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TO
APRIL 1986

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CLASH OF THE CAMÓGS



HOMEWARD BOUND . . . Breda Holmes of Kilkenny gets in a powerful shot despite the attention of Dublin's Marion Casey in the All-Ireland final. Kilkenny won the All-Ireland by 0-13 to 1-5, with the help of three points from Breda. Her shot for goal in the second minute was saved by Yvonne Redmond.

CAMÓG CHASE: Galway goalkeeper Chris Divilly, Julia Glynn of Galway and Paula O'Hare of Armagh tussle for a loose ball during the junior All-Ireland final which Galway won by 8-7 to 3-7.



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GREAT YEAR FOR KILKENNY STAR

Camogie provides one of the outstanding individual success stories in any branch of Irish sport in 1985 as a result of the achievements of Angela Downey. Her record over the season is remarkable by any standard.

After all, it is not often that any player collects every major national award in an annual programme of events. That is the proud distinction that marks out the past campaign as a unique one for the Kilkenny star in camogie.



Angela Downey who retires as Secretary of the Camogie Association at the end of the year.

Angela was an accurate forward in the Kilkenny team that regained the National Senior League title after a break of three years. Later she retained Gradam Tailte, the award for camogie's annual day of sporting competition involving the player of the year from each county.

The Kilkenny star was in tremendous form as she recorded five first places and two seconds to chalk up 64 points, to win the title in handsome fashion, and so became the first to take Gradam Tailte twice.

Later in the year she helped Kilkenny to beat Dublin in the All-Ireland open-draw senior championship final. She had an outstanding second half, and her quality play and good points scoring did much to fashion the Kilkenny victory.

Then, for good measure, Angela was on duty with the Leinster team that won the Gael-Linn Cup for the interprovincial title. So, in one season she won medals for camogie's three top national competitions — League, championship and inter-provincial — and Gradam Tailte to complete a grand slam of national awards and so became the first to record this wonderful feat.

Miss Downey, then, must undoub-

tedly stand unchallenged as the camogie player of the year.

But if the achievements of the Kilkenny ace dominate the story, it must also be said that the year was particularly rich in top class individual performances, and also provided some historic events on the team front.

Edel Murphy had a good year with Dublin and proved one of the leading score-getters as well.

In Dublin's draw with Kilkenny in the National League final at Parnell Park, and in the replay at Nowlan Park, she scored a combined total of 2-13 — excellent finishing that. Miss Murphy also put up other impressive scoring returns over the season including 1-6 in Dublin's win over Wexford in the Leinster senior final — a separate competition from the All-Ireland open-draw championship.

The excellent goalkeeping of Yvonne Redmond both for the Dublin senior team and with her club side, Crumlin, was another of the bright features.

Crumlin also carved out their own slice of history by winning both the Leinster and the All-Ireland senior club championships for the first time.

Bridie McGarry set the seal on a good season with an excellent game at centre back when leading Kilkenny to their All-Ireland senior final win over Dublin at Croke Park. Another to show up especially well in that game was the Noreiders' wing forward Margaret Farrell, who finished top scorer on the day for both teams with five first class points.



Mary Donnelly (Armagh) gathers the ball as Brid Stratford (Galway) closes in on right Julie Glynn (Galway) keeps an eye out for any danger in the All-Ireland Junior Final at Croke Park.

Kilkenny also made history by virtue of their final win. The county became the first to take the League and the All-Ireland titles in the same year.

JUNIORS, TOO

The seniors, however, did not capture all of the limelight. Many are inclined to overlook the lower grades of Gaelic Games and so miss out on much that is best in sport.

The junior competitions in camogie provided much to enthuse over in 1985, and also ended with a unique double by Galway. The Western county won both the National League and the All-Ireland championship, and that ranks as the first such double in the grade.

An outstanding star for Galway in those successes was Deirdre Costello, who is undoubtedly a young player to watch. She has already made a big name for herself in Colleges competitions, and captained St. Raphael's, of Loughrea, to the All-Ireland championships at junior (1984) and senior last March.

On the inter-county front, Deirdre sparkled with Galway, and had a particularly memorable game against Armagh in the All-Ireland final at Croke Park, where she contributed four goals to the team win.

The young Galway star also made her mark in Gradam Tailte, finishing runner-up to Angela Downey. A memorable year, then, over-all for Deirdre Costelloe.

Cork won the minor title, so that Ulster was the only province that failed to earn representation in the All-Ireland championships Roll of Honour.

However, it was Leinster's year in the senior grade, with Kilkenny com-

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pleting the League and Championship double, Crumlin winning the national club title, and the Eastern province supreme in the interprovincial championship.

The interprovincial championships, incidentally, brought a change to the playing schedule. Until 1985 the semi-finals and finals were separated by a few weeks, but last October the tests at senior and junior were both played over a single weekend in Cork.

It was generally agreed that the new arrangement was a success. The plan enabled players to see and meet one another socially over the weekend and there can be little doubt that this was beneficial for the game.

No look back on the camogie year would be complete without paying tribute to Aine Sheehy, who retired as Secretary of the Camogie Association at the end of the year, to take up another appointment.

During her short spell in the post of around two years she did much valuable work in advancing the cause of the sport. A very courteous lady, she was always very helpful to the media, and she has our thanks for her assistance during her term as secretary, and good wishes for the future.



Pictured at the presentation of the Cospair/Irish Mutual Building Society Women in Sport Award for September/October were from left to right: Mr. Paddy O'Connell, Secretary, Irish Mutual Building Society, Bridie McGarry, Captain Kilkenny Camogie Team (Winner of the Award), and Mr. Donal Creed T.D. Minister for Sport.

CAMOGIE

Kilkenny do double

BY MARY MORAN

NINETEEN eighty five belongs to Kilkenny and Galway. Other teams had their moments but these counties scooped the major honours and did so in style.

Senior camogie will be remembered for the Dublin-Kilkenny clashes. Locked together on four occasions, Kilkenny came out with the All-Ireland Championship and National League double. Dublin had to be content with the Leinster Championship as a consolation prize.

Kilkenny planned their season better than Dublin and made less mistakes on the sideline. The bold step of placing a junior outfield player in goal proved a masterstroke. Marie Fitzpatrick was plucked from the county's insignificant second string where she gave the appearance of being reluctant to exert herself.

Marie had displayed her ball control and skill when winning the Feile Skills Competition in Galway. She took to her new role as if she was made for it. She gave stability to the Kilkenny defence and performed so well that she ousted Yvonne Redmond when the Leinster team was named.

Bridie McGarry took the captain's part seriously and inspired her players with class and confidence. Liz Neary proved once again what a valuable member of the Kilkenny set-up she is. Called on to plug holes in defence, give the team the edge at midfield or add scoring power to the attack from time to time, she always obliged. Her four goals in the League Final replay underlines the point.

Angela Downey's appetite for scores and victory remains as keen as ever. Her amazing ball control as she weaves in and out through

opposing defenders at top speed continues to thrill fans. She picked off some glorious scores in helping Kilkenny to the historic double. Her display at Gradam Tailte was something special.

Margaret Farrell reached new heights in the All-Ireland Final. She twisted and turned in possession to make room for herself to score five points. Some of these were from very difficult angles and were magnificent efforts. Anne Downey fetched and delivered great balls in the Kilkenny defence.

Injuries and holidays upset Dublin's rhythm at vital times. Marion Conroy had an excellent season at full-back and Anna Condon made a successful return to the side. Carmel O'Byrne is maturing into a very valuable player. Captain Edel Murphy, Joan Gormley, Barbara Redmond, Bernie Toner and Yvonne Redmond had their moments.

Galway have been turning out talented young players over the years. This season, however, they put it all together and five All-Ireland titles went West. Cyril Farrell guided St. Raphaels, Loughrea to a great double in colleges camogie, the Galway juniors recorded an All-Ireland and National League double and Mullagh brought home the Feile na nGael premier title.

Deirdre Costello had more than a

hand in three of those victories. She captained St. Raphaels and captured attention at every outing with her skilful play. She combined beautifully with the talented Anne Ryan, Anne Fahy and Deirdre Lawless to form one of the best forward divisions seen at junior level.

The Cork minors gave no indication of being All-Ireland material when they played Clare in the opening game. But they improved beyond all recognition as the campaign progressed. Jean Paula Kent, Brid Kelleher, Ina Leahy, Trace O'Riordan and Brid Walsh helped Cork to their eighth minor title in twelve years.

Crumlin won the Club Championship in such style that invites the question: where have they been up to now? It appears that they found it harder to win the Dublin Championship than the All-Ireland crown. Four Redmond sisters, Anne, Barbara, Yvonne and Aileen, Anna Condon, Bernie Toner, Mary Mernagh and Mary Keane make Crumlin a fine side.

University College, Cork bounced back into the limelight from which they were absent since 1977. With Clare Cronin adopting a new role of centre-back, U.C.C. captured the eagerly sought Ashbourne Cup. Ann-Marie Landers, Imelda Cronin, Patsy Keniry, Norma Delaney and Joan Riordan were others to shine.



KILKENNY - 1985 All-Ireland and National League Champions; Back: Rita Wymes, Breda Holmes, Deirdre Malone, Jo Dunne, Biddy O'Sullivan, Margaret Farrell, Ann Downey and Angela Downey. Front: Ann Marie Brennan, Nora Whelan, Marie Fitzpatrick, Bridie McGarry (Capt), Anne Holden, Anna Whelan, Liz Neary and Siobhan Ryan.

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UNIVERSITY College Cork set the 1985 ball rolling in dramatic fashion by dethroning five-in-a-row Ashbourne champions, U.C.D. in the quarter-final of the oldest competition in the game. An easy semi-final against Ashbourne hosts, Trinity College, left the Cork College poised for their first cup success since 1977.

Amid scenes of great jubilation, Eileen Noonan accepted the Ashbourne Cup on behalf of Cork following a comprehensive 8-0 to 0-6 victory over Galway. The team which brought the 26th Ashbourne to U.C.C. was: Rose Desmond, Eileen Noonan (Capt.), Marcella Fitzpatrick, Clare Cronin, Imelda Cronin, Margaret Murphy, Orla Flynn, Ann Marie Landers, Rosemary Fahy, Norma Delaney, Patsy Keniry and Joan Riordan. Four of the team, Claire Cronin, Ann Marie Landers, Norma Delaney and Patsy Keniry were honoured with places on the Combined Universities team.

North Presentation and St. Patrick's, the two schools which have dominated the Munster Colleges scene in the eighties, met in the final of the senior championship. Carmel Currid had the ball in the North Presentation before the sides had time to find their bearings. Captain Linda Mellerick made it three up within ten minutes. North Presentation battled bravely to get back in the game but those early goals proved too great a handicap.

Viv O'Brien and Helena Barry were the heroines of St. Patrick's 3-5 to 1-1 win over F.C.J. Bunclody in the All-Ireland semi-final. St. Patrick's met St. Raphaels, Loughrea in the final at Cashel. Linda Mellerick, Karen Mellerick, Helena Barry, Kathleen O'Keefe and Liz O'Sullivan played their hearts out for the Cork School.

The individual brilliance of Deirdre Costello separated the sides. Later to be named as Junior Player of the Year at national level, she scored superb goals enabling her side to finish 4-7 to 3-3 in front.

The opening games of the Cork

CORK'S CUP OF JOY!

by
MARY MORAN

Senior Championship were one-sided affairs. Glen Rovers were untroubled by Blackrock and Eire Óg completely overwhelmed a depleted Aghabullogue team. St. Finbarrs followed up their win over Sarsfields with a thrilling victory over Glen Rovers by a single goal.

Brave Ballinora made champions, Killeagh earn their passage to the semi-final. Na Píarsaigh gave Killeagh a rare fright and had Jean Paula Kent had more support in front of goal, it might have been a different result. Meadow length grass ruined the Eire Óg v St. Finbarrs semi-final. Eire Óg placed Cork full-back Eileen Dineen in the forward line where she linked up well with Mary Geaney. This pair scored four goals between them.

Marion McCarthy was in marvellous form in the Eire Óg goal. Eire Óg came through by 5-7 to 1-12. Clare Cronin, Margaret Farrell, Colette O'Mahony and Stephanie Curtin were outstanding in a St. Finbarrs team which cannot be far off the breakthrough. Eire Óg recaptured the Science Cup which last rested in Mid-Cork in 1979 with a merited 3-7 to 1-8 win over Killeagh. Joan Shannon, Marion McCarthy, Noelle O'Driscoll and Anne O'Leary were in sparkling form for the winners.

Eire Óg added the Munster Club Championship title. They overcame Sixmilebridge (Clare) by 3-8 to 1-2 and Portroe (Tipperary) by 2-11 to 4-2.

The Cork senior selectors discarded seven of last season's panel as they prepared for the National League campaign. Newcomers introduced to the squad included Irene O'Leary, Linda Mellerick,

Shelley and Mary Spillane. The selectors dropped a bombshell by omitting Sandie Fitzgibbon, who is widely regarded as one of the best midfield players in the country, for the league outing with Dublin.

Dublin exposed holes in the Cork defence and highlighted problems in every sector of the side. Cork completed the league programme and retained their Munster crown without reaching any great heights. An understrength Galway side was disposed of by 3-10 to 1-4 in the opening round of the championship.

Cork were just not sharp enough for Dublin in the semi-final. They did not put in the necessary preparation this year. The county championship dragged on much too late and team trainer, Tom Nott, was deprived of a realistic chance of having his team in shape. Planning and hard work are essential if Cork are to mount a serious challenge for the 1986 All-Ireland title.

For the second year running, Cork had to find a new team for the Munster Junior Championship. Fielding what was actually their fourth string which included seven girls wearing county colours for the first time, Cork failed to Limerick for the want of experience. These girls now know what is required if they wish to pursue an inter-county career.

Pride of Cork this season were, of course, the minors. Aiming for a three-in-a-row with five survivors in their ranks, they only escaped by a whisker after a truly memorable match with Clare in the opening round. Poor defensive play by Tipperary helped Cork to an easy win in the semi-final. Although Cork lead all the way in the Munster final with Limerick, they were never able to draw clear and kept their supporters on tender hooks to the end.



HAPPY BENCH: Substitutes from Rasharkin shout encouragement during the Feile final in Wexford.

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●CORK — 1985 All-Ireland Minor Champions. Back: Brid Walsh, Aine Buckley, Joy Nicholls, Deirdre Ryan, Sheenagh Morley, Aileen Barry, Betty Buckley, Ina Leahy, Bernie Power, Karen Mellerick and Helen O'Connor. Front: Deirdre Carroll, Brid Kelleher, Tracey O'Riordan, Jean Paula Kent, Carmel Currid, Paula Carey (Capt.), Bernice Cashman and Lorraine Kelly.



●EIRE ÓG, Cork and Munster Club Champions 1985. Back: Mary Geaney, Una Downey, Teresa Murray, Marian Reck, Eileen Dineen, Sarah Murphy, Grainne Mackey, Miriam Higgins, Patricia O'Reilly, Mary O'Donovan, Bernice Mitchell and Mary O'Driscoll. Front: Nancy O'Donovan, Jackie Mitchell, Anne O'Leary, Noelle O'Driscoll (Capt.), Joan Shannon, Margo Twomey, Marion McCarthy and Sheila O'Brien.

Cork improved out of recognition for their All-Ireland semi-final match with Wexford. Faster to the ball and crisper in striking, Cork confidently overcome a big Wexford side by 5-4 to 1-4. Galway travelled to Cork with a big reputation but met a Cork team which had made up their mind that they were keeping the cup. Jean Paula Kent, Tracey O'Riordan, Brid Kelleher, Brid Walsh, Ina Leahy, Aileen Barry and Karen Mellerick played major roles in bringing Cork their eighth All-Ireland Minor crown in twelve years.

Aghabullogue were the best of twenty four teams in the Cork Feile. They reached the quarter final in Wexford where Marino proved too strong. Gillian Ryan proved best in the Cork Feile Skills Competition. Glen Rovers and Bishopstown brought the honours back to Cork



GILLIAN RYAN... Winner of Cork Feile Skills Competition.

from Pan Celtic. Mag Finn represented Cork in Gradam Tailte and the up-and-coming youngsters



●LINDA MELLERICK (Brian Dillons) who successfully made the transition to the Cork Senior team this season.

of Bishopstown collected the silver medals in the National Community final at Mosney.



WALL OF CONCENTRATION: Cork minors line the goal facing a Wexford free, from left Ina Leahy, Brid Walsh and Tracy Riordan. Cork turned on a great second half display to win this All-Ireland semi-final by 5-4 to 1-4. They later defeated Galway in the All-Ireland final.

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Camogie Star

Deirdre Costelloe who had a wonderful year with Galway in camogie has set a seal on her campaign by winning the A.I.B. Gaelic Stars Yearbook Award for Junior Camogie for 1985.

The brilliant young student from St. Raphael's College, Loughrea was presented with her trophy at a pleasant function at the College.

The trophy was presented to Deirdre by Dennis O'Connell, Manager A.I.B. Loughrea. Mr. O'Connell congratulated Deirdre on her many achievements over the year and expressed particular satisfaction that this prestigious award had been brought to Loughrea for the first time.

He said he had little doubt that many more honours were in store for the brilliant Sarsfield player in the future.

Darren Hughes of GAELIC STARS paid tribute to Deirdre on her achieve-



Deirdre Costelloe (Galway)

ments over the past year. The best possible tribute that could be paid to her he said was that she was an auto-

of the Year

matic selection for the trophy. He congratulated her on receiving the award and wished her well in the future.

The guests at the enjoyable function were received by the principal of the College, Sister Declan.

Deirdre Costelloe won a Vocational Junior League Medal with Galway last year. She also won Connacht National Junior medals with Galway and scored four goals in the Counties All-Ireland Junior Camogie Final win over Armagh in September.

Back in April she led St. Raphael's to win All-Ireland Colleges Senior Championship and to complete a noticeable double this year she captained St. Raphael's to the All-Ireland Junior Championship. Her achievements in 1985 also included Connacht All-Ireland Community games Medals and she was runner-up to Angela Downey (Kilkenny) in Gradam Tailte.



Deirdre Costelloe with Dennis O'Connell, Manager A.I.B. Loughrea (right) who presented the trophy and Darren Hughes of "Gaelic Stars".

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History on the Double from Kilkenny and Galway

1985 will be remembered in a special way by the players of Kilkenny and Galway. Up to now, an All-Ireland Championship and National League double in the same season had proved elusive. History was made by Kilkenny in senior grade and Galway at junior level.

Dublin v Kilkenny clashes dominated the senior scene. Stung by their failure to Dublin in the 1984 championship, Kilkenny planned and prepared diligently for the new season. A new goalkeeper had to be found. Marie Fitzpatrick was plucked from the undistinguished Kilkenny junior side and she responded magnificently.

Kilkenny eased through their section of the National League to meet Dublin in the final. Played at a blistering pace on the finest afternoon of the summer, Kilkenny produced excellent camogie and raced into a three goal lead. A spirited fight back by Dublin levelled the game on the call of time.

Dublin had to find replacements for Yvonne Redmond, Germaine Noonan, Marie Connell and Joan Gormley for the

replay at Nowlan Park. Despite this huge handicap, Dublin were in no mood to concede to Kilkenny. As in the drawn game opposing captains, Bridie McGarry and Edel Murphy inspired their players to great heights. Victory went to Kilkenny but only by four points.

Dublin coasted past Antrim and Down in the opening rounds of the senior championship. The anticipated showdown with Cork only served to highlight the number of rungs which the Rebel County have slipped down the ladder. Many of the girls who won glory in the red and white appear to be approaching the end of their inter-county careers.

Clare provided no opposition to Kilkenny in the championship. But what a fright Kilkenny had to endure before shaking off Wexford in the semi-final. With the score standing at a win, a defeat and a draw apiece, Dublin and Kilkenny entered the arena for their fourth encounter of the season.

A tentative first half was followed by a fine display of skill and opportunism by the National League champions. Mar-

garet Farrell gave a point picking exhibition in what must have been her finest hour in the Kilkenny colours. The artistry of Angela Downey, the cool efficiency of Marie Fitzpatrick, the sweeping play of Bidy O'Sullivan, the leadership of Bridie McGarry and the effective displays of Liz Neary and Anne Downey contributed to Kilkenny's fifth success.

Angela Downey was rarely out of the news. She registered some delightful scores for Kilkenny and Leinster. Her performance in Gradam Tailte was something special. Before the contest was half over, Angela had shown that she was in a class of her own. Her competitive and athletic attributes enabled her to record a very notable second place in the Opel Supergirl contest.

REAL GEMS

There is no doubting Galway's right to the title Junior Team of the Year. Deirdre Costello, Anne Fahy, Anne Ryan and Deirdre Lawless skilfully combined to score 16 goals and twenty eight points in three championship outings. Some of these scores were real gems. The progress of these players in the senior inter-county arena will be followed with interest.

St. Raphael's Secondary School, Loughrea, matches the eleven year old record of another Galway school, Presentation, Athenry, by recording an All-Ireland Colleges double. A hat-trick from Deirdre Costello and excellent play from Brid Stratford, Angela Cooney, Anne Fahy, Fidelma Coyne and Carmel Linnane earned St. Raphaels the senior crown. Imelda Hobbins, Caroline Loughnane, Geraldine Fahy and captain Mary Dolphin figured in both junior and senior victories.

Cork extended their amazing record in the All-Ireland Minor Championship. Eight wins in twelve years is their present score. Captain Paula Carey and Jean Paula Kent equalled Sandi Fitzgibbon's tally of three medals. Brid Kelleher, Ina Leahy, Tracy O'Riordan, Brid Walsh,



Kilkenny captain, Bridie Martin receives the O'Duffy Cup from President Mary Lynch.

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All-Ireland and National League Champions - Kilkenny.
Front: (l. to r.) Anne-Marie Brennan, Nora Whelan, Marie Fitzpatrick, Bridie McGarry (Capt.), Anne Holden, Anna Whelan, Liz Neary and Siobhan Ryan.
Back: (l. to r.) Rita Wymes, Breda Holmes, Deirdre Malone, Jo Dunne, Biddy O'Sullivan, Margaret Farrell, Anne Downey and Angela Downey.

Jean Paula Kent and Aileen Barry were superb throughout the campaign.

Crumlin, with four Redmond sisters, Anne, Barbara, Yvonne and Aileen, in their ranks, made a breakthrough in

Dublin and blazed a trail in the Club Championship. U.C.C. made a welcome return to prominence in the Ashbourne Cup, Leinster (senior) and Munster (junior) took interprovincial honours,

Mullagh (Galway) proved Feile kingpins and Freshford (Kilkenny) finished supreme in the Community Games.



Galway captain, Ena Cannon holds the New Ireland Cup aloft following her county's success in the All-Ireland Junior Championship.



Dublin goalkeeper, Yvonne Redmond deflects the ball for a thirty as Kilkenny forwards Breda Holmes and Jo Dunne are poised to attack.

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GALWAY

Deirdre Costello Shows the Way for the Ladies



Half backs Peter Finnerty, Tony Keady and Tony Kilkenny were the names on most people's lips after Galway's surprise All-Ireland senior hurling semi-final win over Cork last August. No wonder, as all three illuminated the gloom of a dismal day at Croke Park with confident and assured hurling that proved the platform for the Connacht's team's well merited four points win.

Although Galway failed to build on that break-through in the final, in which they lost yet again at that stage to Offaly, the grandeur of the half backs against Cork will be recalled time and again in the future. All three showed up well again in the decider.

Noel Lane was a consistent star all over the season for Galway in the full forward position, and his exciting display against Cork was also one of the season's highlights.

P.J. Molloy produced one of the top goals of the year in the All-Ireland senior final. This Athenry club man, who has hit so many goals and points for the county over the years, got the score seven minutes into the second half when he fielded a lob from Michael McGrath, and sent the ball home from twenty yards. A goal to savour!

Sylvie Linnane played many good games for Galway in defence, and was also a stalwart in the All-Ireland final loss to Offaly.

JUNIOR TRAIL

Half backs were also to the fore in football for Galway, with the county's junior trio Gerry Daly, Michael Melia and Seamus Glynn a powerhouse as Kerry were beaten in a replay for the All-Ireland "Home" football championship.

Galway went on to beat Warwickshire in the final proper for the county's only national success in the big-ball game.

Stephen Joyce, GAELIC STARS personality of the year award winner for 1984, scored 0-4, and John Purcell hit 1-1, but their efforts were still not enough to prevent Galway losing their senior football provincial crown when they met Roscommon in a semi-final replay at Tuam.

But if Galway failed to keep alive their hopes of a fourth Western title in succession, they played their part in providing an exhilarating match and lost by only two points.

HANDBALL JOY

On the handball front Pat Delaney and Eamonn Rabbite made it a joy day at Crinkle back in May.

They turned on the style to beat Tony Ryan and Eamonn Farrell, of Tipperary, for the first All-Ireland 40 x 20 senior doubles title win by a Galway combination.

CAMOGIE'S GREAT YEAR

Deirdre Costello had a busy and successful time as Galway celebrated a great year in camogie. She led St. Raphael's, Loughrea, to the All-Ireland Colleges' senior championship in March, won a National Junior League medal with the county a few months later, and was one of three players to share second place in June in Gradam Tailte, camogie's Super Ser competition, or the sport's day of annual competition at Kilkenny.

That second place rating with two other players was a great feat by a player as young as Deirdre, who was later on duty in the county side that lost the All-

Ireland minor championship final to Cork.

But there was much better fortune for the young Loughrea student in the All-Ireland junior final against Armagh at Croke Park in mid-September. Galway regained the title after a break of six years and Deirdre, of the Sarsfields club played at centre forward.

Not only that, she had a wonderful game, scoring three goals in the first half and another in the second. It would be hard to better an All-Ireland performance than that — especially from one so young.

ALL-IRELAND SUCCESS

With Galway hurlers having contested three finals — the Railway Cup as Connacht, the Ford Cup open-draw and the All-Ireland final — a strong case could be made for looking to that side for our choice of the 1985 GAELIC STARS award winner.

But while a number of that team obviously came into the reckoning, as well as members of the junior and senior football teams, the All-Ireland successes in camogie just could not be ignored.

And as the stylish and top-scoring Deirdre Costello was very prominent in all, she just had to be the choice for the nomination. She is the first camogie player from Galway to win this honour.

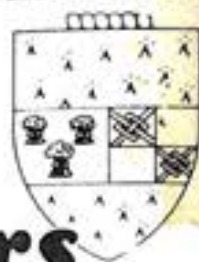


Deirdre Costello (Galway)

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KILKENNY CAMOGIE - HANDBALL

Angela Downey and Michael Walsh - Superstars



Angela Downey and Michael Walsh were not only two of the outstanding personalities for Kilkenny in Gaelic Sport during 1985 but also two of the most successful and exciting campaigners on the Irish sporting scene in general.

Angela Downey, who has had a very successful career in the national women's game, had a remarkable year by any standard. She won a National League medal in June, and retained the Gradam Tailte, camogie's Super Star title, some weeks later.

Her wonderful competitive spirit, tremendous gifts and energy enabled her to make light of the opposition in the Super Star test, or to be more correct, day of sporting competition involving the player of the year from each county.

The Kilkenny forward scored five firsts, and two second places to earn 64 points and finish the most comfortable of winners. She also became the first to win two Gradam Tailte titles.

Later in the year, Miss Downey was very prominent again as she collected her fifth All-Ireland senior medal following Kilkenny's win over Dublin in the Croke Park final. She had an outstanding game, and her second half performance, which she highlighted with four points, was a major factor in turning the key in the door to Kilkenny's first title since 1981.

A great record over-all, and one that in most years would automatically earn the Kilkenny sharpshooting forward the No. 1 selection for the county. But there was strong opposition elsewhere.



Angela Downey

TARGET CONSCIOUS

Kieran Brennan, who has been Kilkenny's ace scorer in recent times, had another successful season in the scoring review. He was particularly target conscious as Kilkenny got their Leinster senior hurling championship bid off to a bright start with a big win over Westmeath at Tullamore in May. Brennan had one of the season's top individual returns by any hurler in that game at 1-9.

Despite his expert finishing, the season was a disappointing one for Kilkenny in hurling, with the chief honours going to the under-21 side.

Michael Dunne, with 2-2, sparkled in a full Leinster final in which Kilkenny proved much too good for Wexford at Croke Park.

Larry Cleere and Tom Lennon in the half back line, and Eamonn Morrissey in attack were the pick of a lack lustre win over Down in the semi-final at Navan. The All-Ireland title eluded the Noreiders in the final at Waterford, where Tipperary won an exciting game by the minimum margin. Morrissey had another good game for Kilkenny.

A TIE

But when it came to deciding on the award winner for Kilkenny it was just impossible to look beyond Angela Downey and Michael Walsh. In any ordinary year either one would have "walked away" with our trophy in view of the wonderful record of achievements.

But 1985 was no ordinary year with Miss Downey and young Michael Walsh setting brilliant standards. It is just impossible to make a choice between them for the Kilkenny trophy, and so the GAELIC STARS selectors decided that two trophies would just have to go to the Nore side this season.

This is historic in its own way because, while two handballers as doubles champions have been honoured in the past this is the first time for two personalities in separate sports to be chosen in one county.

WALSH MAKES HISTORY

Michael Walsh is a young handballer

who is fully living up to the wonderful potential he displayed in juvenile and minor ranks. Not only that he earned for himself a place in the record books when he beat a former champion, Tony Ryan (Tipperary) in the All-Ireland Coca-Cola senior singles final at Croke Park by two straight sets last August.

Walsh, who was only 19 last May, became the youngest-ever winner of this prestigious senior championship. It was his first final appearance at that grade.

The Kilkenny teenager, in partnership with Eugene Downey, also achieved another first. The Noreiders booked their place in the All-Ireland Coca Cola senior doubles final for the first time, and threw down the gauntlet at Croke Park to the defending champions and also holders of the World title, the Quish brothers, Tom and John, of Limerick.

With a display of high quality handball, the Kilkenny pair exceeded most expectations by sweeping to a clear-cut two games to nil win, and Walsh became the first handballer to win All-Ireland Coca Cola senior singles and doubles medals in the same year.

The doubles final win also gave the youthful Kilkenny man his third All-Ireland championship of the year, as he won the junior singles title at 40 x 20 in May.



Michael Walsh

DEC. 1985

DUBLIN

Camogie History

Yvonne Redmond Stars in Goal for Club and County

Brian Mullins led Leinster in majestic style from midfield last March to their first Railway Cup football final win in eleven years, but that was to prove one of a few glory days for county followers at national level in Gaelic Games.

John O'Leary, Mick Holden, Pat Canavan, Tommy Conroy, Kieran Duff and Barney Rock all helped as well to make the win over Munster at Croke Park a proud day not only for the East but for Dublin.

A week later, Canavan, Mullins and Conroy were in the St. Vincent's (Dublin) team that lost through a last gasp goal to Castleisland Desmonds (Kerry) in the All-Ireland club senior football final at Tipperary Town.

The inter-county senior football championship also saw Dublin get so far, but no further in terms of titles.

Gerry Hargan, one of the most underestimated full backs in the game, and Barney Rock with his consistent marksmanship, were prime movers in a sequence of wins that cleared the way for another crack at Kerry in the Sam Maguire Cup game in September.

A disastrous first half, during which they scored just two points and conceded 1-8, seemed to spell "finish" to Dublin's chances. To their credit, however, they battled back bravely on the change-over, and two goals by Joe McNally had the Dubs only a point in arrears with six minutes remaining.

There was no fairy-tale ending, though. Kerry regained the initiative, and went on for a second successive final win over the Dubs.

TWO NATIONAL FINALS

Dublin contested two national finals in senior camogie. After being held to a draw by Kilkenny at Parnell Park in the National League decider in June, they drew-out in the replay short four key players due to injuries and holidays, and narrowly unexpectedly lost by four points.

The Metropolitans were at full strength when they next met Kilkenny in September in the final defence of their All-Ireland open-draw senior title.

But, backed by a strong breeze, Dublin led by just a goal at the interval,

and were outplayed in the second half. Germaine Noonan at right back, Una Crowley and GAELIC STARS 1984 award winner Edel Murphy at midfield, and Joan Gormley in attack were outstanding for Dublin as they went down by five points.

HURLING BIG-TIME

John Twomey, Canice Hennebry and Paul Mulhaire were giants in defence, and Peadar Carton and Maurice Hurley kings in scoring as Dublin beat Westmeath at Mullingar in February for one of the county's most important wins in years. That success brought Dublin back to the big-time by earning them a place in Division I of the 1985-86 National League.

Back to football, and corner forward Kevin Richardson, with a goal in each half, had much to do in steering Dublin to a convincing Leinster junior final win over Louth by fifteen points at Navan. The Dubs did not hit that form next time out when going under at their own Parnell Park to Galway, who went on to win the All-Ireland championship.

A FIRST FOR CRUMLIN

Mary Mernagh at midfield, Anna Condon and county defender Bernie Toner in a forward role exercised major influences for Crumlin as the Dublin club marked their Leinster senior camogie championship final debut with a runaway win over All-Ireland title specialists Buffer's Alley, Wexford, at O'Toole Park in September.

Barbara Redmond also left her stamp on the game with three great goals as the Dubliners made history with as many as 16 points to spare.

Then came a dramatic 2-4 to 1-5 win over Eire Og, Cork, in Cork, with a last minute goal by Anna Condon, and Crumlin set the seal on a great year with good win over Athenry, of Galway, at O'Toole Park, Dublin.

Anna Condon, Mary Mernagh and Bernie Toner and Yvonne Redmond were others who played good roles in shaping the 4-8 to 3-3 win.

A SECOND FOR CAMOGIE

With Crumlin having brought the only All-Ireland title in a field game to Dublin in 1985, their squad invariably provided some strong challengers for the GAELIC STARS award.

One of the strongest was Yvonne Redmond, who kept a good goal throughout the history-making run. Earlier in the year she played many grand games for the Dublin senior team both in the National League and the All-Ireland open-draw championship.

Dublin reached the finals of both competitions, losing to Kilkenny in a replay for the League title, and to the Noreiders again in the championship. As a result, Yvonne Redmond had many opportunities to sparkle with Dublin.

Add to that her excellence between the posts for Crumlin and you have the reasons why she wins her first GAELIC STARS award, and earns a second successive trophy for camogie for Dublin.



Yvonne Redmond

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St. Paul's, who won the Kilkenny senior camogie championship. Back row (left to right): Ann McGettigan, Liz Neary, Elaine McGuinness, Ann Downey, Annette Stapleton, Angela Downey, Mary Canavan, Catherine Neary. Front (left to right): Marie Lawlor, Kathleen Holohan, Nellie Coakley, Ursula Mulcahy, Bridie McGarry, Breda Ryan, Julie Fry.



St. Brigid's (Ballycallan), the losing Kilkenny senior camogie finalists.



Thomastown won the Leinster senior vocational schools camogie championship and the team is pictured receiving the Shield from Mr. Richard Hamilton of Hamilton Developments, Thomastown (sponsor of the Shield). Seated are (from left): Denis Kelly (coach), Claire Cullen, Elizabeth Whelan, Siobhan Delaney, Ann Tyrrell, Alice Delaney, Chrissie Grace, Michelle O'Neill, Margaret O'Keefe, Patricia Kelly, Catherine Begley. Behind - Julie Dunne, Teresa O'Neill, Brid Donnelly, Josephine Dalton, Richard Hamilton, Nora Whelan (captain), Mary Whelan, Joan Dack, Pat Cronin (Principal).

