

169

June 2013
↓
Aug. 2013

JUNE 2013

Rebels will not be caught against Tipp

CAMOGIE

By LINDA MELLERICK

TOMORROW

Liberty Insurance All-Ireland Senior Championship 1st round
Cork v Tipperary
The Ragg, 1pm

THE opening round of the Liberty Insurance All-Ireland Senior and Intermediate Championships throws in this weekend.

At senior, Cork are away to Tipperary in the Ragg, but the pick of the first round ties is the clash in Athenry between Galway and Kilkenny.

Clare also host Derry, while Offaly travel to O'Toole Park to face Dublin. National League and Munster champions, Cork, will head into their game as favourites.

In fact Cork will go into all of their group games as favourites and naturally with that comes the pressure of favouritism, but the Rebels are made of sterner stuff.

They are ready on this occasion and a shock isn't expected tomorrow.

It was predicted in Cork's Munster final victory over Tipp three weeks ago that Tipp would bring a hunger and intensity to that encounter and while that would be commendable, it still wouldn't be enough to carry them over the line. And so it proved.

The Munster final was hard fought and close, Cork winning out by five points, 1-14 to 2-6. But Cork's ability to shift the gear up a notch every time Tipperary believed they were in a position to overtake, kept manners on their opponents. And much of the same is expected tomorrow.

Tipperary start the championship without the services of Joanne Ryan and Julie McGrath, both recovering from leg injuries. Their loss is significant.

Mary Ryan however has returned from travelling. Cáit Devane has recovered from knee ligament injury and fresh from exams, Michaela Graham also returns to the panel.

Jill Horan as always will give over



Cork's Briege Corkery and Josie Dwyer of Wexford in a battle for the sliothar during their Irish Daily Star National Camogie League Division 1 Final at Nowlan Park last month. Cork face Tipperary in a Championship clash tomorrow.

Picture: INPHO

100% at midfield, while Nicole Walshe and Brid Quinn at right and left half forward respectively, are another two that relish playing Cork and will hold no fear.

Tipp believe they have every chance against Cork and will feel they put a lot of pressure on them in their recent second-half showing and weren't too far off the mark.

Their league return was dismal to say the least, losing all four group games. Considering that Offaly and debutants Derry made up two of those was even more telling.

In fact those two defeats were Tipperary's largest, their better performances coming against Cork and Kilkenny, testament to the fact that they will raise their game for tomorrow.

The venue will also suit Tipp, the Ragg being on the smaller scale. It will be a battle for the Rebels, but all the elements in Tipp's favour still shouldn't be enough to see them over the line.

The game throws in at 1pm to afford Cork's management time to make the journey to Asbourne Co Meath

where their intermediate charges take on Antrim at 5.30 in what is a hectic and demanding schedule.

Clare and Offaly are tipped to emerge with the points from their encounters, but it's not easy to predict the Galway/Kilkenny clash.

Both camps have put in a huge effort since the league campaign. Kilkenny are Leinster champs, while Galway have played a number of strong successful challenge games recently.

I feel Galway will just about take it.

Intermediate opener will test Cork for many reasons

TOMORROW

Liberty Insurance All-Ireland Intermediate Championship:
Cork v Antrim,
Ashbourne, Co Meath,
5.30pm.

THE Cork Intermediate team must make the long journey to Ashbourne for the opening round of the Liberty Insurance All-Ireland champions and it's a tough opener as they take on Ulster champions Antrim. It will be a rush from the senior game in Tipperary for the Cork manager Paudie Murray and several of the players who are on both panels and it certainly is bad fixture planning that Corks

two adult teams with the same manager are expected to play two important championship games so far apart on the same day surely Sunday would have been a wiser choice for the intermediate game.

Antrim are a young side made up of several of the counties minor squad they surprised many by defeating a fancied Tyrone side in the Ulster final recently and boosted by this they will go into the All-Ireland championship determined to give a good account of them selves.

They failed to impress through the National league campaign

CAMOGIE

By MARY NEWMAN

but they re grouped for the provincial campaign they have good players in Nicole O'Neill Caoimhe Rafferty Ursula Cotter, Erin Elliot and Niamh Adams and they will not fear the challenge Cork will pose. Cork enjoyed a good National League campaign and they were unlucky not to qualify from their group, the panel has been strengthened since the league with the inclusion of the experienced Sara Hayes and Colette Desmond. Through the

league campaign Leeanne O'Sullivan, Jessica Kavanagh, Deirdre Coomey Lynda O'Connell Denise Luby and Christine O'Neill were all to the fore and they will backbone what is a strong Cork side. They have named a strong panel of 30 intermediate players with Finola Neville and Aoife Deasy both who lined out with the senior team in the league and provincial series whilst Hazel O'Regan, Caroline Sugrue, Carolyn Motherway, Sarah Buckley and Michelle Browne are all included. Following on the minor team championship campaign minor

players Lauren Callanan, Laura Tracey, and Jessica Hennigan have all been added to the panel.

The Intermediate Championship is a hard one to win, but this year both the Cork senior and intermediate panels have been training and working together and this has been excellent for both sides. Paudie Murray is managing both with Jerry Murphy joining him as selector and they will be hoping that the hard work put in since early in the season will pay off with a good performance against a strong Antrim 15 to get their campaign up and running.

Blarney honour the memory of late Sarah

TODAY Blarney camogie club will honour the memory of one of their former young players, the late Sarah Buckley, writes MARY NEWMAN. Sarah passed away in October 2009 after a difficult illness and today they hold their annual tournament in her memory.

Sarah was the daughter of Ray and Margaret from Blarney and she was a huge camogie and GAA follower she spent all of her time playing camogie and enjoying the game with her team mates on the U14 team in the club. During her illness Sarah was a patient in the Crumlin Hospital in Dublin and she was visited by the Cork senior camogie team led by captain Amanda O'Regan on the morning after the side won the All-Ireland final. Sadly, Sarah passed away just a month later despite a brave battle with her illness over an 18-month period.

Just nine months after Sarah's untimely death, four teams played for the Sarah Buckley Memorial Trophy and such was the success of the event that it was decided to make it an annual occasion.

This was the grade that Sarah played her last competitive game with the club in and it was only fitting that this was the grade chosen, the first year Blarney took the honours with Glen Rovers in 2011 and Blarney again in 2012 to the fore.

This year Blarney, St Finbarr's, Ballinascahy and Glen Rovers will once again play for the Sarah Buckley Memorial Cup and shield and all clubs are honoured to be chosen to help commemorate and honour the memory of such a wonderful young camogie player.

Games will be 20 minutes a side and proceedings get under way at the Blarney GAA pitch today when the host club meet near neighbours Glen Rovers in the first game this will be followed by the meeting of St Finbarr's and Ballinascahy.

The losers will play for the Shield while the winners battle it out for the Cup.

And after the final, as always, the hard-working Blarney committee will lay on refreshments for all participants and their supporters in memory of a wonderful young camogie player.

MATCH SCHEDULE

2pm Blarney v Glen Rovers; 2.45pm St Finbarr's v Ballinascahy; 4.15pm Plate Final: Loser A v Loser B; 5pm Cup Final: Winners A v winners B.

Rebels in for stern test from Dublin

JUNIOR Cert exams are completed and the text books are tucked away until September and it's all systems go as the All-Ireland U16A and U16B championships get under way this weekend.

Cork host Dublin on Sunday at 2.30pm in Castle Road while the B squad head off to Birr for a meeting with Armagh.

It is of huge benefit to the selectors that the All-Ireland U16 competitions are now played later in the year.

With the provincial competitions played separately to the All-Ireland in April, mentors had a chance to get their panels organised and ready early with the provincial competitions giving them much needed match practice and a chance to see how players react on the inter county stage for the first time.

Previous to this, a lot of players would have experienced U14 blitz competitions with development squads, but this is now the big time and it is a huge culture shock to some of these young players to step into such a big environment therefore the provincial competition are hugely beneficial.

Cork and Dublin get proceedings underway on Sunday in a section that also includes Offaly and Limerick and with two teams to emerge from each group to contest the semi-finals a win in round one is crucial.

Cork know it is vital to get a good start to their campaign and getting a win under their belts would settle them nicely for the trip to Offaly next weekend.

It's a first game for both counties, who earlier in the season participated in their respective provincial championships.

Underage championship is always hard to predict and the

TOMORROW
All Ireland U16A Championship: Cork v Dublin,
Castle Road, 2.30pm
By MARY NEWMAN

first round of All-Ireland championship is where we really get to see counties at their finest.

Cork reached the Munster final, but lost out to Tipperary on a 3-8 to 0-9 scoreline.

A lot of hard work has gone in since then in preparations for the All-Ireland championship series.

Selectors Ger Sheehan, John Moloney and Liam Lynch have gathered together what they hope will be a winning panel.

The selectors have built up a strong panel with Hannah Looney, who also lined out with the county minor side spear heading a line out that includes Chloe Casey, Aisling Kelleher, Kelly Falvey and Rebecca Walsh and with a nice blend of strength and skill running right through the panel.

Dublin are continuing to put in huge work at underage development. They qualified for the Leinster championship final but lost out to Wexford in a thrilling encounter. They have excellent young players in Hannah Hegarty, Zenouska Murphy, Rebecca Keating and Jennifer Kiernan and they will provide a stern test in Castle Road on Sunday.

Cork U16A panel: Aine Crowley (Kilbrittain/Timoleague), Kelly Falvey (Glen Rovers), Hayley Fitzgerald (Carrigaline), Chloe Casey (Sarsfields), Cliona O'Callaghan (Newtownshandrum), Rebecca Walsh (Fr O'Neill's), Micheala Buckley (Ballygarvan), Eirne Ni Dheumnaigh (Bishopstown), Hannah Looney (Killeagh), Chloe Nason (Douglas), Ciara Guivane (Kilbrittain/Timoleague), Lisa Lynch (Valley Rovers), Ailbe Dowling (Kilbrittain/Timoleague), Lauren Casserly (Sarsfields), Laura O'Neill (Bishopstown), Katie O'Keefe (Millstreet), Lea McEvoy (Killeagh), Aisling Kelleher (Cloughduv), Sinead Mills (Brian Dillon's), Michaela Hyde (Glen Rovers), Sinead Harrington (Tracton), Katie Barry (Sarsfields), Meave McCarthy (Sarsfields), Aileen Nagle (Blackrock), Hayley Ryan (Blackrock), Michelle Barry (Sarsfields), Emma Casey (Sarsfields).



Marion McCarthy, chairman Cork Camogie Board, presents Newtownshandrum captain Val O'Sullivan with the Intermediate league trophy. Picture: Supplied

Cork aiming to go one better

LAST season Cork lost to Antrim in their replayed U16B All-Ireland semi-final and this year the U16B mentors will be hoping to go a step further, writes MARY NEWMAN.

Many of the side are still just fifteen and the B competition is an important one as it prepared players to make the step up to A the following year.

This year Cork reached the Munster final but lost out to a strong Waterford side and they know they face a tough battle if they are to get through their group and make it to the closing stages of the All Ireland series. Armagh, Waterford and Derry are the teams in the group and all of these counties will be fielding their first choice 15 so the task is a huge one. Anthony Nagle and his fellow selectors Ken Bulman and Frances Killens are

TOMORROW
All-Ireland U16B Championship: Cork v
Armagh, Birr Emmetts, Offaly, 2.30pm

ready for the challenges ahead and their team will also be ready.

Cork U16B Panel: Rachel Murray (Eire Ogi), Ellen Twomey (Carrigaline), Niamh O'Leary (Brian Dillon's), Ella Curtin (Aghabullogue), Rebecca Sheehan (Douglas), Aoife O'Callaghan (Eire Ogi), Lydia O'Reilly (Millstreet), Moire Elen O'Connor (Millstreet), Marley Tarnaud (Battincolli), Aobhinn Kidney (Tracton), Emma Flanagan (Aghabullogue), Keelagh Cullinane (Fr O'Neill's), Rachel Harty (Ballyheal), Keava McCarthy (St Finbarr's), Ciara Keating (St Finbarr's), Meabh Sexton (Barryroe), Catherine O'Sullivan (Newtownshandrum), Emma O'Callaghan (Millford), Essie O'Connell (Brian Dillon's), Chloe Landers (Youghall), Katie Crowley (St Finbarr's), Sarah Burke (Kilbrittain), Laura Willis (Mallow), Emma Buckley (Na Piarasigh), Marie Dineen (Barryroe), Corrie Butler (Ballinacorney), Aoife McCarthy (Youghall), Chloe Sigerson (Killeagh).

All-Ireland camogie championships:

Ahead of the opening round of the Liberty Insurance All-Ireland senior camogie championship, Daragh O Conchúir ranks the top six teams battling for glory.

1. CORK

Manager: Paudie Murray
Captain: Anna Geary
Key player: Rena Buckley
Positive: Retained league title; motivated after losing last year's All-Ireland
Negative: Gemma O'Connor's unavailability due to Defence Forces tour of duty
Summary: The likeliest winners at this juncture, Cork were clinical in beating Wexford for a second consecutive season in the league final. They lost to the Model County in last year's All-Ireland but that gave many of the younger players — and the manager — a vital first experience of

the biggest stage. Though they haven't won an All-Ireland since 2009, the Leesiders still retain a strong core of players that know what it's like to get their hands on the O'Duffy Cup. What's more, the likes of Rena Buckley, Briega Corkery, Anna Geary, Aoife Murray, Orla Cotter and Jenny O'Leary have a number of medals jangling in their pockets. Allied with the enthusiasm provided by the Mackey sisters amongst others, the balance seems perfect. Should get off to a winning start against Tipperary.

2. WEXFORD

Manager: JJ Doyle
Captain: Mary Leacy
Key Player: Ursula Jacob
Positive: Experience
Negative: The pressure is on after Martin Lynch's departure as manager last week, even with

three-in-a-row boss JJ Doyle stepping into the breach. That's to go with the expectation surrounding a four-in-a-row tilt. Throw in the retirements of legendary defenders Catherine O'Loughlin and Claire O'Connor, and the unavailability of bustling forward Una Leacy, who is travelling.

Summary: In transition, but they still possess a wealth of experience and some of the best players to ever play camogie in Ursula Jacob, Mary Leacy and Kate Kelly. Many of the players that Lynch introduced during the league played in successive intermediate All-Irelands, winning in 2011, so they aren't callow. They reached the league final, losing to Cork, but a similar result didn't

prevent them going all the way in last year's championship. Clearly, all has not been sweetness and light in the camp and it's difficult to know what collateral damage has arisen from the management upheaval but championship will focus the minds of the code's ultimate competitors.

3. GALWAY

Manager: Tony Ward
Captain: Lorraine Ryan
Key Player: Brenda Hanney
Positive: Wealth of talent
Negative: The weight of history.
Summary: The game's perennial underachievers. Veronica Curtin, the last survivor from the county's only All-Ireland win in 1996 has retired. Therese Maher, who joined the panel the following

season, continues her search for the elusive medal and is still an inspirational force. Galway are coming in a little more under the radar than in recent seasons, given their failure to reach the All-Ireland final last year — having lost the two previous deciders — and the subsequent disappointing league campaign. They will need to hit the ground running against Kilkenny today and if there is any hint of self-doubt, could find it difficult in a group that includes Wexford, Clare, Kilkenny and Derry. No certainty but with their talent, should make last six knockout stages at least.

4. CLARE

Manager: John Carmody
Captain: Denise Lynch

Key Player: Máire McGrath
Positive: Form against Cork
Negative: Failure to build on that form last year
Summary: Clare's underage success has produced a number of players accustomed to success and with plenty of hardened competitors in the camp as well, the blend seems pretty good. After beating Cork in last year's Munster final, they didn't kick on as expected in the championship and would have looked at the progress made by Dublin and Offaly with regret. This year's league was very promising and Cork needed extra time to account for them in the semi-final. If they can repeat that type of consistency, they should make the last six at least.



Anna Geary, Cork, and Kate Kelly, Wexford at the launch last week of the Liberty Insurance Camogie Championship 24 counties, across five grades, will commence their All-Ireland campaigns on June 22. Liberty Insurance is the first ever sponsor of both the GAA Hurling and Camogie All-Ireland Senior Championships in a five-year deal with the GAA.

CAMOGIE ALL-IRELAND SENIOR CHAMPIONSHIP GROUP ONE: CLARE V DERRY (SATURDAY, ASHBOURNE, 3PM)

Oak leafers prepare to compete at next level

BY CIARAN WOODS

DERRY camogie captain Grainne McGoldrick is hoping that the boost of retaining their Ulster Senior title will help propel them to a first ever All-Ireland senior championship win this weekend.

It's a first outing at the highest level for the Oak Leaf county when they take on Clare in Ashbourne on Saturday afternoon, and marks a huge step up for the Derry outfit which last year claimed the All-Ireland Intermediate crown to elevate them to the top tier for the first time.

With Galway and Wexford still to come, many people would say that Clare are Derry's best chance of picking up a win. However, McGoldrick insists that a quick look at Clare's recent form should dispel such notions.

"We haven't played Clare at all since we beat them in the 2007 Junior final. So much has changed for us since then, only about six of our girls are still on our panel from that game, and I'm sure it's the same for them. We know they are a very good team, a team who took Cork to extra-time in the National League semi-final, so we know how tough it's going to be. They're very strong."

Derry retained their provincial crown with a commanding win over Down, a power-packed performance from the Oak Leaf side ensuring victory. It was the first time in ten years that the Ulster final was hosted in Derry, and although the weather conditions were against them at Owenbeg, the Derry captain was delighted with the outcome.

Our big hope is that we can do ourselves justice on Saturday, put in a good performance, and if we can put in the level of performance which we know we are capable of, then hopefully a good result will follow

"The conditions made it incredibly difficult for both teams. We haven't had that many games since the National League finished up, apart from a few friendlies with Dublin, so it was good to get a competitive game under our belts and to get that run-out before the All-Ireland gets underway."

Half-way venue rules mean it's another trip to Ashbourne for Derry on Saturday, a pitch which has become a home from home for Ulster sides. With Antrim's match against Cork being played immediately afterwards, the Derry captain is urging supporters to make the effort for the double-



REALISTIC...Grainne McGoldrick played down any suggestion that Clare will be easy to beat this weekend

Picture: John Merry

header and help propel the Ulster representatives to glory.

"Of course you would hope that the two sets of supporters will weigh in behind each other. At the end of the day, Ashbourne isn't that far away, so hopefully a good crowd will travel down and help create a bit of an Ulster atmosphere down there, which hopefully will help push ourselves and Antrim on."

It's going to be an historic day for Derry camogie, regardless of the outcome, but naturally McGoldrick is hoping that they can achieve a fitting result for their Senior Championship debut. The hard work has been done behind the scenes, and now it's time to deliver on the pitch.

"This is what we've been focusing on since we started training back before Christmas. It's the first time Der-

FIXTURES

All-Ireland Senior Camogie Championship Group One

Clare v Derry
Saturday, 3.00pm, Donaghmore Ashbourne

Ref: Owen Elliott

All-Ireland Intermediate Camogie Championship Group One

Antrim v Cork
Saturday, 5.00pm, Donaghmore Ashbourne

Ref: Richard McNicholas

All-Ireland Premier Junior Camogie Championship

Armagh v Down
Sunday, 2.00pm, Athletic Grounds

Ref: Paul Flanagan

All-Ireland Junior A Camogie Championship

Cavan v Carlow
Sunday, Cavan, Time TBC

Ref: Colm Cunningham

All-Ireland Junior B Camogie Championship

Kerry v Monaghan
Sunday, Time TBC, Venue TBC

Ref: John McDonagh

ry have ever fielded a team at Senior Championship level. Our big hope is that we can do ourselves justice on Saturday, put in a good performance, and if we can put in the level of performance which we know we are capable of, then hopefully a good result will follow for us, fingers crossed."

Corkery working hard at cracking both codes

By Eoghan Cormican

A few minutes chatting with Briège Corkery and one would almost forget the endangered nature of the dual player.

Much was made of Lee Chin's recent exploits across both codes for Wexford, and rightly so. Four games over two consecutive weekends is a huge test of physical and mental endurance. Spare a thought then for Corkery, she's been doubling up for the best part of a decade.

Cork begin their camogie championship campaign away to Tipperary today and once matters there are done and dusted, the hurley will be tossed aside and focus will immediately switch to tomorrow's Munster football tie against Kerry. Mind you, weekends as hectic as this aren't exactly unprecedented. If anything, they have become a way of life for the Cloughduv native.

"I'm so used to it now, it's almost second nature," Corkery smiles.

"They have been doubled in the past but I suppose you try to avoid them as much as possible, but unfortunately that hasn't been the case this time. You just have to make do, play away and not let it affect your game."

"The match Saturday is up in the Ragg so I suppose we'll hit some water after the game and an ice-bath to recuperate the legs and get ready for Sunday against Kerry."

Corkery is quick to point out that she is not alone in this department — Rena Buckley and Angela Walsh also featuring on both county panels.

Granted, she may not be pioneering the dual status, but there's few who've been on the road as long.

Corkery joined the ladies panel in 2001, stepping onto the camogie equivalent two years later. Aside from a year travelling in 2010, every other season has been spent in the red and white.

The silverware picked up along the way needs no re-counting and for Corkery and many of her colleagues, previous glories get little attention.

"We had a good (camogie) league, but at the end of the day league isn't what you want either. Championship is a different ball game altogether and we're hoping we're that little bit fitter, our hurling is that bit sharper, that's what championship is all about."



On hectic diary...

"I'm so used to it now, it's almost second nature," Corkery smiles

Briège Corkery: You just have to make do, play away and not let it affect your game.

"Starting out at the beginning of the year, the All-Ireland is definitely your aim. I suppose we just want to play well together as a unit, play well as a team and to have no regrets at the end of the day. Last year we had a few regrets after the All-Ireland, I think you don't mind losing, but losing and not playing 100% feels a lot worse than just losing."

O'Duffy Cup glory is well within the capabilities of Paudie Murray's squad, but their task is made more difficult by the absence of Gemma O'Connor, serving with the defence forces overseas.

"She's a huge loss. The girls that have come in however, they've set down a marker, and you know it's great for Cork camogie that there's other girls coming in and they can take our places. 'You are never safe on the first 15' is the message that we have got this year."

Switching codes and the tone of Corkery's voice immediately shifts. A wariness almost. Surely not.

"I'd be awfully worried

about Kerry," she says ahead of a repeat of the 2012 All-Ireland final which Cork won comfortably. "My biggest thing is that we haven't heard anything about Kerry all through the league. They had a savage league campaign and we're very aware that they are going to be a great side. They are getting better all the time and they gave us a real test in last year's All-Ireland final."

"We know we need to up it a small bit and get into championship mode. We're going to have to have our wits about us, especially now that we will be without Juliet Murphy and Norita Kelly, two huge losses."

Elsewhere in the ladies football championship, Westmeath and Meath do battle in the preliminary round of the Leinster championship tomorrow.

Up north, Monaghan host Donegal in the Ulster semi-final at Donaghmore this evening, while Armagh and Tyrone will contest the second semi at Inniskeen tomorrow.



Rena Buckley, pictured, and Angela Walsh also feature on both county panels.

The front-runners

5. OFFALY

Manager: Aidan Franks
Captain: Arlene Watkins
Key Player: Elaine Dermody
Positive: The infusion of some fresh blood
Negative: Arlene Watkins' broken leg

Summary: A similar profile to Clare in terms of producing fresh talent. Have made giant strides since losing the All-Ireland junior final to the Bannerwomen in 2008. They made amends the following season and backed up with the intermediate title in 2010. After a year of consolidation at senior level, they made it to the semi-final last term. They will be without Arlene Watkins for the group stages after the

captain broke her leg three weeks ago but have consistently improved and should have enough to make the quarter-finals. New management will add to the freshness. Big game starting off against Dublin, who they beat by a point in last year's quarter-final.

6. DUBLIN

Manager: Denis Murphy
Captain: Gráinne Quinn
Key Player: Louise O'Hara
Positive: Strength in depth
Negative: Poor results against the big guns
Summary: Got to the All-Ireland quarter-final last year, while the second team won Division 4 of the league and reached the Division 3 final this year. Also

won a first ever U18A championship last season. There is a serious strength in depth in Dublin now and there is increased physical strength too as a result of an increased commitment to catching up with their rivals in that area in 2012. Only managed one win in this year's league but that was over Wexford. It is a rare success over one of the top teams though. Not much between them and Offaly, as results have proven, which makes their clash in O'Toole Park today very enticing indeed.

See weekend fixtures on Page 27.



Olivia Murphy with her proud parents and the Player of the Tournament Award at the Mayfield Garda Blitz last Saturday. See P40-41 for our picture special.

JUNE 2013



Abbey Delany demonstrating ball-rising skills at the Erin's Own GAA club Kellogg's Cúl Camp in Caherlag. Picture: David Keane

JUNE 2013



Supt Tom Myers, Mayfield Garda Station presents Blarney's Sadhbh McCarthy with the win cup after their victory in the camogie blitz at Brian Dillon's GAA Club. Picture: Derek Connolly



Former Cork camogie player Linda Mellerick presents the Player of the Tournament award to Blarney's Olivia Murphy. Also included is Supt Tom Myers Mayfield Garda Station. Picture: Derek Connolly



Blarney tops



The Blarney team that won the Mayfield Garda camogie blitz in Brian Dillon's GAA Club.

Picture: Derek Connolly

IN blistering sunshine, surrounded by horses, motorbikes, patrol cars, dog units, ice cream vans, barbecues, bunting and refreshments, the inaugural Mayfield Garda U13 camogie blitz took place at the Tank Field recently.

And what a day it was. The carnival atmosphere combined with top class organisation, highly competitive games and great individual displays culminated in an event already tipped to be the annual highlight in underage camogie in the years to come.

With a total of 21 games played there were some riveting ties, most notably the final between Blarney and Carrigaline, with Blarney winning 2-1 to 0-1.

All throughout the group stages games were won or lost by a puck of a ball. Blarney, Ballincollig, Carrigaline and St Finbarr's made it through to the semi-finals, with Sarsfields and Douglas very unlucky to be denied a place.

Twelve clubs competed: Brian Dillon's, Glen Rovers, Na Piarasigh, Blarney, St Vincent's, St Finbarr's, Sarsfield's, Bishopstown, Carrigaline, Blackrock, Douglas and Ballincollig.

In intense heat it was to each team's credit that they continued to produce such high standard



LINDA MELLERICK

CAMOGIE



Photo Gallery:
You can see more photographs at
www.photosales.eecho.ie

Blarney Captain Sadhbh McCarthy holds the victorious cup aloft on Garda horse Fiachra at Mayfield Garda Camogie Blitz in Brian Dillon's GAA Club.
Picture: Derek Connolly

Action from the Na Piarsaigh v Ballincollig game during the Mayfield Garda camogie blitz which was held at Brian Dillon's GAA Club. Picture: Derek Connolly

Co-ordinating the Mayfield Garda Camogie Blitz were Garda Sheila Griffin Watercourse Road; Garda Pat Costello and Garda Helen Courtney Mayfield Garda Station. Picture: Derek Connolly



in Garda blitz

games. Blarney overcame Ballincollig 2-4 to 1-1, while Carrigaline defeated St Finbarr's 0-5 to 0-1 to set up a great final.

A player of the tournament award was on offer and a number of names were under consideration throughout the day. However one player in particular stood out that bit above the others. Olivia Murphy of Blarney played a wonderful tournament; she covered miles during the course of the day and displayed great skill, but her approach and attitude also set her apart.

Always pleasantly acknowledging her mentor's guidance and instructions during play and getting up smiling after taking numerous knocks she was a most worthy recipient.

Brian Dillon's Tank field was packed with players, mentors, organisers, parents, general spectators, neighbours and friends from early morning to early evening. It is to Mayfield gardai's credit that the event was such a success. Every minute detail was thought of and covered, everyone in attendance thoroughly enjoyed the day which was widely acclaimed as a great success.

To Superintendent Tom Myers, Juvenile Liaison officer and chief organiser John O'Driscoll and all the officers who gave of their time on Saturday, the local community and clubs extend their heartfelt thanks. Special mention must go to MC Sergeant John O'Connor who closed the event with a rendition of *Summertime* over the loudspeaker which caused quite a disturbance in the area.

A serious breach of the peace!



Members of the Garda Mounted Unit are the centre of attention before leading the teams onto the pitch.

Picture: Derek Connolly

Cork fail to build on a lead and pay price

INTERMEDIATE

Cork 2-12
Antrim 2-12

THIS intermediate All-Ireland camogie championship clash was very much a game of two halves in a windswept Ashbourne County Meath on Saturday, writes **MARY NEWMAN**.

Ahead by 10 points at the interval after playing with the elements in their favour for the opening 30 minutes, Cork failed to build on their lead and paid the price.

From the throw-in, the Rebels pressurised the Antrim defence and led 1-6 to no score before Antrim got their opening point from a free.

Denise Luby was on target with 1-2 from frees while Finola Neville, Hazel O'Regan, Michelle Browne and Caroline Motherway had all found range before Katie McAleese got Antrim on the scoreboard.

Christine O'Neill's long range effort found the net as Cork extended their lead but, with four minutes to the break, McAleese fired a low free into the net. It was a vital score which lifted the Antrim spirits.

Sarah Buckley and Denise Luby pointed before the break but Antrim turned to play with the wind in the second half and by the end of the third quarter, they had the lead down to a point with Katie McAleese showing her accuracy from frees while Natalie McGuinness, Maeve Mulholland and Emma McMullen struck points before Máire Mulholland netted. Cork's sole reply was a Denise Luby pointed free two minutes into the half.

Then Seventeen minutes into the second period, Christine O'Neill pointed to relieve the pressure for Cork but Antrim again upped the pace with two McAleese points bringing the sides level.

The closing minutes were tense. Maeve Cahalane edged Cork ahead but McAleese pointed a 45 in reply. Shannon Graham restored Antrim's advantage but again Cork responded with a Luby free.

As the game entered injury time, Cork had a golden opportunity when Finola Neville beat the Antrim defence but was impeded in the small square. Much to the annoyance of the Rebels, referee Richard Nicholas awarded a free out for over-carrying and with the free came the full-time whistle.

Scorers for Cork: D. Luby 1-5 (ft), C. O'Neill 1-1, F. Neville, H. O'Regan, M. Browne, S. Buckley, M. Cahalane, C. Motherway 0-1 each.

Antrim: K. McAleese 1-7 (1-5 ft, 0-2 45), M. Mulholland 1-1, E. Mc Mullen 0-2, N. McGuinness, S. Graham 0-1 each.

CORK: J. Kavanagh, L. O'Sullivan, S. Hayes, L. O'Connell, H. O'Regan, S. Motherway, S. Buckley, M. Browne, J. Crowley, C. O'Neill, D. Coomey, F. Neville, D. Luby, A. Deasy.

Subs: M. Cahalane for J. Crowley (23 inj), L. Callanan for S. Buckley (50).

ANTRIM: E. Mallon, A. McCall, R. Mooney, M. Quinn, E. Connor, S. Lavery, S. McNicholl, C. Hamill, B. Orchard, R. Walsh, N. McGuinness, S. Graham, E. Mc Mullen, K. McAleese, S. McKillen.

Subs: M. Mulholland for R. Walsh (40), K. Donnelly for M. Quinn (48).

Referee: Richard Nicholas (Galway).

Cork steamroll an out-classed Tipp



LINDA MELLERICK

CAMOGIE

Cork 2-15
Tipperary 1-5

WITHOUT ever scaling great heights Cork comfortably took the opening points of this Liberty Insurance Senior Championship tie at The Ragg on Saturday.

As expected, Tipperary threw everything at the visitors but Cork, even in second gear for much of the game, never looked seriously threatened.

Conceding 1-2 in the opening 20 minutes Cork held Tipp to just three points for the remaining 40, one from play, but this game was always going to be about the performance more so than the result and it wasn't one of Cork's better days.

With a strong crosswind, the opening 20 minutes saw Cork very loose, particularly around midfield and their half-back line. Noreen Flanagan's goal after eight minutes coming as a direct result of slack marking.

The pitch, which Cork were aware of in advance, didn't suit them. Play was tight, testament to the many side-lines throughout the hour.

With play so compact Cork's marking should have been tighter instead they looked to be somewhat out of their comfort zone, craving the open space to run onto the moving ball instead of competing over a few metres.

Despite their discomfort Cork kept their hand in, thanks to an excellent opening quarter by Breige Corkery who struck three points inside 11 minutes. Seventeen minutes in Cork led 0-6 to 1-2. Despite Aoife Murray being the far busier of the two keepers and Cait Devane at centre-back, Sabrina Larkin in the corner, Jill Horan and Nicole Walshe working very hard Tipp weren't breaking away from Cork and it was only a



Cork's Eimear O'Sullivan gets away from the challenge of Tipperary's Gemma Grace to score one of her four points in the game.

Picture: Inpho

matter of time before the visitors settled and some flair set in. Three further points gave Cork a four-point interval lead.

Cork's second half performance significantly overshadowed their first with some great interplay, the only criticism being that they overdid it at times, taking three to four passes to strike over the bar when two should have done it.

Emer O'Sullivan, far more obvious in the second 30 minutes, struck four fine points, Denise Cronin, Joanne O'Callaghan and Pamela Mackey continued their good form as Cork

pulled away from their rivals.

A good fast move involving a number of players paved the way for Jennifer O'Leary's goal with 47 minutes on the clock and the game was at that point over as a contest, Cork leading 1-13 to 1-4.

Substitute Julia White gathered a long range free and struck Cork's second in the fourth minute of injury time and followed up with a point to give Cork a 10-point winning margin, their biggest victory over Tipperary in the past couple of seasons. A good victory, a job done, a lot more to do.

Scorers for Cork: J. O'Leary 1-4 (0-3 ft), E. O'Sullivan 0-4, J. White 1-1, B. Corkery 0-3, A. Walsh, K. Mackey, O. Cotter 0-1 each.

Tipperary: N. Walshe 0-5 (0-3 ft), N. Flanagan 1-0.

CORK: A. Murray, J. O'Callaghan, M. Walsh, P. Mackey, D. Cronin, R. Buckley, A. Geary, J. O'Leary, A. Thompson, O. Cotter, A. Walsh, E. O'Sullivan, K. Mackey, S. Burns, B. Corkery.

Sub: J. White for O. Cotter (35).

TIPPERARY: R. Burke, T. Ryan, J. Kirwin, S. Larkin, G. Grace, C. Devane, M. Ryan, J. Horan, M. Teehan, E. Fryday, C. Kennedy, B. Quinn, A. Kennedy, N. Walsh, N. Flanagan.

Subs: S. McGrath for B. Quinn (23), J. Bourke for E. Fryday (56, inj).

Referee: J. Dolan (Clare).

Murray annoyed at venue for championship tie

CORK manager Paudie Murray knew it wasn't a great overall team performance but he was happy nonetheless with the 10-point victory over their Munster rivals on Saturday.

"I suppose if you look at it from the last number of years it's our biggest winning margin and talking during the week we'd have settled for eight points

again.

"We need to sharpen up here and there; we were a small bit loose.

"We have trained very hard and we were probably a small bit sluggish starting out, but I think we conceded 1-2 in the first 20 minutes and only conceded three points afterwards so that has to be positive.

"I just think that this

REACTION

location (The Ragg) is an absolute joke to be honest.

"There's nothing here really. It's disgraceful for these players and I know from listening to a couple of the Tipp players as well, they don't like the place either.

"The game deserves more respect than that

and I think it's time Croke Park stood up and were counted and do something about it."

So overall a good win?

"Well there is definitely stuff to work on. In July we've two further matches and really it's in six/seven weeks' time that you want to be right you know and we need to be right to win an All-Ireland, but no I'm happy enough with

today," said the coach.

In the championship's other results; Kilkenny had a two-point win over Galway, further evidence of their newfound impetus and intent.

Clare comfortably accounted for Derry while Offaly defeated Dublin 3-13 to 0-5.

Round two for Cork is home advantage to Dublin on July 6.

Cork torch Dublin by hammering in goals

U16 CAMOGIE

Cork 7-2
Dublin 0-11

IT was a good weekend for Cork's U16 A and B teams as both safely negotiated their opening round of the All-Ireland championship round robin games with comfortable victories over Dublin and Armagh, writes MARY NEWMAN.

Goals win games and this proved to be the case in Castle Road yesterday where, aided by the gale-force wind in the first-half, Cork hit six which helped lay the foundations for victory. Hannah Looney, Michaela Buckley, Kate O'Keeffe, Cliona O'Callaghan and Lauren Casserley all finding the net. Amazingly, Cork could only manage two points over the hour, one in each half, as the Dublin defence, despite conceding seven goals, made them work hard for everything they got.

Dublin had a nervous start and it helped Cork who had four goals on the scoreboard inside the opening quarter and by half-time they had added a further two to lead 6-1 to 0-5 and it looked as if it was going to be a non-event.

Dublin tore into the game in the second half however and with the wind at their backs they were content to pick off their points, narrowing the deficit. They contained Cork to a single point in the second half but as the game entered added-time Hannah Looney grabbed Cork's seventh goal and just their second score of the second half.

Despite what the scoreline may suggest Dublin showed they are more than capable. Playing with the aid of the wind in the opening half helped settle Cork as they notched up vital scores. Cork will know they were lucky to have got such a great start and on another day these scores may not come so easily but its two valuable points in the bag and on to round two.

Scorers for Cork: H Looney 2-0, C O'Callaghan 2-0 (0-11), M Buckley 1-1, L Casserley, K O'Keeffe 1-0 each, R Walsh 0-1.

Dublin: C Carolan, C Dawson 0-3 each, C Casey 0-2 (0-11), A Conroy, A Malloy, J Kiernan 0-1 each.

CORK: C Casey, A Kelleher, A Crowley, A Nagle, R Walsh, C O'Callaghan, K Falvey, E Ni Dheumsaigh, A Dowling, H Fitzgerald, H Looney, M Buckley, L O'Neill, K O'Keeffe, L Casserley.

Subs: M Hyde for Casserley (45), S Mills for Fitzgerald (inj, 45), M McCarthy for Buckley (50), C Guivane for Nagle (59), K Barry for O'Neill (59).

DUBLIN: F McCarthy, J Edwards, A Gorman, R Kamvar, C Buchanan, H Hegarty, C Murphy, A Malloy, R Keating, C Dawson, C Casey, L O'Mahony, C Carolan, J Kiernan, A Conroy.

Subs: C Costello for Kiernan (41), E Loo for Malloy (55).

Referee: Fintan McNamara (Clare).

Cork 3-12
Armagh 0-4

Cork's U16B side made the journey to Birr a winning one as they easily overcame Armagh to get their campaign up-and-running. The wind was a huge factor and in a first-half Cork notched up 2-9 to Armagh's 0-1 and from here on Cork were in control as they added to their tally with impressive displays from Rachel Harty Ciara Keating and Aoibhinn Kidney to run out winners.

Scorers for Cork: R Harty 2-0, A Kidney 0-5, C Keating 1-3, E Buckley, L Willis, K McCarthy 0-1 each.

Gaule strike powers Cats

By Daragh Ó Conchúir
Camogie

Kilkenny laid down a strong marker for the Liberty Insurance senior camogie championship, recording a 1-10 to 1-8 away win over Galway in the opening round.

The Noreiders were outsiders but this shock result considerably boosts their prospects of emerging from a very difficult group that also involves Wexford, Clare and Derry.

Kilkenny laid the groundwork for victory in the first half, when they held their opponents scoreless, while scoring six points.

The excellent Shelley Farrell provided three of those from play and had a key role in placing pressure on the Galway defence before Denise Gaule pounced for a goal just after the resumption.

That put Kilkenny in a very strong position and though Galway did battle well, with Ann Marie Hayes goaling at the end of the third quarter, Kilkenny had enough in hand to carve out a deserved win.

Elsewhere, Offaly made light work of a very disappointing Dublin in Crumlin, cruising to a 3-13 to 0-5 success. Just a point separated the sides in last year's All-Ireland quarter-final and Dublin certainly had enough possession in the first half.

They shot nine wides in that period however, and never recovered from the double-whammy of goals from Aoife Kelly and Ann-Marie Guinan within a minute of each other towards the end of the first half.

That gave Offaly a 2-2 to 0-4 lead and Aidan Franks' crew used the wind to stretch clear in the latter period.

Elaine Dermody hand-

Julia White:
Came off the bench to score 1-2 in Cork's 2-15 to 1-5 win over Tipperary.



passed to the net in the 48th minute as she finished with a tally of 1-8, while the Offaly defence, in which Sheila Sullivan gave a player of the match exhibition, successfully shackled the Dublin attack.

Derry made history by playing senior championship camogie for the first time and they recovered from a very nervous start to give an excellent account of themselves in the second half. They were unable to deny Clare however, coming out the wrong side of a 3-11 to 1-6 scoreline.

Karen Kieft was brilliant for the Oak Leafers, contributing 1-5, but Clare had a greater depth of supply.

Deirdre Murphy - who like Derry goalkeeper Claire O'Kane, was commencing her 17th season of adult championship camogie - stood out with 1-2, while Lisa Loughnane's second-half brace, allied with Claire McMahon's six points ensured that the Banner women won out.

A youthful Tipperary put up a good fight in the first half against Cork but they had no answer to the pace and power of the league champions in the second half, losing 2-15 to 1-5.

Jenny O'Leary was magnificent throughout and her 48th minute goal finally ended the resistance of outstanding Tipperary goalie, Rita Burke.

Last year's captain, Julia White came off the bench to score 1-2, with the major coming in injury time.



Niamh Mulqueen receives the Player of the Game award from Eamon Browne.



Sheila O'Donoghue Central Council, Ardcomhairle presents Kate O'Gorman St Josephs Tulla with Player of the Game award

Ulster Camogie Chairperson Kathleen Woods

A special day in the calendar

Ulster Feile is a special day in the Camogie calendar. It provides our young teams the opportunity to compete against and meet new teams from across the Province and learn from the experiences of competing at this level.

The new format will allow for much excitement and hope that teams can make the Finals at Owenbeg on Sunday.

We are very grateful for the support of Ulster GAA in the co-ordination and planning of this competition and Ulster GAA has always been very supportive of Ulster Camogie.

We are delighted that the finals will go hand in hand at the excellent Derry GAA Centre at Owenbeg which held our NWP Recycling Ulster Championship

Finals on Saturday past. We thank both Derry GAA and Ulster GAA in their support of securing the best facilities for camogie.

I thank our Coaching & Games Development Committee led by Mary Connolly for their co-ordination of Feile 2013 and to Ross Corbett, Regional Development Coordinator for all the work that goes into organising this weekend.

I offer best wishes to all finalists on Sunday.

While there may be winners and runners up, it is very important that all players play in a sporting and friendly manner but above all, enjoy themselves.

Kathleen Woods
Ulster Camogie Chairperson



CAMOGIE

All-Ireland Championships: Senior: Grp 1: Clare 3-11 Derry 1-8, Galway 1-8 Kilkenny 1-10; Grp 2: Dublin 0-5 Offaly 0-13; Tipperary 1-5 Cork 2-15; Intermediate: Grp 1: Tipperary 2-10 Wexford 2-7; Premier Junior: Armagh 0-6 Down 1-4; Junior B: Kerry w/o Monaghan scr., Car Darr w/o Wicklow scr.; U16A: Grp 1: Kilkenny 1-11 Tipperary 2-10, Clare 2-10; Galway 2-4; Grp 2: Cork 7-2 Dublin 0-11; Armagh 2-4 Offaly 2-12; U16B: Grp 1: Antrim 2-1 Down 0-4; Grp 2: Monaghan 0-2 Roscommon 0-8, Waterford 10-10 Westmeath 0-3; U16C: Grp 1: Carlow w/o Cavan scr.; Grp 2: Monaghan 0-2 Roscommon 0-8, Louth scr. Meath w/o.

JUNE 2013



The Togher girls school team that won the the Hurling by the Lough tournament recently.



The Glasheen girls team who took part in the Hurling by the Lough competition.

Picture: M Sheehan



Togher Girls captain Toni O'Connor with the Val Riordan Cup.



The Greenmount Girls team who took part in the Hurling by the Lough competition.

Picture: M Sheehan



Rebecca Twomey, Toni O'Connor Lough tournament.



Irish rugby sevens star Claire Keohane, is presented with the quarterly Garryvoe Hotel East Cork Sports Star award by Cork hurling legend Brian Corcoran and Garryvoe Hotel general manager, Stephen Belton.

Picture: Provision

Keohane is the Claire winner

THE first quarterly winner of the Garryvoe Hotel East Cork Sports Awards is camogie player Claire Keohane, but she wins the award for her rugby performances with Ireland.

And in fantastic act of sportsmanship it was her camogie club Killeagh who nominated her for her outstanding success on the rugby pitch.

Claire was a vital member of the Irish ladies rugby seven-a-side team, who beat Australia on the way to a Plate final victory and fifth place in the world series of sevens in Hong Kong in March.

Claire plays senior camogie

AWARDS

By BARBARA O'CONNELL

with Killeagh, ladies football with Inch Rovers and is a fourth year Physiotherapy student in the University of Limerick.

She took up rugby three years ago while in college in Limerick.

She plays for UL Bohs and Munster ladies, while for the last 18 months has been part of the Irish Ladies Sevens, who are preparing to qualify for the first ever rugby 7s at the Olympics in Rio in 2016.

She recently represented Ireland at the world rugby 7s in

vitational and the China 7s World series event where she scored four tries, and kicked 44 points in the tournaments.

"It's a great honour to be the first recipient of this award since they have been re-introduced this year," Claire Keohane said.

"I'd like to thank everyone involved, but especially Killeagh for nominating me."

One of the judges Brian Corcoran was fulsome in his praise for the first winner.

"We knew when we re-introduced these awards that the quality and variety of sports that would be represented would be extremely wide," Brian Corcoran said.

"However, we hadn't anticipated that the first winner would all on her own fit that criteria."

The nomination from Killeagh Camogie Club said.

"Claire is only 22 years of age."

"Her ability to keep playing so many codes at a high level and also to be studying such an intense university course successfully is of great credit to her and Killeagh Camogie Club feel she would be a worthy winner."

Nominations for the second quarter award winners should be sent to garryvoesportsawards@garryvoehotel.com.

Closing Date for nominations for the second quarter is July 20.



Ciara Doyle, Clare Feile na nGael Skillstar winner 2013

The Corn Purseil Cup was presented to the outstanding captain Aoife Keane who completed a unique double on the day. A quick change of gear in Dublin, followed by a journey to Kilmallock in Limerick saw her arrive for the second half of the Senior Munster football final. A vital member of the Banner Senior football team, Aoife was introduced immediately as a substitute, and she kicked a precious point as they claimed the Senior Munster football final by the narrowest of margins.

St. Flannans Panel: Doireann Murphy, Andrea O'Keefe, Chloe Devitt, Aoife Keane, Laura Brown, Amie Wiley, Carole Browne, Teresa O'Keefe, Lauren Tuohy, Louise Browne.

Clare Ryan & Laura Linnane

St Flannans College 7 aside Camogie



The camogie competitions were just as hard-fought and special mention must be given to Glasheen Girls, who had a heroic victory over Gaelscoil an Teaghlaigh Naofa to win their first ever final, after 11 years of trying. This was a terrific game, with Sarah and Lauren McCarthy, captain Katie Gowen, Laura Murphy and Zahara in excellent form on the night, as they were all week. The joy of their coaches was evident as all the years of disappointment were

wiped away with the victory. The girls of Teaghlaigh Naofa gave it their all too, with Aisling Ni Choileain, Roisin Ni hIci, Jade Ni Longain and Lily Ni Chonaill among the performers to catch the eye. The Val Riordan Cup for girls saw a super game between Togher Girls and the cailini from Maria Assumpta in Ballyphehane. There was nothing in the game for large

JUNE 2013



At the Maryborough Hotel for the Cork Camogie Hall of Fame Awards, sponsored by Barry Group/Costcutters, were Fiona O'Driscoll, Lynn Dunlea, Marian McCarthy, chairman of the Cork Camogie Board, Linda Mellerick and Irene O'Keeffe. Picture: Tony O'Connell Photography

Rebel camogie

COSTCUTTER and the Cork Camogie County Board yesterday honoured four former players at a lunch held in the Maryborough Hotel where Lynn Dunlea — O'Callaghan, Irene O'Keeffe, Fiona O'Driscoll and Linda Mellerick were the recipients of the Costcutter Cork Camogie Hall of Fame awards.

It was a fitting tribute to four players who have given tremendous service to the game and whose feats were exceptional. The judging panel once again had a huge task but they came up with four players who were without doubt worthy recipients.

Paul Roche, marketing manager of the Barry's Group, speaking on behalf of Costcutter, paid tribute to the four former players and he praised the winners for what the

CAMOGIE

By MARY NEWMAN

had achieved, "As sponsors and supporters, Costcutter's are delighted to be here and to be involved in the third annual Cork Camogie Hall of Fame awards.

"These awards are a wonderful way of recognising the achievements of so many great players who have done their county proud in the past.

"We at Costcutter are excited and proud of our involvement with the Cork Camogie team and over the next three years we intend to implement a number of initiatives to help strengthen the growth of this wonderful sport. So we are urging everybody to keep an eye on the Costcutter website in the coming days for a way to help your local club.

"When you look back at the names of the winners in the first two years of this award you get a real sense of how lucky we have been as a county to have such inspirational ladies representing us on the Camogie field all these years."

The very first inductees to the hall of fame were Marie Costine Betty Sugrue, Pat Moloney and Marion McCarthy these players have a combined 24 All-Ireland's between them, while last year's inductees; Sandie Fitzgibbon, Colette O'Mahony, Cathy Landers and Mary O'Leary had 16 between them.

Picking four players every year from the vast collection of greats who've worn red cannot be easy but when you read out those names, the whole idea of a Hall of Fame is the only apt reward for the tireless and skilled service these ladies have given us for so many years.

This year's winners more than deserve their names to be included with their peers.

It is especially fitting that the four wonderful players, who have been chosen today, enter the Hall of Fame together and their deeds in red will serve as an inspiration to those that will come after them."

Speaking at the awards, Marion McCarthy, chairperson Cork Camogie County Board said, "Cork Camogie County Board is proud to host these awards initiative with Costcutter.

"Cork Camogie is privileged to have many great sporting days to look back on, all of which are etched in the history of camogie by such great players as those honoured here today.

"The Hall of Fame Awards, honouring former players, will be a regular feature going forward in the sports award calendar in Cork, affording us the annual opportunity

IRENE O'KEEFFE

Irene O'Keeffe is remembered for scoring two vital goals in two minutes during the first half of the 1998 All-Ireland final victory over Galway. Irene is the holder of five All-Ireland senior medals the first won in 1992, when Cork halted Kilkenny's great run of seven in a row, 1993, 1995, 1997 and 1998. In 1986 she made her intercounty debut with the Cork U16 team and she went on to enjoy a marvellous career where she also won national league Gael Linn senior and junior, munster,

senior, junior and U18 honours. Captained Inniscarra to their first Senior B county championship title in 1996 she also holds Cork county Junior A Intermediate and Senior B championship medals and she helped guide the club to their first senior county championship title in 2010 when as a selector she helped take the side to the All-Ireland club final in Croke Park. The holder of two player of the Match awards in All-Ireland senior finals she was also a recipient of a Jurys sports star award and a Munster Sports Award.

CORK CAMOGIE HALL

FIONA O'DRISCOLL

Fiona O'Driscoll is the holder of six All-Ireland Senior Medals won in 1993, 1995, 1997, 1998, 2002 and 2003. She has taken her sporting career a step further by becoming one of the most successful female GAA Coaches A graduating of UL she captained the university to their first Ashbourne cup title in 1995. Named as National Camogie Player of the Year 2002 following her performance in

the All-Ireland Final in which she scored a hat-trick in Corks win over Tipperary. Fiona has won numerous honours with Cork and Munster. She was a member of the All-Stars Camogie Team of 1993. She pursues her love of the game as coach and trainer of Cork senior camogie team in 2005 when she guided them to All Ireland glory and again in 2006 and in the process has become the first female Coach to all-Ireland camogie

winners in over 20 years. Outside of playing Fiona has served on the administration side as President of National C.C.I.A. (Governing Body of Third Level Camogie) 1995-1998 and as Chairperson of the National Camogie Coaching and Development Committee (2006-2008). Amongst the collection are eight National League medals including seven-in-a-row between 1995 and 2001 and another in 2003, National Camogie

July 2013



At the Maryborough Hotel for the Cork Camogie Hall of Fame Awards, sponsored by Barry Group/Costcutter were L to R: Fiona O'Driscoll, Lynn Dunlea, Paul Roche, marketing manager and John Mc Allen, commercial director, Barry Group/Costcutter (sponsors), Linda Mellerick and Irene O'Keeffe.

Picture: Tony O'Connell Photography.

legends honoured

to publicly honour camogie legends."

She thanked Costcutter for their support to Cork Camogie and for putting their faith in the game and the county team.

"This year we have already won the Senior National League and Munster championship we are hoping to add an All-Ireland title to it come September."

Amongst the large attendance were the officers of the Cork Camogie Board and Juvenile Board members of the boards GPC, former presidents Mary Moran, Nora Newman and Kay Dunne, Cork senior hurling selector Ger Cunningham of Sports Line Communications who did tremendous work behind the scenes with the Cork Camogie Board and representatives from Costcutter shops in Cork.

Many great players have helped Cork camogie become what it is today and the latest four former



Marian McCarthy presents a Distinguished Service Award to Sheila Golden, secretary, Cork Camogie Board at yesterday's Cork Camogie Hall of Fame Awards at the Maryborough Hotel.

Picture: Tony O'Connell Photography.

greats now join the last eight recipients in a very special place in Cork

Camogie history.

Well done to Costcutter and Cork

Camogie as they continue to promote camogie in Cork.

OF FAME RECIPIENTS

Player of the Year award in 2002 and a Lynchpin award, predecessor of the All Star awards, in 2003.

Career. She achieved a long time ambition by winning a senior county championship medal with her beloved Fr O'Neill's in 2003 and she answered the call and came out of retirement to play a huge role as the club won the Intermediate championship in 2011 where she was named as Player of the Match.

LYNN DUNLEA

Lynn Dunlea scored three goals as Cork overcame Galway in the 1993 All Ireland final earlier that year she had scored a breath-taking goal deep in injury-time in the All-Ireland semi-final against Kilkenny to leave the Cats stunned and Cork safely through to the final. In a career where she was known as a goal poacher supreme she won four All Ireland senior medals in 1992, 1993, 1997 and 1998 seven

National League provincial and a Gael Linn honours. Amongst her collection are senior county championships and an one All Ireland Club Championship medal with the Glen Rovers won in 1993. Lynn's sister Stehanie and Hilda won championship honours with Lynn at club level whilst her mother Nuala Humphries was also a prolific camogie player with Cork and Glen Rovers. Lynn was a television analyst on RTE camogie coverage in the

early 2000s but retired from this to concentrate on her busy career as a teacher and family life.

LINDA MELLERICK

Linda Mellerick was one of four Cork players selected on the camogie team of the century in 2004 where she was joined by her clubmate Sandie Fitzgibbon and fellow Corkonians Marie Costine and Pat Moloney. The winner of All-Ireland medals in 1992, 1993, 1995, 1997, 1998 and 2002, Linda was born in Tipperary. Their loss was Cork's gain when the family moved to live in here when she was three.

She won 10 Cork County Championships and three All-Ireland Club Championship as well as Munster Club and All-Ireland sevens, captained Glen to a historic seven in a row of county championship success in 1997. Her inter-county career spanned 21 years and she won minor, junior and six senior All-Ireland medals as well as 10 National League and four Gael Linn inter-provincial titles. She was honoured by her club to lead Cork twice and became the only player to captain Cork to All-Ireland success on two occasions.

Waterford will offer stiff test for Rebel ladies

INTERMEDIATE CAMOGIE

By MARY NEWMAN

SATURDAY

Liberty Insurance Intermediate Camogie Championship, Cork v Waterford, Glen Rovers, 1pm.

ROUND two of the Liberty Insurance Intermediate championship for Cork while for Waterford it's their opening game. Coming on the back of last Saturday's drawn game, a win is vital for Cork as it would keep them in the hunt for a place in the closing stages.

Last weekend's game was chaotic for the Cork management and players given that several of the team had to rush from the senior game in Tipperary to make the throw-in Ashbourne in Meath with just two hours to spare.

The fruits of this were shown in the closing stages of the game when several of the side were simply exhausted and in the finish Cork just about hung on for a draw.

Notwithstanding this, Cork should not have found themselves in that position as they had built up a good lead when playing with the gale force wind but in the second half failure to win ball around the centre resulted in nothing going in to the inside line and as a result the price was paid.

Waterford, fielding the counties first 15, will be strong they had an excellent National league campaign where they came through to the semi-finals stages undefeated with victories over Meath, Galway, Wexford Limerick and Antrim. In the semi final they lost out to Kildare 0-12 to 0-8.

They have plenty of experienced players in their lineup: sharpshooter Patricia Jackman Nicola Morrissey, Captain Jenny Simpson and Charlotte Maher have served the county well and they are hugely influential.

With no senior game on the fixture sheet for this weekend the Intermediates have a good run into the game and they will be looking for an improved display in order to get the points on offer. With experienced senior players such as Lynda O'Connell and Sara Hayes leading the way, Cork should not be found wanting and maybe with just a little bit of luck last weekend they could have recorded victory, Carolyn Motherway, Aoife Deasy and Caroline Sugrue have all lined out at senior national league level and the experience gained there is invaluable.

It will be a tough battle to the finish as both sides strive to stay in contention for further honours.

Linda Mellerick, Fiona O'Driscoll, Irene O'Keeffe and Lynn Dunlea pictured at the Maryborough House Hotel for the Cork Camogie Hall of Fame awards sponsored by Barry's/Costcutters. See P48, 49 for more.
Picture: Tony O'Connell Photography



The Cork Camogie Hall of Fame winners, Linda Mellerick, Fiona O'Driscoll, Irene O'Keeffe and Lynn Dunlea.
Pictures: Tony O'Connell

Five Camogie legends honoured

The names of four sporting legends have been added to the Cork Camogie Hall of Fame — Lynn Dunlea-O'Callaghan, Irene O'Keeffe, Fiona O'Driscoll and Linda Mellerick. The four were presented with their awards, sponsored by Costcutter, at a lunch at the Maryborough Hotel.

It was a fitting tribute to the four who excelled with club and county and whose feats were exceptional. The judging panel of Mary Moran, Nora Newman and Sheila Golden had a huge task but they came up with four players who were worthy recipients.

The first players inducted to the hall of fame were Marie Costine, Betty Sugrue, Pat Moloney and Marion McCarthy — four players with a combined 24 All-Ireland medals between them.

Last year's inductees were Sandie Fitzgibbon, Colette O'Mahony, Cathy Landers and Mary O'Leary, who have 16.

As well as the presentation, chairperson Marion McCarthy announced the introduction of a distinguished services award, with Sheila Golden the first winner.

Sheila took up camogie in South Presentation Secondary School and continued playing with the past pupils side with whom she won three senior county championship

medals in a row from 1969 to 1971. She also won a Munster club championship medal in 1970.

A member of the Cork senior team that lost to Wexford in 1968, Sheila also holds provincial honours with the county. In a long career in camogie administration, she has held the offices of county chairman, secretary and president, from 1964 to 1968 in the role of secretary before retiring for a number of years in 1988. She returned to camogie with the Inniscarra club and in 1988 became county chairman, a position she held until 2002 when she assumed the role of honorary president. Having concluded that post in 2007, she resumed her work as secretary in 2008, a position she holds to this day.

As a Cork selector, Sheila was involved with teams at junior and intermediate levels when All-Ireland titles were won but one of her proudest moments was presenting the county Senior B championship trophy to her own club Inniscarra when Irene O'Keeffe captained the side.

Sheila has great support from her family but her husband Tommy is her number one helper. He is there to take the phone calls and help Sheila in any way he can and this has been an important part of her involvement in administration.



FAME GAME: At the Maryborough Hotel for the Cork Camogie Hall of Fame awards, sponsored by Barry Group/Costcutter, were Fiona O'Driscoll, Lynn Dunlea, Marian McCarthy, chairperson Cork Camogie Board, Linda Mellerick and Irene O'Keeffe.
Picture: Tony O'Connell Photography



Marian McCarthy, chairperson of the Cork Camogie Board, presenting the Distinguished Services Award to Sheila Golden.

July 2013

Camogie stars are honoured in hall of fame



1. Kay Dunne, Cork Camogie Board, with Paul Roche and Edwina Lucey of the Barry Group; 2. Cork camogie stars Jennifer O'Leary and Anna Geary; 3. Mary McSweeney, Mary Newman, Sheila Golden, Marian McCarthy and Taryn Lynch of the Cork Camogie Board; 4. Finbarr McCarthy of Cork's 96FM, camogie players Jennifer O'Leary and Anna Geary, and Ger Cunningham of Sportsline; 5. Cork camogie Hall of Fame award winners Fiona O'Driscoll, Lynn Dunlea, Marian McCarthy, chairperson of the Cork Camogie Board; Linda Mellerick and Irene O'Keeffe; 6. Matt and Sue Kearney of Costcutter, Grenagh; Sheila Golden, secretary of the Cork Camogie Board, with her Distinguished Service Award at the Cork Camogie Hall of Fame Awards at the Maryborough Hotel.

Picture: Tony O'Connell Photography



July 2013

Camogie latest news

Ballygarvan will fly the Cork flag at Feile event

FÉILE
By MARY NEWMAN

MORE than 1,000 camogie players will take part in Bus Éireann National Camogie Féile which takes place in Limerick next weekend.

Féile Na nGael, the All-Ireland festival of hurling, camogie and handball is now in its 42nd year and camogie teams from throughout the country and some from abroad will descend on Limerick from Thursday next. The visiting clubs, as is the tradition, will be hosted by the home clubs for the duration of the festival.

One of camogie most prestigious competitions it is often the first taste of national success for many future stars, who have witnessed the excitement of Féile with their respective clubs.

There are four divisions in total, but without doubt division one is the place to be, and it's here that Cork interest lie as Cork Féile Champions Ballygarvan strive to bring the title Leaside.

Ballygarvan are co-captained by Eimear McAndrew and Isabelle O'Regan, and the side have been guided to the Féile weekend by mentors Oliver McAndrew, Alex O'Regan, Bernard Ahern and Geraldine Ryan.

Given that Limerick were not in position to provide enough host clubs Tipperary clubs and North Cork club Charleville will act as co-hosts to provide accommodation.

The first matches will be between the host team and their visitors. Ballygarvan battled through the Cork Féile to book their passage. In the Cork final they defeated holders Aghbullogue with an impressive display in a game that went down to the wire with just one point separating the sides at the finish.

They are a strong side and they are hosted by the Drom-Inch club.

They are joined in section A by Newport, and Sarsfields of Galway. Cork will be represented at the Féile Skills by Carrigaline's Lisa Kiely.

Schedule of Games:

Friday, July 5: Ballygarvan v Drom Inch, the Ragg, 2pm;

Saturday, July 6: Ballygarvan v Newport, 10am; Ballygarvan v Sarsfields Galway 1.30pm.

DOUGLAS

Our U11s played the next round of their Go Games in Ballincollig and it was played in Great Spirit and it was evident to all that the games already played had stood to the girls.

