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The Cork team going through their paces at Pairc Ui Rinn in preparation for Sunday's All-Ireland Senior Camogie Championship final against Galway at Croke Park.

Picture: Echo.

Cork girls ready



Lyn Dunlea getting in some shooting practice for Sunday's game.

WHEN Cork line out against Galway in the All-Ireland senior camogie final they know they will have a difficult task on their hands.

The wearers of the Red and White will be seeking their fourth title in five years while their opponents will be looking for their first, although they have appeared in eight deciders. They were beaten by Cork in three of those including 1993. "It will be a tough final although we beat them comprehensively in this year's League final" said ace free taker Lynn Dunlea.

The Coachford Primary School teacher has enjoyed tremendous success both at Club and County level since joining Glen Rovers and her sharp shooting is usually a feature of all the games she plays in.

Eight

Cork will field eight of the side who were successful three years ago.

Missing will be Breda Kenny, whose inter-county career has been cut short by a leg injury. Liz Towler, who has decided to concentrate on her international soccer career, rather than play camogie for the county.

Irene O'Leary, the Na Piarsaigh star, has retired from the game after a long and illustrious career, while Colette

No stone is left unturned

PATHS TO THE FINAL

- Quarter-Final. Armagh 0-9. Cork 6-18.
- Semi-Final. Cork 1-13. Kilkenny 0-11.
- Quarter-Final. Dublin 3-10 Galway 1-24.
- Semi-Final. Galway 1-13. Wexford 1-5.

BY TOM HIGGINS

O'Mahony is no longer on the panel.

On the other hand Galway have only four of their starting twelve from that game. Pamela Nevin is still there in the halfback line, while Sharon Glynn plays at centre field. In the forwards, Martina Harkins, who is one of their top scorers and Imelda Hobbins from Mullagh captains the side still remain.

Cork will undoubtedly start favourites, but this is the year of the underdog, and Galway will fancy their chances of causing an upset.

Galway P.R.O Michael



Cork captain Therese O'Callaghan with one of her many young fans, Aoife Farrell from Togher.

Kennedy said he would give Galway a great chance.

"A lot of our players did not play up to par in the League semi-final but we have trained hard and we hope it will be a different on Sunday"

Denise Cronin, who scored a vital goal for Cork in last year's final against Kilkenny commented, "We were a little

puzzled against Kilkenny and did not play to our true potential. But if we hit form on Sunday we should win. "After all we beat them well in the League final and we know their players"

However, she agrees that whoever plays well on the day that counts will do it. "Winning a final is always hard but I am sure it will be us."

The Galway girls will give it a lash

"We know we are up against it, but we are not just going up for the spin."

"We are determined to win and there is only an hour between us and an All-Ireland title, and we intend to make the most of our chances" said Galway trainer Tony Ward.

Galway have been waiting a long time for senior honours, going back as far as the first final in 1932 when they were beaten by Dublin, and although they have contested seven other finals since then

By Tom Higgins.

they have yet to lift the O'Duffy Cup.

On Sunday they will be hoping to put matter right when they take on the champions Cork in the Bord na Gaelige sponsored final.

But having been beaten by the Leesiders on a 3-13 to 1-7 scoreline in this year's National League final they know they have a lot of work

to do. They have trained very hard in Loughrea and travel to Dublin with more hope than confidence, but are sure to give it their best effort.

The Championship is a totally different competition to the League as it is the team who plays best on the day usually comes out on top.

"We have a very young team whose ages range from 26 to 16. We played well in the semi-final against Wexford, particularly in the second half, and if we can reproduce that

form I feel we are not without a chance.

Imelda Hobbins from Mullagh, who captains the side, declared that they were fit and ready to go.

"We are very hopeful but it will need a 100% effort from all concerned."

"We have four of the side beaten by Cork in the 1993 final, as well as five from the successful All-Ireland Junior championships in 1994, so all have experience of the big occasion."

Juniors to give good example

THE Cork Junior Camogie side will be hoping to set their senior colleagues good example when they meet Roscommon in the junior decider, which precedes the senior final, at Croke Park on Sunday.

Mary Kennefick will be one of three players from the Ballymacoda based Fr O'Neills Club who will be hoping to bring All-Ireland glory to their native village on Sunday next.

Mary will line out at wing forward on the Cork junior team, while club mates Fiona O'Driscoll and Mags Finn are both named on the Senior team.

To date in the championship Mary has been Corks top scorer with an impressive total of 3-24.

Her freetaking has been impeccable and her general contribution to play is responsible in no small way for Corks involvement in next Sunday's decider.

Playing Camogie since the tender age of 9, Mary first became involved with the Cork Junior team back in 1987.

While she won an All-Ireland Senior medal with Cork last season, as a substitute, she has yet to savour All-Ireland success on the field.

A victory on Sunday next realises a life long ambition for Mary.

Sport also plays a major role in Marys working life.

She is a Sports Instructor with Cope Foundation.

CORK JUNIOR PANEL

LEONA NOLAN (Inniscarra) Age 19, Student, 2 Under 18 Munster Medals, 1 Munster Junior Medal, Underage Medals with Cork.

ENDA DINEEN (Ballinora) Age 22, Student, One Munster Junior Medal, County Medals with Club.

ALISON DILWORTH (Brian Dillons) Age 20, Sales Assistant, 2 Munster Junior Medals, 1 Munster U18, U14, U16, U18, Junior & Intermediate County Medals with Club.

COLETTE CRONIN (St Finbarrs) Age 28 Employed with

Mary aims to realise a lifelong ambition

E.M.C. Computers 2 Gael Linn Medals, 2 Munster Junior Medals, 1 Munster & All Ireland Minor Medal, U14, U16, U18 and Junior County Medals with Club.

TRISH DOYLE (Bishopstown) Age 18, Student, 1 Munster Junior, 2 Munster Under 18, Underage, Junior, Intermediate and Senior B County Medals with Club.

HILDA KENNEALLY (Newcestown) Age 21, School Secretary, 1 Munster Minor Medal, 2 Munster Junior Medals, 1 Gael Linn Medal, Underage, Junior & Intermediate County Medals with Club.

EILEEN BUCKLEY (Aghabullogue) Age 21, Employed by G.I. Computers 2 Munster Junior Medals, Underage, Junior & Intermediate county medals with club.

SINEAD CAHALANE (Killeagh) Age 21, Technician, 1 Munster Junior Medal, Underage, Junior & Intermediate County Medals with Club.

SINEAD O'CALLAGHAN (Ballyagran) Age 17, Student, 1 Munster Junior Medal, All Ireland Junior and Senior Colleges Medal with St Marys, Charleville.

ANTOINETTE O'CONNELL (Newcestown) Captain, Age 21, Bar Manager, 1 Munster Minor Medal, 2 Munster Junior Medals, Junior and Intermediate county medals with Club.

MARY KENNEFICK (Fr O'Neills) Sports Instructor with Cope Foundation, 2 Munster Junior Medals, Junior Intermediate & Senior B County Medals with Club.



Linda Mellerick: A key member of the Cork side.

LINDA O'SULLIVAN (Ballinacorney) Age 18, Student, 2 Under 18 Munster Medals, 1 Munster Junior Medal, Underage & Junior County Medal with Ballinacorney.

LILIAN ZINKANT (Sarsfields) Age 33, Catering Supervisor, 2 Minor All Ireland Medals, 2 All Ireland Junior 80 & 83, 2 Gael Linn Medals.

CLAIRE KIRBY (St Finbarrs) Age 20, Student, 1 Munster Junior Medal, 1 Munster Under 18 Medal, Ashbourne Cup medal 96 with U.C.C.

EVELYN HEALY (Na Piar-saigh) Age 28, Production Operative, 3 Minor All Ireland Medals, 3 Gael Linn Medals, 2 Munster Junior.

YVONNE O'CALLAGHAN (Newcestown) Age 21, Student,

1 Munster Junior, Underage and Intermediate County Medals with club.

MARY SEXTON (Kilbrittain) Age 27, Lab, Technician, 1 Munster Junior Medal, Underage and Intermediate County Medals with Kilbrittain.

ORLA MURPHY (Glen Rovers) Age 22, Student, 1 Ashbourne Cup Medal with UCC 96, 2 County Senior Medals with Kilbrittain.

TRACY RYAN (Inniscarra) Age 19, Student, 1 Munster Junior and Under 18 Medal, Underage and Junior County Medals with Club.

MARY LUCEY (Castlemagner) Age 20, Student, Munster Junior Medal, Underage and Junior County Medals with Club.

"We're ready, we're focused, look out Cork"

By T.P. O'MAHONY

FACTFILE



- Name: Sharon Glynn
- Age: 21
- Occupation: Factory worker
- Honours: National League Medal 1994; awarded Galway Sports Star of the Year 1993
- Favourite Player: Angela Downey
- Most Difficult Opponent: Sandie Fitzgibbon.

"IT'S time to introduce the O'Duffy Cup to the west of Ireland, and I think we are the team to do it."

That's the confident prediction of Galway star Sharon Glynn, who has finished her preparations for Sunday's All-Ireland Senior Camogie Final against Cork.

"We want this one very badly, though we know exactly what we are up against."

"In the 1993 final against Cork we were very nervous. It was our first time in Croke Park and I think the occasion got to us."

"This time we will be much more settled, although we have five new players in the side."

Sharon has great regard for the present Cork side.

"They are the holders and they are going into the final as red-hot favourites. We know what to expect from them, but I think we are very well-prepared."

While Cork are seeking their 18th senior title, Galway chase their first.

"That's going to be a big incentive for us - that and a desire to avenge the 1993 defeat. The O'Duffy Cup doesn't know its way across the Shannon - it's time to show it the route."

Voted Sports Star of the Year in Galway in 1993, Sharon believes that in the likes of Imelda Hobbins, the captain, Veronica Curtin and

Denise Gilligan, Galway have players of the calibre needed to win All-Irelands.

"I have played against the likes of Sandie Fitz and Linda Mellerick and I know how good they are, but I think we are capable of going one better than '93."

Sharon, who won two county senior medals with her club, Pearces, and a National League medal in 1994 with Galway, will line out at centrefield on Sunday.

"We could be in for a classic encounter. We are very tuned in and very focused - so look out, Cork!"

Vivienne ready for the fray

SEVENTEEN year old Vivienne Harris is one of the most talented camogie players to come out of Cork recently.

Sandie Fitzgibbon showed the same promise over twenty years ago.

When she lines out at Croke Park next Sunday the diminutive Bishopstown player will be seeking her second All-Ireland senior title.

When she was introduced as a substitute in last year's decider it is generally regarded that it was her introduction that changed the trend of the game, as Cork began to get the vital scores which finally saw them overcome their bogey team, Kilkenny, to record a famous victory.

Vivienne started her camogie career at St Mary's of the Hill School with whom she helped to win the Sciath na Scol title with some excellent displays.

In fact she ran riot in the final scoring a succession of fine points which gave her side victory.

When she joined Bishopstown she won every honour the Club has won, with the exception of a senior "A" county medal.

Collection

She has represented the club at all grades with under 16 league and championship, under 18 league and Championship, Junior, Intermediate and Senior "B" championship medals in her collection.

She has a rather unique record of winning Gael Linn Senior and Junior interprovincial titles in the same year.

Vivienne comes from a family who are steeped in sport as her uncle, Miah Dennehy, was one of Cork's leading soccer players in the '70 and was later transferred to Nottingham Forest and Bristol City.

Not alone does she excel at camogie but she has taken up kick-boxing, and is quite useful in that sport.

"I love playing camogie and winning the All-Ireland title for the first time last year was a big thrill for me. I am hoping that we can again prove successful next Sunday."

"We have worked hard in training and this should stand to us" she commented.

She has played for the

FACTFILE

NAME: Vivienne Harris (Bishopstown)

POSITION: Centre-midfielder

OCCUPATION: Student

HONOURS: One All-Ireland Senior medal and two National League medals as well as Gael Linn Senior and Junior tokens.

FAVOURITE PLAYER: Angela Downey

MOST DIFFICULT OPPONENT: Ann Downey (Kilkenny).

By TOM HIGGINS



Vivienne Harris, in the middle of the park.

County at both minor and junior level but it is at senior level that she has enjoyed most success.

Rebels all set to rule in Croke

AFTER the high drama of last weekend's All-Ireland football final, this Sunday will see our top camogie stars take over Croke Park for the All-Ireland senior and junior deciders.

Cork and Galway meet in the Bord na nGaeilge senior final for the fourth time. Holders Cork will be contesting their 31st final. They have won 17 to date, including three triumphs over Galway — the last in 1993 when they won by 3-15 to 2-8.

They hold the distinction of having won three junior and senior doubles on the same day, the last time being in 1983, and are now in a position to add another on Sunday.

CAMOGIE

By PJ FULLAM

Galway will be competing in their 10th senior decider but have yet to get their hands on the O'Duffy Cup. Their only success at senior level was the 1994 National League title.

In the semi-finals Galway recorded a decisive 1-13 to 1-5 win over Wexford while Cork accounted for Kilkenny 1-13 to 0-11.

An experienced Cork side have been bolstered by the return of midfielder and captain Therese O'Callaghan, who was nursing an injury during the league.

Vivienne Harris, in her second year with the side, is operating well. The long serving Sandy Fitzgibbon is one of the most staunch defenders in the game while Denise Cronin, Lynn Dunlee and Linda Mellorick can all be match winners. The Rebels also have a very sound 'keeper in Kathleen Costline.

Galway will look to Sharon Glynn and captain Imelda Hobbs for inspiration. Martina Harkins, Pamela Nevin and the Broderick sisters, Anne and Olivia, are strong performers and they have a staunch 'keeper in Louise Curry, formerly of Dublin.

Tony Ward's charges will make a brave bid to take the cup across the Shannon for the first time, but Tom Nott's squad look set to retain the title.

In the junior final curtain raiser, last year's beaten finalists Roscommon are pitted against Cork.

The Rebels are contesting their 11th junior final and seeking their fifth title. Roscommon are still chasing their first All-Ireland title but are tipped to go one step further than last year.

ROSCOMMON — U Hussey, C Connaughton, E Farrell, C Kenny, T. Cahill, K. Jones, H. Hussey, C. Cooney, C. Carr, M. Grehon, M. Healy, M. Gannon.

Subs: C. Hoare, M. Nangle, M. Byrne, A. Lennon, S. Wier, E. Manning, P. Mulry.

FIXTURES — Sunday — at Croke Park: Bord na nGaeilge All-Ireland senior championship final, Cork v Galway, 3.30; All-Ireland junior final, Cork v Roscommon, 1.45.

Footnote: Patrons will be admitted to the new Cusack Stand only and not the Hogan Stand as previously arranged.

Government grant boost

A FIRST step in the Government's recent commitment to women in sport was taken when it awarded a £100,000 grant to the Camogie Association yesterday.

The grant, towards the provision of helmets for camogie clubs nationally, is a timely contribution before Sunday's All-Ireland final.

Therese aims to break jinx

WHEN Therese O'Callaghan leads Cork out at Croke Park in next Sunday's All-Ireland senior camogie final against Galway, the Glen player will be trying to lay low a jinx.

She captained the County side in the final in 1991 (when they went under to Kilkenny by 3-8 to 0-10) and in 1994 they once again had to give best to the Cats in the semi-final at Ballinlough.

This is the third time that Cork will have taken on Galway in an All-Ireland decider, and the Rebels have been successful on each occasion.

They beat the West-erners first in 1939 by 6-1 to 1-1, and when the sides met again the following year, the wear-ers of the Red and White came out on top by 4-1 to 2-2.

Their last meeting was three years ago when they were suc-cessful on a 3-15 to 2-8 scoreline, a game in which Therese had an outstanding game.

But Therese, who was born in Burnfort, near Mallow, is no stranger to captaining successful sides.

She has been skipper of the Glen side in County championship wins, and also the in one of their three All-Ireland Club successes, as well as leading the County to National league honours.

Caution

When I spoke to her at training last night she was treating this game with caution. "Both teams will be very determined - after all it is an All-Ireland final and it is a 50-50 game."

"We have trained very hard and will be hoping that we can win. We have been there before and we know the difference between winning and losing, so we will be going all out to win."

I put it to her that she was suffering from a leg

Now is the hour for the Cork girls

By TOM HIGGINS



Cork captain: Therese O'Callaghan, to lay jinx.

FACTFILE

NAME: Therese O'Callaghan

POSITION: Right centre

OCCUPATION: Civil Servant

HONOURS: Three All-Ireland medals, four All-Ireland Club Championship medals, 4 National League medals.

FAVOURITE PLAYER: Sandie Fitzgibbon

MOST DIFFICULT OPPONENT: All opponents are difficult but the likes of Angela Downey (Kilkenny) and Ann Reddy (Wexford) were probably the hardest to overcome.

injury and asked her if it would affect her on Sunday since she did not turn out for the Glen against Toomevara last Saturday. "The injury has cleared up and I will be fully fit on Sunday. I could have played on Saturday but choose not to but I would have gone on if I was needed."

"I just hope the weather is good and we will win"

Favourites will have a tough fight for the double

by Tom Higgins

CORK'S senior and junior camogie teams will travel to Croke Park on Sunday for the all-Ireland finals, and will be hoping to make it a double.

The seniors, who are the title holders — having beaten Kilkenny in the decider twelve months ago — take on Galway and will be seeking their eighteenth title.

The juniors, who come up against Roscommon, will be looking for their fifth.

The senior sides have met on three previous occasions — and the wearers of the Red and White came out on top in all three tussles.

The sides first contested the decider in 1939 when Cork won by 6-1 to 1-1. They repeated the feat the following year, taking the honours on a 4-1 to 2-2 scoreline.

Their last meeting was three years ago when Cork, who fielded eight of the side who line out on Sunday, won 3-16 to 2-8.

Galway, who will be looking for their first success, have been most unlucky in this grade — although they have won both junior and minor all-Ireland titles. They first

reached the decider in 1932 when they went under to Dublin, 3-2 to 0-2, and were beaten by the same opposition the following year.

This will be their ninth attempt to take the O'Duffy Cup and they are sure to be in determined mood — this certainly seems to be the year of the underdog.

With Wexford winning the hurling at senior level and Mayo still in with a chance of taking the football title, they are not to be written off.

Add to this the great success which Galway has enjoyed in hurling this year. Their minors are involved in a replay with Tipperary while their under-21's and juniors already have their all-Ireland trophies on their sideboard. If their minors achieve their ambition and beat the Premier County they are on course for a record year.

That would mean that the only hurling title that has eluded the wearers of the Maroon is the senior title — and everybody in the county will be hoping that their women can fill that gap.

Angela Higgins-Sheehan, one of Cork's three selectors, has said that they are taking the game "very seriously."

"It is strictly a 50-50 job. We have heard through the grapevine that Galway have trained very hard, including on Sunday mornings. Although we beat them well in the League we are not over-confident. Cork will be favourites, but we have seen upsets — before the championship Wexford were not fancied for the hurling and last Sunday Mayo nearly won the football."

Although Cork have a very strong panel in the junior final, they will be really up against it to beat Roscommon — they are seeking their first title in this grade.

Roscommon reached the final last year but, after a tremendous game, they went under by a point — 3-7 to 4-3 — to Limerick and, with the same panel available, they will prove hard to beat.

But Cork beat Limerick on the way to the final and that fact will give the side a lot of heart in the game.

Players like the experienced Colette Cronin of St Finbarr's and Alison Dilworth from Brian Dillon will not let the side down — while on the forwards Mary Kennefick (Fr O'Neill's) and captain Antoinette O'Connell (Newcestown) will be expected to get the scores.



Mags Finn, who will be going for glory with Cork in Sunday's all-Ireland final.

Cork cautious for camogie final

by Tom Higgins

WHEN Cork line out against Galway in the Bord na Gaelige All-Ireland Senior camogie final on Sunday they will be taking nothing for granted in their bid to retain their title.

They won last year's decider after a tremendous struggle with Kilkenny and will not relinquish their crown easily.

They have already beaten the wearers of the Maroon in this season's National League final, at Páirc Uí Rinn, by 3-13 to 1-7. But they know the championship is a totally different competition and they will need all their skill and determination if they are to beat the girls from the City of the Tribes.

"I put it at a 50-50 game" said full-back Eithne Duggan whose father Phil played senior hurling with Cork. Eithne, who plays for the Bishopstown club, will be seeking her second All-Ireland medal having been on last year's winning side. A Physiotherapist by profession she played camogie with U.C.D while studying for her degree. "We did not enjoy much success in college except winning the Freshers Cup. It is only since

coming back to Cork that my camogie career has taken off."

Another player who was rather cautious was right half-forward Denise Cronin, who got a crucial goal in last year's win. "On form we will be favourites but we are taking nothing for granted. But we will need all over players to hit form if we are to pull through," she commented.

The Chairman of the Co. Board, Sheila Golden feels that the Senior team have a great chance but that the Junior side, who oppose last year's runner-up, Roscommon, will have a very difficult task. "The Roscommon team have been there before and know what it is all about while for all our players it will be their first time playing in Croke Park. It will need a mighty effort if they are to win."

Tony Ward, who trains the Galway team said: "We know we are up against it. We have trained hard in Loughrea and the way I see it is that there is only a hour between us and the title. We are definitely not going up for the spin. In fact we are happy to be in the decider."

Galway's captain Imelda Hobbins said they were quite optimistic: "Although we have only three of the side who were beaten by Cork in the 1993 in the starting line up, we have five players who won the Junior All-Ireland in 1994 so they all have experienced the big occasion. However it will need a 100% effort."

SENIORS:
CORK: K Costine (Killeagh); E Duggan (Bishopstown); P Goggins (Na Fiansaigh); S Fitzgibbon (Glen Rovers); M Finn (Fr. O'Neill's); T O'Callaghan (Glen Rovers capt); V Harris (Bishopstown); L Mellerick (Glen Rovers); D Cronin (Glen Rovers); M O'Connor (Killeagh); F O'Driscoll (Fr O'Neill's); L Dunlea (Glen Rovers).
GALWAY: L Curry (Peasest); O Costello (Sarsfields); A Broderick (Davitts); A Broderick (Davitts); P Nevin (Mullagh); O Maher (Shamrocks); S Glynn (Shamrocks); C Hanlon (Peasest); M Harkins (Peasest); I Hobbins (Mullagh) capt; P Gilligan (Craughwell); V Curtin (Craughwell).

JUNIORS:
CORK: L Nolan (Inniscarra); E Dineen (Ballinora); A Dilworth (Brian Dillon); T Doyle (Bishopstown); C Cronin (St. Finbarr's); S Cahalane (Killeagh); E Buckley (Aghabullogue); H Kenneally (Newcestown); M Kennefick (Fr. O'Neill's); S O'Callaghan (Ballyvaughan); A O'Connell (Newcestown) capt; L O'Sullivan (Ballinhassig).

ROSCOMMON: U Hussey; C Connaughton; E Farrell; C Kenny; T Carty; K Jones; H Hussey; C Cooney; G Carr; M Grehan; M Healy; M Gannon.



Sandie Fitzgibbon: in for final on Sunday.

Ballinhassig Camogie Club Wish Lynda All The Best

U13 South East Semi-Final

On Thursday evening last we saw our U13 team play Carrigaline in the South East semi-final in what proved to be a nail-biting second half. Ballinhassig were out of it at half-time and went in at the break with the score 0-1 to 3-0 to Carrigaline.

The second half started with a great goal from Elaine Jeffers and points from Mairéad Holland. From there it was heart thumping stuff and when the final whistle blew Ballinhassig finished

winners with the score 3-3 to 3-0. Best for Ballinhassig were Mairéad Holland, Caroline Finn and Elaine Jeffers.

U13 Final

Ballinhassig played Ballygarvan in the final and knew from the start that they were up against it. It was a great game and we saw some brilliant goalkeeping from Cathy Coleman and though Ballygarvan finished winners, the Ballinhassig girls can be proud of the spirit and heart with which they played.

All-Ireland Final

On Sunday next the officers and club members travel to Dublin for the Junior and Senior All-Ireland finals. It is a day for the history books in Ballinhassig. Lynda O'Sullivan is on the Cork Junior team. This is the first time a player from our Club will wear the red and white in Croke Park. It is a very proud day for Ballinhassig Camogie Club and we wish Lynda the best of luck on Sunday.

In search of All Ireland glory

Cork camogie teams set off on Sunday next in search of All-Ireland glory at Junior and Senior level in the Bord na Gaeilge Championships.

The senior team return to Croke Park where last year they snatched a dramatic victory over arch rivals Kilkenny. They will be hoping to repeat the dose against Galway this year.

Sheila Golden urges caution when she points to Galway's under age successes in recent years. However, the experienced Cork side will be expected to come through and repeat the National League result.

This year's Captain Glen Rovers Therese O'Callaghan will be hoping to lift the cup on Sunday afternoon - a feat which eluded her in '89 and '92 when she also captained the side. Goalkeeper Kathleen Costine, Killeagh has a wedding date in October so an All-Ireland would be a nice present. Selectors Miriam Murphy, Eire Og Rose Mackey-Keane, Glen Rovers and Angela Sheehan, Watergrasshill together with coach Tom Nott have done the groundwork so now it's over to the players to do the rest.

The team shows one change from that which beat Kilkenny at the Semi-Final stage. Mary O'Connor, Killeagh comes on in place of the injured Irene O'Keefe, Inniscarra who is named amongst the substitutes.

The Team is as follows: Kathleen Costine, Killeagh; Paula Goggins, Na Piersaigh; Etna Duggan, Bishopstown; Margaret Finn, Fr. O'neills; Sandy Fitzgibbon, Glen; Therese O'Callaghan, Glen; Viv Harris, Bishopstown; Linda

Mellerick, Glen; Mary O'Connor, Killeagh; Lyn Dunlea, Glen; Denise Cronin, Glen; Fiona O'Driscoll, Fr. O'Neills. Subs: Irene O'Keefe, Inniscarra; Stephanie Dunlea, Glen; Rose Desmond, Bishopstown; Sinead O'Callaghan, Ballyragan; Mary Kenefick, Fr. O'Neills; Hilda Kenneally, Newcestown; Eileen Buckley, Aghabullogue; Miriam Deasy, Kilbrittain.

Juniors face Roscommon

The Cork Junior Camogie side who had a good win over Kildare face a Roscommon side which comes to Croke Park with good credentials.

Cork last won this title away back in '84 so it is felt that it's time the Juniors celebrated. The team as certainly put in great effort urged on by the selectors Sheila O'Brien, Eire Og; Mary O'Sullivan, Brian Dillons and Coach/Selector Denis Dineen, Ballinora.

