



AUG 1998
TO
SEPT 1998

1998 ALL-IRELAND
FINALS

**CUMANN
CAMÓGAÍOCHTA
NA NGAEI**



**CORCAIGH
v
DOIRE**

AUG

1998

Clár Oifigiúil
Luach £1.00

Baile an Chollaigh,
Corcaigh,
22 Lúnasa, 1998, at 2.30 i.n.

S. & B. Blair
Ardrúnaí



Corcaigh

Dearg agus Bán

Doire

Dearg agus Bán



1
AOIFE NÍ MHUIRÍ
Aoife Murray
Cloughdubh

2
RÓIS NÍ UALLACHÁIN
Rosale Holland
Barryroe

3
SIOBHÁN NÍ CHEALLACHÁIN
Joanne O'Callaghan
Cloughdubh

4
SORCHA NÍ AODHA
Sarah Hayes
Coursey Rovers

5
AMANDA NÍ RIAGÁIN
Amanda O'Regan
Douglas

6
CAITRÍONA NÍ CHORCRA
Catherine Corkery
Cloughdubh
Captaen

7
RACHEL NÍ MHAOLOMHAIGH
Rachel Moloney
Coursey Rovers

8
BRÍD NÍ NÉILL
Brid O'Neill
Watergrasshill

9
EMER NÍ DHIOLLÚIN
Emer Dillon
Ballygarvan

10
CIARA NÍ ÉALAITHE
Ciara Healy
Bishopstown

11
MÁIRE NÍ NUANÁIN
Maria Noonan
Aghabullogue

12
CAITRÍONA NÍ CHEALLAIGH
Caitriona Kelly
Ballygarvan

IONADAITHE:

13. NIAMH NÍ BHAOILL
Niamh Bowles, Newtownshandrum
14. ÉILÍS BHOIGLÉIR
Elizabeth Bugler, Valley Rovers
15. ÁINE NÍ RIAGÁIN
Áine O'Regan, Coursey Rovers
16. ÁINE NÍ CHÉILLEACHAIR
Áine Kelleher, Newtownshandrum

17. SIOBHÁN NÍ THUAMA
Joan Twomey, Aghabullogue
18. EDEL NÍ FHOGHLÚ
Edel Foley, Kilbrittain
19. SINÉAD NÍ LAOIRE
Jennifer O'Leary, Barryroe
20. EIBHLÍN NÍ IARLATHA
Ellen O'Herlihy, Éire Óg

1
ÁINE NÍ CHATHÁIN
Áine O'Kane
Ballinascreen

2
ÁINE NÍ BHROLCHÁIN
Áine Bradley
Glen

3
CHARLENE NÍ MHÓRDHA
Charlene Moore
Dungiven

4
SINÉAD NÍ STIOFÁIN
Sinéad Stephens
Banagher
Captaen

5
CLÁR NÍ LEAGÁIN
Claire Lagan
Swatragh

6
LORNA NÍ MHAOLCHALLAN
Lorna Mulholland
Castledawson

7
SIOBHÁN NÍ CHEALLAIGH
Susan Kelly
Slaughtneil

8
AISLINN NÍ CHAOILL
Aisling Kealey
Dungiven

9
PAULA NÍ EACHAIDH
Paula McCloy
Lavey

10
MONCHA NÍ CHATHÁIN
Monica O'Kane
Swatragh

11
CLÁR NÍ COLGÁIN
Claire McColgan
Dungiven

12
SINÉAD NÍ CHEALLAIGH
Jane Kelly
Slaughtneil

IONADAITHE:

13. SHAUNA NÍ MHAOLCHALLAN
Shauna Mulholland, Castledawson
14. CIARA NÍ BHAOILL
Ciara O'Boyle, Lavey
15. CEARÚL ÁINE NÍ LOINSIGH
Carol Ann Lynch, Banagher
16. MÁIRE ÁINE NÍ BHROLCHÁIN
Marianne Bradley, Slaughtneil

17. RÓIS NÍ BHROLCHÁIN
Rose Bradley, Slaughtneil
18. CÁIT NÍ DHÚILL
Kathy Doyle, Castledawson
19. ÚNA NÍ MHAOLÁIN
Oonagh Mullan, Swatragh
20. BRÍD NÍ NIOCAILL
Breige McNicholl, Swatragh



Doire agus Corcaigh

- ag casadh ar a chéile don chéad uair ariamh -

Cuireadh tús le Craobhchomórtais na Mionúr i 1974 le seachtó bliain de shaol Chumann Camógaíochta na nGael a chomóradh. Today's match is the twenty-fifth Minor Championship Final and is the first occasion on which Doire agus Corcaigh have met in this competition.

A first for Doire Cuirtear fáilte roimh chailíní Dhoire ar an gcéad uair dóibh Cluiche Ceannais na Mionúr a bhaint amach. Although Ulster Minor Champions five times in all, Doire has been disappointed at All-Ireland semi-final stage on four previous occasions. Buadh ortha ag Áth Cliath ('83), Tiobraid Árann ('90), An Ghaillimh ('94) agus ag Loch Garman ('95). Beidh fonn ortha Corn Tailteann a bhreith abhaile leo inniu.

Na Cluichí Leathcheannais 1998

Corcaigh 0-13, An Ghaillimh 1-9
Doire 2-8, Cill Chainnigh 1-7

"Rogha Imreora" i gCluichí Ceannais na Mionúr 6 1994 i leith

Na Buaiteoirí go dtí seo

1994

Veronica Nic Cuirtín
An Ghaillimh

1995

Aine Nic Óda
Loch Garman

1996

Michelle Nig Fhloinn
An Ghaillimh

Bhí an Gradam faoi urraíocht
go dtí seo ag
ARMAGH CRYSTAL

A hualairt de scéala atá ag muintir Chorcaí agus Cluiche Ceannais na hÉireann bainte amach don tarna huair déag acu. Corcaigh leads the Roll of Honour with eight All-Ireland Minor titles, having won fifteen Munster Minor titles. Tá áit faoi leith ag Corcaigh i stair an chomórtais seo. Corcaigh is the only Contae which has won the title three times in a row, and it has twice achieved this distinction, 1978-80 and 1983-85.

Cúige Uladh An Dún is the only Ulster County which has won Craobhchomórtais na Mionúr. Bhúadar siúd an chéad chluiche Ceannais i 1974. Baineadh an Cluiche Ceannais amach ag trí chontae eile, áfach, An Cúigín ('79, '80), Aontroim ('81), agus Ardmhacha ('88).

Cúige Mumhan Corcaigh a bhí chun tosaigh i gCúige Mumhan ar feadh i bhfad ag an leibhéal seo. Not until 1990 did another Cúige Mumhan team reach the All-Ireland Final. Tiobraid Árann had been defeated by Cill Chainnigh in the semi-final of 1989, but reversed the outcome in 1990, d'Éirigh leo arís i 1992 agus 1993.

Cork Girls go for All Ireland Glory

It's showdown time for the Cork minor camogie players as they take on Derry in the All-Ireland Minor Final on Saturday next. The venue is right here at home in Ballincollig GAA club and a big crowd is expected to attend this exciting clash which gets underway at 2.30 p.m.

Derry, who are very well regarded at their side of the country, beat Kilkenny in the semi-final and must be respected on that form. Cork for their part, defeated Tipperary in the Munster final in Thurles, before going on to take out Galway in Loughrea in the All-Ireland semi-final. With this match now on their own territory the omens certainly look good for Cork who were so unlucky when getting defeated in the final last year.

The team for Saturday's match will be selected from the following panel -

Rosarie Holland (Barryroe), Joanne O'Callaghan (Cloughduv), Sarah Hayes (Courcey Rovers), Amanda O'Regan (Douglas), Catherine Corkery (Cloughduv), Rachel Moloney (Courcey Rovers), Brid O'Neill (Watergrasshill), Emer Dillon (Ballygarvan), Ciara Healy (Bishopstown), Maria Noonan (Aghabullogue), Catherine Kelly (Ballygarvan), Niamh Bowles (Newtownshandrum), Elizabeth Bugler (Valley Rovers), Aine O'Regan (Courcey Rovers), Aine Kelleher (Newtownshandrum), Joan Twomey (Aghabullogue), Edel Foley (Kilbrittain), T. O'Leary (Ballinagree), Ellen O'Herlihy (Eire Og). Selectors - Kathleen Healy (Cloughduv), Jim Cronin (Cloughduv), Thady Roche (Aghabullogue).

Cork and Derry meet in minor final

THE task of bringing the county's first All-Ireland title of 1998 falls to the Cork minor camogie team this afternoon when they take on Derry in Ballincollig at 2.30pm.

For Cork, it's their second final in a row and a chance to make amends for last year when they failed at the hands of a superb Galway outfit.

The last minor title to come to Leeside was in 1985, and 13 years is a lifetime to a county like Cork who have such a strong camogie tradition.

However, since the inception of the competition in 1974, Cork have taken the title on eight occasions while for Derry it's a first appearance in a minor final.

They had a comprehensive 5-6 to 1-1 victory over Antrim in the Ulster final and they went on to record a four point victory over fancied Kilkenny side in the semi final.

Under-age camogie has been on the up and up in northern counties in recent times and it's an indication of the game's strength to see Derry in today's final.

They can call on three players who contested the All Ireland colleges junior final with Magherafelt this season - Monica and Aine O'Kane and Lorna Mulholland who is the county's leading scorer, whilst six of their panel contested last year's All Ireland Senior Colleges Final with St. Patrick's, Maghera.

Today they travel in determined fashion with a desire to take the title to Derry but they will need to be in their best form against a Cork team who have performed superbly in their path to the final.

The Munster final v Tipperary will remain in memory for the spirit and commitment shown by this Cork side who retained their title in extra time.

Their semi-final victory over champions, Galway, came with the last puck of the game when it came

to Rachel Moloney to point a thirty-metres free.

The selectors have just one change to their semi-final team: into the squad comes Marie Noonan at corner forward in place of Niamh Bowles.

Aoife Murray lines out in goal with Rosarii Holland at full-back; Amanda O'Regan and Joanne O'Callaghan fill the corner-back positions whilst Sarah Hayes holds down the centre-back spot.

The midfield trio are Rachel Moloney, Brid O'Neill and Catherine Corkery who captains the side, Ciara Healy who was so impressive in Wednesday night's county senior final with their club Bishopstown, lines out as centre-forward, while Emer Dillon and Catriona Kelly are the inside forwards.

It's a strong Cork side with seven of last year's panel available and a win today would be a major boost for the county in advance of the Senior Championship final on September 6.

Fresh from their county final success, county champions Bishopstown entertain Limerick champions, Grenagh-Ballingarry in the Munster Club Championship at Bishopstown on Sunday.

The Cork girls have a tough game in store as the Limerick side are an experienced outfit, having reached the All Ireland Club Championship semi-final last year when they lost out narrowly to Kilkenny champions, Lisdowney. However, Cork hopes will be high that Bishopstown will advance.

At local level, the Junior B championship continues, with Bandon meeting Carrigaline whom they defeated narrowly in a recent league game.

Valley Rovers and Mayfield clash at Innishannon while city side, Delanys, make the long journey to Mitchelstown to take on the home side.

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Derry's Lorna Mulholland attempts to control the ball as Cork's Brid O'Neill chases her during their All-Ireland Minor camogie final at Ballincollig.

Picture: Mark Kelleher/News-Pics

Kelly leads way as Cork outclass Derry

Cork
Derry

3-18
1-5

by Tom Higgins

DERRY had no answer to a very talented Cork side in the All-Ireland Minor camogie final at Ballincollig, Co. Cork on Saturday, as the home side collected their ninth title in this grade, and their first since 1985.

The game was only three minutes old when Cork opened the scoring with a brilliant goal. Rachel Moloney took a sideline cut about 25 metres out and up rose Caitriona Kelly to connect with the ball and give the Derry goalkeeper Aine O'Kane no chance.

Despite playing against a slight swirling wind Cork did most of the pressing and were 1-4 to 0-1 ahead after 11 minutes, Derry's point coming from Monica O'Kane in the fourth minute. The Cork backs — in particular Rosalie Holland, Sarah Hayes, who was really outstanding, and Amanda O'Regan — really shut down the Derry defence and gave them little scope.

Cork controlled midfield and with Rachel Moloney and Brid O'Neill delivering plenty of long clearances into the Cork forward line which they made excellent use of.

Cork's second goal, which was a real gem, came from Ciara Healy. A long free from Sarah Hayes was batted down by Emer Dillon to the Bishopstown player who shot hard and low to the back of the net. Coming up to half time Cork led by 2-8 to 0-4, but with the

last puck of the half Claire McColgan gave the Northerners some hope when she latched onto a loose ball to beat goalkeeper Aislin Murray from close in.

The heat took its toll on the players in the second half with both sides running out of energy. But Cork totally dominated and a minute after the re-start Ciara Healy crossed for Caitriona Kelly to get her second goal of the game and kill off the contest. And the home side continued to pick off their points, easing up only in the last ten minutes.

Despite their defeat Derry had some promising players on view. Sinead Stephens, their captain, had a fine game at centre-back while Aisling Kealey was one of the best players on show with some darting runs up field from midfield. But she got little help from her forwards, who were tightly marked. Others to stand out were Susan Kelly at centre half-forward and Claire McColgan at left full-forward.

At half time the Carrigaline Pipe Band played a lament and the large crowd stood in silence for a minute as a mark of respect to those killed and injured in Omagh the previous Saturday.

Scorers: Cork: C. Kelly 2-1, C. Healy 1-3, R. Moloney 0-6 (0-5 frees), C. Corcoran 0-2, S. Hayes 0-2 (frees), E. Dillon 0-2, B. O'Neill, M. Noonan 0-1 each. Derry: C. McColgan 1-0, L. Mulholland 0-2 (frees), M. O'Kane, A. Kealey, C. Moore (free) 0-1 each. Cork: A. Murphy; R. Holland; J. O'Callaghan, S. Hayes, A. O'Regan; C. Corkery (capt), R. Moloney, B. O'Neill; E. Dillon, C. Healy, M. Noonan; C. Kelly. Subs: E. Foley for B. O'Neill (40th minute), J. O'Leary for M. Noonan (50th minute), E. Bugler for C. Healy (53rd minute). Derry: A. O'Kane; A. Bradley; C. Moore, S. Stephens (capt), C. Lagan; L. Mulholland, S. Kelly, A. Kealey; P. McCloy, M. O'Kane, C. McColgan; J. Kelly. Referee: Ms. V. Mackey (Limerick).

All-Ireland Minor Camogie Championship final Cork 3-18 Derry 1-5

Cork girls too much for Derry

DERRY'S first appearance in an All-Ireland Minor Final ended in disappointment as Cork bridged a 13-year gap to extend their collection of titles at this level to a record nine.

Goals in the fourth and 17th minutes from livewire centre forward Ciara Healy set the home side up for victory and they looked strong at all times with Sarah Hayes and captain Catherine Corkery able to control the game with ease.

Derry fought hard in the opening half and were well in the game before Healy's second goal.

Claire McColgan slammed home a Derry goal on the stroke of half-time to give the Ulster Champions some hope, 2-8 to 1-4 down at the break.

However, that hope was quickly dampened as Cork full forward Caitriona Kelly fired home a goal less than 60 seconds after the re-start.

Although Charlene Moore shot over a fourth minute reply, the floodgates opened in the 10th minute and Cork shot ten points without reply to finish very comfortable winners.

Derry: A. O'Kane, A. Bradley, C. Moore (0-1), S. Stevenson (capt), C. Lagan, L. Mulholland (0-2, frees), S. Kelly, A. Kealey, P. McCloy, M. O'Kane (0-1), C. McColgan (1-0), J. Kelly.

Cork: A. Murphy, R. Holland, J. O'Callaghan, S. Hayes (0-2, frees), A. O'Regan, C. Corkery (0-2), R. Moloney (0-3), B. O'Neill (0-1, free), C. Healy (2-3), M. Noonan (0-4, 0-3, frees), C. Kelly (1-3) E. Dillon.

Subs: A. Kelleher for E. Dillon, J. Toney for M. Noonan, J. O'Leary for B. O'Neill. Referee: Vera Mulcahy (Limerick).



South East players Sarah Hayes, Rachel Maloney and Aine O'Regan (Courcey Rovers), Caitriona Kelly, Emer Dillon (Ballygarvan) and Elizabeth Bugler from Valley Rovers who were part of the Cork team who defeated Derry in the All-Ireland minor camogie final at Ballincollig recently.



All-Ireland Camogie Champions, Cork, who defeated Derry in the final in Ballincollig last Saturday.

RIGHT: Cork Minor Camogie Captain, Catherine Corkery with the All-Ireland trophy. (Pics: Eoin English)



Valley Rovers triumph

CAMOGIE

Valley Rovers 2-12
Courcey Rovers 2-7

Valley Rovers had to withstand a spirited late rally from Courcey Rovers before taking the honours in an exciting Carrigdhoun Cup junior camogie final at Ballinhassig last Monday evening.

The Innishannon side looked to be home and dry when they led by 2-11 to 0-7 with under five minutes remaining.

But Courcey refused to give up the ghost, and could have snatched a draw at least had they made the most of their chances which came their way near the end.

As it was, goals from Rosemary and Rachel Moloney brought Courceys back into contention and they were pressing hard when the final whistle came as a source of no little relief to the winners.

Overall, however, Valley Rovers deserved their victory as they were clearly the better-balanced side and had more to offer in attack where the talented Elaine Burke excelled.

Marie Hurley, Bernie Shiels and Sarah O'Donovan were others to regularly catch the eye up front while Elizabeth Bugler at midfield and especially Claire O'Mahony at centre-back also played leading roles in this Valley Rovers triumph.

SHADED

Courceys had the better of the opening exchanges, and it wasn't until the 16th minute that Valley Rovers hit the front for the first time when Elaine Burke finished a good cross from Marie Hurley to the net to make it 1-3 to 0-3 at that stage. With Rosemary Moloney working tirelessly at midfield, Courceys just about shaded the territorial battle before the break.

But limitations in attack meant that they were forced to depend primarily on Rachel Moloney's accuracy from frees for penetration during the opening period.

By contrast, Elizabeth Bugler, Sarah O'Donovan, Bernie Shiels, Marie Hurley and Elaine Burke all got on the scoresheet from play for Valley Rovers, who were full value for a 1-6 to 0-5 lead at the interval.

Rachel Moloney picked off a fine point for Courceys within two minutes of the resumption, but the more accomplished

Valley Rovers combination gradually began to take control as the second-half progressed.

Indeed, but for the excellence of Courceys' custodian Joanne Hayes, who brought off a string of fine saves, Valley Rovers would almost certainly have wrapped things up before the end of the third quarter.

Valley Rovers' persistent probing finally reaped rich dividends, however, when Sarah O'Donovan was on hand to finish to the net after Courceys Joanne Hayes had initially made another splendid save from Elaine Burke with seven minutes remaining.

A marvellous score from the rampant Burke followed to leave Valley Rovers eleven points to the good, and it looked all up for Courceys.

In a last throw of the dice, however, Courceys moved Rachel Moloney to full-forward and she immediately made the opening for a goal for sister Rosemary before finding the net herself in the final minute.

But it was to prove a case of too little, too late for gallant Courceys, who had other good performers in Cora Murphy, Sarah Hayes and Aine O'Regan.

Scorers - Valley Rovers: E. Burke 1-4, S. O'Donovan 1-1, M. Hurley 0-4 (0-3

frees), E. Bugler 0-2, B. Shiels 0-1. Courcey Rovers: Rachel Moloney 1-5 (0-3 frees), Rosemary Moloney 1-0, S. Hayes (free), and J. Murphy 0-1 each.

Valley Rovers: S. Shiels, L. Quirke, D. Crowley, C. O'Mahony, C. O'Riordan, H. Bugler, F. Callanan, E. Bugler, E. Burke, B. Shiels, S. O'Donovan, M. Hurley.

Courcey Rovers: J. Hayes, C. Hannon, J. Murphy, C. Murphy, S. O'Regan, A. O'Regan, Rosemary Moloney, S. Hayes, R. Moloney, S. Harrington, E. McCarthy, S. Moloney and subs, M. O'Regan for McCarthy, T. Moloney for S. Moloney.

Referee, Jack McGrath, Carrigaline.

—Noel Horgan

AUG.

1998

Camogie World

Bord na Gaeilge

by P.J. Fulham

ALL-IRELAND MINOR FINAL

On Sunday next in Ballincollig at 2.30pm, Cork and Derry meet in the 25th All-Ireland minor championship final for An Corn Tailteann. It is an all important event on the camogie calendar as it is the first opportunity for young players to taste All-Ireland success.

Only seven counties have inscribed their names on the trophy, Cork hold the greatest number of titles, eight in all and twice they have won the title in three successive years: 1978, 1979 and 1980; 1983, 1984 and 1985. Sandy Fitzgibbon, who retired from Cork senior side last year, won three All-Ireland minor medals between 1978 and 1980 and was captain of the 1980 success.

Cork defeated Tipperary in the Munster final and are 15 times provincial champions. They are making their twelfth All-Ireland appearance today. They hold the distinction of contesting the first three finals, losing to Down in the inaugural in 1974, 3-0 to 0-1. They secured the title in '75 and retained it the following year.

Derry are appearing in their first ever All-Ireland minor final, and are the first Ulster team to contest a final since Armagh in 1988. They have won the Ulster Championship five times, defeating Antrim 5-6 to 1-0 in this year's decider. In 1983, Dublin knocked them out in the semi-final and in their next three semi-final appearances were defeated by the eventual winners, Tipperary in '90, Galway in '94 and Wexford in '95.

In the semi-finals Cork blocked Galway's chances of three titles in a row when they emerged winners by just one point 0-13 to 1-9. Captain Rachel Molloney registered 0-8 from frees.

Derry had four points to spare over Leinster champions Kilkenny 2-8 to 1-7. Lorna Mulholland was responsible for 0-7 of the Ulster county's tally.

Derry contested two All-Ireland junior finals in 1969 and '78. Cork were their

opponents on each occasion and Derry were victors.

The standard and skill produced in the semi-finals augurs well for a very close and exciting final, whether Derry can carve a new name on An Corn Tailteann or Cork add their ninth.

INTERMEDIATE QUARTER-FINALS

Two late frees converted by Ann McKee were enough to put Antrim into the semi-final of the All-Ireland Intermediate Championship in a keenly contested quarter-final encounter with Dublin played at Casement Park. The visitors got off to a good start with a goal by Carmel Gray after seven minutes. However inside of a minute Antrim had crashed home two goals by Oonagh Elliott and Grace McMullan to put Antrim in control. Elliott added a second goal to give Antrim a 3-3 to 1-5 lead at the break. Dublin picked off some well taken points and a goal by substitute Eve Tolbot levelled the contest. In the closing stages Anne McKee sent over two points to put her side into the semi-final against Down. Final score: Antrim 3-8 Dublin 2-9.

Scorers - Antrim: Oonagh Elliott 2-0, Anne McKee 0-6, Grace McMullan 1-0, Jane Adams 0-2.

Dublin: Carmel Gray and Louise Lynch 1-0 each, Denise O'Leary 0-3, Emer Brannigan 0-2, Patricia Clinton, Anne Marie Gray, Irene Kirwan and Carmel O'Byrne 0-1 each.

Cork went on a scoring spree against Armagh in this All-Ireland Intermediate quarter-final at Ballincollig. The winners led 1-10 to 0-4 at the break and now face Limerick in the semi-final. Final score: Cork 4-16 Armagh 0-6.

Scorers - Cork: Criona Harte 2-7, Una O'Donoghue and Emma Harte 1-2 each, Sinead Cahalane 0-4, Elaine Burke 0-1.

Armagh: Mary Black 0-3, Bernie McBride, Joan Rice and Karen Kelly 0-1 each.

Referee - Rosemary Kelleher, Limerick.

Ulster Club Championship Quarter-Finals Results:

Leitrim/Fontenoy's, Down 2-11
Castletara, Cavan 1-5
Scorers: Leitrim - Mairin McAleenan 2-10, Caitriona McCrickard 0-1.
Castletara - Majella Prior 0-5, Nuala O'Hanlon 1-0.

Swatragh, Derry 6-22
Newtowncunningham, Donegal 0-3.
Scorers: Swatragh - Monica Doherty 2-1, Paula McAtamney 1-7, Claire McNicholl 1-4, Shauna Turner 1-1, Veronica Ross 1-0, Aileen Tohill and Deirdre Doherty 0-3 each, Paula McKenna, Bronagh McGuician, Bernie McLoughlin 0-1 each.
Newtowncunningham - Caitriona O'Callaghan 0-3.

Dunloy, Antrim 6-15
Castleblayney, Monaghan 3-3.
Scorers: Dunloy - Oonagh Elliott 2-2, Elaine Dowds 2-1, Christine Camphill 1-2, Ciara McKinley 1-1, Anne McKee 0-8, Edel Mason 0-1.
Castleblayney - Michaela McConville 1-3, Joanne Kelly and Sarah Hughes 1-0 each.

Ballymacnab, Armagh 5-10
Eglis, Tyrone 5-7
Scorers: Ballymacnab - Mary Donnelly 3-4, Bernice Gribbon 2-3, Pauleen McConnell 0-2, Sinead Gray 0-1.
Eglis - Brenda Burke 2-1, Leona Fay 1-4, Mary Rose McGrady 1-1, Claire Ogle 1-0, Catherine Daly 0-1.

The semi-finals take place on Sunday: Leitrim/Fontenoy's v Ballymacnab and Dunloy v Swatragh.

In the Leinster club championship semi-finals Wexford champions host St Vincents, Dublin, Kilkenny champions Freshford await the winners of St Laurences, Kildare and Myshall, Carlow which had to be postponed owing to a bereavement.

Camogie World

Bord na Gaeilge
by PJ Fulham

GALWAY THROUGH TO ALL-IRELAND JUNIOR FINAL TIPP AND DERRY MUST MEET AGAIN

Galway booked their ticket to the All-Ireland Junior Camogie final when they got the upperhand on Carlow in a keenly contested semi-final played at Carlow Hurling Ground. Little separated the sides at any time. However, two second half goals by Sandra Tannian and Eileen Earls destroyed Carlow's chances of gracing Croke Park on All-Ireland day. The first half was evenly contested with some well taken points from Carlow's Valerie Crean and Galway's Lourda Kavanagh who was also responsible for a goal. Just before half time Nuala Quirke shot to the net for the home side to give Carlow the edge at the break, 1-6 to 1-4. Carlow were still in contention in the second half but were unable to overcome the two goal set-back. Final score: Galway 3-10 Carlow 1-11.

Scorers - Galway: Lourda Kavanagh 1-7, Eileen Earls 1-1, Sandra Tannian 1-0, Veronica Sweeney and Michelle Glynn 0-1 each.

Carlow: Valerie Crean 0-8, Nuala Quirke 1-0, Mary Coady 0-2, Olivia O'Neill 0-1.

Galway team: Aoife Connolly, Ann Dolan, Rita Broderick, Ailbhe Kelly, Fiona Healy, Michelle Glynn, Caroline Murray, Veronica Sweeney, Lourda Kavanagh, Aoife Lynskey, Sandra Tannian, Brenda Daniels. Subs: Eileen Earls for C Murray, Miriam Lynch for A Lynskey.

Carlow team: Mary Nolan, Sile Ryan, Kathleen Brennan, Olivia O'Neill, Joanne Lawlor, Charmaine Gibson, Marie Sheehan, Mary Coady, Nuala Quirke, Valerie Crean, Olivia Maye, Mairead Hogan. Sub: Sharon Keohane for M Hogan.

Referee: John Morrissey, Tipperary

In the other semi-final played at The Ragg, Thurles, Tipperary and Derry finished all square in a spirited encounter. Super Sub Bronagh Birt gave Derry a second bite at the cherry when she goaled just on time. The first half was a ding dong battle with some great play by both sides. Some well taken points from frees by Derry's Martina Mulholland kept their noses in front. A well executed goal by Siobhan Ryan left the sides level at the break, Tipperary 1-4 Derry 0-7.

By the end of the third quarter, Tipperary had a seven point cushion with goals coming from Grainne Shanaghan and Siobhan Ryan. However, Derry whittled away and just on full time were awarded a side line free which was battled out by a Tipperary defender into the path of Bronagh Birt who banged it to the net to put her side on level terms.

Final Score: Tipperary 3-10 Derry 2-13

Scorers - Tipperary: Siobhan Ryan 2-4, Grainne Shanaghan 1-1, Joanne Ryan 0-3, Niamh O'Dwyer and Angela McDermott 0-1 each.

Derry: Martina Mulholland 0-10, Bronagh Birt 1-1, Claire Mulholland 1-0, Aileen O'Kane and Grainne Maguire 0-1 each.

Tipperary team: Louise Ryan, Philomena Fogarty, Niamh Connolly, Sheena Howard, Maeve Corcoran, Alice Deane, Tess Burke, Angela McDermott, Joanne Ryan, Siobhan Ryan, Paula Bulfin, Niamh O'Dwyer. Subs: Grainne Shanaghan for Paula Bulfin.

Derry team: Aileen Crilly, Grainne Maguire, Claire Doherty, Siobhan Convery, Rhonda Doherty, Shauna McCaul, Pauleen McGuigan, Martina Mulholland, Eilish O'Neill, Aileen O'Kane, Claire Mulholland, Paula McAtamney. Sub: Bronagh Birt for P McGuigan, Susan McErlean for R Doherty.