From the start our girls were in top form everyone of the girls played their hearts out. Julie O'Sullivan, Eimear Corby, and Katie Hartnett were brilliant in defence. Aisling Walsh, Anna Murphy and Lia Power defended and attacked from midfield. Kaci Muketeer, Aoife Lynch, Caoimhe McCarthy, Robyn Smith and Sinead Buckley worked hard in the forwards and Jane Stoker made some vital saves in the final minutes. Well done to all the girls on a brilliant performance.

Our U12s welcomed over thirty girls from the Cuala club in Dublin to Douglas on Saturday morning last. We played three games of ten a side



The Glen Rovers U14 team, winners of the Sarah Buckley Memorial Shield.

Big guns triumph

THERE weren't any surprises in last weekend's opening senior championship ties around the country.

Cork, Clare and Offaly as predicted starting on winning ways, and the Galway v Kilkenny clash was always a hard one to call.

With group one being the more competitive of the two, victories are that bit more meaningful as there isn't an easy game really in the mix.

To lose your opening round puts you on the back foot and Galway will be very disappointed that they dropped points here with home advantage.

It's as telling a victory for Kilkenny as it is a defeat for Galway.

With a 1-10 to 1-8 victory Kilkenny



LINDA MELLERICK
CAMOGIE

were far from outsiders given their recent Leinster final victory over All-Ireland champions Wexford, but the win is significant and considerably boosts their prospects of emerging the direct route from a group that further involves Wexford, Clare and Derry.

Kilkenny led 0-6 to 0-0 at half-time having played with the advantage of a strong breeze.

Shelley Farrell was on form during

that opening half scoring three from play and she made her presence felt for Denise Gaule's goal in the third minute after the restart.

Anne Dalton's long delivery was gathered by the Galway goalkeeper Eva Concannon.

Concannon's attempted clearance was blocked by Farrell and Gaule was on hand to slot the ball into an empty net, 1-6 to 0-0.

Within seconds of the goal Anne-Marie Hayes, primarily a defender, but now operating in attack finally got the Westerners on the scoreboard with a point from play.

Niamh McGrath and Emer Haverty struck two more before Brenda Hanney's shot was stopped by Kilkenny goalkeeper Emma Kavanagh, but her attempted clearance was blocked by Anne-Marie

Hayes and her ground strike flew past the Kilkenny netminder to leave 1-7 to 1-3 and it was finally game on.

Galway were now brimming with confidence and Niamh McGrath added a brace of frees in the 45th and 47th minutes to narrow the gap.

Denise Gaule pointed from play in the 49th minute to steady the ship before Katie Power put Kilkenny in control when pointing a free in the 55th minute; 1-9 to 1-5.

Kilkenny enjoyed a three point lead as the match entered injury-time, but Galway almost stole a draw right at the death, the resultant 45' converted.

Offaly made light work of once again a very disappointing Dublin at O'Toole Park cruising to a 3-13 to 0-5 success.

Just a point separated the sides in

CAMOGIE CLUB, NEWS,

thing they could do Hanna could do too and for her it was another goal and a point. Glen Rovers came at us again with two further goals and a point but time ran out for them to catch us and we ran out winners on score of 3-11 to 4-5. Well done girls a great victory.

Make sure you continue to train each week and practice all the time at home.

U12: The U12s played in their second blitz of the season in Killeagh where there were three teams present Killeagh, Castlemartyr and Castletyons. Killeagh played Castlemartyr in the first match.

It was a sporting game and Killeagh

got some great scores the girls played their hearts out and continued this with Castletyons in the second match. Our girls gained some valuable experience from these matches. Special thanks to Siobhan, Martin and Helen who managed the team on the day and to the hardworking mothers who provided welcome refreshments after the matches.

Team: Abby Bulman, Aine O'Driscoll, Aisling Tyrrell, Anna Sheehan, Ava Cunningham, Chloe O'Donovan, Elena Kelleher, Emer Cowling, Grainne Landers, Joanna Keniry, Kate Gould, Orla Cowling, Rachel Nolan, Rebecca Geary, Sarah Roche.

We travelled to Bishopscourt for a

aside with all teams evenly matched. It was great to play against girls from outside the county and we competed very well.

The girls were then brought back to the GAA club for lunch and they then played Gaelic Football in the afternoon before the Cuala girls headed off home on the train.

Well done to all who organised a great day.

We are hosting our annual Aoife Downey Tournament tomorrow Sunday this was originally planned for April but had to be postponed because of the weather so here's hoping it is more favourable tomorrow. All welcome to come and enjoy what should be a great day for our club remembering a very special girl.

BRIDE ROVERS

We hosted an U12 cluster blitz last Saturday in Paire Na Bride thanks to everyone who assisted in the organ-

isation and the food and refreshments in any way. See www.briderovers.ie for all club news/events

KILLEAGH
U16: Our U16s travelled to Glen Rovers and having beaten St Finbarr's the previous week our hopes were high for another victory.

Glen Rovers opened the scoring with a point but this was quickly replied to by Hanna Looney scoring three on the trot. Niamh O'Brien and Emma Treacy defended the goalmouth very well and where would we have been without ever reliable Niamh O'Farrell, who is also now playing superbly at senior level.

Glen Rovers pointed and Jill Butler replied again the Glen pointed but Clara Motherway made sure the goal line was well protected making many fine saves.

Grainne Tyrrell was having a great

game at midfield and was well assisted there by Amy Benaim and later by Clara Barry. Great credit is due to many of these girls as they are still U14 Sinead Landers popped over another point and Hanna finished the half with a further three to end the half on a score line of 0-8 to 0-3 in our favour.

Rachel Fogarty, Leah McEvoy and Clodagh Tyrrell in the half back line made sure lots of balls were driven into the forward line and great use was made of this by Jill Butler as she goaled. Glen Rovers pointed yet again and they hit us with a cracker of a goal in reply Hanna popped two points over the bar.

Lana and then Ellen Cassidy made sure plenty ball was kept in around the danger zone and Sinead Landers used that ball to best advantage by putting it to the back of the net. Yet again Glen Rovers goaled but any-



Camogie latest news



The Barrs U14 camogie team who recently won the Sarah Buckley tournament.

Picture: Supplied

Barrs win out in Buckley Memorial Cup

U14 CAMOGIE

By BARBARA O'CONNELL

ON SATURDAY last, Blarney Camogie Club hosted the fourth annual Sarah Buckley Memorial Tournament with Ballinascairney, Glen Rovers, St Finbarr's and the home club Blarney taking part in this U14 competition. In the opening encounter Blarney defeated the Glen in a close contest while in the second game, St Finbarr's came through a brave Ballinascairney challenge. In the plate final, Glen Rovers had a narrow victory over the girls from West Cork. The cup final saw the pairing of defending champions Blarney and the Barrs, whom had never won this competition before. In front of a large crowd, basking in the glorious sunshine, both sides played some lovely hurling. However the home side found it difficult to break down the St Finbarr's defence, and with the Blues forwards also on form, the Barrs proved too strong and ran out worthy winners. St Finbarr's captain, Aoife O'Mahony was presented by the Buckley family with the winning trophy on what was a most entertaining and enjoyable afternoon of camogie. A special mention to the organisers of this tournament, who make sure that Sarah's memory will continue to be cherished.

as expected

last year's All-Ireland quarter-final and Dublin certainly had enough possession in the first half.

They shot nine wides in that period however, and never recovered from the double blow of goals from Aoife Kelly and Ann-Marie Guinan within a minute of each other towards the end of the first half.

That gave Offaly a 2-2 to 0-4 lead and Aidan Franks' crew used the wind to stretch clear in the second half.

Derry made history by playing senior championship camogie for the first time and they recovered from a very nervous start at Ashbourne to give an excellent account of themselves in the second half.

They were unable to deny Clare however, coming out the wrong side of a 3-11 to 1-6 scoreline.

This was the first clash between the sides since 2007 (intermediate), but Clare were fully aware of Derry's potential threat and with the wind at their backs clinically took every opportunity that presented itself.

Derry weren't as accurate and they trailed by 1-8 to 0-0 at half time.

Both ends of the experience spectrum were involved in Clare's 14th minute goal as newcomer Sinead Tuohy set up Deirdre Murphy, who like Derry goalkeeper Claire O'Kane, was commencing her 17th season of adult championship camogie.

A youthful Tipperary put up a good fight in the first half against Cork in the tight pitch that is The Ragg, but they had no answer once Cork upped the tempo.

The victors were never in doubt.

Next weekend has Kilkenny hosting Clare in Nowlan Park. That should be a good battle.

You would expect Kilkenny to win out, but it wouldn't be a major shock if Clare pipped them.

Kilkenny will need to remain in the right frame of mind for this one. Wexford open their season to Derry in Crumlin.

The remaining second round ties will take place on July 6 along with some third round games.

Cork host Dublin, Derry take on Kilkenny at a halfway venue in what will be the third week out on the trot for both counties, which is tough.

Wexford will be at home to Galway while Tipperary travel to Offaly.

Cork are fortunate this year in that they have a two week gap between fixtures.

Douglas host tournament to honour Aoife

DOUGLAS camogie club will honour the memory of their late underage player Aoife Downey when they host their second camogie tournament on Sunday.

Participating clubs are looking forward to honouring the memory of a player that many would have played with or against two years ago.

One of Cork's brightest young camogie players passed away after a tragic accident.

Last season the club did her memory

proud and everybody is looking forward to this year event.

The participating teams are: Douglas, Glen Rovers, Courcy Rovers, Inniscarra, and Cloughduv games get under way at 12 noon.

Aoife's parents Sean and Siobhán, her sisters Eadaoin and Caoimhe will be at the event.

It promises to be a hugely emotional day, but one which I am sure the participants will enjoy as they honour a superb sports woman.

WEEKEND INTER-COUNTY PREVIEWS

SUNDAY

All-Ireland U16A championship, Cork v Offaly, St Brendan's Park, 2.30pm.

CORK head to Birr for round two of the U16A championship with a victory under their belts over a strong Dublin side last weekend. Offaly will pose another tough challenge as they also strive to maintain their one hundred per cent record after their impressive victory over Limerick last weekend. A win on Sunday would see Cork

nice placed with Limerick to play on Thursday night next, but they will not get anything soft from an Offaly side that have put in huge effort this season.

SUNDAY

All-Ireland U16B championship, Cork v Waterford, Castle Road, 3pm.

Last weekend the B side had a superb victory over Armagh, and they will face Waterford in confident form. This is a tough group, but Cork are more than capable holding their own in it.

FIXTURES AND RESULTS

League match and the weather conditions were not good on the night and conditions were difficult for the both teams.

Whilst Bishopstown dominated the game our girls worked hard and good defending and work throughout the field resulted in Joanna Keniry scoring two goals. While we did not win the girls worked hard in difficult conditions. Anna Marie O'Neill and Martin Daly managed the team for this game.

Team: Rebecca Geary, Rachel Nolan, Sarah Roche, Grainne Landers, Aimee Kearney, Orla Cowhig, Emer Cowhig, Aisling Tyrrell, Aine O'Driscoll, Chloe Walsh, Joanna

Keniry, Aoife O'Neill.

The team are now looking forward to their next blitz in Rathcormac today Saturday training every Tuesday evening at 6 pm. New members always welcome.

Sympathy: Killeagh Camogie Club and its members wish to express its most heartfelt sympathies for the Fogarty family on the tragic death of Diarmuid. Our thoughts are with the family during this difficult time.

BRIAN DILLON'S

UB: Go Games. We travelled to play St Vincent's and St Finbarr's where we played three matches in a blitz. Team included Zoe Cotter, Sofie Porter, Claire Lordan, Sarah Porter,

Orlaith O'Callaghan, Zoe Brennan, Sinead Roche, Lily Cullinane and Lillian Forrest.

U10: We travelled to play Bishopstown where we put out two teams the team also played Dungourney at the Tank Field, and travelled to Riverstick to play both Valley Rovers and Silah Rua.

U12: We travelled to Ballinora with a depleted team and were well beaten we played Tracton at home and we were convincing winners. Kate O'Brien, Anna Myers and Olivia Gibson played very well. We played Blackrock at home and won well Olivia Gibson and Aoife Daly Mc Grath stood out.

U18: We played St Vincent's junior team in a challenge match and it was a tough and competitive game which will stand to us St Vincent's won the match by two points with Sinead Mills and Shauna Ring playing well.

Intermediates: Barryroe came to the Tank for the Summer Cup and first half goals from Caoimhe Rodgers and Alison Smith and points from Therese Drummond and Amanda Dorgan put us ahead at half time 2-2 to 0-2. In the second half Therese scored 1-4 and Caoimhe got two goals as we ran out winners 5-7 to 1-3 in a great performance. Orla Lawrence in goal, Orla Ni Shuilleabhain at wing back and Shauna Ring in midfield played well. We also played Eire Og in the Summer Cup we were missing several key players however the team battled well, Eire Og won out 3-8 to 0-6. Caoimhe Rodgers scored four points and Donna Carroll scored two points. Caroline Craugh and Anthea O'Brien were superb in defence.

GLEN ROVERS

A week of non stop action as our U14 and U16 team put in superb effort to

get their program of league games completed by the closing date. In a hugely exciting contest we battled it out with Killeagh in the U16A league and in the finish just the puck of a ball and the crossbar denied us victory in what was without doubt one of the best exhibitions of U16 camogie by two superb teams.

Undeterred we headed to Togher to meet St Finbarr's and here we were not going to be denied as the girls turned in a superb display to run out winners on a 4-12 to 0-6 scoreline.

Well done to the panel and mentors who more than held their own in the grade losing just two games. Our U14 team enjoyed a great day at the Sarah Buckley memorial tournament in Blarney where they overcame Ballinascairney to win the plate competition, in the first game we lost out to Blarney but we rallied to turn in a great final display.

Killeagh were visitors for the U14A league and in a thrilling encounter we held off a strong Killeagh challenge to run out winners again well done to everybody.

Our senior team had a good victory in their summer cup game against Killeagh and will meet Carrigaline on Wednesday next in Glen Rovers at 8pm whilst the junior team enjoyed a friendly against Bride Rovers where they also recorded a victory.

Well done to the Cork teams last weekend best of luck to the U16 A and B teams and to the Intermediate team and our girls on the teams we are hosting the Cork v Waterford game on Saturday and we look forward to welcoming the Cork and Waterford players.

Our minor team will play in the Aoife Downey memorial tournament on Sunday in Douglas players meet at Glen Rovers at 10.15am.

A Golden moment for a camogie stalwart

CAMOGIE

By MARY NEWMAN

COSTCUTTER and Cork Camogie Board recently held a function to honour four former camogie greats. During the event, chairperson Marion McCarthy made an announcement of a new Distinguished Services Award and that Sheila Golden was its first recipient. A shocked Sheila listened to Marion's announcement which acknowledged her wonderful service to Cork Camogie. Golden, then known as Sheila O'Sullivan, took up camogie in South Presentation Secondary School. The school was a wonderful nursery for Camogie until its closure in 1987 and she was chosen on the Cork Colleges team before going on to continue playing with the Past Pupils side with whom she won three Senior county Championship medals in a row from 1969 to 1971. She also won Munster club championship medal in 1970. A member of the Cork senior team that lost out to Wexford in 1968 Sheila holds provincial honours with the county. It is as an administrator that Sheila Golden is best known and she set the foundations for this when she took on the role of secretary to the Cork Schools Board in what has been a remarkable career in administration she has held the offices of county chairman, secretary and president, from 1964 to 68 in the role of secretary before retiring for a number of years in 1988. Sheila had returned to camogie with the Inniscarra club and when Cork County Board couldn't get a chairman at convention in 1988 Glen Rovers delegate Nora Newman asked and pleaded with Sheila to take on the role for a year and the rest is history. On Thursday, Sheila remarked, when she recovered from the shock of the award, asked "Nora is the year up yet?" Chairman from 1988 to 2002, she assumed the honorary president's role from 2003 to 2007 and answered the call again when a secretary was needed stepping into the breach in 2008, a role she still fills with her usual efficiency. Outside of her roles with the county board she was chairman of Inniscarra in the 1980s and also acted as a selector with the clubs teams. As a Cork selector Sheila was involved with Cork teams at Junior and intermediate levels when All Ireland titles were won but one of her proudest moments was presenting the county Senior B championship trophy to her own club Inniscarra when Irene O'Keefe captained the side. Sheila has great support from all her family but without doubt her husband Tommy is her number one helper. He is there to take the phone calls and help Sheila in any way her can and this has been an important part of Sheila's involvement in administration. Sheila Golden has given and continues to give Cork Camogie tremendous service her dedication and commitment is unbelievable and as a person she is most courteous. A true Cork follower, Sheila is widely travelled supporting Cork hurling and football teams as well. The honour bestowed on Sheila Golden came as a huge shock to her but it is one richly deserved by somebody who has given a lifetime of service to camogie in Cork.

Kilkenny maintain winning start

By Daragh Ó Conchúir
Camogie

Kilkenny kept up their fine form in the Liberty Insurance senior camogie championship when overcoming the challenge of Clare at Nowlan Park on Saturday.

The Noreiders, brimming with confidence after their opening round win away to Galway, finished strongly to grab the spoils on a scoreline of 1-10 to 0-11.

Denise Gaulle pounced for a 14th minute goal to hand the home side an early lead, but John Carmody's outfit responded with four consecutive points from Claire McMahon (two frees), Chloe Morey (free) and Naomi Carroll to leave them trailing by the minimum at half time, 1-4 to 0-6.

Morey levelled matters early in the second-half before the visitors hit the front thanks to scores from the excellent Deirdre Murphy and McMahon.

A flurry of late points however, from Power, Michelle Quilty (free) and Ann Dalton snatched the honours for Kilkenny.

After a far-from-ideal build-up, with JJ Doyle replacing Martin Lynch as manager a fortnight ago, Wexford must have been relieved to get their four-in-a-row bid under way at Crumlin.

While they were far from fluid, the champions had enough to see off Derry by 2-12 to 1-5.

Wexford led by six at the interval with points courtesy of Ursula Jacob, Katrina Parrock and Kate Kelly, accentuated by a third minute Brid Gordon goal.

Bridget Curran and Karen Kieft exchanged scores early in the latter period but Parrock's 40th minute goal all but ended the game as a contest.

Cork aim for three in-a-row

TOMORROW
All-Ireland Under 16A
championship
Cork v Limerick
Ballyragan, 5.30pm.

CAMOGIE

will go in tomorrow determined to make it three wins.

Limerick haven't enjoyed the best of campaigns having lost out to Dublin and Offaly and while they have no hope of making it to the semi-final stages, they will no doubt still relish the chance of upsetting Cork's bid for a top of the table spot.

Offaly brought out the best in Cork last weekend as they had to fight to the finish to secure victory, Lady Luck was also with Cork as they grabbed a fortuitous goal when Cliona O'Callaghan's long-range free

deceived the Offaly defence and ended up in the net to give cork the lead. However, you make and take your own luck and many a time Cork teams have been at the other side of this and the result ensured the semi final spot was secured and takes the pressure off as they face Limerick.

In the open game versus Dublin their was a shortage of points as cork could only manage two but last weekend the tally was higher with eight points recorded and again the backroom team led by Ger Sheehan will be looking for an improvement on this as they push to top the group.

CAMOGIE ALL-IRELAND CHAMPIONSHIP



SWING INTO ACTION... Derry go in search for a first win at their third attempt

Will it be third time lucky for Oak Leaf?

IT'S A return trip to Ashbourne for Derry as they take on Kilkenny in their Senior Championship Group One clash.

The Oak Leaf have come up short in both their previous outings, a 3-11 to 1-6 loss to Clare first day out followed up by a 2-12 to 1-5 loss to All-Ireland champions Wexford last time out. With just Galway left to play, John A Mullan's troops will be hoping for a much improved performance this time around. However, they will certainly not find the going easy against the Cats who have won both their games so far,

with victories over both Galway and Clare.

There are no games at Premier Junior level this weekend, but when games recommence next Sunday Armagh too will be hoping to get their first points of the campaign at the third attempt when they travel to face Laois.

The Orchard have come unstuck against both Down and Westmeath, and it is difficult to see them reversing their fortunes against a Laois side boasting two wins from two, their second win courtesy of victory over Down last day out.

CAMOGIE

All-Ireland Championships: Senior: Grp 1: Derry 1-5 Wexford 2-12; Kilkenny 1-10 Clare 0-11; Intermediate: Grp 1: Cork 1-11 Wexford 2-10; Limerick 1-21 Antrim 2-9; Premier Junior: Down 0-8 Laois 1-10; Armagh 0-5 Westmeath 1-14; Junior A1: Offaly 1-12 Carlow 1-4; Dublin 6-11 Cavan 0-0; Junior B: Kerry 1-8 Car Dora 2-3; U16A Grp 1: Tipperary 2-10 Clare 2-10; Galway 4-14 Kilkenny 0-5; Grp 2: Dublin 0-16 Limerick 3-5; U16B: Grp 1: Laois 3-10 Kerry 1-8; Cavan scr; Laois w/o; Grp 2: Meath w/o Wicklow scr.; Roscommon w/o Louth scr.

July 2013



Teachers celebrate following Togher's win.



Former Cork and St. Finbarr's hurler, Peter Doolan, presents the Roinn C5 trophies to Togher NS captain and vice captain, Lydia Hayes and Leona Smith.

ABOVE: Scoll an Athar Maitiu, Togher winners of Roinn C5 at the Allianz Sciath na Scol Camogie Finals at Pairc Uí Rinn. Back row (left-right): Ivan O'Mahony, (coach) Maria Geraldo, Rebecca Twomey, Toni O'Connor, Sophie Coughlan, Emma O'Callaghan, Miss Keohane and Miss Hallissey (teachers). Cliona Hallahan, Chloe Sweeney, Aoife O'Neill, Naomi Senneke, Katie Lee, Carolann Sexton. Front row - Lily Duff, Laura Cambridge, Shauna Kelleher, Lailat Traore, Lydia Hayes (Captain), Leona Smith (Vice-Captain), Leanne Murray, Ciara Cotter, Courtney Dorgan and Phoebe Bailey

GIRLS ALOUD!

Pictures: Mike English



Sophie O'Rourke (captain) and Eabha O'Mahony (vice captain) receive the Roinn C6 trophies following St. Catherine's Model Farm Rd win over St. Mary's, Cobh.

BELOW: St. Catherine's, Model Farm Rd. winners of Roinn C6 at the Allianz Sciath na Scol Camogie Finals at Pairc Uí Rinn. Back Row: Ms. Karen Walsh, Charlotte O'Mahony, Jane Murphy, Brid Daly, Michelle Guaid, Mr. Brian Clune, Katie O'Riordan, Danielle Sheehan, Abby Murray, Sorcha O'Sullivan Ms. Karen Kellegher.



Twin sisters, Jane and Sarah Murphy, celebrate their Allianz Sciath na Scol camogie win.



Togher NS captain and vice captain, Lydia Hayes and Leona Smith jump for joy as they display their Roinn C5 Allianz Sciath na Scol camogie trophies.



We love camogie campaign is launched

CAMOGIE
By MARY NEWMAN

CORK camogie sponsors Costcutter are giving camogie clubs a chance to win a pack of their new exclusive Costcutter camogie sliothars as they are running a competition for clubs to submit a photograph that best describes your local club.

In association with the We Love Camogie campaign they are giving a total of 60 packs of their recently launched camogie sliothars, which bear the Costcutter logo, to winning clubs.

Entry to the competition is easy and all clubs need to do is upload a picture that best describes their club and a judging panel will select the best pictures from the ones received to get the sliothars.

The competition is open to entry by individuals who are entering in an official capacity for their camogie club and it is promoted by the Barry Group who are team sponsors.

Only one entry per club is allowed and the pictures received will be used in promoting camogie on the company's social media and website as they continue to build the profile of their involvement with Cork camogie.

Paul Roche, head of marketing, with the Barry Group explained the company's thoughts in organising the competition: "Costcutter are eager to help the clubs across the country that put so much into the game of camogie. We have launched this giveaway on our website of a pack of exclusively made sliothars for clubs that send in a photo of what their club means to them. We feel this is a great way to show the heart of camogie right across the country and already we have had a great response with some memorable pictures."

"We are really looking forward to receiving lots more and we are calling on all camogie clubs to go to our web site www.costcutter.ie for more information and details of how to enter the competition."

Chairman of the Cork Camogie Board welcomes the competition and expressed the boards delight at the initiative.

"So often we see wonderful pictures from camogie games and it is a great idea to get clubs to submit the picture which they think best depicts and describes their own club. I am sure we will have a great response and look forward to seeing all the pictures."



Sheila Golden, secretary Cork Camogie Board, presents the Junior C league trophy to Charleville captain Máiréad O'Sullivan after their victory over Banteer.

Cork must keep their intensity up

U16 B CAMOGIE

By MARY NEWMAN

SUNDAY

All-Ireland U16B Championship;
Cork v Derry;
Fingallians GAA Grounds, Swords
Co Dublin 3.15pm

WITH three points to their credit having defeated Armagh and drawn with Waterford the Cork U16 B sides are joint top of their group with Waterford and a win tomorrow would be a huge boost in their bid for a semi-final spot with just one game to go against Westmeath next week.

Derry overcame Westmeath and with two further games to play after their meeting with Cork, they are still very much in the hunt for a place in the last four also.

Cork have been playing superbly and having lost out to Waterford in the Munster final in May, they turned the table to take a share of the points last weekend. That result could have a huge bearing on who qualifies from the group. Waterford were stunned by the intensity and improvement in Cork and the result was a huge blow as they would have expected to have taken both points but a focused Cork had other ideas.

Derry fielding their first choice 15 will provide another strong challenge but Cork, if they can repeat last week's display will be too strong.

Cats are beginning

KILKENNY maintained their great start to the Liberty Insurance senior camogie championship and inflicted a first defeat on Clare in the process as the teams served up a thrilling tie at Nowlan Park.

I mentioned last week that Kilkenny would need to remain in the right mental frame of mind if they hoped to overcome Clare, that the challenge would be great.

It was a close affair with the Noreiders finishing strongly to grab the spoils 1-10 to 0-11 after Clare had looked to have made a move towards victory in the final quarter.

Apart from a brief period, there was never too much between the



CAMOGIE

teams with Katie Power's opener for the hosts being swiftly responded to by Claire McMahon from a free.

Kilkenny were already two points clear when Denise Gaule pounced for a 14th minute goal but John Carmody's outfit responded well with four consecutive points from McMahon (two frees), Morey (free) and Naomi Carroll to leave them trailing by the minimum at half time, 1-4 to 0-6.

Morey brought the sides level early in the second half from another long range free and it was nip-and-tuck from there to the end.

Clare hit the front thanks to scores from the excellent Deirdre Murphy and McMahon but Kilkenny found another level when needed, points from Power, Michelle Quilty (free) and Ann Dalton snatching the honours.

The victory was founded on stout defensive work that kept Clare to just three points from play. Jacqui Frisby was central to that and with Power very lively at the other end of the field Kilkenny's win was just about merited, despite the efforts of the outstanding Morey and McMahon.

After a far-from-ideal build-up

with JJ Doyle replacing Martin Lynch as manager just two weeks ago, Wexford must have been relieved to get their four-in-a-row bid under way at Crumlin's O'Toole Park. While they were far from fluid, the champions had enough in hand over senior championship newcomers Derry to win 2-12 to 1-5.

They led by six points at half time after an encouraging start with three points from Ursula Jacob and a third minute goal by Brid Gordorr. Karen Kieft and Gráinne McGoldrick steadied the nerves for the Ulster side but points from Kate Kelly, Katrina Parrock and Jacob left it 1-7 to 0-4 at the interval.

Bridget Curran and Kieft exchanged scores early in the latter period but Parrock's 40th minute



St Josephs Secondary School Tulla after winning the O'Neills Post Primary Senior Final

July 2013

A first for Ballygarvan as they go through to first Féile

BALLYGARVAN camogie club, for the first time in their history will represent Cork this weekend in the Féile camogie finals held in Thurles.

This is a huge achievement for the club which was newly-reformed in 1988 by Nora May Brady.

The recent Cork Féile win by the U14 team is a huge breakthrough for the club at underage level, and picking up the Rebel Og award was an added bonus for all involved.

After an exhilarating final against Aghabullogue with the Ballygarvan club down nine points four minutes into the second period, they showed great determination and heart to claim victory and I'm sure they'll bring that form into this weekend's tournament.

Having started back training in January and gradually moving to two nights training per week, this is something a lot of senior teams find hard to do, but huge credit is due to these bunch of girls, whose efforts are gradually being paid off.

"They are an incredible bunch of girls who have worked so hard, and deserve to be here this weekend," coach Alex O'Regan said.

"They are still a young team with 10 of them members on the recently victorious Sciath na Scoil team.

"However, it helps that they have been together for the past few years with the majority of them having started out at U12C south east level, progressing every year, working their way up to a Féile A final."

FÉILE

By BARBARA O'CONNELL

The club has been well represented over the years in the competition with many players involved with Cork from U14 up to senior level, winning All-Ireland medals and an All Star award and the current joint captains of the Féile side, Isobelle O'Regan and Eimear McAndrew are active members of the Cork U14 team.

These two girls have no doubt been the stars of the team, however, O'Regan admits there is strength and depth right throughout the team.

"We are a very fit team which has benefited us hugely come to end of some games, finishing so strong.

"For me, it's the girls attitude and willingness to do well, is what makes us a good side.

"The girls have given the community a massive boost in reaching the Féile finals.

"There is a great buzz around the place with bunting up everywhere and with the finals been the talk of the place.

"The entire community and association rallied behind us in our preparation for this weekend.

"With such a costly weekend and with such a short space of time to fund raise, we can't thank the community and club enough for all the hard work that was put in. "A huge effort was made by the



Joint captains, Isobelle O'Regan and Eimear McAndrew's of the Ballygarvan U14 camogie team, winners of the Cork Féile and are the June winners of the Rebel Og monthly award which is sponsored by the Rochestown Park Hotel in association with Red FM and the Irish Examiner (media partners) and Cummins Sports Award (sponsors).

Picture: Dan Linehan

whole community to raise the funds and not put burden on the families.

"We ran a Ballygarvan's Got Talent competition in the Cork

International Airport Hotel and also a waxathon which were both a huge success in raising a large portion of funds required.

"I'd like to thank the other coaches

involved, Ger Ryan, Bernard Aberne, and Ollie McAndrews, the committee, the club, the parents, the wider Ballygarvan community and all the sponsors."

to sharpen their claws

goal gave Doyle's crew some vital breathing space. They were glad of it when Katie McAenly breached their defence with 10 minutes remaining but they still had enough in hand to coast home.

It was always going to be difficult for any manager to step into the boots of JJ Doyle, having led Wexford to three in a row last September. One wonders if Martin Lynch stood a chance.

But rumours were rife that the training wasn't up to scratch and having lost the league and Leinster finals he was further fighting to win the player's respect. But Wexford have lost seven or more of last year's panel and yet they still reached the league final.

You'd expect them to reach the

Leinster final with Kilkenny being the only threat, and subsequent victor.

I don't think it's going to be easy for JJ Doyle to retain the All-Ireland this year. I certainly don't think Wexford are out of the picture, but I think he made a mistake by coming back. He gave it up for a reason, maybe tiredness and felt the team needed something new.

Those sentiments or whatever reasons he had I doubt are gone and unless you are enthusiastic for a hugely demanding role like this, you won't deliver. His tenure with the Wexford U21s is also a significant pull on his time.

Cork take on Dublin at home today at 2pm in Páirc Uí Rinn, Derry and Kilkenny face each other in Ash-



bourne, Wexford host Galway in Wexford Park while Tipperary travel to Banagher to play Offaly.

With some second round games having already taken place in Group 1 see the tables on the right.

Kilkenny's Kate McDonald gets away from Clare's Sinead Tuohy, during their recent Liberty Insurance Group 1 Senior Camogie Championship match.

Picture: Caroline Quinn

Group 1

	P	W	D	L	F	Pts
Kilkenny	2	2	0	0	26	22
Wexford	1	1	0	0	18	8
Clare	2	1	0	1	31	22
Galway	1	0	0	1	11	13
Derry	2	0	0	2	17	38

Group 2

	P	W	D	L	F	Pts
Offaly	1	0	0	0	22	5
Cork	1	1	0	0	21	8
Tipperary	1	0	0	1	8	25
Dublin	1	0	0	1	5	22

SCIATH NA SCOL JOY



St. Catherine's are still full of running as they do a lap of honour following their Allianz Sciath na Scol camogie win over St. Mary's, Cobh at Páirc Uí Rinn. Team Picture inside PLUS Sciath Picture Special. Picture: Mike English

Cork should treat this as a warm-up

Cork are just too strong for Limerick

CAMOGIE

By MARY NEWMAN

Cork	2-17
Limerick	1-5

STRONGER in all sectors, Cork confidently overcame the challenge of Limerick in the last game in the round robin series of the All-Ireland U16A championship in Ballygran last night to secure themselves of a semi-final spot.

The opening quarter was close as the sides matched each other, but once Cork got to grips with the challenge posed they began to settle into the game and at half time they led 0-7 to 0-2.

Maeve McCarthy, Eirne Ni Dheumnsaigh, Lisa Lynch, Hannah Looney and Kate O'Keeffe all pointed as Cork set the foundations for victory as Limerick battled to keep in touch with Kate Mulqueen and Michelle Barrett on target.

Cork continued to pick off points and led 0-14 to 0-3 by



Hannah Looney was on the scoresheet for Cork.

the three quarter stage as Limerick failed to make any headway against a strong Cork defence.

The game was over as a contest before Lisa Lynch dispatched a penalty to the Limerick net, but to their credit they battled on and were rewarded with a Leah O'Riordan goal but no disputing the result as Cork ran out convincing winners to finish top of their group.

Scorers for Cork: L Lynch 1-6, K O'Keeffe 1-2, H Looney 0-3, M McCarthy, E Ni Dheumnsaigh, M Hyde, R Walsh, M Buckley, L McEvoy 0-1 each.

Limerick: K Mulqueen 0-4 (ft), L Riordan 1-0, M Barrett 0-1.

CORK: C Casey, A Kelleher, A Crowley, K Falvey, A Dowling, C O'Callaghan, C Nason, R Walsh, E Ni Dheumnsaigh, L Lynch, H Looney, M McCarthy, S Harrington, K O'Keeffe, L McEvoy.

Subs: M Hyde for M McCarthy (h/t inj), C Guinevan for K Falvey (46), E Casey for E Ni Dheumnsaigh (46), M Buckley for H Looney (50), H Fitzgerald for L Lynch (51).

LIMERICK: C Fitzgerald, S Tagney, T Fitzgibbon, A Coughlan, M Quaid, L Browne, N Curtin, C Lyons, S Mc Namara, L O'Riordan, M Barrett, A Scully, M Danagher, K Mulqueen, E Mulcahy.

Subs: N Tuohy for E Mulcahy (28), S Madden for M Danagher (36), S Shanahan for N Curtin (42), N Curtin for A Coughlan (51).

Referee: Richard McNicholas (Galway).

TOMORROW
Senior championship
second round,
Cork v Dublin,
Páirc Uí Rinn, 2pm
CORK will field as close to a full strength 15 as they can for their second round championship tie with Dublin in Páirc Uí Rinn tomorrow.



LINDA MELLERICK

CAMOGIE

the prospect of her appearing in any championship game this season diminishes with each passing week.

Finola Neville is putting her hand up with good displays with the Intermediates but after that Cork will struggle.

Unfortunately due to the current rules, Cork's management have to be careful in who they select to play a part tomorrow so as to not eliminate them from the intermediate squad.

If a player has a genuine chance of making a stake for a senior position then they must be brought up however the days of giving players a run to see how they get on are gone.

Angela Walsh will undoubtedly start at centre-forward again and if Cork's two wings of possibly Emer O'Sullivan and Julia White can feed intelligently off her then it should provide Cork with plenty of opportunities.

Joanne O'Callaghan should retain her place at right corner back after she and her opposite corner Pamela Mackey gave strong performances against Tipp.

With the good recent weather and predictions for Saturday good Cork should revel in the Páirc.

A comfortable victory is hoped for and expected.



Cork defender Linda O'Connell breaks out of defence ahead of Waterford attacker Zoe O'Donoghue, during their All-Ireland Intermediate Camogie Championship clash.

Picture: David Keane

No fixture change for crunch Limerick test

THE CORK Intermediate team face a tough task when Limerick come to town on Sunday evening for round three of the Liberty Insurance Intermediate championship.

It's a disappointing clash with the Munster final in Kilmaley on Sunday afternoon a traditional trip for all Cork GAA followers. The game was originally fixed for Saturday but was moved by the Camogie Association fixture committee to facilitate Limerick, who are hosting Féile na nGael this weekend.

Again no co-operation was forthcoming for Cork's request to play the game Saturday night to facilitate the pilgrimage to Kilmaley, and given that Cork had agreed to switched the 16A game with Limerick to Thursday to facilitate Féile this is a disappointing outcome.

With just one point from two games to their credit Cork need to win their last two games if they are to have chance of qualification. Last weekend they lost out to Waterford by two points in game that was

SUNDAY
Liberty Insurance Intermediate Championship:
Cork v Limerick,
Ballincollig, 7pm

By MARY NEWMAN

there for the taking while the week before they drew with Antrim.

They were lucky to do so, because after dominating proceedings for three quarters of the game they failed to close it out, allowing Antrim come

storming back.

To their credit they have performed well overall, and it's a tough task for Cork to be facing first choice teams, but never the less Cork have the talent they just need to get it right.

Sara Hayes has been a huge addition to the side since the league campaign and her experience is vital around the younger players such as Leeane O'Sullivan and Rebecca Murphy, who line out for the first time at this level.

Cork will be minus minor cap-

tain Lauren Callanan who impressed in defence last weekend. She picked up a hand injury which has ruled her out but they will be hope to have Caroline Sugrue back.

Limerick are a strong side and with victories under their belts over Kilkenny and Antrim they will come to Cork in confident form.

Rebecca Delee, Caoimhe Costello, Niamh Mulcahy and Dymna O'Brien have impressed in their last two outings.

Paudie is relishing challenge of Offaly



LINDA MELLERICK
CAMOGIE
Cork 5-23
Dublin 0-4

MATCH QUOTES

CORK manager Paudie Murray was a happy man after Saturday's easy win over Dublin in the All-Ireland series, writes LINDA MELLERICK.

"I suppose 5-23, 5-20 from play you'd probably have to be happy with that."

"Obviously, we're mature enough to know that we're going to meet better teams than Dublin but I'm quite happy with a lot of the stuff we did today."

"There's room for improvement which is a good thing as well."

Hunger, flair and fitness were all there today?

"Well I've been saying all along that the attitude has been very good this year and you could see that today."

"I mean, after 10 or 15 minutes, they could have taken their foot off the pedal a small bit but they kept driving on and, to be fair to them, they're mad trying to improve the whole time."

Cork's off the ball running was impressive.

"Yeah, we've been doing a lot of that and talking through situations in training, things like that."

"I suppose the other side of it is that they all want to play well because they know there's fair competition for places out there as well so, if someone isn't going too well, there'll be someone there to take their place."

Cork now face Offaly in two weeks' time and that will be a much tougher test.

"It's obviously going to be a step up. We certainly need a tough match so we've a match (challenge) pencilled in for after that as well."

"Winning today obviously means that we're through to a quarter-final and if we win Saturday week, we're through straight to the semi-final, so we'll hope. I think we really need a tough match now."

Referring to the balance in the team Paudie said: "Well look, we're 12 months into it as well and we probably know them (players) better and they know us better as well and looking at it from last year, certainly there were things that needed to be improved and I think the girls have done that, to be fair to them."

"Their level of fitness and conditioning probably wasn't where it should have been and that's always going to take time."

AS EXPECTED, Cork comfortably accounted for a poor Dublin side in Páirc Uí Rinn in their second round senior championship tie on Saturday afternoon.

On any given day, 5-23 is an excellent return and with just three of those points coming from placed balls, Cork looked very impressive as a unit.

Falling into the trap of over-elaboration can be a risk on occasions such as this but, credit to Cork, they did this on only a handful of occasions and the majority of their play was swift, deft and direct.

In what was glorious sunshine for spectators and challenging mid-afternoon heat for players, it was a great performance.

While not hugely tested during the hour, Cork's defence coped strongly with any attack. Marie Walsh's value at full back is becoming more and more obvious with every outing, while Rena Buckley, Joanne O'Callaghan and Anna Geary were also to the fore.

Leading 3-1 to no score after just six minutes, it looked as if it would be a long 60 minutes for spectators and even longer for the Dublin players. Such was Cork's style and inter-link play, however, it was an enjoyable hour.

Katrina Mackey, roaming from right to left during the first quarter, had Cork's opening two goals, with Angela Walsh grabbing the third.

The spread of scorers was important on such a day and contributing were Jennifer O'Leary at midfield while Julia White, showing great speed and skill throughout the hour, continued her good form. Having stepped up to the plate this season and with another year of experience under her belt, she is tormenting many a defence.

The points came fast and when Sile Burns' strike from the left was poorly dealt with by Dublin goalkeeper Kate White and full-back Catriona Power. After that, it was a case of just how big Cork's winning margin would be.

Dublin made a number of substitutes at half-time and they added some strength to the challenge, holding Cork to just three points in the

Drubbing for the Dubs as Cork run riot



Cork defender Rena Buckley clears her lines ahead of Dublin's Aisling Maher during their All-Ireland Senior Camogie Championship clash in Páirc Uí Rinn on Saturday. Picture: David Keane

third quarter. Once again Cork upped the tempo, their improved physicality and fitness very evident.

Dublin's centre back Louise O'Hara gave it her all but she was fighting a lone battle.

Points from the impressive and on-form Emer O'Sullivan, intelligent play from centre forward Angela Walsh, hard work by Aisling Thompson and good scores from Katrina Mackey and Sile Burns

made this a very good Cork victory.

There will be tougher days ahead certainly but, as the saying goes, you have to play what's in front of you and Cork's concentration and exertion on Saturday was exemplary.

Scorers for Cork: K. Mackey 2-3, S. Burns 2-3, J. O'Leary 0-5 (0-2 45, 0-1 f), J. White 0-5, A. Walsh 1-3, E. O'Sullivan 0-3, B. Corkery 0-1.

Dublin: A. Maguire 0-3 (f), S. Ryan 0-1.

CORK: A. Murray, J. O'Callaghan, M. Walsh, P. Mackey, D. Cronin, R. Buckley, A. Geary, J. O'Leary, A. Thompson, J. White, A. Walsh, E.

O'Sullivan, K. Mackey, S. Burns, B. Corkery.

Subs: L. Weste for P. Mackey (h/t).

DUBLIN: K. White, C. Power, E. O'Meara, L. McSweeney, G. Quinn, L. O'Hara, D. Smith, M. Moynihan, A. Maguire, A. Carolan, A. Kelly, A. Maher, H. McInerney, S. Ryan, A. Twomey.

Subs: E. McCarthy for L. McSweeney (28), E. M. Elliott for A. Maher, A. Bugler for M. Moynihan, A. Fanning for H. McInerney (h/t), J. Tully for A. Maguire (54), E. Whyte for A. Kelly.

Referee: John Dolan (Clare).

Boro topple Eire Og in Feile Division 1 final

Kilkenny came out on top against Tipperary once more as Dickboro chipped out a 3-2 to 1-1 victory over Eire Og. Nenagh to claim the Corn Uí Phrúisil as Féile na Gael Division 1 champions at the Gaelic Grounds in Limerick writes Deragh O'Conchúir.

The opening half was a very tight affair as the teams felt each other out early on and it took 10 minutes to break the deadlock via a Mervin Coffey point for Eire Og.

Critically, Dickboro possessed a strong goal threat throughout and Aisling Morrissey pounced on a breaking ball to register their initial three-pointer.

That gave them a 1-0 to 0-1 half-time lead and they improved their situation further when Niamh Muironey scored soon after the resumption. Cara O'Shea was very prominent in the Boro defence and Eire Og could not get the breakthrough they needed.

Gráinne Hennessy put the Nenaghers firmly in the driving seat with a third goal although Nenagh did strike for a late goal courtesy of Leah Shendy.

The Division 2 title went to East Waterford side Galtier, who were too strong for Portlary of Down and prevailed on a 5-5 to 0-3 scoreline in the Gaelic Grounds. Goals from Aoife Fitzgerald and Emer Walsh, who struck twice, helped them into a 3-1 to 0-2 interval lead.

Despite the excellence of the Portlary goalkeeper, Galtier continued to make ground and goals from Ann Corcoran and Emer Edwards completed their fairytale day.

In the Division 3 final, Rahamney (Westmeath) came from behind to account for Ballinreer St John's (Dublin), 2-3 to 1-2 in Mungret. Ballinreer led at the interval by a point but Rahamney scored two goals to edge an exciting contest.

The Division 4 decider was the opening game played at the headquarters of Limerick GAA but it wasn't a memorable one for the host county as Na Púrsáigh were unable to hold out Tipperary champions Ballina, despite the magnificence of their netminder. It finished 4-3 to 0-2 in Ballina's favour.

The Division 5 final, played in Mungret, pitted two Clare sides against each other and it was Kilmaley that came out on top against Eire Og by 3-3 to 0-2. There were four points between them at half time but Kilmaley struck two goals after the resumption to seal it.

FÉILE NA nGAEL FINALS

Boys: Div 1: Ballyboden St. Enda's (Dublin) 4-2 Douglas (Cork) 0-4; Div 2: O'Donovan Rovers (Antrim) 1-8 St. Ryagh's (Cork) 1-7; Div 3: Ballynascree (Derry) 2-6 Old Christians (Limerick) 1-5; Div 4: Easkey (Sligo) 1-10 Buncrana (Donegal) 3-2; Div 5: Monaghan Harps (Monaghan) 6-4 Lisbellaw (Fermanagh) 3-5; Div 6: St. Patrick's (Limerick) 4-4. Girls: Div 1: Dicksboro (Kilkenny) 3-2 Nenagh Eire Og (Tipperary) 1-1; Div 2: Gaultier (Waterford) 5-5 Portlary (Down) 0-3; Div 3: Rahamney (Westmeath) 2-3 Ballinreer St. John's (Dublin) 1-2; Div 4: Ballina (Tipperary) 4-0 Na Púrsáigh (Limerick) 0-2; Div 5: Kilmaley (Clare) 3-3 Eire Og (Clare) 0-2.

CAMOGIE

All-Ireland Championships: Senior: Grp 1: Wexford 0-8 Galway 0-10, Derry 1-5 Kilkenny 6-12; Grp 2: Offaly 1-15 Tipperary 0-10, Cork 5-23 Dublin 0-4; Intermediate: Grp 1: Waterford 0-15 Kilkenny 1-9; Grp 2: Meath 4-14 Tipperary 0-6; U16A: Grp 1: Clare 1-7 Kilkenny 0-15; Grp 2: Dublin 3-11 Offaly 2-6, Limerick 1-5 Cork 2-17; U16B: Grp 1: Down 2-6 Tipperary 3-6; U16C: Grp 1: Cavan scr. Kildare w/o; Grp 2: Wicklow scr. Monaghan w/o, Meath 3-12 Roscommon 1-5.

July 2013

Cork forced to dig deep for win with 14 players

Cork 3-9
Limerick 0-10
CAMOGIE
By MARY NEWMAN

A SPIRITED and determined performance saw Cork defeat Limerick in this crucial Liberty Insurance Intermediate championship clash in Ballincollig last night. Playing out the final quarter with 14 players after losing the services of their full back who was dismissed after receiving two yellow cards, Cork battled with all their might as Limerick threw everything at them. From the start Cork showed fierce determination and with Sara Hayes and Colette Desmond prominent, they took the game to Limerick and by the end of the opening quarter they led 0-5 to 0-3 after Finola Neville had shown her accuracy pointing three frees whilst Hayes and Deirdre Coomey were also on target with Niamh Mulcahy pointing for Limerick. Finola Neville had pointed to stretch the lead before Colette Desmond's long-range effort found the net and with Neville and Sarah Carey swapping points Cork were full value for their 1-7 to 0-4 interval lead.

Aoife Deasy pointed inside two minutes of the restart, but Limerick began to come more into the game and as Cork began to tire Niamh Mulcahy slotted over two frees and one from play to out just a goal between the sides. With Limerick throwing everything at them Cork had to stand firm and it was in doing so that full back Lynda O'Connell was yellow carded for the second time despite just having held her ground under pressure. The referee deemed that her hurley connected with her opponent and issued a harsh second yellow followed by a red. Limerick pointed the resulting free and it was game on with two point between the sides. Cork held their composure and made some excellent positional moves bringing Michelle Browne and Deirdre

Coomey out from attack helping relieve the pressure at mid field and defence whilst also creating space inside. With 10 minutes to go Finola Neville pointed a free and battling with all their might Cork gave it everything as they repelled attack after attack. Up front Cork got a vital break when Aoife Deasy fielded superbly and finished to the net. In response Niamh Mulcahy pointed a close-in free but Cork were not going to be denied. Colette Desmond goaled four minutes into injury time and the points were secured after a heart-warming and spirited Cork performance for which they deserve huge credit.

Scorers for Cork: F Neville 0-6 (0-5 f), C Desmond 2-0, A Deasy 1-1, S Hayes 0-1 (f) D Coomey 0-1.

Limerick: N Mulcahy 0-8 (0-5 f) S Carey 0-1.

CORK: J Kavanagh, L O'Sullivan, L O'Connell, S Buckley, H O'Regan, S Hayes, L Treacy, C Sugrue, C Moherway, J Hennigan, D Coomey, C Desmond, M Browne, A Deasy, F Neville.

Sub: C O'Leary for C Sugrue (55).

LIMERICK: S Moynihan, J Garvey, L Mc Carthy, F Hickey, J Mulcahy, M Casey, R Delee, D Fitzpatrick, S Carey, C Costello, N Mulcahy, K Campbell, D Murphy, M Keating, D O'Brien.

Referee: Aidan O'Brien (Wexford).

Cork 4-18
Derry 1-3

To round off a great weekend for the county the Cork U16B side recorded a superb victory over Derry in Swords as they continued their unbeaten run in the round robin series of their championship. Leading 1-6 to 1-2 at the break Cork turned on the style in the second half to ensure the points were secured with goals from Rachel Harty, who scored a brace, Chloe Sigerson and Keelagh Cullinane.

Cork, Offaly on collision course

By Daragh Ó Conchúir
Camogie

Cork and Offaly face a straight shoot-out for a place in the Liberty Insurance senior camogie semi-finals in a fortnight, after maintaining their 100% records with victories over Dublin and Tipperary.

Cork were much too strong for a disappointing Dublin outfit, registering a 5-23 to 0-4 verdict at Páirc Uí Rinn. Paudie Murray's side had seven individual scorers in a consummate team performance. Katrina Mackey led the way with 2-3, with Sile Burns close up on 2-2. Angela Walsh showed that her switch to the forward division is proving a success with 1-4.

Jenny O'Leary, Julia White and Eimear O'Sullivan scored 13 points between them, with the tireless Briege Corkery also on the mark.

Offaly had to work much harder for their 1-15 to 0-10 success in Banagher. With the wind at their backs and Sarah Fryday in tremendous form, Tipp led by 0-6 to 0-4 at half-time.



Cork's Aisling Thompson races away from Dublin's Aisling Carolan. Picture: David Keane

It was still all to play for at the three-quarter mark before Elaine Dermody scored a smashing goal for Offaly and they pulled away after that.

Siobhán Flannery brought her tally to four points with two monster scores and Dermody finished with 1-4 to her credit.

It's all to play for in Group 1 as All-Ireland champions Wexford suffered their first defeat of the campaign to Galway.

The Tribeswomen came away from a tightly-contested affair on the right side of a

0-10 to 0-8 scoreline. The winners, with the magnificent Niamh McGrath slotting five points, including three from play, led by 0-8 to 0-2 at the interval.

Ursula Jacob was responsible for Wexford's two scores and led the comeback effort with three more after the resumption.

It took Galway 24 minutes to get their first score of the half courtesy of substitute Noreen Coen, and two minutes from time Niamh Kilkenny hit her second point to give her side a little bit of breathing space.

Kilkenny remain in the box seat of a hugely competitive group when beating Derry 6-12 to 1-5 at Ashbourne.

Grainne McGoldrick was Derry's standout performer with a goal and three points, but ultimately Kilkenny's goal-scoring threat proved too much.

Denise Gaule bagged a hat-trick, Shelly Farrell scored two goals while Emma Comerford also raised a green flag. Michelle Quilty fired five points and Grace Walsh — sister of Tommy — notched up two points.



Maria Buckley, Meadhbh McCarthy, Ellie Buckley and Niamh Barry-Murphy at the Aghabullogue GAA Kellogg's Camp at Coachford. See tomorrow's Evening Echo for two-page picture special. Picture: Mike English

KAY STILL IN LINE

We are delighted for the camogie community that legendary Dublin player Kay Mills is still in line to have the new bridge over the River Liffey named after her.

Kay is on the shortlist of five for the great honour of having her name given a permanent place in Dublin and indeed Irish life by having a bridge called after her in the capital.

The camogie world has driven the campaign with huge energy and with the final decision from the city council's bigwigs due in September, now is a good time for the hurling and football communities to add their support.

Kay won 15 All-Ireland senior medals between 1941 and 1961, as well as every other honour in the game — and usually on several occasions.

July 2013

CAMOGIE

All-Ireland Championships: Senior
Group 1: Clare 1-12 Galway 3-12; Kilkenny 2-15 Wexford 2-9; **Intermediate: Grp 1:** Limerick 2-20 Waterford 2-9; **Junior A:** Carlow 0-3 Dublin 4-13; Offaly w/o Carlin sc.; **Junior B:** Cill Dara w/o Monaghan sc.; **Meath 2 w/o Wicklow sc.; U16B: Grp 1:** Tipperary 2-11 Wexford 3-10; **Grp 2:** Waterford 4-14 Derry 2-2; **U16C: Grp 1:** Carlow 2-5 Kerry 5-10; **Grp 2:** Louth sc.; Monaghan w/o, Roscommon w/o Wicklow sc.
Munster Senior Poo Fada: 1 M McMahon (Croagh/Killinny, Limerick) 21, 2 C Hohan (Burgess/Cuhama, Tipperary) 23.

Douglas see off a weakened Cloughdub

SENIOR CAMOGIE

By MARY NEWMAN

Douglas 5-23
Cloughdub 1-6

DOUGLAS experienced little difficulty in overcoming the challenge posed by Cloughdub in this preliminary round clash at Castle Road last night as the Evening Echo Senior Championship got under way.

A depleted Cloughdub struggled from early in the contest and fielding without the services of intercounty goalkeeper Aoife Murray, Katrina Foley, and Katherine Corkery they were always going to be under severe pressure. Added to this, Joanne O'Callaghan was held up with work commitments and only managed to make it for the second half and by then it was 2-16 to 0-2 in Douglas favour and Cloughdub had a mountain to climb.

With Julia White and the Mackeys (Katrina and Pamela) in superb form, Douglas were always in control as they picked off their scores through an opening half where Brieghe Corkery worked hard to stem the tide for a Cloughdub side who simply had no answers.

Ciara Lynch had the games opening goal in the 12th minute to stretch Douglas' advantage after they had hit five points without reply and kept the scoreboard ticking over with some excellent points before Katrina Mackey made it 2-16 with their second goal on the stroke of half time, Ciara O'Leary having pointed twice for Cloughdub. To their credit, Cloughdub contested every ball with determination and in the second half they rallied.

Ciara O'Leary and Mairéad Corkery pointed before Joanne Downes grabbed a goal, but upping the pace, Douglas continued to dominate and full-forward Ciara Lynch helped herself to two second-half goals with Julia White adding one as they ran out comprehensive winners.

With Douglas down to meet Barryroe on July 28 in the first round proper, Cloughdub have until the week beginning August 23 to get their house in order for the losers round and no doubt they will want to forget last night and strive to get something back to keep their championship aspirations alive.

Scorers for Douglas: C. Lynch 3-4, K. Mackey 1-7 (0-2 45 0-15), J. White 1-2, P. Mackey 0-4, Ailin O'Donovan, S. Fahy 0-3 each.

Cloughdub: C. O'Leary 0-4 (0-3f), J. Downes 1-1, M. Corkery 0-1.

DOUGLAS: J. Kavanagh (c); R. Sheehan, E. Jordan, A. Curtin; S. Duggan, P. Mackey, M. Mulrooney; J. White, E. Kavanagh; K. Mackey, Aine O'Donovan, S. Fahy; Ailin O'Donovan, C. Lynch, J. Leo.

Subs: L. O'Regan for R. Sheehan (51), A. O'Regan for Aine O'Donovan (51).

Cloughdub: Y. Bourgoynne; E. Healy, E. Dunne (c), L. Byrne; A. Corkery, O. O'Driscoll, A. Crowley; B. Corkery, D. Ahern; B. Hannigan, A. Barry-Murphy, C. Byrne; J. Down, M. Corkery, C. O'Leary.

Subs: A. M. Ryan for A. Crowley (41); J. O'Callaghan for E. Healy (41); E. O'Sullivan for L. Byrne (41); R. Hurley for C. O'Leary (48).

Referee: Cathal McAllister (Aghada).

Kilkenny reach semi-finals with stunning win over Wexford

By Daragh Ó Conchúir
Camogie

Kilkenny cemented their place in the Liberty Insurance senior camogie championship semi-finals with a shock 2-15 to 2-9 victory over four-in-a-row chasing Wexford at Nowlan Park.

The result sees the Noreiders complete the group stages with a 100% record and they can concentrate on their preparations for a last-four bout on August 17.

The remaining teams must now battle it out for one further semi-final spot and four quarter-finals.

Victory over Wexford in the Leinster final has been credited with giving Kilkenny belief after a creditable league campaign that ended in a semi-final defeat to the Model County.

Kilkenny got the championship under way with victory over Galway and have remained unbeaten since.

Niall Williams' team had to do it the hard way as they conceded a goal to Fiona Kavanagh and went four points down after four minutes.

They responded well though and despite squandering numerous chances, were in front at half time by 0-7 to 1-3 thanks to the accuracy of Aoife Neary.

Kilkenny continued where they left off and forged further clear when Shelley Farrell collected Claire Phelan's lengthy clearance before rifling a shot to the bottom corner of the Wexford net after 38 minutes to put six between the sides. When either Farrell or Neary got the last touch after a goalmouth scramble for the Cats' second major, the margin was eight and they were flourishing.

Wexford were without the services of the injured Katrina Parrock for the second week in a row and have lost three defenders to retirement since securing their third consecutive All-Ireland last September, but they retain their stubborn streak.

Ursula Jacob and Josie Dwyer lofted points and Emma Kavanagh was forced into a point-blank save by Brid Gordon at the start of the final quarter.

That was crucial, particularly as Fiona Kavanagh bagged her second goal in the 59th minute. That left four points between the teams but Kilkenny showed impressive resolve with injury-time points from Ann Dalton (free), Neary (45) and Katie Power to register a famous win.

Wexford face Clare next week in a do-or-die battle for a place in the quarter-finals, after Galway defeated the Banner women 3-12 to 1-12 at Cusack Park.

Brenda Hanney gave the westerners the lead with a goal midway through the opening half but four points from Claire McMahon and another from Máire McGrath gave the hosts a 0-8 to 1-3 interval lead.

Ann Marie Hayes struck for another Galway goal after the restart but Clare's response was immediate, as Vera Loughnane claimed her first senior championship major.

The sides exchanged points until Molly Dunne claimed the critical goal in the 51st minute, Eimer Haverty pointed immediately and Galway had breathing space.

Cork plan to show Offaly who is boss

SATURDAY

Liberty Insurance
All-Ireland Senior
Championship Rd 4,
Cork v Offaly,
Páirc Uí Rinn, 2pm

IT'S a top-of-the-table clash in Páirc Uí Rinn as Cork and Offaly go head-to-head tomorrow with a semi-final place the reward for the victors.

The losers face a quarter-final outing where, amongst others, Wexford are lurking — bidding to keep their own title hopes alive.

It's a huge step forward for Offaly and having overcome the challenge of Tipperary in recent weeks —

where they had eight points to spare at the full time whistle — they are relishing the challenge Cork pose.

Having met already in the national league, the sides are no strangers to each other and with a big prize on offer this time round, we can look forward to a huge game.

In their national league clash, Cork were winners on a 1-13 to 0-6 scoreline and they will go in as favourites to make it to the last four but this is not a worry to Offaly and county chairman Ollie Bergin says the mood in the camp is a positive one.

"One has to only look to where we have come from — winning a junior All-Ireland three years ago and to now be challenging Cork for a senior championship semi-final spot — you realise the huge progress we have made.

"This is huge progress for us and to reach the last four is our aim now. We know the challenge is a big one but we have proved we can mix it with the best in recent weeks and our victory over Tipp has set us up nicely for Saturday's clash with Cork."

Always tough opponents, they have excellent players in long-serving Elaine Darmody, who is proving effective in the full forward role and her clash with Maria Walsh will be one of the main areas to watch for.

She grabbed a vital goal as Offaly overcame Tipperary and her experience is proving valuable in an

SENIOR CAMOGIE

By MARY NEWMAN

Offaly forward line that this season includes minors players Rachel Brennan and Ann Marie Guinan — who have both slotted in well around the veteran forward.

Mikaela Morkam, Sheila Sullivan and Siobhán Flannery have all been to the fore in the Offaly resurgence and they will relish another crack at Cork.

Cork performed well against Dublin but in such a one-sided clash the result was never in doubt.

Nonetheless, the performance was pleasing.

As the season has progressed Cork have steadily improved and Aisling Thompson, Angela Walsh and Maria Walsh have slotted in well to the team and brought a freshness to the set up.

Eimear O'Sullivan has played extremely well in each game and is shouldering a lot of responsibility this year; Julia White is back to her best and has been effective in the Cork attack.

Cork will be minus Orla Cotter who continues to be absent due to a broken thumb, whilst Joanne O'Callaghan is a definite non-starter with just one week to go to her wedding to Jonathan Browne.

Joanne returned to the panel this year after a year's break and she has been superb in all games to date. She will be hoping to make a return for the latter stages of championship on her return from honeymoon.

Cork have an option to bring either Leah Weste or Lynda O'Connell into their defence and with both having performed well in national league outings, they are both more than capable of the task.

However, a decision will not be made until Saturday as to who will take up the vacant defensive role.

Offaly, boosted by a good campaign, will give it everything to grab a semi-final spot but Cork with home advantage should have enough power to make it to the last four.

Cork U16s are hoping to reach final

SUNDAY

All-Ireland U16A
Championship
semi-final,
Cork v Galway,
St Brendan's Park,
Birr, 3.15pm

IT'S down to the last four as Cork and Galway do battle for a place in the All-Ireland final in Birr on Sunday. Cork lost out in last season's final to Dublin, but they have shown fierce determination this season in a bid to make amends.

They had two points to spare in their opening game over Clare before going on to defeat Kilkenny, but they had to give way to a strong Tipperary side, who topped the group as they overcame Galway in a high-scoring game 3-11 to 2-9.

When one considers Tipperary defeated Cork in the Munster final by three goals the indications are that there is little between the sides.

Cork topped their group with good victories over Dublin, Offaly and Limerick.

The second game against Offaly was by far the biggest challenge Cork got, and it was thanks to a fortuitous goal that victory was secured.

