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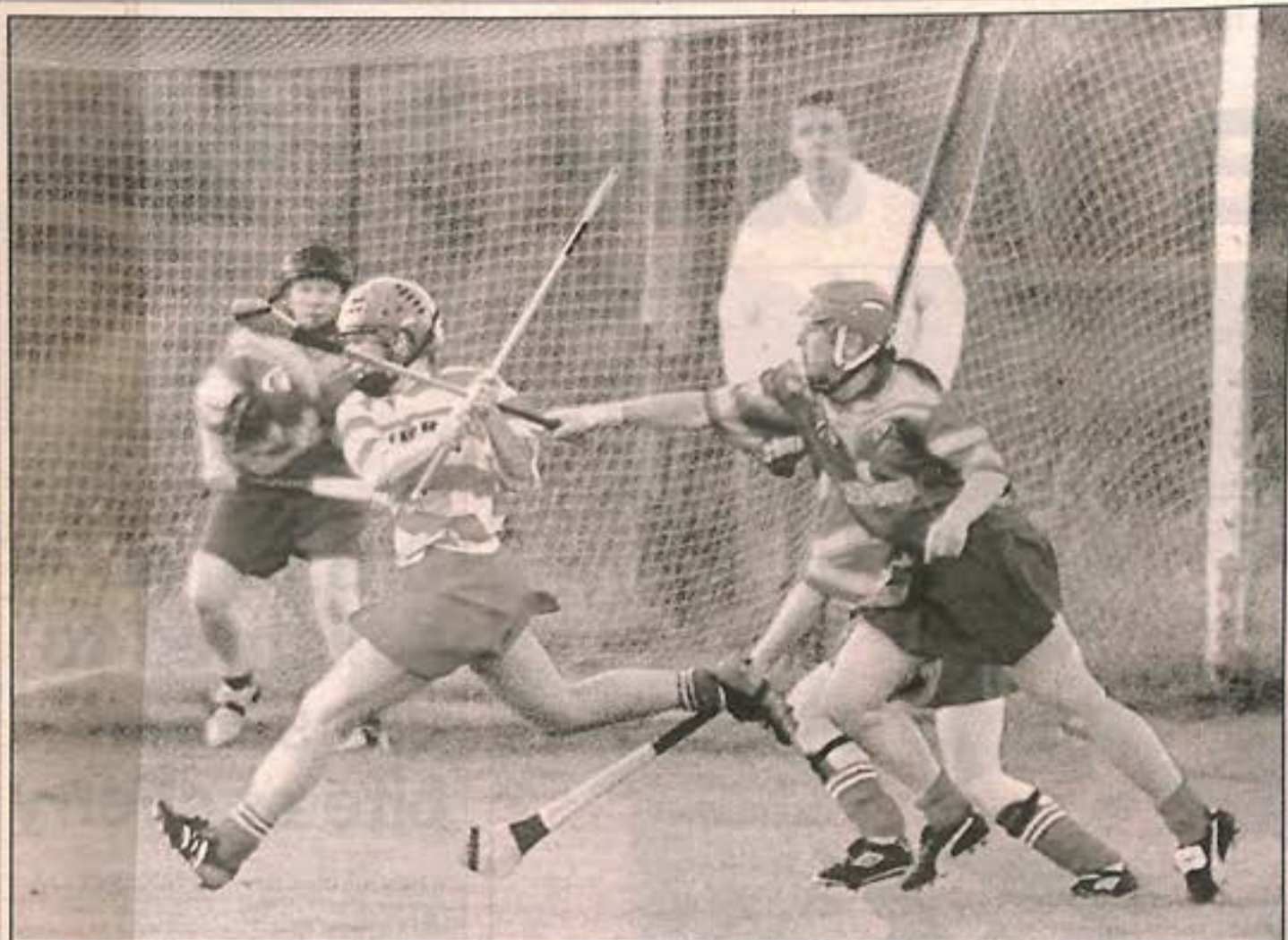


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July-Aug  
2004



Imokilly's Mary O'Connor attempts to stop Courcey Rovers' Claire Murphy as she prepares to shoot during the quarter-final of the O'Leary Brothers Builders Senior (A) Camogie Championship at the Éire Óg GAA pitch yesterday.

Picture: Cillian Kelly

## What they said

### IMOKILLY

AFTER seeing off the challenge of Courcey Rovers, James Finneally was delighted with his side's performance.

"It was a brilliant performance we knew it was in us. We did a lot of work last year and we thought last year would be the year but it is coming together for us this year after two great rounds."

A negative of the Imokilly's run so far in the championship is the continuous concession of niggling frees in close range positions, but Finneally insists there's nothing to worry about.

"We have no worries at all. Once we get the ball to the other end, we have six forwards all well able to score."

Looking forward to the semi-final, he admits they face a big task in Carrigdhoun.

"Carrigdhoun have an awful lot of work done and they are probably favourites to win the county now that Fr O'Neill's are gone. But we will be up for it."

### COURCEY ROVERS

Despite the heavy defeat Courcey Rovers suffered last night, club PRO Noreen Quinn was pleased with her side's performance.

"I feel we were quite good, it's just a pity about the scoreline. Maybe if we had scored a few goals earlier in the match the outcome could have been different. We went out and gave a good account of ourselves."

Courcey Rovers are very reliant on the scoring skills and composure of Cork star Rachel Maloney.

Quinn said: "We don't mind who scores as long as someone puts the scores on the board."

PJ AHERN

# Walsh excels as Imokilly advance

Imokilly 6-11  
Courcey Rovers 1-10

IMOKILLY set up a meeting with Carrigdhoun in the semi-final of the O'Leary Brother's Builders Camogie Senior Championship after defeating Courcey Rovers in a dull encounter at Ovens.

Imokilly, playing in the colours of St. Catherine's, scored a brace of points in the opening minutes, via Denise Twomey and Marie O'Neill.

Rovers responded with a point from Rachel Maloney but they were rocked soon after when Deirdre Twomey set up Denise Twomey and she drilled the ball past Joanne Hayes.

Maloney reduced the gap to a point with a free.

The Imokilly defence was virtually water-tight throughout the first half and did a superb effort containing Maloney.

Rovers should have had a goal after a Maloney shot was saved but the follow up effort went wide.

Courcey Rovers' Maire O'Regan, was lucky to escape with only warning after a wild pull on the ankles of



Imokilly's Ann Marie Walsh gives chase to Courcey Rovers' Rachel Maloney at Éire Óg GAA pitch yesterday.

Picture: Cillian Kelly

By PJ AHERNE

Senior Camogie Championship

Orla Cotter. Following a point from Lisa Higgins, Angela Walsh caught a sideline cut by Cotter and blasted the ball to the net.

Intelligent play enabled the divisional side to split the defence for a good point by Walsh.

Imokilly were now clearly in the

driving seat but Ursula Quinn and Marian O'Donovan still fought on valiantly for Courceys.

They were, however, over reliant on Maloney who picked off a point, as did Samantha Quinn, to reduce the deficit.

The sides exchanged points soon after to leave Imokilly seven points to the good at the interval.

Courcey Rovers came out attack-

ing after the restart, but Mary O'Connor, blasted a penalty over the bar to stretch Imokilly's advantage.

Courcey Rovers' hopes received a bit of a boost after Cotter pulled Maloney down 45 yards from goal.

Her free batted back into play on the by-line by the corner-forward, Claire Murphy, and it fell kindly to the wing forward, Claire Murphy, who blasted the ball to the back of the net.

Their joy was shortlived, however.

Imokilly broke immediately from the puck out, Walsh bore down on goal before unleashing an unstoppable shot to the net.

Sara Hayes and Quinn continued to fight hard as Courceys struggled to contain Imokilly.

Following points from both sides from frees, Walsh made another scorching run to score a great point.

She grabbed her hat-trick with a fantastic goal and the floodgates opened soon after.

Maloney was unlucky not to score after working an opening but her shot from an awkward angle was narrowly off target.

It was all one-way traffic at this stage and Deirdre Twomey and

O'Connor added further goals after superb play.

There were many rousing performances by the Courcey Rovers side, notably Gillian Twomey, Maire O'Regan and both Claire Murphys who battled to the end.

Imokilly now advance to the semi-final stage for an all-divisional clash with Carrigdhoun, a pairing which has all the ingredients necessary for a thriller.

Many feel the final pairing will be Inniscarra and Carrigdhoun but if Imokilly can reproduce the form they have shown so far they will be there but they have to cut out conceding needless frees.

**Scorers for Imokilly:** A Walsh 3-3, M O'Connor 1-1, D Twomey 1-1, O Cotter 0-3, M O'Neill 0-2, L Higgins 0-1.

**Courcey Rovers:** R Maloney 0-8, C Murphy 1-0, S Quinn 0-1.

**IMOKILLY:** Y O'Neill, E Power, G O'Donoghue, N Mulcahy, M O'Connor, M Sweeney, S Crowley, A M Walsh, M O'Neill, A Walsh, S Cunningham, D Twomey, L Higgins, O Cotter, E O'Farrell.

**COURCEY ROVERS:** J Hayes, J Murphy, C Murphy, G Twomey, S Downing, M O'Donovan, K Kehane, S Hayes, M O'Regan, C Murphy, S Quinn, U Quinn, C Murphy, R Maloney, C O'Neill.

**Referee:** D Creedon.

July 2004

## Imokilly are the more likely to advance

By LINDA MELLERICK  
Preview

CARRIGDHOUN, Milford and Inniscarra are all through to the semi-finals of this year's O'Leary Bros sponsored Cork County Senior Camogie Championship. One further team will join them and that team will come from tonight's clash. Courcey Rovers and Imokilly meet in Ovens at 7.45 and at 9pm our fourth semi-finalists will be known. The divisional side ran riot with Seandún in their previous outing and will be fancied to advance. Courcey Rovers defeated Carbery on route to the quarter-final. A close first half saw Rovers run away with the second mainly due to the exploits of Rachel Moloney.



Sarah Hayes, a key player for Courcey.

Sarah Hayes is another senior inter-county player that Rovers can boast of and much will be expected of the Cork duo again tonight. Imokilly, as with most individual sides, have a far greater selection to choose from. Pulling players from the likes of Sars, St Catherine's, Killeagh and Youghal they could prove too well balanced for Rovers. Senior inter-county star Mary O'Connor leads the way alongside Cork junior Emer O'Farrell. St Catherine's Denise Twomey, Marie O'Neill and Orla Cotter are other talents the divisional side possess. Should Imokilly stamp out the threat posed by Sarah Hayes and Rachel Moloney in particular then they will be heading for a meeting with Carrigdhoun in the semi-final of this year's championship.



Inniscarra's Trish Murphy palms the ball as she is surrounded by the Fr O'Neill's defence during the senior camogie game at Ballinlough.

Picture: Richard Mills.

# Champions are knocked out

By LINDA MELLERICK  
Senior camogie championship

Inniscarra 2-10  
Fr O'Neill's 2-5

## WHAT a difference a year makes.

Twelve months after Fr O'Neill's lifted their first senior county title at the expense of Inniscarra, the sides met again, this time at the quarter-final stage.

And what sweet revenge it was for the West Cork side.

From the throw-in Inniscarra tore into action and had three points on the scoreboard within three minutes.

O'Neill's had no answer to the speed, skill and hunger driven at them.

Up front Criona Harte was causing havoc both from play and placed balls. Her magnificent point in the 14th minute from out near the corner flag was particularly impressive. Margaret McCarthy's speed also had O'Neill's in disarray.

In defence they bottled it up and hounded Fiona O'Driscoll whenever play came her way. When Liz Hayes goaled for Inniscarra in the 19th

minute the score read 1-7 to 0-2 and you would have been forgiven if thoughts of heading home crossed your mind. But from then to the 16th minute of the second half Inniscarra weren't to score again and were rattled by an O'Neill's fightback.

In a game where little or no advantage was allowed O'Neill's registered only three points in the first half, all from frees. They won a couple of close-in frees in both halves and opted to hit them low. Each time the Inniscarra defence held firm and blocked.

One rebounded and resulted in a 45. The others were cleared but if they had been hit over very little would have

separated the sides at the finish.

O'Neill's batted down the hatches in the second half and their defence was superb. Anna Corcoran and Mags Finn repeatedly cleared and forced Inniscarra to shoot wide.

Sinead Cahalane came more into the game at centre field and all of a sudden O'Neill's were on top. They will rue their endless solo running however.

The speedy Inniscarra defence had all the time in the world to get back and by the time O'Neill's were in the danger area at least five of the six backs were lined up ready for the onslaught. Rena Buckley, Mary Buckley, and Enda Dineen closed down many an

Fr O'Neill's Anna Corcoran escapes the challenge of Inniscarra's Margaret McCarthy during the senior camogie game at Ballinlough.

Picture: Richard Mills.

attack.

For the possession they enjoyed the scores just weren't coming for O'Neill's. Eventually the fitness and pace of Inniscarra rose back to the surface and a three-minute purple patch from the 16th to the 19th minute finished the game off. Two excellent points from Harte and Ger Casey and a goal from Harte again after great work by Casey sealed O'Neill's fate.

O'Driscoll pulled one back in the 24th minute leaving seven between the sides and she rattled the net again on the stroke of full time. But it wasn't enough and Inniscarra had erased the pain of last year. Coach Patsy O'Connell was relieved at the final whistle: "This was a great win for us. We had a great first half but lost our shape in the second. But thank God we came through"

Inniscarra scorers: C Harte 1-7 (0-2f) L Hayes 1-0, G Casey 0-2, M O'Connell 0-1.

Fr O'Neill's: F O'Driscoll 2-5 (1-4f 0-1 45) INNISCARRA: P Goggins, E Dineen, E O'Mahony, E O'Keefe, M Buckley, R Buckley, T Murphy, MN O'Sullivan, M O'Regan, M McCarthy, C Harte, G Casey, L Hayes, M O'Connell, I O'Keefe; subs: T McCarthy for M O'Regan, C O'Connell for I O'Keefe (inj).

FR O'NEILL'S: M Kenefick, A O'Neill, L Sweetman, A Corcoran, A Flavin, M Finn, G Kearney, V O'Sullivan, S Cahalane, K O'Sullivan, N Ahern, U Day, K Ahern, S Kearney, K O'Sullivan; subs: D O'Leary for K Ahern, M O'Brien for S Kearney.

July 2004

# Tipperary reach All-Ireland semi-final by "Skin of a Cat"

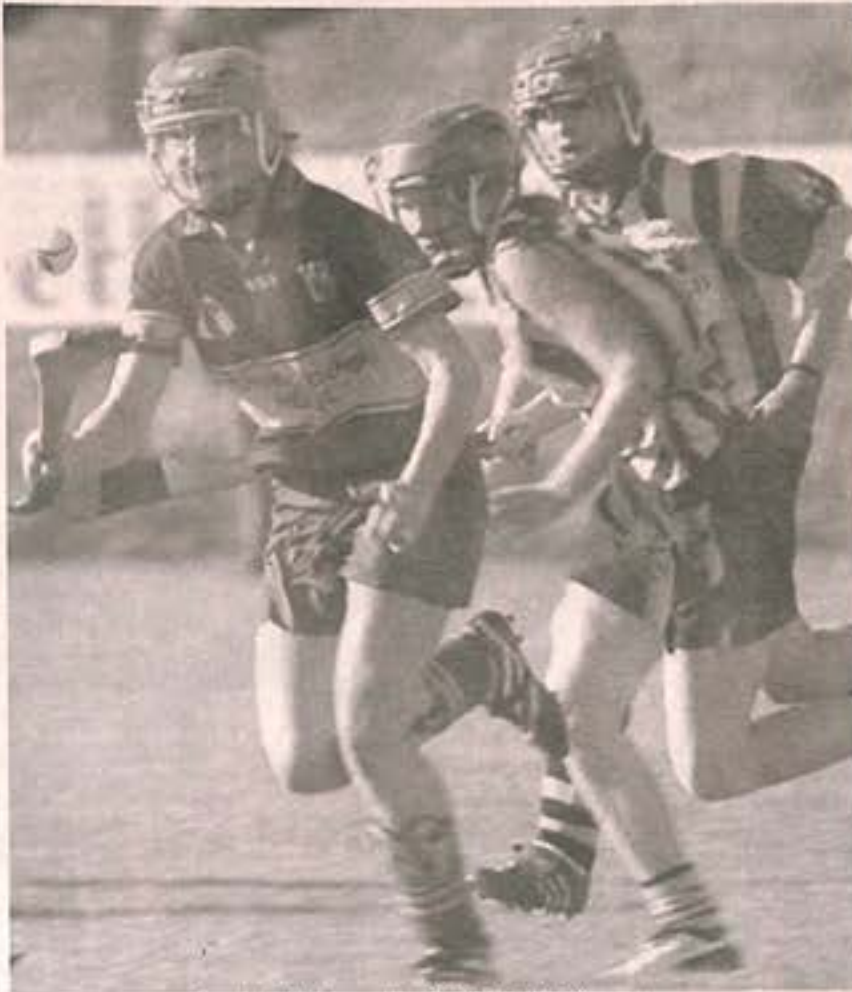
TIPPERARY 3-8

KILKENNY 2-10

TIPPERARY reached their sixth consecutive Foras Na nGaeilge All-Ireland Senior Championship semi-final by the narrowest of margins in Callan on Saturday evening last when they defeated Kilkenny by 3-8 to 2-10.

Tipperary playing with a strong wind had registered two points in the opening three minutes from Claire Grogan (free) and Emily Hayden, but Kilkenny eased into a more settling rhythm and their hunger for victory was apparent as they banged home 1-3 without a reply from Tipperary the goal coming in the 14th minute from super forward Cathriona Carey, sister of senior hurling star D.J. Kilkenny could have gone further ahead in the 16th minute but for a superb save by Jovita Delaney from their full forward Marie O'Connor. However this save had the desired effect and gave the Tipp girls a lift, they set siege on the Kilkenny defense and a Jill Horan wonderful point in the 19th minute was followed by a Deirdre Hughes trademark in the Kilkenny net from a pass from Emily Hayden. Eimear McDonnell three minutes later had a classic goal after a flowing move involving Noelle Kennedy, Deirdre Hughes and Jill Horan, and this score put Tipperary back in the lead. Two more points in the 23rd and 24th minute from Noelle Kennedy and Deirdre Hughes stretched Tipperary's lead further; Sinead Millea decreased the Kilkenny deficit with a pointed free in the 29th minute. However it was Tipperary who finished the stronger with Eimear McDonnell pointing in the 30th minute and once again Jill Horan found the space in a tight Kilkenny defense line and managed to hand pass to the net on the stroke of half time, Tipperary going into the break leading by 3-6 to 1-4.

Playing with a strong wind in the second half Kilkenny got off to a dream start when Marie O'Connor igniting the side in the opening minute with a superb goal. Tipperary replied three minutes later with a point from Eimear McDonnell, ironically this was to be Tipperary last score until injury time while Kilkenny exerted



Angie McDermott in full flight for Tipperary

their authority over the champions and managed to secure six points without a reply. Tipperary were unfortunate on a number of occasions not to have scored, three shots dropped short due to the strong wind and were cleared back down the field and what was looking like a sure goal; from Eimear McDonnell hit the cross bar and was cleared.

Angie McDermott was the star of the Tipperary squad where she combined her power and pace in both defense and attack, other to impress for Tipperary were Claire Grogan, Ciara Gaynor, Therese Brophy and Jill Horan. The sides were level in normal time and Tipperary were awarded a free in the 32nd minute Claire Grogan stepped up and under severe pressure tapped the ball over to give Tipperary the one point lead they needed to secure a place in the All-Ireland semi-final.

Tipperary Team scorers and subs: Jovita Delaney, Suzanne Kelly, Una O'Dwyer, Sheena Howard, Sinead Nealon, Ciara Gaynor, Therese Brophy, Angie McDermott, Trisha O'Halloran, Noelle Kennedy (0-1), Emily Hayden (0-1), Claire Grogan (0-2), Eimear McDon-

nell (1-2), Deirdre Hughes (1-0), Jill Horan (1-2), Philly Fogarty for Emily Hayden, Paula Bulfin for Trisha O'Halloran, Julie Kirwan for Sinead Nealon, Joanne Nolan, Joanne Ryan, Geraldine Kinane, Meadh Corcoran, Lorraine Bourke, Louise Young, Helen Breen, Eimear Ryan, Niamh Connolly, Deirdre McDonnell, Claire Madden.

## ALL-IRELAND SEMI-FINAL

Tipperary now await the results of the Cork V Wexford Championship game fixed for next Saturday at a Wexford venue Tipperary will be playing the losers of this game on August 21st, both semi-finals will be televised live. An appeal will be forthcoming to all sectors of the G.A.A. in Tipperary to keep Saturday August 21st free in order to give Tipperary the best possible support in their quest for honors in this the centenary of the camogie association.

## ANOTHER MATCH TO PLAY

On Friday next in Boherlahan Tipperary Senior Camogie Goalie Jovita Delaney will play the

game of her life as she walks down the aisle to marry Kerry man Tom Heaphy.

Jovita who have been teaching in Tarbert in Kerry for a number of years now have been making the long journey to training every night and will reside in Kerry.

We wish Jovita and Tom a long and happy life together and hope to see her continue her camogie career in the green fields of Tipperary for many years to come.

## SENIOR CLUB CHAMPIONSHIP

Toomevara V Burgess on Thursday evening, July 22nd in Toomevara at 7 p.m.

Senior and Intermediate Cnty Finals will be played in Semple Stadium on Saturday, 14th August.

## INTERMEDIATE CHAMPIONSHIP

Moneygall V Silvermines on Friday July 23rd in Moneygall at 7.30

## JUNIOR 'A' CHAMPIONSHIP

Sunday, 25th July at 12 o'clock. Toomevara v. Burnea, venue Toomevara. St. Cronan's v. Drom / Inch, venue Roscrea.



Two stamps commemorating the centenary of Cumann Camógaíochta na nGael go on sale this week at major post offices throughout the country. The 48c stamps show players in the original and modern playing kit and from Antrim, Cork, Dublin, and Kilkenny which have been significant in the growth and development of this most skilful of women's field games. Pictured above are: Anna Geary, Emer Watson, Derek Kickham, (Commercial Director of An Post) and Miriam Uí Cheallacháin, (Uachtarán Cumann Camógaíochta na nGael). Picture: Maxwells

## IT'S DOWN TO FOUR FOR SENIOR CHAMPIONSHIP

THE senior championship race continues to hot up and now with just four teams remain in contention with the semi-finals pencilled in for next week.

On the inter county scene there is no let up in the action with the Senior team travelling to Wexford on Saturday for the Foras Na Gaeilge All-Ireland championship round three. On Friday last in Ballinlough the weather played spoil sport to the eagerly awaited clash of Carrighoun and St Finbarrs. Valerie Maher got the game off to a good start with a Barrs point but almost immediately Cathriona Kelly replied. Marion Jaego set up Elaine Burke for the games first goal after just four minutes and it was Carrighoun who now made all the running. Four points in a row saw them open up a seven point, but Ber Maher had it down to six before Jenny Duffy kicked to the net for Barrs opening goal. Inside three minutes Sarah O'Donovan had the goal back when she eventually got past Ellen Clifford after the Barrs keeper had brought off two tremendous saves. Gemma O'Connor soon had the goal wiped out with two points but on the half time whistle Sarah O'Donovan grabbed a goal that was to prove vital for Carrighoun.

The second half saw the Barrs dictate matters and they quickly had the lead down to four points inside four minutes but it was to be the thirtieth minute before they registered their next score with Carrighoun hitting five in a row. Barrs enjoyed the lions share of possession throughout the second half ably led by their captain Gemma O'Connor who had a tremendous game, but their shooting let them down on a night and thirteen wides over the hour cost them dearly. Carrighoun showed they are a force to be reckoned with and certainly they will test Imokilly on Friday week.

In a repeat of last year county final Inniscarra got their revenge as they dethroned champions Fr O'Neill's. Inniscarra had five points on the board before O'Neill's opened with a Fiona O'Driscoll point after nine minutes. With the lively Criona Harte causing endless problems for O'Neill's Inniscarra dictated the opening half and a Liz Hayes goal ten minutes from half time had them 1-7 to 0-3 ahead at the break all the O'Neill's points coming from Fiona O'Driscoll frees. Showing the true spirit of champions Fr O'Neill's regrouped and tightening up in defence they proceeded to hold Inniscarra scoreless up until the sixteenth minute of the second half, meanwhile Fiona O'Driscoll tapped over two further points to cut the arrears. O'Neill's battled gamely to hold onto their title but found the Inniscarra defence in determined mood. An over reliance on Fiona O'Driscoll and the threatening Nora Ahern to get scores was to much a burden for O'Neill's and with the Inniscarra defence totally crowding out the main O'Neill's threat they regained their composure.

Inniscarra stretched the advantage to ten points but Fiona O'Driscoll blasted to the net with six minutes on the watch to ensure a close finish. Inniscarra got breathing space with a Criona Harte point, and the goal O'Neill's had so desperately needed a little earlier came when Fiona O'Driscoll blasted a free to the net but with the puck out came the final whistle. Credit to Fr O'Neill's who had a magnificent year, last season, taking their first county title, but on the night Inniscarra continued their impressive form and booked a semi-final place with Milford.

## Dream comes through for Inniscarra club

SUNDAY is a big day for the Inniscarra club when they open their new camogie pitch in Ballyanley. Five years of hard work have finally come to fruition and on Sunday last Joan O'Leary who up to this year was chairperson of the club showed me around the pitch and there was no prouder person in Ballyanley.

Camogie President Miriam O'Callaghan will be in attendance to perform the opening ceremony and it will be followed by a senior game between Cork and Kilkenny.

In the past week there have been camogie activities every evening with competitions from under age to senior as every club in the county joined Inniscarra in their celebrations. It's a wonderful achievement for the club and I congratulate them on their achievement.

THE last of the quarter-finals saw another divisional side Imokilly book a place in the last four thanks to a hat trick of goals from Killeagh's Angela Walsh ably assisted by Deirdre and Denise Twomey and Mary O'Connor. Imokilly led a the break 2-8 to 0-7 and despite the best efforts of Rachel Maloney, Sarah Hayes and Clare Murphy it was the divisional side who advanced.

IN the senior 'B' championship Carrigaline and Newtownshandrum replay their drawn game on Monday at Coachford at 7.30p.m while Ballygarvan and Newtownshandrum also goes ahead at a venue to be announced.

ON Tuesday St. Catherine's and Aghbullogue meet at 7.45p.m in Carrigtwohill.

July 2004



Carla Doherty (Antrim); Eimear Brannigan (Dublin); Marie O'Connor (Kilkenny) and Anna Geary (Cork) with An Post commercial director Derek Kickham, Miriam U Cheallacháin, Uachtarán Cumann Cam-ga'ochta na nGael at the launch yesterday of two stamps commemorating the centenary of Cumann Cam ga'ochta na nGael. The 48c stamps show players in original and modern playing kit. The stamps are designed by Cork artist Finbarr O'Connor

Picture: Maxwells

## Historic stamps mark camogie centenary

by Máire Uí Scolai

CUMANN Camógaiochta na nGael made history yesterday as An Post issued two stamps to commemorate the centenary of the Association.

It is the first female Gaelic sports organisation to have been bestowed with such an honour.

The stamps feature the four counties with the most senior All-Ireland titles — Dublin, with 26 titles, followed by Cork (20), Kilkenny (12) and Antrim (6). One stamp features the old camogie kit with the O'Duffy Cup while the second depicts the modern kit.

Tomorrow, in the third round of the Fóras na Gaeilge championship, Wexford Park hosts the meeting of Wexford and Cork (1pm) with the visitors bidding to avenge their three-point defeat at the same venue in the League semi-final.

Though both are through to the All-Ireland semi-finals on August 21, a victory tomorrow will decide who tops the group ahead of the last four pairings against Tipperary and Galway.



Eimear Brannigan of Dublin at the launch in Croke Park of two stamps to commemorate the centenary of Cumann Camógaiochta na nGael.

Picture: Maxwells

Cork have been hampered by the continuation of the club championship. However, all players seem to have come through the matches without injury.

Rebels manager John Considine said: "Tomorrow will be a real test for

us and the winner may well be the team that shows the most hunger."

It is expected that the Cork team will be the same as the one that started against Limerick in Killarney. Wexford will be without goalkeeper Mags Darcy who is out with a broken

thumb. Back into the Slaney squad will come Orla Hernon who missed the second round championship.

Meanwhile, Limerick host Derry at the Gaelic Grounds. Both teams have yet to win a game in the championships.



# Cork coach wary of Wexford threat to title hopes

CORK coach John Considine is aware of the task facing his squad tomorrow when meet Wexford in the All-Ireland Championship quarter-final at Wexford Park (1pm).

"We're not taking any chances," was the former Cork hurling star's determined statement.

These sides met in the league a few months ago and hot favourites Cork were beaten 2-13 to 1-13.

Despite missing six regulars, Cork were expected to win but there was no denying a spirited Wexford team.

That defeat, though, could well be the makings of Cork. They will surely treat their opponents with

By LINDA MELLERICK

Camogie Preview

far greater respect tomorrow and while it won't be easy, one would expect the Rebels to advance to a semi-final date with Galway.

Only eight teams contest the All-Ireland Senior Championship. They are split into two groups of four and play each other once.

The winner of group A will play the runners-up in group B and the winners of B play the runners-up of A.

Tipp are already through to the semis, having won their final group game last weekend against Kilkenny by a point.

Should Cork beat Wexford they will top their group and will face Galway while Wexford will meet Tipp. If Cork lose, the Munster arch rivals will meet in the semi-final on August 21.

Considine isn't looking that far ahead. He will face Wexford with only one thing in mind — winning — and it has nothing to do with who their semi-final opponents will be.

"We badly want to win and build up our confidence entering the latter stages of the championship."

"Wexford are one of the best teams left. They're phenomenal workers, unbelievable at hooking, blocking and harassing."

"They have the experience of a league final (against Tipp), their confidence is up and their attitude is great. It won't be easy."

Looking at Wexford's success at underage over the past few years, it's no surprise that, despite being a young team, they are making huge strides at senior level.

They were heading for their fifth National Feile title in a row last year when they were beaten in the semis by Douglas and Enniscorthy also won the last two senior colleges titles. Martin Storey is one of their mentors and will have his side fully focussed and prepared.

Cork have had their fair share of injury worries recently.

With many players such as captain, Stephanie Dunlea, Collette Desmond and Sarah Hayes just about returning after lengthy lay-offs, match fitness is a worry.

Mary O'Connor has a groin injury after playing for Imokilly in their championship encounter with Courcy Rovers in midweek.

So Cork have it all to do. We're heading towards August and the championship season is entering its critical stage.

While a loss will not eliminate Cork, no one wants to lose a championship game. With it comes added pressure and doubt. You don't need either of those. Nothing can be taken for granted.

## Seniors seeking second Cork win

THE WEXFORD Senior camogie team will be at full strength for their final group game in the Foras na Gaeilge All-Ireland championship against Cork in Wexford Park on Saturday next at 1 p.m.

And while the home side will be going all out for victory, there is a clear safety net regardless of the result since both sides have already qualified for the semi-finals which will be televised live on August 21.

Wexford have been making great strides this season, and their options are increased for this tie with the return of an influential Manager-Booavogue duo.

Full-back Catherine O'Loughlin is available again after undergoing an operation which forced her to miss the wins over Limerick and Derry, while Orla Stafford (nee Hernan) recently returned from her honeymoon which made her an absentee for the eventful trip up north.

Cork are still smarting from the outcome of their last clash with the Shanleysiders in Wexford Park on May 8 when they squandered a healthy lead and lost a thrilling National League semi-final by 2-13 to 1-13.

The subsequent defeat in the decider to Tipperary was the only reversal for Aidan Breen's side so far this year, and they will be going all out to follow up on their impressive championship wins over Limerick (6-17 to 1-4) and Derry (3-10 to 1-1).

Cork received a walkover from the northerners before dumping the Shanleysiders out of contention in Fitzgerald Stadium, Killarney, on Saturday week last (4-16 to 1-6).

The semi-finalists from the other group were also decided last weekend, with Tipperary pushed all the way by Kilkenny who needed a win in Callan to force a play-off.

The reigning All-Ireland and National League champions edged through by 3-8 to 2-10, but Galway's path to the last four was a lot easier as they crushed Antrim by 9-26 to nil in Páirc Tailteann, Navan.

If the selectors opt to restore Catherine O'Loughlin to her regular position at full-back, it will free up Aine Codd to don her favoured number six jersey.

Team captain Mary Leacy would move to the '40 in turn - a position which she occupied with distinction during the National League campaign.

The vast majority of the squad were involved in county championship games last night (Tuesday), with mentors keeping a watching brief.



Therese Brophy in action for Tipperary on Saturday evening last, at Callan, Co. Kilkenny.

## Rebel Ladies extract revenge

Cork 1-14 Wexford 0-8 CLASSY Cork got revenge for their National League semi-final defeat by Wexford when they defeated the Model County 1-14 to 0-8 in the third round of the Foras na Gaeilge championship in Wexford Park.

Wexford failed to take advantage of a strong first half wind, finding themselves behind 0-5 to the Rebel's 1-4 at the break, despite the best efforts of Kate Kelly at corner-forward. Cork's all-important Cork goal coming from Elaine Burke.

Points from the Rebels Rachel Moloney and Elaine Burke made sure Cork would top the group to go in to the All-Ireland semi-final on August 21st in Nowlan Park, Wexford, as runners up are also through to the semi-finals which will go out live for the very first time on R.T.É television.

Meanwhile, Limerick recorded their first victory in the 2004 championship when they overcame Derry 2-13 to 0-5 in the third round in the Gaelic Grounds. Vera Sheehan was the Limerick hero with two first half goals in two minutes.

Cork: A Murray; J O'Callaghan, R Holland, S Dunlea; P O'Connor, M O'Connor, R Buckley; V Harris, G O'Connor, B Corkery, S Burns, J O'Leary, E Burke, E Watson, C Desmond. Subs: E Dillon for S Burns, R Moloney for B Corkery, U O'Donoghue for G O'Connor, A Geary for E Watson. Scorers: 1-14, E Burke 1-2, 0-6 (0-6F), E Dillon, R Moloney 0-2 each, S Burns, C Desmond 0-1 each.

Wexford: E Barnes; A Moran, A Codd, C O'Connor, R Breen, M Leacy, D Codd; C Murphy, O Hernon, E Quigley, A O'Connor, M O'Leary, L Holohan, M Hearne, K Kelly. Subs: U Leacy for M O'Leary, C O'Loughlin for D Codd, N Lambert for A O'Connor, L Codd for O Hernon. Scorers: 0-8; K Kelly 0-5 (0-5F), M Hearne, L Holohan, A O'Connor 0-1 each. Referee: E Browne (Tipperary).

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# Quick-off-the-mark Cork through to All-Ireland semi-final

by Máire Uí Scolai

CLASSY Cork are through to the Foras na Gaeilge All-Ireland camogie semi-final on August 21 in Nowlan Park following their 1-14 to 0-8 victory over Wexford in the third round of the championship at Wexford Park on Saturday.

All is not lost for the Model county who also go through to the semi-finals as runners-up in their group. However, they have the task of meeting All-Ireland and National League champions Tipperary, also on August 21, with both semi-finals live on RTE for the first time.

Opening against a strong wind, Cork were quickly on the scoreboard with Jenny O'Leary sending over the first of her six frees. However, Wexford hit back a minute later with a fine point from Aoife O'Connor. Kate Kelly put them ahead with a free after 15 minutes but again Cork's reply came fast with Elaine Burke going to put the Rebels ahead 1-1 to Wexford's 0-2.

Both sides exchanged further scores before Jenny O'Leary had the last say with a free one minute into injury time to leave Cork ahead 1-4 to 0-5 at the break.

Cork stretched their lead further

with a Collette Desmond point after just four minutes of the second half. However, Wexford's full-forward Michelle Hearne replied instantly with a point, but they had to wait a further seven minutes before Kate Kelly registered their second score of the half - a free. In the meantime the Rebels had added two more frees from O'Leary.

Cork then hit their purple patch with a further seven points while the best Wexford could offer was a Kate Kelly free.

Scorers for Cork: 1-14; E Burke 1-2, 0-6 (0-6F), E Dillon, R Moloney 0-2 each, S Burns, C Desmond 0-1 each.

CORK: A Murray; J O'Callaghan, R Holland, S

Dunlea; P O'Connor, M O'Connor, R Buckley / V Harris, G O'Connor, B Corkery, S Burns, J O'Leary, E Burke, E Watson, C Desmond. Subs: E Dillon for S Burns, R Moloney for B Corkery, U O'Donoghue for G O'Connor, A Geary for E Watson.

Wexford scorers: 0-8; K Kelly 0-5 (0-5F), M Hearne, L Holohan, A O'Connor 0-1 each.

WEXFORD: E Barnes; A Moran, A Codd, C O'Connor, R Breen, M Leacy, D Codd; C Murphy, O Hernon, E Quigley, A O'Connor, M O'Leary, L Holohan, M Hearne, K Kelly.

Subs: U Leacy for M O'Leary, C O'Loughlin for D Codd, N Lambert for A O'Connor, L Codd for O Hernon.

In the other third round championship match at the Gaelic Grounds, Limerick won their first match of the 2004 championship when they overcame Derry 2-13 to 0-5.

The result placed Derry at the bottom with Limerick finishing their campaign with two points.

Scorers for Limerick: 2-13; V Sheehan 2-3, E O'Brien 0-6, M Dooley 0-2, D O'Brien, J Dolan 0-1 each.

LIMERICK: P McCarthy; G McNamara, R Collins, D Fitzpatrick; F Dore, M Casey, J Clifford; M Kelly, V Sheehan; A Sheehan, J Dolan, E O'Brien; S McAuliffe, M Keating, D O'Brien.

Subs: M Dooley for F Dore, C Murphy for J Clifford, S Brosnan for J Dolan, N Collins for S McAuliffe.

Scorers for Derry: B Mc Ivor 0-3, G Mc Goldrick, M Comer 0-1 each.

DERRY: C O'Kane; E Mc Ilvor, M Mc Auley, S O'Neill; B Mc Ivor, C Doherty, A Kelly; B Convery; C Pickering, C O'Kane, G Mc Goldrick, S Stevenson; A O'Kane, A Lavery, M Comer.

Subs: M K McNeill for C O'Kane, C Kane for M McAuley, M McAuley for A O'Kane.

Referee: J McGrath, Cork.

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Cork's Paula O'Connor and Wexford's Kay Kelly challenge for the ball during their All-Ireland qualifier at Wexford Park on Saturday. Picture: P.J.Browne

CORK  
WEXFORD

1-14  
0-8

**SURPRISINGLY** Cork began this All-Ireland camogie qualifier against Wexford without three of their regular players.

The Cork selectors omitted half of their regular starting inside six and it showed.

Wexford played with the aid of a very strong wind in the first half but went in at the break trailing by two points. They really would have needed to be in a better position if hopes of victory were to materialise.

Cork had the better of the opening exchanges thanks mainly to their hard-working defence and midfield. Their superiority wasn't reflected on the scoreboard however.

Credit must be given to Wexford whose tenacious defence harassed Cork with their endless blocking and chasing but Cork still had many chances. Poor passing, shooting and slow play meant that they scored only 1-1 from play in the opening period.

Cork's forwards are small and light and taking that extra tap or that one step too many gave the strong Wexford backs, in particular Aine Codd and Kate Kelly every opportunity to sweep through and clean up.

Jenny O'Leary who was Cork's best forward on the day had Cork's first score on the board, a free after two minutes. Straight from the puck out Aoife O'Connor levelled it.

Wexford went ahead in the 12th but a well taken goal by Elaine Burke three minutes later gave Cork a lead they were never to lose.

The teams swapped points on another three occasions. Wexford were matching Cork for speed and skill but Cork's experience and cuteness was always to the forefront and they were never in danger of losing the game despite being well below their best.

It was Cork who applied all the pressure in the opening minutes of the second but had a couple of wides before Collette Desmond found the target after five minutes.

After 15 both teams had again matched each other point for point, three-a-piece. O'Leary

# Experience wins the day for Cork



Linda Mellerick

added a free. Then Cork made the changes. Emer Dillon and Rachel Moloney were introduced and suddenly the fire that had been missing up front was ignited.

The impact was immediate. It was noticeable that Elaine Burke's game also improved after the introduction. From the nineteen minute to the 30th it was really all Cork. Dillon, Moloney and Burke scored six between them in that 11 minute spell and the game was all over.

Wexford could have kept in closer touch only for missing a couple of score able frees. But Cork's superiority was never in doubt.

In defence all six backs held firm but Mary O'Connor, Stephanie Dunlea and Rena Buckley ruled the roost. Vivienne Harris and Gemma O'Connor controlled midfield and the aforementioned O'Leary alongside Elaine Burke were the pick up front alongside the players introduced.

Wexford, despite being a very young team, gave a spirited performance and are certainly a team for the future. They had some excellent players in Aisling Moran, Aine Codd,



Cork's full forward Emir Watson rounds Wexford's Aine Codd during their All-Ireland qualifier at Wexford Park on Saturday. Picture: P.J.Browne

Michelle Hearne and Kate Kelly.

They now face All-Ireland Champions Tipperary in the semi-final and Cork play Galway. Both games will feature as a double header in Nolan Park, Kilkenny on August 21.

**Scorers for Cork:** J. O'Leary 0-6 (frees), E. Burke 1-2, E. Dillon 0-2, R. Moloney 0-2, C. Desmond 0-1, S. Burns 0-1.  
**Wexford:** K. Kelly 0-5 (frees), A. O'Connor 0-1, L. Holohan

0-1, M. Hearne 0-1.

**CORK:** A. Murray, J. O'Callaghan, R. Holland, S. Dunlea; P. O'Connor, M. O'Connor, R. Buckley; V. Harris, G. O'Connor; B. Corkery, S. Burns, J. O'Leary; E. Burke, E. Watson, C. Desmond.

**Subs:** E. Dillon for S. Burns, R. Moloney for B. Corkery, U. O'Donoghue for G. O'Connor, A. Geary for E. Watson.

**WEXFORD:** E. Byrnes; A. Moran, A. Codd, C. O'Connor; R. Breen, M. Lacey, D. Codd; C. Murphy, O. Hernan; E. Quigley, A. O'Connor, M. O'Leary; L. Holohan, M. Hearne, K. Kelly.

**Subs:** U. Lacey for M. O'Leary, C. O'Loughlin for D. Codd, N. Lambert for A. O'Connor, L. Codd for O. Hernan.

# New camogie pitch at Ballyanly



Chairman of Inniscarra Camogie Club, Con Hayes, and Miriam Uí Cheallacháin, National President, after unveiling the plaque for the new camogie pitch in Ballyanly on Sunday.



Irene O'Keefe (Inniscarra) leading the Cork Senior camogie team in the pre-match parade at the opening of the new Inniscarra pitch. Cork beat Kilkenny in the game played to match the occasion. Picture: Mike English



LEFT: Sheila Golden and Emma Dineen, authors of *History of Inniscarra Camogie* make a presentation to Miriam O'Callaghan (President of the Camogie Association). Also pictured is Con Hayes.

Right: Future Inniscarra camogie players at the official opening of the new pitch. Picture: Mike English



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At the official opening of the Inniscarra Camogie Grounds were, from left: Sheila Golden, co-author of the *Inniscarra Camogie Story*; Con Hayes, Chairman, Inniscarra Camogie Club; Miriam O'Callaghan, National Camogie President and Emma Dineen, co-author of the *Inniscarra Camogie Story*. Photo by Patrick Casey

# New pitch for Inniscarra camogie team

By MARY CODY

ONE hundred years after the first official camogie game was played in Ireland, history was made in camogie circles when Miriam Uí Cheallacháin, Uachtarán Cumann Camógaíochta na nGael, officially opened Páirc Camógaíochta Inis Cartha in Ballyanly.

The opening took place last Sunday and the ceremony was managed by Paudie Palmer. A measure of the significance and importance of the occasion was the fact that fourteen speakers took to the podium to mark the occasion.

The sun shone down on Inniscarra as Con Hayes, chairman of Inniscarra camogie regaled the large attendance by telling them that the camogie pitch was in many ways the last piece of the jigsaw in the Ballyanly complex.

He added that while he has played all the other sports present in the complex he has yet to play camogie. The demand for pitches has become very acute in the past few years and it was felt that there was a need to provide a facility for women, he said.

There were many well-known faces at the opening. These included Cllr Tomás Ryan deputising for the Mayor of Cork County, former president of the European Parliament, Pat Cox, Chairperson of Cork Camogie Board Marian McCarthy, President of the Cork Camogie Board, Sheila Golden, Secretary of the Munster Camogie Board Rose Malone, and Frank McCarthy representing Muskerry and Cork County



Inniscarra Rovers Versus Inniscarra Rebels line out before the U12 Blitz final, the first to be played in Inniscarra's new Camogie pitch which was officially opened on Sunday by Miriam Uí Cheallacháin Uachtarán Camógaíocht na nGael. The game ended in an exciting draw for both teams. Photo by Tim Buckley



Aine O'Connor, a member of the Inniscarra Camogie Club who attended the official opening of the new grounds last Sunday. Photo by Patrick Casey

GAA Boards.

After the blessing of the pitch by Fr. Peadar Murphy and Rector Edwin Hunter the Blarney Brass and Reed Band and the Inniscarra U-10 and U-12 girls led the Cork and Kilkenny teams onto the pitch.

This was the culmination of an extraordinary feat for the Inniscarra Club in this historic centenary year of camogie as this is the first pitch in the county and the third in the country to be dedicated solely to the play-

ing of camogie.

Camogie has been played in Inniscarra since the early 1940s but it was not until 1967 that the club was formed and a great debt is owed to the people that along the way have guided the club to eight county titles and two Féile na nGael titles.

On and off the field, Inniscarra people have made a great contribution to the game of camogie, Mary O'Callaghan RIP was National President, Sheila

Golden is a former County Chairperson and is currently the County President. Con Hayes and Tim Buckley were officers of the Juvenile County Board.

One of the clubs most famous players is Irene O'Keeffe who won five Senior All-Ireland medals with Cork, and was also voted player of the final on two occasions.

Another Senior All-Ireland medalist Ger Casey was voted player of the final in a Junior All Ireland Final.

Marie O'Connell, Criona Harte, Trish Murphy, Leona Nolan, Margaret McCarthy, Treasa McCarthy and Rena Buckley have also won All-Ireland Medals, while Margaret N. O'Sullivan, Nicola Buckley, Evelyn Moynihan, Catherine O'Leary, Elizabeth Hayes and Eadaoin O'Mahony have Munster Championship medals.

After winning the Cork County Senior B Championship, Inniscarra found the going tough

among the senior A ranks failing to get past the first hurdle. This all changed in 2002 when they made it to the quarter-finals and in 2003 they made it to the final. Winning the Senior County Championship is Inniscarra's next goal.

An EGM was held at the club in April 2002 and the green light was given to purchase the grounds. Fundraising began with a grand draw which was held between May and November 2002.

A race night was also held in Curraheen Park in April 2003. The club also received grants from the Scally Family Foundation that own Super Valu in Blarney, Cork County Council and The National Lottery.

All the businesses of the parish and indeed businesses from surrounding parishes have also contributed generously.

While all this fundraising was taking place, machines moved in in September 2002

to start development work on the field, which was completed earlier this year.

Committees under the chairmanship of Con Hayes put together a programme or a festival of camogie for the week leading up to the official opening ceremony, which held on Sunday July 25 in Ballyanly.

Each club in the county will have played camogie at some grade on the pitch in Ballyanly during the festival week.

Newcestown  
seal it early

Newcestown 3-9  
Carrigaline 2-2

by Mary Newman

THREE first-half goals from Suzanne Deasy, Colette Desmond and Colleen Long helped Newcestown to victory in this O'Leary Brothers Builders Senior B Camogie Championship replay at Coashford last night.

Laura Thompson kept Carrigaline in touch with a goal and a point in the opening half, but with Colleen Long, Evelyn Crowley, Suzanne Deasy and the inspirational Colette Desmond adding to the Newcestown tally in the second-half, they advanced, despite the best efforts of Trisha O'Sullivan and Laura Thompson for Carrigaline.

Score: Newcestown: C. Desmond 1-4, C. Long 1-2, S. Deasy 1-1, E. Crowley 0-2.

Carrigaline: L. Thompson 2-1, T. O'Sullivan 0-1, NEWCESTOWN: C. Collins, M. Barron, R. Desmond, M. Moloney, H. Kennedy, Anita Conaghan, R. O'Donovan, Aileen Conaghan, F. Crowley, U. Crowley, S. Deasy, C. Desmond, E. Kennedy, C. Long, Sub: M. Crowley for U. Crowley.

CARRIGALINE: R. Harrington, C. O'Mahony, G. Harrington, E. Phelan, S. Moran, A. Collins, C. O'Keeffe, J. O'Keefe, T. O'Sullivan, L. Thompson, G. Morrissey, T. O'Keeffe, M. Conlon, L. Kelleher, E. Greene.

Referee: K. Creedon (Macroom).