The Junior team is as follows: Leona Nolan, Inniscarra; Enda Dineen, Ballinora; Alison Dilworth, Brian Dillons; Tricia Doyle, Bishopstown; Colette Cronin, St. Finbarrs; Hilda Kenneally, Newcestown; Eileen Buckley, Aghabullogue; Sinead Cahalane, Killeagh; Mary Kenefick, Fr. O'Neills; Sinead O'Callaghan, Charleville; Antoinette O'Connell, Newcestown; Capt. Linda O'Sullivan, Ballinhassig. Subs: Yvonne O'Callaghan, Newcestown; Liz Zincent, Sarsfields; Evelyn Healy, Na Piersaigh; Clare Kirby, St. Finbarrs; Orla Murphy, Glen Rovers; Mary Lucey, Castlemagner; Mary Sexton, Kilbrittain and Tracy Ryan, Inniscarra.

Allen announces boost for camogie clubs

AS the county junior and senior camogie teams prepare for their respective All-Ireland Finals on Sunday, Sports Minister Bernard Allen announced a special grant of £100,000 for the provision of helmets for camogie clubs around the country.

Making the announcement in Cork on Tuesday, Minister Allen said he is confident that this injection will be of considerable benefit to young players in particular, relieving some of the financial pressure on the clubs.

And with Cork being one of the strongest counties in the sport at present, the benefits are sure to be

seen in the many camogie clubs in the region.

Minister Allen said that this special contribution should be seen in the context of the wider issue of the place of women in sport.

"The role of women at all levels of sport is being given particular attention in the preparation of sports strategy," the Cork Fine Gael Minister said.

Meanwhile, Cork's senior girls take on Galway in the championship final on Sunday, while their junior counterparts will meet Roscommon in the other All-Ireland decider.

CAMOGIE: although confined, the sport can take a bow on All Ireland finals day

Lindie Naughton

ON the surface, the Bord na Gaeilge All Ireland Camogie Finals in Croke Park today are just another sporting story. Can Cork make it a senior and junior double? Are the young Galway side ready to take over at the top? Can Roscommon make up for last year's one point defeat in the junior final?

But there is more to it than that. Today's matches are a tale of three counties and of the current state of the game.

Fittingly, the Minister for Sport, Bernard Allen, has just given a grant of £100,000 to camogie clubs as the first step in

an effort to get more women involved in the sport. The Minister, of course, is from Cork and cannot be unaware of the huge revolution in camogie locally.

Listen to Tracey Sheehan. "When I started as Cork county secretary five years ago, we had 42 clubs. Now we have 47, most of the new ones sprouting up in rural areas and they are starting to win at underage level. In the past, Glen Rovers players dominated the county squad, but now more clubs are represented.

"It means that the younger ones in a club have someone they can look up to," says Treacy.

The rise of camogie in Galway has been even more dramatic. In 1980, the county had

just five clubs; now that figure is 31 - and rising. County board chairman Michael Kennedy puts it down to the annual Feile na nGael. When Feile came to Galway in 1980 there was a massive drive to recruit underage players through under 10 and 12 leagues and the Community Games. It has been a huge success.

Kennedy's own club, Pearse, had two Feile wins in the eighties and a further two recently. Sarsfields not only won Feile but took a Community Games title.

As in Cork, the new clubs are in rural areas. In a lot of these places there wouldn't be much sport, maybe badminton in the winter, but little else.

For Roscommon, Cork and

Galway are the elite. The current drive to establish camogie in the county only began three years ago and players like captain, Mary Grehan and forward, Geraldine Carr also serve on the county board. At the moment the county has just six clubs, but the junior team's successes have invigorated the county.

Camogie remains confined to a small number of counties. At senior level, no more than seven counties are involved. To make today's final, Galway had just two matches, first beating Dublin and then Wexford. Cork hammered Armagh and then beat arch rivals Kilkenny.

Galway captain Imelda Hobbs sees vast improvement since

her 1980 senior debut. "I remember playing matches and going home without a shower and nothing to eat. Now, we have a meal after the match and for the final we stay in a hotel the night before".

The Cork effort is helped by a generous sponsorship deal with ACC. "It makes a huge difference to our approach", says Tracey Sheehan.

So what about today's outcome? In 1993, the fledgling Galway side lost to Cork. They have come a long way since - although they did lose the league final to the Leesiders in June. "We were hit badly both by Leaving Cert and college exams", says Imelda

Fitzgibbon and last year's super sub, Vivienne Harris. "When all the team get going, were very hard to beat. But this is the All Ireland and it's never easy", concludes Therese.

SENIOR: Cork: K. Costine, E. Duggan, P. Goggins, S. Fitzgibbon, M. Finn, T. O'Callaghan (capt), V. Harris, L. Mellerick, D. Cronin, M. O'Connor, F. O'Driscoll, L. Dunlea.

JUNIOR: Cork: L. Nolan, E. Dineen, A. Dilworth, C. Cronin, T. Doyle, H. Kenneally, E. Buckley, S. Cahalane, S. O'Callaghan, A. O'Connell (capt), M. Kenefick, L. O'Sullivan.

ROSCOMMON: U. Hussey, C. Conaughton, E. Farrell, C. Kenny, T. Carthy, K. Jones, H. Hussey, C. Cony, G. Carr, M. Grehan (capt), M. Hussey, M. Gannon.

Countdown to All-Ireland Camogie Final

Roscommon v Cork

Roscommon To Make Up For '95 Anguish

"You have to win one to lose one." Those words, which were contained in the Limerick captain's victory speech following Roscommon's narrow '95 All-Ireland defeat, will be ringing in the ears of the county's camogie girls this week as they aim to make up for last year's anguish and disappointment. If there is any substance in such sporting parlance, then Roscommon deserve to take the honours this time round.



Pictured above: Mary Grehan, captain of Roscommon camogie team. Pic: Aisling Leydon

But such notions are mere fantasy and Michael Kelly and his girls will know that they will have a battle and a half to overcome Cork if they are to make history and capture Roscommon's first camogie title.

One cannot only but have admiration for the camogie team and management who have bounced back wonderfully from last year's heartbreak when they were denied by the upright in the sixth minute of injury time.

Who can forget last year's heroics when Roscommon, in their first ever All-Ireland camogie final, faced the stiff challenge of Eamon Cregan-trained Limerick, who were starting as definite favourites, having been beaten narrowly by a point at the hands of Galway in the decider the year before.

But Roscommon revelled in the heat of battle at G.A.A. headquarters, staying in touch throughout the game until it looked that Limerick were going to pull away when they went three points in front with two minutes of normal time left on the clock.

However, the character of this team drove them on once more and Mairead Coyle's goal levelled proceedings yet again. The Munster girls edged in front one more time but a Charmaine Cooney opportunist goal in the second minute of injury looked destined to give Roscommon victory amid ecstatic scenes.

Then came the twist of the knife. Limerick pounced for another goal and Hilary's Hussey long range point effort struck the right hand upright to deny her side another crack at the title.

The bulk of this side experienced that disappointment last year, and no doubt those painful memories are still with many of the girls. But this will only serve to act as one of the prime motivators as Roscommon aim to go that one better next Sunday against Cork.

Last year's All-Ireland journey had many moments of real excitement and the 1996 glory trip has been no different. Make no bones about it, these Roscommon girls have again contributed to some exciting games on their road

Richard Canny and Kathryn Doherty report on the build-up to the Roscommon camogie girls All-Ireland glory bid.

to Croke Park, none more so than the recent All-Ireland semi-final replay against Antrim at Athleague. What a cracker!

It was most definitely a case of déjà-vu as the two teams served up a virtual re-run of last year's encounter when Roscommon emerged victors by the narrowest of margins.

In a tight game and after both sides found themselves level for the fourth time in the match, Antrim looked as though they were going to make amends from the '95 defeat when they went three points ahead by the 22nd minute, the biggest lead they had all day.

But three goal hero, Maeve Healy soon flicked to the net to level yet again. And Healy pointed three minutes into injury time and her side finally held out for another two minutes to book their All-Ireland place in dramatic fashion.

The qualities of resilience, grit and skill in this side should prove a major challenge for the Leesiders but Roscommon will be facing a pedigree side on Sunday next. Cork overcame the might of Limerick in extra time in this year's Munster final and they went on to beat a strong Kildare side in the final.

This and the fact that Cork have a proud and strong tradition in the code will combine to make it a stern test for the Roscommon girls.

But Roscommon now know what it is all about. They have crucial experience of the big stage, they have the hunger and the qualities needed at this level and Cork will have to play the game of their lives if they are to deny Roscommon's second successive chance of All-Ireland honours. Go for it, girls!!



Pictured training for the All-Ireland camogie final during the week were Mary Gannon, Eimear Farrell, Maeve Healy. Pic: Aisling Leydon

Mary Leads The Way

Playing on through pain is evidence of any sports person's unrequited love of their discipline. Playing a real captain's part, Mary Grehan is one just example of that, and her desire to lead the team out on Sunday.

Nursing a broken bone on her thumb, Mary, a 24 year old teacher from Ballyforan, working in Presentation Convent, Terenure, asserts that she is playing on Sunday regardless. "We started thinking about this final last September. We decided we'd go out and win it this year." The small matter of a broken bone is obviously not going to get in her way.

A measure of her determination also lies in the fact that her two brothers played at Croke Park and she is not going to be outdone. She also recalls how last year, the Limerick captain, in her victory speech, told the Roscommon team that they

would have to lose one to win one. "This year we will win one," the Roscommon captain added emphatically.

The path to the final itself has been one of sheer hard work, discipline and sacrifice. Mary, Trish Mulry and Emma Mannion travel from Dublin for training every Tuesday and Thursday. Others come from all over the county and country. Social life for team members is a distant memory as players watch what they eat and drink.

During the last couple of sessions, training has concentrated on honing the players' sharpness, doing lots of 40-50 yard sprints and working on tactics and game skills. They have also built up their stamina through endurance work.

The team, Mary believes, are in the right frame of mind for the match. "We have the passion to be first to the ball. We'll concentrate on winning every ball, feeding it into the forwards who will hopefully get the scores."

played in Croke Park before will also be a huge boost to the players, according to Mary. "It isn't as big a deal this year, so we won't be overawed by the occasion."

Like many others on the team, the Ballyforan player has been playing camogie from a very young age but out of an U-14 County team which won a Connacht final, only two are on the present team.

The present success has generated interest and popularity in camogie in Roscommon, giving what is perceived as a minority sport in the county increasing stature. Explains Mary - "Two years ago, it was almost impossible to get a pitch to train on but now we're looked up to and expect to have a huge following for the final."

This fiercely determined woman further intends not to disappoint these supporters. Mary is very confident about the outcome and "dying to play on Sunday."

As Happy As Harry

The All-Ireland title was something that the Roscommon camogie team left behind them at Croke Park but will be picked up this time around. That's the thought of trainer, Harry Crowley, who is not in the least bit surprised that the team is in another successive final.

In fact, Harry saw this year's semi-final as just a means to an end towards going one better on this occasion. "Last year, the semi-final was very important. This year it was just a stepping stone to win back the prize which they felt they left them behind them last year."

Harry is pleased with the way training is going and the response from the 25-strong panel and he has strong words of praise for its dedicated members.

On a lighter note, he responds tongue-in-cheek when asked about his experience working with the team. "It's not an easy job. It's hard to deal with one woman never mind 25!"

Similar to the team manager Michael Kelly, Harry feels that one point will be enough if they can land the big one on Sunday.

'This Time We're Going To Make Sure'

— Mary Gannon

Another who is itching to get her feet on the hallowed turf of Croke Park once again is one who happens to be Roscommon's longest serving player, Mary Gannon, a Knockcroghery woman who teaches in Ballyfin, Co. Laois.

While Mary is only 27 years of age she does appear a 'little' more seasoned when compared to the 'baby' of the side, Ursula Hussey at 17.

However, despite all Mary's big match experience, she confesses to being nervous about Sunday's match but with an added difference this time around. Last year, her first Croke Park experience made her somewhat nervous and scary whereas this year, she is again nervous but happy. Happy to get a second bite at the cherry.

There is though no naive optimism, the Roscommon centre forward has weighed up the Cork opposition carefully. "They went to extra time against Limerick in the Munster final this

year," she says, adding that "they went on to beat Kildare and have four very good players on the team, who are on the brink of the Cork senior team. They also have good free-takers and are strong down the centre."

Mary believes that the pressure should be on Cork coming into the match, pointing out that last year "it was almost a shock to find ourselves in Croke Park. We froze on the big occasion in front of the big crowd. Small things like waiting in the dressing room got to us a bit but this time those things won't worry us."

Last year's defeat left her gutted, and the pain of disappointment took a long time to heal. This year, Mary is determined not to go through that heartache for a second time. "Even as late as February, I still cried at the thought of the devastated feeling we had. You train, eat and sleep camogie but in the end, there was nothing, no medals, nothing. We got nothing from Croke Park. A banner from Roscommon County Council is our only remembrance. This time we're going to make sure."

Kelly Lauds His Heroes

In the space of a few short days, relief, after a hair's breadth semi-final win, has re-emerged as steely determination in the Roscommon camogie camp in the bid to defeat Cork on Sunday next at Croke Park. This hunger is clearly evident in Michael Kelly, who is increasingly taking on the messiah mantle for camogie in the county.

Speaking to the *Roscommon Herald* at one of the training sessions in Athleague last week, team manager, Michael Kelly, said that if the team play as well in the final, as they did against Antrim, "it will take a good team to beat us".

Although admitting that he felt relief after the one point victory, he was still pleased at the determination the girls showed coming into the crucial stages, particularly when they raised their game to haul back a three point deficit. "They were now even more determined than ever to win," he recalls.

Memories of last year's agonising defeat at the hands of Limerick in the final is still fresh in Michael's mind but he points to this as a prime motivator. "Last year's disappointment while very hard to take at the time, has lifted their self-belief and increased their will to win," he remarks of a team which has been training extremely hard since June.

This night of lung-busting was no different but this is the sacrifice every girl on the squad is willingly prepared to make for that glittering All-Ireland prize.

Nonchalantly knocking the sliothar into the back of the net as his team went through their paces at the other end of the field, Michael was quick to praise



TIME OUT! Photographed after a training session in Athleague during the week were Caroline Connaughton, Cáit Kenny and Teresa Carty. Pic: Aisling Leydon

the commitment and determination of the players. "They are training very hard and there is a good turnout at every session. Training is going very well."

Last week's training was devoted to the usual regime of drills. One in particular though has been worked on constantly - a more aggressive approach going forward, which has reaped dividends in this year's campaign. Michael wants more of the same next Sunday.

"We are working on our weaknesses and encouraging

our forwards to take on the backs. Usually, they tend to stand off a bit, but I want the girls to take them on," says the manager, whose charges have responded magnificently to every challenge put their way this season.

The ingredients comprised within this camp have already looked right for success sooner or later. The squad of players and manager, plus selectors, each share a level of commitment that merits their exemplary achievements over the last two years.

Two years ago, the



Runnamoat teacher gave a commitment to this team, which he believes is reciprocated by the players. As if to prove the point, Hilary Hussey arrives for training having just flown in from London where she was undertaking a course.

There are examples of that level of commitment everywhere. Players travelling three and four times a week from Dublin for training and during the Winter season, others coming from colleges in Maynooth, Limerick and Galway to take part. This is what it is all about.

Going into Sunday's game, little is known of the Cork girls but a county with such a proud tradition in the code, there will be ample respect. Michael, while acknowledging that Cork at any level are "always dangerous", also admits that he never worries what the opposition is like.

The final question for Michael, however, concerns the opposition and more importantly, that little matter of a prediction. The answer is characteristically concise and straightforward. "One point will do," says Michael as he flicks another goal into the back of the net.



Pictured above, Mr. Michael Kelly, manager of Roscommon camogie team. Pic: Aisling Leydon



Second Time Lucky? The Roscommon Camogie team hoping to bring an All-Ireland title to County Roscommon on Sunday next. (See full details page 17) Pic: P. Glynn



**Sandy
Fitzgibbon...
going for
All-Ireland
number six**

Daunting task for Galway

ALL-IRELAND SENIOR CAMOGIE FINAL PREVIEW

ON FORM I'D have to go with Cork especially as they have beaten Galway already in the league. Kilkenny and Galway played in the League semi-finals and it was tit for tat the whole way. With Cork turning around and beating Kilkenny in the championship, Cork look

ANGELA DOWNEY

good, open game.

There is a slight chance that Cork might be a little bit complacent - they beat Galway in the 1993 All-Ireland

SANDY'S AUTUMN GLORY

IT'S THAT TIME of year again. By now, Sandie is used to the call. The annual call that is, if Cork are in the final. The one time of the year when the media turn their attention to her sport; camogie.

"We're used to it by now, but yes, it does drive me mad that we don't get much attention for the rest of the year," admits Sandie. "To be fair now, The Examiner had a tremendous supplement this week with photos and everything, but really it's very rare that we get attention like that."

"And the thing is that people don't know what the game is like. If they actually come and see a match they are always amazed at the skill involved and that it's played at such a high standard. But the problem is that not enough people actually do get to come and watch it."

This year however, the GAA pundits of Cork are looking to Sandie and the women of the county to bring back the only trophy to Leeside - the O'Duffy Cup. This year there is also a feeling of a summer extension in the air. The Indian Summer and now the football final replay seem to have kept the season of Gaelic games much more alive, and camogie with it.

Sandie Fitzgibbon is well used to preparing for the big occasions. She played in her first senior final in 1982, having previously won three All-Ireland minor medals. That year was a success story for Cork, as was 1983.



YVONNE JUDGE

Then there was a lull - five finals, five losses.

"I have to say that 1992 was one of the greatest moments, because after losing so many of them, we came back and won and what made it even better was that I was captain that year."

She now has five All-Ireland winning medals in her possession and is

to win more than anything."

On Sunday, Cork take on Galway in the final. The last time they met, Cork won well after turning on the power in the second half. But Fitzgibbon's experience tells her that nothing is predictable.

"It can literally depend on how the teams perform on the day. Do they click? Do they have the right attitude? After we beat Kilkenny in the semi-final, people were saying we had as good as won the Cup but it's not like that."

Ann Downey played in that semi-final but it was the first year of Angela's retirement from the game.

"It was gas, she was pacing up and down the sidelines and behind the goals and I would have sworn she was going to come on at some stage."

At 32, Sandie is a veteran of the Cork team. The latest additions to the line-up are two seventeen year olds, so it's a real mix, a blend of youthful enthusiasm and experience. Tom Nash is the

Cork coach and ACC provide the sponsorship. At the moment, Sandie is training four times a week, twice with her club Glen Rovers and twice with the Cork panel. (Glen Rovers are the current Cork county camogie champions).

That's a lot of training, but a year ago there was even more activity in her life. Sandie is as well known if not bet-

ter in the sport of basketball as she is in camogie. A stalwart of Lee Strand Tralee basketball team, she played for Ireland for many years, an honour she cherishes greatly.

"Playing for your country is just fantastic, but the only thing is that we never really played at a level where we would win any silverware. We got to two Promotions Cup finals, but unfortunately we lost the two."

"The best experience with Ireland was playing at the pre-Olympic tournament in Malaysia. It's funny, because we were all such major rivals with our clubs and then the bonding of the team as Ireland was brilliant."

The female 'Liam McHale' also has a strong pedigree in soccer - "my first love," she admits. Sandie won a medal for Cork in the Bracken Cup, playing in midfield. Her favourite team is Manchester United, "because of the two Cork lads," and she believes that Roy Keane should be forgiven and brought back into the fold.

It's now fourteen years since Sandie first played senior camogie on the turf of Croke Park. Now it's Galway this Sunday when she hopes to redress the balance of her lost finals of the late eighties. And one other thing. Sandie is greatly relieved that it's not Wexford.

"County success is contagious. Believe me, if we were playing Wexford this Sunday I wouldn't fancy our chances."

"If they actually come and see a match they are always amazed at the skill involved"

looking for a sixth. She knows she has a long way to go to start catching up on the Downey records, but another on Sunday would mean one more win than the five losses.

"It's funny, every final is different. The build up is different and of course it depends on the team and the coach. But once you get out on the pitch, nothing is different. You always want

CORK JUNIORS TO MAKE IT A DOUBLE

IT'S MOST UNUSUAL to see Cork in a Junior All-Ireland final. Traditionally they would be more to the forefront at minor level and I haven't seen them in this position in a while. Not that that will be a big disadvantage to them. The side have looked impressive in the run-up to the final especially in the semi-final when they came out on top against Kildare.

Roscommon are still chasing their first title in this grade but that shouldn't unduly affect them either.

Traditionally they are strong at colleges level and they would have a lot there from Athlone RTC so they will be more than capable of giving Cork a real run for their money.

On form, once again it's hard to bet against the Cork side. Another thing in

ANGELA DOWNEY

their favour is that they will have the extra support with the senior side there as well.

Rather than any question of being up against tradition, I would say that it would be the occasion more than anything which will get to their opponents. I know even from my own experience of going to Croke Park, that it doesn't get any easier the more often you are there.

You know you shouldn't be nervous but from my own point of view I get more uptight each time around. In training you could stay running and running but when the final comes around you could find that you are out

of wind after the first ball. It's a long time since I have seen Cork in a Junior All-Ireland. Noelle O'Driscoll who is in Kilkenny at the moment, played with Cork and has a junior All-Ireland, but that is going back a few years.

The experience of two hard games against Antrim will stand to the Roscommon girls. I think the side showed with their one point win in the replay that they have the character to pull through when it matters. Maeve Healy and Grace McMullan will pose a serious threat to the Cork defence and if they hit form again they just might be matchwinners.

Cork seem to be on a roll at present however and ultimately look most likely to secure their fifth junior title.

- in an interview with Philip Lanigan

TEAMS FOR THE FINAL

ROSCOMMON:

U Hussey, C Connaughton, E Farrell, C Kenny, T Carty, K Jones, H Hussey, C Cooney, G Carr, M Grehan (capt), M Healy, M Gannon. Subs: C Hoare, M Nagle, M Belme, A Lennon, S Weir, M Lawless, E Mannion, Patricia Mulry.

CORK:

L Nolan, E Dineen, A Dilworth, C Cronin, T Doyle, H Kenneally, E Buckley, S Cahalane, S O'Callaghan, A O'Connell (capt), M Keniffick, L O'Sullivan. Subs: L Zinkant, C Kirby, E Healy, Yvonne O'Callaghan, M Sexton, O Murphy, T Ryan, M Lucey.

pose I would have to stick with the Cork women. They are very strong up the middle with Sandie Fitzgibbon at centre-back and a lethal forward line including Fiona O'Driscoll and Lynn Dunlea. They are strong all-round, and are very very fit. Another one of their main strengths is their running off the ball for one another. Even if you have one blocked, the ball is gone over your head to someone else so I think Galway will find it hard to keep up with them.

Having said that Galway were missing a few of their regular panel for the league encounter - some of the university players were in America for the summer.

Tony Ward's charges are a physical side and they are all well able to hurl. They have come through Loughrea Vocational school with the Colleges All-Ireland, and have won their Junior All-Ireland. Lots of them now have that out of the way, they have their All-Ireland in their pocket so they'll be looking for the senior one.

There was an underage blitz over in Loughrea last weekend and Galway won that again so they have players coming through. Another plus on their side is that they also have good clubs coming into the All-Ireland series.

Cork will be hot-favourites however and the only thing I can see that might augur in their opponent's favour is their mental attitude. They know they have beaten Galway already, in addition to beating their bogey team Kilkenny, so maybe there's a feeling that they have the big guns out of the way.

I was a little bit disappointed that day, Kilkenny definitely didn't deserve to win but I thought they might have been able to sneak the draw. Having said that I believe one or two of the forwards were sick during the week. I never saw our back-line play so well, we were very, very strong in defence but they had us on a huge pitch and they were much fitter than we were.

From Kilkenny's preparation point of view, with a lot of our players not being able to train with the club championships going on, I would say that Cork are not that invincible. We had to go down to Cork and it's always worth a few points to them when you have to travel down. This was allied to the fact that they had beaten us last year in the All-Ireland and psychologically were undaunted by us.

Cork definitely have the greater experience. Most of the Galway players would have come through colleges All-Irelands, minor All-Irelands and most of them have a junior All-Ireland but there is a bit of a jump between the senior and the junior.

If it is a wet day I think it will possibly suit the Galway girls better, they are more physical, but it should be a

they are the holders.

They will be hot favourites going into it, but that shouldn't really affect them. They have all been to Croke Park before and most of the Glen Rovers girls have All-Ireland club experience behind them and they form the backbone of the team. They know exactly what they are about and they've tasted success last year so the signs are pointing in their favour.

PATHS TO THE FINAL

GALWAY

QUARTER-FINAL:

Galway 1-24 Dublin 3-10

Scorers:

GALWAY: S Glynn 0-14, D Gilligan 1-2, I Hobbins and M Harkins 0-3 each, G Maher 0-2. DUBLIN: G Dunne 3-4, L Lynch 0-3, D Smith, D O'Byrne and R Brady 0-1 each.

SEMI-FINAL:

Galway 1-13 Wexford 1-5

Scorers:

GALWAY: S Glynn 0-5, V Curtin 1-1, I Hobbins 0-4, D Gilligan 0-2, M Harkin 0-1. WEXFORD: Geraldine Codd 1-4, F Dunne 0-1.

CORK

QUARTER-FINAL:

Cork 6-18 Armagh 0-9

Scorers:

CORK: L Mellerick 3-4, L Dunlea 2-8, F O'Driscoll 1-6. ARMAGH: C Byrne 0-6, M Donnelly 0-2, M Black 0-1.

SEMI-FINAL:

Cork 1-13 Kilkenny 0-11

Scorers:

CORK: L Dunlea 1-6, D Cronin 0-3, F O'Driscoll 0-2, V Harris and L Mellerick 0-1 each. KILKENNY: S Millea 0-8, A Downey 0-3.

TEAMS FOR THE FINAL

CORK:

K Costine, E Duggan, P Goggins, S Fitzgibbon, M Finn, T O'Callaghan (capt), V Harris, L Mellerick, D Cronin, M O'Connor, F Driscoll, L Dunlea. Subs: I O'Keefe, S Dunlea, M Deacy, R Desmond E Buckley, H Kenneally, M Kenniffick, S O'Callaghan.

GALWAY:

L Curry, O Costello, A Broderick, P Nevin, D Maher, S Glynn, C Hannon, M Harkin, I Hobbins (capt), D Gilligan, V Curtin. Subs: O Coen, G Maher, B Kilgannon, A Forde, C Allen, R Coen, C Finnegan, C Curley.

BIG CAMOGIE WEEKEND IN STORE CROKE PARK TO HOST JUNIOR AND SENIOR ALL-IRELANDS

BY PJ FULHAM

The scene is set for the Bord na Gaeilge All-Ireland Senior Championship final when Cork and Galway meet for the fourth time at this stage. Cork, the holders, are contesting their 31st final, having won 17. Three of those victories were over Galway - 1939 on a score of 6-1 to 1-1, 1940, 4-1 to 2-2, and 1993, 3-15 to 2-8.

