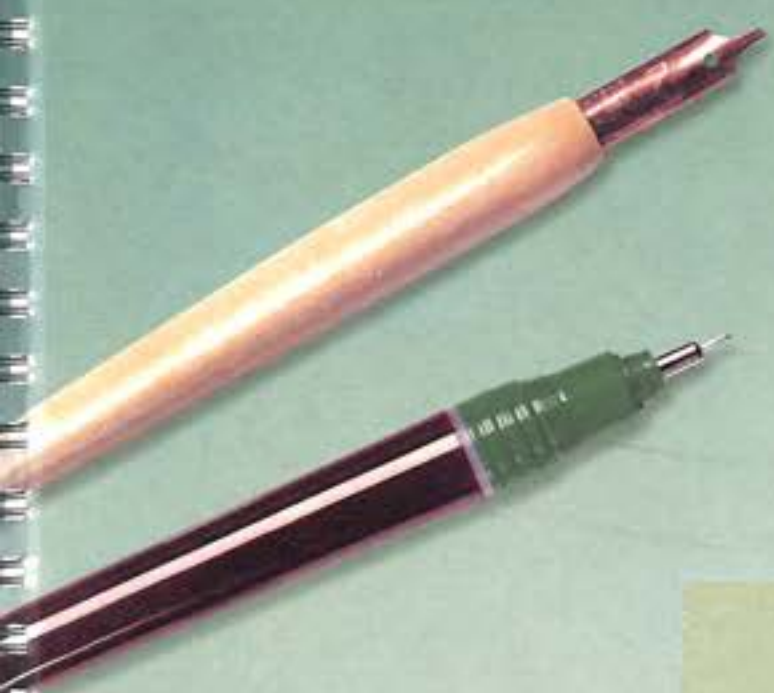


5 011385 937220
tel: 406 431 612



R~ROWNEY

Lyndhurst



July + August
2002

Double sided high white Cartridge Paper
Hochfeines, beidseitig griffiges Zeichenpapier
Papier dessin et lavis, extra-blanc
Dubbelzijdig hoogwit cartridge tekenpapier
Papel para dibujo extra blanco
406x305mm

Made by Daler-Rowney, Bracknell, England

SCARY MUNSTER!

On the basis of the evidence seen at the Gael-Linn inter-provincial championships, Munster, and Tipperary in particular, will be daunting opposition for the foreseeable future.

Victory for Munster in the Gael Linn senior inter-provincial championships held in Dublin recently could serve to verify that Tipperary are still the best team in the country. With the championship cauldron simmering nicely as the counties swing into action, the display from Munster was breathtaking - and what was most interesting was that ten of the starting fifteen came from the reigning All-Ireland champions, Tipperary.

People left the grounds in awe of the mighty Munster display. Earlier in the day they swept aside the Leinster challenge at the St. Anne's grounds in Bohernabreena, Tallaght, and later in the afternoon they continued to rule the roost with a massive victory over their northern counterparts. Granted, the Leinster selection did not represent the best possible outfit from the area. Why? That is a question for another day, but any division back-boned by Kilkenny, Wexford and Dublin should give a better account of themselves. It was a game that had few redeeming features for Leinster and given the great sporting rivalry that exists between both areas, it was a disappointing encounter.

It is high season, however, and those who did not make it to the capital must have had genuine excuses. Munster's play was poetry in motion as the elusive Deirdre Hughes and Emer McDonnell combined time and time again to bombard the Ulster defence. Unfortunately for the northern lights their one-point win over Connacht took its toll and when it came to the final they had exhausted all their reserves. One wonders is it merely just a taste of what is to come from the Premier County?

Clara Gaynor shone like a beacon for the winners and revelled in her role at centre-back. Eileen O'Brien was another player of note. Playing at corner-forward she blended in very well with her other numbers in the Munster attack. Eileen is showing a return to the form that signalled her as one of the best prospects in the game a few years ago. A winner of numerous accolades including the Irish Examiner Youth Sports award, she will be one of the key players for Limerick when they face up to Cork in the first round of the All-Ireland championship. Vera Sheehan, at centre-forward, also proved that she is well capable of mixing it with the big time.

Cork's representation on the Munster side must be one of the weakest in a long time. Granted, Linda Mellerick did not enter the equation after picking up a leg injury a week previous in the Munster championship against



The Ulster team that won its 8th Gael-Linn junior inter-provincial title, with Dominic McKinley, manager, Margaret Broily and Ursula McGivern.



Munster Gael-Linn senior inter-provincial winners, 2007.
At risk: Niamh O'Connor, Julie Delaney, Claire Madden, Helen Breen, Colette Desmond, Phily Fogarty, Ger Casey, Paula O'Connor, Therese Brophy, Noelle Kennedy.
Chin today! Una O'Dwyer, Clara Gaynor, Joanne Ryan, Eimear McDonnell, Shéarín Nealon, Deirdre Hughes, Eileen O'Brien, Vera Sheehan, Joanne O'Callaghan.

Tipperary, which will see her miss round one of the championship against Limerick. Selected captain Vivienne Harris, Eithne Duggan, Sarah Hayes and Una O'Donoghue were all unavailable for the weekend. However, replacements Ger Casey, Joanne O'Callaghan, Paula O'Connor, Colette Desmond and Marie Watson were among those who excelled, with Desmond firing on all cylinders, reaching a tally of 2-6.

The defeat of Connacht was somewhat of a surprise. However, if one puts it into the correct context, the reason could be that Galway are in the middle of their championship plans - the maroon and white are the sole contributors to the western provincial panel. It could also be said that they were a trifle unlucky when Tracey Laheen agonisingly deflected into her own net to throw away a two-point lead at the final whistle. Over the course of the match the westerners introduced Carmel Hannon, Ann Broderick and Orla Kilkenny - all will be vying for starting positions over the summer months. Veronica Curtin and Rita Broderick are others only too ready to come into the fray.

But in no way should this take from such an important semi-final win for Ulster, for whom Máirín McAleenan made a welcome return to the big time after a long lay-off due to a knee injury. Others to catch the eye were Jane Adams, Paula McAtamney and Grace McMullen. Unfortunately though for these girls they put everything into beating Connacht and just did not have enough in the bag for the Munster decider. Nevertheless, there was consolation for Ulster, taking the junior title at Leinster's expense.

MANIC MINORS

Speaking of northern stars reminds me that Derry have a big day in their minor camogie calendar coming up on 21 July when the county entertains Munster champions, Cork, in the All-Ireland semi-final. A tall order it is as the Leesiders are again favoured this year. However, one player who is making a name for herself is young Katie McAuley from St Malachy's club in Castledawson. Katie cited earlier this year that her camogie ambition amongst others was "to win an All-Ireland medal". One wonders how near she is to fulfilling her great desire. The youngster is an all-round sportsperson, also excelling at ladies football and athletics. She lists her favourite players are Johnny Dooley and Alan Kerins - and it is nice to see that her own Paula McAtamney is up there as well. Katie has already come up against the Rebel County once before and proved to be the star. In the semi-final of the Community Games in 2000 she scored the winning point to beat Cork and was a member of the team that beat Galway in the final.

Meanwhile, defending All-Ireland minor champions Cork have nine of last season's side in this season's team returning to action, and the county heads the roll of honour with eleven titles. In their provincial win over Tipperary they looked extremely sharp in all departments. Sile Burns has made the move up to the senior ranks, and her athletic prowess makes her one of the finest centre-backs in this grade. The Milford duo of Anna Geary and Captain Elaine O'Riordan are a fine midfield pairing. In Briege

Corkery, Emer Watson, and particularly Denise Twomey, they have a forward line that is capable of severe destruction. Twomey was in devastating form snatching 4-4 with Watson equally impressive on 2-5 in the Munster final against a Tipperary side that had Claire Grogan at centre-forward. The Rebel County will take a lot of beating, but would not want to be complacent going into the lion's den. It is always difficult to get a good result on a visit north. You need only ask All-Ireland club champions Granagh / Ballingarry, who bowed out of the championship after a trip up north a couple of years ago. They discovered the harsh reality that it is very hard to win on their home grounds and that is for sure. Galway will be fielding an almost completely new outfit this season under the management of Roseline Kelly and Michael Dillon. Last year they came ever so close to Cork at the penultimate stage after a titanic struggle. They have lost the services of many of that side and will be looking to the likes of Susan Keane, Emma Kilkelly, Caroline Kelly and Linda Gohery to determine their fortune this season. It is interesting to see that one of the 2001 stars, Aislinn Connolly has made the successful transition to the senior squad, and there is no doubt but she would love to add more silverware to the Galway collection.

Wexford's only win at minor level was in 1995. Ironically it was Galway they beat to win that title and featured current seniors - Aine Codd, Kate Kelly, Esme Murphy and Rosemary Breen. There is always a great battle between Kilkenny and Wexford in the Leinster championship. According to selector Jack O'Brien this year was no different: "Kilkenny beat us last year and we won the year before. Now it is our turn again. I would be hopeful if we get our game plan together that we would get to an All-Ireland final."

The majority of this Wexford side is made up of the under-14 team that won the Leinster final two years ago. One player who is quickly making a name for herself is versatile forward, Una Lacey, who incidentally is still under-14 this year. Daughter of former Wexford player and current senior selector, Margaret Lacey, Una will play a big part in the new era of camogie in Wexford and is likely to feature during a long sporting career. In the provincial final she scored 4-4 out of her team's 6-6 tally and a few weeks ago registered 2-4 in the Leinster Under-14 final. Una is just one of five players from the famed Oulart-the-Ballagh club to feature on this Wexford team - Sharon Keogh, Karen Atkinson, Tayna Stamp and Emma Moran are the others expected to lead the challenge against the westerners.

MINOR DRAWS

Draw for Minor A championship on Sunday July 21:

Galway v. Wexford
Derry v. Cork

Draw for Minor B championship due to be played on the weekend of Saturday / Sunday July 20 / 21:

The winners of Ulster v. Limerick
Roscommon v. the winners of Leinster

Limerick see off Dubs in camogie All Ireland

THE Thomas Davis GAA Pitch in Tallaght was the venue for last Saturday's All Ireland senior championship round two against Dublin.

The hosts had the better of the early exchanges and Deirdre Sheehan, relocated to the wing back position was an outstanding form in the early minutes clearing her lines, with Michelle Casey at right half back very impressive also.

Point from Eileen O'Brien and Vera Sheehan gave Limerick a 0-2 to 0-0 lead at 12 minutes, and in the 13th minute Marie Keating doubled on a Michelle Casey free for a spectacular goal and a 1-2 to 0-0 lead, fully deserved.

The lead didn't deter the strong and robust Dubs however, and after a number of their attacks were repulsed, with Pauline McCarthy prominent, they struck for a goal in the 14th minute. A point followed quickly to leave the score 1-2 to 1-1 at the end of the first quarter.

The second quarter saw

the Limerick forwards create plenty of chances and more into a 1-7 to 1-2 half time lead. Eileen O'Brien scored 0-3, Paula Cronin hit 0-1 and the 5th came from Aoife Sheehan.

In defence the backs were in control. Edel Reale alert and safe in goal. Rose Collins, Meadhbh Nash, Sharon O'Shaughnessy, complementing the afore mentioned Pauline, Deirdre and Michelle giving players of the match performances.

Mairead Kelly and Vera Sheehan were breaking about even at midfield while the forwards with Alison White working very efficiently at number 11 had the beating of opponents whose full and right wing backs were inspirational.

Aoife Sheehan and the spadework for Maria Keatings 2nd minute second half point to answer Dublin's earlier minor, eight minutes later Aoife was again central to events drawing a foul after good work by Meadhbh Nash with Eileen O'Brien topping over to

extend the lead 1-9 to 1-3.

The inspirational Rose Collins (full-back) was prominent in some tough defence at this stage as Dublin reshuffled with their outstanding full back at midfield, and it was accurate Eileen O'Brien who made Limerick score 1-1. Matched by 0-3 from the determined Dubs, to edge Dublin closer 1-10 to 1-6 into the third quarter.

Quick thinking saw Joanne Clifford strike a side to Vera Sheehan, the outstanding captain, laid it off to club mate Eileen O'Brien, who split the posts for a spectacular that had Granagh Ballingarry written on it.

By now Marian Neville was in the game at number 6, Meadhbh Nash had moved to midfield, Deirdre Sheehan was at wing forward, where she continued to excel in the tough exchanges climax a top class display with well taken points in the 27th and 34th minutes, a telling replay to the Dubs, 0-2, and giving Limerick a deserved but hard-earned 1-13 to 1-8 win.

Team: Edel Reale,

Sharon O'Shaughnessy, Rose Collins, Pauline McCarthy, Michelle Casey, Meadhbh Nash, Deirdre Sheehan (0-2), Vera Sheehan (0-1), Mairead Kelly, Eileen O'Brien (0-7), Alison White, Aoife Sheehan (0-1), Anne O'Connell, Maria Keating (1-1), Paula Cronin (0-1).

Subs: Marian Neville, Catherine Hayes, Joanne Clifford, Amanda Sheehan, Maria Corkery, Maria McGrath, Carol Murphy, Moira Dooley, Marie Fleury.

Limerick are now into the quarter finals in which they play Galway on Saturday, August 3, with details not to hand as we go to press.

The Co., U-16's are in action on Sunday next, July 21, (1 p.m.), at a Monaghan venue, in the All Ireland B championship semi-final. They have prepared well under Tom Hennessy, Ger Mulcahy, T.J. Moloney, Shiela Treacy and will not be found wanting in terms of commitment, determination will to win, qualities personified by excellent captain Clare Mulcahy

(Ahane). Monaghan provide the opposition and winners in Ulster for the first time in over 20 years will have prepared comprehensively and enthusiastically.

Ulster camogie is vibrant and Limerick who travel on Saturday will not underestimate their opponents. The winners play Offaly or Roscommon in the final on Sunday, August 4.

The U-14's were in action v Dublin in a challenge game at the Thomas Davis GAA Grounds on Saturday last, and a bit under strength lost 1-5 to 2-5.

O'Brien shoots Limerick back into the hunt

By THERESE O'CALLAGHAN

At Thomas Davis GAA Grounds

Limerick	1-13
Dublin	1-8

LIMERICK will not be too bothered that they have come through the back door in this second round Foras na Gaeilge All Ireland senior championship.

Outplayed by Cork a week ago, they managed to regroup sufficiently to bounce back at the Dublin venue.

"It wasn't easy," said wing forward Eileen O'Brien.

"We went back training on the Wednesday night and the heads were down. We were totally shell-shocked after the Cork game - we thought we had a chance but once the first two goals went in that was the end of it."

Even though Limerick were on top from the outset, they found themselves up against a very tough and physical Dublin side. After 15 minutes the Shannonsiders had jumped into a 1-2 to 0-0 lead thanks to a fine goal by Marie Keating and captain Vera Sheehan's two pointed frees.

But, Dublin came more into the game and when Joyce Donnelly scored two minutes after Keating, it looked as if the Dubs were in with a shout.

However, Limerick managed to step up a gear, and unlike the previous week, they upped the ante to rifle over five points from O'Brien (three), Paula Cronin and Aoife Sheehan. As a result they held a five-point advantage at the break, 1-7 to 1-2.

Dublin rallied after the restart with points from Sinead Elliot and Shaunagh Keogh, but Limerick withstood the challenge with scores from Keating, and three from O'Brien.

Then a fine move from the green and white saw outstanding half back Deirdre Sheehan move up to the forward line where she chipped in with two great points and ensure that all three Sheehans got on the scoreboard.

The Shannonsiders are now through to a quarter-final meeting with Galway on August 3, while Dublin, thanks to the draw, have one more chance against Wexford on Sunday.

Scorers: Limerick: E O'Brien 0-7, M Keating 1-1, D Sheehan 0-2, P Cronin, M Kelly, M Nash, V Sheehan (capt); A Sheehan, C Murphy, E O'Brien; D Sheehan, M Keating, A O'Connell. Subs: Joanne Clifford for Aine O'Connell (2nd half).

Dublin: S Caulfield; S Byrne (capt), A Cullen, S Young; G Flynn, L O'Hara, S Elliott; V Trehy, J Morris; J Donnelly, S Keogh, D Smith; A McCluskey, V Reaney, E Mulcahy. Referee: J O'Brien (Wexford).

Limerick bounce back after defeat to overcome Dublin

IT will be a repeat of the National League final after Limerick booked themselves a place in the Foras na Gaeilge All-Ireland Senior camogie quarter-final against Galway on August 3 after they overcame Dublin by 1-13 to 1-8 at Thomas Davis Park, Tallaght, Dublin, on Saturday.

Limerick bounced back to form following their heavy defeat by Cork in the opening round, with a fine performance from Eileen O'Brien, who knocked over seven points (0-3 frees.)

Limerick were 1-2 up, thanks to a Marie Keating goal midway through the opening half, before Dublin were rewarded with their opening score - a Sinead Elliott free.

A minute later, Dublin's right half forward Joyce Donnelly hit the Limerick net to leave it Limerick 1-3 to Dublin's 1-1.

Further points from Paula Cronin, Eileen O'Brien and Aoife Sheehan had the Shannonsiders ahead 1-7 to Dublin's 1-2 at the break.

Dublin began the second half well and a long-range free from Sinead Elliott appeared to go the corner of the net for a moment.

However, the umpires quickly raised the white flag.

Despite Dublin coming within four points (1-9 to 1-5) midway through the second half, the Limerick defence of fullback Rose Collins and halfback Michelle Casey kept the Dublin forwards very much at bay.

While the opening point of the game may well have belonged to captain Vera Sheehan, it was her younger sister

O'Brien knocks over seven points

Deirdre who had the final score as time ticked away.

Scorers: Limerick: M Keating 1-1, E O'Brien 0-7, D Sheehan 0-2, A Sheehan, V Sheehan, P Cronin 0-1 each. Dublin: J Donnelly 1-0, S Elliott 0-3, S Keogh 0-2, D Smith, V Reaney and A Cullen 0-1 each.

DUBLIN: S Caulfield; S Byrne, A Cullen, S Young; G Flynn, L O'Hara, S Elliott; V Trehy, J Morris; J Donnelly, S Keogh, D Smith; A McCluskey, V Reaney, E Mulcahy. Subs: S Mc Neela for L O'Hara, S Hanks for S Byrne and S Crosbie for A McCluskey.

LIMERICK: E Reale; C Hayes, R Collins, P McCarthy; M Casey, P Cronin, M Kelly; M Nash, V Sheehan; A Sheehan, C Murphy, E O'Brien; D Sheehan, M Keating, A O'Connell. Subs: S Shaughnessy for C Hayes, J Clifford for A O'Connell. Referee: Jack O'Brien (Wexford).

In the Diary

TONIGHT

Cork senior camogie championship quarter-finals
Carrigdhoun v Inniscarra, Owens 8pm

THIS is an eagerly awaited clash between two of the hotly tipped teams to take the honours this year. Carrigdhoun showed up very well in the replay against Courcy Rovers and have exceptional players in Emer Dillon, Catriona Kelly, Liz Bugler and Elaine Burke.

Inniscarra surprised many with their win over Bishopstown and will once again be inspired by Irene O'Keefe, Criona Harte and Paula Goggins.

Verdict: Carrigdhoun

Fr O'Neill's v Muskerry

Another glamorous fixture, there will be very little between the sides. O'Neill's had a comprehensive victory over Newtownshandrum at the weekend and with Fiona O'Driscoll, Sinead Cahalane and Nora Ahern in fine form, they will be hoping to continue in the winning mould.

Muskerry, are backboned this year by the Aghabullogue club and with Rockbawn players, Sile Burns and Catriona Foley now on board, it has strengthened their cause somewhat.

Verdict: Fr O'Neill's

Things looking up for Fr O'Neill's

Fr O'Neill's 1-11
Muskerry 0-5

LAST year's gloom is slowly beginning to subside in Ballymacoda as this latest win in the Cork County senior camogie championship last evening in Ballinlough sees them through to the last four of the competition.

But, mind you, it was not easy and despite the gap in the scoreline, Muskerry pushed them all the way.

O'Neill's looked to have put the disappointment of last season's final defeat behind them, and with Middleton hurler Ger Manley coming on board to coach the team it looks like all systems go again: "We need to win this county," explained selector Sean O'Sullivan.

"This team is too long on the go. I know it is asking a lot, but it is important for the club because we run the risk of players losing interest if we don't succeed this year."

O'Neill's looked a tired side for most of this game - not surprising

By THERESA O'CALLAGHAN
Cork Senior Camogie Championship

since it was their second match in three days.

However, to their credit, they applied themselves with real force in the last 15 minutes of the first-half, during which they scored 1-2. Fiona O'Driscoll blasted home the goal after switching from the corner to the number 14 slot to push them into a 1-5 to 0-3 interval lead.

With Mags Finn, Liz Sweetman and Nora Ahern at the heart of all the action, they drove at the Muskerry defence where Sinead Buckley, Catriona Foley, Tina Roche and Joan Twomey tried desperately to weather the storm, but

with Val O'Sullivan, Frances Flavin and O'Driscoll making their presence felt, the Ballymacoda side hung on doggedly.

Scorers for Fr O'Neill's: F O'Driscoll 1-5 (0-4), F Flavin 0-2, S Kearney, C Flavin, S Cahalane and R Corcoran 0-1 each.

Muskerry: M Noonan, L Dorgan, N O'Connell, L Murphy and S Burns (45m) 0-1 each.

FR O'NEILL'S: M Kenefick, A O'Neill, M Finn, L Sweetman, A Corcoran, N Ahern, M O'Brien, R Corcoran, V O'Sullivan, C Flavin, S Cahalane, S Kearney, F O'Driscoll, G Kearney, F Flavin. **Subs:** C O'Shea for G Kearney (55th min).

MUSKERRY: S M Crowley, L Ronan, S Buckley, P Murphy, T Roche, J Twomey, C Foley, L Murphy, S Burns, M Twomey, L Dorgan, N O'Connell, M McSweeney, M Noonan, K Crowley. **Subs:** C Murphy for K Crowley, A Leane for M Noonan (half time).

Referee: T Sheehan (Mayfield).

Elsewhere, in the same championship Carrigdhoun celebrated a

one-point victory, 2-11 to 2-10, in their quarter-final clash with Inniscarra at Ovens.

Despite being a goal behind at the break, the divisional side fought their way back to parity with a Catriona Kelly free.

And it was Kelly again who shot her side into the lead when undaunted by the pressure of the last puck of the game and the acute angle of the free that she had to slot over, the Ballygarvan player obliged with a marvellous strike to win the day.

It was a great second-half display which yielded 1-5 for the winners that booked them their place in the semi-final against the victors of tonight's clash between Imokilly and St Finbarrs.



Fiona O'Driscoll struck a fine goal for Fr O'Neill's.
Picture: Eddie O'Hare

In the Diary

TONIGHT
Cork County Senior Camogie
Championship quarter finals
Cloughduv v Barryroe,
Ballineen 8pm

LAST year's champions Cloughduv will have to up their performance considerably if they hold any hopes of advancing to the semi-final.

They were surprisingly subdued in their last game against Carbery and will need Una O'Donoghue, Stephanie Dunlea, the O'Callaghan and Corkery sisters to prosper if Cloughduv harbour any hopes of a repeat of last season's glory.

Barryroe have the benefit of two outings against Glen Rovers. Their second game is the one they will take the most from. They will look for similar performances from Rosalie Holland, Jennifer O'Leary, Ger Collins and Cora Keohane.

Verdict: Cloughduv.

St Finbarrs v Imokilly,

Carrignavar 8pm

LAST season's B champions St Finbarrs are taking the senior grade by storm and rank highly among the candidates for further glory. They have a very balanced line out - strong in all sectors. Among those who were instrumental in their comprehensive victory over Eire Og were top scorer Orla O'Sullivan, Colette O'Mahony, Valerie Maher, Ellen Clifford, Linda O'Connell, Ber Maher and Rachel Myers.

Imokilly, on the other hand, have not been tested as they got a bye in their first round game, but have the luxury of picking from five clubs - Killeagh, Youghal, St Catherine's, Sarsfields and Watergrasshill. Mary O'Connor, Denise Twomey, the Mulcahys, Emer O'Farrell, Marian Lynch and Mary Dorgan will be the players spearheading this Imokilly challenge.

Verdict: St Finbarrs.

Kelly's dramatic double sends Carrigdhoun through

Carrigdhoun
Inniscarra

2-11
2-10

by Mary Newman

CATRIONA KELLY sent Carrigdhoun through to the semi-finals of the Cork County Senior Camogie Championship semi-final with two injury-time points at Ovens last night.

Inniscarra dominated for much of the opening quarter and led at the break by 2-6 to 1-6 after goals from Irene O'Keefe and Margaret McCarthy had cancelled Sarah O'Donovan's 10th minute goal for Carrigdhoun.

With Criona Harte dictating matters at centre-field and Irene O'Keefe and Margaret McCarthy causing endless problems in the inside line, Inniscarra opened up a six-point advantage within 10 minutes of the restart with two points from Criona Harte and one from Margaret McCarthy.

Carrigdhoun then pulled a master stroke when they switched Catriona Kelly to midfield, which broke the Inniscarra dominance. Kelly pointed two frees and with Emer Dillon and Irene O'Keefe exchanging points, Inniscarra continued to hold the initiative but were under pressure.

With eight minutes remaining, Carrigdhoun introduced substitute Muireann Conlon and she made an instant impact when she finished to the net after Catriona Kelly's shot had struck the upright. With Carrigdhoun continuing to apply the pressure, they won a close-in free which Kelly converted. With the sides level, it

seemed a replay was on the cards. However there was one last twist to the saga.

Carrigdhoun won a free on the half-way line way out on the wing. Catriona Kelly stood over it and confidently struck it between the posts to book her side's place in the semi-finals but one surely would have sympathy for Inniscarra who, on their display, probably deserved another bite of the cherry.

Scorers - Carrigdhoun: C. Kelly 0-4, S. O'Donovan 1-1, E. Dillon 0-3, M. Conlon 1-0, M. Holland 0-1.

Inniscarra: C. Harte 0-6, I. O'Keefe 1-2, M. McCarthy 1-1, T. McCarthy 0-1.

CARRIGDHOON: A. Kiely (Carrigaline), M. Hurley (Valley Rovers), J. Brown (Ballygarvan), D. Fleming (Ballinacorney), A. O'Neill (Ballygarvan), E. Burke (Valley Rovers), S.A. O'Halloran (Ballygarvan), E. Dillon (Ballygarvan), L. Bugler (Valley Rovers), M. Jagoe (Tracton), C. Kelly (Ballygarvan), M. McCarthy (Valley Rovers), A. Murphy (Ballygarvan), S. O'Donovan (Ballygarvan), M. Holland (Ballinacorney capt.). **Subs:** D. Daly for M. McCarthy, M. Conlon for M. Holland.

INNISCARRA: G. Casey (capt.), E. Dineen, E. O'Mahony, M. O'Sullivan, T. Murphy, M. O'Sullivan, M. O'Regan, R. Buckley, C. Harte, M. McCarthy, P. Goggin, I. O'Keefe, G. O'Mahony, A. Golden, T. McCarthy. **Subs:** E. Hayes for A. Golden, M. Lynch for G. O'Mahony.

Referee: B. Joyce (Killeagh).

FR O'NEILL'S 1-11

Muskerry 0-5

FR O'NEILL'S were made fight hard before securing their victory in the quarter-final at Ballinlough last evening.

A Fiona O'Driscoll goal midway through the opening half helped the East Cork side lead 1-5 to 0-3 at the break after points from Frances Flavin, Siobhan Kearney, Sinead Cahalane and Claire Flavin were replied to by Muskerry's



Catriona Kelly: two injury-time points sent Carrigdhoun through at expense of Inniscarra.

Marie Noonan, Niamh O'Connell and Linda Dorgan.

On the resumption Fr O'Neill's upped the pace considerably and points from Frances Flavin and Fiona O'Driscoll further increased their lead. Sheila Burns and Louise Murphy pointed for Muskerry to keep them in touch but with the in-form Fiona O'Driscoll adding three further points to the O'Neill's tally, they comfortably advanced.

Scorers: Fr. O'Neill's: F. O'Driscoll 1-4, F. Flavin 0-3, S. Cahalane, S. Kearney, R. Corcoran, C. Flavin 0-1 each. Muskerry: M. Noonan, N. O'Connor, L. Dorgan, S. Burns, L. Murphy 0-1 each.

FR O'NEILL'S: M. Kenefick, A. O'Neill, M. Finn, L. Sweetman, A. Corcoran, N. Ahern, M. O'Brien, C. Flavin, S. Kearney, S. Cahalane, S. Flavin, B. O'Sullivan, R. Corcoran, F. O'Driscoll, G. Kearney. **Muskerry:** S. Crowley, L. Ronan, S. Buckley, P. Murphy, T. Roche, J. Twomey, C. Foley, L. Murphy, S. Burns, M. Twomey, L. Dorgan, N. O'Connell, M. McSweeney, M. Noonan, K. Crowley.

Referee: T. Sheehan (Mayfield).

In the Diary

TOMORROW
All Ireland Minor B camogie
championship semi-final
Monaghan v Limerick
St Mellans Park, Truagh,
1pm

THE Munster champions are taking this competition by storm and had little difficulty in winning out the provincial championship. Led by their captain, Claire Mulcahy at centre back, their defence is rock solid - as was demonstrated against Waterford in the final. There is no shortage of experience either in their attack where Sinead McAuliffe, Shannon Brosnan and Fiona Morrissey can deliver the goods.

Monaghan, on the other hand, pick from only four clubs. They came from behind to beat Tyrone in the Ulster final. To cap a big day for the host club, Gael Triucha, local girl Mairead McCarron will feature among their line out. Northern teams are always hard to beat but Limerick should have the edge in this game.

Verdict: Limerick

July
2002

Barrs show credentials as Cloughdun conquer Barryroe

St. Finbarr's Imokilly 3-12 0-6

by Mary Newman

ST FINBARR'S booked a Cork senior camogie championship semi-final date with Carrigdhoun and signified their championship intentions by recording a good victory over Imokilly at Carrignavar last evening.

The divisional side opened the scoring with a Mary O'Connor point but the victors settled quickly with three points from Jenny Duffy, Rachel Myers and Orla O'Sullivan.

Denise Twomey and O'Sullivan had exchanged points before the Barrs increased their lead with a Gemma O'Connor goal midway through.

Now hurling well, Barrs put the divisional side under pressure and when Orla O'Sullivan finished to the net it helped them enjoy a 2-5 to 0-4 interval lead.

Barrs got the second half off to a perfect start when Orla O'Sullivan finished Jenny Duffy's shot for goal to the net. Denise Twomey and O'Sullivan again exchanged points as the divisional side worked hard to stay with their opponents.

Ellen Clifford in the Barr's goal was called upon on three occasions to keep them at bay. With Claire Kirby and

Rachel Myers working hard, Barrs maintained the upper hand. Mary O'Connor and Annette Fitzgerald worked tirelessly for Imokilly but they lacked strength up front.

St Finbarr's continuing to dominate finished strong with points from Orla O'Sullivan (0-3), Bernadine Maher and Gemma O'Connor to book their semi-final spot.

Scorers: St Finbarr's: O. O'Sullivan 2-7, G. O'Connor 1-1, J. Duffy, V. Maher, C. O'Mahony, B. Maher 0-1 each.

Imokilly: D. Twomey 0-4, M. O'Connor, M. O'Neill 0-1 each.

ST FINBARR'S: E. Clifford, C. Harrington, D. Clarke, B.A. Corcoran, K. Buckley, L. O'Connell, Colette Kirby, Claire Kirby, G. O'Connor, J. Duffy, B. Maher, R. Myers, V. Maher, O. O'Sullivan, C. O'Mahony.

IMOKILLY: S. Kenneally (St Catherine's), D. Twomey (St Catherine's), N. Mulcahy (St Catherine's), E. Power (St Catherine's), M. O'Connor (Killeagh), M. Mulcahy (St Catherine's), A. Walsh (Killeagh), M. O'Neill (Watergrasshill), T. Byrne (Youghal), A. O'Connell (Youghal), M. Lynch (Watergrasshill), L. Higgins (St Catherine's), E. O'Farrell (Sarsfield), A. Fitzgerald (St Catherine's), C. Treacy (Killeagh).

Cloughdun Barryroe 0-11 2-3

A THRILLING contest in Ballineen saw champions Cloughdun advance at the expense of Barryroe.

Una O'Donoghue and Stephanie Dunlea gave the holders an early lead with two points before Barryroe struck for two goals from Rosemary Dineen and Elaine McCarthy inside the open-

ing quarter. Cloughdun held their nerve and battled back with two points from Una O'Donoghue and Dunlea to keep in touch.

Ger Collins helped Barryroe maintain their advantage with two well-struck points before Una O'Donoghue with two and Catherine Corkery with one had Cloughdun back on level terms by the break 0-8 to 0-2. With both defences superb and Cora Keohane and Aoife Murray busy in either goal, neither side raised a flag in the opening quarter of the second half.

With the pace upping considerably, Stephanie Dunlea with a 45 and Brid Corkery with a free, edged Cloughdun two points ahead, but Jenny O'Leary cut the deficit with a pointed free.

Once again the champions responded and answered the call, a Catherine Corkery point three minutes from full time was enough to steer them through after an enthralling contest.

Scorers: Cloughdun: U. O'Donoghue 0-4, S. Dunlea 0-3, C. Corkery 0-3, B. Corkery 0-1 each, Barryroe: R. Dineen 1-0, E. McCarthy 1-0, G. Collins 0-2, J. O'Leary 0-1.

BARRYROE: C. Keohane, E. Carroll, M. Sheehy, P. Moloney, A.M. Fleming, R. Holland, E. O'Regan, K. McCarthy, I. Dineen, G. Collins, J. O'Leary, M. Moloney, E. McCarthy, R. Dineen.

Cloughdun: A. Murray, C. Cronin, O. O'Callaghan, S. Corkery, J. O'Callaghan, S. Dunlea, C. Corkery, O. McCarthy, M. Corkery, J. Lucey, B. Corkery, S. Buckley, A. Buckley, U. O'Donoghue, N. Nolan.

Referee: J. Desmond (Bandon).

JULY

2002

O'Driscoll puts Father O'Neill's back on title trail

By THERESE O'CALLAGHAN

At Delanys

Fr O'Neill's Newtownshandrum 3-14 0-3

HAVING reached the Cork county senior camogie final last year, Fr O'Neill's will be very pleased with their big win over Newtownshandrum in Delanys on Saturday evening.

Clearing the first hurdle can sometimes be difficult and with players like Caoimhe Harrington, Paula O'Connor and Ursula Troy to contend with, O'Neill's will have been wary going into this tie.

But, they were never found wanting and at the end of the first quarter, O'Neill's were in the driving seat when Fiona O'Driscoll knocked in their first goal.

One of the stars of the show at corner forward, the Cork star admitted it was a relief to have their opening game out of the way:

"It is important to get off to a good start."

Newtownshandrum tried very hard, but couldn't get their game together.

"We missed a few chances too tonight, but overall the result was satisfying."

O'Neill's led 1-10 to 0-1 at half time and Newtownshandrum were under severe strain. O'Driscoll, Siobhan Kearney, Francis Flavin and Sinead Cahalane all illustrating their qualities as point-scorers.

And when Kearney and Flavin knocked in goal number two and three, the game was ended as a contest.

Mags Finn ruled at full-back and their half back line of Anna Corcoran, Nora Ahern and Marie O'Brien contributed much to this merited win.

However, there was not much time for celebration, as O'Neill's are out again tomorrow night when they play Muskerry in the quarter-final.

This should be a much sterner test for the Ballymacoda girls.

Muskerry were totally dominant in their win first round win over Seandún.

However, the backbone of the O'Neill's side is very experienced and with Finn, Ahern and Cahalane forming the line up the middle, the campaign for that elusive county title is well on track.

FR O'NEILL'S: M. Kenneally, A. O'Neill, M. Finn, L. Sweetman, A. Corcoran, N. Ahern, S. Kearney, R. Corcoran, V. O'Sullivan, C. Flavin, S. Cahalane, F. Flavin, F. O'Driscoll, M. O'Brien, G. Kearney.

NEWTOWNSHANDRUM: C. Brown, M. Harrington, S. O'Regan, K. Hickey, P. O'Connor, T. Shanahan, A. Keane, L. Keane, U. Troy, K. Harrington, A. Mulcahy, M. O'Mahony, E. O'Mahony, O. Harrington, N. Bowles. Referee: P. Downey (Innisearra).

CAMOGIE
All-Ireland Minor A semi-finals: Derry 1-1 Cork 9-17, Wexford 2-8 Galway 4-12
All-Ireland Minor B semi-finals: Monaghan 0-0 Limerick 6-10, Offaly 8-9 Roscommon 0-0
Derry Senior Camogie final: Swatragh 1-8 Lavey 1-4

Cork camogie champions face stiff test from Derry

by Mary Newman

THE county minor camogie side make the long journey north at the weekend when they defend their crown against Ulster champions Derry.

It seems an age since the Munster title was retained against Tipperary, but with exams now over it's back to the action. Last season Cork met their toughest obstacle at the semi-final stage when they had to pull out all the stops to defeat Galway. This weekend Galway and Wexford will do battle while the Leesiders travel north.

In the Munster final, Cork totally outclassed Tipperary to record a comprehensive 8-17 to 2-11 victory, and if they can repeat that display again they should advance. Coached by John Cronin, the side has excellent performers in Denise Twomey, Emer Watson, Marie O'Neill and Noreen Mulcahy.

Sile Burns has already made her senior inter-county debut and has continued to improve with every outing. Elaine O'Riordan captains the side and will be expected to play a big role from her midfield position.

In last year's final she turned in a sterling display to be named as Player of the Match and through the campaign to date she has again shown similar qualities.

Derry again took the Ulster title and have dominated the under-age scene in the province over the last five years. In that Ulster final they had a comfortable victory over Antrim, but in the words of county secretary Shauna Turner, Sunday's game will be a different affair. "Cork are All-Ireland champions and we are well aware of the task ahead. Preparations have been going well and the team are ready. We have also won the Ulster junior crown and the game is strong in the county. We know Cork won't be easy to defeat, but we will not be overawed by the occasion and hopefully will give a good account of ourselves."

The Derry team has a nice blend of experience with the side drawing mainly from the very strong colleges, St Mary's, Magherafelt, and St Patrick's, Maghera. Among the danger players Cork will need to watch are Katie McAuley, Eilish Doherty and Shauna McDaid, all of whom are also members of the county's junior side.

Michelle McManus is another player who impressed in their Ulster final clash with Antrim and Cork will need to keep a close eye on her. The team is coached by Melinda Robinson and, with no injuries to report, they are determined to make it to the final.

With both counties' junior teams due to meet in the All-Ireland semi-final in August, the clash this weekend is important for a number of reasons.

Barrs girls odds shorten

St Finbarr's Imokilly 3-13 0-6

THE ODDS continue to shorten on St Finbarr's for the Cork County Senior Camogie Championship, writes **Therese O'Callaghan**.

At times in Carrignavar last evening, it was like going back in time to eight or 10 years ago when the Barr's was a household name in Cork camogie.

They were unblemished in a convincing quarter-final victory over determined opponents who tried hard, but lacked the cushion of an opening round game. From the fourth minute, St Finbarrs got into their stride with a sweet point from Jenny Duffy.

Elsewhere, defending county champions Cloughdun had two points to spare over Barryroe (0-11 to 2-3) and qualified for a championship semi-final spot with Fr O'Neills.

The sides were deadlocked at half time with both of the Barryroe's goals coming in the opening half from Elaine McCarthy and Carol Dineen. Cloughdun led by Stephanie Dunlea, the Corkery sisters and Una O'Donoghue held out for a place in the last four.

In the Diary

TOMORROW
All Ireland Minor A camogie championship semi-final
Derry v Cork, Lavey, 12.30pm

EVEN though it is 11 weeks since Cork won the Munster final, nothing has changed to suggest that they have rid themselves of the tag of All Ireland championship contenders. With three-quarters of last season's side in the starting line out including Cork senior, Sile Burns, they have experience in abundance. And with forwards like Emer Watson, Denise Twomey and Brieghe Corkery they should record high figures.

Derry have two senior players on their side - Katie McAuley and captain Eilish O'Doherty. McAuley is just one of many on the side from successful Ulster college St Mary's of Magherafelt. They had little difficulty disposing of Antrim in their provincial final.

Verdict: Cork

THERESE O'CALLAGHAN

Camogie

Swatragh held on to their Derry senior camogie crown after a very tense final with rivals Lavey. The decisive score came in the 19th minute of the second half when Denia McMaster took advantage of a mistake in the Lavey defence to shoot a goal.

That put the holders four points clear, and although the impressive Martina Mulholland shot her fifth point a few minutes later, Lavey just could not breach the Swatragh rearguard which was well-marshalled by captain Grainne Maguire.

Swatragh enjoyed a three-point interval lead after four points from top scorer Paula McAtamney. That, however, was cancelled out by a 36th minute goal from Helen O'Neill. But crucially Lavey failed to build on that and while a draw may have perhaps been the fairest result, McMaster's goal gives the Davitt's a third successive tilt at the Ulster title.

The Oak Leaf minors were overwhelmed by Cork earlier in the day, going down by 1-1 to 9-17, Katie McAuley (1-0) and Patricia Murray (0-1) raising the two flags for Derry, while Monaghan also took a roasting (6-10 to 0-0) to holders Limerick in the Minor B semi-final.

Swatragh scorers: Denia McMaster 1-0, Paula McAtamney 0-5, Claire McNicholl 0-1, Monica O'Kane 0-1, Grainne Maguire 0-1.

Lavey scorers: Helen O'Neill 1-0, Martina Mulholland 0-5, Paula McCloy 0-1.

Derry have no answer to Cork minors

Cork
Derry

9-17
1-1

WITHOUT experiencing much resistance, Cork qualified comfortably for the All Ireland Minor A Camogie Championship Final, brushing aside the challenge of Derry in Lavey yesterday.

Six goals in the opening half three from Emer Watson, two from Denise Twomey and one from Marie O'Neill, helped Cork enjoy a 6-8 to no score interval lead. On the resumption, there was no let up from Cork who stretched

their advantage with a point from Emer Watson and a Denise Twomey goal before Kate McAuley had the home side's opening score a point in the sixth minute.

However, Cork continued to dominate and pile on the pressure with further scores from Emer Watson, Noreen Mulcahy and Elaine O'Riordan, before a late Patricia Murray goal for Derry. Substitute Marion Murphy had two goals for Cork to ensure their safe passage long before the final whistle.

Scorers for Cork: E. Watson 2-7, M. O'Neill 2-5, D.

Twomey 3-1, M. Murphy 2-0, E. O'Riordan 0-2, B. Corkery, N. Mulcahy 0-1 each.

Derry: P. Murray 1-0, K. McAuley 0-1.

CORK: V. McCormack: E. Waters, S. Burns, L. Healy, A. Geary, C. Foley, M. Nyhan, R. Buckley, N. Mulcahy, B. Corkery, M. O'Neill, E. O'Riordan, D. Twomey, E. Watson, M. Coleman. Subs: C. Myers for A. Geary, P. O'Sullivan for B. Corkery, S. Downing for R. Buckley, J. Sheehy for D. Twomey, M. Murphy for E. Watson.

DERRY: S. Henry: L. Glass, S. McDaid, M. McMahon, K. McAuley, J. O'Kane, E. O'Doherty, M. Bradley, K. McCloskar, G. McDermott, P. Murray, J. McGuckin, D. McIvor, C. McDonnell, C. Foran.

Referee: A. Woods (Armagh).

A mauling for Monaghan

Limerick
Monaghan

6-10
0-0

IMPRESSIVE Limerick had little difficulty in disposing of the Monaghan challenge in the All Ireland minor B camogie championship semi-final at St Mellan's Park yesterday, and 12 months after collecting their first national title at this level they are again back in contention against Offaly on August 4.

The gap in standards was apparent as Limerick romped to a 3-4 to 0-0 lead after 30

minutes.

Once Lisa Kiely from Granagh/Ballingarry shot their opening point inside the first minute and Emer Barrett and Kelly banged home a pair of goals, the signs were ominous as they stole into a 2-1 lead after five minutes.

A third goal from Kelly, and Limerick were well on their way to booking their place in the final.

Sinead McAuliffe was in tremendous form on the wing, scoring six points, and when Shannon Brosnan and sub Roisin Brudair (two) completed the goal scoring in

the second half, thoughts could turn to Offaly, who beat Roscommon by a big score in their semi-final on Saturday.

Scorers Limerick: L. Kelly 2-1, R. Brudair 2-0, S. McAuliffe 0-6, S. Brosnan 1-1, E. Barrett 1-0, F. Morrissey and C. Mulcahy 0-1 each.

LIMERICK: S. O'Donnell: F. Chawke, S. O'Mahony, J. White, F. Geary, C. Mulcahy (capt), F. Hickey, N. Heffernan, S. Brosnan, S. McAuliffe, C. O'Shea, C. Carroll, F. Morrissey, E. Barrett, L. Kelly.

Subs: J. Garvey for C. Carroll, R. Brudair for E. Barrett, S. Hayes for L. Kelly.