DEC. 1986

Injuries all in a day's work

— Camogie Captain



BRIDIE MCGARRY, THE KILKENNY CAPTAIN.

ST. PAUL'S defender, Bridie McGarry, captained the Kilkenny senior camogie team to a unique double of National League and all-Ireland championship this year. In the process she suffered two broken teeth and a broken finger. The latter didn't set properly, for the simple reason she had to go back into action before it was given time to heal properly.

A high price for any woman to pay for medals that no longer contain the amount of gold they once did, you might think. But you won't hear any complaints from this commanding centre-back, or, indeed, any of her dedicated team mates.

You see the camogie ladies in Kilkenny are a durable breed. Hardship is nothing new to them. They have become accustomed to battling against the odds.

"What a lot of people fail to realise is that we enjoy our camogie as much as the men do their hurling", was Bridie's down to earth response to the question why they bother. "You get knocks in the course of any physical contact sport, but they are just part of the game".

Bridie's acceptance of her apparent misfortune is typical of all the ladies loyal to camogie duty. For years it was regular for county players Jo Dunne and Ann Holden to thumb into training from Stoneyford and Ballyhale

respectively. Ann Whelan did the same from Castlecomer.

Because their game is regarded as a minor one, it attracts little attention and consequently little sponsorship, and the ladies generally supply their own hurleys, boots, socks, indeed everything but the county shirts. And expenses for the use of their own cars are at a minimum.

GIRLS DIDN'T MIND

"We play camogie and we enjoy it. It's not all about what you get out of it", the captain explained. "So many people gave out about the reception we received when we returned to Kilkenny after winning the all-Ireland, but the girls didn't mind how many did or did not turn up. They would have liked to have seen the streets thronged, but it wasn't a terrible let-down when they weren't".

Despite the trials and tribulations of the game, the former Miss Martin, who hails from Inchbeg, Freshford, is as keen as ever after 13 years of ac-

tivity at inter-county level. Along the way she has collected five all-Ireland medals (1974, '76, 1977, '81 and 1985) and has gained inter-provincial success with Leinster, not to mention individual honours like the B+I award in 1976. Add in eight Kilkenny senior championships won with St. Paul's, and you get an insight into the massive collection she has amassed.



"This year, compared with any year, I put in much more training and enjoyed the game more", she revealed. "A lot of credit for our success must be given to trainer, Tom Ryan (the former Shamrocks trainer). He joined us in March and

laid down the law. Everything worked out really well, and the squad worked like one big happy family".

And when it came to preparing for big matches and the numbers were not sufficient to make up two teams at training, there were always a few willing hands like Breda Ryan, Carmel Savage, Annette Stapleton and Kathleen Whitehead ready to help out.

"I have a poor child and he never saw as many matches as he did this year", Bridie joked. "But Benny (her husband) who plays with Dicksboro has always been helpful and we try to arrange our matches to suit each other".

So son Shane (21 months) is never neglected, even if he has often shared a camogie sideline creche with another child or two while mum has been training or playing.

LUCK WITH US

Obviously dedication was the not so secret

weapon of the dynamic Kilkenny Camogie ladies. They flew through the National League, and then took the all-Ireland by over powering Dublin in the final.

"The luck went with us in the open draw in the all-Ireland series", Bridie explained. "We could have got Dublin or Cork in the first round and the whole thing could have been different. On reflection it was a great year for Kilkenny camogie, and everything worked out well".

Bridie McGarry has come a long way since she first played junior camogie with Thornback, in the days when Patsy Trait and Billy Carroll did a lot of work. Later she played with her parish team of Lisdowney, and then joined St. Paul's, where she received great encouragement from the likes of Shem Downey, Ann Carroll and Jimmy Morrissey, to name but a few.

However, she would like to see the game played more widely in Kilkenny, and particularly in the city.

"In some parishes people are not interested just because it's girls who are involved", Bridie thought. "You could reel off the number of hurling clubs who have no camogie team. St. Paul's is based in the city, but still most of the girls are originally from the country.

GET GIRLS PLAYING

She pointed to Cork, where there is a thriving hurling / camogie relationship within clubs. Likewise in Dublin.

"I don't see any reason why this should not happen in Kilkenny. If young girls could be attracted into the game around 12 or 14 years of age the county could do even better", she declared. "All that would be needed would be a pitch, and transport to games. Perhaps some day". Indeed, perhaps.

DEC. 1986



KILKENNY — the National Camogie League Champions

On the winning team were — **Back row** (from left): Angela Downey, Biddy O'Sullivan, Jo Dunne, Breda Holmes, Liz Neary, Ann Downey. **Front row** (from left): Anna Whelan, Deirdre Malone, Siobhan Fitzpatrick, Bridie McGarry, Ann Holden, Margaret Farrell.

◀ Continued from page 87

sonal success for the long-serving Liz Neary. The St. Paul's star, who has won practically every honour in the game, crashed home a first-half hat-trick to give Kilkenny a 3-2 to 0-4 interval lead.

She wasn't finished at that. The St. Luke's hospital matron hit the net for the fourth time in the closing half. This remarkable display of strength and skill from one player alone proved too much for the Dubs who were downed by 4-7 to 3-6.

The Kilkenny girls had every reason to celebrate that night. The Dublin monopoly was broken, and the winners had completed a job they felt they should have finished the first day.

Liz Neary stole the show with her remarkable performance. She had a host of competent team mates, including Bridie McGarry, Ann Downey, her sister Angela, Ann Holden, Jo Dunne, Breda Holmes and ever-improving goalkeeper Marie Fitzpatrick.

The first bit of silverware for the year was collected. And how the girls made people in the county oh so proud when they went on to capture the All-Ireland as well. A great year for a great bunch of girls.

Camogie League panel: Marie Fitzpatrick (St. Brigid's); Anne Downey (St. Paul's); Anne Holden (St. Thomas's, Galway); Bridie

McGarry, capt. (St. Paul's); Biddy O'Sullivan (Tullagher); Liz Neary (St. Paul's); Deirdre Malone (St. Brigid's); Anna Whelan (Castlecomer); Margaret Farrell (St. Finbarr's, Cork); Angela Downey (St. Paul's); Jo Dunne (Carrickshock); Breda Holmes (St. Brigid's); Siobhan Ryan (Shamrocks); Anne Cahill (Shamrocks); Nora Whelan

(Blacks and Whites); Rita Wemyss (Bennettsbridge); Ann Marie Brennan (Thomastown); Claire Cullen (Bennettsbridge); Catherine Dunphy (St. Brigid's).

Also used during the campaign were Geraldine Skehan (Bennettsbridge), A. Malone (St. Brigid's), A. Hennessy (St. Brigid's) and A. Stapleton (St. Paul's).

The scoring road to victory

March 10 at Tullaroan

Kilkenny 6-3
Down 0-7

Scorers: Angela Downey (3-0); Breda Holmes (2-0); Anna Whelan (1-0); Jo Dunne (0-2); Ann Holden (0-1).

April 14 at Danesfort

Kilkenny 3-2
Galway 0-2

Scorers: Breda Holmes (2-0); Deirdre Malone (1-0); Anna Whelan (0-2).

April 21 in Dunloy, Co. Antrim

Kilkenny 6-8
Antrim 0-2

Scorers: B. Holmes (3-0); Rita Wemyss (1-0); Claire Cullen (1-0); M. Fitzpatrick (1-0); J. Dunne (0-5); A. Phelan (0-2); B. McGarry (0-1).

May 12 in Louth

Kilkenny 5-9
Louth 1-2

Scorers: R. Wemyss (2-1); B. Holmes (1-2); M. Farrell (1-2); J. Dunne (1-1); N. Phelan (1-0); A. Phelan, D. Malone, A. Downey (0-1 each).

June 2 in Parnell Park

League final
Kilkenny 4-7 (19 pts)
Dublin 2-13 (19 pts)

Scorers: M. Farrell (1-2); J. Dunne (1-1); B. Holmes (1-1); A. Whelan (1-0); A. Downey (0-3).

June 22 at Nowlan Park

League final replay
Kilkenny 4-7
Dublin 3-6

Scorers: L. Neary (4-0); A. Downey (0-4); A. Whelan (0-2); B. Holmes (0-1).



DEC. 1986

DUBLIN — SENIOR FINALISTS 1985

DEC.

1986

Queens of camogie kept county flag flying



Kilkenny, who completed the National Camogie League and open all-Ireland senior championship double

Back Row (l. to r.): Rita Wemyss, Breda Holmes, Deirdre Malone, Jo Dunne, Biddy O'Sullivan, Margaret Farrell, Ann Downey, Angela Downey.
Front (l. to r.): Ann-Marie Brennan, Siobhan Ryan, Marie Fitapatrik, Bridie McGarry (Capt.), Ann Holden, Anna Whelan, Liz Neary, Nora Whelan.

KILKENNY provided the First Ladies of the game. The determined and very talented players were selected for the National League.

was crammed with exciting action. Experienced skipper Bridie McGarry was in full flight, the rest of them when in full flight. Selectors Carmel Savage, Tom (trainer), Billy

Margaret Farrell, Liz Neary, Ann Whelan, Biddy O'Sullivan or any of the rest of them when in full flight. Selectors Carmel Savage, Tom (trainer), Billy

Kilkenny The Team Of The Year

KILKENNY were the team of the year bringing off the elusive double of All-Ireland Championship and National League, the premier title coming in dramatic fashion as the final, against holders, Dublin, went to a replay.

For Cork it was a rather disappointing year on the inter-county front. The seniors lost to Dublin in the All-Ireland semi-final in St. Finbarr's by 1-10 to 3-1 and with missed chances the order of the day for the Leesiders, Cork rued their determination to go for goals when points might have won the game. Dublin, for their part concentrated on points and having scored seven valuable minors in the first half they had laid the foundations for victory.

What of Cork's chances in 1986? Well it is not going to be easy to bring the senior title back to Cork next season. Kilkenny are now rampant, while Dublin will take a lot of beating. But Cork are always a force and will be determined to bring back the title they last won in 1983. It could be a time for change at senior level though and it looks as if more young stars will have to be introduced. Linda Mellerick, a minor in 1984 was promoted during the season and was a big success and maybe

more youngsters will be given their chance in the year ahead.

It is obvious, too, that earlier preparation is necessary as it was clear in the Dublin game that the All-Ireland champions were the fitter side, and Cork never really struck the form which has made them such a marvellous side in recent years.

Having won the Junior

gur well for the years ahead.

Cork started with a game against an outstanding Clare side and really "stole" victory in this one. They were excellent in their tie against Tipperary, but then had to battle all the way for their Munster title against a very good Limerick side.

Then a fancied Wexford team came to Kil-

ship, but the girls from Owens came back into contention with a bang and swept the County Championship from holders Killeagh in a highly exciting Co. Final. Eire Og last won the title in 1979 when they completed a hat-trick of titles, but in 1985 they went one better as they also took the Munster Senior Club Championship, defeating Sixmilebridge

was won by Castle-magner after an exciting final with Coursey Rovers.

The Under Age competitions are not yet completed, but in 1985 Na Piarsaigh won their first trophy since 1976, when they won the 1984 Under-18 Championship defeating Bishopstown in the final and St. Finbarr's once again proved their strength in under age when they took the 1984 Under-16 Championship.

It was a great year too for UCC as they won the coveted Ashbourne Cup for the first time since 1977 and left all their disappointments of recent years behind them.

By JOAN MORLEY

All-Ireland title for the previous two years. Cork had to field yet another completely new side for their Munster Championship campaign, which, in effect, meant that Cork were fielding their fourth side, and not surprisingly they crashed out of the competition to Limerick. But given another season, and the experience they will have gained from that tie, Cork will be a very different side in 1986.

But it was not all gloom on the inter-county front as the minors kept the Cork flag flying by taking their third successive All-Ireland crown and this must au-

leagh for the All-Ireland semi-final and again Cork came out on top and so on to the All-Ireland Final at St. Finbarr's, when after a nervous beginning they emerged as impressive and worthy winners of the title, against a top class Galway side.

With three All-Ireland titles behind them and such a wealth of young talent in our midst, then the future of camogie in the county looks very bright indeed.

On the club front Eire Og emerged as Cork and Munster club of the year. Killeagh, the holders and Glen Rovers were probably most fancied to take the Cork Co. Champion-

from Clare in the final. And to complete a marvellous season for them they also won the Munster Senior League, with another Cork club, St. Finbarr's as runners-up.

Aghabullogue, who caused controversy when they fielded mainly underage players for their Senior Co. Championship tie against Eire Og, leaving their stars on the sideline, won the Intermediate Championship, defeating Glen Rovers in the final. The Junior "A" crown went to Fr. O'Neill's after a marvellous campaign, in which the final with Killeagh went to a replay, and the Junior "B" title

The Colleges' scene was dominated by St. Raphael's, Loughrea, who won both senior and junior All-Ireland Championships. But Cork school, St. Patrick's, won the senior Munster Championship and only lost to St. Raphael's in a most exciting All-Ireland Final at Cashes.



Camogie star, Angela Downey, who was the first winner of the Hotel Kilkenny/Kilkenny People sports personality of the month award. Here she is pictured receiving the award for September from Hotel Kilkenny manager, Mr. Richard Butler.

JAN. 1986



There was no summit meeting when these two Presidents met. Instead G.A.A. President, Paddy Buggy (right) and Camogie Association President, Mary Fennelly, both of whom were in office during the Centenary celebrations in 1984, met to cut a cake to mark the 100th birthday of the Association.

New camogie officer



SÍLE DE BHAILÍS (above) took up her appointment as Development Officer of Cumann Camógaiochta na nGael at Camogie Headquarters, Croke Park, yesterday.

Síle, a native of Dalkey, brings considerable experience of every aspect of the Association with her to the position. She is a former secretary of both the Senior and Junior Dublin County Boards and has been a delegate on a regular basis at the county to Leinster Council and to Annual Congress.

Síle has also represented her county and pro-

vice with distinction on the playing fields. She captained the county senior team in 1976 and 1981 and holds two National League medals and an All-Ireland Junior medal. Goalkeeper for her club, Cuala, Síle won county league and championship senior medals in 1985.

The new Officer is considered to be among the top referees in the Association and she has officiated at all levels, including the 1985 All-Ireland Junior Final. Síle comes to camogie from the Accounts Department, Head Office, Quinnsborough.

Busy time ahead for colleges

WITH THE quarter-finals of the Leinster Colleges' Senior championship listed for January 18, players will return to intensive training when the schools open next week.

The 1985 championship drew to a close with the unusual pairing of F.C.J. Buncloody and St. Marys, Edenderry meeting in Croke Park. The last eight includes both established camogie nurseries and schools which are reasonably new to the game. It is too early to anticipate the trend for 1986.

Maryfield College, with an impressive record in colleges camogie, tackle the holders, F.C.J. Buncloody. Despite the advantage of home venue, the Buncloody players will need to be on their toes. Maryfield were caught napping last season and will be most anxious not to give a repeat performance.

Vocational School, Thomastown face Presentation Castlecomer in an

attractive all Kilkenny tie. These schools have been prominent over the years and will serve up a lively game.

Granard are due to play Loreto, Navan. As these schools come from the same zone, they are used to each other's style of play. Mercy, Enniscorthy will meet either Birr or Vocational, Mooncoin in the fourth semi-final.

The semi-final draw matches the winners of the Buncloody v Maryfield game with the survivor of the Thomastown v Castlecomer match. It would be no surprise if the ultimate winner came from this quartet.

The Ulster Colleges Senior championship has been whittled down to the last four. Of the four semi-finalists, only Vocational, Cavan have yet to win an Ulster championship title.

St. Patricks, Maghera, Ulster junior champions in 1980, will pro-

CAMOGIE

vide the opposition for Vocational, Cavan in the first semi-final. Cavan also retain an interest in the second semi-final. St. Aidans, Cootehill, title holders in 1980, meet the present champions, Loreto, Letterkenny.

The Leinster Colleges Junior Championship has produced a number of surprises. Vocational School, Kilcormack eliminated Assumption, Walkinstown at the quarter final stage. This Dublin school had built up quite a reputation in colleges camogie. The victory reflects the progress being made in Offaly.

Provincial champions, Maryfield College also bit the dust. Mary Mealy's charges from Presentation, Castlecomer disposed of the Maryfield challenge and earned a semi-final place with F.C.J. Buncloody.

The competition remains wide open.

Players are often criticised for not pulling their weight with the administration of the game. Returns from recent county conventions show a good sprinkling of inter-county players who are helping to organise the game in their own areas.

Breda Holmes and Angela Downey, forwards on Kilkenny's All-Ireland winning team, are officers of their County Board. All-Ireland medal holder, Miriam Higgins is the new Cork Chairman and Margaret Curran holds the same position in the Donegal Board.

Ena Cannon, who captained the successful Galway Junior team, has been elected as Assistant Secretary of her County Board. Kathleen Tonks (Wexford) and the Limerick trio Brid Stokes, Bernie O'Dea and Helen Sheehy are other prominent players who work for the game.

Dublin back move to end Inter-provincials

The inter provincials are not without their problems. Players find it difficult to feel the same sense of identity with their province as they do with their county. The competitions are timed soon after the All Ireland Finals. Those involved in the Croke Park games find it hard to whip up enthusiasm so soon again.

The format of the competitions was altered this season. The semi finals and finals were run off over the same weekend. It is too soon to judge whether this alteration was successful or not. Congress delegates will listen to the Dublin argument before casting their votes.

A MOTION, which will be tabled by Dublin for Congress, places the future of the inter provincial series in jeopardy. Dublin Convention voted in favour of the Gael Cup competitions.

The idea of inter provincial camogie was launched as part of the Golden Jubilee celebrations of the Camogie Association in 1954. A Leinster Selection played their Ulster counterparts in a special exhibition at Navan.

Each of the four provinces have tasted success at junior level. Munster are out in front with their name engraved six times. Leinster appear three times and both Connacht and Ulster once.

The Gael - Linn competitions have always provided

Munster follow with six, Connacht hold two and Ulster had their only success in 1967.

In 1975, the status of the competition was altered from senior to junior graded players. The juniors showed good interest in the inter provincial game and their competition was made permanent. The seniors returned to the field in 1978 since when both competitions have run concurrently.

ENGRAVED

Each of the four provinces have tasted success at junior level. Munster are out in front with their name engraved six times. Leinster appear three times and both Connacht and Ulster once.

Two years later the annual inter provincial series was established. Leinster became the first holders of the Gael - Linn Cup. In twenty seven years of senior competition, Leinster lead the way with eighteen titles.

The people involved in this work should not let their efforts end here but continue to the

LABOUR

MUNSTER Convention time is with us again and on Sunday the Annual provincial meeting will be held at the Munster Hotel, Thurles.

On the playing fields UCC will be the only Cork club in action as they travel to Coleraine for their first outing in defence of their Ashbourne crown.

Cork have a very strong representation on Munster Council with no less than four of the officers and all of these - Mary O'Callaghan (chairperson), Mary Casey (treasurer), Rose Malone (registrar) and Miriam Higgins (PRO) have been returned and unopposed. Limerick have one representative in the person of Eithne Neville as secretary and she is also without competition. So there will be only one contest on Sunday and this will be for the post of vice-chairman for which there are three nominees - Brid Stokes (Limerick), (outgoing), Kitty McNicholas (Clare), and Ned Power (Waterford)

Criticism from the chairman

Players, referees and delegates were criticised for their lack of attention to Munster affairs by the chairperson of the Munster Camogie Council, Máire ni Cheallacháin at their annual convention in Thurles yesterday.

She stressed that there was not enough attention given to the Gael Linn competition. Players who were picked on the Munster teams did not attend and did not seem to be interested as much in their province as they were in their county affairs.

Of referees, she said that there were two where no neutral referee could be found; here again referees should realise that they have a responsibility to their province as well as to their county.

Officers elected: Chairperson - Máire ni Cheallacháin, Cork; vice chairperson - Brid Stokes, Limerick; secretary - Eithne ni Niath, Limerick; treasurer - Máire ni Cathasaigh, Cork; registrar - Rose Malone, Cork; PRO - Miriam ni Uiginn, Cork.

LEINSTER CAMOGIE CONVENTION

A VERY successful Annual Camogie Convention was held in the Belvedere Hotel, Dublin, on Saturday last and the following officers were elected for the coming year: Chairman, Desmond Breslin; vice-chairman, P. J. Follam; secretary, Maureen Follam; treasurer, Marie Woods; registrar, Sophia Brack; Central Council delegate, Kathleen Tennant; P.R.O., P. J. Follam.

30 YEARS AGO

IN the opening rugby international game of the season, Scotland scored a great 12 points to nil win over France at Murrayfield, where the home country scored two tries and two penalty goals.

MAYFIELD won the Cork County Junior Camogie Championship title, when they defeated Castlemagner by 4-0 to 2-0 in the final at Church Road, Cork. Scorers for the winners were Kitty Dunphy (2-0) and Mary Maher (2-0) while Mary Ryan (1-0) and Jo Fitzpatrick (1-0) scored for Castlemagner.

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MAYFIELD won the Cork County Junior Camogie Championship title, when they defeated Castlemagner by 4-0 to 2-0 in the final at Church Road, Cork. Scorers for the winners were Kitty Dunphy (2-0) and Mary Maher (2-0) while Mary Ryan (1-0) and Jo Fitzpatrick (1-0) scored for Castlemagner.

CAMOGIE: MUNSTER CONVENTION Only one contest

By JOAN MORLEY

There are only three motions listed. Two of them come from Clare. In the first they call for the chairmanship of Munster Council to rotate every three years between those counties interested in taking up the position, and in the second they ask that neutral referees be appointed for Munster club games.

Cork have one motion in which they ask that an up-to-date copy of the Munster by-laws be issued to each county as soon as possible.

Ashbourne champions, UCC, face the long journey to Coleraine for the first defence of the crown. There they meet NUU, who will not be easy opponents but if Rose Desmond, Patsy Keniry, Gail Flynn, Eileen Flynn and Elaine Buckley play up to scratch then the Cork girls could advance to the final round proper.

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Tomorrow (Sunday) - Munster Convention at Munster Hotel, Ennis, 3 p.m.

LABOUR

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On the playing fields UCC will be the only Cork club in action as they travel to Coleraine for their first outing in defence of their Ashbourne crown.

Cork have a very strong representation on Munster Council with no less than four of the officers and all of these - Mary O'Callaghan (chairperson), Mary Casey (treasurer), Rose Malone (registrar) and Miriam Higgins (PRO) have been returned and unopposed. Limerick have one representative in the person of Eithne Neville as secretary and she is also without competition. So there will be only one contest on Sunday and this will be for the post of vice-chairman for which there are three nominees - Brid Stokes (Limerick), (outgoing), Kitty McNicholas (Clare), and Ned Power (Waterford)

Criticism from the chairman

Players, referees and delegates were criticised for their lack of attention to Munster affairs by the chairperson of the Munster Camogie Council, Máire ni Cheallacháin at their annual convention in Thurles yesterday.

She stressed that there was not enough attention given to the Gael Linn competition. Players who were picked on the Munster teams did not attend and did not seem to be interested as much in their province as they were in their county affairs.

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JAN. 1986

CAMOGIE IN DOWN 1985



The Downpatrick Senior Camogie Team



The "Bright" shining stars of Down Camogie.

This was indeed a very successful year for camogie with Down. 27 clubs competed in 7 leagues and championships — 421 games in the leagues, 63 in the championships. It was pleasing to see several new faces on the camogie scene — Ballyvarley (a club with an ancient camogie tradition) played once more in competition this year. Mrs. Deirdre McGrath (ex-County Secretary) must be congratulated for their entry, other new clubs included Bright, Annsborough and Downpatrick. It is also hoped that Banbridge another ancient club with camogie tradition will enter the 1986 competitions.

This year the leagues and championships have on the whole run very smoothly and most competitions are now completed. Leitrim won both the Senior and Intermediate Championships. Clonduff II's won the Junior Championship, Downpatrick won the novice.

Attical won the Minor Championship. Attical won the U-14 League and Championship. Ben Dearg won the U-12 League and Championship.

At inter County level Down has not been so

successful. The senior team had its best encounter against Dublin when the Dublin team, which went on to play in the All-Ireland Senior Final, only defeated Down by one goal.

Our county minor team, fittingly in the year of the youth, won the Ulster minor championship title. Congratulations must be extended to team manager Eileen Hamill and selectors Annie Gelston and Idwal Cooper.

Leitrim our county senior champs were defeated in the quarter finals of the Ulster club championship falling to Eglis. Co. Tyrone who won this year's Ulster title.

There was another very successful marriage between hurling and camogie in the Feile na nGael competition in 1985. Portaferry were the Down winners and went on to represent their county in Wexford.

The Feis an Dúin 7-a-side were played at Newcastle in June. Leitrim won the Senior title and also the minor title.

In the cultural field in the C.C.D. Competition Down won 3 Ulster titles — the Solo Singing — Sarah

JAN. 1986

DOWN MINOR CAMOGIE ROUND-UP

When the Camogie Board met in Newcastle early in January, even the most optimistic person could not have prophesied the success the Minor team were to achieve in 1985. The selection of the management team was aimed more or less to stop the downward trend in Minor Camogie at intercounty level. The management team consisted of Eileen Hamill Clonduff, Annie Gelson Drumaness and Idwel Cooper Darragh Cross.

Eileen's experience and expertise blended with Annie and Idwel's enthusiasm was to prove to be a great leap forward.

The selection of players began in February when Saturday after Saturday the eager camogie players of Down were whittled down. Their first match was against Monaghan and despite the dreadful weather conditions they came home victorious. Each match in the league saw a lot of variations in the team until the perfect combination was found. A testimony to the strength and depth of the panel was the fact that they only dropped one point against Armagh and easily defeated Tyrone. This forced a play off with Armagh in the latter part of the season, which they won comfortably.

They also destroyed Armagh in the first round of the championship which showed that they were a force to be reckoned with.

They then travelled to Letterkenny to play Donegal. They took a little time to settle but in true champion form they came home with the spoils.

For the first time in seven years Down were in an Ulster Final. With a carefully planned approach and a lot of determination Down faced last years Champions Antrim.

The match was played in July at Clonduff and it

certainly wasn't one for the faint hearted. The play went end to end and the excitement tense. With the left changing hands throughout the game and both teams playing to the death a draw was perhaps a fitting result.

As the holiday period was looming ahead the replay was fixed for the following Wednesday at an Antrim Venue.

Obviously those spectators who saw the drawn game had been touched enough to make the long journey to Rasharkin. They were not disappointed as the underdogs came home jubilant.

Unfortunately the fairy tale ended when in the All-Ireland semi-final a strong Galway side led by superstar Deirdre Costello defeated Down.

At the latter end to the season the minors also lost to Antrim in the league final. This slightly dampened a great season, but thanks to a dedicated management and a great bunch of girls a brighter future can be forecasted for Down camogie.

MAIREAD MUSSEN (Clonduff)

Goalie: This was Mairead's last year as a minor. She has been a part of the Down Minor teams since she was twelve, and throughout the season she not alone displayed a lot of experience but untiring determination and dedication. Often she risked life and limb to keep Down's hopes alive.

DONNA GREERAN (Leitrim)

Full Back: At fifteen Donna had great experience at both club and county level. Her most influential match had to be the replay of the Ulster Final of Rasharkin when she turned on a first class performance to earn herself the title of "Player of the Match".



The Down Squad that faced Antrim in Ulster Minor Final

JAN. 1986

VALERIE BROWN (Clonduff)

Right Wing Back: Valerie has been one of the most consistent players on this years team. With her keen awareness and the ability to crack down on fast breaking forwards she proved to be vital in Down's campaign this season. Also given the opportunity she moved forward pressuring the opposition.

MAIRE SMYTH (Drumaness)

Centre Half: Although still only fourteen Maire opened proved to be the settling influence in the Down defence. Giving the appearance of being casual in approach Maire foxed her opponents and turned defence into attack with long reliable clearness.

ORLA McALEAVEY (Newry)

Wing Back: Orla showed great determination both during matches and training. She always managed to retrieve sometimes a hopeless situation.

SINEAD McAVOY (An Ríocht)

Wing Back: Sinead came into the panel late in the season but soon claimed her place on the team. She probably will be best remembered for her timely blocking and hooking. She is also known for popping up in the square to relieve the pressure on the goalie.

MONICA McCARTAN (Leitrim)

Wing Midfield: With non stop running from the start of a match until the end Monica often managed to pick of vital scores. Her fast breaks from midfield usually resulted in a long range point.

DENISE BROWN (Clonduff)

Centre Midfield: As captain of the team she led by example. Her role as midfielder didn't contain her, she always pushed forward in attack and then back in defence to help out there. Her accurate free taking proved very valuable throughout the season.

SIOBHAN WALSH (Drumaness)

Wing Midfield: The most important moment in Siobhan's camogie life and indeed to the rest of this year's team was the goal that won the Ulster title. It was typical of her style in that she had remained in midfield while the others pushed forward best when the ball broke she drove it low and hard to the Antrimnet for the 30 line.

KAREN ROGAN (Drumaness)

Wing Midfield: Karen must be one of the most determined players in under-age camogie. Despite the physique and reputation of her opposition she fought for every ball mainly coming out on top.

MAUREEN McALEENAN (Leitrim)

Wing Forward: Maureen has an abundance of skill. Her clean lifting, quick turning and firm striking of the ball is a pleasure to watch. She has often been the victim of late tackles but always comes bouncing back.

CATHERINE O'HARE (An Ríocht)

Forward: Another late comer to the panel, but like Sinead soon established herself on the regular side. Catherine gave a lot of width to the Down attack which proved to be very effective. She also has the skill to pick off long range points.

GUENEVERA CARR (Clonduff)

Centre Half Forward: Guenevera often spearheaded Down's attack with the ability to catch the ball turn her defender and supply the other forwards. She often helped her midfielders when they were drawn into defence.



Down's Monica McCartan in action against Antrim



Denise Brown — Down Captain in Action



Ouch Mary!

JAN 1986

Fitzsimons — Ben Dearg; the Ballad Group — Portaferry; the Solo Instrumental — Fiona McStay Rostrevor.

Congratulations are due to the energetic finance committee for all their work over the year and as a result the County Finance Stands in a healthy state.

Mrs. Helen McAleavey has now completed her 3 years as chairperson. We must say thanks to her for her Trojan work for camogie in Down and Ulster. A special word of thanks also to Mrs. Vera McGahan (Newry) the County Secretary who resigned during the year after a great number of years in office.

How long is camogie associated with your club and district? Here are some facts to get you started! Newry 1904, Annsboro 1907, C/Wellan Newcastle 1921, Warrenpoint Betsy Gray 1935, Kilkeel 1926, Loughbrickland 1930, Glen 1932, Rathfriland 1932, Banbridge 1932, Kilclief 1933, Strangford 1933, Saul 1934, Killough 1935, Downpatrick 1935, Barnmeen 1940, Ballyholland 1948, Laurenstown 1948, Ballycruttie 1951, Bangor 1932, Leitrim 1934, Mayobridge 1941, Crossgar 1944, Ballycran 1940, Killyleagh 1964, Portaferry 1961, Ballykinlar 1964, Saval 1974, Rostrevor 1980, Drumaness 1980, Drumaroad 1964.



Clonduff's Guinevra Carr in Action



The Leitrim Senior Camogie Team which won the Feis Sevens



Maureen McAleenan takes a breather during a hard fought game



The Leitrim Minor Camogie Team which took part in the Final

JAN. 1986



DOWN MINOR CAMOGIE TEAM WHICH DEFEATED ANTRIM IN THE ULSTER MINOR FINAL BEFORE BEING BEATEN BY GALWAY IN THE ALL-IRELAND SEMI-FINAL

U.C.C. hit by losses

THE seventy-first Ashbourne Cup series opens on Saturday with four quarter finals listed for decision. In previous years the college which hosted the Ashbourne semi-finals and final received a bye at the quarter final stage.

That arrangement has been dispensed with. Therefore, University of Ulster, Coleraine, who will entertain the visiting colleges in two weeks time, face the Ashbourne holders, U.C.C. on Saturday. Coleraine will look to Madeline Dalv, Mary McKee, Noreen Malone and Ide Maguire in their bid to qualify for the play off stages.

NOT SO DAUNTING

The prospect of meeting the champions will not be as daunting as it may at first appear. U.C.C. will be without eight of their winning side. Ann Marie Landers, Marcella Fitzpatrick, Imelda Cronin, Joan Riordan and Norma Delaney have graduated. A rule change eliminates Clare Cronin and Margaret

CAMOGIE

Murphy and Rose Fahy is out through injury.

While in the process of team building, U.C.C. hope to advance. They pin their hopes of the performances of Eileen Noonan, Patsy Keniry, Orla Flynn, Una O'Connor, Mary Walsh and Elaine Buckley.

The most attractive pairing of this round is the meeting of U.C.D. and U.C.G. U.C.D. have a stronger side than which saw a sequence of five titles in a row come to an end last year. No prominent player has left the college but two quality acquisitions have signed on.

Dublin full forward Marie Connell and Kilkenny panelist Ann Marie Brennan will considerably boost the chances of winning back the Ashbourne Cup for U.C.D. They will slot in with Breda Kenny, Anne Cooper, Brid Ronaghan, Audrey Gormley

and Libbie Lowe to form a powerful side.

U.C.G., runners up to U.C.C. last season, will fight every inch of the way. Players of note in their squad include Claire Jones, Claire Moloney, Isbeal McGee, Mairead Coyle, Sheila Lee and Annette Ryan. Their newcomers looked good in the Freshers competition and will strengthen the panel.

Queens travel to Maynooth minus Teresa Allen, Deirdre O'Rawe and Bernice McNally who have completed their courses. Despite these defections Queens should carry sufficient skill in Brid McConville, Patricia Hale, Sarah Mooney, Yvonne Redmond, Grainne McCormack and Rosemary McAuley to advance.

The Trinity versus University of Ulster, Jordanstown game should be close and exciting. Wearing

the Trinity colours will be Marie Tierney, Eunice Keogh, Siobhan Bryson, Caroline Doyle, Claire Dowdall and Elizabeth Colleton. They will have a hard hour dealing with Siobhan McKeogh, Patricia O'Brien, Adrienne Hannigan, Brid Kilpatrick and Helen Loughran of Jordanstown.

"TEAMWORK" SCHEME

Breda Kennedy and Mona Quigley, members of Tipperary's All Ireland team of 1984, have a busy schedule for the next three months. They will act as coaches in a very worthwhile "Teamwork Scheme" in conjunction with the National Youth Scheme in the native county.

FIXTURES SATURDAY

Ashbourne Cup Quarter finals — U.C.D. v U.C.G., Belfast 2.0. U.C.C. v U.C.C., Coleraine 11.00. UUJ. v Trinity College, Belfast 2.0. Maynooth v Queens, Maynooth 2.0.

Ulster Colleges Junior Championship Semi-finals — Vocational, Ballyhale v Vocational, Kilmack, Ballyhale. Pres. Castlecomer v F.C.F., Bundoo, Castlecomer.

JAN. 1986

KILKENNY AND DUBLIN TO CONTINUE RIVALRY

A stiff opening hurdle in defence of the National Senior League title for Kilkenny . . . a top-class field of 24 counties for the National Junior League . . . the playing of the interprovincial championships for the Gael-Linn Cups at senior and junior over a single week-end once again this year. These are some of the features of a very full programme of events that promise plenty of exciting fare for camogie followers over the coming season.