Ballygarvan 4-13  
Newtownshandrum 2-7

DESPITE the final score-line, just three points separated the sides at the interval in this O'Leary Brothers Senior B Championship quarter-final at Glanane. But in the second-half, Ballygarvan upped the pace and, inspired by goals from Sarah O'Donovan and Maebh Ryan, booked their place in the semi-final.

BALLYGARVAN: M. O'Riordan, Z. Forrest, M. Halliherne, B. Browne, D. Crowley, J. Brown, S.A. O'Halloran, A. Murphy, E. Dillon, D. Daly, C. Kelly, N. Halliherne, A. Browne, S. O'Donovan, M. Ryan, Subs: J. O'Sullivan for A. Browne, S. Lynch for N. Halliherne, A. O'Neill for B. Browne, S. O'Sullivan for Z. Forrest, M. O'Donovan for A. Browne.

NEWTOWNSHANDRUM: M. Harrington, C. Gilliham, M. O'Mahony, J. Heahly, M. O'Connor, H. Kelleher, A. Kelleher, P. O'Connor, E. O'Mahony, K. Hickey, S. Buckley, M. O'Callaghan, M. Aylward, N. Bowles, D. O'Flynn, Subs: T. Moran for M. O'Callaghan, L. Claffin for D. O'Flynn, M. Gilliham for S. Buckley.

Referee: P. Doreeney (Iniscarra).

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## We're down to the last four in senior camogie championship

THE Cork camogie championship is entering its final stages with both semi-finals down for decision next week.

Milford and Inniscarra meet next Thursday and the following evening sees Carrigrohoun and Imokilly battle it out.

The pick of those ties is the Milford/Inniscarra game. Both are young, fit and fast and should produce a lively encounter.

To date the championship has been up and down. Some pairings produced exciting, close battles, others whitewashes.

It is great to see that the final four teams involved are relative newcomers. Inniscarra were beaten at the final hurdle last year, but as such, are new to the contenders tag. Likewise with Milford. It's fantastic to see the strides they have made in recent years.

Carrigrohoun and Imokilly are divisional sides and I suppose if I'm honest most people would prefer to see a club win the title. The enthusiasm that filters down from success can't be denied. You won't see too much of it though when a splatter of clubs win it together.

That said, the girls involved have every right to contest and win themselves a senior county medal. For many their club may never reach senior status and if they do it may not be in their playing days. I have attended most of the championship games and there's one thing I can't understand and it's something that actually annoys me.

Not one game has started on time! Whether its 7pm, 7.30pm or 8pm the game will start at 7.10pm, 7.35pm or 8.10pm.

I was at a couple of games where the final 10 minutes or so were played in poor visibility. The players and mentors give out about it and yet they're the very ones who delay the start.

The refs are on the field but the teams ignore them. One ref had to walk from the pitch and knock on a dressing room door last week and tell them to come out.

This has to stop and clubs who don't comply should be fined. If we want respect, we need to show it to ourselves first.

Inniscarra celebrate the opening of their pitch this Sunday and I think the rest of



Linda Mellerick

us are green with envy. It's an incredible achievement and one which should be applauded. They're an example to us all. I hear through the grapevine that the Cork County Camogie Board are again taking measures to try and secure one and it is long overdue.

Twenty years or so ago it was discussed but never materialised. With property rocketing the way it has we're sorry now.

Saying that, no matter what it takes we need our own pitch. We are consistently one of the best counties in the country when it comes to camogie.

We have minor, U18, junior, intermediate and senior teams continuously training and playing competitively. The headache that this brings trying to find available pitches particularly in peak season is a nightmare. Not to mind the expense.

We have to hire certain playing fields and the annual cost is a ridiculous waste of money. We are lucky in that the GAA board and clubs never let us down but at times it's a panic at the last minute before a venue can be announced.

It would be a huge relief for the board to have this pressure taken off them. As part of our continued centenary celebrations, Cork are planning a huge banquet in October.

It's hoped many past and present players and supporters will attend. It is a fantastic chance for a reunion.

With the championship schedule so hectic these past few weeks, preparations have been quiet but will be in full swing shortly now that we are coming close to an end of the senior championship at least.

Hard to believe we are almost in August and at the semi-final stage of the All-Ireland Senior and Junior Championships. It would be great to see both Cork teams in Croke Park on September 19 especially the year that is in it.

Not that you need a reason to want to win an All-Ireland. Playing with Cork doesn't guarantee you an All-Ireland medal. I worry at times that players believe it does.



Joan O'Leary, Co-President of Inniscarra Camogie Club chats with former President of the European Parliament, Pat Cox at the official opening of the Inniscarra Camogie Club new grounds. Photo by Patrick Casey

## Aghabullogue outclass Catherines

Aghabullogue 4-6  
St Catherine's 0-3

by Mary Newman

A LIVELY Aghabullogue advanced to the semi-final of the O'Leary Brothers Builders Cork Senior 'B' Camogie Championship at the expense of last year's junior champions St Catherine's at Carrigtwohill last night.

Within 10 minutes of the start Mary Buckley had notched up 1-2 as the fast moving Aghabullogue forwards made all the early running. It took two Orla Cotter pointed

freies in the 15th and 17th minutes to get St Catherine's into the game but quick as a flash Aghabullogue had it back thanks to a Sheila Marie Crowley goal.

Louise Murphy finished the half with an Aghabullogue point to see her side turn over leading 2-3 to 0-2.

The Aghabullogue attack were again quick into action and inside five minutes of the resumption Crowley had her second goal.

Emma Healy stretched the advantage with a point to which Orla Cotter replied. But when Mary Buckley's long range free was batted

into the square Louise Murphy reacted to finish to the net and Aghabullogue were on their way.

Scorers - Aghabullogue: M. Buckley 1-3 (0-1), S.M. Crowley 2-0, L. Murphy 1-1 (0-1), E. Healy (0-1).  
St. Catherine's: O. Cotter 0-3 (0-2).

AGHABULLOGUE: E. Buckley, L. Ronan, J. Twomey, T. Murphy, S. Buckley, N. O'Connell, C. Murphy, F. Buckley, B. Twomey, S. M. Crowley, D. Twomey, E. Healy, M. Buckley, M. Twomey, L. Murphy.

ST CATHERINE'S: Y. O'Neill, S. Noonan, M. Twomey, E. Harpur, N. Mulcahy, E. Power, E. Mulcahy, O. Cotter, E. O'Keefe, H. Lane, E. Fitzgerald, L. Higgins, N. Howard, Denise Twomey, Deirdre Twomey. Subs: O. Neville for M. Mulcahy, A. Hogan for N. Howard, F. Noonan for E. O'Keefe, M. Daly for H. Lane.

Referee C. Egan (Glen Rovers).

## New ground broken at Inniscarra pitch

"We have broken new ground, literally and metaphorically," said

Con Hayes, Chairman Inniscarra Camogie Club, speaking at the Official opening of the club's new pitch at Ballyanley. The grounds are the first in Cork County to be solely dedicated for the playing of Camogie.

A discussion from years ago between Con and the Chairperson, Joan O'Leary, led to this setting up of a Committee of Joan O'Leary, Irene O'Keefe, Michelle O'Sullivan, Jer McCarthy, Patsy O'Connell, Tomas Ryan and Con Hayes. The rest, is they say is history. The fruits of the colours and to be seen at the Inniscarra Sports Complex today.

Tomas Ryan, a member of the Committee, was proud to wear the County Mayoral Chain at the event and he thanked the club on behalf of the Council for their efforts in providing healthy recreation for this young girls of this parish and further afield.

Miriam O'Callaghan President Camogie Association, who performed the official opening, said she was delighted to be present on such an auspicious occasion. "This day will forever be etched in the annals of camogie history but more importantly future generations will be assumed of a home in mind they will enjoy playing and watching our native Irish games for girls and women," she said.

Marion McCarthy (Chairperson Cork Camogie Board), Gerry Linehan (Chairman Inniscarra Gaa), Pat Healy (Chairman Inniscarra Community Centre), former MEP Pat Cox and Frank McCarthy Muskerry and County Board Gaa Rep-



Miriam O'Callaghan, president of the Camogie Association, congratulates Con Hayes, chairman Inniscarra Camogie Club, on their new pitch at Ballyanley.

Aine Ni Riain, Aine O'Connor and Claire Sheehan sold copies of 'The History of Inniscarra Camogie Club' at the official opening of the pitch.



representative also spoke.

The ecumenical blessing of the pitch was carried out by Fr Peadar Murphy cc and Rev Edwin Hunter.

Cork and Kilkenny Senior Camogie teams played an exhibition game — refereed by local man Peter Downing and

the honour of captaining the winning Cork team went to the Club Camogie Star Irene O'Keefe.

The club also awaited of this opportunity to launch their history publication which was compiled by Sheila Golden and Emma Dineen.

# Milford and Inniscarra semi should be a cracker

FOUR teams remain in the hunt for senior county honours.

By LINDA MELLERICK  
Camogie previews

Inniscarra, Milford, Carrigdhoun and Imokilly are the sole survivors after six weeks of action.

The first of the two semis takes place in Banteer this evening (7.30pm) between Inniscarra and Milford.

At the start of the season Inniscarra would have been given a chance for honours. Runners-up last year, they were always going to be to the forefront.

The transformation during the past 12 months, however, has been enormous.

Last year they were a handy team, this year they're bordering on a great team. They're not quite the finished product yet, though. For 30 minutes in their quarter-final with O'Neills they failed to score and were rattled. They did come through, however, and with each game they are learning.

Being relatively young, a county success would reap huge benefits.

They have a well-balanced side. Rene Buckley has more or less established herself on the Cork senior team and she is a rock at centre-back for her club. She has great support from Enda Dineen and Emma O'Keeffe.

It is up front that they are most lethal however. Ger Casey, Criona Harte and Mags McCarthy are serious threats on their own. As a unit they are a major force. Ger Casey's and Mags McCarthy's speed will be a problem for Milford.

Criona Harte's accuracy has been unfailing. Add to that the experience

and cuteness of ex-Cork star Irene O'Keeffe and it will be interesting to see how Milford cope. But what of Milford? They are the team that most feel will be the kingpins in years to come.

It doesn't always happen that way. But if this young talented bunch does weather the storm, tonight's big game will be the first of many. Only playing senior A for the second season they will be underdogs. But if anyone can take Inniscarra, Milford can. Like their opponents, the North Cork side like to play a fast open game. Small in stature and light on the feet they are nifty and skilful.

With many of the team from the famous St Mary's, Charleville School, they are used to the big occasion.

In defence Christine O'Gorman's size belies her toughness. She reads the game well and covers a lot of ground. Skilful and fast, she should be given the task of marking one of Inniscarra's main threats.

Alongside her is Cork panelist Regina Curtin who is great at plucking high balls out of the air. Her influence in the last 10 minutes or so against Barryroe was crucial. The talented Anne Geary plays at centre-field and will cover miles over the hour. Completing an impressive lineout are the Watson sisters. Aine, Marie and Emer are all capable of scoring goals. They will need watching.



Inniscarra's Margaret McCarthy keeps possession as she is challenged by Fr O'Neill's Anna Corcoran during the last round. Picture: Richard Mills.

# Scene set for county semi-finals

TWO divisional sides and two clubs will battle it out for a place in the O'Leary Brothers Builders Cork Senior Camogie Championship final over the next two days.

Of the four only one has previously taken the title while the clash of Inniscarra and Milford has an added bonus for the winners who irrespective of the result of the county final will go on to represent Cork in the Munster club championship.

In Banteer this evening (Thursday) it's Mid Cork against North Cork as two clubs sporting blue and white Inniscarra and Milford go head to head. Both clubs have shown in their paths to the semi-final that they are determined to make their mark and take their first senior title. Last year Inniscarra were defeated by Fr O'Neill's and having knocked out the champions in last week's quarter-final they are determined to go all the way.

On Sunday last they opened their new camogie pitch in Ballyanley and certainly it would be a huge boost to the progressive Inniscarra club if in centenary year the county title came to rest in Mid-Cork.

Certainly Milford will have something to say about that, they are another club who have made huge strides with tremendous under-age teams, now is the time to stand up and make the big step, certainly in their quarter-final clash with Barryroe they did just that and showed tremendous spirit to claw their way back into a game they trailed in by seven points.

Both are young teams determined to make it to the final, there are quality players on both sides Anna Geary, Emer Watson, Regina Curtin and Christine O'Gorman are hugely influential

for Milford. Rena Buckley, Marie O'Connell and the experienced Irene O'Keeffe and Paula Goggins lead the Inniscarra challenge.

The Mid Cork side are hot favourites but don't write off Milford just yet, last year they pushed Fr O'Neill's all the way in the semi-final; this year they may just have that extra bit of strength to go all the way, I feel it will go right down to the wire.

GLEN Rovers hosts the all divisional meeting of Carrigdhoun and Imokilly on tomorrow Friday evening at 7.30. Carrigdhoun are hot favourites to make it to their first county final, many are surprised by Imokilly but certainly having seen them in action it is no surprise as they have many fine players. They are spearheaded by Angela Walsh who has caused nightmares for defences to date, Cork senior Mary O'Connor, Orla Cotter and Denise and Deirdre Twomey will lead their chal-

lenge. Carrigdhoun though look that little bit stronger and the big wide spaces of the Glen Field should suit their style of play. A date for the diary is the county final which takes place on Friday August 6th in Paire Uí Rinn.

## SENIOR 'B' C'SHIP HOTS UP

NEWCESTOWN made no mistake second time round in the replay of the O'Leary Brothers Builders Senior 'B' championship on Monday last. Three first half goals from Suzanne Deasy, Colette Desmond and Colleen Long helped lay the foundations for victory. Little separated Ballygarvan and Newtownshandrum in the opening half with the favourites Ballygarvan leading by three points at the break. Second half goals from Sarah O'Donovan and Maebh Ryan ensured Ballygarvan of a place in the semi-final.

## Cork seniors continue winning ways

DESPITE both teams being already through to the semi-finals, Cork and Wexford played out a close contest in Wexford Park on Saturday last in the third round of the Foras Na Gaeilge All-Ireland championship.

Once again Wexford were tough and physical and certainly they have continued to improve and this can only be good for the game. Cork led at the break after an Elaine Burke goal in the first quarter helped settle them despite playing against the gale force wind. Cork found it hard to shake off the close marking Wexford side and it was not until the last ten minutes that they finally pulled away to record a 1-14 to 0-8 victory.

The Cork backroom team did show several changes to their usual starting line out and it can only augur well that so many players are in contention for places coming up to the closing stages of championship. By virtue of Saturday's victory Cork now avoid a meeting with All-Ireland champions Tipperary in the semi-final which takes place in Nowlan Park on August 21. The pairings are Cork v Galway and Tipperary v Wexford.

# Milford celebrate on the double

Milford 2-9  
Inniscarra 2-7

by Mary Newman

DOUBLE joy for Milford at Banteer last night as they booked their place in the O'Leary Brothers Builders Cork Senior Camogie Championship final and also earned the right to represent Cork in the Munster Club Championship with victory over Inniscarra.

It was nip and tuck through the en-

tire 60 minutes of an exciting contest with Milford's Emer O'Freil grabbing the vital goal three minutes from time as the North Cork side defied pre-match predictions to reach their first county final.

Deadlocked at the interval at 1-5 apiece, there was never more than two points between the sides as both strove for supremacy. Criona Harte and Irene O'Keeffe had Inniscarra ahead with points inside four minutes but when Emer Watson rounded the Inniscarra

defence and finished to the net in the fifth minute Milford took the lead.

However, it was short-lived when Irene O'Keeffe, from the puck out, got the last touch in a goalmouth scramble to restore Inniscarra's advantage. Three times the sides swapped points inside the next quarter with Anna Geary edging Milford ahead with four minutes to the break.

Inniscarra resumed the second-half in whirlwind fashion and a Marie O'Connell goal inside a minute rocked

# following victory over Inniscarra

Milford. Points from Ger Casey and Criona Harte saw them open up a five-point lead and now Milford had a battle on their hands. But battle they did. Emer Watson and Anna Geary pointed in the seventh and 18th minute and they continued to pressure the Inniscarra defence, in the process striking three wides.

With four minutes remaining Inniscarra were reduced to 14 when Irene O'Keeffe was dismissed by referee Kevin Creedon after consultation with

his umpires. Inniscarra clung on desperately for survival but Milford continued the pressure and it finally paid off when Emer O'Freil scrambled to the net and it was all square.

With numerical advantage and both teams tiring, Milford dominated. Two points from Emer Watson gave Inniscarra no way back and sealed a wonderful evening for Milford as they booked their place in the senior county final.

son 0-4 (0-3 frees), M Watson 1-0, E O'Freil 1-0, J Sheehy 0-1.  
Inniscarra: M O'Connell 1-2, I O'Keeffe 1-1, G Casey 0-2, C Harte 0-2 (0-1 free).

INNISCARRA: P Goggins, E Dineen, E O'Mahony, E O'Keeffe, M Buckley, R Buckley, T Murphy, MN O'Sullivan, M O'Regan, M McCarthy, C Harte, M O'Connell, G Casey, I O'Keeffe, L Hayes. Subs: C O'Connell for L Hayes, K Ryan for M Buckley, T McCarthy for C O'Connell.

MILFORD: N O'Riordan, D Hayes, E O'Riordan, L Healy, S Sexton, R Curtin, C O'Gorman, A Geary, T McLoughlin, L Long, J Sheehy, A Watson, M Watson, E Watson, E O'Freil. Sub: A Thompson for T McLoughlin.

Scorers: Milford: A Geary 0-4 (0-3 frees), E Wat-

Referee: Kevin Creedon (Macroom).

July 2004

By PJ AHERN

Camogie Senior Championship

Milford 2-09  
Inniscarra 2-07

**MILFORD** shocked red-hot favourites Inniscarra in the O'Leary Brother's Builders Senior Championship game in the most dramatic of finishes at Banteer.

Not only was there a place in the county final at stake but the winners of this tie would also go on to represent Cork in the Munster Club Championship.

Many felt this was Inniscarra's year and with five minutes remaining, all was going to plan but then Inniscarra had Irene O'Keeffe dismissed for an off-the-ball incident.

Referee Kevin Creedon had a lengthy consultation with the umpire and she was given her marching orders.

The game exploded beyond Inniscarra's control and within two minutes, Milford's Eimear O'Freil grabbed a goal in a crowded area to level the match.

Milford were full of confidence now and Regina Curtin set off on a weaving run before setting up Emer Watson who held her nerve to put her side in front. The win was sealed with another Emer Watson point, deep into injury time, to leave the Inniscarra girls devastated at the final whistle.

While many will feel Inniscarra left the match behind them, Milford deserved their win.

They kept the Muskerry girls from scoring for the majority of the second half.

Inniscarra got off to a quick start and Criona Harte pointed inside a minute.

Irene O'Keeffe, playing for the final time in the Inniscarra jersey, pointed after three minutes.

Milford responded through Maria Watson, who left her marker for dead and she lifted it to the net.

Their lead didn't last for long because on the next attack, Inniscarra scored a scrappy goal.

Margaret McCarthy's shot caused a scramble in the area but Irene O'Keeffe managed to force the ball home.

Marie O'Connell and Julie Sheehy added points for their respective sides.

Paula Goggins and Michelle O'Regan were doing their bit to keep out the hungry Milford forwards.

A great battle was developing throughout the match between Margaret Noelle O'Sullivan and Anne Geary.

Geary was having a stormer and she forced a good stop and clearance from Goggins, while her team-mates closed down the Inniscarra attack.

The large crowd at the pristine venue witnessed a superb exhibition of blocking down.

Both sides exchanged points but it was Geary who knocked over a brace of points to level the match



Maria Watson of Milford challenges Michelle O'Regan of Inniscarra during the Cork Senior Camogie Championship semi-final at Banteer last night.  
Picture: Maurice O'Mahony

# Milford pull off shock dumping out Inniscarra

with half-time beckoning.

They almost led going in at the break, Julie Sheehy passed the ball to Emer Watson and she cut inside but Paula Goggins pulled out a world class save.

Milford had Inniscarra on the ropes and the save by the keeper awoke Inniscarra but Elaine O'Riordan denied the advances of their opponents.

Inniscarra began the second half in quick fire fashion, Marie O'Connell found the net inside the first minute to give them the start they needed.

They were firing on all cylinders at this stage with two points coming from Criona Harte and Ger Casey.

It was a holding job for the Milford back-line until their forwards found their feet in the second half. Julie Sheehy and Maria Watson led the charge for Milford and Emer Watson reduced the margin to four points.

Regina Curtin was outstanding at half-back and she helped Milford wake up after their sleepy start.

Milford had a number of chances but they couldn't make a break-

through with good keeping from Goggins and confident clearances from Eadaoin O'Mahony.

Anne Geary was brilliant throughout and she scored another great point to reduce the lead to three points.

It was all Milford now and a goal appeared to be imminent but Inniscarra held firm and defended in numbers.

With ten minutes remaining time was running down fast on the Milford girls and they couldn't

make their chances count.

Inniscarra were cruising and were quite happy to sit back and allow Milford come at them.

The match was set up for a grandstand finish following the sending off, and the game threatened to boil over as both sides were fully committed to every ball.

The incident shook the grip of last year's defeated finalists and Milford took full control, scoring 1-2 to send them through to their first final, next Friday night in Páirc Uí Rinn.

Referee Kevin Creedon did his job in the middle but he incensed the players and selectors of Inniscarra. They let their feelings known at the final whistle.

Milford selector, Anne Watson said: "It was a great game and it was in doubt until the final minute. It's always great to beat Inniscarra. It was a dramatic finish and we will enjoy ourselves before the serious business next week. We will give it our best shot in the final and in the Munster Championship."

After this performance anything is possible.

**Scorers for Milford:** E Watson 0-4, A Geary 0-1, M Watson 1-0, E O'Freil 1-0, J Sheehy 0-1.

**Inniscarra:** M O'Connell 1-3, I O'Keeffe 1-1, G Casey 0-2, C Harte 0-1.

**MILFORD:** N O'Riordan, D Hayes, E O'Riordan, L Healy, S Sexton, R Curtin, C O'Gorman, A Geary, T McLoughlin, L Long, J Sheehy, A Watson, M Watson, E Watson, E O'Freil. **Subs:** A Thompson, J Lyman, M Broderick.

**INNISCARRA:** P Goggins, E Dineen, E O'Mahony, E O'Keeffe, M Buckley, R Buckley, T Murphy, M N O'Sullivan, M O'Regan, M McCarthy, C Harte, M O'Connell, L Hayes, G Casey, I O'Keeffe. **Subs:** K Ryan, C O'Connell, T McCarthy.

**Referee:** K Creedon.

**LEFT:** Lelia Long, Milford gets her shot in as Trish Murphy, Inniscarra challenges during the semi-final at Banteer last night.

Picture: Maurice O'Mahony



# Carrig are likely to gel better as a unit



**Tonight**  
Imokilly v Carrigdhoun  
Cork Camogie SC  
Glen Field 7.30pm

**TWO divisional sides meet in the second Camogie Senior semi-final at the Glen field tonight (7.30pm) and both panels contain a wealth of talent.**

Carrigdhoun will pull players from the likes of Valley Rovers, Ballygarvan, Tracton and Carrigaline. Imokilly from East Cork can call on sides such as Sarsfields, Killeagh Youghal and St Catherine's.

Carrigdhoun cast aside the challenge presented to them by Bishopstown and UCC in the earlier stages and then beat the much talked about St Finbarr's in the quarter-final.

When you look at the fact that almost the entire panel have played for Cork at some level it is hard to see them being beaten.

Carrig formed in 1997 thanks mainly to the vision of our present GAA County Board Chairman Jim Forbes.

He foresaw the need for a divisional side and gathered the necessary personnel together to form a committee.

Seven years later they are hot favourites for the senior title.

But championship is championship and how many times has the underdog caught the favourite.

Imokilly are a strong team on paper. Cork Senior Mary O'Connor and Cork junior Emer O'Farrell complement a team also consisting of Angela Walsh, Marie O'Neill, and Denise Twomey.

They are without doubt a talented side but as with most divisional sides problems arise as to the availability of players to train.

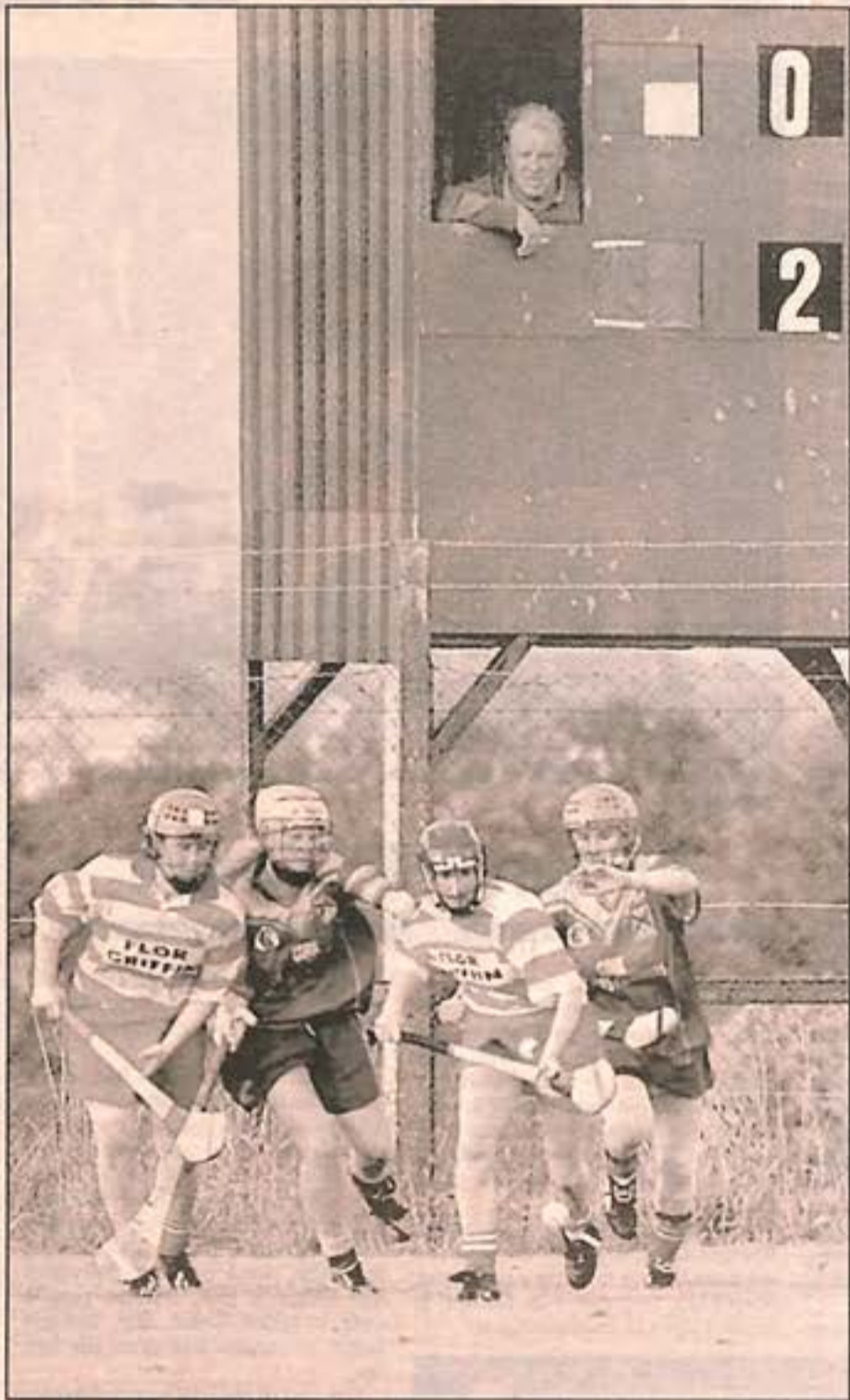
Imokilly have not trained as a unit to date. They have regrouped for matches and that is about the extent of their preparations.

This must be a worry. No matter how talented a team are as individuals they must be able to play as one.

Much of the same team have been together for a number of years now and that has helped but is it enough for them to reach a county final? Carrigdhoun gather once a week. That is sufficient for a bunch of girls who train continuously with their respective clubs. It affords them a slight opportunity of gelling together and getting to know each other.

Newcomers Lucy Hawkes and Emer O'Sullivan have blended in nicely with a star-studded team consisting of Emer Dillon, Elaine Burke, Catriona Kelly, Sarah O'Donovan and Marian Jagoe.

On performances to date I expect Carrigdhoun to reach their first senior county final.



**ABOVE:** Imokilly and Courcey Rovers players battle it out in the quarter-final of the O'Leary Brother Builders Senior Camogie Championship match at Éire Óg GAA pitch.

Picture: Cillian Kelly

**LEFT:** The Barrs' Laura Kelleher attempts to block down Carrigdhoun star Marian Jagoe from striking the ball in their quarter-final earlier this month.

Picture: Gavin Browne

## Hallahan is aware of task ahead

By LINDA MELLERICK

Carrigdhoun preparations

OLLIE HALLAHAN, a man who has brought numerous Munster and All-Ireland minor titles to Cork is one of the mentors behind Carrigdhoun. Knowledgeable and experienced he is all too aware of the task ahead. "It gets tougher. There are only four teams left and while we have been

playing well all along Friday is a whole new ball game."

Asked about their preparations, Ollie said that they manage to get the team together once a week and that morale is good.

"The girls' attitude is very good. I suppose that comes with winning. The bulk of the team have been together for a few years and the newcomers that have come in have blended in well.

Imokilly's half-forward line are good and they won their quarter-final easily.

"We've been playing well however and I hope that continues into Friday evening."

Margaret Hyde, secretary, PRO and treasurer of Imokilly speaks highly of her team and their championship hopes. Her only regret is the fact that they can't find the time to get together. "JJ Spillane coached the team last year

and did a magnificent job."

"We just didn't do ourselves justice come championship time."

"This year it's been difficult to organise a suitable training time but the girls are fit and we've been on the road as a unit for a few years now. I think the game is really 50-50."

"We have matured over the years and hopefully this will stand us in good stead come Friday."

## Carrigdhoun reach decider after seven goal thriller with Imokilly

Carrigdhoun  
Imokilly

4-10  
3-8

by Mary Newman

TWO first-half goals laid the foundations for Carrigdhoun's advancement to the O'Leary Brothers Builders Cork Senior Camogie Championship final but not before they had to withstand a strong challenge from Imokilly at Glen Rovers last evening.

Inside six minutes of the start, Sarah O'Donovan and Elaine Burke had Carrigdhoun ahead.

And Marion Jagoe and Catriona

Kelly had extended their advantage with points before Sinead Crowley opened Imokilly's account with a point.

From here Imokilly took over and further points from Denise Twomey, Orla Cotter and Angela Walsh had cut the Carrigdhoun advantage to four points.

In that purple patch Imokilly were guilty of striking four wides and had a Mary O'Connor penalty attempt saved before Carrigdhoun regrouped with a Catriona Kelly pointed free. Emer O'Farrell and Marion Jagoe swapped points, but it was Car-

rigdhoun who finished the half stronger with three points without reply from Liz Bugler, Catriona Kelly and Sarah O'Donovan.

Liz Bugler extended the Carrigdhoun advantage with a point before Orla Cotter made no mistake from the penalty spot inside the fourth minute of the restart and now just two points separated the sides.

Both teams strove to gain control but we had to wait ten minutes for the next score. In between Yvonne O'Neill brought off a tremendous save from Carrigdhoun's Sarah O'Donovan but their persistence finally paid

off when Marion Jagoe first timed an Imokilly ground shot to the net.

Minutes later Sarah O'Donovan hand passed for Imokilly's fourth goal and they looked to be in cruise control.

To their credit Imokilly battled on, Denise Twomey cut the arrears with a superb goal with eight minutes remaining and Angela Walsh was unlucky not to have had another two minutes later.

Angela Walsh and Catriona Kelly swapped points but by now the clock had beaten Imokilly's revival attempt and Carrigdhoun were safely through

to a County final meeting with Milford on Friday next.

Scorers, Imokilly: A Walsh 1-2, O Cotter 1-2, Denise Twomey 1-1, S Crowley, E O'Farrell and M O'Neill 0-1 each

Carrigdhoun: S O'Donovan 2-1, M Jagoe 1-2, C Kelly 0-4, L Bugler 0-3, E Burke 1-0.

**IMOKILLY:** Y O'Neill, G O'Donoghue, E Power, M Dorgan, N Barry, M O'Connor, N Mulcahy, O Cotter, S Crowley, L Higgins, M O'Neill, A Walsh, Denise Twomey, E O'Farrell, Deirdre Twomey.

**CARRIGDHOUN:** G Harrington, SA O'Halloran, M Hallahan, L Hawks, E O'Sullivan, J Browne, M Holland, E Dillon, A Murphy, D Daly, C Kelly, L Bugler, E Burke, S O'Donovan, M Jagoe.

Referee: Peter Downey (Inniscarra)

# Carrig take the chances to win

Carrighoun 4-10  
Imokilly 3-8



Linda Mellerick

AFTER their great victory on Thursday, Milford had to wait until last evening to find out who their final opponents would be.

Carrighoun was the outcome as they advanced on a 4-10 to 3-8 score line against Imokilly at the Glen Field last night.

In a game which never really excited Carrighoun advanced because they took their scoring chances better and were able to up a gear when the need arose.

The two teams were evenly matched in the first five minutes but in championship camogie you've got to capitalise on your possession.

Imokilly missed a golden opportunity of a goal after four minutes.

From the puck-out Carrig star Sarah O'Donovan grabbed possession, rounded her marker and fired the ball to the back of the net.

Elaine Burke added another 60 seconds later at the second attempt and those two goals signalled Imokilly's downfall.

In a matter of two minutes this game was more or less decided. Imokilly battled hard to

get back into the game and had numerous opportunities but could never draw level after that. By the 10th minute Carrig were 2-2 to no score to the good but for the next 11 minutes it was all Imokilly.

Five points on-the-trot meant that only three now separated the sides.

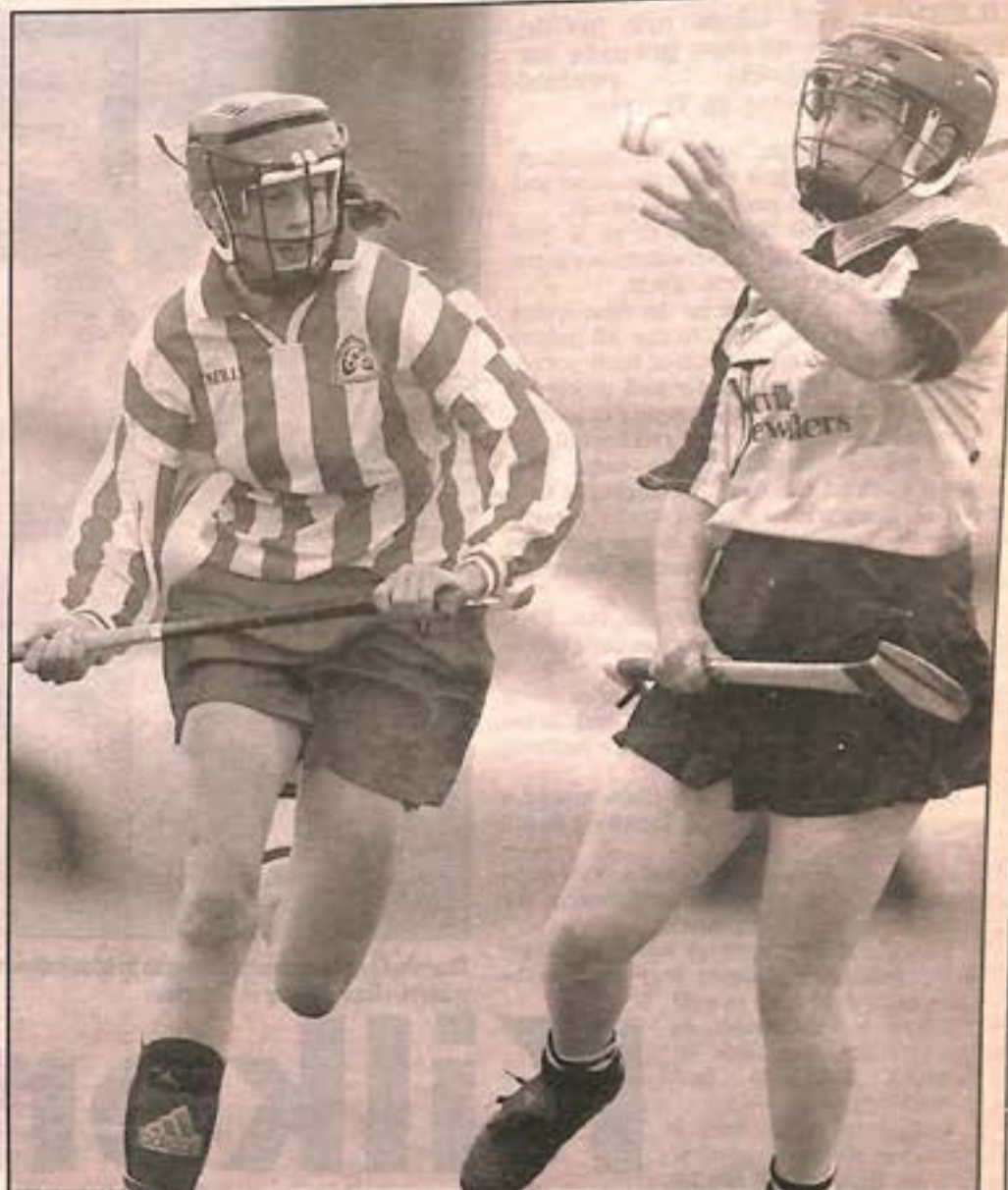
Carrig upped the ante again. Points from Marion Jagoe, Liz Bugler, Catriona Kelly (2) and Sarah O'Donovan gave them a 2-7 to 0-5 lead at half time.

Emer Dillon controlled midfield and the Carrig forwards had a plentiful supply. But so did Imokilly.

Wasted goal opportunities and a missed penalty in the 15th minute didn't do the East Cork division side justice.

Imokilly came out battling in the second period. They were awarded a penalty in the fourth minute after Denise Twomey was fouled going through. Orla Cotter stepped up and despite the ball being initially saved by Gillian Harrington it trickled in.

Five minutes later, after great work by Mary O'Connor, Angela Walsh netted again



Carrighoun's Emer Dillon palms the ball away from Imokilly's Orla Cotter. Picture: Neil Danton

with a magnificent strike and suddenly we had a game. Two points was now the gap.

Gillian Harrington was excellent in the Carrig goal and played a huge part in Carrig's win. Likewise Yvonne O'Neill from St Catherine's made some great saves.

The game hung in the balance for the next 10 minutes or so with neither team registering a score but both had chances.

When Sarah O'Donovan slipped in behind Niamh Barry and palmed in a goal, you felt that was it.

But again Imokilly came back and a 'rocket' of a shot into the back of the net by Denise Twomey kept them in the hunt.

Carrighoun now did the majority of the attacking but good work by Mary Dorgan, Mary

O'Connor and Anne Marie Walsh kept them at bay. Both teams added points.

With five minutes to go the impressive Angela Walsh for Imokilly, who had a good game, found a way through but blasted over. It was the last real chance they had and Carrighoun advanced.

**Scorers-Carrighoun:** S. O'Donovan 2-1, C. Kelly 0-5 (0-4), M. Jagoe 1-1, E. Burke 1-0, L. Bugler 0-3.

**Imokilly:** A. Walsh 1-2, O. Cotter 1-2 (1-0), D. Twomey 1-1, S. Crowley, E. O'Farrell, M. O'Neill 0-1 each.

**CARRIGHOUN:** G. Harrington; S. A. O'Halloran, M. Hallahan, L. Hawkes; E. O'Sullivan, J. Browne, M. Holland; E. Dillon, A. Murphy; D. Daly, C. Kelly, L. Bugler; E. Burke, S. O'Donovan, M. Jagoe.

**IMOKILLY:** Y. O'Neill; N. Barry, E. Power, M. Dorgan; A. M. Walsh, M. O'Connor, N. Mulcahy; S. Crowley, O. Cotter; A. Walsh, M. O'Neill, L. Higgins; Denise Twomey, E. O'Farrell, Deirdre Twomey.

## WHAT THEY SAID

AFTER the match Imokilly coach JJ Fennelly spoke about their preparations coming into the semi-final.

"Last year we got together and trained really hard. We were beaten by Glen Rovers in the first round.

"I think a lot of the players were too keyed up and it affected them.

"All the girls, as individuals, were training with their clubs and we said we'd leave it at that.

"We met up only for the games and maybe that's what cost us here tonight. Carrighoun have a few lethal forwards and we found it hard to tie them down.

"But at half time we said we'd give it a real go and to be fair I think we did. I couldn't fault the girls for their effort or performance."

Tom Kiely and Ollie Hallahan, two of the Carrighoun mentors were obviously delighted to be through to their first final.

Tom feels that they didn't play to their full potential.

"Not taking anything from Imokilly, as this was a tough one, but I feel we didn't really get going tonight.

"I think the difference was that our full forward line were able to take crucial scores in the game. And in the end it was our keeper Gillian Harrington who kept us in it."

Ollie said: "Last year Milford beat us in the quarter-final by a point with a last minute goal. I was at their win last evening and was very impressed. We have certainly a more balanced team than last year, but the final is anyone's."



Carrighoun's Amanda Murphy tries to get away from Imokilly's Shirley Crowley.

Picture: Neil Danton

July 2004

# Inniscarra proud to have their own ground

By LINDA MELLERICK

Camogie news

IT'S all happening in Ballyanly at the moment! Last Sunday Miriam Uí Cheallacháin, Uachtarán Cumann Camogaíochta na nGael, officially opened Inniscarra's camogie pitch. Inniscarra are the only club in Cork and indeed only the third in the country to own their own pitch, dedicated to camogie only. It is a magnificent achievement. In April 2002 an EGM gave the go-ahead for a committee raise the necessary funds to buy their own grounds. Massive fundraising quickly got underway beginning with a grand draw held between May and November. A race night was held and generous grants were received from the Scally Family Foundation, owners of Super Valu, Blarney, Cork County Council and The National Lottery. Local businesses from surrounding parishes also contributed generously. Within a short period of time the land was bought. But that's what it was, just land. Major development was still needed and required a huge effort. Machines moved in on September 16 2002. The weather also played its part as by August 2003 the seed was sown on the new pitch. During the last few months the finishing touches have been added. Fencing, goal posts, nets, etc have been erected and the finished product is something that the parish can be extremely proud of. The hardworking Con Hayes, Chairman of Inniscarra Camogie, told the large attendance present that the pitch was in many ways the last piece of the jigsaw in what is the Ballyanly Complex. The demand for pitches has become very acute in the past few years and there was, he felt, a need to provide a facility dedicated to women. This present facility gives camogie players greater flexibility as to playing options. Tomas Ryan deputising for the Mayor of Cork County, Pat Cox, MEP, Marion McCarthy chairperson of the Camogie Board and Sheila Golden, president, were just a few of the people in attendance. The Blarney Brass and Reed Band and the underage Inniscarra girls led the Cork and Kilkenny senior teams onto the pitch for an exhibition game, won by Cork. While camogie is being played in Inniscarra since the 40s it was only in 1967 that the club was formed. They have since won eight county and two Féile titles. The founder members must be very proud of the progress the club has made over the last 37 years. Their star player Irene O'Keeffe really put the club on the map. Winner of five All-Ireland senior medals and player of the match on two occasions, people around the country were asking themselves where this dynamic player came from. Ger Casey followed the trend winning All-Ireland junior and senior medals. Maire O'Connell, Criona Harte, Trish Murphy, Leona Nolan, Margaret McCarthy, Treasa McCarthy and Rena Buckley have all worn the Cork Jersey and won All-Ireland. The new facility can only improve and enhance the club and nobody could begrudge them that.



Linda Mellerick

WHEN word filtered through the county a couple of months ago that Fiona O'Driscoll had formally retired from inter-county camogie not only were a lot of people shocked but they genuinely felt a sense of sadness.

I say that people were shocked because Fiona was to be captain of Cork this year and if anybody deserved that honour, she did.

Fiona had more or less made up her mind 12 months ago that 2003 was to be her last year wearing the red jersey but when her club Fr O'Neill's won the senior county championship for the first time everyone assumed that she'd take on the captain's role. It wasn't to be.

It was by no means an easy decision, but being the level-headed person she is, she realised that the hunger just wasn't there anymore and had she carried on it would have been for the wrong reasons.

A lot of players would have played on just because of the captaincy and the glory that goes with it, but Fiona isn't that type of girl.

When Cork won the All-Ireland in 2002 Fiona was the star of the show.

She had a game that many only dream about. A hat-trick of goals at crucial stages of the game knocked the stuffing out of Tipp and Cork had regained the title after four years.

The adulation that surrounded her in the aftermath of that game and the demands on her time was something Fiona hadn't experienced before and while she was extremely honoured and delighted she found it very daunting and physically draining.

"The attention I received after that All-Ireland was something I wasn't used to. It went on for months.

"I don't know how prominent GAA stars deal with it constantly. Come February of the following year I had to say stop. I was honoured but it took its toll."

Fiona is the type of person who doesn't seek attention, doesn't want praise heaped upon her and quietly but so efficiently goes about the task required of her.

She began her playing career at the age of seven. At the time there was a rule in the parish that you could only begin playing once you were in fourth class but Fiona pestered the club so much that they let her play while in third class.

That enthusiasm was to stay with her for the rest of her playing career.

Three years playing with Cork minors and two with the juniors saw her called up to senior ranks at the end of 1991.

Cork won their first All-Ireland senior title in 1992 after a lapse of nine years.

Fiona was in full-forward on the day and from thereon in she was a regular until her retirement. She is the holder of six senior All-Ireland medals.

# End of an era



Fiona hangs up her Cork boots

CROWNING GLORY: Fiona O'Driscoll, a winner with Fr O'Neill's in last year's county final and with Cork against Tipp in 2002.

Fiona wore the Cork jersey with pride but her greatest affections were kept for her beloved club.

Despite her success at inter-county level, Fiona's greatest sporting moment was when O'Neill's lifted the Cork County senior title last year.

Such is the respect and high regard that Fiona is held, the whole county was overjoyed for her and also for people such as her life long friend Mags Finn, also a great servant to Cork.

On the tip of everyone's tongue was the fact that Cork would have a great captain in 2004.

In the short time since Fiona's decision to retire many have said that O'Neill's victory came a year or two too late and if anyone deserved to captain Cork it was Fiona or indeed Mags. Fiona doesn't feel that way at all.

"O'Neill's won and that's all that matters."

When asked what her lowest point in her career was, Fiona has no hesitation in saying it was the county final defeat of 1999, a year in which she was both coach and player.

I asked her what it was that made the club so special to her.

"As a group we suffered so much over the years, as a club and parish we endured years of heart-break and we all felt it."

"We developed a unique bond and when we were low there was always someone strong who would drag us all back for another year."

"It was one unfulfilled ambition of mine and it was my greatest moment when we finally lifted the cup."

I played with Fiona for 12 years and I can honestly say that she was one of the best.

And I don't just mean with regards her playing ability. There was never an issue with her training, commitment or attitude. She gave it 100%.

She was a leader, an advisor and at times a peace maker. I can't recall a single incident where Fiona had a run-in with someone or pulled a dirty stroke in a match.

She'd take a step back and assess a situation. She wouldn't jump in all fired up like some of us. Yet when it came to driving her team on with passion and emotion she had it in abundance.

Asked if it was a tough decision to retire when she still had plenty to offer and if she had any regrets her reply was: "It was the most difficult decision of my sporting career and probably my life."

She doesn't have any regrets yet.

She attended Cork's quarter-final against Wexford last weekend and as she watched the team go through their warm-up she did feel a little pang as she knew exactly how they felt and what would be going through her mind if she was with them.

"I'll miss the feeling I used to

get when the game was in the melting pot. The thousand thoughts going through your mind, the knife-edge feeling."

As we spoke I could feel the nostalgia building up in both of us. I could associate with every emotion.

What Fiona got most from the game was 'the friends up and down the country. I also loved the funny incidents that occurred, the dressing room banter, the characters you meet and the pre match talks.' Fiona has been teaching in Colaiste Cholm, Ballincollig for five years.

The school was recently voted the most sporting school in Ireland. A tremendous achievement! Fiona helped in no small way to that success. She has given so much to coaching and camogie outside of playing that it is little wonder she now feels the need for a little R&R.

She has decided to take a 12 month career break from both teaching and coaching. A rest she thoroughly deserves. Travel and catching up with friends are high on her agenda.

We could have talked for hours but eventually decided it was time to go. I gave the final few words to Fiona.

"The greatest influence was my family. I want to thank them wholeheartedly. I want to thank my club mates, the people of my parish and the coaches."

"Finally, thank you to all the Cork girls for the good craic. I wish both the senior and junior teams the very best of luck in their quest for All-Ireland glory this year. I wouldn't have swapped a single moment of any of it." Neither would we Fiona!



Mags Finn, a friend and team-mate of Fiona's.



Kate Kelly is challenged by Vivian Harris in Saturday's Foras na Gaeilge All-Ireland senior camogie encounter at Wexford Park. (Pic. Jim Campbell).