It was that result that helped put Cork through and it proved costly for Offaly, who never recovered, and went on to lose out to Dublin.

Cork have been working extremely hard to reach the semi-final and under the management team of selectors Ger Sheehan, John Moloney, and Liam Lynch have left no stones unturned in their bid to reach the final.

Without much fuss they have worked away and gradually picked them selves up after losing out in the provincial final to Tipperary.

Once examinations were completed they made a huge push to get the balance right.

Lisa Lynch, Kelly Falvey, Hannah Looney, Ailbe Dowling and Cliona O'Callaghan have been amongst those to impress.

Cork also have a very strong bench which they are not slow to use and this is something that is vital in such hot weather conditions.

Galway will be anxious to reach the final and as

U16 CAMOGIE

By MARY NEWMAN

runners-up in their group they know Cork, having won their group, will be no soft touch.

They are coached by Lorraine Larkin, who is in her second year with the side and they have strong defenders in Dervla Higgins, Emma Helebert and Sarah Keavney.

Ciara Burke has shone at midfield in all their outings, and is hugely experienced.

Up front Patricia Manning, Tara Maloney and Erica Coen will pose treats to Cork.

Galway came through a tough group where Kilkenny, Tipperary and Clare were all strong contenders, but they worked hard to grab the runners-up spot.

Having been there last year there is a huge incentive for them to get back to another final, but this Cork side are hungry and anxious for another crack off Tipperary, who are expected to overcome Dublin and make it to the final.

A tough one to call, but if Cork can show the same determination that has got them this far, they are in with a right shout of making it through.

TOMORROW
All-Ireland U16B
Championship
Round 4,
Cork v Westmeath,
St Loman's GAA
Grounds,
Mullingar, 3pm

Cork are already qualified for the U16B semi-final by virtue of their results to date, but they must make the long journey to Westmeath to play the last game in the group series.

Last weekend Westmeath, who have lost comprehensively in all their games gave a walk over to Antrim and failed to travel, but this weekend they have no problem fielding and Cork must make the journey for what will be a practice run out.

Westmeath have no interest in the remainder of the competition, and having already conceded one game they should not be allowed further participation, never the less Cork will make the journey and fulfil the fixture.

July 2013

Evening Echo
Cork
Sports
WORLD

Cork's Denise Cronin in action against Tipperary's Teresa Ryan during their league game this year. Picture: Matt Browne / SPORTSFILE



**Cronin wants an
Offaly good show**

See page 14

Barbara O'Connell

talks to Denise Cronin about her hopes of playing in an All-Ireland camogie final



FIVE years on from making her senior camogie debut with Cork, Ballincollig's Denise Cronin only now feels an established member of the Cork camogie team who are hoping to win this year's All-Ireland title and make up for the loss to Wexford in last year's final.

Denise, now 23, first appeared on the panel back in 2008, but it has taken until now for her to nail down a position in the starting 15. All year she has been putting in very solid performances at right-half back. Defensively she is very quick and strong, while her driving clearances set up several of Cork's attacks in every game. Cork play Offaly tomorrow in Páirc Uí Rinn at 2pm, and a win will guarantee them a place in the All-Ireland semi final, and take Denise and Cork one step closer to Croke Park in September. For Denise, this is what she has dreamt about since she first started playing camogie. "To play in an All-Ireland final would be unreal," Denise Cronin said.

"I was part of the panel when we won back-to-back All-Ireland titles in 2008 and 2009, and although it was a fantastic experience, to actually be part of the starting team would be a dream come true." "The past few years have been difficult at times, being on the panel and not getting a run. "It can easily knock a player's confidence, but it's something you learn from, and thankfully this year has been going excellent so far for me." Denise is part of a famous hurling family with her brother Patrick currently starring for Cork as captain on the intercounty stage. He will be back in action next weekend when Cork face Kilkenny in the All-Ireland qualifiers where he is sure to face some more heavy attention from the Kilkenny half-back line. Denise can remember her first time picking up a hurley and it was to play Patrick in their garden at home. "I first took to hurling at eight years of age when Pa brought me out the garden to puck around.

Cork's Denise Cronin and, inset, in action against St Finbarr's Lynda O'Connell during the 2011 county championship.



Denise's desire is not to be denied



Denise Cronin fact file

Age: 23
Lives: Ballincollig
Family: Mum, Dad, 2 sisters Elaine and Joanne and one brother Pa (captain of the Cork senior team) and one boxer dog.
Nickname: Neisy
Occupation: Nurse

Favourite food: Chocolate
Favourite Music: 90s dance & Hip hop & r&b
Other hobbies: Bikram Yoga, Cycling, Jogging, swimming and reading.
You'd run 10 laps to avoid doing: Press-ups

"I was hooked from then on and he was a great help to me at the start. We played every day. "I've played with my club, Ballincollig ever since, and I've enjoyed many years of success, and special moments shared with friends while playing with Ballincollig. "I've won junior A and senior B titles with my club in 2008 and 2009, and I was fortunate to win a senior championship with my division Muskerry in 2007. "However, it's still my aim to win a senior medal with my club and that remains a goal to be attained. "The senior club championship will be starting soon and it's something I'm really looking forward to. "Club teams at senior level in Cork are all very strong, and competitive, so regardless of

what team we come up against, we can always be guaranteed a very tough battle. "Like most teams, we tend to lose one or two players off the panel each year due to different reasons and this year is no different. "Sam Coomey and Patsy Buttiner are both going travelling this year which is a massive loss to us however, we still have huge strength in the

Cork and Ballincollig camogie player Denise Cronin.



team with great players such as Linda Dorgan, Elaine Casey, Leah Weste and Sarah Buckley." Denise will be hoping to use her experience and fitness gained with the Cork panel to produce another great year with her club and county. Having started back training last November with Cork, Denise is hungrier than ever to gain success this year. "Above all years I believe this year we have become united as a panel and it's beginning to show on the pitch. "Wexford have set a high standard over the years, completing a three in a row last year, however, I now believe we have matched them. "We are taking each game as it comes and more importantly we are performing well consistently. "We have been training exceptionally hard since last November with training been very intense and professional. "Each member of the management team have a huge role to play and

each one brings something unique to the team and every player benefits as a result." Cork have to do without one of the country's best camogie players this year, Gemma O'Connor, who is missing out due to work commitments, however, although Denise admits Gemma is a massive loss, she believes the strength and depth in the team can be a huge factor in them still performing well and winning that All-Ireland title. "Apart from Gemma we are lucky to have so many other leaders on the pitch which include the likes of Anna Geary, Aoife Murray, Orla Cotter, Jenny O'Leary and Briege Corkery. "These girls give the younger girls the motivation and belief to step up and be counted for in big games. They lead by example. "Once again there is huge competition for starting places this year which is always good to see, as it keeps players on their toes and more focused. "To play for Cork is an honour and a privilege, so competing for a starting place is how it always should be. "I'm looking forward to this weekend's game and hopefully it will take me another step forward representing my club and county in September's All-Ireland final.

Dual star Briege is honoured again for her contribution to gaelic games

Briege Corkery's faultless displays for Cork helped secure 2013 National League titles in camogie and ladies' football.

The Muskerry woman inspires colleagues. She has made an astonishing impact over the past decade, in both sports, winning six All-Star awards and seven All-Ireland titles in football, and four All-Ireland camogie medals.

Briege received the 96FM/C103 Cork GAA Sports Star of the Month Award at the Rochestown Park Hotel, Cork. She is the fourth player to be honoured twice in the ten years of the awards; she joins Juliet Murphy, Tony Healy and Niall McCarthy.

Cork won both the camogie and ladies' football division 1 league titles and the Munster senior camogie championship this year, with Briege a key player on both teams. She was also named on the ladies' football team of the National League.

"It's a team game in both

codes. You don't win unless playing colleagues around you are also on top," she said modestly.

County Board chairman, Bob Ryan, hailed Briege's all-round consistency, skill and dedication over the past decade.

"Coming from a great sporting division, Briege is an exceptional player and her string of honours can vouch for that," he said. Dual star Briege continues to be industrious on the field, and, despite the long training campaign, she enjoys the experience.

"It's far easier to come back each year after winning the previous season. The players are not only team colleagues, but also great friends," she said. The championship is underway, and Cork are performing well in Camogie, though they had a setback against Kerry in football, but have a chance to turn the tables.

"The leagues are in the past, our thoughts are firmly

on the championship, where we must up the ante, if Cork are to harbour hopes of outright honours. We have lost Juliet Murphy and Norita Kelly in football, along with Gemma O'Connor in camogie, all huge players," she said.

Briege hailed the contribution of the retired Murphy to the sport, in a remarkable career.

"Juliet was inspirational, one of the best footballers to grace the field, ever cute on the ball, always in the right position."

"Her retirement is a blow and we're definitely going to miss her," she said.

The function was attended by family and friends, along with County Camogie Board officers, Marion McCarthy, Sile Golden and Mary Newman, Neilus Carroll and Kieran Keane, of the Co. Ladies' Football Board, camogie coach, Paudie Murray and 96FM, CEO Kieran McGeary, and co-ordinator Finbarr McCarthy.



Briege Corkery receiving the Cork GAA Sports Star of the month Award.

Picture: John Tarrant

Cork need a win, then Antrim to win

TONIGHT,
Liberty Insurance All-Ireland Intermediate Championship,
Cork v Kilkenny,
Urlingford, Kilkenny, 8pm.
CORK travel to Kilkenny for the last game in the round-robin series of championship tonight. A win is a must to keep their hopes alive of making it to the last four and even a win may not suffice, as Cork will then be depending on Antrim to defeat Waterford on

Saturday to give them a shot at a play-off for the last semi-final spot. Cork's performances have been hit and miss in this campaign, and the game which could effectively cost them the semi-final spot was the Antrim game where they lost a ten point lead and were lucky to get a draw. Against Waterford Cork again started well, but in the closing minutes they allowed Waterford to come at them and win out

INTERMEDIATE CAMOGIE

By MARY NEWMAN

with two points to spare. Cork caused a major surprise in their third game when they clashed with Limerick. They overpowered the table-toppers with superb displays from young minor players Laura Treacy and Jessica Hennigan, who came into the side and performed

superbly. Cork showed great hunger in this game and were a much more disciplined outfit, not conceding silly frees which was their downfall against both Antrim and Waterford. If they can turn in another performance like this they should have enough to get a result against Kilkenny. Mathematically, Cork are still in with a shout of getting through, but it

will be a nail-biting wait on Saturday, and going on past results it is hard to see Antrim defeating Waterford. They lost out to Limerick by nine points and went on to defeat Kilkenny by two points, but with a chance of a play-off still there for them, they will battle to the end to try and secure this. But first Cork must get a result over Kilkenny and then hope that Antrim do the business.

CAMOGIE

LIBERTY INSURANCE CHAMPIONSHIP

Senior Group 1
Wexford 1-16 Clare 1-8
Galway 3-17 Derry 0-12
Group 2
Cork 0-19 Offaly 0-10
Tipperary 2-16 Dublin 2-6
Intermediate Group 2
Meath 1-24 Wexford 0-5
Galway 1-11 Tipperary 1-10

Today
Liberty Insurance Junior Championship:
Laois v Westmeath, Camross, L
Dempsey, Down v Kildare, Pairc Esler
2.30, P. Dowd; Roscommon v Armagh,
Padraig Pearces 2.30, J. McDonagh
Junior B Championship: Meath 2 v
Kildare, Longwood 2.30, J. Thompson
All-Ireland U16A Championship semi-
finals: Tipperary v Dublin, St Brendans
Park, Birr 1.30, M. O'Kelly; Cork v Galway,
St Brendans Park, Birr 3.15, A. Laguer
All-Ireland U16B Championship Group 1:
Dublin v Down, 6.0, J. O'Neill; Group 2:
Westmeath v Cork, J. Byrne; Derry v
Armagh, Swatragh, O. Elliott

Buckley struggling to move on

By Eoghan Cormican
Camogie

Rena Buckley is in tempered form, not quite her usual self.

The 26-year-old will line out at midfield in this afternoon's camogie championship encounter with Offaly, but it isn't the midlanders' visit that has the dual star on edge.

A week on and Buckley is still frothing from defeat to Kerry in the Munster ladies football final, one which put paid to Cork hopes of 10 provincial titles on the hop.

"We were obviously disgusted," said the physiotherapist. "We have got over them in the last couple of years, this year they got a step ahead of us and they are deserving Munster champions. We're going to have

to look ahead to the qualifiers and regroup. Hopefully we can have a say in the championship yet."

Unlike recent years, camogie is where Buckley has enjoyed better fortunes in the championship so far. Paudie Murray's side are two from two and victory against Aidan Franks' outfit would cement Cork's place in the All-Ireland semi-final. Mind you, Offaly enter the clash boasting identical form.

"They will feel they have nothing to lose. We played them in the league this year and got over them. We played them in 2011 in the championship and got a big win over them. But you know they played Wexford in the All-Ireland semi-final last August and it wasn't until the end of the game that Wexford pulled clear."

Regardless of the today's result,

Cork's are guaranteed at least a quarter-final spot and Buckley admitted every ball pucked since the resumption of training last spring has been geared towards avenging the All-Ireland final defeat to Wexford. With the league and Munster titles in the bag, all eyes Leaside are firmly fixed on the O'Duffy Cup.

"We've made no bones about saying that our aim is to at least get to the All-Ireland final and hopefully go one step further than last year. It's a confidence thing to have the Munster and league titles in the bag."

"It's coming up to the business end of the championship now so we are looking to up the ante for the next month or two. Saturday is another test, so hopefully we can do the business."

July 2013



LINDA MELLERICK

CAMOGIE

KILKENNY secured their place in the semi-final of the senior camogie championship with 2-15 to 2-9 victory over four-in-a-row chasing Wexford at Nowlan Park last Saturday.

The result sees the Noreiders complete their four game group stages with a 100% record and they can concentrate on their preparations for a last-four bout on August 17.

The remaining eight teams thrash it out for one further semi-final spot and four quarter-final berths.

Cork will be that second semi-finalist come 3.15pm today.

Victory over Wexford in the Leinster final has been credited with giving Kilkenny belief after a league campaign that ended in a semi-final defeat by the same county.

That defeat seems to be the catalyst for a changed Kilkenny outfit.

They got their championship under way by beating Galway and have continued unabated since.

Kilkenny were four points down after four minutes last weekend.

They responded well though and despite squandering a plethora of chances were in front at half time by 0-7 to 1-3. Aoife Neary provided four of those points.

Kilkenny continued where they left off in the second half as Shelley Farrell rifled a shot into the corner of the Wexford net after 38 minutes to put six between the sides.

A goalmouth scramble for the Cats' second major minutes later and the margin was eight.

Wexford were without the services of the injured Katrina Parrock and her loss was significant.

Ursula Jacob and Josie Dwyer hit points and Emma Kavanagh was forced into a point-blank save by Brid Gordon at the start of the final quarter as Wexford pushed hard.

Fiona Kavanagh bagged her second goal in the 59th minute leaving four points between the teams but Kilkenny showed impressive resolve with injury-time points from Ann Dalton (free), Neary (45) and Katie Power to register another noteworthy victory.



Kilkenny's Denise Gaule gets her shot away from the block of Wexford's Mags D'Arcy during their Liberty Insurance Senior Camogie Championship clash at Nowlan Park, Kilkenny last weekend.

Picture: Caroline Quinn

Tables

	P	W	D	L	F	AL	Pts
Kilkenny	4	4	0	0	77	45	8
Galway	3	2	0	1	42	36	4
Clare	3	1	0	2	48	43	2
Wexford	3	1	0	2	41	39	2
Derry	3	0	0	3	25	58	0

	P	W	D	L	F	AL	Pts
Cork	2	2	0	0	59	12	4
Offaly	2	2	0	0	40	15	4
Tipperary	2	0	0	2	18	28	0
Dublin	2	0	0	2	9	60	0

Cats secure a semi-final spot in style

Wexford now face Clare today in a do-or-die battle for a place in the quarter-finals after Galway defeated the Bannerwomen by 3-12 to 1-12 at Cusack Park.

Both sides have finished with just one win after three games therefore one side will accompany Galway into the quarter finals next weekend,

so its exit time for one of these counties today.

This game is going to be a hum-dinger. Clare, badly need and deserve some might say, an All-Ireland semi-final spot yet at this point they may not even reach a quarter final or it could also be the end of Wexford's dominance.

Today's crunch clash with Clare could see the All-Ireland champions out of this year's championship.

It has been a season of upheaval for the team with Claire O'Connor, Catherine O'Loughlin and Michelle O'Leary retiring, while Una Leacy, Deirdre Codd and Lisa Bolger are unavailable after taking a year out

to travel.

A number of those that might have been expected to step up have also moved on, while Katrina Parrock's broken thumb has stretched resources further.

There was also unrest within the management set up with JJ Doyle standing down and Martin Lynch coming in, only for Lynch to part ways with the squad just two weeks before the commencement of the championship.

Doyle stepped back into the breach and they won their opening tie against Derry but subsequent defeats to Galway and then Kilkenny have left them on the brink.

Clare would have had ambitions of their own having only lost the league semi-final in extra time to subsequent winners Cork.

This encounter is a winner-takes-all clash.

In group 2 Cork as mentioned will advance directly to the semi-finals.

Offaly are safely through to the quarter final with two wins from two regardless of today's outcome.

Tipperary and Dublin have zero points at this stage which means their encounter today in Parnell Park will be the decisive factor as to who advances.

Kildorrey push Town all the way

CHAMPIONSHIP season opened in ideal weather conditions and there was a close finish in Castle Road as Bishopstown hung on, despite huge pressure from Kildorrey to take the points, in the opening game in the round robin series of Evening Echo Junior A Championship. Bishopstown welcomed back Eithne Duggan and Deirdre Coughlan and this year having regressed to Junior A to re-build their team. Kildorrey, coached by Limerick hurler Ritchie

McCarthy, put in a good hour and at the break they led 1-4 to 0-3. Niamh Walsh kicked the ball to the net for a goal, giving them the vital edge as Amy Murphy kept Bishopstown in contention with three points. On the resumption Bishopstown battled back with Eithne Duggan showing huge experience in defence and with Eirne Ni Dheasmhunaigh and Maureen Egan also prominent, they dug deep. Fiona Shanahan grabbed a vital goal and they were

soon back level. As the second half developed, little divided the sides but Bishopstown, with Eirne Ni Dheasmhunaigh and Amy Murphy finding the range, ran out winners on a 1-9 to 1-7 scoreline. In a close contest, Watergrasshill had one point to spare over Na Piarsaigh, 0-7 to 0-6 the score at the full-time whistle. In the Junior C Championship, Charleville overcame the challenge of St Fanahan's on a 1-11 to 1-3 scoreline in their first game.

Camogie clubs round-up

GLEN ROVERS

AS the hot weather continues, preparations have been completed and we look forward to our opening game in the Evening Echo Senior B championship on Wednesday next when we meet Ballygarvan in Castle Road at 7.45pm. We hope to see big support at the game. Our Under 14 and 16 training continues every Monday and Wednesday at 6pm, whilst our minor and junior players not on the senior panel are also training at the same time.

Best of luck to the Cork Under 16 A team and to our girls, Kelly Falvey and Michaela Hyde, as they face Galway in Birr on Sunday at 3.15pm in the All Ireland semi-final. No underage training on Sunday, enjoy the nice weather! Training as usual on Tuesday at 5.45pm.

BRIDE ROVERS

Junior: Our first championship outing is versus Youghal and training and practice matches continue.

U15: Our U15 players were in action in Aghada recently, with a report to follow next week.

BISHOPSTOWN

Junior A championship game versus Kildorrey saw us run out winners by two points. At half-time, they led 1-4 to 0-3 but the full-time score was 1-9 to 1-7. Our scorers were Amy Murphy 0-5, Fiona Shanahan 1-0, Eirne Ni Dheasmhunaigh 0-2, Orla Ni Dhomhnaill and Eithne Duggan 0-1 each.



Dillons fired up for Carrigaline opener

JUNIOR CHAMPIONSHIP

By MARY NEWMAN

CARRIGALINE and Brian Dillon's meet this evening at Castle Road in the Evening Echo Championships.

In the week ahead, we also have the opening games in the Senior B and Junior championships down for decision, as part of a busy schedule. Newly-promoted to Intermediate grade following their Junior A championship success in 2012, Brian Dillon's will be confident of getting their campaign off to a good start when they face Carrigaline.

They enjoyed a great league campaign, making it to the final where they took Newtownshandrum to extra time in a thrilling contest — before losing out narrowly.

They have good performers in Susan Kate Brosnan, Anthea O'Brien, Therese Drummond and new signing this year from Clare, Caroline Craughan, and they are well capable of taking the points in this first game in the round robin series.

Carrigaline have shown steady improvement since regrading down to Intermediate two seasons ago and with fine young players in their side, they will relish the challenge they face this evening.

They lost out in the league semi-final to Newtownshandrum in game that went to a replay and with their exam players available now again, they will field a strong side.

Reliable goalkeeper Anne Kiely backbones a defence where we can expect to see Jan Kiernan, Mairead McGuire and Joanne O'Keefe. Up front, Maria Moran and Sarah Cotter will lead their challenge to get a victory under their belts in their first game of the round robin series.

On Monday, attention turns to the Evening Echo Senior B championship.

Last season's defeated finalists Clonakilty, will get their bid off to a start with a meeting against Fr O'Neills and with this championship played on round robin basis, every game is vital.

Clon were unlucky not to take the title last year when Barryroe grabbed a last equaliser to earn them a replay — which was again nip and tuck — before Barryroe ran out winners.

Clon reached the league final, where they lost out to Glen Rovers by five points in June and, in the interim, they have worked hard.

Clara Nagle, Sinead O'Brien, Hazel O'Regan, Beulah McManus and Aoife Deasy will give it their all to get the campaign off to a good start.



Siobhan and Sean Downey present the Aoife Downey Memorial trophy to Douglas captain Gillian O'Halloran.

Picture: Supplied

Fr O'Neills didn't enjoy the best of league campaigns but that will be put to one side as championship always brings out the best in teams.

Their younger brigade of Keelagh Cullinane and Sarah Harrington will join forces with experienced performers Gearoidin Kearney and Frances Wiggins.

The clash of Kilbrittan/Timoleague and Mallow will be worth a visit as both are strong championship contenders.

Mallow will be looking to Katie Buckley, Michelle Browne, Aoife O'Rourke and Brid O'Sullivan for big performances; whilst Kilbrittan/Timoleague, captained by Siobhan Sexton, can call on Eimear O'Sullivan, Marian Murphy, Ciara Guinevan and Dinah O'Mahony.

On Wednesday night, it's the turn of Ballygarvan and Glen Rovers to cross swords in what should be one of the games of the championship.

Ballygarvan requested regrading this year from senior to senior B and they will be strong challengers for the title. Experience gained at senior level cannot be bought and with players of the calibre and experience of Catriona Kelly, Mary Hallihan and Ella Ryan — who joined the club this season from Killeagh — they will be a formidable Senior B outfit.

Younger players Ellen Martin, who played her under age camogie with Douglas, is a welcome addition to their set-up; whilst Rachel and Anne Keohane are also excellent players. They will be minus the services of Christina Murphy, who is out of the country on a student visa and is playing her summer camogie in America until mid-August.

Glen Rovers took the Senior B league title with a good performance as they overcame Clonakilty. They welcome back Jennifer Hosford who has made a good recovery from a cruciate injury that kept her sidelined all of last season. They have good performers in captain Karen O'Connell, Lydia Cunningham, Sinead O'Halloran and Sinead Fahy. Nicole O'Brien is injured, as is Kelly Newman, who hasn't returned after also suffering a cruciate injury last season — but they will give it their all for a good start to their campaign.

It's a mid-Cork clash on Thursday as Eire Og and Aghbullogue face each other. Eire Og are always strong championship campaigners and they will give it everything they have to make it to the closing stages. They have excellent players in Elaine and Eimear Scally, Ciara McKenna, Maeve Ellen Desmond and Margaret O'Herlihy.



Marion McCarthy presents the Minor C league trophy to Enniskeane captain Orla Cronin.

Picture: Supplied

Promoted to Senior B following their Intermediate success last year, Aghbullogue have fine young players and they will be determined to stay in contention.

Joan Twomey, Deirdre Twomey, Erinn O'Connell and Ciara Murphy are amongst their stand-out players. The Evening Echo Intermediate Championship focus is on Newcestown and Buttevant on Thursday night.

Newcestown made the step down from Senior B this year and are hoping to rebuild their team. They didn't enjoy much success in the league campaign but since then, have worked hard to build up their panel. They have strong players in Cork intermediate pick Colette Desmond, Lisa O'Sullivan, Frances Deasy, Colleen Long and Alison Crowley and if they can get their focus right they could be major contenders for the title.

Buttevant, in their second year in Intermediate, will be hoping to give a good account of themselves. They were strong underage but in recent years, they have not found the going easy at adult level.

They have excellent players in Dawn O'Keefe, Sarah Breen and Emma Madigan and just need to believe in themselves and their ability a little

bit more.

In the Evening Echo Junior C Championship, Ballinora take on Cobh, Carrigrohilly meet Valley Rovers and Castlyons are at home to Banteer.

The Evening Echo Senior Championship continues, with St Catherines and Ballinhassig down for Thursday night and on Friday it's St Finbarr's versus Killeagh and Courcy Rovers meet Milford.

FIXTURES SATURDAY

Evening Echo Intermediate Championship: Carrigaline v Brian Dillon's Castle Road 7pm.

MONDAY JULY 22

Evening Echo Senior B Championship: Fr O'Neills v Clonakilty Ballinlough 7.30pm; Kilbrittan/Timoleague v Mallow, Castle Road 7.30pm.

WEDNESDAY JULY 24

Evening Echo Senior B Championship: Glen Rovers v Ballygarvan Castle Road 7.45pm.

Evening Echo Junior C Championship: Ballinora v Cobh, Ballinora, 7.30pm.

THURSDAY JULY 25

Evening Echo Senior Championship: St Catherines v Ballinhassig, Castle Road 7.45pm.

Evening Echo Senior B Championship: Eire Og v Aghbullogue Cloughduv 7.30pm.

Evening Echo Intermediate Championship: Newcestown v Buttevant Coachford 7pm.

Evening Echo Junior C Championship: Carrigrohilly v Valley Rovers in Carrigrohilly 7.30pm; Castlyons v Banteer in Castlyons 7.30pm.

FRIDAY JULY 26

Evening Echo Senior Championship: Courcy Rovers v Milford Castle Road 7.45pm; St Finbarr's v Killeagh Carrigrohilly 7.45pm.

July 2013

Cork win but still bow out of inters

CAMOGIE

By MARY NEWMAN

Cork	0-11
Kilkenny	1-5

DESPITE recording a good victory on Friday night in the Liberty Insurance Intermediate championship over Kilkenny, the result wasn't enough for Cork as Waterford defeated Antrim on Saturday thus ensuring both Antrim and Cork exited the championship.

Kilkenny, despite having nothing to play for, made Cork battle hard for victory. Cork led 0-6 to 0-2 at the interval and through the second half little divided the sides.

Kilkenny's Aine Doran had the game's only goal, but Cork battled hard to get a result and with Finola Neville unerring from frees Deirdre Coomey Aoife Deasy and Colette Desmond all pointing they secured victory and then had to endure the heartbreak of hearing that Antrim had failed to secure a result which have given both themselves and Cork a chance of a play-off for the semi-final spot.

A disappointing end to a campaign that could so easily have seen Cork reach a semi-final spot had the last result gone their way.

Scorers for Cork: F. Neville 0-6 (0-5 f), D. Coomey, A. Deasy 0-2 each, C. Desmond 0-1.

Kilkenny: A. Doran 1-0, A. Kinsella 0-3 (0 f), M. Walsh, L. Fitzpatrick 0-2 each.

CORK: J. Kavanagh, L. O'Sullivan, L. O'Connell, S. Buckley, C. Sugrue, S. Hayes, H. O'Regan, L. Treacy, C. Motherway, D. Coomey, F. Neville, J. Hennigan, C. Desmond, A. Deasy, M. Brown.

Subs: M. Cahalane for M. Brown, C. O'Leary for J. Hennigan.

KILKENNY: A. M. Lennon, N. Farrell, L. Carey, S. Buggy, C. Aylward, A. Fahy, M. Farrell, A. Kinsella, M. Walsh, M. Fennelly, S. A. Quinlan, M. O'Connell, A. Butler, N. Bambrick, M. Mansfield.

Subs: L. Fitzpatrick for A. Butler, A. Nolan for N. Bambrick, A. Doran for M. Fennelly, J. Cullen for N. Farrell, C. Lyng for M. Mansfield.

Referee: Ray Kelly (Kildare).

Cork 6-14 Westmeath 2-5

Already qualified for the semi-final stages, the Cork U16B team made the long journey to Westmeath a winning one as they totally overpowered a poor home side in the last game of the round robin series of game to top their group.

With Keava Mc Carthy notching up five goals and four points in total and Aoife McCarthy a goal and a point Cork were in total control, Aoibhinn Kidney Rachel Harry Sarah Burke Laura Willis and Chloe Sigerson all got on the score sheet as Cork ran out comprehensive winners.

Jittery start puts paid to Cork U16 side's semi hopes

U16 CAMOGIE

By MARY NEWMAN

Galway	2-13
Cork	3-8

THE concession of two first-half goals proved to be Cork's downfall in St Brendan's Park Birr yesterday as they failed to beat Galway in an exciting U16 A All-Ireland Championship semi-final.

Looking nervous and jittery in the opening half, Cork failed to settle early and Galway took advantage of this with full-forward Ciara Murphy grabbing goals in the eight and 20th minutes and from hereon in Cork were under pressure and chasing the game.

The goals settled Galway into an early pattern and they led 2-8 to 1-5 at the break, Patricia Manning and Taragh Moloney had early points before Ciara Murphy dispatched Emma Helebert dropping free to the net as she reacted quickest to flick the ball smartly to the net after hesitation in the Cork defence.

Cork began to settle and three points in a row from Lisa Lynch (2) and Emma Casey helped them regain their composure, but Galway, playing with fierce determination, continued to mount the pressure and as the sides exchanged points, still a goal separated them.

Ciara Murphy grabbed a second goal when she dispossessed keeper Chloe Casey and finished to the net but credit to the Cork netminder, who had a superb hour and denied Galway on numerous occasions throughout the game.

Galway fired over three points without reply to open up a nine-point gap but a Kate O'Keeffe goal and a Michelle Barry point had Cork back in the contest.

Cork created a goal opportunity before the break but corner-forward Michaela Hyde looked to have been pushed as she gathered possession but the referee failed to award the free and Galway cleared their lines.

Mairéad Burke pointed just before the break to put Galway 2-8 to 1-5 ahead and give Cork all to do in the second half.

All credit to Cork, who came out fighting in the second half and held Galway scoreless from play as they battled with a lot more determination and with their defence now rock solid, Galway found it hard to get anything and by the three-



Valley Rovers Ladies Football Club chairman, Neilus Cremin, with Michelle O'Regan and Lisa Lynch, who received awards to recognise their achievements with Cork ladies football and camogie teams in 2012, both winning Munster titles with the county. Lynch scored three points for Cork in their U16 A All-Ireland Championship semi-final loss against Galway yesterday.

quarter stage just a point separated the sides.

Early points from Lisa Lynch and substitute Hayley Ryan cut the deficit. In between Moloney pointed a free but back came Cork: Hannah Looney pointed before Ryan batted the ball to the net after good work from Looney and O'Keeffe.

With the game now in the balance, both sides battled furiously. Moloney again pointed a free and two Emma Helebert 45s looked to have Galway safe, but showing

fighting spirit Cork gave it their all and when Looney kicked to the net with three minutes of injury-time played, a draw looked on the cards.

It wasn't to be as Galway swept downfield and won a free which Moloney converted. Cork had one more attack but the Galway defence held solid and by now they had done enough to book their place in the final with two points to spare to set up a meeting with Tipperary, who recorded a 3-15 to 1-4 victory over Dublin.

Scorers for Galway: C. Murphy 2-1, T. Moloney 0-6 (0-3 f), P. Manning 0-2, S. Minahan, M. Burke 0-1 ea, E. Helebert 0-3 (45).

Cork: K. O'Keeffe, H. Looney, H. Ryan 1-1 each, L. Lynch 0-3 (0-2 f's), M. Barry, E. Casey 0-1 each.

CORK: C. Casey, K. Falvey, A. Crowley, A. Kelleheric, A. Dowling, C. O'Callaghan, R. Walsh, E. Ni Dheasmhunaigh, M. Barry, L. Lynch, H. Looney, E. Casey, M. Hyde, K. O'Keeffe, L. O'Neill. **Subs:** H. Ryan for M. Hyde (41), H. Fitzgerald for L. O'Neill (34), S. Harrington for E. Casey (45), A. Nagle for A. Dowling (56).

GALWAY: T. Murphy, A. Downey, N. Murphy, L. Ward, D. Higgins (c), E. Helebert, S. Keaveney, C. Finnerty, C. Burke, P. Manning, S. Minahan, T. Moloney, E. Coen, C. Murphy, M. Burke. **Subs:** C. Walsh for (41), Dowd for E. Coen (44).

Referee: Alan Le Grue (Kildare).

Sheehan full of praise for side

MANAGER, Ger Sheehan was disappointed for his charges that this bid for a place in the All-Ireland final had fallen just short, but he was quick to pay tribute to their performance. "I cannot fault the girls they gave it everything they had, and to be honest, the least we deserved was a draw. They fought back hard in the second half and we held Galway scoreless from play in the second half.

REACTION

"We seemed to freeze in the opening half and found it hard to get into the swing of the game and conceding two goals was a killer-blow in the first half and it was by this that we were behind at half time. "We were always battling to get back into it after that but credit the girls we were nine points down at one stage in the first half

but we rallied and really fought very hard in the second half. "As always you need a bit of luck and Galway just had it on the day maybe a flick or a hope of the ball either way would have won it for us but it was not to be. "As a management we couldn't have asked them for more, they were a great group to work with an I am just so sorry we didn't get the change to play in an All-Ireland final."

Wexford still alive

By Ger McNally
Camogie

Wexford's chances of landing an incredible four All-Ireland titles in a row remain on track after they came through a winner-takes-all game against Clare in the Liberty Insurance Senior Camogie Championship Group 2.

The permutations for both teams going into the game were quite simple, the winners would move into the quarter-final while for the losers, their season would be at an end.

There was little to choose between the teams at half time with the scores tied at 0-4 each after 26 minutes but points late in the half from Brid Gordon and Kate Kelly saw Wexford lead at the break.

Although Wexford stretched their lead to three early in the second half, Clare managed to get within a point of their opponents by the mid-way stage of the half. Wexford though dug deep and showed their championship credentials to pull six clear.

Player of the match Kate Kelly completed the win with a goal three minutes from the end. Chloe Morey pulled back a late consolation goal for Clare but Wexford progress to face Offaly in the quarter-final by virtue of a 1-16 to 1-8 win.

Elsewhere in Group 2, Galway clinched second place with a comfortable 3-15 to 0-12 win over Derry.

The damage to the northerners was done early in the game as Galway raced into a 2-6 to 0-1 lead by the 22nd minute. Anne-Marie Hayes and Brenda Hannay grabbed



Tipperary Manager Conor Ryan is ordered off the pitch by referee Owen Elliot after a heated conversation at the final whistle of the Senior Camogie Championship clash between Dublin and Tipperary at Parnell Park on Saturday.

Picture: ilivephotos

the goals while Niamh McGrath also played an important part with four points.

Galway now meet Tipperary in the quarter-finals after the Premier county had a 2-16 to 2-6 win over Dublin in Group 1.

The first half was a very tight affair with the teams level four times and tied at 1-6 apiece at half-time. Ali Toomey had goal for Dublin after just four minutes but Eirena Fryday did similar at the other end after 12 minutes.

The game turned on its head in the 35th minute when

Dublin's Eva Marie Elliot picked up a second yellow card. It didn't take Tipp long to utilise their extra player and five minutes later Amy Kennedy netted a crucial goal.

Aine Fanning pulled back a goal for Dublin ten minutes from the end but with Nicole Walsh chipping in with eight points for Tipp there was no way back. Kennedy was dismissed in injury time for Tipperary but there wasn't enough time for Dublin to mount a comeback.

Top of the group Cork were also winners in Group 2 as

they powered away in the final ten minutes to beat second placed Offaly 0-19 to 0-12. Cork led 0-7 to 0-4 at half time and there was only four points between the teams in the 50th minute but they outscored their opponents by 0-6 to 0-3 in the final stages to ensure they topped the group and joined Kilkenny in the semi-final, while Offaly meet champions Wexford in the quarter final.

Jennifer O'Leary 0-7 (3fs), Katrina Mackey 0-4, and Finola Neville 0-3 top scored for Cork while Siobhan Dermody scored 0-4 for Offaly.

CAMOGIE: Wexford's hopes of a four-in-a-row are still intact after a 1-16 to 1-8 win over Clare clinched third place in Group 1 of the Liberty Insurance Senior Championship.

After leading 0-6 to 0-4 at the break, player-of-the-match

Kate Kelly grabbed a goal in the 43rd minute and Wexford never looked back despite Clare notching a late consolation goal. The champions will now face Offaly in the quarter-final.

Galway will meet Tipperary in the quarter-finals after the Premier County had a 2-16 to 2-6 win over Dublin also in Group 1. The game turned on its head in the 35th minute when Dublin's Eva Marie Elliot picked up a second yellow card and Tipperary used the extra player to great effect.

The winning margin as All-Ireland camogie champions Wexford beat Clare on Saturday, to secure their spot in this year's play-offs
See Sport



KELLY'S HEROES



SKILL: Wexford's Josie Dwyer pursues Clare's Eimear Considine and (right) Kate Kelly gets the Liberty Insurance Player of the Match award from Rachel Hogan, Leinster Camogie Chairperson

WEXFORD'S chances of landing an incredible four All-Ireland titles in a row remain on track after they came through a winner-takes-all game against Clare in Group 2.

The permutations going into the game were quite simple. The winners would move into the quarter-final. The losers' season would be at an end.

The teams were tied at 0-4 each after 26 minutes, but points late in the half from Brid Gordon and Kate Kelly saw Wexford lead at the break.

Although Wexford stretched their lead to three early in the



CAMOGIE ROUND-UP

second half, Clare managed to get within a point by the mid-way stage of the half. Wexford, though, dug deep and showed their championship credentials to pull six clear.

Player of the match Kate Kelly completed the win with a goal three minutes from time. Wexford progress to face Offaly in the quarter-final by virtue of a 1-16 to 1-8 win.

Damage

Elsewhere in Group 2, Galway clinched second place with a comfortable 3-15 to 0-12 win over Derry. The damage to the northerners was done early in the game, as Galway raced into a 2-6 to 0-1 lead by the 22nd minute.

Galway will meet Tipperary in the quarter-finals after the Premier County's 2-16 to 2-6 win over Dublin in Group 1.

The game turned on its head in the 35th minute when Dublin's Eva Marie Elliot picked up a second yellow card.

Cork won Group 2 as they powered away in the final ten minutes to beat second-placed Offaly 0-19 to 0-12. They will join Kilkenny in the semi-final.



July 2013



LINDA MELLERICK

CAMOGIE

Cork 0-19
Offaly 0-10

CORK have taken the direct route into the All-Ireland Senior Championship semi-finals after a hard-fought final group game with Offaly at Páirc Uí Rinn on Saturday.

With both sides level on points heading into the game, the losers would head into a quarter-final round so victory was important.

With Cork hot favourites, it was obvious from the outset that Offaly didn't travel south to merely fulfil a fixture they weren't expected to win.

The game was nip and tuck throughout and while Cork enjoyed a four-point lead twice during the opening 45 minutes, Offaly pulled it back in the final quarter, only a point separated the sides.

Cork's greater fitness and experience saw them pull away and nine points to a reply of just one gave them a deserved victory.

In sweltering conditions a fairly strong wind still prevailed and Cork had the first-half advantage.

With Offaly playing an extra defender and midfielder Christine Cleary also dropping back, Cork found it difficult to find room inside against the hard working visitors.

The flip side of that however was that their style afforded Denise Cronin to play a sweeper's role thereby also denying Offaly too many opportunities.

It was clear that Julia White and Katrina Mackey had the better of their markers if Cork could get the ball in fast enough.

Midway through the opening half it was three points apiece with Jennifer O'Leary (free), Aisling Thompson and Katrina Mackey all on the mark and the excellent Siobhán Flannery providing all three of Offaly's total, two from play.

Cork edged into a four-point lead and an Elaine Dermody free in the 32nd minute saw them take a three-point lead into the dressing room.

Despite facing into the wind, Cork resumed sharply with Mackey and White striking two quick points.

With Anna Geary now operating at centre-back and Offaly having reverted to a typical 15 player format Cork were finding space.

Holding a four-point lead after 38

Cork show their class in final quarter



Photo Gallery:
You can see more photographs at
www.photosales.echo.ie



Cork midfielder's Jennifer O'Leary gets the ball away under pressure during their senior championship game against Offaly.

Picture: Larry Cummins

minutes Cork looked to be pulling away. Then Offaly hit a purple patch.

With Michaela Morkan, Tina Hannon, Siobhán Flannery and Lorraine Kenna to the fore, they reduced the gap to two points and then had a golden opportunity to find the net only for Elaine Dermody's flick over the advancing Aoife Murray to glance wide of the post.

Dermody converted a free minutes later and the gap was one.

It was time for Cork to up the tempo. Briege Corkery, Jennifer O'Leary, Julia White and Katrina Mackey impressed and the introduction of Lynda O'Connell and Finola Neville paying dividends, the latter scoring three points.

Cork played impressive hurling and nine points inside 15 minutes saw them coast to a nine-point win, a margin which defied Offaly's heroic effort.

Scorers for Cork: J O'Leary 0-7 (0-3 ft), K

Mackey 0-4, J White 0-3, F Neville 0-3, A Thompson, B Corkery 0-1 each.

Offaly: S Flannery 0-4 (0-2 ft), E Dermody 0-3 (ft), L Kenna, T Hannon, M Morkan 0-1 each.

CORK: A Murray; L Weste, M Walsh, P Mackey; O Cronin, R Buckley, A Geary; J O'Leary, A Thompson; J White, A Walsh, E O'Sullivan; K Mackey, B Corkery, S Burns. Subs: F Neville for E O'Sullivan (53), L O'Connell for L Weste (53).

OFFALY: E Clendennen; F Stephens, T McDonald, M Crean; L Sullivan, M Morkan, S Sullivan; S Flannery, C Cleary; C Kenna, L Kenna, A M Guinan; R Brennan, E Dermody, T Hannon. Subs: A Watkins for R Brennan (26), E Mooney for A M Guinan (47).

Ref: Aidan O'Brien (Wexford).

Murray happy with win despite slow start

CORK manager Paudie Murray was very happy with his side, who are now through to the All-Ireland semi-final after a tough challenge from Offaly, writes LINDA MELLERICK.

"It wasn't a great display, but you know we're very happy with the workout," Murray said.

"Up to now we really haven't been tested and the way they (Offaly) played in the first half, they packed their defence and we couldn't really cope with it."

"I suppose we never really got a rhythm going until the last

20 minutes, but 19 scores is a very, very good return.

"We probably gave away a few easy frees, but I'm very happy with it to be honest."

Offaly are a good side and they came in all guns blazing.

"Yes they did and you can't criticise them for that plan. I just thought we were a small bit dead starting out, but I suppose we were always expected to win and to motivate yourself for that can be difficult."

It looked to be difficult to open Offaly up at the back for

REACTION

long periods of time and Murray agreed.

"We were saying that at half time. With the way they were playing it was important that we moved the ball quicker into our full-forward line and I suppose we really didn't do that until we made a few changes."

"We held back on introductions due to holding players for the intermediate side, but once we were out of that, I mean Finola Neville came in and got

three points.

"She did very well; she has been playing very well with the intermediates and got three good scores."

"It just gives us further options. With one or two injuries it gives us options."

Cork are through to the semi-final on August 17. What's the plan now?

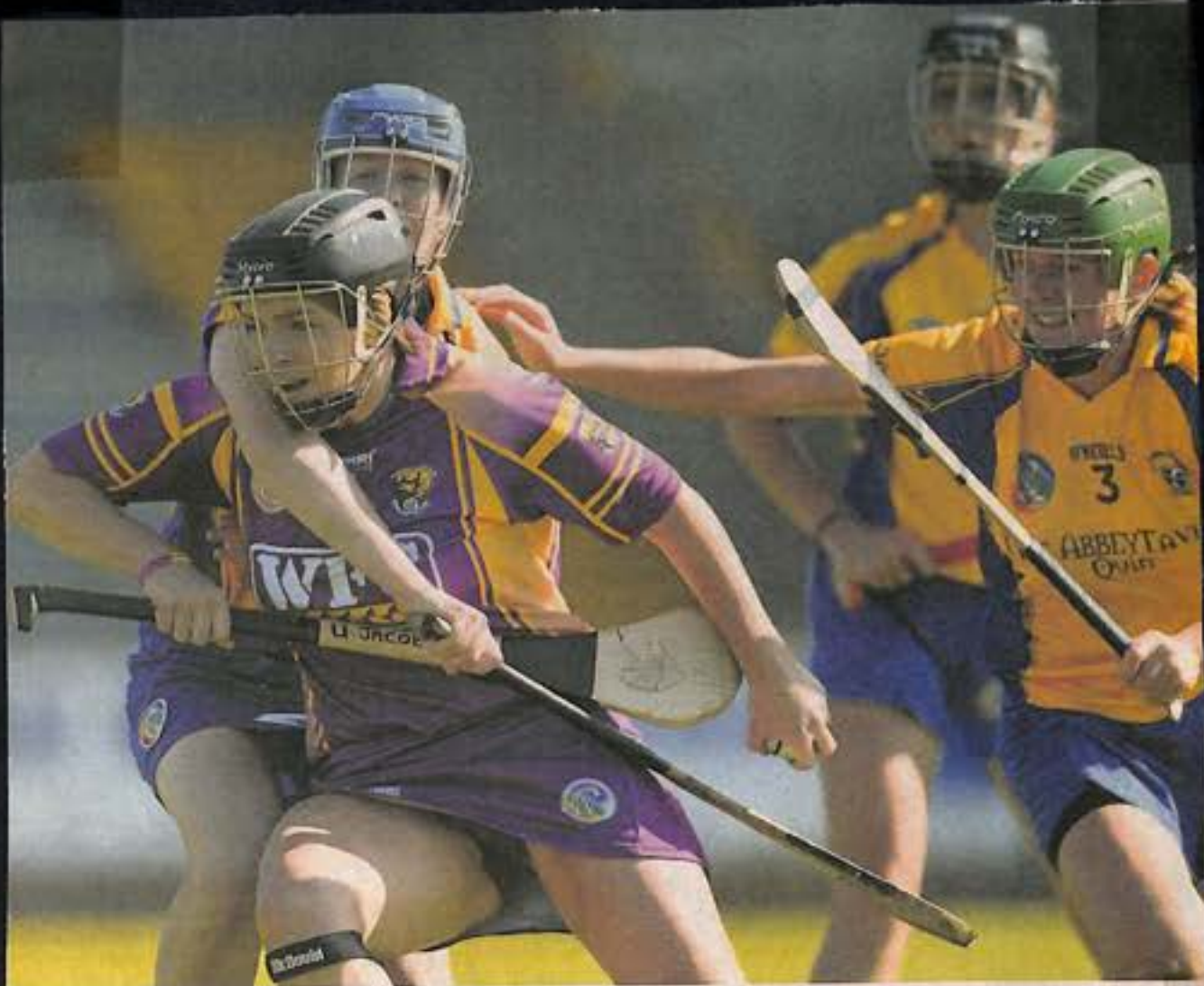
"We've the club matches next week so it gives us three weeks, two hard weeks to concentrate on the semi-final."

Have the players become ac-

customed to playing in such heat at this stage?

"We've trained hard and we also have players out doing summer camps and spending four/five hours out in the sun during the day isn't good and I think it probably looked that the players seemed a small bit tired out there today."

"But I think our fitness showed in the last 15 minutes and the intermediates finished very strong last night so I think the fitness level is there," Murray concluded.



Wexford's Ursula Jacob powers her way past Clare's Maire McGrath and Marian O'Brien in the Senior Championship match at Wexford Park. Jacob's side won 1-16 to 1-8 to earn a quarter-final tie with Offaly and keep hopes of their four-in-a-row alive.

Catherine's experience is key to their hopes



LINDA MELLERICK

CAMOGIE

TONIGHT
Evening Echo SCC round 1
St Catherine's v Ballinhassig
Castle Rd 7.30pm.

THE opening round of the Evening Echo senior camogie championship throws in this evening.

With Douglas convincing winners over Cloughduv in the preliminary round the plethora of first round fixtures swings into action with no fewer than 10 teams in action over the coming six days.

St Catherine's and Ballinhassig are first to take to the field this evening in Castle road. Last year's defeated finalists take on 2012 debutants Ballinhassig.

St Catherine's achievement in reaching last year's final surprised many. They were certainly not considered in the top four as potential finalists at the start of last season.

Yet under the guidance of Denis Walsh they steadily progressed, taking many a big club name as they went. Defeated by Milford in the opening round they regrouped and victories over Ballincollig, Killeagh, Cloughduv and Inniscarra saw them within an hour of taking their second ever senior title.

They claimed their first title in 2009 at the expense of Milford.

Unfortunately on county final day in 2012 they were blown away by a far superior Milford side that went on to take All-Ireland club honours.

Cork star Orla Cotter, due to get her cast removed this week after breaking her thumb a few weeks ago, is a huge loss, while Walsh is no longer at the helm.

They are two very significant



Finola Neville is a key player for St Catherine's and a player that Ballinhassig will have to keep an eye on.

losses. Cotter is without a doubt St Catherine's engine and has been for many years, covering miles during the course of games. Others will have to step up to the mark as leaders in her absence.

Ballinhassig couldn't have received a sterner test in their opening round 12 months ago.

Having won the senior B title in 2011 after a close final with Glen Rovers it was an exciting but daunting step up for the Village. Courcy

Rovers, one of the championship contenders at the outset, overpowered the new arrivals with a 4-15 to 0-5 defeat.

They were narrowly defeated by Seandún in round two by a single point having led at one stage during the opening half by nine and exited the championship.

You would expect Ballinhassig to have learned a lot from their opening senior championship experience and with the unavailability of Orla

Cotter this is an opening round that could be more favourable for them.

Deirdre Coomey and Eimear O'Sullivan are the two to watch from St Catherine's perspective while the in-form Finola Neville and Rachel O'Callaghan are the two danger women up front for Catherine's.

It's a close one to call. Experience might just see St Catherine's shade it, should they contain Eimear O'Sullivan.

July 2013

Camogie

with Niall Scully

Boss Murphy sees red over harsh sending off

THERE'S no quarter-final for the Dubs this time. "The disappointing thing is that we didn't progress from last year," lamented Dublin manager, Denis Murphy, following Saturday's defeat to Tipperary.

"It was a better performance from us. It showed that we can compete at this level. But being reduced to 14 players five minutes into the second half did make a difference.

"I felt the sending off (of Eva-Marie Elliott) was completely unwarranted. It was very like the situation in the Cork-Limerick hurling match last week.

"I'm not saying that having 15 players would have changed the result, but it might have done. It's hard to know, but playing with 14 players in that heat wasn't easy. It did change the game. No question about that. Tipp were able to use the extra space to pick off their points from out the field."

The capital chief felt Dublin could have done more before the break. "We were level at half-time, but I felt we didn't do enough with that bit of a breeze to have won the game, but you never know.

"The girls showed good spirit. And if we had 15 players on the pitch we could have won it. Tipp asked our defence a few questions, but we adjusted and got ourselves in order.

"In fairness to our girls, Tipp created less chances than they did in the first half. Yet they won a few balls around the middle and they began to get on top. Their second goal killed it. If we hadn't conceded a second goal we might have been able to give it a rattle."

BOARD NOTES

■ Best wishes to Camogie's Gathering 2013 event, in conjunction with Dublin Camogie Board, which takes place this week on 25th, 26th and 27th July. Toronto Camogie Club, Fullen Gaels, Manchester, Croydon and Tara Camogie Clubs, London along with a North America Representative team are confirmed to attend the tournament. Dublin Camogie clubs Na Fianna, St Vincent's, St Brigid's, Ballyboden St Enda's and Trinity Gaels are also taking part.

■ Hard luck on our seniors who lost to Tipperary 2-06 to 2-16 at Parnell Park on Saturday. They are now out of this year's Liberty Insurance Championship. Our appreciation to players and management on their huge commitment and dedication throughout the season.

■ The juniors have reached the Liberty Insurance Junior A All-Ireland final. They play Carlow on 25 August.

■ Tough luck on our under 16A team who lost to a strong Tipperary side 2-11 to 1-4 in Birr on Sunday in this year's All-Ireland semi-final. Our appreciation to the players and management on their commitment and dedication throughout the season.

■ Well done to our 16B players who defeated Down 6-4 to 3-8 in O'Toole Park on Sunday to gain a championship semi-final spot.

■ Congratulations to Good Counsel who won the first of this year's Summer Cups, the Senior 2/3 title, defeating a brave Ballyboden St Enda's 3-10 to 1-4 at Páirc Uí Mhurchú. Remaining Summer Cup finals will be played this week - Senior 1 Ballyboden St Enda's v Lucan Sarsfields on Tuesday in Páirc Uí Mhurchú; Senior 4/5 CBC v Crumlin on Thursday in CBC; Senior 6/7 Setanta v Peregrines on Tuesday in Setanta.

■ Advanced Summer Camp (Camogie coaching for girls 13-16 years) takes place this week at Thomas Davis (Southside) and Frigallians (Northside) from 22 - 24 July. The camp will include the following: Expert Camogie Coaching for girls aged 13-16yrs; Intercounty Players/Coaches at camps; Improving your running technique and speed workshop; Nutrition talk; Boot Bag included for every Player. Contact Eve Talbot, Regional Development Coordinator Dublin/Kildare, Tel: +35385 1128669 Email: eve@camogie.ie.

■ The Dublin U13 Development Management team are inviting clubs to nominate 2 girls born in the year 2000 to attend a School of Excellence session on Saturday 17th August 2013.

The session will take place in Phoenix Park, hopefully, 10:00am until approx. 2:00pm. See www.dublincamogie.ie for full details.

■ The Dublin County Camogie Board are organising a School of Excellence for U12 club players. This will consist of six coaching sessions in the Phoenix Park during the summer and an internal one-day blitz in the autumn. Sessions on Fridays from Friday 26th July to Friday 30th August 7-8.30pm. Internal Blitz: provisionally fixed for Saturday, October 26th. Check www.dublincamogie.ie for details.

■ The Camogie Association is seeking applications for the position of Ard Stiúrthóir.

If you have the drive, passion and vision to lead Ireland's leading female sporting organisation, please reply by post or email on or before 5 pm on Friday 26th July 2013. Full details on www.camogie.ie

Tipp turn up heat to top Dublin

IT was around 3.30 last Saturday afternoon when Denis Murphy drove out of Parnell Park and pointed the car for Skerries and home. Dublin's journey in the Liberty Insurance All-Ireland Senior Championship was over.

They had lost to Tipperary by 2-16 to 2-6. Donnycarney was like a sauna. The most gentle of breezes caused a little ripple to the tricolour. A minute's silence was observed for the former Tipp selector, Jim Madden. The Dublin minor hurling manager, Pat Fanning, sat in the stand. Top ref, Timmy McCarthy, was close by. Their two daughters, Aine and Eimear, did well.

OPENING

The pitch looked a picture. Dublin's Ali Twomey darted down the left side of the carpet to smash in the opening score of the game - a goal at the church end in the fourth minute.

Ali Maguire converted four splendid frees for the Dubs. Some of the angles were tight, just like the first half. It was level four times, including at the break when it was 1-6 apiece. A Tipp breakaway in the 12th minute concluded with Eirena Fryday's goal.

Tipperary's defending was secure, and, worryingly for the Dubs, they crept into the home dining room on a couple of occasions before the tea.

But this was a game for the tak-

ing. It was waiting for somebody to grab it by the scruff of the neck. Both sides knew it. And the prize was a big one - a place in the All-Ireland quarter-final.

The Premier knitted some pretty passages of play, and they were to dominate the second period. Dublin were reduced to 14 players when Eva-Marie Elliott got her second yellow card five minutes into the second period.

And when Amy Kennedy's shot from the left stole in at the near post on 40 minutes, the hosts were looking up at the Rock of Cashel.

Tipp had an ace in Nicole Walsh. Jill Horan grew into the match. Dublin only managed one score in the second period - a cracking goal from Fanning 10 minutes from time that left the hosts trailing by five points.

A window of opportunity for Dublin, but it was quickly snuffed out by a brisk clutch of Tipp points. Tipp were also reduced to 14 players when Amy Kennedy was given a straight red card in injury-time.

DUBLIN: H McInerney (Na Fianna); C Power (Nh Mearnóg); E O'Meara (Na Fianna); C Rigney (Lucan Sarsfields); E Elliott (St Vincent's); L O'Hara (Erin's Isle); G Quinn (St Brigid's); D Smith (St Vincent's); E McCarthy (St Vincent's); A Kelly (Raheny); S Ryan (Nh Mearnóg, 0-1); A Maguire (St Vincent's, 0-4, 4f); A Twomey (Lucan Sarsfields, 1-0); A Fanning (St Vincent's, 1-1); A Carolan (St Oliver Plunkett's/ER). Subs: M Moynihan (Lucan Sarsfields) for Kelly; A Bugler (St Oliver Plunkett's/ER) for Twomey; A Maher (St Vincent's) for Smith.



WINNERS: (Above) Good Counsel celebrate their Summer Cup Senior win over Ballyboden St Enda's.



CONTROL: (Left) Dublin's Claire Rigney clears her lines in the Liberty Insurance All-Ireland clash with Tipperary at Parnell Park last Saturday.

Dublin clubs welcome world for Gathering

IT will be the chance of a lifetime. An opportunity to dance on the lush lawn of Croke Park. Clubs from Toronto, Croydon, Tara, Fullen Gaels, Manchester and North America will compete for the International Gathering Cup and Shield.

They will be joined by five Dublin clubs - Na Fianna, Ballyboden St Enda's, St Vincent's, Trinity Gaels and St Brigid's.

The Gathering throws-in at Na Fianna on

Thursday night (9pm). Friday will be a full day.

It will start with Ball Wall and skill sessions. Then in the afternoon there will be a tour of Croke Park.

And the highlight of the event takes place on Friday when the Croke Park tournament takes place between 5pm and 8pm.

On Saturday morning, the Gathering Roadshow will return to the Mobhi Road

for more action before the farewell dinner for the players, officials and guests.

The Gathering is a joint production between the Camogie Association and the Dublin Camogie Board, with a full backing choir that includes the Dublin City Council, The Gathering Ireland, O'Neill's sports-wear, GAA, Croke Park Stadium, Na Fianna, The Regency Hotel and also MML.ie.



Douglas do former teammate proud

Douglas Camogie Club paid tribute to their former teammate, the late Aoife Downey, at their annual memorial tournament recently.

Three clubs — Glen Rovers, Courcy Rovers and Inniscarra — joined Douglas in the tournament, and after some excellent games, holders Douglas and Glen Rovers made it to the final, while Courcy Rovers and Inniscarra qualified for the plate competition.

The plate final was exciting and saw Courcys, with Linda Collins to the fore, run out winners.

The cup final drew a huge crowd and the teams didn't disappoint.

Douglas held on to their title after a performance that their late teammate would have been proud of. Aoife's parents, Siobhan and Sean Downey, (pictured above) presented the player of the tournament trophy to Rachel Swanton of Douglas.

Non-stop action sees Enniskeane eventually triumph over Millstreet

Enniskeane 5-16
Millstreet 4-8

Eleven goals and non-stop action in this Minor C 13-a-side league final in Castle Road where the lead changed hands continuously. With seven minutes to go the title was there for the taking and it was Enniskeane who upped the tempo with goals from Kellie Scannell and the excellent Julie Ann Hayes to ensure the game had swung in their favour before a late Orla Cronin goal ensured no way back for a gallant Millstreet side.

Millstreet led at the break 1-6 to 0-6 Siobhan Sheehan's goal four minutes from the break separating the sides and on the resumption Kate O'Keeffe stretched the lead to two goals with a superb effort. Back came Enniskeane from the puck out as Hayes gathered and fired to the net and from here play swung up and down the field. Siobhan Sheehan put four points between the sides but Enniskeane had it back to two with two points without reply. Julie Ann Hayes and Kate O'Keeffe traded goal but Enniskeane hit the front with two Orla Cronin pointed frees and one from Laura Mannix.



Enniskeane Minor C League were victorious after a hard-won game.

We just about had time to record the point when Siobhan Sheehan had Millstreet back in front with a goal 4-7 to 2-11 and with nine minutes to go there was still time for a lot more. Kellie Scannell and Joanne Hayes grabbed Enniskeane goals and with the hard working Sinead Curtin, Hayes adding points and Orla Cronin tacking on 1-1 Enniskeane were not going to be denied after a superb game.

Enniskeane: C Mannix; L Galvin, K Mc Carthy; D Carroll; A O'Driscoll, A Everard; S O'Driscoll; O Duggan, K Scannell; J A Hayes, O Cronin (cl). Subs: A Crowley for L Galvin (h/t), L Mannix for O Duggan (42), C Whyte for C Mannix (48), S Duggan for K Scannell (54). Scorers: J A Hayes 3-3, O Cronin 1-8 (0-4fs 0-2 4fs), K Scannell 1-0, S Curtin 0-3, S O'Driscoll, L Mannix 0-1 each.

Millstreet: M Lane; L O'Reilly, S Dennyhy; J Dunne; L Murphy, E Dineen O'Keeffe, M E O'Connor; L Kelleher; S Sheehan (cl), C Byrne; N Scott, A Buckley. Subs: R O'Brien for N Scott (54), M Ring for A Barry (54). Scorers: K O'Keeffe 2-2, S Sheehan 2-1, L Kelleher 0-3, (0-1f 0-1 4fs), M E O'Connor 0-2 (0-1f).

Referee: Ger Sheehan (Douglas).