MONAGHAN: R. McKenna, M. McCarren, E. Burns, S. Leonard, C. McQuillan, J. Fitzpatrick, T. McGeaney, H. Hughes, C. Mason, A. Kerr, S. McGahon, L. Hughes, M. McElroy, M. Greenan, C. McGannon. Subs: B. McGahon for M. McCarren. Referee: E. Hamill (Down).

Cork sweep Derry aside

Cork
Derry

9-17
1-1

REIGNING champions Cork had little difficulty in seeing off the challenge of a disappointing Derry side in the All-Ireland minor A camogie championship semi-final at Lavey yesterday.

Having won the northern final quite easily much was expected of the Oak Leaf County. However, they had no answer to the powerful Cork forwards who tore them apart, showing no mercy, the Munster kingpins ran riot with Emer Watson and Denise Twomey scoring a hat-trick of goals each - five of these came in the opening half.

As in her many other displays in a Cork shirt, Briege Corkery from the Cloughduv club was the star of the show. Playing at wing-forward her surging runs on goal caused endless headaches for the Derry defence and also allowed the inside attack line of Watson and Twomey to create havoc. Their dominance was never threatened with further goals from Marie O'Neill and two from substitute Marion Murphy.

Katie McAuley was by far the best player for Derry, but when she was switched from centre back to full back, O'Neill came into her own on the '40. Cork always looked the part of champions thanks to a brilliant all-round display, but if one has to be negative about any aspect of this huge win, it would be the fact that the Leesiders have not had a competitive game going into the All Ireland final and have not yet been tested.

They had everything their own way against Limerick, and then Tipperary in the Munster.



ON TARGET: Emer Watson bagged a hat-trick for Cork.

And now this latest mauling of the Oak Leaf county sets them up with a final date against Galway on August 4, and one thing for certain is that Galway will be no pushover with many of last season's side that stretched the Leesiders to a one-point victory in the semi-final.

Cork: E. Watson 3-6, D. Twomey 3-2, M. O'Neill 1-4, M. Murphy 2-0, E. O'Riordan and N. Mulcahy 0-2 each, M.

Coleman 0-1. Derry: S. Cassidy 1-0, K. McAuley 0-1.

CORK: V. McCormack: E. Waters, S. Burns, L. Healy, A. Geary, C. Foley, M. Nyhan, R. Buckley, N. Mulcahy, B. Corkery, M. O'Neill, E. O'Riordan (capt), E. Watson, D. Twomey, M. Coleman.

Subs: P. O'Sullivan for A. Geary, J. Sheehy for B. Corkery, C. Myers for D. Twomey, M. Murphy for E. Watson, S. Downing for R. Buckley.

DERRY: S. Henry: Laura Glass, S. McDaid, M. McMahon, K. Lavery, K. McAuley, J. O'Kane, E. O'Doherty (capt), M. Bradley, S. Cassidy, Lorraine Glass, K. McCloskar, S. McDermott, T. Murray, G. McGuckin.

Senior camogie team host Dubs in Qualifier

John Furlong

WEXFORD HOST Dublin in the Foras na Gaeilge All-Ireland senior camogie Qualifier on Sunday next at 2.30p.m., at a venue to be confirmed.

Wexford's last outing was against the recently crowned National Senior League champions Galway, who led 3-9 to 0-1 at half-time before eventually winning on a 3-9 to 1-5 scoreline, to secure their place in the quarter-finals.

The Wexford preparations have not been ideal, as the county senior championships have been played over recent weeks, with most teams playing two games, and some three. Thankfully all the Wexford players have emerged from these games uninjured.

Wexford will, however, be without the services of Bridget Curran (St. Ibar's), who is recovering from an appendix operation.

But they will be boosted by the return of her club mate Sandy Carr to the scene, with Colleen Atkinson of Oulart-The Ballagh also joining the panel.

Wexford (SC panel versus Dublin): Margaret Darcy (St. Martin's), Claire O'Connor (Rathnure), Avis Nolan (Monageer-Boolevogue), Bernie Holohan (Rathnure), Catherine O'Loughlin (Monageer-Boolevogue), Aine Codd (St. Martin's), Ashling Moran (Oulart-The Ballagh), Mary Leacy (Oulart-The Ballagh), Orla Hernan (Monageer-Boolevogue), Michelle O'Leary (Rathnure), Paula Rankin (Buncloody), Evelyn Quigley (Rathnure), Ursula Jacob (Oulart-The Ballagh), Kate Kelly (St. Ibar's, capt.), Mag Kelly (St. Ibar's), Colleen Atkinson (Oulart-The Ballagh), Sandy Carr (St. Ibar's), Michelle Hearne (St. Ibar's), Tina Bergin (St. Martin's), Elaine Holohan (Rathnure), Aoife O'Connor (Duffry Rovers), Emma Carroll (St. Ibar's), Aoife O'Connor (Rathnure).

Ballygarvan on fire as they book a last four spot

Ballygarvan
Newcestown

0-19
1-6

By MARY NEWMAN
Camogie

BALLYGARVAN made it through to the last four as the action continued in the senior B championship in Bandon.

Despite nine of their squad being involved with Carrighoun in a thrilling senior county championship clash with Inniscarra the previous Tuesday, Ballygarvan were firing on all cylinders for this tie.

Inside the opening quarter they opened up a five point lead thanks to points from Deirdre Daly, Emer Dillon and Sarah O'Donovan, before Colette Desmond opened Newcestown's account with a point.

Three more points without reply saw Ballygarvan stretch their advantage further and at this stage they looked set to dominate.

Newcestown continued to work hard and notched up three points from Una Crowley, Colette Desmond and Suzanne Deasy inside the closing six minutes to leave Ballygarvan ahead 0-8 to 0-4 at the break.

Ballygarvan again stretched their advantage with two points before Colette Desmond, with a blistering solo

run, outsmarted the Ballygarvan defence to finish to the net.

Now just a goal separated the sides and it was all to play for.

Desmond and O'Donovan exchanged points but Ballygarvan, with Catriona Kelly and Dillon dominating, began to wear down the Newcestown challenge.

Striking nine points without reply in the closing quarter, they comfortably advanced and on their display will have installed themselves as favourites to lift the title.

They now meet Valley Rovers in an all-Carrighoun semi-final, while Milford and Kilbrittain will contest the other semi-final.

Meanwhile, in the junior A championship Douglas advanced comfortably to a semi-final meeting with Carrigaline at the expense of Glen Rovers, whom they beat 5-10 to 0-0.

Amanda O'Regan made her return to club action. She was joined by the experienced Mary Maher, Clare Barry and Fiona O'Donovan as her side made it through against a very young Glen side who despite losing out comprehensively, never gave up.

Cats top billing over Sister Act

Maire Uí Scolai

THREE English born sisters, Annie, Claire and Geraldine Boxwell will this weekend be trying to overcome Kilkenny in the All-Ireland Junior championship quarter-final in Ruislip.

Managed by former Galway hurler Paddy Carr, London will be relying on the skills of former Tipp All-Ireland junior medal holder Ann Gleeson as well as Bronwen Keeshan who also wore the blue and gold.

London, who have found the going tough in the last

number of years, will have it all to do to keep this Kilkenny side at bay. Many of the Cats have gained much experience this season having played National League with the seniors.

Managed by Ann Downey she will be hoping that goalkeeper Caitriona Ryan is inspired and that Jackie Frisby continues her scoring run.

Reactions will be mixed for Kilkenny-born Brigid Alyward, Jean Murphy and Claire Burke as they attempt to overcome their native county.

Polished performers
make light work of
rivals to reach final

Cork
Derry 9-17
1-1

DESPITE the long journey north All Ireland minor champions Cork comfortably defeated hosts Derry to book their place in the All-Ireland decider, where they will meet Galway, who defeated Wexford on Saturday last.

Cork controlled matters from the throw in, with Denise Twomey opening the scoring with a point. The game's opening goal came from Emer Watson, and thanks to points from Marie O'Neill and Watson again, Cork further stretched their lead. Dominant in all sectors, they increased their advantage before the break with goals from Marie O'Neill, Denise Twomey and Emer Watson to lead at the break 6-8 to no score.

Derry overall simply failed to match the more skilful Cork players.

Despite Patricia Murray grabbing a Derry goal Cork continued to increase their tally and ensured their passage to the final against Galway long before the final whistle blew.

Cork forwards were always in control against Ulster champions Derry in the All Ireland Minor Championship Semi final in perfect conditions in Lavey, Co Derry yesterday. Emer Watson (Milford) taking a cross from Denise Twomey (St Catherine's) opened the scoring with a point in the third minute. The ubiquitous Watson took a pass from Denise Twomey to goal seven minutes later. Marie O'Neill (Watergrasshill) added 2 points and Watson a goal.



Cork's captain Una O'Donoghue racing away from Limerick's Pauline McCarthy during the All Ireland senior camogie championship at Parc uí Rinn. Picture: Richard Mills.

Conquering Cork steamroll Derry



Cork's Elaine Burke rounding Limerick's Meadhbh Nash and Eileen O'Brien.

Derry moved star Katie McAuley from centre back to full back in a

bid to stop the constant Cork onslaught. But Briege Corkery (Cloughdun), player of the match, then came into her own in delivering quality passes to other forwards who put 6-8 on the board by half time without reply.

Meanwhile Cork backs Anna Geary (Milford), Catriona Foley and Sheila Burns (both Rockban) dealt comfortably with the little which came their way.

Derry put in a better second half with a point from Katie McAuley in the fifth minute and a super goal from Sinead Cassidy soon after. But Cork's forwards were unstoppable. Cork meet Galway in the all Ireland Final in two weeks.

Cloughdun triumph after true trial

Cloughdun
Barryroe 0-11
2-3

ALTHOUGH they possessed the greater scoring power, defending champions Cloughdun still had to undergo a fierce trial before finally sealing victory in this recent county senior camogie county quarter-final.

On a beautifully manicured Ballinacorney pitch bathed in real summer sunshine, the winners were rocked by a brace of first half goals from Barryroe in a contest where the teams went in at the break on level terms. The third quarter contained numerous highlights but no scores before a Stephanie Dunlea '45 eased the champions back into the lead. This was extended by a Breege Corkery point but there was to be little respite for Cloughdun who defended magnificently in the closing minutes to keep on course for back to back titles.

To say they were made earn this victory would be an understatement as Barryroe fought passionately to

lower their colours. They struck for a morale-boosting goal early on when Rosemary Dineen first timed to the winner's net after just six minutes of play and with Rosalie Holland excelling in defence the losers fought valiantly to stay in front. Sinead Corkery, Stephanie Dunlea, Marie Corkery and team captain, Una O'Donoghue were to the fore as Cloughdun rallied. They were back on terms by the 11th minute but soon after Elaine McCarthy, following good play from the industrious Marie Moloney crashed home an unstoppable second goal for the losers.

For the remaining 13 minutes of the half the exchanges were fierce as Cloughdun, who had a goal disallowed, battled back to parity with points from Una O'Donoghue (two) and Catherine Corkery before the latter hit the target again to ease the winners back in front. In stepped Geraldine Collins to strike a brace of Barryroe points in a frantic finish to the opening half that ended with

Una O'Donoghue pointing again to enable Cloughdun draw level just on halftime. For fifteen minutes after the break both teams laboured to score against splendidly organised defences where respective goalkeepers, Cora Keohane (Barryroe) and Aoife Murray (Cloughdun) performed heroics to keep their goals intact. Stephanie Dunlea finally broke the deadlock with a point from a '45 as the game entered the last quarter where the industry of Breege Corkery and Jean Lucey were vital to a Cloughdun cause that just prevailed against a gallant Barryroe.

Cloughdun: A Murray, J Lynch, O O'Callaghan, S Corkery, J O'Callaghan, S Dunlea (0-3, 0-2 free), O McCarthy, M Corkery, S Buckley, J Lucey, U O'Donoghue (0-4), A Buckley, B Corkery (0-1), C Corkery (0-3), C Cronin.

Barryroe: C Keohane, E Carroll, R Holland, M Sheehy, P Moloney, A M Fleming, E O'Regan, K McCarthy, J Dineen, R Dineen (1-0), G Collins (0-2), C Dineen, M Moloney, E McCarthy, (1-0), J O'Leary (0-1 free).

Referee: John Desmond (Bandon)

See also Page 25

Perfect blend: Cork and Barry's!

By MARY NEWMAN
Camogie

LAST weekend the Cork minor camogie team made the long journey to Derry to contest the All Ireland minor semi-final. In a game which was dominated by Cork from start to finish, the Rebels qualified with ease for a final meeting with Galway, to be played on August bank holiday weekend.

On the same weekend the county senior team travel to Antrim where they will contest the senior quarter-final and if successful they will again travel for the All-Ireland semi final at a neutral venue to be announced.

The junior team took Munster Championship honours recently, defeating Tipperary, and will travel to Derry in the All Ireland Junior semi final on August 24. At any time the expense involved in taking a team north is high, but when an organisation is faced with three journeys in the space of six weeks the implications are enormous.

County chairperson Sile Golden said: "The financial headache is enormous but we are hopeful that we will be able to pick up sponsorship. Last weekend our minor team received a huge boost when Barry's Tea generously came on board to sponsor their trip north."

"With the growing amount of publicity the game is receiving the potential benefit to a sponsor is enormous and I am hopeful that even at this stage somebody will come on board."

O'Neills out for revenge

By THERESA O'CALLAGHAN
Camogie latest

IT'S all systems go this evening in Ballinlough as Fr O'Neills and Cloughdun come face to face in the Cork County senior camogie championship semi-final.

Nothing too unusual about this tie you might say, but for O'Neills it is the clash they have been waiting for since last year's final defeat at the hands of the same opposition.

Yes, for the Ballymacoda side it is payback time and, with an impressive championship trail to look back on so far this season, they will certainly be fired up for this one.

Fiona O'Driscoll has soldiered with the club through thick and thin and one can almost sense her caution when speaking about the game: "Any championship game is an opportunity to show what you can do."

"As far as we are concerned last year is history and we are concentrating totally on the job we have to do tonight."

"Pressure - no we don't feel pressure, if anything Cloughdun will feel the strain."

"They are the favourites and have their title to defend. As far as we are concerned, we are raring to go and are looking forward to the game."

O'Neills, despite what they may say, will be under a certain amount of pressure.

They have come out on the wrong side each time these sides have met over the last few years.

But, they have regrouped sufficiently and with Ger Manley taking over the coaching job, appear to be ready for another tilt at the title.

Meanwhile, defending champions Cloughdun make no secret of the fact that they are not motoring well and have barely pulled through their two games.

Paudie Murray, joint trainer with Tim Barry Murphy, acknowledges the fact that his side will have to improve considerably if they are to hold on to the pot of gold:

"Struggling is the only word for it," he says when speaking of their current form.

"We are missing our whole full-forward line from last year - Emer Murray, Clare O'Donoghue and Lynn Dunlea, so we are very stretched when it comes to picking a team."

"We had very little done for the Carbery game and then we upped a gear for Barryroe - both times just scraping through."

"Fr O'Neills will definitely feel they owe us one and will be pretty determined opposition. They will also be anxious to prove themselves this year, as for us I think we will be quite relaxed."

Can the Barrs keep run going?

THE PAIRING of St Finbarr's and Carrigdhoun in tomorrow evening's Cork County senior camogie championship semi-final at Ballinacorney is unique - remarkable for the fact that the Barrs are contesting the penultimate stage in their first year back up at the highest grade, writes THERESA O'CALLAGHAN.

So, can they continue on their winning ways - according to selector Marion McCarthy they will give it one hell of a go:

"We are delighted to be doing so well seeing as it is our first time in a while in the A championship."

"The girls are flying and are very relaxed about the game. We know we have performed very well so far in the championship but also realise that the competition is getting stronger."



"Having done well to date, we are dying to have a crack at this game. We do realise, though, that we are up against it."

"Carrigdhoun are strong in all sectors, but with a bit of luck, things might swing our way."

Whatever, the outcome, St Fin-

barr's can be assured that they have flown the Blues flag high this year and have established themselves up there with the best.

Meanwhile, down in the south east, are Carrigdhoun on the count down to something big?

They certainly have the goods -

whether they deliver is entirely up to how they react to the challenge. They too will be aware that this is where they departed the scene 12 months ago - selector Jack McGrath is optimistic:

"The four teams left at this stage are the best in the county and have to be given high regard."

"We have had three hard games which should stand to us. The Barrs, despite weak opposition, still look impressive and are a confident side. They have worked hard to get where they are in the A competition."

"As for us, I would still like to think that we are strong enough to progress."

"We bowed out at this stage last year, hopefully we can go a step further - and then maybe another step further!" he said.

In the Diary

TONIGHT
Cork County senior camogie championship semi-final
Fr O'Neill's v Cloughdun (holders)
Ballinlough, 7.45pm

THESE two teams who will be highly motivated for different reasons, O'Neill's because they have to make amends, and Cloughdun because they are the champions.

O'Neill's have not had much luck over the past few championship seasons and will carry a huge sympathy vote going into this evening's clash. However, as well as compassion, they will also need the likes of Fiona O'Driscoll, Nora Ahern, Liz Sweetman, Mary Kennefick and Sinead Cahalane performing.

Meanwhile, Cloughdun's form has dipped this year. They will look to Stephanie Dunlea, the Corkerys, the O'Callaghans, Una O'Donoghue and Aoife Murray.

Verdict: Fr O'Neill's.
THERESA O'CALLAGHAN

Dunlea's accuracy telling factor as Cloughduv tame dogged O'Neills

Cloughduv 1-11
Fr O'Neills 1-6

by Mary Newman

CORK COUNTY camogie champions Cloughduv had to battle against a tenacious Fr O'Neill's side before advancing.

The accuracy of superb centre-back Stephanie Dunlea, who notched up six points of her side's score, was a telling factor.

O'Neills got the better start, with Frances Flavin goaling in the first minute. With Flavin and Fiona O'Driscoll adding points, O'Neills had opened up a five-point gap before Dunlea and Breege Corkery got the Cloughduv challenge off the ground.

Playing with confidence, O'Neills continued to stretch their advantage, with more points from Flavin and O'Driscoll, but the accuracy of Dunlea kept Cloughduv in touch as she pro-

duced a pointed '45. Four minutes from the interval, Cloughduv got the break they so desperately sought when Una O'Donoghue outpaced the O'Neills defence and finished superbly to the net. This left just a point separating the sides at the break, 1-4 to 1-3.

Corkery had it level again inside a minute of the restart, but O'Neills held their advantage with a Sinead Cahalane point three minutes later. Cloughduv, with their midfielders beginning to get a firm grip and their defence tightening up, began to enjoy their best spell.

Five points without reply from Dunlea, O'Donoghue and Catherine Corkery saw them open up a 1-9 to 1-5 advantage, but O'Neills fought back with an O'Driscoll free to cut it back to three.

Dunlea replied with a pointed free for Cloughduv, then in the closing five minutes, O'Neills applied the pressure. Aoife Murray was forced to bring off

two superb saves in the Cloughduv goal as they weathered the onslaught, and fittingly, it was Dunlea with a pointed free who again stretched Cloughduv's advantage to see them safely through.

Scorers: Cloughduv: S. Dunlea 0-6 (freest), U. O'Donoghue 1-2, B. Corkery 0-2, C. Corkery 0-1.

Fr O'Neills: F. Flavin 1-2, F. O'Driscoll 0-3 (0-1 free), S. Cahalane 0-1.

Cloughduv: A. Murray, C. Cronin, O. O'Callaghan, S. Corkery, J. O'Callaghan, S. Dunlea, C. Corkery, O. McCarthy, M. Corkery, G. Lucey, B. Corkery, S. Buckley, A. Buckley, U. O'Donoghue (Capt.), J. Lynch, Subs. Z. McDonnell for A. Buckley, E. Murray for C. Cronin.

Fr O'Neills: M. Kenniffick, A. O'Neill, M. Finn, L. Sweetnam (Capt.), A. Corcoran, N. Ahern, S. Kearney, R. Corcoran, V. O'Sullivan, C. Flavin, F. O'Driscoll, S. Cahalane, M. O'Brien, F. Flavin, G. Kearney.

Subs: K. O'Sullivan for S. Kearney, C. O'Leary for M. O'Brien.

Referee: P. Downey (Inniscearra).

In the Diary

TONIGHT

Cork County Senior Camogie Championship semi-final

Carrigdhoun v St Finbarrs
Ballincollig, 7.45pm

THE Barrs will start as underdogs but will in no way be fazed by the task. With players of the calibre of Ellen Clifford, captain Lynda O'Connell, the Mahers and Orla O'Sullivan in their ranks they will hold no fears.

Carrigdhoun got to this stage last year and will have learned from the experience. They have quality players in Jennifer Brown, Sarah O'Donovan, Catriona Kelly, Liz Bugler, Marion Jagoe and Cork stars Emer Dillon and Elaine Burke.

Verdict: Carrigdhoun.

THERESE O'CALLAGHAN

Gutsy Cloughduv defend their title with a hard-fought win over gallant Fr O'Neills

O'Donoghue's goal a right tonic for the title holders

Cloughduv 1-11
Fr O'Neills 1-6

Cloughduv are the reigning Cork County Senior Camogie champions for a reason — they never give up.

Last evening at Ballinlough, in this year's semi-final, they turned in a marvellous second-half display to glide past the unfortunate Fr O'Neills.

Unlucky, unsuccessful or unhappy — call it what you want, but for this O'Neill's side this was the ultimate blow as they strove yet again to take the blue riband of camogie to east Cork.

In the previous five years, the gods have deserted them as they have bowed out either at the penultimate or ultimate stage.

But, no denying, this triumph for Cloughduv was one of the sweetest, as up to now they had shown no signs of repeating last season's first title.

"It was the best display so far this year," said mentor, Tim Barry



I'M AWAY: Cloughduv's Jean Lucey about to skip clear of the Fr O'Neills cover.

Picture: Gerard McCarthy

Murphy.

"We upped the tempo considerably in the second half and it is great to be back in the final again.

"Hopefully now we can improve further for the final."

O'Neills managed a return of just two points in the second half having reached half way a point ahead.

By THERESE O'CALLAGHAN
Cork senior camogie

It looked at this stage anybody's game. But with Joanne O'Callaghan having a great tussle with Fiona O'Driscoll, the advantage began to swing in the champion's favour.

Cloughduv had the blessing of a Una O'Donoghue

minutes before the interval. In reply to an earlier goal from the hard working Francis Flavin.

But, the Mid Cork side came out for the second period with all guns blazing — the scale of which can be measured by their eight-point return against two for O'Neills.

The title-holders won many of the battles throughout the field.



BATTLE: Breege Corkery, Cloughduv, and Roisin Corcoran, Fr O'Neills, battle for possession.

Picture: Gerard McCarthy

Breege Corkery was a ubiquitous figure around the park and her levelling point a minute after the restart summonsed the great fight back.

That, along with some great free taking from Stephanie Dunlea at centre-back, was the main reason for the Cloughduv victory.

The O'Neill's back-line was resolute throughout and Mary Kenniffick was terrific in goals, but they found it extremely difficult to deal with the Corkery and O'Donoghue threat.

Ten minutes from time they were still in with a shout, but with Orla McCarthy and Dunlea hurling at their best, the Ballymacoda side just could not overturn the victor's supremacy.

For O'Neills, the consolations will be few. But for Cloughduv, they look set to once again reach the heights of last summer.

Scorers: Cloughduv: U. O'Donoghue 1-2, S. Dunlea 0-6 (freest), B. Corkery 0-2, C. Corkery 0-1.

Fr O'Neills: F. Flavin 1-2, F. O'Driscoll 0-3 (0-1 free), S. Cahalane 0-1.

Subs: Z. McDonnell for A. Buckley (47 mins), E. Murray for C. Cronin (50 mins).

Cloughduv: A. Murray, J. O'Callaghan, O. O'Callaghan, S. Corkery, O. McCarthy, S. Dunlea, J. Lynch, M. Corkery, S. Buckley, A. Buckley, U. O'Donoghue (capt), B. Corkery, C. Cronin, C. Corkery, B. Corkery.

Fr O'Neills: M. Kenniffick, A. O'Neill, M. Finn, L. Sweetnam (capt), A. Corcoran, N. Ahern, M. O'Brien, R. Corcoran, V. O'Sullivan, C. Flavin, S. Cahalane, S. Kearney, F. O'Driscoll, F. Flavin, G. Kearney.

Subs: K. O'Sullivan for G. Kearney (45 mins), C. O'Leary for M. O'Brien (52 mins).

Referee: P. Downey (Inniscearra).

Cloughdov girls win a thriller

Reached semi-final

By Derry Farr

Cloughdov 0-11
Barryroe 2-3

CAMOGIE doesn't often arrive on the doorstep of West Cork sports followers but when it does, it inevitably provides tremendous entertainment. This recent county senior quarter final was no exception as two splendidly tuned sides battled it out on a Ballineen surface that lent itself to top class fare.

The ballerinas of hurling, from two strong clubs, were involved in a tremendous tussle where the goal-poaching skills of the losers provided a constant threat to defending champions, Cloughdov. In the end, the title holders prevailed because of their ability to take their points in a contest where they began with team captain, Una O'Donoghue slipping over a third minute point off the hurley of Cloughdov 'keeper, Aoife Murray.

This score heralded a tension-packed affair in which Barryroe were attempting to dethrone the opposition and deployed their forces in a manner they thought best suited to keep their opponents at bay. The decision to play regular centre back, Rosalie Holland on the edge of the square certainly paid off as she played superbly throughout.

The experienced Mary Sheehy along with Ellen Carroll completed a Barryroe full line that didn't give an inch all through a game where the light blues received a tremendous boost after just six minutes of play. When Jennifer O'Leary floated in a free the elusive, Rosemary Dineen ghosted inside the Cloughdov defence and, having been thwarted at the first attempt, first timed the rebound to the winners' net. This score inspired Barryroe to play out of their skins as team captain, Karen McCarthy, together with Isla Dineen, won their share of the spoils in a midfield area where only the toughest survived.

ON TERMS

Fittingly, it was team captain, Una O'Donoghue who lifted Cloughdov and with Stephanie Dunlea keeping Barryroe wonder, Geraldine Collins temporarily under wraps, the winners were soon back on terms. Marie Corkery drove them on from midfield as Stephanie Dunlea picked up a returned free to score their second point after seven minutes of non-stop action.

Soon after, Ms Dunlea converted a free to bring her side back on terms before, Joanne O'Callaghan displayed superb defensive skills to rob Geraldine Collins as Barryroe rallied once more. There was no stopping the light blues at this stage as Patricia Moloney, Ann Marie Fleming and Eimear O'Regan hurled commandingly in their half back division. Seventeen minutes after the start, the losers were revived by a splendidly struck Elaine

McCarthy goal that gave Aoife Murray no chance in the Cloughdov goal.

This score was set up by the, busy as a bee, Marie Moloney who was causing problems for the winners before they reshuffled their forces in their full back division. With Sinead Corkery switching to fullback, where she distinguished herself with some magnificent defensive play, and Orla O'Callaghan benefiting from her move to the wing, the winners got it right as they rallied once more.

Catherine Corkery swung over a splendid point before Cloughdov had a goal disallowed in the 23rd minute. Ciara Cronin finished off a good move involving, Breege Corkery and Aoife Buckley, but was penalised because of a square infringement. Undaunted Ms Cronin then set up Una O'Donoghue point to bring Cloughdov level with six minutes remaining in a first half that still contained plenty of dramatics as another Catherine Corkery point put the winners back in front. Geraldine Collins, now on the wing, finally broke free of Stephanie Dunlea's shackles to flight over a brace of superb points and Barryroe restored a short lived lead as a Una O'Donoghue point enabled Cloughdov retire at half time on level terms.

RATTLED

On the resumption, the tone was set as Catherine Corkery, now at centre forward, rattled a shot against the butt of the loser's post while Geraldine Collins ran through the winner's defence only to finish weakly. All this inside a minute of the resumption to a closing half where the switch of Breege Corkery to midfield was to pay rich dividends for the winners.

Although there was no scoring during the third quarter it was noticeable that Jean Lucey was beginning to make a significant impression on the right wing of the winners attack. Also making significant impressions were the respective goalkeepers with Cora Keohane showing her class as she saved from Una O'Donoghue and then enlisting the aid of a defender to clear from Marie Corkery.

At the other end, Aoife Murray did well to keep out a stinging Isla Dineen effort as the play swung from end to end before a forty fifth Stephanie Dunlea '45 broke the deadlock. Then Jean Lucey created the opening for Breege Corkery to extend the winners' lead leaving Barryroe to reshuffle their forces in an effort to get involved once more. They switched Jennifer O'Leary to full forward and she pointed a free to narrow the gap to the minimum with five minutes remaining.

The Dineen sisters along with new centre forward, Elaine McCarthy, continued to contribute to a Barryroe cause that remained vibrant to the finish as Rosalie Holland continued to inspire with some magnificent defensive play. With Jamie Lynch on the wing



Karen McCarthy, captain of Barryroe, on left along with Una O'Donoghue, captain of Cloughdov, and referee, John Desmond, Bandon, prior to the recent county camogie senior quarter final championship encounter at Ballineen.

and Orla O'Callaghan along with Joanne O'Callaghan all lifting their game Cloughdov defended superbly as Barryroe threw everything into attack in the last few minutes.

At this stage, Breege Corkery was everywhere for the winners as Aoife Buckley and Ciara Cronin ran at the opposing defence that was pierced for a final time when the outstanding Catherine Corkery

extended the winners lead with three minutes remaining. Despite a late flourish, Barryroe had to give best to the champions who hurled defiantly to stay in a championship where they were made earn their semi-final passage.

Cloughdov: A Murray, J Lynch, O O'Callaghan, S Corkery, J O'Callaghan, S Dunlea (0-3, 0-2 frees), O McCarthy, M Corkery, S Buckley, J Lucey, U

O'Donoghue (0-4), A Buckley, B Corkery (0-1), C Corkery (0-3), C Cronin.

Barryroe: C Keohane, E Carroll, R Holland, M Sheehy, P Moloney, A M Fleming, E O'Regan, K McCarthy, I Dineen, R Dineen (1-0), G Collins (0-2), C Dineen, M Moloney, E McCarthy, (1-0), J O'Leary (0-1 free).

Referee: John Desmond (Bandon)

Carrigdhoun shade it

Carrigdhoun.....2-11
Inniscarra2-10

Carrigdhoun claimed a semi-final slot in the Cork county senior camogie championship at Ovens last week, when their ace freetaker Catriona Kelly converted two frees in added time to deny a gallant Inniscarra side, which on the general run of play, probably deserved a share of the spoils.

The Mid Cork girls held sway for a good part of the first half. They started well, with points from Criona Harte, before Carrigdhoun gradually got to grips with the game. Points from Catriona Kelly and Mairead Holland and a Sarah O'Donovan goal gave the South East girls a 1-3 to 0-3 lead after 13 minutes.

But Inniscarra again hit a purple patch, with goals from Irene O'Keefe and Margaret McCarthy and points from Criona Harte and Treasa McCarthy to scorch into a 2-6 to 1-3 lead at the 20 minute mark, and despite some excellent scores from Emer Dillon and Sarah O'Donovan, the Muskerry club still held sway at the break, as they led by 2-6 to 1-6.

Inniscarra again re-started in flying fashion and with further scores from Criona Harte and Margaret McCarthy they had extended their lead after 40 minutes by 2-9 to 1-6.

ON TOP

In order to combat Inniscarra's dominance at midfield, where Criona Harte was totally on top, Carrigdhoun switched Catriona Kelly to that area and it had an almost immediate effect.

She converted two frees and after Irene O'Keefe and Emer Dillon had exchanged scores by the 50th minute, Carrigdhoun's substitute Muireann Conlon was alert when she finished to

the net, after Catriona Kelly's shot had rebounded off the upright and into her path. That made it 2-10 to 2-9 and the pressure was now being pressed home by the Carrigdhoun girls, who forced a close-in free, which Kelly converted to level the match as the clock ticked over into added time and a draw looked odds on.

But the drama continued as both sides battled out an exciting end to an excellent game. Then Carrigdhoun were awarded another free. This time on the half way line out the wing. Up stepped Catriona Kelly and with all her coolness and skill she struck the sliotar sweetly between the posts to send her side into the county semi-final and so the Carrigdhoun camogie machine rolls on. But one has to spare a thought for the Inniscarra side who contributed wonderfully to another great game of camogie.

Scorers - Carrigdhoun: C. Kelly 0-4, S. O'Donovan 1-1, E. Dillon 0-3, M. Conlon 1-0, M. Holland 0-1. **Inniscarra:** C. Harte 0-6, I. O'Keefe 1-2, M. McCarthy 1-1 and T. McCarthy 0-1.

Carrigdhoun: A. Kiely, Carrigaline, M. Hurley, Valley Rovers, J. Brown, Ballygarvan, D. Fleming, Ballinhassig, A. O'Neill, Ballygarvan, E. Burke, Valley Rovers, S.A. O'Halloran, Ballygarvan, E. Dillon, Ballygarvan, E. Bugler, Valley Rovers, M. Jagoe, Tracton, C. Kelly, Ballygarvan, M. McCarthy, Valley Rovers, A. Murphy, Ballygarvan, S. O'Donovan, Ballygarvan, M. Holland, Ballinhassig, captain. Subs, D. Daly for M. McCarthy, M. Conlon for M. Holland.

Inniscarra: G. Casey, captain, E. Dineen, E. O'Mahony, M. O'Sullivan, T. Murphy, M. O'Sullivan, M. O'Regan, R. Buckley, C. Harte, M. McCarthy, P. Goggins, I. O'Keefe, G. O'Mahony, A. Golden, T. McCarthy. Subs, E. Hayes for A. Golden, M. Lynch for G. O'Mahony.

Referee, B. Joyce, Killoagh.

— Carrigdhoun



Linda McCarthy, who's hoping to lead her Douglas camogie team to victory at the national finals of the Community Games in Mosney this month. Pictures: Mike English

July

2002



Defending champions, Cloughduv, who defeated, Barryroe, in the recent quarter final of the county senior camogie championship, played in Ballineen.



The Barryroe team that lost narrowly to Cloughduv in the recent quarter final of the county camogie senior championship.

July
2002

O'Sullivan shines as Barrs win place in final

St Finbarr's
Carrigdhoun

0-18
2-9

by Mary Newman

A SPIRITED performance from St Finbarr's saw them qualify for the Cork County senior camogie championship final, helped in no small way by their tremendous second half display and the excellence of Orla O'Sullivan who contributed 11 points.

The divisional side got the dream start with two goals inside the opening

five minutes from Sarah O'Donovan. Points from O'Donovan and Catriona Kelly had Carrigdhoun 2-2 to 0-2 ahead at the midway stage.

Holding their nerve, the Barrs settled and five points, four from O'Sullivan and one from Valerie Maher had them back to within a point.

It was 2-5 to 0-8 in favour of Carrigdhoun at the break but from the restart it was all St Finbarr's.

O'Sullivan's accuracy was telling as she pointed a free with 10 minutes remaining and with Valerie Maher doing

likewise from play two minutes later Barrs were again in control.

Elaine Burke and O'Sullivan exchanged points from play and there followed sustained Carrigdhoun pressure as they sought an equaliser.

But the Barrs defence, with Claire Harrington, Linda O'Connell and Deirdre Clarke superb, weathered the storm to deservingly qualify for a county final meeting with Cloughduv.

Scorers for St Finbarr's: O. O'Sullivan (0-12, 0-8 frees, 0-2 45s), V. Maher (0-3), R. Myers (0-1), Claire Kirby (0-1), B. Maher (0-1).

Cloughduv: S. O'Donovan (2-2), C. Kelly (0-4, 0-3 frees, 0-1 45), A. Murphy (0-1), M. Holland (0-1), E. Burke (0-1).

ST FINBARR'S: E. Clifford, C. Harrington, D. Clarke, B.A. Corcoran, K. Buckley, L. O'Connell (capt), Colette Kirby, Claire Kirby, G. O'Connor, J. Duffy, B. Maher, R. Myers, V. Maher, O. O'Sullivan, C. O'Mahony. Sub: M. McCarthy for B.A. Corcoran.

CARRIGDHOUN: A. Kiely (Carrigaline), M. Hurley (Valley Rovers), J. Browne (Ballygarvan), D. Fleming (Ballinhassig), A. O'Neill (Ballygarvan), E. Burke (Valley Rovers), S. A. O'Halloran (Ballygarvan), E. Dillon (Ballygarvan), M. Holland (Ballinhassig, capt), E. Bugler (Ballygarvan), C. Kelly (do), A. Murphy (do), S. O'Donovan (do), M. Jaego (Tracton), D. Daly (Ballygarvan). Sub: M. Conlon for D. Daly.

Referee: K. Creedon (Clyde Rovers).

Cork Colleges aim to blitz rivals

THE Cork Colleges Under 14 team, which participated in the Cork Colleges' intercounty blitz earlier this summer, received an unexpected invitation to play in the inaugural Limerick Under 14 tournament on Sunday August 11. The venture is a first for the county and will be hosted by the Rathkeale club.

Seven county sides plus the Cork Colleges selection will take part — Limerick, Dublin, Wexford, Clare, Kilkenny, Tipperary, Galway and Cork. Cork Colleges secretary Rob Lott expressed delight at the invitation: "We worked hard for the tournament which was held in June. The schools went on holidays soon after and we

By MARY NEWMAN
Camogie news

did not think we would get the chance to have the panel together again," he said. "This is a great opportunity for the girls to again represent their county and hopefully we will be successful." Certainly if the level of performance on view in

June is anything to go on, then August 11 promises another memorable occasion. Peter Brosnan, who guided the fortunes of the Limerick side, will have the task of co-ordinating the show. Games will be played on a round-robin format and will run throughout the day. Despite it being holiday time, counties are hopeful of

fielding near to full panels. Laura Herbert, Ashling McAuliffe and Lisa Fitzgerald are key players who will line out in the green and white of Limerick. Cork will not be short of talent either and will include Anna Nyhan, Jemma O'Regan, Orla Cotter and Mary O'Mahony in their ranks.

Under 12 blitz

TWO clubs in the south east division will join forces to promote the Kinsale Regatta under 12 camogie blitz which takes place on bank holiday Monday, August 5.

Valley Rovers, Sliabh Rua, Carrigaline, Courcey Rovers, Kilbrittain Clonakilty, Ballinascarty and Ballinhassig will participate in the event organised by Ballinhassig and Courcey Rovers.

July
2002



RUNNING GIRL: Claire Kirby of St Finbarr's goes on a solo run during the Cork Camogie Senior Championship semi-final against Cloughduv in Ballincollig.

Barr's are back to their brilliant best

St Finbarr's 0-18 By THERESA O'CALLAGHAN

Carrigdhoun 2-9

ST FINBARR'S put on one of their greatest performances of modern times at Ballincollig last evening, when inching past the hot favourites in the Cork County senior camogie championship semi-final.

In doing so, they announced their return to the big-time with a panel of players who refused to wilt despite finding themselves two goals in arrears after the opening quarter.

In the sweltering heat the atmosphere was electric. Barr's selector Ger O'Connor barely had enough breath left after watching her side create the biggest upset of the cham-

pionship: "No, we are not surprised" she smiled.

"We feared nobody and the team spirit that was there from winning the B final last year came through again tonight. We were always confident that we could do well and to score 18 points is some achievement."

Mention of her daughter Gemma's brilliant display in the middle of the field also gave her reason to be happy. The number nine was always in the thick of the action and hurled herself to a standstill particularly in the closing 30 minutes.

This game was a tremendous battle from start to finish with top scorer Orla O'Sullivan magnificent in getting the points on board and captain Lynda O'Connell airtight at

centre-back.

Quality was on a par with excitement as the Barrs went in at the break three points behind, having recovered sufficiently from the earlier blow of two Sarah O'Donovan goals.

Nobody in the huge crowd could have anticipated what lay ahead. Seven points on the trot from O'Sullivan (five), Claire Kirby and Ber Maher pushed them into a four-point lead.

Carrigdhoun began to lose control in areas where they had been dominating. In an effort to curtail the Barrs they switched around Catriona Kelly, Elaine Burke and Emer Dillon but nothing much changed.

Each time St Finbarr's went on the attack they created havoc and with O'Sullivan and the Maher sisters — Ber and Val — in splendid form, they made sure who was boss.

Carrigdhoun, in fairness, fought back gamely and never gave up the ghost with just one score separating the sides as the seconds ticked away. Three points was by no means a safe lead.

But, despite living on their nerves, the Barrs held out and are back in their first senior county final since 1992.

Scorers St Finbarr's: O O'Sullivan 0-12 (0-7f, 0-2 45m), V Maher 0-4, B Maher and C Kirby 0-1 each.

Carrigdhoun: S O'Donovan 2-2, C Kelly 0-4 (0-3f, 0-1 45m), A Murphy, M Holland and Emer Dillon 0-1 each.

St Finbarr's: E Clifford; C Harrington, D Clarke, B A Corcoran; K Buckley, L O'Connell (capt), Colette Kirby; Claire Kirby, G O'Connor; J Duffy, B Maher, R Myers; V Maher, O O'Sullivan, C O'Mahony.

Subs: M McCarthy for B A Corcoran (8 mins).

Carrigdhoun: A Kiely; M Hurley, J Browne, D Fleming; A O'Neill, E Burke, S A O'Halloran; E Dillon, M Holland; D Daly, C Kelly, L Bugler; M Jagoe, A Murphy, S O'Donovan.

Subs: C Holland for D Daly (51 mins).
Referee: K Creedon (Clyda Rovers).

A TOUGH TASK

IT seems that every second year Cork and Galway are the big guns in minor camogie. The manner in which they both reached this stage — the stage being Cashel on Sunday at 3.15pm — would suggest a cracking game in prospect.

Last year they met in the semi-final and it took extra time to divide them before Cork emerged and easily defeated Kilkenny in the decider.

Cork have enjoyed an untroubled run to the final, and while that is a sign of the strength of the squad, it may also trouble coach John Cronin, who would hope that his charges can respond if and when the going gets tough.

A number of players remain from last season and that is always a help, and in Emer Watson, Breege Corkery, Denise Twomey and Maire O'Neill they have talented individuals in attack that will trouble any defence.

In defence, the Rockbawn duo of Sile Burns and Catriona Foley are solid performers, while Valerie McCormack is a capable custodian.

There is a nice balance to this young Cork outfit, and with the players who featured in last season's campaign giving them that extra edge, they should retain their title.

By contrast the seniors should be far too strong for Antrim. Cork had a poor league run ending in a semi-final defeat by Limerick, but with injuries now clearing up, they appear to be hitting top form at just the right time.

The draws for the semi-finals will be made on Sunday night, with the games down for decision on Saturday, August 17. The general expectation is that the last four will be Cork, Kilkenny, Galway and holders Tipperary, which should make for two intriguing games.

Meanwhile, the county senior final between St Finbarr's and Cloughduv is on in Pairc uí Rinn on Friday, August 9 at 7.15pm, and on the evidence of two exciting semi-finals it should be a thriller.



Limerick camogie team sponsor Deirdre Casalani presents vice captain Vera Sheehan with their newly designed gear, which will be worn against Galway this weekend

Kilkelly goals prove decisive as Galway girls overcome Wexford in semi-final clash

Galway4-12
Wexford2-8

A GOAL either side of half time by lively corner forward Emma Kilkelly set up Galway for a meeting with Cork in a repeat of last year's decider after proving too strong for Wexford in the All Ireland minor camogie semi-final at Duggan Park, Ballinasloe on Saturday last.

Kilkelly's goals proved to be the crucial scores that set Galway as their brigade had struggled to find form for most of the opening half when playing with the assistance of a strong breeze. Galway were first off the blocks and after Susan Keane had pointed a forty five, Brenda Hanney watched her long ball into the danger area hop over the bar after hitting the ground on the edge of the square.

By the eighth minute Galway were two points up but the response from the young girls from the Slaney country was positive. Fielding eight from the Oulart the Ballagh club who had captured four of the last five national Feile title's, Wexford were always going to be a team who would provide a huge effort.

Louise Codd was deeply involved in a Wexford attack that led to a goal mount scramble and the ball was eventually finished to the net by Una Lacey. Three minutes later Tracey McCormack picked herself up from an injury moments earlier to score a great point and when Una Lacey and McCormack added two further scores, Galway were four points behind midway through the opening half.

Emma Kilkelly was through for a goal chance but Wexford custodian Margaret Darcy made a spending advancing save to deny the Kinvara girl. It was only after Una Lacey, uncharacteristically missed a scoreable free that Galway found their feet and came into the game again.

They had gone 17 minutes without a score with the favourable breeze at their backs and major scores were needed to get back into the game. When the full forward combination eventually got going, the game suddenly came to life for Galway.

Full forward Sarah Dervan created space before releasing to Linda Dillon who made no mistake when handpassing past Margaret Darcy and into the Wexford net. Subsequently, Brenda Hanney collected a long clearance from the Galway defence before scoring a great point to level the game four minutes from

the break.

Galway were now in control with Caroline Kelly dominating at midfield. Ann Marie Broderick and Brenda Hanney were also dominant with the latter proving a real torment for the Wexford side. Captain Caroline Kelly then set up Marie Geoghan for a point before combining with Sarah Dervan to set up Emma Kilkelly for the first of her two goals. Marie Geoghan added another point before the break to leave Galway 2-5 to 1-3 in front at half time.

