137

July - Sept
2006

JULY 2006

Camogie club notes

AGHABULLOGUE

Our Senior team progressed to the next round of the competition by defeating Fr O'Neill's in the first round of the championship in Bishopstown last Saturday. An open draw will decide who they meet in the next round.

The U16's are progressing well through the league with victories so far recorded over Watergrasshill, Newcestown and Passage and Brian Dillon's, however they did lose out to a strong Mallow side. The game against Brian Dillon's took place last Thursday night in Coachford with Aghabullogue coming out well on top on a score line of 9-9 to 3-4.

The underage structure is strong with Muskerry U13 leagues currently underway. Training for the underage takes place every Tuesday and Saturday throughout the summer.

Our under 14 team participated in division four of the Camogie U14 Feile Na nGael competition held in CoachfordRatoath emerged to contest Sunday's final and in a hectic finish Sarsfields emerged victorious. All participants enjoyed a great weekend of camogie and fun was had by all.

BLACKROCK

The U9 team have been doing very well recently playing many challenge games we made the trip to Glen Rovers and recorded a victory over the home side who gave our girls a great welcome. We also had a victory over Passage.

On the same afternoon as our U9s team travelled to Glen Rovers we availed of the pitches our hosts had available to play an under 14 challenge game at the same time, despite putting in a great performance we had to give way to the Glen, again here the girls enjoyed the trip and game.

The U11 team got their Seandun league campaign underway with a great display against Glen Rovers. The game finished in a draw with great displays from Michelle Murphy, Katelyn Hickey and Sarah Hennessy. We led from the start with a Kelly O'Brien goal and it was followed by a point from Katelyn Hickey. The Glen fought back and a goal from Natalie Murray was added to with a point from Lauren Callanan to see the game finish all square.

Final Score: Blackrock 1-1 Glen Rovers 1-1

our junior team are doing very well in their first season at junior "A" level.

New website: The club recently launched a new website that is updated regularly www.blackrockcamogie.com

CARRIGALINE

Hard Luck to the U14 Féile Team. The girls played their hearts out at the Feile competition and were very unlucky not to go through to the semi-final stages. They won two of their matches and drew one but unfortunately it was not enough.

ÉIRE ÓG

Éire Óg had seven seniors on the Muskerry team who came out on top after a very exciting game with Ellen O' Herlihy and Lorraine Murphy contributing hugely to the final one point win. Final score 4.7 to 3.9

Éire Óg players: Ellen Herlihy, Erin Corkery, Margaret Herlihy, Catriona McKenna, Lorraine Murphy, Ella Kelleher, Catriona O'Leary and Clíodhna McCarthy who was introduced as a sub.

Éire Óg play Glen Rovers in the Senior B Championship on Monday July 17.

Congratulations to Ella Kelleher and Aoife McCarthy who were involved with the Cork minors who beat Tipperary by four points last Sunday.

Well done to Éire Óg's Paddy Corkery who was a selector.

U16:

Éire Óg play Killeagh in the next U16 League match.

U14:

Éire Óg U14 team enjoyed the Féile competition last week-end when they hosted Ballycran. Even though they failed to win their matches, they tried hard and made many new friends.

The U13 Muskerry league has commenced but unfortunately Éire Óg met two stronger teams when they lined out against Inniscarra and Ballincollig in the first matches.

Scores: Inniscarra 4.2 Éire Óg 2.0 (Marie Angela Doherty 2.0)

Ballincollig 3.0 Éire Óg 0.3 (Siobhan Hutchinson 0.2, Alanna Murphy 0.1)

U12: Éire Óg reached the county final in this competition but met a stronger Valley Rovers who with the wind to their backs in the first half scored two goals. In the second half Éire Óg's Elaine Scally scored a lovely goal from a free but we were unable to score any further.

U11 (Team I): This year we decided to field two U11 teams in the Muskerry league in order to give our girls aged 7 to 11 competitive games.

Team (1) played Ballincollig in the first round and won well with a final score of 4-3 to no score. Siobhan Hutchinson played a blinder scoring two goals and three points while Eadaoin O'Callaghan McCarthy scored one goal and Ruth Murphy got our final goal. Hannah O'Sullivan played her first competitive match and was brilliant at centre field while Aoife Lyons and Gráinne Hutchinson were too good for the Ballincollig forwards.

We didn't come home quite so happy from the second round when stronger Inniscarra girls held us scoreless and ran out winners with three goals to spare.

U11 (Team 2): This group has only had one match and they beat Ballincollig by 1-0 to 0-1. Many of these girls are only eight years old but have been training hard for the past year or two and it's great to see them having a chance to play competitive games.

Ailish O'Connor was the girl who managed to score the goal to win the match.

GLEN ROVERS

Recently we welcomed visitors from St Martins camogie club Wexford to Cork for Feile na nGael. A huge thanks also to Fr James Mc Sweeney in St Oliver's who made the Féile mass so special for all our visitors and for the lovely gifts given to all.

The excitement of Feile na nGael has now passed and our U14 team are delighted to have qualified for the semi finals of the U14 League where we will meet Ballygarvan at the end of August , we look forward to another good encounter with the Ballygarvan girls who held the upper hand last time the sides met.

Our U12 teams have now completed their county board league programmes and despite not qualifying did extremely well.

Its back to the action for the U16 team following the break from exams and the rustiness really showed on Thursday last when we travelled to Ballygarvan for a league game.

After 28 minutes the home side were 12 points ahead but a spirited and determined second half display saw the deficit cut to just one point at the full time whistle.

A much improved display on Saturday saw the U16 team take the points on offer against Valley Rovers, Denise Luby, Lydia Cunningham, Alice Keating and Karen O'Connell all to the fore in this game.

Our senior team had to give way to a very strong Bishopstown side when they met recently in the senior league.

Our under age training continues through the summer months for players from six years to 12 years Sunday morning at 11.45 am and Tuesday evenings 5.45pm to 7pm. Under 13 to 16 Monday and Wednesday 7pm and Friday 5pm, senior, juniors and under 18 training Monday and Wed at 7pm

Congratulations to Patrick Horgan who captained the Cork minor team to Munster championship honours recently. Patrick is a great role model for all our young girls and boys and hopefully they will go on to achieve as much as he has, we wish him and his team mates well in their quest for All Ireland honours.

Congratulations and bon voyage to Mr Jim Hayes who retired on Friday last from his post as principle in Scoil Oilibeir, Mr Hayes was always most helpful to camogie and was always welcoming to us when we visited Scoil Oilibeir.

There are still places available for the Cúl summer camp which takes place from August 14 to August 18. forms available in Club Shop on Monday and Friday nights 7pm to 8.30pm

NA PIARSAIGH

Under12's: We have had a very successful season with our U12 D team. The girls were amazing both on and off the pitch.

We are very happy with the development of their skills from last year and we are hoping for more improvement in the coming year

Results:

Na Piarsaigh

Vs Aghabullogue (won) 1, 2 — 0, 0(Emer Kelly1, 0 Rebecca Rourke and Amy O

Connor one point each).

vs. St.Vincent's(won) 3-0 to 2-0 (Emer Kelly 2-0 Rebecca Rourke 1-0)

vs. Glen Rovers 2 (won)0-2 to 0-0 (Amy O Connor 0-2) vs. Douglas3 (won) 6-1 to 0-0 (Emer Kelly 4-0 Amy O'Connor 1-1 Aisling Hannon 1-0) vs. Courcey Rovers-walk over vs. Ballinora(draw)1,0-1,0 (Clodagh Wyse) Quarter Final vs. Enniskeane(lost) 4,2-0,0

We would like to thank all above teams for all the great games and we are

looking forward to meeting ye next year Go nairi libh an bliain seo chugainn!!!

The club held a fundraising night in Cork Greyhound track recently: This was in aid of the future plans of the club which include Phase I of the development which was completed in 2004 with the rebuilding of an office, meeting rooms, board room and a museum above the members bar.

Phase II of the development plan is now underway with the commencement of construction work on the two full sized adult pitches, juvenile pitch and training area.

Phase III of the development in 2007 includes the floodlighting of two of these pitches and because of the steep embankments erect terracing overlooking these.

Phase IV Will includes the construction of additional dressing rooms and an

all weather floodlight pitch. The total cost of these projects is expected to be well in excess of 4million euro

the camogie section sponsored a dog and it came in third, All Camogie

Committee Officers and Mentors attend the night.

The night was enjoyed by all attended with the betting on dogs and of course dancing afterwards when the music began.

Tosach maith leat an oibre

PASSAGE WEST

One of the main attractions at the club's fun day was the U9 match between Passage and Blackrock. The Passage U9 team are managed by Kieran Harrington, Mick Dunlea, Francis Mc Elveney and Wayne Atkinson. They have been training every Friday for the last few weeks. This was their first camogie match. Blackrock started off the stronger and scored two goals in the first half. The Passage girls did

Sponsors are vital for future success

By MARY NEWMAN
Camogie news



County Juvenile Board Chairperson Tracy Sheehan presents Ballinascarty Captain Helen Cullinane with the U12 twelve-a-side championship trophy.

NO MATTER what the sporting grade, money is invariably the bottom line. Be it a club bemoaning the cost of gear or the sportswoman kitting herself out with the most expensive and trendy footwear, cost is the biggest factor.

For many clubs it's a huge problem impeding development.

Many clubs are lucky to have the backing and support of willing parents and club members always ready and able to generate something, be it from a draw, raffle or bag packing.

In this the modern era of sponsorship the big names will invariably bag the big prizes, flashy cars, now the norm for our inter-county playing males.

We still await the day when some firm decides to honour our female gaelic games sports stars in such a manner. After all, they too have won All-Ireland and national league honours. Many of them are already dual stars. They train and make as many sacrifices to reach the top in their chosen sport as the lads.

Maybe it's because they are girls that these vehicle giving companies are slow to hand over the keys?

Maybe I'm wrong, so motor companies please loosen the grip here a little and give the girls a break.

Many of our clubs in the county have been fortunate to get sponsorship of playing gear, while our inter-county camogie teams are hugely grateful for the sponsorship of their panels.

Without such funding many county boards would by now have been in serious financial difficulty.

Here in Cork the senior county team has been sponsored for the last four years by Punch Industries.

This season, for the first time, Cork has two senior teams.

This new team places another burden on the county board. A welcome boost is the sponsorship of the team by G E Healthcare.

The U16 team were also fortunate to attain sponsorship of casual gear from DAF trucks.

Recently, Féile na nGael clubs made huge efforts to have their teams looking smart and well dressed.

When the Féile was held in Cork for their first time in 1976 I can remember the excitement in our club when we were given a new set of jerseys by the hurling club.

I can still remember the nylon jersey with white collar, and there was such excitement as the brown bag was opened on the steps of City Hall where the small parade of teams assembled and were greeted by the Lord Mayor.

How times have changed I thought as I surveyed the array of names emblazoned across the front of the classy new jersey our young teams now rightfully wear.

It's a tribute to the many firms who put their money and support into our young team and on behalf of all our young camogie players, a huge thanks to you all.

Clubs could not survive without your help.

At school level money is again a huge headache for those involved in the promotion of sport.

Education budgets do not always stretch to fund the gear needed to keep our games alive in these very important areas.

Local clubs have always been hugely supportive of the clubs in their parish and area without this many schools would have long since ceased playing our games.

When divisional sides are being put together it's again a headache for the clubs participating.

Sometimes players may only be drawn from two or three clubs within the division and therefore not all clubs are willing to get involved and make the money required available for the division to fund a senior and underage team.

In recent years a team representing the Cork Colleges has participated in many U14 competitions all over Ireland. The brainchild of Rob Lotty, the team has enjoyed success at many of the inter county tournaments, and indeed several of the players involved have gone on to play on Cork minor and adult teams.

Again a hard one to fund, given that the players are chosen from the various camogie playing schools in the county.

This year they were fortunate to secure sponsorship from Neville Jewellers and John Neville was loud in his praise for the work the schools are putting in promoting games at underage level.

"We are always delighted to sponsor anything to do with sport and when the opportunity arose to support the Cork Colleges camogie team we were only to glad to help out."

This season a second Cork U14 team took to the field, this team chosen from players not playing on the Colleges side.

It was hard work to get the players looked after but with the support of the county board, who supplied the playing jerseys, and the clubs the youngsters were well decked out when they participated in the U14 tournaments around the country.

Be it club, school or county everybody need a little help and support, to the many already lending that hand well done, to those with a little to give don't be shy get out there and start the ball rolling it could be the start of a great partnership.

● THE Galway County board will hold their inaugural inter-county U14 camogie blitz in Gort tomorrow.

Cork Colleges, Galway, Clare and Limerick Colleges will participate in the A section, while Westmeath, Roscommon, Offaly and Galway B playing in the B section.

The competition is to be played on a round-robin basis with the two top teams from each section going forward to contest the semi finals.

With multiple substitutions allowed each player is assured of plenty participation.

Cork colleges will be hoping to add this Galway trophy to the ones already won at the Clare blitz title and the James Hurley memorial trophy which was held in Cork.

Aileen O'Donovan, Pamela and Katrina Mackey, Joanne Casey Tessa Hawkes and Donna O' Leary will feature for the rebels, but they will face stiff opposition from the hosts and a well tutored Limerick side.

July 2006



Ref Ger Sheehan with captains Sarah Moloney Newtownshandrum and Ellen Buckley Buttevant before the U12 B final.





LEFT: Cork colleges players captain joanne Casey and Sinead O'Halloran present John Neville with a signed jersey in recognition of his sponsorship of the team. ABOVE: The Millstreet U12 team who defeated Bride Rovers in the U12 C final.

very well in the second half and kept Blackrock scoreless.

The game finished with Blackrock being the winners by two goals to no score.

After the game ex Cork camogie captain Linda Mellerick presented the girls with their medals. Then both teams went and played on the bouncing castles.

Training continues for the summer at the Passage GAA pitch. :

Under10: 3.30pm Fridays.

Under13: 5. 30pm Tuesdays.

Under16 Mondays and Wednesdays (depending on matches)

The U16 league matches are due to resume this week, the first one being against Watergrasshill.

There is also an U14 challenge V Douglas Tuesday at 7pm in Douglas.

ST CATHERINE'S

Senior B League: Our Senior B team travelled to Douglas to play the home side and ran out winners. There was little between the teams in the first half with only a goal in the difference at half time, 1-3 to 0-3 in our favour, we dominated the second half with our forwards taking their scores and limiting Douglas to just 0 — 1 until the last few minutes of play when they got 1 — 1.

Meanwhile we went on to score 1 — 6 in this half as with all our encounters with Douglas this was a tough game and one which will stand to us in preparation for Championship.

Team: — D.Leahy, Y.O' Neill, A. Hayes, H. Lane, S. Noonan, N. Mulcahy, D. Mulcahy, E. Power, E.O' Keeffe, A. Hogan, O. Cotter, L. Higgins, E. Harpur, T. Fitzgerald, D. Twomey.

Subs. — M .Mulcahy for E. Harpur, A. Galvin, J. Hurley, C. Hurley, K. Twomey, K. Higgins.

Scorers — O. Cotter 1 — 5 (1f), L. Higgins 0 — 2, D. Twomey 0 — 1, T. Fitzgerald 1 — 0, A. Hogan 0 — 1

We travelled to Co. Limerick on Sunday 2nd July to play Killedy in a challenge game.

Club Sports wear. A reminder to anyone who wishes to purchase St. Catherine's training jackets or hoodies can still do so by contacting Ann Galvin or Brigid Cotter.

Senior B Championship 2006

Our Senior B team will play Ballinhassig in their first game in this competition; this match is scheduled to take place on Tues 11th July at a venue yet to be decided.

ST VINCENTS

Congratulations to the U12s on reaching the county final and the U14s for reaching the quarter final.

U 12B county semi final:

St. Vincent's 7-3 Ballincollig 1-4

A great team performance from the Vincent's girls against the pre-match favourites. After a very early storm Vincent's turned the game around to score three goals to lead, 3-0 to 1-2. On resumption of the second half Vincent's upped the tempo and got a couple of early goals to kill the game off. The final score was 7-3 to 1-4. Best players of the day were Nicole Creane, Nicole Cahill and Ivana Russell.

The team were as follows: Hazel Hennesy, Karen Heaphy, Chloe Anderson,

Nicole Cahill, Amy Waters, Melissa Roddis, Lisa Corkery, Nicole Creane,

Shauna Carroll, Adela Nonescan, Ivana Russell, Amanda Harris, Amy Wilson,

Laura Connolly and Amanda Twomey.

U 12B county final:

St. Vincent's 1-0 Rockban 1-0

A very tight affair from the start. Nerves were evident on both sides.

Vincent's started the stronger team but it was Rockban who scored the first from a breakaway goal.

This was the only score from the first half. With the winds at the backs the saints put a lot of pressure on, to be rewarded with a goal.

Two final saves followed by the Rockban keeper and with time nearly up Rockban were awarded a free but failed to score so the game finished a draw, both teams living to fight another day. Best players on the day for the Saints were Chloe Anderson, Melissa Roddis and Demi Higgins.

The team were as follows: Hazel Hennesy, Karen Heaphy, Chloe Anderson, Demi

Higgins, and Amy waters, Melissa Roddis, Lisa Corkery, Nicole Creane, Shauna

Carroll, Adela Nonescan, Ivana Russell, Amanda Harris, Amy Wilson, Laura

Connolly and Amanda Twomey.

TRAINING TIMES:

MONDAY: under 6's at6pm *(D.O.B must be between Jan 1997-2000)

under 14's &16's at 6pm

TUESDAY: under 11's & 12's at6pm *(D.O.B 1994 & 1995's)

WEDNESDAY: under 10's at6pm * (D.O.B 1996's)

SATURDAYS: under 10'S & 9's at 11.30am

under 12's, 14's &16's at12.30pm

Underdogs Limerick will not test Cork



LINDA MELLERICK

THREE out of three wins is a certainty when Cork take on Limerick in the third round of this year's Gala All Ireland Senior championship encounter in Effin, Limerick today.

It's going to be a stroll in the park for Cork but as the saying goes, you have to play what's put in front of you.

Cork will possibly use the game to give their subs a run. At this stage the first 15 more or less picks itself, with one or two alternating roles.

With the local championship well under way Cork may indeed rest many of their players but no matter who they put out during the course of the hour it won't in any way loosen their total grip on the game.

Interestingly Galway defeated Limerick three weeks ago by 5-17 to 1-5, practically the same winning margin that Cork had over the same opposition in last year's All-Ireland semi-final where, without ever reaching great heights, they disposed of the weak challenge presented to them by Limerick with a score of 5-17 to 0-5.

Limerick went into last year's semi-final knowing that beating the previous year's All Ireland finalists would be no mean feat, but they were confident of at least making Cork fight all the way. Unfortunately for them it wasn't to be and they were left feeling humiliated. They went into the game with a defensive strategy feeling that if they could hold Cork to four or five points up to half time then they had something.

Ger Hegarty, a Limerick hurler with the '94 and '96 team, took over the reins at the beginning of 2005 and he was bitterly disappointed when the large gap in standards between the counties hit home. "Cork are a serious team", he said "There is no way I expected the drubbing we got. There's a huge gap between us. Limerick have a big step up to take."

They are now managed by Eddie O'Sullivan and Seoirse Bulfin.

Unfortunately Limerick doesn't seem to have made any great strides in reducing that gap this year. When the sides met in the opening round of the league Limerick couldn't even field a full 15 players (something you might see in a lower club league fixture). It was utterly embarrassing and I don't know how the stalwarts of Limerick camogie like Pauline McCarthy continue to put themselves through this torture. Their love of the game certainly knows no bounds.

On the day Cork fielded four debutantes and still ran out convincing winners by 4-16 to 0-2.

Corks' Breige Corkery is suffering from a reoccurring rib injury and the selectors may decide to give her hectic schedule a break.

Other than that Cork have a large selection to pick from and with no double-header activity for the first time in this year's championship as Limerick have only one side, they may well opt to give some fringe players a test. Although how much of a test it can be, I'm not sure.

Locally the Cork County championship got off to a flying start with no fewer than five championship clashes this week.

Well, some of the results were as predicted and others which were hard to call were decided.

First off Aghabullogue had an extremely facile win over Fr. O'Neills. When a team like O'Neills lose top players it hits hard. O'Neills were around knocking on the door a long time.

They finally realised their dream in 2003 when they won their first Cork County senior championship title and really once that was achieved many felt they could now hang up the boots.

That isn't to take away from Aghabullogue' success at all. Two years ago they were playing at senior B. They have continued to progress and are gaining valuable experience with each senior A outing.

A two-point victory for St Finbarr's won them sweet revenge for last year's defeat against Cloughduv. While the game never reached fever pitch it was exciting in that victory could have gone either way.

Ballygarvan will be thrilled with their win over last year's finalists Inniscarra in their first year as 'A' status.

Milford easily accounted for Barryroe while the game of the week had to go to the Muskerry v Carbery clash in Riverstick last Monday evening. Maybe it is because there is no back door for a divisional side that saw both teams play with huge commitment but it was a tremendous game and more of that please for the remainder of the championship.

For the losers it's to round two (except for Carbery) while the winners advance straight to round three.

With Cork out today and again next Saturday with a home senior fixture tie to Galway, there won't be much club action for another week or so.

Gala championship news

(2006-07-11)

WEXFORD kept their interest very much alive in this year's Gala senior championship with a lightening like goal after just twenty one seconds from centre foreward Úna Leacy as they dealt Gaway their first defeat in this year's championship 2-7 to 0-10 in Wexford Pk.

Not having won any game in this year's championship, Saturday's game was very much a win requirement in this third round championship game for Wexford. Having defeated Galway in the later stages of last year's championship they entered the game in the knowledge that they had the ability to defeat Galway and so they buckled down to the task on hand immediatley.

From the throw in the ball broke down towards the Galway goal where the waiting Leacy pounced on the ball to smash it past Galway 'keeper Stephanie Gannon. That was a lead that the home side never lost and they grew in confidence especially in defence where 2005 All-Star Catherine O'Loughlin was sticking to her opposite like a stamp.

Despite Wexford's favourable start they had to wait until ten minutes before the break for their second score - another goal. This time it came from Katriona Parrock, the rising Model county star who took a fine pass from Brigid Curran to make it Wexford 2-0, Galway 0-2, the Galway scores having come from Veronica Curtin after just six minutes, with a forty five a minute later from Lourda Kavanagh.

From a Galway picture, the turning point of the game just before the break when they were awarded a penalty.The Galway 'keeper Stephanie Gannon raced down the field to take the shot, but she blazed it over the bar. They did sent over two further Lourda Kavanagh frees before the break, but it was the home side who finished the better leaving the field, ahead 2-3 to 0-5.

It was Galway who got the better start to the second half when they added three points (0-2 frees from Lourda Kavanagh) and a Brenda Kerins point, but with Wexford's Ursula Jacob operating well at corner forward, Mary Leacy at centre back it was the Model side who looked the better oufit. Despite three further Galway points, the goal they so needed never came and so Wexford hung on to record their first win in this year's championship and can now face Kilkenny on the twenty second of July with confidence.

Like Wexford, the 2005 All-Ireland finalists Tipperary kept their interest alive when they overcame Kilkenny 1-7 to 0-4 to record their second win in this year's championship. Even though Kilkenny lined out with their players from Freshford they never looked as if they might overcome Tipperary following a first half penalty from Claire Grogan which put the Premier county ahead 1-2 to no score for Kilkenny after ten minutes.

Indeed the Cats who now meet Wexford in the next round on July 22nd will need to work on their forwards as they only scored one point in the opening half - an Eileen Fitzpatrick point nine minutes from the break which left them trailing 0-1 to Tipperary's 1-5.

The Black and Ambers got the better start in the second half with a second Eileen Fitzpatrick point, but when Imelda Kennedy's penalty was saved by Tipperary goalkeeper Jovita Delaney, it was good night for Kilkenny. Instead, Tipperary sent over two further points a Claire Grogan free and a Trish O'Halloran point, even though Imelda Kennedy and substitute Marie Dargan sent over two Kilkenny points they never really threatened Tipperary.

Meanwhile Cork, reigning All-Ireland champions are the ony side unbeaten in the third round of the All-Ireland championship series following their 2-10 to 0-6 victory over Limerick in Effin, Limerick.

Played in very difficult weather conditions, Cork had the wind advantage in the opening and although they had eight wides in that period they were still very much in control as they ked 2-5 to Limerick's 0-1 at the break.

Limerick were stunned with two Rebel goals within six minutes from Collette Desmond which gave the winners a lead of 2-1 to Limerick's 0-0 after just nine minutes. An Eileen O'Brien free deep in the first half gave the green and white jerseys their only score of the opening half, but they still trailed 0-1 to Cork's 2-5.

Playing against the driving wind and rain in the second half, Cork only managed three further points from Úna O'Donoghue, Jennifer O'Leary and Angela Walsh, but the weather conditions prevented this fine side from scoring several more scores as several of their dropping shots fell too far out and a poor Limerick side could not capitalise on this and despite sending over five second half points they were too late even though Eileen O'Brien did send over an early second half free for Limerick. Their third score came six minutes from time when Sinéad Mc Auliffe. Between then and the final whistle they added two further O'Brien frees while Aife Sheehan had the last call of the day with a late Limerick point. Cork now face into the fourth round on next Saturday, July 15th against Galway in what should be a far superior game.

Details: Gala senior c'ship.
Wexford: 2-7: Ú Leacy 1-1, K Parrock 1-0, K Kelly 0-4 (03f), B Curran, M Hearne 0-1 each.
Galway: 0-10: L Kavanagh 0-7 (0-2'45, 0-5f), V Curtin, V Curtin, B Kerins, S Gannon 0-1 each.

Tipperary:1-7: C Grogan 1-1 (1-0 penalty, 0-1f), C Hennessey, E Mc Donnell 0-2 each, T O'Halloran,L Burke 0-1 each.
Kilkenny 0-4: E Fitzpatrick 0-2, M Dargan 0-1,I Kennedy 0-1 f.

Cork 2-10:C Desmond 2-0, J O'Leary 0-5 (0-3f), A Walsh 0-3,G O'Connor, Ú O'Donoghue 0-1 each.
Limerick 0-6: E O'Brien 0-4 (0-3f), S Mc Auliffe, A Sheehan 0-1 each.

Leacy goal paves way for Wexford

by Máire Uí Scolaí

WEXFORD recorded their first win of the GALA All-Ireland senior camogie championship at the expense of Galway at Wexford Park on Saturday.

The Model County, who had lost their opening two games of the campaign, enjoyed a perfect start when Una Leacy goaled after 21 seconds.

Buoyed by that strike, the Model girls grew in confidence, with All-Star Catherine O'Loughlin leading by example in defence.

Shortly before the break, they had another goal, when Katriona Parrock fired home after collecting a Brigid Curran pass.

Then came the turning point. Moments before the break, Galway were awarded a penalty which goalkeeper Stephanie Gannon blazed over the bar. Further points from Veronica Curtin and Lourda Kavanagh had Galway trailing 2-3 to 0-5 at the interval.

The visitors restarted brightly with efforts from Kavanagh and Brenda Kerins but Wexford, with Ursula Jacob and Mary Leacy impressing, hung on for victory at 2-7 to 0-10.

The 2005 All-Ireland finalists Tipperary also kept their interest alive when they overcame Kilkenny 1-7 to 0-4 to record their second win in this year's championship.

Although the Cats lined out with their players from Freshford they never looked like overcoming Tipperary following a first-half penalty from Claire Grogan which put the Premier County 1-2 clear after 10 minutes. Tipperary were 1-5 to 0-1 clear at the break.

Once Imelda Kennedy's penalty was saved by goalkeeper Jovita Delaney, Kilkenny's hopes crumbled and Tipperary ran out easy winners.

All-Ireland champions Cork are the only side with a perfect record in the 2006 series following their 2-10 to 0-6 victory over Limerick in Effin.

Two goals within six minutes from Collette Desmond decided the issue with Cork 2-5 to 0-1 ahead by the interval. Cork face Galway in the fourth round on Saturday.

Leacy puts Wexford on their way

A LIGHTENING strike goal after just 21 seconds from centre forward Úna Leacy gave Wexford their opening victory in this year's senior All-Ireland Gala championship when they overcame Galway 2-7 to 0-10 yesterday in Wexford Park.

That was a lead that the Model county never as Katriona Parrock added a second goal with ten minutes of the opening half remaining.

Wexford showed real determination in the second half as they fought off Galway pressure with some great defensive displays from 2005 full-back All-Star Catherine O'Loughlin, who also had her centre-back Mary Leacy in fine form too.

Galway threw everything at Wexford in the second half but the turning point for the Connacht girls came early on when their goalkeeper Stephanie Gannon blazed a penalty over the bar. Wexford did finish the stronger side with two late points from Kate Kelly and Brigid Curran.

Tipperary kept their interest very much alive in this year's championship when they overcame near neighbours Kilkenny 1-7 to 0-4 in Holy Cross. A tough match swung Tipp's way when Claire Grogan converted a first-half penalty.

Elsewhere, Limerick put up a good show as they lost 0-7 to 2-8 to the reigning All-Ireland champions Cork in Effin.

In the senior B championship it ended in two draws with Tipperary and Kilkenny tied 2-9 each, while Wexford scored 2-7 to Galway's 0-13.

July 2006

JULY 2006

Offaly news

(2006-07-11)

Offaly Camogie Notes

Leinster Under 14B Final

Offaly 8.07 Carlow 0.02
Yet another good week-end for Offaly Camogie where the Junior Team had a very convincing win over Laois in the last round of the All Ireland Championship and the Under 14s had a great win to take the spoils and emerge the Champions of Leinster for 2006. Defeating Carlow on Friday evening in Mount Bolus the Offaly girls were crowned the best in Leinster after a very convincing win where the cream came to the top and the green, white and gold of Offaly was worn with great pride. As the Captain Claire Nevin received the winning trophy she spoke highly of her team mates, trainer and mentors. Thanking all for their efforts in achieving this great win Claire said she was so proud to lead such a nice group of girls. And lead she did on the field as Claire, like her team mates started very well and were determined to make the most of the opportunities in front of goals. Scoring 3.01 from play in opening 30 minutes Claire's efforts reflected what was going on out the field. The Offaly girls were on top from the start with Julie Stephens playing well in the centre scored a great goal and Jane McCarty in fine form yet again got the opening point. The first score in a game is so important and the point, scored from play by Jane settled the team and from there to the final whistle the outcome was never in doubt. The Offaly girls put up a score of 7.05 in the half without reply. In the corner at No15 Patrice Delaney played well getting 2 good goals and a point from a free and Julie Stephens and Jane McCarty getting a goal apiece.

In the second half, with the game won, Offaly introduced some substitutes and took the 'foot-off-the-pedal' Carlow got on the score sheet with two points but Laura Dooley's goal in the 9 minute of the half cancelled these scores out and Offaly ran out easy winner on a score of Offaly 8.07 Carlow 0.02. Well done to all involved enjoy your win. This is the first piece of Silverware for Offaly Camogie this year and is important as its builds on the All Ireland win of 2005. There are two more teams in the race for honours with the Junior Team in the All Ireland Quarter Final later in the month and the Under 18 Championship yet to begin. The U18s had a good work out in Tullamore on Saturday evening as by all accounts are coming on very well. There is an abundance of talented players around the county at this level and hopes are high for them to give a good account of themselves over the next few months.

OFFALY TEAM
Shauna Carroll, Gillian Molloy, Anna Mahon, Roisin Coughlan, Niamh Clancy, Katie Hand, Julie Stephens, Sinead Kelly, Jane McCarty, Niamh Scully, Sarah Pilkington, Laura Dooley, Clarie Nevin (Captain), Orla Murray, Michelle Coonan, Orla Kirwan, Shelley Jackson, Triona McDonald, Amy Spain, Jennifer Kinsella, Una Kavanagh, Debby Flynn, Michelle Dolan, Michelle Bergin, Mary Bergin, Mary Nevin, Ashling Molloy, Michelle Molloy, Cloe Kelly, Clarie Cammon, Kelly Young, Shauna McEniff, Leanne Corrigan, Patrice Delaney, Kelly Ann Milne, Katy Martin.
Team Management
PJ Murray & Brid Hynes

All Ireland Championship Round IV

Offaly 2.15 Laois 1.07
Offaly Junior Camogie team travelled to Durrow in Laois on Friday evening for the last round in the

All Ireland Championship. With their place in the Quarter Final safe the management took the opportunity to give girls some match practice. These changes made very little difference and Offaly lead at half time 0.09 to Laois 1.03. Michelle Davis was on song with 4 well taken frees and a point from a penalty to giving her tally of 5 points in the half. Aoife Kelly got 2 points from play with Emma Carey and Michaela Morkan getting 1 each to bring the Offaly total to 9 points for the first half. The Offaly girls continued the good work in the opening minutes of the second half and were rewarded for their efforts in the 6 and 12 minute when Karen Nugent placed two well taken goals passed the Laois Keeper. The six points in the half all came from play with Natalie McCabe getting 3 and Michelle Davis and Marcella Maloney and Elaine Dermody with a point each completing the scoring for the half. This match was the last of the round and now Offaly go into the Quarter Final where they meet Clare later in the month.
Mary Brady, Offaly PRO

Cork make light of conditions to triumph

By LINDA MELLERICK

Camogie

Cork	**2-10**
Limerick	**0-6**

IN winter-like conditions, Cork comfortably accounted for Limerick in the third round of this year's Gala All-Ireland Senior Camogie Championship clash in Effin on Saturday afternoon.

Driving wind and rain dictated the standard of the game and while never exciting, Cork were always in control.

Playing with the elements in the opening period, Cork were on the score board within two minutes compliments of an Angela Walsh point. By the ninth minute, as expected, the writing was on the wall for Limerick when Collette Desmond netted twice to give Cork a seven-point advantage.

With hurleys slipping out of player's hands and the wind taking the sting out of any decent strike the game became bunched and slow.

An Eileen O'Brien free after 17 minutes of play opened Limerick's scoring and they weren't to score again for the remainder of the first half.

That statistic probably does them an injustice as they had their fair share of attacks but when Rena Buckley and Anna Geary weren't sweeping up what came their way, the wind drove Limerick back and they found a number of their efforts dropping short.

Gemma O'Connor was heavily involved at centre field and Emer Watson, the maker of Desmond's two goals was working hard at right corner forward.

Points from O'Connor and Jennifer O'Leary (3) saw Cork finish the half with a 2-5 to 0-1 advantage and this on top of an eight wide tally from the Rebels.

While Cork won the first half, the second half became a draw with both sides scoring five points.

It looked as if Cork would create an embarrassing score line when by the fiftieth minute they had tapped on a further five points to Limerick's one.

Credit Limerick however who upped their performance, determined to salvage some pride.

From the 24th to the 30th minute they threw everything at Cork with Grace McNamara and Eileen O'Brien the main tormentors. Four points within four minutes put a better reflection on the score board. But that's all it did.

Cork were always in control and are top of the group with their toughest assignment to date facing them next Saturday when they take on Galway at home.

Scorers for Cork: C Desmond 2-0, J O'Leary 0-5 (0-4f), A Walsh 0-3, G O'Connor and U O'Donoghue 0-1 each.
Limerick: E O'Brien 0-4 (0-3f), A McAuliffe and A Sheehan 0-1 each.
CORK: A Murray; J O'Callaghan, C Foley, E O'Riordan; R Buckley, S Hayes, A Geary; G O'Connor, O Cotter; R Moloney, A Walsh, J O'Leary; E Watson, E O'Donoghue, C Desmond.
Subs: E Clifford, R Curtin, M O'Neill for A Murray, A Geary and J O'Leary (50min), C Healy for U O'Donoghue (54 min), E Burke for R Moloney (28min, inj).
LIMERICK: S Moynihan; C Mulcahy, R Collins, C Murphy; M Kelly, M Casey, G McNamara; V Sheehan, A Sheehan; M Dooley, E O'Brien, O Curtin; S McAuliffe, S O'Shaughnessy, N Mulcahy.
Subs: F Dore for S O'Shaughnessy (14 min), A O'Reilly and T Power for O Curtin and N Mulcahy (54 min).

Courceys should finally progress

Senior camogie c'ship Courceys v Kilbrittain Brinny, tonight 7.30pm

IT'S back to Brinny this evening to try and find a winner in the Tower View Developments Senior Camogie championship first round clash.

A late Sara Hayes point on Thursday last ensured Courceys brought the game to a replay with just two minutes remaining

KIlbrittain would have come away disappointed last time out considering they made all the early running leading by seven points before Courceys had registered their opening score.

The switching of Rachel Moloney to centre-forward was the move which changed the game as Courceys began to grow in confidence, driven on by their inter county pair of Hayes and Moloney.

They know they were lucky to grab a chance of a replay and another performance like last Thursday's will not suffice against a Kilbrittain/Timoleague side hoping for big performances again from Miriam Deasy, Eimear O'Sullivan and Val O'Keeffe to book their place in round three.

Verdict: Courceys.

Hassig's big test

Tower View Developments Senior B Championship, Ballinhassig v St Catherine's, at Glen Rovers, tonight, 7.30pm

By MARY NEWMAN

FRESH from their victory over Carrigaline last Thursday, Ballinhassig face a tough encounter when take on St Catherine's in their second game in the round robin series of the Tower View Developments Senior B Camogie Championship at Glen Rovers this evening.

St. Catherine's were favoured by many to take the title last season and indeed they made eventual winners Ballygarvan go to a reply before they finally secured the title.

Few will argue with the fact that St Catherine's carry the favourite's tag again this year, although Bishopstown are another side to keep a firm eye on.

The Conna girls have plenty of talent as they showed in the recent 2005 league final where, despite losing out again to Ballygarvan, they showed they still have plenty of power and determination.

Orla Cotter is undoubtedly the Saints ace player and will be the one Ballinhassig have to watch.

Strong and agile, Cotter has a marvellous capability to score points and her height and mobility is a huge advantage at midfield.

In their inside line they have forwards capable of grabbing goals, notably Denise and Deirdre Twomey and Lisa Higgins.

Ballinhassig have the advantage of a game under their belts.

They underlined their scoring prowess when notching up 4-11.

Cork U16 players Sinead O' Callaghan and Catriona Collins are a lethal combination and have been causing defences problems all season.

Eimear O'Sullivan should have and interesting midfield battle with Orla Cotter while their defence, led by captain Maggie Collins, will be expecting a busy night given the pace and power of the Catherine's inside line.

A second victory for Ballinhassig would set them up nicely with two games to go against Valley Rovers and Newcestown and would almost certainly put them in a good position to secure a semi-final berth.

A brilliant Burke brace gives Valley the victory

By PJ AHERN

Senior B Camogie Championship

Valley Rovers	**3-8**
Newcestown	**2-2**

ELAINE BURKE guided Valley Rovers to beat Newcestown in the Tower View Developments Senior B Camogie Championship in Bandon last night.

Burke took full advantage of opportunities to rack up a tally of 1-6 (1-4 from frees). Although her fellow Valley Rovers were slightly shy to aim at the posts, Burke raised the white flag with two superb points and two opportunistic goals in the first and second halves killed off the battling Newcestown.

Burke's contribution was the crucial difference between both sides. Rovers' accomplishment was not possible without Nicola Murphy and Lucy Hawkes who shored up a vulnerable back-line. Meanwhile Mary Ann Hawkes and Lisa O'Mahony marshalled midfield and ensured supply to forwards while alleviating pressure on the back-line.

In contrast, Newcestown can only reflect on their inability to take advantage of possession and their failure to punish indecisiveness by Valley Rovers, as factors in their ultimate demise.

Valley Rovers were quick off the mark and raced into 1-5 advantage after 20 minutes with the bulk of the points coming from Elaine Burke via a combination of frees and from play, while the goals was scored by Dolores Crowley.

Newcestown hit back and they grabbed a goal from a Colette Desmond free, which found the net through a hoard of Valley Rovers defenders.

A minute later, Desmond almost repeated the trick when panic ensued in the Rovers goalmouth following a free but the sliothar was cleared away from immediate danger but the Newcestown full-forward pointed.

Valley Rovers were suddenly left glancing over their shoulder but they restored their comfortable lead when an Elaine Burke free from 50 yards found the net to leave side 2-6 to 1-1 in the ascendance at the break.

In the second half, Newcestown startled Valley Rovers by scoring a second goal through Colette Desmond.

But it failed to unnerve Valley Rovers with Orla Deasy scoring a point before a speculative effort from Burke resulted in a third Rovers goal and thus ending the game as a contest.

Newcestown, to their credit, tried to rally through the resilience of Eleanor Kenneally, Mairead Crowley, Aileen Coughlan and Hilda O'Mahony but it proved to be no avail as a Crowley point was cancelled out by a Liz Bugler effort for the winners.

Scorers for Valley Rovers: E Burke 2-6 (1-4f), D Crowley 1-0, L Bugler and O Deasy 0-1 each.

Newcestown: C Desmond 2-1 (2-0f), M Crowley 0-1.

VALLEY ROVERS: G Harrington, A O'Callaghan, S Deasy, N Murphy, A Murphy, L Hawkes, C Deasy, M Hawkes, E Burke, M Cottrell, O Deasy, B Shiels, M McCarthy, L O'Mahony, D Crowley.

Subs: C McSweeney for N Murphy, L Bugler for B Shiels.

NEWCESTOWN: L O'Sullivan, M Moloney, R Desmond, U Crowley, A Coughlan, H O'Mahony, C O'Mahony, F Crowley, A Coughlan, M Crowley, G Cronin, C Long, C Desmond, E Kenneally, T McCarthy.

Subs: F Deasy for U Crowley, A Houlihane for C Long.

Referee: P Downey (Inniscarra).

Newcestown hold the aces

By MARY NEWMAN

Camogie

TONIGHT
Valley Rovers v Newcestown
Senior B Camogie Championship
Bandon, 7.30pm

VALLEY ROVERS and Newcestown get their challenges for honours in the Tower View Developments Senior B Camogie Championship off to a start this evening in Bandon at 7.30pm.

With each club playing four games in this round robin series every result is crucial as the top two teams in the group of five qualifying for the semi final stages where they will meet the top two from group two.

Last season at the same venue these teams served up a cracker, Valley Rovers battling back from what looked like an impossible position to record a superb victory.

Newcestown will be mindful of this as they face into tonight's game.

Newcestown are renowned championship campaigners and will battle hard.

Hilda O'Mahony has been a central figure for them in their league campaign to date turning in superb performances at centre back, while they will be looking to Cork senior Colette Desmond, Una Crowley, Colleen Long and Anita Coughlan to lead the way to victory.

Valley Rovers are a strong side, several of their panel are holders of senior county championship medals won with Carrigdhoun in 2004. All-Ireland winning Cork captain Elaine Burke is joined on the Valley team by fellow inter county senior Lucy Hawkes who is joined by her sister Cork U16 Mary Ann Hawkes and will be a tough nut to crack.

Sars star Aileesha wins June award

AILEESHA MCELHINNEY of Sarsfields proved a popular winner of the Vienna Woods Youth Sports Award for the month of June, receiving recognition at the Vienna Woods Hotel Monday afternoon.

A star performer with her club in the Féile na Gael success, Aileesha was the first recipient in the youth category in the innovative new awards scheme was has attracted huge interest since introduction a few short months ago.

Aileesha shared the limelight on Monday last with Curtis Cup golfer Claire Coughlan, who was presented with the overall award for June.

Winning the Féile grade four title a few weeks back represented a huge achievement for everybody in the Sarsfields club. As proves the case so often in big matches, goals win matches and Sarsfields found a real diamond in Aileesha who found the net on 11 occasions during the weekend action.

The East Cork team were drawn in a five team qualifying group and won their way through to Sunday's final and a tough assignment against county Meath outfit Rathoath. Here Aileesha once again came up with the goods, scoring three of her team's five goals in what transpired to be a highly entertaining climax to the competition.

Recognition for Aileesha in the shape of the Vienna Woods Glanmire Sports Awards brings further honours to what is developing into a superb summer of success for the Sarsfields club. On Monday last it was very a case of Aileesha McElhinney taking centre stage, as her famous singing sisters toasted their sporting sister.

● Incidentally, clubs hoping to see one of their members follow in the footsteps of the July winners, can forward their nominations for the July award to Emma at Vienna Woods Hotel, Glanmire. Tel: 4821146.



Aileesha McElhinney of Sarsfields Camogie Club, left, and Claire Coughlan, Cork Golf Club, winners of the Vienna Woods Youth Award and Sports' Personality Award for June, respectively, at the Vienna Woods Hotel, Glanmire.

Picture: Richard Mills

July

2006



Cllr Gerry Kelly, representing the Mayor of County Cork; Emer Farrell, secretary of Sarsfields Camogie Club; Maria Dinan, the club's under-age co-ordinator; Sinead Gaffey; Karen Comerford, club captain; Nicole Hickey; Bryan O'Leary, manager of Sarsfields Camogie Club and Cllr Michael O'Connell, deputising for the Lord Mayor of Cork, look on as Darina Gately, managing director of the Vienna Woods Hotel presents the Glanmire Youth Sports Award for June to Aileesha McElhinney of Sarsfields Camogie Club.



Glanmire District Sport Award winners for June: Teddy McCarthy, judge; Darina Gatley, Vienna Woods Hotel, sponsor; Sgt Bill Daly; Aileesha McElhinney, Sarsfields Camogie Club (youth award); Tom Aherne, Irish Examiner, judge; Claire Coughlan, Cork GC, winner.

CAMOGIE world

with

Olhausen

by Maire Ui Scolai

MNA DUN NA GALL

The recent appointment of full-time Development Officers with Cumann Camógaíochta na nGael is beginning to show big time already with the announcement that Donegal now have sufficient clubs to form a county board. Kerry is not far behind, while Mayo now has two clubs and work is beginning in Longford as well. With this type of growth one can see just how camogie is destined to become extremely popular with the young generation. The formation of a County Board in Donegal creates a total of 27 counties with full county boards. Considering that camogie is catching on fast in Kerry it may well happen that a county board will be formed there shortly.

The fact that Donegal were able to reform five clubs in a fairly short space of time should be a source of encouragement to other counties who are thinking of playing the game. Add to the fact that there is a third level college in the county, it is most likely that new players will shine through from there as well.

With only a small number of counties remaining without structural camogie it would be the dream of the National Development Officer Lynn Kelly and her two Regional Development Officers, Cork player Mary O'Connor and Galway player Caroline Kelly to see camogie up and running in these remaining counties as soon as possible.

PAN CELTIC INFLUENCE

The recent holding of the Pan Celtic Festival in Letterkenny played a major role in this revival. When the Pan Celtic Finals were held on Sunday April 24th the youth of the county were given a great opportunity to show off their skills during a Go Games session. The enthusiasm these young players showed along with their mentors indicated there was more to come with the result that the county now have five clubs up and running.

The five clubs that are active at the moment are: Markievicz, St. Eunans, Aodh Rua, Burt and Carndonagh. It is hoped that camogie will be played further in the schools, both at primary and second level and that the good days that Loreto Letterkenny.

Enjoyed back in the early eighties under the guidance of former Kilkenny All-Ireland medal holder Ann Carroll can once again be enjoyed by all.

ANN CARROLL

Donegal may be better known for its football, but away back in the mid fifties camogie was played in Loreto Convent in Letterkenny amongst a small number of girls.

It was probably a stroke of luck that the former great Kilkenny player Ann Carroll, the holder of two senior All-Ireland medals went to teach in Loreto Convent. Letterkenny away back n 1975. The school went on to win several Ulster colleges championships from U14 right up to senior. It is now expected that the game will once again be played there soon.

A member of the St. Eunans club Ann played with the county when they participated in the then National Junior League, which is now structured very differently. It must be a source of delight for the former Kilkenny and St. Pauls player that camogie is back in St. Eunan's now and that a county board is reformed.

COUNTY BOARD

All the officerships were filled recently at a meeting and there is great experience among those taking up the positions. Manus O'Donnell is chairman, Cathy Hannigan is county secretary, while the position of vice-chair goes to Emma Gaughan. Stephanie Dillon has the responsibility of county PRO while the Registrar is Alma O'Gorman.

Interesting all five clubs are represented on the County Board. From here on it has only got to be good for the county as during the Go Games at the Pan Celtic, many young players were in action, but perhaps the youngest player of all was four year old Anita Dillon who was delighted to be showing off her camogie skills!

In preparation for better times ahead Donegal took part in the first ever National League Division 4 Blitz in Monaghan in early July. They also entered a team in the Pan Celtic Festival and while they did not win there were no shy players amongst them! Who knows what may happen in Donegal in a few years time, but right now it surely is a very exciting time in Donegal and for Cumann Camógaíochta na nGael. Here's to a very rosy picture for the future.

Anybody who might be interested in camogie in Donegal may get in touch with either of the people listed here.

Stephanie Dillon - setantahc@eircom.net

PRO or secretary Cathy Hannigan at cathymckinney@eircom.net





The Markievicz club

July 2006

Camogie Club notes



Briege Corkery, Sports Person of the Year and Cork camogie star signs autographs for participants at the Muskerry GAA VHI/CUL Summer Camp held a Ballincollig GAA Club.

Picture: Mike English

AGHABULLOGUE

THE U16s continued on their winning trend in the league with a victory over Ballincollig on a scoreline of 2-4 to 1-2. The scoreline read 2-3 to 0-1 in favour of Aghabullogue at the interval.

The team that lined out for Aghabullogue was as follows: Michelle O'Sullivan, Sarah Fitzpatrick, Ann O'Sullivan, Margaret McCarthy, Emma O'Mahony, Elaine O'Mahony, Erin O'Connell, Martha Murphy, Michelle Healy, Nicola Doherty, Mary Ronan, Ursula Murphy, Laura Hayes, Chloe O'Riordan, Grace Fitzpatrick.

BALLINCOLLIG

Muskerry U13A competition. This panel of players have played two matches the first was against Blarney. This was a match where we never got up to full speed; maybe the early start and no lie-in were responsible. However, the girls tried very hard from Elaine in goal whose excellent puck outs created great scoring opportunities to the back line of Orla, Laura Barry and Laura O' Driscoll, to Grace, Laura, Aoish, Aisling and Sarah with the midfield line up of Shannon, Sinead, Siobhan and Nessa. Subs were Meabh, Emma, Emma Delaney and did well when called upon.

Final score Blarney 4-2 Ballincollig 3-0. Thanks to Martin for refereeing the match.

Ballincollig v Eire Óg.

This match was won on a scoreline of 3-1 to 0-1. This was a much better performance with a few positional changes and a near full panel available ensured the two points.

In goal Grace, backs of Laura Barry, Sinead, Orla and Laura O'Driscoll, midfield Catriona Aillish and Aisling, forwards Shannon, Sinead, Elaine and Meabh. All girls worked well as a team with scores coming from Shannon and Sinead. Subs, Emma Delaney, Emma Coughlan, Sarah, Cara.

U13B v Ballinora. Ballinora were physically very strong at this age having won this competition last year and our girls who are mostly 11 and 10 tried very hard, however, they were unable to make any inroads into this match. Amy was most unfortunate and got injured in the first puck of the game and had to sit out the match and we hope she is recovering well and will be playing again soon.

U14A Ballincollig v Eire Óg Our first match was against a very strong Eire Óg side and we suffered a defeat. Ciara and Jessie Hennigan were very good on the day and were well supported by Orla, Shannon, Lorraine, Aoife, Sally and Shannon.

All girls worked very hard but on the day the better team won.

U14A Ballincollig v Blarney. This match was played on the Killowen pitch and it poured rain for the entire match. All our girls played very well and went home with a well earned draw and if we had a bit of luck we would have scored that elusive goal.

In goal Aoife, team of Mairead, Orla, Shannon, Jessie, Sally, Rachael, Shannon, Ciara, Lorraine, Gillian, Laura, Robyn, Kim, Valerie, Ali did very well and it was a much improved performance.

Training continues and match details will be notified to all players when arranged.

U10 The U10 team had their very first outing this year on Saturday June 24 against Eire Óg in Dyrna. A panel of nearly 40 girls travelled but unfortunately, only 15 could play.

The first half Ballincollig showed some good skill and determination in midfield and in defence, clearing balls from the goal line and our goalie pulled off some great saves. We were very unlucky to be a goal down at half time but the girls did not give up.

We made our three subs at half time and these girls were excellent when they came on.

Ballincollig dominated the entire second half and we were very unlucky not to score a few goals.

With about five minutes to go Ballincollig scored the only point of the game, this put two points between the sides. Ballincollig lost the game by one point to one point.

The girls who played today did the entire club proud but so too did all the girls on the sideline who cheered all through the match in support for their friends.

We want to thank all the parents who travelled to the match their support is much appreciated, we would also like to thank Maria O'Connor for helping out on the sideline.

The girls will be training on Friday night at 6.30 and we hope to play Aghabullogue next Sunday in Coachford. For this game, we will have a few starting 12 and three new subs so that all players get a game.

Fashion Show: The camogie club organised a highly successful fashion show as part of the Balls of Ballincollig festival. Many shops were in including: Bambams, Bitty Frogs, Ballyhagh Burke Opticians, House of Kids, Kiddy Boutique, Eurlé, Evan G's, Chic, Sasha, Cotton Clouds, Dunne Stores, Muskerry Sports, Carrigaline, and Cummins Sports.

Ciara Guinivan of Eurlé and Evan G's acted as compere on the night and Dympna of D's Boutique kindly donated a beautiful Joseph Ribkoff designer dress as a door prize.

BLACKROCK

Summer Camp: Only a few places remain for the camp which runs from August 21 to August 25.

For more information contact any of the coaches or email- info@blackrockcamogie.com

Under 12 trip: The U12 girls will travel to Co. Tipperary on Sunday August 16 to challenge against local side, Burgess. We would like to wish Róisín de Faoite the best of luck as she lines out with the Cork U16s in the All-Ireland semi-final against Dublin on Sunday.

Training Times: U6, U9 and U11 -Fridays at 6pm.

Under 13 -Wednesdays at 4.30pm U16 -Tuesdays at 11am U18 and Junior — Mondays and Wednesdays at 7.30pm Check out our Website for all fixtures, results etc- www.blackrockcamogie.com

CARRIGALINE

On Saturday last the South East Camogie Board ran a very successful blitz at Brinny near Innishannon.

Several of the club from the division found it hard to participate due to the large number of players away on holidays but for those who did take part it was an excellent day's camogie.

With games played on a round robin basis participating clubs Sliabh Rua, Valley Rovers, Carrigaline and Courcey Rovers enjoyed some very sporting and competitive matches

The final between Carrigaline and Valley Rovers was a very closely fought affair with scores for both teams hard to come by in the first half. Grainne O'Keeffe, Carrigaline and Jessie Hawkes for Valley Rovers exchanged points to leave it tied at the break.

Carrigaline aided by the wind in the second half took full advantage and began to gain the upper hand points from Orla Cotter and Patti O'Keeffe edging them ahead, a late goal from Jessica Buckley sealed victory for Carrigaline.

South East Board Chairperson Noreen Quinn presented the winning captain Jennifer Foster (Carrigaline) and the runners up captain Elaine Forde (Valley Rovers) with a set of medals each and thanked all the teams for participating in a very successful blitz.

GLEN ROVERS

Our U16 team travelled to Togher for a meeting with St. Finbarrs and recorded an impressive victory over the home side. Aided by the strong wind we made an impressive start captain Lydia Cunningham leading her side by example as she impressed notching up vital goals.

Up front Sinead Fahy and Sinead Gallen contributed to the first half scoring with Denise Luby knocking over points from forty five metre frees and a close in frees.

Through the second half St Finbarr's worked hard and now tightening up in defence they made it hard for our girls, Karen O'Connell added a goal and a point to our tally as we extended our advantage.

Despite strong St Finbarr's pressure, our defence held solid to record a well deserved 8-4 to no score winning margin. We are on target with our league game fixture list with five games played to date we have recorded good victories over Valley Rovers, Bishopstown, Erin's Own and St. Finbarrs while losing out by one point to Ballygarvan.

Training continues every Monday and Wednesday night 7pm to 8pm for this team while any players over 16 but U18 are encouraged to come along also to these sessions.

Our underage coaching for girls from age six to 12 years continues under the watchful eyes of Carol Bridgeman, Nicole Cummins and Mary Sheehan. Sessions are in the Glen Field top pitch every Sunday 11.45am to 1pm and on Tuesday evenings 5.45 to 7pm. Here also the over 12s are catered for Linda O'Sullivan, Dave O'Connell and Cathal Egan on hand to guide the players through their paces. New members are welcome to attend we encourage any former players to bring along their daughters and to get involved in the fun.

After the summer break we will be organising our underage club tournament for the young girls, all players will be reminded again nearer the date.

On Monday next our senior team meet Eire Og in the first game of the Tower View Developments Senior B championship, this year we are fielding a young team in what is a building process.

We had two good league victories over Valley Rovers and Ballinhassig but lost out narrowly to Newcestown before going down to a very strong Bishopstown side last week however the girls have prepared well and are looking forward to their meeting with Eire Óg. Well done to Niamh Goulding who was recently elected to the role of senior club captain with Aoife Walsh elected to the duties of vice captain, both girls have been tremendous at guiding the younger girls in the club and are excellent choices for the important roles.

There are still places available on our Cúl summer camp which runs from August 14 to 18 application fee is €55 special family rates apply and include an O'Neills playing kit and gear bag. You can join through any club mentors or to Terry Buckley on 087-8203032.

KILBREE

Kilbree Camogie Club held their skills competition for their underage teams last Saturday. In a very high spirited and completive event the girls showed great improvements in both their understanding of the game and in the ball control skills.

The winners in the three age divisions were as follows: U12 Laura McCarthy, Tara Murphy & Rebecca O'Farrell, U10 Aine Daly, Anne-Marie O'Donovan & Sarah Kingston, U8 Ciara O'Mahony, Maura Barrett & Shauna O'Donovan. Best improvers went to Tara Murphy & Aine Crowley. An Poc Fada went to Rebecca O'Farrell and Aine Daly.

Also Kilbree Camogie Club recently held a table quiz to help raise funds for the club. Great support was given from all sides of the Kilmeen & Kilbree GAA club and many thanks to all those who supported us.

Special thanks goes to Brigid McCarthy and the Ballygurteen Calendar Girls for organising the event, held at the Winning Post in Rossmore. Thanks must go to the parents who provided the catering for the event and to Allen-Vanguard Ireland, Scallys SuperValue, Hartes EuroSpar and others for sponsoring the prizes.

KILBRITTAIN

Congratulations to the Kilbrittain keeper Eilish O'Regan who got married recently to Newcestown man Brian O'Donovan! The senior team have it all to do again when they drew against local rivals Courcey Rovers. After a whirlwind start which saw Kilbrittain go 1-5 to 0-1 in front, things were looking great for the black and Ambers. Val O'Keeffe was shooting over points from play and from frees, and a superb Miriam Deasy goal further increased the lead.

However, Courceys came back into the game leaving half -time score 1-6 to 0-5. Second half proved to be a strange affair with both teams crowding the midfield and scores hard to come by.

However, Courceys managed to sneak in a goal from a long range free. Full time score 1-7 to 1-7. Team: E. O' Regan, C. Deasy, D. Coughlan, A. O'Sullivan, E. O'Sullivan, E. O'Sullivan, M. O'Sullivan, V. O'Keeffe (1-4, 0-2 f), L. Kavanagh, D. O'Sullivan (0-1), M. Murphy (0-1), M. Murphy, C. Deasy, M. Deasy(1-1), S. sexton. Subs: M. Moloney.

The U14 team have made good progress and have made it to the league quarter final, where they await the draw and date for the game.

NA PIARSAIGH

Josie McDonnell Tournament: As many of our younger players enjoy their summer break committee thoughts are already looking ahead to September when we hold our annual tournament in honour of Josie McDonnell who was a founder member of the Camogie Section in Na Piarsaigh. She also held the position of president, and the ladies committee presented the camogie section with this trophy in her honour.

The tournament is for U12 and is played off in one day in the club. All the teams are given team names of the founder members of the camogie and is a very enjoyable day for all the girls and families.

The teams are run by the older players of the camogie. The trophy is presented by members of the McDonnell family to the winning captain.

Everybody gets a medal at the end of the day, presented by our Cork senior player John Gardiner, who will pose for photographs and signs autographs!

Already our younger players are eagerly looking forward to the vent and are busy preparing for what is one of the highlights of our camogie season.

SEANDUN

The recent meeting of the divisional committee was hosted by Glen Rovers; a report was given on the U11 league competition while arrangements were made for the U13 leagues. The sections for the U13 Seandun cup competition are as follows Glen Rovers 1, Brian Dillon's, Douglas 1, Na Piarsaig St Finbarrs, Bishopstown, The Seandun shield section as follows : Blackrock, Glen Rovers 2, St Vincent's, Douglas 2, Passage West. Clubs have been notified of the fixture format in both competitions.

It's disappointing to note that our senior team will not be meeting Fr. O'Neill's in round two of the Tower View Developments Senior Championship due to our opposition withdrawing from the competition. This now means we will be going into the hat for the draw for the next round without hitting a ball .Preparations have been going well under the watchful eye of Ross Corcoran and hopes are high that the side will acquit themselves well.

Next divisional meeting is to be held in St. Finbarrs on July 27.

ST CATHERINES

Gala All Ireland Senior Camogie Championship.

Well done to the Cork senior camogie team who defeated Limerick on Saturday last and to Orla Cotter who lined out at midfield with Cork in this game.

Best wishes to all the Cork teams who participate in championship games over the coming weekend.

ST FINBARR'S

For the first time camogie was included in hurling by The Lough.

The girls from Glasheen and Togher Primary Schools served up great entertainment in a most exciting final.

A goal by Maeve Cahalane, daughter of Cork All-Star footballer, Niall Cahalane, helped Togher to edge in front at the finish. A cup in memory of Val Riordan, former President of St. Finbarr's H & F Club, was presented to the winning Togher captain, Dionne Delaney by Mrs Mary Riordan.

For a variety of reasons, previous efforts to welcome the All-Ireland winning Cork camogie team to St Finbarr's had to be postponed. The Club is delighted to recognise and salute their achievements this Saturday evening.

Hopefully, the Cork girls will have collected two further points at the expense of Galway and secured the place in the Gala All-Ireland Championship semi-final before they head to Togher. In particular, the club is anxious to pay tribute to the part played by its own members on the Cork panel, namely All-Star Gemma O'Connor, Vivienne Harris and Linda O'Connell.

With the holiday season in full swing, the 7-11 age groups will cease training on Saturday mornings for the next two months. Coaching sessions will resume on Saturday, 9th September. Any girl in this age group wishing to take up the marvellous game of camogie will be welcome to come along on 9th September at 11pm.

PASSAGE WEST

Weeks of hard work was rewarded recently when Passage West camogie club won the Best Overall banner award at the Feile Na nGael.

The banner was the work of Assumpta Lydon and it was a task which was undertaken with much thought.

The banner features the club crest and name and had pictures of all the players from the team featured on it. Club spokesperson Liz Farr expressed delight at the clubs success "In our first year participating in the event it s a huge honour to have our banner chosen as the best in Ireland, we enjoyed Feile immensely and it was a wonderful experience for the girls to be part of such a huge occasion for gaelic games. The parade was a special experience and the winning of such a prestigious award made it a weekend never to be forgotten by all in Passage West Camogie Club.

July 2006

Sharon is one of a kind



LINDA MELLERICK

NO MATTER how long a time it is since you called it a day as a player you will always hold certain memories forever.

Likewise you will always think of and refer to great players of your era who really stood out. When I think about such things one player always come to mind and that's Sharon Glynn of Galway.

Retired at the ridiculously young age of 27, Sharon is now manager of the Galway senior camogie side facing Cork today in the All-Ireland championship fourth round tie in Ballincollig.

She was always the one player we had to watch. She was strong, skilful and deadly accurate, achieving amazing distance in her striking.

Holder of five All-Ireland senior club medals, an All-Ireland senior medal with Galway and Player of the year in Galway on three occasions — her record speaks for itself.

Funnily enough I never really got to know Sharon while playing. I think we were both too competitive to want to get that close.

In the last couple of years since she took over as manager we have spoken more freely and I find her extremely knowledgeable and honest.

Rumour had it over the years that Sharon was fond of her social life and that's why camogie lost such a star.

While Sharon did touch on this when I met with her during the week, there were many other reasons why she decided to hang up her boots at an age when most players are only reaching their prime.

Our chat went along the following lines.

Q: Give me a bit of background into your inter-county career. What age were you when you first got selected on the senior inter-county panel and what were your greatest and most disappointing moments?

A: "I was 15 in 1990 and played in a senior league game in goal against Cork in Ballincollig in April. We had a three-point win, the first time to beat Cork at senior level.

I played in four All-Ireland finals '93, '96, '97 and '98 (all against Cork). I lined out at centre field on all occasions. Obviously my greatest moment was winning the '96 final.

"We realistically believed we had a chance for the first time then and we were actually a better team in the years that followed. It means even more now as 10 years have passed without Galway winning another All-Ireland.

The most disappointing was the '98 final as we felt we were the better team on the day. We had the chance to close out a win with two minutes left and we failed to capitalise. The other side of that of course is that people felt we weren't the better team in '96 so I suppose that balances things out.

Q: Why did you retire so young? You should still be playing.

A: "I retired at 27 and personally it didn't feel early to me as I had played for 12 years for Galway seniors.

"In the latter six I was also very heavily involved with my club Pearses and had trained and played from mid-January to the last weekend in November every year for five years solid while both teams were going well in the championship.

"I had struggled with injuries from '97 onwards and found the going tough. I also struggled to get to a level of fitness needed for inter-county standard. The harder it became, the less interest I seemed to have. The glory years from '92-'98 were beginning to decline and by 2000 rebuilding was on the cards.

Looking back now I retired after a heavy championship defeat to Cork in 2002 and I feel I made the right decision.

I can safely say I have no regrets in my 31st year of life after 12 years of inter-county and 23 years with my club. I do intend to retire in full from the game this year at whatever stage my club exits the club championship.



Former Galway star Sharon Glynn who now manages her native county.

Q: What are your abiding memories of Cork and the battles we had.

A: My memories of Cork are mostly bad except for 1996. Players that stand out are Sandie Fitzgibbon to name but one. I admired her since day one, particularly her performance in the club semi-final of '94 where I had the task of marking her.

I did make friends with some Cork players, none more so that Vivienne Harris who I got to know quite well in the league final of '97 in Ballinasloe (jokingly referring to the day both Viv and herself had a game of kick boxing in the middle of the field and both saw the line before the final whistle).

Q: What about the present Cork team?

A: Cork and Tipp are viewed as the best teams in the country right now and given their dominance since the late 90s, rightly so.

Galway need to be defeating teams of this calibre on a regular basis. We know ourselves that we are one of the top teams however results are what matters and we have some way to go yet before we are viewed in that light.

Q: What persuaded you to take up managing Galway?

A: Watching Galway teams being beaten by 10 and 20 points was difficult to take. I felt we had been left behind due to our failure to prepare effectively.

There were too many top class players of a young age not taking to the field for Galway and I knew if we had their commitment we could compete with the top teams again.

Q: What joy does it give you managing the present senior side?

A: "My decision to manage the Galway side was something that landed in my lap without much planning last year and perhaps if I had thought of the commitment level it would take then I might not be here. "Watching Sinead Cahalan and Therese Maher receive All-Stars last year and winning the league gave me and the management team huge satisfaction. To win an All-Ireland would be a dream come true.

Your final thoughts? I have no regrets as either a player or as a manager. While 1996 may have been a success story for Galway camogie it was probably one of my pitfalls in that the social scene that followed led to some disarray for me. Thankfully it did not cause too much harm to my life but it definitely cut short my camogie career which I now know only lasts a short while. While my life is fully back on track now I know my camogie days are well and truly over. My advice to players today is — camogie is only short term in life and to give the game as much as they can while they can as when it's gone, as I know well, its gone forever'.

High five for Douglas in Munster Community games

DOUGLAS were crowned Munster Community Games Camogie champions for the fifth year in-a-row on Saturday last.

Having come through the Cork section with a walkover, the girls headed to Limerick last weekend for the Munster final.

Weather conditions were appalling on Saturday as Douglas came up against Sixmilebridge of Clare in a hard fought both sides display plenty of skill and determination, the Clare champions opened the score with a point and quickly followed by a great goal.

However, Douglas settled with captain Ailin O'Donovan pointing. Keeper Aine O'Donovan had to be at her best as Sixmilebridge came in search of scores and at the break it was Sixmilebridge who led 1-3 to 0-2.

On the resumption driving rain and wind made it hard for both sides but Ailin O'Donovan had Douglas back in contention sending a free to the back of the net. Douglas, now playing with determination, immediately pointed from the puck out to level matters.

The Douglas defence had to be at their best



The Douglas girls camogie team that won the Munster Community Games 2006 final.

By MARY NEWMAN
Community Games camogie

as Sixmilebridge applied the pressure, Sinead Kearney, Sinead Duggan and Clodagh Duggan superb all through, a points point from Jessica Kavanagh, was followed by a Clare Shine goal.

Ciara Lynch, playing in defence, pointed to give Douglas the upper hand but again Sixmilebridge attacked and grabbed a goal. Substitute Alison Peate made her presence felt as Douglas ran out winners at the end of a pulsating game.

Douglas, after having a hard game in such horrendous conditions, were up against a strong, fresh Tipperary side, Boherlane, who made the early running to take a four-point early lead.

Douglas dug deep and a goal and two points from Ailin O'Donovan had them in contention as they trailed at half time 1-2 to 1-4.

Tipperary were first off the mark with a second half goal to which Ailin O'Donovan replied with two points.

Tipperary fought hard to break the Douglas defence of Sinead Duggan, Sinead Kearney and Alison Peate.

Clare Shine grabbed a superb goal it gave Douglas the lift they needed. Ailin O'Donovan blasted to the net as Douglas led 3-3 to Tipp's 2-4.

Tipperary were on the run again notching up another two points to level matters with time almost up.

However, Ciara Lynch pointed to put Douglas ahead by a point, Tipperary now threw everything they had at Douglas goalkeeper Aine O'Donovan.

Douglas held out for their fifth year in-a-row. They now represent Munster in All

DOUGLAS: Ailin O'Donovan(C) Jessica Kavanagh (Vice C) Aine O'Donovan, Ciara Lynch, Sinead Duggan, Sinead Kearney, Clodagh Duggan, Alison Peate, Rachel Baxter, Ellen Shine, Clare Shine Ciara Hickey, Elizabeth Olden, Sarah Kavanagh, Deirdre Bevan & Amy Twohig.

July 2006

Rebels will be looking to maintain unbeaten run



LINDA MELLERICK

CORK face their toughest assignment to date when they take on Galway at home in the fourth round of this year's Gala All-Ireland Senior Camogie championship on Saturday.

The new system introduced this year means that all teams are thrown into one group. Each team would play each other and four will emerge to the semi-final on August 12th.

With only six teams involved and Limerick already out of the running Cork are through regardless of what happens on Saturday. However Cork will not want to give Galway or Tipp unnecessary confidence and so will go all out to win both games with Galway the first challenge up.

Apart from Galway's national League final victory over the rebels in 2005 Cork have had the better of the exchanges since.

A championship victory against the run of play in 2005 and a national league triumph under their belt in 2006 sees them hold one over on the westerners.

Galway's backroom team of Manager, Sharon Glynn and former hurlers, PJ Molloy, Damian Coleman and Martin Naughton are giving it one more year in a bid to taste success at the highest level.

Last year's championship defeat to the rebels still hurts Glynn deeply.

"Last year in the championship first round we gave our best performance to date as and from when I took over.

"That defeat tore us apart and destroyed everything we had done. We were terribly below par against Wexford in round two. We never really recovered from that defeat to Cork," said Glynn referring to the fact that Galway led by two points entering the closing stages and lost by one.

As she so rightly puts it: "Confidence and coolness under pressure goes hand in hand with champions.

"We don't have that and it is costing us dearly. Cork got two chances to go and win it and they did. We had four chances before that to go six up and put the game out of their reach but we didn't take them. That's the difference."



GALA Retail Services personnel James O'Sullivan, Gary Desmond and John Murphy were at The Farm, UCC Bishopstown in support of the recent announcement by GALA of their two-year sponsorship of the All-Ireland Senior Camogie Championship. Also present were Joanne O'Callaghan (Cork Captain), Mary O'Connor and Marian Mc Carthy (chairperson Cork County Board).
Picture: Mike English

Galway now find themselves under pressure to win at least one of their remaining two games. Losing to Wexford last weekend throws the door wide open between Galway, Wexford and Kilkenny. Only two will go through with Tipp and Cork. (Even if Cork defeat Tipp, Tipp will account for Limerick and go through).

It may well end up being a play off and that's something Glynn doesn't want.

"It would be great to beat Cork and know we were home and dry before facing Kilkenny as anything can happen on a given day when the pressure is on.

"No team has beaten Cork yet this year and I suppose no one is giving us a chance of coming away with anything but we'll give it our best shot."

Meanwhile Cork have named a strong line out, the only change is the switch of Rena Buckley to full-back and Catriona Foley to right-half.

According to selector Lillian Zinkant: "We want to win this one and finish top of the group. It's important we maintain our winning run in the championship."

With the semi-finals down for decision on August 12 Cork could well end up facing Galway again and so further enhancing their hold over their opponents is hugely significant.

Curtain raiser to the A game sees Cork's B side take on the same opposition. With two wins out of two already achieved Cork are in a strong position. Five teams make up group B and with four going through Cork already top the group.

Cork Senior team: A Murray; J O'Callaghan (Capt), R Buckley, A O'Regan; C Foley, M O'Connor, A Geary; G O'Connor, B Corkery; U O'Donoghue, A Walsh, J O'Leary; E Dillon, E Burke, S O'Donovan.

Fixture: Gala All Ireland Senior Championship

SATURDAY JULY 15

Senior A: Cork v Galway, Ballincollig, at 3.30pm

Senior B: Cork v Galway , Ballincollig at 2pm

Attacker O'Callaghan can lead Rebels to victory

SUNDAY,
All Ireland U16 semi-final,
Cork v Dublin,
McDonagh Park, Nenagh 1.15pm

CORK and Dublin open proceedings on Sunday at McDonagh Park Nenagh as they battle it out for a place in the All-Ireland U16 final.

Provincial winners no longer automatically qualify for the All-Ireland semi-final as this season new look format has been adopted.

Cork topped their group with Dublin emerging as runners up in group two, Kilkenny topping group two will meet Clare who were runners up to Cork in the second semi final at.

In their opening game Cork had to battle hard against Galway before taking the points. A much improved performance saw Limerick defeated before Cork once again fought hard to pull out all the stops to beat Clare and Tipperary.

Sinéad O'Callaghan, Fiona O'Connell Ella Kelleher, Niamh Dilworth and Clare Keohane, are players who have impressed in the Cork attack, while Leeann O'Shea, Christine O'Neill Moira O'Donovan and Mairead Foley are solid defenders.

Cork will not announce their team until Sunday but selector Rose White is confident.

"So far this year the girls have been superb," she said.

"We know we face a huge task on Sunday but we are ready."

Off the playing field the team have had huge support with DFDS Transport helping with sponsorship.

By MARY NEWMAN
U16 camogie

"The girls were thrilled with the sponsorship from DFDS Transport's sponsorship of casual gear but they know it's not just about being the best dressed it's about being the best team."

Camogie has boomed in Dublin over the last three years. Clubs such as St Vincent's, Ballyboden and Naomh Mearnog were all very much to the fore in Feile na Gael in recent years.

Another huge boost was the victory of the county junior team in last year's All-Ireland final and the determination has continued to filter down through the ranks.

It's a big occasion for the county on Sunday. They last contested an U16 All-Ireland semi-final 10 years ago in 1996.

This time out the Dubs are going all out to make it to the final. On their way they have recorded good victories over Offaly, Wexford and Antrim but they lost out heavily to Kilkenny on a 7-8 to 2-4 score line.

They have excellent players in midfield duo Rachel Costello and Lauren Boylan while the Cork defence will have to keep an eye on impressive forwards Kirsten Farrell Aisling Fogarty and Aoife O Leary.

The side is managed by Denis Forde from the Skerries Harps club while his back room team is made up of selectors Dave Fenton, Ollie Brogan and Mick Glynn.

Cork have been very much to the fore at under 16 level taking 13 titles to Dublin's single title which was won in 1982.

Coach George O'Callaghan and his selectors, Rose White and Paddy Corkery are confident of the win.

Cork Panel: Dawn O'Keeffe Buttevant, Christine O'Neill Courcey Rovers, Mairead Foley Rockban, Moira O'Donovan Douglas, Leanne O'Shea Douglas, Marie Walsh, Ballyhea, Eimear Harrington, Buttevant, Ella Kelliher, Éire Óg, Fiona O'Connell, Inniscarra, Roisin De Faoite, Blackrock, Claire Keohane, Killeagh, Aisling Thompson, Milford, Darina O'Callaghan Buttevant, Catriona Collins, Ballinhassig, Sinead O'Callaghan, Ballinhassig, Marie Donovan, Clonakilty, Jennifer Lynch, Tracton, Mary Ann Hawks Valley Rovers, Niamh Dilworth Inniscarra, Lydia Cunningham Glen Rovers ,Niamh O'Donovan, Douglas, Katie Hickey, Bishopstown, Grace Kearney, Bride Rovers, Cliona Galvin, Milford, Rebecca Finn, Milford, Sinead O'Brien, Clonakilty, Elaine Murphy, Buttevant, Aoife Mc Carthy Eire Óg.

Kerins' late point denies Cork and keeps Galway hopes alive

Cork	**0-10**
Galway	**1-7**

by Máire Uí Scolai

GALWAY'S bride-to-be Veronica Curtin showed she had no pre-wedding nerves, buckling down to the task on hand on Saturday as Galway drew with Cork in the fourth round of the Gala senior camogie championship in Ballincollig. Despite All-Ireland champions Cork getting the better start with two points from Una O'Donoghue and Jennifer O'Leary, it was Curtin who set the scene for Galway with two opening reply points.

With Galway leading 0-3 to 0-2, suddenly a long ball broke from midfield towards the Cork goal where the awaiting Lourda Kavanagh was on sight to crack the sliotar to the Cork net for the only goal of the game. A further point from Áine Hilary put Galway ahead. At the break, Galway led 1-4 to 0-3, the last Cork point coming from Angela Walsh.

While the pressure was off Cork on Saturday, having already qualified for the semi-finals, it was no secret that Cork coach Fiona O'Driscoll was anxious to win this game as last year only one point separated them in favour of the Leesiders.

Down four points at the break, Cork immediately went a point up following a fine score from Amanda O'Regan.

However, the second-half belonged to Cork All-Star Jennifer O'Leary, who shot 0-6 (five from play). While the Rebels put on the pressure, with full-back Caitriona Foley giving little or nothing away, she was also well assisted by half-back Anna Geary.

Galway remained calm and two points from Lourda Kavanagh and Áine Hilary kept them in touch. However, when Jennifer O'Leary sent over Cork's 10th point and time ticking away it appeared that the Leeside ladies would prevail.

However, Brenda Kerins had other ideas. With four minutes of injury time gone, she pointed to firmly keep Galway's interest's alive.

Earlier on, Cork's B side denied Galway victory, winning 2-17 to 3-7. A brace of goals inside two minutes from Emer O'Farrell proved crucial for the home side.

July 2006

Busy Weekend Of Camogie Action In The Senior B Championship

An extremely busy week of camogie action with four games decided in The Tower View Developments Senior county champions and one in the Senior B championship.

Muskerry 4-7 Carbery 3-9

An Erin Corkary point three minutes from full time gave Muskerry victory in the county senior championship preliminary round tie, seven goals and sixteen points scored in a thrilling contest. Behind by six points at half time Muskerry produced four goals and three points in the second half and in the process knocked Carbery out of this years Cork County championship.

Scorers:-Muskerry:-L Dorgan 2-2, E O' Herlihy 2-2 (0-1f, 0-1 '45), M O' Herlihy 0-2 (frees), E Corkery 0-1.

Carbery:-S Whelton 2-3, A Deasy 1-0, C Long 0-2, C Desmond 0-2 (0-1 '45), O Coughlan and H O' Regan 0-1 each.

Teams:-Muskerry:-T O'Donnell; C McKenna, C Foley, M Foley; L West, M O'Donoghue, L Murphy; D Cronin, E Kelleher; C O'Leary, L Dorgan, E O' Herlihy; E Corkery, V Mulcahy, M O' Herlihy.

Subs:-C McCarthy for M O'Donoghue (half time), E Casey for M O' Herlihy (52 min).

Carbery:-M O'Brien; A Coughlan, R Desmond, A Coughlan; C O' Mahony, H O' Mahony, S O'Brien; C Long, F Crowley; H O' Regan, O Coughlan, J Brennan; S Whelton, A Deasy, C Desmond.

Subs:-C O' Mahony for F Crowley (47 min), H Coughlan for O Coughlan (56 min).

Courcey Rovers 1-7 Kilbrittan / Timoleague 1-7

The sides will have to meet again after Sara Hayes brought Courcey from the death with a late point to secure a draw. Courcey Rovers can count themselves lucky as Kilbrittan dominated from the throw in leading 1-4 to no score before Courcey's Rachel Moloney pointed for their opening score on the seventeenth minute. Slowly Courcey's cut the deficit but they trailed by four points at the break. It was seventeen minutes into the second half before Val O'Keeffe pointed to put Kilbrittan four points ahead and with their defence continuing to soak up the pressure it remained the same but Courcey's battled back. Sara Hayes striking a perfect forty five metres free all the way to the net before grabbing the equaliser to earn her side another day out.

Teams:

Kilbrittan / Timoleague

E O Regan, C Deasy, D Coughlan, A. O'Sullivan, M O'Sullivan, Eimear O'Sullivan Eilish O Sullivan, V O'Keeffe (0-4) 0-2 frees). L Kavanagh, Marion Murphy, Mary Murphy D O'Sullivan (0-1) C. Deasy, M Deasy (1-2), S Sexton Subs M Moloney for L Kavanagh (56mins)

Courcey Rovers: A O Brien, Cora Murphy, L Kelleher, G Twomey, C O Neill, M O Donovan, S O Regan, S Hayes(1-2:1-1 frees),Claire Murphy ,N Collins, S Quinn, S Downing S Moloney, U Quinn, R Moloney (0-5: 0-3 frees)

Ref C O Mahony St. Finbarrs

Milford 3-17 Barryroe 0-4

Milford stronger in all sectors defeated Barryroe to advanced comfortable despite striking seventeen points they shot sixteen wides over the hour. First half goals from Marie Watson and Julie Sheehy gave them an interval lead as Barryroe to their credit battled to get into contention. Milford had the ability to pick off points and they were always comfortable as through the second half they held the upper hand. Jennifer O' Leary who worked tirelessly to keep Barryroe in contention, Ann Marie Fleming who worked hard in defence and goalkeeper Eimear White who was outstanding could not be faulted.

Ger Collins registered Barryroe opening score early in the half but by the time Jennifer O'Leary twice found the range Emer Watson had struck for Milford's third goal in between Emer O' Friel and the Watson's Marie and Emer had pointed.

On this display Milford will be hard to beat and certainly when the draws are made for round three a lot of teams will be holding their breaths.

Barryroe now face Imokilly in a tough back door battle to stay in the championship and they can hold their heads up with pride for the manner in which they battled and contested every ball with determination.

Teams:

Milford: E. Lenihan, T McLoughlin, E O Riordan, D Hayes, A Watson, A. Geary, (0-1) S Sexton, E O ' Friel, (0-2) D O Reilly, (0-1) E Horgan, (0-2) E Conroy, (0-2) A Thompson, M Watson (1-3) J Sheehy (1-2) E Watson (1-4)

Subs: R Curtin for S Sexton (inj 32mins), A Dillon for T MC Loughlin, S O Reilly for E Horgan (43mins) S Linehan for D Hayes (44mins) L Healy for M Watson (55mins

Barryroe: E White, D Collins, A M Fleming, L McCarthy, N O Driscoll, E O Regan, E Carroll, K Mc Carthy, I Dineen, C Keohane, P Moloney, J O Leary(0-3), G Collins(0-1), E MC Carthy, S O Donovan

Subs: C Fleming for E McCarthy (h/t), M O Brien for D Collins (h/t)

Ref C Egan Glen Rovers

Ballygarvan 6-7 Inniscarra 2-11

Ballygarvan availed of the chances that came their way to advance to round three with a victory over last seasons' defeated finalists Inniscarra. Sarah O'Donovan grabbing five goals while Emer Dillon had one. Niamh Dilworth had Inniscarra back level with an eight minute goal after Sarah O' Donovan had given Ballygarvan the early advantage. Inniscarra began to get on top with Rena Buckley and Trisha Murphy working hard. Two Ballygarvan goals, the first after Catriona Kelly floated a long ball to the square which the keeper caught and dropped for Sarah Donovan to grab her second goal before the in rushing Emer Dillon availed of a defensive error to repeat the performance. Two Inniscarra points from Sinead Ni Riann and Rena Buckley kept their side in contention but with Ballygarvan gaining control they led 3-4 to 1-8. Sarah O' Donovan grabbed a second half goal after Catriona Kelly's free struck the post and came back into play and with the game losing its urgency we had to wait until the three quarter stage for the next score Ballygarvan's Catriona Kelly pointing. Inniscarra upped the pace and should have had a goal when Rena Buckley hand passed wide with only Rosanne Byrne to beat.

Sarah Donovan again availed of a defensive error to grab her fourth goal, Fiona O Connell and Trish Murphy fired over Inniscarra points. Rena Buckley combined with O Connell who fired across the square for the in rushing Claire Moloney who flicked a super shot to the net and now suddenly the

BUSY WEEKEND AHEAD FOR CORK TEAMS

There is another busy weekend ahead with four Cork teams in action on the Inter county front.

Cork and Galway meet on the double on Saturday next in Ballincollig the senior sides meeting in round four of the Gala All Ireland championship while for the Division 1B team it's their third game in the All Ireland round robin series. By virtue of the victories over Wexford, Kilkenny and Limerick the senior side are almost assured of a semi final spot, they still have a meeting with Tipperary to come on August 5th.

Galway are fighting to stay in contention for a semi final spot after recording a good victory over Tipperary in their opening game they went on to defeat Limerick but having lost out surprisingly to Wexford last weekend a win is a must on Saturday.

Galway were crowned national league champions last year and were expected to build on that result this season ,failure to retain their league crown was a disappointment. Last year under the guidance of former inter county star Sharon Glynn they showed huge improvements to take the league title but they were bitterly disappointed to lose out in the championship, failure to make it to the concluding stages this year would be a huge blow. They have a nice blend of youth and experience and on their performance last season could prove to be a handful for any opposition.

Cork have done iwell n their outings to date against Wexford, Kilkenny and Limerick recording victories without setting the world alight , the selectors rested several of their regular team players against Limerick last weekend but it is expected that a stronger side will feature on Sunday next.

The division I b side have also been going well recording victories over Kilkenny and Wexford in this season's national league against Galway they had just one point to spare in a tight contest, expect another close one Saturday next.

The under 16 team meet Dublin on Sunday in Portlaoise in the All Ireland semi final, good victories over Galway Tipperary Clare and Limerick ensuring Cork topped their group to make it to the semi final. Dublin came through an equally hard group Antrim, Offaly Kilkenny and Wex ford providing tough opposition. on form Cork will be expected to make it to the final but with camogie improving steadily in the capital expect a tough one.

On Friday evening the Cork minor (under -18) team open their provincial championship campaign when they play Waterford in Ring at 7.30pm this is a first game for both sides Waterford are working hard at coaching and there is a huge improvement in camogie within the county Lismore taking the division three Feile title recently but on under 16 form of two years ago Cork will be favoured to advance.



Sisters Claire and Ellen Shine taking part in the camp.

CAMOGIE

Gala C'ship: Cork: 0-10 (J O'Leary 0-7(0-1f),U O'Donoghue, A O'Regan, A Walsh) Galway: 1-7 (L Kavanagh 1-1, A Hilary 0-3, V Curtin 0-2,B Kenins 0-1).**Senior B C'ships:** Cork 2-17 (E O'Farrell 2-3,M O'Neill 0-10, C Corkery 0-2, M Corkery 0-1, D Twomey, M Watson 0-1 each. Galway 3-7: S Keane 1-3, S Tannion, M Conroy 1-0 each, E Kilkelly 0-2, P Kenny, M Dunne 0-1 each).**Leinster U14 C'ship Final, Naomh Mearnog, Dublin.** Kilkenny 2-9 Dublin 0-3. **U16 All-Ireland C'ship A S-Fs:** Cork 4-10 Dublin 2-8; Armagh 5-16, Meath



The Ballinora NS Sciath Na Scol camogie team, captained by Fiona McGrath and vice-captain Jackie Dineen.

Cork more than a match for Galway

Cork	**0-10**
Galway	**1-7**

by Mary Newman

A strong Galway 15 could count themselves a little unlucky not to have gained the points on offer in this Gala All Ireland senior championship clash with Cork. Despite leading from the throw in, Galway were lucky to grab a late equaliser to keep their interests alive in the championship.

Cork have already secured their semi-final place.

Cork: A Murray, J O Callaghan ©,R Buckley, A O Regan, C Foley, M O Connor, A Geary, G O Connor, B Corkery, U O Donoghue, A Walsh, J O Leary, E Dillon, E Burke Subs C Desmond for E Burke R Moloney for S O Donovan

Galway: S Gannon, R Glynn, S Callanan, N Gavin, L Lally, T Maher ©, A Kelly, B Hanney, A Connolly, L Kavanagh, V Curtin, A Lynskey, O Kilkelly, A Hillary, B Kerins. Subs A M Hayes for A Lynskey, C Kelly for O Kilkelly.

Ref: J Morrissey, Tipperary.

Cork	**2-17**
Galway	**3-7**

Cork held off the challenge of a late Galway rally to keep their unbeaten record intact in the All Ireland senior B championship clash in Ballincollig. Cork led 2-7 to 0-2 at the interval, with two Emer O'Farrell goals putting them in the driving seat.

In the second half, Galway were a different team. More focused and determined they came at Cork, and by the three quarter stage it was 2-10 to 2-6, goals from Sandra Tannion and Martina Conroy bringing Galway storming into the game.

Cork's Marie O'Neill steadied the ship with marvellous points from frees.

A late Denise Twomey point ensured a Cork vietory, but not before a stern second half test.

Cork: G Harrington, A M Fleming, L Hawkes, D Hayes, L O Connell, J Duffy, E O Sullivan, R Curtin, L Dorgan, C Corkery, M O Neill, E O Farrell, M Deasy©, M Watson. Subs, T Roche' for L Hawkes, Lucey for M Deasy, Twomey for C Corkery, Deasy for D Hayes.

Galway: K Power, C Gill, Sinead Keane, L Flynn, A Kilkelly, T Manton, P Hayes, Susan Keane, S Tannion, C Conroy, E Kilkelly, P Kenny, M Dunne, M Conroy, N. Coen.

REF: S Egan Tipperary

Cork through to All-Ireland final

Cork	**4-10**
Dublin	**2-8**

by Mary Newman

THE under 16 team became the first Cork camogie side in 2006 to book their place in an All-Ireland final as they recorded an eight-point victory over Dublin on Sunday last.

Cork: D O Keeffe, C O Neill, M Foley, L O Shea, R Finn, M Walsh, E Harrington, E Kelleher, F O Connell, R DE Faoite, C Keohane, A Thompson, D O Callaghan, C Collins, S O Callaghan. Subs, N Dilworth for D O Callaghan (26mins), M A Hawkes for L O Shea(39mins), J Lynch for E Kelleher(41mins), G Kearney for F O Connell (59mins), N O Donovan for C Collins (60mins).

July 2006

Cork and Galway on the double

CORK and Galway meet on the double on Saturday next in Ballincollig, in round four of the Gala All Ireland championship the senior team are in action at 2 o'clock while it's a 3.30 start for the Division 1B team.

By virtue of the victories over Wexford, Kilkenny and Limerick the senior side are almost assured of a semi final spot, they still have a meeting with Tipperary to come on August 5th. Galway are fighting to stay in contention for a semi final spot after recording a good victory over Tipperary in their opening game they went on to defeat Limerick but having lost out surprisingly to Wexford last weekend a win is a must on Saturday. Galway were crowned national league champions last year and were expected to build on that result this season failure to retain their league crown was a disappointment. Last year under the guidance of former inter county star Sharon Glynn they showed huge improvements to take the league title but they were bitterly disappointed to lose out in the championship, failure to make it to the concluding stages this year would be a huge blow. They have a nice blend of youth and experience and on their performance last season could prove handful for any opposition. Cork have done enough in their outings to date against Wexford Kilkenny and Limerick recording victories without setting the world alight , the selectors rested several of their regular team players against Limerick last weekend but its expected that a stronger side will feature on Sunday next as Cork go all out to top the group..

The division 1B side have also been going well recording victories over Kilkenny and Wexford in this seasons national league against Galway they had just one point to spare in a tight contest, expect another close one Saturday next. A third victory will almost assure Cork of a semi final place in the inaugural year of the competition.

Camogiechat
With Mary Newman

U16 team face the dubs

THE under 16 team meet Dublin on Sunday in McDonagh Park Nenagh at 1.15pm in the All Ireland semi final, good victories over Galway Tipperary Clare and Limerick ensuring Cork topped their group to make it to the semi final. Dublin came through an equally hard group Antrim, Offaly Kilkenny and Wexford providing tough opposition, Dublin recording three victories losing out heavily to Kilkenny they were runners up in their group. On form Cork will be expected to make it to the final but with camogie improving steadily in the capital expect a tough one. In the second semi final group toppers Kilkenny met runners up Clare.

A BUSY WEEK IN THE SENIOR COUNTY CHAMPIONSHIP

AN Erin Corkery point three minutes from full time gave Muskerry victory in the county senior championship preliminary round tie, seven goals and sixteen points scored in a thrilling contest. Behind by six points at half time Muskerry produced four goals and three points in the second half and in the process knock Carbery out of this years Cork County championship.

Sara Hayes brought Courcey from the death with a late point to secure a draw against Kilbrittan / Timoleague on Thursday last but in Tuesday nights replay Kilbrittan / Timoleague proved the stronger on a 3-6 to 0-5 margin to record a victory. Courcey's now meet Muskerry in a back door clash.

Milford stronger in all sectors defeated Barryroe to advanced comfortable despite striking seventeen points they shot sixteen wide's over the hour First half goals from Marie Watson and Julie Sheehy gave them an interval lead as Barryroe to their credit battled to get into contention. Milford's had the ability to pick of points and they were always comfortable as through the second half they held the upper hand. Jennifer O'Leary who worked tirelessly to Barryroe into contention, Ann Marie Fleming who worked hard in defence and goalkeeper Eimear White who was outstanding could not be faulted.

Ballygarvan availed of the chances that come their way to advance to round three with a victory over Last seasons defeated finalists Inniscarra. Sarah O'Donovan grabbing five goals while Emer Dillon had one, Inniscarra now face a second chance meeting with Avondhu.

Ballinhassig took the points on offer in this round robin series Senior B camogie championship clash. Sinead O'Callaghan and Catriona Collins combining for the games opening goal inside five minutes before O'Callaghan had the games second goal eight minutes from half time. Laura Thompson had three first half points for Carrigaline as Ballinhassig lead 2-4 to 0-3 at the interval Two pointed Laura Thompson frees early in the first half for Carrigaline were replied to by Catriona Collins. Caroline O'Keeffe and Sinead O'Callaghan exchanged goals as Carrigaline battled to stay in contention but it was Ballinhassig who held the advantages to the full time whistle.

Valley Rovers held the upper hand to record a victory over neighbours Newcestown

In their first game while it was a winning start for St Catherines when they proved to strong for Ballinhassig at the Glen Field on Tuesday evening.

U16'S BOOK ALL IRELAND FINAL PLACE

WELL done to the Cork under 16 team who recorded a victory over Dublin to book their place in an all Ireland final Always in control Cork had to weather a storm when Dublin came from behind to go into a one point lead twenty minutes in to the opening half. Kristine Farrell's point gave the Dubs the lead after Aisling Fogarty struck for the games opening goal. Cork settled fast and had opening up a 0-6 to 0-3 advantage inside the opening quarter Sinead O'Callaghan, Claire Keohane, Fiona O'Connell and Aisling Thompson all pointing while Rachel Costello kept Dublin in contention with three points. Fogarty's goal was a superb ground shot which deceive Cork keeper Dawn O'Keeffe as it went over her head to the net. When Farrell's pointed from the puck out Dublin looked to be gaining the upper hand but Cork responded with a Roisin De Faoite point before De Faoite took on the Dublin defence before finishing superbly to grab Corks opening goal. Sinead O'Callaghan pointed as Cork regained the momentum to lead 1-8 to 1-4 at the break. Inside thirty seconds of the restart Catriona Collins had extended Corks lead finishing to the net, Rachel Costello and Niamh Brogan replied with points but they were dealt a double blow when Niamh Dilworth and Sinead O'Callaghan gabbing a goal each inside a minuet. Cork now dictating matters in all quarters were well in control. Dublin battled on with two points from Laura Boylan and Alison White but with Collins and O'Callaghan pointing the way Cork on their way to the final despite Sorcha Forde's late goal for Dublin, Kilkenny will provide stiff final opponents after they had a big victory over Clare.

THE ACTION CONTINUES

ANOTHER busy week ahead this evening in the Tower View Developments Senior County championship champions Cloughduv put their title on the line in a back door bid to keep their season alive when they meet Carrigdhoun in Newcestown at 6.45pm, the second game here at 8pm has Courcey Rovers meeting Muskerry.

Out in Ballinlough Inniscarra will face Avondhu at 7.30pm.

Action continues on Tuesday next when St. Finbarrs and Kilbrittan /Timoleague meet in Riverstick at 8pm Also on Tuesday night a double bill in Ballygarvan in the Senior B championship Valley Rovers meeting Carrigaline at 6-45 followed by Douglas and Bishopstown at 8pm.

In Junior "A"Championship on Saturday its Watergrashill against Killeagh in Castleyons at 12 noon, Rockban and Ballyhea meet in Glantane at 6.15pm. On Sunday Tracton and Blackrock meet in and on Monday Newtownshandrum meet Sarsfields in Inniscarra at 7.30pm.

In the Junior B championship Mallow and Dungourney meet in Mallow at 7.30 while on Wednesday its Buttevant against Ballincollig.

