dineen, Eimear O'Donovan, Fiona Collins, Jennifer O'Leary, Adelle Foley and Marie Moloney.

Coachford Community defeated Borrisokane Community, Presentation, Ballyphehane and Christ the King on their way to the Senior B final.

Opponents St. Patrick's

Comprehensive School, Shannon, qualified for the decider with victories over Carrignavar, St. Aidan's and St. Declan's Kilmacthomas.

Coachford: Claire McCarthy, Catherine O'Leary, Joan Twomey, Maeve O'Connell, Anne Enneguess (Capt.), Mary Twomey, Mary Enneguess, Siobhan Buckley, Evelyn Harrington, Maria Noonan, Katie Crowley and Mary Buckley.

## FIXTURES

**SATURDAY FEBRUARY 5**  
Munster Senior 'A' Colleges final: Sacred Heart Clonakilty v St Mary's Nenagh, Kilmacanogue, 2pm.

Munster Senior 'B' Colleges final: Coachford Community College v St Patrick's Shannon, Ballygarry, 1pm.

Ashbourne Cup qualifier: UCC v Athlone IT, Mardyke, 2pm.

**MONDAY FEBRUARY 7**  
Cork Colleges Senior 'B' final: Coachford Community v St Aidan's, Glen Field, 1.30pm.

**WEDNESDAY FEBRUARY 9**

Cork Colleges Intermediate final: Coachford Community v St Fanahan's Mitcheltown, Ballycollig, 12.45pm.



# Munster Colleges Finals

The Munster Colleges camogie finals take place on Saturday next, Sacred Heart Secondary, Clonakilty, winners of the inaugural Munster and All-Ireland Senior B championship contest the senior A final against St. Mary's Nenagh.

This will be a huge challenge for Sacred Heart. The step up to the Senior A grade is significant in itself, but the test presented by Nenagh will be very stiff. St Mary's Nenagh looked very formidable when dethroning the All-Ireland champions, St. Mary's Charleville before Christmas. They have a mature side comprised mostly of Leaving Cert students. All have considerable experience in the game.

Nenagh have a match winner in All-Ireland Senior medalist, Eimear McDonnell. She signalled danger every time she gained possession in the semi-final and showed her real class when cutting through for a second half goal in the Charleville game.

Nenagh are not a one girl outfit. Mary Rose Ryan (Capt), Deirdre McDonnell, Anna Woods, Sheeha Howard, Denise Ryan and Olive Slattery are fine exponents of the game. St. Mary's showed great commitment in reaching the final and look to be firm favourites to claim the title which they last held in 1994.

Sacred Heart have lost two key players since lifting the All-Ireland Senior B Cup last season. Goalkeeper, Ger Casey, who was named Player of the Match in the All-Ireland Junior Final in Croke Park last September, and Ger Collins, their accurate free-taker are a big loss to the side.

Clonakilty retain the majority of the All-Ireland side. Karen McCarthy, Rosarii Holland and Mary Sheehy are fine defenders and can play a decisive role in the final. Lisa O'Flynn, Isla Dineen and Eimear O'Donovan will be anxious to give Clonakilty the edge in midfield.

Up front, Cork minor, Jenny O'Leary will need watching. Fiona Collins, Adelle Foley and Marie Moloney will capitalise on any chances that come their way. Sacred Heart won the All-Ireland Senior B title with something to spare last year. No doubt their up and coming players will have improved since then and will make a huge effort to claim the Dripsey Cup.

Nenagh: Amy Kissane, Olive Slattery, Mary Rose Ryan (Capt), Siobhan McCarthy, Deirdre McDonnell, Anna Woods, Niamh Hogan, Aine Mulcahy, Sheena Howard, Denise Ryan, Emer McDonnell, Claire O'Sullivan.

Clonakilty: Ella Harrington, Mary Sheehy, Anne Marie Fleming, Karen McCarthy, Rosarii Holland, Lisa O'Flynn, Isla Dineen, Eimear O'Donovan, Fiona Collins, Jennifer O'Leary, Adelle Foley and Marie Moloney.

In the Senior B competition, Coachford Community defeated

Borrisokane Community, Presentation, Ballyphehane and Christ the King on their way to the final. Opponents, St. Patrick's Comprehensive School, Shannon, qualified at the expense of Carrignavar, St Aidan's and St. Declan's Kilmacthomas.

Rob Lotty has done great work since he took up a position in Coachford. Large numbers of girls have taken up the game and share his enthusiasm. It was inevitable that the school would come through at Munster level. A number of his players have fielded with the Cork minors.

Captained by Anne Ennequess, this Coachford side should do well. Joan Twomey, Claire McCarthy, Mary Ennequess, Marie Noonan and Mary Burkley will put it up to Shannon and must have an excellent chance of success.

Shannon fielded a brilliant first year team a few years ago. These players have matured with careful coaching from Gerry Arkins. Shannon draw from several successful clubs including Wolfe Tones and Newmarket-on-Fergus and will be no pushover.

Coachford: Claire McCarthy, Catherine O'Leary, Joan Twomey, Maeve O'Connell, Anne Ennequess (Capt), Mary Twomey, Mary Ennequess, Siobhan Buckley, Evelyn Harrington, Marie Noonan, Katie Crowley and Mary Buckley.

## Fixtures:

Saturday February 5th:

Munster: Senior A Colleges Final at Nenagh: St. Mary's Nenagh v Sacred Heart, Clonakilty at 2pm.

Munster Senior B Colleges final at Ballingarry: Coachford Community v St. Patrick's Shannon 2pm.



Sacred Heart Secondary School who won the All-Ireland Senior B Cup last year

## CAMOGIE

IT Tralee 1-6; DCU 0-6

INSPIRED by the brilliance of their full back Jackie Murnane, of Causeway, IT Tralee eventually got the better of DCU in a hard fought Purcell Cup Camogie Preliminary round clash at a windswept Kerins O'Hallilly's pitch, Tralee.

Scorers for IT Tralee-L. Byrne 1-1, C. Carroll and N. Daffy 0-2 each, E. Hardmann 0-1. DCU - M. Meehan 0-4, L. Gilhooly 0-2.

Camogie fixtures: Today: Munster Senior A Post Primary Final: Sacred Heart Clonakilty v St. Mary's Nenagh Kilmacshannon 2 p.m.

Munster Post Primary Senior B Final Coachford Community College v St. Patrick's Shannon Ballingarry 1 p.m.

Ashbourne Cup: UCC v Athlone IT Mardyke 2 p.m. Mon. Feb. 7: Cork Colleges SB Final Coachford Community v St. Aidan's Dublin Hill, Glen Rovers 1.30.

Wed. Feb 9: Cork Colleges Intermediate Final Coachford Community v St. Finians Mitchelstown at Ballincollig 12.45.

## Clonakilty face tough test from Nenagh

CAMOGIE action resumes this afternoon with two Munster finals and the opening game in the Ashbourne Cup on the agenda.

Last season's All-Ireland senior B post primary champions, Clonakilty, contest the Munster A final this afternoon when they face a huge challenge from a St. Mary's, Nenagh, outfit determined for victory.

Nenagh have already dismissed holders and All-Ireland champions St. Mary's, Charleville, and will go in as raging favourites. With all but one of their side Leaving Cert students, they are also backboned by several members

of the All-Ireland senior champions, Tipperary, amongst them Eimear McDonnell and her sister Deirdre, Sheena Howard and Denise Ryan and they will be confident of retaining the title they last held in 1994.

Following on a successful season last year, Sacred Heart, Clonakilty, make the step up to the A Grade and having lost the services of Geraldine Casey, Helena Keohane and Ger Collins may find it hard to make the breakthrough in their first year.

Coached by Liam Nash, the side will include successful Cork minors Karen McCarthy and Jenny O'Leary whilst

Rosarie Holland is the holder of a junior All-Ireland medal won last season.

In the B final, the ever-improving Coachford Community College, take on St. Patrick's Comprehensive, Shannon, who had good victories over Carrignavar, St. Aidan's and St. Declan's, Kilmacthomas, to reach the final.

In the Ashbourne Cup's opening game at the Mardyke, UCC take on Athlone IT at 2 p.m.

Having lost out in the league earlier in the season to Athlone, UCC will field several inter-county stars, including Cork senior Sinead O'Callaghan and Una O'Donoghue.

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**MUNSTER POST-PRIMARY SCHOOLS**

**SENIOR A**

**CAMOGIE CHAMPIONSHIP FINAL**

**ST. MARY'S , NENAGH**

**V**

**SACRED HEART, CLONAKILTY**

**5<sup>TH</sup> February, 2000**

**Kilcoleman, Co. Tipperary @ 2 p.m.**

**REFEREE: CELINE DOODY (Limerick)**

**ST. MARY'S, NENAGH**

**Red and Blue**

- |    |                       |
|----|-----------------------|
| 1  | Amy Kissane           |
| 2  | Mary Rose Ryan (Capt) |
| 3  | Siobhan McCarthy      |
| 4  | Deirdre McDonnell     |
| 5  | Olive Slattery        |
| 6  | Anna Woods            |
| 7  | Niamh Hogan           |
| 8  | Aine Mulcahy          |
| 9  | Denise Ryan           |
| 10 | Sheena Howard         |
| 11 | Claire O'Sullivan     |
| 12 | Eimear McDonnell      |

**Subs:**

- |    |                    |
|----|--------------------|
| 13 | Aileen Forde       |
| 14 | Carmel Ryan        |
| 15 | Mary Coughlan      |
| 16 | Siobhan O'Brien    |
| 17 | Deirdre Kyne       |
| 18 | Michelle Slattery  |
| 19 | Deirdre Troy       |
| 20 | Siobhain O'Doherty |
| 21 | Margaret Hogan     |
| 22 | Grainne Gleeson    |
| 23 | Orla McDonagh      |

**COACH: Mr Ger Dullea**

**SACRED HEART, CLONAKILTY**

**Red and Green**

- |    |                    |
|----|--------------------|
| 1  | Ella Harrington    |
| 2  | Mary Sheehy        |
| 3  | Anne-Marie Fleming |
| 4  | Karen McCarthy     |
| 5  | Rosarii Holland    |
| 6  | Lisa O'Flynn       |
| 7  | Isla Dineen        |
| 8  | Eimear O'Donovan   |
| 9  | Fiona Collins      |
| 10 | Jennifer O'Leary   |
| 11 | Adelle Foley       |
| 12 | Marie Moloney      |

- |    |                  |
|----|------------------|
| 13 | Vicki Hennessy   |
| 14 | Eileen Carroll   |
| 15 | Nicola O'Donovan |
| 16 | Rosemary Dineen  |
| 17 | Eimear McCarthy  |
| 18 | Eileen Collins   |
| 19 | Eimear O'Regan   |
| 20 | Carol Dineen     |
| 21 | Anita O'Rourke   |
| 22 | Fiona Keohane    |
| 23 | Grace O'Regan    |
| 24 | Laura Guest      |
| 25 | Susan Forristal  |

**Mr. Liam Nash**

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# St. Mary's on the brink of success

By James Hayden

Teetering on the brink of success may be one way to describe the St. Mary's camogie team in their preparation for one of their biggest ever fixtures against the Sacred Heart Convent, Clonakilty in the Munster Colleges final in Kilcoleman on Saturday.

This team have seen it all, the heartbreak, the disappointment and until recently many members of the team felt that Lady Luck would not be on their side during their colleges camogie career.

This all changed, however, when arch rivals Charleville were disposed off in clinical style by the Nenagh girls, to once and for all release the stranglehold which the North Cork team held on the competition.

Joyous scenes abounded on that memorable day, but thoughts of that victory are long since savoured and the focus for the past couple of weeks has been the approaching Munster final.

## FORMIDABLE OPPOSITION

The Sacred Heart Convent, Clonakilty will provide formidable opposition. This is a team which won the All-Ireland 'B' championship last year, defeating Kilcormac from Offaly comprehensively, and have grown in strength and stature since their entry into the 'A' competition.

Defeating Roscrea Community College in the semi-final they looked to be a multi-talented side with four cork minor and junior players in the team.

## NENAGH SIDE

The St. Mary's team which go into battle on Saturday are peppered with a potent mix of guile and experience. Nine of the team are currently in their Leaving Cert year and this match provides them with the final chance to bring the championship back to St. Mary's.

Amy Kissane is the netminder and has been playing some sterling stuff all year. In defence Mary Rose Ryan (Captain), Deirdre McDonnell, Olive Slattery and Siobhan McCarthy are experienced camogie players and will undoubtedly cope with all the Clonakilty girls will throw at them.

Nenagh are particularly strong at mid-field with Anna Woods, Niamh Hogan, and Aine Mulcahy selected to patrol this area of the field. The Burgess duo of Mulcahy and Hogan gel well with the talents of Toomevara Girl Anna Woods and what is particularly apparent is the maturity of Mulcahy who is still only in third year and the baby of the team.

St. Mary's attack is potent to say the least. Spearheaded by Tipperary inter-county stars Sheena Howard and Eimear McDonnell the Burgess girls talents combined with the talents of Silvermines duo Denise Ryan and Claire O'Sullivan provide for a very menacing forward line.

St. Mary's also have considerable strength in depth on the bench also with Aileen Forde, Carmel Ryan and Mary Coughlan primed and ready to come into the fray at any time.

## DELIVER GOODS

Commenting on the team's success Coach Ger Dullea, who incidentally is a Clonakilty man, is confident that his charges can deliver the goods on Saturday.

"Up until this year this team has not received the lucky breaks, but the breakthrough



Deirdre Hughes, A Sportsman's Dream, presenting tops for St. Mary's Secondary School camogie team to Mary Rose Ryan, captain. Also in photo: Ger Dullea (coach), Olive Slattery and Sheena Howard, team members.



St. Mary's Secondary School camogie coach Ger Dullea speaking with A. Kissane, M. R. Ryan, D. Kyne, O. Slattery, G. Gleeson, M. Coughlan, S. O'Doherty, A. Mulcahy.



Ger Dullea, coach of St. Mary's Secondary School Camogie team with some of the team members. Left to right: E. McDonnell, D. Ryan, S. Hoard, M. Slattery, N. Hogan, C. O'Sullivan, S. McCarthy, A. Forde, S. O'Brien.

came this year. We have put in a large effort and have played six challenge matches since Christmas. We are well prepared," he told *The Guardian*.

Ger also dismissed the fact that Nenagh have virtually home advantage with many of the Burgess girls on the team playing camogie on their home pitch at Kilcoleman.

"The fact that we have virtually home advantage will not be telling, what may be telling may be the weather conditions on the day," he said.

Throw in at 2 p.m. in Kilcoleman on Saturday.

## St. Mary's, Nenagh team

Amy Kissane		
Mary Rose Ryan (c)		
Olive Slattery	Siobhan McCarthy	
Deirdre McDonnell		
Anna Woods	Niamh Hogan	Aine Mulcahy
Denise Ryan	Claire O'Sullivan	
Sheena Howard		
Eimear McDonnell		

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St. Mary's Secondary School Camogie team captain, Mary Rose Ryan.



# UCC advance to next round of Ashbourne Cup

UCC  
Athlone IT

by Tom Higgins

UCC advanced to the next stage of the Ashbourne Cup with a big win over Athlone Institute of Technology at the Mardyke, Cork, on Saturday but the scoreline does not do the losers justice.

The losers got off to a good start with a point from Catriona Hennessy but then UCC got into their stride and after nine minutes led by 1-2 to 0-2, the goal coming from a close in free by Cliona Harte which she rifled to the back of

the net. Another goal by Una O'Donoghue in the 11th minute put the home side in the driving seat but it was still all to play for in the second half after UCC turned over leading by 2-4 to 0-6 at the break.

When Athlone started the second half in determined fashion and, had cut the deficit to two points, 2-4 to 0-8 in the 40th minute we looked set for a good finish. However, it was not to be as UCC upped their game to completely dominate the game for the remainder of the half.