Playing into the breeze in the second half it looked as if Galway's five point lead would not be sufficient but the half was a mere fifty seconds old when Kilkelly broke through for her second goal. Although Una Lacey replied with two quick points, Galway were fired up by Kilkelly's goal and Susan Keane and Kilkelly added Galway points.

Nine minutes into the second half Galway sealed the game when Linda Dillon broke through for a great goal. After Brenda Hanney set up Susan Keane for another marvellous point two minutes later, Galway had raced into a 4-8 to 1-5 lead and Wexford's task was almost insurmountable.

Una Lacey, who was Wexford's outstanding player, virtually tried to haul her side back into the game on her own and after the Oulart the Ballagh star saw her blistering effort come back of the Galway post, Emma Moran was on hand to strike the rebound to the Galway net. Lacey followed with three further points to one in reply from Susan Keane after good work from substitute Maureen Finnerty.

Galway regained control in the closing stages and points from substitute Fiona Hahnefeld, Susan Keane and player of the match Brenda Hanney sealed an emphatic victory for the Westerners who will now play Cork in the All Ireland minor final on August 4th in a repeat of last year's decider which Cork won but one point.

Galway: S Eamer; R Maher, E Burke, A Coen; E Tannian, A M Broderick, L Lally; C Kelly, C Glynn; S Keane (0-5), M Geoghan (0-2), B Hanney (0-3); L Dillon (2-0), S Dervan, E Kilkelly (2-1). Subs: M Finnerty for Dervan, T Byrne for Maher, F Hahnefeld (0-1) for Glynn, C Briscoe for Lally.

Wexford: M Darcy; C Howard, J Codd, A Murphy; S Redmond, D Codd (0-1), K Atkinson; S Mooney, L Codd; U Lacey (1-5), T McCormack (0-2), T Stamp, E Moran, B Gordan, F Doran (1-0). Subs: E Dempsey for Redmond, S Keogh for J Codd, T Healy for Mooney, T Murphy for Gordan.

Referee: E Browne (Tipperary).

CAMOGIE NEWS



Tipperary play Wexford in Thurles

Tipperary take another step in defence of their All-Ireland Senior title on Saturday next when they take on Wexford in the quarter finals in Semple Stadium at 3.p.m.

After an easy victory over Dublin some weeks ago facing Wexford will be a totally different ball game. Wexford are a big strong outfit and with Martin Storey instilling his knowledge of skills, fitness and determination this unit will be completely different to the one Tipperary defeated at this stage of the championship last year.

Tipperary found it hard to break away from Wexford in the league, but have upped their game 100% since, but no doubt so have Wexford. While Tipperary had a comprehensive victory over Dublin so too had Wexford, even more so. Tipperary know what they have to do and it is a

do or die situation on Saturday as there is no way back for the defeated.

Tipperary have a clean bill of health going into the game and have prepared well under the capable hands of Michael Cleary, Biddy Philips and Jim Madden. The club preparation for the county final may have interfered somewhat with their mental preparations but that is all behind them now and we await in anticipation for Saturday's outcome. The other pairing for the quarter finals at the week end are Limerick V Galway, Down V Kilkenny both on Saturday at 2.30 and Antrim V Cork on Sunday at 1 o'clock in Dunloy.

We hope Tipperary will have a large contingent in Semple Stadium on Saturday to cheer on the Premier County - Tipperary V Wexford - Michael Cleary V Martin Storey now there's one to whet the appetite.

CASHEL HOST ALL-IRELAND MINOR FINALS

Cashel will host the All-Ireland Minor 'A' and 'B' finals on Sunday next. In the first game Limerick play Offaly in the 'B' Final at 1.30. In the 'A' final once again Cork take on the girls from the West Galway and this game is at 3.15.

CO. SENIOR CAMOGIE

Five in a row for Cashel

By David Kennedy

CASHEL 1-11 TOOMEVARA 0-12

Cashel took their fifth county senior camogie title in a row when they defeated Toomevara at the county camogie grounds, the Ragg, on Sunday night.

Although leading for most of the match, Cashel were never sure of victory until referee Stephen Egan blew the final whistle. The slippery conditions made a spectacular game a near impossibility but once again camogie threw up another hour of nail biting tension and drama.

Cashel took to the dressing rooms at half time with a three point lead, but after the break a somewhat rejuvenated Toome side came back to draw level after only five minutes, with points from frees from Noelle Kennedy and a point well worked from the corner by Grainne Shanahan which found its way to Anna Woods, who levelled the game.

Then followed a Cashel goal, as a long ball over the Toome fullback line by Triona Hennessy saw a race between goalie Paula Ryan and Marie O'Dwyer which was narrowly won by the corner forward as she tipped the ball to send it into the net to restore a three point lead. From here both sides went point for point, Cashel holding out against fierce pressure.

Toomevara playing their third county game in the period of a week never really settled. Although having firmly established themselves as one of the two top teams in the county with a good win over Drom-Inch, they could not, with all their effort prevent Cashel from lifting the trophy.

Cashel were on the attack from the throw in and Philly Fogarty made Paula Ryan produce a good save. Linda Grogan pointed, and Toome equalised as Noelle Kennedy pointed a free. Toome then took the lead from Grainne Shanahan. After a foul on Claire Grogan which the county star herself put over, a foul on Jovita Delaney with ten minutes left in the half saw Claire Grogan point another free.

Great rivals Una O'Dwyer and Deirdre Hughes ran for the ball and Toome got a free converted by Noelle Kennedy. Claire Grogan pointed at the other end to leave the half time score 0-7 to 0-4 in Cashel's favour.

The resumption saw Cashel on the attack from the throw in but almost immediately at the other end a hard low shot was well blocked by goalkeeper Danielle O'Connell and went out for a 45 yard free which was converted by Noelle Kennedy. Then Emily Hayden pointed from 40 yards out after receiving a good hand pass from Mairead Morrissey. Again

Kennedy pointed yet another Toome free after Deirdre Hughes was fouled on the 21. Another free after Kaiffe Moloney overcarried the ball saw the deficit reduced to a single point. Toome captain Anna Woods got the equalising score.

Some good play in the middle of the field by Paula Bulfin and Emily Hayden put Jovita Delaney free to take the lead again with a point. Another pointed free by Noelle Kennedy and then a point by Claire Grogan were followed by a Cashel goal from Marie O'Dwyer.

Grainne Shanahan ran through and hand passed to Anna Woods, but the Cashel defence did well and managed to clear the ball for a 45 yard free, which was again put over by Noelle Kennedy. Cashel did not sit back on their lead and always attacked and when Emily Hayden was fouled Claire Grogan pointed once again to take the lead to four points.

Toomevara tried to push forward and Deirdre Hughes collected the ball 35 yards out, turned and headed for goal only to be fouled by Una O'Dwyer before the threat became too great and Noelle Kennedy pointed to reduce the Cashel lead to 3 points in injury time.

Toome had one more chance from a free as Noelle Kennedy stood over and blasted low but just over the cross bar and from the puck out Referee Stephen Egan blew the final whistle.

Although the conditions did not help scoring, with Cashel hitting eight wides from frees, much of the credit for the low scoring must go to both defences. Both sides gave their all. Midfield saw an interesting battle involving four county players, Philly Fogarty, Louise Young, Noelle Kennedy and Paula Bulfin.

Although none excelled above the other each played vital roles in the game.

Cashel: Danielle O'Connell, Meabh Stokes, Una O'Dwyer, Kaiffe Maloney, Emily Hayden, Triona Hennessy, Helen Green, Paula Bulfin, Helen Grogan, Mairead Morrissey, Philly Fogarty, Linda Grogan, Marie G. O'Dwyer, Claire Grogan, Jovita Delaney.

Toomevara: Paula Ryan, Mary-Rose Ryan, Regina O'Meara, Marie Ryan, Cathriona Finnegan, Suzanne Kelly, Lizzy Woods, Louise Young, Lena Woods, Therese Maxwell, Noelle Kennedy, Grainne Shanahan, Anna Woods, Deirdre Hughes, Marie McCarthy. Sub: Marie Tynan.

July 2002

July 2002

Carrigdhoun girls narrowly defeated

St. Finbarr's.....0-18
Carrigdhoun.....2-9

By
T.A.S.

Last Thursday evening at Ballincollig was a great sporting occasion for those fortunate enough to be in attendance. The senior county camogie semi-final was taking place, the Ballincollig GAA field was never looking better, weather condition were good, the fine attendance of supporters for both teams were dignified, the participating teams St. Finbarr's and Carrigdhoun had some excellent exponents of the game in their ranks, so an excellent hour's play ensued.

The game could have gone either way and the issue was always in doubt, but it is fair to say that St. Finbarr's, the eventual winners, deserved their success and the fact that they scored eighteen times to Carrigdhoun's eleven is significant. The south east side did lead at the interval however, when the score in their favour read 2-5 to 0-8. They must have felt reasonably confident facing the second period.

Some of Carrigdhoun's more fancied players failed to perform following the break however, so the Barrs were very much on the offensive. It was inevitable that the city girls would improve their score board situation and that task was made somewhat easier for them when some needless frees were conceded by the Carrigdhoun defence. All those frees were put to good use by the St. Finbarr's sharpshooter Orla O'Sullivan. Orla's accuracy from placed balls enabled the barrs to be ahead when the game had reached its final quarter and they were in the driver's seat at the right time.

Carrigdhoun made a couple of positional changes at that stage however, and their fortune improved when they found themselves only a point in arrears with twelve minutes play remaining.

St. Finbarr's managed to again step-up a gear during those vital closing minutes however, and they were more economical with their scoring efforts than their opponents as they consolidated their position. St. Finbarr's increased their lead to three points and even though Carrigdhoun made a last ditch effort to secure an equalising goal, the St. Finbarr's defence held firm and they are consequently in

the senior county final.

The Barrs scored first on Thursday last when Orla O'Sullivan pointed a first minute free but Carrigdhoun's hopes then secured a significant boost when they scored two goals. Sarah O'Donovan who was listed at full forward for the south east side, but who had lined out at right corner forward scored a goal in the second minute and she raised another green flag three minutes later when she applied the finishing touches to a well-placed centre from Emer Dillon.

Valerie Maher scored St. Finbarr's second point to improve their position but Sarah O'Donovan did likewise for Carrigdhoun and the divisional side moved further ahead when Catriona Kelly scored a point from a free.

Carrigdhoun were looking good at that stage but the Barrs' fortunes improved when their defensive play tightened up considerably.

Carrigdhoun's defence was guilty of committing some needless fouls and they were punished accordingly by the accurate stick of Orla O'Sullivan. Orla commenced the St. Finbarr's fight back when she pointed a 65 in the seventeenth minute and she then converted two frees and added on a point from play for good measure. Two points now separated the sides with eight minutes of the first half remaining and Carrigdhoun was slightly the better of those remaining first half exchanges when they scored three additional points to St. Finbarr's two.

The score at the interval was consequently 2-5 to 0-8 in Carrigdhoun's favour and the stage was set for an exciting second period.

St. Finbarr's got well on top in the third quarter when Gemma O'Connor made her presence felt at centre-field. Four pointed frees from Orla O'Sullivan and a Rachel Myers point from play then further consolidated their position.

The accuracy of Orla O'Sullivan continued and the Barrs' position improved further when she scored a point from a free and one from play and the city ladies looked very much in the driver's seat when the game entered its final quarter.

Carrigdhoun then staged a brief come-back however when Elaine Burke and Emer Dillon swapped places with good effect and they reduced the arrears to the minimum when Catriona Kelly converted two frees and Mairead Holland scored a point from play. The game was now in its most exciting stage with the issue very much in the balance, but St. Finbarr's capitalised more effectively on their scoring opportunities during that vital period. Orla O'Sullivan was on target from two more frees and from a 65 while Valerie Maher scored a point from play and Carrigdhoun's only reply was a point from Deirdre Daly.

St. Finbarr's consequently are in the senior camogie county final and they will meet Cloughduv in same.

Scorers - St. Finbarr's: Orla O'Sullivan 0-12, (0-8 frees, 0-2 65s); Valerie Maher 0-4; Rachel Myers and Claire Kirby 0-1 each. Carrigdhoun: Sarah O'Donovan 2-2; Catriona Kelly 0-4 (frees); Amanda Murphy, Mairead Holland and Deirdre Daly 0-1 each.

Teams - St. Finbarr's: Ellen Clifford, Claire Harrington, Deirdre Clarke, Barbara Ann Corcoran, Karen Buckley, Lynda O'Connell, Colette Kirby, Claire Kirby, Gemma O'Connor, Jenny Duffy, Bernadine Maher, Rachel Myers, Valerie Maher, Orla O'Sullivan, Colette O'Mahony. Sub: Maria McCarthy for Barbara Ann Corcoran.

Carrigdhoun: Ann Kiely, Carrigaline; Marie Hurley, Valley Rovers; Jennifer Browne, Ballygarvan; Deirdre Fleming, Ballinhassig; Aileen O'Neill, Ballygarvan; Elaine Burke, Valley Rovers; Sally Ann O'Halloran, Ballygarvan; Emer Dillon, Ballygarvan; Mairead Holland, Ballinhassig; Deirdre Daly, Ballygarvan; Catriona Kelly, Ballygarvan; Elizabeth Bugler, Valley Rovers; Amanda Murphy, Ballygarvan; Sarah O'Donovan, Ballygarvan; Marian Jagoe, Tracton. Sub: Trish O'Donovan, Ballygarvan for Deirdre Daly.

Ref: Kevin Creedon, Clyda Rovers.

Cork and Galway renew rivalry

by Mary Newman

CORK and Galway meet in the All-Ireland minor A camogie championship final tomorrow while Offaly and Limerick will clash in the B decider in Cashel tomorrow.

Cork retained their title at the expense of Kilkenny last season and will be determined this time out to make it back-to-back titles. However, they face a huge challenge from a Galway side who in last season's semi-final went very close before Cork finally scraped through.

Since that semi-final meeting, there has been a change of management in Galway with Rosemary Kelly and Mike Dillon now guiding the fortunes of a side who in their path to tomorrow's final have only had one championship outing and that against Wexford in their semi-final.

In that game, Galway experienced little difficulty disposing of the Wexford challenge recording a 10 point winning margin over a side who many had favoured to make it to the final.

Just four of last year's semi-final team remain eligible this year. Susan Keane, Elaine Tannion, Susan Earner and Emma Kilkenny all lined out in that clash with Cork and will no doubt remember the heartbreak of defeat.

Cork field 10 of last year's winning panel, amongst them Sheila Burns, who has already this season progressed to the county senior side, captain Elaine O'Riordan and sharp shooters, Emer Watson and Margaret McCarthy.

Selector John Cronin is under no illusions as to the task facing his side. "In the last six years we have met Galway at either final or semi-final stages on at least four occasions and at this stage are both fairly familiar with the other side's lineup.

"Two years ago at under 14 level, these sides met and it was a very close contest with little dividing us," he said.

Galway PRO, Ann Kearney also reports a clean bill of health with her side and while they are equally as determined as Cork, no it will not be easy. "Cork have already three games under their belt and have recorded huge victories in all of those and we know we will have to double our efforts from last year's semi-final if we are to be in with a chance," she said.

It promised to be a lively final which could go down to a puck of the ball before champions are decided.

The county senior side travel to Dunloy to meet Antrim in the All-Ireland quarter-final and here the Leesiders should advance against the home side who last year took the intermediate All-Ireland title.

Busy weekend for Cork camogie teams

CORK AND LIMERICK camogie teams have busy weekends ahead of them. In the Foras na Gaeilge All-Ireland senior championship quarter-finals Cork make the long journey to Dunloy for Sunday's meeting with the home county, while on Saturday Limerick will entertain Galway at Ballingarry. In the All-Ireland Minor finals, Cork and Galway clash in the A decider, while Limerick and Offaly will contest the B grade. Both of these games will be played as a double

By THERESE O'CALLAGHAN
Camogie preview

header in Leahy Park, Cashel on Sunday.

Cork will be wary of their trip to Antrim. The last time these sides met was in the 2001 league when Antrim lost by two points. They were restricted in numbers by the Foot and Mouth disease. If complacency prevails in the Cork camp, it could spell trouble for

Limerick, beaten well by Cork in

the first round, regrouped to find their form and overcame Dublin to arrive through the back door. Against Galway, they will have to play out of their skins if they are to defeat one of the championship favourites. These teams last collided in the 2002 league final, which Galway won well.

Meanwhile, the two minor finals should offer cracking fare. Cork and Galway played themselves to a standstill in last season's semi-final and with many of these players still

involved, this A final should go right down to the wire. Cork have sailed through the championship so far, as have Galway. There will be very little between these teams.

In the B grade, Offaly had little opposition in Leinster and had a huge win over Roscommon a few weeks ago. Likewise, Limerick's journey has been trouble-free, culminating in a landslide victory over Monaghan. This game should get the afternoon off to an exciting start.

THE weekend ahead is busy as the county goes in quest of retaining the Minor All Ireland crown and the senior team make the long journey north to Dunloy where a quarter final meeting with Antrim awaits.

The minor final brings together two sides who battled it out to the finish in last year's semi final before a late Cork goal ensured their passage to a final meeting with Kilkenny. Now twelve months on the draw has ensured followers will be guaranteed another classic. On the Cork side there are ten survivors from last year while Galway can call on four from last season's clash.

In their path to the final Cork experienced little difficulty in taking the provincial crown, overcoming Limerick in their opening game and then Tipperary to retain their Munster crown.

The long trip to Derry for the Cork girls was taken in their stride and totally dominant in all sectors they qualified with ease for the final. However the selection committee of John Cronin, Ann Watson and John Quinn are well aware of the strength of Galway and are under no illusions as to the task ahead. John Cronin took time out from putting his charges through their preparations to explain their concerns "Last year we were put to the pin of our collars to defeat Galway, they have four of that side remaining and we are very aware of their strength."

A cause of concern to the Cork camp would have to be the huge winning margins in all their games and while a good lack of close tight matches is one which the selectors tried to overcome.

In the Galway camp the story is a similar. Connacht Galway are the only team participating in the A grade therefore they are automatically champions and therefore went straight to an All Ire-

Busy weekend as county side goes to defend its crown

Seniors head north for big quarter final clash with Antrim

land semi final with Wexford. In that clash Galway beat Wexford by ten points.

The lack of competitive games is a factor that the counties also bemoan.

and PRO Ann Kearney was very aware of this when I spoke to her. "Having had only one game to reach a final is not a good thing and we would be very aware that Cork have played several competitive games together. This helps to gel a side together especially younger players, however we have prepared well and if last year game is anything to go on we should have another cracker on Sunday next."

Amongst the stars of the Galway side is Ann Marie Broderick a sister of Senior All Star hurler Kevin, Susan Earner, Emma Kilkenny, Elaine Tannion and Susan Keane. This year there is new backroom team in charge with Mike Dillon and Rosaleen Kelly in command of the

coaching and selection duties.

The Cork team will be captained by Milford's Elaine O'Riordan who gave an outstanding display in last year final to be named as player of the match. Sile Burns has already lined out with the Cork senior side in their championship opener against Limerick but on Sunday next she will be totally focused on the minor sides quest for back to back titles as her senior team mates make the journey north to face Antrim in the senior quarter final. Margaret Mc Carthy missed out on the semi final because of illness but she has made a great recovery and will surely be in the thick of the action. Others to impress to date have been Catriona Foley, Anna Geary, Noreen Mulcahy and Marie O'Neill.

Meanwhile, a long journey north faces the county senior team as an All Ireland quarter final meeting awaits. Cork recorded a resounding victory over Limerick in their opening game while Antrim were defeated by Kilkenny and therefore must now come via the back door and play winners Cork. Last year Antrim took the Intermediate crown amid huge excitement when they defeated Derry.

Cloughduv through to final in lively match

CHAMPIONS Cloughduv advanced to defend their title when they had five points to spare over Fr O'Neills in Ballinlough. O'Neills made the better start and led 1-2 to 0-2 by the mid way stage after Frances Falvin had grabbed a first minute goal. Cloughduv's Una O'Donoghue netted a vital goal with four minutes to the break to leave it 1-4 to 1-3 in favour of O'Neills at the break.

On the restart the champs drew away and by the three quarter stage led by four points after two points apiece from Stephanie Dunlea and Una O'Donoghue and one from Marie Corkery. Fiona O'Driscoll got one back for O'Neills to cut the lead but Dunlea scoring her sixth point sealed victory to set up a final meeting with St Finbarr's who defeated Carrigdhoun, Thursday.

In that game the divisional side got the best start with two Sarah O'Donovan goals in the first five minutes but the Barrs cut the arrears with great points and just three points separated the sides at the break 2-5 to 0-8.

The second half was lively with the Barrs scoring four points without reply to be three points up, but Carrigdhoun quickly had it down to one. The Barrs came back with points from Orla O'Sullivan and Val Maher, Elaine Burke and O'Sullivan. Carrigdhoun came in search of an equaliser but St Finbarr's held them off.



Dungourney under 16 team, winners of the county 12-side championship. Picture: Eddie O'Riordan

Ballygarvan in final four

BALLYGARVAN made it through to the last four as the action continued in the senior B championship in Bandon.

Ballygarvan were firing on all cylinders for their clash with Newcestown. In the first quarter they opened up a five point lead thanks to points from Deirdre Daly, Emer Dillon, and Sarah O'Donovan before Colette Desmond opened Newcestown's account with a point. Three points without reply saw Ballygarvan stretch their advantage further and at this stage they looked set to dominate. Newcestown worked hard with points from Una Crowley, Colette Desmond and Suzanne Deasy to leave Ballygarvan ahead 0-8 to 0-4 at the break.

Ballygarvan again stretched their advantage with two points before Colette Desmond with a blistering sole run outsmarted the Ballygarvan defence to finish to the net. Now just a goal separated the

side and it was all to play for. Colette Desmond and Sarah O'Donovan exchanged points but Ballygarvan with Catriona Kelly and Emer Dillon domination began to wear down the Newcestown challenge and begin to dominate. Striking nine points without reply in the closing quarter they comfortably advanced and on their display will have installed themselves as favourites to lift the title, they now meet Valley Rovers in an all Carrigdhoun semi final, while Milford dan Kilbrittan will contest the other semi final.

● In the Junior A championship Douglas advanced comfortably to a semi final meeting with Carrigaline at the expense of a young Glen Rovers side with Amanda O'Regan making her return to club action. The Glen side never gave up and had good displays from full back Kelly Laffin-Lynch and Niamh O'Halloran.

Cork keep faith with newcomers

By THERESA O'CALLAGHAN

Camogie

CORK have made no change to the team that had such a comprehensive victory over Limerick for the quarter-final of the Foras na Gaeilge All-Ireland championship against Antrim in Dunloy tomorrow. This means that management are obviously happy especially with debutantes Gemma O'Connor and Emer Dillon.

Cork polished off preparations with a challenge match against Kilkenny on Monday night and despite the Cats missing a few of their bigger names, the Rebels came away with a comfortable win which should put them in the correct frame of mind for this crunch game against the northerners.

Still, Cork who have under-performed for the past three seasons will take nothing for granted. Selector Rose Desmond says, "It is a long journey for us. We set off at nine o'clock this morning and probably will not arrive in Dunloy until six or seven this evening. We have played teams up north before and winning has never been easy. However, we are well up for this game and are looking forward to it. We also realise one slip up and we are out."

Antrim have not had the ideal preparations themselves. On Wednesday night they played their county final, which has seriously disrupted their plans. Player-manager Denise O'Boyle though is undaunted by the task ahead: "Granted our build-up slowed down over the last couple of weeks but players were still involved with the clubs."

"Cork is always a hard battle. It will be a big challenge for us. I hadn't intended playing myself this year, but was forced back. Still, we will be quietly confident. We have plenty experience in Jane Adams and Carla Doherty and we will be anxious to do well in front of our big home support."

Cork: G Casey, J O'Callaghan, E Duggan, S Dunlea, P O'Connor, M O'Connor, G O'Connor, V Harris, E Burke, R Moloney, E Dillon, J O'Leary, U O'Donoghue (capt), C Harrington, F O'Driscoll.

In the Diary

TOMORROW
Foras na Gaeilge All-Ireland senior camogie championship quarter-final
Antrim v Cork
Dunloy 1pm

REALISTICALLY this is a game that Cork should win well if they are to have any serious aspirations towards an All-Ireland title.

They were rampant in their opening round against Limerick and if they can reproduce that kind of form very few teams will stand in their way.

The likes of Paula O'Connor, Jennifer O'Leary, Emer Dillon, Joanne O'Callaghan, Caoimhe Harrington and Gemma O'Connor are more than able for the big time.

Antrim, though, are never easy to beat at home, but Cork should be well aware of this. The northern team have nothing to lose. Una Elliott has returned from the US and they have fine players in Grace McMullen, Ann McKee and Sinead McMullen. Cork should come away with a win.

Verdict: Cork.

THERESA O'CALLAGHAN

Camogie draw is live on TV

THE Foras na Gaeilge All-Ireland Senior Camogie Championship draw will take place live on the Sunday Game on Sunday.

The four quarter-finals take place at the weekend involving Cork versus Antrim, Limerick versus Galway, Tipperary versus Wexford and Kilkenny versus Down.

Limerick face tough title defence

By THERESA O'CALLAGHAN

Camogie: Limerick v Offaly

LIMERICK will head to Leahy Park, Cashel, tomorrow to defend their All-Ireland minor B camogie title.

Last year they easily defeated Carlow; this time they will have much greater opposition against Offaly. Limerick selector, Jer Mulcahy is impressed by Offaly.

"I saw them playing Kildare in the Leinster final and they were strong. Our opposition so far has been weak so we do not know how good we are."

Limerick have kept faith with the same 15 that retained the provincial championship. Here they had four goals to spare over Waterford, and again in the All-Ireland semi-final they had a huge win over Roscommon. Claire Mulcahy, daughter of selector Jer, captains the team from centre-back and behind her Fiona Chawke, Sarah O'Mahony and Janice White have done little wrong all season.

At midfield, Natalie Heffernan will be placed alongside Christine Carroll and if the supply is plentiful, Sinead McAuliffe, Fiona Morrissey and Shannon Brosnan will be ready to capitalise. And with six of last season's side in their line-out, Limerick will be hoping that they can continue to build with another win.

O'Callaghan says she is hoping that this minor side can make up for the disappointing exit of their junior team out of the championship: "It is great to be in the final especially as we had high hopes for our juniors."

"And with Drumcullen (Offaly) after winning the Leinster club championship, we hope another title will arrive tomorrow."

Aoife Kelly is a player who has performed very well all through the championship.

Daughter of former Offaly hurler Joachim, she is unerring as a free-taker.

Others they will be looking to are 'keeper Amy Dolan and Karen Brady in the forward line.

Sheila O'Sullivan is an experienced player having won a Junior League medal a few months ago.

LIMERICK: C. Kelleher; J. White, S. O'Mahony, F. Chawke; F. Hickey, C. Mulcahy (capt); F. Geary; N. Heffernan, C. Carroll; S. McAuliffe, C. O'Shea, M. O'Connell; E. Barrett, F. Morrissey, S. Brosnan.

In the Diary

TOMORROW
All-Ireland minor A
camogie final
Cork v Galway,
Leahy Park Cashel
3.15pm

THESE two teams have produced many great games over the years and tomorrow's final should be no different. Cork will go into the game as favourites, but this assumption is based on the fact they are the reigning All-Ireland champions. They have outstanding performers in captain Elaine O'Riordan, her midfield partner Anna Geary and defenders, Sile Burns and Catriona Foley.

Galway are a bit of an unknown quantity with so many new names on their side. But the experience that they do retain from last season is top-class. And many of the 2001 sub bench are coming into play for this game.

Susan Earner, Emma Kilkelly and Susan Keane were on the starting 15, while Ann Marie Broderick, Aine Coen and Brenda Hanney were in the panel 12 months ago.

This is a hard one to call. Galway are out for revenge, while the Rebels will be anxious to record back-to-back titles. In the last seven years, Cork and Galway have dominated the minor stage.

Verdict: Cork

TOMORROW
All-Ireland minor B
camogie championship
final
Limerick v Offaly,
Cashel 1.30pm

WITH neither of these sides having any bother in getting to the All-Ireland final, this final should be between two very evenly matched sides. Both have been impressive in their respective paths, but have not been tested.

Limerick have built a strong unit since their first round game, and coach Tom Hennessy has worked hard to get this team back into another final. With six of last year's winning team they will not be fazed by the daunting task.

Offaly are in their first minor B final due to the great work going on within the county. They reached the 2001 All-Ireland junior final and now 12 months later are back looking for a minor title.

As to who will get the result, it is hard to know. Limerick have been there before. The experience should stand to them.

Verdict: Limerick.

THERESA
O'CALLAGHAN

Cronin's charges face a stern test

CORK manager John Cronin will receive his sternest test of this year's minor camogie championship when his side travel to Leahy Park in Cashel for tomorrow's All-Ireland final against Galway, writes THERESA O'CALLAGHAN.

Cork are the defending champions, but in last season's campaign Galway really put it up to them, the westerners losing out by just one point in the semi-final.

Cork went on to win the final in a canter and with nine of that team starting again tomorrow, they will be favourites to retain the crown.

However, Cronin says nothing comes easy at All-Ireland level: "Galway have always produced in this grade. Twelve months ago we were very lucky to get out with a win. They have some great girls who will trouble us - Susan Keane in particular is an exceptional player."

Cork wound down with a good run out against Granagh/Ballingarry on Monday evening and Cronin was very pleased with the display.

They have a very fast forward line. Briege Corkery, although selected at wing-forward, likes to drift further out field and her strongest attribute is her lightning pace and ability to read the game.

The higher numbers, which include Emer Watson and Denise Twomey, have been major contributors to the Rebel wins so far.

The maroon and white are practically dealing a new hand tomorrow.

Top scorer from 2001 Aislinn Connolly has moved up to senior ranks, and they retain just two of their forward line - Susan Keane and Emma Kilkelly. But both of these girls are potential match winners and will have to be watched.

Given the great rivalry that exists between these two teams, this should be a great showdown.

CORK: V McCormack; M Nyhan, S Burns, L Healy; N Mulcahy, C Foley, B Buckley; A Geary, E O'Riordan (capt); B Corkery, M O'Neill, M McCarthy; D Twomey, E Watson, M Coleman.



Cumann
Camógaíochta
na nGael

Mionúr A

Corcaigh
v
An Ghailimh

3.15 l.n.

Mionúr B

Luimneach
v
Uibh Fháilghe

1.30 l.n.

Cluichí Ceannais
na Mionúr

2002

5005
Cluichí Ceannais

Clár Oifigiúil

Luach €2.00

Páirc O Laocha, Caiseal,
Tiobraid Árann

An Domhnach, 04 Lúnasa, 2002.

Sir de Bhaird's
Ardstiúrthóir

Craobhchomórtais
na Mionúr
Na Buaiteoirí go dtí seo

Mionúr A
1974 - 2001

Corcaigh (11), An Ghailimh (8)
Cill Chainnigh (3), Tiobraid Árann (3)
Áth Cliath (1), An Dún (1)
Loch Garman (1)

Mionúr B
2000 - 2001

Laois (1)
Luimneach (1)

Cluichí Leathcheannais
na hÉireann

All-Ireland Minor Semi-finals
2002

Mionúr A

Corcaigh 9-17 Doire 1-01

An Ghailimh 4-12 Loch Garman 2-08

Mionúr B

Uibh Fháilghe 8-09 Roscomán 0-00

Luimneach 6-10 Muineachán 0-00



ar chúil (ó chlé): E. Ní Dhuinn, C. Ní Cionaoith, M. Ní Cholmáin, É. Ní Uall, A. Ní Gadhra, H. Ní Néill, S. Ní Bhroin, M. Ní Níatháin, N. Ní Mhaolchathaigh, V. Ní Cormaic, P. Ní Shuilleabháin, É. Ní Ualléir, S. Ní Shíoda
chun tosaigh (ó chlé): C. Ní Mhúir, C. Ní Dhrisceoil, B. Ní Chiorra, C. Ní Phoghlú, L. Ní Riordáin, **Captain**, L. Ní Ealaithé, M. Ní Carraig, R. Ní Bhuchalla, P. Ní Thuama, M. Ní Mhúchá, M. Eigeartaigh, S. Ní Dhúinn.

1 Valerie Ní Cormaic Valerie McCormack Kildarey	2 Marguerite Ní Nitháin Marguerite Nyhan Newcastle	3 Sile Ní Bhroin Sheila Burns Rockbawn	4 Lisa Ní Ealaithé Lisa Healy Milford
5 Éadaoin Ní Ualléir Edwina Waters Ballyhea	6 Cáitríona Ní Phoghlú Cáitríona Foley Rockbawn	7 Rena Ní Bhuchalla Rena Buckley Inniscarra	8 Léan Ní Riordáin Elaine O'Riordan Milford Captain
9 Anna Ní Gadhra Anna Geary Milford	10 Brid Ní Chiorra Breege Corkery Cloughdubh	11 Máire Ní Néill Maire O'Neill Watergrasshill	12 Mairéad Ní Cárthaigh Margaret McCarthy Inniscarra
13 Denise Ní Thuama Denise Twomey St Catherine's	14 Éimear Ní Uall Emer Watson Milford	15 Máire Ní Cholmáin Mary Coleman Ballyhea	
Ionadaithe			
16. Nóirín Ní Mhaolchathaigh Noreen Mulcahy, St Catherine's	17. Muireann Ní Mhurchú Marian Murphy, Kilbrittain	18. Sorcha Ní Dhúinn Sarah Downing, Courcy Rovers	19. Sile Ní Shíoda Julie Sheehy, Milford
20. Michelle Ní Elgeartaigh Michelle Hagarly, Glen Rovers			

4



ar chúil (ó chlé): R. Ní Cheallaigh, Bannisteoir, T. Uí Mhuir, Roghnór, B. Ní Annaigh, L. Ní Dholún, L. Ní Mhaoláidh, S. Ní Dhoirbhéain, S. Ní Shaoir, M. Ní Eochagáin, L. de Búrca, C. Ní Fhlóinn, M. O'Donáin, Bannisteoir
chun tosaigh (ó chlé): Á. Ní Chadaigh, R. Ní Mheachair, C. Ní Cheallaigh, S. Ní Chatháin, L. Ní Thánaidheán, E. Ní Gollá Cheallaigh, Á. M. Ní Bhudair

1 Siobhán Ní Shaoir Susan Eamer Eyrecourt	2 Áine Ní Chadhaigh Aine Coen Clannbridge	3 Léan de Búrca Elaine Burke Kinvara	4 Triona Ní Bhroin Triona Byrne Portumna
5 Lorraine Ní Mhaoláidh Lorraine Lally Clannbridge	6 Léan Ní Thánaidheán Elsaine Tannin St Thomas's	7 Áine Máire Ní Bhruadair Ann Marie Broderick Davitts	8 Ciarúilín Ní Cheallaigh Caroline Kelly Davitts Captain
9 Clodagh Ní Fhlóinn Clodagh Glynn Kiltormer	10 Siobhán Ní Chatháin Susan Keane Kiltormer	11 Breanda Ní Annaigh Brenda Hanney Kiltormer	12 Muireann Ní Eochagáin Marian Geoghegan St Thomas's
13 Linda Ní Dholún Linda Dillon Cappataggle	14 Emma Ní Gollá Cheallaigh Emma Kilkenny Kinvara	15 Fiona Hahnefeld Davitts	
Ionadaithe			
16. Rút Ní Mheachair Ruth Maher, Shamrocks	17. Crystal Ní Rodaigh Crystal Ruddy, Athenry	18. Sorcha Ní Dhoirbhéain Sarah Dervan, Mullagh	19. Carol Bhrioscú Carol Briscoe, Mullagh
			20. Máirín Ní Fhionnachta Maureen Finnerty, Mullagh

5

Cork win All-Ireland despite late Galway revival

Cork 1-11
Galway 1-5

by Tom Higgins

SOME excellent defence, particularly in the latter stages of the second-half when they were under severe pressure, helped Cork to retain their All-Ireland Minor "A" camogie title with a hard earned win over Galway at Leahy Park, Cashel yesterday.

On a very humid day Cork, who were winning the title for the 12th time, were the better side. They were quicker to the ball and were 1-2 to 0-1 up after 17 minutes, their goal, an opportunistic one, coming from Margaret McCarthy in the 17th minute. Emer

Watson's effort for a point came back off the post and McCarthy was on hand to billow the back of the net.

Scores were hard to come by, but with the Galway defence inclined to foul and Noreen Mulcahy in excellent form from placed balls the Rebels managed to turn over leading by 1-7 to 0-2 at the break.

After Emer Watson had put the Rebels further ahead with a point in the opening minute of the second half Galway got back into it with a brilliant goal from their best player Brenda Hanney in the 37th minute. She picked up the ball about 30 meters out and raced through the Cork defence to give Valerie McCormack in the Cork goal no chance from close range.

The score seemed to give the West-erners renewed heart and they upped the tempo and put the Cork defence under tremendous pressure until the final ten minutes. However, with Sheila Burns playing a key role at full back and the halfback-line of Noreen Mulcahy, Cáitríona Foley and Rena Buckley giving the Galway forwards little scope the defence stood firm and denied the wearers of the maroon another goal that would really have set up a tremendous finish.

In fact Valerie McCormack had to make a tremendous save from Susan Keane in the 50th minute when Galway were rampant, and in fact apart from Watson's opening point of the second half Cork had to rely on frees

for their other three points in this period.

Scorers: Cork: E. Watson 0-6 (0-2 frees, N. Mulcahy 0-4 (frees), M. McCarthy 1-1).

Galway: B. Hanney 1-1, S. Keane 0-2, C. Glynn 0-1 (free), L. Dillon 0-1.

CORK: McCormack; M. Nyhan, S. Burns, L. Healy; N. Mulcahy, C. Foley, R. Buckley; E. O'Riordan (capt), A. Geary; B. Corkery, M. O'Neill, M. McCarthy; D. Twomey, E. Watson, M. Coleman.

Subs: E. Waters for L. Healy (52nd minute), M. Murphy for M. Coleman (56th minute).

GALWAYS: Eamer; A. Coen, E. Burke, T. Byrne; L. Lally, E. Tannin, A. M. Broderick; C. Kelly (capt), C. Glynn; S. Keane, B. Hanney, M. Geoghegan; L. Dillon, E. Kilkenny, F. Hahnefeld.

Subs: C. Ruddy for L. Lally (20th), M. Finnerty for E. Kilkenny (25th minute), C. Hardiman for M. Geoghegan (half-time); R. Maher for F. Hahnefeld (40th minute), S. Dervan for C. Hardiman (56th).

Referee: E. Browne (Tipperary).

AUGUST
2002

Limerick in control

Limerick 5-7
Offaly 0-2

by Tom Higgins

THIS All-Ireland minor "B" decider, which preceded the "A" final, at Leahy Park, Cashel yesterday was over as a contest after 10 minutes by which stage the Shannonsiders, who were retaining their title, were 3-0 to 0-0 in front and dominating in all departments.

In fact, so marked was their superiority that the ball hardly went beyond the Limerick halfback line in the opening 20 minutes, and it was only in the final minutes of the half that Offaly managed to get their only two scores, points from frees by Aoife Kelly. With

Limerick captain Claire Mulcahy in control at centreback and Sinéad McAuliffe and Fiona Morrissey running riot in the forward line, the wearers of the Green were always in control.

Scorers: S. McAuliffe 2-5 (0-3 frees), F. Morrissey 1-1, S. Brosnan 1-1, L. Kelly 1-0. Offaly: A. Kelly 0-2 (frees). **LIMERICK:** C. Kelleher; S. White, S. O'Mahony, F. Chawke; F. Hickley, C. Mulcahy (capt), F. Geary; N. Heffernan, C. Carroll; S. McAuliffe, C. O'Shea, M. O'Connell; E. Barrett, F. Morrissey, S. Brosnan. Subs: J. Garvey for M. O'Connell (37th minute), M. Stack for J. White (56th minute). **OFFALY:** A. Dolan; S. Buckley, F. Birmingham, M. Murray (capt); L. Gardiner, S. Sullivan, A. Digan; A. Kelly, G. Flynn; M. Bergin, K. Brady, L. Coughlin; T. Coughlin, J. Lyons, L. Nugent. Subs: J. Lawless for L. Nugent (half-time), C. Kinane for T. Coughlin (49th minute); C. Egan for G. Flynn (53rd minute); A. M. Browne and T. Kealy for M. Bergin and K. Brady (56th minute). Referee: U. Kearney (Armagh).



Cork's Rena Buckley heads for goal with Galway's Caroline Kelly in hot pursuit during the All-Ireland Minor 'A' final.

August 2002

Grassroots

YOUR GUIDE TO LOCAL SPORT - EVERY WEDNESDAY



Cork captain Elaine O'Riordan
Picture: Gerard McCarthy

Winner alright!

See pages 8 & 9 for all the action
from Sunday's Minor A and B
All-Ireland camogie finals

AUGUST 2002



Cork girls garner minor victory

Cork 1-11
Galway 1-5

CORK brought their full range of expertise to Leahy Park yesterday and last year's champions used their resolve and maturity to tack on another Minor A All-Ireland camogie title against a dogged Galway side.

This was the 12th title in all for the defending champions, but one that they were pushed for all the way.

In the humid heat of Cashel, Cork's in-built defiance, which was underlined by a high work rate, put them into an unassailable lead of eight points at the break, but it was a typical Cork/Galway clash and the westerners were by no means beaten. A

goal and a point reduced the gap, but on this occasion they were confronted by a Rebel team which showed a lot of substance and harboured a huge will-to-win.

Not surprisingly, manager John Cronin was mighty relieved after the 60 minutes: "It was very hard-earned, but we stood the test very well. Galway never give up without a fight and today it was the same story. It is great to win a tough game, though," he said.

As in many of their games already, Brieghe Corkery was outstanding and was duly crowned Player of the Match. She played a marvellous game stretching the Galway cover time and time again. Her anticipation of the game and general reading of play, plus her never-say-die attitude were the reasons for this much

By THERESA O'CALLAGHAN
Minor A All-Ireland Camogie Final

deserved award.

The opportunism of Emer Watson and the all-important goal from Denise Twomey 16 minutes into the game were other important factors that contributed to the red and white victory. Although both players were closely watched, they were always a big threat and consternation reigned each time they ran on goal. Outside them Corkery, Marie O'Neill and Margaret McCarthy worked extremely hard, and despite the contribution of Elaine Tannin at centre-back, the Galway defence were always under pressure.

Cork captain Elaine O'Riordan was a substantial presence in the middle

of the field, even though Caroline Kelly and Clodagh Glynn tried hard for Galway in this area. However, it is the Leesiders' defence that must be credited the most. With Susan Keane and Brenda Hanney regarded as the main danger ladies for the westerners, their challenge was kept well under wraps. Hanney did get through for a brilliant goal, but Sile Burns, Catriona Foley, Noreen Mulcahy and Rena Buckley ensured that their dominance was kept to a minimum. Goalkeeper Valerie McCormack also played her part making a point-blank save from Keane at a time when the game hung in the balance.

Unfortunately for Galway their full-forward, Emma Kilkelly, was forced off with an ankle injury during the opening 30 minutes and with

her departure went much of the sting out of their attack. However, it would be unfair to blame this for their defeat as the day belonged to Cork. Granted, they had some worrying moments towards the end, but they always looked like they believed they would win.

Scorers Cork: E Watson 0-6 (0-4), N Mulcahy 0-4 (frees), D Twomey 1-0, M McCarthy 0-1.

Scorers Galway: B Hanney 1-1, S Keane 0-2, C Glynn (free) and L Dillon 0-1 each.

Cork: V McCormack; M Nyhan, S Burns, L Healy; N Mulcahy, C Foley, R Buckley; E O'Riordan (capt), A Geary; B Corkery, M O'Neill, M McCarthy; D Twomey, E Watson, M Coleman.

Subs: E Waters for L Healy, M Murphy for M Coleman (both 54 mins).

Galway: S Eamer; A Coen, E Burke, T Byrne; L Lally, E Tannin, A M Broderick; C Kelly (capt), C Glynn; S Keane, B Hanney, M Geoghegan; L Dillon, E Kilkelly, F Hahnefeld.

Subs: C Ruddy for L Lally (19 mins), M Finnerty for E Kilkelly (in 24 mins), C Hardiman for M Geoghegan (half-time), R Maher for F Hahnefeld (39 mins), S Dervan for C Hardiman (54 mins).

Referee: E Brown (Tipperary).

Brieghe Corkery goes on a solo-run during the Minor A Camogie Final in Cashel.

Picture: Gerard McCarthy

Galway lie in wait for Cork girls in All-Ireland semi

Cork 7-12
Antrim 1-8

By THERESA O'CALLAGHAN
Cork Senior Camogie Quarter-final

A HUGE win for Cork and great relief, but their long journey home from Dunloy yesterday after the Foras na Gaelige All-Ireland senior camogie championship quarter-final was made even longer as they waited anxiously for semi-final draw in last night's Sunday game on RTE. As their patience ran out the Cork bus pulled to a halt in Abbeyfeix and the draw was watched in a local hostelry.