Referee: Aileen Derham, Dublin

The replay takes place on Sunday next at Bellaghy at 1pm and once again it is expected to be a close affair.

Also this weekend the semi-finals of the All-Ireland Intermediate Championship are down for decision. On Saturday Antrim host Down at Loughgiel at 7pm. This should be an interesting encounter. When the sides met in the National League, Down were much the stronger, winning on a score of 4-12 to 1-7. The Mourne girls went on to win their first even Junior League title. Antrim showed great spirit Dublin in the quarter final and had two points to spare 3-8 to 2-9. They have very reliable players in Oonagh Elliott, Anne McKee, Grace McMullan and Jane Adams.

Down got a bye in the quarter final and are an experienced side with players such as Mairin McAleenan, Edel Mason, Ciara McGovern, Valerie Hynds, Colleen Hynds and Majella Murray. They are strongly fancied to reach the final.

On Sunday Limerick play Cork at Adare at 5pm in the

other semi-final. This should be a power packed encounter. Cork will be anxious to have a second team in an All-Ireland as well as their seniors and Limerick will be hoping to secure the title they last won in 1996. In a classy quarter final against Galway, which was an edge of the seat affair from start to finish they emerged winners by the minimum score 1-13 to 0-15. Pauleen McCarthy scored 1-11 of Limerick's tally on that day. They can also parade players of the calibre of Eileen O'Brien, Breda O'Brien, Laura Leslie, Kay Burke, Vera Sheehan and Deirdre Sheehan. This is Cork's second year in the competition. Last year they went out in the first round to the eventual winners Tipperary. In this year's quarter-final they had an overwhelming victory over Armagh, 4-16 to 0-6, and if players like Criona Harte, Emma Harte, Sinead Cahalane, Una O'Donoghoe and Elaine Burke hit form on the day they will be hard to overcome.

Nevertheless Limerick will be quietly confident on home ground.



Can Anne McKee and her Antrim team-mates overcome Down in this weekend's All-Ireland championship semi-final?

Rogha Imreora i gCluiche Ceannais na Mionúir



Siorcha Ní Aodha, Courcey Rovers, Corcaigh, a bhuaid an gradam "Rogha Imreora". Bronnadh an duais uirthi ag Fileas Ní Bhreasláin, Uachtarán Chumann Camógaloichta na nGael.

Barr's book place in camogie final

ST FINBARR'S booked their place in the Cork Senior B Camogie Championship semi-final with a comfortable 5-11 to 2-8 victory over Brian Dillons at Delany's last evening.

The Blues were rampant early on and looking well in command they led 3-6 to 1-3 at the break.

In the second-half St Finbarr's stretched their advantage and led 3-10 to 1-7 twenty minutes into the half.

Brian Dillons substitute Liz O'Mahony goaled with her first touch to raise Dillons' hopes but two goals from Rachel Myers saw the Barr's safely through to meet the winners of the Sarsfields and Eire Og clash.

Scorers: St Finbarr's: Rachel Myers 3-3, Collette O'Mahony 1-4 (0-4, free), Orla O'Sullivan 1-1, Janet Duffy 0-2 (0-1, 30m free), N Nash 0-1. Brian Dillons: S Buckley 0-5, L Fleming 1-1, L O'Mahony 1-0, N O'Regan and S Kelly 0-1 each. ST FINBARR'S: E Clifford, C Barry (Cpt), L O'Connell, Collette Kirby, M McCarthy, J Duffy, Clare Kirby, J Browne, O O'Sullivan, N Nash, R Myers, C O'Mahony. Sub: B Maher for J Duffy. BRIAN DILLONS: C O'Mahony, A Dwyer, S Kelly, S Manley, A O'Brien, Christine O'Mahony (Cpt), G Fleming, S Buckley, T Deane, L Fleming, T Drummond, N O'Regan. Sub: L O'Mahony for G Fleming.

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Girls bubbling after great camogie win

CAMOGIE in Cork is on the crest of a wave at present and following years of trying unsuccessfully Bishopstown have recently managed to win two senior titles back to back.

The club is quick to acknowledge the tremendous work of Cork

Corporation Independent Councillor Pat Murray, over the years, in producing many fine under age players with Neil White and his fellow selectors Bernard Olden, Conor Kenny and Pat Harris.

Their talent nurturing has paid off handsomely producing a very fine senior side.

The club won Féile na nGael Cork titles in 1981, '83, '84, '86 and '87 and that same year they also won national honours.

To add to the glory the club's Eithne Duggan will captain Cork in the All Ireland final against Galway which will be played in Croke Park on the first Sunday in September.



Bishopstown Senior captain lifts the Science Cup aloft after she received the cup from Sheila Golden, chairperson Camogie Board at Caherlag after the final.



The Lord Mayor of Cork, Cllr Joe O'Flynn and the Lady Mayoress, Mary O'Flynn pictured with rival captains, Sheenagh Morley (Bishopstown) and Frances Hennessey (Fr O'Neills) and referee Tracey Sheehan (Mayfield) prior to the County Camogie final.



Sheenagh Morley (Bishopstown) with the County Senior Cup following Bishopstown's win in the camogie final. Also included are Eithne Duggan, "Player of the Match" award winner, Tracey Sheehan, referee and Sheila Golden, chairperson Camogie Board.



The victorious Bishopstown team winners of the Cork Senior Camogie Championships.

Pic: E...

AUG. 1998

Bishopstown girls are crowned champions

-Towler and Desmond the stars in thrilling match

Bishopstown were crowned Cork camogie Senior A champions last week for the second year in a row when defeating gallant Fr O'Neills in a thrilling contest at Caherlag.

This was a magnificent match, the best game of camogie seen for many years. The setting for this game had everything: pitch was perfect, beautiful evening, massive crowd and of course the famous Castlelyons pipe band had everyone in good form. As this was a repeat of last year's final everyone was anticipating a gripping contest, but could Fr O'Neills reverse last year's result?

Fr O'Neills with the wind advantage got a whirlwind start when Fiona O'Driscoll had O'Neills ahead inside a minute with a goal and a pint. The Town did not know what was happening as O'Neills were playing inspired camogie. However in the 6th minute Vivienne Harris sent a perfect ball to Ciara Healy who first timed it to the O'Neills net. This seemed to settle the Town but back came O'Neills and two points each from Mary Kennefick and Claire Flavin had them four points ahead after 15 minutes. O'Neills were now in the driving seat but suddenly the Town thundered into the game. Eithne Duggan (Cork Capt), took complete control at

centre back and with V Harris popping up everywhere she was breaking O'Neills hearts with her long clearances. Above all Liz Towler was magnificent at full back completely blotting out the earlier threat of Fiona O'Driscoll her blocking and hooking was a delight to see.

In the 16th and 18th minutes Trish Doyle and Ciara Healy reduced O'Neills lead to two points. M Kennefick again replied with a point from a 30', but in the 21st and 23rd minutes there was again only a point separating the sides as V Harris and C Healy had points for the Town to leave the score at half time. Fr O'Neills 1-06 to Bishopstown's 1-05.

The question at half time was, could both teams give us another half as good? It was camogie at its best and a pure joy to watch. The second half was classic, forget about your Clares and O'Halys. O'Neills began this half as they did the first and increased their lead with a well taken Claire Flavin point. It seemed O'Neills were heading for their first title, but like all true champions the Town

responded with points from Caroline Kenny and Aine White to draw level. The excitement and tension was unbearable at this stage. Aine Buckley and Clare Murphy for Town were not giving O'Neills forwards a look in. Martha Cahill was delivering great ball into the forwards and Sheenagh Morley was Captain supreme in the middle of the field. Aine White, Trish Doyle, Ciara Healy and Caroline Kenny were very elusive and impossible to contain. Fifteen minutes to go and the Town go a point ahead with a magnificent T Doyle point. In the space of five minutes everything seemed to change as Town went four points up. After some brilliant interplay 16 year old Ciara Healy crashed the ball to O'Neills net for the score of the match. O'Neills were still not finished and with two points by M Kennefick reduced the lead to only two points. The tension was unreal as O'Neills came looking for a goal.

Superb Saves

Rose Desmond, the Town's keeper has played some great games in her long and distinguished career but none will surpass her two magnificent saves last Wednesday. She was the Town's

hero on this night.

Then in the final minute T Doyle sealed the Town's lead with an excellent point to leave the final score Bishopstown 2-10 to Fr O'Neills 1-10.

Bishopstown had won their second title in a row but spare a thought for Fr O'Neills who gave this game everything. Both sides are to be congratulated on serving up an exhibition of camogie.

It was also an historic night for Town's captain S Morley whose mother Joan captained Old St Aloysius to a county some years ago. Sheenagh is of course daughter of famous soccer player Jackie Morley. It was a dream come true for Neil White the Town's coach, as he was in Boston last year when they won. It is worth noting that of the 12 players from Bishopstown 10 of these players came through the underage structure at the club.

Congratulations also to Sheila Golden (Chairperson County Board) and her officers for such a great occasion.

Tracey Sheehan as referee and her officials, are to be complimented on an excellent job done.

Finally congratulations to the Bishopstown girls on capturing two county

titles in a row, this is a great achievement especially with five players unavailable from last year.

Bishopstown Team

Rose Desmond, Liz Towler, Aine Buckley, Claire Murphy, Eithne Duggan, Martha Cahill, Vivienne Harris, Sheenagh Morley Capt., Trisha Doyle, Aine White, Caroline Kenny, Ciara Healy, Brid Sheehan, Ciara Enright, Denise O'Brien, Nicola Falvey, Margaret Kearney, Aoife McCarthy.

■ Young Conor Hughes seen here with Tony Hughes supporting his aunt Aine White after Bishopstown win. (-)



■ Sheenagh Morley, Captain, and Caroline Kenny with some fans from Grenagh. From left; Caragh Kenny, John Russell, Ross Kenny and Conor Kenny. (-)

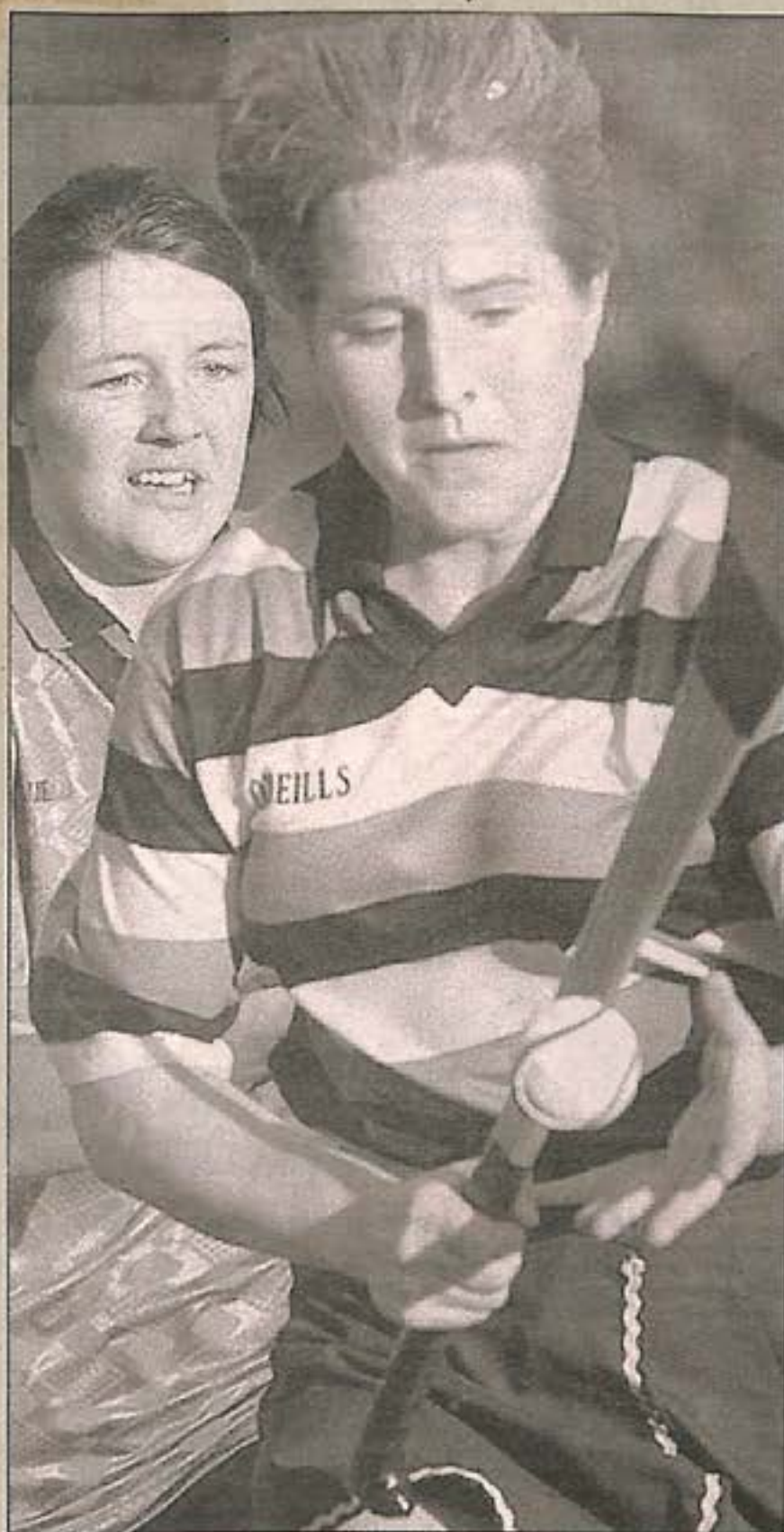
INTERMEDIATE CAMOGIE SEMI-FINAL
Cork 3-5 Limerick 1-10
Antrim 3-10 Down 2-11
JUNIOR CAMOGIE SEMI-FINAL REPLAY
Tipperary 2-9 Derry 0-11
LEINSTER U18 CAMOGIE FINAL
Westford 2-19 Dublin 0-2

CAMOGIE - Leinster Senior club championship semi-final: Freshford, Kildare 5-14, Myshall, Carlow 0-6.



■ Bishopstown celebrate their Cork County Senior Camogie Championship Final win over Fr O'Neills. Pictured from left in the back row; Neil White, Eithne Duggan, Denise O'Brien, Martha Cahill, Vivienne Harris, Liz Towler, Ciara Enright, Nicola Falvey, Rose Desmond and Aine White. Front left; Sinéad Kelly, Brid Sheehan, Caroline Kenny, Margaret Kearney, Claire Murphy, Sheenagh Morley Captain, Ciara Healy, Aine Buckley and Trisha Doyle (Pic: Mike English)

AUG. 1998



Therese O'Callaghan: Camogie has been good to Cork in the 1990s.

Why our can win

Cork going for their 19th title

ON the first Sunday in September, 12 Cork colleens will seek to uphold the pride of the county when they do battle with Galway for the O'Duffy Cup in Croke Park.



By TP O'Mahony

This All-Ireland Senior Camogie Final will be played in the presence of President Mary McAleese (who once played camogie herself) and promises to be a "glamour" occasion, in more senses than one.

But if titles could determine the outcome, it would be no contest. Cork are going for their 19th senior title, with Galway trying to win only their second.

This is the third successive pairing of the counties in the final, with Galway victorious in 1996 and Cork avenging that defeat last year.

Therese O'Callaghan, who captained Cork in the 1996 final against Galway and who is now an RTE sports commentator, expects the Leesiders to win.

"This is a good Cork team, strong in all areas, and with Fiona O'Driscoll having a great year up front, I can't see them losing to Galway."

"But it won't be easy."

All-Ireland finals rarely are, as I know only too well. You can't take anything for granted."

This year, the team is captained by Eithne Duggan of Bishopstown.

Eithne at full back will have Cora Keohane of Ballyroe behind her in goal, and the other defenders will be Denise Cronin of Glen Rovers, Vivienne Harris of Bishopstown and Mags Finn of Fr O'Neill's.

Last year's captain, Linda Mellerick of Glen Rovers, will again be in midfield, along with Ursula Troy of Newtownshandrum and Mary O'Connor of Killeagh.

Much will again depend on the forwards, who scored 15 points in last year's decider.

The Cork attack will again be spearheaded by the elegant Lynn Dunlea of Cloughduv.

She will be at full forward with Fiona O'Driscoll of Fr O'Neill's at centre forward, flanked by Sinead O'Callaghan of Ballyagran and Irene

O'Keeffe of the Inniscarra club.

None of these players are strangers to Croke Park, and they will be hoping to add to Cork's impressive record in the 1990s.

"Camogie has been good to Cork in the 90's," says Therese O'Callaghan.

"We took the title in 1992 and 1993, and again in 1995 and 1997."

"With Cork out of the hurling championship and out of the football championship, the camogie team represents our last hope of a senior title in 1998."

"They are good enough and with a bit of luck on the day, they should win."

"If they do, I hope they get the recognition they deserve."

"This hasn't always been the case in the past. An All-Ireland title is an All-Ireland title, whatever the code, and we should remember that."

Camogie — top sport takes second place

THE Camogie Association was founded in 1904 and the history of the sport could be said to mirror to a degree the history of women in 20th century Ireland.

The way the sport is perceived and treated by the media, together with its public status, accords with the status, perception and treatment of women in general.

The term "second class" comes immediately to mind. Camogie, part of the family of games under the umbrella of the GAA, has always come a bad third to hurling and Gaelic football.

Camogie has had its share of bright stars. The names come tumbling fast — from Kitty Buckley to Kathleen Mills to Una O'Connor to Betty Sugrue to Liz Garvan to Marion McCarthy to Jenny English to Angela Downey to Sandie Fitz-

gibbon. And there are those who would insist that if camogie wasn't a poor relation to the main GAA games, these names would be better honoured with Ireland's sporting fraternity.

They are among the superstars of camogie, a game played in an official and organised way since the first decade of the century.

The decision to establish the Association was very much against the "spirit of the age". Viewed from the standpoint of the feminist 1990s, it is hard for us to fully comprehend the scale of the difficulties confronting women in 1904 — on the social, economic, political and cultural fronts.

The suffragette movement in England, the struggle to win for women the right to vote only began to bear fruit at the beginning of this century.

By TP O'MAHONY

One social commentator made the pertinent point that the women who founded the Camogie Association had to free themselves of "the shackles of an age which frowned upon the active participation of women in sport".

President

It was highly significant, therefore when Mary Robinson, in the first year of her presidency, turned up at Croke Park in 1991 to present the O'Duffy Cup to the captain of the victorious team.

She did this in subsequent years as well and the tradition will be continued by President Mary McAleese, who once played camogie for Ardoyne in her native Belfast.

The key dates of the sport can be quickly summarised: The founding in 1904, the extension of the Association to Ulster in 1925, the first Senior All-Ireland championship in 1932 (won by Dublin), Cork's first Senior title in 1934 and in 1964 the Diamond Jubilee of the association saw the introduction of the All-Ireland Club Championship.

The game is growing all the time and camogie now has nearly 500 clubs nation-wide and over 60,000 active participants.

Camogie, in essence, is hurling played by women — but with some significant differences.

The rules forbid bodily contact so there is no shoulder-charging or body-checking.

Teams consist of 12 players, instead of 15 for hurling or football.

The length of the playing pitch is shorter, and the width of the goalposts is narrower. The camogie sliothar is also slightly lighter than the hurling sliothar.

In all other respects camogie matches hurling — employing the full range of dazzling skills and the swiftness of action which makes hurling what former Taoiseach and GAA dual-star Jack Lynch once described as "the finest field sport in the world".

Indeed, there are those who argue that because bodily contact is forbidden, the requirements in terms of skills are even greater in camogie than in hurling.

"Camogie at its best is the equal of hurling," according to one of Ireland's top sports writers, Con Houlihan.

Few fans of the game will argue with that verdict.

AUG. 1998

girls title

Sporty Lynn is one class player



Therese gets in on all the action for Cork against Galway in the All-Ireland series.

IF camogie currently has a queen it is surely Lynn Dunlea of Cloughduv, the star of the Cork attack since the early 90s.

This gifted school teacher is widely regarded as the heir to the crown held so long and so brilliantly by Kilkenny's Angela Downey.

Long-time observers of the game claim there will never be another Angela, but they also concede that Lynn Dunlea is a "class act".

This 24-year-old has the ability to get scores at crucial moments, to change the character of the game in split second.

Lethal

"She's lethal in front of goal," admits Ann Downey of Kilkenny (sister of Angela), who is not one to throw praise around lightly. "She has speed and skill and the eye for an opening."

Camogie is in the blood of the Dunlea family. Her mother, Nuala, played for Cork in her day, and Lynn's younger sister, Stephanie, plays alongside her for Cloughduv and is also a member of the Cork squad.

If Stephanie is one of Lynn's staunchest supporters on and off the field, she can also be her sternest critic.

"Sometimes Lynn is too laid back. Sometimes she might not be psyched up. She needs a push when that happens," says Stephanie, who also played camogie with UCC in the inter-varsity championships.

There was delight in Blackpool when the two sisters decided to transfer to Glen Rovers in 1993, and they both helped the club to win a string of senior County Championships and an All-Ireland Club Championship.

However, at the end of the 1996 season — much to the disappointment of Glen supporters — the sisters returned to Cloughduv.

What matters, at the end of the day, is their commitment and contribution to camogie.

Lynn, in particular, has brought a new dimension to the game, and she has come a long way from the day in Nowlan Park (August 15, 1993) when she came on as a last minute substitute in the All-Ireland semi-final against Kilkenny.

She made an immediate impact,



Dunlea: The star of the Cork attack since the early 90's.



Lynn and her mother Nuala, a great player in her day, at the family home in Cloughduv.



An attractive and articulate woman, Lynn is a marvellous ambassador for camogie.

By TP O'MAHONY

scoring the goal that gave Cork a famous victory (5-10 to 2-18).

These days, as full-forward, she is the jewel in the Cork attack, the main freetaker and trigger-woman.

Incredible

Although she may not stay in the game as long as Angela Downey, who had an incredible career

in terms both of success and longevity, the fans know that so long as her appetite remains she will be a formidable force.

"I'll play until I get tired of the game," she once said.

And her many admirers are hoping that won't be for a long time yet.

And it is not only on the field that she makes a contribution, for this attractive, articulate and talented woman is a marvellous ambassador for the sport which she loves.



Sandy Fitzgibbon, one of the great stars of camogie who should be better regarded with Ireland's sporting fraternity

Champions made fight hard to reach final

Granagh-Ballingarry 4-7
Bishopstown 0-11

by Tom Higgins

MUNSTER senior club champions Granagh-Ballingarry had to fight hard to advance to the final of this year's championship final at Bishopstown, Cork, yesterday, and the scoreline does not do justice to the home side, who were playing their fourth game in a fortnight.

The game was ruined by a gale force cross-wind, which Bishopstown availed of in the opening period, turning over leading by 0-8 to 1-0 at the break, due mainly to an outstanding display by Ciara Healy, who had won an All-Ireland minor medal the previous afternoon. In fact, Granagh's only score in this half came from their outstanding player, Eileen O'Brien, a minute before the break.

In the second-half, Bishopstown were under severe pressure, but gave a good as they got in the opening 19 minutes. The turning point of the game came, however, shortly before the winners went ahead in the 20th minute, with another Eileen O'Brien goal. Granagh's Mary O'Connor, collided with a Bishopstown back and was knocked out, with the game being held up for almost five minutes. Up to then, Bishopstown were playing well, but they then began to lose their rhythm, and the rigors of the previous two weeks began to tell on them, and they faded in the closing minutes, with a goal and three points being scored by the winners in the almost six minutes of injury time, to give them a deserved win.

In the opening-half the Bishopstown backs, in particular, Aine Buckley, Eithne Duggan and Ciara Enright were very much on top but their forwards found it difficult to score, due to the wind. They were unlucky in the 28th minute when Catherine Kenny broke through, but with only the 'keeper to beat her palmed effort came back off the post.

Granagh dominated for long periods in the second-half, but the Bishopstown defence kept them at bay until 10 minutes from normal time. However, a very fit Eileen O'Brien took over to give the holders a fine win with some splendid scores.

Scorers for Granagh-Ballingarry — E. O'Brien 3-4 (0-2 frees), J. Cullinane 1-0, V. Sheehan 0-2. **Bishopstown:** C. Healy 0-9 (0-4 frees), T. Doyle 0-7, S. Morley 0-1. **GRANAGH-BALLINGARRY:** Breda O'Brien, L. Leslie, Bernice O'Brien, E. Quaid, M. Sheehan, J. Cullinane, V. Sheehan, D. Sheehan, K. Burke, B. Chawke, E. O'Brien, M. O'Connor. **BISHOPSTOWN:** R. Desmond, A. Buckley, C. Murphy, E. Duggan, C. Enright, S. Morley, V. Harris, M. Cahill, C. Kenny, T. Doyle, A. White, C. Healy.

Referee: J. Morrissey (Tipperary).

AUG. 1998

Camogie World

Bord na Gaeilge
by P.J. Fulham

Cork proved too strong for Derry in the All-Ireland Minor Championship final played at Ballincollig. The winners produced lots of flair and determination, with eight of the team registering scores. Derry fought hard all the way and put in a good performance in the first half. Cork got off to a good start with a goal by Caitriona Kelly inside the first three minutes. This was followed by two points by Rachel Molloney, before Monica O'Kane opened Derry's account on the fifth minute with a point from play.

Caitriona Kelly scored Cork's second goal in the 18th minute. However, the Ulster champions fought back and a goal by Claire McColgan just on half time left it double scores at the break: Cork 2-8, Derry 1-4. Cork continued to dominate the second half as hopes of Derry's first All-Ireland were crushed. Final score: Cork 3-18, Derry 1-5.

Scorers: Cork: Caitriona Kelly 2-0, Rachel Molloney 0-8, Ciara Healy 1-2, Sarah Hayes, Catherine Corkery and Emer Dillon 0-2 each, Brid O'Neill and Marie Noonan 0-1 each. **Derry:** Claire McColgan 1-0, Lorna Mulholland 0-2, Charlene Moore, Aisling Kealey and Monica O'Kane 0-1 each.

Cork team: Aoife Murray, Rosarie Holland, Joanne O'Callaghan, Sarah Hayes, Amanda O'Regan, Catherine Corkery (Capt.), Rachel Molloney, Brid O'Neill, Emer Dillon, Ciara Healy, Marie Noonan, Caitriona Kelly. **Subs:** Niamh Bowles for B O'Neill, Jennifer O'Leary for M Noonan.

Derry team: Aine O'Kane, Aine Bradley, Charlene Moore, Sinead Stevenson Capt, Claire Lagan, Lorna Mulholland, Susan Kelly, Aisling Kealey, Paula McCloy, Monica O'Kane, Claire McColgan, Jane Kelly. **Referee:** Vera Mulcahy, Limerick.

Cork edged their way into the All-Ireland Intermediate



Presidents in action at last year's Camogie finals ... Mary Robinson and camogie President Eileen O'Brien

Championship final with a one point win over Limerick in a sparking semi-final played at Adare. This was an entertaining tussle. A first half goal from Criona Harte gave Cork a 1-3 to 0-5 lead at the break. Limerick took over in the second half and a goal from Vera Sheehan put them in the front. Two goals by Sinead Cahalane dealt a severe blow to the Limerick ladies who fought on well to leave the minimum margin separating the sides at the final whistle. **Final Score:** Cork 3-5 Limerick 1-10.

Scorers: Cork: Sinead Cahalane 2-1, Criona Harte 1-3, Una O'Donohue 0-1.

Limerick: Vera Sheehan 1-2, Pauleen McCarthy 0-5, Eileen O'Brien 0-3.

Cork team: Leona Nolan, Eithne Dineen, Sinead Buckley, Caroline Giltinane, Helen Walshe, Tina Roche, Trisha Doyle, Marie Corkery, Elaine Burke, Sinead Cahalane, Criona Harte, Una O'Donohue.

Limerick team: Breda O'Brien, Laura Leslie, Mary Loneragan, Katie O'Shea, Deirdre Sheehan, Paula Cronin, Bernice O'Brien, Marion Neville, Vera Sheehan, Eileen O'Brien, Kay Bourke, Pauleen McCarthy. **Subs:** Liz Leonard for K O'Shea, Emer Cregan for K Bourke, Jean Cullinane for M Neville. **Referee:** Marie Pollard, Waterford.

In the other semi-final, Down overcame a strong challenge from Antrim by the narrowest of margins at Carey. Down's Mairin McAleenan had a personal tally of 1-12 (1-11 frees). Her goal early in the first half gave Down a 1-6 to 0-7 lead at the break. Jane Adams netted immediately on the re-start to give Antrim the lead. It was a ding dong battle for the remainder of the game with Down holding on for that one-point victory. **Final score:** Down 2-14 Antrim 3-10.

Scorers: Down: Mairin McAleenan 1-12, Jennifer Braniff 1-0, Coleen Hynds and Edel Mason 0-1 each. **Antrim:** Anne McKee 0-5, Oonagh Elliott and Jane Adams 1-1 each, Grace McMullan 1-0, Caitriona Higgins 0-2, Sinead McMullan 0-1.