UCC's main strength was in attack where Una O'Donoghue and Cliona

Harte were in brilliant form while Cork senior player Sinead O'Callaghan and Galway star Therese Maher had some great battles with O'Callaghan.

In defence Naomi Treacy, at full back for UCC found Catriona Hennessy quite a handful, and although Hennessy was her side's top scorer she never gave her a chance to goal.

Others to stand out in defence for the home side were Derval Quigley at right back, and Sinead Buckley at centre-back.

Tina Roche had an excellent game at midfield while in addition to those mentioned Ruth Cahalan had a good game

at right half forward. For Athlone, Fiona Healy and Sinead Burke in the half back line played well while Aine Hillery and Michelle Glynn tried hard at midfield.

Scorers: UCC: U. O'Donoghue 3-1, C. Harte 2-4 (1-2 frees), S. O'Callaghan 0-2, E. Burke 0-1. Athlone I.T.: C. Hennessy 0-5 (0-1 free), T. Maher 0-2, F. Healy 0-1. UCC: S. Ricken; D. Quigley, N. Treacy, L. O'Connell; D. Coughlan, S. Buckley, L. Kelleher; T. Roche, N. Bonar; R. Cahalan, S. O'Callaghan; E. Burke; S. Sexton, U. O'Donoghue, C. Harte, Subs: C. Glavin for D. Coughlan (52 minutes), T. Flynn for U. O'Donoghue (55 minutes). ATHLONE: B. Longworth; L. Byrne, R. Broderick, M. McElroy; C. Kenny, F. Healy, S. Burke; M. Glynn, A. Hillery; E. Smith, T. Maher, N. McMahon; C. Byrne, C. Hennessy, F. McConn, Subs: E. Hannon for F. McConn (19 minutes); U. Hussey for C. Byrne (35 minutes). Referee: B. Phillips (Tipperary).

UL  
MICE

FIRST-half goals from Aoife Lane and Erica Minogue set UL up for victory over MICE in the opening round of the Ashbourne Cup during the weekend.

UL, who now go through to the finals in Galway, led 2-5 to 1-3 and a string of points from Lane proved too much for MICE, who had their goals from Mary Ryan (2) and Deirdre O'Brien.

Scorers for UL: A. Lane 1-5, E. Minogue 1-2, C. Murray 0-4, J. Cullinane 0-1. MICE: M. Ryan 2-1, D. O'Brien 1-0, S. Kelly 0-2.

## Nenagh's persistence pays off

St. Mary's, Nenagh  
Sacred Heart, Clonakilty

A FIRST-HALF goal deep into injury time in the first half from Emer McDonnell was the deciding factor in the Munster Colleges Camogie A Final at Kilcolman, Co. Tipperary on Saturday.

Clonakilty, the reigning All Ireland B Champions, appearing in their first A Final, put up a determined challenge but eventually succumbed to the stronger St. Mary's side.

St Mary's have seen it all in recent years, the heartbreak and the disappointment of being the bridesmaid, never the bride, because of the dominance of St. Mary's Charleville in the competition.

This year, however, Nenagh emphatically defeated the North Cork side at the semi final stage. Clonakilty's path to the final was slightly easier, defeating Roscrea Community College in the semi final, yet they provided formidable opposition to the St. Mary's side.

St Mary's opened the scoring in the third minute with a point, a fine individual effort from Denise Ryan. Clonakilty replied with a 30 from ace marks-woman, Jennifer O'Leary. It was nip and tuck throughout with points exchanged by both sides for the remainder of the first half.

Deep into injury time St Mary's Tipperary Inter County star, Emer McDonnell picked the sliothar up on the right wing, danced her way through the

Clonakilty defence, skilfully dodged fullback, Anne Marie Fleming and blasted an unstoppable shot past Clonakilty custodian, Ella Harrington.

The goal forged St. Mary's into a two point lead, handing the initiative to the Nenagh side at the most opportune moment. Half time saw the Nenagh side in front by 1-3 to 0-4.

Clonakilty emerged from the dressing room with all guns blazing. Marie Moloney opened the scoring with a point following an inch perfect pass from Jennifer O'Leary.

The Cork girls were on a roll with sustained pressure forcing St. Mary's into their own half of the field. The pressure however, failed to yield a score and it was Nenagh who tacked on the scores with pointed frees from Emer McDonnell.

Clonakilty pressurised the Nenagh defence for the final ten minutes of the match but credit to the Nenagh side, they held out in indomitable fashion.

St. Mary's coach, Ger Delea was ecstatic: "We never got the break in previous years but today was our day and we look forward now to achieving our ultimate goal, the All Ireland title."

Best for St. Mary's, Nenagh were Mary Rose Ryan, Aine Mulcahy, Olive Slattery, Denise Ryan and Emer McDonnell while Jennifer O'Leary, Lisa O'Flynn and Marie Moloney shone for the Cork side.

Scorers: St. Mary's, Nenagh: E. McDonnell 1-5 (0-5 frees), D. Ryan 0-1. Sacred Heart, Clonakilty: J. O'Leary

0-5 (2 from 30s, 2 from frees), M. Moloney 0-1. ST. MARY'S, NENAGH: A. Kissane, M. R. Ryan (Capt.), S. McCarthy, D. McDonnell, O. Slattery, A. Woods, N. Hogan, A. Mulcahy, D. Ryan, S. Howard, C. O'Sullivan, E. McDonnell. Subs: A. Forde for Hogan, M. Coughlan for O'Sullivan. SACRED HEART, CLONAKILTY: E. Harrington, M. Sheehy, A.M. Fleming, K. McCarthy, R. Holland, L. O'Flynn, I. Dineen, E. O'Donovan, F. Collins, J. O'Leary, A. Foley, M. Moloney. Referee: C. Doody (Limerick).

St Patricks, Shannon 3-2  
Coachford CC 0-8

IN an entertaining Munster Senior B Post-Primary Colleges Final at Ballingarry on Saturday, St. Patrick's, Shannon, took the title at the expense of a Coachford Community College side that will rue several wides in the opening half.

Aided by the gale force wind, Coachford looked set to dominate proceedings when they opened with two points without reply for Mary Buckley and Joan Twomey.

Despite enjoying maximum possession, Coachford failed to capitalise and found themselves in arrears five minutes from half time when Laura Linnane soloed through their defence and finished to the net.

Two minutes later St Patricks stretched their lead when corner forward Clare McMahon pounced to their second goal that put them two goals to two points ahead as they turned over to play with the elements in their favour.

It was the Shannon girls who made the early running when after just four



Sheena Howard of St. Marys, Nenagh under pressure from Sacred Heart, Clonakilty players Karen McCarthy, Isla Dineen and Rosarii Holland. Picture: Denis Minihane

minutes Clare Hahir gave her side their goal. Coachford rallied and switching Maria Noonan to centre field they narrowed the deficit.

Four points from Noonan, one from Evelyn Harrington and a pile driving shot from Mary Buckley which was turned over the crossbar by Sharon Coleman in the Shannon goal. Responding well Shannon with two points from their star player Laura Linnane made the title secure.

Scorers: Coachford: M. Noonan (0-4), M. Buckley (0-2), J. Twomey, E. Harrington (0-1 each). St Patricks, Shannon: L. Linnane (1-2), C. McMahon (1-0), C. Hahir (1-0).

COACHFORD: C. McCarthy, J. Twomey, M. O'Connell, C. O'Leary, A. Ennequess (Capt), M. Ennequess, R. Twomey, S. Buckley, K. Crowley, M. Noonan, E. Harrington, M. Buckley. Subs: N. O'Connell for R. Twomey, M. Cooney for C. O'Leary. ST PATRICKS, SHANNON: S. Coleman, M. O'Connell, R. Kaiser, E. Gilmartin, A. Shannahan, C. Foley, E. Twohig, S. Kelly (Capt), C. McMahon, M. Hahir, A. Harrington, L. Linnane. Referee: N. O'Connor (Limerick).

## ST PATRICK'S CELEBRATE MUNSTER COLLEGES VICTORY



St Patrick's Comprehensive, Shannon, who defeated Coachford College in the Munster Colleges senior B final at Ballingarry, celebrate their victory. Picture: Eddie O'Hare

## Goal sinks Clonakilty



Jennifer O'Leary of Sacred Heart, Clonakilty bursts through the St Mary's, Nenagh, defence during the Munster Post-Primary Schools Senior A Camogie Championship final at Kilcolman on Sunday last. In their first A final, the Clon girls made a spirited bid for the title but Nenagh's first-half goal and dogged resistance late in the game denied the reigning All-Ireland B champions a win. Picture: Denis Minihane



## ACCOLADE FOR CAMOGIE STAR



John Sexton presents the Courtmacsherry Satellite Award to Geraldine Collins, member of the All-Ireland winning Cork junior camogie team. Also pictured is Noreen Fleming, Chairperson, Barryroe Camogie Club.

FEB. 2000

## Champions of camogie

SECOND and third level colleges dominated the camogie scene over the weekend.

In the Munster A and B finals, there was no joy for Cork schools. In the A decider, last year's All-Ireland B winners, Sacred Heart Clonakilty, put up a brave performance against favourites St Mary's Nenagh. But a goal from Tipp's Eimear McDonnell 2 minutes before the interval was decisive in this game, proving to be the difference in the end.

However, Clonakilty fought hard with Jenny O'Leary shooting five out of their six point total.

The B final was another close

By THERESE O'CALLAGHAN

affair, but goals at opportune moments for St Patrick's Shannon denied Coachford Community School the honours. Two in the opening period from Laura Linnane and Claire McMahon, and a third in the closing stage courtesy of Marie Hehir set the Clare girls on the road to victory.

The Cork school played steadily throughout, Marie Noonan hit five second-half points, but they failed to gain the upper hand.

In the Ashbourne Cup, UCC

qualified for a semi-final placing in a one-sided game against Athlone Institute of Technology. The Cork side held a four-point lead at the break, with Galway player Therese Maher in particularly fine form for the Athlone team.

However, once Una O'Donoghue scored the second of her hat-trick, the UCC side never looked back.

The draw for the semi-finals, which will take place in Galway on Saturday February 19th, is as follows: Waterford IT (holders) V UCD and UCC V UL.

The final at the same venue is fixed for Sunday February 20th.



MARIE COLLINS

Camogie - Marie Collins

Marie Collins from Bodyke has been one of camogie's star players throughout the nineties during which time she has given numerous outstanding performances for her beloved Clare.

When Clare won the All-Ireland intermediate title in 1999, Marie was named as the player of the final.

She was named at wing back on the Rest of Ireland team which played All-Ireland champions Tipperary in October and in that game she was also named as the player of the match.

She has helped Bodyke to win championship and league honours in recent years and she has been a regular on the Munster team for some time.

## Faughs-Celtic alliance a big boost

CAMOGIE

By NIAL SCULLY

Ireland medals, and her Dublin colleague, Una O'Connor, who collected 13 All-Ireland medals.

Celtic also contained the likes of Liz Howard, who played for Dublin and Tipperary, and who recently chaired the successful Women's GAA Forum.

Another former player is Mary Lynch, who became President of the Camogie Association, while two ex-Celtic Dublin PRO's, Rita White and Carmel Cooper, did much to promote the sport in the capital.

Talks began last year involving Celtic's Aine Derham, who refereed last season's All-Ireland Senior Camogie final, and Ned Rea, the Faughs chairman, who won the McCarthy Cup with Limerick in 1973.

Also involved in the merger were Catherine

Hayden, Mary Noonan and Anne Colgan, the last Dublin captain to lift the O'Duffy Cup in 1984.

For this season, the camogie juveniles will engage in training and challenge games with a view to preparing for the competitive arena next term.

The Celtic Cubs can avail of the fine facilities at Templeogue, which sees them currently training, under lights, on Wednesday night and again on Sunday morning.

CELTIC, one of the most famous Dublin clubs, have formed an association with Faughs, the county hurling champions.

Celtic had no juvenile section, and with Faughs having no camogie unit, both parties came to an agreement regarding this useful looking alliance.

Celtic are 71 years old, and they can boast of some of the finest ever players that graced camogie.

Legends like Kay Mills, who won 15 All-



# THE 1999 EXAMINER/AER LINGUS JUNIOR SPORTS STAR AWARDS

The Examiner  
Aer Lingus



NATIONAL  
JUNIOR SPORTS  
STARS AWARDS



## CAMOGIE

**EIMEAR McDONNELL** from Nenagh is the Examiner Junior Sport Star award winner for Camogie. In a memorable year for the sport in Tipperary, the 18 year old Burgess player put the seal on some exciting displays by winning an All-Ireland senior championship medal when the Premier County defeated neighbours Kilkenny in a wonderful final at Croke Park. Eimear starred in the forward division and she was to add to her medal tally when assisting Munster in the Gael Linn Cup final. Success in the Munster Colleges championship also came her way when St Mary's Secondary Schools team defeated Charleville and Sacred Heart, Clonakilty. An outstanding prospect, Eimear also holds provincial medals at under 14 and 16 levels.

## HORSE RACING

**FRAN BERRY** is a deserving winner of the Examiner Junior Sports Star Award for horse racing. The stylish 19-year-old is son of Frank Berry, one of the best jockeys this country has ever produced, and is equally adept on the flat and over hurdles. He hit the big-time at Leopardstown in January when producing a superbly polished performance to win the Ladbroke Hurdle aboard the Pat Hughes trained Mantles Prince. He enjoyed a splendid 1999. Berry rode 37 winners on the flat and was second in the apprentices' championship behind Jamie Spencer, a previous recipient of this award. At Cheltenham a year ago he partnered the Christy Roche trained Khayrawani to land the Coral Cup, a contest in which the first five home were all Irish. Then the following month the youngster guided Khayrawani to success in the Oddbins Handicap Hurdle at the Aintree Grand National meeting.



## TENNIS

**ELSA O'RIAIN** from Cork is The Examiner Junior Sport Star award winner for Tennis after a highly impressive season which saw her register major victories at home and abroad. A player of tremendous ability she served notice to her rivals on the international junior tour by reaching the singles semi-final and doubles final in Morocco in early June. She went one better in the singles in Casablanca where she also reached the doubles decider. A hectic year saw her compete with distinction also in Tunis, Montreal, Flushing Meadows, New York and Miami. Not surprisingly, Elsa was the dominant personality on the Irish courts and she shone like a beacon in winning both senior girls titles - the indoor at Riverview and the Open at Fitzwilliam. Interprovincial honours also came her way and she played at number one for the Munster under 18 and senior teams.



Three more winners will be announced in next Monday's paper

## Business award for St Mary's student Una

ST Mary's School, Charleville student Una Harrington was among seven young business executives from schools all over Ireland who received awards in the Irish Permanent Young Manager of the Year which recognises individual excellence in business acumen.

Una received the award for her role as Sales and Marketing Director in the St Mary's School company, Loose Threads, which participated in the Young Enterprise Ireland Company programme for the year 1998/99.

The award winners were chosen from over 5,000 participants nationwide and the winners received their awards from the chief executive of Irish Permanent Mr Billy Kane at an awards ceremony in Dublin.

Young Enterprise forms an integral part in the excellent transition year programme in St Mary's School, Charleville where the aim of the companies is to produce and market a quality product in a competitive business environment.

The Charleville school has been very successful in both the Young Manager Awards and in regional company awards in recent years. Two years ago Caoimhe Harrington, a sister of Una's, and Mairead Meenan won the Sales and Marketing and Financial Director awards, respectively, and a company from the school also qualified for the All-Ireland final of the competition and was just piped to qualify for the European final that same year.

Una believes that the Young Enterprise experience in the transition year at St



Una Harrington who won the Young Enterprise Sales and Marketing Director award in the Irish Permanent Young Manager of the Year awards.

Mary's was invaluable to her. "I loved the challenge of promoting a product in a competitive business environment and got a real taste of the business world," she said.

Using the school's and her home computer she designed colourful advertising material after she and her marketing team identified their target audience as those in the 12-23 year old age bracket.