Cork drew Galway and the All-Ireland champions Tipperary have Kilkenny, both games to be played in the Gaelic Grounds, Limerick on Saturday week. "A tough one," was how selector Rose Desmond reacted to the news. "Galway were knocked out like ourselves at the semi-final stage last year, so they will be all out for victory.

They are a very strong and physical team and it will not be an easy game for us by any means.

"To be honest, some of the girls are a trifle disappointed we did not get Tipperary. We owe them one from last year."

Meanwhile, back to Dunloy and in a rain-soaked pitch it took Cork 30 minutes to make their mark in this game. They were surprisingly very sluggish in the opening half and went in at the short whistle just two points in front - grateful to the sterling defensive work of goalkeeper Ger Casey, Eithne Duggan, Joanne O'Callaghan and Stephanie Dunlea - to be still in touch. However, an interval pep talk of the most colourful nature worked wonders as the Rebels came out with all guns blazing in the second-half.

Caoimhe Harrington and Fiona O'Driscoll added to their first half goals and when the same players competed their hat-trick midway through the half, this contest turned into a mere limb loosening exercise. Positional switches too played their part with centre-forward Emer Dillon moving to centre-field, Jennifer O'Leary to wing-forward and Elaine Burke to the forty. Also the introduction of Sara Hayes at wing-back made an impact.

Scorers Cork: F O'Driscoll 3-4, C Harrington 3-0, R Moloney 1-4, E Dillon 0-2, E Burke and C Harte 0-1 each.

Scorers Antrim: D Darragh 1-2, J Adams and G Connolly 0-2 each, R Duffin and E Mason 0-1 each.

Cork: G Casey; J O'Callaghan, E Duggan, S Dunlea; P O'Connor, M O'Connor, G O'Connor; V Harris, E Burke; J O'Leary, E Dillon, R Moloney; F O'Driscoll, C Harrington, U O'Donoghue (capt).

Subs: S Hayes for P O'Connor, D Cronin for C Harrington, C Harte for E Dillon (in), C Corkery for E Burke, C Healy for F O'Driscoll.

Antrim: S McKeavey; S McMullen, H Healy, M Graham; F Hasson, M Duffin, C McGinley; C Gault, M Barry; D Darragh, J Adams, R Duffin; G Connolly, K O'Neill, G McMullen.



Cork's Anna Geary in command against Galway during the Minor A Camogie Final in Cashel.

Picture: Gerard McCarthy

CHAMPIONS



WINNERS: The Cork Camogie team celebrate winning the All-Ireland Minor A title after beating Galway in the final.

CORK are today celebrating a glorious sporting double.

The county's All-Ireland minor camogie champions arrived back from Cashes with their trophy held aloft and they were joined by Fairhill's James Buckley who won the All-Ireland senior road-bowling title for the second time in his career in County Armagh yesterday.

"I am thrilled with this win but I must admit that I went up to Armagh with the specific intention of winning the senior title again,"

Double sporting success for Cork

By **THERESE O'CALLAGHAN**
Leaside sporting double

said Buckley.

"I was under no illusions at the task I faced against Ulster champion Michael Toal, but it's a great thrill to win the title again for the first time since 1995," said the 35-year-old Buckley.

Meanwhile, the camogie stars of tomorrow arrived back last night with their

All-Ireland crown after an exciting victory over Galway.

The rivalry which has grown between these two teams was evident again and it took a first-half goal from St. Catherine's Denise Twomey to put daylight between the teams.

For manager John Cronin, this ranked among the greatest of all. This morning he told the *Echo*

that it was a great relief to have brought the cup home again: "We always knew that it was going to be difficult against Galway. Between us we have contested the last five or six All Irelands and there is never too much between the sides."

"The girls though were tremendous and were delighted with their win."

Player of the Match Brieghe Corkery was another to sparkle for the Rebels and Sile Burns from Rockbawn was a tower of strength in the back-line.

See Pages 34/35 for camogie special.

Tipperary trounce weak Wexford

Tipperary
Wexford 0-10

by **Maura Scully**

TIPPERARY booked themselves a place in the first Na Gaeilge All-Ireland Camogie Championship semi-final on August 17 following their big victory over a disappointing Wexford side in the quarter-final at Semple Stadium yesterday.

Billy Morgan's niece, Emer McDonnell, had 1-1 on the board before Wexford got a chance to settle. Paula Rankin of Wexford knocked over their opening point in the fifth minute, but even by then, Tipp's young tigers were in almost top gear. Two further goals from full-forward Deirdre Hughes and one from Philly Fogarty had the three-in-a-row champions leading comfortably 4-9 to 0-4 at the break.

A hat-trick of goals was completed by Hughes when she sent in her third goal in the opening minute of the second half. Despite the best efforts of Wexford centre-forward Aine Codd and Kate Kelly at midfield, they could not find a way to stop the impressive Tipperary players.

Sixteen-year-old corner-forward Claire Grogan found the Wexford net twice in the second half. With nine minutes left, Aine Codd saw her penalty saved by the Tipp defence, and after that it was plain sailing.

Scorers Tipperary: D. Hughes 3-2, C. Grogan 2-5, E. McDonnell 1-3, P. Fogarty 1-0, J. Ryan, C. Gaynor 0-2 each, L. Young 0-1.
Wexford: K. Kelly 0-7, M. O'Leary, P. Rankin, A. Codd 0-1 each.

TIPPERARY: J. Delaney; P. Bultin, U. O'Dwyer (capt), C. Madden, S. Nealon, C. Gaynor, S. Kelly, E. Hayden, A. McDermott, P. Fogarty, L. Young, J. Ryan, E. McDonnell, D. Hughes, C. Grogan. Subs: L. Ryan for J. Delaney; N. Kennedy for P. Fogarty;

7-15

S. Howard for C. Madden.
WEXFORD: M. Darcy; C. O'Connor, O. Heffernan, C. O'Loughlin, M. Leacy, S. Carr, B. Holohan, M. O'Leary, K. Kelly, L. Holohan, A. Codd, E. Quigley, M. Kelly, M. Hearne, P. Rankin. Subs: A. Moran for B. Holohan; E. Carroll for O. Heffernan.
Referee: Aine Derham (Dublin).

Kilkenny 6-15
Down 0-4

THE Kilkenny Cats got plenty of cream as they defeated Down in Saturday's Championship quarter-final in Ballyholland, Co. Down.

Beaten in last year's All-Ireland final, they are a much more focused side this season since the former player Ann Downey took over as Kilkenny manager. The fact that no less than nine players registered scores on Saturday must have pleased Downey. The Cats got off to a super start with two opening first half goals from Aoife Neary and Catherine Doherty which put them ahead 2-8 to 0-4 at the break. Sadly, Down's Máirín McAleenan, who scored 0-3 in the first half along with Lisa McCrickard, could not find the scoring posts in the second half and thus this half belonged to Kilkenny. Rising Kilkenny star Marie O'Connor and five-times All-Ireland winner Marina Downey, sent the sliotar to the Down net on three occasions with Aoife Neary getting her second goal thus ensuring their semi-final spot.

Scorers Kilkenny: A. Neary 2-1, M. O'Connor 2-0, C. Doherty, M. Downey 1-2 each, S. Millea 0-4, M. Costelloe 0-3, E. Maher, B. Mulally, J. Frisby 0-1 each.
Down: M. McAleenan 0-3, L. McCrickard 0-1.

KILKENNY: M. Holland; E. Kennedy (capt), J. Dillon, Maher, E. Lyng, K. Long, F. Shore, M. Lawlor, E. Maher, P. Comerford, M. Downey, M. Costelloe, A. Neary, C. Doherty, S. Millea, J. Frisby.

DOWN: T. McGowan; R. Cunningham, C. Mulholland, D. Cella, F. Carr, P. Greene, B. Gallagher, J. Braniff, M. Murray, G. Coulter, M. McAleenan, T. McCrickard, K. Fagin, C. McGourty, M. Gilmore.

Camogie packs a punch

CORK camogie received a major boost with the announcement that the county senior championship is to be sponsored by Punch Industries.

The company is replacing the old county championship cup — the Science Cup — with a new trophy to be named the Punch Shoe Care Trophy.

Another major step is the sponsorship of the county championship medals for the first time.

In the early '30s Punch and Co. sponsored a trophy for the Cork senior county championship and there started a tradition that has spanned 70 years, with the trophy in particular holding fond memories for a legion of players.

By **MARY NEWMAN McCARTHY**
New era for Cork camogie

County chairperson Sile Golden, in making the announcement, explained the background to the sponsorship.

"The Cork senior championship is one of the oldest camogie championships and there is a great tradition at-

tached to it," she said.

The Science Cup has huge historic attachments but over the last number of years wear and tear have taken a toll and we have found it necessary to replace it.

"We were very anxious to maintain the tradition started in the early '30s and when we approached Punch Industries they were very receptive.

"Sponsorship now plays a big part in sport and this is a first for us."

"It's a big boost to have our premier competition sponsored for the first time."

"We are hoping that now a trend may be set with our other major competition."

St Finbarr's and Clougday contest the final on Friday in Pairc Uí Rinn at 7.15pm.

AUGUST 2002

The green and red rule

Cork and Limerick in clean sweep!

MUNSTER rejoiced last weekend with both Minor A and B camogie titles remaining in the south. Cork, led by captain Elaine O'Riordan, collected their 12th win in the A grade, while Limerick's win means that they are keeping Corn Aoife all to themselves. This is the second year of the B competition and the green and white have been successful on both occasions.

Cork's trip to Cashel was a journey into the unknown. They had little difficulty in getting to the final, and knew very little about their opposition. The sides met in last season's semi-final but this was no indication of form as the westerners had lost many of that side. The Rebels, on the other hand, brought over half of their 2001 All-Ireland winning side with them, and entered the game as favourites.

Excitement was high as they red and white brigade took to the field, shouted on by their large band of loyal supporters. It was nip and tuck for the opening quarter, but in a goal-mouth melee Denise Twomey pounced for the Cork goal. This shot, set up by Emer Watson and helped along by Margaret McCarthy, was the turning point of the game. It was looking good for the defending champions.

With Sile Burns in outstanding form, they jumped in to an eight-point lead at the interval and, despite a great second-half rally from Galway, were in no mood to relent their crown.

Cork captain Elaine O'Riordan was the proud recipient of the silverware from National President, Pat Rafferty. Elaine, from Milford, was one of four players from the club on the team.

In the opening game on a humid afternoon in Leahy Park, Limerick's big following were celebrating as early as the second minute when Player of the Match Sinead McAuliffe's long delivery lobbed over the goalkeeper's head. From there on in it was all one-way traffic as the Shannonsiders raced in to a



Cork's Rena Buckley shows pace and skill to go past Caroline Kelly of Galway during the Minor A Camogie final.

Picture: Gerard McCarthy



Marion O'Connell, Limerick tries to evade Offaly's Sile Sullivan.

Picture: Gerard McCarthy



Briege Corkery celebrates with her team mate Ca-triona Foley at the final whistle. Picture: Gerard McCarthy

By THERESA O'CALLAGHAN

Camogie winners

3-2 to 0-2 lead at the break.

This win was a great fillip for Limerick camogie, especially after the dismissal of their senior side in the Foras na Gaeilge senior championship quarter-final.

These minors, all under 16, showed maturity beyond their tender years. It was obvious too that last season's All-Ireland title holders were very confident and showed nerves of steel throughout the 60 minutes.

For the Mulcahy family, it was a big sporting weekend. While

unfortunately, mum Vera was on the losing side as selector with the senior team, dad Jer was a selector with the minor squad and to cap a marvellous afternoon, daughter Claire captained the side bringing the trophy back to Ahane, and Limerick for the second year in a row.



ACTION: Limerick's Marion O'Connell comes away from Offaly's Sile Sullivan during the Minor B Camogie Final in Cashel.

Picture: Gerard McCarthy

Limerick ease to back to back titles

By THERESA O'CALLAGHAN
All-Ireland Minor B Camogie Final

Limerick 5-7
Offaly 0-2

THE battling qualities of Limerick shone through in a humid Leahy Park Cashel yesterday as they claimed back-to-back All-Ireland wins in the Minor B camogie championship. Almost from the moment Player of the Match Sinead McAuliffe opened with a second-minute goal, this highly talented squad showing unbelievable self-belief were the only team in contention for the title.

Their experience from winning last season's decider stood them no end. And with hotshot, McAuliffe turning in a match-winning display notching up 2-5, manager Tom Hennessy was thrilled with his days work.

"We had looked at Offaly and they were a good side. We thought it would be much closer. But it was one of those days when everything you worked on, happened."

It was in the first ten minutes that Limerick secured this win when Fiona Morrissey and Shannon Brosnan tacked on a pair of goals to McAuliffe's opener. Two points from Aoife Kelly, daughter of former hurler Joachim, did give them some glimmer of hope as they trailed 3-2 to 0-2 at the break.

However, the hope was extinguished as they failed to score again and the second period was no more than shooting practice for the Shannonsiders. Clara Kelleher was rarely troubled in the Limerick goal and whatever did come her way she dealt with admirably. Their defence was superb; captain Claire Mulcahy was a tower of strength on the forty. She had great support from the Ballyagran duo of Janice White and Sarah O'Mahony, while Granagh/Ballingarry's Fiona Chawke, Fiona Hickey and Fiona Geary all played their part.

Aoife Kelly and Grace Flynn tried their best to get Offaly going, but it was impossible to stop the flow from Natalie Heffernan and Christine Carroll. Along with McAuliffe, Lisa Kelly, Morrissey and Brosnan displayed notable confidence in the attack.

So, two minor titles in as many years, can this dominance transfer up the ranks? "It is in the hands of the County Board," said boss, Morrissey. "If people want it to happen it will. The talent is there but the mechanics to get it there are not in place yet."

Scorers Limerick: S McAuliffe 2-5 (0-4f), F Morrissey and S Brosnan 1-1 each, L Kelly 1-0.

Scorers Offaly: A Kelly 0-2 (free).

Limerick: C Kelleher; J White, S O'Mahony, F Chawke; F Hickey, C Mulcahy (capt), F Geary; N Heffernan, C Carroll; S McAuliffe, C O'Shea, M O'Connell; L Kelly, F Morrissey, S Brosnan.

Subs: J Garvey for M O'Connell (39 mins), M Stack for J White (55 mins).

Offaly: A Dolan; S Buckley, F Birmingham, M Murray (capt); L Gardiner, S Sullivan, A Digan; A Kelly, G Flynn, M Bergin, K Brady, L Coughlan; T Coughlin, J Lyons, L Nugent.

Subs: J Lawless for K Brady (29 mins), C Kenna for T Coughlin (42 mins), A M Browne for K Brady, T Kealy for M Bergin (both 47 mins).

Referee: U Kearney (Armagh).

Limerick lose out to classy Galway

Galway 1-15
Limerick 1-10

By THERESA O'CALLAGHAN
All-Ireland quarter-final

GALWAY did not set the world on fire in Ballingarry, but they left satisfied with a place in the Foras na Gaeilge All-Ireland Senior Camogie Championship semi-final against Cork.

For Limerick, it was soul-destroying, especially after the glory of earlier months. An honourable discharge, yes, but looking at the players trudging off the field it did not feel like that to them.

Gutted was how Limerick manager John Lacey summed up his feelings after the game.

"I am absolutely gutted. We had worked really hard for this one, but things did not go our way."

"We were unlucky not to have scored two or three goals coming up to half time and when Vera (Sheehan) got injured it also upset our plans."

"Our panel is tight and our subs are very young. I hope we can come back, but I am so disappointed," he said.

The line between success and

failure is as narrow as a tight-rope, but Limerick will blame their below-par first half display for this loss.

They gave away needless frees and dead-ball expert Sharon Glynn was only too willing to oblige.

They were in deep water for most of this period and only scored one point from play for the opening 30 minutes.

But lady luck was not on their side either, as on three occasions they should have goaled on the run-up to half time.

The Shannonsiders were stung for a goal and four points soon after the re-start, during which time they could only muster two points themselves.

Although they trailed by 11 points, they re-grouped and were the better side entering the final quarter, much of their inspiration stemming from a rocket goal from Marie Keating and some glorious free-taking from Eileen O'Brien.

They reduced the deficit to four points but that was as far as they could get despite the best efforts of Deirdre Sheehan, Rose Collins and

CHAMPS FACE UP TO THE CATS

THE following is the draw for Foras na Gaeilge All-Ireland senior camogie championship semi-finals:

Cork v Galway;

Tipperary v Kilkenny.

Both of these games will be played in the Gaelic Grounds, Limerick on Saturday August 17.

Marie Keating.

Louise Curry was in splendid form in the Galway goal and broke the hearts of the Limerick girls.

Youngsters Aislinn Connolly (daughter of Galway hurler John) and Lourda Kavanagh were in splendid form. Kavanagh struck the Galway goal when her long delivery was inadvertently re-routed into the Limerick net by wing-back Michelle Casey.

Colette Walsh, part of a father-daughter backroom team, was happy with the win, but admitted Galway will have to improve.

"We lost our shape in the end

when Limerick came at us.

"We were 11 points up and that is a very dangerous thing to do. Leaving aside today's performance, I still think there is more in us."

"We cannot afford to die. Last year we bowed out at the semi-final. We are back again but will have it all to do."

Galway will have to improve against Cork. But that is not beyond their capabilities. It will be an interesting semi-final in the Gaelic Grounds on Saturday week, while the game between Tipperary and Kilkenny will be the second part of a double header.

Scorers Galway: S Glynn 0-7 (0-5f, 0-1 45m), L Kavanagh 1-2, A Connolly 0-3, C Murray 0-2 each, O Kilkenny 0-1.

Limerick: E O'Brien 0-7 (0-6f, 0-1 45m), M Keating 1-1, A O'Connell and A Sheehan 0-1 each.

GALWAY: L Curry; R Broderick, O Forde, P Nevin; M Haverly (capt), T Laheen, M Harkin; A Hardiman, A Hillary; C Murray, M Glynn, L Kavanagh; A Connolly, S Glynn, D Gilligan.

Subs: O Kilkenny for A Hillary (46 mins).

LIMERICK: E Reale; D Sheehan, R Collins, P McCarthy; M Casey, M Neville, M Kelly; M Nash, V Sheehan (capt); A Sheehan, A White, E O'Brien; A O'Connell, M Keating, J Clifford.

Subs: P Cronin for M Neville (36 mins), C Hayes for A O'Connell (46 mins).

Referee: J O'Brien (Wexford).

Cork sweep aside Antrim challenge

Cork
Antrim7-12
1-8

by Mary Newman

CORK qualified for the Foras na Gaeilge All-Ireland senior camogie championship semi-final after withstanding a strong first-half challenge from Antrim in Dunloy yesterday.

Cork held a two-point interval lead, 2-5 to 1-6. The goals came from Fiona O'Driscoll and Caoimhe Harrington replied to by Denise Darragh with good play from Grace Connolly and Edel Mason keeping Antrim in touch.

On the resumption Cork upped the pace and inside 15 minutes had stretched their lead thanks to goals from Caoimhe Harrington, Fiona O'Driscoll and Rachel Maloney.

Now in total control, the Cork girls maintained their momentum to ensure their qualification.

Scorers: Cork: F. O'Driscoll 3-4, C. Harrington 3-0, R. Maloney 1-4, E. Dillon 0-2, E. Burke, C. Harte 0-1 each. Antrim: D. Darragh 1-2, J. Adams, G. Connolly 0-2 each, R. Duffin, E. Mason 0-1 each.

CORK: G. Casey, J. O'Callaghan, E. Duggan, S. Dunlea, G. O'Connor, M. O'Connor, P. O'Connor, R. Maloney, J. O'Leary, C. Harrington, V. Harris, U. O'Donoghue, E. Burke, E. Dillon, F. O'Driscoll, subs. S. Hayes for P. O'Connor, K. Harte for F. O'Driscoll, C. Corkery for C. Harrington, N. Cronin for E. Burke, C. Healy for E. Dillon.

ANTRIM: S. Langan, M. Graham, S. McMullen, N. Duffin, C. Gough, M. Barry, C. McGinley, J. Adams, R. Duffin, K. O'Neill, G. McMullen, G. Connolly, A. McKee, E. Mason, D. Darragh.

Referee: B. Savage (Down)

Galway 1-15
Limerick 1-10

GALWAY, who many see as destined to reach Croke Park on September 15, were made to fight for their semi-final spot by Limerick in Ballingarry.

When both sides met earlier in the league final Galway were well in com-

Galway through after clash with Shannonsiders

mand. But on Saturday Limerick's defence did not allow the Galway forwards the same scope. The only Galway goal came in the fourth minute of the second half from Lourda Kavanagh as a result of an unfortunate mistake by Limerick corner-back Michelle Casey.

Limerick then hit their best patch when the great stylist Eileen O'Brien sent over 0-4 before Marie Keating crashed the ball to the Galway net. With nine minutes remaining Galway led 1-12 to 1-8. Both sides exchanged further points, the last score of the game fell to substitute Orla Kilkenny.

Scorers: Galway: L. Kavanagh 1-2, S. Glynn 0-7, A. Connolly 0-3, C. Murray 0-2, O. Kilkenny 0-1. Limerick: M. Keating 1-1, E. O'Brien 0-7, A. O'Connell, A. Sheehan 0-1 each.

GALWAY: L. Curry, R. Broderick, O. Broderick, P. Nevin, M. Haverly (capt), T. Laheen, M. Harkin, A. Hardiman, A. Hilary, C. Murray, M. Flynn, L. Kavanagh, A. Connolly, S. Glynn, D. Gilligan. Subs: O. Kilkenny for A. Hilary.

LIMERICK: E. Reale, D. Sheehan, R. Collins, P. McCarthy, M. Casey, M. Neville, M. Kelly, M. Nash, V. Sheehan (capt), A. Sheehan, C. Murphy, E. O'Brien, A. O'Connell, M. Keating, A. White.

Referee: Jack O'Brien (Wexford).

● The draws for the Foras na Gaeilge All Ireland Senior Camogie Championship were made as follows:

Tipperary v Kilkenny; Cork v Galway (both games to be played at the Gaelic Grounds, Limerick on Saturday August 17).



Cork's Breege Corkery celebrates with her team-mates after their All-Ireland Minor 'A' camogie final victory over Galway.



The Cork team celebrate after winning the All-Ireland Minor 'A' title for the 12th time at Leahy Park, Cashel. Cork won the game 1-11 to 1-5. Picture: Gerard McCarthy

All-Ireland double: Congrats to the Cork minor camogie team who captured the All-Ireland crown at Cachel on Sunday. For seven players, it was the completion of a great double as they also figured on the team that defeat Galway in the All-Ireland under 16 football final the previous week.

The girls were captain Elaine O'Riordan, Sile Burns, Catriona Foley, Breege Corkery, Marie O'Neill, Rena Buckley and Emma Dunne.

Elaine O'Riordan: Age, 16; club, Lisacrolly; school, St. Mary's, Charleville; year started football, 1997; biggest influence in your career, parents and Sheila Thompson; favourite player, Diarmuid O'Sullivan. Major honours won in sport and in football, U14 and U16 All-Ireland, camogie All-Ireland minor medal, six All-Ireland colleges camogie medals.

Catriona Foley: Age, 16; club, Rockban; work, Playschool; year started football, 1986; biggest influence in your career, parents; favourite player, Sile Burns. Major honours won in sport and in football, football U14 and U16 All-Ireland, All-Ireland minor camogie 2001 and 2002, All-Ireland junior with club.

Marie O'Neill: club, Watergrasshill; age, 15; school, Loreto, Fermoy; year started football, 1997; biggest influence in your career, parents. Major honours won in sport and in football, All-Ireland under 14 and 16, All-Ireland B Schools camogie. Two minor All-Ireland camogie titles, 2001 and 2002.

Rena Buckley: club, Donoughmore; school, St. Al's. Major honours, All-Ireland senior club medal All-Ireland under 14 and 16 medal, All-Ireland minor camogie medals 2001 and 2002.

Breege Corkery: Age, 16; club, St. Val's; work, Vet; year started football, 1991; biggest influence in your career, Gerard Coakley, primary school teacher; favourite player, Gene Lucey. Major honours won in sport and in football, two All-Ireland in football, two camogie, All-Ireland minor 2001 and 2002, and a senior county.

Sile Burns: Age, 16; club, Rockban; school, Carraig na Bhfeair; year started football, 1992; biggest influence in your career, father; favourite play-

er, Valerie Mulcahy. Major honours won in sport and in football, All-Ireland football U14 and U16, All-Ireland camogie U14 and minor 2001 and 2002, four Sciath na Scoil titles, All-Ireland junior football with Rockban.

Cork prove mettle to keep All-Ireland crown

Cork 1-11
Galway 1-5

THEY said it would be their toughest game and that's the way it turned out as the Cork defence proved their mettle against a tremendous Galway onslaught in the final 20 minutes of the game to retain their All-Ireland Camogie "A" crown, in very humid conditions in Leahy Park Cashel on Sunday last.

The game was much tighter than the score suggests but with all the Cork backs, led by Sheila Burns and Catriona Foley (both Rockbawn) in top form, the Galway shooting efforts were always under pressure.

Galway opened their account when their star centre forward, Brenda Hanney pointed in the 2nd minute. However Cork then took control for the remainder of the half and with Noreen Mulcahy (St. Catherine's) in excellent long-range free-taking form on the day, opened Cork's account with a point in the sixth minute from a free.

MISSES

Following a number of Cork misses, Denise Cronin (St. Catherine's) sent a cross from

the corner to Emer Watson (Milford) who pointed in the 15th min. Two minutes later an Emer Watson shot rebounded off the post. Denise Cronin blocked it down to Margaret McCarthy (Inniscarra) who was at hand to flick it into the net giving Cork 1-2 to 0-1 lead.

Galway's defence had their marking homework well done and despite some good distribution, Cork's forward line found scores difficult to come by. The only problem was that the Galway backs gave away too many fouls especially on Breege Corkery (Cloughduv), who was later chosen as player of the match.

Emer Watson added 2 points, 1 a free, Mgt. McCarthy a point and Noreen Mulcahy 2 long-range points from frees. Breege Corkery also had a goal disallowed in the 28th min because of a square infringement. Galway replied with a point from Linda Dillon before suffering a setback late in the half when they had to replace their full forward Emma Kilkelly who suffered a leg injury. Cork went into the break with a comfortable lead of 1-7 to 0-2.

However it was an entirely different story in the second half as Galway stormed into the game helped by a splendid goal from Brenda Hanney in the fifth min as they threw down the gauntlet to a more fancied Cork side. Magnificent displays in the back line from Rena Buckley (Inniscarra) and Marguerite Nyhan

(Enniskeane) and the fact that Galway went for goals instead of picking off their points meant that Cork were able to withstand the pressure well and twenty minutes into the second half held a 1-10 to 1-4 lead.

Then keeper Valerie McCormack (Kildorrery) brought off a tremendous save and this proved to be crucial moment at a time Cork were struggling and managed only four points, all from frees, after the break. Galway's second half tally on the other hand was 1-3 (0-1 free). If they had managed to goal at this stage it could have been the spur the losers needed but it was not to be and Cork held out to bring the cup home for the 12th time in the history of this competition.

In the "B" final which preceded the "A" decider, Limerick comprehensively overcame Offaly on a scoreline of 5-7 to 0-2.

Scorers: Cork: Mgt. McCarthy 1-1, Emer Watson 0-6 (0-4 frees), Noreen Mulcahy 0-4 (frees). Galway: B. Hanney 1-1, S. Keane 0-2, C. Glynn 0-1 (free), and L. Dillon 0-1.

Cork: Valerie McCormack (Kildorrery); Marguerite Nyhan (Enniskeane), Sheila Byrnes (Rockbawn), Lisa Healy (Milford); Noreen Mulcahy (St. Catherine's), Catriona Foley (Rockbawn), Rena Buckley (Inniscarra); Elaine O'Riordan (Milford), Anna Geary (Milford), Breege Corkery (Cloughduv), Marie O'Neill (Water-

grasshill), Margaret McCarthy (Inniscarra); Denise Twomey (St. Catherine's), Emer Watson (Milford), Mary Coleman (Ballyhea); Michelle Hegarty (Glen Rovers), Sarah Downing (Courcy Rovers), Julie Sheehy (Milford), Patricia O'Sullivan (Carrigaline), Catriona Myers (St. Finbarr's), Emma Dunne (Cloughduv), Ciara McKenna (Eire Og), Subs.: Edwina Waters (Ballyhea) for L. Healy 52nd min.; Marion Murphy (Kilbrittain/Timoleague) for M. Coleman 56th min.).

Galway: S. Eamer; A. Coen, E. Burke, T. Byrne; L. Lally, E. Tannin, A. M. Broderick; C. Kelly, C. Glynn; S. Kane, B. Hanney, M. Geoghegan; L. Dillon, E. Kilkelly, F. Hahnefeld; C. Ruddy for Lally (25th min.); M. Finnerty for E. Kilkelly (25th min.); C. Hardiman for M. Geoghegan (30th min.); R. Maher for F. Hahnefeld (40th min.); S. Dervin for C. Hardiman (56th min.); R. Maher, C. Briscoe.

Referee: E. Browne, Tipperary.

AUG
2002

Rock of a defence helps Cork minors keep All-Ireland crown in Cashel

Camogie Scene with Mary Newman

CORK 1-11 GALWAY 1-5

A TREMENDOUS display from a solid defence helped in no small way to Cork retaining their minor All-Ireland camogie crown in Cashel on Sunday last.

Susan Hanney opened the scoring with a Galway point but with Noreen Mulcahy and Emer Watson settling Cork with points they edged ahead.

With both defences on top scores were hard to come by but it was Cork who grabbed the initiative at the midway stage. Emer Watson's attempt struck the post and came back into play for Margaret McCarthy to finish to the net with the help of Denise Twomey.

Now in the ascendancy Cork piled on the pressure and with Watson and Linda Dillon exchanging points they held their advantage.

Entering the closing stages of the half Cork hit a purple patch and with Margaret McCarthy, Noreen Mulcahy (two) and Emer Watson hitting points without reply Cork were comfortably ahead 1-7 to 0-2 at the break.

Within a minute of the restart Emer Watson pointed a Cork point free, but with Galway settling and coming more into the game the Cork defence was now under pressure. Brenda Hanney who always looked dangerous finally broke the Cork rearguard when she left the defence flat footed and finished to the net.

By the midway stage the sides had pointed a free apiece but now the Cork defence were coming under tremendous pressure as Galway applied the pressure led in the main by Susan Keane and Brenda Hanney.

Susan Keane had two Galway points between the nineteenth and twenty third minute without reply as Cork struggled to regain their composure.

Again Galway came forwards in search off the crucial goal but a solid Cork defence excellently marshaled by goalkeeper Valerie McCormick, Sile Burns and Rena Buckley refused to wilt.

Emer Watson relieved the pressure with a pointed free which ended a 14-minute spell without a Cork score but it mattered little as referee Eamonn Brown sounded his whistle seconds later much to the relief of the Cork camp.

Selector Ann Watson was full of praise for her charges after the game but was not slow to give the reasons for Galway's second half come back.

"It was a tough game and we were under pressure we fell apart at center field and allowed them back into the game."

"We were comfortable right through the first half but they caught up and put us under tremendous pressure thankfully we held out and got the right result."

"I am thrilled for the girls who have worked so hard to achieve their goal. It great to put titles back to back and it can only be good for the game in the county" said an elated Ann Watson.

In what was essentially a team performance the display of Breege Corkery who worked tirelessly through the game is worthy of mention, as is that Sile Burns, Rena Buckley and Marguerite Nyhan.

Team captain Elaine O'Riordan expressed relief that her side were champions: "We played well in the first half but we allowed them into the game in the second half."

"I am just delighted it's over and that we have won it's a great feeling to be All-Ireland champions again and I am very honored to have been captain of such a great side."

Breege Corkery was named as Player of the Game at the post match function in Cahir House Hotel and deserved such an honour such was her contribution to the Cork success.

Teams — Cork: V McCormack; M Nyhan, S Burns, L Healy; N Mulcahy, C Foley, R Buckley; E O'Riordan (captain), A Geary; B Corkery, M O'Neill, M McCarthy; D Twomey, E Watson, M Coleman. **Subs:** E Waters for L. Healy, M Murphy for M Coleman.

Galway: S Eamer; A Coen, E Burke, T Byrne; L Lally, E Tannin, AM Broderick; C Kelly, C Glynn; S Keane, B Hanney, M Geoghegan; L Dillon, E Kilkelly, F Hahnefeld. **Subs:** C Ruddy for L Lally, M Finnerty for E Kilkelly, C Hardiman for M Geoghegan, R Maher for F Hahnefeld, S Dervin for C Hardiman.

Referee: E Brown (Tipperary).

Seniors beaten but U-16's are champions

THREE goals, of the "soft" variety in the opening 10 minutes gave Limerick the best of starts at Cashel on Saturday last, and despite a determined fight back by Offaly, Limerick deservedly captured their second successive All-Ireland under-16B championship title 5-7 to 0-2.

Sinead McAuliffe, Ballygran, with two goals, and Fiona Morrissey, Granagh-Ballingarry, with one, were the scorers of the goals and the same Sinead and Fiona added on the points which gave Limerick a 3-2 to 0-2 half time lead.

As the score indicates the goals were the main difference between the teams in the first half with Limerick's early dominance fading and Offaly, driven forward by their outstanding centre-back, Sile Sullivan gained parity and indeed - without scoring much - dominated the second quarter.

However, with centre back and captain Claire Mulcahy, Ahane, and midfielder Christine Carroll,

CAMOGIE

Patrickswell, outstanding, Limerick conceded only two points.

The second half saw the girls in green at their best. The backs were superb. The accurate Sinead McAuliffe (2-4), Shannon Brosnan, Kilmallock, (0-1) and Lisa Kelly, Granagh-Ballingarry, (1-0), kicked off the scores that brought Limerick's final tally to 5-7.

The backroom team consisted of Tom Hennessy, manager/trainer/selector, Kilmallock, Ger Mulcahy, Ahane, and T.J. Moloney, Na Piersaigh, selectors, and Shiela Treacy, selector and liaison officer, whose commitment and enthusiasm since the campaign began last April has been exemplary.

Ballingarry was the venue for last Saturday's All-Ireland senior championship quarter final against Galway.

The Galwegians were odds on favourites, Limerick hopeful but apprehensive remembering the 1-7

to 6-6 defeat in the N.I. final and the trouncing by Cork in the first round of the championship.

Vera Sheehan and co. gave as good as they got for the 60 minutes, went down 1-10 to 1-15 and but for poor finishing and the excellence of the visiting goalkeeper could have won.

Limerick started positively and aggressively, scored twice in the opening seven minutes, saw goal scoring chances spurned, conceded frees which were punished consistently by the accurate Sharon Glynn, and were 0-2 to 0-8 behind at the interval.

The big negative was the goal chances missed with Maria Keating creating all of them, when Galway increased their lead 0-3 to 1-10.

Four minutes into the second half, fears of annihilation re-surfaced.

It didn't happen. Rose Collins really rolled up her sleeves, Deirdre Sheehan tightened up the centre when moved to No. 6, Mairead Kelly and Michelle Casey picked up where they left off in the first half, Maria Keating

continued to be the main threat near the Galway goal, Eileen O'Brien went at the Galway backs. The result was that Limerick gradually closed the gap, with 12 minutes to go it was 0-7 to 1-11.

At this stage, into the final quarter, the crowd was on its toes, lifted by the efforts of the gutsy girls in green.

Two changes then improved the performance. Vera Sheehan, moved to full forward, Joanne Clifford went to half-back.

Vera was inspirational at No. 14, Joanne won great ball at right half back. In the 19th minute a superb hand pass from Vera put Maria Keating in for a bullet of a goal, Aoife Sheehan double on a centre for a point that could have been a goal, the Galway goalie made a first class double save.

It was a very exciting finale. The superlative Rose Collins pushed forward from full back, Meadhbh Nash attacked from midfield, chances were created but unluckily Limerick couldn't come closer than 0-4. Marie Keating had Limer-

ick's final point.

On the local club scene its full steam ahead with Senior B championship under-18 league, intermediate league and championship and under-16 A league and championship. Nine games down for decision, on Friday Senior B, Sunday under-18, Saturday week, August 17 inter championship. Some backlog, games remain in under-16 A and inter league and these will be sorted out at the August Co. Board meeting, on August 6.

Finally, best of luck to (1) Granagh-Ballingarry who play Cashel on Saturday next 3pm, in Cashel, in round one of the Munster club championship;

Sars topple Catherine's for deserved victory

By MARY NEWMAN MCCARTHY

Cork Junior A camogie

Sarsfields 4-8
St Catherine's 3-10

SARSFIELD'S upset the form book as they recorded a well-deserved victory over favourites St Catherine's to book their place in the Cork County Junior A Championship final at Watergrasshill.

St Catherine's led 2-7 to 2-3 at the interval after they had taken an early lead when Helen Lane followed Orla Cotter's opening point with a goal to settle the Conna girls.

Denise Twomey further stretched the Catherine's advantage before Emer O'Farrell opened the Sars' scoring in the sixth minute when she goaled.

With Denise Twomey and O'Farrell swapping points it was evenly matched. Orla Barry pointed a Sars free before Twomey struck for the Saints' second goal when she worked her way past the Sars' defence to finish well. Three points without replay saw St Catherine's further stretch their advantage. But showing fierce spirit, Sars fought back and an Ashling Griffin goal nine minutes from half-time had them back in contention. Points from Orla Cotter and Noreen Mulcahy put four between the sides on the half time whistle.

From the restart Sars showed great determination and proceeded to dominate, turning the form book upside down. Elma Looney had a goal within two minutes of the restart and it set the trend. Orla Barry added a point and it was all square.

Sars showed their will to succeed when Ashling Griffin struck for a goal and Emer O'Farrell pointing immediately afterwards. Sars were now four ahead.

Orla Cotter led the Catherine's fight back with two points, but with Orla Barry again putting three between the sides Sarsfield's continued to dictate matters. St Catherine's were thrown a life-line with five minutes remaining when Denise Twomey had the sides level with a well-struck goal and a minute later her point gave Catherine's the lead. Now in the ascendancy the Conna girls put Sars under pressure, but they met with goalkeeper Orla Butler who denied Denise Twomey a certain goal.

Orla Barry had the sides level and with a final place beckoning it was Emer O'Farrell who had the final say with a point for Sarsfield's.

This season, Sarsfield's have regained the services of several of their former senior players most notably Breda Kenny, Helena Barry and Sile Barry and their experienced played a huge role in fashioning a historic victory for a club who have worked hard to re-establish themselves back in adult ranks. While the younger performers showed great enthusiasm this can only auger well for the club.

SARSFIELDS: O Butler; A Edwards, P O'Dwyer, H Barry, J Dennehy, S O'Leary, D Breen, S Crowley, B Kenny, O Barry, S Barry, E Murphy, E Looney, A Griffin, E O'Farrell.

ST CATHERINE'S: M Kenneally; N Corcoran, M Twomey, M Mulcahy; E Power, A Fitzgerald, E O'Keefe; A M Hayes, F Noonan; D Twomey, N Mulcahy, O Cotter; Y O'Neill, L Higgins, H Lane. **Subs:** A Mangan for Y O'Neill.

Referee: B Joyce (Kilteaghlach).



Cloughdun's Marie Corkery (right), in action here against Barryroe, will be a central figure in tonight's fascinating county senior final against St Finbarr's.
Picture: Eddie O'Hare

It could be a club classic!

SINCE the turn of the new Millennium, there has been a marked step-up in the output from the St Finbarr's camogie club.

First, they unloaded the clumsy senior B monkey off of their back in 2001, and now it is their amazing consistency that has made people stand up and take notice.

Their rise to fame in a short 12 months has been phenomenal. They are unbeaten in the championship this year and as a result the Blues supporters will be scattered all over Páirc Uí Rinn tonight as they will attempt to bring the first senior A county title back to the Barr's.

It is fairytale stuff. First they hammered Eire Óg but nobody took too much notice, as this was a very youthful mid Cork side. Next it was Imokilly.

Nobody bothered either, 3-13 to 0-6 with full-forward Orla O'Sullivan collecting a mere 2-7.

Questions were beginning to be asked.

How could this side, first season up in the grade, sweep all before them?

Easy really, when you come to think of it - they have an unassailable appetite for success.

By THERESE O'CALLAGHAN

County camogie final preview

They fear nobody because nobody feared them.

The greatest example of this was against Carrigdhoun in the semi-final, when they incredibly knocked out the raging-hot favourites.

Ellen Clifford is a very safe keeper, Lynda O'Connell is the rock in a flawless defence, Claire Kirby and Gemma O'Connor are a fine midfield pairing, and where does one begin up front?

Valerie Maher, Jenny Duffy and Susan O'Connell have already shown their true colours. This trio were due to fly to Tenerife last Monday. They cancelled their holiday and instead will go to Marbella next Tuesday. Bernadine Maher, Rachel Myers, Colette O'Mahony and Orla O'Sullivan are critical to the cause if the Barr's are to triumph.

Standing between them and the holy-grail are the title-holders, Cloughdun. How they have bounced back - as champions do. They had a very sluggish start to their journey, but with every game they are looking more dangerous. Carbery gave them the fright of their lives; they just scraped

through.

It was much the same against Barryroe, 0-11 to 2-3. But, despite the close margins, there was always a triumphant return. Fr O'Neill's were waiting for them in the semi-final. Cloughdun clicked.

It might have taken then two and a half games, but they told the world in no uncertain terms that they were not exhausted and neither were they ready to relinquish their crown.

Because of the slog involved, it is proving more difficult nowadays to put back-to-back titles together. Cloughdun hold much respect for St Finbarr's, but his does not indicate a lack of confidence in the mid Cork side. And rightly so, because they have shown how the Cloughdun machine operates. Joanne O'Callaghan is their ace marksman. Aoife Murray is a first-choice keeper. Stephanie Dunlea is anchor lady at centre-back. Marie Corkery and Sinead Buckley keep the supply moving from centre-field to the main target ladies Una O'Donoghue, Brieghe Corkery, Jean Lucey and Catherine Corkery.

Throw-in in tonight's Punch Shocare Cork Co. Camogie Championship final is at 7.15, in Páirc Uí Rinn.

It is one not to be missed.

A THRILLER

THE meeting of hold-

ers Cloughdun and St Finbarr's in the county senior camogie final in Páirc Uí Rinn on Friday night at 7.15pm should attract a large attendance and with two excellent teams on view, it has the makings of a cracker.

St Finbarr's won last year's 'B' title and are appearing in the decider for the first time since losing to Glen Rovers in 1992. While Cloughdun, having won the title for the first time last season, have shown their resolve by reaching their second final in a row.

There is an interesting little sidebar to the final, in that Cloughdun are trained by Paudie Murray who plays his hurling with St Finbarr's, and should his side go on to retain their title, his team-mates may have something to say about that in the time to come.

It's a hard game to call as both teams have quality in all areas; even very little separates their respective goalkeepers, Ellen Clifford of the Barrs and Cloughdun's Aoife Murray.

Stephanie Dunlea, Joanne and Orla O'Callaghan are excellent defenders and they will need to be at their best as the Barrs have good forwards, even if there is at times a tendency to rely on Orla O'Sullivan's free-taking to get them out of trouble.

Rachel Myers and Ber Maher are lively players but they have yet to meet a defence as effective as Cloughdun and how they respond could

have a bearing.

Further out the field, the Kirbys, Colette and Claire, will have important roles to play as will Jemma O'Connor, who needs to be consistent over the hour for her side to capture the title for the first time. Cloughdun will look to the Corkerys, Breege, Maire and Catherine plus Cork captain Una O'Donoghue, and this quartet has the potential to unhinge any defence, and therein lies the key.

Little things can often decide finals. Cloughdun will not want to concede frees as O'Sullivan is lethal, while the champions' attack poses a huge threat.

It should be close, but the champions look slightly better balanced, have a degree of experience that the Barrs may lack, and if as I expect that Stephanie Dunlea can control matters in defence, their attack has the capacity to unhinge the Barrs defence. These factors combined should see the title head back to Cloughdun for the second time, but only after what promises to be a great game.

This most famous of competitions now has a new trophy on offer, with Punch Industries replacing the history-laden Science Cup with "The Punch Shoe Care Cup". And the company, which has a long association with Cork camogie, has also undertaken to sponsor the championship, which is a great boost for the hard-working Officer Board, who have seen their teams having to make three expensive trips north in recent weeks. Of course, if any local company out there were willing to get involved in any form of additional sponsorship, it would be welcomed with open arms.

Cork's senior camogie side cruise past Antrim to set up mouth-watering semi final clash with Galway

By Mary Newman

CORK senior camogie team kept their Forais na Gaeilge All Ireland championship aspiration alive when they recorded a good victory over Antrim in Dunloy on Sunday.

Midway through the opening half Fiona O'Driscoll had the Leesiders opening goal after opening points from Fiona O'Driscoll, Elaine Burke and Emer Dillon were replied to by Denise Darragh and Edel Mason.

With Jane Adams and Dillon exchanging points Cork held their lead and stretched it further when

Caoimhe Harrington struck for a goal in the twentieth minute. The Cork cheering had hardly finished when Denise Darragh hit back with an Antrim goal and now playing with confidence the northerners came in search of scores.