Kilkenny beat Dublin in a Senior League final replay last June at Kilkenny for their first title in three years. These counties are in the same group of the League for the up-coming competition. Not only that — they have been paired in one of three first round ties on March 2, and the holders will have home advantage.

Antrim, Down and Galway are the other counties in this group, and the odds must be firmly on the winners of the Kilkenny-Dublin clash advancing to the group title, and with it a place in the final proper.

After all, as well as having met in two games last year for the League title, Kilkenny and Dublin were in opposition in the All-Ireland senior final in September. The Noreiders won that clash as well.

Cork, Limerick, Clare, Tipperary and Wexford will compete in the other section of the premier League. Cork did not enjoy much success in the League or championship last season, but they have such a rich pool of promising talent that many will be looking to them to regain lost glory in the coming campaign.

Wexford, however, have solid grounds for optimism. They were only beaten by Kilkenny by a point in a keen All-Ireland semi-final last August at Rathnure, and they could well cause a real shake-up this year.

The first senior programme of the year will feature, in addition to the Kilkenny-Dublin clash, Cork at home to Limerick, and Clare in opposition to Tipperary at a Clare venue. The Senior League final has been fixed for May 18.

The National Junior League will also get under way on March 2. Louth have been regraded junior for this season — they competed in the premier League and also in the senior championship in recent years — and they will be one of two Leinster counties in a group with three Ulster teams.

The Junior League will be run off initially in five separate groups, with all four provinces represented. Dublin, who did not field a junior side last season, return to active fare, and are in a section with Galway, the 1985 champions, Kilkenny, Antrim and Down.

Of the counties that competed last year, only Laois will be absent this time.

Two of the groups winners will play off in a quarter-final tie to clear the way for the semi-finals. The final proper has been fixed for June 8.

ALL-IRELAND

Ten counties will vie for the All-Ireland open-draw senior crown, and Kilkenny and Dublin are in separate halves of the draw.

Both will be well fancied to reach the last four, and Cork should also get through to that stage. The remaining

Galway will start out on their campaigns, and Kilkenny will open their defence of the O'Duffy Cup with a visit from Limerick.

The All-Ireland final will be played on September 14 at Croke Park.

Last October a new look was given to the interprovincial championships at senior and junior by playing both competitions over one week-end at Cork. Until then, a space of some weeks separated the semi-finals and finals of each championship.

The new development proved a success, and enabled players to meet socially as never before in camogie competitions. As a result, the format has been retained for 1986, and the competitions will be run off over the week-end of October 11-12.

The venue has yet to be decided on, but the games will definitely be played at a centre in Leinster.

In the All-Ireland minor championship the semi-final pairings will feature the champions of Connacht against Munster, and the Ulster winners against Leinster's best. Those games will be played on July 20, and the decider has been arranged for August 3.

The semi-final in the All-Ireland junior championship are exactly the



To renew rivalry early in the new season? Bridie Martin (Kilkenny) knocks the balls away from Edel Murphy (Dublin) in last year's All-Ireland senior final, as Anne McManus (Dublin), right, and Deirdre Malone (Kilkenny) await developments.

position would appear to rest between Wexford and Galway, who meet in a first round tie at Wexford.

Two preliminary round matches will get the All-Ireland series under way at the end of July. Cork, at home to Down, and Dublin, away to Clare, will be well fancied to report progress.

The winners will be in action in quarter finals two weeks later — Dublin or Clare will meet Tipperary, and Antrim will come up against the successful team at Cork.

The same afternoon Wexford and

same as in minor, and those games will be played on August 17. The final will, as usual, act as the curtain-raiser to the All-Ireland senior decider.

With the All-Ireland club championship final set to round off the campaign at the end of October, camogie followers have a busy and exciting programme of games over a lengthy period to look forward to at inter-county and interprovincial level — not to mention attractive local schedules in the various counties.

and to start Purcell Cup defence in style

CAMOGIE

Maghera, respectively in the semi-finals.

FULL RANGE

Leinster Colleges will have a busy afternoon on Saturday with four senior quarter-finals. The pairings are F.C.J. Buncloody v Maryfield College, Vocational, Thomastown v Pres. Castlecomer; Granard v Loreto, Navan and Mercy, Enniscorthy v Vocational, Mooncoin.

Maureen Fulham spares no effort in the preparation of her annual report to Leinster Convention. She describes the state of affairs in each county and deals in detail with the full range of activities of the Council.

The past season was a good one for Leinster camogie. Much hard work is being done particularly at underage level. However,

Maureen is concerned that the efforts of the weaker counties go unrewarded year after year. She suggests that Convention might take a hard look at their championship set up.

While throwing bouquets in the deserved directions, she expresses disappointment at the small number of counties participating in C.C.D. She comes out stronger at inactive secretaries, rapping the knuckles of those who fail to answer letters.

Phyllis Breslin (Chairman), Maureen Fulham (Secretary), Marie Woods (Treasurer), Sophie Brack (Registrar), and P. J. Fulham (P.R.O.) will be returned unopposed to Leinster Council. Five names are listed for the position of Vice-Chairman,

Miriam O'Callaghan (Offaly), Kathleen Timmins (Dublin), Marbaret Shiels (Wexford), Peter Hoey (Louth) and P. J. Fulham (Westmeath).

However, all of these may not stand for election.

Former President, Mary Fennelly is nominated by her native Kilkenny for position of delegate to Ard Chomhairle. The Outgoing delegate, Kathleen Timmins is nominated by several counties. The motions tabled are of an internal nature.

FIXTURES SATURDAY

PURCELL CUP — At Carysfort (2.0), Carysfort v St. Patrick's, Drumcondra. At Marino (2.0) — Marino v Thomond College.

Leinster Convention — Belvedere Hotel, Dublin (4.30).

Thomond carry off cup

THOMOND, 3-4; CARYSFORT, DUBLIN, 1-2.

FAVOURITES THOMOND, OF LIMERICK, carried off the Purcell Camogie Cup at the Malone Grounds, Belfast, when they defeated the Dublin side Carysfort by eight points. The losers put up a great show but the stronger Thomond side came out on top and carried the Cup back with them to Limerick.

Scorers—THOMOND—Breige Bilchein 2-0; Mary Lenihan 0-3; Nuala Halpin 1-1. CARYSFORT—E. Kavanagh 1-2.

CAMOGIE

Carmel Currid, Karen Mellerick and Tracy O'Riordan have represented their county on many occasions.

Victors over Comprehensive School, Shannon and Colaiste Muire, Ennis, St. Patrick's will start as favourites. The displays of St. Als in their two outings with Tulla suggest that they are in there with a real chance. The match should attract a sizeable crowd and be a good advertisement for the game.

Three of the four schools remaining in the race for the Leinster Colleges Senior Championship have yet to engrave their names on the Stuart Cup. The four school, F.C.J. Buncloody made their breakthrough last

season. Therefore, there is no great tradition behind any of the semi-finalists, Vocational Mooncoin, Granard, Pres. Castlecomer and Buncloody.

The Granard versus Mooncoin match will go ahead during this coming week, probably at a Dublin venue. Pres. Castlecomer play Buncloody in what should be a great game. All four are in with a good chance of making the final at Croke Park on Saturday week.

St. Marys, Belfast organised the final stages of the Purcell Cup this weekend. The host college is pitted against Carysfort College, Dublin, in the semi-final. Two Limerick colleges are paired in the second game. Thomond College are not alone expected to account for Mary Immaculate Col-

lege but to retain the trophy.

U.C.D. EXCEL

U.C.D. signalled their intentions of recapturing the Ashbourne Cup in no uncertain manner. In the quarter-final on Saturday, they brushed aside the challenge of U.C.G. by 4-11 to 0-2. U.C.C. made light of their long journey to Coleraine where they accounted for the local university by 5-6 to 0-1.

Queen's University, despite huge losses from 1st year's panel, got the better of Maynooth by 2-2 to 0-4. In the fourth game Trinity failed to Jorastown by 3-5 to 0-1. The Ashbourne semi-finals will go ahead on Saturday week at Coleraine.

Mary O'Callaghan (chairman) Brid Stokes (vice-chairman), Eithne Neville

(secretary), Mary Casey (treasurer), Rose Malone (registrar), and Miriam Higgins (PRO) were returned unopposed at Munster Convention in Thurles on Sunday. The most heartening news heard at convention was of the expansion of the game in Kerry. Killarney, Tarbert, Cloghane, Tralee, Castleisland, Dingle, Causeway and Kenmare areas are now active bringing the number of clubs to eight.

FIXTURES SATURDAY

Munster Colleges Senior Final at Páirc Uí Chaoimh (2.30) — St. Patrick's v St. Aloysius.

Purcell Cup at St. Mary's Belfast. Semi-finals: 2.0 — St. Marys v Carysfort; 3.00 — Mary Immaculate v Thomond College.

SUNDAY

Purcell Cup — Finals at St. Marys, Belfast (3.00).

St. Patrick's expected to have final say

schools, St. Aloysius, of the Senior Pairc Uí Chaoimh. They with con-

SPIRIT REKINDLED

That spirit has been rekindled and the present twelve are ready to fight to the final whistle in an effort to win back the Dripsey Cup. Paula Carey, Sheenagh Morley and Brid Kelleher were members of Cork's 1985 minor side. They are ably assisted by Niamh O'Sullivan, Colette O'Regan, Bernie Power, Irene O'Keefe and Deirdre Carroll.

There is no argument over the ability of St. Patrick's. Together for a few seasons, they are a formidable side. They have players who possess considerable experience for their age group. Linda Mellerick, Liz O'Sullivan, Viv O'Brien, Kathleen O'Keefe,

became difficult to retain the spirit for which they were renowned.

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CAMOGIE

Colleges Final At Pairc Ui Chaoimh

TWO Cork Colleges will meet at Pairc Ui Chaoimh tomorrow (Saturday) to contest what should be a most exciting Munster Senior Colleges Championship final.

The teams, St. Patrick's and St. Aloysius, have been most impressive in their games so far this season, so a thrilling game must be on the cards.

There is always a special aura about colleges camogie and the excitement in both schools has been building up to fever pitch in recent weeks.

St. Patrick's, the holders, won the All-Ireland title in 1981 and have reached two finals since then, including last season when they lost to St. Raphael's, Loughrea, after a keenly-contested decider.

On their way to the final, St. Pat's accounted for Comprehensive School, Shannon, and Colaiste Mhuire, Ennis, and because of their tremendous success in recent years, they will be certain to start as favourites.

They have a star-studded side, with most of their players having represented Cork at minor level. They have a Cork senior, too, in Linda Mellerick, who made such an impression in her first senior inter-county season. Their Cork minors include Karen Mellerick, Liz O'Sullivan, Viv O'Brien, Kathleen O'Keeffe, Carmel Currid, Aileen Barry and Tracy O'Riordan, although there must be some doubt about Liz O'Sullivan, who is recovering from injury.

St. Pat's, too, have a marvellous coach in John Ring, who has really put them on the map.

Against this what have St. Aloysius to offer? For many years this school dominated the Cork schools camogie scene and in 1976 they won the All-Ireland crown. Since then, however, they have had rather a lean period but this season, they seem to have found the spirit and determination associated with the school in the past. Martina Judge and Noel

Coffey have worked very hard with the side and they have improved with each outing and were really impressive against St. Joseph's, Tulla, in their replayed semi-final.

They, too, have their minor stars in Paula Carey, Brid Kelleher and Sheenagh Morley and they also have minor panelists Deirdre Carroll and Bernie Power. In addition they have excellent players in Colette O'Regan, Irene O'Keeffe and Marie and Niamh O'Sullivan. However, they have a number of injury problems at the moment — and they couldn't have come at a worse time. Bernie Power, Deirdre Carroll, Paula Carey and Brid Kelleher are all nursing injuries, while Irene O'Keeffe has 'flu, and at the time of writing there was a big worry about their chances of playing.

But if St. Als. can field a full side and if they can find the form which they produced against Tulla then they must be in there with a real chance of upsetting St. Pat's. In

any event it should be a game well worth seeing.

Still on the subject of our young players, the 7-Up School of Sport will be held again this year over the Easter weekend. This scheme, which provides intensive coaching to the county's top Under-16s was highly successful last season and clubs should now be thinking of their likely players for participation.

In the Munster Championship draws the four Cork sides got home venues. The seniors and under-18s meet Clare; the juniors meet the winners of Waterford and Kerry, and the minors are at home to Kerry or Tipperary.

The camogie season will get back into full swing on Sunday week when there will be a long list of fixtures.

FIXTURES

Tomorrow (Saturday): Munster Senior Colleges final: St. Patrick's v. St. Aloysius, at Pairc Ui Chaoimh, 2.30 p.m. (referee Miriam Higgins, Cork).

ST. PATRICKS WILL START FAVOURITES

BY JOAN MORLEY

CAN St. Patrick's retain their Munster Senior Colleges Camogie crown or will St. Aloysius take their first provincial title since 1976? This is the question which will be answered at Pairc Ui Chaoimh tomorrow when those sides meet in the Munster final.

St. Patrick's who won the All-Ireland in 1981 have appeared in two finals since then, have a formidable side with most of them having played for the Cork minor team, either in 1984 or '85.

These include Liz O'Sullivan, Karen Mellerick, Aileen Barry, Tracy O'Riordan, Viv O'Brien, and Carmel Currid. And they have a trump card in the person of Mellerick who made such an impressive debut for the Cork senior side last season. There could be a doubt, however about the fitness of Liz Sullivan.

What of St. Als? When they last won the Munster crown in 1976 they went on to All-Ireland honours but since then they have been having a rather lean time. However this season they came back into contention and seem to have rediscovered the spirit and determination so much a part of past St. Als teams.

They also have their Cork minor stars in Paula Carey, Brid Kelleher, and Sheenagh Morley and they have Cork panelists Deirdre Carroll, and Bernie Power and excellent young players in Colette O'Regan, Marie O'Sullivan, Irene O'Keeffe and Niamh O'Sullivan.

But they have suffered a major set-back over the last few weeks as no fewer than four of their players: Paula Carey, Brid Kelleher, Deirdre Carroll and goalie Bernie Power are all nursing injuries. Irene O'Keeffe is also down with flu so St. Als will really be lucky to field a full-strength side.

The more experienced St. Patrick's will no doubt start as firm favourites, but if St. Als can field a full side and reproduce the form which saw them win a great replay against St. Joseph's, Tulla, then they must be there with a very good chance indeed.

Lucky Pats hold on

St. Patrick's (Cork) 1-4;
St. Aloysius (Cork) 0-6

HOLDERS St. Patrick's were lucky to retain their Munster Colleges Senior Camogie title at Pairc Ui Chaoimh on Saturday when they had a point to spare over their city rivals St. Aloysius in a pulsating decider.

The winners started off as if they were going to win this contest easily, for they attacked the St. Aloysius goal in the opening ten minutes, but their only reward was a point from Helena Barry.

After this onslaught, St. Aloysius came more into the game and it was nip and tuck to half-time with the teams turning over at 0-3 apiece.

St. Aloysius came out for the second half full of confidence and, playing some excellent camogie, built up a two points lead 0-6 to 0-4 with five minutes left to play.

However, Linda Mellerick, who was one of the St. Patrick's stars, broke through the St. Aloysius defence for the all-important goal to put her side in the lead and although St. Aloysius fought hard, and were unlucky not to have been

given a free in front of goal in the final minute, they could not get back on level terms.

Mary Mulcahy in the St. Patrick's goal brought off two vital saves — one in each half when St. Aloysius looked like scoring goals while captain Liz O'Sullivan and Mary Rose were very sound in defence. Up front the Mellerick sisters Karen and Linda were always dangerous while Aileen Barry took her scores well.

For St. Als, Fiona O'Sullivan had a tremendous game in the half-back line and got excellent assistance from Brid Kelleher and Sheenagh Morley. In attack Deirdre Carroll, despite a back injury, had a tremendous game, while Paula Carey played well and was very accurate from frees and "30's".

St. Patrick's: M. Mulcahy, V. O'Brien, T. O'Riordan, C. Murphy, M. Rose, L. O'Sullivan, C. O'Brien, C. Currid, K. Mellerick, C. Barry, L. Mellerick, A. Barry.
St. Aloysius: B. Power, C. Healy, F. O'Sullivan, B. Kelleher, F. Kelleher, S. Morley, C. O'Regan, I. O'Keeffe, D. Carroll, N. O'Sullivan, P. Carey.
Referee: Miriam Higgins.

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WORTHY CHAMPIONS . . . St. Patrick's, Cork, who defeated St. Aloysius School 1-4 to 0-6 in the final of the Munster Colleges Senior Championship. Back: Aileen Barry, Liz O'Sullivan (Capt.), Linda Mellerick, Helena Barry, Mary Rose, Karen Mellerick and Kathleen O'Keefe. Front: Viv O'Brien, Mary Mulcahy, Tracy O'Riordan, Carmel Currid, Catherine Murphy and Caroline O'Brien.



Elizabeth O'Sullivan, captain of St. Patrick's, raises the cup in triumph following her side's win over St. Aloysius in the Munster Colleges senior camogie final at Páirc Uí Chaoimh, Cork.

UCD can lift Cup

ASHBOURNE Cup holders, U.C.C. will find it very difficult to retain the trophy at Coleraine this weekend. Minus a number of last season's winning side, they are in the process of re-building.

U.C.C. oppose Queens in the semi-final. The Cork university had a comfortable win over Coleraine in the quarter-finals and will be heartened by this result. Orla Flynn, Una O'Connor, Patsy Kenry, Rose Desmond, Eileen Noonan and Elaine Buckley may carry sufficient power to see U.C.C. to the final.

Queens place their hopes in Yvonne Redmond, Patricia Hale, Catherine Daly, Brid McConville, Rosemary McAuley and captain Margaret McReynolds. Queens, who have yet to capture the Ashbourne Cup, will not concede easily.

Favourites to lift the cup are undoubtedly U.C.D. Most impressive in their quarter-final match with U.C.G., they have been considerably strengthened by newcomers Marie Connell and Anne Marie Brennan. This pair have slotted in well with Breda Kenny, Anne Cooper, Libbie Lowe, Audrey Gormley and Bridget Twomey to form a side which will take some beating.

Their opponents on Saturday will be University of Ulster (Jordanstown). The Belfast college look to Armagh star Sally McCone, Siobhan McKeogh, Bernie Quinn and former Queens player Siobhan Steel for success. A U.C.D. v U.C.C. final on Sunday would be no great surprise.

The four colleges who failed to reach the semi-finals, Trinity, Maynooth, Coleraine and U.C.G. will challenge for An Duthacht. The likely winners must be U.C.G. who disappointed in their game with U.C.D.

JUNIOR REPEAT

Colaiste Muire, Ennis and St. Marys, Charleville meet in a repeat of last year's Munster Colleges Junior final on Saturday. Colaiste Muire were most impressive in their run up to the All-Ireland final. They could not produce their form on the day and were decisively beaten by St. Raphael's, Loughrea.

Anxious to get another chance, Colaiste Muire hope to take a giant step on the road by retaining their Munster title. They can call on the majority of that team including Catherine O'Loughlin, Clare Bracken, Angela Killeen and Emer Landy. In addition, newcomers Anne Keane and Siobhan Maher have fitted into the side very well.

St. Marys, Charleville have other ideas. Unhappy at losing out in last season's decider, they hope to go one better on their own pitch. Helen Cagney, Eve Watson, Frances Broderick, Roisín Daly, Bernie O'Brien and Clare O'Callaghan are skilful young players who will make a great match of it with the Ennis girls.

An upset was on the cards in the Munster Colleges senior final with four minutes to go. St. Aloysius School, appearing in the final after a lapse of ten years, were pressing forward with two points to spare. Then St. Patrick's broke out of defence and found Linda Mellerick who shot home the winner. For St. Patrick's it was their fourth Munster championship title in five years. Before a fine crowd, St. Aloysius displayed all the spirit for which the school is renowned but experience won the day.

Angela Downey received her second B + I Award on Monday. No other camogie player has been honoured twice. There is no argument as to her entitlement to this distinction. Those who watch her in action know that they are viewing one of the outstanding players to grace the game.

The Leinster Colleges senior semi-finals produced two close games. F.C. Buncloody had two points to spare over Pres. Castlecomer while a single goal separated Vocational Mooncoin from Granard.

Champions Buncloody will defend their title at Croke Park on Sunday against Vocational. Mooncoin will be aiming to capture the Stuart Cup for the first time.

FIXTURES SATURDAY

Ashbourne Cup Semi-finals — UUI v UCD, 2.0; UCC v Queens, 3.0, both at Coleraine.

Leinster Colleges' Senior Championship Final — At Croke Park, 2.0, F.C. Buncloody v Vocational, Mooncoin, Croke Park.

Munster Colleges' Junior Championship final — St. Mary's, Charleville v Colaiste Muire, Ennis, Charleville, 2.0.

SUNDAY

Ashbourne Cup Final, Coleraine, 3.0.

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St. Aloysius forward Niamh O'Sullivan cuts a low ball across field after coming inside the St. Pat's defence, with support from Catherine Healy, in the Munster Colleges senior camogie final at Páirc Uí Chaoimh on Saturday. (Examiner)

Dublin to regain Ashbourne Cup

THE first major camogie championship of the season will be won and lost next weekend at the University of Ulster, Coleraine, where the concluding games will be played in the popular and competitive Universities' senior test for the Ashbourne Cup.

U.C.Cork will be well on the road to a successful defence of the trophy if they triumph in their intriguing semi-final on Saturday against a strong Queens', Belfast, team.

It does not help the holder's cause that they are without more than half of last season's side. However, they still have a good team, judging by their performance when beating Coleraine very handsomely in a quarter-final last weekend.

Queen's will undoubtedly provide much sterner opposition. The Belfast team includes a number of the side that lost the 1984 final to Dublin, and looked a capable team in a two goal win last time out over Maynooth.

Yvonne Redmond, Dublin's brilliant senior goalkeeper, who played in the 1984 final, is again a key figure for Queen's. Sara Mooney, Rosemary McAuley, who were also on duty in the Belfast side's last Ashbourne Cup final outing, and Brid McConville are others whose skills could do much to further the Northerners' hopes.

Cork have their stars as well, including Una O'Connor, Mary Walsh and Elaine Buckley, and will strive all the way. But, Queen's appear to have the players in the key positions with the necessary skills and leadership qualities needed to get them through to the final.

U.C.Dublin are hoping to resume a title winning sequence that was ended last year when their bid of a sixth successive crown ended in a preliminary round tie by Cork.

The Dubs have a strong side this season. Marie Connell, an All-Ireland senior medallist with three county, Ann Marie Brennan, who was in Kilkenny's All-Ireland senior title winning panel last September, Ann Cooper, a Dublin county player, and Breda Kenny are some of the players who could do much to steer a winning course.

The Dubs also looked the part in a runaway 4-1 to 0-2 win over U.C.Galway last weekend.

U.C.D. should prove much too strong for Jordanstown in the semi-final, and indeed, at this stage look the side they will all have to beat at Coleraine. The final will be played next Sunday.

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Kilkenny on the double



Kilkenny stars Angela Downey (Camogie) and Michael Walsh (Handball) who received B+I "Personality of the Year" Awards in Dublin yesterday.



● ANGELA DOWNEY

● MICHAEL WALSH

DOUBLE CELEBRATION FOR KILKENNY

It was a double celebration for Kilkenny yesterday in the B + I Line Personality of the Month awards, when Angela Downey was named "Camogie Player of the Year" for 1985 and Michael Walsh received the 1985 "Handballer of the Year" award.

Angela Downey won the award in recognition of her outstanding, all-round performances throughout the year, in which she won All-Ireland, National League, interprovincial and Gradam Tailte medals. She now becomes the first camogie player to win the B + I award on two occasions, having also been honoured in 1977.

Michael Walsh, who has qualified to represent Ireland in the World Championships to be held in British Columbia, Canada, this year, is now the second Kilkenny player to be honoured and his recognition brings the first family interest into the handball awards over the past eleven years. The previous Kilkenny winner, Billy Burke (1980) is Michael's first cousin.

Angela and Michael in a class of their own

Outstanding

In the all-Ireland senior final against the defending champions, Dublin in September, she had a superb second half and emphasised her worth to Kilkenny with four well taken points.

Some weeks later she was outstanding in Leinster's win in the Gael Linn inter provincial championship. And now with her selection as the B+I "camogie player of the year" she has become the first in her sport to win National League, all-Ireland championship, interprovincial championship, Gradam Tailteann medals and the B + I awards in the same year.

Regarded as one of the most accomplished forwards of all time in camogie. She won her first all-Ireland medal with Kilkenny in 1974, which also marked Kilkenny's first win in the championship. This year's win over Dublin marked her fifth all-Ireland medal.

In 1977 Angela captained Kilkenny to an all-Ireland win. She also holds three National League medals, 1980, 1982 and 1985; interprovincial championship medals with Leinster in 1978, 1979, 1981, 1983, 1984 and 1985 and with her club, St. Paul's she had won two all-Ireland senior medals in 1975 and 1977.

Michael Walsh

Michael is the second Kil-

kenny player to be honoured in the B + I handball awards. His recognition brings the first family interest into the handball awards over the past 11 years. The previous Kilkenny winner, Billy Burke (1980) is Michael's first cousin.

Michael has had a remarkable career since he won his first all-Ireland title at the age of 10 in 1977. Since then he has collected an astonishing succession of titles, and in addition to his striking successes in Ireland, he has won the U.S. titles in the under-15, 16 and 19 categories.

Michael, in fact, is the second player to win all three American under-age championships. The only other player to achieve this honour is Doug Glatt of Northridge, California. Walsh began last year by winning the all-Ireland junior 40 x 20 singles title and then went on to become the first and also the youngest player to win both Coca Cola titles in the one year. He also, of course, took the U.S. under-19 title.

But perhaps his most significant performance came in the international trials for this year's World championships which will be held in British Columbia in May. It had been generally anticipated that Michael would compete in the under-23 category in the international trials. But his entry for the

under-23 trial was late and he then had no choice but to enter for the open category, which he felt would provide

his good practice for the American under-age championship.

Michael, however, had a

glorious run in the open trials and went on to beat Tony Ryan (Tipperary) in a thoroughly exciting final.

A double celebration for Kilkenny



IT WAS a double celebration for Kilkenny this week in the B+I Line Personality of the Month awards when Angela Downey was named "Camogie player of the year" for 1985 and Michael Walsh received the 1985 "Handballer of the year" award.

They were presented with their trophies by Mr. Norman Newcombe, Marketing Manager, B+I Line. These

latest awards give Kilkenny players the distinction of being recognised in 10 of the 11 years since the B+I awards were introduced in 1975.

Kilkenny's complete list of B+I winners is: 1975 - Liam O'Brien (September); 1976 - Eddie Keher (February); Mick Brennan (June); Noel Skehan (November); Bridie Martin (camogie). 1977 -

Angela Downey (camogie); 1978 - Joe Hennessy (August); 1979 - Ger Henderson (September); 1980 - Billy Burke (handball); 1981 - Liz Neary (camogie); 1982 - Noel Skehan (April); Noel Skehan (September); 1983 - Ger Henderson (July), Frank Cummins (September); 1985 - Angela Downey (camogie); Michael Walsh (handball).



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HNTHGTT - JUNIOR FINALISTS 1985

MARY WILL SOLDIER ON

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By Donal Hickey

WHEN anybody with an interest in sport hears a mention of Castleisland, Co. Kerry, the name Geaney immediately comes to mind for that particular family has produced more than its share of notable personalities.

Mary Geaney, for instance, is one of the country's most distinguished sportswomen and she recently announced her retirement from the international hockey scene, having won 61 caps as Ireland's goalkeeper.

Mary is aged 32 and will continue to play hockey, camogie, ladies' football and badminton at club and county level and can't ever see herself getting away completely from all codes.

Her father, Con, now a hearty 77, won three All-Ireland medals with Kerry in 1930's. He was a national teacher at Currans, a few miles outside Castleisland, where his children also attended school.

Games like camogie, hurling and football were played at the school and Mary became involved in the Castleisland camogie club at an early age. She received her secondary education at the Ursuline Convent, Blackrock, Cork, the famous hockey nursery.

She went to Ursuline Convent, Blackrock in 1965 when Mrs. Joan Dorgan was responsible for the hockey tuition and quickly established her potential as a goalkeeper - even if it took some time to become accustomed to wearing the heavy leg pads.

"If you have an eye for a ball, I think it's easy to adjust to any game. Anyway, I have enjoyed hockey tremendously for the past 20 years," she says.

Mary won three Munster championships with the Ursulines at school level and was picked for the senior team in her first year. She later joined the Old Ursulines and hopes to continue playing with them for several years to come.

Her camogie allegiance



is with the Cork club, Eire Og, and her best position is full-forward. She has won four county championships and one Munster title with the club. Again, she has no plans to quit club camogie.

At times, she has found it difficult to fit in both hockey and camogie. On one occasion, she gave preference to an international hockey fixture and lost an All-Ireland camogie medal as a result.

The fact that she had to frequently travel long distances influenced her retirement. It was a case of having to go to Dublin almost every second weekend and she had to reach high levels of fitness while training alone.

The 64 miles each way journey to Cork, over the heights of Nadd, is now very much second nature to her. She makes it most weekends, but at least has been relieved of the "real pressure" of inter-

national competition.

Looking back over a career which involved playing on a Triple Crown team, one memory stands out. It is of a famous day in Wembley Stadium in 1984 when Ireland defeated England 1-0 in a Home Countries tie.

Apart from keeping her goal intact, she had to face an English penalty shot which hit the post. "I'll never forget the excitement and the tension of that day," she remarks. "We were on the defensive for most of the time and it was a marvellous victory."

She's reasonably happy with progress around the country in the promotion of camogie and sees prospects for ladies football which, she maintains, is not getting the support it deserves from the GAA.

A member of the Kerry ladies football side which last year won its fourth successive All-Ireland crown, she feels important games should be played at top venues and as curtain-raisers to major hurling and football matches.

"Up to now, they've been sending us to out-of-the-way places, even for All-Ireland semi-finals," she complains. "If this is to be the approach, nobody will get a chance to see our football and it will never be really accepted. Many girls are extremely skillful, but don't get the

audience they ought to get."

Her brother Dave, Chairman of the Kerry GAA Board's fixtures committee, might take note. A doctor practising in Castleisland, he won an All-Ireland medal in 1959 and is one of the main architects of Castleisland Desmonds' success in recent years. Dave is also a member of the Munster GAA Council.

Mary is second youngest in a family of six. Sheila is married in Listowel, Dick (a former Kerry minor) is in Chicago, Fr. Niall is a missionary priest in the Sudan and Eileen is a teacher in Dublin.

On the issue of sponsorship, Mary is opposed to paying players, but feels that adequate expenses should be paid.

Working in the family fancy goods store at Main Street, Castleisland, she trains every day. She finds walking to be of benefit and does seven or eight miles almost every night.

Last week, she won her fifth consecutive Kerry badminton title - her tenth in all - and she has also taken up golf in Killarney, where her handicap currently stands at an improving 25.

Mary Geaney's advice to young sportspeople is: "If you want to make it, you must put in the work."



Members of the UCC camogie team during training for the Ashbourne Cup this weekend.

—(Examiner)

U.C.C. Defend Cup

HOLDERS U.C.C. travel to Coleraine in defence of their Ashbourne Cup title this weekend and they look like having a tough time ahead of them. Coláiste Mhuire, Ennis, and St. Mary's, Charleville, meet in the Munster Junior Championship semi-final tomorrow and there are three Under 16 League ties listed for Sunday to make up a busy weekend for camogie people.

U.C.C. had great celebrations last season when they won the Ashbourne Cup. Now they face a tough defence of their crown at Coleraine this coming weekend. In their semi-final tie tomorrow (Saturday) they meet Queens, who have never won the Ashbourne, and although the Belfast girls have been playing well this season Cork should be good enough to reach the final on Sunday. But "hot" favourites to regain the Colleges title are U.C.D. who should have little difficulty in accounting for N.U.J. in their semi-final.

Should U.C.C. and U.C.D. meet on Sunday will the Cork girls have the power to win? They have lost a number of last season's side and are now in the process of rebuilding. They had an impressive win in their quarter-final over Coleraine and this will boost their confidence. They also have excellent players in Orla O'Flynn, Una O'Connor, Patsy Keniry, Rose Desmond, Eileen Noonan and Elaine Buckley, and if they strike top form then they should be there with a real chance. However, U.C.D. have most of last season's side, including Breda Kenny, Anne Cooper, Libbie Lowe, Audrey Gormley, and Bridget Twomey and they have been joined by the very dangerous Marie Connell and Ann Marie Brennan to give them a side full of strength and ability. So it is not surprising that they are favourites. But anything can happen in knockout competition.

There is a junior colleges semi-final listed for tomorrow, in which Coláiste Mhuire, Ennis, who were defeated finalists in last season's All-Ireland, take on St. Mary's, Charleville, in what should be a keenly contested game at Charleville.

Sunday's three Under 16 League ties are all from the 1985 campaign and following these games the tables should be much clearer. The pick of the games is bound to be the clash between Championship finalists Eire Og and Aghabullogue. In that meeting Eire Og emerged victorious after a marvellous battle, and no doubt the Ovens girls will be anxious to add the league title to make it an Under 16 double. However, Aghabullogue will be just as determined to

make amends for their championship defeat and go a step nearer to League honours.

In the second tie, Bishopstown "B" will have their work cut out for them in their meeting with St. Finbarr's, while Blackrock could have the edge over Douglas.

On Saturday last St. Patrick's once again emerged victorious in the Munster Senior Colleges Championship. But what a marvellous performance St. Aloysius, back in the Final after a ten years lapse, gave against all the odds. In the end St. Als lost to a goal four minutes to go from Cork

senior Linda Mellerick, and St. Pat's now go on to meet old rivals St. Raphael's, Loughrea in the All-Ireland semi-final. The game was a credit to camogie with excitement at fever pitch right to the finish, and the colourful supporters from both sides adding marvellous atmosphere to the occasion. And a nice touch followed during the week when both teams met in Brian Dillons Club to watch a video of the game. Surely that is what sport is all about.

FIXTURES

Tomorrow (Saturday) — Ashbourne Cup semi-

finals, at Coleraine — U.C.G. v Queens; U.C.D. v U.U.J., 2 p.m.; U.C.C. v Queens, 3 p.m.

M.J. Colleges semi-final: Colaiste Mhuire, Ennis v St. Mary's, Charleville, 2 p.m.

Sunday: U16 L, Aghabullogue v Eire Og at Ovens, 2.30 p.m. (Ref. Ballincollig); Bishopstown "B" v St. Finbarrs, at Bishopstown, 12 noon (Ref. Blackrock); Blackrock v Douglas at Blackrock, 12 noon (Ref. Nemo Rangers).

Ashbourne Cup final at Coleraine, 3 p.m.

UCD turn on style to crush Queen's

UCD ... 5-8; QUEENS 0-2

UCD turned on the style in the final of the Ashbourne Cup at Coleraine when they overwhelmed Queen's.

Queen's, after their win over Cork, the holders, were expected to put up a good show, but they never counted against the strong and powerful hurling of U.C.D.

UCD dominated on all parts of the field and they never allowed the Belfast girls to settle down.

Outstanding for the winners were M. Connell, B. Kenny and A. Cooper.

Scorers: U.C.D. — M. Connell (3-3), B. Kenny (0-3), K. Feeney, A. Cooper (1-0 each), B. Toomey, T. Turley (0-1 each). Queens — K. McParland, K. Daly (0-1 each).