# Off-colour display pits Wexford against Tipp

## CORK

1-14

## WEXFORD

0-8

### Ronan Fagan

**WEXFORD MUST** take on all-conquering Tipperary in the semi-finals of the Foras na Gaeilge All-Ireland senior camogie championship following their limp display against Cork in what basically amounted to a quarter-final encounter at Wexford Park on Saturday afternoon.

The winners of the concluding league/championship fixture would land a far more appealing penultimate round encounter with Galway, as opposed to one against a Tipperary crew who have won four of the last five All-Ireland finals.

The simple fact is that Wexford never got into their stride, as in most departments they struggled to even touch upon their true potential throughout the hour.

Cork, on the other hand, moved far more fluently,

Nevertheless, after 44 minutes, Wexford were still in with a tremendous shout of repeating the National League semi-final victory they scored over the Rebels at the same venue in April, as they trailed by just 1-7 to 0-7.

However, Cork's superior overall class on the day told in the remaining moments, as they out-scored their hosts by 0-7 to 0-1 to clinch the less daunting mission against Galway.

Wexford will know this was no more than a blip, a forgettable performance in a season which has seen massive improvement on their part, thanks to the diligent work of selectors Aidan Breen and Aidan Moran, and trainer Kevin Murphy.

They will be buoyed up for the Tipperary game by the knowledge of the fact that they could so easily have beaten the Premier County in last May's League final.

Still, they must get through some serious work between this and the rematch on August 21st if they are to wash Saturday's game from their minds, and thus put together a challenge against Tipp more in keeping with Wexford's form.

Wexford sprang into action against Cork with the wind at their backs.

But the first cut was inflicted by the reds, when Jennifer O'Leary put over a second-minute free. Wexford immediately struck back through Aoife O'Connor following good work by Kate Kelly.

And after full-back Áine Codd had effected a fine block in the ninth minute to deny Cork an almost certain goal, Wexford got what proved their only taste of the lead in the 13th-minute, when Kate Kelly fired over a free from 30 metres, after Caroline Murphy was fouled.

Cork snatched the lead on 15-minutes, when a free from O'Leary broke favourably for Elaine Burke to send the Clonard end net rippling, and thus open-up a 1-1 to 0-2 gap.

Wexford were unfortunate with a number of gilt-edged scoring opportunities, and indeed they almost replied instantaneously to Cork's major, when midfielder Caroline Murphy set up Kate Kelly, whose strike on goal was parried out at the expense of what proved a fruitless '45.

After Elaine Holohan cancelled out a 22nd-minute point from Sheila Burns with a super score from the right wing (1-2 to 0-3), Holohan was unfortunate to strike wide after a charge down the right wing saw a shot from Kate Kelly break to the left

off Cork captain Stephanie Dunlea.

Teenage attacking sensation Una Leacy was then introduced to try to help turn Wexford's fair share of the attacking play into scores. Kate Kelly put over a free from 50 yards in the 24th minute.

The far more impressive Cork women forced a penalty in the 28th minute, from which Jenny O'Leary opted to shoot a second personal point, and open-up a 1-3 to 0-4 lead.

In the closing stages Kate Kelly (from long range out on the right) and opponent Jennifer O'Leary exchanged points, to leave Wexford, despite their struggles, with a quite manageable deficit of 1-4 to 0-5 to try to overcome in the second-half.

But Cork's dominance grew greater in the second-half, and they caused some consternation in the Wexford defence, while striking a couple of wides inside the opening minutes, before Colette Desmond pointed them 1-5 to 0-5 ahead on 35 minutes.

Catherine O'Loughlin had been forced out of the Wexford plans since the League final, after undergoing surgery. So it was great to see the introduction of the first-choice full-back shortly before Michelle Hearne shot over from an angle after good work by Orla HERNON and Una Leacy, to

close the gap to 1-5 to 0-6 in the 37th minute.

But two pointed frees from Jennifer O'Leary shoved Cork four points clear after 41 minutes, before Wexford regained what proved some false hope when Kate Kelly again narrowed the gap to 1-7 to 0-7 from a 44th-minute free, after Lenny Holohan had been impeded.

Thereafter Cork opened their shoulders, and between the 48th and 56th-minutes they struck four points without reply, to finally establish a firm grip on the outcome (1-11 to 0-7). Jennifer O'Leary pointed another free, before substitutes Eimear DILLON (50 minutes) and Rachel Moloney (54 and 56) added similar scores to establish a seven-point divide.

Kate Kelly pulled back a point on 58 minutes, while shortly afterwards a delivery from the St. Ibar's ace almost led to a goal, as number 10 Evelyn Quigley and Elaine Holohan kept the move going, with the latter however seeing her attempted pass to Michelle Hearne, as the latter stole inside, being intercepted by a vigilant Cork defender.

From there Cork completed their revenge mission with points from Elaine Burke (although Catherine O'Loughlin appeared to have been fouled in that move), Eimear Dillon, and again from Burke in injury-time,

leaving Wexford with the more unenviable task of tackling the All-Ireland champs in the semi-final.

**Cork** - Aoife Murray, Joanne O'Callaghan, Rosalie Holland, Stephanie Dunlea (capt.), Paula O'Connor, Mary O'Connor, Rena Buckley, Vivian Harris, Gemma O'Connor, Brieghe Corkery, Sheila Burns (0-1), Jennifer O'Leary (0-6, 5 frees, 1 penalty), Elaine Burke (1-2).

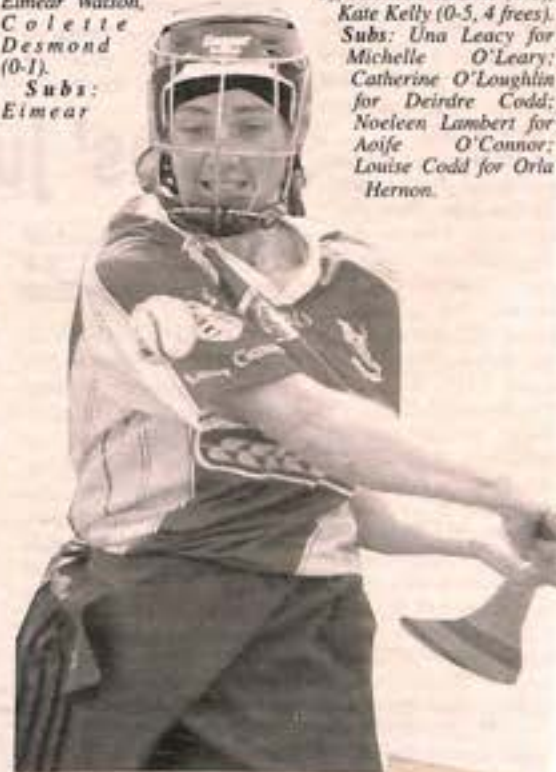
**Eimear Watson, Colette Desmond (0-1).**

**Subs:** Eimear

Dillon (0-2) for Sheila Burns; Rachel Maloney (0-2) for Brieghe Corkery; Una Donoghue for Eimear Watson; Anna Geary for Gemma O'Connor.

**Wexford** - Emma Barnes, Aisling Moran, Áine Codd, Claire O'Connor, Rose Marie Breen, Mary Leacy (capt.), Deirdre Codd, Caroline Murphy, Orla HERNON, Michelle O'Leary, Aoife O'Connor (0-1), Evelyn Quigley, Elaine Holohan (0-1), Michelle Hearne (0-1), Kate Kelly (0-5, 4 frees).

**Subs:** Una Leacy for Michelle O'Leary; Catherine O'Loughlin for Deirdre Codd; Noeleen Lambert for Aoife O'Connor; Louise Codd for Orla HERNON.



Wexford defender Claire O'Connor in action on Saturday. (Pic. Jim Campbell).



Wexford's Una Leacy races away from Gemma O'Connor of Cork in last Saturday's Foras na Gaeilge All-Ireland senior camogie championship qualifier at Wexford Park. Cork won 1-14 to 0-8. Coverage on page 68. (Pic. Jim Campbell).

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Wexford sub Noleen Lambert moves in to block a shot by Cork defender Rena Buckley in last Saturday's Foras na Gaeilge All-Ireland senior championship qualifier at Wexford Park Report opposite. (Pic. Jim Campbell).

## Carrigdhoun and Milford eye first title

by Mary Newman

A new name will be inscribed on the roll of honour on Friday next but will it be Milford or Carrigdhoun, that's the question on everybody's lips in anticipation of what will surely be a classic in the O Leary Brothers Cork senior camogie Championship final in Pairc Uí Rinn.

In their paths to the final both sides have shown tremendous determination. Milford had a tough opening before defeating last year's senior B winner Kilbrittan/Timoleague. In their quarter and semi finals clashes with Barryroe and Inniscarra

respectively they had to call on all their reserves to ensure victory.

Carrigdhoun have looked very sharp on their path to the final. Bishopstown were first to fall and Carrigdhoun went on to knock out a fancied UCC as they advanced to a quarter final with St Finbarr's then on to a semi final with Imokilly.

Since the season began, Carrigdhoun have been favoured to take the title but Milford have impressed through a marvellous Cork Senior Championship. It has the makings of a classic — 7.30pm is the throw in time in Pairc Uí Rinn on Friday.



Future generation of Inniscarra camogie players at the official opening of the club's new pitch at Ballyanly.

Picture: Mike En

O'Leary Builders Senior Camogie Championship final, Pairc Uí Rinn, Friday, 7.30pm

# Hegarty's girls ready for fray

**THE** Cork Senior Camogie Championship reaches its pinnacle tomorrow evening in Pairc Uí Rinn at 7.30pm.



**Linda Mellerick**

Carrigdhoun and Milford go head-to-head to decide who will be crowned Champions of 2004 in a game which is too close to call.

Billy Hegarty the ex-Erin's Own player — who coached the club to intermediate glory and also to their marvellous Senior County Hurling success of 1992 — is at the helm of the divisional side and he is only too aware of the task ahead of his charges.

"No matter what anyone says it's 50/50 and nothing else. I have always instilled this into teams that I coached. If you have the appetite and if your will to win is better than your opponents, then you'll win."

Billy has spent numerous years training teams. After years of service to his hurling club, he coached the club's camogie team in 1995 for two years.

He then returned to GAA and coached Blarney and Bandon's intermediate team. This year he decided to give himself a break and stop coaching

for a while.

"I was resigned to not being involved anymore when Ollie Hallahan phoned me and asked me to get involved with Ballygarvan. It was something different again and it was with girls so I agreed. You get far more commitment out of girls than with guys and they're a pleasure to coach."

"We always get a full squad training unless for some genuine reason a person can't make it and then we'll always get a phone call. No one just opts out."

"I was then asked if I'd get involved with Carrigdhoun and as many of the players are involved in both I said yes."

Billy knows his side face a formidable challenge tomorrow night.

"Milford are a team who'll keep going till the end. They gradually wear a team down with their work ethic. Both teams have great players in every line of the pitch and I think we're in for

one hell of a battle."

Many feel that a divisional side would not have the bond of a club but Billy feels that in this case the opposite has in fact occurred.

"The one thing that has struck me from day one about this team is the way they gelled together."

"They're a very united bunch and in every aspect like a club team."

"We have managed to get together twice a week since the first round which is great considering the amount of teams the girls are involved in and I want to thank both the Cork senior and junior mentors for their consideration in releasing players leading up to the final."

"It would be unbelievable for the Carrigdhoun community to win this one and none more so than for Jim Forbes the County Board chairman who had the foresight to see the need for a divisional side back in 1997."

The one fear Billy may have ahead of Friday's final is that his players will let all the hype get to them.

"I hope the girls won't get overawed by the occasion", he said.

"I just hope that we can keep our feet firmly on the ground."



Emer Dillon will be one of the key players for Carrigdhoun in Friday night's final.

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## Camogie star to celebrate on double

THIS camogie star is hoping for a double celebration tonight.

Ballinhassig girl Máiréad Holland will be joined by friends and family at her 21st birthday party.

Earlier on in the day she and her Carrigdhoun team mates will take on Milford in the Senior Camogie Championships at Pairc Uí Rinn at 7.30pm.

Máiréad's after-match festivities will include her 21st birthday party celebrations to be held at the ESB hall in Curahreen road, Bishopstown.

"The whole team are coming to the party afterwards and we are going to have a good night win or lose. Of course it would make the day extra special if we win," she said.

Máiréad has been playing camogie since she was 12.

She and her team mates played three separate matches to make it to the final, beating senior teams from Bishopstown, St Finbarr's and Imokilly.

"We have been training for months for this — it would be absolutely amazing if we won. Our coaches Ollie Hallahan, Billy Hegarty, Marion McCarthy and Tom Keilly have all worked very hard to get us here. Let's hope it will be a double celebration," she said.



Cork camogie player Máiréad Holland at home surrounded by her 21st birthday cards. She and her Carrigdhoun team mates will take on Milford in the Senior Camogie Championships on the day of her birthday.

Picture: Gavin Browne

# Unlikely county final pairing set to be a thriller

WHAT a final it promises to be!

A lot of the time predicted 'thrillers' don't quite live up to their expectations. At other times they do. And when they do, what a thrill.

Friday's O'Leary Bros sponsored Cork County Senior A Camogie Championship Final between Milford and Carrigdhoun in Pairc Uí Rinn at 7.30pm has all such hallmarks.

The similarities between the finalists is interesting. Both club and division are only in existence seven or eight years, both teams are extremely young, both are in a final for the first time, and both want to win it badly.

At the beginning of the season few would have put their money on these two reaching the final. Milford have gained a lot of admirers these past few years but many thought it would still be a year or two before they would be senior title contenders. There wasn't too much talk about Carrigdhoun either. From their first entry against UCC it was over-

By LINDA MELLERICK

Camogie

ous that it was going to take a great team to beat them.

Carrigdhoun first entered the senior championship in 1997 and were subsequently defeated by Carbery. None of that team are on the current panel. 1998 saw them bow out in the first round to Newtownshandrum. Cork star Emer Dillon of the present panel was in goal on that occasion.

It was in 1999 that Carrig first gave an indication that they were to be taken seriously when they ran eventual county champions Bishopstown to two points.

Beaten by Bishopstown again in 2000 their first win came in 2001 when they defeated Eire Óg. They, in turn, lost to champions Cloughduv.

Meanwhile Champcoy Rovers won the Senior B competition and so Carrigdhoun were to lose their contribution of players for 2002. This time around they reached the semi-final only to lose by a single



Elaine Burke: A potent threat in the Carrigdhoun full-forward line.

point to St Finbarr's.

Last year Milford were the team to defeat the divisional side and now Carrig are in the final and against last year's first round opponents.

Milford have won every competition available to them from U12 up to Senior B since their inception. Last year they won the Senior A League and now they hope to add the

A championship to their haul.

Thirteen of the starting Carrig 15 have all worn the Cork jersey at either Minor, Junior, Intermediate or senior level.

Their most lethal line in the team are their full-forwards. Elaine Burke, Sarah O'Donovan and Marian Jagoe are all Cork stars. They are strong, skilful and powerful.

Outside of them is Captain Catriona Kelly and Liz Bugler who are both playing well and capable of notching up scores.

Should their star midfielder Emer Dillon and Amanda Murphy provide the supply then Milford will have their hands full.

Against Imokilly in the semi-final however, Carrig didn't play to form. The East Cork side found their way through on a few occasions.

Carrigdhoun's defence looked vulnerable and had it not been for Gillian Harrington between the posts and the ability of their forwards to make use of the possession they had they might well have found

themselves out of the competition.

Milford have the defence capable of stopping Carrigdhoun's inside six.

Elaine O'Riordan, Christine O'Gorman and Regina Curtin are excellent players.

At centerfield, Anna Geary is a player of star quality and it will be interesting to see who will mark the Cork senior player. Emer Dillon is a roaming player and won't trail her.

Julie Sheehy is a great playmaker and on many occasions has made the run or given the pass that created a score. The Watsons, particularly Aine will always grab a goal or two.

The game is sure to go down to the wire. Whoever settles first is important. Milford are normally slow to start and can't afford to be on this occasion. Carrig's two goals after five minutes against Imokilly shows us that they start well.

Milford cannot give the divisional side such a lead.

● TOMORROW: Don't miss our two-page Special on the final.

## Best Of Luck To Carrigdhoun Senior Camogie Team In The Final

O'LEARY BROTHER BUILDERS CORK SENIOR CAMOGIE CHAMPIONSHIP FINAL • MILFORD V CARRIGDHOUN  
FRIDAY AUGUST 8TH • PAIRC UI RINN AT 7.30PM

# Historic Victory For Carrigdhoun

## CARRIGDHOUN CAMOGIE CLUB NEWS

History was made at Glen Rovers grounds on Friday evening last when Carrigdhoun Senior Camogie Team overcame a strong challenge senior final for the first time.

By BILLY DILLON

Carrigdhoun 4 - 10 Imokilly 3 - 8

Having already seen off the challenge of Bishopstown, UCC and St. Finbarr's, Carrigdhoun were quietly confident of success. However they had to withstand a strong challenge from Imokilly before eventually booking their place in the final where they will come up against Milford. The foundations for this victory were laid early on when first Sarah O'Donovan and shortly afterwards Elaine Burke scored two goals for Carrigdhoun. A very impressive Marion Jagoe and Team Captain Catriona Kelly added two points to leave us in a very commanding position. Driven on by inter county star Mary O'Connor of Imokilly struck back and four points without reply and cut the Carrigdhoun advantage to four points.

Some erratic shooting and a penalty save by Emer Dillon cost Imokilly dearly with Carrigdhoun finishing the half stronger to

go in at half time leading on a scoreline of 2 - 7 to 0 - 5.

Liz Butler who had another fine game opened Carrigdhoun's account in the second half but Imokilly dug deep. A goal from the penalty spot from County Minor, Orla Cotter had Imokilly right back in the game and from there to the end, it was score to match score in this most entertaining County Semi Final. With ten minutes to go there was only two points between the sides but Carrigdhoun who were never led finished strongly and will now play Milford in the County Final on Friday next at Pairc Uí Rinn.

Scorers - S. O. Donovan 2 - 0, M. Jagoe 1-2, C. Kelly 0 - 4, L. Bugler and E. Burke 1 - 1.

Gillian Harrington had another fine game in goal. The full back Line of O'Halloran, Hallahan and Hawks were under severe pressure in the second half but stood up



The Carrigdhoun senior camogie team, who were presented with sponsorship kit bags from John Neville of Neville Jewellers, Cork will be playing in the Cork Senior Camogie Championships this Friday. (Pic: Howard Crowdy).

well and kept scores down to a minimum, O'Sullivan, Browne and Holland, all worked hard to minimise the threat of a lively Imokilly half forward line.

Amanda Murphy and Emer Dillon gave another solid display at midfield. Forwards Daly, Kelly, Bugler, Burke, O'Donovan and Jagoe all made a big contribution to what was an history night for the Carrigdhoun Division. Looking ahead to the final it would be very difficult to forecast a winner.

Looking at Milford they were under severe pressure in their last two games against Barryroe and Inniscarra. As both teams were among the favourites to win the title it speaks volumes for Milford that they could come from behind to win both games by narrow margins. We must take into account that they have been the most successful under age club in Cork over the past number of years with many of their players having lots of inter county experience.

They also play an unusual brand of camogie which at times is difficult to cope with the likes of Elaine O'Riordan, Regina Curtin, Anna Geary and the Watsons, they have top class performers which will in many people's view put them in as slight favourites. They are also appearing in their first final could depend on how Carrigdhoun will cope with Milford's running and short passing game. If we could counteract this by playing fast direct camogie and if

they produce the same team spirit and determination as they showed in their quarter final win over St. Finbarr's, then I think history will be made and the County Senior Camogie Cup will be on its way to the banks of the Owenabue on Friday night.

On the night the more experienced players like Mary Hallahan, Jennifer Brown, Mairead Holland, Emer Dillon, Amanda Murphy, Catriona Kelly, Elaine Burke and Sarah O'Donovan will have to play to the top of their power.

However County Finals usually throw up many surprises and it is quite possible that some of our lesser know players will make the greatest impact on what promises to be a great County Final.

If Carrigdhoun are to win, it will be no more than this exceptional group of girls deserve. It would be great too for the mentors Ollie Hallahan, Marion McCarthy, Tom Kiely and trainer Billy Hegarthy who have put so much into this very young team.

It would also be a tremendous boost for camogie in the division.

We appeal to everybody to support this team who have given us so much enjoyment all year.

County County Senior Camogie Final - Friday August 8th - Pairc Uí Rinn at 7.30pm



Carrigdhoun Senior Camogie Mentors pictured (l-r): Billy Hegarthy, Ollie Hallahan, Tom Kelly. Missing from photo: Marion McCarthy.

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The Milford camogie team who will contest the Cork County Senior Camogie final against Carrigdhoun at Pairc Ui Rinn on this Friday evening.

## Milford on the verge of a remarkable feat

TED SHEEHAN has been at the helm of Milford for the past four years and has brought them through two years at senior B level to senior A last year, writes **LINDA MELLERICK**.

He finds the step-up to senior status immense.

"Physically senior A is very demanding. We played three tough games last year and physically we couldn't maintain it," he said.

"We lost the semi-final to Fr O'Neill's and while we've learned a lot in the past year we are still a very young team with many of the girls aged between 15 and 19.

"You really don't have full body strength at that age."

Only four of the present squad weren't eligible for U18 last year.

Amazingly Milford are only in existence seven years and during that time they have won every single under age competition there is — U12, U14, U16, and U18.

They then went on to win junior B, junior A, and senior B titles. Now bidding for their first senior A title, if they win on Friday they will surely be the most successful club ever in such a short period.

Ted is not looking to the history books however.

He is totally focused on the game and knows that nothing but the best from his charges will do on Friday.

"Carrigdhoun are a very tough

team, more mature and experienced than us. We're going to have to really produce the goods to beat them.

"Last year we were the new kids on the block, relative unknowns.

"This year teams are more aware of us and are prepared.

"Like Carrigdhoun, most of us have played with Cork at some level.

"We have had some great battles with Ballygarvan over the years at underage. Seven of that team are now playing with Carrigdhoun."

Asked if he felt his charges were too young to fully appreciate what winning a senior A county title really meant, Ted is quick to point out that they are all very much aware of what is at stake.

"We proved against Barryroe and Inniscarra we've the will to win.

"We're delighted to be in the final after such a short space of time and it would be great now to go one step further."

Selector Ann Watson, who has three daughters on the team agrees.

"We have been trying to drill into the girls that while they're all together they should try and win as much as they can. They're all very young and over the next couple of years many have plans to go to college and travel. You never know when you'll get a chance again."

# Milford's bid for camogie county title

By MICHAEL MCGRATH

MILFORD'S senior Camogie players will bid to make club history when they take on Carrigdhoun in their first ever Cork County final on this Friday evening at Pairc Ui Rinn, Cork.

This is a momentous occasion for the club's senior players, who are only contesting that grade for the second year and so far they have impressed greatly in their performances on their way to the final.

They began their county campaign with a good win over Kilbrittain/Timoleague at Ballincollig and this was followed by a one point

win over Barryroe in a thrilling game played at Ballyanley, which saw them advance to the semi-final against Inniscarra.

This game was played last week in Banteer where Milford was pitted against last year's beaten county finalists, Inniscarra, who were determined to make amends for the previous year's defeat.

Indeed it looked as if they would do so when, after being all square at half-time (1-5 apiece), the Inniscarra side went five points up some ten minutes into the second half.

However, these were to be their only scores of the second period, for the Milford side dug deep and clawed their way back to

contention with the defensive division outstanding and the forwards notching up the scores that mattered to give them a sweet two point victory on a score line of 2-9 to Inniscarra's 2-7.

Here, their opponents will be Carrigdhoun, who are also looking to win their first ever senior county title and the side can boast many Cork senior and junior players among their ranks.

But this will not daunt the Milford girls, captained by Lelia Long, as the majority of their twenty-five strong panel have represented Cork at various levels and Emer Watson, Anna Geary, Regina Curtin and Elaine O'Riordan, are presently

members of Cork's senior and junior teams.

Milford have trained hard under the guidance of Anne Watson and Ted Sheehan, and with excellent support from the entire parish, they are quietly confident that they can bring back the Cork County senior title to Milford in this, the centenary year of camogie.

This would be a tremendous achievement for the Milford Club, which was only founded in 1997 and since then they have become a major force in camogie at both club and county level with their players also contributing to schools camogie as part of St. Mary's of Charleville's All-Ireland winning teams.



Elaine O'Riordan, Milford, is challenged by Elaine Burke, Carrigdhoun, during the Cork camogie final.

## Carrigdhoun shatter Milford's dreams in thrilling final

Carrigdhoun 6-11  
Milford 5-11

by Mary Newman

ELEVEN goals, the lead changing hands continuously, a sending-off, a first county title for divisional side Carrigdhoun and, overall, a thrilling O'Leary Brothers Builders Cork County Senior Camogie Championship final at Pairc Ui Rinn.

Milford settled quickly with an Emer Watson pointed 45 and that was extended when Anna Geary's long-range free was deflected to the net. Catriona Kelly

opened Carrigdhoun's account with a pointed free but with Emer Watson pointing on the double, Milford kept the advantage.

Six goals inside nine minutes saw the pendulum swinging - Sarah O'Donovan and Marie Watson exchanging two in the space of a minute. O'Donovan's long-range shot rattling the net to give Carrigdhoun a point advantage before Milford's captain Lelia Long set up Watson to restore Milford's lead. Two Catriona Kelly points again gave Carrigdhoun the upper hand, but back came Milford, thanks to an Emer O'Friel

goal.

Anna Geary and Emer Watson with points edged Milford ahead, but again, Sarah O'Donovan struck with a Carrigdhoun rocket to restore their lead. Points from Emer and Aine Watson to gave Milford a narrow half-time advantage.

Anna Geary increased Milford's lead to two points inside 50 seconds of the restart, but from here to the midway stage, it was Carrigdhoun who now made the running, and four points without reply from Liz Bugler, Catriona Kelly (2) and Sarah O'Donovan gave them a two-point advantage.

That was increased to five when Catriona Kelly's long-range free looked to be deflected to the net by a defender, but Milford were far from finished, and, Anna Geary, having swapped with Emer Watson, had the ball in the net.

A minute later, Emer Watson pointed and suddenly, there was only one point between the sides.

Then came the turning point when Milford were reduced to 14 after Emer O'Friel was sent-off.

Carrigdhoun quickly grabbed their sixth goal when Amanda Murphy finished

to the net after good work by substitute Deirdre Coomey. Emer Dillon added a point and the gap opened up to five with six minutes remaining. Milford battled back and with Anna Geary working through the Carrigdhoun defence finishing to the net, the game was in the melting pot.

Carrigdhoun held their nerve, and with captain Catriona Kelly leading by example with a superb point, the gap was again one goal. Milford points from Emer Watson and Julie Sheehy had the large crowd on tenterhooks. But Carrigdhoun points from

Amanda Murphy and Liz Bugler deep into injury-time ensured a South-East title.

Score: Carrigdhoun - S. O'Donovan 3-1, C. Kelly 1-6 (pen, 5 points from free), E. Watson 1-0, A. Watson, J. Sheehy 0-1 each, o.p. (defender).

Milford - A. Geary 2-2 (a goal and a point from free), E. Watson 0-7, E. O'Friel, M. Watson 1-0, A. Watson, J. Sheehy 0-1 each, o.p. (defender).

CARRIGDHOUN: G. Harrington; S.A. O'Halloran, M. Hallahan, L. Hawkes, E. O'Sullivan, J. Brown, M. Holland; E. Dillon, A. Murphy; D. Daly, C. Kelly (capt), L. Bugler; E. Burke, S. O'Donovan, M. Jague, Sub: D. Coomey for D. Daly.

MILFORD: N. O'Riordan; D. Hayes, E. O'Riordan, L. Healy, S. Sexton, R. Curtin, C. O'Gorman; A. Geary, S. O'Reilly; L. Long (capt), J. Sheehy, A. Watson; M. Watson, E. Watson, E. O'Friel.

Referee: C. Egan (Glen Rovers).

# Carrig girls make camogie history

**HISTORY** was made in Páirc Uí Rinn last Friday when the Carrigdhoun camogie team not only captured their first senior county camogie title, but became the very first Carrigdhoun team in any grade to capture a senior county title.

Hopes were high going into the final following victories over Bishopstown, UCC, Barrs and Imokilly.

However, they were up against a Milford side who intended to etch their name on the Punch trophy for the first time and to continue their remarkable run in county championship campaigns.

Carrigdhoun started badly and found themselves 1-1 to nil down within five minutes, five points down soon after and the signs were not looking good at all for the divisional side at this stage.

However, the game exploded into a scoring frenzy 20 minutes into the first half, with six goals in nine minutes, commencing with two goals from Carrig's Sarah O'Donovan inside a minute to give her side the lead, soon to be cancelled out by a Milford goal.

A minute later, Carrigdhoun restored the lead with another goal to lead by a point and added another two points to leave it three between them.

Milford struck back with 1-2 to restore their lead, only for another goal by Carrigdhoun get them back in the lead again. That was soon overturned to a point advantage for Milford at half-time following two quick points.

The half-time score was Carrigdhoun 4-3, Milford 3-7.

A Milford point early in the second half took their advantage back to two points, but then Carrigdhoun hit another purple patch, scoring 1-4 without replay to turn the tide in their favour.

It was a lead the divisional side never relinquished, always maintaining a slender point or two advantage.

At one stage it rose to five points, only for Milford to come back with another goal as they pressed for scores.

Perhaps the turning point in the game was the sending off of one of the Milford players halfway through the second half, but if anything, it spurred the club side on even more in their endeavours.

They tried their very best to pick up scores, but found the Carrigdhoun backline in top form.

In the end, it was a relieved Carrigdhoun squad at the sounding of the final whistle in a game where the lead changed hands eight times and where it was, literally, a puck of a ball between them.

The girls defeated Milford by just three points — 6-11 to 5-11 — in an epic decider, re-



The Carrigdhoun team celebrate after capturing the O'Leary Bros Cork County Senior Camogie trophy for the first time by defeating Milford in the Final in Páirc Uí Rinn.

Picture: Howard Crowley.

garded as one of the finest games of camogie in many years, a classic final which had the large crowd on tenterhooks throughout.

The O'Leary Brothers Senior County Camogie trophy was presented to captain Caitriona Kelly by Marie McCarthy, Chairperson Cork County Board, while the captain was also honoured as the player of the match for her outstanding contribution to the game which brought out the very best from both sets of players.

It also proved to be a double celebration for Carrigdhoun player Mairead Holland, who was also celebrating her 21st birthday — what a party she had afterwards!

A delighted Tom Kiely said afterwards that he still "couldn't believe that Carrigdhoun had won the senior county title."

He was full of praise for players and mentors who gave their all for the team during the championship campaign.

"We were very fortunate that throughout the championship we had no injury worries with the team bonding together as a unit the further we got into the competition."

He regarded the game as a "classic" and "one of the best finals ever seen."



Carrigdhoun captain Caitriona Kelly evades the challenge of Sarah Sexton of Milford during the Cork County Senior Camogie final in Páirc Uí Rinn.

**Scorers for Carrigdhoun:** Sarah O'Donovan 4-1; Caitriona Kelly 1-6; Amanda Murphy 1-1; Liz Bugler 0-2; Emer Dillon 0-1

**Team:** Gillian Harrington (Valley Rovers); Sally Anne O'Halloran, Mary Hallahan (Ballygarvan); Lucy Hawkes (Valley Rovers); Emer O'Sullivan (Ballinhassig); Jennifer Brown (Ballygarvan); Mairead Holland (Ballinhassig); Emer Dillon, Amanda Murphy, Deirdre Daly, Caitriona Kelly (Ballygarvan); Liz Bugler, Elaine Burke (Valley Rovers)

**Rovers:** Sarah O'Donovan (Ballygarvan); Marion Jagoe (Tracton)

**Subs:** Ann Kiely, Caroline O'Keefe (Carrigaline); Deirdre Coomey (Ballinhassig); Trish Harrington (Tracton); Barbara Brown, Denise Crowley, Ann Brown, Meave Ryan (Ballygarvan)

**Selectors:** Marian McCarthy (Ballinhassig), Ollie Hallahan (Ballygarvan) and Tom Kiely, Carrigaline

**Trainer:** Billy Hegarty

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O'Donovan: "Nobody can take this away from me."

## Sharp-shooter Sarah has her county medal at last

IT may have taken four years but hat-trick hero Sarah O'Donovan, finally got her hands on a senior county medal.

"Nobody can ever take this away from me. It is the biggest feeling the world for me. It has taken me four years to get it but I have it now," said Sarah.

Throughout the championship, Sarah has been deadly in front of goal and she beams with pride at the thought of scoring three goals in the final.

The sharp-shooter said afterwards: "It is a great feeling but it is not only me, everyone put in the work and did their bit. If it wasn't

By PJ AHERN  
Camogie

for all of us, we wouldn't be county champions."

Sarah, like her team-mates, has been training hard since January, with her club and the division.

The eight months of rigorous

training has been worth it.

It's back to basics on Tuesday night, as she takes to the field for the Ballygarvan game against Newcestown.

But thoughts of that match were put on the backburner as she and her team-mates prepared for a serious night of celebrations.

"We have one night and we intend to make the most of it."

She is a member of the Cork junior team but with consistent performances like this through the championship, it won't be long before the senior selectors come knocking on her door.

MORE P38, 39

## A decider to remember

ONE cannot lavish enough praise on Milford and Carrigdhoun for this thrilling contest.

There is no doubt both these sides deserved to be here but the unpredictability of the Cork Camogie Championship threw up a real David versus Goliath contest, as youthful Milford took on the might of divisional outfit Carrigdhoun.

The contrasts in the warm-ups to the game was evident. One side hitting long balls across the field, while their opponents were happy to practice their shooting.

No point tiring themselves out. The next 70 minutes, would decide their fate.

After the final instructions were dealt out, both sides lined up for the national anthem. The focus on some of the faces was frightening.

With the formalities over with all that was left was to get the contest under way.

The roar of the crowd went up and the search for new county champions had begun.

In nine first half minutes, both sides between them had scored six goals.

A youthful Milford had aged beyond their years, and led by a point at half time.

A rip-roaring tit-for-tat contest had the large crowd gripped.

This final had more twists and turns, than an episode of *Murder She Wrote*.

It is unlikely that a better game will be played any where this year, as Milford took it to Carrigdhoun.

Excitement levels and the high tempo never dropped off in the second half.

Anyone curious to know, how much this final meant to the players, need only look at the reaction of Emer O'Friel, who was inconsolable after being harshly dismissed.

The sending off had taken a bit of the edge off the final and the numerical difference counted in favour of Carrig.

While the ultimate accolade went to the divisional side, Milford can take little consolation from being in-

By PJ AHERN

Senior camogie final

involved in one of the most enjoyable sporting occasions this year.

How often have we heard spectators and journalists bemoan the poor quality of the Cork hurling championship.

You won't hear similar from those who have witnessed any part of the Cork camogie championship this year.

The skill and the quality of this competition, has been second to none.

There have been sensational players and intriguing contests throughout the championship.

These young girls have raised the standard of camogie.

But a new problem has arisen threatening the future of camogie as well as other female sports.

Girls are dropping out of these sports at around the age of 18 because of college, work, love interests and other various circumstances.

It is imperative to keep these girls and encourage more to get involved. Should the trend continue, clubs will be forced to field teams, with many 13 and 14-year-olds in future championships.

This is the biggest threat to a young Milford side, who are destined to reign supreme in the Cork Championship for years to come but only if they can hold their team together for a few years.

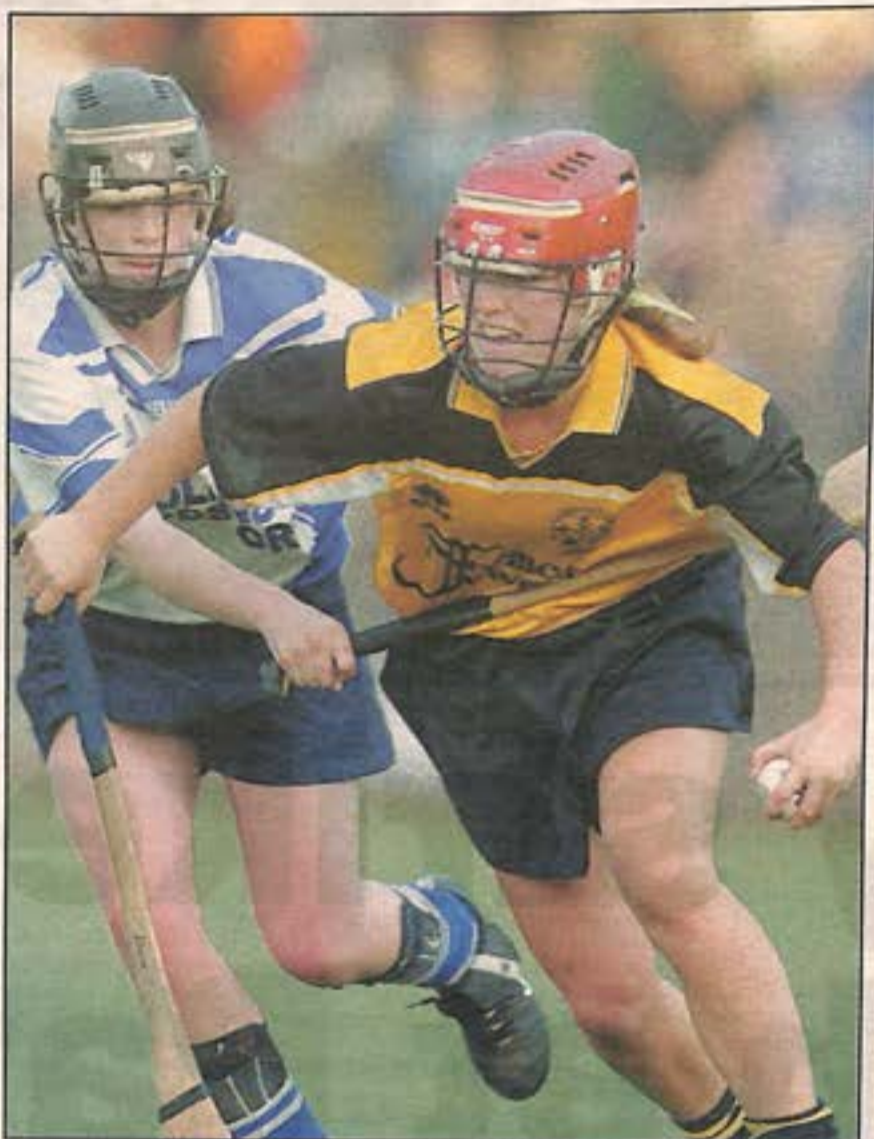
I remember overhearing their coach giving a pep talk during half time against Inniscarra, and he talked about how they had all grown up together and how well they know each other.

A strong team spirit that bonds a side is rare to find in sport these days.

Carrigdhoun had it this year, they were more than team-mates, they were friends.

If both these sides can hold their current crop together then they will face each other in more finals in years to come.

# Camogie



Above: Carrigdhoun's Elaine Burke, and Milford's Maria Watson clash. Left: Carrigdhoun's Mary Hallahan gets away from Milford's Anna Geary during Cork senior camogie final at Pairc Uí Rinn. Picture: Neil Danton



Linda Mellerick

Carrigdhoun  
Milford

6-11  
5-11

IN what surely must rank as one of the best senior camogie finals Carrigdhoun won their first title after a game that had the crowd on the edge of their seats for the entire 67 minutes.

Milford's Emer Watson hit over a free in the third minute. Carrig replied with a goal from Anna Geary.

Watson had hit over a further two points to Carrig's one and Milford led by five points.

Four goals in two minutes from Carrig's Sarah O'Donovan (two) Catriona Kelly and Milford's Emer Watson meant that with 24 minutes gone Carrig led by 3-2 to 2-3.

Milford came back with an exceptional goal by Marie Watson. They tapped on another four points and once again looked to be regaining control but for the third time in nine minutes O'Donovan, found the net.

The half time whistle blew with Milford leading by 4-3 to 3-7.

Milford's Anna Geary pointed a free in the first minute. Carrig hit over the next three from Liz Bugler and Catriona Kelly with two. Carrig introduced substitute Deldre Coomey who made an immediate impact with a goal.

But Milford never lie down. Geary, who had an excellent game, goaled in the 15th minute.

Carrig replied with a goal after a brilliant run by Catriona Kelly ended with a pass to Amanda Murphy who found the net.

But Milford's Geary goaled again. Emer Watson hit a free to put two between the sides by the 24th minute.

Christine O'Gorman was once again mighty for Milford in defence alongside Regina Curtin who cleared a lot of ball.

The move of Geary from midfield to full forward was a major move for the North Cork side as she somehow managed to find her way through for two excellent goals in the second half.

Emer Watson was excellent and a major scorer and play maker. But Carrigdhoun's physical superiority began to tell.

Their 'big name' players really began to stamp their authority on the game. Unfortunately for Milford they had Emer O'Friel sent-off in the 17th minute and it was a huge blow.



The Carrigdhoun team celebrate after capturing the O'Leary Bros Cork County Senior Camogie trophy for the very first time by defeating Milford in the Final in Pairc Uí Rinn. (see Camogie page 27) Picture: Howard Crowley



Catriona Kelly of Carrigdhoun grimaces while being challenged by Lisa Healy of Milford during the Cork County Senior Camogie Final in Pairc Uí Rinn recently.

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# magic



Carrigdhoun's Emer O'Sullivan gets away from Milford's Emer Watson during the Cork senior camogie final at Páirc Uí Rinn. Picture: Neil Danton

Carrig's Emer Dillon was brilliant in the final 10 minutes hitting over two great scores. Elaine Burke, Catriona Kelly, Liz Bugler, Marion Jagoe came to the fore when the pressure was on.

Two points separated the sides with five minutes remaining. Carrig's Kelly hit a great point. Milford hit over two on the trot from Watson again and Julie Sheehy.

On the stroke of normal time Carrig's Dillon hit over from out on the wing and Bugler followed it up.

While Milford gave it everything and attacked incessantly for the remaining minutes of added time they came up against a dogged defence who held firm.

Carrigdhoun were Champions. The scenes at the full time whistle were amazing. Utter joy for Carrig, complete devastation for Milford who fell to their knees. But they can hold their heads high as both teams gave an exhibition of camogie.

**Scorers: Carrigdhoun:** S O'Donovan 3-1, C Kelly 1-6 (1-0p, 0-4f, 0-1 '45), Og 1-0, A Murphy 1-0, E Dillon 0-2, L Bugler 0-2.

**Milford:** E Watson 1-7 (0-6f), A Geary 2-2, M Watson 1-0, Og 1-0, A Watson 0-1, J Sheehy 0-1. **CARRIGDHOUN:** G Harrington; S A O'Halloran, M Hallahan, L Hawks; E O'Sullivan; J Brown, M Holland; E Dillon, A Murphy; D Daly; C Kelly (Cpt), L Bugler; E Burke, S O'Donovan, M Jagoe.

**Subs:** D Coomey for D Daly. **MILFORD:** N O'Riordan; D Hayes, E O'Riordan, L Healy; S Sexton, R Curtin, C O'Gorman; A Geary, S O'Reilly; L Long (Cpt), J Sheehy, A Watson, M Watson, E Watson, E O'Friel.

## WHAT THEY SAID

**AFTER** the game Carrigdhoun trainer Billy Hegarty couldn't hide his delight at their win or his admiration for both sets of players.

"It was a great game of hurling. The skill came from both sets of players. Milford kept at it.

We struggled in the first half. Our big players didn't hit form but in the second half they did come on top.

Regain Curtin made great clearances. Our half-back line came good in the second half. When Emer and Mairead Holland settled the game started to go our way.

Sarah O'Donovan changed the game for us in the first half. Catriona Kelly led by example and I think bringing on Deirdre Coomey was a big plus."

Selector Tom Kiely was overjoyed.

"What a game. Every player on the pitch played their part and you couldn't ask for anything better than that."

Ted Sheehan, trainer of Milford, was understandably disappointed but he couldn't praise his charges enough.

"I couldn't have asked for anymore from the girls. They're a brilliant bunch. They gave it their all. There's no weak link.

"But Sarah O'Donovan played a fabulous game. She got great goals. Defeat is very hard but we're young.

"I couldn't fault any of them. They were all brilliant, even Sarah Sexton who's only 16. We're representing Cork now. It would be great to go in as champions but we'll pick ourselves up and go again."

# Leeside's golden trophy era



Linda Mellerick

WITH the modern game of camogie receiving far more media attention than ever I decided this week to take a step back in time and remind readers of the great players who went before.

It is very difficult to pick and choose so I decided on a particular era, the 70s, a magnificent decade of camogie success for Cork.

My information is taken from Mary Moran's excellent read *Cork's Camogie Story*.

Jack Dempsey, a Youghal man who had hurled with Blackrock and Cork was asked to take over the training of the Cork senior team in 1970.

He instilled confidence and team work into his charges. What a difference he made! Twenty nine years after Kitty Buckley had last held the O'Duffy Cup Cork were crowned All-Ireland champions.

Tears of joy were shed from players, officials and supporters. The team had many stars none more so than Liz Garvan, Peggy Dorgan, Marie Costine, Pat Moloney and captain Anne Comerford.

Liz Garvan was named as the National-Player-of-the-Year.

Cork reached the All-Ireland final again in 1971 after a torrid first round game against Tipperary which resulted in both teams receiving a 12 month suspended sentence.

Galway proved no match for Cork in the semi-final and Cork moved on to an All-Ireland show down with Wexford.

Rosie Hennessy had an excellent game for the Rebels and along with newcomers Mary Whelton, Marion McCarthy and Nuala Guilly, Cork won for the second-year-in-a-row winning 4-6 to 1-2.

Three-in-a-row beckoned in 1972 and Cork duly obliged. Mary Moran took over as coach from Jack Demsey. Mel Cummins, Cork's outstanding goalkeeper decided to call it a day and Deirdre Sutton of Glen Rovers took over the number one spot.

Marion Sweeney, a strong and energetic player, filled in at centre forward.

Defeating Tipperary and then Antrim in the semi-final Cork faced Kilkenny in Croke Park.

On view that day for the first time were many of the players who were to dominate the game in the coming decades. Fifteen-year-old Angela Downey, Bridie Martin and Teresa O'Neill were appearing in their first All-Ireland final for the cats.

The Cork defence was magnificent. Deirdre Sutton played with extreme confidence. Hannah Dineen, Marie Costine and Mary Whelton blotted out Kilkenny's inside forwards. Cork got the supply up front but found it difficult to make much headway against a tight, tenacious Kilkenny defence.

Anne Phelan was Cork's best forward. Her second half goal and Liz

Garvan's free taking proved decisive and Cork won 2-5 to 1-4.

The 16th of September 1973 was a memorable day in the history of Cork camogie. Antrim and Cork provided the most exciting and emotional final in years.

Brilliant striking, lightning pace, an abundance of thrills and a rip roaring finish rank this game among the best finals ever played.

The game opened at a terrific pace. Cork lead at the interval by three points. Antrim then leveled. Long passages of play enthralled the crowd. With six minutes remaining the sides were level again.

A crashing goal from Anne Phelan and a point from Marion McCarthy dented Antrim's hopes. They never gave up and won three 30-yard frees.

Mairead McAtamney goalied with the second but uncharacteristically drove the first and third attempt wide. The Cork defence was superb and they held out for the narrowest of victories.

Cork had achieved the remarkable four-in-a-row for the first time.

1974 brought a halt to Cork's reign. They drew with Kilkenny in the All-Ireland final only to lose the replay.

They gained revenge in '75 defeating the Cats in the semi-final. Cork were hot favourites to win their fifth title in six years but Wexford created a huge upset and took the title.

The rebels did not reach Croke Park in '6 or '77 losing out to Kilkenny and Wexford respectively.

Tom Nott took over as team trainer the following year.

Marion McCarthy who had played outfield with Cork since 1971 reverted back to goal. Pat Moloney moved from midfield to attack. The moves proved a huge success.

Cork were back in an All-Ireland final. Mary Geaney, who scored a hat trick of goals and Mary O'Leary were spectacular. Cork, who had made no substitution or positional switch in the entire championship won back the O'Duffy Cup by 6-4 to 1-2.

Pat Moloney was named 'Player of the year'.

The loss of Claire Cronin through injury and Marie Costine and Pat Moloney through retirement was too much to cope with in '79. Four goals from Angela Downey sealed Cork's fate in the first round of the open draw and Cork ended the decade with five titles in 10 years.

A magnificent era. Without doubt the players who wore the Cork jersey during that period were some of the greatest ever to come out of Cork.

# Historic victory for Carrigdhoun in magnificent senior A final

By 'CARRIGDHOUN'

Carrigdhoun.....6-11  
Milford.....5-11

With both sides in contest for a historic Cork County Senior 'A' Camogie Championship title for the first time, this O'Leary Bros., Builders final, which was played before a big crowd at Páirc Uí Rinn on Friday evening of last week had all the ingredients of a thriller.