They achieved their goal of keeping their shareholders happy with a ten per cent dividend at the end of the business year even if they were unsuccessful in the regional final.

Una had to do a number of interviews to win the award and again the experience was invaluable as the process plays a huge part in both college and job

She also praised St

Mary's School Principal Sr M. Martina, teachers Ms Lynda Connolly, Mairead Flinn and Martina O'Driscoll, without whom it would not be possible to organise and co-ordinate the school's transition year programme.

She also thanked John Casbell of Young Enterprise who organises the competition in schools in North Cork. Una also paid tribute to her colleagues in the Loose Threads company who gave her tremendous support throughout the year.

FEB 2000



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# Marys bid to retain title

MUNSTER post-primary finals in Junior A and B are on the agenda this weekend when St Mary's Charleville meet St Patrick's Shannon and presentation Ballyphehane clash with St Joseph's Borrisoleigh.

Holders and All-Ireland champions, St Mary's Charleville will go in as favourites to retain their title.

They face a Shannon side that two years ago as a first year side were an outstanding outfit and are now coming through the ranks.

Last weekend the Shannon senior team captured the Munster Senior B title and will include several of that side on the junior team among them goal-poacher Laura Linnane who caused all sorts of problems for the Coachford defence in last weekend's game.

The Charleville line up will include Cork and Limerick inter-county players Marie Watson, Aoife Sheehan, Aisling O'Brien and Emer Watson who are all determined to hold onto their title, but they need to be wary of a St Patrick's outfit who are confident of pulling off a Munster double.

## First

In the Junior Munster B final, St Joseph's Borrisoleigh are through to their first Munster Championship final.

This follows good victories over neighbours Borrisokane Community, St Joseph's Tulla, Scoil Pól and Mercy, Waterford. Ballyphehane having last season taken the Junior 'B' plate have made steady progress this season.

It's been 1977 since the school, then under the name Immaculate Heart Secondary school, contested the Munster Senior final.

They have been out of the limelight for several years, but have continued to make steady progress under the watchful eye of Kilkenny Senior star Sínead Millea.

At club level, action resumes with two Under-18 quarter-finals on Sunday.

Courcey Rovers travel to Aghabullogue and Glen Rovers head for Innishannon for a clash with Valley Rovers.

The Courcey's versus Aghabullogue should be a tight affair given the tremendous amount of success both sides have had at under-age level.

At Innishannon, Valley Rovers with Cork junior Elaine Burke, Liz Bugler and Marie Hurley, will expect to see off a strong Glen Rovers challenge who will be looking to captain Rebecca Williams, Niamh Goulding and Lorraine Kelly to lead their challenge.

## College team to meet University of Limerick later this month



Joy for St. Patrick's Comprehensive Shannon players and agony for Coachford College after the Munster Colleges senior B final.

Picture: Eddie O'Hare

# UCC in quest for Ashbourne Cup

UCC 5-8  
Athlone IT 0-8

**UCC ensured qualification in their quest for the Ashbourne Cup by beating Athlone IT at the Mardyke last weekend.**

With UCC leading two points to one, Criona Harte's early goal stretched her side's lead. A second goal from Una O'Donoghue minutes later had them in the driving seat.

But, with Catriona Hennessy and Therese Maher working hard, the Athlone side added points to leave the half-time score 2-4 to 0-6 in UCC's favour.

Ten minutes into the second-half, Hennessy and Maher put just two between the sides.

But for UCC, goals from Una O'Donoghue and Harte put the result beyond doubt and UCC will meet with UL for the Ashbourne Cup on Feb 19/20.

Despite a brave effort by Sacred Heart Clonakilty, they lost 0-6 to 1-6 to St Mary's Nenagh at the Munster Colleges Senior A final on Saturday.

By the 18th minute the sides were level three points apiece.

However, one minute from time Jenny O'Leary edged Sacred Heart ahead with a point.



St Mary's Nenagh's Eimear McDonnell races past Rosarie Holland of Sacred Heart, Clonakilty in the Munster post primary schools senior A championship final.

Picture: Denis Minihane

With two minutes' injury time played, Emer McDonnell bust past two defenders giving her side a 1-3 to 0-4 half-time lead.

In the second-half it was Sacred Heart who made the early running. Marie Moloney pointed to cut the deficit but again, Emer McDonnell took two points to keep her side in front.

Jennifer O'Leary pointed a free to leave just two between the sides but it was not enough and McDonnell

with a point in the 28th minute was enough to give the Tipperary side their first Munster Senior Colleges title since 1991.

In the Munster Colleges Senior B final, St Patrick's Shannon took the title 3-2 to 0-8 over Coachford Community College.

Coachford took an early lead with points from Mary Buckley and Joan Twomey.

But, with five minutes to go in the first-half, Laura Linnane opened St Pat-

rick's account. Two minutes later Claire McMahon had a second St Pats goal making it 2-0 to 0-2 at the interval.

In the second-half a third goal from Shannon's Claire Hehir stretched the lead.

With Marie Noonan at centre-field, points from Noonan (4), Mary Buckley and Evelyn Harrington, cut the Shannon lead but with time running out, two Laura Linnane points secured victory for St Pats.

## Indoor camogie is a hit

INDOOR camogie is a hit with many clubs and a number of them now have youngsters training all year round.

Having last year organised a successful indoor hurling tournament, Little Island Sports Centre has extended its programme this year to include a camogie seven-a-side.

This will be held at U-12 and U-14 grades with two sections in each. U-14 games start at 10am this Saturday. The U-12s are on Sunday. Semi-finals and finals are on Sat, Feb 19. Winners will receive a perpetual shield.

Clubs and sections: U-12 section 1: Killeagh, Ballincollig, Erins Own 1, Section 2: Douglas, Erins Own 2, Youghal, Eire Og. U-14 section 1: Eire Og 1, Glen Rovers 2, Erins Own, Ballincollig, Section 2: Youghal, Eire Og 1, Glen Rovers 2, Killeagh.

## FIXTURES

WEDNESDAY FEBRUARY 9  
Cork Colleges Intermediate Final: Coachford Community College v St. Patrick's Shannon, Newtownshandrum, 2pm; St. Joseph's Borrisoleigh v Presentation Ballyphehane, Borrisoleigh 2pm.

SATURDAY FEBRUARY 12  
Munster Post Primary Junior 'A' Final: St. Mary's Charleville v St. Patrick's Shannon, Newtownshandrum, 2pm; St. Joseph's Borrisoleigh v Presentation Ballyphehane, Borrisoleigh 2pm.

SUNDAY FEBRUARY 13  
Under 18 Championship quarter-finals: Aghabullogue v Courcey Rovers, Aghabullogue, 12 noon; Valley Rovers v Glen Rovers, Innishannon, 12 noon.





St. Mary's, Nenagh Secondary School team which won the Munster Senior Camogie Final against Clonakilty in Killelehan on Saturday last. Back (from left) Mary Rose Ryan (captain), Niamh Hogan, Amy Kissane, Siobhan McCarthy, Olive Slattery and Anna Woods. Front: Aine Mulcahy, Claire O'Sullivan, Deirdre McDonnell, Emer McDonnell, Sheena Howard and Denise Ryan. (Photo: Bridget Delaney)

## MUNSTER SENIOR SCHOOLS CAMOGIE FINAL:-

# Munster Crown for Nenagh Girls

By Peter Gleeson

St. Mary's, Nenagh . . . 1-6  
Clonakilty . . . . . 0-6

It's the women these days who are keeping the flag flying for Tipperary on the GAA fields of the country. And it happened again last Saturday when Nenagh's St. Mary's Secondary School captured the Munster Senior Schools camogie crown at Killelehan.

We live in the days when girl power rules okay in the Premier County. Camogie has engulfed the GAA like a tidal wave from Carrick-on-Suir to Carrigrohilly. Its explosion in popularity manifested itself in Tipperary's intermediate All-Ireland victory in 1998 and the county's first ever All-Ireland Senior final win last year.

Now St. Mary's of Nenagh have enforced the county's reputation as a stable which produces top class camogie squads. These days it's our women who are capturing the limelight on the GAA stage, while the men's game lingers haplessly along amidst talk of falling standards at club level and angst and frustration over yet another hurling 'famine' at inter-county level.

It's an era that has been a long time coming, but the women and girls are now having their hour in the sun. More and more females all over the county are showing sporting skills that are bringing a new sense of glory and pride to parishes and the county as

a whole.

The renaissance in camogie is to a major extent a tribute to a band of dedicated coaches and officials who have managed to lift the game onto a new plane of significance over the past number of years. Among this band is Ger Dulea, the St. Mary's coach, whose glowing achievements with the Nenagh school go back to the early 1990's.

Dulea, a West Cork man living and teaching in Nenagh for many years, guided the school to two successive All-Ireland junior victories in 1992/93 and then to a senior All-Ireland crown in 1994.

The school spent the last five years in the shadows but their team, again with Dulea at the helm, are now back and poised to challenge for the title of first All-Ireland senior champions of the new millennium following their narrow three points Munster final win over Clonakilty.

Nenagh made hard work of it despite the fact that they seemed to be the much stronger side. They did very well against a strong breeze in the first half, managing to lead by 1-3 to 0-4 at halftime.

The goal, by Nenagh's top player, Emer McDonnell, was a gem. Gathering the ball on the right wing she raced away on a solo after shaking off two Clonakilty defenders. Then a cock-up seemed on the cards when she slipped on the buttery pitch - but she sprang up, shook off the same two defenders again and blasted the ball

past Ella Harrington in the Clonakilty goal.

The goal, coming just seconds before the half-time whistle, gave Nenagh a distinct advantage. It put them back into a two points lead and they could look forward to the benefits of the strong breeze in the second half.

The skill with which the goal was executed showed why McDonnell is a Tipperary senior player. Indeed, her contribution to the game (she scored all but one point of Nenagh's total) proved to be the overwhelming factor which resulted in St. Mary's victory.

McDonnell's excellence was equalled by the Cork minor Jennifer O'Leary whose skill and strength proved to be the one big barrier to Nenagh running away with the match. O'Leary scored five of Clonakilty's total of six points and was always a thorn in Nenagh's side.

Despite the breeze advantage, Nenagh made hard work of it in the second half. Things didn't look too hopeful for the local side when O'Leary registered the first point of that period, thus reducing the deficit to the narrowest of margins.

A point from a free by Emer McDonnell opened the gap to two points again, but Nenagh lived dangerously right up the final whistle. The effectiveness of first time ground hurling was something neither side seems to have yet discovered. As a result the game as a spectacle suffered from over indulgence in

futile rummaging and foostering attempts at getting the ball from ground to hand.

In the end, however, Nenagh finished the stronger side and undoubtedly deserved their victory. Emer McDonnell put Nenagh three points ahead from a free with five minutes remaining, and, although Jennifer O'Leary replied with a Clonakilty point, time ran out for the West Cork girls.

Best for Nenagh were Emer McDonnell, Amy Kissane, Mary Rose Ryan, Deirdre McDonnell, Anna Woods, Denise Ryan and Sheena Howard. That said, all the Nenagh team played a vital part in the victory.

**St. Mary's, Nenagh** - Amy Kissane, Mary Rose Ryan (captain), Siobhan McCarthy, Deirdre McDonnell, Oliver Slattery, Anna Woods, Niamh Hogan, Aine Mulcahy, Denise Ryan 0-1, Sheena Howard, Claire O'Sullivan and Emer McDonnell 1-5.

Subs: Aileen Forde for Niamh Hogan and Mary Coughlan for Claire O'Sullivan.

**Clonakilty** - Ella Harrington, Mary Sheehy, Ann Marie Fleming, Karen McCarthy, Rosalind Holland, Lisa O'Flynn, Isla Dineen, Eimear O'Donovan, Fiona Collins, Jennifer O'Leary 0-5, Adelle Foley and Marie Moloney 0-1.

Referee: C. Doody, Limerick.

## COACHFORD GAIN DOUBLE VICTORY

Coachford Col. 7-8 St. Aidan's 0-2

THE Muskerry Camogie academy of Coachford College was successful on the Cork Colleges arena last week by virtue of their wins over St. Aidan's, Dublin Hill in the Senior B final on Monday last, and St. Fanahan's, Michelstown, in the Intermediate A final on Wednesday.

The senior squad lived up to their favourites tag, having defeated Kinsale and Youghal, and were bolstered by an in-form Mary Ennequess at full forward, who tormented Clair Fitzgerald in the Aidan's full back line. An early string of points from Ennequess and All Ireland medal winner Maria Noonan, on a heavy Glen Rovers pitch, rocked the Northsiders. Defenders Michelle Cooney, Joan Twomey and Fiona McSweeney had the measure of their opponents and it was Niamh Goulding who registered St. Aidan's first point after 20 minutes.

Player of the match Evelyn Harrington dominated midfield, and with team captain Ann Ennequess striking useful ball into her forwards, the inevitable first goal arrived compliments of Sheila McCarthy. Keeper Jenny McCarthy did stem the onslaught for the remainder of the half and St. Aidan's were fortunate to be in arrears by a score of 1-5 to 0-1.

On the resumption, Coachford immediately gained possession with Karen O'Flynn striking a low pass to Mary Buckley, who then set up Mary Ennequess for a clinical goal which effectively ended the game as a contest.

Niamh Goulding did respond with a thirty' after good approach work from the hard working Amy Cuthbert and Linda O'Sullivan, but any hopes of a revival from the city side were wiped out when excellent Coachford keeper Clair McCarthy made a difficult catch and clearance from Donna O'Duane's shot. Mary Buckley scored a goal, Sheila McCarthy converted a thirty' and the switching of Ann Ennequess to the full forward position yielded 2-1 for the tenacious Coachford captain. Clair Sheehan and Mary Buckley added another brace of points before referee Betty Joyce concluded the proceedings.

**Coachford:** C. McCarthy, M. Cooney, J. Twomey, F. McSweeney, M. Noonan (0-2), K. O'Flynn, A. Ennequess (C) (2-1), E. Harrington, M. Buckley (0-1), M. Ennequess (2-1), S. McCarthy (1-1).

**Subs:** N. O'Connell, B. O'Connell, C. Sheehan (0-1), M. Twomey, K. Crowley, C. O'Leary, S. Reek, M. O'Connell.

**St. Aidan's:** J. McCarthy, L. Davis, C. Fitzgerald, L. Cooney, C. Shortt, L. O'Sullivan, S. Keefe, A. Cuthbert, S. Collins, A. Burton, D. O'Duane, N. Goulding (0-2). Subs: M. Walsh, A. Kelleher, D. Barry, L. Phelan.



St. Mary's Nenagh camogie team captain, Mary Rose Ryan, presented with the cup by Munster camogie official, Mary Moran, after her side won the Munster Senior Schools Camogie Final against Clonakilty at Killelehan on Saturday last.

(Photo: Bridget Delaney)



# County camogie selector back with Coachford College

TEACHER Robert Lotty, who has been a county minor camogie selector, before he took a career break, is back in the harness at Coachford Community College, much to the delight of the school's camogie teams.

During his two-year term as county minor camogie selector he was responsible for building not only the Coachford team, but also the county honours-laden team.

As we write he is looking forward, this Saturday, to the senior B final, due to be played today, a report of which we will not have in this column until next week.

Meanwhile, the Munster senior A final is also to be played on this Saturday, between Sacred College, Clonakilty and St Mary's, Nenagh. Though Sacred Heart won the inaugural senior B Munster final, last season, it is understood they will have their work cut out to beat the Nenagh side, in this A final.

Apart from Robert Lotty, one Inniscarra camogie player, Ger Casey, will have her fingers crossed for Clonakilty where she comple

## Coachford/ Agahabullogue/ Rylane

ted her secondary education, and established herself as a star goalkeeper, not only with Sacred heart, but also on the successful Cork minor team. Ger and another player of Sacred Heart school, Clonakilty, Ger Collins, are gone from the team now, and are deemed a serious loss. Ger Casey's selection on the Cork minor team was due to Rob Lotty.