Development grant welcomed

CORK camogie received a welcome boost last week with the announcement of a grant of €175,000 towards the development of our new playing pitches in Mahon. While the news is a welcomed much more will be needed to complete the dream but the grant is big start and now fund raising can get started in earnest as we move a step closer.

Camogiechat
With Mary Newman

Seniors keep unbeaten record

A STRONG Galway fifteen could count themselves a little unlucky not to have gained the points on offer in this Gala All Ireland senior championship clash with Cork Despite leading from the throw in they were lucky to grab a late equaliser to keep their interests alive in the championship.

Coming off the back of a surprise defeat a the hands of Wexford last weekend Galway came to Cork hell bend on victory, Cork for their part with three victories under their belts already having their semi final place secure.

A low scoring opening half saw Galway lead 1-4 to 0-3 at the break Lourda Kavanagh twenty second minuet goal putting Galway in the driving seat against a Cork side who failed to ignite thorough then opening thirty minutes.

On resumption Cork upped their game and four points without reply the first from an Amanda O'Regan long range free and three from the hard working Jennifer O'Leary had Cork on level by the seventeenth minuet but two from Lourda Kavanagh and Aine Hillary edged Galway ahead by two. With Jennifer O'Leary leading the way with a spirited display Cork began to find their feet , firstly pointing a free O'Leary struck for the leveller from a difficult angle and it looked as if O'Leary had bagged the spoils for Cork when she pointed a free two minutes into injury time,. Galway showing plenty of fighting spirit were not going to be denied and a last gasp Brenda Kerins point was no more that they deserved after turning in a spirited performance.

In the All Ireland senior B championship two Emer O'Farrell goals helped Cork maintaining their one hundred per cent record as they defeated a Galway side that turned in a tremendous second half display after trailing at the break. Goals from Sandra Tannion and Martina Conroy brought Galway back into the game but Marie O'Neill kept Cork on course hitting over four frees to which Sandra Tannion replied but Cork's first half display ensured they were ahead at the full time whistle.

St Catherine's blow Ballinhassig away

St Catherine's	**3-14**
Ballinhassig	**0-4**

By MARY NEWMAN
Senior B Camogie

ST CATHERINE'S proved too strong for Ballinhassig when these sides met in the Senior B championship at Glen Rovers last evening.

From the throw in they looked more comfortable on the ball and with the excellent Orla Cotter shooting some marvellous long range points they were always in control.

The opening 30 minutes belonged to the Conna girls, despite playing against the stiff breeze. Two first half goals from Trisha Fitzpatrick and Deirdre Twomey put them in a commanding position before Sinead O Callaghan opened the Ballinhassig account a minute from the half-time whistle when St Catherine's led 2-6 to 0-1.

From the start of the second half St Catherine's, aided by the wind, applied the pressure but to their credit Ballinhassig defended well. Goalkeeper, Shauna McCarthy again turned in a marvellous display of confident handling while captain, Maggie Collins and Eimear O Sullivan worked hard to contain the lively St Catherine's attack.

By the three-quarter stage Trish Fitzpatrick had bagged her second goal and five points without reply from Orla Cotter and Deirdre Twomey put them in the ascendency.

To their credit Ballinhassig continued to work hard and three pointed frees from Sinead O Callaghan and Trisha Holland were well deserved following good work by the Ballinhassig attack.

The Ballinhassig attack were well policed by a dogged St Catherine's defence where Esther Power in particular excelled.

Finishing as they had started, St Catherine's added three points without reply to take the points on offer in this their first game in the round robin series and confidently confirmed their tag as one of the championship favourites long before the final whistle.

ST CATHERINE'S: D Leahy, Y O' Neill, A M Hayes, H Lane (0-1), E Power, O Neville, N Mulcahy, E O'Keeffe, F Noonan, E Fitzgerald, O Cotter (0-8: 0-5 frees 0-3 play) L Higgins, Denise Twomey (0-1): (C) T Fitzpatrick (2-0) Deirdre Twomey (1-4) **Subs:** A Hogan for E O Keeffe, E Harpur for Denise Twomey.

BALLINHASSIG: S McCarthy, A O Riordan, M Collins (C) C Fleming, C Reynolds, M Holland E O' Regan, E O'Sullivan, A O Leary, C Holland, D Coomey K McCarthy T Holland(0-2 frees) S O 'Callaghan(0-2 frees) C Collins **Subs:** A Lee for K Mc Carthy (41 mins).

Ref: G Sheehan: Douglas

July 2006

Carrig are a force to fear

By MARY NEWMAN

Tower View Developments Senior County Championship, Carrigdhoun v Cloughduv, tonight, Newcestown 6.45pm

CLOUGHDUV put their title on the line this evening in a back door attempt to keep their season alive against Carrigdhoun.

It Carrigdhoun's first outing. The divisional side are a force to be reckoned with and they have plenty of inter county experience in their panel. Elaine Burke, Lucy Hawes, Marion Jagoe, Liz Bugler, Eimear O'Sullivan Mairead Holland , Clodagh Deasy and Sinéad O'Callaghan have all worn the county colours and they will be formidable opponents for a Cloughduv side who also have plenty of experience.

The have five Cork senior players including Aoife Murray, Una O'Donoghue, captain Joanne O'Callaghan, Briege Corkery, and Sinéad Corkery. Jean Lucey, Marie Corkery and Katherine Corkery are member of the Cork B panel.

Since taking the title last season Cloughduv have lost the services of Ciara Cronin, Lynn and Stephanie Dunlea all who have retired and in their clash with St Finbarr's they were in contention right to the full time whistle. Tonight expect the same commitment as they fight to hold onto their crown.

Courcey Rovers V Kilbrittan, Timoleague, tonight, Newcestown 8pm

The only divisional team to have already played in the championship Muskerry face Courcey Rovers this evening. Muskerry contested a preliminary round game again Carbery and won 4-7 to 3-9.

For their part Courcey Rovers are coming into tonight's game having lost out in reply to Kilbrittan /Timoleague.

In both of these games Kilbrittan made all the running. Sara Hayes grabbed a replay for Courcey's with two late scores but in that replay Kilbrittan/Timoleague were full value for their victory.

Muskerry are a strong outfit with stars like Cork senior player Catriona Foley. She is joined by Linda Dorgan Grenagh, Ellen and Margaret O'Herlihy, Erin Corkery from Eire Óg and Leah Weste from Ballincollig.

They showed plenty of character to come from behind in defeating Carbery and they will not be overawed by the challenge.

Inter-county players Sara Hayes and Rachel Moloney will be the main players for the Ballinspittle girls but they are by no means a two woman outfit as was shown by the performances of Shirley Moloney, Christine O'Neill, Claire Murphy and Noelle Collins. They showed they have plenty of resolve in their first outing again Kilbrittan/Timoleague to fight back to snatch a draw if they can find that fighting spirit once again they could be on their way to round three.



Imokilly's Deirdre Twomey battles it out with Barryroe's Eileen Carroll during their championship clash in Ballinhassig. Picture: Cillian Kelly

Imokilly are in cruise control

Barryroe	1-4
Imokilly	2-20

By EOLAN ALLEN
In Ballinhassig

IMOKILLY made a statement of intent in the Tower View Developments Senior Camogie Championship with a win over Barryroe at Ballinhassig yesterday evening.

Marie O'Neill of Watergrasshill opened the scoring with a free and would add a further eight points to her tally.

The Twomeys, Deirdre and Denise of St Catherine's showed great pace in the corner while Emer O'Farrell was powerful at full-forward, scoring Imokilly's opening goal on eight minutes.

It wasn't only up front where Imokilly oozed class. Captain Mary O'Connor was very strong at centre-back, often breaking up many Barryroe attacks and always looking to provide her forwards with good ball.

Orla Cotter and Ann Marie Walsh were also superb in defence. While the Divisional side had too much class for their opponents, the one thing that the West Cork side could not be faulted for was effort, as they battled for every ball but unfortunately, when they needed a lot of good luck to have a chance, the bounce of the ball would often go against them.

Another problem for Barryroe was the effectiveness of one of Imokilly's tactics, which saw them mark Barryroe's star player; Jennifer O'Leary out of the game in the first half.

Whenever the ball went into her, three or four players in red and white stripes would surround her. O'Leary did manage to make an impact 12 minutes in, scoring her side's opening point. With their backs against the wall, some players did stand out for Barryroe.

Karen McCarthy was brave in midfield, getting some excellent blocks and captain Cora Keohane was superb at wing-back, keeping her opposing player out of the game.

Geraldine Collins was one of the best players in the first half, putting in a huge effort and she played a superb ball in to set up their only other point of the half, which Deirdre Walsh slotted over.

The result was beyond doubt by half-time, as Imokilly led 1-11 to 0-2 and they didn't ease up as they continued in this vein of from with four points from the restart.

Geraldine Collins got a deserved point soon after and Jennifer O'Leary was finally getting some space to work in. O'Leary's set up her side's goal as the ball dropped in dangerously around the square and while Denise Leahy caught the ball her attempted clearance was blocked down by Deirdre Walsh with the ball ending up in the net.

Imokilly weren't finished and Denise Twomey fired in a great goal to wrap up a superb victory.

Scorers for Barryroe: D Walsh 1-1, J O'Leary 0-2, G Collins 0-1.

Scorers for Imokily: M O'Neill 0-9 (0-1 free), Denise Twomey and E O'Farrell 1-2 each, A Walsh and Deirdre Twomey 0-3 each, O Cotter 0-1 (0-1 45).

BARRYROE: E White; E Carroll, A.M. Fleming, L McCarthy; E Griffin, E O'Regan, K McCarthy; C Keohane (c), I Dineen; P Moloney, J O'Leary, G Collins; M O'Brien, d Walsh, E McCarthy.

Subs for Barryroe: S O'Donovan for O'Regan 15, L Whelton for Griffin 52, D Collins for P Moloney 57.

IMOKILLY: D Leahy; N Mulcahy, M Dorgan, M Barry; A.M. Walsh, M O'Connor (c), O Neville; O Cotter, E Murphy; A Walsh, M O'Neill, C Motherway; Denise Tomey, E O'Farrell, Deirdre Twomey.

Subs for Imokilly: C Keohane for Deirdre Twomey 43, L O'Reilly for Motherway 52. Referee: K Healy (Ballymartle)

Inniscarra have the class to progress

Senior County Championship
Inniscarra v Avondhu
tonight 7.30pm, Ballinlough

By MARY NEWMAN

Last year's defeated county finalists Inniscarra have been forced to take the scenic route in their bid to take their first Cork senior county championship title and tonight Avondhu stand in their way of achieving that dream.

Championship newcomers Ballygarvan caused somewhat of a surprise by defeating Inniscarra in the opening round. On that occasion conceding six goals did not help the mid-Cork girls and they will be conscious this time out that they will have to be much tighter in defence.

Against Ballygarvan they started well but a lapse in concentration saw them lose their way. Again this is something they will need to be aware of against an Avondhu side that will be hoping to have a strong panel available for selection.

Earlier in the week there was uncertainty as to whether this game would go ahead the divisional side not sure if they would be fielding. This came as a surprise given that just two years ago they came close to making it to the last four.

Given the strength of clubs such as Newtownshandrum, Mallow Buttevant and Ballyhea it comes as a shock to hear of this disorganisation in a division where the game is strong. Indeed Avondhu put up a superb display in the U16 inter-divisional championship.

Latest indications are that the Newtownshandrum players are not interested in playing with their divisional side and that Avondhu will be fielding a very young team, including Dawn Farrell, Buttevant, Cork U16 players Darina O'Callaghan, Emer Healy and Valerie McCormick amongst the players who will flying the Avondhu flag.

Inter-county senior player Rena Buckley will lead the Inniscarra's bid to stay in the championship, while Marie and Fiona O'Connell, Niamh Dilworth Eadoine O'Mahony and Áine Ní Riain should have enough to help Inniscarra make it to the last eight.

July 2006

Flying start from heroine Ellen sends Éire Óg into next round

By PJ AHERNE

Senior B Camogie Championship

Éire Óg	3-8
Glen Rovers	0-4

A POWERFUL first-half display allowed Éire Óg to triumph over Glen Rovers in the Tower View Developments Senior B Camogie Championship in Ballinlough last night.

During the opening half, Éire Óg attacked relentlessly but relied on centre-forward Margaret O'Herlihy to ignite their flame with the first four points of the game.

While Éire Óg did dominate possession they were sluggish to register scores but this was primarily owed to the severe resistance they encountered from the Glen back-line.

In midfield Cornellia Shortt and Aoife Walsh battled bravely to shut down the Éire Óg powerhouses Ciara McKenna and Ella Kelleher, who aided the half-forward line to exert a negative influence on the Glen back-line.

Éire Óg's dominance was illustrated when they scored their first goal through Ellen O'Herlihy following a well-executed move involving Erin Corkery and Ciara O'Connor.

Corkery reinforced the advantage with another goal as she was left one on one with keeper after the Glen Rovers defence absconded. To their credit it was a momentary lapse from a pressured back-line, who were forced to conduct a damage limitation exercise until their teammates found a rhythm.

The Glen's Jemma O'Regan and Niamh Goulding stood out for their determination as they tried to alleviate the strain on the defence.

While Éire Óg were troublesome in attack, Glen Rovers were struggling to penetrate their opponent's third of the field, despite the best efforts of the midfield duo and the impressive work ethic of forwards Denise Luby, Amy Cuthbert and Karen O'Connell on the wings. The Glen's inability to score in the first half is attributable to them being guilty of bunching around the middle of field and therefore presenting Éire Óg with an opportunity to shut them down.

Forwards drifted out of position in a bid to secure scraps of possession but to no avail and Éire Óg led by 2-5 to nil at half-time.

In the second half, the Glen tightened up at the back and began to make regular excursions in the Éire Óg half as they attempted to restore some pride.

The Glen's Cornelia Shortt was particularly outstanding and she never surrendered despite the obstacles that faced her side.

Éire Óg's Erin Corkery scored a brilliant solo point to open the scoring in the second half before Denise Luby slotted over a 45 to finally give the Glen something to cheer about.

Ellen O'Herlihy found the net for Éire Óg's third goal and she also added a brace of points but the Glen struck back with points from Karen O'Connell, Amy Cuthbert and Niamh Goulding to brighten up the scoreboard.

Scorers for Éire Óg: E O'Herlihy 2-2, E Corkery 1-2, M O'Herlihy 0-4 (0-3f).

Glen Rovers: A Cuthbert K O'Connell N Goulding and D Luby (1f) 0-1 each.

ÉIRE ÓG: L O'Mahony, A McKenna, S Gleeson, S Donovan, C McKenna, K McCarthy, L Murphy, C McKenna, E Kelleher, C O'Leary, M O'Herlihy, E O'Herlihy, E Corkery, C O'Connor, C McCarthy. **Subs:** L O'Leary for C O'Connor.

GLEN ROVERS: K Newman, K Lynch, J O'Regan, L Kelly, A Guiton, N Goulding, L Davis, C Shortt, A Walsh, D Luby, L Cunningham, K O'Connell, B Kennefick, D Tobin, A Cuthbert.

Referee: C MacAllister (Midleton).

Stunned Courceys take the back door

By PJ AHERN

Senior Camogie Championship

Kilbrittain/Timoleague	3-6
Courcey Rovers	0-5

KILBRITTAIN/TIMOLEAGUE took the scalp of misfiring Courcey Rovers in the Senior County Camogie Championship first round replay played in Brinny last night.

The victors pounced to score two goals to take an unlikely half-time lead, when they were previously struggling to supply possession to the forwards.

Courcey Rovers were over-reliant on Rachel Moloney to light-up the scoreboard and their subsequent failure to score in the second half were primary contributing factors to their defeat.

After 13 minutes Courcey Rovers established a three points to one advantage courtesy of three points from Moloney, while a Val O'Keeffe free got Kilbrittain/Timoleague off the mark.

Although the game appeared to be heading into Courcey's grasp, they failed to shake off their nerves in front of goal and Kilbrittain/Timoleague's Val O'Keeffe changed the course of the contest by moving her side into a shock lead.

O'Keeffe registered a point from a free before a long range effort somehow found its way to the net. Mary Murphy got in on the act a minute later with a second goal.

The turnaround was completed with another O'Keeffe point and Kilbrittain/Timoleague were suddenly calling the shots with a six-point lead.

Rachel Moloney scored a brace of points to reduce the margin at the break to four points (2-3 to 0-5) but her side failed to score for the remainder of the contest.

In a dormant second half Kilbrittain/Timoleague's Miriam Deasy slotted over a point, while efforts from Val O'Keeffe stretched the gap further while Courcey's continued to spurn possession.

A goal from Amanda Desmond sealed Kilbrittain/Timoleague's passage to round three

Kilbrittain/Timoleague's Louise Kavanagh, Miriam Deasy, Maeve O'Sullivan and Catriona Deasy all contributed to their side's triumph.

Meanwhile Christine O'Neill, Sinead O'Regan, Sara Hayes and Ursula Quinn all made noteworthy contributions to bring Courcey Rovers back into the contest.

Scorers for Kilbrittain/Timoleague: V O'Keeffe 1-5 (1-5f), M Murphy and A Desmond -0 each, M Deasy 0-1.

Courcey Rovers: R Moloney 0-5 (0-2f).

KILBRITTAI/TIMOLEAGUE: E O'Regan, C Deasy, D Coughlan, A O'Sullivan, E O'Sullivan, M O'Sullivan, V O'Keeffe, L Kavanagh, M Murphy, E O'Sullivan, D O'Sullivan, M Murphy, M Deasy, S Sexton, C Deasy. **Subs used:** F Whelton for L Kavanagh, A Desmond for M O'Sullivan, E O'Donovan for E O'Donovan.

COURCEY ROVERS: A O'Brien, C Murphy, L Kelleher, G Twomey, C O'Neill, M O'Donovan, S O'Regan, S Hayes, C Murphy, N Collins, S Quinn, S Downing, S Moloney, U Quinn, R Moloney. **Subs used:** C Hayes for S Quinn, A Twomey for S Moloney, A O'Regan for N Collins.

Referee: W Barrett (Aghabullogue).

Teams look to bounce through the back door

TONIGHT
TVD Senior Camogie Championship
Barryroe v Imokilly
Ballinhassig, 7.30pm

This evening the back door opens for the first of the second round games in the Tower View Developments Senior Camogie Championship, *writes MARY NEWMAN.*

Barryroe will be hoping to bounce back from their defeat at the hands of Milford to gain re-entry to the championship.

It's a big call against a strong Imokilly side that will feature Cork intercounty players Mary O'Connor and Angela Walsh from Killeagh, Orla Cotter and Denise Twomey St Catherine's Emer O'Farrell Sarsfield's and Marie O'Neill Watergrasshill.

Barryroe faced a huge task against a very talented Milford and on the night simply had no answers to the power and strength of the North Cork side who never allowed them get into the game.

To their credit they fought to the final whistle and tonight they will be determined to put that defeat behind them. Cork Senior Jennifer O'Leary, Ann Marie Fleming Ger Collins, goalkeeper, Eimear White and captain, Cora Keohane will be to the fore as Barryroe make their challenge.

Always strong championship campaigners, Barryroe have worked hard and will be determined to stay in the championship as defeat would effectively end the season for many of their adult players.

Imokilly are strong but they will be mindful of the close bond and spirit which exists at club level.

This is something Barryroe will have in abundance.

St. Catherine's Camogie

Club Sponsor - Cork Builders Providers

Senior B Championship

St. Catherine's 3-14 Ballinhassig 0-4

On Tues night last, July 11th, our Senior B team played the first of their Championship games for this year when they met Ballinhassig and ran out winners on the above score line. From the outset our girls were in control dominating the play in all positions. Orla Cotter got some great points in the first half and two first half goals from Deirdre Twomey and Trish Fitzpatrick put us well ahead by half time with the score being 2 - 6 to 0 - 1 in our favour.

With the wind at our back in the second half we continued to dominate, five points without reply from Orla Cotter and Deirdre Twomey and a second goal from Trish put us well ahead. This was a good all around performance from all our girls our defence was strong with Esther Power being particularly effective and also Helen Lane who showed that she has not lost any of her forward skills when she scored a fine point towards the end of the match.

Team : - D.Leahy, Y. O'Neill, A.Hayes, H.Lane, E.Power, O.Neville, N.Mulcahy, E.O'Keeffe, F.Noonan, E.Fitzgerald, O.Cotter, L.Higgins, D.Twomey,(Captain) T.Fitzpatrick, D.Twomey,

Subs-, A.Hogan for E.O'Keeffe, E.Harpur for D.Twomey, A.Galvin, S.Noonan, M.Daly, M.O'Keeffe, M.Mulcahy, C.O'Brien, J.Hurley, K.Higgins, K.Twomey, C.Hurley.

Scorers:- D.Twomey 1 - 4, T.Fitzpatrick 2 - 0, H.Lane 0 - 1, D.Twomey 0 - 1, O.Cotter 0 - 8 (5f)

U - 16 C League.

St. Catherine's 7-4 Ballincollig 2-4

On Thurs last, 13th July, our U - 16 team met Ballincollig in this competition and ran out comfortable winners on the above scoreline. This was our third game in this league as we played two matches earlier in the summer before breaking for the exams. We defeated Watergrasshill and drew with Newcestown. This was a good all round performance from this team

Ballincollig are always tough adversaries and this game was no exception but we were sharper with our scoring abilities. Between them Finola Neville and Fiona Cotter had scored 3 - 1 in the first quarter of this half to Ballincollig's 1 - 1. Another goal from Finola and one from Ciara Kearney before half time ensured we had a lead of 5 - 1 to Ballincollig's 1 - 3.

We completely dominated the second half with Ciara and Fiona goaling again in the first quarter of this half and limiting Ballincollig to just 1 - 1 throughout while going on to score a further 0- 3 before the full time whistle.

Rachel Murphy was effective in goal, the backs defended well with Aisling Hartnett, Chloe Aherne and Aisling O' Keeffe being particularly effective. Jill Hurley worked tirelessly assisted by Ciara Kearney and Fiona Feeney ensuring a plentiful supply of ball into the forward line where Finola and Fiona picked off their scores.

Team : - R.Murphy, C.Clancy, A.Hartnett, C.Aherne, N.O'Donoghue, A.O'Keeffe, C.Keniry, K.Murphy, S.Gallagher, C.Kearney, J.Hurley, F.Feeney, F.Neville, F.Cotter, A.Donnelly.

Subs- K.Mellerick for F.Feeney, L.Burnster for A.Donnelly

Scorers :- F.Neville 2 - 2, F.Cotter 3(1f) 2, C.Kearney 2 - 0

Junior Bs

Our Junior B team are training at the moment and played a challenge match against Watergrasshill on Sat last.

U - 18 Munster Championship

Congratulations to Cork's U - 18 team who defeated Waterford on Friday night last in the first round of this competition. Well done to Orna Neville, Deirdre Twomey, Aileen Hogan and Orla Cotter who are members of this Cork panel . Orla is captain of this year's team and Billy Neville is a selector, well done to all involved.

All Ireland Senior A and B Championships.

Well done to Orla Cotter and Denise Twomey who were on the panel of these Cork teams when they played Galway on Sat last in Ballincollig. Cork's B team defeated Galway while Cork's B team's game ended in a draw.

Bishopstown look to have the edge over Douglas girls

TONIGHT,
Tower View Developments Senior B County Championship, Bishopstown, v Douglas, Ballygarvan 8 pm

THE second game of a double header in Ballygarvan is another all divisional clash and this time it's the players from Seandun who come face to face.

Unlike the Carrigdhoun girls in the first game (see below) the Seandun side are still in contention for county championship honours therefore it's team-mates against team-mates and Seandun manager Ross Corcoran will be keeping his fingers crossed that all come through this clash unscathed.

Following their success at junior level last season where they took league and championship honours, Douglas have made the big step to senior and it's no more than has been expected given the huge amount of success at underage they have enjoyed.

They make their debut in a tough opener again a Bishopstown side that last season did exceptionally well after dropping down a grade and since then have made huge improvements.

Coached this year by former Passage hurler Kieran Keane they are a hugely experience side. Several of the side are holders of senior county championship and All-Ireland senior honours.

Ciara Healy and former All-Ireland winning captain Eithne Duggan are hugely experienced while Jean O'Sullivan, Ciara Enright, Derbhilla Quigney and Trisha Doyle have been there and know just what is required to take a senior championship crown. Already they are being pencilled in as one of the favourites.

Douglas will be placing a huge amount of faith in their inter-county senior player Amanda O'Regan to guide them in the right direction. Last year was a dream one for them now they must concentrated on the next step.

Rachel O'Sullivan, the O'Donovan's Niamh and Jenny, Louise O'Regan and Fiona McSweeney are amongst the players that coach Michael O'Regan will be hoping make their senior debut a dream one.

Valley Rovers out to continue winning run

TONIGHT
Tower View Developments Senior B County Championship, Valley Rovers v Carrigaline, Ballygarvan 6.45pm

DIVISIONAL loyalties will be pushed to one side this evening as Carrigdhoun stars come face to face when their respective clubs meet in Ballygarvan.

With the competition played on a round robin basis both team have one game each already under their belts.

Valley Rovers will be hoping to continue their impressive run and record a second victory having already successfully met the challenge posed by Newcestown. Carrigaline will be hoping to bounce back from defeat at the hands of Ballinhassig.

Marion Cottrell, Lucy Hawkes and Elaine Burke will lead the Innishannon girls challenge while Laura Thompson, who impressed again Ballinhassig, will be looking for more support from her team-mates this time out. There is no doubt but Caroline O'Keeffe Ann Kiely and Muireann Conlon will work tirelessly in an effort to secure victory for the Carrigaline girls.

Four bow out after senior championships thrillers

Camogie - Mary Newman

THE Tower View Developments Senior County Camogie Championship continued last week as four sides made their exit — Barryroe, Courcey Rovers, Avondhu and Carrigdhoun all bowing out, but not after some exciting contests.

Inniscarra	**4-11**
Avondhu	**5-5**

It took a last minute save from 14-year-old goalkeeper Joanne Casey to keep Inniscarra in the championship when she denied Darina O'Callaghan a certain goal which would have given the divisional side their place in the quarter finals.

Sixteen-year-old Niamh Dilworth was also the heroine for Inniscarra scoring 4-4, hand passing a goal in the fourth minute she continued to be the thorn in Avondhu's side, Kathleen O'Brien pointing five minutes into the game getting the divisional side on the score board.

Fifteen minutes into the game Dilworth finished a Marie O'Connell free to the net, and she hit two further goals before Emer Healy pointed twice for Avondhu.

Catherine Coakley and Rena Buckley exchanged points as Inniscarra held a comfortable four goal interval advantage. It was all Avondhu for the second half, and driven on by the hard working Dawn Farrell, Kathleen O'Brien and Darina O'Callaghan they came at Inniscarra.

Inside 10 minutes of the restart Valerie Mc Cormick O'Callaghan and Dawn Farrell struck for goals, and with O'Brien adding a point just two points separated the sides. Inniscarra hit back with points from Dilworth Treasa McCarthy and O'Marie Connell. Dilworth put six points between the sides but Avondhu fought back, Valerie Mc Cormick and Catherine Coakley finishing to the net to bring the sides level.

Inniscarra, with points from Fiona O'Connell and Dilworth, regained the advantage before Avondhu's Darina O'Callaghan looked poised to grab the winner' but credit to Joanne Casey who stood firm before Aine Ni Riann with a late point stretched the advantage to three.

Inniscarra: J Casey, A Punch, E O Mahony, R McCarthy, M Lynch, R Buckley(0-1), Y Twomey, T Murphy (C) M O'Connell, (0-2) F O'Connell (0-2), S Ni Riain (0-1) M. Cosgrave, R O'Riordan N Dilworth (4-4) M Buckley Sub: T McCarthy (0-1) for R O'Riordan (26 mins).

Avondhu: D O'Keeffe M Walsh, E Harrington O Carroll C Lynch, M Walsh O Johnson, R Waters D Farrell (1-0) ©, K O'Brien (0-2), C Coakley (1-1), D O'Callaghan, (1-0), S Breen V McCormick 2-0), E Healy (0-2).

Ref: Cathal Egan: Glen Rovers.

Muskerry	**4-6**
Courcey Rovers	**2-11**

Muskerry had to call on all their resources to hold off Courcey Rovers who at one stage trailed by thirteen points. An Ellen O' Herlihy pointed a free seven minutes from full time spoiling Courcey Rovers' efforts of snatching a draw which they would have deserved given their second half performance.

An exciting opening half had Courcey's in front by an eighth minute Claire Murphy goal to which Margaret O' Herlihy responded a minute later, Rachel Moloney had Courcey's back in front with a point but it was to be their last score until the 38th minute Muskerry goalss from Margaret and Ellen giving the divisional side the half time advantage 3-4 to 1-1.

Linda Dorgan converted a second half penalty to stretch their lead before an eighth minute Rachel Moloney point allied to Courcey's and picking off their points they grew in confidence Sara Hayes, Sarah Downing Noelle Collins and Rachel Moloney leading the way.

Three Sara Hayes points and five from Rachel Moloney had reduced the margin to a point. Ellen O'Herlihy pointed with a Muskerry attack, and even through Rachel Moloney reduced the arrears to a point it was Muskerry who held on for victory.

MUSKERRY: T O'Donnell, C McKenna, S Gleeson, M Foley, L West, C Foley, L Murphy, D Cronin; E O'Herlihy 1-4 (0-4f), E Kelleher, C O'Leary L Dorgan 1-1 (1-0p), 2-0, E Corkery, 0-1, M O'Herlihy, (2-0), C Mc Kenna Subs C McCarthy for E Kelleher.

COURCEY ROVERS: A. O 'Brien, C Murphy, L Kelleher, G Twomey, C O'Neill, M O'Donovan, S O'Regan, S Hayes 0-3 C Murphy 1-0, N Collins, C Hayes, S Quinn S Downing 0-1 (0-1f), U. Quinn, R Moloney 1-7 (0-3f), Subs; S Moloney for S Quinn.

Referee: J. O' Leary (Mallow).

Cloughduv	**3-8**
Carrigdhoun	**0-07**

Champions Cloughduv put their defeat by St Finbarrs in the opening round behind them to beat Carrigdhoun in a second chance game in Newcestown.

Cloughduv laid the foundations for victory in the opening half with an eight point lead, Una O'Donoghue striking for Cloughduv's opening goal and adding two points after Marion Jagoe had opened the scoring for Carrigdhoun.

O'Donoghue set up Briege Corkery for Cloughduv's second goal as they led 2-3 to 0-1 before Carrigdhoun, with Eimear O'Sullivan and Elaine Burke leading the way, began to find their feet .

Carrigdhoun had the lead down to four points by the half time whistle, but an early Sheila Lucey goal in the second half helped the champions regain their composure. Points from Eimear O'Sullivan and Marion Jagoe kept Carrigdhoun in the hunt but Cloughduv had done enough to secured their quarter final place.

CLOUGHDUV: A Murray, O O'Callaghan, S Corkery, S Corkery, J O'Callaghan, E Dunne, B Corkery 1-1,, M Corkery, A Buckley, , U O'Donoghue 1-4 (0-1f), S Buckley,0-2 J Lucey, K Corkery 0-1. O McCarthy, S Lucey.1-0.

CARRAIGDHOUN: G Harrington, S Deasy, M Hawkes, T Harrington, C Deasy, M Holland, E O'Sullivan 0-3 S O'Callaghan, J Lynch, E Burke0-1, D Coomey 0-1, L Bugler, M Cottrell. M Jagoe 0-2, Subs Used; K O'Sullivan for M Cottrell, M McCarthy for L Bugler.

Referee: M. Sheehan (Liscarroll).

Imokilly	**2-20**
Barryroe	**1-4**

A strong Imokilly performance sends out a strong statement of their intentions to be one of the main contenders for ultimate honours this season as they defeated Barryroe.

With Marie O'Neill Denise and Deirdre Twomey Orla Cotter and Emer O'Farrell all to the fore Imokilly held all the aces. Imokilly led 1-11 to 1-2 at the interval break, but all credit to Barryroe's Jennifer O'Leary, Ger Collins and Deirdre Walsh who fought hard. But with Mary O'Connor and Ann Marie Walsh commanding a solid Imokilly defence they were held at bay to the final whistle. On this performance Imokilly will be hard to beat and certain they will be the ones to watch as the championship progresses.

Imokilly: D Leahy, N Mulcahy, M Dorgan M Barry, A M Walsh, M O'Connor ©, O Neville O Cotter, E Murphy, A Walsh, M O'Neill, C Motherway, Denise Twomey Deirdre Twomey, E O'Farrell, Subs C Keohane for Deirdre Twomey, L O'Reilly for C Motherway.

Barryroe: E White, E Carroll, A M Fleming, L McCarthy E Griffin, E O'Regan, K McCarthy, C Keohane, I Dineen, P Moloney, J O'Leary, G Collins, M O'Brien, D Walsh E McCarthy, Subs S O'Donovan for E O'Regan, L Whelton for E Griffin, D Collins for P Moloney.

Ref: K Healy Ballymartle.

Camogie star Siobhán a true Blackpool woman

Siobhan O'Brien

THERE was a sad day for Cork and Glen Rover's Camogie Club over the June bank holiday weekend when another link with the past was severed with the passing of one of Glen Rover's finest players, Siobhán O'Brien.

A former Cork senior captain, Siobhán was well-known and respected as a club and intercounty player in the 1950s.

Siobhán led The Glen to their first senior county championship title in 1950 when the Punch Cup came to Blackpool for the first time.

She had the honour in 1952 of leading Cork back to the intercounty playing fields after a lapse of eight years away from the scene.

Cork returned and qualified to play Tipperary in the Munster final. The match report read as follows: "Siobhán O'Brien led Cork from the dressing rooms to the rapturous roar of Cork followers. The Rebels announced their return in emphatic fashion with a brilliant display scoring a convincing 9-5 to 3-0 victory. However, they had to give way to a strong Antrim side in the All-Ireland semi final".

The holder of senior county championship medals won in 1950 and 1951, Siobhán spent her working life in Sunbeam Wolsey and was a true Blackpool woman, living in Spring Lane and later in Dublin Hill.

She kept up her involvement in Glen Rover's and was a member of the ladies' club and enjoyed great trips with the club in the modern era, travelling in the late 1990s to camogie games in Ballinasloe, Ballyraggett and further a field to support the girls in her beloved Glen.

It wasn't only the girls Siobhán supported, but she actively followed and was interested to hear anything related to the club.

Former Cork minor coach Diarmuid O'Donovan related that as a young teenager, playing with The Glen and St Nick's, Siobhán would always stop and chat to him about the games.

She also had a great memory for names and could speak at length about players, be it camogie, hurling or football

Up to the time of her short illness, she was active and frequently chatted about games and the activities she had a keen interest in.

A real lady, Siobhán was never slow to point out if things were wrong but always had words of praise for the work being carried out in the promotion of camogie.

It was always a pleasure to listen to her wonderful stories and to be part of something in our club and indeed, our county, which she helped to carve out and build.

Hopefully, generations of Glen girls to come will continue to carry that legacy handed down by Siobhán.

May she rest in peace.



Siobhán O'Brien led the Glen to a Senior County Championship in 1950.

Cats edge Championship encounter

Kilkenny 1-13 Wexford 1-10 A brilliant finish by Kilkenny earned them a deserved win against Wexford in the Gala Senior Championship fourth round in Kilmanagh, Kilkenny yesterday *writes Máire Ui Scolaí.*

This was a game that both teams had to win to stay in contention for this year's Championship, although depending on later results it could still see a playoff where Wexford might get in through the back door.

Playing with the wind advantage, Wexford got the better start with two rapid fire points from Ursula Jacob and Stacey Redmond. A goal after 12 minutes from Katrina Parrock gave the Model County a lead of 1-6 to 0-5 at the break.

The Cats got a great tonic immediately after the restart when a Wexford defensive error left Kilkenny's Brigid Mulally in for their only goal. They were now playing with a stronger wind and while Wexford went up a further point immediately thanks to Brigid Curran, it was Kilkenny who were showing the greater hunger with Imelda Kennedy playing superbly at left half-forward.

Level twice after that, with four minutes to go it was still level pegging at 1-10 each, Wexford's Kate Kelly having sent over the leveller. However, a fine point from Marie Dargan and two frees from Imelda Kennedy in injury-time sent the Cats purring for their next encounter against Galway. Wexford now meet Limerick in their final game, also on August 5.

The second Gala championship match resulted in a 1-15 to 1-3 win for Tipperary over Limerick. A first-half goal from Trish O'Halloran gave the 2005 All-Ireland finalists a half-time lead of 1-10 to 0-2. The second half was all Tipperary despite a slightly better Limerick performance.



Members of Cork Camogie All-Ireland Champions team who helped launch the Ultimate Woman fitness studio in Ballincollig. Included are Sarah O'Donovan, Ballygarvan; Caitriona Foley, Rockbawn; Joanne O'Callaghan, Cloughdubh; Ciara Healy, Bishopstown and Una O'Donoghue, Cloughdubh. Picture: Mike English

July 2006

SARSFIELDS SUMMER STREET LEAGUES A TREMENDOUS SUCCESS

Sugababes are delighted after sweet success



The Sugababes team from the Sarsfields Street Leagues.



The Girls Aloud team from the Sarsfields Street Leagues.

By MARY NEWMAN
Girls' camogie

CAMOGIE has always been to the fore in Riverstown and the Sarsfields club down through the years have produced many fine players and administrators both for Cork and at national level.

Liz Dunphy, Breda Kenny, Lillian Zinkant Ann O'Mahony, Ellen McCarthy, Mary Canavan, Eithne Barry all wore the red and white of Cork, while presently, Emer O'Farrell is flying the club flag on the intercounty senior panel and is already the holder of All-Ireland honours.

Lillian Zinkant, who gave tremendous service as a player to Sarsfields and Cork, turned her hand successfully to coaching, and having successfully guided the Cork junior side to All-Ireland glory, moved on to the senior side where she was a selector when Cork were crowed champions last season.

Already this year the senior team have taken the national league title and Lillian is now busy plotting another All-Ireland campaign with fellow selectors John Cronin and Ollie Hallinane and coach Fiona O'Driscoll.

Marie Kearney is one of the club's best-known administrators.

A former player with the club, Marie has served on several committees both at local and national level. She has held officer ship at various levels with the Cork County Board before going on to become PRO and chairperson of the Munster Council.

Marie is currently a vice-president of the Camogie Association and is without doubt one of the foundation stones of camogie in Sars.

There was huge excitement when the club won the division four of Féile na nGael.

They emerged from their section which was played on a round robin league format to meet Ratoath from Meath in the final. In a tight contest Sars emerged with one goal to spare over their rivals to bring the title to Riverstown.

After all the excitement of Féile, another underage matter needing immediate attention was the important business of the penultimate stages of the U10 Street Leagues.

Four teams took part: Cúl Cailínís, Girls with Hurls, Girls Aloud and Sugababes.

After some hectic games when all the results were in the Girls Aloud side qualified to play Cúl Cailínís in the playoff for third and fourth place.

All spotlight was firmly on the Sugababes teams and Girls with Hurls side who battled through to contest the final.

Splendid weather in Riverstown helped add to the sense of occasion as the young participants took to the playing field, where the large attendance enjoyed two closely contested matches.

The match between Girls Aloud and Cúl Cailínís was won by Cúl Cailínís by 2-0 to 1-0. This match was refereed by Valerie O'Leary, who was voted Sarsfields' Young Player of the Year '05.

The final between Sugababes and Girls with Hurls was a close affair with play swinging from end to end. Both defences were on top form and as a result it was scoreless at the full-time whistle. Referee Ray Ryan, captain of the Sarsfields senior hurling team, was the man in the middle and he had called for extra time. The deadlock was broken when Sugababes' Michelle Barry got the all-important goal. Girls with Hurls tried to the finish to get an equaliser but the strong Sugababes' defence held solid to take the honours.

A notable feature of all the matches played in the street leagues was that there was never more than a goal or two between any of the teams at the final whistle. Eithne Allen and her mentors did a terrific job to ensure that the teams were evenly matched. This task was making even more difficult because it was very important that sisters and cousins were on the same team so that there would be no family rivalry!The medals were presented by Seamus Comerford, co-manager of the successful Féile team. He complimented the players on their achievements, all who received huge applause from the large gathering present.

The motto for the Street Leagues was "Have Fun & Enjoy" and all participants certainly did just that. With the talent at their disposal, Sarsfields can be assured that another group of future underage intercounty stars are up and coming.

The club reminds everyone that training sessions continue in Sars pitch each Saturday. 12.30 'til 1.30pm for 7-10s.Older girls from 12.30 to 2pm. New players always welcome.

SUGABABES: Chloe Aherne (Capt) Niamh Sherman (Vice Capt) Katie Walsh, Hannah McCarthy, Tara McCarthy, Emma Gillivan, Aoife O'Sullivan, Rebecca Hyde, Rachel Spencer, Michelle Barry, Melissa Barry, Jessie Hurley, Katie O'Farrell, Kate McCarthy, Rebecca Spencer, Emily Walsh. **Mentors:** Edel Murphy, Susan Barry, Paul McCarthy.

GIRLS WITH HURLS: Sarah Fahy (Capt) Saoirse O'Connell (Vice Capt) Laura Brady, Katie O' Driscoll, Hollie Herlihy, Ciara Tyner, Amy Turpin, Eimear Owens, Jennifer Hall, Megan O'Sullivan, Roisin O'Donovan, Emily Hall, Katie Turpin, Jane McAllen, Aoife Owens, Edel Kelleher, Shona McCarthy, Rachel Kelleher, Ciara Crowley. **Mentors:** Aine Barry, Ger Brady, Maude Kelleher.

GIRLS ALOUD: Lucy Allen (Capt) Julie Allen (Vice Capt) , Isabelle Twomey, Maeve McCarthy, Ciara Ryan, Amy Crowley, Lucy Kelly, Alannah Good, Jessica Long, Aoife O'Brien, Ciara O'Sullivan, Claire Gillen, Chelsea Thomas, Lauren McAlulty, Shannon Croker. **Mentors:** Ann Barry, Doris Murphy, Claire Holland.

CÚL CAILÍNÍS Laoise Burke (Capt) Kasey Marnell (Vice Capt) , Maebh Ryan, Amy Cooney, Cliona Crowley, Lauren Casserly, Ciara Tobin, Jessica Quirke, Katie Stacey, Megan Walsh, Emma Canning, Jessica Murphy, Rebecca Murphy, Maebh Mullins, Kelsey Mullane, Roisin Quirke, Ciara Cashman, Rebecca O'Sullivan, Claire Mullins. **Mentors:** Orla Butler, Niamh Whooley, Valerie O'Leary.



The Girls With Hurls team from the Sarsfields Street Leagues.



The Cúl Cailíní team from the Sarsfields Street Leagues.

July 2006



Cork Camogie captain Elaine Burke and hurler Shane O'Neill with Niamh O'Shea, Tessa Crowley, Vicki Crowley and Fiona O'Sullivan at the Brinny Cúl Camp.

Picture: Donna McBride / News

AGHABULLOGUE

THE senior camogie team were unlucky to lose out to Cloughduv in a league clash in Coachford on Monday night July 10. The full time score read 1-10 to 0-10 to Cloughduv.

Aghabullogue team: Nicola Moynihan, Linda Ronan, Joan Twomey, Marian Twomey, Orla McSweeney, Tina Roche, Sheila Crowley, Ciara Murphy, Niamh O'Connell, Aileen Twomey, Brid Twomey, Emma Healy, Mairead Twomey, Abby Lehane, Louise Murphy. **Subs:** Sinead Buckley for Orla McSweeney, Michelle Healy for Aileen Twomey.

Following the draws for the next round of the Senior A Championship, Aghabullogue have to play the winners of Kilbrittain and St Finbarr's on a date yet to be decided.

The following club matches are scheduled to be played in the coming week. Tuesday: July 25, U18 Championship (run on league basis) v Enniskeane in Enniskeane Thursday July: U16 League v Newtownshandrum in Coachford

BLACKROCK

Well done to Roisin de Faoite who had a great game in the All-Ireland U16 semi-final. Roisin scored 1-1 on the day. The U12 team travelled to the match and enjoyed a great display by all the Cork team.

Blackrock will play Tracton on Sunday July 23 at 11.30am in Carrigaline in the Junior Championship. The team have prepared very well and support would be greatly appreciated on the day.

BALLINCOLLIG

Camogie Notes — Sponsor: Downs SuperValu

Ballincollig 2-13 Youghal 0-5

The senior team got off to a flying start to this year's JBC last Thursday night in sunsplashed Youghal.

Ballincollig got resounding revenge on the home side for their one-point defeat two years ago and now face a tough battle against Buttevant in the next round.

Though Youghal grabbed the opening scores and Ballincollig hit some poor wides in the opening 10 minutes, it was obvious from the throw-in that there was a gulf in ability, speed and fitness between the sides.

Denise Cronin hit an early equaliser on the run and despite the attentions of two Youghal markers for much of the game, was in her usual top form, finishing with four points.

In midfield Maria O'Donoghue was utterly dominant throughout and protected the defence by channelling an large amount of ball to the forwards.

By the 25th minute Ballincollig had raced into a 0-7 to 0-1 lead, Denise adding two more points and Aisling Duff, Claire Ryan, Ashley Lovett and Maria all splitting the posts.

Youghal did manage a pointed free in replay but Claire Ryan's goal effectively ended the game as a contest.

The home side grabbed another point before the break and the second half for Ballincollig was just a case of maintaining their level of performance.

Ashley Lovett and Ciara McSweeney both flashed over arching points either side of Youghal's fourth score and Ciara added a distance free.

Aisling Duff's tireless, battling and intelligent display was rewarded by a goal soon after when she burst through the rearguard and booted the sliothar to the net to push Ballincollig 2-10 to 0-4 clear.

The game petered out a bit at this point, though Tina did smash the ball into the net. Unfortunately the goal was disallowed for a square ball. Before the finish Ballincollig pointed three frees and the home side one to leave Ballincollig convincing winners by 2-8.

Buttevant will, of course, pose a far stiffer challenge in the next round but, after an excellent performance, we can look forward with confidence.

Scorers: Denise Cronin 0-4 (0-1 free), Ciara McSweeney 0-4 (0-3 frees), Claire Ryan 1-1, Aisling Duff 1-1, Ashley Lovett 0-2, Maria O'Donoghue 0-1.

Team: Tina O'Donnell; Sinead Barry, Adele Kiely, Brea O'Callaghan; Aoife Cotter, Leah Weste, Kate O'Donoghue; Ciara McSweeney, Maria O'Donoghue; Sarah Buckley, Denise Cronin, Mags; Aisling Duff, Claire Ryan, Ashley Lovett. **Sub:** Ashleen Sheehan for Claire Ryan (inj)

Next game: Buttevant at home on Wednesday July 26 in Ballincollig.

Congrats to Denise Cronin, Maria O'Donoghue and Leah Weste who all excelled in the Cork minors comprehensive win against Waterford last week the night after the Youghal match.

INNISCARRA

Our U16 team continued their league campaign with a trip to Ballyhea where we met Buttevant recently.

In this keenly contested U16 league game, Buttevant opted to play with the wind in the first half.

However, the Inniscarra defence was firm and foiled several strong attacks. With Inniscarra controlling centre field, the Buttevant forwards found it difficult to settle. At the other end, the Inniscarra forwards kept the game alive and led by 1-2 to 0-3 at half-time.

In the second half Buttevant again started strongly and took the lead early on.

But as the game advanced, the Inniscarra forwards found the target more easily and with the wind in their favour, were able to hold out for a four-point win.

Both teams gave a fine display of skill and commitment, but in the end Inniscarra finished stronger.

Scorers for Inniscarra: Joanne Casey 1-2, Niamh Dilworth 0-4; Emer O Connell 1-0, Fiona O'Connell 0-2, Catherine O'Brien 0-1.

Inniscarra have won three games in the league, we next face old rivals Douglas on July 21.

GLEN ROVERS

Our senior team contested their first game in The Tower View Developments Senior Championship on Monday last but had to give way to Eire Óg after a tough encounter.

In a first half, when we failed to really get into the game, our opponents were well on top but a spirited second-half display saw us improve and turned the game into a good contest but at the full-time whistle, it was Eire Óg who were victors.

Our second game in this competition is against Bishopstown on August 8.

Our underage coaching for girls from age six to 12 years continues in the Glen Field top pitch every Sunday 11.45am to 1pm and on Tuesday evenings 5.45 to 7pm.

Girls over 12 can also attend these sessions and new members are welcome to attend we encourage any former players to bring along their daughters and to get involved in the fun.

There are places still available on the Cul Camp which will take place in Glen Rovers from August 14-18. Contact Terry Buckley or any camogie mentor for more details.

This week we extend a huge happy birthday to our esteemed Hon President Chrissie Buckley who celebrated her 90th birthday on Monday last. Chrissie played on the Glen Rovers team of 1934 and brought honours to our club and she is always very interested in all camogie activities. She enjoyed a great day and celebrated with all her family and friends.

NA PIARSAIGH

We brought our underage (U9s) out to Blarney for a fun day for both teams and mentors and of course parents played a great part on the day as well. Thanks to all who attended!

We brought 20 young determined players with us to Blarney and we split them into two groups of 10. All games on the day produced great skill for such young players on the both teams.

Taylor O'Brien, aged six, had started camogie five months before the tournament. Everyone on the day were very surprised when Taylor broke her first hurley.

Emer Guest, Amanda O'Leary, Lauren Twohig, Shauna Bell, Megan Moynihan, Niamh O'Leary, Chelsea Nolan and of course Taylor O'Brien played exceptionally well and showed great skill. All players on the day were brilliant.

Training times for this age group is every Saturday morning in the club at noon until 1pm. New players are always welcome.

Sé foireann iontach í an fhoireann seo, Lean leis an obair!

PASSAGE WEST

On July 12, Passage played Watergrasshill in Passage GAA pitch in the U16C League. This was the first game the girls had played since before the Junior Cert. Watergrasshill were the first to score with a point. Passage replied soon after that when Amy Costello sent in a wonderful pass to Sinead O'Reilly who scored the game's first goal.

Lisa O'Sullivan then scored a point from a free and Natasha O'Sullivan scored one from play.

At half-time Passage looked the stronger but Watergrasshill were very determined and scored a goal. Amy Costello again sent in another pass to Sinead O'Reilly who scored another point. This put Passage two points up, but Watergrasshill, to their credit, scored an excellent goal in the final minutes of the game.

The score was Watergrasshill 2-1, Passage 1-3.

Those who played well for Passage were Natasha O'Sullivan, Amy Costello, Emer Hyde, Laura McCarthy and Erin Twomey.

Passage team: Emma Lydon, Jenny Power, Clodagh Murphy, Emer Hyde, Claire O'Brien, Lisa O'Sullivan, Joy McCarthy, Laura mc Carthy, Erin Twomey, Amy Costello, Karen Twomey, Caoimhe Doyle, Gillian Foley, Sinead O Reilly, Natasha O'Sullivan. **Subs used:** Lisa O Brien Laura McCarthy.

Fixtures: The U13 team continue to train every Tuesday at 5.30 in GAA pitch and new members are always welcome.

ST CATHERINE'S

St Catherine's 3-14 Ballinhassig 0-4

On Tuesday night last, our senior B team played the first of their championship games for this year when they met Ballinhassig and ran out winners on the above scoreline.

From the outset our girls were in control, dominating the play in all positions. Orla Cotter got some great points in the first half and two first-half goals from Deirdre Twomey and Trish Fitzpatrick put us well ahead by half time with the score being 2-6 to 0-1 in our favour.

With the wind at our backs in the second half we continued to dominate. Five points without reply from Orla Cotter and Deirdre Twomey and a second goal from Trish put us well ahead.

This was a good all-round performance from all our girls. Our defence was strong with Esther Power being particularly effective and also Helen Lane who showed that she has not lost any of her forward skills when she scored a fine point towards the end of the match.

Team: D Leahy, Y O'Neill, A Hayes, H Lane, E Power, O Neville, N Mulcahy, E O'Keeffe, F Noonan, E Fitzgerald, O Cotter, L Higgins, D Twomey, (capt) T Fitzpatrick, D Twomey. **Subs:** A Hogan for E O'Keeffe, E Harpur for D Twomey, A Galvin, S Noonan, M Daly, M O'Keeffe, M Mulcahy, C O'Brien, J Hurley, K Higgins, K Twomey, C Hurley.

Scorers: D Twomey 1-4, T Fitzpatarick 2-0, H Lane 0-1, D Twomey 0-1, O Cotter 0-8 (5f).

St Catherine's 7-4 Ballincollig 2-4

On Thursday last our U16s met Ballincollig in this competition and ran out comfortable winners on the above scoreline. This was our third game in this league as we played two matches earlier in the summer before breaking for the exams.

We defeated Watergrasshill and drew with Newcestown. This was a good all-round performance from this team. Ballincollig are always tough adverseries and this game was no exception but we were sharper with our scoring abilities.

Between them Finola Neville and Fiona Cotter had scored 3-1 in the first quarter of this half to Ballincollig's 1-1.

Another goal from Finola and one from Ciara Kearney before half-time ensured we had a lead of 5-1 to Ballincollig's 1-3.

We completely dominated the second half with Ciara and Fiona goaling again in the first quarter and limiting Ballincollig to just 1-1 throughout while going on to score a further 0-3 before the full time whistle.

Rachel Murphy was effective in goal, the backs defended well with Aisling Hartnett, Chloe Aherne and Aisling O'Keeffe being partcularly effective.

Jill Hurley worked tirelessly assisted by Ciara Kearney and Fiona Feeney ensuring a plentiful supply of ball into the forward line where Finola and Fiona picked off their scores.

Team: R Murphy, C Clancy, A Hartnett, C Aherne, N O'Donoghue, A O'Keeffe, C Kenny, K Murphy, S Gallagher, C Kearney, J Hurley, F Feeney, F Neville, F Cotter, A Donnelly. Subs; K Mellerick for F Feeney, L Bumster for A Donnelly.

Scorers: F Neville 2-2, F Cotter 3 (1f) 2, C Kearney 2-0.

Our Junior B team are training at the moment and played a challange match against Watergrasshill on Sat last.

U18 Munster Championship: Congratulations to Cork's U18 team who defeated Waterford on Friday night last in the first round of this competition. Well done to Orna Neville, Deirdre Twomey, Aileen Hogan and Orla Cotter who are members of this Cork panel . Orla is captain of this year's team and Billy Neville is a selector, well done to all involved.

All Ireland Senior A and B Championships: Well done to Orla Cotter and Denise Twomey who were on the panel of these Cork teams when they played Galway on Saturday last in Ballincollig. Cork's B team defeated Galway while Cork's B team's game ended in a draw.

ST VINCENT'S

Training times: Monday U9s, 6pm (DOB from 1997-2000); U14s, 16s, 6pm. Tuesday: U11s, U12s, 6pm (DOB from 94 and 95).WEDNESDAY: U10s, 6pm (DOB from 96). SATURDAY: U10, U9s, 11.30 U12s, U14s, U16s, 12.30.

St Vincent's camogie team are taking part in a community fun run which was organised by the club. It is a three mile run starting from the club and will continue down baker's road, up harbour view road, around apple computers and back to the starting point again.

It will be held on Thursday August 17 at 7.30pm. The event is in aid of our pitch development fund. It will be a good evening out for all those partaking and if you want to support the club and take part in this run you can get a sponsor card at any of the training times above.

TRACTON

Tracton 4-6 Sarsfields 0-4

This match in the JAL was played on Monday last in Minane Bridge, where we recorded a good victory over Sarsfields on the score sheet for Tracton were: Marian Jagoe, Claire O'Mahony, Nicola Lynch, Patricia Harrington, Jennifer Lynch: Tracton Team C Collins, G McCarthy, E Collins, A. Jagoe, K O'Sullivan, J Kingston, N Hayes, O Ambrose, P Harrington, J Lynch, M Jagoe, J Griffin, C O' Mahony, N Lynch, N Harrington. Subs used: J, Kind, S Collins, A St Clair, A Dempsey.

VALLEY ROVERS

We played Newcestown, in the first match of our campaign in this year's Tower View Developments Senior B County Camogie championship. It was a hard fought battle with us eventually winning 3-7 to 2-2. We had the advantage of the wind in the first half and lead at half time 2-5 to 1-1.

Team: Gillian Harrington, Nicola Murphy, Sinead Deasy, Aoife O'Callaghan, Ann-Marie Murphy, Lucy Hawkes, Mary-Ann Hawkes, Lisa O'Mahony, Clodagh Deasy, Elaine Burke, Marian Cottrell, Majella McCarthy, Orla Deasy, Dolores Crowley and Bernie Shields.

Dolores Crowley scored the first two goals; the third goal was a long range effort form Elaine Burke that was deflected in by the Newcestown goalkeeper.

Elaine also scored six points (three frees) while substitute Elizabeth Bugler who replaced Dolores Crowley secured victory with the final point. Cora McSweeney also came on for Nicola Murphy. The Newcestown scores came from frees by Colette Desmond.

Our U15 team took part in a blitz recently and did well by beating Eire Og and Courcey Rovers; however they were beaten by Carrigaline in the final.

SENIOR CHAMPIONSHIP HOTS UP

Inniscarra Get over Avondhu

IT TOOK a last minuet save from fourteen year old goalkeeper Joanne Casey to keep Inniscarra in the championship when she denied Darina O Callaghan a certain goal which would have given the divisional side their place in the quarter finals.

Sixteen-year-old Niamh Dilworth was also the heroine for Inniscarra scoring 4-4, OF their total of 4-11. Inniscarra held a comfortable four goal interval advantage and looked to be in cruise control but all credit Avondhu who fought back driven on by the hard working Dawn Farrell, Kathleen O Brien and Darina O Callaghan they came at Inniscarra. Inside ten minutes of the restart they had truck for two goals and with O Brien adding a point just two points separated the sides. Inniscarra stretched the margin to five points but not before Casey had denied Valerie Mc Cormick with a point blank save, Niamh Dilworth put six points between the sides but back came Avondhu Valerie Mc Cormick and Catherine Coakley finishing to the net to bring the sides level. Fiona O Connell and Dilworth pointed to steady Inniscarra before Joanne Casey was called on to save them at the death before Aine Ni Riann with a late point stretched the advantage to three. Inniscarra have now set up an interesting clash with their fellow divisional side Muskerry in the quarter final.

Muskerry had to call on all their resources to hold off Courcey Rovers who at one stage trailed by thirteen points, Ellen O' Herlihy pointed a free seven minutes from full time to see them safely through despite the best efforts of Courcey Rovers to snatching a draw. Courcey's led thanks to a Claire Murphy goal to which Margaret O' Herlihy responded, Rachel Moloney had Courcey's back in front with a point but it was to be their last score of the game until the 38th minute Margaret and Ellen O Herlihy hitting goals as Muskerry led 3-4 to 1-1 a the break. Linda Dorgan converted a second half penalty to stretch their lead before Rachel Moloney rallied Courcey's and picking off their points they grew in stature, Three Sara Hayes points and five from Rachel Moloney had the margin down to a point before Ellen O' Herlihy pointed. Rachel Moloney reduced the arrears to a point but Muskerry held on for the narrowest of victories.

CLOUGHDUV REGAIN MOMENTUM

Champions Cloughduv put their defeat by St Finbarrs in the opening round behind them to beat Carrigdhoun in a second chance game in Newcestown. Cloughduv laid the foundations for victory in the opening half Una O'Donoghue striking for Cloughduv's opening goal and adding two points after Marion Jagoe had opened the scoring for Carrigdhoun. O'Donoghue set up Briege Corkery for Cloughduv's second goal as they led 2-3 to 0-1 before Carrigdhoun with Eimear O'Sullivan and Elaine Burke leading the way began to find their feet Deirdre Cooney Eimear O Sullivan and Elaine Burke free pointing. Carrigdhoun had the lead down to four points 2-3 to 0-5 by the half time whistle but an early Sheila Lucey goal in the second half helped the champions regain their composure. Points from Eimear O'Sullivan and Marion Jagoe kept Carrigdhoun in the hunt but Cloughduv inspired by Una O'Donoghue, Briege Corkery and Emma Dunne leading the way had done enough to secured their quarter final place

Camogiechat

With **Mary Newman**

Imokilly impress

IMOKILLY sent out a strong statement of their intentions when they defeated Barryroe, Marie O Neill Denise and Deirdre Twomey Orla Cotter and Emer O Farrell all to the fore for the divisional side who led 1-11 to 1-2 at the interval. Jennifer O Leary, Ger Collins and Deirdre Walsh all working hard they finally got the goal they deserved but with Mary o Connor and Ann Marie Walsh commanding a solid Imokilly defence they were held at bay to the final whistle. On this performance Imokilly will be hard to beat and certain they will be the ones to watch as the championship progresses.

CORK CAMOGIE SUPPORTERS JERSEYS NOW AVAILABLE

CAMOGIE supporters can now purchase the official Colour Catcher Cork Camogie Jersey which is again now in stock in all sizes from age 4 years up to adults.

It can be purchase in Pairc Ui Rinn any weekday or at all senior championship games over the coming weeks, its will be available at juvenile and senior county board meetings or from any county board officer. Prices reasonably at just €25 up to and including ages 13 to 14 and at €30 for adult sizes it a very good purchase and also a chance for the girls to show support their own game so get down there and fly the county colour in the weeks ahead as we set about retaining our All Ireland crowns in all codes.

July 2006



Galway camogie star Veronica Curtin and team selector Damien Coleman who were married in NUI Galway on Saturday.
Pic: Andrew Downes



Dermot O'Leary with his wife, Rena is pictured presenting his Captain's Prize to the winner, Jim Cashman, at the Lismore Golf Club on Sunday last. (Photos: Sean Byrne)

Imokilly's forwards wrack up scores in easy win

Imokilly	2-19
Ballygarvan	2-3



PJ AHERNE

SO WHAT have we learned from this Tower View Senior A County Camogie Championship contest played in Ballinlough last night?

One could easily dismiss this as another one-sided contest but that would be unjustified.

While there was an obvious gulf in class between the Imokilly and Ballygarvan there is so much more to examine beneath the surface of the result.

We have learned that Imokilly are credible contenders and if they can continue their momentum then they are on course for a place in the final later in the summer.

Such a statement might be considered uncultivated especially as Imokilly remain untested as they come off the back of two easy victories firstly against Barryroe and now Ballygarvan. Imokilly have now scored a remarkable 4-39 in two games.

Ballygarvan are authentic opponents despite what the scoreline might lead one to believe.

They have earned the right to be in this championship by virtue of winning the Senior B Championship last year and in the previous round they caused a shock to echo around the top teams by defeating 2005 senior A county finalists Inniscarra.

Ballygarvan were out of their depth against Imokilly but this is their debut season in the premier grade and they too will become a force at this level as they become more familiar with their surroundings.

Last night in Ballinlough, they were torn apart by a balanced Imokilly who were near watertight in defence and ruthless in attack.

At the back Mary O'Connor and Mary Dorgan coordinated the relief operation and shut down the creativity of Ballygarvan's Caitriona Kelly and Eimear Dillon.

Going forward, Imokilly's play was composed and thought out which allowed them to carefully dissect the back-line before striking to cause maximum damage.

Imokilly's entire forward line was sublime with Angela Walsh a constant threat at wing forward while Denise and Deirdre Twomey hovered dangerously in the corners.

It is a credit to the East Cork side to note that all bar three of their points came from play with Marie O'Neill and Denise Twomey consistently splitting the posts throughout the game.

There was little Ballygarvan's keeper Aine Moynihan could have done to prevent the Imokilly goals which came about from patient build up which culminated with Eimear O'Farrell finishing the ball to the net.

For the record, Imokilly led at the break by 2-10 to 0-1.

Ballygarvan merited more than the solitary point, which Caitriona Kelly scored from a free in the thirteenth minute.

In the second half, Imokilly continued to drive home their advantage with points from Orla Cotter, O'Neill and Deirdre Twomey.

Although up against it, Ballygarvan valiantly hurled for the entire contest in an effort to disrupt the fluency in the Imokilly attack and to restore some pride to their crest.

Meanwhile, Ballygarvan were rewarded for their exertions with a brace of goals from Sarah O'Donovan and Anne Browne who pounced at the start and the end of the second half respectively.

Ballygarvan had many a heroine on the night with Suzanne Lynch and Caitriona Kelly adding a point each in the second half while, Eimear Dillon, Valerie Brown, Jennifer Browne and Michelle Dunne also admirably contributed to their side's performance.



Imokilly's Marie O'Neill soloing past Ballygarvan's Davinia O'Mahony during the Cork County Senior Camogie Championship game in Ballinlough.
Picture: Richard Mills.



Ballygarvan's Jennifer Browne facing off Imokilly's Denise Twomey during the game in Ballinlough.
Picture: Richard Mills.

Scorers for Imokilly: E O'Farrell 2-2, M O'Neill 0-6 (0-1f), Denise Twomey 0-5, O Cotter 0-3 (0-1f, 0-1 45), Deirdre Twomey 0-2, C Motherway 0-1.

Ballygarvan: S O'Donovan and A Browne 1-0, C Kelly 0-2 (0-2f), S Lynch 0-1.

IMOKILLY: D Leahy, N Mulcahy, M Dorgan, N Barry, A M Walsh, M O'Connor, O Neville, O Cotter, E Murphy, A Walsh, M O'Neill, C Motherway, Denise Twomey, E O'Farrell, Deirdre Twomey.

BALLYGARVAN: A Moynihan, D O'Mahony, D Crowley, M Dunne, N Hallahan, J Browne, V Browne, E Dillon, S Lynch, A Browne, C Kelly, A Murphy, S O'Donovan, M Murphy, L Ryan.

Referee: P Downey (Inniscarra)

Barrs looking to build on Cloughduv win

JULY 2006

TONIGHT
Senior A Championship: St Finbarrs v Kilbrittain/ Timoleague, Riverstick 7.45pm

HAVING consigned champs Cloughduv to the the back door route, St Finbarr's will be confident of seeing off Kilbrittan/Timoleague in the Tower View Developments Senior County Camogie championship this evening.

Both sides are bidding to engrave their names on the Punch Trophy for the first time.

Barrs have been close on a few occasions while for Kilbrittan/ Timoleague it's been a steady progression since promotion in 2004.

In their opening game they showed plenty of confidence forcing Courcey Rovers to fight for a draw before confidently recording victory second time round.

While they have no big stars in their line-up they are an all round well balanced club side who showed plenty of club spirit, with Valerie O'Keeffe, Miriam Deasy, Eimear O'Sullivan and Marion Murphy all experienced campaigners.

By MARY NEWMAN
Camogie

Tonight John Desmond and Barry O'Sullivan will be well aware of the huge challenge that St Finbarr's, coached by former inter-county hurler Gerald McCarthy, will pose.

In their opener with the champions they showed an air of authority, stamping their mark on the game from the throw-in. The evergreen Colette O'Mahony is still enjoying the game as much as ever in her new role leads the Barrs attack at full-forward.

New signings Clare Spellman and Catherine Barrett have fitted in well to the side.

Inter-county senior Gemma O'Connor, Linda O'Connell, Vivienne Harris and Orla O'Sullivan will also pose huge threats to Kilbrittan/Timoleague.



St Finbarr's senior inter-county player Vivienne Harris.

July 2006

St Finbarrs	1-15
Kilbrittain/Timoleague	1-4

ST. FINBARR'S had to work hard before shaking off the challenge of Kilbrittain /Timoleague in the Tower View Developments Senior Camogie Championship at Riverstick last night.

The Barrs opened up a 0-7 to 0-1 advantage 20 minutes into the game and it looked as if they would stroll into the quarter-final.

They did eventually advance by an 11 points margin but were made fight for everything they got by determined opposition.

The game had many turning points, notably Barrs somehow scrambling the ball to safety off the goal line eight minutes from half time and Val O'Sullivan opting to shoot for goal with four points between the side on the half-time whistle when a point was the easier option.

The game also saw Ellen Clifford somehow control and hit the ball to safety with just four points between the sides.

Barrs regrouped and immediately swept down field for the game's most crucial score with Colette O'Mahony rattling the net from the edge of the square as Barrs regained their composure.

At the finish the class of Vivienne Harris was the main difference between the sides.

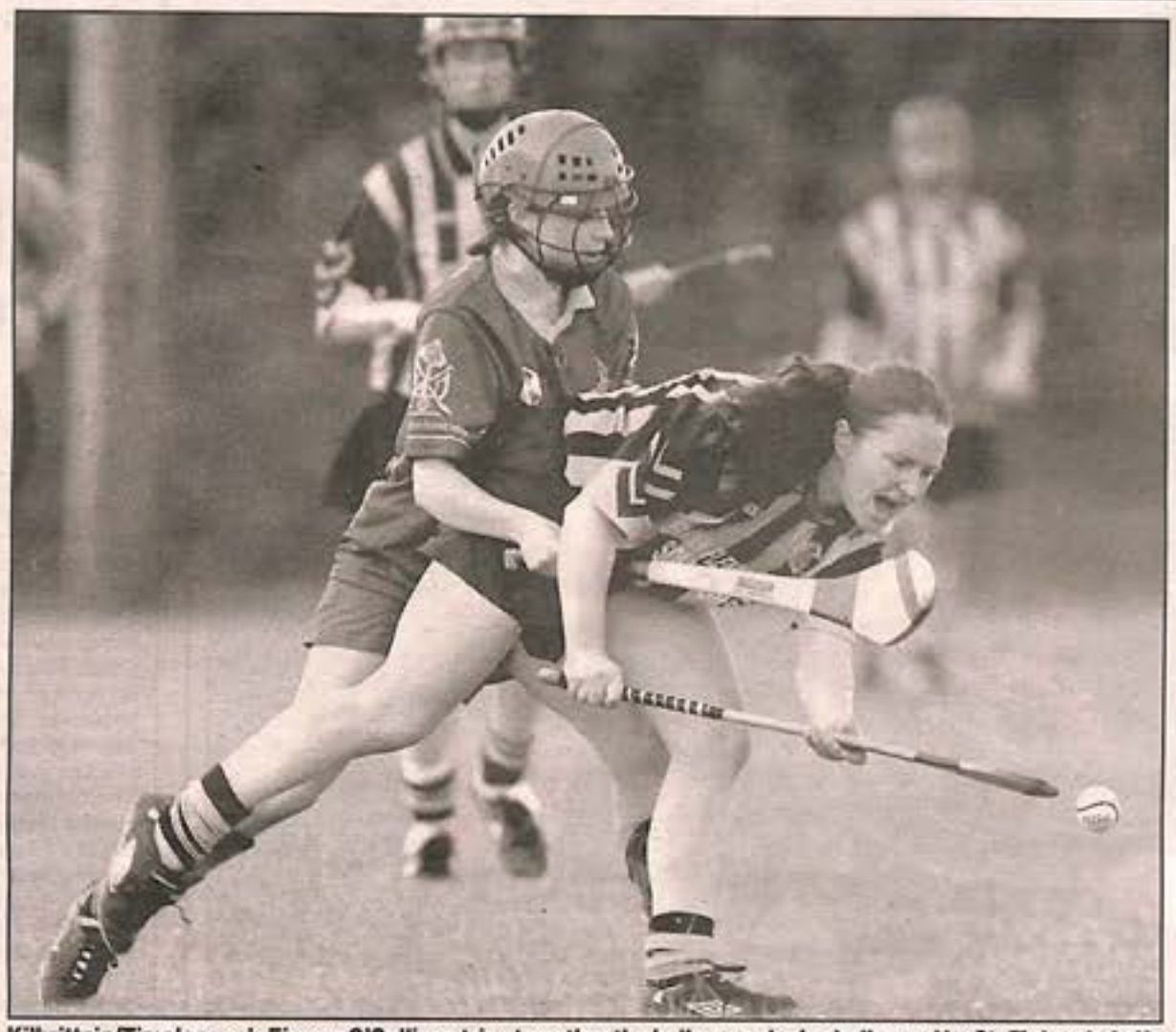
She worked tirelessly at midfield for the Blues, dropping back to help out her defence when the going got tough while all the time driving forward at every opportunity, ensuring ample supply to her inside line with magnificent striking and composure.

Kilbrittain, having been forced to play second fiddle for the opening 20 minutes, were spurred into life with ten minutes to go to the break, hitting three points to the Barrs' one and it was the Blues who were thankful to hear Ken Healy's half time whistle as they led 0-8 to 0-4.

Harris pointed a 45 within seconds of the restart but Kilbrittain pressed and when keeper Ellen Clifford mishandled Val O'Keeffe's 45 metre free just two points separated the sides.

Boosted by the goal, Kilbrittain wanted more and they continued to press forward but the Barrs defence held them at bay.

Barrs had the margin back to four thanks to Gemma O'Connor who struck a magnificent long range point after dropping back to help out her defence and then



Kilbrittain/Timoleague's Eimear O'Sullivan tries to gather the ball up as she is challenged by St. Finbarr's Aoife McCarthy during their County Senior Camogie Championship clash at Riverstick. Picture: Richard Mills

Harris shows her class as Barrs advance

By MARY NEWMAN
Senior Camogie Championship

Harris pointed a free.

Then came a major turning point on the three quarter stage.

Barrs were let off the hook when Clifford regained her composure under the dropping ball as it looked to be dropping over her head.

They swept downfield and Orla O'Sullivan set up the unmarked Colette O'Mahony who made no mistake from close range.

Kilbrittain were finally broken and from here to the finish it was all Barrs, Vivienne Harris driving them on with some sweet striking while Lynda O'Connell Colette Kirby and Jenny Duffy were solid in defence. Three points without reply stretched the margin to give them a deserved victory and set up a quarter final showdown with Aghbullogue.

ST FINBARR'S: E Clifford, C Barrett, Colette Kirby, C Harrington, L O'Connell, J Duffy, M McCarthy, V Harris (0-3: 0-1 free, 0-2 ; 45), B Maher (0-1), R Myers, G O' Connor (0-4), Clare Kirby, C Spellman (0-1), O. O'Sullivan (0-5), C O'Mahony(1-1, 0-1 45).

Sub: A McCarthy for R Myers (45mins).

KILBRITTAIN/TIMOLEAGUE: E O'Regan, C Deasy, D Coughlan, A O'Sullivan, Eiblish O'Sullivan, Eimear O'Sullivan, M Murphy, V O Keeffe (1-3:1-0 45, 0-2 frees), M O'Sullivan L Kavanagh, M Murphy, Danielle O'Sullivan (0-1), C Deasy, M Deasy, S Sexton

Subs: Deirdre O'Sullivan for C Deasy (50mins), A. Desmond for L Kavanagh (51mins).

Referee: K Healy (Sliabh Rua).

Shields goal sets tone for Valley victory

Valley Rovers	4-14
Carrigaline	0-01

VALLEY ROVERS were simply too strong for Carrigaline in the Tower View Developments Senior B Championship in Ballygarvan, last night, writes **PJ AHERN**.

It is hard to know if either side have learned anything from this venture as Valley Rovers did what was asked of them.

Valley Rovers scored a goal through Bernie Shields in the opening minute and that set the tone for the remainder of the game.

Shields scored a hat-trick during the course of the game, while Elaine Burke kept the Brinny outfit ticking over with points from frees.

To their credit, Carrigaline attempted to make a game of it with players such as Tricia O'Sullivan, Maria Moran and Caroline O'Keeffe performing solidly but their was no way past the Valley Rovers half-back line.

Rovers, on the other hand, were capable of unlocking Carrigaline at will and they led at the break by 3-8 to 0-1. Carrigaline's solitary score coming from Niamh Murphy in the 13th minute.

In the second half, after an initial brace of points from substitute Elizabeth Bugler and Elaine Burke, Valley Rovers failed to register another score for a full 20 minutes as they struggled to maintain their focus and intensity from the first half.

When they did regain their composure they finished in style scoring 1-4 in the final 10 minutes.

Among their star performers on the night were Lucy Hawkes, Marian Cottrell and Orla Deasy while Ann Kiely, Grace Harrington and Jo Ann O'Keeffe tried their best for Carrigaline.

Scorers for Valley Rovers: B Shields 3-2, E Burke 0-7 (0-5f), D Crowley 1-0, E Bugler 0-2, M McCarthy M Cottrell and M Hawkes 0-1 each.

Carrigaline: N Murphy 0-1.

VALLEY ROVERS: G Harrington, A O'Callaghan, S Deasy, N Murphy, A Murphy, L Hawkes, C Deasy, M Hawkes, E Burke, M Cottrell, D Crowley, O Deasy, B Shields, M McCarthy, A Coughlan.

Subs: E Bugler for M Hawkes, C McSweeney for C Deasy.

CARRIGALINE: A Kiely, D O'Leary, N Murphy, G Harrington, M DeBarra, S Cotter, P O'Keeffe, T O'Sullivan, M Moran, M MacInerney, C O'Keeffe, C Fitzgerald, S O'Keeffe, J O'Keeffe, U O'Farrell.

Subs: H Egan for S O'Keeffe, D O'Sullivan for M McInerney, M Scully for M De Barra, S Murphy for T O'Sullivan.

Referee: C Egan (Glen Rovers).

Jenny's jem seals Douglas' victory

Douglas	1-09
Bishopstown	0-09

A JENNY O'DONOVAN goal in the fourth minute of the game proved to be the difference as Douglas defeated Bishopstown in a blistering Tower View Developments Senior B Championship in Ballygarvan last night, *writes PJ AHERN.*

Bishopstown momentarily lost their concentration after Ciara Healy cancelled out Amanda O'Regan's opening point for Douglas, and in doing so they allowed Jenny O'Donovan to pick up a loose ball at the edge of the square to hit the roof of the net.

Douglas were inspired by the awesome Amanda O'Regan, who, at centre back galvanised the back-line while she also acted as a launch pad for attacks on the Bishopstown goal.

Tough defences flanked both teams and it led to a frenetic battle of chess with neither side willing to make the costly errors. With the game so tight every miss became crucial.

Douglas dominated for long periods in the first half but highly committed and very impressive defending by Bishopstown frustrated them.

Even when the Bishopstown defence lapsed it went largely unpunished except from a '45 by Amanda O'Regan and a very well taken effort by Sinead O'Leary who benefited from exceptional build up play from Eileen Morgan.

Bishopstown rarely attacked due to tight Douglas defending but when the shackles were released on Ciara Healy, Julie Crowley and Deirdre Coughlan they were immediately made to pay.

Three points in a minute from Healy ensured Bishopstown trailed only by a point at the break (1-3 to 0-5).

In the second half Douglas once again dominated but struggled to take full advantage as the second half became a free-taking shoot-out between Ciara Healy and Amanda O'Regan.

Only points from Deirdre Coughlan and Rachel O'Sullivan broke up the ensuing battle as the second-half was tit-for-tat scoring which prevented Bishopstown from obtaining victory.

As the match reached its conclusion Bishopstown started to exploit the right wing in a bid for a goal.

"Town launched a swift counter attack after Eithne Duggan had foiled a Douglas attempt for a second goal.

The subsequent Bishopstown counter attack witnessed Miriam Crowley being majestically blocked down by Fiona McSweeney as she almost crept in for a goal.

In the dying minutes, Bishopstown laid siege in a bid to find a lifeline but Douglas held firm to clinch victory.

Scorers for Douglas: A O'Regan 0-7 (0-5f, 0-1 45), J O'Donovan 1-0, S O'Leary and R O'Sullivan 0-1 each.

Bishopstown: C Healy 0-7 (0-3f, 0-1 45), D Coughlan and E Duggan (0-1f) 0-1 each.

DOUGLAS: C Conway, L Sheehan, F McSweeney, S O'Regan, A Barrett, A O'Regan, L O'Regan, D Murphy, E Morgan, L O'Mahony, S O'Leary, R O'Sullivan, N O'Donovan, J O'Donovan, S O'Brien.

Subs: J Jackson for A Barrett.

BISHOPSTOWN: C Fogarty, O Crowley, D Quigney, S O'Donoghue, E Duggan, C Enright, S Kelly, J Browne, J O'Sullivan, J Crowley, D Coughlan, M Crowley, C Healy, O Gleeson.

Subs: A Donegan for S O'Brien.

Referee: J Bermingham (Bride Rovers).



The Ballincollig camogie U14 Féile team of 2006.

Jerseys to add colour to final

THE inter-county scene continues to gain momentum with the U16 team already qualified for the All-Ireland final where they will met Kilkenny over the August weekend.

Camogie supporters will be glad to learn that a new consignment of the Colour Catcher camogie jersey is again available to purchase.

Available in all sizes from age four years old to adult size, the jerseys can now be purchased in Páirc Ui Rinn or at all senior championship games over the coming weeks. It will also be available at the juvenile and senior county board meetings or from any county board officer.

Priced at €25 for all under age sizes and at €30 for adults sizes, the jersey gives all camogie players and supporters a chance to show your support for the girls by wearing the official county jersey which can be also worn to all Cork games in other codes.

Rockies' girls have the edge over Tracton

Blackrock	3-11
Tracton	3-8

By MARY NEWMAN
Camogie

A MIXTURE of youth and experience was the right blend for Blackrock as they opened their Tower View Developments JAC campaign with a victory over a fancied Tracton side.

Last year these sides met in the junior B county final and Tracton, promoted on the back of that win, faced a Blackrock side who had sought promotion and how confidently they performed.

Within 10 minutes of the throw-in they put four points on the scoreboards. Cait Kelleher with two, Doireann NI Mhuiri and Grace Mulqueen all found the target.

Marian Jaego and Nicola Lynch, with points in the seventh, 13th and 17th minutes, kept Tracton in touch but they were dealt a double blow in as many minutes when Donna O'Leary and Roisin de Faoite hit the back of the net for Rockies' goals.

Grace Mulqueen and Doireann NI Mhuiri had swapped points with Marian Jaego before Patricia Harrington grabbed a Tracton goal, but it was Blackrock who finished the half stronger to lead at the interval.

From the start of the second half both sides gave it their all. Marion Jaego and Roisin de Faoite swapped goals six minutes after the restart and from here to the final whistle it was close.

A Doireann NI Mhuiri point for the Rockies were cancelled out by points from Jennifer Lynch and Marian Jaego.

De Faoite and Kingston pointed again before a point from NI Mhuiri with five minutes left ensured Blackrock hung on for victory.

For Blackrock, captain Doireann Ni Mhuiri and Roisin de Faoite were superb while Tracton's Marian Jaego, Julie Kingston and Nicola Lynch tried hard up to the final whistle.

BLACKROCK: S. Naughton, T. Cummins C. Meaney, A. Murray, A. Roberts Kelleher, K. Fleming A O'Riordan, C Ni Chathàin, A Brohan, R de Faoite, D O'Leary, D. Ni Mhuiri G Mulqueen .O O' Riordan.
TRACTON: C .Collins, G McCarthy, E Collins, A Jagoe, K O'Sullivan, J Kingston, N Hayes, P Harrington, O Ambrose, J Lynch, M Jagoe, C O' Mahony, Harrington, N Lynch, J Griffin.
Subs: A Kiely for K O'Sullivan, A St Clair for Harrington.

Rockbán prove too strong for Ballyhea

Rockbán	6-12
Ballyhea	1-1

ROCKBÁN got their Tower View Developments Junior A Championship campaign off to a winning start as they recorded a victory over Ballyhea.

Early points from Sile Burns settled Rockbán with their defence well marshalled by Catriona Foley, Denise Murphy and Mairead Foley.

Rockbán had extended their lead with three goals before Ballyhea opened their scoring by pointing a 45m free. With Sile Burns extending their advantage Rockbán led 3-6 to 0-1 at the interval.

Ballyhea gave it their all through the second half but Rockban's defence was outstanding with full back Catherine Drinan leading by example.

A Ballyhea goal 10 minutes into the half gave them a glimmer of hope but the stronger Rockbán upped the tempo with a Valerie Mulcahy goal.

Senior inter-county player Catriona Foley demonstrated her scoring ability with a solo run from centre back before hitting a fabulous point on the run.

Despite the scoreline, Ballyhea tried to the finish and were well served by Sile Burns hitting an impressive three goals and six points was most impressive for a Rockbán side who will make a bold bid for ultimate honours and this display.

They face Blackrock and Tracton in the round robin series with two teams to qualify are well placed going into these games.

ROCKBÁN: S Keohane, E Foley, C Drinan (captain), M Burns, M Foley, C Foley (0-1), M Foley, E Casey , U O'Sullivan, C Conway (1-0), A Geaney, V Mulcahy (0-3), S Coleman (1-0), S Burns (3-6), M Howard (0-2).
Subs: N. Keohane for U O'Sullivan, A. Mulcahy for M. Burns, C. Burke for S. Coleman , C. Coleman for A. Geaney, T. Howard (1-0) for M. Howard.
BALLYHEA: F. Killeen. C. O'Doherty. A. Morrissey, O. Carroll, K O' Leary, Maria Walsh, Michelle Walsh, R Waters, S Douglas, M O'Brien, V Hennessy, M Coleman N Morrissey, D Duane. R Garvey.

Butler is the star for Sarsfield's

Sarsfield's	3-5
Newtownshandrum	0-8

SARSFIELD'S made a winning start to their Tower View Development Junior A championship meeting with Newtownshandrum.
Sars opened the scoring in the fourth minute thanks to an Emer O'Farrell goal.
Their defence had to be at its best to hold Newtown at bay and with goalkeeper keeper Orla Butler in superb form they found it hard to get through.
A 13th minute pointed free from Paula O'Connor and one from play in the 17th minute had the margin down to one. Sars kept the pressure on and with Shirley Crowley finishing to the net after good play from Emer O'Farrell they extended their advantage.
With Paula O Connor showing her accuracy from frees Newtown narrowed the gap to just two points at he interval,2-0 to 0-4.
A close second half saw the sides exchange points in the opening minutes before Orla Barry hit over her first from a free.
Twice Butler was called on to be at her best denying Newtown from a 45 metre free before tipping a goal attempt over the bar to leave only two points between the sides.
An Áine Barry point extended the advantage before Shirley Crowley grabbed her second Orla Barry converted a 45 as Newtown threw everything at the Sars defence but even when two pointed frees cut the deficit Sars hung on for victory.

Carrigaline blitz their opposition

THE South East Camogie Board ran a very successful blitz at Brinny in Innishannon recently.
Several of the clubs from the division found it hard to participate due to the large number of players away on holiday, but for those who did take part it was an excellent day's camogie.
With games played on a round-robin series participating clubs Sliabh Rua, Valley Rovers, Carrigaline and Courcey Rovers enjoyed some very sporting and competitive matches.
The final between Carrigaline and Valley Rovers was a very closely fought affair with scores for both teams hard to come by in the first half. Gráinne O'Keeffe, Carrigaline and Jessie Hawks for Valley Rovers exchanged points to leave it tied at the break.
Carrigaline aided by the wind in the second half took full advantage and began to gain the upper hand. Points from Orla Cotter and Patti O'Keeffe edged them ahead, a late goal from Jessica Buckley sealed victory for Carrigaline.
South East Board Chairperson Noreen Quinn presented the winning captain Jennifer Foster and the runners up captain Elaine Forde with a set of medals each.

CAMOGIE CLUB NOTES



Imokilly's Marie O'Neill races away from Ballygarvan's Eimear Dillon during the Cork County Senior Camogie Championship in Ballinlough. Picture: Richard Mills.

Rockies win on the double

BLACKROCK

Junior A Championship: The juniors got their championship off to a great start on Sunday with a win over rivals Tracton. Every single player did all that was asked of them in a great team performance. Final score: Blackrock 3-11, Tracton 3-8.

Scorers: R. de Faoite (2-1), D. Ni Mhuiri (0-5), G. Mulqueen (0-3), D.O' Leary(0-1), C. Kelleher (0-2) **Team:** S. Naughton, T. Cummins, C. Meaney, A. Murray, A. Roberts, C. Kelleher, K. Fleming, A.O' Riordan, C. Ni Chatháin, A. Brohán, R. de Faoite, D.O' Leary, D. Ni Mhuiri, G. Mulqueen, O.O 'Riordan.(Subs) J. Irwin for C. Ni Chatháin(inj).

Under 16 League: After beating Killeagh well the under 16s put in another fine display against Douglas.

The Rockies took a while to settle but came into the game in the second half with great displays from full forward Sarah Carroll, Donna O'Leary and Margaret Moynihan.

Final score: Blackrock 2-10 Douglas 2-4 Underage Training Times: U11, 9 and 7: Fridays, 6pm; U13: Wednesdays @ 4.30pm.

U16: Tuesdays, 11am.

BRIAN DILLONS

Our U16 team played Passage on Monday and beat them 3-3 0-3 points Kelly Grimes, Amanda Dorgan and Suin McCarthy played very well. We played Watergrasshill last week and beat them 4-3 to 3-2 in a great game and Claire Dooley Deirdre Ring and Nicole Gleeson played well.

Our U18 have started their league and have beaten Bishopstown we lost to Sars. We still have remaining games to play.

Our U14 have started well and has progressed to next round having played great camogie in all the matches. Our junior team were defeated narrowly in the junior championship last week against Kildorrey but still have league matches to play.

Training every Sat morning for U10s at 11am and U12s at noon, U16 and U18 training Sat at noon and Wednesdays at 5pm. Junior training Wed night at 7pm and Sunday morning at 11 am every one welcomed to attend .

GLEN ROVERS

Our under 16 team continued their league programme with a game against Ballinascarty at Glen Rovers on Thursday last. Our visitors sportingly deciding to make the journey to the Glen Field when they could not provide a venue.

From the throw-in we played with confidence. Lydia Cunningham, Denise Luby, Emma Dunlea, Karen O'Connell all impressing.

At the full-time whistle we were ahead and took the two points on offer.

With just one game to go against Clonakilty we have dropped just two points against Ballygarvan.

It will be down to the last games before semi-finalists are known.

A reminder to all under age players that training continues Sunday mornings from 11.45 to 1pm and Tuesday evenings 5.45 to 7pm in the Top Glen Field for anybody from six to 12.

Ages three to 16 training takes place on Monday and Wednesday at 7pm and Friday at 5pm.

Under18, junior and senior training Monday and Wednesday at 7pm.

New members most welcome.

A reminder that places are still available for the Cul Summer Camp which comes to Glen Rovers from August 14th to 18th.

The fee, which includes an O'Neills playing kit and gear bag for every child, is €55 for the first child, €45 for the second child and €30 for the third child. This applies to brothers and sisters, Contact Terry on 087-8203032 to register for the camp.

KILBREE

Sunday 23rd saw the Ballygurteen Calendar Girls hold the final day of their fundraising drive in aid of Irish cancer society.

The Kilbree camogie team came to support their sisters in this most worthy of causes.

They played a 10-a-side match to entertain the crowd and show off their skills. Wednesday past saw the U10s scheduled to play Ballinascarty at Rossmore.

The U12s were in action this Saturday, the away to Bandon, no result know at the time of writing.

They will be back in action the coming week against Ballinascarty U12 side. Supporters are asked to check locally for details.

NA PIARSAIGH

Recently our under 16D team played Sars in a challenge match in Sars. We played really well in the first half when everyone played their hearts out.

The half time score was one point a piece.

At half time Sars asked as it was only a challenge match could they bring on players over the age, this was an even bigger challenge for Na Piarsaigh as they were more determined to win.

The finishing score was 1-4 to 0-3 in favour of Sars.

Scores for Na Piarsaigh were Kate Delea two points and Danielle Moynihan one point.

On the night there were great performances from Rachel McNab, Kate Delea, Jessica Cronin, Ciara Allen and Danielle Moynihan.

We were very pleased with the performances from our young players who recently were promoted to U16 grades at only 11-years-of-age, Aoife Moynihan and Rebecca Rourke impressing as the both played exceptionally well on the day.

Training times for U16s is every Thursday night at five till six in Na Piarsaigh! New players always welcome.

PASSAGE

Our U16 team played two matches last week. The first was against Sarsfields and was held in Manning Park.

Passage were first on the scoreboard with a fine point from Karen Twomey, Sars replied with a goal shortly after.

Caoimhe Doyle of Passage scored another point from play to leave Passage a point down at half-time.

Sars came out the stronger after the interval and quickly scored a point, but Passage kept fighting and were rewarded when Lisa O'Sullivan scored the only Passage goal.

Passage led by a pointed with minutes left but Sars scored the equaliser before the whistle blew. Best for Passage were Emma Lydon in goal, Emer Hyde, Shauna Jordan, Karen Twomey, and Caoimhe Doyle.

Team: Emma Lydon, Jenny Power, Gemma Cooney, Emer Hyde, Lisa O Sullivan, Joy Mc Carthy, Claire O Brien, Laura Mc Carthy, Shauna Jordan, Caoimhe Doyle, Gillian Foley, Amy Costello, Karen Twomey, Laura Mc Carthy, Muireann Doyle.

Subs used Erin Twomey, and Tia Mc Mahon.

Final Score: Passage 1-2 Sars 1-2.

In the U16C league Passage were short a few key players due to holidays but still put up an excellent display against a very strong Mallow team.

The final score was Mallow 2-3 Passage 0-2.

Players who played well were Lisa O'Sullivan who scored the two points, Erin Twomey, Amy Costello, and Claire O Brien.

Team Emma Lydon, Niki Twomey, Gemma Cooney, Emer Hyde, Claire O Brien, Lisa O Sullivan, Joy Mc. Carthy, Shauna Jordan, Laura Mc Carthy, Erin Twomey, Karen Twomey, Amy Costello, Muireann Doyle, Laura McCarthy, Caoimhe Doyle.

Subs used Rebecca Farr and Tia Mc Mahon.

Training continues on Tuesdays at 5.30pm for the U13 team.

Games will be commencing shortly in the U13 seandun league.

ST CATHERINE'S

Our senior B team will play the next round of this competition in mid August.

Meantime training continues and we played a challenge game against Aghbullogue on Sunday last.

Our U16 team are scheduled to play Newtownshandrum on Monday 24th July as they continue their league programme, we will have a full report on this game next week.

Training will commence for this competition on Tues nights in Ballynoe Pitch, this competition will begin shortly.

This year's Conna Vintage Festival was held on Sunday June 18.

We were very happy to be involved with the festival and to share the proceeds with the South Infirmary Oncology Unit.

Our chairperson Ann Galvin received this very generous cheque on Friday night last, 21st July.

Many thanks to the festival committee for inviting us to participate and to all who contributed so generously and helped in any way on the day Condolences.

We extend our sincere condolences to the O'Brien and Kenneally families, Fermoy, on their recent Bereavement.

ST FINBARR'S

Three players, who gave great service to St Finbarr's, Anne Christie, Mary O'Regan and Sandra O'Donovan, now watch from the sideline as the next generation take to the game.

Anne's daughter, Rachel Finn is a great striker of the ball and is settling in nicely in midfield.

Niamh O'Regan distributes the ball well to her inside forwards from the No 11 position.

Sandra's niece, Jessica Keating has mastered the ground stroke and puts it to good effect in the half-forward line.

Shirley Burns is ever dependable at centre-back and, at full-back, Laura Lynch does the simple things right.

Over the past few months, these players benefited from the coaching skills of Ellen Clifford and Ger O'Connor.

Ellen lined-out in goal for the Cork senior team in their recent championship outing with Limerick.

It is great to see a player at the height of her career find time to pass on the skills to the up and coming youngsters.

Ger O'Connor, a former camogie player herself, is the mother of Cork All-Star midfielder, Gemma O'Connor.

The five players mentioned have now progressed to the U14 panel and will add significantly to the side.

There are some emerging players on the U11 squad to watch out for.

Alison Leisk moved the ball effectively along the ground.

Speedy Lauren Cull favours the solo run. Deonn Delaney, who captained her school to success recently, is a good prospect in the middle of the field.

Kate Fitzpatrick catches the eye on the left side of the defence.

No doubt, these girls will continue to improve.

A number of the U14 panel are following in family footsteps to keep the Blues' flag flying.

Lisa O'Connell is a grand-daughter of Billa O'Connell, who starred in Cork pantos for many years.

Ciara Lougheed's grand-dad, Pat Lougheed, won Cork senior football medals with the club.

Emma Kerins is a niece of the late John Kerins, one of the best goalkeepers to wear to red and white of Cork.

Other players who are making good headway in the game are Heather Morgan, Katie Leisk and Shannon McCarthy.

The U14 panel is lucky to have an experienced trio of coaches. Colette O'Mahony, Deirdre Clarke and Barbara Ann Corcoran came up the ranks with the club.

An outstanding Barrs' lady, Colette enjoyed a glittering career in which she captained Cork to win the All-Ireland minor championship and helped the seniors to win three All-Ireland senior titles. Let us hope that these young players avail of a tremendous opportunity to learn the skills.

WATERGRASSHILL

In a wet, slippery Castleyons, Watergrasshill bowed to an impressive Killeagh team, to mark their first outing in the Junior A Camogie Championship.

Killeagh burst on to the field and scored 1-2 in the first 15 minutes. The 'Hill girls didn't notch up their first score until the 23 minute when Marie O'Neill scored from a free.

The Watergrasshill team became more animated after the 15th minute and offered plenty of resistance to the Killeagh onslaught, holding them scoreless until just before half-time.

In the second half, despite determined resistance from the Watergrasshill backs, Killeagh embarked on another scoring spree.

Even though the final score did not reflect the hard work and resilience of the Watergrasshill side, it did justice to a very talented Killeagh team and it finished Killeagh 4-9 Watergrasshill 0-3.

WATERGRASSHILL: Val O'Neill, Sharon Mooney, Sinead Mc Inery, Niamh Mulholland, Lydia Bracken, Mary Dorgan, Louise O'Reilly, Michelle Buckley, Amy O'Donoghue Elaine O'Farrell, Elaine O'Leary, Marion Lynch, Susan Foley, Marie O'Neill Lynn O'Leary. Subs: Helena O'Neill, Brid O'Regan.

Watergrasshill Camogie Club would like to thank Gordon Jones of G. Jones Plant hire and Groundwork for sponsoring a new set of jerseys for the club.

Dawn of a new era for Rebels



Kilkenny captain Laura McGuinness and the Cork captain Dawn O'Keeffe at a photocall in Croke Park even though the final won't be played at the venue.

HAPPY-GO-LUCKY and cool under pressure are traits that would not be out of place on Dawn O'Keeffe's CV.



Cork camogie U16 captain Dawn O'Keeffe is remaining calm ahead of the All-Ireland final.

By MARY NEWMAN

U16 All-Ireland camogie final

She is hoping to become the first Rebel of 2006 to lift an All-Ireland trophy.