Shield Final — Galway 3-1; Trinity 0-3.

Scorers — Galway — E. Feeney (2-0), C. Jones (0-3), G. Kerr (1-1). Trinity — M. Keogh (0-3).

Death of Prominent Clare Sportsman

The death occurred last week-end of former Clare County Council member and one of the best known sportsmen ever in Clare, Mr. Mick Hennessy of Clooney. The late Mr. Hennessy died at Ennis General Hospital following a short illness.

A Fianna Fial member of Clare Co. Council in the 40s and 50s, Mr. Hennessy is best remembered for his many sporting involvements particularly with the GAA and coursing.

Mr. Hennessy who was in his 80th year, was a renowned hurler and administrator with his club Clooney and Clare for several years. In the late twenties he played a major role in reforming the Clooney club and he was a star player and driving force of the team which reached five championship and five cup finals winning one championship and three cup medals.

He was one of the most brilliant hurlers ever to represent Clare and it wasn't surprising that he was chosen by the Munster selectors on many occasions and helped them to two Railway cup successes.

He was secretary of the Clare GAA board from 1934 to 1950 during which time he did much to build up a strong organisation in the county. In 1946 he trained the Clare



team which won the national league title and he also had the honour of refereeing two all Ireland finals. In addition he founded the Clare camogie board and many of the now thriving camogie clubs in the county.

In latter years he devoted his time to his first love, the

Clooney hurling club and was always ready to offer help and advice. On Oct. 20 last, exactly three months before his death, he attended the intermediate hurling championship final between Clooney and St. Josephs.

He was also a keen coursing enthusiast and from his early years was an active member of the Tradaree coursing club committee with whom he filled many positions. He was chairman for many years up to recent times and at the time of his death was the club's vice-president. He attended and played a major role in the success of the clubs last meeting in December. He was a familiar and popular figure at the national coursing meetings in Clonmel and the Irish cup at Clounanna.

He also showed an interest in horse racing and attended both days of the Christmas meeting in Limerick before becoming ill.

In a graveside oration given by Mr. Brendan Vaughan, vice-president of the G.A.A. and a fellow member of the Clooney club, he recalled the outstanding work done by the late Mr. Hennessy for the G.A.A. in the parish and for Clare. "Mick Hennessy's dynamic talents were not confined to the playing fields as he made an equally great impact as secretary of the Clare Co. Board during which time he created what many regard as the golden age of Clare G.A.A." he said.

Members of Fianna Fial, Clooney, G.A.A. Tradaree Coursing and Clooney camogie clubs provided guards of honour at both the removal of remains and at the burial which was at Clooney cemetery on Monday. The huge attendance on both days was an indication

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CAMOGIE — Ashbourne Cup
— Semi Finals — Queens 1-5,
U.C.C. 0-6, U.C.D. 6-6, U.C.C. 6-6,
University, Jordanstown 6-2,
Shield Semi Final — Galway 3-1,
Coleraine 0-1, Trinity 4-2, May,
month 0-3.

St. Mary's are champs!

THE VENUE was the Convent Field, Charleville, not perhaps the most suitable to play a Munster final but the girls of St. Mary's, Charleville, and Colaiste Muire, Ennis, made light of the conditions in a most entertaining game on Saturday last. They served up exciting fare in this very competitive provincial final of the junior "A" camogie championship, keeping their respective supporters on their toes and in full voice throughout the game.

The Charleville girls had an indifferent first half but still managed to keep in touch through the scoring ability of the diminutive Helen Cagney who scored her side's one goal and two points of the half, to equal the five points chalked up by the green-sided Ennis girls.

Immediately from the throw-in of the second half and following a pep talk from mentor, Father Liam Kelleher, the Charleville girls exploded into life and soon stamped their authority on the game.

Eve Watson was a commanding figure at midfield and her attacking movements were a feature of the game. However, poor finishing inside deprived the locals of more scores. But the pressure paid off and the tenacious Helen Cagney rounded her opponent to shoot to the net to give Charleville the lead for the first time in the game.

The rest of the team lifted their game at this point and the Ennis pack-out rarely passed Clare O'Callaghan and Bernice O'Brien and when Charleville goalkeeper Mairead Cagney brilliantly saved a blistering shot from a Clare forward, St. Mary's seemed well on their way to victory. The Clare girls got a point from the resultant free and this proved to be their only score of the second half.

The dominant Eve Watson added two further points (one from a free) to give St. Mary's a total of two goals and four points to Colaiste Muire's six points at the final whistle.

There were scenes of wild jubilation as the supporters of the St. Mary's side ran on to the pitch to congratulate their sky-blue clad heroines and Clare Broderick's acceptance of the Munster cup from the President of the Munster Camogie Board, Sister Patricia of Scoll Pol, Kilfinane, was greeted with renewed cheering.

St. Mary's now go to meet the winners of the Connacht championship in mid-March in their quest for All-Ireland honours for their school and Charleville.

The team was: Mairead,



Eve Watson and Frances Cremin hold aloft the Munster Cup after helping St. Mary's to victory over Colaiste Muire, Ennis.

Cagney, Helen Cagney, Anne Mulcahy, Ann Quill, Francis Broderick (capt.), Eve Watson, Bernice O'Brien, Clare O'Callaghan, Francis Cremin, Roisin Daly, Marie O'Sullivan, Teresa Sheehy and Fiona Reidy.

The progress of the game in St. Mary's has been remarkable as up to four years ago the school did not have a camogie team. It was due to the dynamism of the Dromina based priest, Fr. Kelleher, that the team was formed. He very shrewdly observed that there were very successful camogie teams in Castletown-Ballygran and Newtownshandrum and many of the players attended St. Mary's in Charleville. It was just a question of organising the team in the school and he commenced that just four years ago. He found an able and willing helper in Sister Margaret and later on Vincent Harrington and Brid Larkin.

The first team to play was the intermediate "B" team, who in their first competitive outing had ten goals to spare over Mallow and the team went on to win the Munster championship and coincidentally they beat Ennis in the final in Ennis after a thrilling contest. The second team was

entered in the junior championship but lost narrowly to Cashel. However, they reversed that result last year and advanced to the Munster final but were defeated by Colaiste Muire, Ennis in the Munster final who went on to contest the All-Ireland Final.

However, Saturday last made up for that disappointment and we join in congratulating the girls of St. Mary's for their historic win, for the school and for Charleville and wish them success in their future games.

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1986

JACKIE ROGERS



JACKIE is assistant Secretary of her club 'St. Dominick's' and she plays on the senior team while this year won their sixth senior championship in-a-row.

Jackie is the only player in the club who played in all finals. In C.C.D. competitions she participated in the Ballad Group and Novelty Act and reached the All-Ireland finals in both competitions. She is Assistant-Secretary of the County Board; Secretary of Connacht Council and is also on the National Board of Referees.



A delighted Frances Broderick, captain of St. Mary's, accepts the Munster Cup from Sr. Patricia, president of the Munster Camogie Board.



County Scór Question Time Winners — Warrenpoint Glenn Rooney, Shiela McNulty, Matt Durkan

FEB

1986



St. Mary's, Charleville, who defeated Colaiste Mhuire 2-4 to 0-6 in the final of the Munster Colleges' Junior Camogie championship at Charleville.

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Belvedere v
Loughrea v St.
postponed.

Patrick's seek senior crown — and revenge

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has been together since the day when they lifted the Ulster First Year title and are optimistic of their chances.

Provincial champions in 1983 and again in 1985, Loreto would dearly love to make it to the All-Ireland final. With the prospect of a some venue for the winner in the All-Ireland semi-final, Loreto will try to lift their game and keep on target.

STRONG TEAM

Captained by Susan Malone, Loreto field a strong team. In addition to Susan, Mary Ellen Harley, Elaine McMonagle and Mary Devine play for Donegal's first 12 and the entire team has represented the county in the minor grade.

Coach Ann Carroll views this game as being within the reach of either side. She is hoping that Catriona Lillis, Brenda Duffy and Geraldine Mulhern, together with the county players, will

CAMOGIE

bring the cup back to Letterkenny.

The Connacht Colleges senior final is planned for Ballinasloe tomorrow. Mercy, Roscommon have the intimidated task of tackling All-Ireland champions, St. Raphaels, Loughrea.

With 10 of their winning side remaining and an All-Ireland junior team on hand from which to draw the two replacements, St. Raphaels would appear to carry all the aces.

But, thankfully, nothing is certain in sport. Favourites have come to grief on many an occasion. Colleges matches are won and lost on the day and the team which performs to its true potential will come through. Roscommon look to Elizabeth Lee, Bridget Ann Dervin, Patricia O'Connor, Mary Gannon and Fiona

Quinn to play the game of their lives.

Several of the St. Raphael's players are already well-known names in the camogie world. Deirdre Costello was chosen as 1985 Junior Player of the Year. With Deirdre, Angela Cooney, Brid Stratford and Anne Fahy won All-Ireland honours with Galway in September.

FINE PLAYERS

Mary Dolphin, Siobhan Maher, Joan Cooney, Clare Robinson and Ger Fahy are fine colleges players. It is hard not to give the vote to the Loughrea side but Roscommon coach, Frank McManus is confident that if any side can stop St. Raphaels it is his team.

On Monday, St. Raphaels contest the Connacht Junior final, Triona Dolphin, who leads the defence of the title, is the only survivor from last season's winning side. St. Raphaels were for-

tunate to receive a number of the Mullagh side which won the National Feile na nGael in their intake of new students in September.

Eimear Hardiman, Una Cahalan, Kathleen Coen, Eilish Kilkenny and Siobhan Earls will try hard to preserve the great record of the school. Providing the opposition will be Portumna College who overcame St. Cuans in the semi-final. Portumna have a match winner in centre-forward Mary Treacy and they hope that she can produce the goods once again.

FINAL REVENGE

St. Marys, Charleville were overjoyed as the final whistle sounded at the finish of the Munster Colleges Junior final. They had reversed last year's decision and were full value for their four point win over 1985 champions, Colaiste Muires. The Colaiste Muires girls were unable to reproduce

the exciting play which they many admire season.

There is no U.C.D.'s claim as of inter-varsity camogie. Coleraine over the w they dispatched all with ease to reg Ashbourne Cup. A pected An Duthacht collected by U.C.G.

FIXTURES

TOMORROW

Connacht Colleges, Senior — At Ballinasloe (2.00) — St. Raphaels, Loughrea v Roscommon.

SUNDAY

Ulster Colleges Final — Loughmacrory, Co. Tyrone — Senior — St. Patrick's, Drogheda v Loreto, Loughrea — Junior — St. Patrick's, Drogheda v St. Paul's, Killesno.

Leinster Colleges' Final — Senior — F.C.J. Buncloody v Mooncoin, Junior — L.C.J. Buncloody v Voc. Ballyhale.

WEDNESDAY

Connacht Colleges Junior — At Ballinasloe (2.00) — St. Raphaels, Loughrea v Portumna College.

ST. RAPHAELS FANCIED FOR TITLE

CAMOGIE

Fielding ten of the side which won the 1985 All-Ireland Colleges Senior Championship, St. Raphaels, Loughrea are strongly fancied to retain their Connacht crown tomorrow. Attempting to tumble the champions from their pinnacle will be Mercy, Roscommon.

Carmel Linnane and Fidelma Coyne are the only players missing from St. Raphael's successful side of last season. With an All-Ireland winning junior team to pick from to fill the gaps, it is unlikely that St. Raphael's power will be reduced.

Players who will be lining out for St. Raphael's include Brid Stratford, Angela Cooney, Claire Robinson, Mary Dolphin, Ann Fahy, Siobhan Maher and, of course, 1985 Junior Player of the Year, Deirdre Costello. It is difficult to see this combination being halted.

Unlikely to share this opinion is Roscommon's coach, Frank

McManus. Always optimistic about his side's prospects, he will pin his hopes on Elizabeth Lee, Bridget Ann Dervin, Mary Gannon, Fiona Quinn and Teresa Bracken. It will take a heroic effort from Roscommon to upset the odds.

On Monday, St. Raphael's will be in action again. But the circumstances are much different. Triona Dolphin alone remains from their winning junior team to face Portumna College in the provincial junior final. However, St. Raphael's were lucky in their intake of new students last September.

The newcomers contain a number of the Mullagh side which won the National Feile na nGael. While limited in experience, Eimer Hardiman, Una Cahalan, Bridget Fahy, Kathleen Coen, Siobhan Earls and Eilish Kilkenny are names to note for the future.

Portumna College are Connacht First Year champions. Encouraged by their semi-final win over St.

Cuan's, they will approach this game with confidence. Centre-forward Mary Treacy has proved a match winner in earlier rounds and if in form, could swing the game in Portumna's favour.

St. Patrick's High School, Maghera clash with Loreto, Letterkenny in the Ulster Senior final. Well beaten by the same opposition in last season's final, St. Patrick's have shown a marked improvement. They scored a victory over Loreto before Christmas and it did their confidence a world of good.

On the St. Patrick's side are Donna Friel, Catriona O'Kane and Yvonne O'Kane, who fielded with Swatragh in the Ulster Club final. Denis Stevenson, daughter of former All-Star, Peter, Karen Lee, Anne McGrellis and athletics champion Mary Houlahan are players who could bring the Ulster

title to Derry.

All the Loreto side have played minor for Donegal. Four of the team, Mary Ellen Harley, Elaine McMonagle, Susan Malone (capt.) and Mary Devine have represented the county in the Ulster Junior championship. Together with Catriona Lillis, Brenda Duffy and Geraldine Mulhern, they will work hard to retain the title.

The Leinster Colleges senior final fell victim to the weather on Saturday. The match is refixed for the coming weekend in conjunction with the junior final. F.C.J. Buncloody are involved in both finals. They defend their senior title against Vocational, Mooncoin and oppose Vocational, Ballyhale in the junior decider.

University College Dublin proved their superiority in the Ashbourne series at the weekend. They registered decisive victories over the U.U.J. and Queens to regain the Ashbourne Cup. As expected, U.C.F. collected An

Duthacht.

St. Mary's, Charleville entered the Munster Colleges competition for the first time in the 1985 season. On Saturday, they enjoyed a championship breakthrough. Displaying great enthusiasm in their play, they turned the tables on 1985 champions Colaiste Muires to lift the Munster Colleges Junior crown.

TOMORROW

At Ballinasloe: Connacht Colleges senior final — St. Raphaels, Loughrea v Mercy, Roscommon (2.00).

SATURDAY

At Loughmacrory (Co. Tyrone): Ulster Colleges Final — Senior — St. Patrick's, Drogheda v Loreto, Loughrea — Junior — St. Patrick's, Drogheda v St. Paul's, Killesno (2.00).

Leinster Colleges' Final: Senior — F.C.J. Buncloody v Voc. Mooncoin, Junior — J. Buncloody v Voc. Ballyhale.

WEDNESDAY

At Ballinasloe: Connacht Colleges senior final — St. Raphaels, Loughrea v Portumna College (2.00).

Star-studded Varsities are favourites

THE ANNUAL Camogie challenge between the Combined Universities and Combined Colleges for the coveted Corn Uí Mhaolagáin will be staged at Maynooth on Saturday.

Fielding a formidable side containing several inter-county stars, it is likely that the Universities will continue to dominate the series.

Yvonne Redmond, who had a good Ashbourne series, is selected in goal. Her Queens team-mate Sally Mooney features at full-back. Sally McCone, the Armagh and Ulster player, is named at centre-back. Libe Lowe (U.C.D.) and Marcella Leonard of Coleraine slot into the wing back positions.

Orla Flynn, (U.C.C. and Waterford), Catherine Daly (Tyronne and Queens) and Claire Jones (U.C.G. and Clare) combine to form a strong midfield. Kay McPartland, the fourth

Queens girl on the team, joins with the Dublin pair, Anne Cooper and Marie Connell, and Cork's Patsy Keniry to constitute a dangerous attack.

Drawn from the six teacher training colleges, the Combined Colleges side does not contain the same number of established inter-county players as the opposition can boast of. Thomond College, winners of the Purcell Cup, form the backbone of the side with five representatives.

K. Grace (Carysfort) will take her place in goal. Thomond provide three defenders in Helen Drumgoole, Mary Lenihan and M. McMullan. The defence is completed by O. Murphy (Mary I.).

CHALLENGE

B. Blehin (Thomond), R. Trainor (St. Marys) and E. Carmody (St. Pats) form the midfield line. In attack E.

CAMOGIE

Kavanagh (Carysfort), K. Noonan (Mary I.), M. Seymour (Thomond) and A. Brennan (St. Pats) will do their best to cause a surprise.

Mercy, Roscommon led the champions, St. Raphaels after the first half of the final. With the wind at their backs, St. Raphaels opened up in the second period. Deirdre Costello showed her class once again by hitting home five goals and leaving the outcome in no doubt.

St. Patrick's, Maghera were looking good after eight minutes of the Ulster Colleges senior final. Up 2-1 they appeared to be heading for their first title. An error of judgment in defence allowed Loreto, Letterkenny a soft goal and the confidence to come back to take their third Ulster senior crown.

St. Patrick's, Dungiven recaptured the Ulster Junior cup which they held in 1984. In a low scoring game, they finished ahead of St. Pauls, Kirea by 2-1 to 1-0. After a lapse of forty years, an Ulster trophy rests in Sacred Heart, Armagh. Now known as St. Catherine's College and coached by Nora Connolly, they came out on top in the senior 'B' championship final.

Leinster Colleges finals fell victim to snow for the second successive Saturday. The Council hopes to refix these games in the coming week. Their senior champions have a date with Loreto, Letterkenny on March 1.

On the same day, St. Patrick's, Cork, will meet St. Raphaels, Loughrea in a repeat of last year's All-Ireland final.

C.C.D. FINALS

The All-Ireland C.C.D. Finals will be staged at

Colaiste Mhuire, Parnell Place on March 1. Competitors from Kilkenny will take to the boards for the first time. The standard should be very high as each competitor has already won her county and provincial event.

Leinster C.C.D. champions: Figure dancing: Tullagher, Kilkenny; Solo Singing: Nicola Weir, Raharney; Recitation: Lorna Weir, Raharney; Instrumental music: Carina Downey Castlecomer; Novelty act: Drumrainey; Question time: St. Dominics, Longford; Ballad Group: Ballymore and Set Dancing: Drumrainey.

Munster C.C.D. champions: Figure dancing: Sixmilebridge; Solo singing: Frances Duggan, Ballynacurra Gaels; Recitation: M. Sheehan, Sixmilebridge; Instrumental music: Cormac McCarthy, Eire Og, Clare; Novelty Act: Kilmeedy; Question Time: Inniscarra;

Ballad Group: Castle-mapper, Cork and Set Dancing: Ogonelloe, Clare. Ulster C.C.D. champions: Figure dancing: Rostrevor; Recitation: Mary Flood, Trillick; Instrumental music: Fiona McStay, Rostrevor; Solo Singing: Sarah Fitzsimons, Bendearg; Novelty Act: Clonduff; Ballad Group: Bendearg; and Set Dancing: Glen, Derry.

Connacht C.C.D. champions: Figure dancing: St. Dominics, Roscommon; Recitation: Emily Brady, Galway; Instrumental music: Alan Kelly, Roscommon Gaels; Solo Singing: Carmel Keane, Ahascragh; Novelty Act: Castlereagh; Question Time: St. Dominics, Roscommon; Ballad Group: Kilmalin, Galway and Set Dancing: St. Dominics, Roscommon.

FIXTURE

Saturday — At Maynooth (2.30), Corn Uí Mhaolagáin — Combined Universities v Combined Colleges.

Universities sneak in

COMBINED UNIVERSITIES 3-8
THIRD LEVEL COLLEGES 3-4

A GOAL from an acute angle in the dying minutes of the game by Patsy Kinery (UCC) enabled the Universities to retain the Corn Uí Mhaolagáin in this well contested challenge game played at Maynooth on Saturday. The sides were level 1-4 each at the break, but the Universities were in control for most of the second half and in the 17th minute they led by 2-8 to 2-4. The Colleges, however, fought back and Miriam Magner notched two quick goals. In an exciting finish Patsy Kinery got the winning goal.

Scorers—Combined Universities — P. Kinery (2-4), M. Connolly (1-2), G. Jones (0-2). Third Level Colleges—M. Magner (2-0), A. Higgins (1-0), M. Lenthall (0-3), E. Kavanagh (0-1).

All Dublin games were cancelled.

NEW YORK, N.Y. SAT. OCT. 19, 1985



STANDING: L TO R...BETTY PORTER, EITHNE RYDER, FRANK WHELAN, DOREEN RODGERS, SALLY BLAKE, PHYLLIS CAMPBELL

KNEELING: MAEVE DELANEY, JUDY DOYLE, KAY RYDER, PAT TIMMONS, ANNE WHELAN, AND BETTY McDONNELL.

THE NAOMH AOIFE CAMOGIE TEAM FROM DUBLIN

On Sunday, Oct. 13th the N.Y. Young Ireland's Camogie team played a selection from Ireland, the Naomh Aofie Club of Inchicore, Dublin.

This game was played after the regular schedule had been completed and darkness began to descend near the end of the match. The halves were only twenty minutes long and there were only twelve players to a side. Some seventeen players made the trip and they were accompanied by several coaches and trainers. They are on a three week tour of the Eastern part of the United States and will return to Ireland on Friday, October 18th.

Din Joe Daly was the referee of the N.Y. game. The Irish team won in Boston and in Pittsburgh. They said these Camogie teams lacked competition and that is why they made out so badly.

This is the Golden Jubilee of the Irish team and the Silver Jubilee of the New York team.

Half time score was New York 2 - 2 to nil for Naomh Aofie. Final score was 4 - 3 for New York to 1 goal for the Irish team.

The team from Ireland sported new blue uniforms trimmed with red and white. New York team wore green uniforms.

At their dinner-dance on Sat. evening, Oct. 12th in the Tower View Ballroom in Woodside, Queens about 350 people were present. Guests of honor were Mrs. Helen O'Donnell of Gaelic Park and Bridie McManus, former All-Ireland Camogie player.

Music was by Christie O'Connor's band.

MARCH

1986

All-Ireland Final Defeat for Dublin

Captain Edel Murphy reflects on what might have been

Edel Murphy, who has been a consistent star with the Dublin senior camogie team over the past six seasons, appreciates better than most these days the fluctuating fortunes of sport.

In 1984 she gave such a majestic display in Dublin's All-Ireland senior final win over Tipperary that she walked away with the "Player of the Match" award. Last September came the other side of the coin, when she captained the Dubs as they gave a disappointing performance when losing to Kilkenny in the national championship final.

DISAPPOINTMENT

"That defeat ranks as the biggest disappointment of my camogie career. Being captain made it particularly so, but even more was the fact that we did not play up to our potential.

As a team we played well below our capabilities", reflected the U.C.D. player when we talked about her career in the game.

Edel can offer no tangible reason as to why Dublin failed to come up to general expectations in their final defence of the All-Ireland crown.

"Going into that game I felt we were in with a good chance, and I cannot put my finger on the reason for our disappointing showing. We certainly were not over trained. It was just one of those things.

"It has been suggested that perhaps some might have been satisfied having won an All-Ireland medal in 1984, but that was definitely not my problem.

"The final was a real challenge for us; a chance to confirm the triumph of the previous year. But we just did not rise to the challenge at all".

The midfield ace, who hit seven classic points in the 1984 final had some interesting observations on the Dublin training system. She pointed out that for the past few years the senior and junior county teams have trained together with one selectorial panel of five selectors for both teams and all under the same trainer.

"Prior to that we had three selectors for the seniors and three for the juniors, and the teams trained



• Edel Murphy.

independently under separate trainers".

Edel left me in no doubt that she would like to see a return to the old system. "There are lots of problems when two teams train together. It is very difficult, for example, to cope with 30 players at a session. There is not much difference between the more experienced juniors and the seniors.

"The younger juniors, however, need individual attention on the basics of the game, and the trainer just has not sufficient time to go to them all, or to come to the seniors at the more advanced level. I don't think this arrangement works out satisfactorily at all".

The skilled Dubliner speaks highly of the county players' great commitment to training. "This is first class. The only real problem is holidays, especially during the summer. The girls now try to arrange their holidays around the matches".

Edel Murphy was born in Clonmel, but she has been living in Dublin with her family since she was six years old. She started playing camogie with Presentation club and Presentation College, Terenure. She won Leinster Colleges' medals with Presentation, including a senior award in 1976.

Inter-county honours came early as well to Edel. She was honoured at minor and captained the side that lost to Cork in the All-Ireland final of 1978 in that grade.

Just over a year or so later she stepped up to the premier ranks, when called in as a substitute against Down in Dublin in a

National League tie. She evidently created a good impression as she was included in the team that met Antrim, then All-Ireland champions, in the next round, and has not looked back since.

Edel's parents have always had a great interest in the game. Her mother is from Cork. Her maiden name was Barry-Murphy, and she played club camogie when living by the Leaside and also made a number of appearances with the county side.

Her father played hurling at schools and club level. Mr. and Mrs. Murphy are also very keen followers of hurling, and a brother of Edel's is on the Dublin senior hurling team panel.

Edel is also a keen hurling follower. "Hurling is my main sporting interest after camogie", she says. "I also go to many football games".

The stylish Dublin midfielder has built up a reputation as one of the best free-takers in camogie. I asked her if she put in much practice time in taking frees: "I used to practice free-taking a lot when I was 14 to 16 as I was not very good at that stage. When I went to U.C.D., I used to practice hours and hours, at times by myself and sometimes with a playing colleague.

"As a result I have become more consistent in free-taking, and I do not spend as much time in practice as earlier in my career. But I still put in regular practice in this regard".

CAREER HIGHLIGHT

I watched Edel Murphy play many games with Dublin, and the one that stands out in my memory is the 1984 All-Ireland final, in which she was superb. To my surprise, however, she did not select that match as the one that gave her most satisfaction.

Instead, she went for the Universities Championships finals of 1980 and 1981 for the Ashbourne Cup. "In our 1980 final win over Queen's, I was very pleased with my performance. I was delighted for the team, as we put tremendous effort into that championship. U.C.D. had not won the Cup for years before that success.

"The second year we played

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Cork at the Mardyke in very bad weather conditions. We battled all the way, and it was a courageous performance by the team that won the day, and made all the training worthwhile. That game stands out, and the fact that we beat Cork added to the satisfaction".

The last All-Ireland senior final drew the biggest attendance to any decider in years. That prompted me to ask the Dubliner if she had any suggestions as to how the attendance could be improved at finals. "That is a difficult one. The 1984 final was the first televised live, and that publicity was wonderful for the game. I thought the crowd would have been much greater as a result for the last final, but it was not as big as I had hoped.

"I think part of the problem is that the players themselves do not travel, especially from the country. The players are more interested in playing than in watching matches".

Dublin's 1985 captain would not favour playing the final at any venue other than Croke Park. "I would not like to see that happen. Playing at Croke Park is something special, and it would take from the final if the match was played at another venue. I feel there would also be a much smaller crowd".

Miss Murphy maintains that camogie is deserving of much more publicity in the newspapers than the game receives at present, and would like to see sports journalists becoming more involved in covering the sport.

DIFFICULT OPPONENTS

Of the many players she has matched skills with over the years, Edel Murphy had no hesitation in singling out Bridie Martin, the Kilkenny captain, for special mention.

"I played on her twice in the past year in the two League final clashes. When I was not in direct combat with her I did contribute. When I was in combat, I felt that she had the upperhand.

"Bridie is very clever. She has a very quick sidestep, and I found a lot of difficulty in marking her".

And the player she admires most of all?

"It has to be Angela Downey. She is a class apart. Her speed puts her ahead; not just her speed in running, but the speed with which she does things; speed at which she raises the ball and the manner in which she anticipates play.

"She can also jump two feet off the ground to catch the ball, and is so athletic. I don't think there will ever be a player to come near to her. She is really exceptional".

Last October the interprovincial championship was played over a single week-end in Cork for the first time, rather than the old system of having a break of some weeks between the semi-finals and final.

Edel Murphy feels that this is a step in the right direction. It provides players with the one real occasion in the year to come

together from all over the country and to meet and talk. Leinster retained the title, and Edel captured her fourth medal.

The top scoring Dubliner is also a strong supporter of the open-row for the All-Ireland championship. She maintains that this arrangement introduced some years ago has brought a new dimension to camogie.

On the Dublin front she feels that there is a case for the introduction of club tournaments during the summer.

"Our club season runs from the winter through to the final in May, and then we have nothing in the finest weather of the year. It might be worthwhile if we had a few tournaments for clubs during the summer. Tournaments are successfully run in some other counties".

Miss Murphy, who won national league medals in 1981 and 1983, has no intention of taking up refereeing, at least not while she is a player.

"Refereeing is very difficult, all the more especially when you are refereeing girls whose style of play you know very well. I feel that there would be a danger for me of anticipating frees as a result".

Finally, I asked the very likeable and courteous midfielder with the scoring touch for her hopes for the future. "To win another All-Ireland medal. I have only one from four final outings. That is the No. 1 aim. Then, I would very much like to win another county championship medal with U.C.D."



The Dublin Senior Camogie side.

DOUBLE CELEBRATION FOR KILKENNY

By Owen McCann

Kilkenny is a county well conditioned to celebrating national successes in hurling, camogie and handball. But a rare richness of talent in two sports resulted in a unique double celebration for success laden Noresiders when Angela Downey, as camogie player of 1985, and Michael Walsh, the top handballer of the past year, were both presented with their B + I Line Awards at a special luncheon in Dublin.

In any year, the achievements of either Angela or Michael during 1985 in their respective sports would have been more than enough to have earned either a ranking as the outstanding personality of Kilkenny in the past season. But 1985 was no ordinary year, as the experienced camogie forward and the bright young man of handball walked almost step by step in blazing new frontiers. It was, then, very fitting that both were honoured for their record-making performances on the same day.

Angela won All-Ireland senior inter-county, National League, inter-provincial and Gradam Tailte medals during the past year. Walsh became the youngest-ever winner of the All-Ireland Coca Cola senior singles crown in handball at 19. He followed on by partnering Eugene Downey to the Coca Cola senior double championship, and so became the first to win singles and doubles medals in the same year.

Towards the end of the season, young Walsh, known throughout handball circles as "Duxie", earned the right to represent Ireland in the World senior open championship in Canada in May, and stay out the year by lifting in impressive style the U.S. under-19 crown.

Angela and her twin sister, Ann, come from one of Kilkenny's most famous sporting families — they are daughters of the legendary All-Ireland hurler Sherm Downey — and both have been outstanding members of the Kilkenny senior squad in recent years.

Although the past year was marked by success all the way for Angela she

still passes over all the triumphs when selecting her most memorable day in the sport.

"That has to be the All-Ireland senior final win of 1977 over Wexford", Angela told me.

"I captained Kilkenny in that game, and it is a great distinction to lead one's county to an All-Ireland senior championship".

The top scoring Kilkenny player is an experienced All-Ireland campaigner. She won her fifth senior medal last September when she had a superb second half, and emphasised her worth to Kilkenny with four well taken points in a convincing win over Dublin.

She was pleased that the final attracted the biggest attendance at such a game in some years, and when I asked her if she had any views as to how much more could be at-

tracted to the All-Ireland decider, Angela came up with a very novel suggestion.

"I would like to see the match played as a curtain-raiser to the All-Ireland senior hurling final. The atmosphere would be wonderful for the camogie players, and many G.A.A. enthusiasts who have no interest in camogie at present would be introduced to the sport, and could be won over as supporters".

On a personal basis, Angela left me in no doubt that she would dearly like to play before a bumper crowd at Croke Park.

"I would really like to have the experience of playing before the full stands, and to experience the atmosphere that a big crowd creates."

CLEAR MARGIN

Angela gave an extraordinary display of all round-athleticism in retaining her national title in Gradam Tailte last year. She became the first to take the crown twice, winning five firsts and two seconds in the various disciplines to score a total of 64 points. That gave



Kilkenny's Angela Downey B + I Line Camogie Player of the Year and Michael Walsh Handballer of the Year receive their trophies from Norman Newcombe, Marketing Manager, B + I Line.

her victory by a clear margin.

At this early stage of the year she is undecided if she will try to make it a treble of titles this season.

Her main concern right now is the National Senior League, which opens in March, and in which Kilkenny will meet Dublin in the first round.

"We are determined to do well in the League and the championship this year. With this in view, Kilkenny started training twice weekly at the end of January.

Angela has a high regard for many players in camogie, but when I suggested she select the defender whom she found most difficult of all to outwit, she decided to field that one in expert fashion.

"I think I must pass all over in favour of Yvonne Redmond, the Dublin goalkeeper. She is outstanding".

In winning the B + I Line award for the second time, the smart-moving and skilled Kilkenny player became the first to collect the trophy more than once. She is looking forward to the coming season with enthusiasm and determination, and it is quite on the cards that she could be the player back again at the end of the season for another trophy.

THE PROUD DOWNEY RECORD

- 1974: All-Ireland senior medal with Kilkenny.
- 1975: All-Ireland club senior medal with St. Paul's.
- 1976: All-Ireland senior medal with Kilkenny.
- 1977: Captained the Noresiders to a successful defence of the All-Ireland senior title. B + I Line award winner. National club medal with St. Paul's.
- 1978: Gael-Linn medal with Leinster.
- 1979: Gael-Linn medal with Leinster.
- 1980: National League Senior medal with Kilkenny.

- 1981: All-Ireland senior and Gael-Linn medals.
- 1982: National League medal with Kilkenny.
- 1983: Gael-Linn medal with Leinster.
- 1984: Won Gradam Tailte, camogie's day of special competition for the player of the year in each county. Gael-Linn medal.
- 1985: National Senior League medal with Kilkenny. Successful defence of Gradam Tailte title. All-Ireland senior championship medal. Gael Linn medal. B + I Line award. The first in her sport to win every major national title possible, other than club, in the same year.

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CAMOGIE REVIEW

Crumlin saw the year out on a high note for Dublin when they made a winning debut in an All-Ireland senior camogie club championship final by beating Athenry, of Galway, by 4-8 to 3-3 at O'Toole Park. The success helped to compensate to a degree for the county team's defeats from Kilkenny in the year's two national senior finals – the National League decider, after a replay, and the All-Ireland senior championship.

Crumlin made history on the double in impressive style. In their first outing in a Leinster senior final they could hardly have been handed a more testing assignment than their meeting with Buffer's Alley (Wexford), the title specialists, who were then in line for a fifth All-Ireland championship in succession. However, as things turned out the defending champions were no match for Crumlin.

Barbara Redmond, who scored three goals, Mary Mernagh at mid-field, and Bernie Toner at full forward, were the stars of the home team that powered superbly to the most convincing of wins at 4-7 to 1-0.

The Dubliners had then to journey to Ovens in Cork to take on the Southern champions, the well-fancied Eire Og, of Cork. Crumlin did well to forge out an interval lead of two points, but any thoughts of a good win were quickly dispelled as the home team took control in the second half, and edged ahead by two points.

It appeared as though Eire Og would hold out for a narrow win, as time ticked away, but with about a minute remaining a great all out bid by Crumlin ended with a goal from Anna Condon to give her side a 2-4 to 1-5 victory and a place in the national decider for the first time.