Coachford team has won its way to this senior B final beating Borrisokane, Community School, Tipperary; Presentation College, Ballyphehane and Christ the King College, and on that record they may overcome stiff opposition in St Patrick's Comprehensive School, Shannon.

Coachford team: Claire McCarthy, Catherine O'Leary, Joan Twomey, Maeve O'Connell, Anne Enneguess (captain), Mary Twomey, Mary Enneguess, Siobhan Buckley, Evelyn Harrington, Maria Noonan, Katie Crowley, Mary Buckley.

Unfortunately Coachford lost this final by two points.

FEB. 2000

## St. Mary's claim Munster title

In a round up of the colleges scene, PJ Fulham reports on a title won and two up for grabs.

St. Mary's Nenagh booked their place in the All-Ireland senior Colleges championship semi-final when they lifted the Munster title by defeating Sacred Heart, Clonakilty at Nenagh on Saturday last by 1-6 to 0-6.

His was an exciting final between two evenly matched sides. A goal by Eimear McDonnell midway through the first half was the difference between the sides at the end. The winners led 1-3 to 0-4 at the break.

Scores were hard to come by in the second half. Sacred Heart tightened their defence. Mary Sheehy, Ann Marie Flemming and Carol McCarthy were very staunch and relieved the pressure on several occasions.

Eimear McDonnell, who won an All-Ireland senior championship medal with Tipperary last season picked off three points in this half while Sacred Heart managed two, one each from Jenny O'Leary and Marie Moloney.

Prominent for Nenagh were Mary Rose Ryan, Sheena Howard, Olive Slattery and Denise Ryan.

Scorers: St. Mary's Eimear McDonnell 1-5 Denise Ryan 0-1

Sacred Heart: Jenny O'Leary 0-5, Marie Moloney 0-1

Referee: Celine Dooddy, Limerick

St. Mary's now meet the Leinster winners in the All-Ireland semi-final on March 4th.

Munster Senior B Colleges Final: St. Patrick's Shannon 3-1 Coachford 0-8

On Saturday next the Munster Junior A & B Colleges finals take place. In Junior A St. Mary's Charleville put their Munster and All-Ireland Colleges titles on the line at Newtown Shandrum at 2pm when they play St Patrick's Shannon in the decider. The majority of these players met in the 1998 First Year competition over two matches. Charleville had the edge in the first game but the Shannon girls came through by 3-3 to 0-6 in a final of exceptional standard.

Charleville will field a number of their All-Ireland side including Marie and Emer Watson, Aoife Sheehan and Aisling O'Brien.

St. Patrick's Shannon will call on a number of the girls who captured Munster Senior B honours last Saturday. They have a lethal goal-scorer in Laura Linnane and excellent players in Audrey Shanahan, Mairead Elliott, Evelyn McCaffrey and Rebecca Foley. With victories over Templemore, Scariff Community and Colaiste Mhuire under their belt, they will be full of confidence as they attempt a Munster double.

In Junior B St. Joseph's Borrisaleigh will be making their first appearance in a Munster Championship Final when they oppose Presentation, Ballyphehane in the final at Borrisaleigh, 2pm. St. Joseph's overcame Borrisokane Community, Cashel Community, Scoil Pol and Mercy Waterford to qualify. They have excellent players in Geraldine Kinnane, Kathleen Kennedy, Helan Ryan, Melissa Stapleton and Triona Dunne and will present a real challenge for the Cork side.

Presentation, Ballyphehane contested the Munster senior

final in 1997 when the school was known by the name Immaculate Heart Secondary School. They have been in the limelight for some years. Kilkenny Senior star, Sinead Millea took up a teaching position there a few years ago and has been making steady progress with the team.

Ballyphehane ousted Kinsale Community, St. Aloysius and St. Patrick's to earn a place in this final. Gemma O'Connor and Kelly Newman won All-Ireland Minor medals with Cork last summer. They have good performers in Catherine McCarthy, Valerie Maher, Dara Banks and Caitriona Myres. It has all the ingredients for a great final.



**McDonnell  
scoops sports  
star award**

Accomplished camogie player and Tipperary inter county star Eimear McDonnell (above) was recently selected to receive the prestigious Examiner newspaper junior sports star award for her achievements on the field.

Eimear has contributed in no small manner to Tipperary's first ever All-Ireland camogie victory last September and was also instrumental in helping her school, St. Mary's, Nenagh win the Munster post primary schools title recently.

Eimear will be presented with her award at a gala ceremony to be held on the 9th March.



*Sinead Millea is doing some excellent work with Presentation Ballyphehane*



Camogie  
winners  
at  
combined  
Barryroe  
dinner



Pictured at the Barryroe GAA and camogie club dinner dance at Fernhill House were the All-Ireland medal winners with the Cork minor and junior camogie teams. Back row, from left, Tony McCarthy, coach, Barryroe team; Noreen Fleming, chairperson, Barryroe camogie club, and Martin Moloney, coach, Barryroe camogie club. Front, from left, Jennifer O'Leary, Karen McCarthy, minor winners, Rosarie Holland and Geraldine Collins, junior winners.

## PLAYER PROFILE

# SINEAD NEALON

**NAME:** Sinéad Nealon  
**DATE OF BIRTH:** 25/3/74  
**HEIGHT:** 5ft 4"  
**WEIGHT:** 8st 10lbs  
**CLUB:** Burgess  
**COUNTY:** Tipperary

**HONOURS: (GAELIC):** All-Ireland minor, junior, intermediate medals. Ashbourne Cup medal with WIT. Third level colleges Player of the Year '93 & '98. Selected on combined colleges team on six occasions, numerous honours with club at U12, U14, U16, junior and intermediate levels.

**TOUGHEST OPPONENT:** Noelle Kennedy (Tipperary), Linda Mellerick (Cork)

**FAVOURITE GROUNDS:** Semple Stadium (Thurles)

**HOBBIES:** Skiing, Swimming, Pool

**FAVOURITE POSITION:** Centre back

**THE WORST PLAYER TO TRAIN THAT YOU KNOW:** Deirdre Hughes

**MOST EMBARRASSING MOMENT ON OR OFF THE FIELD:** Too numerous to mention

**FAVOURITE PLAYERS:** Sinéad O'Callaghan (Cork), Una O'Dwyer (Tipperary)

**INFLUENCES ON YOUR CAREER:** My father, staff of WIT GAA club, Liam Hogan Burgess Club coach

**THE HIGH POINT OF YOUR CAREER TO DATE:** Reaching the All-Ireland Senior final, winning Ashbourne Cup with WIT 1999

**BIGGEST DISAPPOINTMENT:** Losing Ashbourne Cup Final 1998

**OTHER PLAYERS WITH A PROMISING FUTURE:** Emer McDonnell, Philly Fogarty - Tipperary

**WAYS OF IMPROVING THE GAME:** 15 a side is a good change, more association with GAA, advantage rule should be introduced

**DISLIKES ABOUT THE GAA:** When a loyal supporter can't get an All-Ireland ticket after following their county all year round.

**RELATIVES INVOLVED IN GAELIC GAMES:** My father is Munster Council GAA Secretary. Uncle Eamon Kelly is Secretary of the North American Board. Brothers Sean, Donal and Kevin, twin sister Nuala

**PERSON YOU WOULD MOST LIKE TO MEET:** Wee Daniel O'Donnell!!! (Not)

**FAVOURITE PERSONAL SAYING OR TERM OF ABUSE:** That's right!!!

**PET HATES!:** The hurler on the ditch

**FAVOURITE MUSIC:** Robbie Williams, U2

**FAVOURITE FILM:** The Shawshank Redemption

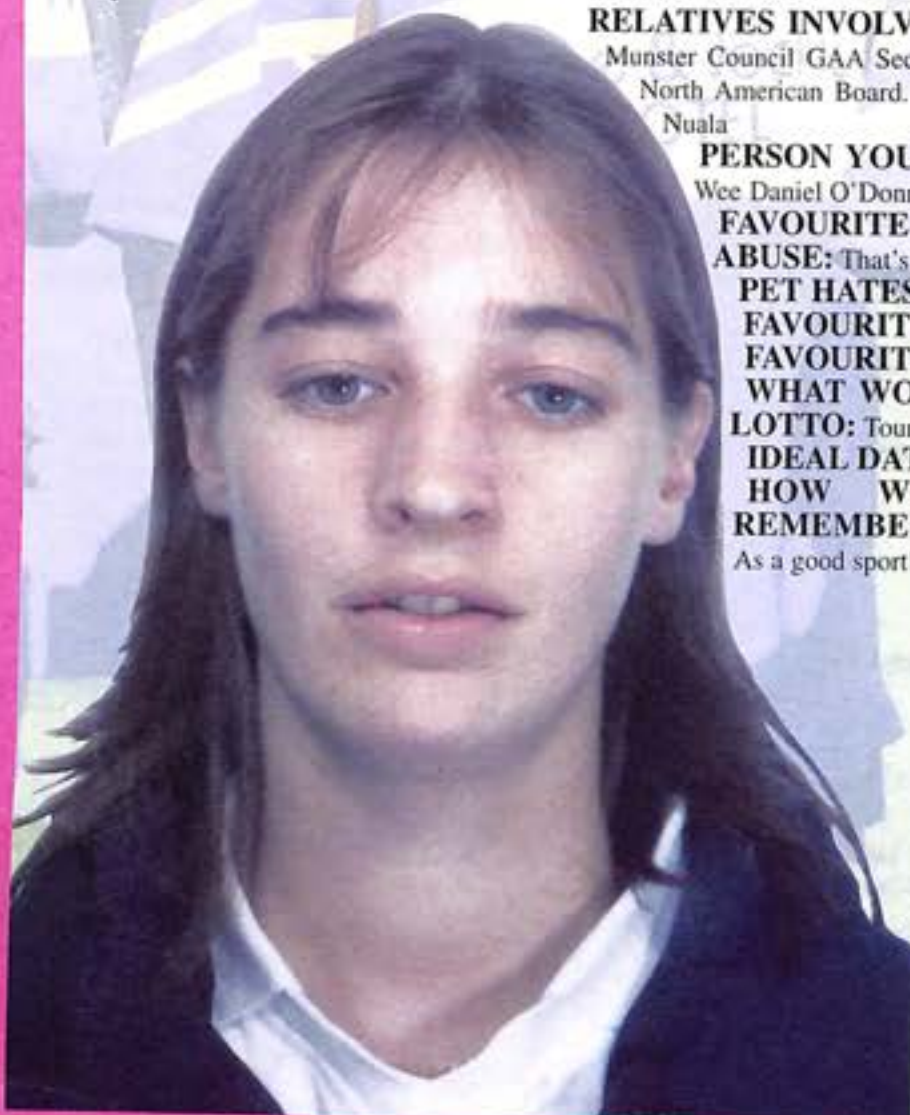
**WHAT WOULD YOU DO IF YOU WON THE**

**LOTTO:** Tour the world

**IDEAL DATE:** Brad Pitt

**HOW WOULD YOU LIKE TO BE REMEMBERED:**

As a good sport!



FEB

2000



# St. Mary's persevere to take Munster title

## NENAGH TOO STRONG FOR CLONAKILTY CHALLENGE

St. Mary's Nenagh 1-6, Sacred Heart Clonakilty 0-6

by James Hayden

A first half injury time goal from ace forward Eimear McDonnell was the deciding factor in the Munster Post-Primary Colleges camogie final at a blustery Kilcoleman on Saturday.



Nenagh C.M.S. Munster senior college camogie champions: Back row 1. to 8.: Margaret Hogan, Grainne Gleeson, Aileen Forde, Mary Rose Ryan (capt.), Niamh Hogan, Amy Kissane, Siobhan McCarthy, Olive Slattery, Anna Woods, Deirdre Troy, Michelle Slattery, Carmel Ryan and Ger Dullea (manager). Kneeling - Mary Coughlan, Siobhan O'Brien, Aine Mulcahy, Claire O'Sullivan, Deirdre McDonnell, Eimear McDonnell, Sheena Howard, Denise Ryan and Deirdre Kyne.

St. Mary's served up a performance befitting of the determination and grit they have shown throughout this year's competition and in the end it all paid off for the girls in the navy and red.

Clonakilty, the reigning All-Ireland "B" champions, appearing in the "A" final for the first time showed very little nerves and put up a determined challenge but eventually they had to give way to a physically stronger St. Mary's side.

St. Mary's have seen it all in recent years, the heartbreak and the disappointment of being the bridesmaid, never the bride, mainly due to the stranglehold that St. Mary's Charleville held on the competition in recent years.

This year, however, St. Mary's emphatically defeated the North Cork side amid jubilant scenes in the semi-final. Clonakilty on the other hand defeated Roscrea Community College on the other side of the draw to earn themselves the right to compete in Saturday's final.

St. Mary's opened the scoring in the third minute with a point, a fine individual effort from Denise Ryan. Clonakilty replied with a 30 from ace free-taker Jennifer O'Leary but in essence it was nip and tuck throughout the first half with points exchanged by both sides, mainly from frees.

### BREAKTHROUGH

Deep into injury time St. Mary's inter-county star Eimear McDonnell got the vital breakthrough for the Nenagh girls when she picked the sliotar up on the right wing, danced her way through the Clonakilty defence, skillfully dodged full back Ann Marie Fleming and unleashed an unstoppable shot to the roof of the Clonakilty net.

The goal forged St. Mary's into a two point lead, handing the initiative to St. Mary's at the most opportune moment, on the stroke of half-time. Half time saw Nenagh leading by a two point margin by 1-3 to 0-4.

### SECOND HALF

Clonakilty emerged for the

second half determined to break down the St. Mary's defence but their inability to adapt to simple ground hurling became their downfall. In fact ground hurling was not utilised too much by St. Mary's either and is a part of their game which they will definitely have to look at for the upcoming All-Ireland semi-final.

The Cork girls forced sustained pressure upon the St. Mary's defence but Mary Rose Ryan, Sheena Howard, Deirdre

day. In the end it was Nenagh who held out in indomitable fashion to claim a famous victory for their school and for North Tipperary.

St. Mary's coach Ger Dullea was delighted with his charges victory: "We never got the breaks in previous years but today was our day and we look forward now to achieving our ultimate goal, the All-Ireland title."

St. Mary's put in a sterling performance and to single out

Jennifer O'Leary 0-5 (0-2 from 30's, 0-2 frees), Marie Moloney 0-1.

**ST. MARY'S NENAGH:** Amy Kissane, Mary Rose Ryan (capt.), Siobhan McCarthy, Deirdre McDonnell, Olive Slattery, Anna Woods, Niamh Hogan, Aine Mulcahy, Denise Ryan, Sheena Howard, Claire O'Sullivan, Eimear McDonnell.

Subs: Aileen Forde for Hogan, Mary Coughlan for O'Sullivan.

**SACRED**

**HEART**



St. Mary's captain Mary Rose Ryan accepts the Munster Colleges Senior camogie trophy from Mary Moran.

McDonnell and Olive Slattery dealt competently with all Clonakilty threw at them. Aine Mulcahy and Anna Woods were excellent in mid field with their constant efforts ensuring Clonakilty never gained the upper hand. For all their pressure Clonakilty failed to make it count where it counts most, on the scoreboard. St. Mary's, however, capitalised upon their possession and with the aid of the wind Emer McDonnell pointed placed balls with aplomb.