Down team: Teresa McGowan, Donna Greeran, Deirdre Savage, Edel Mason, Pauleen Greene, Colleen Hynds, Capt. Mairin McAleenan, Valerie Hynds, Jennifer Braniff, Majella Murray, Joan Henderson, Claire McGrath. **Subs:** Ciara Cunningham for M Murray, Nuala Magee for C McGrath, Cathy Mulholland for J Henderson.

Antrim team: Karen Coyle, Brenda McCollum, Ciara Nelson, Sinead McMullan, Hannah Healey, Caitriona Higgins, Denise O'Boyle, Grainne Connolly, Jane Adams, Anne McKee, Grace McMullan (Capt.), Oonagh Elliott. **Subs:** Ursula Culbertson for J Adams, Kerri O'Neill for G. Connolly.

Referee: Aine Derham, Dublin.

Dublin were no match for Wexford in the Leinster Under 18 championship final played at St Anne's Bohernabreena. The winners led 1-10 to 0-1 at the break and went on to retain the title with a massive 2-19 to 0-2 victory.

The Jim Shiels Memorial Cup donated to Leinster Council by Wexford Board was presented by his wife Margaret to Michelle Ahearne, Wexford captain.

Scorers: Wexford: Michelle Murphy 2-4, Kate Kelly 0-8, Michelle O'Leary 0-3, Mags Kelly 0-2, Evelyn Quigley and Elaine Holohan 0-1 each.

Dublin: Karen Blood 0-2.

Cork bid for third All-Ireland final this year

IT'S all systems go tomorrow as Cork make a bold bid to reach their third All-Ireland final this year. So far the minor title rests by the Banks of the Lee. The senior squad meet Galway in their decider on September 6, so the focus is now fairly on the Intermediate team to make it a trio.

They face an onerous task when they take on a Limerick side who won the All-Ireland Intermediate title in 1996. Limerick had the advantage of fielding the county's first choice side and this will surely be an advantage to them.

In their opening game against Galway, they looked a class act. They are back-boned mainly from members of the Granagh-Ballingarry club side, who are Munster club champions. Long-serving Pauline McCarthy, and Kay Burke are ex-

perienced players who have served Limerick well down through the years, whilst young corner-forwards, Vera Sheehan and Eileen O'Brien, showed their class in last Sunday's Munster club championship semi-final game with Grenagh-Ballingarry.

Jean Cullinane, Laura Lesley and Naoimh Cregan, a daughter of former Limerick hurling star Eamon, have all proved their worth to Limerick. Whilst the experience of having participated in the Senior National League this season has helped to blend the team, and on form they will start as favourites to advance.

The Cork side is a useful one with four of the panel, Tricia Doyle, Leona Nolan, Sinead Cahalane and Enda Dineen, having won Junior All-

Ireland medals in 1996. Cork had a runaway victory over a poor Armagh side in the quarter-final but one cannot read too much into this victory. The team has yet to be announced but we do know that the side will be captained by goalkeeper Leona Nolan. The side are coached by senior selector Pat Murray, who is joined by County Board chairperson Sheila Golden and County registrar Kay Dunne on the selection committee. It would be a marvellous achievement were Cork to reach the final for the first time since the competition's inception in 1992. Cork will give it their all and don't be surprised at the outcome.

In local club action, the Senior "B" and Junior championships are all down for decision. In the Junior Championship Douglas with Cork

minor Amanda O'Regan will be expected to be too strong for Killeagh. Last year's defeated finalist, Ballinhassig, take on Newtownshandrum's second string and Newcestown take on Bishopstown in the "B" Championship.

On Monday evening Glen Rovers and Inniscarra meet in the Under-14 "A" league semi-final.

The big game midweek is the Senior "B" championship where we have an all city clash as St Finbarrs versus Brian Dillons. The Barrs are going out this year in a determined fashion, having lost out narrowly in last year's final to Newtownshandrum. They are captained by Clare Barry and have excellent players in former Cork senior Collette O'Mahony, long-serving goalkeeper Marie O'Sullivan and young-

sters Orla O'Sullivan and Natasha Nash. However, they will not find the going easy against a youthful Brian Dillons side.

Since winning the Intermediate Championship four years ago, Brian Dillons have tried hard to establish themselves in the Senior B grade. They will be only too well aware that they lost out to St Finbarrs in their second round clash last year and they will not want to give the "Barrs" the upper hand on them again.

Their hopes will rest with Sabrina Buckley, Therese Drummond and Alison Dilworth, all of whom have had intercounty experience to lead their challenge.

The side are captained by captain Christine O'Mahony, promising to be an interesting evening at Delany's grounds with a 7:00pm throw-in.

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Ladies Day

With Cork and Galway facing each other in the first televised All Ireland camogie final, Therese O'Callaghan finds four of the contenders at different stages in their careers.

SINEAD O'CALLAGHAN

For all her achievements, one would be forgiven for thinking that Sinead O'Callaghan was coming to the end of an illustrious career, but the dynamic forward turned nineteen year of age on the 1st of July this year, and already the list of honours is endless with St Mary's Charleville Secondary School (two junior and three senior All Irelands, four All Ireland colleges sevens), with club Ballyagran, and with Cork inter-county team.

Cork? Yes, Ballyagran is in Limerick, and that is where Sinead plays her club camogie. She lives on the border of both counties, and since 1996 has played her county camogie with Cork, where she was an automatic choice on the Cork Junior team, and displaying many of her talents helped the county to a ten point victory over a fancied Roscommon side on All Ireland Day in Croke Park.

She is greatly indebted to one man who has steered her to these heights. School coach Vincent Harrington gives freely of his time and in Sinead's own words "he is someone I will always remember and respect for helping me along the way".

He was still helping her along the way in 1997, she won the inter-county senior team winning back-to-back All Irelands, National Leagues, and Munster Medals. She was on the Munster Senior Team who beat Leinster 4-18 to 2-11 to gain her a second Gael Linn medal. So far this year, she has captained St. Mary's Charleville to their third Senior All Ireland in a row, and with the Cork Senior Team has added another Munster Medal and a National League Title.

As it is a repeat of the '96 final, she knows exactly what to expect from the All Ireland final. Last year she found Galway "very tough and physical", and was marked by Pamela Nevin. Sinead rates Pamela very highly, and cites her as her most difficult opponent to date. She is wise enough to know that All Irelands do not come easy, but with coach Tom Nott at the helm, says their chances are far greater. This is the Ballyagran player's second season under his guidance, and so far she is very impressed by his methods.

Jim and Maura O'Callaghan are fanatical supporters of their daughter. Bother Tadhg who plays with the Charleville club has already won an All Ireland Hurling Minor Medal with Cork. Success is becoming a habit in this North Cork household.

MAGS FINN

Mags Finn is in her 10th season with the Cork Senior Camogie Team, during which time the rebel county has won four senior All Ireland Titles, but curiously Mags has only three. She joined the team in the summer of '89, and for that year and the next two, Kilkenny proved to be invincible - twice in an All Ireland Final and both times by seven points. So, eventually when the girls in red and white did overcome the

Noresiders where was Mags?

Hard work and grave sacrifices do not always guarantee your place. Even a round trip of fifty five miles to training does not mean automatic selection. At the time the Cork panel had grown very strong. Mags, who had been almost a regular choice up to now winning two National Leagues was disappointed, but accepted when she had to wear the No. 18 jersey to Croke Park on Final Day in September 1992. Only the first sixteen of the panel receive All Ireland Medals.

Mags worked her way back into the squad, in 1993. Although she was outside the one to twelve numbering, she was on the official panel. Good friend and club colleague Fiona O'Driscoll was also a member of that victorious team. A lot of work still to be done to regain her corner back position for the coming year, but she stuck to her plan.

The rewards were great. A league title, an All Ireland, and her second Gael-Linn Senior Interprovincial.

Another league medal acquired, in September 1996 she made the trip back to Headquarters for her sixth All Ireland Final, where Galway completely destroyed a bemused Cork side.

Beating Kilkenny by a five goal difference in the 1997 League Final was the perfect start to the year. When Cork beat Galway by four points she won her third All Ireland Senior Medal. She completed the grand slam with another Gael-Linn Medal.

Mags isn't taking waited seventeen years to see her home team Fr. O'Neill's win a senior title, and witnessing the joy and delight it brought to the people of Ballymacoda, made it all worthwhile.

TRACEY LAHEEN

Tracey Laheen will not reach her 23rd birthday until 58 days after the first Sunday in September. A household name in camogie, she still awaits an All Ireland Senior Camogie Championship Medal.

In 1991, at 15, Tracey Laheen made her debut on the Galway Senior Inter County Camogie team. In 1994 she collected her first Senior National League and an All Ireland seven's title didn't let the year go unnoticed.

A car crash complicated by a serious knee injury kept her out of the starting line up in 1995. A cruciate knee operation delayed her recovery, and while her county team-mates were preparing for yet another championship season Tracey could only look on.

Under doctor's advice she did light training and by August 1996 had won back her place on the Pearse's Team. Galway surprised Cork in the All Ireland Final of 1996 while she watched from the Hogan Stand. She had missed the day that she had been preparing for for five years.

An All Ireland Club victory that same year was some small consolation. Tracey agrees it is hard to keep going, but without family support it would be even harder. Her mother Breda has always been there for her, and all three sisters are great camogie enthusiasts. Angela is recently retired, Caroline plays with Senior Galway club Mountbellow,

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Galway juniors take trip into unknown against Tipperary

by Ciaran Tierney

IT IS not often that Galway get two teams to Croke Park on All-Ireland final day and the presence of the junior camogie team in the curtain-raiser on Sunday (1.45 p.m.) has only added to the intrigue for followers of the game in the county.

Galway, who last won the junior title in 1994, had to beat a fancied Carlow side in their own backyard to earn a place in the final against Tipperary. It is something of a trip into the unknown, as Galway and Tipp. have not met at this level in recent years.



Cork captain Catherine Corkery and Sinead Stephens of Derry, pictured with referee Vera Mackey (Limerick) and Phyllis Breslin, president, Camogie Association, at the start of the All-Ireland minor camogie final between Cork and Derry which was played at Ballincollig recently.

Cup presented



John O'Callaghan, McNamara's SuperValu, Kinsale, seen presenting the Carrigdhoun Camogie Cup to Catherine O'Riordan of Valley Rovers, whose side defeated Courcy Rovers in the final at Ballinhassig.



Galway Junior camogie team selectors, from left: Collette Kennedy, Michael Broderick, Deirdre Mitchell and Maureen Fahy.

Team boss Michael Broderick has assembled a youthful Galway side, with an average age of just 19 years which is largely made up of the successful minor sides of the past few years.

And hopes are high in the county that teenagers such as Michelle Glynn, sister of senior star Sharon, Aoife Connolly and Aoife Lynskey will eventually make a breakthrough at senior level — just as many of the '94 side went on to win the '96 senior All-Ireland.

Free-taker Lourda Kavanagh inspired Galway to a 3-10 to 1-11 victory over Carlow, despite the fact that the Galway girls were two points down at the interval. But second half goals from Sandra Tannian and Brenda Daniels sealed the issue for Galway.

"The two goals made a big difference for us and it was a tough task considering we were up against Carlow's first team," said Broderick.

"This is our county's third team, but the standard of camogie — and underage in particular — is very high here at the moment."

Broderick admitted that Galway did not know much about Sunday's rivals, although Tipp required a replay before they eventually saw off Derry by 2-9 to 0-11 in their semi-final.

"Our team is very, very young, but many of them have already won underage All-Ireland medals — we have nine All-Ireland medal holders," he said. "Our hopes are high. We have not met Tipp. for the last three years, but we know that they are always hard to beat at this level."

The Galway midfield of Glynn, Caroline Murray, and Veronica Sweeney looks particularly strong, while Kavanagh, Lynskey, and Daniels, have the firepower to trouble Tipperary.

Galway have only really had one competitive outing prior to this final, as Roscommon never tested

them at all in the Connacht final, and yet they are quietly confident of carrying out the first part of what would be a major double at Croke Park on Sunday.

Galway: A. Connolly; A. Dolan; R. Broderick, A. Kelly, F. Healy; C. Murray, V. Sweeney, M. Glynn; S. Tannian, A. Lynskey, L. Kavanagh; B. Daniels.



Anne Dolan, Captain of the Galway junior camogie team

Galway women bid to upset the odds!

by Ciaran Tierney

THE highs and lows of the past two years will have to be consigned to the history books as Galway face hot favourites Cork in the All-Ireland senior camogie final for the third year in a row at Croke Park on Sunday (3.30 p.m.).

Galway shocked Cork when they won their first ever title in 1996, but the Leesiders will be hoping for a repeat of last year's final in which they exacted revenge with a comprehensive victory.

Expectations, which reached fever-pitch level after the '96 breakthrough, have been diminished considerably in Galway and it will be quite a shock if they can manage to defeat the form team of the 1990s — Cork are aiming to win their fourth All-Ireland in six years.

It is a welcome scenario for Galway. Beaten so often by Cork over the years, including their first ever final appearance back in 1993, little is really expected of them when they return to Croke Park this weekend.

Galway failed to impress during their 2-11 to 0-14 victory over Tipperary in the semi-final and are up against a Cork team who are expected to field all but one of last year's championship winning side.

Galway also made hard work of seeing off a poorly rated Limerick team in the quarter-finals, while Cork were very impressive in their 2-15 to 1-9 semi-final demolition of Clare.

Cork have certainly enjoyed the upper hand over Galway over the years, including their National League Final victory earlier this year. Which is why Galway manager Tony Ward, in his fourth season in charge, believes that the girls from the West have nothing to lose on Sunday.

The preparations have been

far better among the panel of 20 this time around, indeed they have clocked up 104 training sessions this year, while star performer Sharon Glynn — who was hospitalised for the week prior to last year's final — has made a good recovery from her litany of injuries over the past two years.

"We never came back down to earth after the '96 win," admitted Ward yesterday. "The girls lived on that victory for a solid six months. It was only when we got back to the dressing-room in Croke Park that it hit us. Even our training was lukewarm last year."

Of course, bringing the O'Duffy Cup across the Shannon for the first time — and at the 63rd attempt — was a huge boost for the Galway camp. But they failed to build on that victory, and were humbled by 0-15 to 2-5 in last year's final.

Glynn's injury cost Galway dearly last year but, thankfully, they have shown far less of a reliance on the gifted 23-year old Pearses star during the current campaign.

In Colette Nevin, they have found a new teenage sensation who has been well capable of taking over the free-taking duties from Glynn.

Veteran Ann Forde has also made a huge contribution, scoring 1-2 in the dying minutes against Tipp., while the arrival of recent minors Therese Maher and Aine Hillary has added fresh blood to the team.

Hillary gave up the chance of



Galway senior camogie manager Tony Ward, with his panel during training at Loughrea. Photos Iain McDonald.

spending the summer in the United States in order to commit herself to this campaign — and her loyalty has been rewarded with a place in the final. Young Maher also hopes to make a good impression at Croke Park, where she starred after coming on as a substitute last year.

By their own admission, Galway have not played well so far this year. But they were without Glynn for the semi-final and know that if they hit form they should be capable of troubling the champions.

If they are to do so, then the pressure will be on Glynn, Maher, and Hillary in midfield, where they come up against a hugely powerful Cork line of Linda Mellerick, Mary O'Connor and Ursula Troy. Thankfully for Galway, Cork midfield star Sandie Fitzgibbon has retired.

Potent full-forward Lynn Dunlea, who scored ten points in last year's final, remains Cork's most dangerous attacking threat. Galway captain Olivia Broderick has been handed the unenviable task of containing Dunlea, in what could be the most pivotal dual of the afternoon.

they will hardly under-estimate Galway after their 1996 defeat.

But if the defence can hold firm in the face of undoubted Cork pressure, if Glynn, Nevin, and a couple of other forwards can find form, then Galway can surprise most neutrals by bringing home the O'Duffy Cup for only the second time.

They certainly cannot afford the lethargy they showed at the same stage last year, if they are

to upset the champions on Sunday.

Galway: L. Curry (Pearses); O. Broderick (capt., Davitts); A. Broderick (Davitts), T. Laheen (Pearses), P. Nevin (Mullagh); T. Maher (Shamrocks), S. Glynn (Pearses) A. Hillary (Pearses); C. Nevin (Cappataggle), I. Hobbins (Mullagh), V. Curtin (Craughwell); A. Forde (Pearses).

Substitutes: O. Coen, A. Hardiman, D. Gilligan, F. Ryan, M. Meehan, S. Ward, C. Hannan, H. Ryan.

Cork (probable): C. Keohane; E. Duggan; D. Cronin, V. Harris, M. Finn; U. Troy, L. Mellerick, M. O'Connor; S. O'Callaghan, F. O'Driscoll, I. O'Keefe; L. Dunlea.

Referee: J. Morrissey (Tipperary).

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Olivia Broderick, who leads Galway into Sunday's all-Ireland senior camogie final against Cork.

The Galway team features a good mix of youth and experience, with goalkeeper Louise Curry and backs Tracey Laheen and Pamela Nevin having proven track records at senior intercounty level. Laheen and Nevin should certainly make life hard for the Cork forwards.

Up front, Colette Nevin has brought a new vigour to the Galway attack while Forde will be keen to make up for the disappointment of missing out on the 1996 decider. She has given great service to Galway teams over the years.

Imelda Hobbins and Veronica Curtin are also proven forwards for Galway while Glynn, who had to undergo a hernia operation last month, is back near full fitness after two years of injury troubles.

"It is an uphill struggle, but if we all perform to what we are capable of then we could spring a surprise on Sunday," said Ward. "They are not even talking about us down in Cork at the moment."

"That suits us. Our girls have taken a very low-key approach and they are really eager now. The hunger is back, after the hangover of last year."

Clearly, Cork will start as firm favourites. They are the most successful county in senior camogie history, even though

Glynn and Broderick ready for Cork test

by Claran Tierney

ONE OF the saddest sights of last year's All-Ireland camogie final was that of star midfielder Sharon Glynn struggling to make an impact during the second half of Galway's defeat to a clinical Cork side.

Glynn, who had been out injured for the previous two weeks, was clearly not fit enough for the final and her inclusion was a gamble which definitely did not pay off for Galway.

She had been hospitalised for a week prior to the game, failed to convert simple frees, and was clearly lacking in mobility. She needed a pain-killing injection before the game. It would have been hard to imagine a Galway team without Glynn, but it was a distressing afternoon for the Pearse star.

Fast-forward by 12 months, and Glynn is again recovering from injury. Indeed, virtually all of this year has been plagued by injury troubles for her — she was also sent off in the National League final, and only managed the last ten minutes of last month's victory over Tipperary.

But she is far more optimistic this time around. Although still not 100% fit, she is expected to make a far better contribution as Galway go for revenge on Sunday. And, thankfully, teenage star Colette Nevin has come along to share the free-taking burden — and prove that Galway are not a one woman team — this year.

"Cork are a good side and they probably have more confidence than we have," said Glynn this week. "Last

year it was hard to go back as champions, but we are very focused this time around.

"The fact that we only just got over Limerick and Tipperary will mean that we have to start as outsiders, but I think there is still a good day in us this year. It is great to be back in it this time around."

Glynn is still only 23, but she has been playing senior camogie for the county for eight years now. She has seen more bad days than good in the Galway colours, but is confident that the experience of Pamela Nevin, Imelda Hobbins, and Ann Forde could help smooth their way to a shock win on Sunday.

Team captain Olivia Broderick has been a model of dependability in the Galway defence this year and she will be tested to the limit by Cork star Lynn Dunlea on Sunday.

Dunlea, with ten points, was the big difference between the sides last year.

"We were still on a high after 1996 and we did not know how to cope with it," she said. "We did not start training early enough last year. We have put in a lot more hard work since the beginning of the league this year and the mood is good in the camp. We have nothing to lose, really."

Broderick has been a regular on the Galway team since she came on as a substitute for the 1993 All-Ireland final, when Cork beat them by ten points. And she is well aware of the strength in depth of the Leesiders, following last year's heartbreaking defeat at Croke Park.

"Cork are definitely the form team of the '90s and we are not even rated, according to some people," she said. "Definitely, the second one is hard to win, but we have

a lot of new girls coming through like Colette Nevin and Therese Maher."

Broderick admitted that she would have a handful in attempting to quell the threat posed by Dunlea, but the pace she has shown in recent games

should stand to the Davitts defender on Sunday. She admitted that Galway were plagued by injuries and troubles earlier this year, and Carmel Hannon, Denise Gilligan, and Olive Costello are all big losses due to injury.

But Broderick was quietly confident that the Galway girls could turn the season around by exacting revenge for their defeats in last year's All-Ireland and this year's National League final.



The Galway senior camogie selectors, from left, Mick Fitzgerald, Madge Kennedy, Sinead Dunne and Tony Ward, manager



Galway junior camogie manager Michael Broderick, gets down to basics with his panel during one of their final training sessions at Loughrea.



Madge Kennedy left, selector and Imelda Hobbins, captain of the victorious Galway team of 96, who are sisters and involved in the Galway set up for this year's final against Cork.



Ann Forde, Galway's full forward for the All-Ireland Senior camogie final against Cork next Sunday.



Sisters, Colette and Pamela Nevin, who will line out for Galway next Sunday's All-Ireland senior camogie Final against Cork at Croke Park.

Thrilling win for Cork girls earns

Limerick
Cork

1-10
3-5

CORK qualified for the All Ireland Intermediate Camogie Championship final when they had a thrilling win over Limerick at Adare last evening.

Cork had the benefit of the strong breeze in the opening half and when they only led by a point, 1-3 to 0-5 at half time, it looked good for Limerick.

However, Cork turned on the style in the second half and while the sides

were level and the lead changed hands on a number of occasions, it was the Cork girls who triumphed in a thrill-packed finish.

Sinead Cahalane, on the wing for Cork, turned in a superb performance and her two goals and a point made all the difference while Criona Hart was another scoring star for the Cork side.

Limerick, champions in this grade a few years ago, will be disappointed to have lost in such circumstances but it was no fault of Pauline McCarthy and

Vera Sheehan, who contributed all but 3 points of their tally with McCarthy scoring 5 points and Sheehan 1-2.

Cork had excellent defenders in Edna Dineen, Helen Walsh while, up front, Hart and Cahalane were a constant threat. Limerick had good players in Mary Lonergan, Deirdre Sheehan, Pauline Cronin and Pauline McCarthy.

Scorers, Limerick: V. Sheehan (1-2), P. McCarthy (0-5), E. O'Brien (0-3).
Scorers, Cork: S. Cahalane (2-1), C. Hart (1-3), U. O'Do-

them place in All-Ireland final

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noghue (0-1).
LIMERICK: B. O'Brien, L. Leslie, M. Lonergan, K. O'Shea, D. Sheehan, P. Cronin, B. O'Brien, M. Neville, K. Burke, V. Sheehan, E. O'Brien, P. McCarthy. Subs: E. Cregan for K. Burke, G. Cullinane for M. Neville.
CORK: L. Nolan, E. Dineen, S. Buckley, C. Giltinan, H. Walsh, T. Dowling, T. Rocha, E. Burke, M. Corkery, C. Hart, S. Cahalane, U. O'Donoghue. Sub: O. O'Sullivan for Cahalane.
Referee: M. Pollard, Waterford.

Tipperary 2-9
Derry 0-11

Noelle Dwyer and Siobhan Howard grabbed 2 precious second half goals as

Tipperary powered past a doubty Derry challenge in the All Ireland Junior Camogie Semi Final at Bellaghy yesterday.

The sweet striking Dwyer finished with a total of 1-5 and effectively kept the premier girls in the picture in the opening half - when Derry threatened to overwhelm Tipperary.

Grainne Maguire and Bronagh Birt were in top form in the opening half for the Oak Leafers - they only managed a paltry 3 points in the entire second

half when Tipperary moved up a gear. Derry dominated the first half with Aileen Tohill in top form and the points flowed from Maguire and Birt.

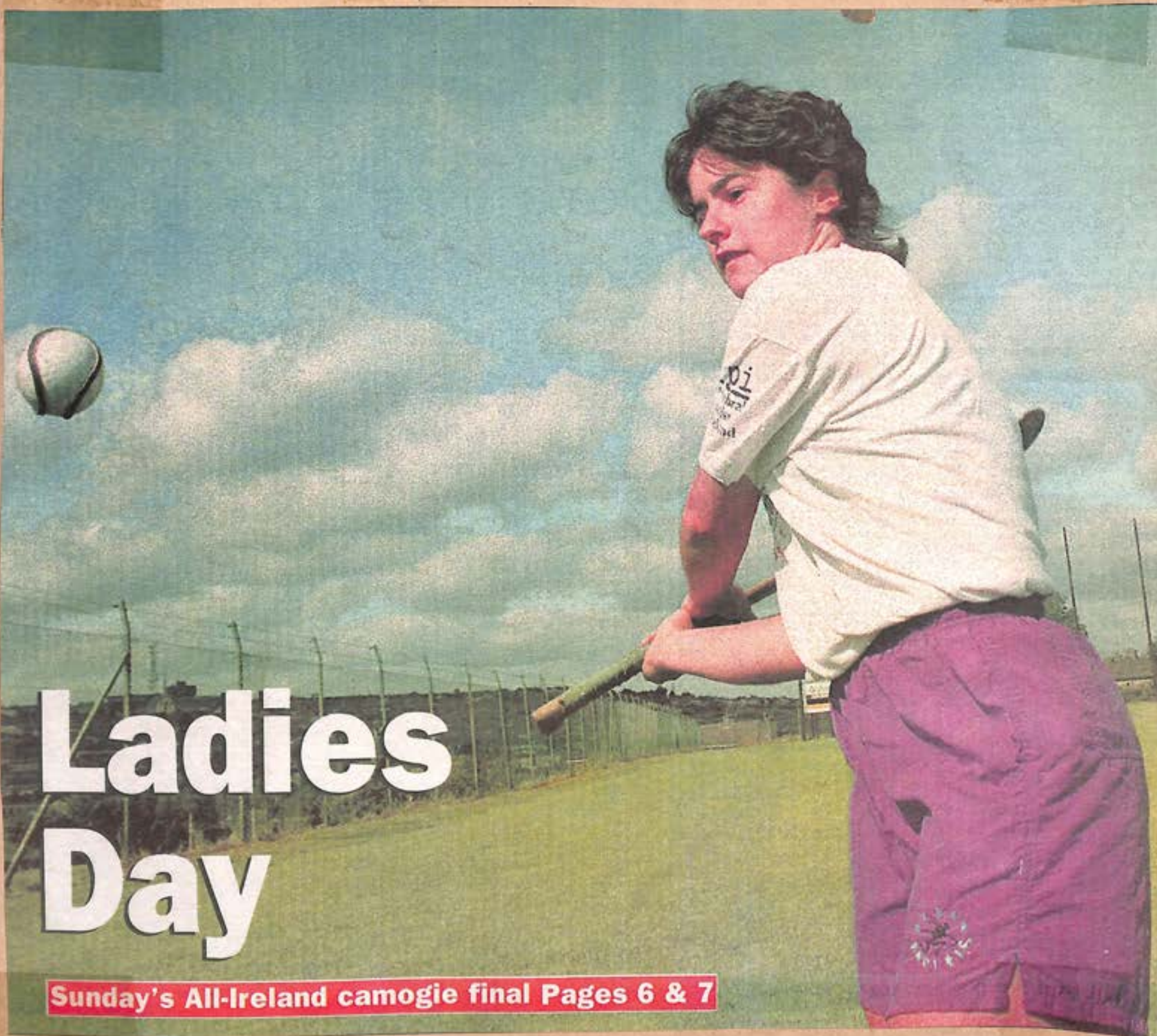
But, a sweetly struck goal from Noelle Dwyer set Tipp on the road early in the second half.

And, When Siobhan Howard brilliantly netted midway through the second half - Derry wilted.

Scorers: Tipperary: N Dwyer 1-5, S Howard 1-0, J Ryan 0-2, M Luby 0-1, P Fogarty 0-1. Derry: G Maguire 0-5, B Birt 0-3, A Tohill 0-1, A O'Kane 0-1, R Pickering 0-1.

Ladies Day

Sunday's All-Ireland camogie final Pages 6 & 7



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Shattering a myth with touch of class



CAMOGIE RULES: "I love it, it's a great game", says Cork senior camogie captain Eithne Duggan

Camogie is finally making its mark as a serious sport.

Diarmuid O'Flynn gets the views of Cork captain Eithne Duggan in advance of next Sunday's All-Ireland senior final against Galway

WHO knows where all this nonsense about 'the weaker sex', or 'the fair sex' started. But nonsense it is - I do know that.

So much of what we are is pure conditioning, and so much of that conditioning is balderdash.

Look at modern women's athletics - and specifically, look at modern Irish women's athletics. Sonia O'Sullivan would run most Irish men into heart-attacks; Caitriona McKiernan would pound us into oblivion; Susan Smith would leave us in the starting blocks; and Michelle de Bruin?

By working out, and pushing her body to its physical limits, Michelle swam faster than all but just a few Irishmen could ever dream of.

And yet, that old stereotyping still lingers on, in the minds of many - male and female.

Over two hundred years ago - in 1792 - one Mary Wollstonecraft had a book published. 'A Vindication of the Rights of Women' it was called, and in it, she complains of

that very stereotyping of women as weak.

Mary was a bit ahead of her time, but now, finally, women generally are starting to break the mould. To shatter the mould, make absolute shat of it, which is all it was to begin with.