Crumlin again demonstrated their ability to come back in exciting fashion in their show-down with Athenry for the championship proper. They could not make any real impression on the visiting defence in the first quarter, and were rocked by scores from Athenry's top player, Una Jordan, who put her side into a good lead with a point and a goal. It was then, however, that Crumlin got their game together, and a point by Mary Mernagh started the climb back. By the half time whistle,

Crumlin had battled back so well that they led by 2-3 to 1-2.

The second half was a keenly contested affair, but the Crumlin forwards fared better than their opposite numbers and eventually got through for the scores to give their team that eight points win and a place in the record books.

Anna Condon with two goals, Aileen Redmond 1-1, Mary Mernagh 0-3, Mary Keane 1-0, Barbara Redmond (0-2), P. Dalton and Cathy Walsh (0-1 each) were the scorers for Crumlin, who thus became the first Dublin club to win this title since Austin Stacks won their second championship in 1973.

The win was a fitting finale to a great season for Crumlin, whose powerful displays in the provincial and national championships did much to advertise the standard of club fare in the county.

It would be easy, in contrast, to dismiss the inter-county season as a disappointing one at senior level, but that would be most unfair to a talented company of players who gave some grand performances on the way to finishing runners-up in the two major competitions of the year.

Edel Murphy had an excellent game in the National League final against Kilkenny at Parnell Park in June, scoring 1-9. But her grand finishing was still only good enough to earn Dublin a draw against a smart-moving Kilkenny side – 2-13 to the Noresiders 4-7.

Unfortunately, Dublin were unable to field at full strength for the replay a few weeks later at Nowlan Park in Kilkenny. Yvonne Redmond, Germaine Noonan, Marie Connell and Joan Gormley were all unavailable because of holiday arrangements.

In the circumstances Dublin did really well to make a tremendous game of it against the home stars. Perhaps not unexpectedly in view of the changes in their side, Dublin started sluggishly and trailed by 0-4 to 3-6 at the interval. However, they really took the game to Kilkenny in the second half and after twenty minutes had cut their arrears to a goal.

However, although Dublin put plenty of pressure on the home defence after that, Kilkenny held firm, and won out in the end by 4-7 to 3-6. So, while defeat was their lot, Dublin still deserved a great

deal of credit for a great effort from a much under-strength side.

Dublin hit back from that setback to win the Leinster senior championship, a competition separate from the All-Ireland open draw series, by beating Wexford in Dublin by 2-9, to 2-5.

In the All-Ireland senior championship proper, Dublin, of course, started in the role of All-Ireland champions. Their toughest assignment in their march to the final was a visit to Cork to meet their old rival in one of the semi-finals. As was only to be expected, the match was a close, interesting affair, marked by some good passages of play, and featured yet again the excellent points scoring of Edel Murphy, captain of the side. She hit eight points, and with Joan Gormley who scored 1-1, did most to pave the way for a 1-10 to 3-1 victory.

Many felt after that game that Dublin would prove capable of taking revenge for their National League final defeat when they faced up to Kilkenny in a show-down for the O'Duffy Cup. However, the defending champions failed to come up to general expectations in the decider.

Dublin played with a strong wind in the first half, and moved quite well as they put the Kilkenny defence under pressure for long spells. However, they just could not get through for many scores and at the break led by just a goal – 1-4 to 0-4.

The second half belonged to Kilkenny. Inspired by Angela Downey, undoubtedly the camogie personality of 1985, they took control dominated the exchanges to such effect that Dublin managed to score just a solitary point in that session. At the end, Kilkenny were the most deserving of champions by 0-13 to 1-5.

Still, there were some impressive individual performances from Dublin players. Yvonne Redmond kept her usual sound goal, and it was due in no small measure to her brilliance that Kilkenny failed to score a single goal. Germaine Noonan, Bernie Toner, both in the half line, and Una Crowley at mid-field, set up some excellent chances for the forwards, particularly in the first half. Joan Gormley and Marie Connell were the pick of the scoring division.

Raphaels complete hat trick

St. Raphaels, Loughrea 6-5
Mercy, Roscommon 1-4

ALL-IRELAND Senior Schools Camogie champions. St. Raphaels, Loughrea came to Duggan Park last Friday afternoon, seeking their third successive Connacht Schools and Colleges Senior Camogie championship title.

Their opponents were Mercy, Roscommon, who had given the Loughrea girls a close run in last year's final and their supporters were hopeful that the game would see the Roscommon school gaining revenge.

Loughrea lined out with ten of last year's All-Ireland winning team. The weight of that experience told in the end and helped St. Raphaels to record a well deserved victory.

However, it was a much closer game than the scoreline indicates and it reveals nothing of the spirit, courage and commitment of the Roscommon girls, who fought with determination for every ball, right up to the final whistle.

Roscommon had the support of a stiff, cold wind in the opening half but it was St. Raphaels who settled the faster and from a move down the right, full forward Ann Fahy's point had them in the lead inside the first minute.

With the assistance of the breeze, the Roscommon puck outs were putting the Loughrea defence under a fair deal of pressure and the challengers equalised in the seventh minute with Ann Walsh's point from a thirty yards free.

St. Raphaels were back in the lead a minute later when Ann Fahy had a point from a free.

Again, the Roscommon puck outs were setting up chances for their forwards but good work by the St. Raphaels half back trio, Mary Dolphin, Brid Stratford and Geraldine Fahy kept their opponents in check. Deirdre Costello scored a good goal for St. Raphaels in the fifteenth minute.

Mercy, Roscommon's reply was swift and sharp, however. Another good puck out sent the ball close to the St. Raphaels goal and Brigid Ann Dervan sent the ball to the net. The score put new life into the Roscommon team and they were back on level terms when full forward, Elizabeth Lee picked off a nice point.

Deirdre Costello won back the lead for St. Raphaels with her second goal of the game in the twenty second minute but before the half time whistle sounded, Imelda Quinn had a Roscommon point to narrow the gap.

St. Raphaels started the second half in great style and stretched their lead through points by Ann Fahy and Claire Robinson and goals by Deirdre Costello and Triona Dolphin.

To add to Roscommon misfortunes, they lost their central midfielder, Ann Walsh, after fifteen minutes and soon afterwards their centre half back, Teresa Bracken,

retired with a facial injury. Between the two substitutions, the sides exchanged points, Claire Robinson scored for St. Raphaels and Roscommon came back immediately in a very determined charge that was finished for a point by their full forward, Elizabeth Lee. But, by now, with St. Raphaels ahead by 4-5 to 1-5 their domination was firmly established.

St. Raphaels were now in control and they finished with a flourish, with Deirdre Costello slamming in two more goals in the closing minutes to round off a splendid personal performance.

All round, it was a very good display by St. Raphaels that should stand to them when they meet the Munster champions in the All-Ireland semi-final. While Costello emerged as the top scorer credit must go to her colleagues who worked diligently to set up the scoring chances. Claire Robinson,

Caroline Loughnane, Imelda Hobbins, Siobhan Maher and Ann Fahy made valuable contributions to the victory. The Loughrea half backs defended well and centrefielder Cora Curley also got through a lot of useful work.

Best for a very game Roscommon side were the Quinn cousins, Fiona and Imelda and Ann Walsh who put up a spirited defence all through.

St. Raphaels: C. Loughnane, A. Cooney, M. Dolphin, B. Stratford, G. Fahy, C. Curley, S. Maher, C. Robinson 0-2, I. Hobbins, D. Costello 5-0, T. Dolphin 1-0, A. Fahy 0-3.

Mercy, Roscommon: E. Morgan, L. Regan, A. Hynes, T. Bracken, F. Quinn, I. Quinn 0-1, A. Walsh 0-1, M. Gannon, G. Hussey, B. Dervan 1-0, C. McGeeaney 0-1, E. Lee 0-1. Subs: H. Hussey for A. Walsh, C. Quinn for T. Bracken.

Referee: K. Quinn, Ballinasloe.

Raphael's juniors make it five in-a-row

ST. RAPHAELS, LOUGHREA 0-4
PORTUMNA COLLEGE 0-2

MAKING their fifth successive appearance in a Connacht Colleges Junior Camogie Final, St. Raphaels made it five-in-a-row at Duggan Park on Wednesday last. Their opponents, Portumna College were making their first ever appearance in a final.

Loughrea wasted a few early chances and when the bigger and stronger Portumna girls got moving, St. Raphaels needed all their defensive skills to keep them at bay. Portumna's efforts were rewarded in the 11th minute when they forced a "30" which Mary Treacy pointed.

Stung by this score, a rather disappointed St. Raphaels raised their game to put the Portumna defence under considerable pressure, but a mixture of their own bad luck, lack of concentration in taking close frees and some excellent work by Colette Callagy, between the Portumna players kept them

scoreless.

In the 19th minute, Portumna broke out of defence to race upfield and force another "30" from which Mary Treacy was on target. Loughrea came back at the Portumna defence in strength but in the last three minutes of the first half they had as many wides as well as missing a goal opportunity. Half-time came with Portumna leading 0-2 to 0-0.

Loughrea broke away from the throw-in but the move ended wide. From the Portumna puck-out, they attacked again and their full forward, Emer Hardiman had their first point. Portumna's Mary Treacy was here, there and everywhere, trying to set up chances.

After nine minutes of the second half Triona Dolphin pointed from a Loughrea free 35 metres out, and the sides were level. Loughrea attacked again and substitute Imelda Maher, who had come on late in the first half, raced through the outer defences to send in a rasper, which the Portumna goalkeeper was lucky to turn around a post for a "30" from which Triona Dolphin had a point and Loughrea had the lead. After fifteen minutes, Triona Dolphin,

playing with plenty of confidence, picked off a long-range point.

Portumna played gallantly and there were times when the Loughrea defence was severely tested but Loughrea had that extra assurance and skill that took them out of awkward situations. What they had, they held and even though Portumna were swarming around the St. Raphaels goal at the final whistle, the Loughrea girls ran out deserving winners and now go on to meet the Munster champions, Charleville in the All-Ireland semi-final.

St. Raphaels showed character in coming back from a very different start. They were well served in defence by goalkeeper, Kathleen Coen and their half back line of Eilis Kilkenny, Marion Corcoran and Triona Dolphin, substitute Imelda Maher and full forward Emer Hardiman were best in attack.

Portumna College need feel no shame in defeat. Beaten in their very first final, they gave a side steeped in tradition a very close run and on this showing, they look to have a bright future. Star of their side was their midfielder, Mary Treacy, goalkeeper Colette Callagy was another who performed with skill and valour while centre half forward, Caitriona Finnegan also did very well.

After the game, Miss Noeleen Cormican, Treasurer, Co. Galway Camogie Board, congratulated both teams on a whole-hearted display and presented the cup to the Loughrea captain.

St. Raphaels: K. Coen, S. Earls, E. Kilkenny, T. Dolphin 0-3, M. Corcoran, A. Murphy, F. Keane, U. Cahalane, P. Mitchell, B. Fahy, A. Brett, E. Hardiman 0-1. Subs: Imelda Maher for Fiona Sheil.

Portumna College: C. Callagy, M. Carney, E. Craughwell, Mary Treacy, M. Hynes, I. Hoary, Mary Treacy 0-2, G. Conroy, H. Grady, C. Finnegan, F. Sheil, E. Campbell. Subs: M. Power for M. Hynes, M. Ryan for E. Craughwell, Valerie Conroy for I. Hoary.

Referee: K. Quinn (Ballinasloe).

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Enforced Changes As Cork Make Seasonal Debut

CORK make their debut in this season's National Senior League on Sunday and St. Patrick's College, Cork, take on All-Ireland champions, St. Raphael's, in the semi-final of the senior college championship at Loughrea in a busy weekend for camogie followers.

As was the policy in recent years the Cork selectors have named a new look team for their first national league game against Limerick at St. Finbarr's Grounds on Sunday, and a number of players are being given their first opportunity at senior level.

Two of Cork's regulars for a number of years, corner-back Miriam Higgins and ace forward Mary O'Leary were not considered for selection — for different reasons. Miriam, the Chairperson of the Cork County Board, has asked not to be considered for the National League, and Mary, as a new Cork selector cannot be selected.

So to begin with the selectors had to fill these positions. To fill Miriam's berth, Catherine Landers has been moved from centre-back, to the corner, and Clare Cronin, takes over at centre-back. Marian McCarthy, who captains the side this season is again in goal with club-mate Eileen Dineen at full-back, and Margo Twomey comes back into the side after a few seasons out of contention to fill the other corner.

There is a completely new centrefield with Collette O'Mahony of St. Finbarr's and Ann Leahy of Killeagh getting their chance at top for the first tie. And they will be joined by Liz Dunphy who is moved from the defence.

Val Fitzpatrick stays at centreforward and Mary Geaney is again at full-forward, but Sandy Fitzgibbon has been moved from midfield to corner forward and Linda Mellerick switches to take over from Mary O'Leary.

It will be interesting to see how this Cork line-up fares. It is always good to see young players getting a chance and they will have a great opportunity of establishing themselves with a good performance against Limerick on Sunday.

Limerick too, are giving a new look to their side. They have come back from a season's absence to the ball home. They have scored a goal in their first game, eventually, of course, winning to Sunderland.

who insisted on not possible replacements to Arsenal. I put Hill in England inter-

with Galway last season. They also have excellent players in Mary Dolphin, Caroline Loughnane, Siobhan Maher, Clare Robinson and Sheila Stretford and on home ground will be formidable opposition indeed.

But St. Patrick's are experienced performers, who came back from what looked like certain defeat at the hands of St. Aloysius, in the Munster final to snatch a last minute goal. Most of

their team have played for Cork at some level, including Linda Mellerick who is a member of the Cork senior side for Sunday. Viv O'Brien, Tracy Rioridan, Carmel Currid, Liz O'Sullivan, Karen Mellerick, Aileen and Helena Barry. So, although they will be up against it they could snatch victory and win another chance of regaining the All-Ireland crown.

There are three Intermediate League games listed for Sunday including a repeat of last season's Championship final between Aghabullogue and Glen Rovers and there is also a Junior A league clash between Bishopstown and Ballincollig.

On tomorrow too, the C.C.D. national finals will be held in Dublin where Cork's representatives will be Inniscarra in the Question Time and Castlemagner in the Ballad Group.

FIXTURES:

Tomorrow (Saturday) Sen. Colleges semi-finals—At Loughrea—St. Patrick's, Cork v. St. Raphael's, Loughrea, 2.45 p.m. (Ref. Miriam O'Callaghan, Offaly). At Templemore Sports Complex, Derry: Loreto, Kilkenny v. F.C.J., Bunclody, 2.00 p.m. C.C.D. Finals at Colaiste Mhíre, Dublin, 7.30 p.m.
Sunday: N.I. At St. Finbarr's, Cork: Cork v. Limerick, 2.00 p.m. At

Double defeat by Dubs



THE senior and junior teams got off to a bad start in the league when they were both well beaten by Dublin.

The juniors by 5-3 to 1-0 and the seniors by 2-8 to 2-1. Dublin were much faster and fitter than Kilkenny. Now the most Kilkenny can hope for is for some team in the group to beat Dublin and to win all their own games.

Kilkenny had almost the same team as played in the all-Ireland. They were short Margaret Farrell who was replaced by Rita Weyms.

Scorers for Kilkenny in the senior game were Angela Downey (2-0), Rita Weyms (0-1).

Kilkenny's next games in the league are away to Galway on March 16.

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Top four teams in semi-finals again

ST. RAPHAEL'S, Loughrea, St. Patrick's, Cork, Loreto, Letterkenny and F.C.J. Bunclody are the four top teams in senior colleges camogie. All-Ireland semi-finalists in 1985, they have also qualified for the penultimate stages of the current competition. The champions, St. Raphael's, take the field against St. Patrick's at Loughrea on Saturday, the latter having a score to settle following their 4-7 to 3-3 reverse to Raphael's in last year's final.

Many of the same players renewed rivalry wearing their county colours in the All-Ireland Minor Final. Cork had the edge of that occasion. The make-up of these teams has altered very little in the 12 months, so they know what to expect of each other.

Challengers St. Patrick's had to struggle for periods in their Munster Championship games this season. The side has the experience and potential to do better. The defence of Mary Mulcahy, Viv O'Brien, Kathleen O'Keefe, Tracey O'Riordan and Mary Rose gave little away in the Munster campaign.

To have a realistic chance of winning through St. Patrick's will have to score a grip at midfield. Here Liz O'Sullivan, Caroline O'Brien and Carmel Currid are three good strikers. Two sets of sisters, Karen and Linda Mellerick and Helena and Aileen Barry feature in the attack. All are capable of using a scoring opportunity.

The side is an extremely good one. In addition to the players mentioned, they have other fine performers in Siobhan Maher, Joan Cooney, Claire Robinson, Mary Dolphin and Sila Stratford. On home ground, St. Raphael's are the likely choice to reach the final.

TIRING TRIP

S.C.J., Bunclody, face a long tiring trip to play Loreto, Letterkenny, in the second semi-final. A big, strong side, they accounted for Vocational, Mooncoin, in a low scoring Leinster final.

The defence of Dolores O'Neill, Margaret Purcell, Ailish Atkinson, Paula Rankin (captain) and Mary Cowman kept a clean sheet on that occasion.

Across the centre of the field, Bunclody will be well served by Catherine Atkinson, Noeleen Jordan and Deirdre Atkinson. Putting the pressure on Loreto will be attackers, Zdeirda Byrne, Geraldine Maguire, Margaret Jehoe and Kilian Doyle.

Loreto will make their third attempt to reach an All-Ireland Colleges final. In defence they are well served by Catrona Lillis, Mary Ellen Harley, Brendan Duffy, Elaine McMonagle and Cathy Ann Hannigan. Captain Susan Malone is likely to be partnered by Teresa English and Caroline Callaghan at midfield.

Forwards Dolores McDermott, Mary Devine, Sinead Miley and Evelyn Kelly will have their work cut out for them to score regularly against the firm Bunclody defence. If the journey does not take too much out of the Wexford girls, their all round ability should carry them to the final.

SHORT MATCHPLAY

The National Leagues get underway on Sunday. The harsh weather of the past few weeks has left counties with little or no preparation done. The icy winds have driven the players indoor and practically all are short of matchplay. Against this background, it is apt to see the Dublin v Kilkenny,

game coming so early in the CAMPAIGN.

These counties served up excellent fare in their clashes last season. Dublin may not have all the 1985 panel available but Mary Mernagh, Anna Condon, Marion Conroy, Carmel O'Byrne and Marie Connell are expected to be in action.

Kilkenny may continue where they left off last September. With some indoor training behind them Angela Downey, Bridie McGarry, Anna Whelan, Biddy O'Sullivan and Jo Dunno they may collect the points.

Mary O'Leary has joined the Cork selectors and so rules herself out of consideration for the side. Miriam Higgins will be another absentee, but lining out in the game against Limerick will be Sandie Fitzgibbon, Clare Cronin, Marion McCarthy, Eileen Dineen and Liz Dunphy. Limerick are rebuilding their side. The further loss of Bvrid Stokes should leave the points to Cork.

SATURDAY

All-Ireland C.C.D. finals, at Colaiste Mhíre, Dublin (7.30).
All-Ireland Colleges Senior Semi-finals — At Loughrea (2.45) — St. Raphael's, Loughrea v St. Patrick's, Cork. At Templemore Sports Complex, Derry (1.0) — Loreto, Kilkenny v F.C.J., Bunclody.
C.C.I.A. League Semi-finals — At Belfield (2.30) — U.C.D. v U.U.J. At Thomond (2.30) — Thomond College v U.C.G.

SUNDAY

National Leagues — At Ennis — Clare v Tipperary, junior 2.00 senior 3.0. At Nowlan Park — Kilkenny v Dublin, junior 3.0 senior 3.0. At St. Finbarr's — Cork v Limerick, senior 2.30. At Ring — Waterford v Kildare, junior 2.30. At Derrymacash — Armagh v Louth junior 2.30.

LORETO SEEK ALL-IRELAND FINAL PLACE

The All Ireland Senior Schools camogie semi-final between Loreto Letterkenny and the F.C.J. Convent, Buncloody is fixed for the Templemore Sports Complex, Derry next Saturday at 2 p.m.

This is the first ever visit of a Wexford camogie team to Donegal and it should be a great occasion. The Buncloody girls come as Leinster champions having retained their title by beating Vocational, Mooncoin last week.

Letterkenny also retained their Ulster Championship crown and there should be a spirited battle between the teams to see which school will get to Croke Park for the first time.

They met in a friendly match last October in Buncloody but it was a placid, tame affair won by the Wexford girls. It is certain that 'tame' will not be the word to describe Saturday's game — it is sure to be a really exciting one with both teams in with an equal chance.

Loreto showed great character in the Ulster final coming back to win after being seven points adrift and they will need all that determination and more if they are to succeed on Saturday. It is a match that they can win and they have the spirit to do just that.

The Loreto panel is: Susan Malone (captain), Caitriona Lillis, Mary Devine, Geraldine Mulhern, Brenda Duffy, Caroline Callaghan, Mary Ellen Harley, Teresa English, Cathy Ann Hannigan, Anna Marie Reynolds, Elaine McMonagle, Sharon Devenney, Maeve McGinley, Anne Cannon, Dolores McDermott, Sinead Malley, Sharon Dunleavy, Evelyn Kelly, Donna McNulty and Odelle Callaghan.

DONEGAL START NATIONAL LEAGUE

Donegal play their first National League match of the season next Sunday when they play Tyrone in Carrdonagh at 2.30.

Donegal are in the same zone as last year and in addition to meeting Tyrone at home they also play Westmeath away on 16th March, Cavan away on 13th April, and Monaghan at home on 27th April.

The panel have been training indoors since the beginning of January and there is a quiet determination in the squad to bring a trophy to the county this year. Last season saw great success with the team going through to the National League semi-final unbeaten so it is important to get off to a winning start on Sunday.

A panel of twentyfive has been picked and there are quite a few youthful newcomers.

The panel is: Ita Blake and Geraldine Henry (Marino), Brid Ronaghan (U.C.D.), Margaret Rooney (Navan O'Mahoney's), Maureen Wilkie (Maguirebridge), Mary Hirrell, Anne Marie McCarron, Ellen Nelson, Mary P. McLaughlin (Carrdonagh), Deirdre O'Toole (Fasad), Gerry Murphy, Adrienne Hannigan, Anne McGrath, Celine Kelly, Elaine McGonagle, Teresa English, Cathy Ann Hannigan, Evelyn Kelly, Dolores McDermott, Mary Devine, (Letterkenny), Margaret Curran, Geraldine Doherty, Rosemary Gallagher, Caroline Callaghan and Barbara Boyce (Newtowncunningham).

Raphaels second half power show wins the day

ST. RAPHAEL'S COLLEGE (Loughrea) 4-9
ST. PATRICK'S (Cork) 1-3

A SPARKLING PERFORMANCE by St. Raphael's College proved too much for St. Patrick's at St. Brendan's Park, Loughrea on Saturday last, to book their passage to the All-Ireland senior camogie colleges final.

On a bitterly cold day St. Raphael's, the holders, showed themselves to be a team of many talents. Defenders, with the ability to close down opposing forwards, a midfield that moved the ball quickly to the forwards, and a forward division skilled in the act of moving off the ball and above all in taking scores.

Four goals and nine points is a very creditable score in any game but against a team fielding players who have represented Cork County at all levels, it was even more remarkable.

Playing with the wind in the first half St. Patrick's strength and speed proved to be quite a problem for the home team and while they enjoyed a fair amount of dominance they did not reflect on the scoreboard when the teams changed ends with the score 1-4 to 1-0 in favour of St. Raphael's. St. Patrick's K. Mellerick got through an amount of work in that period and her goal was well taken.

But revelling in the difficult conditions, St. Raphael's showed their mettle in the second half. With Caroline Loughnane, cool under pressure in goal, and well protected by her captain Angela Cooney scores were not going to come easy for St. Patrick's. The outer line of defence following their captains example proceeded to make light of the conditions.

Brid Stratford dominated in the middle of the defence and while her over all play was always sound she really excelled in free-taking and side line cuts.

On her left Geraldine Fahy showed that her outstanding performance in the Connacht final was not just a once off performance and once again played with assurance. Completing a solid line of defence Mary Dolphin showed that she is making a welcome return to her best form.

At centrefield Siobhan Maher and Cora Curley worked tirelessly — ranging from defence to attack and were always on hand to help out an overworked colleague.

Deirdre Costello's ability was obviously feared by St. Patrick's and it was not unusual to see two defenders converge on her when she was in possession. But while this curtailed her usual prolific scoring it worked to the advantage of her colleagues in attack.

They began to capitalise on the openings created as Deirdre proceeded to lay the ball off rather than go it alone. Clare Robinson's ability to take on defenders from midfield opened up gaps to goal and with Triona Dolphin and Imelda Hobbins always ready to pick up a half chance and a high score was always on.

In front of goal Ann Fahy punished any indiscretions with uncanny accuracy from frees, while her scores from play even from awkward angles were a delight. Overall this was a most promising performance and augers well for St. Raphael's prospects in the final.

St. Raphael's scorers were: Ann Fahy (1-6), D. Costello (2-0), Triona Dolphin (1-1), Imelda Hobbins (0-2).

NEWCOMERS FARE WELL

By Joan Morley

Cork 1-9;
Limerick 2-0

NEW look Cork and Limerick sides opened their National League campaigns when they met at St. Finbarr's Grounds yesterday, with Cork coming out best.

This was a typical start of season game with many players looking out of touch, but newcomers on both sides played quite well and it will be interesting to see how they fare in the weeks ahead.

Ann Leahy and Colette O'Mahony, playing their first senior game for Cork looked very promising and others to shine for the winners were Sandy Fitzbiggon, Clare Cronin, and Mary Geaney.

Pauline McCarthy at centre back was in brilliant form for Limerick while Helen Sheehy, Bernie O'Dea, Marguerite Guiry and Liz O'Neill were also outstanding for the Shannonsiders.

Cork opened the scoring with an early point from Mary Geaney which was followed during the first period with further points from Ann Leahy, Linda Mellerick and two more from Mary Geaney.

But Limerick snatched back a goal before the interval from Minary Lenihan to leave Cork ahead by 0-5 to 1-0.

Limerick made a dramatic opening to the second half with a great goal from Pauline McCarthy to put them ahead for the first time, but soon Mary Geaney equalised, and after a very exciting ten minutes when Limerick looked like getting on top, Cork struck back with a goal from Mary Geaney, and points from Colette O'Mahony (2), and Clare Cronin to leave them comfortable 1-9 to 1-0 winners.

Scorers: Cork — M. Geaney 1-4, C. O'Mahony 0-2, L. Mellerick, C. Cronin and A.

Leahy 0-1 each. Limerick — M. Lenihan and P. McCarthy (1-0) each. Cork: M. McCarthy, E. Dwyer, A. Copper and B. Kenny while M. Rafferty, A. Hannigan and H. Loughran tried hard for UUJ.

Scorers: UUJ — 1. Kenny (0-2), M. Connell (1-2), A. Copper and C. Feeney (0-6 each), UUJ — P. O'Brien, S. McCune (0-1 each).

the final

U.C.D.M.

UUJ... IN an entertaining and contested tie of the Gaelic League played at Buncloody UCD qualified for the final for the second successive year.

With the aid of the breeze in the opening half UUJ failed to convert many scoring chances, while the home side overcame the conditions to lead by 1-1 to 0-1.

With the breeze behind them in the second half Catherine Feeney increased UCD's lead with a well taken goal. There followed a series of wides until B. Kenny pointed in the 13th minute.

UUJ tried hard to get into contention but again failed to finish and in a return to the attack a goal and a point by M. Connell and two points from Kenny clinched the issue for the Dublin college.

The winners were best served by A. M. Brennan, P. Dwyer, A. Copper and B. Kenny while M. Rafferty, A. Hannigan and H. Loughran tried hard for UUJ.

SCORERS — UCD — 1. Kenny (0-2), M. Connell (1-2), A. Copper and C. Feeney (0-6 each), UUJ — P. O'Brien, S. McCune (0-1 each).

All Ireland Senior Post Primary Schools semi-final — UUJ Buncloody 3-3; Loreto Letterkenny 0-0. St. Raphael's Loughrea 4-9; St. Patrick's Cork 1-3.

BUNCLOODY 1-3

LORETO 0-4

IN THE other semi-final, Buncloody, the Leinster champions, made a long journey to Derry City but it was well worthwhile when they easily defeated Loreto Letterkenny, controlling play in all parts of the field. On this performance, they look good for the All-Ireland crown.

SCORERS — D. Byrne (2-0), M. Purcell (1-1), G. Maguire (0-1).

CORK 1-3

LIMERICK 2-0

CORK took the points at the expense of Limerick in the opening round of the Senior National League played at St. Finbarr's ground yesterday. The winners turned over with a slender lead of 0-5 to 1-0 but took control in the second half to add 1-4 to 1-0 for Limerick.

SCORERS — Cork — M. Geaney (1-4), C. O'Mahony (0-2), A. Leahy, L. Mellerick, C. Cronin (0-1 each); Limerick — M. Lenihan and P. McCarthy (1-0 each).

Junior National League — Donegal 0-3; Tyrone 1-4.

SENIOR LEAGUE

Clare 1-7; Tipperary 1-2. Scorers: Clare — A. M. McDermott (0-6), H. Conboy (1-0), N. Burke (0-1); Tipperary — N. Brennan (1-0), P. Sparr, M. Quilty (0-1 each).

Junior League — Carr 0-0; Monaghan 0-0; Clare 4-0; Tipperary 2-0; Donegal 1-1; Tyrone 1-4.

Great Week-End for Clare Camogie

Last week-end was one of the most successful ever for Clare camogie with success on a number of fields. In the all Ireland talent competition finals on Saturday night Clare clubs collected three titles. On Sunday they got the national league off to a great start beating Tipperary in both senior and junior.

CLARE 1-7
TIPPERARY 1-2

Clare seniors got the national league off to a flying start with a deserved five point win over Tipperary at the Eire Og grounds on Sunday. Clare trailed by a point 0-4 to 1-2 at the break and despite a noticeable improvement on the turnover, scores were difficult to come by.

Clare were in front at the beginning of the final quarter after Mary Ann McNerney had two points from 30's. It was anybody's game at this stage with both sets of forwards guilty of missed chances.

In a strong finish Clare clinched the issue with a superb goal from Helen Cusack who added a further point before the finish.

This was a great start for a Clare side which included several newcomers. Mary Fitzgibbon was outstanding at full back and she got good assistance from Leslie O'Flynn in goal and Patricia Moroney in the half back line. Veronica Casey, Claire Cooney and Carmel Wall did trojan work at midfield while up front Mary Ann McNerney who scored

five points and Helen Cusack impressed in the attack.

Clare: L. O'Flynn, M. Fitzgibbon, M. Quinlivan, P. Moroney, C. Kelly, C. Wall, V. Casey, C. Cooney, H. Cusack (1-1), L. Condon, L. Fox (0-1), M. A. McNerney (0-5). Sub. C. Fahy, for Fox.

Clare travel to play Limerick at Thomond College junior at 2 p.m. and senior at 3 p.m. on this Sunday. Coach will leave Ennis at 12.30 and pick up players at Ballycasey Cross 12.45 and Setrights at 12.50.

CLARE 4-11
TIPPERARY 1-0

Clare had little difficulty in defeating Tipperary in the first round of the junior league on Sunday. The home side were by far the fitter team and led at the interval by 2-6 to nil. They continued to dominate on the changeover with the result that the outcome was a foregone conclusion long before the final whistle.

Josie Conlon, Patricia Ryan and Noeleen Quinn excelled in defence while newcomer Patricia Rynne and Sheila O'Halloran combined well at midfield. Up front Maura McNicholas (she scored 1-7) Catherine O'Loughlin and Shelley Hegarty were the stars.

Clare: P. O'Brien, J. Conlon, S. Reidy, N. Quinn, P. Ryan, N. Comyns 0-1, S. O'Halloran, 0-1, P. Rynne 0-2, C. Molloy, M. McNicholas 1-7, C. O'Loughlin 2-0, A. Murnane. Subs. S. Hegarty 1-0, for Murnane, C. McMahon for Conlon, S. Joyce for Reidy.

Clare representatives captured three all Ireland titles at the national finals of Ceol caint agus damhas in Dublin on Saturday night.

Sixmilebridge, runners up last year won the figure dancing title and the team members were Margaret Murphy, Rita McGrath, Catherine Murphy, Lucia McNamara, Joan Murphy, Dolores O'Loughlin, Claire Cooney and Carmel McElligott with music by Joseph Griffin and Pakie Quinn.

Ogonnelloe won the set dancing title and the members of their team were A. Molloy, M. McNamara, P. Healy, M. Mulcahy, F. McKenna, M. Sheedy, C. McKenna and Y. Gavin with music by Fr. S. O'Dea, P. Gaynor, T. McKenna, S. Sheedy and B. Keown.

Eire Og's Conor McCarthy won the solo instrumental section.

MAR.
1986



Glen Rovers player Sandy Fitzgibbon

Camogie front busy

LIMERICK and Clare continue their National Senior League campaigns on Sunday when they meet at Adare; the All-Ireland junior colleges semi-finals will be contested tomorrow and four Cork league games will be decided on Sunday to make up a busy weekend for camogie followers.

St. Mary's, Charleville, are the only Cork side left in the All-Ireland Colleges competitions and they face a tough one at home to holders, St. Raphael's, Loughrea, in the All-Ireland junior semi-final tomorrow.

But St. Mary's have played very well in Munster this season and with excellent young players in Eve Watson, Helen Cagney, Frances and Mairead Broderick and Clare O'Callaghan they will not give up the chance of a place in the All-Ireland final without a battle.

In the second semi-final, F.C.J. Bunclody are at home to St. Patrick's, Dungiven.

Limerick, who played so well for a long time against Cork on Sunday last and introduced a number of promising youngsters, continue their National League campaign on Sunday when they meet Clare, at Adare.

In last Sunday's game Pauline McCarthy, Mary Lenihan, Helen Sheehy, Elizabeth O'Sullivan and Mairead Cagney were all excellent performers and if Limerick can play as well again they should gain

their first brace of points at the expense of Clare.

On the Cork club front there are two senior league ties listed for Sunday. In these Killeagh will be expected to have too much power for Sarsfields, while it should be a cracker between Glen Rovers and St. Finbarr's.

In the Junior A League there will be keen rivalry too between Brian Dillons and Na Piarasigh.

However, the pick of the League games should be the under-16 section play-off in which old rivals Eire Og and Aghabullogue meet for a third encounter in a short space of time.

FIXTURES

Tomorrow J.C.C. semi-finals: At Bunclody F.C. J. v St. Patrick's 2 p.m.; At Charleville: St. Raphael's v St. Mary's 2.30 p.m.

Sunday: N.L. at Adare Limerick v Clare (J 2 p.m. S 3 p.m.). S.L. Glen Rovers v St. Finbarr's at St. Finbarr's 3 p.m. Killeagh v Sarsfields at Sarsfields 3 p.m. J.A.L. Brian Dillons v Na Piarasigh at Brian Dillons 2.30 p.m. U-16L section play-off: Aghabullogue v Eire Og at Coachford 12 noon.

Junior Championship race looks wide

THE race for the All-Ireland Colleges Junior Championship appears wide open. Each of the four semi-finalists has a realistic chance of ultimate honours. St. Patrick's, Dungiven, journey to play F.C.J., Bunclody, while St. Mary's, Charleville, will be at home to St. Raphael's, Loughrea.

St. Raphael's are, of course, the All-Ireland champions. But the fact that only Triona Dolphin remains from their winning team of 1985, places their prospects on a par with the other challengers.