Clonakilty never gave up and went in search of that elusive goal but as time ticked away it became more and more apparent that it was to be St. Mary's

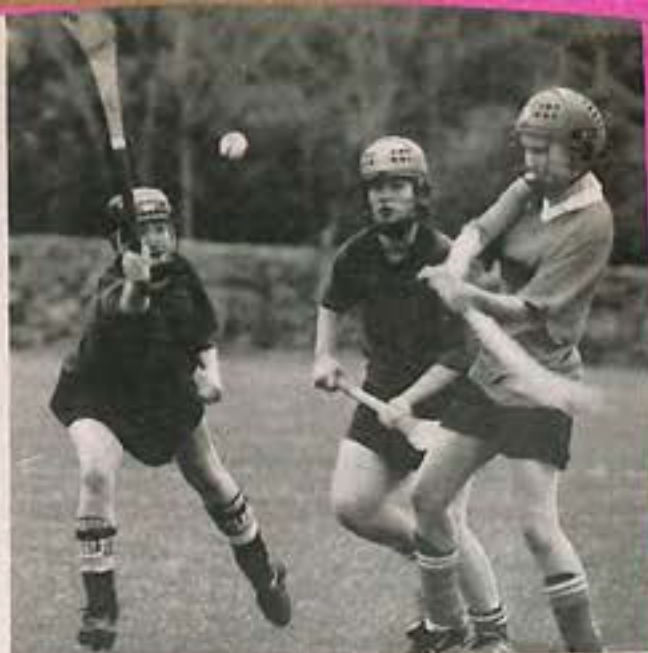
one for mention would be unfair. It was a whole hearted team effort on behalf of the twelve players and substitutes that ensured that the title was brought back to Nenagh.

**Scorers:** St. Mary's Nenagh: Eimear McDonnell 1-5 (0-5 frees), Denise Ryan 0-1.

**Sacred Heart Clonakilty:**

**CLONAKILTY:** Ella Harrington, Mary Sheehy, Anne Marie Fleming, Karen McCarthy, Rosarii Holland, Lisa O'Flynn, Isla Dineen, Eimear O'Donovan, Fiona Collins, Jennifer O'Leary, Adelle Foley, Marie Moloney.

**Referee:** Celine Doody (Limerick).



Deirdre McDonnell and Niamh Hogan to the fore for St. Mary's.



Claire O'Sullivan breaks through in Saturday's Munster

## St. Joseph's in Final

St. Joseph's, Borrisoleigh 4-10 - Mercy, Waterford 1-3.

St. Joseph's, Borrisoleigh qualified for the final of the Munster Intermediate League after this game played in Waterford.

Conditions were far less than ideal, the field was narrow and sloped with high grass and a howling wind to contend with. Borrisoleigh struggled for all of the first half, Mercy Waterford were everywhere. They hunted in packs and just prevented Borrisoleigh from playing. The backs - Kathleen Kennedy, Threase Maxwell, Deirdre Delaney and Helen Ryan coped very well with all the pressure and kept driving the ball to the forwards for whom nothing would go right in the first half. Joanne Ryan made home grate runs down the wing, but was closed down close to goal on a few occasions.

The second half saw a revival of spirits with Borrisoleigh getting to grips with the situation. Niamh Harkin worked extremely hard and scored a succession of points. Geraldine Kinnane and Louise Young made use of the effective delivery of ball from midfielders, Teresa Maher and Melissa Stapleton scoring from impressive angles.

Borrisoleigh await the winners of the Cork group for the final.

**Team:** Sarah O'Brien (Drom-Inch), Helen Ryan (Toomevara), Threase Maxwell (Toomevara), Kathleen

Kennedy (Toomevara), Deirdre Delaney (Borrisoleigh), Melissa Stapleton (Drom-Inch), Geraldine McGrath (Drom-Inch), Teresa Maher (Drom-Inch), Joanne Ryan (Drom-Inch), Teresa Maher (Drom-Inch), Joanne Ryan (Drom-Inch), Louise Young (Toomevara), Geraldine Kinnane (Drom-Inch), Niamh Harkin (Drom-Inch). Subs: Aine Everard (Drom-Inch), Fiona Ryan (Borrisoleigh), Claire Treacy, Margaret Treacy, Helen Shanahan, Michelle Ryan (Borrisoleigh).



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# Tiobraid Árann All-Ireland Senior Camogie Champions 1999



The Tipperary panel that won the All-Ireland senior camogie final for the first time by defeating Kilkenny at Croke Park. Back row (left to right): Nora Dwan, Gráinne Shanahan, Helen Kiely, Helen Campion, Angie McDermott, Marie Harkin, Therese Brophy, Noelle Kennedy, Suzanne Kelly, Claire Madden, Meadhbh Stokes (captain), Jovita Delaney. Front row (from left): Sheena Howard, Philly Ryan, Louise Ryan, Deirdre Hughes, Ciara Gaynor, Niamh Harkin, Sinead Nealon, Emer McDonnell, Cairtiona Hennessy, Emily Hayden, Una O'Dwyer.

## GA.A. All-Star Award for Deirdre

**T**wo months after the historic All-Ireland breakthrough Tipperary Camogie was back in the spotlight on Monday, November 15th, when the ultra-talented Deirdre Hughes received an Eircell G.A.A. All-Stars Player of the Month award, at a function in Croke Park.

On a day when Eircell honoured members of four All-Ireland winning teams for the months of September and October, Deirdre Hughes gave the Premier County its first award under the scheme.

The Toomevara star is a very worthy recipient of the award. For ten years she has given wholehearted commitment to the game serving up some superb displays for club and county. While the All-Ireland Senior medal was the icing on the cake for Deirdre, and she gave an outstanding display against Kilkenny, her impressive collection also includes Junior and Intermediate All-Ireland medals, and seven county championship medals. She also holds two Senior and two Junior Interprovincial championship medals with Munster.



Deirdre Hughes – Eircell Player of the Month and Camogie Player of the Year with Sean McCague (G.A.A. President Elect) and G.A.A. President Joe McDonagh.

The Eircell award, while a major honour for Deirdre is also a fitting tribute to the very many people associated with the promotion of camogie in the county.

Eircell awards were also presented to Christina Heffernan, a member of the All-Ireland winning Mayo ladies football side, hurler Brian Corcoran (Cork)

and footballer Mark O'Reilly (Meath) for their All-Ireland performances.

Mr. Jim Collity, Director of Corporate Business unit, Eircell, speaking at the function, said that "it is a great honour for Eircell to be in a position to praise and reward sportsmen and women of the highest calibre in the country for their contribution to Gaelic Games".



# BURGESS CAMOGIE

**T**here is an old saying that "winning isn't everything" - its the only thing. We won no titles this year, nevertheless our club is very vibrant and active. We know that a championship or league title does a lot for morale within the club.

However we had some close decisions during the year and we know that we are there or thereabouts in our standard of play. We will keep doing the right things and in time we will get the results. We have a very flourishing Summer Camp which appears to be growing in strength each year. With the introduction of 15-a-side we must try and broaden our catchment to include areas where camogie isn't played.

Of course the highlight of our camogie year was the winning of the All Ireland Senior Camogie title, and it is nice to know that we had a big part in this triumph. Our congratulations to Therese Brophy, Sinéad Nealon, Sheena Howard, Emer McDonnell. We are very proud of these girls and very proud of our coaches who gave these girls the time and knowledge of the game.

Going into the next millennium we will strive to maintain our standard of play and continue to supply players to the county and college teams.

We thank those involved with the management of the club and we are fully appreciative of the trojan work done by them, in particular, our chairperson Larry Kennedy, our vice-chairman Marie Hogan, Secretary Deirdre McDonnell, treasurer Eileen Hogan, P.R.O. Liam Hogan, senior team manager Brian McDonnell, Junior team manager John Hogan, coaches Edel Hogan, Margaret Hogan, Pádraig



Burgess players on Tipperary Senior Camogie panel - Therese Brophy, Sinéad Nealon, Emer McDonnell, Sheena Howard.



The Burgess camogie panel and mentors which won the county under 16 final by beating Gortnahoe-Glengoolie at The Ragg.

Meagher, Niamh Hogan and new acquisitions Brian Duggan, Liam Hogan jnr and Ger Kennedy. Club committee John and Carmel Donoghue, Mary Kennedy, Aileen Howard, Siobhain

McDonnell, Geraldine Hogan, Seamus and Áine O'Brien and all who lend a helping hand from time to time.

Nollaig shona dhibh eile.

'Mol an Óige agus tiocfaidh siad'.



Niamh Hogan explaining the skills of Camogie to Chernobyl children at the Burgess Camogie camp.

Tipperary midfielder, Emily Hayden (left) about to gather the ball ahead of her opponent during the Camogie National League Final at Semple Stadium.



## MARION CHAIRS MUNSTER CAMOGIE COUNCIL

by Gerry Slevin



**T**ipperary County Camogie Board secretary, Marion Graham from Littleton, was thrown in at the deep end of provincial council affairs last January, when she was the unanimous choice of delegates to chair Munster Council for the next three years.

Going to the Convention in the Ambassador Hotel in Cork, Marion had it in mind to seek the vice-chair and so give herself a three year "easing in" process. However, the vice-chairperson Vera Mackey from Limerick who in the normal course of events, would be the automatic choice for the chair to succeed Marie Kearney, Cork, had to withdraw because of work and study commitments.

So instead of a preparatory period for the chair, the very popular Littleton lass found her self going all the way to the top.

It is an appropriate time for a Tipper-

ary chairperson, on view of the strides the game has made in the county over the past decade or so and indeed Marion herself played a major role in such a happy state of affairs through her administrative qualities and her coaching and managerial expertise.

Over the past decade Tipperary's camogie fortunes have been raised considerably with All Ireland titles in intermediate, junior and minor grades as well as All Ireland senior and junior colleges titles (St. Mary's, Nenagh). The "big one", the senior title, eluded the county until September year. What a way to finish the final decade of this century. To capture no less than six All Irelands when Tipperary had failed to etch their name on any trophy until the '90s.

Marion is happy that the dressing room at the Ragg is coming on well. At the moment the plumbing and electricity are being installed.

"All we want now is someone to give us a couple of thousand pounds to see it through and if we could get the clubs behind us and into promoting the G.A.A. lotto, we would be doing well", Marion says. She concedes of course, that the problem in this regard lies in the fact their members are also working for their own G.A.A clubs.

It could be an exiting three years of Marion Graham at the head of camogie affairs in Munster. There is no more enthusiastic promoter of the game anywhere and such is the commitment she has always given that it will not come as any great surprise, should she decide to move up the ladder and seek the presidency. That's all for another day, another year. Meanwhile it will do very nicely that her long desired wish of seeing Tipperary become All Ireland senior champions was realised last September, during her chairmanship of the Munster Provincial Council.



# From May misery to September glory

## ALL IRELAND SENIOR TITLE WON AT LAST

BY GERRY SLEVIN

**W**ho would ever have believed it, the transformation of a team, literally humiliated in May, and less than four months later crowned All Ireland champions?

That Saturday evening in May, 22nd to be exact, an experiment in giving hurling fans an opportunity of seeing top class camogie played prior to an inter county game, in this instance Tipp and Kerry in the Munster quarter-final.

National League champions Cork against Tipperary, the Cork ladies, reigning All Ireland champions seeking their 5th successive league title.

An added attraction of course was in the courageous decision of the camogie authorities to bring into being in the final year of the century, the extension of the players complement from twelve to fifteen.

Camogie could now stand shoulder to shoulder with hurling!

Alas, Tipp could not stand shoulder to shoulder with Cork that summer's evening in Semple Stadium. A 9-19 to 2-7 score line tells its own story. Utter humiliation, utter disappointment for a team that had put aside the league hopes of Kilkenny, Clare, Limerick, Wexford and Galway, while losing out narrowly to Cork with an under-strength side. No contest in the final.

Phrases like 'freak result', 'one of those days' were to be heard afterwards by those who believed in the future of camogie in Tipperary. There were other remarks too, not so pleasant ones, from people who chose to scoff and jeer.

The latter - in hindsight - probably had much to do with what happened afterwards, because eighty-five days later Tipperary were crowned All Ireland senior camogie champions for the very first time.

Who indeed would have believed it! All Ireland senior champions. An achievement several great teams in the past tried in vain to bring about. At last it fell to the girls of '99, a team so ably led by Maedhbh Stokes, a team that was dismissed after May 22nd, but which resurrected itself through initiative, dedication and fierce determination, so much so that when final day came against Kilkenny, each and every member was imbued with a frenzied approach that refused to contemplate anything other than a climb to the very top of the ladder.

The immediate aftermath of the Cork defeat brought a mixture of frustration and hope. The championship draw could hardly have been kinder to Tipp because what were considered to be the 'big guns' were neatly slotted into the opposite group - Cork, Kilkenny and Galway. Clare and Down or Dublin would stand between Tipp and an All Ireland final place. With all respects to the other teams in Tipp's group, the odds looked good in Tipp's favour but before getting down to the task, a psychological exercise had to be embarked upon. That league final defeat had to be exorcised and mentors Biddy Phillips, Jim Madden and Timmy Moloney along with Board officials Noel Hennessy and Marion Graham had to set about ridding the players of any self-doubts there might be.

Thankfully, it wasn't too difficult because each and every player well knew that the events of May 22nd did not represent a true picture of the Tipp scene. Indeed Cork appreciated that too and when less than two weeks after the league final debacle, Tipp travelled down Lee-side to meet Cork - again - in the provincial championship. While victory went to the home side, it was of proportions far easier to come to terms with than the previous meeting.

### THE CHAMPIONSHIP

It was now time to expend all energies on All Ireland championship preparations. Added to the back-room were Michael Cleary and Colm Bonnar, former inter county hurlers whose worth in pursuit of excellence would prove hugely influential as the season progressed.

This championship was like no other previous championship in that each team now had fifteen players with games on a full size pitch. Bringing in the assistance of well established hurlers who had been through it all was an excellent move.

Fitness levels were improved, confidence was increased and came Saturday July 10th, and Tipp were ready to host Clare in the opening round in the Ragg. Noelle Kennedy sent home 1-12 of Tipp's total, all bar a point from frees and Tipp were leading 1-16 to 0-4 with two minutes of normal time remaining, a late Clare rally leaving it at 1-18 to 1-6 when Vera Mulcahy sounded the long whistle.

The first hurdle had been crossed and Down were coming next in the semi-final. In the other side, Cork and Kilkenny had come through decisively enough and both semi-finals were fixed for Parnell Park, Dublin on Saturday, August 7th.

The Cork-Kilkenny game was first on the programme and what a surprise that brought about! The All Ireland champi-

ons were in the driver's seat throughout, and though never able to get away from the dogged Kilkenny lassies with the ease their status might suggest, at the same time they seemed they seemed to be doing enough to win until disaster struck with, literally, the final puck of the hour.

A Kilkenny free, Sinead Millea steps up to take it, her team a point behind.

Ensuring a point and a replay her priority. Somehow the ball manages to ease its way under rather than over the crossbar. The final whistle sounds, Kilkenny are in the final, Cork are stunned.

As Tipp run out for their game against the Moyne ladies, the fact that Cork have departed the scene must surely add a spring to their step. Twenty minutes into the hour, Tipperary ahead 3-5 to 0-1 and the game is as good as over as a contest. The luckless Down girls are simply out of their depth and with Deirdre Hughes in rampant mood, blasting home four goals along with three points and other like Eimear McDonnell, Noelle Kennedy, Caitriona Hennessy, Niamh Harkin and Helen Kiely scoring almost at will, vision of the Croke Park sward on final day entered the consciousness.

It's 6-22 to 1-3 in Tipp's favour, Down's goal coming six minutes from the end and from none other than former Tipp star Joan Henderson (nee Tobin), who played for Tipp in the junior All Ireland final of '91, which Down won with a late goal.

Into the All Ireland final and against Kilkenny, a team they had beaten earlier in the season in the league and whose hopes of championship progress had been dashed by Tipp in the quarter final in Semple Stadium in '98. Yet, Kilkenny were the favourites and few could quibble with that. Their pedigree over the past couple of decades suggested they were ripe for another title and after all, only once had they ever suffered defeat in a final.

### THE FINAL

Yes, Kilkenny it had to be, but they reckoned without the fire and determination of their opponents whose overall play was of such quality as to greatly surprise not only their opponents but the thousands who looked in at the live telecast of what turned out to be a magnificent final. No fears of the big occasion, this was a well tuned Tipp side that gave as good as it got.