The task ahead is a huge one but the Cork U16 camogie goalkeeper, who leads the Rebels in their quest for glory against Kilkenny on Sunday next in Portlaoise at 3pm, is well able to take that pressure.

Chatting about the big day Dawn's, nerves are non-existent. The young captain's thoughts are firmly fixed on the early morning trip to Dublin to meet up with Kilkenny captain Edwina Keane for a photo-shoot in Croke Park ahead of the final.

The idea of heading to Croke Park for the picture a little bit of a laugh as far as Dawn is concerned when one considers the big game takes place in Portmarnock on Sunday.

"I think it's a bit of a joke taking a picture in Croke Park when we probably won't even be able to walk on the pitch."

Nevertheless it must be done and mother Mary and grandmother Helen 'Ma' Buckley are heading to Croker with their star girl for the big photo shoot.

The honours bestowed upon her by her club Buttevant have not gone unnoticed.

"To captain a Cork team is a huge honour and I am thankful to the club for that, winning the U16 A championship last year was great and the best thing ever to happen to Buttevant camogie, to go on to make the Cork team and be picked as captain was something I could only dream about."

Whatever about dreams, this young lady is very much wide awake when it comes to her job of guarding the Cork and Buttevant nets.

She made her senior debut with Avondhu in the recent Tower View Developments Senior Championship sand is pleased with her progress.

"I enjoyed the buzz of the senior championship it was nerve wracking at the start and even though we lost I will be looking forward to lining out again with Avondhu."

With older brother David playing for the Buttevant club, the hurling-mad Dawn, then aged seven, joined the camogie club and it's been all go since.

She lined out with Scoil Mhuire na Trocaire, Buttevant in the mini-sevens and Sciath na Scol teams. The progression to Coláiste Mhuire saw more camogie under the watchful eye of teacher Maura O'Callaghan from Charleville.

Still a pupil at the school, she is awaiting her junior certificate results with the same approach she has to Sunday's final.

"Sure I have no worries, a little bit concerned about the maths but sure we have to wait and see,"

Such is her enthusiasm for the game that she has managed to persuade older sister Lia back to playing camogie.

She has huge support at home and is big in her praise for her family; her four brothers and one sister all behind her all the way with huge support from her parents.

Kildorrey and Avondhu team-mate Valerie McCormick is someone Dawn looks up to enormously while inter county senior hurlers Diarmuid O'Sullivan and, not surprisingly, Donal Óg Cusack are her favourite players.

"I am working on getting my puck-outs right and am watching Donal Óg closely."

The panel has been together since last January with selectors George O'Callaghan, Rose White and Paddy Corkery gathering their young charges around them like a little family and the captain is very conscious of the bond that exists with her team-mates.

"We are very close and there is a fierce bond between us all, a lot of the girls would have known each other since the Cork U14 colleges team and some of them are on the panel since last year but we all get on really well.

"Even when we meet each other in club games we all stop and have a chat outside the dressing rooms after the matches."

Looking ahead to Sunday, Dawn feels confident about her sides chances.

"If we play as we have been playing all along we should be more that able for the task ahead, probably on Sunday I will be nervous but once the game starts we will all be okay," she says.

One gets the impression that with this confident young lady leading the way everything will certainly be okay.

Cork U16s can win first title of season for Cork

By MARY NEWMAN

YES the name is the same and yes both have played hurling and football but there the similarities stops.

Unlike his famous soccer playing namesake this George O'Callaghan is the one calling out the orders, making the switches and running the show. His own playing days now long over, he is totally focused and tuned into the task in hand. All that matters to him at the moment is Sunday and the assignment facing his U16 Cork camogie team.

The Buttevant native, by his own admission, was an average player with the Buttevant club through underage to junior level. With his son Cathal taking up the game, the interest continued, leading to coaching teams from U12 to U18.

"I had been involved with the juvenile GAA side of things but when my daughter Jenny began playing camogie I got involved and felt it only right to lend a hand and help out the girls."

Lend a hand and help out he certainly did, helping to guide Buttevant to their first U16 A county championship title in 2005.

"It was great to win the championship and I really enjoyed the campaign," he said.

The club were then entitled to nominate a selector for the county U16 team and George was the one chosen. Coming into the intercounty scene for the first time was a huge task but one which O'Callaghan took in his stride.

"Two selectors from last year, Rose White and Paddy Corkery, were still there and both welcomed me into the set-up.

"We got down to work immediately and held our first meeting the last week in December two days after Christmas."

The Alps Electrical employee is looking forward to his first All-Ireland camogie final but is well aware of his opposition's strength.

"Kilkenny will be tough they are the holders it is our job to take it from them.

"Our girls have shown great character throughout this campaign and on Sunday if we play to our potential we are more that capable of taking the title."

O'Callaghan was loud in his praise for Marian McCarthy and the county board who have left no stone unturned in helping the side reach their goal.

"We have all worked hand in hand and the experience has been most rewarding."

Let's hope Sunday brings the season to a successful conclusion for camogie's George O'Callaghan and his crew.



Cork U16 selectors George O'Callaghan, Rose White and Paddy Corkery, who will be hoping to knock All-Ireland U16 champions Kilkenny off their perch in the All-Ireland final on Sunday.

AUG

2006



Kilkenny captain Laura McGuinness and the Cork captain Dawn OiKeeffe at a photocall ahead of the U16 All-Ireland Finals. The Finals take place on Sunday in Naomh Mearn Úg, Dublin. The "A" final will be played at 3.30pm, between Cork and Kilkenny, while the "B" Final will be played at 2.00pm, between Armagh and Derry. Croke Park, Dublin.

AUG 2006

Triple trouble on the double

By MARY NEWMAN
Camogie news

PLAYING in an All-Ireland final in any code is a nerve wracking experience, both for players and family members alike.

In the week leading up to the game parents tip-toe around younger players, while friends suddenly disappear to give the players some breathing space.

For three Cork families this weekend it's a case of nerves on the double as brothers and sisters try to relax and get focused ahead of their respective big day out on Sunday when the Cork minor hurlers take on Galway in the All-Ireland semi-final in Croke Park at 12.30pm, while the Cork U16 camogie team take on Kilkenny in the All-Ireland final in Portmarnock at 3.30pm.

With both games taking place in Dublin at different venues it poses a problem for three Cork families.

Catriona Collins and her brother Matthew from the Ballinhassig club are joined on their respective Cork teams by club mates, brother and sister, Sinead and Danny O'Callaghan.

Brother and sister, Jason and Darina O'Callaghan from Buttevant also face the same problem.

Jason, who was also a member of the Cork minor football side this year, and Darina will also be wearing the red and white on Sunday for the minor hurlers and the Cork U16 camogie team.

It's a huge dilemma for the three families, and as has already been well documented the Cork Camogie Board tried unsuccessfully to get the game put back a week or get it played on Saturday after the Gala All-Ireland senior championship games against Tipperary in Templemore.

With the minor throw-in scheduled for 12.30pm in Croke Park it will be a mad dash to Portmarnock to support their daughters to make the 3.30pm throw-in.

All three girls are disappointed at the way things have turned out in what they hoped would be a big weekend for their families.

Catriona Collins had hoped to be in Croke Park to support her brother Matthew who will line out in goal for the Cork minors against Galway.

"My family were travelling up on Saturday and we had hoped the camogie final would be played and then go along to Croke Park on Sunday to take in the two hurling games, now we are playing in direct opposition to both these games."

Sinead and Darina face a similar dilemma.

"We definitely will be wondering how the brothers are getting on while trying to concentrate and get ready for the final.

"Hopefully someone will be able to keep us updated."

Let's hope all six are smiling on Sunday evening.



Darina and Jason O'Callaghan from Buttevant who will be in action with the Cork U16 camogie team and the Cork minor team on Sunday at different venues.



Sister and brother Sinead and Danny O'Callaghan from Ballinhassig, who will both be in action on Sunday for the Cork minor team and the Cork U16 camogie team at different venues.



Brother and sister Matthew and Catriona Collins from Ballinhassig who will both be in action on Sunday for the Cork minor team and the Cork U16 camogie team at different venues.

Immense Healy is the key for Town

By LINDA MELLERICK
Camogie Senior B

Bishopstown	1-8
Glen Rovers	1-5

BISHOPSTOWN and Glen Rovers served up a highly entertaining and closely fought Senior B Championship second-round tie at Passage West last evening.

The words 'you can't beat experience' never rang truer as a young Glen Rovers side, which fought with commitment and pride, had to succumb to the more experienced Bishopstown and in particular the formidable force that is Ciara Healy at full-forward.

Jemma O'Regan was given the onerous task of marking the most lethal forward in the competition and did a good job, keeping Healy to just three points from play. But such is Healy's accuracy from placed balls she finished with a personal tally of 1-7.

The Glen started well, fighting for every ball and after 24 minutes the score stood at just two points to one in favour of the Blackpool girls.

But a seventh minute purple patch led to Healy scoring four points in quick succession, leaving three between the sides at the break.

The second half began with five points struck in the opening 13 minutes, three to two favouring Bishopstown.

The Glen attacked incessantly and had at least three goalscoring opportunities but they lacked the clinical finish.

Eithne Duggan and Sinead Kelly did trojan work and drove Bishopstown back up the field.

Healy was awarded a free some 25 yards out after 16 minutes. Shooting low and hard, she found the net.

With the score standing at 1-8 to 0-4 it looked all over for the Glen. They battled on and were rewarded when Denise Luby pointed and Niamh Goulding goaled from a free.

Still they pressed for the equaliser but the Bishopstown defence stood firm in a game that should stand to both teams as they advance in the group.

Scorers Bishopstown: C Healy 1-7 (1-4frees), A Donegan 0-1.

Glen Rovers: N Goulding 1-1(frees), D Luby 0-3 (frees), A Cuthbert 0-1.

BISHOPSTOWN: L Bowen; S Kelly, D Quigley, S O'Donoghue; E Foyle, E Duggan, C Enright; J Crowley, J Browne; D Coughlan, A Donegan, M Crowley; O Ni Dhomhaill, C Healy, O Gleeson. **Subs:** M Egan for O Gleeson (61).

GLEN ROVERS: K Newman; L Kelly, J O'Regan, D Luby; A Guiton, L Cunningham, N Goulding; C Shortt, A Walsh; L Davis, D Tobin, A Cuthbert; B Kenefick, K Lynch, L Harris. **Subs:** Z Buckley for D Tobin (9, inj), A Murphy for L Davis (39).

AUG 2006

Cork u16s eye title

IT'S a busy weekend for camogie followers with four Cork teams involved in All-Ireland championship games over the weekend.

While the county footballer and hurlers have the focus of the county upon them the under 16 camogie team will be aiming to bring the county its first All-Ireland gaelic games title in 2006 and in the process hoping to lay the foundations for a red and white All-Ireland championship domination.

This game takes place on Sunday but the action begins 48 hours before on what is the busiest camogie weekend for the county in years.

First into the action are the county minor (under 18) team journey to Round Towers GAA grounds Dublin on Friday evening at 6pm to meet the home county in the opening game in the round robin section of the All-Ireland championship.

There is huge interest amongst counties all vying to be the first to engrave their name on the trophy for the first time.

There are two groups of four counties, with the top two from each group qualifying for the semi-finals, Cork Dublin, Wexford and Kilkenny make up group one with Galway. Tipperary, Limerick and Clare in group two.

Already Cork have participated in the provincial championship and while this competition has no bearing on the All-Ireland series it has helped the selectors gather a panel together and begin their preparations for the All-Ireland series.

On Saturday attention turns to Holy Cross Tipperary when the last game in the round robin series of



The Cork U16 panel which faces Kilkenny in the All Ireland Final at the weekend.

Camogie: Mary Newman

Gala All-Ireland championship has last year's finalists and old rivals Cork and Tipperary coming face to face. Both counties are already assured of a place in the All-Ireland semi-finals.

It's very much a case of playing for a place at the top of the group. Cork to date are the only unbeaten team, having dropped a point to Galway, while Tipp, who lost out in their first game to Galway, got their challenge back on track with victories over Limerick, Wexford and Kilkenny to ensure their place in the shake up.

With both already through they will be keeping a sharp eye on the meeting between Galway and Kilkenny, while awaiting the result of the former. The result of Wexford's game against Limerick could have a bearing on who will join Cork and Tipperary in the last four on August 12.

The meeting of both counties in the Senior B game is another case of both teams already through to the semi-finals, Cork have full points, with Tipp just behind having lost out once.

The big game of the weekend is the All-Ireland under 16 final as Cork take on holders Kilkenny.

The game is to be played in Portmarnock on Sunday, something which is a huge disappointment given Cork's involvement in the senior and minor All Ireland hurling championships in Croke Park on the same day.

What is most disappointing is the choice of venue. Something nearer Croke Park would have enabled followers a chance to support the girls before heading to Croke Park at 4.30pm.

Attention will be focused on the job in hand as George O'Callaghan and his fellow selectors Paddy Corkery and Rose White set out to dethrone the champions.

In all their games to date Kilkenny have looked impressive in their section of the round robin series sides.

Cork were impressive in their round robin series as Galway, Clare Tipperary and Limerick all fell victims, while they took the provincial crown with good solid displays.

Up front Niamh Dilworth, Sinead O'Callaghan and Catriona Collins are all capable of grabbing goals while Clare Keohane, Rosin De Faoite and Ashling Thompson are excellent performers. Cork captain is goalkeepeer Dawn O'Keeffe.

UNDER 18's GET SHOW ON THE ROAD

FIRST into the action are the county minor (under 18) team who make the journey to Round Towers GAA grounds Dublin on Friday evening at 6pm to meet the home county in the opening game in the round robin section of the All Ireland championship. With the competition in its inaugural year there is huge interest amongst counties all vying to be the first to engrave their name on the trophy for the first time. There are two groups of four counties with the top two from each group qualifying for the semi finals, Cork Dublin, Wexford and Kilkenny make up group one with Galway. Tipperary, Limerick and Clare in group two. Already Cork have participated in the provincial championship and while this competition has no bearing on the All Ireland series it has helped the selectors gather a panel together and begin their preparations for the All Ireland series Are amongst the players who will lead the Cork challenge are senior panellists Lucy Hawkes, Emer o' Sullivan and Orla cotter who captains the side Camogie alis made huge strides in Dublin their junior side taking last years All Ireland title while their under 16 made it to the semi final stages this year, Cork can expect a tough hour from a focused home outfit.

Senior B team also through

THE meeting of both counties in the Senior B game is another case of both teams already through to the semi finals, and their cork will be expected to maintain their league form where they proved much to strong for the home side.

ALL IRELAND TITLE UP FOR GRABS

THE big Camogie game of the weekend is the All Ireland Under16 final when

Cork clash with holders Kilkenny. The game is to be played in Portmarnock on Sunday at 3.30pm something which is a huge disappointment given Corks involvement in the senior and minor All Ireland hurling championships in Croke Park on the same day. Negotiations took place to try and reach a compromise on a time and venue but with the huge volume of inter county fixtures on Friday and Saturday it was deemed impossible to accommodate Corks request, something that is hugely disappointing given the camogie associations strong moves to bring about closer integrations between both codes, its an appalling decision to play an All Ireland final on the same day as the county hurlers play the biggest game to date in the All Ireland series. One has to ask the question were the opposition's hurlers in action on the same Sunday would the final be played, I think we all know the answer to that one. What is most disappointing is the choice of venue, something nearer Croke Park at an earlier time would have enabled followers a chance to support the girls before heading to Croke Park at 4.30pm

Cork's task is not an easy one to dethrone the champions, Kilkenny have looked impressive in their section of the round robin series they recorded impressive victories over Offaly, Dublin, Wexford and Antrim before defeating Clare in their semi- final game they are a well balanced side they have goal poachers in Amy Maher and Michelle Quilty, they are captained by Edwina Kerins who was a member of last years victorious side. Cork were impressive in their round robin series defeating Galway, Clare Tipperary and Limerick. They have showed calm under pressure in many of their games Sinead O Callaghan, Clare Keohane, Christine O Neill and Mairead Foley all impressing. The Cork side is captained by Dawn O Keeffe who holds down the important goalkeeping position.

Three Cork players will be hoping to make it the first leg of a family double Catriona Collins Sinead O Callaghan and Darina O Callaghan an all keeping an eye on proceedings in Croke Park where their brothers Matthew, Danny and Jason will all be involved with the Cork minor hurlers who meet Galway in the All Ireland semi final..

Best wishes to all Cork teams over the weekend, let's make it a Rebel Bank Holiday the rest of the country will not forget.

Camogiechat

With **Mary Newman**

Seniors aim to stay top

THE last game in the round robin series of Gala All Ireland championship has last years finalists and old rivals Cork and Tipperary coming face to face In Templemore on Saturday. Both counties are already assured of a place in the All Ireland semi finals cork at present head the group with seven points, Tipperary are on six, Galway on five, Kilkenny on four and Wexford are on two, Limerick having lost all games have no points. Cork are the only unbeaten team having dropped a point to Galway, Tipp lost out in their first games to Galway they got their challenge back on track with victories over Limerick, Wexford and Kilkenny to ensure their place in the shake up. With both already through they will be keeping a sharp eye on the meeting between Galway and Kilkenny while pending the result of the former the result of Wexford's game against Limerick could have a bearing on who will join Cork and Tipperary in the last four on August 12th.



Cork Under 16 Camogie Team who meet Kilkenny in The All Ireland Final next Sunday.

AUG 2006

Cumann Camógaíochta na nGael

Cluichí Ceannais na hÉireann 2006

Craobhchomórtas Faoi 16 A & B



Naomh Mearnóg, Port Mearnóg, Baile Átha Cliath
6ú Lúnasa 2006
Clár Oifigiúil • Luach e2

Síle de Bhailís

Síle de Bhailís
Ardstiúrthóir

Fáilte



Ar son Cumann Camogaiochta na nGael ba mhaith liom fior fáilte a cur roimh gach einne to Naomh Mearnóg inniu.

I welcome players, mentors, officials, match officials and spectators to Naomh Mearnóg today for the Under-16 All-Ireland Camogie Finals, Derry v Armagh and Cork v Kilkennny. I always look forward to this grade with great anticipation as these young elite athletes play open and skilful camogie. They provide the centre-piece, supported by their mentors, families and clubs. Last Monday the captains travelled to Croke Park for a photo call. Laura McGuinness (Armagh) Dawn O'Keeffe (Cork) Eimear McKenna (Derry) and Edwina Keane (Kilkenny). They were delightful, full of charm and chat. How well they represented camogie, their families and counties. They enjoyed their visit and we certainly enjoyed their exuberant company.

Kilkenny are the reigning 'A' champions and will be all out to put back-to-back All-Irelands together. Cork will put them under pressure. Rebel Cork come to win too! I expect the outcome to be so close I wouldn't put a cent on either team. The Derry v Armagh final will be another close call. Armagh will not want to lose two-in-a-row.

Colette McSorley who was Young Player of the Year 2005 and played for Armagh last year, was a contestant in the Martin Donnelly Poc Fada in the Cooley Mountains yesterday.

The new competitions have brought a new dimension to camogie this year and a review is under way already. I know that some people are unhappy that Cork minor and senior hurlers are in action in Croke Park while their Under-16 team is in action here. Our options were limited. There was an opportunity to play the Cork v Kilkenny final last Sunday prior to the Laois v Offaly football game. It didn't suit one of the competing counties. I promise there will be more flexibility in 2007 and that the counties will be made aware that they may be required to move dates too. If we want to showcase camogie to a wider audience, flexibility is essential.

The Gala Senior Camogie Final and the Erin Under-21 Hurling Final form a double-header in Croke Park on Sunday, 10th September. I appeal to you all to support this unique double-header. Details will be available shortly on www.camogie.ie and www.gaa.ie re admission prices for individuals, groups, families etc.

I want to thank the Executive of Naomh Mearnóg GAA Club for the use of their lovely facilities and for the effort they made to support these fixtures today. My thanks too to the Fixtures Committee and Bronagh Gaughan who is so resourceful. Enjoy the games. Keep on supporting camogie.

Ly Howard

Uachtarán

CILL CHAINNIGH

Dubh agus Ómra



(1) **Ann Marie Lennon**
A.M. Ní Lheanneáin
Blacks and Whites

(2) **Ciara Lyng**
C. Ní Loinn
Rower Inistioge

(3) **Kate McDonald**
C. Nic Dhónaill
Thomastown

(4) **Ann Marie Walsh**
A.M. Bhreatnach
St. Martin's

(5) **Aisling Dunphy**
A. Ní Dhonnchaidh
St. Brigid's

(6) **Leanne Fennelly**
L. Ní Fhionnalaigh
Mullinavat

(7) **Edel Frisby**
E. Nic Firbhisigh
Carrickshock

(8) **Karen Duggan**
K. Duagáin
Piltown

(9) **Marie Dargan**
M. Ní Dheargáin
Castlecomer

(10) **Sinead Kelly**
S. Ní Cheallaigh
Blacks and Whites

(11) **Edwina Keane** *(Capt.)*
É. Ní Chéin
St. Martin's

(12) **Katie Power**
C. de Paor
Piltown

(13) **Michelle Brennan**
M. Ní Bhraonáin
Paulstown

(14) **Anna Farrell**
A. Ní Fhearail
Thomastown

(15) **Michelle Quilty**
M. Ní Chaoilte
Mullinavat

16 **Lizzie Kavanagh**
E. Chaomhánach – *O'Loughlins*
17 **Róisín Byrne**
R. Ní Bhroin – *Clara*
18 **Emma Staunton**
E. Nic an Mhíle – *Paulstown*
19 **Sarah Walsh**
S. Bhreatnach – *Thomastown*
20 **Sorcha Fennelly**
S. Ní Fhionnalaigh – *Ballyhale Shamrocks*
21 **Caoimhe Shiel**
C. Ní Shiail – *James Stephens*
22 **Amy Maher**
A. Ní Meachair – *Thomastown*
23 **Michelle Mulhall**
M. Ní Mhaolchathail – *St. Martin's*
24 **Sinead Long**
S. Ní Longáin – *Piltown*
25 **Niamh Quinlan**
N. Ní Caoinnealáin – *Young Irelands*

BAINISTEOIRÍ:
Liam Dunne
L. Ó Doinn
Stephen Dormer
S. Ó Duidhiorma
ROGHNÓIRÍ:
John Quilty
S. Ó Caoilte
Trish Orr T. Orr
Penny Kavanagh
Nuala Chaomhánach

CORCAIGH

Dearg agus Bán



(1) **Dawn O'Keeffe** *(Capt.)*
D. Ní Chaoimh
Buttevant

(2) **Christine O'Neill**
C. Ní Néill
Courcey Rovers

(3) **Rebecca Finn**
R. Ní Fhinn
Milford

(4) **Eimear Harrington**
E. Ní hArrachtáin
Buttevant

(5) **Leanne O'Shea**
L. Ní Shé
Douglas

(6) **Marie Walsh**
M. Ní Bhreatnach
Ballyhea

(7) **Mairead Foley**
M. Ní Fhoghlú
Rockban

(8) **Ella Kelliher**
E. Ní Chéileachair
Éire Óg

(9) **Fiona O'Connell**
F. Ní Chonaill
Inniscarra

(10) **Róisín De Faoite**
R. de Faoite
Blackrock

(11) **Claire Keohane**
C. Ní Cheocháin
Killeagh

(12) **Aisling Thompson**
A. Nic Thomáis
Milford

(13) **Darina O'Callaghan**
D. Ní Cheallacháin
Buttevant

(14) **Catriona Collins**
C. Ní Choileáin
Ballinhassig

(15) **Sinead O'Callaghan**
S. Ní Cheallacháin
Ballinhassig

16 **Marie Donovan**
M. Ní Dhonnabháin – *Clonakilty*
17 **Jennifer Lynch**
S. Ní Lhionsigh – *Tracton*
18 **Mary Ann Hawks**
M. Á. Hawkes – *Valley Rovers*
19 **Niamh Dilworth**
N. Ní Dúluachra – *Inniscarra*
20 **Lydia Cunningham**
L. Ní Chuinneagáin – *Glen Rovers*
21 **Niamh O'Donovan**
N. Ní Dhonnabháin – *Douglas*
22 **Katie Hickey**
C. Ní Hici – *Bishopstown*
23 **Grace Kearney**
C. Ní Chearnaigh – *Bride Rovers*
24 **Cliona Galvin**
C. Ní Ghealbháin – *Milford*
25 **Moire O'Donovan**
M. Ní Dhonnabháin – *Douglas*

BAINISTEOIRÍ:
George O'Callaghan
S. Ó Cheallacháin
Rose White
R. Ní Banáin
Paddy Corkery
P. Ó Coscraigh



Leanne Fennelly leads the Kilkenny attack.



Katie Power is too fast for the Cork defence.



Marie Dargan climbs high and claims the sliotar

Classy Cats crush Cork



Alan Neary

Kilkenny 2-10

Cork 0-4

The scorers

Kilkenny **– Michelle Quilty (1-5, 0-5 frees); Katie Power (1-2); Edwina Keane (0-2); Michelle Brennan (0-1).** ***Cork*** **– Catriona Collins (0-2, both frees); Claire Keohane, Sinead O'Callaghan (0-1 each).**

KILKENNY chalked up their second All-Ireland under-16 camogie championship 'A' title in as many seasons when they scored a convincing win over Cork in the final at Portmarnock on Sunday.

The Cats displayed great character to recover after a shaky start. They turned in a skilful display against a physical Cork team which never got to grips with champions guile.

When the losers full-forward Catriona Collins pointed after the Rebels had posted two wides during the opening four minutes, the omens looked ominous for Kilkenny.

However, within a minute Katie Power and Aisling Dunphy combined to create the first Cats attack.

On seven minutes Marie Dargan shot in Kilkenny's first free, but Cork full-back Christine O'Neill managed to scramble the ball away to safety.

Dargan was unsuccessful with her second set-piece attempt. It mattered little. Kilkenny finally opened their account after nine minutes.

Instigated

Leanne Fennelly instigated the attack, feeding the sliotar towards Michelle Brennan, who raced through the Cork rearguard.

She chose to point when a goal opportunity looked on.

Brennan's score levelled affairs before Kilkenny raced into a three point lead when Katie Power played in Michelle Quilty for the simplest of finishes.

Another free from Cork's Catriona Collins reduced the gap to two points before Edwina Keane kept her composure to pocket the Cats first point from play.

Trailing by 1-2 to 0-2 at the quarter hour mark, Cork attempted to reduce the arrears through an ambitious Claire Keohane attempt for a point. That effort fell short.

That scare served as something of a wake-up call for a Kilkenny team. They responded well, and scored five points in the remaining minutes of the half.

Michelle Quilty grabbed a score from a free before Katie Power got what proved to be the point of the match.

Captain Edwina Keane orchestrated the move with a delightful pass which Power did exceptionally well to catch under pressure from two Cork players.

With her back to goal a good 30 metres out, Power swivelled and darted goalward before popping the sliotar over to increase Kilkenny's tally to 1-4.

Measly

Having accumulated a measly two point haul, Cork were, by the closing minutes of the half, well and truly under the cosh.

The Cats ought to have added a second goal when Keane carved open the Cork defence with a meandering run in from the right flank. However, none of her team-mates could profit when the play swung across the face of goal.

The sliotar was eventually cleared, but only as far as the lurking Power who duly pointed from 25 metres.

There was still time for Michelle Quilty to add a couple of points (including one free) in the final minutes of the half.

Next-up Claire Keohane earned Cork their first point in nearly 25 minutes, and this came on the stroke of half-time.

Despite Keohane's point, the Cats had one hand on the title. At the break the scoreline read: Kilkenny 1-7, Cork 0-3.

The winners kept Cork waiting on the pitch for a full five minutes before the start of the second half. The eager Leesiders were fastest out of the blocks. Sinead O'Callaghan picked off a point from play.

Bravely

Soon after that Kate McDonald did brilliantly, diving bravely to deny Cork's Niamh Dilworth a point.

That intervention typified the Cats determination. They kept their composure in a tense second half as Cork's play bordered on the heavy-handed.

Kilkenny had a great chance to put the outcome beyond all doubt when Keane and Power linked up in front of the Cork goal, but the Leesiders got back in numbers to avert the danger.

Power had the Cork net bulging eleven minutes into the half after an intricate attack which also involved Keane and substitute Michelle Mulhall.

The scoreline now read Kilkenny 2-7, Cork 0-4. After the Rebels had been reduced to 14 players by Waterford whistler, Morgan Conroy, the Cats continued to drive onwards and upwards.

Keane closed her account to leave ten points between the teams. Then Quilty displayed a ruthless streak to convert two frees in quick succession.

In the end Kilkenny fully deserved their twelve point winning margin. On the evidence of this display, the future of Kilkenny camogie is very bright indeed.

The teams

Kilkenny – Ann Marie Lennon (Blacks and Whites), Ciara Lyng (Rower-Inistioge), Kate McDonald (Thomastown), Ann Marie Walsh (St Martin's), Aisling Dunphy (St Brigid's), Leanne Fennelly (Mullinavat), Edel Frisby (Carrickshock), Amy Maher (Thomastown), Marie Dargan (Castlecomer), Sinead Kelly (Blacks and Whites), Edwina Keane (St Martin's), Katie Power (Piltown), Michelle Brennan (Paulstown), Anna Farrell (Thomastown), Michelle Quilty (Mullinavat). Subs: Lizzie Kavanagh (O'Loughlin Gaels) for Walsh, Roisin Byrne (Clara) for Power, Sinead Long (Piltown) for Brennan, Michelle Mulhall (St Martin's) for Lennon.

Cork – Dawn O'Keeffe, Christine O'Neill, Rebecca Finn, Eimear Harrington, Leanne O'Shea, Marie Walsh, Mairead Foley, Jennifer Lynch, Fiona O'Connell, Roisin De Faoite, Claire Keohane, Aisling Thompson, Catriona Collins, Niamh Dilworth, Sinead O'Callaghan. Sub: Mary Ann Hawks for O'Shea.

Referee – Morgan Conroy (Waterford).



The Kilkenny under-16 All-Ireland A Camogie Champions.

AUG. 2006

ARD MHACHA

Flannbhuí agus Bán



(1) **Louise Toner**
L. Ní Thomhnair
St. Brenda's Ballymacnab

(2) **Shanna Leonard**
S. Ní Loilín
St. Brenda's Ballymacnab

(3) **Paula Mallon**
P. Ní Maolain
St. John's Middletown

(4) **Erin O'Hare**
E. Ní Hir
St. Brenda's Ballymacnab

(5) **Orla O'Hare**
O. Ní Hir
St. Brenda's Ballymacnab

(6) **Emma McParland**
E. Nic Parthaláin
St. Brenda's Ballymacnab

(7) **Laura Comiskey**
L. Ní Cumascaigh
St. Patrick's Keady

(8) **Nicole Conway**
N. Ní Chombhuí
St. Patrick's Keady

(9) **Corinna McKee**
C. Nic Aoidh
St. Brenda's Ballymacnab

(10) **Aideen Canavan**
E. Ní Cheannubháin
St. Brenda's Ballymacnab

(11) **Laura McGuinness** *(Capt.)*
L. Nig Aonasa
St. Joseph's Madden

(12) **Noeleen McKenna**
N. Nic Cionaoith
St. Patrick's Keady

(13) **Petrina Cosgrove**
P. Ní Oscair
St. Brenda's Ballymacnab

(14) **Amy Lavery**
A. Ní Labhraí
St. Brenda's Ballymacnab

(15) **Katie O'Brien**
K. Ní Bhriain
Mullaghbawn

16 **Leon McGuigan**
L. Nic Uiginn – *St. Joseph's Madden*
17 **Meghan Rafferty**
M. Ní Raifearaigh – *St. Brigid's Armagh*
18 **Brid O'Hagan**
B. Ní hAodhagáin – *An Port Mor*
19 **Danielle Mone**
D. Ní Mone – *St. Patrick's Keady*
20 **Emma Mullen**
E. Ní Mhaoláin – *Tullysarran*
21 **Ciara Donnelly**
C. Ní Dhonnaile – *Granemore*
22 **Connie Conway**
C. Ní Chombhuí – *St. Patrick's Keady*
23 **Lucy Conway**
L. Ní Chombhuí – *St. Patrick's Keady*
24 **Collette Finnegan**
C. Ní Fhionnagáin – *Tullysarran*
25 **Shauna Mallon**
S. Ní Mhaolain – *Tullysarran*

BAINISTEOIRÍ:
Gerard Gribben
G. Ó Gribín
Gus Farrell
G. Ó Fearail
Paula McGuigan
P. Nig Uiginn

AN DOIRE

Dearg agus Bán



(1) **Joni McEldowney**
J. Nig Giolla Dhomhnaigh
Ballinascreen

(2) **Áine Kelly**
Á. Ní Cheallaigh
Dungiven

(3) **Roisín O'Kane**
R. Ní Chatháin
Ballinascreen

(4) **Caoimhe Toner**
C. Ní Thomhnair
Magherafelt

(5) **Ciara O'Kane**
C. Ní Chatháin
Ballinascreen

(6) **Clodagh McPeake**
C. Nic Piarais
Lavey

(7) **Janine McNeil**
J. Nic Néill
Newbridge

(8) **Eimear McKenna** *(Capt.)*
E. Nic Chionaoith
Ballinascreen

(9) **Christine McKenna**
C. Nic Chionaoith
Ballinascreen

(10) **Maeve McGillian**
M. Nic Ghiollagáin
Ballinascreen

(11) **Edelle Crossan**
E. Nic an Chrosáin
Dungiven

(12) **Danielle McCrystal**
D. Nic Chriostail
Glen Maghera

(13) **Michelle Rodgers**
M. Nic Rhuairi
Na Magha

(14) **Nichole McLaughlin**
N. Nic Lhochlainn
Dungiven

(15) **Keelin Bradley**
C. Ní Bhrolcháin
Greenlough

16 **Róisín Conway**
R. Nic Conmidhe – *Ballinascreen*
17 **Sinead Devin**
S. Ní Dhaimhín – *Limavady*
18 **Ciara Quigley**
C. Ní Choigligh – *Na Magha*
19 **Claire Campbell**
C. Nic Chathmhaoil – *Glen Maghera*
20 **Emma Mullally**
E. Ní Mhaolalaidh – *Dungiven*
21 **Maureen Heneghan**
M. Ní hÉineacháin – *Coleraine*
22 **Eimear Roddy**
E. Ní Rodaigh – *Newbridge*
23 **Shree McKay**
S. Nic Aodha – *Glack*
24 **Niamh Curran**
N. Ní Corráin – *Glack*
25 **Sarah Louise Henry**
S. L. Ni hInnéiri – *Greenlough*

BAINISTEOIRÍ:
Donna McCloskey
D. Nic Bhloscaidh
Gearait Ó Mianáin
Breige McGilligan
B. Nic Ghiollagáin

AUG 2006

BIG ONE ON SATURDAY

IT all or nothing on Saturday as the Senior team put their All Ireland tile on the line as they meet Galway in the Gala All Ireland semi final in Nolan Park. Just three weeks ago the sides battled it out in an exciting contest in the round robin series of the championship. On the day it took a late rally from Cork to get back into contention after Galway had led for most of the game Cork crept ahead and led by the narrowest of margins only for Galway to point a free on the stroke of full time to earn her side a well deserved draw. Last weekend Cork lost their last game in the round robin series to Tipperary and while the result did not harm their chances of qualification it will be something that will not please the cork backroom team who will be look for a big improvement for this weekend. Rena Buckley and Joanne O'Callaghan did not line out in that game against Tipperary and they will be expected to make a return this weekend, the Cork inside line has not been firing on all cylinders to date and they will need a bigger return if they hope to make it to the concluding stages.

Cork are league champions but they face a tough battle again an ever improving Galway, under the guidance of former star player Sharon Glynn they have steadily improved last season they were bitterly disappointed not to reach the concluding stages having failed to make the semi final. This time out they have made another step and are bell bent on making it to the decider but the champions stand in their way. They were gutter to only come away with a draw when they met Cork recently and indeed they could count themselves a little unlucky not to have gained the points Despite leading from the throw in they were lucky to grab a late equaliser to keep their interests alive in the championship. Coming off the back of a surprise defeat a the hands of Wexford Galway came to Cork that day with victory on their minds, Cork for their part with three victories under their belts already having their semi final place secure. A low scoring opening half saw Galway lead 1-4 to 0-3 at the break Lourda Kavanagh twenty second minuet goal putting them ahead. Cork failed to ignite thorough the opening thirty minutes but on the resumptions Cork upped the pace as the lead changed hand Galway led by two points. Cork's Jennifer O'Leary lead the way with a spirited display pointing a free before hitting the levelling score from a difficult angle. It looked as if Cork had the points secured when she pointed a free two minutes into injury time but Galway showing plenty of fighting spirit were not going to be denied and a last gasp Brenda Kerins point was no more that they deserved after turning in a spirited performance. Cork know what is required they are determined to make it to Croke Park the biggest challenge to date will come on Saturday.

NO JOY FOR UNDER16 TEAM

DISAPPOINTMENT for the Under 16 team who lost out to a stronger Kilkenny side in the All Ireland final in Dublin on Sunday last. Its was always a battle from the start as Cork struggled to stay with the champions. Sharper and more confident Kilkenny showed just a little more experience and certainly the fact they were appearing in their second final in a row stood to them. Cork were nervous and it showed, inside eight minutes Kilkenny had struck for their first gaol and by the break they led 1-7 to 0-3. Cork did rally at the start of the second half but a gaol from Kilkenny captain killed any chances they had of getting back into contention. To their credit they fought hard but on the day Kilkenny showed too much strength. Well done to the girls who enjoyed a tremendous season and to their mentors George O'Callaghan Paddy Corkery and Rose White hard luck on losing out.

Camogiechat

With **Mary Newman**

Good start for Minors

CORK recorded a victory in the first game of the round robin series in the All Ireland minor championship defeated Dublin at Round Towers GAA Grounds Dublin. Cork led from the start and inside five minutes held the upper hand Confident on the ball by half time whistle they led 3-6 to 0-1 lead Miriam Crowley, Sharon Whelton and Erin Corkery hitting first half goal. Dublin worked hard but found the going tough again the strong Cork defence Amy Murphy registered a first half point as they battled to keep up with the stronger Cork girls. The Dubs Jolene Hoary opened the second half with a goal but Cork kept the pressure on the Dublin defence and were rewarded, Orla Cotter, Denise Cronin, Erin Corkery, Deirdre Twomey and Sharon Whelton all continuing to pick off score as Cork stretched their advantage.



Cork defender Catriona Foley ready to face the challenge Of Galway on saturday next in Nolan Park

Amy Murphy grabbed a second goal for Dublin but Cork substitute Michelle Browne hit back with Corks fourth to ensure victory, Cork's next game in the round robin series of the championship is against Wexford on August 18.

AUG. 2006

Barry the saviour as Douglas force draw

By EOLAN ALLEN

East Cork GAA JAHC

Bishopstown	2-12
Douglas	2-12

THE Iarnród Eireann City Division U21 HC got off to a terrific start with Bishopstown and Douglas serving up an epic contest.

This first-round match was a straight knock-out and this certainly added to the intensity with neither side looking for their season to be cut short. There was never more than a score in the game and with very little to choose between the teams, a draw was a fair result.

With many Cork U21 and minor stars on display, this was always set up to be a high quality encounter. Patrick Cronin was to the fore for Bishopstown and got involved in the vast majority of their attacks. He struck the ball sweetly and was the main target for Ken O'Halloran's long range puck outs.

Jamie O'Sullivan and Denis Crowley were also working hard in the half-back line with great defensive work and fine balls delivered forward Cronin opened the scoring with a 65 and Paul O'Donoghue and Ronan Conway gave Bishopstown an early three point lead. It didn't last long as midfielder Mark Harrington led the Douglas assault as he opened his side's tally with a point.

He made great catches under the high ball and dropped some dangerous pucks into the Bishopstown goal-mouth. One such ball saw Douglas take the lead as Ken Barry knocked it down and Mark O'Callaghan raced on to the loose ball and kicked it into the net.

Eoin Cadogan demonstrated his ability at centre-back for Douglas while Frank Tobin and Padraig Grainey made some great blocks in the full-back line.

Despite fine defensive performances, it was always going to be difficult to keep the Bishopstown forwards quiet and they soon netted. Cronin set up Tomás Murray who perfectly executed his finish. Despite this it was Douglas who held the advantage at half-time by 1-8 to 1-7.

Bishopstown got off to a good start on the resumption with Michael Powell managing to break free from his marker for a goal with Cronin quickly adding a point to increase his side's cushion.

The Douglas full forwards were prominent throughout the game with the Moylan brothers, Stephen and James, and Ken Barry working well to get scores.

Ken Barry was always dangerous when a ball was dropped in and finally got his reward from such an occasion as he batted the ball into the net.

Douglas will probably be happier with the draw, as they hope that some of the four players who were out for the game will be available next time around.

Scorers for Bishopstown: P Cronin 0-5 (2 65, 2f), T Murray and Powell 1-1 each, E Mawe 0-2, R Conway, P O'Donoghue and D Crowley 0-1 each.

Douglas: S Moylan 0-5 (3f), K Barry 1-2, O'Callaghan 1-1, Harrington 0-2 (1f), Moylan 0-2.

BISHOPSTOWN: K O'Halloran; C O'Driscoll, B Noonan, M O'Donoghue; S O'Neill, D Crowley, J O'Sullivan; P O'Donoghue, R Conway; B Murphy, P Cronin, E Mawe; I Jones, T Murray, M Powell.

Sub: T Bonner for I Jones 56.

DOUGLAS: D O'Riordan; P Grainey, C Lahive, F Tobin; S Bermingham, E Cadogan, D Olden; M Harrington, T O'Connor; E Carroll, M O'Callaghan, B O'Connor; S Moylan, J Moylan, B Kenny.

Sub: S McCarthy for B O'Connor 58.

Referee: J Dorgan (Nemo Rangers)

Cork put up



Cork's Rebecca Finn chases Kilkenny's Edwina Keane during the U16 All-Ireland camogie final at Naomh Meanog grounds in Portmarnock.

Picture: Douglas O'Connor.

Cats' Keane quenches a comeback

By MARY NEWMAN

U16 Camogie

Kilkenny	2-10
Cork	0-4

DISAPPOINTMENT for the Cork U16 camogie players as they failed to halt Kilkenny's quest at Naomh Mearnóg, Portmarnock yesterday.

No excuses in this one, Cork simply were not good enough. Every one of them gave it their all in the quest for honours again a physically stronger Kilkenny side that held the initiative from the throw-in and were never really troubled.

Heavy rain through most of the game made it difficult for both sides that it must be said were whole hearted and determined in their endeavours.

A nervous opening five minutes saw both sides squander two chances from close-in placed balls before Catriona Collins opened the scoring with a Cork point in the seventh minute. This was to be the only time Cork would lead, Kilkenny getting into their stride to make all the running.

With the sides level on one apiece Michele Quilty gave the champions the lead, cleverly stepping inside the hesitant Cork defence to hand pass to the net after good work from Katie Power.

There was little cause for concern as Catriona Collins slotted over Cork's second two minutes later but instead of settling Cork, the score had the opposite effect, spurring Kilkenny into action as they added five without reply as they proceeded to tear the Cork defence apart at every opportunity with their superb running and passing technique.

For every Cork player their seemed to be two Kilkennys as they played with determination, chasing blocking and hooking as they gave it their all to hold their crown. As Cork struggled to stay with Kilkenny Clare Keohane had the last say of the opening half with Cork's first score from play two minutes into injury time.

To their credit Cork tore into action from the start of the second half, inside three minutes Sinéad O'Callaghan had added a point to the tally but this was to be their last score Kilkenny answering all the questions that were asked over the next five minutes as they contained the livelier Cork attack who were gaining a little in confidence.

It was Kilkenny's inspirational captain Edwina Keane who quickly quenched any chance of a Cork rally when she linked up with Michelle Quilty and Katie

O'Callaghan: "The best team won"

CORK manager George O'Callaghan was bitterly disappointed at losing this All-Ireland final but in doing so was first to admit that they lost out to a very good Kilkenny side.

"We never played to our potential but we have to credit Kilkenny they area very good side, coming up today we knew it would not be easy, they were champions and they played like they were, they are a strong side and on the day we can have no complaints, the better team were the winners.

"Our girls gave it their all but sadly it was not enough to take the title. They have been fantastic group of players and we are so sorry that it did not go our way today.

"Sometimes you try things and they do not work out today was one of those days for us, we congratulate our victors and hopefully we will have learned a lot from the experience."

Tears of heartbreak for Cork captain

CORK captain Dawn O'Keeffe was distraught at losing out and tried hard to contain the tears which did eventually flow.

"I am heartbroken we are much better than that and we just never got going today. We deserved so much more and we are all just so very disappointed.

"It's very hard when you know our team is way better than we were out their today, they just seemed to be everywhere and we were chasing them from the throw-in.

"I am just gutted for my team because they have been a fantastic group of players."

In contrast the smiles from Kilkenny selector Kathleen Corrigan said it all: "We knew Cork would be tough but I really think they just froze on the day. The experience of being there last year certainly stood to our team."

AUG. 2006

brave show



Kilkenny's Ciara Lyng challenges Cork's Sinead O'Callaghan during the U16 Camogie All-Ireland final at Naomh Meanog GAA club in Portmarnock.
Picture: Douglas O'Connor

Player of Match

The award went to Kilkenny's Anna Farrell at full-forward but their captain Edwina Keane at centre-forward was my choice she led by example working hard through the entire sixty minutes running at the Cork defence and lying off excellent ball, she also contributed 1-2 to the Kilkenny score line on a day when their captain was truly a leader.

Ref watch

Morgan Conroy was over fussy and a bit strict on the over carrying rule particularly in the opening half. His decision to send a Cork defender to the side line with nine minutes remaining was a strange one, while the player had been shown a yellow card in the first half.

The incident did not look to warrant a second card and was a huge blow to the distressed player.

Turning Point

Ten minutes into the second half Kilkenny having dominate the opening 30 minutes had to stand firm against an early second-half Cork rally. Sinéad O'Callaghan pointed early to narrow the gap and as Cork piled on the pressure Kilkenny's Edwina Keane rallied with a blistering goal to put the game out of Cork's reach.

Entertainment value

AS All-Ireland Camogie final goes this one was a disaster, no atmosphere or excitement for the sixty minutes this was a direct result of the Central Councils instance on playing the game in direct opposition to the big hurling game in Croke Park and Kilkenny's refusal to cooperate with a change of date.

Power before finishing the net, the goal as a moral blow to Cork

Two points from Keane and Quilty had the holders out of sight before referee Morgan Conroy surprisingly dismissed Cork defender Christine O'Neill for what looked like an average challenge, early in the first half the Cork defender was rather harshly given a yellow card and with Conroy flashing a second it meant automatic dismissal at a time when the of the game was way beyond Cork's reach.

Michelle Quilty added a late point to bring proceedings to their ultimate conclusion on a day when Cork never really got going against a Kilkenny side that it must be said were by far the better team on the day.

CORK: D O Keeffe, C O'Neill, R Finn, E Harrington, L O Shea, M Walsh, M Foley, J Lynch, F O'Connell, R De Faoite, C Keohane (0-1), A Thompson, C Collins (0-2 frees), N Dilworth, S O Callaghan (0-1)

Subs: M A Hawkes for L O'Shea (24mins),D O'Callaghan for C Keohane (45 mins), E Kelleher for R De Faoite (48 mins), C Galvin for R Finn (50 mins) M O'Donovan for E Harrington (56 mins).

KILKENNY: AM Lennon, C Lyng, K McDonald, AM Walsh, A Dunphy, L Fennelly, E Frisby, A Maher, M Dargan, S Kelly, E Keane (1-2) (C), K Power (0-2,) M Brennan (0-1), A Farrell, M Quilty (1-5:1-3 play 0-2 frees).

Subs: K Duggan for A Dunphy (45mins) S Long for M Brennan (48mins) R Byrne for A M Walsh (58mins).

Referee: M Conroy (Waterford)

● Although gutted at losing, the Cork players must be applauded for going, without changing their wet gear, to view the Cork-Waterford game.

Three reasons why Kilkenny won the final

1: They were faster sharper and hurled with consistency for the full hour.
2: Their defence and midfield got on top early in the game and maintained their dominance through the contest, making life difficult for the Cork girls particularly in defence where their tight marking never allowed the Cork forwards to settle.
3: Their ability to take their scores crucial. Eight points out of ten from play amid difficult weather.

3 THREE REASONS CORK LOST

1: Cork looked nervous and uneasy from the throw in and Kilkenny sensing this applied the pressure from early on.
2 The failure from early in the game of an over worked defences ability to cope with the running and passing game the Kilkenny attack applied.
3, Kilkenny were simply to strong and held way more craft than the Cork side that could not be faulted for their honest endeavours and commitment.



Edwina Keane holds the cup high

Derry's Bonanza weekend...

(2006-08-06)

THE WEEKEND past has been a very good one for the O'Mianáin family, Pádraig and his wife Susan managed the Derry team who vercame Waterford in the junior All-Ireland semi-final 2-12 to 1-5 in Páirc Tailteann, Navan. Pádraig's brother Geardalt coached the county U16 team to their first ever All-Ireland B victory when they defeated felloow Ulster side Armagh 3-3 to 1-2 in Naomh Mearnóg, Dublin on Sunday.

Winning an All-Ireland title in any sport is a wonderful achievement but winning your first is always very sweet and one that goes down in history books.When the young Derry team took to the beautiful sod in Naomh Mearnóg, they did not take long to settle as within five minutes top scorer of the day Danielle Mc Crystal had netted for the Oak Leaf side. Armagh were stunned but with hald back Michelle Rogers reading the game almost inch perfect, the Orchard girsl were not allowed a sniff of the ball with the result that they went in at the break not having score at all while the Oak Leaf camógs were ahead 1-2 to 0-0.

Under 16 Manager Donna Mc Cluskey who played intercounty for thirteen years with Antrim was in jubilant mood after the match, "everyone of those players played their hearts out and I am so proud of them, this win will do enourmous good for Derry camogie, it will serve as an inspiration to young players, as they will see what they can aspire to in the future". She further went on to say that now is the time for Derry to work on this for the future of the game.

While the opening half was all Derry the Orchard county who reached last year's All- Ireland Final came back in the second half despite the wind and rain. Two points from captain Laura Mc Guinnes and Lucey Mc Guinness brought some cheer to the Orchard county supporters, but it was not enough to thwart a young and determined Derry side. While Armagh were trying their best with Paula O'Hare trying very hard in the half backline, but on the day there was no denying that it was going to belong to Derry.

With time ticking away and the Oak Leaf looking destined to bring home the U16 Cup, the Orchard county's Petrina Cosgrove gave her side great cheer when she goaled just before the end to leave it Derry 2-3, Armagh 1-2. However, Derry's Danielle Mc Crystal crashed home the third Derry goal to secure a famous Derry win.

This win was achieved by a fine display from the centre back Michelle Rogers while centre half forward Maeve Mc Quillan proved to be a tower of strength in the half forwards and teamed up well with Keelin Bradley player of the match.

This weekend began well on the Saturday when Derry made it to the Junior All-Ireland final on August 19th when Derry will meet Dublin who overcame Clare in the second All-Ireland semi-final. Derry's victory over first time All-Ireland junior semi-finalists Waterford was 2-12 to 1-5 while Dublin also scored the same winning result with only a goal dividing the sides at the end 2-12 to Clare's 1-12.

Already this year, Derry have gained much experience having reached the National League Final, but having lost to Clare in that final their determination showed on Saturday as they set about defeating the Déise women with a first half goal from Denise Mc Cann five minutes from the half time to leave it 1-7 to Waterford's 1-1 at the break, the Waterford goal having come from top scorer Áine Lyng.

AUG 2006

However, it was the sharp start that Derry got that won them this semi-final with a fine point from Sinéad Cassidy with just two minutes gone. After that there was simply no looking back for Derry. This was a polished performance from Derry with no week links in a team that will prove a very good match for Dublin.

The second half of this game was all Derry as Waterford's lack of experience in the upper flight began to tell. A second Derry goal from Clare Mc Cloy five minutes into the start of the second half spelt trouble for the Munster girls who earlier this year won the Division three League final for the first time ever.

Further excellent points from Gráinne Mc Goldrick,and top scorer Katie Mc Auley who finished the day with 0-6 made certain of this victory. However, Waterford who have had a wonderful year having won their first adult title and reaching their target of playing camogie in August did not give up. From goalkeeper Aishling O'Brien to defender Jenny Simpson to midfield player Charlotte Raher to star forward Áine Lyng this was a great gusty performace from a Waterford team who have come along way since dismal days in the late nineties and early 2000's.

However, it would be very wrong to take from Derry's great win and they will now be very fired up for their All-Ireland final against Dublin in Tullamore on August 19th which will be played as a double header with the Erin U21 hurling All-Ireland semi-final.

Details:
U16 All-Ireland Final:
Teams and scorers:
Derry: J Mc Eldowney;Á Kelly,R O'Kane, C Toner; C O'Kane, M Rogers, R Conway;E Mc Kenna, C Mc Kenna; M Mc Gillan, E Crossan, D Mc Crystal; C Campbell,N Mc Loughlin, K Bradley.
Subs: E Mulally for C Campbell.
Scorers: D Mc Crystal 2-0, K Bradley 1-0, M Mc Gillan 0-3 (0-2f)

Armagh: L Toner; O 'Hare, P Mallin, L Mc Guigan; C Conway, E Mc Parland, L Cumiskey; N Conway, C Mc Kee; A Canavan, L Mc Guinness, N Mc Kenna; C Cosgrove
L Lavery,L Conway.
Subs: C Donnelly for A Canavan, M Lavery for N Conway, B O'Hagan for A Lavery, E Mullen for C Conway.
Scorers: P Cosgrove 1-0, L Conway, L Mc Guinness 0-1 each.

Referee: C Quigley, Kildare.

Junior All-Ireland semi-final:
Derry: 2-12: D Mc Cann, C Mc Cloy 1-0 each, K Mc Auley 0-6, S Cassidy 0-3,G Mc Goldrick 0-2, A Diamond 0-1.
Waterford: 1-5: Á Lyng 1-3, C Raher, P Cunningham 0-1 each.

Aug. 2006

CAMOGIE CLUB NOTES

GLEN ROVERS

Our senior team had to give best to Bishopstown in a titanic struggle in the second game of the round robin series of the championship on Tuesday last.

But credit must go to each and every one of the players who turned in a superb display. They played with great heart and commitment and were credit to the club.

Having lost out by a huge margin to the same opposition in a recent league game many thought the result would be a forgoing conclusion but all credit to the girls for the manner in which they performed. Special mention to two of our younger players who made their senior championship debuts, Amy Murphy showed plenty of skill and determination when introduced as a substitute early in the game.

Zoe Buckley was continuing the family tradition set by her late grandmother, Kitty Burns, and grandfather, the famous Sonny Buckley, both who played senior with our club.

Our U11 team are off to Blackrock today to participate in the home clubs tournament.

Best wishes to all our girls on the Seandun senior panel that play Cloughduv on Monday next in the quarter-final of the Tower View Developments Senior championship in Brinney.

A reminder to all under age players that Sunday training will not take place over the next few weeks but we continue on Tuesday evenings, 5.45 to 7pm in the top Glen Field for anybody from 6-12 years.

Age13-16 training Monday and Wednesday at 7 pm and on Friday at 5pm.

U18, junior and senior training Monday and Wednesday at 7pm, old and new members most welcome.

A reminder that the Cul Summer Camp takes place in Glen Rovers on Monday next.

From August 14-18 the fee which includes an O'Neill's playing kit and gear bag for every child is €55 for the first child, €45 for the second child and €30 for the third child. This applies to brothers and sisters. Contact Terry on: 087-8203032 to register for the camp.

NA PIARSAIGH

On August 1 Barryroe travelled to Kilbarry to play against Na Piarsaigh U16D team. All started well on the night when Kate Delea scored two points for Na Piarsaigh which was followed by an outstanding goal from the half-forward line.

Half time score was 2-2 to 0-0.

After half time Barryroe came back into the game as the young girls played really well, the final score 2-3 to 1-3.

Everyone played really well on the night for both teams. Great performance from Orla Bourke, Kate Delea, Ciara Allen, Danielle Kelly, Rachel McNab and Jessica Cronin.

Lean leis an obair maith!

On behalf of the camogie section we would like to congratulate our very own John Gardiner, Sean Óg Ó hAiplin and Joe O Leary and the rest of the Cork team on their win against Waterford last Sunday. Good luck in the final.

The JuniorB semi-final will be held Sunday, August 13 against Sliabh Rua in Tracton at 7.15pm. Please support.

The camogie on Saturday morning will be cancelled until Saturday, September 2.

Sliabh Rua

A large attendance turned up in Riverstick Monday night to see the local juniorB camogie team advance into the semi-final of the county where they will meet Na Piarsaigh.

This was never going to be an easy task as both sides recently met in the league with Sliabh Rua edging it on that occasion by a point.

Sliabh Rua started the game very sprightly and took an early lead with points from Ger Whitnell and Ciara O'Sullivan.

Kildorrery answered back in the third minute with a point from play. As the game entered the second quarter of the first half Sliabh Rua gained control with some excellent points from Jackie O'Regan, Christina Broderick and a superb score from Sandra Hallissey.

Kildorrery did have many chances in the first half but failed to beat Trish Pound in goal who gave a fantastic display.

At the interval Sliabh Rua were winning by 0-5 to 0-2. On the resumption Sliabh Rua extended the lead with a great goal by Ciara O' Sullivan. This set the tone for the second half as the team grew in confidence.

Driven on by local support and the superb play of Ciara Cremin, Noelle Cronin and Jackie O' Regan Sliabh Rua gained complete control of the game. Further scores from Jackie O' Regan (point) and a great goal by

Ger Whitnell put the game out of Kildorrery's reach. Even though Kildorrery did add on two points Sliabh Rua answered back immediately with points from Christina Broderick and Ger Whitnell.

This was a great team performance and hopefully will stand to the girls in the semi-final. Younger members who also impressed were Laura Walsh and Elaine Horan.

A big thanks to all who supported the girls and will look forward to your continuing support in the upcoming semi-final.

ST CATHERINE'S

Club Sponsor — Cork Builders Providers.

SeniorB Championship.

Training continues for our SeniorB team who are scheduled to play Carrigaline in the next round of this competition on August 20. They played St Finbarr's in a challenge game on Monday night last.

U11 League-12-a-side: Bride Rovers 6-3 St Catherine's 3-0

Our U11 girls played their first game in this competition on Tuesday night last, August 1, when they met Bride Rovers and were defeated on the above scoreline.

Bride Rovers proved too strong and had scored 2-1 before our first score came when Kate Mulcahy goaled in the 21st minute.

This was closely followed by a Katie England goal in the 24th minute. Bride Rovers went on to score 0-2 before half time leaving the score 2-3 to 2-0 in their favour.

Bride Rovers dominated the second half limiting us to 1-0 which came in the ninth minute from Gráinne Walsh. They went on to score a further 4-0 and ran out comfortable winners.

This was our first outing and all girls worked hard throughout with Rachel Spillane being particularly effective in goal.

Clodagh McAuliffe was strong in defence while Leanne Hartnett and Rachel O'Callaghan worked tirelessly ensuring a plentiful supply of ball to the forwards.

Their next outing will take place on Tuesday, August 8, against Sars.

Team: R Spillane, E Murphy, C McAuliffe, L Aherne, L Hartnett, M Galvin, R O'Callaghan, K Mulcahy, M Mulcahy, A Mulcahy, G Walsh, K England.

Subs: M Walsh for M Galvin, E Spillane for L Hartnett.

Scorers: K Mulcahy (1-0), K Englane (1-0), G Walsh (1-0).

U18 All-Ireland Championship

Well done to Orla Cotter, Orna Neville, Deirdre Twomey and Aileen Hogan who are members of Cork's U18 panel who defeated Dublin in this competition on Friday night last in Dublin.

ST FINBARR'S

Winning the Punch Cup has been a cherished dream of St Finbarr's for many years.

In 1990 and 1992, the club contested the final of the Cork Senior Championship but the prized trophy has yet to rest in Togher. A promising start to the 2006 campaign.

Claire Spellman from the Shamrocks Club in Galway and Catherine Barrett from Mayfield came on board as the girls prepared for the opening game against county champions, Cloughduv.

Some outstanding play yielded a two-point victory but greater accuracy in front of goal would have wrapped the game up well before the end.

Kilbrittain/Timoleague provided the opposition in round two. While the Barrs won by a comfortable margin in the end, the attack was guilty of some wild shooting.

Coach, Gerald McCarthy, will look for a big improvement in this facet of the game when his charges line out against Aghabullogue in round three on Tuesday night.

Colette O' Mahony, now in the twilight of an outstanding career, has been the only Barrs player to score a championship goal. With each round of the competition, the opposition is stiffer and every opportunity created must be used

In their match against Fr O'Neill's, Aghabullogue looked most impressive. They brushed the East Cork girls aside in a high scoring game. The full forward line of Louise Murphy, Abbie Lehane and Máiréad Twomey each notched two goals and will take careful minding.

Our fullback line will need to mark very tightly to ensure that Ellen Clifford is not left unprotected in goal.

Jenny Duffy is enjoying a tremendous season both with the Club and with Cork.

Vivienne Harris is a joy to watch with her exceptional array of skill.

All-Star Gemma O'Connor is a tower of strength in the middle of the field.

Captain Linda O'Connell leads the way and will chase, and win possession and clear the ball until she drops.

These are the girls that the Club will look to for big performances on Tuesday night. The Punch Cup is there to be won.

ST VINCENT'S CAMOGIE

Training Times

Monday: U9's at 6pm *(DOB from 1997-2000)

U14's and U16's at 6pm

Tuesday: U11's and U12's at 6pm *(DOB from '94 and '95)

Wednesday: U10's at 6pm *(DOB from '96)

Saturday: U10's and U9's at 11.30pm

U12's, U14's and U16's at 12.30pm



Sinead Wilson, Coachford, sports two autographs from Briege Corkery at the Muscraí GAA summer camp at Coachford. Picture: Catherine Ketch

Ballincollig to make bold bid for the title

THE semi-finals of the Junior B Championship take place on Sunday when Na Piarsaigh meet Sliabh Rua and Clonakilty and Ballincollig come face to face in a double header in Tracton.

By MARY NEWMAN

Camogie championship race

Ballincollig and Clonakilty meet in the first game in Tracton at 6pm.

The Na Piarsaigh and Sliabh Rua game starts at 7.30pm.

Last year's defeated league finalists Ballincollig will make a bold bid for a place in the championship final.

For the past number of years they have worked hard at underage level taking honours from U12 to U16.

They have built their junior squad around these sides.

They recorded a good victory over Youghal in their opening game and in a close quarter-final against Buttevant they had to call on all their resources before coming through with a point to spare.

Clare Ryan, Denise Cronin and Leah Weste were to the fore in that game and Ballincollig will be looking for more of the same on Sunday if they are to get over Clonakilty.

Clon are another club who have been steadily building and they are seeking their place in their first adult final.

Two years ago they took the U16B league crown and several of that side have been progressing nicely.

They also have a blend of very experienced players in their squad.

Their quarter-final victory over Mallow assured them of a place in the semi-final.

They will be looking to Hazel O'Regan and Wanita Brennan to get them over the next hurdle and secure their place in the decider.

Na Piarsaigh, for many years such a dominant force in camogie, have been steadily rebuilding.

Three years ago, following many years away from adult camogie, they entered a Junior B team in competition.

They now have a nice blend of youth and experience in their team.

This year Paula Goggin, who gave many years service, has transferred back having spent several seasons playing with Inniscarra.

She is huge asset to them. Other former senior players still playing include Catherine Allen and Loraine Kelly, while Lisa Burns, Patrice and Charlotte Kearney are experienced players who help guide the younger players in the right direction.

They recorded a good victory over Delanys in their last outing and if they can reproduce the same form they will prove a handful.

Sliabh Rua are determined to spoil Na Piarsaigh ambitions, however, as they harbour thoughts of a place in the final themselves.

They had a good victory over Kildorrery in their quarter-final game and they will be confident of advancing.

They are a well-balanced side with plenty of experience amongst them.

Ger Whitnell, who lined out for many years at senior level with the Glen Rover and Cork is a key player for them.

Her ability to pick off scores is invaluable, while Trish Pounds in goal turned in a flawless display to deny Kildorrey last time out.

Ciara O'Sullivan, Jackie O'Regan and Sandra Hallissey are capable of picking off scores.

Tracton is the venue for what promises to be a good evening of camogie action.

Fixtures

Clonakilty v Ballincollig, Na Piarsaigh v Sliabh Rua. Both in Tracton at 6.00pm and 7.30pm respectively.

AUG. 2006

Ballinhassig busy after their impressive opening

By MARY NEWMAN
U16 Leagues

WITH exams well and truly forgotten, the U16 players have been busy in recent weeks as league action continues.

In the U16A league, Ballinhassig made a great start recording victories over Ballincollig's first team and then going on to defeat Milford.

Inniscarra are also enjoying good results of late.

The Douglas first team also have full points with wins over Milford and Ballincollig.

The U16 B league is divided into two sections with the top two teams going forward to the semi-finals.

In section one, the second team from Douglas has recorded victories over Fr O'Neill's and Blarney.

Carrigaline accounted for Blackrock, while Killeagh had a victory over Blarney in a low scoring game.

In section two, Ballygarvan look to be the team to beat to date.

They are on full points with victories over St Finbarr's, Glen Rovers and Erin's Own.

Glen Rovers have lost one game while they have defeated Erin's Own, Bishopstown, St Finbarr's, Ballinascarty and Valley Rovers.

St Finbarr's had a good victory over Bishopstown in an entertaining tie.

Valley Rovers, to date, have played three — losing to Glen Rovers before defeating Ballinascarty and Bishopstown.

Clonakilty have a victory under their belts after getting the better of Ballinascarty. Results to hand for just one section of the U16C and they are from section one.

Mallow are setting the pace there with victories over Brian Dillon's, Passage and Aghabullogue.

Aghabullogue are going well also with two wins over Newcestown and Watergrasshill.

Ballincollig accounted for Newtownshandrum, who had a goal to spare over Passage, while St Catherine's had two points to spare against Watergrasshill.

Ballincollig picked up the points at the expense of Newtownshandrum.

The third team from the Douglas club is going well in the U16 D league section.

They have had victories over Ballyhea and Grenagh.

In section two of the U16 D league Enniskeane had a victory over Na Piarsaigh before the city girls recorded a good win over Ballinora.

With the closing date for results having been extended to the last Monday of the month, clubs have been allowed breathing space to complete their programmes, however, with that date looming they will need to get games played as quickly as possible.

All clubs are also to get the results to the section co coordinators to enable points to be credited.

RESULTS TO DATE:

U16A League: Douglas 3-5 Milford 1-7; Douglas 4-3 Ballincollig 3-2; Ballinhassig 1-8 Milford 0-8; Inniscarra 6-7 Courcey Rovers 2-0; Inniscarra 2-9 Buttevant 2-5.

U16B Section I: Carrigaline 4-0 Blackrock 1-2; Killeagh 0-3 Blarney 0-0; Douglas 9-6 Blarney 0-3; Douglas 3-11 Fr O'Neill's 1-3

U16B Section 2: Glen Rovers 7-6 Erin's Own 1-1; Glen Rovers 4-10 Bishopstown 0-1; Ballygarvan 7-6 St Finbarr's 1.1; Ballygarvan 3-6 Glen Rovers 4-2; Glen Rovers 4-5 Valley Rovers 2-3; Glen Rovers 1-16 Ballinascarty 1-2.

U16 C League Section 1: Mallow 4-8 Aghabullogue 1-0; St Catherine's 2-3 Watergrasshill 1-1; Mallow 7-9 Brian Dillon's 0-6; Aghabullogue 3-6 Watergrasshill 3-5; Newtownshandrum 3-3 Passage West 2-3; Aghabullogue 4-6 Newcestown 3-3; Ballincollig 7-3 Newtownshandrum 4-1; Mallow 2-3 Passage 0-2.

U16D Section 1: Ballyhea 1-3 Douglas 4-6; Douglas 8-3 Grenagh 4-4;

U16D Section 2: Na Piarsaigh 1-1 Enniskeane 6-1; Na Piarsaigh 3-5 Ballinora 2-3.



The Bride Rovers U12 team who contested the U12D Camogie League final.



Cork U16 player Marie O'Donovan who is showing great form at the moment.

Rockies rally to cause in U11 blitz

By MARY NEWMAN
U11 tournament

ALL roads lead to Blackrock this afternoon as the Rockies hold their U11 tournament.

Eight teams will battle it out for honours and it will be an historic day for the Causeway club from Kerry, as they travel to Cork for the first time to take part in a competition.

Just formed earlier in the year, the club are enjoying their involvement in the game. Their birth coming about under the guidance of Munster camogie liaison officer Mary O'Connor, who has done wonderful work in getting camogie organised in Kerry.

New Cork club, Kilbree will also be making the trip to Church Road for the first time. They are also ensured of a great day's camogie action.

Tramore, from Waterford will be joined by Cork clubs, Passage, Glen Rovers and Sarsfields while the host club, Blackrock, have also invited Ballinascarty to take part.

It promises to be a wonderful day's camogie and given that many clubs are presently on holiday, the organisers have assured those who may not be in a position to field a full 15 players that they will be catered for with games played to suit the numbers available.

Games will be played on a round-robin basis with a cup competition for the teams coming out on top and a shield for the runners-up, so plenty of camogie for everyone in what promises to be a great day.

With games scheduled to start right up until 3.30pm this afternoon there is still plenty of time to go along and support the youngsters.

Registration is at 10am with the games beginning at 10.30am.

Programme of events as follows: 10am Registration, 10.30am section games, 1.30pm Shield semi finals 2pm Cup semi-finals, 2.45 Shield final, 3.30 Cup Final

Show your true colours with jersey

A REMINDER to clubs that the Colour Catcher camogie jersey is again available to purchase ranging in all sizes from five years up to adults.

The jerseys can now be purchase in Páirc Uí Rinn or at all senior championship games over the coming weeks.

It will also be available at the juvenile and senior County Board meetings or from any county board officer.

Reasonably priced at €25 for all underage sizes and at €30 for adults sizes from small upwards, the jersey gives all camogie players and supporters a chance to show your support for the girls by wearing the official county jersey.

Camogie fans in for a treat

SENIOR clubs resume championship activities in the coming week with the four quarter-finals of the Tower View Developments Senior County Championship down for decision.

County champions Cloughduv will have to fight all the way when they meet city division side Seandún.

First into the action though on Monday night are Imokilly and Milford who meet in what promises to be one of the games of the championship so far.

This goes ahead in Ballyhooly.

On the same evening followers are spoiled for choice as county champions Cloughduv meet divisional side Seandún in Brinny, both games have a 7.30pm throw-in.

It's another busy evening on Tuesday and again it's make your mind up time which game you want to see with three interesting clashes in prospect for camogie followers.

It's St Finbarr's against Aghabullogue in Ballincollig, in what looks to be the pick of the bunch while Inniscarra meet their own divisional representatives Muskerry in Coachford in what promises to be another top-notch contest.

In the B Championship, Newcestown meet Ballinhassig in Brinny all with a 7.30pm start.

Organ transplants haven't stopped a bunch of Irish athletes

Reasons to be hopeful

GETTING a new organ is a major medical undertaking. If you're lucky and your body accepts the donor organ, surely you'd feel frightened about getting out there, exercising and pushing yourself to the limits.

That is why the upcoming European Transplant and Dialysis Games are so extraordinary. They're taking place in Pécs in Hungary from August 13 to 20. Ireland is sending a team of 26 athletes — 22 have received kidney, liver or heart transplants. The other four are still receiving dialysis.

There are sports to suit people of every age and fitness. Events include track and field, tennis, badminton, table tennis, swimming, bowling and darts.

The athletes raise 80% of their own money and the Irish kidney Association pays the rest. The association also pays for all the administration and team costs, using some of the Lotto money it has received over the last two years.

This is the fourth European Transplant and Dialysis Games. In 2004, the 29 Irish athletes in Slovenia were third in the medals tables with an impressive tally of 72, including 13 golds.



Catherine Murphy from Coachford, Co Cork, is taking part in three sports at the games.

She is now on dialysis, awaiting another kidney transplant.

She swims three or four times a week, and is going to the games, even though that means switching to manual dialysis — needing treatment four times a day, rather than just at night.

The Nenagh woman is taking part in the swimming and bowling.

Not one to let life pass her by, Hogan married Ger Ryan just three weeks ago. They went to Barcelona on their honeymoon, and followed that up with a Mediterranean cruise.

"The games mean fun and friendship," she says. "I have friends all round the country, and everyone has a problem like mine. If something is wrong you can talk to someone else."

Catherine Murphy, 59, is taking her husband with her to the games. She's entering the 3k walk, the ball throw and the ten-pin bowling. But she's most excited about the badminton.

"I took up badminton last Christmas," says the retired teacher from Cork. "I joined the Ashabullogue Badminton Club, and they've been most patient with me."

All this is amazing when you realise that in 2001, Murphy left hospital barely able to walk. An active woman who once played camogie, Murphy became sick on the August bank holiday weekend five years ago.

"I blew up, as if I were pregnant with twins, and my doctor recognised liver failure," she says. "It was caused by clotting in the hepatic vein — an illness called Budd Chiari Syndrome."

Murphy was transferred from Cork to St Vincent's Hospital, where she remained for the next four months. During that time doctors tried to reverse her condition without a transplant. Nothing worked, and she had a liver transplant on October 2.

Murphy was extremely sick, but her body didn't reject the liver. By Christmas she had returned home, but she needed a great deal of rehabilitation. "I did well, and returned to my job, teaching in the city," she says. "I took early retirement last summer, and that's when I got involved in the games. It's a brilliant chance to raise awareness of the shortage of organs."

Murphy has been training hard and has walked three mini marathons.

"I appreciate life more now — you may be sure I treasure every day," she says.

Catherine Murphy — Factfile

- CATHERINE MURPHY from Aghabullogue is a liver transplant recipient.
- She underwent transplant surgery in 2001 after she developed Budd Chiara disease — clotting in the hepatic portal vein in the liver.
- She has three children.
- She retired last year from teaching at North Presentation school in Farranree.
- She will be taking part in the veteran category at the European Transplant and Dialysis Games 2006 in Pécs , Hungary.
- The events she will be taking part in include badminton (doubles), three kilometre walk, ball throw, bowling singles and badminton (mixed doubles).

AUG.

2006

Drom-Inch Back on Track

By: Rose Mannion

Drom / Inch 3.15
Moneygall 0.05

Drom / Inch recorded their first win in the Senior Camogie Championship when they edged out Moneygall on Saturday evening last in Drombane.

While Drom were the eventual winners, the game was tough and scores were hard to come by such was the skill and effort maintained throughout the pitch from Moneygall who showed a lot of bottle and made Drom earn their victory applying pressure time and again on their back line. Drom took a blow in the first half when midfielder Naoimi Tracy was injured and had to be replaced. At the end of the first thirty minutes four of the Drom forwards had scored, Geraldine Kinane (1.0), Mary Looby (1.1), Maria Harkin (0.3 xf), Joanne Ryan (0.03), while Moneygall's Eimear Ryan had two point's to her credit which came as a result of free's.

Moneygall curtailed Drom's movement even further in the final thirty minutes and restricted their scoring to half that of the beginning. Drom came at the Moneygall backline on several occasions but were denied their efforts. This half brought Maria Harkin onto the scoreboard with a further two points, one from a free, Joanne Ryan added a further two, Geraldine Kinane managed a second goal which was Droms third and their last, together with three points, while Jackie O'Connor put her name on the record with a point. Moneygall had three points clocked up, two from Sarah Kirwan and a free from Eimear Ryan.

Drom: Siobhan McGrath, Therese Shortt, Niamh Harkin, Triona Butler, Julie Delaney, Michelle Shortt, Therese Maher, Helen Kiely, Naoimi Tracy, Ciara Johnston, Jackie O'Connor (0.01), Joanne Ryan (0.5), Geraldine Kinane (2.3), Mary Looby (1.01) Maria Harkin (0.5 x 4f).

Subs used: Patricia McGrath for Naoimi Tracy (injured).

Moneygall: Michelle Moten, Amanda Moten, Caroline Kirwan, Moira Kirwan, Mary Ryan, Julie Kirwan, Michelle Kirwan, Margaret Kirwan, Brid Byrne, Maria Jones, Eileen Ryan, Sarah Kirwan (0.02) Maeve Kennedy, Sarah Doherty, Eimear Ryan (0.03 xf). Referee: Martin Griffin (Silvermines).

CASHEL TOO STRONG FOR DUHARRA

By: Rose Mannion

Cashel 3.19
Duhara 1.06

New Inn was the venue for the third round of the Senior Camogie Championship between Cashel and the combination of Burgess and Portroe, known as Duharra, and Cashel strolled away easy winners on Saturday evening last with Claire Grogan serving up an all star performance.

Although Cashel was on the scoreboard within three minutes of the throw in from a Claire Grogan free, Duharra were quick to follow when less than a minute later corner forward Nessa O'Driscoll pulled on a harmless looking ball that rattled the Cashel. Over the following eight minutes, Duharra had most of the play and this game was shaping up to be a tense showdown with three further points recorded from Aine Mulcahy, Therese Brophy and one from Niamh Bonnar.

Cashel began to settle and had three unanswered points which came from Claire Grogan, two coming from frees and one from Philly Fogarty, when their corner forward Libby Toomey sent over the equalizer which came with eleven minutes remaining in this half. Three minutes later Cashel went ahead after a solo run from Claire Grogan. Therese Brophy equalized four minutes later and it looked as though this game was going to go down to the wire. Claire was all over the pitch and it was however her killer goal with three minutes remaining that seemed to hit Duharra very hard. They managed a further point which was the result of a free and came from Therese Brophy as Cashel's Cora Hennessy cancelled that out on the whistle leaving the half time score at Cashel 2.8, Duharra 1.5.

With six points separating the sides going into the second half, an action packed performance was expected, but alas it was not to be. Cashel was on the scoreboard in the third minute with a free from Claire Grogan and from there they went on a scoring blitz recording six further points and a goal, with four of those points coming from Claire Grogan, and one each from Alison Lonergan and Libby Toomey while the goal came from Jill Horan before Duharra's Sinead Nealon sent a placed ball over which came in the sixteenth minute and which was to be their only score in this half.

Cashel on the other hand were stronger throughout the pitch with Philly Fogarty and Linda Grogan cleaning up in mid field. Cashel's superiority and composure reflected in their unit play and in their accuracy to score with five wides, two in the first half. It must surely be recorded that Claire Grogan had a great game totting up a whopping total of 1.13 over the hour.

Cashel: Jovita Delaney, Sarah Morrissey, Una O'Dwyer, Deirdre Ryan, Paula Bulfin, Noelette O'Dwyer, Ciara O'Sullivan, Philly Fogarty (0.01), Linda Grogan, Cora Hennessy (1.01), Emily Hayden (0.01), Claire Grogan (1.13, 0.6 f, 2 x 45's), Alison Lonergan (0.01), Jill Horan (1.0), Libby Toomey (0.02)

Subs used: Julie McGrath for Deirdre Ryan, Sharon Hayes for Emily Hayden, Margaret Hackett for Ciara O'Sullivan, Helen Breen for Jill Horan.

Duharra: Jo Fenessy, Geraldine Conroy, Trish O'Halloran, Karen O'Brien, Sinead Nealon (0.01 f), Jenny O'Halloran, Deirdre McDonnell, Aine Mulcaby (0.01), Sinead Dillon, Sarah Hayes, Therese Brophy (0.3 x 2 f) Maeve Moloney, Sinead Quinlan, Niamh Bonnar (0.01), Nessa O'Driscoll (1.0). Subs used: Laura Reid for Aine Mulcahy, Eimear Dunne for Maeve Maloney, Elaine Ryan for Sinead Quinlan, Aine Mulcahy for Geraldine Conroy. Referee: Brian Tyrell (St. Mary's).

Fixtures

Sat 5th August 2006-

Gala Senior A All Ireland Championship-

Galway v Kilkenny, 4pm, Kenny Park Athenry ref: E Browne.

Tipperary v Cork, 3pm, Templemore ref: U Kearney.

Limerick v Wexford, 3pm, Bruff ref: F McNamara.

Senior B All Ireland Championship-

Galway v Kilkenny, 2.30pm, Kenny Park Athenry ref: J Morrissey.

Tipperary v Cork, 1.15pm, Templemore ref: D Noble.

All Ireland Junior Semi Finals-

Derry v Waterford, 2pm, Pairc Tailteann ref: R Hughes Merry.

Clare v Dublin, 3.30pm, Pairc Tailteann ref: K Kelly

Sun 6th August 2006-

Armagh v Derry, 2pm, Naomh Mearnóg, Portmarnock ref: C Quigley.

Cork v Kilkenny, 3.30pm, Naomh Mearnóg, Portmarnock ref: M Conroy.

Keatley on form as Lilywhites march on

Camogie

KILDARE had their first victory in many years over a Munster side when they beat Waterford 2-8 to 3-4 in Narraghmore to put themselves in pole position for a place in the All-Ireland Minor B camogie championship.

Senior star, Louise Keatley, made a significant contribution for the winners, slotting 0-5, while the match-winning goals arrived courtesy of Clodagh Farrell and Laura Dunne.

A draw in their final group game against Laois will be enough to secure the Lilywhites' qualification.

Waterford, however, are still in with a shout but will need to beat Carlow and Laois.

Carrig ca draws in



Kayleigh O'Connor and Orla Crowley taking a break at the recent Carrigaline Camogie Summer Camp.

By HOWARD CROWDY

Camogie camp

THE first camogie camp was held at Carrigaline GAA club last week.

It attracted almost 50 youngsters who were eager to learn more about camogie, and have fun over the three days of the camp.

The girls, aged between seven and 13, not only learned new skills in camogie, but put their new-found exercises and ideas to the test with matches in the afternoon.

A tournament was run off on the last day of the camp, with certificates of completion, medals and awards being presented.

Special guests for the camp were Elaine Burke from Valley Rovers, who was captain of the victorious Cork senior camogie team that won the All-Ireland last season, and Nicholas Murphy from the Carrigaline club.

He has been part and parcel of the Cork senior football panel for some years.

A Munster senior football medal was recently added to his already impressive collection.

Brian Maye, underage chairman of the camogie club, thanked everyone associated with the running of the event over the past few days.

It was the very first such camp organised by the club.

"I would like to thank the trainers for their time and effort, namely members of the Carrigaline Senior B panel of Una O'Farrell, Laura Thompson, Jan Kiernan and Meave Barry for their assistance, as well as the Carrigaline GAA Club, various sponsors, parents and to Nicholas and Elaine for presenting the medals on the day."

He was hopeful on repeating the camp again next year, such was the interest and enjoyment of the three day-long event.

A tournament was run off on the last day, with the victorious Clare team receiving the Jo Maye Perpetual Memorial Trophy.

It which was presented by Thos Maye.

Awards were also presented to Leah Deasy, Tanya Walsh, Belan De Luis, Cara O'Connor.

They received the Most Improved Player Awards.

Most Valuable Player prizes, meanwhile, went to Megan Allen, Sally Galvin, Meave Cronin and Kelly Ahern.



Pictured at the presentation of the Jo Maye Perpetual Trophy at the Carrigaline Camogie Camp were Elaine Burke, Laura Dwane (winning team captain), Thomas Maye and Nicholas Murphy.



Niamh O'Callaghan and Jessica Ryle pictured at the Carrigaline Camogie Camp.

Gala All Ireland Minor 'A' Camogie Championship.
Galway 7 – 20. Tipperary 1 – 3.
In the first round of this years minor championship Tipperary made the long journey to Kenny Park Athenry last week and came away with a very heavy defeat at the hands of the Galway girls. All in all it was a very disappointing display from the Tipperary girls and much improvement will be required if we are to have any impact on this championship. To be fair this is a very good Galway team, a team who will have a big say in who is to win out this championship, all throughout the team they have excellent players but to pick out a few who looked very impressive I would say Sarah Noone, Catriona Cormican, Michelle Glynn and Martin Conroy excelled. The Tipperary team were as follows ; Kristina Kennelly, Michelle Kirwan, Sarah Morrissey, Ciara Heffernan, Ciara O Sullivan, Andrea Davis, Therese Shortt, Lorraine Davis, Siobhain Bourke, Mairead Devaney, Mairead Lutrell, Linda Fanning, Allison Lonergan, Aoifa McLoughney, Ciara Johnson, Patricia McGrath, Deirdre Ryan, Sinead Quinlan, Sarah Ryan, Laura Medley, Aine Shanahan, Siobhain Bourke. Galway ; Stephanie Gannon, Jennifer Coone, Mary Ward, Ashling Hobbins, Niamh Kilkenny, Sarah Noone, Julie Brien, Lorraine Ryan, Paula Kenny, Jessica Gill, Catriona Cormican, Michelle Glynn, Noreen Coen, Martina Conroy, Richelle O Brien.
Referee ; Rita McGrath.

AUG.

2006

mogie camp the crowds

AUG. 2006



Cork senior footballer Nicholas Murphy from Carrigaline seen signing autographs at the Carrigaline Camogie Camp recently.



Nicolas Murphy resents Stephanie Cronin with her Certificate upon completing the recent Carrigaline Camogie Summer Camp.



Tara and Kayleigh O'Connor pictured with Cork senior footballe Nicholas Murphy.

Stars gear up for crack at Poc Fada crown

THE M Donnelly All-Ireland Poc Fada final, which takes place on Saturday on Annaverna Mountain, Ravensdale, Co Louth boasts a quality range of hurlers bidding to dethrone champion Albert Shanahan. Tipperary goalkeeper Brendan Cummins who holds the 5km course record with 48 pocs, is highly fancied to take the title. However 1999 and 2001 champion, Clare goalkeeper Davy Fitzgerald, hopes to have a say on the destination of the Corn Setanta.

Damien Fitzhenry (Wexford), Munster champion Bernard Gaffney (Clare), Leinster champion Shane O'Connor (Offaly), Stephen Smith (Louth), Adrian Power (Waterford), Keith Carr (Galway), Down goalkeeper Graham Clarke, Eoin Kelly of Tipperary and Padraig Ó Mianáin from Derry will complete the line up.

In the camogie contest Denise Lynch returns to defend her 2005 title. She will be joined by London's Marie O'Dwyer and provincial champions, Mary Henry (Leinster), Sinead O'Neill (Ulster), Patricia Jackman (Munster) and Sharon Finneran (Connacht). Collette McSorley and Voreen Quigley represent the host counties of Armagh and Louth respectively. The Poc Fada winner will be accompany the teams playing in the Inter-Provincial final in Boston in October.

Brendan O'Brien.

Catherine Murphy, who is a liver transplant recipient from Aghabullogue was placed second in the Badminton doubles. The Cork mum of three underwent transplant surgery in 2001 after she developed Budd Chiara disease — clotting in the hepatic portal vein in the liver. She retired last year from teaching at North Presentation school in Farranree. The retired school teacher also took bronze at the ladies doubles knockout competition.

AUG 2006



Jennifer O'Leary has been a great asset to Cork in play and from placed balls. Picture: Eddie O'Hare

Rebels look to top group

TOMORROW
Gala All-Ireland Senior Championship
Cork v Tipperary
Templemore, 3pm

By MARY NEWMAN
All-Ireland camogie championship

THE last game in the round robin series has last year's finalists Cork and Tipperary renewing rivalry in Templemore.

With their semi-final places already assured, both counties will be playing for the right to top the section. Cork, at present, head the group with seven points, Tipperary are on six, Galway on five, Kilkenny on four and Wexford are on two, Limerick having lost all games have no points.

Cork are the only unbeaten team having dropped a point to Galway, Tipp lost out in their first games to Galway but regained their momentum with victories over Limerick, Wexford and Kilkenny to ensure their place in the last four.

Both will be keeping a sharp eye on the Galway v Kilkenny and Wexford v Limerick games, which will decide who will join Cork and Tipperary in the last four on August 12.

It is the fourth time this year the teams will have met, Cork holding the upper hand in all games. In their national league game Cork had to come from behind to clinch vital points which kept them in contention for further honours. In the Munster championship meeting two depleted sides played out a good game with Cork coming out on top

By now most of the players know each other so well but the National league final between the sides certainly was not one of the greatest.

We have come to expect so much from these great rivals to be fair. Down through the years they have seldom let us down producing classic after classic.

To date Cork have shown a greater hunger for success and were rewarded in their championship campaign to date. They have had several good displays from Catriona Foley, who has settled into defence in her first year on the team. Jennifer O'Leary continues to be a valuable asset, the skilful Barryroe player has shown great skill with placed balls.

Amanda O'Regan and Mary O'Connor have been towers of strength in the Cork defence while the hard working Gemma O'Connor continues to impress.

There is a lot of work to be done if the title is to be retained. A victory on Saturday will help determine the semi-final pairings.

With the top two teams to be seeded and kept apart, if Cork and Galway (the only team to really trouble Cork in the campaign to date) were to win they would be in opposite semi-finals.

It's a changed Tipperary team to the one that took five All-Ireland titles, with the retirement of stalwarts Ciara Gaynor, Noelle Kennedy, Treasa Brophy, Angie Mc Dermott and Deirdre Hughes. New faces have come into the panel this year. Trisha O'Halloran, Michelle Shortt, Geraldine Kinnane, Cora Hennessy and Marie Tynan have slotted in well and are now breaking into the team.

Like Cork they will be going all out to top the group.

Cork must raise game against Tipp

TOMORROW
All-Ireland Senior B Championship
Cork v Tipperary
Templemore, 1.15pm

CORK and Tipperary meet in the Senior B All-Ireland Championship in the curtain raiser to the Gala Senior A All-Ireland championship.

The sides have already met in the national league with Cork coming out on top but both counties have been fielding much stronger sides through their round-robin championship campaign.

Cork are top of the group recording victories over Wexford, Kilkenny and Galway while Tipperary have had a somewhat topsy turvy campaign securing a draw with Kilkenny before going on to defeat Wexford. They then had to give way to a strong Galway side who had 12 points to spare at the final whistle.

In their game with Galway Cork were fortunate to come away with a victory leading by four goals at one stage Cork had to withstand a fierce second half Galway rally before clinging on for slender victory.

On the day Galway were bitterly disappointed with their performance.

In all their games to date Catherine Corkery, Miriam Deasy, Marie Corkery and Gillian Harrington have been very much to the fore.

Tipperary will look to captain, Mary Ryan the experienced Niamh Harkin, Louise Ryan, Linda Grogan and Deirdre Dunne to keep their interest in the competition alive.

Leesiders trek to Dublin for A grand opening

TONIGHT
All-Ireland Minor A Camogie Championship
(Round one)
Cork v Dublin
Dublin, 6pm

CORK make the journey to Dublin this evening for the opening game in the All-Ireland minor A championship.

Previously the minor championship was held at U16 level and this is the inaugural year of the competition which now has an age limit of 18.

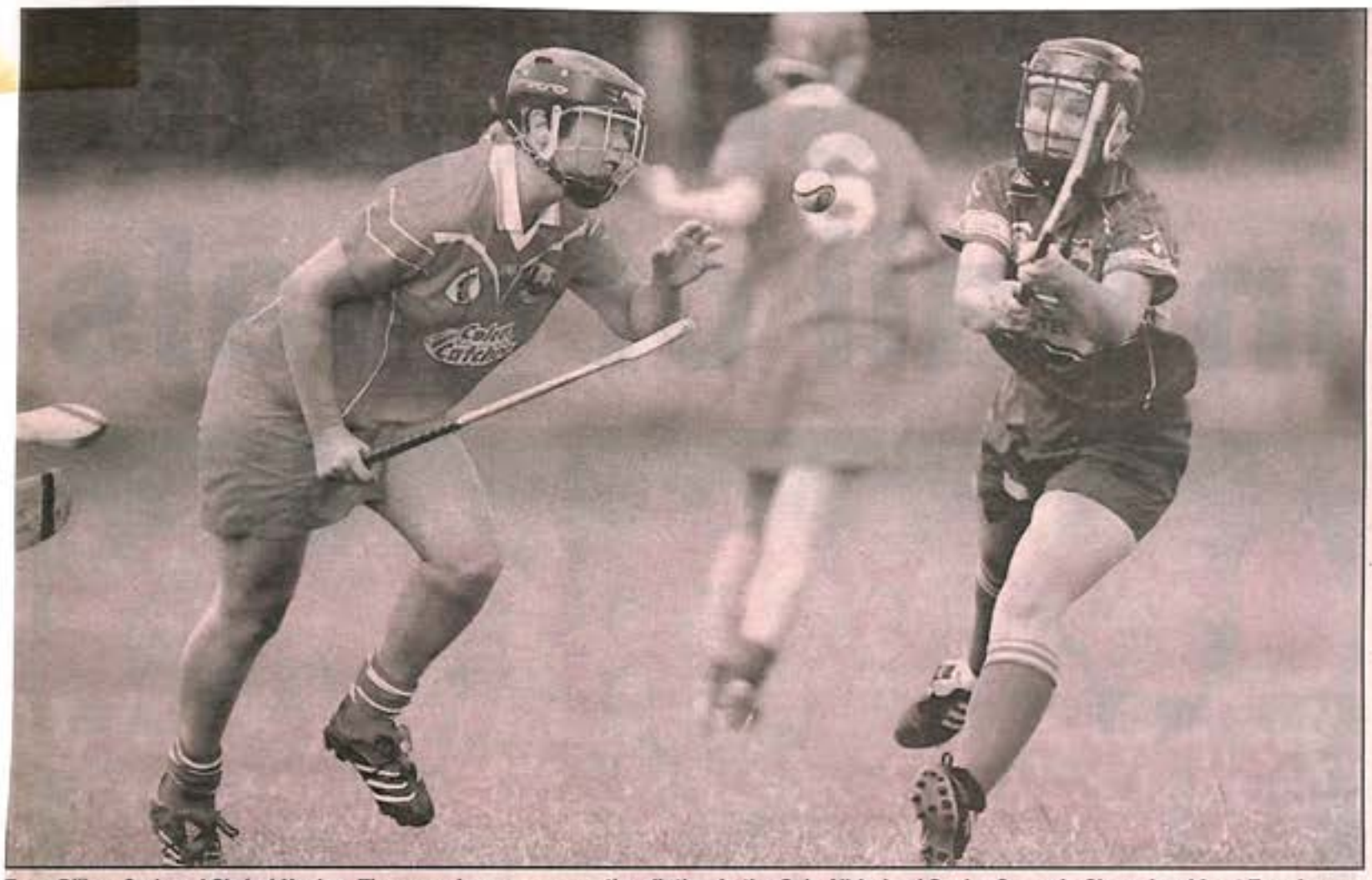
There had been many calls to change the format of the competition to bring it in line with the GAA and now in its inaugural year it will be played on a round-robin league format.

Cork are drawn with Dublin, Wexford and Kilkenny, while Galway, Tipperary, Limerick and Clare make up group two with the top two from each contesting the semi-finals.

It's a trip into the unknown for Cork. Form at U16 two years ago would indicate Galway and Kilkenny will be the ones to watch. Cork failed to make it out of Munster two years ago at U16 level, losing out to Clare, but a lot has changed since then.

Underage is hard to predict. Dublin have made huge strides and are now a well organised county. They have successful clubs such as St Vincent's, Ballyboden and Naomh Mearnog and they will put everything into this new competition. They will be hoping to build a team for future promotion to the county junior side who are current All-Ireland champions.

Cork field a strong side with senior panellists Orla Cotter, who captains the team, joined by fellow senior player Lucy Hawkes and Emer O'Sullivan. Áine Watson, Sarah Sexton, Deirdre Coomey, Erin Corkery and Miriam Crowley all have plenty of underage inter-county experience and they will not be overawed by the trip to the capital to take on the Dubs.



Emer Dillon, Cork and Sinéad Nealon, Tipperary, keep an eye on the sliothar in the Gala All-Ireland Senior Camogie Championship at Templemore, Co. Tipperary yesterday.
Picture: Kieran Clancy

Tipp defence holds off Cork

Cork	1-10
Tipperary	3-8



LINDA MELLERICK

A HIGHLY motivated Tipp side took the points from Cork in this senior A group quarter-final championship clash in Templemore on Saturday afternoon.

With both teams through to the semi-final next Saturday the only bearing this result had was determining who would play whom next weekend.

With Tipp defeating Cork and Kilkenny defeating Galway (also on Saturday) it means Tipp have topped the group, Cork have come second, Kilkenny third and Galway fourth.

First and second place now play third and fourth and the draw was made on Sunday afternoon.

It's a mouth-watering Cork v Galway All-Ireland semi-final.

Captain Joanne O'Callaghan and right half-back Rena Buckley were last-minute withdrawals for Cork due to injury and were replaced by Elaine O'Riordan and Sarah Hayes.

The throw-in produced a fast, lively opening quarter and that tempo continued throughout. With Tipp playing their best hurling of the year, they matched Cork point for point for the first 27 minutes of the game.

Tipp opened the scoring with a Joanne Ryan point, Cork hit over two — Jennifer O'Leary supplying a 45 and Rachel Moloney scoring the first of her two well-taken points.

It was Tipp, however, who were looking the more dangerous. Cora Hennessy at left half-forward was causing Cork huge problems, her speed opening the Cork defence.

Ger Kinnane was an able assistant with strong full-forward Louise Young a constant threat.

Una O'Dwyer was coming back to her best at full back and Philly Fogarty, who had a tremendous game throughout, drove Tipp forward.

Cork were struggling in many positions; they looked tired and lacked sharpness. However, two moments of brilliance showed just why they are All-Ireland champions.

With the scores level at 0-6 apiece two minutes from the break, Cork showed they can be a class apart. Aoife Murray sent a quick puck-out to Briege Corkery. She struck it high up the field and the ball was superbly caught by Angela Walsh. Walsh handpassed to the running O'Donoghue who rocked the top of the net with a blistering shot. It was textbook hurling and even the Tipp supporters applauded.

A similar move 60 seconds involving Foley, Burke, O'Donoghue and Dillon saw the latter hit over and Cork led by four at the break.

Tipp got a huge boost when Emily Hayden goaled a minute after the restart after Cork failed to clear. Claire Grogan hit over a free and the rebels were in trouble when Louise Young scored Tipp's second goal on 41 minutes.