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They are second only to Dublin on the honours list. Dublin won 26 titles in 35 appearances. Cork hold the distinction of being the only county to win the double in senior and junior on the same day on three occasions - 1973, 1980 and 1983 and are in a position to add another on Sunday. Cork have six National Senior League titles to their credit, defeating Sunday's opponents in this year's decider, 3-16 to 1-7.

Galway are competing in their 10th decider and have yet to carve their name on the O'Duffy Cup.

They share with Dublin the distinction of contesting the first two All-Ireland finals both played in 1933. The '32 final was played in August 1933 and was hosted by Dublin.

There have been many changes since then. At that time players wore dark jerseys and black stockings, black boots, and black belts. Some wore a type of stick with long flat heels to avoid strokes.

Cork's only Senior success to date is a National Senior League victory in their first year in 1994 over Tipperary, 1-11 to 0-9. On the path to the final, Cork defeated Limerick 6-18 to 0-9 and Kilkenny in the semi-final, 1-13 to 0-11 at Páirc Uí Chaoimh.

Cork defeated Dublin 1-24 to 3-10 and the semi-final 1-13 to 1-5 at Páirc Uí Chaoimh.

A very experienced side with a lot of talent. Captain Therese O'Sullivan who was nursing an injury during the league has now returned to take her full position, accompanied by a new recruit from junior ranks Mary O'Sullivan. Another player in her second year, Vivienne Harris, is also well at centre field. The long and powerful Fintona is one of the most effective defenders in the game, while Eileen and Linda Mellerick can be relied on the day. All three have won Senior teams. They have a very sound keeper in



The Galway Seniors who represented Connacht in the Gael Linn competition.

Lawless, Emma Mannion, Patricia Mulry.
Cork Panel: Leona Nolan, Enda Dineen, Colette Cronin, Allison Dilworth, Eileen Buckley, Hilda Kenneally, Sinead Cahalane, Mary Kennifick, Sinead O'Callaghan, Antoinette O'Connell, Linda Sullivan, Tracy Ryan, Lillian Zinzaint, Mary Lucey, Yvonne O'Callaghan, Claire Kirby, Teresa Murphy, Orla Murphy, Mary Sexton.

Fixtures for Sunday September 22nd:

At Croke Park
Bord na Gaeilge All-Ireland Senior Championship Final

Corcaigh v An Ghaillimh 3.30pm Referee - Aine Derham, Dublin



Action from the 1995 decider sees Cork's Margaret Finn under pressure from one of the all time greats, Ann Downey.

All-Ireland Junior Championship Final
Corcaigh v Ros Comáin 1.45pm. Referee - Fiona McKenna, Armagh

Limerick collected the All-Ireland Intermediate Championship title after a thrilling final against Down. The winners led 2-6 to 2-3 at the break, and never looked threatened in the second half as they went on to a 2-10 to 1-6 victory.
Scorers - Limerick - Kay Bourke 1-3, Pauleen McCarthy 0-5, Vera Sheehan 1-1, Eileen O'Brien 0-1.
Down - Jennifer Branniff 1-1, Mairin McAleenan 0-3, Valerie Hynds 0-2.
Referee - Marie Pollard, Waterford.



Aine Derham (Dublin) who takes charge of the Senior camogie decider.

Admission will be through the new Cusack Stand only and not to the Hogan Stand as previously arranged.

PLAYER FOCUS

Anne Broderick

NAME: Anne Broderick

DATE OF BIRTH: 25-4-75

WEIGHT: 9 and a half stone

CLUB: Davitts

COUNTY: Galway

NOTABLE SPORTING ACHIEVEMENTS:

(GAELIC) 2 All-Ireland Colleges Junior medals (St Raphaels), 2 All-Ireland Colleges Senior medals (St Raphaels), 1 All-Ireland Junior medal v Limerick in 1994.

(OTHER): Galway Camogie Player of the Year

INTER-COUNTY DEBUT: Senior debut - in the All-Ireland semi-final '95 v Kilkenny in Nowlan Park, Kilkenny, playing right wing back.

TOUGHEST OPPONENT: Angela Downey (Kilkenny).

FAVOURITE GROUNDS: Croke Park

HOBBIES: Playing cards, playing pool, I enjoy all sports.

FAVOURITE POSITION: Wing back

FAVOURITE PLAYERS: Fiona O'Driscoll (Cork), Claire Lynch (Galway), Maire McMahon (Clare).

THE HIGH POINT OF YOUR CAREER TO

DATE: Winning my first every county final with Davitts v Pearses 1995

BIGGEST DISAPPOINTMENT: Losing the All-Ireland club semi-final to Toomevara (1995) by one point in extra time.

OTHER PLAYERS WITH A PROMISING

FUTURE: Veronica Curtin (Craughwell), Alva Kelly (Davitts), Therese Maher (Shamrocks)

WAYS OF IMPROVING THE GAME: Changing it to a 15-a-side, giving camogie more publicity.

DO YOU HAVE ANY RELATIVES INVOLVED IN GAELIC GAMES: Brother - Kevin, member of Galway Senior hurling team.

PERSON YOU WOULD MOST LIKE TO MEET: Jim Carey (Ace Ventura).

PET HATES!: I hate playing in goals and losing matches

FAVOURITE MUSIC: Dance

FAVOURITE FILM: Legends of the Fall

IDEAL DATE: Andy Townsend



Anne Broderick (back, third from right) with the highly successful St Raphael's College outfit. This All-Ireland winning team is: Front, left to right: Dymphna Maher, Lisa Cannon, Deirdre Hardiman, Mareth Fahy, Pamela Nevin (capt), Clair Lynch. Back, left to right: Mary Maher, Denise Nevin, Niamh Glennon, Anne Broderick, Olivia Broderick, Anne Hardiman.

Cumann Camógaíochta na nGael



**Cluichí
Ceannais
na
hÉireann**

**Craobhchomórtas
na Sinsear**

faoi urraíocht ag

Bord na Gaeilge

agus

**Craobhchomórtas
na Sóisear**

Páirc an Chrócaigh

**22 Meán Fómhair,
1996**

Clár Oifigiúil

LUACH: £1.00

Sia de Blais
Ardrianaí

Na Réiteoirí



Áine Derham
Áth Cliath

Cuirtear fáilte roimh Áine don tarna bliain as a chéile di agus í i gceannas ar Chluiche Ceannais na Sinsear. Bhí sí anseo i bPáirc an Chrócaigh ar ócáidí eile leis.

Áine refereed her first All-Ireland Junior Championship Final in 1989, followed by the Senior Championship Finals of 1992 and 1995. She has officiated at all levels, including several All-Ireland Finals in the Association's other Inter-County competitions.

Is ball de Lárchoiste na Réiteoirí í, agus imríonn sí a cuid camógaíochta le Cumann Celtic, Áth Cliath.

Ionadaí: Miriam Uí Cheallacháin, Uíbh Fháilghe.

Tá Fiona i gceannas ar Chluiche Ceannais na Sóisear don chéad uair di, agus cuirtear fáilte roimpi go Páirc an Chrócaigh ar an mór-ócáid seo di.

Although in charge of her first Final, Fiona is an experienced Réiteoir at Inter-County level both within Cúige Uladh and at National Junior League and Championship levels. She has also refereed at Inter-Provincial level.

Is le Cumann Clan na nGael, Ardmhacha, a imríonn Fiona, agus tá sí ina Leas-Chathaoirleach ar an gClub.

Ionadaí: Brid Mhic Philib, Tiobraid Árann.



Fiona Nic Giannaí
Ardmhacha

*Clár
an
Lae*

CORCAIGH v ROSCOMÁIN

Sóisear: 1.45 i.n.

Réiteoir: Áine Derham, Áth Cliath

CORCAIGH v AN GHAILLIMH

Sinsear: 3.30 i.n.

Camógaíocht Idirbhunscoileanna, 4.00 i.n.

Sé Banna Ceoil Ard Aidhlin a bheidh ag seinnt

FOIREANN NA GAILLIMHE



Ar chúl, ó chlé: S. Nig Ghloinn, D. Ní Mheachair, O. Nic Coistealbha, L. Ní Chamhraí, O. Ní Bhruadair, P. Nic Cnámhín.
Cun tosaigh, ó chlé: V. Nic Cuirtín, C. Ní Annáin, M. Ní Earcáin, I. Nic Oibicín (captaen), Áine Ní Bhruadair, D. Ní Ghiollagáin.

FOIREANN CHORCAÍ



Ar chúl, ó chlé: M. Nic Fhinn, E. Ní Dhuagáin, B. Ní Earchaí, C. Nic Oistín, P. Ghógán, L. Ní Mhaoilgheiric, L. Ní Dhoinnlé.
Chun tosaigh, ó chlé: I. Ní Chaoimh, D. Ní Chróinín, T. Ní Cheallacháin (captaen), S. Nic Giobúin, E. Ní Dhrisceoil.



CORCAIGH

Dathanna: Dearg agus Bán

- | | | |
|--|--|---|
| 1
CAITLÍN NIC OISTÍN
Kathleen Costine
Killeagh | | |
| 2
EITHNE NÍ DHUAGÁIN
Eithne Duggan
Bishopstown | | |
| 3
PÓILÍN GHÓGÁN
Paula Goggins
Na Píarsaigh | 4
SANDIE NIC GIOBÚIN
Sandie Fitzgibbon
Glen Rovers | 5
MAIRÉAD NÍ FHINN
Margaret Finn
Fr. O'Neill's |
| 6
TREASA NÍ CHEALLACHAÍN
Therese O'Callaghan
Glen Rovers, <i>Captain</i> | 7
BÉIBHINN NÍ EARCHAÍ
Vivienne Harris
Bishopstown | 8
LINDA NÍ MHAOILGHEIRIC
Linda Mellerick
Glen Rovers |
| 9
DENISE NÍ CHRÓINÍN
Denise Cronin
Glen Rovers | 10
MÁIRE NÍ CHONCHUBHAIR
Mary O'Connor
Killeagh | 11
FIONA NÍ DHRISCEOIL
Fiona O'Driscoll
Fr. O'Neill's |
| 12
LYNN NÍ DHOINNLE
Lynn Dunlea
Glen Rovers | | |

IONADAITHE:

13. **Irene Ní Chaoimh** (Irene O'Keefe) Inniscarra; 14. **Stiofáinín Ní Dhoinnlé** (Stephanie Dunlea) Glen Rovers; 15. **Míriam Dhéiseach** (Miriam Deery) Kilbrin; 16. **Róis Ní Dheasúnaigh** (Rose Desmond) Bishopstown; 17. **Eighlín Ní Bhuechalla** (Eileen Buckley) Aghabullogue; 18. **Hilda Ní Chinnolaigh** (Hilda Kennealy) Newcestown; 19. **Máire Chiniféic** (Mary Kennelick) Fr. O'Neill's; 20. **Sinéad Ní Cheallacháin** (Sinéad O'Callaghan) Ballygran.



AN GHAILLIMH

Dathanna: Marún agus Bán

- | | | |
|--|--|---|
| 1
LAOISE NÍ CHAMHRAÍ
Louise Curry
Na Píarsaigh | | |
| 2
OILBHE NÍ CHOISTEALBHA
Olive Costello
Sarsfields | | |
| 3
ÁINE NÍ BHRUADAIR
Ann Broderick
Davitts | 4
OILBHE NÍ BHRUADAIR
Olivia Broderick
Davitts | 5
PAMELA NIC CNÁIMHÍN
Pamela Nevin
Mullagh |
| 6
DAMHNAIT NÍ MHEACHAIR
Dympna Maher
Shamrocks | 7
SHARON NIG FHLOINN
Sharon Glynn
Na Píarsaigh | 8
CAIRMÉAL NÍ ANNÁIN
Carmel Hannon
Na Píarsaigh |
| 9
MARTINA NÍ EARCÁIN
Martina Harkin
Na Píarsaigh | 10
IMELDA NIC OIBICÍN
Imelda Hobbins
Mullagh, <i>Captain</i> | 11
DENISE NÍ GHIOLLAGÁIN
Denise Gilligan
Craughwell |
| 12
VERONICA NIC CUIRTÍN
Veronica Curtin
Craughwell | | |

IONADAITHE:

13. **Oilbhe Ní Chadhain** (Olivia Coen) Mullagh; 14. **Gretta Ní Mheachair** (Gretta Maher) Shamrocks; 15. **Brid Ní Giolla Chaillín** (Bridget Kilgallon) Na Píarsaigh; 16. **Aíne Ní Gíallarnáth** (Ann Forde) Na Píarsaigh; 17. **Cairméal Ní Ailín** (Carmel Allen) Craughwell; 18. **Rita Ní Chadhain** (Rita Coen) Shamrocks; 19. **Caitríona Ní Fhionnagáin** (Caitríona Finnegan) Davitts; 20. **Córa Ní Thoirnealaigh** (Cora Curley) Mullagh.

Gabhtar buíochas le Cumann Lúthchleas Gael a chuir Páire an Chrócaigh ar fáil dúinn

Foireann na Gaillimhe

1. Louise Curry, Na Piarsaigh. An chéad bhliain ar fhoireann na Sinsear di. Louise has 1 All-Ireland Intermediate medal which she won with Áth Cliath. She also has won Gael Linn medals with Laighin, 3 Purcell Cup, 1 Purcell Shield and League medals with R.T.C. Portláirge and 2 Combined Colleges medals.

2. Olive Costello, Sarsfields. Cosúil le Louise tá boinn Phuirséil ag Olive. Her numerous collection of medals includes All-Ireland Minor and Junior Championship medals, Junior and Senior National League medals. Tá suim aici san sacar.

3. Ann Broderick, Davitts. Ann and her sister Olivia would like to make it a family double today and add an All-Ireland Senior championship medal to her existing number of medals. Ann played with both the Junior and Senior team when they appeared i bPáirc an Chrócaigh in 1993.

4. Olivia Broderick, Davitts. Olivia holds 4 Senior and 2 Junior Colleges medals which she won with St. Raphael's. Is iar-scoláire de U.C.G. í.

5. Pamela Nevin, Mullagh. Iar-scoláire eile de chuid Naomh Rafael í lenar bhuaidh sí 7 mbonn ar fad. Pamela holds 1 Senior seven-a-side, 1 Senior Club and 1 Senior National League medal.

6. Dympna Maher, Shamrocks. Tá ceithre bhonn Uile-Éireann le Coláiste Rafael aici. Dympna also holds an All-Ireland seven-a-side

with her school and 1 Senior National League medal.

7. Sharon Glynn, Na Piarsaigh. Is iar-scoláire de Naomh Cuan, Gallach, í lenar bhuaidh sí Craobh Chonnacht leis na sinsir agus na sóisir. Sharon holds 1 Senior National League, 2 Connacht Club and 1 Club sevens medal. Tá suim aici sa sacar.

8. Carmel Hannon, Na Piarsaigh. A member of the team which won the All-Ireland Junior championship in 1993, Carmel also has won 1 Junior National League, Gael Linn and Connacht Senior club and Ashbourne medal.

9. Martina Harkin, Na Piarsaigh. Imreoir den chéad scoth í. Martina would like to add an All-Ireland Senior Championship medal to her collection. She holds All-Ireland Junior, Junior and Senior National League, All-Ireland Colleges and Connacht Club Championship medals.

10. Imelda Hobbins, Mullagh, Captaen.

11. Denise Gilligan, Craughwell. An chéad bhliain ar fhoireann na Sinsear di. Denise helped her school, St. Brigid's, to win 2 Vocational Schools medals. She has also won All-Ireland Minor and Junior, Gael Linn and Junior National League medals.

12. Veronica Curtin, Craughwell. Sí Veronica an duine is óige ar an bhfoireann agus gan ach sé bhliain

Imelda Hobbins, Mullagh, Captaen.

Is mór ar fad ag Imelda é bheith ina Captaen ar fhoireann na Gaillimhe inniu. Tá scileanna na Camógaíochta go smior inti.



Imelda is a past-pupil of Coláiste Naomh Rafael with which she won 5 All-Ireland Senior and 2 All-Ireland Junior Colleges medals. She has also won All-Ireland medals at Minor, Junior and Club Championship levels.

Bhí sí ar fhoireann na Gaillimhe a bhuaidh Sraithchomórtas na Sinsear i 1994.

Is deirfiúr le Madge Kennedy í. d'Imir Madge le foireann shinsear na Gaillimhe chomh maith.

déag slánaithe aici. Veronica won the Player of the Match award in both the Minor and Junior All-Ireland Finals in 1994.

13. Olivia Coen, Mullagh. She is the holder of 5 All-Ireland Vocational Schools medals. Bhí sí ina captaen ar fhoireann na scoile i 1995. She also holds 1 All-Ireland Club Championship medal.

14. Bridget Kilgannon, Na Piarsaigh. Is í seo an chéad bhliain ar fhoireann na Sinsear di. Bridget brings a wealth of experience to the team as she holds 2 Ashbourne Cup, 2 Senior County and 1 National League medals.

15. Gretta Maher, Shamrocks. Is derfiúr le Dympna í. Gretta captained the Minor team to All-Ireland success in 1994. She holds 1 Minor, 1 Junior All-Ireland, 1 Junior Gael Linn and 1 Junior National League medal.

16. Ann Hardiman, Mullagh. Ann has won several medals with St. Raphael's. She also holds 1 Junior All-Ireland and 1 All-Ireland Club medal.

17. Áine Hillary, Na Piarsaigh. Is iar-imreoir le foireann na Mionúr agus na Sóisear í. Áine holds All-Ireland Minor and Junior medals and 2 County and Connacht Club medals.

18. Anne Forde, Na Piarsaigh. Anne is a Féile na nGael Skills winner and also has 1 All-Ireland Minor, Junior, Senior and Junior National League, All-Ireland seven-a-side medals. She holds 2 Senior County and Connacht Club Championship medals.

19. Cora Curley, Mullagh. Iar-Chaptaen ar fhoireann na Sóisear atá inti. Cora captained An Ghaillimh to win the All-Ireland Junior Championship in 1994. She won 6 All-Ireland Colleges medals with Coláiste Naomh Rafael. She also holds 1 All-Ireland Minor and 1 All-Ireland Junior Championship medal, 1 All-Ireland Club Championship medal, 1 Junior Gael Linn and 1 Junior National League medal.

20. Caitríona Finnegan, Davitt's. Tá Caitríona ag imirt leis an nGaillimh ó bhí sí an-óg. She won an All-Ireland Minor Championship medal with her County in 1987. She also won the County Senior Championship with her Club and is the holder of Connacht Championship medals.

Foireann Chorcaí

1. Kathleen Costine, Killeagh. Sar imreoir lena club í. A member of a family of famous G.A.A. and Camogie players, Kathleen holds All-Ireland Senior, Junior and Minor medals and National League medals.

2. Eithne Duggan, Bishopstown. An dara bliain leis na Sinsir dí. A physiotherapist, Eithne played in Corn Mhic Giolla Bhríde with Coláiste na hOllscoile, Áth Cliath, and on the Combined Universities. Her collection of medals includes under-age, Senior B Club, Munster Minor Championship, Senior National League and All-Ireland Senior Championship.

3. Paula Goggins, Na Píarsaigh. An seachtú bliain leis na Sinsir dí. Senior Gael Linn and National League together with Senior Championship and All-Ireland Colleges are just part of Paula's collection of medals.

4. Sandie Fitzgibbon, Glen Rovers. Is imreoir den chéad scoth í. A National Irish Bank Award recipient in 1992 and 1995, she holds All-Ireland Senior Championship, Junior, Minor, Colleges and Gael Linn medals. Sár imreoir í sa Chispheil.

5. Mags. Finn, Fr. O'Neill's. Sar imreoir lena club í. Numbered among Mags' collection of medals are Club and County, Gael Linn Senior and Junior, Munster Senior and Junior Championship and All-Ireland Senior Championship.

6. Therese O'Callaghan, Glen Rovers. Captaen.

7. Vivienne Harris, Bishopstown. An dara bhliain di ar fhoireann na Sinsir. Vivienne was a Féile na nGael Skills winner in 1992. She won her first All-Ireland Senior Championship last year and holds Senior B Club Championship and Senior National League and Gael Linn medals. A recipient of Munster Sports Star Award.

8. Linda Mellerick, Glen Rovers. Ina captaen ar Chorcaigh i 1993 nuair a bhuaigh Corcaigh Craobhchomórtas na hÉireann. Among Linda's collection of medals are All-Ireland Club, Minor and Junior and Gael Linn medals. She is a recipient of the National Irish Bank Award, Jury's Sports award, and the Player of the Match Award in 1996.

9. Denise Cronin, Glen Rovers. An cuigiú bliain di ar fhoireann na Sinsir. Ina captaen ar Chorcaigh anuraidh nuair a bhuaigh Corcaigh an Craobhchomórtas. Denise has won All-Ireland Club Championship, All-Ireland Senior Championship, National League and Gael Linn medals.

10. Mary O'Connor, Killeagh. An chéad bhliain leis na Sinsir dí. Mary won a Munster Junior medal this year. She was the recipient of the "Player of the Match" award when she played for Imokilly in the Cork Senior Championship this year.

11. Fiona O'Driscoll, Fr. O'Neill's. An ceathrú bliain ar fhoireann na Sinsir dí. Fiona captained Coláiste na hOllscoile, Luimneach, to victory in a Corn Mhic Giolla Bhríde anuraidh. She also captained the Combined Colleges team last year and is the holder of 1 Corn Puirseil medal.

6. Therese O'Callaghan, Glen Rovers (captaen). Is imreoir den chéad scoth í. Captaen na foirne í 1991 a bhí inti nuair a bhuaigh Corcaigh



Sraithchomórtas na hÉireann. Therese also captained her Club team to victory in the All-Ireland Club Championship in 1990. She holds 10 Senior County Championship medals, one of which she won with Na Fianna, Áth Cliath, and Senior National League, Gael Linn, All-Ireland Club seven-a-side and All-Ireland Senior Championship medals. Ba mhór aici é Corn Ua Dubhthaigh a bheith ar ais cois Laoí.

12. Lynn Dunlea, Glen Rovers. Is iarscoláire de Choláiste Mhuire gan Smál, Luimneach, í. Lynn holds Gael Linn, All-Ireland Senior Championship, National League and All-Ireland Club Championship medals.

13. Irene O'Keefe, Inniscarra. Irene was the recipient of the Player of the Match Award in 1992. She has numerous medals including an All-Ireland Senior Championship medal. An séú bliain di leis na Sinsir, agus d'imir sí leis na Sóisir agus na Mionúir.

14. Stephanie Dunlea, Glen Rovers. Is deirfiúir í le Lynn atá ina lán-tosach ar fhoireann na Sinsir. A holder of Corn Puirseil and Corn Mhic Giolla Bhríde medals, Stephanie played on the Combined Universities team. Holds medals at Senior County, Munster Club Championship and All-Ireland Senior Championship level.

15. Miriam Deasy, Kilbrittain. An dara bliain ar fhoireann na Sinsir dí. She is the holder of Munster under-16, under-18 and All-Ireland Senior Championship medals.

16. Rose Desmond, Bishopstown. d'Imir sí le Mionúir agus Sóisir Chorcaí. Iar-Rúnaí de chuid Coiste Contae Chorcaí í. Rose is Uachtarán of U.C.C. Club and Cathaoirleach of An Lár Choiste Oiliúna. She holds Ashbourne Cup medals with U.C.C., Gael Linn, Senior National League and Championship and Club medals.

17. Eileen Buckley, Aghbullogue. An chéad bhliain leis na Sinsir dí. Eileen has represented Corcaigh at Minor and Under-18 levels. She plays in the All-Ireland Junior Final today.

18. Hilda Kinneally, Newcestown. Cosúil le hEibhlín is í seo an chéad bhliain leis na Sinsir dí. Hilda lines out at right wing centrefield with Cork's Junior team today.

19. Mary Kenefick, Fr. O'Neill's. An chéad bhliain leis na Sinsir dí. An outstanding Junior Inter-county player, she has 1 Munster Junior Championship as well as Senior B, Intermediate and Junior Club Championship medals.

20. Sinéad O'Callaghan, Ballyagran, Luimneach. Is scoláire í Scoil Naomh Mhuire, Rath Luirc, í. Sinéad won her first All-Ireland Senior Colleges this year. This is her first year with the Seniors. Won Senior National League and Munster Junior Championship medals.

Foireann Chorcaí

1. Leona Nolan, Inniscarra. Is scoláire í Leona. She holds under-age medals with her Club, 2 under-18 Cúige Mumhan medals, and 1 Munster Junior Championship medal. Is ionadaí ar phainéal na Síneair í.

2. Enda Dineen, Ballinora. Is scoláire í Enda chomh maith. Tá boinn buaite ag an-chuid leibhéil aici. As well as her Munster Junior Championship medal, she has won several medals at the various grades within Corcaigh.

3. Alison Dilworth, Brian Dillon's. Freastalaí siopa atá inti. She holds 2 Munster Junior Championship medals and Munster under-18 medals, as well as under-14, under-18, Junior and Intermediate County Championship medals. d'Imir sí le Scoil Phádraig ins na comórtais Idir-Iarbhunscoileanna.

4. Colette Cronin, St. Finbarr's. Tá sí ag obair leis an gcomhlucht E.M.P. Computers. She has won 2 Munster Junior Championship and 2 Gael Linn medals, as well as under-14, under-18 and Intermediate County Championship medals. Bhí sí ar fhoireann Chorcaí a bhain an Cluiche Ceannais de Shraithchomórtais na Sóisear amach i 1994.

5. Trish Doyle, Bishopstown. Is scoláire í. She is the holder of 1 Munster Junior Championship, 2 under-18 Munster Championship medals, and Juvenile, Junior, Intermediate and Senior B medals at County level. She has represented Cúige Mumhan in Badminton.

6. Hilda Kenneally, Newcestown. Rúnaí Scoile atá inti. She is a sister of Pat, a former captain of the Corcaigh Senior Hurling team. Tá stór de bhoinn aici - 2 Munster Junior Championships, 1 Gael Linn, and Juvenile, Junior and

Intermediate with her Club. She was also on the team which reached the 1994 National Junior League Final.

7. Eileen Buckley, Aghabullogue. Is leis an gcomhlucht G.I. Computers a bhíonn sí ag obair. She holds 2 Munster Junior Championship medals and Juvenile, Junior and Intermediate County Championship medals. She played in an All-Ireland Minor Final with Corcaigh. Is ionadaí ar phainéal na Síneair í.

8. Sinéad Cahalane, Killeagh. Teicneoir atá inti. She has won 1 Munster Junior Championship medal, and Juvenile, Junior and Intermediate medals at county level. d'Imir sí le St. Mary's High School, Mainistir na Corann, lena bhuaidh sí Craobhchomórtais Síneair na Mumhan sa chomórtais Idir-Iarbhunscoileanna.