When Kilkenny, through Lizzie Lyng, struck for the game's only goal four minutes before half time, Tipp's response was immediate, an Eimear McDonnell pointed for parity at 1-4 to 0-7.

No, this Tipp team would no longer be fodder for anyone and as the game progressed it was noticeable that the

best camogie was coming from the Tipp girls. There was a worry though that the work rate was not complemented by the scores it deserved, and even from placed balls chances were lost. Still, it wasn't lost and after Kilkenny had introduced the injured Ann Downey to boost her side's morale, the Tipp morale could hardly have received great impetus than it did through what had to be the score of the hour, a truly magnificent Deirdre Hughes' point from under the new star and at a most difficult angle. Level.

Sub Caitriona Hennessy edged Tipp ahead from a 45, Sinead Millea struck back for yet another leveller and when it seemed as though the whole exercise would have to be fought out again in replay, Deirdre Hughes got possession, ran through and, inevitably, was hauled down.

A final chance for victory, but what pressure shot for young Caitriona Hennessy and how she soaked it up. Accurate and true, the sliotar floated along its desired destination, straight between the uprights. Time was up, added time was in its second minute and the atmosphere was electric and nail biting. Kilkenny chance to equalise, oh no, with a midfield free. As Sinead Millea came up to take it, thoughts of how she progressed Kilkenny into the final with that late, late free against Cork can have been far from the minds of all present, especially the Tipp defence. The distance was farther out this time than in the semi-final, but still...

Sinead's attempt was short, however, and Ann Derham's final whistle was the signal for a release of emotions that had to be experienced to appreciate it. There were floods of tears of sheer joy, hugs and back slaps given and taken with abandon.

Maedhbh accepted the O'Duffy Cup from Camogie President, Fileas N. Bhreaslain and paid due tributes to a man who made such an historic day possible.

And it would seem that the time since that September 5th victory, has been spent endorsing those tributes with the county rising to this team in splendid style.

Horse and Jockey and Cashel in the pelting rain of the following night began it at home. Since, the players and mentors have been honoured with civic receptions, club receptions, etc., staged to shower honour and glory on a group of players who did their county so proud last September.

All Ireland champions in the final year of the century, and for the first time at that. What better way to endorse the victory than by becoming the first All Ireland champions of the new century.

Who ever would have believed it a on May 22nd!



The Tipperary senior camogie panel celebrate with the O'Duffy Cup following the defeat of Kilkenny in the All-Ireland final at Croke Park. Included are (front, l-r.): Helen Campion, Emer McDonnell, Noelle Kennedy, Deirdre Hughes, Maedhbh Stokes (captain), Nora Dwan, Helen Kiely, Niamh Harkin. Back: Ciara Gaynor, Philly Fogarty, Emily Hayden, Caitriona Hennessy, Therese Brophy, Claire Madden, Una O'Dwyer, Grainne Shanahan, Sheena Howard, Louise Ryan. In the background is selector Timmy Moloney.



# TIPPERARY CAMOGIE

## Cumann Camógaíochta na nGael Bord Chontae Thiobraid Árann

### Marion Uí Greacháin

I am privileged again to have this opportunity to present to you the happenings within our county during 1999. The dawning of a new millennium and what a historic year it has been for Tipperary camogie capturing that elusive senior title for the first time.

The following are the competitions run by the Tipperary County Board with the eventual winners and runners up.



Senior Camogie selectors L/r: Jim Madden, Bridget Phillips and Timmy Moloney.

COMPETITION	WINNERS	RUNNER-UP
U-12 'A' Championship	Clonoulty	1-5 Toomevara 0-0
U-12 'B' Championship	Gaels	3-1 Silvermines 1-2
U-12 'C' Championship	Portroe	3-1 Holycross/Ballycahill 1-0
U-12 'A' League	Silvermines	2-3 The Gaels 1-0
U-12 'B' League	Portroe	3-2 Moneygall 0-2
U-12 'C' League	Anncarty	1-0 Moycarkey/Borris 0-2
U-14 'A' Championship	Templemore	8-2 Knockavilla/Donaskeigh 0-1
U-14 'B' Championship	Silvermines	7-3 The Gaels 1-0
U-14 'C' Championship	Bournea	8-0 Anncarty 1-0
U-14 'A' League	Templemore	6-3 Toomevara 2-2
U-14 'B' League	Bournea	2-1 Burgess 1-0
U-14 'C' League	Newport	1-0 Lorrha 0-1
U-16 'A' Championship	Drom/Inch	1-8 Toomevara 2-2
U-16 'B' Championship	Templemore	8-5 Silvermines 3-3
U-16 'C' Championship	Portroe	3-1 Newport 0-1
U-18 'A' Championship	NOT COMPLETED	
U-18 'B' Championship	NOT COMPLETED	
Junior 'A' Championship	St. Rita's/Fethard	3-10 Clonoulty/Rossmore 1-6
Junior 'B' Championship (John Hogan Cup)	Silvermines	1-4 The Gaels 2-0
Junior 'A' League	St. Rita's/Fethard	2-6 Clonoulty/Rossmore 2-2
Junior 'B' League (Terry Griffin Geaney Cup)	Silvermines	1-6 The Gaels 1-0
Intermediate Championship	Holycross/Ballycahill	4-4 Portroe 2-7
Intermediate League (Jimmy Carroll Cup)	Portroe	2-5 Knockavilla/Donasleigh 0-2
Senior Championship	Cashel	3-7 Toomevara 1-5
Senior League	NOT COMPLETED	

Congratulations to Cashel who retained the senior title. In the Munster club final however, last year's All-Ireland club champions Granagh/Ballingarry had a convincing 8 point victory over them. Despite the condi-

tions and the result it was an excellent encounter.

In the Féile Na nGael, Templemore represented Tipperary. They did not reach the same stage of this competition as they had done in previous years but

nevertheless represented their club and county with pride. All was not lost for this brilliant U-14 team. On September 5th they also made history for Tipperary, being the first Tipperary club to be crowned U-14 All-Ireland community games champions. Congratulations to the team, Martin Bourke and all concerned with this historic victory.

Tipperary were well represented in the All-Ireland seven-a-side competition in Kilmacud. Tipperary playing in the Senior All-Ireland Final the following day left a number of clubs without their key players. However they accounted well for themselves even if clubs did not attain the honours they had in the previous years.

### ANOTHER FIRST FOR TIPPERARY!!!

Tipperary hosted the national Congress for the first time ever, last March. The Congress was held in The Anner Hotel and was attended by delegates from all over Ireland, with delegates from London also present. This was a historical event for those who attend Congress on a regular basis, as it was the Congress which honoured a very worthwhile lady involved in camogie for almost seven decades. Sile MacAnulty was honoured with life long Presidency for her continued dedication and valuable assistance to our association.

My sincere thanks to the following who provided sponsorship for Congress: Stakelums of Thurles for folders and stationery; Timmy Moloney, Cashel for biro; Tipperary Crystal for presentation to our President; Tipperary Supporters Club for hurley badges for each delegate. Many thanks also to Peggie Morris for singing at the mass, Frank



Noelle Kennedy heads for goal during the All-Ireland senior camogie final against Kilkenny.

Mulcahy, Anner Hotel, Thurles and his staff for their courtesy and help leading up to Congress. To everybody who contributed to make this Congress the success that it was, many thanks.

### FIXTURES AND REFEREES

One of the most unappreciated and hard working committees within the County Board structure is the Fixtures Committee. Very few clubs fully realise that the complex work of organising and co-ordinating the running of our games within our county requires hours of behind the scenes planning.

The lack of referees in our county and in particular female referees (no reflection on our male referees) is indeed causing a serious concern, one which will have to be addressed early in the new year. All clubs will have to provide at least one referee. I have brought this subject up year after year, but now is gone beyond a joke and something will have to be done immediately. I hope it will be a subject for discussion at Convention and not just passed off for somebody else to sort out. This problem concerns everybody in our association and it is not just a matter for the officers.

May I take this opportunity to thank all referees who officiated for us last year. In some cases your task was not easy and you had to endure a lot of verbal abuse from players and mentors.

### SPONSORSHIP

Again we had to call on the good nature of a number of people during the year for sponsorship. Leading up to the Senior Final we had difficulty in attaining sponsorship. Finches put some gear at the disposal of the team for the semi-final. Our good friend in the Horse and Jockey Inn, Tom Egan, came up trumps and to his credit did not leave the girls wanting and attired them beautifully for this historic occasion.

Many thanks to Frank Mulcahy, Anner Hotel, Thurles, Tipperary Sup-

porters Club who paid the costs of the hotel for the week-end, to Tipperary/Dublin Association who provided a meal for the team on Sunday night, to Tipperary G.A.A. Board who paid for the transport for the week-end. To the many clubs, the Divisional Boards, companies and many individuals who answered our appeal for funds - it was all much appreciated. Thanks also to Siobhan Tynan, Sportsman's Dream, Nenagh, who presented each member of the panel with a pair of camogie boots prior to the game.

### CONGRATULATIONS

Congratulations to all our camogie friends who got married during the year. Congratulations also to those who extended their families.

Sincere congratulations to our three senior county players who have received awards since our historic vic-

tory. Deirdre Hughes, Suzanne Ke and Meadh Stokes. We have humil recipients, but for some of them appearing on our daily newspapers, we would not have been told of their achievements. Girls you deserved those awards and should not be embarrassed by the publicity you get, for those once we are getting good publicity. Well done!!!

Congratulations also to Sinead Nealon who was awarded the "Player of the Year" for the Ashbourne College Competition. Sinead played with W.I. and they won the Ashbourne for the first time this year. Tipperary had indeed big contribution to this victory, with no less than four Tipperary players involved, Jacqueline O'Connor, Sinead Nealon, Una O'Rourke and Cathrion Fitzgerald. Colm Bonnar was also involved as coach.

### SYMPATHY

Sincere sympathy to all those who suffered bereavements during the year in particular to our former chairperson, Bernie O'Dowd on the death of his husband Tommie. Tommie was a well known figure in camogie circles and was a selector with the great Thurles camogie team of the 70's. To the families and friends of all who suffered bereavements during the year, our deepest sympathy.

Ar dheis de go raibh an nanamacha.

### SCHOOLS CAMOGIE

We are indebted to the teachers of all primary and secondary schools who are giving freely of their time promoting camogie in their schools.

The schools are the backbone of our clubs and we thank them sincerely for the work they are doing and for allowing camogie on their curriculum, it is much appreciated. We wish them well.



Eileen, Len and Ciara Gaynor in joyful mood after Ciara had played a prominent part in the defeat of Kilkenny in the senior camogie final All-Ireland at Croke Park.

Feb 2000



# County Camogie Review

BY COUNTY P.R.O. ROSE MANNION

The year 1999, the dawning of a new Millennium, and what a historic year it has been in the annals of Tipperary camogie with the Senior team bringing the O'Duffy cup to the County for the first time ever. But as the saying goes, a week in politics is a long time, so too is a year in camogie.

Fifteen years seems like an eternity as that's how long it's been since Tipperary last contested the Senior All-Ireland. However, here I deal with their league run earlier in the year which was a good practice run-up to the championship. They recorded a great victory over Wexford that brought them through to the National league semi-final against Galway.

To reach this semi-final they had wins over Limerick, Clare, Kilkenny and Wexford while Cork were the only team to defeat them on the way. There was no need to worry though with Galway, as the girls finished on a scoreline of Tipperary 2-14 to Galway 3-7.

And so to the final and what a devastating blow this game turned out to be. All confidence after such a fine run, was now shattered and took a major blow. The Semple Stadium venue was a curtain-raiser to the Tipp/Kerry S.H.C. game, and what a disappointment to both the girls and their management team as Cork totally annihilated this promising outfit. A small following of supporters watched on and could not believe what was happening before their very eyes, but as the crowd gathered into the Stadium for the hurling match, they were shocked into disbelief that the girls could be taking such a beating in this National League final.

All-Ireland champions Cork, were totally in control going for their five-in-a-row league title and twelve of that team that played in last year's All-Ireland, were now lined out in Semple Stadium. One might ask what chance did Tipperary stand, a side that lacked so much experience compared to the opposition? The Cork side too looked so much fitter while their speed caused problems throughout the field but even more so on the



Under-12 Anacarty Donohill Camogie Club

Back Row (l. to r.): Eileen Ryan, Ann O'Dwyer, Emma Kennedy, Mary Keane, Ann-Marie Ryan, Claire O'Neill, Rita Ryan, Mary O'Dwyer, Grace Furlong, Yvonne Ryan, Fionnuala O'Brien. Front: Sarah Ryan, Alison McHugh, Sheila Ryan, Orla Coughlan, Denise O'Dwyer, Elaine Ryan, Fionn Bradshaw, Christine Ryan, Catherine Quinlan, Lisa Carey, Mary Quinlan.



Eire Og Anacarty Donohill Camogie Club, under-14 Co. Championship Finalists 1999. Back Row (l. to r.): Joseta Fox, Assistant Secretary: Brid Carey, Treasurer: Sarah O'Brien, Secretary: Fr. Tony Ryan, Chairman. Middle Row: Kathleen O'Connor, Mary Keane, Ann Marie Ryan, Sheila Carey, Antoinette O'Doherty, Fiona Fox, Aislinn McGrath, Joanne O'Doherty, Tracey Guerin. Front Row: Emma Kennedy, Emma McHugh, Norcen O'Doherty, Aine Barry, Patricia English, Caroline Furlong, Cathriona White, Ann O'Dwyer, Roseanne Hennessy. Missing from photo: Eimer Quinn, Ann Marie O'Neill, Amanda Fahy, Patricia Ryan, Coach Selector.

back line which was constantly punished and particularly in the second half.

Cork had 3-11 scored by the time Noelle Kennedy registered Tipp's first point from a free in the 23rd minute.

Cork's Una O'Donoghue, Sinead O'Callaghan, Linda Mellerick and Fiona O'Driscoll were coming down heavy on the Tipp back line.

While Tipperary did manage to gather themselves a little better in the second half, they were however in dire trouble and unable to make a come back with the Cork side running riot on them. Noelle Kennedy did have a goal for her side in the

17th minute, which was the result of a free, but it was far too little, far too late. Final score Cork 9-19 to Tipperary 2-7.

It was a game of no real benefit to either side and the major question now was could the Tipperary side put this disaster behind them and forget the game ever took place?

With the championship looming ahead, a hat-trick had to be performed and one wondered where could Tipperary go from here, and how could that hat-trick be performed.

## Under-18

The under-18 girls played old rivals

in the coming season both on and off the field.

## CONCLUSION

I would like you pay a special tribute to my fellow officers, Noel Hennessy who has put in many hours of hard work helping with the completion of the dressing rooms and attending many meetings and functions that clubs would not have been aware of. Biddy who has given so freely of her time during a very busy year, Patsy Carroll who made herself available on many occasions collecting at gates on semi-final and county final days, also our P.R.O. Rose Mannion.

Sincere thanks to the GAA clubs for putting your pitches at the disposal of our teams, both at club and county level. We look forward to your continued cooperation. My appreciation also to Tommie Barrett, Martina Oakley and Tim Floyd for their continued support and help during the year and the much needed use of the office facilities.

Finally I would like to thank the club officers, club and county players for their kindness and courtesy shown to me during the year and I wish them success for the coming season. I wish you all a happy and peaceful Christmas and a successful 2000.

I wish all incoming officers, sub-committees, teams and their management the very best for the new millennium and let's hope we will bring more silverware to the Premier County than we have in this century.

Emer McDonnell heads goalwards during the All-Ireland senior camogie final against Kilkenny.



Officers of the Camogie Board photographed prior to the All-Ireland victory over Kilkenny. From L/R: Marion Graham, secretary; Noel Hennessy (Chairman) and Rose Mannion (PRO).