Cork were awarded a penalty but Jovita Delaney dealt with the shot comfortably.

Cork hit over two and the minimum separated the sides when Hayden scored her second goal eight minutes from time.

Cork threw everything at Tipp but their defence was rock solid with O'Dwyer, Nealon and Fogarty, in particular, excellent and when Kinnane struck her second point of the day on the stroke of normal time to give Tipp a four-point advantage it was all over.

But there is every chance now that both teams could meet again on All-Ireland final day.

Scorers for Cork: U O'Donoghue 1-1, J O'Leary 0-2 (0-1 '45), (0-1f), R Moloney and A Walsh 0-2 each, B Corkery, E Dillon and A Geary 0-1 each.

Tipperary: E Hayden 2-0, L Young 1-1, C Grogan 0-2 (f's), C Hennessy and G Kinnane 0-2 each, J Ryan 0-1.

CORK: A Murray; E O'Riordan, C Foley, A O'Regan; S Hayes, M O'Connor, A Geary; G O'Connor, B Corkery; A Walsh, E Dillon, J O'Leary; R Moloney, U O'Donoghue, E Burke. **Subs:** R Curtin for S Hayes (43min), O Cotter for R Curtin (49min, inj), S O'Donovan for E Burke (55min).

TIPPERARY: J Delaney; S Kelly, U O'Dwyer, J Kirwan, M Shortt; P Fogarty, S Nealon; T O'Halloran, C Grogan; J Ryan, E Hayden, C Hennessy; G Kinnane, L Young, J Horan. **Subs:** M Ryan for T O'Halloran (43min).

It's curtains for Regina

MILFORD and Cork dual star Regina Curtin is out for the remainder of the season after breaking her elbow in two places on Saturday in Cork's Senior A championship clash with Tipperary in Templemore. Called on 13 minutes into the second half Curtin lasted six minutes when a high challenge caught her arm.

Not long back after a previous break to her hand Curtin has been in top form of late and is a huge loss to both codes. Her club Milford could not have received worse news ahead of their Cork County Senior Championship quarter final game against Imokilly on Tuesday week.

Passage to semi smooth for Cork

By LINDA MELLERICK

Senior B camogie

Cork	2-13
Tipperary	0-4

CORK comfortably won this senior B quarter-final championship tie in Templemore on Saturday.

Leading by 2-8 to 0-1 at half time it was going to take a massive effort from Tipp if they were going to threaten Cork in the second period.

With Cork already through to the semi-final on August 19 after topping their group, little depended on the outcome except for the fact that Tipp are also through and both teams could face each other again in two weeks time should their names be pulled out of the bowl next Tuesday evening.

The game was only two minutes old when Emer O'Farrell hit the roof of the net in a clear signal of what was to follow. Two converted frees from Marie O'Neill and another major from O'Farrell meant Cork led by eight after only 10 minutes.

With Lynda Dorgan, Jenny Duffy, Eimear O'Sullivan, and the highly experienced Lynda O'Connell in particular, lording it in and around the half-back line and centre-field, Cork were on constant attack.

Humid conditions still held a slight breeze which Cork had advantage of but in reality it had no influence on the flow of the game.

Marie Corkery was as industrious as ever around the middle of the park and with O'Neill, O'Farrell and Denise Twomey in total control Cork tapped over the scores with relative ease.

Tipp never threatened Cork goal keeper Gillian Harrington whose first line of defence saw little of the ball particularly in the opening period.

Tipp mounted a more serious challenge in the second half and began with passion, three points inside 11 minutes giving them a spring in their step.

However this resurgence didn't last long as Cork slowly regained control and a further five points put any thoughts Tipp might have had of a revival to bed.

Scorers: for Cork: E O'Farrell 2-0, M O'Neill 0-7 (0-4f), D Twomey 0-4, M Jagoe 0-2. **Tipp:** E Ryan 0-1(f), A Lonergan, A McLoughney and D Ryan 0-1 each. **CORK:** G Harrington; AM Fleming, S Corkery, D Hayes; L O'Connell, J Duffy, E O'Sullivan; M Corkery, L Dorgan; E O'Farrell, M O'Neill, M Jagoe; D Twomey, M Deasy, M Watson. **Subs:** L Hawkes and E White for E O'Sullivan and G Harrington (53min), C Deasy for L Dorgan (57min), T Roche for M Corkery (58min), H O'Regan for M O'Neill (60min). **TIPPERARY:** J Nolan; S Morrissey, N Harkin, A Davis; L Grogan, M Lutrell, A O'Dwyer; L Davis, D Dunne; E Ryan, D Ryan, A Mulcahy, A Lonergan, K Kennedy, A McLoughney. **Subs:** S Bourke and C O'Sullivan for M Lutrell and K Kennedy (half time), F Connolly and C Johnson for A McLoughney and A Davis (55min).

Camogie Queens primed to tackle Tipp

Alan Neary

KILKENNY Camogie manager Bobby Jackman has stated his belief that the Cats go into Saturday's All-Ireland semi-final clash with Tipperary as underdogs.

"We'll definitely be the underdogs on Saturday, so the pressure is off", said Jackman.

He added: "I can't remember the last time Kilkenny actually made it to an All - Ireland sem-final let alone beat Tipp."

And the Kilkenny manager is of the opinion the fact that both of Saturday's semi-finals will take place at Nowlan Park will be of little significance to his crew.

"If I'm honest playing at Nowlan Park is not a huge advantage for us, certainly playing away in Athenry last weekend did us no harm.

"What people sometimes don't realise with camogie is that very often teams throughout the country don't use the main pitch on a regular basis.

"As for ourselves well we hope to have a puck around Nowlan Park later in the week, and while it'll be a boost to have a home support behind us on Saturday, playing in Kilkenny won't affect Tipperary a whole lot."

Jackman was delighted with the performance of his team in Saturday's win over Galway.

"The girls have displayed real hunger, and I have to say I really was very impressed by our sheer determination and work rate.

"If I was to find fault I'd probably say we need to get some more scores, particularly long range ones.

"But overall I'm very happy with our progress.

"When it's counted in our last couple of games against Galway and Wexford we've come out fighting and with victories.

"At this stage of season that's very satisfying"

On Sunday Jackman too k his troops to Tramore for a bit of 'team bonding'.

"We had a lot of sore bodies after Saturday's match which was a bruising experience, and from that point of view it was good for the girls to get it out of their system."

News of Kilkenny's under-16 success also pleased Jackman.

"It's very encouraging and now we will have Edwina Keane and Marie Dargan back in our panel.

"The future is looking very good indeed but it will probably take a couple of years before we fully see the contribution of the under-16's at senior level."

With Cork likely to await either Kilkenny or Tipperary in the final the incentive is there for Jackman's team.

He concluded: "While people probably don't expect us to beat Tipperary we'll give it our best shot, after all we could be just one hour away from an All-Ireland final."

Marie drops in and bombs out Galway

Kilkenny A 3-5 (14pts)

Galway A 0-10

STAR attacker, Marie O'Connor literally dropped in, but she made some impact when Kilkenny scored a hugely important win over Galway in the Gala All-Ireland senior camogie championship at Kenny Park, Athenry on Saturday.

O'Connor, who dashed by helicopter to the game before flying home to rejoin the celebrations at the wedding of her brother, Ollie O'Connor, bagged 2-2 to help the Noresiders secure an All-Ireland semi-final spot against Tipperary.

This semi will be played at Nowlan Park on Saturday (3.30am).

Galway did all in their power to down the visitors, who would have been forced into a play-off had they failed to get at least a point from the game.

Pounded opposition

During the second half the home side pounded and pounded the opposition. Kilkenny stood up to the onslaught, although goalie Catriona Ryan was forced to bring off two terrific saves.

On top of that, defenders Jillian Dillon and Ester Kennedy were wonderful, and they drove the opposition back time and time again. As well as Ryan's heroics between the posts, the pair mentioned above also scrambled the ball off the line on different occasions when the pressure was truly intense.

Galway opened brightly, and points during the opening seven minutes from Brenda Hanney and Lourda Kavanagh, from a 20 metre free in front of the posts, helped them find their feet.

Veronica Curtin added to that advantage in the 10th minute when she pointed from the left side, close to the sideline and 20 metres range.

When Kilkenny opened their account in the 12th minute, they jumped back to equal terms. Initially Imelda Kennedy pulled on a ball just outside the square. The sliotar came back into play off an upright, and Kennedy returned it to the net (0-3 to 1-0).

First time lead

When Bridget Mullally opened the home defence with a well placed pass, Kennedy pointed to give the Cats the lead for the first time.

Scores from Orla Kilkenny and Veronica Curtin reversed the roles (0-5 to 1-1) as the locals tried desperately to break the opposition. Another inspiring score from Therese Maher, the Galway centreback, from 70 metres left the locals all fired up.

Kilkenny retained their composure, however. The flying Marie O'Connor exploded on the scene.

In the 26th minute she took a perfectly weighted pass from Bridget Mullally, and from 15 metres to the left of goal she rifled an unstoppable shot to the net.

An exchange of points before the break left Kilkenny leading by the slimmest of margins, 2-2 to 0-7.

Although Kilkenny opened the new half with a bang, they were put under near back breaking pressure afterwards.

Within 90 seconds of the restart Marie O'Connor was put through for her second goal by Lizzie Lyng. The latter flicked the ball past the 'keeper and into the net for what was the score of the match.

Things got better

When the Galway goalie fouled a puck-out the referee awarded Kilkenny a 45 metre free, which was converted by Imelda Kennedy to open out a 3-3 to 0-7 lead.

Things got even better. Marie O'Connor zipped through for a 43rd minute point to extended the difference to 3-4 to 0-7.

Galway's response was furious, in that they charged forward, throwing caution to the wind. They out-scored the opposition by 0-3 to 0-1, but they couldn't save the day.

Along with those already mentioned, others who starred for the winners were Marie O'Connor, Kiera Kinahan and Elaine Aylward, Aoife Neary, Julie Anne Woodcock, who hit an awful lot of ball, and Bridget Mullally.

The scorers

Kilkenny - Marie O'Connor (2-2); Imelda Kennedy (1-2, point free); Bridget Mullally (0-1, free). **Galway** - Veronica Curtin (0-5); Therese Maher, Brenda Hanney, Aoife Lynskey, Orla Kilkenny (0-1 each); Lourda Kavanagh (0-1, free).

The teams

Kilkenny A - Catriona Ryan, Kiara Kinahan, Jillian Dillon, Esther Kennedy, Elaine Aylward, Aine Fahy, Eileen Fitzpatrick, Aoife Neary, Julie Ann Woodcock, Imelda Kennedy, Bridget Mullally, Lizzy Lyng, Jackie Frisby, Ann Marie Phelan, Marie O'Connor. Subs - Pheena Hefferman, Therese Muldowney, Catherine Doherty (used), Brid Aylward, Elaine O'Shea, Niamh Butler, Miriam O'Keeffe, Deirdre Delaney.

Galway A - S. Gannon, R. Glynn, S. Cahalan, N. Gavin, L. Lally, T. Maher, A. Kelly, B. Hanney, A. Connolly, A. Lynskey, A. Hillary, V. Curtin, O. Kilkenny, L. Kavanagh, B. Kerins.

Cats left deflated by cruel breeze

Galway 'B' 1-11

Kilkenny 'B' 1-5

THE ELEMENTS played a cruel trick on Kilkenny's senior 'B' camogie team at the weekend.

Having battled their way to within a point of leaders Galway by half-time, the Cats were confident that some assistance from a swirling breeze would help them turn the corner in this All-Ireland championship clash in Athenry.

Sadly, Kilkenny were left feeling deflated. Returning to the fray just one point behind (0-6 to 0-5), the Cats were dismayed to find the conditions had changed. Once again, they would have to play into the breeze.

Surprised to have such an ally, Galway refused to look such a gift horse in the mouth. Fast-breaking points from Sandra Tannion and Paula Kenny stretched the westerners' advantage.

Good pressure

That lead that grew even bigger when Noreen Coen ended a spell of good Galway pressure with a 44th minute goal. Left with just a quarter of an hour to rescue the game, Kilkenny's hopes were fading fast.

It was a harsh ending for a Kilkenny side who had performed well to claw back a five point deficit in the first half. Susan Keane, Paul Kenny and Noreen Coen quickly shot the hosts into a three-point lead. Kilkenny's sole response in the first quarter was a minor score from a Claire Aylward free, awarded following a foul on Bronagh Neary.

Not even the loss of midfielder Phyllis Hayes could deter Galway from adding to their lead. Noreen Coen cut in from the left wing to bag her second point of the afternoon in the 15th minute.

Susan Keane added a pair of quick frees soon after, leaving Kilkenny five points down with little over ten minutes left in the half.

Sit tight

Kilkenny could have been advised to sit tight and prevent Galway from adding their advantage, but they didn't hold back. Sensing some scores were needed, Bronagh Neary started the comeback with a good point from a long solo run.

Catherine Doherty was next to hit the target, scoring from 20 metres out after winning a loose ball. Doherty then raised another white flag, the score coming after a good pass from Claire Aylward. The provider then turned scorer, converting a 35m free after a foul on Doherty in the last minute of normal time (G: 0-6, K: 0-5).

Kilkenny tried hard to muster a similar rally in the second half. Bronagh Neary gave them heart with a 44th minute goal, but another run of scores was not forthcoming.

Determined not to let their lead slip a second time, Galway went back on the attack. Sandra Tannion (2) and Molly Dunne did the work for the forwards, while their backs kept Kilkenny scoreless.

On a disappointing day for Kilkenny, Catherine Doherty and Bronagh Neary were top Cats.

The scorers

Galway 'B' – Noreen Coen (1-2); Susan Keane, Sandra Tannion (0-3 each); Paula Kenny (0-2); Molly Dunne (0-1). ***Kilkenny 'B'*** – Bronagh Neary (1-1); Claire Aylward, Catherine Doherty (0-2 each).

The teams

Kilkenny 'B' – B. Aylward, A. Butler, L. Crennan, E. Lyng, R. Fennelly, P. Comerford, S. Rafter, N. Butler, A. Gorey, C. Doherty, L. Gahan, C. Aylward, L. Kavanagh, M. O'Keeffe, B. O'Keeffe. Sub: N. O'Keeffe.

Galway 'B' – S. Earner, C. Gill, Sinead Keane, C. Moran, A. Kilkenny, L. O'Brien, T. Manton, Susan Keane, P. Hayes, E. Kilkenny, S. Tannion, P. Kenny, M. Dunne, M. Conroy, N. Coen. Sub: C. Callaghan.

Cork, Tipperary, Galway and Kilkenny go through....

WHEN Marie O'Connor's helicopter landed in the field near Athenry on Saturday it created a buzz, but later she created a greater buzz on the field as she scored 2-2 to secure Kilkenny's place in next Saturday's Gala All-Ireland semi-final when they defeated Galway 3-5 to 0-10 in the final group game while Tipperary accounted for Cork 3-8 to Cork's 1-10 with Wexford whitewashing Limerick 4-18 to 0-4 in the third game also on Saturday.

This was a game that the Cats always had to win or draw and as expected the Kilkenny defence gave very little away with top cat and captain Gillian Dillon Maher keeping a tight grip on Galway full-forward Lourda Kavanagh who finished the day with 0-1 from a free. However, before this game Galway were already through to the semi-finals and while Manager Sharon Glynn was anxious for a win during the week, it was not necessary for the Maroon and Whites to show their true colors.

Kilkenny led 2-2 to Galway's 0-7 at the break. However, Galway were fighting hard with Regina Glynn in superb form at corner back while the Galway spine of centre half back Therese Maher, midfield Brenda Hanney and forwards Veronica Curtin, Lourda Kavanagh and substitute Caroline Kelly worked well, but still at the end it was the sheer determination of Kilkenny wanting a place in this year's All-Ireland semi-final that won them this game.

The second half saw an even more determined Black and Amber side step take to the field with defenders Gillian Dillon Maher and Elaine Alyward keeping the sharp Galway forwards at bay, while up front Imelda Kennedy and Marie O'Connor were creating plenty of problems for Galway as they continued to knock over the scores.

The clash of Cork and Tipperary always brings the best out in both teams and so it was once again in Holy Cross on Saturday as Tipperary claimed their first win of the year over Cork since last year's All-Ireland Final. A most exciting game with Tippeary's Joanne Ryan getting the Premier county off to a flying start with a point after just one minute. However, Cork's reply was as sharp as a razor when Jennifer O'Leary sent over her side's first score of the day with a forty five.

From there to the break it was tit for tat with Úna O'Donoghue putting Cork ahead with a fine goal following a pass from fellow forward Jennifer O'Leary. It was a superb goal from about thirty yards out and immediately after that Emer Dillon added a further point to leave Cork ahead 1-7 to Tipperary's 0-6.

Tipperary could not have asked for a better start to the second half as immediatley Emily Hayden got the Premier side off to a dream start with an opportunist goal when it appeared the Cork defence were slow to clear the ball out. That sparked a real Tipperary comeback with Claire Grogan sending over her second point of the day.

Despite Cork's centre back and 2005 All-Star Mary O'Connor's top form and Gemma O'Connor at midfield it was Tipperary who enjoyed the early second half dominance with Louise Young reaching high for a ball which she promptly crashed to the net to leave it Tipperary 2-7, Cork 1-7 after just thirteen minutes of the second half.

Both teams then put in a tremendous finalé with Tipperary's hat-trick goal coming five minutes before the fulltime whistle from Emily Hayden to leave it Tipperary 3-7, Cork 1-9. As time ticked away, Angela Walsh sent over Cork's last point of the day, while the final score of the day went to the winners when Geraldine Kinnane sent her second point of the day and Tipperary's eight of the day.

The third Gala game of the day witnessed an expected win by Wexford over Limerick in Bruff, 4-18 to 0-4. This game was well over before the quarter final stage of the opening half when the Model county were ahead 2-3 to Limerick's 0-1. The wexford goals having come from Úna Leacy and a Kate Kelly free, the Limerick free having come from Eileen O'Brien. Wexford who lost 2004 All-Star Áine Codd after just nineteen minutes through an apparent serious shoulder injury finished the half with a third goal two minutes into injury time from Kate Kelly who picked up a great pass from full-forward Michelle Hearne. That goal and a third point from Ursula Jacob gave the Slaney siders a half time lead of 3-9 to Limerick's 0-2.

Wexford never really took the foot off the pedal in the second half as with just twenty six seconds clocked on the watch, Brigid Curran sent over Wexford's eleventh point of the day. Wexford introduced all their subs in the second half with Lennie Holahan coming on for Josie Dwyer with Lennie scoring her side's fourth goal after just eight minutes following a great passage from Kate Kelly.

The Wexford dominance continued with Kate Kelly having the last say of the day with her fourth free of the day. Limerick's Niamh Mulcahy did score a fine point one minute from the end of normal time, but it made no difference even though Eileen O'Brien had score her third free midway.

Despite Wexford winning this game, they will not qualify for the semi-finals next Saturday in Nowlan Park as Kilkenny won their game against Galway.

Details:
Kilkenny: 3-5: M O'Connor 2-2, I Kennedy 1-2 (0-1f), B Mulally 0-1f
Galway 0-10: V Curtin 0-6 (0-2f), L Kavanagh 0-1f, A Lynskey, T Maher,B Hanney 0-1 each

Tipperary; 3-8:E Hayden 2-0, L Young 1-1, C Hennessey, G Kinnane 0-2 each, C Grogan 0-2 (0-1'45), J Ryan 0-1.
Cork: 1-10: Ú O'Donoghue 1-1, R Moloney 0-2 J O'Leary 0-2 (0-1'45), A Walsh 0-2.

Wexford: 4-18: K Kelly 2-5 (1-4f), L Holahan 1-1, Ú Leacy1-0, U Jacob 0-6,B Curran 0-4, M Hearne, B Furlong 0-1each
Limerick 0-4: E O'Brien 0-3 f, N Mulcahy 0-1.

Galway on 'last crusade' for a second All-Ireland



Therese O'Callaghan

CONSISTENCY is the buzzword around Galway these days.

It is exactly 10 years since the Connacht side won their first and only All-Ireland senior camogie title.

There have been many misadventures in between, including a very disappointing finish to last year's season. They roared back this summer, and up to last weekend were rolling along nicely.

"Consistency is what we are striving for," said selector PJ Molloy. "We were happy enough going into our final round-robin game against Kilkenny, but conceding three goals has thrown up new problems."

The Westerners had already qualified for today's Gala All-Ireland semi-final in Nowlan Park (v Cork, 2pm) but losing to the Cats has shown their form to be a bit erratic.

"This is the last crusade for us," says Molloy, speaking of his backroom team's endeavours to land a second title for the maroon and white.

"It is a big, big game and we want to leave some sort of structure behind. We have a lot of players who have nothing to show for the many years they have been involved.

"We were disappointed after Kilkenny. It highlighted poor penetration in our forward line and while up to now we would have been pleased enough with our defence, we saw some cracks appearing there too."

Galway have moved Lourda Kavanagh to full forward and will be hoping her presence is as successful as Kerry's experiment with Kieran Donaghy at the edge of the square.

Veronica Curtin and Brenda Kerins are very fast corner-forwards, and with Therese Maher directing proceedings from centre back, the plan is to get quick ball into their pacy attack.

Cork rested captain Joanne O'Callaghan and Rena Buckley in their surprise defeat to arch rivals Tipperary last weekend, 3-7 to 1-9, but expect both defenders be fit to return.

Regina Curtin is a definite absentee after breaking two bones in her elbow.

Trainer Fiona O'Driscoll says August 12 was always the date they were gearing themselves for.

"We were through to the semi-final before we played Tipp. While we would love to have kept the winning momentum going, we are still fully focused. We didn't know who we would be playing until Sunday, so this week is all about setting the mindset on Galway. We have a few niggling injuries, but won't make a decision on them until nearer throw-in."

The second semi-final sees Kilkenny pitted against Tipperary (3.30pm).

Captain Gillian Dillon-Maher is in her 16th season with the black and amber. The mother of three young boys, she runs her own equestrian centre and jests it is a welcome break to head off to training.

"It is a getaway from work," she jokes. "I have a great back-up system. My husband Noel is very supportive, so is my mum Teresa and my father (former hurler Pa Dillon) has recently retired so he is roped in too.

"We will have to play extremely well if we are to come out on top, and will need to match Tipp in the physicality battle. But confidence is high and we are coming off the back of two great wins over Wexford and Galway."

Stalwart Sinead Millea is a notable injury victim after breaking a finger.

However, this is an opportune time for younger players like Áine Fahy at centre back, recent U16 All-Ireland -winning captain Edwina Keane and Marie Dargan to make their mark.

After watching Tipperary lift the Munster U21 hurling trophy on Wednesday, the blue and gold would dearly love to share All-Ireland final day in Croke Park on September 10.

Zinkant: It'll be so close



The Cork camogie backroom team of John Cronin, Fiona O'Driscoll, Ollie Hallihane and Lillian Zinkant have a big weekend ahead of them.

WITH D-Day drawing ever so close Cork selector Lillian Zinkant is focused and ready for the challenges that lie ahead for her side.

By MARY NEWMAN
Cork camogie camp

The five time All-Ireland medal winner (three at junior level and two minor) is in her second season with the county senior side and to date the record is one hundred percent intact.

"Zinkie," as she is affectionately known, is hoping to keep it that way for a bit longer.

"There is only a puck of a ball between the four teams left in contention for honours," Zinkant says.

"We know Galway are no soft touch but we are ready. Hopefully, things will go our way on Saturday."

No stranger to the pressures that come with the role of selector to an inter-county team Lillian has served Cork camogie at many levels.

When she finally departed the inter-county scene after winning her third junior All-Ireland medal she quickly became immersed in the other side of the game.

Since 1999 she has been involved as selector to either the junior or senior teams, coaching the junior team of 2004 to All-Ireland success.

Progression to the senior team came as no surprise to those involved in the game.

"A lot of clubs approached me and asked me to stand for election and I was delighted and honoured to be chosen last year.

"We had a great year but now that's old news and we must do it all again.

"There is so little between Cork, Tipperary, Kilkenny and Galway.

"Already we have drawn with Galway, defeated Tipperary twice, lost out to Kilkenny in the league and then reversed that result in the round-robin championship series.

"These semi-finals can go either way and it's all about who performs best on the day.

"A lot of work behind the scenes goes into the day and with just 60 minutes between a place in Croke Park or a late summer of reflections pondering what might have been, the margin for error on Saturday is small.

"The girls come to training and put in a huge effort, but behind the scenes we must be prepared as well.

"We have analysed videos and tried to see where we, as a unit, can improve.

"We are always looking for that little bit extra that could just be the difference between winning and losing.

"Many the nights we have sat burning the midnight oils, but hopefully it will be all worth it come Saturday at 4pm."

The "we" that Lillian refers to are her fellow selectors John Cronin, Ollie Hallinane and Coach Fiona O'Driscoll.

"We combine well together and we are a team working as a unit," she says.

"We each have our own jobs and we all get down to them.

"We are all involved in every aspect and at training we all take an active role, no standing around but everyone helping out.

"Fiona is the boss and she gives the orders, she is great to work with and the girls respond well to her."

Retirements and emigration have seen a few changes to the panel since last year but this is something that has not caused any disruption.

"A few new faces have joined the panel since last year and the girls who have made the step up to the team have fitted in well to the set up.

"Having been on the periphery last year they are well versed with what is required of them.

"Last year we won the All-Ireland in two minutes as the trend of the game changed so dramatically. A puck of the ball is all it takes."

The game has changed dramatically since Lillian won her last All-Ireland medal, now it's 15-a-side game and much faster and more technical than it would have been in her day.

"It's now a 20-player game, no longer will it suffice to hope that 15 players will win a game for you.

"A strong back-up panel is vital and we have built up a good squad," says Lillian.

"Determination is also a vital part and you must want to win, there's no point in going out otherwise."

Looking back to last weekend and the victory for the Cork senior hurlers over Waterford, Lillian singled out a moment when the spirit of the Cork challenge was so evident.

"Timmy Mc McCarthy's point and his total look of determination as it sailed over the bar summed up the spirit in the Cork team.

"Hopefully, we will have the same fire and drive when Galway come at us on Saturday.

"We know they are hell bend on victory but so are we."

On Saturday they will be going through the usual routine, pre match light refreshments on to the way to Nolan Park, good warm up and then into the action, a move here or switch there could make all the difference, focused and ready as always, the Cork side line team are raring to go.



Cork captain Joanne O'Callaghan knows her side face a big battle.

O'Callaghan knows that Galway will be no pushover

WITH the limelight switching to her team this week, Cork camogie captain Joanne O'Callaghan is conscious of the task facing her side, *writes* **Mary Newman**.

Already the hurlers and footballers have passed the test and answered the questions now it's the turn of the camogie team to reserve their place in Croke Park on the second Sunday in September.

Galway will provide a stern test, something which O'Callaghan is well aware of.

"Last year they beat us in the league and four weeks ago they held us to a draw so we are very much aware of our task."

No stranger to pressure, the UCC student who is studying for a masters in food Science has been playing senior club camogie since the age of 14 with Cloughduv.

"Lynn and Stephanie Dunlea were the star players with the club and to make it on to a team with them was great."

Starting camogie in Cloughduv National School with sister Orla, where she won Sciath na Scol honours and progressed to mount Mercy where the game was hockey, a game she excelled at.

She progressed to represent Munster in the sport, but camogie has always been the number one sport.

She won her first senior All-Ireland medal in 2002 following in the footsteps of her grandaunt Annie May Kelleher, who won an All-Ireland medal with Cork in 1935.

Injury forced Joanne to sit out the start of the 2005 decider but when introduced at half-time, she proceeded to play a vital role in toppling champions Tipperary.

On Saturday, Tipp face Kilkenny in the second semi-final but they are far from the captain's mind.

"We are very focused on Galway and are not looking beyond that. The girls have been tremendous and they know what is required. We are going to have to be at our best to get over this one but we are determined to make it to the final and hold on to our title."

Having lost out last weekend to Tipperary in the round-robin series, many people are questioning whether Cork have the same hunger for success.

"Without a doubt," says Joanne.

"This year we are a year older and more mature. We are all friends and that counts for a lot when the going gets tough.

"I think deep down we knew we were qualified last Saturday and that certainly had a bearing on the performance we put in."

● **TOMORROW: Linda Mellerick previews the weekend's big game and gets Galway coach Sharon Glynn's view on the All-Ireland semi-final.**

Cork on the march to defend their title

(2006-08-13)

WHEN Cork step out on Croke Park on September 10th they will be greeted by Uachtarán na hÉireann Mary Mc Aleese who has confirmed her attendance at this year's All-Ireland final and a cracking final can well expected between the reigning All-Ireland champions Cork and the 2004 champions, Tipperary.

The clash of Cork and Galway in this year's Gala All-Ireland semi-final was always expected to be a close fought game and so it was with just four points seperating the sides, Cork winning 1-7, to Galway's 0-6.

With so much at stake, the two sides played it very tight in the first half and it was nineteen minutes before the crowd saw their first score coming - a JenniferO'Leary free which was promptly answered back by a '45 from Galway's Lourda Kavanagh. While people may have had to wait this length for a score, the Cork machine suddenly stepped up then and two minutes later recorded the only goal of the game.

It was a fine piece of Cork magic involving three players. Jennifer O'Leary who finished the day with three frees caught a fine ball, found full-forward Úna O'Donoghue who then ran on to pass to Emer Dillon who fired to the net putting the reigning All-Ireland champions ahead 1-1 to 0-2, it was possibly the turning point of the game as Cork never lost that lead and it left Galway trailing from there on in.

Following that goal it was Cork who went in leading at the break, 1-3 to Galway's 0-3, Lourda Kavanagh being the lone Galway first half scorer. The second half was much more open with the result that Cork sent over four points, (three from play), while Galway's first score of the second half did not come until Veronica Curtin sent over her first point eighteen minutes into the half to leave it, Cork 1-7, Galway 0-4.

That seventh score (a Jennifer O'Leary free) may have been Cork's last score, but Galway who were still in with a shout sent over two further points,-a Lourda Kavanagh free and with one minute of normal time remaining, first half substitute Ann Marie Hayes sent over Galway's last point of the day. Like Kilkenny, the goal that Galway so badly needed did not come for them and so Tipperary and Cork will meet in the All-Ireland Gala Final on September 10th which will be played with the All-Ireland U21 Hurling Final.

Teams/Scorers:
Cork: A Murray;J O'Callaghan, C Foley, A O'Regan; R Buckley, M O'Connor, A Geary; G O'Connor, O Cotter; B Corkery, A Walsh,J O'Leary; E Mc Donnell, Ú O'Donoghue, R Moloney.
Subs:S O'Donovan for B Corkery 57mins.
Scorers: E Dillon 1-1, J O'Leary 0-3f, R Moloney 0-2, A Walsh 0-1

Galway: S Gannon; R Glynn, S Cahalan,N Gavin;L Lally, T Maher, A Kelly; B Hanney, A Connolly; C Kelly, Á Hillary, V Curtin; O Kilkenny, L Kavanagh, B Kerins.
Subs: A M Hayes for O Kilkenny (29mins),N Kilkenny for A Connolly (57mins).
Scorers: L Kavanagh 0-4 (0-1'45, 0-2f), V Curtin, A M Hayes 0-1 each.

Referee: Ú Kearney, Armagh.

Tipperary go through in thriller

(2006-08-13)

TIPPERARYreceived a great boost before Saturday's Gala All-Ireland semi-final with the news that 2005 All-Star Eimear Mc Donnell was fit to take her place at corner forward and it was two first half points from the nippy corner forward that enabled the Premier cunty to overcome Kilkenny 0-13 to 1-8 in a thrilling All-Ireland semi-final in Nowlan Park on Saturday.

Having being defeated by Tipperary twice this year,once in the League and again in the championship, the Black and Amber were well fired up for this encounter and both sides were level after just six minutes at a point a piece, Cora Hennessy knocking over the opener for the Premier county after four minutes while Brigid Mulally equalised two minutes later for the Cats.

Wind assisted Kilkenny sent over a further four points before the break while Tipperary went in leading 0-7 to Kilkenny's 0-5. Kilkenny who were seeking their first All-Ireland final appearance since loosing to Tipperary in 2001 did not let the game go out of their grip at anystage and made two early first half introductions, bringing on recent All-Ireland U16 winners Marie Dargan and Edwina Keane. The switches worked, but Tipperary had a biggger ace in goalkeeper Jovita Delaney who brought off several great saves during the game, but really earned her corn when she foiled young Marie Dargan deep in the second half when goal appeared to be written all over, but Delaney made one of two great crucial saves deep in the second half.

Watched by a large crowd, both sides gave great entertainment for the hour with the result in the balance almost to the end following the levelling of the game twelve minutes into the second half. Kilkenny's half back Eileen Fitzpatrick made a fine run down along the new stand side, found centre-forward Brigid Mulally on sight who went to fire over her second point of the day, but it hit the crossbar. In for the kill came teenager Marie Dargan who pounced on the rebound to send it to the Tipperary net.

Suddenly,the game was level, Tipperary 0-10, Kilkenny 1-7, however, in true Tipperary style, Claire Grogan sent over the lead for Tipp two minutes later with her fourth free of the day. Tipperary did not look back from then onwards. While Kilkenny fought hard, they could not find the posts for crucial scores and with Jovita Delaney on top of her game, Tipperary were now in top form. Following Grogan's fourth free, the Premier side added two further points from Cora Hennessy and Joanne Ryan, while Imelda Kennedy could unfortunately only add one more free two minutes from time for Kilkenny.

Teams/Scorers:
Tipperary: J Delaney; S Kelly, Ú O'Dwyer, J Kirwan; M Shortt, P Fogarty (cpt), S Nealon; C Grogan, J Ryan; J Horan, E Hayden, C Hennessy; G Kinnane, L Young, E Mc Donnell.

Subs: L Burke for J Horan (47mins), T O'Halloran for L Young (51mins)
Scorers: C Grogan 0-4f, C Hennessy, E Mc Donnell ,E Hayden, G Kinnae 0-2 each, J Ryan, G Kinnane 0-1 each.

Kilkenny: C Ryan; K Kinahan, J Dillon- Maher, E Kennedy; E Aylward, Á Fahy, E Fitzpatrick; A Neary, J A Woodcock; I Kennedy, B Mulally, L Lyng; J Frisby, A M Phelan, M O'Connor.
Subs: M Dargan for A M Phelan (19mins), E Keane for J Frisby (23mins), D Delaney for L Lyng (46mins), T Muldowney for D Delaney (59mins).
Scorers: M Dargan 1-0, I Kennedy 0-6 f, B Mulally, A Neary 0-1 each.

Aug. 2006

AUG. 2006

CILL CHAINNIGH



Front Row: J Nic Firbhisigh, Kelly Á Cottrell, D Ní Dhúláinne, Á Ní Fhathaigh, K Ní Choinneacháin, L Ní Ghacháin, E Nic Giolla Phádraig, M. Nic Coisteala, B Aighleart. Middle Row: B Ní Mhaolalaidh, E Ní Chéin, P Ní Ifearnáin, L Aighleart, É Ní Loin, C Aighleart, S Ní Mhaolaoidh, C Ní Riain, A Ní Náraigh, S Á Woodcock, I Ní Chinnéide. Back row: E Ní Chinnéide, M Ní Chonchúir, E Ní Loinn, D Ní Muineog, T Ní Mhaoldomhnaigh.

TIOBRAID ÁRANN



Back: M Lotrail, P Bhuilfin, E nic Conchoille, S Ní Állúráin, T Ní Meachair, M Nic an Gheairr, E Ní Éideáin, M Ní Teimhneáin, S Ní Nualláin, S Ní Riain, C Ní Ghruagáin, F Ní Fhogartaigh, D Ní Doinn. Front: D Nic Domhnaill, Pní Allúrain, E Ní Riain, S Ní Chiarubháin, G Ní Choinneáin, S Ní Cheallaigh, S Ní Nialláin, Á Ní Mhaolchathaigh, J Ní Óráin, M Ní Riain, J Ní Dhubhsláine, Ú Ní Dhuibhir. Absent from picture: E Nic Domhnaill, L de Búrca, C Ní Aonasa.

CORCAIGH



Back: L Ní Ríordáin, E Nic Uait, Mó Néill, S Ní Chorca, S ní Dufaigh, R Ní Bhuachalla, A Ní Riagáin, G Ní Chonchúir, Á Ní Ghadhra, E Dhiollún, A Ní Dhonnabháin, C Ní Éilí, S Ní Aodha, E Ní Chlúmháin, A Ní Mhuirí, O Nic Oitir. Front: S Ní Cheallacháin, A Bhreatnach, C Ní Fhoghlú, S Ní Laoire, M Ní Chonchúir, Ú Ní Dhonnchú, R Ní Mhaoloemhnaigh, C Ní Dheasúnaigh, L de Burca, LNí Eacháin, R Nic Chuirtín, B Chorca.

AN GHAILLIMH



Back Row (left to right): A Ní Cheallaigh, B Hanney, V Chuirtín, A Ní Loinscigh, S Ní Chathaláin, A Ní Chonghaile, T Ní Mheachair, L Chaomhánach. Front Row (left to right): S Nic Fhionnáin, R Nic Fhloinn, O Nic Giolla Chainnigh, B Ní Chéirín, N Ní Ghaibín, Á Ní Irile, L Ní Mhaolalaidh.

Fáilte

Ly Howard



Fáilte roimh gach éinne anseo inniú go Gala Cluichí Leath-Cheannais Chamogaioch na hEireann.

I welcome the players, team mentors, match officials, County officers, sponsors and supporters to Nowlan Park, which once again hosts the Gala Senior Camogie All-Ireland semi-finals. Under the new "round robin" championship Cork, Galway, Kilkenny and Tipperary have emerged to contest the semi-finals. This system has proven very effective and provided a minimum of five games for each of the competing counties. It will take seven matches to win the Gala All-Ireland, more if there is a replay to day or in the final. This system is a really good test for any team, the ultimate winners will be worthy champions.

I am particularly delighted that Tom Keogh, Chief Executive Gala, and his team are here today as well as a number of Gala retailers. The Gala sponsorship has brought a new dimension to the senior championship and a sharper commercial focus. Camogie, like hurling is the most skilful field game. We must promote the game as such at every opportunity. All here today will witness the skill and fitness level of our top players. These are elite athletes, we can be so proud of them. Please support our sponsors in your area.

The two semi-finals should live up to expectations. Galway can always worry Cork but have faded a little in recent outings. Can they put it together today? Or will the Rebels emulate their hurlers? Tipperary found Kilkenny tough going for a long time in their "round robin" game but then pulled away. Which side will show a bigger improvement? I hope both games are close and wish all four teams the best.

Camogie, country-wide is making great progress. This is part of the Strategic Plan and I urge all clubs, counties and Provinces to adhere to the core elements of this plan.

Once the structures are properly in place development follows in a planned manner. A professional approach is as easy as a sloppy one. Get it right First Time. I compliment and thank the very many wonderful volunteers who work so consistently to promote camogie.

I thank Ned Quinn Kilkenny, County GAA Chairman, Pat Dunphy, County Secretary and all here in Nowlan Park for their courtesy, support and co-operation in facilitating the semi-finals once again. Welcome to RTE and all other media present, print, radio and photographic. Our relationship with all sectors of the media is important. Thanks too to the County PRO's who have to be professional, consistent and persistent. I wish all supporters an enjoyable afternoon. Your patronage is appreciated.

Can I remind you of a date for your diary, September 10th in Croke Park when the Gala Senior Camogie Final and the Erin U21 Hurling Final will be played as a double header. Make the plans as soon as possible!

Have a Gala Afternoon

LIZ HOWARD
Uachtarán Cumann Camogaíochta

paths to the SEMI-FINALS

CORK		KILKENNY	
Cork 1-10	Wexford 1-05	Limerick 0-5	Kilkenny 2-11
Kilkenny 1-7	Cork 2-11	Kilkenny 1-7	Cork 2-11
Limerick 0-7	Cork 2-8	Tipperary 1-7	Kilkenny 0-4
Cork 0-10	Galway 1-7	Kilkenny 1-13	Wexford 1-10
Tipperary 3-8	Cork 1-10	Galway 0-10	Kilkenny 3-5

GALWAY		TIPPERARY	
Galway 1-12	Tipperary 2-6	Galway 1-12	Tipperary 2-6
Galway 4-18	Limerick 1-5	Wexford 1-8	Tipperary 1-14
Wexford 2-7	Galway 0-10	Tipperary 1-7	Kilkenny 0-4
Cork 0-10	Galway 1-7	Tipperary 1-15	Limerick 1-3
Galway 0-10	Kilkenny 3-5	Tipperary 3-8	Cork 1-10



M Donnelly All-Ireland Poc Fada Final, Annaverna Mountain, Ravensdale, Co Louth. Back row (l-r.): Phyllis Breslin, Past President of the Camogie Association; Pat Hamilton, Poc Fada Task Force; Liz Howard, President of the Camogie Association; Marie O'Dwyer, London camogie representative; Martin Donnelly, sponsor; Mary Henry, winner of the Camogie Poc Fada; Sinéad O'Neill, Ulster camogie representative; Sile Wallace, Ardsiurthóir, Camogie Association; Danie Nealon, Chairperson, National Poc Fada Committee. Front row: Eoin Kelly, 3rd place and Brendan Cummins, winner.

(Photo: Brian Lawless, Sportsfile)

AUG 2006



alway's Caroline Kelly battles for possession with Cork's Una O'Donoghue in he All-Ireland senior camogie semi-final at Nowlan Park Picture: Inpho

Galway make it tough for Cork

Cork	1-7
Galway	0-6

All-Ireland camogie SF

by Therese O'Callaghan

ALL-IRELAND champions Cork face a hectic four weeks as they prepare to defend their Gala All-Ireland senior camogie title against old foes Tipperary in Croke Park on September 10.

This week the local club championship takes centre stage, and over the coming few days a handful of dual players will be involved in the build-up to the ladies football quarter-final. Selector Fiona O'Driscoll said management will be asking the County Camogie Board to postpone the concluding stages of the club championship until after the All-Ireland final.

"There are a few games this week, but anything after that we will be seeking deferment," she confirmed. "We need to get the players collectively together to try and pin back-to-back titles."

Cork's big day in the spotlight, while it never looked in doubt, was always a struggle. In a dogged game they were at all times in control, but neither side managed to scale the heights they are capable of. Poor refereeing by Armagh's Una Kearney didn't help either. She allowed far too many stoppages in the opening 30 minutes and her strict enforcement of the rulebook didn't let the game flow.

"It was stop-start especially in the first half," agreed O'Driscoll. "That suited us because we were playing against the wind. Then, once we got the goal from Emer Dillon, it gave us a cushion going in at half time (1-3 to 0-3). As we expected Galway came back at us, but we held out. Both defences did extremely well."

Indeed, the Galway victory drought could well have ended had their attack measured up. They lacked that killer instinct going forward, which has been their achilles heel all year. Defensively, though, they were more than capable. Corner back Regina Glynn was the best player on the park, while Sinead Cahalan, Ailbhe Kelly and Therese Maher were commanding figures.

As a result, Cork had to utilise everything in their tank. Championship debutante Orla Cotter, from the St Catherine's club, made a promising start to her career at midfield. Amanda O'Regan and the halfback line of Anna Geary, Mary O'Connor and Anna Geary were powerful. Up front, it was Angela Walsh, Rachel Moloney and Emer Dillon (scorer of the crucial goal) that inspired the win.

Scorers for Cork: E Dillon 1-1, J O'Leary 0-3 (frees), R Moloney 0-2, A Walsh 0-1.

Scorers for Galway: L Kavanagh 0-4 (0-2 frees, 0-1 45m), V Curtin and A M Hayes 0-1 each.

CORK: A Murray; J O'Callaghan (Capt), C Foley, A O'Regan; R Buckley, M O'Connor, A Geary; G O'Connor, O Cotter; B Corkery, A Walsh, J O'Leary; E Dillon, U O'Donoghue, R Moloney.

Subs: S O'Donovan for B Corkery (55 mins).

GALWAY: S Gannon; R Glynn, S Cahalan, N Gavin; L Lally, T Maher (Capt), A Kelly; B Hanney, C Kelly; A Connolly, A Hillary, V Curtin; O Kilkenny, L Kavanagh, B Kerins.

Subs: A M Hayes for O Kilkenny (29 mins), N Kilkenny for A Connolly (55 mins).

Referee: U Kearney (Armagh).

Delaney stands firm to earn Tipp victory after epic Cat fight

pperary	0-13
ilkenny	1-8

y Therese O' Callaghan

TIPPERARY manager Paddy McCormack summed it up best after watching is side defeat a resurgent Kilkenny in he second Gala All-Ireland senior amogie semi-finals.

"We are great rivals, be it hurling or amogie. People think it is ourselves nd Cork, but Kilkenny is only over he road from us. We love playing each ther. We know they would throw everything at us today, and that is exactly what they did," said the relieved boss.

Kilkenny will be encouraged by their impressive performance.

Selector Ann Downey said this must be the cornerstone of what is to come. "The pride is back in the jersey. They gave it everything and only for Jovita Delaney in the Tipp goal, we could be in the final."

Certainly, Delaney was the difference, although beaten once she brought off a series of terrific saves. The 32-year-old teacher was in magnificent form especially against U16 student Marie Dargan.

Tipperary had Eimear McDonnell back from injury and she rifled over two points. Cora Hennessy, Emily Hayden and Geraldine Kinnane all contributed to the Premier's interval lead of 0-7 to 0-5. But Kilkenny kept coming back. Elaine Aylward and Aine Fahy were superb in defence and when Brigid Mullally switched to the edge of the square on Una O'Dwyer a fascinating battle emerged. Imelda Kennedy also notched a few points.

All-Ireland camogie SF

When young Dargan goaled after Mullally's shot came back off the post, the sides were level.

The remaining quarter was packed with tension, as Claire Grogan's accuracy from the dead ball was to prove vital. Tipperary held out with stars like Philly Fogarty and Sinead Nealon weathering the storm.

But, Kilkenny showed great resolve, from goalkeeper Catriona Ryan to youngsters Dargan and Edwina Keane. If Tipperary's U21 hurlers can see off Antrim in their impending Erin semi-final, they will be joining the ladies on All-Ireland day in Croke Park as part of an attractive double-bill.

Scorers for Tipperary: C Grogan 0-4 (0-3 frees), E Hayden, E McDonnell, C Hennessy and G Kinnane 0-2 each, J Ryan 0-1.

Scorers for Kilkenny: I Kennedy 0-6 (0-5 frees), M Dargan 1-0, B Mullally and A Neary 0-1 each.

TIPPERARY: J Delaney; S Kelly, U O'Dwyer, J Kirwan; M Shortt, P Fogarty (Capt), S Nealon; C Grogan, J Ryan; C Hennessy, E Hayden, J Horan; G Kinnane, L Young, E McDonnell.

Subs: L Burke for J Horan (50 mins).

KILKENNY: C Ryan; K Kinahan, G Dillon-Maher (Capt), E Kennedy; E Aylward, A Fahy, E Fitzpatrick; A Neary, J A Woodcock; I Kennedy, B Mullally, L Lyng; J Frisby, A M Phelan, M O'Connor.

Subs: M Dargan for A M Phelan (20 mins), E Keane for J Frisby (25 mins), D Delaney for L Lyng (46 mins), T Muldowney for D Delaney (55 mins).

Referee: F McNamara (Clare).



Paula Bulfin of Tipperary fends off a challenge from Kiera Kinahan of Kilkenny at Nowlan Park. MATT BROWNE / SPORTSFILE

Delaney shines as Tipp and Cork reach final for fifth year in-a-row

Camogie

All-Ireland semi-finals

CORK and Tipperary will meet yet again in next month's Gala All-Ireland camogie final at Croke Park.

Both counties pulled through their respective semi-finals on Saturday to set up a September 10 showdown, as expected.

Amazingly, the meeting will be the Munster sides' fifth time in a row to contest the All-Ireland final and their sixth in seven seasons.

Tipp have appeared in every decider since 1999, claiming five of the seven titles on offer.

Cork, however, are champions after last year's 1-17 to 1-13 victory and will be keen to retain their crown and land a 22nd title.

They were the less impressive of the two sides to qualify from a double header of semi-finals at Nowlan Park though.

Low scoring Cork edged out Galway 1-7 to 0-6, while Tipperary were in better form with a 0-13 to 1-8 win over an up and coming Kilkenny side.

Tipp had experienced goalkeeper Jovita Delaney to thank for masterminding their latest semi-final victory.

Inspired by young stars Edwina Kane and goalscorer Marie Dargan, both of whom came on in the first-half, Kilkenny worked hard on their home turf.

Tipp led 0-7 to 0-5 at half-time and Delaney came into her own with a number of fine stops after the restart.

The free-taking ability of Clare Grogan, who scored 0-5, and points from the likes of Emily Hayden, Ger Kinnane and Emer McDonnell kept Tipp just about ahead at all times.

But they got a shock when Kilkenny netted through Dargan midway through the second half.

It was an opportunistic strike as a high ball in deflected into her path and she rifled to the net from 12 yards.

Despite a six-point haul from top scorer Imelda Kennedy, it was not to be Kilkenny's day though as Tipp held out.

Tough

Meanwhile, Cork made tough work of a four point victory over Galway with Eimear Dillon's first-half goal setting them on their way.

Centre-forward Dillon seized on a breaking ball in the Galway rearguard to drive home past Stephanie Gannon.

With Rachel Moloney and Jenny O'Leary, 0-2, both hitting points Cork took a 1-3 to 0-3 lead into the interval.

Ultimately, they held out to advance to the Croke Park decider with Gemma O'Connor, Dillon, Angela Walsh and O'Leary all impressive.

But they could have made life easier on themselves and Galway threatened all along. Lourda Kavanagh notched 0-4 for Galway, while sub Ann Marie Hayes hit a late point to keep the pressure on.

But despite the best efforts of Gannon in goals, Regina Glynn, Brenda Hanney and Kavanagh the westerners lost out.

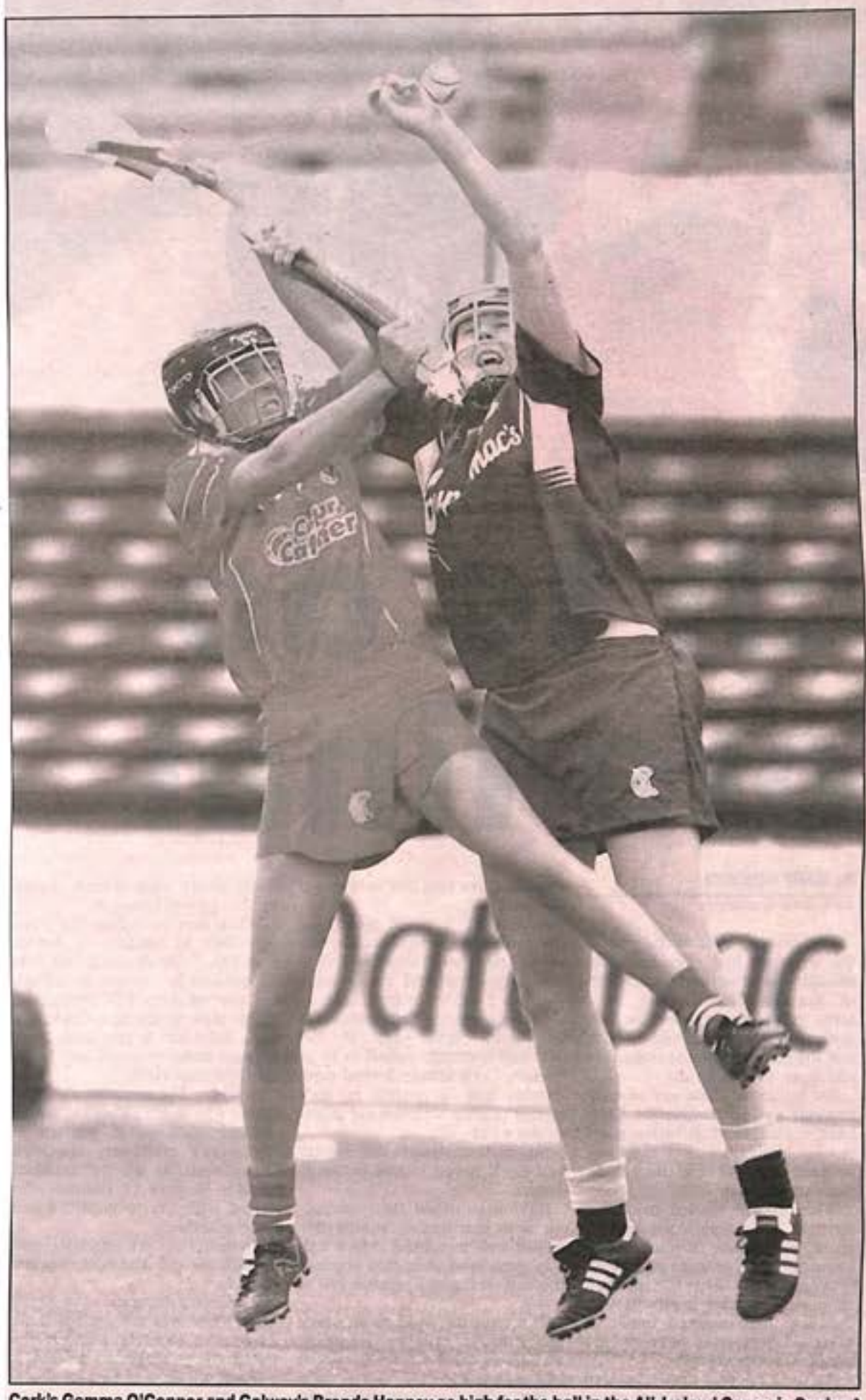
GALA ALL-IRELAND SENIOR CHAMPIONSHIP SEMI—FINALS — Tipperary 0-13 (C Grogan 0-5 (4f); E Hayden, G Kinnane & E McDonnell 0-2 each; C Hennessy & J Ryan 0-1 each), **Kilkenny 1-8** (I Kennedy 0-6 (6f); M Dargan 1-0; A Neary & B Mullally 0-1 each). **Cork 1-7** (E Dillon 1-1; J O'Leary 0-3 (3f); R Moloney 0-2; A Walsh 0-1), **Galway 0-6** (L Kavanagh 0-4 (3f); V Curtin & AM Hayes 0-1 each).

Aug. 2006



Cork's Gemma O'Connor shoots for goal against Galway during the All-Ireland camogie semi-final at Nowlan Park. Pictur

Cork to meet



Cork's Gemma O'Connor and Galway's Brenda Hanney go high for the ball in the All-Ireland Camogie Senior A semi-final at Nowlan Park on Saturday. Picture: Eddie O'Hare

Dillon sends Cork to fifth final in a row



LINDA MELLERICK

Cork	1-7
Galway	0-6

IT MIGHT never have reached the heights the drawn encounter provided four weeks ago but Cork won't mind.

They are through to their fifth All-Ireland final in a row against the old enemy Tipperary, who overcame Kilkenny by 0-13 to 1-7.

In a game that started well but faded in its excitement mainly due to over-blowing of the whistle and injury stoppages Cork never looked like losing, especially after Emer Dillon finished off a move she started to the back of the net 23 minutes into the opening half.

A strong swirling wind blew from the city end of Nowlan Park up the field and Cork played into it in the first half. The game started very fast and lively with Cork showing early signs, particularly in defence, of being on form. Both sides had chances to open the scoring but hit wide. The wides looked poor but one had to be on the field to appreciate the force of the wind.

Cork's defence were in tremendous form. Their half-back line of Rena Buckley, Mary O'Connor and Anna Geary were outstanding. The trio's inter-play and coolness under pressure saw them clear time and again. Inside Amanda O'Regan was well on top as was Catriona Foley, who is growing more confident with every game. Captain Joanne O'Callaghan, still not 100% fit, quietly did her job.

At centre-field Gemma O'Connor worked tirelessly, covering acres of ground and hitting intelligently. It must have been daunting for the young St Catherine's player Orla Cotter. Given the nod earlier in the week to start her first senior championship game in an All-Ireland semi-final against tough opponents like Galway must have been overwhelming. The early signs of nerves soon disappeared and she coped admirably.

It is up front where Cork disappointed. Considering the possession

Top player

MARY O'CONNOR

Hard to choose between the three half-backs but the nod goes to O'Connor.

For her ability to read the game and position herself in the right place. For her work ethic. For her composure under pressure and her ability to always find the loose player.

Turning point

EMER DILLON'S GOAL

With the first score registered after 19 minutes this was always going to be a low scoring contest.

Dillon seized the opportunity after starting the move and running off the ball to finish to the net.

It was an uphill battle for Galway after that.

Entertainment

Not the best of games. It showed early signs of promise but these quickly faded. Early injuries to Veronica Curtin and Angela Walsh held up approximately 10 minutes of the first 20 and the flow of the game was lost. Add to that the refereeing of Ann Kearney and the game was doomed from the start. **5/10**

Ref watch

Despite Cork winning, it is hard not to criticise a very poor refereeing performance.

Una Kearney from Armagh orchestrated a stop/start game which never reached the heights it was capable of.

Needless whistle blowing for 'phantom' frees frustrated all.

Cork's strike first in minor series

Cork	4-15
Dublin	2-1

by Mary Newman

CORK recorded a victory in game one of the round robin series in the All-Ireland Minor camogie championship, defeating Dublin at the Round Towers GAA Grounds.

Cork were on the scoreboard within five minutes of the start and continued to hold the upper hand until the full-time whistle. The team was sharper and more confident on the ball and held a commanding 3-6 to 0-1 lead by half-time, with Miriam Crowley, Sharon Whelton and Erin Corkery hitting first-half goals.

Dublin worked hard but found the going tough against the strong Cork defence; Amy Murphy registered a first-half point as the team battled to keep up with the stronger Cork girls.

The Dubs' Jolene Hoary opened the second half with a goal but Cork kept the pressure on the Dublin defence and were rewarded, with Orla Cotter, Denise Cronin, Erin Corkery, Deirdre Twomey and Sharon Whelton all continuing to pick off scores as Cork stretched their advantage.

Amy Murphy grabbed a second goal for Dublin but Cork substitute Michelle Browne hit back with Cork's fourth to ensure victory.

Cork's next game in the round robin championship robin is against Wexford on August 18.

Cork: E White, L Weste, L Hawkes, S Sexton, O Neville, E O' Sullivan, B Twomey, V Browne, O Cotter (0-2), D Cronin (0-3), A Watson, M Crowley (1-2), E Corkery (1-1), S Whelton (1-2), D Twomey (0-5).

Dublin: S Carthy, S Rowe, L Twomey, K Connolly, S O Donovan, N Drummond, A Kirwin, A Maguire, J Hoary (1 goal), O O'Shea, L Berekly, A Chaney, A Murphy (1-1), E Bagnell, O Sheehan,

AUG. 2006

the old enemy



Cork: Need to improve in forwards

they enjoyed, 1-4 from play was a poor return. The Galway defence, particularly Regina Glynn and Sinead Cahalan worked hard but Cork had the chances. Failing to score from outside the 30 yard line is causing Cork problems. The players don't seem to want to take this option, choosing instead to try and push their way closer and closer to goal.

With long stoppages for injuries and fussy refereeing the game became very stop-start.

It took 19 minutes to register its first score, and that a free from Jenny O'Leary. It seemed to help player's breadth as the next 11 minutes produced 1-5.

Lourda Kavanagh, Galway's most threatening forward on the day, hit a '45 after 21 minutes.

Then came the only goal of the day. Emer Dillon ran from her right corner forward position across the face of the goal to gather 25 yards out. Turning and slipping past two Galway defenders she passed into the now fully occupied 15 yard line. In the melee that followed it was Dillon who finished the move after she ran in to pull first time to the net, giving Galway keeper Gannon little chance.

Kavanagh responded brilliantly for the westerners with an excellent point. Another O'Leary free and a point from the hard-working Rachel Moloney saw Cork head into injury time with a four-point lead before Kavanagh hit over again to leave the score 1-3 to 0-3 in favour of the rebels.

With the wind now at their backs Cork dominated most of the second half. Galway pressed hard but in reality they never looked like scoring the goal they needed to put a bit of life into their challenge. Walsh, Dillon, Moloney and O'Leary had all converted by the 18th minute to give Cork a commanding lead of seven points.

Galway knew only a goal would save them and tried to run through the Cork defence but they were smothered every time.

Three points from the westerners in the last 10 minutes probably did them justice but this was Corks victory from the throw in and they now face a mouth watering final on September 10 against the team they know so well — Tipperary.

Scorers for Cork: J O'Leary 0-3 (f's), E Dillon 1-1, R Moloney 0-2, A Walsh 0-1.
Galway: L Kavanagh 0-4 (0-2f, 0-1'45), V Curtin and A M Hayes 0-1 each.
CORK: A Murray; J O'Callaghan, C Foley, A O'Regan; R Buckley, M O'Connor, A Geary; G O'Connor, O Cotter; B Corkery, A Walsh, J O'Leary; R Moloney, U O'Donoghue, E Dillon.
Subs: S O'Donovan for B Corkery (58 min)
GALWAY: S Gannon; R Glynn, S Cahalan, N Gavin; L Lally, T Maher, A Kelly; B Hanney, C Kelly; A Connolly, A Hillary, V Curtin; O Kilkenny, L Kavanagh, B Kerins.
Subs: A M Hayes for O Kilkenny (29 min).
Referee: Una Kearney (Armagh).

Cork's Briege Corkery racing through the Galway defence in the All-Ireland Camogie Senior A semi-final at Nowlan Park.
Picture: Eddie O'Hare

WHAT THEY SAID

CORK selector Ollie Hallihane was quiet and content looking when approached for his thoughts after the game.

Cork came into Nowlan Park on the back of a poor defeat to Tipperary last weekend and players and management alike knew they had to up their performance considerably if they wanted to be in another All-Ireland final.

"After last weekend we were very disappointed. We knew we had to up it. The pressure was on today. We had to win, there was no two ways about it.

"I felt we were hungrier today. Our half-back line were top class, midfield worked hard and Emer took her goal well.

"We have to improve up front. We're aware of that and we've four weeks now to work on it. We're there now, we'll work hard and give it another right lash," he said.

Galway selector Damien Coleman was absolutely livid after the game, not because Galway lost but with the poor quality of refereeing.

Certainly the game was spoilt by needless blowing.

He said: "We're very disappointed, absolutely deflated. Our cause wasn't helped by the ref. She gave 20 frees in the whole game and the majority of them were for absolutely nothing."

Coleman reflected on the hard work put in by Galway over the past months.

"No team should have to train for eight months, put in a huge effort only to have a game refereed by someone who was completely out of her depth. I'd describe her as inept and you can quote me."

"Cork are a quality side. I'm not taking from their victory at all. They deserved their win and we're not looking for excuses.

" We started very poorly. Playing with the wind it took us 21 minutes to score. This Cork team has arrived. We're still a little bit off the mark, striving to get there," he admitted.

"We congratulate Cork on a good victory. They dug deep and hung in there. The last time we met it was a classic but this game never reached those heights. We wish them the very best of luck in the final."

Three reasons why Cork won

HALF-BACK LINE

Rena Buckley, Mary O'Connor and Anna Geary are Corks greatest strength. They were absolutely tremendous from start to finish and their play was a joy to watch.

Buckley and Geary are playing with an experience way beyond their years flanking Corks pivotal O'Connor. The three play well together, supporting one another under pressure. They tore the heart out of Galway's challenge.

CONTROL IN MIDFIELD

Midfield is such a crucial area. When your half back line and centre field are in control, the team is in control. Gemma O'Connor and All-Ireland semi-final debutante Orla Cotter dominated proceedings. Both players covered miles.

O'Connor, enjoying a little more possession, played low intelligent balls inside and is beginning to peak at the right time. Cotter grew as the game wore on and can be proud of her efforts with the best still to come from this talented youngster.

GOALSCORING ABILITY

Very few goal scoring opportunities presented themselves during the 66 minutes.

The difference was that when it did Cork were the ones it fell to and they grabbed it with both hands.



Cork's Angela Walsh powers past Lorraine Lally of Galway during their All-Ireland camogie senior semi-final at Nowlan Park. Picture: INPHO

Much to do before final

THIS one had the makings of a classic before a ball was thrown in.

By MARY NEWMAN
Cork-Galway analysis

Galway were aiming to make the big break through and book their place in Croke Park for the first time since 1998.

League champions and defending All-Ireland champions Cork had many questions to answer. After losing out last weekend to Tipperary the critics were ready to write Cork off.

But at the end of the hours play the only thing to remember is that semi-finals are for winning, no more. This was a poor game that never too off.

Certainly for any neutrals that arrived early the game was a huge disappointment. Expectations were high given that in the last meeting between the sides four weeks ago they served up a thriller which ended in a draw.

On that occasion it took a free from Lourda Kavanagh three minutes into injury to bring the side's level and ensuring Galway's continued involvement in the competition.

Cork could have considered themselves a little unlucky to have only got a draw on the day after turning around a six point deficit ,so they to had a point to prove on Saturday.

For the last two years Galway have been knocking on the door.

Had their time now come to enjoy their day in the limelight?

Well the answer was simply No.

The reason? Well at the end of the day they just were not good enough. Yes joint coach and selector Damien Coleman did have some valid points when he was critical of referee Aileen Lawlor and the huge amount of stoppages and frees (over 20 in all).

Her failure to allow any advantage rule and the constant calling back of the play frustration players on both sides. But her performance did not cost them their place in the final.

When it was needed most the strength and experience of the champions shone through. The game did not live up to pre match expectations or to the last meeting between the sides, maybe it was because there was so much at stake. Players were nervous and afraid to make mistakes.

We had to wait until the 19th minute for the game's opening score, that coming from Cork's Jenny O' Leary. As the half continued many in the attendance were in danger of nodding off such was the flat atmosphere and lack of bite in the contest.

Maybe it was the non-stop whistling of the referee who insisted on blowing for silly little frees instead of allowing play flow or it may have been the three lengthy stoppages for injuries (all necessary stoppages). We did, however, have a few highlights.

None more so than Emer Dillon's super goal (the only one of the game).

In a move initiated by herself the hard working forward was in a prefect position to drill the ball to the Galway net and give Cork a valuable 1-3 to 0-3 interval lead.

Galway having only managed one point from play in the first-half certainly looked to be in trouble. Cork always looked comfortable and in control as they turned to play with the aid of the strong wind.

Again throughout the second half Cork never looked to be in danger.

Having stretched their advantage with four further points they looked well in control before Galway registered their first score of the half on the 19th minute. (1-7 to 0-4)

The game did liven up as a contest with ten minutes remaining as Galway came at Cork in search of a goal.

But with the Cork defence in control and on top of their game, their was no way Cork were going to allow them through.

From the start of the game it was the Cork defence who held the side together.

Time after-time they stepped up to the plate and delivered the goods.

Especially in the opening half when Galway had the aid of the strong wind they had to be at their best and they were.

The half-back line of Rena Buckley, Mary O' Connor and Anna Geary were seldom passed by the Galway forwards.

When they were they met stern defenders in Amanda O' Regan, Catriona Foley (making her first appearance in a senior semi-final) and captain Joanne O' Callaghan.

The understanding between the Cork defenders is excellent. They are cool under pressure and do the simple things right.

It was a big occasion for Orla Cotter who was making her senior championship debut, but the St Catherine's midfielder acquitted herself well, as did her midfield partner Gemma O' Connor who played with her usual drive and determination.

Up front the Cork attack did just enough to get through, against Galway.

It will be a different story in the final. They will not get the same amount of room or time on the ball from the Tipperary defence.

They will have to be a lot sharper if they hope to retain their crown.

Maybe it was the fact that the game was the curtain raiser (given that Cork are champions this was strange) but it certainly lacked atmosphere and excitement.

At the end of the day it was mission accomplished for Cork.

With their place in Croke Park secured they will now get down to their next task of retention of the O'Duffy Cup, but it's very much a case of much done, but an awful lot more to do.

Delaney saves day for Tipp

JOVITA DELANEY dragged Tipperary kicking and screaming into next month's Gala All-Ireland camogie final. The experienced Tipp 'keeper rescued her county with a string of fine saves at Nowlan Park to help Tipp to a 0-13 to 1-8 semi-final victory over up and coming Kilkenny and booked a place in the September 10 final at Croke Park — where they'll face champions Cork. Tipperary will fancy their chances, particularly after Cork made hard work of seeing off Galway in yesterday's other semi-final. The holders defeated Galway 1-7 to 0-6, with Eimear Dillon's goal proving the difference. But Cork were hardly convincing and have plenty to work on ahead of their return to Croke Park for a rematch of last year's decider.

SCORERS — Tipperary: C Grogan 0-5 (4f); E Hayden, G Kinnane & E McDonnell 0-2 each; C Hennessy & J Ryan 0-1 each. Kilkenny: T Kennedy 0-6 (6f); M Dargan 1-0; A Neary & B Mullally 0-1 each.

Eimear Dillon's 22nd minute goal helped Cork into a 1-3 to 0-3 half-time lead against Galway. The centre-forward pulled first-time on a breaking ball to raise the green flag.

SCORERS — Cork: E Dillon 1-1; J O'Leary 0-3 (3f); R Moloney 0-2; A Walsh 0-1. Galway: L Kavanagh 0-4 (3f), V Curtin & AM Hayes 0-1 each.

AUG. 2006



Tipperary's Jill Horan gets in a shot despite the presence of Kilkenny's Elaine Aylward and Imelda Kennedy during the Gal Senior Championship semi-final. Photo Matt Browne

Underdogs Milford will need a good opening half

By LINDA MELLERICK

Camogie

TONIGHT sees two attractive quarter-finals take place in this year's Cork County Senior A Camogie championship.

Cloughduv take on Seandun in Brinney while Milford face Imokilly in Ballyhooley in what most followers are calling the game of the championship.

It sure looks like a mouth-watering tie on paper. From Milford's point of view however, the loss of star player Regina Curtin with a broken elbow slightly tips the favouritism tag in Imokilly's favour.

Imokilly have a serious amount of inter-county players in their side most notably Mary O'Connor, Orla Cotter, Emer O'Farrell and Denise Twomey. They have experience and strength in all sections. Milford have been in the running for county honours for the past couple of years now, losing last year's semi final to Cloughduv by four points.

Anna Geary, Elaine O'Riordan, Christine O'Gorman and the Watson sisters will do all in their power, despite missing Curtin, to ensure they don't exit this year's championship at an even earlier stage. It promises to be an epic clash and if Milford can rid themselves of their slow-start habit then this game could go down to the wire.

Cloughduv should have the better of Seandun. The divisional side haven't any championship action to date having already received a walkover from Fr O'Neill's. Ciara Healy captains the side which boasts Senior inter-county corner back Amanda O'Regan and sister Louise. Cloughduv however endured a tough first round encounter against St Finbarr's which they lost by two points and a second round encouraging defeat of Carrigdhoun by 3-8 to 0-7.

With club and inter-county commitments it is always hard to pull together a divisional side. Imokilly have the advantage in that most of the players are familiar with each other's play. Seandun don't have this luxury to that great an extent. For this reason and their lack of match practice, Cloughduv to win.

Fixtures: Cork County Senior A Camogie Championship quarter finals.

TONIGHT: Cloughduv v Seandún in Brinney, 7.30pm Milford v Imokilly in Ballyhooley 7.30pm



Cork's Orla Cotter blocks down this shot by Galway's Brenda Hanney during the All-Ireland camogie semi-final at Nowlan Park. Picture: Eddie O'Hare

Camogie seniors book final place

Cork	1-7
Galway	0-6

by Mary Newman

THE senior camogie team did just enough to ensure their place in the Gala All Ireland final with a four point victory over Galway.

Through the game Galway provided strong opposition.

Even though Cork never looked in danger and always controlled matters Galway did turn in a late rally with saw Cork having to call on all their resources before victory was assured.

Cork led 1-3 to 0-3 at half time.

An Emer Dillon goal was the difference between the sides after points from Jennifer O Leary (2) and Rachel Moloney, Galway's Lourda Kavanagh having tapped over all three points of her side's tally.

Cork had stretched their advantage by the three quarter stage with points from Angela Walsh, Emer Dillon and Rachel Moloney before Veronica Curtin got one back for Galway.

Galway came at Cork with points from Kavanagh and Ann Marie Hayes. Galway piled on the pressure as they sought a goal and it was backs to the wall for Cork.

Throughout the game it was the Cork defence that excelled, Captain Joanne O'Callaghan, Catriona Foley and Amanda O'Regan superb in the full back line, while Rena Buckley, Mary O'Connor and Anna Geary stood firm through the hour.

It's a September 10h meeting with old rival Tipperary next after they defeated Kilkenny in a thrilling semi-final with just three points to spare.

Cork: A Murray, J O'Callaghan, C Foley A O'Regan R Buckley, M O'Connor A Geary , G O'Connor, O Cotter, A Walsh, B Corkery E Dillon, J O'Leary, R Moloney O Donoghue. S O'Donovan for B Corkery.

Women's games at last getting the prominence they richly deserve

IT was nice to see the All-Ireland camogie semi-finals getting such prominence on The Sunday Game. Camogie, like hurling, needs all the promotion and support it can get. And it wasn't just tokenism. We were treated to a good number of highlights together with two lively ladies doing the analysis as Pat Spillane smiled appreciatively from his chair. More of same would be very welcome.

Speaking of ladies, as I will be honoured to be a judge at next week's Rose of Tralee, it will mean I will miss the All-Ireland semi-final for the first time since I was a boarder in St Brendan's.

Still, if you are to miss a big match what better way than to be surrounded by 30 lovely Roses as we watch the match on television.

Of course, if the game was in Cork or Killarney I could organise a bus to take all the Roses to it and let the Kerry rose and the Cork rose select a team each.

Now that would be interesting!

But from a planning point of view Kerry County Board should be looking to avoid the Munster side of the draw being involved in the All-Ireland semi's the same weekend as the Rose Festival. However, that's for another day.

Still, its good to see ladies' games (football and camogie) getting the promotion they deserve. It is a pity their big games often clash with the big championship games.

A doubling-up is what we should be working towards. Thankfully, this year, the All-Ireland U21 Hurling Final and the Camogie All-Ireland Final will be played on the same day in Croke Park. We decided that last year as the same counties are often involved in both and it led to even families having to split to support brothers and sisters playing at different venues on the same day.

And now that triple-headers are part of the Croke Park programme, we can, hopefully, look forward to ladies' games being included in the package.

Dublin v Derry in Camogie Junior All-Ireland final.

Dublin play Derry in this year's Junior All-Ireland final in Tullamore on Saturday, 19th August at 4.30.

The Dublin girls are attempting to retain their Junior All-Ireland crown. Dublin won their first Camogie All-Ireland in thirty years when they defeated a gallant Clare side in a replay at Birr last October. The drawn game at Croke Park was an enthralling competitive affair with the lead changing sides many times throughout the hour. In the last minute of injury time Dublin's Niamh Taylor slotted over a precious point from a free to earn the replay.

During the Round Robin section of this year's campaign Dublin travelled to the Glens of Antrim and came away with a 0-15 to 0-5 win. They then had easy enough wins over Tyrone and Meath to qualify for the Quarter finals.

Dublin played Kildare in the Quarter finals on at Áras Uinsionn. Dublin took control of this game from the start. Although Kildare scored three goals immediately after half time, Dublin went on to win 5-12 to 3-3.

In the semi-final Dublin played Clare in Pairc Tailteann in Navan in what was a repeat of last year's All-Ireland final. Dublin played well in this competitive game and were always ahead. With 10 minutes to go Dublin seemed to have the game wrapped up when they were comfortably ahead 2-11 to 0-8. However, Clare had other ideas. What excitement and tension as Clare put in a storming finish which all but swept Dublin away. They scored 1-4 without reply to reduce Dublin's lead to a precarious 2 points. But Louise O'Hara settled Dublin nerves when she pointed in the last minute of injury time to leave the final score Dublin 2-12 Clare 1-12. Relieved Dublin players and supporters could breathe a sigh of relief and look forward the final on 19th August.

Dublin face Derry in the final. Derry gave a masterful display when defeating Waterford in the other semi-final. Derry are a strong, mobile and skilful team with plenty of leaders throughout the field. They will pose a serious threat to Dublin as they go in search of this year's All-Ireland title.

The Dublin girls under the guidance of manager, Peter Lucey, and selectors Pat Fanning, Caraoline Duggan and Doirin Golden have prepared assiduously for this year's campaign. They are a wonderfully dedicated happy group of young players who have given great committment in their efforts to retain the New Ireland Cup. On behalf of the Management of the County Board and the clubs throughout the county we wish them every success on Saturday. Our earnest wish is that a large crowd of Dublin Camogie supporters and friends will be in Tullamore on Saturday to cheer on the girls in blue as they go in search of this year's Junior All-Ireland title.

The Dublin Camogie's Supporters jersey is one of the nicest in the business. We encourage our supporters and friends to wear this fab jersey to the final on Saturday. To purchase this jersey contact Denis Murphy at 086-2051183 or email info@olhausens.ie.

Olhausen are sponsors of Dublin Camogie. This is the third year of a mutually beneficial sponsorship deal between Dublin Camogie Board and Olhausens Ltd. We thank our sponsors for their generous support and hope that they like us will be celebrating good times on Saturday.

Anne McCluskey capt.(Erins Isle), Eimear Brannigan (St. Vincents), Elaine O'Meara (Na Fianna), Anne Griffin (Ballyboden St. Endas), Aisling Jordan (St. Vincents), Eimear Butler (St. Vincents), Louise O'Hara (Erins Isle), Sarah Ryan (Good Counsel), Siobhan Curran (Raheny), Sinead Cunnane (Skerries Harps), Sylvia Hanks (Good Counsel), Gemma Flynn (Good Counsel), Sinead Hardy (St. Vincents), Ciara Durkan (Skerries Harps)

Front Row L to R.
Elaine Ryan (Good Counsel), Andrea Fitzpatrick (Naomh Mearnog), Jean Murphy (Skerries Harps), Niamh Taylor (Naomh Mearnóg), Ciara Lucey (Ballyboden St. Endas), Áine Fanning (St. Vincents), Muireann O'Gorman (Na Fianna), Julie Draper (Erins Isle), Sile Cotter (Ballyboden St. Endas), Caitriona Power (Naomh Mearnóg).

AUG 2006



ON THE GLORY TRAIL: Dublin captain Ann McCluskey, right, and Derry captain Claire Docherty get to grips with the New Ireland Cup ahead of the All-Ireland Junior Camogie final, to be played next Saturday at Croke Park.
Picture: Damien Eagers/Sportsfile

AUG 2006

CAMOGIE PREVIEWS BY MARY NEWMAN

Determined Barrs can make semis

AN INTERESTING quarter-final pairing in the Tower View Developments Senior Camogie Championship this evening as Aghabullogue and St Finbarr's battle it out for a place in the semi-final.

The mid-Cork side since winning the B title in 2004 have made huge strides since their promotion to the A grade.

This season they are well organised and turned in an impressive hour in defeating Fr O'Neill's in their opening round game.

TONIGHT
Senior Camogie Championship quarter-final: Barrs v Aghabullogue, Ballincollig 7.30pm



Their full forward line of Louise Murphy, Abbie Lehane and Mairead Twomey each notched two goals against Fr O'Neill's so the Barrs' defence will need to be at their best to hold the lively inside line.

In defence Sinead Buckley, Joan Twomey and Linda Rohan all performed well but it will be a worry that they have not played in the championship since that evening on July 1,

In the interim no doubt they have been busily preparing for tonight's big one which is a huge occasion for the Mid Cork outfit.

St Finbarr's make no secret of their desire to lift the Punch Cup for the first time.

This year they have former Cork hurler Gerald McCarthy on board as coach.

In their opening game they looked impressive as they consigned county champions Cloughduv to back door re-entry to the championship. In round two Kilbrittain/Timoleague provided tough opposition and while the Barrs won by a comfortable margin in the end it took them a long time to finally seal victory against tough opposition and tonight Gerald McCarthy will look for a big improvement from his attack.

Long serving Colette O'Mahony, left, has impressed in both contests scoring vital goals in each and in fact has been the only Barrs' player to score a championship goal thus far, but they have superb performers in Vivienne Harris who is the only player on the team to hold senior county championship honours won with her former club Bishopstown.

Gemma O'Connor is a tower of strength and has been the one to continuously answer the call when the going gets tough while captain, Linda O'Connell and Ellen Clifford have been reliable.

It's a hard one to call, as Aghabullogue are determined and play no-nonsense first-time hurling, are superbly fit and full of running.

Barrs are equally as determined. They feel this is their year and given the talent at their disposal and the manner in which they have progressed to date, few would disagree with them advancing.

Ballinhassig girls seek second win

BALLINHASSIG face into their third game of the round-robin series with one victory and one defeat to their credit while Newcestown contest their second game having lost an opener to Valley Rovers.

TONIGHT
Tower View Developments Senior B Championship: Ballinhassig v Newcestown, Brinny 7.30pm

Ballinhassig looked impressive defeating Carrigaline to get their campaign off the ground but lost to a very strong and determined St Catherine's side who are firm favourites to take ultimate honours.



Ballinhassig have plenty of talent at their disposal with inter-county player Eimear O'Sullivan, and county U16 players Sinead O'Callaghan, right, and Catriona Collins.

They have given a good account of themselves in both outings while young goalkeeper Shauna McCarthy is certainly a name to watch out for in the future.

Newcestown are renowned championship campaigners and were disappointed to lose out in their opening game to Valley Rovers, they will look to Cork senior panellist Colette Desmond, Anita Coughlan, Hilda O'Mahony Aileen Coughlan and Colleen Long to get their campaign back on track.

CAMOGIE

All-Ireland Minor A championship: Galway 4-13: T Rutledge 2-3, A Tuohy 1-1, N Coen 1-0, C Connican 0-4, J Gill 0-2f, M Farahar, R O'Brien, P Kenny 0-1 each.
Limerick 1-4: EMullane 1-0, N Mulcahy 0-3 (0-1f), C



LINDA MELLERICK

O'Farrell flying as Imokilly hold firm

Imokilly	**1-9**
Milford	**0-10**

IMOKILLY got the perfect start to this Tower View Cork County Senior A Camogie Championship tie at Ballyhooley last evening.

A goal after four minutes by Emer O'Farrell gave the divisional side a lead they never relinquished despite another late onslaught by Milford.

With a fairly strong wind to their backs Imokilly put the pressure on from the beginning. A seemingly harmless shot by O'Farrell from 40 yards lobbed goalkeeper Elizabeth Lenihan who looked to be momentarily blinded by the sun. This urged them on and they planked themselves in the Milford half of the pitch for much of the opening period.

Orla Cotter was doing great work around the middle of the field, at times falling back and acting as a sweeping line of defence in front of her half back line. Milford could make no breakthrough in this area.

The club side were under huge pressure. Christine O'Gorman, Anna Geary and Elaine O'Riordan, in particular, worked their socks off and defended magnificently. A rather dubious free, converted by Cotter gave Imokilly a four-point advantage after 10 minutes. Milford got off the mark after 11 with an Eilish Horgan point.

Cotter hit another two, a beauty from the right and a free to push Imokilly further in front.

The pressure was all on Milford who were losing the battle around midfield and their half-forward line. They showed no signs of advancing and had their defence to thank that they weren't further behind.

Apart from Cotter, O'Neill and the Twomey sisters were causing problems for the North Cork side. Their liveliness wasn't evident in Milford's play. When Denise Twomey doubled on a Cotter free Imokilly led by five.

Emer Watson had a golden opportunity to run for goal when catching a great ball hit in by Emer Conroy. Unaware of the space around her she shot first time over the bar to cut the deficit to four. Twomey pounced again for her second. At the break Milford had it all to do with Imokilly still holding a five-point lead.

Once again Milford showed that they're a second-half team. Within seven minutes there were only two points in it as they, with the wind now behind them, incessantly attacked with three points and three wides inside seven minutes.

Two minutes later, Cotter again was the tormentor, as she scored an excellent free from out on the wing to break Milford's momentum.

When Claire Keohane added another just 60 seconds later it looked bad for Milford.

They refused to give in without a fight and gaining control around the middle of the field, hit over points on the 11th, 15th and 19th minutes.

Only a point now separated the sides but Milford couldn't draw level and when a ball which looked to be going wide went out for a 45 there was no way Cotter would miss.

Milford pushed hard but the experience of inter-county players Mary O'Connor, Marie O'Neill and Cotter showed.

When Twomey hit a good score from a difficult angle to lead by three only a goal would now save Milford. Unfortunately for them it was a goal they never really looked like getting.



Cloughduv's Marie Corkery races away from Seandun's Doireann ni Mhuiri during the Senior Camogie Championship. Picture: Richard Mills

Scorers for Imokilly: Cotter 0-5(0-4f), E O'Farrell 1-0, D Twomey 0-3, C Keohane 0-1.
Milford: E Watson 0-7 (0-3 f, 0-1 45), E Horgan, C O'Gorman and A Watson 0-1 each.
IMOKILLY: D Leahy; N Mulcahy, M Dorgan, N Barry; A M Walsh, M O'Connor, O Neville; O Cotter, E Murphy; C Keohane, M O'Neill, C Walsh; Denise Twomey, E O'Farrell, Deirdre Twomey.
MILFORD: E Lenihan; T McLoughlin, E O'Riordan, D Hayes; C O'Gorman, A Geary, S Sexton; E O'Friel, D O'Reilly; E Horgan, E Conroy, A Thompson; M Watson, A Watson, E Watson.
Subs: L Healy for T McLoughlin (43min).

Captains look on as Liz Howard demonstarates some skills!!!



AUG 2006

Una central to Cloughduv win

By MARY NEWMAN
Senior camogie

Cloughduv	1-5
Seandun	0-7

HEARTBREAK for Seandun as Cloughduv, the county champions, snatched it at the death in a thrilling Tower View Developments Senior Championship quarter-final in Brinny last evening.

There was excitement from start to finish.

Cloughduv goalkeeper Aoife Murray made a spectacular drop from the skies above Brinny, arriving by helicopter from Dublin to take her place between the posts. Overwhelming favourites going into the game, Cloughduv were never allowed settle by a Seandun side who showed plenty of spirit and determination.

Seandun, driven on by Ciara Healy at centre-back and Amanda O'Regan at midfield, dominated the opening 30 minutes and were full value for their interval lead of four points.

Indeed such was their dominance that they held the champions to a single point in the first half, Una O'Donoghue having opened the scoring after two minutes. They had to wait until the 10th minute of the second half for their second score.

In between Seandun made life extremely difficult for them.

Ciara Healy, Niamh Goulding and Ciara Enright were solid and reliable in defence, while up front the pace of Charlotte Kearney and Miriam Crowley troubled the Cloughduv defence who conceded frees and were punished by the unerring accuracy of Amanda O'Regan as the divisional side led 0-5 to 0-1 at the break.

Seandun worked hard from the start of the second half but with the Cloughduv defence now marking tighter they found no way through.

By the 12thth minute of the second half just two points separated the sides, Catherine and Briege Corkery having edged the champions closer to the finishing line.

Amanda O'Regan and Jean Lucey swapped points with the divisional going the distance as the champions, with Emma Dunne and Briege Corkery leading the way, upped the pace.

Matching them in every department, Seandun showed plenty of heart as Joanne Browne again put three points between the sides. However, they were dealt a killer blow when impressive centre-back Ciara Healy had to leave the field injured.

Undeterred, they battled on and as Cloughduv applied relentless pressure the Seandun defence stood solid. Una O'Donoghue pointed a Cloughduv free with two minutes of normal time remaining and still Seandun held their lead.

Entering injury-time it looked as if the champions were on their way out but their was one last twist as the referee awarded Cloughduv a free on the 20 metre line.

Up stepped Una O'Donoghue to drilled it low to the net. Still more drama as Seandun sweep down field to win a free.

Amanda O'Regan's long-range free effort was grabbed on the edge of the square by Niamh Goulding who was rather harshly penalised for charging with half the Cloughduv defence on her shoulders.

With the free came the final whistle and relief for a Cloughduv side who will know they stole it at the death, and heartbreak for a Seandun side that gave it everything but in the end were pipped at the line.

SEANDUN: M Gould (Delanys), S. Kelly (Bishopstown), C. Meaney (Blackrock), C Enright (Bishopstown), L O'Regan (Douglas), C Healy (Bishopstown,) N Goulding (Glen Rovers), E Morgan (Douglas), A O'Regan (0-6) (Douglas), C Kearney (Na Piarsaigh), J Browne (0-1), (Bishopstown), M Crowley (Bishopstown), J O' Donovan (Douglas), R O' Sullivan (Douglas), D Ni Mhuiri (Blackrock).
Subs: R de Faoite (Blackrock) for C Healy (inj 50), G Mulqueen (Blackrock), for D Ni Mhuiri, N O'Donovan (Douglas) for R O'Sullivan.
CLOUGHDUV: A Murray, O O'Callaghan, S Corkery, S Corkery, E Dunne, J O'Callaghan, E Dunne, M Corkery, J Lucey (0-1), O McCarthy, B Corkery (0-1), A Buckley, U O'Donoghue (1-2), S Buckley, C Corkery (0-1).
Referee: A Cummins (Ballymartle).



Seandun's Charlotte Kearney about to clear the ball as she is challenged by Cloughduv's Orla McCarthy during the County Senior Camogie Championship at Brinny. Picture: Richard Mills.



Cork's Rena Buckley is one of the stars for Inniscarra.

Inniscarra gear up for derby encounter

TONIGHT
Tower View Senior Camogie Championship quarter-final: Inniscarra v Muskerry, Coachford 7.30pm

IT'S neighbour against neighbour as Muskerry and Inniscarra come face to face this evening in the Tower View Developments Senior Camogie Championship.
Having lost out in last year's final to Cloughduv, Inniscarra are determined to go one better this year for a first senior championship title.
They have enjoyed plenty of success at underage level and hope to capitalise on this at adult level. They were forced to take the back door route to keep their ambitions alive after they fell to championship debutantes Ballygarvan in round one, an evening when conceding six goals was a major concern.
They regrouped for their second round game against Avondhu with their Féile Na Gael captain Joanne Casey taking over the goal keeping duties.
But they had to be at their best to hold off a strong late rally from the divisional side, Casey coming to the rescue denying Avondhu at the death with just two points between the sides.
Leading at the half-time whistle by four goals they looked to be on their way but a lapse in concentration allowed Avondhu back into contention, a repeat of that could be costly against the strong Muskerry side who knocked out Courcey Rovers in their first game.
In that clash Muskerry found themselves in a similar position to Inniscarra, leading at one stage by 13 points they were pinned to their collars to hold out for a narrow win.
Ellen O'Herlihy pointed a free seven minutes from full-time to shatter Courceys' momentum and foil their efforts of snatching a draw.
Linda Dorgan, Erin Corkery and Margaret O'Herlihy and Leah Weste will lead the divisional side's challenge, while Cork senior Rena Buckley, Trisha Murphy, Niamh Dilworth and Fiona O'Connell will strive to take Inniscarra a step closer.

Camogie games postponed to aid Rebels

AT its meeting last evening the Cork Camogie Board took a decision to postpone all championship games involving Cork players ***writes*** **MARY NEWMAN.** This is to allow the senior team — who will contest the All-Ireland final when they defend their title again Tipperary on September 10 — to prepare properly.
The senior county semi-finals were due to be played on Monday and Tuesday evenings next week.
Following a request from the camogie management team the board decided to postpone the games.
Games in the senior B and junior A champions involving players have also been rescheduled.
The two county senior championship semi-finals between St Finbarr's v Muskerry and Imokilly v Cloughduv will now go ahead on September 24 with the final on October 8.

CAMOGIE
Ashbourne Cup quarter-finals: Waterford IT 3-12 Cork IT 0-8; UCD 3-3 NUI Galway 0-9; UCC 3-11 Garda College 0-1; UL 6-14 Mary I Limerick 0-4. Semi finals: UL v UCC and WIT v UCD. CIT, NUIG, the Garda College and Mary I will contest the Ashbourne Shield. Both competitions in UL on weekend Feb 25-26.
Ulster Senior 'A' Colleges Final: St Mary's Magherafelt 3-5; IC Carey 2-0, S Mc Loughlin 1-0, M Convery 0-3 (0-3F), A Gribbin 0-1, A Mc Peake 0-1 (0-1F).

Cross and Passion College 1-5; (E McMullan 1-0, C Dallat 0-5 (0-5f). **Ulster Senior 'B' Final:** St Patrick's Keady 4-4; C Gray 2-0, M McClelland, M Murphy 1-1 each, G Kelly, C McParland 0-1 each. St Catherine's 0-3; C McSorley 0-3 (0-3F). **Munster Senior 'B' Colleges Final:** Borris Voc Sch Tipperary 2-10; N Enright, V Austin 1-0 each, L Davis 0-4 (0-1F),M Morkhan 0-2 (0-1'45), A M Quinlan 0-2, F Ryan, A Cleary 0-1 each. Lismore Waterford 2-3; T Morrison 1-1,S Keane1-0, A O'Brien 0-2. **Munster Junior 'A' Final:** St Mary's Charleville 6-13; A McAuliffe 2-3, D O'Callaghan 2-2, K Brosnan, 1-1, C Kelliher 1-0, A Thompson 0-3 (0-2F), E Healy 0-2, R M Healy, E Reidy 0-1 each.
Presentation Bandon 1-1; E Ryan 1-0, C Collins 0-1. **Munster Junior C Final:** Tulla Clare 2-2; S Moloney 2-1, Ann M McMahon 0-1, Coláiste Choilm Cork1-4; H Coomey 1-0, C Ryan 0-4 (0-2F).
CORK
Evening Echo SH League final: Glen Rovers 4-8 Bride Rovers 3-10.
McCarthy Insurances SF Kelleher Shield semi-final: Nemo Rangers 1-16 Douglas 0-5.

CAMOGIE
All-Ireland Minor c'ship semi-finals: Down 2-7 Kildare 3-1; Antrim 3-9 Offaly 2-8.

Pictures:
1. Dublin captain Anne McCluskey lifts the cup.
2. Caitriona Power and Louise O'Hara celebrate.
3. Louise O'Hara wins Player fo the Match.





DUBS captain Anne Mc Cluskey will happily entertain one more guest at her wedding reception next Saturday as the proud Dublin captain will have the New Ireland Cup there following their very exciting Junior All-Ireland victory over Derry, 0-12 to 1-7 in O'Connor Park, Tullamore on Saturday played as a double header with the Erin U21 All-Ireland hurling semi-final between Galway and Kilkenny.

Both teams started off very nervously with the result that it was twelve minutes before the opening score was recorded, a Gráinne Mc Goldrick free. However, that was the only time during the game that the Oak Leaf County led and it was short lived. Two minutes later last year's Dublin captain Eimear Brannigan sent over the Dubs opener to level it at 0-1 each after fourteen minutes.

However, the remainder of the first half remained very close as the sides were level twice again, but it was the defending champions who went in leading, 0-6 to Derry's 0-5 at the break thanks to a Niamh Taylor free one minute into time added on. Dublin added a further point immediately after the restart thanks to Sarah Ryan at full-forward. Derry, who were chasing their first junior All-Ireland title since 2000 were in no mood to lie down and Clare Mc Cloy made it point number six for the Red and White jerseys within the minute.

Derry made a number of moves, which saw full-forward Katie Mc Auley move out to the half-forwards where she proved to be more effective by opening up the Dublin defence, but she also met with a brilliant Dublin ' keeper in young Eimear' Butsy' Butler who very much kept the girls in Blue in the game in the second half. While the Dublin defence were solid, they also had a very energetic half -forward in player of the match Louise O'Hara who finished the day with a total of 0-5, all from play.

Not only did she send these vital scores over, but also she took on the Derry half backs and ran and ran at them. Derry's right corner back Helena Kelly did try her best, but on the day there was simply no stopping in Louise O'Hara.

Despite, Derry trying their very best, after nineteen minutes of the second half they found themselves trailing by 6 points, as Dublin led 0-12 to 0-6. In true Derry style, half forward Clare Mc Cloy suddenly brought great cheer to the Derry sideline with a superb goal four minutes later. The rasping shot from the right gave the Dublin 'keeper no chance what so ever and so the margin was reduced to a goal, Dublin 0-12, Derry 1-6.

Dublin hung on for dear life. If the Dublin goalkeeper was able to deny Derry shots, so too was the Derry 'keeper Clare O'Kane as full-forward Sarah Ryan raced forward as did substitute Anne Griffin, but it was Derry's Katie Mc Auley who had the final say of the 2006 junior All-Ireland final with a free two minutes into time added on. The Dublin Manager Peter Lucey still had to endure a further

two minutes of tension filled drama before referee Cathal Egan called it a day.

Dubs survive late Derry comeback

Dublin 0-12 Derry 1-7 DUBLIN braved another epic encounter to retain their All-Ireland junior title in Tullamore. Just like their semi-final defeat of Clare the Jackeens held out in the face of a late onslaught.

A Claire McCloy Derry goal with six minutes to go rattled the blues. McCloy drifted in from the left with a fine finish to cap a period of sustained Derry dominance. Derry had the margin down to just one point in injury-time when Katie McAuley converted her second point from a free.

But corner-forward Ashling Jordan proved Dublin's hero with a late point to seal the two point win. Half-forward Louise O'Hara starred for Dublin with 0-5 overall.

Defences dominated early on as Dublin hit the half-time break with a narrow 0-6 to 0-5 lead in breezy conditions. Dublin stayed just about in control at all times with Niamh Taylor, Jordan, Sarah Ryan and Ciaran Durkan all on the mark.

Details:

Teams:

Dublin: E Butler: E O'Meara, C Lucey, J Murphy; A Fitzpatrick, A Mc Cluskey (cpt), C Power; Á Fanning, C Durkan; E Brannigan, L O' Hara, J Draper; N Taylor, S Ryan, A Jordan.

Subs: M O' Gorman for A Jordan 51mins, A Griffin for J Draper 59mins.

Scorers: L O'Hara 0-5, N Taylor 0-2f, S Ryan 0-2, E Brannigan, C Durkan, A Jordan 0-1 each.

Derry: C O'Kane; H Kelly,C Pickering, J Carey; K Laverty, C Doherty, C Cusnahan; B Convery, A Diamond; C Mc Cloy, D Mc Cann,G Mc Goldrick; S Cassidy, K Mc Auley, J Kelly.

Subs: A Lavery for J Kelly 35mins,A Wilkinson for S Cassidy 42mins, S Cassidy for K Lavery 48mins.