Tomorrow

Evening Echo Senior B Championship
Glen Rovers v Ballygarvan Castle Road 7.45pm

Thursday July 25

Evening Echo Senior Championship
St Catherine's v Ballinacorney Castle Road 7.45pm

Evening Echo Senior B Championship
Ere O'g V Aghabullogue Cloughduv 7.30pm

Evening Echo Intermediate Championship
Newcestown v Buttrvant Coachford 7pm

Evening Echo Junior C Championship
Carrigrohilly v Valley Rovers in Carrigrohilly 7.30pm

Evening Echo Junior B Championship
Castletyons v Banteer in Castletyons 7.30pm

Evening Echo Junior A Championship
Castletyons v Banteer in Castletyons 7.30pm

Friday July 26th

Evening Echo Senior Championship
Courcy Rovers v Milford Castle Road 7.45pm

Evening Echo Intermediate Championship
Fr O' Neills v Valley Rovers Castle Road 7.30pm

Evening Echo Junior B Championship
Castlemagner v St Vincents in Castlemagner 7.30pm

Evening Echo Junior A Championship
Castlemagner v St Vincents in Castlemagner 7.30pm

Evening Echo Junior C Championship
Castletyons v Banteer in Castletyons 7.30pm

Evening Echo Junior B Championship
Castletyons v Banteer in Castletyons 7.30pm

Evening Echo Junior A Championship
Castletyons v Banteer in Castletyons 7.30pm

Evening Echo Junior C Championship
Castletyons v Banteer in Castletyons 7.30pm

Evening Echo Junior B Championship
Castletyons v Banteer in Castletyons 7.30pm

Evening Echo Junior A Championship
Castletyons v Banteer in Castletyons 7.30pm

Evening Echo Junior C Championship
Castletyons v Banteer in Castletyons 7.30pm

Evening Echo Junior B Championship
Castletyons v Banteer in Castletyons 7.30pm

Evening Echo Junior A Championship
Castletyons v Banteer in Castletyons 7.30pm

Evening Echo Junior C Championship
Castletyons v Banteer in Castletyons 7.30pm

Evening Echo Junior B Championship
Castletyons v Banteer in Castletyons 7.30pm

Evening Echo Junior A Championship
Castletyons v Banteer in Castletyons 7.30pm

Evening Echo Junior C Championship
Castletyons v Banteer in Castletyons 7.30pm

Evening Echo Junior B Championship
Castletyons v Banteer in Castletyons 7.30pm

Evening Echo Junior A Championship
Castletyons v Banteer in Castletyons 7.30pm

Evening Echo Junior C Championship
Castletyons v Banteer in Castletyons 7.30pm

Evening Echo Junior B Championship
Castletyons v Banteer in Castletyons 7.30pm

Evening Echo Junior A Championship
Castletyons v Banteer in Castletyons 7.30pm

Evening Echo Junior C Championship
Castletyons v Banteer in Castletyons 7.30pm

Evening Echo Junior B Championship
Castletyons v Banteer in Castletyons 7.30pm

Evening Echo Junior A Championship
Castletyons v Banteer in Castletyons 7.30pm

Evening Echo Junior C Championship
Castletyons v Banteer in Castletyons 7.30pm

Evening Echo Junior B Championship
Castletyons v Banteer in Castletyons 7.30pm

Evening Echo Junior A Championship
Castletyons v Banteer in Castletyons 7.30pm

Evening Echo Junior C Championship
Castletyons v Banteer in Castletyons 7.30pm

Evening Echo Junior B Championship
Castletyons v Banteer in Castletyons 7.30pm

Evening Echo Junior A Championship
Castletyons v Banteer in Castletyons 7.30pm

Evening Echo Junior C Championship
Castletyons v Banteer in Castletyons 7.30pm

Evening Echo Junior B Championship
Castletyons v Banteer in Castletyons 7.30pm

Evening Echo Junior A Championship
Castletyons v Banteer in Castletyons 7.30pm

Evening Echo Junior C Championship
Castletyons v Banteer in Castletyons 7.30pm

Evening Echo Junior B Championship
Castletyons v Banteer in Castletyons 7.30pm

Evening Echo Junior A Championship
Castletyons v Banteer in Castletyons 7.30pm

Evening Echo Junior C Championship
Castletyons v Banteer in Castletyons 7.30pm

Evening Echo Junior B Championship
Castletyons v Banteer in Castletyons 7.30pm

Evening Echo Junior A Championship
Castletyons v Banteer in Castletyons 7.30pm

Evening Echo Junior C Championship
Castletyons v Banteer in Castletyons 7.30pm

Evening Echo Junior B Championship
Castletyons v Banteer in Castletyons 7.30pm

Evening Echo Junior A Championship
Castletyons v Banteer in Castletyons 7.30pm

Evening Echo Junior C Championship
Castletyons v Banteer in Castletyons 7.30pm

Killeagh look to have enough to shade it

ST FINBARR'S and Killeagh get their bids for a place in the quarter-finals of the Evening Echo Senior championship under way this evening and it promises to be a close clash, writes MARY NEWMAN.

Killeagh, now in their third season at senior, will be hoping to make an impact this year as their younger players continue to mature and blend in with their more experienced campaigners.

They reached the minor A championship final last year where they lost out narrowly and they have excellent young players such as Laura Treacy, Leah Mc Evoy Stefanie Beausang Hannah Looney and Aoife Walsh.

Former Cork senior Mary O'Connor is still a vital player for them and with Jessica O'Shea, captain Marie Smiddy and Cork senior Angela Walsh in their side, they will be tough opposition for any

TONIGHT

Evening Echo Senior Camogie Championship:
St Finbarr's v Killeagh, Carrigrohilly; 7.45pm

team in this season's championship.

St Finbarr's are without two of their most experienced campaigners this year and Cork seniors Gemma O'Connor and Jenny Duffy are huge losses to the Togher outfit.

Gemma is currently on

overseas duty with the defence forces while Jenny Duffy has transferred and is now playing with Na Fianna in Dublin.

They will be hoping that their more experienced players such as Cork senior Lynda O'Connell, Claire Spellman, Charlotte Kearney, Rachel Myers, Clionadh and Clara Seargent, will lead the way for them. Younger players Maedhbh Cahalane, Rachel Finn, Stephanie Punch and Jessica Keating

have fitted in well to their senior set up and they will be confident of matching anything Killeagh will throw at them.

It will be a tough battle and may just come down to how the more experienced players on the sides perform on the day, the form books will point very marginally to a Killeagh win, but the Barrs are always strong championship campaigners and they will not want to have to go through the losers round.

MEATH WEXFORD

1-24
0-5

WEXFORD ENDED their year with a thumping loss to Meath in the Intermediate camogie championship in Ratoath on Saturday last.

A victory would have given the Slaneysiders a play-off spot in Group 2, alongside their opponents, as well as Tipperary. However, that scenario never looked likely as Meath took control from the first minute and never relaxed their grip.

Indeed, as early as the second minute the hosts made their intentions known with the game's only goal. With a Jane Dolan point already on the board, Katie Hackett launched a long ball at the Wexford goal, and the break fell perfectly for Aileen Donnelly who pulled to the net.

Wexford, who were without manager Kevin Murphy who was on holiday, grabbed their first point through Ellen Kelly in the ninth minute, but the visitors wouldn't register again until Margaret Byrne struck another point three minutes before the break.

With all six Meath forwards on the scoresheet, the Royal girls led by 14 at the interval (1-13 to 0-2), yet it was Wexford who opened the scoring in the second period when Maebh Hughes nailed a dead ball after Aoife Shell was felled.

It took the home side ten minutes to get on the scoresheet in the second-half but when they did point through Lizzie Oakes it once again opened the floodgates.

Wexford did manage to muster two further minors, through substitute Nicole Fortune and a second from Ellen Kelly, but Meath, with Jane Dolan in inspirational form in midfield,

went on to register a hefty 1-24 and with it book their place in the last four of the championship.

Meath: Jane Walsh; Laura Maguire, Claire Coffey, Fiona O'Neil; Aine Keogh, Kristina Troy, Louise Donohoe (0-1); Jane Dolan (0-7, 2 frees), Katie Hackett; Lizzie Oakes (0-6), Aoife Maguire (0-2), Sinéad Hackett (0-3); Cheyenne O'Brien (0-1), Adrienne McCann (0-2), Aileen Donnelly (1-2, 0-1 free). Subs: - Maggie Randle for O'Brien, Anna Fagan for McCann, Grace Coleman for O'Neil, Cliona Murphy for Dolan, Kellie

Gorman for Donnelly.

Wexford: Ann-Marie Foley; Nancy Dunphy, Amy Ryan, Emma Leacy; Róisín Murphy, Marguerite Doyle, Emma O'Connor; Rachel Collier, Olivia Hearn; Margaret Byrne (0-1), Ann Cousins, Aoife Shell; Ellen Kelly (0-2), Maebh Hughes (0-1 free), Catherine Kelly. Subs: - Bridin Roche for Murphy, Mary Sinnott for Kelly, Nicole Fortune (0-1) for Hearn, Marie Morrissey for Shell, Amy Dillon for O'Connor.

Referee: Donal Ryan (Tipperary).



Mary Leacy races away from Róisín McMahon during the Senior camogie win over Clare in Wexford Park on Saturday last.

LEADING LIGHT



Kate Kelly receiving her player of the match award from Rachel Hogan, County and Leinster Chairperson, after Saturday's Senior camogie win over Clare.

July 2013



Ballinhassig's Orla Murray shoots for goal as St Catherine's Evelyn Ronayne closes down the shot during their Evening Echo Senior Camogie Championship clash in Castle Road, Blackrock last night.

Picture: David Keane



Photo Gallery:
You can see more photographs at
www.photosales.eecho.ie

Another step up is needed by Rovers

TONIGHT
Evening Echo Senior
Championship first
round: Milford v Courcey
Rovers, Castle Road
7.45pm

AT the outset of the 2012 senior camogie championship both Courcey Rovers and Milford were considered strong championship contenders, writes **LINDA MELLERICK**.

Milford reigned supreme, ended up with the fairytale season of County, Munster and All-Ireland honours while Rovers were one of the clubs they defeated along the way.

Rovers had an impressive season 12 months ago with an opening victory over Ballinhassig; 4-15 to 0-5 and a dramatic 2-14 to 1-14 win over St Finbarr's at the quarter final stage before facing up to Milford in the semi-final.

They provided a serious challenge to the eventual champions where but for a two minute spell midway through the second half, which saw the North Cork side score 2-1, this game was on the table for either side.

Just a point separated the sides 42 minutes in but two minutes of brilliance by Maria Watson put an end to Rovers challenge.

The first goal came as a result of great Milford defending at the other end which saw Marie O'Neill gather a long clearance and offload to the running Watson who rattled the net.

The latter collected again out the wing shortly after and by-passing a number of defenders, her cross-ball was finished by Louise O'Flynn.

Considering how Milford's season developed Rovers must feel that they are certainly not too far away.

Just a number of weeks ago the two sides met again in the 2013 league semi-final with a 6-18 to 1-3 victory going to the North Cork side.

They went on to take the title with a comprehensive victory over Ballincollig. As suggested prior to that semi-final; have Milford advanced so much in 12 months that it's difficult to see any side dethroning them?

Maybe, but this is championship and anything can happen.



LINDA MELLERICK

CAMOGIE

St Catherine's 2-11
Ballinhassig 1-8

THE clinical finishing of Finola Neville proved the major difference between St Catherine's and Ballinhassig in this first round senior championship tie in Castle road last evening.

With play at times evenly matched out the field, Catherine's firepower up front was far superior to Ballinhassig's and they were well deserving of their six point victory.

It was a strange opening quarter. Catherine's enjoyed the early attacking but failure to get the ball in fast enough led to overcrowding and bunching and their single point from play in 16 minutes reflected as such.

It took Ballinhassig a while to get into their stride, yet when they did they led by five points to one after 14 minutes, playing the ball faster and spreading the play better than Catherine's. Jane O'Leary (2), Eimear O'Sullivan, Catriona Collins and Deirdre Coomey fired over five points between the 10th and 14th minutes in reply to Deirdre Twomey's point after eight.

It was noteworthy that two of Ballinhassig's points could have been goals had there been more of a killer instinct

inside.

Leading 0-6 to 0-2, entering the final 10 minutes of the half, it all turned on its head for Ballinhassig after Neville brilliantly finished two goal opportunities.

The first came from a fast high ball in from Michelle Tobin. It bounced beautifully for the in running Neville and she rattled the net. Four minutes later she dispossessed goalkeeper Linda Griffin, as she left her goal to attempt a clearance out the wing, and hand passed to the net.

By now Catherine's, with Carolyn Motherway in fine form at centre back, were delivering the fast ball and had Ballinhassig on the run. A pointed free by Finola saw them take a 2-3 to 0-6 lead into the second half.

The result was inevitable once Cath-

erine's had stretched their lead to six points within five minutes of the restart.

They were more comfortable on the ball and in finding their team mates. Carolyn Motherway continued to dominate and with Orna Neville, Yvonne O'Neill, Fiona Cotter, Evelyn Ronayne and Deirdre Twomey all working hard the gap continued to widen. Ballinhassig's scores in the second period came from three placed balls, compliments of Eimear O'Sullivan, who worked tirelessly throughout.

18 frees in the second half resulted in a total of just three points coming from play inclusive of both sides.

Catherine's led by eight entering injury time. A close in free to the right of the post was driven low and hard by O'Sullivan.

Noreen Mulcahy managed to get a touch but it deflected into the net.

It was too little too late for Ballinhassig, its only effect was to put a little more respectability on the scoreboard.

Scorers for St Catherine's: F Neville 2-8 (0-4 f, 0-2 45), D Twomey 0-2, A Mangan 0-1.

Ballinhassig: E O'Sullivan 1-3 (1-2 f, 0-1 45), C Collins 0-2, J O'Leary 0-2, D Coomey 0-1.

ST CATHERINE'S: V O'Donnell; F Cotter, N Mulcahy, Y O'Neill; O Neville, C Motherway, A Fitzgerald; M O'Keefe, J O'Keefe; R O'Callaghan, E Ronayne, D Twomey; A Mangan, F Neville, M Tobin.

Subs: M Mulcahy for M Tobin (in), 49.

BALLINHASSIG: L Griffin; E O'Donovan, M Rardon, K Coleman; A Coleman, E O'Sullivan, K McCarthy; D Coomey, M Kelleher; N Sheehan, J O'Leary, E Jordan; C Butler, C Collins, R Moynihan.

Subs: D Murray for R Moynihan (h/t), S Scully for K McCarthy (h/t), A Gilmarin for N Sheehan (41), L O'Leary for C Butler (51).

Referee: Mike O'Kelly (Ballyhea).

Douglas have too much firepower and will win

CAMOGIE

By LINDA MELLERICK

Cloughduv, but there is no doubting Douglas. Douglas have been one of the most consistent sides in the championship over the past number of seasons, winning the title in 2008 and 2011 and are still a major force today. With Julia White enjoying her best season and Katrina

Mackey also lightning fast up front, it is hard to see how Barryroe will cope.

In Jessica Kavanagh they also have a top keeper and with Pam Mackey, Emma Jordan and the O'Donovans Douglas enter the game as hot favourites.

Of course Jennifer O'Leary will once again give over 100% in her efforts.

Sile Burns is also a threat, but Douglas have the strength in

depth to cope.

Barryroe indeed needed to step back from senior A competition last season, but to step back up again after such a short space of time it is doubtful the 12 months will have any real influential effect on the club.

Three years at a lower grade without having to step back up so quickly would do clubs like this a greater service. Douglas to take this one.

SUNDAY
Evening Echo Senior
Championship Round One
Barryroe v Douglas
Bandon, 7.30pm.

THE Evening Echo senior championship opening rounds continue with Barryroe facing up to Douglas in Bandon on Sunday evening.

Barryroe, downgraded to senior B last year and are stepping back up after winning the B championship

face a difficult task against a city side already giving clear indications of their intent. Douglas and Cloughduv played out a preliminary round on July 12th, and regardless of what players Cloughduv were missing on the night Douglas's 5-23 to 1-6 victory certainly had the tongues wagging. Clearly, Aoife Murray and Katherine Corkery were significant losses for

Douglas resume their senior camogie championship bid against Barryroe on Sunday. **Barbara O'Connell** talks to Amanda O'Regan who believes Milford will be the team to beat again



A NEW senior club camogie championship season starts in earnest this weekend in Cork. Tonight there are four clubs in action, St Finbarr's against Killeagh, while Courceys take on Milford, with the latter, the defending champions, the team they must all beat.

On Sunday Douglas enter the fray for the second time when they play Barryroe with their most experienced player Amanda O'Regan looking forward to their second-round senior camogie championship game, but she certainly won't be taking anything for granted.

Two weeks ago they opened their campaign with a big 5-23 to 1-6 over Cloughduv, with Ciara Lynch the star hitting 3-4. Her new-look, up-and-coming young Douglas team were very impressive in their opening game, however, O'Regan states that this year they will be taking each game as it comes. "Barryroe won the senior B championship last year so there is no doubt in our minds that we have a tough game ahead," Amanda said.

"They will have gained a lot of confidence from last year which will be a huge boost for them."

"For us there have been a lot of changes this year and we haven't had a lot of games together, so each game is a learning curve for us."

O'Regan, 31, rejoined the Douglas squad late this year, only in June, while others had been back training since January.

However, her fitness is still on a par with the rest of the team. This is due to the long-winter season she had playing basketball with Team Montenegro Cork. O'Regan started playing SuperLeague with Team Montenegro back in 2002.

Over the years with them she has won every honour in the game. Last year was expected to be a difficult year for them.

They had a new young team and a new coach, but they exceeded expectations reaching the cup final, the league semi-final and finished second in the league table behind a fantastic UL side.

"Last year was a transition year with a number of new players involved with the senior team, as well as a new coach."

"This year we've a new coach involved again (Paul Kelleher, formerly of UCC Demons, is the new coach)."

"The team is going back in the next few weeks for pre-season training which I am looking forward to."

"I think that basketball has helped my footwork and my speed over short distances, while camogie then improves my endurance, so the two sports complement each other."

Due to O'Regan's dual sporting interests, for the past number of years she has found herself going from one season directly into the next, without having a break.



Douglas defender Amanda O'Regan, left, believes county champions Milford, right beating St Catherine's in last year's final, are again the team to beat this year.

O'Regan is back better after break

And this year it caught up with her. "After the basketball season this year I decided to take a break."

"I felt that I couldn't give camogie 100% as I didn't have the hunger needed to give that commitment at the start of the year."

"Because the sports I play have different seasons I just go from one to the other without taking a break, and I felt I needed that break away."

"The rest of the team went back training in January under the new management of Gearoid Daly, Philip Kavanagh, Finbarr O'Donovan and Mary Ring and I am glad to be back on board now."

O'Regan has been with the club almost 27 years, having started out training under the guidance of her parents, who both played inter-county GAA for Cork.

Mick and Christine coached her all through underage level, along with Mary Harrington. Having started off with the street leagues, because of O'Regan's height and ability, it

wasn't long before she was drafted into the U14 team, at the tender age of eight.

Even more remarkable, she played junior with the club at the age of 12.

Throughout her years with the club she has played in every single position, primarily at centre-back.

There was very little success at underage for the club, with O'Regan's first medal coming at the age of 16, however, since then the club have won a few titles, the U16B league, Junior A championship in 2005 (first adult title for club in 25 years), senior B in 2007 and Senior A in 2008 and 2011, all of which O'Regan played a huge role in.

O'Regan is the oldest player on this very young side however, she believes the mixture of both youth and experienced is the key to their success over the years.

"Our strength is that we have a good mix of youth and experience."

"Even though the majority of the team is U23, most of the players have been playing

at this level for a number of years and they know what to expect."

"I think it's very important to have a mix of youth and experience."

"For a team to be successful over a number of years you have to have new players been introduced each year to keep the team fresh and keep everyone on their toes."

"Experience can only be gained over time and as the saying goes you can't put an old head on young shoulders, but experienced players can aid the development of the younger players, both at training and during matches."

"Our only weakness is that we haven't played together that often this year."

"Over the last few months players have been tied up with Cork teams at senior, intermediate, minor and U16 level, and most of the players had either college or school exams as well, so it was difficult to find time when everyone was available."

"We would be looking to Cork players such

July 2013



Douglas' Amanda O'Regan keeps her eye on the ball and below, inset, her spell in the Women's SuperLeague with Montenegro has maintained her fitness level.



as Pam and Katrina Mackey, Julia White and Jessica Kavanagh to lead the team this year, as well as the likes of Ciara Lynch, Emma Kavanagh and Aine O'Donovan. "This year a few players have decided to take a break, such as Maria Harkin and Theresa Maher, who would have been playing last year. "However, we also have a great few younger players who've been added to the panel. "Rebecca Sheehan and Chloe Nason, who both are Cork U16 players are with the senior side this year. "The overall age profile of the team is much younger than last year with a number of the underage players stepping in, however, I am confident we will do well." As with most others involved in the game Amanda expects Milford to be the team to beat again this campaign.



Keeping dad in the picture

AMANDA ON HER DAD MICHAEL RECORDING AND ANALYSING EVERY GAME

"My dad tapes every game that I play. Growing up we were always encouraged to analyse our performance and find the good and bad. "Having the matches to watch back helps this. I find it very useful to watch the games and see what mistakes I've made and where I can improve. "He also makes up DVDs with clips from a number of games put together so that I can learn from it. "With basketball he has analysed a number of the opposition teams and at training we can review the games, see their plays and what tendencies players have. "This has proved invaluable during the years when we have won cup titles. "I find it useful because I can see what the coaches are talking about. "It's much clearer to look and see what needs to be changed than to have someone talking to you. "Watching a number of clips containing the same player also helps with highlighting their strengths and weaknesses on an individual level. "He assisted Mark Scannell (Neptune's men's basketball coach) in analysis tapes before their cup victory this year. "He has also recorded and analysed matches for a number of GAA teams in the county."

Factfile

Name: Amanda O'Regan
Age: 31
Lives: Douglas
Family: Mum, dad, sister Louise
Club: Douglas
Position: Back/Forward
Occupation: PE and maths teacher
Favourite food: Nan's brown bread.
Favourite music: Anything but rap
Other hobbies: Basketball
Most memorable game: 2008 county final v Barrs.
You'd run 10 laps to avoid doing what: defensive slides in basketball

"I would expect Milford to be ahead of everyone else at the moment, but I think St Catherine's and Ballincollig will be tough to beat. "However, this championship is very hard to call as all teams are very evenly matched and there is very little to choose between them. "The main thing for me is to see the standard in Cork improve every year. "There is an even spread of talent across all the teams making it one of the most competitive championships in the country. "I think Milford raised the game to a new level last year and if the rest of the clubs come close to matching it there will be some very exciting games this year. "Hopefully, we can be one of those teams that raise their game and give the championship a real go, but we have to beat Barryroe first."

Honours

CAMOGIE

Six All-Ireland medals with Cork: Senior (4), junior (1) and minor (U16 at the time) (1).
Captain of All-Ireland winning Cork senior team 2009.
Five National League Medals: Senior (3) and Junior (2).
Thirteen Munster medals: senior (5), intermediate (2), junior (2), U18 (2) and minor (2).
Gael-Linn (interprovincial titles) with Munster – Senior (2) and Junior (2).
Three Ashbourne Cup medals with UL.
Three Ashbourne All-Stars at centre back.
Player of Tournament in Ashbourne 2006.
Club: Senior A Championship 2011, Senior A Championship and League 2008, Senior B Championship and League 2007, Junior A Championship and League 2005.

BASKETBALL

Member of Irish Senior Women's team – European Qualifiers 2007.
Member of World University Games team – Daegu, Korea(2003) and Izmir, Turkey (2005).
Three SuperLeague medals with Glanmire '06, '08 and '10.
Two SuperLeague cup medals in 2007 and 2008.
Seven colleges titles – 3 intervarsities, 3 cup and 1 league.
Bank of Ireland Schools Cup winners in 2001 with Christ King.



LINDA
MELLERICK

CAMOGIE

WE HAVE our pairings for the Liberty Insurance Inter-county Senior Camogie Championship quarter-finals after Cork defeated Offaly and Wexford defeated Clare last weekend.

With Cork and Kilkenny comfortably through to the semi-finals on maximum points it's holders Wexford v Offaly and Galway v Tipperary on August 3 to see who partners them.

Wexford's hopes of a four in a row are still intact after they recorded a 1-16 to 1-8 win over Clare to clinch third place in Group 1.

This was a winner-takes-all match and there was little to choose between the teams at half time, Wexford leading 0-6 to 0-4. Player of the match, Kate Kelly grabbed a goal in the 43rd minute and Wexford never looked back despite Clare notching a late consolation goal.

Also in Group 1, Galway ensured they finished second with a comfortable 3-15 to 0-12 win over Derry.

The damage to the northerners was done early in the game as Galway raced into a 2-6 to 0-1 lead by the 22nd minute. Ann Marie Hayes and Brenda Hanney grabbed the goals while Niamh McGrath also played an important part in their early dominance with four points.

Derry settled into it after the early onslaught and only lost the remaining 28 minutes by a single point.

With the half-time score at 2-9 to 0-4, Derry got some early scores in the second half, but Hanney's second goal of the game with 10 minutes remaining killed-off their challenge.

Tipperary's passage to the quarter-finals was secured with a 2-16 to 2-6 win over Dublin in Group 2. Both sides had zero wins from two and so it all came down to this meeting as to who would advance.

Dublin, it must be said, are not a senior standard county; they are extensively off the mark and should consider playing in the intermediate competition to try and get some momentum going. They're doing well at Minor A but the heavy defeats at senior level aren't very encouraging or enticing to the younger brigade.

The first half was a very tight affair with the teams' level on four



St Catherine's Finola Neville wins possession ahead of Ballinhassig's Miriam Reardon during their recent Evening Echo Senior Camogie Championship clash in Castle Road, Blackrock. Catherine's won 2-11 to 1-8.

Picture: David Keane

Photo Gallery: You can see more photographs at www.photosales.com/ie

Championship is shaping up as expected

separate occasions and they headed for half time tied at 1-6 each. Ali Twomey goaled for Dublin after just four minutes but Eireana Fryday did similarly at the other end after 12.

The game turned on its head in the 35th minute when Dublin's Eva Marie Elliot picked up a second yellow

card and walked to the line. It didn't take Tipp long to utilise their extra player and five minutes later Amy Kennedy netted a crucial goal.

Aine Fanning pulled back a goal for Dublin ten minutes from the end but with Nicole Walsh chipping in with eight points for Tipp there was

no way back. Kennedy was dismissed in injury time for Tipperary but there wasn't enough time for Dublin to mount a comeback.

I have to say I feel sorry for Clare not making the quarter finals. They certainly deserved that but that's the way the groups fell and they were in

a tough one. One would hope they don't get deflated and keep the significant efforts going within the county. They're a fine side but could lose a few players for next season.

The Cork players took a break from inter-county training this week but it's far from a rest with 10 teams in action as the opening round of the senior championship kicked off. The senior B championship also commenced with a number of games as the county board attempts to get as many games played during this small window break from inter-county action.

Paudie Murray will have three clear weeks with his charges post this week, allowing for two hard weeks and one week of winding down ahead of Cork's semi-final date on August 17. The club championship 'backdoor' round will take place week commencing August 23.

Dates thereafter will depend on Cork's success or otherwise on the 17th.

Long-serving Cork and Cloughduv player Joanne O'Callaghan marries today. We wish Joanne and Jonathan every best wish for the future.

The senior championship group table finished as follows:

July 2013

Championship roundup

Games in all grades continued in the Senior Championship. All Ireland club champions Milford overcame Courcy Rovers with a powerful display. Milford showed they are just as focused and determined this year as they were last season and that it will take a good side to dethrone them. Courcy will hope to get their campaign back on track when they meet either Ballincollig or Inniscarra in the losers round.

Killeagh overcame St Finbarr's when they met in Carrigtwohill. Leading 0-6 to 0-1 at half time, two second goals from Angela Walsh put paid to any hopes St Finbarr's had of a comeback. They now meet Ballinhassig in the losers rounds after Ballinhassig lost out to St Catherine's in their opening game.

Clonakilty got their Evening Echo Senior Championship campaign off

to a good start when they beat Fr O'Neills. First half goals from Sinead O'Neill and Clodhna O'Regan helped them enjoy a 2-7 to 1-2 internal lead, and despite a strong Fr O'Neills fightback Clon added a third goal from Juanita Brennan to ensure victory.

Mallow and Kilbrittan/Timo-league had to share the points in Castle Road where it finished 1-10 apiece after an excellent contest. Mallow, with Michelle Browne to the fore, led at half time 0-6 to 0-2.

Glen Rovers and Ballygarvan played out a close contest in Castle Road where two late Glen Rovers points saw them run out winners 2-12 to 3-7 after a game where the lead changed hands several times.

Glen led 2-4 to 0-5 at half time with goals from Jennifer Hosford and Sinead O'Halloran. Ballygarvan

dominated the early stages of the second half and two pointed frees from Catriona Kelly had them back in the game. Two quick goals put them to 2-4 ahead, the Glen hit back with four points but Catriona Kelly sent a penalty to the net and Ballygarvan were two points clear. Again the Glen responded with four points to win.

In an all <id>Cork clash Eire Óg and neighbours Aghabullogue battled it out in tight contest. Aghabullogue trailed by a point at the break after a close opening half. Eire Óg stretched their lead with second half goals from Erin Corkery and Maebh Corkery. Aghabullogue grabbed a goal but a strong response from Eire Óg with Maebh Ellen Desmond, Erin Corkery and Elaine Scally to the fore ensured they won 2-10 to 1-7.

Carrigaline made a good start to their Evening Echo Intermediate championship campaign with a win over Brian Dillons in a high scoring 5-11 to 3-6 contest. Carrigaline with four first half goals led 4-8 to 1-6 at the break. Toni Scully Anna O'Keeffe and Grainne O'Keeffe were to the fore for them. Alison Smith had a first half Brian Dillons goal and two from Jane Dooley in the second half cut the deficit in a much closer half. Newcestown proved to strong for Buttevant when the sides met in Coachford in their opening round of the Intermediate championship.

In the Evening Echo junior B championship Youghal notched up 3-4 to defeat Bride Rovers who had 0-11 to their credit. Cobh had three goals to spare over Ballinora in the Junior C championship season.

Fixtures

Wednesday Jul 31

Evening Echo Senior Championship
Inniscarra v Ballincollig 7.30pm
Coachford

Evening Echo Junior B Championship
St Finbarr's v Glen Rovers Toghar 7.45pm
Barryroe v Newtownshandrum
Barryroe 7.30pm

Thursday Aug 1

Evening Echo Junior B Championship
Castlemagner v St Vincents
Castlemagner 7.30pm

Friday Aug 2

Evening Echo Junior A Championship
Inniscarra v Sillabh Rua
Venue and time TBC

Evening Echo Junior C Championship
Cobh v St Fanehan's Cobh 7.30pm
Charleville v Ballinora Charleville 7.30pm

CAMOGIE

By MARY NEWMAN

SUPPORTERS will again be spoiled for choice in the week ahead as the championship fixtures continue.

Tomorrow has a big schedule of game and we will take a look at where the action.

Senior B Championship

Fr O'Neill's play their second game in the round-robin series of the Evening Echo championship tomorrow against Valley Rovers, just six days after losing to Clonakilty in the first game.

Valleys sought to be re-graded to intermediate but their request wasn't granted but they have re-grouped and got the show back on the road and are now ready for championship.

They have plenty of talent within their squad and players such as Orla Deasy, Susan O'Leary, Liz Bugler, Connie Hawkes and Lisa Lynch will be strong performers in a side could well make it out of this group and advance to a semi-final spot.

Fr O'Neill's made Clon fight hard for their win last Monday and if they can produce the same fighting spirit are in with a great chance. Keelagh Cullinane, Catherine O'Shea, Yvonne Murphy and Frances Wiggins will battle hard to keep their championship hopes alive in a tough competitive group.

Round two also for Clonakilty and Kilbrittan/Timoleague on Monday night, Clon with a win under their belts already hope for a second, Kilbrittan/Timoleague having held Mallow to a draw will go in confident and they will not overawed by their opponents. Sinead O'Neill, Aoife Deasy, Juanita Brennan and Sinead O'Donovan are big players for Clonakilty whilst Kilbrittan will be looking to Máiréad Dullea, Marian Murphy, Siobhán Sexton and Dinah O'Mahony to help them gain the valuable points on offer.

Intermediate Championship

Newtownshandrum start their bid for an Intermediate double with a meeting against Sarsfields on Sunday.

Captained by former Kilbrittan and Cork star Valerie O'Keefe, they have promising



St Catherine's Carolyn Motherway breaks out of defence ahead of Ballinhassig's Catriona Collins during their Evening Echo Senior Camogie Championship clash in Castle Road, Blackrock. Picture: David Keane

Weekend's top games

players in Erin Reidy, Denise Cagney whilst experienced performers Paula O'Connor, Caroline Giltinane and Aine Kelleher are highly experienced.

Sars have a hugely impressive underage structure and it is beginning to pay dividends with younger players Chloe Casey, Lauren Casserly, Lucy Allen coming through the ranks to blend in with players such as Amy Edwards, Doris Murphy and Emer Fennell and it will be a closely contested battle.

Tracton and Blackrock always enjoy close battles and Monday night we can expect another close one in Castle Road.

Junior Championships

In the Junior A Championship it's a repeat of their league final meeting when champions

Douglas meet Enniskeane.

Na Piarsaigh will be battling to put their first round defeat to Watergrasshill behind them when they meet a Bishopstown side who had a victory in their first outing over Kildorrey.

The Evening Echo Junior B Championship continues with the Barrs and the Glen crossing paths, league champions St Vincent's meet Castlemagner Barryroe and Newtown's second strings are also in action.

Evening Echo Junior C Championship has Cobh meeting St Fanahan's and Charleville against Ballinora.

FIXTURES SUNDAY

Evening Echo Senior Championship: Barryroe v Douglas Bandon 7.30pm.
Evening Echo Senior B Championship: Fr O'Neill's v Valley Rovers Castle Road

8pm.
Evening Echo Intermediate Championship: Sarsfields v Newtownshandrum Grenagh 7.30pm.

MONDAY JULY 29

Evening Echo Intermediate Championship: Tracton v Blackrock Castle Road 8pm.

Evening Echo Junior A Championship: Na Piarsaigh v Bishopstown Blackrock GAA Grounds Church Road 8pm; Enniskeane v Douglas Cloughduv 7.30pm.

WEDNESDAY JULY 31

Evening Echo Senior Championship: Inniscarra v Ballincollig Coachford 7.30pm.

Evening Echo Junior B Championship: St Vincent's v Glen Rovers Togher 7.45pm; Barryroe v Newtownshandrum Barryroe 7.30pm.

THURSDAY AUGUST 1

Evening Echo Junior B Championship: Castlemagner v St Vincent's Castlemagner 7.30pm.

FRIDAY AUGUST 2

Evening Echo Junior A Championship: Inniscarra v Sliabh Rua Venue and Time TBC.

Evening Echo Junior C Championship: Cobh v St Fanahan's Cobh 7.30pm; Charleville v Ballinora Charleville 7.30pm.

Clonakilty are off to flyer in championship

CHAMPIONSHIP ROUND UP

By MARY NEWMAN

CLONAKILTY got their Evening Echo Senior Championship campaign off to a good start when they recorded 3-14 to 3-6 victory over Fr O'Neill's in Ballinlough. First half goals from Sinead O'Neill and Clodhna O'Regan helped them enjoy a 2-7 to 1-2 internal lead and despite a strong Fr O'Neill's fight back Clon added to their tally with a third goal from Juanita Brennan to ensure they took the points on offer. Mallow and Kilbrittan/Timoleague had to share the points in Castle Road where it finished 1-10 a piece after an excellent contest. Mallow with Michelle Browne to the fore led at half time 0-6 to 0-2 but Kilbrittan/Timoleague battled back Miriam Deasy ensuring her side stayed in contention as they did enough to ensure a draw. Glen Rovers and Ballygarvan played out a close contest in Castle Road where two points from Denise Luby ensured the Glen Rovers girls ran out winners on a 2-12 to 3-7 scoreline. Glen led 2-4 to 0-5 at half time goals from Jennifer Hosford and Sinead O'Halloran keeping them ahead whilst Catriona Kelly and Rebecca Murphy worked hard to keep Ballygarvan in touch. Ballygarvan dominated the early stages of the second half and two pointed frees from Catriona Kelly had them within touching distance and they hit the front with two quick goals to go 2-7 to 2-4 ahead. Glen hit back with four points in a row but when Catriona Kelly sent a penalty to the net Ballygarvan were two

points clear. Digging deep once again the Glen responded with four unanswered points Niamh Gowen and Sinead O'Halloran with one each Denise Luby with two ensuring they held on for a victory despite huge Ballygarvan pressure. In an all mid Cork derby in Cloughduv Eire Og and neighbours Aghabullogue battled it out in tight contest, Aghabullogue returning to Senior B ranks following their success in last seasons Intermediate championship worked hard and trailed by a single point at the break after a close opening thirty minutes. Eire Og signalled their determination early in the second half and stretched their lead with goals from Erin Corkery and when Maebh Corkery hit a second they looked comfortable but all credit to Aghabullogue as they battled back and grabbed a goal but a strong closing ten minutes from Eire Og with Maebh Ellen Desmond, Erin Corkery and Elaine Scally to the fore ensured they prevailed on a 2-10 to 1-7 score line. Carrigaline made a good start to their Evening Echo intermediate championship campaign as they recorded a victory in round one over Brain Dillon's. It was a high scoring 5-11 to 3-6 game Carrigaline hit four first half goals to lead 4-8 to 1-6 at the break Toni Scully Anna O'Keefe and Grainne O'Keefe applying a lot of pressure on the Brain Dillon's defence.

Waterford in control from early exchanges

Waterford 2-18
Tipperary 1-8
By Fiona Casey
Munster Camogie Intermediate final

Waterford set the tone in this Munster Camogie Intermediate final on Saturday after just three minutes.

Points from Karen Kelly, who finished with 0-7, and her St Anne's clubmate Zoe O'Donoghue had the Tipp defence in all sorts of bother. And when O'Donoghue

rattled the net after 20 minutes their dominance was being reflected on the scoreboard. Tipp through Maria Ryan along with Clara McGrath kept them in contention but by half-time Waterford led 1-9 to 0-3.

Waterford, through Poc Fada champion Trish Jackman and player of the match Lismore's Nicola Morrissey, hit the ground hard in the second-half and fired over a few early scores. Tipp keeper Orla McEniry made two great saves but she couldn't stop

O'Donoghue scoring her side's second goal. At the other end Ciannait Walsh netted for Tipp from 50 yards.

Scorers for Waterford: Z Donoghue (2-4), K Kelly (0-7, 4fs, 1 45), N Morrissey (0-4), P Jackman (0-2), M Murphy (0-1).

Scorers for Tipp: M Ryan 0-3, C Walsh 1-0, A Ryan 0-2fs, C McGrath 0-1.

WATERFORD: A O'Brien, E Hannon, F Morrissey, V Falconer, M Russell, C Maher, J McCarthy, J Simpson (capt), P Jackman, S Curran, N Morrissey, M Murphy, L Bray, Z O'Donoghue, D Fahy.

TIPPERARY: O McEniry, T Roche, C Kennedy (capt), L McLoughlin, M Evison, A McGrath, S Kennedy, A Kennedy, C Johnston, A Ryan, M Ryan, E Murphy, S O'Neill, P McGrath, C Walsh.

Mills in final five

DUBLIN CITY COUNCIL TO MAKE DECISION IN AUTUMN

DUBLIN City Council has announced the final five proposed names for the new bridge over the River Liffey near Marlborough Street. The Council's Commemorative Naming Committee had the difficult task of reducing the previous shortlist of 10 names to five.

Kay Mills, former Dublin Camogie Star and the holder of 15 All-Ireland medals, has made the short list, along with Rosie Hackett, Willie Birmingham, Frank Duff and Bram Stoker. The five nominations will be put before a full meeting of the Elected Members of Dublin City Council in the autumn for a final decision on the naming of the bridge.

The Camogie Association and Dublin Camogie Board have been campaigning to have the new bridge over the river Liffey named in honour of Mills who won fifteen senior All-Ireland medals. Kay Mills is the only Gaelic games team player to hold such an honour, eclipsing hurling legends such as Christy Ring, John Doyle and Henry Shefflin. Kay began her playing career with Dublin at the age of 14, winning her first All-Ireland medal in 1942 and her last in 1961. She captained the side in 1959.

She was a player noted for her athleticism, fantastic skill level and was a superb ambassador for camogie. In addition to her All-Ireland medals, she won twenty Leinster Championships, 6 Dublin senior County Championships and 4 Inter-provincial medals. She was an automatic choice on the



Camogie Team of the Century chosen in 2004 and was inducted into the Cuchulainn Hall of Fame. She was also an accomplished soccer player, gymnast and table tennis player.

Her medal collection is currently on display in the GAA Museum Croke Park while in 2011 a plaque was unveiled at her place of residence, 1 Abercorn Terrace, following a joint initiative of the Inchicore/Kilmainham Heritage



Kay Mills (left) holds the O'Duffy Cup while Betty Hughes is congratulated after the game.

Committee, Dublin City Council and the Camogie Association.

The Camogie Association and Dublin Camogie Board, with the permission of George Hill, husband of the late Kay, request all involved in camogie to support the proposal to name the new bridge in her honour, an appropriate tribute to this iconic Dublin sports woman.



Carole Ryan, St Finbarr's, shoots for goal as Brid Stack, Killeagh, tries to block, during their Evening Echo Senior Camogie Championship clash in Carrigtwohill. Picture: David Keane

Milford send out message of intent

By LINDA MELLERICK

Milford 6-29
Courcey Rovers 0-5

THE Milford machine rolls on as they annihilated Courcey Rovers in their Evening Echo senior championship opening round tie in Castle Road last evening.

It was tough on Rovers, yet to their credit and in particular Sarah Hayes, Aishling Moloney and Emily O'Regan, they fought to the final whistle in what must have been a tough hour for them.

Courcey's were one of the few teams pushing Milford in recent times yet on top of the fact that the gap has widened Rovers were without the services of star players Rachel Moloney, Christine O'Neill and Julie Mulcahy due to injury and that certainly didn't help their plight.

The night belonged to Milford and there is no taking from their impeccable display. From the outset and for 60 minutes there was no let up and that is the mindset of champions.

While all players contributed, the class of Marie O'Neill, Aishling Thompson, Anna Geary and the three Watson sisters stood out.

At times up front Milford literally played around with the ball, picking each other out at ease, finding and running into open space at will and picking off points from every angle.

In fact Milford had very few wides during the game, five in total.

After 13 minutes Milford led 2-7 to 0-2 and the writing was on the wall, just how much of a score Milford would run up was the general talk in the ground.

Aine Watson and Marie O'Neill struck Milford's opening goals with O'Neill getting her second after 20 minutes.

With Aishling Thompson dominant at midfield and finishing the game with four excellent points, Milford's inside line got a plentiful supply and with O'Neill and Maria Watson finding significant room, the scores came fast and furious.

Rovers had a few scoring opportunities thanks to the stick work of Sarah Hayes and the excellent Aishling Moloney, but the Milford defence closed them down.

One couldn't really blame Linda Collins for attempting a couple of goals from close in frees. Milford, having played against the wind, led at the break 3-14 to 0-2.

It was much of the same for the second period, Milford utilising their five substitutes and not weakening their position to any great degree. Without a doubt it'll be hard to stop this side from retaining their titles.

Scorers for Milford: M O'Neill 3-8, E Watson 0-7 (0-3 f), A Watson 2-1, M Watson 1-5, A Thompson 0-4, D O'Reilly 0-2, M Flanagan, L O'Flynn 0-1 each.

Courcey Rovers: L Collins 0-4 (0-2 f), E O'Regan 0-1. **MILFORD:** R Finn; K Galvin, M Walsh, L Healy; E O'Riordan, A Geary, S O'Flynn; K O'Mahony, A Thompson; E Watson, D O'Reilly, A Watson, M O'Neill, L O'Flynn, M Watson.

Subs: A O'Flynn and M Flanagan for O O'Mahony and D O'Reilly (41), E O'Flynn for E O'Riordan and D Hayes for L Healy (41), N O'Connor for E Watson (47).

COURCEY ROVERS: C Duggan, A Keating, K Keoghane, S Keating, P Collins, S Hayes, A O'Reilly, A Moloney, E Moloney, E O'Reilly, E O'Regan, R Crowley, S Minihane, L Collins, E O'Reilly.

Ref: Cathal Egan (Glen Rovers).

Experienced Killeagh advance to quarter final

By MARY NEWMAN

Killeagh 2-10
St Finbarr's 0-5

KILLEAGH advanced to the Evening Echo Senior Camogie championship quarter final with a comfortable victory over St Finbarr's in Carrigtwohill last night.

An ability to take their points and to playing more direct hurling helped Killeagh enjoy a half time interval lead of 0-6 to 0-1, although it by no means was an indication that they were going to cruise home as comfortably as they did in the finish as St Finbarr's were guilty of shooting eight opening half wide's, several of which should have been converted.

In the finish the overall strength of Killeagh proved too much and powered by the experienced Mary O'Connor, Angela Walsh and Niamh O'Keefe, they comfortably got over the finishing line with 11 points to spare.

Both sides handed senior championship debuts to their younger brigade, each starting with three, and certainly Killeagh can be happy with their contributions of Ellen Benaim, who was solid in defence, whilst their U16 duo of corner forwards, Hannah Looney and Leah McEvoy, were superb all through.

Looney finishing with a tally of four points and also turning provider for a goal.

Credit must also go to the St Finbarr's youngsters for whom it was a big night.

Gillian Fitzgerald, Jessica Keating and Kayleigh Mullins gave it their all and never gave up the chase.

It was up front that St Finbarr's fell short as their inside line could get nothing from a solid Killeagh defence where Aoife Walsh, Marie Smiddy and Ellen Benaim didn't concede an inch.

The opening quarter was close.

Kate Murphy and Hannah Looney put Killeagh two points in front before the hard-working Rachel Myers had a Barrs point.

As the Barrs tacked on three wide's in a row the Killeagh challenge gathered momentum and they finished the half striking four points without replay from Kate Murphy, Angela Walsh (2), and Leah McEvoy to put them five in front at the break.

Hannah Looney showed her class inside five minutes of the restart as she gathered the ball twice and effortlessly took on defenders to confidently strike two points, whilst Cliona Sergeant replied for the Barrs.

Inside ten minutes of the restart Angela Walsh put the game beyond the Barrs reach after Clare Spellman had denied Leah McEvoy with a superb save.

Walsh finished to the net after the Barrs defence failed to clear.

Now with a mountain to climb the Barrs continued to waste opportunities and again they missed chances sloppy shooting again proving costly. Twice the sides exchanged points before the Killeagh defence cleared the ball off the line as the Barrs battled for a goal with substitute Katie Crowley having brought much needed pace to the Barrs attack.

Two Charlotte Kearney points for the Barrs were quickly cancelled out by an Angela Walsh goal two minutes into injury time to see Killeagh safely through to the draw for the quarter final and St Finbarr's into a back door battle with Ballinhassig in bid to keep their championship aspirations alive.

Scorers for Killeagh: A Walsh 2-2, H Looney 0-4, K Murphy 0-2 (0-2 45), N O'Donovan, L McEvoy 0-1 each. **St Finbarr's:** C Kearney 0-2 (0-1f), C Sergeant, T Doyle, R Myers 0-1 each.

KILLEAGH: S Beausang; Aoife Walsh, M Smiddy (cl), E Benaim; N O'Keefe, M O'Connor, Aileen Walsh; B Stack, J O'Shea; Angela Walsh, Annie Walsh, N O'Donovan; H Looney, K Murphy, L McEvoy.

Subs: A M Walsh for J O'Shea (47), C Daly for Annie Walsh (47), E Kelly for N O'Donovan (47), J Swayne for N O'Donovan (53), N O'Farrell for Aileen Walsh (55).

St Finbarr's: C Spellman; G Fitzgerald, Clara Sargent, J Keating; K Mullins, L O'Connell, S Pucht, C Ryan, R Finn; M Cahalane, C Kearney (cl); C Sargent; V Hosford, T Doyle, R Myers.

Subs: K Crowley for V Hosford (45), E Ryan for R Finn (48).

Referee: Diarmuid Kirwin (Eire DG).

Leaside teenager also played for Cork in the All-Ireland senior camogie final.

"At the end of last year and the start of this year particularly I was out training and playing matches nearly every night and I didn't have time for anything else.

"Some days I trained twice a day!

"I ran myself into the ground, was absolutely wrecked and drained myself completely over time, so after the All-Ireland final this year I took a step back.

"I was doing my Leaving Cert so realistically I couldn't keep all the training going.

"Although I had an unbelievable

year with Cork camogie, travelling in on the bus under the tunnel in Croke Park I felt myself almost day-dreaming trying to take it all in.

"Heading into the dressing room, out to the pitch, walking around the pitch behind the pipe band, it was all amazing, however I really wanted to get somewhere playing soccer so it was best to put the camogie on the backburner."

And that's exactly what Shine hopes to do. To pursue a career playing football at the highest level possible.

Playing with one of the top side's in the country is Shine's hope of setting her on her way of living the dream.

July 2013

FACTFILE

Name: Clare Shine

Age: 18

Lives: Douglas,

Clubs: Douglas Hall, Cork, Raheny United.

Favourite food: My mom's Sunday dinner, or Aidan O'Connor's roast beef and Yorkshire puddings.

Favourite music: Anything.

Sporting idol: Katie Taylor.

Favourite sporting event: World Cup and European finals and winning the cup with Douglas Hall.

Other hobbies: I enjoy going out with friends and I also enjoy sleeping.

You'd run 10 laps to avoid doing what: Eat bread and butter or be in the same room as someone eating tuna.

CLARE ON...

Her club Douglas Hall

The girls are doing so well without me. Although they've lost out on two cup finals in Turners Cross, I'm delighted they have made the Intermediate Cup final.

They face tough opposition however the girls are capable of anything and I'm so proud of how well they're doing.

"I'm absolutely gutted and it breaks my heart that I'm not involved, but I hope they go all the way and bring the cup back to Cork."

The Cork Women's soccer side

"The team spirit was very positive but nothing seemed to go right on match days which was very frustrating.

"The Cork girls are a great bunch of girls and I really enjoyed playing with them as it was a good experience playing in the national league and something I would highly recommend players coming up to get involved in.

"There are plenty of new young players this season with Cork and I would hope they make their way up the table this season as they deserve to."



Clare Shine, the only female on the Douglas team, which beat Newbridge in the U10 Community Games final.

Clare's most treasured Honours

U12 National Cup winner for Douglas Hall, Ireland U17 World Cup, and European finalist in 2010 and 2011.

Ireland U19 2011/2013, U17 captain 2011/2012.

All-Ireland senior camogie finalist 2012, Challenge Cup winners with Douglas Hall in 2012.

● Clare seems to have been creating history and showing her talents from a very early age, starting as far back as 2004 when she was playing football at U10 level, with the Douglas Boys team.

At only eight years of age, Shine was part of the Douglas team who made history by becoming the first Cork side to ever win the U10s Community Games Gaelic football final. They defeated Newbridge, Kildare in an emotional All-Ireland final.

This was the first time since the games began in 1972, that a Cork team had won the U10s Gaelic competition. The team's only female player, Shine, was deemed the outstanding player of the day by manager, Eddie Murphy.

● Back in 2009 Clare created Douglas GAA history when she became the first Douglas player to represent Cork in ladies football, having been selected for the 2009 U14 panel.

At the age of just 13, Clare had achieved in a short space of time what most could only wish for in a lifetime.

She had five Sciath na Scoil medals, two U12 county camogie medals, a Cork camogie Féile medal, an All-Ireland camogie Féile medal, two All-Ireland Community games medals, an U16 county camogie medal, and an



Clare Shine thinks Cork are still a good camogie side despite semi-final loss.

Camogie: "A lot of people are saying Cork threw away another All-Ireland. However, I wouldn't say they underachieved. They made it to an All-Ireland semi-final.

"Wexford, the All-Ireland champions for the last few years, also didn't make it past the semi-final. It just shows how good the quality of camogie is getting in different counties which is great for the game.

"However, in saying that, the Cork v Kilkenny semi-final was one of the best camogie games I have seen and you can never fault the hard work and commitment those Cork girls give."

To top it all off, the multi-talented

HOLDERS BACK ON TRACK

ALAN AHERNE

In Wexford Park


WEXFORD
CLARE
1-16
1-8

THE WEXFORD Senior camogie team turned in a powerful final 20 minutes in Wexford Park on Saturday last to eventually shake off a dogged Clare side with relative ease and advance to an All-Ireland championship quarter-final clash with Offaly on August 3.

There was no margin for error in this tie as the holders had entered the last-chance saloon two games earlier than planned, but they stood up to the pressure and grew in stature in the closing quarter as the home crowd greeted each score with a resounding cheer.

The display was no more than average up to the 40th minute when Clare's Claire McMahon brought them level (0-7 each) from a dubious free after two of their own players appeared to collide.

However, Wexford's experienced performers stepped up to the plate when they were needed most and the home side outscored their rivals by 1-9 to 1-1 in a rampant conclusion.

The excellent Kate Kelly, full of energy and dash, restored their lead from a free after a foul on Brid Gordon in the right corner before adding another point within seconds after Clare netminder Denise Lynch stepped outside the small square with her puck-out and conceded a '45.

Although Lisa Loughnane responded for the Munster side, they didn't score again until the second-last puck of game nearly three minutes into added time when Chloe Morey's low shot from a close-in free ended up in the net.

In between it was nearly all Wexford, with a major moment arriving in the 46th minute when the game was still finely poised.

A long ball to the town end by defender Máire McGrath was gathered inside by Sinéad Tuohy who had a goal in her sights, but Mags D'Arcy advanced to bring off a very good save and that seemed to knock a lot of fight out of the underdogs.

Within seconds Kate Kelly had set up Josie Dwyer for a point to make it 0-10 to 0-8, and the former hit the target from a free after Ursula Jacob was impeded before availing of an Eimear O'Connor handpass to stretch the advantage to four with eight minutes left.

Any lingering doubts still regarding the outcome were dispelled less than 60 seconds later when netminder Denise Lynch was distracted by the traffic in front of her goal at the Clonard end and a long-range Kelly free entered the net thanks to a stroke of good fortune (1-12 to 0-8).

It was mainly plain sailing after that, with four points added before that late consolation goal courtesy of Kelly (free), Eimear O'Connor, Kelly (play) and Shelley Kehoe.

While there is still more required from this Wexford team to match the feats of their predecessors, this was a significant victory all the same as their mettle was tested after successive lapses against Galway and Kilkenny and they reacted well to the pressure. They will be expected to overcome Offaly whom they saw off in last year's penultimate round, and then the draw for the semi-finals will pit them against the Cats or Cork, with Galway facing Tipperary in the other quarter-final.

Then and only then will we get the real indication of how this team measures up in comparison to the last three seasons, and bear in mind that it won't be easy given the magnitude of the losses since the All-Ireland final of 2012.

There wasn't much flowing play in the first-half of Saturday's tie which yielded 16 frees (nine for Wexford), and they established a 0-6 to 0-4 interval lead without flourishing for any extended period.



■ Wexford's Clara Donohoe about to clear as Lisa Loughnane attempts to hook her.

A flick by Brid Gordon helped Ursula Jacob to open their account in the fourth minute, and she added a second from a placed ball after Fiona Kavanagh was impeded.

Free-taker Claire McMahon replied with a brace to draw Clare level, but another Jacob placed ball after a throw by Eimear Considine restored the home side's lead in the 12th minute (0-3 to 0-2).

A sloppy clearance by Mags D'Arcy helped Susan Vaughan to restore parity, but Brid Gordon replied as Clare found it impossible to get their noses in front.

Susan Vaughan did equalise for them in the 26th minute, with late scores from Stacey Kehoe and Kate Kelly leaving Wexford ahead at the break (0-6 to 0-4).

The sides had shared eight wides, with all four from the leaders coming from placed balls courtesy of

Ursula Jacob (two), Kelly and Mary Leacy.

A Naomi Carroll point within 40 seconds of the restart filled Clare with hope, and Jacob had two more wides, the second from a free, before Josie Dwyer and Brid Gordon combined to pick out Shelley Kehoe for a score (0-7 to 0-5).

A Claire McMahon point was sandwiched in between missed chances from Kelly and Gordon, and the sides were deadlocked again when she repeated the dose in the 40th minute.

However, everything Wexford tried in the attacking stakes turned to gold from that point on as they didn't add to their overall wides tally of eight and strode purposefully clear to ease some of the anxiety felt in Nowlan Park one week earlier.

WEXFORD

SCORERS: Kate Kelly (1-7, 1-3 frees, 0-1 '45), Ursula Jacob (0-3, 2 frees), Shelley Kehoe (0-2), Brid Gordon, Stacey Kehoe, Josie Dwyer, Eimear O'Connor (0-1 each).

1. Mags D'Arcy
2. Clara Donohoe
3. Noeleen Lambert
4. Karen Atkinson
5. Bridget Curran
6. Mary Leacy (capt.)
7. Shauna Sinnott
8. Kate Kelly
9. Shelley Kehoe
10. Stacey Kehoe
11. Brid Gordon
12. Josie Dwyer
13. Eimear O'Connor
14. Fiona Kavanagh
15. Ursula Jacob

SUBS: Susie McGovern for Stacey Kehoe (58), Louise Hammel for Gordon (64), Frances Doran for Curran (63).

CLARE

SCORERS: Claire McMahon (0-4 frees), Chloe Morey (1-0 free), Susan Vaughan (0-2), Naomi Carroll and Lisa Loughnane (0-1 each).

1. Denise Lynch (capt.)
2. Máire McGrath
3. Marian O'Brien
4. Carol O'Leary
5. Laura McMahon
6. Niamh O'Dea
7. Chloe Morey
8. Róisín McMahon
9. Eimear Considine
10. Claire McMahon
11. Naomi Carroll
12. Susan Vaughan
13. Cushla Hehir
14. Deirdre Murphy
15. Lisa Loughnane

SUBS: Sinéad Tuohy for Hehir (HT), Vera Loughnane for L. Loughnane (54), Jenny Kelly for Murphy (58), Sinéad O'Loughlin for L. McMahon (58), Kate O'Gorman for Vaughan (60).

REFEREE: Cathal Egan (Cork).

VENUE: Wexford Park.



■ The Wexford Senior camogie squad before Saturday's clash in Wexford Park.

July 2013

Haven't seen that before

Eoghan Cormican

Numbers up for camogie players



Ahead of the 2010 All-Ireland senior camogie final, the camogie association borrowed a well-worn initiative from the soccer world. In an attempt to promote the two outstanding teams of the game, they printed the names on the back of the players' jerseys.

GAA enthusiasts will easily identify Katrina Parrock, Mary Lacey and Therese Maher, but the idea was that all players from both Galway and Wexford would become instantly recognisable.

"We were actively trying to increase our profile, the profile of our top class players," explained acting Ard Stiúrthóir of the Camogie Association Mary O'Connor.

"The best way to do that on match-day when the girls are playing was to throw their names on their back so people wouldn't need to be looking at the programme during the game.

"If you weren't an avid follower of camogie it just ensures the players are readily identifiable.

"We thought it was a novel idea at the time. The same year we introduced the shaking of hands before the All-Ireland final. Last weekend I was kind of giggling to myself because when they were saying this was the first time it was done when Dublin played Cork in the hurling, but we had actually done it three years earlier.

"Even for the players it is a unique memento to have a jersey from an All-Ireland final with your name on it, because it doesn't happen for all the championship, it is only the final.

The initiative wasn't mandatory for the 2011 decider, though Wexford took it upon themselves to have the players' names printed on their jerseys again. O'Connor admitted the camogie association are looking at reintroducing this idea for next month's final.



Galway players with their names on their jerseys are greeted by President Mary McAleese prior to the start of the 2010 final. Picture: Sportsfile

Routine victory for Galway secures a big date with Tipp

Hanne and Hayes raise green flags as Tribeswomen get the job done in final group clash against Derry

Galway 3-16
Derry 0-12

DARREN KELLY IN
NAOMH MEARNOG

THE Galway senior camogie team concluded their group games in the All-Ireland championship last Saturday with this routine victory over Derry that told us very little about either side.

With the Tribeswomen having already qualified and the Oak Leaf County eliminated, it was never expected to be a fast paced encounter. Indeed, events elsewhere would have been of more note as Tipperary's 2-16 to 2-6 win over Dublin in Parnell Park meant it will be the Premier County who will challenge Galway in the quarter-finals on Saturday week (August 3).

What will be of more worry to Galway is the lack of ruthlessness clearly in evidence again. This game was settled by the quarter-hour and the maroon and white appeared happy to ease up on their onslaught. A win is a win but these bad habits have been costly before. Wexford, Cork or Kilkenny wouldn't have let up!

Galway didn't in the first half and were 0-5 to 0-0 ahead after seven minutes. Ailish O'Reilly opened their account after just 51 seconds when she finished off an Emma Kilkelly move while Niamh McGrath was accurate with her free taking splitting the posts on three occasions before registering one from play.

Grainne McGoldrick opened Derry's account on eight minutes before Niamh Kilkenny restored the five point advantage. And the Pearses player made a more telling impact five minutes later when she was allowed to stride down the central channel in Portmarnock before picking out the unmarked Ann Marie Hayes and the Killimor full forward struck the opening goal.



Brenda Hanney who netted twice for Galway in their convincing win over Derry.

There were many question marks about Hayes' redeployment to the attack but that was her third goal of the championship and her Killimor club-mate Brenda Hanney is also getting on the act. After Lorraine Ryan's terrific interception in her own half on 22 minutes, the move led to Hanney being put through and it was game over at 2-6 to 0-1.

But the next 38 minutes would see Galway add another 1-10 to Derry's 11 points and even though the management did use the outing to take a good look at their panel, with Davitts' Lorraine Farrell making her debut and Ann Marie Starr starting a championship match for the first time since the 2011 All-Ireland final, Galway's scoring slowed down a little too easily.

That being said, the outcome was never in doubt and while McGoldrick added two more frees and Eimear Mullan raised a white flag for Derry, three more McGrath efforts restored the 11 point cushion and Galway led 2-9 to 0-4 at half-time.

Mullan's score highlighted a lack of concentration in Galway's defence as the move was easily worked through, threatening Eva Concannon's goal, and last year's intermediate champions doubled their tally by the 41st minute through Katie McAnenelly, Karen Kelt (2) and McGoldrick.

Galway were slow out of the blocks against the slight breeze but Kilkelly and O'Reilly tapped over points before Kilkelly again and Kilkenny restored control entering the final quarter. Both teams were

emptying their benches at this stage as others got their chance.

Derry too were taking their opportunities with Kelt getting her third score and McGoldrick adding a hat-trick of frees. But down the left flank, McGrath and O'Reilly combined again, leading to Hanney's second goal and two points for Hayes, along with one from Clodagh McGrath, to set up a Galway a joust with Tipperary.

Galway will be favourites which should lead to semi-final against Cork or Kilkenny and that's where the lessons learned from their opening poor display against the Noreiders will be put into practice. No doubt, the Tribeswomen have improved their work rate, movement, and link-up play though they still make hard work of putting the ball over the bar.

Concentration levels have exposed the maroon and white before and this game can point as a warning sign while their ability to change with the pace of the game can be slower than required.

The truth is, Galway have a good chance of achieving glory this year. It's just a matter of having the performances right for their three remaining outings. The panel are looking more positive and they showed against Wexford and Clare that there is variety in their play.

O'Reilly, Hanney, Hayes and McGrath may very well hold the key to Galway's fortunes; Siobhan Coen will give Tony Ward the necessary headache regarding his starting line-up after another solid display in defence; and Farrell, Therese Maher and Ryan had a solid outing in the half-back line.

Galway: E. Concannon; S. Coen, S. Derwin, H. Cooney; L. Farrell, T. Maher, L. Ryan; E. Haverly, AM Starr; N. Kilkenny (0-2), N. McGrath (0-7, five frees), E. Kilkelly (0-2); B. Hanney (2-0), AM Hayes (1-2), A. O'Reilly (0-2); Subs: G. Glynn for Cooney (47), C. McGrath (0-1) for Haverly (37 mins), S. Callahan for Maher (46 mins), N. Coen for Kilkenny (47 mins), T. Manton for Ryan (54 mins).