Meadhbh Stokes, Tipperary (Captain) being presented with sponsorship cheque from proprietor of the Horse and Jockey Inn. Mr. Tom Egan. Included in picture are Marion Graham, Co. Secretary, Emily Hayden, Tom Egan, Meadhbh Stokes and Biddy Philips (Manager).



## TEMPLEMORE - County U-14 'A' League and Championship Winners 1999.

Back (l.-r.): Martin Bourke, Elaine Bourke, Lisa Buckley, Freida Morkan, Siobhan Brennan, Tara Johnston, Catherine Ryan, Marilyn Purcell, Sinead Bourke, Claire Grogan, Brid Kiely, Carmel Phelan, Catherine O'Doherty, Emma O'Meara, Tara Ryan. Front (l.-r.): Orlaith McDonnell, Fiona Hennessy, Patricia Jones, Laura O'Connor, Maria Bourke, Karen Maher, Denise Fogarty, Marguerite Bourke (capt.), Karen Healy, Laura Houlihan, Claire Murphy, Eimear Buckley, Fiona Johnston, Sarah Hennessy.



## TEMPLEMORE - County U-16 'B' Champions 1999

Back (l.-r.): Martin Bourke, Noelle Bergin, Patricia Ryan, Catherine Ryan, Aileen Brennan, Sinead Bourke, Claire Grogan, Brid Kiely, Fiona Purcell, Siobhan Kiely, Marguerite Bourke, Jim Brennan. Front (l.-r.): Sinead Scully, Jean Timmons, Tara Johnston, Patricia Jones, Bridin Jones (capt.), Ashling Brennan, Sara Ryan, Siobhan Brennan, Elaine Bourke.



## TEMPLEMORE U-13/ Team - All-Ireland Community Games Championships 1999

Back (l.-r.): Martin Bourke (trainer), Eimear Buckley, Patricia Jones, Claire Grogan, Claire Murphy, Mary Maher, Catherine O'Doherty, Marilyn Purcell, Sinead Bourke, Mick Curley. Front (l.-r.): Laura O'Connor, Emma O'Meara, Karen Maher, Catherine Maher, Orlaith McDonnell (capt.), Sharon Meade, Brid Kiely, Elaine Bourke, Clarissa Bohan.

Photo: Susan Bourke



Cork in the semi-final of the Munster championship on a fine crispy day that was ideal for such a game.

This team was made up of six All-Ireland medal holders and three from last year's Junior team that contested the All-Ireland final. However, lady luck eluded the girls and they found themselves face-to-face with a Cork side that were hungry for glory and who were not letting Tipperary home with a win, like what they did the previous two years.

Tipp's three-in-a-row hopes were swept aside and their Munster title swiped from them on a final score of Cork 4-16 to Tipp 2-7.

#### MINORS SHORT-LIVED SPELL

Larry Kennedy, Chairman of the Burgess club was a selector with the minors during '99 and he reported that they had their first and only outing against Limerick on April 5th in Templemore. He goes on to tell us that Limerick had a great start and although they had a faster and sharper side, the Tipp back line stood pretty firm as a whole and only the puck of a ball separated them at the interval.

Tipp shook off the cobwebs, piled on the pressure and were winning more ball in the second half with more play and a more evenly distribution of the ball meant that scores were beginning to come their way. However, a free to Limerick resulted in a stroke of luck.

Goal, giving the Tipp girls no time to make amends.

Larry feels that Tipp should have won this game and were worthy of far better but alas, it was not to be. Final score: Limerick 1-5, Tipperary 0-4.

The panel - Ailish Kennedy, Kathleen Kennedy, Trish O'Halloran, Brid Hackett, Aileen Forde, Bridget Ryan.



Clonoulty/Rossmore under-12s 'A' County final '99

Helen Breen, Aine Mulcahy, Aisling Minogue, Orla McDonagh, Philly Fogarty, Browyn Keeshan, Lilly Harrington, Noelle Bergin, Louise Young, Melissa Stapleton, Geraldine Kinnane, Gillian Slattery, Mairead Hogan, Margaret Hogan.

#### Juniors mixed fortunes

This team, last year's All-Ireland finalists, was not in as much luck in '99 with their games. It was more a case of mixed fortunes for them than anything else, losing some games and winning others.

Bernie O'Dowd from the Thurles club tells us that in the league Tipperary played four games, winning their first two against Limerick and Clare respectively. This was an ideal start and the outfit was looking promising, but Offaly was Tipperary's downfall and their third outing which saw them concede to the faithful County. Galway called a further halt to their gallop and left them out of the league.

However, all was far from lost for this panel of girls and their management team thought that something could be salvaged for the championship, and so Timmy Delaney of Borrisoleigh was introduced to the coaching helm.

The side had a convincing eight point win over Limerick in the Munster semi-final. With a miss in the preliminary round, this win was a real morale booster going into the final against Cork which all knew would be a tough encounter and no one was under any illusions as to what would have to be done.

On a sun-soaked August evening in Cork, Tipperary failed to their bid for the Munster title. A sharper, fitter and far more hungry side Cork proved to be on the evening running circles

around the Tipperary side.

#### Intermediates

Tipperary had a walkover from Clare in the first round of the Intermediate championship. Cork were their opponents for the Munster final which was played at the Ragg and this time round, Tipperary proved worthy to be crowned Munster Intermediate Champions on a scoreline of Tipperary 6-14 to Cork 3-5.

The panel - L. Ryan, D. McDonnell, P. Fogarty, J. Ryan, M. Corcoran, J. O'Connor, D. Quigley, J. Delaney, L. Burke, G. Shanahan, A. Dean, N. Maher, D. Ryan, J. Ryan, S. Ryan. Subs: S. Howard for D. Ryan, S. Cusack for L. Burke and D. Manton for J. Ryan.

#### Gael Linn

Munster retained their Senior title in the Gael Linn Inter-Provincial competition which took place in St. Anne's Park, Bohernabreena, Tallaght on June 19th.

Two of Tipperary's representatives, Deirdre Hughes and Noelle Kennedy, were in full playing form on the day, with Deirdre picking off three points while Noelle finished with one point to her credit in the final. Well done to all the Tipp competitors.

#### More gold comes to Tipp

Templemore camogie club brought gold to the premier County and to their club, also this year when they were crowned under-14 All-Ireland Community Games Champions for 1999 on the exact same day as the Seniors captured the All-Ireland.

Like the Senior squad, Templemore are the first Tipperary club ever to achieve this honour in the 35 years of the Community Games competition. They beat the Leinster champions Urlingford/Johnstown (Kilkenny) in the semi-final and had a 4-7 to 1-4 victory over the Connacht champions Killimor (Galway) in the final.

This panel of girls, their coach Martin Burke, and all in Templemore, connected with this brilliant win are to be congratulated.

At time of going to print, they are to contest the Ann Frazer League final against old rivals Toomevara, at a future date.

However, in the Munster final, they failed to progress against another old rival and pretty strong Granagh/Ballingarry side on a scoreline of Ballingarry 0-12 to Cashel 0-4.

I believed in giving praise where it's due and here I wish to thank our local media people. The people I refer to are Paddy Finucane and Mike McCartney of Tipp FM, Michael and Breda Hennessy, together with the two Marys who man the phones, down there in Tipp Mid-West, Jerry Slevin and Bridget Delaney of the Nenagh Guardian, Michael Heverin and Tom Corr from the Nationalist, and Michael Dundon and Brendan O'Connor of the Tipp Star.

All wonderful people giving camogie in Tipperary fantastic coverage and all so helpful to me in my job as P.R.O. I cannot thank them enough for their kindness, co-operation and genuine support to me which has made my job much lighter.

Last but by no means least, the

# Development

by Rose Mannion, Development Secretary

A slow process is best to describe our new dressing rooms at our county pitch. However, slow it may be, but we are getting there and we aim to have them opened in the new year.

The usual story of finance is one stumbling block, and as I write, we in the Development committee are holding a disco in the new Munster Hotel's night club 'Phoebes' on December 3rd.

many wonderful people around the county at club level who have helped me out from time to time and my wish to you all is for a healthy and sporting Millennium.

Electrical, plastering and the heating stages are all in progress and the £40,000 we received of grant money, is nearing its end at this stage.

Whatever fundraising ideas that are put forward in the future, we need the support of everyone in order to finish this lovely and much needed facility.

Well done to Cashel who retained the Senior championship title for their second year.

As Tipperary camogie P.R.O. it certainly has been a busy time, yet it has been a wonderful and historic time to work through, a time never to be forgotten.



At the announcement in Croke Park of Schwarzkopf's sponsorship of this year's Gael-Linn Camogie Interprovincial Championships to be held in Dublin on June 19th.  
(l to r): Joe McDonagh, Uachtaran GAA, Senior Tipperary star Maeve Corcoran, Marion Graham County secretary, Mr. David Wright, General Manager, Schwarzkopf (Irl).



Three lovely lassies from Silvermines! - Celebrating Tipperary's victory over Kilkenny in the senior camogie final Croke Park in September were (l to r): Shauna Kennedy, Evelyn Egan and Marie Keogh, all from Silvermines.



Pictured above at the presentation of medals in the Thatched Cottage, Ballycommon after the 'Whirlpool' rest of Ireland charity match which took place in McDonagh Park, Nenagh recently against Tipperary all-Ireland camogie champions are (l to r): Gillian Maher (Kilkenny) captain of Whirlpool team, Sheila Wallace (Pairc An Chrocaigh), Phyllis Breslin (Uachtaran Cumann Camagaoich na nGael), Meadhbh Stokes (Tipperary Captain), Aine Derham (Dublin) referee.



# ST. JOSEPH'S BORRISOLEIGH PRES. BALLYPHEHANE

## Maroon and white

- 1 Mairead Ryan
- 2 Helen Ryan
- 3 Mairead Maher
- 4 Kathleen Kennedy
- 5 Norah Kinnane
- 6 Aileen Kennedy
- 7 Melissa Stapleton
- 8 Joanne Cowan
- 9 Michelle Coffey
- 10 Geraldine Kinnane (Capt)
- 11 Maria Tynan
- 12 Triona Dunne

## Subs:

- 13 Nicola Cuddihy
- 14 Claire Treacy
- 15 Michelle Stapleton
- 16 Carmel O'Meara
- 17 Michelle Hogan
- 18 Margaret Shanahan
- 19 Mary Hassett
- 20 Tara Kennedy
- 21 Lorraine Hayes
- 22 Caroline Lee

COACH: Ms. Marcella Crowe

## Blue and Navy

- 1 Sharon Fitzgerald
- 2 Catherine McCarthy
- 3 Noelle Buckley
- 4 Kelly Newman (Capt)
- 5 Maria Monaher
- 6 Jenny Coughlan
- 7 Valerie Maher
- 8 Niamh Drummond
- 9 Caitriona Myers
- 10 Gemma O'Connor
- 11 Linda Leahy
- 12 Dara Banks

- 13 Karen Walsh
- 14 Serena Chambers
- 15 Amanda Power

Ms. Sinead Millea

## Joseph's win title in fine fashion

St Josephs 4-2  
Pres, Ballyphehane 1-5

ST JOSEPH'S took their first Munster Colleges Junior B Championship title yesterday.

The Presentation side took the lead after 23 seconds with a Gemma O'Connor pointed free.

Four minutes into the game Melissa Stapleton had edged the Borrisoleigh girls ahead with two points in succession.

But Presentation's Jenny Coughlan put Gemma O'Connor through for the games opening goal, 17 minutes into the contest.

Now playing with more confidence, Presentation picked off three points without reply to lead 1-4 to 0-2 at the interval.

The first goal of the second half came after 12 minutes when Borrisoleigh captain, Ger Kinnane scored.

Two minutes later she again taunted the Presentation defence when she burst through for her second goal.

To their credit, Presentation levelled matters with six and a half minutes remaining. Borrisoleigh were awarded a free in their own backline.

Kinnane floated the ball to the net over the head of the Presentation keeper.

A minute later the Borrisoleigh captain was again the centre of attention when she finished to the net. Despite pleading from Presentation players, the referee allowed the goal.

Scores: Borrisoleigh: G. Kinnane 4-0 (1 from free), M. Stapleton 0-2 (1 from free). Ballyphehane: G. O'Connor 1-5 (2 from free, 1 from 30).

## Munster Final for Borrisoleigh

St. Joseph's College, Borrisoleigh will play the Presentation, Ballyphehane from Cork City in the final of the Munster Junior B Camogie Championship final. The game will be played in Borrisoleigh on Saturday, February 12th at 2 p.m.

St. Joseph's had a tough route to this final and are a strong outfit. The competition began in October with Borrisokane as opposition; this game was easily won and Cashel were beaten by Tulla in the other side of the draw. The Borrisoleigh girls had to travel to play Tulla and this game proved to be a real test. It wasn't until the second half that Borrisoleigh got control of the game and came from behind to win.

The opponents for the semi-final were the Mercy Convent School, Waterford. With home

venue, Borrisoleigh played at their best from beginning to end, emerging convincing winners. This team is made up of girls from the Borrisoleigh, Drom-Inch and Toomevara clubs with Templederry also represented. Club rivalry is forgotten as the girls have gelled together to make a formidable team. The players are: Geraldine Kinnane (Capt), Norah Kinnane, Melissa Stapleton, Mary Hassett (Drom-Inch), Mairead Maher, Joanne Cowan, Claire Treacy, Michelle Stapleton (Borrisoleigh), Mairead Ryan, Helen Ryan, Kathleen Kennedy, Maria Tynan, Michelle Coffey, Triona Dunne, Nicola Cuddihy, Carmel O'Meara (Toomevara), Aileen Kennedy, Tara Kennedy, Michelle Hogan, Lorraine Hayes (Templederry), Margaret Shanahan (Unserchurch).