9. Sinéad O'Callaghan, Ballyagran. Is scoláire í i Scoil Mhuire, Rath Luirc. She has won All-Ireland Senior and Junior Colleges medals with her school. She also holds 1 Munster Junior Championship medal. She is also on the Senior panel. She plays her Club Camogie in Luimneach.

10. Antoinette O'Connell, Newcestown, Captaen.

11. Mary Kenefick, Fr. O'Neill's. Is Teagascóir Spóirt le COPE í. She holds one Senior National League and 2 Munster Junior Championship medals, as well as Junior and Intermediate County Championship medals. d'Imir sí leis an gColáiste Réigiúnach i bPortláirge. Tá sí ar phainéal na Síneair chomh maith.

12. Linda O'Sullivan, Ballinhassig. Is scoláire í Linda. She is the holder of 1 Munster Junior Championship and 2 under-18 Munster Championship medals. She has won Juvenile and Junior County

Antoinette Ní Chonaill, Newcestown, Captaen.

Is mór ag Antoinette é go bhfuil sí ina Captaen ar fhoireann Chorcaí inniu. An-imreoir go deo atá inti, agus is sár-threoraí don fhoireann í.



Ta an Chamógaíocht á imirt ón gcliaibhán aici. She came to the fore in her Club at Juvenile level and contributed much to winning County titles at this grade. Antoinette played Colleges camogie with Droichead na Bandan. She holds 1 Munster Junior Championship medal.

She is also on the panel for the Senior team today.

Is bainisteoir i dteach leanna í Antoinette.

Championship medals with her Club. She was on the Corcaigh team which reached the National Junior League Final in 1994. Is deirfiúir í le John a imríonn le Mionúir Chorcaí san iománaíocht.

13. Lilian Zincant, Sarsfields. Riarthóir Lónadóireachta atá inti. She is the holder of 2 All-Ireland Minor medals, won in 1978 and '79. 2 All-Ireland Junior medals from 1980 and '83, 2 Gael Linn and 6 Munster Championship medals.

14. Claire Kirby, St. Finbarr's. Is scoláire í gColáiste na hOllscoile, Corcaigh, í. Bhí sí ar fhoireann na hOllscoile a bhuaidh Corn Mhic Giolla Bhríde i mbliana. She also holds 1 Munster Junior Championship medal and several Juvenile medals with her Club.

15. Evelyn Healy, Na Píarsaigh. Is oibritheoir táirgthe í. She has won 3 All-Ireland Minor Championship medals and 2 Munster Junior Championship medals with Corcaigh. She is also the holder of 3 Gael Linn medals. Bhí sí ar an bhfoireann a bhain an Cluiche Ceannais de Shraithchomórtais na Sóisear amach í

1994.

16. Yvonne O'Callaghan, Newcestown. Is scoláire in Ollscoil Luimní í. She has represented Corcaigh at Minor level. She holds 1 Munster Junior Championship medal as well as several Juvenile and Intermediate County Championship medals.

17. Mary Sexton, Kilbrittain. Teicneoir Saotharlainne atá inti. She has won 1 Munster Junior Championship medal and Juvenile and Intermediate County Championship medals. She was on the team which reached the National Junior League Final in 1994.

18. Órla Murphy, Glen Rovers. Is scoláire í gColáiste na hOllscoile, Corcaigh, í. Bhí sí ar fhoireann na hOllscoile a bhuaidh Corn Mhic Giolla Bhríde i mbliana. She has represented Corcaigh at Minor level and holds 1 Munster Junior Championship medal. She won 2 Senior County Championship medals with her Club.

19. Tracy Ryan, Inniscarra. Scoláire atá inti. She holds 1 Munster Junior Championship medal, 1 under-18 Munster Championship medal, and Juvenile and Intermediate County Championship medals. Ní foláir nó tá scileanna na Camógaíochta ar a toil aici. Tracy is a daughter of Ann McAuliffe, who won four All-Ireland Senior Championship medals with Corcaigh between 1970 and 1973, and of Tomás Ryan of Corcaigh hurling fame. Tomás and Ann both won All-Ireland medals in 1970.

20. Mary Lucey, Castlemagner. Scoláire atá inti. She holds 1 Munster Junior Championship medal. She has won Juvenile and Junior County Championship medals with her Club. Bhí sí ar fhoireann Chorcaí a bhain an Cluiche Ceannais de Shraithchomórtais na Sóisear amach i 1994.

CORCAIGH

an chéad uair dóibh casadh ar a c



Ar chúl ó chlé: E. Ní Bhuachalla, M. Chiniféic, C. Ní Chróinín, S. Ní Cheallacháin, H. Ní Chinnolaigh, S. Ní Chathaláin.

Chun tosaigh, ó chlé: L. Ní Nualláin, E. Ní Dhuinnín, M. Ní Chonchubhair, L. Ní Shúilleabháin, A. Ní Chonaill (captaen), A. Ní Dhúluachra.

Cuireadh tús le Craobhchomórtas na Sóisear i 1968 agus is í seo an chéad uair do Chorcaigh agus do Roscomáin casadh ar a chéile sa Chluiche Ceannais.

Corcaigh contested the first and second Finals for the New Ireland Cup, losing to An Dún in 1968 and Doire in 1969. Corcaigh has contested a greater number of Junior Championship Finals than any other County, and is appearing in its eleventh today. Corcaigh won the title on four occasions – 1973, 1980, 1983 and 1984, and, in those first three years, the county achieved the Senior and Junior double. No other county has won the double. Mar a tharlaíonn, níor bhain Corcaigh an Cluiche Ceannais amach ó 1984 i leith.

Chun cur leis an scéal, tá Corcaigh i measc líon an-bheag de chontaetha a bhuaigh an corn dhá uair as a chéile. Áth Cliath won the title in 1970 and '71, while Cill Dara won in 1989 and '90.

Corcaigh has, after a lapse of twelve years, again reached the Final. The Munster Championship title has eluded the county for nine years and it took a replay with Luimneach to decide the 1996 title. Bhí ar Chorcaigh Londain agus Cill Dara a shárú ansin chun an Cluiche Ceannais a bhaint amach.

An Cluiche Leathcheannais, 1996: Corcaigh 2-09 Cill Dara 1-08



CORCAIGH

Dathanna: Dearg agus Bán

1
LEONA NÍ NUALLÁIN
Leona Nolan
Inniscarra

2
ÉANNA NÍ DHUINNÍN
Enda Dineen
Ballinora

3
ALISON NÍ DHÚLUACHRA
Alison Dilworth
Brian Dillon's

4
COLLETTE NÍ CHRÓINÍN
Collette Cronin
St. Finbarr's

5
PÁDRAIGÍN NÍ DHÚILL
Trish Doyle
Bishopstown

6
HILDA NÍ CHINNAOLAIDH
Hilda Kenneally
Newcestown

7
EIBHLÍN NÍ BHUACHALLA
Eileen Buckley
Aghabullogue

8
SINÉAD NÍ CHATHALÁIN
Sinéad Cahalane
Killeagh

9
SINÉAD NÍ CHEALLACHÁIN
Sinéad O'Callaghan
Ballyagran

10
ANTÓINÍN NÍ CHONAILL
Antoinette O'Connell
Newcestown, Captaen

11
MÁIRE CHINIFÉIC
Mary Kenefick
Fr. O'Neill's

12
LINDA NÍ SHÚILLEABHÁIN
Linda O'Sullivan
Ballinhassig

IONADAITHE:

13. Lillian Zinkant (Lillian Zinkant), Sarsfields; 14. Clár Ní Chiarba (Claire Kirby), St. Finbarr's; 15. Eibhlín Ní Éalaithe (Evelyn Healy), Na Píarsaigh; 16. Aoibheann Ní Cheallacháin (Yvonne O'Callaghan), Newcestown; 17. Máire Ní Sheasnáin (Mary Sexton), Kilbrittain; 18. Órla Ní Mhurchú (Orla Murphy), Glen Rovers; 19. Tracy Ní Riain (Tracy Ryan), Inniscarra; 20. Máire Ní Luasaigh (Mary Lucey), Castlemagner.

ROSCOMÁIN

File i gCluiche Ceannais na Sóisear



Ár chúl, ó chlé: E. Ní Mhainnín, E. Ní Fhearail, C. Ní Gheannáin, C. Ní Chonnachtáin, C. de hÓra, O. Ní Eidhín, Á. Ní Chonghaile, M. Laighléis, T. Ní Chárthaigh, M. Ní Mhaolrua, Á. Ní Leamáin, C. Ní Cheallaigh, B. Mac Domhnaill.

Chun tosaigh ó chlé: G. Ní Cheara, M. de Nóglá, M. Ní Éalaithe, C. Ní Chuana, M. Ní Chuana, M. Ní Bhroin, H. Ní Eosa, M. Ní Gheannáin, M. Ní Ghreacháin (captaen), C. Ní Chionaoith, U. Ní Eosa, C. Mhic Sheoin.

Ina suí, ó chlé: B. Ní Mhainnín, S. Ní an Mhaoir, C. Ní an Mhaoir.

Tháinig Roscomáin go Páirc an Chrócaigh don chéad uair ariamh anuraidh agus ba bheag nár sciobadar an corn leo. Roscomáin wrote a special chapter in its history in 1995 by reaching an All-Ireland Inter-County Championship Final for the first time. In a most exciting encounter, Luimneach won the title by one point.

Bé an scór a bhí ann ná: Luimneach 3-07, Roscomáin 4-03.

Luimneach also provided the opposition when Roscomáin reached its only other All-Ireland Final, the National Junior League Final of 1991. Luimneach a bhí chun tosaigh arís.

Coinníodh lucht leanúna Roscomáin ar bís anuraidh agus i mbliana ag an bhfoireann. Roscomáin met Aontroim in the All-Ireland Semi Final both last year and this year. A replay was required in both years, with Roscomáin winning by one point on each occasion.

Ba é an scór i 1995 ná: Roscomáin 3-09 Aontroim 1-15
Roscomáin 1-08 Aontroim 1-07 (Athchluiche)

Cluiche Leathcheannais, 1996: Roscomáin 2-07 Aontroim 1-10
Athchluiche: Roscomáin 5-06 Aontroim 3-11



ROSCOMÁIN

Dathanna: Gorm agus Órga

1
URSULA NÍ EOSA
Ursula Hussey
Oran

2
CEARÚILÍN NÍ CHONNACHTÁIN
Caroline Connaughton
St. Dominic's

3
EIMHEAR NÍ FHEARAÍL
Emer Farrell
Oran

4
CÁIT NÍ CHIONNAOITH
Cait Kenny
Four Roads

5
TREASA NÍ CHÁRTHAIGH
Teresa Carty
Oran

6
CARINA NÍ SHEOIN
Karina Jones
St. Brigid's

7
EALÁIR NÍ EOSA
Hilary Hussey
Oran

8
CHARMAINE NÍ CHUANA
Charmaine Cooney
Oran

9
GEARÓIDÍN NÍ CHEARRA
Geraldine Carr
Oran

10
MÁIRE NÍ GHREACHÁIN
Mary Grehan
Four Roads, *Captaen*

11
MAEDHBH NÍ ÉALAITHE
Maedhbh Healy
Oran

12
MÁIRE NÍ FHIONNÁIN
Mary Gannon
St. Dominic's

IONADAITHE:

13. Caitríona de hÓra (Catherine Hoare), Oran; 14. Máire de Nóglá (Mary Nagle), St. Brigid's; 15. Majella Ní Bhroin (Majella Byrne), Oran; 16. Áine Ní Lionnáin (Annette Lannon), Four Roads; 17. Siobhán Ní an Mhaoir (Siobhán Weir), St. Dominic's; 18. Máire Laighléis (Maura Lawless), Oran; 19. Emma Ní Mhainnín (Eonna Mannion), St. Brigid's; 20. Pádraigín Ní Mhaolrua (Patricia Mulry), Four Roads.

Foireann Roscomáin

1. Ursula Hussey, Oran. Is scoláire í Ursula, ach, cé gur duine óg í, tá éiríthe go hiontach in imeachtaí Camógaíochta lei. Won underage and Senior County titles with her Club as well as two Féile na nGael and 2 Connacht Junior Championship medals. Cuireann sí suim i gcursaí peile. Is deirfiúr le Hilary í.

2. Caroline Connaughton, St. Dominick's. Is scoláire í Cearúilín chomh maith, agus carn de bhoinn buaite aici leis. Holds medals at u-12, u-14, and u-16 County levels, 2 Coláistí Connacht medals, and 2 Connacht Junior Championship medals. Tá suim aici sa pheil.

3. Eimear Farrell, Oran. A secretary, Eimear, like her fellow defenders, has won several under-age medals within her County, as well as Junior and Senior Colleges and Connacht Junior Championship medals. Cuireann sí suim sa pheil agus san rúgbaí.

4. Cáit Kenny, Four Roads. Her first year on the team, Cáit has won numerous Club medals and 1 Connacht Junior Championship medal. Tá suim i gcursaí peile aici.

5. Teresa Carty, Oran. Rúnaí atá sa séú cosantóir ag an bhfoireann. Won underage to Senior County titles and Féile na nGael titles with her Club. Holds three Connacht Junior Championship medals.

6. Carina Mhic Sheoin, St. Brigid's. Is imreoir den chéad scoth í, agus tá líon de bhoinn buaite cheana féin aici. A Post-Primary teacher, Carina won two Ashbourne and three C.C.I.A. League medals while at University. She also won two Combined University medals.

7. Hilary Hussey, Oran. Tá boinn buaite ag gach leibhéal laistigh den Chontae lena Club aici, ó aosánach go Sinsear, maille le boinn i bhFéile na nGael. She has won Connacht Junior Championship titles. She is the holder of 2 All-Ireland Rugby and Hockey medals.

8. Charmaine Cooney, Oran. Tá carn mór de bhoinn buaite ag Charmaine. She holds under-age and Senior County medals. Was a member of the Combined Colleges Camogie and Football teams. Holds 1 Midland Cup medal in hockey.

9. Geraldine Carr, Oran. While at university Geraldine won Ashbourne and Combined Universities medals. Le linn di bheith in Áth Cliath, bhuaigh sí 3 bhonn ag leibhéal na Sinsear lena Club. She is also the holder of 1 Senior Championship medal with her club Oran. Is rúnaí an Chontae í.

10. Mary Grehan, Four Roads. Captaen.

11. Maeve Healy, Oran. Maeve holds several under-age and 5 Senior County Championship medals with her Club, as well as Féile na nGael and Connacht Junior Championship medals. Is Freastalaí Síopa í. Imríonn sí peil agus badmantan.

12. Mary Gannon, St. Dominick's. An tarna muinteoir ar an bhfoireann, tá antaithí ag Máire ar chamógaíocht Idir-Chontae. She is the holder of 7 Senior County Championship, 4 Connacht Junior Championship, 4 Combined Universities medals, and 1 Gael Linn medal. Imríonn sí hacaí, cispheil agus badmantan.

13. Catherine Hoare, Oran. Tá áit faoi leith ag Catherine ar an bhfoireann toisc

10. MARY GREHAN, Four Roads. Captaen



Tá sé de phribhléid ag Máire bheith ina Captaen ar an bhfoireann. Ba mhór aici é an Corn a bhreith abhaile go Roscomáin lei.

Mary would be delighted to be the first person to captain a winning Roscommon team and to have the New Ireland Cup presented to her at the end of the match.

Is múinteoir Corpoideachais í Máire. Her large store of medals includes 4 Senior County Club, 3 Connacht Junior Championship and 1 Purcell Cup medal. She played on the Combined Universities team. Mary has an interest in many sports and has won 1 Junior Connacht and 6 Senior Club medals in Gaelic Football. She also holds 2 All-Ireland Rugby medals. Is cisteoir an Chontae í.

Tréaslaítear le Máire féin agus le foireann Roscomáin as ucht an Cluiche Ceannais a bhaint amach.

gur í an t-aon duine a bhfuil bonn Uile-Éireann de chuid na nIarbhuinscoileanna aici. She was on the Convent of Mercy, Roscommon, team which created history for the County in 1979 by winning its first All-Ireland title. She also won several under-age and 6 Senior County Championship medals with her Club, as well as Connacht Junior Championship medals. Tá sí ag obair leis an gComhlucht, Elan.

14. Mary Nagle, St. Brigid's. An Engineer, Mary won 1 C.C.I.A. League and 2 Combined Universities medals while a student. Mary also holds 3 Connacht Junior Championship medals.

She also plays golf and participates in athletics.

15. Majella Beirne, Oran. As well as her two Connacht Junior Championship medals, Majella has numerous under-age and 6 Senior County Championship medals.

16. Annette Lennon, Four Roads. Is scoláire í Áine, ach, cé gur duine óg í, tá eiríthe go hiontach in imeachtaí Camógaíochta lei. Won under-age to Senior Club Championship medals as well as 2 Connacht Junior Championship and 2 Connacht Basketball medals.

17. Siobhán Weir, St. Dominick's. Is scoláire í Siobhán i Má Nuadhat. As well as her under-age medals, Senior Club Championship and Connacht Junior Championship medals Siobhán also holds a Purcell Cup medal which she won with Maynooth.

18. Maura Lawless, Oran. A Staff Nurse, Maura won numerous Junior County Club Championship medals and 1 Junior Connacht Championship medal. Tá suim i sacar agus hacaí aici.

19. Emma Mannion, St. Brigid's. An triú múinteoir ar an bhfoireann, is múinteoir Corpoideachais í Emma. Together with Junior Club County medals, 1 Connacht Junior Championship medal Emma has won 1 Ashbourne Cup medal with University of Limerick. She has many awards in Gaelic Football, and 4 Irish Basketball Intervarsity medals and was a member of the Colleges All-Stars Basketball team this year. Is í seo an chead bhliain ar fhoireann na Sóisear di.

20. Patricia Mulry, Four Roads. Patricia won a Junior County Championship medal with her Club in 1994 and now holds 2 Connacht Junior Championship medals. Imríonn sí peil agus cispheil.

Cluiche Ceannais na Sinsear

Cúig Chluiche Ceannais is seasca de Chraobhchomórtas na Sinsear atá slánaithe ag Cumann Camógaíochta na nGael i mbliana. Cuireadh tús leis an gcomórtas i 1932, agus crannchur comhoscaite a bhí ann. The first Final was not played until 6 August, 1933, and was played in An Ghaillimh. Ba í Áth Cliath a chéad-bhuaidh Corn Ua Dubhthaigh. An Ghaillimh shares with Áth Cliath the distinction of contesting the first two Finals. It has contested nine Finals in all, four in the thirties, two in the forties, two in the sixties, and its ninth in 1993. Tá súil ag muintir na Gaillimhe go mbeidh ainm an chontae inscríobtha ar Chorn Ua Dubhthaigh don chéad uair ariamh i mbliana.

Corcaigh, on the other hand, has contested thirty Finals and won the first of its seventeen titles on its first appearance in 1934. Corcaigh went on to win the 1935 and '36 Finals, thus becoming the first county to win three-in-a-row. Dheineadar amhlaidh idir 1939 agus '41, agus bhuadar ceithre cinn as a chéile idir 1970 agus '73. Aontroim also won three-in-a-row between 1945 and '47, while Cill Chainnigh won seven-in-a-row between 1985 and '91.

Is ag Áth Cliath, áfach, atá tús áite i gCraobhchomórtas na Sinsear agus an corn buaite sé uair is fiche aici.

Áth Cliath holds a remarkable record in the Senior Championship. It achieved three-in-a-row between 1942 and '44,

eight-in-a-row between 1948 and '55, while ten consecutive titles went to the county between 1957 and 1966. Aontroim a chuir deireadh leis an ré órga seo i 1967 taréis comhscór a bheith ann sa chéad chluiche.

The Final has ended in a draw on only four occasions, and Corcaigh was involved in three of those. Áth Cliath defeated Corcaigh in the first replay in 1942. Aontroim defeated Áth Cliath in the second one in 1967, while Corcaigh defeated Luimneach in 1980 but lost to Cill Chainnigh in 1981.

Corcaigh is, today, defending its title, having defeated Cill Chainnigh in 1995, and is meeting An Ghaillimh for the fourth time in the Senior final. Casadh ar a chéile don chéad uair i 1939 iad. Bhaineadar an Cluiche Ceannais amach arís i 1940, agus níor casadh ar a chéile arís iad go dtí 1993.

They have met in a Final already in 1996, that of the Senior National League, with Corcaigh winning its sixth League title. An Ghaillimh won its first and only Senior title when it defeated Tiobraid Árann in the League Final of 1994.

While Corcaigh is ahead of An Ghaillimh in terms of Senior titles, An Ghaillimh leads Corcaigh in the Junior Championship Roll of Honour. It holds five titles, one more than Corcaigh. It also holds five Minor Championship titles, three less than Corcaigh. Corcaigh last won the Junior and Minor in 1984 and 1985, respectively, while An Ghaillimh has been to the fore more recently at these levels. It won both titles in 1994. N'fheadar cad a thitfidh amach inniu? An mbeidh an dá Chraobh ag dul abhaile go Corcaigh, nó an mbeidh an dá cheann i seilbh Chúige Connacht?

Na Cluichí Leathcheannais, 1996

Corcaigh	1-13	Cill Chainnigh	0-11
An Ghaillimh	1-13	Loch Garman	1-05

Giotaí Eolais

Corcaigh agus An Ghaillimh i gCraobhchomórtas na Sinsear

Either Corcaigh nó An Ghaillimh contested the first twelve All-Ireland Senior Championship Finals. Ba ag An nGaillimh a bhí tús áite agus í pairteach sa chéad Chluiche Ceannais i 1932. That first All-Ireland Final, following the Open Draw Championship of 1932, actually took place in 1933 at a Galway venue.

An Ghaillimh lost the first two Finals to Áth Cliath. Corcaigh won the next three Finals, defeating An Lú, Áth Cliath agus An Lú, respectively. Both counties then lost to Áth Cliath before they met for the first time in 1939. Casadh ar a chéile arís iad i 1940, agus ba ag muintir Chorcaí a bhí an bua ar an dá ócáid sin. They were not to meet again until 1993 and, again, foireann Chorcaí was victorious.

Páire an Chrócaigh agus na Cluichí Ceannais

In 1937, An Ghaillimh agus Áth Cliath contested the first Final to be played in Páirc an Chrócaigh. Five further Finals were played at this venue between then and 1948. Since 1950, all of the Finals have been played in Páirc an Chrócaigh, today's Final being the fifty-third one. Gabhtar fíor-bhuíochas le Cumann Lúthchleas Gael, sean-chairde ó chianailbh linn.

Sinsear agus Sóisear

Cuireadh tús le Craobhchomórtas na Sóisear i 1968. An Dún agus Corcaigh a bhí in fomaíocht lena chéile sa chéad Chluiche Ceannais, agus ba ag An Dún a bhí an bua.

Corcaigh is the only county to win the Senior and Junior double, a feat achieved in 1973, 1980 and 1983.

An Ghaillimh is one of the only two other counties to reach both Finals in the same year. On its last meeting with Corcaigh in the Senior Final in 1993, its Junior team met Ardmhacha. A replay was required before Ardmhacha won the title. Both Senior and Junior titles were won by a margin of ten points.

Sinsear: Corcaigh 3-15; An Ghaillimh 2-8.

Sóisear (Ardchluiche): Ardmhacha 2-10;

An Ghaillimh 0-6.

An chéad Chluiche: 3-9 acu araon.

Ba é Áth Cliath an contae eile a bhain an dá Chluiche Ceannais amach sa bhliain chéanna. As it happened, Corcaigh provided the

opposition in both Finals. As it also happened, there was a two-point margin, with almost identical scorelines, in favour of Corcaigh in both games.

Sinsear: Corcaigh 2-5; Áth Cliath 1-6.

Sóisear: Corcaigh 2-5; Áth Cliath 2-3.

Ré Nua do Chúige Connacht

For the first time, Cúige Connacht is contesting both the Senior and Junior Finals in the same year with teams from different counties. An Ghaillimh is seeking its first Senior Championship title, while Roscomáin is seeking its first Junior Championship title and, indeed, its first national Inter-County title at any level. Ba mhór ag muintir an iarthair é an dá chom a bhreith abhaile leo.

Foireann na Gaillimhe, 1932,

agus Foireann Chorcaí, 1934.

(Mar a bhí curtha ar pháir ag Pádraig Páirséil)

An Ghaillimh

Bridie Murray (Tech); Kitty Hynes (Headford); Nora Conroy (Tech); Peg Lahiffe (Kilbeacanty); Nora Henahan (Tuam); Una O'Riordan (U.C.G.)

Peggy Morris (Headford) Captaen

Dell Kearney (Currandrum); Sheila Belton (Tech); Brid O'Beirne (U.C.G.); Kathleen Walshe (Tuam); Rita Cosgrave (U.C.G.)

Corcaigh

N. Clarke (Hillside); M. Cotter (Foireann Chliodhna); E. Staunton (Muskerry); L. Delaney (Hillside); K. McCarthy (Lee Hosiery); M. Ó Hea (Foireann Chliodhna); Lil Kirby (Foireann Chliodhna); M. McCarthy (Mayfield).

Kitty Delea (Muskerry) Captaen

M. Kenneally (Columban's); B. Riordan (Mayfield); J. McGrath (St. Aloysius).

Beannachtai ar an ócáid iontach seo

Chomhairle Liathróid Láimhe na mBan

a bhfuil
Cúig Bhliain is Fíche
á gceiliúradh aici, agus i ag fás.

World and National
Champions also play Camogie

Deireadh Ré do Bheirt a Bhain le Ré órga Átha Cliath



Two outstanding and legendary figures were lost to Cumann Camógaíochta na nGael and to Áth Cliath, in particular, with the deaths during the year of Kay Mills and Sophia Bruck.

Bhaineadar beirt le Cumann C.I.E., Áth Cliath, agus tharraingfodar clú agus cáil ar an gClub agus ar an gContae le linn dóibh bheith ag imirt.

Kay Mills, who first played for Áth Cliath in 1941, won a record fifteen All-Ireland Senior Championship medals. She won her first in 1942 and her last in 1961.

Imreoir den chéad scoth a bhí inti.

Suaimhneas siorraí go raibh acu beirt

Sadhbh Ní Bhric began her playing career with Áth Cliath in 1947 and went on to win eight All-Ireland Senior medals. Those medals were won in consecutive years from 1948 to 1955.

Having accepted Corn Ua Dubhthaigh on six occasions on behalf of Áth Cliath, Sophia holds the record as the player to captain the greatest number of All-Ireland winning teams. Maraon le Kay, sár-imreoir a bhí inti.

Kay and Sophie helped to bring further honour to C.I.E. when, in 1948, the Club represented Áth Cliath and won Corn Ua Dubhthaigh. It is the only club to have achieved this feat.