The Galway U16 camogie squad which defeated Cork in the All Ireland semi-final on Sunday last in Birr on a scoreline of 2-13 to 3-8. Back row, left to right: Tara Murphy, Niamh Murphy, Sinead Minihan, Erica Coen, Dervla Higgins, Emma Helebert, Rachel Quinn, Ciara Murphy, Orla Murphy, Rachel Mannion, Michelle Jennings, Rachel O'Brien. middle row: Clara Burke, Catherine Finnerty, Aisling Downey, Nicole Duggan, Ela Doherty, Nicola Kelly, Eva Gilmore, Sinead Keavney, Karen Dowd. Front row: Patricia Manning, Mairead Burke, Laura Ward, Taragh Maloney, Aisling Connolly, Amy Kelly, Roisin Black, Cliona Walsh, Sorika NI Frighil and Christine Higgins.

Derry: C. O'Kane; E. Henry, K. O'Kane, M. Mooney; G. McNicholl, A. McCusker, M. McGoldrick; A. Ni Chaiside, S. McKee; G. McGoldrick (0-7, six frees), E. Mullan (0-1), K. Klett (0-3, one free); E. Ni Chaiside, K. McAnenelly (0-1), N. McQuillan. Subs: B. McGillan for E. Ni Chaiside (HT), A. Kelly for Mullan (39 mins), M. Haneghan for McQuillan (47 mins).
Referee: J. Dolan (Clare)

● Galway U16s are into the All-Ireland Final on Sunday week (August 4) against Tipperary after beating Cork last Sunday in Birr by 2-13 to 3-8. Two priceless goals from Clara Murphy proved crucial in building up a nine point lead before Cork came back with a major before half-time from Kate O'Keeffe and another on 45 minutes from Hayley Ryan.

Earlier scores from Taragh Maloney and Patricia Manning had ensured Galway a buffer but even though they didn't point from play in the second half, placed balls from Maloney

and Emma Helebert were decisive despite a third Cork goal from Hannah Looney with Maloney's late pressure free from the right being decisive.

To complete a hat-trick of Galway wins over the weekend, the Tribeswomen accounted for Tipperary on Friday evening in Ballinasloe to book their place in the All-Ireland semi-final against Waterford. Galway were strong favourites for this game but hit 18 wides over the hour to leave them holding on at the finish.

Three early Finola Keely points were critical after the home side went behind with the wind, while subsequent efforts from Orlaith McGrath and Rebecca Hennelly, plus a Katie O'Dwyer second half goal, gave Galway the scores to keep them ahead of their opponents who rallied back in the final 10 minutes thanks to Elaine Murphy's goal.



Galway's Niamh McGrath who struck seven points in the victory over Derry.

LOVELY HURLING



Cork camogie and Cloughdun girls who formed a guard of honour for Cork camogie player Joanne O'Callaghan and her husband Jonathan Browne after their marriage at Cloughdun church.

Picture: Eddie O'Hare

Collig face a tough opener

CAMOGIE

By LINDA MELLERICK

TOMORROW
Evening Echo Senior Camogie
Championship Round 1:
Inniscarra v Ballincollig,
Coachford, 7.30pm

INNISCARRA and Ballincollig are the two remaining clubs playing their first round championship game in Coachford this evening.

Inniscarra have been plagued with injuries to key players for the past couple of years and have lost the services for another season it seems of a forward who two years showed signs of being a star forward for Cork at underage.

It wasn't to be for Niamh McCarthy after a couple of serious knee injuries preventing her from seeing any action and reports are that the unfortunate player has once again just recently done serious damage to her other knee.

Orla Healy is also carrying an injury and Inniscarra are without the services of Joanne Casey who is living abroad.

They still however have key players in Rena Buckley, Liz Hayes, Niamh Dilworth and Katie O'Mahony to call upon and typically Inniscarra are always very hard to beat.

Ballincollig, led by Linda Dorgan and Cork players Denise Cronin and Leah Weste, will prove a test. A number of their U18 squad have recently joined the senior panel and provided they can step up to the physical challenge of senior competition, the move should serve Ballincollig well.

Inniscarra received a hefty defeat in their opening round 12 months ago yet got their season back on track to reach the semi-final, a game they were favourites to win at the expense of St Catherine's.



Rena Buckley, dual National League camogie and Gaelic football winner, receives the Northside and District Sports Award for July from Rhona Heggteit, Reservations and Events manager at Ambassador Hotel, sponsors in association with Gurrabraher Credit Union and Red FM. Included are Thomas Houlihan, Gurrabraher Credit Union, Cllr Lorraine Kingston, Deputy Lord Mayor, Onoir O'Brien, Red FM, Cllr Martin Coughlan, Deputy Mayor Cork County and Anna Geary, Cork camogie captain.

Picture: Mike English

AWARDS

By JOHN TARRANT

VERSATILE ladies footballer and camogie star Rena Buckley continues to earn an impressive reputation during a long and fruitful career.

That's confirmed on Rena completing dual National League medals with Cork as attention turns to the business end of the intercounty championship in both codes.

Such dedication to sport earned the committed Inniscarra camogie and Donoughmore footballer the monthly North City and District Spots Star Award in the Ambassador Hotel.

The Macroom-based Physiotherapist, along with her intercounty dual colleague Briege Corkery have won titles in both codes at Munster and National Level on a regular basis.

From ladies football side, Cork claimed a seventh National League Division 1 title in nine seasons with a solid win against Mayo.

For good measure, Cork retained the Division 1 camogie league title with a deserved victory over Wexford at Nowlan Park.

Deputy Lord Mayor Cllr Lorraine Kingston led the congratulations to the consistent dual star on

collecting the popular North City and District Spots Star Award run in association with Gurrabraher Credit Union and Red FM.

"Rena has collected 11 All-Ireland medals — seven for football and four in camogie in what has been a truly remarkable career," said Deputy Kingston.

A player of great poise, Buckley is a valuable asset to both Cork squads and that takes huge dedication to commit to the quality of its mammoth accomplishments during the past decade.

Nothing is certain as Cork can vouch for in football, a make or break game comes up on Saturday, August 10 in the back door against Armagh in the All-Ireland series if the reigning holders interest is to be maintained.

Throw-in in Birr is at 6pm.

"Kerry defeated us twice in Munster and hopefully we can learn from those games," said Rena.

"A big improvement is necessary. It's one step at a time and all our thoughts are on getting over the Armagh hurdle and advancing to a quarter final," she said.

Meanwhile in camogie, Cork remain ever consistent, adding a Munster title and maintaining a terrific run in the All-Ireland round robin series, and a replication of that winning momentum will surely boost the Rebel wagon on the roll towards a return for the Holy Grail.

"The group stages saw good wins recorded over Dublin, Offaly and Tipperary. That places us in a semi-final," said Rena.

Cork will face Kilkenny in their semi-final, while Galway and Wexford are in the other.

Chris Crowley, general manager of the Ambassador Hotel and Health Club, praised the attributes of Rena as did Deputy County Mayor Cllr Martin Coughlan, Cork Camogie president Sheila Golden, camogie captain Anna Geary and Cork Ladies Football chairman Neilus Carroll.

Also present at the function were Thomas and Bridie Houlihan, Gurrabraher Credit Union; Onoir O'Brien, Red FM; Paudie Murray, Cork camogie coach; Margaret O'Connor, Donoughmore Ladies Football; John Lane and Liam Harte, Inniscarra Camogie Club, along with family members.

Dilworth hat-trick seals win for Inniscarra

Inniscarra
Ballincollig

4-6
2-6

A HAT-TRICK of goals from Niamh Dilworth was key to Inniscarra's victory over Ballincollig in round one of the 2013 Evening Echo Senior Camogie Championship in Coachford last evening.

Deployed on the edge of the square, Dilworth caused havoc in the Ballincollig defence and looked dangerous each time the ball was delivered to her.

From the outset Inniscarra employed a simple game plan of delivering the ball early to Dilworth, and in combination with corner-forward, Katie O'Mahony, they caused problems for the Ballincollig full-back line all evening.

Hard-working midfielders Rena

Buckley and Niamh Byrne, along with centre-forward Aoife Kavanagh were also key to this game plan and worked tirelessly to win the ball which was delivered to the inside forwards immediately.

In fact the very first score after two minutes was a case in point. Rena Buckley blocked down her opposite number around the middle of the pitch and once possession was won, she immediately drove the ball towards the Ballincollig goal.

Dilworth was unable to gather possession, but O'Mahony anticipated the breaking ball and rifled to net. O'Mahony was again on the score sheet five minutes later, this time from free after she was fouled on the way to goal.

Ballincollig responded with a free from Ashley Lovett, but they were fortunate not to concede another ma-

SENIOR CAMOGIE

By PAUL O'ROURKE

for from O'Mahony two minutes later when goalkeeper Aisling Hennigan pulled off a fine save.

Niamh Byrne followed up to tap the ball over the bar and restore Inniscarra's advantage.

Ballincollig enjoyed a touch of good fortune two minutes later when a 45 from Lovett went all the way to the net, and this seemed to spur her team-mates into life.

Linda Dorgan got her first score of the evening from out wide and this was followed up with a hand-passed goal from Alison Coughlan after good work from Kate O'Donoghue and Dorgan again.

Ballincollig's lead would only last

four minutes as Dilworth tied the game with her first green flag of the evening. Again it was a long delivery from Buckley and this time Dilworth gathered possession and finished to the corner of the net.

Another Dilworth score gave Inniscarra the minimum advantage at the break.

Ballincollig started the second half brightly, but had only one additional score from Dorgan to show for all their good work in the opening 10 minutes.

With game tied at the three quarter mark, Dilworth was first to react and whip the ball to the net when the Ballincollig defence had failed to clear a Buckley free.

Dorgan responded with a long range point, but with the game opening up, corner-forward Katie O'Mahony began to win a lot of ball and

draw frees from the Ballincollig defence.

Buckley pointed two of those frees and Dilworth completed her trio of goals with a fine catch and hand pass to the net in the sixtieth minute.

Scorers for Inniscarra: N Dilworth 3-1, K O'Mahony 1-1 (0-1 f), R Buckley 0-2 (0-2 f), N Byrne, M Cosgrave 0-1 each.

Ballincollig: A Lovett 1-3 (0-3 f, 1-0 45), L Dorgan 0-3, A Coughlan 1-0.

INNISCARRA: L Buckley, M Buckley, L Hayes, R McCarthy, R O'Mahony, S McCarthy, K Jones, R Buckley, N Byrne, T McCarthy, A Kavanagh, M Cosgrave, K O'Mahony, A Twohig, N Dilworth

Subs: M Desmond for S McCarthy (25 in), O Healy for A Twohig (55).

BALLINCOLLIG: A Hennigan, A Kiehy, A Colter, C Ryan, L Weste, S Buckley, S Barry, J Hennigan, K O'Donoghue, A Lovett, E Casey, D Cronin, A Coughlan, L Dorgan, C Hennigan

Sub: S O'Sullivan for C Hennigan (48).

Referee: W Cole (Subsant).

Aug. 2013

Camogie

with Niall Scully

Mills is right name for Liffey bridge: Breslin

AND now there's the Famous Five. Which one will walk on water?

Kay Mills stands tall among them. Also in the frame are the great Willie Bermingham of ALONE; Legion of Mary founder, Frank Duff; Dracula author, Bram Stoker; and Rosie Hackett, the Labour activist. One of those noble citizens will have the new bridge over the Liffey named in their honour. City Hall will make the call.

The camogie community is urging all its family to continue to show their support for the Inchicore Invincible, who won a remarkable 15 All-Ireland senior Camogie Championship medals.

"That will never be done again. It would be marvellous if our City Fathers could see fit to recognise the outstanding achievements of one of the great Irish sportswomen, and such a proud Dub," declares distinguished camogie figure, Phyllis Breslin.

Dublin's Lord Mayor, Oisín Quinn, is also a fan. "Kathleen is an icon of camogie and Gaelic games history. She has been shortlisted to the final five from the original list which had 85 names. This is an indication of the esteem in which she is held and it underlines her extraordinary sporting achievements," said Dublin's first citizen.

ARTFUL

Dublin Camogie's First Lady was born to run. She was a natural athlete. From her earliest years, her artful ability on the sports field was spoken of with awe and admiration.

She was a wonder of her age. She played for Dublin for 20 years. It was a golden era for the Dubs. Her grace and sportswomanship won her fans and friends in every county. She played the game the way it was meant to be played.

She brought poetry to the pitch, and was modest off it. The pages of the Irish Press often hailed her brilliance.

The new bridge is being built a short puck of the sliotar away from the old, iconic Press offices on Burgh Quay, and a sideline cut from the Abbey Theatre. Kathleen Mills was the supreme entertainer.

Dublin is a changed place now. But so many children were raised on the songs and stories of the great Kay Mills.

Camogie has done a wonderful job in advancing Kay's cause. And now they are asking their camogie comrades to go the extra yard as judgment day approaches.

Send emails of support to manager@dublincity.ie or ora@dublincity.ie or write to Manager, Dublin City Council, 4th Floor Dublin City Council Civic Offices, Wood Quay, Dublin 8.

BOARD NOTES

- County Board Meeting on Monday 12 August at Parnell Park. Minor Board at 7pm followed by the Senior Board at 7.45. Matters relating to the upcoming championships will be discussed.
- All Trophies must be returned before the end of the County Board meeting on Monday, 12 August.
- Best of luck to our under 16B team as the Dublin girls take on Cork in the All-Ireland Championship final on Saturday, 11 August in Ulingford, Co. Kilkenny at 2.00pm.
- Best of luck to our Minor A and Minor B teams v Kilkenny All-Ireland championship on 18 August. Time and venue TBC.
- Preparations are well advanced to support our junior team and management when they take on Offaly in the Liberty Insurance Junior A championship final on 25 August.
- In the unlikely event of a team giving a walk-over in championship that team cannot take part in the Shield section of the competition.
- Attention all referees: Referees who are unavailable or who swap matches must inform Referee Coordinator, Garry Beagan.
- All referees must return match reports to An Rúnal. Returning the match report with tam sheets is an essential part of the Referees' duties when officiating at matches.
- League Top 4/Bottom 4 play-offs in all Divisions continue this evening and Thursday evening.
- The Dublin U13 Development Management team are inviting clubs to nominate 2 girls born in the year 2000 to attend a School of Excellence session on Saturday 17th August 2013. The session will take place in Phoenix Park, hopefully, 10.00am until approx. 2.00pm. See www.dublincamogie.com for full details.
- Dublin Camogie's Kay Mills has made the shortlist of 5 names for the new bridge over the River Liffey. The shortlist will now go before a full meeting of Dublin City Council in the autumn before a final decision is made on the bridge's name. Get everyone in your club to contact the city councillors.
- The Cooper under-14 All Ireland Championship blitz competition will be held in Dublin again this year on Saturday, 14 September, the eve of the Camogie All-Ireland finals. The competition will be held across a number of venues in Dublin.
- We wish the Dublin hurlers all the best on Sunday in the All-Ireland semi-final v Cork.

Murphy's sights on top four



DUBLIN are searching for that X factor. But the vital ingredient remains a mystery.

"Yes, we are looking for that spark. We just need that something extra in order to push on," admits Dublin senior manager, Denis Murphy.

"I'm not quite sure what it is. We have proved that we can compete at senior championship level, but what we need now is to be pushing on into the top four."

Denis manages the team with the last woman to lift the O'Duffy Cup for the Dubs, Ann Colgan, and Tipp native, Brian Lawlor.

"Our aim when we got involved three years ago was to see progress each season. We saw a significant amount last year," added Denis.

"And looking back on this season, apart from the Cork game, we were competitive in the matches. We just didn't convert possession into scores." Yet, maybe the recovery of the Dublin hurlers will cheer up the mood. Following their heroics of 2011, the hurlers endured a dip last year before this season's sensational revival.

"Perhaps we can take something

from that. The hurlers came back well. But whatever happened this year, the ball just didn't run for us."

The Blues boss is hoping that the sliotar keeps spinning for Dublin's more experienced personnel.

BOOST

"Their presence is absolutely critical to the team. It would be a boost if we can continue to bring through players that did well at U16 and minor level over the last couple of years. There definitely is a bright future there."

Yet even before the

championship throw-in, the Dubs were on somewhat of a sticky wicket. Muireann O'Gorman emigrated, while Laura Twomey, Anne Griffin and Arlene Cushen were injured.

It was the classy Cushen that struck the golden point that propelled the Dubs into the All-Ireland quarter-final last summer.

But the capital chief is not interested in visiting the orchard of excuses. "Granted, you'd miss people of that calibre, but there are enough players around Dublin for us to put out a decent side."



BIG LOSS: (Left) Arlene Cushen's absence through injury was a significant loss to Dublin's senior camogie team this season.

GREAT WORK: (Above) Pat Martin chair of Dublin Camogie Board makes presentation to Anne Ryan (Na Fianna) in appreciation of her outstanding work and that of Na Fianna when hosting the recent Camogie Gathering Event 2013.

Wexford's Kelly happy Jackies have joined the party

CAMOGIE keeps on climbing the stairs. "The game has improved so much. You can even see the difference from year to year," notes Wexford's Kate Kelly.

"The fitness levels have shot up. If you want to compete at the top, you have to do that little bit extra."

"The sport has made such rapid progress. It has come a long way from the old 12-a-side format."

Kate's late point last Saturday helped Wexford reach the All-Ireland semi-final

and continue their bid for the four-in-a-row. In the National League this season, Dublin beat the Slaney girls.

Kate says it's a tonic when you have counties like Dublin, Clare and Derry adding to the mix.

"There's more strength in depth than ever before. There's a lot of fresh competition. So many new faces. It's wonderful to see."

"You always have the established counties, but it's good for them to be

pushed. That's makes the All-Ireland Championship very open."

Kate would like to see camogie become an open book to the multitudes. "There's more media outlets than ever nowadays - Facebook, Twitter and all the rest of it. That can only help camogie's profile. The Liberty Insurance sponsorship has been brilliant. It's fabulous to see the tie-in between the hurling and the camogie. Camogie and hurling double-headers can only be beneficial. They help to give camogie more recognition."



Camogie latest news

Championship game to look forward to

CAMOGIE

By MARY NEWMAN

THE *Evening Echo* championships will continue next week and on Tuesday it Junior C Championship with Rockbawn meeting Kilbrittan/Timoleague's second team in their opening round game. Blarney and Castlelyons meet on Wednesday night, while Millstreet host Carrigtwohill.

In the *Evening Echo* Junior A Championship on Wednesday Watergrasshill, following their first round victory over Na Piarasigh, will be looking for a second victory over Kildorrery, who lost out in their first game to Bishopstown.

On Friday in the *Evening Echo* Senior B Championship Mallow and Fr O'Neill's will be bidding to get their first victories.

Mallow had to be content with a draw in their opening game against Kilbrittan/Timoleague while Fr O'Neill's, having lost out to Clonakilty and Valley Rovers, have to get something out of this one to keep their hopes alive.

In the intermediate championship Carrigaline are in search of victory number two when they meet Sarsfields.

They overcame Brian Dillon's in their first round game and with Sars having lost out to Newtownshandrum in game number one, this promises to be a tough battle.

Tracton, with a win over Blackrock in round one, take on Buttevant side that lost out to a strong Newcestown.



Killeagh's Jessica O'Shea races away from St Finbarr's Rachel Finn during their recent *Evening Echo* Senior Camogie Championship clash in Carrigtwohill. Picture: David Keane



LINDA MELLERICK

CAMOGIE

IT WAS a hectic couple of weeks of senior club activity and things will quieten down again as Cork prepare for their All-Ireland semi-final date on August 17.

The main outcome from the opening round games was confirmation of what I've thought since late last year; that Milford have improved so much in 12 months that the gap has widened too much for I believe any team to be a serious threat to them this year.

In fact I would go so far as to say they are still improving, such was their devastating display against Courcy Rovers.

Rovers were missing a few key players, namely Rachel Moloney, Christine O'Neill and Julie Mulcahy and the gap of 6-29 to 0-5 would certainly not have been so great had they been on the pitch, but Milford would have inflicted a heavy enough defeat all the same.

It's incredible what success can do for a team, the difference between winning or losing a game by a single point can be immense in that it can change your whole year and thereby your career.

Milford always had the talent but as a unit they never gelled. Under

Milford can emulate 90s Glen team

Frank Flannery and James McGrath last year they did and the team that won the All-Ireland final last March was a different team to even that which won the county final in October.

They remind me of the Glen of the 90s now and could dominate for some time to come. You can always get caught, and the Glen certainly did on more than one occasion as lack of real desire set in, but I don't see this happening to Milford for a while yet.

There are one or two weaknesses in the side but for a club side that is nothing and their strength elsewhere more than makes up for it. They would actually give some inter-county sides a good run and

that is possibly where they seek their challenge games now.

Douglas are Milford's nearest challenger yet would need to play significantly better than they did against Barryroe in their opening round. Despite a 2-21 to 1-3 victory they didn't overly impress but as the championship progresses, watch them improve.

Killeagh, St Catherine's and Inniscarra are the other three through to the quarter-finals after victories over St Finbarr's, Ballinhassig and Ballincollig respectively.

Cork will wait with bated breath this weekend as the draw for the All-Ireland semi-final pairings will take place.

First off Offaly will face Wexford

and Galway and Tipperary clash in a quarter-final double-header in Portlaoise today. You would expect Wexford and Galway to advance and thereafter the draw will be made.

The Wexford-Offaly clash is a repeat of last year's semi-final when Wexford proved 18 points too strong before going on to get their hands on the O'Duffy Cup for a third consecutive season.

Elaine Dermody is Offaly's chief scorer while Siobhán Flannery has been a key operator. The absence of captain Arlene Watkins with a broken leg suffered three weeks before the championship has been significant.

While Wexford's record over Offaly is very good this is not the same

force that has dominated camogie in recent times. Claire O'Connor, Catherine O'Loughlin and Michelle O'Leary have all retired, while Una Leacy, Deirdre Codd and Lisa Bolger are unavailable after taking a year out to travel.

A number of those that might have been expected to step up have moved on too, while Katrina Parrock's broken thumb has stretched resources further.

Galway were in the hugely competitive five-team Group 1 that also included Wexford, league semi-finalists Clare and senior newcomers Derry, but was completely dominated by Kilkenny. They crossed swords with the Noreiders in the first round six weeks ago and despite a much improved second half effort just failed by two points to peg them back.

Galway, after appearing in an All-Ireland semi-final and two finals in the past three seasons, can still call on Therese Maher, Lorraine Ryan, Ann Marie Hayes and Brenda Hanney, which should ensure they advance to the penultimate stages.

Tipperary, who made it through despite a largely uninspiring campaign, field largely a youthful outfit that badly missed, throughout the group stages, the guile and experience of injured former All-Ireland winner Joanne Ryan.

While Galway are favourites for this one there remains a doubt in my mind as to whether they are capable of going all the way with this squad.

There is always one great performance a year in Galway but it's never when it's most needed. It won't be needed today against Tipp.

Aug 2013



Carrigaline's Toni Scully and Caroline Craughan of Brian Dillon's keep their eyes on the sliotar during their Cork County Intermediate Camogie Championship match at Castle Road.

Picture: Howard Crowdy

MIXED WEATHER conditions greeted championship action in the week gone by in all grades and it was a case of wind and rain or sunshine and showers for most teams.

A sharp contrast to the conditions that had prevailed for teams in their championship preparations the previous week.

Goals from Katie Richardson, Liz Bugler and Elma O'Mahony helped Valley Rovers record a 3-10 to 2-6 victory over Fr O'Neill's when the sides met in the *Evening Echo* Senior B championship in Castle Road.

Fr O'Neill's made the better start and led 1-3 to 1-2 but Valley Rovers settled into the game and led a the interval 1-5 to 1-4 and on the turn over the made all the running as they applied a lot of pressure on the Fr O'Neill's defence. O'Neill's worked hard and a Sarah Harrington goal cut the deficit, but Valleys, with Susan O'Leary in superb form in defence, held their composure.

Notching up the vital scores they extended their lead to get their campaign off to the best possible start.

Kilbrittan/Timoleague recorded a superb victory over a strong Clonakilty side in Ahiohill and a point was the margin between the sides at the full-time whistle.

INTERMEDIATE CHAMPIONSHIP

League champions Newtownshandrum had eight points to spare

O'Leary the backbone of Valleys win

CAMOGIE

By MARY NEWMAN

over Sarsfields in the 4-10 to 4-2 *Evening Echo* Intermediate Championship clash in Grenagh.

It was level pegging 3-1 to 1-7 at the break but Newtownshandrum dug deep in the second half with Paula O'Connor, Aoife Twohill and Denise Cagney grabbing goals to ensure they ran out winners.

Tracton got their challenge for a place in the intermediate semi-finals off to a great start as they overcame Blackrock in Castle Road.

Aided by the wind in the opening half, Tracton laid the foundations for victory as they notched up 3-6 of their tally, two Mary McGuinness goals and one from Marion Jagoe helping them take the game to Blackrock.

In the second half it was all about protecting their lead, and they worked hard to do this while adding

three points to their tally as they ran out 3-9 to 1-9 victors with Jennifer Griffin, Jennifer Lynch Aoife Kiely and Laura O'Callaghan all contributing.

JUNIOR CHAMPIONSHIP

Na Piarasigh bounced back from defeat in their opening game of the *Evening Echo* Junior A at the hands of Watergrasshill to overcome the challenge posed by their city neighbours Bishopstown when the sides met on Church Road.

Bishopstown, having recorded a

victory over Kildorrery in their first game, were in search of the points which would have put them on their way to a semi-final spot but Na Piarasigh were focused and ready.

In what was a repeat of the junior A league final Enniskeane and Douglas got their junior A championship campaigns up and running.

This time out Enniskeane reversed the result of the league final to take the points on offer.

Douglas, having lost several of their league side to their senior team for championship, found the going tough against a strong Enniskeane.

In the *Evening Echo* Junior B Championship the second teams from city rivals St Finbarr's and Glen Rovers met in Togher and in a lively contest it was the Glen girls who ran out winners.

The sides were evenly matched in the opening half where the Glen led 1-1 to 0-2 at the break, a Sarah Bridgeman goal helping the Glen enjoy a two-point advantage after a Shauna Brickley point was replied to by Catherine Barrett with two Barrs frees.

On the resumption the Glen girls extended their lead when Maria Sheehan sent a 45-metre free to the roof of the net for their second goal, again the Barrs replied with two points but with Brickley and Trisha Kenneally on target the night belonged to the Glen girls on a 2-4 to 0-5 score line.

All Ireland Under 16 A Championship Final

Liberty Insurance Senior Camogie Championship Quarter Finals



Saturday, 3rd August, 2013
O'Moore Park, Portlaoise
Clár Oifigiúil
Luach €2

Mary O'Connor
Acting Ard Stiúrthoir



All Ireland U16A Championship Final
12 pm **Galway v Tipperary**

Liberty Insurance
Senior Camogie Championship
Quarter Finals

1.45 pm **Offaly v Wexford**
3.30 pm **Galway v Tipperary**



Back Row (L-R): Rachel Spillane, Caroline Mulloney, Kate Cashman, Niamh Costelloe, Rachel Maher, Nuala Shelly, Karen Kennedy, Carol Casey, Shonagh Cleary, Keely Lenihan, Ciarda Maher, Sinéad Buckley, Niamh Treacy, Elaine Fitzpatrick, Lorna O'Dwyer. Front row (L-R): Caoimhe Bourke, Saoirse Gleeson, Sharon O'Donoghue, Miriam Campion, Róisín Howard, Courtney Ryan, Grace O'Brien, Karen Fox, Tara O'Brien, Róisín Cahill, Eimear Loughman, Eimear Murphy.

TIOBRAID ÁRANN

Gorm agus Óir



1 **CAOIMHE BOURKE**
C. de Búrca
Drom at Inch

2 **KATE CASHMAN**
C. Ní Chiosáin
Drom at Inch

3 **RACHEL MAHER**
R. Ní Mheachair
Nenagh Eire Óg

4 **CAROL CASEY**
C. Ní Chasthasaigh
Cahir

5 **KAREN FOX**
C. Ní Shionnaigh
Eire Óg Annacarty

6 **LORNA O'DWYER**
L. Ní Dhubhair
Hollycross/Ballycahill

7 **EIMEAR LOUGHMAN**
E. Loughman
Clonoulty Rossmore

8 **CIARDA MAHER**
C. Ní Mheachair
Burgess/Duharra

9 **COURTNEY RYAN**
C. Ní Riain
Clonoulty Rossmore

10 **RÓISÍN HOWARD**
R. Ní Iomhair (Capt.)
Cahir

11 **SINÉAD BUCKLEY**
S. Ní Bhuachalla
Eire Óg Annacarty

12 **RÓISÍN CAHILL**
R. Ní Chathail
Kilruane MacDonaghs

13 **KEELY LENIHAN**
C. Ní Loingeacháin
Newport

14 **NIAMH TREACY**
N. Ní Threasaigh
Drom at Inch

15 **GRACE O'BRIEN**
G. Ní Bhriain
Nenagh Eire Óg

16 **Miriam Campion**
M. Calmion
Drom at Inch

19 **Niamh Costelloe**
N. Ní Coisteala
Kilruane MacDonaghs

22 **Shonagh Cleary**
S. Ní Chléirigh
Gortnahoe Glengoele

25 **Niamh Ryan**
N. Ní Riain
Drom at Inch

17 **Shona O'Donoghue**
S. Ní Dhoinechú
Burgess/Duharra

20 **Nicole Shelly**
N. Ní Shealbhaigh
Ballingarry

23 **Tara O'Brien**
T. Ní Bhriain
Burgess/Duharra

26 **Elaine Fitzpatrick**
E. Ní Giolla
Phádraig
Drom at Inch

18 **Caroline Mulloney**
C. Ní Mhaolcianaigh
Newport

21 **Rachel Spillane**
R. Ní Spealdáin
Nenagh Eire Óg

24 **Saoirse Gleeson**
S. Ní Ghliásáin
Drom at Inch



Back row (L-R): Tara Murphy, Niamh Murphy, Sinéad Minihan, Erica Coen, Dervla Higgins, Emma Helebert, Rachel Quinn, Ciara Burke, Orla Murphy, Rachel Mannion, Michelle Jennings, Rachel O'Brien. Middle row (L-R): Ciara Burke, Catherine Finnerty, Aisling Downey, Nicole Duggan, Ella Doherty, Nicola Kelly, Eva Gilmore, Sarah Keaveney, Karen Dowd. Front row (L-R): Patricia Manning, Mairéad Burke, Laura Ward, Taragh Moloney, Aisling Connolly, Amy Kelly, Róisín Black, Clodhna Walsh, Sorcha Ní Fhrighil, Christina Hanley. Missing from photo: Sorcha Ní Bhréidín.

GAILLIMH

Muirín agus Bún



1 **TARA MURPHY**
T. Ní Mhurchú
Davitts

2 **AISLING DOWNEY**
A. Ní Dhúnaigh
St Thomas

3 **NIAMH MURPHY**
N. Ní Mhurchú
Clarenbridge

4 **LAURA WARD**
L. Ní an Bhaird
Sanfields

5 **DERBHLA HIGGINS**
D. Ní hUiginn (Capt.)
Athenry

6 **EMMA HELEBERT**
E. Helebert
Ballinaderreen

7 **SARAH KEAVENEY**
S. Ní Gébheannaigh
Mountbellew

8 **CATHERINE FINNERTY**
C. Ní Fhionnachta
Mountbellew

9 **CIARA BURKE**
C. de Búrca
Turroughmore

10 **PATRICIA MANNING**
P. Ní Mhainnín
Mullagh

11 **SINÉAD MINIHAN**
S. Ní Mhionacháin
Liam Mellows

12 **TARAGH MOLONEY**
T. Ní Mhaolmhaigh
Davitts

13 **ERICA COEN**
E. Ní Chadhaín
Mullagh

14 **CIARA MURPHY**
C. Ní Mhurchú
Clarenbridge

15 **MAIRÉAD BURKE**
M. de Búrca
Eynecourt

16 **Nicola Kelly**
N. Ní Cheallaigh
Kiltormer

19 **Róisín Black**
R. Ní Dhuibh
Oranmore Moree

22 **Rachel Mannion**
R. Ní Mhainnín
Ballinasloe

25 **Sorcha Ní Fhrighil**
S. Ní Fhrighil
Cois Fharráige

28 **Nicole Duggan**
N. Ní Dhuagáin
Davitts

17 **Karen Dowd**
C. Ní Dhúda
Cammore

20 **Rachel Quinn**
R. Ní Choinne
St. Thomas's

23 **Orla Murphy**
O. Ní Mhurchú
Cammore

26 **Christina Hanley**
C. Ní hAinle
Cammore

29 **Ella Doherty**
E. Ní Dhochair-
taigh
Ballinasloe

18 **Clodhna Walsh**
C. Breatnach
Andrahan

21 **Amy Kelly**
A. Ní Cheallaigh
Sanfields

24 **Eva Gilmore**
E. Ní Giolla Mhí
Castlegar

27 **Michelle Jennings**
M. Ní Sheoinín
Ballinasloe

30 **Rachel O'Brien**
R. Ní Bhriain

Manager: Brian Boyle Selectors: Mary Howard, Ailish Maher, Frances O'Brien

Manager: Lorraine Larkin Coach: Gerry Helebert Selectors: Gerry Dolan, Claire Forde, Cathal O'Brien Physio: Lynda Moloney

Previews – Liberty Insurance Senior Quarter-Finals

OFFALY v WEXFORD – O'Moore Park, 1.45pm

THIS IS a repeat of last year's semi-final, when Wexford proved 18 points too strong for Offaly before going on to get their hands on the O'Duffy Cup for a third consecutive season and fourth in six attempts.

The Faithful's finest were dreadfully disappointed with their performance on that occasion however, feeling they didn't do themselves justice and went into this year's campaign determined to do better.

They opened on June 22 with a 17-point win over Dublin. Tipperary provided sterner opposition a fortnight later but Aidan Franks' team still had eight points in hand. That cemented their place in the last six, but with Cork also two-for-two, the sides met in Páirc Uí Rinn with a spot in the semi-finals up for grabs.

Offaly never really got in contention against the favourites for this year's ultimate honours, with the Leesiders winning by 0-19 to 0-10.

As has been the case for most of the 21st century, Elaine Dermody is the chief scorer while Siobhán Flannery has been a key operator too. The absence of captain Arlene Watkins with a broken leg suffered three weeks before the championship has been significant and this might come just too soon for her.

While Wexford's record over Offaly is very good, this is not the same force that has dominated

camogie in recent times. Claire O'Connor, Catherine O'Loughlin and Michelle O'Leary have all retired, while Una Leacy, Deirdre Codd and Lisa Bolger are unavailable after taking a year out to travel.

A number of those that might have been expected to step up have moved on too, while Katrina Parrock's broken thumb has stretched resources further.

Accentuating the upheaval was the decision of manager, J.J. Doyle to step down. Martin Lynch came in and appeared to be doing a very nice job to get a transitional side back to the League final. Defeat would not have been viewed as cataclysmic but after being beaten in the Leinster final by Kilkenny, they parted ways with Lynch and Doyle returned to the fray.

After beating senior championship newcomers Derry, they fell to old rivals Galway and another reverse at the hands of Kilkenny left Wexford needing to beat Clare just to stay alive.

Kate Kelly gave a prodigious performance as Doyle's crew showed their championship mettle once again and although Offaly are certain to be much closer than they were 12 months ago, the experience of the likes of Ursula Jacob, Mary Leacy, Kelly and Mags D'Arcy is taken to prevail.

Verdict: Wexford.

GALWAY v TIPPERARY – O'Moore Park, 3.30pm

GALWAY were in the hugely competitive five-team Group 1 that also included Wexford, league semi-finalists Clare and senior newcomers Derry but was completely dominated by Kilkenny. They crossed swords with the Nonesiders in the first round six weeks ago and despite a much improved second half effort, just failed by two points to peg them back.

Tony Ward's charges displayed their genuine championship credentials from thereon though, coming out on top by two points against Wexford in what must have been a very satisfying result given the amount of setbacks they have suffered at the Yellowbellies' hands over the years.

They followed that up with perhaps their most complete performance to date in a 3-12 to 1-12 win over a highly-considered Clare, and with Derry their last victims, finished a comfortable second to earn a tie against the third team in Group 2.

That proved to be Tipperary, who made it through despite a largely uninspiring campaign. A largely youthful outfit that badly missed the guile

and experience of injured former All-Ireland winner Joanne Ryan, it was always going to be difficult.

Cork were much too strong in their opening tie and though more competitive against Offaly, they never looked likely to be victorious.

That left their last game against Dublin as a straight shootout for a quarter-final spot. With Nicole Walsh, Eirena and Sarah Fryday, and the outstanding Jill Horan in their ranks, they had too much firepower for the Metropolitans, having 10 points in hand at the final whistle.

Galway have been operating at a completely different level however, appearing in an All-Ireland semi-final and two finals in the past three seasons. They are without the retired Veronica Curtin, and Aislinn Connolly, who has taken the year off, but can still call on Therese Maher, Lorraine Ryan, Ann Marie Hayes and goal machine Brenda Hanney, which should ensure their advance to the penultimate stages once more.

Verdict: Galway.

Aug. 2013



Cúibh Fháili

Dathanna: Glas agus Ór

- (16) Shauna Carroll
S. Ní Chearúill
Birr
- (17) Karen Connolly
C. Ní Chonghaile
Drumcullen
- (18) Leanne Scully
L. Ní Scolai
Kinnitty
- (19) Karen Brady
C. Ní Bhrádaigh
St. Sinchill's
- (20) Catherine Kenna
C. Ní Cionaoith
Kilcormac/Killoughey
- (21) Róisín Coughlan
R. Ní Chochláin
Kinnitty
- (22) Kate Aherne
C. Ní hEathain
Shinrone
- (23) Gráinne Egan
C. Ní Aogáin
Shinrone
- (24) Arlene Watkins
A. Watkins (Capt.)
Birr
- (25) Jean Brady
S. Ní Bhrádaigh
St. Sinchill's
- (26) Christine Cleary
C. Ní Chléirigh
Shinrone
- (27) Eimear Mooney
E. Ní Mhaonaigh
Birr

(1)
Eleanor Clendennen
E. Clendennen
Kinnitty

(2)
Fiona Stephens
F. Ní Stiofáin (Vice-Capt.)
Drumcullen

(3)
Triona McDonald
T. Ní Dónaill
Kilcormac/Killoughey

(4)
Marion Crean
M. Ní Chroideáin
Shinrone

(5)
Linda Sullivan
L. Ní Shuilleabháin
St. Rynagh's

(6)
Michaela Morkan
M. Ní Mhurcháin
Shinrone

(7)
Sheila Sullivan
S. Ní Shuilleabháin
Birr

(8)
Aoife Kelly
A. Ní Cheallaigh
Lusmagh

(9)
Siobhán Flannery
S. Ní Fhlannabhra
St. Rynagh's

(10)
Ann Marie Guinan
A. M. Ní Choinneáin
Drumcullen

(11)
Lorraine Keena
L. Keena
Kilcormac/Killoughey

(12)
Debbie Flynn
D. Ní Fhlóinn
Kilcormac/Killoughey

(13)
Rachel Brennan
R. Ní Bhraonáin
St. Cillian's

(14)
Elaine Dermody
E. Ní Dhiarmada
Drumcullen

(15)
Tina Hannon
T. Ní hAnnáin
Naomh Bríd

MANAGEMENT:
Aidan Franks, Donal Franks, Paul Ryan

Loch Garman

Dathanna: Corcora agus Ór



(1)
Mags D'Arcy
M. Ní Dhorchai
Na Fionna

(2)
Ciara Donohoe
C. Ní Dhonnchú
St. Ibars/Shelmaliar

(5)
Shauna Sinnott
S. Sionóid
Oulart/The Ballagh

(8)
Kate Kelly
C. Ní Cheallaigh
St. Ibars/Shelmaliar

(10)
Josie Dwyer
S. Ní Dhubhuir
Ferns St. Aidan's

(13)
Eimear O'Connor
E. Ní Chonchúir
Rathnure

(3)
Noeleen Lambert
N. Laimbeart
St. Martin's

(6)
Katrina Parrock
C. Ní Pharóg
St. Ibars/Shelmaliar

(9)
Shelly Kehoe
S. Ní Eochaidh
Oulart/The Ballagh

(11)
Brid Gordon
B. Ní Mhuirneacháin
Blackwater

(14)
Fiona Kavanagh
F. Caomhánach
Buncloody

(4)
Karen Atkinson
C. Ní Aidicín
Oulart/The Ballagh

(7)
Bridget Curran
B. Ní Chorráin
St. Ibars/Shelmaliar

(12)
Stacey Kehoe
S. Ní Eochaidh
Oulart/The Ballagh

(15)
Ursula Jacob
U. Iácób
Oulart/The Ballagh

- (16) Helena Jacob
A. Iácób
Oulart/The Ballagh
- (17) Frances Doran
P. Ní Dheoráin
Buffers Alley
- (18) Susie McGovern
S. Ní Shamhráin
Glynn/Barntown
- (19) Louise O'Leary
L. Uí Laoire
Rathnure
- (20) Louise Hammell
L. Ní hAmail
Buffers Alley
- (21) Stacey Redmond
S. Ní Réamonn
Oulart/The Ballagh
- (22) Aine Lacey
A. Ní Laitheasa
St. Ibars/Shelmaliar
- (23) Claire O'Rourke
C. Ní Ruairc
Kilrush
- (24) Nicola Byrne
N. Ní Bhroin
Rathnure
- (25) Siobhán O'Regan
S. Ní Riagáin
Glynn/Barntown
- (26) Siobhán Doyle
S. Ní Dhúghaill
Gorey Naomh Eanna
- (27) Anna Whitty
A. de Fuite
Craanford/Monaseed
- (28) Mary Cummin
M. Ní Chóimín
Horewood
- (29) Victoria Burke
V. de Búrca
Buffers Alley
- (30) Fiona Rochford
F. de Rosfort
St. Anne's

MANAGER: J.J. Doyle TRAINER: Gerry McQuaid
SELECTORS: Tommy Roche, Geraldine Murphy, Joe Brennan
PHYSIO: Paul Harrington FIRST AID: Bridget Moran



Gaillimh

Dathanna: Marún agus Bán

- (16) Eva Concannon
E. Ní Choncheanainn
Castlegar
- (17) Sinéad Cahalan
S. Ní Chathaláin
Mullogh
- (18) Clodagh McGrath
C. Ní Craith
Sarsfields
- (19) Lorraine Farrell
L. Ní Fheareil
Davitts
- (20) Ann Marie Starr
A. M. Starr
Killimor
- (21) Gina Glynn
G. Ní Ghloinn
Athenry
- (22) Noreen Coen
N. Ní Chadhain
Athenry
- (23) Orla Kilkenny
O. Ní Giolla Chainnigh
Pearses
- (24) Maria Breheny
M. Ní an
Bhreithiúnaigh
Davitts
- (25) Rebecca Hennelly
R. Ní hIonuille
Ardrahan
- (26) Orlaith McGrath
O. Ní Craith
Sarsfields
- (27) Tara Kenny
T. Ní Chionaoith
Sarsfields
- (28) Aoife Donoghue
A. Ní Dhonnchú
Mullogh
- (29) Collette Gill
C. Ní an Ghail
Kinvara
- (30) Sinéad Keane
S. Ní Chathain
Kinvara

(1) Susan Earner S. Ní Shaolaigh Eyrecourt		
(2) Siobhán Coen S. Ní Chadhain Bollinderreen	(3) Sarah Dervan S. Ní Dhoirbheáin Mullogh	(4) Heather Cooney H. Ní Chuana St. Thomas
(5) Therese Manton T. Ní Mhantáin Mullogh	(6) Therese Maher T. Ní Mheachair Athenry	(7) Lorraine Ryan L. Ní Riain (Capt.) Kiltullagh/Killimordaly
(8) Niamh Kilkenny N. Ní Giolla Chainnigh Pearses		(9) Molly Dunne M. Ní Dhoinn Eyrecourt
(10) Emer Haverty E. Ní hAbhartáigh Killimor	(11) Niamh McGrath N. Ní Craith Sarsfields	(12) Emma Kilkelly E. Ní Giolla Cheallaigh Kinvara
(13) Brenda Hanney B. Ní hAnnaigh Killimor	(14) Ann Marie Hayes A. M. Ní hAodha Killimor	(15) Ailish O'Reilly A. Ní Raghallaigh Oranmore/Marree

MANAGER: Tony Ward

SELECTORS: Liam Hodgins, Declan Walsh, Orla Watson

FITNESS COACH: Seanie Crowe PHYSIO: Louise Larkin

Tiobraid Árann

Dathanna: Gorm agus Or



(1) Rita Burke R. de Búrca Shannon Rovers		
(2) Teresa Ryan T. Ní Riain Borrisoleigh	(3) Julie Kirwin S. Ní Chiarubháin Moneygall	(4) Sabrina Larkin S. Ní Lorcáin Shannon Rovers
(5) Gemma Grace G. de Grás (Capt.) Burgess/Duharra	(6) Cait Devane C. Ní Dhubháin Clonoulty/Rossmore	(7) Julieanne Bourke S. de Búrca Toomevara
(8) Jill Horan S. Ní hÓráin Cashel	(9) Mairéad Teehan M. Ní Théacháin Moneygall	
(10) Sarah Fryday S. Fryday Clonoulty/Rossmore	(11) Clare Kennedy C. Ní Chinnéide Kilruane MacDonaghs	(12) Noreen Flanagan N. Ní Fhlannagáin Hollycross
(13) Amy Kennedy A. Ní Chinnéide Burgess/Duharra	(14) Tara Kennedy T. Ní Chinnéide Burgess/Duharra	(15) Nicole Walshe N. Breatnach Borrisoleigh

MANAGER: Conor Ryan COACH/SELECTOR: Geraldine Kinnane

TRAINER/SELECTOR: Darrel Tucker SELECTOR: Maureen Connolly

PHYSIO: Fiona Connolly FIRST AID: Noreen Kelly-Ryan

- (16) Orla McEniry
O. Ní Innéiri
Cahir
- (17) Brid Quinn
B. Ní Choinne
Silvermines
- (18) Siobhán McGrath
S. Ní Craith
Drom & Inch
- (19) Cora Hennessy
C. Ní hAonasa
Clonoulty/Rossmore
- (20) Eirena Fryday
E. Fryday
Knockavilla
- (21) Cinnait Walshe
C. Breatnach
Eire Og Annacarty
- (22) Louise McLoughlin
L. Ní Lochlainn
Silvermines
- (23) Caoimhe Kennedy
C. Ní Chinnéide
Lorraha
- (24) Aoife McGrath
A. Ní Craith
Drom & Inch
- (25) Michaela Graham
M. Ní Chréacháin
Maycarkey Borris
- (26) Caoimhe Maher
C. Ní Mheachair
Burgess/Duharra

CAMOGIE

ALL-Ireland Championships
Senior quarter-finals: Galway 2-19 Tipperary 0-9, Offaly 1-10 Wexford 1-11; Premier Junior: Kildare 2-0 Antrim 0-0; Junior B: Wicklow 2-0 Monaghan 0-0; U16A final: Galway 2-8 Tipperary 0-6; All-Ireland Poc Fada Championship, Cooley Mountains, Co. Louth
Senior: 1 P. Wickman 27 pucks 7 yards, 2 G. Daly 28-17 12, 3 M. McMahon 30-33, 4 G. McDonnell 31-15, 5 N. Mackin 33-54, 6 D. Coffey 33-21, 7 B. Mone 35-18.

Jacob strikes to keep Wexford title hopes alive

By Daragh Ó Conchúir
Camogie

Wexford kept alive their four-in-a-row hopes with a gritty 1-11 to 1-10 All-Ireland senior camogie quarter-final victory over Offaly at Portlaoise on Saturday.

They will now play old rivals Galway, who had a much easier time in recording a 2-19 to 0-9 victory over Tipperary.

With no seeding for the semi-final draw, Cork and Kilkenny were pitted against each other despite both sides progressing directly to the penultimate round, by virtue of their 100% runs through the group stages.

Wexford got off to a brilliant start with Stacey Kehoe's 14th minute goal moving JJ Doyle's outfit 1-4 to 0-1 clear, but Offaly showed their determination in response. Three points from Elaine Dermody, along with two from Tina Hannon reduced the gap to 1-5 to 0-6 at the interval.

It was nip and tuck throughout the second half, but when Michaela Morkan goaled in the 42nd minute, Offaly hit the front and a shock looked on the cards. Ursula Jacob equalised but Dermody restored the Faithful's advantage entering the home stretch.

With Kate Kelly inspirational at midfield, Wexford found the wherewithal to prevail. Kelly brought the sides level before Jacob slotted her seventh point to snatch it.

In the second contest, Tipperary were smarter off the mark and led three times inside the opening eight minutes thanks to Nicole Walsh (twice) and Noreen Flanagan.

Galway gradually imposed themselves with three points from Niamh McGrath and a goal on the half-hour by player of the match, Ailish O'Reilly



Wexford's Bridget Curran consoles Offaly's Lorraine Keena after the Liberty Insurance All-Ireland Senior Camogie Championship quarter-final. Picture: Caroline Quinn

by giving the westerners a 1-11 to 0-5 half-time advantage.

McGrath and Molly Dunne added points at the change of ends and when O'Reilly blasted to the Tipperary net for her second goal, it was game over.

The first game of the triple header at O'Moore Park saw Tipperary overcome Galway in a thrilling All-Ireland U16 final, 4-6 to 2-8 the final scoreline.

Niamh Treacy was the star of the show contributing 3-2 to

her side's tally. Such was the fare on offer that the teams received a standing ovation as they retreated to the dressing room at half-time, by which stage Tipperary led marginally by 3-2 to 2-4.

Treacy had two goals inside 11 minutes but a sensational goal by Ciara Murphy while on her knees helped Galway claw back into contention.

A brace of points from Murphy, added to scores by Ciara Burke and Catherine Finnerly, gave Galway the whip

hand, but Treacy's third major levelled matters with four minutes remaining.

And further late scores by Treacy (2), as well as Sinéad Buckley and Ciara Maher sealed the match for them.

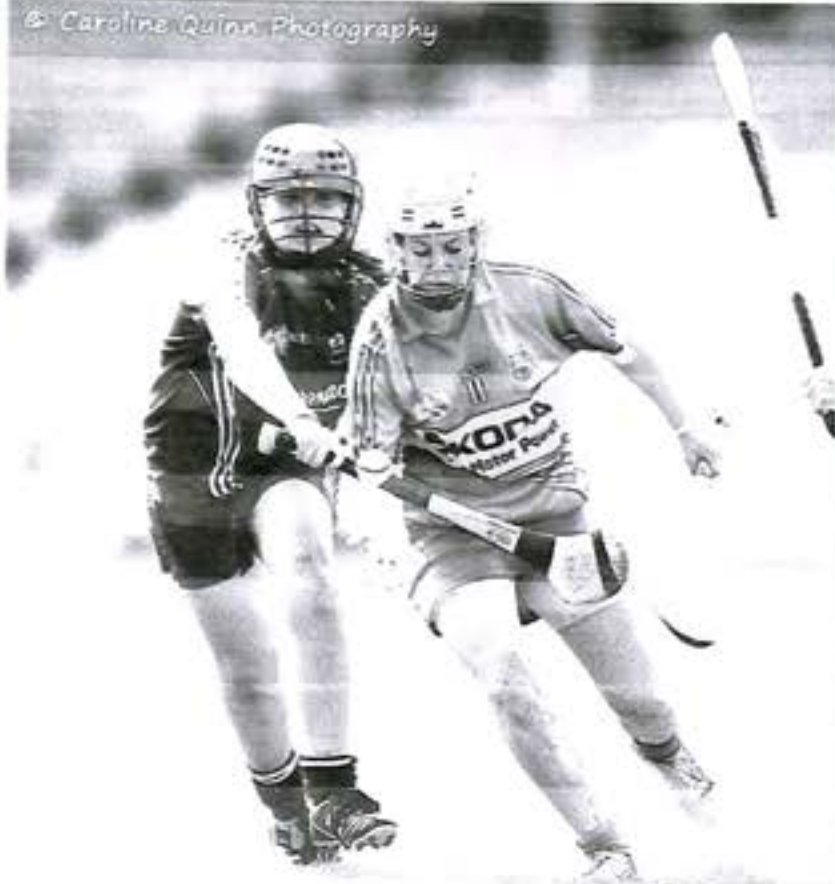
Meanwhile, Waterford star Trish Jackman claimed the M. Donnelly All-Ireland Poc Fada title for a fifth consecutive year on the Cooley Mountains by just one shot.

Jackman was pushed all the way by Galway's Catriona Daly who had 28 shots.

Treacy treble propels Tipp to U16 glory

By Camogie Press
Posted 04/08/2013

© Caroline Quinn Photography



Tipperary 4-6
Galway 2-8

Tipperary may have fallen to Galway in the senior game but the first encounter in O'Moore Park saw the blue and gold come out on top in a thrilling All-Ireland U16A final writes Daragh Ó Conchúir.

Niamh Treacy was the star of the show contributing 3-2 to her side's tally. Such was the fare on offer that the teams received a standing ovation as they left the field at half time, and were given another resounding cheer when returning to the pitch for the start of the second period.

The Munster champions dominated the opening half and led by 2-2 to 0-2 after 11 minutes. Treacy rubbed two goals and Tipp could have had more as Galway struggled to get to grips with their opponents all over the field.

Kelly Lenihan and Róisín Cahill picked up points, with the latter's effort a goal-bound shot that was flicked over by Galway goalkeeper, Tara Murphy. Dorthia Higgins began to exert influence for the westerners though and Erica Coen and Taragh Moloney shared four points evenly.

The half finished with three goals and with Cara Murphy finding the net either side of Sínead Buckley's clinical strike, the title was very much up for grabs at half time, with Tipperary's lead reduced to 3-2 to 2-4.

Murphy's second goal could be in the running for goal of the season as the Clarinbridge starlet did well to win possession but looked in trouble as she fell to the ground under pressure. Undeterred, the full-forward turned on her left-hand side and from her knees, shot a sensational goal. Galway had the wind in their sails now and despite facing into the wind hit the front with four points from the magnificent Murphy (two), Cara Burke and Catherine Finnerty.

It was looking good for Lorraine Larkin's outfit but that was to reckon without Treacy, who completed her hat-trick from close range after Sínead Maher's shot had been saved by Tara Murphy.

Remarkably, Tipperary had only scored twice in 45 minutes and six times in 56 minutes but they were still level with four minutes remaining.

Significantly, the Premier's finest turned the screw with the finishing line in sight. Two frees from Treacy and points from Buckley and Catha Maher finally broke the opposition resistance and gave Tipp their second title in three seasons, while consigning Galway to their second loss in succession.

SCORES - TIPPERARY: N Treacy 3-2(0-2fs); S Buckley 1-1; K Lenihan, R Cahill, C Maher 0-1 each

GALWAY: C Murphy 2-2; E Coen, T Moloney (fs) 0-2 each; C Burke, C Finnerty 0-1 each

TIPPERARY: C Bourke, K Fox, R Maher, K Cashman, C Casey, L O'Dwyer, E Loughman, C Maher, C Ryan, R Howard, S Buckley, R Cahill, K Lenihan, N Treacy, G O'Brien. Subs: S Maher for O'Brien (37); C Mullane for O'Dwyer (46); M Campion for Cahill (56)

GALWAY: T Murphy, A Dooney, N Murphy, L Ward, D Higgins, E Helebert, S Keaveney, C Finnerty, C Burke, P Manning, S Minihan, T Moloney, E Coen, C Murphy, M Burke. Subs: C Walsh for M Burke (35); K Dowd for Minihan (58)

REFEREE: A Lague (Kildare)

Aug. 2013

Mills in final five

DUBLIN CITY COUNCIL TO MAKE DECISION IN AUTUMN

DUBLIN City Council has announced the final five proposed names for the new bridge over the River Liffey near Marlborough Street. The Council's Commemorative Naming Committee had the difficult task of reducing the previous shortlist of 10 names to five.

Kay Mills, former Dublin Camogie Star and the holder of 15 All-Ireland medals, has made the short list, along with Rosie Hackett, Willie Bermingham, Frank Duff and Bram Stoker. The five nominations will be put before a full meeting of the Elected Members of Dublin City Council in the autumn for a final decision on the naming of the bridge.

The Camogie Association and Dublin Camogie Board have been campaigning to have the new bridge over the river Liffey named in honour of Mills who won fifteen senior All-Ireland medals. Kay Mills is the only Gaelic games team player to hold such an honour, eclipsing hurling legends such as Christy Ring, John Doyle and Henry Shefflin. Kay began her playing career with Dublin at the age of 14, winning her first All-Ireland medal in 1942 and her last in 1961. She captained the side in 1959.

She was a player noted for her athleticism, fantastic skill level and was a superb ambassador for camogie. In addition to her All-Ireland medals, she won twenty Leinster Championships, 6 Dublin senior County Championships and 4 Inter-provincial medals.

For further information regarding the above campaign please contact directly the following: Liz Howard: Phone: (087) 223 1460, Email: Liz.howard.camogie@gaa.ie and Phyllis Breslin: Phone: (086) 826 3822, Email: Phyllisbreslin2508@gmail.com.

The new bridge, under the auspices of Dublin City Council, is being built downstream of O'Connell Bridge and will provide a north/south link from Abbey Street onto Pearse Street. The cost of the bridge is being covered by the National Transport Authority through funding provided by the Department of Transport, Tourism and Sport.

Follow the Kay Mills campaign on Facebook at www.facebook.com/kaymillsforthebridge

Kay Mills

Ash Clough
1941 - 1961



She was an automatic choice on the Camogie Team of the Century chosen in 2004 and was inducted into the Cuchulainn Hall of Fame. She was also an accomplished soccer player, gymnast and table tennis player.

Her medal collection is currently on display in the GAA Museum Croke Park while in 2011 a plaque was unveiled at her place of residence, 1 Abercorn



Kay Mills (left) holds the O'Duffy Cup while Betty Hughes is congratulated after the game.

Terrace, following a joint initiative of the Inchicore/Kilmainham Heritage Committee, Dublin City Council and the Camogie Association.

The Camogie Association and Dublin Camogie Board, with the permission of George Hill, husband of the late Kay, request all involved in camogie to support the proposal to name the new bridge in her honour, an appropriate tribute to this iconic Dublin sports woman.

Galway Under 14 Camogie Team National Champions 2013



Back row, left to right: Sarah Healy, Leanne Helebert, Grace Cahill, Ava Lynskey, Clara Helebert, Tiffney Ni Cholstella, Elizabeth Burke, Marie Farrell. Front row: Emer Keane, Sarah Kearney, Tara Naughton, Grace Finnerty, Carrie Dolan, Elaine Kennedy, Leighanne Cormican, Tara Bermingham, Rebecca Dolan.

Treacy drives Tipp to great victory

SPORT TIPPERARYSTAR.IE
www.tipperarystar.ie

Tipperary 4-6
Galway 2-8

Tipperary's u-16 camogie girls are this week the toast of the county after they claimed victory over Galway in the All-Ireland Final at O'Moore Park, Portlaoise on Saturday afternoon in what was a thrilling game.

A superb victory for the Tipp girls gives much cause for optimism for the future and the win represents a big step forward for the county with the hope that the fortunes of the blue and gold can turn in the coming seasons.

Undoubtedly, Niamh Treacy was the star of the show contributing 3-2 to her side's tally. Such was the fare on offer that the teams received a standing ovation as they left the field at half time, and were given another resounding cheer when returning to the pitch for the start of the second period. But, the cheers at the end of this pulsating clash were to be for Tipperary who claimed the honours much to the delight of the sizeable supporting cohort who have followed their exploits through

thick and thin.

The Munster champions dominated the opening half and led by 2-2 to 0-2 after 11 minutes. Treacy nabbed two goals and Tipp could have had more as Galway struggled to get to grips with their opponents all over the field. Tipp's play was crisp and incisive and it was quite obvious that they had a well rehearsed game plan and were sticking to it.

Kelly Lenihan and Róisín Cahill picked up points, with the latter's effort a goal-bound shot that was flicked over by Galway goalkeeper, Tara Murphy. Derbhla Higgins began to exert influence for the westerners though and Erica Coen and Taragh Moloney shared four points evenly.

The half finished with three goals and with Ciara Murphy finding the net either side of Sinéad Buckley's clinical strike, the title was very much up for grabs at half time, with Tipperary's lead reduced to 3-2 to 2-4.

Murphy's second goal could be in the running for goal of the season as the Clarinbridge starlet did well to win possession but looked in trouble as she fell to the ground under pressure. Undeterred, the full-forward turned on her left-hand side and from her knees, shot a sensational goal

which was simply unstoppable and helped boost her sides hopes and ambitions considerably.

Galway had the wind in their sails now and despite facing into the wind hit the front with four points from the magnificent Murphy (two), Ciara Burke and Catherine Finnerty.

It was looking good for Lorraine Larkin's outfit but that was to reckon without Treacy, who completed her hat-trick from close range after Sinéad Maher's shot had been saved by Tara Murphy.

Remarkably, Tipperary had only scored twice in 45 minutes and six times in 56 minutes but they were still level with four minutes remaining.

Significantly, the Premier's finest turned the screw with the finishing line in sight. Two frees from Treacy and points from Buckley and Ciardha Maher finally broke the opposition resistance and gave Tipp their second title in three seasons, while consigning Galway to their second loss in succession.

This was a superb win for Tipperary and tremendous credit is due to all the squad and to the management team of Brian Boyle, Mary Howard, Ailish Maher and Frances O'Brien. Niamh Treacy was



Action from the All-Ireland U-16 camogie final in Portlaoise on Saturday with Tipp's Ciardha Maher in control.

the deserving Player of the Tournament but the important aspect from a Tipp perspective was that Róisín Howard accepted the silverware for the Premier County.

SCORERS - TIPPERARY: N Treacy 3-2 (0-2fs); S Buckley 1-1; K Lenihan, R Cahill, C Maher 0-1 each

GALWAY: C Murphy 2-2; E Coen, T Moloney (fs) 0-2 each; C Burke, C Finnerty 0-1 each

TIPPERARY: C Bourke; K Fox, R Maher, K Cashman; C Casey, L O'Dwyer, E Lough-

man; C Maher, C Ryan; R Howard, S Buckley, R Cahill; K Lenihan, N Treacy, G O'Brien. Subs: S Maher for O'Brien (37); C Mullane for O'Dwyer inj (46); M Campion for Cahill (56)

GALWAY: T Murphy; A Downey, N Murphy, L Ward; D Higgins, E Helebert, S Keaveney; C Finnerty, C Burke; P Manning, S Minihan, T Moloney; E Coen, C Murphy, M Burke. Subs: C Walsh for M Burke (35); K Dowd for Minihan (58)

REF: A Lagrue (Kildare)

Comment

This was a superb victory for the Tipperary U-16 girls who never lost heart and kept going until the final whistle.

Even after losing centre back Lorna O'Dwyer to injury, they kept plugging away and the victory is seen as being hugely important for the continued development of camogie at underage in The Premier County. Developing new blood is surely the way forward.