Three points in succession from Gráinne Connolly (two) and Darragh were replied to for cork with a Fiona O'Driscoll point as cork turned over holding a slender 2-5 to 1-6 interval lead.

From the restart Cork upper the ante considerably and now looking sharper and more deter-

mined began to settle. Caoimhe Harrington stretched the advantage with a goal inside a minute of the resumption and with Fiona O'Driscoll and Rachel Moloney adding goal Cork were totally dominant.

Róisín Duffin and Jane Adams had points for a hard working Antrim who failed to close down the livelier Cork attack where Fiona O'Driscoll, Rachel Moloney and Criona Harte all picked off points to record a comfortable Cork victory.

In the other quarter final played over the weekend All Ireland champions Tipperary kept their aspi-

ration son course with a comfortable victory over Wexford, Galway were pushed to the limit before finally killing the challenge of a Limerick side who have this season shown marked improvement, while Kilkenny had little difficulty in disposing of the challenge posed by Down.

Teams - Cork: G Casey; J O'Callaghan, E Duggan, S Dunlea; J O'Connor, M O'Connor, P O'Connor, R Moloney, J O'Leary, C Harrington, V Harris, U O'Donoghue, E Burke, E Dillon, F O'Driscoll. **Subs:** S Hayes for P O'Connor, C Harte for F O'Driscoll, C

Corkery for C Harrington, D Cronin for E Burke, C Healy for E Dillon.

Antrim: S Lagan; M Graham, S McMullen, M Duffin, C Gough, M Barry, C McGinley, J Adams, R Duffin, K O'Neill, G McMullen, G Connolly, A McKee, E Mason, D Darragh.

Referee: B Savage (Down)

The semi final pairings are as follows: Cork v Galway; Tipperary v Kilkenny.

Both games to be played on Saturday, August 17 at the Gaelic Grounds in Limerick.

AUG. 2002

THERESE O'CALLAGHAN continues her build up to the Camogie senior county final



SISTER ACT: Four of the seven sisters on the Cloughdun camogie team for the county final against St. Finbarr's from left, Marie and Brieghe Corkery and Ora and Joanne O'Callaghan, missing are Catherine Corkery and Aoife and Eimear Murray.

Picture: Eddie O'Hare

Rebels skipper Una has a busy schedule

UNA O'DONOGHUE has a lot on her plate these days, writes **THERESE O'CALLAGHAN**.

Next week she will captain Cork in their All-Ireland semi-final against Galway, but for the foreseeable future her focus is no further than tomorrow evening, when the Cloughdun forward will lead her team out in search of back-to-back senior county titles.

The UCC student says it will take a big effort.

"The Barr's are very good and are very hungry. This is their first year playing senior but they have raised a few eyebrows with their progress this year. Their forwards are very lively so we will have to keep their scoring to a minimum," she said.

"We have been very slow getting into our stride this year. We were not going well at all against Carbery in the first round, but we are improving all the time.

"We lost three players from last year — Lynn Dunlea, Claire O'Donoghue and Ann Marie McCarthy. Training is going better now and we are looking forward to the game.

"Páirc Uí Rinn was good to us in last year's final, so hopefully the experience will stand to us."

Another chapter?

THE HISTORY of Cloughdun has changed considerably in the last 12 months.

By **THERESE O'CALLAGHAN**
Cloughdun's history

Prior to August 24 2001 their greatest claim to fame was the Intermediate championship win of '91, a Junior A title in '89 and their Junior B win of '83.

But on a balmy summer evening in Páirc Uí Rinn 50 weeks ago tomorrow, the history books had to be rewritten.

Cloughdun camogie team won their first senior county final last year. There are many similarities between then and now. The current backroom team consists of Tim Barry-Murphy, Paudie Murray, Kathleen Healy and John Cronin.

Twelve out of last season's victorious 15 were in the line-out against Fr O'Neill's in their semi-final win and Emer Murray

who played at corner-forward in 2001, came on as a second-half substitute.

This mid-Cork side owe much of their success to their vibrant under-age teams of the late '80s. 1989 in particular was a great year for their youngsters winning both the U16 and U18 county championships.

Over the next two years they won one more title in each competition. Although out of the limelight for the next five years, they came back with a bang with more or less the same bunch of players taking an U16 title in '97 and an U18 in '99.

This laid the foundation for present day glory. The O'Callaghan sisters, Ora and Joanne, Aoife Murray, Catherine Corkery and

Una O'Donoghue all played big parts then, as they are still doing now. In fact, sisters are a big act in this Cloughdun side.

Among them are the three Corkerys and the two Murrays (brother Paudie is trainer) and, as mentioned, the O'Callaghans.

Selector John Cronin, fresh from managing the Cork minor team that brought the All-Ireland trophy Leaside last weekend, will know only too well that the underdog tag will suit St Finbarr's down to the ground. He is a shrewd operator, as proved with his county successes.

Kathleen Healy has also gathered much experience when it comes to picking teams — she is a selector to the county senior squad and has been part of the Cork minor set up over the years. Tim Barry Murphy is another who is always there to put his shoulder to the wheel.

Paudie Murray might try to downplay their chances, but it is also clear that he is confident that he has the players that can go all the way to claim their second win in as many years.

Bishopstown did four-in-a-row between '97 and 2000. Everyone knows that Cloughdun now have a great chance to retain the county title. But to win, they know that they will have to take those chances too.

It is the late '70s and mid '80s since any other mid Cork side has done well in the championship. Eire Óg were the then kingpins of camogie. Cloughdun has reasserted the Muskerry influence. Is it within their compass to stay there?

Semi-final team: A Murray; J O'Callaghan; O O'Callaghan; S Corkery; O McCarthy; S Dunlea; J Lynch; M Corkery; S Buckley; A Buckley; U O'Donoghue (capt); J Lucy; C Cronin; C Corkery; B Corkery.

Murray takes on his own club

IT IS an unusual one for Paudie Murray — peculiar because the joint-trainer of Cloughdun is up against the club he and his brother Kevin transferred to this season, writes **THERESE O'CALLAGHAN**.

St Finbarr's provide the opposition and, despite the bizarre coincidence, he has no hang ups over facing his new club in the Cork County camogie final tomorrow evening.

"It is strange alright," he admits.

"But I am not at all surprised that this has happened. I have been very impressed with the Barr's all year, in fact even last year when they were senior B.

"We played them a few times and it was always close.

"I fancied them too to beat Carigdhoun. They are very fast and know how to take their scores.

"The final will be close. It will

be tough for us. We were awful in our first two games of the championship but thankfully we have upped the tempo a lot since then," said Murray.

"Against Fr O'Neill's it was our speed that told, but that will not happen against the Barr's. Brieghe (Corkery) played very well then for us; tomorrow it might be somebody else, maybe Catherine (Corkery), Una (O'Donoghue) or Jean (Lucy)."

In the Diary

TOMORROW
Cork County senior A Camogie championship final
St Finbarr's v Cloughdun Páirc Uí Rinn 7.15pm

IT IS showdown time and who would have predicted the finalists. Cloughdun yes, but what about the Barrs? They have surpassed all expectations. At the beginning of the year they could not possibly have predicted such a marvellous run. Now, they won't be happy until they climb the rostrum and take the prize. A youthful and enthusiastic side, they have nothing whatsoever to lose.

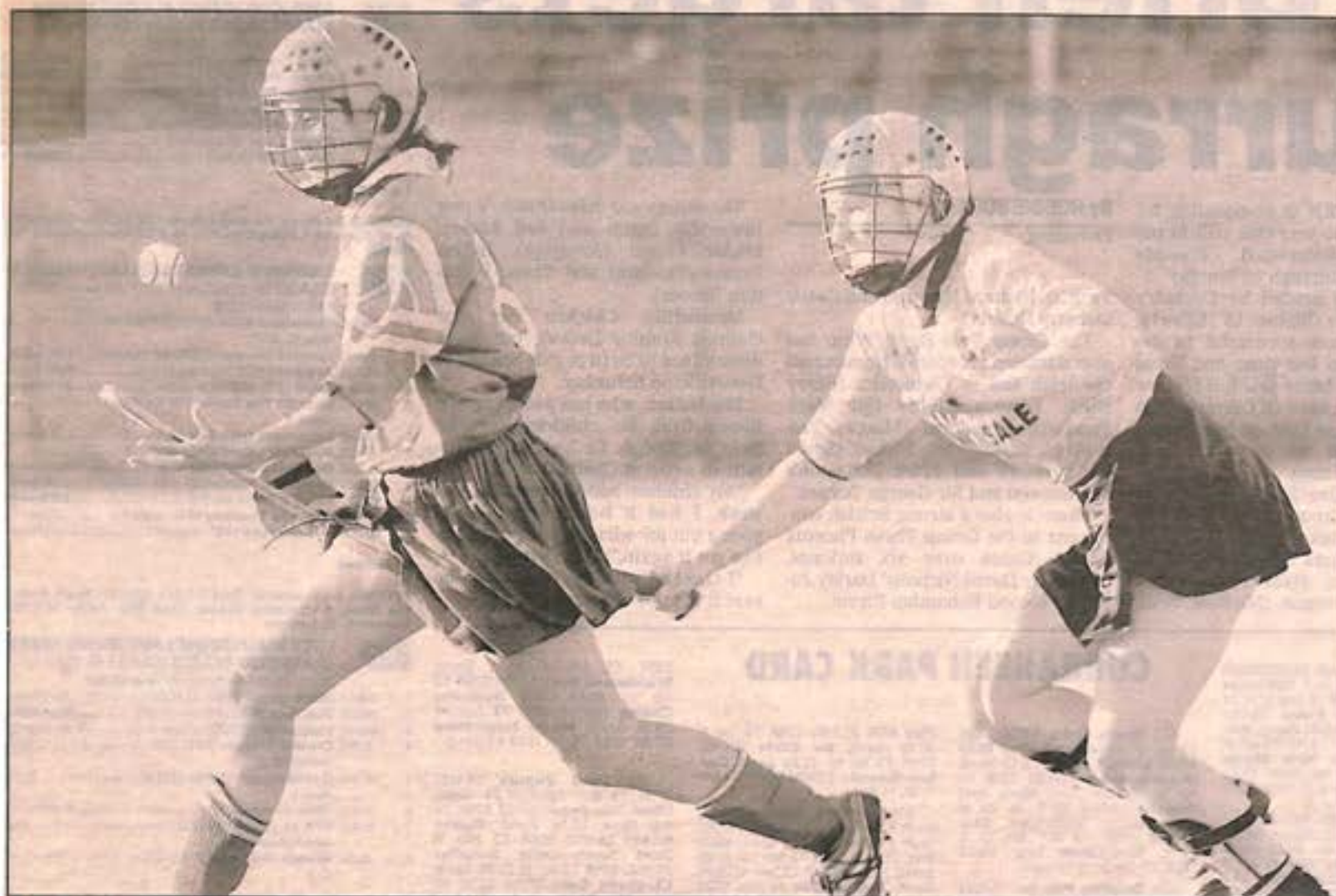
Cloughdun, meanwhile, gave their supporters many frights in getting to this year's decider, but like true champions this also proves that they do not die easily.

It has the makings of a great final with only the puck of a ball between them. Based only on the fact that Cloughdun have been there before, they get a tentative vote.

Verdict: Cloughdun.
THERESE O'CALLAGHAN

AUG 2002

THERESE O'CALLAGHAN looks ahead to this weekend's camogie senior ounty final



Barrs' Claire Kirby gets away from the Carrigdhoun defence during their Cork Senior camogie semi final at Ballincollig.

Picture: Gerard McCarthy



LYNDA O'CONNELL: Epitomises Barrs' spirit.

Stealthy Finbarr's move very quietly into final

LYNDA O'CONNELL epitomises everything that is good about the Barrs. Her exuberant and vivacious nature is similar to the way they conduct their business out in Toghher, writes THERESE O'CALLAGHAN

The young St Finbarr's captain says she is not nervous, but by the time we finish speaking she tells me she is gone all butterflies. She defies logic too, of petite stature, she holds down one of the most difficult positions at centre-back, but on closer scrutiny you see that she is not so dainty — at least not on the field. She isn't fazed either as the Blues go in search of their first senior A county title.

"There is no pressure on us," she says.

"For the whole year we moved along through the championship. We were happy to take everyone as they came. Losing the senior B championship really gelled us together. Over four years we lost three finals and one semi-final. It is the same panel that eventually won last year.

"We are all really enjoying the matches and we are looking forward to the game. There is a great buzz around the Barrs, and with the senior hurlers losing to Blackrock it is up to us now."

Finbarr's keep it lit

THE COVER of the official history book of the Barr's camogie, reads 'Camogie in St Finbarr's — a celebration'.

This read was compiled in 1997 to commemorate the 25th anniversary of the club. Now five years on, it is festival time once again with the senior team stepping out to contest the Cork County championship final against Cloughduv on Friday evening.

An ordinary enough event you might observe. But when you consider that this squad are the babes of the championship — they won the Senior B title last year — it makes it all the more dramatic. They have literally come from nowhere to wind up at the top table.

By THERESE O'CALLAGHAN

St Finbarr's versus Cloughduv

This is a remarkable story for a club that was reformed in 1972 and has now come full circle.

1981 was significant for St Finbarr's in more ways than one. After many barren years Marie O'Sullivan guided her side to a Junior A championship and league double. Colette O'Mahony was Cork Skills' champion.

In 1982, they stepped up to intermediate grade and took to it like ducks to water. This title was secured under the captaincy of Louise Cosgrove. Three league victories followed in '86, '87 and '88.

Going back again to 1982, their U14 team, led by Deirdre Christie, reached the final of Féile na nGael,

only to be narrowly pipped by Marino of Dublin. It also signalled the start of a three-in-a-row of U16 County titles during which time — in 1984 — they won their second Junior A championship under Claire Cronin. 1986 also brought the U18 silverware south.

The nineties did not get off to a good start, losing the Junior B final. But, the Blues do not wilt. Sandra O'Donovan and company were back bigger and better 12 months later to claim the cup with a win over Kilbrittain. The Pan Celtic All-Ireland U16 trophy came to Toghher during the mid-90's.

In 1994, the Cork County Board created a senior B championship. The Barrs had terrible luck being beaten in three finals, however they stuck at it and were rewarded with

the crown in the second year of the new Millennium. Now, less than 10 months later, they are seeking their first ever senior A title.

Ten years ago they contested the final against Glen Rovers and two years later they met the same opposition. Colette O'Mahony, one of the club's greatest exponents of the game, played then, and will play again this weekend. An amazing athlete she also donned the Cork jersey with great pride. Colette is the type of person that money could not buy. She has a great allegiance to the Barrs and has been a figurehead down through the years.

St Finbarr's team that beat Carrigdhoun in the semi-final: E Clifford; C Harrington, D Clarke, B Corcoran; K Buckley, La O'Connell (capt), Colette Kirby; Claire Kirby, G O'Connor; JDuffy, B Maher, R Myers; V Maher, O O'Sullivan, C O'Mahony.

"We have no fear" — McCarthy

ST FINBARR'S is everything to Marion McCarthy and, not surprisingly, she is everything to the Barrs, writes THERESE O'CALLAGHAN.

As the championship countdown begins to Friday night's final, the club stalwart will live out a few anxious moments on the sideline. She is selector to this gallant team and along with Seanie Fitzpatrick, Jerry Murphy and Ger O'Connor she will attempt to plot the downfall of Cloughduv.

"We have no fear," she warned. "I will be telling the Barrs that we are

good enough to do it. The girls are playing out of their skins and that is why we are at this stage. We have prepared well, we have great enthusiasm and we are very confident in our own ability.

"But we do realise that we are up against it. Cloughduv have some very accomplished players. We delight in our own strengths too and one of these is midfield where Gemma (O'Connor) and Claire (Kirby) are playing well. If we can win this area and get a good supply into our forward line, who knows what might happen."

Cloughduv bid to retain crown

CORK'S premier camogie competition reaches its conclusion on Friday evening next when county champions Cloughduv take on St Finbarr's as they endeavour to put titles back to back. Last season was a glorious one for the Mid Cork club who took their first senior county crown.

For the Barr's it's a dream come true as only last year they were crowned B champions after eight year down. This year they made the step up to A and have shown their worth by making it to the county final. It's the first time the sides have met in a final with the only final appearance being back in 1992 when they lost out to Glen Rovers. Now 10 years on one player, Colette O'Mahony, is the sole survivor from that clash.

Cloughduv got their campaign off to a shaky start and had to withstand a storming Carbery challenge before making it with just one goal to spare. Barryroe provided their quarter-final opposition, and again it was a close one with just two points between the sides at the finish. For their meeting with Fr O'Neills Cloughduv looked very sharp and had comfortable 1-11 to 1-6 victory to qualify for their second county final.

St Finbarrs had a very comfortable opening round victories defeating Eire Og and Muskerry before facing the challenge of one of the competitions pre championship favourites Carighdhoun. In that semi-final the divisional side got a dream start with two early goals from Sarah O'Donovan, but with the Barrs defence tightening they finally wore down the Carrighdhoun challenge to

St Finbarr's bar way to county championship

make it through. Selector Marion McCarthy is looking forward to Friday night's final and taking time out from training on Friday last gave me her views "We are looking forward to the final and are thrilled to be in it. We won the B title last year and the girls were determined to give a good account of themselves in the A grade, reaching the final in our first season back senior is very pleasing and we will give it our best shot. Cloughduv are the champions and are there on merit, they looked very sharp in all their game and we will have to perform to our best if we hope to take our first senior county title"

Indeed the Barrs are more than capable of taking their first title and are in with an equal chance of success as their opponents.

They have impressed with their first time hurling and their ability to notch up points in all their game in the campaign to date has been a notable feature of their game plan. Their backroom team are not slow to make changes if required, which was very evident in their quarter and semi-final outings.

Coach to the side is former St Finbarr's hurling and football star Jerry Murphy who has given trojan service

both as a player and nowadays camogie coach to the club. The holder of four county senior championship medals in the famous blue jersey, Murphy is under no illusions as to the task facing his charges. "Cloughduv looked very impressive in their semi-final against Fr O'Neills, they never panicked and worked away at O'Neills lead and eventually wore them down. We will need to be at our very best if we are to be victorious. It's a big game for the club and it won't be easy, it's a great experience and I have told the girls to enjoy it, to play in a county final is a dream, and it should be a memory to cherish. As a player the tension is not as bad. Once the game gets under way on Friday I will be a bundle of nerves, but we will do our best to stay calm and hopefully things will work out for us"

For one of the Cloughduv selectors Friday night's final will bring mixed emotions. Paudie Murray recently lined out in the blue of St Finbarrs as they went down to county champions Blackrock in the senior county hurling championship.

On Friday night next his thoughts are firmly focused on his Cloughduv side retaining their title. "I don't think that there will be much between us at the final whistle. We met earlier in the year in a league game and we grabbed a late goal to get a draw. Coming off the field that night I said to Barr's selectors, Seanie Fitzpatrick, we will meet again in the county final."

Going on form to date that looks very much the case. Páirc Uí Rinn is the venue with a 7.15pm throw in.

AUG. 2002

Cloughduv bid to retain crown

by Tom Higgins

Cloughduv, who won the Cork Senior camogie title for the first time last year will be hoping to retain their crown when they come up against St. Finbarr's in the county final at Páirc Uí Rinn, this evening at 7.15.

The holders have a strong side and will fancy their chances. They have improved with every game and were in top form when they beat a fancied Fr. O'Neill's in the semi-final.

They have a fine keeper in Aoife Murray, while little will get past Stephanie Dunlea at centre back, and she will get great support from Aoife Buckley and Ciara Cronin.

Breege Corkery and will be hard to hold at midfield, while up front Marie Corkery and Cork captain Una O'Donoghue will be expected to get the vital scores.

The Barrs, who have yet to win the title, contested their last final in 1992 when they were well beaten by Glen Rovers, who dominated the championship in that period.

They accounted for Eire Og in the opening

round and then beat Imokilly. In the semi-final they were the outsiders in the game against Carrighdhoun but came out on top and are not without a chance.

They have some excellent players including veteran Colette O'Mahony, who is the only survivor from their last final. A brilliant free taker she starred for Cork in many an All-Ireland final and the "Blues" will be hoping that she can urge her more youthful colleagues to win the title.

Linda O'Connell, who captains the side is at centre-back who gained experience with UCC in the Ashbourne Cup, will be expected to have a big say in the final.

The Barrs have an excellent goalkeeper in Ellen Clifford who is on the Cork junior side, while the Maher Sisters, Ber and Valarie, Gemma O'Connor and the Kirby twins Colette and Clare, who have had some excellent games for their club, will be expected to play well.

Cloughduv will no doubt be favourites to retain their title but they will have to fight hard for victory and a surprise is by no means out of the question.

The Punch Shoe Care Cork Senior Camogie Championship Final

Cloughduv

v's

St. Finbarrs

Réiteoir Peter Downey (Inniscarra)

in Páirc Uí Rinn

Friday 9th August 2002

at 7.15pm

Price €2.00

Cloughduv



1. Aoife Murray

2. Ora O'Callaghan 3. Sinead Corkery 4. Jamie Lynch

5. Joanne O'Callaghan 6. Stephenie Dunlea 7. Orla McCarthy

8. Jean Lucey 17. Marie Corkery

10. Sinead Buckley 11. Una O'Donoghue 12. Aoife Buckley

13. Briege Corkery 14. Katherine Corkery 15. Ciara Cronin

16. Leonie Nolan

18. Zeile McDonald

19. Eimear Murray

20. Rita O'Sullivan

21. Louise Collins

22. Marie Kelly

23. Mairead Murray

24. Marie Lucey

Selectors/Trainers: Paudie Murray, Tim Barry Murphy, John Cronin, Kathleen Healy

St. Finbarrs



1. Ellen Clifford

2. Claire Harrington 3. Deirdre Clarke 4. Maria McCarthy

5. Karen Buckley 6. Lynda O'Connell (Capt.) 7. Colette Kirby

8. Claire Kirby 9. Gemma O'Connor

10. Jenny Duffy 11. Bernadine Maher 12. Rachel Myers

13. Valerie Maher 14. Orla O'Sullivan 15. Colette O'Mahony

16. Barbara Ann Corcoran

17. Susan O'Connell

18. Aisling Storan

19. Veronica Russell

20. Catriona Myers

21. Laura Kelleher

22. Dara Banks

Selectors/Trainers: Jerry Murphy, Sean Fitzpatrick, Marion McCarthy, Geraldine O'Connor

AUG 2002



Lord Mayor Cllr John Kelleher presents the cup to Una O'Donoghue. Also included is Cork Camogie Board president Sheila Golden. Picture: Gerard McCarthy

Corkery effort helps Cloughduv hang on to title

Cloughduv
St. Finbarr's

4-7
1-14

by Tom Higgins

A TREMENDOUS display by the youthful Breege Corkery, who won an All-Ireland Minor medal with Cork last Sunday, helped Cloughduv to retain their Punch Shoe Care Cork Senior Camogie title with a hard earned win over St Finbarr's at Páirc Uí Rinn last night.

The winners, who were the better side in the opening half, played with the wind but were given little scope from a very solid Barrs defence in

which Deirdre Clarke at fullback, Karen Buckley at right halfback and captain Lynda O'Connell were excellent, and it was not until the final ten minutes that the winners finally pulled away to lead 1-7 to 0-5 at the break. The goal came in the 25th minute when goalkeeper Ellen Clifford, who brought off some excellent saves, caught a ball when facing into the sun and dropped it when tackled by the ever vigilant Una O'Donoghue.

With the wind in their favour in the second half, the Barrs set out their stall, scoring four unanswered points in the opening eight minutes to leave only a point between the sides 1-7 to 0-9,

But in their first foray upfield, Cloughduv had a goal. Aoife Buckley's shot for a point was blocked down but she swung one-handed and the ball landed in the back of the net in the 39th minute. Five minutes later the ball fell kindly for Ciara Cronin to add a further major to leave it 3-7 to 0-9 in favour of the Mid Cork side. Although the Barrs fought back to cut the deficit with two points from play, Ciara Cronin was on hand to squeeze the ball home for another major for Cloughduv in the 48th minute.

Although the Barrs dominated the final 12 minutes and scored four points, they could not get the scores

that would have given them victory.

Scorers for Cloughduv: C. Cronin 2-0, U. O'Donoghue 1-2, A. Buckley 1-0, S. Buckley 0-3, K. Corkery 0-1, B. Corkery 0-1.

St Finbarr's: O. O'Sullivan 1-8 (0-5 frees, 0-1 45"), R. Myers 0-2, V. Maher 0-2, G. O'Connor 0-1, B. Maher 0-1.

Cloughduv: A. Murray, O. O'Callaghan, S. Corkery, J. Lynch, J. O'Callaghan, S. Dunlea, O. McCarthy, J. Lucey, M. Corkery, S. Buckley, U. O'Donoghue (capt), A. Buckley, B. Corkery, K. Corkery, C. Cronin, Sub. Z. McDonald for J. Lynch (53rd minute).

St Finbarr's: E. Clifford, C. Harrington, D. Clarke, M. McCarthy, K. Buckley, L. O'Connell (capt), Colette Kirby, Claire Kirby, G. O'Connor, J. Duffy, B. Maher, R. Myers, V. Maher, O. O'Sullivan, C. O'Mahony, Sub. C. Myers for C. Harrington (half-time).

Referee: P. Downey (Inniscarra).

AUG. 2002

against a gallant St Finbarr's side in one of the best finals in a long time

for Barrs ladies

Switch proves key to outcome

KEY AREAS

AFTER 15 minutes Cloughduv switched Joanne O'Callaghan to mark Barr's danger lady Orla O'Sullivan.

O'Sullivan who has had a brilliant championship campaign shot a peach of a goal high to the net mid-way through the second-half, but O'Callaghan managed to curb her influence.

● Brieghe Corkery's lightning pace put immense pressure on the Barr's backline. Claire Harrington was handed the worrying task of minding her. For the second half the Blues brought in Catriona Myers. But nobody could stay with this speedster who produced a top display.

● Cloughduv's ability to score goals was another difference. Jean Lucey set up Aoife Buckley in the 40th minute. Ciara Cronin edged home the second and it was Cronin again who finished after Ellen Clifford had saved from Una O'Donoghue.



Cloughduv's Una O'Donoghue shows off the Cork County camogie trophy. Included are Lord Mayor Cllr John Kelleher and Shelia Golden President of Cork Camogie.

nomenal and it was no surprise to see her crowned Player of the Match.

This game was wide-open at half-time. Cloughduv having played with the strong breeze led 1-7 to 0-5.

Captain Una O'Donoghue who, despite being closely marked by Deirdre Clarke at full-back, worked tirelessly and scored the only goal of that opening 30 minutes.

Orla O'Sullivan might have done better too to slot over a 23rd minute free when her side were down by two - instead she went for goal, the slotar was cleared and a few moments later O'Donoghue goalied.

To their credit the Barr's applied themselves with real force after the restart and with four points without reply.

But then came the decisive blows. First Aoife Buckley crashed home a great goal to be followed five minutes later with a similar effort from Clara Cronin. The Barr's showed their true colours and when O'Sullivan shot into the corner of Aoife Murray's net, the difference was cut to just three points.

Another gem from Cronin and the mid Cork side were six up again. But no way were the city girls going to make it easy. O'Sullivan

van and Bernardine Maher reduced the arrears to two, but that was it.

Scorers Cloughduv: C. Cronin 2-0, U. O'Donoghue 1-2, A. Buckley 1-0, S. Buckley 0-3, K. Corkery and B. Corkery 0-1 each.
St Finbarr's: O. O'Sullivan 1-7 (0-5), 0-1 45m, V. Maher 0-3, R. Myers 0-2, G. O'Connor and B. Maher 0-1 each.

Cloughduv: A. Murray, O. O'Callaghan, S. Corkery, J. O'Callaghan, J. Lynch, S. Dunlop, O. McCarthy, M. Corkery, J. Lucey, A. Buckley, S. Buckley, K. Corkery.

St Finbarr's: E. Clifford, C. Harrington, D. Clarke, M. McCarthy, K. Buckley, L. O'Connell (capt), Colette Kirby, Claire Kirby, G. O'Connor, J. Duffy, B. Maher, R. Myers, V. Maher, O. O'Sullivan, C. O'Mahony.

Subs: C. Myers for C. Harrington (half-time).

Referee: P. Downey (Inniscarra).

STAR PLAYER

BRIEGHE CORKERY, who is still under 16 years-of-age, was first choice for this award. As well as playing herself to a standstill, she gave a faultless display and turned in a most polished performance all through.

TOP SCORE

WITH all of the Cloughduv scores coming from play there were many to choose from. St Finbarr's too got some great points, but there was nothing as simple as the winner's opening point from Una O'Donoghue.

TURNING POINT

THERE were several twists and turns to this epic encounter, but Cloughduv's fourth goal was the turning point of this game as Ciara Cronin popped up for the match winner.

REFEREE WATCH

THIS was a good evening's work for Peter Downey. He was always up with the play in what could be best described as a fast free-flowing game. His performance enhanced the game.

Future looks good for Barr's

MARION MCCARTHY, a selector with St Finbarr's, was proud of the spirit her charges had shown in last night's final and said the display augured well for the future of the club.

"Tonight I am very proud of St Finbarr's display. It was a great game and it could have gone either way towards the end.

"Hopefully, there is a county in this team and

By THERESA O'CALLAGHAN
Match quotes

we will be back again next year.

"I would like to congratulate Cloughduv and wish them well. They turned in a fine performance."

Tim Barry-Murphy (joint-coach Cloughduv): "It is fantastic. We knew the Barr's would come at us in the second half and they brought our

five-point lead down to a goal after five minutes.

"So, we really had to dig deep. But we have a great bunch. They showed it last year and again this year that they have great character."

Paudie Murray (joint-coach Cloughduv): "To come back and win it second time round is special, especially as we are down three players and two subs from last year.

"That is a big dent to a place like Cloughduv, so really it is terrific. We always knew it was going to be difficult.

"I have said it before, the Barr's are a great side and maybe if they had a little bit more luck the result could have been the other way round.

"If they keep going I would say a senior county title is not far off of them."



Deirdre Clarke, Barr's, clears despite pressure from a Cloughduv opponent during last night's county final.

Picture: Gerard McCarthy

AUG 2002

CAMOGIE: Classy Cloughduv retain their county senior title

A Briege too



Corkery is inspirational as Muskerry girls triumph

By THERESE O'CALLAGHAN

Senior county camogie final

Cloughduv	4-7
St Finbarr's	1-14

IT MIGHT have been a bit too close for comfort, but Cloughduv proved that they are a team of genuine substance when Una O'Donoghue collected the silverware for the second year in-a-row in last evening's Cork County senior A camogie final at Pairc Ui Rinn.

It was an emotional occasion, not alone for the winners, but for the St Finbarr's supporters as well, as the crowd stood in joyful appreciation of one of the finest games witnessed at this level.

Cloughduv were the victors, and rightly so.

They took their chances - all their scores came from play - and emphasised the old adage that goals win matches.

Three in an eight-minute spell mid-way during the second-half being the difference - these were their only scores of the half.

However, St Finbarr's despite their great disappointment have won more matches, more friends and more respect this year than in their previous 10 championship campaigns combined.

The difference was so marginal that the Barr's post match gloom was perfectly understandable. They had to stand back and admire one Briege Corkery who was clearly the heart and soul of this Cloughduv win.

She produced a dazzling show of superior skills, speed of thought and touch. Her work-rate is phe-



Cloughduv's Una O'Donoghue and Ciara Cronin celebrates their victory over the Barrs in last night's county final.

Picture: Gerard McCarthy

Cloughduv's player of the match Briege Corkery.

AUG

2002

MUNSTER CLUB SENIOR CAMOGIE CHAMPIONSHIP

Claire Grogan hits 3-8 as champions Cashel progress

Cashel 3-18;
Grannagh-
Ballingarry 3-15

Cashel defeated Grannagh-Ballingarry in the Munster Camogie Club Championship by 3-18 to 3-15 in a thrilling encounter at Leahy Park, Cashel on Saturday afternoon. On a great afternoon for hurling the small attendance was kept enthralled by a game that was close and uncertain

until the referee blew the final whistle.

Cashel got away to a flying start and led by 2-5 to 0-4 at the end of the first quarter. Claire Grogan was on song for the home side and contributed 2-3 of the total, the other two points coming from Philly Fogarty.

Grannagh-Ballingarry, however, absorbed this early shock and came right into the game in the second quarter. Mainly responsible for this revival was centre-

forward and captain, Eileen O'Brien, whose searing runs through the Cashel defence created all kinds of problems. She contributed three points and another from Kay Burke put Grannagh right back into the game.

About five minutes from the interval Claire Grogan relieved the pressure on Cashel with a glorious point, after a forty-yard solo run through the Grannagh defence. However just when Cashel appeared to

have stopped the onslaught, Aoife Sheehan scored a goal for Grannagh and this was immediately followed by a point from Joanne Clifford to leave the half-time score, 2-6 to 1-8, with Cashel the minimum in front.

The second-half was to remain tight and close. Claire Grogan opened the proceedings with a Cashel point after a minute but for the next five minutes it was all Limerick. They hit three points from Marie Collum, Jean Cullinane and Eileen O'Brien to put the visitors in front by 1-11 to 2-7. Again Claire Grogan relieved the pressure and brought the sides level after seven minutes.

Then came a period of extreme frustration for Cashel and their supporters. For about ten minutes they dominated the exchanges but failed to score. During this period they shot five wides and seemed incapable of scoring. Had they lost this would have been the period blamed for the defeat.

Again it was Claire Grogan who dragged them back from the jaws of defeat. In the next five minutes she scored three points and Cashel were on a roll once again. But just when everything seemed to be going well the experienced Grannagh struck back. The great Eileen O'Brien pointed a free and Marie Collum hit a speculative shot towards goal, which completely deceived Danielle O'Connell and finished up in the net. This left the score 2-15 to 2-12 in Grannagh's favour and victory appeared to be going their way.

However the goal had an uplifting effect on Cashel. They stormed back with points from Emily Hayden, Libby Twomey and then, in the 28th minute, Claire Grogan struck again with her third goal to wrap it up. However, there was one more kick in Grannagh and they scored a third goal by Vera Sheehan in added-on time. Cashel had the final score, a point by Helen Grogan, which gave them a three point victory in a gripping encounter.

Pride of place in the victory must go to Claire Grogan whose 3-8 was such a vital part of Cashel's success. At times it appeared she was the only Cashel player capable of scoring. And, not only did she score, she fought tenaciously for possession and was willing to go through fire and water to get a score.

At the other end of the age scale Triona Hennessy was outstanding. Again and again, particularly in the second half, she cleared her own lines and sent vital ball down to her forwards. Overall it was a very important victory for Cashel and a vital step towards the retention of the Munster championship.



Ciaran Cronin celebrates after scoring a goal for Cloughduv in last night's County Senior Camogie final.

Picture: Gerard McCarthy

Champs retain camogie crown

Cloughduv showed the class of true champions when beating the Barr's at Paire Uí Rinn last evening.

They retained the Cork County senior A title after a tremendous battle between two totally dedicated sets of camogie players.

This was absorbing fare, which ended in a magnificent two-point win for the title holders.

An exhausted but extremely happy captain, Una O'Donoghue, was finding it dif-

Corkery is the star as Cloughduv triumph

By THERESE O'CALLAGHAN
County camogie final

ficult to take it all in.

"It is truly fantastic. I can't believe that we have won. It has not sunk in yet. The Barr's just kept coming back at us. Every time we tried to pull away they came after us and they kept going right up to the very end. They showed incredible fight, but thankfully we

were able to hold on. I kept praying for the referee to blow his whistle," she confessed.

Hang on they did, but not without living life on the edge. They led by five points at half-time, but this was reduced to one 10 minutes after the restart. Then the killer-blow came with goals from Aoife Buckley and Clara Cronin. However, the Barr's were not prepared to die just yet.

Orla O'Sullivan rattled the net and brought it back to three, but Cronin struck again and a marvellous contest was brought to its conclusion.

Player of the Match Briege Corkery and her sisters Katherine and Marie pulled out all the stops. Aoife Murray proved she is one of the top custodians in the county.

The O'Callaghans, Jean Lucey, the Buckleys, Una O'Donoghue, Clara Cronin and company all gave Cloughduv plenty to cheer about as they drew the curtain on another piece of history.

See Pages 44 & 45

FAREWELL TO SCIENCE CUP AS PUNCH SHOE TROPHY TAKES CENTRE STAGE

By Mary Newman - Mc Carthy.

Tradition has played a huge role in Cork Camogie where the Senior County Camogie Championship has since its inception way back in 1932 held a special kind of magic and has a certain fairy tale history all of its own. The coveted "County" Medal has held a fascination for legions of players hand in hand with the hope of the players has been the longing by the clubs to give a home to Cork's "Little All Ireland" trophy namely The Science Cup which has for seventy years signified Cork Camogie supremacy and has a history all of its own. Tonight that is about to change as a new chapter in Cork Camogie unfolds and the much loved Science Cup is consigned to the history books. This evening we say Ceid Mile Failte to "The Punch Shoe Care Trophy".

Punch and Company presented the Cork County Board with The Science Cup back in the early thirties to be presented to the winners of the Senior County championship and so began a competition that has stood the test of time. As the 1932 championship only got under way in April 1933 the new trophy was presented to the winners, great excitement followed and a group of school girls from St Aloysius were to become the first holders of the coveted title. Entering senior competition nobody gave them little chance of success as many experienced sides who would later make their own mark were at the time to the fore. Having for many years dominated the Cork schools championship the lure of stiffer competition and the chance to participate at a higher level and indeed to conquer new heights was the motivation for the St Aloysius girls many of whom later went on to star on the Inter county playing fields for Cork. Five of the team went on to amass a total of twenty one All Ireland senior medals between them with Lil Kirby, Josie Mc Grath, Kitty Buckley, Sheila Brennan and Maura Cronin all making their marks on the inter county scene.

It was to be less than three months before the 1933 competition got under way and its conclusion a divisional team Muskerry carried the Science Cup to the Mid Cork division. Amongst the stars of the side were Kate Dunlea who's gran nieces Lynn and Stephanie would almost sixty years later take senior county honours with Glen Rovers and Cloughduv.

Followers had to wait until 1935 before a club side became the holders of the coveted trophy when Mayfield defeated Fr Matthew Hall with Cotter sisters Kitty and Joan to the fore.

A strong UCC made the going tough for all their opponents as they cruised to the county final and backed by four senior inter county players they took county championship honours for the first and only time in the UCC camogie clubs history.

In 1937 a new club came to the fore with the formation of Old Aloysius camogie club made up of former pupils of St Aloysius and later of pupils. The club was to make a major impact on the Cork club scene and go on to take fifteen senior county titles the first in 1938.

first player to captain her county to both the Junior and Senior All Ireland titles.

Killeagh's emergence in 1980 saw they set in motion a journey that would reach its conclusion with them bringing the All Ireland club championship title to the county for the first time. Under the guidance of Eamonn Linehan they amassed five titles between 1980 and 1988, Pat Moloney, Betty Joyce and Ann Marie Landers all became household names in a parish where camogie was first played in 1973.

In 1983 Glen Rovers emerged from seventeen years in the wilderness to inscribe their name on the Science Cup when Ann Delaney led her side to a victory, on the side were Mary Ring daughter of hurling hero Christy herself now bringing a camogie county medal to the famous household and goalkeeper Deirdre Sutton who had remarkably lined out with the clubs seven in a row teams of the 1960's and who had made her mark on the inter county scene with Cork.

Killeagh, Eire Og and Glen Rovers shared the honours between 84 and 88 with Killeagh and Glen taking two titles. 1989 saw a new name engraved on the trophy with Sarfield's historic win. Lillian Zincent, Ann Brady, Liz Dunphy and Eileen Noonan were wonderful performers for the Riverstown club and were guided to glory by Vincent Barry who himself enjoyed many a good hour in the famous Blue/Black and White of Sar's.

Glen Rovers bounced back from their defeat the previous year to take the first title of the nineties. It began a remarkable run of successes, Sandy Fitzgibbon, Ger Mc Carthy, Diane Deane, Linda Mellerick, Lynn Dunlea and Denise Cronin were amongst the many heroines as former club hurlers Finbarr O'Neill and Noel Lynam in turn steered the way to success.

In 1977 Bishopstown made the breakthrough and there followed a run of four in a row as the city club rules supreme, Rose Desmond, Vivienne Harris, Sheenagh Morley, Liz O'Neill, Eithne Duggan and Sinead White all contributed to the clubs breakthrough under the eye of former hurler Neil White and Bernard Olden.

The Championship magic again wove its spell in 2001 as Cloughduv became the new kids on the block and brought the Science Cup on a new journey to the Mid Cork Parish that has long been one of Cork's hurling strongholds. Five sets of sisters lined out in the Cloughduv colours as the Murray's, Corkery's, Dunlea's, O'Donoghue's and the O'Callaghan's enjoyed their taste of the county championship's magic's spell. Paudie Murray, John Cronin, Tim Barry Murphy and Senior Inter county hurler Kevin Murray were amongst the mentors to the fore with the Mid Cork side.

This year The Science Cup celebrates its seventieth birthday and finally the time has come to give it a well earned rest, hopefully it will never be forgotten. The Punch Shoe Care Cup will now hopefully generate its own bit of magic for generations of camogie players by the banks of the Lee.

Cloughduv have the honour of lifting the old cup for the last time, will they go into the record books as the first winners of the new trophy or will St. Finbarr's carry it in triumph to Togher. Best wishes to both clubs who will no doubt give it a great baptism.

Cashel were made to fight all the way to retain title

Cashel
Granagh Ballingarry

by Tom Higgins

CASHEL had to fight hard to hold on to their Munster Club Senior camogie title at Cashel on Saturday when they faced Granagh Ballingarry in the semi-final of this year's championship.

The home side started very brightly and completely dominated the opening exchanges thanks to the brilliance of

3-15 Clare Grogan. They built up a sizeable lead in the opening fifteen minutes and enjoyed a 2-5 to 0-4 lead at the end of the first quarter.

3-12 However Granagh Ballingarry tightened up in defence in the second quarter and with Bernie Chawke taking control at centre back and Vera Sheehan beginning to come into her own at midfield, the Limerick side began to reduce arrears gradually scoring three points without reply in the next twelve minutes. Although Grogan knocked

over another point for the winners in the 28th minute, Granagh Ballingarry snatched a goal through Aoife Sheehan, a minute before the break, and a further point from Joanne Clifford which left the score at 2-6 to 1-8 at the interval in Cashel's favour.

Grogan pointed again after 30 seconds of the second half but the Shannonsiders then took the lead for the first time through points from Marie Collins, Vera Sheehan and Eileen O'Brien in the opening ten minutes.

However Cashel fought back and four unanswered points from Grogan put Cashel back in the driving seat.

But Granagh Ballingarry again fought back and regained the lead with a point from Eileen O'Brien and a goal from Vera Sheehan to leave it 2-12 to 2-11 in injury time. Then Libby Twomey levelled matters for Cashel and Clare Grogan stepped in with a goal and two points. And although Vera Sheehan had cut the deficit, Helen Grogan scored the last point.

Scorers for Cashel: C. Grogan 3-11 (0-2 frees), P. Fogarty 0-2, L. Twomey 0-1, H. Grogan 0-1.

Granagh Ballingarry: E. O'Brien 0-8 (0-3 frees), V. Sheehan 2-1, A. Sheehan 1-0, D. Sheehan 0-1, J. Clifford 0-1, M. Collins 0-1.

CASHEL: D. O'Connell, M. Morrissey, H. Breen, K. Moloney, T. Bonnar, U. O'Dwyer, P. Bulfin, P. Fogarty, E. Hayden, H. Grogan, J. Delaney, L. Grogan, L. Twomey, C. Grogan, M. O'Dwyer, Sub D. Fitzgerald for M. O'Dwyer (52nd minute).

GRANAGH BALLINGARRY: Breda O'Brien, M. O'Brien, Bernie O'Brien, M. Sheehan, L. Lesley, B. Chawke, D. Sheehan, M. Collins, V. Sheehan, J. Cullinane, E. O'Brien, K. Burke, F. Morrissey, A. Sheehan, J. Clifford, Sub. E. McCarthy for F. Morrissey V. Sheehan 2-1, (46th minute).

Referee: P. Downey (Cork).

MAID MARION: Marion Graham of Tipperary is just one of Camogie's many tireless workers.

WHERE DO WE GO FROM HERE?

Sport is full of uncertainties, particularly for the female of the species. Some radical changes in the last few years have enhanced the aesthetics of camogie, but might a further facelift may be required for the sport to impress its beauty on the rest of the nation? Brian McDonnell investigates.