One of those doing the shattering is Eithne Duggan, captain of Cork's senior camogie team which will be defending its All-Ireland title next Sunday in Croke Park. Camogie is a seriously demanding physical sport - speed, stamina, strength, skill. And Eithne is a serious exponent of camogie.

Eithne Duggan was lucky - unlike most Irish girls, steered down the narrow, blinkered, 'my, how pretty you look!' avenue, from an early age, she was encouraged into her sport: "I'm from a GAA family, all my brothers and sisters play, and my father, and that's what got me into it - my father is from Grenagh, played with Cork in the late 50's. I've been playing camogie nearly all my life, since I was about 8 or 9, I suppose."

However - so often, even where

there was a will, for young Irish girls with sporting ambitions there was no way. The facilities just didn't exist - for girls. But here, Eithne was again fortunate. "Yes, I suppose I was lucky that they had a very good underage structure in Bishopstown - we won all the underage county titles we could possibly win, U-14, U-16 minor. The whole lot. The local trainer - Pat Murray, who is now Cork selector - and Neil White also encouraged me along."

And in her native Bishopstown Eithne honed her skills. But unlike most boys who pick up a hurling she never dreamt of one day captaining her county - "I didn't really - 'twas never an issue. My aim was just to get on the Cork team - the captaincy never came into it. In fact, I'd say it never occurred to anyone in Bishopstown the Glen were so dominant. But then we won the County last year..." and that was that.

As one of the few established Bishopstown players on the Cork side, Eithne became captain. Glen Rovers were totally dominated.

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PICTURE: Eddie O'Hare

CHANGING MINDS: "Things are improving but it's up to ourselves to try and increase the profile of the game."

nant in Cork camogie for years – indeed, in Irish camogie, for a while. But, "Well, they were around a long time – seven Counties in a row I think they'd won. That takes a lot out of you, all the training and everything else – and they were going on to All-Ireland level as well. It had to come to an end at some stage."

"We were building from under-age – the structure is very good in Bishopstown, with a lot of players coming through. It was only a matter of time before we made the breakthrough at the highest level. We came straight through Junior B up to senior, and I suppose it took us a while to get it together at that level, but we've done it now." Indeed they have, and having recently retained that County title, Bishopstown are now established as one of the premier camogie clubs in Cork.

One would think that, in 1998, Eithne Duggan could now relax with her achievements, expect to bask in the glow of fame and fortune. But no – far from it. Most sports people even in her native

Cork wouldn't recognise her if she were to shoulder them from one side of the street to the other (not that Eithne, or camogie, would ever get that physical!).

LAST weekend, Clare and Offaly met in the Senior Hurling All-Ireland semi-final, and the whole country was talking about it. Next Sunday, Cork and Galway meet in the Senior Camogie All-Ireland final – it's almost a secret. A slight on camogie, and on women.

"It's something you have to get used to. It does bother me a small bit, especially when you get people asking you – 'do ye train much, do ye run much'. I mean, it is an All-Ireland final! But it's up to ourselves to try and increase the profile of the game, to make it attractive, to get people to come along and watch the games. But it's improving, definitely improving."

Improving yes. But still some

way to go. In fact, far from being acclaimed for her camogie achievements, Eithne Duggan is still often accused of being mad – "Definitely, especially in College, in the winter season. The training you have to do for the Ashbourne is unnatural. They do think you're mad alright. But most of those people have never tried it, so they don't know what it's like – I just brush it off. I mean, you get it from all angles. People shouldn't knock it till they try it, I think. I did, I like it, so what the hell!"

Now, Eithne is hooked, totally – "Yeah – I love it – great game. I mean, the friends you make through it, the whole craic that goes with it. It's great."

I asked Eithne why girls should be attracted to camogie – she was in no doubt: "It's a great sport – there aren't too many games girls can play anyway, and this is definitely one of the better ones. Fitness is becoming much more of an issue in modern society, and camogie is a terrific way of keeping fit. It's a great game from a social point of view too – great friend-

ships, great craic. If girls go out and practise, even in twos and threes, on the side of the road or whatever, it can only improve their game. And the more you improve, the more you enjoy it."

She scoffed at the perceived dangers: "It's not dangerous, and especially when you know how to play it. I've never broken a bone playing it – you get a few bruises alright, but you get that in hockey too."

OVER the decades, camogie has had its own stars, girls and women who, had they been boys and men, would have been idolised. I heard of Una O'Connor of Dublin – never saw her play. Heard of Angela Downey, one of Eithne's idols, growing up. Never saw her play. Interviewed Sandie Fitzgibbon, another of Eithne's sources of inspiration – saw her only on TV.

Now, there's a new generation of

camogie stars. And while Eithne is too modest to put herself in that class – "God – I wouldn't mention myself in the same breath as them!", she does point to a few up-and-coming names: "I think the best current player is Vivian Harris – she's unbelievable really, especially for a 19 year-old. Deirdre Hughes from Tipperary is another fine player. In Cork, Sinead O'Callaghan has huge potential – she's only just done her Leaving Cert, and she's on the senior team already. In Limerick, there's Eileen O'Brien and Vera Sheehan...". All names to watch. And, for a change, we will be watching.

The day when girls were confined to hop-scotch in the school yard, while the boys hogged the playground with their hurleys, is gone. And good riddance. Now, in any school yard in Ireland, that skilful player with the ball stuck to the stick is almost as likely to be a girl as a boy. Almost. Another few years of camogie at this level, another generation of Eithne Duggans, and there will be no need for that 'almost'.

SEPT 1998

Rebels set to keep faith

By BRENDAN LARKIN

WHEN the Cork selectors sit down tonight to pick their team for Sunday's All-Ireland camogie final with Galway, they are likely to name the same side that finished the semi-final against Clare.

That would mean Irene O'Keeffe who came on as a substitute for Paula O'Connor keeps her place. According to selector Rose Mackey, Cork are expecting a very difficult game.

"This will be the third final in a row between the counties. Galway won in 1996, Cork won last year, so Sunday's final promises to be a cracking contest."

Lost

"In recent years we have lost a number of very experienced players to retirement in Kathleen Costine, Terese O'Callaghan, Paula Goggins and Sandie Fitzgibbon."

"All those players have been outstanding servants of Cork camogie over the years, but the strength of the game in the county has meant we were able to replace them without too much difficulty."

The defending champions will field a very experienced team for Sunday's final at Croke Park.

All but one of the team played in last year's decider, Ursula Troy being the only player who will be making her final debut.

Camogie girls going for glory

SUNDAY next could be a historic day for the ladies of the Bishopstown GAA club and particularly the ladies.

Eithne Duggan, a stalwart of the successful club, will captain the Cork senior camogie side when they take on the might of Galway in Croke Park.

Eithne will be the first Bishopstown player to ever captain a Cork senior team in an All Ireland final and she will be joined by her teammates Vivienne Harris and Trish Doyle, who will also play key roles in Cork's bid for honours.

Both Eithne and Vivienne have previously

By DAMIAN LAWLOR

won senior medals with Cork in 1995 and 1997, while Trish won a junior medal in 1996 with the rebel side.

Pat Murray, an underage coach with the Bishopstown club, will also be enjoying his role as a selector with the side and it would certainly be a remarkable day for Pat and the local players if Cork were to pull it off.

"Having coached all

Bishopstown girl captains team

the three girls at underage level, it is nice to be involved with them when they are preparing for an All Ireland Senior final.

"The girls have given great service to club and county over the years as has my club colleague, Neil White, who has trained the girls at club level over the past few years," Mr Murray said.

Cork's opponents on

Sunday, Galway, are expected to provide a fierce challenge to the Leesiders - they won the title in 1996 and only narrowly lost to Cork in this year's league decider.

But under the astute management of Tom Natt, Angela Sheehan, Rose Mackey and Pat Murray, the Cork side will be hoping to come through in the end.

"I would be absolutely delighted to see the O'Duffy cup come back to Cork and Bishopstown as it would be a great reward for all the hard work put in," Mr Murray continued.

Meanwhile, the Bishopstown U/12 and U/16 teams will travel to Dublin to support the team and will be hosted by the Ballyboden - St Enda's club.

The club's senior side will also be participating in the Kilmacud Crokes seven-a-side contest, so a very sizeable local contingent is expected in Dublin over the weekend.



The Cork team training at the Glen Rovers complex



Tom Nott, the team coach, talking to the team members at a training session.

TV debut for final

SUNDAY'S Bord na Gaeltogha All-Ireland Camogie final between Cork and Galway at Croke Park will be the first senior decider to be televised live by RTE.

On this year's form, Cork are favourites, although Galway will be hoping to emulate their 1996 achievement when Galway hoisted the O'Duffy Cup for the first time after dethroning the Leesiders by 4-8 to 1-15.

By PJ FULHAM

Last year it was Cork's Linda Mellerick who stepped up to receive the coveted trophy when the Rebel girls turned the tables by 0-15 to 2-5. When the sides met in the National Senior league final earlier this year, Cork retained the title.

On the path to the All-Ireland final, Galway had a tough semi-final against a very spirited Tipperary side. A late goal and a point by Anne Forde and a point by Tracey Laheen secured the Tribeswomen their place in the final by 2-11 to 0-14.

In the other semi-final, Cork had an easy victory over Clare 2-15 to 0-9. Only four of Cork's 1992 winning side that halted Kilkenny's great run of seven in a row remain in the fray - Linda Mellerick, Denise Cronin, Irene O'Keeffe and Fiona O'Driscoll.

After last year's decider, Sandy Fitzgibbon, holder of six All-Ireland medals, also retired, leaving a vacancy in defence. This is being filled by Bishopstown club player Vivienne Harris who was player of the match in last year's final.

Galway also show changes from last year. The Maher sisters, Gretta and Dymna, Olive Costello and Martina Harkin are not available. Therese Maher, minor captain of last year, Collette Nevin and Veronica Curtin and Aine Hillary fill the vacancies.

Cork manager Tom Nott has great respect for the opposition. "They are a young side," he said. "There is only a puck off the ball between us and we will not be taking anything for granted."

Galway manager Tony Ward is sure to have his charges in good shape and they will be confident of taking the O'Duffy cup across the Shannon for the second time. Galway will be doubly engaged when the juniors take on Tipperary in the All-Ireland Junior final.

FIXTURES - At Croke Park - All-Ireland Junior C'chip Final: Galway v Tipperary (1.45). Referee: Catherine McNeill (Antrim). All-Ireland Senior C'chip Final: Cork v Galway (3.30). Referee: John Montsary (Tipperary).

She may be young, but talented Caoimhe just loves the big occasion

Harrington set to make a valuable contribution

by Diarmuid O'Flynn

SHE'S young. She's very young. In fact she just turned 18 a couple of weeks ago. But she's no All-Ireland novice. In fact, if Caoimhe Harrington makes her way onto Croke Park at some stage during next Sunday's televised All-Ireland Senior Camogie Final (and the chances are that, even if she doesn't make the starting 12, to be announced tonight, she will be the first option, should any of the four forwards not click), she will be one of the most decorated players on the field.

Caoimhe, you see, is from that famous camogie nursery in Charleville, St. Mary's. Winners of about the last 100 All-Ireland schools titles in a row, her trophy cabinet is already full enough to make any GAA player weep.

Caoimhe is from the famous hurling parish of Newtownshandrum, on the Cork/Limerick border. Her father, Michael, a native of Crosshaven, is principal of the local National School. And it's there that Caoimhe was introduced to the game. Around 1977, her father — "because the girls should have equality on the playing fields" — introduced camogie to his school. Caoimhe is one of the many who has benefited from that foresight.

"I've been playing now, I suppose, for ten or twelve years — I started very young. The school was a mixed school, but the teams were separated into boys and girls. We won some county final when we were in sixth class, but from about third class up, we were all playing. It adds a bit of spice to the school year as well, to be playing." The county they won was the Limerick county, there was such a distance to travel to Cork, it made more sense for Newtown to play in Limerick.

It helps for the camogie players of

Newtown school that the hurling fields are just out the back gate: "Yeah it does at this stage, I don't know what ground it is, whether it's GAA or camogie or school ground, but it really doesn't matter, we get it whenever we want, and the GAA is always supporting us in Newtown. We get the support of the club members as well, and that's great to keep the spirit up."

The introduction of camogie to the school soon meant a revival of the Camogie Club in Newtown, and they are now up with the best in Cork: "Yeah, we were a bit disappointed this year to lose to Bishopstown in the county senior semi-final. But on the day, we just didn't put it out. We had played well against the Glen, and against Carrigdhoun. But we just didn't do it on the day against Bishopstown. They went on then to win it out, against Fr. O'Neills. But we had trained very hard for that game, our trainer, Seamus Kelliher, is very committed, and we had put in three or four very hard months. Our fitness really showed against the Glen, but it was just that against Bishopstown, it didn't work out."

Unlike many pampered GAA club players, Caoimhe gives a lot of the credit to those behind the scenes: "The club at home, Newtown, are very good. They've great organisation, from U-12 right up along. They bring us everywhere (camogie involves a lot of travel to get games), and the parents are especially good..." including Dad? "He drives us around the country, he does his best! Eileen Noonan has been there for an awful long time, and our chairperson, Siobhan Bowles, does a huge amount of work for the club. There's a very good committee there now, and they really get it together, with the fund-raising and all that."

Despite where she was introduced to



Cork camogie team members Caoimhe Harrington and Sinead O'Callaghan in training last night. Cork will go into Sunday's match against Galway as favourites.

Picture: Maurice O'Mahony

the game, Caoimhe is in no doubt where she was most influenced: "I suppose I was playing with the school before I was playing with the club, but it was the club, definitely. I mean when you get together with the girls, and the craic is good, it keeps you going all the time."

Many of those teammates are now making the breakthrough to the next level of competition. "Paula O'Connor and Ursula Troy are also on the side, and my sister, Muireann, and Caroline Giltenane are on the Intermediate panel; on the U-18's then this year, you have the likes of Sarah Reidy, Niamh Bowles, Cara Mancon."

Older sister Muireann, in fact, came very close to making this side: "She started on the junior panel this year, and she was also on this panel, but was dropped about two weeks ago. She dislocated her shoulder in the Munster Intermediate semi-final, and it kind of knocked her out really."

With the rise of clubs like Newtown in Cork, Caoimhe made a very telling point: "I think we've the strongest panel in Ireland at the moment. And it's not just a single club thing either, if you look at a lot of the counties around at the moment, many of them have seven or eight players from one club. But if you look at Cork, they're nearly all from

different clubs, and yet they're all very good players, all talented and skilful, so there's a lot of competition for places."

With such talent, Caoimhe is fairly confident for Sunday: "We're not underestimating Galway at all, they're a very strong team, with some very talented players. But I think we've got the experience here, and we've put in an awful lot of hard work. Hopefully, on the day, if things go right, we'll win it."

But if things go wrong, and if she doesn't start, expect to see Caoimhe Harrington at some stage of the game. And expect that she will have an influence. One to watch — for now and the future.

Galway could be another surprise

by Tom Higgins.

"I AM really looking forward to Sunday. It can't come soon enough," said Galway captain Olivia Broderick when I spoke to her on the phone about Sunday's Bord na Gaeilge All-Ireland Senior camogie final against Cork at Croke Park.

Her bubbling personality gave me the impression that although they were the underdogs she really felt confident they could win their second All-Ireland title.

"They beat us in the League final in Ballinasloe by four points, but there was never much between us."

Olivia, is one of two Davitts players on the side, the other being Anne Broderick, who is no relation. Davitts are not the County champions as Galway elect their captain — in contrast to Cork where a member of the County champions is given the honour of leading the side.

Pearses, who are the current holders of the Galway title have been All-Ireland Club champions for the past two years.

"I know we played badly against Tipperary in the All-Ireland semi-final and were lucky to win. We missed Sharon Glynn in that game until she came on after ten minutes in the second half. Her influence had a big part in us getting to the final."

Glynn was recovering from an operation and that was the reason that she did not start the game as she was not fully fit. She is back on Sunday and if she plays up to her usual standard she could provide a few headaches for Cork.

Team trainer Tony Ward commented "We will give it our best shot. I know we have not been playing well lately but when it comes to the final anything can happen. The team that hits form on the day will be the one who comes out on top."

It has been a year of surprises. Who before the All-Ireland Senior Football semi-finals would have forecast a Galway - Kildare final. It was generally regarded that Kerry and Derry would contest the decider. And what about Offaly beating Clare. If there can be surprises in these games why not in the All-Ireland Senior camogie final. We will have to wait and see.

SEPT. 1998

Mellerick is still hungry for win

By BRENDAN LARKIN

THIRTEEN years after she made her senior debut, Linda Mellerick is as enthusiastic about camogie as she was when she first pulled on the county jersey all those years ago.

In that period the Glen Rovers stalwart has appeared in nine All-Ireland finals, lost five, four of them to Kilkenny and won four, two of them at Galway's expense.

On Sunday Linda will be hoping to add to her medal collection when she lines out against Galway in what will be the third meeting in a row between the counties.

"You could say I know all about the highs and lows of All-Ireland finals.

"My early years on the team were a nightmare. After losing four finals to Kilkenny I began to despair of ever winning one, but I finally broke my duck in 1992 when we beat Wexford and it has been all great since."

Linda had the distinction of captaining Cork to All-Ireland success twice, in 1993 and 1997. Both those victories were achieved at Galway's expense.

"In the early years of my inter-county career, Kilkenny were our chief rivals, but in recent years Galway have come through and a very healthy rivalry has developed between us.

Shocked

"Three years ago they shocked us in the final; the following year we turned the tables, so we are expecting them to come out with all guns blazing on Sunday to reverse the result yet again.

"We have a league final over them already this year which will give us a physiological boost, but we won't be making the same mistake as we did in 1996 when we completely underestimated them in the championship after thrashing them in the league final.

"Galway haven't been playing well this season yet they are in the final and that must be a worry for us.

"However we have a very settled team with just one change from last year's winning team, and I would be confident of winning", she said.



Cora Keohane: Hoping to win an All-Ireland double at Croke Park on Sunday.

Cora's dream

CORK senior camogie goalkeeper Cora Keohane is hoping to win a second All-Ireland medal in a row when she lines out against Galway on Sunday.

By BRENDAN LARKIN

Following the decision of Kathleen Costine to step down from the goalkeeping position after the All-Ireland final defeat of 1996, the Cork selectors didn't have far to look for a replacement for the 1997 season.

A glittering career at UCC where she won an Ashbourne Cup medal in 1996, Cora slotted

I want an All-Ireland double vows goalkeeper

into the Cork job with ease, and played a major role in last year's All-Ireland success over Galway.

Cora who hails from Barryroe in West Cork, first caught the goalkeeping bug when she played there with her local National School in

the mini sevens competition in 1988.

"I must have played well in goal because I was later picked to play there in the schools game which formed part of the programme on All-Ireland hurling day the same year.

"Last year's All-Ireland final was a bit nerve-wrecking as it was my first. However I soon settled in and Cork went on to win the All-Ireland

which was brilliant.

"I love the atmosphere that surrounds an All-Ireland final. There is a great buzz around the place and you can't fail to get caught up in the hype of it all.

"Galway will be hugely motivated for Sunday's final. They surprised Cork in the 1996; we turned the tables on them last year, so this final could be classed as something of a crunch match.

"With all but one of last year's winning team on duty again next Sunday, I'm confident that we can retain our title, but it's going to be a very difficult game for us".

GALWAY

1. Louise Curry (Na Piarsaigh)
2. Olivia Broderick (Davitts) (Cap)
3. Anne Broderick (Davitts)
4. Tracy Lahoan (Na Piarsaigh)
5. Pamela Nevin (Mullagh)
6. Therese Maker (Shamrocks)
7. Sharon Glynn (Na Piarsaigh)
8. Aine Hillary (Na Piarsaigh)
9. Colette Nevin (Cappataggle)
10. Imelda Hobbins (Mullagh)
11. Veronica Curtin (Craughwell)
12. Ann Forde (Na Piarsaigh)

Bord na Gaeilge All Ireland senior camogie final

Cork v Galway,

Croke Park, 3.30

(Live Network2)

Going on previous meetings of these two, the team that does more of the hurling may lose rather than win. Two years ago Galway got the breaks, scored the goals and claimed the O'Duffy Cup for the first time. Last year they had plenty of the play, didn't convert their chances and were handed a lesson by Cork in the not insignificant matter of how to take one's points.

Sharon Glynn's entry

energised Galway in the semi-final against Tipperary; her presence from the start here assures them of a human dynamo in the centre of the field. Carmel Hannon apart, the challengers have a full squad to choose from, although the decision to leave Denise Gilligan, scorer of two goals in 1996, on the bench may be a bigger risk than they imagine.

Cork are Cork. Denise and Vivienne and Linda and Fiona and Lynn, and a neat cutting edge provided by Sinead O'Callaghan and Irene O'Keeffe, who bagged 1-2 apiece in the semi-final cruise ver-

sus Clare. Galway being the opposition, Cork know the task they face; had it been Tipperary instead they might have reckoned the game was won in advance.

Perfectly sane and rational cases can be made for both sides. An edge in accuracy may swing it for Cork.

Enda McEvoy

Bank of Ireland Ladies Senior Football Championship semi-finals

Monaghan v Meath, Summerhill, 3.30

History and form weigh heavily in favour of Monaghan, Ulster's sole representative in the

championship. Laden with five All-Stars, the All-Ireland champions will today play their first championship match against improving Leinster champions.

Meath, whose style of football bears more than a passing resemblance to their male counterparts, will be seeking to banish the memory of a heavy defeat against Waterford at the same stage last year.

Waterford v Mayo, Dungarvan, 2pm

Little chance of an upset here as a powerful Waterford should have too much for a young Mayo team.

PREVIEWS

Sharper Cork eager to make point

CORK

1. Cora Keohane (Barryroe)
2. Elthne Duggan (Bishopstown)
3. Denise Cronin (Glen Rovers)
4. Vivienne Harris (Bishopstown)
5. Mags Finn (Fr O'Neill's)
6. Ursula Troy (Newtownshandrum)
7. Mary O'Connor (Granagh-Ballingarry)
8. Linda Mellerick (Glen Rovers)
9. Sinead O'Callaghan (Ballyagran)
10. Fiona O'Driscoll (Fr O'Neill's)
11. Irene O'Keeffe (Inniscarra)
12. Lynne Dunlea (Cloughdubh)

SEPT 1998

Countdown to unique showdown

by Tom Higgins

THE countdown has started for what is an unique All-Ireland senior camogie final between holders Cork and Galway at Croke Park on Sunday.

The game will be televised live for the first time, and another first is the fact that John Morrissey of Tipperary will referee the match. Traditionally the Camogie Association relied on one of their own panel of referees to take charge of their premier final. This is the third year in succession that the two sides have met in the final, with Galway taking their first title ever in 1996, when coming out on top by 4-8 to 1-15 and Cork gaining sweet revenge 12 months ago when winning 0-15 to 2-5.

Cork and Galway are undoubtedly the two best sides in the country at the moment and the encounter should be close. They met in this year's league final in Ballinasloe at the end of May with the Rebels taking the honours on a score of 1-16 to 2-9 to record their fourth success in a row. However, when it comes to the championship you can forget about league form, as both sides will have trained hard and whoever hits form on the day will come out on top.

In 1996 Cork had a massive 3-16 to 1-7 success over Galway in the league decider and were hot favourites to retain their title, having beaten Kilkenny in 1995 the previous year, when they faced the westerners in the championship decider. However, Galway rose to the occasion to win the crown having been losing finalists on nine previous occasions. On Sunday, they will be seeking to make it win number two, while Cork will be seeking their 19th title, and their fifth in the '90s. Glen players Sandie Fitzgibbon, Linda Mellerick (twice) and Denise Cronin

All-Ireland camogie final between Cork and Galway is to be televised live for the first time

have skipped the side to victory in this decade and Eithne Duggan from Bishopstown will be hoping to follow in their footsteps.

When Bishopstown won the senior county championship for the first time in their history last year, and retained it recently, Eithne was nominated by the club to captain the county side, so she will be hoping to be making the winning speech. Since last year, Cork have lost one of their most renowned players in Sandie Fitzgibbon, who decided to retire after a long and illustrious career in which she won six All-Ireland medals. She was going to call it a day after the defeat by Galway in 1996, but was persuaded to stay on for another year and went out on a winning note last September when proving one of the stars of the final.

It was expected that Cork would announce their side last night following training, but the selectors decided that it would not now be named until after their final training session tomorrow night. However, it is expected that it could be the side that finished the semi-final against Clare.

CORK (probable): Cora Keohane; Eithne Duggan (capt); Denise Cronin, Vivienne Harris, Mags Finn; Linda Mellerick, Mary O'Connor, Ursula Troy; Sinead O'Callaghan, Fiona O'Driscoll, Lynn Dunlea; Irene O'Keefe.
GALWAY: Louise Curry; Olivia Broderick; Ann Broderick, Tracy Laheen, Pamela Nevin, Therese Maher, Sharon Glynn, Aine Hillery; Collette Nevin, Imelda Hobbs, Veronica Curtin; Ann Forde.



Cork's Denise Cronin and Galway's Pamela Nevin tussling for possession during last year's All-Ireland senior camogie final. Picture: INPHO

GLYNN'S FINAL TONIC

SHARON GLYNN loves the build-up to an All-Ireland final. The chat, the slugging, the banter. It used to get to her when she was younger. Now though, she's a veteran (at 24!) and it doesn't bother her one bit.

This past week, Blakney's pub near Ballinasloe has been full of chat as Galway prepare for their third successive All-Ireland meeting with Cork.

"All the talk this week is about the big match on Sunday," says Glynn who will be appearing in her fourth final today. "The pub is the best place to be if you want to talk about it. They showed last year's final (which Galway lost) on *TnaG* on Tuesday night, so there's been a fair bit of slugging all right."

Her male brethren preparing for this month's football and hurling finals might find this approach a little off-putting. But Glynn doesn't mind being in the spotlight. After all, anything other than last year's preparation would suffice.

Last year, the Na Piarsaigh player was still in hospital just six days before the final, suffering with a muscular problem which also affected her breathing; the legacy of a car accident a couple of years before. The previous week, she had collapsed at training. She played in Croke Park with the aid of painkillers, having not held a hurley for nearly two weeks.

"They were supposed to be taking these tests, but they never seemed to be getting around to it," recalls Glynn.

This year's All-Ireland Camogie final takes place in Croke Park today when Galway meet Cork for the third year running. **David Kelly** talks to Galway midfielder Sharon Glynn, who is enjoying a relaxing week before the big match



Sharon Glynn...

"And I knew that once you leave hospital, you're so weak that you need a couple more days recovery time. So I had to get out on the Sunday or else I wouldn't have been able to play. In the end, I sort of discharged myself. I remember it distinctly because it was the day that Princess Di died."

"I just had to get out and play. I struggled until Christmas with the after-effects of the injury because my breathing wasn't really right at all. I was delighted that I played in the final, but my free-taking went a bit haywire. Some people would say that's what beat us in the end."

After all, the thrill of Galway's first ever O'Duffy Cup win in 1996 brought home how much the game meant to her - and the county. On that occasion, Glynn was in the wars again. However, a blow to the head in the opening minutes of the match failed to subdue the big-hitting wonder as she scored 0-5 in the 4-8 to 1-15 win.

"It's still hard to describe my feeling of elation once the final whistle went that day," says Glynn. "I had played in the '93 final when Cork hammered us and everyone was expecting the same result again."

"But everything went for us that day and since then the game in Galway has been on the up and up. This year, our Juniors are in the final as well, while the minors only lost by a point to Cork in the semi-final."

"Also, we've had a lot of injury problems this year but with the strength in depth that we have now in the county, there are always ready-made replacements. This wouldn't be the case only for that breakthrough in '96."

Not surprisingly, Glynn has been one of those on the treatment table this year. Remarkably, she's only managed just under ten minutes of championship action this year. She was suspended for the first round and then she had to undergo a hernia operation. However, she did come on for a few minutes at the end of the semi-final against Tipperary. Oh, and she broke her thumb during the league as well.

Significantly, Glynn's in-

troduction helped Galway pull away in that semi-final. It's no real surprise then, that hers is the first name on the Galway team-sheet.

"I suppose if I was one of the other girls, I'd be a bit disappointed at being left out," says Glynn. "But there's no animosity at all. We're all in this together."

Glynn admits that in last year's final, Galway weren't as focused as they should have been. In a way, the hangover from the previous year was still throbbing. The novelty of a breakthrough hadn't given way to a steely determination to retain the title.

"I think this year we've less pressure on us," says Glynn. "We know we'll have to play well but I think we'll definitely be more focused than last year."

"It's great that the match is on TV because it might get more people interested in the game. One thing I would like to see is a good refereeing performance. Camogie is a non-contact sport but sometimes you just can't avoid it. They should let the game flow more, especially for Sunday. We don't want to have people switching off."

That will hardly be a problem should these two fine teams replicate their enthralling tussles of recent years. And Sharon Glynn will be at the heart of it all. Launching her long-range pucks and putting herself in where it hurts. She will shed blood, sweat and tears for Galway today. It's in her nature.