And indeed it was and surely the great man himself Christy Ring would have been proud of the spirit, the determination the never-say-die attitude and the silken skills which these young ladies produced and portrayed and which had their supporters and neutrals in the attendance literally drained at the finish.

## HISTORIC

Both sides had the perfect ingredients for this historic contest, in that Milford, the club from North Cork, had won every county title from under 12 to county senior 'B', which Carrigdhoun, with its representatives from the clubs in the South East, has since its first entry to this grade in 1997 given excellent displays, espe-



cially in 1999 when they went under to Bishopstown by two points and last year when going down to Milford by one point,

and this year Carrigdhoun reached the final of the U-21 county in its first year.

Thirty-three scores in sixty-

AT LEFT — Carrigdhoun goalkeeper Gillian Harrington and captain Catriona Kelly, 'Player of the Match', seen with the Cork County senior camogie trophy, after defeating Milford in a titanic final in Páirc Uí Rinn.

BOTTOM LEFT — Captains Catriona Kelly, Carrigdhoun, and Lelia Long of Milford meet at the start of the county senior camogie final, with referee Cathal Egan.

AT RIGHT — Sarah O'Donovan of Carrigdhoun keeps a close eye on the sliotar as she closes in for goal, despite the attention of Regina Curtin, Sarah Sexton and Lisa Healy of Milford, during the county senior camogie final, on Friday evening last.

(Photos: Howard Crowdy)

odd minutes is indeed testimony to a terrific final, during which the lead changed hands on nine occasions, the game was level three times and then, in the 50th minute, Milford were reduced to 14 players, when Eimear O'Friel was sent off, which proved to be a vital moment in this sporting contest, as the North Cork girls had just pulled back a five point in arrears.

## WONDERFUL

However, that does not take one iota from Carrigdhoun's wonderful victory, because they too had to overcome a very slow and nervous start to this game, when after 20 minutes they were trailing by 1-3 to 0-1, after an Anna Geary free run mid-field was deflected to the net in the 5th minute, while Emer Watson's accuracy fielded three points as Carrigdhoun struggled with just one score in 20 minutes per Catriona Kelly, during a period when play was stopped for injuries on three occasions.

Suddenly, in the space of one minute the Carrigdhoun girls had gained the lead, with a lace of goals. The first from a superbly struck penalty by Catriona Kelly, after Sarah O'Donovan was fouled, and then the latter rattled the roof of the net when Elaine Burke from the puck-out placed a perfect pass at the feet of the Carrigdhoun full-forward.

By the 23rd minute (again in the space of one minute) both



sides had exchanged goals. Firstly Moira Watson regained the lead for Milford, when she struck sweetly to the net, following good approach work by her sister Aine and Lelia Long and then from a well-placed live ball by Liz Bugler, Sarah O'Donovan struck another sizzler to the cross of the net, and when Catriona Kelly converted two frees, the South-East side was in the lead.

However, that was short-lived as Milford powered by a strong half back line of Sarah Sexton, Elaine O'Riordan, who when switched from full-back gave a superb display, and Christine O'Gorman, first drew level, when Eimear O'Friel first-timed to the net, after Maria and Emer Watson's good approach work and then Anna Geary, lofted a great point from the left wing to which Emer Watson added a free conversion, to make it 3-5 to 3-3.

But this topsy turvy continued to entertain, with Carrigdhoun's Sarah O'Donovan unable

to swing, then kicked to the net in the 30th minute, but in the space of four minutes' added-time, the pendulum had again swung in Milford's favour, with points from Emer Watson (free) and sister Aine, who returned a rebound off the cross-bar, to leave the score at half-time 3-7 to 4-3, in favour of Milford.

Anna Geary extended her side's lead within 30 seconds of the restart before Liz Bugler landed a beauty between the sticks from 30m out on the left flank, and when Catriona Kelly converted a brace of frees, Carrigdhoun regained the lead 4-6 to 3-8 after 30 minutes, and from there on to the finish they kept their noses in front. They extended it, with a Sarah O'Donovan point under pressure, following a good lay-off by sub Deirdre Conway, just in, and when an Emer Dillon-struck free finished in the net via a touch from a defender the winners were 5-7 to 3-8 ahead after 42 minutes.

At that stage, Carrigdhoun

appeared to have the initiative thanks to the strong play of Mary Hallahan, Lucy Hawks, Jennifer Brown and Mairead Holland in defence, Emer Dillon at midfield and the twin-pronged scoring duo of Catriona Kelly and Sarah O'Donovan.

## REWARDS

A midfield switch of Anna Geary and Emer Watson soon reaped its rewards, with Geary firing a bullet to the net and Watson converting to leave just the minimum 5-7 to 4-9 between the sides, with 10 minutes remaining. But then disaster struck when the North-Cork side was reduced to 14 players and, while they gallantly battled against the tide of a Carrigdhoun side now on the scent of an historic success, which saw Anna Geary cancel off in equal style an Amanda Murphy major, and Emer Watson and Julie Sheehy erase points by Emer Dillon and Catriona Kelly, to leave just one point in Carrigdhoun's favour 6-9 to

5-11 at the end of ordinary time.

But Carrigdhoun in a welter of excitement in added-time, held their composure, and with two superb scores from the lively Emer Dillon and the impressive Liz Bugler they sealed a great victory for the division for the first time. Others to impress for the winners were keeper Gillian Harrington, Sally Ann O'Halloran, Emer O'Sullivan and Deirdre Daly, Elaine Burke and Marian Jagore, while Milford's O'Riordan sisters, the Watson trio, Anna Geary, Regina Curtin, Eimear O'Friel and Sinead O'Reilly tried gamely to the end.

Following the game, the chairperson for the Cork County Camogie Board, Maire Ní Charraig, in this, the centenary of the Association, congratulated both sides on an excellent game.

**Scores:** Carrigdhoun: S. O'Donovan 3-1; C. Kelly 1-6, 0-4 frees, 0-1 45s; A. Murphy 1-0; L. Bugler and E. Dillon 0-2 each; 1-0 O/G defender. Milford: A. Geary 2-2, 1-1 frees; E. Wat-

son and E. O'Friel 1-0 each; A. Watson and J. Sheehy 0-1 each; 1-0 O/G defender.

**Carrigdhoun:** Gillian Harrington, Valley Rovers; Sally Anne O'Halloran, Ballygarvan; Mary Hallahan, do; Lucy Hawks, Valley Rovers; Emer O'Sullivan, Ballinhassig; Jennifer Brown, Ballygarvan; Mairead Holland, Ballinhassig; Emer Dillon, Ballygarvan; Amanda Murphy, do; Deirdre Daly, do; Catriona Kelly, do, (captain); Liz Bugler, Valley Rovers; Elaine Burke, do; Sarah O'Donovan, Ballygarvan; Marian Jagore, Tracton. Sub: Deirdre Cooney, Ballinhassig, for D. Daly.

**Milford:** Noelle O'Riordan, Deirdre Hayes, Elaine O'Riordan, Lisa Healy, Sarah Sexton, Regina Curtin, Christine O'Gorman, Anna Geary, Sinead O'Reilly, Lelia Long (capt.), Julie Sheehy, Aine Watson, Maria Watson, Emer Watson, Eimear O'Friel.

Referee: Cathal Egan (Glen Rovers).



# SALUTE THE CHAMPIONS!

## O'DONOVAN HAT-TRICK PAVES THE WAY FOR HISTORIC VICTORY

### CARRIGDHOUN CAMOGIE NEWS

By BILLY DILLON

#### Carrigdhoun 6-11 Milford 5-11

Carrigdhoun were crowned Cork Senior Camogie Champions at Pairc Ui Rinn on Friday evening last in what must have been the best final in recent years they defeated an excellent Milford team. The game had everything, great scores, outstanding individual displays and the Carrigdhoun team playing with the spirit and determination of a club team.

For the huge Carrigdhoun support it was a nail-biting contest especially in the early stages with Milford racing into an early five point lead.

At this stage Milford also playing in their first final looked to have too much speed and teamwork for the divisional side as they came forward in waves and had the Carrigdhoun backs all over the place. Gradually Carrigdhoun began to adjust to the pace of the game. Caitriona Kelly settled the team when she pointed a free and then after Sarah O'Donovan had been pulled down in the square Caitriona blasted the resultant penalty to the back of the Milford net to leave the minimum between the teams.

However back came Milford with a Maria Watson goal had them in a commanding position once again. Then Carrigdhoun full forward Sarah O'Donovan scored two brilliant individual goals which were to prove vital. Milford finished the half strongly and at half time held a one point advantage. A worried Carrigdhoun made a few positional

changes at half time. However, it was Milford's Star Anna Geary who extended their lead in the first minute of the second half. From there to the end of the game the lead changed hands on a few occasions and with five minutes to go in normal time Milford were ahead by two points, however Carrigdhoun finished strongly and what a relief it was to hear the final whistle. Team captain and 'player of the match' Caitriona Kelly was presented with the cup.

She spoke in glowing terms of her team mates, the clubs in the Carrigdhoun division and the sponsors. She was full of praise also for selectors Tom Kiely and Marion McCarthy, for team trainer Billy Hegarty and she had a special word of praise for selector and Chairman of the Carrigdhoun division Ollie Hallahan.

Looking back over the entire championship every player had their special moments. They played five championship games in all beating big name clubs like Bishopstown, U.C.C., St. Finbarrs, Imokilly and Milford in the final.

Goalkeeper Gillian Harrington from Valley Rovers had an excellent championship and had her best game in the final. Sally Anne O'Halloran was solid all through. The entire championship Mary Hallahan was at her best against U.C.C. and St. Finbarrs. Lucy Hawkes was outstanding against St. Finbarrs and had a great second half in the final. Sixteen year old Emer O'Sullivan from Ballinhassig played well in all five games. Centre back Jennifer Browne was outstanding against UCC and St. Finbarr and was a tower of strength in the second half against Milford.

Amanda Murphy worked hard all through with her best displays against Bishopstown and St. Finbarr's. Emer Dillon was outstanding against U.C.C. and the second half against St. Finbarrs and really came into her own in the second half of the final against Milford.

Wing forward Deirdre Daly had a great outing against UCC and St. Finbarrs. Captain and centre forward Caitriona Kelly led by example all through and was rewarded with 'player of the match' in the final.

Liz Bugler scored some great points in every match and was particularly outstanding in the semi final win over Imokilly. Elaine Burke used all her experience to good effect in all the games getting some great scores and when moved to Midfield in the final had a big bearing on the result.

Marion Jagoe was another young player who was impressive all through and had a vital say in our great win over a fancied St. Finbarr's side. When introduced in the final Deirdre Comney from the Ballinhassig Club made life very difficult for the Milford backs winning great ball and getting the other forwards into the game. She also won a few vital frees which took the pressure off the near the end. Finally we come to full forward Sarah O'Donovan, who got vital scores in all the matches. Sarah was under tremendous pressure going into the final against Milford, she responded in style crashing home three great goals, creating a penalty and tapping over a point for good measure.

It was surely a great year for Carrigdhoun and the entire panel are to be congratulated and thanked for the tremendous effort they gave all year. Selectors Tom Kiely from Carrigaline

and Marion McCarthy from Ballinhassig are to be thanked for their tremendous dedication during the year. The back up team of Noreen Daly, Agnus Jagoe and John O'Donovan who were always present to look after first aid, water and hurleys. Eily Kidney who as always had their gear in immaculate condition. There was great support also from the South East Board and all the GAA/Camogie Clubs in the division. Thanks also to our main sponsor Neville Jewellers and all others who contributed to this historic victory.

Finally we say thank you to all the support we got from all over the division. Billy Hegarty took over as trainer at the start of the year and Billy has a fantastic track record training Erin's Own to County Intermediate and Senior Hurling victories. Billy instilled confidence and teamwork into his charges and layers responded. He was a happy man in Pairc Ui Rinn on Friday evening and spoke in glowing terms of the entire panel.

Ollie Hallahan has done a tremendous amount of work for camogie in Ballygarvan, Carrigdhoun and as a selector on the Cork Junior Team.

He took over as Chairman of Carrigdhoun at the start of 2004. He left no stone unturned to bring this team to the top. Talking to him after the game you could see the admiration and pride he has for this particular panel of players. It was fitting that he is the man at the helm in this never to be forgotten year. I'm sure there will be much celebrating in the year.

We would like to take this opportunity to thank Milford for a great game and wish them well in the Munster Championship.

## History In The Making For Carrigdhoun Girls! - Cork County Senior Camogie Champions

By HOWARD CROWDY

History was made in Pairc Ui Rinn last Friday evening when the Carrigdhoun Camogie team captured their very first County senior Camogie title, becoming the very first Carrigdhoun team in any grade to capture a county senior title.

Carrigdhoun were on a high following impressive victories over Bishopstown, UCC, St Finbarrs and Imokilly, but were up against a Milford side who also had an equally run into the championship final.

Carrigdhoun started badly, and found themselves 1-1 down within five minutes, and five points down soon after, and

the signs were not looking good for the divisional side at this stage of the game.

However, mid way through the first half the game exploded into a scoring frenzy, with six goals in nine minutes with two goals from Sarah O'Donovan from Carrigdhoun inside a minute to give Carrigdhoun the lead, soon to be cancelled out by a Milford goal. A minute later, Carrigdhoun restored the lead with another goal, to lead by a point, and added another two points to leave three between them, only for Milford to strike back with 1-2 of their own to restore their lead. Another goal for Carrigdhoun gave them the lead once more by a point, which was soon back to a point advantage for Milford after two quick points to leave the score at half time at Carrigdhoun 4-3, Milford 3-7, a slender one point advantage for the north Cork side.

A Milford point early in the second half took their advantage back to two points, but then Carrigdhoun hit another purple patch, scoring 1-4 without replay to turn the advantage around in their favour to lead at this stage by five - 5-7 to 3-8.

Perhaps the turning point for the game was the sending off of one of the Milford players halfway through the second half, but if anything it spurred the Milford players even more who tried their very best to pick

up scores, but found the Carrigdhoun back line in top form.

In the end, it was a revived Carrigdhoun squad at the sounding of the final whistle in a game where the lead changed hands eight times and where it was literally, a puck of a ball between them. The girls defeated Milford by just three points in an epic final, regarded as one of the finest games of Camogie in many years by just three points - 6-11 to 5-11.

The O'Leary Bros Cork Senior County Camogie trophy was presented to captain Caitriona Kelly by Marie McCarthy, Chairperson Cork County Board, while the captain was also honoured as the 'Player of the Match' for her outstanding contribution to the game which brought out the very best from both sets of players.

It also proved to be a double celebration for Carrigdhoun player Mairead Holland, who was also celebrating her 21st birthday - what a party she had afterwards!

A delighted team selector Tom Kiely said afterwards at a team victory celebration in Bull McCabe's that he still couldn't believe that Carrigdhoun had won the Senior County Title and was full of praise for his panel of players and mentors who gave their all for the team during the championship campaign. "We were very



Carrigdhoun, along with coaches Ollie Hallahan and Tom Kiely, celebrate with the Cork County Senior Camogie trophy after a magnificent victory over Milford in the Final at Pairc Ui Rinn. (Pics: Howard Crowdy).

fortunate that throughout the championship that we had no injury worries at all, with the team bonding together as a unit the further we got into the competition." He too, regarded the game as a "classic" and "one of the best finals ever seen - you could not take your eyes off the game in case you missed a score."

He went on to thank John Neville of Neville Jewellers for their sponsorship of the team and to the GAA and Camogie clubs in the Carrigdhoun division for their support and assistance during the championship campaign and run up this year, with the rewards bearing fruit with the very first ever senior county title for the division.

"I can't say enough for the dedication and commitment of

the team this year - they truly amazed me, bonding as a unit from the very first game and playing better and better, especially in the semi final against Imokilly and the final game against Milford," he said. "We made a couple of positional changes in the second half which worked to our advantage, but amazingly we only had one substitution which was a credit to the fifteen players on the field."

Scorers for Carrigdhoun were Sarah O'Donovan 4-1; Caitriona Kelly 1-6; Amanda Murphy 1-1; Liz Bugler 0-2; Emer Dillon 0-1.

Team - Gillian Harrington (Valley Rovers); Sally Anne O'Halloran, Mary Hallahan (Ballygarvan); Lucy Hawkes

(Valley Rovers); Emer O'Sullivan (Ballinhassig); Jennifer Brown (Ballygarvan); Mairead Holland (Ballinhassig); Emer Dillon, Amanda Murphy, Deirdre Daly, Caitriona Kelly (Ballygarvan); Liz Bugler, Elaine Burke (Valley Rovers); Sarah O'Donovan (Ballygarvan); Marion Jagoe (Tracton).

Subs - Ann Kiely, Caroline O'Keefe (Carrigaline); Deirdre Coomey (Ballinhassig); Trish Harrington (Tracton); Barbara Brown, Denise Crowley, Ann Brown, Maevie Ryan (Ballygarvan).

Selectors - Marion McCarthy (Ballinhassig), Ollie Hallahan (Ballygarvan) and Tom Kiely (Carrigaline).

Trainer - Billy Hegarty.



Carrigdhoun captain Caitriona Kelly lifts the Cork Senior Camogie trophy in Pairc Ui Rinn recently.

# Success In First Round Of Senior 'B'

## BALLYGARVAN CAMOGIE CLUB NEWS

By BILLY DILLON

Ballygarvan 4-13 Newtownshandrum 2-07

Ballygarvan advanced to the Semi Final of the Cork Senior 'B' Championship and a meeting with Newcestown when they had a convincing win over Newtownshandrum in Glantane recently.

However this victory wasn't as easy as the scoreline suggests. For long periods in the first half Newtown took the game to Ballygarvan and we were lucky to be three points in front at half time.

Early goals by Newtown had Ballygarvan playing an usually nervous game and an upset looked on the cards mid way through the first half. Slowly Ballygarvan began to settle down and once they hit the front there was never any doubt.

As has happened so often in the past Catriona Kelly and Emer Dillon led the charge, ably assisted on this occasion by Jennifer Browne, Captain, Amanda Murphy, Denise Crowley and Sarah O'Donovan who scored two vital goals.



Members of Ballygarvan's Senior 'B' Camogie Team.

However, it is certain that a big improvement will have to be made overall if the Senior 'B' trophy is to rest in Ballygarvan for the next year.

Team: M O'Riordan, Z Forrest, M Hallahan, B Browne, D

Crowley, J Browne, S A O'Halloran, A Murphy (Capt), E Dillon (1-5), D Daly, C Kelly (1-6), N Hallahan, A Browne, S O'Donovan (1-2), M Ryan (1-0), A O'Neill, S O'Sullivan, S Lynch, J O'Sullivan, A Moynihan, C Dillon, V Browne, T O'Donovan, G Lynch.

## Fast goals clinch final spot for Ballygarvan

Ballygarvan  
Newcestown

3-6  
1-9

by Mary Newman

NEWCESTOWN led Ballygarvan for 22 minutes of this O'Leary Brothers Senior B Cork Championship, but two goals inside a minute from Sarah O'Donovan and Catherina Kelly ensured Ballygarvan their place in the final.

Ballygarvan, with eight of the Carrigdhoun senior county championship winning team in their side, entered this game as favourites. But it was

Newcestown who held the upper hand in a close opening half, with four points from Fiona Crowley, Suzanne Deasy and Colette Desmond (2), giving them a two-point advantage at the interval after Catherina Kelly had opened the scoring for Ballygarvan with two points.

Within two minutes of the restart, a Sarah O'Donovan goal saw Ballygarvan snatch the lead but Newcestown came back quickly, with Una Crowley finishing Colette Desmond's goal attempt to the net.

Twice the sides exchanged points as Newcestown held the advantage. Co-

lette Desmond stretched the advantage further with a point in the 20th minute but from here Ballygarvan upped the tempo.

Inside a minute, Catherina Kelly and Sarah O'Donovan had battled their way through the Newcestown defence to finish to the net and now the advantage was with Ballygarvan. Nora Hallahan and Colette Desmond exchanged points and Catherina Kelly with a pointed free again brought the difference between the sides to just a goal. From here to the finish, Newcestown battled for an equaliser.

Aileen Coughlan sent over a point

but it was too late for Newcestown as Ballygarvan advanced.

Scorers: Ballygarvan: C. Kelly 1-4, S. O'Donovan 2-0, A. Murphy 0-1, N. Hallahan 0-1.

Newcestown: C. Desmond 0-5, U. Crowley 1-0, A. Coughlan 0-2, S. Deasy, F. Crowley 0-1 each.

BALLYGARVAN: M. O'Riordan, A. Moynihan, S. A. O'Halloran, A. O'Neill, M. Hallahan, J. Browne, D. Crowley, E. Dillon, A. Murphy (Capt), D. Daly, C. Kelly, M. Ryan, N. Hallahan, S. O'Donovan, Z. Forrest. Subs: A. Browne for D. Daly, S. Lynch for M. Ryan, J. O'Sullivan for Z. Forrest.

NEWCESTOWN: C. Collins, M. Moloney (Capt), R. Desmond, M. Barron, A. Coughlan, H. Kenneally, R. Donovan, E. Crowley, F. Crowley, U. Crowley, S. Deasy, E. Kenneally, A. Coughlan, C. Desmond, C. Long.

Referee: C. Egan.

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## Glory for Carrigdhoun

THOSE who stayed away were the losers as Carrigdhoun and Milford battled it out for supremacy in what was one of the best County Senior Championship finals in years.

Milford held the advantage thanks to an early goal but Carrigdhoun settled, and from there to the final whistle we were treated to a classic. With play swinging from end to end, and scores coming fast - all eyes were focused, as in a mere blink you were guaranteed to miss something. Six goals in nine minutes ensured the lead changed hands continuously, but it was Milford who held a slender one point advantage at the break.

From the restart the pace of the game continued with Carrigdhoun regaining the lead and opening up a five point advantage; before Anna Geary with a superb goal and an Emer Watson point, had it down to the minimum, with ten minutes on the clock.

Milford were reduced to fourteen players when they lost the services of Emer O'Friel, certainly the sending off - evoked plenty of after-match discussion and the numerical difference did take its toll, as by now, entering the final straight both sides were drained.

Amanda Murphy again stretched the lead for Carrigdhoun after good work from effective substitute Deirdre Coomey, and when Emer Dillon pointed the die looked cast for Milford. Showing

tremendous spirit they battled back with Geary again grabbing the goal. Catriona Kelly struck a superb point to steady the Carrigdhoun nerves but back came Milford, with points from Emer Watson and Julie Sheehy; and suddenly only one separated the sides with normal time up on the clock. Two late points ensured the title was going to the South East; but not before Milford shaved the post with a late twenty metres free. While all the plaudits must go to Carrigdhoun, Milford must be applauded for their part in what was a thrilling contest. Congratulations to Carrigdhoun captain, Catriona Kelly, who was named as Player of the Match following a display that saw her play a true captain's role. Milford will now represent Cork in the Munster club championship, and certainly they are worthy representatives.

### ERINS OWN CELEBRATE

IN an exciting curtain raiser the Erins Own Under16 team took the twelve a side league title at the expense of Charleville. A tremendous first half performance ensured they laid the foundations for success with Caoimhe O Callaghan Niamh O Keffe and amongst the scorers. Well done to Hilda Keohane who for many years has kept the Caherlag club on the road the victory is a tribute to all the hard work being done in the area.



Sarah O'Donovan of Carrigaline keeping a close eye on the sliothar as she closes in for goal despite the attention of Regina Curtin, Sarah Sexton and Lisa Healy of Milford during the County senior camogie final in Parc Uí Rinn.

Picture: Howard Crowley



Captain Catriona Kelly of Carrigdhoun and Regina Curtin of Milford battle for possession during the Cork County Senior camogie final in Parc Uí Rinn recently.

Picture: Howard Crowley

## JUNIORS AIM FOR CROKE PARK SPOT

ON Saturday all attention will focus on Wexford Park as the County Junior's meet Wexford in the All Ireland semi final. Cork's last appearance in the junior final was in 2002 when Kilkenny took the honours and now just sixty minutes and Wexford separate them of another tilt at the title.

A lot of work has gone into the game in Wexford with five Feile-n-Gael and College title under their belt the work at under age level is paying off and with their senior side also through to the semi final on August 21 where they meet champions Tipperary they are confident of taking a step further.

Cork are also very determined to make the Centenary final and under the guidance of three times All Ireland junior medal winner Lillian Zinkant they brushed aside the challenge posed by Munster champions

and All Ireland runners up Clare before disposing of Limerick in a one sided Munster final.

Miriam Deasy, Val O Sullivan, Catriona Foley, Marion Jagoe, Niamh Goulding and Ellen Clifford all impressed in that outing but a

repeat performance is needed against a Wexford side that defeated holders Kildare on a 5-11 to 0-6 to take the Leinster title. With forwards Una Lacey, Rosemary Breen, Gretta Heffernan and Mary Lacey are amongst their stars.

Five of the Wexford side are also members of the senior team and while they will also be very focused on also having both teams in Croke Park on Sept 19 Lillian Zinkant's side are in a determined mood so Wexford beware.



# Warring Wicklow women banned by Camogie Association

by Brendan Furlong

IN a week when the image of the GAA was tarnished following a major outbreak of violence, Wicklow camogie players have been banned indefinitely from their own association as a result of a major brawl last month.

At the Wicklow camogie senior semi-final in Pearse Park, Arklow, on July 4, fists flew and kicks were aimed as warring women waded into each other,

forcing referee Martina Kennedy to abandon the game 15 minutes from time because "she couldn't be responsible for the safety of the players".

Earlier the board had met with club officials and 31 of the 42 players involved and decided the clubs had a case to answer.

During the second half of the match most of the 30 players became involved in the brawl. Players were punched and kicked but it is not

known if any were struck with hurleys.

County PRO, Suzanne Pearson said at the time that "the referee had no option but to abandon the game for her own safety and that of players and officials".

Now, in the aftermath of the brawl, which made national headlines, both Kiltegan and Annacurra camogie clubs have been expelled from the Camogie Association.

With the Kiltegan Club having five separate teams — from under-10 up to senior — up to 90 members are affected, with similar repercussions for the Annacurra club members.

None of the members can join another camogie club which effectively puts an end to their camogie careers.

A member of the Kiltegan club said: "I don't think that an eight-year-old should be punished for something that an adult has done. It's had a very bad

effect on us and we're still in shock. We need a bit of time to get our heads around what happened and we need time to decide what to do."

While the clubs are awaiting official confirmation of their blanket ban, neither Pearson or Chairperson Winnie O'Hanlon were prepared to comment.

Sile Wallace, General Secretary of the Camogie Association, was also unavailable.

## Three-goal Caoimhe ensures championship for Erins Own

Erins Own 3-5  
Charleville 2-1

THERE were huge celebrations in Caherlag as Erins Own took their first ever camogie title when they captured the Under 16 twelve-a-side league title at the expense of Charleville in Pairc Uí Rinn on Friday last.

Played as a curtain raiser to the Senior County final the game set the trend for what was to follow as two totally committed sides gave it their all in quest for honours.

Erins Own, under the guidance of former St Finbarrs hurler Martin O'Callaghan, settled quickly and with Niamh O'Keefe unerring from placed balls they held the early advantage. As the East Cork girls continued to hold the upper hand three goals from superb corner forward Caoimhe O'Callaghan helped stretch their advantage. Theresa

Brown opened the Charleville account with a point but it was Erins Own with Niamh O'Keefe picking off the points who led at the break 3-4 to 0-1. It looked as if Erins Own were in the driving seat and home and dry but Charleville had other ideas and with plenty of encouragements at the break from coach Carol Nash they turned in a tremendous second half display.

From the restart they closed down the Erins Own attack as their defence tightening up considerably superbly marshalled by Eileen Hanley, Lisa Lambert and Emma Gould they came thundering into the game. To their credit the Erins Own defence stood firm with Michelle Sheehan, Emma Coughlan and Michelle Scanlon repelling numerous Charleville attacks but finally the goals came and it was at the mid way stage when Fiona Lambert finally

got the better of the tight marking Erins Own defence to crash to the net. Boosted by the goal Charleville came in search of more and again it was Fiona Lambert who obliged with a well struck second goal.

Niamh O'Keefe steadied the Erins Own nerves with a pointed free but this was to be their only score of the second half as the Charleville girls continued to work tirelessly to get back into the game.

Near misses at both ends kept supporters on the edge of their seat but Erins Own were not going to be denied a historic first title and having done enough in the first half they held out much to the delight of their hard working mentors Hilda Keohane, Martin O'Callaghan, Tony Smiddy and Bernie O'Callaghan.

On the Erins Own team their were many daughter of well known senior players: Katie Sheehan in

goal is daughter of inter-county player Angela Higgins, while Catriona Keohane's mother Hilda also wore the Cork colours, and Edel Carroll's father Mossy won an All Ireland medal with Limerick.

The victory is a tribute to the hard work being put into the game by the Caherlag club and in this the centenary year of camogie it will serve as a huge boost to the game in the area.

**Erins Own:** Katie Sheehan, Michelle Scanlon, Emma Coughlan, Catriona Keohane, Edel Carroll, Marissa O'Callaghan, Niamh O'Keefe, Clare Power, Sarah Apperman, Fiona Smiddy, Helen Waterman, Caoimhe O'Callaghan, Sub Mary Fenton for Sarah Apperman, Niamh Clayton for Fiona Smiddy.

**Charleville:** Eileen Hanley, Sarah Sheehan, Emma Gould, Marie O'Sullivan, Lisa Lambert, Fiona Lambert, Sarah Gould, Danielle Nash, Susan Kelleher, Theresa Brown, Denise O'Callaghan, Ailish O'Connell, Subs Elaine Lynch for Susan Kelleher.

**Referee:** Colette O Mahony St. Finbarrs

## Galway lift minor crown

GALWAY won their ninth Minor 'A' All-Ireland title when they beat Kilkenny 3-16 to 2-6 at Navan on Saturday.

Two early goals from Noreen Coen and Martina Conroy set the Tribeswomen on their way and although Lucinda Gahan pulled one back for Kilkenny, Sarah Noone got Galway's third.

Colette Dormer grabbed a second for Kilkenny but there was no doubting the outcome by then.

Antrim claimed their first 'B' title when they beat Roscommon 1-9 to 0-3, also at Navan. Substitute Louise McAleese scored the Antrim goal near the end.

**GALWAY 3-16 KILKENNY 2-6**  
**SCORERS —** Galway: 3-16, M Conroy 1-8 (0-7), 0-1 (45); N Coen, S Noone 1-2 each, C Cormican 0-2, L Ryan, J Gill, N Kilkenny 0-1 each. **Kilkenny:** L Gahan, C Dormer 1-1 each, A M Phelan, O McCormack, M Dargan, A Dalton 0-1 each.  
**ANTRIM 1-9 ROSCOMMON 0-3**  
**SCORERS —** Antrim: L McAleese 1-0, R McCarty 0-5 (0-3), 0-1 (45), J Campbell, E Connor, O McCaul, M Convery 0-1 each. **Roscommon:** 0-3, J McDermott, D Sweeney, E Daly 0-1 each.

**OTHER RESULTS**  
Cork senior championship final: Carrigrohoun 6-11, Midford 5-11  
Kildare junior league final: St Laurences 1-6, Sarstedts 0-8

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## Galway dash Kilkenny

Galway.....3-16  
Kilkenny.....2-6

KILKENNY hopes of winning a fourth All-Ireland minor camogie title, and of taking an All-Ireland crown during centenary year of the association, were dashed in the early minutes of this decider at Navan on Saturday.

Galway, despite facing a stiff breeze, scored two crucial goals in the early

stages and the losers were chasing the match all the time after that.

Kilkenny fought back bravely, and at half-time they were a mere two points down, 2-4 to 1-5.

The breeze seemed to gather strength as the second half progressed. Kilkenny struggled to win puck-outs and frees past the half way line.

Galway added vital points to their tally. In the end, there was no doubting

who were the masters as Galway won by a handsome 13-points.

Kilkenny never produced the drive of previous rounds which saw them defeat Wexford, Kildare, Laois, Dublin and Down. The bad start really shook the team, and despite a willing effort afterwards they just could not recover their full stride.

Kilkenny had fine performers in Paula Butler, Ann Dalton, Collette

Dormer and Lucinda Gahan, but the team failed to perform as a vibrant unit.

### Teams

**Kilkenny —** Noelle Corrigan (St Lachtain's); Noreen O'Keefe (St Martin's); Elaine O'Shea (Windgap); Sarah Shore (St Martin's); Paula Butler (Mullinavat); Carol Phelan (Mullinavat); Carol Kavanagh, capt (St Lachtain's); Marie Murphy (Clara); Anne Dalton (St Lachtain's) (0-2); Collette Dormer (Paulstown) (1-1);

Lucinda Gahan (Mullinavat) (1-1); Marie Dargan (Lisdowney) (0-1); Laura Kavanagh (Emeralds); Anne Marie Phelan (Windgap) (0-1); Orla McCormack (James Stephens).

**Subs —** Aoife Drennan (Paulstown); Claire Coonan (Lisdowney); Mary Dalton (St Lachtain's); Regina Madigan (Mullinavat); Rita Coady (Paulstown); Kay Ryall (St Brigid's); Hannah Maher (St Martin's); Niamh Cullen (Piltown); Lorna Fennelly (Shamrocks); Siobhan Fahey (Emeralds); Lisa Phelan (Windgap);

Sinead Walsh (James Stephens); Roseanne Brennan (Paulstown); Laura Brennan (James Stephens); Sarah Byrne (Emeralds); Nessa Farrell (Young Irelands); Naomi Fogarty (James Stephens); Laura Galvin (Clara); Sarah McCarthy (Windgap); Nicola Foley (Piltown).

### Results

JJ Kavanagh and sons under-16 championship - O'Loughlin's 3-7, Young Irelands 2-6.



The Kilkenny minor camogie team who played Galway on Saturday. Front row (l-r): Nicola Foley, Claire Coonan, Lisa Phelan, Noelle Corrigan, Marie Murphy, Noreen O'Keefe, Sarah Shore, Marie Dargan, Paula Butler, Orla McCormack, Sinead Walsh, Laura Kavanagh. Middle: Aoife Drennan, Kathleen Corrigan, Elaine O'Shea, Hannah Maher, Liam Dunne, Carol Kavanagh (c), Roseanne Brennan, Anne Dalton, Regina Madigan, Rita Coady, Collette Dormer, Lucinda Gahan, Nessa Farrell, Sarah McCarthy, Laura Brennan, Ann Marie Phelan, Mary Marie Phelan, Mary Dalton, Sarah Byrne, Stephen Dormer. Back: Laura Galvin, Niamh Cullen, Kay Ryall, Siobhan Fahey, Lorna Fennelly, Carol Phelan, Naoimi Fogarty.

## SENIOR CHAMPIONSHIP:-

## Melissa's Goal Seals It For Drom-Inch

Drom-Inch ..... 3-7  
Toomevara ..... 2-7

Drom-Inch remained firmly on course on Saturday evening last in their bid to retain the Senior Championship title but were made to battle hard before seeing off Toomevara in a closely fought last round game in the round robin championship format. This victory for Drom-Inch put the championship in a three way play off between Drom-Inch, Cashel and Toomevara. At a previous meeting of Tipperary County Board it was decided if the above situation arises that a draw is made between the three teams, the first team drawn goes through to the final and the other two play a semi-final. On Saturday evening the draw made was as follows, Drom-Inch first drawn goes into the county final and Cashel and Toomevara play on August 10th. The County Final will take place on August 14th in Semple Stadium at 7.05pm.

On Saturday evening both teams served up some great free flowing entertaining Camogie and credit to the victors and the vanquished who kept us on the edges of our seats as the result hung in the balance right to the end. Both teams displayed all the character and resilience that stamps them as the best in the county and Drom-Inch gave a particular message to the followers on Saturday evening that they won't be easily dislodged from their champion pedestal.

It was Toomevara who made the better start although playing against a strong wind lead at the break by 1-4 to 1-3 with the Toomevara goal coming from the ever dangerous Deirdre Hughes in the 10th minute. Drom-Inch getting their goal through Melissa Stapleton in the 15th minute. Lena Woods picked up two nice points from frees while Michelle Shortt and Maria Harkin both pointed in the closing stages of the opening half for Drom-Inch.

The second half display by both teams was intense throughout and at times a little robust; despite the intensity superb displays of Camogie were witnessed. Louise Young opened the Toome' attack with a well earned point, this was followed by two Lena Woods pointed frees and Toome' looked to be in control but the next three scores belonged to Drom-Inch with two pointed frees from Maria Harkin and a chance at goal by Melissa Stapleton was safely put over the crossbar and just a point separated the sides in the 45th minute.

Geraldine Kinane gave Drom-Inch the tonic they needed in the 50th minute when she took off on a solo run, side stepped her opponent and rattled the

Toomevara net. However the true character of the Toome' attack was called upon when a Noelle Kennedy free landed into the hands of Deirdre Hughes the Drom' net shook and Toomevara were back in the lead. This was championship camogie at its best with little or nothing separating the teams, they both had plenty of scoring opportunities but with the close intensity of the game they were enforced errors and both sides had missed opportunities.

In the 54th minute Michelle Shortt collected from a centre field delivery found the waiting Melissa Stapleton who caused a lot of problems for the Toomevara defense and once again she was not found wanting when she hand passed to the net, this was the score that Drom-Inch wanted, two points up with six minutes remaining, enough time for Toomevara to get back, but Drom were not going to relent easily there backs fought like tigers to defend their arena, they held out on everything Toome' threw at them and collected another point on the way again from Melissa Stapleton in the 59th minute, this was the last score of the game and Drom-Inch had just one puck of the ball in their favor when the final whistle went Drom-Inch 3-7, Toomevara 2-7.

**Drom-Inch team:** Rosanna Kinneally, Jane Ryan, Niamh Harkin, Mary Loo, Linda Breen, Naomi Treacy, Teresa Maher, Julie Delaney Kelly, Deirdre Delaney, Michelle Shortt (0-1), Jackie O'Connor, Marie Harkin (0-4), Geraldine Kinane (1-0), Melissa Stapleton (2-2), Joanne Ryan, Sarah O'Brien, Therese Shortt, Ciara Johnson, Triona Butler, Siobhan McGrath, Aileen Kennedy, Patricia McGrath, Antoinette Kennedy, Eileen Harty, Siobhan Butler.

**Toomevara team and subs:** Paula Ryan, Trisha Ryan, Suzanne Kelly, Lizzie Woods, Mary Rose Ryan, Noelle Kennedy, Marie Tynan, Anna Woods, Louise Young (0-1), Elaine Young, Mary Bradshaw, Therese Maxwell, Denise Ryan (0-1), Deirdre Hughes (2-1), Lena Woods (0-4), Fiona Young, Bonnie Kennedy, Samantha McLoughney, Mary Stapleton, Laura Young.



Anr Marie Phelan heads for goal in Saturday's final.

## CAMOGIE

**All-Ireland Minor Camogie finals.**  
**A-final:** Galway 3-16 Kilkenny 2-6  
Galway minors showed their seniors how it's done when they took the All-Ireland minor crown for the ninth time at Pairc Tailteann, Navan, on Saturday.

They paved the way with goals from Noreen Coen, and full-forward Martina Conroy, who finished with 1-8.  
Galway scorers: 3-16, M. Conroy 1-8 (0-7F, 0-1 '45), N. Coen, S. Noone 1-2 each, C. Cormican 0-2, L. Ryan, J. Gill, N. Kilkenny 0-1 each.

**GALWAY:** S. Gannon; G. Starr; M. Ward, A. Huban; A. Kelly, J. Gill, J. O'Brien; F. Hahnefeld, L. Ryan; N. Kilkenny, S. Noone, C. Cormican; A. Tuohy, M. Conroy, N. Coen.  
Subs: E. Haverly for A. Kelly (41mins), M. Glynn for A. Tuohy (41mins), M. Farragher for C. Cormican, J. Coone for A. Huban, (both 53mins), R. O'Brien for H. Hahnefeld (57mins).

**Kilkenny scorers:** 2-6: L. Gahan, C. Dormer 1-1 each, A. M. Phelan, O. Mc Cormack, M. Dargan, A. Dalton 0-1 each.

**KILKENNY:** N. Corrigan; N. O'Keefe, E. O'Shea, S. Shore; P. Butler, C. Phelan, C. Kavanagh; M. Murphy, A. Dalton; C. Dormer, L. Gahan, M. Dargan; L. Kavanagh, A. M. Phelan, O. Mc Cormack.  
Subs: S. Fahy for M. Murphy (34mins), C. Coonan for O. Mc Cormack (50mins), R. Madigan for S. Shore (50mins).

**B-final: Antrim 1-9 Roscommon 0-3**  
Antrim took the minor 'B' All-Ireland title for the first time when they defeated Roscommon.

Antrim scorers: 1-9, L. McAleese 1-0, R. Mc Carry 0-5 (0-3 F, 0-1 '45), J. Campbell, E. Connor, O. Mc Caul, M. Convery 0-1 each.

**ANTRIM:** S. Mc Auley; M. Mc Auley, R. Boyle, T. Petticrew; E. Lavery, J. Mc Carry, E. Connolly; C. Dallat, J. Campbell; C. Quinn, M. Convery, O. Mc Caul; R. Mc Carry, E. Connor, C. Lavery.

Subs: S. Mc Killen for C. Lavery (27mins), L. Mc Aleese for E. Connolly (42mins), S. Mc Keown for E. Connor (49mins).

Scorers for Roscommon: 0-3, J. Mc Dermott, D. Sweeney, E. Daly 0-1 each.  
**ROSCOMMON:** R. Connaughton; T. Murray, F. Feeley, L. Mee; J. Beattie, L. Kileen, S. Beattie; C. Curley, E. Delaney; A. Crean, S. Spillane, D. Sweeney; H. Kenney, S. Mc Dermott, N. Coyle.

Subs: A. O'Boyle for L. Kileen (45mins), C. Cox for H. Kenney (48mins).

**O'Leary Brothers Builders Senior County final:** Carrigrohoun 8-11, Millford 5-11. **U16 12-A-Side League final:** Erin's Own 3-5, Charleville 2-1. **Junior B Shield:** Carrigaline 1-3, Glen Rovers 1-3.

## Medals mount up for Cork Colleges girls

by Catherine Ketch

The annual All Ireland James Hurley Under 14 Inter-County Camogie Blitz was won by the hosts, Cork Colleges, at Ballyanley recently, with local girl Niamh Dilworth contributing 13 goals in four matches.

Emer Dillon, Cork Senior Camogie centre forward, presented the girls with their medals at a function in Ballyanley this week. The girls also received medals for the Co. Clare Blitz, which they won earlier in the year.

Present on the night were Cork Colleges Camogie chairman John Joe Breen and Cork senior camogie coach and 1990

hurling All-Star, John Considine.

Ms Dillon stressed the importance of commitment, dedication and enjoyment of the game.

Team manager Rob Lott reminded the players of the team motto and the key to their success: "No lapse allowed in training."

Twenty-four games were played, with Armagh defeating Carlow 2-6 to 1-3 in the plate final. Over 10 teams competed in a round robin blitz, with Cork defeating Armagh, Waterford and Limerick before disposing of champions Galway 5-5 to 1-4, aided by a five-goal spree from Dilworth, in the first semi-final.

Fiona O'Connell, Maire McCarthy, Roseanne Byrne and Marie Walsh performed well for Cork with Marguerite Vaughan shacking

Galway's elusive Tara Rutledge effectively.

Kilkenny, who had narrowly beaten Cork in the last of the round robin games, easily beat Clare 5-1 to 1-0 in the other semi-final.

Selector John Joe Breen utilised each player from the panel of 25 for the six matches intelligently. The tournament organisers were delighted with the outcome and complimented the U14 development squad sponsor Coillte for their support.

Ten counties participated in the event and, according to Cork selector Ger Donovan, they hope to increase this to 14 for 2005.



Members of the Cork Colleges team, winners of the All Ireland U14 camogie blitz: Niamh Dilworth, Maire McCarthy, Fiona O'Connell and Aoife Kavanagh.

Picture: Ketch

Faolte (Coláiste Daibhéid), M. Foley (C) (Glanmire), K. Hickey (Mount Mercy), A. Kavanagh (St. Aloysius), F. O'Connell (St. Angela's).

## Results:

**Group A:**  
Cork 3-4 Armagh 0-0, Kilkenny 1-5 Waterford 0-0, Limerick 3-4 Armagh 0-1, Cork 5-2 Waterford 0-0, Cork 2-5 Limerick 3-0, Kilkenny 1-5 Armagh 0-0, Armagh 4-0 Waterford 1-0, Kilkenny 0-3 Limerick 1-0, Limerick 5-3 Waterford 1-1, Kilkenny 3-3 Cork 2-4.

**Group B:**  
Tipperary 1-0 Clare 1-2, Wexford 0-3 Galway 2-4, Carlow 0-0 Clare 3-6, Tipperary 1-2 Galway 1-2, Tipperary 5-3 Carlow 0-1, Wexford 1-3 Clare 3-0, Galway 1-3 Clare 0-0, Wexford 2-1 Tipperary 2-2, Galway 7-5 Carlow 1-0, Wexford 2-4 Carlow 0-0.

**Plate Final:**  
Armagh 2-6 Carlow 1-3

**Blitz Semi-finals:**

Cork Colleges 5-5 Galway 1-4, Kilkenny 5-1 Clare 1-0.  
**Final:** Cork Colleges 3-3 Kilkenny 1-4.

# Cork must be totally focussed to progress

By LINDA MELLERICK

Camogie

ONE step away!  
Cork's junior team take on Wexford this Saturday in Wexford Park at 2pm in the All-Ireland semi-final.

They are one hour away from an All-Ireland final appearance on September 19.

It won't be easy in the opposition's back yard. Wexford are a tough, tenacious team. They are extremely frustrating to play with their continuous blocking, chasing and harassing style.

Their senior team played Cork in the All-Ireland qualifier last month. Cork won by a margin of 1-6 but it was only in the final quarter that they managed to shake Wexford off. At least six of that team will line out again on Saturday.

Goalkeeper Elaine Byrnes fills the number one spot and other senior panelists to join her are Rosemary Breen who will probably line out at centre back, Mary Lacey, Catherine Murphy,



**LEADER:** Cork captain Val O'Keeffe.

Evelyn Quigley and Una Lacey. Wexford's forwards like to run at the defence and are very capable of opening up gaps. They defeated Kildare in the Leinster final by 5-11 to 0-6.

Cork have been hugely impressive to date. They sailed through the Munster Championship.

So far their ability under pressure has never been tested. 10 of the panel played in last weekend's thrilling senior county championship final and these players are flanked by equally impressive personnel, a few of which are senior panelists.

Val O'Keeffe captains the side and from full back Elaine O'Riordan to full forward Miriam Deasy, Cork are strong in all sectors.

But that doesn't necessarily guarantee success. Destroying teams is all well and good but it can lead to false beliefs. How do you get your players to believe that this game is different? It is the task facing coach Lillian Zinkant.

The wrong approach and Cork could get caught. The correct one and the juniors will be the first Cork team to reach an All-Ireland final this year.

## Unfinished business for Cork juniors

by Mary Newman

CORK travel to Wexford on Saturday next to bid for a place in the centenary All Ireland junior champions final. Cork last appeared in a junior final in 2002 on a day when only two points separated the sides at the final whistle, there are many survivors from that day anxious to return to headquarters and make amends for what many felt was a title left behind. Saturday will prove a huge stumbling block to those ambitions as Cork will have to be at their best on Saturday to gain the upper hand over a Wexford side who have improved continuously since the start of the season. A lot of work has gone into the game in the county and it is paying off and with their senior side also through to the semi final on August 21, where they meet champions Tipperary, the mood in the county is one of optimism.

But Cork are also optimistic and very determined. Under the guidance of three times All Ireland junior medal winner Lillian Zinkant they brushed aside the challenge posed by Munster champions and All Ireland runners up Clare before disposing of Limerick in a one-sided Munster final.

Miriam Deasy, Val O Sullivan, Silé Burns, Val O Keffe Catriona Foley, Amanda O Regan, Niamh Goulding and Ellen Clifford all impressed in that outing but another good day is needed against a Wexford side who had a good victory in the Leinster final over holders Kildare on a 5-11 to 0-6 score line. With forwards Una Lacey, Rosemary Breen, Gretta Heffernan and Mary Lacey all grabbing goals, the Cork defence could be in for a busy afternoon.

Five of the Wexford side are also members of the senior team and they will want to be very focused on also having both teams in Croke Park on Sept 19. But with some unfinished business to attend to, for many of this Cork junior side a trip to Croke Park is a must.

AUGUST 2004

## GAA stalwart Sighle dies after long illness

By Catherine Morrison

HUNDREDS of people are expected to attend the funeral in Co Down today of one of the most prominent and respected women in GAA history.

Tributes have poured in for Sighle McNulty (88), pictured, who died on Wednesday after a two-year battle with ill health.

Described by friends and colleagues as "a pillar" of the GAA in the Mournes and beyond, she is perhaps best known for her definitive book on the history of Down GAA, *O Shíol go Bláth* (From Seed to Flower).

Her involvement in both camogie and gaelic football began at the age of nine, when she became secretary of the Betsy Grey camogie club in her native Warrenpoint.