Cumann na mBunscol

Tá áthas mór ar Chumann na mBunscol Átha Cliath páirt a ghlacadh arís i lá mór na Camógaíochta.

Tá dul chun cinn suntasach á dhéanamh ag an gCamógaíocht i mbunscoileanna na cathrach, agus ghlac cúig fhoireann is seasca páirt ins na comórtais éagsúla anuraidh.

Bliain faoi leith i seo do na "Mini-Sevens" a bhfuil deich mbliana ar an saol á gceiliúradh acu.

Bhí caighdeán na Camógaíochta ag Cluicí Ceannais Iomána na hÉireann an-ard i mbliana agus bhain an slua mór an taitneamh go deo aisti.

Na Foirne

CORCAIGH

1. Jennifer Carroll, Scoil na Tríonóide, Domhnach Mide
2. Deirdre McLoughlin, Scoil Léan, Port Mearmóg
3. Lisa Rea, Scoil an Easpag Ó Gualbháin, Teach Mealg
4. Ruth Madigan, Scoil Loreto, Rath Feamain
5. Ciara Lacey, Scoil Cholmcille, Cnoc an Liatháin
6. Orla Brennan, Scoil Bhríde, Baile Bhlainéir
7. Louise Parker, S.F.X., An Cúl Mór

AN GHAILLIMH

1. Donna Byrne, Droichead Óran, Inse Chóir
2. Neasa Byrnes, Scoil Philib, Chrain Sailleach
3. Lisa Ryan, Scoil Bhríde, Caisleán Croca
4. Aisling Higgins, Scoil Fhiachra, Beaumont
5. Ciara Dully, Scoil Mheamóg, Port Mearmóg
6. Marianne Brennan, Scoil N. Uinsinn, Muirinne
7. Bronagh McAnille, Scoil Mhaolruáin, Tamhlacht

Ba onóir mhór dúinn é gur bhuail An t-Uachtarán, Máire Bean Mhic Róibín, leis na páistí roimh an cluiche.



Scileanna na Camógaíochta á dtaispeáint sa mhion-chluiche ar ócáid Chluichí Ceannais na hÉireann san Iománaíocht.

Gilligan's goals give Galway All-Ireland win

THE Galway team sang all the way to Croke Park for yesterday's All-Ireland camogie final, sponsored by Bord Na Gaeilge, so, having finally lifted the ultimate prize after their long drought, it is almost impossible to imagine how they celebrated on their way home.

This was a tension-filled game on a beautiful afternoon which attracted an attendance of 10,235. There was more than a fair share of skill, with two goals in as many minutes just after the break turning the match firmly in the west-erners' favour. Martina Harkin and Denise Gilligan got those vital scores.

Eighteen-year-old Gilligan had also beaten Cork goalkeeper Kathleen Costine just before the break to give her side the confidence to face the second half. All the strikes were worthy of the occasion.

But Cork, as ever, displayed their never-say-die attitude and had the opportunity to save the day. However, wides in the final 10 minutes by the normally reliable Fiona O'Driscoll and Lynn Dunlea proved costly. Indeed Cork were left to rue the lack of the advantage rule in camogie as on several occasions frees were awarded when the Leesiders were bearing down on goal. Referee Aine Derham of Dublin had no option but to stop play. Sadly for Cork they failed to take full advantage and finally went down by two points.

But there was no denying Galway their victory. "I knew that if we were below six points behind them at the break that we would win the All-Ireland," the delighted Galway captain Imelda Hobbins said from beneath a posse of autograph hunters from her home club of Mullagh. "Those goals just after the break were an almighty boost for us."

Hero of the hour, Gilligan was surprisingly low-key about the whole affair but remarked: "I can't believe it. I thought the final whistle would never go. When Cork were ahead we knew we had it all to play for. But in the second half we got in front of the backs and that was the difference. We were also playing the ball in low to the forwards."

Galway started off as if they meant business, with midfielder

GALWAY..... 4-8
CORK 1-15

Kathryn Davis

Sharon Glynn pointing from a free within a minute. For some reason the score was not recorded, but coach Tony Ward had clarified with referee Derham that the point stood. However, the players were unaware that the score was actually closer than that displayed.

Shortly after scoring, Glynn took a blow to the head which affected her for long periods, particularly in the opening half, with her accuracy deserting her. Her long pucks from midfield frequently went wide, and Galway had five wides in the opening 30 minutes.

Cork, on the other hand, were taking their frees with deadly accuracy. They edged ahead 0-5 to 0-4 by the 20th minute, with all their scores coming from frees as Dunlea and O'Driscoll displayed their accuracy.

Cork must have thought that the game was theirs for the taking when Dunlea displayed remarkable persistence in shaking off the attentions of Olive Costello to put her side ahead 1-7 to 0-4.

Indeed it looked desperate for Galway as Cork stretched away to lead by seven points, 1-9 to 0-5, and Costine twice denied Veronica Curtin with the half-time whistle beckoning. But Cork had reckoned without Gilligan.

A long ball from Glynn found Gilligan and while Costine did save the first effort the left forward was not to be denied and Galway went in three points in arrears, 1-9 to 1-6.

An early score in the second half was vital if Galway were to become the sixth county to put their name on to the O'Duffy Cup and Gilligan again came up trumps with Glynn again the provider. Two minutes later Gilligan was also involved in the move that saw the winners edge in front when she found Harkin. Costine again saved but Harkin retained her composure to find the net. Galway now led by 3-6 to 1-9.

They set about consolidating their position, and Glynn pointed from a 30. A further goal from Dymphna Maher, who was another to display remarkable coolness

under pressure, made the Cork task that much more difficult, although they still had 18 minutes to retrieve their title.

O'Driscoll and Dunlea did reduce the margin to four points, 4-8 to 1-13. Glynn added the extra Galway point with 12 minutes on the clock. Cork then went in search of those vital scores and forced the necessary frees but the unerring accuracy which was a feature of their early display was sadly lacking as they amassed wides.

Dunlea did give the winners moments of anxiety right at the end when she pointed twice one from a placed ball to leave the victory margin only two points.

Afterwards Cork captain Therese O'Callaghan, who played with heavy strapping due to an Achilles tendon injury which saw her substituted after 55 minutes, said: "We did not take the breaks and they controlled the game in the second half, with those early goals after the break vital."

Cork centre back Sandie Fitzgibbon, who held the Cork defence together in the opening period was magnanimous in her praise of the victors. "Fair play to them, they took their goals well. We had opportunities and did not take them," she said.

GALWAY: L Curry; O Costello; A Broderick, O Broderick, P Nevin; D Maher (1-0), S Glynn (0-5, 0-4 from frees, 0-1 from 30), C Hannon; M Harkin (1-1), I Hobbins (Capt) (0-1), D Gilligan (2-0); V Curtin (0-1). Subs: C Allen for O Broderick, 31 mins; G Maher for Hannon, 34 mins.

CORK: K Costin; E Duggan; P Goggins, S Fitzgibbon, M Finn; T O'Callaghan, V Harris, L Mellerick (0-1); D Cronin, M O'Connor (0-1), F O'Driscoll (0-4, 0-3 from frees); L Dunlea (1-9, 0-6 from frees, 0-1 from 30). Subs: S Dunlea for O'Connor, 35 mins; M Deasy for Goggins, 40 mins; J O'Keefe for O'Callaghan 55 mins.

Referee: A Derham (Dublin).

TODAY'S DIARY

GREYHOUND RACING — Shelbourne Park, 8.0.
RACING — Lismore 2.30, Leicester 2.15, Musselburgh 2.0.
SOCCER — National League Reserve Division — Shamrock Rovers v Home Farm/Everton, Whitehall, 7.45.



Galway forwards Veronica Curtin and Martina Harkin steer the sliotar away from Cork's Sandie Fitzgibbon and Denise Cronin in yesterday's All-Ireland camogie final at Croke Park. — (Photograph: Moya Nolan).

Cork class takes junior title

CORK..... 6-5
ROSCOMMON..... 2-7

Kathryn Davis

Jones. Indeed they kept Cork scoreless for some 13 minutes of the opening half. Cork always looked as if they would open up at any time and their second goal, a neat sideline ball by Colette Cronin helped into the net by Eileen Buckley, was an indication of their class. But Roscommon with Caroline Connaughton leading by example from the back kept the score down to manageable proportions.

Up front Maebh Healy displayed predatory instincts when following up a Hilary Hussey shot

to leave Roscommon only three points down by the break, 2-2 to 1-3.

But 41 seconds into the second half the roof came down on the Roscommon challenge with Sinead O'Callaghan finding a way past Ursula Hussey. Five minutes later another goal saw Kenefick strike again after a move started by Buckley and the task looked impossible with the score standing at 4-3 to 1-4.

Suddenly the defence which had looked so solid in the opening 30 minutes began to collapse as Cork found gaps behind the defenders. Kenefick got another goal and not even the ploy of bringing goalkeeper Ursula Hussey up to attack could turn the tide. But Hussey could not be

held responsible for any of the goals. Cork on the day just had too much fire power.

Healy did get her second goal but that was cancelled out by a finely executed effort by Hilda Kenneally just on the stroke of full-time as Cork took the junior title again to gain a measure for the loss suffered by their seniors.

CORK: L Nolan, E Dineen, A Delworth, C Cronin, T Doyle, H Kenneally (1-0), E Buckley (1-0), S Cahalane (1-2, 0-2 from frees), S O'Callaghan (1-2), A O'Connell, M Kenefick (3-0), L O'Sullivan (0-1). Substitutes: E Healy for Dineen in 29th minute.

ROSCOMMON: U Hussey (0-3 free), C Connaughton, E Farrell, C Kenny, T Carly, K Jones (0-4 from frees), H Hussey, O Cooney, D Carr (0-1 from 30), M Graham, M Healy (0-1), D Gannon. Substitutes: M Byrne for H Hussey in 34th minute, M Nagle for Jones in 56th minute, E Mannin for Carr in 59th minute.

Referee: F M Clonough (Armagh)

Golden girl Denise gets carried away

THE women of Galway created sporting history at Croke Park yesterday by defeating holders Cork to win their first All-Ireland Senior Camogie title.

Playing in their tenth final since 1933, Galway took their place in the sun after a second-half goal-rush helped them pip Cork by two points, 4-8 to 1-15, in a tremendously exciting encounter.

And in scenes reminiscent of those which prevailed after great wins by Clare and Wexford in recent times, joy was unconfined at the final whistle as the Galway players, to a woman, were mobbed on the pitch by their ecstatic supporters among an attendance of 10,235.

Galway's two-goal heroine, Denise Gilligan 18, from Craughwell, is pictured here being swamped by joyous well-wishers at the final whistle. "I can't believe that we've won it. It feels unbelievable. I thought the final whistle would never go but the feeling now is just fantastic," she said.



Galway girls end years of heartbreak

by Tony Leen

CROKE PARK housed another momentous sporting celebration yesterday as Galway's camogie players lifted their first senior All-Ireland title — after 10 final losses and 80 years of heartbreak.

And if the county's minor hurlers can overcome Tipperary next Sunday in their replayed All-Ireland, it will give the county four championship titles this year, with the under-21 and junior All-Irelands already secured.

Eleven pages of the country's best sports coverage: Pages 13-23

The camogie heroines laid Cork low with four quick goals either side of half time, before over 10,000 fans at Croke Park.

The victory was a major shock to reigning champions Cork, who had soundly defeated their opponents in the League final.

Galway manager Tony Ward said: "I remember that day in Páirc Uí Rinn when Cork beat us by 15

points. I took no notice of that result. We had nothing done at the time, whereas Cork were flying.

"I told our girls we would come back and beat them in the All-Ireland, I could see the look of concern on a lot of their faces. I don't think they believed me.

"It's a dream for me. As a young fellow I always wanted to play in Croke Park, but it never hap-

pened. But to lead a Galway team and win the All-Ireland for the first time is fantastic."

Elsewhere in GAA, Ballygunner won the Waterford SHC title, while Avondhu and Imokilly must meet again after drawing in the Cork hurling final.

The Formula One world title battle will go down to the final race in Japan in three weeks time after Jacques Villeneuve stormed to victory over Damon Hill in Estoril yesterday. Hill needs just one point there to take the championship.

Tribeswomen take the All-Ireland senior camogie title after sparkling performance

Inspirational Galway get their reward

Galway 4-8
Cork 1-15

by Jim O'Sullivan

IT has taken 64 years and 10 attempts, but, at last Galway are the All-Ireland senior camogie champions.

A frenzied scoring burst which produced three goals in a seven-minute period at the start of the second half in Croke Park yesterday demoralised favourites Cork, who had been superior up to then. And, combined with some excellent defensive play over the last quarter, it inspired a deserved victory.

Achieved with just four of the side which had lost to Cork in the 1993 decider, and seven players who won junior medals the following year, it was a reward not merely for the endeavours of the current side but for all past players who had helped keep the game alive in the West. Former coach Cyril Farrell was present to share in the celebrations, and, fittingly another Galway man, GAA President Joe McDonagh was the official representative.

It was a game that was notable for several features, initially Cork's polished play in defence, with Sandy Fitzgibbon playing a masterly role, then Galway's storming play after the break, which saw them wipe out a three point deficit to go six points clear. Finally, there was a typical last-ditch response from holders Cork which narrowly failed because of wasted opportunities.

Galway, who had a wind advantage at the start, struggled for scores in the opening 15 minutes. Interestingly, however, they were a point better off all through the half than they realised because of a misunderstanding over an opening score from the influential Sharon Glynn which had been waved wide. In real terms, the sides were level at 0-3 by the 13th minute, when Galway could have been in front by a few points but for poor finishing.

Cork were a little slow to settle, but, once Sandy Fitzgibbon in the centre and Eithne Duggan at full-back got on top, the three midfielders started to win more possession. And, as the game developed, the Cork forwards were much more successful in creating openings. Mary O'Connor was especially prominent in the centre and

full-forward and Lynn Dunlea always looked threatening — demonstrating this with a fine goal in the 21st minute after turning the full-back and racing away from her.

Galway were continuing to struggle at this. However, they received a boost just before the break when left corner-forward Denise Gilligan ran on to a long ball from Sharon Glynn and scored with a low shot which keeper Kathleen Costine had no chance of stopping. It left the score 1-9 to 1-6 in Cork's favour, but it was Galway who resumed the more confident side.

The first indication of a Galway recovery could be seen in the improvement brought to the half-back line following the introduction of Carmel Allen. More significantly, all over the field the Galway players were playing with greater self-assurance, making space for themselves much more easily, and, most important of all, maximising attacking chances.

It was speedy Denise Gilligan from the Craughwell club who brought them level with a marvellous 33rd minute goal and, in less than two minutes, Martina Harkin again had the ball in the net, after she had been at the end of a great move. And then, as if to emphasise their new-found confidence, outstanding goalkeeper Louise Curry brought off a vital save from Lynn Dunlea. At this stage, only two points separated the sides, but Galway had managed such a major transformation in their play that Cork were simply overwhelmed.

After a fourth goal in the 43rd minute, Galway were only to add one more point to their match total. Yet, they coped very well in defence, while at the same time remaining dangerous on the break-away.

Scorers: Galway: D. Gilligan 2-0; S. Glynn 0-5 (0-4 frees); M. Harkin 1-1; D. Maher 1-0; L. Hobbins and V. Curtin 0-1 each. Cork: L. Dunlea 1-9 (0-8 frees); F. O'Driscoll 0-4 frees; M. O'Connor and L. Mellerick 0-1 each. GALWAY: L. Curry; O. Costello, A. Broderick, D. Broderick, P. Nevin; D. Maher, S. Glynn, C. Hannon; M. Harkin, L. Hobbins, D. Gilligan; V. Curtin. Subs: C. Allen for D. Broderick (31st minute); D. Maher for C. Hannon (38th).

CORK: K. Costine; E. Duggan, P. Goggins, S. Fitzgibbon, M. Finn; T. O'Callaghan, V. Harris, L. Mellerick; D. Cronin, M. O'Connor, F. O'Driscoll; L. Dunlea. Subs: S. Dunlea for M. O'Connor (38th minute); M. Deasy for P. Goggins (41st); L. O'Keefe for T. O'Callaghan (45th).

Referee: Aine Graham (Dublin). The attendance was 10,235.



Cork captain Therese O'Callaghan, breaks away from Galway's Pamela Nevin and Dymna Maher in yesterday's senior camogie final at Croke Park. Picture: Billy Higgins

Gallant Galway create camogie history

by T. P. O'Mahony

THE O'Duffy Cup, the premier trophy in camogie, will go tonight where it never went before — across the Shannon — thanks to twelve gallant women from Galway.

Against all the odds, they boldly did what no other Galway team has done in the history of camogie — win the All Ireland Senior title.

In doing so they dethroned the holders, Cork, by 4-8 to 1-15 before a crowd of 10,200 at Croke Park.

Galway captain Imelda Hobbins said the occasion was "an unforgettable one", and was made all the sweeter by virtue of the fact that in beating Cork they had made camogie history.

Afterwards — outside Quinn's Bar on Drumcondra Road — the victors danced in the street amid a flurry of maroon and white flags.

They could hardly contain their delight on a day when few pundits gave them any chance against a Cork team chasing its 18th All Ireland senior title.

When the Galway girls celebrated on one side of Quinn's Bar — just up the road from Croke Park — the dejected Cork girls gathered in another section trying to come to terms with a shock defeat.

"We never really got it together on the day, and we missed crucial chances, especially from frees" said Treacy Sheehan, secretary of the Cork Co. Camogie Board.

It was a particularly sad occasion for Therese O'Callaghan of Glen Rovers. Yesterday was the third time she cap-

tained a losing Cork team in a Senior All-Ireland Camogie final.

There was some consolation yesterday for Cork, however, because the juniors had decisive victory over Roscommon (6-5 to 2-7).

All four teams will travel home this evening after attending a lunch at the Berkeley Court Hotel and watching a video of the two finals.

The Cork teams are due to arrive at Kent Station off the 5.30pm train and will parade through the city to a civic reception at the Imperial Hotel.

Galway victory is a 'great boost for camogie in the county'

by Jim O'Sullivan

"I REMEMBERED hearing something like this before." Here was the jubilant manager of the Galway camogie team recalling how he had told his players in the dressingroom after they had lost heavily in the league final to Cork that they would win the All-Ireland. The story was told by Ger Loughnane this time last year.

Tony Ward, an All-Ireland club medal-winner as a substitute with Sarsfield's a few years ago, insisted that he never doubted his team had the ability to win through. "I remem-

ber that day in Páirc Uí Rinn in the final of the league when Cork beat us by 15 points. I took no notice of that result. We had nothing done at the time, whereas Cork were flying.

"I told them we would come back and beat them in the All-Ireland. I could see the look of concern on a lot of their faces. I don't think they believed me.

"The goal we got at half-time gave us a great lift. And, when I went into the dressingroom, I told the players that they were only three points down. They thought it was four, but the scoreboard was wrong. I won't tell you what I said to them in the dressing-

room. It was just as well that the Pope or any priests weren't around. "It's unbelievable, almost like a dream. It's certainly a dream for me personally. As a young fellow I always wanted to play in Croke Park, but it never happened. But to lead a Galway team and win the All-Ireland for the first time is absolutely fantastic.

"We were very confident after we beat Wexford in the semi-final. The backs did very well, and we worked very hard on our shooting. I knew there was always one really good performance in the attack, and we got it into the second half. It's all about

goals. And, once they went in, Cork weren't going to come back."

Selector Midge Kennedy, a Galway player from 1977 to 1991 and sister of team captain Imelda Hobbins, described it as "the happiest day of her camogie life. Our team is very young. This was only their second Croke Park appearance. They needed the first half to settle and once they did I knew they could win the game. But, it was still never-wracking at the end. Our backs were under a lot of pressure and gave away some frees at critical times. But, strangely, Cork didn't take advantage of them. We have been a long time

waiting," said an over-joyed Imelda. "It's a fantastic feeling, especially to come back three years after Cork had beaten us.

"We did not even think of the league final defeat in the build-up to the final, because we knew we had nothing done at the time. I think Cork will understand how we feel. They were a long time looking at Kilkenny and we were a long time looking at Cork. They are still a fantastic team. But, we were just better on the day." Key midfielder player Sharon Glynn revealed that she has suffered from blurred vision early in the game, after receiving an accidental

knock on the side of her head. "I remember one time I asked for the ball and when I put my hand down, it passed me by. But it was never going to stop me from continuing." Goal-keeper Louise Curry conceded that it was "a bit scary" near the end. Rescued from Lynn Dunlea, she explained that she would have had no chance if the ball was hit to the corner. "I just managed to get my legs behind it. The bruises will heal.

Former coach Cyril Farrell described the team's victory as "a great boost" for Galway camogie.



Cork's Antoinette O'Connell breaks away from two Roscommon defenders in yesterday's all-Ireland junior camogie final at Croke Park. Picture: Billy Higgins

Super second-half display wins junior title for Cork

Cork	6-5
Roscommon	2-7

by Tom Higgins

A SUPERB second-half display helped Cork take the junior title when they defeated Roscommon in Croke Park yesterday.

When Cork played with the wind in the first half and could only turn over leading by two points, 2-2 to 1-3, they looked to be in trouble.

But in the second period, when playing against the elements, Cork really showed their true form.

They began to play the ball out of defence on the ground and this worked a treat — their forwards began to pick off some excellent scores.

Roscommon played some excellent camogie in the opening half — with Caroline Connaughton and Hillary Hussey playing well at midfield, the Roscommon forwards were getting a good supply of ball.

Those forwards, however, found it difficult to get through a strong Cork defence — goalkeeper Leona Nolan, in particular, did some great work.

Eileen Buckley set up Mary Kennefick for her first goal in the third minute and Cork were out in front. Roscommon drew level in the fifth minute.

Cork looked in control when they had their second major score in the 24th minute when Linda O'Sullivan found Eileen Buckley loose on the corner of the square — she

gave Ursula Hussey no chance to leave it 2-2 to 0-3 in Cork favour.

But Roscommon hit a purple patch before the break and Maedhbh Healy forced a ball home to even things up a bit.

On the turnover Cork really showed their class and goals by captain Antoinette O'Connell and Linda O'Sullivan put the Leesiders on the high road to victory.

Scorers — Cork: M Kennefick 3-0, H Kennefick 1-0, E Buckley 1-0, A O'Connell 1-0, S Cahalane 0-3, S O'Callaghan 0-2. Roscommon: M Healy 2-1, G Carr 0-3, K Jones 0-2, U Hussey 0-1.

CORK: L Nolan; E Dineen; A Dilworth, C Cronin, T Doyle; H Kennefick, E Buckley, S Cahalane; S O'Callaghan, A O'Connell, M Kennefick; L O'Sullivan.

ROSCOMMON: U Hussey; C Connaughton, T Carty; K Jones, H Hussey, C Gannon; G Carr, M Grehan, M Healy; M Gannon.



HOLDING ON . . . Therese O'Callaghan of Cork loses her hurley but holds onto the sliotar during yesterday's senior camogie final. Pic: Jim O'Kelly.

Galway's

Goal blitz gives Tribeswomen their first title

crowning

glory

GALWAY.....4-8 CORK..... 1-15
CONNACHT camogie came of age in style at Croke Park yesterday as Galway defeated reigning champions Cork to win their first ever Bord Na Gaeilge All-Ireland senior title.

A sixty-three year famine ended in glorious fashion as three goals in a blistering eight minute spell during the third quarter set Galway up for this sweetest of victories.

This was Galway's first success in ten senior final appearances. But how they had to struggle during the nail-biting final minutes to fend off never-say-die Cork and ensure that the O'Duffy Cup crosses the Shannon for the first time.

There to witness this latest breakthrough for Galway was recently-appointed senior hurling boss, Cyril Farrell. "It's a fantastic breakthrough for the game after substantial success at under-age level in recent years," said a thrilled Farrell who has been at the helm of the revival in the code at St Raphael's Loughrea.

Galway looked set to coast to an emphatic success when Dymphna Maher fielded an astute cross from Martina Harkin to rattle home their fourth goal ten minutes after the interval.

That goal left Galway coasting 4-7 to 1-10 but a point from one of their many heroes, midfielder Sharon Glynn, (who battled bravely despite an eye injury) two minutes later proved to be their final score as Cork came roaring back.

The Rebel county had the opportunities to complete a famous comeback — but they failed to take advantage of four late scoreable frees and paid the ultimate price.

"If we'd taken our chances with the frees we might have done it. But that's not to begrudge Galway their first All-Ireland. We were half asleep in the third quarter and they punished us," said Cork's out-standing centre-back, Sandie Fitzgibbon afterwards.

Things had looked so different for Cork during a first-half which they largely controlled.

With Fitzgibbon leading by example, they withstood Galway's bright opening and led 0-5 to 0-4 after 19 minutes before hitting a purple patch.

Their forwards suddenly began to click as a unit. Mary O'Connor grabbed the holders' first point from play and Galway were reeling when Lynn Dunlea shook off the attentions of her marker to palm home the opening goal after 22 minutes.

Further points from Dunlea, Fiona O'Driscoll (both from frees) and another from Linda Mellerick stretched their lead to seven points.

Galway were in dire need of inspiration before the break and it came when two-goal hero Deirdre Gilligan, fastened onto a huge delivery from Glynn to fire home at the second attempt, reducing the half-time arrears to 1-9 to 1-6.

FORWARDS DELIVER

"We knew if we were anything less than six points down at half-time that we could do it. We hadn't played to our potential up front but felt our forwards would deliver," said captain, Imelda Hobbins afterwards.

And deliver the forwards certainly did in what proved a pulsating second half. Gilligan again stole onto another great delivery from Glynn to first-time home a spectacular second Galway goal after 32 minutes and Cork had barely time to digest that blow when Martina Harkin palmed home number three 90 seconds later.

There were goal chances at both ends as the stop-start nature of the first-half was forgotten in what proved to be a memorable second period.

Maher's fourth goal for Galway seemed to have them coasting but pointed

SENIOR CAMOGIE FINAL



By John Taylor

frees from O'Driscoll and Dunlea (twice) left Cork just four points behind with 12 minutes remaining.

Galway's defence, with Olive Costello majestic at full-back, came under tremendous pressure during the hectic climax. But Cork frittered away four vital chances from placed balls and two late frees from Dunlea left them a tantalising two points adrift at the final whistle.

Galway manager, Tony Ward, was the picture of happiness as he summed his side's success at the end. "This is a dream come true for the team and for me. A lot of hard work has gone in since 1993 but even though we lost the League Final to a flying Cork team in June, I felt confident afterwards and told them that we could come back and win the All-Ireland."

SCORERS — Galway: D. Gilligan 2-0, M. Harkin 1-1, S. Glynn 0-5 (4 f, 1 30), D. Maher 1-0, I. Hobbins and V. Curran 0-1 each. Cork: L. Dunlea 1-9 (0-8), F. O'Driscoll 0-4, M. O'Connor and L. Mellerick 0-1 each.