St. Patrick's, Dungiven, make their second attempt to reach an All-Ireland final. Two years ago, they emerged from Ulster but found St. Patrick's, Shannon, too difficult to handle at the semi-final stage.

Captained by Teresa Stephenson, St. Patrick's are a

keen, determined side. Teresa figures at centre-back and is surrounded by useful defenders in Jacqueline Begley, Margaret McNicholl, Louise Broly and Marie Farren. Catherine O'Neill combines with Celine O'Hara and Marie Mullen to constitute a strong midfield line.

Kelly Fleming is dangerous in front of goal and has good support from Michelle Doran, Orla Kelly and D. McElhinney. Ulster First Year champions in 1984, the side has been together for three seasons and hopes to do well.

F.C.J., Bunclody have a number of players who do duty for both the senior and junior teams. This experience will be invaluable to them. Deirdre Atkinson, Deirdre Byrne and Margaret Kehoe are dual players. Melanie Dunne, Charmaine

CAMOGIE

Gibson, Susan Redmond, Shirley Dagg and Mary Fitzhenry will make F.C.J. a formidable force on their home ground.

Tasting All-Ireland semi-final fare for the first time will be St. Mary's, Charleville. Fresh from their good showing in the Munster final, the team is very anxious to progress further. Eve Watson, Helen Cagney, Frances Broderick, Clare O'Callaghan and Mairead Cagney should play an important role in the proceedings.

St. Raphael's have been fortunate to find readymade replacements for the promoted 1985 side. Young Eimer Hardiman, Una Cahalan, Bridget Fahy, Kathleen Coen, Siobhan

Earls and Fionnuala Keane will try hard to preserve the great record of the school.

The All-Ireland Colleges Senior Championship semi-finals provided clearcut results. The superior attacking play of St. Raphael's, Loughrea, ran up a total of 4-9 against a disappointing St. Patrick's team, who could only manage 1-2. F.C.J., Bunclody impressed in defeating Loreto, Letterkenny 3-3 to nil in the second game.

Limerick had a number of their Munster junior championship side in action in the National Senior League on Sunday and must have been pleased with their showing. They played enthusiastically and contested every ball to the finish. Pauline McCarthy, Mary Lenihan, Helen Sheehy, Elizabeth O'Sullivan and Mary Treacy could make

things difficult for Clare next Sunday.

Down and Antrim open their National League campaign on Sunday. Down picked up the points when these neighbours met in last season's competition. A good showing from Teresa Allen, Sheila McCartan, Colette Lambe, Nuala McCartan, Joan Campbell and Bonnie McGreevey could get Down off to a good start.

Antrim will look to Mary McMullen, Anne McGarry, Mary Lundy and Anne McGrew and hope that these experienced players will bring the newcomers along in their team rebuilding process. Meath and Carlow should collect the points in the junior league matches with Fermanagh and Wicklow.

Munster proved best in the All-Ireland C.C.D. finals

MARCH 1986



St. Mary's Charleville, under-16 Camogie Team who defeated St. Raphael's, Loughrea, in the All-Ireland semi-final of the Under-16 Colleges Camogie Championship at Charleville on Saturday last. Included are: Mairead Cagney, Ann Quill, Frances Broderick, Therese Sheehy, Marie O'Sullivan, Bernice O'Brien, Frances Cremin, Clare O'Callaghan, Fiona Reidy, Eve Watson, Roisin Daly, Helen Cagney, Sr. M. Margaret, Fr. Liam Kelliher, Vincent Harrington, Brid Larkin and Sr. M. Colman, Principal, St. Mary's.

St. Mary's to All-Ireland

THE girls of St. Mary's Convent School, Charleville, brushed aside the challenge of Connaught champions, St. Raphael's, from Loughrea in the semi-final of the All-Ireland colleges under 16 camogie championship, which was played at the Convent grounds, Charleville, on last Saturday.

From the throw-in the Munster champions played aggressive hurling putting Loughrea under constant pressure, which paid off handsomely when Fiona Reidy picked off a lovely goal from a ground shot in a goalmouth melee. The Charleville side controlled the midfield sector and Francis Broderick was a tower of strength at centre

back. After a period of brilliant hurling, Emer Hardiman succeeded in piercing the Charleville defence to score a good goal for St. Raphael's. However, within minutes Frances Broderick sallied upfield from the centre back position to collect a Galway clearance and drove a powerful shot to the St. Raphael's net from all of 30 metres, to restore the lead for St. Mary's. Triona Dolphin pulled two points back for Loughrea from 30-metre frees to leave Charleville leading by two goals to one goal two points at half time.

On the resumption the St. Mary's girls again dictated the trend of play and were unlucky not to score goals on at least two occasions when the ball struck the upright, to let

St. Raphael's off the hook. But now with Francis Cremin and Claire O'Callaghan having a storming game and Eve Watson coming into her own after a quiet first half, the Charleville girls took control of the game. Eve Watson stretched the lead to two points with a beautifully struck sideline ball and Helen Cagney was on target with two well taken 30 metre frees. On one of the rare occasions that the ball crossed the midfield mark in this half, St. Raphael's were awarded a 30-metre free and Triona Dolphin pointed their only score of the half.

However, Eve Watson clinched the issue for St. Mary's when she sent over a brilliant point to give Charleville a well deserved

win, booking their passage to the All-Ireland final.

At the final whistle there were fantastic scenes as the jubilant supporters rushed on to the pitch to greet their heroes who will now play the Leinster champions, Bunclody, in Croke Park in April.

The scorers for Charleville's St. Mary's team were Fiona Reidy 1-0, Francis Broderick 1-0, Helen Cagney 0-2 from frees, Eve Watson 0-2.

The team was: Mairead Cagney, Ann Quill, Francis Broderick (capt.), Therese Sheehy, Marie O'Sullivan, Bernice O'Brien, Frances Cremin, Clare O'Callaghan, Fiona Reidy, Eve Watson, Roisin Daly, Helen Cagney.

The referee was Helen Sheehy, Limerick.

Loreto lose All-Ireland Semi-Final

LORETO, LETTERKENNY 0-0 F.C.J. BUNCLODY 3-3

Loreto Letterkenny played well below form in this all-Ireland semi-final in Derry last Saturday and were well beaten by Wexford Convent, Bunclody.

They were unfortunate to concede easy goals early on in the match and they never seemed to relax and get rid of their big match nerves after this.

After their sparkling display in the Ulster final hopes were high that they had a chance against the Wexford girls but although everyone of the Letterkenny girls tried really hard it was one of those days when the harder they tried the more things went wrong.

The team is a very young one with most of them available next year so the experience gained should be invaluable for another attempt to get to Croke Park in 1987.

Loreto team: C. Dillis, M. E. Harley, B. Duffy, E. McMonagle, C. A. Hannigan, T. English, G. Mulhern, S. Malone (capt.), D. McDermott, M. Devine, S. Malley, E. Kelly, Subs.: C. Callaghan for C. Dillis, A. Cannon for S. Malone and M. McGinley for E. Kelly.

Aghabullogue in thriller

AGHABULLOGUE 1-1 BISHOPSTOWN 0-0

In a tremendously exciting final to the Cork Under-14 "A" camogie championship at Curraheen, Cork, yesterday Aghabullogue just came out on top.

Scorers for the winners were Sinéad and Evelyn Buckley.

Clare's late clincher

LIMERICK 1-3
CLARE 1-4

A goal by Laura Fox two minutes from the end gave Clare a late win over Limerick in the National Senior Camogie League at Limerick yesterday.

CAMOGIE

SCORERS: Clare—L. Fox (1-1), M. A. O'Flynn (0-3). Limerick—M. Lenihan (1-1), M. Magnier, E. O'Sullivan (0-1 each).

MARCH 1986

CAMOGAIOCHT x IARMHI x



At the National Camogie Congress held in Bloomfield House Hotel, Mullingar, left to right: Most Rev. Dr. M. Smith, Auxiliary Bishop of Meath, Pat Collins, Secretary, Westmeath G.A.A., Phyllis Breslin, Chairman, Leinster Council, Mick Loftus, President G.A.A., P. J. Fulham, Chairman, Westmeath Camogie Board and Anne Collins. P. J. Fulham made a presentation of Mullingar Pewter to Phyllis Breslin.

CAMOGAIOCHT x IARMHI x



At the National Camogie Congress held in the Bloomfield House Hotel, Mullingar last week-end: left to right, Mary Gaye, Treasurer, Westmeath County Board, Sheila Wallace, Ard Runai, Cumann Camogaloí na nGael, Nan Lynch, Betty Behan, Congress Delegate, Rosaleen Brennan, County Registrar, Maureen Fulham, County Board Secretary and Leinster Secretary.

CAMOGAIOCHT x IARMHI x



National Camogie Congress: Mr. Jack Taaffe, County Manager, Mary Lynch, President, Camogie Association, Mick Loftus, President G.A.A., P. J. Fulham, Chairman, Westmeath Camogie Board and Vice-Chairman, Leinster Council, Mrs. Frances Taaffe. P. J. Fulham made a presentation of Mullingar Pewter to Mary Lynch.

NATIONAL CAMOGIE LEAGUE

Donegal make impressive start

DONEGAL 8-3 TYRONE 1-6

Donegal showed some excellent form in this opening National League match against Tyrone in Killygordon last Sunday. Tyrone were very strong in certain areas of the field but the home team were better balanced and the forwards in particular were always dangerous.

Donegal are in a zone together with Tyrone, Westmeath, Cavan and Monaghan and will be hoping to repeat last year's success when they had a 100% success against the same teams. The next match is away to Westmeath on the 16th March.

The pitch last Sunday was quite hard after the heavy overnight frost which meant all the players had to work very hard to control the bouncing ball. The fast direct ground play of Donegal proved to be the best tactics and the home team were never in danger.

The half-time score was 5-1 to 1-4. Donegal team: G. Doherty, G. Murphy, M. Wilkie, R. Gallagher, A. Hannigan, M. Hurrell, M. Curran, B. Ronaghan, A. M. McCarron (1-0), M. Devine (1-0), I. Blake (3-0), A. McGrath (3-3).

Sandy tops in Cork

SANDY FITZGIBBON of Team Reubens, Blarney, has been honoured by the Cork Ladies' Basketball Board in being selected as the Most Valuable Player in this season's local Premier League.

Sandy (22) plays at forward for Blarney and has been averaging 20 points per game in the Cork leagues and 12.4 points in National competition. She joined Blarney from Alpha Pandas in 1984. A former schools' international at under-15 and under-17 level, she is also widely known for her prowess at camogie, having captained the Cork Senior team.

Standing at only 5'4" tall she still possesses magnificent ability. Definitely one of the quickest players in this country, Sandy is a great defensive player and is also very skilful in all aspects of offence. Her overall workrate and team contribution is unmatched in senior basketball.



Bid to stop 'inter-pros'

ANNUAL Congress of Cumann Camogachta na nGael will convene at Mullingar this weekend. Officers and delegates have a tight schedule with a variety of reports and thirty one motions to consider.

Dublin's motion to discontinue the inter-provincial competitions will generate lively debate. The idea of inter-provincial camogie was originally launched as part of the Golden Jubilee celebrations of the Association in 1954. A Leinster selection played their Ulster counterparts in a special exhibition at Navan.

Two years later the annual inter-provincial series for the Gael-Linn Cup was established. In 1975 the status of the competition was altered from senior to junior grade. The junior displayed good interest in the inter-provincial game and their competition was made permanent. The senior returned to the field in 1978 since when both competitions have run concurrently.

The Gael-Linn competitions have provided a stage for the highly rated player to perform at a higher level. Talented players from unsuccessful counties get the opportunity to appear in skilful company and collect a treasured memento. As no All-Star scheme exists in camogie, the inter-provincials provide the only spotlight for players of weak

CAMOGIE

counties to enjoy. Their delegates may not be prepared to give up the opportunity.

Clare seek the introduction of an All-Ireland B Championship for weaker counties. However, they do not expand on how they envisage the new competition. Is it to be for the weaker counties of the senior grade? If so, do they plan to run it off because the Open Draw with the winners going into the All-Ireland proper?

CLARE MOTION

The Banner County tables an interesting motion which would introduce promotion and relegation to the National Leagues. While common to other sports, this system has not been tried in camogie. The benefits of good competition are obvious but the cost of long travelling could limit support.

Galway would like to see the two top teams in each zone of the National League go forward to the play-off stages. This would necessitate fitting in additional fixtures into an already crowded schedule.

Westmeath seek to prohibit a junior player from gaining experience in the National Senior League without loss of junior

status. Kilkenny request that All-Ireland medal-holders, who remained on the substitutes bench throughout the campaign, be eligible for regrading.

Certain Ulster counties have been reluctant to accept a membership fee since it was first mooted. The existing rule calls for a mere fifty pence annually from adult members. It is disappointing to those who are working hard to promote the game to see motions tabled from Derry and Monaghan to withdraw this meagre income from Ard Chomhairle.

Dublin request that a committee be appointed by the President to examine all aspects of the Association. They wish that the personnel for this committee be drawn from Ard Chomhairle, current players and the G.A.A. However, the president would have a free hand in the choice of names.

GOOD LOOK

An internal commission was set up in 1968 with similar guidelines. Many of their recommendations were subsequently put into practice. Perhaps it is time for a searching good look to be taken at the Association again.

Some years ago the G.A.A. introduced the position of President-elect. Kilkenny suggest that the

Camogie Association should follow suit. It would permit the designated official to obtain a first hand insight into affairs. On the other hand it would entail a four year commitment which some girls might find off-putting.

Kilkenny and Dublin hold different views as to who should be eligible to enter for Gradam Tailte. Dublin advocate permitting any senior club player to represent her county. On the other hand, Kilkenny seek to revert to the original idea of selecting a member of the county's first twelve.

Ulster request a more central venue for this competition. They also propose that the winner of Gradam Tailte be debarred from entering the competition in the following year.

It is the first time that Congress convenes in Co. Westmeath. This county, revived some years ago, has made great strides. The hard-working P. J. Fulham, and his wife Maureen and their eager band of helpers will have everything in apple-pie order to ensure that the delegates have a memorable weekend on the banks of Lough Ennell.

Fixtures

March 22/23 — Annual Congress at Bloomfield Hotel, Mullingar. Commenting on Sat. at 10 a.m. and on Sun. at 11 a.m.

National Congress A Great Success In Westmeath

One of the largest Camogie Congresses ever, took place in the Bloomfield House Hotel, Mullingar, last week-end. Delegates from all over the country enjoyed the hospitality afforded to them, with great praise going to the organisers for presenting such a historic event first class.

Congress was opened on Saturday morning at 10 a.m. by Westmeath County Manager, Mr. Jack Taaffe, who warmly welcomed all delegates, and spoke at length about the sights and scenery of Westmeath and numerous features pertaining to the county, which all present found very interesting.

Mr. Pat Collins represented the County G.A.A.

In his address he referred to the G.A.A. and their relationship with camogie, and was very pleased to see the way in which the game has flourished in the county in such a short period of time. He commended the Camogie Board for bringing such an historic event to Westmeath.

The highlight of Congress was the Congress Mass, which took place at 7 p.m. on Saturday evening. The celebrant was Most Rev. Dr. Michael Smith, Auxiliary Bishop of Meath. Over 200 attended. The choir, conducted by Miss Regina McCarthy, was praised by all. The readings were by The President, Mary Lynch, and Westmeath delegate Betty Behan.

Prayers for the Faithful concerning the Association were said by a representative from each province, and the gifts offered were carried by a representative from each province. After Mass we were honoured with the presence of Dr. Mick Loftus, Uachtarán Cumann Luthchleas Gael. This, too, was an historic event that, the Presidents of both Associations were present at Congress.

Mr. Loftus said he was delighted to be associated with Camogie Congress in Westmeath and complimented Cumann Camogachta na nGael for the great work they were doing in promoting their National game. He spoke of camogie as their sister body and went on to speak of

the importance of the young and not so young being involved in sport.

After dinner Westmeath C.C.E. under the direction of Mr. Colman Moynihan provided the entertainment which was enjoyed by all.

Congress resumed at 10.30 a.m. on Sunday and ended at 6 p.m.

The committee wish to thank Most Rev. Dr. Michael Smith, Mr. Jack Taaffe, Mr. Pat Collins, Miss Regina McCarthy, Colman O Muineachain and Ballymore Ballad Group, photographers, Topic reporter, the Westmeath Examiner, the Management and Staff of the Bloomfield Hotel, the advertisers and sponsors for souvenir booklet. Contributors: Mr. Eugene Doherty, G.A.A. Development Officer, Mr. Paddy Flanagan, G.A.A. P.R.O., Mrs. Mary Martin, Ballymore, Mrs. Josie Kerrigan, Drumraney and Mr. and Mrs. Phil Behan, Drumraney.

More from Congress later.

50 YEARS AGO

ALICE MAYTHORN, a 10/1 chance, owned and trained by Mr. P. J. Osborne, and ridden by Mr. C. Prendergast, won the Irish Grand National at Fairyhouse, from That's Hem (Nr. D. Eccles) (10/1) and Flying Rose (W. T. O'Grady) (5/2).

★ ★ ★ ★

U.C.C. scored a 4-1 to 3-0 win over Dominican College Past Pupils (Dublin) in a senior camogie challenge game at the U.C.C. Grounds. The U.C.C. team was N. Teehan (goal), L. Kirby (capt.), S. Lebane, K. Buckley, M. Cronin, D. Cronin, M. Cronin, B. Cronin, S. Brennan, J. O'Dowd, J. Kelleher, M. Twomey.

20 YEARS AGO

GLEN ROVERS, the holders, qualified for the final of the Cork County Senior Camogie Championship, when they scored a 6-5 to 1-0 win over UCC in the semi-final at Deerpark, Cork. The teams were: Glen Rovers: D. Sutton, T. Murphy, C. Buckley, P. Deane, P. Dorgan, N. Humphreys, M. Buckley, N. O'Mahony, S. O'Connell, K. Brown, M. Brown, A. Crotty. UCC: E. Lee, M. Keohane, H. Dineen, C. O'Riordan, A. Hennerty, C. Coakley, E. N. Mhuirtheil, P. Devlin, S. Dunne, A. Geaney, M. Fitzgerald, C. Buckley.

This week

50 years ago

Mayfield won the 1935 Cork County Camogie championship title, when they scored a decisive 7-2 to 1-0 win over Fr. Matthew Hall in the final at Douglas. The teams were: Mayfield: Bridie Hickey (goal), Kitty Cotter (capt.), Joan Cotter, Betty Riordan, Rita Geaney, Eily Cotter, Bella Geaney, Mary O'Connor, Kitty Riordan, Peggy Lyons, Madge O'Brien, Joan Lyons; Fr. Matthew Hall: Madge Kidney (goal), Jane Kidney (capt.), Kitty O'Riordan, Rita O'Connell, Anne Cummins, Patricia Desmond, Lil Keating, Joan Duff, Alice Meaney, Nell Campbell, Kathleen Duff, Lulu Campbell.

Generations to Leagues agreed on

CAMOGIE

original rule of players of a county's top team.

A request for half-way venues in play-off stages of the Leagues was not entertained. The motion calling for the introduction of an All-Ireland B championship also failed to attract the necessary support. The feeling was that sufficient inter-county competitions exist at present.

Views on the novelty act of the CCD were sharp and contrasting. The majority voted to retain the event. A proposal to prevent the winner of Gradam Tailte

from competing in the following year was heavily defeated.

Four clubs will travel to the Isle of Man this weekend to take part in a historic festival. Three of the participants have won the All-Ireland Club championship at one stage or another.

St. Pauls, Kilkenny, Buffer's Alley and Croaghfinny will put on a top class exhibition of the skills of the game. The fourth club, Avoca, will not let the side down either.

Gearing up for the championship

THERE will be no action for the coming weekend as camogie people take a break for the holiday. However, there is plenty to talk about on the camogie front.

The draw for the Cork senior championship has been made and there are a number of interesting pairings. The holders Eire Og face Glen Rovers in what should be the big one of the first round, while there should be plenty of excitement too in the pairing of Imokilly, who played so well last season, and Na Piar-saigh.

Intermediate champions, Aghabullogue have a tough first one in Killeagh, while it would be difficult to separate Blackrock and Sarsfields. St. Finbarr's will have to wait for the result of the Aghabullogue/Killeagh clash before their first game as they meet the winners of that tie.

The full draw is: A. Aghabullogue v Killeagh; B. Imokilly v Na Piar-saigh; C. Glen Rovers v Eire Og; D. Blackrock v Sarsfields; E. Winners A v St. Finbarr's; F. Winners C v Winners D; G. Winners B v Winners E.

Four Irish clubs will be travelling overseas this weekend for a unique festival in the Isle of Man. St. Paul's (Kilkenny), Buffers Alley, and Croagh-Kilfinny have all won the All-Ireland Club Championship and they will be joined by Avoca, and it will be interesting to see how these undoubtedly skilful teams will "sell" the game of camogie on foreign shores.

It was good to see that last weekend's Congress did not agree to discontinue the Gael Linn Cup competitions. These are the Interprovincial championships and in a game where there is no national side, a provincial honour is highly prized by camogie players, and the actual

match they virtually ended their interest in the competition. Now they can aim at second place and their remaining games in the section will be meaningful.

LITTLE SUPPORT

The National Junior League will be organised on a promotion and relegation basis. This will allow counties to compete with teams of equal standard and retain interest in the competition to the finish.

The proposal to discontinue the Gael Linn Cup competitions received little support. Many felt that

there were shortcomings in the series and plenty of room for improvement. However, the vast majority wishes the series to continue.

The President has been authorised to set up a special Commission to examine all aspects of the Association. Unlike the previous examination in 1968-'69, the personnel of the Commission will include people outside the Camogie Association. It is hoped to have the report completed within two years.

Kilkenny have been seeking to increase the length of

the camogie pitch for some time. As this is not a playing rules year, their motion was not taken. But they were given permission to stage an inter-county tournament as an experimental basis.

Congress decided not to accept the idea of a President elect. The curtailment of the term of office of a provincial chairman to three years remains. Eligibility for Gradam Tailte reverts to the

CAMOGIE

SHEILA WALLACE IS NEW DEVELOPMENT OFFICER

BY MARY MORAN

SHEILA Wallace, the new Oifigeach Forbartha of Cumann Camogaíochta na nGael, is no stranger to camogie. An enthusiastic worker for the game, she is well known throughout the Association.

A native of Dalkey, she features in goal with the local Cuala Club. Sheila has played a prominent part in Cuala's rise through the ranks to the senior grade. An inter-county defender, she captained Dublin to win the 1981 National Senior League and previously won an All-Ireland Junior medal.

Sheila has administration experience of club, county and provincial levels behind her. She acted as secretary to both Dublin Senior and Junior County Boards and represented her county at Leinster Council and Annual Congress.

In her capacity as a referee, she has officiated all over the country. Sheila was in charge of the Armagh v. Galway All-Ireland Junior Final in Croke Park last September.

Sheila has been quick to find her feet in her new role. Preparation for Annual Congress has occupied the early days. Her job embraces the duties of Ard Rúnaí with the function of Development Officer. The duties involve organising a

calendar of events and handling the numerous matters which find their way on to her desk.

Setting the Development Plan in motion and keeping it on the boil will absorb her attention in the coming months. Seeking to expand the boundaries of the Association, increase the spectator appeal of our games, improve the standard of administration, attract new members and help in fund-raising, will hold her interest as time goes by.

The Annual General Meeting of the Post Primary Schools Council elected Sr. Mairead from St. Clare's Convent, Keady as their President. Sr. Mairead is the first President to come from within the schools. Daughter of famous Gael "Pappy" Fearon, President of the Armagh G.A.A. Board, Sr. Mairead is a former player who is determined to make a worthwhile impact on the colleges scene.

The meeting considered ways and means of perpetuating the memory of the late Agnes Purcell. Longtime camogie correspondent of this magazine, Agnes had a deep love of college camogie. It is envisaged that an All-Ireland Colleges Sevens will

be introduced in the 1986/87 season.

The G.A.A. published many histories to coincide with the celebration of their Centenary Year. Hopefully, the history of the Camogie Association will have reached the bookshelves long before it arrives at the hundred years mark in 2004. The task presented to Ini Leonard, Nell McCarthy, Eilish Redmond and Mary Walsh is a particularly difficult one.

Camogie received sparse coverage in the early years curtailment of the newspapers as a source of information. Lack of an official home in which to store valuable items over the years was another disadvantage. The committee will find their main sources of knowledge in minute books, memory and private collections like that of the late Sean O'Duffy.

Interest is building up in the 1986 inter-county season. With the National Leagues already underway, fans wait with curiosity to see who will challenge Dublin and Kilkenny in the senior grade, match Cork in the minor, test Angela Downey at Gradam Tailte and emerge as the teams of the season in colleges, Feile and junior competitions.



Camogie's New Development Officer, Sheila Wallace pictured prior to the 1985 All-Ireland Junior Final with rival captains, Ena Clunkin (Galway) and Margaret Moriarty, Armagh.

MARCH 1986

Junior blood injection for Galway's se

The 1985 season was a wonderful one for the Galway juniors. They gathered all the honours which were available and won acclaim for their attractive brand of camogie. Now these players are graded senior. Their performance in the higher grade will be observed with great interest.

They launch their bid for National Senior League honours with a home game with Kilkenny. This match should give the Galway officials a good indication of what is in store in the coming months. Dual champions in 1986, Kilkenny are not in peak form at the moment but have talent in depth in their panel.

Galway will promote a number of their successful junior side. Names like Anne Ryan, Deirdre Costello and Brid Stratford are likely to make the first twelve. Experienced performers like Chris Silke, Anne Briscoe, Mary Keane, Madge Hobbins and Mary Kelly will help the newcomers adjust to the more demanding senior game.

When the county's fortunes appeared to be looking up, officials of the senior team were very disappointed to learn of Breda Kenny's transfer to Dublin. Breda recently captained U.C.D. to regain the Ashbourne Cup, her change of allegiance is a blow to Galway's aspirations.

League holders, Kilkenny suffered a setback in their opening game with Dublin. Short only Margaret Farrell from their winning side, they were forced to concede to a superior Dublin twelve. Captain Liz Neary, Bridie Martin, Angela Downey, Biddy O'Sullivan and Jo Dunne will be anxious to get back to their winning ways.

Cork fielded an experimental team against Limerick two weeks ago. The team played enthusiastically. Newcomers Colette O'Mahony and Anne Leahy did enough to deserve another run and should find places in the side against Wexford. Lead by goalkeeper Marion McCarthy, Cork should have Sandie Fitzgibbon, Val Fitzpatrick,

CAMOGIE

Wexford take the field for the first time this season. They imported as the 1985 season developed and gave All-Ireland champions their toughest game in te championship. Stella Sinnott, Jackie Codd, Tina Fitzhenry, Kathleen Tonks and Eileen Kehoe will make Cork fight hard for the points.

Donegal recorded a fine win over Tyrone in the first round. They face a stiffer test with an away game against Westmeath on Sunday. On the other hand, Tyrone will be anxious to make up lost ground when they meet Cavan at Eglis. Derry should have the measure of Louth and home advantage may help Offaly in the match with Waterford.

Camogie bade farewell to one of their most colourful characters last week. Maureen Smyth was camogie correspondent to the Belfast newspaper for many decades. A fund to knowledge on historical, political and trade union matters,

Maureen served Antrim County Board and Ulster Council in several capacities.

St. Marys, Charleville are through to their first All-Ireland final. On their own ground, they were full value for their 2-4 to 1-3 winning margin over the holders, St. Raphael's, Loughrea. The game showed many skilful touches with Frances Brdoerick, Eve Watson and Helen Cagney (Cahrleville) and Triona Dolphin and Eimer Hardiman (St. Raphael's) catching the eye.

F. C. J. Bunclody have both their senior and junior sides through to the All-Ireland Colleges Finals. Their junior squad accounted for St. Patrick's, Dungiven, by 1-3 to 0-1 in very wet and windy conditions. Their senior team will face St. Raphael's and the junior team will line out against Charleville in the finals after Easter.

The Annual Cggress of Cumann Camagaochta nGALE WILL TAKE PLACE AT THE Bloomfield House Hotel, Mullingar on March 22 and 23. President, Mary Lynch (Monaghan)

will be returned unopposed as will Jo Golden (Treasurer) and Mary Moran (P.R.O.)

SUNDAY

National Leagues At Ballym, Co. Galway, (2.0), Junior — Galway v Kilkenny, (3.15) Senior — Galway v Kilkenny, At Eglis

MARCH
1986

Cork Seniors In Action

CORK seniors will be in action again this weekend when they meet Wexford at Ballynoe in the National League on St. Patrick's Day, and on the club scene there are four league games listed.

Once again the Cork selectors have made changes for Monday's game, as they continue in their efforts to find a winning combination for the forthcoming championship. There are two personnel and many positional changes from the side which defeated Clare in their first League game of the season two weeks ago.

Young Colette O'Mahony, who won her first "cap" against Clare, and experienced campaigner Val Fitzpatrick are out of the side, but are listed in the substitutes. Into the team comes Patricia Fitzgibbon of Killeagh, who will be getting her first chance at senior ranks, and Noelle O'Driscoll, who has played many times for the first twelve. These two will now be played at wing forward, with Linda Mellerick moving from wing to centre forward and Mary Geaney continuing at full forward.

There are changes in defence too with Liz Dunphy moving from centre field to corner back, Catherine Landers re-



Clare Cronin

turning to centre back and Clare Cronin moving from that position back to centre field. Sandy Fitzgibbon, who played at corner forward in the early part of the Clare side is back in her usual centre berth.

Marian McCarthy continues in goal and has Eileen Dineen in front of her at full-back, Margo Twomey is again at left corner back and Ann Leahy, who played her first senior game against Clare, continues at full centre.

And there is an extra name added to the substitutes; that of Angela Higgins, who played so many fine games for Cork before a nasty injury a few seasons ago. The Wexford team was

not known at the time of writing but no doubt many of their stars will be in action, including Tina Fitzhenry, Jackie Codd, Stella Synnott, Geraldine Wynne, Dorothy Walsh, Catherine Murphy and Ann Reddy.

Wexford will be making their first appearance in the League this season so their form is unknown, but they are always a difficult side to beat so Cork will have to produce their best form to win.

In the second half against Clare, Cork played very well, considering the fact that the intercounty season was only beginning and many of the players were obviously "out of touch." They should be that bit better on Monday and with Wexford making their debut this season, Cork should be able to pick up two further valuable points.

On the club front there are three Under-18 Championship listed for Sunday. These games were already fixed but had to be postponed so the interest should be keener than ever at this stage. Pick of the games should be the tie between Brian Dillons and St. Finbarrs. Both these sides have well-known Cork youngsters in their line-ups, with Brian

Dillons in a position to call on Elizabeth O'Sullivan, Mary Mulcahy, Kathleen O'Keeffe, Helena Barry and Karen Mellerick while St. Finbarr's have Niamh Coughlan, Paula Carey, Colette O'Mahony and Colette Cronin to call on. So we can expect a thriller here.

Aghabullogue with Brid and Rena Kelleher may have too much strength for Crosshaven while Glen Rovers, with Marie and Diane Deane, will have it tough against the Betty Buckley-led Watergrasshill.

In the only other game listed Eire Og meet Courcsey Rovers in the Junior B. League.

Finally, clubs should note that the Pan Celtic competitions will be held in Killarney over the weekend of May 10-11 and the closing date for entries is April 10.

FIXTURES

Sunday — U-18 C: Glen Rovers v. Watergrasshill at Mon Field, 12 noon (Ref., Sarsfields); Brian Dillons v. St. Finbarrs at Brian Dillons, 12.30 (Ref., Miriam Higgins); Crosshaven v. Aghabullogue at Crosshaven, 2 p.m. (Ref., Fr. Mathews).

J.B.L.: Eire Og v. Courcsey Rovers at Ovens, 1 p.m. (Ref., Iniscarra).

Monday — N.S.L.: Cork v. Wexford at Ballynoe, 2.30 p.m.

Win for
Brian
Dillons

Brian Dillons 6-1;
St. Finbarrs 1-5

BRIAN DILLONS enjoyed a comprehensive win over old rivals, St. Finbarrs in the Cork County U 18 Camogie Championship at the Tank Field over the weekend. Three goals by Cork senior player Linda Mellerick and two by Helena Barry, were the highlights of an impressive performance.

Scorers — Brian Dillons: L. Mellerick 3-0, H. Barry 2-0, A. Barry 1-0, L. O'Sullivan 0-1. St. Finbarrs: P. Carey 1-1, C. O'Mahony 0-3, Y. O'Neill 0-1. Brian Dillons: M. Mulcahy, K. O'Keeffe, V. O'Brien, C. Murphy, M. Rose, L. Mellerick, K. Mellerick, L. O'Sullivan, C. O'Brien, L. O'Brien, H. Barry, A. Barry. St. Finbarrs: A. Collins, D. Ryan, N. Coughlan, C. Carey, S. O'Donovan, D. Christy, C. O'Mahony, M. O'Sullivan, C. O'Regan, P. Carey, Y. O'Neill, N. O'Sullivan. Referee: Miriam Higgins

Comprehensive win for Cork

Cork 5-5.
Wexford 0-2

Cork scored a comprehensive victory over Wexford in this National League senior camogie game at Ballynoe, Co. Cork yesterday. Short several regulars and with only one substitute on the line, Wexford opened brightly enough until Cork, with the help of a very strong wind, opened the scoring from a Noelle O'Driscoll free in the fourth minute.

Val Fitzpatrick and Patsy Keniry added further points in the fifth and sixth minutes but Cork were still slow in pressing home their advantage until the mentors moved Linda Mellerick from the

right to the left wing of attack after ten minutes. She made a quick impact, goaling a minute later and added a further goal in the 14th minute.

Wexford continued to battle gamely but were unable to break through for a much needed score and it was Mary Geaney who notched Cork's third goal in the 21 minute to leave her side 3-4 to 0-0 ahead at the interval.

Cork again opened the scoring four minutes after the resumption with an Ann Leahy point and when Linda Mellerick had her third goal and Cork's fourth in the 36th minute the game was as good as over. Though backed by the strong

wind, Wexford just hadn't the players on the day to make a contest of it and their only scores came from Ann Reddy and Eileen Kehoe in the 38th and 40th minutes.

Scorers — Cork — L. Mellerick 3-0, V. Fitzpatrick 1-2, M. Geaney 1-0, N. O'Driscoll, P. Keniry, and A. Leahy 0-1 each.

Wexford — A. Reddy and E. Kehoe 0-1 each.

Cork — M. McCarthy, M. Spillane, L. Dunphy, M. Twomey, C. Landers, C. Cronin, A. Leahy, V. Fitzpatrick, P. Keniry, L. Mellerick, N. O'Driscoll, M. Geaney, Subs: A. Higgins for A. Leahy and K. O'Mahony for P. Keniry.

Wexford — T. Kehoe, G. Wynn, R. Reddy, T. Fitzhenry, T. Dreelan, A. Reddy, E. Kehoe, D. Guinan, M. Greene, C. Murphy, B. Higgins, K. Tonks.

Referee — Marian Lynch, Limerick.

Camogie league double for Galway girls

GALWAY 4-9
DOWN 1-5

GALWAY Senior Camogie team had a comfortable thirteen points win over Down in the National Senior Camogie League tie played at Hilltown, Co. Down on Sunday. Galway again short a number of first choice players, including Madge Hobbins and Una Jordan, jumped into an early lead with a point from Bridie Cuniffe.