Predictions, insinuations and suspicions that a sport is in decline are simply demeaning to an organisation which has genuine reasons to be cheerful. Cumann Camógáilocht na nGael is comfortable, confident about its progress, and planning to continue on the ascent. This robust nature can be measured in three notable areas: its expanding membership, the enlightened outlook of its core membership, and a vibrant dynamic to its competitions. Take the last point first: nothing has adorned the historic last three seasons in camogie more than the performances of the Tipperary senior team. Although its 16-point drubbing of Kilkenny in last year's final may not have been a very appealing spectacle in its own right, this young side's emergence from the shadows of underachievement has been a major breakthrough, requiring its rivals to play and prepare much more diligently than heretofore. Along with Galway this Tipperary team has smashed the duopoly of the Cork / Kilkenny axis

which long throttled the All-Ireland series, and this year's championship could be one of the most novel ever. Somewhat ironically, the GAA can take example from camogie's All-Ireland series: provincial championships are run off separately, while an open draw, in operation since 1973, is now run alongside a simple second-chance system. The Pan Celtic Tournament (84 clubs took part this year) has been won by Wexford's Oulart-the-Ballagh for the past five years, hopefully the club's terrific performances can be translated to the senior grade, with coach Martin Storey now helping out Margaret Lacey. The Gael Linn Inter-provincial also sustains a magnificent atmosphere, year-in year-out, notwithstanding Munster's domination of the competition. Provincial and All-Ireland club competitions have now been added but much remains to be addressed by the governing body of the camogie association. Only nine sides contested the senior championship

this year, while disturbing stories abound, such as Clare's failure to participate in the league and struggle to find A manager. This spring UCC bagged its 29th Ashbourne Cup, with the sustained challenge of WIT over the past years more important than the Cork girls might like to admit. Further evidence of the south Munster hegemony can be seen at schools level. St Mary's of Charleville dominate the All-Ireland series, winning five of the last six titles. St Mary's defeated the final debutantes of Portumna this term, but the gap between the sides was obvious from a very early stage and this must be of concern. According to Colleges' President, Mary Moran, playing figures are up in Munster especially but down in Leinster, a fact which is not so distressing when you consider the Dublin schools do not participate because, unfortunately, it's just not practical, the traffic there makes fixtures very awkward. "The standard however is very good in Munster and Galway as usual, but skill levels are letting the Ulster schools down a little. At Féile na nGael level

there is nothing between the provinces, but then over a couple of years a gap is appearing. To tackle this trend of marginalisation 12-a-side 'B' and 'C' inter-schools competitions have been introduced, while three years ago a Minor B inter-county championship (under-16) was introduced. Laois was victorious in its inaugural year, last year Limerick was successful and already this year Monaghan has come out of Ulster. By common consensus, it is a priceless stimulus.

TOTAL MEMBERSHIP

Total membership of the camogie association currently sits on the 82,000-mark, about 70% of whom are under the age of 18. Although many players are lost between 16 and 18 the statistics promise much. Without doubt Cork is most burgeoning branch. Its 53 clubs have gone from strength to strength over the last few years, ten senior clubs and four divisional sides now keenly contest the closest and most open county championship in the country.

PRO Mary Newman McCarthy is particularly proud of how things have progressed. "Years ago," she explains, "clubs could come and go, if you know what I mean. A bunch of girls might start one, play for a few years, then move on, and with no one left to keep it going the club would disappear. Clubs are just stronger now. Of course you still have the situation - even in the bigger clubs - of a few mentors doing everything, but the important thing is the clubs are surviving and the number of young girls coming up to train is just fantastic."

15-A-SIDE

These are extraordinary times for camogie people, and the manner in which they have embraced change is particularly noteworthy. Most significantly, Congress 1998 took a dramatic step into the future by deciding to increase teams to 15-a-side. Máire Uí Scolai, who previously devoted her time to Dublin, has been national PRO for the past two years, and she reflects the necessity of change. "In my position I'm always concerned about how the game can be marketed. From a television point of view I believe the move from 12-a-side to 15-a-side has done wonders for the game. I even have sources in RTE who tell me that it is now much more viewer-friendly."

"But what I am most proud of is how well the organisation as a whole adjusted to it. I really believe this is a wonderfully enlightened time, the way the members have embraced all the changes like the advantage rule and bringing in the penalty has been magnificent."

Change always has a partner in conflict however. In 1998 Mary Newman McCarthy spoke out strongly against the introduction of the 15-a-side. "I was against it for a number of reasons, it was a big change to the game and I was afraid 15 would be too much for clubs to pull together. Take an under-16 team, you might only have about seven girls of the fifteen who are actually 16 and the rest could be fourteen, or even as young as 12. This was what worried me, younger players playing at a higher grade. But 15-a-side has improved and opened up the game, making it faster, and I'm glad I was proved wrong."

"The advantage rule can also be very good if the referees apply it properly, but there has to be some sort of uniformity in time-keeping. The refereeing standard I think is still poor, I don't think it has really improved, it's still costing teams games."

She uses last summer's drawn semi-final between Cork and Tipperary as example. A Cork lead was assailed in injury-time to force a replay, which Tipperary won, by seven points.

"Maybe something like what the GAA have should be introduced. In the Cork / Tipp match last year three-and-a-half minutes were played when there had been no significant stoppage."

As per usual this year's Congress marked a significant growth for the organisation, for the first time a full-time financial director (to be named by the end of the year) is to be employed. It is a necessary sign of progress, as some jobs can no longer be done on a part-time basis.

It also heralded the introduction of an anti-doping programme which will apply to senior inter-county players over the age of 18.

An important developmental step was also taken with the launch of the association's first official coaching video, featuring Lynn Dunlea and others. It is available from the Croke Park office, and is a

highly recommended production for both clubs and primary schools.

INTEGRATING WITH THE GAA

Crucial to camogie's development is its integration into the GAA.

Although it was not decided whether or not to pursue a path of integration, the proposal was backed strongly by GAA President Seán McCague. Since then, Ard-Stuirthóir Síle de Bhailís has delivered a questionnaire to every club in a determined effort to ascertain the relationship they maintain with their local GAA clubs. A special congress on the subject is likely in the near future.

Camogie clubs are often described - somewhat melodramatically - as being at the mercy of the GAA. Camogie people are all too familiar with the awkward situations which can arise, and it is simply staggering that the only camogie branch to own a field is Tipperary (The Ragg). Encouragingly at least, Inniscarra in Cork, following fund-raising of heroic proportions, aims to celebrate the sport's centenary by buying its own club field. Such ambition must be commended.

"This is something which has annoyed us for years," says the Cork PRO. "We can only get pitches really when they are made available to us. That's not the GAA's fault; they've always been so good to us. But the field is never your own; you really need to be able to go in turn a key, and say 'we'll play a match here tonight.'"

Would going under the GAA umbrella solve the problem?

"Yes, all the perks and the sponsorship would be great, and I think the move would also improve the image of the game. But we can't go into it with our eyes closed. I wonder how it would affect the grass-roots. Would we be taken seriously? Could we still run our own show?"

Máire Uí Scolai argues that for many intents and purposes the two bodies are might as well be one already. "For so long it has always been a case of asking, 'can we have that pitch please?' But although we're not part of the GAA people don't realise how closely we work together, and how very much part of the GAA clubs we have become. I often attend meetings in headquarters, and I see at first-hand how both organisations always seek advice from one another. I think it's very important that people are aware of that."

"Whether we will soon fall under the umbrella of the GAA is a question we are going to have to face. Talks are going on at the moment between representatives from both organisations, but of course nothing will happen until the members vote at congress on the issue."

"But it's on the way, we don't want to lose our autonomy of course, but we do want to work closely with the GAA. We won't be swallowed up. I don't think that people should be afraid of that. We're 100 years old after all, we didn't just come down in the last breeze."

RAISING THE PROFILE

In an effort to further the profile of the game a first ever PRO Seminar was held in Croke Park last April, the theme for the day 'Raising the profile of Camogie through the media'. As the title suggests, the seminar was about getting fixture news, team selections, results into the newspapers and onto the airwaves.

It was not just about the tireless work of people like Colette Walsh in Galway and Marion Graham in Tipperary but also about initiative, and how



SCHOOLS LEVEL: At Féile na nGael level there is nothing between the provinces but then over a couple of years a gap is appearing



THERESE O'CALLAGHAN

Camogie

ONE HUNDRED NOT OUT

The excitement and anticipation of camogie's centenary preparations are heightening as the colourful tapestry of its history unravels.

2004 will see Cumann Camógaiócht na nGael enjoy the occasion of 100 years in business, but by then the party will already be in full swing. In 2003, November to be exact, will be the launch of one of the biggest birthday celebrations of the association - the start of fifteen months on the party trail as one of the largest female sporting organizations in the country reaches its 100th birthday.

Did you know that the first game of organised camogie was played in Páirc Tailteann, Navan, on 17 July 1904 between Dublin clubs, Keating's and Cúchulainn's? (Neither did I.) Much historical data of this nature is appearing, as preparations get underway to celebrate this momentous occasion. All sorts of outstanding and splendid victories, crushing and disappointing defeats, heroic deeds, masterful performances and magnificent individual displays for club, county and province are springing up all over the country.

The fact that we are celebrating a century of camogie is surely a tribute to the exceptional loyalty and spirit of players and members down through the years.

Memories come flooding back of joyous victory parades through villages, towns and cities - heroines one and all. Having been on many losing sides and a few winning ones, this writer remembers particularly the heartbreaks against those teams that never gave us an inch. I can pay tribute to them now; but I am not so sure I could have done it a while back! 1994 is a year I would rather forget - especially the All-Ireland club final of that year. We were cruising, for heaven's sake, ten points up and with a (seemingly) tight clutch on the trophy as the minutes ticked away. Up stepped one Angela Downey and blasted home four goals in the closing minutes. We were beaten 5-9 to 1-15 and gone too was our three-in-a-row All-Ireland club titles.

24 months is a long wait to drink a tipple from the O'Duffy Cup, but the delay made us appreciate our next victory all the more. Kilkenny provided the opposition again, you see. They had us on the rack in Croke Park in



MELLERICK AND THE INFINITE SADNESS: Okay, it's not that bad, Linda will probably be back playing by the beginning of August.

"It is so much harder on the line. Once the game starts you are stuck in to it and you forget about nerves, but preparations are not the same at all. Yesterday I was driving along in the car and had a pain in my stomach thinking about the game. Even last night when I was sitting at home it was all I could think about.

the 1995 All-Ireland final. But for the first time in an age we out-lived the Cats and fashioned one of our best wins ever. One of my abiding memories of that day was of our coach, Tom Nott, who was expected back in Cork soon after the match. Needless to say it was sometime the following day when he returned to the Leaside and sometime later that night when he arrived home!

Memories are wonderful and for those of us lucky enough to be involved in the game, they will always stay with us. A few weeks ago I watched Limerick play Cork as the 2002 Foras na Gaeilge senior championship got underway. There are no clues just yet, as to who will be in the reckoning in September. All beaten first-round teams are back in through the trap door. We will know after the quarter-finals in August whether Antrim, Wexford, Limerick and Dublin will have made it through second time round.

Linda Mellerick was an interested spectator at the Cork v. Limerick clash. And no, she has not retired, but she is forced out of the game for the present by an ankle injury she picked up in the Munster championship semi-final against Tipperary in early June. Since her involvement with the inter-county squad in the mid-1980s I could not recall seeing Linda out of the action - I got curious and asked her how she enjoyed watching from the sideline?

"It is so much harder on the line. Once the game starts you are stuck in to it and you forget about nerves, but preparations are not the same at all. Yesterday I was driving along in the car and had a pain in my stomach thinking about the game. Even last night when I was sitting at home it was all I could think about.

"I would love to have been out there. I will have been out for the best part of seven weeks, the next game is the beginning of August and I will be pushing it to be back for then. Camogie has gone to [demanding] a fierce level of fitness. I will have a lot of catching up to do. Today it was very hard looking in especially with the whole team playing well and you know that you would be playing well in there with them. It is my last year and I want to be back as soon as possible."

• Meanwhile, on a lighter note - there is life after camogie, or should I say, there is life too during camogie. Cork player Criona Harte recently topped the qualifiers with her brother Liam in the Spar / Irish Independent National Mixed Pairs golfing championships at Macroom and as a result are through to play in the Irish Final at Royal Dublin. 21-year-old Criona, who plays camogie with Inniscarra club, starts off a very competitive 16 handicap.

Collins' Dictionary defines a 'bunker' as an underground shelter. Now, how many times have we looked for one of these on the playing field?

CAMOGIE CREATED A VIDEO STAR: Lynn Dunlea appears in camogie's first coaching video



WHEN 12 TRIBES GO TO WAR: The transition from 12 to 15-a-side has gone more smoothly than many expected

"But it's on the way: we don't want to lose our autonomy of course, but we do want to work closely with the GAA. We won't be swallowed up. I don't think that people should be afraid of that. We're 100 years old after all; we didn't just come down in the last breeze."

effective use of the media is crucial.

"I must say that in Cork," according to Mary Newman McCarthy, "we get fairly good coverage. Local radio is excellent and the Echo is always very helpful to us. We really can't work any harder at it, we really push it but it's so frustrating. If there is no space available in a paper, then camogie is first to be cut. We have to fight for publicity."

After the Limerick / Cork championship encounter earlier this summer the Echo afforded a full-page spread entirely devoted to the occasion. But if Cork had been playing hurling or football that weekend, this veritable feast would hardly have been laid out.

Mary is currently in the throes of putting together a website which is long overdue, but along with so many others, she feels the national broadcaster could do a lot more for the sport. After all it is RTE's responsibility to cover national games, and yet National League results are never listed on the television news.

"The PRO Seminar was my baby really," explains Máire Uí Scolai, "and I think it was needed to edu-

cate PROs and give them that extra bit of help. Fantastic work has always been done, but there is room for improvement. The media are there to help us, but we have to push it as far as we can. After all, we have a fantastically skilful game to market."

"You can be sure that in the past there has been no shortage of material going into the media. One could say it is frustrating but I would never use that word. When I came into this job it felt sometimes that we had to climb Everest, such were the obstacles we had to overcome. At least now I find that I'm getting somewhere."

COMPARISONS WITH FOOTBALL

Camogie will always draw comparisons with ladies' football. Considering the latter's lucrative sponsorship deal with TG4 and escalating viewing figures for its All-Ireland series it would appear women's football is in the more assured position than camogie.

Not so. Camogie remains the largest female sporting body in the country both in terms of infrastructure, county participation and membership

numbers.

Significantly, however, the ladies' football revolution has hit certain counties in a big way. In Mayo, for example, the success of the senior ladies in annexing two All-Irelands (1999 & 2000) has had a big impact on the sporting choices of young Mayo girls.

This is interesting if only for the fact that the O'Duffy Cup is named after a Mayo man, and although it would be anathema to both organisations to suggest that they are in competition with one another, for the sake of camogie's self-preservation this marginalisation needs to be addressed.

After the euphoria and outstanding success of Armagh teams of the 1980s and 1990s the Orchard County now struggle to field teams at intermediate and junior level - a pitiful state of affairs for a county with such a fine tradition.

Work is in progress elsewhere, however, with Wicklow recently launching an under-14 Coaching Development Programme aimed at raising the standard across the county.

More and more players are receiving third-level scholarships and with the worldwide expansion of the game the future looks a bright one. Indeed it is interesting to note there are now seven clubs in the United Arab Emirates and another increase of four clubs in North America. All this work will provide dividends.

CENTENARY PLANS

2004 is beckoning when the association will celebrate its centenary. Undoubtedly Cumann Camógaiócht na nGael has grown in stature since its inauguration in 1904, now it must strive to ensure that this progress is not allowed to stagnate.

A committee comprising Germaine Noonan (All-Ireland winner with Dublin in 1984), Olivia Broderick (Galway), Therese O'Callaghan (Cork), Ann Downey (Kilkenny) and Eithne Duggan (Cork), among others, has been set up to explore the many ways in which to celebrate this unique event in proper style.

Mary Moran believes it is not just about celebrating the history of the game and the organisation, but about bringing back people who may have drifted away. "It's a fact of life that players get married and drift away from the game. For the centenary, I would love to welcome those players back so that we can all celebrate together. The Cork team which won four-in-a-row in the '70s hasn't been together since, so I hope they can be part of it."

"I am very proud of the transitions made already by the organisation," explains Máire Uí Scolai, "but more changes will be required. Bearing in mind that 2004 is coming up, with celebration plans covering the young to the older members it would also be a personal ambition of mine to have a county board operating in every county. Currently camogie is played at one level or another in every county, however three clubs constitute a county board on average."

"I really think this would be a fitting way to mark the centenary; it's actually a stated aim for us to achieve that by 2004. But every club and county have to start the work now. Everyone has to realise they have a part to play - it's not just about national levels. As always it is very important to keep working on the youth of the organisation, and as the Irish saying goes - mol an díge agus bíodh sí."

Aug. 2002

Home of the O'Duffy, McCarthy and Sam Maguire Cups

It houses the MacCarthy, the O'Duffy and the Sam Maguire and now it is one of the most modern stadia in Europe - it is of course the GAA Museum. Máire Uí Scolai looks at how the museum covers camogie.

Administrator of the Museum Tim Carey was more than helpful to me when I recently visited this great monument to our Gaelic Games. A visitor to the GAA Museum will very happily be able to spend at least a couple of hours reading and looking at the various exhibits on show there.

There is something to interest the young and the old with interactive football available for the children while both adults and children can take a break in the Restaurant within the complex. For the many camogie enthusiasts who

may be thinking of visiting the Museum over the next while they will not be disappointed. Among the camogie exhibits are the great Kathleen Mills wonderful collection of All-Ireland medals, League and championship medals won by her when playing for her native Dublin and her club the former great Dublin club Celtic. Kay's collection of fifteen senior All-Ireland medals is unlikely to be ever surpassed in these modern times. Together with All-Ireland medals Kay also had several Gael-Linn Interprovincial medals. Kay was on the first Gael-Linn Interprovincial

team in 1954 which was played as an exhibition game in Pairc Tailteann as part of the Golden Jubilee celebrations that year. For the record Leinster won the match when they beat Ulster 8-03 to 5-03. While Kay's memory lives on in the Museum her memory is recalled very vividly in every All-Ireland Senior Camogie Final when the winning senior captain is presented with the Kay Mills Trophy. Following Kay's death in 1996 her husband George Hill presented Cumann Camogaiochta na nGael with a replica of the O'Duffy Cup. Called the Kay

Mills Trophy, Cork's Linda Mellerick was the first winning captain to receive this wonderful award back in 1997. Made of solid silver the captain gets to keep this wonderful treasure. Another former Dub, Mary Sherlock who graced the sod of Croke Park winning five senior All-Ireland medals between 1962 and 1966 when the Capital won their last senior title until 1984. Mary, who was originally from Sligo has the playing gear of former days on exhibition there. Most players today would wonder how the former players wore sometimes rather heavy gym slips, but it was just accepted then as the uniform. The players of course also wore the customary black tights. This was the accepted gear until the early seventies when the modern short skirt and jersey came into vogue. When one stands at the camogie section you will also be able to see snippets of some of the former greats on video. This video is interesting in many ways as one can watch the 1959 All-Ireland Camogie Final between Dublin and Mayo which Dublin won by 11-06 to Mayo's 1-03. It also shows the players at the beginning of the century who played in the then customary long skirts. The modern era of the Kilkenny twins Angela and Ann Downey is also on the same video and wearing the modern gear shows how much the game has changed.

Without a shadow of a doubt the star of the show where camogie is concerned is of the course the O'Duffy Cup. Proudly displayed and shining, it is the dream of every camogie player to lift that wonderful trophy but so few ever get the chance of climbing the steps of the old or 'new' Hogan Stand. The All-Ireland championship came into being in 1932, however the final was not played until August 1933 which Dublin won beating Galway 3-02 to 0-02.

Incidentally that match was not played in Jones's Rd or Pairc an Chrocaigh as it is now known as but rather at a Galway venue. This most cherished Cup was presented by the late Seaghan Ua Dubhthaigh and was designed by Margaret Meredith who worked for the famous silversmiths Weirs of Grafton St, Dublin. Interestingly a plinth on this majestic Cup was made by the late Jerry Wallace, father of Sheila Wallace. Sheila of course is the Director General of Cumann Camogaiochta na nGael who works in Pairc an Chrocaigh. While Sheila was never lucky enough to win a coveted senior All-Ireland medal she is the proud holder of a Junior medal with her native Dublin from 1971. She also captained the Dubs to National League victory in 1981. Sheila played senior for many years for Dublin and her Dalkey Club Cuala where she won Senior B Championship and League honours back in 1985 and various other trophies. Sheila is still a very active member of the club and despite a heavy workload gets to as many club matches as possible. Some years ago MMI (Medal Manufacturing of Ireland) were asked to design a replica of the O'Duffy Cup. And a superb job they did.

This is the O'Duffy Cup which is now awarded to the winning senior captain each September while the original retires happily in the Museum with its counterparts the MacCarthy and Sam Maguire Cups. The owners of this company Patricia and Liam Woods along with their staff took great pride in this piece of work and why not when Patricia herself won five senior All-Ireland medals with Dublin. Eithne Duggan of Cork was the first captain to receive the new O'Duffy Cup back in 1998 when they

overcame Galway.

The name Mackey will probably never be forgotten in Limerick where hurling is concerned. Mick Mackey's niece Vera was on the first Limerick team to win a Junior All-Ireland title back in 1977 when they beat Wexford in the Final 2-07 to 3-01. Vera now married is a selector with the present Limerick senior team. Vera's husband John is a selector with this year's minor team. Their daughter Niamh is a member of the u14 team and later this season will be seen in Croke Park, playing with the INTO during the football All-Ireland final. Claire, who won an All-Ireland minor medal with Limerick last season is the team's captain this season. Their youngest daughter Judith is also playing camogie and will also be seen in Croke Park this season when she plays with the INTO during the All-Ireland semi-final on August 18th. Vera's father was the late John.

The camogie section could not be complete without mention of the Kilkenny twins Angela and Ann who with their great exploits broke many's a heart on the playing fields. The holder of twelve senior All-Ireland medals each they learned the tricks of the trade from their father Shem who played for the Black and Amber and who to this day takes great interest in his famous daughters. Their sticks that scored so many points and goals are on show while their Black and Amber jerseys are also there. These twins are also the holders of various other awards such as All-Ireland club medals with the famed St. Pauls club, who later became Lisdowney. National League titles and Gael-Linn Interprovincial titles. Both players are still involved in the game and this season Ann has taken on the position of senior county manager. Back in 1994 Kilkenny were captained by Ann when they beat Wexford, that however remains the Cats' last title. This season already Kilkenny can be seen to be making a come back. They have reached the All-Ireland junior Junior 1/4 final against London. In the process to this they beat the reigning Leinster Junior champions and Division 2 National League champions Offaly. The senior overcame Antrim in the opening round of the Foras na Gaeilge Championship in Nowlan Park. Other Kilkenny names pop out in various parts of the Museum such as Eddie Keher and Noel Skehan, two men who played a part in last year's camogie team All-Ireland preparations and who were seen in Pairc an Chrocaigh on All-Ireland Camogie Day.

One voice that followers of Gaelic games the world over will never forget is that of the late Micheal O'Hehir who commented on many a camogie All-Ireland. It is indeed fitting that there is a small theatre there where one can recall with the famous commentator some of the glorious memories of the past. Another voice well known today is that of Micheal O'Muircheartaigh who with the great Kerry accent can instantly change from English to Irish in the one sentence. Like his predecessor the other Micheal this Micheal can capture for the listener at home an instant picture of the game and the occasion.

With the centenary of Cumann Camogaiochta na nGael fastly approaching in 2004 this is an ideal opportunity for people to see what may well be hidden in various attics around the country. Readers may get in touch with me (Maire Uí Scolai) at 01 2849805 or I may be e-mailed at: maier@gofree.indigo.ie in regards to items for either the centenary or the Museum itself.



The O'Duffy Cup

AUG. 2002

HURLING AND CAMOGIE TAKES CENTRE STAGE

WITH the big football game just a little over a week away, it's all eyes on the small ball this week-end, with Cork senior camogie team playing in the All-Ireland semi-final, and some intriguing games in the Senior C'chip.

Vital game for Cork camogie

Apart from the fact that it is the semi-final of the Foras na Gaeilge All-Ireland senior C'chip, the importance of Saturday's tussle with Galway cannot be over stated.

It is three years since All-Ireland glory was attained and defeat to the Connacht ladies this time round would almost certainly mean the end of the current team as it is presently constructed.

Cork are still in contention for all the C'ships, with the minors having already retained their crown and a win by the Seniors would ensure an exciting few weeks ahead for all involved in the sport.

It's been a mixed year for the team, a topsy turvy league campaign ended with a surprised defeat to Limerick in the semi-final, but in hindsight that may not have been a bad thing, as it allowed them focus fully on the C'chip and also a number of niggling injuries to clear up.

In their two C'chip outings to date, easy wins were recorded over Limerick and Antrim, and certainly having witnessed the win over Limerick, I left impressed at the fitness and skill levels displayed and this should be put in context by the latter's good performance against Galway in the last round.

Defensively Cork look solid, and that will help as Galway will have lively nippy forwards, plus the imposing figure of the talented Sharon Glynn at full forward.

Eithne Duggan has shown a welcome return to form while Mary and Paula O'Connor and Stephanie Dunlea have

vast experience and skill, which should ensure a difficult afternoon for their direct opponents.

Aislinn Connolly and Lourda Kavanagh contributed in the scoring stakes against Limerick, so Cork will be aware of the dangers but look capable of containing the threat they pose.

Time was when mid-field in Camogie could be by passed, but with the advent of fifteen a side and a bigger pitch, means it is now a vital area, and one that must be won.

Viv Harris has manned that position with distinction in the last number of years and can be relied upon to once again turn in a solid sixty minutes, and if she receives the necessary support Cork could control that sector, if so, Galway will struggle.

In recent years the half forward line has also given cause for concern, but the introduction of Caoimhe Harrington has come as a big boost, as her strong and forceful play has added a new dimension to Cork's play, and while she occupied the full forward spot the last day, a move back out may well be to the teams advantage.

Fiona O'Driscoll, Jennifer O'Leary, Una O'Donoghue and Rachel Moloney are all likely to figure in attack, and given any reasonable supply they have the capacity to unhinge the Galway defence and point the way to victory and with it a trip to Croke Park, and almost certainly a meeting with three in a row seeking Tipperary.

However it would be foolish to underestimate Galway, they are after all the League champions, and with Tracey Laheen,

Martina Haverly and Louise Curry in their team, Cork will hold no fears for them.

They will be concerned at their fade out in the win over Limerick, but camogie in the county has always been strong and with both counties enjoying a healthy rivalry in the last few years a close game is anticipated.

Cork though look to be going in the right direction and are eager to get back to the Final, overall they look that bit more settled, but will still need big games from their more experienced players, if that is forthcoming it should be enough to see them home.

The game is in the Gaelic Grounds Limerick with a 2 p.m. start and is followed by the meeting of Kilkenny and Tipperary at 3.30pm, where the holders should make the decider with a bit to spare.

Congratulations to Cloughduv on their great win in the County final and in doing so they become the proud holders of the new Punch Shoe Care Cup, which replaced the old Science Cup which was first played for in 1932, also to Breege Corkery who for the second week in a row was named player of the match. Well done to Sarsfields Juniors great run continues.



Douglas Camogie team who will represent Cork and Munster at the National Community games Finals at Mosney later this month. Picture shows: the squad having received their gear bags from Barry Hill CMP Dairies. Also included are Community games officials Derek Connolly and Marie Dorney. Picture: Mike English.

Cork face Galway in semi-final

By Mary Newman

GALWAY and Cork are the curtain raiser as Tipperary versus Kilkenny follows in the line up for Saturday's Foras na Gaeilge All Ireland senior camogie championship semi finals in the Gaelic Grounds Limerick.

Tipperary are the current champions having recorded three in a row determined to

make it four.

Cork defeated Antrim to reach this week-end's semi final and for the opening half of that clash looked anything but championship contenders however at half time they regrouped and proceeded to totally outclass their opponents in the second half. They are guaranteed there will not be a repetition on Saturday next as the reigning National league champions Galway are determined that Cork will not stand in their way of reaching Croke Park for the first time since they lost out to the Leesiders

there in 1998.

Since their success in 1997 they have promised much but have failed to deliver. This year there is a determination about them and the capturing of the National league title has given the confidence they seemed to lack.

They recorded a 1-15 to 1-10 victory over Limerick at quarter final stage but in that game a lapse in concentration saw them relinquish an eleven point lead to only win by five at the final whistle.

The Galway side is one of youth and experience, Louise Curry captain Martina Haverly, Pamela Nevin and Tracy Laheen, Ann Hardiman and Aine Hilary are old hands at the game while the younger set Ashling Connolly, daughter of former All star hurler John and Caroline Murray will not be found wanting when the moment arrives.

TROJAN

Cork are in a somewhat similar vein to Galway in the process of introducing younger players to their panel while retaining the experience that is so vital especially when a county is team building. Vivienne Harris, Stephanie Dunlea, Mary O'Connor, Fiona O'Driscoll and Eithne Duggan have been trojan performers for Cork over a long period while youngsters Joanne O'Callaghan, Ger Casey, Emer Dillon and Rachel Moloney are all performing well in what has been a good campaign to date. at their best to get the vital breaks and ensure a steady supply to the inside lines.

Sharon Glynn lines out at full forward for Galway and she will be a handful for the Cork defenders while her free taking abilities are second to

none, however Cork can call on the prolific Fiona O'Driscoll who will confidently pop over the frees should the need arise. Ger Casey is a capable net minder who has proven her worth and is enjoying her first full season between the posts with the senior team.

Two players who have worked hard to recover from injury were introduced in the quarter final with Ciara Healy and Denise Cronin now back to full power it gives the selectors plenty of options. Linda Mell-erick is also making steady progress in her bid to recover from injury and may feature at some stage in the semi-final clash.

IN LEAGUE

Cork and Galway met in the national league in April with Galway taking the points on an atrocious day for camogie. Cork have worked hard in the interim under the guiding influences of St Finbarr's Pa Finn and St Nick's man Jim Mc Carthy, there is a nice blend of youth and experience in the side and if Cork get the attitude right they look to have the better balance and may just shade it.

Tipperary and Kilkenny meet in the second semi-final and despite an ever improving Kilkenny recording a comprehensive victory over Down, the All Ireland champions look to be on course for another final spot. Ann Downey heads up the Kilkenny backroom team and the side has responded well under her guidance however Tipperary's under the influence of former All star hurler Michael Cleary looked impressive in disposing of the Wexford challenge and should have enough strength to make it to the final stage.



Tipperary's Angie McDermott, seen here in action against Wexford in the last round, will be a vital player for the champions at midfield when they take on Kilkenny in Saturday's All Ireland camogie semi-final in Limerick.

AUG
2002

Desmond is aiming to reverse result

PREVIOUS encounters will be discarded when Cork and Galway enter the ring for tomorrow's Foras na Gaeilge All-Ireland senior camogie championship semi-final at the Gaelic Grounds in Limerick.

When they last met - the 2002 league - Galway outsmarted their opponents but it must be said that since then, Cork camogie has been in the ascendancy.

Testament to this is the fact that management has kept faith with the same 15 that has performed throughout the championship. Easy wins over Limerick and Antrim have failed to fully test this squad.

However, selector Rose Desmond said a lot of work has gone in since their exit from the National League. "We will be going in as underdogs. Galway won the League and they beat us well en route. But we have trained hard since and will be happy if we can reverse that result," she said.

Desmond and her backroom will be looking for a 60-minute performance, similar to their second-half display against Antrim two weeks ago, as anything less could spell disastrous.

Fiona O'Driscoll continues to impress at corner-forward. The Fr

By THERESE O'CALLAGHAN

Cork v Galway

O'Neill's stalwart made a welcome return to the squad before the championship. Caoimhe Harrington at the edge of the square and captain Una O'Donoghue in the other corner are key members. This is an area where the Rebels could stamp their authority.

Linda Mellerick continues to be absent as she is still recovering from an ankle injury picked up two months ago, and at this stage she will be hoping that if Cork do go through, that she can plan her return around the All-Ireland final.

Meanwhile, standing between Cork and September 15 is a very determined Galway team. People would be well advised to forget their mediocre performance in their quarter-final win over Limerick.

A mere five points separated them, but by their own admission, they will want to push to display to one side.

"We were awful disappointed with that game," said selector Colette Walsh.



Cork's Fiona O'Driscoll: impressing at corner forward.

Picture: Inpho

"We know we have to up it considerably. Cork hammered Limerick in the opening round and we struggled. That is the bottom line," she added.

Old warriors - Louise Curry, Olivia Broderick, Tracey Laheen, Denise Gilligan and Sharon Glynn will be asked to use all their experience to aid the Galway cause.

CORK: G Casey; J O'Callaghan, E Duggan, S Dunlea; P O'Connor, M O'Connor, G O'Connor; V Harris, E Burke; R Moloney, E Dillon, J O'Leary; U O'Donoghue (capt); C Harrington, F O'Driscoll; Galway: L Curry; R Broderick, O Broderick, P Nevin; An Other, T Laheen, M Harkin; A Hardiman, A Hillary; C Murray, S Tannion, L Kavanagh; A Connolly, S Glynn, D Gilligan.

The other semi-final between defending champions Tipperary follows the Cork clash, also in the Gaelic Grounds.

In the Diary

TOMORROW

Foras na Gaeilge All-Ireland senior camogie semi-final
Cork v Galway.

Gaelic Grounds Limerick 2pm

BOTH teams were dismissed at this stage last year. Therefore there is huge incentive to succeed. Cork, after a very poor league performance seem to have got their house back in order. They have clocked up huge scores in both their matches, but admittedly this was against much poorer opposition. Tomorrow they will know all about championship action and it will be much more difficult to find scores. That is why the Cork attack will have to be smart from the outset because the Galway defence will not give too much away. The westerners are under new management this year, and they have worked hard to rid themselves of the nightmare of last season's semi-final defeat to Kilkenny. Denise Gilligan is back and with youngsters Lourda Kavanagh and Aislinn Connolly (daughter of John) they make up one half of the attack. These players are lightning fast and will need careful watching. Likewise if Cork are to secure a place in the final, all six forwards will have to be on their game. There is only one winner tomorrow. No more back doors. It is there for the taking.

Verdict: Cork.

ALL-IRELAND SENIOR CAMOGIE SEMI-FINAL PREVIEW

Tipp hunger can see them overcome Kilkenny challenge

On Saturday next in the Gaelic Grounds in Limerick, Tipperary take on Kilkenny while Cork meet Galway in the Foras Na Gaeilge All-Ireland Senior Camogie semi-finals. Anyone present at last year's semi-finals will surely remember the superb game provided by Tipperary and Cork which ended level followed by the replay two weeks later.

Tipperary were five points down with seven minutes to go and won by seven points. Will we have the same spectacular stuff on Saturday?

Kilkenny will surely be out for revenge after last year's defeat in the All-Ireland Final. With Ann Downey now at the helm, their tactics, style of play and their determination will have come up a gear or

two. With all those ingredients added Tipp will surely experience a revamped Kilkenny unit.

But what about Tipperary? They are all out to achieve four titles in a row and certainly with the displays seen in the games against Dublin and Wexford, the appetite is far from gone from this side. Jovita Delaney is as sturdy between the posts as ever while directly in front of her Una O'Dwyer is one of the best full backs in the country, flanked by Paula Bulfin and Claire Madden, both of whom were splendid in the two most recent games.

Tipperary's half backs Sinead Nealon, Ciara Gaynor, and Suzanne Kelly demonstrated an element of skill that has raised the status of camogie way beyond

any previously experienced in the game. Surely if Theresa Brophy, a remarkably strong player for her petite size, has recovered from her illness, manager Michael Cleary will have some thinking to do before this team is finalised.

The pairing of Emily Hayden and Angie McDermott at midfield has worked equally well as it did in 2000 while up front Tipperary's forwards are as lethal as you could find in any combination. Deirdre Hughes had an excellent game against Wexford and destroyed the full back. All the forwards had their names on the scoreboard inside the first ten minutes and this surely gives out a message that the last three years were not just by chance.

The Burgess lassie Eimear

McDonnell is sheer skill and class. Add in the stylish young Claire Grogan and Philly Fogarty whose high fielding is superb and you have as strong a forward line as you could get any where.

Noelle Kennedy is still doubtful with the injury she picked up some time ago but Louise Young, though a little inexperienced, fitted in well against Wexford, while the blonde bombshell Joanne Ryan can dispose of any backs easily with her speed and respond magnificently when under pressure.

How appropriate it should be that Kilkenny, who fell to Tipperary when that first title was won in 1999 and again last year when the three in a row was achieved, should now be the team

to stand in Tipperary's way of reaching their fourth successive final appearance in Croke Park.

The Tipperary-Kilkenny game is scheduled for 3.30 pm and is preceded by the other semi-final between Galway and Cork at 2 pm.

Tipperary look forward to tremendous support on Saturday as these players deserve no less as they have brought camogie up to a completely new level, not only in Tipperary but all over the country.

They have put in a tremendous amount of work and there is no more fitting tribute than to come to the Gaelic Grounds on Saturday and show them that you appreciate what they have done in recent times.

Clár
an
Lae

Páirc na nGael
Luimneach

An Satharn, 17/08/2002.

2.00 i.n.

Corcaigh v An Ghaillimh

3.30 i.n.

Cill Chainnigh v Tiobraid Árann

Na Réiteoirí

Seán Ó Muiríosa, Tiobraid Árann
(Corcaigh v An Ghaillimh)

Ionadaí: Eamonn de Brún, Tiobraid Árann

Na Maoir Líne

Róis Máire Ní Chéilleachair, Luimneach
Eamonn de Brún, Tiobraid Árann

Aileen Uí Leathlobhair, Iarmhidhe
(Cill Chainnigh v Tiobraid Árann)

Ionadaí: Una Ní Chearnaigh, Ardmhacha

Na Maoir Líne

Rita Mhic Craith, Iarmhidhe
Una Ní Chearnaigh, Ardmhacha



Corcaigh

Dearg agus Bán



1
Gearóidín Ní Chathasaigh
Ger Casey
Inniscarra

2
Siobhán Ní Cheallacháin
Joanne O'Callaghan
Cloughduv

5
Paula Ní Chonchubhair
Paula O'Connor
Newtownshandrum

8
Beibhíonn Ní Earchai
Vivienne Harris
Bishopstown

10
Rachel Ní Mhaolomhnaigh
Rachel Moloney
Coursey Rovers

13
Úna Ní Dhoonchú
Una O'Donoghue
Cloughduv. **Captain**

Ionadaithe
16. Córán Ní Cheocháin
Cora Keohane, Barryroe

3
Eithne Ní Dhuagáin
Eithne Duggan
Bishopstown

6
Máire Ní Chonchubhair
Mary O'Connor
Killegagh

9
Léan de Búrca
Elaine Burke
Valley Rovers

11
Eimhear Ní Dhiolláin
Emer Dillon
Ballygarvan

14
Caoimhe Ní Arrachtáin
Caoimhe Harrington
Newtownshandrum

17. Linda Ní Mhaoligheiric
Linda Mellenick, Glen Rovers
18. Tríona Ní Aghairt
Triona Harle, Inniscarra

4
Stiofáinín Ní Dhoinnlé
Stephanie Dunlea
Cloughduv

7
Gemma Ní Chonchubhair
Gemma O'Connor
Naomh Fionbarr

12
Sinead Ní Laoire
Jennifer O'Leary
Barryroe

15
Fiona Ní Dhrisceoil
Fiona O'Driscoll
Fr. O'Neills

19. Rosalín Ní Aoláin
Rosalee Holland, Barryroe
20. Sorcha Ní Aodha
Sarah Hayes, Coursey Rovers



Foras na Gaeilge



An Ghaillimh

Marún agus Bán



1
Labhaoise Ní Chamhráil
Louise Curry
Na Píarsaigh

2
Rita Ní Bhruadair
Rita Broderick
Davitts

5
Martina Ní Earcáin
Martina Harkin
Na Píarsaigh

8
Aine Ní Irghile
Aine Hillary
Na Píarsaigh

10
Aislinn Ní Chonghaille
Aislinn Connolly
Castlegar

13
Cearúilín Ní Mhuiri
Caroline Murray
St. Thomas

Ionadaithe
16. Orlaith Ní Chadhain
Orla Coen, Mullagh

3
Oilibhe Ní Bhruadair
Olivia Broderick
Davitts

6
Tracy Ní Laithín
Tracy Laheen
Na Píarsaigh

9
Aine Ní Argadáin
Ann Hardiman
Mullagh

11
Sharon Nig Fhloinn
Sharon Glynn
Na Píarsaigh

14
Denise Nig Giollaigáin
Denise Gilligan
Craughwell

17. Sandra Ní Thanaidheáin
Sandra Tannian, St. Thomas
18. Orlaith Nig Giolla Cháinnigh
Orla Kilkenny, Na Píarsaigh

4
Pamela Nig Cnáimhin
Pamela Nevin
Mullagh

7
Martina Ní Ábhartaigh
Martina Haverly
Na Píarsaigh. **Captain**

12
Lourda Chaomhánach
Lourda Kavanagh
Davitts

15
Michelle Nig Fhloinn
Michelle Glynn
Na Píarsaigh

19. Rionach Nig Fhloinn
Regina Glynn, Na Píarsaigh
20. Aine Ní Bhruadair
Aine Broderick, Davitts

Cork demolish Galway to book passage to final

Cork
Galway

4-12
0-5

by Tom Higgins

"OUR backs were superb", said trainer Pat Finn after Cork booked their passage into the All-Ireland final with a comprehensive win over the National League champions, Galway in the first of the Foras na Gaeilge All-Ireland semi-finals at Páirc na nGael, Limerick on Saturday.

The game was practically decided in the last four minutes of the first half when Cork, playing against the strong wind, scored two goals. The first came when Emer Dillon was set up with a splendid pass from Fiona O'Driscoll in the 26th minute and the second almost on the stroke of half-time from top scorer Fiona O'Driscoll. This left the Rebels leading 2-4 to 0-4 at the break with the strong wind in their favour in the second period.

Galway, as expected, moved Sharon Glynn to full forward at the start but she got little change out of Eithne Duggan, who was always in control, while the half-back line of Paula O'Connor, Mary O'Connor and Gemma O'Connor were in control and rarely gave the Galway forward

even a sight of the goal.

In fact so dominant were the Cork backs that Ger Casey in the Cork goal hadn't a shot to save in this half.

On the other hand Louise Curry was under severe pressure from the Cork forwards in the Galway goal in the opening quarter and had to bring off some excellent saves. One, in the sixth minute, was out of the top drawer when she saved from Rachel Moloney.

However, once Cork settled and stopped trying to score goals, they were able to pick off some good scores before the goals came.

On the turn over, despite the strong wind, Cork were very slowly into their stride and we had to wait until the 42nd minute for Vivienne Harris to open their second half account with a point. The game was over as a contest a minute later Emer Dillon found Fiona O'Driscoll unmarked in front of Galway goal and she made no mistake.

The Galway defence, in which Pamela Nevin and Tracy Laheen were solid in the opening period, began to crumble and the Rebels exacted the pressure by picking off scorers at will to run out the easiest of winners.

In fact Cork were so much in control that Galway managed only one point, from substitute Orla Kilkenny, and that



Cork's Paula O'Connor tries to force her way through the Galway defence during the All-Ireland semi-final.

Picture: Inpho

took until in the 53rd minute.

"We have done half the job done and we will hoping to finish it in the final," said a delighted Fiona O'Driscoll.

Apart from those already mentioned Joane O'Callaghan did nothing wrong at right back while Jennifer O'Leary had a splendid game in the half-forward line. Caoimhe Harrington had her moments at full forward.

For Galway Louise Curry could not be blamed for any of the goals while Olivia Burke and Pamela Nevin played well in the full back line. Tracy Laheen had an excellent game in the opening half at centre back while of the for-

wards only Lourda Kavanagh and Aislinn Connolly impressed.

Scorers: Cork: F. O'Driscoll 2-4 (0-1 free), J. O'Leary 1-3, E. Dillon 1-0, V. Harris 0-2, U. O'Donoghue 0-2, C. Harrington 0-1. Galway: S. Glynn 0-2 (free), L. Kavanagh 0-2, O. Kilkenny 0-1.

CORK: G. Casey; J. O'Callaghan, E. Duggan, S. Dunlea; P. O'Connor, M. O'Connor, G. O'Connor; V. Harris, E. Burke; R. Moloney, E. Dillon, J. O'Leary; U. O'Donoghue, C. Harrington, F. O'Driscoll.

GALWAY: L. Curry; R. Broderick, O. Broderick, P. Nevin; M. Harkin, T. Laheen; M. Haverly; A. Hillary, A. Hardiman; A. Connolly, S. Glynn, L. Kavanagh; C. Murray, D. Gilligan, S. Tannian. Subs. C. Hannon for D. Gilligan (41st minute), R. Glynn for A. Hillary (45th minute), O. Coen for S. Tannian (52nd minute), M. Glynn for A. Hardiman (56th minute).