GALWAY — L. Curry, O. Costello, A. Broderick, O. Broderick, P. Nevin, D. Maher, S. Glynn, C. Hannon, M. Harkin, I. Hobbins, D. Gilligan, V. Curran. **Subs:** C. Allen for O. Broderick (31 mins), G. Maher for Hannon (34 mins).

CORK — K. Costello, E. Duggan, P. Goggins, S. Fitzgibbon, M. Finn, T. O'Callaghan, V. Harris, L. Mellerick, D. Cronin, M. O'Connor, F. O'Driscoll, L. Dunlea. **Subs:** S. Dunlea for O'Connor (36 mins), M. Dwyer for Goggins (40 mins), I. O'Keefe for O'Callaghan (55 mins).

REF — Ann Derham (Dublin).



CELEBRATION TIME . . . delighted Galway captain Imelda Hobbins raises the O'Duffy Cup aloft their historic victory at Croke Park yesterday

Pic: Jim O'Kelly



ON THE RUN . . . Cork's star forward Lynn Dunlea bursts past Galway defenders Olivia Broderick and Olive Costello during yesterday's thrilling final at Croke Park. Pic: Jim O'Kelly

Kenefick scores a hat-trick as Cork juniors go on goal spree

CORK.....6-5
ROSCOMMON.....2-7

THERE was some compensation for Cork's camogie supporters at Croke Park yesterday as their junior team went on a goal spree against Roscommon to win their fifth All-Ireland Junior title.

Cork's three-goal-hero, Mark Kenefick ensured that Roscommon, who lost by just one point to Limerick in last year's decider, had to endure further heart-break at headquarters.

The Westerners were well in contention right up to the interval by which time they trailed by just two points, 2-2 to 1-3.

However, two goals in a four minute spell after the break from Sinead O'Callaghan and Kenefick suddenly saw Cork ease into an eight-point lead and there was to be no way back for Roscommon.

DEFENSIVE HESITANCY

Kenefick availed of defensive hesitancy to score Cork's opening goal after four minutes. Sinead O'Callaghan weighed in with two classy points and towards the end of a generally scrappy opening half, Kenefick stuck again by rounding off a slick passing movement involving Colette Cro-

JOHN TAYLOR REPORTS

nin and Linda O'Sullivan to palm home goal number two.

That put Cork 2-2 to 0-3 in front but Maedbh Healy gave Roscommon renewed hope by pouncing to tuck home their first goal just before the interval after Hillary Hussey's effort was parried by Cork 'keeper, Leona Nolan.

The two goals early in the third quarter took the wind completely from Roscommon's sails. They could only muster three points from frees by Karina Jones before Linda O'Sullivan superb cross picked out Kenefick who completed her hat-trick eight minutes from time.

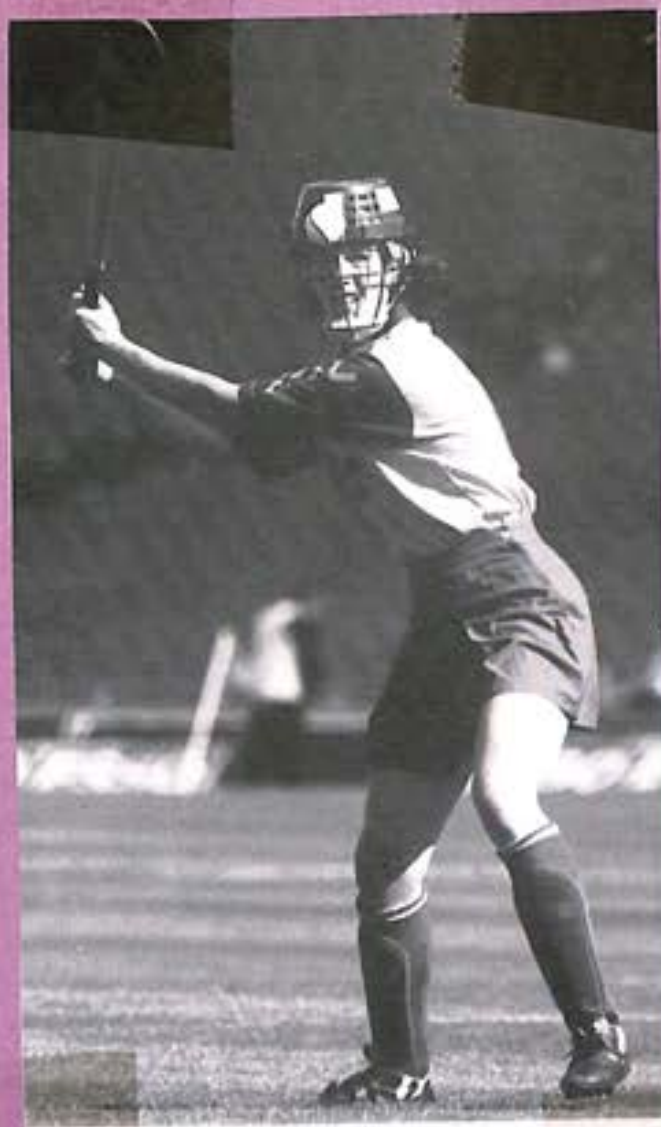
There was still time for Roscommon's Healy to blast home perhaps the best goal of the day but rampant Cork were home and dry before Hilda Kenneally put the icing on the cake with the winners final goal two minutes from time.

SCORERS — Cork: M Kenefick 3-0, S O'Callaghan 1-2, E Buckley 1-0, H Kenneally 1-0, S Cahalane 0-2, L O'Sullivan 0-1. Roscommon: M Healy 2-1, K Jones 0-4, G Carr 0-1, U Hussey 0-1.

CORK — L Nolan, E Dineen, A O'Leary, C Cronin, T Doyle, H Kenneally, E Buckley, S Cahalane, S O'Callaghan, A O'Connell, M Kenefick, L O'Sullivan. Sub: E Healy for Dineen (29 mins).

ROSCOMMON — U Hussey, C Connaughton, E Farrell, C Kenny, T Carty, K Jones, H Hussey, C Cooney, G Carr, M Graham, M Healy, M Gannon.

REF — Fiona Kenny (Aisling).



Roscommon camogie star Karina Jones demonstrates the art of striking.

Gilligan's goal rush provides inspiration for historic triumph

Galway..... 4-8
Cork..... 1-15

by Brendan Carroll

Sixty three years of knocking on the door and nine losing final appearances were all relegated to the past at Croke Park on Sunday for Galway when they won the All-Ireland senior camogie title in a gripping final clash with champions and hot favourites Cork.

A blistering eight-minute purple patch early in the second half, which produced three superb goals, turned this game on its head and brought Galway from behind to head their opponents by six points. And though they had to endure the tension of a final fifteen minutes during which the Munster champions slowly closed the gap and desperately sought to save their crown, they did enough to ensure they ran out two-point winners in the end.

Heroines there were plenty for Galway, but it was teenager **Denise Gilligan** who proved the key to unlocking the door to success — she grabbed a vital goal in injury time just before the break, at a time when Cork looked to be running away with it, and blasted home another three minutes into the second half to signal the beginning of that great Galway fightback.

It was her instinctive forward play on those two occasions — both chances being created by long deliveries from the lynchpin of the Galway team, **Sharon Glynn** — that in the end meant the winning of the O'Duffy cup for the Connacht side.

It was sweet revenge too for players like Glynn, who had suffered the agony of All-Ireland final defeat at the hands of Cork three years ago. And though the Galway side had more recently suffered a humiliating defeat by Cork in the League final a few months ago, this victory — in the course of which Cork were limited to a goal and two points from play — came as no surprise to them.

Galway had started the game strongly but had got relatively poor return for their early showing in the opening fifteen minutes, with the teams level on four points apiece after eighteen minutes. Then Cork started to open a gap with two more points before **Lynn Dunlea** showed great determination shake off the close attention of **Olive Costello** to handpass to the Galway net for a goal as **Olivia Broderick** and goalkeeper **Louise Curry** closed down the angle.

Cork went still further ahead and looked to be pulling away — they led 1-9 to 0-4 on the scoreboard with four minutes to go to the break, though nobody but the referee knew until half time that Galway should also have been credited with an early Glynn pointed free that had been waved wide by an umpire.

But then Glynn pointed a free and a minute into injury time, sent in a long ball that produced the first of Denise

Gilligan's goals. Defender **Paula Goggins** missed an attempted clearance, goalkeeper **Kathleen Costine** raced off her line to block from Gilligan, but the Craughwell teenager whipped the resulting loose ball to the net to narrow the margin to 1-9 to 1-6 at half time.

It was a turning point that gave the Galway girls hope — though didn't save them from a dressing room roasting by Tony Ward who knew they could do better. He could hardly have hoped for a better response to his urgings as within three minutes of the restart Gilligan had levelled with her second goal in a rapid attack that started with **Carmel Allen** — brought on as a sub just before half time — mopping up in defence, passing to Glynn, who lofted another mighty delivery deep into Cork territory for the full forward to brilliantly finish to the net with a ground strike from the left.

No more than two minutes later, with the Galway forwards now really moving into gear, **Veronica Curtin** and Gilligan combined to present Martina Harkin with a golden chance but she mis-hit in front of goal — but stuck doggedly to her task to retrieve the deflected ball and chipped it in off the left hand post for Galway's third goal.

The freetakers, Glynn and Dunlea, swapped points, with both keepers, Galway's Louise Curry (from Dunlea) and Kathleen Costine for Cork (from Gilligan), each bringing off marvellous saves in between, before Glynn pointed another free and **Dympna Maher** really sent the Galway supporters wild with another goal after taking a pass from Harkin to leave her side ahead by 4-7 to 1-10 with just ten minutes of the second half gone.

By the fourteenth minute the gap was the same, with a point being added by each side — but that's when the agony began for Galway, who were not to score for the remainder of the game.

Olive Costello, **Ann Broderick**, **Carmel Allen** and the outstanding **Pamela Nevin**, supported all the time by Glynn dropping back deep, had to be ever alert in defence as Cork

began to creep back into contention and again Curry made a great stop with her foot from Dunlea.

But though Dunlea gradually added another four pointed frees — bringing her tally to 1-9, all but the goal coming from placed balls — to reduce the deficit to two, Cork will rue a few other missed chances from frees by Dunlea and O'Driscoll in turn.

Hearts were in the mouths of the vocal western support as the game ticked into injury time, with referee **Aine Derham** playing just short of a tormenting three minutes extra

before signalling the end and a glorious and deserved victory for Galway.

Galway: L. Curry, O. Costello, A. Broderick, O. Broderick, P. Nevin; D. Maher (1-0), S. Glynn (0-5, all frees), C. Hannon; M. Harkin (1-1), I. Hobbins (0-1), D. Gilligan (2-0); V. Curtin (0-1). Subs.: C. Allen for O. Broderick (31 mins.), G. Maher for Hannon (38 mins.)

Cork: K. Costine; E. Duggan, P. Goggins, S. Fitzgibbon, M. Finn; T. O'Callaghan, V. Harris, L. Mellerick (0-1); D. Cronin, M. O'Connor (0-1), F. O'Driscoll (0-4, frees); L. Dunlea (1-9, 0-9 frees). Subs.: S. Dunlea for O'Connor (36 mins.), M. Deasy for Goggins (42 mins.), I. O'Keefe for O'Callaghan (44 mins.)

Referee: A. Derham (Dublin).

CONNACHT TRIBUNE

Sports Star of the Week

Sharon Glynn



IT WAS a momentous achievement for the Galway girls in winning the All-Ireland senior camogie title for the first time ever when ousting champions and favourites Cork at Croke Park last Sunday. It was a real team performance that produced several brilliant individual displays — but on balance the contribution of midfielder Sharon Glynn was probably the most vital in the context of the sixty minutes.

A true exponent of the skills of camogie who would be at home on any hurling pitch, with great strength and vision, she was the lynchpin of the team on whom so much depended . . . and she produced the goods on the day despite suffering an eye injury early on that left her with blurred vision for some time.

She it was who set up the first two goals that signalled Galway's return from the dead, with long telling deliveries that were so expertly finished off by Denise Gilligan. And when she wasn't acting as the provider, she was covering back in defence to great effect . . . typically, she was again in the process of lifting the siege when the final whistle blew.

But it's little more than the toss of a coin between her for Sports Star of the Week and several of her colleagues who performed so heroically on the day — teenager Denise Gilligan whose two goal-salvo in either side of the half time break cast the die for Galway's success; goalkeeper Louise Curry, who made so many vital stops under pressure to keep the dream alive; Pamela Nevin, who produced another solid display in a defence that was well tried but stood the test; Dympna Maher who gave a consistent all-round performance in the middle of the field . . . and others could be thrown in too.

Away from Croke Park, others in contention for the honour included Eoin Pender of Oranmore-Maree, who scored 1-7 in the County Senior Football Championship semi-final against Killarney; Mickey Burke of Annaghdown and Noel and Declan Meehan of Caltra for their displays in the County Intermediate Football semi-final and Kevin Terry McDonncha, the star of An Cheathrú's senior semi-final success over Dunmore.



CHAMPIONS — the Galway senior camogie team which created history at Croke Park on Sunday by capturing the All-Ireland title for the first time ever. Back row, left to right, Ann Broderick, Pamela Nevin, Louise Curry, Olive Costello, Sharon Glynn, Olivia Broderick. Front row, Carmel Hannon, Veronica Curtin, Imelda Hobbins, Martina Harkin, Dympna Maher, Denise Gilligan, Mascots Karen Kennedy and Ciara Ward

Ward's title vision in wake of heavy league final defeat

by Brendan Carroll

IT WAS on a Sunday afternoon before the summer, on what perhaps should have been one of the bleakest days since taking over management of the Galway camogie team two years ago, that Tony Ward just knew this side could win the All-Ireland senior camogie title this year.

Galway had just been hammered by fifteen points in the League final by Cork... but Ward knew that it wasn't an accurate reflection of the potential of the team, who had been missing a number of players and had put in relatively little preparation for the game.

"I came away very confident from the dressing rooms — I knew that if the girls worked hard they could take the All-Ireland title and I told them that. Since then they put in an awful lot of work preparing for the championship — we had 62 sessions altogether. They knew coming up to Dublin that they could do it and they were relaxed enough — they were singing on the bus on the way."

For Ward, winner of an All-Ireland club hurling medal as a sub with Sarsfields, the victory was something to savour. "It's brilliant, it's a dream that I always had as a young fellow to some day play in Croke Park, but to manage a team that has won an All-Ireland title is absolutely fantastic," he said.

Ward joked that it was a good job there were no priests around in the dressing room at half time when he pulled no punches in demanding better of his charges in the second half — though he did have some good news for them, in that Sharon Glynn's opening pointed free, which had not gone up on the scoreboard after being waved wide by one of the umpires, did stand.

"The players thought they were four points down at half time until they went into the dressing rooms and I had checked it with the referee, that there was only three in it."

Team captain Imelda Hobbins said the team knew they had it in them to win the All-Ireland final and were proved right on the day. "Tony Ward pushed us very hard to get us to the final and we knew we could do it once we got to Croke Park."

She paid tribute to the work of the defence in the second half when Cork

were desperately trying to get back into the game and cited Pam Nevin an example for any young player to follow. "Cork kept on trying, they pushed us very hard. They are still a fantastic team, but we were better on the day."

Sharon Glynn, who again played a hugely influential part in the Galway team performance, covering back in defence when not winning ball at midfield and setting up Galway attacks, revealed that she had played half of the opening period not being able to see properly.

She hurt her eye very early when in a clash of hurleys with a Cork player, the other player's broke and the jagged edge just caught Sharon at the corner of her eye. She was in obvious discomfort, being attended to by team officials on the field a number of times.

"I had blurred vision for about fifteen minutes — they were looking at my eye but couldn't see anything in it. At one stage I was taking a pass when I saw the ball coming towards me but when I bent down to pick it up I couldn't see it."

But she overcame the setback to produce another fine performance and at the end was thrilled to be part of a Galway team winning the title, having suffered the heartbreak of defeat in the '93 decider at the hands of Cork.

"Words can't describe how I feel right now, it's the ultimate honour for any camogie player to win. Three years ago I was very disappointed coming away from Croke Park after Cork had beaten us in the final."

"And for a while today I thought the same was going to happen when they were seven points ahead, but it turned out well in the end," Sharon felt that playing against the wind in the second half helped Galway — indeed both sides fared better without the 'advantage' of the breeze.

"The wind was fairly strong out there and the passes were very long when we were playing with the wind in the first half. Playing against the breeze is better for handpassing."

Goalkeeper Louise Curry, another heroine on the day between the posts for Galway, shrugged off her own vital contribution insisting "that's my job".

"When we got six points ahead I said this is our match, though it was getting tight near the end."

The umpire was keeping me informed about how much time was left."

Of her point-blank save from Lynn Dunlea, one of several important stops that kept Galway on the road to victory she said: "I love to see a shot coming straight at me — you can usually save it with some

part of your body — rather than to one side."

Standing on the pitch at Croke Park half an hour after the final whistle and savouring the atmosphere around her as hundreds of vocal Galway supporters swamped their heroes, she added: "We've done it — it's a great feeling."

Camogie Heroines

Denise Gilligan (18) of Cahercra, Craughwell, was the star of Croke Park on Sunday when her two goals turned the All-Ireland senior camogie final in Galway's favour. She was presented with the player of the match award and in her acceptance speech, recorded on RTE television, she made another great impression. Denise, a student, is daughter of Carmel Gilligan, grand-daughter of Jack and Molly and grand-niece of Pake Gilligan in whose honour the pitch in Craughwell is named. There was a huge turnout in Craughwell on Monday night on her arrival home from Croke Park.

There was an enthusiastic reception in Kinvara and Doorus on Monday night at the return of Veronica Curtin, another of Galway's heroines in Croke Park on Sunday. Veronica (16), a player of enormous talent had contributed handsomely to the victory and scored at a crucial juncture. Veronica (16) is daughter of Michael Curtin, an All-Ireland

Camogie heroines hailed at home

There were scenes of jubilation in Craughwell on Monday night as the parish turned out in force to welcome home the victorious Galway senior camogie team who had created sporting history in Croke Park on Sunday, by winning their first ever All-Ireland title.

There was a rousing reception for the local club heroines who have notched their names in camogie folklore.

Kinvara girl Veronica Curtin, who plays her camogie with Craughwell, delighted all in Croke Park when she plucked the ball from the sky to score a magnificent point.

The introduction of Carmel Hannon to the centre back position during the first half had a major bearing on the outcome, with Denise Gilligan popping up for two vital goals to earn herself the nomination of 'Player of the Match' award by the famous Kilkenny Downey sisters.

Her cousin Fiona Healy was among the substitutes with local man Johnny Keane crowning his extremely successful involvement with Camogie, being a team selector for this exceptional and extremely talented team.

TRIBUNE SPORT

The Grand Slam

WHEN Galway's Callini na Gaillimhe, beat Cork's women, Mna Corcaigh, in the All-Ireland Senior Camogie Championship Final on Sunday they were completing a glorious 'Grand Slam' of the full list of honours in the G.A.A. at all levels.

Galway had previously won every honour in camogie and indeed in hurling and football also. Championship successes included in hurling—Féile, under-14, minor, under-21, junior and senior and now with the full range of camogie titles the County have attained a unique achievement.

Long Wait

During the past 63 years Galway had reached nine All-Ireland Senior Camogie Finals but failed to take a title until Sunday last at Croke Park, when defeating the reigning champions, Cork, to win the O'Duffy Cup for the first time.

Come-back

For the fourth time in recent weeks a Galway team demonstrated its new-found tenacity and ability to come-back from impending defeat to win or draw vital Championship games. Just as the under-21 hurlers had done and also the minor and junior hurling teams duplicated their efforts the camogie callini after trailing 1-9 to 1-6 at half-time were able to overhaul the more powerful Cork ladies to win by 4-8 to 1-15. A notable statistic was that only five of Galway's points came from frees by Sharon Glynn, while twelve of Cork's were scored from placed balls by Lynn Dunlea (0-8) and Fiona O'Driscoll (0-4).

Style and skill

The style and skill of the Galway players won unstinted praise and admiration from RTE's distinguished panel of the celebrated Downey sisters from Kilkenny, Angela and Anne, who between them won a total of 22 All-Ireland Senior Championship medals.

Medal haul

Following in the Downeys' footsteps towards a haul of All-Ireland medals on Sunday were the Shamrock's Club Maher sisters Dymphna and Gretta. They are two of the extraordinary versatile and talented members of the family of eight girls and three boys of Vincent and Mary Maher, Bushfield, Loughrea.

Grand total

Already members of the family have amassed the astonishing total of 46 All-Ireland medals between them for camogie, volleyball and hurling. In the latter Vinnie (18) won an All-Ireland minor medal with Galway in 1994 and added an All-Ireland Colleges Senior Championship in the same year. Of late he played a big part in Galway's under-21 All-Ireland win.

Colleges championships

Five of the Maher sisters featured on the St. Raphael's College teams which won the All-Ireland eight years in succession with Imelda and Mary winning three medals each, Dymphna and Siobhan two each and Sharon one. In all Dymphna (20) has won nine All-Ireland medals; Gretta (17) also has nine and one for

Volleyball; Imelda (23) won six All-Irelands; Siobhan (27) three; Mary (22) five; Therese (15) six camogie and one volleyball; Sharon two and John (13) one under-15 All-Ireland volleyball.

Few if any family in the land can equal or surpass such a medal-winning total—and there can be many more to follow—JBD.

CONGRATS

The Galway camogie girls made history on Sunday last capturing the O'Duffy Cup and there was a great local connection with Sharon Glynn (Menlough), Martina Harkin (Newbridge), Carmel Hannon (Caltra), Louise Curry (Dublin and her adopted home, Caltra), Bridget Kligannon (Castleblakeney) and, of course, all girls are members of the progressive Peasie's Club.

Well done girls — we're all proud of your achievement.



OUTNUMBERED ... Cork's Lynn Dunlea is surrounded by Galway players Veronica Curtin, Gretta Maher and Denise Gilligan in this incident from Sunday's All-Ireland senior camogie final at Croke Park.



DELIGHT ... Galway captain Imelda Hobbins holds the O'Duffy Cup aloft with Belle Uí Lochlainn, President of the Camogie Association, after their historic All-Ireland title success on Sunday.

IRISH INDEPENDENT

JURYS
HOTEL DUBLIN

SPORTSTAR OF THE WEEK



Denise Gilligan

IT MAY have been Wexford's year in hurling but the scenes surrounding Galway's first All Ireland senior camogie triumph at Croke Park last Sunday equalled the Slaneysiders' outpouring of joy.

Chief amongst Galway's heroines was rookie Denise Gilligan from Craugwell, an 18-year-old graduate of the St Brigid's Loughrea schools' nursery. Her two-goal strike, one just before halftime and the second immediately after, proved vital to Galway's long-awaited victory and earns her the *Irish Independent* Jurys Hotel Dublin Sportstar of the Week award.



Tears as camogie girls set foot in own province

The homecoming certainly fitted the occasion for the Galway senior camogie team who made their way into the history books on Sunday when they captured their first All-Ireland Senior Camogie Championship.

On Monday night at 8.30 p.m. the team members came off the team bus and walked proudly across the River Shannon in Athlone. It was first time in history that the O'Duffy Cup crossed the River Shannon as Galway captain proudly led her team on a short historic journey.

Following the formal reception at Dublin's lavish Berkeley Court Hotel — where captain Imelda Hobbins told the packed gathering "we're sore but we're happy" — the team headed west and after a delightful meal, compliments of Kilconieron's Brendan Glynn who runs Paddy Sweeney's, popular Mother Hubbard's in Moyvalley.

With scenes reminiscent of Galway's historic hurling victory of 1980, tens of thousands of people lined the route as the team made their way home. Bonfires blazed continuously as the bus made its way to Ballinasloe, Kilconnell, New Inn, Killrekill, Cappataggle, Mullagh, Craughwell and Loughrea where thousands had assembled to greet the girls who had created pride and honour to County Galway.

The first stop was in Ballinasloe which saw a huge reception that

included Bishop of Clonfert, Dr. John Kirby who told the gathering that he was proud to be in Croke Park on Sunday.

At New Inn — in the heart of Sarsfields country where they are used to celebrations — team manager, Tony Ward and Olive Costello were given a tremendous reception. Mullagh, the home of captain Imelda Hobbins, saw scenes of ecstasy and there was a tumultuous reception for their proud captain.

Craughwell was out in huge numbers for the local two-goal heroine and RTE Sport, Player of the Match, Denise Gilligan.

The cavalcade, which had a Garda escort from Athlone, was getting bigger after every bonfire and the team bus was hours later than the schedule when they came into Loughrea where thousands of people had waited until 12.45 on Tuesday morning.

The Loughrea Pipe Band led the team through the town into the West Bridge. Chairman of Loughrea Town Commissioners, James Regan told the huge gathering that 1996 was a year that Galway teams showed that they were not teams that lie down. He congratulated all concerned with this historic victory and said it was an historic occasion for the county.

Chairperson of Galway Camogie Board, Michael Kennedy thanked

everyone who had come out from around the county to welcome the team home. It was a great occasion for camogie and the county and the girls deserved the welcome that they had received. He thanked Kieran Kelly and Western Print and Packaging for the sponsorship of the team and also Tony's Tavern and Restaurant who supplied the team with food for the past few years.

Carmel O'Rourke, Chairperson of the local Shamrocks Camogie Club, Carmel Gilligan, Secretary and Donal Burke, Treasurer of Galway Camogie Board also spoke.

Team sponsor, Kieran Kelly, Managing Director of Western Print and Packaging, thanked Tony and the county officers for affording him the opportunity to help camogie. He said that the girls deserved the support and that this team could not go on to win many more All-Ireland titles under the great manager, Tony Ward.

Last year, he told the gathering, he travelled to Kilkenny and the girls cried with sadness when Kilkenny defeated them. This year the girls were crying with joy and I was proud to be present on the marvellous occasion.

Team manager, Tony Ward, told the huge gathering that he was dumfounded at the massive reception they had received. This reception

showed how important this historic achievement was to the people of Galway. He thanked the girls for the huge commitment they gave which it was finally rewarded. He paid tribute to Loughrea pitch committee and the various GAA clubs around the county which made their grounds available to camogie in Galway and thanked his fellow selectors for their help and co-operation but, above all, he thanked the twenty seven girls on the panel who made this victory possible.

Victorious captain, Imelda Hobbins said it as a proud day for the people of Galway. The long wait was over and she was proud to walk across the bridge on the River Shannon carrying the O'Duffy Cup to the province of Connacht for the first time.

This victory was for all camogie players and officials who played and served faithfully in the county for over sixty years.

She thanked Kieran Kelly, Tony's Tavern, the local media for the help to camogie in Galway. She also paid special thanks to their huge number of supporters and to all who came out to greet the team on their return with the Cup and who had waited so patiently all night.