Seniors

Tipp seniors fall to far more experienced Galway outfit

Galway 2-19
Tipperary 0-9

Tipperary's senior campaign in the All-Ireland camogie championship ended in O'Moore Park, Portlaoise on Saturday afternoon last when they came a cropper against a far better Galway outfit whose vast experience was quite evident.

The Premier County has seen a few lean years in the senior grade in recent times, but it is very evident that the side is in transition and a lot of good work is being done to help bring new blood into the set-up and to link them up with the established players. But, it is difficult to achieve success when pitted against teams of

the quality of Galway and the Tribeswomen showed their class throughout the game, even though Tipperary gave as good as they got for long periods.

A lively Tipperary began in springy fashion and gave Galway plenty to think about with Julie Kirwin and Cáit Devane providing a good foundation for them in the heart of the defence. Conor Ryan's ladies led three times inside the opening eight minutes thanks to Nicole Walsh (twice) and Noreen Flanagan who was operating at centre forward. Galway though had the experience to keep with their opponents thanks to Niamh Kilkenny, Emma Kilkelly and Ann Marie Hayes. And, as the game wore onwards they gradually began to make their

mark and impose themselves on proceedings. Three points from Niamh McGrath and a goal on the half-hour by player of the match, corner forward Ailish O'Reilly, after good work along the right flank by wing forward Emer Haverty and corner forward Brenda Hanney, gave the westerners a 1-11 to 0-5 half-time lead - a lead which perhaps flattered them considering that Tipperary, despite their youthfulness and inexperience were providing stiff enough opposition to Tony Wards charges. Tipp had the wind in second half and the hope was that they could get a few early scores on the board to help give them some heart and appetite for the chase. Indeed, they came out positively with scores from Nicole Walsh

(free) and Sarah Fryday. However, Galway, perhaps sensing that Tipp might be ready to mount a charge saw Niamh McGrath and Molly Dunne reply with scores, with Therese Maher, Lorraine Ryan and Brenda Hanney showing extremely well at this juncture.

O'Reilly, who is in her first season of senior camogie, finished the game with a cracking 43rd minute goal after the very impressive Hanney was involved once more and it was Dunne who offloaded to O'Reilly. The young Oranmore/Maree sharpshooter rocketed a shot to the roof of the net to extend the margin to 12 points.

It was a stroll from there for Tony Ward's outfit. All six of their starting forwards

scored, while Maria Brehony and Noreen Coen came off the bench to grab points as well and put the Tribeswomen in good heart for the latest instalment of their rivalry with Wexford.

For Tipperary, defeat of course was a bitter pill to swallow. However, with such a youthful side, the experience will certainly do the Premier ladies good and they can use the experience to further their camogie education and move forward. Conor Ryan, Geraldine Kinnane, Darrel Tucker and Maureen Connolly have much to build on and they will be hoping that the 2013 season, although it ended in disappointment in O'Moore Park can help point the way towards better days ahead for Tipp camogie.

Tipperary: R Burke, T Ryan, J Kirwin, S Larkin, G Grace, C Devane, J Bourke, C Maher, M Teehan, S Fryday, N Flanagan, N Walshe, J Horan, N Walshe.

Subs used: A Kennedy, C Hennessy, M Graham, B Quinn

Comment

Glory days for the Tipperary senior camogie team are a distant memory at this stage in terms of All-Ireland success. However, the county is building from the bottom up and while Saturday's defeat at the hands of Galway is a disappointing setback, there will be better days ahead for the squad if they can stay together and continue to make progress. It'll be a long road though.

Aug. 2013

Gallant Galway U-16s just come up short in final thriller

Tipperary 4-6
Galway 2-8

DARREN KELLY
IN PORTLAOISE

IN an exciting and compelling contest, Galway came up short in the All-Ireland under 16 camogie final as four critical goals plus four late points secured the honours for Tipperary.

This game had so many twists that spectators in O'Moore Park, Portlaoise were hooked from the start and they expressed their appreciation at half-time with a standing ovation.

After a disastrous start going 2-2 to 0-2 behind in the first 11 minutes, the Tribesgirls played their part in an epic battle and were back in contention after Ciara Murphy's outstanding goal before half-time.

Galway weren't helped by some odd decision making from the referee, most notably when a hold-up in play during the second quarter for a Tipperary injury resulted in a throw-in when the maroon and white should have had an indirect free. But the concession of two further goals against the run of play ultimately cost Galway this tie.

Tipperary's quick forwards proved problematic for the Tribesgirls at the start. Despite Erica Coen opening Galway's



The Galway U-16 camogie team which was defeated by Tipperary in the All-Ireland final at O'Moore Park, Portlaoise last Saturday. Back row, left to right: Cathal O'Brien, mentor, Lorraine Larkin Manager, Sorika NI Frighil, Tara Murphy, Taragh Maloney, Cliona Walsh, Karen Dowd, Nicole Duggan, Sarah Keavney, Christina Hanley, Aisling Connolly, Laura Ward, Niamh Murphy, Gerry Dolan, mentor, Gerry Helebert, mentor. Middle row: Sinead Minihan, Clara Burke, Orla Murphy, Michelle Jennings, Nicola Kelly, Ciara Murphy, Patricia Manning, Roisin Black, Aisling Downey, Mairead Burke, Erica Coen, Amy Kelly. Front row: Sorika NI Bhreannaine, Elle Doherty, Catherine Finnerty, Rachel Quinn, Dervla Higgins, Capt, Rachel Mannion, Rachel O'Brien, Eva Gilmore.

account, Keely Lenihan replied immediately but the Munster's side onslaught could have settled this contest very early.

Niamh Treacy struck their first goal on four minutes and she got a second seven minutes later after being set up by Ciardha Maher. Roisin Cahill could have added a third only

for a Tara Murphy's quality stop in the ninth minute that deflected over the bar, but it would be the second quarter before Galway got to grips with this final.

Taragh Maloney pointed her first free in the seventh minute and added another while Coen also doubled her tally, but with Derbhla Higgins, Emma Hele-

bert and Laura Ward now winning the key exchanges, Galway worked their way back into contention.

They had their own goal opportunities with Ciara Murphy and Mairead Burke coming close, but finally finished off a major in the 25th minute when Murphy found the net. She scored a second in injury

time, a goal of the season contender, when after appearing fouled by Rachel Maher, no whistle sounded but the Clarinbridge full-forward on her knees sent a fierce effort to the back of the net.

However, Sinead Buckley was allowed create space out of nothing the other end two minutes beforehand to get Tip-

perary's third goal and the Premier County went in 3-2 to 2-4 ahead at half-time.

It was the green flags that cost Galway as after a bright beginning to the restart with two Murphy points, Roisin Maher set up Sinead Maher for a shot on 38 minutes resulting in Treacy knocking the rebound past Tara Murphy for

her hat-trick. Despite Ciara Burke and Catherine Finnerty restoring parity, Galway's efforts only left it 2-8 to 4-2 with the contest approaching the closing stages.

Since the 11th minute, Galway were proving to be the superior outfit but the concession of goals were keeping Tipperary involved and suddenly

they found their range in the final four minutes.

Treacy assumed the free taking duties and added two placed balls before Buckley and Maher put distance between the teams. Galway had put in a resilient effort but these late minors proved one step too much and the Tribesgirls left a second successive decider without silverware to show.

Ward, Higgins and Helebert enjoyed good periods in defence as did Maloney and Coen in attack. Burke had a good second half while Ciara Murphy's contributions throughout the campaign mark her out for the future. Winning teams may be only remembered in the record books, but lessons learned here could prove more fruitful. This Galway team has a bright future but this day belonged to Tipperary.

Galway: T. Murphy, A. Downey, N. Murphy, L. Ward, D. Higgins, E. Helebert, S. Keavney, C. Finnerty (0-1), C. Burke (0-1), P. Manning, S. Minihan, T. Maloney (0-2, both frees), E. Coen (0-2), C. Murphy (2-2), M. Burke. Subs used: C. Walsh for Burke (35 mins), K. Dowd for Minihan (58 mins).

Tipperary: C. Bourke, K. Fox, R. Maher, K. Cashman, C. Casey, L. O'Dwyer, E. Loughmar, C. Maher (0-1), C. Ryan, R. Howard, S. Buckley (1-1), R. Cahill (0-1), K. Lenihan (0-1), N. Treacy (3-2, two frees), G. O'Brien. Subs used: S. Maher for O'Brien (37 mins), C. Mulaney for O'Dwyer (43 mins), M. Campbell for Cahill (56 mins).

Referee: A. Lagnev (Kildare).

Attacker O'Reilly does the damage in big Galway win

Tribeswomen set up date with champions Wexford after proving too strong for a youthful Tipperary

Galway 2-19
Tipperary 0-9

DARREN KELLY
IN PORTLAOISE

WITH the minimum of fuss, the Galway senior camogie team produced a professional performance last Saturday to dispose of Tipperary in this All-Ireland quarter-final meeting to secure their place in the final four.

Tony Ward's charges were expecting a tougher challenge but still produced a professional performance. All six starting forwards scored from play along with their two midfielders, while substitutes Maria Breheny and Noreen Coen also contributed as they set up an encounter with defending All-Ireland champions Wexford.

Ailish O'Reilly was the star with 2-2 while Therese Maher, Lorraine Ryan and Sarah Dervan ensured the Tipperary forwards got little change despite a good start, but they will be under no illusion that success won't come as easy when they face the Slaneysiders.

After a poor opening joust with Kilkenny, Galway are back on target and their next outing could well define their season. Away wins against Wexford and Clare were followed with substantial margins over Derry and Tipperary but it's what happens from here that will determine where Galway are at. The attack is gelling as a unit and midfielders Niamh Kilkenny and Molly Dunne also played their part.

The right flank of the defence is still unsettled and Ward's decision on who fills two and five on August 17 will be important but after their opening round setback, they are now in the position to prepare another major tilt at national honours.

Tipperary scraped through to this stage on the back of one win over Dublin but their young players started well and led three times in the first eight minutes. Nicole Walsh pointed after just 22 seconds and she



Galway's Ailish O'Reilly is presented with the Player of the Match award by Annette Ni Dhathlaol, Head of Marketing at Liberty Insurance, after their victory over Tipperary.



Galway's Heather Cooney comes under pressure from Tipperary's Amy Kennedy.

added a free with Noreen Flanagan also splitting the posts, but each time Kilkenny, Emma Kilkenny and Ann Marie Hayes responded. Emer Haverly gave Galway the lead on nine minutes and when Niamh McGrath registered her first free 60 seconds later, the maroon and white never relinquished their advantage.

Galway stretched to nine points (1-11 to 0-5) by the break with McGrath adding three and Brenda Hanney pointing but it was O'Reilly

making the biggest impression. Being her first season, her form has improved game-to-game but this time she tallied on the scoreboard. Finishing off a sweet move involving Kilkenny and McGrath, she opened her account in the 19th minute and added another before the change of ends before her first senior championship goal came on 30 minutes.

Haverly started the move around the 40 that resulted in Hanney creating the gap and the young Oranmore-Maree

forward struck low past Rita Burke. Early second half points from Walsh and Sarah Fryday gave Tipperary hope but after McGrath and Dunne restored Galway's nine-point lead, the contest was settled on 43 minutes.

Hanney's quick diagonal ball was knocked on by Dunne and O'Reilly cut through before striking to the net. Kilkenny, McGrath (2), Kilkenny, Coen and Breheny concluded the point taking and all eyes turned to the draw that tasked the Tribeswomen with ending Wexford's four-in-a-row aspirations.

Despite making the league final, Wexford's year has been in disarray with many of their winning players unavailable while the managerial upheaval that saw Martin Lynch leave and JJ Doyle return hasn't been smooth. But the seven-time champions are well accustomed to business this end of the season as Galway learned in 2010 and 2011.

Players like inspirational full-back Catherine O'Loughlin have retired; Una Leacy is in Australia while the injury to captain Mary Leacy (her AC Joint) on the Monday before their quarter-final with Offaly doesn't bode well. Wexford were quite fortunate to come through the Faithful County (1-11 to 1-10) thanks to a late free but they are in the semi-finals and their challenge can not be taken lightly.

The question marks now will be about Galway and can they push on and secure their fourth All-Ireland final appearance in six years. Having beating Wexford already, they should be confident but taking back-to-back wins against the South East side has proven troublesome in the past.

That being said, the last time these teams met at this stage, Galway dethroned Wexford in 2008 and while the bookmakers may make them underdogs, they have form on their side. The full panel has been used this year which will give management plenty of options. It's just up to those involved to make the opportunity count.

U-16 camogie semi against Waterford

THE WEXFORD Under-16 camogie team will be playing Waterford on Sunday next in the All-Ireland 'B' championship semi-final in Fraher Field, Dungarvan, at 2 p.m.

Wexford have had impressive wins in all their games so far in the championship and will be looking to get over the final hurdle and go all the way this year.

The management team are leaving no stone unturned in preparing the girls for this game and it is hoped that a large number of supporters will turn out to get behind the team.

These girls exceeded many expectations earlier in the year when they won the Leinster 'A' championship which is played separately to the All-Ireland series with a pulsating victory over Offaly in Mullinavat.

They had also accounted for Dublin and Kilkenny en route, but this is an entirely different proposition as Waterford come into the game with a big reputation and will be hard to beat on their home soil.

On Saturday, Dervan, Ryan and Maher excelled in defence and while all ten scorers made an impact, Kilkenny, Hanney and especially O'Reilly were their top performers.

Galway: S. Eamer; R. Glynn, S. Dervan, H. Cooney; L. Farrell, T. Maher, L. Ryan; N. Kilkenny (0-2, one free), M. Dunne (0-1); E. Haverly (0-1), N. McGrath (0-7, five frees), E. Kilkenny (0-2); B. Hanney (0-1), AM Hayes (0-1), A. O'Reilly (2-2). Subs: T. Manton for Glynn (38 mins), S. Cahalan for Farrell (43 mins), C. McGrath for

Haverly (48 mins), N. Coen (0-1) for Dunne (50 mins), M. Breheny (0-1) for McGrath (52 mins).

Tipperary: R. Burke; T. Ryan, J. Kirwin, S. Larkin; G. Grace, C. Devane, J. Bourke; C. Maher (0-1), M. Teehan; S. Fryday (0-1), N. Flanagan (0-1), J. Horan; A. Kennedy; E. Fryday; N. Walsh (0-5, four

frees). Subs: T. Kennedy for E. Fryday (HT), C. Walshe for Larkin (HT), C. Hennessy for Flanagan (38 mins), M. Graham (0-1) for Teehan (50 mins), B. Quinn for A. Kennedy (58 mins).

Referee: C. Egan (Cork).

Aug. 2013

CAMOGIE ALL-IRELAND SENIOR CHAMPIONSHIP QUARTER-FINAL

PUSHED TO THE LIMITS

ALAN AHERNE

In Portlaoise



WEXFORD
OFFALY

1-11

1-10

WEXFORD'S ALL-IRELAND Senior camogie championship crown teetered precariously in O'Moore Park, Portlaoise, on Saturday last before an injury time pointed free gave them a hard-earned and generally unimpressive victory over an unfortunate Offaly side in this close-fought quarter-final.

The holders may have breezed past the same opponents in the penultimate round last season, but it was a different story this time around as they failed to build on a promising start which saw them lead by 1-4 to 0-1 near the end of the first quarter, allowing the midlanders back into contention as a barren spell of 18 scoreless minutes followed.

Wexford went into this game minus the services of the influential Mary Leacy who damaged her right AC shoulder joint during the week, although on the plus side they did welcome back Katrina Parrock to her customary corner-forward role nine days after the cast on her broken thumb was removed.

Positional switches saw Bridget Curran move to centre-back with Shelley Kehoe dropping back from midfield to the right flank of the defence, while Josie Dwyer returned to her more familiar midfield position and Eimear O'Connor started at right half-forward.

Wexford quickly asserted themselves in the early exchanges, with Kate Kelly firing two frees wide before full-forward Fiona Kavanagh handpassed a point from a golden goal chance in the fifth minute after good build-up play involving Kelly, Katrina Parrock and O'Connor.

A foul on Kavanagh resulted in Ursula Jacob doubling the lead before the free-taker turned provider to set up Brid Gordon for a neat score from a tight angle. It was all plain sailing at this stage, with Jacob tapping over another free after she was fouled to widen the gap to 0-4 to nil after eleven minutes.

Elaine Dermody got Offaly off the mark from a '45 before they shipped a major blow with the concession of a goal which had a touch of good fortune about it. Fiona Kavanagh over-hit a handpass across the goalmouth which was intended for Ursula Jacob, and the ball arrived to Stacey Kehoe whose shot took a clear deflection off a defender en route to the far corner of the net (1-4 to 0-1).

Wexford should have motored on from that position of strength but instead Offaly came storming into the game as the intensity that was required suddenly deserted the champions. Kate Kelly was denied a goal in the 16th minute after latching on to a Katrina Parrock handpass, and the opposition gradually clawed their way back.

Mags D'Arcy had made three good catches in succession from deliveries dropping short in the square, but she conceded a free and earned a booking in the 23rd minute and Elaine Dermody got the show on the road for Offaly. Just over 60 seconds later the Offaly number 14 caught a Mikaela Morkan free and fired over an excellent point, and Tina Hannon then soloed goalwards before picking off the first of her three scores to make it 1-4 to 0-4.

Wexford should have goaled again in the 27th minute when Offaly netminder Eleanor Clendennen didn't control a ground stroke from Kate Kelly and the ball trickled across the square. All it needed was a one-handed flick from Fiona Kavanagh to direct it into the net, but she tried to pick it up and the chance was lost as she was bottled up and a wide ensued.

Katrina Parrock drifted out towards midfield as Wexford attempted to stem the tide, but Offaly were playing the superior camogie at this stage and were rewarded when Tina Hannon won a free which Elaine Dermody converted before adding another point after a quick delivery by Dermody who had moved out to the '40.

Remarkably it had been 18 minutes since that Stacey Kehoe goal when Ursula Jacob finally extended Wexford's tally deep in added time after Fiona Kavanagh was fouled by full-back Triona McDonald in the right corner to leave two between them at the interval (1-5 to 0-6).

The second-half was a tight and tense affair, with the sides level three times and the gap never extending to



■ Brid Gordon celebrating after Wexford booked an All-Ireland semi-final date with Galway.

more than two points. Kate Kelly shot an early wide before an Elaine Dermody pass set up midfielder Siobhán Flannery for a good long-range point.

Katrina Parrock latched on to the break from a throw-in on the '45 to make it 1-6 to 0-7, but Offaly replied quickly as Tina Hannon played a quick line ball to Jean Brady and got the return before splitting the posts.

Lady luck smiled on Wexford in the 36th minute when the play was called back after Elaine Dermody shipped a tackle and played Lorraine Keena through, with the pointed free that followed a scant consolation in comparison to what might have been.

Josie Dwyer moved to right half-back in a swap with Shelley Kehoe before Offaly's Mikaela Morkan was penalised for charging and Ursula Jacob restored the lead. Some controversy followed in the 41st minute when a Katrina Parrock shot was waved wide when it seemed to have struck the woodwork and flew over the bar, but a chop on Brid Gordon led to Jacob stretching the advantage to 1-8 to 0-9.

She was at full-forward at this stage, with Fiona Kavanagh on the right wing and Eimear O'Connor in the left corner, while Aine Lacey replaced Stacey Kehoe on the left flank after 43 minutes.

The absence of Mary Leacy was never felt more keenly than for Offaly's goal moments later when centre-back Morkan soloed straight down the middle without being challenged before exchanging passes with Elaine Dermody and burying the ball in the net.

Wexford were in a serious fight to keep their four-in-a-row hopes alive, and they responded well initially as Ursula Jacob latched on to a Bridget Curran clearance to pick off her sole point from play.

Fiona Rochford came into the attack for Eimear O'Connor before Offaly regained the lead with a pointed Elaine Dermody free in the 48th minute, but this proved to be their last score although they had plenty of chances before their season was brought to an end.

An attempt on goal by Katrina Parrock was well saved prior to two Offaly wides from Siobhán Flannery and a Dermody free from the left corner - costly misses at a time when they looked dangerous.

Kate Kelly's influence grew as the game wore on and the pressure intensified, and her long-range point midway through the last quarter brought the sides level again and left the outcome in the balance.

Both sides missed opportunities, with Tina Hannon dropping an effort short before Ursula Jacob tried to pick off a point but it was saved.

It looked like extra-time might be needed to resolve the issue, but all that changed in the space of a few seconds. The Offaly contingent were adamant that Mikaela Morkan had been fouled as she tried to burst her way out of defence, but she spilled possession and seconds later the referee awarded Brid Gordon a free which Ursula Jacob sent over for the winner 32 seconds into added time.

Offaly still had their chances to equalise, with Mags D'Arcy clearing another effort for a point from Lorraine Keena which dropped short over the sideline before Tina Hannon embarked on a crossfield solo run in a bid to find some space, only to be tracked and blocked by Kate Kelly.

It was far too close for comfort, but the dream remains alive and the reward is a semi-final clash with Galway in Nowlan Park on August 17. This is a remarkable state of affairs as the two table-toppers, Cork and Kilkenny, were pitted together in the open draw for the penultimate round. It seems bizarre that there is no advantage for finishing first in the group, but that is the way of the world in camogie and although Galway prevailed by two points when they met in Wexford Park, the holders have been their bogey team in the knockout games that really mattered in recent campaigns. Having said that, a performance similar to Saturday's wouldn't suffice to reach a fourth final on the trot but nobody should realise that more than the players themselves.

WEXFORD

SCORERS: Ursula Jacob (0-7, 6 frees), Stacey Kehoe (1-0), Fiona Kavanagh, Brid Gordon, Katrina Parrock, Kate Kelly (0-1 each).

1. Mags D'Arcy
2. Ciara Donohoe
3. Noeleen Lambert (capt.)
4. Karen Atkinson
5. Shelley Kehoe
6. Bridget Curran
7. Shauna Sinnott
8. Josie Dwyer
9. Kate Kelly
10. Eimear O'Connor
11. Brid Gordon
12. Stacey Kehoe
13. Katrina Parrock
14. Fiona Kavanagh
15. Ursula Jacob

SUBS: Aine Lacey for Stacey Kehoe (43), Fiona Rochford for O'Connor (47).

OFFALY

SCORERS: Elaine Dermody (0-6, 4 frees, 1 '45), Mikaela Morkan (1-0), Tina Hannon (0-3), Siobhán Flannery (0-1).

1. Eleanor Clendennen
2. Fiona Stephens
3. Triona McDonald
4. Marion Crean
5. Sheila Sullivan
6. Mikaela Morkan
7. Linda Sullivan
8. Aoife Kelly
9. Siobhán Flannery
10. Jean Brady
11. Lorraine Keena
12. Christine Cleary
13. Arlene Watkins (capt.)
14. Elaine Dermody
15. Tina Hannon

SUBS: Ann Marie Guinan for Cleary (53).

REFEREE: John Dolan (Clare).

VENUE: O'Moore Park, Portlaoise.



■ Mags D'Arcy tackles Jean Brady.

Aug. 2013



Galway midfielder Niamh Kilkenry is challenged by Tipperary's Mairead Teehan during the All-Ireland senior camogie quarter-final at O'Moore Park, Portlaoise on Saturday. PHOTOS: CAROLINE QUINN.



Galway half back Lorraine Ryan breaks out of defence against Tipperary in the All-Ireland senior camogie quarter-final.



BLUE SKY THINKING: Limerick hurler Seamus Hickey and Cork camogie star Anna Geary in attendance at the announcement of a new GAA club rewards scheme from Liberty Insurance

Picture: Paul Mohan/Sportsfile

Camogie Under-16 All-Ireland Final



Tipp captain Roisin Howard receives the U16 All-Ireland Cup from Rachel Hogan. P67.



The Tipperary U-16 Camogie panel which defeated Galway in the All-Ireland final at Portlaoise on Saturday afternoon last. See p 67 for report.

CAMOGIE

By MARY NEWMAN

THE Evening Echo Junior A and C championships continued and there were a number of victories.

Watergrasshill proved too strong for Kildorrey at Castle Road as the Hill made it two wins out of three games at the full-time whistle.

In the *Evening Echo* Junior C Championship, Castlyons won both their semi-final berths as they recorded their second victory in their round robin series of game with a win over Blarney with good displays from Aine O'Brien, Shannon O'Sullivan and Maria Daly.

Charleville had their second victory as they overcame Ballinora, whilst Cobh also made it win number two as they defeated St Fannah's, and with Charleville and Cobh both on full points, their meeting in the last game will decide who goes forward to the semi-final stages.

CHAMPIONSHIP WEEK AHEAD

The week ahead is another busy one as round three and four of the various championships continue and we will take a look at the game on offer in the various grades.

SENIOR B

Valley Rovers and Clonakilty meet this afternoon and it promises to be a close encounter between two sides that will be evenly matched.

Clon got their season off to a great start with a victory over Fr O'Neill's but they lost out in their second game to Kilbrittan/Timoleague and with just one game to go against Mallow after this, they will need to secure the points in this clash.

Valley Rovers have really got their season on track and with a lot of players back playing this year they will make a bold bid for the semi-final slot.

They had a good victory over Fr O'Neill's and they will go into this clash in determined fashion with Liz Bugler, Lisa Lynch and Katie Richardson all excellent performers, and they will trouble Clonakilty.

On Monday Éire Óg and Glen Rovers meet at Castle Road. Éire Óg recorded an excellent victory over a tough Aghbullogue side in round one and they will be determined to get one over on their opponents.

Maeve Ellen Desmond, Katie McCarthy, Elaine Scally and Erin Corkery will be to the fore for Éire Óg.

In their clash with Ballygarvan Glen Rovers had to come from behind twice to secure victory. Karen O'Connell, Emma Hennebry, Kaylynn Lee and Sinéad Fahy should be in their lineup but they are without Nicole O'Brien who is out with a leg injury and Aisling Wallace who broke her hand in the first minute of their clash with Ballygarvan.



Gráinne O'Keeffe of Carrigaline attempts to turn away from Anthea O'Brien of Brian Dillon's during their recent Cork County Camogie Intermediate Championship match at Castle Road.

Picture: Howard Crowdy

Rovers and Clon to serve up a cracker

Aghbullogue and Ballygarvan will be seeking their first points in the round robin series as both lost out in round one.

Ballygarvan will look to the experienced Catriona Kelly, Rebecca Murphy, Ellen Martin and Ella Ryan, while Aghbullogue will be hoping to have Ciara Murphy, who missed their last game, back.

INTERMEDIATE

Tonight in Mallow it's a repeat of the Intermediate League final when Newtownshandrum and Brian Dillon's clash in round two of the *Evening Echo* championship.

In a pulsating encounter it took extra time to divide the sides, with Newtown taking the title after a superb game which was a credit to both teams.

This evening we are hoping for another cracking contest between two

evenly matched sides. Newtownshandrum had a good opening round victory over Sarsfields and they will be hoping for a repeat win. Brian Dillon's lost out to Carrigaline in their first game and tonight is a vital game for them.

Newtown will look to captain Val O'Keeffe, Paula O'Connor and Mariah Reidy to lead their challenge. Brian Dillon's will be hoping that Sarah Cotter, Anthea O'Brien, Ruth Brosnan and Orlaith Ni Suilleabhain will lead their challenge to secure a win.

On Tuesday night, Tracton, with a victory to their credit, come to Castle Road for a meeting with a Buttevant side who lost out in round one to Newcestown. Tracton have fine players in Trish Harrington, Julie Ann Kingston, Chloe and Karen O'Sullivan, but Buttevant will work

hard to get a victory in this championship second round clash, and if Dawn O'Keeffe, Sarah Breen, Elmeir Murphy and Emma Madigan play to form they are capable of troubling Tracton.

Wednesday will see Blackrock and Newcestown do battle and this will be a strong test for both sides. Blackrock lost out in their opening game to Tracton by two goals and they will be hoping to re-focus and get their campaign back on track.

Former Wexford player Sandy Carr is an addition, whilst younger players Hayley Ryan, Aileen Nagle, Katelyn Hickey and Aoife MacCurtin are all capable performers.

Newcestown are hugely experienced and showed it against Buttevant. Mairead Crowley, Frances Deasy, Rose Desmond, Fiona Crowley and Suzanne Deasy have back-

Evening Echo Senior County Championship 2013

THE draws were made for the losers' rounds and the quarter-finals of the *Evening Echo* Senior County Championship at Tuesday's County Board meeting and are as follows. On August 23 Courcy Rovers will take on Ballincollig, the following evening, August 24, Cloughduv and Barryroe go head to head, and in the third losers' round game St Finbarr's will meet Ballinhassig with a date to be announced for this clash. The quarter-finals which have been scheduled for Sept 21/22 have thrown up some prospective thrilling clashes. The winner of Cloughduv or Barryroe will meet either Courcy Rovers or Ballincollig; Killeagh will meet the winners of Ballinhassig or St Finbarr's, Douglas have been drawn to meet St Catherine's, with Inniscarra facing holders Milford.

boned the side for several seasons and their experience is hugely important to a side that is working hard to reestablish themselves.

JUNIOR

In the *Evening Echo* Junior A Championship, Sliabh Rua and Douglas meet on Thursday in what should be a close contest. Douglas lost out in round one to Enniskeane whilst it's Sliabh Rua's first game.

Douglas are fielding their second team and are still a strong outfit having won the Junior A league, and they will be hoping to add a championship title to their haul.

Ciana O'Driscoll, Semma Long, Erin Lynch and Máire O'Mahony will be in the Douglas line-up, whilst Sliabh Rua will look to Aisling Whittell, Chelsea Campbell, Cathy O'Mahony and Niamh O'Brien.

In the *Evening Echo* Junior B Championship, Ballincollig host Castlemagner, whilst in the *Evening Echo* Junior C Championship, it's another busy week with Millstreet hosting Carrigtwohill and Sarsfields meeting Rockban.

FIXTURES TODAY

Evening Echo Senior B Championship: Valley Rovers v Clonakilty, Aghchill, 5.15pm.
Evening Echo Intermediate Championship: Brian Dillon's v Newtownshandrum, Mallow, 7.15pm.

MONDAY

Evening Echo Senior B Championship: Éire Óg v Glen Rovers, Castle Road, Camogie Grounds, Blackrock, 7.30pm.

WEDNESDAY

Evening Echo Senior B Championship: Ballygarvan v Aghbullogue, Castle Road Camogie Grounds, Blackrock, 7.30pm.
Evening Echo Junior C Championship: Sarsfields v Rockban, Sarsfields 7.30pm.

THURSDAY

Evening Echo Intermediate Championship: Blackrock v Newcestown, 7.15pm, venue TBC.
Evening Echo Junior A Championship: Sliabh Rua v Douglas, Castle Road Camogie Grounds, Blackrock, 7.15pm; Enniskeane v Inniscarra, 7.15pm, venue TBC.
Evening Echo Junior B Championship: Ballincollig v Castlemagner in Ballincollig 7.15pm.

FRIDAY

Evening Echo Junior C Championship: Charleville v Cobh, Charleville 7.15pm.

Camogie: 1st Semi-Final: Armagh (Upper Creggan) 0-1 Offaly (Banagher) 11-6; 2nd Semi-Final: Galway (Bullaun/New Inn) 5-7 Clare (Derg) 6-5; Play-off: Armagh (Upper Creggan) 3-0 Galway (Bullaun/New Inn) 10-8; Final: Offaly (Banagher) 2-2, Clare (Derg) 4-10.

COMMUNITY GAMES

McGrath clan go extra mile in pursuit of glory

For the McGrath family of New Inn, Galway, it was a weekend quite like no other.

Between Athlone and Semple Stadium, a fair amount of road was travelled, but the bronze medal secured, complimented by Galway's All-Ireland senior camogie semi-final win over Wexford ensured it was all worthwhile.

Not to confuse anyone we will rewind to Friday evening where Bullaun/New Inn squared off against Clare and Munster champions Derg - incorporating the parishes of Scariff, Ogonnelloe and Bodyke - in the U14 camogie semi-final.

Camogie

Siobhán McGrath led the challenge of the Galway outfit, daughter of team manager and two-time All-Ireland senior medal winner Michael 'Hopper' McGrath.

As proceedings approached the death, Siobhán, double marked throughout, had legitimate claims for a close-in free, but the referee waved away the calls of the East Galway side. In the end, Derg advanced by the narrowest of margins, 6-5 to 5-7.

Siobhán skipped the following morning's bronze medal encounter against Armagh's Upper Creggan, forming part of the Bullaun/New Inn quartet that finished second in the heats of the U14 relay later in the afternoon. It proved the correct decision as the girls had plenty to spare in their 10-9 to 3-0 win.

Involvement in the relay however, ensured the young talent couldn't escape to Thurles along with the rest of the family to watch older sister Niamh play her role in Galway's bid to reach the senior camogie decider. The centre-forward tallied two frees as the tribeswomen ran out comfort-

able 1-12 to 0-6 winners.

Returning to Athlone on the Sunday and the quartet scraped into the final, but Siobhán, along with team-mates Arlene Earls, Aisling Kenny, Erica Leslie and Sheena Cannon - the latter two also doubling up in the camogie - were unsuccessful in their medal bid.

Still, a bronze medal and a place in Croker by no means represents a poor weekend's work.

And who provided this tale only Siobhán and Niamh's grandmother Katherine Kilkelly, serving in her 37th year as the Galway county manager at the Community Games.



LINDA MELLERICK

CAMOGIE

THE much-awaited All-Ireland semi-final pairings draw were made in Portlaoise last Saturday.

It's Cork v Kilkenny at 2pm and Wexford v Galway at 4, in Semple Stadium, this day week.

The double-header was due to take place in Nowlan Park, but that is now unplayable after the Bruce Springsteen concert.

Good ole Bruce! that's great news for Cork.

If you asked me beforehand who would I like Cork to draw I would have said Wexford or Galway.

I would have liked to avoid Kilkenny, yet I'm not fearful of them.

There has been a lot of talk about Kilkenny this season primarily because they defeated Wexford in the Leinster final and then, more notably, travelled to Athenry and defeated the hosts 1-10 to 1-8 in their group championship clash.

Both Kilkenny and Cork topped their group and now meet in the semi-final.

I'm wondering if that's the way it should be; you would think that both counties would avoid each other, but the names went into a bowl and the hand was dealt.

Without doubt you have the top four teams in the semi-finals, providing what one would expect to be two top class games.

At this stage one would be tipping Galway to overcome Wexford, and if they don't, with Wexford having won just two group games from four and defeating Offaly last weekend by a single point, then it will say more about the Westerners' than the Slaneysiders.

Despite the excitement surrounding Kilkenny I still feel that it may be a year or so too soon for them, but this will be a humdinger of a game and a tough assignment for Cork.

Cork are physically stronger and a more driven and balanced team than they were 12 months ago and to lose would be extremely disappointing.

We'll go further into the preview of that next week.

Wexford carved out a desperately hard-earned 1-11 to 1-10 victory over Offaly last Saturday.

Offaly are a good team. Under



Cork's Julia White (Douglas) eyes the sliotar as she powers away from Offaly's, Linda Sullivan during their recent All-Ireland Senior Camogie Championship game.

Picture: Larry Cummins

Cork face Kilkenny in semi final

Aidan Frank they have improved significantly since last season.

Yet, you would still be expecting Wexford to comfortably come out on top and a single point victory further depicts a Wexford team just hanging in there.

Offaly gave Cork a good test on July 20th, yet Cork still came out with a nine-point margin victory and that's what you would expect.

Galway had a much easier time recording a 2-19 to 0-9 victory over Tipperary.

Wexford, who were without injured captain Mary Leacy, but could call upon the fit-again Katrina Parrock, got off to a great start and were leading by 1-4 to 0-1 by the 14th minute.

Elaine Dermody converted a 45 for Offaly, but Stacey Kehoe found the net at the other end of the pitch after receiving a pass

from Kavanagh to put six points between the sides.

Rather than wilting, though Offaly upped the tempo impressively and registered five points in-a-row putting this tie back in the melting pot.

It was nip-and-tuck throughout the second half. Offaly were throwing everything at Wexford and a goal from Michaela Morkan in the 42nd minute gave them the lead.

Jacob levelled, but Dermody hit back once more and Aidan Franks' charges were 13 minutes from glory.

Wexford have been finding a way to prevail all-season and did so once again.

Kate Kelly was the inspirational force in the make-or-break group game against Clare, and the experienced midfielder was magnificent once more.

She brought the sides level in the 53rd minute before Jacob

notched up her seventh point from a free to snatch it and deny a dreadfully unlucky Offaly.

Tipperary began well against Galway with Julie Kirwin and Cait Devane providing a good foundation for them.

The Premier County struck three times inside the opening eight minutes thanks to Nicole Walsh (twice) and Noreen Flanagan.

Galway kept with their opponents and gradually began to impose themselves.

Three points from Niamh McGrath and a goal on the half-hour by player of the match Ailish O'Reilly, gave them a 1-11 to 0-5 half-time lead.

Tipp came out positively with scores from Walsh and Sarah Fryday, but McGrath and Molly Dunne replied for Galway.

O'Reilly finished the game with a 43rd minute goal to extend the margin to 12 points.

U16s battle with Dublin for final spot

TODAY

All-Ireland U16B semi-final:

Cork v Dublin, Urlingford, 2pm.

THE U16B team bid for a place in the All-Ireland final this afternoon when they travel to Urlingford to take on Dublin on what is a busy weekend for both counties.

With the senior hurlers of both counties in action on Sunday in Croke Park, the ladies won't want to let the sides down and both will be bidding for their first final at this level. After the disappointment of both counties departing the A Championship at semi-final level, the B teams will be hoping for better luck.

Cork lost out in the provincial final to Waterford but worked hard to get the balance right for championship and recorded a valuable draw against the same opposition in the group series of games, as both counties finished up on level points it took a play-off to decide who topped the group and who were runners-up.

When the need was greatest Cork produced the goods to overcome their provincial neighbours to ensure they finished the round robin series as group winners.

In their other championship clashes, Cork had great victories over Armagh and Westmeath to help book their place in today's semi-final and their backroom team of manager Anthony Nagle, Frances Killeen and Ken Bulman have put in a huge amount of work in the run-up to today's clash and their side are prepared and ready for what Dublin will throw at them.

They are a young and enthusiastic group with

U16B CHAMPIONSHIP
By MARY NEWMAN

some excellent players in defenders Ellen Twomey and Niamh O'Leary, and up front Keelagh Cullinane, Rachel Harty, Aoibhinn Kidney and Keeva McCarthy have all played well through the championship campaign and are all players who have a great future ahead of them.

Cork are minus the services of Rachel Sheehan who is on holidays, whilst Marley Tarnaud is unavailable due to injury.

Dublin came through as runners-up in a group that included Tipperary, Antrim, and Wexford and Down.

They had to give best to a strong Wexford side in what was their only defeat in the round robin series and that came as no surprise given that the Wexford team is the county's first choice 15 and not a second string as is the case of Dublin and Cork.

They have an ability to grab goals with Sophie McCarthy, Michelle Hetherington and Orlaith Murphy their danger women up front, but with players of the calibre of Clodagh Ellis, Niamh McCarney, Emma Quinn, Laura Gibney, Katie Nyhan and Jessica Condon in defence they will provide a big stumbling block to Cork.

Last season Cork lost out at the same stage in a heartbreaking close contest but the players and mentors have left no stone unturned in their quest for a place in the final and it is no more than they deserve. It will be a tough battle but Cork have the ability and the talent to make it to the final.

Murray on a mission to stop shots and Rebel rot

By Eoghan Cormican
Camogie

Cork camogie player Aoife Murray has experienced both sides of the coin, the ecstasy of All-Ireland glory, the heartache of defeat.

Last September's loss to Wexford however, ran particularly deep. Though producing a string of top-class saves, the Rebel goalkeeper was beaten on three occasions. Cork fell by seven.

Into the winter and still the defeat played on her mind.

Tormented by images of Ursula Jacob's ground stroke, Murray needed a release, a distraction, anything that didn't involve a hurley, sliotar or a red jersey.

"I took up rugby during the winter to hide away from the disappointment," she revealed. "I took the defeat very personally. The amount of

physical effort that goes into getting yourself to a point where you can win an All-Ireland and then not to get the result..."

Opting to skip the early months of the current camogie season, Murray instead lined out for Old Belvedere's second string and was soon nudged up the ladder. From standing between two odd posts since she first took a hurley in her hand, the cut and thrust of an outfield position thrilled her.

"I played inside centre and I genuinely fell in love with it. We didn't do too badly at all. We won the Leinster Cup. It certainly is different playing outfield. The girls thought I was hilarious. When I got the ball all I wanted to do was run with it. It's funny that I wasn't even a forward, I was a back. I had the opportunities of scoring. It was like a role reversal. I have to say the



enjoyment I got out of it made me see the positive side of sport again."

The 29-year-old eventually returned to the Cork set-up, but couldn't commit to venturing down the M8 three times a week. Work with property consultants Jones Lang LaSalle, finances and

Aoife Murray: The Cork goalkeeper was gutted after losing to Wexford in last year's final and is out to atone this term.

sanity would all suffer. An old friend up at the St Brigids club in Blanchardstown was contacted.

"In 2006, I moved up to Dublin when I finished college. I started playing football with St Brigids. There was a guy by the name of Declan Conlon involved with the hurling side of things at the club; someone said he did a bit of goalkeeping coaching."

"He trained me for two years and then I moved back to Cork for four years, but we stayed in contact. When I moved back up to Dublin a year and a half ago I was straight back onto him. He's just fantastic."

Murray is put through her

paces twice a week, committing to making at least one session down south. Though the system is the most pragmatic, she misses the usual banter to be had on Tuesday and Thursday evenings at the Castle Road grounds.

Three wins from three in the championship has moved the Rebels to within an hour of a return to Croke Park and a shot at redemption. Standing in their way, however, are Kilkenny (Thurles, 2pm).

"Halfway through the league, my mother said to me 'Kilkenny are going to win the All-Ireland'. It seems to be all about them, how well they are doing, how fresh they are. I've been around a long time and you hear these stories, be they about Galway or Wexford. Do you get overly concerned by it? You can't."

"You can look at them, get all nervous and say 'Jesus they have hit some amount of

goals. Or you look at the positives, let's look at ourselves, we have conceded only one goal in the championship and not a lot of points either."

Interestingly, the Cork manager is her brother Paudie. Criticism is often levelled between brother and sister, goalkeeper and manager, but there are times when the tongue must be bitten.

"It makes for some interesting conversation at the dinner table," she laughs.

"Paudie has trained me since I was U12. We can have fights and we will be talking two minutes later. Sometimes you have to remember he is your manager, more than your brother. If he criticises you, over the years I have had to learn to accept it. Because he is your brother, sometimes you are tempted to give a smart answer. It is learning when he's your manager and when he's your brother."



LINDA MELLERICK

Rebels have learnt a lot since last year

THE CORK team and management looked relaxed and ready as they wrapped up training in a wet UCC grounds last Thursday evening ahead of today's All-Ireland semi-final with Kilkenny.

There's a great bond among the group and that isn't surprising considering the massive effort they've put in over the past nine months. The disappointment of last season's final defeat has brought them closer together.

Both players and management alike learned lessons. Management took a bit of stick last September for not making changes or positional switches on the day. It was also clear that far greater conditioning of the team was required.

But inside the camp they remained loyal to each other.

To be fair, Paudie Murray, Brian Barry, George Fitzgibbon and Ellen Clifford only took over the reins last year and progress takes time. Even getting to know each other takes time.

It's fair to say that the ante has been upped considerably this season, there's doggedness in everything they do. Watching a few of their sessions over the past number of months, there was no let up.

The squad was back at it on November 16, two months after the final. Alley work, gym work, field work, they've done it all and if Cork are beaten today it'll be a huge disappointment for all involved.

It's going to be a great afternoon of camogie in Thurles. I'm glad Cork are out first at 2pm, as are the players and management. It's a great feeling to be through to an All-Ireland final and have the relaxed luxury of watching the second semi-final after your job is done.

Let's hope it turns out that way, that Cork advance. Wexford and Galway take to the field at 4pm. Galway are fancied yet don't write Wexford off.

Kilkenny haven't reached a final since 2009, where they were defeated by Cork 0-15 to 0-7. They failed to make the semi-finals last season.

Yet they have improved magnificently since then and we all saw last Sunday what can be achieved when

management and players are united and driven with the one goal. It doesn't always work out, I'm quite sure Dublin were as united and driven as Cork. But it always works out for one team.

The question raises itself again as to just how important is winning underage titles. When one considers that the Cork hurlers haven't won one in a while nor has their camogie counterparts you'd question it, but we'd all prefer to have them than not.

Kilkenny have claimed five minor titles in seven years, '06, '07, '08, '09 and just recently '13. U16 titles were won in '05, '06 and '07.

Yet it's now 2013 and Kilkenny have made just two All-Ireland senior final appearances in 13 seasons, winning neither.

Cork's last U16 titles were won in 2001 and

2003. They have yet to win a minor title since its induction in 2006.

Ten years is a long time without an underage title. Yet Cork have been in 10 senior finals since 2000, winning in '02, '05, '06, '08, '09. That's some achievement.

Heading into today's game Kilkenny's for and against stat is impressive with 10-47 for and 4-33 against from four games.

Cork's stats read 7-57 for, 1-19 against (three games). More im-

pressive but against much easier competition it must be said.

Offaly was Cork's greatest challenge yet they pulled away to impressively win by three points. The following week Offaly came close to causing the upset of the season by bringing Wexford to within a point of them losing their title at the quarter-final stage.

Cork are further boosted by the return of Gemma O'Connor, home on a three-week vacation from her stint overseas with the Irish army.

Gemma's fitness isn't in question; she's in great shape and she kept her eye in while abroad during any break from duties.

Apart from Gemma being on the bench and ready to spring if called upon, her presence in the

dresser room in advance of the game is a massive boost.

There's a lot of hype around this Kilkenny team. They'll be all fired up for this. Yet so will Cork. Cork are ready. They have lightening pace up front and if the right ball goes in to Julia White and Katrina Mackey it'll take two outstanding defenders to stop them. I expect them to win by four or five points. I hope I'm right.

Finally, congratulations to Rob and Marian Heffernan on an incredible achievement. After all the heartbreak, all the disappointments, Rob never gave up his dream or his self-belief. It was fantastic to watch.

The beam on his face when he was presented with his medal and the national anthem playing as the Irish flag was raised was a very proud moment not only for Rob's family but for us all.

Julia White should prove a handful for the Kilkenny defence in today's All-Ireland semi-final.

Picture: Sportsfile



FIXTURES

TODAY

Evening Echo Junior C Championship: Banteer v Blarney, Banteer, 7pm.

TOMORROW

Evening Echo Junior C Championship: St Fanahan's v Ballinora, St Fanahan's.

Minor A League final: Cloughduv v Glen Rovers, Castle Road, 12pm.

MONDAY

Evening Echo Senior B Championship: Mallow v Fr O'Neill's, Castle Road, 7.15pm.

WEDNESDAY

Evening Echo JAC: Na Piarasigh v Kildorrery, Watergrasshill, 7.15pm.

THURSDAY

Evening Echo Junior A Championship: Watergrasshill v Bishopstown, Castle Road, 7.15pm.

FRIDAY

Evening Echo Senior Championship: Courcy Rovers v Ballinacollig, TBC.

Evening Echo Junior C Championship: Kilbrittan v Sarsfields, Kilbrittan, 7.15pm.

Quarter final stages in camogie championship

SENIOR CAMOGIE CHAMPIONSHIP

QUARTER-FINAL LOUGHGIEL V DUNLOY

Friday, Arnoy, 7pm

THIS game has the potential to be a whitewash, as the sharp shooting Loughgiel take on a youthful Dunloy side.

Racquel McCarry is the one to watch in the Loughgiel forward line and she'll do damage if not adequately marshalled.

Indeed the quality of players in Loughgiel is great and they showed that during their successful league campaign. They beat every team twice this season, the only team that came close to them was Portglenone, and they collected the division one title last weekend.

Dunloy will stick with Loughgiel for as much of this match as they can. They will remind themselves that they got to the semi-final of last year's competition, but they are unlikely to be able to handle Loughgiel's firepower.

VERDICT: Loughgiel

SENIOR CAMOGIE CHAMPIONSHIP

QUARTER-FINAL ROSSA V CUSHENDALL

Saturday, Ballymena, 7pm

Cushendall this season, the Belfast side will be fancied to take this game.

They have Grainne Connolly and Kerrie O'Neill returning to boost the team that won last year's championship.

What Rossa can expect is a Cushendall team who will fight to the finish. Colleen Patterson, their centre half back, has shown great heart this season, they also have livewire forward Orlagh O'Hara who will be under

pressure to get scores.

Rossa's Muirinn Quinn is the captain of Rossa and one of the best defenders in Antrim. She'll not allow any easy scores to go the way of Cushendall, and as a result the champions should progress to the semis.

VERDICT: Rossa

SENIOR CAMOGIE CHAMPIONSHIP

QUARTER-FINAL CREGGAN V PORTGLENONE

Sunday, Ahoghill, 12pm

PORTGLENONE will fancy their chances of seeing off Creggan this weekend as they have already beaten them twice before in this year's league. Only Loughgiel had a better run than Portglenone in the league, while Creggan slumped to seven defeats in ten matches.

But that's not to say that they should be written off completely. Sinead Laverty is a solid defender, but at the other end of the field they may struggle to get scores.

VERDICT: Portglenone

YOUR STORY

If you have a story from Antrim you would like to see on this page contact

r.scott@gaeliclife.com



HAVING played in a division above

HOT SHOT... Racquel McCarry is a clinical finisher

Picture: Oliver McVeigh / SPORTSFILE

Valleys continue to set pace in group

ROUNDS two and three of the *Evening Echo* championships continued at a frantic pace while there were some class games and a few surprises along the way.

SENIOR B

Valley Rovers went top of the pile in group one of the *Evening Echo* Senior B championship as they continued their good run with a 3-11 to 2-6 win over last season's defeated finalists Clonakilty.

Playing with the aid of the strong wind in the opening half, Clonakilty lead 2-3 to 1-2 but in the second half Valleys showed their class thanks to goals from Elma O'Mahony and Maryanne Hawkes, while points from Connie Hawkes, Katie Richardson and Emily Palmer ensured no way back for Clonakilty.

Glen Rovers and Éire Óg played out a close contest in Castle Road where the Glen secured back to back victories in the round robin series with four second-half Denise Luby goals. The opening half was close and there was just a point separating the sides at the interval as Glen Rovers led 0-7 to 0-6. Denise Luby Aisling O'Keeffe and Sinead O'Halloran were on target for the Glen while Éire Óg had Margaret O'Herlihy, Emma Crowley, Erin Corkery and Maeve Corkery to the fore as they battled back from six points down.

On the resumption Margaret O'Herlihy had the sides level with a pointed free but from the puck out Denise Luby had the Glen ahead with a point and they extended their lead when she found the net a minute later. Éire Óg responded with a Maeve Ellen Desmond goal and as the play moved up and down the pitch Denise Luby flicked Jennifer Hosford's long deliver to the net but back came Éire Óg with an Elaine Scally goal.

With scores coming fast and

Cork's Katriona Mackey flicks the ball past Dublin keeper Kate White to score a goal during their Championship clash.

Picture: David Moore



CHAMPIONSHIP

By MARY NEWMAN

furious Denise Luby responded grabbing a goal to put four points between the sides. The Glen defence stood firm denying Éire Óg from two penalty, Margaret O'Herlihy pointed a free and again just two points separated the sides as the game entered injury time.

Sinead Fahy had the Glen three points clear before Denise Luby's long range strike went all the way to the net to help secure victory for her side after a titanic struggle between two evenly matched sides.

Ballygarvan recorded a victory over Aghabullogue when the sides met in Castle Road in a good contest Aghabullogue with a Jill

Kiely goal first-half goal worked hard to stay with Ballygarvan.

In the finish, the strength of the Carrigdhoun side proved too much and despite a second Aghabullogue goal from Caroline Kiely it finished 1-12 to 2-4 in Ballygarvan's favour.

INTERMEDIATE

Newtownshandrum secured their second victory in the *Evening Echo* Intermediate Championship when they defeated Brian Dillon's in Mallow. In a close opening half the sides could not be separated 1-3 a piece at the break.

Therese Drummond and Claire Dooley on target with Brian Dillon are points and a goal from Shauna Ring.

On the resumption, Newtown hit the front with an Aoife Twohill goal, Dillon's replied with two

pointed frees from Therese Drummond.

Newtownshandrum continued to keep the pressure on the Brian Dillon's defence and with Aoife Twohill adding two further goals they secured a 4-8 to 1-5 victory.

Val O'Keeffe was superb in defence while up front Erin Reidy and Aoife Twohill impressed while Brian Dillon's Jane Dooley Susan Kate Brosnan and Donna Carroll battled hard.

Tracton continues to impress as they accounted for Buttevant to ensure their second victory in the championship series.

Blackrock overcame Newcestown to blow section A wide open.

They showed fierce commitment from the throw-in and led 1-6 to 0-3 at the interval. A Muireann Ni Chonnalain goal and four Kaitlyn Hickey points and one each from Hayley Ryan and Sandy Carr helped them set the pace.

They continued to hold the upper hand with second half goals from Hayley Ryan and Katelynn Hickey as they ran out winners on a 3-8 to 0-6 scoreline.

The result ensures the last two games in this section will be crucial Tracton and Newcestown both have four points and a win will guarantee the winners of their clash a semi final spot.

Blackrock with two points need to defeat Buttevant to force a play-off for the semi-final spot.

JUNIOR A

In the Junior A championship Sliabh Rua and Douglas had to contend with miserable weather condition for the opening half of their clash in Castle Road on Thursday night rain spoiling what was an evenly contested game.

All through it was tight with the lead changing hands but in the finish a goal was crucial and it was Sliabh Rua's Nicole Coleman who grabbed the only one of the game to ensure they stay in contention.

Battle for semi-finals to hot up

CHAMPIONSHIP

THERE is no let up as the battles continues for places in the semi-finals of the *Evening Echo* championship with a number of key games next week, writes MARY NEWMAN.

SENIOR B

Mallow and Fr O'Neill's meet on Monday where a win is vital for O'Neill's to keep any hopes they have of making it out of the group.

Having lost out to Clonakilty and Valley Rovers the pressure is on them to win this one and their remaining game against Clonakilty and even then results would have to go their way.

They are a young side with Cork U16 Keelagh Cullinane, Sarah Harrington and Rebecca Walsh joining forces with the experienced Frances Wiggins and Gearoidin Kearney.

It's Mallow's second game in the round robin series and with a draw to their credit already and two games to go after this against Clonakilty and Valley Rovers, they will be in a good position if they can get a result in this one.

They had to work hard to carve out a draw against a strong and hugely impressive Kilbrittan/Timoleague side and they will be hoping to keep their campaign on track with a win. Michelle Browne, Katie Buckley and Brid O'Sullivan should be crucial to their cause.

JUNIOR

The Junior A, B and C *Evening Echo* championships are going at full pace and on Wednesday Na Piarsaigh and Kildorrery meet in a crucial game for the city club.

Having lost out to Watergrasshill in round one they regrouped to over came Bishopstown in round two and a win in this round three clash would see them nicely placed for a semi-final spot.

On Thursday Watergrasshill will be bidding for victory number three in a bid to go top of the group with, victories over Kildorrery and Bishopstown already to their credit they have a semi-final spot in sight and a win would ensure this.

It's been good season to date for Watergrasshill and they are working hard in their promotion of the game and huge credit is due to them.

Bishopstown, having overcome Kildorrery in round one, lost out to Na Piarsaigh and they will be hoping for a second win to maybe even force a play off pending how results go in the other game.

In the *Evening Echo* Junior C championship Banteer and Blarney meet in Banteer and with both having lost out to Castletyons in their opening game the results won't help either sides qualify.

In the minor A league final Glen Rovers and Cloughduv meet on Sunday in Castle Road to decide the destination of the league title.

Aug. 2013

Aug. 2013

Forget Cats hype Cork can shade it

McCarthy lights up semi-final triumph

CAMOGIE

By MARY NEWMAN

Cork 4-10
Dublin 0-3

UPPING the pace considerably in the second half of this All-Ireland U16 B semi-final in Urringford on Saturday, Cork comfortably advanced to the final at the expense of Dublin.

In a close and low scoring opening 30 minutes, Cork led by two points, 0-5 to 0-3, at the break after Dublin had made the better use of the ball with Orlaigh Murphy pointing twice before Keelagh Cullinane had Cork back level with two points in a row by the end of the opening quarter.

Settling into the game Cork began to get a grip on proceedings and with their defence closing down the Dublin attack they grew in confidence. Two Keeva McCarthy-pointed frees had them in front before Michelle Heatherton hit what was to be Dublin's last score in the 20th minute and with Aoibhinn Kidney pointing a 45 Cork were comfortable as they led by two points at the break.

On the resumption Cork dominated from the start and Keelagh Cullinane and Chloe Sigerson extended their lead with points before two goals from Keeva McCarthy in the 10th and 16th minute quashed any hopes of a Dublin revival.

Now dominant all over the field, Cork began to pick off scores with ease and points from Keeva McCarthy. Maura Eileen O'Connor and Aoibhinn Kidney had them comfortably in front before Ciara Keating and Laura Willis added further goals to ensure no way back for a Dublin side that simply could not match the excellence of a Cork side whose hurling abilities was far superior on the day.

Scores for Cork: K McCarthy 2-3 (0-3 f), K Cullinane 0-3, A Kidney 0-2 (0-1 45), C Keating, L Willis 1-0 each, M E O'Connell, C Sigerson 0-1 each.

Dublin: O Murphy 0-2, L Heatherton 0-1.
CORK: M Sexton, E Twomey, N O'Leary, E Curtin, E O'Connor, A O'Callaghan, L O'Reilly, M E O'Connor, C O'Sullivan, C Keating, A Kidney, Cullinane, R Harty, K McCarthy, C Sigerson. **Subs:** S Burke for C O'Sullivan (42), K Crowley for K McCarthy (43), L Willis for R Harty (43), E O'Callaghan for E Curtin (57), A McCarthy for A Kidney (57).

DUBLIN: J Ryan, C Ellis, N McCarthy, E Quinn, L Gibney, J Condon, R Barrett, L Gregg, G Walsh, A Burke, O Murphy, A Wedo, S McCarthy, G Berry, M Heatherton. **Subs:** A Fusco for A Burke (18), C Rooney for S McCarthy (19), E Carr for A Fusco (40).

Referee: Liz Dempsey (Kilkenny).



LINDA MELLERICK

CAMOGIE

TOMORROW

Liberty Insurance All-Ireland camogie semi-finals: Cork v Kilkenny, 2pm; Wexford v Galway, 4pm, Thurles.

Live on RTE player online only.

THERE is significant hype surrounding this Kilkenny senior camogie team over the past couple of months.

If it's coming from inside the camp, that's a big internal problem. If it's coming from outside, then the camp have little control over that.

I believe it's coming from outside. Any manager would do their utmost to prevent such silly talk as All-Ireland finals already won before a ball is even thrown in for the semi-final.

Kilkenny and Cork have been the two form teams in the championship with both teams winning their groups, with maximum points.

Cork have a 100% record in 2013, having won the National League as well as the Munster Championship, while they easily defeated Tipperary, Dublin and Offaly to top their group to qualify for the semi-final.

Kilkenny have been improving steadily as the summer has gone on, and they are peaking, having defeated Wexford in the Leinster senior final and defeating the defending All-Ireland champions by six points in the final round of group games; all of this after a league semi-final defeat to the same opposition.

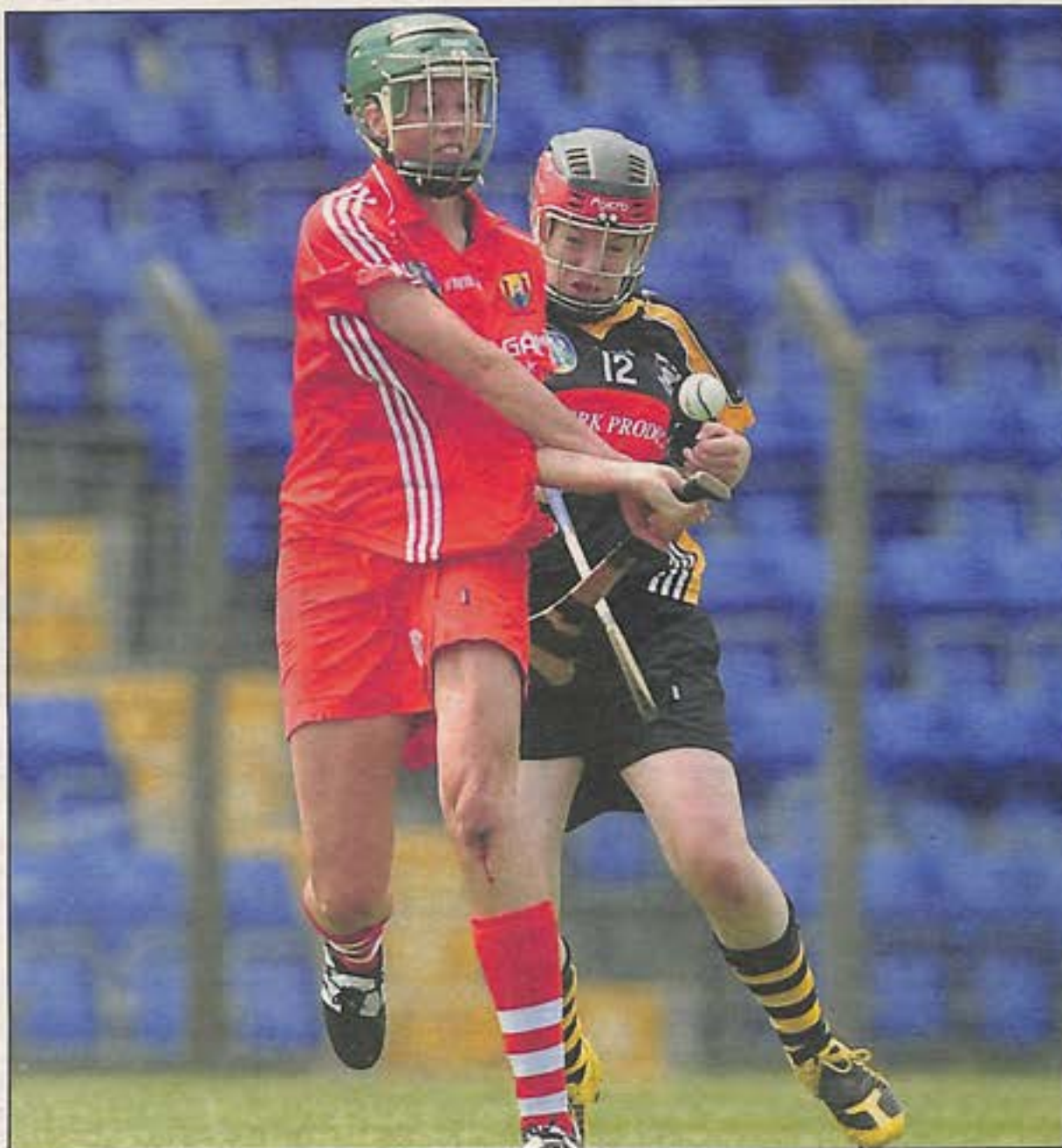
Cork defeated Kilkenny 1-10 to 1-8 on Easter Sunday in the league but that lethargic early season encounter will be nothing compared to the cut and thrust of championship knock out action this Saturday. How Kilkenny stand up to the physical prowess of Cork will be a significant feature to the outcome.