Referee: S. Moloney (Tipperary).



ar chúil (ó chlé): L. Nic Conchille, L. Ní Bhráon, T. Ní Bhróilín, F. Ní Fhógartaigh, C. Ní Fhionnshair, S. Ní Chéadlaigh, S. Ní Rian, L. de Sín, C. Ní Ghruagáin, C. Ní Mhadáin, S. Ní Dhubhshláine, N. Ní Chinnéide, P. Ní Ailáin, J. Ní Dhubhshláine

chun tosaigh (ó chlé): A. Nic Conchille, N. Ní Chonghaile, L. Ní Rian, D. Ní Aodha, Ú. Ní Dhubhir, **Captain** E. Ní Domhnaill, S. Ní Niallín, E. Ní Eideáin, P. Búllín, A. Ní Dúrmada, M. Ní an Gheair, S. Ní Iomhair, L. de Búrca

1 Jovita Ní Dhubhshláine Jovita Delaney Cashel	2 Póilín Búllín Paula Búllín Cashel	3 Úna Ní Dhubhir Una O'Dwyer Cashel, Captain	4 Clár Ní Mhadáin Claire Madden Portroe	5 Sinead Ní Niallín Sinead Nialon Burgess	6 Ciara Ní Fhionnshair Ciara Gaynor Kilruane McDonagh	7 Siobhán Ní Cheallaigh Suzanne Kelly Toomevara	8 Eimile Ní Eideáin Emily Hayden Cashel	9 Aineal Ní Dúrmada Aine McDermott Éire Óg Annacarty	10 Fílimín Ní Fhógartaigh Philly Fogarty Cashel	11 Labhaoise de Sín Louise Young Toomevara	12 Siobhán Ní Rian Joanne Ryan Dromifinch	13 Eimhear Ní Domhnaill Emer McDonnell Burgess	14 Deirdre Ní Aodha Deirdre Hughes Toomevara	15 Clár Ní Ghruagáin Claire Grogan Cashel
---	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	---	--	---	--	---	---	--

Ionadaithe	17. Nollaig Ní Chinnéide Noelle Kennedy, Toomevara	19. Sheena Ní Iomhair Sheena Howard, Burgess
16. Labhaoise Ní Rian Louise Ryan, Holycross/Ballycallil	18. Treasa Ní Bhróilín Theresa Brophy, Burgess	20. Pádraigin Ní Ailáin Patricia O'Halloran, Portroe



ar chúil (ó chlé): U. de Bháilín, Á. M. de Sín, D. Ní Lonagáin, N. de Sín, G. Dhiolún, B. Ní Mhaolaidh, E. Ní Mheachair, B. Ní Ghrianáin, K. Ní Longáin, C. Ní Rian, M. Ní Leathlobhair, P. Ní Cumascaigh, L. Aghleart, A. Ní Giolla Phádraig, T. Ní Mhaolaidh, M. Ní Ailáin

chun tosaigh (ó chlé): É. Ní Dhiomsaigh, M. Ní Costealbha, C. Ní Dhochartaigh, E. Ní Chinnéide, **Captain** S. Ní Mhaolaidh, E. Ní Lonn, S. Ní Fíthseigh, E. Ní Lonn, A. Ní Náraigh, M. Ní Chonchubhaigh, F. Ní Dhubhshláine, M. Ní Dhiomsaigh, E. Ní Chonchubhaigh, M. Ní Rian

1 Miriam Ní Ailáin Miriam Holland Lisdowney	2 Eistir Ní Chinnéide Esther Kennedy Freshford, Captain	3 Kelly Ní Longáin Kelly Long Lisdowney	4 Eimhear Ní Lonn Emer Lyng Rower Instoge	5 Edel Ní Mheachair Edel Maher St. Anne's	6 Mairéad Ní Costealbha Mairéad Costelloe Freshford	7 Proinséas Shore Fran Shore Lisdowney	8 Brid Ní Mhaolaidh Brigid Mullaly Glenmore	9 Mairéad Ní Leathlobhair Mairéad Lawlor Freshford	10 Ellis Ní Lonn Lizze Lyng Rower Instoge	11 Gillian Dhiolún Gillian Dillon Freshford	12 Aoife Ní Náraigh Aoife Neary James Stephens	13 Marina Ní Dhiomsaigh Marina Downey Lisdowney	14 Sinead Ní Mhaolaidh Sinead Millea Ballycallan	15 Caitriona Ní Dhochartaigh Catherine Doherty St. Anne's
--	---	--	--	--	--	---	--	---	--	--	---	--	---	--

Ionadaithe	17. Máire Ní Chonchubhaigh Maire O'Connor, Freshford	19. Léan Aghleart Elaine Aylward, Mullineval
16. Tracey Mhaolaidh Tracey Millea, Ballycallan	18. Dolores Ní Lonagáin Dolores Lanigan, Tullogher	20. Póilín Ní Cumascaigh Pauline Comerford, Ballycallan

Tipp end Kilkenny hopes a second time

Tipperary
Kilkenny 1-11 0-6

by Diarmuid O'Flynn

THE disappointment on the face of Kilkenny forward Sinead Millea after this second All-Ireland camogie semi-final in the Gaelic Grounds, Limerick, on Saturday afternoon said it all.

Humiliated by the same opposition in last year's final, Kilkenny had put in a massive preparation for the game against the favourite.

Kilkenny stayed with the champions to the break, turning over just a point down, 1-4 to 0-6, three of those points from Millea.

However, they were held scoreless by a magnificent Tipperary defence in the second half.

"Their tactics, everything, they were on top all over the field. Our defence held very well, but unfortunately we didn't do the business at the other end, should have had a few more points on the board at half time," Millea said.

"Back to the drawing board for another year, but at least the future looks good, a few good young players there today and that experience will stand to them," she said.

Central to the hugely-impressive Tipperary back-line performance was full-back Una O'Dwyer, with Ciara Gaynor dominant also.

"We won the game all right, but it was a very bad performance from us,"

Gaynor said. "Kilkenny were very tough, wouldn't let us play our game, the game we like to play, but we came out winners, and that's the main thing," she said.

"We'll have to step back from this now, plan for Cork in the All-Ireland."

Kilkenny, lining out with just two players in their programme positions, started better, and with the wind behind them, led 0-2 to 0-1 after six minutes. Then came the Tipperary goal from full-forward Deirdre Hughes.

Corner-forward Claire Grogan was also causing problems with her pace and control, but a gritty Kilkenny defence was holding tough, and with Aoife Neary making an impression at the other end, Kilkenny stayed in touch through the opening half.

After the changeover however, it was nearly all Tipperary, sub Joanne Ryan especially impressive.

Scorers for Tipperary: D. Hughes 1-0; C. Grogan 0-3; J. Ryan 0-2; P. Fogarty 0-2; N. Kennedy 0-2 (frees); E. McDonnell 0-1; C. Gaynor 0-1 (45). Kilkenny: S. Millea 0-3 (0-1 free); A. Neary 0-2; E. Maher 0-1.

TIPPERARY: J. Delaney; P. Búllín, U. O'Dwyer, C. Madden; S. Nealon, C. Gaynor, T. Brophy, S. Kelly, A. McDermott; P. Fogarty, E. Hayden, N. Kennedy; E. McDonnell, D. Hughes, C. Grogan. Subs: J. Ryan (Grogan, inj. 42); L. Young (Hayden 55).

KILKENNY: M. Holland; E. Kennedy, G. Dillon, E. Lyng; K. Long, F. Shore, M. Lawlor; E. Maher, L. Lyng; M. Downey, M. Costelloe, S. Millea; C. Doherty, A. Neary, B. Mullally, P. Comerford (Downey 35); M. O'Connor (Mullally 41).

Referee: Aileen Lawlor (Westmeath).



Clara Gaynor, daughter of former Tipperary hurling manger Len, takes a tumble as she chases the ball during the All-Ireland camogie semi-final at the Gaelic Grounds, Limerick on Saturday.

Picture: INPHO/Lorraine O'Sullivan

AUG
2002

Foras na Gaeilge All-Ireland Senior Championship 2002

Cill Chainnigh 3 - 12
Aontroim 0 - 07

An Ghaillimh 3 - 09
Loch Garman 1 - 05

Corcaigh 4 - 19
Luimneach 1 - 06

Tiobraid Árann 2 - 17
Ath Cliath 0 - 04

Qualifying rounds

Luimneach 1 - 13
Ath Cliath 1 - 08

Loch Garman 6 - 11
Ath Cliath 0 - 07

Quarter-finals

Tiobraid Árann 7 - 15
Loch Garman 0 - 10

Cill Chainnigh 6 - 15
An Dún 0 - 04

An Ghaillimh 1 - 15
Luimneach 1 - 10

Corcaigh 7 - 12
Aontroim 1 - 08

Can they win the final now?

Cork have qualified to play Tipperary in the All-Ireland camogie decider - Page 38



Galway boss slams team's display

MIKE KENNEDY
(Galway boss)
"We were always hunting from behind. The team left us down."

"They gave a very poor performance. The backs were behind and the forwards were behind."

"They were not contesting at all. We had only a couple of players who played any way decent at all."

COLETTE WALSH
(Galway selector):
"We never got out of the traps and you cannot expect to win matches playing like that."

"It is more disappointing that we did not play."

"We certainly did not deserve to get as bad a beating as that."

"We were stuck to the ground and we paid the price."



CLOSING IN: Caroline Murray of Galway is tackled by Cork's Gemma O'Connor and Mary O'Connor in the All Ireland Camogie semi-final.

Picture: INPHO/Lorraine O'Sullivan

Hughes' goal puts Tipp on route to clash with Cork

By **THERESE O'CALLAGHAN**

All-Ireland Camogie semi-final

Tipperary
Kilkenny

1-11
0-6

TIPPERARY knew a meeting with Cork awaited the winners of the second semi-final.

They never scaled great heights to book their final place, as they were made to fight for every ball. Deirdre Hughes scored the goal after just eight minutes.

The full-forward line of McDonnell, Hughes and Claire Grogan have style other counties would die for.

At stages, Eimear Lyng, Gillian Dillon and Ester Kennedy did close them down, but the slightest opportunity was all they needed. Grogan was substituted early in the second-half, but this was purely as a precautionary measure due to an ankle injury.

Scorers - Tipperary: D Hughes 1-0, C Grogan 0-3, P Fogarty, N Kennedy (free) and J Ryan 0-2 each, E McDonnell and C Gaynor 0-1 (45 m) each.

Kilkenny: S Millea 0-3 (0-1f), A Neary 0-2, E Maher 0-1.

TIPPERARY: J Delaney; P Bulfin, U O'Dwyer (capt), C Madden, S Nealon, C Gaynor, T Brophy; S Kelly, A McDonnell, N Kennedy, E Hayden, P Fogarty; E McDonnell, D Hughes, C Grogan.

Subs: J Ryan for C Grogan (42 mins inj), L Young for E Hayden (55 mins).

KILKENNY: M Holland; E Kennedy (capt), G Dillon, E Lyng; K Long, F Shore, M Lawlor; E Maher, L Lyng; M Downey, M Costelloe, B Mullaly; S Millea, A Neary, C Doherty.

Subs: P Comerford for M Downey (38 mins), M O'Connor for B Mullaly (40 mins).

Referee: A Lawlor (Westmeath).

Cork in a canter

Cork 4-12
Galway 0-5

CORK were on fire and Galway fell apart. That was the simple story line from the Gaelic Grounds on Saturday in the Foras na Gaeilge All-Ireland senior camogie championship semi-final.

The red and white brigade is back after a two-year lapse to sample the fare on offer in Croke Park on All-Ireland day. And who better to share it with, than the champions, Tipperary?

Cork could do little wrong. But, what is most admirable about this team is the attitude they have shown to better themselves from the beginning of the year. And the hunger is back.

"Awesome" was how boss Pa Finn described his team's display.

"I thought our full-back line were brilliant and our half-back line shut everything out. Midfield was on top and we got some great scores. What more can you ask for?"

Mention of scores and Cork got a

Three reasons why Cork won well

1. EMER Dillon's 25th minute goal did not just change the momentum of the game, but it acted as the turning point that gave Cork the confidence to add on another 3-9 - all from play. The Ballygarvan player showed great maturity as she was marked being marked by Tracey Laheen, the experienced Galway player.

2. FIONA O'Driscoll once again proved how valuable she is to the Cork attack. Within a minute of the half-time bell she struck her first

killer blow to the westerners when Jennifer O'Leary set her up to hand pass over the approaching 'keeper into an empty net.

Then in the 43rd minute, again using the hand, she finished off a Dillon pass while standing unmarked at the edge of the square.

3. THE CORK defence was completely on top. They dominated Galway totally. There was tremendous support and on the rare occasion one unit got beaten, there was back-up.

By **THERESE O'CALLAGHAN**

All-Ireland Camogie semi-final

lot of them. But Finn is reluctant to single out any of his forward line for special mention, although he does agree that Emer Dillon's goal was a classic. The centre-forward ran onto a great cross for Cork's opening goal, split the defence and buried from 30 metres out.

"She is a great bit of stuff," said Pa. "This team has so much ability."

Since Cork set out in this year's championship trail, they have scored 15-43, and conceded 2-19, in three matches. This statistic speaks

for itself and so far the competition has been a walk in the park for the Leesiders - the stiffest challenge is yet to come.

Fiona O'Driscoll was on song and silenced the opposition by rattling the net twice. Her return to the Cork team has had a major impact. Jennifer O'Leary - a minor graduate from '99 along with Gemma O'Connor, Joanne O'Callaghan and Dillon - was in sparkling form.

It was the Rebel's ability to get goals that once again made the difference. Galway, despite playing with the strong wind in the opening 30 minutes, were only ever in the hunt for the opening quarter.

Cork's two first-half goals five minutes before the break from Dillon and O'Driscoll killed Galway off completely. Only for Louise Curry, Pam Nevin and Tracey Laheen they story could have been much worse for the maroon and white.

The second period turned out to

be completely one-way traffic as Cork ran amok. Galway's reply was one score and one wide. The westerners amazingly looked tired and unfit. Cork looked menacing each time they broke forward.

Their defence was superb - all six of O'Callaghan, Eithne Duggan, Stephanie Dunlea, Paula O'Connor, Mary O'Connor and Gemma O'Connor.

Viv Harris, despite carrying a leg injury, scored two great points from midfield. Up front Dillon, O'Driscoll and O'Leary were all in buoyant form.

Cork deserve their place on September 15.

Scorers - Cork: F O'Driscoll 2-4 (0-1f), J O'Leary 1-3, E Dillon 1-0, U O'Donoghue and V Harris 0-2 each, C Harrington 0-1.

Galway: S Glynn (free) and L Kavanagh 0-2 each, O Kilkenny 0-1.

CORK: G Casey, J O'Callaghan, E Duggan, S Dunlea; P O'Connor, M O'Connor, G O'Connor, V Harris, E Burke, R Moloney, E Dillon, J O'Leary; U O'Donoghue (capt), C Harrington, F O'Driscoll.

GALWAY: L Curry; R Broderick, O Broderick, P Nevin; M Harkin, T Laheen, M Haverly (capt); A Hillary, A Hardiman; A Connolly, S Tannion, L Kavanagh; C Murray, S Glynn, D Gilligan.

Subs: O Kilkenny for A Hardiman (half-time), C Hannon for D Gilligan (41mins), R Glynn for A Hillary (45 mins), M Glynn for S Tannion (52 mins), F Healy for M Harkin (57 mins).

Referee: J Morrissey (Tipperary).

Tipp's 'against the wind' work pays off

Tipperary 1-11, Kilkenny 0-6

A giant-size step towards the achievement of four All Ireland titles in a row was taken in Limerick's Gaelic Grounds on Saturday afternoon.

Kilkenny came with vengeance as visible as the flames from a dragon's nostrils. The message obviously was to upset their Tipp opponents with toughness and physical play, but when the final whistle sounded, the present order remained intact. Tipp's remarkable senior camogie side remains unde-

planting the ball out of the opposing keeper's reach. It was a score from which Tipp never looked back and with Claire Grogan, Philly Fogarty and Ciara Gaynor showing their accuracy with well taken points, Kilkenny needed to have a much more satisfactory interval position if they were to cause an upset.

Claire Grogan was forced to leave with a leg injury. Into the breach stepped Joanne Ryan and if ever a player set out to reclaim her place the young Drom-Inch lass did. Dropped (with Louise Young) and for whom Noelle Kennedy and Therese Brophy slotted in, both on return from injury, Joanne immediately

the need arises.

Kilkenny had been in preparation for this game, under the legendary Ann Downey for quite some time and they travelled to Limerick with more than a little confidence of dethroning the champions and in the process, making some amends for the huge defeat suffered in last year's final.

Tipperary in 4th successive All-Ireland Final



Ciara Gaynor (with Angie McDermott in the background) unleashes one of her valuable clearances.



Back from left: Suzanne Kelly, Therese Brophy, Philly Fogarty, Claire Madden, Claire Grogan, Noelle Kennedy, Jovita Delaney. Front: Deirdre Hughes, Una O'Dwyer (capt.), Eimear McDonnell, Emily Hayden, Paula Bulfin, Sinead Nealon, Angie McDermott, Ciara Gaynor - Centre, Maeve Delaney.

AUG.
2002

feared in championship fare since the All Ireland semi final of 1998, when Galway beat them in Nowlan Park.

Their greatest rivals of all, Cork, alone stand between them and that four in a row achievement in Croke Park on September 15th.

Tipp needed a more difficult game than what had come their way against both Dublin and Wexford. Still, they hardly expected Kilkenny to be so physical and it was to Tipp's eternal credit that they got on with the job they had to do and through sheer hurling ability, earned their final place.

While holding their opponents scoreless in the second half, a feat scarcely imagined at half time, it was in that first half that Tipp sowed the seeds of victory, their vice-like grip in defence, when playing against the wind, keeping the Kilkenny scoring machine at manageable proportions.

ONLY GOAL

The game's only goal came in the 9th minute, Deirdre Hughes soloing through and

They relied far too much in attack on Sinead Millea, the attack generally unable to break down the defiance of such as Una O'Dwyer, Sinead Nealon and Ciara Gaynor.

A 1-4 to 0-6 interval lead for Tipp was well deserved and it remained to be seen, how they would adapt with wind advantage and Kilkenny's expected renewal of efforts to knock Tipp from their free-flowing style.

A team, that lined out with only two out-field players in the positions assigned to them on the match programme (that cost €2!), was moved around sweepingly in a bid to get back into a game that required something very special from them, if they were to win it.

THE SIMPLE THINGS

Tipp, on the other hand, remained cool and unaffected, doing the simple things efficiently and well, picking off points and defending stoutly.

What might have been viewed as a blip on such a performance came before the end of the third quarter when

used her tremendous pace to good effect, taking on the Kilkenny defence and scoring two great points into the bargain.

Noelle Kennedy took on the free taking duties and was successful with a brace of points, so that by the time referee Aileen Lawlor, sounded the long whistle, Tipp had extended their interval lead by seven points.

Just on full time, Tipp were awarded a penalty and Eimear McDonnell's low shot was saved.

In Tipp's years on top, this was probably the most difficult game to handle but it is surely the one also that demonstrated the character there is in this team and the absolute refusal to let over-robust play interfere with their onward march.

HUNGER REMAINS

Their ability to diversify their game to meet with the type of play which Kilkenny set before them, showed how much hunger remains there and their ability to adapt when

They were a much better side than last year and it was to their credit that they reduced considerably the scoring gap, with a number of newcomers in their line-up. It indeed emerged quite forcibly that Kilkenny will very soon be a force to be reckoned with just as they have been in the past. But on Saturday Tipp were in no mood to concede ground and this was so evident in defence. Una O'Dwyer's brilliance as a full back was once more underlined with Ciara Gaynor in front of her majestic throughout.

With Sinead Nealon and Claire Madden also thriving on the close exchanges and Paula Bulfin and Therese Brophy equally strong and sturdy, goalkeeper Jovita Delaney was able to enjoy her third championship outing of the season without a goal scored against her.

Angie McDermott and Suzanne Kelly always controlled matters in the middle of the field. Deirdre Hughes took her goal in typical fashion,

with Claire Grogan and Eimear McDonnell on each side of her, posing constant threats to the Kilkenny backs. Noelle Kennedy made a successful return from injury and Philly Fogarty's darting runs again caused problems for opponents with Emily Hayden holding the centre with confidence and skill.

Joanne Ryan too acquitted herself so well that she will be seeking a recall from the start in the final. Louise Young only came in (for Emily Hayden) in the closing minutes and in the weeks leading up to the final, she too will be all out to impress and reclaim her berth.

SCORERS AND TEAMS

Scorers for Tipp were, D. Hughes 1-0, C. Grogan 0-3, P. Fogarty, J. Ryan, N. Kennedy (frees) 0-2 each, E. McDonnell and C. Gaynor (45), 0-1 each.

Kilkenny's replies came from S. Millea 0-3 (1 free), A. Neary 0-2, E. Maher 0-1.

Whereas Tipp had nine wides in the hour, five of them in the second half, Kilkenny had only one in each half.

Tipp were awarded fifteen frees, nine in the first half to their opponents nine in all, with Tipp forcing the game's only 45.

TIPPERARY - Jovita Delaney, Paula Bulfin, Una O'Dwyer (capt), Claire Madden, Sinead Nealon, Ciara Gaynor, Therese Brophy, Angie McDermott, Suzanne Kelly, Philly Fogarty, Emily Hayden, Noelle Kennedy, Eimear McDonnell, Deirdre Hughes, Claire Grogan.

Subs - Joanne Ryan for Grogan, Louise Young for Hayden.

KILKENNY - Miriam Holland, Esther Kennedy (captain), Gillian Dillon, Eimear Long, Kelly Long, Fran Shore, Mairead Lawlor, Edel Maher, Lizzie Lyng, Marina Downey, Mairead Costelloe, Sinead Millea, Catherine Doherty, Aoife Neary, Brigid Mullaly.

Sub - Mary O'Connor for Mullaly.

Referee - Aileen Lawlor, Westmeath.



Claire Madden ready to clear.



Cork's Sinead Ni Laoire breaks away from Aine Ni Irgihle during Saturday's All-Ireland semi-final at the Gaelic Grounds in Limerick. Picture: Alan Place

Powerful Rebels on final charge

CORK	4-12
GALWAY	0-5

Maire Uí Scolai

CLINICAL Cork outshone and outpowered league champions Galway in the Foras na Gaeilge All-Ireland semi-final at the Gaelic Grounds yesterday.

The teams traded points for a while but the turning point came after 26 minutes when the sides were level at 0-3 each.

Fiona O'Driscoll found Emer Dillon to knock in Cork's opening goal and O'Driscoll stung Galway with her second just before the break to put them in charge.

The second half was all Cork and O'Driscoll was on hand to grab a second goal.

And when Jennifer O'Leary hit the back of the net for Cork's fourth goal it was just a matter of what score it would be.

SCORERS - Cork: F. O'Driscoll 2-4, J. O'Leary 1-3, E. Dillon 1-0, V. Harris, U. O'Donoghue 0-2 each, C. Harrington 0-1. Galway: L. Kavanagh, S. Glynn 0-2 each, O. Kilkenny 0-1.

CORK - G. Casey, J. O'Callaghan, E. Duggan, S. Dunlea, P. O'Connor, M. O'Connor, G. O'Connor, V. Harris, E. Burke, R. Moloney, E. Dillon, J. O'Leary, U. O'Donoghue, C. Harrington, F. O'Driscoll. **GALWAY** - L. Curry, R. Broderick, O. Broderick, P. Nevin, M. Harlin, T. Lahnen, M. Haverly, A. Hilly, A. Hardiman, A. Connolly, S. Glynn, L. Kavanagh, C. Murray, D. Gilligan, S. Tannian. **Subs**: C. Hannon for D. Gilligan, R. Glynn for A. Hilly, O. Kilkenny for S. Tannian. **REF** - J. Morrissey (Tipperary).

TIPPERARY	1-11
KILKENNY	0-6

Maire Uí Scolai

IMPRESSIVE Tipperary booked their place in the All-Ireland decider next month when they overcame a disappointing Kilkenny side in the second semi-final.

The Cats could never match their opponents and after Tipperary's goal early on they were always chasing the game.

With ten minutes gone, Kilkenny keeper Miriam Holland brought off a fine save only for Tipp's full-forward Deirdre Hughes to crash the rebound to the net.

Kilkenny tacked on a few scores to keep them in touch but Tipp dominated the second half with points from Emer McDonnell, Noelle Kennedy and Joanne Ryan.

SCORERS - Tipperary: D. Hughes 1-0, C. Grogan 0-3, J. Ryan, P. Fogarty and N. Kennedy 0-2 each, C. Gaynor and E. McDonnell 0-1 each. **Kilkenny**: S. Millea 0-3, A. Neary 0-2, E. Maher 0-1.

TIPPERARY - J. Delaney, P. Bulfin, U. O'Dwyer, C. Madden, S. Nealon, C. Gaynor, T. Brophy, S. Kelly, A. McDermott, P. Fogarty, E. Hayden, N. Kennedy, E. McDonnell, D. Hughes, C. Grogan. **Subs**: J. Ryan for C. Grogan, L. Young for E. Hayden.

KILKENNY - M. Holland, E. Kennedy, G. Dillon, E. Lyng, B. Mullaly, F. Shore, M. Lawlor, E. Maher, L. Lyng, K. Long, M. Costelloe, S. Millea, C. Doherty, A. Neary, M. Downey. **Subs**: P. Comerford for M. Downey, M. O'Connor for B. Mullaly. **REF** - A. Lawlor (Westmeath).

Cork take Munster title

Cork 1-16
Limerick 0-12

ANOTHER Munster senior championship title for Cork, but more importantly for the All-Ireland finalists, it was a very useful workout last evening in Ballingarry as they prepare for the September 15 showdown against Tipperary, writes **Therese O'Callaghan**.

"This was a very competitive game," said selector Rose Desmond. "Limerick were near full strength and we are very glad to have come through it. These matches are better than any training session," she added.

Cork fresh from their victory over Galway fielded 11 of that team. The only alterations were Aoife Murray (came in as goalkeeper), Sara Hayes and Linda Mellerick at midfield, while Clara Healy filled the corner-forward slot.

The opportunity arose to try some of their sub bench — Katherine Corkery, Criona Harté, Denise Cronin and Orla O'Sullivan were called into action in a game that the visitors led 1-10 to 0-6 at the break. The Cork goal came from full-forward Caoimhe Harrington.

Limerick captain Vera Sheehan emphasised that Cork are a class act and will take some beating.

"Their backs are outstanding, they take no passengers. I think it will be a fantastic battle between them and the Tipperary forwards," she said. "We were down seven points at half-time and staged a comeback, but their defence always drove us back."

CORK: A Murray; J O'Callaghan, E Duggan, S Dunlea (capt); P O'Connor, M O'Connor, G O'Connor, L Mellerick, S Hayes, R Moloney, E Dillon, J O'Leary; C Healy, C Harrington, F O'Driscoll. Subs: K Corkery for F O'Driscoll, C Harté for E Dillon, D Cronin for C Harrington, G O'Sullivan for C Healy.

LIMERICK: E Realy; G McNamara, R Collins, P McCarthy; M Kelly, D Sheehan, J Clifford; V Sheehan (capt), M Nash; A Sheehan, A White, E O'Brien; P Cronin, M Keating, C Hayes. Referee: J Morrissey (Tipperary).

Good effort not enough

CAMOGIE

Tipperary 1-11
Kilkenny 0-6

TIPPERARY ran out convincing winners over Kilkenny in the Foras-na-Gaeilge All-Ireland senior camogie semi-final at Limerick on Saturday.

Tipperary are chasing their fourth title on the trot. Kilkenny were tougher to crack than when the sides met in last year's final.

Under the guidance of Ann Downey, with her experienced backroom team of Frank Bourke, Tom Doherty and Neilly O'Con-

nor, Kilkenny were a force to be reckoned. They made Tipperary fight hard for scores.

The champions found it impossible to get their rhythm going.

Kilkenny were first to score. Edel Maher gathered the ball on the half way line, soloed through to the 50 and sent it between the posts. Even at this stage, facing the strong breeze, Tipperary were looking dangerous with Emer McDonnell, Deirdre Hughes and Claire Grogan forming a formidable full-forward line.

When Tipp. did score a goal, it was somewhat for-

tuitous. Deirdre Hughes soloed through, found Emer McDonnell with a pass. The corner-forward's shot was brilliantly blocked by the agile Miriam Holland.

The ball rebounded into the path of Deirdre Hughes. The ace forward lost no time in sending the ball into the net.

It was Kilkenny who got the best scores of the half, a brace of points each from Aoife Neary and Sinéad Millea had all the hallmarks of class. It was Tipperary who led by 1-4 to 0-6 at half-time.

The second half was a different affair. Tipperary

mounted attack after attack.

The Kilkenny defence was unyielding, but the forwards found chances hard to come by against Una O'Dwyer, Paula Bulfin and Clara Gaynor.

Kilkenny badly needed a goal. They came within a whisker of getting one when Mairead Costello forced her way through. Her shot was bravely snuffed out by a stout Tipperary defence.

Tipperary failed to find the net in this half, but they struck enough points to get through to face Cork in the All-Ireland final on September 15.

Esther Kennedy played a captain's role for Kilkenny. She formed a magnificent full-back line with Jillian Dillon-Maher and Emer Lyng in front of dependable keeper, Miriam Holland.

Mairead Lalor was in fine fettle on the half-back line. Lizzie Lyng tried all she knew at midfield despite having some atrocious luck.

Aoife Neary and Sinéad Millea struck some great points. Pauline Comerford was impressive when she came on. Mairead Costello led the forwards with determination.

Kilkenny — Miriam Holland (Lisdowney); Esther Kennedy (St Lachtain's); Jillian Dillon-Maher (St Lachtain's); Eimear Lyng (Rower Inistioge); Kelly Long (Lisdowney); Fran Shore (Lisdowney); Mairead Lalor (St Lachtain's); Edel Maher (St Anne's); Lizzie Lyng (Rower Inistioge); Marina Downey (Lisdowney); Mairead Costello (St Lachtain's); Sinéad Millea (St Brigid's); Catherine Doherty (St Anne's); Aoife Neary (James Stephens); Bridget Mulally (Glenmore).

Subs: Jacqui Frisby (Carrickshock); Marie O'Connor (St Lachtain's); and Pauline Comerford (St Brigid's).

Tipperary — J. Delaney, P. Bulfin, U. O'Dwyer, C. Madden; S. Nealen, C. Gaynor, S. Kelly; E. Hayden, A. McDonnell.

Fogarty, L. Young, J. Ryan; E. McDonald, D. Hughes, C. Grogan.

Big test

Kilkenny may yet have a team in action on camogie All-Ireland day. The juniors qualified for the All-Ireland semi-final against Galway.

This game was fixed for Friday at Nowlan Park (7 pm). Kilkenny lost influential defender Eimear Connery. She is taking part in a charity triathlon.

They added Fran Shore to their line up.

Kilkenny panel — Catriona Ryan (Tullagher), Bridget Grennan (Tullagher), Eimear Lyng (Rower Inistioge); Pauline Comerford (St Brigid's), Mairead Lalor (St Lachtain's), Nora Sutton (Mullinavat); Edel Maher (St Anne's), Elaine Aylward (Mullinavat); Catherine Doherty (St Anne's), Dolores Lanigan (Tullagher), Marie O'Connor (St Lachtain's); Ursula Walton (St Brigid's), Fran Shore (Lisdowney), Marie Ryan (Tullagher), Aoife Neary (James Stephens), Jacqui Frisby, capt (Carrickshock), Fiona Dowling (St Lachtain's), Aoife Fitzpatrick (St Lachtain's), Ann Marie Young (St Brigid's), Keira Kinahan (Shamrock's), Aoife Treacy (Danesfort), Laura Comerford (Emeralds), Lizzie Dempsey (Thomastown), Bronagh Neary (St Brigid's), MT Doherty (Glenmore), Louise Hogan (Lisdowney), Louise Rafter (James Stephens), Eileen Fitzpatrick (St Lachtain's).

Cork Juniors confident ahead of Derry tie

By **THERESE O'CALLAGHAN**

Cork v Derry

THE LAST piece of the jigsaw could be put in place this weekend when Cork travel to Bellaghy to play Derry tomorrow in the All-Ireland junior camogie semi-final. With the seniors already through to the final in Croke Park on September 15 and the junior final preceding this game, it could yet be a memorable day if the Rebels are in both finals.

Selector Marion McCarthy a holder of eight All-Ireland medals, is happy that her charges are up for this big tie.

"Our preparations have gone very well. We played the Cork intermediate team last Sunday and came away with a win. We finished training on Tuesday night and the mood was very positive. However, we do know that we have it all to do, but the fact that we already have one team in headquarters next month is a great incentive," said McCarthy.

The red and white travel with a very strong team — Jennifer Brown is the only absentee through injury — most of whom have much inter-county experience.

Nora Ahern was a member of the senior panel, but opted for the junior grade when she was made captain to the side. Marie Watson and Catriona Kelly are other vital cogs with their ability to snatch scores at any opportunity.

At midfield Val O'Keeffe and Emer O'Farrell have performed well throughout the championship during which Cork have been impressive.

Meanwhile, Derry are under new management this year. Kevin Kelly will have plenty to build on and with the talented McAuley sisters', Katie and Maura, in his line-up he will not fear the Munster challenge.

The Oak Leaf county had a narrow one-point victory over Armagh in their northern final. Cork, though, could prove too good on this occasion. Throw-in is at 1.30pm.

Camogie

Although the score suggests otherwise, Derry could have been a lot closer to Cork in Saturday's All-Ireland Junior Championship semi-final. Losing 1-13 to 1-3, the Oak Leafers failed to score in the opening half and ultimately this saw Cork go through to meet Kilkenny on September 15. Cork led by 1-6 to 0-0 at half-time. And although Paula Bell got a goal inside 90 seconds of the restart, Cork kept getting the points to keep Derry at bay. Kilkenny surprised Galway with a 2-10 to 2-6 win in the other semi-final to make the final for the very first time.

Derry scorers: Paula Bell (1-0), Michelle Comer (0-1), Dymphna Burke (0-1), Grainne McGoldrick (0-1).

Watson goal sets Cork on way to final

Cork 1-13
Derry 1-3

MARIE WATSON'S fifth minute goal lay the foundations as Cork advanced to the All-Ireland Junior Championship final at the expense of Derry in Bellaghy on Saturday.

Catriona Kelly and Watson had opened the Cork scoring with points before the Leesiders stretched their advantage in the fifth minute.

Two Catriona Kelly points and one apiece from Colette Desmond and team captain Nora Ahern had Cork 1-6 to 0-0 at the break.

Catriona Kelly had increased Cork's advantage to 1-7 before Paula Bell opened the home side's account with a goal inside three minutes of the resumption. From here on both defences dominated and it took until the 16th minute before Dymphna Burke added a Derry point. Four points ahead, Cork upped the pace and four unanswered points from Catriona Kelly, Elaine McCarthy, Ger Collins and Marie Watson had them in a comfortable position.

Michelle Comer and Grainne McGoldrick cut the deficit with Derry points but, finishing stronger, Cork rounded off the scoring with points from Colette Desmond and Catriona Kelly to ensure they advanced to join their senior counterparts in Croke Park on Sept 16.

Scorers for Cork: C. Kelly (0-6, 0-4 frees), M. Watson (1-2), C. Desmond (0-2), N. Ahern, G. Collins, E. McCarthy (0-1 each).
Derry: P. Bell (1-1), D. Burke, G. McGoldrick, M. Comer (0-1).
CORK: E. Clifford, A. O'Neill, L. Sweetnam, J. O'Sullivan, N. Bowles, N. Ahern, M. Holland, V. O'Keeffe, E. O'Farrell, C. Desmond, C. Kelly, G. Collins, A. Murphy, E. McCarthy, M. Watson. Sub: D. Twomey for E. McCarthy.

DERRY: C. O'Kane, R. Kelly, S. Stephenson, A. O'Doherty, E. Ward, H. Kelly, A. Lafferty, S. O'Neill, C. Pickering, C. Gormley, G. McGoldrick, D. Burke, P. Bell, K. McAuley, M. Comer. Sub: M. McAuley for C. Pickering.

Galway run off their feet by vibrant Cork

Cork4-12
Galway0-5

by Ciaran Tierney

SIMPLY outclassed. The glory days of 1996 seemed like distant memories from another era for the Galway senior camogie team when they suffered one of the most disappointing defeats in their history to a vastly superior Cork side in this All-Ireland semi-final at the Gaelic Grounds, Limerick, on Saturday.

It was as painful as the scoreline suggests, despite some resolute performances from a couple of the Galway backs throughout the hour. They managed to stay in touch for 25 minutes before being rocked by two goals, but then the superior class of the sharper Cork girls shone through as the second half turned into a rout.

Galway started as National League champions, but they looked jaded and out of sorts long before the end of a game which is bound to lead to considerable soul searching among the players and management team.

The defeat was all the more distressing given that new Galway manager Michael Kennedy has had so much success with Pearces in

recent years, with six of the starting 15 coming from the back-to-back All-Ireland club champions.

But Galway have failed to build on their only intercounty success in '96 and they looked to be in complete disarray when lethal Cork forward Fiona O'Driscoll sealed the issue by calmly palming home her side's third goal with over a quarter of an hour to go.

The losers started with the backing of a strong breeze, but they found themselves up against a resolute Cork defence while the superb Tracey Laheen, Pamela Nevin, and Rita Broderick defended valiantly at the other end.

Laheen and Nevin hardly put a foot wrong throughout the hour, but as the game progressed the likes of O'Driscoll, Jennifer O'Leary, and Vivienne Harris began to cause all sorts of problems for the Galway backs.

O'Driscoll — who took a break for Cork's League campaign — went on to score 2-4, while Harris dominated a midfield sector in which both Aine Hillary and Ann Hardiman were substituted midway through the second half.

The Galway forwards just did not seem to have the energy to deal with the Cork girls and their dearth of attacking options was evident when they managed just one point in the entire second half, from substitute Orla Kilkenny.

The game began at a cracking pace, with Lourda Kavanagh and O'Leary exchanging points within the first two minutes, while composed Galway goalkeeper Louise Curry had to make two early saves to deny weak shots from Rachel Moloney.

Galway needed to put points on the board if they were to take advantage of the breeze, but they only had a second Kavanagh point and a Sharon Glynn free to show for their efforts by the 25th minute.

The forwards were being completely outplayed by the Cork defence, even though the backs were holding up well in the splendid conditions, not that they could not prevent O'Driscoll (a free) and lively midfielder Vivienne Harris from bringing the teams back to level terms.

It all began to go wrong in the 27th minute when veteran O'Driscoll provided an excellent ground stroke for centre forward Emer Dillon to unleash an unstoppable shot to the right hand corner of Curry's net.

Full-forward Glynn quickly replied with a pointed free, but she must have been disappointed by her overall contribution, and O'Driscoll — who troubled Broderick far more as the game progressed — scored an inspirational point on the half-hour mark.

Disaster came a minute into injury time when O'Leary found O'Driscoll

completely unmarked on the edge of the Galway penalty area, and the experienced forward blasted the ball past Curry to make it 2-4 to 0-4 at the break.

Suddenly, a team with wind advantage found themselves six points behind, in serious trouble, and seemingly lacking in attacking options. They needed to haul back a few scores early after the break, but Eithne Duggan and Stephanie Dunlea were rock solid in the Cork defence and neither team managed to raise a flag for 12 minutes.

Instead, the Cork girls were missing chances to open up a commanding lead. But then Vivienne Harris fired over a point from play, Dillon provided a fine ball for O'Driscoll — again completely unmarked — to score her second goal, and by the time Una O'Donoghue made it 3-6 to 0-4 with 15 minutes to go it was all over for Galway.

Referee Sean Morrissey could have put them out of their misery by blowing up at that stage, but instead they could only stand and watch as O'Leary struck Cork's fourth goal from close range after 49 minutes.

Galway made some late changes, introducing Michelle Glynn and Kilkenny to the jaded attack, but it was Cork who finished with a flourish, turning on the style to score six points to one in the last nine minutes.

O'Leary and O'Driscoll wrapped up excellent performances with two well-taken points each from play, with Caoimhe Harrington and O'Donoghue completing the rout for a Cork side who look set to trouble champions Tipperary in the final.

But it's back to the drawing board for a Galway side who simply collapsed on Saturday. The tame way in which they succumbed to an admittedly lively Cork side, and their lack of a fighting spirit, is bound to be of huge concern to everyone connected with Galway camogie.

Only superb battler Laheen, Nevin, and Curry could have been satisfied with their performances on an afternoon when the League champions just did not seem to have the heart for a championship battle.

Cork: G. Casey; J. O'Callaghan, E. Duggan, S. Dunlea; P. O'Connor, M. O'Connor, G. O'Connor; V. Harris (0-2), E. Burke; R. Moloney, E. Dillon (1-0), J. O'Leary (1-3); U. O'Donoghue (0-2), C. Harrington (0-1), F. O'Driscoll (2-4, 0-1 free).

Galway: L. Curry; R. Broderick, O. Broderick, P. Nevin; M. Harkin, T. Laheen, M. Haverly; A. Hillary, A. Hardiman; A. Connolly, S. Glynn (0-2, 2 frees), L. Kavanagh (0-2); C. Murray, D. Gilligan, S. Tannian. Subs: C. Hannon for Gilligan (41 mins), R. Glynn for Hillary (46 mins), O. Kilkenny (0-1) for Tannian (50 mins), M. Glynn for Hardiman (53 mins).

Milford determined to make it third time lucky

THE focus of camogie club action is firmly fixed on the senior B championship semi-final which takes place tomorrow evening in Coachford where Milford meet Kilbrittain while Ballinhassig is the venue for the meeting of Ballygarvan and Valley Rovers, both at 6.45pm.

Last season, Milford lost their second final in a row when St Finbarr's lifted the trophy and this season they are determined to go all the way.

In their opening round they recorded a two-goal win over Aghbullogue while their opponents, Kilbrittain, had a comprehensive 3-8 to 1-3 victory over Ballinhassig.

Since their formation in the early '80s Milford have blazed a glory trail taking every championship title from under-16 to junior A. When they took the junior B title the year after the junior A title was won, many felt it would be a similar situation with their elevation to senior B grade, but this was not so.

Now in their third year they still await a senior title, but with the talent at their disposal one feels it is only a matter of time before this happens.

Among the stars of the Milford side are Marie Watson, Christine O'Gorman, Anna Geary and Elizabeth Linehan, while the experienced Lelia Long continues to play an important role at the heart of the defence.

Kilbrittain, meanwhile, are a side who have shown great determination and they would dearly love to capture the senior B title. The victory over last year's junior A champions, Ballinhassig, was a welcome boost to their ambitions and they now face an even tougher task in Milford. Former inter-county senior Miriam Deasy is a great worker for the Kilbrittain cause, while Cork junior Val O'Keefe, Catriona Deasy, Emer O'Sullivan and Siobhan Sexton will do all in

Cork juniors in an All-Ireland double bill

their power to see their side through to the final.

The second semi-final, between Ballygarvan and Valley Rovers, is an intriguing clash as it brings head-to-head divisional team-mates who will now line out in opposition. There will be very little between them. In their opening games Ballygarvan defeated Newcestown while Valley Rovers were lucky enough to receive a bye to the semi-final.

Cork Derry 1-13 1-3

Boosted by new sponsorship from Punch Industries leading up to their trip to Derry, the county junior side turned in a superb performance to join the senior side in Croke Park on September 15.

Taking the long bus journey to Belaghy in their stride the team set about their task from the throw-in and led at the break by 1-6 to 0-0 after Marie Watson's fifth minute goal settled the Cork side. Points from Catriona Kelly, Watson, and Colette Desmond ensured Cork turned over in command.

From the resumption Catriona Kelly stretched the Cork lead with a pointed free, but Derry showed great determination and were rewarded with their opening score from Paula Bell. Dymphna Burke and Kelly exchanged points, but Cork again upped the pace. Three points

in a row from Elaine McCarthy, Ger Collins and Marie Watson had Cork safely through before a late Derry rally yielded points from Michelle Kealy and Grainne McGolderick.

Kilkenny will be Cork's opponents in the final.

Back on the county scene, Killeagh and Inniscarra recorded opening round victories in the junior B championship last week.

Senior inter-county player Mary O'Connor made a victorious return to her native Killeagh when she helped them record a 5-12 to 2-3 victory over Ballyhea. Indeed a feature of the game was the excellent tussle between inter-county minor Edwina Waters at centre back for Ballyhea and O'Connor at centre forward for Killeagh.

Goals from Kate Linehan and Angela Walsh helped Killeagh to open up a 2-8 to 0-0 interval lead. From the restart the young Ballyhea side showed great determination and were boosted by a Sarah Douglas goal.

Killeagh responded with Mary O'Connor, Melissa Hogan and Kate Linehan all adding to their tally. Mary Coleman grabbed a second Ballyhea goal, but it failed to ruffle the Killeagh girls for whom defenders Carmel Deane, Aoife Manning and Clare O'Brien were superb.

Breda Regan grabbed a vital opening half goal for Inniscarra in their clash with Courcy Rovers.

Mary Buckley added three points to ensure Inniscarra led at the break. Inniscarra again held the upper hand in the second half with their defence well marshalled by Tracy Ryan and Niamh O'Brien while, up front, Elaine O'Sullivan and Mary Buckley kept the pressure on the Courcy defence who never gave up despite the impressive display from Inniscarra.

Galway juniors strive to lift camogie gloom

THE Galway Junior camogie team travel to Nowlan Park, Kilkenny on Friday evening (7p.m.) where they bid to pick up the pieces after the county's dismal performance against Cork in the senior semi final last week.