Although playing against a strong wind in this first half, Galway were most impressive and as the game progressed the visitors indulged in some clever passing and combination. This game was one to remember for full forward Bridie Cuniffe who ended up with a personal tally of 4-1.

The tall 8Castlegar girl was simply superb. Her four goals were gems and she also forced Down goalkeeper Colette Lambe into making two first class saves. Galway led at half time 1-5 to 0-5 with Ann Gallagher, Ann Ryan and Ena Cannon, scoring some delightful points and Teresa Allen keeping Down in touch with 0-5.

The second half belonged to Galway and Bridie Cuniffe. Down had no answer to her strength, speed and accuracy. In this half the points tally was completed by Ann Gallagher and Mary Kelly.

Galway were best served by Bridie Cuniffe, Mary Kelly, Sheila Coen, Ann Gallagher, Clair Dolan, Eileen Howley, Ena Cannon and Ann Ryan.

Downs best were Sheila McCartan, Teresa Allen, Maureen O'Higgins and Geraldine Keith.

Galway: C. Divilly, E. Howley, C. Dolan, J. Glynn, A. Gallagher 0-3, M. Keane, M. Kelly 0-3, T. Rafferty, E. Cannon 0-1, A. Ryan 0-1, S. Coen, B. Cuniffe 4-1. Sub: M. Ryan.

Down: C. Lambe, N. O'Prey, A. Coyle, S. McCartan, R. Cummins, N. McCartan, T. Allen 1-5, R. Greenan, V. McGreevy, F. O'Grady, G. Keith, M. O'Higgins.

GALWAY 5-1
DOWN 2-6

GALWAY Junior Camogie team collected their second brace of

National League points with a well merited victory over Down at Hilltown, Co. Down on Sunday.

Galway have to beat Dublin on May 4th to reach the semi-finals of a competition they won for the first time last July.

On Sunday, Galway were forced to lineout without the Kilkenny sisters, Geraldine (injured) and Mary on hockey duty with Ireland in Wales.

Down were a much improved side than the team that travelled to Galway twelve months ago.

Galway enjoyed a one goal lead at half time having played with a strong wind thanks to goals from Angie Manning and Maura Kennedy and a superb point from Carmel Burke.

On the resumption further Galway goals from Catherine Ryan and Deirdre Duffy put Galway into what seemed a safe lead. Down rallied and a goal from Eileen Trainer and a string of pointed frees from Ann Brennan, brought the home side within three points of Galway.

From a goalmouth scramble young Kiltulla girl Hilda Flannery playing in her first game for her county shot to the net to clinch victory and Galway's remarkable success story at junior level was carried on. They haven't lost a game in the league or championship since July 1984.

On Sunday, Carmel Burke was the difference between victory and defeat at centre half back. She was well supported by Ann Murray, Bridget Linnane, Carmel Linnane, Paula Earls and goalscoring forwards, Angie Manning, Deirdre Duffy, Catherine Ryan, Hilda Flannery and substitute Fidelma Hanlon. Downs best were Kathleen Rice, Ann Brennan, Eileen Trainer and Rita Nesson.

Galway: A. Murray, B. Linnane, N. Cormican, C. Burke, A. Walsh, C. Ryan 1-0, P. Earls, C. Linnane, M. Kennedy, h. Flannery, M. O'Sullivan, A. Manning. Subs: D. Duffy and Fidelma Hanlon.

Down: M. Mussen, J. Browne, G. Killen, M. Walls, J. Doran, M. Rice, C. Rice, R. Trainer, A. Trainer, E. Trainer, R. Nesson, M. Murray.

APRIL
1986

Who will fall by wayside?

FOUR counties — Dublin, Down, Clare and Cork — are undefeated in the National Senior League. That number will be paired down on Sunday afternoon when one, at least, will fall by the wayside.

The pick of the fixtures should be the Clare v Cork clash at Roslevin. Clare have shown considerable improvement this season and are nicely positioned with four points. Sunday's game with their Munster rivals should be a true test of their progress.

Clare have introduced some newcomers to the senior side including Helen Cusack, Geraldine Morey and Cora Fahy. They are blending well with Mary Fitzgibbon, Veronica Casey, Carmel Wall, Patricia Moroney and Lourda Fox. With wins over Tipperary and Limerick behind them, they are hopeful of going further.

As usual at this time of the year Cork are experimenting with newcomers. Those tried to date are deserving of a second run. They will slot in with Marion McCarthy, Cathy Landers, Sandie Fitzgibbon, Val Fitzpatrick and Mary Geaney in an effort to extend their winning sequence.

Dublin left nobody in doubt as to their intentions with their impressive display against Kilkenny. Under captain Una Crowley, Marion Conroy, Yvonne Redmond, Mary Mernagh, Cathy Walsh and Marie Connell are playing very well. Former Dublin star forward Judy Doyle has taken over the coaching duties and has her charges well advanced at this stage.

With due respect to Antrim, it would be regarded as a major upset if the Northerners halted Dublin's progress at Loughgiel. Antrim footballer Lennie Harbison has taken charge of the Antrim squad and will be calling for a supreme effort from Carol Blaney, Mary Lundy, Jo McAllister, Aileen Nelson and new goalkeeper Catherine McAllister.

Wexford were missing several of the Buffers' All-Ireland players for their outing with Cork and paid the penalty of fielding a weakened side. They expect to have Stella Sinnott, Anne Butler, Corah Gahan and Fiona Cousins back in action for their game with Tipperary. Playing on the familiar Monamolin pitch should swing the match in Wexford's favour.

Down will find it hard to keep their unbeaten record intact with Galway as visitors. With the All-Ireland Colleges finals arranged for April 12, Galway will be without the St. Raphaels girls but should field Anne Morris, Madge Hobbins,

Mary Kelly, Mary Keane and Chris Silke.

Joan Gilmore, Cathy O'Hare, Joan Doran and Eileen Hamill are unavailable to Down. Lining out in the red and black will be Teresa Allen, Maureen O'Higgins, Noreen O'Prey, Bonnie McGreevy and the McCartan sisters.

All-Ireland junior finalists Armagh enjoyed a great run in 1985. They hope to go one better this season and take a national title. They got the better of Louth in their opening game. With Sally McCone, Denise McStay, Margaret Moriarty, Mary Donnell, Paula Brown and Sheila Rafferty in good form they should overcome Meath at Keady.

With new trainer Tommy O'Brien at the helm, Meath opened their campaign with a big win over Fermanagh. Even with the help of Patricia Grimes, Valerie Crean, Patricia Dwyer, Yvonne Tyrrell and Freda Ward, Meath may find Armagh too hot to handle.

In the same section Derry with Sarah Ann O'Leary, Maureen Kilpatrick, Noreen McKendry, Donna Spears, Jean McQuillan and Brid Doherty on their team sheet, should account for Fermanagh.

The Carlow-Kildare clash will be a vital one as the winner should eventually reach the Leinster semi-final. Marian Malone, Anna Darran, Marianne Johnston, Gemma Cooney and Melanie Treacy will make a very strong bid on behalf of Kildare.

Monaghan and Westmeath, who meet at Inniskeen, have lost ground to make up. Emigration has hit Westmeath forcing them to find several replacements for their side. Two young newcomers, Margaret Flanagan and Marie Bardon are showing great promise and are fitting in well with Teresa Cooroon, Geraldine Colly, Linda Forde, Anne Meehan and Annette Clon.

SUNDAY

NATIONAL LEAGUES

At Loughgiel (2.0) — Senior — Antrim v Dublin.

At Hilltown (2.0) — Junior — Down v Galway, (3.4) — Senior — Down v Galway.

At Monamolin (2.0) — Junior — Wexford v Tipperary, (3.0) — Senior — Wexford v Tipperary.

At Roslevin (2.0) — Senior — Clare v Cork.

At Inniskeen (3.0) — Junior — Monaghan v Westmeath.

At Kildavin (3.0) — Junior — Carlow v Kildare.

At Keady (3.0) — Junior — Armagh v Meath.

At Tullamore (2.30) — Junior — Offaly v Wicklow.

At Lisnakea (3.30) — Junior — Fermanagh v Derry.

1986

been very
their two
and a win
would be a
boost for
have top
in Lourda
Lil Condon and
newcomers in
Morey and He-
and a home
a big asset.

Cork minor goalie, Brid Walsh, will be hoping that she can lead

NL Cork v Clare at Cusack Park, Ennis 2 p.m. Tipperary v Wexford at Monmolin. 3 p.m.

At first glance, the task facing F. C. J. Buncody appears daunting. The Wexford school is better known for its hockey tradition; Wexford hurler, Rory Kinsella joined the staff a few years ago and set about coaching camogie. He worked on the natural

Margaret Kehoe, Susan Redmond and Charmine Gibson are particularly good in midfield. Up front Deirdre Byrne, Tina Tobin, Ann Marie Fenlon and Shirley Dagg will exercise stiff pressure on the opposing defence. Bundlody will be

SUNDAY — National League
 — At Silver Park, 2.0. Junior.
 Dublin v Down, 1.1.5. Senior.
 Dublin v Down, At Newpark. Junior.
 Park, 3.0. Senior, Kilkenny.
 Antrim, At Cahir — 2.0. Junior.
 perary v Limerick, Junior, 1.1.5.
 Senior, At Donaghmoyle, 1.0.
 Junior Monaghan v Drogheda, At
 Trawmore, 2.0 Waterford v Carlow, 2.0.
 Junior, At Naas, 12.0 Junior.
 Clare v Wicklow.

U-18 championship: Brian Dillons 6-4, Bishopstown 1-2; Glen Rovers 0-1, Aghabullogue 0-1; Na Piarsaigh 1-3, Eire Og 1-0; Killeagh 4-10, Cloughduv 0-0.

Cork girls
have it
very easy

**CORK 4-4;
CLARE 0-2**

Cork proved by far the stronger side in this inter-provincial Camogie final at Cusack Park, Ennis yesterday. You had high hopes of a close following two halves in the competition but the winners were too good to lose.

It was the young and inexperienced Clare side who played second fiddle to the vastly superior Cork team who dominated in most sectors.

ork — M Geaney
Priscoll 1-3, 1-
Cusack and M A
1 each.
The winners were
M Twomey, M
Priscoll, C Cro-
tchell.
Promising young
— L. O'Flynn, P
Cusack, C Wall
were best.

Loughrea girls to retain camogie colleges title

ST. RAPHAEL'S camogie teams are no strangers to Croke Park. They first contested the colleges junior and senior All-Ireland championship in 1982. Deirdre Costello led her junior team to victory in 1984 and brought the junior cup to St. Raphael's for the first time. 1985 proved to be a glorious year when both the junior and senior cups were brought back on the same day.

The current senior team who travel to Croke Park on Saturday to play F.C.J. Buncloody in the All-Ireland final contains many very talented and skilful players and hopes are high that Corn Scelig will be brought back to Loughrea.

Raphael's have a fine goalkeeper in Caroline Loughnane. Her dedication to the game won her two All-Ireland medals last year with junior and senior Colleges and she is the holder of one All-Ireland junior medal and an All-Ireland Feile na nGael medal.

Angela Cooney the captain, is an outstanding full back, she captained Sarfields club team to win the All-Ireland Feile na nGael in 1983. She also holds two All-Ireland schools medals and a county All-Ireland medal.

The Galway College also have fine defenders in Mary Dolphin who captained the junior team to

victory last year and Bridge Stratford and Geraldine Fahy.

Raphaels will look to Siobhan Maher and Clare Robinson to dominate midfield and ensure a healthy supply for their talented attack.

Deirdre Costello is an outstanding athlete and a delightful attacker. Imelda Hobbs is a clever forward capable of setting up scores for her team mates. She had an exceptional year in 1985 winning two All-Irelands on the same day. She also won an All-Ireland volleyball medal last year and an All-Ireland volleyball medal this year.

Triona Dolphin, a nippy forward with an effective side step, captained the junior team to win the Connacht championship. She played on the junior and senior team last year and then went on to captain Mullagh Feile na nGael team to All-Ireland success.

Ann Fahy is an accurate freetaker and she is capable of top class performances in any position on the field. She won two All-Ireland medals last year, one for colleges and one for Galway county junior team, having previously won an All-Ireland colleges medal.

Raphaels face a stern task against Buncloody but they look capable of retaining their title.

Wexford Score Double over weak Tipperary

Wexford Junior and Senior Camogie Teams accounted for very weak and inexperienced Tipperary sides at Monamolin, on Sunday last. The Juniors winning on a scoreline 11-12 to 1-0 and seniors 13-10 to 0-0.

JUNIOR GAME

Wexford 11-12
Tipperary 1-0

Wexford opened their campaign in the national junior camogie league with a convincing victory over visitors Tipperary, at Monamolin, on Sunday last.

Wexford led 5-3 to 1-0 at the interval with goals by Carmel Higgins (two) and Bridget Howlin (three) and three points by Siobhan Dunne with Mary Dwyer replying for the visitors.

Wexford continued scoring at will in the second half to open the campaign on a winning note but a tougher opening game would have been more beneficial for the girls from the Model County.

Best for Wexford were Siobhan Dunne, Carmel Higgins, Bridget Howlin, and Mag Cullen.

For the visitors Mary O'Dwyer, Catherine Slevin, Ann Brennan and Pauline Brennan.

Teams Wexford: Sinead Cowman, Tish Dreehan, Rita Reddy, Christine Harding, Bernie Higgins, Mag Cullen, Catherine Sinnott, Mary Greene, Siobhan Dunne 2-9, Bridget Howlin 3-1, Carmel Higgins, 5-2 and Catherine Purcell 1-0.

Subs. — Jean O'Leary, for Catherine Sinnott, Audrey O'Leary for Rita Reddy.

Tipperary — Eileen Ryan, Breda Peters, Mary O'Dwyer (1-0), Mary Dwyer, Catherine Slevin, J. Shanahan, Ann Brennan, Pauline Brennan, Pauline Starr, Michelle Hogan, Eileen Doyle, Breda O'Neill, Subs. Alice Hayes, Val Stephens, Ann Marie Maher.

Ref. Siobhan Dunne (Kilkenny).

SENIOR GAME

Wexford 13-10
Tipperary 0-0

Wexford, having failed to Cork in their opening game, accounted for a weak Tipperary team. At Monamolin, on Sunday last in the national senior Camogie league, Wexford were almost at full strength for the game while visitors Tipperary were a completely new team from their championship team last season with only a small number of senior players attending training in Tipperary it was decided to draw up a new panel for the game.

Wexford led at half-time 7-6 to 0-0 with four goals by Eileen Kehoe and three goals by Catherine Murphy, setting up a commanding lead at the interval. Wexford now face Clare in the next outing at a Wexford venue but as in the junior game a more competitive game would have been more beneficial for the team.

Best for Wexford were Eileen Kehoe, Catherine Murphy, Elsie Coady, and Ann Reddy.

For Tipperary — Sally O'Donnell, Marie O'Donnell, Mag Madden and Mary O'Donohoe.

Teams Wexford — Kathleen Tonks, Ann Butler, Deirdre Guinan, Geraldine Wynn, Tina Fitzhenry, Nora Gahan, Ann Reddy (1-1), Gertrude O'Leary (0-1), Eileen Kehoe (5-0), Catherine Murphy (3-4), Elsie Coady (3-3), Caroline Farrington (1-0). Subs. Bernie Darcy (0-1), for Catherine Murphy, also Teresa Kehoe, Catherine Sinnott and Rita Reddy.

Tipperary — Ann Rourke, Mary O'Donohoe, Michelle Hogan, Tina Madden, Jo Shanahan, Kirsty Roche, Marion Graham, J. Freeman, Sally O'Donnell, Marie O'Donnell, Cindy Dillon, Mag Madden, Subs. Patricia Gleeson, Penny Seymour and Val Stephens.

Referee Bridie McGarry (Kilkenny).

Íde Bean Uí Shé

APRIL

1986

Cúis mhór bróin dá gaolta agus dá cairde uile é, bás Íde Bean Uí Shé, Tobar Rí an Domhnaigh, a thárla inné in Otharlann Naomh Fionnbarra, Corcaigh. Oílnitheoir dílis díograiseach ar son na Gaeilge a bhí inti.

Bean Uí Shé was life president of the Cork County Camogie Board, former president of the U.C.C. camogie club and had worked for the welfare of the game for many years.

She was active in every branch of the Irish language movement, being daughter of the late Sean Ó Coindealbháin, headmaster of the Model Schools, Cork, and lecturer in Irish at U.C.C. She died after a lengthy illness.

She was widow of Professor Mícheál Ó Sé who was for many years head of the department of Dairy Science at U.C.C.

In her young days she was an active member of the Cork Historical and Archaeological Society and contributed valuable articles on the East Cork Fenians to its journal.

She is survived by her sons Cian and Colm; her sister Máire and Réidin and other relatives. The removal takes place to St. Vincent's Church, Sunday's Well at 6.30 p.m. this evening and the funeral takes place tomorrow after 10 a.m. Mass to St. Finbarr's Cemetery.

UÍ SHÉ — Ar an 23ú Márta, 1986 in Ospidéal Naomh Fionnbarra, Ide, céile ionúin Mícheál (nach maireann). Méala mór a bás dá clann mac Cian agus Colm, dá deirfiúracha, uncail, gaolta agus cairde. Aistrefar ón Otharlann i go Séipéal Naomh Uinsinn, Tobar Rí an Domhnaigh ar 6.30 p.m. Dé Luain. Socraid taréis Aifreann éagnairce 10 a.m. Dé Máirt go Reilig Naomh Fionnbarra. Ar dhes Dé go raibh a h-anam Uasal.

UÍ SE (Cork) — On March 23, 1986 in St. Finbarr's Hospital, Ide, M.A., 26 Sunday's Well. Very deeply regretted. Requiescat in pace. Removal from hospital today (Monday) at 6.30 p.m. to St. Vincent's Church, Sunday's Well. Funeral after 10 a.m. Requiem Mass on tomorrow (Tuesday) to St. Finbarr's Cemetery.

F. C. J. contest finals in Croke Park

F.C.J. Buncloody Junior and Senior Camogie teams contest the All-Ireland Colleges Finals, on Saturday next, in Croke Park, against St. Mary's Charleville, Cork, at 1.45 p.m., St. Raphael's Loughrea, Galway at 3 p.m.

The Junior team having qualified from the Wexford zone, received a walk over from Kildare zone in the Leinster quarter finals, defeated Presentation, Castlecomer in the semi and Ballyhale, Kilkenny in the Leinster final. Their toughest game was against Dungiven, Derry, the Ulster Champions in the All-Ireland semi-final which Buncloody won by three points. The junior squad have great potential, their spirited play combined with an abundance of skill must give them at least a 50/50 chance of bringing the first All-Ireland Colleges title to the school and to Wexford.

JUNIOR PANEL

Ann Kelly, Melaine Dunne, Mary Fitzhenry, Mairead Mahon, Deirdre Atkinson (Capt.), Mag Kehoe, Charmaine Gibson, Susan Redmond, Deirdre Byrne, Linda Doyle, Shirley Dagg, Ann Fenlon, Tina Tobin, Maura O'Donovan, Mairead Coleman, Orla O'Leary, Jackie Jordan, Mary Byrne, Valerie Tobin, Claire Doyle, Ann Bernie Mahon.

The senior team qualified from the Wexford zone and set out on the long trail to retain their Leinster title won last year by defeating Edenderry, Co. Offaly. They defeated Carnew V.S., Maryfield, Dublin, former All-Ireland Champions, Castlecomer, and Mooncoin in the Leinster final. Buncloody made the long trip seven hours to Donegal for the All-Ireland semi-final and defeated Lettickeny comprehensively by

3-3 to 0-0. The senior panel which includes five of the junior squad have a very difficult but not impossible task when taking on last years All-Ireland Champions Loughrea who field exactly the same team as last year. Buncloody have had a great year so far and all Camogie followers wish both teams the best of luck in the finals.

SENIOR PANEL

Dolores O'Neill, Ailish Atkinson, Mag Purcell, Mary Cowman, Paula Rankin (Capt.), Catherine Atkinson, Noeleen Jordan, Lilian Doyle, Deirdre Atkinson, Deirdre Byrne, Majella O'Neill, Geraldine Maguire, Charmaine Gibson, Mag Kehoe, Bernadette Fenlon, Martina Furlong, Ann Kelly, Shirley Dagg, Ailish Doyle, Mairead Mahon.

Also we congratulate the team manager and trainer Rory Kinsella and team mentors Catriona Caulfield, Lily Ralph and Willie Corcoran, on their success so far, all of whom will be hoping that both teams play to their potential on the day and bring two All-Ireland titles to the school and to Wexford.

CAMOGIE FIXTURES

Under 16 League, Saturday, 12th April, at 2 p.m. Group (A) Oylegate v Buncloody, Monageer v Rathnure, Oulart (Bye).

Group (B) Faythe Harriers v Marshaltown, St. Martin's v Duffry Rovers, St. Senan's v St. John's Ferns (Bye).

Senior/Intermediate League, Sunday, 13th April, at 2 p.m. Ferns v Duffry Rovers, Buffers Alley (B) v Monageer, Rathnure v Cloughbawn, Buffers Alley (A) v St. Ibar's, Faythe Harriers (Bye).

Good luck to St. Mary's camogie players



Rev. Fr. Liam Kelleher, C.C., Dromina, coach of the Saint Mary's Camogie team, Charleville.



Francis Cremin, Newtownshandrum, Charleville, who plays at centre field for St. Mary's camogie team in the All-Ireland under-16 final at Croke Park on this Saturday.



Francis Broderick, Ballyhea, Charleville, captain of St. Mary's, Charleville, who play Buncloody in the All-Ireland under-16 camogie final at Croke Park on this Saturday.



Eve Watson, Ballyagran, at centre-field for St. Mary's in the All-Ireland final on this Saturday at Croke Park.

THE girls of Saint Mary's, Charleville, make the long journey to Croke Park on this Saturday to contest the All-Ireland final of the under 16 colleges camogie championship.

The locals take on the Leinster champions, Buncloody, in their bid to win hurling glory for Saint Mary's and carve their own little bit of history in the annals of their school. For this is the very first time that a team from the school has contested an All-Ireland camogie final and victory would be all the more sweeter as the school celebrates its 150th anniversary later on this year.

The nucleus of the team comes from the nearby County Limerick village of Ballyagran where there is a thriving camogie club. Their club side won the All-Ireland final in 1984 and the majority of that team form the backbone of the Saint Mary's side. Girls from Newtownshandrum and Ballyhea and Granagh make up the rest of the team.

On their path to the All-Ireland final the Charleville side defeated Cashel and Kilfinane's Scoil Pol and became Munster champions when they beat Ennis and went on to book their place in Croke Park by a fine win over Connaught champions Loughrea.

But now let us meet the girls who, no matter what the outcome of Saturday's game, have already written themselves into the sporting history of Saint Mary's. In goal is Mairead Cagney who is the first of the award laden players from the Ballyagran club, followed by corner backs Therese Streeby and

Marie O'Sullivan with full-back Ann Quill. The Saint Mary's forward division is also dominated by Ballyagran players with Eve Watson filling the centre-forward berth and Roisin Daly and goal-scorer Helen Cagney at corner-forward and full-forward respectively. The pivotal centre-back position is occupied by the powerful Ballyhea girl, Francis Broderick, and her ability to turn defence into attack can prove to be a match winning one. The centrefield positions are ably filled by Granagh girl Bernie O'Brien, Ballyhea's Claire O'Callaghan who, had such a good game in the semi-final and another brilliant player in this sector is Francis Cremin from Newtownshandrum. The remaining corner-forward place falls to another Ballyhea girl Fiona Reidy who plays her club camogie with Newtownshandrum

as does the other Ballyhea girls Frances Broderick and Claire O'Callaghan and that club is presently engaged in contesting the Cork junior league series.

The Ballyagran Camogie Club has been the kingpin of under-age camogie in Limerick County for the past three years. The club side won the county championship in under twelve competition in 1983 and went on to win the All-Ireland under fourteen championship in 1984. The side was again county under fourteen champions in 1985 and Felle na Gael county champions in 1984. All the Ballyagran players on the Saint Mary's team were involved in all these competitions so Croke Park will hold no terror for the Co. Limerick girls. Full-forward Helen Cagney was also the All-Ireland Community Games skills champions last year.

ST. MARY'S GIRLS BID FOR GLORY

BY JOAN MORLEY

ONLY one Cork college will be involved in this season's All-Ireland camogie decider and what a marvellous achievement for St. Mary's, Charleville to reach their first national final after only four years in the game. Tomorrow will be their big day when they meet F.C.J. Buncloody in the Junior final at Croke Park with St. Raphael's Loughrea also meeting F.C.J. in the senior decider.

On the club front there are hectic times ahead with Under 16, 18 and Senior League ties listed.

In their first season in camogie St. Mary's, Charleville won the Munster Colleges Intermediate B League and then last season they reached the Munster Junior final only to lose to Colaiste Mhuire, Ennis. This year they turned the tables on the Ennis girls at the same stage and then went on to have a cracking victory over St. Raphael's, the holders, in the All-Ireland semi-final.

Now they will be hoping to bring their first All-Ireland crown to Charleville but they can expect a tough battle from F.C.J. who have been most impressive this season. However, if

Eve Watson, Helen Cagney and Frances Cremin can strike top form, then they could be there with a great chance, in spite of the efforts of Deirdre Atkinson, Charmaine Gibson, Margaret Kehoe and Shirley Dagg.

St. Raphael's, Loughrea, are "hot" favourites for the Senior title as it is difficult to see any side holding players such as Angela Cooney, Brid Stratford, Deirdre Costello and Anne Fahy, all members of the Galway All-Ireland winning junior side last September.

On the club front there are three Senior League ties listed and these all promise exciting fare. Arch rivals Eire Og, the county champions, meet Killeagh at the latter's venue, and this promises to be a cliff-hanger. St.

Finbarr's may have much strength for youthful Blackrock who there should be a rivalry between Rovers and Na Piarsaigh.

It is bound to be too in the Under League section played between Aghabullogue and Inniscarra. And Under 18 League tie evening between Bishopstown and St. Mary's should be a cracker. However, the studious Brian Dillon may have too much power for Glen Rovers their Under 18 League tie next Wednesday.

Finally, there is a challenge game listed Thursday evening when Cork Seniors meet the Rest of Cork.

Fixtures: This evening (day): U18L Bishopstown v Finbarr's at St. Finbarr's p.m.

Tomorrow: All-Ireland colleges Finals at Croke Park St. Raphael's Loughrea v F.C.J. Buncloody 3 p.m.; (J) St. Mary's Charleville v F.C.J. Buncloody 1.45 p.m.

Sunday: (S.L.) Killeagh v Eire Og at Killeagh 12 noon; Glen Rovers v Na Piarsaigh 1.45 p.m.; St. Mary's v Blackrock at Blackrock 12 noon; U18L Aghabullogue v Inniscarra 12 noon.

Tuesday: Cork Junior Trialls Mon Field 7 p.m.

Wednesday: U18L Glen Rovers v Brian Dillon at Tonin Field 8.45 p.m.

Thursday: Cork Seniors Rest of Cork at Mon Field 8 p.m.



Eve Watson, who will be at centre-forward for St. Mary's.

APRIL 1986



● HERE'S HOW IT'S DONE . . . Camogie coaches Lily Ralph (left) and Caitriona Caulfield explain the finer points of the game to Mairead Mahon (second left) and Anne Marie Fenlon (second right) at a training session in F.C.J. Buncloody in preparation for Sunday's finals.



● BUNCLODY COACH Rory Kinsella (second right) gives advice to the captains of the three sides involved in All-Ireland colleges action this weekend. They are (from left) Deirdre Atkinson, captain of the junior camogie team; Paula Rankin, captain of the senior camogie team and Noel Fitzhenry, captain of the senior football team.

Bunclody's treble target

By PHILIP REID

It promises to be a weekend to remember for FCJ Bunclody. The Wexford College are poised to bring off a unique treble of All-Ireland final successes — but everything depends on how things go over the next few weeks.

They have already reached two deciders. Their senior camogie stars face reigning champions St. Raphael's, Loughrea, while their junior side play St. Mary's, Charleville, at Croke Park on Saturday.

However, the third leg of the unique triple won't quite be decided for another couple of weeks. On Sunday, the college's footballers face Clonmel H.S. in the All-Ireland S.F.C. 'B' semi-final. Yet, regardless of the outcome over the weekend, it is a remarkable achievement for the 530-pupil co-ed school.

Tradition

"We are building a firm tradition in the area," says Rory Kinsella who looks after all three teams. "All the players are very enthusiastic and, to be honest, after reaching this stage of the various competitions, else would be a bonus."

Former Wexford star is assisted in coaching football team by Joe while Caitriona Caulfield, Ralph and Willie Corcoran aided him in guiding camogie sides to the All-Ireland final.

"It's the first time I has managed to reach Ireland camogie final now we have two forward to," says "However, we face tough task if we are to titles."

Indeed, for Deirdre Atkinson, it is a really special Saturday. The duo are to line out in both junior finals.

Bunclody face a particularly tough challenge in attacking

take the senior title from St. Raphael's. The Connacht champions have virtually the same side as last season. However, the Wexford girls are relishing the prospect.

Centre-back Paula Rankin, Keeper Dolores O'Neill, Margaret Purcell and Noeleen Jordan are likely to head the Bunclody challenge in the senior match.

In the junior final, in which Bunclody meet St. Mary's, it will be a different matter. Both sides are contesting their first final. Bunclody, with Byrne, Atkinson, Margaret Kehoe and Charmaine Gibson, could well take their first All-Ireland title.

The footballers have gradually moved closer to an All-Ireland final with each session. Two years ago they lost to Trim in the Leinster final; last year they beat Oatlands CBS in the provincial decider but lost to

include five of the side which aided Tipperary to the Munster Minor football league over Kerry last week. However, Kinsella is confident of victory. He points to the above duo and Paddy Fitzhenry, Liam O'Neill, Martin Doyle and Matt O'Leary — all likely performers for Wexford this season — as six good reasons.

F.C.J. BUNCLODY (Senior) — D. O'Neill, D. Atkinson, A. Atkinson, P. Rankin (Capt), M. Cowman, C. Atkinson, N. Jordan, L. Doyle, D. Byrne, G. Maguire, M. O'Neill, M. Purcell.

F.C.J. BUNCLODY (Junior) — A. Kelly, M. Fitzhenry, M. Dunn, D. Atkinson, M. Mahon, M. Kehoe, S. Redmond, C. Gibson, T. Tobin, D. Byrne, A.M. Fenlon and S. Dagg.

ST. RAPHAELS, LOUGHREA — C. Loughnane, A. Cooney, M. Dolphin, G. Fahy, B. Stratford, C. Robinson, S. Maher, C. Curley, D. Costello, I. Hobbins, T. Dolphin, A. Fahy.

ST. MARYS, CHARLEVILLE — M. Cagney, A. Quill, T. Sheehy, F. Broderick (Capt), M. O'Sullivan, F. Cremin, B. O'Brien, C. O'Callaghan, R. Daly, E. Watson, F. Reidy and H. Cagney.

FIXTURES

SATURDAY
All-Ireland Colleges Finals at Croke Park: 1.45 junior — F.C.J. Bunclody v St. Marys, Charleville; 3.00 senior — F.C.J. Bunclody v St. Raphael's, Loughrea.

SUNDAY

National Leagues: At Silver Park — 2.00 junior — Dublin v Down; 3.15 senior — at Park — 3.00 n. At Cahir — Limerick; 3.15 Limerick. At 9.00 junior — 2.00 senior — 2.00 n. At Naas — Wicklow.

Oh, so close as Loughrea girls earn a reprieve

ST. RAPHAELS COLLEGE, LOUGHREA 2-4 BUNCLODY 3-1

HOLDERS, St. Raphael's went very close to losing their All-Ireland Colleges Senior Camogie Cup at Croke Park on Saturday. Without ever reaching the high standard that they set in the run up to this final, St. Raphael's still managed to dictate matters for most of the game. This dominance was not, however, translated into scores.

All credit to Bunclody who never gave up and even though they looked out of it when St. Raphael's went two goals up after Deirdre Costello goalied from a close in free — they fought for every ball and used their superior weight and strength to good effect.

Goalkeeper Caroline Loughnane had a fine game on Sunday and could not be blamed for the shots that beat her. In front of her, Angela Cooney and Geraldine Fahy gave little away to bigger opponents while Mary Dolphin made many valuable interceptions and clearances.

At centre back Brid Stratford had a very quiet first half but was much more effective as the game progressed. In the middle of the field Siobhan Maher gave a tenacious performance and alongside her Cora Curley got through an unbelievable amount of work.

On the left of midfield, Claire Robinson found the close play not to her liking.

In the forward division Triona Dolphin showed herself to be a real opportunist in front of goal and took her scores well. Imelda Hobbins did her best work as a carrier of the ball and used this ability to good effect. Deirdre Costello was very closely marked and was very unlucky with some of her efforts.

Full forward Anne Fahy had difficulty in coping with a hard striking full back while substitute Aileen Murphy made a favourable impression when introduced.

St. Raphael's look good enough to win the replay which takes place in Portlaoise on Saturday.



Frances Broderick, captain of the victorious St. Mary's, Charleville camogie team holds the All-Ireland Colleges Junior Camogie trophy after their victory at Croke Park, Dublin.

Camogie: U-18 league - St. Finbarrs 4-4, Bishops-town 1-4.

U-16 league - Aghabullogue 3-4, Inniscarra 1-0. Senior league - St. Finbarrs 5-8, Blackrock 0-1; Eire Og 4-4, Killeagh 1-4; Glen Rovers 3-6, Na Piar-saigh 0-3.

Charleville turn on the style

St. Mary's, Charleville 2-6 FCJ, Bunclody 0-3

St. Mary's, Charleville powered their way to a first All-Ireland Colleges Camogie title at Croke Park on Saturday when they proved too strong and skilful for a spirited FCJ Bunclody in a highly exciting junior final. A Cork victory was rarely in doubt once star forward Helen Cagney put them ahead with a splendid second minute goal and how their supporters celebrated at the end!

Star of the game was their captain Frances Broderick, who broke the hearts of the Wexford girls with a magnificent display. Her performance inspired the others, and from goalkeeper Mairead Cagney out, all 12 players played their part in a famous success.

Teams. St. Mary's: M. Cagney, M. O'Sullivan, T. Sheehy, F. Broderick, captain, A. Quill, B. O'Brien, E. Watson, C. O'Callaghan, R. Daly, F. Cremin, F. Reidy, H. Cagney.

FCJ Bunclody: A. Kelly, M. Fitzhenry, M. Dunn, D. Atkinson, captain, M. Mahon, M. Kehoe, S. Redmond, C. Gibson, T. Tobin, D. Byrne, A. Fenlon, S. Dagg. Subs: J. Jordan for Redmond, and M. O'Donovan for Fenlon.

Referee: A. Ryan (Dublin).

St. Raphael's, Loughrea 2-4 FCJ Bunclody 3-1

Two late goals gave Bunclody a second chance in the senior final after St. Raphael's dominated most of the game.



The captain of the St. Mary's Charleville team hand-passes to a teammate during the All-Ireland Junior Colleges Camogie final against F.C.J. Bunclody at Croke Park, Dublin. (Picture by Des Barry)

PLAY CLARE IN BUNCLODY

NATIONAL CAMOGIE LEAGUE

Coady, Ann Reddy, Ann Butler, Tina Fitzhenry and Kathleen Tonks.