Certainly their hurling ability is not in question as they have proved during the championship but they have disappointed in recent years with a lack of physical aggression and leaders.

What will stand greatly to Kilkenny is the fact they have had a tougher path throughout the championship. They ground out two tough victories against Galway and Clare in matches that could have gone either way, while Cork — since the league final — haven't been severely tested.

This could be a concern for Cork manager Paudie Murray but you play with the cards you are dealt and a couple of very strong challenge games recently has kept Cork's intensity high.

Cork are in a much better place both mentally and physically from 12 months ago. According to Mur-



Orla Cotter, seen here in action against Kilkenny, comes back into the side to face the Cats tomorrow after breaking her thumb in Cork's opener against Tipperary back in June.

ray: "we won't be pushed around again". He was referring no doubt to the bruising they took in last year's final against Wexford.

There was nothing wrong with Wexford's physical approach in that game, Cork just couldn't match them conditioning wise. The Cork management has worked on that significantly since late last year and as we enter the critical, tougher stages of championship that will be advantageous.

Cork announced their team selection last night. Orla Cotter comes back into the side after breaking her thumb in Cork's opener against Tipperary on June 22. Joanne O'Callaghan, sidelined the last day against Offaly due to her impending nuptials, takes back the number two shirt for this much sterner challenge. Leah Weste and Sile Burns are the two to sit out.

When one looks at Cork's line-up, most notably the switch of Breige Corkery to midfield, Aishling Thompson to left half-forward and Jennifer O'Leary in the corner it's

obvious that Cork are going for speed in that full-forward line. Corkery as we are all aware has great speed but she is a roamer and mid-field has always been, I feel, her best position.

If Cork spread it open, possibly leaving just two inside, Julia White and Katrina Mackey, and get a fast ball in then they should do damage.

Denise Gaule and Shelley Farrell are Kilkenny's danger women up front with 5-6 and 4-4 respectively registered from a total of 10-47. Gaule will possibly start at full-forward with Shelley Farrell in at right corner although a few positional switches could occur here.

Maria Walsh has dominated at full-back since she joined the Cork squad last March. Her real test however will be tomorrow. The tenacious Pamela Mackey should manage Farrell and will possibly mark her wherever she wanders.

Defensively, Kilkenny have been superb. Mairead Power, Kate McDonald and Jacqui Frisby in the full-back line have been dominant,

while Edwina Keane has settled into the centre-back position with authority.

The experienced Elaine Aylward has been one of Kilkenny's leaders to date, while Leanne Fennelly and Grace Walsh will battle it out for the number five jersey.

Midfield is a key area. The industrious Claire Phelan has been performing magnificently here while Ann Dalton has been showing signs of returning to the form that saw her win player of the year back in 2009. Orla Cotter and Breige Corkery need to work very hard and let the ball in fast.

If Kilkenny match Cork's intensity this will be a humdinger of a game. Cork however are still hurting from last September. They've put in a massive effort, they have the experience, they without a doubt should have the hunger. They should just shade it.

CORK: A Murray, J O'Callaghan, M Walsh, P Mackey, D Cronin, R Buckley, A Geary, J O'Leary, A Thompson, O Cotter, B Corkery, E O'Sullivan, J White, A Walsh, K Mackey.



LINDA MELLERICK

CAMOGIE

Cork 2-11
Kilkenny 2-12

HEARTBREAK for Cork in Semple Stadium last Saturday as the chance to get back into another All-Ireland final and put right the pain of last September was snatched from them by a far hungrier, Kilkenny side.

Cork can have no complaints, too many players failed to perform to the level they are capable of and at this stage of the championship you won't get away with that. And yet Cork very nearly did get away with it.

Having turned a three-point deficit into a two-point lead with 14 minutes of normal time remaining, the pendulum looked to have swung in their direction. Yet the turning point came three minutes later when Ann Dalton's free was magnificently doubled on by Aoife Neary giving Aoife Murray no chance. Despite Orla Cotter levelling it, Katie Power pushed Kilkenny in front again and thereafter Cork failed to gain parity.

Cork got off to a dream start; playing a two-player full-forward line and striking the ball in quickly and Katrina Mackey and Julia White had two goals between them inside seven minutes.

It was Cork's game plan and it looked to be working. But Cork failed to deliver the fast ball in after that and Kilkenny began to get a grip on the game.

Kilkenny pushed back a defender in a bid to stop Mackey and White but that wasn't the main reason the two players failed to find further opportunities.

The bigger factor was that the game plan led to midfield being very crowded and despite Cork having an extra defender in their half back line, Kilkenny won the majority of possession around midfield and their half-forward line. They won a heavy majority of the 50/50 balls. At the very least Cork should have won their fair share. Simple errors, losing many of their own puckouts and poor first touch led to Kilkenny gaining the upper hand.

Cork led 2-2 to 0-5 at the quarter stage. Katie Power's goal on 23 minutes was top-drawer stuff. Winning another Cork puckout, Shelly Farrell's delivery fell to Power and despite Aoife Murray narrowing the gap brilliantly, Power found the only gap available and struck across her into the net.

Cork, with limited possession up

Heartbreak as Cork lose out on final spot



Cork's Katriona Mackey gets her shot away ahead of Kilkenny's Máiréad Power during their Liberty Insurance All-Ireland Senior Camogie Championship semi-final Semple Stadium, Thurles on Saturday. Picture: SPORTSFILE

front, were economical and still led by one entering the final five minutes of the half.

Kilkenny had a number of wides, had only managed a point from two penalties (after opting to strike one over the bar) and Aoife Murray was having a fine game-all indicators that Cork were under pressure. Aoife Neary and Katie Power pushed Kilkenny in front as they took a one point lead into the dressing room.

The strong wind was a factor in the opening half and Cork were turning over with it at their backs.

Just before the resumption the rain came pouring down and it stayed that way for the opening 10

minutes and nullified any advantage the wind may have given Cork, such was the force of the rain.

Kilkenny struck the opening two points and Cork looked to be losing the battle. A brilliant 14-minute spell saw them turn that lead over and surely they were now in pole position. Neary's overhead strike came however and the Cats smelled victory.

Entering injury time, Power pushed Kilkenny two up again before Aisling Thompson pointed a minute into injury time. Gemma O'Connor was in mid strike as the final whistle blew; her shot sailing wide in any case.

Cork were out and devastated. For the second year in a row they failed to reach the peaks they are capable of on the big stage.

Scorers for Cork: J White 1-2, K Mackey 1-1, O Cotter 0-3, A Walsh 0-2, B Corkery, A Thompson, J O'Leary 0-1 each.

Kilkenny: K Power 1-6, A Neary 1-3 (0-2 ft), G Walsh, A Dunphy, M Quilty 0-1 each.

CORK: A Murray; J O'Callaghan, M Walsh, P Mackey; D Cronin, R Buckley, A Geary; O Cotter, B Corkery; E O'Sullivan, A Walsh, A Thompson; K Mackey, J O'Leary, J White.

Subs: S Burns for E O'Sullivan (33), G O'Connor for O Cotter (55).

KILKENNY: E Kavanagh; M Power, K McDonald, J Frisby; L Fennelly, E Keane, E Aylward; C Phelan, A Dalton; G Walsh, A Dunphy, K Power; S Farrell, D Gaule, A Neary.

Subs: M Quilty for G Walsh (14), C Dormer for C Phelan, K Hamilton for D Gaule.

Referee: Owen Elliot (Antrim).

CAMOGIE: Kilkenny will appear in the All-Ireland final for the first time since 2009 after a 2-12 to 2-11 victory over Cork.

The Noreiders had to dig deep to overcome the concession of two goals inside the opening eight minutes, as well as a period in the second half when they conceded five points in succession to fall behind once more.

Katriona Mackey found the Kilkenny net early after brilliant play by Angela Walsh, and then set up Julia White for another. The Cats continued to dominate possession though, and player of the match Katie Power clinically goalied to send them in at the break leading by 1-7 to 2-3.

It was the Leesiders that were looking good entering the final quarter, but the momentum turned as Kilkenny's Aoife Neary goalied 10 minutes from time. Two more points from Power helped

them seal their final place.

WEXFORD'S four-in-a-row bid came to an end at the hands of old rivals Galway after a 1-12 to 0-6 defeat yesterday.

Niamh McGrath slotted three points before Niamh Kilkenny drove beyond the helpless Mags D'Arcy and an injury-time point from Ailish O'Reilly left it 1-6 to 0-2 at half-time. Any chance Wexford had was lost when Katrina Parrock received her second yellow card in the 48th minute. Points from Kilkenny and Noreen Coen removed any doubt for Galway.

Murray admits that Kilkenny wanted victory more

THE pain of defeat was etched all over the face of Cork manager Paudie Murray and his co-mentors after the final whistle in Thurles on Saturday. To put so much time and effort in for nine months and to under perform is possibly the hardest pill to swallow. Paudie's first thought, after emerging from the victorious Kilkenny dressing room, was his players and wanting to talk to them.

We spoke afterwards and I asked him what he felt went wrong?

"The bottom line is they wanted it more. Any 50/50 ball was won by them. You can't expect to win without winning those battles. We expected to at least break 50/50 midfield and we felt we had the inside line to do damage. They did (damage). But the problem was we failed to get enough ball into them. A number of us

REACTION

were below par today, Kilkenny were up for the fight."

Could Paudie pinpoint why Cork appeared so tense and nervous on the ball?

"You know, the older you get, the more you think your time is limited, the more you fear losing. You need to be relaxed, play with freedom. We looked like we had fear today. Kilkenny played with freedom."

Did he sense before the game that Cork were tense?

"No, leaving Mitchelstown this morning I would have said we were in good shape. In the warm up, all was good. It turned out to be just one of those days."

What of his own future now with Cork?

"Well as of now I'm unemployed (referring to the end of this two year term). You'd have to take a step back

and take a look at things-it's a massive commitment and other things suffer. And you'd have to see what the players and county board want to do."

Does he feel there is an All-Ireland in this Cork team?

"If they stay together, they're still young, and the three or four players we didn't have this year come back in, yes I think there is. There is a concern however about the lack of minor players coming through."



THE CAMOGIE ASSOCIATION
An Cumann Camógachta



Liberty Insurance Senior Camogie Semi-finals

Semple Stadium, Thurles • Saturday, August 17th, 2013

2.00 pm Cork v Kilkenny

4.00 pm Wexford v Galway

GAA Hurling Intermediate Semi-final

6.00 pm Galway v Kilkenny



Liberty
Insurance



THE CAMOGIE
ASSOCIATION

Senior
Championship

Clár Oifigiúil • Luach €3

Mary O'Connor
Acting Ard Stiúrthóir



Facebook.com/officialcamogieassociation



Twitter.com/officialcamogie



www.camogie.ie

Match Preview

CORK v KILKENNY

A titanic struggle in prospect

THE Cork-Kilkenny rivalry is just about as old as the camán itself. Yet in camogie terms, the teams haven't crossed swords in a really big game since the 2009 All-Ireland final.

The Noreiders were making a comeback with a largely youthful line-up, after a lengthy period in the doldrums, and though they were unable to deny Cork, the suspicion was that they would be around a long time.

For some reason, it never happened but this year has seen a stirring once more. Niall Williams has moulded a fine team that reached the Irish Daily Star League Division 1 semi-final. It said much for their ambition that they were bitterly disappointed to lose to All-Ireland queenpins Wexford.

They reversed that result in the Leinster final though and that has catapulted them through a group involving the aforementioned champions, Galway, Clare and Derry with a 100% record. The infusion of self-belief was evident from the very first outing in Group 1, when they tore out of the traps against Galway in Athenry and had enough in hand to withstand the westerners' fightback.

The grit and determination was on display once more when they eked out another two-point win over Clare. Derry were no match for them in Ashbourne and they proved that the Leinster final victory over Wexford was no one-off, winning by 2-15 to 2-9.

That was a hugely impressive display, particularly as Wexford were fighting for their lives. Kilkenny fell four points behind early on but Aoife Neary, Shelley Farrell, Ann Dalton and Katie Power shone – and Emma Kavanagh made a crucial save from Brid Gordon at the start of the

final quarter – to prove that the Cats were the real deal.

On the bare evidence, Kilkenny's group form reads better than Cork's but Paudie Murray's women couldn't do any more than beat their opposition and they did it very comfortably indeed.

They retained their league title by accounting for Wexford and cruised through the four-team Group 2 with wins over Tipperary, Dublin and Offaly. The Leesiders scored 7-57 and conceded just 1-19 in those three games. That is skewed a bit by the 5-23 to 0-4 victory over Dublin but an

average scoring rate of 2-20 is eye-popping, as is the average concession score of 0-7.

Katrina Mackey, Angela Walsh, Sile Burns and Jenny O'Leary have been amongst the serial scorers, Briege Corkery's speed and industry always yield dividends, while the defensive unit powered by

Rena Buckley, skipper Anna Geary and Pamela Mackey have given Aoife Murray between the posts outstanding cover.

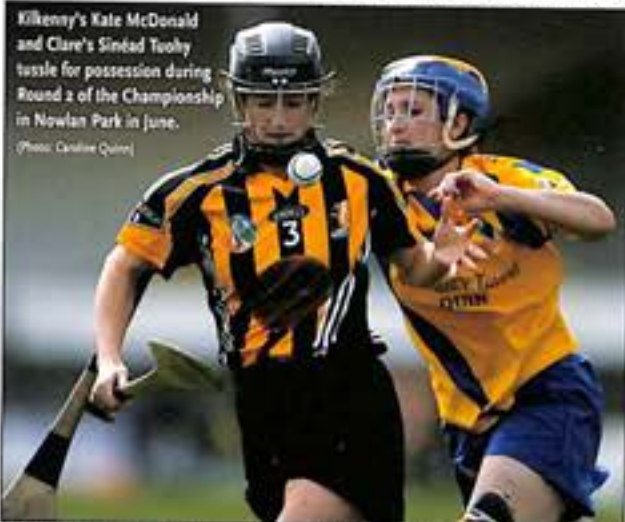
It is four years since Cork won an All-Ireland but that doesn't seem long compared with the 19 years Kilkenny are waiting since Ann Downey got her hands on the O'Duffy Cup. So that would suggest that Kilkenny's hunger is off the scale.

But the Rebels were stung by their defeat in last year's decider and have had all the appearances of a team on a mission this year. It could well be a classic encounter and should certainly be a titanic tussle with the vote going to Cork by a tight margin.

Verdict: Cork.

Kilkenny's Kate McDonald and Clare's Sinead Tuohy tussle for possession during Round 2 of the Championship in Nowlan Park in June.

(Photo: Caroline Quinn)



Match Preview

GALWAY v WEXFORD

Galway firepower to win out?

WHAT a history these teams have had in recent years. Galway have recorded plenty of wins over Wexford but when the chips were down with silverware up for grabs, in All-Ireland and league finals, it has been the Yellowbellies that have come out on top.

Galway were so close on a couple of occasions, particularly in the 2011 All-Ireland, when they were undone by the late heroics of Ursula Jacob.

This represents their best opportunity in some time though and while they would never admit it publicly, you have to think that ending Wexford's four-in-a-row bid is just a little extra motivation on top of the primary target of reaching an All-Ireland and finally registering a belated second title.

These two were in the same group for the round-robin series, a hugely competitive one that also included Kilkenny, Clare and Derry.

It was Galway that had the more comfortable progress. They were slow to get going in the opener against Kilkenny and though rallying well, fell two points short. They improved on that by coming out on top by the same margin against Wexford and that result defined the rest of the campaign for both sides.

Tony Ward's crew were highly impressive in overcoming the considerable challenge of Clare by two goals and the subsequent victory over Derry earned second spot, and a quarter-final against Tipperary.

They dealt very professionally with the Premier, soaking up the early pressure before imposing themselves thanks to the excellence of Ailish O'Reilly, Brenda Hanney, Lorraine Ryan and the irrepressible Therese Maher. In the end, they had 16 points in hand.

Wexford's woes have been well documented this year, with six of last year's team no longer available, while captain Mary Leacy missed the narrow

quarter-final victory over Offaly after suffering a shoulder dislocation. Throw in the change of management, with J.J. Doyle returning to the fold in place of Martin Lynch two weeks before the start of their championship campaign, and you couldn't say it has been the ideal preparation.

After beating Derry, they fell to Galway and another defeat by Kilkenny left them having to get the better of Clare to keep their four-in-a-row ambitions alive. Kate Kelly was inspirational as they showed their championship mettle once again however.

And Kelly provided the leadership too as they

just held off Offaly in Portlaoise two weeks ago. Fiona Kavanagh has been amongst the most impressive of the newcomers and her eye for goal came to the fore once more as Wexford got off to a brilliant start to go six points clear by the end of the first quarter.

They couldn't kill their game opponents off though and were actually a point down with 13 minutes remaining.

But as the Kilkenny hurlers have shown, champions find a way, even when they're a weakened force. Kelly drew the sides level before Jacob landed her seventh point to earn another semi-final appearance.

While they just managed to advance without her the last day, you get the feeling that Leacy will have to play if Wexford are to have any chance this time. And it seems unlikely that one of the best centre-backs to ever play the game could possibly be fully fit less than three weeks after such a serious injury.

You would be loath to bet against such a force, but maybe, like Kilkenny, Wexford have shipped too many blows. They certainly look vulnerable and must improve on what they showed the last day to prevail. Given the firepower that Galway possess, this one might just prove beyond them.

Verdict: Galway.

Ursula Jacob (Wexford) about to gather possession of the sliotar as Galway's Therese Manton moves in to challenge.

(Photo: Caroline Quinn)



Cill Chainnigh

Dathanna: Dubh agus Omra



<p>(1) Emma Kavanagh E. Caomhánach The Rower-Inistioge</p>			<p>(16) Ann Marie Lennon A. M. Ni Leannáin Blacks & Whites</p>		
<p>(2) Mairéad Power M. de Paor Carrickshock</p>			<p>(17) Collette Dormer C. Ni Dhúidhiorma Paulstown</p>		
<p>(3) Kate McDonald C. Nic Dónaill Thomastown</p>			<p>(18) Michelle Quilty M. Ni Chaoilte (Capt.) Mullinavat</p>		
<p>(4) Jacqui Frisby S. Ni Fhírbhisigh Ballyhale Shamrocks</p>			<p>(19) Kelly Hamilton C. Hamaltún The Rower-Inistioge</p>		
<p>(5) Leann Fennelly L. Ni Fhionnalaigh Mullinavat</p>			<p>(20) Emma Comerford E. Nic Cumascaigh Young Ireland's Gowran</p>		
<p>(6) Edwina Keane E. Ni Chatháin St. Martin's Muckalee</p>			<p>(21) Aine Fahy A. Ni Fhathaigh Tullaroan</p>		
<p>(7) Elaine Aylward E. Aighleart Mullinavat</p>			<p>(22) Claire Aylward C. Aighleart Mullinavat</p>		
<p>(8) Claire Phelan C. Ni Fhaoláin Lisdowney</p>			<p>(23) Sarah Ann Quinlan S. A. Ni Chaoimheáin Young Ireland's Gowran</p>		
<p>(9) Ann Dalton Á. Daltúin St. Lachtain's Freshford</p>			<p>(24) Lisa Carey L. Ni Chiara Thomastown</p>		
<p>(10) Grace Walsh G. Breatnach Tullaroan</p>					
<p>(11) Aisling Dunphy A. Ni Dhonnchaidh St. Brigid's Ballycallan</p>					
<p>(12) Katie Power C. de Paor Piltown</p>					
<p>(13) Shelly Farrell S. Ni Fhearail Thomastown</p>					
<p>(14) Denise Gaule D. Nic an Ghaill Windgap</p>					
<p>(15) Aoife Neary A. Ni Náraithe James Stephens</p>					

MANAGEMENT: Niall Williams, Graham Dillon, John Joe Aylward, Tom Doheny, Liz Dempsey



Coreaigh

Dathanna: Dearg agus Bán

<p>(1) Aoife Murray A. Ni Mhuirí Cloughduv</p>			<p>(16) Jessica Kavanagh S. Chaomhánach Douglas</p>		
<p>(2) Pamela Mackey P. Ni Mhaca Douglas</p>			<p>(17) Lynda O'Connell L. Ni Chonaill St. Finbarr's</p>		
<p>(3) Maria Walsh M. Breatnach Milford</p>			<p>(18) Sarah Hayes S. Ni hAodha Courcy Rovers</p>		
<p>(4) Joanne O'Callaghan S. Ni Cheallacháin Cloughduv</p>			<p>(19) Finola Neville F. Ni Nía St. Catherine's</p>		
<p>(5) Denise Cronin D. Ni Chroínín Ballincollig</p>			<p>(20) Julia White S. de Faoite Douglas</p>		
<p>(6) Rena Buckley R. Ni Bhuachalla Inniscarra</p>			<p>(21) Leah Weste L. Weste Ballincollig</p>		
<p>(7) Anna Geary A. Ni Ghadhra (Capt.) Milford</p>			<p>(22) Aoife Deasy A. Ni Dhéiseach Clonakilty</p>		
<p>(8) Jenny O'Leary S. Ni Laoire Barryroe</p>			<p>(23) Leanne O'Sullivan L. Ni Shuilleabháin Glen Rovers</p>		
<p>(9) Aisling Thompson A. Nic Thomáis Milford</p>			<p>(24) Hazel O'Regan H. Ni Riagáin Clonakilty</p>		
<p>(10) Orla Cotter O. Nic Oitir St. Catherine's</p>			<p>(25) Gemma O'Connor G. Ni Chonchúir St. Finbarr's</p>		
<p>(11) Briege Corkery B. Ni Chorca Cloughduv</p>					
<p>(12) Eimear O'Sullivan E. Ni Shuilleabháin Ballinhassig</p>					
<p>(13) Katrina Mackey C. Ni Mhaca Douglas</p>					
<p>(14) Sile Burns S. Ni Bhroin Barryroe</p>					
<p>(15) Angela Walsh A. Breatnach Killeagh</p>					

MANAGEMENT: Paudie Murray, Ellen Clifford, Brian Barry, George Fitzgibbon

Chat Time

Grace

WALSH

KILKENNY

Club: Tullaroan, Kilkenny

Q: Three people who have had an influence on your career?

A: My parents, Frankie and Michael and other members of my family – they are very supportive and go to all the matches.

Q: The toughest opponent outside of your county?

A: Karen Kieft from Derry.

Q: Three words to describe yourself as a player?

A: Determined, committed and giddy!!

Q: Three most fun camogie colleagues?

A: Claire Phelan, shortened to 'Phelo' – she's so laid back, described as 'breezy' and always up for the craic!! Kate McDonald – she's like a mammy but also the mad one of the bunch, loves Coppers!! Denise Gaule – loves the fish hook shot on camera!!

Q: What does it mean to wear the County jersey?

A: It challenges me to become a better player and makes me feel proud to be able to represent Kilkenny

Q: Four sportsmen you would invite to dinner?

A: Usain Bolt – could get some tips on how to run faster. John Mullane – he is one of my

favourite players. Bernard Brogan – for obvious reasons. Brian O'Driscoll – one of the greatest sportsmen of all time. Liam Keogh from my own club – great contributor and I would have to include my brother Tommy, otherwise I might not get tickets for the All-Ireland!

Q: Four influential women you admire?

A: Katie Taylor – I think she inspired every one of us in Ireland to achieve what you want if you work hard enough. My mother – because no matter how bad we play she will always see the positives in our game ... even if there are none! Jessica Ennis – who had an incredible year in 2012 and is so influential to other sports women, think Elaine Aylward would agree!! Adding a fourth, Ursula Mulcahy, who won an All-Ireland with Kilkenny and was capped for Ireland in soccer, all in the same year!!

Q: Deep and meaningful conversation – Ryan O'Dwyer or Tommy Walsh and say why?

A: Ryan O'Dwyer so I could ask him how you can fall in love and play with a county you aren't from originally.

Q: Your view on the proposed integration of Camogie and Ladies Football with the GAA?

A: I think it's a good idea – great for both camogie and ladies football and I support it 100%.

Q: Favourite song/piece of music?

A: Lennon and Maisey "I won't give up".

Q: Three things outside of camogie you are serious about?

A: Hockey – I don't have as much time to play anymore but still love the sport. I am studying nursing and I am very determined to finish college with a good degree. Family.

Q: What do you do to chill out?

A: Sleep on the couch ha ha! Need it between work and camogie.

Q: Personal motto?

A: Hard work beats talent if talent doesn't work hard enough.

Q: Do you click on to www.camogie/Twitter/Facebook?

A: Yeah, all of the time, it's really helpful to keep up with the scores of some matches that you can't go to.



Chat Time

Orla

COTTER

CORK

Club: St. Catherine's, Cork

Q: Three people who have had an influence on your career?

A: My parents John and Brigid for their constant support and Rena O'Leary, former Club President and first coach – sadly no longer alive.

Q: The toughest opponent outside of your county?

A: Kate Kelly of Wexford.

Q: Four words to describe yourself as a player?

A: Honest, awkward, determined, team-player.

Q: Three most fun camogie colleagues?

A: Breige Corkery, she's great for a story, too many more to mention....

Q: What does it mean to wear the County jersey?

A: It's a huge honour to wear the Red and White of Cork.

Q: Six sportsmen you would invite to dinner?

A: Cheeky Cricketer Freddie Flintoff; Jamie Redknapp, former Liverpool player and soccer pundit; the one and only Usain Bolt; Tommy Bowe, maybe he'd make me a special pair of shoes apart from his fun company; Paul O'Connell, a great leader and outstanding footballer. Seán Cavanagh. They are all outstanding sportsmen and entertaining personalities.

Q: Three influential women you admire?

A: Katie Taylor, Jessica Ennis, Michelle Obama – all three are inspirational women.

Q: Deep and meaningful conversation – Ryan O'Dwyer or Tommy Walsh?

A: Tommy Walsh – I might pick up some tips.



Q: Your view on the proposed integration of Camogie and Ladies Football with the GAA?

A: It would be a positive step forward.

Q: Favourite song/piece of music?

A: Pompeii, Bastille.

Q: Three things outside of camogie you are serious about?

A: Family, friends, food.

Q: What do you do to chill out?

A: Head to cinema, go out for dinner, call to friends.

Q: Personal motto?

A: With the right attitude anything's possible.

Q: Do you click on to www.camogie/Twitter/Facebook?

A: Yes – for results every now and then.

Gaillimh

Dathanna: Máirín agus Bón



- (16) Eva Concannon
E. Ní Choncheana
Castlegar
- (17) Siobhán Coen
S. Ní Chadhain
Ballindereen
- (18) Clodagh McGrath
C. Ní Craith
Sarsfields
- (19) Gina Glynn
G. Ní Ghloinn
Athenry
- (20) Noreen Coen
N. Ní Chadhain
Athenry
- (21) Tara Kenny
T. Ní Chionaoith
Sarsfields
- (22) Ann Marie Starr
A. M. Starr
Killimor
- (23) Orla Kilkenny
O. Ní Giolla
Chainnigh
Peases
- (24) Maria Breheny
M. Ní an
Bhreithiúnaigh
Davitts
- (25) Rebecca Hennelly
R. Ní hIonuille
Andrahan
- (26) Orlaith McGrath
O. Ní Craith
Sarsfields
- (27) Lorraine Farrell
L. Ní Fhearrail
Davitts
- (28) Aoife Donoghue
A. Ní Dhoonchú
Mullagh
- (29) Colette Gill
C. Ní an Ghaill
Kinvara
- (30) Sinéad Keane
S. Ní Chathain
Kinvara

(1)
Susan Earner
S. Ní Shaolaigh
Eyrecourt

(2)
Therese Manton
T. Ní Mhantáin
Mullagh

(3)
Sarah Dervan
S. Ní Dhoirbheáin
Mullagh

(4)
Heather Cooney
H. Ní Chuana
St. Thomas

(5)
Sinéad Cahalan
S. Ní Chathaláin
Mullagh

(6)
Therese Maher
T. Ní Mheachair
Athenry

(7)
Lorraine Ryan
L. Ní Riain (Capt.)
Kiltullagh/Killimordaly

(8)
Niamh Kilkenny
N. Ní Giolla Chainnigh
Peases

(9)
Molly Dunne
M. Ní Dhoinn
Eyrecourt

(10)
Emer Haverty
E. Ní hAbhtaigh
Killimor

(11)
Niamh McGrath
N. Ní Craith
Sarsfields

(12)
Emma Kilkelly
E. Ní Giolla Cheallaigh
Kinvara

(13)
Brenda Hanney
B. Ní hAnnaigh
Killimor

(14)
Ann Marie Hayes
A. M. Ní hAodha
Killimor

(15)
Ailish O'Reilly
A. Ní Raghallaigh
Oranmore/Maree

MANAGER: Tony Ward

SELECTORS: Declan Walsh, Orla Watson, Seamie Crowe

TRAINER: Liam Hodgins **PHYSIO:** Louise Larkin



Loch Garman

Dathanna: Corcora agus Ór

- (16) Helena Jacob
A. Iacób
Oulart/The Ballagh
- (17) Frances Doran
P. Ní Dheoráin
Buffs Alley
- (18) Stacey Kehoe
S. Ní Eochaidh
Oulart/The Ballagh
- (19) Louise O'Leary
L. Uí Laoire
Rathnure
- (20) Louise Hammel
L. Ní hAmaill
Buffs Alley
- (21) Stacey Redmond
S. Ní Réamonn
Oulart/The Ballagh
- (22) Aine Lacey
A. Ní Laitheasa
St. Ibars/Shelmaller
- (23) Claire O'Rourke
C. Ní Ruairc
Kilrush
- (24) Nicola Byrne
N. Ní Bhroin
Rathnure
- (25) Susie McGovern
S. Ní Shamhráin
Glynn/Barnstown
- (26) Siobhán Doyle
S. Ní Dhúghaill
Gorey Naomh Eanna
- (27) Anna Whitty
A. de Fuite
Craanford/Monaseed
- (28) Mary Cummins
M. Ní Chóimín
Horeswood
- (29) Victoria Burke
V. de Búrca
Buffs Alley
- (30) Jackie Quigley
S. Ní Choighligh
Rathnure

(1)
Mags D'Arcy
M. Ní Dhorcháil
Na Fianna

(2)
Ciara Donohoe
C. Ní Dhonnchú
St. Ibars/Shelmaller

(3)
Noeleen Lambert
N. Laimbeart (Capt.)
St. Martin's

(4)
Karen Atkinson
C. Ní Aidicín
Oulart/The Ballagh

(5)
Bridget Curran
B. Ní Chorráin
St. Ibars/Shelmaller

(6)
Shelly Kehoe
S. Ní Eochaidh
Oulart/The Ballagh

(7)
Shauna Sinnott
S. Sionóid
Oulart/The Ballagh

(8)
Kate Kelly
C. Ní Cheallaigh
St. Ibars/Shelmaller

(9)
Fiona Kavanagh
F. Caomhánach
Buncloody

(10)
Josie Dwyer
S. Ní Dhubhuir
Ferns St. Aidan's

(11)
Katrina Parrock
C. Ní Pharóg
St. Ibars/Shelmaller

(12)
Brid Gordon
B. Ní Mhuirneacháin
Blackwater

(13)
Eimear O'Connor
E. Ní Chonchúir
Rathnure

(14)
Fiona Rochford
F. de Rosfort
St. Anne's

(15)
Ursula Jacob
U. Iacób
Oulart/The Ballagh

MANAGER: J.J. Doyle

TRAINER: Gerry McQuaid

SELECTORS: Tommy Roche, Geraldine Murphy, Joe Brennan

PHYSIO: Paul Harrington **FIRST AID:** Bridget Moran

Chat Time Niamh McGRATH

Club: Sarsfields, Galway

- Q:** Three people who have had an influence on your career?
A: My father and mother, Michael and Geraldine. From day one, both of them have been involved in my playing career. My father coached us from U10 right up to minor level. We have goalposts set up at home. Another is Tony Ward from my own club and a former manager of our senior team.
- Q:** The toughest opponent outside of your county?
A: Michaela Morkan from Offaly
- Q:** Four words to describe yourself as a player?
A: Strong, accurate, determined, fit.
- Q:** Three most fun camogie colleagues?
A: Maria Breheny – I have never seen her in a bad mood in my life; Tara Kenny – queen of the one-liners!! Gina Glynn – who specialises in witty comments.
- Q:** What does it mean to wear the County Jersey?
A: It means a lot, especially when you think of the players who have worn it before you. It is such an honour to be chosen to play for Galway and to be allowed to put on that jersey week in, week out.
- Q:** Six sportsmen you would invite to dinner?
A: Dan Carter for obvious reasons, but he is also a top class rugby player! Rafael Nadal, his style of tennis is so exciting and passionate, he really gives it his all. Brian Cody, for all his hurling knowledge. Danny Sutcliffe, to learn a thing or two about work rate from a forward. Jim McGuinness, what he has accomplished with the Donegal footballers is unbelievable and Novak Djokovic to provide a few laughs with his imitations.
- Q:** Three influential women you admire and why?
A: All Sportswomen! Serena Williams, she literally tosses aside her opponents in all the Grand Slams when she is fit; Therese Maher, the best camogie player I have seen and played with and Tirunesh Dibaba, the fittest woman I have ever seen.
- Q:** Deep and meaningful conversation – Ryan O'Dwyer or Tommy Walsh?
A: Tommy Walsh, to find out how he managed to keep playing so consistently year in year out and win so many consecutive All-Stars.
- Q:** Your view on the proposed integration of Camogie and Ladies Football with the GAA?
A: Extremely positive, all games are part of the one Gaelic family.
- Q:** Favourite song/piece of music?
A: Currently Counting Stars, One Republic
- Q:** Three things, outside of camogie you are serious about?
A: I have an interest in and follow nearly all sports. I love languages, particularly French and Irish. I am serious about Law and hope to become a solicitor when I finish my Degree.
- Q:** What do you do to chill out?
A: Listen to music and watch movies.
- Q:** Personal motto?
A: Work hard
- Q:** Do you click on to www.camogie/ Twitter/Facebook?
A: Yes, great way to keep up-to-date with fixtures and results.



Chat Time Mags D'ARCY

WEXFORD

Club: Na Fianna, Dublin

- Q:** Three people who have had an influence on your career?
A: "The Wolfpack", Granny, Grandad and my Mam. The Sunday Game panellists are not a patch on these folk!
- Q:** The toughest opponent outside of your county?
A: The Crossbar!

Q: Four words to describe yourself as a player?

A: I love to run.

Q: Three most fun camogie colleagues?

A: Helena Jacob for her wit and wisdom; Fiona Rochford for her exotic travel stories and Bridget Curran who is simply cracked in the head!

Q: What does it mean to wear the County Jersey?

A: Means I'm a lucky lady!

Q: What do you do to chill out?

A: Long distance running and mirror shopping!

Q: Six sportsmen you would invite to dinner?

A: David Beckham: So he can bring Gordon Ramsay along to cook the dinner; Anthony Daly for the few yarns; Ian Poulter for some fashion tips; Novak Djokovic to hit the dance floor with afterwards; Michael Schumacher, to give me a lift home after the night out and Usain Bolt, to go mirror shopping with the next day.

Q: Three influential women you admire and why?

A: My Mam, Granny, Kristen Wiig – all three make me laugh.

Q: Deep and meaningful conversation – Ryan O'Dwyer or Tommy Walsh?

A: Tommy I guess. Both could be awkward!

Q: Your view on the proposed integration of Camogie and Ladies Football with the GAA?

A: In favour if it improves Players' Welfare.

Q: Favourite song/piece of music?

A: Beethoven's 9th symphony.

Q: Three things, outside of camogie, you are serious about?

A: Food, friends and family.

Q: Personal motto?

A: Every day is a school day!

Q: Do you click on to www.camogie/ Twitter/Facebook?

A: Yes, sometimes.



Kilkenny power way back into final



Liberty Insurance All-Ireland senior camogie semi-final

KILKENNY 2-12
CORK 2-11

Daragh Ó Conchúir

Seimle Stadium



Kilkenny will appear in their first senior camogie final since 2009 as a result of a hard-fought win over league champions Cork at Seimle Stadium on Saturday.

The Noreiders were deserving winners of a wonderful free-flowing game, superbly refereed by Owen Elliott, having dominated the possession stakes for the majority of proceedings.

Despite that, they had to dig deep to overcome the concession of two goals inside the opening eight minutes, as well as a period in the second half when they conceded five successive points.

They also managed only one point from two first-half penalties, and that came after 30 seconds when Aoife Neary opted to take the safe option.

That decision looked costly when goal machine Katrina

Mackey found the Kilkenny net 92 seconds later after brilliant play by Angela Walsh and Aisling Thompson.

The magnificent Katie Power and Aoife Neary (free) responded with points for the Black and Amber but Mackey's pace caused more problems and she set up Julia White for another Cork goal.

The Cats continued to dominate possession though, and player of the match Power goaled in the 23rd minute for a 1-7 to 2-3 interval lead.

They wasted a number of chances to go in with a bigger advantage, however. Aoife Murray made a brilliant save from Denise Gaule, while Rena Buckley stopped Neary's 19th-minute penalty after a foul on Shelly Farrell.

Two early points from Aisling Dunphy and Power increased the margin to three, but with Orla Cotter and White supplying four of Cork's next five scores, it was the Leesiders who were looking good entering the final quarter.

The momentum changed once more, however, as Aoife Neary goaled 10 minutes from time. Cotter slotted her third second-half point to level the scores but was immediately



TEARFUL: A dejected Anna Geary is consoled by Cork teammate Gemma O'Connor after losing to Kilkenny in the All-Ireland Senior Camogie Championship semi-final. Picture: Paul Mohan

substituted, with Gemma O'Connor — home on a three-week break from an Army tour of duty — entering the fray in the 53rd minute.

Power and Michelle Quilty put Kilkenny two points clear. Walsh then pointed but Power brought her own tally to 1-6 from play on the hour.

Cork threw everything at them in the two minutes of injury time but Thompson's fizzing shot flew just over the bar and time ran out.

Scorers for Kilkenny: K Power 1-6; A Neary 1-3 (0-2); G Walsh, A Dunphy, D Gaule 0-1 each.

Scorers for Cork: J White 1-2; K Mackey 1-1; O Cotter 0-3; A Walsh 0-2; J O'Leary, A Thompson, B Corkery 0-1 each.

KILKENNY: E Kavanagh, M Power, K McDonald, J Frisby, L Fennelly, E Keane, E Aylward, C Phelan, A Dalton, G Walsh, A Dunphy, K Power, S Farrell, D Gaule, A Neary. **Subs:** M Quilty for Walsh (14); C Dorrner for Phelan (51); K Hamilton for Gaule (51).

CORK: A Murray, J O'Callaghan, M Walsh, P Mackey, D Cronin, R Buckley, A Geary, O Cotter, B Corkery, E O'Sullivan, A Walsh, A Thompson, J White, K Mackey, J O'Leary. **Subs:** S Burns for O'Sullivan (35); G O'Connor for Cotter (53); F Neville for Corkery (57).

Referee: O Elliott (Antrim).

Indomitable Galway end Model's reign



Liberty Insurance All-Ireland senior camogie semi-final

GALWAY 1-12
WEXFORD 0-6

Daragh Ó Conchúir

Seimle Stadium



Wexford's four-in-a-row bid was ended by old rivals Galway in Saturday's entertaining Liberty Insurance All-Ireland senior semi-final at Seimle Stadium.

With seven of last year's championship-winning team unavailable, it was an onerous task for JJ Doyle's outfit, and though they battled throughout, they never looked like winning once Niamh Kilkenny hit a 23rd minute goal.

Aisling O'Reilly opened the scoring for Galway in the second minute but a couple of points in three minutes from Ursula Jacob put Wexford in front. It was significant though that those two scores came from placed balls as they failed to score from play throughout. Indeed the entire game was a staccato affair punctuated by frees but as Galway gained dominance around the middle, they gradually pulled clear.

Emer Haverty brought the sides level and Niamh McGrath slotted three points as the Tribeswomen pulled clear. Brenda Hanney flashed a low shot into the side-netting but

Kilkenny made no mistake as she drove a powerful shot beyond the helpless Mags D'Arcy from close range. An injury-time point from O'Reilly left Galway 1-6 to 0-2 clear at half-time.

With the outstanding Therese Maher revelling as a free player at centre-back, as Wexford attempted to gain a foothold further out the field, the westerners fired over three of the next four points to extend the margin to nine.

Hanney and Jacob exchanged points before O'Reilly's angled drive rose over the bar and Hanney notched up her second to put nine between the sides.

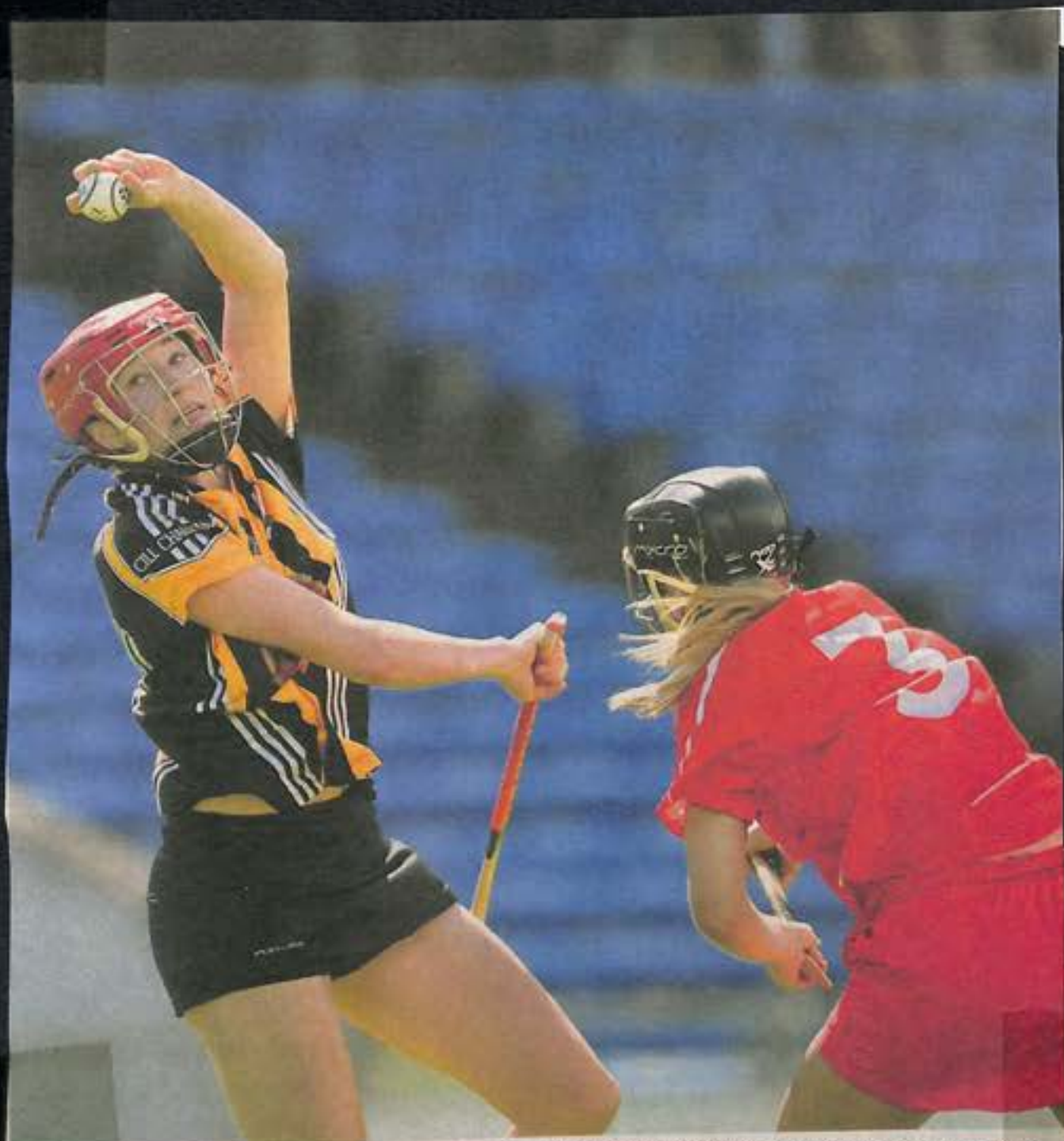
Wexford hit back through Jacob and Kate Kelly but they were rocked by the dismissal of Katrina Parrock for a second yellow after 48 minutes.

Jacob landed another free to leave six between them but Galway points from Kilkenny, and an excellent effort by Noreen Coen, sealed the win.

Scorers for Galway: N Kilkenny 1-2; N McGrath (2fs), A O'Reilly 0-3 each, B Hanney 0-2; E Haverty, N Coen 0-1.

Scorers for Wexford: U Jacob 0-5 (fs); K Kelly 0-1 (f). **GALWAY:** S Eamer, T Manton, S Dervan, H Cooney, S Cahalan, T Maher, L Ryan, N Kilkenny, M Dunne, E Haverty, N McGrath, E Kilkelly, B Hanney, A Hayes, A O'Reilly. **Subs:** N Coen for Kilkelly (39); AM Starr for Haverty (60+1).

WEXFORD: M D'Arcy, C Donohoe, N Lambert, Atkinson, B Curran, Shelly Kehoe, S Sinnott, K Kelly, F Kavanagh, J Dwyer, K Parrock, B Gordon, E O'Connor, F Rochford, U Jacob. **Subs:** F Doran for Donohoe (37); Stacey Kehoe for O'Connor (43); S McGivern for Rochford (52). **Referee:** C Egan (Cork).



Kilkenny's Denise Gaule grabs the sliothar under pressure from Cork's Maria Walsh during the Liberty Insurance All-Ireland Camogie Championship semi-final in Thurles. Kilkenny won by a point and will play Galway in the final.

CAMOGIE SENIOR CAMOGIE CHAMPIONSHIP SEMI-FINALS

Galway 1-12 Wexford 0-6

Cork 2-11 Kilkenny 2-12

JUNIOR B CAMOGIE CHAMPIONSHIP PLAYOFF

Cill Dara 1-9 Meath 2-3-8

Kerry 2-7 Kildare 1-8

AUG. 2013

GOLDEN REIGN IS OVER

ALAN AHERNE

In Semple Stadium, Thurles

GALWAY
WEXFORD1-12
0-6

THE SECOND-LONGEST reign by a Wexford team in sporting history came to an emphatic end in Semple Stadium, Thurles, on Saturday last when the reigning All-Ireland champions crashed out to Galway at the semi-final stage by a margin of nine points.

Only the four-in-a-row footballers of 1915 to 1918 had stayed at the top for longer than this crew, and we will never forget the many memorable days in the sun they gave us during their time at the helm from 2010 to 2012.

The biggest regret from this mis-match was not so much the defeat itself, as it could be argued that this had been on the cards as the campaign unfolded, particularly in the quarter-final against Offaly which the holders barely survived.

What galled the most was the fact that the team under-achieved to such an extent that they went out on an all-time low, just like the Donegal footballers a few weeks before.

In short, Wexford were outclassed, with the contest decided long before Katrina Parrock was dismissed on a second yellow card with twelve minutes left.

All six points came from frees, and it was remarkable to note that the losers didn't even strike one wide in the entire game and didn't force Galway goalkeeper Susan Eamer into any save of note. That gives a clear indication of how they simply weren't at the races, and I don't think I can ever recall an inter-county team at any level literally having no attempt at a point from play in a 60-minute game.

And in the after-match rush to condemn an admittedly whistle-happy referee, Cathal Egan from Cork, it should be remembered that Wexford received nearly twice as many frees as their rivals, 21 compared to 12 in a stop-start encounter.

Mary Leacy was always going to be an immense loss from centre-back with her shoulder injury, particularly given the well-documented absences before-hand who were not part of the squad this year.

And Wexford set out their stall once captain Noeleen Lambert won the toss and opted to play against the wind, with an ultra-defensive formation simply not working but being persisted with for far too long.

Shelley Kehoe had number six on her back and took up a loose sweeping role, with Fiona Kavanagh marking Galway centre-forward Niamh McGrath. Number ten Josie Dwyer played at midfield alongside Kate Kelly with Eimear O'Connor coming out to right half-forward, leaving Galway corner-back Heather Cooney completely free inside.

The attempt to pack the defence failed though as Galway still managed to give an inexperienced back line a torrid time as they surged into a 1-6 to 0-2 half-time lead. By game's end 1-10 of their 1-12 tally had come from play, with their first big victory over Wexford since the 2008 All-Ireland semi-final setting up a clash with Kilkenny on September 15.

Scarcely a minute had elapsed when impressive newcomer Ailish O'Reilly got them off the mark with a point from an Ann Marie Hayes handpass, although it took them a while to get into their rhythm.

While a Kate Kelly free from distance dropped short and was cleared by netminder Susan Eamer, Wexford did draw level midway through the first quarter when Ursula Jacob converted a placed ball closer to goal after Josie Dwyer was impeded.

Brenda Hanney caught the resultant puck-out and shot the first of Galway's seven wides before the break, and the holders hit the front for the one and only time in the ninth minute when another foul on the Ferns St. Aidan's player was punished again by Jacob (0-2 to 0-1).

Remarkably, it would be over half an hour before the third point would arrive, and by that stage the writing was very much on the wall. Emer Haverly latched on to a Niamh McGrath handpass and equalised before the latter pushed them clear by 0-4 to 0-2 with scores from a free and from play.

Brenda Hanney hit the side-netting from a goalscoring chance before Ann Marie Hayes was moved to midfield to mark Kate Kelly, with Molly Dunne moving in on the edge of the square. Another McGrath free



■ Ursula Jacob tries to block the clearance of Galway goalkeeper Susan Eamer.

was tapped over before Dunne played a big part in the goal that really hammered home the challengers' advantage.

It arrived in the 21st minute, shortly after an Ursula Jacob free from 45 metres close to the left touchline dropped short and was cleared by Therese Maher. Dunne won possession in the right corner and while her low delivery was initially cut out, it wasn't cleared and Ailish O'Reilly's handpass picked out the rushing Niamh Kilkenny for a well-taken goal (1-5 to 0-2).

Fortunately, an over-eager Galway followed up with four wides or else they could have been out of sight by the interval, although they still tacked on another point courtesy of Ailish O'Reilly in added time. Ursula Jacob ended the half on the '40, with Katrina Parrock beside her on the right wing while Eimear O'Connor moved into the left corner, although they were back in their original positions on the re-start.

Parrock followed Bridget Curran into the referee's notebook inside four minutes of the re-start for a chop which appeared a harsh call given that there was no intent or malice involved, but it was to have serious consequences for the attacker.

Brenda Hanney, prospering from a placing on the left flank where she teamed up admirably with Ailish O'Reilly, widened the gap to eight before Frances Doran replaced Clara Donohoe in the 37th minute, and Ursula Jacob was then booked for disputing a line ball call after Bridget Curran had suffered the same fate in the first-half.

The Wexford scoring drought was finally ended when Ursula Jacob pointed a free from 40 metres with nearly 40 minutes gone, but Galway replied immediately when Ailish O'Reilly flashed a rising shot over the bar after good work by Brenda Hanney. O'Reilly then returned the compliment for Hanney to make it 1-9 to 0-3, and it was impossible to see a way back.

Stacey Kehoe came on for Eimear O'Connor while Ursula Jacob moved to the edge of the square, but Wexford never posed a threat up front although they did rally briefly with three points on the trot between the 44th and 52nd minutes. All three came from frees, with two from Jacob after fouls on Brid Gordon and Fiona Kavanagh while Kate Kelly landed one from further out in between after she was impeded (1-9 to 0-6).

Brenda Hanney entered the notebook for a foul on

Bridget Curran just before Katrina Parrock was removed from the action for a shoulder on Heather Cooney, while Kate Kelly also picked up a yellow card before Susie McGovern came into the fray for Fiona Rochford.

Galway eased to victory in the closing minutes as Josie Dwyer became the third Wexford player to be booked for dissent, with the westerners adding three points courtesy of Niamh Kilkenny, substitute Noreen Coen and Kilkenny again to really hammer home their advantage. Brenda Hanney was also denied a goal when Mags D'Arcy rushed out to smother her effort on a day when absolutely nothing went according to plan.



■ Ailish O'Reilly crashes home the Galway goal as Bridget Curran, Clara Donohoe and Eimear O'Connor look on.

WEXFORD

SCORERS: Ursula Jacob (0-5 frees), Kate Kelly (0-1 free).

1. Mags D'Arcy
2. Clara Donohoe
3. Noeleen Lambert (capt.)
4. Karen Atkinson
5. Bridget Curran
6. Shelley Kehoe
7. Shauna Sinnott
8. Kate Kelly
9. Fiona Kavanagh
10. Josie Dwyer
11. Katrina Parrock
12. Brid Gordon
13. Eimear O'Connor
14. Fiona Rochford
15. Ursula Jacob

SUBS: Frances Doran for Donohoe (37), Stacey Kehoe for O'Connor (42), Susie McGovern for Rochford (52).

GALWAY

SCORERS: Niamh Kilkenny (1-2), Ailish O'Reilly (0-3), Niamh McGrath (0-3, 2 frees), Brenda Hanney (0-2), Emer Haverly and Noreen Coen (0-1 each).

1. Susan Eamer
2. Therese Mariton
3. Sarah Dervan
4. Heather Cooney
5. Sinéad Cahalan
6. Therese Maher
7. Lorraine Ryan (capt.)
8. Niamh Kilkenny
9. Molly Dunne
10. Emer Haverly
11. Niamh McGrath
12. Emma Kilkenny
13. Brenda Hanney
14. Ann Marie Hayes
15. Ailish O'Reilly

SUBS: Noreen Coen for Kilkenny (39), Ann Marie Starr for Haverly (50 + 1).

REFEREE: Cathal Egan (Cork).

VENUE: Semple Stadium, Thurles.

SPORTS ALL-IRELAND SENIOR CAMOGIE CHAMPIONSHIP SEMI-FINAL



Kilkenny's Aisling Dunphy, Elaine Aylward and Ann Dalton celebrate victory over Cork in the All-Ireland senior camogie semi-final at Semple Stadium.

SNARLING CATS!

All efforts aimed towards September 15 and All-Ireland final in Croke Park

KILKENNY	2-12
CORK	2-11

CAMOGIE WITH MICHAEL O'LEARY
email: sports@kilkennypeople.ie

WOW! What a pulsating, epic and whirlwind contest! This All-Ireland senior camogie semi-final will live long in the memory as the Cats roared.

Victory earned Kilkenny a place in the All-Ireland final in Croke Park on Sunday, September 15 against Galway. They out-scored Cork by 1-3 to 0-3 during the closing 10 minutes to secure a famous victory.

Opening backed by the breeze, Kilkenny trailed to early goals from Katriona Mackey and Julia White. They responded with Katie Power in mesmerising form as she accounted for 1-3 of the first half total to lead by 1-7 to 2-3 at the interval.

Kilkenny began strongly in the new half with points from Aisling Dunphy and Denise

Gaule, but Cork responded with Julia White and Orla Cotter very prominent as they led 2-8 to 1-9 entering the closing 10 minutes.

However, Kilkenny kept plugging away. They got their just rewards when a long range free by Ann Dalton was brilliantly flicked overhead off the stick of Denise Gaule, 2-9 to 2-8.

Orla Cotter replied immediately to level before Katie Power added a superb point to restore Kilkenny's lead, 2-10 to 2-9. Team captain and substitute Michelle Quilty added an excellent point to double the lead inside the closing five minutes, but Cork were not finished.

Angela Walsh blazed a golden chance inches over the crossbar to narrow the gap before another substitute, Kelly Hamilton fired over a glorious point to restore Kilkenny's lead, 2-12 to 2-10.

Cork kept battling to the end. Aisling Thompson added a point in the second minute of injury-time, and they chased a late equaliser with all their

might.

Determined Kilkenny held out for a deserved victory. From the championship disaster of 2012 when they lost to Dublin in the quarter-final play-off stage, the Cats are now All-Ireland finalists.

The management team deserve huge praise, along with the players for the magnificence of the combined effort. Saturday's effort in Thurles wasn't Kilkenny's most effective display, and a number of players can improve, but the will to battle, to go through the pain barrier for the cause was simply magnificent.

Edwina Keane at centre-back was wonderful during the second-half when she commanded. Keane showed the heart of a lion as she constantly stopped Cork's attacks. She was inspiring.

Mairead Power, after an uncertain opening, thundered into the game. She turned in a hugely determined display to curb the threat of the dangerous Katriona Mackey. Kate McDonald showed best during the second-half, while the

experienced Elaine Aylward was mighty during the closing quarter.

The forwards, despite not always enjoying the best of luck, never stopped working. Aisling Dunphy was magnificent, the best player over the hour. Her work-rate was superb. The St Brigid's, Ballycallan player won a number of frees that proved vital in the end.

Katie Power scored 1-4 from play, 1-3 in the first-half when Kilkenny were under pressure. Also significant was the contribution of the subs.

Michelle Quilty and Kelly Hamilton added a point each during that closing stages, while the introduction of Collette Dormer in the closing 12 minutes brought a steadying presence around midfield.

Cork were great too, with Aoife Murray, Pamela Mackey and Maria Walsh very good along with Aisling Thompson. Orla Cotter, Julia White, Angela Walsh and Katriona Mackey were prominent too.

Player of the Match: Aisling Dunphy (Kilkenny).

Aisling Dunphy was the heartbeat of the team. She worked relentlessly throughout. She provided stability in tracking back to help midfield during the second-half.

Scorers: Kilkenny - Katie Power (1-4); Denise Gaule (1-1); Aoife Neary (0-3, one free, one penalty); Grace Walsh, Aisling Dunphy, Michelle Quilty and Kelly Hamilton (0-1 each). Cork - Julia White (1-2); Pamela Mackey (1-1); Orla Cotter (0-3); Angela Walsh (0-2); Brieger Corkery, Jenny O'Leary, Aisling Thompson (0-1 each).

Kilkenny - Emma Kavan-

The star
Aisling Dunphy
was the heartbeat of the team. She worked relentlessly throughout. She provided stability in tracking back to help midfield during the second-half.

agh (Rower-Inistioge), Mairead Power (Carrickshock), Kate McDonald (Thomastown), Jacqui Frisby (Ballyhale Shamrocks), Leann Fennelly (Mullinavat), Edwina Keane (St. Martins, Muckalee), Elaine Aylward (Mullinavat), Claire Phelan (Lisdowney), Ann Dalton (St. Lachtains, Freshford), Katie Power (Piltown), Aisling Dunphy (St. Brigid's, Ballycallan), Grace Walsh (Tullaroan), Shelley Farrell (Thomastown), Denise Gaule (Windgap), Aoife Neary (James Stephens) Subs - Michelle Quilty (Mullinavat) (captain) for Walsh half-time, Collette Dormer (Paulstown) for Phelan, 48 minutes, Kelly Hamilton (Rower-Inistioge) for Gaule 52 minutes.

Cork - A. Murray, P. Mackey, M. Walsh, J. O'Callaghan, D. Cronin, R. Buckley, A. Geary (capt), O. Cotter, B. Corkery, A. Thompson, J. O'Leary, E. O'Sullivan, A. Walsh, J. White, K. Mackey. Subs - S. Burns for O'Sullivan; G. O'Connor for Cotter; F. Neville for Corkery. Referee: Owen Elliott (Antrim).



Kilkenny's Collette Dormer celebrates after the final whistle following the Cats' victory over Cork in the All-Ireland senior camogie semi-final. They play Galway in the final on September 15. See pages 77 and 81.



Top Cat - Kilkenny's Katie Power with her Player of the Match award following her side's win over Cork in the All-Ireland senior camogie semi-final.

Kilkenny woman kits out for Dublin in camogie final

MARY CODY
mary.cody@kilkennypeople.ie
Twitter: @marycody

A CASTLECOMER woman will play for Dublin against Offaly in Liberty Insurance All-Ireland Junior A Camogie Championship final.

Georgina Kelly is from Castlecomer and cites DJ Carey and Willie O'Connor as her sporting heroes. On Sunday, she will be playing for Dublin against Offaly in the Liberty Insurance All-Ireland Junior A Camogie Championship final.

"I have never played in an All-Ireland final before at any level. It's nice to be part of it. The girls have worked so hard," she notes.

It's her first year playing for Dublin. "We have had a wonderful season. It has all gone well so far.

"The girls made me feel very welcome. I appreciated that even more because I'm not from Dublin. But they saw to it that I fitted right in."

Georgina, who played underage for Kilkenny is



Georgina Kelly who will play for Dublin on Sunday

thrilled that she has returned to the sport.

"I gave it up for a couple of years. I only came back to it last season," she said.

"I'm so glad I did. It's great to be back. I'm sorry I waited so long. I missed it. I feel fortunate that I am taking the frees because there are other people who have the ability to take them," she reasons.

"I'm just happy to see them go over because it's the work of the other players that have earned them in the first place. They should be getting the credit rather than me," she said.

Aug. 2013

SPORTS ACTION FROM THE CAMOGIE SEMI-FINAL

TALK TO US



@KKPEOPLESPT
FACEBOOK.COM/KILKENNY-PEOPLE



Yes! Kilkenney's Leanne Fennelly shows what that winning feeling is like after the Cats beat Cork to secure their place in the All-Ireland senior camogie final in September. Kilkenney got the edge in a tight game, handing the Rebelettes their first defeat of the year on a 2-12 to 2-11 scoreline in Semple Stadium on Saturday. This will be Kilkenney's first final since 2009, when they lost to Cork - their last success at this grade came in 1994.



Elaine Aylward (Kilkenney) in action against Katriona Mackey (Cork).



The Kilkenney team who beat Cork to book their place in the All-Ireland senior camogie final. The Cats will take on Galway in the September 15 decider.



Kilkenney's Katie Power tussles with Cork's Rena Buckley



Denise Gaulle (Kilkenney) in action against Maria Walsh (Cork)

Revitalised Galway floor champions in Thurles showdown

Depleted Wexford unable to cope with Ward's charges as lively Tribeswomen set up final date against Cats

Galway 1-12
Wexford 0-6

DARREN KELLY
IN THURLES

IT didn't look likely in June but Galway completed their remarkable turnaround last Saturday to qualify for a fourth All-Ireland senior camogie final in six seasons.

An uninspiring league campaign that saw them fail to reach the knockout stages was followed by a desperately poor opening championship joust against Kilkenny in Athenry, but the Tribeswomen completed their road to recovery with a fifth consecutive win and sent defending champions Wexford out of the race.

Question marks have followed this Galway team since their 2011 All-Ireland final loss to the Slaneysiders and last year's tame effort at the penultimate stage against Cork, but since that loss to Kilkenny, they have responded even if the ultimate hurdle has still to be cleared.

Victories over Wexford, Clare and Derry cemented a quarter-final spot and they showed an element of ruthlessness in dispatching Tipperary. But could Galway forget the occasion for this semi-final and hurl?

The Model county were a depleted force this year fielding only eight of last year's All-Ireland final team and missing centre back Mary Leacy through injury. But they still fielded many of the 2011 intermediate winners, so a strong challenge was expected.