Scorers: C Mc Cloy 1-1, G Mc Goldrick 0-4f, K Mc Auley 0-2 (0-1f)

AUG 2006

Cork go in search for their second victory

By MARY NEWMAN

Camogie

TONIGHT, All-Ireland Minor Championship Round Two Cork v Wexford, Ballinlough 7pm.

THE second game of the round-robin series in the All-Ireland minor championship takes place in Ballinlough this evening as Cork play host to Wexford .

Already Cork have recorded a victory over Dublin while Wexford lost out narrowly to Kilkenny 3-14 to 3-11 in a high scoring game.

Wexford are a strong outfit, though given the success of Oulart the Ballagh in annexing five All-Ireland Féile an Gael titles in-a-row and the success of colleges side Coláiste Bríd it's not a huge surprise.

Their team is built around county senior players Ciara Storey a daughter of Wexford All-Ireland winning captain Martin, Una Lacey daughter of former Wexford camogie star Margaret, and Catriona Parrock.

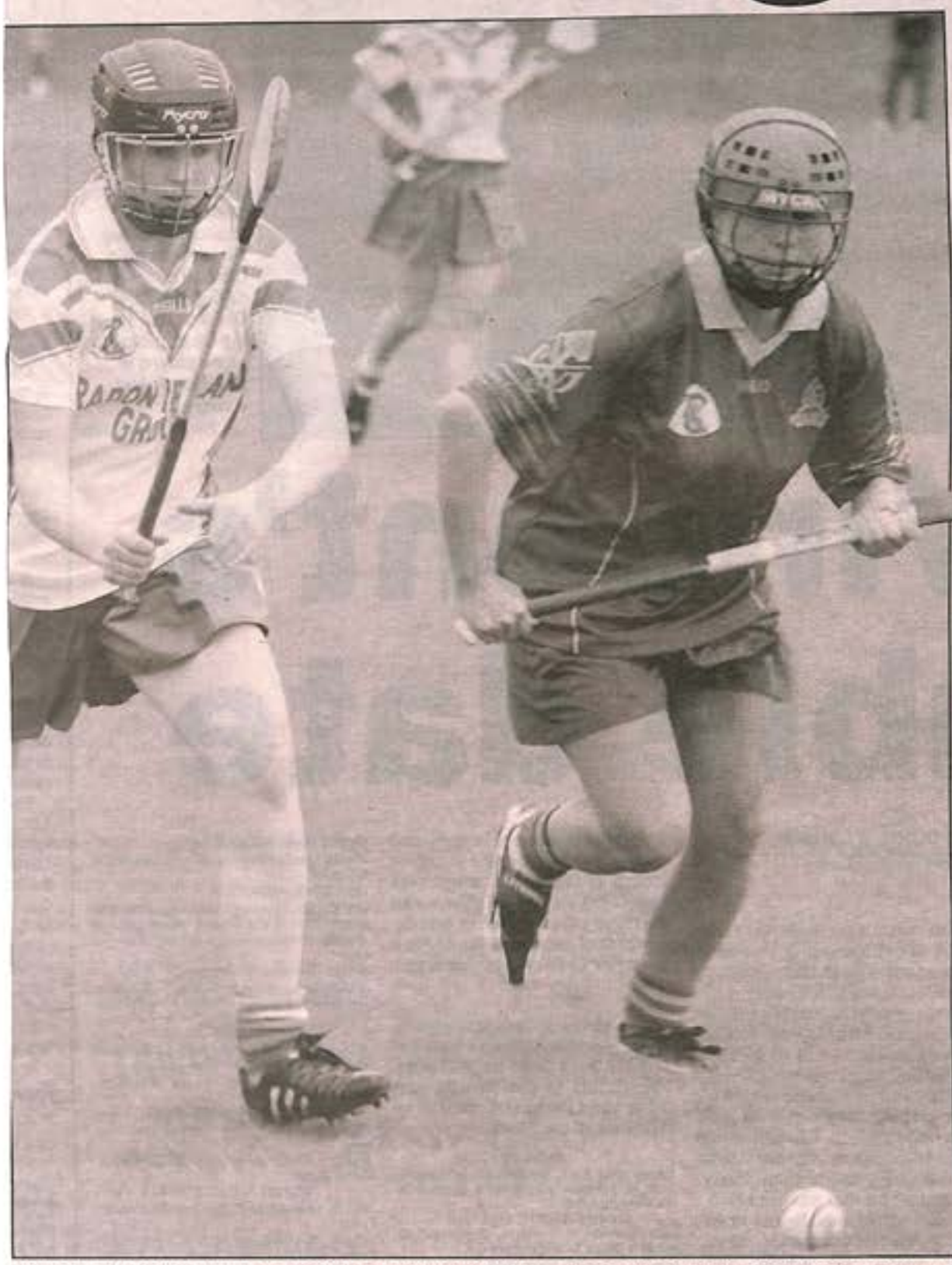
All three have contributed enormously to the resurgence of camogie in the county but they will be forced to line out without Catriona Parrock who is out of the country at present on international duty representing the Irish U19 soccer team in England, and she will be a huge loss to the side. Never the less with quality players such as Stacy Redmond, Lorraine O'Connor and Sandy Carr in their line out they will be confident of giving a good account of themselves.

Cork were never troubled and did not receive much of a test from Dublin. Orla Cotter who made her senior championship debut on Saturday last captains the side and she is joined by senior panellists Lucy Hawkes and Eimear O'Sullivan.

Against Dublin Sharon Whelton and Erin Corkery turned in excellent performances and Cork will be looking for more of the same this evening as they aim to go top of the group. With two teams to qualify from the group of four and with Kilkenny waiting in the wings a win would guarantee Cork a semi-final place.

SAINTS INTER-COUNTY EXPERIENCE IS KEY TO VICTORY AS

Barrs girls



Ciara Murphy of Aghabullogue and Maria McCarthy of St Finbarr's race for the ball in their County Senior Camogie Championship match at Ballincollig. Picture: Kieran Boyde



LINDA MELLERICK

St Finbarr's	3-16
Aghabullogue	2-6

A SPIRITED Aghabullogue display couldn't halt the mission of St Finbarr's in this Cork County Senior A Championship quarter-final clash in Ballincollig last evening.

The difference on the night was the range of inter-county players St Finbarr's had in almost every line of the pitch.

They were a class apart, especially Gemma O'Connor and Vivienne Harris, and the youngsters in this young Aghabullogue side just couldn't match their strength or experience.

A respectable scoreline separated the sides at the break but as the game wore on in dark, wet conditions, Aghabullogue weakened.

The mid Cork side started well and matched the Barrs' point for point in the opening 10 minutes. A classic goal three minutes later however by O'Connor started the wheel turning for the city side.

Winning the ball 50 yards out she headed towards goal at speed, flicking over an opposing player's head before first-timing to the net.

Two further points from Colette O'Mahony and Claire Spellman edged the Barrs seven points in front by the 18th minute.

The game was beginning to open up with some fast open passages of play. Aghabullogue pushed hard but couldn't penetrate the Barrs half back line in which Lynda O'Connell and Jenny Duffy were in total control.

Sinead Buckley was working extremely hard for Aghabullogue and their persistence paid off as they drew St Finbarr's in winning frees.

Niamh O'Connell converted two



Ellen O'Herlihy scored a goal early on for Muskerry.

O'Herlihy girls to the fore as

Muskerry	4-8
Inniscarra	1-6

By MARY NEWMAN

Senior Camogie

NO DISPUTING the result of this one with divisional side Muskerry full value for their 11-point victory to qualify for the Tower View Senior County Championship semi-final.

Last year's defeated county finalists Inniscarra were never allowed to settle by the divisional side, with a determined Muskerry making all the running from the start.

Overall this mid-Cork derby failed to live up to expectations, falling flat and lacking enthusiasm at times.

Inniscarra were guilty of two bad wides at the outset and paid the price when Ellen O'Herlihy rattled the net for the opening score after just five minutes.

Niamh Dilworth and Síle Burns swapped points as Muskerry enjoyed all the possession and put the Inniscarra defence under enormous pressure.

Rena Buckley was a tower of strength, but an over worked Inniscarra defence were troubled by the pace of the divisional side's inside line.

Erin Corkery struck Muskerry's second goal 15 minutes into the game and as Inniscarra struggled to keep in touch, Muskerry piled on the pressure, stretching their lead with points from Linda Dorgan and Ellen O'Herlihy.

Inniscarra rallied though, coming up to the break, the hard-working Niamh Dilworth and Rena Buckley pointing as just two goals

AUG 2006

AGHABULLOGUE GIVE A BATTLING DISPLAY

on fire



Bríd Twomey, Aghabullogue wins the ball closely watched by Bernadine Maher, St Finbarr's in their County Senior Camogie Championship match at Ballincollig. Picture: Kieran Boyde

in the 19th and 23rd minutes. Two minutes before the break a long ball in by Louise Murphy was batted out by Ellen Clifford, the Barrs net minder, and Ciara Murphy was on hand to hit home giving Aghabullogue a major boost before the break, now trailing by only four points.

The second half began with the light fading fast. St Finbarr's came into their own and were on top in almost every section of the field.

Bernadine Maher was working extremely hard around the middle of the field. Up front Collette O'Mahony and Orla O'Sullivan were constant threats.

To Aghabullogue's credit they never gave up with Niamh O'Connell, Louise Murphy and Sinead Buckley trying hard.

The Barrs began hitting over with ease scoring 1-11, some of the scores top class.

Aghabullogue had a great chance of a goal after nine minutes but Ellen Clifford stopped superbly.

Now playing in virtual darkness and with the rain teeming down mistakes began to happen and both sides let in a fortuitous goal as the game drew to a close.

Scorers for St Finbarr's: G O'Connor 1-3, V Harris 1-3 (0-1 45), C Spellman 1-1, C O'Mahony 0-4 (0-2 f), O O'Sullivan 0-2, B Maher, R Myers and C Barrett 0-1 each.

AGHABULLOGUE: L Murphy 1-2 (1-0 f), N O'Connell 0-4 (0-3 f), C Murphy 1-0.

ST FINBARR'S: E Clifford; C Myers, C Kirby, C Harrington; L O'Connell, J Duffy, M McCarthy; V Harris, B Maher; R Myers, G O'Connor, C Kirby; C Spellman, O O'Sullivan, C O'Mahony.

Subs: A McCarthy for M McCarthy (44), M Collins for C O'Mahony, C Barrett for R Myers (both 55).

AGHABULLOGUE: N Moynihan; J Twomey, M Twomey, T Roche; S Buckley, S Crowley, B Twomey; N O'Connell, E Healy; C Murphy, D Twomey, A Twomey; A Lehane, C Kiely, L Murphy. Subs: O McSweeney for A Twomey (h/t)

Muskerry storm to decider

separated the team at the half-time whistle.

The second half followed the pattern of the first, Muskerry well in control in all sectors as their opponents struggled to break them down. By the third quarter Muskerry had their place in the semi-final secured with Margaret O'Herlihy striking for two goals as the attack continued to hold the upper hand.

Síle Burns, Erin Corkery and Margaret O'Herlihy added points but credit to Inniscarra who never gave up the chase, the lion-hearted Rena Buckley, Aoife Kavanagh and Claire Moloney contesting every ball to the finish.

Fiona O'Connell, Buckley and Dilworth pointed and eventually they goaled with O'Connell blasting a 45-metre free superbly to the net but they never matched the divisional side for pace or that extra bit of drive when it was needed.

Muskerry now meet St Finbarr's in the semi-final where they will face a much stiffer test, though after winning three successive games and upsetting the odds the divisional side will not be underestimated.

Scorers for Muskerry: M O'Herlihy 2-2, E Corkery, E O'Herlihy 1-1 each, S Burns 0-3, L Dorgan 0-1.

Inniscarra: F O'Connell 1-1, N Dilworth 0-3, T Murphy, R Buckley 0-1 each.

MUSKERRY: T O'Donnell (Ballincollig); C McKenna (Eire Óg), S Gleeson (Eire Óg), M Foley (Rockban); L Weste (Ballincollig), C Foley (Rockban), L Murphy (Eire Óg); L Dorgan (Grenagh) (c), C McKenna (Eire Óg); D Cronin (Ballincollig), S Burns (Rockban), C O'Leary (Eire Óg); E Corkery (Eire Óg) E O'Herlihy (Eire Óg), M O'Herlihy (Eire Óg).

INNISCARRA: J Casey; R McCarthy, E O'Mahony, A Punch; M Buckley, R Buckley, M O'Connell; M O'Connell, T Murphy (c); F O'Connell, N Dilworth, S Ní Riain; C Moloney, M Cosgrove, A Kavanagh.

Sub: G Desmond for A Punch.

Ref: C Egan (Glen Rovers).

Cork will beat Tipperary but it won't be easy



LINDA MELLERICK

SO it's Cork versus Tipp again.

Just like it's Cork v Kilkenny again.

What is it they say about 'the cream always coming to the top'!

Cork have failed so far this year to really impress but then again so have Tipp for the most part.

Earlier in the campaign I was originally of the opinion that Cork would beat Tipperary in the knockout stages of this year's championship if it came to it.

It has come to it now, in an All-Ireland final but all of a sudden I'm not so sure. I'm still sure they can win it but it ain't going to be easy or as easy as I thought.

Cork have played Tipp four times this year already.

In the National League series, the league final, the Munster championship semi-final and the final group game of this year's championship just two weeks ago.

Cork won the first three encounters. In these games Cork were experimenting and giving their younger panellists a run. They were still winning and Tipp failed to excite me.

I felt they lacked an inspirational figure, namely a Ciara Gaynor and didn't have huge scoring power up front.

However, a fortnight ago, in a game which neither team needed to win (as both had qualified) I began to see signs of the old Tipp.

The bite was back, the aggression was back and like the Cork teams of old we failed to stand up to it and give it back.

Let's start with the Tipperary defence:- Jovita Delaney in goal.

I still see this goalkeeper as very beatable. Most of the time I think we make her look good, coming in from acute angles, hitting the shot straight at her or trying to squeeze it in between her and the near post.

Tipp still have the same three full-backs that lined out in last year's All-Ireland final — Suzanne Kelly, Una O'Dwyer and Julie Kirwan.

O'Dwyer is coming back to her form of two years ago and surprisingly can launch attacks from her full back position.

Suzanne Kelly is a tough nut to crack. Kirwan was roasted in the second-half by Emer Dillon 12 months ago so Cork should take full advantage of this.

Gaynor and Therese Brophy have both retired from Tipperary's dominant half back line.

Surprisingly it is Philly Fogarty who has slotted back into the central position and she was excellent in her last two outings.

Tipp seem to have found a replacement and very quickly too.

Sinead Nealon at left half and Jennifer O'Leary always have great battles.

O'Leary is the most consistent of Cork's inside six and they can't afford to have her contribution nullified.

Michelle Shortt is at right half back. She shows little signs of being on the subs bench just 12 months ago.

Joanne Ryan is at centre field with Clare Grogan and this is a very impressive midfield pairing.

Both are lightning fast. Ryan is a work horse who runs at defences and opens up huge scoring opportunities for her team mates.

Grogan can score from centre field and will take every opportunity that presents itself.

Jill Horan, Emily Hayden and Cora Hennessy operated as right half forward, centre forward and left half forward respectively last weekend.

Horan has an incredible turn of speed but her finish rarely matches her build up.

Hayden is extremely hard-working and a goal poacher.

She got through for two against Cork two weeks ago.

In instead of the retired Noelle Kennedy, I actually think she brings more to the team that her former team mate.

For me, Cora Hennessy is the find of the season. I say find because she didn't even figure in last year's named All-Ireland panel of 25.

Hennessy is the half forward I most worry about. She was excellent against Cork previously and again last weekend she scored two points and created others.

She possesses a great turn of speed and plays with huge confidence.

Ger Kinnane, Louise Young and Emer McDonnell complete their typical starting 15 line up.

McDonnell's skill is renowned. However, she has not scaled those heights this year so far.

Don't expect that she won't do so in Croke Park. Ger Kinnane would be well marshalled by the likes of Amanda O'Regan, you would expect almost every time.

Louise Young is another who was on the subs bench last year.

Not to be written off, she adds her own bit to this side.

On paper Tipperary are strong and know that most counties wrote them off this year on account of their big name retirements.

They are through to their eight final in a row. They have filled the gaps left behind admirably.

I would go so far as to say that their midfield is better and with Fogarty performing the way she is, their half back line is as strong as ever. Hennessy has added new life and their half forward line looks strong too.

With the full back line the same and just a little doubt in my mind about two of their three inside forwards, this Tipp team is more than capable of taking this year's All-Ireland title.

AUG 2006

Skipper Cotter inspires Cork win

Cork	2-11
Wexford	2-7

CORK had to be at their best to deny a strong Wexford side before the points were secured in the second game of the round-robin series All-Ireland minor camogie championship at Ballinlough on Friday.

Thankfully the downpour of rain and thunder and lightening which greeted the team's arrival at the venue had abated before the throw in.

Cork, despite having made the better start thanks to an early Orla Cotter goal and points from Miriam Crowley and Cotter, inexplicably lost their way and were pinned in their own half for 15 minutes as Wexford came at them in waves. Hitting four points without reply — a Louise O'Leary goal quickly followed by an Una Lacey point — had the visitors in the driving seat.

Cork regained their composure with Erin Corkery showed her skill in outsmarting the Wexford defence with a neat side step to crash to the net.

Now it was all Cork and driven on by excellent Captain Cotter at mid field and the lively Crowley in attack, they took control with points from Cotter and Corkery, in between Lacey pointing for Wexford to leave Cork two points ahead at the break.

Cotter showed her accuracy pointing two long range frees inside five minutes of the restart but with Wexford beginning to find holes in the Cork defence goalkeeper Eimear White had to be at her best in denying O'Leary and Lacey in quick succession.

Cork maintained their four-point advantage entering the final quarter but eventually Wexford found a way through Lee Ann Murphy putting the minimum between the sides with twelve minutes remaining.

As Wexford piled on the pressure Cork stood firm Cotter dropping back to help her defence where Eimear O'Sullivan and Lucy Hawks excelled.

Having stood firm in defence, the Cork forward division responded with a strong finish, Ashling Thompson, Michelle Browne and fittingly Cotter pointing to ensure a victory that guarantees the Rebels a semi-final spot with just one game to go against Kilkenny on September 1.

CORK: E White, L Weste, L Hawkes, A Moynihan, O Noville, E O Sullivan, S Sexton, V Browne, O Cotter (1-6), A Watson, M Crowley (0-2), A Thompson (0-1), E Corkery (1-1), S Whelton, S Twomey

Subs: M Browne (0-1) for S Whelton (29min), B Twomey for D Twomey (43min)

WEXFORD: L Clooney, S Nolan, J Breen, L O Connor, C Storey (0-2), S Cullen, S Redmond, S Nolan, C Murray, S Kehoe, U Lacey (0-4), L O Leary (1-0) O Refferty (0-1), L Murphy (1-0), S Kehoe.

Subs: S Carr for S Kehoe (43min), K Dunne for S Nolan (47min), A Ryan for A Rafferty (43min).

Referee: R Kelleher Limerick

Cork	4-13
Tipperary	0-6

Such was Cork's dominance that by the half-time whistle in this Senior B All-Ireland camogie championship semi-final their place in the final was already secured *writes* Mary Newman.

Electing to play with the aid of the strong wind for the opening half Cork set about securing their place in the decider from the throw in. Marie O'Neill quickly made her presence felt with a point inside a minute. All over the pitch Cork held the upper hand and playing with confidence had tapped over seven points before Tipp had their opening score twelve minutes to the break, Mary Ryan pointing a free.

Tipp had no answer to the strength of Cork. In defence Deirdre Hayes, Linda O'Connell and Eimear O'Sullivan were in total control while at midfield the hard working Linda Dorgan and Marie Corkery ensured a steady supply for the Cork forwards who duly obliged with some excellent scores.

The impressive Marie O'Neill had hit her fifth point as Cork continued their mission and they effectively killed off the Tipp challenge with three first half goals in the closing stages of the half.

Denise Twomey struck for the first after Marie Watson and Miriam Deasy had combined well for Twomey to find the net for the game opening goal with nine minutes to the break

As Cork continued to over powered Tipperary, Emer O'Sullivan's long ball from defence found Emer Watson who efficiently dispatched it to the net.

On the half time whistle O'Farrell had goal number three and in between doing little wrong, Cork picking off their points with ease to build up a 3-11 to 0-2 half time advantage. Mary Ryan tapped over Tipp's second score from a free five minutes from the break.

Given the trend of the opening half the second half was never going to be one to set the world alight but Tipperary aided by the wind showed plenty of spirit as they came forward in search of scores.

Three points in succession from Mary Ryan, Deirdre Dunne and Eimear Ryan gave them something to cling onto but in honesty there was always only going to be one winner. Credit to the Tipp defence who through the second half contained Cork to just three scores, Marie O'Neill leading the way with their first a goal twenty-two minutes into the half, substitute Marion Jagoe and O'Neill pointing to send Cork comfortably on their way as Mary Looby had the final score with a Tipp point.

Given that earlier in the round-robin series when the sides met Cork had totally over powered Tipp the result of this one was somewhat predictable.



Denise Ni Rhiain runs at the Tipperary's defence during the Ladies B All-Ireland Semi-final Clash . Picture: PressZ

Cork brush Tipp aside to book final spot

Nevertheless Cork had to produce the goods once again and this they did in no uncertain terms, their defence was superb and never put a foot wrong, they had two excellent midfielders who totally overpowered the Tipperary duo, while up front all six forwards contributed to the score sheet. No doubt a much stronger challenge will come from Galway who recorded a four point victory over Kilkenny and it has been reported that in the semi-final Galway fielded many of the side that ran the Cork senior team to just four points in the recent All-Ireland semi-final. October 1, is the next day on the calendar, one which will no doubt be eagerly awaited.

Cork: G Harrington, AM Fleming, S Corkery, D Hayes, L O Connell, J Duffy E O Sullivan M Corkery L Dorgan(0-1) E O Farrell(1-2), M O Neill (1-8) E Watson(1-0), D Twomey(1-0), M Deasy(0-1), M Watson **Subs:** C Corkery for M Deasy (46 mines) L Hawke's for E O Sullivan (54min),M Jagoe (0-1) for E Watson(54min) M Holland for L Dorgan (56min), J Lucey for D Twomey (58min).

Tipperary: J Nolan, L Ryan, N Harkin, A Davis, M Lutrell, T Maher L Bourke,

L Grogan, C O Sullivan, M Ryan (0-2), D Dunne (0-1), D Ni Rhiain,

M Looby (0-1), E Ryan (0-1)

Subs: A Lornegan for L Bourke (40min) S Burke for D Ryan (42min), C Johnson for C O Sullivan (44min) A Mc Loughlin for M Lutrell (50min)

Ref: D Noble Dublin

Three reasons why Cork won

1. They were stronger, fitter and more skilful all over the field than Tipperary.
2. Their ability to take scores and to pick off their points was important and they did this with an air of confidence from the throw in.
3. Their determination to make the final was obvious from the thrown in, they chased and closed down Tipperary all day and never allowed them chance to get into the game.

O'Regan delighted to emulate senior success

Cork Selector Willie O'Regan

Willie O'Regan was thrilled with his team's progression to the Final.

"We are delighted to be in the All-Ireland final.

"All year it's been tough for us given the success of the senior team. We have to rely a lot on them and wait to see just what players we have available.

"Earlier in the year when we played our first league game we lost out to Dublin, but since then we have not lost a game.

"We have worked really hard and the girls have been superb, the senior team are already through to the final and now we have booked our place in the Senior B final.

"It augurs well for camogie in Cork.

What they said

Tipperary coach Tom McCarthy

Tom McCarthy was extremely disappointed with the result.

"This is a final we have worked hard to reach and believe me we are going to win this one."

"No disputing it but they were simply the better team.

"We knew we had a big challenge on our hands. Already twice this year they had beaten us and they are simply a class team.

"Today we were not good enough, no excuses we did lose three players from our panel through injury but I don't think that would have made much difference today.

"Cork were a class apart and we wish them wee in the final"



Lynda O'Connell is challenged by Tipperary's Fiona Connolly. Picture: Press22

AUG. 2006

Gaultier's glory

(2006-08-22)

Gaultier Camogie Club Notes
County Senior Camogie Championship Final
Gaultier 1-13 St. Anne's 0-8
Gallant Gaultier Gallop to First Title since 1990 in Tramore

The last time Gaultier won the County Senior Camogie title, the Celtic Tiger was but a cub, the U.S.S.R. a superpower and phone texting was unheard of. These facts help explain the elation of players, mentors and supporters when referee Dan Daly called time on Sunday's tumultuous final in Tramore. When you also take into account that the victory was achieved over St.Annes who have had a vice like grip on the championship for the last four years, you can begin to comprehend their delight.

The score line suggests an easy victory but as all supporters of our national game are aware results can turn in the blinking of an eye. To their eternal credit, the champions fought to hold their title as they pressed for the goals needed to bridge the gap in the closing stages. But they found a Gaultier defence superbly marshalled by Gail O'Sullivan in an unforgiving mood and quite unwilling to concede.

All successful sporting stories have many sub plots and Gail is one of the stories of the 2006 final. The only player on the Gaultier panel with a senior championship medal which was won in 1990. She has persevered through the barren years and received her reward on Sunday, much to the delight of her parents Lillian and Pat. Her steadying influence on her youthful companions cannot be underestimated.

Before the account of the game is recorded, the role of the Godparents of Camogie in The Barony of Gaultier must also be acknowledged. Referring of course to Helen and Tony Cummins. They have given countless players the opportunity to enjoy this wonderful game over many years. At the helm again this year, Tony cajoled and encouraged his charges all year with Helen in the background making sure all appropriate arrangements were in place.

The champions were first to settle, drawing on their experience they held a three point lead by the 15th minute courtesy of Pauline Cunningham (0-3) and an outstanding Annette Raher point from fifty meters. Áine Lyng had Gautier's solitary score. A sea breeze favouring St Annes ensured the sliothar resided in the challengers half. Their defence was heroic through this period with Margot Heffernan, building on her performance from the semi final, quite exceptional. Zoe Power, Ciara O'Callaghan and Ruth Hannon ably supported her.

St. Anne's mentors introduced Karen Kelly on the 20th minute and she added a point soon after. The sides quickly traded scores to leave the score line 0-6 to 0-2 in the champions favour. The midfield exchanges were frantic with the Sally O'Grady/ Bella Daniels partnership for Gaultier battling it out with Charlotte Raher and Caroline Ahearn for the champions.

The foundation for victory was laid in the closing minutes of the half as Gaultier's centre forward Áine Lyng finally found space to display her exhilarating skills. Two quick white flags raised and the margin was reduced to two. More importantly the tide was turned and The Barony girls went into the break with a pep in their step.

Half Time St Annes 0-6 Gaultier 0-4

Action recommenced and points were traded, the sides were level 0-7 each by the eighth minute, Jenny O'Grady scoring the equalizer, a just reward for her phenomenal work rate. St Annes nudged in front again but the deadly accurate Lyng levelled matters by the midway mark having been denied a goal by the excellent Tracey Gallagher.

Centre back Aileen Cummins now came into her own and was dominant till the final whistle. The Gaultier attack moved sweetly, Emma Hannon in constant motion probing for openings. The younger players Sarah Smith, Emily Dower and Clare Hartery responding to their more experienced peers. For St Annes Pauline Cunningham, Katie Rockett and Sarrie Flynn worked hard.

In the Gaultier goal young Patricia Jackman was simply superb as the stakes were raised, she dealt capably with numerous attacks and was particularly cool under the high ball. Indeed another sub story to the Barony's success, Patricia not even born when they last tasted success. Recently she finished second in the All-Ireland long puck competition in the Cooley Mountains and passed up a basketball trip to Europe so she could line out on Sunday.

Between the 17th and 20th minute Áine Lyng had the umpire raise the white flag on three occasions. On the 24th minute Jenny O'Grady was taken down as she headed goal ward, a 20 metre free in front of the goal, the Gaultier faithful held their breath. Knowing their sharpshooter's penchant for these types of situations an air of expectancy descended on the seaside venue. The champions lined the goal realising they were facing a defining moment. In spite of their best efforts the net bulged, Lyng danced in delight and the punters at the racetrack nearby, pausing between bets, wondered where the crescendo of noise came from.

St Annes attacked bravely but to no avail, two further points to the Barony girls before the referee called for the sliothar. The end of a tremendous run of St. Annes titles and reward for many years of dedication to youth and not so youthful by Gaultier mentors and officials.

Teams: Gaultier – Patricia Jackman, Ciara O'Callaghan, Ruth Hannon, Zoe Power, Gail O'Sullivan, Emily Dower, Aileen Cummins, Margot Heffernan, Sally O'Grady, Bella Daniels, Jenny O'Grady (0-1), Áine Lyng (1-12), Emma Hannon, Clare Hartery, Sarah Smith, Carol Anne Power Aisling Flood, Emma Tallon, Claire Dunne, Aoife Harold.

St Annes: Tracey Gallagher, Bridget Hannigan, Lorena Mooney, Kerry Dunphy, Emma Wall, Annette Raher (0-1), Ailish Dunphy, Charlotte Raher, Caroline Ahearn, Katie Rockett, Pauline Cunningham (0-4), Julie-May Keane (0-1), Siobhan Murphy, Sarrie Flynn (0-1), Ailish Barry, Karen Kelly (0-1), Helen Murphy, Ciara Murray, Nicola Barry, Siobhan Kavanagh, Miriam Kavanagh, Referee Dan Daly (Cork)

Éire Óg hope for repeat of Glen form

By MARY NEWMAN

Camogie

SATURDAY
Tower View Developments Senior B Championship, Éire Óg v Bishopstown Ballincollig 6.30pm

BISHOPSTOWN go into their last match in the round-robin series after losing out narrowly to Douglas and then holding off a strong challenge from Glen Rovers to record their first victory in the competition.

Éire Óg looked strong in their clash with the Glen, especially in the opening half and, with fifteen of their side involved with the Muskerry senior team who contest the county semi-final, they have had plenty of match practice.

Ciara Healy is ruled out for Bishopstown following a recently injury picked up while playing with Seandun in their champions game with Cloughduv.

She is a huge loss to them as she has been the player scoring consistently for them. Now the time has come for somebody else to stand up and take on the responsibility.

They face a huge task and will need to be at their very best to hold off a strong Éire Óg outfit including Ellen O'Herlihy, Alanna mcKenna and Erin Corkery, who have all been playing excellently.

SUNDAY
Tower View Developments Senior B Championship, St Catherine's v Carrigaline Watergrasshill 7.15pm

FAVOURITES to lift the title, St Catherine's have set the foundations for what they hope will lead to the ultimate honours and they stated their intent with a big victory over Ballinhassig.

All over the pitch they possess players of quality. Cork seniors Orla Cotter and Deirdre Twomey lead the way while Denise Twomey, Noreen Mulcahy and Helen Lane are strong performers.

Carrigaline have lost up to 11 of last year's panel, who departed to foreign shores for the summer,.

They lost out in their opening games to Valley Rovers and Ballinhassig and its is hard to see them coping with the strong challenge St Catherine's will pose.

However if any of their players have returned and if they can rediscover the form that they are capable of, they could make this a very interesting tie.

Corkey enjoys the limelight

Aug 2006

DUAL STAR Briege Corkery was the latest Cork GAA player to be seen sporting a Corona Extra-branded item when the Rebel ladies dumped Mayo out of the All-Ireland chase at the quarter-final stages in Portlaoise on Saturday.



MARY WHITE

The 2005 Sportswoman Of The Year wore a white hairband, which had a red-coloured Corona Extra logo centred on the front, when she came on as a substitute in the 21st minute.

As with Cork hurlers Niall McCarthy and Kieran Murphy last season, in which both players wore Corona Extra-branded football boots, the masterminds behind the stunt were Cork-based PR company, Hopkins PR.

Barry/Fitzwilliams, the Irish distributors of the Mexican beer Corona, a client of Hopkins PR, paid Corkery an undisclosed fee for wearing the hairband.

The St Val's player was approached by Mark Hopkins of Hopkins PR to wear the band for the camogie All-Ireland semi-final two weeks ago against Galway but Corkery was unable to wear it on the day.

A number of other intercounty players, both ladies football and camogie, were approached about sporting the logo.

The *Evening Echo* believes the Ladies' Gaelic Football Association is unaware of the situation and it is not yet known what action, if any, will be taken.

The Cork Ladies' Football Board was also unaware of the situation prior to throw-in.

According to Rule 40 in the official ladies' rulebook: "Markings allowed on playing gear, kit bags etc, shall be the manufacturers or sponsors name, crest or logo...

Individuals in breach of the rules shall be liable to suspension."

However, it's questionable weather hairbands come under the term 'playing gear'.

More interestingly, Rule 43 adds: "Units of the association must also be aware of the GAA Rules governing sponsorship while using their property."

Cork were 2-12 to 1-11 winners over Mayo on Saturday, with Valerie Mulcahy and Deirdre Mulcahy notching Cork's two goals.

The Cork ladies had two players sin-binned late on in the game.

The game was televised live on TG4 and Cork now face the winners of Laois and Monaghan in their second All- Ireland semi-final on September 2.

● See pages 38-40 for full-match analysis and interviews from the Cork-Mayo semi-final.



Briege Corkery, wearing a white Corona hairband on Saturday. Picture: Adrian Mell

CORK: Dual star Briege Corkery has become embroiled in a storm of publicity after wearing a head-band sponsored by a beer manufacturer in the latest incident of 'ambush marketing' within the GAA.

The young Cork prodigy was paid to wear a 'Corona Extra' logo on her hairband when she came off the bench in their All-Ireland ladies football quarter-final defeat of Mayo last Saturday.

It is a replica of a high-profile deal with two Cork hurlers and the same beer company last season and the fact that the personal sponsorship deal involved alcohol has infuriated one of her former mentors.

Fr Liam Kelleher, one-time PRO of the ladies football association, described it as "another cheap stunt by a PR firm" and he was particularly "disgusted" to see a 19-year-old just out of the minor ranks being used in this role.

"I have the greatest respect for Briege as a friend and for what she has achieved, having been involved with her as Cork manager in four All-Ireland underage successes at under 14, 16 and minor level," Kelleher said.

"Nobody begrudges top sports people earning a few extra euros for the massive commitment they give, but it has to be done without sending out the wrong signals to young people."

In response, Corkery said she "didn't think there was any problem" and referred all queries to the Cork city PR firm, Hopkins Communication, who brokered the deal.

Girls join boys in Croke Park

THE senior camogie team ensured themselves of a place in the Gala All Ireland final recording a four point victory over Galway on Saturday last. Despite never looking in danger of losing control Galway provided strong opposition and even though Cork always controlled matters a late Galway rally put pressure on Cork who had to call on all their resources before victory was assured. Cork led 1-3 to 0-3 at the half time whistle an Emer Dillon goal the difference between the sides after points from Jennifer O Leary (2) and Rachel Moloney, Galway Lourda Kavanagh having tapped over all three points of her sides tally. Cork had stretched their advantage by the three quarter stage with points from Angela Walsh, Emer Dillon and Rachel Moloney before Veronica Curtin got one back for Galway. Gaining in confidence Galway came at Cork points from Kavanagh and Ann Marie Hayes narrowing the gap. Galway piled on the pressure as they sought a goal and it was backs to the wall as cork had to be at their best, Amanda O Regan and Anna Geary twice repelled Galway rallied and cleared to safety while the Cork defence as a unit stood their ground.

Through the game it was the Cork defence that excelled Captain Joanne O Callaghan Catriona Foley and Amanda O Regan superb in the full back line while Rena Buckley, Mary O Connor and Anna Geary stood firm through the hour.

It's a Sept 10th meeting with old rival Tipperary next after they defeated Kilkenny in a thrilling semi final with just three points to spare

DOWN TO FOUR

THE race for the Tower View Developments Senior county championship tile is down to four following the quarter finals which took place this week, in a thriller out in Brinney pre match favourites Cloughduv had to rely on an injury time goal from an Una O Donoghue free to defeat a spirited Seandun side by the narrowest of margins. The city representatives lead from the start and despite losing influential centre back Ciara Healy with an injury held their lead coming into the dying seconds, O Donoghue showed great calm to finish to the net , Seandun did have one last chance and were unlucky not to awarded a free as Cloughduv held on for the narrowest of margins that on the balance of their play. Divisional side Imokilly held off the challenge of Milford gaols from Emer O Farrell helping them advance. Muskerry held the upper hand form the start as they recorded a victory over Inniscarra Margaret and Ellen O Herlihy, Erin Corkery and Catriona Foley superb for the Mid Cork divisional representatives. St Finbarrs were always in control as they advanced at the expense of Aghabullogue Gemma O Connor, Colette O Mahony and Vivienne Harris continuing to impress for the city girls

In the only game in the Senior B championship to be played Newcestown got their championship quest in the round robin series back on track when they defeated Ballinhassig on a 1-9 to 1-7 score line.

Clonakilty and Aliabh Rua to meet in final

CLONAKILTY gave a superb performance to book their place in the final of the Tower View Developments Junior B championship final as they defeated a fancied Ballincollig side, Aoife Deasy at full forward was a treat to watch while Erica Jennings, Hannah Coughlan and Hazel O Regan all worked to the finish as Clonakilty booked their place in the decider.

Sliabh Rua had to much scoring power a s they advanced at the expense of Na Piarsaigh, former cork senior player veteran Ger Whitnell (mc Carthy) still impressing notching up six points for the Sliabh Rua girls while Jackie O Regan got the all important goal.

Camogiechat

With **Mary Newman**

MINOR CHAMPIONSHIP CONTINUES

THE All Ireland Minor championship continues tomorrow Friday Cork against Wexford in Ballinlough at 7pm played on a round robin series championship Cork have a victory over Dublin under their belts while Wexford lost out narrowly to Kilkenny. Wexford are a strong outfit and will look to senior county senior players Ciara storey a daughter of Wexford All Ireland winning captain Martin, Una Lacey daughter of former Wexford camogie star Margaret, Sandra Carr, Stacy Redmond and Lorraine O Connor. They are forced to line out without Catriona Parrock who is out of the country at present on inter national duty representing the Irish Under 19 soccer team in England, and she will be a huge loss to the side, never the less they will be confident of giving a good account of themselves. Cork did not receive much of a test from Dublin and know a much stiffer test awaits Orla Cotter who made her senior championship debut on Saturday last captains the side and she is joined by senior panellists Lucy Hawkes and Eimear o Sullivan. Sharon Whelton Ella Kelleher, Miriam Crowley and Erin Corkery will have to be at their best as Cork strives to go top of the group, with two teams to qualify from the group of four and with Kilkenny to play a win would guarantee Cork a semi final place.

Aug. 2006

Senior "B" Camogie All-Ireland Semi-Final.

Tipperary no match for Cork

Senior 'B' Camogie All-Ireland Semi-final	
Cork	4 - 13
Tipperary	0 - 06

By Rose Mannion



Tipp Senior "B" team who contested the All-Ireland Semi-Final against Cork. Photograph: Rose Mannion.

In a repeat performance of two weeks ago, but this time around in the All-Ireland Senior "B" Semi-Final, Cork once again totally annihilated Tipperary on a dark overcast Kilmallock on Saturday last.

The Tipp girls were just going through the motion of fulfilling this fixture against a Cork side that looked just as impressive as their "A" team, brought back memories of the League final of '98 in Thurles and that's a time that few true camogie lovers wish to remember. Cork played as a unit, finding each other with ease, setting each other up for scores and made it all look so easy on the pitch as they were on top in all sectors having seven points clocked up in the first quarter and it wasn't until twenty minutes into the game that Tipp's free taker Deirdre Dunne sent one over to put her side on the scoreboard. Over the following five minutes, Cork added a goal and a point to their tally when Deirdre Dunne sent over Tipp's second free and from there to the break, Cork went on a scoring blitz with no reply from Tipp who had lined out with several changes to the starting team of two weeks previously while a rampant Cork side on the other hand lined out with mostly positional changes. At the break, Cork had it all wrapped up with their score of 3-11 to Tipp's 0-2.

A few positional changes and fresh legs on the Tipp side, had them on the scoreboard after four minutes of the restart when Deirdre Dunne sent over her third free. Having had a fortunate let off in the opening minute when Cork's Eimear O'Farrell was going for goal sent in a good ball that had no forwards to connect with and so continued across the Tipp goalmouth and out over the end line. Tipp looked as if they were approaching this half in a more refreshing manner as they managed to get more possession and upped their tempo somewhat. Cork pushing hard to goal found it better to pick off their points as the Tipp keeper Joanne Nolan made some great saves and without doubt, saved her side from a much heavier humiliation and managing to keep Cork scoreless until the 23rd minute of this half. However, Tipp's dominance was short lived and gradually Cork pulled ahead and managed a further 1-2 before the relief whistle sounded for Tipp and as morale ebbed away they notched up a further two points one from Eimear Ryan and the last from sub Aoife McLoughney

Cork oozed with confidence from the word go while the Tipp girls must be complimented for their efforts, knowing from past experience that this was going to be a difficult fixture.

Tipperary: Joanne Nolan, Andrea Davis, Niamh Harkin, Louise Ryan, Lorraine Davis, Mairead Lutrell, Therese Maher, Lorraine Bourke, Linda Grogan, Deirdre Dunne (0-4f), Ciara O'Sullivan, Mary Ryan, Denise Ryan, Mary Looby, Eimear Ryan (0-1). **Subs used:** Alison Lonergan for Lorraine Bourke, Siobhan Bourke for Denise Ryan, Ciara Johnston for Mairead Lutrell, Aoife McLoughney (0-1) for Ciara O'Sullivan.

Cork: Gillian Harrington, Ann Marie Fleming, Elaine O'Riordan, Deirdre Hayes, Lynda O'Connell, Jenny Duffy, Eimear O'Sullivan, Linda Dorgan (0-1), Orla Cotter, Emer Watson (1-0), Marie O'Neill (0-6, 5 xf), Marie Corkery (0-2), Emer O'Farrell (2-3), Catherine Corkery, Miriam Deasy. **Subs used:** Denise Twomey (1-0) for Miriam Deasy, Lucy Hawkes for Eimear O'Sullivan, Marion Jagoe (0-1) for Emer Watson, Jenny Lucey for Denise Twomey.

Referee: Damien Noble (Dublin).

TRACTON COME OUT WINNERS

A STRONG opening thirty minutes from Tracton ensured they recorded their first victory in the Tower View Developments Junior "A" championship round robin series over Ballyhea. At the interval Tracton led 2-7 to 0-1 goals from Julie Ann Kingston and Aisling Dempsey in the space of three minutes ensuring they maintained their dominance over a Ballyhea side that battles against the strong Tracton defence for moist of the opening half. Catriona Collins in the Tracton goal and her defence had denied the Ballyhea forwards three point scoring chances in the opening half and it looked to be show over at the interval as Tracton held all the aces.

To their credit Ballyhea knuckled down for the second half and with their defence playing as a unit they contained the Tracton attack. A point from Mary Coleman was followed by a Deirdre Dwyer goal after a long free into the Tracton square from Maria Walsh. Growing in confidence Ballyhea kept the pressure on the now overworked Tracton who had to be at their best to hold their lines. Three times Ballyhea won forty five metre frees but the Tracton defence stood firm under the onslaught, with the minutes ticking away Tracton swept up field and were relieved when substitute Sinéad Loughlin found the net for their first score of the second half. Again Ballyhea attacked but their quest for a goal was again thwarted by the strong Tracton defence who held out for their side to record their first victory in the competition.

St Catherines maintain progress

ST CATHERINES recorded their second victory in the Tower View Developments Senior B championship with a victory over Carrigaline. With a victory over Ballinhassig already under their belt in their opening round game St Catherines controlled proceedings from the throw By half time they led 1.10 to 1 thanks to the accuracy of the Twomey sisters Denise and Deirdre who between them notched up all the first half scores. Trishia O'Sullivan had a first half goal for Carrigaline side who contested played with spirit through the opening half. St Catherines maintained their dominance as the Twomey' picked off their points with Elaine Fitzgerald and Noreen Mulcahy also getting on the score sheet... Carrigaline despite trailing never gave up Megan Scully and Terri O'Keeffe pointing twice and they must be complemented for their commitment and discipline as fought for every ball and encouraged and supported each other as they gave a sporting performance against an exceptional St. Catherines team who are favourites to life ultimate honours this season.

BACK TO THE ACTION

JUVENILE activities resume this week with a full programme tomorrow Friday Rockban and ST Vincent's meet in the replay of the under 12 B League final at 5.30. Fr O'Neills and Carrigaline contest the under 14 B semi final at 7pm. On Saturday Castleyons and Cloughduv meet in the under 14 twelve a side final at 1030am in Ballinlough and that's followed by the under 14 B semi final Eire Og versus Mallow at 12 noon. On Tuesday at 7pm in Douglas Glen Rovers and Ballygarvan meet in the Under 14 A semi final and on Wednesday the second semi final has Douglas and Inniscarra in Ballincollig at 7pm.

EIRE OG TOPPS

EIRE Og turned in another one hundred percent performance and maintained their hunt for the title as they recorded their second win in the Tower View Developments Senior B championship. Bishopstown provided stiff opposition in close encounter on Saturday evening in Ballincollig with the lead delicately poised through a close game. At the finish just one points separated the sides as Eire Og won the battle for supremacy, with just one game left for them to play in their section they are assured of a semi final spot at this stages.

Camogiechat

With **Mary Newman**

Honours even

THE points in this Tower View Developments Junior "A" championship round robin series game were shared by Sarsfields and Watergrasshill when the sides met on Wednesday last. Sarsfields had recorded a victory in their opening over Newtownshandrum whilst Watergrashill had lost out earlier to Killeagh.

Watergrashill set the pace led at the break 1-4 to 1-2 a goal and a point from Helen O'Neill helping them settle while Cork senior B player Marie O'Neill had three points. Gemma O'Donoghue grabbed the opening goal for Sars and points from Orla Barry ensured they were well in contention at the half time whistle.

Both sides battled to gain the upper hand through the second half, Aine Barry and Orla Barry pointing for Sars while Marie O'Neill was on hand to score a second Watergrashill goal. With Aoife O'Connell and Breda Kenny trading points Watergrashill led by a goal with time almost up, Breda Kenny who had been introduced as a substitute in the first half showed her experience in the closing seconds of the game striking a low hopping ball into the Watergrasshill the square to deceived the Watergrashill keeper to find the net. It was valuable equaliser and a share of the spoils for Sarsfields which keeps their championship aspirations on course.

Watergrasshill maintained their good performance when they recorded their first victory in the competition as they defeated Newtownshandrum on Tuesday evening.

Congratulations to Douglas on winning the All Ireland Community Games final.

AUG. 2006

New structures have evened out the competition for all counties



LINDA MELLERICK

YOU might remember 12 months ago this column mentioned the 'Competitions Review' committee which was set up nationally to "Review and revise the various competition structures which will facilitate greater participation in intercounty competitions".

The recommendations were accepted by the Ard Chomhairle and introduced into both championship and league at the beginning of the 2006 season.

The intention was to pilot them for two years with a mid-term review after one year.

Well, here is the interim review which began with a detailed analysis of all the games played to date during the 2006 playing season in an effort to assess if participation had indeed increased.

The committee sought the views of county boards, provincial councils, clubs, players and coaches throughout the country.

With regard to the National league the overall message received from participants was for the most part positive.

The new league structure seemed to produce well-matched teams in each division with even score lines and competitive finals.

New county names appeared on silverware such as Waterford, who emerged as Division 3B winners.

A Division 4 blitz involving teams like Donegal, Louth and Monaghan proved a great success. To quote an e-mail received from a Monaghan official: "For the first time in seven years we were able to facilitate our senior players to experience the game at intercounty level."

The higher division games were even more competitive with a two-point margin in Division 1A and division 2A while the margin of victory in Division 1B was down to a single point.

In terms of an overall picture over 70% of national league games were very good, competitive fixtures.

There were however 9% of games which were too one-sided to be of benefit to either team.

The development committee are in the early stages of developing these losing counties.

Looking at the championship.

The 2006 senior championship was probably the most competitive in recent years.

While this may not be directly attributable to the new structure it does indicate that the senior camogie championship is working well and should be continued in its present form.

There is a significant concern, however, around the fact that the number of counties who are able to compete at this level is diminishing.

The committee remain optimistic that if the new structures are allowed to consolidate over the next few years other counties will emerge with the appropriate infrastructure to maintain them in the top flight of camogie.

It was the grade below senior level that the new structures had most impact.

The senior B section was very competitive.

I have an issue here, however, and I wasn't aware of this until earlier this year.

It certainly didn't form part of the criteria of any committee I was on and no one seems to know where it actually did originate from.

The senior B competition was introduced to eliminate unsatisfactory grading in the past.

The stronger senior counties who were fielding two very strong first teams (senior and junior) were eliminated from playing junior to give the genuine junior counties a chance.

The division 1B structure was introduced (in effect, an intermediate side) to fill the gap.

However, for some crazy reason at the beginning of the year senior counties had to name their top 15 senior players who are not eligible to play senior B leaving the way for every other senior panellist or senior type player to participate at this level.

Forget the fact that you might have won an All-Ireland senior medal just twelve months ago or ran it very close. If you weren't named you can play.

Kilkenny and Galway met last weekend in the All-Ireland B semi-final and both sides contained many of the players which lined out two weeks ago in the All-Ireland senior semi-finals.

This can't be right! The junior championship which involved 17 teams had both positive and negative reports.

The group stages highlighted a difference in class between the seeded and non seeded teams which led to a number of one sided matches.

The suggestion for the coming year is that this championship should be divided into cup and shield sections.

Overall good work has been done in a short 12 months.

There are a lot of issues to iron out but it's a huge step forward.

My main concern is that while revising the inter-county structure we neglected to really take into consideration the clubs.

I suppose Cork feel the pinch worse than others, such is our participation and success in all championships open to us.

Trying to fit games in and the demands on the players is reaching the critical stage.

The price you pay for success? It shouldn't be. The clubs deserve every chance.

DOUGLAS

THIS weekend we are on the road again to the Community Games All-Ireland finals for the third year-in-a-row.

The club would like to thank all those who supported the team's sponsored sleepover and also our bag packing in Dunne's Stores.

We would like to extend our grateful appreciation to Dunne's Stores of Douglas Court and also to the chairman of underage Douglas GAA Kevin Dempsey. Special mention to Finbarr O' Donovan for his efforts in obtaining sponsorship for Community Games fund

Douglas Camogie Club congratulate the Douglas GAA U10 boys team who were in the football finals in Mosney last weekend unfortunately they were unsuccessful this time out.

Douglas Camogie club were lucky enough to have three girls namely Ciara Lynch, Pamela Mackey and Ailin O'Donovan, chaperoned by Tina Sheehan to travel for four days to the BBC studios in Belfast to take part in a program for TG4 called Scil which can be seen at the end of September.

Four clubs were drawn from each province representing football, hurling and camogie.

These clubs were paired up resulting in two teams from each province (girls football and boys hurling and camogie and boys football) there were three girls and three boys on every team and all the games were based on drills and skills. The competition was to test team's ability at the skills and teams had to compete in all sports.

There was a provincial championship with two provincial teams played against each other in the first game on a knock out basis.

The winners of this went on to a round robin. The teams were as follows:

Ulster 1 Star of the Sea and Ballycran V Ulster 2 St. Paul's and Eoghan Ruadh

Munster 1 Dora/Barfield and Douglas Camogie V

Munster 2 Durlas Og and Southern Geels

Leinster 1 Mullingar Shamrocks and St. Anne's V Leinster 2 Dicksboro and Foxrock

Connacht 1 Kiltimagh and Turloghore V Connacht 2 St. Mary's and Sean O'Heslins

All drills were against the clock. Unfortunately Munster 1 lost out to Munster 2 against the clock by a second in each of the first two skills and by a point on the last skill, Munster 2 went on to win the competition.

The girls had a fantastic experience and saw some of the sights of Belfast. We would like to thank our supporters Paul, Therese and Erin Lynch.

We would like to congratulate Amanda O' Regan and wish her very best in her quest along with her Cork team mates in the camogie All-Ireland final in Croke Park on 10th September.

Congratulations also to our Cork U16 players, Leanne O'Shea, Niamh and Moria O'Donovan. Unfortunately Cork did not come out the right side of their All-Ireland Final encounter with a very strong Kilkenny side.

Well done girls on your achievement in playing your part in getting the team to the All-Ireland stage.

Seandun Senior team did themselves proud on their outing against Cloughduv in the championship and deserve to win and defiantly should have got a draw losing out by a mere point. Douglas had Amanda and Louise O'Regan, Eileen Morgan, Jenny O'Donovan, Rachel O'Sullivan, Aisling Barrett, Sinead O'Leary and Niamh O'Donovan on the panel well done to all and to coach Ross Corcoran.

Our U14A team will meet Inniscarra in the semi-final on Wednesday 6th September at 7.00 in Ballincollig. This has the makings of another great game between these two teams.

Douglas lost out to Inniscarra in the replay of county final but took the Feile All-Ireland title for the third year-in-a-row.

Douglas Camogie club would also like to congratulate Ailin O'Donovan on being the only Cork player to hold three Feile All-Ireland medals.

The camogie tradition in the O'Donovan family spans out to all six daughters all who have represented Cork at one level or another. Aine on Cork U14, Ailin on Cork Colleges, Niamh and Moria on Cork U16, Jenny and Fiona on Cork U18 and Jenny on the Cork Intermediates. All names to watch for the future.

Our U14 C team have also made to semi-final stage playing Brian Dillon's on Friday 8th September at 7.00 in Sarsfields pitch, Glanmire.

This team have gone from strength to strength over the league and can do the business to reach the final.

Out U16A team continue to play in the league and will hopefully make it to semi-final stage. U16 championship draws will be made at the next Juvenile Board meeting on Tuesday.

The U16D team have topped all our expectations winning all their games to date with two fixtures not played due to the fact that the opposition could not field it looks like we will be in yet another semi-final, the decision to be made at Juvenile Board meeting on Tuesday.

After the long hot summer our U11 and U13 take to the pitch again competing in the Seandun games, Best of luck to all.

GLEN ROVERS

With most players returning this week from their holiday breaks our U14 team begin their preparations as they look forward to their semi final meeting with Ballygarvan which takes place on Tuesday September 5th .

Our under 16 team have completed their league programme and will meet Clonakilty in the last game in our section tomorrow in the Glen Field at 11am. We urge everybody to come along and give the girls the support they deserve.

We are hoping to begin our U13 Seandun games shortly while our U11 team will recommence their programme shortly.

Our U18 team resume their championship programme this weekend and are hopefully of meeting Newtownshandrum on at the Glen Field in the coming week.

Our senior team will play their last game in the round robin series of the championship September 24th when they meet Douglas.



Cork's Miriam Crowley gets away from Wexford's Ciara Storey during the recent All-Ireland minor clash. Picture: Cillian Kelly / News Digital

Young take the

TWELVE U10 teams converge on Ballinhassig GAA grounds today for the host club's Declan Crowley Memorial Tournament.

By MARY NEWMAN

Declan Crowley Tournament

The event honours one of the club's most loyal members.

For many clubs it's a way of regrouping and getting their players back into the swing of training.

The tournament is also very much a social event and the relaxed atmosphere helps players mix and make friends during the breaks between games.

The mentors look forward to meeting each other. In the relaxed environment, which has built over the years, many friends have been made and clubs wait in anticipation for an invitations every year.

Indeed many a potential star has been spotted down through the years at the tournaments and it's been great to see many of them progressing to the Cork U14 and U16 teams in recent years.

Teams will consist of 10 players with no restrictions on substitutions, with a maximum panel of 15 players.

Games will be of 10 minutes duration with a five minute interval. For the cup and shield final it will be games of 10 minutes a side.

The club have organised neutral referees for all games thus ensuring team mentors are able to focus on their teams and not having to worry about providing someone to help with refereeing.

Teams are divided into three sections with four teams in each. The top team in each group qualify for the cup semi-final. They are joined by one team who has the highest number of points after the three top teams. In the event of two teams tying, the team with the highest aggregate score will qualify. In the event of two teams tying at this stage the team with the least scores con-

Our under 10 girls are heading off to Ballinhassig today to participate in the annual Declan Crowley Memorial Tournament. It's a day our girls really look forward to. No doubt Mary Sheehan, and Nicole Cummins will have the girls in determined mood and an enjoyable day as always will be had by all.

Congratulations to our treasurer Deirdre Coleman on her recent birthday celebrations.

Best wishes to our club senior hurler and footballer Niall Harte who gets married today to Clodagh. Best wishes to them both.

Special wishes also go this week to our former senior player Jill Hannon who gets married on Saturday next September 2nd.

For many years Jill lined out with our club and everybody in Glen Rovers would like to extend our sincere good wishes to both Jill and Mark, we hope they have a great day and that the sun shines for them both.

Well done to all our girls who achieved great results in their Leaving Cert, goes to show that it does no hard to continue to training with the studying.

Congratulations to the Cork Senor B team who booked their place in the All-Ireland final defeating Tipperary last weekend

Training: A reminder to all under age players that Sunday training will not take place over the next few weeks but we continue on Tuesday evenings 5.45 to 7pm in the Top Glen Field for anybody from 6years of age to 12 years, new members welcome

Age13 to 16 training Monday and Wednesday at 7 pm and on Friday at 5pm, new members welcome

Under18, junior and senior training Monday and Wednesday at 7pm old and new members most welcome.

NA PIARSAIGH

Training for under 14s and 16s every Thursday in club arena. New and old players welcome.

SARSFIELD'S

U11 Imokilly League 12-a-side: Well done to our U11 team who have just completed their first competitive league action in their young camogie careers. Up to now it was purely challenge games.

Out of four matches in the Imokilly league section they were defeated by Bride Rovers (4-3 to 1-0); St. Catherines (2-0 to 1-0) and recorded good wins over Watergrasshill and Dungourney (4-1 to 1-0).

Blackrock U11 blitz: We were invited to Black-



Cork's Orla Cotter and Wexford's Ciara Storey battle for possession during their recent All-Ireland minor clash. Picture: Cillian Kelly / News Digital

stars to limelight

ceded will qualify.

In the plate competition the losers from each of the three sections plus the team with the next lowest number of points qualify.

The Kinsale Lions Club Shield will be contested by the four teams who finish in the middle of the groups and there will be semi-finals and a final here also.

The Crowley family donated a magnificent trophy for the winners of the event while the winners of the Shield competition are presented with the Kinsale Lions Club Shield.

The Ballinhassig club have sponsored the plate competition and all three finals have always been contested with vigour by the young participants.

Last year's winners of the cup, Courcey Rovers, return to defend their title as do the winners of the shield, Fr O Neill's. Ballinhassig defend their plate title.

They will no doubt receive stiff opposition from participating clubs which include Ballygarvan, Valley Rovers, Carrigaline, Clonakilty, Inniscarra, Glen Rovers, Passage West, and Sliabh Rua.

Teams have to be togged out and on the pitches by 10.30am.

The Ballinhassig club are to be complimented for the organising of such an event which is well worth supporting. so get out there today and shout on your club's future stars.

The time table for games is as follows:

Section (A) Pitch 1: 11am Glen Rovers v Valley Rovers; 11.30am Ballinhassig B v Inniscarra; noon Glen Rovers v Inniscarra; 12.30pm Ballinhassig B v Valley Rovers; 1pm Ballinhassig B v Glen Rovers; 1.30pm Valley Rovers v Inniscarra.

Section (B) Pitch 1: 11am Ballincollig v Courcey Rovers; 11.30am Clonakilty v Ballygarvan; noon Ballincollig v Ballygarvan; 12.30pm Clonakilty v Courcey Rovers; 1pm Ballincollig v Clonakilty; 1.30pm Ballygarvan v Clonakilty.

Section (C) Pitch 2: 11am Ballinhassig A v Carrigaline; 11.30am Fr O'Neills v Sliabh Rua; noon Ballinhassig A v Sliabh Rua; 12.30pm F. O'Neill's v Carrigaline; 1pm Carrigaline v Sliabh Rua; 1.30pm Ballinhassig v Fr O'Neill's; 2pm Break for Lunch; 2.15pm semi-finals; 3.30pm finals followed by presentations.

rock Blitz as defending champions, but with a different and more competitive format we weren't quite sure how we'd fare.

We had three matches to play in our section which included very formidable opposition in Newtownshandrum, Barryroe and Glen Rovers.

We won all our three matches to qualify to play hosts Blackrock in the semi-final. Perhaps it was a game too many for our girls. Blackrock defeated us 2-1 to 1-0 in a game which stretched us to our tired limits. Thank you to Blackrock for their hospitality and congratulations to Mairead Ni Mhaoileoin and her team on their superb organisational skills! Can we come again next year please?

Panel: Rachel Spencer, Hannah McCarthy, Chloe Aherne, Maeve Dilworth, Isabelle Twomey, Laoise Burke, Saoirse O'Connell, Sarah Fahy, Lucy Allen, Kasey Marnell, Katie Walsh, Alannah O'Kelly-Lynch (Capt) Rebekah Hickey, Julie Allen, Aoife O'Sullivan, Amy Cooney, Shannon Croker, Emma Gillivan and Tara McCarthy.

U18: The U18s travelled to Dungourney to play the home side in the Championship/League on Sunday 20th Aug. Unfortunately, we were no match for the strong Dungourney team. We travel to Barryroe for the next match which hopefully will be a more evenly contested game.

Panel: Sarah Cummins, Rosemary Hyde, Niamh Whooley, Maude Kelleher, Maeve Kelleher, Mairead O'Farrell, Doris Murphy, Amy Flannery, Valerie O'Leary, Claire Holland, Aine Barry, Aisling Whooley, Laura Barry, Meadhbh Costello, Karen Comerford, Megan O'Leary, Ruth Coy, Siobhan O'Keeffe.

U16D: The U16s have still a few games up for decision in the next few weeks this week they had a good win over St. Vincent's.

U13 Imokilly League: We have four matches to play in our section of the league. The first match is against Bride Rovers. The other opponents are St. Catherines, Fr.O'Neills and Erin's Own.

U8 and U9 friendly: On Tuesday 15th Aug we took our under 8's & U9's to Killeagh to play two challenge matches. For most it was their first ever match so the excitement was something else. The U8s won well but the U9s had to succumb to Killeagh's superior strength and experience.

Junior A: Our second round of the championship was due to be played on Thursday last against Watergrasshill. All our meetings in the past few years have gone to the wire so not for the faint-hearted! Good luck to Emmet and the team in their endeavours to qualify for the play-offs.

Congratulations to Emer O'Farrell and Lillian Zinkant on qualifying for yet another All-Ireland day out on 10th Sept. The Imokilly machine continues to roll — best of luck to Emer O'Farrell, Edel Murphy and Lillian Zinkant on their senior county quest.

ST CATHERINE'S

Senior B Championship: Our Senior B team continue to train in preparation for this competition.

Junior B League: This competiton will commence shortly.

U11 12-side-league

St Catherine's 3-0 Dungourney 3-1

On Thurs night last our U11 team travelled to Dungourney to fulfill this fixture and, after a tough battle, were defeated on the above scoreline.

A great pass from Katie England was deflected into the back of the net by Grainnne Walsh in the 3rd minute of play.

Dungourney went on to score 2 — 0 , our second goal came from Katie England in the 25th minute of play leaving the half time score level at 2 -0 each.

Torrential rain made conditions difficult in the second half. Rachel O'Callaghan goaled two mins into this half with Dungourney replying with a 1-1 after 13 minutes. This was to be the final score in this exciting game and so Dungourney were the winners by just 0-1. All our players worked very hard in difficult conditions with Edel Murphy being particularly effective in defence.

Team- R.Spillane, E.Murphy, C.McAuliffe, L.Aherne, L.Hartnett, M.Galvin, R.O'Callaghan, M.Walsh, M.Mulcahy, K.England, G.Walsh, E.Spillane.

Subs:- O.Anthony.

corers:- G.Walsh 1- 0, K.England 1- 0, R.O'Callaghan 1 — 0.

U13 League: This competition will commence in the coming week.

U16 League: There are still some matches to be played in this competition, they are scheuled to be played in the coming week.

All-Ireland Senior Camogie final: Cork will play Tipperary in this year's All-Ireland final on Sunday 10th Sept in Croke Park. We are proposing to run a bus to Dublin for this event as we did for last year's Final which was a great success. Anybody interested in travelling please contact Ann Galvin at 058 — 59271 or Brigid Cotter at 058- 59293 before Sept 1st.

ST FINBARR'S

Our senior team are motoring nicely along the championship road. They have overtaken Cloughduv, Kilbrittain/Timoleague and Aghabullogue. Divisional side, Muskerry provide the next hurdle to be cleared.

To allow the Cork teams to prepare for the All-Ireland finals, our date with Muskerry has been deferred to September 24.

The break will provide time to coach Gerald McCarthy to iron out any flaws and have the side in tip top shape for the semi-final.

The focus now switches to our Junior B squad who have been drawn with Inniscarra, Ballygarvan, Kilbrittain/Timoleague and Valley Rovers in their section of the Junior B Shield.

The Barrs' panel comprises of a mixture of experienced players including Deirdre Clarke, Barbara Ann Corcoran, Dara Banks and Valerie Hosford and up and coming players like Susan Kennefick, Niamh Cooke, Niamh McKenzie and Susan O'Connell.

Three of the side, who won championship honours with the juniors in 2005, Orla O'Sullivan, Colette O'Mahony and Claire Harrington now feature with the senior team.

I am joined by all club members in wishing Colette Kirby every happiness on the occasion of her wedding to Conor O'Connell this week.

Colette and her twin sister, Claire have given tremendous service to the Barrs over the years.

Conor is no stranger to the small ball game and fills the role of secretary to Inniscarra Hurling Club. May they enjoy a long life together.

It is time for all club members to make plans to travel to Croke Park on 10th September to support the Cork senior camogie team in the difficult quest to retain the O'Duffy Cup. Let us get behind Gemma O'Connor, Ellen Clifford and all the Cork players and cheer them on to victory against the old enemy Tipperary. Put a note in your diary for the October 1 when Linda O'Connell and Jenny Duffy will be helping Cork to bring the new All-Ireland Senior B trophy to leeside at the expense of Galway.

ST VINCENT'S

St Vincent's hurling and football club took part in a community fun run on Thursday last. It was a three mile run and was in aid of our pitch development fund. The evening was a great success with over 200 participating and was an enjoyable evening for all the teams, supporters and families.

In the women's section first place was awarded to Nicole Cahill. Second place was awarded to Leah Anderson and third place winner was Amanda Harris. All three won a trophy and first place got a cash prize.

Second and third received a month membership to the planet gym and for the next 20 runners up they received a medal. We would like to thank everyone that participated and all those who helped make the night a success.

If there is anyone who still hasn't brought back their sponsor cards we would be grateful if you could do so as soon as possible.

Congratulations to the U14s who have made there way to the semi-final in the U14 D league. They will be playing the winners of Enniskeane v Kildorrey.

The match will take place either in the last week of August or early September but all fixtures will be noted and published as soon as they come to hand

Training times: Monday U9s, 6pm (born 1997-2001 U14s and U16, 6pm

Tuesday: U11s and U12s 6pm (born 1994-96

WednesdayL U10s 6pm (born 1996)

Saturday U10s and U9s 11.30.

U12s, U14s and U16s 12.30

Board make the right decision

By MARY NEWMAN

Camogie news

THE Cork Camogie Board's decision to postpone championship games involving Cork players so the county senior team, who defend their All-Ireland title against Tipperary on September 10, has seen many games in all grades re-scheduled.

The senior semi-finals were due to be played last Monday and Tuesday, but after the request from the management team, the GPC decided to postpone the games.

The board are to be complimented on the decision, a sensible one given the increasing injury list in the panel at present.

Already ruled out for the final are Regina Curtin, who broke her arm in the Cork v Tipperary game two week ago, and Ciara Healy who damaged knee ligaments in Seandun's championship game last week, while there are also injury worries to Gemma O'Connor.

The rescheduled list of championship games reads as follows:

AUGUST 29

Tower View Developments JAC: Watergrasshill v Newtownshandrum Blackrock v Ballyhea.

AUGUST 30

Tower View Developments SBC: St Catherine's v Carrigaline.

SEPTEMBER 17

Tower View Developments SBC: Carrigaline v Newcestown St Catherine's v Valley Rovers.

SEPTEMBER 23

Tower View Developments SBC: Valley Rovers v Ballinhassig.

SEPTEMBER 24

Tower View Developments Senior County Championship semi finals: St Finbarr's v Muskerry Cloughduv v Imokilly.

Tower View Developments SBC: Douglas v Glen Rovers.

SEPTEMBER 30

Tower View Developments SBC: Douglas v Eire Og.

Douglas chase All-Ireland title

DOUGLAS Camogie Club are heading to the Community Games All-Ireland finals for the third year-in-a-row when they travel to Mosney this weekend to represent Cork and Munster.

They played Sixmilebridge of Clare in the Munster semi-final.

In a very hard fought game, where the conditions made it appalling for players from both sides' the teams battled it out with the Clare champions leading at the break 1-3 to 0-2.

A close second half saw the lead change hands before Douglas finally got the upper hand to make it through to the final.

They met the Tipperary representatives Bogherlag who beat Douglas.

Both teams battled it out for superiority and with time running out it was level pegging. Tipp edged ahead but points from Ciara Hickey and Ciara Lynch put battling Douglas ahead by a single point.

Tipperary now threw everything at Douglas but goal keeper Aine O'Donovan and her defence stood firm to the final whistle to book their place in this weekend's All-Ireland final where they will meet Ardrahane of Galway or Birr from Offaly.

Douglas Panel: Ailin O'Donovan (C) Jessica Kavanagh, Aine O'Donovan, Ciara Lynch, Sinead Duggan, Sinead Kearney, Clodagh Duggan, Alison Peate, Rachel Baxter, Ellen Shine, Clare Shine, Ciara Hickey, Elizabeth Olden, Sarah Kavanagh, Deirdre Bevan, Amy Twohig.

Newcestown prove too strong

Newcestown	**1-9**
Ballinhassig	**1-7**

NEWCESTOWN recorded their first victory in the round-robin series of the Senior B Championship defeating Ballinhassig in a close contest recently.

Ballinhassig, already having recorded a victory in their opening game, had lost out to St Catherine's in their second and were determined to get their challenge for honours back on track.

Ballinhassig led at the interval 1-5 to 0-4, a Trish Holland goal and four Catriona Collins points and one from Sinead O'Callaghan helped them maintain the lead.

Through the first half Newcestown battled hard and matched Ballinhassig with a Colleen Long point and three from Collette Desmond they were well in contention at the break.

Newcestown showed great determination from the start of the second-half and points from Grainne Cronin and two from Collette Desmond helped cut the deficit.

A Newcestown goal and a point from Gráinne Croinin and a pointed free from Colette Desmond ensured victory for Newcestown.

BALLINHASSIG: S Mc Carthy, A O Riordan, M Collins (C) C. Fleming M. Holland, E O Sullivan, E O Regan D. Cullinane, J Cullinane, C. Holland, D. Coomey, S. O Callaghan, C. Collins, T. Holland A. O Leary. **Subs:** M T Cullinane for A. O Riordan, A O Brien for T Holland.

NEWCESTOWN: L O'Sullivan, M Crowley, R Desmond, U Crowley, A Coughlan, H O' Mahony, M Moloney, F Crowley, T McCarthy, C O'Mahony, C Long, A Coughlan, E Kenneally, C Desmond, G Cronin. **Subs:** A Keane for C O'Mahony.





The Douglas Camogie team, who defeated Ardrahan, Galway after extra-time. RIGHT: Claire Shine gets a big hug from mom Fiona at the final whistle after winning the final of the Girls Under 14 All-Ireland final at the HSE National Community Games at Mosney yesterday.

Picture: Brian Lougheed

Douglas complete double



DOUGLAS camogie club managed a double, adding the National Community Games camogie crown yesterday to a Féile U14 title.

By ÉAMONN MURPHY
Camogie

The thriving Douglas club are now the undisputed U14 champions of Ireland after winning both national titles in two months.

Captain Aileen O'Donovan was the hero, firing the winning point to edge out Galway side Ardrahan in extra time and finishing with a tally of 2-8. Jessica Kavanagh was also on form hitting 2-1 as Douglas won the title on a score line of 4-9 to 3-11.

Douglas have enjoyed a memorable three years at underage level, grabbing their third Féile U14 crown in succession recently.

Coached by Ger and Tina Sheehan and Pat Peate, Douglas were underdogs at the start of the season, losing their opening league game by 17 points.

"The team has guts, heart, determination and a never say die attitude," explained Ger Sheehan this morning.

"Jessica and Aileen got some great scores but all the girls gave it everything — it was level at the start of the second half of extra-time and the opposition had a gale force wind but we won three points to two in that half and it took a huge effort," he said.

The club has enjoyed success at underage level and look poised to become one of the top clubs in the county in coming years.

They have contested four Féile U14 finals and three Community Games finals and last year their senior side won the Junior A county title to move up to the Senior B grade in Cork.

"Long term the club wants to be competing at Senior A and you have to put a lot of work to reach the top level. We've trained with these girls two and three nights a week since they were 10 for Féile and hopefully they'll keep going onto more success," said Ger.



Joy for the Douglas Camogie team, who defeated Ardrahan, Galway. RIGHT: The Douglas team and their supporters celebrate their victory in the Girls Under 14 All-Ireland final at the HSE National Community Games at Mosney yesterday.

Picture: Brian Lougheed





Douglas champs at Community Games

Douglas players celebrate their Under-14 camogie win at the HSE National Community Games while (top left) manager and coach Ger and Tina Sheehan celebrate with Claire Shine.

Picture: Brian Lougheed

A GOLD medal for Douglas in the Camogie Under-14 Competition capped off a disappointing Community Games for Cork at the weekend.

The medal tally for the Rebel County was down on last year; however, the Douglas victory and a number of gold medals on the track boosted morale as more than 200 children from Cork took part.

Chairman of the Community Games in Cork and deputy president of the national organisation, Mike Burke said: "It was a disappointing year for Cork in terms of bringing home medals but as we always say in the Community Games, it is not winning or losing but taking part that counts. And the children had a great time over both weekends."

Rain led to the opening ceremony being moved indoors but the weather improved over the course of the weekend and among the highlights was a display by parachutists, the Black Knights.

"It was a fantastic weekend. All the children enjoyed themselves and there were no injuries," Mr Burke added.

● See Page 31 for more.

Aug. 2006



The Berrings NS camogie team who won a County Sciath n Scol title recently.

Senior Camogie Club Championship round-up

Duharra edge out Drom/Inch

Duharra 3-7
Drom/Inch 1-8

In the second game of the Senior club camogie championship on Saturday evening, Duharra had a hard earned but deserved victory to push Drom/Inch closer to the bottom of the group *reports Rose Mannion.*

This was a tense exciting game where Duharra who introduced Sheena Howard for her first game, could have had a much higher score if it wasn't for their total of six wides, three in each half. The scoreboard certainly didn't do justice to this game where both sides served up a supreme performance at a fast and furious pace throughout.

While Drom/Inch started the better and had three points clocked up, two from Geraldine Kinane and one from Jackie O'Connor, keeping Duharra scoreless for the first quarter, Duharra had that cancelled out in the 22nd minute. By then Eimear McDonnell had claimed her second point which came from play while her first came from a placed ball. Niamh Bonnar had a point also to her credit before Drom's Julie Delaney fouled and Eimear McDonnell reaped the reward sending Duharra ahead by one point. But Drom were back on the scoreboard and while each side had equal possession of the play. However, it was Drom who took control of this second quarter and went two ahead at the break when Theresa Shortt equalised with five minutes remaining and Maria Harkin's accuracy from placed ball on two occasions, sent Drom in on 0-6 to 0-4 at the break.

Ten minutes of fierce competitiveness was to elapse before Duharra won a 45 which Eimear McDonnell dropped into the Drom net. Duharra added to their lead when substitute Elaine Ryan sent the ball over and two minutes later Eimear McDonnell put three points between the sides. Never say die Drom, edged closer with a Mary Looby point. From the puck out, Drom won possession and were back narrowing the gap to just one point courtesy of Mary Looby once again. Drom needed a goal and this they did with six minutes remaining when Maria Harkin standing over a placed ball dropped it into the back of the Duharra net to leave them two points up, but alas it was also to be their last score of the game. Sinead Nealon had it cancelled out for Duharra with a goal which left Drom reeling in the dying minutes of normal time. Knowing they were in trouble, Drom just seemed to run out of steam and the writing was well and truly on the wall for them when corner forward Niamh Bonnar gave Duharra the cushion they were looking for when she added a goal in extra time. She then finished up the proceedings with a well taken point on the final whistle. There were several sieges on the Duharra backline over the hour where full back Trish O'Halloran stood out with her great clearances.

This was a disappointing game for Drom/ Inch who gave so much of an effort, but it was Duharra who got the lucky breaks and took full advantage of them all. Drom now face Cashel in their final game on home ground which is fixed for September 23. A win here is vital to keep them in contention for a place in the final particularly if Toomevara beat Duharra. There's a lot of excitement still to come.

Duharra: Jo Fennessy, Karen O'Brien, Trish O'Halloran (capt), Deirdre McDonnell, Sinead Nealon (1-0f) Jenny O'Halloran, Sinead Daly Dillon, Aine Mulcahy, Therese Brophy, Maeve Moloney, Sarah Hayes, Ruth Barry, Niamh Bonnar(1-2) Sheena Howard, Eimear McDonnell (1-4, 1-3) Subs uses: Elaine Ryan (0-1) for Maeve Moloney, Sinead Quinlan for Niamh Bonnar.

Drom/Inch: Rosanna Kenneally, Jane Ryan, Deirdre Delaney, Trina Butler, Michelle Shortt, Niamh Harkin, Theresa Maher, Theresa Shortt (0-1), Joanne Ryan, Maria Harkin (1-2f) Helen Kiely, Jackie O'Connor (0-1), Geraldine Kinane (0-2), Mary Looby (capt) (0-2), Julie Delaney. Subs used: Siobhan McGrath for Helen Kiely, Niaoimi Treacy for Jane Ryan.

Referee: Joe Cahill (Kilruane/McDonaghs).



Drom's Therese Shortt aims to block down Duharra defender Sinead Nealon's effort in the County senior championship. Photograph: Bridget Delaney.

Toomevara edge to semi-finals

Toomevara 2-11
Moneygall 0-06

As the Senior Club Championship continues, Toomevara edged closer to the semi-final spot after their hard-fought victory over Moneygall in the third round of the series on Friday evening 25 Aug in St. Flannan's Park, Moneygall, *writes Rose Mannion.*

This victory was far from easy for Toome. The Moneygall squad played brilliant camogie throughout and gave their opponents a run for their money as well as plenty of food for thought before Toom's next outing.

Although losing all of their games, this young Moneygall side can be satisfied with their performances throughout the season in this their first year in Senior ranks and have served up some great play too. Their enthusiasm and their approach to the huge step up, throughout the year and in all of the games they played, is admirable and can only stand to serve them well in the future.

Starting the better, Moneygall kept Toomevara scoreless for the first eight minutes and had two points to their credit in that time when Eimear Ryan converted two placed balls. Denise Ryan had Toome on the board in the eight minute while two minutes later Bonnie Kennedy equalised. Toome pushed ahead with a Lena Woods free and her second point coming from play before Eimear Ryan kept Moneygall in touch with her third point which was the result of a free. As the Toome captain and keeper Paula Ryan sent out a long clearance, her teammate Noelle Kennedy won possession and Therese Maxwell eventually gained control and stuck it in the back of the Moneygall net with less than five minutes remaining in the first half. Moneygall were once again in possession after the ball was sent out and Eimear Ryan converted her fourth placed ball after she was fouled when she went out field, gathered the ball and headed inwards. However, after a series of passing to each other up the field, Toome's Bonnie Kennedy had her second point just on half time, which left the scoreline atToomevara 1-5, Moneygall 0-4.

With both sides possessing an equal amount of ball, it was expected however that Toomevara would be making a huge burst forward in the second half, but that didn't happen till the final quarter and followed the introduction of Anna Woods. Moneygall made a huge effort and were rewarded in the fifth minute of the restart when Eimear Ryan converted her fifth free. Eight minutes later, Eimear sent over her sixth placed ball after Mary Ryan was fouled going through and now just two points separated the sides. Toomevara were seriously struggling and so entered the subs who within seconds went into attack and had another point in the eighteenth minute courtesy of a Lena Woods' placed ball. Two minutes later



Duharra's Nessa O'Driscoll rejoices as the ball enters the Drom&Inch net on Saturday evening last. Photograph: Bridget Delaney.

Lena had her fourth point as she sent one over from a very difficult angle as she was forced out into the corner. Moneygall, while unable to reply for the remainder of the quarter, did push hard while Toomevara added further points from Denise Ryan, Bonnie Kennedy and a huge long-range effort from Noelle Kennedy. With darkness falling, Lena Woods converted a 45 to send Toome further ahead, but it was her sister Anna, who on winning a pass from Noelle Kennedy in injury time, bagged her side's second goal as Joe Cahill (Kilruane) sounded the whistle.

Toomevara almost left it too late in the second half and with more experience behind them, Moneygall could have taken full advantage. Toome's captain and keeper Paula Ryan's decision to play with the cross pitch breeze in the first half was of little advantage to them. Her long clearances paid dividends in the last quarter and Suzanne Kelly's solo runs from her full back position to land the ball into the forwards, did yield results as her steady clearances were a huge influence on her team-mates.

The Toomevara attack grew with confidence in the last quarter and put the Moneygall back line under serious pressure, their keeper Michelle Moten stood steady and cool and is to be complimented for her many fine saves. Toome's danger woman Lena Woods did Trojan work and caused many problems for Moneygall, while Moneygall's centre back Julie Kirwan was a huge thorn in the Toome side and was also a tireless worker throughout. Their midfield pairing of Brid Byrne and Mary Ryan caused many problems and generally Moneygall are well balanced but need experience. Toomevara lined out without two prominent players Anna Woods and Louise Young through injury. However, Anna did make a serious difference when introduced.

Toomevara had 13 wides over the hour and have some serious thoughts to mull over before their next outing which is fixed for September 23rd on home ground with Duharra providing the opposition. Moneygall had a total of four wides throughout.

Toomevara: Paula Ryan (captain), Trish Ryan, Suzanne Kelly, Mary Rose Ryan, Lizzie Woods, Noelle Kennedy (0-1), Maria Tynan, Fiona Young, Samantha McLoughney, Bonnie Kennedy (0-3), Denise Ryan (0-2), Lena Woods (0-5 x 1f,1 x 45), Maria McCarthy, Therese Maxwell (1-0), Aine Brislaine. Subs used: Louisa Duff for A. Brislaine, Anna Woods (1-0) for Threse Maxwell, Miriam Maxwell for Maria McCarthy, Laura Young for Maria Tynan, Sarah Corcoran for Fiona Young.

Moneygall: Michelle Moten, Maire Kirwan, Caroline Kirwan, Amanda Moten (Captain), Michelle Kirwan, Julie Kirwan Aishling Kennedy, Brid Byrne, Mary Ryan, Margaret Kirwan, Eileen Ryan, Maria Jones, Sarah Doherty, Eimear Ryan (0-6 f), Sarah Kennedy.

Aug. 2007

Derry county final

(2006-08-31)

Castledawson crownded champions for the first time 3-6 to 2-7

Castledawson have been crowned Derry Credit Union Premier Champions after a fully deserved yet dramatic win over reigning champions and hot favourites Lavey. The final, played in front of a large crowd in Swatragh, was a classic, with the outcome never clear until the last blow of the whistle. As the game approached the final five minutes, Lavey led by a mere two points and the neutrals in the crowd must have thought that Castledawson were to be pipped at the post once more. The Brough girls, however, had other ideas and when Katie McAuley's shot dropped into the right hand corner of the Lavey net, the was an eruption of noise around the ground, as the crowd sensed that the Lavey/Swatragh grip on the Derry Championship might be finally coming to an end. A pointed free from a 45 from the impressive McAuley sealed the game and sent the Castledawson crowd into ecstasy.

This game began at a frantic pace with a fifth minute Castledawson goal which was seemingly scrambled over the line by one of the Lavey defence. This was followed by a fairly low scoring first half and at the break the challengers had the edge at 1-2 to 0-2. After half-time, however, the game opened up a lot more and Castledawson added another goal with a pinpoint pass from Róisín Pickering finding Shauna Mulholland, who goaled with some ease. This was followed by a free from Katie McAuley, which gave the 'Dawson a 2-4 to 0-4 lead, but Lavey's purple patch was soon too follow, and within a few minutes, the Brough girls' lead was wiped out. Goals from Lavey's Attracta McPeake and Therese McCann followed by two huge frees from Claire McCloy seemed to have broken the challengers' resolve but gradually, as Castledawson stuck to their game plan, they had the courage and resolve to bring this game back from the brink, and to bring the championship home for the first time.

Castledawson's excellent performance was down largely to the discipline of their players regarding a clear cut game plan. Catherine Pickering was employed as a sweeper in front of Paula McCloy and Karen McGrath and Maura McCloy stuck to their positions within that 'diamond' formation steadfastly. Katie McAuley was a huge threat but Roisin Pickering and Shauna Mulholland caused the Lavey defence huge problems by sticking to their positions on the wings and not allowing Lavey to crowd the defence, thus giving McAuley the room to roam, as it were. Claire McCloy and substitute Jeanette Martin were best for Lavey but ultimately it was the organisation and a burning desire to secure their first title that brought Castledawson through.

Castledawson : Claire O'Kane, Sinéad Heaney, Maura McAuley, Mary McAuley, Geraldine Mulholland, Eileen Pickering, Karen McGrath, Melissa Shivers, Catherine Pickering, Róisín O'Kane 0-1, Shauna Mulholland 2-0, Ann Boville, Róisín Pickering 0-1, Katie McAuley 1-3, 0-3 frees, Eimear Totten 0-1.
Subs : Úna McAuley, Kathleen Doyle, Donna O'Kane, Joanne Pickering, Caoimhe McKee, Treasa McElroy, Maria Taggart, Sarah Gribbin.

Lavey : Helen O'Neill, Ciara McMullan, Edel Henry, Catherine McCann, Donna Magill, Ceara Cushnahan, Alana Ward, Denise McCann capt. 0-2, Claire McCloy 0-3, 0-2 frees, Irene Cushnahan, Siobhan Convery, Therese McCann 1-0, Joanne McCloy, Paula McCloy 0-2 frees, Attracta McPeake 1-0.
Sub : Janette Martin for J McCloy.
Referee : Úna Kearney (Armagh).



Davitt's captain Lourda Kavanagh receives a sponsorship cheque (from Bus Eireann representative Damien Coen) as winners of the 2005 Galway senior league and championship

Twomey sisters in full flight for Saints

St Catherine's	2-25
Carrigaline	1-2

ST CATHERINE'S confirmed in no uncertain terms last evening their tag as favourites to lift the Senior B camogie championship title when they comprehensively defeated a young Carrigaline side in the Tower View Developments Senior B championship in Watergrashill, **writes Mary Newman.**

Carrigaline have struggled through their round robin series of championship games due to the large number of their players opting to travel abroad for the summer months.

St Catherine's, with a compherehensive victory over Ballinhassig already under their belt in their opening round game, again held the upper hand from the throw-in last evening.

By the hall-time whistle they had opened up a 1-10 to 1-0 interval lead thanks in the main to the accuracy of the Twomey sisters Denise and Deirdre who between them notched up all the first half scores.

Trisha O'Sullivan finding the net 20 minutes into the half for the Carrigaline side who contested every ball with spirit through that opening 30 minutes.

Through the second half St Catherine's continued to pick off their scores, the Twomeys piling on the pressure, aided by Elaine Fitzgerald who contributed 1-1 and Noreen Mulcahy who tapped over a pointed free. Again through the half Carrigaline played second fiddle but to their credit they never gave up, Megan Scully and Terri O'Keeffe pointing twice for a side who must be complimented for their commitment and discipline.

They worked hard and fought for every ball as if just one point separated the sides. They encouraged and supported each other when many a side would have throw in the towel.

They must be praised for the way in which they accepted defeat and on their sporting performance for the entire hour against a superb St Catherine's side who on this form are most definitely serious contenders for ultimate honours.

ST. CATHERINE'S: D Leahy, Y O Neill, A Hayes, H Lane, E Power, O Neville, N Mulcahy(0-1), E O Keeffe, F Noonan, E Fitzgerald, Denise Twomey(0-9), T Fitzpatrick, Deirdre Twomey(0-12), A Hogan, M Daly(1-1).
CARRIGALINE: A Kiely, M Barry, J O Keeffe, D O Leary, M Moran, S Cotter, T O Sullivan.(1-0) N Murphy, R Herlihy, G O Keeffe, U O Farrell, P O Keeffe, M MC Inerney, A Collins.
Subs: T O Keeffe(0-1) for G O Keeffe, J O Keeffe for M Mc Inerney, M Scully (0-1) for M Barry.
Referee: J O'Leary (Mallow).

Éire Óg	3-3
Bishopstown	3-2

ÉIRE ÓG kept their title hopes firmly on track as they recorded their second win in the Tower View Developments Senior B championship when they defeated Bishopstown in a close encounter on Saturday evening in Ballincollig.

At the full-time whistle just one points separated the sides but it was enough to give the mid-Cork girls the points on offer and with just one game left for them to play in their section they will be confident of making it to the semi-final stages.

CAMOGIE
All-Ireland Junior Shield quarter finals
London 0-5 Armagh 5-8
Carlow 3-7 Roscommon 2-5
Laois 3-7 Meath 0-8
Tyrone OFF Cavan

Kilmacud's 33rd 7's

(2006-08-24)

33rd All-Ireland Camogie Sevens
hosted by Kilmacud Crokes

SATURDAY 9th SEPTEMBER 2006

The annual All-Ireland Camogie Sevens tournament hosted by Kilmacud Crokes will be held on Saturday 9th September with 56 teams taking part. Teams are travelling from the UK and all over Ireland to be part of this prestigious day.

Top teams taking part include defending champions Milford from Cork and last year finalist's St Ibars from Wexford, featuring county star and sevens player of the tournament in 2005 Kate Kelly. Good Counsel from Dublin progressed to last year's semi final but Marino remain the last team from Dublin to win the tournament in 1995. However confidence in Dublin is high following their recent back-to-back Junior All-Ireland success last weekend. Challenging for honours will be Athenry and Pearse's from Galway and Tipperary's Holycross/Ballycahill and KilruaneMacDonagh. Joining the contingent from Ulster are current Junior club champions from Down Liatroim Fontenoys and the winners of the 2005 sevens shield competition St Patricks Keady of Armagh. Armagh are very well represented with eight teams taking part in the competition. Other teams travelling from afar include Tara and Father Murphys from London. We wish them the best of luck over the weekend!

The competition will be organised into 2 divisions with clubs from Senior Counties taking part in the Cup Competition and those from Junior Counties competing for the Shield. There will be 4 teams in each group and each team will play 3 matches before the qualifying stages. The matches will be played in three venues, Glenalbyn, Silver Park and Clonkeen College in Blackrock, starting at 10.30am. Spectators are very welcome to come along and see the best camogie players in the country in action. The final will be in Glenalbyn at 5.30pm. The coveted winners prizes are high quality bronze cast figures of camogie players commissioned especially for Kilmacud Crokes Camogie Sevens.

Sevens Saturday is now as much a part of the All-Ireland weekend for camogie people as the trip to Croke Park. With the top players from Cork and Tipperary taking to the field on All-Ireland Sunday, we look forward to having the best of the rest playing on our fields in Kilmacud.

Antrim county Final

(2006-08-27)

Antrim Senior camogie final : Rossa 3-10 Dunloy 2-5
The twin scoring threat of Jane Adams and Mariosa McGourty was enough to see Rossa collect their fifth Antrim Senior camogie title in seven seasons at Portglenone on Saturday evening.

Both combined for two goals in the opening 7 minutes. Jane took a good save out of Ciara McKinley in the fifth minute but 15 year old Mariosa – sister of three brothers who play for Antrim and St. Gall's – batted home.

2 minutes later she fired a great pass from the corner for Jane to bury the second and then in the 17th minute Mariosa bundled the sliotar over the line in a goalmouth scramble.

Those scores put Rossa well in command of the game leading 3–4 to 0-2 going into the break, only for a long free from Sinead McMullan to end in the net and Jacinta Dixon to add a point.

Dunloy really upped the tempo during the third quarter, but Rossa held tight until the 50th minute when an Aileen Martin goal closed the gap to just three points.

Jane and Mariosa responded though with points, two frees for Jane and a delightful left-handed effort from Mariosa. With Grainne Connolly and sub Mairead Rainey adding late scores, Rossa survived with something to spare in a tough, skilful exhibition of camogie.

Rossa : Theresa McGowan, Teresa Adams, Hannah Healy, Pauline Greene, Ciara Gault, Maureen Stewart, Shauneen McGourty, Seainín Daykin, Colleen Doherty 0-1, Mairiosa McGourty 2-1, Gráinne Connolly 0-1, Jane Adams capt 1-6, 0-5 frees, Ailsing McColl, Ciara McGinley, Valerie Loughran.

Subs: Brónagh Orchin for S McGourty, Máiréad Rainey 0-1 for V Loughran.

Dunloy : Ciara McKinley, Lucia Dowds, Sinéad McMullan 1-0 free, Donna Brogan, Julie-Anne McLean, Cathy Dixon, Alison McTaggart capt., Sinéad Martin, Jacinta Dixon 0-2, Oonagh O'Kane, Anne McGilligan 0-3 frees, Natasha Elliot, Aileen Martin 1-0, Oonagh McAllister, Elaine Dowds.

Subs : Brónagh Elliot for N Elliot, Michaela Elliot for S Martin.

Mackey the difference for Douglas girls

Douglas	1-2
Inniscarra	0-1

DOUGLAS are still on course to win their fifth successive U14 camogie crown after edging past Inniscarra.

Catriona Mackey was the difference as the Douglas forward converted 1-1 in the second half.

Inniscarra opened the scoring through Joanne Casey. Aileen O'Donovan levelled before the break. Mackey scored 1-1 from frees after half-time and Douglas defended stoutly in the closing 20 minutes to see the game out. Douglas keeper Áine O'Donovan was impressive behind a full-back line of Duggan, O'Sullivan and Lynch. Pamela Mackey and Rachel Baxter were lively up front alongside scorers O'Donovan and Mackey.

Áine Ní Riain, Emma Kingston, Amanda Twohig and Laura McCarthy stood out for Inniscarra.

Ballygarvan stand between Douglas and five in-a-row, with the final scheduled to take place next weekend.

Carmel Shanahan R.I.P.
Cois Bhride would like to extend it's condolences to the Ahearne and the Moloney Families, Knockanore, on the untimely death of their aunt Carmel Shanahan, Ballymacoda, which occurred recently. Ar dheis Dé go raibh a anam.

Camogie board walk out

Members of the Tipperary County Camogie Board ended their monthly meeting on Tuesday night of last week, somewhat abruptly, when delegates walked out in protest at the manner in which the chairman, Stephen Fitzgerald was, dealing with issues, *writes Gerry Slevin*.

When the issue was queried and delegates were informed that it was not a matter for them as such, exception was taken to this attitude and delegates, along with the treasurer Rose Mannion and the Munster Council delegate Margaret Skehan walked out.

All has not been well within the Board for some time and there have been unsuccessful attempts to have votes of no confidence in the chairman placed before various meetings. It is no secret that the chairman and treasurer have been on a collision course for quite a while.

There have been several heated debates between the top table and the floor and when *The Guardian* attended a recent monthly meeting to report on proceedings, attempts were made, prior to the commencement of the meeting, to discourage this presence. At the meeting following that particular gathering, a decision was taken that the press would not be allowed admission to any future meeting, unless by invitation, the exception being the annual Convention.

Aug 2006

SENIOR B TEAM BOOK PLACE IN FINAL

ANOTHER good weekend on the playing fields as the Senior B team booked their place in the All Ireland final with a victory over Tipperary. From the throw in Cork held the upper hand in this Senior B All Ireland camogie championship semi final and booked their place in the final as they totally outclassed Tipperary. Playing with the aid of the strong wind for the opening half Cork opening the scoring thanks to a Marie O'Neill point inside a minuet. Cork held the upper hand and playing with confidence led by seven points before Tipp had their opening score twelve minutes to the break from Mary Ryan. Cork were in total control by the time Marie O'Neill hit their fifth point and they killed off the Tipp challenge with three first half goals in the closing stages of the half. Denise Twomey, Emer Watson and Emer O'Farrell hitting the important goals while in between Cork picking off their points with ease to build up a 3-11 to 0-2 half time advantage. Mary Ryan having tapped over Tipp's second score from a free five minutes from the break

Tipperary aided by the wind showed plenty of spirit in the second half three points in succession from Mary Ryan, Deirdre Dunne and Eimear Ryan gave them something to cling onto as their defence now contained Cork to just three scores, Marie O'Neill had Corks fourth a goal twenty two minutes into the half, substitute Marion Jagoe and O'Neill pointing to send Cork comfortably into the final as Mary Looby pointed for Tipperary.

Galway who recorded a four point victory over Kilkenny will be Corks final opponents and it has been reported that Galway are a strong side who fielded many of the side that ran the Cork senior team to just four points in the recent All Ireland semi final. October 1st is the next day on the calendar one not to be missed.

Second victory for minors

CORK'S challenge to lift the inaugural All Ireland minor (under 18) title remained on course but not before receiving a stiff test from a determined Wexford side in Ballinlough on Friday last. The strong Wexford sides made Cork fight to the finish before victory was secured and with two victories from two game Cork face into their last game in the round robin series against Kilkenny with a semi final spot secured.

Cork hit the front quickly with points from Orla Cotter and when the same player got through for a goal with just three minutes gone it looked as if Cork were going to demolish Wexford. Far from truth Miriam Crowley had added a point to Corks tally before Wexford responded and for fifteen minutes they ran the show, four points without reply had them within a point of Cork before Louise O'Leary put them in front with a well taken goal which was followed by an Una Lacey point

Erin Corkery rallied Cork with a much needed goal and boosted by this t hey began to regain control points from Orla Cotter and Erin Corkery crucial as Una Lacey replied with one as Cork led 2-5 to 1-6 at the break.