"After sixty-four years what's a few hours," concluded Imelda before the team made their way to some badly needed refreshments.



JUBILATION ... Galway forward Veronica Curtin is chaired off the field by delighted supporters after her team's historic victory over Cork at Croke Park.

second half. Last year's final had 41 frees, or two stoppages for every three minutes.

Imagine the public outrage and the thousands of calls to Livelyline if the football final had produced frees on that scale.

Camogie's problem lies in its rules. Not only does no advantage rule exist, physical contact between opponents is, incredibly, a no-no. After that, the interpretation is up to the individual referee — and too many referees seem bound by the letter of the law. If last Sunday's match was a cracker, it was in spite of the rules, not because of them.

Camogie is too good a game to be complicated and constipated by foolish rules. It is played by women, not by shrinking violets who wilt at the impact of an opponent's shoulder. The sooner this is realised and steps taken to introduce an advantage rule, the better for everyone. Not least the spectators.

A woman's heart?

CAMOGIE people can be happy that the highlights of last week's All-Ireland final made such ideal material for *The Sunday Game* for the second year in a row.

But there was one significant downside to the occasion which the TV audience missed: the number of frees awarded, 17 in the first half, 20 in the

Galway's Heroines!

GALWAY - 1996 ALL-IRELAND CAMOGIE CHAMPIONS



HISTORY MAKERS...the Galway team which won the All-Ireland senior camogie title for the first time last Sunday
BACK: Ann Broderick, Pamela Nevlin, Louise Curry, Olive Costello, Sharon Glynn, Olivia Broderick
FRONT: Carmel Hannon, Veronica Curtin, Imelda Hobbins (captain), Martina Harkin, Dymphna Maher, Denise Gilligan, Mascots: Karen Kennedy and Ciara Ward

GALWAY TITLE FILE

GALWAY'S PATH TO ALL-IRELAND:

Sept 22, 1993 at Croke Park:
All-Ireland final:
CORK 3-15, GALWAY 2-8
SCORERS: C Lynch 1-2, B Fahy 1-0,
S Glynn 0-2, D Maher, A Ryan, I
Hobbs, O Broderick 0-1 each.

June 2, 1996 at Pairc Uí Rinn:
National League final:
CORK 3-16, GALWAY 1-7.
SCORERS: S Glynn 1-5, V Curtin 0-2.

June 16, 1996 at Russell Park:
Gael Linn Senior Interprovincial
semi-final:
ULSTER 4-8, CONNACHT (all
Galway side) 4-7.
SCORERS: D Gilligan 2-6, L Curry
1-0, A Broderick 1-0, I Hobbs 0-1.

July 7, 1996 at O'Toole Park:
All-Ireland quarter-final:
GALWAY 1-24 DUBLIN 3-10
SCORERS: S Glynn 0-14, D Gilligan
1-2, I Hobbs and M Harkin 0-3
each, G Maher 0-2.

Aug 25, 1996 at Loughrea
All-Ireland semi-final:
GALWAY 1-13 WEXFORD 1-5
SCORERS: S Glynn 0-5, V Curtin
1-1, I Hobbs 0-4, D Gilligan 0-2,
M Harkin 0-1.

Sept 22, 1996 at Croke Park:
All-Ireland final:
GALWAY 4-8, CORK 1-15
SCORERS: D Gilligan 2-0, S Glynn 0-5
(4 frees), M Harkin 1-1, D Maher 1-0,
I Hobbs and V Curtin 0-1 each.

TOP FIVE SCORERS:
S Glynn 0-24
D Gilligan 3-4
I Hobbs 0-8
M Harkin 1-5
V Curtin 1-2

ALL-IRELAND FINAL APPEARANCES:
(10) 1932, 1933, 1937, 1939,
1940, 1946, 1960, 1962, 1993,
1996.

ALL-IRELAND WINS:
(1) 1996

ALL-IRELAND DEFEATS:
(9) 1932, 1933, 1937, 1939, 1940,
1946, 1960, 1962, 1993.

SURVIVORS FROM 1993:
Five: Imelda Hobbs, Sharon
Glynn, Dymphna Maher, Carmel
Allen, Pamela Nevin.

GALWAY'S GLORY GIRLS



PHILIP LANIGAN

WITH A SMILE as broad as the Shannon, the look on Imelda Hobbs' face said it all. After ten attempts and sixty four years of heartbreak and despair, the Galway camogie captain had led her side to a historic first All-Ireland senior title.

As she raised the O'Duffy Cup above her head, the thunderous roar which echoed around Croke Park last Sunday captured the moment perfectly. Even the begrudgers had smiles on their faces after this one. Again, the underdogs had stolen the headlines.

For the Galway players it was end of a long and often torturous route to the top. History, tradition, luck, the press - you name it and there it was, stacked against them before the game had even begun.

The first tentative steps down the All-Ireland path however were taken a long time before last Sunday. Defeat might carry a bitter sting but this side grew to feed off it, learn from it, and wield it in their favour.

Three soul-destroying losses in particular could have destroyed this side. Instead they served as the springboard for the wild flurry of celebrations which took place across the Shannon all last week.

Croke Park: All-Ireland final: Cork 3-15, Galway 2-8
To win one, you have to lose one, so they say. Well, Galway certainly got the first part right. Out-fought

and out-thought by their opponents, Cyril Farrell's charges just couldn't keep up with Cork's fast brand of play.

Little did Imelda Hobbs think that that harsh lesson would prove an invaluable experience going into last Sunday. "I remember it was very, very tough. I think we hadn't played Cork before that and we didn't realise the kind of game they played.

"I think we were nervous on the day as well. They were fitter and I think a lot was down to the fact that we didn't know what to expect."

Next time would be a different matter.

Pairc Uí Rinn: National League final: Cork 3-16, Galway 1-7.
Another league title, another empty win. For Cork anyway. With the

exception of the winning trophy, Galway took an awful lot more from this match than their opponents.

Not for the first time a league performance had flattered to deceive. The shallowness of Cork's victory became slightly submerged amidst much of the overblown rhetoric in the run-up to last Sunday. Imelda Hobbs admits as much.

"We were so unfit that day, and we were missing so many players. If we had won that we would have been say-

ing, 'oh we're fine, we're well able to beat Cork.' Then we just might have relaxed and maybe let it get to us whereas after getting hammered by them we knew we had an awful lot of work to do, and everybody was prepared to do it."

Is there a message there for the county's senior hurlers? For the camogie crew, the championship was still just far enough away.

Russell Park Gael Linn Senior Interprovincial semi-final: Ulster 4-8, Connacht 4-7.
The turning point of the season. With Carmel Allen in America and a

number of the panel absent due to exam commitments, an all-Galway Connacht side hit rock-bottom against the Northerners.

"Things were going bad for us at that time. We hadn't all the girls coming out training, some girls would come one evening and maybe miss the next and between everything we didn't seem to be getting our full crowd on any evening."

That defeat though was the spur that the Galway women needed. It was clear, almost too clear, that unless something happened soon, the season would be ending in ruins.

"It was the best thing that ever happened," says Hobbs. "We went out that day and everything fell apart for us."

"We hadn't trained much together as a full team so it was plain to be seen after that the work had to be done. We came into the dressing room afterwards and people said what they had

to say, and everything just went so well after that."

Now, the real work could begin.

O'Toole Park: All-Ireland quarter-final: Galway 1-24 Dublin 3-10
One small step towards an All-Ireland final but one giant step for Galway's blossoming camogie players.

Finally, things were beginning to gel. The lessons had been learnt, the spirit was back - the first signs that this side could enter the realms of the unexplored were slowly manifesting themselves.

Despite the encouraging win, the captain knew that a lot of work had still to be done. "We had an awful lot of fitness training to do after that game, it was kind of in the middle of our programme," says Hobbs. "Sharon Glynn's frees went so well that day, that was very important as it raised our confidence levels."

Had they the confidence though to go all the way? The next game provided an emphatic answer.

Loughrea All-Ireland semi-final: Galway 1-13 Wexford 1-5
After faltering at the same stage last year against Kilkenny, this was a sweet victory for the Galway

women. This time around Tony Ward's team were convincing winners as they brushed aside their opponent's challenge. "We had a lot of work done between the Dublin and Wexford games and were well prepared for the semi-final. We were flying fit but I

think we were just in peak form when we reached Croke Park. The week before that game everything just fell into place."

Croke Park: All-Ireland final: Galway 4-8, Cork 1-15
All things come to those who wait. Sixty-four heart-breaking years buried in sixty min-

utes. At long last the county had claimed its first All-Ireland senior camogie title.

In the end, Galway's greater hunger and determination pulled them through, as Imelda Hobbs explains: "We all knew that from the word go we had to perform and give it everything. We knew we had to hit them hard."

"They had very good forwards and a strong midfield so we knew we had to knock them off their stride. We wanted it so badly, we were so determined," says Hobbs.

Chasing an 18th All-Ireland title, the weight of expectation proved just that bit too heavy for the Cork girls. "I think maybe Cork took it all for granted, that all they had to do was go out and play. It gave us a boost, we were kind of saying that well, we can do it. Even if no-one else believed it, we believed it ourselves."

Eleven years playing, and finally Hobbs had the medal that she only ever dreamed about clasped in her hand. "It's brilliant. I've been talking to so many people about everything and I'm just loving it. I think I'll never ever forget this for as long as I live." Neither will Galway's loyal legion of supporters. The West's awakening is finally complete.

Roscommon Heartbreak at Final Hurdle

Cork.....6-5
Roscommon.....2-7

How could something so right go so wrong? As the daze of defeat sent Roscommon heads in a tailspin, that question undoubtedly weighs heavy on the minds of the camogie women as they try to come to terms with their second All-Ireland final defeat in a row in Croke Park in perfect playing conditions on Sunday. As last year's captain Karina Jones put it - "defeat is a really bitter pill to swallow".

By Liam Sherlock

Once again Roscommon's impressive march to glory came unstuck, but this time it is all the more hard to accept. Last year the players admitted that the occasion got to them. This time there would be no such nerves. They had trained so hard, prepared so well, overcame Antrim once again in a titanic struggle to set themselves up perfectly for the crown. They came to win. They were convinced they would win. It was not to be.

In one sense it was quite simple - Roscommon never got going. They grabbed the first point after 90 seconds of the game and never once got their nose in front again for the rest of the day. The Roscommon defence, normally their strongest point, never fused together and Cork exploited the gaps to great effect. Those six goals could easily have been eight but for one great save and a block by the Roscommon net-minder.

Because Roscommon were on the defensive so much, the midfield and forwards didn't get or create the space to do a whole lot. The forwards came out too deep and many's the delivery inside that was swept up and immediately cleared by Cork's outstanding player, goal-keeper Leona Nolan. The Inniscarra player made four brilliant saves to deny Roscommon any chance of getting back into the fray. She was fearless in coming out and her distribution immediately put the pressure back on her opponents.

Cork were a very well-



Beaten But Unbowed. The Roscommon camogie side with their mentors following their defeat in Sunday's All Ireland Junior Camogie final in Croke Park. Pic: Dermot Byrne

rounded outfit, and with no obvious weaknesses, it made them very difficult to play. Somewhat slow to get off the blocks, their early goal after three minutes by Mary Kenefick flattered them as it came from their only attack thus far. Roscommon were back on level terms after six minutes, Maeve Healy and Karina Jones (free) adding to Geraldine Carr's opening score.

Slowly but surely Cork got stuck in. Having tasted Roscommon's strength up the centre, the Munster women moved up the wings. Sinead O'Callaghan snatched a point after nine minutes and as the game went off the boil, so too did Roscommon. A couple of wides is all they had to show for a quarter of an hour's labour while Cork consolidated themselves. O'Callaghan struck again after 22 minutes and as Roscommon fired in vain into the hands of Nolan in the Cork nets, her forwards were about to strike goal again. A disputed sideline puck went Cork's way, Linda O'Sullivan and Kenefick finding Eileen Buckley in the crowded Roscommon goalmouth and she whipped it home for her side's second.

To their credit, Roscommon raced back immediately and tore upfield, Hilary Hussey's

shot well parried by the keeper but knocked into the path of deadly opportunist Maeve Healy who tapped it over the line for the perfect reply after 26 minutes. Cork tried to come straight back but a couple of wides and some frantic Roscommon defending saw the Connacht champs hold out to go into the break two points adrift, 2-2 to 1-3.

The two point gap was acceptable enough on the face of it. Well, that seemed to be the opinion of the large Roscommon contingent of fans in the Cusack stand, which had out-cheered its Cork rival at the start of the game. However, there was something ominous in the way Cork had taken hold of the game in the second quarter. It suggested they were pacing themselves well and would not let go. And so it was to prove.

Within 45 seconds of the restart Cork had found the back of the Roscommon net for the third time, Antoinette O'Connell finishing the move that saw Cork once again sweep in from the wings. Jones pulled back a

point with her second converted free five minutes later but Roscommon were not fired up enough to keep in touch. That was painfully obvious less than a minute later when O'Connell knocked on to Kenefick who threw the ball into the net for Cork's fourth.

Mary Grehan, having difficulty holding possession, tried to pull one back for Roscommon but again Nolan denied entry and Cork swept upfield and O'Sullivan grabbed their fourth point, completely throwing Roscommon off-track.

To emphasise this Cork players were first to the ball on most occasions and, with a quick turn and flick, the sliothar was almost always heading for the Roscommon goals.

Cork conceded few frees in dangerous positions, although Jones converted two of them after 19 and 21 minutes respectively to get within seven points of their rivals. But with Nolan brilliantly denying Healy's solid shot at goal, Roscommon options were



fast running out.

They ran out a minute later when Kenefick tore inside for her third and Cork's fifth goal. The very hard-trying Charmaine Cooney responded immediately by setting up Healy for the goal she so badly wanted as the game exploded into action.

But really it was exploding in Roscommon's face as Cork quickly hit back with a converted free. In a desperate bid to steal a goal or two, Roscommon pulled Ursula Hussey out of goals, replacing her with Grehan, and sent her up front. She did grab a point in the final minute of normal time but she would have done better to have stayed where she was. For although Grehan found herself in the way of O'Connell's shot, Hilda Kenneally made no mistake from close range one minute into injury time to score Cork's sixth and final goal. Insult to injury. Roscommon's nightmare was complete.

Aside from Nolan's outstanding display in goals and Kenefick's hat-trick, Cork's players were noticeably be their uniformity of talent. With

no key people on which to concentrate and their own direction gone, Roscommon found themselves in a corner from which there was no escape.

Cooney as ever tried to mould a Roscommon offensive that never really materialised and for all the hard work Caroline Connaughton did in front of goal, the overall weakness of the Roscommon defence was to be cruelly exploited by Cork.

In mitigation, one could point out how Roscommon, with its six clubs, already defied the odds by getting to the final in the first place, let alone twice in succession. And to be beaten by a county with such an impressive hurling and camogie pedigree holds no shame.



Roscommon: U. Hussey (0-1), C. Connaughton, E. Farrell, C. Kenny, T. Carty, K. Jones (0-4, frees), H. Hussey, C. Cooney, G. Carr (0-1), M. Grehan, M. Gannon, M. Healy (2-1). Subs Used: M. Byrne, M. Nangle, E. Mannion.
Cork: L. Nolan, E. Dineen, A. Dilworth, C. Cronin, T. Doyle, H. Kenneally (1-0), E. Buckley (1-0), S. Cahalane (0-2, one free), S. O'Callaghan (0-2), A. O'Connell (1-0), M. Kenefick (3-0), L. O'Sullivan (0-1). Subs Used: E. Healy.
Referee: Fiona Nic Cioisneach

Kelly Devastated For The Players

"We never got going" confessed a stoical Roscommon manager Michael Kelly as he stood on the green turf of the pitch at Croke Park and watched his vanquished players drag themselves together for a belated team photo. There was a resigned air about him.

"I'm devastated for the girls anyway," he continued. "They (Cork) were the best team we played overall all year. Antrim had better individuals but Cork were better all round. If we could have got a goal or two earlier on, it would have been different. But their keeper played very well and we couldn't."

"Our forwards were a little too far out and our backs didn't play as well as they have done. The Cork forwards, as a unit, were snappier. But they (Roscommon) never gave up, so fair play to them."



Caroline Connaughton clears her lines while under pressure during Sunday's final in Croke Park.
Pic: Dermot Byrne

'Bitter Pill To Swallow'

— Jones

If there was one word or phrase to describe the expressions of the Roscommon camogie players following Sunday's defeat at the hands of Cork, it was not "disappointment" or "sadness" but "shocked devastation".

And none bore that expression more than Karina Jones. Captain of last year's vanquished side and having been substituted on Sunday, she was struggling to come to terms with the result afterwards.

"I'm just numb", she managed to say, still shaking her head. "We have worked so hard for two years. Defeat is a really bitter pill to swallow."

Asked as to what went wrong, she confessed: "I don't really know. It's hard to know when you are out there as a player. The occasion didn't get to us this time. We were confident going into the final. I can't put it down to anything."

Captain Mary Grehan's disbelief was as strong but she admitted that Roscommon

had played poorly and let themselves down.

"I don't really know what happened to us. We were fully confident this year we would do it. But we weren't cocky. All the preparation we had, we had even prepared for extra time and all that. We beat Antrim and Antrim were a better team. But Cork got the scores on the day."

"Our backs didn't play well and our defence is always solid. We just never got going. We've had injury problems. Did you know there are holes out there in Croke Park? Well, there are and we had a few ankle injuries. But we just didn't get going....." and her voice trails off as she still can't comprehend what has happened.

After making the point that many people don't realise what a difficult task faces Roscommon in getting a panel together, given the scarcity of clubs and players in the county, Mary smiled "Some of us have been in this for ten years - we'll be back!"



AFTER. Roscommon's goal getter Maeve Healy shows her delight at having tapped that dangerous ball across the line to score the first of her two goals on Sunday while teammate Geraldine Carr celebrates in the background.
Pic: Dermot Byrne



BEFORE. The Cork backs look wistfully skywards as a dangerous ball drops into their goalmouth during Sunday's big match in Croke Park.
Pic: Dermot Byrne

Allen backs up commitment to women's sport

SPORTS Minister Bernard Allen is backing up his commitment to women's sport with action!

Last week, he announced an initiative whereby £100,000 will be allocated towards the provision of helmets for each of the country's 487 camogie clubs.

Yesterday, he confirmed that he is currently in discussions with the Tipperary Camogie Board with a view to the provision of a pitch and, he has told the Cork Camogie Board that he will be 'sympathetic' to any proposals they may come up with.

Mr Allen, who was amongst the guests at an Examiner reception for the Cork junior and senior teams which contested the All-Ireland finals at the week-end, along with Lord Mayor Jim Corr and Bishop John Buckley, put forward what

might be regarded as a revolutionary proposal.

He suggested that the Camogie Association should seriously consider playing their games on full-sized pitches.

He also feels they could extend team sizes from the present number (12), given that there has been huge progress made in recent years in developing the game.

That was indicated by an attendance of over ten thousand at the finals in Croke Park on Sunday, he added.

Mr Allen pointed out that he had attended European championships, supported financially to the tune of tens of thousands of pounds, at which there was no more than 2,000 people present.

"There might have been a reason in the past for keeping the team sizes down. But, it seems to me that



At the dinner for camogie champions Cork (junior) and Galway (senior) were Micheál Ó Muircheartaigh, Bord na Gaeilge, with Galway captain Imelda Hobbins and Cork's Antoinette O'Connell.

there are now sufficient numbers playing the game to extend them. At the same time, this would not necessarily mean that there should be fourteen or fifteen-a-side if the games were to be played on full-sized pitches.

Outlining his Department's commitment to women's sport, the Minister stressed that he was at all times willing to listen to any proposals from representatives of women's groups.

Agreeing that in the past that it may have

been neglected, it was nevertheless a fact that two of their most successful athletes of modern times were women, Michelle Smith and Sonia O'Sullivan.

Expressing the view that the Cork Camogie Board should have a

headquarters of its own, he said that he would listen to any proposals they might wish to make 'with a sympathetic ear.'

Camogie was their native women's sport and he felt there was a tendency to under-estimate its importance.

Seniors unlucky in Croke Park

IT was a case of good and bad for Cork's Camogie Teams in Croke Park on Sunday last. Cork's Senior Captain Therese O'Callaghan was once again unlucky not to be lifting the O'Duffy Cup.

The Cork girls started very well but conceded a vital goal on the stroke of half time which was to prove decisive later.

Galway certainly were the better side in the second half as their goals were top quality and then they soaked up tremendous Cork pressure in those final minutes to hold on for an historic victory.

One will never know what bearing the club championship game played the previous week, in which the Glen Rovers players were involved, had on the outcome of this game.

Antoinette O'Connell's girls got the day off to a great start for the rebel county when she led the Juniors to victory over Roscommon.

It was a thrilling second half display which made all the difference and it was no more than these girls deserved as they had been living somewhere in the shadow of the Seniors up to now.

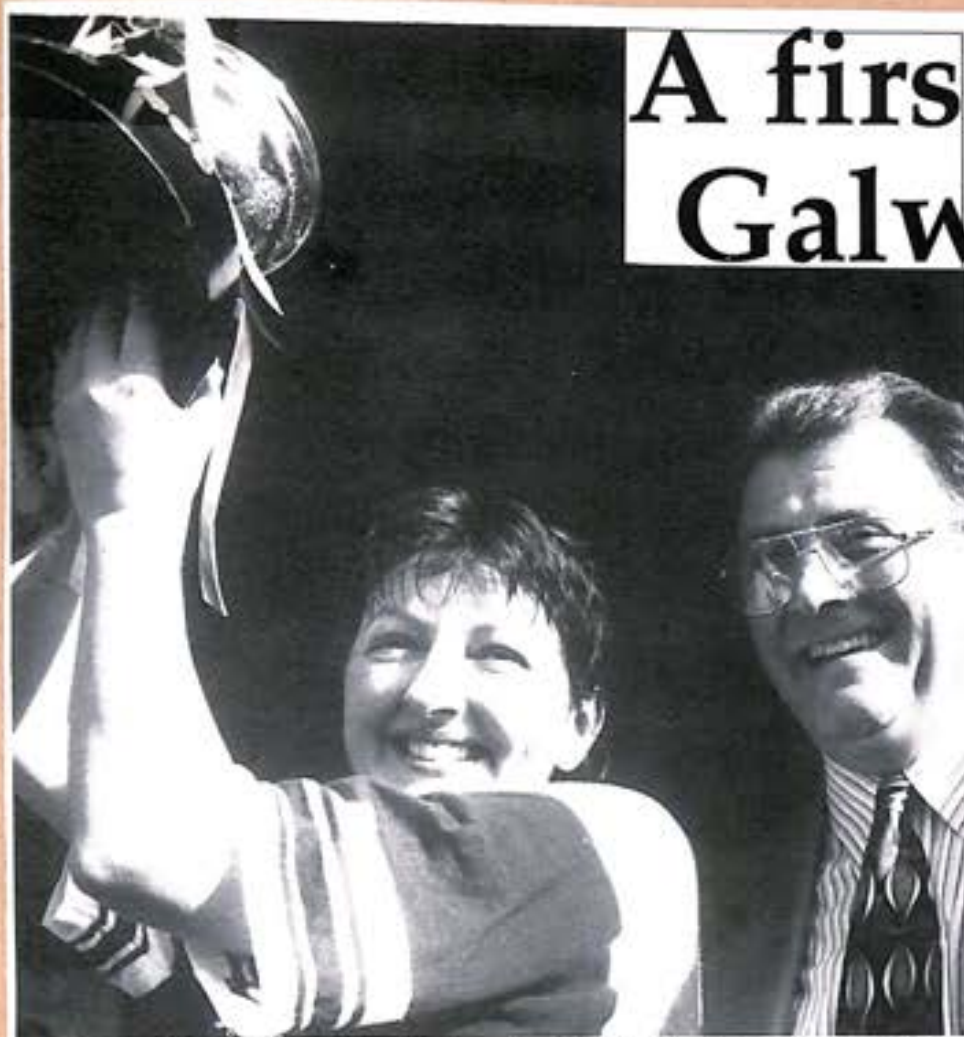
Camogie is alive and well in Cork.



Eileen Buckley, Sinead O'Callaghan, Mary O'Connor, Hilda Kenneally and Mary Keneflick are on Cork Junior Camogie Panel for Sunday's All Ireland Final



TUSSLING ... Galway's Olivia Broderick in the thick of the action during Sunday's All-Ireland camogie final against Cork at Croke Park.



A first for the Galway girls

FIRST TIME: Imelda Hobbins holds up the O'Duffy Cup to the delight of fellow Galwegian Joe McDonagh, the GAA president-elect

By BRIDÍN UÍ MHAOLAGÁIN

Before the record crowd of 10,235 who had watched the All-Ireland camogie finals the GAA's president-elect Joe McDonagh was in jubilant mood revelling in the fact that his native Galway had just won its fourth All-Ireland title for 1996. The girls took the minor and senior camogie trophies to add to the lads' successes in junior and under-21 hurling.

Camogie champions Cork squandered several scoreable shots from frees to enable Galway get their two-point win. Galway came into the game as underdogs but they toppled the holders. They had a staggering 63 training sessions - some at eight in the morning - between their humiliating league final defeat earlier in the year and the All-Ireland final and this brought their rewards.

Cork certainly had their chances. They controlled the first half of the game despite a bright, lively opening by Galway and when Lynn Dunlea palmed home the opening goal after 22 minutes Galway were in trouble. Points from Fiona O'Driscoll, Linda Mellerick and Lynn

stretched the Cork lead to seven points and it looked as if we would witness one-way traffic in the second half. Young Denise Gilligan rose to the occasion for Galway, latched into a fine piece of stickwork by superstar centre field Sharon Glynn and, with utter determination, sent the ball to the net. The tribeswomen went in at half-time only three points behind and with all to play for.

Shortly after the resumption, once again Glynn sent a high, lobbing ball into sharpshooter Gilligan who doubled on it to send the sliotar crashing to the net for possibly the most spectacular goal of the match! Before Cork had time to recover Martina Harkin palmed number three to the net.

For long periods during the remainder of the game the Cork girls seemed sluggish despite spirited efforts from Linda Mellerick who seemed to pop up everywhere, basketball player, Sandie Fitzgibbon, Vivienne Harris and goalie Kathleen Costine - the bride to be! Cork was dealt a severe blow at centre field when the talented captain, Thérèse O'Callaghan, had to retire with injury.

A fourth goal by Dympha Maher

seemed to seal victory for Galway but Cork staged a comeback and frees from Fiona O'Driscoll and Lynn Dunlea left the challengers a mere four points in front.