WEXFORD PANEL

Kathleen Tonks, Geraldine Wynn, Ann Butler, Stella Sinnott, Fiona Cousin, Elsie Coady, Caroline Farrington, Gertrude O'Leary (Buffers Alley), Eileen Kehoe, Catherine Murphy (Cloughbawn), Jackie Codd, Ann Reddy, (Rathnure), Tina Fitzhenry (Duffry Rovers), Deirdre

Guinan (Ferns), Teresa Kehoe, Bernice D'Arcy (St. Ibar's).

Wexford's Junior team, having opened the league campaign, with an win over Tipperary will be hoping to collect another brace of league points, at the expense of Clare.

Wexford will be looking for good performances from Siobhan Dunne, Carmel Higgins, Bridget Howlin and Mag Cullen to secure the points.

WEXFORD JUNIOR PANEL

Sinead Coman, Tish Dreehan, Bernie Higgins, Carmel Higgins, Bridget Howlin, Rita Reddy, Mag Cullen, Christine Harding, Bernice Doyle (St. Ibar's), Mary Greene (Cloughbawn), Catherine Purcell (Duffry Rovers), Siobhan Dunne (Oulart), Marita O'Neill (Ferns), Audrey O'Leary, Kim Kavanagh, Janette Hanley, Fiona Wildes (Faythe Harriers), Ailish Kavanagh, Nora Gahan, Imelda O'Leary, Terry Butler, Catherine Sinnott (Buffers Alley), Joan Roche, Jacinta Swaine, Mary Ryan, (Marshallstown).

Paula Rankins (capt.) played a heroic part in F.C.J.'s draw.

F.C.J. Recover to to decide with Reigning Champions

F.C.J.'s Junior title bid fails

St. Mary's, Charleville.....2-6
F.C.J. Bunclody.....0-3

F.C.J. Bunclody failed in their bid to win the Junior All-Ireland Camogie Final at Croke Park on Sunday when they suffered a crushing defeat at the hands of St. Mary's, Charleville. At the outset, however, it must be recorded that the final score of 2-6 to 0-3 in no way reflects the closeness of the encounter or the fact that had luck favoured the Bunclody girls they could even have been theirs.

St. Mary's, Charleville, in the preceding Junior All-Ireland Final. The defeat of the juniors, however, did not unduly upset the senior squad, for right from the start they set about the task of beating the defending champions and to write their own chapter of sporting history in Wexford by becoming the first college's side to capture the senior All-Ireland crown.

The task proved a difficult one as St. Raphael's, backboned by several Galway inter-county players, were sound and well experienced in all departments. Nevertheless, F.C.J. rose magnificently to the job in hand and with above par performances from Dolores O'Neill in goal, full-back Deirdre Atkinson, centre half-back, Paula Rankin and centre-field pairing, Noelene Jordan and Lilian Doyle, they gave as good as they got in the many exciting exchanges throughout the game. Luck, however, combined with some better tactical play at times gave St. Raphael's the edge all through and saw them hold a commanding 2-4 to 1-1 lead with only minutes to go.

Against lesser opponents than the Bunclody girls, the lead should have been enough to see the winning trophy cross the Shannon for the second year in succession, but in a fighting finish of magnificent proportions, F.C.J. stepped back from the brink of defeat in order to fight another day.

The manner of their fightback and the fact that they had the raw courage necessary to lift themselves at such a late stage of the game suggests they will take the field in Saturday's replay brimming with confidence. They now know St. Raphael's are not invincible as some had thought,

but are as vulnerable as any side F.C.J. has beaten on the road to their ultimate goal.

Saturday's draw was as good as victory for the Bunclody girls but, hopefully, it will pale into insignificance compared with the celebrations which will follow if their second coming should bring the desired result in Portlaoise on next Saturday.

Team mentor, Rory Kinsella, speaking on behalf of his fellow mentors, Catriona Caulfield, Lily Ralph and Willie Corcoran, was quick to recognise the fact that the drawn game was due to team effort more than anything else although he also gave full recognition to the playing prowess of players such as Dolores O'Neill, Deirdre Atkinson, Paula Rankin, Captain, Lilian Doyle and Noelene Jordan. Dolores O'Neill, in particular, was brilliant in goal, he said, before adding:—"Very few people gave us any chance of beating St. Raphael's in view of the fact that they are the reigning champions and are backboned by many leading Galway inter-county players. Nevertheless, we played with spirit and determination and if we repeat that on Saturday we can take the title".

Mr. Kinsella said he was delighted with the result and described the outcome as being as good as victory for F.C.J.

Team:—Dolores O'Neill, Ailish Atkinson, Deirdre Atkinson, Mary Cowman, Paula Rankin, Capt., Catherine Atkinson, Noelene Jordan, Lilian Doyle, Geraldine McGuire, Deirdre Byrne, Mag Purcell, Maelle O'Neill. Subs:—Mairéad Mahon for C. Atkinson and Charmaine Gibson for G. McGuire.

just seven minutes play, the goal coming from Eve Watson after after just four minutes. This early onslaught caused serious problems in terms of confidence for the F.C.J. side and for the remainder of the half they laboured under the handicap of the winners early scores. Still full credit must go to the losers for the manner in which they continued to carry play to their opponents and for the manner in which they eventually took their defeat.

Mairéad Cagney, in goal, was undoubtedly the hero of St. Mary's but the thorn in the side of F.C.J. was surely Frances Broderick. She made a series of dazzling moves in each half and was, more than any other player, responsible for the defeat of the Slaneysiders. She inspired her colleagues by her efforts and they, in turn, responded by keeping the pressure on F.C.J. throughout the game.

F.C.J. however, also had a number of good players particularly in goalkeeper Anne Kelly and also in Deirdre Atkinson and Charmaine Gibson.

The losers were in contention until well into the second half, however, but an against the run of play goal by Clare O'Callaghan put St. Mary's firmly on the road to victory.

They eventually succeeded in taking the title but not before F.C.J. made them fight to the final whistle and not before the Bunclody girls served notice that they will be back and hoping to go one step further next season.

Team: Anne Kelly, Meloney Dunne, Deirdre Atkinson, Mairéad Mahon, Mary Fitzhenry, Charmaine Gibson, Susan Redmond, Margaret Kehoe, Deirdre Byrne, Anne Fenlon, Shirley Dagg, Tina Tobin. Subs: Linda Doyle for S. Redmond and Jackie Jordan for Anne Fenlon.

St. Raphael's, Loughrea.....2-4
F.C.J. Bunclody.....3-1

When the euphoria surrounding the 'back from the grave' recovery of F.C.J. Bunclody in last Saturday's All-Ireland senior colleges camogie final against St. Raphael's, Loughrea, at Croke Park finally subsides and is replaced by the harsh reality of having to meet the reigning champions again on Saturday next (Portlaoise—3 p.m.) to determine the winner of this year's championship, the F.C.J. girls can take heart in the confident knowledge that they can beat the Westerners.

They proved that point on Saturday when they goaled twice in the closing stages of an exciting and always keenly contested All-Ireland to rise Phoenix-like from what appeared to be the depths of defeat in order to force St. Raphael's into a replay of a game they were sure was theirs long before the final whistle sounded.

But the Galway girls had quite obviously not reckoned on the renowned fighting spirit of the girls from Slaneyside, nor their determination to succeed when the reputation of their school and county was at stake.

Having held the edge for most of the game, St. Raphael's relaxed near the end but their period of relaxation almost proved the most costly of the championship for them. F.C.J. trying desperately to cut back the two goal deficit under which they laboured, took full advantage of the slackness in the ranks of their opponents and within the space of five minutes Noelene Jordan and Deirdre Byrne cracked home two brilliant goals to leave the sides level.

The heretofore vociferous St. Raphael's supporters were stunned into silence as the F.C.J. contingent filled Croke Park with a cacophony of sound known only to Wexford people in their hour of glory. This may not have been the hour of victory for F.C.J.—that, hopefully, will come on Saturday next, but it was a moment to cherish, nevertheless, and their supporters rightfully gave vent to their feelings in no uncertain manner.

Defending champions, St. Raphael's started as odds-on favourites to retain their title while underdogs F.C.J. had the added burden of watching their junior colleagues go under to St.

Mary's, Charleville, in the preceding Junior All-Ireland Final. The defeat of the juniors, however, did not unduly upset the senior squad, for right from the start they set about the task of beating the defending champions and to write their own chapter of sporting history in Wexford by becoming the first college's side to capture the senior All-Ireland crown.

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APRIL
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Delighted members of the St. Mary's team after Frances Broderick received the All-Ireland Junior Cup at Croke Park on last Saturday.

St. Mary's power their way to All-Ireland win

THE girls of St. Mary's Convent of Mercy School, Charleville, stormed their way to victory over fancied Leinster champions, Bunclody FCJ, in the All-Ireland final of the junior camogie championship at Croke Park on last Saturday.

From the throw-in the Charleville girls went on the offensive and within three minutes ace full-forward Helen Cagney blasted the ball to the Bunclody net to put St. Mary's ahead. The ball rarely passed the midfield sector in the first quarter and the

Bunclody side was reeling under the pressure from Charleville. The Charleville centrefield and defence was like a solid wall with St. Mary's captain, Frances Broderick, lording it at centre-back and ably assisted by Anne Quill, Therese Sheehy and Marie O'Sullivan. Francis Cremin, Bernie O'Brien and Claire O'Callaghan sent a constant supply of ball to the forward division and Helen Cagney was again on target with a thirty yards free to increase the St. Mary's lead after 10 minutes.

A good break by Bunclody stretched the Charleville defence but a stinging shot from Bunclody's Deirdre Atkinson was brilliantly saved by goalkeeper Mairead Cagney in the St. Mary's goal.

From the puck out the ball landed in the Bunclody square area and Helen Cagney tagged on another point for Charleville with a beautifully struck ground shot to make the score one goal and two points for St. Mary's. Three minutes later she added another from a 30 yards free after Roisin

Daly was fouled. Bunclody did get a point from a 30 yards free which was their only score of the half, to make the half time score 1-3 to 0-1 in favour of St. Mary's.

On the resumption St. Mary's immediately went in the attack again and the ensuing pressure paid off handsomely when the brilliant Claire O'Callaghan scored a great goal and Fiona Reidy added another point to put St. Mary's two goals and three points ahead. Bunclody pulled back a point from a 30 yards free scored by Deirdre Atkinson but could not raise their game and proved no match for Charleville girls.

Their one raid on the Charleville goal produced another tremendous save from Mairead Cagney and with Frances Broderick rampant in the backs and Eve Watson playing competently and scoring a lovely point from play and another point from play and another point from Helen Cagney from a thirty yards free, completed the scoring for St. Mary's giving them a total of two goals and six points to Bunclody's three points, and a place in the sporting history of the school.

A feature of the game was the skill of the Charleville players which was commented on by older members of the camogie fraternity and the thrilling display of centre-back Frances Broderick who was the star of the match and looks to have a bright future ahead in camogie.

The scenes after the game was over will long be remembered, as the excited fans rushed on to the Croke Park sod to greet their heroes and little wonder that the captain, Frances Broderick, was shouldered across the field to accept the All-Ireland cup for St. Mary's famous victory.

The team was: Mairead Cagney, Anne Quill, Therese Sheehy, Frances Broderick, Marie O'Sullivan, Francis Cremin, Bernie O'Brien, Claire O'Callaghan, Roisin Daly, Eve Watson, Fiona Reidy and Helen Cagney. Subs., Geraldine Cotter, Aine O'Sullivan, Ann Mulcahy, Gillian Binchy.



Frances Broderick making her acceptance speech after receiving the All-Ireland Junior cup for St. Mary's at Croke Park on last Saturday.



Fiona Reidy, Newtownshandrum, who scored a point for St. Mary's, Charleville, in the All-Ireland junior camogie final against Bunclody at Croke Park.



Claire O'Callaghan, Ballyhea, who scored a vital goal for St. Mary's, Charleville, in their 2-6 to 0-3 win over FCJ, Bunclody, in the All-Ireland junior camogie final at Croke Park on Saturday last.

Late, Late Bunclody Recovery

ST. RAPHAEL'S, LOUGHREA - 2-4
F.C.J. BUNCLODY - 3-1
F.C.J. Bunclody goalied twice in the final five minutes to earn a replay in an exciting All-Ireland senior colleges camogie final at Croke Park yesterday.

St. Raphael's had the edge for most of the match, but were stopped steam-rolling their opponents through a splendid performance by Deirdre Atkinson at fullback for F.C.J.

Deirdre Costello (who scored 1-3), Triona Dolphin (1-0) and Geraldine Fahy starred as the Galway team carved out a 2-4 to 1-1 lead with only minutes to go.

But in a heart-stopping fight-back the spirited Bunclody side grabbed equalising goals through Noeleen Jordan and Geraldine Maguire.

Scorers: St. Raphael's—D. Costello (1-3), T. Dolphin (1-0), A. Fahy (0-1). F.C.J. Bunclody—M. Purcell (1-1), G. Maguire (1-0), N. Jordan (1-0).

ST. MARY'S, CHARLEVILLE - 2-6
F.C.J. BUNCLODY - 0-3

A Helen Cagney goal after only two minutes set St. Mary's on the road to victory over F.C.J. Bunclody in the All-Ireland junior colleges' camogie final at Croke Park.

Claire O'Callaghan scored St. Mary's second goal after the break to secure the first win in any colleges' final for the Cork school who have only competed for the last four years.

Scorers: St. Mary's—H. Cagney (1-4), C. O'Callaghan (1-0), F. Reidy, E. Watt (0-1 each), F.C.J. Bunclody—D. Atkinson (0-2), C. Gibson (0-1).

Charleville's winning weekend

IT was a great weekend for Charleville and area when two national awards were won for the town by local groups. The girls of Saint Mary's Convent of Mercy School won the All-Ireland Junior Camogie final when the Munster champions comprehensively defeated FCJ, Buncloody, the champions of Leinster, at Croke Park on Saturday. On last Friday night the town's Glenside Theatre Group won the All-Ireland (confiner) Drama Festival with their production of Bill C. Davis's 'Mass Appeal'.

There was no shortage of vocal support at Croke Park as a special train and coaches carried in excess of 300 fans to cheer on the team who were contesting the final for the first time. And the girls gave them plenty to cheer about as they served up a feast of hurling skills which bewildered their much vaunted opponents who started as firm favourites to lift the title for the Slaneyside town. Among the attendance were Charleville 'exiles' in Dublin, Joe Ryan, formerly of Newtownbarry, Charleville, and also a former headmaster of Newtownshandrum National school and RTE presenter Donncha O Dulaing. Both visited the St. Mary's dressing room at half-time to lend words of encouragement to the girls.

The team got a tremendous reception at Charleville railway station on Saturday night, and as the team alighted from the train, fog detonators were exploded and the girls were feted by their delirious supporters who packed the station and its

approach road. It took over one and a half hours for the cavalcade to travel the mile and a half to the town centre. Saint Patrick's brass and reed band under the direction of Jim Foley was on hand to musically greet the young camogie heroes. School principal, Sister M. Colman, said it was a great achievement for the school, especially in their 150th anniversary year, and paid tribute to the girls for their fantastic display in Croke Park and also to their trainers, Vincent Harrington, Brid Larkin and Sister Margaret of the school staff and Rev. Liam Kelleher, O.C., Dromina. She also thanked all the people of the town and area who had given the team such a wonderful reception on Saturday evening. (See full match report in Charleville News Focus).



St. Mary's team captain, Frances Broderick, holds the All-Ireland Junior Cup aloft after St. Mary's, Charleville, defeated Buncloody FCJ at Croke Park on last Saturday.

Great day for the girls of St. Mary's

Charleville

SATURDAY last at Croke Park, Dublin, was a great day for the girls of St. Mary's School, Charleville, because they defeated Buncloody from Wexford to take their first All-Ireland crown in the junior schools final. It was a great achievement for those young girls and they did their school proud by their fine, sporting display.

There was tremendous excitement at the final whistle when the large crowd swarmed on to congratulate their heroes on a fantastic win. We congratulate everybody connected with the team on leading them to success. There was a big crowd awaiting their arrival at the local railway station on Saturday evening and here again they were given a wonderful reception.



RTE presenter, Donncha O Dulaing, with Eve Watson of St. Mary's after her side won the All-Ireland Junior camogie final at Croke Park. Eve scored a lovely point for St. Mary's in the closing minutes of the match.

All-Ireland Colleges camogie champions



COLLEGES CHAMPIONS . . . St. Mary's, Charleville, the All-Ireland Colleges Junior Camogie title-holders.

APRIL
1986

Interesting double-decker at Curraheen Road

THERE will be a most interesting "double-decker" at Curraheen Road on Sunday. In the first game Éire Óg meet St. Finbarr's in a Senior League clash and this will be followed by the Junior 'A' League final between Bishopstown and Brian Dillons.

In other games listed Barrs and Éire Óg also meet in the Intermediate

League on this Friday evening; Glen Rovers take on Killeagh in the Senior League on Sunday and in the same competition Barrs will be in action yet again when they meet Sarsfields in the Senior League.

Brian Dillons, made up mainly of St. Patrick's Colleges players, are proving very hard to beat at the moment as they are

playing with great skill and dedication. And on Sunday they will be fancied to do well again when they meet Bishopstown in the Junior 'A' League final at Curraheen Road.

Dillons are strong in all sectors and have a great leader in Cork senior Linda Mellerick. Kathleen O'Keeffe, Karen Mellerick, Helena Barry, Mary Mulcahy and Elizabeth O'Sullivan are other excellent players who will make things hard for Bishopstown.

However, Bishopstown will have other ideas and they will battle all the way to take this 'A' title in their first year in the grade.

Last season Bishopstown reached the 'B' championship final but lost to St. Catherine's. However, they reversed that result in the League final and took their first junior crown. They have their star players in Liz O'Neill, Liz Towler, Deirdre Enright, Elaine Buckley, Sheenagh Morley and Deirdre Carroll, and if these strike a top form then they could give Brian Dillons a real run for the honours.

Two senior teams still have full points in the League and these — Éire Óg and Glen Rovers — will be in action on Sunday in vital league clashes.

County champions Éire Óg meet St. Finbarr's and this could be a marvellous encounter. These sides met in the county championship last season and after an exciting tussle Éire Óg emerged victorious. The Ovens side, who can call on such experienced performers as Maria McCarthy, Eileen Dineen, Mary Geaney, Noelle O'Driscoll and Margo Twomey, are always a very difficult side to overcome. However, Barrs are an up-and-coming young side with top players in Margaret Farrell, Clare Cronin, Ger Kelleher and Colette O'Mahony, and they will not give Éire Óg an easy road to victory.

Glen Rovers entertain Killeagh in their vital league tie and this too promises to be a cracker. Killeagh will be without Catherine Landers (still on honeymoon) for this game and now that the Costine sisters, Marie, Bernie and Kathleen, have returned to play with their native Cloyne,

Killeagh will not be at full strength. However, they still have many fine players in Marian Sweeney, Ann Marie Landers and Patsy Keniry, and they will not give up two points easily. For their part, Glen Rovers, who are determined to make a bold bid for county honours this year, have a home venue and with Sandy Fitzgibbon, Val Fitzpatrick, Marie Mackey, Regina Scoutts and June Hamill, all playing very well at the moment, they could gain those vital points.

St. Finbarrs will play a second senior league tie in four days when they meet Sarsfields at Riverstown, and here the city girls could prove too strong in spite of the efforts of Liz Dunphy and Marie Kearney.

In the only intermediate tie listed Éire Óg and St. Finbarrs will be in action again as they meet in the league this evening. This should be a close encounter between two excellent sides with Éire Óg in a position to call on Kathleen Conway, Clare Kelleher and Maureen Barron while St. Finbarrs have Delores Duffy and Niamh Coughlan.

FJC Bunclody caused quite a surprise in the All-Ireland Senior Colleges on Saturday last when they held the highly-fancied St. Michael's Loughrea to a draw. Now the sides meet again tomorrow at Rathdowney and what a marvellous replay this promises to be.

In the National League only one Munster county will be in action on Sunday with Clare taking on Wexford in both senior and junior campaigns at Bunclody, Co. Wexford.

FIXTURES

This Friday evening: IL, St. Finbarrs v. Éire Óg at Ovens, 7.15 p.m. (Ref. Inniscarra).

Sunday: JAL final, Bishopstown v. Brian Dillons at Curraheen Road, 3.15 p.m. (Ref. Eleanor Twomey).

SL at Curraheen Road — Éire Óg v. St. Finbarrs, 2 p.m. (Ref. Mary Maher).

SL at Glen Rovers — Glen Rovers v. Killeagh, 3 p.m. (Ref. Na Piarraigh).

NL at Bunclody, Co. Wexford — NLS, Wexford v. Clare, 3 p.m.; J — Wexford v. Clare, 2 p.m.

Wednesday: SL, St. Finbarrs v. Sarsfields at Riverstown, 7.15 p.m. (Ref. Na Piarraigh).

Camogie

U-18 League: Brian Dillons 6-5, Glen Rovers 0-1.
Intermediate League: St. Finbarrs 3-2, Éire Óg 1-3.
Junior 'A' League final: Brian Dillons 7-3, Bishopstown 1-1.

Senior League: St. Finbarrs 2-8, Éire Óg 3-3; Glen Rovers 6-2, Killeagh 0-6.

Replay should be lot better

ALL-IRELAND Colleges' senior champions, St. Raphael's, Loughrea, were held by a determined late rally from F.C.J. Bunclody at Croke Park last Saturday. They start afresh in the final replay on Saturday next.

Bunclody were not overawed by the reputation of the champions. They tackled determinedly from the throw-in and made it clear that they had come to win. This game will have done a power of good for their confidence.

They will take the field in the replay with 12 fresh players. In the drawn game, some of their players were handicapped by having already played in the junior final.

The performance of St. Raphael's fell short of what we have come to expect from them. The close marking of Bunclody prevented the Galway girls from finding their usual form.

SUB-STANDARD

The first half display last Saturday was sub-standard fare for a colleges senior final. It is within the compass of both teams to raise their game considerably on that showing.

While the attendance was critical of the senior final, the junior contestants won rounds of applause for their skilful play. Both St. Marys, Charleville and F.C.J. Bunclody served up excellent fare for players of their tender years.

Winning an All-Ireland title in the fourth year playing camogie was a wonderful achievement for St. Marys. The team raised their game from their earlier matches and used the wide open spaces of Croke Park to telling effect.

The performance of captain Frances Broderick, Eve Watson and Helen Cagney won admiration from those who had not seen these talented youngsters in action before. However, it was an all-round effort which carried the day and brought Corn Naomh Gohait to Munster for the third time.

Dublin and Cork are steering towards the national league final unless they meet an upset in the final outing. The situation in the junior grade is not as clear and further results are awaited before the likely zone winners are known.

Wexford are at home to Clare in the senior and junior leagues on Sunday. Both counties dropped points to Cork in the senior grade. Wexford must bemoan the fact that they travelled with such a weak side for the Cork game. Their impressive showing against Tipperary suggests that they will be a force with a full team.

TOP CLASS

Clare are using some up-and-coming players in the competition to gain experience. However, it was evident in the Cork match that they have some way yet to go. A home win will be no great surprise.

The junior game should be a fine one. Wexford are the Leinster junior champions and Clare also have a top class second string. The winners here should reach the quarter final.

Regraded Louth are doing badly in the lower grade. They experimented with newcomers in the matches with Armagh and Derry but the players in question did not come up to standard. The experienced players who have been on the side for a number of years will have a stay a little longer.

FIXTURES

(SATURDAY)

All-Ireland Colleges' Senior Final Replay — At Rathdowney (3.0) — F.C.J., Bunclody v. St. Raphael's, Loughrea.

(SUNDAY)

National Leagues — At Bunclody (2.0) — Junior: Wexford v. Clare; (3.0) — Senior: Wexford v. Clare. At Phillipstown (2.30) — Junior: Louth v. Fermanagh. At English (2.10) — Junior: Tyrone v. Westmeath. At Kildavin (5.30) — Carlow v. Offaly.

Loughrea midfielder scuttles Bunclody

St. Raphael's.....3-5
Bunclody F.C.J.....0-4

THE talent of midfielder Deirdre Costello was the decisive factor in this hard-fought All-Ireland Colleges senior camogie final replay in Ballyragget on Thursday.

The Loughrea No. 9 scored all three goals for the All-Ireland champions, in the 11th, 23rd and 40th minutes to floor the determined Leinster girls who could not match her pace or stickwork.

Otherwise, there was little between the teams in this tough-tackling contest which left little room for frills, with Bunclody forcing the initial pace but with only three wides to show for some enthusiastic play.

Pointed '30'

The opening score took all of eleven minutes to fashion with a desperate F.C.J. defence conceding a '30' which full-forward Ann Fahy converted.

From the puck out the ball fell to Carlow's Player of the Year Noeleen Jordan who swept the ball over the bar from almost 40 metres but it was no sooner in play again than Costello had it in the Bunclody net.

The athletic No. 9 was to kill F.C.J.'s hopes with 2-2 between the 11th and 23rd minutes, a plight from which Bunclody could not recover despite a great rally early in the second half which produced points from Mgt. Purcell (30) and Charmaine Gibson in the 6th and 11th minutes.

The inevitable

Although Deirdre Atkinson was defending superbly, and Lilian Doyle and Noeleen Jordan were working feverishly at centrefield, they could not reverse the inevitable. At the other end the Loughrea defence was crisp and sure reducing the F.C.J. attack considerably although Mgt. Purcell and subs.

Gibson and Bernadette Fenlon tried extremely hard.

The ball broke badly for the forwards who were denied a late goal by a post, but they faced a resolute defence in which No. 14 Geraldine Fahy was quite superb.

No late rally

There was no late rally this time for Bunclody as in the drawn game in Croke Park with Loughrea closing with 1-2 between the 37th and 45th minutes with a lone point reply from a Mgt. Purcell free.

It was an entertaining game even if Costello's opening half goals meant an air of inevitability about the contest in which Bunclody had ten (4, 6) wides to the champions eight (6, 2).

Bunclody F.C.J.: Dolores O'Neill, Deirdre Atkinson, Paula Rankin (capt.), Mary Cowman, Catherine Atkinson, Noeleen Jordan, Lilian Doyle, Deirdre Byrne, Geraldine Maguire, Majella O'Neill. Subs.: Charmaine Gibson for Majella O'Neill (30m.); Bernadette Fenlon for Mary Cowman (37m.).

Dublin get the hammer

DUBLIN M.....1-2;
KILDARE.....1-5.

Dublin who have dominated the Leinster Camogie Championship down the years were defeated by a gallant Kildare side in the preliminary round of the current competition played at Silver Park, Stillorgan, yesterday. Leading by 1-2 to 0-2 at the interval the winners combined well in the second half and never looked like losing their grip on the game.

Scores for Kildare — M. Malone 0-4, N. Kerrigan 1-0, G. Cooney 0-1. Dublin — G. O'Mahony 1-0, A. Halpin 0-2.

LEINSTER MINOR CHAMPIONSHIP — Kildare 2-7; Dublin 1-6. National Senior League — Kilkenny 3-7; Down 1-2, Galway 6-6; Antrim 1-3. National Junior League — Wicklow 2-3; Waterford 2-3. Down w.o. Kilkenny scr. Leinster Colleges' Intermediate Final — St. Marys Baldoyle 6-1; Mercy Mourne Road, Dublin 0-1.

Loughrea keep title

ST RAPHAEL'S, LOUGHREA.....3-5
FCJ BUNCLODY.....0-4

The holders, St. Raphael's, Loughrea, retained the All-Ireland colleges camogie championship by defeating a gallant Bunclody side in the postponed final replay at Rathdowney.

St. Raphael's D Costello 3-3, A Fahy 0-2; Bunclody M Purcell 0-2, D Atkinson and N Jordan 0-1 each.

All-Ireland Colleges champions — again



ST. RAPHAELS, Loughrea, who defeated F.C.J. Bunclody to retain their All-Ireland Senior Colleges Championship title. BACK: Brid Stratford, Deirdre Costello, Claire Robinson, Caroline Loughnane, Imelda Hobbs and Triona Dolphin. FRONT: Angela Cooney (capt.), Siobhan Maher, Anne Fahy, Mary Dolphin, Cora Curley and Geraldine Fahy.

Camogie

Dublin's junior and minor camogie teams begin their assault on this year's All-Ireland crowns when they begin their championship bid tomorrow against near neighbours Kildare.

Down through the years, junior games against Kildare have always been very evenly fought and at most times there is never more than a puck of a ball between both teams. Indeed, in last year's campaign it needed extra-time in the Leinster semi-final to separate the sides, with Dublin just about deserving their victory after a very exciting encounter.

Many of last year's team are not available now, but nonetheless the selectors have already had two successful outings with the present squad this season. Victories over Kilkenny and Down have instilled an air of confidence into this team and, they will face Kildare tomorrow with their spirits high.

I feel that if Dublin are to take any further part in this year's championship their forwards will have to be more accurate than of late. The defence seem well capable of holding Kildare's forward line while the three centrefield players should be able to gain enough of the ball to supply the front players.

In the minor game Dublin should be able to advance to the next round.

Fixtures: Silver Park, Leinster Championships — Junior: Dublin v Kildare (3.0). Minor: Dublin v Kildare (2.0).

JUNIOR TEAM — C Hickey, P Murphy, G Brady, M Cronin, C Gray, A Halpin, N Maguire, G Fagan, A Redmond, D O'Leary, G O'Mahoney, E Keogh.

MINOR TEAM — S Caulfield, L Cullen, S Leonard, O Connolly, T Walsh, A Mullen, J Murphy, Y Duigan, F Walsh, C Lambert, M McManus, Y Neville.

St. Finbarrs take league title

ST. FINBARRS 2-2
WATERGRASSHILL 2-0

In a closely contested game at Togher on Saturday night, St. Finbarrs overcame a strong challenge from Watergrasshill to take the Intermediate camogie league for 1985.

St. Finbarrs, who were 2-2 to 0-0 up at half time, were well on top in the first half but had to fight every inch of the way to overcome a great comeback by Watergrasshill in the second half.

Cork minor camogie team

THE Cork minor camogie team to play Tipperary in the Munster championship at Drombane on Sunday (12 noon) is:

Brid Walsh (Cloughduv), Aine Buckley (Bishopstown), Deirdre Ryan (St. Finbarrs), Suzanne O'Brien (Eire Og), Tracy Riordan (Glen Rovers), Fiona O'Driscoll (Fr. O'Neills), Clare O'Regan (Eire Og), Catherine O'Sullivan (Bride Rovers), Breda Kelly (Killegagh), Valerie Twomey (Sarsfields), Ber Cashman (Blackrock), Irene O'Keefe (Innis-carra).

Subs: Maria O'Brien (Innis-carra), Fiona O'Driscoll (do.), Rena Kelleher (Aghabullogue), Hilda Kenneally (Newcestown), Edel Ryan (Bishopstown), Niamh Cotter (Brian Dillons), Catherine McSweeney (Douglas), Una Murphy (Eire Og).

Juniors win again but seniors go down

CLARE 4-4 WEXFORD 2-1

CLARE continued their unbeaten run in the National Junior Camogie League with a fully-deserved win over Wexford at Rathnure on Sunday last. The game produced some great passages of play despite the difficult wind conditions which prevailed.

Clare played with the aid of the wind in the first half and they found scores hard to come by in the early stages. With the interval nearing, the teams were on level terms at 0-3 to 1-0 and Clare's prospects of victory certainly did not look good.

However, a masterly switch by the mentors six minutes from the break proved vital. Maura McNicholas was moved to full forward and she cracked home three

goals to leave Clare leading at the break on the score of 3-3 to 1-0 and well on the way to victory.

On the resumption, the winners defence withstood strong pressure as Wexford fought back in an attempt to reduce the arrears with Pauline O'Brien in excellent form between the posts. Midway through this half, Clare made sure of victory with a well-taken goal from Clare Bracken.

Josie Conlon, Noeleen Quinn, Patricia Ryan and Siobhan Reidy were very strong in defence for the winners. The midfield trio of Noele Comyns, Patricia Rynne and Sheile O'Halloran improved as the game progressed, while in the forward line Clare Bracken, Catherine O'Loughlin, Maura McNicholas and Catherine Molloy did well.

CLARE: P. O'Brien; J. Conlon, S. Reidy, N. Quinn, P. Ryan, N. Comyns, P. Rynne, S. O'Halloran, C. O'Loughlin (0-1), M. McNicholas (3-3) Capt., C. Molloy, C. Bracken (1-0).

Wexford 7-6
Clare 2-4

A high-powered second half display by a strong and skillful Wexford team proved too much for Clare in the National senior camogie league at Rathnure on Sunday. Playing with the advantage of a strong wind in the first half, Clare led for most of the way and were somewhat unlucky to trail at the break on the score of 2-1 to 0-4.

The main weakness was in attack where the forwards wasted many scoring opportunities in that first half. Indeed had they only availed of a number of these they would surely have been in a commanding position at the break.

Soon after the changeover the winners took control and they increased their lead with a succession of scores. Clare replied with well-taken goals from Cora Fahy and Mary Ann McInerney but Wexford took over in the closing stages to run out worthy winners.

Mary Fitzgibbon, Carmel Wall, Martina Beegan, Mary Ann McInerney, Claire Cooney and

Cora Fahy were best for Clare.

CLARE: L. O'Flynn, M. Fitzgibbon, M. Quinlivan, P. Moroney, C. Kelly, C. Cooney, C. Wall, M. Beegan, C. Fahy (1-0), H. Cusack, L. Condron (0-1), M. A. McInerney (1-3).

Sub.: M. Davoran for M. Quinlivan.

Shannon 2-3
Ruan 0-1

Shannon maintained their winning sequence in the senior league with a comfortable win over Ruan on Tuesday last. A fine display by Lorna O'Flaherty who scored 2-1 of her team's total was a feature of the game. The winners were fitter and much faster to the ball and Liz Condron, Catherine Molloy, Evan Drysdale, Frances Phelan, Pat Diviney and Mary Fitzgibbon figured prominently.

For the losers, Veronica Casey, Linda Daffy, Patricia Moroney, Ann Marie Russell and Deirdre Moroney tried hard.

Eire Og 2-0
Ballyea 1-0

Eire Og 'B' defeated Ballyea in a low-scoring U/14 league tie at the Fairgreen on Thursday last. Martina Neylon gave the winners the lead with a fine goal and a similar score from Patricia Mangan had the Eire Og girls in a comfortable position at the break.

Best for the winners were Noeleen McNamara, Paula Murphy, Jacinta Clancy and Maria Griffin.

Kilmaley 1-0
St. Joseph's 1-0

A draw was a fitting result to this U/12 league tie at the Fairgreen on Monday evening. Underfoot conditions were poor and this did not help players.

St. Joseph's had the edge in the first half and led at the break but Michelle Devitt equalised for Kilmaley in the second period.

Shannon 5-1
Kilkishen Nil

Shannon had a comprehensive win over Kilkishen in the first round of the U/14 Championship at the Church field on Friday last. The home side were superior in all areas of the game and ground hurling was the order of the day.

The winners led by 2-1 to nil at the break with scores from Joanne O'Donnell (1-0) and Joanne Meehan (1-1). Joanne Meehan and Debbie McGettrick added goals after the interval and the final goal came following good work by Collette McCashin and Joanne O'Donnell.