## JUNIOR B

## CAMOGIE CHAMPIONSHIP FINAL

## ST. JOSEPH'S, BORRISOLEIGH

V

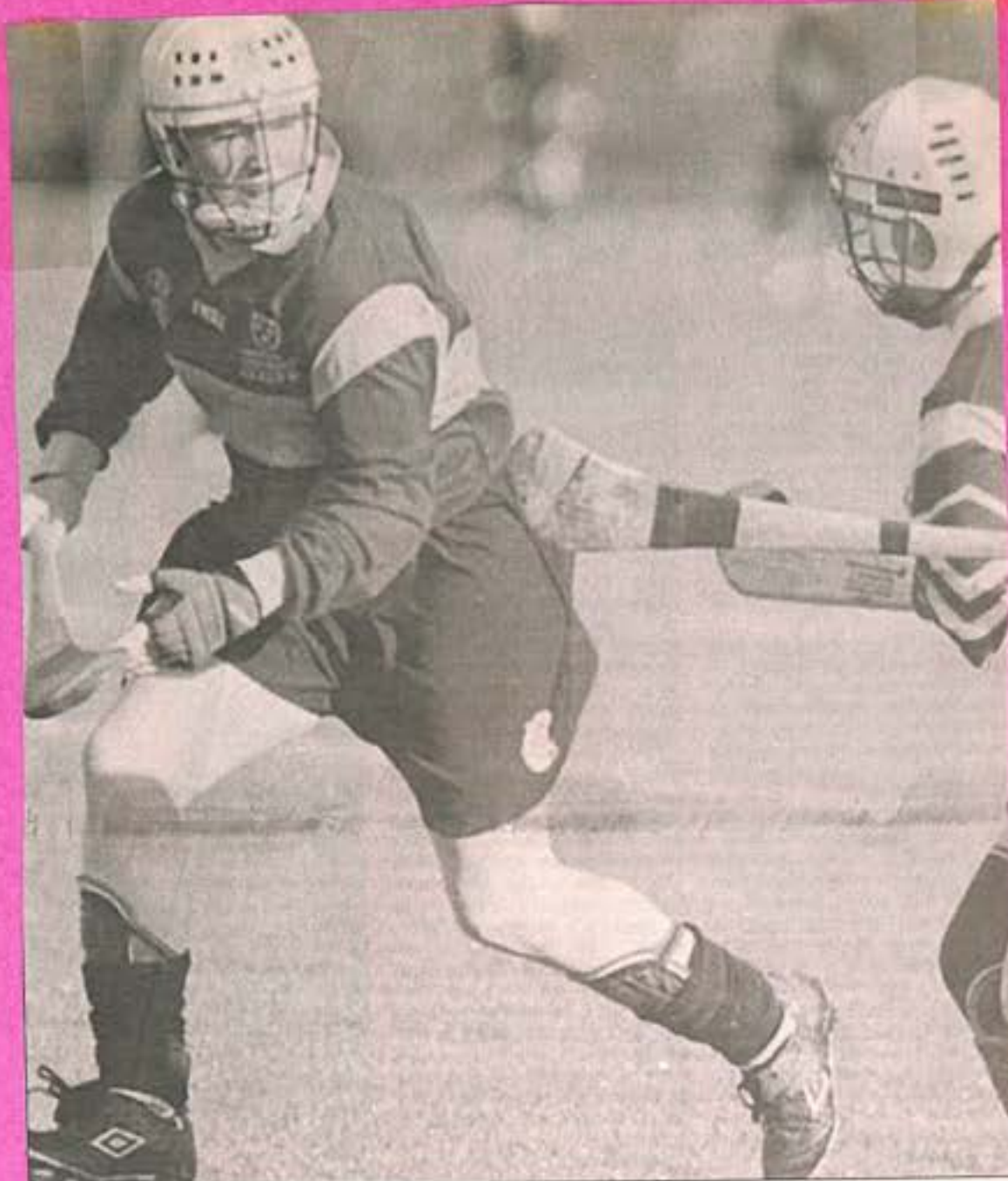
## PRESENTATION, BALLYPHEHANE



FEB

2000

**CAMOGIE**  
**Purcell Shield Final:** Limerick IT 3-6 St Patrick's Drumcondra 2-7.  
**Cup semi-finals:** UUJ 1-5 Carlow IT 1-3, St Mary's 1-8 Corry IT 0-6.  
**Shield semi-finals:** Limerick IT 2-11 Tralee IT 2-0, St Pat's Drumcondra 9-8 TCD 0-1.



**TOUGH DEFENCE:** Carlow's Terese Doran tries to stop Jordanstown's Majella Murray during a Purcell Cup clash at the Falls Park on Saturday  
 Picture: Aidan O'Reilly

# Newtown's boys and girls are simply the best



Michael Morrissey chairman Newtownshandrum GAA Club presenting Warren Bowles, with an award in recognition of his efforts during the year.



Mary Mulcahy, chairperson Newtownshandrum camogie club making a presentation to Eileen Noonan secretary of the local camogie club in recognition of her great work over the years.

by Paddy Ryan

NEWTOWNSHANDRUM GAA and Camogie Clubs held a joint Victory Social in the Devon Inn Templeglantine on Friday night last.

There was a capacity attendance present where plenty of silverware was on display. This was a very special occasion as the club had success in 1999 in three vital co. championships under 16 (A) hurling, minor (A) hurling and under 21 (A) hurling. special guests on the night were Jim Forbes, co board vice chairman, Michael Dolan, co. board development officer, Jim Healy co. minor board, secretary Sheila Golden co camogie board chairperson, Liam Hanley North Cork board vice chairman, Fr Pat Linehan CC and Paddy Ryan North Cork board GPC member. Simon Morrissey a former player who captained the 1973 side to co. under 21 (A) hurling success was MC for the night.

Michael Morrissey club chairman congratulated the camogie club who also figured very well with Cork's success during the year. He thanked the lotto subscribers and sellers and also paid tribute to John Brennan FAS team for their continued good work in the pitch. He praised Ben O'Connor on his marvellous achievement with Cork in winning the All Ireland title.

Jim Forbes co board vice chairman

in his address spoke of the great success achieved by Newtown in 1999. He congratulated Ben O'Connor on his success as captain of the Cork under 21 side and also spoke of his contribution to the Cork senior hurling team scoring some vital points right up to the end including the All Ireland win. Also Niamh Bowles who captained the Cork camogie team to All Ireland glory in '99.

Mr. Forbes spoke of the success of Newtown in winning co under 21 Hurling titles back to back and felt they had the ability to make it three in a row, a feat that was only once achieved in Cork by St. Finbarr's in the late 80s. He spoke of the great work done by the backroom team. He praised Phil Noonan for his great work as a Cork Intermediate hurling selector and who won the Munster title in 99. He paid tribute to co. board delegate Al Buckley for his contribution to the co. board both as the club delegate and also being a member of the co board development committee.

Mary Mulcahy chairperson of the camogie club in her address welcomed Sheila Golden co. board camogie chairperson. Mary Mulcahy described 1999 as not a very good year for the Newtownshandrum camogie sides with the Juniors losing out to Kilbrittain and the Seniors losing to Fr. O'Neill's.

The achievements of some of our

Sports people in hurling, camogie and golf have been inspiring said Mary. In their efforts, they have brought 6 All Ireland medals to the parish.

Niamh Bowles captained the Cork Minor Camogie team that defeated Galway in the All Ireland Minor final. This was a very exciting match indeed and in the end, there remained only a solitary point between the teams. Aine Kelleher was also instrumental in her role at centre back. Muireann Harrington and Caroline Giltinane played a major part in the victory of the Cork Junior team who won the All Ireland in September.

Mary made a presentation to Eileen Noonan in recognition of her great work as club secretary in the promotion of camogie within the club. In a different field she paid tribute to Aida Burke who won the Under 18 All Ireland golf championship. She concluded by congratulating Ben O'Connor on his All Ireland achievement. Mary also stated "Let's remember It's not all about winning. Ursula Troy, Paula O'Connor and Caoimhe Harrington played with the Cork Senior camogie team who were unlucky to be beaten by Kilkenny in the All Ireland semi final".

Sheila Golden co board camogie chairperson thanked Newtownshandrum for a great sporting year. She congratulated all the club players who figured at Co. level.

Camogie: Purcell Cup

## UUJ see off St Mary's

**T**WO goals in the last 10 minutes from captain Grainne Connolly killed off a brave challenge from St Mary's and earned UUJ a first Purcell Cup title since 1984.

Jordanstown looked the more likely winners but St Mary's refused to bow down and looked ready to cause an upset until an accidental clash between team-mates Therese McCann and Carla Doherty led to a five minute break and the loss of the St Mary's captain McCann through injury.

They lost their way thereafter and Connolly hit her two goals inside two minutes to stretch the lead and kill the game, although Kitty Fegan immediately responded flicking home a long range free from the impressive Blathin McIvor, followed quickly by an excellent score from Orla Smyth.

However Majella Murray settled UUJ nerves with her fourth pointed free and fittingly Connolly completed the scoring with a point at the end of a 50-yard solo-run.

This was in contrast to the first half, when scores were at a premium and UUJ's half-time lead of 1-2 to 0-0 as they turned to face the breeze looked shaky enough, particularly as Carla Doherty pointed an early second half free.

St Mary's though did not seem to have as much penetration up front apart from Kitty Fegan at full-forward who did not see enough of the action.

Aileen Tohill dropped back to forage in defence for UUJ and it allowed Grainne Connolly the room to run at St Mary's in the last quarter.

The real stars of both teams were in defence - Mairin Barry and Claire Doherty (UUJ) and Blathin McIvor and Orla Smyth for the Ranch.

Both UUJ and St Mary's had to come from behind at the break to record victories in inclement weather in Saturday's semi-finals.

An early goal for Carlow IT, had UUJ chasing the game until Angeline Fearon shot a goal at the start of the second half allowing them a 1-5 to 1-3 win. St Mary's face points down at the break but roared back for a 1-8 to 0-6 victory, Kitty Fegan claiming the scrambled goal.

**UUJ:** Christine Doherty, B O'Loughlin, Claire Doherty, M Barry, M Duffin, S O'Neill, A O'Loughlin, M Murray (0-4, all frees), A Fearon (1-0), A Tohill, F Hasson, G Connolly (capt, 2-2) **Sub:** N Maguire for F Hasson.  
**St Mary's:** D McGurk, L McGoldrick, O Smyth (0-1), B McIvor, C McCann, M McGurk, C McGovern, D Burke, C Doherty (0-2, frees), T McCann (Capt), K McCabe, K Fegan (1-0) **Subs:** P Bateson for K McCabe, L Kilgallon for T McCann.





Owens NS camogie team, who took part in the Sciath na Scol camogie competition.



Scoil Eoin Innishannon camogie team have battled their way to place in play-offs.

## Anthony's go through following play-offs

### SCIATH NA SCOL

ACTION continued indoors this week with further progress being made in the third-class and camogie competitions.

In the third-class competition, the four finalists are now known after this week's play-offs, which took place at St Anthony's School gym, Ballinlough and Whitechurch Community Centre.

At Ballinlough, Carrigtwohill and St Anthony's qualified after proving too strong for Carrigaline, Skibbereen and Belgooly.

Carrigtwohill are through to the finals for the first time while St Anthony's are no strangers to the final day, having won the competition two years ago.

At Whitechurch, Charleville and Carrignavar snapped up the remaining two final places with wins over Scoil Ghobnatan (Mallow), Shanballymore and Bannary St CBS.

Charleville will be making their first appearance in the finals, unlike Carrignavar, who qualified for the third time in a row and will be hoping for better luck this time around.

In the camogie section, Gaelscoil Tomás Daibhis (Mala), Shandrum, Milford, Carrignavar and Scoil Eoin, Innishannon join Whitechurch and St Columba's in the play-offs.

The remaining place was due to be decided at Carrigtwohill on Tuesday, with Dungourney, Clonpriest, Scoil Bhríde (Midleton), Bunscoil Mhuire (Youghal) A and B taking part.

Reigning champions Milford were very impressive at Ballinlough proving too strong for Togher, St Catherine's and Scoil Barra (Ballincollig).

At Owens, Scoil Eoin (Innishannon) booked their place, beating the local school by two goals to one in the decider.

The fourth-class finalists will become known tomorrow (Thursday) when the play-offs take place at Whitechurch and Ballinlough.

### CAMOGIE

## St. Pats are crowned Munster champions

St. Pats, Shannon .. 3-2 Coachford, Cork .. 0-8

St. Patrick's Comprehensive school Shannon won its first Munster senior camogie title since 1982 when capturing the senior B title at the expense of Coachford College, Cork at Ballingarry in Limerick on Saturday last.

Defences dominated in this tie and the Cork side went into an early two point lead, both scores coming from frees.

St. Patrick's pressed hard and they were rewarded when Laura Linnane shook off her marker to get through for a fine goal.

Clare McMahon quickly followed with a like score and the winners were 2-0 to 0-2 in front at the interval.

In the second half, Coachford opened with another point from a free before Maria Hehir had a goal for Shannon.

Points were exchanged with Laura Linnane getting the Shannon score.

In the middle period of this half, the cork girls pressed hard and pointed two more frees before Laura Linnane had a second pointed free for the Clare side and this proved to be their final score.

In the final stages, Coachford tried desperately for a goal but the Shannon defence held firm with Melissa O'Connell particularly impressive at full back.

Shannon's Sharon Coleman made a fine save to deny Coachford a late goal.

For the winners, all of the defenders had periods of dominance with Audrey Shanahan and Melissa O'Connell very

resolute. Aileen Kilmartin and debutant Ruth Kaiser also did well.

Dorin Tuohy had a tremendous first half at midfield while Laura Linnane and Clare McMahon were always prominent in attack.

St. Patrick's: Sharon Coleman (Wolfe tones) Melissa O'Connell (Kilkishen) Ruth Kaiser (Newmarket) Aileen Kilmartin (do) Audrey Shanahan (Wolfe Tones) Caitriona Foley (do) Dorin Tuohy (Clooney) Siobhan Kelly (Wolfe Tones) Captain, Clare McMahon (Kilmaley) 1-0 Maria Hehir (Wolfe Tones) 1-0 Laura Linnane (Wolfe Tones) 1-2, Aoife Harrington (Feakle).

### Going for Double

On this Saturday, the St.Pats junior team will play St. Mary's from Charleville in the junior A final at Newtownshandrum at 2 p.m.

The Charleville College are the reigning Munster and All-Ireland champions. St. Pats will have six of the senior side in their line up and they will be captained by Kilmaley's Clare McMahon.

**CAMOGIE:** In the Munster Colleges senior B final, in which Coachford Community College met St Patrick's Shannon, Coachford lost by three points to this Shanonside team in a hectic game fought out in circumstances of windy conditions at Ballingarry, Co Limerick.

The Shannon team didn't find victory as easily as they expected at half time when they were four points ahead, after a series of wides by wind aided Coachford. Whatever optimism they may have harboured was soon shattered when trustful Maria Noonan switched to midfield, sent over, accurately three points from frees.

At a later episode a hard shot from Coachford's Mary Buckley bounced off the crossbar. From her centre forward position she aimed to drive the ball under the crossbar, but unfortunately the ball hit the woodwork with a terrific bang. However, the clearance was sent over for a point.

Niamh O'Connell and Marie Noonan covered themselves with unlucky glory in their attempts to score a goal which separated the sides. Shannon goalie Sharon saved twice. In the last episode of the game with seconds left to play, Mary Ennequess was fouled en route to the goal on a solo run. With time against them Coachford had to accept a three points defeat. The final scores were St Patrick's Shannon 3-2, Coachford Community College 0-8.

Coachford team: C McCarthy, C O'Leary, J Twomey, M O'Connell, A Ennequess, S Buckley, M Ennequess, M Twomey, M Buckley, M Noonan, K Crowley, E Harrington.

Subs: M Cooney, N O'Connell, S McCarthy, B O'Connell, F McSweeney, K O'Flynn, C Sheehan, S

## Ladies battle it out in Galway

by Fergal O'Sullivan

NUI Galway host the Ashbourne Cup and Shield this weekend.

The weekend kicks off this evening with a reception for the participating teams in the college, but tomorrow sees the real action commence with the semi-finals of the cup in Castlegar.

In the first semi-final at 1pm, Waterford I.T. and U.C.D. clash and with players of the calibre of Ursula Walton, Brigid Mullaly and Kelly Long (Waterford I.T.) added to the players U.C.D. can boast, Aine Codd, Ailbhe Kelly and captain Emer Connery it should turn out to be a cracking game.

The second semi-final at 3pm features U.C.C. and UL. Sinead O'Callaghan, Una O'Callaghan and Niamh Bonnar should excel for the Cork Girls while UL will be looking to Erica Minogue, Caroline Murray and Aoife Lane to provide match winning performances.

While these matches are taking place local interest will be focused on the Dangan sports grounds where the host college take on Athlone I.T. in the shield semi-final.

The local girls will hope Veronica Curtin and Deirdre Murphy will power N.U.I. Galway into the final.

In the other semi-final Mary Immaculate college take on Queens University.

The Ashbourne shield final takes place at 1pm on Sunday.

The highlight of the weekend, the cup final, starts at 3pm and a large crowd is sure to be in attendance at the Dangan Sports Grounds.

## Camogie great Sandy calls it a day

SANDY FITZGIBBON, who is widely regarded as one of greatest Cork sports women of all time is to retire from club camogie writes John McHale.

The highly regarded Glen Rovers player retired from the inter-county scene two years ago, after a glorious and trophy filled career with Cork.

Now comes news that she is to retire from the club scene as well.

Her medal haul alone made her a legend, but it was her skill, determination

and overall commitment which marked her out and set her apart from her contemporaries.

Her honours include six All-Ireland senior medals and three minor All-Ireland.

And as if that wasn't enough, Sandy also notched up a whopping 10 county medals to her name.

Sandy also won 70 international caps at basketball.

"I will continue to play basketball with my team Panda's but my camogie career is over."



Great: Sandy Fitzgibbon.

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