Two long range pointed free from Orla Cotter inside five minutes of the restart stretched the advantage but with Wexford putting them under pressure the Cork defence were busy goalkeeper Eimear White denying Louise O'Leary and Una Lacey in quick succession. Cork held their four point advantage entering the final quarter but a Lee Ann Murphy goal had it down to the minimum as Wexford piled on the pressure. Cork were under severe pressure but they weathered the storm Orla Cotter, Eimear O'Sullivan and Lucy Hawks working hard to ensure they held their advantage. Cork finishing stronger had points from Ashling Thompson, Michelle Browne and Orla Cotter to ensure victory.

Camogiechat

With **Mary Newman**

Championship put on hold

THE Cork Camogie Board took a decision last week to postpone all championship games involving member of the county senior team who defend their title again Tipperary on September 10 following a request from the management team the board GPC decided to postpone the games, in the Senior B and junior A champions involving players have also been rescheduled.

The board are to be complemented on making the decision which a sensible one is given the increasing injury list involving panel members at present

The two county senior championship semi final St Finbarrs v Muskerry and Imokilly v Cloughduv will now go ahead on September 24 with the final put back to October 8.

Cork camogie supporters jerseys now available

AGAIN a reminder to clubs that the Colour Catcher Camogie Jersey is available to purchase in Pairc Ui Rinn ranging in all sizes from five years up to adults. It is also available at the juvenile and senior county board meetings or from any county board officer. Reasonably priced at €25 for all under age sizes and at €30 for adult sizes from small upwards the jersey gives all camogie players and supporters a chance to show your support for our girls and can be worn to support county team in all codes.

Tomorrow's camogie stars are well grounded

By Gerry Slevin

The emphasis at present may well be on the team that will line out in the All Ireland senior final against Cork on Sunday week, but for camogie to continue to prosper in Tipperary, it is essential that the game be fostered and promoted at under age level, particularly among the early teens.

On Monday evening of last week out in Toomevara the activity scene had to be witnessed to be believed. In the main field the under 12 hurlers of Silvermines and Roscrea were enthralling a huge gathering of parents and supporters with their determination and skill. Farther in, on the magnificent new pitch, young camogie stars from most clubs in the county had assembled to formally bring to an end a season which for them was quite a successful one, highlighted by the winning of the Limerick under 14 inter-county blitz.

There, in their ensembles, kindly sponsored and donated by Proctor and Gamble, about twenty five girls were undergoing a training session, directed by Team of the Century member Deirdre Hughes. The season might well have come to an end but in having such a high profile player as Deirdre available on her home patch to help spread her outstanding talents was an occasion not to be missed.

Deirdre's great friend and erstwhile inter-county colleague Noelle Kennedy has been very much involved with this under 14 side along with Donal Kelly and Johnnie Kirwan, although Noelle was quick to give all credit to the two men, confining her own role merely to that of liasing in the acquisition of playing gear from her employers, Proctor and Gamble. Following on from that she was 'coaxed' by Donal and Johnny to help out in coaching the players.

Noelle said that several counties are now organising inter-county blitzes and they are seen as being very successful in encouraging young players to get involved and to improve their game.

The panel comprises players from most clubs in the county including Toomevara, Moneygall, Holycross, Kilruane, Shannon Rovers, Cashel, Thurles, Drom-Inch, Silvermines and Burgess and is captained by Amy Kennedy from Burgess.

"What we are about tonight is to bring the girls together to finish up the season and present them with gear in gratitude for their commitment during the season.

As you can see, there are a lot of people around, a lot of young people and we would hope that what they see here will encourage them to become involved too," said Noelle.

Donal Kelly told me that last March a series of trials were held in The Ragg and a panel eventually selected. The panel originally comprised about 33 players but that had been reduced to around 25.

Donal pointed out that Gaeltacht commitments over the summer took away some of them. Many of the girls would now be moving on to the county under 16 panel, he said.

"It's all about getting the girls together early. The whole thing has gone so professional now in approach that they would nearly need to be playing challenge games in March to be ready for the championship," added Donal.

Looking back on the season just ending, Donal said the girls had taken part in inter-county blitzes in several counties. They won the Limerick one, beating en route, Cork, Clare, Kilkenny, Galway and Limerick. They reached the semi final in Cork. They lost the Galway final, beaten in extra time and were also knocked out in the Kilkenny blitz, being short some players because of holidays.

"There is only the puck of a ball between any of the counties at that level. It's great to taste victory at that level too, the Limerick victory being very sweet. Last year we won the plate in Limerick and came back this time to win the main competition," said Donal.

Donal was hopeful that Tipperary might consider hosting a blitz next season. The county would be able to field two teams, as Cork had done in their blitz, and this would help to give more players greater exposure and provide them with a greater appetite for the game.

Most, if not all of these young players will be in Croke Park on Sunday week cheering on Tipp in their bid for a 6 All Ireland title since 1999.

Hopefully, some of them will enjoy the same experience of playing there in future years. Their interest is indeed being honed and the commitment they are giving to the game at a young age certainly speaks volumes for their future exploits. With such dedicated people to coach and encourage them, they can face the future with confidence.

Camogie players to help design protective hurling gear

by Eoin English

SENIOR camogie players are being asked for the first time to help improve the design of protective hurling gear.

Aoife McCarthy, a third-year college student from Shanballymore in North Cork, is conducting a major survey of inter-county hurlers from Cork, Kilkenny and Waterford about the types of head, facial and hand injuries they have received on the pitch.

But she has also included players on the senior camogie teams from Cork, Tipperary and Galway in her survey.

It is the first time camogie players have been asked about injury and injury prevention.

"The girls were delighted to get involved," Ms McCarthy said yesterday.

While the results are expected within three weeks, Ms McCarthy said preliminary results showed that senior hurlers get more head injuries while camogie players get more hand injuries.

It is hoped the results of the survey will help improve the designs of hurling helmets and protective gloves.

Injuries, especially hand injuries, can have a serious impact on players' ability to return to work after games, she said. "Hopefully we can work on design improvements for the existing protective glove."

Ms McCarthy is conducting the survey as part of her final-year degree in Sport and Physical Education at the University of Wales Institute in Cardiff.



Aoife McCarthy with Cork camogie stars Colette Desmond, Jennifer O'Leary, Lucy Hawkes, Emer Waltson and Anna Geary, with Youghal Quality Hotel duty manager Sean Grundes. Picture: Ger Flanagan

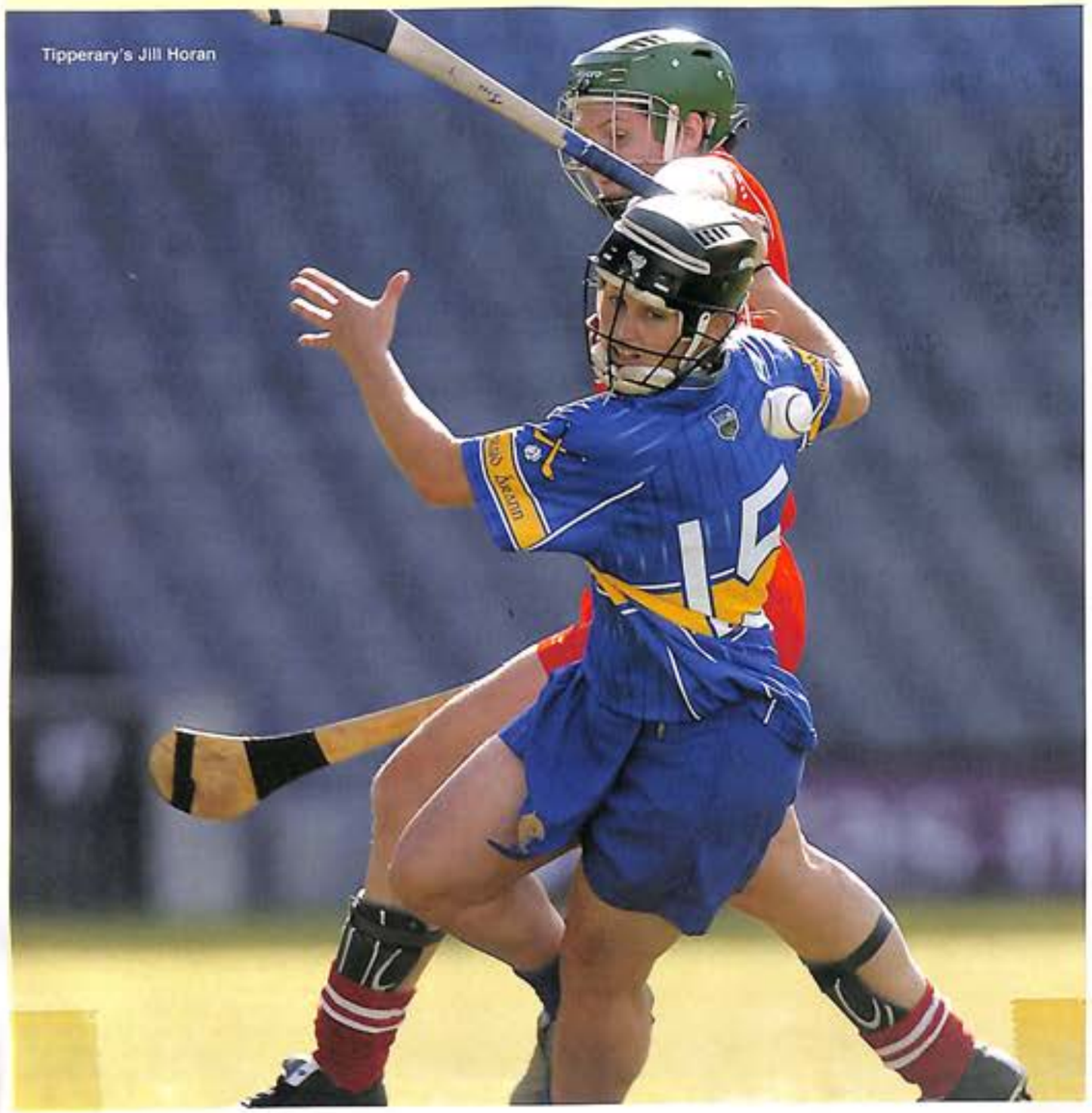
It is building on a previous study conducted by Dr David Kent, an eye surgeon from Kilkenny.

The Quality Hotel and Leisure Centre in Youghal, where Ms McCarthy works, is sponsoring the survey.

CAMOGIE world

with Olhausen

by Maire Ui Scolai


Tipperary's Jill Horan

THE FAMILY FINALS

The Gala All-Ireland final takes centre stage with the Erin All-Ireland U21 Hurling final on the 10 September writes Máire Uí Scolaí.

The second Sunday in September will be a history filled day in Páirc an Chrócaigh when the Gala All-Ireland Camogie final between Tipperary and Cork goes ahead with the Erin U21 Hurling All-Ireland final between Tipperary and Kilkenny the curtain raiser to the Camogie decider.

The fact that two Tipperary teams will be in action will mean a lot of blue and gold around Jones' Road that day, but the day will be extra special for two Tipperary families. The Young family, will have an interest in both as Louise is part of the Tipperary team who hope to defeat the reigning All-Ireland champions Cork, while her brother David will be looking for his first All-Ireland U21 medal. Not to be outdone, the Horan family have a similar story, as Jill is on the camogie team with her brother Séan on the hurling side. Should Tipperary win both family names would be inscribed in the history books for ever more.

To have both games going ahead in Croke Park on the same day is a great move by both organisations and reflects very well on the hard work done by both for this dream to come true. In recent years the fact that the U21hurling and the camogie finals were played on the same day in separate venues often meant families were divided on the day, but this year there will be no such problems as both will go ahead in headquarters. Twenty two year old Bray, Co. Wicklow based Garda Louise Young can't wait for September and will be delighted to have her brother competing on the same day: "It will be great to have David there, especially as he captains the team." Both Louise and David play for Toomevara and Louise recently received a text from the legendary Deirdre Hughes - who used to occupy the full forward position - wishing her well in the no. 14 jersey against Cork. Despite the fact that neither of their parents, Maura and Pat played hurling or camogie, they are now the driving force behind their stars. According to Louise: "They are great, they never stop encouraging us, and when I was finding it tough driving from Bray to Tipperary for training they kept encouraging me to go for it and now I am so delighted that they did." David is slightly more fortunate as he is a lot nearer to home, as he is in Limerick IT where is studying Construction Management.

Last year, younger sister Fióna captained the Tipperary U16 team to the All-Ireland final, where Kilkenny beat them. The fourth Young sibling Elaine also plays for the club, so there are plenty of jerseys to be washed in that household after a weekend's activities!

Interestingly, both the Horan family and the Young family have another common link. Both boys play in the half backs, while the two females play in the forward line! Growing up in Tipperary was fun for the Young children, as they had their own pitch in their garden. A goalpost was erected in the garden and both Louise and David spent many hours smashing balls over and under that crossbar with the hope that someday they both might get to the real theatre of dreams - Croke Park.

Interestingly, Louise has played more often than David in Croke Park, as he has only had the privilege once, when he lined out with the minors a couple of years ago. However, the chat about a possibility of both playing in Croker on All-Ireland day was a subject of conversation between the two stars last weekend, David was hoping that it would become a reality as were both their parents and when the final whistle went at Parnell Park after the All-Ireland camogie semi-final, there was a great sigh of relief.

The Gala All-Ireland championship was well in progress when the Toomevara player got the call from Tipp manager Paddy McCormack.

"I was delighted to be asked, it is a great honour to play for your county and as there were only a few more games to go I felt I could manage the long drive from Bray to Thurles," said Louise. She is now delighted that she said yes to Paddy as she can't wait to meet Cork: "We have played them a number of times this year and we know how good they are, but we are hoping that we can come good on the day."

Louise, who has not started in an All-Ireland Final yet, would be thrilled to be one of the starting fifteen on September 10th, as she went to say: "When we won our semi-final David said to me you do not know how lucky you are to be playing in Croke Park, he has always wanted to play in Croke Park and now it just means so much to me especially after Paddy asking me back into the panel and to have David play before our game is just brilliant, it is a dream come true and it is a great move by all to have both games there on the same day." The young Garda maintains there is a great buzz now in the county and further sponsorship such as Gala's has in her opinion made a big impression on camogie. She feels that the Tipperary hurling folk who will travel to Dublin will stay for the camogie: "Many people say that they did not realise how skilful camogie is, so having the two games together will show case the game to a much wider audience."

Four great teams will take to the field of dreams on September 10th, only two can become winners, but the biggest winner of all is the hosting of the two games together in this great venue. Cork will not wish to surrender their crown easily, while Tipperary will be very anxious to retain the title they last won in centenary year, 2004.

Be there to witness this historical day and two great games. For the Horans and the Youngs the possibility of double All-Ireland titles is a dream.


Ready for battle again

3 Sept 2006

A 'GALA' OCCASION

Sept. 2006

For the first time ever, the All-Ireland Camogie Championship will be sponsored by the convenience retailer group, GALA. The company CEO, Tom Keogh, explains to Hogan Stand why the company chose the ladies' game for their first commercial sponsorship.

GALA is Ireland's fastest growing retailer - quite an achievement as the group was established in November 1998 when the first outlet was opened in Portlaoise. Today, there are 215 GALA stores across the country. Additional to this, a further 80 Checkout shops come under the GALA group banner.

GALA is unique in that it is owned by 15 different wholesalers and they have 24 distribution centers all over the country that supply the various shops in their respective areas."

The fact that the GALA philosophy is that the store owner is in the best position to deal with the needs of the customer is a major factor in their decision to join GALA Retail Services. With a dedicated service provided to GALA stores from the wholesalers and their support team, it is easy to see why it is Ireland's fastest growing retail group.

"We feel that the store owner should have full control of the day-to-day running of the business as they are best placed to deal with the customers needs on a daily basis." said Tom.

Tom continues: "Our support team is always on hand to offer support and advice to our retailers and we have an excellent chain of wholesalers that have the local knowledge to offer a friendly and efficient service."

Tom revealed that GALA's best form of advertising for new shops has been word-of- mouth from shop owners who have already decided to join the GALA revolution.

"We have definitely found that more retailers are joining us due to recommendations from other proprietors. Combined with this, is the competitive package that we have to offer…making it a win win situation all round."

GALA source the majority of their goods in Ireland and local suppliers are also used for products sold in the stores.

Having almost 3,000 staff countrywide means that the retail giant is one of the country's largest employers and with plans to expand even further, Tom revealed that GALA intend to continue to open stores around the country.

"The immediate plan is to expand even further and we have targets that we hope to meet every year. GALA has had great success in a short period of time and I'm confident that level of consistency can be kept going for some time to come." he added.



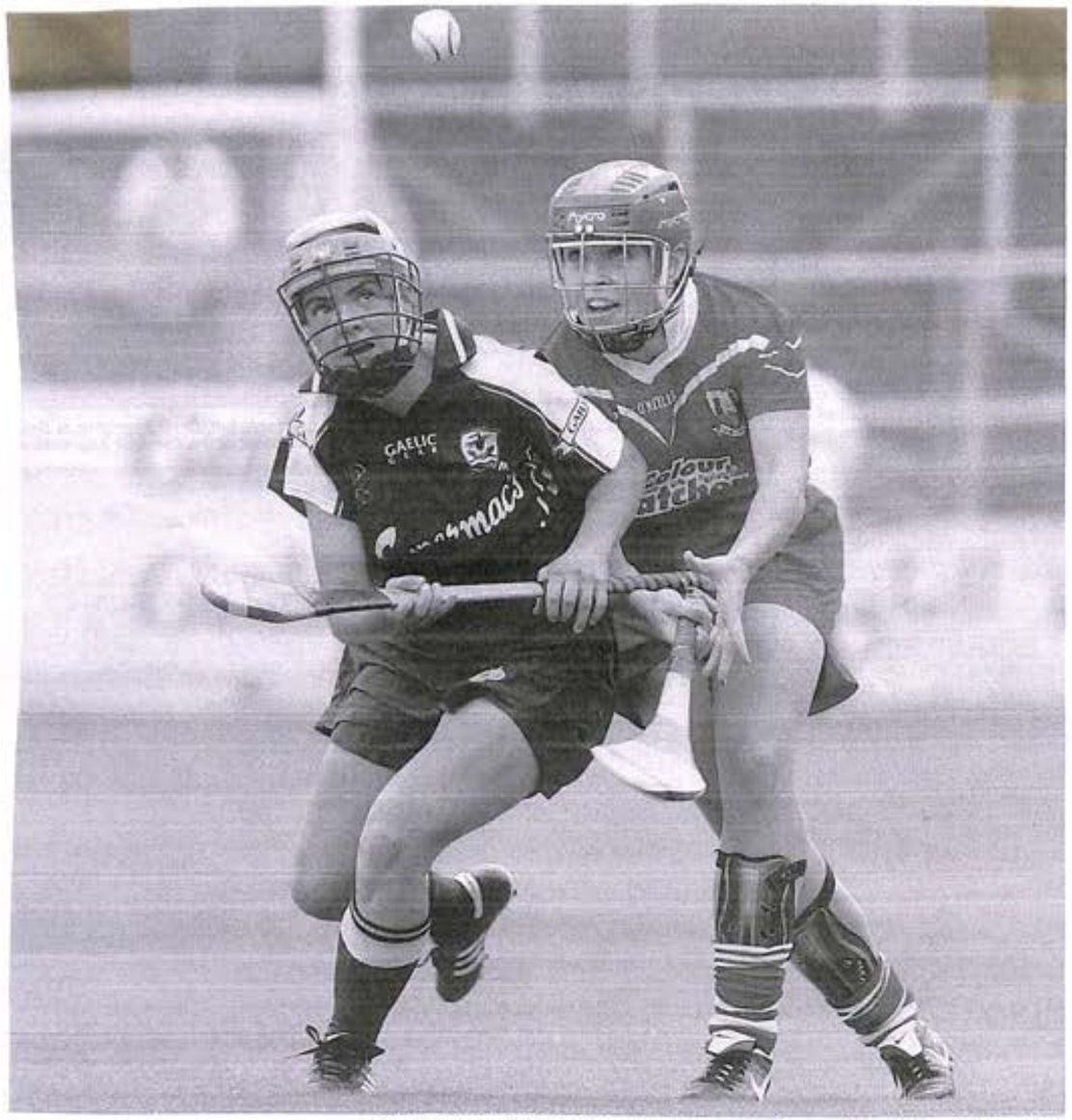
Tipperary's captain Philly Fogarty with Tom Keogh, left, Chief Executive of Gala Retail Services and Liz Howard, President of the Camogie Association



Gala, Ireland's fastest growing retailer, has been announced as the first commercial sponsor of the All-Ireland Senior Camogie Championship. Pictured at the launch are, from left: Liz Howard, President, Cumann Camogaiochta na nGael, Tom Keogh, CEO Gala and Moira Dooley, Limerick



Pictured at the launch are, from left: Kate Kelly, Wexford; Liz Howard, Cumann Camogaiochta na nGael; Tom Keogh, CEO Gala and Margaret D'Arcy, Wexford



Action from the Cork v Galway All-Ireland senior A camogie semi-final at Nowlan Park

advertising campaign and the slogan 'Everything and More' is now a familiar phrase on everyone's lips.

The next move for the retail group was to consider sponsorship on a country-wide basis and Tom stressed that after a short time, it was plain to everyone what avenue they would proceed to take.

"When considering where our sponsorship would go, it was plain to see that there was one source that was untapped. The All-Ireland Camogie Championship was a fantastic fit for GALA as it reaches out to local level which is very much a reflection of GALA as a business. The fact that many of their members are women that are familiar with our stores was an important factor in the final decision." said Tom.

For the next two years, the championship will be officially called the Gala All-Ireland Senior Camogie Championship with GALA having full and exclusive control over the branding and promotional rights.

"Ladies sport has never had such a high profile as it does at present and camogie is now regarded as one of the top sports in the country following extensive media coverage.

Many of our customers and staff play, or have played camogie. As convenience retailers, we are at the heart of the communities across Ireland - as is the sport of camogie. We hope that our support will help ensure a strong future for one of Ireland's great sports. GALA is delighted to be title sponsors of the Gala All-Ireland Senior Camogie Championship."

The All-Ireland Camogie Championship is this year, celebrating its 75th anniversary. The first final took place when the Dublin team was the triumphant winners.

Although the Camogie Association was founded in 1904, it has not been until recent times that the sport has become so popular mainly due to extensive television coverage and a major drive by the Association to promote the game.

This year, six counties set out to be crowned the Gala All-Ireland Camogie Champions but now there are only two left as defending champions, Cork, meet Tipperary in the showdown at Croke Park on September 10th.

Tom is an avid supporter of the GAA and follows the fortunes of his native Wicklow very closely indeed. Having managed his local club, Enniskerry, for a number of years he admits that he has seen many changes to the game.

"The profile of the GAA has reached an all time high and the professionalism and dedication of the players these days is something to be admired. Camogie has certainly not been left behind and the future of the game looks very bright indeed."



Cork captain Joanne O'Callaghan with Tom Keogh, left, Chief Executive of Gala Retail Services and Liz Howard, President of the Camogie Association



The Tipperary camogie squad that defeated Kilkenny in the Gala All-Ireland senior championship semi-final



The Cork squad will hope to retain their crown when they meet Tipperary in the Gala All-Ireland senior camogie final

Sept. 2006

Sept. 2006

Free Draw

Win 50 Tickets for your club to the Gala All-Ireland Senior Camogie Final

10 Lucky Girls will be selected as Ball/Watergirls for the Game

Croke Park, 10th September 2006

- Competition is only open to registered members of recognised Camogie Clubs in Ireland
- Prize Includes round trip luxury coach transfers from your club grounds anywhere in Ireland with packed lunches provided.
- Gala Stores goodie bags for all ticket winners
- Enjoy great seats for a feast of Camogie and Hurling on this historic All-Ireland Sunday in Croke Park, 10th September 2006.



Who'll lift the cup for the 2006 Gala All-Ireland Senior Camogie Championship?
Gala Retail Services DAC), Tom Keneigh with Camogie President, Liz Howard holding The O'Duffy Cup and players at the launch in Croke Park of the 2006 All-Ireland Senior Camogie Championship.

Gala

Proud Sponsors of the Gala All-Ireland Senior Camogie Championship

Additional entry forms available from your Camogie Club!

Competition closes Monday 28th August, 2006. Terms and conditions apply, see over for full details.

Cork need victory to ease their path further on

TONIGHT
All-Ireland Minor Camogie Champ. Round Robin Series, Game Three
Cork v Kilkenny
Kilmanagh at 6pm

WITH both teams already having recorded . victories over Wexford and Dublin, this evening's All Ireland minor camogie championship clash between Kilkenny and Cork could be seen as being merely to decide the placing in the group but this is certainly not the case.

In this the inaugural year of minor camogie at U18 level, the structure of the competition has two groups of four teams playing on a round robin series.

Four teams emerge from these groups with group winners playing each other in opposite semi final.

The runners up will be drawn for places in the quarter and semi finals. If Cork were to lose out this evening they may find themselves unlucky enough to be one of the quarter finalists and this is something that they want to avoid at all costs given the fixture backlog that already exists with club game due to the success of the county teams.

Their task is not an easy one against a strong Kilkenny side whose U16 team already have the title under their belts. Recording a comprehensive victory over Dublin in their opening game, Cork had to stand firm against a strong second half Wexford rally in their second outing and they will be determined to build on this performance.

Senior players Orla Cotter, who captains the side, Lucy Hawkes and Eimear O'Sullivan will again lead the Cork challenge with support from Erin Corkery, Miriam Crowley and Emer White.

Kilkenny had fine victories over Dublin and Wexford and their challenge will be led by the U16 duo of Marie Dargan and Edwina Keane as they continue their quest for an underage double.

Superb Minor 'B' All-Ireland Final

(2006-09-03)

All-Ireland Minor B final :
Antrim 6-4 Down 5-8

Few games will give as much value for money as Friday evening's All-Ireland Minor B camogie final in Casement Park.
It had everything - brilliant individual skills, some superb score-taking by both sides, 11 goals and Down victors by a single point courtesy of a 59th minute goal from full-forward Sara Louise Carr - daughter of dual All-Ireland football medallist Ross.
Yes it was decided right at the death after a pulsating game of changing fortunes.
Down opened strongly and were probably the better team in the first half, although 7 wides left them trailing 2-2 to 1-4 at the break.
But what an impact they made in the first 3 and a half minutes of the second half, scoring 3 goals - a Clare Quinn effort sandwiched between two from Aoibhne O'Neill.
Amazingly the Saffrons recovered. Bronagh Orchin shot a goal in the fifth minute and two from substitutes Emma McMullan and Aileen Martin closed the gap to a single point as the game entered the final 10 minutes.
In the 54th minute, Racquel McCarry caught a high ball on the 20 metre line and swiveled to find the net for a goal worthy of any occasion.
However it wasn't enough and Sara Louise Carr's brilliant overhead double from a Lisa McPolin centre won the day for the Mourne County.
Down : Joanna Sloan, Helen McAteer, Corinna Cunningham capt, Sarah Farnon, Paula Gribben, Carolann Sloan, Grainne O'Higgins, Karen Tinnelly 0-3 frees, Clare Quinn 1-0, Joanne Fitzpatrick, Lisa McPolin, Lisa Hughes, Stephanie O'Hare 1-0, Sara Louise Carr 1-5, Aoibhne O'Neill 2-0.
Sub : Clare Malone for S farnon (47).
Antrim : Shaunie McAuley, Lucia Dowds, Roisin O'Boyle, Brianna McDonnell, Sinead Laverty, Jolene McCarry, Emma Connolly, Joanne Campbell 1-0 side-line, Suzanne McKeown, Shannon Graham, Claire Dallat capt 0-2 frees, Racquel McCarry 2-1, Cathy Carey 0-1, Aisling McCall, Bronagh Orchin 1-0.
Subs : Aileen Martin 1-0 for A McCall (24), Michaela Convery for S McKeown (36), Emma McMullan for B Orchin (39).
Referee : Rosemary Hughes-Merry, Monaghan.
Séamas Mc Aleenan.



RENA BUCKLEY

GALA ALL IRELAND CAMOGIE FINAL, SEPTEMBER 10TH, CROKE PARK

(2006-08-21)

Who'll hold on to the O'Duffy Cup? Will it be Tipp captain Philly Fogarty or Cork Captain Joa
O'Callaghan?



GALA ALL IRELAND SENIOR CAMOGIE CHAMPIONSHIP FINAL
&
ERIN ALL IRELAND U21 HURLING CHAMPIONSHIP FINAL

CROKE PARK, SUNDAY SEPTEMBER 10TH

Ticket & Match Info
3.30PM GALA ALL IRELAND SENIOR CAMOGIE CHAMPIONSHIP FINAL
CORK V TIPPERARY

1.30PM ERIN U21 ALL IRELAND HURLING CHAMPIONSHIP FINAL
KILKENNY V TIPPERARY

Aug 2006

Not everybody agrees with U21 final move



LINDA MELLERICK

THE All-Ireland U21 hurling final between Kilkenny and Tipperary is to be played, for the first time ever, as a curtain raiser to the All-Ireland senior camogie final in Croke Park on September 10.

This is a significant move for both the Camogie Association and the Integration Task Force.

Four years down the road, this double header is as a result of hard work by the task force committee whose objective is to establish closer links between the GAA, camogie and ladies football with the possibility that joint / overall membership be explored.

Apart from all that, something had to be done about All-Ireland camogie day in Croke Park. It was costing the camogie association an arm and a leg to stage the finals there (that arm and leg being about €70,000).

The cost of caterers, security, Stewarts, etc all has to be covered and people forget that. You hope that maybe 25,000 people will attend. You have to provide security for that volume of people. If only half that show it's an unnecessary but compulsory cost.

Also with Croke Park now seating 82,300 people the game was beginning to lose its impact in the giant stadium.

I think its fantastic that the U21 game is going ahead. If only 50% of the hurling crowd stay on then it's 50% more people watching the game live and that's what it's all about.

I know the game is televised live but it's not the same. We need people to physically attend our games. It creates a greater atmosphere.

I noticed over the years that the public have huge respect and time for camogie. They admire and enjoy the game. But that enjoyment doesn't extend so far that they make an effort to attend an All-Ireland finals.

Of course no matter what strides the association endeavour to take or any association / business for that matter, there are always some it won't suit. But you have to look at what's best for the future of the enterprise.

Because of the U21 curtain raiser the All-Ireland junior camogie final has been taken out of Croke Park to make way.

Understandably so, the junior camogie counties are not a bit happy.

Dublin and Derry played the All-Ireland junior final two weeks ago in Tullamore. Paul Welsh, who attended the game, said that the final must have been a bit of a comedown for Dublin who won their second title in a row. Twelve months ago they played in front of 10,000 plus fans in Croke Park.

Two weeks ago approximately 400 people were in attendance. The game was a curtain raiser to the U-21 hurling semi final between Kilkenny and Galway.

By the end of the game the crowd was somewhere around 1,500 while a few more thousand drifted in just in time for the hurling game.

Paul says that camogie lost out.

He argues that the game in Tullamore did nothing more than tick a box in the integration list and fulfil a fixture and that what it did do was to deprive Dublin and Derry their chance to play in Croke Park, every player's dream.

I agree that bringing the fixture to Tullamore wasn't wise. And sometimes just because we are given the opportunity to play before or after an important hurling match doesn't always mean it's the best venue.

I am in total agreement of playing the U21 hurling game as a curtain raiser in Croke Park though (although Tipp are involved which means that the Tipp support is possibly going to surpass Cork's by 4 to 1). This crowd will stay on, of that I'm sure.

Paul argues that the three games should have gone ahead in Croke Park on September 10. But if that did happen the junior final would have to go ahead at 12.30pm.

Would many show up at that time and sit through three games? The diehards would maybe.

But the girls would get their chance to play in Croke Park and for that reason alone the junior final should go ahead there.



Members of the St. Vincent's juvenile camogie club who took part in the Community Fun Run. Picture: Mike English

Draws throw up cracking games

THE U16 Championship draws in all grades were made at the juvenile county board meeting on Tuesday and in the weeks ahead there will be are plenty of interesting clashes.

By MARY NEWMAN

Camogie draws

Here we take a look at the grades and draws, the first team out has home advantage and the juvenile board will set down dates for these games. Clubs will be notified of same.

In U16 A there are just five teams and here there is one preliminary round game to be played.

A : Ballinhassig v Inniscarra
B: Milford v winners of A
C: Buttevant v Douglas 1

At under 16B level there are sixteen teams :

A Eire Og V Clonakilty
B Blackrock v Valley Rovers
C St. Finbarrs v Carrigaline
D Erins Own v Ballincollig
E Fr. O'Neill's v Killeagh
F Bishopstown v Courcey Rovers
G Glen Rovers v Ballygarvan
H Rockban v Douglas 2
Quarter Finals:
D v G
C v E
A v B
H v F
Semi Finals:
I v J
K v L

In U16 C 11 teams will battle it out for the title.

(A) Passage v St. Catherines
(B) Ballinascarty v Aghabullogue
(C) Newcestown v Douglas 3
(D) Brian Dillon's v Ballincollig 2
(E) Watergrasshill v Blarney
Quarter Finals:
(F) A v C
(G) B v Mallow
Semi Finals
(H) D. v G
(I) F v E

Eighteen teams make up the U16D grade:

A: Grenagh v Bandon
B: Bride Rovers v Castlemagner
C: Sliabh Rua v Millstreet
D: Kilbrittain v A
E: Newtownshandrum v B
F: St. Vincent's v Na Piarsaigh
G; St. Fanahan's v Kilshannig
H; Enniskeane v Ballyhea
I: Sarsfields v Ballinora
J; Barryroe v Youghal
Quarter Finals:
K) D v I
L) E v J
M) H v G
N) C v F
Semi Finals:
O) N v L
P) K v M

The U16 (12- a-side) competition has just five teams and there will be one preliminary round game.

Cloughduv v Charleville
Cloughduv or Charleville v Kildorrey
Tracton v Castleyons.

Super sub Kenny helps Sars to share of spoils

Sarsfields	2-6
Watergrasshill	2-6

HONOURS were even in this close Tower View Developments Junior A Championship round robin game between neighbours Sars and Watergrasshill, writes MARY NEWMAN.

Watergrasshill made a good start and led at the break 1-4 to 1-2 a goal and a point from Helen O'Neill and three Marie O'Neill points helping them edge ahead. Gemma O'Donoghue had the opening goal for Sars and points from Orla Barry ensured they were well in contention at the break.

Áine Barry and Orla Barry pointed for Sars while Marie O'Neill was on hand with a Watergrasshill goal.

With Aoife O'Connell and Breda Kenny trading points, Watergrasshill led by a goal with time almost up.

Breda Kenny, who had been introduced as a substitute in the first half, showed her experience in the closing seconds of the game striking a low hopping ball into the Watergrasshill the square to deceive the Watergrasshill keeper and find the net. It was a valuable equaliser and it gave Sars a share of the spoils which keeps their championship aspirations on course.

SARSFIELDS O Butler, S O'Leary, N Whooley, T Dwyer, G Dennehy, M Fahy, R Hyde, E Murphy, K Fahy, C Holland, O'Barry, G O'Donoghue, B O'Reilly, E O'Farrell, A Barry.

Subs B Kenny for C Holland, M O'Donoghue for B O'Reilly, D Murphy for R Hyde.

WATERGRASSHILL: V O'Neill, N Mulholland, S MC Inerney, S Moroney, L O'Reilly, M Dorgan, M O'Keeffe, A O'Donoghue, M Buckley, A O'Connell, M O'Neill, E O'Riordan, E O'Farrell, H O'Neill, S Foley

Subs E O'Leary for E O'Riordan, M Lynch for E O'Farrell, L O'Leary for M Dorgan

Mallow and Sliabh Rua must battle it out

WITH the closing date for results having been reached, the County Board reviewed the Junior B section and 13-a-side competitions at last Monday night's meeting, writes MARY NEWMAN.

In the Junior B league Mallow and Sliabh Rau will have to play off to decide who goes forward to the semi final. Already Ballincollig, Clonakilty and Buttevant have booked their places in the final shake up following good performances, the winners of the Sliabh Rua Mallow game will join them in the semi finals, the draws which are as follows Ballincollig v Clonakilty, Buttevant v Sliabh Rua or Mallow.

the meting of Ballincollig and Clonakilty is one to pencil into the dairy in their recent championship clash Clonakilty held off a late Ballincollig challenge to make it to the championship final and no doubt Ballincollig will relish the chance to get revenge for that defeat.

In the 13-a-side junior competition four teams have made it through to the semi final stages. There will be a meeting of neighbours in both games. Bandon have been drawn to meet Enniskeane while Grenagh will be meeting Castlemagner, dates for these games are Friday / Saturday September 15 /16.

Sept 2006

Tracton's early scores help seal first victory

By MARY NEWMAN
Junior camogie

Tracton	3-7
Ballyhea	1-2

The Junior A Championship continued last week as Tracton recorded their first victory defeating Ballyhea in Mournabbey.

Tracton can be thankful for their opening-half performance, which in the finish ensured them their first victory in the Tower View Developments Junior A Championship round robin series.

Making all the early running, they set the pace and points from Trisha Harrington Niamh Harrington and Marian Jagoe ensured they had opened up a four-point lead by the mid-way stage.

Continuing to hold the upper hand, they had two goals in as many minutes with Julie Ann Kingston and Aisling Dempsey ensuring they maintained their dominance over a Ballyhea side that battled against the strong Tracton defence for most of the opening half.

Maria Walsh pointed a Ballyhea free to open their account but three Marion Jagoe points stretched the Tracton advantage.

Ballyhea began to come more into the game as the half-time whistle approached and were it not for three excellent saves from Catriona Collins they would have been closer to Tracton at the half time whistle.

It looked to be a formality for Tracton for in the second half but a hugely improved Ballyhea showed plenty of spirit in the half.

Their defence tightened up considerably and began playing as a unit. A point from Mary Coleman was followed by a Deirdre Dwyer goal when the full forward reacted quickest to flick Maria Walsh's long free to the Tracton net.

Growing in confidence, Ballyhea kept the pressure on the now overworked Tracton defence who had to be at their best to hold their lines. Three times Ballyhea won 45m frees but the Tracton defence stood firm under pressure with the minutes ticking away.



Joy for the Douglas Camogie team who defeated Ardrahan, Galway after extra-time to win the final of the Girls Under 14 All-Ireland final at the HSE National Community Games at Mosney.

Tracton swept up field with substitute Sinéad Loughlin finding the net for their first score of the second half. Ballyhea again applied the pressure but their quest for a goal was once again denied by the Tracton defence who held out for their side to record their first victory in the competition.

TRACTON C Collins, G mc Carthy, E Collins, N Hayes, J A Kingston, T Harrington, O Ambrose, J Lynch, C O Mahony, N Lynch, M Jagoe, A Kiely, A Dempsey, N Harrington, J Griffin

Subs S O Loughlin for A Dempsey, D Ross for J Griffin,

BALLYHEA F Killeens, O Carroll, M Walsh, C Doherty, S Mc Inerney, N Morrissey, V Hennessy, M Coleman, K O'Leary, M Walsh, M O'Brien, D Dwane, E Stack, S Douglas

Referee: P Downey Inniscarra

Douglas, Inniscarra tie the highlight

BACK to the action at underage level with the semi finals and final of U12 and U14 league down for decision in the coming week.

On Tuesday night Glen Rovers and Ballygarvan renew rivalry when they meet in the U14 A league semi final in Douglas at 7pm.

Ballygarvan have already had a victory over the Glen in their earlier league meeting and the Blackpool girls will be going all out to reverse that result.

The second semi-final is sure to be a cracker as Douglas and Inniscarra come face-to-face for the fourth time this year at Ballincollig at 7pm.

It had to go to a replay in the Cork Féile final before Inniscarra emerged victorious but in the All-Ireland Féile final Douglas made amends to retain their crown with a superb display and this game is sure to be a cracker.

On Friday the third team from Douglas meet Brian Dillon's in the semi final of the U14 C league this goes ahead in Sarsfields at 7pm.

UNDERAGE CAMOGIE CLUB NOTES

BALLYGARVAN

WE completed out U16 B league programme with the final game in the section when we met Valley Rovers on Sunday.

This was a very closely fought contest throughout we started well with two early goals, but a very determined Valley Rovers side fought back to see them trailing by just a point at half time. With both sides exchanging points in the second half Ballygarvan managed to hold onto their narrow lead and a late goad by substitute Rebecca Murphy ensured the victory.

Team A Keohane L O Callaghan B Keohane M O Donovan(0-1 free) F O Halloran R Byrne K O Sullivan C Murphy R Ni She A Byrne(1-0) L Ryan S O Mahony L Browne R Keohane (0-2) S Quilligan(1-1) R Murphy (1-0) L Kenefick C White A Walsh M Coveney

On Monday we played our first Junior B league game away to Kilbrittain which we won on the score line 9-9 to 1-2

We would like to wish all the Under 14 girls the best of luck on Tuesday next when they take on Glen Rovers in the county league semi final.

BLACKROCK

THE annual camogie camp was a great success. Sixty six children from age five upwards attended the camp from Monday to Friday. On Friday a skills challenge was held for all on the camp, the winners were: Boys- 1st place Daniel Meaney and 2nd Kevin Foley. Girls- 1st Clodagh Coughlan, 2nd Hayley Ryan.

Over the course of the week the 12 to 14 group learned about the rules and how to referee games. The girls were assessed refereeing games and at the end of the week and winner Kate O'Brien was presented with a camogie referees' jersey.

Special thanks must go to the members of the Blackrock camogie and hurling clubs who gave up the whole week to coach on the camp.

ALL IRELAND TRIP Once again the club will be travelling by bus to the all-Ireland camogie final on Sunday September 10. Contact any of the coaches at the Friday evening training sessions to book your place on the bus.

TRAINING: U16 and U13 Wednesdays at 4.30pm

U11, 9 and 7 on Fridays at 6pm

All new and old members welcome, contact info@blackrockcamogie.com for more info.

Blackrock Camogie would like to congratulate one of our most loyal members, Anne Mills on the occasion of her wedding today. We wish Anne and Colin all the best for their future.

GLEN ROVERS

OUR U16 were disappointed to receive a walk over from Clonakilty in the last game of their league programme on Sunday last. It was very much a case of a last minute call to postpone the game and therefore we had no chance to fit in another game for our girls, who were looking forward to getting back into the swing of games following the summer break.

Our girls, with just one defeat in their campaign, have now qualified for the semi finals and we await the two teams to emerge from the other section which we understand has gone to a three-way play-off.

Our U10 girls enjoyed a great day's camogie at the Declan Crowley Memorial Tournament on Saturday. Despite losing out narrowly to Ballinhassig A, they continued their programme of game qualifying for the plate completions where they defeated to make it to the final. Thanks to Ballinhassig for a wonderful day and for the hospitality we have by now become so accustomed to when we visit Ballinhassig.

All the focus of attention is firmly on our U14 team will meet Ballygarvan in the U14 A league semi final on Tuesday next September 5 in Douglas at 7pm. Earlier in the season we met Ballygarvan when they came out on top with seven points to spare. We are encouraging all club members and supporters to come along and give the team all you're backing on the night.

On Sunday September 10 all eyes will be on the Cork camogie team who defend their title against Tipperary. We urge all club members and players present and former to travel to Croke Park and support the camogie team.

Our senior players are organising a group to travel and anybody interested can contact any of the girls on Monday or Wednesday night at training. We also urge parents of the underage girls to travel to Croke Park for what will be a great occasion and a chance for the girls to savour the big match atmosphere.

ST CATHERINES

Senior B Championship: On Sunday our Senior B team travelled to Watergrasshill to play Carrigaline in the second of their league games this season and ran out comfortable winners on the above score line.

We were dominant in all positions throughout the game with most of our scores coming from the Twomey sisters, Deirdre and Denise. A unique feature of this game was Deirdre Twomey's scoring feat of 13 points from play.

While we can be satisfied with our victory tougher battles will lie ahead. Well done to the girls on a good performance.

Team — D.Leahy, Y.O' Neill, A. Hayes, H. Lane, E. Power, O. Neville, N. Mulcahy, E.O' Keeffe, F. Noonan, E. Fitzgerald, M. Daly, A. Hogan, D. Twomey, T. Fitzpatrick, D. Twomey.

Subs: — S.Noonan, M.O' Keeffe, A .Fitzgerald, A. Galvin, M. Mulcahy, D. Mulcahy, J. Hurley, C.O' Brien, K. Higgins, C. Hurley, C .Leahy.

U 16 C League Our U16 team played their first game in this competition way back at the beginning of the summer when they defeated Watergrasshill on April 13. They drew with Newcestown on May 1 and defeated Ballincollig on July 13. For various reasons they have been unable to play the remainder of these games until this week. They met Brian Dillon's on Thursday night and were defeated 7-4 to 1-2 Scorers: — Finola Neville 1 — 1 and Fiona Cotter 0 — 1 (f)

On Sunday morning Aghabullogue came to Ballynoe to fulfil this fixture and ran out winners 5-7 to 3-4. All our girls worked hard in the first half, with the half time score 2 — 3 to 1 — 5 in our favour. However, Aghabullogue dominated the second half limiting us to to scoring 1 — 1 in this half.

Scorers: — Finola Neville 2 — 2, Shauna Barry 1 — 0, Fiona Cotter 0 — 2(f)

Panel:- R. Murphy, C. Clancy, A. Hartnett, C. Aherne, J. Mangan, A. O; Keeffe, N.O Donoghue, S. Gallagher, K. Murphy, F. Cotter, J. Hurley, F. Neville, S. Barry, A. Collins, A. Donnelly, A. Doyle.

U13 Imokilly 12 — a — side league. Our U13 team met the Sarsfields and Erin's Own recently in this competition and ran out comfortable winners defeating Erin's Own 8-1 to 1-1 and recording 5-8 to 1-0 victory over Sarsfields on the above score lines.

Scorers against Erins Own — R.O' Callaghan 1 — 0, F. Neville 0 — 6, E. Neville 4 — 0, F. Cotter 0 — 2, S. Barry 0 -1, K. England 3 — 0

Scorers versus Sarsfields F. Neville 4 — 8, E. Neville 1 — 0

Panel: — L. Bumster, E. Murphy, C. Keniry, C. Mc Auliffe, F. Cotter, J. Mangan, R.O' Callaghan, S. Barry, F. Neville, K. Mellerick, E. Neville, E. England, G. Walsh, M. Mulcahy, H. Leahy, L. Leahy, A. Doyle, L. Aherne, R. Spillane.

ST. VINCENTS

TRAINING TIMES

MONDAY: U9s at 6pm *(DOB from 1997-2000) U14s & 16s at 6pm

TUESDAY: U11s & 12s at 6pm *(D.O.B from 94 and 95)

WEDNESDAY: U10s at 6pm *(D.O.B from 96)

SATURDAY: U10s & 9s at 11.30

U12s, 14s &16s at 12.30

If you are interested in joining, getting involved in the game or the club just come up at the relevant training times.

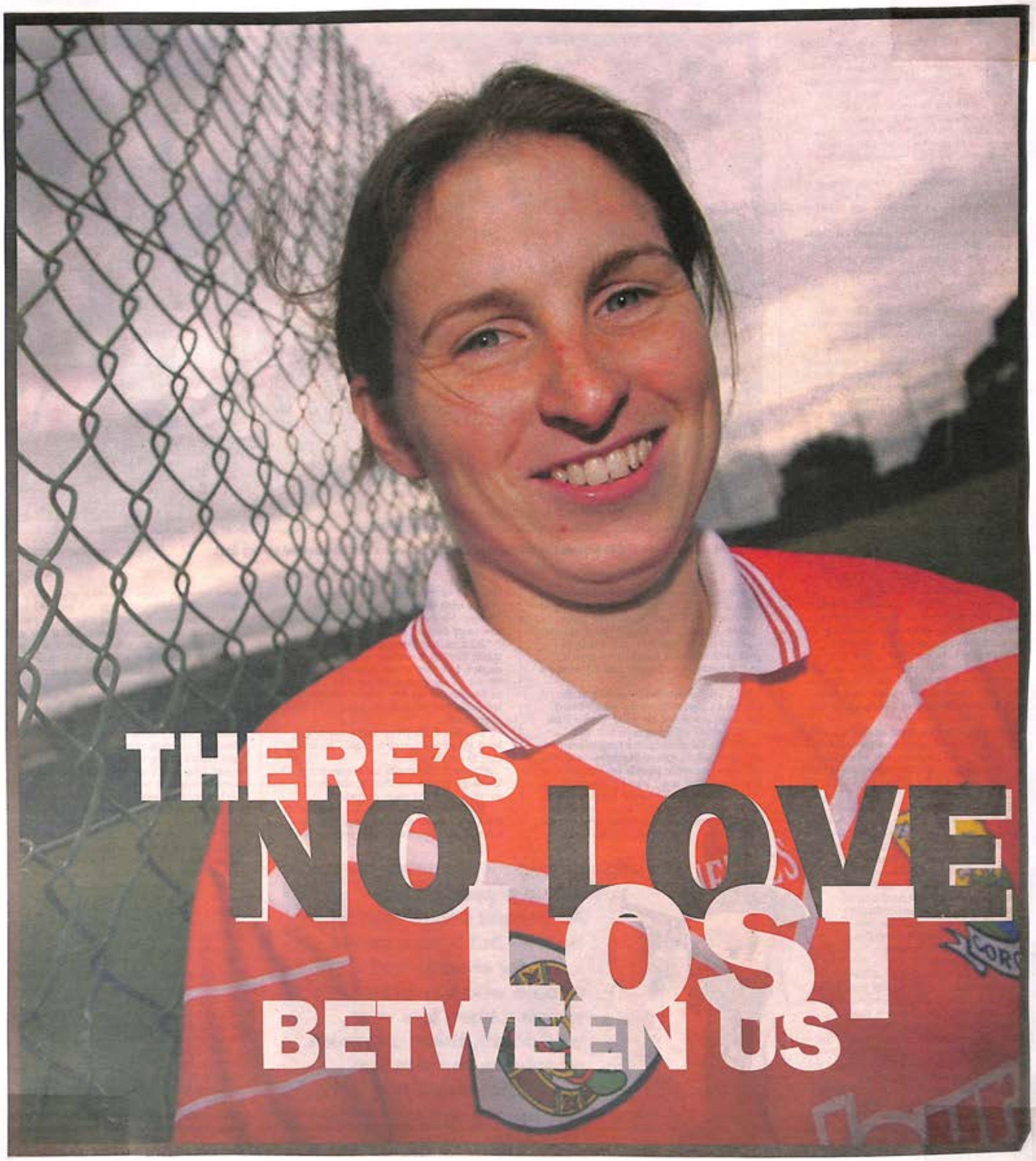
VALLEY ROVERS

This week it was the underage teams that were in action. Our under10 team had a great week winning the Declan Crowley Memorial Cup, at the tournament held by the Ballinhassig Camogie Club. To win this they defeated Sliabh Rua, Ballinhassig A and Glen Rovers in their group. They then went on to defeat Courcey Rovers in the semi-final and after an exciting match beat Inniscarra in the final with the final score being 4-0 to 2-1. Congratulations to al involved.

Lydia Coveney, Jennifer Murphy, Leona Murphy, Aoibhinn Harte, Ciara Richardson, Niamh Landon, Eimear Cummins (cap), Lisa Lynch, Casey O'Sullivan, Mary E Sweetnam, Emily Palmer, Roisin O' Regan, Megan O'Brien, Katie Lynch, Roisin Egan.

Our U16 team were not as successful losing out to Ballygarvan 3-5 to [illegible]

SEPT 2006



For Cork and Kilkenny in hurling, read Cork and Tipp in camogie. And having denied the Premier a three-in-a-row last season, Cork's Amanda O'Regan is acutely aware of the opposition's motivation in Sunday's All-Ireland final. **Edward Newman** reports

SHE ONLY needed to study Kilkenny's ravenous approach that ended Cork's three-in-a-row bid last Sunday to quantify the place of hunger in sport. And, for Cork camogie star and two-time All Ireland medal holder, Amanda O'Regan, the appetite for success hasn't been properly sated.

"We have gained experience through winning — we want to win it again," is O'Regan's call to Rebel arms ahead of Sunday's GALA All Ireland Camogie final against Tipperary. O'Regan, just wants more: another appearance in Croke Park, another chance to challenge one of the best in Tipperary and the satisfaction of putting back-to-back All Irelands together. In a county where success is an expectation, O'Regan fits the mould of a premier Cork star. She simply loves winning and her colleagues will tell you her enthusiasm for the game is infectious.

Cork's crusade for back-to-back titles hasn't gone unnoticed in her workplace. A graduate of UL and holder of thee Ashbourne Cup medals, O'Regan (24) only began her new PE post in North Presentation girls secondary school in the city's northside last week, but settling in has been made easier by being a camogie star. Already her name is echoed on the corridors at lunch time by students. They love their hurling and camogie in this part of the city, and while Sean Og and John Gardiner are the poster boys for starry-eyed teenage girls, there is still an awareness that the teacher, Miss O'Regan, is preparing for her own special Sunday.

She comes from a well-known Douglas GAA family — her mother Christine played camogie for Cork juniors while her father Mick is part of the furniture of Douglas GAA club. Growing up with a hurley in the hand is an oft-used cliché, but the ash wand was in her grasp from the moment she moved from crawling to walking. "Both my parents are very involved, so I started playing from the moment I could walk. Hurling and camogie are big in my house and there is a tradition there. I was always down on the pitch. The love of the game was passed onto me and it was something I happened to be good at it, so I kept playing then. I've a great love for playing for Douglas as well. It's in-built."

While Douglas are not yet one of the county's hurling heavyweights, the thriving underage structure will eventually produce winning seniors.

She is the player the youngsters at Douglas look up to for leadership and she has the prizes to show it. From a young age the wall in her back garden was an object of discovery; still, there isn't a week goes by when she isn't down in Douglas' ball alley, fine-tuning the skills. Even when you're at the top of your game, you need to return to where it all began. "I won the Cork Féile skills in 1994 so I represented Cork in the All Ireland in that and finished third. Niamh Harkin, a sub for Tipp on Sunday, actually won it. The following year I made the minor squad and after that there was only one year of a gap when I didn't play for Cork.

"Skills are a big part of my game. Obviously' growing up, there weren't that many girls playing around me, so the skills are what I had to work on. You see an athletic player. but if they haven't got the skills, they don't look as good on the pitch. If you see a real skilful player, that is who you look up to".

She believes the Cork hurlers' success over the last four years has been a huge motivating factor for the camogie team; that the levels they have attained is the benchmark for anyone aspiring to perfection. O'Regan emphasises that her team do not take anything for granted and complacency won't be a factor on Sunday.

"The hurlers have set huge standards; even we feed off their enthusiasm within our own camogie team. Sunday is a big occasion for us; we don't get that many chances in our careers and we take every opportunity.

"Complacency doesn't come into our set-up. Tipperary were very dominant the last seven eight years and last year we managed to beat them when they were going for their three-in-a-row. So why should we be complacent? That hunger which was evident last year is still there — we want to keep going now and get a double. It all comes down to hunger really, people just want the medals because we have been starved of them for so many years. We have gained experience through winning — we want to win it again. As I said, we don't get that many chances."

Cork didn't exactly set the camogie world alight with their display against Galway in the semi-final, but some say it was the best way to begin preparations for an All Ireland final. O'Regan is conscious of what needed to be done between the semi-final and Sunday's eagerly awaited final against keen rivals Tipperary. "It was disappointing, but we know there's so much more in us. It helps us if people think there's more to come. We can go out and prove that. If we had played extremely well against Galway we could have sat back in training. But we knew we had a lot of work to do and that is what we have done since the semi-final."

There was a lingering perception afterwards that Cork might not have been given enough credit for beating an improving Galway side. "We were giving them credit, but I don't think the media were. We had drawn with them in the round robin and people were saying they could catch us, but they'd have to play very well. For us we were taking it extremely seriously because we knew what quality players they had. We really wanted to get out there, hit them hard in the first half, because if we left them stay in the game we were going to be beaten."

But Cork's final total of 1-7 is a worrying indicator if they are to challenge a Tipperary side still reeling from last year's defeat.. Trainer Fiona O'Driscoll and manager John Cronin have been busy working on their shooting deficits, though O'Regan and her defensive colleagues seem to be doing an adequate job in defence.

"I think we need to score a lot more. I don't think we're scoring consistently and we need to work more as a team. We're working on bits and pieces. But there are no major problems, we're just fine-tuning our game.

"We, as a defence, are not doing too badly at all this year, but we still have work to do. There are a couple of new players in, so we need to get used to each other, but all the games this year have helped that. It's a young team, but still there's a lot of experience in the squad. The players have won underage titles, schools titles, and then All Irelands with Cork. We're feeding on that now, and it's a case of combining all that experience together to get the final result."



Claire Grogan is one of the key forwards for Tipperary and Amanda O'Regan is hell-bent on making sure Grogan "doesn't get into a rhythm".

Preparations cannot have helped with the involvement of Rena Buckley, Mary O'Connor, Briege Corkery and Angela Walsh in Cork's starting 15 in last Saturday's Ladies All-Ireland football semi-final win over Laois. "Both groups of selectors are working closely with each other so they make sure the girls are available to whatever team needs them in any given week. It's a worry for us if people get injured, but at the same time a match is a match and a competitive game keeps them sharp."

O'Regan also feels the fitness levels of the dual players will be hugely beneficial on Croke Park's wide expanses.

"Croke Park is so wide and big. If you're not fit enough, you're on a hiding to nothing really. For the footballers it has been more rest, trying not to get burned out too much, and the selectors have done a great job on that. They accept they need to work on one session with the footballers and don't have to work as hard with the camogie and vice versa. All the players on the camogie team understand that as well."

With so much media focus on the Croke Park surface, O'Regan, for one, has no problems with it having played there for the last three seasons.

"It doesn't bother me in the slightest. I don't think many of the camogie players slip up there at all. The hurlers are probably moving a lot faster than us, they're far more physical than us, but personally, I've never had any problems on it."

CORK have played Tipperary four times this season. The Rebels have won three times, but lost at the beginning of August.

"In every game you're trying to improve yourself, and if you can change little things gives you more of an opportunity to learn about yourself because you can't beat competitive games really. From that point of view it was very good, but it was also very tiring. The season was very long; we played each team four times this year and we're going to be playing Tipperary for a fourth time. The last game was a game that didn't matter because we both were through. It was hard to lift yourself for it.

"There's no love lost between us. Tipperary really came strong eight years ago and since then it has been Cork and Tipperary battling. Galway and Kilkenny are starting to get strong again so, hopefully in the next few years there'll be four or five teams all level par so it makes things interesting."

O'Regan's job will be to keep a close eye on Emer McDonnell and Claire Grogan. "Their forward line is very fast. Emer McDonnell and Clare Grogan are real dangers, everything nearly comes through them at some point. If they get into any rhythm we could be in trouble.

"We're confident in our own ability; we know we're good enough to win it, but knowing it and doing it are two different things."

Brothers and sisters in arms at HQ

SEPT. 2006

Boost for Tipp family as U21 men join camogie stars for double header



CLIONA FOLEY

Camogie

A DECISION that has caused some controversy within camogie circles has brought a fantastic double opportunity for two sporting Tipperary families at Croke Park this weekend.

Louise Young and Jill Horan both play for Tipperary's seniors who meet reigning champions Cork again in the Gala All-Ireland camogie final on Sunday (3.30).

And both has a brother — David and Seán respectively — playing in the Erin All-Ireland U21 final between Tipp and Galway that precedes the big women's game at 1.30 in the GAA's theatre of dreams.

In recent years the fact that the U21 hurling and the camogie finals were played on the same day in separate venues often meant families were forced to split their loyalties.

Women players and administrators were often infuriated at this practice and also that some big men's club games often clash directly with the women's big day.

But in a welcome initiative, both finals are being played together this year, which ensures that the Tipperary villages of Latteragh and Drangan are travelling en masse to cheer on their local brother-and-sister combos who are chasing double All-Ireland glory.

The decision to join forces did not get widespread approval in camogie circles because it means that their All-Ireland junior finalists, who previously provided the curtain-raiser, no longer get to play in Croke Park.

But the move is the perfect solution for the Youngs and Horans whose talented offspring often lead them in different directions.

They are particularly delighted not to face that quandary again on the families' most important double date ever.

David Young (20) actually captains the Tipperary U21s in Sunday's opener while older sister Louise (22) is expected to start in the second final.

Parents Maura and Pat are well used to following their talented offspring as Elaine (18) also plays for the famous Toomevara club and Fiona (16) captained the Tipperary U16s last season.

Two of Patricia and John Horan's three children also hurl for the Premier county, a particularly impressive achievement considering that though their parents are Tipperary natives, the family only moved back from America when their eldest, Jill, was aged 13.

"Sunday should be fantastic, dad's a publican here in Latteragh so people are calling in all the time to wish us well and there's a big bus-load of locals going up to the matches," Louise Young says.

Her work commitments — she is a garda in Bray — meant she had actually given up inter-county camogie but was persuaded back into action just six weeks ago by Tipperary manager Paddy McCormack.

Hurleys, sliotars and a constant string of muddied jerseys are part of the fabric in both households.

"We've a massive garden at home, with hurling posts and a goal up there for years," Young reveals. "And there's a soccer field — Sally Park — just across the road so we're never short of somewhere to puck around."

She has actually more Croke Park experience than brother David. He has only played there once before in the 2003 All-Ireland minor semi-final when beaten by Galway.

She came off the bench for the senior camogie champions of 2002 and 2004 and also played at HQ in the 2001 junior final.

"To have David play before our game is just brilliant, it is a dream come true and it is a great move to have both games there on the same day," she enthused of a decision which hopes to attract 30,000 supporters.

The Cork selectors have recalled Elaine Burke, who captained the team to victory last year, in place of Orla Cotter, while their Tipperary counterparts keep faith with the 15 who started their semi-final triumph over Kilkenny.



Tipperary twins Louise and David Young and Seán and Jill Horan representing Tipperary in the U21 hurling and camogie finals in Croke Park this Sunday

Twinning of camogie and U21 hurling finals 'absolutely wonderful'

by Jim O'Sullivan

THE President of the Camogie Association, Liz Howard, paid tribute to the GAA for agreeing to Sunday's double-header in Croke Park involving their senior camogie championship decider and the All-Ireland U-21 hurling final.

Cork and Tipperary will be meeting in the camogie final for the seventh time in eight years and Tipperary and Kilkenny will be involved in the hurling game, which is first on the programme.

Former president Sean Kelly and current president Nickey Brennan had both been influential in the decision, but Liz Howard singled out Leinster Chairman Liam O'Neill — the liaison officer between the two bodies — for his special support.

"The twinning of the two games is absolutely wonderful for a number of reasons," said Ms Howard. "It brings the hurling family together and to me that is very important. For a number of years we split that audience. Can you imagine the reaction if we had the Tipperary hurling fraternity at one venue next Sunday and the camogie fraternity here in Croke Park?

"Basically, we're drawing from the same catchment area. Those who love camogie love hurling as well."

From the Camogie Association's perspective, she said the 'twinning' was a wonderful example of integration at its best. Last year (when the two finals were again played on the same day), there was a small attendance at the U21 final in Thurles. To have 'split' the games this time would be 'a travesty.'

"I am very happy this is happening on Sunday, because you have the best exponents of camogie in action. In terms of fitness, Tipperary probably raised the bar in terms of fitness and skill with Michael Cleary, but Cork, great learners that they are, outsmarted them last year. I am expecting a wonderful game between two extraordinarily skilful teams, probably two of the greatest teams I have ever seen.

"And then you have the old rivalry in the hurling between Tipperary and Kilkenny, and you are building on the success of Kilkenny in the senior final on Sunday and Tipperary in the minor final. All that brings a new excitement and a new zest to Sunday. I just hope that people will travel in numbers."

"It is also a great opportunity for family people to attend, who couldn't get tickets for last Sunday."

One result of the decision to play the hurling and camogie finals together is that the All-Ireland junior camogie final had to be taken out of Croke Park. Ms Howard's view was that while she was concerned the junior counties had been 'discommoded,' they had to take account of the bigger picture.

"At times you have to offend people to achieve what you really want," she said — "and that is to raise the profile of camogie. We will look at the junior final next year and maybe fit it in with a hurling or football qualifier game."

In terms of the U21 hurling game being first on the programme, she said that counties had no problem with this. And, while she agreed that it would be counter-productive to be putting a priority on either game, the fact of the matter was that the camogie final 'was the major fixture.'

Cork have a doubt about the fitness of full-back Caitriona Foley (Rockbawn) who was injured playing in a ladies football game. She had taken over the position from Rosarie Holland, who has gone from last year's team, along with Vivien Harris and former captain Stephanie Dunlea.

A Gala opening



Tipperary camogie star Eimear McDonnell about to cut the tape to officially open Costello's Gala Store at Clamaltha Road. Also in photo are Mary and Kevin Costello and Dinny Ryan, camogie selector. Photo by John Long.

Cashel veteran Jovita remains a rock as Tipp chase another title

by Brendan Larkin

SIXTEEN years on and Jovita Delaney is enjoying her camogie as if it was her first season.

As an outfield player, the first two years brought her no reward but, in 1992, Jovita picked up the first of six medals when Tipperary won the junior All-Ireland title.

The Cashel native hasn't looked back since then.

Tipperary's progress to senior status was slow, but, after winning the intermediate grade in 1997, the first of five senior titles quickly followed when the Premier County defeated Kilkenny in the 1999 final.

Modesty doesn't permit Jovita to agree, but it was no coincidence that the year she first played in goal, Tipperary won their first senior All-Ireland.

She has been turning in magnificent performances ever since.

"It's gone well for me since I went into goal. You don't have to be as fit as the girls outfield, but you do have to be very sharp and keen eyed, and I work on that part of my game diligently.

"Careers in camogie don't usually go on as long as mine, but I'm still getting a tremendous kick out of playing and will keep going while I still do.

"Several of the girls retired after the 2002 final defeat and I toyed with the idea but, thankfully, I stayed on [and] we went on to win two more titles, in 2003 and 2004.

"It helps that I'm a school teacher, at Tarbert Comprehensive in North Kerry, which give me a lot of time off during the summer months. I probably would have retired long ago otherwise."

This will be the fourth meeting between the counties this year. Cork are leading with two wins, but that will count for nothing on Sunday, according to Jovita.

"There has been intense rivalry between the counties since Tipp came to the fore in 1999, and we have dominated the championship between us since then. This will be our seventh final against each other.

"We were the champions going into last year's final, but Cork came out on top. That defeat still hurts because we were well in the game up to the last few minutes. and it could have gone either way.

"Cork are an excellent side, and we haven't exactly set the world on fire this year. But credit where credit is due. We lost five very experienced players at the start of the season and the selectors have more than adequately managed to fill the gaps."

The championship is played on a round robin basis, initially, up to the semi-finals where Tipp this year faced Kilkenny, in Nowlan Park. Only superb goalkeeping by Jovita prevented them from going out.

"We knew going into that game it was going to be difficult. Kilkenny were surprisingly beaten by Limerick last year and were determined to make up for that. That day in Nowlan Park things went right for me. There were a couple of scary moments towards the end when Kilkenny came at us in droves, but we managed to hold them out. It would be fair to say we were a trifle fortunate to come away with the win. Going in with five new players against Cork will make it very hard for us.

"People are saying it's an achievement in itself to get to the final, but we won't be settling for that.

"The extra support should be an advantage but we'll have to be at our very best to dethrone the champions.

"We'll take our inspiration from what the Kilkenny senior hurlers did to Cork last Sunday."



Jovita Delaney: her goalkeeping ensured Tipperary a place in this year's All-Ireland Senior camogie final against Cork.

Cloughduv's strong bond helps as Cork players stick together

by Edward Newman

THE influence one club can have on the success of its inter-county team should not be underestimated. Cork hurlers' success over the last four years is not only down to mainstays like Ben and Jerry O'Connor and Pat Mulcahy, but the county's management even took a liking to Newtownshandrum's hurling style and applied their possession game to the inter-county side.

Kerry might look at the influence of their south divisional representatives, or the gifted O Sé brothers from An Ghaeltacht as the driving forces behind their current success. And in Cork camogie circles, the current powerhouse of club hurling is Cloughduv.

On Sunday the mid-Cork side will have four representatives on the starting 15 — Aoife Murray, Joanne O'Callaghan, Briege Corkery and Una O'Donoghue, while Sinead Corkery will be amongst the replacements. And one can't discount the huge contribution of manager John Cronin to Cork camogie's success this side of the millennium.

For O'Callaghan, Sunday carries a special resonance, having being nominated captain by her club after Cloughduv picked up their third county title in five seasons in 2005. She will captain Cork on her fifth consecutive All-Ireland final appearance, having made her mark in 2002 when the Rebels denied Tipperary a four-in-a-row. At 23, that's a startling achievement.

O'Callaghan is effusive in her praise of those working endlessly behind the scenes at Cloughduv.

"Kathleen Healy, John Cronin and Paudie Murray are the three main people who have kept us going. Since Paudie (brother of former Cork senior hurler Kevin) came along, he has guided us to three out of last five counties. I had won nothing at underage but he has helped us win three county seniors in 2001, 2002 and 2005.

"Camogie is strong in Cloughduv because we have a lot of families here who all get involved in the game. Families like the Dunleas, the Corkerys and O'Donoghues. When we know each other so well, we play with good spirit. There's a strong bond amongst the girls and everyone gets on well and that gets team spirit going every year."

O'Callaghan is indeed proud to take on the mantle of captaincy and hopes to follow in the footsteps of her grandaunt, Annie May Kelleher, who won an All-Ireland senior title with Cork in 1935 as goalkeeper. "I do think of my grandaunt Annie May. To be captain on the biggest weekend for camogie is something you aim for as a child.

"Taking the captaincy doesn't add any great pressure. I'm enjoying the role if anything. Everyone is a leader and everyone has a say. I do have the final say before we hit the pitch, but, at that stage, everyone is tuned in."

Today, O'Callaghan hands in her thesis, having completed a Masters in Food Marketing at UCC, but has taken time out to study the Tipperary team she faces on Sunday. Not that she will be on unfamiliar ground with the present Tipperary side. She has played Ashbourne Cup in her six years at UCC (winning in 2001 and '02) alongside Tipp's Emer McDonnell, Una O'Dwyer, Jill Horan and Lorraine Burke. Her close friend from their days in Cork is McDonnell, and the pair still meet regularly in Cork for a chat.

But for seven days before Sunday's final not a single text message will be sent between them. They will be marking each other in three days, despite the fact McDonnell is named as right-corner forward.

"It makes it a little more difficult. We wouldn't talk to each other coming up to the match or during the match. When you cross the line on the pitch, you have no friends on the field."

O'Callaghan warns, that Cork are wary of a backlash from a side appearing in their eight final in a row. "They've lost six players from last year's team, but the new players they've brought in are hungrier to win it and they will have added incentive to win it this year. We are playing them for the fifth time this year as well. We played them twice in the National league and beat them in the final, beat them in the Munster Championship but they got the better of us at the start of August in the All-Ireland round robin series. They are well fired up to beat us."

Cork are driven by the desire of putting back-to-back titles together.

"We know we're getting older as well and an All-Ireland final doesn't come around every year. Winning it last year gave everyone a huge lift, but it adds more pressure now as well to us this year. Going for two in a row hasn't been done for many years in Cork. It would be sweet."

And taking the O'Duffy Cup back to Cloughduv would be even sweeter for a proud club woman.

Sept 2006

SEPT 2006

ALL-IRELAND SENIOR CAMOGIE FINAL: CORK v TIPPERARY, CROKE PARK SUNDAY, 3.30pm

Cork girls fire on all

Sharper Emily is out to make hay on Sunday

THE hunger is as strong as ever, the determination very obvious from Tipperary's All-Ireland winning captain of 2001, Emily Hayden. Emily Hayden has seen good days and bad in the Blue and Gold, no more so than in 2005 when a dip in form forced her to watch from the dugout as Cork stopped Tipp's quest for three in a row. No sitting on Sunday next as a rejuvenated Hayden starts.

"Last year was a huge disappointment, I wasn't making the team and really was not enjoying it very much. I decided this year it was do or bust and I really was determined to give it a go. I got huge encouragement and support from the team management and thankfully it has all come right for me. I grabbed my opportunity and worked hard to hold my place I am more relaxed and enjoying my game again."

Watching Tipperary and Kilkenny battle it out for a place in the final and in the league decider against Cork Hayden is looking fitter and sharper than every.

"It's going well and that in turn gives you confidence, my fitness levels are hugely improved and that's a great help also."

When Emily mentions support one only has to glance outside the Tipperary or Cashel dressing room on any match day and mother Jean is never too far away.

"Yes, my mum is great, she is involved with the Tipperary camogie supporters club and is always busy raising money and organising things there, she is also the treasurer of Munster Council so I suppose, yeah, she is good with money," laughed Hayden.

Jean is a native of Dublin and played a little camogie but Emily's late aunt Bernie was the one who was the good player in the family, sadly she passed away ten years ago and no doubt would have been hugely proud of her niece. With a Kilkenny father it was only a matter of time before Emily and sisters Olivia and Miriam took up the hurleys,

"Dad played in his younger days with Kilkenny so I suppose we got the love of the game from him."

Despite having little success on the playing fields at school level both in Rosegreen, Presentation Cashel and Cashel Community school Hayden persevered and played under age with her club Cashel and went on to win an All Ireland minor and Intermediate medals with Tipp.

"We were so unlucky at school level always coming up against the girls from St Mary's Charleville and they were so strong, we really began to dread the sight of them. "

I remind Emily of her Cork connections. Her grandmother Mary Devlin living in Raheny has a grandnephew and grandniece living and married in Cork. All their children will be in Croke Park supporting the Rebels on Sunday next.



Emily Hayden is hoping to make up for last year's disappointment.

By MARY NEWMAN
Tipperary view

"The girls Emma and Eadoine always met up with my mum after the camogie games and they always have the banter about Cork and Tipp."

Last year still hurts and there is a determination in this Tipp team to atone for 2005.

"I just don't know what happened I cannot put my finger on anything, at half time we looked to be home and dry but things when wrong and we had no answer to the Cork onslaught, hopefully this year we will not be in the same position. I feel it will be neck and neck. In the league final a goal separated us. I wouldn't be surprised for it to go to a replay."

I put it to Emily that by now the players from both sides must be sick of the sight of each other and know each other very well.

"Yes we have met in every final bar one since 2000 but there has been a big turn over of players, alone this year we have five new faces on the team and Cork have new faces as well. The new players on our team have done well and the hunger is there to emulate those who have gone before them."

A big occasion too for Tipp coach Paddy McCormick, who is still seeking his first title.

"Paddy took over last year and has two very hard acts to follow in Michael Cleary and Ramie Ryan. "He is very relaxed and I think the pressure is not as great, he is coping much better and this is certainly having a great effect on all the team."

On Sunday the matter of a sixth All-Ireland senior medal is priority one for the soft spoken Tipperary forward, when the dust settles it will be back to business in sports rehabilitation in Two Mile Borris but here again another huge mountain remains to be climbed

"I am hoping to start my own business very shortly. in Thurles, it's a huge commitment."



Rival captains, Cerk's Joanne O'Callaghan with Tipperary's Philly Fogarty, Tipperary pictured at Croke Park. Picture: INPHO/Morgan Treacy

O'Leary and Dillon must test Delaney



LINDA MELLERICK

IF CORK wants to win Sunday's All-Ireland senior Camogie final they'll need to have all their forwards in scoring form.

In Cork's six championship games to date which saw them reach the final they have scored 7-57.

That looks great but when one considers some of the opposition they faced you would expect to see more, particularly goals.

At least 16 of those points came from placed balls, which means that Cork are averaging a goal and seven points a game, from play.

That return won't see them through on Sunday.

We need to see Emer Dillon produce the kind of scores she got in the second half of last year's final.

One or more of our forwards has to grab the game by the scruff of the neck and torment Tipp. Jennifer O'Leary has been Cork's most consistent forward in the championship and will give it her all on Sunday.

However, she will be marked by one of the toughest defenders in the country and Sinead Nealon, who knows Jenny so well, will not afford her the space she likes.

Should Jenny's contribution be nullified then someone else has to stand up and take responsibility.

Gemma O'Connor did just that from midfield 12 months ago and apart from Dillon's great point scoring it was she who turned the tide.

Jovita Delaney in goal is very beatable. Most of the time we make her look good, coming in from acute angles, hitting the shot straight at her or trying to squeeze it in between her and the near post.

Low shots left or right of her and we're there.

The Cork defence is very strong from goalkeeper Aoife Murray out. The Cork mentors moved Anna Geary to left half back twelve months ago from her familiar centre field/ forward role and she has been a revelation ever since.

Amanda O'Regan gets better and better with every game in the corner, her strong deliveries a joy to watch.

Catriona Foley has grown hugely

SEPT 2006

ALL-IRELAND SENIOR CAMOGIE FINAL: CORK v TIPPERARY, CROKE PARK SUNDAY, 3.30pm

need to cylinders



The Cork camogie team at the press night at Glen Rovers GAA grounds. Picture: Bryan Keane / News Digital



Cork will need a good return from Emer Dillon on Sunday.



The Cork camogie team at the press night at Glen Rovers GAA grounds.
Picture: Bryan Keane / News Digital

confident since taking over the full back slot at the beginning of the year. Add to that the experienced Joanne O'Callaghan, Rena Buckley and Mary O'Connor and you have as solid defence as you'll get.

Cork need to have it because Tipperary are stronger up front than last year. Cora Hennessy is the find of the season. Operating at right half forward she is the forward to most worry about.

She possesses a great turn of speed and plays with huge confidence. Emily Hayden replaces the retired Noelle Kennedy up front and she actually brings more drive and opportunism to the side than her predecessor.

These two forwards make up for the loss of Deirdre Hughes and Kennedy. Ciara Gaynor, Tipp's driving force was the one player the whole country thought that Tipperary could not do without.

Roll the clock forward and Philly Fogarty has fallen back from centre field and filled the gap magnificently. Cork need to dominate centre field.

We have so much talent there but both Breige Corkery and Gemma O'Connor have yet to hit form together. When and if they do on Sunday Cork will win.

On paper Tipperary are strong and know that most counties wrote them off this year on account of their big name retirements.

They are through to their eighth final in a row, taking five titles along the way. They have filled the gaps left behind admirably.

I would go so far as to say that their midfield is better and with Fogarty their half-back line is as strong as ever.

Hennessy has added new life and their half-forward line looks strong too. With the full-back line the same and three enthusiastic inside forwards this Tipp team is capable of taking this year's All-Ireland title.

It all depends on how many players perform for each side on the day, on who takes their chances and on who wants it more.

Fiona ready to lead Cork to ultimate glory



Cork coach Fiona O'Driscoll played a big role in last year's All-Ireland success.

By LINDA MELLERICK
Cork view

FIONA O'DRISCOLL — a household name in camogie ever before she took over as coach of the Cork senior camogie team in 2005. Announcement of Fiona's appointment had the Cork players bubbling with enthusiasm and excitement. They knew that nothing but 100% would be given into bringing the O'Duffy Cup back to Cork in September.

Cork did just that and Fiona was one of the main reasons why.

We begin with her high points of her career?: "Well the highs were many. Winning the 2003 County title with Fr. O'Neill's was one major high. "In hindsight the highs were just getting out there, having a hurley in my hand and having a go! I loved the feel of trying to control the sliothar and making it do what I wanted. I also loved training as much as playing games and the challenge of constantly trying to improve. The craic and the banter with club and county is always special."

Fiona spent much of her career battling with injury and those who experience that know what she's talking about when she says; "My lows were when I could not train or when my performances were limited by injury." Trying to stay fit amongst constant visits to the physiotherapy was a real worry for Fiona.

"Certain final defeats always stand out. The county final defeat in 1999 as a player/coach and the 2001 defeat as we had the ability to win but didn't grab the opportunity."

For a player who began her senior inter-county career in 1988 Fiona has seen the game progress rapidly. "The move from 12-a-side to a 15-a-side in 1998 definitely makes it look a better game. However I feel that this has reduced the goalmouth action at certain levels as the longer pitch needs more strikes for the sliothar to reach its destination.

"The game has become more physical and free flowing due to the introduction of the advantage rule (which could be utilised more).

"Training methods have evolved. One slight crib that I have with the game over the past number of years is that the senior inter-county squads are becoming younger and younger. "I have no problem with a young star breaking the mode and moving to the bigger stage at an exceedingly fast pace but when it becomes the norm I feel the hunger or experience isn't there to make a senior All Ireland what it should be — a game of passion, hunger and pride.

"This may be an issue examined by the association in general. It will result in player burnout."

As a player Fiona picked up six All Ireland senior titles. When she retired in 2004 the country was shocked. Fiona has no regrets and no time for looking backwards. "I don't regret retiring. Part of me felt I was letting O'Neill's down by not playing on what with the captaincy. But to play at intercounty level the body and mind need to be prepared to go that extra yard. Mine had given all the yards that were in me. After the 2003 final I went back into the pitch in Croke Park and said goodbye as I knew I was finished."

It was a phone call from newly-elected Cork manager John Cronin that brought Fiona back into the Cork set up in a different role.

"I got a call from John to become just the physical trainer but it evolved from there. I was surprised initially but through my work as a P.E. teacher I had a keen interest in coaching methods, sports psychology. I thought 'Why not?

"It was something I thought I would have liked to do someday. It came sooner than I expected but I felt I could be waiting a long time before getting asked again."

That in itself must have created problems. How do you change the mindset from player to coach? "As a player only my own performance and organisation was something I had to focus on. Now to try to plan for the unexpected for a whole panel of players, to think about travel, food and accommodation is difficult.

"Cork don't have a back room team of 15 so when you get involved you have to get stuck into every aspect. My relationship with former team mates still on the panel is different."

And so to Sunday's All-Ireland final with Tipperary?

"We have lost three of last year's team. However it's provided an opportunity for others in the squad to try to establish themselves. Their application in training is excellent. Training has gone very well with players looking sharp and eager.

"This game on Sunday is very much 50/50. Similar to Tipp we know we've the ability to win, but it boils down to which team makes it happen. A puck of the ball is all that has separated the teams in recent years and it'll be the same on Sunday."

SEPT 2006

ALL-IRELAND SENIOR CAMOGIE FINAL: CORK v TIPPERARY, CROKE PARK SUNDAY, 3.30pm

Champ tag no millstone, says Cork's Gemma



Gemma O'Connor would like nothing better than to beat Tipperary again in an All-Ireland final.

By PJ AHERN
camogie news

ONE year on and the circumstances have changed.

Yes it is the same two teams contesting the All-Ireland camogie final but the difference is that last year when Gemma O'Connor stood before my dictaphone in Páirc Ui Chaoimh, Cork were entering the Gala All-Ireland camogie final against Tipperary as underdogs.

However, Cork produced a near complete second half to dethrone the Premier County.

Now one year later, the St Finbarr's star stands before this correspondent in the Glen Rovers GAA pitch and this time around, the focus is on preserving their status as champions for a further 12 months.

With the pairing for the decider the same once again one would think it would be hard to generate more than a murmur of noise ahead of the final date but O'Connor feels that tradition, coupled with the expectation of a quality final should attract interest and create a buzz.

She says, "I know we are playing Tipperary again just as we have done for the past few years.

"We are old rivals and again I'd prefer to beat them in another All-Ireland final.

"Just as in the hurling between Cork and Kilkenny I suppose people might get sick of it. You can't beat tradition and hopefully it will be a good day for us."

She thought the championship might have taken a new direction this year but as it has played out in a predictable fashion it is up to the other teams to reach the same level.

"This year I thought the championship might fair out differently especially as Galway were looking stronger and Kilkenny nearly beating Tipperary in the semi-final. It gives the Gala championship a little bit more buzz. It could have gone either way.

"If it's the likes of Tipperary and ourselves are setting the bar and if there is no one else going out reaching that level then it will be ourselves and Tipperary again for the next couple of years."

This year, just like the past few years, the talk was about the likes of Galway and Kilkenny finally making a breakthrough and shattering the monopoly the finalists have on camogie but it has failed to materialise.

However, O'Connor feels that this duo, along with the other counties striving to make their mark, are not that far off from finally bridging the gap.

"Galway, they weren't there for the past number of years. This year was different because they came out and we met them in the championship and it was a draw.

"Because of the championship system it wasn't a knock out and we had another chance. Kilkenny were the same.

"Some say they should have beaten Tipperary but it comes down to experience on the day. We are able to pull it out of the bag just as Tipperary are able to when it comes down to the punch."

O'Connor is of the opinion that when Cork and Tipp clash there is a guarantee that it will be a close battle which she feels is good for the image of the sport.

"It is good for camogie and I suppose it promotes the game too because it is a good game as Cork and Tipperary are so close in terms of standard. We have had many a tight battle with them in Croke Park."

She is currently a private in the army and she hopes to improve her rank in the next year or two.

Two years ago she claimed an All-Star but she was on a tour of duty in Liberia at the time and so she couldn't accept her award in person.

After the final it will be to business for O'Connor who is heading to Portlaoise at the end of September for two months as she serves in the army. She is full of praise for her superiors.

"They balance each other out. When you are in work, your training it helps you get fitter and then you go out training with your club or county and it is more training again. Sometimes all right you might be a bit tired. If you play a sport, the army does look after you. I think it works itself out in a good balance."

"I am heading to Portlaoise but it won't interfere with my camogie because the All-Ireland will be finished by then. They leave me alone and let me do my own bit of training. So they are really helpful and understanding."

O'Connor also has her eyes fixed on more glory after Sunday's clash with Tipperary, her club St. Finbarr's have reached the penultimate stage of the senior A county championship and she is confident they can claim a berth in the final. So far this year, despite producing consistent performances, Gemma O'Connor says she still hasn't performed to the best of her ability of the pitch.

"At the start of the year I had shin splints. I have never been injured until last year and I think once you start getting injured things start to follow on from there I have dislocated my finger. But my performances on the pitch I don't I have reached my peak just yet but hopefully I will peak on Sunday."

Cork enter the final as champions and so that generally places the favourites tag around their neck but O'Connor feels that while her team-mates can handle the pressure but she also thinks Tipperary may be favoured in many quarters to triumph.

"I think some people might favour Tipperary going into the final after comparing the two semi-finals.

"Some say we won't beat Tipp this year if we play like we did against Galway. I think people have to remember too that Galway were no pushovers on the day either.

"The last couple of years people have favoured Tipperary.

"But we done it last year and hopefully we can do it again this year."

And so say all of us.



LINDA MELLERICK



EYE ON THE BALL: Aoife Murray has been ultra consistent this season for the Rebels.

Six gone, one to go, for Cork

SIX hours of championship camogie sees Cork in another All-Ireland final against the old enemy Tipperary.

In a season which placed heavy demands on players, their seventh hour of pitch action will be the definitive one — the one which determines who is the best team in the land for 2006. Let's reflect on those six hours to date — Cork's strengths, weaknesses, highs and lows.

Cork opened their championship campaign on May 27 when they faced Wexford and they took no chances — naming the strongest 15 they could.

Aoife Murray held the number one spot once again, Captain Joanne O'Callaghan, Catriona Foley and Amanda O'Regan lined out at right corner, full and left corner-back respectively. Rena Buckley and Anna Geary flanked Mary O'Connor at right half and left half back. Breige Corkery and Gemma O'Connor took the centre field positions with the six forward positions going to Una O'Donoghue, Angela Walsh, Jennifer O'Leary, Emer Dillon, Sarah O'Donovan and Elaine Burke.

This starting 15 showed four personnel and three positional changes to the side that lined out in last year's All-Ireland final.

Rosarie Holland has left the country for a year while Stephanie Dunlea and Vivienne Harris have retired with Rachel Moloney taking a well earned rest.

Despite playing well below par Cork had the better of Wexford by five points. A total of seventeen wides on the day reflecting just how dominant they were in general play.

Next up was a meeting with Kilkenny on June 25 and it was the Rebels' ability to grab two goals inside the opening 20 minutes that was the deciding factor.

Fielding the same side as that which lined out against Wexford it was Cork who looked the most impressive, the only change being the positional switch of Elaine Burke to full forward and Sarah O'Donovan to the corner.

While not scaling any great heights Cork displayed some good passages of play which were fast and open. However they squandered some promising moves with over elaboration and needless hand passing when more direct shooting would have yielded more positives results.

A 2-5 to 0-2 advantage at the break gave Cork a very healthy lead. It was obvious that Kilkenny were going to get the upper hand for some period of the game and they dominated for 15 minutes of the second half but Cork finished the stronger, winning with a score line of 2-10 to 1-7.

The next opposition was the weakest in the group and for that reason alone it was tough. It was going to be hard for the management team to get the players mentally right. Cork used the hour to try out some of their panellists and give them a feel of championship camogie. Elaine O'Riordan, Sarah Hayes, Orla Cotter, Emer Watson and Collette Desmond all started with Ellen Clifford, Regina Curtin, Marie O'Neill and Ciara Healy making an appearance.

In winter-like conditions, Cork comfortably took the points. While never exciting they were always in control in driving wind and rain.

They led at the break by 2-5 to 0-1. It looked as if they would create an embarrassing score line when by the 50th minute they had tapped on a further five points to Limerick's one.

Credit Limerick however who upped their performance, determined to salvage some pride.

From the 54th to the 60th minute they threw everything at Cork with Grace McNamara and Eileen O'Brien the main tormentors. Four points within four minutes put a better reflection on the score board. But that's all it did.

Cork emerged top of the group with their toughest assignment to date facing them the following Saturday when they took on Galway at home.

This was the game of the championship played in Ballincollig on July 17. Cork and Galway produced a pulsating 68 minutes of camogie which saw the rebels take the lead in the second minute of added time only to see victory snatched away from them when Brenda Kerins pointed to give Galway a much deserved draw.

At this stage Cork were through to the All-Ireland semi-final, having won three and draw one game. The only bearing their final group game against Tipp had was determining who would finish first in the group.

It mattered little as all four names were put into a drum. Cork entered the game with two injuries to corner back Joanne O'Callaghan and right half back Rena Buckley. In stepped Elaine O'Riordan and Sarah Hayes respectively to fill the gaps.

A highly motivated Tipp side took the points. With Tipp playing their best hurling of the year they matched Cork point for point for the first 27 minutes of the game. Tipp were looking the more dangerous. Cora Hennessy at left half forward was causing huge problems. Una O'Dwyer was coming back to her best at full-back and Philly Fogarty at centre-back had a tremendous game throughout.

Cork were struggling, looked tired and lacked sharpness. However, they still displayed moments of brilliance and led by four at the break.

Emily Hayden goaled for Tipp after the break and when Louise Young scored a second, Cork were in trouble. Despite throwing everything at Tipp, the blue and yellow held out with every indication that they would meet again on All-Ireland final day.

The All Ireland semi-final — the most critical of days!

It never reached the heights the drawn encounter between the same two sides (Cork and Galway) but Cork didn't mind.

Cork's defence, particularly their half-back line, were magnificent. Rachel Moloney came in for Elaine Burke and Orla Cotter began her first All-Ireland senior championship semi-final, coming in for Sarah O'Donovan and started at centre field, with Breige Corkery lining out at right half-forward and Una O'Donoghue moving to full.

Cotter did well and staked a claim for a position on final day. Gemma O'Connor worked tirelessly around the middle of the Park but up front Cork disappointed. Enjoying good possession, a return of 1-4 from play was poor. Emer Dillon scored the only goal of the day.

This was Cork's victory from the throw in — 1-7 to 0-6.

Cork are there. Their fifth final in a row against the same opposition. For the record it's two a piece.

Based on the six hours of championship camogie played to date they need to improve. Cork's defence are very secure.

It's at centre-field and up front that they need to show consistency. They've only one hour left to show it.

Duals in Cork's crown

Rebel eight on course for glory

EIGHT players will turn the pages of Cork GAA history books on Sunday, when they begin their journey for a double-double All-Ireland medal whammy.

By MARY WHITE

All-Ireland senior camogie final

Mary O'Connor, Angela Walsh, Briege Corkery, Rena Buckley, Catriona Foley, Elaine O'Riordan and Regina Curtin will go down as an elite group of dual players when the Cork camogie team seek back-to-back All-Ireland titles in Croke Park at 3.30pm.

Reaching such a glorious achievement however, will be a journey made up of two parts as the ladies footballers also prepare to win back-to-back All-Ireland titles, against either Galway or Armagh on October 1.

Following the agonising loss of the hurlers last weekend, hopes are high that the camogie girls will lift sporting spirits on Leeside and return home with the silverware.

Camogie development officer, Mary O'Connor is the most decorated ladies dual player of all time and sitting solidly in the half-back line on Sunday, she will undoubtedly have a huge say in Sunday's final outcome.

This will be O'Connor's 12th All-Ireland final and so far she has recorded four camogie wins, four camogie losses and two wins with the bigger ball.

Angela Walsh from east Cork follows suit, and like O'Connor reverses roles depending on the code.

For Walsh is known as The Rock of the football side at full-back, and was rewarded an All-Star last November for her commanding style, while she steps up to the centre-forward plate on Sunday.

Sportswoman of the year Briege Corkery is one of the country's best known dual players, but will remain in her usual defensive position to constrict Tipperary's scoring chances.

Rockbán's Katriona Foley has even more reason to celebrate, as she makes her starting debut in an senior All-Ireland final at full-back.

Former ladies football All-Star Rena Buckley is one of the top defenders in the country when it comes to both sports and the Inniscarra native is very highly regarded by her colleagues.

Elaine O'Riordan from Liscarroll plays with Millford, and it's a possibility that manager Fiona O'Driscoll will include her in the game plan further down the line.

Regina Curtin will also don the red jersey on the sideline, despite breaking her elbow a number of weeks ago in the semi-final.

As with all great dual players, it's the game at hand that matters and thoughts of the big ball will rightly be left behind.

Dedicating one's self to winning one All-Ireland in any given year is hard enough, but to put in the sweat and tears to attempt two All-Irelands, in two very different codes, deserves the utmost admiration.

The minutes are counting to the first act of history in the making, and we can only stand back and admire.

●See Pages 40-43 for more.



Mary O'Connor is one of eight Cork dual stars who will feature in this weekend's All-Ireland camogie final and next month's ladies football final.



Cork manager John Cronin, left, and captain Joanne O'Callaghan with Liz Howard, President Cumann Camogaiochta na nGael and Tom Keogh, Chief Executive, Gala, at a photocall ahead of their Gala All-Ireland Senior Camogie Final on Sunday at Croke Park, Dublin.

SEPT

2006



Catriona Foley, extreme right, with fellow dual stars from left; Rena Buckley, Mary O'Connor, Breige Corkery and Angela Walsh with the ladies football All-Ireland Cup which they won last year.

Foley ready for final battle

CROKE PARK holds little fear for Cork full-back Catriona Foley.

By MARY NEWNAN

Catriona Foley feature

The Rockbán star is eagerly looking forward to Sunday's All-Ireland Camogie final and her starting debut in a senior final.

Catriona has graced the Croke Park turf before in 2002 where she suffered the heartbreak of losing out to Kilkenny in a junior decider.

"That was a horrible day," she said. "We allowed them dictate from the start and we never really played until it was to late."

Her team mates on that panel included Briege Corkery, Sarah O'Donovan, Emer O' Farrell, Ellen Clifford and Colette Desmond, and all are still soldering together three years later.

On Sunday the stakes are much higher — back-to-back All-Ireland titles are on the line against their greatest enemy, Tipperary.

In 2003 she made her senior final debut coming on as a half-time substitute when Tipperary stripped Cork of their all-Ireland crown.

Last season's victory was one of mixed emotion for the 20-year-old student in UCC. Foley was forced to miss out on most of the earlier part of the year following a knee ligament operation.

She did make a successful recovery and was back on the extended panel for the final,

"It was awful to miss out, but I was back for the end of the campaign. This year it's great to be on the team and I am really enjoying the season so far."

Having taken up the game in Carrignavar National School whilst in third class, Catriona played on the boy's team in the Sciath Na Scol competitions.

She also played with the local boys teams before joining the newly-formed Rockbán camogie club in 1997.

Under the guiding eyes of former Cork stars, Denis Burns, Kay Conway and Rockban coach, Mary Walsh, Catriona enjoyed plenty of success, wining honours from U12 right up to the junior B league title and championship.

Progression to Glanmire Community College saw her come under the guiding influences of former Cork star, Angela Sheehan.

Catriona had the honour of playing on the first team to bring a camogie trophy to the Glanmire school and indeed they won the first year championship and junior title for good measure.

Having completed her Leaving Cert in 2005, it was on to UCC to study Bio-chemistry.

This year she enjoyed playing in the Ashbourne Cup. Success has not been far away for her with her Freshers team winning the league.

Catriona is no stranger to Gaelic Games and comes from a family who are all actively involved.

"My Dad has had a huge influence on me and helped me along all the way. We get great support at home and huge encouragement from mum and dad."

Sister Mairead played in the Cork defence in the U16 final as they lost out to Kilkenny.

Colleen was a member of the Cork Colleges side this year and captained the Rockban club team in Feile Na Gael, while brother Daniel lined out with the Cork primary game team in 2001.

All four have been hugely influenced and supported by parents, Dan Joe and Kathleen.

Dan Joe lined out with Cork minor and U21 teams, winning All-Ireland honours with both while Kathleen played camogie with the Bride Rovers club.

Another branch of the family will be paying a visit to Croke Park on September 17 when cousin Tommy Walsh lines out with the Kerry minors. He is the son of the legendary Sean Walsh, who is married to Catriona's aunt, Bernadette.

Catriona sat with her mother and watched the Camogie final of 1998 in the Hogan Stand, a day she remembers well.

"That day Irene O' Keeffe, Linda Mellerick and O'Driscoll were superb. I was determined to one day play in Croke Park and be like them.

"It's great that someone like Fiona O' Driscoll who has achieved so much is now helping us to reach and achieve our own goals."

While a little nervous, she is looking forward to Sunday.

"Last year when I was injured I was determined to fight back and get on the team.

"It was a huge incentive to get back fit and make it to play in a final.

"Naturally, I am a little nervous but I am really looking forward to it.

"The experienced players around me have been a great help.

"Players like Aoife Murray and Mary O' Connor help us a lot in training."

It's not just on the playing fields that Catriona has enjoyed success.

In her transition year, along with fellow pupil Sinead Collins, she entered a United Nations Peace competition.