Harris kick-starts career

VIVIENNE HARRIS hates microrecorders. Hates them. Approaching her, she recoiled, like she was about to be attacked. Which is kind of surprising, really. Because Vivienne Harris doesn't shy away from much — black belt in Thai boxing, she is more than capable of looking after herself, in most situations. But microrecorders? "I hate those things," she exclaims, "I can't talk to them!". Well, she'll have to learn. And soon. Because Vivienne Harris is going to be a star.

When Sandy Fitzgibbon retired from inter-county duty last year, it was at least the camogie equivalent of DJ Carey retiring from hurling (notwithstanding the fact that Sandy stayed retired!). Certainly one of the modern greats, and ranked by many among the all-time giants of camogie, Sandy's loss was always going to be huge.

But nobody, in any sport, is irreplaceable. As one star wanes, another rises, in this case, that star is Vivienne Harris. Coach to this Cork team is Tommy Nott, one of the most knowledgeable men in the world of camogie. And Tommy is in no doubt: "Replacement for Sandy? Sandy was brilliant, of course — but she is, and she's a similar type of player. She reads the game very well, she's a great two-handed player and has great delivery from both sides. She's fitting in well at the moment, but tomorrow is the big test, the big day. It's an All-Ireland final, and if Vivienne plays well for us, I think we're well on the road to winning."

Just 19, and already, pivotal to the success of her team. But, for Vivienne, no problem. She's been playing senior All-Ireland finals with Cork since 1995, when, barely 16, she came on as a sub in a winning effort. The following year, she was on the Cork side shocked by Galway, who were winning their first senior final, after nine previous attempts, but then last year, she gave a player-of-the-game performance when Cork avenged that loss. True Grit? "Oh she is tough," adds Tommy, "she's very good at dispossessing players. Even if she's beaten for possession, she'll still get back to block, or hook, or flick the ball away."

Vivienne's introduction to camogie was entirely accidental: "My brother Keith was out in Bishopstown, playing a football match, and I went with him, just pucking around out there. And someone asked me to play with them, so I did." Just like that.

Vivienne is from Hollyhill, about ten minutes drive from Bishopstown, and there, she had learned the rudiments of the game, pucking around with her brothers: "I was able to puck the ball, catch it and that sort of thing. They'd stick me in goals, and shoot away!". She didn't know much about camogie, "not a whole lot anyway!", but almost immedi-



Vivienne is highly competitive and makes no bones about it

ately, at the ripe old age of ten, she made her debut at U-14 for Bishopstown. And hasn't looked back since.

Vivienne is highly competitive and makes no bones about it - "Competitive? Yeah, especially for the last few years." No surprise then that she would be drawn to the martial arts: "I don't know, it's just something I always wanted to do. Probably all the Van Damme films I watched when I was younger! I saw an ad in the Echo, and I just went down to Shandon Street and joined. I've been there ever since, five years now."

Vivienne does kick-boxing and is now a black belt. Unlike camogie, Thai boxing is a full-contact sport, and this suits Vivienne to the ground: "It's grand to be able to defend yourself, if you ever need it. There's a lot of contact in the sport — full contact, knee, elbow, kicks. The categories are by weight and I'm in the 8st 4lb category." And a champion in that category: "I won the Anglo-Irish Thai boxing championship, went over to Liverpool to an international karate competition, fought this girl (English champion) and I beat her."

The fitness requirements are different: "Completely different. I could run all day, but I couldn't kick-box all day — it takes a lot out of you. I try to train for it at least two nights a week, but sometimes it overlaps with the camogie training."

The twenty-dollar question, which does Vivienne prefer? "I dunno — camogie, I suppose. I dunno!" She doesn't know. Still, her kick-boxing teammates are currently in competition in Taiwan. Vivienne is going to Croke Park.

When Cork last met Galway (in this year's National League Final) Vivienne could have used some of those kick-boxing skills. Along with Galway's Sharon Glynn, she was sent off, a most unusual occurrence in camogie.

"About ten minutes to go, there was just a bit of a tussle, she turned and

CORK

Cora Keshane (Barryroe);
Elthine Duggan (Bishopstown) (Capt);
Denise Cronin (Glen Rovers), Vivienne Harris (Bishopstown), Mags Finn (Fr. O'Neills);
Linda Mellerick (Glen Rovers), Mary O'Connor (Grangahallin);
Ursula Troy (Newtownshandrum);
Sinead O'Callaghan (Ballysagran), Fiona O'Driscoll (Fr. O'Neills);
Lynn Dunlee (Cloughduv);
Irene O'Keefe (Inniscarra);
Subs: Leona Nolan (Inniscarra), Stephanie Dunlee (Cloughduv), Paula O'Connor (Newtownshandrum),
Cecilia Harrington (Newtownshandrum), Linda O'Sullivan (Ballysagran), Mary Burke (Glen Rovers), Miriam Deasy (Kilbrittain), Trish Doyle (Bishopstown).

GALWAY

Louise Curry (Pearses);
Olivia Broderick (Davitts) (Capt);
Ann Broderick (Davitts), Tracy Laheen (Pearses), Pamela Nevin (Mullagh);
Theresa Maher (Shamrocks), Sharon Glynn (Pearses), A. Hillery (Pearses);
Colette Nevin (Cappataggle), Imelda Hobbins (Mullagh), Veronica Curtin (Craughwell);
Ann Forde (Pearses);
Subs: Olivia Coen (Mullagh), Carmel Hannon (Pearses), Fiona Ryan (Shamrocks), Ann Hardiman (Mullagh), Marian Meehan (Pearses), Shauna Ward (Pearses), Helen Ryan (Shamrocks), Denise Gilligan (Craughwell).

had a swing at me, I just got in close, the two of us fell, and the two of us were sent off." But wasn't she being a bit bold? After all, isn't Sharon just a little bigger than the slightly-built Vivienne? "A little? She's about three times my size! She buried me there for a while, but sure...". A camogie field was no place to show her martial arts skills, and Vivienne got six weeks for her trouble.

Tommy Nott said about this Cork camogie team: "I've trained many, many teams, but if every hurling team I trained were as skilful as these, I'd have been a very happy man!"

Winner of the All-Ireland Feile Na nGael skills competition in 1992, if Vivienne holds her head, she is surely destined for greatness. A niece of former Cork Hibs soccer star, Miah Denehy, she is steeped in sport.

Going into this game, despite the fact that they've beaten Galway in their last two major encounters, there is no sign of arrogance. "This is going to be a tough game, and it could go either way on the day."

"I can't wait."



Vivienne Harris: the rising star of the Cork Camogie team.

SEPT 1998

Galway girls planning to set a winning trend

IF it wasn't so maddening you might just see the funny side of it.

Last Saturday, seven days before playing in tomorrow's Bord na Gaeilge All-Ireland senior final at Croke Park, Galway's camogie stars were pushing a bed from Ballinasloe to Galway city.

What? Some kind of bizarre, Mayo-esque training regime perhaps or maybe a players' public protest over the expenses rate or media coverage?

No, the players were doing a sponsored bed-push which raised £2,500 to help offset the expenses for this weekend's senior and junior double bid in Croke.

Incredible, isn't it? Can you picture DJ and the Dooleys handing out collection buckets to their teammates today, a week before their All-Ireland?

But such is life at the top of camogie's pile. "We (the players) only went along on the bedpush for an hour just to show our faces, the committee did all the hard work," stressed Ann Broderick, sister of Galway senior and U-21 star Kevin.

THIRD FINAL

Like her teammates, who meet reigning champs Cork tomorrow for the teams' third senior final in-a-row, Broderick thinks nothing of it.

This year the camogie final gets live television coverage (Network 2, 3.0) for the first time and next season will experiment, at club and intercounty level, with a full-pitch, 15-a-side (from 12) format in a bid to attract more support and coverage.

But, apart from All-Ireland weekend, they still live in the shadows.

When Galway won an historic first senior All-Ireland two years ago the players decided to have their first and only team holiday in the Canaries.

They ran a fashion show (cleverly roping in some of the county hurlers to the catwalk) and flogged team calendars for a five-a-go. "I'm still getting slagged," quips Broderick. "I was Miss February!"

Her team and flatmate Pamela Nevin, a marvellously athletic and skilful wingback, puts it this way: "OK, the game may not be as fast as the men's but we put in just as much time as them."

She fully empathises with Dublin-based full-back, Olivia Broderick, who's been making thrice-weekly training round-trips of 240 miles, having done it herself while getting her business and finance degree in DCU.

Nevin has since added an H Dip in computers from UCG this summer and actually started work - Field Trial Co-ordinator - with Nortel (Northern Telecom) in Galway just five days ago.

There have been substantial rewards on the silverware side; seven schools' All-Irelands with superpower St Raphael's Loughrea, an All-Ireland club medal with Mullagh in '91 and the historic O'Duffy Cup victory in '96.

A county minor at 15, she's in her seventh year as a Galway senior. Once tomorrow is over it's straight back into the county championship, which has to be finished by September 29.

"Every summer is gone, you can go nowhere, you're off the drink, you've absolutely no social life, camogie is all we do and you accept it but you do sometimes wonder how much longer you can do it," Nevin admitted.

MASSIVE COUP

Between league semis/finals and the All-Ireland, they've played Cork in seven major games and beating the '96 final was a massive coup and the bonfires blazed.

Last year the sides met in another epic but Cork won by four points and had the same winning margin in this year's league final, which was so competitive that Vivienne Harris (Cork) and Sharon Glynn (Galway) got sent off and suspended for one month.

"Going into last year's All-Ireland, I felt the attitude was slightly wrong, compared to the year before," Nevin ventured.

"We just weren't psyched up as a unit, maybe subconsciously or something there was a feeling that we'd won the previous year and wouldn't the second time."

She laughs, remembering how, when she started, they were so in awe of Cork that after one particular beating they actually gave them a guard of honour onto their train afterwards!

"It was a bit like us with 'Raphaels', teams were so afraid of us, it was like having a four or five-point headstart before they actually copped on they could beat us."

"Now we know that we are Cork's equal,

CLIONA
FOLEY



that it's only going to be a puck of a ball between us, it's really whoever wants it most, and that's the way it should be."

Cork, though, go in as favourites. They've lost the legendary Sandie Fitzibon (retired), now replaced at full-back by another star Vivienne Harris, but otherwise they've only one real change, Ursula Troy, the only All-Ireland debutant, in an excellent midfield beside Mary O'Connor and Linda Mellerick.

Centre-forward Fiona O'Driscoll is at the top of her game and full-forward Lynn Dunlea should have a massive duel with Olivia Broderick.

In contrast, Galway are radically changed, losing inspirational full-back Olive Costello, Dymna and Gretta Maher in midfield, half-forwards Denise Galligan and Martina Harkin and most recently Carmel Hannon to a cruciate injury.

NARROW DEFEAT

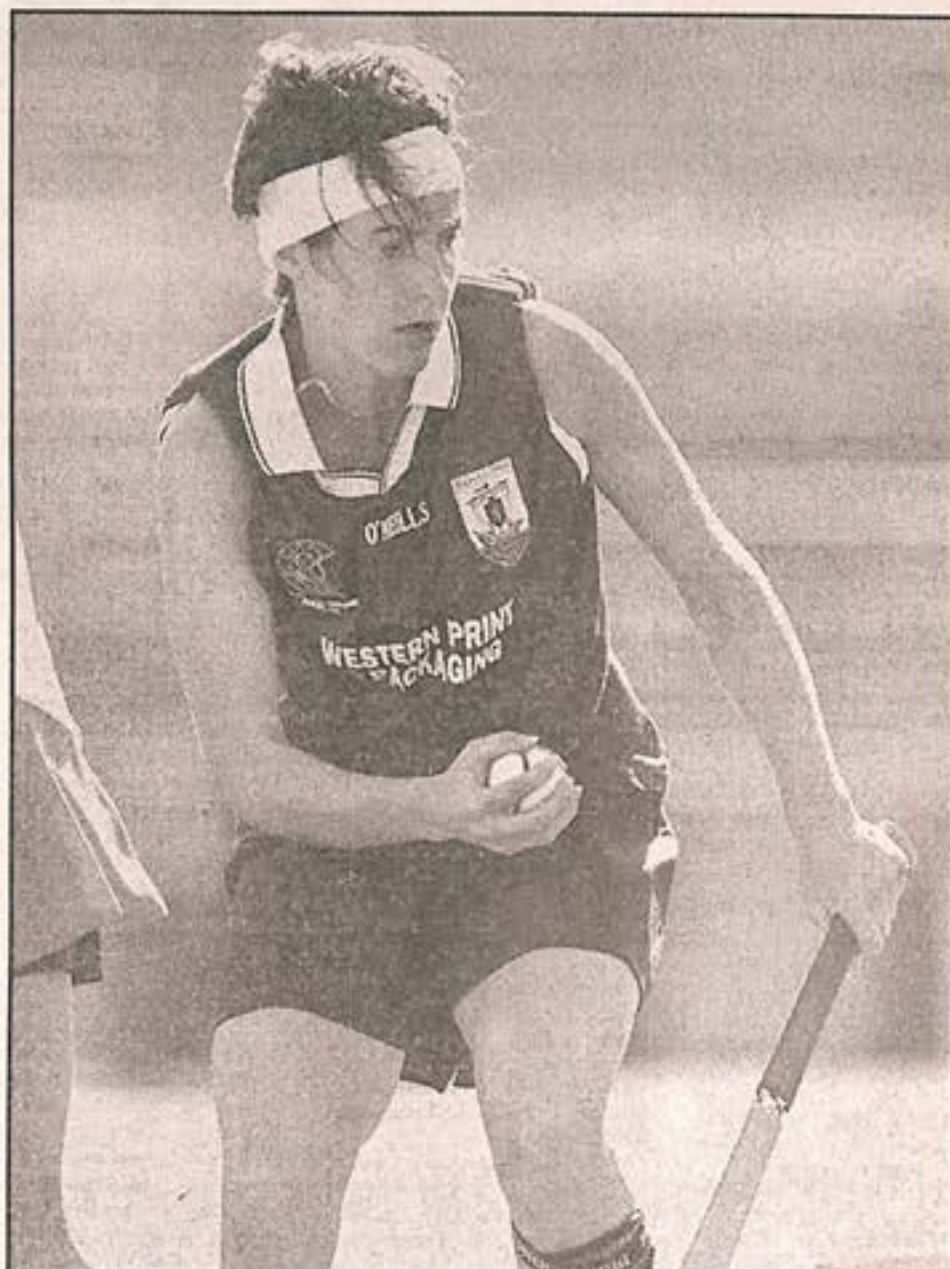
Midfield powerhouse Sharon Glynn is only back from surgery, coming off the bench in their narrow semi-final defeat of Tipperary but should still have a mammoth tussle with O'Connor.

Colette Nevin (Pamela's sister) comes into attack, as do some of last year's sub stars like Veronica Curtin, Aine Hillary and Therese Maher. But it is the half-back line of Ann Broderick, high-catching Tracy Laheen and Pamela who form Galway's backbone and their battle with Cork's lethal O-Zone (O'Callaghan, O'Driscoll and O'Keefe) will be vital.

The appointment of a male referee (Tipp's John Morrissey) has been controversial but may serve to increase the flow of play, which should make it even better.

CORK — C Keohane; E Duggan; D Cronin, V Harris, M Finn; U Troy, M O'Connor, L Mellerick; S O'Callaghan, F O'Driscoll, I O'Keefe; L Dunlea.

GALWAY — L Conry; O Broderick; A Broderick, T Laheen, P Nevin; T Maher, S Glynn, A Hillary; C Nevin, I Hobbs, V Cutler; A Forde.



FINAL REVENGE . . . Galway's Pamela Nevin is out to make amends for last year's disappointing All-Ireland defeat to Cork

O'Callaghan determined to prove point for Cork

'Galway are certain to be as physical as ever'

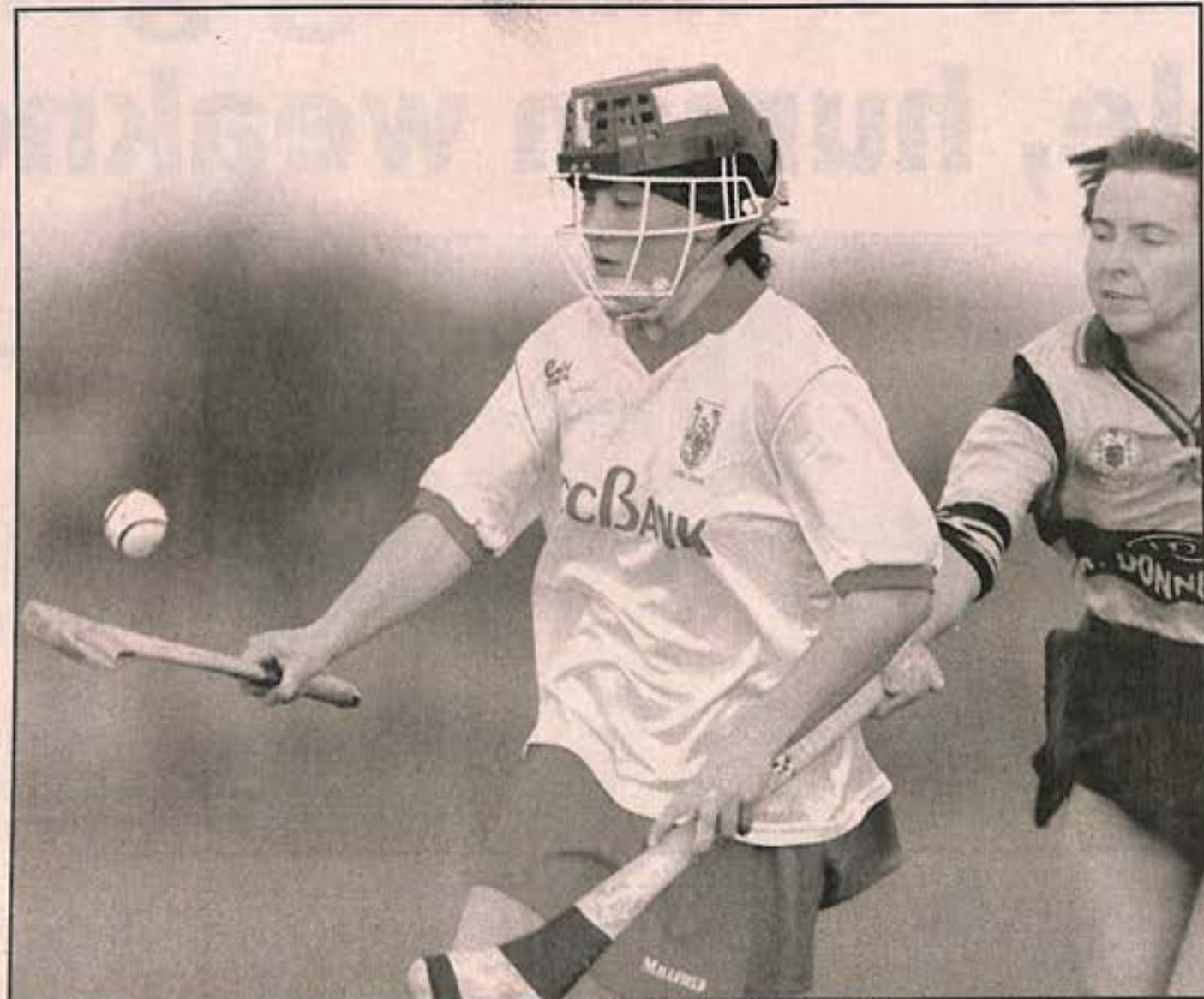
by Diarmuid O'Flynn

ON the Cork side for Sunday's All-Ireland Senior Camogie Final, Sinead O'Callaghan is one of those most valuable of commodities — a scoring forward. Tommy Nott, team coach and trainer: "She's scoring, and you can't ask for anything more. Any forward that scores, that's what you want, and if the four forwards are scoring on Sunday, five or six points each, well, we're going to win the match. She has great size and strength, she seems to have got very strong in the last twelve months. She has a great stride, she reminds me a lot of Ray Cummins, running. You never think she's covering ground, but you'll never catch her either!"

Winner of one of the EXAMINER YOUNG SPORTS STAR awards last year for camogie, Sinead has been starring for years with the St. Mary's all-conquering side in her native Charleville. What's the difference between the levels? "Well, it's a lot faster, and a lot more physical at inter-county. You have to be a lot fitter, you have to be faster to the ball, you have to concentrate a lot more on the ball, keeping your eye on it at all times. It's a different ball-game altogether."

On the Limerick border, Sinead plays her club camogie in Limerick, with Ballyagran. Does this cause difficulties? "Well, it does and it doesn't. This year now, it isn't too bad because we're out of the championship, but last year, it was very awkward. A lot of the club games coincide with county games, and when you're in a different county, it's tough enough to try and make your way around that."

So why does she play in Limerick? "One of my friends in St. Mary's asked me to go and play with them, and I agreed. That was the main reason, and I've been with them ever since." That kind of club loyalty is the backbone of the GAA, but



Sinead O'Callaghan: keen to produce a top performance for Cork in the clash against Galway.

it's not so easy in camogie. With far fewer clubs to choose from, many players are not actually from the parish or town with whose club they play. Sinead has double difficulties, she's neither from the village, nor from the county! This year, she finished her Leaving Certificate, and begins

her studies shortly in UCC. Since she will now be living in the city, are there any temptations to transfer? "There are always temptations, this year now, especially, because I'm going to College in the city. I don't know what I'm going to do."

After helping St. Mary's to yet another senior All-Ireland this earlier this year, playing with Ballyagran in the Limerick Championship, still involved with Cork in this Championship, and with "hopefully", the Ashbourne later this year, with UCC, still to come, it's been a very busy year for

'It is a bit of a morgue at home at the moment'

Sinead: "It is, but if you like it, it's no problem, it gives you something to do!"

Last Sunday, Sinead's home town, Charleville, lost the North Cork Junior hurling final. It left Sinead feeling low: "Oh very disappointed — too disappointed. They left it too late before they started hurling, they were down I think it was 14 points at one stage, but still brought it down to three points. My brother Tadhg was centre-back, and it's a bit of a morgue at home at the moment. But sure, what can you do? They'll get over it."

A win on Sunday would surely help, and Sinead is looking forward to it. There is a growing rivalry with Galway, which adds an edge to this game: "There is all right, they beat us two years ago, we beat them last year. For us now, this is the one to win, to prove last year was no fluke, no once-off. We want to beat them again. We beat them in the League, though it was only four points in the end. But that will stand to us all right, we'll go into it now confident enough, after that League win. We've had a very good championship campaign so far, we've won our games well, and we're going in confident enough."

Two years ago, Cork also went in confident enough, and lost. Is Sinead now too confident? "Oh no, you could never be overly confident going in against Galway. They'll be as physical as ever, they'll be tough as ever, and it will go down to whoever wants it more in the end."

A few months ago, Vincent Harrington, Sinead's school coach, told me that one of her greatest characteristics was will to win. She might not have been the best player ever to play for the school, but she had huge heart, great drive, courage and determination. If, as Sinead says, it comes down to a will to win, well, Sinead at least, won't be found wanting.

SEPT 1998



Some of the Cork senior camogie squad take a break during training for Sunday's senior All-Ireland final.

Cork put title on line

ALL-IRELAND senior camogie champions Cork put their title on the line at Croke Park on Sunday when they play Galway to decide the destination of the O'Duffy Cup for this year.

Already this year Cork have a victory over the westerners. They met in the National League final in Ballinasloe back in May and victory went to the Leesiders on a 1-16 to 2-9 scoreline. Lynn Dunlea scoring 1-12 of the Cork total.

Camogie in Cork is at an all time high at present. Already this year All-Ireland titles have been won at schools and minor level, and the intermediate team are through to the All-Ireland final also.

On their way to Sunday's final the defending champions had an easy win over the once mighty Dublin. Clare pro-

By **BRENDAN LARKIN**

vided the opposition in the semi-final and it took Cork a long time to wear down the Banner girls before emerging winners 2-15 to 1-9.

Galway had a much tougher path to the final. They struggled to beat Limerick by two points in the opening round, and almost came a cropper against a rated Tipperary side in the semi-final.

Team

The champions have picked the same team that finished against Clare which means Irene O'Keeffe who came on as a sub in that game, keeps her place at full forward.

Since the legendary Sandie Fitzgibbon retired at the end

of last year win, Vivienne Harris has slotted into the centre-back position as if she was there all her career, while Ursula Troy who is making her first final appearance, has made the left side of midfield her own.

Ethnie Duggan will captain the team from the full back position while Lynn Dunlea and Sínead O'Callaghan can be relied upon to get the scores up front.

For the first time this season Galway will have a full strength team, and that spells trouble for Cork.

In Sharon Glynn, Denise Gilligan, Tracy Laheen, Anna Forde and Imelda Hobbins they have players of exceptional ability, and Cork will have to be at their very best if they are to retain their crown.



Lynn Dunlea: Hoping to be on the mark again against Galway.



Irene O'Keeffe: Final game on Sunday.

Irene to quit after final

By **BRENDAN LARKIN**

WIN or lose, Cork's full-forward Irene O'Keeffe will retire from inter-county camogie after Sunday's All-Ireland final against Galway.

The Inniscarra player broke into the senior team in 1991 but Cork lost that All-Ireland final to Kilkenny.

The following year she won the first of her four championship medals when Cork defeated Wexford in the final, and would like to go out in a blaze of glory on Sunday by winning her fifth Celtic Cross.

Marvellous

"I've had a marvellous innings, but it's time to depart the scene. I'm finding the travelling and training difficult and when a player feels that way, the writing is on the wall."

"Camogie in the county has never been stronger. There are a lot of younger girls out there knocking on the door and I feel the time is ripe for me to move over and let them in."

Injury meant Irene didn't start against Clare in this year's All-Ireland semi-final but she did come on and played well enough to hold her place at full forward for Sunday. A prolific goalscorer, Irene is hoping she can bag a couple, and depart a stage she has graced with style and panache over the last eight years.

Chalk one up to Lynn

OFF THE field, she's a soft-spoken teacher. This week was the first school-day for some in the Coachford school in Cork where Lynn Dunlea teaches. She had to gently ease the boys and girls through the transition from the safety of home to the strange new world of the classroom. With an almost angelic touch, the new pupils are taken under her wing.

On the field, it couldn't be any more different. She's a raging mass of energy, one of the most lethal forwards in the game. Speed, skill and strength combine to wreak havoc on opposing defences.

Off the field, she has a heart of gold. But on the field, she breaks hearts.

Take last year for example. Galway were the reigning All-Ireland champions, having sensationally made the breakthrough by beating the Cork women a year earlier.

Stung by that defeat, Cork and Dunlea - meant business last year. In the first-half, Galway scored a goal, but Dunlea superbly collected the resultant puck-out and scored an excellent point to ensure a crucial four point lead.

Then, with five minutes to go Veronica Curtin struck for Galway's second goal. Yet again, Dunlea responded in similar fashion. Despite being

surrounded by three Galway players, Dunlea knocked over another of her ten points to all but clinch victory.

"That was probably the best day of my sporting life," is Dunlea's reflection a year on. "Everything went well for me on the day. Now we're champions again and we want to keep it that way."

"Galway will be hurting after losing their crown last year. But we still remember '96 as well and we don't want that to happen again. Whether I score or not doesn't matter as long as we win. Anyway, it's my job to score, as well as set up scores for the others."

A wrist injury has disrupted much of her season, but she pronounces herself 100 per cent fit for today's game. In '96, she scored 1-9 in defeat; last year it was 0-10. This year, expect the teacher to deliver another master-class in the art of scoring.



Lynn Dunlea... lethal

IMPETUS FIRMLY WITH THE REBELS

All-Ireland senior camogie final • Cork v Galway
Croke Park • 3.30

THESE TEAMS meet at the final stage for the third successive year. In 1996, Galway stunned Cork by bringing the O'Duffy Cup across the Shannon for the first time only to see their colours lowered by a vengeful Cork side last year.

This year, Cork will again be favourites to affirm their dominance and win the title for the fourth time in six years. They have looked by far the most impressive side this season. Already, they have seen off Galway in the league final which they won by four points.

And their form during the championship has been devastating with facile wins against Dublin and Clare for Tom Nott's side. Meanwhile, Galway have stumbled their way throughout the championship.

They only had two points to spare when they met Limerick in the first round while in the semi-final, it was only in the final five minutes that they

managed to take control against Tipperary.

However, this won't have unnerved Galway boss Tony Ward and his charges, especially given the experience of '96 when they lost heavily to Cork in the league final only to triumph in Croke Park.

Sharon Glynn's absence this summer has allowed others on the team to develop and while they may have struggled at times, Galway have benefitted from not having to rely solely on Glynn.

Her return for today's clash is a key factor though, while they will also be looking for good performances from the likes of Colette Nevin, Imelda Hobbins and Veronica Curtin in the forward line. For Cork, Vivian Harris is the young star everyone is talking about and much is expected from her. They will also look to their big game specialists - full-back Eithne Duggan, Linda Mellerick at midfield and Fiona O'Driscoll at centre-forward.

The key clash will be between Cork's Lynn Dunlea, their top scorer in each of the last two years, and Galway captain and full-back Olivia Broderick. The winner of this clash will more than likely end up on the winning side. Unfortunately for the westerners, it looks like it will be Cork's year yet again.