In recent years, Miss McNulty was made a life president of the Camogie Association of Ireland (CAI) to recognise her unique contribution to the sport.

Sheila Wallace, general secretary of the association, praised her "distinguished service".



"Sighle's vision and idealism, her love of Gaelic games and Irish culture permeated and enriched Cumann Camogaiachta na nGael," she said.

As an administrator Miss McNulty served as CAI president from 1949 to 1953, and as the association's high secretary from 1953 to 1975.

She served on many boards and in 1975 was the only woman appointed to the Irish government's sports advisory body.

Miss McNulty's love for football also lasted her entire life, and she attended her 80th all-Ireland final last year.

Despite her recent ill health, she still managed to go to see her beloved Down play Cavan in the Ulster Championship twice this year.

"She was an inspiration, an amazing woman and we all will miss her very badly," her nephew Fergal McCormack said.

"Sighle was years ahead of her

time. She was a real career woman who in the 1940s and 1950s was chairing meetings in London and Brussels and dealing with multi-national companies.

"While my aunt never married or had children, she was absolutely devoted to her nephews and nieces."

Born in Warrenpoint in 1916, Miss McNulty left to pursue a high-powered career in Dublin, only returning to the Co Down town to retire 20 years ago.

Mr McCormack said that even in retirement, she was always "on the go".

In 1978, she decided to go back to college and completed a degree at Queen's University.

Colleague and friend Bell O'Loughlin, herself a former president of the CAI, said she had been a dedicated promoter of GAA and Irish culture.

"Sighle had an amazing memory - she could remember the scores of matches played 40 or 50 years ago. She will be sorely missed," she said.

Requiem Mass will take place in St Peter's Church at noon.

## Sighle McNulty - an appreciation

### Camogie Pitch

With Seamus McAleenan

*died 7th July 04*

WHILE Camogie Pitch was on holiday, the death occurred of Sighle McNulty, only the second honorary President of Cumann Camogaiachta na nGael and its longest serving administrator.

Sighle gave 80 years of service to camogie, starting off at the tender age of nine when she became secretary of the Betsy Grey club in Warrenpoint.

Later on she held the same office on the Down County Board, and in the 1940s became Cathaoirleach of the Ulster Camogie Council at a time when Ulster counties (particularly Antrim) were regular participants in the All-Ireland senior final. However, when Sighle assumed the position of Camogie President in 1949, there was much strife within the Association. The major success of her Presidency was the ending of those divisions and the delegates at the 1952 Congress recognised this by electing her to serve an unprecedented fourth year in the office.

When she stepped down, she became Ardúnal from 1953 to 1975 a period that saw vast changes in the Association. She

also served in many offices including President of Cumann na mBunscoil and Cathaoirleach of the Central Administration Committee which provided a training programme for officers.

Sighle was also a successful businesswoman at a time when women in general didn't have such a high professional profile.

During the early 1970s she was one of only two women appointed to Cosac, the then Government established Council for Sport and in 1975 the only woman to sit on the Government Sports Advisory Council.

Aware of her profile in Down GAA fields, I first encountered Sighle on a personal level, when I served as Ardúnal of the Camogie Association in the early 1980s and she was the member of the Management Committee appointed to oversee my work. Despite my inexperience and the differences in our ages, Sighle was never patronising, always encouraging and remarkably in tune with the ideas and interests of young people. She was always on hand to offer encouragement, share ideas and give constructive criticism when it was needed. She had a sharp mind, even during her last few months when her body was quite frail and she still managed to attend the Camogie Centenary celebrations, enlightening the conversation with her recall of many of the figures central to the formation of the Association.

Her love of Gaelic Games and Irish culture, her vision and idealism, her capacity to listen and her ability to respect and trust youth enriched Cumann Camogaiachta na nGael and all who knew her. Leaba i measc na naomh go raibh aici.



Claire Scallan kicks the sliotar to an Oulart-The Ballagh colleague as a Rathnure opponent challenges during Sunday morning's county senior 'A' camogie semi-final at St. Patrick's Park. (Pic. Jim Campbell).

## Ursula guides holders through the storm

OULART-THE BALLAGH quite literally weathered a first-half storm to subsequently produce a commanding display, as they moved on to the ultimate test of their first-ever defence of the county senior 'A' camogie championship with last Sunday's penultimate-round victory over gutsy Rathnure at St. Patrick's Park.

The conditions for the curtain-raiser to the 'A' double-bill were absolutely deplorable, as a driving wind and torrential rain made conditions extremely uncomfortable, and they certainly contributed towards the team, which was attacking the country-end, dominating matters.

Such was the case with Rathnure in the first-half, although a more resourceful Oulart-The Ballagh contingent made much better headway against the elements than their opponents managed to, as the red-and-black trailed by just 0-3 to 1-3 at the interval.

Thereafter there was only one team in it, with Ursula Jacob strengthening the mystery surrounding her exclusion from the county senior team's plans on the back of another impressive showing, with the corner-forward accounting for 1-5 (0-2 frees) of Oulart-The

**OULART-THE BALLAGH 1-10**  
**RATHNURE 1-3**  
Ronan Fagan

Ballagh's tally.

Mary Leacy at centre-back together with Ciara Scallan in midfield, and Una Leacy in the half-forwards were other influential figures in the defending champions' success.

Rathnure meant business, and they certainly worked very hard during the first-half. But some poor finishing, albeit in trying conditions, meant they led by only three points at the break - and that was because of a fortuitous 10th-minute goal from Elaine Holohan.

Oulart coped well against the elements to stage a number of promising early raids, and Ursula Jacob and Emma Moran sent them ahead by 0-2 to 0-0 after seven points with a point apiece.

But, with Niamh and Claire O'Connor helping to put Rathnure on the front-foot from there through to the 22nd-minute, the challengers turned the tables to lead

by 1-3 to 0-2, although their selectors appreciated the needed for them to have taken much greater benefit of the advantage of the atrocious conditions.

Aoife O'Connor pointed Rathnure onto the scoresheet from a ninth-minute free after she was fouled. A minute later, 'Lenny' Holohan saw her strike from about 25 yards sail over the head of Oulart 'keeper Ciara Storey and to the net for a 1-1 to 0-2 lead.

Centre-back Claire O'Connor tagged on a 12th-minute point after good work by 'Lenny' Holohan, who after three Rathnure wides, stretched the gap to 1-3 to 0-2 eight minutes shy of half-time.

As the conditions worsened, Oulart-The Ballagh lifted the siege for Ursula Jacob to pull back a 24th-minute pointed free. The sides each fired a couple of wides in the remaining minutes, before Rathnure broke with a lead that did not look sufficient enough (1-3 to 0-3).

Indeed, Oulart-The Ballagh came out with all guns blazing. But they only managed two points in the third quarter, through Ursula Jacob from a 35th-minute free, and Una Leacy on 41 minutes, while firing five bad wides in that time.

They showed greater

direction during the closing quarter, and levelled through Jacob's fourth personal point after 47 minutes (0-6 to 1-3).

The turning point arrived in the 21st and 22nd minutes, when after Stacey Redmond pointed Oulart-The Ballagh in front, Ursula Jacob fielded the resultant puck-out and shot to the country-end net for a 1-7 to 1-3 lead.

Rathnure mounted some spirited attacks during the second-half. But Oulart-The Ballagh always looked the likely winners, and closing points from Diane Ryan, Ursula Jacob and Una Leacy sealed their passage through to the final against St. Ibar's.

**Oulart-The Ballagh** - Ciara Storey, Helena Jacob, Colleen Atkinson, Karen Atkinson, Ashling Moran, Mary Leacy (capt.), Siobhan Cullen, Ciara Scallan, Stacey Redmond (0-1), Tanya Stamp, Diane Ryan (0-1), Una Leacy (0-2), Ursula Jacob (1-5, 0-2 frees), Fiona Dunne, Emma Moran (0-1).

**Rathnure** - Mary Barron, Bridget Murphy, Aisling Hogan, Bernie Holohan, Niamh O'Connor (capt.), Claire O'Connor (0-1), Jean Hayden, Michelle O'Leary, Evelyn Quigley, Elaine Holohan (1-1), Jenny O'Leary, Maeve Frayne, Ciara O'Connor, Aoife O'Connor (0-1 frees), Sandy Carr.

Sub: Louise O'Leary for Maeve Frayne.

Referee - John Farrell (Oylegate-Glenbrien).

## Rathnure romp into junior final

**RATHNURE 6-13 St. Martin's 1-3:** Angeline Westnott grabbed a personal salvo of 2-2 as Rathnure romped to victory over St. Martin's in the semi-final of the county junior 'A' camogie championship at Killurin on Saturday evening, writes Ronan Fagan.

While St. Martin's produced a spirited effort, Rathnure were in control after full-forward Westnott had shot two goals and a point inside the first five minutes to open-up a 2-1 to 0-1 lead, with Karen Browne (free) having pointed for the opposition.

Sarah Murphy added a point for Rathnure just before 'keeper Bernie Higgins denied St. Martin's a goal in the 17th minute.

Susie Maddock, however, found the Rathnure net in the 25th minute, to close the gap to four points (2-2 to 1-1).

But the black-and-amber replied with a goal from Emma O'Connor, and points courtesy of the latter and Julie Conran to forge a 3-4 to 1-1 interval advantage.

Rathnure strengthened their grip on proceedings when Julie Conran followed-up an early second-half point from Katie Murphy with a goal from 45 yards out.

The winners tagged on five points without reply before Laura Hogan added their fifth goal, following a 30-yard solo burst in the 40th minute (5-10 to 1-1). Karen Browne (St. Martin's, from a free) and Ann-Marie O'Connor (Rathnure) traded points, before the Rathnure

netminder again made a superb save in the 44th minute.

Niamh Murphy and Sarah Murphy then sandwiched an insurance goal from substitute Lisa Doolan with further points for Rathnure, before Amy Ryan added a consolation point for a gutsy St. Martin's outfit to conclude the scoring.

The winners, who are now scheduled to meet Monageer-Boolevogue in the final on September 5th, were best served by Aine Doran, Ann-Marie O'Connor, Laura Hogan, Sarah Murphy, Laura Murphy and Angeline Westnott.

To the fore for St. Martin's, meanwhile, were Susie Maddock, Amy Ryan, Kate Devereux and Julie Kelly.

**Rathnure** - Bernie Higgins (capt.), Kelly O'Connor, Ann Quigley, Katie Reddy, Aine Doran, Ann-Marie O'Connor (0-1), Michelle Frayne, Laura Hogan (1-0), Sarah Murphy (0-2), Olivia Hearn (0-1), Julie Conran (1-2), Laura Murphy, Katie Murphy (0-1), Angeline Westnott (2-2), Emma O'Connor (1-3).

**Subs:** Niamh Murphy (0-1) for Angeline Westnott; Lisa Doolan (1-0) for Julie Conran; Sharon Holohan for Kelly O'Connor; Willina Carr for Emma O'Connor; Brenda Guiney for Ann-Marie O'Connor; Ann-Marie Walsh, Fiona Holohan.

**St. Martin's** - Mary Sutherland, Julie Kelly, Amy Ryan (0-1), Nora Gahan, Rachel Clancy, Lisa Rowe, Aoife Waters, Kate Devereux, Niamh Murphy, Stacey Duggan, Karen Browne (0-2), Fiona Rochford, Helen Boggan, Susie Maddock (1-0), Sinead Parrock.

**Subs:** Elaine O'Connor for Lisa Rowe; also used, Lucy Crosbie and Aoife Murphy.

## Oulart/Ballagh avoid three-way play-off

**OULART-THE BALLAGH 3-10 Cloughbawn 3-5:** Second-half goals from Caroline Fortune and Sarah Jo Sinnott helped Oulart's second-string clinch a spot in the semi-finals of the county intermediate camogie championship by virtue of last Thursday evening's closing group win over Cloughbawn at Castleboro.

Had Cloughbawn won, a three-way play-off between themselves, Oulart-The Ballagh and Glynn-Barntown for the last semi-final spot would have been necessitated.

Cloughbawn challenged strongly, but they were in arrears by 1-6 to 1-3 at the break, with Aine Devereux having struck 1-1 for Oulart, while Liz Wickham goalied to keep the home-side in contention.

The winners pulled clear nearing the end, with Cloughbawn only grabbing their third in the closing stages to reduce Oulart-The Ballagh's margin of victory to five points.

Best for Oulart were Kerri Dunne together with Sarah Jo Sinnott and Claire Sinnott, while impressing for Cloughbawn were Joe Keating, Mairéad Doyle, Rose Kehoe, Kate Kehoe, Leanne Murphy, Geraldine Keating and Liz Wickham.

**Oulart-The Ballagh** - Sinead O'Connor, Hannah Doran, Liz Murphy, Chloe Kenny, Caroline Murphy, Elaine Dempsey, Kerri Dunne, Sarah Jo Sinnott (1-0), Claire Sinnott (0-3), Cariona Murray (0-2), Aine Devereux (1-2), Chloe Fortune (capt.), Stacey Kehoe, Caroline Fortune (1-3), Laura Sinnott.

**Cloughbawn** - Siobhan Doyle, Olive Keating, Joy Keating, Siobhan Keating, Rose Kehoe, Mairéad Doyle, Nicola Scully (capt.), Carrie Flood, Kate Kehoe, Leanne Murphy (1-3), Geraldine Keating (1-2), Liz Wickham (1-0), Ann Furlong, Olivia O'Gorman, Karen Murphy.

**Subs:** Pauline Doyle for Kate Kehoe (inj).



Oulart-The Ballagh's Tanya Stamp comes under pressure from Claire O'Connor of Rathnure on Sunday. (Pic. Jim Campbell).

# Kate points the way for Ibar's

**KATE** produced five points from dead balls to help guide St. Ibar's to a hard-earned victory over a tenacious St. Martin's side in last Sunday afternoon's county senior 'A' camogie championship semi-final at St. Patrick's Park.

St. Martin's made a very encouraging start against the beaten All-Ireland Club finalists of 2002, with the brilliant **Katriona Parrock**

inspiring the Piercestown-Murrinstown crew into a 1-4 to 0-2 lead after 13 minutes.

But St. Martin's only scored one further point for the remaining 47 minutes.

while St. Ibar's emerged from their lack-lustre start to slowly but surely engineer a hard-earned victory.

Thankfully the wintry showers which had spoiled the game between Oulart-The Ballagh and Rathnure gave way to the summer sunshine for the second-part of the day's double feature, which saw a 13-year-old

**Katriona Parrock** give St. Martin's a dream start when she goalied in the opening seconds, following a cross from

**ST. IBAR'S** 1-7  
**ST. MARTIN'S** 1-5  
**Ronan Fagan**

Louise Fanning. **Kate Kelly** kept St. Ibar's in touch when sandwiching a pointed free from **Aine Codd** with similar scores, thus leaving it at 1-1 to 0-2 after six minutes.

All-Ireland Féile na nGael star **Katriona Parrock** was proving to be a thorn in the Ibar's side, and the corner-forward fielded a delivery from **Aine Codd** in the ninth minute to add a point, while she profited from good work by **Noeleen Lambert**, **Sinead Dempsey** and **Miriam Lambert** in the 10th minute to add another, and stretch the Martin's lead to 1-3 to 0-2.

**Katriona Parrock** then set up **Louise Fanning** for a goal-scoring chance which went a begging, before team mate **Codd** kept St. Martin's moving in the right direction when shooting over another pointed free on 13 minutes (1-4 to 0-2).

St. Ibar's grew in stature between that and half-time, but they fluffed a couple of goal-scoring opportunities, while also

striking four wides, to remain in arrears by five points at the break.

**Leona Tector** ended the Ibar's 27-minute long scoring drought when shooting a fine 33rd-minute point.

The Martin's threatened the opposition goal on a couple of occasions before **Kate Kelly** got St. Ibar's back on the scoresheet when pointing a 41st minute penalty, which was awarded after the well marshalled **Michelle Hearne** was impeded.

**Kate Kelly** tagged on a fourth personal point from a free, only seconds before **Emma Carroll** determinedly sent the ball to the country-end net, after good play from half-backs **Aideen Parker** and **Laura Corrigan**, who combined with **Michelle Hearne** to stretch the Martin's cover and put Carroll through to give St. Ibar's their first taste of the lead after 44 minutes (1-5 to 1-4).

A grimly determined St. Martin's outfit continued to battle hard, and **Aine Codd** got them back on

level terms with a pointed free on 50 minutes (1-5 each).

But St. Ibar's carried the much greater scoring threat throughout the second-half, and the excellent **Kate Kelly** sent over a 56th-minute free to edge them back in-front.

The Martin's then notched their fifth wide (St. Ibar's finished with nine), before seeing another threat on the Ibar's goal cleared for **Kate Kelly** to eventually set up **Emma Carroll** for what proved the closing score - a point - as the blue-and-red finished with two points to spare after a stiff test.

**St. Ibar's** - **Jenna Murphy**, **Edwina Roche**, **Catherine Doyle**, **Maeve Quill**, **Nikki Scallan**, **Aideen Parker**, **Laura Corrigan**, **Leona Tector** (0-1), **Kate Kelly** (0-5, 4 frees, 1 penalty), **Bridget Curran**, **Margaret Kelly**, **Michelle Doyle**, **Anne-Marie Kelly**, **Michelle Hearne**, **Emma Carroll** (1-1).

**St. Martin's** - **Jenny Power**, **Jenny Rowe**, **Maire O'Connor**, **Tina Bergin**, **Muireann McCarthy**, **Noeleen Lambert**, **Alma Radford**, **Sinead Dempsey**, **Aine Codd** (0-3 frees), **Orla Power**, **Trisha Gahan**, **Miriam Lambert**, **Louise Fanning**, **Deirdre Colfer**, **Katriona Parrock** (1-2).

Sub: **Jamie Jordan** for **Trisha Gahan**.

Referee - **Aidan O'Brien** (Cloughdown).

## Monageer advance to final

**MONAGEER-BOOLAVOGUE** 2-4  
**St. Ibar's** 1-1: **Mary Gahan** and **Pauline Davitt** grabbed the goals as hosts **Monageer** overcame **St. Ibar's** in the semi-final of the county junior 'A' camogie championship on Tuesday evening of last week, writes **Ronan Fagan**.

The eventual winners led by 1-2 to 1-0 at the changeover, and were best served on the night by goalkeeper **Ciara Gahan** along with **Joanne Breen**, **Martina Flood**, **Breda Morrissey**, **Pauline Davitt**, **Aoife Gahan**, **Yvonne Walsh** and **Noelle Murphy**.

**Monageer-Boolavogue** - **Ciara Gahan**, **Eimear Darcy**, **Joanne Breen**, **Jenny Fenlon**, **Fiona Gahan**, **Martina Flood**, **Breda Morrissey**, **Patricia Breen**, **Aoife Gahan** (capt., 0-3), **Bridget Stafford**, **Noelle Murphy**, **Yvonne Walsh** (0-1), **Rosie Murphy**, **Mary Gahan** (1-0), **Pauline Davitt** (1-0).

Sub: **Niamh O'Loughlin** for **Fiona Gahan**.

## Elaine returns with a bang for Taghmon

**TAGHMON-CAMROSS** 6-8 **St. Mary's** (Rosslare) 1-1: 15-year-old **Elaine Dunne** returned from holidays to help power **Taghmon's** bid for the county junior 'B' camogie championship, when notching a personal tally of 3-1 in last Friday evening's quarter-final win over **Rosslare** on home soil, writes **Ronan Fagan**.

The New Ross district side had eased past **Kilrush** on a scoreline of 7-18 to 2-1 a week earlier, and with **Marie Kelly**, **Caoimhe Maloney**, **Emma Lacey** and **Elaine Dunne** to the fore, **Taghmon** were again in control of this second round tie to secure a semi-final meeting with **Ferns St. Aidan's**.

While **Dunne** started with a hat-trick, **Aileen Power**, **Aine Breen** and **Ruth Colfer** were also among the goals, in a game in which **Taghmon** established an unassailable 5-3 to 0-0 lead in a wind-assisted first-half performance.

**Taghmon-Camross** - **Aoife Morrissey**, **Elaine Neville**, **Marie Kelly**, **Sarah O'Brien**, **Caoimhe Maloney**, **Emma Lacey** (0-2), **Marianne Carroll**, **Julie Colfer**, **Aisling McNamara** (capt., 0-1), **Elaine Morrissey** (0-1), **Aileen Power** (1-0), **Aine Breen** (1-1), **Ruth Colfer** (1-0), **Elaine Dunne** (3-1), **Kara Delaney** (0-2).

# Duffry edge out determined 'Alley'

**DUFFRY ROVERS** 2-8

**BUFFERS ALLEY** 2-7

**Ronan Fagan**

**DUFFRY ROVERS** displayed tremendous resolve in the last 20 minutes to edge out **Buffers Alley** in a keenly-contested semi-final of the county senior 'B' camogie

championship at St. Patrick's Park on Sunday evening last.

After the sides reached the break inseparable on 2-4 apiece, the outstanding **Louise Codd** sent the Duffry two points clear before **Buffers Alley** asserted their supremacy.

But the **Kilmuckridge** outfit only managed to out-score the Duffry by 0-3 to 0-2 thereafter, as Duffry successfully weathered the storm to ensure they will avoid another automatic demotion back to the intermediate ranks, having gained promotion back to the top-flight last year after dropping down in 2002.

**Louise Codd** pointed the Duffry in-front after only 17 seconds. And while **Emer O'Leary** levelled from a free two minutes later, the eventual

winners got off to an impressive start, as **Margaret Farrell** sandwiched a 13th-minute point from **Deirdre Codd** with what proved crucial 10th- and 15th-minute goals to establish a 2-2 to 0-1 lead.

The balance of power lay with **Buffers Alley** during the second quarter, and they forced a fruitless '45 while also striking three successive wides before their brilliant centre-forward, **Anne Cousins**, shot to the dressingroom-end net from some 20 yards out in the 18th minute to reduce the deficit to 2-2 to 1-1.

**Louise Codd** struck back with a 21st-minute point, before **Buffers Alley** enjoyed a purple-patch between the 24th and 26th minutes, which saw them turn the tables to lead by 2-4 to 2-3.

**Meadbh Hughes** pointed a free and also from play, before **Anne Cousins** added a similar score to make it 2-3 to 1-4 in the 25th minute. The latter then combined with **Emer O'Leary** to pave the way for full-forward **Jenny O'Leary** to flick the ball to the net for the lead goal on 26 minutes.

But **Deirdre Codd** fired over an injury-time free, after her sister, **Louise**, was fouled, to leave the sides justifiably tied on 2-4 apiece at the changeover.

Two more points from **Louise Codd** (including a free) saw the **Martin Fitzhenry-trained Duffry Rovers** side move back in-front by 2-6 to 2-4 after 41 minutes.

**Buffers Alley** then piled on the pressure at the country-end. But they struggled for scores against the grimly

determined **Duffry Rovers**, and a pointed free from **Meadbh Hughes** in the 50th minute was cancelled out by similar scores from a free and a '45 by **Deirdre Codd** in the 52nd and 58th minutes, as the winners stretched ahead by 2-8 to 2-5.

The 'Alley never let up, and **Linda Burke** concluded a fine solo burst in the 59th minute with a point. **Deirdre Codd** then blocked down a free by **Hughes** to further stymie the efforts of the **Gorey district** women, for whom corner-back **Marie Butler** had the last way with a consolation point.

Almost immediately the final whistle sounded, so leaving **Buffers Alley** to rue having shot five more wides than the Duffry, and having to prepare to tackle **Ferns St. Aidan's** in the relegation final.

**Duffry Rovers**.

meanwhile, move on to the senior 'B' decider against **Monageer-Boolavogue**.

**Duffry Rovers** - **Sinead O'Connor**, **Philippa O'Connor**, **Lisa Frayne**, **Josephine Brennan**, **Anne-Marie Foley**, **Ailish Atkinson**, **Noeleen Howlin**, **Deirdre Codd** (capt., 0-4, 2 frees, 1 '45), **Denise Kearns**, **Louise Codd** (0-4, 1 free), **Jennifer Codd**, **Theresa Aylward**, **Helen Sinnott**, **Bernadette Coleman**, **Margaret Farrell** (2-0).

Subs: **Joanne Kearns** for **Helen Sinnott**; **Eilish Kearns** for **Philippa O'Connor**.

**Buffers Alley** - **Teri Butler**, **Lisa Johnston**, **Noelle Doran** (capt.), **Marie Butler** (0-1), **Theresa Doran**, **Frances Doran**, **Mary Kelly**, **Liz Murphy**, **Linda Burke** (0-1), **Roisin Donohoe**, **Anne Cousins** (1-1), **Meadbh Hughes** (0-3, 2 frees), **Melanie Ní Dhuin**, **Jenny Kinsella** (1-0), **Emer O'Leary** (0-1 free).

Sub: **Pauline Hall** for **Lisa Johnston**.

Referee - **Aidan Breen** (Ferns St. Aidan's).

# Wasteful Monageer survive

**MONAGEER-BOOLAVOGUE** 2-4  
**Ferns St. Aidan's** 2-3  
**Ronan Fagan**

late effort pulled just inches wide.

In fairness however, **Monageer** were much the better team, something which their tally of 16 wides to 5 helps illustrate.

The winners dominated the early stages, but they struck five wides and left it to **Ferns** to break the ice in their first attack after ten minutes, when **Georgina Moore** pointed following good work by **Liz Evered**.

**Sóna Nolan**, one of **Colaiste Bride's** All-Ireland Schools senior and junior 'A' camogie champions, levelled

matters a minute later, before influential captain **Aisling Nolan** fired over in the 14th and 17th minutes to launch **Monageer** ahead by 0-3 to 0-1.

A very slow burning **Ferns** side were living on scraps, but they gained another shot-in-the-arm in the 22nd minute, when **Caroline Murphy** lobbed the ball to the net at the dressingroom-end direct from a 25 metre free.

**Monageer** twice threatened the **Ferns** goal in the intervening minutes, while **Aisling Nolan** latched onto a superb cross from the right by **Orla Hernon** to

fire over a third personal point, and give the winners what they least deserved at the break - a draw (0-4 to 1-1).

The **Ferns** goal had another lucky escape immediately after the restart, before **Mary Breen** (32 minutes) and **Catherine O'Loughlin** (35) found the net for **Monageer** to send them six points clear (2-4 to 1-1). And they would have gone on to open-up a resounding lead but for some extremely poor finishing.

**Liz Evered** kept **Ferns** ticking over meanwhile with a 39th-minute point. **Monageer** struck four further wides before **Lisa Dwyer** ended a lengthy lull in scoring with a 52nd-minute point for **Ferns**, just after the gutsy **Gorey district** crew had been

denied a goal (2-4 to 1-3).

Two minutes later **Josie Dwyer** and her **Ferns** colleagues persevered after seeing a free by the **Wexford** star blocked down, and eventually **Josie** regained possession to chip the **Monageer** 'keeper from the right of the country-end square, and leave both sides on tenterhooks with six minutes to go (2-4 to 2-3).

While **Monageer** replied with their 16th wide, **Ferns** had some chances to maybe have bridged the gap. However, the spoils in the end rested where they truly belonged, despite the sterling efforts of the likes of **Aisling Murray**, **Caroline Murphy**, **Josie Dwyer** and **Liz Evered** for **Ferns**, who were sporting the **Marshallstown jersey** owing to a clash of colours, while **Monageer-**

**Boolavogue** donned the county colours.

**Monageer-Boolavogue** - **Brenda Murphy**, **Ana-Marie Daly**, **Orla Gahan**, **Siobhan Gahan**, **Ruth Walsh**, **Catherine O'Loughlin** (1-0), **Olivia Murphy**, **Sóna Nolan** (0-1), **Rose-Marie Breen**, **Johanna Breen**, **Orla Hernon**, **Mary Breen** (1-0), **Ana Murphy**, **Aisling Nolan** (capt., 0-3), **Niamh Kehoe**.

Subs: **Sandra Murphy** for **Siobhan Gahan**; **Ciara Garahy** for **Niamh Kehoe**; **Siobhan Gahan** for **Olivia Murphy**.

**Ferns St. Aidan's** - **Lisa Walsh**, **Sinead Kenny**, **Stephanie Murray**, **Ashling Murray**, **Ashling Burke**, **Martina Murray**, **Orla Murphy**, **Josie Dwyer** (capt., 1-0), **Caroline Murphy** (1-0 free), **Lisa Dwyer** (0-1), **Georgina Moore** (0-1), **Olivia Rynhart**, **Marion Brownrigg**, **Liz Evered** (0-1), **Orla Whelan**.

Referee - **Aidan O'Brien** (Cloughdown).



**Linda Mellerick**

**THE Cork Senior Camogie Championship reached its conclusion last weekend with a new champion for the third time in four years.**

Carrigdhoun emerged victorious in a final which had the huge crowd on the edge of their seats for the entire 67 minutes.

Without doubt it was one of the greatest finals I have seen.

The game had it all—passion, skill, pace, toughness, heart, incredible scores, jubilation and tears.

11 goals and 22 points! If you see that kind of scoring in the latter stages of any other championship this year let me know.

I said beforehand that this one was too close to call. Even I didn't bank on the game we got.

From the throw in Milford had the better of the exchanges but if any sport can give you four goals in two minutes, it's hurling.

Sarah O'Donovan won herself a penalty which was converted by Catriona Kelly.

Within the next two minutes she had the ball in the back of the net twice with incredible strikes from 20 yards out.

Up to then Carrig' were in trouble but once Elaine Burke moved out the field in search of the action things changed.

Not only did she win good ball but it left an otherwise crowded area inside wide open and before Milford could react Sarah's speed and above all strength had them shattered.

We were to see another five goals after that and each one, for both sides, was as magical as the next.

Some of the points scored were also out of the top drawer.

The hurling was played at a frantic pace.

The move of Anna Geary from midfield to full forward was a major move for the North Cork side.

Somehow she managed to find her way through for two excellent goals in the second period.

During the second half you could see Milford tiring.

While both teams are young, Milford looked like kids (and I mean that in the best possible way). Carrig' were strong.

Emer Dillon, Elaine Burke, Sarah O'Donovan, Marion Jagoe and Catriona Kelly are experienced performers even considering their young age. Physically they were superior. Three or four years can make a huge difference.

That was the only thing separating the sides. In every other aspect they were evenly matched, both dominating in patches.

In the last 10 minutes or so despite Milford having their chances you could see that Carrigdhoun probably had that little bit more left in the tank.

Being reduced to 14 players didn't help Milford's cause.

Emer O'Friel was sent off in the 17th minute of the second half for a pull which to be fair was more careless than malicious.

I felt a booking was sufficient but the referee did consult his umpire and based his decision on what he was told.

My heart broke for Milford at the final whistle. They were absolutely devastated.

As a neutral I got so caught up in the game that I really didn't want to see any of them lose.

But that's sport. It can hurt.

To be honest most neutrals will always go for the club team.

They feel that a club benefits more from a senior county win than a divisional side.

Carrigdhoun coach Billy Hegarty will tell you otherwise.



**Carrigdhoun's Emer Dillon gets past Milford's Sinéad O'Reilly during the Cork Senior Camogie Championship Final at Páirc Uí Rinn** Picture: Neil Danton

# Carrig tie a real classic



**Carrigdhoun players celebrate after their victory in the Cork Senior Camogie Championship Final at Páirc Uí Rinn.** Picture: Neil Danton

He feels along with Ollie Hallahan, Tom Kiely and Marion McCarthy that this is a huge boost for the area and they will reap the benefits.

The divisional side did celebrate like a club team who've been together for years.

Billy had said that from day one this team

had really gelled together.

But a lot of them are together a long time. Seven of the starting 15 play with Ballygarvan and many of those who make up the remainder of the team are inter-county pals.

Emer Dillon, Catriona Kelly, Liz Bugler

and Elaine Burke have been playing with Carrig for the past six or seven years.

Don't they deserve their county medal as much as anyone? They do and congratulations to them.

It must have been one of the most closely contested and entertaining senior championships in a long time.

Outside of the opening rounds when the weaker teams were heavily defeated each game thereafter was exciting and closely fought with many of them going down to the wire.

Camogie players from the likes of Limerick, Kilkenny and Tipperary come to Cork regularly to view the games as they feel it is the best county championship in the country.

It is.

Milford will now go forward to represent Cork in the Munster Championship. We wish them the very best of luck.

They can hold their heads high as both teams gave an exhibition of camogie last weekend that those present were privileged to witness.

AUGUST 2004

## Goal blitz helps Cork power past Wexford into final

**Cork** 5-9  
**Wexford** 2-10

by Máire Uí Scolai

CORK advanced to the All-Ireland Junior camogie final on September 19 with an impressive performance at Wexford Park on Saturday.

A devastating three-minute spell moments before the break provided

the platform for the visitors. Left corner-forward Emer O'Farrell hit the opening goal of the game before Anna Geary popped up to add a second and help Cork to a 2-4 to 0-5 lead at the break.

Further green flags for Miriam Deasy, Sheila Burns and Sarah O'Donovan completed the rout.

Mary Leacy and her sister Una hit late goals for the hosts but it mat-

tered little in this mismatch.

Tipperary's Deirdre Hughes, the only present-day player to get on to the team of the century, added another piece of silverware to her 2004 collection when she won a senior county championship medal with Toomevara on Saturday night when helping to defeat Drom-Inch 2-9 to 2-7 in Semple Stadium.

Meanwhile, Stephanie Gannon of

the Athenry club in Galway collected her second All-Ireland title in a week when she took first place in the Martin Donnelly Poc Fada competition in the Cooley Mountains in Co Louth.

**Scorers:** Cork: A Geary, E O'Farrell, 1-2 each; S O'Donovan 1-1, S Burns, M Deasy 1-0 each; A O'Regan 0-2; R Buckley, S O'Donovan 0-1 each. Wexford: M Leacy, U Leacy 1-1 each; G Heffernan 0-4, J Dwyer 0-2, L Codd, C Murray, 0-1 each.

**WEXFORD:** E. Barnes; M Murray, C Atkinson, K Atkinson; N Lambert, C O'Loughlin, A Moran; R Breen, C Murphy; M Walsh, M Leacy, J Dwyer; G Heffernan, E Quigley, U Leacy. Subs: L Codd for M Walsh.

**CORK:** E Clifford; A O'Regan, E O'Riordan, N Goulding; C Foley, R Buckley, M Hegarty; V O'Keefe, V O'Sullivan; S Burns, S O'Donovan, A Geary; E O'Farrell, M Deasy, M Jago.

Subs: J Browne for C Foley (inj), M O'Connell for V O'Sullivan, M Holland for M Hegarty, L Bugler for M Jago.

**Referee:** E Browne, Tipperary.

'Art is more than a job for me. I have to do it, it's a passion'



Anna Geary holds up an example of one of the Cumann Camógaíochta na nGael's Centenary stamps. Included are Back row L-R: Emer Watson, Derek Kickham, Commercial Director of An Post and Miriam U' Cheallacháin, Uachtarán Cumann Camógaíochta na nGael.

# Finbarr's stamp of approval

by Micheal O'Connor

**C**ORKMAN Finbarr O'Connor's great passion for painting has brought him from teaching maths to being the artist commissioned by An Post to create the recently launched Centenary of Cumann Camógaíochta na nGael's stamps and the Summer Olympic Games stamps.

Two 48c stamps, with artwork by Finbarr, show two camogie players in the original kits and two players in modern kits with the logo and O'Duffy Cup in the background.

The players are drawn from Cork, Antrim, Dublin and Kilkenny. (Cork have won the O'Duffy Cup 20 times since the first camogie All Ireland took place in 1932.)

Two other stamps commemorate the return the Olympic Games to its homeplace, Athens. Also designed by Finbarr, the 60c stamp depicts an athlete in the pose of the ancient games and the 48c stamp depicts a modern javelin thrower.



Finbarr O'Connor: created the recently launched Centenary of Cumann Camógaíochta na nGael's stamps and the Summer Olympic Games stamps.

Finbarr, who grew up in the Lough area of Cork and who now lives in Blackrock, started drawing and painting at a young age.

"Art is more than a job for me — it's something I have to do and wildlife art is my passion," he said.

Finbarr taught maths for three years after gaining his BA from UCC before doing a course in il-

lustration at Falmouth College of Art in Cornwall, England.

He had a great interest in nature and wanted to 'pursue something in realistic art if possible, with a particular view to nature and wildlife' and so he chose the natural history section in the course.

A self employed illustrator, Finbarr has had a very successful career. He was commissioned by An Post in 1998 to do the Endangered Animals set of stamps. An Post followed up by asking him to do several more stamp issues.

These included the Extinct Animals, Europa Parks and Reserves, Football Team of the Millennium, Water Resources and the Battle of Kinsale commemorative sets. Last year Finbarr worked on the St Patrick's Day 2003 stamps.

"The An Post commissions have been the most visible of my work," said Finbarr.

He is challenged and yet rewarded by the research and final production of these miniature art pieces.

Finbarr has illustrated two books by Soimhe Lally which were published by Poolbeg. These were Ancient Legends of Ireland

and Favourite Irish Fairy Tales.

He has illustrated book covers for Oxford University Press, Cambridge University Press, O'Brien Press, Poolbeg, Hamlyn and many others.

Although he is cutting back on his commercial work, he is keeping his connections open with An Post for possible future stamp commissions. He is also working part-time at Little Island sorting office, which allows more time for his wildlife painting.

With Finbarr's deep desire to paint wildlife he has found there is a worldwide market for wildlife paintings. He is starting a series of paintings of "big cats" using acrylics, oils and watercolours.

It was 1904 when the first public camogie match took place in Dublin. Shortly afterwards Cumann Camógaíochta na nGael was formed to provide a Gaelic Games outlet for the women of Ireland.

Four Cork players were named on the Camogie Team of the Century. They were Marie Constance O'Donovan, Sandie Fitzgibbon, Linda Mellerick and Pat Moloney Lenihan.

Cork players are featured on the Centenary of Cumann Camógaíochta na nGael's calendar of special events. The February group of photographs shows UCC players celebrating their victory over UCD in the final of the 2003 Ashbourne Cup.

The August photograph dated Sept 21 2003 where Mary O'Connor, Cork, shows her disappointment after losing to Tipperary in the Foras na Gaeilge, All Ireland Senior Championship Final in Croke Park.

Centenary of Cumann Camógaíochta na nGael special events for the rest of this year include: August — All Ireland Minor A&B Finals, All-Ireland Senior and Junior Semi Finals, All-Ireland Intermediate Championship commences.

September 18: Kilmacud Crokes 7s Tournament, All-Ireland Senior and Junior Camogie Finals, Croke Park on the 19. Also the All-Ireland Bunscoileanna Mini-Game takes place.

October — All-Ireland Intermediate Final, International Competition, Shinty/Camogie Tournament.

November — All-Ireland Club Championship, Senior and Junior Finals, Camogie All-Stars.

## Underage camogie blitz in full swing

AVONDHU Camogie Board begins a series of hectic fare in the weeks ahead with an under-9 blitz in Buttevant and Mallow.

Amongst the teams competing are Kildorrery, Mallow, Millstreet, St. Fanahans, Kilshannig, Charleville, Ballyhea, Newtownshandrum, Buttevant and Milford.

Upcoming on Saturday, August 28, the under 11 blitz goes ahead in Charleville and Mallow.

Teams confirmed for Pool A in Mallow are Kildorrery, Mallow, Millstreet, St. Fanahans and Kilshannig while those involved in Charleville's hosting to Pool B are Charleville, Ballyhea, Newtownshandrum, Buttevant and Milford. Each team features 15 players in games of 10 minutes aside.

Currently in progress are the play-offs to under 13/15 grades with the concluding series down for decision during September.



"Catch me if you Can" Says the Cork Camogie Side! In anticipation of their semi-final clash with Galway, pictured (l to r) are team captain Stephanie Dunlea, Emer Watson, Emer Dillon, and coach John Considine of the Cork Senior Camogie Team at Duds 'n Suds Douglas Street Cork, washing the team kit with their sponsor product, Colour Catcher.

Picture: Daragh Mac Sweeney/Provision

### CAMOGIE All-Ireland Junior semi-final: Down 1-14 Roscommon 0-3

Scorers: Down: M. Mc Poland 1-1, M. Mc Aileen, C. Mc Gorry 0-6 each, C. Mulholland 0-1.

Roscommon: L. Glennon 0-2, N. Coyle 0-1.

DOWN: T. Mc Gowan; C. Mc Gowan, M. Mc Ginn, A. Morgan; K. Murray, P. Breen, D. Kellard; J. Braniff, L. Mc Crickard; C. Mulholland, M. Mc Aileen, C. Mc Gorry; M. Mc Poland, F. Carr, K. Gribben.

Subs: B. Gallagher for K. Gribben (44mins), O. Mc Ginn for F. Carr (54mins).

ROSCOMMON: M. Healy; T. Gibley, C. Kenny, C. Glennon; C. Morris, A. Mc Geaney, C. Moran; D. Kelly, S. Coyle; P. Lennon, L. Glennon, N. Coyle; F. Connell, S. Cooney, C. Cooney.

Subs: N. Mulhern for C. Morris (17mins), C. Rodgers for F. Connell (half time), K. Hopkins for S. Cooney (40mins), O. Hughes for D. Kelly (58mins).

Referee: D. Noble, Dublin.



Milford's Anna Geary, seen here in action against Carrigdhoun in Cork Senior Camogie Championship Final, had a great game for Cork against Wexford. Picture: Neil Danton.

# Rebels back at Croke

Cork 5-09  
Wexford 2-10  
By PJ AHERN  
Camogie All-Ireland semi-final

**CORK** camogie has another big day to savour in Croke Park after the junior side defeated Wexford in a cracking contest in the All-Ireland semi-final.

This is Wexford's second year in a row being defeated at the semi-final stage and their time surely come soon.

Milford's Anna Geary came up trumps once again for Cork, as did Amanda O'Regan and Emer O'Farrell.

Cork were much more sharper from the throw in and got off the mark in the fourth minute through Emer O'Farrell but Wexford hit back and by the thirteenth minute lead by four points to one.

A Rena Buckley free and an Anna Geary score from play narrowed the match to a point.

The game played at a frantic pace throughout was a spectacle

to those who witnessed.

Wexford's Gretta Heffernan, held her nerve to point over from a free for the Slaneysiders last point of the half.

Cork hit a double blow with half time looming. Emer O'Farrell and Anna Geary both hit the net, while O'Farrell added a point to give Cork a comfortable five point lead at half-time.

It was a sucker punch Wexford never really recovered from and Cork managed to maintain the five-point lead throughout the second half.

Anna Geary pointed after two minutes after the restart but it wasn't going Cork's way, Wexford fought tooth and nail throughout the contest.

Goals from the Leacys and Heffernan's point scoring always ensured Wexford had an outside chance.

Cork had goals a plenty in supply with Miriam Deasy and Shelia Burns rattling the Wexford net but the win wasn't secured

until two minutes from time, Sarah O'Donovan getting in on the act.

Cork may have hit the net five times but Wexford's full-back Atkinson made the going tough.

The Rebel County caused a minor shock and can now start preparing for their first final since 2002, when they were defeated by Kilkenny.

**Scorers:** Cork: A Geary, E O'Farrell, 1-2 each, S O'Donovan 1-1, S Burns, M Deasy 1-0 each, A O'Regan 0-2, R Buckley, S O'Donovan 0-1 each.

**Wexford:** M Leacy, U Leacy 1-1 each, G Heffernan 0-4 J Dwyer 0-2, L Codd, C Murray, 0-1 each.

**CORK:** E Clifford; A O'Regan, E O'Riordan, N Goulding; C Foley, R Buckley, M Hegarty; V O'Keefe, V O'Sullivan; S Burns, S O'Donovan, A Geary; E O'Farrell, M Deasy, M Jagoe.

**Subs:** J Browne for C Foley (inj.), M O'Connell for V O'Sullivan, M Holland for M Hegarty, L Bugler for M Jagoe.

**WEXFORD:** E Barnes; M Murray, C Atkinson, K Atkinson; N Lambert, C O'Loughlin, A Moran; R Breen, C Murphy; M Walsh, M Leacy, J Dwyer; G Heffernan, E Quigley, U Leacy.

**Subs:** L Codd for M Walsh.

**Referee:** E Browne (Tipperary).



Ballinhassig, winners of the Regatta Shield at camogie blitz held in association with the Kinsale Regatta Festival, to mark the centenary of the camogie association. Ryan

## Kinsale camogie blitz a success

by Dermot Ryan

KINSALE Regatta Committee joined in the national celebrations of the centenary of camogie with a special competitions during this year's regatta festival.

Teams from Ballinhassig, Ballinascarty, Clonakilty, Courcsey Rovers and Valley Rovers took part in a blitz competition. After a series of closely contested matches, Ballinhassig and Courcsey met to decide the destination of the Regatta Shield, while Valley Rovers and Ballinascarty met in the final of the Plate competition.

In the final Ballinhassig held a 1-1 to 1-0 lead over Courcsey, but the Ballinaspittle side struck back to lead 2-0 to 1-1. Then it was the turn of the Ballinhassig girls to recover their form, with the star of the competition, Aishling O'Brien, scoring two great goals to give them victory with a final score of

3-1 to 2-1.

In the second final Ballinascarty took a 1-0 lead, but Valley Rovers came back in the second half to score two goals without reply to leave the final score 3-0 to 1-0.

All games were keenly contested and the young players showed great skill.

The respective mentors, Martin O'Sullivan of Courcsey and Marion McCarthy, Ballinhassig, holder of eight All-Ireland medals, Joan Ryan, Valley Rovers and Michael and Deirdre Coomey, ensured that their young charges were in top form.

Deirdre Coomey showed her own skills later in the week when she won a Cork County Senior medal with Carrigdhoun in their victory over Milford. The trophies and medals were presented by the Kinsale Mayor, Charles Henderson, who complimented the players for their skillful and sporting displays, with special praise for the organiser of the competition, Inspector Con Cadogan.

# Kilnamona's camogie crown

After a thrilling battle with Newmarket-on-Fergus at Cusack Park last Sunday, the Mid-Clare girls regained the title they last held in 1999.

**Kilnamona 1-10**  
**Newmarket-on-Fergus 0-10**  
**(aet)**

THEY are two teams that have been to the forefront of Clare camogie for the past decade, so it was appropriate that holders Newmarket and former kingpins Kilnamona should serve up an enthralling county final at Cusack Park last Sunday.

The game was a fitting showpiece of Clare camogie and, so evenly matched were the teams, Newmarket who were chasing a four in-a-row and Kilnamona going for their second senior title, that a period of extra time was required to finally resolve the issue.

It was a very exciting match all through with Newmarket dominating play in the opening half. Moira McMahon put the Blues in front with a point in the second minute, followed by another from captain Sinead Cullinan two minutes later.

Kilnamona, at this stage, were struggling to shackle Cullinan, a daughter of the legendary Jimmy "Puddin'" Cullinan, who led her team mates in a relentless assault on the Kilnamona goals. She pointed again from play before Kilnamona's Patricia Moloney managed to get her side off the mark with a point.

However, it was the holders who continued to control the contest and managed to tag on three more points, again Cullinan showing the way forward. Edel Arthur and Sinead Ryan followed their captain's lead by getting in on the scoring act to leave them 0-6 to 0-2 in front at the break.

A rejuvenated Kilnamona took to the field in the second half and proceeded to turn things around big time, winning ball in midfield and creating scoring chances.

County player Catherine O'Loughlin scored a point for Kilnamona but Newmarket were not willing to let a fourth successive county title slip away. Again it was the inspirational Cullinan, who worked tirelessly throughout the game, that extended their advantage before Corina Rosengrave responded with a point for Kilnamona.

Arthur contributed two more points to give Newmarket a five point advantage midway through the half. Kilnamona captain Anne Keane lead her

troops as she tirelessly cleared ball from the half back line. A point from Fiona Lafferty reduced the deficit to four points before an attack on the Kilnamona goalmouth saw Siobhan Commene pull off a great save to stop Newmarket adding a goal to their tally.

With the minutes ticking away on the clock Kilnamona raised their game to a new level and an opportunistic goal from Ailish Cullinan brought them to within a point of the holders. Moments later Catherine O'Loughlin held her nerve to point a free and force the game into extra time.

As the teams took to the field for extra time, the force was with Kilnamona. O'Loughlin scored the only point in the first period of extra time and Kilnamona's Patricia Ryan was absolutely rock solid in defence as was captain Anne Keane - their efforts denied Newmarket the opportunity to score.

O'Loughlin and Moloney both pointed in the second interval of extra time giving Kilnamona a three point cushion at the end and a title they last held in 1999.

**Kilnamona squad:** Siobhan Commene, Bernadette Mullins, Patricia Ryan, Ciara Cullinan, Niamh Commene, Anne Keane (capt), Deirdre Hegarty, Siobhan Lafferty, Marie O'Halloran, Fiona Lafferty, Patricia Moloney, Stephanie Taaffe, Ailish Cullinan, Catherine O'Loughlin, Jacinta O'Grady, Corina Rosengrave, Caroline Moloney, Deirdre Griffin, Edel O'Brien, Amanda Perrill, Caitriona Power, Ann Molohan.