Submitting a music composition the girls beat off opposition from over 400 Irish entrants to be chosen as one of the six winners, who went to visit the UN headquarters in New York for six days.

There they attended a conference on child slavery and were treated to a never to be forgotten trip.

"I will never forget the experience it was a once in a life time opportunity."

On Sunday another opportunity awaits, one which Foley has worked hard to reach.

No doubt but she will apply herself to the task with the same determination which has seen her achieves all her goals to date.

Tipperary Camogie Senior Panel for Final 2006

Goalkeeper



Jovita Delaney
Cashel

Right full-back



Suzanne Kelly
Toomevara

Full-back



Una O'Dwyer
Cashel

Left full-back



Julie Kirwan
Moneygall

Right half-back



Michelle Shortt
Drom & Inch

Centre half-back



Philly Fogarty
Cashel

Left half-back



Sinead Nealon
Burgess

Midfield



Claire Grogan
Cashel

Midfield



Joanne Ryan
Drom & Inch

Right half-forward



Jill Horan
Cashel

Centre half-forward



Emily Hayden
Cashel

Left half-forward



Cora Hennessy
Cashel

Right corner-forward



Geraldine Kinane
Drom & Inch

Full-forward



Louise Young
Toomevara

Left corner-forward



Eimear McDonnell
Burgess



Aine Mulcahy
Burgess



Deirdre Dunne
Slievenamon



Deirdre McDonnell
Burgess



Eimear Ryan
Moneygall



Joanne Nolan
Silvermines



Jenny O'Halloran
Portroe



Lorraine Bourke
Templemore



Lorraine Davis
Shannon Rovers



Linda Grogan
Cashel



Lizzie Woods
Toomevara



Mary Looby
Drom & Inch



Mairead Luttrell
Slievenamon



Mary Ryan
Moneygall



Maria Tynan
Toomevara



Paula Bulfin
Cashel



Rosanna Kenneally
Drom & Inch



Teresa Maher
Drom & Inch



Trish O'Halloran
Portroe

SEPT

2006

Cork ladies lay their title on the line against arch-rivals Tipperary

CAMOGIE

BY JOHN SEXTON



Jenny O'Leary, Barryroe, Sarah O'Donovan, Ballygarvan, and Colette Desmond, Newcestown, members of the Cork senior camogie panel who meet Tipperary in the All-Ireland final on Sunday next.
(Photo: Mike English)

After the disappointment of the hurling final. Cork supporters will travel to Croke Park again this Sunday, September 10, for the All-Ireland camogie final when Cork will lay their title on the line against arch rivals Tipperary.

Since the turn of the century, both Cork and Tipperary have been the dominant teams in this 'Foras na Gaeilge' All-Ireland camogie championship. Last year, after a titanic battle, Cork came from behind to score a great four point victory on the scoreline of 1-17 to 1-13 for a historic victory which meant their coming of age, it being their 21st title.

Cork's first win was in 1934 and with six victories up to 1941, the County struck a dark patch for almost thirty years as the next win was in 1970. Dublin, Antrim and Kilkenny were the dominant force during those years but with five wins in the seventies (when Hannah Dinneen was on of the top players), three in the eighties and five in the nineties, Cork has returned as a leading force in camogie.

Cora Keohane of Barryroe was the goal keeper for their victories in 1997 and 1998, However 1999 saw the opening of a new chapter for camogie with Tipperary winning their first All-Ireland and to compound their supremacy they made it three in a row with victories again in 2000 and 2001. Cork thwarted them in 2002 but back they came for a double in 2003 and 2004.

It's amazing for a county as dominant in hurling that it took so long for the 'fair sex' to come to the forefront. However, to have contested every final since 1999, and the ladies won five of the seven, speaks volumes for their ability and consistency.

With a third of their team beyond the thirty mark, age could be catching up with them but no doubt they will have sufficient reserves on the bench. In fact their star player Clare Gargan, who is deadly accurate from frees, had won all-Irelands under her belt at eighteen, quite some achievement and while we understand that Deirdre Angler and Ciara Gaynor have retired, players like Philly Fogerty, Joanne Ryan, Jill Horan, Noelle Kennedy and the goalkeeper Jovita Delaney will put it up to Cork to try and reverse last year's result.

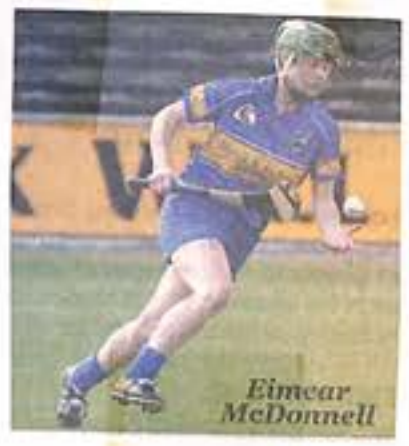
While Stephanie Dunlea has retired and Rosarie Holland, last year's full back, is down under on a year's sabbatical in Australia, Cork will have most of last year's team in action. Their top scorer, Jennifer O'Leary of Barryroe, will again be expected to top the scoring with good support from Emer Dillon, Ballygarvan, Rachel Moloney of Courcey and Gemma O'Connor of the Barrs.

Team captain Joanne O'Callaghan of Cloughduv will have good support behind from clubmates, Briege Corkery and goalkeepers Aoife Murray, while May O'Connor of Killeagh (with Kilbrittain and Drinagh roots) also of football fame can be relied on to keep the rearguard intact at central back. In their semi-final encounters Tipperary scored a narrow victory over Kilkenny while Cork, while having plenty to spare, were not overimpressive against Galway.

However this final had the ingredients of being a cracking affair as both teams will sweat it out to capture the O'Duffy Cup be it Cork's 22nd or Tipperary's 6th. No doubt Cork followers will hope that this talented camogie team will return in triumphant glory to Kent Station on Monday night, and replace the disappointment of the hurlers.



Tipperary captain Philly Fogarty is from Cashel club.
Picture: Bridget Delaney.



SEPT 2006



senior camogie selectors (l to r) - Martin Bourke, Paddy McCormack (Manager), Dinny Ryan and Maureen Connolly.
Photograph: Bridget Delaney.

Cork Bid For Back To Back Titles
Gala All Ireland Camogie Final
CORK VS. TIPPERARY



Sunday Sept 10th Croke Park 3.30pm
The Cork Senior Camogie teams head to Croke Park determined to retain the O 'Duffy Cup as they renew rivalry with Tipperary in what is sure to be another classic. Cork came of age last year winning their twenty first title and they head the roll of honour. Tipperary have been the top team of recent time taking five titles since 1999. Last year Cork halted their quest for three in a row, a feat they accomplished from 1999 to 2001 only for Cork to stop them taking four in a row in 2002. Three years ago they had revenge on Cork stripping the Leesiders of their crown and then going on to retain the title before Cork stripped them of it last year. Now it's time for another meeting and certainly it's shaping up to be a close call.

Cork are captained by Joanne O Callaghan from the Cloughduv club and hopefully she will be celebrating the county's twenty second title in style come Sunday evening at 5pm.

Tipperary and their captain Philly Fogarty stand in Joanne's way of walking up the steps of the Hogan Stand. The experienced Cork captain is no stranger to Croke Park and has senior and minor All Ireland medals to her credit as well as Ashbourne Cup honours with UCC.

Already four times this year the sides have met. Cork came out on top in the national league clash and went on to have a goal to spare over their rivals in the league final. In their Munster semi final in a game where both sides were seriously depleted due to exams Cork again came out on top but in the round robin series of the Gala All Ireland championship Tipperary were victors.

Both sides have changed considerably since their first meeting in the final 2000, while the management have also seen major changes. Michael Cleary and Ramie Ryan both led Tipperary to titles; Paddy Mc Cormick,now in his second year in office, has proved his worth.

John Cronin took over the reigns of the Cork side from John Considine last year and led the senior team to the same success he enjoyed with county minor sides whom he guided to five All Ireland titles. The backroom team remain the same. He is again joined by selectors Ollie Hallinane and Lillian Zinkant and coach Fiona O 'Driscoll as they hope to plot Tipperary's downfall for the second season in succession.

Both sides have lost players due to retirements. Tipperary are without Ciara Gaynor Angie Mc Dermott, Deirdre Hughes Noelle Kennedy and Therese Brophy. Cork, too, have lost players. Stephanie Dunlea has retired and is a huge loss at full forward while Rosarie Holland is working abroad and again is a big loss to the Cork defence where she played a huge role last season.

A look back at the semi finals gives an indication as to the form. Tipperary were a little uncomfortable in the closing stages but managed to hold off the late challenge posed by a determined Kilkenny . On the day the performance of goalkeeper Jovita Delaney helping to hold the Cats at bay. Cork always looked in control against Galway and were well able to hold off the late challenge when it came. Orla Cotter fitted in well for her championship debut but a huge test awaits. They are an experienced outfit and know what is required. They will be wary of Tipperary and know that just like the hurlers of Kilkenny they will be coming on a mission to stop Cork making it back to back titles and to seek revenge for 2005.

Following on the massive show of support on Sunday last for the hurlers followers are urged to travel in strength once again to lend support in the counties quest for honours.

The curtain raiser is the Erin Under21 hurling final featuring Kilkenny and Tipperary and a good afternoon's entertainment is guaranteed.

Cork connections won't distract Eimer

While she may have very strong links to the Rebel county, raising green and white flags for Tipperary will be the only matter on the mind of star forward Eimer McDonnell on Sunday in Croke Park.

Apart from working in Cork city with an accountancy firm, Eimer is a niece of Cork football manager Billy Morgan.

Eimer believes the painful memories of losing to Cork last year will act as a motivation for this Tipperary team.

"Nobody likes to lose, especially against Cork". She said the hunger and passion for All-Ireland glory is still very strong among her colleagues.

"You work very hard all year in training, it is nice to get the ultimate reward at the end of the day," she said.

Reflecting on last year's Final, Eimer said it was hard to pinpoint what went wrong in the closing minutes.

Eimer said it was hardly a lack of fitness that told on them because they had worked hard in training all year and were very well prepared.

She believes that the new players who have come into the team this year have settled very well, which had helped them to do so well this year.

"This year everybody wrote us off from the start. So many of our experienced players had gone. It's great that we have come through and managed to get into an All-Ireland Final. We have fought very hard in every game and it's great to be heading back to Croke Park," she said.



Eimer McDonnell.

Claire Grogan is hungry for more success

One of the great stars of Tipperary camogie, Claire Grogan was nursing a hamstring injury in the build up to Sunday's Final.

On the press night for the All-Ireland in Dr.Morris Park, on Tuesday night of last week, Clare did not take part in any of the drills or the match but she expected to be back in full training the following Thursday evening.

"I could have started back in full training tonight but just as a precaution I decided to wait another day or two", she said.

She sustained her hamstring injury in the semi final against Kilkenny. Claire has been travelling to Carlow for physiotherapy since then and feels that the injury was identified very quickly.

"We got it early, which has been a big help", said Claire, who made her debut for the senior Tipperary camogie team in the All-Ireland final in 2000, when she came on as a sub against Cork.

Claire, who hails from a famous hurling tradition, was just fourteen years old when she ran onto the Croke Park sod.

"I was on the panel all year but my first piece of action was coming on as a sub against Cork in the Final. It was an amazing experience. It was very exciting, when you are that young you have no fear, no nerves, it's only when you get older you think more about it," she said.

Claire, who has one year left in Mary Immaculate College in Limerick, is now going for her fifth All-Ireland medal.

"The appetite is still there, I want to win more medals with Tipperary, you go into every Final thinking it could be your last so you have to give it absolutely everything. You want to make it count on the day" said Claire.





The star of the semi-final says that Tipp have something to prove

One of the veterans of the team, Jovita Delaney said it was good for Tipperary to be going into Sunday's All-Ireland final against Cork with something to prove.

Jovita, the star of the show in the semi final against Kilkenny with some fantastic saves in the closing stages, said they were happy to be underdogs for a change.

The Tipperary goalkeeper said that it was an achievement for the team to get to an All-Ireland final this year.

"The bottom line is that we have five new players coming in for very experienced girls. There was a lot of competition for those five places during the year and Sunday is a great opportunity for those girls" said the Tipp goalie.

She expected Cork to give them the toughest of tests on Sunday, as they will be determined not to relinquish their crown to Tipperary.

She said both teams were under no illusions about Sunday.

They were very familiar with each other and there would be no surprises for anybody.

"It's down to whatever team gets the breaks on Sunday," she said.





All-Ireland Senior Camogie Final

Revenge the spur for new look Tipperary

Preview - Eamonn Lacey
Photos – John Kelly

Facing into their eighth consecutive final, the appetite for glory is as sharp as ever among Tipperary's camogie stars, who face great rivals Cork on Sunday in the All-Ireland Final at Croke Park.

For once this Tipperary camogie team will go into an All-Ireland final as underdogs, after Cork denied the Premier County a three in a row last year.

That heartbreaking defeat will serve as a huge motivation for this new look Tipperary team on Sunday.

A point ahead in last years final with two minutes left, Tipperary were pushed aside by Cork, who finished the stronger team in the closing stages to deprive Tipperary.

Since that All Ireland loss Tipperary have lost five established players and many pundits had written them off this year.

That analysis was further strengthened with defeat to Galway in their first match of the season, but manager Paddy McCormack and his team have turned this team's fortunes around.

That Galway defeat seemed to act as a spur to the players to deliver this year, and they have defied the odds to reach their eighth consecutive final.

That incredible run of success for Tipperary teams has yielded five all-Ireland titles, the only two setbacks coming against Cork in 02 and last year.

Tipperary have had the upper hand over Cork during that period with three wins against Cork teams in 2000,'03 and '04. Tipperary's two other titles came against Kilkenny in 99 and '01.

Cork, who defeated Galway in their semi final, will be all out to even the score on Sunday, and a win for them would give both counties three titles apiece since 1999.

The teams are so evenly matched it is impossible to call Sunday's contest. Cork will go into the match as slight favourites as All-Ireland champions, and they have a more settled team than Tipperary this year.

The teams have already met twice this year, once in the round robin system used in the championship, with Tipperary coming out on top; and in the league final, when Cork edged home.

While Tipperary have a new look team as a result of the departures from the panel of experienced players, they are still a very formidable outfit.

Seven players who were part of that memorable breakthrough in 1999 when Tipperary defeated Kilkenny in the All-Ireland final are still involved.

Those players are Jovita Delaney, Sinead Nealon, Suzanne Kelly, Una O' Dwyer, Philly Fogarty, Eimer McDonnell and Emily Hayden.

Their only injury worry leading up to the game has been Clare Grogan, who has been an integral part of the set up since coming on as a fourteen-year-old sub in the 2000 All-Ireland final.

Clare picked up a hamstring injury in the semi final against Kilkenny and returned to full training on Thursday night of last week.

That has been the only scare for Paddy McCormack and his team, as they prepare for Sunday's clash with Cork.

Tipperary managed to squeeze through in a dramatic semi final clash with Kilkenny at Nowlan Park.

Tipperary held on to win by two points, with Jovita Delaney the hero of the hour.

The Tipperary goalie pulled off some terrific saves in a tense encounter, as a determined Tipperary held on to secure yet another All-Ireland appearance.

Retirements open the door for newcomers

The loss of five experienced players following the defeat to Cork in last year's All-Ireland Final was a big blow to Tipperary but it has given a talented group of young players, who had been waiting for a chance, a glorious opportunity.

Tipperary camogie manager Paddy McCormack has watched those players, some of whom have had been on the panel and have had success on underage Tipperary teams, make their case for a permanent starting place on the most successful camogie team of recent years.

Despite the loss of the inspirational Deirdre Hughes and four of her colleagues who had been an integral part of a memorable era in Tipperary camogie, this new team has made tremendous progress this year.

"Those girls gave great service to Tipperary camogie but we have had to move on. We now have new girls playing with us, whose lifelong dream has been to play in an All-Ireland Final. They are going to get that chance on Sunday," said Paddy McCormack.

The team manager said it was natural for the personnel of a team to change from year to year, and they have had to cope with a significant loss of experienced players.

"It is important for new players to come in every year. I have been very happy with how they have settled and their attitude in training has been excellent," he said.

The manager said the girls had worked very hard for every result, and he wanted them to do the same again on Sunday.

"We were beaten in our first match of the year against a strong Galway team up in Portumna. It is a very difficult place to go anyway. In the next game the girls responded magnificently and we have made a lot of progress since that defeat," said the manager.

The manager said the girls had shown on numerous occasions this year, in particular in the semi final against Kilkenny, tremendous character and attitude.

"We are going to need all those attributes if we are to succeed on Sunday," said Paddy McCormack.

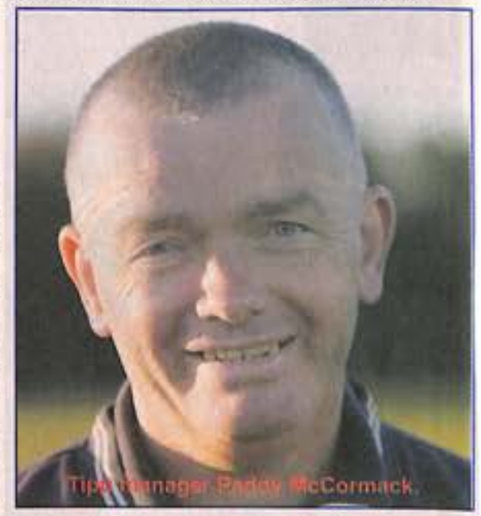
He said that his team would have to step up on their performance in every position of the field from the semi final if they are going to regain their All-Ireland crown on Sunday.

The Tipperary manager said that Cork were the better team in last year's All-Ireland and "deserve to be All-Ireland champions until somebody beats them".

"We were a point ahead with minutes left. They managed to get a couple of points without reply and that is the sign of a good team. They had taken a few beatings from Tipperary in previous years.

He said there was only a puck of the ball between the two teams this year when they played each other in the round robin system and in the league final.

"There is very little between the teams. Whoever gets the breaks on Sunday will win it," he said.


Tipp manager Paddy McCormack.


Philly Fogarty Tipp's captain.

Captain Phyllis gets ready for eighth consecutive final

Captain Phyllis Fogarty believes even though Tipperary lost to Galway at the start of the year, that game was a major turning point for this new team.

The Tipperary captain said the team, missing so many established players from previous years, learned a lot that day.

"Even though we lost this was a big game for us because we started to battle from then on," said Philly.

She said the team had improved steadily in every game since that Galway match and "it is now a real bonus to be in another All-Ireland Final," she said.

Phyllis said the management and the players had used the Galway match as a motivating factor throughout the season.

"With so many new players coming in, nobody gave us a chance this year," said Phyllis.

She said that there was nothing between the teams.

"For the league final they had the upper hand, and we beat them in the round robin," she said.

Philly said it was a great honour for her to captain her county and she was looking forward to leading out Tipperary on All-Ireland day.

She felt no extra pressure with the captaincy; she is just focussed on going out and playing well on the day.

The centre back will have her mind set on leading a defence that she expected to tighten up since the Kilkenny semi final.

"We could have given Jovita on the goal more protection that day in the closing stages. She was brilliant that day but on Sunday we will have to perform better as a defensive unit," she said.

She has the utmost respect for Sunday's opponents and knows full well the calibre of player that the Tipperary defence will have to contend with.

"They really have some brilliant forwards in Jenny O'Leary and Eimer Dillon but we will just have to work hard to restrict their chances on Sunday," said the captain.

She said both Tipperary and Cork were very familiar with each other and "brought out the best in each other."

"It's never nice to lose but the best team won on All-Ireland day in Croke Park last year. We ran out of steam in the last ten minutes. We were gutted to lose but hopefully we can put that right on Sunday," she said.

Philly, who came on as a sub in 1999 to win her first All-Ireland medal, will appear in her eighth final on Sunday.

"People thought it was all over for us after losing to Cork last year and losing so many experienced players this year, so it is nice to be back," said Phyllis.

Sept 2006

'Cork will finish the job'



Cork camogie coach Fiona O'Driscoll can't wait to get the ball rolling, writes

Edward Newman

FIONA O'DRISCOLL might describe her role in the Cork camogie management team as multi-faceted — including, as it does, aspects of the role of coach, trainer, motivator and confidante.

It's not too long ago since the Let's Go camp co-ordinator was lining out alongside some of her protegées, who are heading into Sunday's All-Ireland final.

In the epic 2002 All Ireland final, the Fr O'Neill's player scored a hat-trick of goals in Cork's shock 4-9 to 1-9 win over four-in-a-row chasing Tipperary.

Currently in the third year of her career break as a secondary teacher at Coláiste Choilm in Ballincollig, O'Driscoll has had more time to develop as a coach, and the results so far are very positive.

"I only started coaching since I took up this job with Let's Go camps. Ironically, I would have had more time when I was teaching because I would have been off during the summer.

"But the peak time for camps is in July and August and I could be anywhere in Ireland trying to get back for training in Cork during that time."

O'Driscoll was honoured to be asked to take charge of the Cork camogie team.

"It's a privilege to deal with the elite in any sport, and inter-county camogie players are obviously the elite of that level.

"The Cork players are a demanding bunch — they want to be the best, they expect the best from us and that's a good thing because it keeps us in the backroom team on our toes."

"When I finished playing (in 2003), I had a year away from the scene completely. I knew my playing days were over and I had no qualms about that."

The honour of being crowned National League and Munster champions was a stepping stone towards what all in Cork camogie hope will be their dream coronation as All-Ireland champions. The drive and ambition of this group has greatly impressed O'Driscoll.

"There have been distractions throughout the season with girls involved in different codes (including five involved with Cork ladies footballers), but this group are ambitious.

"They made no bones about setting out their target to be All-Ireland champions when we sat down at the start of the year, and all our work has been geared towards that; their lives have been geared towards that, and, as a group ... we're going to make sure we finish the job."

O'Driscoll can empathise with the sacrifices needed to play at this level.

"I've been there as a player, and have been there at the end of a training session, when you're absolutely dying after one of the tough ones. I know what it's like when you're substituted, when you don't get picked for a game. I can really understand all those kind of feelings.

"You can relate to all these things, and you can chat to players about that and, hopefully, that helps them."

O'Driscoll has stored some real highlights into the memory vaults from her playing days, especially against the Premier. Her three goals in the 2002 All-Ireland final spring immediately to mind.

"It's any GAA person's dream to play in Croke Park and I was fortunate to come out with a performance like that on the day. That is something that will live long in the memory. It is only when you finish playing that you appreciate things like that.



Cork camogie team coach Fiona O'Driscoll: "The Cork players are a demanding bunch. They want to be the best, they expect the best from us and that's a good thing, because it keeps us, in the backroom team, on our toes.

Picture: Cillian Kelly

"When I look back, it's not only at the winning of games, but it's actually the craic we had at training, the banter and meeting up with players from other teams — I miss that."

The east Cork native has had to tweak the shape of her team following the retirement of three key personnel from last year's All-Ireland team.

Midfielder Vivienne Harris and full forward Stephanie Dunlea retired, while fullback Rosarie Holland has opted to take a year out to go travelling.

"There are other squad members too who decided to call it a day. We've a lot of new girls in this year and that enhances the whole make-up of the squad as well."

This year Cork will go into the final as favourites, a tag with which the hurlers suffered last Sunday. O'Driscoll is preaching caution.

"Last year, we definitely went in as underdogs. There's no doubt that people involved in Cork camogie were hopeful we'd win. But I don't think deep down they felt that we would, whereas there was great belief within the camp that we were going to do it.

"Obviously there'll be a different perspective out there this year."

"We can't take heed of those things, we have to prepare to have our minds right for the game and in the last two weeks at training we have really got our act together.

"Even though we have beaten Tipp already three times this year (twice in League and once in Munster Championship) they're waiting in the long grass for us.

"Both teams know you have to peak on the day to beat each other and both teams know it will go right to the final whistle.

"Because it has been back and forth between the two teams over the last number of years, Cork-Tipp games can go either way but you have to go into these games feeling confident.

"We've worked hard, preparation has been good and the attitude over the last few weeks has been spot on.

"They are looking forward to it, and, like myself, can't wait to get to Croke Park and get the ball rolling."

Sept 2006

Joanne finishes thesis and is set for Croker

By ALISON DONNELLY

CORK camogie star Joanne O'Callaghan has a few reasons to smile ahead of Sunday's All-Ireland final.

Not only is the likeable player leading the Rebels in their quest for a second All-Ireland title in a row, but yesterday she handed up her thesis at University College Cork (UCC), and now she can focus fully the game.

"At this stage, I am definitely excited, although I know I'll be nervous on Sunday. I've really enjoyed being captain this year, even though there are loads of leaders on the team," said Joanne.

She said that everyone was fully focused on winning on Sunday, but that she had not allowed herself to think about what it would be like to lift the O'Duffy Cup.

"No, I think it would be bad luck to allow myself think about it, and I haven't thought about what I would say either in a speech. To be honest, if we win I wouldn't care what I said," she admits.

She plans to take time out to relax after Sunday, although the entire team will descend on her club town in Cloughduv, win or lose, on Monday.

"Seeing the Cork hurlers lose last week and be so devastated has actually motivated us even more," added Joanne.

With the game taking place on the same day as the U21 final, Joanne is hoping for huge Cork support on the day.



JOANNE O'CALLAGHAN: Not only is she leading the Rebels in their quest for a second All-Ireland title in a row, but yesterday she handed up her thesis at University College Cork.



Sean Horan lines out for Tipperary U-21 team in the All-Ireland final at Croke Park on Sunday next and likewise his sister Jill lines out for Tipperary camogie team. Photograph: Bridget Delaney.

It's 3-2 in Tipp's favour

By Gerry Slevin

With twenty-one titles, Cork are five behind Dublin in the O'Duffy Cup Roll of Honour. Nineteen of those titles were won prior to Tipp's emergence on the winning scene in 1999 and in the interim period the counties have met in five deciders, with Tipp holding the advantage at 3-2.

A late, late rally by Kilkenny in the '99 semi final put paid to the widely anticipated inaugural final clash of Tipp and Cork that year. That would turn out to be the only year since Tipp's arrival that the sides did not meet at some stage of the competition.

In 2000 when Tipp retained their title, led by Jovita Delaney, they had a 2-11 to 1-9 final victory. Eight of the present team lined out – Jovita Delaney, Suzanne Kelly, Una O'Dwyer, Sinead Nealon, Philly Fogarty, Eimear McDonnell, Emily Hayden and Claire Grogan. Joanne Ryan was a sub as was present panellist Paula Bulfin.

14 year old Claire Grogan, a Community Games medal winner the previous year on the same day that Tipp defeated Kilkenny in Croke Park, had very quickly graduated to the top rung of the ladder becoming the youngest ever player to win a senior medal. Claire scored two points in the decider.

When Tipp set out en route to a three-in-a-row achievement in '01, with another Cashel player, Emily Hayden as captain, the Tipp/Cork pairing came at the penultimate stage and patrons got a double helping. First, there was a thrilling draw in Mullingar, Deirdre Hughes' levelling point taking the sides to Limerick's Gaelic Grounds for the replay. There, in one of the greatest and most exciting games ever, Tipp came from seemingly certain defeat (1 -11 to 0-12 down with two minutes to go), to fashion an incredible 3-13 to 1-12 victory in a matter of three blistering minutes.

The 2002 final saw Cork come out on top. Tipp's ambition for a 4th successive title, led by Una O'Dwyer being a bridge too far. Joanne Ryan was now a permanent fixture in the team and Paula Bulfin had graduated to the first fifteen also.

That final defeat saw the end of an era with the retirement of team manager Michael Cleary, to be succeeded by Raymie Ryan whose task it was to seek to re-invigorate his new charges and get them back into the winners enclosure once more. The campaign produced yet another Tipp/Cork decider and this time Tipp won, 2-11 to 1-11, again led by Una O'Dwyer.

It was 2-11 to 0-9 when the teams met in the 2004 (Centenary) final, the captaincy having now moved from Cashel to Drom/Inch and to Joanne Ryan.

Tipp were heading for another three-in-a-row when they lined out against Cork a year ago. Captained by Deirdre Hughes, they led 1-10 to 0-8 at half time and looked on course for another win. However, Cork were a different proposition in the second half and it ended 1-17 to 1-13 in favour of the Rebels.

That left the Tipp/Cork final picture at 3-2. On Sunday Cork will seek to draw level but whatever way the end result turns out, there can be no denying that clashes between these great rivals have produced some stirring camogie over the past number of years and both counties are in the debt of the game's administrators for the manner in which their performances have enhanced the game's image so well.

The management and selectors have given their players a vote confidence in naming the same starting 15 that lined out against Kilkenny in the All-Ireland Semi Final they are:

Jovita Delaney *(Cashel)*

Suzanne Kelly *(Toomevara)* **Una O'Dwyer** *(Cashel)* **Julie Kirwan** *(Moneygall)*

Michelle Shortt *(Drom-Inch)* **Philly Fogarty** *(Cashel)* **Sinead Nealon** *(Burgess)*

Claire Grogan *(Cashel)* **Joanne Ryan** *(Drom-Inch)*

Cora Hennessy *(Cashel)* **Emily Hayden** *(Cashel)* **Jill Horan** *(Cashel)*

Geraldine Kinane *(Drom-Inch)* **Louise Young** *(Toomeveara)* **Eimear McDonnell** *(Burgess)*



Tipperary senior camogie team selector Martin Bourke discuss tactics with Michelle Shortt at a training session in Morris Park. Picture: Bridget Delaney.

SEPT

2006



Sets of sisters who play with Duharra senior team at the Tipperary senior team Press Night in Morris Park Thurles (from Left) Trish and Jenny O'Halloran, Eimear and Deirdre McDonnell.
Picture: Bridget Delaney.



Tipperary senior camogie stars Jill Horan, Lorraine Davis and Geraldine Kinane listen to a team talk at a training session in Morris Park Thurles.
Picture: Bridget Delaney.



Past students of Cashel Community School who will be representing their county in Sunday's double header in Croke Park. Front L/r. Una O'Dwyer, Emily Hayden, Phillomena Fogarty, Claire Grogan. Back L/r TJ Quinn, Gaelic Games Coach C.C.S. Ryan O'Dwyer, Darragh Hickey, Jim Bob McCarthy, Fr. Bernie Moloney, Gaelic Games coach C.C.S. Missing from the photograph is Michael Coleman.



1-14 1-9 Athenry captain Sarah Donohue lifts the Catherine Donnelly Cup

Combining the senior camogie and All-Ireland U21 hurling finals at Croke Park is a relief to the Young and Horan families, writes **Brendan Larkin**

Family matters



Tipperary twins Louise and David Young and Sean and Jill Horan during training in Dr Maurice Park, Thurles. The women line out in the All-Ireland camogie final in Croke Park on Sunday, followed by their respective brothers in the U21

TIPPERARY'S Louise Young is looking forward to Sunday's All-Ireland camogie final like no other.

Brother David is a member of the Premier team that faces Kilkenny in the U21 decider before his sister and her colleagues take centre stage.

A member of An Garda Síochána, Louise has four All-Ireland camogie medals; three senior and one junior.

She does, however, make no secret of her desire to add to her collection.

"You never tire of winning All-Ireland titles, particularly if they are at the expense of Cork.

"The rivalry between the women is just as intense as it is with the men. We don't like being beaten by them, any more than they like being beaten by us.

"All-Ireland finals are great occasions. The hype which surrounds them is incredible. The buildup is incredible with everyone wanting to talk to you and wish you well.

"Work commitments kept me out of the league, but I returned for the championship about six weeks ago. I try to blot everything out in the lead up to the final, but it's not easy.

"At home now, for instance, with both my brother and I involved in finals, there is no escaping all the talk.

"We own a pub at home and that brings added pressure, as you have the customers coming in and all they want to talk about is the two All-Ireland finals. There appears to be nowhere to hide this week.

"The decision to play both the U21 hurling and the senior camogie finals together in Croke Park is brilliant. It means all your family is there in the one place and not torn between the two finals. It also means that Tipp's support will be greater.

"My parents are running a bus for supporters from home. Expectations of winning two All-Ireland titles on the one day is a huge motivating factor for both the men and women.

"We have lost a couple of experienced players this year but still managed to get back into the final which is a tribute to the talent we have.

"Tipp won the junior All-Ireland in 2001 and most of those girls are now on the senior squad. Kilkenny should have beaten us in the semi-final. Only for Jovita in goal we wouldn't be in the final. She made a number of magnificent saves to keep us in that game."

She does admit that Tipperary must improve dramatically.

"If we are to dethrone them there will have to be a big improvement all round. Our form against Kilkenny would not be good enough.

"Cork are a fine side. They beat us in last year's final, so it's an opportunity for us to make amends, but we need to improve by 20% in all areas.

"They are the defending champions, looked very good in their semi-final win over Galway, and more importantly have a very settled side."

LIKE the Youngs from Toomevara, the Horan family from Drangan are looking to create their own piece of history with Tipperary in Croke Park on Sunday.

Jill will line out at right-half forward in the camogie final while brother Sean has been named in the same position in the U21 decider.

Said Jill: "While Sean has his own worries about their game with Kilkenny, it's a tremendous boost for the girls that both finals are on together at the same venue. It should guarantee us plenty of vocal support.

"My parents are extremely proud that both myself and Sean are in Croke Park together. It's a first for the family and the parish, and we are looking forward to the experience.

"Because we are the second game, it's unlikely I'll get a chance to see Sean play, but he knows I'll be with him in spirit. I don't know what he'll do if they lose their final, he certainly won't be in any mood to watch us. We'll wish each other luck before we go our separate ways on Saturday."

She admits they face a daunting task.

"Cork will be favourites, they are the champions, but that won't bother us. We are confident we can get a result. We've no business taking part if we didn't believe we could win it.

"Losing so many experienced players was a blow at the start of the season, but they were hardly missed as the likes of Cora Hennessy, Michelle Short, Geraldine Kinane have slotted in as if they were always there."

Her talents are not confined to camogie. A former U19 soccer international, it was while playing with Ireland she was spotted by a talent scout who offered her a scholarship to Oakland University in Michigan.

Studying secondary education, maths and geography in the US, Jill is at home on holidays and is looking forward to the chance to win a second senior camogie medal.

Sport plays a huge role in the lives of the Horan family. Sean was also a county minor football with Tipp, her father is a low handicap golfer while her mother won a Munster tennis title a fortnight ago.

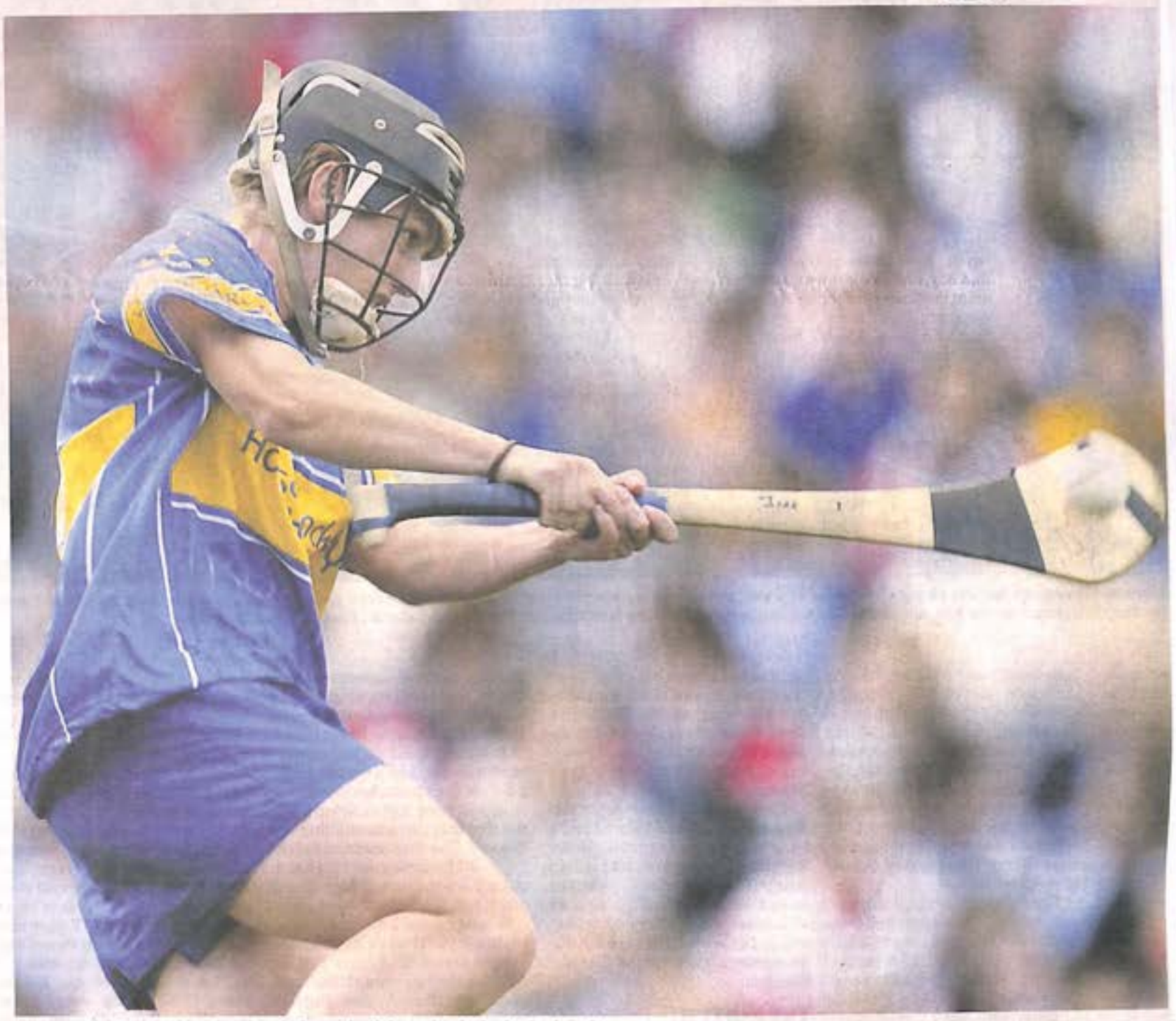
"It's is a great outlet, particularly if you live out in the country where there is little else to do. It's also very healthy and we as a family just love playing games," says Jill.

SEPT 2006

Twinning of games best way forward for camogie



Liz Howard talks to **Damian Lawlor** about bringing the sport to its full vibrancy



Jill Horan (above) and her brother Seán are both in action in Croke Park today

TIPPERARY native Liz Howard is adamant that twinning the under-21 hurling and senior camogie finals is the only way forward for her association.

The president of the camogie association points out that only 7,000 turned up for last year's under-21 final, whereas a crowd of 30,000 is expected in HQ for today's double-bill. Ms Howard also insists that much more work is needed behind the scenes before the sport enjoys the full vibrancy it deserves.

'This arrangement is on trial for two years but we're essentially drawing from the same catchment area'

Since she took charge, the game's profile has increased enormously and the acquisition of sponsors like Gala, O'Neills and Foras Na Gaeilge has helped its development. In addition, two regional development coaches are currently operating at field-level, while the appointment of a new national co-ordinator is imminent.

Cork and Tipperary meet today for the seventh time in eight years in the senior final, which follows the All-Ireland U-21 hurling decider between Kilkenny and Tipperary. "The camogie final attracted a 16,000 crowd last year and 29,000 turned up in 2004," Ms Howard says. "We should get well over 30,000 in Croke Park today, which would be fantastic for the under-21s too because only 7,000 turned up for their final in Limerick last year.

"So the twinning of the two games is hugely important. It brings the hurling family together. For a number of years, we split that audience. Can you imagine the reaction if we had the Tipperary hurling fraternity at one venue next Sunday and the camogie fraternity here in Croke Park? Tipp's David Young captains their under-21s and his sister Louise stars on the camogie team. Jill Horan is on the same team and her brother, Seán, plays wing-back for the Tipp under-21s."

Former president Seán Kelly and current president Nickey Brennan were both influential in the decision to merge the finals, but Ms Howard singled out Leinster Chairman Liam O'Neill — the liaison officer between the two bodies — for his special support.

"Liam has been a fantastic help to us. This arrangement is on trial for two years but we can't afford to let it go," she says. "We're essentially drawing from the same catchment area."

The Burgess native admits there are problems facing her association but insists they are manageable. "There is a mindset that 'we always did it this way'. That has to change," she says. "In certain areas, we have a merry-go-round situation where people leave office and just take up another position. Don't get me wrong, we depend on volunteers but you can't let things go stale. We have to mix experience with new talent, we have a most wonderful field game and our players are young, articulate and intelligent. We have issues with membership revenue and the returns are way too low. We have 100,000 members at the moment but our returns are ridiculous compared to the fees charged in tennis or squash clubs."

One of the first things Ms Howard did in her term of office was to employ the professional PR services of O'Herlihy Communications. "PR is not something you can dip in and out of," she says. "It must be consistent and persistent. We have a huge day on our hands today but behind the scenes, we have to stay working. Five new clubs have been formed in Kerry, there are a couple more emerging in Mayo. We depend on the Irish Sports Council for funding so all our coaching is done according to the National Training and Coaching Centre (NCTC) specifications."

Vastly experienced in GAA matters after serving as Tipperary PRO for many years, Ms Howard spent the last three years on camogie's management committee. She is not afraid to make change, no matter what bad press she gets and received flak after Derry and Dublin lost a day out in Croke Park in the junior All-Ireland final to fit in today's high profile double-bill.

"It was an unpopular decision," she admits, "but you must look at the bigger picture. Our game will get massive coverage from this, we hope it will continue in such fashion in the future and next year we will bring forward the junior final and hope that it will be played before a football or hurling qualifier. But we had to make the move; it brings a new excitement and new zest to today. At times you have to offend people to achieve what you really want," she said. "And that's to raise our profile."

Today's final is a glamorous, red-letter occasion between two fierce rivals which will boost the profile of the game even further. Behind the scenes, supporters can relax in the knowledge that Liz Howard and her team are working hard to ensure that further glory days are ahead.

Teachtaireacht agus Fáilte an Uachtaráin



Ar son Chumann Camógaíochta na nGael fearaim fáilte is fiche romhaibh ar fad inniú ar an ocáid speisialta seo dár gcluichí náisiúnta. Is cúis áthais dúinn ar fad go bhfuil Camógaíocht agus Iománaíocht á imirt ar an gclár céanna agus tá súil agam go rachaidh an dá chluiche ó near go neart as seo amach. Ba mhaith liom buíochas a ghabháil le gach éinne a chabhraigh linn na cluichí seo a chur ar siúil inniú. Tá súil agam go mbeidh cluichí den scoth againn inniú agus tá súil agam freisin gur féidir le Cumann Camógaíochta na nGael agus Cumann Lúthchleas Gael comhoibriú go rialta ar mhaithe leis na cluichí naisiúnta." Ar scáth a chéile a mhairfimid."

I warmly welcome you all to Croke Park today on this unique occasion when the Hurling and Camogie Family take centre stage in a double header. Cork and Tipperary contest the Gala Senior Camogie Final while Tipperary play Kilkenny in the Erin U21 All-Ireland Hurling Final. We are pleased that President Mary Mc Aleese and Dr. Martin McAleese are with us here today. Fáilte to the players from Cork, Kilkenny and Tipperary, their mentors and backroom team, County Board officers, the referee and his officials and to the girls and boys from primary schools in Dublin, Derry, Louth and Longford who take part in the mini games.

This is the first time that a camogie and hurling final have been played together here in Croke Park. It is a natural fit as both games draw support from the same catchment areas. While the camogie final is always played in Croke Park this is only the second time that the U21 final takes place here. Tipperary played Dublin on September 10th 1967 when Tipp won by a point. This joint initiative between Cumann Camógaíochta and Cumann Lúthchleas Gael is on a trial basis for two years but it is my wish that it will become a permanent fixture. It benefits both associations and draws a greater attendance. My thanks to all those who contributed towards making it a reality.

Champions Cork top the roll of honour with twenty-one All-Ireland titles to their credit, while Tipperary hold five. These teams have contested the last four camogie finals. Cork will want to make amends for their hurling counterparts who lost out to Kilkenny last Sunday. Tipperary last held the title in 2004 when they defeated the Rebels who in turn defeated Tipp last year. Both are wonderful exponents of the game, possessing great skill, a superb level of fitness and a strong will to win. While Tipperary brought camogie to a new level in 1999, Cork soon emulated that standard. Both sides deserve great credit for the consistently high level of performance maintained. This year they have come through a testing Gala Championship campaign, having played six games each to reach the final.

Who will claim the O'Duffy Cup? Only a gambler would predict the outcome.

This is the first year that the Camogie Championship has a commercial sponsor and I acknowledge the contribution of Tom Keogh Chief Executive of Gala and his team. This sponsorship has already raised the profile of both camogie and Gala. The need for commercial sponsorship is now a necessity. Joanne O'Callaghan, the Cork captain, and Philly Fogarty, Tipperary captain, have been particularly busy in recent weeks. Both are impressive ambassadors for camogie. Gala also ran a competition in conjunction with the final. Today fifty members from the winning club, Rathnure, travelled in style to Croke Park and ten young players from that club will act as official ball and water girls for the Gala camogie final.

Back in 1981 Kilkenny defeated Cork in the All-Ireland Final replay and I welcome those players and their partners back here today as guests. We honour them as the Jubilee team and hope that this visit will revive great memories. This was an outstanding team. My appreciation to Foras na Gaeilge for sponsoring the Jubilee team today. The present Kilkenny side was very close to making the breakthrough this year. It will not be long before they contest a final. Already this year the U16 team won their second successive All-Ireland title and the minors are in the All-Ireland semi final.

The Erin U21 final should start the day on a high, with great rivals Kilkenny and Tipperary in action. Kilkenny defeated Tipperary heavily two years ago so the men from the Premier County have the opportunity to reverse that defeat. Both are coming to Croke Park on the back of victory last Sunday, Kilkenny seniors taking the Liam McCarthy Cup and Tipperary minors winning the Irish Press Cup. I welcome their respective captains Jackie Tyrell and Joey McLoughney and the Cork Ladies Football captain Juliette Murphy as our guests here today. Welcome also to the Dublin camogie team, All-Ireland Junior champions, runners-up Derry and our 2nd level colleges who won All-Ireland titles during the year.

We honour Fiona McKenna-Shannon who won the Women's Open title at the recent World Handball Championships in Edmonton and the Irish Rowing Men's Lightweight Four who won Bronze in Switzerland. Eugene Coakley, Richard Archibald and Paul Griffin are with us while Gearóid Towey is unavoidably absent. Congratulations to all on their achievement.

Today RTÉ transmits the Gala Camogie final live on the World Wide Web. This brings our game to a wider audience and I know that there is particular interest in Australia where so many young Irish people are travelling. Thanks to Glen Killane, Head of Sport RTÉ, for this initiative.

While the Gala All-Ireland is the flagship of the camogie year it has been a very active season at all level of competition. The Competitions Review Committee drew up a much more inclusive programme of games on a two-year trial basis. Overall the playing season has been a success with many new competitions at inter-county level. However, the balance between club and county has to be maintained.

Back to this afternoon, I hope that we will see four wonderful sporting teams displaying all the skills and style of the greatest field game in the world. Enjoy the day, support your team and respect the opposition.

Ráth Dé oraibh go léir.

Liz Howard

Liz Howard
Uachtarán Cumann Camógaíochta

PATHS TO THE FINAL

Corcaigh

1-10	Cork	Wexford	1-05
1-07	Kilkenny	Cork	2-11
0-07	Limerick	Cork	2-08
0-10	Cork	Galway	1-07
3-08	Tipperary	Cork	1-10

Gala All Ireland Senior Camogie semi-final

1-07	Cork	Galway	0-06

Tiobraid Árann

1-12	Galway	Tipperary	2-06
1-08	Wexford	Tipperary	1-14
1-07	Tipperary	Kilkenny	0-04
1-15	Tipperary	Limerick	1-03
3-08	Tipperary	Cork	1-10

Gala All Ireland Senior Camogie semi-final

0-13	Tipperary	Kilkenny	1-08

The Gala All-Ireland Senior Camogie Championship was played on a round-robin basis with all six teams in one open group (Cork, Tipperary, Galway, Wexford, Kilkenny, Limerick). The top four teams qualified for the semi-finals.

ROLL OF HONOUR

COUNTY	TITLES	YEARS
Cork	21	1934, 1935, 1936, 1939, 1940, 1941, 1970, 1971, 1972, 1973, 1978, 1980, 1982, 1983, 1992, 1993, 1995, 1997, 1998, 2002, 2005
Tipperary	5	1999, 2000, 2001, 2003, 2004





First played in 1932 this is the 75th year of the All-Ireland Senior Camogie Championship. Dublin claimed the O'Duffy Cup in 1932, defeating Galway.

TOP SCORERS

	Name	County	Score	Pts
1	Claire Grogan	Tipperary	1-28	31
2	Veronica Curtin	Galway	3-18	27
	Kate Kelly	Wexford	2-21	27
3	Lourda Kavanagh	Galway	1-17	20
4	Jennifer O'Leary	Cork	0-18	18
5	Imelda Kennedy	Kilkenny	1-12	15
	Emily Hayden	Tipperary	2-09	15
6	Eimear McDonnell	Tipperary	1-11	14
7	Katrina Parrock	Wexford	4-00	12
8	Eileen O'Brien	Limerick	0-11	11
	Brenda Kerins	Galway	1-08	11
	Marie O'Connor	Kilkenny	2-05	11
9	Ursula Jacob	Wexford	0-10	10
10	Elaine Burke	Cork	2-03	9
	Una O'Donoghue	Cork	1-06	9
	Emer Dillon	Cork	1-06	9

Sept 2006

Sinsir Chorcaí - Player Profiles



1
AOIFE MURRAY
Cloughduv
Auctioneering Student
2 All Ireland Senior, 1 All Ireland Intermediate, 1 All Ireland Junior 2 All Ireland Minor, All star 2004.



2
JOANNE O'CALLAGHAN (Capt)
Cloughduv, Student
2 All Ireland Senior, 1 All Ireland Intermediate, 2 All Ireland Minor, 2 Ashbourne.



3
CAITRIONA FOLEY
Rockban
Student
1 Minor All Ireland, Ladies football All Ireland 2005.



4
AMANDA O'REGAN
Douglas
Teacher
2 All Ireland Senior, 1 Minor All Ireland, 1 Junior All Ireland 3 Ashbourne (UL)



5
RENA BUCKLEY
Inniscarra
Student
1 All Ireland senior, 2 All Ireland Minor, All Star 2005, 1 Ladies Football All Ireland.



6
MARY O'CONNOR
Killeagh, RDC Camogie
4 All Ireland Senior, All Ireland Minor, All Ireland Junior, 2 Club All Ireland (Granagh Ballingarry), All Star 2005, 1 Ladies Football All Ireland



7
ANNA GEARY
Milford
Student
1 All Ireland Senior, 3 Al Ireland Minor, 10 All Ireland Colleges, 1 Ashbourne, All Star 2005



8
GEMMA O'CONNOR
St. Finbarrs
Defence Forces
2 All Ireland Senior, 2 All Ireland Minor, All Star 2004 & 2005



9
BRIEGE CORKERY
Cloughduv
Auctioneer
1 All Ireland Senior, 2 All Ireland Minor.



10
RACHEL MOLONEY
Courcy Rovers
Student
2 All Ireland Senior, 1 All Ireland intermediate, 1 All Ireland Minor, All Star 2005



11
ANGELA WALSH
Killeagh
Student
1 All Ireland Senior. 1 All Ireland Senior Football



12
JENNIFER O'LEARY
Barryroe
Teacher
2 All Ireland Senior, 1 All Ireland Intermediate, 2 All Ireland Minor, 3 Ashbourne (UL), All Star '04 & '05



13
EMER DILLON
Ballygarvan
Student
2 All Ireland Senior, 1 All Ireland Intermediate, 2 All Ireland Minor, All Star 2005



14
UNA O'DONOGHUE
Cloughduv
Lab technician
2 All Ireland Senior, Ashbourne Cup & League



15
ELAINE BURKE
Valley Rovers
Solicitor
2 All Ireland Senior, 1 All Ireland Junior, 2 Ashbourne



16
ELLEN CLIFFORD
St. Finbarrs
IT Systems Analyst
1 All Ireland Junior



17
ELAINE O'RIORDAN
Milford
Student
All Ireland Minor and Junior All Ireland Colleges



18
SARAH HAYES
Courcy Rovers
All Ireland Senior All Ireland Minor, Ashbourne Cup



19
ORLA COTTER
St. Catherines
Student
1st year on Senior panel, All Ireland Minor,



20
SARAH O'DONOVAN
Ballygarvan
Student
1 All Ireland Senior, 1 All Ireland Junior, 1 All Ireland Intermediate,



21
COLE[illegible]OESMOND
[illegible]estown
[illegible]ent
2 All Irela[illegible]nior, 1 All Ireland Junior, 1 All[illegible]ad Intermediate, 1 Al[illegible]d Minor



22
EMER WATSON
Milford
Student
All Ireland Minor, All Ireland Intermediate, All Ireland colleges with St. Mary's Charleville



23
SINEAD CORKERY
Cloughduv
Bank official
All Irleand Minor, Munster under 18



24
EMER O'FARRELL
Sarsfields
Sales Rep
All Ireland Junior and Senior, Purcell Cup with CIT in 2001



25
MARIE O'NEILL
Watergrasshill
Student
First year on Senior panel, All Ireland Minor

Sept 1 2006

Sinsir Thiobraid Árann – Player Profiles



1
JOVITA DELANEY
Cashel, 32
Teacher 5 All Ireland Senior, 1 All Ireland Intermediate, 1 All Ireland junior, 1 All Ireland Minor, All Star 2005



2
SUZANNE KELLY
Toomevara, 29
Teacher 5 All Ireland Senior, 1 All Ireland Intermediate, 1 All Ireland Junior, 1 Purcell Cup, 1 Ashbourne Shield, All Star 2004



3
UNA O'DWYER
Cashel, 24
Food technologist
5 All Ireland Senior, 1 All Ireland Intermediate, 2 Ashbourne Cup, Texaco Award 2004, All Star 2004



4
JULIE KIRWAN
Moneygall, 19
Student
1 All Ireland Senior, All Star 2005



5
MICHELLE SHORTT
Drom/Inch, 21
Student
1 All Ireland Senior



6
PHILLY FOGARTY
Cashel, 23
Physiotherapist
5 All Ireland Senior



7
SINÉAD NEALON
Burgess, 32
HR Manager
5 All Ireland Senior, 1 All Ireland Intermediate, 1 All Ireland Junior, 1 All Ireland Minor, 1 Ashbourne, WIT



8
CLAIRE GROGAN
Cashel, 20
Student
4 All Ireland Senior, All Star 2004, 2005



9
JOANNE RYAN
Drom/Inch, 23
Student
4 All Ireland Senior



10
JILL HORAN
Cashel, 21
Student
1 All Ireland Senior, 1 Ashbourne Cup



11
EMILY HAYDEN
Cashel, 26
Sports Rehab
4 All Ireland Senior, 1 All Ireland Intermediate, 1 All Ireland Minor



12
CORA HENNESSY
Cashel, 19
Student
1 County Intermediate, 1 County Senior, 1 Munster



13
EIMEAR McDONNELL
Burgess, 25
Accountant
5 All Ireland Senior, All Star 2005, Texaco Award 2003



14
LOUISE YOUNG
Toomevara, 22
Garda
3 All Ireland Senior, 1 All Ireland Junior



15
GERALDINE KINANE
Drom/Inch, 21
Student
1 All Irela nd Senior, 1 All Ireland Junior



16
JOANNE NOLAN
Silvermines, 20
Student
1 All Ireland Senior



17
TRISH O'HALLORAN
Portroe, 22
Student
2 All Ireland Senior
1 All Ireland Junior



18
LORRAINE BURKE
Templemore
Nurse, 23
1 All Ireland Senior



19
PAULA BULFIN
Cashel, 31
Teacher
4 All Ireland Senior



20
THERESA MAHER
Drom/Inch, 24
Bank Official
1 County Senior,
1st year on Senior Panel



2
DEIRDRE M
Burge
Civil Er
1 All Irela
1 All Irela



ONNELL
4
er
nior,
nior



22
MARIE TYNAN
Toomevara, 19
Student
1 County Senior,
1 Munster



23
MARY RYAN
Moneygall, 18
Student
1 County Intermediate,
1 Munster,
1st year on panel



24
JENNY O'HALLORAN
Portroe, 24
Teacher
1 All Ireland Junior,
1st year on panel

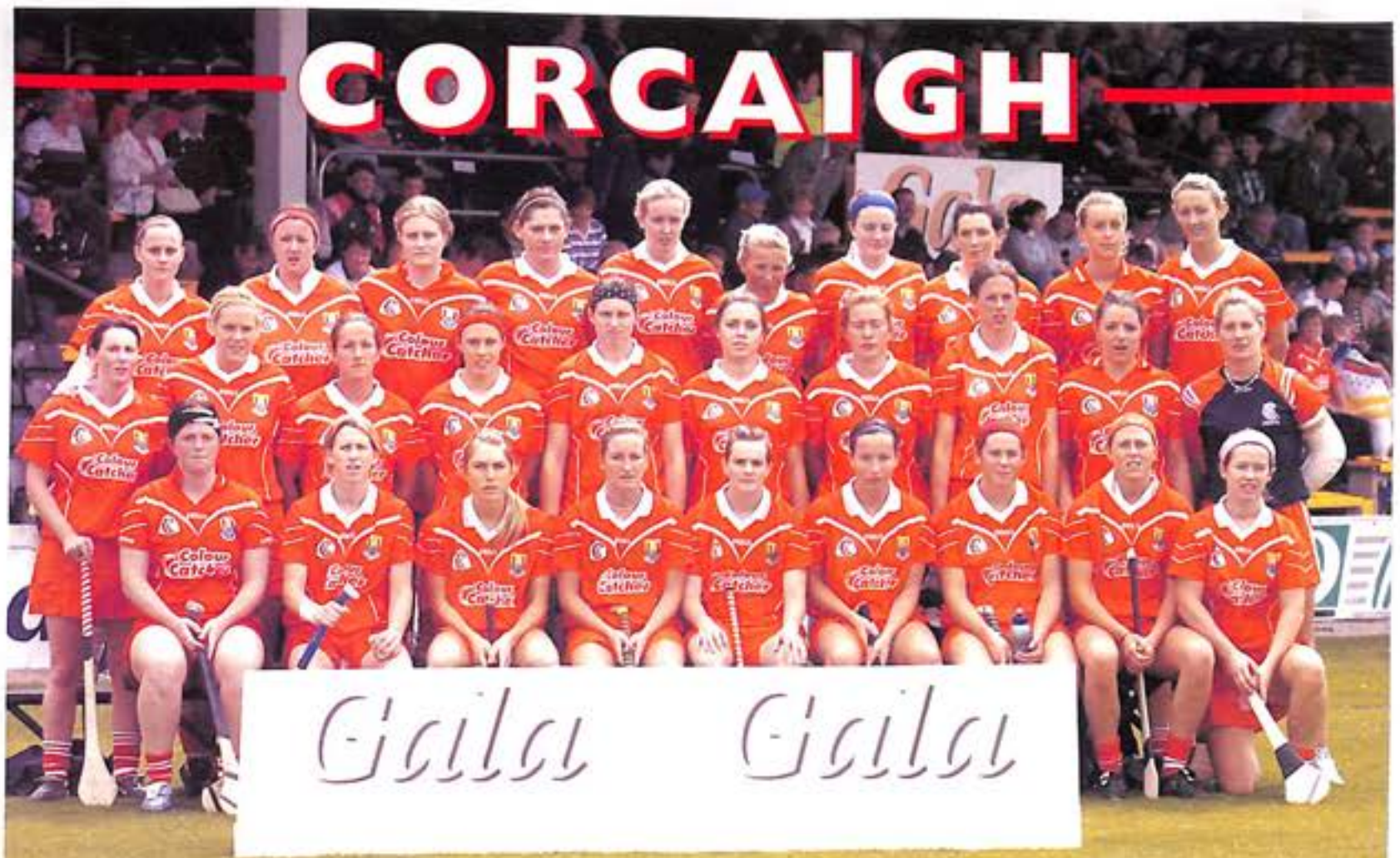


25
MARY LOOBY
Drom/Inch, 27
Dental Hygienist
2 Munster,
1 All Ireland Minor

SEPT

2006

CORCAIGH



Back Row (l.-r.): A. Murray, E. Clifford, L. Hawkes, S. Corkery, M. O'Neill, E. O'Riordan, E. Watson, C. Desmond, J. Duffy, E. O'Farrell. Middle Row (l.-r.): S. Hayes, A. Walsh, J. O. Leary, C. Foley, A. O. Regan, A. Geary, R. Buckley, O. Cotter, S. O'Donovan, R. Curtin. Front Row (l.-r.): C. Healy, M. O'Connor, R. Moloney, J. O'Callaghan (Capt), B. Corkery, U. O'Donoghue, E. Dillon, G. O'Connor, E. Burke.

Corcaigh (Dearg agus Bán)

16 **ELLEN CLIFFORD**
E. Ní Chlúmháin
St Finbarrs

17 **ELAINE O'RIORDAN**
L. Ní Riordáin
Milford

18 **SARA HAYES**
S. Ní Aodha
Courcey Rovers

19 **ORLA COTTER**
O. Nic Oitir
St Catherines

20 **SARAH O'DONOVAN**
S. Ní Dhonnabháin
Ballygarvan

21 **COLLETTE DESMOND**
C. Ní Dheasúnaigh
Newcestown

22 **EMER WATSON**
E. Nic Uait
Milford

23 **SINEAD CORKERY**
S. Ní Chorcra
Cloughduv

24 **EMER O'FARRELL**
E. Ní Fhearail
Sarsfield

25 **MARIE O'NEILL**
M. Ní Neill
Watergrasshill

1
AOIFE MURRAY
A. Ní Mhuirí
Cloughduv

2
JOANNE O'CALLAGHAN
S. Ní Cheallacháin (Capt)
Cloughduv

3
CATRIONA FOLEY
C. Ní Fhoghlú
Rockban

4
AMANDA O'REGAN
A. Ní Riagáin
Douglas

5
RENA BUCKLEY
R. Ní Bhuachalla
Inniscarra

6
MARY O'CONNOR
M. Ní Chonchúir
Killeagh

7
ANNA GEARY
Á. Ní Ghadhra
Milford

8
GEMMA O'CONNOR
G. Ní Chonchúir
St Finbarrs

9
BRIEGE CORKERY
B. Ní Chorcra
Cloughduv

10
RACHEL MOLONEY
R. Ní Mhaolomhnaigh
Courcey Rovers

11
ANGELA WALSH
A. Bhreatnach
Killeagh

12
JENNIFER O'LEARY
S. Ní Laoire
Barryroe

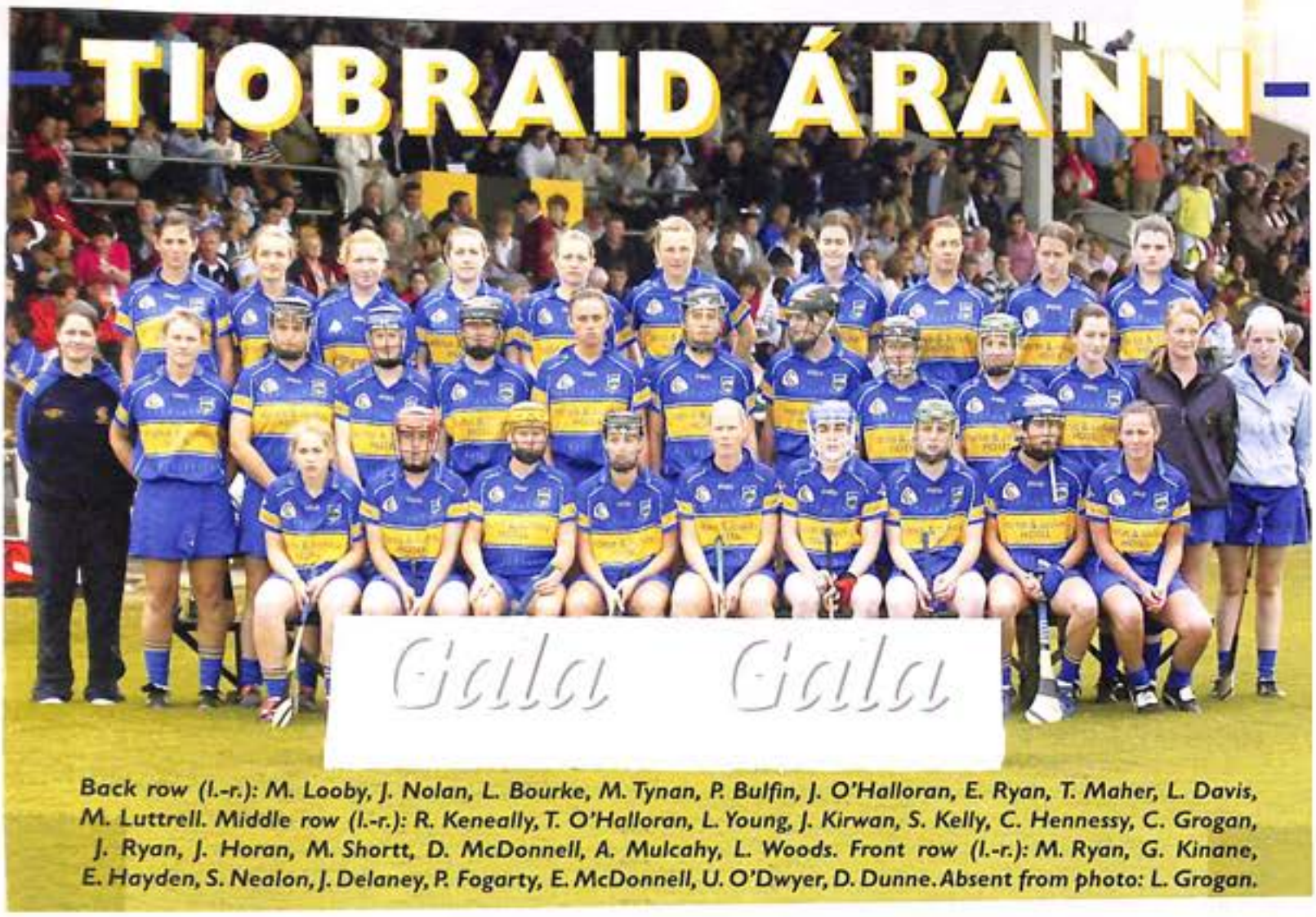
13
EMER DILLON
E. Dhiollún
Ballygarvan

14
UNA O'DONOGHUE
Ú. Ní Dhonnchú
Cloughduv

15
ELAINE BURKE
L. de Búrca
Valley Rovers

TIOBRAID ÁRANN

SEPT 2006



Back row (l.-r.): M. Looby, J. Nolan, L. Bourke, M. Tynan, P. Bulfin, J. O'Halloran, E. Ryan, T. Maher, L. Davis, M. Luttrell. Middle row (l.-r.): R. Keneally, T. O'Halloran, L. Young, J. Kirwan, S. Kelly, C. Hennessy, C. Grogan, J. Ryan, J. Horan, M. Shortt, D. McDonnell, A. Mulcahy, L. Woods. Front row (l.-r.): M. Ryan, G. Kinane, E. Hayden, S. Nealon, J. Delaney, P. Fogarty, E. McDonnell, U. O'Dwyer, D. Dunne. Absent from photo: L. Grogan.

Gala ALL-IRELAND SENIOR CAMOGIE CHAMPIONSHIP FINAL Gala

Tiobraid Árann
(Cork ASHG Órga)

1
JOVITA DELANEY
J. Ní Dhubhshláine
Cashel

2
SUZANNE KELLY
S. Ní Cheallaigh
Toomevara

3
UNA O'DWYER
Ú. Ní Dhuibhir
Cashel

4
JULIE KIRWAN
S. Ní Chiarubháin
Moneygall

5
MICHELLE SHORTT
S. Nic an Ghearr
Drom-Inch

6
PHILLY FOGARTY
F. Ní Fhogartaigh
Cashel

7
SINEAD NEALON
S. Ní Nialláin
Burgess

8
CLAIRE GROGAN
C. Ní Ghruagáin
Cashel

9
JOANNE RYAN
S. Ní Riain
Drom-Inch

10
JILL HORAN
J. Ní Óráin
Cashel

11
EMILY HAYDEN
E. Ní Éideáin
Cashel

12
CORA HENNESSEY
C. Nic Aonasa
Cashel

13
EIMEAR McDONNELL
E. Nic Domhnaill
Burgess

14
LOUISE YOUNG
L. de Siún
Toomevara

15
GERALDINE KINANE
G. Ní Choinneáin
Drom-Inch

Tiobraid Árann

16 **JOANNE NOLAN**
S. Ní Nualláin
Silvermines

17 **TRISH O'HALLORAN**
P. Ní Allúráin
Portroe

18 **LORRAINE BOURKE**
L. de Búrca
Templemore

19 **PAULA BULFIN**
P. Bhuilfin
Cashel

20 **TERESA MAHER**
T. Ní Mheachair
Drom-Inch

21 **DEIRDRE McDONNELL**
D. Nic Domhnaill
Burgess

22 **MARIE TYNAN**
M. Ní Theimhneáin
Toomevara

23 **MARY RYAN**
M. Ní Riain
Moneygall

24 **JENNY O'HALLORAN**
S. Ní Állúráin
Portroe

25 **MARY LOOBY**
M. Ní Lubaigh
Drom-Inch

BROTHERS and SISTERS go hand-in-hand



By CÓILÍN DUFFY

All-Ireland final days are the centrepieces of the Gaelic Games calendar where our top sportsmen and women give it their all for their chosen amateur game to win the coveted prize of what today will be either the O'Duffy Cup or the Cross of Cashel.

Unlike previous years, family loyalties will not be split between two different venues as history is being made today with the staging of the Gala All-Ireland Senior Camogie and Erin Under 21 Hurling finals at the same venue for the first time.

Since the turn of the millennium, on four separate occasions have both finals been played on the same day, splitting supporters from sometimes the same counties. In addition the All-Ireland Junior Camogie final would also take place on the same day. The common sense approach by the GAA and the Camogie Association must be applauded as today we witness what will hopefully be two very competitive and entertaining games at GAA Headquarters.

There has always been a strong bond between Camogie and Hurling over the years; the Careys of Kilkenny and the Hayeses of Galway are just two families who have had fine exponents of both games.

Today a new chapter to that branch of Gaelic games is added as Tipperary under 21 captain David Young will line out in the opening game this afternoon hoping to bring back a first All-Ireland Championship at the under 21 grade since 1995, before watching his sister Louise in action in the Camogie decider. No doubt both will do their club Toomevara and indeed their county proud this afternoon.



Louise and David Young will be hoping to bring double glory to Tipperary when they participate in the Gala All-Ireland Senior Camogie Championship Final and the Erin All-Ireland U21 Hurling Final.

The Youngs aren't the only connection between today's finals as also on the Tipperary under 21 team is Sean Horan who lines out at left-half-back while his sister Jill is a forward on the Camogie side.

One woman who has been instrumental in the integration process to date has been Tipperary native and current Camogie president Liz Howard. Liz has been a huge asset to all codes of Gaelic games in the past and her commitment and dedication is certainly next to none. Liz will be hoping for three All-Ireland titles in the space of a week for Tipperary and she was one of the first to congratulate the Tipperary minor team last Sunday when they brought home their first All-Ireland success in the competition since 1996.

Unfortunately there had to be a loser today, the Junior camogie sides of Dublin and Derry who played out an excellent All-Ireland final three weeks ago in O'Connor Park, Tullamore, with Dublin claiming back-to-back titles.

Although not getting a chance to line out in Croke Park this year, the importance of giving Camogie as high a profile as possible was not forgotten, and having the game as a curtain-raiser to the Kilkenny v Galway All-Ireland under 21 hurling semi-final was a positive step although it would be a travesty if the Junior All-Ireland camogie final continued to be played outside of Croke Park. Perhaps some other means of accommodating this game with other big fixtures at Croke Park would be a positive step forward?

The recognition wasn't forgotten for the Dublin ladies who a week after producing the first back-to-back All-Ireland success since Kildare achieved that feat in 1989/1990, were afforded a lap of honour around Croke Park in front of thousands of fans when Dublin took on Mayo in the Bank of Ireland football semi-final.

The futures of Camogie and Hurling are indeed bright and it is the positive work which is being done at grassroots level which will produce the stars of the future and build stronger counties and clubs.

Support any child who shows an interest in our native games. Who knows they may become the Daragh Egan, the James 'Cha' Fitzpatrick, the Briege Corkery or the Jovita Delaney of tomorrow.



Jill and Seán Horan will be in action for Tipperary in the hurling and camogie finals today.

Foireann Iubhaile 1981
Chill Chainnigh



Ar chúl (ó chlé): M. Ní Bhroanáin, Á. Ní Bhroanáin, T. Ní Néill, S. Ní Dhuinn, C. Daltún, B. Ní Shuilleabháin, G. de Sutún, Á. Ní Dhúnaigh, Á. Ní Fhaoiláin.
Chun tosaigh (ó chlé): P. Uí Mhaoldomhnaigh, D. Ní Mhaoileoin, M. Ní Fhearghaile, Á. Nic Ültáin, É. Ní Náraigh (Captaen), Á. Ní Dhúnaigh, B. Mhic Fhearaigh, E. Mhic Cormaic.

(1) **Teresa O'Neill**
Treasa Ní Néill
(St. Paul's)

(2) **Liz Neary** (Capt.)
Éilis Ní Náraigh (Captaen)
(St. Paul's)

(3) **Ann Downey**
Áine Ní Dhúnaigh
(St. Paul's)

(4) **Biddy O'Sullivan**
Brid Ní Shuilleabháin
(Tullogher)

(5) **Ann Holden**
Áine Nic Ültáin
(Shamrocks)

(6) **Bridie McGarry**
Brid Mhic Fhearaigh
(St. Paul's)

(7) **Peggy Muldowney**
Peig Uí Mhaoldomhnaigh
(Young Irelands)

(8) **Helena McCormack**
Eibhlín Mhic Cormaic
(St. Paul's)

(9) **Anna Whelan**
Áine Ní Fhaoláin
(Castlecomer)

(10) **Margaret Farrelly**
Mairéad Ní Fhearghaile
(UCD)

(11) **Jo Dunne**
Seosaimhín Ní Dhuinn
(Carrickshock)

(12) **Angela Downey**
Aingeal Ní Dhúnaigh
(St. Paul's)

Ionadaithe: (13) **Geraldine Sutton,** Gearóidín de Sutún *(Tullogher)*
(14) **Anne Marie Brennan,** Áine Máire Ní Bhraonáin *(Thomastown)*
(15) **Margaret Brennan,** Mairéad Ní Bhraonáin *(Carrickshock)*
(16) **Deirdre Malone,** Deirdre Ní Mhaoileoin *(St. Brigid's)*

Urraithe ag

Foras na Gaeilge

September – A Cork Perspective

by: SARAH O'DONOVAN

There are very few who wish the summer away anticipating September but fortunate are we, the Cork contingent, that we find ourselves in that position once again. With September comes the culmination of a long battle which sees the Cork camogie and ladies football teams still standing and contesting their respective All-Ireland Championships. Last year's affectionately named "Rebel Treble" saw the Liam McCarthy, Brendan Martin and O'Duffy Cups all historically residing on Leeside together for the first time.

The achievement of the Cork Senior hurlers in winning back to back All-Ireland titles coupled with the winning of a first Senior Camogie title since 2002 last September put Cork fans in doubly buoyant mood, but there was more to follow.....

The first of October saw the Cork Ladies Footballers contesting their first ever All-Ireland final against Galway, with seven of the camogie players who had attained senior honours three weeks previously lining out for the debutants. Replicating both Sean Óg Ó Hailpín and Elaine Burke before her, Juliette Murphy stood on the Hogan Stand to collect the coveted Brendan Martin trophy. Rebels Abú Arís.

So with such success, there was a palpable sense of anticipation for the coming season in all sectors of Cork GAA. However, for the players, such unprecedented success brought with it added pressure. Would it be possible to emulate the achievements of 2005?

The new structure adopted by the Camogie Association for the 2006 season was going to affect the All Ireland champions more than others because of the increased number of championship games. With 7 dual players competing and training on alternate nights in two different codes, the onset of exhaustion or burn-out was a major concern in the Cork camp. Remarkably, even with a hectic Ashbourne and O'Connor Cup schedule and 13 camogie matches alongside 12 ladies football matches played to date in the 2006 calendar, the Cork stalwarts are still standing having achieved National League and Munster honours in both codes already this season, the focus is now firmly on retaining the ultimate prize.

Roy Keane told the Cork Hurlers in that now famous meeting held in Páirc Uí Rinn that Cork players should not be looking to win the three in a row but aiming for four or five in a row, to consistently strive to be the best and



claim the prize. That buzz seeps into the consciousness. It is attitude and belief which this Cork camogie team will need to attain back-to-back All-Ireland titles.

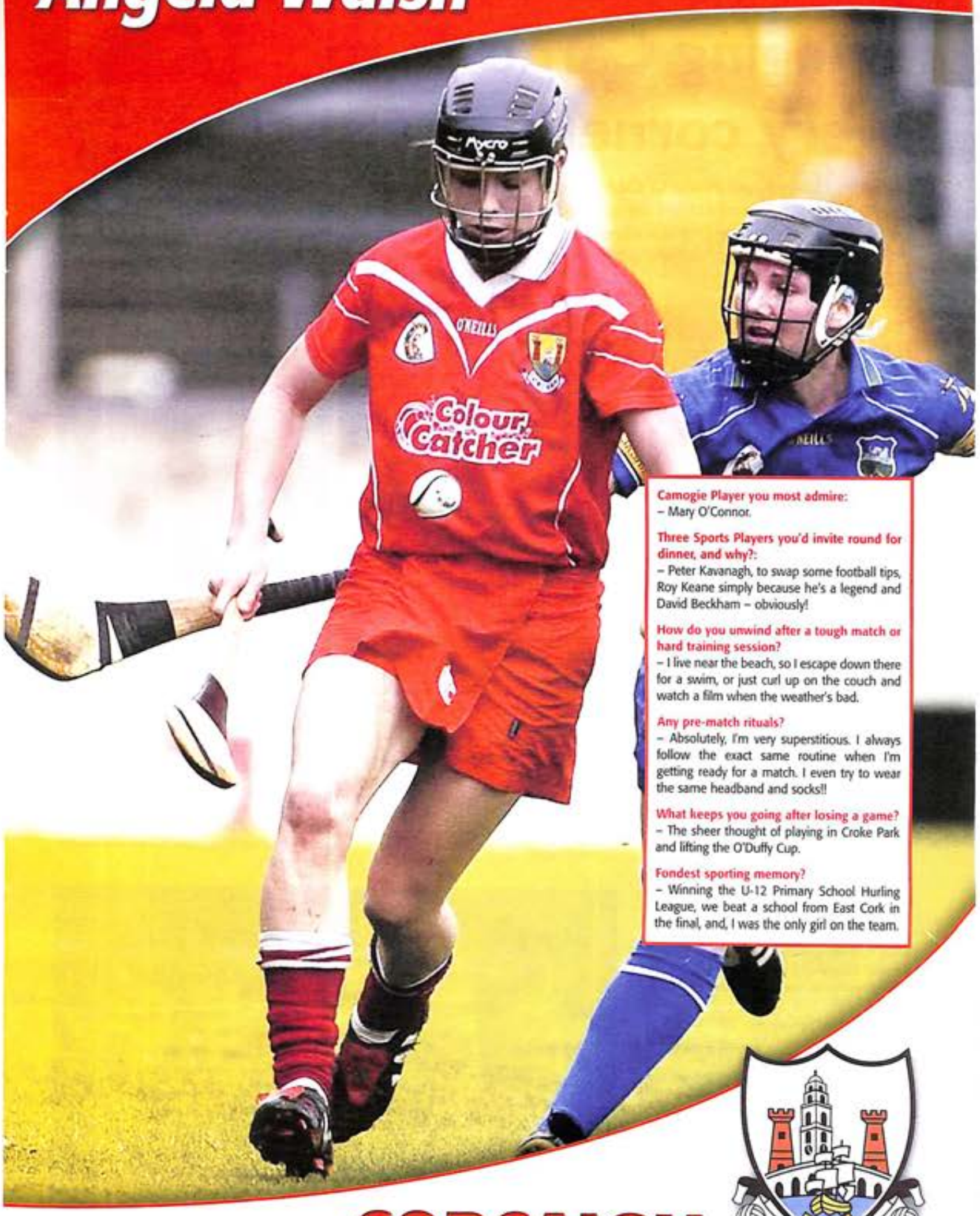
Regardless of this drive and supreme desire to succeed today, Cork are definitely the underdogs in this final test. Having beaten Cork comprehensively in the Gala All Ireland championship in August, and undoubtedly passing a much sterner test in Kilkenny in the semi-final, Tipperary appear odds on to avenge last year's defeat.

Their successful run coupled with Tipperary's U21 hurlers contesting the curtain raiser here today, the Erin U21 All-Ireland Championship, sees momentum firmly favouring the Premier county. Having won the right to contest such a prestigious competition over Galway, Wexford, Limerick and Kilkenny, Cork pride will be ready for the battle.

SEPT

2007

Angela Walsh



Camogie Player you most admire:
– Mary O'Connor.

Three Sports Players you'd invite round for dinner, and why?:
– Peter Kavanagh, to swap some football tips, Roy Keane simply because he's a legend and David Beckham – obviously!

How do you unwind after a tough match or hard training session?
– I live near the beach, so I escape down there for a swim, or just curl up on the couch and watch a film when the weather's bad.

Any pre-match rituals?
– Absolutely, I'm very superstitious. I always follow the exact same routine when I'm getting ready for a match. I even try to wear the same headband and socks!!

What keeps you going after losing a game?
– The sheer thought of playing in Croke Park and lifting the O'Duffy Cup.

Fondest sporting memory?
– Winning the U-12 Primary School Hurling League, we beat a school from East Cork in the final, and, I was the only girl on the team.

CORCAIGH



Bainisteoir: John Cronin

Club: Cloughduv

Occupation: Farmer

Camogie Achievements:

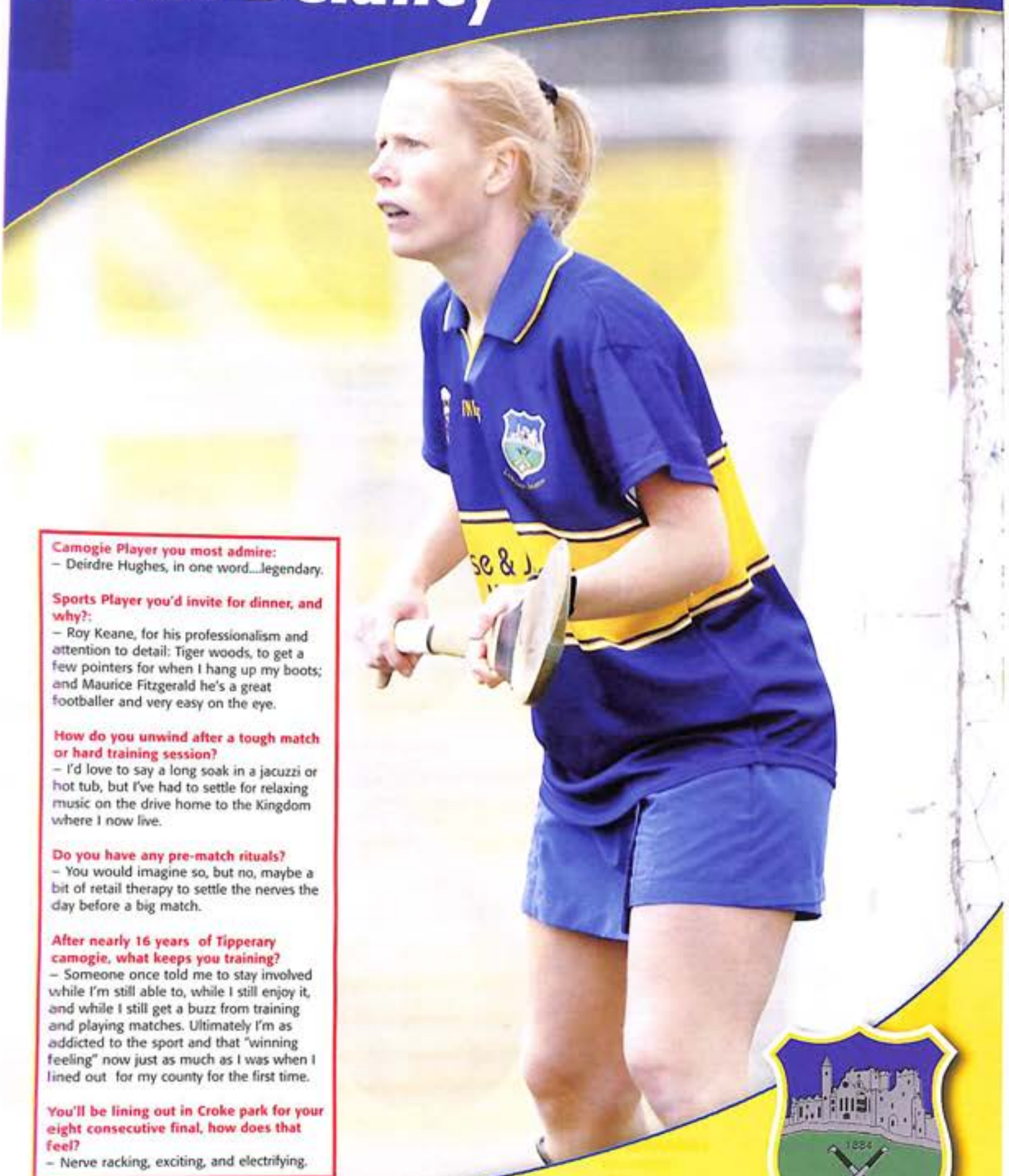
Managed the Cork minor team to All Ireland championship success in 1998, 1999, 2001, 2002 and 2003. Managed the Cloughduv camogie team to senior championship success in 2001 and 2002.

This is John's second year with the Cork senior camogie team having brought them to senior All-Ireland success in 2005.

ROGHNÓIRÍ:

Fiona O'Driscoll (Fiona Ní Dhrisceoil)
Ollie Hallahan (Oilibhéar Ó Hailleacháin)
Lillian Zinkant (Lillian Zinkant)

Jovita Delaney



Camogie Player you most admire:
– Deirdre Hughes, in one word....legendary.

Sports Player you'd invite for dinner, and why?:
– Roy Keane, for his professionalism and attention to detail: Tiger woods, to get a few pointers for when I hang up my boots; and Maurice Fitzgerald he's a great footballer and very easy on the eye.

How do you unwind after a tough match or hard training session?
– I'd love to say a long soak in a jacuzzi or hot tub, but I've had to settle for relaxing music on the drive home to the Kingdom where I now live.

Do you have any pre-match rituals?
– You would imagine so, but no, maybe a bit of retail therapy to settle the nerves the day before a big match.

After nearly 16 years of Tipperary camogie, what keeps you training?
– Someone once told me to stay involved while I'm still able to, while I still enjoy it, and while I still get a buzz from training and playing matches. Ultimately I'm as addicted to the sport and that "winning feeling" now just as much as I was when I lined out for my county for the first time.

You'll be lining out in Croke park for your eight consecutive final, how does that feel?
– Nerve racking, exciting, and electrifying.

SEPT

2006

TIOBRAID ÁRANN



Bainisteoir: Paddy McCormack

Club: Thurles Sarsfields

Occupation: GAA Development Officer with Tipperary Institute

Management experience:
This is Paddy's second year managing the Tipperary senior camogie team. In June 2005 he led the team to a Munster title. Before taking over from Raymie Ryan he managed Tipperary's minor hurling team for a number of years leading them to three consecutive Munster minor titles. Paddy is also involved with his club, Thurles Sarsfields.

ROGHNÓIRÍ:

Martin Bourke (M. de Búrca)
Dinny Ryan (D. Ó Riain)
Maureen Connolly (M. Ni Chonghaile)

Rebels produce a display fit for inclusion in coaching manual



Therese O'Callaghan

Expert view

THE National Coaching Development Committee is currently producing a new coaching course syllabus for camogie. They would do well to just package yesterday's Cork's performance from start to finish and let people see all they need to know about the game.

Although low scoring, the action was tough and uncompromising. Great skills were on view, and for Cork, they achieved the levels of excellence all teams aspire to on such a big day.

They were superb, in particular, from numbers one to nine. Flawless actually. Never have I seen such a compressed performance from a defence and midfield.

Tipperary's return of four points is evidence — and they are by no means a bad team. By the end of the hour Paddy McCormack had substituted three of his six attackers. The blue and gold were not let into the game because Cork impacted straightaway at half-back where Anna Geary, Mary O'Connor and Rena Buckley were impassable. It wasn't long either before the powerhouse that is Gemma O'Connor and Briege Corkery took control at midfield. Even though Joanne Ryan worked extremely hard, she had too many Tipperary players around her who were not functioning. Maybe the Croke Park occasion got to some of the Premier girls because in their thrilling semi-final win over Kilkenny, newcomers Cora Hennessey and Louise Young were hugely influential. This time, the game just seemed to pass them by.

Cork keeper Aoife Murray, an auctioneering student in Dublin, turned in one of her classiest performances. Midway through the second half she denied Tipp a certain goal. She made it clear at this stage leading 0-9 to 0-3 the red and white were going to retain the title. It was only a question of by how much. Here, we have to credit Tipperary for soaking enormous pressure. Captain Philly Fogarty held a firm grip at centre back but there is a lot of mileage on many of the clocks. Remember, this is their eighth final in as many years, and seven of the team that played in that first decider started again yesterday.

Jovita Delaney's attention to detail was undeniable, her stops were first class and her puck-outs on target, but on the day too many of the Tipperary players didn't perform. They brought camogie to a new level in 1999 with forwards like Deirdre Hughes, Eimear McDonnell and Claire Grogan. But, McDonnell needed a Hughes around her yesterday, as Grogan was deployed further outfield to a new role in the number eight shirt.

While Cork struggled somewhat up front too, they have tailor-made forwards in Jennifer O'Leary and Emer Dillon — between them they bagged half of the Rebel tally. Rachel Moloney and Una O'Donoghue remained focused all through and despite neither of them troubling the umpires until the second half, O'Donoghue's white flag on 52 minutes was testimony to Cork's tenacity.

The sliotar was quickly worked downfield after Grogan dropped a 45m free short, and the Cloughduv girl showed a superb first touch before rifling over. Mention of the Mid-Cork club and how proud they must be today of manager John Cronin and captain Joanne O'Callaghan. Cronin who led the Cork minor team to unprecedented success in 1998, 1999, 2001, 2002 and 2003 has now brought the senior team to their second win while in office. O'Callaghan is one of Cork's finest corner backs and together with Catriona Foley and Amanda O'Regan, the trio played with distinction.

While Tipperary will have wonderful memories from finals over the years, and despite hogging the maximum support from the 20,685 crowd, they couldn't prevent Cork from emulating the achievements of 2005.

Although Grogan (1-28), Emily Hayden (2-9) and McDonnell (1-11) were ranked amongst the top six championship scorers for 2006, they were limited to a point apiece yesterday. All three are among the finest exponents of the game, but they were given no space in which to breathe as Cork hunted in packs and every forward became a defender. The Rebel will-to-win was enormous. No doubt about it, the margin of victory was an accurate reflection of their supremacy.

Powerful Cork put up the shutters

Cork 0-12

Tipperary 0-4



Jim O'Sullivan

Croke Park

CONSISTENT with what the scoreline suggests, powerful defensive play was key to Cork retaining their title in style in yesterday's Gala All-Ireland senior camogie championship final in Croke Park.

But, as important as this was, it was just one of the elements which combined to deny Tipperary. The one-sided nature of the contest was primarily down to Cork's superiority as a team — reflecting the confidence gained in victory 12 months ago and the determination to prove that it was no fluke.

In winning for the 22nd time, they did just that. They led all the way from the fifth minute and held Tipp scoreless in the second half until two minutes into injury time.

Starting without five of the team which looked destined to win last



Cork celebrate victory in the All-Ireland camogie final. Below: Cork's Mary O'Connor bursts past Emily Hayden, Louise Young and Geraldine Kinane. Pictures: Dan Linehan

SAID&DONE

CORK V TIPPERARY

TURNING POINT:
There was none! Apart from the fact that Tipperary created a few goal chances late in the game, Cork were always in control.

TALKING POINT:
The pairing with the All-Ireland Under-21 hurling final (attendance 20,695) on a two-year trial basis (which camogie President Liz Howard wants to be permanent). As double-header last year, with the junior final., the crowd was 14,350. After the excitement of the hurling game yesterday and the departure of most Kilkenny fans, the game lacked atmosphere at times.

TACTICS WATCH:
Cork won valuable possession throughout the game through skilful blocking and hooking. And despite Tipp.s best efforts, they were not able to break down the champions, powerful half-back line.

THEY SAID:
"It's a fantastic feeling, number five (medal) for me and it doesn't get any better than this", — Cork centre-back *Mary O'Connor.*

REF WATCH:
Fiontan MacConmara, from Clare, handled his first final well, helped by the positive attitude of both sets of players. Unlike the referee in the hurling game, he was always well up with the play.

WHAT'S NEXT:
For Cork — just like the senior hurlers — the challenge of three-in-a-row.

Jim O'Sullivan

Sept 2006

year's final until Cork produced five late points, Tipperary's inexperience in attack was to undermine their challenge. Admittedly Cork found it difficult to get scores in the early stages, but there was to be a gradual improvement after dual star Briege Corkery hit a fine point on the run and Jennifer O'Leary quickly followed with an excellent strike from 50 yards.

By then, the Cork half-back line, strongly anchored by Mary O'Connor in the centre and given great stability on the wings by Anna Geary and Rena Buckley (like O'Connor, another member of the Ladies Football team), Corkery was getting through a lot of work at midfield (before her partner, Gemma O'Connor found her best form). On the other hand, former captain Joanne Ryan was quite influential there for Tipperary, finishing up one of their best players on the day, along with team captain Philly Fogarty at centre-back.

As the game developed, it was clear to see that Cork had more to offer in attack whereas it was proving a bit of a struggle for Tipperary to make openings or to seriously trouble goalkeeper Aoife Murray, whose handling of the ball under pressure was superb.

Eimear McDonnell never managed to make space for herself and this was not only a tribute to the consistency of Cork captain Joanne O'Callaghan, but an indication of how the backs as a group covered for each other.

In this context, full-back Catriona Foley was to make a very important contribution in her first final, especially since she was only passed fit to play earlier in the week. The only Tipp forward to win ball regularly and make progress was Emily Hayden in the centre.

McDonnell, (a niece of Billy Morgan) got one of the best scores of the game in the 27th minute to leave them three points in arrears at the break (0-6 to 0-3).

But that was as good as it got for her and for the attack as a group.

On the resumption, the Tipp management brought in Lorraine Bourke at midfield and rearranged their half-forward line in a bid to break Cork's dominance in this area (as well as moving McDonnell to full-forward). However, it didn't achieve anything of note, other than goal chances on several occasions, denied by outstanding play from Murray in goal and individual Cork backs including Amanda O'Regan in the left corner. An added feature of their admirable defensive play was the amount of hooking and blocking they did to further frustrate the opposition.

Impressive wing-forward Jennifer O'Leary, who finished top scorer, might have got a goal for Cork in the 45th minute except that she failed to get in a proper shot. Shortly afterwards Tipp saw a low shot from substitute Trish O'Halloran stopped by Joanne O'Callaghan and, in the same move, an Emily Hayden strike blocked by Catriona Foley. Later, at a stage when they were more intent on trying for goals instead of putting the ball over the bar, Hayden was again out of luck when Aoife Murray made the best save of the game.

By now, Cork were well in control, with Gemma O'Connor dominant at midfield and winning 2002 captain Una O'Donoghue making good progress (along with substitute Orla Cotter on the wing) when she moved out from her full-forward position. Further in, she found it hard to make openings against Una O'Dwyer, whose solid play helped the confident Jovita Delaney to keep a clean sheet too.

Jennifer O'Leary got the only score from a free in the 59th minute and after another good attempt at a goal from Joanne Ryan (stopped by O'Regan), Tipperary's efforts were finally rewarded with a point from Emily Hayden in injury time.

*Fintan McNamara did a good job of refereeing.

Scorers for Cork — J. O'Leary 0-4 (0-1 free); E. Dillon, G. O'Connor and U. O'Donoghue 0-1 each; B. Corkery and R. Moloney 0-1 each.
Scorers for Tipperary: E. Hayden 0-2; J. Ryan and E. McDonnell 0-1 each.
CORK: A. Murray; J. O'Callaghan (capt.), C. Foley, A. O'Regan; R. Buckley, M. O'Connor, A. Geary; G. O'Connor, B. Corkery; R. Moloney, A. Walsh, J. O'Leary; E. Dillon, U. O'Donoghue, E. Burke.
Subs: S. O'Donovan for Burke (36th minute); O. Cotter for Walsh (48th).
TIPPERARY: J. Delaney; S. Kelly, U. O'Dwyer, J. Kirwan; M. Shortt, P. Fogarty (capt.), S. Nealon; C. Grogan, J. Ryan; J. Horan, E. Hayden, C. Hennessy; M. Kinane, L. Young, E. McDonnell.
Subs: L. Bourke for Young (second half); T. O'Halloran for Hennessy (45th); M. Ryan for Horan (48th).
Referee: F. McNamara (Clare).
*Attendance: 20,685.

No luck for Nurney's mother and daughter combo

by Daragh Ó Conchúir

A MOTHER and daughter combination lined out in a junior B camogie final in Kildare on Saturday.

However, it wasn't the happiest of days for them, despite mother shooting all her side's scores.

Anna May Merrins — wife of GAA county chairman, Syl — lined at full-forward for Nurney as they made their first appearance in an adult final for 34 years and fired a rocket of a goal and a point, as they lost to Rathcoffey 2-5 to 1-1.

Anna May was able to keep a close eye on daughter Lorna, who showed plenty of good touches in the half-forward line.

Indeed, Lorna was involved in the move that led to her mother's goal, but this combination wasn't enough to prevent Rathcoffey claiming the Ardclough/O'Connor Cup.

Tanya Johnston was the winners' star with 1-3, with Nicola Egan also firing to the net.