CORK: C. Keeshane, D. Cronin, E. Duggan (capt), M. Finn, V. Harris, U. Troy, M. O'Connell, L. Mellerick, F. O'Driscoll, S. O'Callaghan, I. O'Keeffe, L. Dunlea.
Subs: L. Nolan, C. Harrington, P. O'Connell, M. Burke, L. O'Sullivan, T. Doyle, M. Deasy, S. Dunlea
GALWAY: L. Curry, O. Broderick (capt), A. Broderick, T. Laheen, P. Nevin, T. Maher, S. Glynn, A. Hillery, C. Nevin, I. Hobbins, V. Curtin, A. Forde. **Subs:** O. Coen, A. Hardiman, D. Gilligan, F. Ryan, M. Meehan, S. Ward, C. Kannon, H. Ryan

All-Ireland junior camogie final • Galway v Tipperary
Croke Park • 1.45

TIPPERARY needed a replay to overcome Derry in the semi-final and they will need a huge improvement if they are to trouble hot favourites Galway. Aoife Lynskey and Rita Broderick have been their outstanding players this summer and they should have too much class for the girls from the Premier county.

GALWAY: A. Connolly, A. Dolan (capt), R. Broderick, A. Kelly, F. Healy, M. Glynn, V. Sweeney, C. Murray, S. Tannian, A. Lynskey, L. Kavanagh, B. Daniels. **Subs:** A. Murray, M. Lynch, E. Earls, R. Cullinane, S. Regan, A. Keams, C. Martin
TIPPERARY: L. Ryan, S. Cusack, M. Conneran, T. Bourke, N. Connolly, P. Fogarty, A. Deane, A. McDermott, J. Ryan, S. Howard, O. Shanahan, N. Dwyer. **Subs:** F. Loughane, M. Loohey, M. O'Donoghue, N. Kennedy, J. Ryan, P. Biffin, S. Ryan, D. Fleming.

CAMOGIE FINALS

Third time lucky for Galway?

By Ian O'Riordan

GALWAY FOOTBALLERS may be on the brink of a new tradition in reaching the All-Ireland but the senior camogie side have already got themselves a head start by going into the championship final tomorrow for the third year in a row.

After winning their first senior title over Cork two years back and then narrowly losing out to them last year, the indications are that camogie success in Galway is something the county may be getting used to.

Galway manager Tony Ward says: "There's not been more than four points separating us in the past and I imagine this one will be just as close. We lost the League final to Cork earlier this year but I think we've made great improvement since then and there won't be a lot between us right now."

In his fifth season with the squad, and his third final, Ward is more than happy with the way the preparations have gone. "Most of the injuries that hampered us in the previous two games have cleared up, so we're a lot stronger now than earlier on in the year. We've probably done more training this season as well. In the past the mid-field has been our weakness and that's something we've been working on a lot."

Five players on the side come from Na Píarsaigh, the All-Ireland club champions for the past two years. "Having the group of us on the same club does add a bit of strength to the team, but I think we all know each other very well now and there's a lot of experience in the squad," says midfielder Sharon Glynn.

Team captain Olivia Broderick has found herself in the unfamiliar position of full back for this year's final after playing at midfield and corner back on the previous two outings. "It's probably not the easiest place to be playing, since you're very much on your own. There is only the goalkeeper behind you so it's a fairly responsible position."

It's the Galway defence that may provide the greatest problem for Cork. Centre back Tracey Labeen has been a huge factor in Na Píarsaigh's success, along with Louise Curry in goal. With Broderick orchestrating the action at full

back this unit should provide high security even against Cork's respected forwards.

Add to that sort of experience the likes of Ann Forde, Aine Hillery, and the captain of the victorious '96 team, Imelda Hobbins, all veterans of the recent Galway campaigns, and the team looks impressive.

Galway and Cork have the biggest club structures in the country, with 34 clubs currently registered in Galway and as many in Cork. The Galway team also have strong associations with Galway hurling. Senior hurling panel member and former All Star Kevin Broderick is a brother of Ann Broderick and Vinny Maher is a brother of Therese Maher. Veronica Curtin is a daughter of former Galway star Mick Curtin.

The football connections are less obvious, however, with most of that recent success coming from the north and west of the county, while the hurling and camogie achievement has, traditionally, come from the south and east. Máiréad Meehan is the only direct link — she is the sister of the Meehan brothers currently preparing for the football final.

The route to Croke Park has not gone exactly as smoothly as Galway would have wanted. They edged past Limerick in the first round and then struggled in the dying moments to overcome a determined Tipperary. After trailing for most of the game, it took a Veronica Curtin goal in the last five minutes to see them through, a lesson they hope will be of use in the final.

"Cork's big strength has always been to keep the pressure on until the final whistle," says Broderick. "We proved to ourselves that we could come back against Tipperary and we'll be careful to make sure that nobody pulls away from us this time."

The Galway junior team also make the trip tomorrow, to meet Tipperary, and judging by their record this season, could be on target for their first All-Ireland title after a number of efforts this decade. They demolished Roscommon in the Connacht final and then came through against the much-fancied Carlow. With three county teams heading to Croke Park in four weeks, at least some honours are likely to be going west.

THE LINE-UPS

GALWAY (senior): L. Curry, O. Broderick (capt), A. Broderick, T. Labeen, P. Nevin, T. Maher, S. Glynn, A. Hillery, C. Nevin, I. Hobbins, V. Curtin, A. Forde.

CORK (senior): C. Keohane, E. Duggan (Capt), D. Cronin, V. Harris, M. Finn, U. Troy, M. O'Connor, L. Mellorick, S. O'Callaghan, F. O'Driscoll, I. O'Keefe, L. Dunlea.

GALWAY (junior): A. Connolly, A. Dolan (Captain), R. Broderick, A. Kelly, F. Healy, M. Glynn, V. Sweeney, C. Murray, S. Tannan, A. Lynskey, L. Kavanagh, B. Daniels.

TIPPERARY (junior): L. Ryan, S. Cusack, M. Corcoran, T. Burke, N. Connolly, P. Fogarty, A. Deane (Capt), A. McDermott, J. Ryan, S. Howard, G. Shanahan, N. Dwyer.



ACTION PICTURE: Alice Deane (6), Niamh Dwyer (12), Paula Bulfin (11) on the attack for Tipperary in the All-Ireland junior camogie semi-final against Derry on Sunday.

CAMOGIE:

Tipperary Junior Camogie in All-Ireland final

IN the re-play of the All-Ireland Junior Camogie Semi-final Tipperary faced the long journey to Belaghy on Sunday last to play the home county. In the drawn game two weeks ago, Tipperary conceded a somewhat soft goal which put Derry right back into the game, and indeed, Tipperary were lucky to hang on to draw.

On Sunday through the Tipperary backs gave nothing away and were in control throughout. Niamh O'Dwyer playing at full-forward opened the scoring for Tipperary with a pointed free in the first thirty seconds. From the resulting puck-out the Derry full-back, Grainne Maguire, aided by a very strong wind, sent the ball over the Tipperary bar to equalise within the first minute. Niamh O'Dwyer again pointed from a free and Derry's Bronagh Brit replied immediately from play, and the same Derry player put them ahead with a well taken point in

the fourth minute.

Tipperary equalised again in the fifteenth minute with a great Joanne Ryan point. Aileen Tobill edged the home side ahead again in the sixteenth minute, and the teams were level for the fourth time when Joanne Ryan slotted over another great point in the nineteenth minute.

With five minutes of the first half remaining Derry had drawn ahead with points from Roisin Pickering and Grainne Maguire. Both teams exchanged pointed frees and the score at half-time was Derry 0-8, Tipperary 0-6.

The Tipperary mentors went to the Dressing Rooms the happier side trailing only two points despite having played against a very strong wind in the first half.

In the second half Tipperary were first to score again and went ahead by a point in the fourth minute when Niamh O'Dwyer scored

their first goal, but Derry equalised again almost immediately with a well taken point by their centre forward Aileen O'Kane, and took the lead in the tenth minute when Grainne Maguire, who was deadly accurate from placed balls, pointed her fifth free. However Derry failed to register another score until the last puck of the game when they pointed a 30 metre free. Tipperary on the other hand scored their second goal when Sheena Howard broke through to hand pass the ball to the back of the Derry net. Points from Mary Looby, Niamh O'Dwyer and Philomena Fogarty sealed the victory which they truly deserved.

This was a great result for the Tipperary girls who were not over confident having lost an eight points lead in the drawn game.

We now face Galway in the All-Ireland Final on Sunday next September 6th, in Croke Park, and

I would appeal to all Tipperary people to come out and support this team.

TEAM: Louise Ryan (Holycross), Siobhan Cusack (Toomevara), Maeve Corcoran (Moynacree), Tess Bourke (Shannon Rovers), Niamh Connolly (Templemore), Alice Dean (Kilruane), Capt; Angela McDermott (Knockavilla), Philomena Fogarty (Cashel) 0-1, Joanne Ryan (Drom-Inch), 0-2, Sheena Howard (Burgess) 1-0, Grainne Shanahan (Toomevara), Niamh O'Dwyer (Moynacree) 1-5.

Subs: Fiona Loughnane for Grainne Shanahan; Mary Looby 0-1 for Sheena Howard.

U-18 Co. Team: play Limerick in the first round of the Munster Championship on Saturday 12th., September at 3 p.m. (Tipperary venue). Tipperary are the current Munster champions and will be bidding to retain their crown.



The Tipperary team which beat Derry in the All-Ireland junior camogie semi-final on Sunday.

Back Row (left to right) Siobhan Ryan, Paula Bulfin, Joanne Ryan, Mary Looby, Jane Ryan, Grainne Shanahan, Siobhan Cusack, Fiona Loughnane, Nicola Kennedy.

Front Row (left to right) Angela McDermott, Niamh Connolly, Alice Deane (captain), Meadhbh Corcoran, Tess Bourke, Louise Ryan, Philomena Fogarty, Sheena Howard, Niamh Dwyer, Muireann O'Donoghue, (Michaela Graham, mascot).

SEPT. 1998



Irene O'Keeffe, who will be playing for the Cork camogie team that takes on Galway in the All-Ireland final this Sunday.

Pic: Mark Condren.

Mallow camogie star to retire from Cork duty after All-Ireland final

By Trish O'Dea

SUNDAY'S All-Ireland camogie final will be the last for AIB Mallow's four time All-Ireland medal winner Irene O'Keeffe, she announced this week.

Irene, aged 27, said: "I have four All-Ireland medals and I'm hoping to win one last one before I call it a day."

While Irene believes that the muscles are no longer able for the punishing training schedules involved in championship camogie, she does plan to continue playing with her club for another couple of years.

Irene first picked up a camán at the tender age of 12, and she never looked back, making the county team in 1990 and quickly becoming a firm fixture on the side, playing in six All-Ireland finals and helping to win four titles.

It's the old rivals Galway again on Sunday, for the third year in a row, and Irene would put the Rebels at slight favourites. She said: "We beat them in the league final in June, but only by a goal."

The star left corner forward is delighted with the decision by RTE to televise the final live for the first time ever. The best the national broadcasters could do up to this year was highlights on *The Sunday Game*.

"A lot of people think there is no skill involved, they think it's all played along the ground like u-12s. But if they come to a match they will realise that it is every bit as skillful as hurling, if a little less

physical," said O'Keeffe.

The punishing schedule faced by Irene over the past few years entailed training with Cork three times a week during the Championship season, and training with her club, Inniscarra, two or three times a week.

"Your social life is non-existent for the whole summer," she admits, "but you make up for it in the winter!"

Irene was with AIB Kanturk for eight years, before transferring to Mallow nine months ago.

The Bórd na Gaeilge All-Ireland camogie final will be played at Croke Park on Sunday, preceded by the junior camogie final and, given that Cork won it last year and Galway the year before, Irene says: "This is the decider."

Cork Camogie Players bid for another All-Ireland

The 1998 Bord Na Gaeilge All-Ireland Senior Camogie Final takes place on Sunday next at 3.30 p.m. in Croke Park and a big crowd is expected to see Cork and Galway clash in what is a repeat of the finals of 96 and 97.

Cork hold a marvellous record at All-Ireland level, having taken the title on no fewer than eighteen times, while Galway have one title to their name.

However, that does not say that Sunday's match is a very much one-sided affair - Galway's victory came in 1996 and as finalists again in 1997, they have certainly come to be a force to reckon with in recent years.

In the earlier rounds of this year's competition, Cork have run out comfortable winners - they easily accounted for a poor Dublin side in the first round and in the semi-final they took out Clare on a score of 2-15 to 1-9.

Galway have not had such an easy passage to Croke Park - they had a tough opening match against Limerick and in the semi-final they were always behind Tipperary until coming with a late rally to snatch their place in the final.

So what will happen on Sunday? It remains to be seen if Galway can take their second All-Ireland or will tradition rule with Cork being victorious for the

nineteenth time. It's going to be a close and exciting contest with Cork going in as favourites but anything can happen in a final - not a game to be missed!

Cork Panel - Cora Keohane, Eithne Duggan, Denise Cronin (Capt), Mags Finn, Vivienne Harris, Mary O'Connor, Sinead O'Callaghan, Fiona O'Driscoll, Lynn Dunlea, Irene O'Keeffe, Linda Mellerick, Ursula Troy, Caoimhe Harrington, Mary Burke, Paula O'Connor, Linda O'Sullivan, Miriam Deasy, Leoine Nolan, Stephanie Dunlea, Trisha Doyle.



Cork Senior Camogie Team, who will face Galway in the All-Ireland Final at Croke Park on Sunday next. (Pic: Mike English)

SEPT.

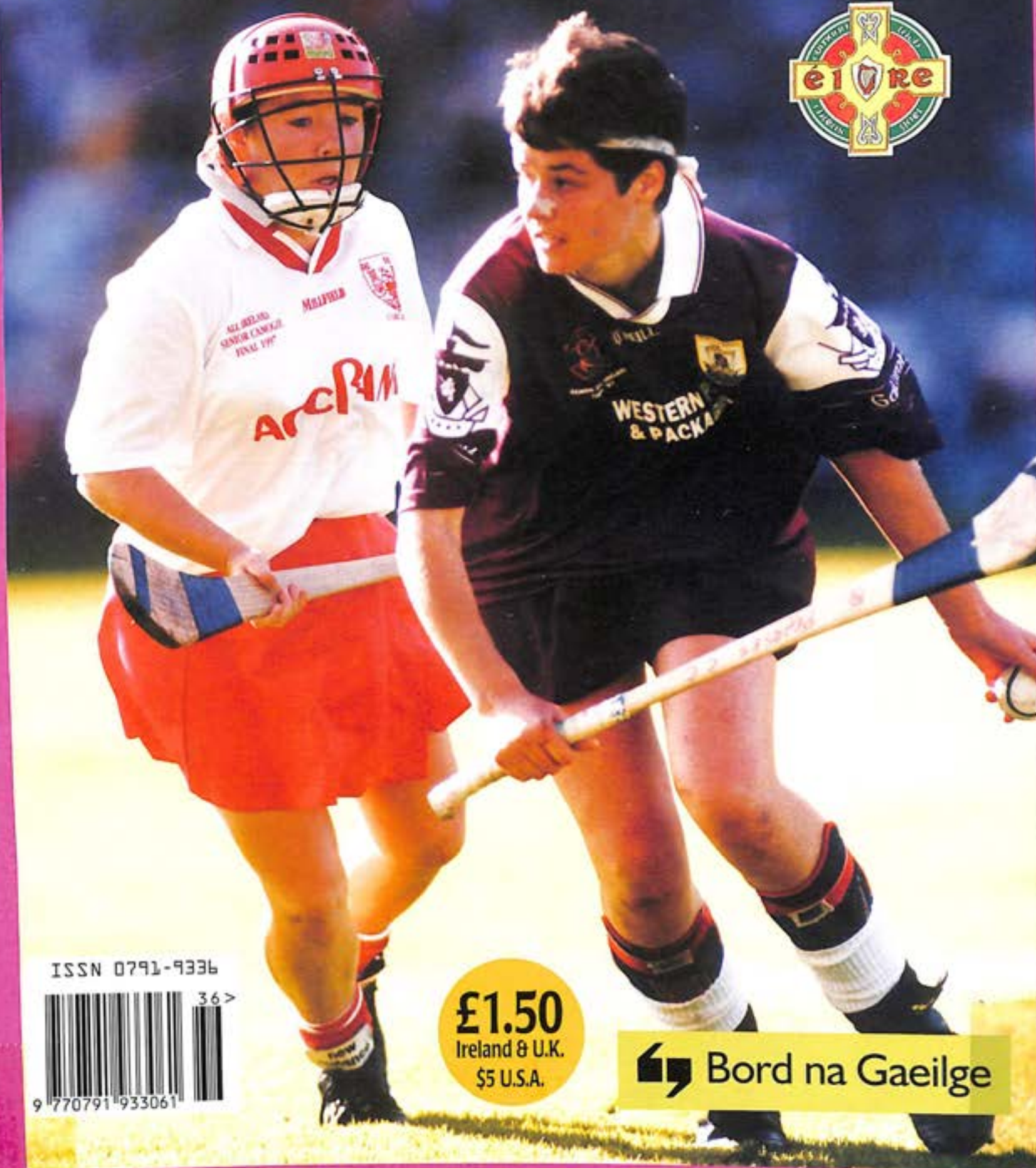
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 Bord na Gaeilge



by PJ Fulham

Camogie World Bord na Gaeilge

CORK AND GALWAY MEET AGAIN

All roads lead to Croke Park on Sunday for the All-Ireland senior and junior championship finals. This will be the 67th All-Ireland senior final and the fourth one sponsored by Bord na Gaeilge. It

will also be an historic occasion as it is the first time for the final to be televised live.

Cork and Galway meet for the sixth time in a senior championship final. Cork have contested 32, winning 18, and lie second to Dublin (36) on the honours list.

Galway are appearing in their 12th final and hold the distinction of having contested the first two in 1932 and 1933. In 1993, they bridged a 31-year gap since their previous appearance (in 1962), but had to wait until 1996 for their first and only victory.

The sides met in the last two finals. 1996 was a historic

occasion for the western county when captain Imelda Hobbins hoisted the O'Duffy Cup after dethroning Cork 4-8 to 1-15. Cork turned the tables last year when Linda Mellerick stepped up to receive the trophy 0-15 to 2-5.

In the quarter final Cork recorded a massive 3-18 to 1-3 win over Dublin while Galway had just two points to spare over Limerick, 1-15 to 2-10.

The semi-finals were staged at the same venue - Nowlan Park, Kilkenny on the same day. This was the first time this happened and created a great atmosphere. In the opening game, Galway had a close call over Tipperary in a very entertaining game. Tipperary were very sharp and at the end of the first quarter led, 0-4 to 0-1. Galway began to get more to grips with the game, especially at centrefield. The sides were level with ten minutes of the half remaining. It was score for score up to the half time whistle when Tipperary just got their nose in front, 0-8 to 0-7.

Five minutes into the second half, Galway had gone three points in front with a goal from Veronica Curtin and a point from Collette Nevin. However, with seven minutes remaining, Galway found themselves trailing by two points, and it was then they showed their mettle, putting in a great finish with a goal and a point by Ann Forde and a point by Tracey Laheen to give them a three point victory 2-11 to 0-14.

Cork were never really worried in the semi-final against Clare and won 2-15 to 1-9. The Rebel County have made



Imelda Hobbins becomes the first Galway woman to accept the All-Ireland senior camogie championship

a number of changes to their team during the 90's. Only four of the 1992 winning side that halted Kilkenny's great run of seven in a row remain in the fray: Linda Mellerick, Denise Cronin, Irene O'Keefe and Fiona O'Driscoll. After last year's decider, Sandy Fitzgibbon, holder of six All-Ireland medals retired, leaving a vacancy in defence. This slot is being filled by Bishopstown's Vivienne Harris who wore the number 7 jersey in last year's final and notched four points. Vivienne was the recipient of the 'Player of the Match' Award on the day. Ursula Troy moves into centrefield.

Galway have lost quite a number of last year's side. The semi-final showed at least six changes. Centrefield star Sharon Glynn is recovering after an operation and may not be back to full strength. Gretta and Dymna Maher, Olive Costelloe and Martina Hartin are out of the country.

Last year's minor captain Therese Maher, Collette Nevin and Veronica Curtin (minor winners in 1996) and Aine Hillary (a member of the 1994 minor side) fill the slots.

The sides met in the National League final earlier this year and Cork retained the title for the 4th year in succession. 1-16 to 2-9. Cork full forward Lynn Dunlea had a personal tally of 1-12. Galway keeper Louise Curry had a good game as had defenders Olivia Broderick and Tracey Laheen.

Sunday's final should be a real cracker. Cork manager Tom Nott has great respect for Galway: "They are a young, strong side," said Tom. "In our meetings in recent times, there only the puck of a ball between us. We will not be taking anything for granted."

The man at the Galway helm, Tony Ward, is sure to have his charges in good shape. Since Tony took over a few years back, he has done a lot for the team and there is little doubt that the ladies from the 'Twelve Bens' will be quietly confident of taking the O'Duffy Cup across the Shannon for the second time. But Cork remain favourites.

Cork: All-Ireland senior champions (18 times): 1934, 1935, 1936, 1939, 1940, 1941, 1970, 1971, 1972, 1973, 1978, 1980, 1982, 1983, 1992, 1993, 1995, 1997. Runners Up: 14 times

National senior league: 8 times. 1984, 1986, 1991, 1992, 1995, 1996, 1997, 1998. Runners Up: 5 times

Munster champions: 46 times. 1932, 1933, 1934, 1935, 1936, 1937, 1938, 1939, 1940, 1941, 1942, 1943, 1952, 1954, 1955, 1956, 1957, 1960, 1962, 1963, 1967, 1968, 1970, 1971, 1972, 1974, 1975, 1976, 1978, 1979, 1980, 1981, 1982, 1983, 1984, 1985, 1986, 1987, 1990, 1991,



Cork ... 1997 All-Ireland senior champions



Action from the Bord na Gaeilge All-Ireland senior championship semi-final between Galway and Tipperary

1994, 1995, 1996, 1997

Number of Clubs: 51

Team Manager: Tom Nott

Senior panel:

Cora Keohane (Ballyroe), Eithne Duggan (Bishopstown), Mags Finn (Fr O'Neills), Denise Cronin (Glen Rovers), Vivienne Harris (Bishopstown), Linda Mellerick (Glen Rovers), Ursula Troy (Newtownshandrum), Mary O'Connor (Killeigh), Sinead O'Callaghan (Ballyagran), Fiona O'Driscoll (Fr. O'Neill's), Lynn Dunlea (Cloughduv), Irene O'Keefe (Inniscarra), Leonie Nolan (Inniscarra), Stephanie Dunlea (Cloughduv), Paula O'Connor (Newtownshandrum), Caoimhe Harrington (Newtownshandrum), Linda O'Sullivan (Ballinhassig), Mary Burke (Glen Rovers), Miriam Deasy (Kilbrittan), Trish Doyle (Bishopstown)

Galway: All-Ireland senior champions in 1996. Runner Up: 10 times

National senior league: 1994: Runners up: 1996 and 1998

Connacht Champions: 29 times, 1932 to 1951, 1960 to 1966, 1968, 1969

Number of clubs: 33

Team Trainer: Tony Ward

Panel: Louise Curry (Na Piarasigh), Olivia Broderick (Davitt's), Aine Hillary, Tracey Laheen (Na Piarasigh),

Pamela Nevin (Cappataggle), Denise Gilligan (Craughwell), Sharon Glynn (Na Piarasigh), Carmel Hannon (Na Piarasigh), Collette Nevin (Cappataggle), Imelda Hobbins (Mullagh), Ann Forde (Na Piarasigh), Veronica Curtin (Craughwell), Olivia Coen (Mullagh), Ann Broderick (Davitt's), Helen Ryan (Shamrocks), Therese Maher (Shamrocks), Fiona Ryan (Shamrocks), Ann Hardiman (Mullagh), Maureen Meehan (Na Piarasigh), Shauna Ward (Na Piarasigh).

Referee: John Morrissey

Tipperary

John is the first male to referee an All-Ireland senior championship final in over 50 years. Other Tipperary men have officiated: Tommie Ryan in 1934 and 1935 and Sean Gleeson in 1942 and 1945.

John has refereed at every level including the Gael Linn senior final of 1998. He has also taken charge of third level colleges and Feile na nGael finals. John, a member of Thurles club, refereed this year's Bord na Gaeilge All-Ireland senior championship semi-final between Cork and Clare.

The curtain-raiser to the Bord na Gaeilge All-Ireland senior championship final will be the 31st decider for the 'New Ireland Cup'. Galway will be dually engaged as their juniors take on Tipperary. Galway had an easy passage over Roscommon (2-12 to 0-1) in the Connacht final and disposed of Carlow in the All-Ireland semi-final, 3-10 to 1-10. Tipperary had a 3-19 to 0-4 win over Limerick in the Munster decider and in the semi-final it took a re-play to separate Tipperary and Derry when the Premier County gained victory, 2-9 to 0-11.

In the 1996 All-Ireland minor final Galway defeated Tipperary by just two points 3-16 to 4-11. Galway will have a number of that team in their line-out: - Aoife Connolly, Ailbe Kelly, Veronica Sweeney and Lourda Kavanagh, the last three were also on the victorious minor team last year. Lourda Kavanagh scored 1-7 of the semi-final tally. Tipperary will also

field four members of that team: Joanne Ryan, Siobhan Ryan, Sheena Howard and Niamh O'Dwyer. Niamh, who played in goals in minor, notched off 1-5 in the semi-final replay against Derry while Siobhan Ryan scored 2-4 in the drawn match. This is Galway's 10th All-Ireland junior final appearance and Tipperary's 4th.

Galway have won five, Tipperary just one. Apart from Cork (who contested 3 in a row on two occasions) Galway and Tipperary are the only counties to contest 3 in a row. Both counties won at their third attempt.

They also met in the 1992 decider in which Tipperary gained their only victory, 6-13 to 2-7.

Cork are the only county to win both senior and junior titles on the same day. They achieved this on three occasions 1973, '80 and '83. Galway contested both in 1983 and were defeated.

Tipperary will be trying hard to make amends for their senior's defeat by Galway in the All-Ireland semi-final. The sides have been evenly matched in all their encounters down the years and Sunday's final promises to be a close, skilful and entertaining one.

Galway panel: Aoife Connolly, Ann Dolan, Rita Broderick, Ailbe Kelly, Fiona Healy, Michelle Glynn, Caroline Murray, Veronica Sweeney, Lourda Kavanagh, Aoife Lynskey.

Sandra Tannian, Brenda Daniels, Eileen Earls, Miriam Lynch.

Tipperary panel:



It's 1997 and Cork girl Linda Mellerick does the honours

Louise Ryan, Philomena Fogarty, Niamh Connolly, Sheena Howard, Maeve Corcoran, Alice Deane, Tess Burke, Angela McDermott, Joanne Ryan, Siobhan Ryan, Paula Bulfin, Niamh O'Dwyer, Grainne Shanahan
Referee: Catherine McAllister, Antrim

PROGRAMME FOR SUNDAY SEPTEMBER 6TH AT CROKE PARK

All-Ireland Junior Championship final: Galway v Tipperary at 1.45pm.
Referee: Catherine McAllister, Antrim

Bord na Gaeilge All-Ireland senior championship final: Cork v Galway 3.30pm Referee: John Morrissey, Tipperary



Action from last year's final including Lynn Dunlea (Cork) and Olive Costelloe (Galway)

Cúpla Ceann Eile

- Beidh cliú agus cáil ar an cúpla Fiona agus Helen Ní Riain, An nGaillimh, má bhíonn an bua acu inniu.
- They will join a select group of twins who have won All-Ireland medals.
- Only three sets of twins have won to date:
- Maureen and Patty Hegarty, Corcaigh, 1941.
- Peg and Kathleen Dooey, Aontroim - Peg 1945, '46; Kathleen 1946, '47.
- Angela and Ann Downey, Cill Chainnigh - They have won twelve each in the 12 Cill Chainnigh victories between 1974 and 1994.

Deirfiúracha

- Seachas an cúpla Fiona agus Helen Ní Riain, tá deirfiúracha eile ag imirt inniu - Lynn agus Stephnie Dunlea, Corcaigh; Sharon agus Michelle Glynn, An nGaillimh; Pamela agus Colette Nevin, An nGaillimh.
- Is deirfiúir í Imelda Hobbins le Madge Kennedy, roghnóir na Gaillimhe.

Ó ghlúin go glúin

- Is ón gcliaibhán atá scilleanna na Camógaíochta ag an-chuid de na himreoirí atá ann inniu.
- Ailbhe Kelly, An nGaillimh, is a great niece of Jim Power who won an All-Ireland medal with An nGaillimh in 1923.
- Is iníon í Niamh Ní Chonghaile, Tiobraid Árann, le Máirín Ní Mheachair, iar-imreoir idir-chontae.
- Nichola Ní Chinnéide is the daughter of Peggie Moloney who played for Tiobraid Árann. She is a niece of Bernie O'Dowd, former county and Munster player and now a selector.
- Sheena Howard is a grand-daughter of Garrett Howard who played with Luimneach agus Áth Cliath. Her aunt, Liz Howard, played with Tiobraid Árann agus Áth Cliath.
- Is iníon í Eithne Ní Dhuagáin, Corcaigh, le hiar-imreoir Phil Duggan.