**Newmarket-on-Fergus squad:** Patricia O'Grady, Mary Higgins, Aileen Kilmartin, Elaine McMahon, Jane O'Leary, Geraldine O'Grady, Catriona McMahon, Sinead Cullinan (capt), Marie O'Looney, Aoife Ryan, Moira McMahon, Sharon McMahon, Deirdre Cassidy, Edel Arthur, Sinead Ryan, Siobhan O'Driscoll, Hazel McMahon, Maria Hannon, Aimee McInerney, Iris Kaiser, Claire Arthur, Lisa Fahy, Ruth Kaiser, Aisling Garry, Mimi Flynn.

**Referee:** Henry Kerins, Sixmilebridge.



**ABOVE:** Aileen Kilmartin of Newmarket-on-Fergus goes for a dropping ball during the senior camogie championship final at Cusack Park on Sunday.  
Photograph by Eamon Ward



**RIGHT:** Patricia Moloney gets her shot in despite the efforts of Geraldine O'Grady during the camogie final at Cusack Park on Sunday.  
Photograph by Eamon Ward

**Kilmaley  
Bodyke**

**1-10  
1-03**

AN outstanding individual display by Claire McMahon propelled Kilmaley to victory over Bodyke and to a third Clare intermediate camogie title at the weekend.

This was a very exciting contest with Kilmaley's first half dominance providing the platform for the victory.

Bodyke struggled to cope with the skill and flair of McMahon who was a constant menace and by the break she had contributed a goal and six points to Kilmaley's cause.

County player, Denise Lynch was also a colossus at centre back while the powerful play of Siobhan

White gave Kilmaley a vital edge at midfield. Emma O'Driscoll also got in on the scoring act and pointed to give them a 1-7 to 0-2 interval lead.

Precious little was seen of Bodyke as an attacking force in that opening half and from a few sporadic attacks Pauline O'Brien managed to strike over two points.

On the changeover, the story was different as Bodyke came much more into the game. They applied plenty of pressure but were guilty of missing several scoreable chances while Kilmaley's goalkeeper, Dymna Killeen responded magnificently when pressed into action.

Ruth Griffin engineered a goal while Pauline O'Brien added a point. However, it was a poor return for the possession Bodyke enjoyed. During this period, Orla Slattery was outstanding for Bodyke at cen-

tre back but Bodyke were left to rue the fact that their forward line didn't capitalise on their chances.

Emma O'Driscoll and Claire McMahon, twice, pointed to ensure the title went to Kilmaley for the first time since 1995. It was a deserved victory if not for the fact that they made more of their possession over the hour.

While Claire McMahon was the star of the show she got good support from Edel McDonald, Marie Hehir, Emma O'Driscoll, Edel Maher and Helen McMahon.

For Bodyke Pauline Rochford, Louise Hayes and veteran Pauline O'Brien fought the good fight.

After the game, County Camogie Board vice-chairman, Pat Madden presented the cup with winning captain, Siobhan White.

**Kilmaley:** Dymna Killeen, Ann Leyden, Marie Hehir, Grace Ryan, Edel McDonnell, Denise Luncy, Aine O'Sullivan, Siobhan White, capt., Aida Griffey, Helen McMahon, Claire McMahon (1-8), Edel Griffey, Edel Maher, Emma O'Driscoll (0-2), Rachael Maher.  
**Subs:** Michelle O'Looney, Emily Lafferty, Michelle Frawley and Trish O'Brien.

**Bodyke:** Yvonne Hogan, Catherine McNamara, Orla Slattery, Sandra Counihan, Ann Marie Carey, Orla Slattery, Simone Slattery, Pauline Rochford, Barbara Buke, Ann Marie Fitzgerald, Michelle McNamara, Louise Hayes, Lorraine Lynch, Pauline O'Brien (0-3), Ruth Griffin (1-0).

**Subs:** Niamh Wiley, Edel McNamara, Ciara Walsh, Claire Madden, Michelle Boland, Deirdre Moloney,

Brid Cooney and Edel O'Grady.  
**Referee:** Joe O'Donnell.

**Broadford  
Clooney**

**1-10  
1-06**

Broadford, better balanced throughout the field, were deserving winners of the intermediate shield final at Cusack Park on Sunday.

The accuracy of Eimear Hickey from frees and the opportunistic play of Danielle Sheedy (1-2) at corner forward were crucial in moulding the win.

Rachael Lynch's contribution of five points was one less than that of Eimear Hickey while Tricia Gallagher was Clooney's goal scorer.

**Broadford:** Maureen Casey, Grainne Gunning, Deirdre Boland, Eimear Gunning, Catherine Cor-

oran, Ann Marie McMahon, Jennifer Moloney, Sarah Skehan, Gillina Durack, Nicola Marsh Chaplin, Eimear Hickey, Patricia Moloney, Danielle Sheedy, Siobhan Kiniry, Regina Durack.

**Subs:** Veronica Doyle, Sinead Taylor, Eibhlin Bowler, Deirdre Hayes, Sarah Doyle, Marie Corcoran, Ciara Skehan, Collette Hickey, Ailish Johnston and Karen O'Connor.

**Clooney:** Caroline Culligan, Amy Ryan, Sarah Kate Ryan, Christine Collieran, Amy Collieran, Imelda Collieran, Emma O'Sullivan, Sile Daffy, Sinead Tierney, Theresa Tierney, Gemma Hassett, Emily Sheehan, Edel McMahon, Rachael Lynch, Caroline Lynch.

**Subs:** Nicola Walshe, Paula Walshe, Laura Conheady, Trina Gallagher, Marie Begley, Jane Steward.



**Na Piarasigh's Lisa Burns kicks the ball on as Dungourney's Claire Murphy attempts to block in the O'Leary Brothers Builders Junior B Camogie championship game last night.**

Picture: Neil Danton

# Dungourney brave elements to win

**Dungourney  
Na Piarasigh**

**3-06  
1-03**

**By PJ AHERN**  
Junior B camogie

**DUNGOURNEY** adapted to the poor conditions better than Na Piarasigh to advance to the next round of the O'Leary Brothers Builders Junior B camogie championship last night.

Atrocious weather conditions had made the going tough for both sides at Na Piarasigh's GAA grounds. Miniature lakes had formed in the goalmouths, which were nearly big enough for Irish Olympic rowers to train in.

Both sides must be commended for producing a good brand of skillful and impressive camogie.

The result was in doubt up until the last ten minutes of this low-scoring contest.

Dungourney hit three points in the first half while Na Piarasigh were held scoreless.

They made a match of it in the second half when they pulled

level after two minutes after the restart.

Despite the poor conditions, the rain had halted just as the sliotar was thrown in.

What followed was to be a very entertaining contest, with both sides dying for every ball.

Ella Ryan opened the scoring after approximately ten minutes of play.

Cliona McGovern hand passed to Johanna Lane, her shot dropped under the crossbar but keeper Deirdre O'Shea was happy to bat it out to safety.

Ryan added to her point before McGovern got Dungourney's first from play.

Na Piarasigh only had half chances for the entire first half and would remain scoreless due to good defending by Evelyn Collins.

Dungourney were awarded a penalty but the keeper pulled out a good stop to deny Nicola Nagle.

Within two minutes of the restart, Patricia Kearney found the net to level the match.

Dungourney goaled two minutes later, Brid Cullinane scoring to cancel out Na Piarasigh's breakthrough.

The match was nicely poised and became a very intriguing contest as Na Piarasigh chased harder.

Patricia Kearney pointed again before Ronayne scored a second goal to put Dungourney into pole position.

Kearney pointed one more following good work.

Halfway through the second half, rain began to fall on the players to add extra flavour to the match.

Christine McCarthy, Lisa Burns and Amy Keating all fought bravely and gave their all.

Allen pointed to prove not only Patricia Kearney was blessed with the scoring touch.

Ella Ryan pointed to put four between the sides before Ronayne buried the keeper to kill off the

contest.

Accurate shooting was made hard by the tough conditions and good defending. But Ryan had plenty of accuracy when she hit her long-range free straight between the posts.

Na Piarasigh unleashed a wave of pressure on Dungourney but the defence had tightened up and defended in numbers.

Defiant defending kept the city side at bay, leaving Motherway to seal the win with a point in injury time.

**Scorers for Dungourney:** E. Ronayne 2-0, E. Ryan 0-4, M. Neesh 1-0, C. McGovern and C. Motherway 0-1 each.

**Na Piarasigh:** P. Kearney 1-2, C. Allen 0-1.

**DUNGOURNEY:** J. O'Donovan, K. O'Sullivan, M. O'Riordan, N. Nagle, C. Murphy, A. Hennessy, E. Collins, E. Ryan, S. Rohan, C. McGovern, C. Motherway, J. Lane, M. Beech, E. Ronayne B. Cullinane.

**NA PIARASIGH:** D. O'Shea, T. Lynch, C. McCarthy, M. Martin, A. Murphy, P. Kearney, C. Kearney, L. Burns, L. Crowley, C. Allen, T. McCarthy, C. Lynch, A. Keating, E. O'Connell, M. Sheehan.

**Referee:** Collette O'Brien (St Finbar's).

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# Semi's down for decision



Maire Ui Scolai looks ahead to two fantastic semi-finals as the Foras na Gaeilge All-Ireland championship reaches the concluding stages.

Limerick's fine full-back and 2004 captain Rose Collins is of the opinion that Wexford "will very much put it up to Tipperary" in the Foras na Gaeilge championship semi-final which goes ahead in Nowlan Park alongside the second semi-final between Galway and the 2002 All-Ireland champions Cork.

## GREAT BOOST.....

Cumann Camógaíochta na nGael were given a great boost earlier this year when RTE announced that these games would be televised live for the very first time. Limerick's captain, who while her county did not enjoy the season they had last year did herself put in some brilliant performances at full-back.

She is full of praise for Wexford: "They have put in a great amount of work this year and it is really showing and although they failed to beat Cork in the third round of the championship, never the less they are still there to meet Tipperary again and I expect it to be a great match with Tipperary probably edging it out in the end."

When these two sides met in the League final it was Tipperary who were victorious but the very fact that Wexford reached a final will stand to them experience wise and they will relish the thought of playing the Premier County again. Both sides have many household names such as Wexford's Áine Codd who has given great service to the county. Kate Kelly, captain Mary Leacy, daughter of Margaret O'Leary Leacy who was on the National and

Leinster teams of the century. Mary will also be assisted by Orla Hernon who recently got married and is the only link between this team and the '94 side who were the last Slaney side to appear in Páirc an Chrócaigh.

However, it will not be easy against the 2003 Foras na Gaeilge champions, National League champions and Munster champions of 2002 and 2003, Tipperary would love to make it a double in centenary year, something they have not achieved ever before. Under manager Raymie Ryan they have the calibre of player to do it. From goal-keeper out they look very strong and they also possess strong subs.

## AN POST HONOUR CENTENARY....

Recently An Post issued two postage stamps in honour of the centenary and they depict the four counties with the greatest number of All-Ireland senior titles. They are: Dublin (26), Cork (20), Kilkenny (12) and Antrim (6).

Sadly, of the four counties mentioned Corcaigh is the only county left in the 2004 championship race. They take on Galway as they attempt to make it title number twenty-one this year. When these two sides met in last year's encounter at the same stage of the competition the Rebels white-washed the Tribeswomen and it is one that Galway folk do not wish to be reminded of. Since then Galway have made changes and although Rome was never built in a day, they have improved a lot since that day in Cusack Park, Ennis.

With a new manager, Noel Finn and trainer Gerry Kearney, they will certainly give the 2002 All-Ireland champions a game of it. Several young players have come through from their junior All-Ireland success of last year such as Ann-Marie Hayes, sister of senior hurler David, Emma Kilkelly and goal-keeper Susan Eamer. If they have the hunger and the heart they will give Cork a fright but on this occasion may not have enough experience to overcome the Rebels. While, Galway have a relatively young team, their captain Martina Carr (nee Haverty) is the only link between their '96 All-Ireland win and the present team. She will have her charges well motivated.

However, Cork who are chasing their twenty-first All-Ireland this year will be wary of Galway and will take no chances. According to Limerick's captain Rose Collins: "Cork, I think will have too much experience for Galway, but I feel it will not be a repeat of last year's semi-final display. Cork's goal-keeper Aoife Murray will make life difficult for Galway, she is having a great season and she can throw her body at any ball coming her way," commented Rose Collins who has seen a lot of these matches this season.

## GALWAY MINORS TAKE FIRST ALL-IRELAND CROWN OF THE YEAR....

The pressure will be on the Galway seniors following their minor's All-Ireland title success recently over Kilkenny, 3-16 to 2-6. Not since 2000 had Galway lifted the Corn Tailteann and in this year's All-Ireland Minor Final they showed they were very eager to overcome the disappointment of the previous two All-Ireland finals when they stunned Kilkenny with two goals within six minutes of the start of the final.

Noreen Coen and full-forward Martina Conroy paved the way for the Tribeswomen but the young Kittens who were seeking their first title since 1991 were quick to respond and were on the score board equally as fast with a Colette Dormer point. A goal four minutes from the end of the first half

from Lucinda Gahan for the kittens left only two points in it. Galway 2-4, Kilkenny 1-5.

However, a third Galway goal just seven minutes after the restart from Noreen Coen indicated Galway's intent and although Kilkenny goaled again at the midway stage from Colette Dormer it was not enough to deny Galway their ninth title.

In goal -keeper Stephanie Gannon they had a real match winner and she richly deserved her player of the match award.

## ANTRIM TAKE MINOR 'B' TITLE.....

Appearing in their first All-Ireland Minor 'B' Final both Antrim and Roscommon served an entertaining curtain raiser with the Saffrons extra experience showing on the day, Antrim 1-9 Roscommon 0-3.

Player of the match went to Antrim's right corner-forward Raquel Mc Carry who with her full-back Roisin O'Boyle had a very good game. However, one could not omit Roscommon's excellent goal-keeper Roisin Connaughton who denied the Saffrons on several occasions.

As is the case with all the All-Ireland finals this year all players winners and runners up receive special centenary medals sponsored by MMI.

## ALL-IRELAND FINALS:

All-members are reminded that September 19th is the Foras na Gaeilge All-Ireland final as well as the junior All-Ireland final and every school and club need to have bus loads there to celebrate what will be a great day. Children under twelve are free on the day but passes must be obtained before hand by contacting: info@camogie.ie or by calling: 01 8364619. See you there!

## FIXTURES:

Aug. 21st  
Nowlan Park, Kilkenny:  
Foras na Gaeilge All-Ireland championship semi-finals:  
Cork v Galway, 1-00pm  
Tipperary v Wexford, 2.25pm



Derek Kickham, Commercial Director of An Post, Carla Doherty (Antrim), Eimear Brannigan (Dublin), Marie O'Connor (Kilkenny), Anna Geary (Cork) and Miriam Uí Cheallacháin, Uachtarán Cumann Camógaíochta na nGael at the launch of the new stamps



Two stamps commemorating the centenary of Cumann Camógaíochta na nGael are on sale at major post offices throughout the country. The 48c stamps show players in the original and modern playing kit and from Antrim, Cork, Dublin and Kilkenny - counties which have been significant in the growth and development of this most skilful of women's field games

AUGUST 2004



Craobhchomórtas na hÉireann sa Chamógaíocht  
faoi urraíocht ag Foras na Gaeilge  
Cluichí Leath-Cheannais

# Foras na Gaeilge Senior All-Ireland Camogie Championship Semi-Finals

1.00 pm - An Ghaillimh v Corcaigh

2.25 pm - Tiobraid Árann v Loch Garman

Nowlan Park, Cill Chainnigh, 21-08-2004

CEAD ISTEACH

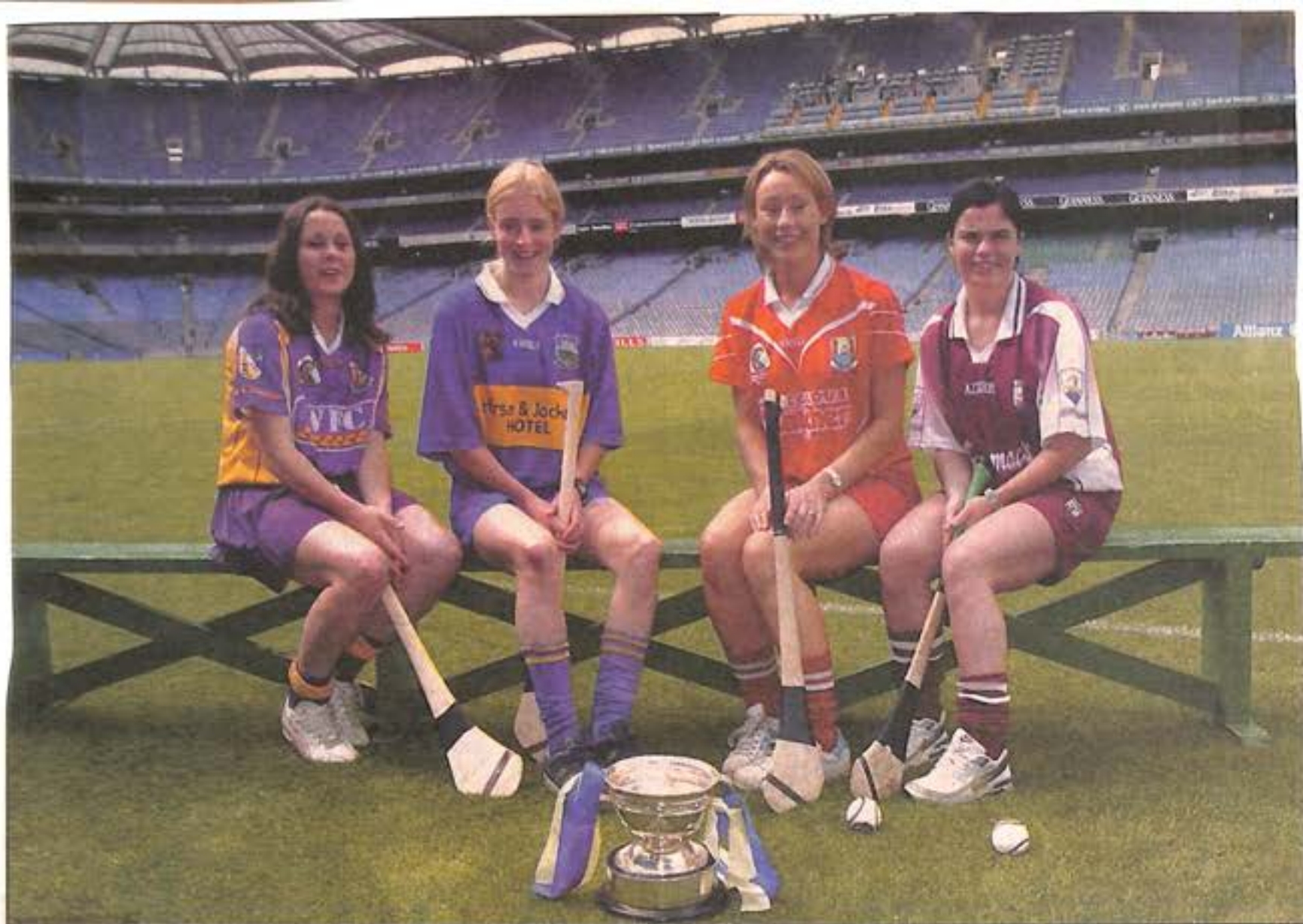
Daoine Fásta - Adults: €10

Scoláirí/Daoine aosta - Students/OAPs: €5

Faoi 14 - Under 14: Saor in aisce/Free of charge

PICTURE CREDITS: Jennifer O'Leary (Cork) by "Irish Examiner". Áine Codd (Wexford) by Ger Hore, "People Newspapers".





Wexford captain Mary Leacy, Tipperary captain Joanne Ryan, Cork captain Stephanie Dunlea and Galway captain Martina Carr with the O'Duffy Cup at Croke Park ahead of Saturday's All-Ireland camogie semi-finals between Wexford and Tipperary and Cork and Galway in Nowlan Park, Kilkenny. Picture: Damien Eagar

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## Juniors through to All-Ireland Final

THERE was a good start to the weekend for Cork followers with the junior team booking their place in Croke Park by virtue of their 4-9 to 2-10 victory over a fancied Wexford side on Saturday last. Having lost out at the same stage last season the home side were determined to go one better this time out.

Wexford had opened up a four point advantage by the mid way stage but two goals before the interval from Emer O'Farrell and Anna Geary sent Cork to the dressing room with five points to spare.

A close second half saw Cork hold their advantage despite strong Wexford pressure, goals from Una and Mary Lacey were answered by Corks Miriam Deasy and Sile Burns but it was Sarah O'Donovan's goal two minutes from full time that finally confirmed Corks place in the final. Many of the panel were there in 2002 when Kilkenny edged out Cork in a thriller now the time has come to avenge that defeat but with

Down recording a 1-13 to 0-3 victory over Roscommon, Cork will not have it easy.

## SENIORS AIM FOR FINAL SPOT

Thoughts now turn to Nolan Park as the seniors now aim to join the juniors in the centenary finals.

Galway provide the opposition on Saturday next in the first game of a double header at 1p.m while the second game will see All-Ireland champions Tipperary take on Wexford at 2.25p.m.

It is a repeat of last season's semi-final as Galway strive to emulate their minors who already have an All Ireland title under their belt.

Cork topped their section of the preliminary stages of the championship recording victories over Limerick, and Wexford while receiving a walk over from Derry.

Galway were runners up in a group that contained All-Ireland champions Tipperary, Kilkenny and Antrim, losing just once to Tipp.

Already this year the sides have met in the opening game of the national league with Cork recording a comfortable 3-10 to 0-7 victory but as is well known championship is so different.

Despite failing to make it to the closing stages of the national league and losing to Tipperary in the provincial final Cork are going well and the back room team are pleased with their charges and are confidently looking ahead to Saturday's clash.

Preparations have been steadily built up and with the senior county championship final played two weeks ago it has given the girls plenty of uninterrupted training time.

Stephanie Dunlea captains the team for a second year in a row and she will be totally focused on atoning for the disappointments of losing out in last year's final.

Emer Dillon, Gemma O'Connor and Vivienne Harris are amongst the experienced players in the side while Newtownshandrum's Paula O'Connor will be aiming to make it a family double and join brothers Ben and Jerry in Croke Park.

Catriona Foley had to retire injured in last Saturday's junior semi-final with a knee injury and certainly the Rockban player is a big loss to Cork.

Noel Finn is coach to the Galway side who lost out at the same stage last year to Cork and now they feel the time may have come to reverse that result.

Galway took the All-Ireland Junior title in 2003 and are now building on that result.

They will look to Therese Maher, Ann Marie Hayes, Ashling Connolly, Breda Hanney and Lourda Kavanagh to guide their fortunes and going into the contest as underdogs is a title that will suit them. Cork will need to be at their best to hold off a determined Galway but knowing the shrewdness of John Considine and his selectors they are well prepared for the task ahead.

Followers are urged to travel to Nolan Park and lend support in what is a historic year for the game.

## CamogieChat

With Mary Newman



Collette Desmond of Newcestown looks back on the closing challenge from Amanda Murphy of Ballygarvan during the Senior B camogie semi-final match in Brinny. Picture: Howard Crowley

## Local Championship action continues

AN action packed weekend of junior championship action with no fewer than five games down for decision on Sunday.

The O'Leary Brothers Junior B championship has Ballinora travelling to Clonakilty for a twelve noon start, at the same time Kildorrey play hosts to last year league champions Brian Dillon's.

It's an 11am start for Ballyhea and Delaney's in Ballyhea while Buttevant

make the journey to Blackrock for a twelve o'clock throw in, while in the Junior A championship Douglas and Watergrashill are also action on Sunday.

The focus returns to the O'Leary Brothers Senior B championship with the second semi final the all Mid-Cork clash between Eire Og and Aghbullogue on Tuesday evening in Carrigadrohid at 7p.m. is sure to attract a lot of interest.

# Cork senior side aiming for Leaside double

CAMOGIE followers will travel to Nolan Park on Saturday next hoping to make it a Leaside double as the county senior side goes in quest of a place in the Centenary All Ireland final on September 19 in Croke Park.

Last weekend the county junior team turned in a splendid display, defeating a fancied Wexford in a thrilling semi-final to ensure the red and white flags will fly high come final day.

Galway stand between John Considine side and a historic final appearance, and with the All Ireland minor title already safely tucked away the Connacht king pins will be leaving no stoned unturned to an-

nex another title.

Cork topped their section of the preliminary stages of the championship recording victories over Limerick and Wexford, while receiving a walk over from Derry. Galway were runners-up in a group that contained All Ireland champions Tipperary, Kilkenny and Antrim, defeating Kilkenny and Antrim and losing out to Tipp.

Already this year the sides have met in the opening game of the national league with Cork recording a comfortable 3-10 to 0-7 victory, but that was way back in February and a lot of action has taken place since.

In their games to date Cork have showed steady improvement, and

despite failing to make it to the closing stages of the national league and losing out to Tipperary in the provincial final, the Cork back room team are pleased with their charges.

Stephanie Dunlea captains the team for a second year in a row and she will be totally focused on atoning for the disappointments of losing out in last year's final. Joanne O'Callaghan, Jennifer O'Leary and Vivienne Harris are amongst the experienced players in the side, while youngsters Emer Watson and Breige Corkery have slotted in well.

Catriona Foley had to retire injured in last Saturday's junior semi-final with a knee injury and certainly the Rockban player would be

a big loss to Cork if not fit.

Noel Finn is coach to the Galway side who lost out at the same stages last year to Cork and now they feel the time may have come to reverse that result.

Galway were crowned All Ireland Junior champions in 2003 and are building on that result significantly under the guidance of Finn. Ashling Connolly, Orla Kilkenny Sandra Tannion and Lourda Kavanagh are experienced campaigners and they will not be unduly worried going into the contest with the tag of underdogs.

Cork will need to be at their best to hold off a young determined Galway and they would do well to be

reminded of a day in 1996 when a young Galway side under the guidance of a new management structure upset the odd and Cork's ambitions of three in a row.

The second semi-final takes place at 2.30pm when All Ireland champions Tipperary will be severely tested by a strong Wexford. Surprisingly the Tipp county final only took place on Saturday last and that will not have helped preparations. Wexford are steadily improving, but the champions will be expected to hold out.

Followers are urged to travel to Nolan Park and lend support in what is an historic year for the game

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Linda Mellerick

**NOWLAN PARK, Kilkenny,** is the venue on Saturday for the Centenary All-Ireland senior camogie semi-finals.

A double header sees Cork take on Galway at 1pm and Tipperary clash with Wexford at 2.30.

Both games are live on RTE.

With the Cork juniors already through to the final on September 19 the seniors will be hoping to make it a Leaside double on All-Ireland final day.

Cork and Galway met at the same stage last year, with the Rebels running out comprehensive winners against a Galway team that showed no heart, hunger or indeed method to their play on the day.

The game stood Cork no real standing for the All-Ireland final.

Twelve months on Galway's approach is different.

Winners of the junior national league and All-Ireland in 2003, coach Noel Finn has taken the step up and last February took over the management of the senior squad.

It won't be so easy this time around for Cork.

Noel looks upon last year as 'disastrous' where the senior team was concerned.

"Last year was crazy. We were appalling. Our hurling, teamwork, communication on the field, everything was wrong.

"New ideas, a new approach sometimes helps. We've put in a huge effort for this. We've prepared well, we're fired up and it's all down to the players now."

Eight of that victorious junior team have made the move to senior level with Noel. They are enthusiastic and used to winning.

Martina Harkin and Aine Hillary are the only two remaining players from the 1996 team which caused a huge upset when they defeated Cork in the All-Ireland final.

Cork were hot favourites but totally underestimated their opponents and paid the price.

Cork and Galway last met in the National League last February, with Cork emerging victorious on a scoreline of 3-10 to 0-7.

Both teams at that stage had little or no training done so the result will have little bearing on tomorrow's encounter.

Cork fielded without five or six of their regular starting 15 on the day and Galway played without nine of their regulars.

It's six months down the line and its championship.

Cork have named their starting

# Cork wary of Galway threat



Getting ready for Sunday's semi-final are (l to r) Emer Dillon, Emer Watson and captain Stephanie Dunlea at Duds On Suds Douglas Street Cork, washing the team kit with sponsor's product, Colour Catcher. Picture: Provision

line-up and it shows two changes from their quarter-final win over Wexford.

Rachel Moloney and Emer Dillon come in place of Breige Corkery and Sheila Burns in the half forward line.

The strong play of Dillon and the experience of Moloney should boost a young forward line.

Aoife Murray lines out in goal, with Joanne O'Callaghan, Rosalie Holland and captain Stephanie Dunlea protecting her.

Outside are Paula O'Connor, Mary O'Connor and Rena Buckley.

Gemma O'Connor and Vivienne Harris fill the midfield positions.

Jenny O'Leary is the third member of the half forward line and the inside trio are Elaine Burke, Emer Watson and Collette Desmond.

Coach John Considine is aware of the challenge ahead and knows that Cork will need to be at their best to overcome Galway.

"No matter what people say, last year's comprehensive victory is still bound to be at the back of the players' minds. This game will be different. We need to be focused and not panic if things go against us,"

said Considine

Cork will enter this game as favourites but every team hates that 'tag'. Galway will love the underdog label.

Everyone expects them to be beaten. They believe they can win. They do and they're in an All-Ireland final. Its enough to drive any team on.

In the other semi-final Tipperary will have their hands full against a dogged, determined Wexford side. Tipp will be tested but expect them to pull away and advance to their sixth senior final in-a-row.

## Galway looking to salvage pride

by Therese O'Callaghan

**TOMORROW'S** Foras na Gaeilge All-Ireland senior camogie semi-final sees Galway lining up against Cork in the first of a double header at Nowlan Park (1pm).

Regaining much needed self-esteem is top of the agenda for the women in maroon and white — 12 months ago they were humiliated by the Rebels.

So, it has been a long road back, aided in no small way by an influx from their junior 2003 All-Ireland winning team and a change in management. However, this week one of their leading lights, Therese Maher, picked up an injury. Initially it was feared the Shamrocks player had broken her wrist, but pending a late fitness test she is hopeful of taking her place as a sub.

Maher admits last year's nightmare season still comes back to haunt her:

"It just wasn't happening for us back then, so the changes were made. The team is going well this year. Eight of

**Tipperary manager Raymie Ryan, left, Cork manager John Considine, centre, and Galway boss Noel Finn at Croke Park.** Picture: Sportfile



the starting 15 are from last year's junior team so they will be going into the unknown and should hold no fear. We are not even thinking about Cork, it is all about putting badly needed pride back into the Galway jersey."

Undoubtedly, Cork will be favourites. Despite an earlier than expected exit in the league, at semi-final stage, the conveyor belt is always throwing up plenty of new talent. Subsequently, there are a few senior championship debutantes.

Manager John Considine said: "We used the league to introduce players who were at the edge of the team and it worked very well for us. We constantly put out different selections and

by the Munster final had a more settled look. Tomorrow's 15 is not too dissimilar from the provincial final."

The newcomers include goalkeeper Aoife Murray, Rosalie Holland at full-back, wing-back Rena Buckley, and Emer Watson at full-forward.

Denise Cronin and Fiona O'Driscoll both announced their inter-county retirements this year.

**CORK:** A Murray; J O'Callaghan, R Holland, S Dunlea (capt); P O'Connor, M O'Connor, R Buckley; V Harris, G O'Connor, R Moloney, E Dillon, J O'Leary; E Burke, E Watson, C Desmond.

**GALWAY:** S Eamer; M Harkin Carr (capt); S Cahalan, L Flynn; L Lally, A Kelly, S Keane; A Lynskey, C Glennon; O Kilkenny, B Hanney, A Hillary; L Kavanagh, A M Hayes, C Kelly.

## Tipp to face stern test

by Therese O'Callaghan

**ALL-IRELAND** champions Tipperary put their title on the line in the second of the Foras na Gaeilge senior semi-finals at Nowlan Park tomorrow (2.25pm) when they face up to new kids on the block Wexford.

While the Slaneysiders are relative novices, they've been knocking on the door for some time and eventually came up with the winning formula after a magnificent league run.

That final was back in May and they will take much confidence from the fare they served up to Tipperary, losing by a mere four points and can justifiably travel over the border with a Tipperary ambush in mind.

Aine Codd admits to enjoying her best season ever with the purple and gold. "I travel down from Naas for training and it is always full of variety. We looked back on the video of the league final this week and realised just how near we came to Tipp."

"We are delighted to be involved in the last four of the championship and are looking forward to giving a very good account of ourselves."

Codd knows too that if Wexford are to survive they will need another mammoth performance from all 15. There is a surprise call up at corner forward for Una Lacey from the Oulart-the-Ballagh club. Her sister, Mary, captains the team from centre-back. The richly talented Coláiste Brid student is carrying a knee injury but is expected to fulfil her role.

Tipp manager Raymie Ryan rubbished the idea that this will be a straightforward exercise.

After winning four out of the last five All-Irelands, the blue and gold know only too well as the years roll on titles will be harder to come by.

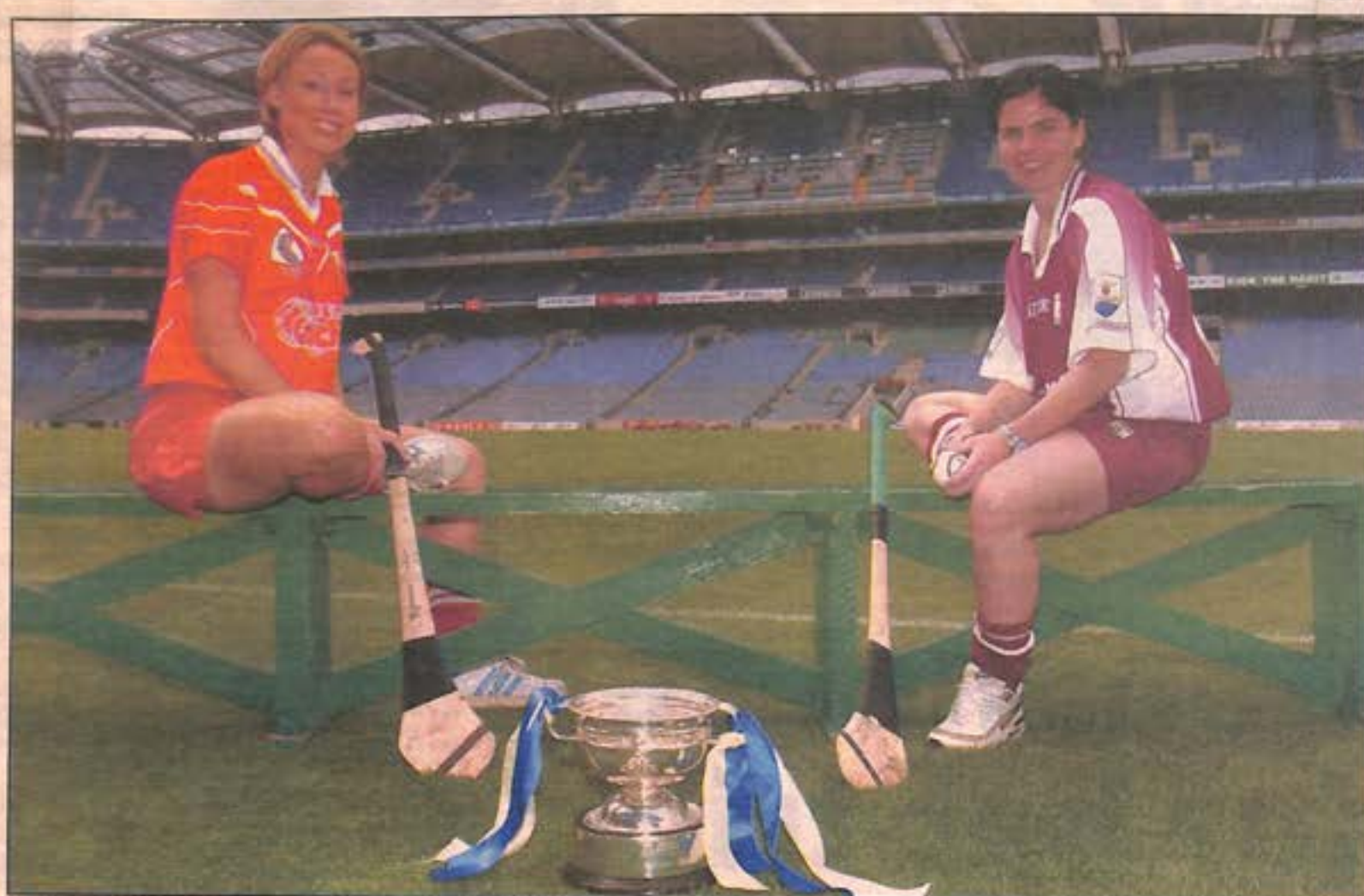
However, they are still a class act, a fact epitomised by retaining 13 players from their All-Ireland lineup in 2003 — Claire Madden is unavailable and captain Joanne Ryan is listed among the substitutes.

**TIPPERARY:** J Delaney; S Kelly, U O'Dwyer, J Kirwan; S Nealon, C Gaynor, T Maher; A McDermott, P Fogarty; N Kennedy, E Hayden, C Grogan; E McDonnell, D Hughes, J Horan.

**WEXFORD:** M Darcy; A Moran, C O'Loughlin, C O'Connor; R Breen, M Lacey (capt), A Codd; C Murphy, K Kelly; O Hernan, A O'Connor, M O'Leary; U Lacey, M Hearn, L Holohan.

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Cork captain Stephane Dunlea, left and Galway captain Martina Carr will do battle in today's All-Ireland semi-final at Croke Park.

Picture: Sportsfile

# Losing semi is a bitter pill

AN ALL-IRELAND semi-final is often the most frustrating of games to play in.

A full year's training behind you, one hour away from an All-Ireland final; and yet should you lose you have nothing.

You have nothing if you lose the final either, and the pain of losing that is far greater than the pain of losing a semi-final — but you're there, and on the day it's 50/50.

Nothing more or nothing less. Over the next four weeks or so, all the experts will try to predict this year's All-Ireland hurling winner.

Everything will be taken into consideration — individuals, teamwork, hunger, work rate, defences, forwards, midfielders, etc.

But at the end of the day, it is whoever performs best and makes the most of their limited chances over the 70 minutes.

At this level very little separates teams. What factors a team may lack is often made up for with some other attribute.

Cork and Galway meet today in the All-Ireland Senior Camogie semi-final. The game is live on RTE from 1pm.

By the time you read this we will



Linda Mellerick

hopefully be through to the final for the third year in a row.

I expect we will once we don't take our opponents for granted.

Tipperary and Wexford play in the other semi, again shown live after the Cork game, and while Wexford should give a good account of themselves I expect the All-Ireland Champions to pull away and reach their sixth final in a row.

Tipp must be tired at this stage and I wonder if the same hunger is in them. Even if it's not evident today, the red jersey will certainly bring it out in them.

Tipp are by no means an old team but to me actual age is not the issue when it comes to deciding whether a player is past it or not.

It has more to do with the length of time a player has been playing at the top level and the demands placed upon them.

Reaching finals year after year means continuous training year after year with little or no break.

Some players are finished by 29

or 30. Just tired and completely burnt out.

Many a laugh I had this summer and last, listening to analysts discuss players. When a player in their 30s plays poorly they're considered finished, an embarrassment, hasn't got the legs, etc.

Two weeks later they'll come out and play a blinder, their county will win and all of a sudden 'You can't beat experience'!

I'm absolutely thrilled that Cork are through to the hurling final as are all Cork followers I'm sure.

I hope that the senior camogie team will also make it to the final and we have double success.

Our junior team are already there thanks to their impressive win over Wexford last Saturday.

Without doubt, with the hurlers out on the 12th and the camogie players out on the 19th it is going to affect the crowd travelling to the girls' final.

It is an expensive day out and to expect families to make the journey two weeks in a row is asking a lot.

But many will not get tickets for the hurling final and I would ask all those who don't to consider making the journey the following week and support the girls.

Believe me, all the camogie play-

ers will be at the hurling final urging the guys on, and they deserve the same encouragement and loyalty in their quest for All-Ireland glory also.

With both semi-finals being shown live today, I hope they provide us with good games. Last year's semis were a whitewash.

This is fine when a hurling game goes that way, like last Sunday, but with only the All-Ireland camogie final being televised up to now and the general public seeing very little of the sport, it is important that while trying to raise the awareness and image of the game what they do see is worth watching.

Because of the fact that it is our Centenary year, Cumann Camogalochta Na nGael have decided to allow everyone under the age of 16 free into Croke Park for the All-Ireland.

This is a great initiative to encourage more to travel to the final and get involved in the sport.

The schools are back the week after next and it would be great if their first outing of the year was a trip to the camogie finals.

The price of the bus and a little pocket money is all they need and it would without doubt be a day to remember for them.





## Corcaigh

Dearg agus Bán

1  
**Aoife Murray**  
Aoife Ní Mhuiri  
Cloughduv2  
**Joanne O'Callaghan**  
Siobhán Ní Cheallacháin  
Cloughduv3  
**Rosarie Holland**  
Rosarie Ní Aoláin  
Ballyroe4  
**Stephanie Dunlea**  
Stiofáinín Ní Dhoinnlé Captaen  
Cloughduv5  
**Paula O'Connor**  
Paula Ní Chonchubhair  
Newtownshandrum6  
**Mary O'Connor**  
Máire Ní Chonchubhair  
Killeagh7  
**Rena Buckley**  
Rena Ní Bhuachalla  
Inniscarra8  
**Gemma O'Connor**  
Gemma Ní Chonchubhair  
St Finbarrs9  
**Vivienne Harris**  
Béibhionn Ní Earchai  
St Finbarrs10  
**Rachel Moloney**  
Rachel Ní Mhaolomhnaigh  
Courcy Rovers11  
**Emer Dillon**  
Eimhear Ní Dhiollúin  
Ballygarvan12  
**Jennifer O'Leary**  
Sinéad Ní Laoire  
Barryroe13  
**Elaine Burke**  
Elaine de Búrca  
Valley Rovers14  
**Emer Watson**  
Eimhear Ní Uait  
Milford15  
**Colette Desmond**  
Colette Ní Dheasúnaigh  
Newcestown16 Ger Casey  
Gearóidín Ní Chathasaigh Inniscarra  
17 Amanda O'Regan  
Amanda Ní Riagáin Douglas  
18 Lynda O'Connell  
Lynda Ní Chonaill St Finbarrs  
19 Regina Curtin  
Rionach Ní Cuirtín Milford  
20 Nora Aherne  
Nóra Ní Eathairn Fr O'Neill21 Anna Geary  
Áine Ní Ghadhra Milford  
22 Briege Corkery  
Brid Ní Chorca Cloughduv  
23 Síle Burns  
Síle Ní Bhroin Rockbon  
24 Úna O'Donoghue  
Úna Ní Dhoinnlé Cloughduv  
25 Ciara Healy  
Ciara Ní Éalaiche Bishopstown**BAINISTEÓIRÍ:**  
Seán Mac Considine  
(John Considine)  
**ROGHNÓIRÍ:**  
Máire Ní Chinéic  
(Mary Kennefick)  
Síle Ní Bhriain  
(Sheila O'Brien)  
Mairéad Ní Cheallacháin  
(Mairéad O'Callaghan)  
Seamus O'Colaigh  
(Seamus Coffey)

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## Gaillimh

Marún agus Bán

1  
**Susan Earner**  
Siobhán Ní Shaorai  
Eyrecourt2  
**Martina Carr**  
Martina Uí Cheara Captaen  
Pearses3  
**Sinéad Cahalan**  
Sinéad Ní Chathaláin  
Mullagh4  
**Lizzie Flynn**  
Éilis Ní Fhloinn  
Davitts5  
**Lorraine Lally**  
Lorraine Ní Mhaolalaídh  
Pearses6  
**Albha Kelly**  
Albha Ní Cheallaigh  
Davitts7  
**Sinéad Keane**  
Sinéad Ní Chatháin  
Kinvara8  
**Aoife Lynskey**  
Aoife Ní Loinsigh  
Ardrahan9  
**Collette Glennon**  
Collette Nig Leannáin  
Mullagh10  
**Orla Kilkenny**  
Orla Ní Chill Chainnigh  
Pearses11  
**Brenda Hanny**  
Breanda Ní Annaídh  
Killimor12  
**Áine Hillary**  
Áine Ní Irile  
Pearses13  
**Lourda Kavanagh**  
Lourda Ní Chaomhánaigh  
Davitts14  
**Anne Marie Hayes**  
Áine Máire Ní Aodha  
Killimor15  
**Caroline Kelly**  
Cearúilín Ní Cheallaigh  
Davitts16 Stephanie Gannon  
Stiofáinín Nig Fhionnáin Athenry  
17 Emma Kilkenny  
Emma Ní Giolla Cheallaigh Kinvara  
18 Nicola Gavin  
Nicola Ní Gháibhín Ahascragh  
19 Caroline Murray  
Cearúilín Ní Mhuiri St Thomas's  
20 Rita Broderick  
Rite Ní Bhruadair Davitts21 Brenda Kerins  
Breanda Ní Chéirín Ardrahan  
22 Regina Glynn  
Rionach Ní Fhloinn Athenry  
23 Catherine Moran  
Caitríona Ní Mhóráin Clarenbridge  
24 Róisín O'Connor  
Róisín Ní Chonchúir Kinvara  
25 Therese Maher  
Therese Ní Mheachair Athenry**BAINISTEÓIRÍ:**  
Noelag Ó Finn  
(Noel Finn)**ROGHNÓIRÍ:**  
Gearalt Ó Cearnaigh  
(Gerry Kearney)  
Áine Ní Dhoibhán  
(Aine Dolan)

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CLAR

## Cluichí Ceannais na Sínear 2004

Páirc Ó Nualláin, Cill Chainnigh, 21ú Lúnasa, 2004

1.00 i.n. **Corcaigh v An Gaillimh****An Réiteoir:** Éamonn de Brún, Tiobraid Árann  
**Standby Referee:** Áine Derham, Áth Cliath  
**Line Umpire:** Liam Davitt, Iarmhidhe  
**4th Official:** John Pender, Cill Dara2.25 i.n. **Tiobraid Árann v Loch Garman****An Réiteoir:** Úna Ní Chearnaigh, Ardmhacha  
**Standby Referee:** Aileen Lawlor, Iarmhidhe  
**Line Umpire:** Rita MacGrath, Iarmhidhe  
**4th Official:** Liam Davitt, Iarmhidhe**Stephanie Dunlea**  
Club: CLOUGHDUV  
The holder of five All-Ireland Senior medals Stephanie will be eager to bring the O'Duffy Cup home in 2004, seventy years after her grand-aunt, Kate Dunlea, brought the cup to Cork in 1934 for the first time ever. Stephanie is the holder of 5 All-Ireland medals, Porcell and Ashbourne medals which she won with UCC and also holds seven National League medals, four Gael Linn medals and has five county championship medals with her club Cloughduv as well as many medals at under-age level. A powerful and reliable corner-back Stephanie will hope to inspire her team to victory over Galway today.**Martina Carr**  
Club: PEARSES  
Martina Carr who hails from the famous Pearses club is a born leader. She was an influential member of the Galway team that captured the O'Duffy Cup for the first time in 1996. Success came early to Martina when Pearses won Féile na nGael. That success was the launching pad, which led to the club winning five All-Ireland Club Championships in a golden era for the club. Martina plays at wing-back and her positive and skilful play is an inspiration to her team-mates. A teacher by profession, she is proud to captain the wearers of the Maroon and White.