To date Galway have won six All Ireland junior camogie titles, the most recent in 1998 when they defeated Tipperary by four points. In 1972 Galway captured their first National title and in the intervening years camogie has flourished in the county.

However, Galway will need to provide a mammoth effort to advance to the All Ireland final. In the Connacht final against Roscommon, the Tribesgirls struggled until the final quarter when Roscommon tired.

In Susan Keane they have one of the classiest forwards in the game. Keane is a player who covers acres of ground and her unerring accuracy from placed balls can also be a telling factor. In the Connacht final, Keane scored ten points while full forward Ann Marie Hayes struck five points.

Galway laid the platform for a place in the All Ireland semi-final around centre back Karen Ryan. However Ryan is now moved to the wing with Aoife Doherty taking up position in the pivotal of the defence.

Full back Laura Burns is out with injury and will be a huge loss. Dorelle Coen moves to corner back with Sinead Callahan taking the number three jersey. The Galway management have also moved Elaine Tannian to midfield in a direct swap with Catherine Glynn.

Kilkenny regraded several of last year's senior team down to junior. They are a team of vast experience against a young Galway side. However many of these Galway players have had All Ireland experience at other levels and that could be a telling factor on the day.

With Fiona Pierce, Dorelle Coen and Karen Ryan leading the defence, Kilkenny could find scores hard to come by. However victory can only be achieved if the Galway attack can be supplied with enough possession. Shauna Murphy, Catherine Bowes, Catherine Glynn and Lorraine Lally are all useful players who can provide the necessary back up to Hayes and Keane.

Galway: Susan Eamer; Dorelle Coen, Sinead Callahan, Fiona Pierce; Karen Ryan, Aoife Doherty, Edel Pierce; Elaine Tannian, Stephenine Griffin; Shauna Murphy, Catherine Bowes, Catherine Glynn; Susan Keane, Ann Marie Hayes, Lorraine Lally.

TONIGHT
Senior B county championship semi-finals
Valley Rovers v Ballygarvan, Ballinhassig 6.45pm.
BALLYGARVAN looked strong in their opening game defeating Newcestown.
This is Valley Rovers' first game in the championship. They will expect big performances from Elaine Burke, Liz Bugler and Majella McCarthy will lead them quest for a place in the final.
Verdict: Ballygarvan

Milford v Kilbrittain, Coachford 6.45pm.
MILFORD are determined this year to go all the way.
Meanwhile, Kilbrittain had a comprehensive win over Ballinhassig to boost their confidence.
Verdict: Kilbrittain
MARY NEWMAN MCCARTHY



Fiona O'Driscoll will be in action for Cork on September 15.

Casey's last-gasp goal completes a memorable Ballinhassig comeback

By TIM BUCKLEY
U16A Cork Co Camogie

Ballinhassig 5-10
Inniscarra 5-7

A cracking second half performance saw Ballinhassig book their place in U16A Cork Co. Camogie league final against Milford.

Inniscarra were completely on top throughout the first-half, with

Rena Buckley dominating centre field and Margaret McCarthy, Margaret Cosgrave and Mary Buckley excelling in the forward line.

It was an entirely different story in the second-half, however, as Ballinhassig roared back with goals from Breeda Twohey and Elmer O'Sullivan.

Two minutes later full forward Fiona Crowley was in for another goal to put Ballinhassig ahead by two points for the first time.

The Mid Cork side staged a brief revival with 1-1 from McCarthy but Deirdre Coomey had a tremendous point for Ballinhassig to bring the sides level.

As the tension mounted the pressure on the Inniscarra defence was immense as they tried to hold on for dear life.

But a minute from time full-forward Sinead Casey snatched the winning goal to give Ballinhassig a final meeting against Milford.

Ballinhassig: S Casey 2-1, B Twohey and E O'Sullivan 1-2 each, F Crowley 1-0, J Cullinane 0-3, D Coomey 0-2.

Inniscarra: M McCarthy 3-4, M Buckley 2-0, R Buckley 0-2, N Dineen 0-1.

BALLINHASSIG: L Crowley; S Coakley, D O'Brien, G Coakley; C O'Regan, C Holland, M T Cullinane; D Coomey, S Cronin; J Cullinane, E O'Sullivan, A Lee; B Twohey, F Crowley, S Casey, M Donovan, C Desmond, H O'Connor, H Sherratt, J Costello, L Finn, M O'Sullivan, D O'Shea.

INNISCARRA: S Ni Riain; J Moynihan, A O'Mahony, J Lyons; S O'Connor, S Cahill, L Kavanagh; R Buckley, C Moloney; M Cosgrave, C O'Connell, M McCarthy; M Buckley, N Dineen, A O'Herlihy, N Healy, M O'Callaghan, D Ryan, C Buckley.

Camogie Board must pay the price for success

By MARY MCCARTHY
Fundraiser

WITH a couple of teams heading to Croke Park on September 15 it promises to be a costly month ahead for the Cork Camogie Board.

In previous years the very successful collection on county hurling day has helped generate much needed revenue.

Unfortunately this year county final day clashes with the All-Ireland camogie Sunday.

The county board officers will instead hold their collection on Sunday next at the county hurling semi-finals.

Collectors are requested to assemble at the Showground's side of Pairc Uí Chaoimh at 1pm.

O'Connor points the way as Killeagh make smooth progress

Killeagh 5-12
Ballyhea 2-3

MARY O'CONNOR helped

Killeagh to a 5-12 to 2-3 victory over Ballyhea in the junior B championship, writes Mary Newman-McCarthy.

A feature of the game was the excellent tussle between Ballyhea's county minor Edwina Waters and O'Connor at centre-forward for Killeagh.

Goals from Kate Linehan and Angela Walsh helped

Killeagh to 2-8 to no score interval lead.

Ballyhea came more into the game after the restart and were boosted by a Sarah Douglas goal.

Killeagh responded but Mary Coleman grabbed a second Ballyhea goal. But it failed to ruffle the Killeagh girls.

Inniscarra 1-5

Courcey Rovers 0-0

Breda Regan grabbed a vital

opening half goal for Inniscarra and, with Mary Buckley and Aine O'Herlihy adding three points, Inniscarra were always in control.

Courcey Rovers, Clonakilty, Glen Rovers, Fr O'Neill's, Sliabh Rua, St Finbarr's, Carrigaline, Courcey Rovers, Buttevant, Ballincollig, Ballinhassig and Ballinora will convene in Ballinhassig at 10.30am for the Declan Crowley Memorial Tournament.

Three sections will see the top four teams qualify for the cup semi-finals.

Counsel earn chance to make final amends

ON Saturday night, the girls of Good Counsel returned to the Galtymore Road following their progress to next Friday night's Dublin Senior "A" Championship final against Ballyboden St. Enda's at O'Toole Park (6.45).

There was no wild cheering or back-slapping on their arrival, and nobody dared to order a glass of champagne. The message from Drimnagh belongs to Bertie - 'A lot done, more to do.'

"Last year in the final against Boden, we were overawed," admits mentor, Liz Baker. "It was our first final, but that experience will help us on Friday, although in saying that, it will all come down to what

teams performs better on the day."

Counsel didn't expect to beat Naomh Mearnog so convincingly, 5-12 to 2-4. Karen Blood turned everything to gold, scoring 3-6, and midfielder, Shauna Keogh, had a wonderful hour, with Edel Reid also impressing. Jackie Carroll scored Mearnog's two goals and the ultra-talented Niamh Taylor was also on the mark.

"Friday should be a fabulous occasion," muses Liz. "O'Toole Park is local to both clubs and there should be a big crowd. We are looking forward to playing Boden."

"Granted, they will be the hot favourites. We haven't yet met in

CAMOGIE
BY NIAL SCULLY

the League, where we both have 100 per cent records, and, from our point of view, it would be a special achievement if we were to do it on Friday. We have never won a Senior "A" League or Championship title before.

"O'Toole Park is tighter than Parnell and that will suit us. We'll give it our best shot, and you never know what could happen if we get the bit of luck. But there's absolutely no way any team is going to underestimate Boden," warns Liz.

The Firhouse crew, managed by

Dublin GAC supremo, John Kirwan, are seeking their fourth Senior "A" Championship crown in succession. They have set the benchmark in the city, and they displayed spirit to overcome a determined challenge from Erin's Isle in the semi-final, 3-7 to 0-10.

Irene Kirwan proved she still is one of the best stick-artists in the city, hitting 2-5 for Boden, whose other goal came from Jean McNamara, while the energetic Fiona Ni Chorcorain decorated her excellent contribution with two points.

When they met in the final last May, Boden climbed the winners' rostrum on the scoreline of 1-14 to 0-6. Counsel showed their best

hand in the first half, yet the second period saw Boden enhance the Parnell Park turf with their style, swift movement and a refined scoring touch.

The two teams are well capable of providing a very memorable Blue Riband encounter, and, encouraged by what is sure to be a cracking atmosphere in this homely venue, it could well end up being a Crumlin Classic.

FIXTURES

FRIDAY: O'Toole Park: (6.45): Dublin Senior A Championship final: Ballyboden St. Enda's v Good Counsel.

MONDAY: Junior B 1st Round Championship: (7.0): Phoenix Park: Na Fianna v St. Peregrine's. Phoenix Park: St. Jude's v Naomh Mearnog. Galtymore Road: Liffey Gaels v Ballyboden St. Enda's.



A CAMOGIE Tournament to commemorate the late Josie Kelly, was recently organised by the Oranmore-Maree Camogie Club. Josie was a distinguished camogie player who led Oranmore Presentation Convent to All-Ireland glory in 1972. That same year she starred with the first Galway side which won the Junior All-Ireland title. In 1973 and 1974 Josie, along with several Galway team-mates captured the Gael Linn Trophy while representing Connacht - a feat which has yet to be repeated. At club level, Josie is fondly remembered for her many outstanding displays of skill and commitment to her team. In 1973 she captained the Oranmore team to All-Ireland glory and throughout the 1970's-1980's she continued to win County titles with her club.

Picture shows Michael Kelly (Clarinbridge), brother of the late Josie Kelly, presenting Sinead Broderick, captain of the victorious Mullagh team, with the Josie Kelly Memorial Cup. In the semi-final, Mullagh defeated Skehana and in the final they overcame the hosts, Oranmore-Maree on a score of 3-3 to 2-3.

Lions trophy presented

Ballinhassig GAA grounds was the venue for the third Declan Crowley Memorial under 10 Camogie Blitz where girls aged from six to ten competed in what was one of their very first camogie tournaments for their club.

Teams from Valley Rovers, Inniscarra, Ballinora, Carrigaline, Glen Rovers, Buttevant, Fr O'Neill's, Douglas, Sliabh Rua, Courcey Rovers and two teams from the host club Ballinhassig battled it out for three separate trophies this year.

"There were three separate competitions," remarked Con Cadogan, one of the principal organisers of the event. "All of the teams were divided into three groups of four in a round robin tournament with the top four teams playing in the semi-finals and finals of the Declan Crowley Cup, the four middle teams for the inaugural Kinsale Lions Cup and finally, the weaker sides competing in the Plate Final."



Dave Tucker, president, Kinsale Lions Club, seen presenting the Kinsale Lions Shield to Mary Crowley for the intermediate section of the Declan Crowley Memorial under 10 camogie tournament which was held in Ballinhassig recently. In the photo is one of the two Ballinhassig teams who competed in the annual tournament

Its all go at the Community Games finals in Mosney as Cork kids strive for gold



MIGHTY EFFORT: Emma Heffernan who scored two goals for Douglas in extra time during their semi-final camogie clash against Rathnure from County Wexford at the ESB Community Games finals in Mosney, County Meath.

Picture: Brian Loughheed



SISTER ACT: The O'Donovan sisters, from left, Niamh, Jenny and Moira, from Douglas, celebrate their extra-time win over Rathnure, County Wexford in the camogie at the Community Games in Mosney.

Picture: Brian Loughheed

Inniscarra edged out in thriller semi final

**Ballinhassig 5-10
Inniscarra 5-7**

by Tim Buckley

IN A cracking game, Ballinhassig edged home after putting in a tremendous 2nd half performance to book their place in U16 A Cork Co Camogie league final at Milford.

Inniscarra were completely on top throughout the first half with Rena Buckley dominating centre field. Margaret McCarthy, Margaret Cosgrave and Mary Buckley putting in tremendous performances in the forward line.

Inniscarra's back line looked the stronger conceding 1-6 before the break as opposed to Ballinhassig who conceded 4-5.

It was an entirely different story in the second half as Ballinhassig stormed into the game helped by a splendid point from the hard working Joanne Cullinane in the first min.

Joanne Cullinane won great ball around centre field and the half forward line and distributed it well to the other forwards.

Breda Twohey added a goal in the fifth minute. Then in the 11th minute Eimer O'Sullivan, who put in a tremendous second half performance for Ballinhassig at centre forward, struck a 45 all the way to the back of the net. Minutes later full forward Fiona Crowley was in for another goal and Breda Twohey with a point put Ballinhassig ahead by two points for the first time in the match. Inniscarra had lost shape and their only reply was a point from Margaret McCarthy.

AUG 2002

Inniscarra staged a brief revival with 1-1 from McCarthy but on the 24th minute Deirdre Coomey scored a tremendous point to level the scores.

Pressure on the Inniscarra defence was immense, and eventually it cracked.

A minute from time, full forward Sinead Casey snatched the winning goal to give Ballinhassig a place in the final against Milford.

Scorers:

Ballinhassig: S Casey 2-1, B Twohey & E O'Sullivan 1-2 each, F Crowley 1-0, J Cullinane 0-3, D Coomey 0-2.

Inniscarra: M McCarthy 3-4, M Buckley 2-0, R Buckley 0-2, N Dineen 0-1.

BALLINHASSIG: L Crowley, S Coakley, D O'Brien, G Coakley, C O'Regan, C Holland, M T Cullinane, D Coomey, S Cronin, J Cullinane, E O'Sullivan, A Lee, B Twohey, F Crowley, S Casey, M Donovan, C Desmond, H O'Connor, H Sherratt, J Cottrell, L Finn, M O'Sullivan, D O'Shea.

INNISCARRA: S Ni Riain, J Moynihan, A O Mahony, J Lyons, S O'Connor, S Cahill, L Kavanagh, R Buckley, C Moloney, M Cosgrave, C O'Connell, M McCarthy, M Buckley, N Dineen, A O'Herlihy, N Healy, M O Callaghan, D Ryan, C Buckley.

Sweetman stars as Cork book final spot

By THERESE O'CALLAGHAN

All-Ireland junior camogie semi-final

**Cork 1-13
Derry 1-3**

A BRILLIANT display by Cork full-back Liz Sweetman ensured Cork a place in the All-Ireland junior camogie final in Croke Park in three weeks' time.

The cool head of the Fr O'Neill's player, whose contribution was significant throughout, was instrumental in her team's semi-final success in Bellaghy.

"It was a great team performance and all of the girls played out of their skins," said selector Marion McCarthy.

"But Liz was on fire. She brought the other backs into the game and as a result our defence was superb.

"We led 1-6 to 0-0 at half time but Derry came well into it in the second half.

"The girls responded by attacking every ball that came their way."

Marie Watson got the goal that set Cork up for victory after just five minutes.

With points coming from Colette Desmond, Nora Ahern, Catriona Kelly and Watson, it was at this juncture that the red and whites did most of the damage.

The Oak Leaf County found a new gear after the interval and controlled the exchanges for the opening quarter, limiting the visitors to two pointed frees from Kelly.

But with Mairead Holland and Aileen O'Neill batten down the hatches, Cork finished with five points in the closing 10 minutes.

Croke Park will house two Cork teams in the All-Ireland senior and junior finals on September 15, with Kilkenny the opponents in the junior final.

They had a four-point win over Galway at the weekend.

Scorers, Cork: C Kelly 0-6 (0-4f), M Watson 1-2, C Desmond 0-2, N Ahern, E McCarthy and G Collins 0-1 each.

Derry: P Bell 1-0, D Burke, K McAuley and G McGoldrick 0-1 each.

CORK: E Clifford, A O'Neill, L Sweetman, J O'Sullivan, N Bowles, N Ahern (capt), M Holland, V O'Keefe, E O'Farrell, C Desmond, C Kelly, G Collins, A Murphy, E McCarthy, M Watson.

Sub: D Twomey for E McCarthy (50 mins).

DERRY: C O'Kane, R Kelly (capt), S Stevenson, E O'Doherty, A Ward, H Kelly, A Lavery, S O'Neill, C Pickering, C Gormley, G McGoldrick, D Burke, P Bell, K McAuley, M Comer.

Referee: R McGrath (Westmeath).

Tipp target 'inter'

Maire Uí Scolai

DAZZLING Tipperary are expected to make a bold bid for this year's All-Ireland intermediate championship as they take the long road to Clonduff on Saturday for a meeting with Down.

Tipperary won their only title back in 1997 when they beat neighbours Clare in the final. And manager Martin Browne, who successfully managed the Tipp juniors last season, is hoping to repeat that run.

"It will be a tough encounter," he said. "This is our first outing while Down have had the advantage of playing in the senior championship. But we are hopeful of making it to the semi-final."

Browne has slight injury worries over Deirdre McDonnell, twin sister to senior player Emer, and Helen Grogan, sister of ace forward Claire.

Last year's beaten finalists Derry travel south to take on Cork.

Marie Watson will, like Colette Desmond, be expected to deliver. Making her intermediate debut for Cork will be Kim Hickey, while Linda Dorgan retains her position in defence from last year's side.

FIXTURES

FRIDAY — Dublin senior final: Ballyboden St. Endas v Good Counsel, O'Toole Pk 6.45.

SATURDAY — All-Ireland IC 1st round: Cork v Derry, Ballincollig 12.30; Down v Tipperary, Clonduff 2.0.

In the Diary

TOMORROW
All-Ireland Intermediate
Camogie Championship Quarter-final
Cork v Derry
Ballincollig 12.30pm

WITH only six teams in this competition, the All-Ireland title is up for grabs. Cork play Derry in what is virtually a repeat of last weekend's junior tie.

In addition, the Rebels will have Kim Hickey and Linda Dorgan to choose from.

For Derry it will be their last attempt at salvaging a national title. They were beaten last year. To boost their chances manager Kevin Kelly will have Claire Doherty and Blathin McIver on his side.

The victors tie will meet Dublin in the semi-final and the winners of Tipperary and Down (also on this weekend) will meet Antrim, both at neutral venues on September 7.

Verdict: Cork

THERESE O'CALLAGHAN

DAY JOB

Gillian Maher – Kilkenny camogie player and riding school owner

Rides through the meadows on a balmy summer's day in Kilkenny. Ah! Sounds like the life all right, but as Kilkenny camogie player Gillian Maher will tell you, there's a lot more to owning your own riding school than slapping on a saddle and letting the wind fly through your hair.

Having been brought up on a farm, Maher has had the outdoor life thrust upon her since she was knee-high to a piglet, but getting to the stage where she ran a 100-acre riding school, that could cater for 50 kids at a pop, was not a natural progression for the midland woman.

"I grew up on a farm, but we had no horses, just cattle and sheep," the mother of three strapping young lads explains. "I was sent to riding school at a young age, which I enjoyed and then I became qualified to teach horse-riding because you do need the qualification to do that. I started off just teaching in the field, but we applied for grant aid, which we got and now we have an indoor arena as well. My husband is in the army and he helps out, but he doesn't ride."

Gillian's day varies according to the time of year. What doesn't change is the demands on her time. Be warned, those of you who long for your weekends off to go on the booze or vegetate in front of the TV should immediately cross "Riding School Proprietor" off any list of possible occupations. It certainly isn't for the half-hearted as Gillian explains.



"The type of day I have depends on the time of year really. During the summer, I might start at eleven, which isn't too bad, but if I'm giving lessons I mightn't be back until ten at night. Apart from what we do ourselves we might have people using the place privately, so I have to open up in the morning and then lock up at night."

"In the winter the horses are kept inside and we generally do a lot of basic work like cleaning out the stables or whatever, so it's like having two jobs really."

None of this should be taken as Gillian complaining about what it is she does for a living. Her profession is more a way of life than a job and funnily enough it was a relative from the big city that first triggered her infatuation

with this most rural of careers.

"We had horses on the farm years ago, but that was before I was born and then we phased them out when the machinery took over. We had a cousin from Dublin who owned a racehorse and they couldn't keep it up there as it's just so expensive. They asked us could we keep it down here in Kilkenny on the farm and it was from there that I began to get interested. After that we got in a more suitable pony to ride when I was about eleven or twelve."

It's a passion that has lasted right through her life despite the hours and the commitment, but what exactly does she get out of working in a riding school? "I love breaking horses, which we also do here. It's really nice to see a

nervous horse come in and start jumping fences after a while."

"As well as that, kids get such a buzz coming here. I suppose, once it's not school they'll get a buzz off anything, but still that's a really good part of the job. We got a majority of kids here although we get a lot of adults looking to ride as well."

The outdoor life extends to the sporting arena in more ways than one however. Being the daughter of four time All-Ireland hurling champion, Pádraig Dillon, was bound to leave an impression on her and as she readily admits, they "always had a ball and a hurl around the farm pucking it about" when she was growing up.

The rewards have been equally satisfying for Gillian as they were for Pádraig.

who won one of his four senior medals in the famous 1963 final against Waterford. Gillian's treasure trove consists of an array of underage titles for club and county, as well as three senior All-Irelands with the Cats.

It's a list of honours that has come about thanks to lots of sacrifice as well as talent. With riding lessons on Monday and Thursday nights as well as all day on Saturdays, clashes with camogie training, and sometimes matches, are inevitable.

"When I'm involved with the club and the county it can be very difficult," Gillian admits. "The nature of my job means that there are times when I tend to work when most other adults are off. All training is in the evening and I could have a riding club on at the same time."

"Work normally comes first because you can't turn away the business, but there have been times when I've had to re-organise it around training or matches. At the start of the year I'll usually sit down with the trainer and explain to them the days I'm not available and we'll work something around that."

"The hours are tough. It's hard to get time off for training and with three young kids to look after as well it's tough going," she accepts. However, the plusses far outweigh the minuses: "The good thing about it is that the physical side of it keeps you fit and when I think about it I really couldn't handle working in an office."

Text: Brendan O'Brien
Image: Lorraine O'Sullivan

Page 1008

Battling Cork survive a Derry siege to earn their place in the All-Ireland intermediate semi-finals

Cork
Derry

1-9
1-7
By THERESA O'CALLAGHAN
All-Ireland Intermediate Camogie

FIELDING four from the team that beat Derry in the junior championship a week earlier, Cork survived a testing time at Ballincollig on Saturday before going through to the semi-final of the All-Ireland Intermediate Championship.

Played in idyllic conditions, Cork surprised the visitors early on with a goal from corner-forward Valerie

Maier and for the opening 20 minutes could do little wrong as they raced into a 1-3 to 0-1 lead.

However, the northern girls stormed into the game with ten minutes to go to the break.

Powered by their brilliant wing-back, Bláithín McIvor, they posted a goal and four points to put them on level terms at half time.

The tempo upped considerably in the closing 30 minutes and a closely

fought battle ensued.

Scores were scarce — due mainly to the alertness of the custodians at either end.

Cork's Denise Twomey, who had not played in goals since the All-Ireland minor final last year, was very confident under the dropping ball, while Claire O'Kane did much to keep her side in the game.

Derry threw everything at the home side and it took an outstanding display from the Cork defence to keep them at bay.

Here Liz Sweetman, Rena Buckley

and Nora Ahern were colossuses.

Regina Curtin, Linda Dorgan, Colette Desmond, Briege Corkery and captain Hilda Kenneally were others who fought hard for their win.

Dublin is next. However, it is likely that this game will be deferred from Saturday next and will not take place until after the All-Ireland senior and junior finals have been decided.

The other semi-final in this intermediate competition involves Tipperary and Antrim and both will be staged as a double header.

Scorers Cork: H Kenneally 0-5 (0-3f, 0-1 '45'), V Maier 1-0, C Desmond 0-2, M Watson and B Corkery 0-1 each.

Derry: M Comer 1-0, B McIvor (0-2f, 0-1 '45') and P Bell 0-3 each, G McGoldrick 0-1.

CORK: D Twomey; A M Fleming, L Sweetman, C Foley; R Buckley, N Ahern, C Deasy; R Curtin, L Dorgan; C Desmond, H Kenneally (capt), B Corkery; E O'Friel, M Watson, C Maier.

Subs: R Myers for V Maier (35 mins), E Watson for E O'Friel (52 mins), J Twomey for R Curtin (59 mins), A O'Sullivan for N Ahern (60 mins).

DERRY: C O'Kane; A O'Laverty, S Stevenson, C Pickering; B McIvor, H Kelly, A Ward; C Doherty (capt), G McGoldrick; A Kealey, D Burke, K McAuley; P Bell, M Comer, C Gormley.

Subs: A O'Doherty for A Laverty (36 mins).
Referee: E Browne (Tipperary).

Oak Leaf girls give Cork fright

DESPITE conceding a second minute goal to Valerie Maier, Derry recovered sufficiently to give Cork a real scare in the All-Ireland intermediate championship quarter final, but the Munster girls survived to win 1-9 to 1-7 at Ballincollig on Saturday.

Derry keeper Claire O'Kane was magnificent in the first half, while Catherine Pickering and Sinead Stevenson worked like Trojans in defence.

Eventually the power of Claire Doherty in midfield got Derry going and on 25 minutes Paula Bell broke a long ball for Michelle Comer to fire home.

Bell added a point to level the scores at 1-5 each, but the half time whistle gave the home side a chance to re-group.

There were only six further scores on the restart — Cork getting four — enough to earn them a semi-final meeting with Dublin next Saturday.

Cork scorers: V Maier (1-0), H Kenneally (0-5), (0-3 frees), C Foley (0-1), C Desmond (0-1), B Corkery (0-1), M Watson (0-1).
Derry scorers: M Comer (1-0), P Bell (0-3), B McIvor (0-3, frees), G McGoldrick (0-1).

STRANGE as it may seem, Down dominated the first 40 minutes of their All-Ireland quarter-final with Tipperary in Clonduff, but 10 wides and an eventual 2-10 to 0-5 scoreline tells its own story.

When Tipp injected pace into their attack with two subs and started to pop over points, the Down challenge fell away, as Tipp sealed their place in next Sunday's semi-final with Antrim. However, it could have been so different though.

After Jennifer Braniff's opening point, Tipp's free-taker Linda Grogan dropped a 45 just under the Down bar for a surprise goal and then added a point — again from a '45'.

Those were Tipperary's only first half scores, apart from a late disputed point which left them 1-2 to 0-3 ahead.

Majella Murray hit her third point on the restart, but Tipp then hit seven points in a row.

Catherine McGourty, one of Down's better players, shot her side's fifth point before sFiona Loughnane grabbed a late Tipperary goal.

Tipperary: Linda Grogan 1-2, (1-1 frees), Fiona Loughnane (1-1), Mary Luby (0-3), Melissa Stapleton (0-1), Aine Mulcahy (0-1), Helen Grogan (0-1), Geraldine Winne (0-1).

Down: Majella Murray (0-3, 0-1 free), Jennifer Braniff (0-1), Catherine McGourty 0-1.

Cork defence stands firm to secure win over Derry

Cork
Derry

1-9
1-7

by Tom Higgins

THE Cork camogie bandwagon continues to roll on. With the Seniors and Juniors already qualified for the All-Ireland finals and the Minors already crowned champions, the Intermediate side remained in the hunt when they defeated Derry in a hard fought All-Ireland quarter-final at Ballincollig on Saturday. They meet Dublin in the semi-final next weekend.

Cork can chiefly thank their defence as Liz Sweetman was supreme at full back, Nora Ahern dominated at centre-back and keeper Denise Twomey was impeccable.

The Derry defence was also very strong, particularly goal-keeper Claire O'Kane, who brought off some excellent saves. Bláithín McIvor also played well and were it not for the pair Cork could have had the game in safe keeping long before the end.

Cork got off to an excellent start with a goal from Valerie Maier after only two minutes, when she scrambled the ball home. Although Paula Bell reduced arrears with a point two minutes later we had to wait until the 12th minute for the next score, a point from Colette Desmond. Cork looked like pulling away when Hilda Kenneally converted two frees in the 13th and 18th minutes to leave it 1-3 to 0-1.

Derry fought back and had three unanswered points to leave it 1-3 to 0-4.

Cork regained the initiative once more however with Maria Watson and Hilda Kenneally (free) adding a point but Derry finished the stronger with Michelle Comer getting an excellent goal and Paula Bell levelling matters with a point going into injury time.

Cork in their last attack of the half were denied a goal when Claire O'Kane saved a point blank shot from Emerr O'Friel to leave it 1-5 all at the break.

The second half turned into a dour affair with both defences on top. Cork had three points in the opening eight minutes, but Derry cut the leeway to two points with a Bláithín McIvor free in the 42nd minute. From then to the end there were only two further scores with Colette Desmond and McIvor (free) swapping points in the 50th and 52nd minutes.

Scorers for Cork: H Kenneally 0-5 (0-4 frees, 0-1 '45'), V Maier 1-0, C Desmond 0-2, M Watson 0-1, B Corkery 0-1.

Derry: M Comer 1-0, P Bell 0-3, B McIvor 0-3 (0-2 frees, 0-1 '45'), G McGoldrick 0-1.

CORK: D Twomey; A M Fleming, L Sweetman, C Foley; R Buckley, N Ahern, C Deasy; R Curtin, L Dorgan; C Desmond, H Kenneally, B Corkery; E O'Friel, M Watson, V Maier, Subs: R Myers for V Maier (35th minute), E Watson for E O'Friel (52nd minute), A O'Sullivan for R Curtin and J Twomey for N Ahern (59th minute).

DERRY: C O'Kane; A Laverty, S Stevenson, C Pickering; B McIvor, H Kelly, A Ward; C Doherty, G McGoldrick; A Kealey, D Burke, K McAuley; P Bell, M Comer, C Gormley. Subs: A O'Doherty for C Pickering (36th minute), C Pickering for A O'Laverty (59th minute).
Referee: E Browne (Tipperary).

Stage is set for B final

MILFORD and Ballygarvan will meet in the county senior B final following victories over Kilbrittan and Valley Rovers.

Kilbrittan made all the early running in their clash with Milford and led at the break 3-3 to 0-5, the goals coming from Siobhán Sexton, Miriam Deasy and Marion Murphy.

On the turn over Milford took control, thanks to the excellence of Emer Watson who notched up four goals. Kilbrittan battled to the finish but could not contain the lively Watson who had excellent support from Anna Geary, Regina Curtin and Marie Watson.

Ballygarvan, despite the score line, had to fight hard to contain Valley Rovers in an opening half where they led 2-4 to 0-5 at half time. Elaine Burke kept Valley Rovers in touch with excellent points.

On the turn over Valley Rovers lost a goal opportunity which would have brought them into the game. Sensing the let off, Ballygarvan opened up, and two goals inside three minutes before Valley

Rovers Margaret Murphy got one back for her side. With Amanda Murphy and Catriona Kelly adding to their tally, Ballygarvan ensured their passage and a final meeting with Milford.

● With two teams busy preparing for junior and senior All Ireland finals, the Cork Camogie Board received a huge boost with the announcement that Punch industries have further extended their sponsorship deal to include both the senior and junior teams.

For the All Ireland semi-final against Derry, the junior team sported the Punch logo. The senior side will sport the Colour Catcher logo as they play All Ireland champions Tipperary.

County Board chairperson Síle Golden, speaking on behalf of the County Board said: "It is wonderful to have a local company come on board and we will proudly carry their names to Croke Park."

Thrilling day of action at Ballinhassig

THE Ballinhassig camogie club are to be complimented on organising a superb under 10 tournament on Saturday last. Ten clubs participated in what was a day of non-stop camogie action which was rounded off with a superb final that saw Inniscarra carry home the Declan Crowley memorial trophy at the expense of Douglas.

In the semi-finals Inniscarra recorded a four point victory over the home side Ballinhassig, while Douglas had a big victory over Courcy Rovers.

The organisers could not have hoped for a better final that was excellently refereed by Ballinhassig's Denis McCarthy. Inniscarra made all the early running and led at half time 4-0 to 2-0 thanks to goals from Joanne Casey and Clare Sheehan and Emily Sheehan. Douglas kept in touch with goals from Aileen O'Donovan and Lauren Johnson. On the resumption Douglas showed great spirit and two goals from Lauren Johnson had them back on level terms. Joanne Casey was superb for Inniscarra and steadied her side with marvellous clearances while up front their persistence paid off and goals from Joanne Casey and Emily O'Donovan saw Inniscarra take the title.

The shield competition saw Valley Rovers thanks to two goals in the opening five minutes from Orla Lehan and Katie Richardson defeat Glen Rovers. Valleys had to work hard to contain the Glen who despite severe pressure could not find a way through the Valley's defence. In their respective semi-finals Valley Rovers defeated Fr O'Neills while Glen Rovers were too strong for Sliah Rua.

The shield competition saw Buttevant and Carrigaline battle it out through extra time and a penalty shoot out before Buttevant were crowned winners.

In their semi-finals Carrigaline defeated Ballinhassig's second team while Buttevant were too strong for Ballinora.

At the end of a gruelling day but enjoyable day's camogie Ballinhassig Ann Dorney presided over the trophy and medal presentation.

CAMOGIE

RESULT

Dublin Senior final replay — Good Counsel 5-7 (K Blood 3-3, O Connolly 1-1, E Reid 1-0, S Keogh 0-3) Ballyboden/St Endas 1-4 (J McLamara 1-0, I Kirwan and F Ní Chiorcain 0-2 each).

AUG. 2002

AUG. 2002

Sarah's the star of a Ballygarvan bonanza

By MARY NEWMAN
Senior B camogie

Ballygarvan 6-9
Valley Rovers 1-8

THERE was plenty of excitement in this senior B championship semi-final in Ballinhassig, as Ballygarvan booked their spot in the final.

Sarah O'Donovan proved to be the heroine for Ballygarvan, scoring two first half goals.

Despite this set-back, Valley Rovers stayed in touch and went in at the break just five points behind, 2-4 to 0-5.

Two goals inside four minutes from Amanda Murphy and Deirdre Daly effectively killed the game as a contest.

To their credit, Valley Rovers continued to work hard, adding points from Elaine Burke.

A goal from Margaret Murphy was cancelled out by Ballygarvan's hat-trick scorer Sarah O'Donovan and Catriona Kelly to see them safely through.

● Kilbrittain made all the early running in the second senior B semi-final played on Wednesday last in Coachford, but they were to lose out 4-14 to 3-8 to Milford.

Goals from Miriam Deasy, Marion Murphy and Siobhan Sexton saw them lead Milford at the break 3-3 to 0-5.

From the restart Milford's Emer Watson set out to out-smart the Kilbrittain defence and she hit four goals which helped in no small way to set Milford on the road to another senior B final.

Others to impress in the Milford second half rally were Marie Watson, Lelia Long, Anna Geary and Regina Curtin.



BATTLE CHARGE: Cork player Elaine Burke was on the losing side, despite getting on the scoresheet for Valley Rovers in their senior B championship semi final clash with Ballygarvan.

Picture: Richard Mills

'Town forced to dig deep

By MARY NEWMAN
Junior B Camogie

Newcestown 1-6
Mallow 1-5

A YOUNG Mallow side made Newcestown fight to the finish in the Cork Junior B camogie championship.

Four points from Lorraine Holland and one from Antoinette O'Connell helped Newcestown to a 0-5 to 0-2 interval lead.

The Mallow points came from Deirdre Fitzgerald and Michelle Brown. A goal from Michelle Brown had the sides level, but Newcestown's Teresa O'Donovan struck for the all-important goal to give the west Cork side a narrow victory.

Bandon 3-7

Carrigaline 1-4

Two goals from Valerie Crean helped Bandon advance after leading at the break by 1-5 to 1-1, the Carrigaline goal coming from Marie Scully.

In the second half Helen Slyne added a third Bandon goal while points from Aoife O'Neill, Alison Houlihan and Crean saw Bandon advance.

Grenagh 3-8

St Fanahan's 3-3

Michelle Buckley and Linda Corkery were on target with goals as Grenagh led 2-3 to 1-2 at half-time.

Points from Elaine Vaughan, Linda Dorgan, Margaret Barry and Lynn Buckley all extended Grenagh's advantage.

Meet the Cork stars

ON MONDAY in Páirc Uí Rinn the Cork County Camogie Board will host a press night for the senior and junior camogie teams who contest the All-Ireland finals on Sunday week, September 15.

This is an opportunity for the media and young camogie players to meet their idols.

Selector Rose Desmond told Grassroots that they would be more than happy to see the youngsters come along and it would be great support for the players.

"We look forward to seeing everybody out in support and hopefully they will also travel to Croke Park," she said.

Marie batters Buttevant as Watergrasshill clinch title

Watergrasshill 2-5
Buttevant 1-3

By TIM BUCKLEY
U16 Camogie League

WATERGRASSHILL are the Cork County U16 camogie league winners.

On Saturday in Grenagh they got off to a flying start, with top player Marie O'Neill responsible for all but one point of her side's tally.

She hit the mid-Cork side with a goal and two points in the opening stages.

Buttevant did come more into the game, scoring two

pointed frees from Marie Sheedy, but they still trailed at the break 1-2 to 0-2.

On the turnover it was captain O'Neill who proved to be a major thorn in the north Cork's side, striking her second goal and giving the 'Hill the edge at a vital stage.

However, Buttevant did fight back and were rewarded with a goal from Ann Marie Sheahan.

But it was too little too late.

This hard-won victory will be a huge boost for camogie in Watergrasshill.

Scorers Watergrasshill: M O'Neill 2-4 (1-1 frees, 1-0 45), N O'Farrell 0-1.

Buttevant: M Sheedy 0-3 frees, A M Sheahan 1-0.

WATERGRASSHILL: A Gardiner; S J Murphy, L Cronin, H O'Neill; C Cronin, L Bracken, C O'Farrell; M McAteer, M O'Neill (Capt); N Buckley, N O'Farrell, E O'Leary; E O'Riordan, J O'Riordan, A O'Connell.

BUTTEVANT: E Murphy; S McMahon, L O'Keefe, J Carroll; M Lee, M Sheedy (Capt), T O'Reilly; A M Sheahan, H Daly; M O'Keefe, M T Foley, A Cullen; T O'Connell, D Dowling, S Hegarty.

Subs: K Carroll for S Hegarty (55mins), C Daly for A Cullen (55 mins), K Bowles for J Carroll (48 mins).

Melissa the star of Glen goal feast

Glen Rovers 7-6
Rockbawn 0-4

a fine all-round performance with two more gems in the second half.

Strong in all sectors, the Glen were particularly dominant around the middle of the park where Michelle Hegarty and Catriona Boyle excelled.

The Glen went in with an interval lead of 4-2 to 0-1 and the second half was all one-way traffic.

The Blackpool girls will play St Catherine's in the semi-final on Sunday.

MELISSA O'DONOVAN was the star of the show in Glen Rovers' U16 quarter-final win when she struck five goals in their comprehensive victory over neighbours Rockbawn at the Glen field.

O'Donovan struck for her hat-trick in the opening 30 minutes and topped

Another Cork side get better of the Oak Leaf to make final

CORK... 1-9 DERRY... 1-7

By Mary Newman

CORK Intermediate team advanced to the All Ireland semi final and a meeting with Dublin when they had two points to spare over a determined Derry side in Ballincollig on Saturday last.

Valerie Maher gave Cork an early lead with a goal after just two minutes to which Paula Bell replied for Derry with a point. Points from Colette Desmond and Hilda Kenneally had Cork in a commanding position by the mid-way stage.

Blaithine McIvor led the Derry revival with a point in the 20-second minute but Cork replied with points from Marie Watson and Hilda Kenneally. Derry got a firm grip in the closing stages of the half and drew level with a Michelle Comer goal and a point from Paula Bell.

On the resumption Cork regained the lead with two points from Hilda Kenneally and one from Breige Corkery as once again they began to take control. Derry worked hard but sloppy shooting cost them scores at vital stages.

Blaithine McIvor narrowed the gap with a point but again Cork replied with a Colette Desmond point. Now under severe pressure Cork held their composure. Blaithine McIvor cut the lead to two with a pointed free.

In the closing minutes Derry were awarded a close in free but a timely Linda Dorgan interception ensured McIvor's goal attempt was cleared to see Cork book their semi final meeting with Dublin.

The game is down for decision on Sunday next but the Cork backroom team have intimated that they will be seeking a postponement in view of the fact that several of the Intermediate side will line out on the following Sunday in the junior or senior All-Ireland finals.

A decision is awaited from Croke Park regarding the request.

Teams — Cork: D Twomey, A M Fleming, L Sweetnam, C



Watergrasshill captain Marie O'Neill, referee Dave Daly and Buttevant captain Marie Sheedy before the Cork County Under-16 'C' Camogie League final on Saturday last.

Foley; R Buckley, N Ahern, C Deasy, R Curtin, L Dorgan; C Desmond, H Kenneally (captain), B Corkery; E O'Friel, M Watson, V Maher. Subs: R Myers for V Maher, A O'Sullivan for N Ahern, J Twomey for R Curtin, E Watson for E O'Friel.

Derry: C O'Kane, A O'Laverty, S Stevenson, C Pickering, B McIvor, H Kelly, A Ward, C Doherty (captain), G McGoldrick, A Kealey, D Burke, K McAuley, P Bell, M Comer, C Gormley. Sub: A O'Doherty for A O'Laverty.

WATERGRASSHILL... 2-5 BUTTEVANT... 1-3

WATERGRASSHILL ability to convert scoring opportunities proved decisive in this closely fought U-16 'C' Cork County Camogie League Final played in Grenagh on Saturday in ideal conditions and in front of a good crowd.

Watergrasshill laid the foundations for their victory starting stronger in the opening quarter. Marie O'Neill registered 1-1 from frees and 0-1 from play. Buttevant came more into the game in the second quarter with excellent displays from Michelle O'Keefe, Tracey O'Reilly, Mary Theresa Foley and Alex Cullen.

Buttevant were rewarded with two points from frees by Marie Sheedy leaving the half time score 1-2 to 0-2 in favour of the 'Hill.

Buttevant will feel unlucky as their hard working corner forward Triona O'Connell had three powerful shots at goal saved by the reliable

Aoife Gardiner in the Watergrasshill goal in this period of dominance.

Noreen O'Farrell who combined well with O'Neill throughout the game opened the second half scoring for Watergrasshill. Marie Sheedy replied with a point from a 20 metre free for Buttevant.

Both defences lived dangerously as both teams served up some end to end free flowing Camogie for the remainder of the match. Sarah Jayne Murphy and Helena O'Neill gave marvelous displays at corner back and the inspirational Marie O'Neill seemed to occupy every position in the backline and mid-field for the 'Hill.

Both goalkeepers were called on to bring off some fine saves. Marie O'Neill added 1-2 for the 'Hill the goal from a '45' that went all the way to back of the net.

The highly spirited Buttevant second half endeavor had to yield something and it did a minute from time when Marie Sheedy who gave an excellent overall display cleared a ball from her half back line into the 'Hill's 20-metre line where Ann Marie Sheahan was at hand to billow the back of the net with a blistering ground shot.

This hard won victory will be a huge boost for camogie in Watergrasshill.

Scorers — Watergrasshill: M O'Neill 2-4 (1-1 frees, 1-0 '45'), N O'Farrell 0-1.

Buttevant: M Sheedy 0-3 frees, A M Sheahan 1-0.

Teams — Watergrasshill: Aoife Gardiner, Sarah Jayne Murphy, Laura Cronin, Helena O'Neill, Claire Cronin, Lydia Bracken, Claire O'Farrell, Michelle McAteer, Marie O'Neill (captain), Norma Buckley, Noreen O'Farrell, Elaine O'Leary, Edel O'Riordan, Jean O'Riordan, Aoife O'Connell. Subs: Mary O'Leary, Joanne Collins, Marian Murphy, Emma Leahy, Orla Martin, Danielle O'Reilly, Jenni Fohy.

Buttevant: Eimear Murphy, Sarah McMahon, Lea O'Keefe, Jean Carroll, Michelle Lee, Marie Sheedy (captain), Tracey O'Reilly, Ann Marie Sheahan, Helena Daly, Michelle O'Keefe, Mary Theresa Foley, Alex Cullen, Triona O'Connell, Deirdre Dowling, Sarah Hegarty. Subs: Sarah Breen, Kim Carroll (for S Hegarty, 55mins), Caroline Daly (for A Cullen, 55 mins), Katie Bowles (for J Carroll, 48 mins), Dawn O'Keefe, Fiona O'Connell, Elaine Murphy, Helen Dunick.

FIXTURES: Friday, September 6 — Junior B Championship: Rockbawn v Buttevant, at Buttevant, 6.45pm.

Saturday, September 7 — Junior B Championship: Valley Rovers v Tracton, at Valley Rovers, time to be arranged.

Sunday, September 8 — Junior B championship: St Finbarrs v Bishopstown, at Bishopstown, 12 noon; Youghal v Kilbrittan, in Kilbrittan, 12.30pm.



Cork's Nora Ahern gets her pass in ahead of Derry's Ailish Kealey in their All-Ireland Intermediate C'ship quarter-final at Ballincollig. Picture: Neil Danton