Cluichí Leath-cheannais na hÉireann Craobhchomórtas na Sinsear, 1998

Corcaigh	2-15	An Clár	1-09
An nGaillimh	2-11	Tiobraid Árann	0-14



Cluichí Ceannais na hÉireann sa Chamógaíocht

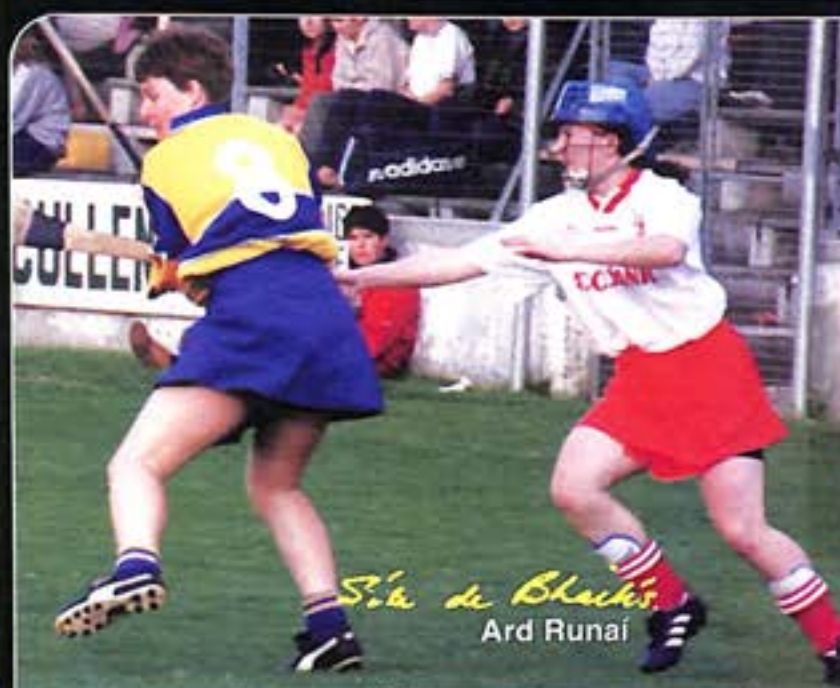
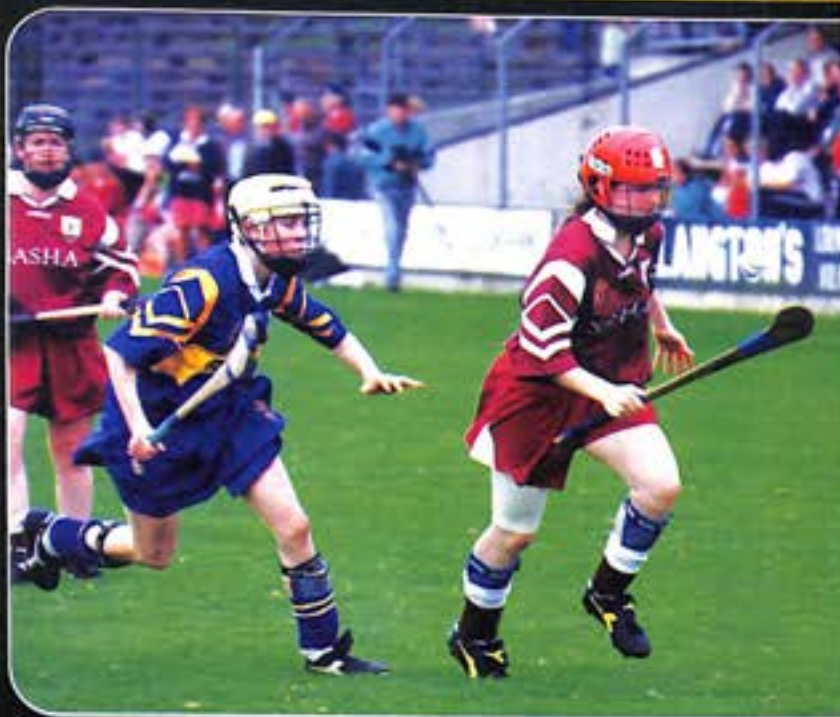
Craobhchomórtais
na SINSEAR
agus
na SÓISEAR

Bord na Gaeilge

Páirc an Chrócaigh,
6 Meán Fómhair,
1998

Clár Oifigiúil

Luach
£2



Sé de Blakes
Ard Runaí

SEPT.

1998

Teachtaireacht ón Uachtarán



Fileas Ní Bhreasláin
Uachtarán

CUIRIMSE fíor-chaoil fáilte roimh chách chuig Cluichí Ceannais na hÉireann de Chraobhchomórtais na Sinsear agus na Sóisear. Is mór ar fad againn é sibh uilig, idir ár gcuid aoidheanna speisialta, lucht leanúna na bhfoireann agus lucht leanúna na Camógaíochta i gcoitinne, a bheith in éineacht linn.

A special céad míle fáilte is extended to our teams, mentors and Officers from Corcaigh, An Ghaillimh agus Tiobraid Árann. Tréaslaim leo as ucht Cluichí Ceannais na hÉireann a bhaint amach. It is not without great skill, hard work and many sacrifices on the part of players, coaches and Coistí Contae that teams reach All-Ireland Finals. Go raibh luach a gcuid saothair acu inniu. Fáiltim chomh maith roimh an Réiteoirí agus roimh na Maoir Chúil agus na Maoir Líne. Táimid go mór faoi chomaoil acu as ucht a gcuid oibre ar son na camógaíochta. Go n-éirí go geal leo.

Gabhaimid fíor-bhuíochas le Bord na Gaeilge a bhfuil Craobhchomórtais na Sinsear faoi uarraíocht aige. Gura fada buan é an nasc idir an dá eagrais is go gcuirtear go mór le labhairt na Gaeilge dá bharr.

Is mór ar fad againn é an tacaíocht a thugann Cumann Lúthchleas Gael dúinn i gcónaí. Gabhaim buíochas faoi leith le foireann Pháirc an Chrócaigh as ucht a cuid cúnaimh. Go mbaine sibh ceol agus spórt as imeachtaí an lae.

Fileas Ní Bhreasláin, Uachtarán

Na hOiliúnaithe agus na Roghnóirí

NA SINSEAR

Corcaigh: Cllr. Pat Murray, Bishopstown
Angela Sheehan (née Higgins), Watergrasshill
Rose Makey-Keane, Glen Rovers

Oiliúnaí: Tom Nott, Na Píarsaigh

An Ghaillimh: Madge Kennedy, Mullagh
Sinead Dunne, Castlegar

Oiliúnaí: Tony Ward, Sarsfields

Angela Higgins is the holder of 1 All-Ireland Junior and 4 All-Ireland Senior Championship medals.

Madge Kennedy holds 1 All-Ireland Minor and 3 All-Ireland Club Championship medals.

NA SÓISEAR

An Ghaillimh: Deirdre Mitchell, Killimor
Maureen Fahy, Abbey Knockmoy

Oiliúnaí: Michael Broderick, Castlegar

Tiobraid Árann: Bernie O'Dowd, Thurles
Marion Graham, Moycarkey

Oiliúnaí: Sheila Delaney, Drom & Inch

Bhuaidh Deirdre Mitchell bonn Uile-Éireann i gCraobhchomórtais na Mionúr. Is iar-imreoirí idirchontae iad roghnóirí uilig Tiobraid Árann.

CláranLae

An Ghaillimh v Tiobraid Árann
Sóisear: 1.45 i.n.

Corcaigh v An Ghaillimh
Sinsear: 3.30 i.n.

Camógaíocht
Idirbhunscoileanna
4.00 i.n.

Is é Banna Ceoil Ard Aidhin a bheidh ag seinm

Na Réiteoirí

Sinsear:
Seán Ó Muiríosa, Tiobraid Árann

Sóisear:
Caitríona Mhic Alastair, Aontroim

An Clúdach
Cluichí Leathcheannais na hÉireann
Úna Ní Dhuibhir, Tiobraid Árann agus
Veronica Nic Cúirtín, An Ghaillimh;
Caitríona Nic Lochlainn, An Clár agus
Béibhinn Ní Earchaí, Corcaigh.

Tá Craobhchomórtais na Sinsear faoi uarraíocht ag Bord na Gaeilge



AN GHAILLIMH

Dathanna: Marún agus Bán

Ionadaithe:

- (13) **Aine Ní Mhuiri**
Ann Murray
Castlegar
- (14) **Miriam Ní Loinsigh**
Miriam Lynch
Meelick/Eyrecourt
- (15) **Eibhlín Nic an Iarlaigh**
Eileen Earls
Kiltulla/Killimor Daly
- (16) **Ruth Ní Chilleannáin**
Ruth Cullinane
Castlegar
- (17) **Siobhán Ní Riagáin**
Susan Regan
Castlegar
- (18) **Anita Ní Cheirín**
Anita Kearns
Clarinbridge
- (19) **Esther Ní Mhórtáin**
Esther Martin
Craughwell
- (20) **Fiona Ní Ghothaigh**
Fiona Gohery
Davitts

(1)
AOIFE NÍ CHONGHAILE
Aoife Connolly
Craughwell

(2)
ÁINE NÍ DHÚLÁIN
Ann Dolan
Davitts
Captaen

(3)
MAIRÉAD NÍ BHRUADAIR
Rita Broderick
Davitts

(4)
AILBHE NÍ CHEALLAIGH
Alva Kelly
Davitts

(5)
FIONA NÍ ÉALAITHE
Fiona Healy
Craughwell

(6)
MICHELLE NIG FHLOINN
Michelle Glynn
Na Píarsaigh

(7)
CEARÚILÍN NÍ MHIURÍ
Caroline Murray
St. Thomas

(8)
VERONICA NIG SHUIBHNE
Veronica Sweeney
Na Píarsaigh

(9)
AOIFE NÍ LOINSCIGH
Aoife Lynskey
Ardrahan

(10)
LOURDA NÍ CHAOMHÁNAIGH
Lourda Kavanagh
Davitts

(11)
BRENDA NÍ DHOMHNAILL
Brenda Daniels
Davitts

(12)
SANDRA NÍ THANAIDHEÁIN
Sandra Tannian
St. Thomas

An Ghaillimh - Na Sóisir



Ar chúl (ó chlé): D. Ní Mhisteil, Á. Ní Mhuiri, E. Ní Argadáin, Ó. Ní Chiaráin, A. Ní Chonghaile, S. Ní Thanaidheáin, C. Ní Mhuiri, A. Ní Cheallaigh, M. Nig Fhloinn, L. Ní Chaomhánaigh, S. Ní Riagáin, R. Ní Chuileannáin, C. Ní Dhubhthaigh, L. Ní Dhubhthaigh, C. Bhreathnach. Chun tosaigh (ó chlé): V. Nig Shuibhne, E. Ní Mháirtín, F. Ní Éalaithe, B. Ní Dhomhnaill, E. Nig An Iarlaigh, Á. Ní Dhúláin (Captaen), M. Ní Loinsigh, A. Ní Bhrúadair, F. Ní Ghothaigh, M. Ó Bruadair, M. Uí Fhathaigh.

Is i seo an deichiú uair don Ghaillimh Cluiche Ceannais na Sóisear a bhaint amach. Tá an Craobh buaite faoi chúig acu.

An Ghaillimh won the first Junior Final which it contested in 1972. Loch Garman a bhí thíos ar an lá sin. Four more victories were to follow in 1979, '85, '88 and '94 over Corcaigh, Ardmhacha and Luimneach in the last two years. Two further finals in which An Ghaillimh was involved went to replays. Cill Dara won the replay in 1989 and Ardmhacha in 1993.

Ocáid stairiúil a bhí ann don Ghaillimh i 1993 agus na Sinsir agus na Sóisir le chéile ins na Cluichí Ceannais don chéad uair amainn ag an gcontae. This is the second occasion on which An Ghaillimh is contesting both finals.

Buadh ar an nGaillimh ag Corcaigh i 1973 agus ag Tiobraid Árann i 1992. This is the only previous occasion on which An Ghaillimh agus Tiobraid Árann have met in the Junior Final.

"Mol an óige agus tiocfaidh sí" adeirtear agus is fíor é i leith muintir na Gaillimhe. The members of this panel have benefitted from the success over the years of their post-primary schools and minor teams. They have, between them, amassed a total of thirty five All-Ireland Post-Primary Championship medals and seventeen All-Ireland Minor Championship medals.

Níl ach beirt ar an bhfoireann ag a bhfuil Cluiche Ceannais na Sóisear buaite cheana féin acu. Áine Ní Mhuiri was on the successful Junior team of 1988, while Eibhlín Nic an Iarlaigh won her All-Ireland Junior Championship medal in 1994.

Tá Craobhchomórtas na Sóisear, Connachta, buaite trí uair is fiche ag an nGaillimh.

Cluiche Leathceannais na hÉireann, 1998.

An Ghaillimh 3-10; Ceatharlach 1-11.

Sóisir na Gaillimhe

1. **Aoife Connolly, Craughwell.** Tá taithí aici ar bheith páirteach i gCluichí Ceannais na hÉireann ag leibhéil eile. She has won two All-Ireland Senior Colleges Championship medals with Naomh Rafael and an All-Ireland Minor Championship medal with An Ghaillimh. Tá boinn de chuid Pan Celtic chomh maith aici.

2. **Ann Dolan, Davitts, Captaen.**

3. **Mairéad Broderick, Davitts.** Is iarscoláire leis an gColáiste i bPort Omna i lenar bhuaidh sí boinn de chuid Choláistí Chonnacht. She is now a student in the Institute of Technology, Béal Átha Luain. She also holds County Senior Championship and League medals and Pan Celtic medals. d'imir sí sacar le Cúige Connacht.

4. **Ailbhe Kelly, Davitts.** Bhí sí ar fhoireann na Gaillimhe a bhuaidh Cluiche Ceannais na Mionúir i 1996 agus '97. She has also won County Championship medals at under-twelve, thirteen, eighteen, Minor and Senior level, and won a Pan Celtic medal with her club.

5. **Fiona Healy, Craughwell.** Is scoláire ins an Institiúid Teicneolaíochta i mBéal Átha Luain i agus imríonn sí camógaíocht leis an gColáiste. She has won four Senior and four Junior Gairmscoileanna All-Ireland medals. Bhuaidh sí Craobhchomórtas na Mionúir leis an nGaillimh i 1994. Imríonn a deartháir, Fergal, leis na nGaillimh.

6. **Michelle Glynn, Na Píarsaigh.** Tá an-chuid buaite cheana féin lena contae agus lena club aici. She is the holder of All-Ireland Minor and Club Championship medals, and of Féile na nGael and Pan Celtic medals. She has also won an All-Ireland Indoor Soccer medal.

7. **Caroline Murray, St. Thomas.** Imreoir eile gur éirigh thar barr lei i gcomórtas na scoileanna atá inti. She won three Senior and four Junior All-Ireland Gairmscoileanna medals. She also holds Connacht Championship medals. She has an All-Ireland Volleyball medal.

8. **Veronica Sweeney, Na Píarsaigh.** Is iarscoláire de Naomh Cuan, Gallach, i lenar bhuaidh sí Craobh Chonnacht leis na Sóisir. She also holds All-Ireland Minor and Club Championship medals. She has also won Féile na nGael and Pan Celtic medals with her club.

9. **Aoife Lynskey, Ardrahan.** Bhí cáil uirthi agus í ina óg-imreoir lena club agus leis an gcontae. She was named "Player of the Year" with her club in 1993 and '94, years in which she won Féile na nGael and All-Ireland Minor Championship medals, respectively.

10. **Lourda Kavanagh, Davitts.** Tá seantaithe cheana féin aici ar an gcamógaíocht idir-chontae. She has already won All-Ireland Minor and Connacht Senior Championship medals, together with Pan Celtic medals. She holds county championship medals at under-twelve, thirteen, sixteen and eighteen levels.

11. **Brenda Daniels.** Le linn di bheith ina scoláire in Ollscoil Mhaigh Nuad, bhuaidh sí Comórtas Puirseil leis an gcoláiste. To add to her Higher Colleges honours, she has also won Connacht Minor Championship, county senior and minor championship and Pan Celtic medals.

12. **Sandra Tannian, St. Thomas.** An-imreoir a bhí inti agus í ag imirt le Naomh Rafael, Baile Locha Riach. She won four All-Ireland Senior and four All-Ireland Junior Championship Colleges medals. She holds two All-Ireland Minor Championship and two Connacht Junior Championship medals.

13. **Ann Murray, Castlegar.** Bhuaidh sí bonn Uile-Éireann i 1988 nuair a sciob An Ghaillimh Craobhchomórtas na Sóisear leo. As well as her All-Ireland camogie medal, she won two All-Ireland soccer medals with her county in 1994 and '95. She was the Connacht Schools Basketball Coach at under-sixteen and under-eighteen level in 1993 and '94.

14. **Miriam Lynch, Meelick/Eyrecourt.** Bhuaidh sí bonn Uile-Éireann leis an nGaillimh i gCraobhchomórtas na Mionúir, 1987. She has added two Connacht Junior Championship medals to her All-Ireland Minor medal as well as county Intermediate Championship and League medals.

15. **Eileen Earls, Kiltulla/Killimor Daly.** Tá taithí aici ar bheith i bPáirc an Chrocaigh ar lá na gCluichí Ceannais tar éis di bheith anseo lena contae i 1994. Her All-Ireland Junior Championship medal is now joined by a Junior Gael Linn and Junior National League medal and three Connacht Junior Championship medals.

16. **Ruth Cullinane, Castlegar.** Cuireann sí suim i gcúrsaí spóirt i gcoitinne agus í ar ard-chaighdeán i ngach ceann díobh. In addition to two Connacht Junior Championship camogie medals, she has won an All-Ireland Schools Basketball medal and a Connacht Soccer Schools medal.

17. **Susan Regan, Castlegar.** Ar cheann de na daoine is óige ar an bhfoireann, tá an-chuid bainte amach cheana féin aici. At sixteen years of age, she has two All-Ireland Minor Championship medals, one Connacht Junior Championship medal and Pan Celtic medals. She has also won four Connacht Schools Hockey awards.

18. **Anita Kearns, Clarinbridge.** Cuireann sí go mór le cúrsaí camógaíochta ina club féin. She played a major part in helping her club to win the county under-eighteen and Junior championships. She holds a Connacht Junior Championship medal. She has also won a Connacht Schools Hockey medal.

19. **Esther Martin, Craughwell.** Carn mór de bhoinn atá buaite aici. She won an All-Ireland Minor Championship medal in 1994 followed by Gael Linn and Connacht Junior Championship medals, and Pan Celtic medals. Bhuaidh sí bonn Uile-Éireann sa pheil leis an Institiúid Teicneolaíochta i bPortlárige.

20. **Fiona Gohery, Davitts.** Sé bhliain déag ata slánaithe aici ach an-chuid buaite cheana féin aici. Her collection of awards includes an All-Ireland Minor and Connacht Junior Championship medal, Féile na nGael and Pan Celtic medals and County Championship under twelve, thirteen, fourteen and eighteen medals.

Captaen na Foirne

Áine Ní Dhúláin
Davitts



Gan amhras, bheadh clú agus cáil ar chumann Davitts dá n-éireadh le muintir na Gaillimhe Craobhchomórtas na Sinsear agus na Sóisear a bhuaicint inniu. Is as Davitts do chaptaen na sinsear agus do chaptaen na sóisear.

Áine and senior captain, Oibhe Ní Bhrúadair, would be particularly proud to bring both All-Ireland cups home to their club.

Áine played camogie with her school, Clochar na Trócaire, Béal Átha na Sluaighe, with which she won a Connacht Colleges medal.

Mór-stór de bhoinn atá aici agus iad buaite lena club agus lena contae. Áine's honours include four Minor and two Junior Connacht Championship medals and a Connacht Club championship medal. Within her county she has won Senior, Intermediate and Minor championship and Senior League medals. She also holds two Pan Celtic medals.

Is ag obair le Bard i gcathair na Gaillimhe atá sí faoi láthair agus dúil aici i ndul le banaltracht.

Tiobraid Árann - Na Sóisir



Ar chúl (ó chlé): M. Uí Ghreácháin, Roghnóir, S. Uí Dhubhshláine, Oiliúnaí, S. Ní Riain, P. Bulfin, S. Ní Riain, M. Ní Lúbaigh, S. Ní Riain, G. Ní Sheanacháin, S. Chlog, F. Ní Lachtnáin, N. Ní Chinnéide, B. Uí Dhubhda, Roghnóir.
Chun tosaigh (ó chlé): A. Ní Dhiarmada, N. Ní Chonghaile, A. Ní Dhéin (Captaen), M. Ní Chorcóráin, T. de Búrca, L. Ní Riain, F. Ní Fhógartaigh, S. Ní Iomhair, N. Ní Dhuibhir, M. Ní Dhonnchadha, Sonóg: M. Ní Ghreácháin.

Baineadh Cluiche Ceannais na Sóisear amach faoi thrí ag Tiobraid Árann roimhe seo agus d'éirigh leo an Chraobh a bhuachaint i 1992. Tiobraid Árann won its only Junior title at the expense of today's opponents, An Ghaillimh, on a scoreline of 6-13 to 2-07. While Corcaigh has twice contested three-in-a-row All-Ireland Junior Finals, Tiobraid Árann and An Ghaillimh are the only other counties to have contested three-in-a-row. They overlapped with each other in achieving this, Tiobraid Árann in 1990, '91 and '92, and An Ghaillimh in 1992, '93 and '94. Tá Craobhchomórtas Sóisear na Mumhan buaite faoi cheathair ag Tiobraid Árann, i 1990, '91, '92 and '98. On each occasion when the county has won Craobhchomórtas na Mumhan it has also reached the All-Ireland Final. An Dún agus Cill Dara, faoi seach, a bhí chun tosaigh ar na Muimhnigh sa chéad dá chluiche Ceannais. Tríona Bonnar, the victorious Junior captain of 1992, is a member of the Senior team.

Although Tiobraid Árann has been very successful at Minor level during the last ten years, reaching six Finals between 1989 and 1996, only two of the present panel are All-Ireland Minor Championship medal holders. Is iad an bheirt sin ná Máire Ní Lúbaigh agus Nicola Ní Chinnéide. However, several of the panel would have played in the more recent Finals. Ní gan dua a bhain Tiobraid Árann Cluiche Ceannais na Sóisear amach i mbliana. Chríochnaigh siad féin agus Doire ar chomhscór i nDúrlas Éile agus ní mórán a bhí eatarthu ins an athchlúiche i mBaile Eachaidh. This, the thirty-first All-Ireland Junior Final, should provide an excellent game between two talented teams.

Cluiche Leathcheannais na hÉireann, 1998.
Tiobraid Árann 3-10, Doire 2-13
Tiobraid Árann 2-09, Doire 0-11 (athchlúiche)

TIOBRAID ÁRANN

Dathanna: Gorm agus Órga



Ionadaithe:

- (13) **Fiona Ní Lachtnáin**
Fiona Loughnane
Templemore
- (14) **Máire Ní Lúbaigh**
Mary Looby
Drom/Inch
- (15) **Maireann Ní Dhonnchadha**
Maireann O'Donoghue
Moycarkey/Borris
- (16) **Nicola Ní Chinnéide**
Nicola Kennedy
Bournea
- (17) **Sinead Ní Riain**
Jane Ryan
Drom/Inch
- (18) **Paula Ní Bhuilfin**
Paula Bulfin
Cashel
- (19) **Siobhán Ní Riain**
Siobhán Ryan
Hollycross/Ballycahill
- (20) **Órla Phléimeann**
Orla Fleming
Brian Boru

(1) **LABHAOISE NÍ RIAIN**
Louise Ryan
Hollycross/Ballycahill

(2) **SIOBHÁN CHIOSÓG**
Siobhán Cusack
Toomevara

(3) **MÉADHBH NÍ CHORCORÁIN**
Méadhbh Corcoran
Moycarkey/Borris

(4) **TREASA de BÚRCA**
Tess Bourke
Shannon Rovers

(5) **NIAMH NÍ CHONGHAILE**
Niamh Connolly
Templemore

(6) **FILIMINE NÍ FHÓGARTAIGH**
Philomena Fogarty
Cashel

(7) **AILIS NÍ DHÉIN**
Alice Deane
Kilruane McDonagh
Captaen

(8) **AINGEAL NÍ DHÍARMADA**
Angela McDermott
Knockavilla/Kickhams, UCD

(9) **SIOBHÁN NÍ RIAIN**
Joanne Ryan
Cashel

(10) **SHEENA NÍ IOMHAIR**
Sheena Howard
Burgess

(11) **GRÁINNE NÍ SHEANACHÁIN**
Gráinne Shanahan
Toomevara

(12) **NIAMH NÍ DHUIBHIR**
Niamh Dwyer
Moycarkey/Borris

Sóisir Thiobraid Árann

1. **Louise Ryan, Hollycross/Ballycahill.** d'Imir sí lena contae ag leibhéal na Mionúr, na Sóisear agus na Sinsear agus le Cúige Mumhan ag leibhéal na Sóisear. She holds Munster Junior, Minor and under-eighteen Championship and County Junior Championship and League medals. She plays hockey and enjoys swimming, cycling and athletics.

2. **Siobhán Cusack, Toomevara.** She has represented her county at Junior and Minor level and Cúige Mumhan at Junior level. Mór-chuid de bhoinn atá buaite aici, Craobhchomórtas na Mumhan ina measc. She holds Senior and under-eighteen County Championship and League medals and Cúige Mumhan Club and Colleges medals. Imríonn sí rugbaí le Cúige Mumhan. She is also interested in Irish dancing and singing and has a black belt in Judo.

3. **Méadhbh Corcoran, Moycarkey / Borris.** Is scoláire i gColáiste na hOllscoile, Belfield, Áth Cliath, í lenar bhuaidh sí An Dúthracht i mbliana. She has won Munster Championship medals at both Minor and Junior level and has represented Cúige Mumhan at Junior level. She holds County under-fourteen and Junior Championship medals. Imríonn sí sacar chomh maith.

4. **Tess Bourke, Shannon Rovers.** She has played for her county at Intermediate and Junior level and for her province at Junior level. She holds County Junior Championship and Junior and Intermediate League medals. Cuireann sí suim i gcursaí spóirt i gcoitinne. She is interested in horse riding and scuba diving.

5. **Niamh Connolly, Templemore.** Tá Craobhchomórtas na Mumhan buaite aici ag leibhéal na Mionúr, na Sóisear agus ag leibhéal na Sinsear. In addition to her Munster Championship medals she has won County Junior and under-sixteen Championship and Intermediate League medals. She also holds several Munster Schools medals and one All-Ireland medal in hockey.

7. **Angela McDermott, Knockavilla/ Kickhams.** Is scoláire i gColáiste na hOllscoile, Corcaigh, í lenar bhuaidh sí Comórtas Mhic Giolla Bhride faoi dhó. She played on the Combined Universities team. She holds Munster Junior and Minor Championship and County Junior, under-eighteen and sixteen championship medals. She has a Corcaigh Senior Championship medal as well as a North American Championship medal. Tá suim aici sa pheil agus sa snámh.

8. **Philomena Fogarty, Cashel.** Ceithre spórt atá á imirt faoi láthair aici. Her awards include Cúige Mumhan Junior and Minor Championship and County Junior and under-sixteen Championship medals. She also plays football, soccer and basketball.

9. **Gráinne Shanahan, Toomevara.** Tá scileanna spóirt ar a toil aici. Bhuaidh sí bonn Uile-Éireann le Naomh Mhuire, Aonach Urmhumhan. She won Cúige Mumhan Minor, under-eighteen and Junior Championship as well as County Senior Championship and League medals. She holds three All-Ireland Gold medals in racquetball, a sport in which she represented Ireland, and three All-Ireland Silver medals in handball and finished third in the World Championships.

10. **Joanne Ryan, Drom/Inch.** Carn mór de bhoinn atá buaite aici ag gach leibhéal laistigh dá contae. She holds County Championship medals at under-twelve, thirteen, fourteen, sixteen and eighteen levels and Senior League medals. She has represented her County at Minor and Junior levels and her province at Junior level.

11. **Sheena Howard, Burgess.** An-imreoir atá inti agus scileanna na camogachta ón gcliaibhán aici. She has represented her province at Junior level and has won Cúige Mumhan Junior, Minor and under-eighteen medals. She also holds Pan Celtic medals and County Championship medals at under-fourteen, sixteen and Intermediate level. She won two under-fourteen North Tipperary hurling medals. She is interested in hockey and ice skating.

12. **Niamh Dwyer, Moycarkey/Borris.** d'Imir sí le foireann na Mionúr roimhe seo agus tá Craobhchomórtas na Mumhan buaite ag leibhéal na Mionúr agus na Sóisear aici. She also holds an under-twelve County Championship medal. She has won All-Ireland Gold, Silver and Bronze Schools Basketball medals, an All-Ireland Gold with her region and a Four Countries medal with the Irish team.

13. **Fiona Loughnane, Templemore.** Le linn di bheith ina scoláire ins an Institiúid Teicneolaíochta i gCeatharlach ghnóthaigh sí an "Camogie Achievement Award". She is now a student in St. Mary's University College, Strawberry Hill, London. She has won Munster and County Junior Championship and Intermediate League medals. She has also won a British Colleges Football championship medal. Cuireann sí suim sa cheol Gaelach.