### Corcaigh An Gaillimh

**Name:** JOHN CONSIDINE  
**Position:** Manager of the Cork Senior Camogie Team  
**Occupation:** Lecturer in UCC  
**Honours:** All-Ireland Senior medal holder, provincial and national league titles, county intermediate football side with Glanville  
**Interests:** All Gaelic games  
**No. of years training experience:** 10  
**No. of years training at county level:** 3  
**No. of years with the current panel:** 1  
**Other Interests:** hurling and horse-riding**SELECTORS:**  
Mary Kenefick, Sheila O'Brien, Mairéad O'Callaghan, Séamus Coffey.**Name:** NOEL FINN  
**Position:** Galway Manager  
**Club:** Cappataggle  
**Occupation:** Service Engineer  
**Playing honours:** U-14, U-16, U-21 medals with Cappataggle and 1 All-Ireland inter-firm Junior medal.  
**No. of years training experience:** 6  
**No. of years with the current panel:** 1  
**Other Interests:** hurling and horse-riding**SELECTORS:**  
Gerry Kearney

### The Managers





# Tiobraid Árann

Gorm agus Órga

- 1 Jovita Delaney  
Jovita Ní Dhiubhshláine  
Cashel
- 2 Suzanne Kelly  
Siobhán Ní Cheallaigh  
Toomevara
- 3 Úna O'Dwyer  
Úna Ní Dhuibhir  
Cashel
- 4 Julie Kirwan  
Sile Ní Chiarubháin  
Moneygall
- 5 Sinéad Nealon  
Sinéad Ní Nialláin  
Burgess
- 6 Ciara Gaynor  
Ciara Nig Fhionnbhair  
Killeagh
- 7 Therese Brophy  
Treasa Ní Bhróithe  
Burgess
- 8 Angie McDermot  
Angie McDermot  
Cappawhite
- 9 Philly Fogarty  
Filimine Ní Fhógartaigh  
Cashel
- 10 Noelle Kennedy  
Noelle Ní Chinnéide  
Toomevara
- 11 Emily Hayden  
Eimile Ní Eideáin  
Toomevara
- 12 Claire Grogan  
Clár Ní Ghruagáin  
Cashel
- 13 Eimear McDonnell  
Eimear Ní Domhnaill  
Burgess
- 14 Deirdre Hughes  
Deirdre Ní Aodha  
Burgess
- 15 Jill Horan  
Jill Ní hÓráin  
Clonolty

- 16 Joanne Nolan  
Siobhán Ní Nualláin Silvermines
- 17 Joanne Ryan Captain  
Siobhán Ní Riain (Captaen)  
Drom/Inch
- 18 Meadh Corcoran  
Meadh Ní Chorcóirín Moycarkey
- 19 Sheena Howard  
Sheena Ní Iomhair Burgess
- 20 Helen Breen  
Léan Ní Bhraoin Cashel

- 21 Lorraine Bourke  
Lorraine de Búrca Templemore
- 22 Trish O'Halloran  
Pádraigin Ní Allúrláin Portroe
- 23 Paula Bulfin  
Paula Bhulfin Cashel
- 24 Louise Young  
Laoighse de Siún Toomevara
- 25 Geraldine Kinane  
Gearóidín Ní Choinneáin  
Drom/Inch

**BAINISTEÓIRÍ:**Riámann Ó Riain  
(Raymie Ryan)**ROGHNOIRÍ:**Conchúr Ó Riain  
(Conor Ryan)Maireann Uí Ghreáicháin  
(Marian Graham)

# Loch Garman

Corcra agus Órga

- 1 Margaret Darcy  
Mairéad Ní Dhorchaí  
St Martins
- 2 Aishling Moran  
Aisling Ní Mhóráin  
Oulart-Ballagh
- 3 Catherine O'Loughlin  
Caitríona Ní Lochlain  
Monageer-Booleavogue
- 4 Claire O'Connor  
Clár Ní Chonchúir  
Rathnure
- 5 Rosemarie Breen  
Róis Máire Ní Bhraoin  
Monageer-Booleavogue
- 6 Mary Lacey  
Máire Ní Laithease Captaen  
Oulart-Ballagh
- 7 Aine Codd  
Aine Ní Óda  
St Martins
- 8 Caroline Murphy  
Cearúilín Ní Mhurchú  
Ferns St Aidan's
- 9 Kate Kelly  
Cáit Ní Cheallaigh  
St. Ibars
- 10 Orla Hernan  
Orla Ní hIarnáin  
Monageer-Booleavogue
- 11 Aoife O'Connor  
Aoife Ní Chonchúir  
Rathnure
- 12 Michelle O'Leary  
Michelle Ní Laoire  
Rathnure
- 13 Úna Lacey  
Úna Ní Laitheasa  
Oulart-Ballagh
- 14 Michelle Hearne  
Michelle Ní hEatháin  
St. Ibars
- 15 Lennie Holohan  
Elaine Ní hUallacháin  
Rathnure

- 16 Emma Barnes  
Emma Ní Bhraoin Fayte Harriers
- 17 Evelyn Quigley  
Eibhlín Ní Choiligh Rathnure
- 18 Deirdre Codd  
Deirdre Ní Óda Duffery Rovers
- 19 Noeleen Lambert  
Nóilín Ní Laimbeart St Martins
- 20 Louise Codd  
Louise Ní Óda Duffery Rovers
- 21 Bernice Holohan  
Bearnáin Ní hUallacháin Rathnure

- 22 Josie Dwyer  
Seosaimhín Ní Dhuibhir  
Ferns St Aidan's
- 23 Margaret Kelly  
Mairéad Ní Cheallaigh St. Ibars
- 24 Jenny Codd  
Sinéad Ní Óda Duffery Rovers
- 25 Colleen Atkinson  
Colleen Ní Aicidín Oulart-Ballagh

**BAINISTEÓIRÍ:**Aodhán Ó Braoin  
(Aidan Breen)  
Ferns St Aidan's**ROGHNOIRÍ:**Aodhán Ó Mórán  
(Aidan Moran)  
Oulart-Ballagh**JOANNE RYAN**

Club: DROM/INCH

Joanne has had a very successful season so far, captaining the winners of the Blue and Gold to National League and Munster Championship honours. A stylish and speedy forward, Joanne from the Drom/Inch club, holds three All-Ireland medals as well as County Championship medals at underage and senior level. She is a student at Tipperary Institute and plays camogie with the College. Her role model is Brenda Hughes. Joanne may look fragile but it masks a determined and focused player who always gives it her best whether it is for club or county.



## Na Captaen

**MARY LEACY**

Club: OULART-THE-BALLAGH

Mary Leacy carries on a proud tradition, her mother Margaret O'Leary-Leacy were the Purple and Gold with distinction and was selected on the team of the Century announced earlier this year. Mary won her second senior 'All-Ireland College' medal this year with Scoll Bríde, Ennisceorthy. Mary has won three Leinster Senior titles and one junior title with the Model County. She has also won one Wexford senior club championship with her club, Oulart-The-Ballagh. She leads Wexford from the physical centre back position and captained the team in its National League Final appearance earlier this year, also in Nowlan Park, Strong, courageous and determined Mary leads by example.



## The Managers

### Tiobraid Árann

Name: **RAMIE RYAN**

Club: Cashel King Cormacs

Occupation: Electrical Sales Engineer

Position: Manager of the Tipperary Senior Camogie Team

Playing Honours: Club: 2 county minor, 2 U21,

1 County Senior, 1 Munster Club medal.

County: 2 Railway Cup, 1 Senior Munster, 2 National

League, 1 All-Ireland U21

Training experience: 18 months with the Tipperary

Senior Camogie team

Other interests: All sports.

### Loch Garman

Name: **AIDAN BREEN**

Club: Ferns, St. Aidan's

Occupation: Lorry driver

Position: Manager of the Wexford Senior

Camogie Team

Other interest: Golf and drama

Selectors: Aidan Moran

Trainer: Kevin Murphy Junior.



## Minors make their mark in Wexford's resurgence

As Tipperary accessed the All-Ireland senior camogie championship roll of honour in grand style over the last five years, many of a Wexford persuasion marvelled in the Premier County's evolution from underdog to top-dog, while our own charges figured merely in a token capacity in the big chase.

Now though, Wexford are back fighting fit, and seeking a slice of the championship pie. And thanks to the sterling efforts of the players together with the management team of Aidan Breen, Aidan Moran, plus highly respected trainer Kevin Murphy, the purple-and-gold once more have realistic aspirations in that regard. When considering the impressive stature of Wexford's stock during the lean years between 1995 and 2003 inclusive, it is astonishing to record the fact that the county has remained absent from camogie's centre-stage since the 1994 All-Ireland final setback against Kilkenny.

But in 1995, a significant milestone in the Wexford game was achieved, when the under-16s forged the county's first-ever outright success in the All-Ireland minor championship with victory way out West - over Galway at Loughrea - thanks to the expert tutelage of Bernie Higgins (Rathnure), Tina Farrell (Oylegate-Glenbrien), Rose Breen (Monageer-Booleavogue), and Carmel Maguire (Ennisceorthy). That breakthrough provided plenty of room for optimism - and frustration too - as the Wexford seniors sadly found themselves languishing in the also-rans category since their last taste of the high life back in '94. During that period they won just six of 16 All-Ireland championship games. The all-conquering minors of '95 have provided the nucleus for the current resurgence in the top-flight, including Wexford's Camogie Ambassador for the Centenary Year, Aine Codd, who had the honour of captaining those history-makers, alongside Claire O'Connor, Rose-Marie Breen, Kate Kelly (the Ambassador for

Ronan Fagan

GAA Editor of The Wexford Echo

Leinster), Michelle O'Leary, and Michelle Hearne, who has since turned from goalkeeper to much feared poacher.

There too was Esme Murphy, a phenomenal underage talent of the time, who had even lined-out in the senior All-Ireland a year earlier. She accounted for 1-9 in the minors' 2-9 to 1-7 win over Galway, with Kate Kelly scoring the other goal. Unfortunately injury has since robbed Wexford, and the game in general, of Esme's influence - but not her valued support, even as she is now scoring big time as Commercial Manager for League of Ireland Premier division soccer entity, Dublin City.

Aside from the minors of '95, Wexford's present-day senior combination is littered with many other high-achievers whose taste for the good-times was acquired on the underage fields, between Oulart-The Ballagh's magnificent haul of Premier division titles in the All-Ireland Féile na nGael, and Coláiste Bríde's on the All-Ireland Schools 'A' championship front.

To an outfit which may be christened the 95 Specials', whose great feat has not been fully recognised, take a bow once more (note: these were the days of 12-a-side) - Michelle Hearne (St. Ibar's), Aine Codd (St. Martin's, capt.), Claire O'Connor (Rathnure), Emma Carroll (St. Ibar's), Eileen Handrick (HWH-Bunclody), Sandra Carr (St. Ibar's), Rose-Marie Breen (Monageer-Booleavogue), Angela Murphy (HWH-Bunclody), Kate Kelly (St. Ibar's), Michelle O'Leary (Rathnure), Esme Murphy (HWH-Bunclody), Marie Butler (Buffers Alley). Also, Noelle Murphy (Monageer-Booleavogue), Lizzie Wickham (Cloughbawn), Denise Leacy (Buffers Alley), Tina Bergin (St. Martin's), Louise Fanning (St. Martin's), Roisin O'Grady (Oulart-The Ballagh), Mary Walsh (Blackwater), Bridget Murphy (Rathnure). Thanks for the memories of a super summer. And here's to the continuation of another...well, hopefully!

# Width of the crossbar denies Wexford

Tipperary  
Wexford

1-10  
2-5



Therese O'Callaghan  
Nowlan Park

by Therese O'Callaghan

ALL-IRELAND champions Tipperary were stunned as they traipsed off Nowlan Park on Saturday.

They had got the fright of their lives in the second of the Foras na Gaeilge camogie semi-finals, which was played at an alarming pace. The Slaneysiders were awesome and had Evelyn Quigley's shot in the dying moments not ricocheted off the crossbar to safety, the Premier side would have been out of the championship. They were no excuses from manager Raymie Ryan.

"If it was a circular crossbar the ball would have been in the net and Wexford would be in the All-Ireland final. It hit the flat side and came out. The girls are shocked. They know they should be out," he said.

Wexford came very close to causing a seismic upset. They hurled heroically and to come so near to Tipperary should have been no surprise as they have been knocking on the door all season.

Their halfback line was merciless — Rosemary Breen (who later to moved to midfield), captain Mary Leacy and Aine Codd thrived in the heat of the battle. Leacy was later crowned RTE player of the match.

But they know this was their best chance in years to beat the champions. They had them on the run but could not put them away. Tipperary have given a lot since 1999 featuring in every final since and winning four.

However, it was undoubtedly the experience gained from these ven-

tures that proved the difference.

They went in at the break trailing by one point. They had been hit by a Wexford side firing on all cylinders and were finding it difficult to get into their usual stride. Both defences were on top and Michelle Hearne was causing lots of problems for usually remorseless full back Una O'Dwyer. Her goal after 12 minutes proved to be the difference in the opening half, 1-3 to 0-5.

But Hearne wasn't getting enough support, with the exception of Kate Kelly who switched from midfield to wing forward for the second period. The premier county, who hold all their aces in attack, were struggling. Alarmingly big guns Claire Grogan, Eimear McDonnell and Deirdre Hughes couldn't find their rhythm.

But when the chips were down Hughes delivered the goods in the form of a 44th minute goal to get her side back on track. Incidentally, it was a long delivery from another stalwart Ciara Gaynor that set her up for this green flag.

At this juncture Tipperary led, 1-5 to 1-4 but were still looking for a vast improvement. Then in stepped corner forward Jill Horan who rallied to great effect pushing her team further in front. Captain Joanne Ryan who had been sidelined through illness came into the fray and made a huge impression. Kate Kelly's late goal for Wexford from a free that went in off the stick of Suzanne Kelly seemed only a consolation.



Cork's Aoife Murray and Stephanie Dunlea celebrate their win over Galway in the All-Ireland senior semi-final at Nowlan Park.

Picture: Dan Linehan

"The difference between ourselves and Cork in the other semi today was that we were forced to make changes. Cork had the novelty of bringing on their subs for a run out. We had to change both our midfielders. When Joanne came on she changed the course of the game," said Ryan.

So, no excuses from Tipperary. They were hit hard. But that is what to expect when you are All-Ireland champions. Yet, they pulled this one out of the fire and also enjoyed the rub of the green when it came to Quigley's late shot narrowly missing the target.

The big question now is if there will be a backlash in four weeks?

Scorers for Tipperary: D Hughes 1-1, C Grogan 0-4 (0-2 frees), J Horan 0-3, C Gaynor (free) and E McDonnell 0-1 each.

Wexford: K Kelly 1-5 (1-5 frees), M Hearne 1-0.

**TIPPERARY:** J Delaney; S Kelly, U O'Dwyer, J Kirwan; S Nealon, C Gaynor, T Maher; A McDermott, P Fogarty; N Kennedy, E Hayden, C Grogan; E McDonnell, D Hughes, J Horan. Subs: L Young for A McDermott (35 mins), J Ryan for E Hayden (39 mins), P Bultin for P Fogarty (58 mins).

**WEXFORD:** M Darcy; A Moran, C O'Loughlin, C O'Connor; R Breen, M Leacy (capt), A Codd; C Murphy, K Kelly; O Hernan, A O'Connor, M O'Leary; U Leacy, M Hearne, L Holohan. Subs: D Codd for O Hernan (23 mins), E Quigley for L Holohan (29 mins).

Referee: U Kearney (Armagh).

## CAMOGIE

**Foras na Gaeilge All-Ireland senior camogie semi-finals:** Cork 3-9 Galway 1-4; Tipperary 1-10 Wexford 2-5.

**All-Ireland Intermediate Championship Rd 1:** Antrim 3-8 (B Letters 2-3, C Doherty 1-2, B J Adams 0-2, B Clarke 0-1) **Derry 3-5** (K Mc Auley 1-3, P McAtamney 1-1, G Mc Goldrick 1-0, S Cassidy 0-1)

**Leinster U18 Championship:** Kildare 2-13 (S O'Carroll 2-7, C Flanagan 0-3, S Hurley 0-2, M Murtagh 0-1) **Offaly 0-7** (S Sullivan 0-3, A Kelly 0-2, K Brady, M Morkham 0-1 each)

**Carlow senior championship final:** Myshall 2-6 (N Quirke 1-3, O O'Neill 1-0, O Maye 0-2, C Crookes, D O'Brien, J Lawler 0-1 each) **Naomh Brid 0-3** (V Crean 0-3)

**Laois senior championship final:** St Brigids 3-5 (P Bergin 1-1, L Treacy, AM Purcell 1-0 each, E Delaney 0-3, D Delaney 0-1) **The Harps 1-6** (L Mahony 1-6)

**Offaly senior championship final replay:** Shinnons 5-7 (J Feighery 2-1, M Davis 1-4, C Feighery 1-1, R McLoughlin 1-0, C Crean 0-1) **Drumcullen 1-7** (M Lynch 1-2, E Dermody 0-3, E Corcoran, K Nugent 0-1 each)

**O'Leary Bros Builders JAC:** Douglas 5-9 Watergrasshill 1-4; **O'Leary Bros Builders JBC:** Buttevant 6-10 Blackrock 3-3; Ballyhea 6-4 Delany's 1-0; Youghal 7-12 St Fanahans 1-1; Tracton 4-7 Slabh Rua 1-2; Dungourney 3-6 Na Piarasigh 1-0; Clonsilla 6-11 Ballinora 0-0; Kildorrery 1-3 Brian Dillons 0-6.

## O'Leary brace ends Galway's hopes

CORK  
GALWAY

3-9  
1-4

JENNIFER O'LEARY'S two goal salvo steered Cork to an 11-point victory over a disappointing Galway in their Foras na Gaeilge Senior All-Ireland camogie semi-final at Nowlan Park yesterday.

Cork dominated the opening 30 minutes, with wing-forward Jennifer O'Leary in sparkling form. The classy player pointed her side in front in the opening minute, but Galway sparked in the following five minutes with an Orla Kilenny point bringing the sides level, after which full-forward Annie Marie Hayes got inside the defence and sent a cracking shot to the net.

But O'Leary was already creating a huge impression with her delightful runs, delicate flicks, and super finishing, punishing an over-worked Galway defence where Ailbha Kelly and Sinead Cahalan were striving to contain a rampant Cork attack.

Just 14 minutes into the game Elaine Burke sprung for Cork's opening goal, and when O'Leary added a second

one minute later, Galway were well and truly buried as the Rebel girls went in with a comfortable 2-6 to 1-1 interval lead.

Galway never looked like coming back, despite two early points from corner-forward Lourda Kavanagh on the resumption, as O'Leary found the net again after 37 minutes to leave her side leading 3-6 to 1-3.

Galway made valiant efforts to put a more respectable look on the final scoreline but luck deserted them for even substitute Therese Maher missed a penalty 21 close to the finish. It just about summed up their day of woe.

**SCORERS —** Cork: J O'Leary 2-5; E Burke 1-1; R Moloney, E Dillon, U O'Donoghue 0-1 each. Galway: AM Hayes 1-0; L Kavanagh 0-3; O Kilkenney 0-1. **CORK:** A Murray, J O'Callaghan, R Holland, S Dunlea; P O'Connor, M O'Connor, R Buckley; G O'Connor, V Harris; R Moloney, E Dillon, J O'Leary, E Burke, E Watson, C Desmond. Subs: G Casey for Desmond; R Curtin for Holland; A Geary for Watson; B Corkery for G O'Connor; D O'Donoghue for Burke.

**GALWAY:** S Eamer; M Carr, S Cahalan, L Flynn; L Lally, A Kelly, S Keane; A Lynskey, C Glenon; O Kilkenney, B Hanny, A Hillary; L Kavanagh, A M Hayes, C Kelly. Subs: E Kilkelly for Hanny; R Glynn for Keane; T Maher for Lynskey. **REFEREE:** E Browne (Tipperary)



Cork's Emer Watson under pressure from Galway's Sinead Cahalan. Photo: Matt Browne

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## The future is bright, but then, so is the present

AT first glance, it might appear that Cork have retained the spine of the team that won the All-Ireland two years ago.

In terms of numbers, the bulk remain but filling the holes that the missing few have created is the biggest challenge that John Considine faced when he took charge of the Rebels at the start of the year.

The retirement's may have come slowly, but they were hardly painless.

Eithne Duggan and Linda Mellerick had their appetites sated by that 2002 win, and after last year's All-Ireland final defeat, Fiona O'Driscoll announced her retirement, while Caoimhe Harrington's work commitments have taken her to England.

Add in the fact that the captain from two years ago, Una O'Donoghue, has been reduced to the role of a squad member also because of work commitments, and you get a sense of the level of team-building that faced Considine, who took over from Pa Finn at the start of the year.

However, lack of young talent has never really been a problem in the county, which has made the rebuilding process that much easier.

The form of Aoife Murray has been so irresistible that she has replaced Geraldine Casey as the Cork goalkeeper. Others have also found their feet, with Rosalie Holland finally filling the boots of Duggan at full-back, while Collette Desmond and 17-year-old Emer Watson have burst onto the scene. Not only that, but on the fringes of the team are several minors that are on the verge

By MICHEÁL CLIFFORD  
Evening Echo

of challenging for a place. "In two years time, a lot of those players will have reached their potential and then I think you will see a very strong Cork team," says Considine.

The future is bright. But, then, so is the present. If the league was used primarily to feel their way around for a new balance to their side, it did not stop them being competitive.

They reached the semi-finals of the league where they lost to Wexford by a goal, but they avenged that result in the championship beating the Slaneysiders by 1-14 to 0-8, as they topped their group, which also included Limerick and Derry.

Now they are back within touching distance of another final and they still have their old menace. "This year's All-Ireland race is wide open," says Considine. "Obviously, Tipperary are the team to beat. Any team that wins four All-Irelands in five years has to be a bit special, but I still would not count out Galway or Wexford."

And Cork? Well

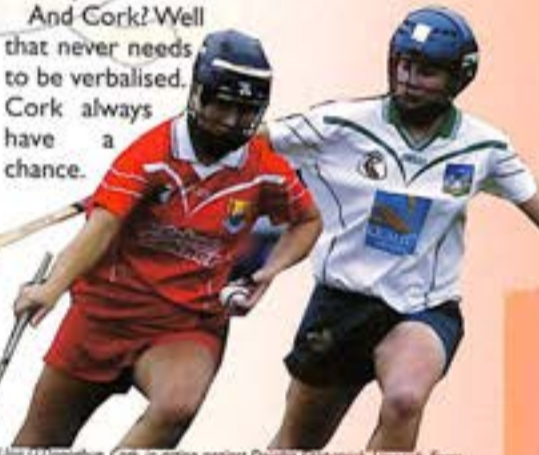
that never needs

to be verbalised.

Cork always

have a

chance.



Una O'Donoghue, Cork, in action against Denise Fitzpatrick, Limerick, Foras na Gaeilge Senior Camogie Championship, Cork v Limerick.  
Photo: Brendan Moran, Sportsfile

## Cork need to be ruthless

Cork  
Galway

3-9  
1-4

THE final scoreline was emphatic in the Foras na Gaeilge All-Ireland senior camogie semi-final at Nowlan Park on Saturday.

But Cork boss John Considine wants his side to be more ruthless if it is to deny Tipperary a much cherished centenary medal on All-Ireland final day in Croke Park on September 19.

"We will need another 20% improvement if we are to win the All-Ireland," he said. "We are going in the right direction and are glad to have come through this dogged encounter."

"It wasn't a great game, but semi-finals are for getting to finals. They don't hand out medals for brilliant semi-finals. We achieved what we set out to do and everybody will be going flat out for the next four weeks."

Cork's supremacy was apparent from early on as their crisp hurling and physical advantage was used to greater effect. Coming into the match many questions had been asked of Galway, but when full-forward Ann Marie Hayes crashed home an early goal, it appeared the young guns from the west were not going to roll over.

Unfortunately they did and, but for a 10-minute spell that yielded three points after halftime, the cracks began to show. However, the one great ray of hope for the Westerners is that youth is on its side. Thirteen of their starting 15 are under the age of 25.

Cork, on the other hand, always looked the likely winners. Once wing-forward Jennifer O'Leary bagged her first goal immediately after Emer Watson's green flag midway through the opening period, the issue was never in doubt. The Barryroe player, who was in scintillating form,

was also unerring from the dead ball.

The Rebels led 2-6 to 1-1 at the interval with the midfield duo of Vivienne Harris and Gemma O'Connor calling all the shots. Harris fittingly was named RTE Player of the Match.

Lourda Kavanagh hit a brace of points for the maroon and white five minutes inside the restart - cutting the arrears to six points - but when O'Leary pounced for goal number two moments later, the Galway response just wasn't there. Captain Martina Carr and centre back Albia Kelly tried hardest and goalkeeper Susan Earner brought off the save of the day when her brilliant dive denied Emer Dillon a certain three-pointer.

Cork introduced all its substitutes in the last quarter. "When we hit Croke Park we need to have an experienced and a trusted bench. Out of the 25 on the panel today, 22 have played in some shape or form in the championship and all have featured in the league," said Considine.

When captain Stephanie Dunlea was entrusted with the full back role after Hayes's goal, it proved decisive in securing Cork's passage to a 37th All-Ireland final appearance.

Scorers for Cork: J O'Leary 2-5 (0-3 45m, 0-1 free), E Watson 1-0, E Dillon, E Burke, R Moloney and U O'Donoghue 0-1 each.

Galway: A M Hayes 1-0, L Kavanagh 0-3, O Kilkenny 0-1.

**CORK:** A Murray; J O'Callaghan, R Holland, S Dunlea (capt), P O'Connor, M O'Connor, R Buckley; V Harris, G O'Connor, R Moloney, E Dillon, J O'Leary; E Burke, E Watson, C Desmond. Subs: U O'Donoghue for E Burke (45 mins), B Corkery for G O'Connor (52 mins), A Geary for E Watson (56 mins), G Casey for C Desmond, R Curtin for R Holland (both 60 mins).

**GALWAY:** S Earner; M Harkin Carr (capt), S Cahalan, L Flynn; L Lally, A Kelly, S Keane; A Lynskey, C Glennon; O Kilkenny, B Hanney, A Hillery.

L Kavanagh, A M Hayes, C Kelly. Subs: T Maher for A Lynskey (21 mins), R Glynn for S Keane (36 mins), E Kilkenny for C Kelly (37 mins).

Referee: E Browne (Tipperary).

## Hughes strike sends Tipperary into decider

TIPPERARY 1-10  
WEXFORD 2-5

A SUPERB Deirdre Hughes 45th minute goal helped All-Ireland champions Tipperary withstand a staunch Wexford challenge before eventually emerging with a two point victory in their Foras na Gaeilge All-Ireland senior camogie semi-final at Nowlan Park yesterday.

The reigning champions were struggling trailing 1-4 to 0-5 with a shock looking on the cards. But in stepped the veteran Hughes who collected a long Clara Gaynor clearance, rounded her marker and crashed an unstoppable shot past keeper Margaret Darcy.

Tipperary immediately lifted their game as they went on to hit three successive points through Claire Grogan (twice) and Jill Horan to lead 1-8 to 1-4 with 12 minutes remaining.

Wexford were reeling at that stage despite the best efforts of Kate Kelly and the outstanding Margaret Leacy at centre-back.

A Kelly pointed free gave them brief hope, but when corner-forward Jill Horan

sparked into action with two points in the closing minutes, the Premier County looked comfortable leading 1-10 to 1-5.

But credit to Wexford for they turned in a storming finish. One minute into additional time, Kelly crashed another free to the net leaving just two points separating the sides.

The closing minute was tense as Wexford stormed all over Tipperary with Michelle Hearne having what appeared a goalbound shot cleared off the line leaving no way back for the model county girls.

Tipperary will now meet Cork in a repeat of last year's final.

**SCORERS** - Tipperary: C Grogan 0-4; J Horan 0-3; D Hughes 1-1; C Gaynor, E McDonnell 0-1 each. Wexford: K Kelly 1-5; M Hearne 1-0.

**TIPPERARY:** J Delaney; S Kelly, U O'Dwyer, J Kirwan; S Nealon, C Gaynor, T Brophy; A McDermott, P Fogarty; N Kennedy, E Hayden, C Grogan; E McDonnell, D Hughes, J Horan. Subs: S Ryan for Hayden; P Bullin for Fogarty; L Young for McDonnell.

**WEXFORD:** M Darcy; A Moran, C O'Loughlin, C O'Connor, R Breen, M Leacy, A Codd; C Murphy, K Kelly; O'Hernan, A O'Connor, M O'Leary; U Leacy, M Hearne, L Holohan. Subs: E Quigley for Holohan; D Codd for Hernan.

REFEREE: U Kearney (Armagh).

## U-13½ camogie side unlucky to lose in Mosney final

DOUGLAS Camogie Club's under-13½ team took part in the Community Games at Mosney last weekend.

They were defending the title they won last year but unfortunately they lost out to Laois side Camross in this year's decider.

But even in defeat this side deserves great credit for their performance and this was the first game, locally and nationally, they have lost in two years.

This included winning the Féile na Gael title in June of this year.

PRO of Douglas Camogie Club, Grainne White said: "In the final they gave it their best shot but were beaten by a better team on the day."

Their quest to retain their title started with a game against Bishopstown, a game they won easily.

Next they travelled to Limerick where they took on Holycross from Tipperary in the Munster semi-final and again they ran out easy winners. The Munster final saw them pitted against

Newmarket-On-Fergus from Clare and again they emerged victorious.

It was on to Mosney after that and in the All-Ireland semi-final they came up against a tough side from Galway.

After a physical encounter they came out on top with a second-half display that showed just why they were undefeated in so long.

However the effort they had to put in went against them in the final and Grainne said they were tired and didn't play up to the high standards they have set for themselves.

Best over the weekend for them were: Máire O'Mahony, Moire O'Donovan, Sarah Sisk, Julia White, Emma Jordan, Cianna Driscoll and Una Dunphy.

"The club would also like to thank mentors Jimmy O'Mahony, Finbarr O'Donovan and Breda Heffernan for all the hard work they have put in with this side," said Grainne.

They take on Inniscarra in the U-14 league final on Friday night.

AUGUST 2004

# Cork trounce Galway girls, but must still learn lessons

Cork 3-9  
Galway 1-4

**OBJECTIVE** achieved. Cork are through to the All-Ireland final.

Despite a relatively poor performance on Saturday afternoon in Nolan Park Kilkenny Cork were never in danger of losing this All-Ireland semi-final against Galway and did enough to earn their place in the final on September 19.

Cork never really got into the free-flowing hurling we are used to seeing despite their winning margin of 11 points.

They started lively with Jenny O'Leary and Emer Dillon hitting over two points in the first three minutes. Orla Kilkenny replied in the sixth.

A minute later Cork full back Rosalie Holland was caught ball watching. Ann Marie Hayes was left all alone inside and when the low fast ball came in she gave Aoife Murray no chance from close range.

Immediately the Cork management switched Stephanie Dunlea to full-back and she was to play a solid game throughout.

Galway weren't to score for the remainder of the first half and at senior inter-county level that kind of return won't do.

Cork moved into second gear and within a minute hit the net twice. Emer Watson collected a fast ball in from Rachel Moloney, turned her marker and hand passed to the net.

The next was a beauty from my 'Player of the Match', Jenny O'Leary. Taking the ball on the run from 30 yards out she ran at the Galway defence and 'shimmied' inside to rattle the net.

Cork's experience was showing against a spirited but naive Galway side.

Cork were now more settled. Their half-back line of Mary O'Connor, Paula O'Connor and Rena Buckley were in control.

Gemma O'Connor and Vivienne Harris were never in trouble at centerfield, but at times the better option was to drive the ball in long and hard rather than tap it 20 or 30 yards to a team mate who really wasn't in a more advantageous position themselves. Both are strong and can take scores.

Up front Rachel Moloney was busy. Apart from Watson's goal,



Linda Mellerick

O'Leary was the only forward really threatening and finished the half with 1-4 to her credit, 1-1 coming from play.

Cork led 2-6 to 1-1 at the break.

Galway resumed with nothing to lose and fire in their bellies. Lourda Kavanagh hit over two points, but Cork quickly quenched the flame. Emer Watson passed out to the in running Jenny O'Leary who fired an unstoppable shot in to the top corner of the net.

Cork had the lion's share of possession but lacked aggression up front.

Scrappy tip tapping and little flicks slowed up the play and outside of O'Leary there was little drive or return from the inside six. Una O'Donoghue did add something when brought on 10 minutes into the second-half.

While the game was gone from them Galway, did have chances to close the gap, but poor shooting prevented that. They finished the game with nine wides and a poorly struck penalty.

In the 28th minute the penalty was awarded against Stephanie Dunlea. Therese Maher stepped up and despite playing well since introduced, she only half connected and the ball trickled in to Aoife Murray who cleared comfortably.

From the 13th minute of the second-half Cork were to score only one other point for the remainder of the game and this, a '45 from O'Leary.

The Rebels scored a total of 1-3 in the second period and that won't win an All-Ireland. O'Leary finished the game with a personal tally of 2-5 out of 3-9 and this must be a worry for John Considine.

Galway are a young and inexperienced side. They did win the All-Ireland Junior Championship and National League last year and nine of that team played Saturday.



Galway's Lorraine Lally is surrounded by Cork's Jennifer O'Leary (left) and Vivienne Harris during their Forás na Gaeilge Senior Camogie Championship semi-final tie. Picture: Matt Browne

It is a massive step up and probably asking too much that they would threaten Cork yesterday.

No one knows better than Cork that yesterday's performance wasn't up to scratch. They are fully aware of the task ahead of them on September 19.

It was always going to be difficult to raise their game against a team that hadn't beaten you in Championship in eight years and one that you annihilated 12 months previously.

**Scorers for Cork:** J O'Leary 2-5 (0-3 '45, 0-10, E Watson 1-0, E Dillon, R Moloney, E Burke, U O'Donoghue 0-1 each.

**Galway:** A M Hayes 1-0, L Kavanagh 0-3 (0-10), O Kilkenny 0-1.

**CORK:** A Murray; J O'Callaghan, R Holland, S Dunlea; P O'Connor, M O'Connor, R Buckley; G O'Connor, V Harris; R Moloney, E Dillon, J O'Leary; E Burke, E Watson, C Desmond.

**Subs:** U O'Donoghue for E Burke, B Corkery for G O'Connor, A Geary for E Watson, G Casey for C Desmond, R Curtin for R Holland.

**GALWAY:** S Eamer; M Carr, S Cahalan, L Flynn; L Lally, A Kelly, S Keane; A Lynskey, C Glennon; O Kilkenny, B Hanny, A Hillary; L Kavanagh, A M Hayes, C Kelly.

**Subs:** T Maher for A Lynskey.

## Considine is worried over poor return in second period

CORK manager John Considine was honest in his assessment of his side's performance against Galway in the All-Ireland semi-final on Saturday.

"It was a 'bitty' performance by us. At times we played poorly, at others we did well."

"The difference was that we were able to get goals. But we only got 1-3 in the second half which isn't good enough. We got 2-6 in the first and that would be ok."

"You'd accept that as you'd be heading for 4-12 at that rate. I think we won it in the last 20 minutes of the first half when Galway were 1-1 to 2 points ahead."

"We scored 2-4 and if we perform like that we'll be fine. Galway played better this year than last. They showed more hunger and kept going to the very end."

"They got the penalty and maybe could have taken one or two more scores."

John felt that Cork slowed down the play at times allowing Galway catch up and challenge.

"At times we got the ball in maybe seven or eight yards of space. We took a touch and by the time we took that touch Galway were in, blocking and hooking. Instead we should have been hitting the ball away first time."

"Our objective was to get to the All-Ireland Final. The girls know we've a fair bit to work on. We've got four weeks together now."

Noel Finn, Coach to the Galway team, felt that they could have put a more respectable score on the board.

"We had enough of chances to narrow the gap, but we missed frees, got blocked down 4 or 5 times when we shouldn't have and had we taken those it might have been a different story."

"There was no reason why we couldn't have brought the game back to five points. But it's a massive step up."

"Cork a top class team and are also shrewd on the line. They, along with Tipp, have raised the bar and it is up to the rest of us to catch up. We'll have to start earlier next year."



Cork's Emer Watson scores a goal despite the attentions of Sinéad Cahalan of Galway during their Forás na Gaeilge Senior Camogie Championship semi-final clash in Nowlan Park, Kilkenny. Picture: Matt Browne

# Galway out of luck against champions

Galway.....1-4 :: Cork.....3-9

by Stephen Glennon

IF THERE was a medal for bravery, then the Galway girls were deserving of one. For 60 minutes plus, they gave it their all; the scoreline, perhaps, a little harsh in reflecting their efforts in this All-Ireland senior camogie semi-final played in Nowlan Park, Kilkenny last Saturday afternoon.

The 'ifs' and 'buts' of this game were inevitably discussed afterwards, but there could be no denying Galway were defeated by a superior Cork side. That said, this Galway performance was not without hope.

After just seven minutes, Galway led the All-Ireland champions by 1-1 to 0-2, after **Brenda Hanney** delivered a decisive ball through the heart of the Cork defence. **Anne Marie Hayes** — who looked a threat throughout — secured possession 30 metres from goal and with coolness personified, turned, soloed and rifled the sliotar to the Cork net.

It was the ideal tonic for this youthful Galway side as they had trailed by two points in the opening minutes after **Emer Dillon** and **Jennifer O'Leary** fired Cork into the lead. On six minutes, corner forward **Lourda Kavanagh** set up **Orla Kilkenny** for the challengers' first score, with Hayes then wielding her magic one minute later to give Galway the lead.

Galway's advantage could have been greater if two 45

chances in the second and fifth minutes had not been waved wide by a bewildered umpire, who could be forgiven once for such a mistake, but twice in the space of a few minutes! All-Ireland semi-finalists deserve more adequate officials.

As it was, Cork — led by midfield duo **Gemma O'Connor** and player of the match **Vivienne Harris** — cranked up the gear shortly afterwards, as **Jennifer O'Leary** clipped over the equaliser. At this stage, the pressure was mounting on the Galway defence, and it was just a pity they buckled so early.

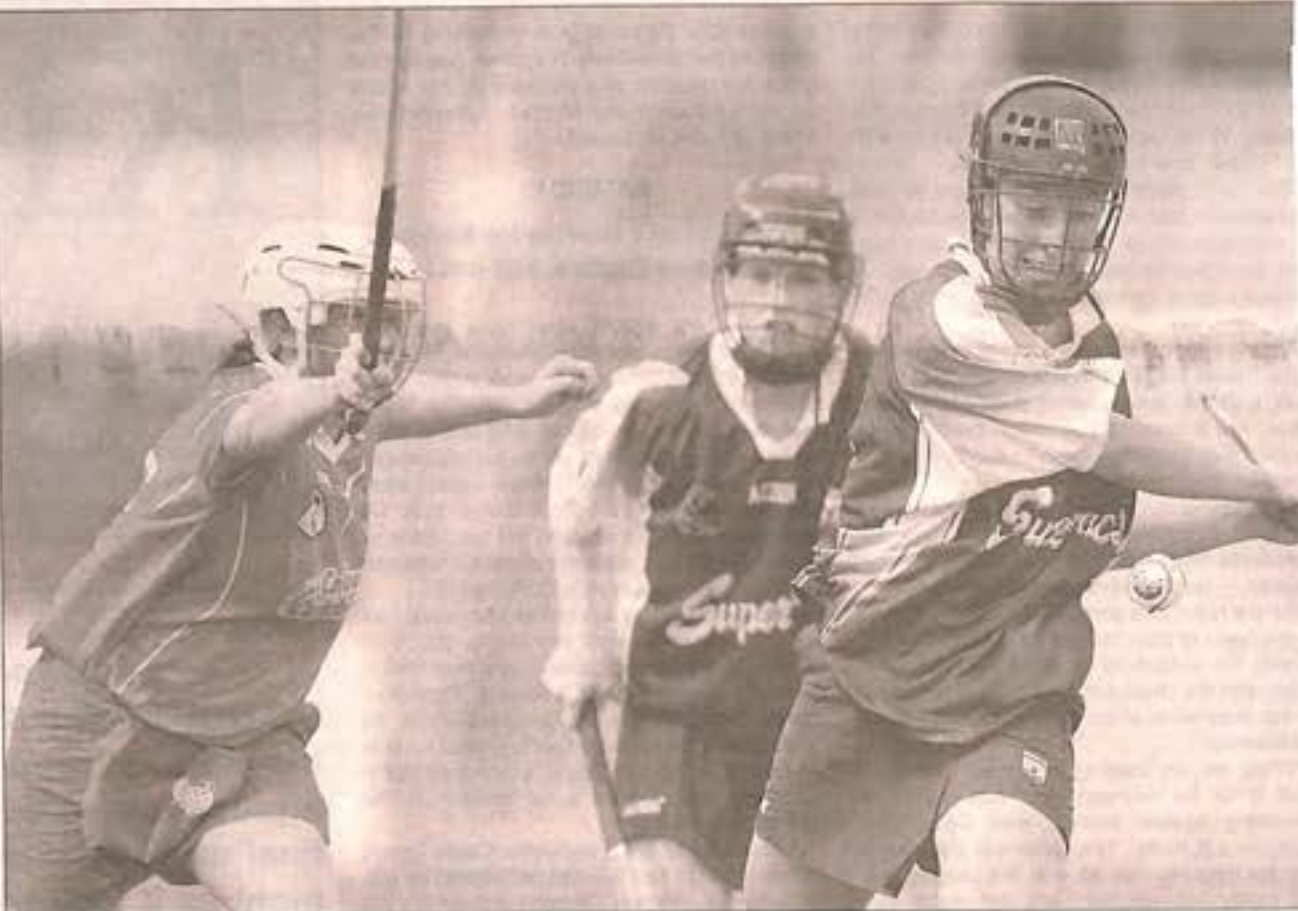
On 13 minutes, Cork's first goal came after Galway surrendered possession while on the attack. Cork's **Rachel Mooney** subsequently took up the counter, and with a wonderful pass set full forward **Emer Watson** who handpassed by a helpless **Susan Eamer**.

Suddenly, the floodgates opened. O'Leary forced her way through the Galway defence and with a scintillating shot notched up Cork's second goal. After such a bright opening, Galway found themselves trailing 2-4 to 1-1. **Elaine Burke** added another point for Cork shortly afterwards.

Galway manager **Noel Finn** and his backroom staff were quick to respond, throwing **Athenry's Therese Maher** into the fray on 21 minutes. The steel Maher brought with her was inspiring, and the simple fact Cork only added one more point before the interval can be attributed to Maher's influence.

The problem was, bar Hayes, there was little else happening up front. Added to that, the Galway players' first touch was letting them down time and again, but that can easily be put down to the pressure the Cork backs were exerting on the Galway girls.

Between the 7th and 31st minutes, Galway did not register a score — despite having their fair share of the play. On the resumption, Galway were full of purpose, **Hanny** setting up **Kavanagh** for a point. The gap



**STRIKE** . . . Galway defender **Sinead Cahalan** manages to clear upfield despite the blockdown attempt of Cork's **Colette Desmond** in the All-Ireland camogie semi-final at Portlaoise on Saturday.

was further reduced four minutes later when **Kavanagh** — now playing at half-forward — got in, after good play from midfielder **Collette Glennon**.

A Galway goal would really have put the cat among the pigeons at this stage, but Cork were nothing if not determined. On 38 minutes, **Watson** stole possession, offloading to O'Leary, who cracked the 110 grams of sliotar to the Galway net. O'Leary was to finish with a tally of 2-5.

Galway battled gamely, **Kavanagh** responding with a free following a foul on Maher. Indeed, at the three-quarter mark, Galway should have been awarded a penalty when **Hayes**, bearing down on goal, was floored by a combination of goalkeeper and defenders.

At this point, Galway trailed 3-8 to 1-4.

In the final quarter, Galway contained Cork to a point — O'Leary from a 45 after **Susan Eamer** pulled off a magnificent save from **Dillon** in the 53rd minute. Galway during this period endeavoured to create goal chances of their own, **Aine Hillary** and **Kavanagh** (free) both seeing efforts blocked on the line.

They also had an excellent chance to goal in the last minute when **Maher** was pulled down in the penalty area, but her resulting effort was weak to say the least and was easily dealt with by the Cork rearguard.

No doubt, Galway deserved more from this contest, and some of the players may feel

they could have performed better. That said, manager **Finn** has laid a solid foundation, bleeding in 10 of last year's All-Ireland winning junior team, among them star performers **Eamer** and **Hayes**. Other to play well were the full back line of **Martina Carr**, **Sinead Cahalan** and **Lizzie Flynn**, substitute **Maher** and **Kavanagh** when moved out to the half forward line.

This team will improve. The talent is there. Indeed, this is not the end of the year for many of these players, as most of them are eligible to line out for Galway against **Limerick** in the intermediate championship.

**Galway:** S. Eamer; M. Carr, S. Cahalan, L. Flynn; L. Lally, A. Kelly, S. Keane; A. Lynskey, C. Glennon; O. Kilkenny (0-1),

B. Hanney, A. Hillary; L. Kavanagh (0-3, 0-1 free), A.M. Hayes (1-0), C. Kelly.

**Subs:** T. Maher for Lynskey (21 mins.); R. Glynn for Keane (36 mins.); E. Kilkelly for Hanney (51 mins.).

**Cork:** A. Murray; J. O'Callaghan, R. Holland, S. Dunlea; P. O'Connor, M. O'Connor, R. Buckley; G. O'Connor, V. Harris; R. Moloney (0-1), E. Dillon (0-1), J. O'Leary (2-5, 0-2 45s, 0-1 free); E. Burke (0-1), E. Watson (1-0), C. Desmond. **Subs:** U. O'Donoghue (0-1) for E. Burke (40 mins.); B. Corkery for V. Harris (51 mins.); A. Geary for Watson (56 mins.); G. Casey for Desmond (59 mins.); R. Curtin for Holland (59 mins).

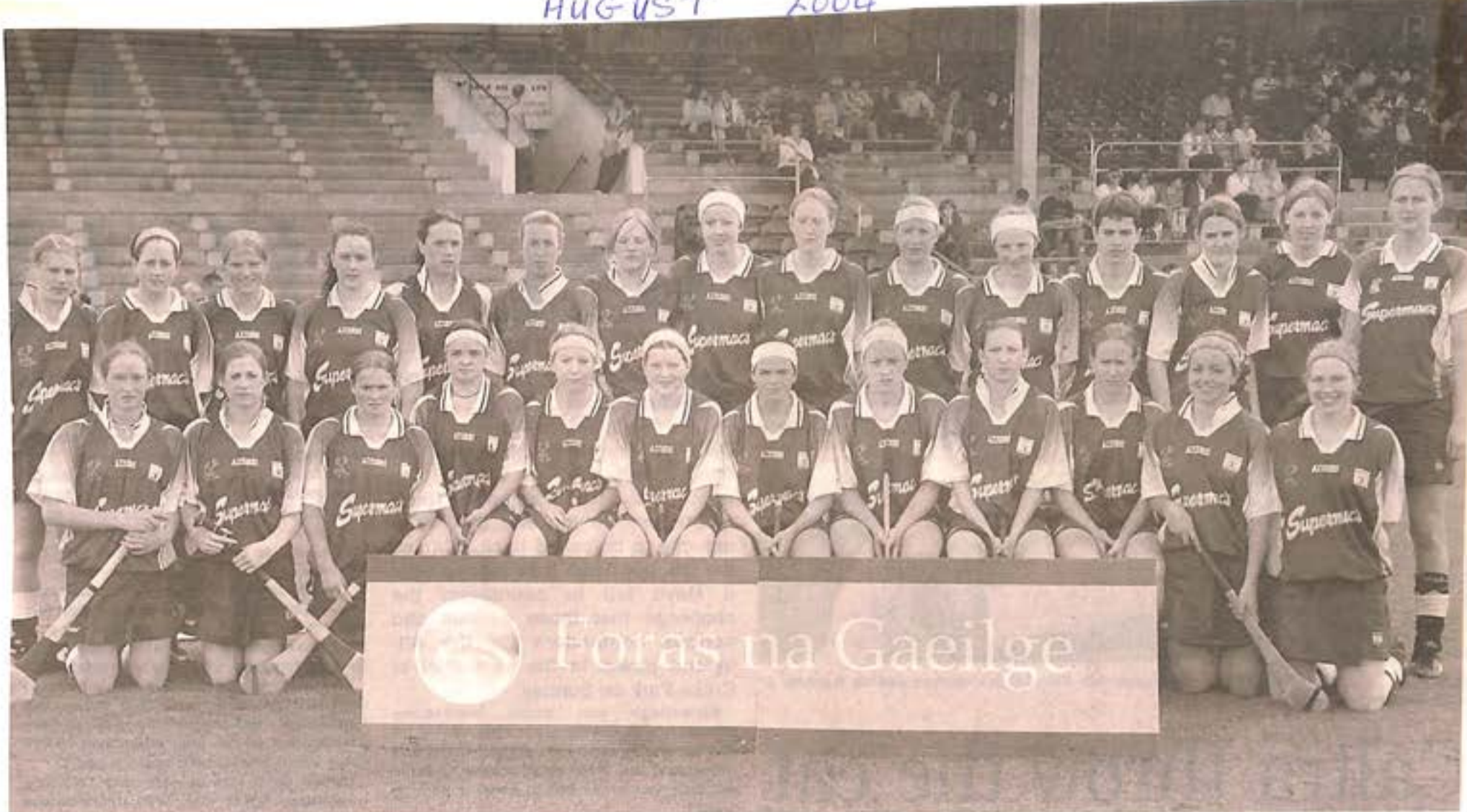
**Referee:** Eamonn de Brún (Tipperary).



**PRESSURE** . . . Galway's **Loraine Lally** and **Martina Carr** try to halt the progress of Cork's **Colette Desmond** in the All-Ireland camogie semi-final at Portlaoise on Saturday.

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**DEFEATED** . . . the Galway senior camogie panel which lost out to Cork in the All-Ireland semi-final at Nowlan Park on Saturday. Back Row: Stephanie Gannon, Regina Glynn, Catherine Moran, Rita Broderick, Colette Glennon, Sinead Cahalan, Susan Eamer, Lourda Kavanagh, Ailbhe Kelly, Aine Hillary, Therese Maher, Ann Marie Hayes, Ann Hardiman, Brenda Hanney, Caroline Murray. Front row: Sarah Noone, Nicola Gavin, Brenda Kerins, Caroline Kelly, Lorraine Lally, Sinead Keane, Martina Carr (Capt), Aoife Lynskey, Orla Kilkenny, Lizzie Flynn, Emma Kilkelly, Roisin O'Connor.