In a nail-biting climax the Galway defence, led by Olive Costello, supported by the Brodericks and backed up by some superb goalkeeping by Dubliner Louise Currie, came under tremendous pressure from the experienced, sharp shooters of Cork. However, Cork are not without All-Ireland medals in '96! In a spirited junior match Mary Kenefick scored a hat trick to add to a comfortable win of 6-5 to 2-7 against Roscommon. Player of the game Eileen Buckley, received the Armagh Crystal trophy.

Half of this useful, youthful Galway team had already experienced All-Ireland glory at colleges level with the famous seven-in-a-row St. Raphael's, under the coaching of Principal, Cyril Farrell. This cradle of camogie has carved its name on trophies with success in each grade from Féile na nGael in the mid 1980s to Senior League in 1994 and Senior Championship '96 under mighty manager Tony Ward. Himself the proud possessor of a club All-Ireland medal with Sarsfields, Ward put his seal of authority on his charges three years ago and already has brought to Galway two senior honours - League '94 and Championship '96.

Bonfires blazed, horns hooted, supporters screamed, damsels danced and hurlers hollered giving a tumultuous "Céad Mile Fáilte" to their ecstatic heroines on their arrival at Ballinasloe and great celebrations continued in New Inn, where hurlers Joe Cooney and Padraig Kelly were out to greet them, Gortymadden (home of captain Imelda Hobbins), Loughrea, where Galway Under-21 and minor hurlers joined in, and Craughwell "Na Píarsaigh" club star centre field Sharon Glynn, Carmel Hannon, goal scorer Martina Harkin and goal stopper supreme Louise Currie can now add yet another medal to their tally as they won the Galway Senior Championship one week after winning their first All-Ireland Senior Championship! What stamina!

Comhghairdears daoibh uilig - tá gaisce den scoth déanta agaibh.

GALWAY

**Bord na Gaeilge
CAMOGIE FINALS**

CLAIM FIRST SENIOR ALL-IRELAND

BY PJ FULHAM

Galway 4-8

Cork 1-15

There were jubilant scenes in Croke Park when referee Aine Derham blew the full time whistle in the Bord na Gaeilge All-Ireland Senior Camogie Championship Final. Galway had defeated the holders Cork to win their first All-Ireland Senior

Championship title after a wait of 63 years. It was their tenth appearance in the final. It was sweet revenge for their defeat by Cork in the '93 final and this year's National Senior League. However it was a bitter blow to Cork who saw their chances of a double being snuffed away. Galway manager Tony Ward, who tasted success with Sarsfields in the '92 All-Ireland Club hurling final, had his charges at their peak. The team put in 62 training sessions and Tony was always quietly confident that they could take the O'Duffy Cup across the



History Makers the Galway side which captured the county's first ever Senior All-Ireland camogie title. Front, left to right: Carmel Hannon, Veronica Curtin, Imelda Hobbs, Martina Harkin, Dymna Maher, Denise Gilligan, Mascots: Karen Kennedy and Clara Ward. Back, left to right: Ann Broderick, Pamela Nevin, Louise Curry, Olive Costello, Sharon Glynn, Olivia Broderick.

Shannon. Former coach Cyril Farrell was present to share in the celebrations and another Galway man, GAA President Joe McDonagh was also in attendance.

It was a thrilling encounter that was notable for many features. Galway, who had the wind advantage at the start found scores hard to come by in the opening 10 minutes. After 13 minutes the sides were level at three points each. Galway missed many scoring chances and should have been in front but for poor finishing.

The champions had difficulty settling down but once Sandie Fitzgibbon at centre back and Eithne Duggan at full back got on top, midfield started to win possession. Their forwards suddenly began to click as a unit and Mary O'Connor had the holders' first point from play. Full forward Lynn Dunlea always looked threatening and shot a fine goal in the 21st minute. Galway were continuing to struggle at this stage. However, they hit a golden spot just before half time when left corner forward Denise Gilligan picked up a long ball from Sharon Glynn and sent in a low hard shot which keeper Kathleen Costine had no chance of stopping. Cork had three points to spare at the break, 1-9 to 1-6.

As play resumed Galway looked like a team hungry for victory. The first indication of this could be seen in the improvement brought to the back line following the



Galway's Pamela Nevin has back-up from Carmel Hannon, introduction of Carmel Allen. All over the field Galway players were playing with great confidence and making space much more easily. It was the speedy Denise Gilligan from the Craughwell club who brought them level with a 33rd minute goal and in less than three minutes Martina Harkin had a similar score. Then they

further showed their new found confidence when the outstanding goalkeeper Louise Curry brought off a vital save from Lynn Dunlea when only two points separated the sides. Galway had managed such a change in their play that Cork were simply overcome.

After a fourth goal by Dymna Maher in the 43rd minute, Galway only added one point more to their



Galway subs celebrate on hearing the final whistle.



Cork All-Ireland Junior camogie champions 1996.

match total. Frees from Fiona O'Driscoll and Lynn Dunlea (2) left Cork just four points behind with 12 minutes remaining. Galway's defence came under severe pressure during the hectic climax, but Cork threw away four vital chances from placed balls. Two late frees from Lynn Dunlea left two points between the sides at the final

whistle.

Scorers: Galway - Denise Gilligan 2-0, Sharon Glynn 0-5, Martina Harkin 1-1, Dympna Maher 1-0, Imelda Hobbins and Veronica Curtin 0-1 each.

Cork - Lynn Dunlea 1-9, Fiona O'Driscoll 0-4, Mary O'Connor and Linda Mellerick 0-1 each.

Galway - Louise Curry, Olive Costello, Ann Broderick, Olivia Broderick, Pamela Nevin, Dympna Maher, Sharon Glynn, Carmel Hannon, Martina Harkin, Imelda Hobbins, Denise Gilligan, Veronica Curtin.

Subs - Carmel Allen for O Broderick, Gretta Maher for C Hannon.

Cork - Kathleen Costine, Eithne Duggan, Paula Goggins, Sandie Fitzgibbon, Margaret Finn, Therese O'Callaghan, Vivienne Harris, Linda Mellerick, Denise Cronin, Mary O'Connor, Fiona O'Driscoll, Lynn Dunlea.

Subs - Stephanie Dunlea for M O'Connor, Miriam Deacy for P Goggins, Irene O'Keeffe for T O'Callaghan.

Referee - Aine Derham, Dublin.

The Player of the Match Award went to Denise Gilligan, Galway.

Cork 6-5

Roscommon 2-7

Cork juniors went on a scoring spree in the All-Ireland junior final against Roscommon to win their 5th All-Ireland junior title. Three goals from Mary Kennifick swamped Roscommon who lost by just one point to Limerick in last year's decider and had to face further heartbreak. The Connacht



Cork junior star Hilda Kenneally on the break.



The Roscommon juniors who were on the receiving end of a Cork goal blitz.

county was well in contention right up to the interval trailing by just two points, 2-2 to 1-3. However, two goals in the space of four minutes after the break from Sinead O'Callaghan and Mary Kennifick saw Cork go into an eight point lead that put a stop to any chance Roscommon of making a come-back. Two further goals in the commencement of the third quarter left the game over as a contest. However, Roscommon never gave up. Maeve Healy blasted home her second goal, the best goal of the day. Hilda Kenneally put the icing on the cake with the winners' final goal two minutes from time.

Scorers: Cork - Mary Kennifick 3-0, Sinead O'Callaghan 1-2, Hilda Kenneally and Eileen Buckley 1-0 each, Sinead Cahalane 0-2, Linda O'Sullivan 0-1.

Roscommon - Maeve Healy 2-1, Karina Jones 0-4, Geraldine Carr and Ursula Hussey 0-1 each.

Cork - Leona Nolan, Enda Dineen, Alison Dilworth, Colette Cronin, Trish Doyle, Hilda Kenneally, Eileen Buckley, Sinead Cahalane, Sinead O'Callaghan, Antoinette O'Connell, Mary Kennifick, Linda O'Sullivan.

Sub - Evelyn Healy for E Dineen.



Camogie Board Chairperson Belle O'Loughlin looks on as Galway captain Imelda Hobbs gratefully accepts the O'Duffy Cup.



Cork junior captain Antoinette O'Connell celebrates with her team-mates.

Roscommon - Ursula Hussey, Caroline Connaughton, Emer Farrell, Cait Kenny, Teresa Carty, Karina Jones, Hillary Hussey, Charmaine Cooney, Geraldine Carr, Mary Grehan, Maeve Healy, Mary Gannon.

Referee - Fiona McKenna, Armagh

The Annual All-Ireland Sevens held at Kilmacud on the eve of the All-Ireland was a huge success. 48 teams took part. Both honours went to Tipperary clubs.

Division 1 Drom-Inch 3-10 Erin's Isle, Dublin 1-7

Division 2 Toomevara 4-9 St Ibar's, Wexford 2-3

HOGAN STAND

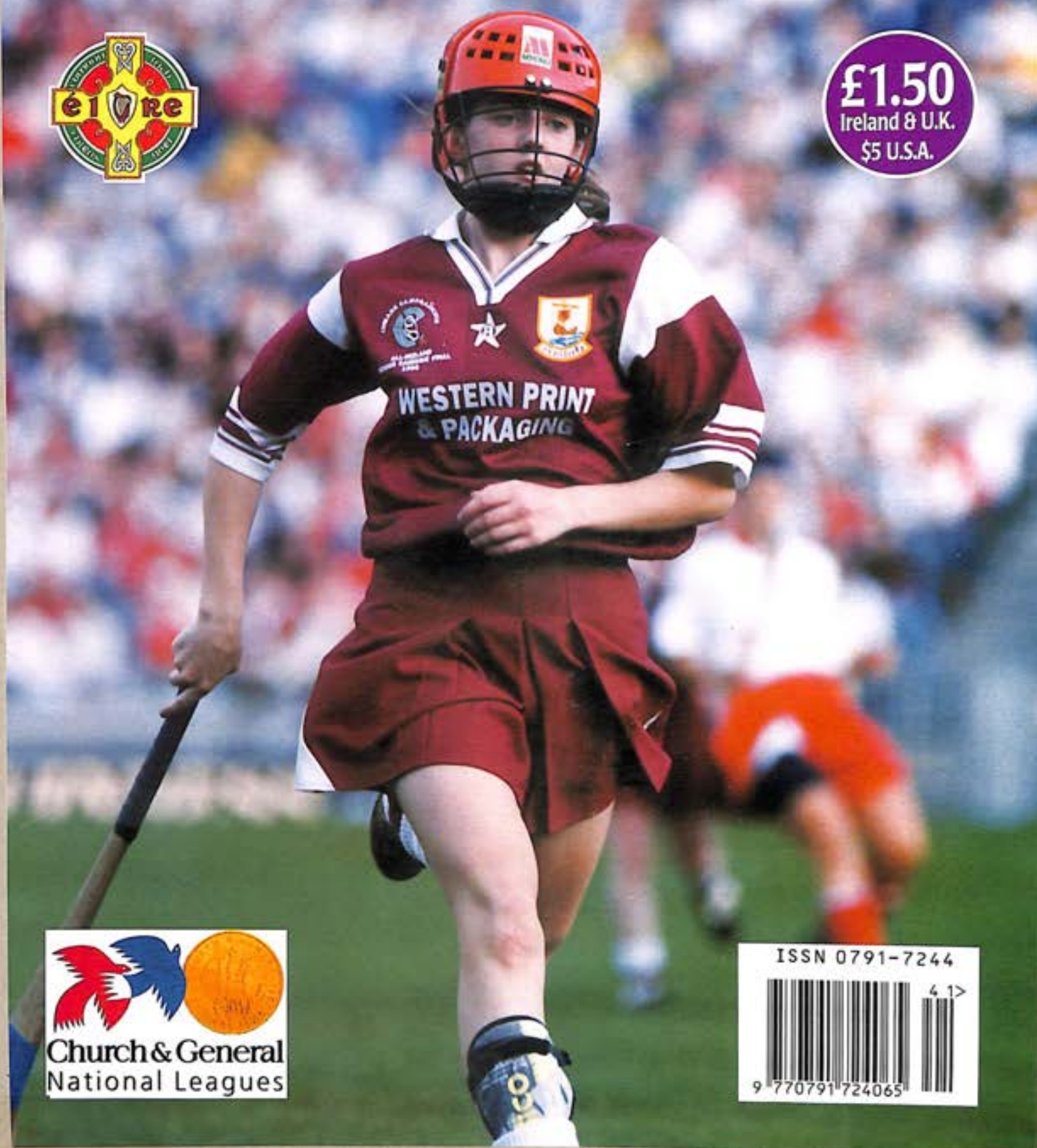
YOUR WEEKLY G.A.A. MAGAZINE

FRIDAY, 11th OCTOBER 1996

VOLUME 6, No. 41 (282)



£1.50
Ireland & U.K.
\$5 U.S.A.



ISSN 0791-7244



9 770791 724065



Cork Junior Camogie players Leona Nolan - with the Munster Cup - Sinead Cahalane and team captain Antoinette O'Connell celebrate with the All-Ireland Cup in their native city.

Picture: Denis Minihane

Camogie's famine ends

by Brendan Carroll
and Eamon Timmins

THOUSANDS turned out to welcome home Galway's All-Ireland senior camogie champions last night as they brought the O'Duffy Cup across the Shannon for the first time.

Bonfires blazed at villages as a cavalcade of cars and the team

bus made its way through the county on its return from Dublin. The captain of the team which ended Galway's 63-year famine, Imelda Hobbins, walked across the Shannon bridge in Athlone, carrying the cup, before the official welcome home in Loughrea. In contrast, just over 200 people turned out in Cork to welcome home the county's Junior All-Ireland

camogie champions and the defeated senior finalists. "We are very disappointed that we do not have two trophies here tonight," County Camogie Board chairwoman Sheila Golden said. "Maybe that is selfish, but that is the way we aim in Cork. We aim to be the best." Both teams attended functions hosted by Examiner Publications.



Roscommon camogie team, as sponsored by F Grehan & Sons Builders.

GALWAY

All-Ireland Senior Camogie Champions 1996



Front, left to right: Carmel Hannon, Veronica Curtin, Imelda Hobbins, Martina Harkin, Dympna Maher, Denise Gilligan.

Back, left to right: Ann Broderick, Pamela Nevin, Louise Curry, Olive Costello, Sharon Glynn, Olivia Borderick.



CORK

All-Ireland Junior Camogie Champions 1996

*Front, left to right: Trish Doyle, Enda Dineen, Colette Cronin, Alison Dilworth, Antoinette O'Connell, Leona Nolan, Linda O'Sullivan.
Back, left to right: Hilda Kenneally, Mary Kenefick, Sinead Cahalane, Eileen Buckley, Sinead O'Callaghan.*

Jack Mahon's Connacht Round-up

MIXED FORTUNES IN FINALS FOR CONNACHT

It's been a hectic time for finals of all kinds recently. We have had mixed fortunes in the West, winning some, losing others. On the hurling scene Galway lifted two titles - the under 21 and the junior but lost the minor final in a replay. The junior was especially sweet for it bridged a 57 year gap for Galway's second title in the grade. The manner in which they came from behind to beat Kilkenny by 1-14 to 2-9 was admirable.

Former star Sean Silke was the man in charge and his final stars were Noel Power, Francis O'Brien, Pat Diviney and Emmet Caulfield, the latter trio coming on as substitutes. I'm not too mad on this junior grade in either code, still an All-Ireland is an All-Ireland and 57 years was a long time to wait for title number two.

The under 21 grade is one that excites me much more and Galway hurlers have a great record in it, winning their seventh title in 1996. They defeated Wexford easily in the final by 1-14 to 0-7 in the process propelling their team manager Cyril Farrell back into the manager's job at senior level. How does this man keep going? In this final Wexford, all a gog after their previous week's senior success, shot into an early lead but with Gregory Kennedy outstanding at centre back, Gordon Glynn strong at midfield, Alan Kerins brilliant in attack, Galway hit back.

Cathal Moore was a dominating pivot in defence and when star forward Kevin Broderick was given space outfield, he scored the goal which set Galway alight. Vinnie Maher was another to shine when changed to defence. Indeed it is invidious to single out stars for this was an under 21 team to rival the previous six champion teams.

CAMOGIE SUCCESS

Galway's First ever senior camogie success in 10 final appearances took the county by storm. The manner in which they came from behind to beat All-Ireland champions Cork by 4-8 to 1-15 added lustre to it all. All the team were heroines and when Imelda Hobbins brought the O'Duffy Cup across the Shannon for the first time ever great were the celebrations. It was a personal triumph for team manager Tony Ward and all the winning team Ann Broderick, Pamela Nevin, Louise Curry, Olive Costelloe, Sharon Glynn, Olivia Broderick, Carmel Hannon, Veronica Curtin, Imelda Hobbins (Capt.), Denise Gilligan, Martina Harkin and Dymphna Maher.

Many of these girls had been winning All-

Ireland titles at secondary and vocational school level. So it was a question of where rather than if and all the great stars of the past from Peg Morris (Capt.) in 1932 through Monica Duggan to Chrissie Conway, Kay Quinn and Nono Mellugh must be remembered for keeping the flag flying in leaner times. Congratulations to all concerned.

THE MINOR HURLERS

The Galway minor hurlers covered themselves in glory before eventually losing out to Tipperary in a replay before the All-Ireland senior football replay by 2-14 to 2-12 after an epic drawn game which saw Galway first come from behind to take over, then Tipperary get two late points in parity. Both teams were brilliant and Galway will remember with pride the displays of full back and captain Michael Healy, full forward Eugene Cloonan, Rory Gantley and Nigel Murray, a goalkeeper in the Seanie Duggan mould.

Carmel Hannon, right launches a Galway attack as Denise Cronin (Cork) moves in to challenge.



Champions 1996

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Camogie Champions '96

1. Galway won their first All-Ireland senior title last month. Was that also the first final win by a Connacht side?
2. Cork beat Roscommon in the All-Ireland junior final. Cork scored three, four or six goals. Your choice?

3. Name the winners of the National Senior League final last June.
4. Cork are reigning All-Ireland minor champions. True or false?
5. Who was top scorer in the All-Ireland senior final with 1-9, Denise Gilligan (Galway) or Lynn Dunlea (Cork)?

CAMOGIE CHAMPIONS
1. Yes 2. Six goals 3. Cork who beat Galway by 15 points in the final 4. False Galway are champions They beat Tipperary in the final 5. Lynn Dunlea

Galway Abu at last

CAMOGIE by P.J. Fulham

GALWAY 4-8 CORK 1-15

There were jubilant scenes in Croke Park when referee Aine Derham blew the full time whistle in the "Bord na Gaeilge" All-Ireland senior Camogie Championship final. Galway had defeated the holders Cork to win their first All-Ireland senior Championship title after a wait of 63 years. It was their tenth appearance in the final. It was sweet revenge for their defeat by Cork in the '93 final and this year's National Senior League.

However it was a bitter blow to Cork who saw their chances of a double being snuffed away. Galway Manager Tony Ward, who tasted success with Sarsfields in the '92 All-Ireland Club Hurling final, had his charges at their peak. The team put in 62 training sessions and Tony was always quietly confident that they could take the O'Duffy Cup across the Shannon. Former Coach Cyril Farrell was present to share in the celebrations and another Galway man G.A.A. President-elect Joe McDonagh was also present.

It was a thrilling encounter that was notable for many features. Galway, who had the wind advantage at the start found scores hard to come by in the opening 10 minutes. After 13 minutes the sides were level at three points each. Galway missed many scoring chances and would have been in front but for poor finishing.

The champions got it hard to settle down, but once Sandie Fitzgibbon at centre back and Eithne Duggan at full back got on top, mid-field started to win possession. Their forwards suddenly began to click as a unit and Mary O'Connor had the holders first point from play.

Full forward Lynn Dunlea always looked threatening and shot a fine goal in the 21st minute. Galway were continuing to struggle at this stage. However they hit a golden spot just before half time when left corner forward Denise Gilligan picked up a long ball from Sharon Glynn and sent in a low hard shot which keeper Kathleen Costine had no chance of stopping. Cork had three points to spare at the break 1-9 to 1-6.

As play resumed Galway looked like a team hungry for victory. The first indication of this could be seen in the improvement brought to the back line following the introduction of Carmel Allen. All over the field Galway players were playing with great confidence and making space much more easily. It was the speedy Denise Gilligan from Craughwell club who brought them level with a 33rd minute goal and in less than three minutes Martina Harkin had a similar score. Then they further showed their new found confidence when the outstanding goalkeeper Louise Curry brought off a vital save from Lynn Dunlea when only two points separated the sides. Galway had managed such a change in their play that Cork were simply overcome.

After a fourth goal by Dymphna Maher in the 43rd minute Galway only added one point more to their match total. Frees from Fiona O'Driscoll and Lynn Dunlea (2) left Cork just four points behind with 12 minutes remaining. Galway's defence came under severe pressure during the hectic climax, but Cork threw away four vital chances from placed balls. Two late frees from Lynn Dunlea left two points between the sides at the final whistle.

Scorers: Galway: Denise Gilligan 2-0, Sharon Glynn 0-5, Martina Harkin 1-1, Dymphna Maher 1-0, Imelda Hobbins and Veronica Curtin 0-1 each.

Cork: Lynn Dunlea 1-9, Fiona O'Driscoll 0-4, Mary O'Connor and Linda Mellerick 0-1 each.

GALWAY TEAM: Louise Curry, Olive Costello, Ann Broderick, Olivia Broderick, Pamela Nevin, Dymphna Maher, Sharon Glynn, Carmel Hannon, Martina Harkin, Imelda Hobbins (Capt.), Denise Gilligan, Veronica Curtin.

Subs: Carmel Allen for O. Broderick (31 min), Gretta Maher for C. Hannon (34 min).

CORK: Kathleen Costine, Eithne Duggan, Paula Goggins, Sandie Fitzgibbon, Margaret Finn, Therese O'Callaghan (Capt.), Vivienne Harris, Linda Mellerick, Denise Cronin, Mary O'Connor, Fiona O'Driscoll, Lynn Dunlea.

Subs: Stephanie Dunlea for M. O'Connor (36 min), Miriam Deacy for P. Goggins (40 min), Irene O'Keeffe for T. O'Callaghan (55 min).
Referee: Aine Derham, Dublin.

The 'Player of the Match' Award went to Denise Gilligan, Galway.

CORK 6-5 ROSCOMMON 2-7

Cork juniors went on a scoring spree in the All-Ireland junior final against Roscommon to win their fifth title. Three goals from Mary Kenefick swamped Roscommon, who lost by just one point to Limerick in last year's decider and had to face further heartbreak. The Connacht County were well in contention right up to the interval when they trailed by two points, 2-2 to 1-3. However, two goals in the space of four minutes after the break from Sinead O'Callaghan and Mary Kenefick saw Cork go into an eight point lead that put a stop to any chance Roscommon had to make a come-back.

Two further goals in the commencement of the third quarter left the game over as a contest. However Roscommon never gave up. Maeve Healy blasted home her second goal, the best goal of the day. Hilda Kenneally put the icing on the cake with the winners final goal two minutes from time.

Scorers: Cork: Mary Kenefick 3-0, Sinead O'Callaghan 1-2, Hilda Kenneally and Eileen Buckley 1-0 each, Sinead Cahalane 0-2, Linda O'Sullivan 0-1.

Roscommon: Maeve Healy 2-1, Karina Jones 0-4, Geraldine Carr and Ursula Hussey 0-1 each.

CORK TEAM: Leona Nolan, Enda Dineen, Alison Dilworth, Colette Cronin, Trish Doyle, Hilda Kenneally, Eileen Buckley, Sinead Cahalane, Sinead O'Callaghan, Antoinette O'Connell (Capt.), Mary Kenefick, Linda O'Sullivan.

Sub: Evelyn Healy for E. Dineen (29 min).

ROSCOMMON: Ursula Hussey, Caroline Connaughton, Emer Farrell, Cait Kenny, Teresa Carty, Karina Jones, Hillary Hussey, Charmaine Cooney, Geraldine Carr, Mary Grehan (Capt.), Maeve Healy, Mary Gannon.

Referee: Fiona McKenna, Armagh.

The Annual All-Ireland 'Sevens' held at Kilmacod on the eve of the All-Ireland was a huge success. 48 teams took part. Both honours went to Tipperary clubs.

Div. 1. Drom-Inch 3-10 Erin's Isle, Dublin 1-7.

Div. 2. Toomevara 4-9 St. Ibar's, Wexford 2-3.

GALANDER

October 13. All-Ireland Club Championship. Quarter-final.
Rathure Wexford v London Champions

October 20. Commencement of National Junior League.

November 3. All-Ireland Club Championship. Semi-finals:

Munster v Leitrim/Fontenoy's, Down

Connacht v Rathmore or London.



Imelda Hobbins sets Galway on the attack despite the efforts of Cork's Paula Goggins (left) and Therese O'Callaghan.

Then, in camogie we had one of the biggest attendances ever at an All Ireland finals bill at 10,235. Followers were treated to an exciting minor final, highlighted by a memorable second half as Galway battled back from arrears of seven points coming up to half-time to turn on the style for an historic two points win.

The quality of the play, especially in the second half, was a tremendous boost for the sport and is bound to have won many new recruits to the game. All the more so as highlights of the final were shown on television.

Galway are only the sixth county to win the senior title and prior to their break-through we had to go back as far as 1974 for the last year that a new name was inscribed on the O'Duffy Cup.

BARRIER SMASHED

The talented girls from the West, led by Imelda Hobbins, have, then, struck an important blow for camogie. Their win has smashed a barrier, and will give new hope not only to those who play and support camogie in the county, but to thousands in other counties who have been striving so valiantly and so long with little tangible reward for their efforts.

The same can be said about the Laois minor footballers, who won the county's first-ever All-Ireland championship in the grade and only the second in all grades by the county. Football in general in the O'Moore County is bound to benefit from the achievements of the Martin Delaney led squad.

The race for the All-Ireland minor hurling title also provided some splendid moments and played its part as well in underlining that the games among the youth are in a very strong position.

As for the seniors, the All-Ireland finals attracted bumper attendances as usual and rewarded followers with many exciting talking points. Particularly pleasing as well is the fact that the two finals and the football replay attracted huge figures for television viewers.

Yes, in many ways September 1996 was a Golden Month for Gaelic Games. Let's not forget either that the Gael Sport All-Ireland handball finals at Croke Park on the eve of the hurling final and the drawn football decider attracted full houses.

Síle de Bhailís
Ardnraí



Race for possession... Martina Harkin (Galway) left and Margaret Finn (Cork) in action in the All-Ireland Senior Camogie Final.

Chéim 1996

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Micheál Ó Muircheartaigh, Cathaoirleach Bhord na Gaeilge, Imelda Nic Oibéin, captaen na Gaillimhe, Belle Uí Lochlainn, Uachtarán Cumann Camógaiochta na nGael, Jack Boothman, Uachtarán Cumann Luthchleas Gael.



Amósaíocht