In the second minute, a quick pass from Ann Marie Hayes to Ailish O'Reilly for the opening point showed Galway were



Galway's Niamh Kilkenny celebrates after scoring the only goal of the All-Ireland semi-final.

ready for battle, but they still made a slow start with the wind and it took them a quarter hour to make an impact.

The refereeing was scrutinised on television Sunday night but, technically, Cathal Egan called many decisions correct even though it was unfortunate Wexford's Katrina Parrock saw the line in the second half.

Galway were happy to keep Wexford out and another admirable characteristic was their willingness to throw themselves into the tackle. All afternoon, the Tribeswomen hunted in packs winning many scores as a result and Wexford couldn't create any significant scoring chances. Amazingly, JJ Doyle's charges didn't score from play and failed to register a single wide.

However, any frees they did

receive were converted by Ursula Jacob and she put Wexford 0-2 to 0-1 ahead on nine minutes but Emer Haverty restored parity after a move involving Hayes and O'Reilly. Galway were starting to dominate and three Niamh McGrath points put three between the teams while Brenda Hanney hit the side netting before the crucial goal arrived in the 23rd minute.

And what a score it was! Started in defence with Therese Maher winning possession, she fed Hayes who was revelling in her new midfield role. The Killimor player's long delivery into the corner found Molly Dunne who managed a cross field ball to O'Reilly. Despite being dispossessed, the Oranmore/Maree forward chased back the sliothar before sending the pass to the lurking Niamh Kilkenny who struck to

the net. Galway were moving out of sight.

O'Reilly has been a revelation of the knockout stages and has been fulfilling the promise evident three years ago in the All-Ireland winning underage teams. She got her second score before half-time to give the maroon and white a 1-6 to 0-2 interval lead and didn't relent in the second period.

Many in Thurles were expecting a Wexford revival with the elements, but it was O'Reilly and Hanney terrorising the Leinster team as Galway moved 1-9 to 0-3 clear by the 41st minute. Hanney sent over two white flags while O'Reilly's third point dropped over the bar after an excellent Mags D'Arcy save.

Jacob had registered her third free but the Slaneysiders were allowed a glimmer of hope when two more placed balls from the 2011 All-Ireland winning captain and one from Kate Kelly left just six between the teams, but that would be as close as Wexford got.

Parrock had received her marching orders when her strong shoulder on Heather Cooney resulted in a second yellow but Galway finished strongly with Noreen Coen pointing and Kilkenny adding two to her tally for a nine-point victory.

And in that All-Ireland final on September 15, Kilkenny will again provide the opponents and an opportunity for Galway to complete the unlikely of recoveries towards that elusive O'Duffy Cup. However, the Noreiders will enter that game as favourites after an undefeated championship campaign that has seen them topple Galway, Wexford and Cork.

Earned did the necessary between the sticks; Maher was the pick of a defensive sextet

Hard to see past a Milford victory

CAMOGIE

By LINDA MELLERICK

SUNDAY

Evening Echo Senior Championship quarter-final: Milford v Inniscarra, Mounseabbey, 6.30pm.

AGREEMENT between both clubs has led to Milford and Inniscarra bringing forward their quarter-final championship meeting to this Sunday. The remaining senior fixtures will be down for action September 21/22.

With the exception of Ballinhassig and St Finbarr's all other second round ties have been played and our quarter finalists to date are: St Catherine's, Cloughduv, Milford, Inniscarra, Ballincollig, Killeagh and Douglas.

While one never goes out to throw a game you'd have to feel for Inniscarra who after defeating Ballincollig in their opening round get presented with a quarter-final clash with raging hot favourites Milford. Ballincollig on the other hand, having defeated Courcy Rovers now face Cloughduv, an easier proposition.

But that's the way it has fallen and Inniscarra certainly will be buoyed for this one. They had six points to spare over Ballincollig yet the latter feel that they didn't turn up at all on the day.

Inniscarra have fallen from their great success of 2010/11 yet still remain a highly competitive side. They have had their fair share of disappointments with injuries to key players and travel. Niamh McCarthy, Orla Healy and Joanne Casey to name a few. A lot of clubs have been hit with players travelling either for pleasure, college or work but it's the injuries which can be hard to take.

They never give in and last year reached the semi-final only to narrowly lose out to St Catherine's in a game they were fancied to win. St Catherine's were subsequently heavily defeated in a one sided final. Regardless of who came through there would have been no stopping Milford that day.

Milford since that final have improved even greater. Their annihilation of Courcy Rovers in round 1 by 6-29 to 0-5 speaks volumes for the gap that has arisen after Rovers had ran them close last year. But Rovers were missing Christine O'Neill, Rachel Moloney and Julia Mulcahy through injury and they were three huge losses. It is hard to see Inniscarra holding the scoring power that Milford possess of Aine and Marie Watson, Marie O'Neill and Deirdre O'Reilly alongside players further out the field of Aisling Thompson, Maria Walsh, Elaine O'Riordan and Anna Geary. The loss of Frank Flannery as manager this year hasn't dampened Milford's play or spirits with James McGrath, a selector last year, keeping a very high intensity going.

Inniscarra will give their all but it's difficult to see it being enough

which kept a clean sheet; Kilkenny put in her best display of the season; and O'Reilly stood out in an attack that frustrated their opponents all after-

noon.

Galway: S. Eamer; T. Manton, S. Dervan, H. Cooney; S. Cahalan, T. Maher, L. Ryan; N. Kilkenny (1-2), M. Dunne; E. Haverty (0-1), N. McGrath (0-3, two frees), E. Kilkenny;

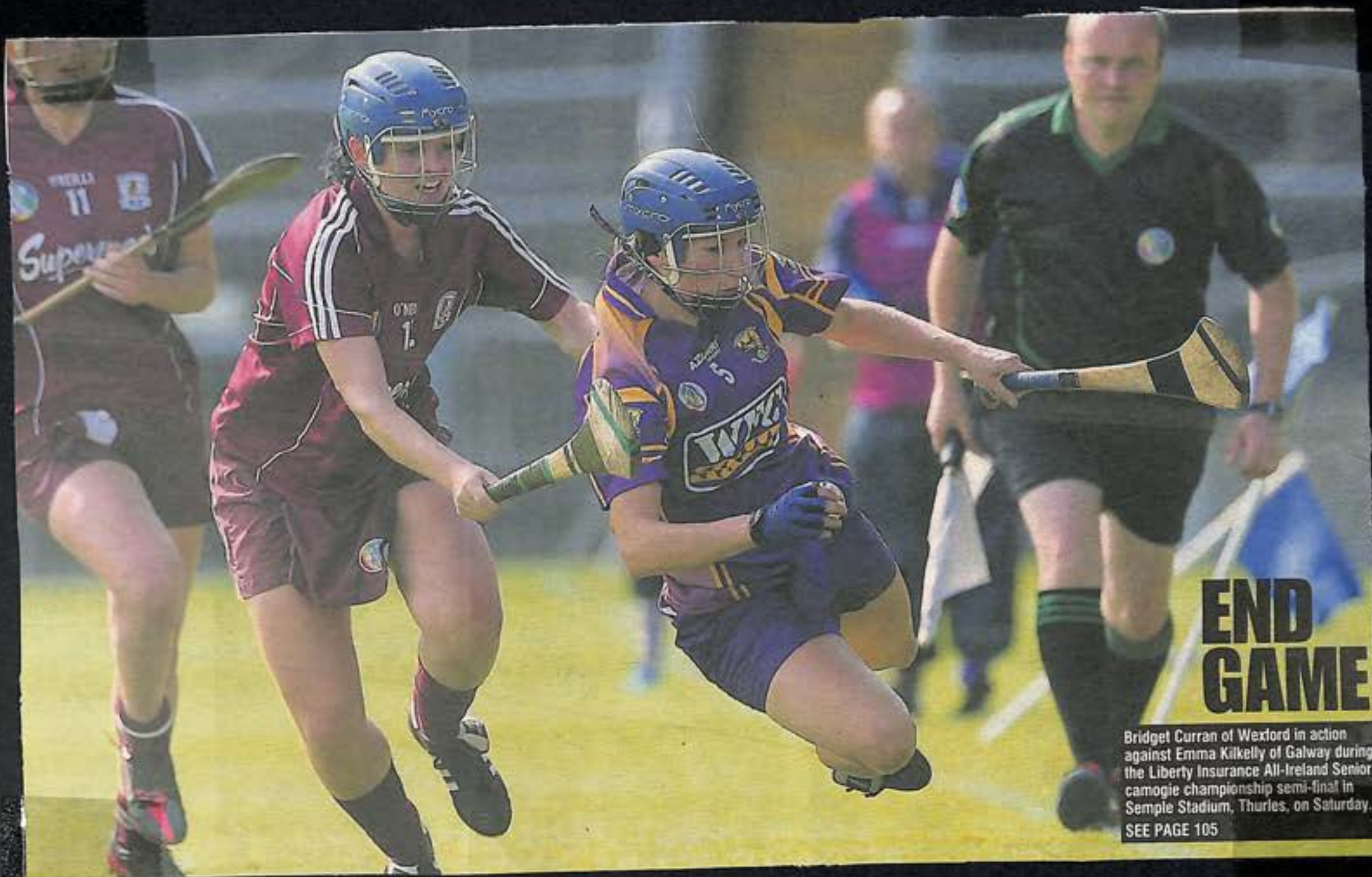
B. Hanney (0-2), AM Hayes, A. O'Reilly (0-3). Subs: N. Coen (0-1 for Kilkenny (39 mins), AM Starr for Haverty (60 mins).

Wexford: M. D'Arcy; C. Donohue, N. Lambert, K. Atkinson; B. Curran, Shelly Kehoe, S. Sinnott; K. Kelly (0-1, free), F. Kavanagh;

J. Dwyer, K. Parrock, B. Gordon; E. O'Connor, F. Rochford, U. Jacob (0-5, all frees). Subs: F. Doran for Donohue (37 mins), Stacey Kehoe for O'Connor (43 mins), S. McGovern for Rochford (52 mins).

Referee: C. Egan (Cork)

AUG. 2013



**END
GAME**
Bridget Curran of Wexford in action against Emma Kilkelly of Galway during the Liberty Insurance All-Ireland Senior camogie championship semi-final in Semple Stadium, Thurles, on Saturday.
SEE PAGE 105



Galway attacker Ailish O'Reilly takes on Wexford's Clara Donohoe during Saturday's All-Ireland camogie semi-final in Thurles. PHOTOS: CAROLINE QUINN.

Aug. 2013



Camogie latest news



LINDA MELLERICK

CAMOGIE

THE gloom surrounding Cork's All-Ireland semi-final defeat to Kilkenny last Saturday seemed greater than that which hung in the air after last September's final defeat to Wexford.

I personally always felt that to lose an All-Ireland final was utter heart-break and often I wished, after losing, that we had never got there at all. But of course, that's not true; of course you want to get there.

A semi-final is no man's land. Cork failing to reach the final this year is a massive disappointment.

A number of Cork players didn't get into the game. You might cope with two or three having an off day but you won't cope with seven or eight. Yet Cork could have at the very least snatched a draw and that makes the defeat even harder to take.

I have huge time for Paudie Murray and his co-selectors of Brian Barry, George Fitzgibbon and Ellen Clifford. I know the massive effort they have put in and I will them to win this All Ireland.

There was nothing wrong whatsoever in the way Cork prepared for this game, how they prepared all year in fact. It was top class.

Decisions are made in heat of battle when emotions are high. Some work, others don't. Unfortunately I think mistakes were made on the line on the day.

I think Cork's management erred in not introducing Finola Neville at half time. Firstly I can't understand why management teams wait until the start of the second half to withdraw players.

Cork waited until three minutes into the second half to replace Eimear O'Sullivan. If they decided at half time they were going to withdraw Eimear, then do it. If they decided that they wanted to give her a further chance to get into the game, then why give her only three minutes?

The timing of that substitution did nothing for Eimear (who now had to run off the pitch in front of everyone) nor did it do anything for the confidence of the team who possibly emerged from the dressing room with great intent only for a quick substitution to pull them back fifteen minutes.

Secondly, I'd question why Finola Neville was left on the bench? She, in my view, should have been Cork's first choice sub up front.

She has been performing brilliantly for St Catherine's and the Cork intermediates. Once the intermediates were out she got her senior opportunity against Offaly four weeks ago where she came on in the 53rd minute and scored three excellent points.

She's a brilliant impact sub. I know that management were delighted having someone of her calibre on the bench. Yet she remained unused.

Lynda O'Connell is another that I would have introduced. People often refer to Lynda as not having 'great



Cork's Maria Walsh passes ahead of Kilkenny's Aisling Dunphy during their Liberty Insurance All-Ireland Senior Camogie Championship semi-final at Semple Stadium last weekend. Picture: INPHO

Don't read too much into defeat

hurling'. Lynda might even say that herself, but for a corner-back there is nothing wrong with her hurling.

She may not clear the ball 70 metres but she'll clear it 30 and once the clearance is intelligent then what's wrong with that? The most important wording here is that 'she'll clear it' and what more do you want from your corner-back? No one would get past Lynda easily.

Oria Cotter wasn't having a great game overall (having just returned from a broken thumb injury) but she had picked off three second-half points. Her third came in the 50th minute and she was substituted in the 55th.

That was a surprise.

If Cork needed an injection there were plenty of other players not performing who I believe should have been taken at that time.

My mind was in overdrive as I drove home from Thurles. I wondered if we have now opened the

floodgates for Kilkenny.

I recalled how in 1999 we were hot favourites to win three in a row. We had run away with the league, defeated Tipperary in the final by something like 30 points. Tipp were mentally destroyed after that and brought in Michael Cleary.

We went on our championship way and lost the semi-final to a Kilkenny team we on another day would have beaten by four goals. Tipperary beat Kilkenny by a point in the final and went on to win three in a row and five titles in six years.

We had given Tipp their opening and they were a different side after that.

Had we done the same here for Kilkenny? I have harped on about their U16 and minor titles over the past eight years.

I've always spoken highly of their skill. What I always said was lacking was leaders, desire, belief, aggression to win. They have it now. If

they win this year's All-Ireland they'll have it in abundance in 2014.

Then I pulled myself back and said 'STOP! Let's balance the reaction here'.

I'm always amazed how a single point on either side of winning or losing can create such a diverse viewpoint. Counties win by a point and the consensus is:

'We're flying, we're riding on the crest of a wave, we're doing everything right and we're here now for the next three years at least'.

Lose by a point and it's all negativity:

'We're going to be down for years, our future is bleak, the underage structure is wrong, the management team is wrong, the players aren't there, etc, etc'.

And here I was doing the same thing.

We're not down and out! We're far from it. We were favourites for the All-Ireland this year remember and

that doesn't go away overnight. Not by a point!

We've certainly a few areas to work on but what county doesn't.

Our underage development needs to be reviewed. A committee should possibly be formed to solely focus here.

A few topics; great effort is going in by a small few into development squads and that effort is to be applauded. Yet such is its short term act, is it really developing players to any great extent?

Are we picking the right players for our inter-county teams? Are we selecting management teams too late into the season when really May and June are almost defunct due to Junior and Leaving Cert exams?

Camogie in our schools is a concern. Can we get funding from somewhere to develop this alone? As with any job however, proper selection is a must and regular reviews thereafter to ensure the employee is performing.

This shouldn't be a cushy, non monitored number for someone to earn a few easy euro. We've lost underage titles in recent years but not by a great margin.

Volunteerism is an issue in camogie but I always believe obstacles can be overcome. Now is the time to be putting some thought into this and getting the right people in, not next December or January.

Cork versus Kilkenny would have been a great final. For a league system to have the top two teams play each other in the semi-final was madness. The fact that we lost obviously highlights it more from Cork's perspective. I'm sure Kilkenny would feel the same if the shoe was on the other foot.

That's what both teams were dealt however and the better team won on the day.

We'll be back though.



Team Captains Patrice Diggin, Kerry, and Lynn Winters, Meath, at a photocall in Croke ahead of the All-Ireland Junior B Camogie Final which takes place this Sunday in Cloughjordan, Co Tipperary. Photo by Caroline Quinn



Hazel Byrne of Kerry goes over Kildare's Louise Qualler in the All Ireland Junior B championship semi final at Clane. Photo by Adrian Mella

Camogie team set for a Royal encounter in All-Ireland final after semi-final win over Lilywhites

KERRY CAMOGIE CORNER

FIONA CASEY

All-Ireland Junior 'B' Play-off (semi-final)

Kerry 2-8
Kildare 1-7

KERRY qualified for the All-Ireland Junior B camogie final against Meath after overcoming Kildare in a tense play-off semi-final in Clane last Sunday.

Kerry had the aid of the breeze in the opening half and capitalised with points from Aoife Fitzgerald, Rosie Young and Annmarie Leen. Former former Clare camogie player Niamh Daffy who has made a welcome return to the panel goaled with minutes remaining in the first half to leave it Kerry 1-6 Kildare 0-2.

Kildare came out in the second half a different team and their minor star Emer O'Reilly contributed 1-5 to her side's tally. With their tails up, along with momentum and the strong wind, it was all Kildare and they levelled matters with thirteen minutes remaining. The game entered the final quarter with both teams giving it their all as this was do or die.

For the victors a place in

the All Ireland Final, for the defeated, their year was over. Kerry were struggling with the wind and coughed up possession to their opponents, who drove and drove at the Kingdom's defence.

However up popped the Kerry captain Laura Collins to break the deadlock and scored the all important goal to put some breathing space between the sides. An injury to Annmarie Leen resulted in over five minutes of stoppage time being played.

Nerves frayed on both sidelines, the teams still going for it, but Kerry held out for a sweet victory, made all the more so, due to being ravaged by injury and players being unavailable to play this year.

So, Kerry are back in the final where they will play Meath, who will be very confident having beaten Kerry twice already in this campaign. Carlow put paid to Kerry's dreams last year in the final, but that experience should stand to the team this weekend.

They say you have to lose one to win one. Winning an All Ireland medal is never easy, and it will take a huge effort from the girls to pull this off, but the team were not supposed to make the final either, but here they are, on merit having dug it out with the odds stacked against them.

With the Under-16s and Minors exiting their Championships at the semi final stages, all hope now rests

with this junior team. We wish them and the management of David Doyle, Pete Young, David Moran and Kevin O'Mahony the best of luck. God speed in the race for the Mairé ni Chinnéide All Ireland Championship cup.

KERRY: Michelle O'Carroll, Thelise Moran, Laura Collins, Hazel Byrne, Aileen Coridan, Aine O'Connor, Michelle Costello, Orla Young, Emma Horgan, Annmarie Leen, Rosie Young, Elaine Ryall, Niamh Daffy, Aoife Fitzgerald, Ruth Wallace, Gloria Keane, Cindy Cronin, Cora Carroll, Michelle Enright, Tiara Brassil, Michelle Coridan.

The Liberty Insurance All Ireland Junior final will be played in McDonagh Park, Cloughjordan at 3.15pm on Sunday August 25. Your support for the team would be most appreciated.

Club News

Limerick Intermediate C'ship Rd 2
Clanmaurice 1-6 Na Piar-sigh 4-13

Killarney U-10/12s travelled to Causeway last Saturday and enjoyed two very keenly contested games with Causeway just edging out in both.

U14/16 Limerick Championships commence on August 29 for Causeway and Cillard.

Funding for schools coaching has become available from the Munster Council, so all clubs are asked to inform the Co. Secretary if they wish to avail of this asap.

ALL-IRELAND PREMIER JUNIOR CAMOGIE CHAMPIONSHIP SEMI-FINAL DOWN V KILDARE. Saturday Donaghmore Ashbourne, 3.15pm

Down's Tinnelly is wary of favourites tag

THIS Saturday afternoon, Down's senior camogs travel to the familiar stomping ground of Ashbourne bidding to secure their safe passage to another Premier Junior All-Ireland decider.

Having lost out in the last two All-Ireland finals, there is perhaps an expectancy that the Mourne girls will sail through their semi-final assignment against Kildare, but defender Karen Tinnelly is urging caution.

"A lot of people outside of the squad might think that it's a foregone conclusion that Down are going to be in a fourth All-Ireland final in a row, but we know it's certainly not as straightforward as that. Kildare have beaten us twice this year already, so we know we're in for a real battle.

"We know that we can win, we know that we've got what it takes to beat them, but it's about everyone being on their game and producing the performance both individually

and collectively on the day."

Down finished third in the table in the group stages, having lost out to both Laois and Kildare who finished above them, but securing wins over Westmeath, Roscommon and Armagh. Now though, Tinnelly knows they need to raise their performance levels if they are to continue their interest in the All-Ireland series.

"The group stages went ok, but could have gone better. There were a few instances where it was that same story for us of too little, too late, leaving it to the last minute to try and turn it around. But we've learned from that, we need to produce it for an hour and not just for a half."

When the two sides met in the group stages at Paire Esler, it was the Lilywhites who emerged victorious on a 1-16 to 1-10 final scoreline. Tinnelly was impressed by what she saw from the Leinster outfit, but insists that the Mourne girls have the experience and the know-how to



CAUTIOUS...Karen Tinnelly

Picture: David Maher/SPORTSFILE

turn it around.

"Kildare were very quick and fast coming through the middle. They were very efficient at taking their scores, moreso maybe than we were because we should have had more scores on the board. We've analysed that game, we've worked hard on what we feel we need to do, and hopefully we can turn the tables this weekend."

VERDICT: Down

Aug. 2013



CHAMPIONSHIP

By MARY NEWMAN

THE *Evening Echo* Championships are still going strong with a full week of games down for decision and tomorrow in particular is an extremely busy day.

SENIOR B

Having defeated Fr O'Neill's in round one, Clonakilty lost out to Kilbrittain/Timoleague and Valley Rovers. They will now take on Mallow in their last game in the series.

Mallow are in a good position having drawn with Kilbrittain/Timoleague and defeating Fr O'Neill's.

They will be hoping to overcome Clon and with a game to go against Valley Rovers they are still very much in the hunt for a place in the semi-finals.

Valleys faced Kilbrittain/Timoleague last night.

In the other group, Glen Rovers — with two wins to their credit over Ballygarvan and Éire Óg — meet Aghabullogue with their semi-final spot secured. Their mid-Cork opponents are out.

INTERMEDIATE

Tracton and Newcestown meet in a hugely important contest at Castle Road on Sunday morning, while on Wednesday evening Blackrock and Buttevant clash.

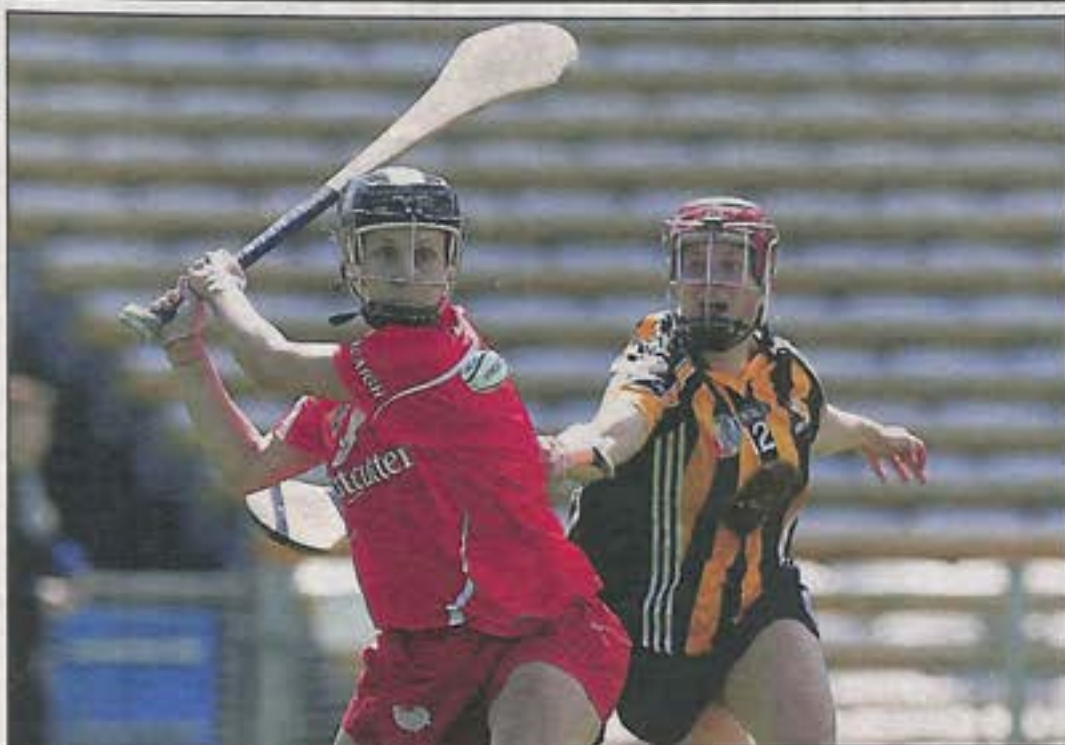
Tracton are on four points with two wins to their credit out of two, while Newcestown are on two points and need a win to stay in the hunt. Blackrock are also on two victories and also need a victory.

Were Newcestown and Blackrock to win, it would mean a three-way play-off for the two semi-final spots.

Tracton can secure their place with a win but Newcestown will have other ideas.

Collette Desmond missed their game against Blackrock and she will be a huge asset to them as they battle it out with Tracton.

It will be a much more relaxed atmosphere when Newtownshandrum and Carrigaline meet in the last game in their section, with both having already secured their semi-final spots.



Cork's Aoife Murray clears ahead of Kilkenny's Katie Power during their Liberty Insurance All-Ireland Senior Camogie Championship semi-final clash at Semple Stadium last weekend. Picture: INPHO

Mallow are still in the hunt

JUNIOR

Enniskeane and Sliabh Rua both have their *Evening Echo* Junior A semi-final spots secured, so their meeting in Bandon will be to decide who tops the group. Watergrasshill and Na Piarsaigh finished as winners and runners-up respectively in the other group.

In the *Evening Echo* Junior B Championship, Glen Rovers and Ballinascorthy meet on

Monday. The Glen already beat the Barrs, while their opponents haven't played yet.

Bride Rovers, having lost their first game to Youghal, will battle hard to get one over on a Courcy Rovers side playing in their first game.

FIXTURES SUNDAY

Evening Echo Senior Championship: Cloughduv v Barryroe, Bandon, 2pm.
Evening Echo Intermediate Championship: Tracton v Newcestown, Castle Road, 11.30am; Carrigaline v Newtown-

shandrum, Castle Road, 4.30pm.
Evening Echo Junior A Championship: Sliabh Rua v Enniskeane, Bandon, 2pm.

MONDAY

Evening Echo Junior B Championship: Glen Rovers v Ballinascorthy, Glen Rovers, 7.15pm.

WEDNESDAY

Evening Echo Senior B Championship: Mallow v Clonakilty, Castle Road, 7pm.
Evening Echo Intermediate Championship: Buttevant v Blackrock, venue TBC, 7pm.

FRIDAY

Evening Echo Senior B Championship: Glen Rovers v Aghabullogue, venue TBC, 7pm.

Watergrasshill make it three wins from three

CHAMPIONSHIP

By MARY NEWMAN

ALREADY a few clubs have secured their semi-final spots but the battle continues for many as the elusive spots are still very much there for the taking.

It was a relatively quiet weekend on the match front with the All-Ireland semi-finals taking centre stage but never the less some important games and results were to the fore.

SENIOR B

Mallow remain undefeated after they overcame Fr O'Neill's in a close contest in Castle Road, with a draw to their credit already from their clash with Kilbrittain/Timoleague and with two games to go against Valley Rovers and Clonakilty, a win was important to Mallow.

The sides were level five points each at the break and a goal from Mallow's Miriam Byrne was hugely important for them in a game where Michelle Browne notched up seven points, while Bronagh Ganley and Claudia Byrne were on target with points in their 1-9 to 0-6 victory.

JUNIOR

Watergrasshill made it three out of three to finish top of Section A in the *Evening Echo* Junior A Championship as they defeated Bishopstown in Castle Road.

Two first-half goals from Michelle Sheehan and Edel Murphy helped Watergrasshill enjoy a 2-6 to 1-2 interval lead after Olivia Lane had got one for Bishopstown in the opening half. With Sarah O'Sullivan impressing in goal in the second-half, Bishopstown upped the pace and they came more into the game with Maebh Scannell, Eithne Duggan and Oral Ni Dhomhnaill working hard. Maebh Scannell grabbed a second Bishopstown goal, but Michelle Sheehan hit a third for Watergrasshill to ensure victory was secured.

Na Piarsaigh ensured they finished Section A as runners-up to take their semi-final spot when they overcame Kildorrery with one point to spare in a contest where Kildorrery raced into an 0-5 to 0-3 interval lead. Second-half goals from Erin McElhinney and Aoife Moynihan ensured Na Piarsaigh grabbed their second win on a 2-3 to 0-8 scoreline.

Charleville had to dig deep to record a victory over Cobh when the sides met in the deciding game of their section in Charleville in the *Evening Echo* Junior C competition. Just three points separated the sides, 1-10 to 2-4, but it was enough to see Charleville secure a semi-final spot. Banteer overcame Blarney in the last game but with Castletyons having two victories they secure the semi spot.

Cobh 2-6, Charleville 1-7

An entertaining and close Junior Summer Cup final in Castle Road was played in superb weather conditions.

Cobh edged out a Charleville side that earlier in the week had defeated them in championship. Cobh showed their determination from the start and taking the game to their opponents they hit the front early with two Katie Sheehan points before Charleville narrowed the gap.

Chloe Smith sent a superb ground stroke to the net before a pointed free from Erica Field saw Cobh open up a five-point interval lead.

As the full-time whistle loomed a point from Katie Sheehan put two between the teams and with their defence again under pressure they held firm to take the title.

Limerick hurdle next for camogie team



The walking wounded includes Edel Guy (left) and Aoife Thompson who are both on the injured list ahead of Saturday's All-Ireland Camogie semi-final against Limerick.

CAMOGIE

CONALL COLLIER

MEATH camogie enthusiasts will be heading to Banagher this Saturday, 1.0, where the Royal County will be bidding to make it to back-to-back All-Ireland finals following last year's tremendous Premier Junior title success at Croke Park.

Twelve months on and a new-look team still under the guidance of former county hurling manager John Davis will be aiming to step up to the plate in a higher grade when they take on the considerable talents of Limerick in the All-Ireland Intermediate semi-final.

Meath camogie has travelled a long road in the past few years since they captured the Junior B Nancy Murray Cup in 2009 after losing two deciders in 2008 and 2007.

Following that success Meath acclimatised to life in a faster lane and made it to successive Premier Junior semi-

finals in 2010 and 2011 before making the breakthrough last year when they captured the title with a thrilling victory over Down at Croke Park last September.

Life in the intermediate grade posed some tough questions for Meath after they got through the Div 2 League campaign where they recorded victories over Waterford (0-8 to 0-5) and Antrim (2-6 to 1-5), managed a draw with Galway (0-8 apiece) and Wexford (0-6 apiece) and lost to Saturday's opponents Limerick.

That defeat by Limerick was a hefty one as Meath slumped to an 11-point (1-8 to 4-10) reversal last March.

"This will be a big test for us, Limerick will be expected to win comfortably and we have a number of injury worries which won't help us either," manager Davis told the Meath Chronicle this week.

Definitely out of Saturday's game are Edel Guy (Trim) and Aoife Thompson (Dunboyne) who are both on the injured list while Jane Dolan will miss

part of her brother's wedding in Portlaoise on Saturday to take her place on the team.

She will head for Portlaoise after the final whistle.

"All the pressure will be on Limerick as they also clinched the Div 2 title," suggested Davis.

"However, I know the girls are up for this test and I wouldn't rule out a shock," he added.

Limerick defeated Kilkenny (1-12 to 1-8), Antrim (1-21 to 2-9), Waterford (2-20 to 2-9), but lost to Cork (0-11 to 3-9) on the way to the last four.

Meath recovered from a 0-4 to 0-13 defeat in the first round by Galway and recorded big wins over Tipperary and Wexford.

If Meath can produce another performance of the calibre that saw them record a 4-14 to 0-6 victory over Tipperary, then the manager's prediction of a shock for Limerick could materialise.

Meath u-16 and Junior B teams will play in All-Ireland finals on Sunday at Cloughjordan.

If Collig can click they will advance

CAMOGIE

By MARY NEWMAN

IT'S BACK to local championship after the disappointment in Thurles last weekend and it is a chance for several of the Cork senior squad to get back into the swing of things as their clubs battle to stay in contention for the *Evening Echo* senior title.

Two losers rounds are down for decision this weekend with Cloughduv meeting Barryroe and Courcey Rovers in action against Ballincollig.

TONIGHT

Evening Echo Senior Championship: Courcey Rovers v Ballincollig, Cloughduv, 7.15pm.

Courceys are minus several of their regulars this year with former inter-county player Rachel Moloney and Julia Mulcahy marked absent through injury and without doubt this had a big bearing on their performance against Milford in the first round.

In that contest they simply had no answers as the All-Ireland champions brushed their challenge aside with a huge display to advance to the quarter-finals and consigned Courceys to the losers' round.

Ballincollig played out a tough battle with Inniscarra before losing out by two goals in their opening round game and will be looking for a better display from everybody this time round.

Courceys will be hoping to have a stronger line-up for this vital clash and while it is unlikely Moloney will start, we may see her having a say in proceedings before the full time whistle sounds as she is listed among the substitutes.

Currently recovering from a broken ankle, her influence if available, would be huge. Julia Mulcahy is another fine young player who has shown great promise at inter-county level but all season she has been unavailable with a recurring knee injury.

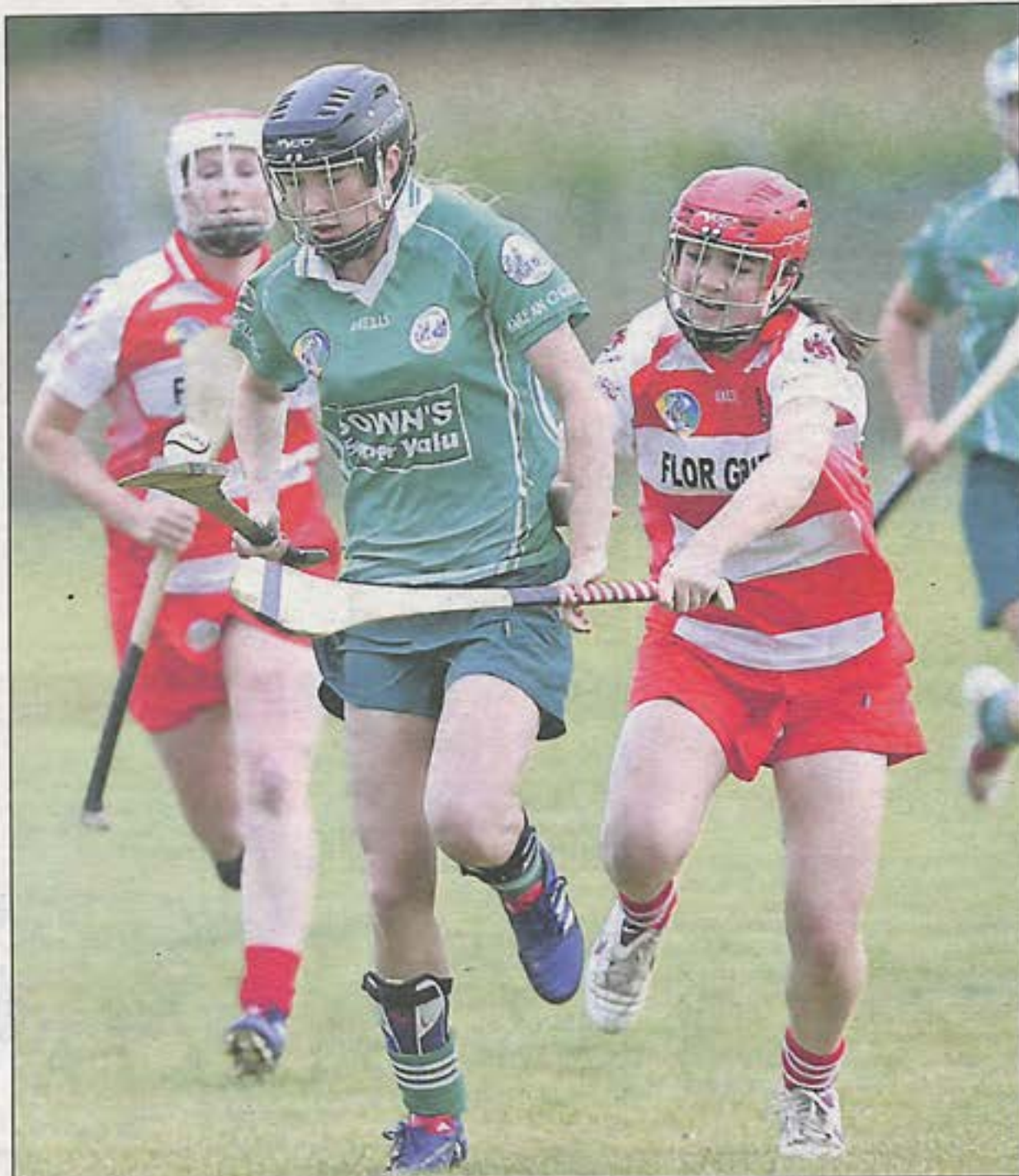
It is unlikely she will figure and this is a huge blow for the Ballinspittle side, though again she is also listed among the substitutes and could make an appearance.

They have plenty of experienced performers in Sara Hayes, Christine O'Neill, Aisling Moloney and Ciara Hayes.

They also have had abundance of underage talent coming through and players such as Linda Collins, Jacinta Crowley, Claire Duggan and Aisling O'Reilly have come up through the ranks and proved themselves more than capable of performing on the big stage.

Ballincollig, since winning the senior B title and gaining promotion, have promised much but so far a senior title has eluded them.

They showed great determination



Sarah Buckley, Ballincollig, is chased by Paula Collins, Courcey Rovers. Buckley will be a big player when the two sides meet in the championship tonight.

Picture: Jim Coughlan

in an exciting opening round contest against Inniscarra where they lost out by two goals and they will be hopeful of improving on this and making it to the last eight.

Leah Weste, Linda Dorgan, Sarah Buckley, Jessica Hennigan and Cork senior Denise Cronin are players that should have a huge influence on how this clash goes and if they can get it right they will be expected to make it through.

SUNDAY

Evening Echo Senior Championship: Cloughduv v Barryroe, Bandon, 2pm

Cloughduv lost out comprehensively to Douglas in their opening game, which was the only preliminary round tie of the championship, and they will be hoping for an improved performance in this outing.

Barryroe went on to meet Douglas in round one and also suffered a heavy defeat, therefore both sides have lost out to Douglas and their

clash will make interesting viewing.

Cloughduv lined out minus several of their regulars in that contest with Aoife Murray, Katherine Corkery, Catriona Foley all marked absent and Joanne O'Callaghan only making it for the second half, but all are expected to be present on Sunday as they do battle in the last chance saloon.

On paper Cloughduv have the players. Briege Corkery has a huge engine and is the backbone of the side. She is joined by her sister Mairead and niece Aileen in a strong Cloughduv line-up.

County U16 A champions last season they have a strong underage structure with an impressive minor team who reached the league final. They have excellent young players in Orlaith O'Driscoll, Ciara O'Leary and Derbhla Ahern, while the experienced Eva Dunne, Aoife Barry-Murphy, Claire Byrne and

Joanne Down are key players for them.

Barryroe are back in the senior grade just one year after re-grading to Senior B. They dropped down but then won the championship and league. In their clash with Douglas they found the going tough and they will need to find an extra gear if they are to get over Cloughduv.

As always their inter-county duo of Jennifer O'Leary and Sile Burns will provide huge threats up front for them but they will need a good supply of ball to cause damage.

They will be hoping that players like Patricia Moloney Lisa Dullea Claire Sexton and Geraldine Collins can turn in good displays as they battle to make it through.

Form points to a Cloughduv victory but form as we have so often found out can be deceiving and if Barryroe can produce the same performance as they did last season they are in with a great chance.

Aug. 2013

Theresa's still a star, 49 years after debut!

THERESA KEHOE is accustomed to being in the public eye in her role as lead singer with 'Theresa and the Stars'.

However, her many fans on the music circuit might be unaware of the fact that the former All-Ireland winning camogie goalkeeper has made a comeback and is also 'starling' with the St. Ibar's/Shelmaller third team in the Junior 'C' championship.

And this is no ordinary return to action as her first game with the club was at the age of 13 as far back as 1964...yes, all of 49 years ago!

The 60-plus netminder has conceded just four goals in three recent games, with losses to Bunclody and Horeswood followed by a first-ever win for the team against Gussereane in Ballycullane Community Sportsfield on Tuesday last.

And while Theresa kept a clean sheet as St. Ibar's/Shelmaller swept to victory, it was an eventful night for the number one who arrived late at the venue. She mistakenly travelled to the St. James' pitch in Mersheen first and realised she had left her gearbag there when she arrived in Ballycullane!

So after a quick return journey, Theresa took up her customary position between the posts early in the first-half and played her part in a little piece of St. Ibar's/Shelmaller history. This is the first year ever that the Over The Water club has fielded three adult championship teams as they are also involved in the Senior and Intermediate grades. Indeed, at a time when a lot of sides are struggling to field even one team, they are the sole unit in Wexford with three on the field.

The one big difference between Theresa's golden era in the late



Theresa Kehoe (nee Sheil, right) with Angie Kinsella (nee Hearne).

1960s and now is the current obligation to wear a helmet. This is very hard to get used to after so many years without one, and Theresa (nee Sheil) had to be reminded by referee Justin Heffernan to put her headgear back on during the recent game against Horeswood!

In the prime of her career she won two All-Ireland Senior medals with Wexford in 1968 and 1969 as well as a National League medal in 1977-78, three Leinster Senior championships (1968, 1969, 1971), and a four-in-a-row of Gael Linn medals with Leinster (1968 to 1971). She also captained her club

to county titles in Senior (1967), Junior 'A' (1978) and Special Senior (1981) and was Chairperson from 1977 to 1979 and again from 1985 to 1989. In recent times her sporting prowess was evident as a key member of many teams in Wexford Golf Club, and she is very proud of the achievements of her nephew, Billy Walsh, with the successful Irish boxers.

Theresa's interest in playing camogie was re-kindled when she lined out in a 'Legends' game on the June Bank Holiday Monday which was the centrepiece of the St. Ibar's/Shelmaller twelve-hour

camogathon to raise funds for club development, featuring a host of players of the past. She is one of several former stalwarts who have returned to assist the club in the Junior 'C' grade, and her teammates on Tuesday included Angie Kinsella (nee Hearne) who played with Wexford in the All-Ireland Senior championship finals of 1990, 1992 and 1994. Another member of those 1990 and 1992 teams, Deirdre O'Leary (nee Hearne), played in the first two games and is currently nursing a calf injury.

The squad is captained by another former Wexford regular, Emma Carroll, and also includes Elaine Banville whose partner, Eoghan O'Gara, is setting his sights on winning a second All-Ireland Senior football medal with Dublin over the coming weeks. The first game featured a mother and daughter pairing when Mag and Megan Murphy lined out against St. James'.

The team, jokingly known as the 'C' Crushers within the club, has also featured four Carr sisters who have all returned to action (Jackie Mythen, Tracey Pierce, Sharon Murphy and Janice Carr), and others to play thus far were Katie Lacey, Mandy Murphy, Dot Byrne, Catherine Roche, Ornagh Cullen, Kirsty Hynds, Lisa Murphy, Eleanor Neville, Enya Byrne, Teresa Scallan, Chloe Mahon, Clara Donnelly, Kim Walsh, Andrea Furlong, Linzi Langan and Trish Fielding.

That's a grand total of 27 players, many of whom had been lost to camogie for several years and are loving every minute of it since returning. And if they stay playing for as long as Theresa Kehoe, they'll be active for a long time to come!

Canning inspires Dubs to junior title

By Daragh Ó Conchúir
Camogie

Dublin claimed their first adult All-Ireland since 2006, their superior firepower being the difference as they overcame Offaly 1-13 to 0-9 in the Liberty Insurance All-Ireland junior A camogie final in Clane.

Driven on by player of the match Carol Anne Canning, they got off to an excellent start and Kirsten Farrell's 15th minute goal helped them establish a 1-8 to 0-3 interval lead.

Georgina Kelly and 16-year-old Orla Beagan were very accurate in front of the posts too and though Offaly were much improved in the second half, thanks to the efforts of Kate Ahearne and Michelle Davis, Dublin were always in control.

It was a famous day for Meath camogie as the Royals won both the All-Ireland junior B and U16C titles. Kerry were their victims in the adult decider, Meath beat Kerry in the junior B final, 2-4 to 1-5, in Cloughjordan.

Meath beat Laois in U16C final 1-10 to 2-3, with the damage done in the first half, at the end of which they led 0-7 to 0-0.

Meanwhile, Limerick will play Galway in the Liberty Insurance All-Ireland intermediate camogie final in three weeks, while Laois will face Kildare in the junior final the same day.

Limerick and Galway reach intermediate final

By Camogie Press
Posted 24/08/2013



THE CAMOGIE ASSOCIATION
An Cumann Camógaiochtaí

Limerick will play Galway in the Liberty Insurance All-Ireland intermediate camogie final in three weeks, while Laois will take on Kildare in the junior final on the same day writes Daragh Ó Conchúir.

Limerick, who won the Division 2 league title earlier this year, were made to work extremely hard by last year's premier junior champions Meath before coming out on top by 2-10 to 0-8.

They led by 0-8 to 0-2 at half time but Meath threw everything at the Treatywomen after the resumption, with Jane Dolan accurate from placed balls to finish with five points.

Crucially though, the Munster outfit notched up two second half goals from dual star Dymphna O'Brien to shake off their dogged opponents. Niamh Mulcahy finished with seven points for the winners, while Mary O'Callaghan and Caoimhe Costello also raised white flags to help them keep their noses in front.

Galway overcame Waterford 1-15 to 1-7 to make their way to the decider. The westerners always held the upper hand, particularly after a whirlwind start that saw them go 1-3 to 0-0 ahead after just seven minutes.

Orla McGrath struck for the goal in the fifth minute, finishing a fine move, with Aoife Callanan, Aoife Donohoe and Finola Keely scoring the points.

Waterford got on top in the middle third in the second quarter and were just 1-6 to 0-6 in arrears at the interval, thanks to scores from Karen Killy, Nicola Morrissey, Trish Jackman and Zoe O'Donoghue, who saw her blockbuster tipped over by Róisín Callanan from point-blank range.

A young Seamus Harnedy is consoled by his mother Cathy after Clonpriest lost the Sciath na Scoil final in 2003.

Picture: Dan Linehan



Galway resumed control in the second half though, despite Kelly's goal from a 40-yard free. Points from Keely, McGrath, Dee Burke and Rebecca Hennessy saw them home.

Susie O'Carroll was on fire for Kildare, as they came out on the right side of a high-scoring encounter with the beaten premier junior finalists of the last year Down, 5-11 to 1-13.

O'Carroll tagged three goals to keep the Lilywhites ahead, while Siobhán Hurley hit five points from play and added another from a placed ball. Clodagh Flanagan and Melissa Lyons grabbed the other goals.

And it was the goals that proved the difference as Down only managed one from Niamh Mallon. Catherine McGourty hit seven points while Fionnuala Carr managed two but the concession of five three-pointers proved too much of a mountain to climb.

Westmeath have done extremely well to get to the premier junior semi-final after winning last year's junior A championship but they had no answer to Laois, who prevailed by 4-13 to 3-5.

Denise McGrath was magnificent for the Lakesiders, scoring all but two points of their tally but Laois had a wider range of threats.

Louise Mahony scored 1-5 for the O'Moones and with Niamh Duffard hitting 2-1 and Silé Burke pouncing for 1-3, they always held the upper hand.



LINDA
MELLERICK

CAMOGIE

Cloughdub 0-14
Barryroe 1-10

EXCITEMENT and drama in the last quarter of this senior championship second round tie in Bandon yesterday brought an otherwise poor game to life.

Cloughdub and Barryroe were tied seven times during this closely fought affair yet it failed to excite until the last 15 minutes as the clock ticked down and possession and scores became vital.

Barryroe, three points down with 13 minutes remaining, went one up after Claire Sexton's wonderfully executed goal defied Aoife Murray.

Cloughdub's character was called upon, and none epitomised it more than the excellent Ciara O'Leary, whose three well taken points from play pushed Cloughdub two in front.

A tremendous point by Sile Burns on full-time narrowed it to one, her equally impressive attempt at leveling the game sailing just wide.

It was tit-for-tat in the opening half. No team dominated for any great period over the other. The wind favoured Barryroe as Cloughdub lined Brieghe Corkery at right half-back against it. Joanne O'Callaghan picked up Sile Burns at right corner-forward and did well.

Cloughdub looked to have the slightly better of exchanges as the game progressed with Mairead Corkery doing well at midfield. Barryroe's defence were strong under the pressure however with Cloughdub getting no clear chance at goal.

Poor wides kept Cloughdub from going in at the break a couple of points up and it stood at five points apiece.

Cloughdub stretched their advantage by two points within four minutes, Becky Hennigan (2) and Ciara O'Leary pointing to Jenny O'Leary's free. A second O'Leary free brought the deficit to one again as the competitive nature of the tie intensified.

Cloughdub looked to be creating a bit of breathing space as for the first time in the game they went three points up after Joanne Downs (2)



Brieghe Corkery bounced back from last week's loss to Kilkenny to play her part in Cloughdub's win over Barryroe.

O'Leary on fire for Cloughdub

and Ann Marie Ryan got on the scoresheet. However, a great four-minute spell from Barryroe saw them go one up after a great O'Leary point from play and Sexton's goal. The excitement mounted.

Possession was crucial in the final 10 minutes. Ciara O'Leary, who had done so well from placed balls and general play throughout, took ownership. Striking three wonderful points from the right wing she swung the impetus back in Clough-

dub's favour.

Barryroe pushed for that equaliser but it never came. Cloughdub advance to the quarter-final. Disappointment for Barryroe after their step back up to senior this season but they exit with their heads held high in a game that could have gone either way.

Scorers for Cloughdub: C O'Leary 0-7 (0-3 f), B Hennigan 0-2, J Down 0-2, M Buckley, K Corkery, AM Ryan 0-1 each.

Barryroe: J O'Leary 0-7 (0-6 f), C Sexton 1-0, S

Burns 0-3.

CLOUGHDUB: A Murray, A Crowley, E Dunne, J O'Callaghan, B Corkery, O O'Driscoll, D Ahern, B Hennigan, M Corkery, M Buckley, J Down, C Byrne, C O'Leary, K Corkery, AM Ryan.

BARRYROE: E White, P Moloney, E Carroll, L Dullea, K McCarthy, C A O'Donovan, J White, J O'Leary, L Gannon, G Collins, C Griffin, D O'Leary, S Burns, M Sheedy-Cahalane, C Sexton.

Subs: K Dullea for L Dullea (h-t), D O'Sullivan and R Dineen for M Sheedy-Cahalane and D O'Leary (41).

Referee: Ger Sheehan (Douglas).

Strong Limerick side dismiss Meath challenge

ALL-IRELAND INTERMEDIATE CAMOGIE

CONALL COLLIER

LIMERICK 2-10

MEATH 0-8

MEATH'S bid to make it to a second successive All-Ireland final ended in disappointment at Banagher on Saturday when they were out-muscled by a strong Limerick side in the last four of the Intermediate Camogie Championship.

Twelve months ago Meath took the laurels in a thrilling All-Ireland Premier Junior decider at Croke Park, but last Saturday the road to glory in a higher grade ended when the Royals were unable to handle a physically stronger Limerick side.

Despite the setback, Meath players and selectors can take plenty of positives from this

game and from the campaign where they comfortably defeated Wexford and Tipperary second teams in the group phase of the competition.

The Royals are now firmly established in the second tier of camogie after a Phoenix-like rise from the basement and the next challenge will be to rise to the top.

The players to make that happen are there, but it will take a major push both on and off the pitch for something like that to become a reality.

It's also doubtful at this stage if manager John Davis will be on board for another year although he was not prepared to comment on that in the aftermath of Saturday's reversal.

Davis has now completed six years at the helm and was realistic in his appraisal of Meath's performance as he reflected on the commitment and dedication of the players.

Top of the list was Jane Dolan, who put her brother's wedding on Saturday to one side to line out for Meath before making a quick dash to

Portlaoise to join in the celebrations.

Dolan pointed Meath into a first minute lead from a well-struck free, but Limerick answered back strongly with three pointed Niamh Mulcahy frees and one from play by Mary O'Callaghan.

It took Meath a while to settle, but Sinead Hackett's solo raid produced her side's first point from play in the 13th minute before Mulcahy added another free to leave Limerick ahead by 0-5 to 0-2.

Meath also lost full-forward Adrienne McCann in the 22nd minute after she sustained a shoulder injury in a challenge for possession with Limerick full-back Sarah Carey at the end of the first-quarter and she was replaced by Edel Guy.

Surprisingly, referee Aiden O'Brien neither awarded a free, which could have been a penalty for Meath, or stopped play for the Dunboyne player to receive attention.

It was one of many decisions by the official that benefited Limerick.

However, soon after that in-

cident Meath had a great goal chance when Lizzie Brennan broke through, but her effort was saved by Limerick custodian Sile Moynihan.

It was to prove a costly miss.

While both sides tallied four first-half wides, Limerick finished the opening period on the front foot with a further brace of points from Mulcahy (one free) and one by O'Callaghan for a 0-8 to 0-2 interval advantage.

Dympna O'Brien, who had pace to burn, forced a goal for Limerick four minutes into the second-half, but the battling Royals showed plenty of character and knuckled down to make a fight of it with three quick pointed frees in response.

Dolan (two) and Kristina Troy with a massive free from around midfield boosted the possibility of a Royal revival and gave Meath a brief opportunity to salvage the game, but just when they needed another score Limerick found the net with O'Brien finishing well for a substantial and cru-

cial 2-8 to 0-5 advantage.

Meath still refused to capitulate and kept battling with points from Dolan (free), Katie Hackett and Sinead Hackett which was sufficient to keep the pressure on Limerick who also collected three second-half yellow cards for what would have been described as cynical tackles by a well-known RTE football pundit.

There was no way back for the Royals and on this occasion and a more street-wise Limerick marched on to the decider.

Limerick: S Moynihan, F Hickey, S Carey, J Mulcahy, M Ryan, M Casey, R Delaney, D Fitzpatrick, C Costello (0-1); N Mulcahy (0-7 five frees), K Campbell, M Keating, D Murphy, M O'Callaghan (0-2), D O'Brien (2-0). **Subs:** M O'Neill for Campbell 48 mins, K O'Leary for Fitzpatrick 58m.

Meath: Jane Walsh (Kiltale); Laura Maguire (Killybeg), Claire Coffey (Na Fianna), Fiona O'Neill (Dunboyne); Aine Keogh (Kildalkey), Kristina Troy (Blackhall Gaels 0-1 free), Louise Donoghue (Kiltale); Jane Dolan (Blackhall Gaels 0-4 frees), Katie Hackett (Trim 0-1); Cheyenne O'Brien (Kiltale), Aoife Maguire (Killybeg), Sinead Hackett (Dunboyne 0-2); Elizabeth Oakes (Navan O'Mahonys), Adrienne McCann (Ratoath), Aileen Donnelly (Kilmessan). **Sub:** Edel Guy (Trim) for McCann 22 mins.

Referee: Aiden O'Brien (Wexford).

Championship round-up

The *Evening Echo* camogie championships continued, with many clubs having already secured their places in the quarter and semi-finals in various grades, and some exciting clashes along the way.

Senior

Ballincollig proved too strong for Courcey Rovers as they ensured a semi-final spot in the *Evening Echo* Senior Championship, courtesy of goals from Elaine Casey, Samantha Coomey, and Alison Coughlan.

Senior B

Valley Rovers recorded a 3-11 to 2-6 victory over last season's defeated finalists, Clonakilty, in the *Evening Echo* Senior B championship.

Clonakilty led at the break, 2-3 to 1-2, after playing with the aid of a strong wind, but Rovers upped the pace in the second half.

Goals from Elma O'Mahony and Maryanne Hawkes and points from Connie Hawkes, Katie Richardson and Emily Palmer helped them secure victory.

It was nip and tuck throughout as Glen Rovers and Eire Og battled it out, but in the finish Denise Luby's second half goals helped Glen Rovers secure back-to-back victories in the round robin series.

Just a point separated the sides at the break as Glen Rovers led 0-7 to 0-6, with Luby, Aisling O'Keefe and Sinead O'Halloran on target for the Glen. Margaret O'Herlihy, Emma Crowley, Erin Corkery and Maeve Corkery helped Eire Og battle back from six points down.

O'Herlihy had the sides level with a point inside two minutes of the re-start but Luby's 1-1 in reply gave the Glen the upper hand. Eire Og responded with a Maeve Ellen Desmond goal, and in response Luby flicked Jennifer Hosford's long delivery to the net.

Back came Eire Og with an Elaine Scally goal. Again Luby responded, grabbing a goal to put four points between the sides as the Glen defence stood firm, denying Eire Og from two penalties.

O'Herlihy pointed a free and again just two points divided the sides. As the game entered injury time Sinead Fahy put the Glen three points clear before Luby's long-range strike went all the way to the net, ensuring Glen Rovers' place in the semi-final.

Ballygarvan recorded their first victory in the round robin series when they bounced back from losing their first game to overcome Aghabullogue at Castle Rd.

In a highly entertaining contest Aghabullogue, with a Jill Kiely first-half goal, worked hard to stay with Ballygarvan. But the strength of the Carrighoun side, who had Catriona Kelly and Rachel Keohane in top form, proved too much.

Despite a second Aghabullogue goal from Caroline Kiely, it finished 1-12 to 2-4 in Ballygarvan's favour. Kilbrittain made it win number three with a two-point victory over Valley Rovers, where it finished a close 2-12 to 1-11, ensuring Kilbrittain remain undefeated with one game to go against Fr O'Neill's.

Intermediate

Newtownshandrum secured their second victory in the *Evening Echo* Intermediate Championship when

they defeated Brian Dillon's in Mal-low. After a close opening half it was level pegging at 1-3 apiece at the break. Therese Drummond and Claire Dooley on target for Brian Dillon's points, while they had a goal from Shauna Ring.

On the resumption Newtownshandrum took the lead with an Aoife Twohill goal. Brian Dillon's replied with two pointed frees from Therese Drummond but Newtownshandrum upped the pace, Twohill adding two further goals to secure a 4-8 to 1-5 victory.

Tracton continued to impress as they accounted for Buttevant to ensure their second victory in the championship series.

Tracton got off to a great start, hitting two goals and five points in the opening 15 minutes, with Mary McGuinness and Marian Jagoe in great form. They continued their dominance with Laura O'Callaghan, Jennifer Lynch, Aoife Kiely, Clodagh Fitzgerald and Jennifer Griffin all getting on the score-sheet.

Tracton also went on to defeat Newcestown 1-9 to 0-3. Blackrock overcame Newcestown to blow section 'A' wide open. They led 1-6 to 0-3 at the interval, a Muireann Ni Chonnalaigh goal, four Katelynn Hickey points and one each from Hayley Ryan and Sandy Carr helping them set the pace.

They continued to hold the upper hand with second-half goals from Ryan and Hickey as they ran out winners by 3-8 to 0-6. The result ensures Blackrock's last game in this section will be crucial. Blackrock, with two points, need to defeat Buttevant to secure a semi-final spot and avoid a play off with Newcestown.

Junior A

Slabh Rua and Douglas had to contend with miserable weather conditions for the opening half of their clash in Castle Rd on Thursday night, with rain spoiling an evenly contested game. It was tight throughout, but Slabh Rua's Nicole Coleman grabbed the only goal of the game to ensure victory.

Watergrasshill made it three out of three to finish top of section A as they overcame Bishopstown. They settled quickly, with first-half goals from Michelle Sheehan and Edel Murphy, to lead 2-6 to 1-2 at the break.

Olivia Lane struck for Bishopstown as they battled hard to stay in touch, and with Sarah O'Sullivan excellent in goal, Bishopstown settled into the game in the second half.

Maebh Scannell struck for a second Bishopstown goal but Michelle Sheehan replied with Watergrasshill's third goal to ensure victory.

Na Piarsaigh finished section A as runners-up to take their semi-final spot as they defeated Kildorrery by a point. Kildorrery led 0-5 to 0-3 at the break but second-half goals from Erin McElhinney and Aoife Moynihan gave Na Piarsaigh their second win and earned them the runners-up spot on a 2-3 to 0-8 score-line.

Charleville had to dig deep to record a victory over Cobh when the sides met in the deciding game of their section in Charleville in the *Evening Echo* Junior C.

In the finish just three points separated the sides at 1-10 to 2-4 but it was enough to see Charleville secure a semi-final spot. Banteer overcame Blarney in the last game but Castlelyons, with two victories to their credit, secure the semi-final spot.

Fixtures

Wednesday Aug 28
Evening Echo Senior B Championship
 Malow v Clonakilty — Castle Road, 7pm
Evening Echo Intermediate Championship
 Buttevant v Blackrock — Venue TBC, 7pm
 Friday Aug 30
Evening Echo Senior B Championship
 Glen Rovers v Aghabullogue — Ballincollig TBC, 7pm
 Sunday Sept 1
Junior A Championship Semi Finals

The *Evening Echo* Championship is still going strong with a full fixture sheet for the week ahead.

Senior B

Clonakilty need to get something from this clash with Malow tomorrow night. They defeated Fr O'Neill's in round one, they lost out to Kilbrittain / Timoleague and Valley Rovers, and with this their last game in the round robin series, they will be hoping for better fortunes.

Malow, having drawn with Kilbrittain/Timoleague and defeating Fr O'Neill's, will be looking for a win and with a game to go against Valley Rovers, they are still very much in with a chance of a place in the semi-finals. Glen Rovers have their semi-final spot secured with two wins over Ballygarvan and Eire Og but will battle hard to gain the top spot when they meet Aghabullogue.

Intermediate

Carrigaline, Tracton, and Newtownshandrum have secured their semi-final spots. Blackrock need a win over Buttevant to secure their place in the last four. Were they to lose, it would force a play-off with Newcestown.

Junior

Glen Rovers and Ballinascarty meet on Monday. Bride Rovers, having lost their first game to Youghal, will battle hard to get one over on a Courcey Rovers side playing in their first game and with a meeting against Youghal to come, the Courcey girls will be determined to win.

Entertaining Junior Summer Cup final

Cobh 2-6
 Charleville 1-7

A close Junior Summer Cup final in Castle Road was played in superb weather conditions and it was Cobh who edged out a Charleville side. Cobh hit the front early with two Katie Sheehan points before Charleville narrowed the gap. Chloe Smith ensured Cobh stayed in front as she sent a superb ground stroke to the net and a pointed free from Erica Field saw them open up a lead.

Charleville battled their way back and it took huge defending from Cobh to ensure Charleville were denied. A point from Katie Sheehan put two points between them and with their defence again under pressure they held firm to take the title.



Camogie association vice-president Eamon Brown presented the All-Ireland Junior B camogie trophy to Meath captain Lynn Winters.



Camogie Association vice-president Eamon Brown presented the 'player-of-the-match' award to Meath's Lisa Carroll.



Meath's Lynn Winters gains possession ahead of Kerry's Laura Collins.