## CamogieChat

With Mary Newman

### SENIOR'S SET UP CORK v TIPP ALL-IRELAND FINAL

**W**ELL done to John Considine and his charges that made their trip to Nolan Park a successful one qualifying for the Foras Na Gaeilge All-Ireland final at the expense of Galway. In a game that failed to excite Cork never looked troubled.

Ann Marie Hayes gave Galway the lead with a goal after eight minutes but Cork kept their composure and two goals inside

a minute from Jennifer O'Leary and Emer Watson effectively killed the game as a contest.

Throughout the second half Cork kept their foot on the pedal and with their defence solid under pressure Galway failed to get the scores they needed.

Up front Cork picked off scores with Jennifer O'Leary grabbing her second goal within eight minutes of the restart.

Given the hype that is surrounding the hurling final the previous Sunday camogie followers are urged to remember the girls as thoughts now turn to September 19 and a repeat of last year's decider.

In this the centenary year of the game it's a wonderful achievement for Cork to have both the Senior and Junior team's in Croke Park on All-Ireland Sunday and all past and current players are urged to make the trip for what is a special final.

If the result of the first game was more or less decided by the half time break the clash of All-Ireland champions Tipperary and Wexford had spectators on the edge of their seats to the final whistle.

Wexford showed tremendous spirit as they fought to make it to the final and indeed only the width of the crossbar denied them that place when a last minute effort looked set to send the champions packing.

Certainly Tipperary will be on their guard following that scare and Cork will need to be at their best come September 19.



Pictured at the victory dinner in the Mercury Lounge Bar and Restaurant, Cork, for the Carrigrohoun Senior A camogie team who won the County title recently were Billy Hegarty (trainer), Mary Bugler (Vice Chairperson Cork County Camogie Board), Kay Dunne (Registrar CCCB), Tom Kiely and Marion McCarthy (selectors) with John Neville (Neville Jewellers - team sponsors), Ollie Hallahan, Chairman Carrigrohoun camogie and Bob O'Leary, O'Leary Bros Builders, Championship sponsors

Picture: Howard Crowley

### AGHBULLOGUE THROUGH TO FINAL

**W**ITH Louise Murphy and Mary Buckley in sparkling form Agbullaogue booked their place in the O Leary Brother Senior B county decider against a tenacious Eire Og who made them fight all the way to the finish. Contributing 1-7 and 1-6 respectively to the final tally the pair caused problems for the Eire Og defence from the throw-in. Agbullaogue led 1-7 to 0-3 at the break.

Eire Og fought back with an Erin Corkery second half goal, however when Louise Murphy got a touch to Sile Marie Crowley goal attempt with twelve minutes remaining it was the score that finally decided the contest as Agbullaogue added further points to book their place against Ballygarvan in the final which will take place after the All-Ireland camogie finals.

### JUNIOR CHAMPIONSHIPS SWING INTO ACTION

**P**LENTY of action in the O'Leary Brothers Builders Junior "A" and "B" championships as Douglas recorded a victory over Watergrasshill at Delaney's.

Three Jenny O'Donovan goals plus one apiece from Amanda O'Regan, and Fiona O'Donovan helped Douglas secure victory.

By the time we go to print Killeagh and Douglas will have battled it out in the second round.

In the Junior 'B' championship Kildorrey and Brian Dillon's will have to meet again on Saturday at 12 noon in the Tank Field after late Therese Drummond point earned Dillon's a replay. Ballyhea had too much strength for Delaney's running out winners on a 6-4 to 1-0 score line, Mary Coleman, Rachel Waters and Sarah Douglas to the fore for Ballyhea.

Buttervant's Fiona O'Connell was the star of the show grabbing three goals in her side's victory over Blackrock while Mary T Foley, Michelle O'Neill and Jan Farrell were also in scoring form for Buttervant. Youghal easily brushed aside the challenge posed by St Fanahan's while Tracton recorded a victory over Sliabh Rua substitutes Ann Sinclair and Catherine Coughlan grabbing the vital scores.

Dungourney and Na Piarasigh fought out an exciting clash before Evelyn Ronayne with two goals sent Dungourney into the second round. Clonakilty had little difficulty in advancing at the expense of Ballinora Sharon Whelton, Cliona O'Regan, Ciara Nagle all to the fore for Clon.

### Milford go in quest of Munster honours

**C**HAMPIONSHIP runners up Milford will carry the Cork hopes as they contest the Munster club championship on Saturday in Milford at 6.30pm against Clare champions Kilnamora.

It's been eight years since the title came to a Cork club and certainly given the display that Milford produced in the county final they are more than capable of bridging that gap.

For both sides it's a first time involvement in the competition and certainly Milford will be leaving no stone unturned in their quest for honours and best wishes are extended to them.

# Tipperary Through To Sixth All-Ireland Final - But Only Just

Tipperary ..... 1-10  
Wexford ..... 2-5

By Liza Roche

Tipperary are through to their sixth All-Ireland Final but came within a hare's whisper of losing it all when they played Wexford in the All-Ireland Semi-Final at Nowlan Park, Kilkenny on Saturday afternoon last.

Played at an alarming pace the reigning All-Ireland Champions were put to the test by a Wexford side who had nothing to lose and came at them with all guns blazing. A low scoring game both defences dominated throughout.

Tipperary did get off to a better start and held the Slaneysiders scoreless until the 13th minute. Ciara Gaynor pointed from a free in the fourth minute. Claire Grogan took over the free taking duties in the seventh minute to put Tipp 0-2 in front. Deirdre Hughes followed this up to make it 0-3. And Tipp seemed to be settling into rhythm. However Wexford were just biding their time, a free out of defence for the Slaneysiders was snatched over the head of Una O'Dwyer by Michelle Hearne. The full-forward turned and hand-passed directly



Tipperary's Emily Hayden and Wexford's Orla Hernan.

wide. In defence Tipp were now also coming under increasing pressure. Wexford's efforts paid too when with just one minute of ordinary time left on the clock Kate Kelly pointed to put just one between the

gling in certain positions introduced two subs. Louise Young replaced Angie McDermott at mid-field and team captain Joanne Ryan replaced Emily Hayden. It was the latter substitution though

time Deirdre Hughes was waiting and in her usual style sent the sliotar to the back of the net. Tipp were back in front again. A Claire Grogan point reinforced this. Jill Horan was quick to follow suit. The last two then linked up, to score a third point Claire Grogan passing to Jill Horan who passed back to Grogan who put it safely over the bar. In the space of just four minutes Tipp had gone from two points down to three points ahead.

Wexford rallied their troops and came right back at Tipp Kate Kelly pointing again from a free. Another Kate Kelly free followed this time however Ciara Gaynor cleared it safely out of defence to Joanne Ryan who linked up with Deirdre Hughes setting Jill Horan up for a shot on goal. The Clonoulty player took her opportunity but unfortunately the shot flashed across the goal mouth and wide. Tipp kept the pressure with most of the play now in the Wexford half. Jill Horan missed another point and Noelle Kennedy also hit one wide from a free. Joanne Ryan though again raised the bar when she passed to Paula Bulfin and on to Jill Horan to take what was thought at the time to be an insurance point. Less than thirty seconds later Horan added another to put five points between the sides, they should have been clear. Wexford though were still battling hard and in the 31st minute, a Wexford free by Kate Kelly was deflected off the stick of Suzanne Kelly ending in the back of the net. Two points now separated the sides and just seconds remained on the clock. Fuelled now by this goal and seeing the light at the end of the tunnel, Wexford rallied again, this time

substitute Evelyn Quigley executed a deadly shot and was denied only by the crossbar. As referee Una Ni Chearnaigh blew full time Tipp let out a huge sigh of relief glad that it was over and glad to be through.

This was not Tipperary's finest hour with some of their players finding themselves beaten by Wexford players. Una O'Dwyer certainly struggled with Michelle Hearne but was fortunate to have Suzanne Kelly on hand, who had another great game.

The half forward line though was where Tipperary seemed to struggle most. The right wing was particularly exposed and it is hard to see why Joanne Ryan was omitted from the original fifteen. When she was introduced she turned the game in Tip's favour and played like a girl with a point to prove and prove it she did. That said the majority of the Tipperary team have had a very demanding schedule in the past number of weeks playing for their respective clubs and it may have been a factor in this performance. Tipperary's best included Suzanne Kelly and Julie Kirwan who held her own in the left corner while the half back line particularly Ciara Gaynor were very strong. Up front Deirdre Hughes again proved lethal with her second half goal. Jill Horan also proved her worth with three very vital second half scores.

Wexford will have been disappointed not to have won this encounter and were in many ways very unlucky. The only consolation they got from the match was that centre back Mary Lacey was awarded the RTE Player of the Match, an award she richly deserved. Others who deserve a mention for Wexford include, Caroline Murphy, Kate Kelly and Michelle Hearne



Tipperary's Angie McDermott and Wexford's Orla Hernan.

to the back of the net to level the sides.

Tipperary gave them their response at the opposite end when Eimear McDonnell put them back in front with a point. Claire Grogan added to this to go to two in front again. Tipp held this lead for the next fifteen minutes however the failed to capitalise with a number of scoring chances drifting

sided and three minutes later she had put the Slaneysiders in the lead with two more pointed frees. The half time score, Wexford 1-3 Tipperary 0-5.

On the restart Wexford seemed the stronger and Kate Kelly reaffirmed this when she pointed from a free to stretch their sides lead. Tipperary recognising that they were struggling

that made all the difference to Tipp at that vital time. Her absence from the starting fifteen is very questionable. From the moment the Drom-Inch girl set foot on the field she lifted her team and in many ways inspired their close victory. The tide turned when Ciara Gaynor who had an outstanding game at centre back made another fine clearance this

## Limerick girls on course for title

Granagh/Ballingarry (Limerick) 1-13  
Toomevara (Tipperary) 2-8

by Therese O'Callaghan

ALL-IRELAND champions Granagh/Ballingarry remain on course for a seventh Munster senior club camogie championship title after a thrilling two-point win over Toomevara in the provincial semi-final at Semple Stadium on Saturday.

Hurling into the wind in the first half, the Shannonsiders were without the services of last year's captain Laura Leslie, who sustained an ankle injury in the Limerick county final. However, they were boosted by the mother/daughter combination of Ber (full-back) and Fiona Chawke at wing forward.

The Tipperary side, in their first Munster action since 1997, started nervously and after ten minutes were 0-4 to 0-1 in arrears but thanks to three of the county senior panel - Suzanne Kelly, Louise Young and Deirdre Hughes - they bounced back to go in at the break one ahead. A 20th minute goal from free-taker Noelle Kennedy, which took a deflection off corner back Bernie Molloy, helped them to an interval advantage of 1-5 to 0-7.

Granagh/Ballingarry, though, had never been too far behind in the opening half and with Marie Collins and Vera Sheehan both to the fore at midfield, Joanne Clifford was making excellent use of her copious supply at corner forward.

After the restart Toomevara moved Denise Ryan to centre field with great effect. Points from Hughes and Kennedy pushed them three points clear. But, turning in a power-packed display the Granagh side hit 1-4 without reply over the next 20 minutes to go four points clear.

However, they were hauled back by a determined Tipp side that erased a 47th minute four-point deficit to draw level with five minutes to go - Kennedy's second goal the all-important score. The Limerick girls upped the ante and the first wide of the second half wasn't witnessed until four minutes from time.

The champions finished confidently with Eileen O'Brien and Fiona Morrissey knocking over a brace of points. During the five energy-sapping minutes of added time the large crowd watched Lena Woods' hand-passed effort for goal steer agonizingly wide.

Granagh/Ballingarry prevailed and booked a Munster final date with Cork representatives Milford the last weekend in September.

**Scorers:** Granagh/Ballingarry: M Collins 1-1, J Clifford and E O'Brien (0-2 frees) 0-4 each, F Morrissey 0-2, J Cullinane and A Sheehan 0-1 each. Toomevara: N Kennedy 2-1 (frees), L Woods 0-4 (0-2 frees), D Hughes 0-2, D Ryan 0-1.

**GRANAGH/BALLINGARRY:** B O'Brien; B Molloy, B Chawke, M O'Gorman; K Burke, M Nash, D Sheehan (capt); M Collins, V Sheehan; J Cullinane, E O'Brien, A Sheehan; F Chawke, F Morrissey, J Clifford.

**Subs:** A McCarthy for M O'Gorman (4th).

**TOOMEVARA:** P Ryan; T Ryan (capt), S Kelly, L Woods; M R Ryan, N Kennedy, M Tynan; A Woods, L Young, E Young, M Bradshaw, D Ryan; B Kennedy, D Hughes, L Woods.

**Subs:** T Maxwell for E Young (40 mins).

**Referee:** P Downey (Cork).

### CAMOGIE

**O'Leary Brothers Builders Senior B Championship** semi-final:  
Aghabullogue 2-14 Eire Og 1-5; **Junior A Championship** semi-final:  
Killeagh 3-7 Douglas 0-11; **Junior A Championship** quarter-final:  
Rockdown 1-9 Sarfields 2-5; **Junior B Championship:** Tracton 3-11  
Dungourney 2-0; Ballincollig 8-17  
Kilshannig 1-2; Brian Dillons 3-8  
Kildorney 4-1.

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# Toomevara Pipped in Thriller

Grannagh-Ballingarry ..... 1-13  
Toomevara ..... 2-8

Semple Stadium was the venue on Saturday evening for the meeting of county champions Toomevara and the Limerick champions Grannagh-Ballingarry. After a great

point of the day and Toomevara's third. Seconds later Deirdre Hughes turned the full-back and blasted the ball over the bar to level proceedings.

Eileen O'Brien then pointed from a free before Noelle Kennedy struck a free from distance which deceived everyone and

Noelle Kennedy. An Eileen O'Brien point in 33rd minute lifted the Limerick side and they seemed to find a higher gear with Joanne Clifford scoring two points to once again level the sides. Marie Collins was doing Trojan work in the middle of the field and she put

Eileen O'Brien then intercepted a Toomevara pass and struck the ball over the bar to give them a slender lead with time running out.

Toomevara had their chances to equalise but were unable to break down the Grannagh-Ballingarry defence. Four minutes into



Mary Bradshaw (Toomevara) breaks away with the ball supported by Deirdre Hughes.

display of camogie from both sides and an exciting close finish to the game the Limerick side eventually edged out Toomevara by two points. No doubt Toomevara were disappointed after the game. However they can take great heart in the fact that they gave a fine performance and came very close to dethroning the All-Ireland champions.

In a game which the lead changed on 4 occasions it was Toomevara who registered the first score, a point after 2 minutes from Lena Woods. The opposition leveled a minute later when Eileen O'Brien pointed from a free. Grannagh-Ballingarry quickly settled into the game and went into the lead with a good point from mid-fielder Marie Collins. They increased their early lead with 2 quick points in succession from Fiona Morrissey and Joanne Clifford.

In the 9th minute a huge clearance by Noelle Kennedy fell to Denise Ryan in the half-forward line and she took one look up before slotting the ball over the bar. It was a score Toomevara needed and they immediately began to play with more confidence and urgency. Louise Young and Vera Sheehan were having a great duel in the centre of the field while Noelle Kennedy was battling hard keeping Eileen O'Brien at bay. Bonnie Kennedy beat her marker to the ball in the 12th minute and off loaded possession to Lena Woods who scored her second

ended up in the back of the net to the delight of the strong Toomevara following. Another point for Toomevara from Lena Woods after Deirdre Hughes was fouled extended their lead to 3 points. Grannagh-Ballingarry showed their

Grannagh-Ballingarry back into the lead with a goal in the 42nd minute. Aoife Sheehan got her name on the scoreboard when she pointed soon after.

But Toomevara weren't prepared to give up without a fight and Denise

injury time Grannagh-Ballingarry's Joanne Clifford who had an excellent game throughout broke free and scored a point. But there was still time for further excitement when Lena Woods showed her skill to gather possession and under pressure from three defenders she charged towards the goal. The keeper came out and Lena hand-passed the ball pass her but unfortunately for Toomevara it trailed narrowly wide. The referee then blew the whistle.

Best for Toomevara were Noelle Kennedy, Maria Tynan, Denise Ryan, Deirdre Hughes and Lena Woods while for Grannagh-Ballingarry Deirdre Sheehan, Marie Collins, Eileen O'Brien, Aoife Sheehan and Joanne Clifford shone out.

**Grannagh-Ballingarry** - Breda O'Brien, Bernie Molloy, Ber Chawke, Kay Bourke, Maureen O'Gorman, Meadh Nash, Deirdre Sheehan (capt), Marie Collins (1.1), Vera Sheehan, Jean Cullinane, Eileen O'Brien (0.4), Aoife Sheehan (0.1), Fiona Chawke, Fiona Morrissey (0.1), Joanne Clifford (0.6).

**Toomevara** - Paula Ryan, Trisha Ryan (capt), Suzanne Kelly, Lizzie Woods, Mary Rose Ryan, Noelle Kennedy (1.1), Maria Tynan, Anna Woods, Louise Young, Elaine Young, Mary Bradshaw, Denise Ryan (1.1), Bonnie Kennedy, Deirdre Hughes (0.2), Lena Woods (0.4).

Sub: Therese Maxwell for Elaine Young.

## All-Ireland Intermediate Semi-final

The Tipperary Intermediate team make the long trip to Antrim at the weekend to take on the home side in the All-Ireland Intermediate semi-final. Its Tipperary's first match of the championship as they were given a bye in the first round while Antrim defeated Derry by two points to set up this encounter.

In recent weeks Tipperary have upped their training in preparation for this mouth-watering encounter. They have a strong panel of players to choose from and are looking forward to getting their bid for All-Ireland glory underway. Tipperary will also be out for revenge over Antrim after they were defeated by them last year in the All-Ireland final and in the semi-final in the previous year. The match takes place in Portlennone on Sunday and throw-in is at 1.00pm.

experience and talent and responded with two quick points before half time from Joanne Clifford. This meant Toomevara went in at the break leading by the narrowest of margins on a scoreline of 1.5 to 7 points. Toomevara got off to a great restart with a point from Deirdre Hughes who was on fine form and a point from a free by

Ryan pounced onto a Noelle Kennedy free and finished it to the net. Immediately after Lena Woods pointed to leave the sides level for the fourth time with only 5 minutes remaining. The crowd were at the edge of their seats as the ball went up and down the field with both sides fighting for a place in the Munster final.

## Milford and Granagh favourites to reach Munster decider

by Máire Uí Scolai

MILFORD make their first appearance in a Munster senior club camogie championship semi-final when they take on Clare's Kilnamona at Milford tomorrow (6.30pm.)

Despite the defeat in the Cork championship final by Carrigrohoun, they became the Rebel's representatives due to Carrigrohoun being a divisional side and cannot represent the county in the championship.

But Milford's co-managers Ann Watson and Ted Sheehan are upbeat about tomorrow's clash. "We knew as soon as we won the semi-final that win or lose we would represent Cork, so it was a great bonus for us," said Ann, a former All-Ireland club medal winner with Croagh-Kilfinny of Limerick and mother of Milford players Aine, Emer and Marie.

Milford are aware that Kilnamona have the very talented Catherine O'Loughlin in their side as well as Siobhán Lafferty, who hit the headlines with her scoring exploits in the Banner's minor championship success. The Banner side denied Sixmilecross a three-in-a-row title in the county final and so Kilnamona will be hoping to make it a year to remember.

Boasting Cork intercounty players Anna Geary, Emer Watson, Elaine O'Riordan, together with Christine O'Gorman, who has also worn the Rebel's red and white, Milford will carry the favourites tag. Sarah Sexton and Aine Watson are only 16 and are capable of making an impact on the game, too.

Munster and All-Ireland club champions Granagh-Ballingarry of Limerick travel to Semple Stadium to take

on Toomevara in the second semi-final. Holders of three All-Ireland titles, the Limerick ladies, under manager Mike Chawke, will be well-prepared, but they know they will face a tough challenge from the Tipperary champions, who boast some experienced county players. Deirdre Hughes, the only present-day player to be selected on the Team of the Century, as well as Noelle Kennedy, Louise Young and defender Suzanne Kelly will present a tough challenge to the Munster champions.

Like Toome, Granagh have some excellent players in Limerick aces Eileen O'Brien, Vera and Aoife Sheehan, who will be joined by their other two sisters, Maureen and captain Deirdre. But surely the grand lady of Granagh, Ber Chawke, wife of manager Mike and mother of player Fiána, deserves a place in Jimmy Magee's record books. She has given over 20 years of playing service to Granagh and is still happy to line out at her customary centre-back position.

Despite lining out without great defender Laura Leslie, who fell awkwardly in the county final breaking her ankle, Granagh may pose too much experience for Toomevara, who last won the county final in 1995.

## Milford always in command

Milford (Cork) 2-23  
Kilnamona (Clare) 1-0

by Joy Sweetman

MILFORD put the disappointment of losing the Cork County senior championship final to Carrigrohoun behind them as they marched on to their first Munster Club Championship Camogie Final by defeating Clare representative Kilnamona in a one sided contest in Milford.

From as early as the sixth minute Milford had stamped their authority on proceedings as they led 0-6 to 0-0, with Anna Geary, Emer O'Friel, Leila Long and Emer Watson all picking off points.

By the midway stage the Cork representatives had increased their advantage to 11 points as Aine and Marie Watson and Julie Sheedy got on the scoresheet. Kilnamona's Catherine O'Loughlin pointed in injury time free to open her side's scoring, but this was to be their only contribution as the Cork girls proceeded to run the show in the second-half.

With the centrefield pairing and inside line totally dominant and their defence in total control, Milford continued to hold their grip and while there was never any danger of surprise, they continued to keep their foot on the peddle picking off points. Goals from Marie Watson and Emer O'Friel rubber stamped Milford's class and they now meet champions Granagh-Ballingarry in what promises to be an exciting Munster final.

Scorers: Milford: E. Watson, A. Geary 0-7 each, M. Watson, E. O'Friel 1-2 each, L. Long, Julie Sheedy 0-2 each, A. Watson 0-1.

Kilnamona: C. O'Loughlin 0-1.

AUGUST  
2004

# Junior B championship opens with some lively clashes

August

2004

THE last week saw the opening round of the O'Leary Brothers Builders Junior B county championship with no fewer than seven games decided.

**Kildorrey** 1-3  
**Brian Dillon's** 0-6

It took a Therese Drummond point two minutes from full time to give Brian Dillon's another day out when the sides finished level in Kildorrey. Kildorrey led 1-1 to 0-3 at the break.

The second half remained close with Orla Murphy stretching the advantage with a Kildorrey point to which Emma Lane replied. Therese Drummond and Murphy again exchanged points and it looked as if Kildorrey would hold on but Brian Dillon's worked hard and Drummond's late strike ensured the sides would have to do it all again.

**Ballyhea** 6-4  
**Delaney's** 1-0

Ballyhea held all the aces in their clash with Delaney's who, despite an early Cathy Buckley goal, failed to match the home side in the second half.

With Mary Coleman and Rachel Waters on target Ballyhea held a 3-1 to 1-0 interval advantage. Through the second half Delaney's tried hard but Ballyhea, with Sarah Douglas, Niamh Morrissey,

Mary Coleman and Rachel Waters all in scoring form, booked their place in the next round against Buttrvant.

**Buttrvant** 6-11  
**Blackrock** 3-3

Fiona O'Connell's three goals helped ensure Buttrvant made it through against Blackrock, who trailed 1-5 to 1-2 at half time. Buttrvant upped the pace and Blackrock had no answer to goals from O'Connell, Mary T Foley, Jan Farrell and Michelle O'Keefe.

**Tracton** 4-7  
**Sliabh Rua** 1-2

Second half goals from Ann Sinclair and Catherine Coughlan ensured Tracton advanced at the expense of Sliabh Rua. Tracton led 1-7 to 0-2 at the break. Ann Sinclair grabbed a goal 12 minutes into the second half to which Noelle Cronin replied. With Sinclair and Catherine Coughlan on target, Tracton advanced.

**Youghal** 7-17  
**St Fanahan's** 1-1

With Janette Power-Galvin grabbing four goals and Ashley Corcoran, Siobhan Downing, Shauna Cunningham,

Kelly McCarthy and Niamh Cotter all scoring, Youghal had too much power for a young St Fanahan's side.

**Dungourney** 3-6  
**Na Piarasigh** 1-0

Dungourney led 0-3 to no score at the break. Two minutes into the second half Patrice Kearney had Na Piarasigh on level terms but inside three minutes Brid Cullinane cancelled this out with a Dungourney goal. Kearney cut the arrears with a point but again Dungourney rallied thanks to an Evelyn Ronayne goal. Points from Kearney and Catherine Allen rallied Na Piarasigh and with Lisa Burns and Amy Keating working hard they battled on. Ella Ryan put four points between the sides before Evelyn Ronayne struck for her second goal which effectively killed off the brave Na Piarasigh challenge.

**Clonakilty** 6-11  
**Ballinora** 0-0

Stronger in all sections, Clonakilty advanced comfortably at the expense of Ballinora thanks to the accuracy of Evelyn Donovan, Sinead Hallihan, Sharon Whelton, Cliona O'Regan and Ciara Nagle.

## Douglas dominate in quarter-final clash

**Douglas** 5-9  
**Watergrasshill** 1-4

DESPITE Watergrasshill taking an early lead, thanks to a Fiona Foley goal and a point from Marie O'Neill, Douglas never allowed it to upset them as they advanced to a semi-final where they will meet Killeagh in the O'Leary brothers Junior A championship.

Watergrasshill held the advantage un-

til the 20th minute when Jenny O'Donovan struck for Douglas's opening score, from here to the half time whistle they maintained the pressure and adding points from Amanda O'Regan, Rachel O'Sullivan and O'Donovan they led 1-4 to 1-1 at the break.

From the start of the second half Douglas maintained the pressure with two Jenny O'Donovan goals and one from Amanda O'Regan.

back into the game with points from Marie O'Neill keeping them in contention. However Douglas stayed the course with points from Helen O'Mahony, Zoe Dunlea and Amanda O'Regan.

In truth, the city team always had enough in reserve to hold off the Watergrasshill challenge and book their semi final spot.

## Aghabullogue advance

**Aghabullogue** 2-14  
**Eire Og** 1-5

by Mary Newman

WITH Louise Murphy and Mary Buckley in superb form, Aghabullogue advanced to the final of the O'Leary Brothers Builders Cork Senior B camogie championship in Carrigrohilly last evening.

A seventh-minute Mary Buckley goal settled Aghabullogue but Eire Og bounced back with three points without reply from Ellen O'Herlihy, Deirdre Healy and Erin Corkery.

Aghabullogue regained their composure and six points without reply before the break left them 1-7 to 0-3 ahead.

Two points from Louise Murphy and Mary Buckley extended the advantage before Erin Cork-

ery raised Eire Og's hopes with a goal in the seventh minute, quickly followed by an Ellen O'Herlihy pointed free.

Aghabullogue's response was superb. A Mary Buckley pointed free was quickly followed by a Louise Murphy goal with 12 minutes remaining.

Four points - two apiece from Buckley and Murphy - were simply the icing on the cake.

Scorers: Aghabullogue: M. Buckley 1-7 (0-2 frees), L. Murphy 1-5 (0-1 free), D. Twomey 0-1.

Eire Og: E. Corkery 1-1, E. O'Herlihy 0-3 (0-2 frees), D. Healy 0-1 (free).

AGHABULLOGUE: E. Buckley; L. Ronan, J. Twomey, P. Murphy; N. O'Connell, T. Roche, S. Buckley; B. Twomey, F. Buckley; S.M. Crowley, D. Twomey, E. Healy; M. Buckley, M. Twomey, L. Murphy.

EIRE OG: Y. Malone; L. Murphy, L. O'Leary, A. Desmond; H. Walsh, A. McCarthy, D. Healy; C. Crowley, A. McKenna; Catriona McKenna, Ciara McKenna, H. O'Herlihy, M. O'Herlihy, C. O'Leary, E. Corkery. Sub: M. Corkery for C. O'Leary.

Referee: C. Egan (Glen Rovers).



The Claregalway/Lackagh Community Games Camogie team which will represent Connacht in the All-Ireland finals at Mosney this weekend. Front row, left to right: Niamh Fox, Ailbhe Manning, Aisling Keane, Clodagh Rafferty, Sara Fox, Michelle Murphy, Seána Thornton. Back row: left to right: Yvonne Coen, Mairead Linnane, Emily Moran, Adelle Grealish, Lisa Kirwan, Aideen Naughton, Aisling O'Brien, Rachael Creavan, Eimear Joyce.

## International camogie tournament for Dublin

by Colm O'Connor

CAMOGIE chiefs yesterday unveiled plans for an historic international competition in Dublin next month.

The inaugural Coca Cola International Series will feature teams from Ireland, Britain, mainland Europe and North America.

The sides will compete in a round robin competition from October 13 with the final to be played in Croke Park as the curtain raiser to the first International Rules Game on Sunday October 17.

The Irish representatives will be drawn from the Purcell Cup combined third-level colleges team named earlier this year.

The side will be captained by Galway's Therese Maher and will be man-

aged by former Tipperary hurling star Michael Cleary who led the Premier county to three consecutive senior camogie All-Ireland titles.

Camillus King, Anne Dolan, Rita Broderick and Michelle Davis will join him as selectors.

"This is a unique step for us, we are delighted to have an international dimension to our games, particularly in this our centenary year," Camogie Association President Miriam O'Callaghan said yesterday.

"We are very grateful to Sean Kelly and the GAA for their generous grant towards this event and also to Coca Cola Bottlers Ireland who have joined us as official sponsors of the event. We will be hoping to develop the international dimension to camogie over the coming years."

## KILLEAGH MAKE IT TO FINAL

THREE first half goals from Noelle O'Donovan, Angela Walsh and Mary O'Connor helped Killeagh advance to the O'Leary Brothers Junior A county final at the expense of Douglas. The winners led 3-4 to 0-4 at the interval and despite a strong Douglas rally which yielded six points from Amanda O'Regan and one from Jenny O'Donovan the Killeagh girls always had the upper hand and advanced on a 3-7 to 0-11 score line.

In the quarter final of the same competition last years 'B' champions Rockban went in as firm favourites against Sarsfields but they had to call on all their reserves before making it to a semi-final meeting with Valley Rovers. Aided by the wind in the opening half Rockban dominated and led 1-8 to 0-2 at the break. Sile Burns contributing 1-5 to the Rockban tally with Valerie Mulcahy, Sarah Coleman and Elaine Cooney added points while Emer O'Farrell kept Sars in touch with two points. Sars cut the arrears with points from Jemma O'Donoghue and Emer O'Farrell (3) while Rockban's only reply in the second half was a Sile Burns point as Sars piled on the pressure. With twelve minutes remaining Doris Murphy had the deficit down to four points as Sars

threw everything at the Rockban defence a second goal from Emer O'Farrell left the bare minimum between the teams, however all Sars efforts failed to produce the levelling score and Rockban survived.

## JUNIOR 'B' CHAMPIONSHIP

BRIAN DILLON'S defeated Kildorrey at the second time of asking when the sides met in the replay of the Junior B championship. It was nip and tuck through and exciting contest as the lead changed hand on several occasions. A Therese Deane goal giving Brian Dillon's the advantage as they pulled away to record a four point winning margin, they now meet Clonakilty on Saturday next. Despite a spirited challenge Dungourney had to give best to a strong Tracton side that had good performances from Catriona Ginnane, Nicola Lynch and Catherine Coughlan. Ballincollig held all the aces as they comfortably advanced with a big victory over Kilshannig but they had to give best to Youghal in a close second round clash.

## MUNSTER FINAL FOR MILFORD

MILFORD made their debut in the Munster Club championship a winning one when they totally outclassed Clare representatives Kilnamona. The gap in standards was evident from early as Milford raced into an early lead they continued to dominate and ran out easy winners, they now meet holders Grenagh-Ballingarry in the final after they defeated Toomevara in a thrilling semi final.

## INTERMEDIATES GO IN SEARCH OF GLORY

THE county intermediate team travel to Galway on Sunday to meet the home side in the All-Ireland semi-final. Galway had one point to spare over Limerick in their opening game on Tuesday evening and while it is a first outing for Cork they will be determined to join the senior and junior sides in an All Ireland final.

## UNDER AGE ACTIVITIES RESUME

PLENTY of under age activities this weekend as Douglas take on Inniscarra in the under 14 'A' league final on Friday in Cloughduv at 6-45. On Saturday Mayfield host the under 16 'A' league final as St Catherine's and Douglas meet at 4.30p.m. Sars have a home venue against Cloughduv in the under 16 twelve a side championship on Saturday at 3.30p.m. Another busy programme on Sunday, the Under 14 'B' semi-final Bishopstown meeting Ballincollig at 5p.m in Riverstick followed at 6.30p.m by Brian Dillon's and Clonakilty in the Under 14 'C' semi-final.

## JUNIOR CHAMPIONSHIP CONTINUE

VALLEY ROVERS and Rockban meet in Ballincollig at 1.30p.m in the O'Leary Brothers Junior A semi-final on Sunday, while on Saturday Clonakilty travel to the Tank field to meet Brian Dillon's in the second round of the Junior B championship.

## ALL-IRELAND CAMOGIE FINAL TICKETS

FOLLOWERS are asked to note that the All-Ireland camogie finals on Sunday, Sept 19 will be admission by ticket only, clubs can reserve their tickets from Croke Park or they will be on sale in the week leading up to the game, details to be announced next week.

## Camogie girls are ready to step into the limelight

MATCH tickets, train tickets, accommodation hurling fever is sweeping the County at the moment and it's the only thing occupying almost everyone's mind. Almost!

Quietly tucked away in at the 'Farm' at Curraheen 60 girls are going through their paces looking to win their own All-Ireland showdown.

The Cork senior and junior camogie panels both train in Curraheen, albeit separately but with the one objective.

Many will travel to the hurling final, stand and listen to the National Anthem just before throw in and think 'this time next week, I'll be there'.

The 19th of September is camogie day. Cork are involved in both finals and it's a tremendous occasion.

I never mean about women in sport and how shabbily they get treated. Be-

cause I don't think we do. Of course we don't get the media attention the guys get or the job perks. But very few women care. They're not playing for those reasons. Certainly the men aren't either but from the girls point of view you never miss what you never had.

Yes we would love more people to support us. Yes we would love it on Sunday the 19th 15,000 people would travel and urge us on and yes we do love an appreciative home coming.

I'd be lying if I said after winning an All-Ireland you didn't sit on the train on the Monday evening as it pulled into Mallow and Kent Station hoping when you arrived the crowd would take your breath away. That's about all the girls ask for really. Nothing material.

Cork will play Tipp in the senior game while the juniors will face Down.



Linda Mellerick

Dublin based Garda Val O'Keeffe is captain of the Cork junior team and is excited and nervous at the thought of leading her charges out onto the hallowed turf of Croke Park in two weeks time.

"It's a tremendous honour for me." Cork are favourites to win this title having comprehensively beaten all their Munster opponents and overcoming the stern challenge of Wexford in the semi-final three weeks ago.

But it's a tag Val doesn't want: "The reason we won our games comfortably in Munster was because we didn't take any of them for granted."

"We were nervous and cautious of every team we played and were extremely focused."

"Against Wexford it was a battle but Anna Geary's goal put us in the driving seat. I don't think Wexford ever recovered from that."

"Down will be very tough and physical. We'll have to go out and give it everything for the hour."

Coach Lillian Zinkant is synonymous with Cork junior camogie. She always seems to be involved, whether as a player, a selector or a coach. She has seen it all and it doesn't get any easier.

Asked what winning this title would mean to her, Lillian has just one word 'everything'.

The junior team have it tough at times. They have great players but great players get snapped up. It's an is-

sue which has arisen again this year. The juniors have lost four of their starting 15 to the Cork senior panel. Without a doubt it is a huge loss but one which Lillian accepts.

Rena Buckley, Anna Geary and Sheila Burns have taken the step up. In my opinion you always try to better yourself and if you're good enough, don't hold back. Catriona Foley is number four but she damaged to her knee in the junior semi-final against Wexford and misses out.

Lillian is happy her panel is strong enough to cope with the loss.

"We have a great panel. I told the girls at this stage 70% of winning is heart and spirit. And we have that."

What are the chances of three All-Ireland titles in seven days? Is it an impossible dream? I don't think so.

## DOUGLAS DOUBLE

PLENTY of local action through another busy week and it was a good weekend for Douglas who captured the under 14 'A' and under 16 'A' league titles at the expense of Inniscarra and St Catherine's.

In Cloughduv on Friday night the miserable weather conditions failed to dampen the determination of two superb teams.

Inniscarra recovered from a bad start to lead at the break by five points but the switching of Leanne O'Shea to the forward division paid huge reward for Douglas when she palmed to the net within four minutes of the re-start.

Inniscarra battled on but never regained the momentum of the first half. Inniscarra's Aoife Kavanagh was named as 'Player of the Match' following a tremendous performance.

It was on to Mayfield on Saturday for Douglas as their under 16 'A' side faced St. Catherine's in the bid to retain their title.

With four minutes remaining Douglas trailed by five points and it looked like the title was heading to

Conna but a tremendous come back saw them record a superb victory in injury time.

A goal from Jenny O'Donovan had cut the St. Catherine's lead to two points before Rachel O'Sullivan had it down to the minimum deep into injury time but there was still time for more as Leanne O'Shea found the net after an impressive run through the St. Catherine's defence.

Jenny O'Donovan's point stretched the advantage to three and left St. Catherine wondering just where it all went wrong.

**ALL SQUARE IN SEMI-FINAL**  
SILE Burns was the saviour as Rockban grabbed a second chance in the O'Leary Brothers Junior 'A' championship semi final on Saturday.

Valley Rovers led 0-7 to 0-2 at the break and looked to be heading to a final meeting with Killeagh but raising their game considerably Rockban earned themselves another bit at the cherry. The replay will take place on Sunday, September 25.

CamogieChat  
DOWN TO SEMI FINALS IN JUNIOR B

BALLYHEA and Buttevant played out a close local derby clash in Buttevant with the visitors edging out the hosts with one point to spare in a game where there was very little between the sides over the sixty minutes.

Tracton with Karen O'Sullivan, Catherine Guinnane and Catherine Coughlan all impressing recorded an impressive victory over Dungourney.

Youghal and Ballincollig played out a thriller in Copperalley, Ballincollig held the interval advantage as they led 1-4 to 1-1 but a determined Youghal were soon on level thanks to a Sarah Hogan goal.

With time running out Youghal's Shauna Cunningham and Ashleigh Corcoran pointed to send the home side into the semi-final.

At the Tank Field Brian Dillon's came from behind with three minutes remaining to book their place in the semi-final.

Caroline Horgan's goal had the

side's level before substitute Louise Fleming crashed to the net to give the city girls victory and their place in the semi-final against Youghal.

Once again when the going got tough Liz O'Sullivan answered the call and brought herself on as a substitute with three minutes to go and indeed added a point which brought huge cheers from the home following.

In other results Cloughduv advance at the expense of Sarsfields in the under 16 twelve a side championship, while in the under 14 'b' league semi-final Ballincollig had a victory over Bishopstown, while Clonakilty proved to strong for Brian Dillon's in the 'C' semi final.

The juvenile board has the under 14 'B' league semi-final down for decision on Friday at Delaney's at 6-45p.m while the Under 16 'C' league final Newcestown v Rockban takes place on Saturday at 11.30 it is hoped that will take place in Ballinlough.

## ALL IRELAND TICKETS - CAMOGIE FINAL -

AS the countdown to the Centenary All-Ireland finals continues tickets for the game will be available on tomorrow Friday in Paire Uí Chaoimh from 6-30 to 7-30 and again on Tuesday in Paire Uí Rinn from 5p.m to 7p.m. As the game will be admission by ticket only it is important to get your tickets before travelling to ensure all the Cork support is in the same section of the stand.

## GOOD LUCK TO THE LADS

GOOD LUCK to Donal O'Grady and the lads on Sunday, a word to Ben, Don't forget to remind them when you go up to collect the Liam Mc Carthy cup that the girls will be back in seven days to collect two more pieces of silverware .....Come On the Rebels"

## Hayes hat-trick powers Galway to All-Ireland final

by Máire Uí Scolai

A HAT-TRICK from Ann-Marie Hayes powered Galway to a 13 points win over Cork (4-8 to 0-7) in yesterday's All-Ireland intermediate camogie semi-final in Duggan Park, Ballinasloe.

Hayes opened her account after sixty seconds and while Cork's Miriam Deasy responded with a point, the Rebels only managed three further points in the opening half, one from Val O'Keeffe and

two from Anna Geary. A second goal from Hayes meant Galway were 2-5 to 0-4 ahead at the break.

The in-form Hayes scored another goal before the Rebels hit their best patch, with three points in a row from Miriam Murphy, Marie O'Connell and Emer O'Farrell. However, Brenda Kearins scored the fourth goal of the game seven minutes later, seeing Galway through to the All-Ireland final.

Their opponents will be Tipperary,

who easily overcame Antrim 2-15 to 1-5 in the second semi-final in Portlennone.

Scorers for Galway: AM Hayes 3-3, B Kearins 1-0, E Kilkelly 0-3, B Hanny, S Keane 0-1 each. Cork: M Deasy, A Geary 0-2 each, M O'Connell, E O'Farrell, V O'Keeffe 0-1.

**GALWAY'S** Eerner: C Moran, S Cahalan, L Flynn; N Gavin R O'Connor, R Glynn; C Glennon, L Lally; B Kearins, B Hanny, A Lynskey; C Kelly, AM Hayes, E, Kilkelly.

**CORK:** C Harrington; K Hickey, J Browne, A O'Regan; N Bowles, S Dowling, M O'Connell; S Burns, V O'Keeffe, E O'Farrell, L Bugler, A Geary; M Murphy, M Deasy, E O'Farrell.

Referee: M Conroy, (Waterford).

August

2004

# Hotshot Hayes puts Cork to sword

Galway 4-8  
Cork 0-7

GALWAY never looked back after a dream start in this All-Ireland Intermediate semi-final in Ballinasloe yesterday.

The winners received a major boost after two minutes when Ann Marie Hayes' dipping shot deceived goalkeeper Gillian Harrington and ended up in the net.

Cork gradually came more into the game, but were rocked by a second Hayes goal 11 minutes before the interval.

From here to half-time they were forced to chase the game as the home side added points to lead by 2-5 to 0-4 at the interval.

Cork upped the ante after the restart and scored three points without replay from Marion Murphy, Marie O'Connell and Emer O'Farrell.

Galway were quickly back on the offensive however, and Breda Kerins struck for goal number three at the three-quarter stage.

Hayes put the gloss on an impressive Galway win when bagging her third goal eight minutes from the end.

Cork battled on bravely but met stern resistance from a strong Galway defence, in which goalkeeper Susan Earner excelled.

Substitute Sinead Keane got on the scoresheet with Galway's eighth point on the full-time whistle to set up a final meeting with Tipperary who recorded a 2-15 to 1-5 victory over Antrim.

Galway PRO Eileen Daly expressed satisfaction at a job well done: "Having won the minor title earlier in the year it's great to be in another All-Ireland final.

"Cork are heading to Croke Park with their senior and junior teams and we knew we would not get it easy here today.

"We got the perfect start and were able to build on it while Ann Marie Hayes got goals for us at vital stages.

"Tipperary will be another hard one but we are thrilled to be in the final and are looking forward to the challenge."



WINNERS: Douglas captain Jessica Jackson leads her team-mates in celebration after they won the U14 County Cup which was presented by Tracey Sheehan, chairperson county juvenile board.

Picture: Mike English

## Douglas girls have to battle all the way

Douglas 5-4  
Inniscarra 4-3

DOUGLAS went into this U14 A league decider as hot favourites but in truth there was little between the sides.

Douglas, aided by the strong wind, made the early running and with Niamh and Moira O'Donovan hitting two goals inside the opening 10 minutes it looked as if the pre-match predictions were to be correct.

Inniscarra, however, worked hard and eventually they were rewarded when impressive full-forward Niamh Dilworth rattled the net with a superb goal midway through the half.

Allied to their strike for goal the Inniscarra defence tightened up con-

siderably and the side grew in confidence.

Also, up front Fiona O'Connell and Aoife Kavanagh ensured a steady supply to their inside line and here it was Dilworth and O'Connell who excelled, hitting three goals inside six minutes.

At this stage Inniscarra could do no wrong as Fiona O'Connell pointed a 45 on the half-time whistle to leave them ahead 4-2 to 2-3.

From the start of the second half Douglas applied the pressure and the switching of Lee Ann O'Shea to their forward division brought rewards.

Inside four minutes O'Shea found the net.

Fiona O'Connell showed her accuracy with a pointed 45 to help Inniscarra hold a three point advantage but it was all to play for four minutes later

when Niamh O'Donovan caught the Inniscarra defence out for a goal.

With the game up for grabs both sides worked hard for victory. Inniscarra's Kavanagh drove her side forward with skilful striking and superb control while Douglas captain Jessica Jackson controlled the defence and broke the hearts of Inniscarra.

Niamh O'Donovan edged Douglas ahead with a point and with play swinging from end to end both sides missed chances, Inniscarra in particular putting the Douglas defence under severe pressure but they weathered the storm.

Five minutes from fulltime Aileen O'Donovan clinched the title for Douglas when she hit the back of the net.

Inniscarra tried hard but one sensed the die was cast.

Inniscarra's Aoife Kavanagh was presented with the player-of-the-match award following a superb display.

Douglas coach Jimmy O'Mahony was delighted with his side's display: "We turned in a great second half performance. The will to win was very evident and when Inniscarra put it up to us we had to call on all our resources. I am delighted for the girls and am proud of them."

DOUGLAS: C. Murphy, J. Desmond, U. Dunphy, C. O'Driscoll, J. Kelleher, J. Jackson, E. Jordan, M. O'Donovan (1-0), L. O'Shea (1-0), J. White, N. O'Donovan (2-4), M. O'Mahony, S. Sisk, A. O'Donovan (1-0), D. Connolly. Sub K. Horgan for D. Connolly.

INNISCARRA: J. Casey, S. McCarthy, A. Punch, J. Gannon, J. Farmer, M. McCarthy, K. Jones, K. O'Mahony, F. O'Connell (1-2, 0-2 from 45), A. Kavanagh, C. O'Brien, E. O'Connell, E. Kingston, N. Dilworth, N. Keating

Referee: Colette O'Mahony St Finbarr's

By PJ AHERN

Junior camogie

Rockban 0-10  
Valley Rovers 0-10

THE width of a goalpost was the difference between sending Rockban through and sending it to a replay in this O'Leary Bros Builders Junior A Championship encounter in Ballincollig on Saturday.

Sile Burns scored a free and a 45 with two minutes remaining to level the match. She had the opportunity to clinch the win with another 45 in injury-time but it dropped wide.

Elaine Burke knocked over a point inside the first minute to get Valley Rovers off the mark.

Sinead Deasy began solidly at full-back and her team-mate Elmaire Cottrell did well to clear off the line to deny Rockban a goal.

The sides exchanged a number of points before three Elaine Burke points gave Valley Rovers breathing space.

The concession of frees was proving very costly to Rockban especially as Burke's radar was in full operation.

Rockban were very lethargic in the first half and hit a number of wides.

They were lucky to be in touching distance at half-time.



PJ

Aherne

But they came roaring out of the blocks in the second half and were quick off the mark with a point from Burns.

They had to soak up a brief period of pressure from Valley Rovers, which saw the Brinny girls have chances at goal but they just could not force the ball across the line.

Deirdre Foley and Maureen Cottrell were impressive throughout for their respective sides.

Rockban came back in to the match

and worked away at the Rovers lead.

Burns added another point after Valerie Mulcahy was pulled down.

Liz Bugler followed up with a good solo effort. Lucy Hawkes made a positive and immediate impact when introduced for Valley Rovers.

She wasn't afraid to get stuck in as the battle heated up between the sides as the match entered the final quarter.

Valley Rovers had another chance at goal but O'Mahony and Diane Twohig's efforts were whipped away to safety.

Elaine Casey pulled a great point out of the bag to leave it at a two-point game.

Rockban battled all the way back and it was left to Sile Burns to take centre

stage and she pointed a free from close range with two minutes on the clock and she followed up with a coolly taken point.

She had the chance to win the match but her well-struck 45 veered off right. Neither side deserved to lose it though and a second day out will see a definite cracker.

Scorers Rockban: S. Burns 0-5, E. Casey 0-4, V. Mulcahy 0-1

Valley Rovers: E. Burke 0-3, J. O'Mahony 0-1, L. Bugler 0-1, M. Twohig 0-1

ROCKBAN: E. Burke, A. Gannon, S. Keohane, M. O'Keefe, M. Foley, C. Dunne, N. Keohane, L. Crowley, C. Crowley, D. Foley, V. Mulcahy, T. Howard, S. Burns, E. Casey, S. Coleman

VALLEY ROVERS: G. Harrington, L. Davis, S. Deasy, E. Cottrell, A. M. Murphy, M. Cottrell, M. A. Hawkes, E. O'Mahony, L. Bugler, C. O'Riordan, D. Twohig, E. Burke, C. Deasy, E. O'Mahony, A. O'Donovan

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