We'll go down as a team, says Jovita

by Jim O'Sullivan

PLENTY of disappointed faces, but few tears in public from the Tipperary girls as they trooped off the field in Croke Park yesterday, bravely accepting defeat for the second year in a row.

Then again, there was a sense of inevitability about this Gala All-Ireland camogie final, compared to last year when victory was snatched from Tipperary at the finish.

Manager Paddy McCormack was magnanimous in defeat, readily accepting that 'the best team' had won, while making the point that their scoring rate was too low.

"We scored one point in the second half, that's not good enough to win an All-Ireland," he commented.

"Our girls tried very hard. But, Cork were the best team ... they are deserving champions."

McCormack said Tipp were aware of Cork's half-back line strength.

"We tried everything and made a few switches ... but they were dominant all through. [The Cork half-back-line] was the launching pad for all their scores.

"I thought our own back line was tremendous at times," he added.

"It seems a long way away to next May, but they will be back. We'll always have camogie players in Tipperary. Today is Cork's day and we shouldn't take away from it."



Tipp's Philly Fogarty holds back the tears. Picture: Dan Linehan

Tipperary reaction

Experienced goalkeeper Jovita Delaney wasn't prepared to point the finger in any direction when asked about the team's lack of scoring power.

"I don't like laying the blame on anyone. We'll go down as a team. People don't always have good days," she said.

"At the end of the day Cork's backs were too strong.

"There was nothing in it at half time. We felt we had played relatively poorly by our standards, that there was a lot more in us. We felt if we went out and gave it everything we were in with a shout, but it just wasn't our day. It didn't happen today.

"But, you have to give credit for Cork for the way their backs covered. They are worthy champions."

One of five current players with five All-Ireland medals, Ms Delaney said it had been all the more disappointing to fail when Tipperary had done so much to avenge their defeat in last year's final.

"You couldn't say the appetite wasn't there. It was," she added.

"At the start of the year, we lost five players which was a crucial blow. But, you have to give credit to the young players who came in and filled their places throughout the championship.

"They were more than eager to rise to the occasion. Maybe it got to some of them!"

'We played with our hearts on our sleeves'

by Jim O'Sullivan

CONFIDENCE from winning last year and the motivation to demonstrate that it was no flash in the pan — that was how Cork won the All-Ireland senior camogie championship for the 22nd time in Croke Park yesterday, jubilant manager John Cronin pointed out afterwards.

Selector Fiona O'Driscoll agreed that the super efficiency of their backs had been hugely significant in beating Tipperary with comparative ease.

"The defence was the most settled part our team. There were a lot of meetings going on there behind the scenes. The girls get together quite often; they work very well as a group," she said.

Killeagh's Mary O'Connor, one of four starters yesterday who will also be playing in the Ladies Football All-Ireland final on October 1, confirmed this. "The six of us met a couple of times last week. We were determined we were going to work as a unit — that it wouldn't matter who cleared the ball as long as it was cleared," she said.

"It was an absolutely amazing experience to win. We know that in the camogie world we are under-estimated and we were out there to prove a point — to win back-to-back titles. The work ethic out there was fantastic, right to the very end.

"Tipperary had to replace some of their players but we lost two of our starting team from last year. We were in transition in 2000/01/02. There's

Cork reaction

no point in dwelling on the past, it's all about the present. There were one or two times when they might have got a goal, but we played with our hearts on our sleeves today."

John Cronin agreed that his players had been "very sure" of themselves. "All through the match they played very well, I thought. And once the second half was under way I felt they were never going to lose.

"The confidence from winning last year was a big boost. We never had to chase the game but at the same time, it was only six points to three at half-time. A goal after that could have changed it about. But our backs held out — and they were trying to go for goals when they might have been better taking their points."

Cloughduv star Joanne O'Callaghan was overjoyed, making a point of thanking her club for bestowing the honour of captaincy on her. "The girls were unbelievable. They just gave it everything they had. They were never going to leave Tipperary get on top," she said. "We fought all the way to the end."

Goalkeeper Aoife Murray achieved her personal goal of not being beaten. "I was working my way down to a clean sheet," she said proudly. "The first year I let in two. And one last year. I thought we showed a fantastic appetite."

Full-back Catriona Foley had a special reason to celebrate her first medal, having torn a cruciate ligament two years ago and injured her shoulder recently. "I only resumed training last July," she said. "It was was great to get back. They're an incredible bunch of girls."

Rena Buckley, also a dual player, said: "We know that we are as good if not better than Tipperary. We took the match to them from the very beginning and in the second half we really showed that we were the better team."

Sept 2006

Rebels raise the bar after trouncing tepid Tipp



CLIONA FOLEY

Cork	0-12
Tipperary	0-4

ANOTHER shot at a successive 'Rebel Treble' may be gone but Cork's double dream is still very much alive for seven of their women after their stunning and comprehensive Gala camogie title defence in Croke Park yesterday.

Dynasties come and go in every sport and the reigning champions' assured display, which astonishingly contained Tipperary to just a single point in the second half — and then only in injury-time — indicated that the Rebelettes, winning their 22nd title, are set to be camogie's new standard-bearers.

Their half-backs in particular, lived up to the sort of vaunted reputation usually saved for their male counterparts.

But every single one of their defenders, from goalkeeper Aoife Murray to wing-back Anna Neary, provided the platform which forced Tipperary to make the sort of sporting history they'll want to forget.

Only in 1944, when Antrim were kept completely scoreless by Dublin, has a losing side scored less in a senior camogie final.

You have to go back a full 26 years to find the last team to score only four times (Limerick's 2-2 in 1980) in camogie's blue riband.

Tipperary famously set the standard in the last decade, contesting the last eight finals and winning five of them but yesterday proved that the loss of five of their marquee players to retirement was too much to bear in the heat of All-Ireland battle.

Pairing the match with the men's U21 final improved the attendance to 20,685 from last year's 14,350 but affected it as a spectacle. Compared to the curtain-raiser it lacked sparkle and scores and was actually the first goalless final in the game's 75-year history.

Brilliant

But that is testament to some brilliant defence on both sides and only one of the game's 16 scores — Jennifer O'Leary's fourth and final point for Cork — actually came from a free.

The big question beforehand was whether Tipperary's transitional side could summon the hunger to do to Cork's champions what Kilkenny had done to their men a week earlier?

The Rebel women answered it emphatically by showing not a whiff of complacency. They looked fitter, faster, sharper and hungrier throughout and were still hunting in defensive packs right to the final whistle.

The game finally opened up a little in the fourth quarter as Tipp were forced to chase goals but on every occasion heroic 'keeper Aoife Murray and her defenders shone.

Her counterpart Jovita Delaney had to pull off a super save when Jenny O'Leary bore down on goal just nine minutes after throw-in and the game still looked finely balanced at half-time when Cork led by 0-6 to 0-3.

With three points by the break, O'Leary was the game's only forward allowed take early flight but Cork should have been more ahead at the break. They had wasted the more obvious chances (three wides) but Tipperary were guilty of dropping a lot of shots short.

Tipp could not have asked more of their own full-back line, nor centre-back captain Philly Fogarty or tireless midfielder Joanne Ryan who had a mammoth and fascinating tussle with Briege Corkery.

Proved vital

But on resumption, with Briege Corkery and Gemma O'Connor — whose switch in last year's final had proved vital — bossing midfield, Cork coolly pulled six points clear with better outside shooting before the game's only real fireworks.

First Delaney made another good save from O'Leary and then, with 10 minutes left, came a series of heroics in the Cork goalmouth, with shots from Trish O'Halloran and another from Emily Hayden scrambled away in a frenetic finale.

Even in the dying minutes Cork's defenders forced out two '45s from which goal-chasing Tipp could not score and, meanwhile, all Cork's forwards had to do was wait for the clearances and take their scores sensibly, which Una O'Donoghue did twice.

It was only in the 63rd minute that Emily Hayden finally got Tipp's fourth score and for that every one of Cork's defence — but especially Caitriona Foley, Rena Buckley and Anna Geary — must take huge credit while their midfield of dual star Corkery and Gemma O'Connor provided the engine throughout.

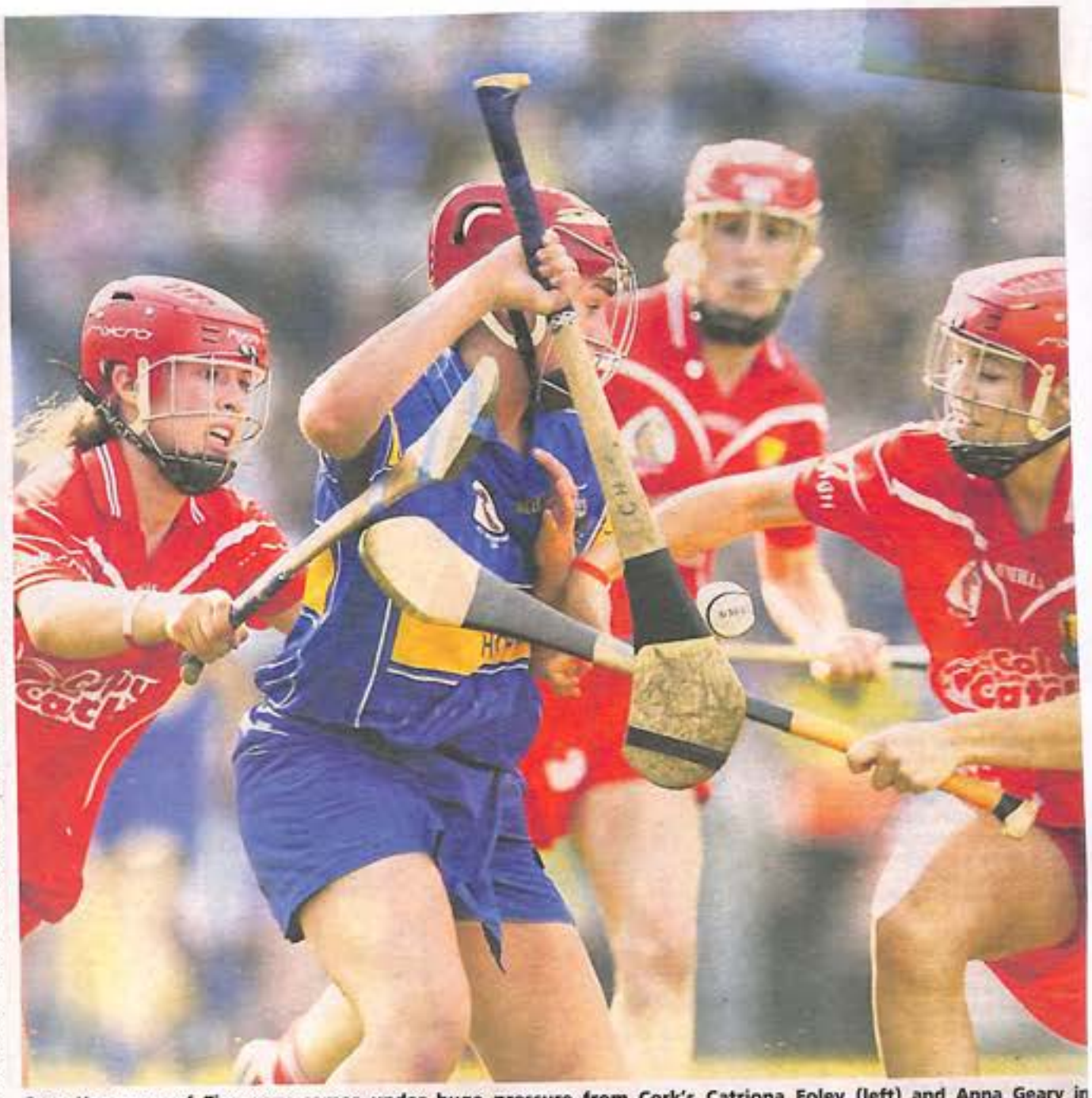
Player of the Match — Rena Buckley (Cork)

SCORERS — Cork: J O'Leary 0-4 (1f), G O'Connor, E Dillon, U O'Donoghue 0-2 each, B Corkery and R Maloney 0-1 each. **Tipperary:** E Hayden 0-2, J Ryan, E McDonnell 0-1 each.

CORK — A Murray; J O'Callaghan (Capt), C Foley, A O'Regan, R Buckley, M O'Connor, A Geary, G O'Connor, B Corkery, R Maloney, A Walsh, J O'Leary, E Dillon, U O'Donoghue, E Burke. **Subs:** S O'Donovan for Burke (36 mins), O Cotter for Walsh (49)

TIPPERARY — J Delaney; S Kelly, U O'Dwyer, J Kirwan, M Shortt, P Fogarty (Capt), S Nealon; C Grogan, J Ryan; J Horan, E Hayden, C Hennessy, E McDonnell, L Young, G Kinnane. **Subs:** L Bourke for Young (half-time), T O'Halloran for Hennessy (45), M Ryan for Horan (48).

REF — F MacNamara (Clare).



Cora Hennessy of Tipperary comes under huge pressure from Cork's Catriona Foley (left) and Anna Geary in yesterday's Gala All-Ireland Senior Camogie Championship final at Croke Park. MATT BROWNE/SPORTSFILE

Forget foreign weekend retreats, Red Barn works a treat for Cork

Cliona Foley

FORGET training camps in La Manga or posh spas in Inchadoney, get yourselves down to the 'Red Barn' in Youghal.

That is the hotel where Cork trainer Fiona O'Driscoll brought her team twice this year for seaside 'bonding sessions' that certainly did the trick.

"We did some training and walked in the sea and just generally chilled out together, it was great," revealed delighted top-scorer Jennifer O'Leary who, like teammate Amanda O'Regan, officially graduates as a PE teacher from the University of Limerick tomorrow.

Even Cork manager John Cronin credits O'Driscoll, another PE teacher who scored a famous hat-trick in the 2002 final, as the key motivator in his backroom, though he said the half-time scoreline yesterday also helped.

"We were three up but we pointed out how Tipperary were five up at that point last year and we'd come back at them," Cronin said.

"But the girls were just marvellous for the whole 60 minutes," he added.

"They tied them down at midfield and everyone worked really hard, which is a credit too to the level of fitness that Fiona has given them."

Six of Cork's victors — Caitriona Foley, Rena Buckley, Mary O'Connor, Briege Corkery, Angela Walsh and Elaine O'Riordan — have also reached the women's football final and are chasing a double they completed last year.

And jubilant goalkeeper Aoife Murray revealed that the encouragement of their other injured dual player Regina Curtin, knocked out of both finals after breaking her elbow in their last (group) game against Tipp, helped provided additional inspiration.

Tipperary had no complaints, admitting they were out-run and out-played throughout the game.

"We tried everything we could in terms of switches and the girls' attitude and effort to the end could not be faulted," said beaten manager Paddy McCormack.

"But their half-back line was like the Tipperary ones of old, they were the launch pad for all of their scores and Cork proved they're the best team in the country," added McCormack.

CATCHING FIRE: Cork keep their eyes on the prize



Tipperary's Una O'Dwyer and Cork goalkeeper Aoife Murray battle it out during the All-Ireland senior camogie final at Croke Park yesterday. – (Photograph: Alan Betson)

Cork on cusp of greatness, but Tipperary in decline

GAVIN CUMMISKEY
AT CROKE PARK

Not exactly a dream advertisement for camogie but Cork, winners over Tipperary yesterday by 0-12 to 0-4, are now on the cusp of being branded a great team. That's back-to-back All-Irelands, both at the expense of Tipperary. Two markedly different Tipperary teams, mind.

Five players from the five-time All-Ireland-winning team of 1999 to 2004 never returned for pre-season training last winter.

"In Tipperary, Cork or Kilkenny there are no transition years, we are expected to have the talent," said Tipperary manager Paddy McCormack in an admirable refusal to seek excuses.

The Tipperary forwards were hugely disappointing. A total of four points, one in the fourth minute of injury-time and another from midfielder Joanne Ryan, does indicate a team deep in transition, regardless of McCormack's assertion.

In the end, Cork retained the O'Duffy Cup with 12 points and some remarkable defending. So, a double double – in camogie and football – can now be realised as Cork are also in the All-Ireland football final on October 1st.

It's a poor reflection of camogie's strength in depth that Tipperary made it back to the final.

In the first game on the menu at Croke Park yesterday, Tipperary and Kilkenny served up a classic in the All-Ireland Under-21 hurling final for the 20,685 crowd.

Tipperary looked winners until Kilkenny's minor sensation, and DJ Carey's cousin, Richie Hogan stole a goal with the last flick of the contest, to leave the scores locked at 2-14 each.

The replay is next Saturday – with Thurles the probable venue, though, due to redevelopment, the dressingrooms at Semple Stadium may not be available.

● Gaelic Games: pages 6 and 7

SEPT 2006



Fiontán Mac Conmara, An Clár

Fiontán was the man-in-the-middle at the All-Ireland U16 Championship final last year, and today Fintan MacNamara will be making his Senior final debut in Croke Park.

The young hurler from east Clare has been refereeing for seven years now. He still remembers vividly his first inter-county game between Cork and Galway, a game which gave him a taste for the job.

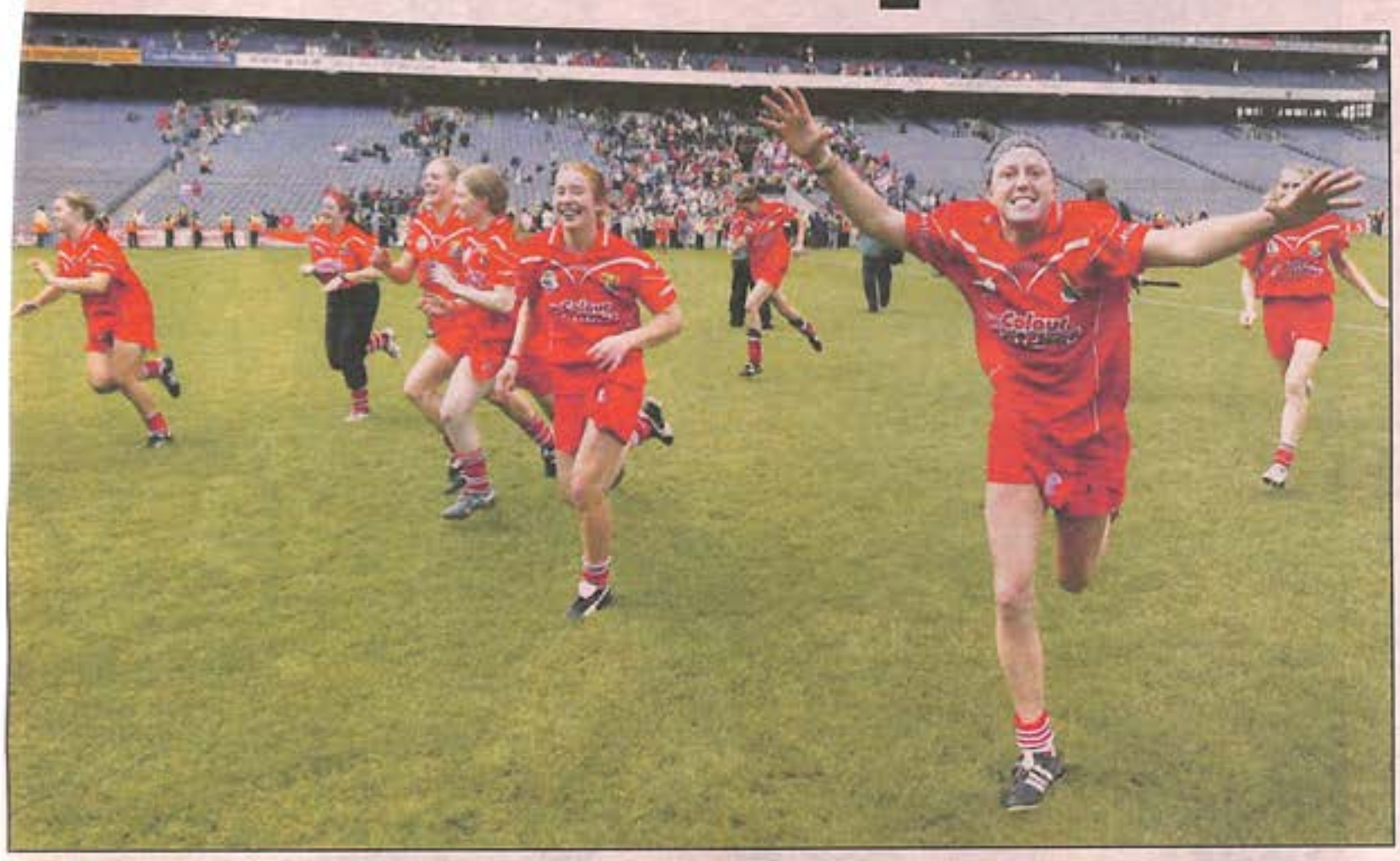
Since then, he has focused his refereeing career on Camogie and has countless inter-county matches under his belt. It is perhaps this dedication, coupled with his enthusiasm for the sport, which has afforded him such a distinguished refereeing career at only 26.

Fintan's umpires are all, like himself, active in the Killanena club in Clare, a club with a rich history in camogie.

SEPT 2006

prove a point

Cork's huge hunger was decisive factor in final win



Rena Buckley, Gemma O'Connor and others celebrate as the team make their way over to supporters. Picture: INPHO/Donall Farmer

when it matters most they were unable to deliver. They were prevented from delivering as Cork never allowed them to settle and find their stride.

On occasions Tipp were able to hurt Cork more in the corners while wing-forward Cora Hennessy lured Rena Buckley out of position which caused the back-line to become disjointed, but the five time All-Ireland champions failed to exploit their advantage.

The Tipp forward line seemed rigid, with no fluency or ambition in their play. Their plight was highlighted as three of their starting six forwards were substituted and while they threatened briefly in the latter stages of the game, it was snuffed out with Cork keeper Aoife Murray producing a faultless display.

One of the main reasons Tipp were unable to split the posts more than four times was Anna Geary's display.

Geary minimised and crushed the threat of Tipperary. The Milford star hassled, harried and cleared confidently. On top of Geary's performance, Mary O'Connor and Rena Buckley delivered contributions to ensure Emily Hayden and Jill Horan rarely featured.

The partnership of Gemma O'Connor and Breige Corkery in midfield continues to blossom into the female equivalent of the Cork hurlers' pairing of Tom Kenny and Jerry O'Connor.

O'Connor and Corkery only lost their intensity briefly for a short period in the first half but for the remainder of the game they never allowed their opposite numbers Claire Grogan and Joanne Ryan to gain a foothold.

The result was that Cork controlled play comfortably in the half-back line and midfield which allowed the forwards time to find space and use the inevitable supply wisely.

The Cork forwards never struggled and of all their 12 points, only one was scored from a free, from Jennifer O'Leary with a minute remaining.

Tipperary were cautious not to give away soft frees in scoring positions which was part of their undoing last year but it mattered little as Cork impressively created space and slotted over from distance through Gemma O'Connor and Una O'Donoghue.

For the majority of the second half, and at times in the first half, Cork's full-forward line was reduced to two as Una O'Donoghue ventured from her listed full-forward position into the half-forward line to create a four-player line. The move enabled Cork to collect and punish the Tipp puck-out.

Cork simply outclassed Tipp in all areas of the pitch. The Premier County have been setting the pace since they burst on the scene in 1999 with four All-Irelands in five years.

However, the old order has been restored as the Rebels, in claiming their 22nd crown, are once again setting the high standard and it is up to rest of the county to reach their level.

Although a week may have passed since a three-in-a-row dream died for the hurlers, the deafening whispers of another bid begin to echo louder.

The last time a Cork camogie side completed a three-in-a-row was in the early '70s and that team of legends snagged four All-Irelands on the trot.

But let's ban that talk for now. That is for another day. For now let us all savour this latest back-to-back victory.

Cloughuv will be the place to be tonight. That is where the party of the year is set to kick off as captain Joanne O'Callaghan, along with her club team-mates Una O'Donoghue, Briege Corkery, Aoife Murray and Sinead Corkery, will be rightfully feted by their neighbours.

So be it Kent Station or a late night in Cloughduv, come out and pay homage to our champions tonight.



Briege Corkery leads the Cork team on their lap of honour with the cup. Picture: INPHO/Donall Farmer

WHAT THEY SAID

By PJ AHERNE

MARY O'CONNOR was a picture of joy after the Gala All-Ireland camogie final in Croke Park yesterday as she reflected on a fantastic achievement.

"In the camogie world this team is underestimated. We knew that coming out here it hit us last night we haven't done a back-to-back since 1997/1998.

"We came out this year to prove that last year wasn't a fluke that Tipperary didn't let their guard down. We came at them and hit them from the word go."

She continued by praising the work ethos and commitment of her team-mates and management.

"We've been playing since January and we have worked really hard on our game.

"We kept ourselves to ourselves. When we were going out today we said we were going to give everything on the pitch that we were going to play until the end and we weren't going to stop until the end.

"It is a fantastic achievement. Our workrate all over the field was tremendous and I think if you look back over the video you will see there was always a Cork player there ready to hook, block, tackle and ready to contest and won 50/50 balls. They were fantastic out there and it was great to be a part of it."

O'Connor said that despite Cork developing a comfortable advantage they had to maintain their concentration to the final whistle.

"Tipperary are around a long time and even though we were up so much we had to concentrate with ten minutes to go and they had a few goal chances towards the end but I think our backs played very well and they shut down their shots at goal."

The winning feeling continues with another All-Ireland in Croke Park another Cork victory and the evergreen O'Connor says every opportunity that comes a player's way should grabbed.

"It gets better every time and the older you get the more you think about your game and the less chances you are going to have as you get older and I think it is very true for me."

Mary O'Connor, along with six other dual stars are two weeks from returning to Croke Park for the TG4 All-Ireland ladies' football final and completing a historic double-double, but the Killeagh and Imokilly club woman is remaining focused.

"We'll take every game as the next game. I have two or three club games to get out of the way before the football final. Hopefully at the end of it I wouldn't mind having this feeling again on the first of October."

SEPT 2006

Rebel ladies



Joanne O'Callaghan lifts the cup for Cork. Picture: INPHO/Lorraine O'Sullivan



PJ AHERNE

Cork heroes deserve all the plaudits they receive

ONCE again Cork's camogie players are perched high on their pedestal for another year.

They demonstrated that last year's second-half demolition of Tipperary was no fluke as they retained the O'Duffy Cup yesterday.

Despite Cork being reigning champions and despite defeating Tipperary four times out of five this year, the build-up to this year's final was similar to the previous decider with the Premier County billed as favourites.

However the big occasions demand appetite, determination and drive, all of which the Rebels had in spades.

John Cronin's charges ridiculed those who wrote them off as they put in a superb performance to retain the title for the first time since 1998.

In dissecting the game as a spectacle there is can be no camouflaging that this was a poor conclusion to an intriguing championship. The fact the game was a non-event cannot be apportioned to Cork. They had their gameplan and they executed it to perfection but Tipperary could not meet the challenge put before them.

From the moment Clare-based referee Fintan McNamara began proceedings Cork were the more aggressive and threatening offensively.

Their early attacks developed down the right wing with Cork's corner-forward Emer Dillon roasting her marker for the second consecutive year. This time her victim was Tipperary's Julie Kirwan who failed to put the shackles on Dillon.

The Tipp back-line struggled, especially the half-backs, who afforded Cork space and invited the likes of the exceptional Jennifer O'Leary and Rachel Moloney to steal in for points.

O'Leary, like Dillon, was proving a nightmare on the wing and Michelle Shortt struggled to quell the creativity generated by the Barryroe native who became the championship's third top scorer, finishing behind Tipp's Claire Grogan and Wexford's Kate Kelly.

For a period of 10 minutes in the first half, Cork did fade and it caused them briefly to lose their intensity. The decisive battles in this contest took place in midfield and in the Cork half-back line.

The Tipp attack was highlighted in the build-up to the final as the best in the country with the likes of Claire Grogan, Emily Hayden and Eimear McDonnell amassing 4-48 between them this summer. So dismissing Tipp's pedigree isn't an option but

Foley: Revenge played part

By PJ AHERN

Match reaction

MOMENTS after Joanne O'Callaghan raised the O'Duffy Cup aloft, the ecstasy of victory began to sink in for full-back Catriona Foley.

She said that Cork's victory over Tipperary was a combination of team-work and persistence. Foley said last year's final drove her side to continue pushing in the second half and ultimately cross the finishing line as champions: "We ran away with it in the second half because we trusted each other and believed as a team we could do it.

"We were in Tipp's position last year where we trailed at the break and we had to come out and make sure they weren't going to do what we did to them last year. We just upped our game with that in mind."

One of the factors in Cork's triumph was restricting the Tipp attack to four points but Foley said that it wasn't a one off, highlighting the back-line's consistency throughout the season.

"I think Cork this year have kept most teams and scorelines down to a very minimum. It is just a credit to the back-line who were outstanding on the day."

Speaking about the feeling of victory, Foley described it as "great".

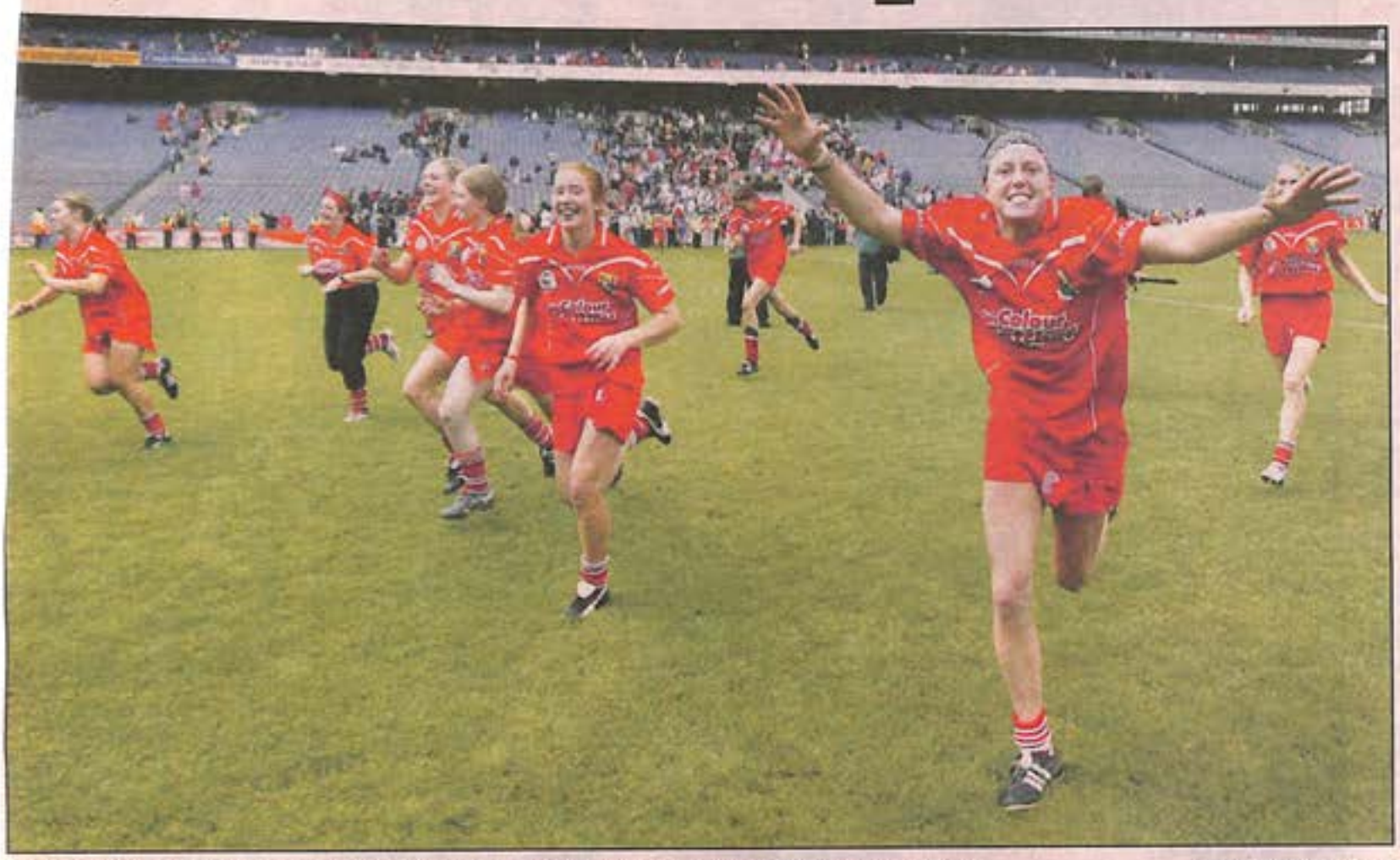
She said, "The atmosphere around the pitch after we finished was amazing. It is a credit to the fans for coming to support us."

"We will be back again next year but we will celebrate now as best we can."

Sept 2006

prove a point

Cork's huge hunger was decisive factor in final win



Rena Buckley, Gemma O'Connor and others celebrate as the team make their way over to supporters. Picture: INPHO/Donall Farmer

when it matters most they were unable to deliver. They were prevented from delivering as Cork never allowed them to settle and find their stride.

On occasions Tipp were able to hurt Cork more in the corners while wing-forward Cora Hennessy lured Rena Buckley out of position which caused the back-line to become disjointed, but the five time All-Ireland champions failed to exploit their advantage.

The Tipp forward line seemed rigid, with no fluency or ambition in their play. Their plight was highlighted as three of their starting six forwards were substituted and while they threatened briefly in the latter stages of the game, it was snuffed out with Cork keeper Aoife Murray producing a faultless display.

One of the main reasons Tipp were unable to split the posts more than four times was Anna Geary's display.

Geary minimised and crushed the threat of Tipperary. The Milford star hassled, harried and cleared confidently. On top of Geary's performance, Mary O'Connor and Rena Buckley delivered contributions to ensure Emily Hayden and Jill Horan rarely featured.

The partnership of Gemma O'Connor and Breige Corkery in midfield continues to blossom into the female equivalent of the Cork hurlers' pairing of Tom Kenny and Jerry O'Connor.

O'Connor and Corkery only lost their intensity briefly for a short period in the first half but for the remainder of the game they never allowed their opposite numbers Claire Grogan and Joanne Ryan to gain a foothold.

The result was that Cork controlled play comfortably in the half-back line and midfield which allowed the forwards time to find space and use the inevitable supply wisely.

The Cork forwards never struggled and of all their 12 points, only one was scored from a free, from Jennifer O'Leary with a minute remaining.

Tipperary were cautious not to give away soft frees in scoring positions which was part of their undoing last year but it mattered little as Cork impressively created space and slotted over from distance through Gemma O'Connor and Una O'Donoghue.

For the majority of the second half, and at times in the first half, Cork's full-forward line was reduced to two as Una O'Donoghue ventured from her listed full-forward position into the half-forward line to create a four-player line. The move enabled Cork to collect and punish the Tipp puck-out.

Cork simply outclassed Tipp in all areas of the pitch. The Premier County have been setting the pace since they burst on the scene in 1999 with four All-Irelands in five years.

However, the old order has been restored as the Rebels, in claiming their 22nd crown, are once again setting the high standard and it is up to rest of the county to reach their level.

Although a week may have passed since a three-in-a-row dream died for the hurlers, the deafening whispers of another bid begin to echo louder.

The last time a Cork camogie side completed a three-in-a-row was in the early '70s and that team of legends snagged four All-Irelands on the trot.

But let's ban that talk for now. That is for another day. For now let us all savour this latest back-to-back victory.

Cloughuv will be the place to be tonight. That is where the party of the year is set to kick off as captain Joanne O'Callaghan, along with her club team-mates Una O'Donoghue, Briege Corkery, Aoife Murray and Sinead Corkery, will be rightfully feted by their neighbours.

So be it Kent Station or a late night in Cloughduv, come out and pay homage to our champions tonight.



Briege Corkery leads the Cork team on their lap of honour with the cup. Picture: INPHO/Donall Farmer

WHAT THEY SAID

By PJ AHERNE

MARY O'CONNOR was a picture of joy after the Gala All-Ireland camogie final in Croke Park yesterday as she reflected on a fantastic achievement.

"In the camogie world this team is underestimated. We knew that coming out here it hit us last night we haven't done a back-to-back since 1997/1998.

"We came out this year to prove that last year wasn't a fluke that Tipperary didn't let their guard down. We came at them and hit them from the word go."

She continued by praising the work ethos and commitment of her team-mates and management.

"We've been playing since January and we have worked really hard on our game.

"We kept ourselves to ourselves. When we were going out today we said we were going to give everything on the pitch that we were going to play until the end and we weren't going to stop until the end.

"It is a fantastic achievement. Our workrate all over the field was tremendous and I think if you look back over the video you will see there was always a Cork player there ready to hook, block, tackle and ready to contest and won 50/50 balls. They were fantastic out there and it was great to be a part of it."

O'Connor said that despite Cork developing a comfortable advantage they had to maintain their concentration to the final whistle.

"Tipperary are around a long time and even though we were up so much we had to concentrate with ten minutes to go and they had a few goal chances towards the end but I think our backs played very well and they shut down their shots at goal."

The winning feeling continues with another All-Ireland in Croke Park another Cork victory and the evergreen O'Connor says every opportunity that comes a player's way should grabbed.

"It gets better every time and the older you get the more you think about your game and the less chances you are going to have as you get older and I think it is very true for me."

Mary O'Connor, along with six other dual stars are two weeks from returning to Croke Park for the TG4 All-Ireland ladies' football final and completing a historic double-double, but the Killeagh and Imokilly club woman is remaining focused.

"We'll take every game as the next game. I have two or three club games to get out of the way before the football final. Hopefully at the end of it I wouldn't mind having this feeling again on the first of October."

Catch 22 for Cork as Tipperary fade away



Gavin Cummiskey
at Croke Park

Cork	0-12
Tipperary	0-4

On the surface, an inexperienced Tipp forward line underperformed against a truly intimidating Cork defence at Croke Park yesterday. And something similar happened up the other end of the field, as Tipperary's Philly Fogarty and Una O'Dwyer held the middle with an impressive rigidity.

The difference? In camogie, just like modern hurling, attaining an All-Ireland title comes down to the effectiveness of one's half back line.

Tipperary gathered five titles in six attempts between 1999 and 2004 by building a team around Sinéad Nealon, Therese Brophy and Ciara Gaynor. Brophy and Gaynor joined Deirdre Hughes, Noelle Kennedy and Angie McDermott in retirement last winter.

Cork's trio of Rena Buckley, Mary O'Connor and Anna Geary were immense yesterday in front of the 20,685 in attendance. "Anna, Rena and Mary's controlled aggression just ripples throughout the whole team," explained Cork goalkeeper Aoife Murray.

They hit hard. Tipperary waited until a desperate last fling before bypassing this near invincible line with high, speculative balls.

The scoring prowess of Cork forwards Jennifer O'Leary and Una O'Dwyer also made a decisive impact. while the midfield pairing of Gemma O'Connor and Briege Corkery eclipsed their opposite numbers.

The breaks also went their way.

Few fell for Tipperary.

Corkery is a superb player. When Tipp were forced to seek a goal as the clock wound down, she picked off the loose passes, and there were plenty, before setting off on a penetrative run. The female version of Tom Kenny.

Unlike so many other players on the field, she never took too much out of the ball. Draw the cover then offload.

Simple, yet devastating.

Tipperary almost made a contest of it. With 10 minutes remaining and the score 0-9 to 0-3, midfielder Joanne Ryan looped the sliotar into the full forward line.

After some calamity inside, the break fell perfectly for sub Trish O'Halloran but a decent strike cruelly ricocheted off team-mate Geraldine Kinane. The ball scuttled into the path of Emily Hayden but her equally decent shot was blocked by a diving Catriona Foley.

Then, when the 65 dropped in, Hayden fired yet another goal-bound shot that was expertly deflected to safety by Murray. Cork cleared downfield for Una O'Donoghue, and then O'Connor, to tack on the game's deciding scores.

"I don't like to lay blame on anyone," said Tipperary goalkeeper Jovita Delaney. "We win as a team; we go down as a team. People are going to have good days; people are going to have off days, but I suppose our forward line weren't strong enough. Cork's backs were too strong. It tells its own story when you only score four points.

"I can't say the appetite wasn't there to come out and win another All-Ireland because it was. Losing five players is crucial to any team, but in fairness to the young players they stepped up and those places were filled."

The contest started with sparks when O'Connor splintered her hurley at the throw-in. Unfortunately, the game settled into a lethargic tempo with just four points in the opening 15 minutes – one of which looked a foot wide. In the sixth minute, Cork's Emer Dillon hit a shot that appeared to drift outside the left upright. The white flag went up – the umpires perhaps fortunate the final was not a closer contest.

O'Leary then relaxed any Cork nerves with a second point, which would have ended up in the net if not for the reflexes of Delaney.

A splatter of quality scores followed from Hayden, Corkery, O'Leary, O'Connor and finally Eimear McDonnell, who ensured just three points separated the sides at half-time.

Tipp bombarded Murray's goal in an attempt to expose the aerial uncertainty of the Cork number one – she conceded a goal from an unforced error in last year's final – but Murray has been not been idle in the last 12 months and she refused to flinch, making some impressive catches.

We braced ourselves for a classic second half, but it never came with Cork easing clear through scores from Rachel Moloney, O'Donoghue and Dillon. Tipperary threatened a revival, although not an ounce of luck bounced their way. Cork made their own to pocket title number 22.

CORK: A Murray; J O'Callaghan (capt), C Foley, A O'Regan; R Buckley, M O'Connor, A Geary; **G O'Connor (0-2), B Corkery (0-1); R Moloney (0-1)**, A Walsh, **J O'Leary (0-4, one free); E Dillon (0-2), U O'Donoghue (0-2)**, E Burke. **Subs:** S O'Donovan for E Burke (36 mins), O Cotter for A Walsh (48 mins).

TIPPERARY: J Delaney; S Kelly, U O'Dwyer, J Kirwan; M Shortt, P Fogarty, S Nealon; C Grogan, **J Ryan (0-1)**; J Horan, **E Hayden (0-2)**, C Hennessy; **E McDonnell (0-1)**, L Young, G Kinane. **Subs:** L Bourke for L Young (half-time), T O'Halloran for C Hennessy (44 mins), M Ryan for J Horan (47 mins).

Referee: **F McNamara** (Clare).



Cork's Gemma O'Connor and Mary O'Connor celebrate beating Tipp in the All-Ireland camogie final at Croke Park yesterday. – (Photograph: Alan Betson)



CRYING GAME Tears of joy and tears of sorrow

THERE were tears of joy yesterday for Cork camogie players Ellen Clifford (top left) and Catriona Foley as the Rebelettes retained their Gala All-Ireland senior title with a facile 0-12 to 0-4 win over Tipperary at Croke Park. Like the rest of the Tipp team, captain Philly Fogarty (above left) and Joanne Ryan were left heartbroken as the Premier side fell at the final hurdle to their Munster rivals for the second successive season. Cork began in impressive fashion and by the fifth minute had grabbed a lead they were never to relinquish. They led by double scores, 0-6 to 0-3, at the break and their dominance in midfield and defence saw Tipp fail to raise a flag until second-half injury-time. Despite the celebrations, the champagne will be strictly on ice for Cork's Caitriona Foley, Rena Buckley, Mary O'Connor, Briege Corkery, Angela Walsh and Elaine O'Riordan — all members of the county football side that will contest the final against Armagh in three weeks' time.

See match report p74

Sept 2006

Camo-glee!



Cork captain Joanne O'Callaghan and player Briege Corkery saluting the fans as they celebrated the Cork camogie team's All-Ireland victory in Croke Park yesterday. Picture: Dan Linehan

CORK'S Rebel heroines turned in the perfect Croke Park performance yesterday to ensure they will receive a rapturous reception in the city tonight, writes *ALISON DONNELLY*.

The camogie stars were imperious in their crushing defeat of old rivals Tipperary and they will pull into Kent Station at 7.45pm tonight to a huge welcome.

Following the players' banquet at Dublin's Red Cow Moran Hotel last night, the camogie queens woke up All-Ireland champions for the second year running.

Cork fans are being urged to show their support for the champions when they return to the city tonight. They will leave Dublin after 5pm and arrive for a traditional reception in Mallow at 7.15pm.

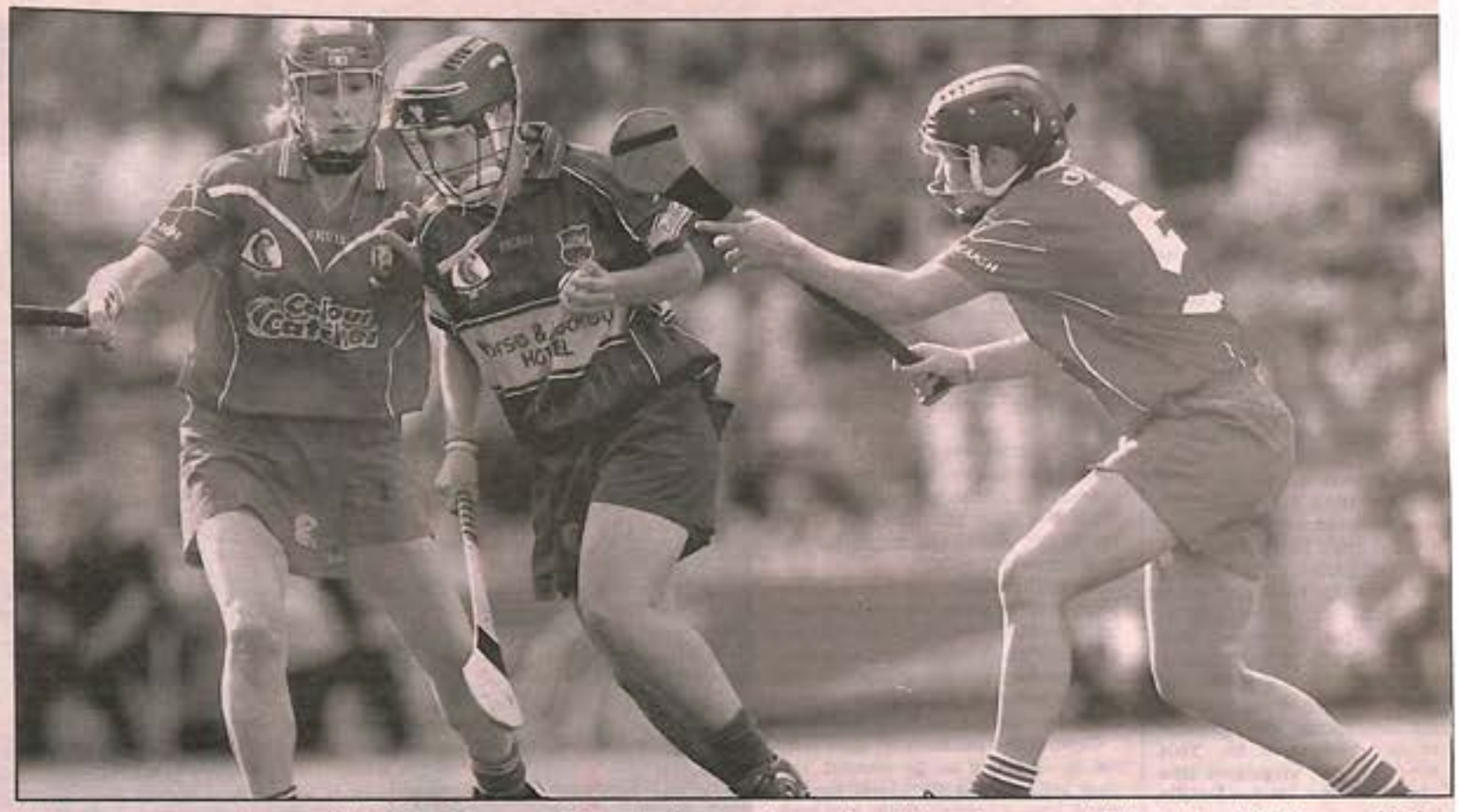
Arriving at Kent Station half-an-hour later, they will be received at the Imperial Hotel before travelling to the home-town of captain Joanne O'Callaghan in Cloughduv.

● **See Echo Sport Special: Pages 25-31 and back page.**

Dual players one step from history



MARY WHITE



Jill Horan, Tipperary going past Cork's Mary O'Connor and Rena Buckley, two players who will be eyeing a second All-Ireland medal in three week's time when the ladies football final takes place at Croke Park.
Picture: Dan Linehan

THE words 'Before you get your hands on one of these, you have to learn to drive yourself' stood out on the inside cover of the matchday programme.

It was a green font strap line for the Irish Defence Forces referring to the possibility of driving a combat contraption. But it could very well have referred to Cork's seven dual players who helped lift the O'Duffy Cup in Croke Park yesterday.

Mary O'Connor, Angela Walsh, Catriona Foley, Breige Corkery, Rena Buckley, Elaine O'Riordan and Regina Curtain drive themselves to extremes that a dwindling fraction of unique GAA players can relate to.

Compromise. Discipline. Loyalty. Friendship. Sweat and tears. The win signified the start of an historic script.

With all seven donning the red and white for the ladies footballers on the first Sunday in October for their All-Ireland final against Armagh, the possibility of winning an All-Ireland medal double-double whammy is now a real possibility.

But, of course, those thoughts won't be allowed to distract these high calibre athletes.

It will be, and always has been, a case of taking it one game at a time and taking every game on its merit. It's a survival mechanism that keeps dual players on their toes and consistent for both codes.

It's a story of two sports, two panels, two managements and two dreams, linked together by seven extremely talented individuals.

All contributed gigantically to yesterday's win in the camogie final and five in total started.

Katriona Foley from Rockbán slotted in at full-back in her first ever start in an senior All-Ireland final. Yet, it was like she had played in hundreds before. Close to breaking into the starting team with the big ball, Foley was sheer class.

A superb dive across the mouth of the goal to deny Emily Hayden a late goal flashed across the giant screen on Hill 16, and it encapsulated Foley's contribution to the cause.

In front of her, Mary O'Connor stood guard, not only reading every ball but winning it and delivering fast out the wings. The Inch Rovers star was a leading force with the impressive Anna Geary to her left, and her former club team-mate Buckley to her right. As ever, reliability oozed from Buckley, who made every move look easy against Tipp star Jill Horan. But that's Buckley's trademark for you.

In the middle of the park, Corkery was the engine, combining well with Gemma O'Connor, who is the only athlete in the country who can match Corkery's stamina.

The two clicked, with Corkery at her most influential in the closing stages of the game. Cutting out ball, winning ball, breaking ball, diving on it, you name it, she was at it.

Walsh reversed her usual role at full-back for the footballers to centre-forward and she too did Trojan work pressurising the Tipp defence. Much of the play flowed down the wings, by-passing Walsh somewhat, but the Inch woman won mountains of possession for her colleagues and was always looking for someone in a better position.

The injured Curtin took up camp on the Cusack side on her own half line, distributing water and words of encouragement.

Last year, the footballers travelled to see the camogie girls inspire them to victory, savoured the atmosphere and got a guided tour of the holy ground, before they were to tog out in their first ever All-Ireland final two weeks later against Galway.

It was a trip that prepared them to no end, it settled nerves and lent a sense of realisation as to what they could achieve themselves. This time round, the united trip wasn't needed. Instead, the ladies of the big ball came of their own accord to shout on their colleagues. But if they are to take anything from the camogie win to Croker on October 1, it is never give up driving, even when you're in cruise control.

It is too easy to become swamped under by a moment of disbelief when your dream is within inches of coming true, but it never is until you've grasped it with both hands.

The footballers' dream is still alive and the dual players will be key to keeping all things grounded again in three weeks time. Regardless of what happens now, we thank them for yesterday's magical moments.

Gala ALL-IRELAND SENIOR CAMOGIE CHAMPIONSHIP FINAL Gala

Primary Schools Games

• Camógaíochta •









Represented by primary school children from Dublin

1. Niamh Donnelly, Scoil Naomh Olaf, BÁC.
2. Jennifer Mulvaney, Scoil Naomh Olaf, BÁC.
3. Grainne Giuldea, Scoil an tSeachtair Laoch, BÁC.
4. Gemma Byrne, St Mary's Glasnevin, BÁC.
5. Cathy Ring, Bayside NS, BÁC.
6. Rachel Kiernan, Holy Trinity NS, Donaghmede BÁC. 13
7. Amy Mahony, Scoil Thomáis, Castleknock, BÁC.
8. Fiona Lyons, Scoil Oilibhéir, Blanchardstown, BÁC.
9. Paula O' Reardon, Rush NS, Rush Co BÁC.
10. Niamh Gilligan, Rush NS, Co BÁC.

Mentors: Maree O'Toole, Ciara Lucey

Represented by primary school children from Derry

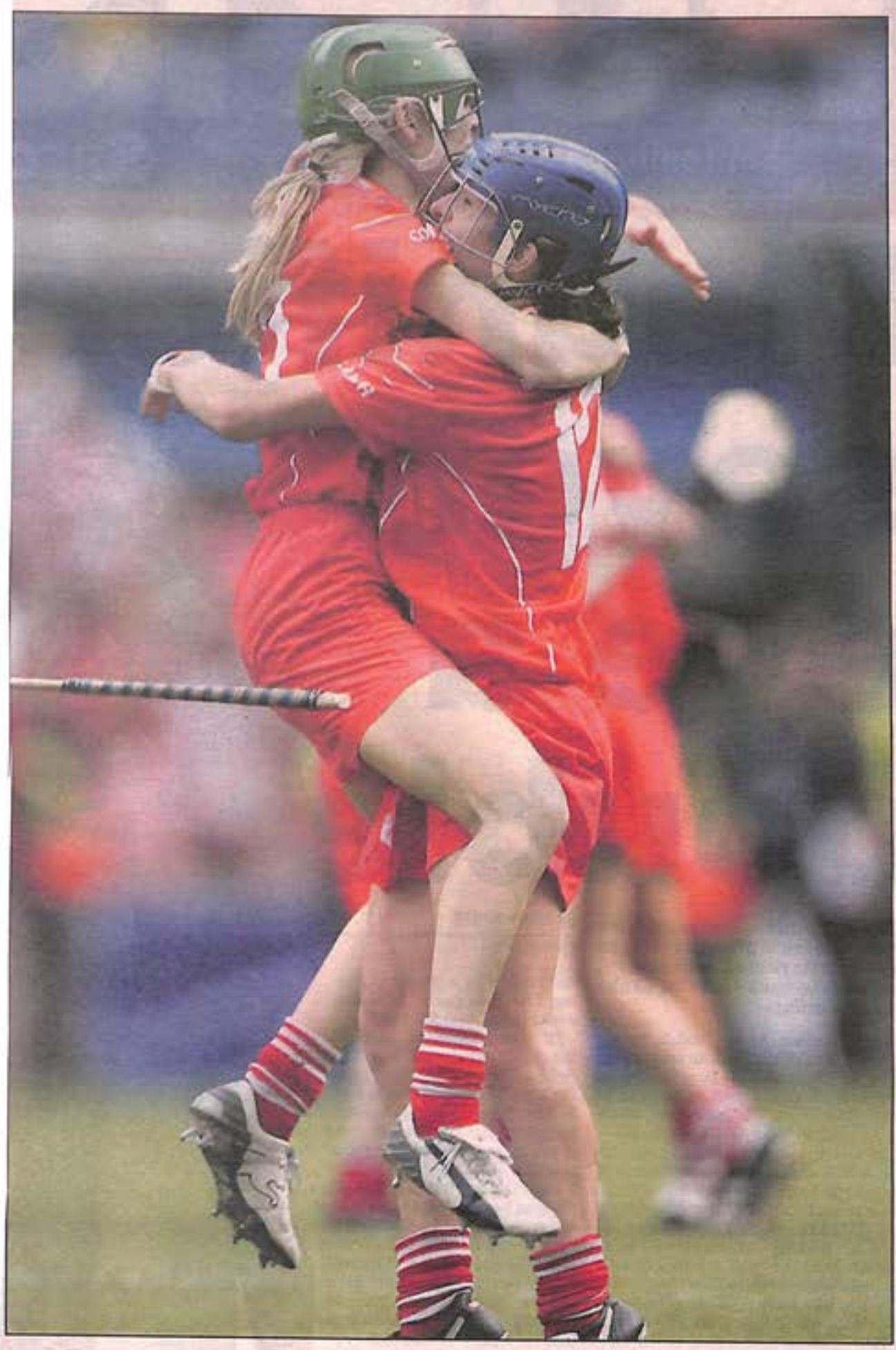
1. Orla O'Kane, St Bridgets, Mayogall, Doire.
2. Bronagh McKeown, St Johns Primary, Doire.
3. Aine Murray, St Finlough's, Doire.
4. Eadoin McFeely, St Patricks & St Bridgets, Doire.
5. Orla McKenna, Glenview Primary, Doire.
6. Bronagh McManus, Gortnaghy Primary, Doire.
7. Bronagh McKirnney, St Pats & St Josephs, Doire.
8. Ciara McNabb, St Pios, Doire.
9. Eimhear McIlvar, St Mary's, Doire.
10. Laura Wilson, Derrychrin, Doire.

Mentors: Caroline Wilson, Eileen McIlvar

Sept

2006

Defenders of



Rachel Moloney and Jennifer O'Leary celebrate at the final whistle of the All-Ireland Camogie final yesterday.
Picture: INPHO/Lorraine O'Sullivan

Cork	0-12
Tipperary	0-4



LINDA MELLERICK

CREDIT the Cork defence yesterday with as polished a performance as you are likely to see in Croke Park.

The foundations were laid for this monumental victory by a mean defensive unit that coughed up very little to a Tipperary side that simply couldn't live with Cork's passion.

That Tipperary could only snaffle four points over the course of the game is further evidence of Cork's determination.

To win back-to-back All-Ireland titles is no mean feat and this Cork team must be applauded for their achievement — what odds now on a Cork camogie three-in-a-row next season?

Not meaning to take anything from Cork's magnificent achievement but there is no escaping the fact that Tipperary were poor.

It was possibly the worst Tipperary team to take to the hallowed turf of Croke Park in years but, to Cork's credit, they didn't allow Tipp to play either and never let up, even with the result was a foregone conclusion.

Aoife Murray, captain Joanne O'Callaghan, Catriona Foley, Amanda O'Regan, Rena Buckley, Mary O'Connor and 'player of the match' Anna Geary gave possibly the most combined polished display of defensive hurling witnessed in Croke Park in any discipline as far back as memory can recall.

Add to that the contributions of midfield duo Gemma O'Connor and Breige Corkery and you have laid the reasons behind Cork's well-deserved victory.

Up front, however, Cork struggled.

But what they lacked in scoring capability they more than made up for with dogged, determined style commitment which saw Tipperary hooked, blocked and harassed every time they tried to clear.

It was a low-scoring final and Cork scored the first point even before the ball was thrown-in when their substitutes refused to take their seats in the stand before the throw in, wanting instead to stand with their comrades, united in their cause, for *Amhrán Na BhFiann*.

Tipperary followed suit but it was initiated by Cork and this spirit didn't wane for the next 65 minutes.

Nerves were evident in the first five minutes or so with both sides jittery on the ball and much fumbling taking place.

Anna Geary was one player who settled immediately and she cleared a massive amount of ball in the opening minutes as both teams sussed each other out.

Cork opened the scoring after five minutes after a good cross ball from Gemma O'Connor found Emer

Top woman

AS mentioned already, Anna Geary was the main contender from the throw-in.

Dependable all year, her award is just reward for a player who has hardly put a foot wrong all season. She was first to settle yesterday and broke up and intercepted much of Tipperary's attacks.

She is thoroughly deserving of the accolade.

Turning point

WITH Cork in control from the outset there was no real defining point. However Jenny O'Leary's point after 23 minutes of the first half epitomised Cork's will to win.

Dispossessed by Sinead Nealon, O'Leary recovered to flick the ball off the stick of her opponent, run on to the break, pick and point to give Cork a 0-5 to 0-2 advantage.

Referee watch

THIS was the best refereeing display camogie has ever had in a final. Fintan McNamara from Clare let the game flow from start to finish and for the first time ever we had only one point from a free in a final, with possibly only six or seven frees awarded. He was excellent and may he be an example to others.

Rating: **8/10**

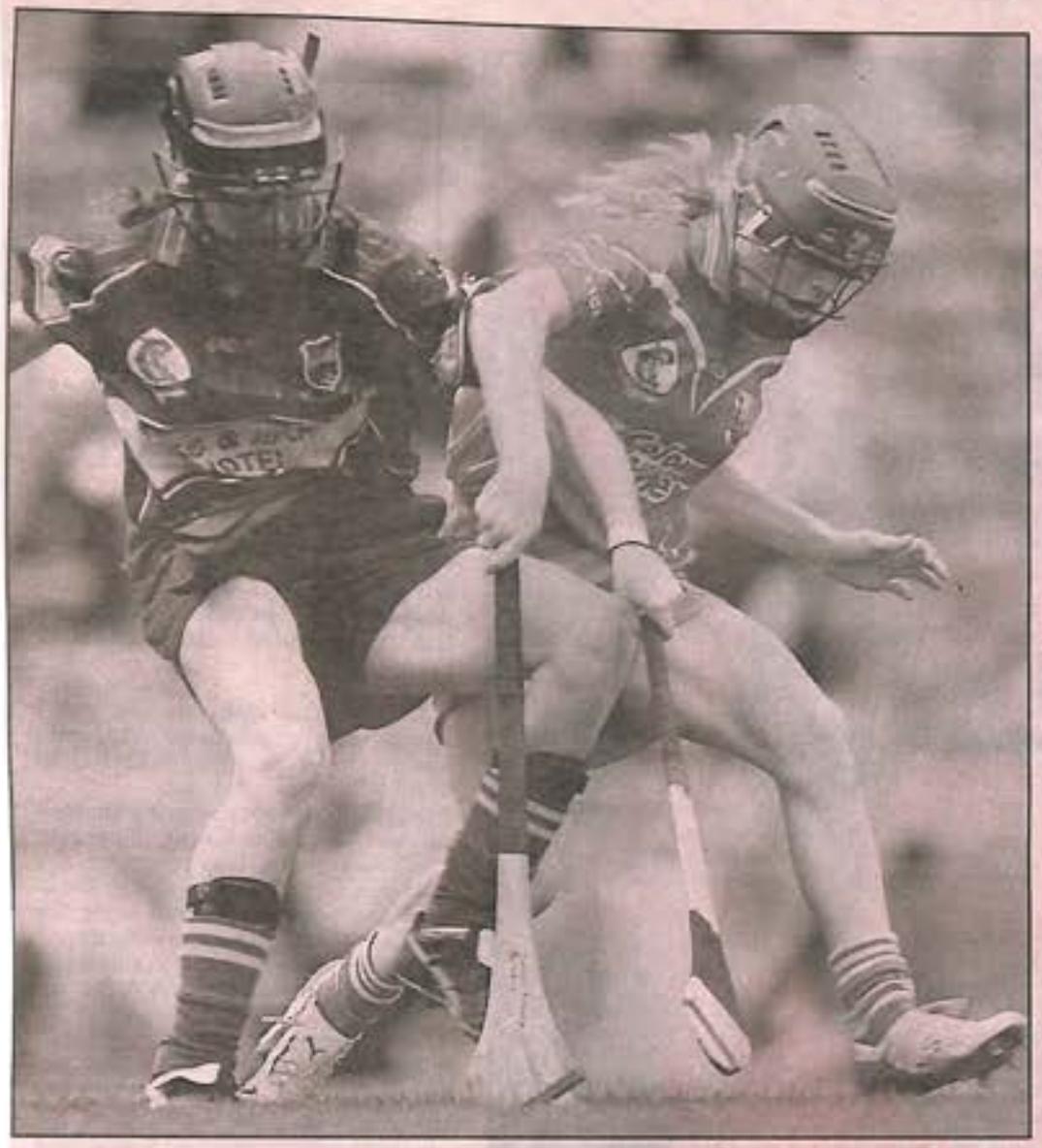
Entertainment

THIS was a very poor final. It was the worst Tipperary team ever to play in Croke Park. But it's better to win a poor final than lose a great one. The game was over by half-time.

It was a pity as we needed a show piece. But Cork aren't there to produce showpieces. They're there to win All-Irelands and that's just what they did. **6/10**

SEPT 2006

the crown



Rachel Moloney of Cork and Suzanne Kelly of Tipperary look for the sliothar during the All-Ireland Camogie final yesterday. Picture: INPHO/Lorraine O'Sullivan

Three Reasons why Cork won

1. **Cork's Defence:** This was the best defensive display that any side has given in Croke Park in years.

Every one of the sextet performed admirably and are worthy of mention. They were awesome, every one of them.

2. **Cork's midfield:** Without doubt Cork won this battle. Scoring 0-3 from 0-12 and creating others Gemma O'Connor and Breige Corkery's work rate couldn't be equalled.

3. **Work rate:** Cork's work rate was phenomenal. Up front we might not have been scoring at will but every defender felt the presence of every forward. We hooked, blocked and hunted in packs and gave Tipp no clear strike. Jenny O'Leary's dispossession of Sinead Nealon out on the wing, after initially losing possession herself, and scoring epitomised Cork's hunger on the day.

WHAT THEY SAID

All-conquering Cronin proves a point to critics

CORK MANAGER John Cronin certainly has the Midas touch, ***writes*** **MARY NEWMAN.**

He guided Cork to four minor crowns and now has helped Cork to successive senior All-Ireland titles

"We are thrilled to win today. Many people said we caught Tipp on the hop last year and we were out to prove them wrong. Since last January we set about retaining our crown. Today we did it in style," he said.

"Our defence was superb. They closed down Tipp at every opportunity. At midfield we held the upper hand and every chance we got we took.

"After last year's success a lot of pundits said we were lucky winning it with a late rally there was no late rally today.

"From the word go there was only one aim and thank god we achieved it. We are thrilled to retain our crown. The county needed a boost this week and hopefully we have given them something to be proud of."

While not answering the question regarding next year's quest for three in row Cronin's reaction was certainly a positive one,

"We will reflect on that in about two months time when the dust settles. For now we will savour the moment and enjoy the celebrations."

Cork Captain Joanne O'Callaghan fought back tears of joy.

"The girls have been magnificent and I am so proud to have captained a Cork team to win the All-Ireland title. It's always been my dream to walk up those steps and today I feel deeply honoured. It's all down to a great team of players, management, selectors and county board.

"We all worked together from the word go and we were focused on winning this title."



Cork trainer John Cronin lauded praise on his defence.

Player of the Match Anna Geary beleives that the drive to prove a point helped Cork.

"We knew Tipperary were a good side. Over the last few years they have proven themselves and we knew that we were going to be up against it.

"We were mentally and physically prepared. We said we were All Ireland champions last year and everybody was going to want to bring us down, and we had a point to proves today and by god did we do that. I am really thrilled no words can describe the emotions at the moment but no doubt it will sink in the next few days."

Dillon, who made no mistake.

From the outset Cork were never in danger of losing this final. While scores were hard to come by they dominated in most sectors of the field from the throw-in and should have been further ahead at half-time than their 0-6 to 0-3 picture created.

The Tipp defence were caught when Jenny O'Leary found herself on goal side after eight minutes. Gathering the ball she bore down on the Tipperary goal but a magnificent save by Jovita Delaney deflected it over for a point.

Despite Cork's dominance in general play they weren't showing this on the score board. In fact Aoife Murray was the busier of the two goalkeepers.

Cork's cause wasn't harmed any by the fact that the Tipperary striking was poor. Balls hit short dropped into the capable, confident hands of Murray time and again and rarely pressurised, she cleared with ease.

Tipp hoped to hit a long low type of ball in to an almost empty full forward line and catch Cork on the turn but their delivery was poor with much of their intended shots hit over the heads of the inside trio.

Emily Hayden opened Tipp's scoring after 11 minutes. Corkery hit a purple patch pointing after 16 and gifting a point to O'Leary 60 seconds later. The lively Joanne Ryan, one Tipp player to leave the field with her reputation intact, hit over five minutes later.

Cork showed greater hunger than Tipp and this was never more evident than when Jenny O'Leary lost possession out on the wing, won it back and pointed from an acute angle to give her side a 0-5 to 0-2 advantage with seven minutes left to the break.

Gemma O'Connor and Emer McDonnell swapped points leaving it 0-6 to 0-3 in favour of the Rebels. Cork, for all their dominance, should have been out of sight by now.

If before the game one said that Tipperary would not score from either play or placed balls in the second half until the second minute of injury time who would have believed it. But that's just what happened. Cork dominated from start to finish.

With the entire Cork defence lauding it, it was hard to pick a player who stood tall. All six defenders, along with goalkeeper Murray, were a revelation.

Plucking the ball from the eye of the opposition they broke up any attempt of a Tipperary attack and provided ample supply up front. Scores from Rachel Moloney, Una O'Donoghue (2), Dillon, O'Connor and O'Leary finished Tipp off to the extent that their opponents longed for the final whistle.

Jill Horan, Louise Young and 'find of the season' Cora Hennessy were all substituted by Tipp and their withdrawal signalled a sign of things to come as Cork grew from strength to strength.

It may have been a poor final but in 10 years time who'll remember that and who'll care?

All that matters is that Cork won the All Ireland title in 2006.

For Joanne O'Callaghan and her family it's a very proud time. The O'Duffy cup will head to Cloughduv tonight and for the Cork girls, the winter will now be very short.

Scorers for Cork: J O'Leary 0-4 (0-1f), E Dillon, G O'Connor and U O'Donoghue 0-2 each, B Corkery and R Moloney 0-1 each.
Tipperary: E Hayden 0-2, J Ryan and E O'Donnell 0-1 each.
CORK: A Murray; J O'Callaghan, C Foley, A O'Regan; R Buckley, M O'Connor, A Geary; G O'Connor, B Corkery; R Moloney, A Walsh, J O'Leary; E Dillon, U O'Donoghue, E Burke. **Subs:** S O'Donovan for E Burke (36min), O Cotter for A Walsh (48min).
TIPPERARY: J Delaney; S Kelly, U O'Dwyer, J Kirwan; M Shortt, P Fogarty, S Nealon; C Grogan, J Ryan; J Horan, E Hayden, C Hennessy; E McDonnell, L Young, G Kinnane. **Subs:** L Bourke for L Young (half time), T O'Halloran for C Hennessy (44min), M Ryan for J Horan (47min).
Referee: F. McNamara (Clare).

SEPT

2006

Sept 2006

Confident Cork ease to success

By MARY NEWMAN

Final analysis

NO question about this one.

At the finish we had no frantic checking of the stop watch or anxious glances at the clock. It was simply a matter of counting down the minutes in comfort as Cork coasted to victory and retained the O'Duffy Cup.

All over the field they were superb. From inspirational goalkeeper Aoife Murray, who brought off some superb saves, to young Orla Cotter who, when introduced as a second half substitute, handled her first day in Croke Park with an ease that belied her 17 years.

The St Catherine's girl just days ago entered leaving certificate class and she certainly will grace Croke Park on many more occasions

Yesterday the day belonged to her and her team mates. From the word go Cork set about retaining their title and there was no messing about. They were focused and ready from the off and they hit Tipperary from the throw in.

All over the pitch they were superb, their striking immaculate, hooking, blocking and chasing down everything that moved in a Tipperary jersey.

Before the throw in Cork won the mind game as stewards tried in vain to usher the Cork substitutes to the benches but they were having none of it and the Cork panel stood shoulder to shoulder for the national anthem.

The Tipp subs observed this and bolted from their bench to follow suit but Cork had already set the tone. Round one to the Rebels.

Earlier in the week we had predicted that this game could be won or lost by defences and it was Cork's defence that held all the aces.

Their half back line of Rena Buckley, Mary O'Connor and Anna Geary were awesome. Time after time they broke down Tipperary attacks, leaving nothing behind them. Backing them up in the full back line captain fantastic Joanne O'Callaghan worked her socks off.

Catriona Foley handled her debut in a senior final like a professional while Amanda O'Regan turned defence into attack with her thrilling long clearances.

A tribute and a measure of Cork's dominance in defence was the replacing of three forwards from Tipp's starting 15.

Stars Jill Horan, Louise Young and Cora Hennessy all failing to win anything from the rock solid Cork backline.

At midfield Briege Corkery and Gemma O'Connor ran the legs off Clare Grogan and Joanne Ryan and for most of the hour the Tipperary pair played a chasing game as O'Connor and Corkery tore them to pieces.

The Cork girls consistently won possession and drove forward at every opportunity.

For good measure Corkery struck a 16th minute point in swift reply to Tipp's first score which came after 11 minutes.

Adding to that O'Connor struck two beauties in either half to hammer home Cork's midfield advantage.

Contrast the Tipp forwards to those of Cork as up front four of the starting six forwards got on the score sheet.

Jennifer O'Leary, who impressed hugely with her quick bursts of speed, had four points to her credit when the final whistle blew while Emer Dillon worked tirelessly in the corner and had the distinction of opening the scoring four minutes into the game.

Rachel Maloney once again contributed enormously with her 100% work rate. Her point just after half time was crucial as Cork opened up a four point lead.

Una O'Donoghue benefited enormously when switched to the centre forward position, showing the Tipperary defence a clean pair of heels on numerous occasions

To their credit Elaine Burke and Angela Walsh gave it their all but when the moves had to be made the Cork management team were spot on, once again not content to sit on their lead they freshened up their attack by introducing Sara O'Donovan and Cotter.

Both substitutes continued to keep the pressure on a now tiring Tipperary side who, despite working hard, simply had no answers to Cork.

In the league final just a goal had separated these teams at the final whistle and having looked at both semi finals one would have been a little worried from a Cork point of view.

Tipperary had to weather a strong challenge from a determined Kilkenny while Cork were not tested by Galway.

We need not have fretted however.

Fiona O'Driscoll has instilled a belief in this team since her involvement began in 2005.

Last year's victory was one which was brought about by sheer hard work and determination. Yesterday's performance had all that but it also had a lot more.

O'Driscoll's side wore red and white wristbands yesterday in support of the ISPCC.

There was more to it though and on each band the Cork management had engraved the Latin motto "Carpe Diem" — "Seize the Day".

The Cork girls certainly did that.

Another motto the Cork girls lived by this year was that while teams win games, squads win championships.

Yesterday's All-Ireland final triumph was one by the Cork squad, not just the 17 players who tasted action on the day.

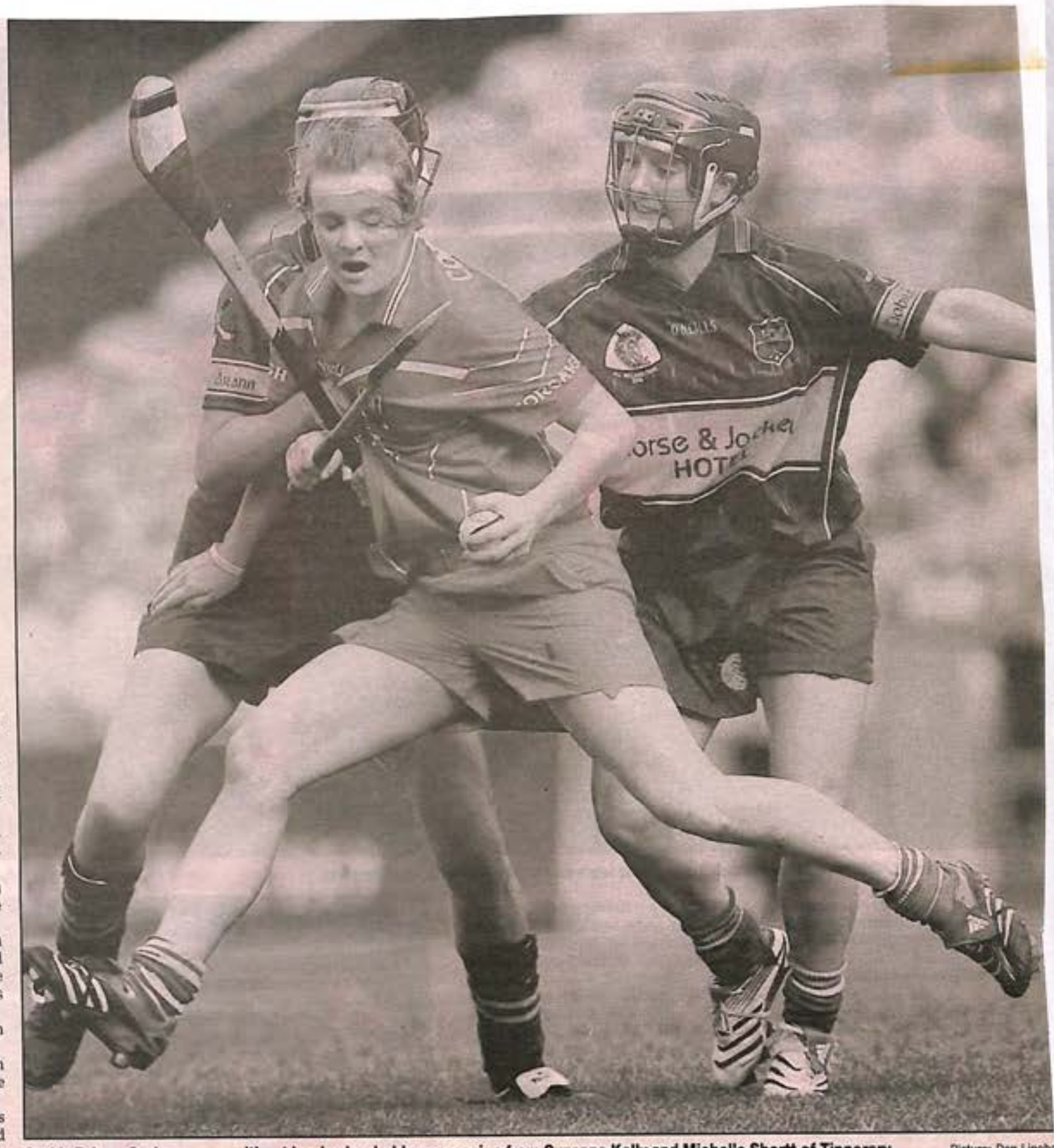
Everything about this All Ireland weekend was professionally done and the little extra touches from O'Driscoll and her back room team paid huge dividends in the shape of the O'Duffy Cup.

Victory was achieved yesterday but the journey began way back in the bowels of last winter.

Since last January they trained hard, worked and prepared in order to prove they were worthy champions.

Yesterday they flew that flag proudly and defiantly.

Rebel Caillini Abú Arís!



Cork's Briege Corkery, even without her hurley, holds possession from Suzanne Kelly and Michelle Shortt of Tipperary. Picture: Dan Linehan

ALL-IRELAND CAMOGIE FINAL: Cork 0-12 Tipperary 0-04

YOU CORKERS

Rebels retain All-Ireland after Tipp top display



RAISING THE STANDARD: Joanne O'Callaghan lifts the cup for Cork



SINGING A REBEL YELL: Gemma O'Connor of Cork leads the celebrations after the final whistle yesterday

CORK: A Murray, J O'Callaghan, C Foley, A O'Regan, R Buckley, M O'Connor, A Geary, G O'Connor (0-2), B Corkery (0-1), R Moloney (0-1), A Walsh, J O'Leary (0-4), E Dillon (0-2), U O'Donoghue (0-2) E Burke

CORK SUBS: S O'Donovan for Burke 37, O Cotter for Walsh 49

TIPPERARY: J Delaney, S Kelly, U O'Dwyer, J Kirwan, M Shortt, P Fogarty, S Nealon, C Grogan, J Ryan (0-1), J Horan, E Hayden (0-2), C Hennessy E McDonnell (0-1), L Young, G Kinane

TIPP SUBS: L Bourke for Young h/t, T O'Halloran for Hennessy 45, M Ryan for Horan 48.

CORK proclaimed themselves the 'new Tipperary' as they retained their All-Ireland camogie crown with ease at Croke Park.

By DERMOT KING

Tipp had become synonymous with All-Ireland successes in recent years, claiming five of the titles on offer since 1999.

But a red wave now appears to have swept across the camogie landscape in the shape of this current Cork team.

In front of 20,685 they eased past Tipp to hold onto the O'Duffy Cup.

And with a young, hungry team it seems a question of how many All-Ireland's this Cork team can now go on to win?

Just like last year, a number of these Cork players also have the opportunity to complete a dream double with the ladies football final just around the corner.

Dream

The footballers will be hoping they have it as easy.

Cork led yesterday from the first score of the game after five minutes to the final whistle.

Tipp were never actually on level terms and only scored one point in the entire second-half.

That score came from Emily Hayden in the 63rd minute though the game was a lost cause at that stage.

For Cork's key players look no further than their all conquering half-back line.

Just as the Cork hurlers built back to back All-Ireland winning teams on their star half-back the camogie team have followed suit.

Time after time Rena Buckley, Mary O'Connor and Anna Geary snuffed out Tipp attacks and turned the play back on its head.

As expected Tipp turned on a late offensive but Cork's high profile goalkeeper Aoife Murray once again came up with the goods.

With eight minutes to go she pulled off a fine save from Hayden and repeated the feat in injury-time to deny Joanne Ryan.

Murray deflected praise to the defence in front of her.

"Our half-back line were really excellent," said Murray.

"Tipperary are a great side and you can hardly count the number of All-Ireland's they've won on one hand.

"But we're lucky to have the players we have. We have players with belief who play with a controlled aggression and that's what won it for us, a controlled aggression."

For Tipp the loss of several old reliables before the season had even started naturally weakened their hand.

But boss Paddy McCormack refused to pin point the retirements as their reason for losing out.

"People talk about a transitionary period but there's not a transitionary period in a county like Tipperary that produces really good players," said McCormack.

"We got to an All-Ireland final and we felt we could win it.

"We had some really good young players and they worked really hard.

"But Cork were the better team on the day and they deserved to win.

"Their half-back was the launching pad for all their scores and they dominated in that area."

Cork got the show on the road early on with Dillon opening the scoring.

Jennifer O'Leary, Cork's top scorer with 0-4, then pointed to put them 0-2 to 0-0 ahead.

Tipp replied through Hayden, setting the trend in motion that for every two Cork scores Tipp would reply with one.

Defecit

It meant that at half-time Cork led 0-6 to 0-3 with Briege Corkery and Gemma O'Connor also on the mark.

Cork were clearly on top but in a low scoring game there was still only a goal between them.

Tipp never managed to raise a green flag though as Cork hit six unanswered points to close out the game.

The point of no return arrived in the 50th minute.

At that stage Cork led 0-9 to 0-3 but Tipp were closing in for a goal.

Somehow Cork averted the danger with last ditch blocks from O'Connor and Catriona Foley and they scored straight away at the other end through Una O'Donoghue.

Tipp sensed the game was up and Cork tacked on two more points from O'Connor and O'Leary.



OUCH: Cork's Briege Corkery gets the sliotar away under pressure



REBEL RULERS . . . members of Cork's winning team celebrate with the All-Ireland trophy they retained

SEPT

2006

Magnificent seven eye a double

THE fairytale continues for seven of Cork's dual players, as the Rebelette camogie contingent won back-to-back titles in Croke Park yesterday.

By MARY WHITE
At Croke Park

Mary O'Connor, Angela Walsh, Briege Corkery, Rena Buckley, Katriona Foley, Elaine O'Riordan and Regina Curtin travel to the Dublin venue again in three weeks' time when the ladies footballers play Armagh in their All-Ireland final.

And with it, the magnificent seven will be in with a chance of making history if they too win back-to-back titles.

Five in total started as part of manager John Cronin's plans, with Foley at full-back, Buckley at right-half back, O'Connor at centre-back, Corkery at midfield and Walsh at centre-forward.

The win sees Mary O'Connor, the GAA's most decorated female dual player, win her fifth camogie title, to add to her football one with the prospect of a second on the horizon. O'Connor was flanked by player of the match Anna Geary and Rena Buckley, and the trio were sublime.

The camogie All-Star enjoyed her night of celebrations at the Red Cow Moran Hotel, but the camogie development officer won't find it too hard to settle down before the next final.

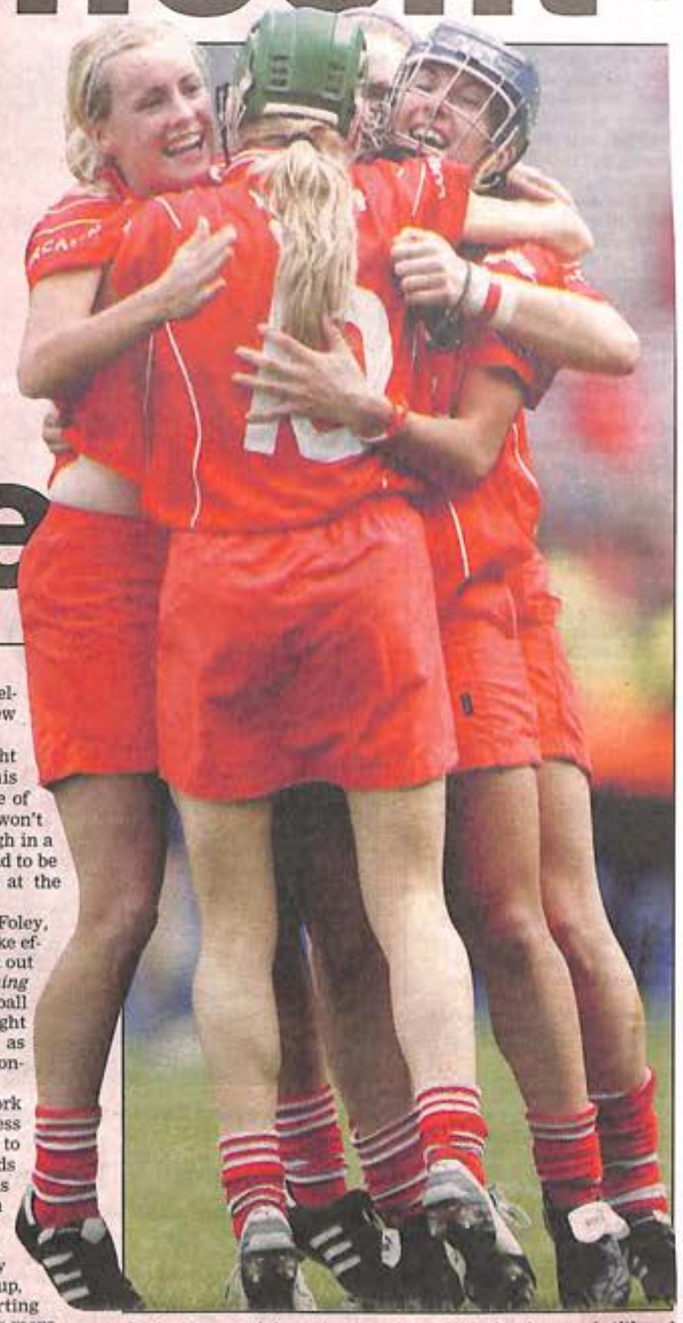
"It won't be too hard to come down, when you win something you have to celebrate it and we did that last night. I've a few club games between now and the football final, so hopefully I'll stay injury free and be in with a chance of feeling like this again in a few weeks time," said Mary.

"It takes discipline all right but that's what gets you this feeling. I know that being one of the older ones on the team I won't be strong enough or fast enough in a few years time and I'm just glad to be grabbing every chance I get at the moment," she added.

However, for Buckley and Foley, the land back to reality will take effect sooner, as the two battle it out in the semi-final of the *Evening Echo* Senior Ladies' Football Championship tomorrow night in the Mardyke at 8pm, as Donoughmore and Rockbán contend for a place in the final.

In front of 20,685 fans, Cork held their opponents scoreless for 45 minutes. It wasn't easy to concentrate with thousands more than usual looking on as the U21 Hurling final between Tipperary and Kilkenny preceded the camogie showpiece, but they did just that. Not only did they lift the O'Duffy Cup, they lifted the spirits on sporting Leeside and paved the way for more silverware before the year is out.

● MORE: See pages 26-31



Cork players celebrate back-to-back All-Ireland camogie titles at the final whistle in Croke Park yesterday. Picture: Dan Linehan



CHAMPIONS: Cork players celebrate with the trophy

REBEL RISING

CORK goalkeeper Aoife Murray heaped praise on her magnificent defence, which restricted Tipperary to one point in the final 40 minutes of yesterday's All-Ireland Final at Croke Park.

That Tipp point only came in the third minute of injury time, as their search for a goal that would ignite the game met with stubborn resistance from the Rebels rearguard.

Cork deservedly held out for their 22nd title in front of a crowd of 20,685.

Defence was the key to their win.

Cork poured it on in the second half, thanks to their half-back line, which was brilliantly marshalled by centre-half Mary O'Connor.

Anna Geary, Catriona Foley and Amanda O'Regan were other defensive rocks for John Cronin's side.

"We are very lucky with the half-back line that we have," said Murray. "I think it is their controlled aggression that just ripples through the whole team."

Murray admitted that she was sick of hearing about the five key players that Tipperary had lost from the side that won five All-Irelands in eight years.

"Tipperary can go on about how many players they lost, but teams and panels win matches and All-Irelands," said Murray.



Karl O'KANE
Championship 2006

Cork 0-12 Tipperary 0-4

Breaking

"We have lost 10 of last year's panel and you never heard us complaining about that. They kept going on about how many people they lost. We said it is about time we put it to bed.

"And, the injury to Regina Curtain, breaking her elbow, that really drove us on."

The Rebels were by far the better team, but they went through a shaky spell between the 51st and 52nd minute, when it took two brilliant blocks and a superb save to prevent Tipp getting a goal.

First O'Connor bravely blocked an effort from Trish O'Halloran, Foley diving in to stop Emily Hayden's close-range follow up.

From the resulting 45, Hayden picked up the pieces and fired a ferocious effort through a crowd of players, which Cork goalkeeper Murray did very well to save.

Cork were stung into action, and immediately hit back with points from Una O'Donoghue and Gemma O'Connor for an eight-point lead, which their opponents were never going to overturn.

Cork were economical with their chances throughout, with the on-fire Jennifer O'Leary firing three brilliant first-half points.

Burst

The opening half was tough and tense, with space at a premium, and only one decent goal chance.

That fell to O'Leary in the 7th minute. Tipp goalkeeper Jovita Delaney was forced to bring off a brilliant point-blank save after the Cork attacker broke the opposition cover and burst clear.

It was a signal of Cork's intent, and they followed it up in convincing fashion to put back-to-back All-Irelands together.

CORK: A Murphy, J O'Callaghan, C Foley, A O'Regan, R Buckley, M O'Connor, A Geary, G O'Connor (0-2), B Corkery (0-1), R Moloney (0-1), A Walsh, J O'Leary (0-4, 1f), E Dillon (0-2), U O'Donoghue (0-2), E Burke. SUBS: S O'Donovan for Bourke 37mins, O Cotter for Walsh 49mins.
TIPPERARY: J Delaney, S Kelly, U O'Dwyer, J Kirwan, M Shortt, P Fogarty, S Nealon, C Grogan, J Ryan (0-1), J Horan, E Hayden (0-2), C Hennessy, E McDonnell (0-1), L Young, G Kinane. SUBS: L Bourke for Young ht, T O'Halloran for Hennessey 45mins, M Ryan for Horan 48mins.
REFEREE: F MacCormara



JUMPING FOR JOY: Cork celebrate at the final whistle

Sept 2006

Rebels 'live for the moment'

by Jim O'Sullivan

CORK senior camogie team will be under no pressure to deliver a three-in-a-row in the All-Ireland championship according to team trainer Fiona O'Driscoll.

Cork defeated Tipperary on Sunday for the second consecutive year, but O'Driscoll is keen to dampen talk of a hat-trick of titles.

"Nobody was saying anything about next year, not to me anyway.

"It's important to enjoy the here and now — and live for the moment.

"The 2006 All-Ireland is to be enjoyed now.

"When the county championship is over we can sit down and think about the future," she added.

O'Driscoll was a member of the Cork team which failed to Tipperary in three consecutive seasons, the finals of 1999 (which marked the Premier county's first title success) and 2000, and the semi-final the following year, in a replay.

Then in 2002, Cork got back on top, when she was one of the stars in the final, scoring 3-2 and after losing the 2003 final she bowed out.

That marked the end of her involvement until John Cronin persuaded her to come on board for last year's campaign.

"He approached me and asked me if I would do the physical training. We hadn't worked together before but he would have know me from coaching school teams and through my involvement in PE."

The partnership has been a fruitful one, with two titles in two years and the promise of continuing success with a largely young panel of players.

And she paid a tribute to Cronin for his leadership and guidance.

"John is a quiet man but he gets the work done. He knows the Cork camogie scene well, having been very successful in managing minor teams and he has a great rapport with the girls.

"I'd say he thinks a lot about the game when he is out farming. I know from experience, having often got a call from him about some matter. That is the way he operates."

Reflecting on Sunday's victory, she admitted to being surprised by Tipperary's low tally.

"If anybody had said before the game that they would only score four points you would not have believed them. They always produce a goal or two and that was always a possibility on Sunday.



Patient Emily Early with Cork players Angela Walsh, Amanda O' Regan and Jennifer O'Reilly when the All-Ireland camogie champions visited Our Lady's Hospital for Sick Children in Dublin yesterday.

"It was a very low-scoring game, but it was much the same story in our earlier games this year. We met them four times and we won three. The game they won was in the last game in the Round Robin, but by then we were both assured of our places in the All-Ireland final."

As she pointed out after the game on Sunday, the outstanding play of the Cork backs had been a major factor in limiting Tipperary's attack. Five of the girls played in positions they occupied in the second half of last year's final and Catriona Foley took over at full-back from Rosarie Holland (currently touring Australia).

"Catriona 'did' her cruciate two years ago and she came back into the panel last season. She made steady progress and improved through the year.

"The girls are all very intelligent players and all very good team players. And, it's not just what they do on the field. They talk a lot between themselves off the field and, as we saw on Sunday, that paid a rich dividend."

While John Cronin feels that it would have made more sense to play the camogie final as the curtain-raiser on Sunday (to the U-21 decider), Fiona takes the opposite view.

"It's traditionally camogie's day. The senior final should always be the second game," she said.

The twinning of the two finals will be repeated next year. GAA President Nickey Brennan points out that it has been agreed on a two-year trial basis.

However, Camogie Association President Liz Howard has made it clear that she would like to see it being a permanent arrangement.

Camogie and U-21 finals a winning double

THE camogie and the U-21 finals were historic happenings in Croke Park last Sunday.

We took the decision last year to double up this year to avoid clashes that even caused families to split.

While the camogie final was one sided, nevertheless, it was a great occasion and, of course, the U-21 final was a classic.

Some expected a bigger crowd, but when one considers all three counties involved yesterday were in Croke Park the previous Sunday as well, over 20,000 was quite impressive.

Tipperary and Kilkenny will go head to head again this Saturday and another cracker in store.

Congrats to the Cork camogie girls — just a brilliant team. But well done to the Tipp girls too. They have been at the top since they made the breakthrough in '99 and this year alone they had to replace five of their team. They deserve great credit and, no doubt, Tipp camogie will regroup and come back for more.

The presentation on Sunday went very well — it was a nice touch by Liz Howard and her committee to honour the World Handball champions and the Irish rowers who won gold in the World Cup and bronze in the World Championships.

All in all another very enjoyable day.



Cork's Rachel Moloney holds off Tipp's Julie Kirwan in Sunday's All-Ireland senior camogie final. Picture: Inpho



JOY FOR REBELS IN CAMOGIE FINAL

We met a better team'

- Paddy McCormack

by Liza Roche

'We met a better team on the day,' stated Camogie manager Paddy McCormack . Continuing he said they were very disappointed. 'Since the 5th of February this year we have worked so hard. It is so disappointing.'

Commenting that it was a first All-Ireland for some of the girls, Paddy stated, 'For some of the team it was their first All-Ireland and it has to be a daunting feeling and it might have gotten to some of them.'

Reflecting on the game, Paddy said that they just weren't good enough in the second half and compliments Corks defence. 'Their defence was very good and they are fully deserving of their win. We tried to make changes and switches but it didn't seem to make any difference.'

'We did make a few chances late on in the half but it didn't seem come off for us,' added Paddy. Concluding he said he couldn't fault any of the players. 'They have all worked so hard we are very, very disappointed.'



Ladies in red revel as camogie champs









Clockwise from top: members of the Cork camogie team wave to the fans who turned out to greet the All-Ireland winners at Kent Station, Cork; patients Ann Marie Farmer and Martin O'Loughlin meet the stars of the All-Ireland champions; manager John Cronin speaks to Cork captain Joanne O'Callaghan; the team alongside Pa the Piper Hurley after their arrival at Kent Station; young Leah Rooney with Caitriona Foley during the team's visit to Our Lady's Hospital for Sick Children Crumlin, Dublin 12; Lisa Wybrant is visited by Cork players Emer Dunne, Rena Buckley and Colette Desmond; fans wait at Kent Station for the arrival of the All-Ireland camogie champions. Pictures: Bernie Keating/Provision





THE ladies in red arrived home triumphantly for the second year in succession to their Cork stronghold last night.

Cork captain Joanne O'Callaghan, bearing the O'Duffy Cup, and her star team were given a true rebel welcome when they disembarked from their train at Kent Station.

On a champions' high, having defeated Tipperary in the All-Ireland final at Croke Park, the camogie winners were paraded through the town to a civic welcome home ceremony.

En route from Dublin the team train stopped off in Mallow at 7.15pm where they were given a foretaste of what was to come.

At Mallow the team were met by an ecstatic banner-waving north Cork contingent of camogie fans.

Less than an hour later they were back on the train for the final leg of the journey to Cork city.

And it was there the team were paid the greatest accolade since, well, this time last year.

Speaking from the bandstand erected on the South Mall, team manager John Cronin paid a heartfelt tribute to his backroom crew and camogie coach Fiona O'Driscoll.

But it was the victorious players, he said above the cheers, who had, in every sense, won the day.

Hard work and three times a week training had at times been trying, but at the end of the day he was proud to have worked with such a team.

The moment everyone was waiting for last night was the sight of team captain Joanne O'Callaghan bearing the cup aloft, a gesture which was met with rapturous applause and cheering.

"Thanks for the great reception you have given us tonight and thanks for the great support we had at Croke Park yesterday. It's been brilliant," she told her appreciative audience.

"And I have to thank the Cork Camogie Supporters' Club, they are brilliant and the Cork County Board for giving us everything that we have asked for.

"And thanks to my club Cloghduv for giving me the honour to be captain of such a brilliant team," Joanne said.

After that the team were on their way to Cloghduv, the home place of the team captain, for a night of well-deserved celebration.