14. **Mary Looby, Drom/Inch.** d'Imir sí roimhe seo le foireann na Mionúr lenar bhuaidh sí Craobhchomórtas na Mumhan faoi dó maille le Craobh na hÉireann. She has also won Féile na nGael, Pan Celtic and County League and under-fourteen, sixteen and eighteen medals. Her interests include go-cart racing and hang gliding.

15. **Muireann O'Donoghue, Moycarkey/ Borris.** She has represented her county at Junior and Minor level. Bhuaidh sí Craobhchomórtas na Mumhan ag an dá leibhéal. She also holds County under-fourteen Championship and Junior League medals. Is breá lei cispheil, snámh agus rince seit.

16. **Paula Bulfin, Cashel.** Is imreoir idir-chontae ag leibhéal na Sóisear agus ag an leibhéal Idirmheánach í. She has represented Cúige Mumhan at Senior and Junior level. She holds a Munster Junior Championship and a Corn Mhic Giolla Bhride medal. Her pursuits include deep sea diving and surf boarding.

17. **Nicola Kennedy, Bournea.** Tá sí ag freastail ar Ollscoil Mhaigh Nuad faoi láthair. She has already won an All-Ireland Minor and Féile na nGael medals as well as Cúige Mumhan Junior and Minor Championship medals. She also plays badminton and hockey.

18. **Siobhán Ryan, Hollycross/ Ballycahill.** She has represented her county at under-fourteen, under-eighteen, Minor, Junior and Senior levels and in the Féile na nGael Skills competition. Roghnaíodh ar foireann shóisearach na Mumhan í. She has won Munster Junior, Minor and under-eighteen Championship medals and County Championship and League medals. She has also won All-Ireland Basketball medals. She enjoys set dancing and ballroom dancing.

19. **Jane Ryan, Drom/Inch.** Is scoláire i gColáiste na hOllscoile, Belfield, Áth Cliath, í. She has won County Junior League and Championship and Senior League medals as well as under-twelve, fourteen, sixteen and eighteen championship medals. Bhuaidh sí bonn de chuid Pan Celtic chomh maith. She likes bird watching and fishing.

20. **Órla Fleming, Brian Boru.** Is í seo an chéad bhliain don chlub bheith in iomaíocht i gcomórtais Thiobraid Árann ó athbunaidh le déanaí é. This recently re-formed club is very proud to have a representative on the team and is hoping to welcome home an All-Ireland medal winner. A physiotherapist by profession, Orla is an accomplished athlete.

Captaen na Foirne

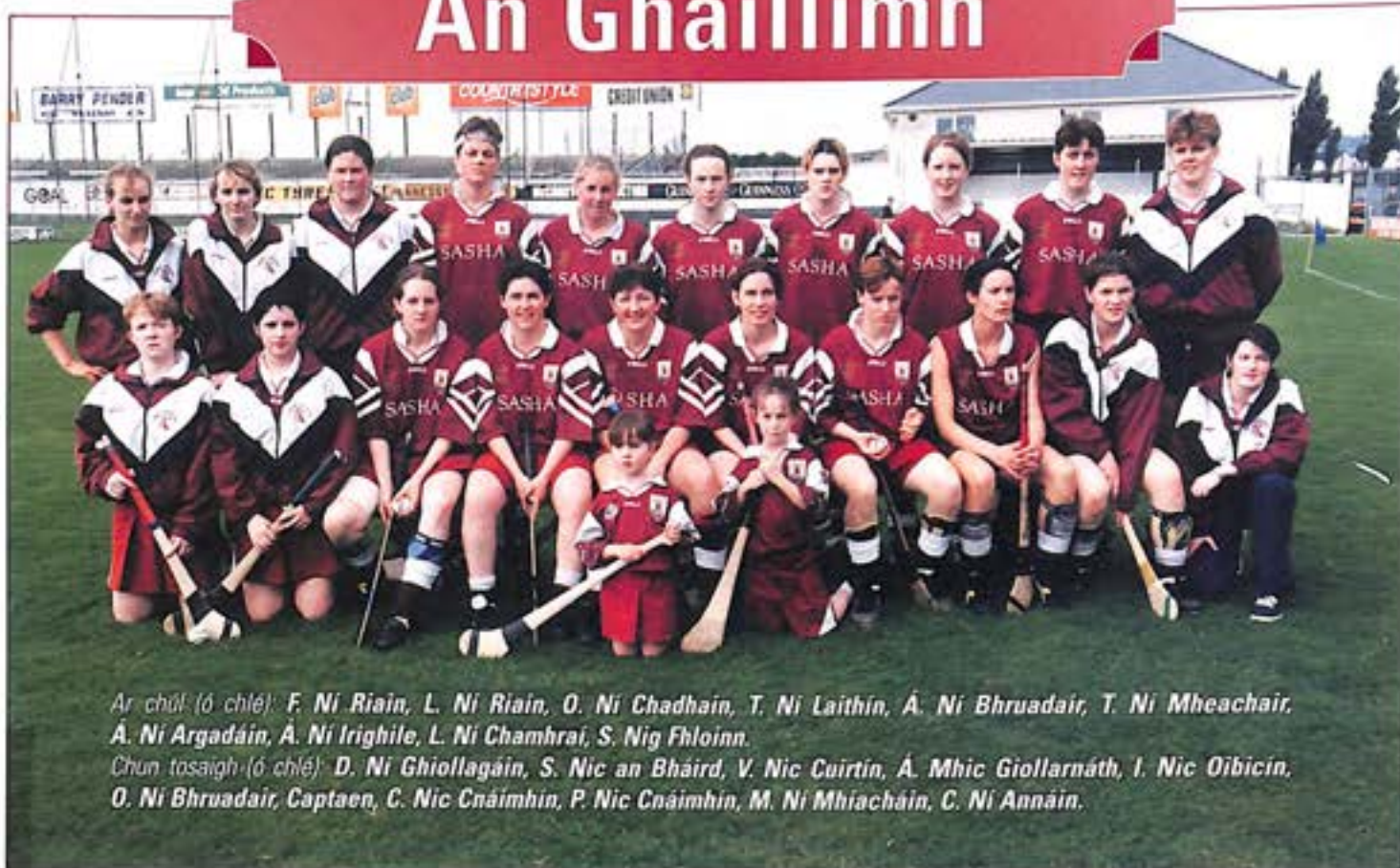


Ailís Ní Dhéin
Kilruane McDonagh

Imreoir cumasach atá í Ailís. I dteannta le Craobhchomórtas na Mumhan a bhuachaint i mbliana lena contae, roghnaíodh faoi dhó cheana féin i fhoireann na Mumhan. She has won many honours including being selected at the "Guardian Player of the Year" in 1994, Co. Junior Championship and League medals in 1995 and Intermediate Championship in 1997. Her interests include basketball, cycling, soccer and parachute jumping.

SEPT 1998

An Ghaillimh



Ar chúl (ó chlé): F. Ní Riain, L. Ní Riain, O. Ní Chadhain, T. Ní Laithín, Á. Ní Bhrúadair, T. Ní Mheachair, Á. Ní Argadáin, Á. Ní Irighile, L. Ní Chamhraí, S. Nig Fhloinn.
Chun tosaigh (ó chlé): D. Ní Ghiollagáin, S. Nic an Bháird, V. Nic Cuirtín, Á. Mhic Giollarnáth, I. Nic Oibicín, O. Ní Bhrúadair, Captaen, C. Nic Cnáimhin, P. Nic Cnáimhin, M. Ní Mhiachain, C. Ní Annaín.

eilge

as ucht na hurraíochta

AN GHAILLIMH

Dathanna: Marún agus Bán

(1)
LAOISE NÍ CHAMHRAÍ
Louise Curry
Na Píarsaigh

(2)
OLIBHE NÍ BHRUADAIR
Olivia Broderick
Davitts
Captaen

(3)
ÁINE NÍ BHRUADAIR
Anne Broderick
Davitts

(4)
TRACY NÍ LAITHÍN
Tracey Laheen
Na Píarsaigh

(5)
PAMELA NÍ CNÁIMHÍN
Pamela Nevin
Mullagh

(6)
TREASA NÍ MHEACHAIR
Therese Maher
Shamrocks

(7)
SHARON NIG FHLOINN
Sharon Glynn
Na Píarsaigh

(8)
ÁINE NÍ IRGHILE
Áine Hillary
Na Píarsaigh

(9)
COLETTE NÍ CNÁIMHÍN
Colette Nevin
Cappataggle

(10)
IMELDA NÍ OIBICÍN
Imelda Hobbins
Mullagh

(11)
VERONICA NÍ CUIRTÍN
Veronica Curtin
Craughwell

(12)
ÁINE MHC GIOLLARNÁTH
Ann Forde
Na Píarsaigh



Ionadaithe:

(13) **Oilibhe Ní Chadhain**
Olivia Coen
Mullagh

(14) **Áine Ní Argadáin**
Ann Hardiman
Mullagh

(15) **Denise Ní Ghiollagáin**
Denise Gilligan
Craughwell

(16) **Fiona Ní Riain**
Fiona Ryan
Shamrocks

(17) **Mairéad Ní Mhiacháin**
Mairéad Meehan
Na Píarsaigh

(18) **Shauna Ní an Bháird**
Shauna Ward
Na Píarsaigh

(19) **Cairméal Ní Annaín**
Carmel Hanson
Na Píarsaigh

(20) **Léan Ní Riain**
Helen Ryan
Shamrocks

Sinsir na Gaillimhe

1. **Louise Curry, Na Píarsaigh.** Is iar-scoláire leis an Institiúid Teicneolaíochta i bPortlárige i. While a student, she won Comórtas Puirseil, C.C.I.A. League and Combined Colleges medals. She has won an All-Ireland Intermediate Championship medal with Áth Cliath and Gael Linn with Cuige Laighean. She won an All-Ireland Senior Championship medal with An Ghaillimh and an All-Ireland Club medal with Na Píarsaigh.

2. **Olivia Broderick, Davitts, Captaen.**

3. **Ann Broderick, Davitts.** Is iar-scoláire leis an Institiúid Teicneolaíochta i mBéal Átha Luain i. She was named "Player of the Year" by her College and her county in 1995. Carn mór de bhoinn atá buaite aici - All-Ireland Senior Championship, Junior National League, All-Ireland Colleges with Naomh Rafael, and County Championship with her club.

4. **Tracey Laheen, Na Píarsaigh.** Bhí sí ar fhoireann na Gaillimhe a bhain Cluiche Ceannais na hÉireann amach i 1993. She has since won an All-Ireland Senior Championship medal, All-Ireland Club Championship medals and a Senior National League medal. Tá bonn de chuid Féile na nGael chomh maith aici. Ghróthaigh sí bonn Uile-Éireann sa sacar.

5. **Pamela Nevin, Mullagh.** Iar-scoláire de chuid Naomh Rafael i lenar bhuaidh sí seacht mbonn Uile-Éireann ar fad ag leibhéal na Sóisear agus na Sinsear. She also holds an All-Ireland Senior Championship medal and Senior National League and All-Ireland Club Championship medals.

6. **Therese Maher, Shamrocks.** Tá sí ar cheann de na déagóirí atá ar an bpainéal. At seventeen years of age, she is one of the five teenagers who are representing their county. Tá Craobhchomórtas na Mionúr buaite faoi trí aici. She captained the victorious Minor team in 1997. She also holds Connacht Junior Championship and Colleges medals.

7. **Sharon Glynn, Na Píarsaigh.** Is iar-scoláire de Naomh Cuan, Gallach, i lenar bhuaidh sí Craobh Chonnacht leis na sinsir agus na sóisear. She also holds an All-Ireland Senior Championship and a Senior National League medal, and two All-Ireland Club Championship medals. She was selected as "Galway Sportstar of the Year" in 1993, '96 and '97. Tá bonn Uile-Éireann sa sacar aici.

8. **Áine Hillary, Na Píarsaigh.** Is iar-imreoir le foireann na Mionúr agus na Sóisear i lenar bhuaidh sí Craobhchomórtas na hÉireann. As well as All-Ireland Junior and Minor medals, she has also won All-Ireland Senior and Club Championship, National League and Féile na nGael medals.

9. **Colette Nevin, Cappataggle.** Óg-imreoir nach bhfuil ach seacht mbliain deag slánaithe aici. She has already won two All-Ireland Minor Championship medals and captained the successful team of 1996. She also holds Senior and Junior Connacht Colleges with Naomh Rafael and Junior County Championship medals.

10. **Imelda Hobbins, Mullagh.** Áit faoi leith atá ag Imelda i stair na Gaillimhe agus Chonnacht. She was the first captain to bring Corn Ua Dubhthaigh to the west when An Ghaillimh won its first senior title in 1996. In addition to her All-Ireland Senior medal, she holds five senior and two Junior Colleges medals with Naomh Rafael, All-Ireland Championship medals at Minor, Junior and Club level, and a Senior National League medal.

11. **Veronica Curtin, Craughwell.** An-chuid go deo atá bainte amach ag an óg-imreoir seo cheana féin. At sixteen, she was the youngest member of the team which won the All-Ireland in 1996. Chuir sí go mór le foireann na Mionúr agus na Sóisear chomh maith. She was selected as "Player of the Match" in both the Junior and Minor Finals of 1994 as well as being the "Galway Camogie Sportstar" in that year.

12. **Ann Forde, Na Píarsaigh.** Bhí sí ina ball de fhoireann na Gaillimhe a bhuaidh Cluiche Ceannais na Mionúr i 1981 agus Cluiche

Coennais na Sóisear i 1985. A former Féile na nGael Skills winner, she holds All-Ireland Senior, Junior and Minor Championship, Senior and Junior National League and Senior County Championship medals.

13. **Olivia Coen, Mullagh.** Is iar-scoláire de Ghairmscoil Naomh Bríd í lenar bhuaidh sí boinn Uile-Éireann. She won five All-Ireland medals with her school and captained the team in 1995. She has also won All-Ireland Senior and Club Championship medals and was selected as the An Ghailimh "Senior Club Player of the Year" in 1997.

14. **Ann Hardiman, Mullagh.** Iar-scoláire eile de chuid Naomh Rafael atá inti agus bhuaidh sí Craobhchomórtas na Sinsear lena scoil i 1991 agus '92. She has since added All-Ireland Senior and Junior Championship and Junior National League medals to her collection.

15. **Denise Gilligan, Craughwell.** Bhí sí ina leaththosach ar fhoireann na Gaillimhe i 1996. Her display in that Final earned her the "Player of the Match" award. As well as her Senior Championship medal, she also holds All-Ireland Junior and Minor, Senior National League and Junior Gael Linn and All-Ireland Garmscoileanna medals.

16. **Fiona Ryan, Shamrocks.** Tá boinn Uile-Éireann de chuid na nGairmscoileanna aici agus is iar-scoláire leis an Institiúid Teicneolaíochta i mBéal Átha Luain í lenar bhuaidh sí boinn de chuid C.C.I.A. She has also won All-Ireland Junior Championship, Senior and Junior National League and Junior Gael Linn medals.

17. **Mairéad Meehan, Na Píarsaigh.** Duine eile de ghrúpa na ndéagóirí ar an bhfoireann atá inti. At seventeen, she has already won two All-Ireland Minor, two All-Ireland Club Championship and two Féile an nGael medals. She captained her school, Holy Rosary, An Creagán, to All-Ireland Junior Championship success in 1997. Imríonn a deartháireacha le foireann pheile na Gaillimhe.

18. **Shauna Ward, Na Píarsaigh.** Is í an cúigiú déagóir ar an bhfoireann agus ocht mbliain déag slánaithe aici. Like the other an Ghailimh teenagers, she already has an impressive medal collection which includes Coláiste Chonnacht, Féile na nGael and All-Ireland Club Championship medals.

19. **Carmel Hannon, Na Píarsaigh.** Bhí sí ina ball den bhfoireann a bhuaidh Craobhchomórtas na Sóisear i 1993. Bhí sí ina captaen ar fhoireann na sóisear, Cúige Connacht, i 1995. Her honours include All-Ireland Senior, Junior and Club Championship medals. She also won Comórtas Mhic Giolla Bhríde and O'Connor Cup football medals with Ollscoil Luimnigh.

20. **Helen Ryan, Shamrocks.** Is cúpla iad Helen agus Fiona agus ba bhréa leo boinn na sinsear a bhuaigh inniu. Helen already holds All-Ireland Junior Championship, Senior and Junior National League and All-Ireland Gairmscoileanna medals.

Oilibhe Ní Bhrúadair

(Davitts)
Captaen



Is ar éigin atá spás sa tigh ag Oilibhe don charr mór de bhoinn atá buaite aici lena scoil, lena Coláiste Ollscoile, lena Club agus le contae na Gaillimhe.

While a student in Coláiste Rafael, Oilibhe won four Senior, two Junior and two seven-a-side All-Ireland Colleges medals. Lean sí uirthi le cursaí staidéir agus le cursaí camógalocta in Ollscoil na Gaillimhe. She won Comórtas Mhic Giolla Bhríde with U.C.G. and was selected on the Combined Universities teams of 1994, '96 and '97.

Bhí luach a saothair aici i 1996 nuair a buadh Craobhchomórtas na Sinsear ag an nGaillimh. Bhí Oilibhe ar an bhfoireann a bhuaidh Sraithchomórtas na Sinsear i 1994.

SEPT 1998



Mary Moran's Camogie Affairs

If semi-final form is anything to go by, Galway must look forward to the All-Ireland Senior Final in a happy frame of mind. The staging of the two semi-finals on the same programme at Nowlan Park provided fans with an opportunity to view the talent of the final contestants and to sum up their chances in the Croke Park decider.

Galway took the field against Tipperary in the opening game short six players from the side that contested the 1997 All-Ireland final. Sharon Glynn was recuperating from an operation, Olive Costello, Denise Gilligan and Carmel Hannon were nursing injuries while Gretta Maher and Martina Harkins are no longer on their panel.

Gretta's younger sister, Therese Maher, Veronica Curtin and Anne Broderick all of whom had previously tasted championship camogie at senior level were drafted into the side. Three newcomers, Colette Nevin, Aine Hilliary and Anne Hardiman, were introduced to counter the injury crises and their performances underlined the depth of talent in the county.

Opponents Tipperary have not lined out in an All-Ireland Senior Final since 1984. Their outstanding showing in their quarter-final match against Kilkenny, which they won by 3-11 to 3-10, raised hopes of bridging the gap. But they were dealt a cruel blow when their star forward, Deirdre Hughes, picked up a shoulder injury and was unable to take her place. It is a matter of conjecture whether Tipperary rather than Galway would be contesting the final if the lethal red-head was on the edge of the Galway square in Kilkenny.

Full credit to Galway for coming through a very stiff test minus so many first choice players. This match was a thrilling encounter. Rivals fans had plenty to enthuse and shout about. Defences held the upper hand and both sets of forwards were curtailed to three points from play in the first game. Tipperary kept in touch through the immaculate free-taking of Noelle Kennedy but the two Galway goals decided the issue. The speed with which Veronica Curtin capitalised on a



FIONA O'DRISCOLL... Her accurate free-taking helped to steady the ship for Cork in their victory over Clare in their recent All-Ireland Senior semi-final camogie game at Kilkenny's Nowlan Park.

Tipperary defensive error and the aplomb with which Anne Forde took her chance gave Cork plenty to think about.

Sharon Glynn was introduced into the game but was obviously not match fit. If she and the other Galway casualties get a clean bill of health, the Galway selectors will have a difficult job naming the starting twelve.

Cork coach, Tom Nott, was not a happy man as he left Nowlan Park. He had watched his charges give a lethargic performance against Clare in the second All-Ireland Senior semi-final. What was most worrying was the careless striking which resulted in sixteen wides. Cork wasted hard earned possession by conceding unnecessary frees. In fact, the Cork v Clare game was something of a damp squib after the excitement of the opening match. Hopefully, from a Cork point of view, they have got the bad game out of their system and will be more focused for the final.

When Sandie Fitzgibbon hung up her inter-county boots last September following an outstanding career, the Cork team

lost the spark that ignited its engine. Cork experimented with various players at centre back before settling on Vivienne Harris. It would be unfair to Vivienne to expect her to match the displays which we had come to admire from Sandie. The Glen Rovers girl had become as important to Cork's cause as Angela Downey had been to Kilkenny.

If Cork are to hold on to their All-Ireland crown, each member of the side will need to step up her performance and accept more responsibility. The defence has not met with the type of fast moving accurate-striking forwards that Galway will pit against them so far in the championship. While midfield has been adequate against the opposition so far encountered, it may look forward to a much sterner test from the Galway trio.

Irene O'Keeffe proved when introduced before halftime that she should not have been omitted from the starting twelve. Her direct play paid dividends. One point from play was a poor return from the hard-working Fiona O'Driscoll. However she kept the ship on an even keel with her accurate free-taking. Sinead O'Callaghan was whistled too frequently and the pressure transferred to the Cork backs. Cork will need a big game from Lynn Dunlea if they are to triumph.

The score stands two to one in favour of Cork in modern All-Ireland Final clashes with Galway. Will this Galway side, littered with young exciting talent, even the score or will this tried and tested Cork outfit muster up another great effort to retain the O'Duffy Cup. A trip to Croke Park to watch the drama unfold is a must for all true camogie followers.

Of the four counties remaining in the chase for All-Ireland Junior Championship honours, Carlow is the only name not already on the base of the cup. Derry last collected the New Ireland Cup twenty years ago. Both Galway and Tipperary have been in the winners enclosure in the recent past. The junior final has provided great entertainment over the years and whichever pairing advances to the decider will, no doubt, keep up that proud tradition.

Cork will need to improve to retain O'Duffy Cup



SEPT. 1998

Corcaigh



Ar chúl (ó chlé): P. Ní Chonchubhair, S. Ní Cheallacháin, S. Ní Dhoimléibhe, L. Ní Shuilleabháin, P. Ní Dhuill, F. Ní Dhrisceoil, U. Ní Throithigh, M. Ní Chonchubhair, L. Ní Mhaoilgheric, L. Ní Nualláin.
Chun tosaigh (ó chlé): C. Ní Arrachtáin, M. de Búrca, M. Ní Fhinn, I. Ní Chaoimh, D. Ní Chróinín, B. Ní Earchaí, E. Ní Dhuagáin (Captaen), L. Ní Dhoimléibhe, M. Dheiseach



Ionadaithe:

- (13) Leonie Ní Nualláin
Leonie Nolan
Inniscarra
- (14) Paula Ní Chonchubhair
Paula O'Connor
Newtownshandrum
- (15) Caoimhe Ní Arrachtáin
Caoimhe Harrington
Newtownshandrum
- (16) Stiofáine Ní Dhoimléibhe
Stephanie Dunlea
Cloughdubh
- (17) Miriam Dheiseach
Miriam Deasy
Kilbrittain
- (18) Linda Ní Shuilleabháin
Linda O'Sullivan
Ballinhassig
- (19) Máire de Búrca
Mary Burke
Glen Rovers
- (20) Pádraigín Ní Dhuill
Trish Doyle
Bishopstow

Gabhtar buíochas le



CORCAIGH

Dathanna: Dearg agus Bán

(1)
CÓRA NÍ CHEOCHÁIN
Cora Keohane
Barryroe

(2)
EITHNE NÍ DHUAGÁIN
Eithne Duggan
Bishopstow
Captaen

(3)
DENISE NÍ CHRÓINÍN
Denise Cronin
Glen Rovers

(4)
BÉIBHINN NÍ EARCHAÍ
Vivienne Harris
Bishopstow

(5)
MÁIRÉAD NÍ FHINN
Mags Finn
Fr. O'Neill's

(6)
URSÚL NÍ THROITHIGH
Ursula Troy
Newtownshandrum

(7)
MÁIRE NÍ CHONCHUBHAIR
Mary O'Connor
Granagh-Ballingarry

(8)
LINDA NÍ MHAOILGHEIRIC
Linda Mellerick
Glen Rovers

(9)
SINÉAD NÍ CHEALLACHÁIN
Sinéad O'Callaghan
Ballygran

(10)
FIONA NÍ DHRISCEOIL
Fiona O'Driscoll
Fr. O'Neill's

(11)
IRENE NÍ CHAOIMH
Irene O'Keefe
Inniscarra

(12)
LYNN NÍ DHOIMNLEIBHE
Lynn Dunlea
Cloughdubh

Sinsir Chorcaí

1. **Cora Keohane, Barryroe.** Bhuaidh sí bonn Uile-Éireann anuraidh, an chéad bhliain ar fhoireann na Sinsir di. She was the first player from the Barryroe Club to play with sinsir Chorcaí. She won Corn Mhic Giolla Bhríde with U.C.C., and holds Junior and Intermediate county championship medals as well as Gael Linn with Cúige Mumhan.
2. **Eithne Duggan, Bishopstown, Captaen.**
3. **Denise Cronin, Glen Rovers.** Bhí sí ina captaen ar Chorcaigh i 1995 nuair a bhuaigh Craobhchomórtas na Sinsir. She has also captained Cúige Mumhan to Gael Linn success. In addition, she holds All-Ireland Club Championship and National League medals. She coaches the under-thirteen and under-fourteen teams in her club.
4. **Vivienne Harris, Bishopstown.** Is í seo an ceathrú bliain ar fhoireann na sinsir di. A Féile na nGael Skills winner in 1992, she has also won All-Ireland Senior and Club Championship, National League and Gael Linn medals. She has represented Ireland in the sport of kick boxing.
5. **Mags Finn, Fr O'Neills.** Leictreoir atá inti agus súil aici go mbeidh splanc i gCorcaigh inniu. Her collection of medals includes county, Gael Linn Senior and Junior, Cúige Mumhan Senior and Junior and All-Ireland Senior Championships.
6. **Ursula Troy, Newtownshandrum.** Is scoláire i U.C.C. í agus is iar-scoláire de Naomh Mhuire, Rath Luirc, í lena bhuaidh sí Craobhchomórtas na gColáistí. She has also won All-Ireland Senior Championship and National League and Cúige Mumhan Senior and Junior medals. She is a niece of Fr Bertie Troy who guided the fortunes of foireann iománaíochta Chorcaí during the seventies.
7. **Mary O'Connor, Granagh-Ballingarry, Luimneach.** Bhí sí ina hoiliúnaí agus roghnóir ar fhoireann na Mionúr a bhain Cluiche Ceannais na Mionúr amach anuraidh. She has a degree in Sports leadership. She is the holder of All-Ireland Senior Championship, National League and Cúige Mumhan Senior and Junior medals and a Luimneach County Championship medal.
8. **Linda Mellerick, Glen Rovers.** Bhí sí ina captaen ar Chorcaigh i 1993 agus i 1997 nuair a bhuaigh Craobhchomórtas na Sinsir. She is the only Corcaigh player to have led the county to success on two occasions. She has also captained Cúige Mumhan to Senior Gael Linn success. Her large collection of medals includes All-Ireland Senior, Junior, Minor, Club, Gael Linn and Colleges Championships.
9. **Sinéad O'Callaghan, Ballyagran, Luimneach.** Bhain sí foireann na Sinsir amach don chéad uair anuraidh. Her display in the Final earned her the Examiner Munster Sports Award for under-eighteen players. Bhuaidh sí Craobhchomórtas na gColáistí, Sinsir agus Sóisear, le Naomh Mhuire, Rath Luirc. She also holds All-Ireland Senior Championship, National League and Cúige Mumhan Junior medals.
10. **Fiona O'Driscoll, Fr. O'Neills.** Tá sí ina hUachtarán faoi láthair ar C.C.I.A., na Coláistí um Ardoideachas. She coached the Corcaigh Minor team which reached the 1997 Final. She captained Coláiste na hOllscoile, Luimneach, to win Corn Mhic Giolla Bhríde. She also won a Comórtas Puirseil medal as well as All-Ireland Senior Championship, National League, Gael Linn and Cúige Mumhan Championship medals.
11. **Irene O'Keefe, Inniscarra.** Is í seo an t-ochtú bliain ar fhoireann na Sinsir di. d'Imir sí leis na Sóisir agus na Mionúir chomh maith. She captained her Club to County Senior B success in 1996 and holds All-Ireland Senior Championship, National League, Gael Linn and Cúige Mumhan Championship medals. Is Rúnaí dá club faoi láthair í.
12. **Lynn Dunlea, Cloughdubh.** Is iar-scoláire de Choláiste Mhuire gan Smál, Luimneach, í. She has received the Jury's Award on two occasions. She holds All-Ireland Senior Championship, National League and Gael Linn medals. An-lá a bhí aici sa Chluiche Ceannais anuraidh. She scored ten points in the 1997 Final.

13. **Leonie Nolan, Inniscarra.** Is í seo an chéad bhliain ar fhoireann na sinsir di ach is mó atá buaite cheana féin aici. She won an All-Ireland Junior Championship medal in 1996, and also has Senior National League, Gael Linn Junior and Cúige Mumhan Junior and under-eighteen Championship medals.

14. **Paula O'Connor, Newtownshandrum.** Tá sí ar dhuine eile a bhfuil foireann na Sinsir bainte amach don chéad uair i mbliana aici. Her displays in Sraithchomórtas na Sóisear this year paved the way for Senior selection. She has won under-sixteen and under-eighteen County championships. She is studying for a degree in Sports Leadership. She is a sister of Corcaigh under-21 hurler, Ben.

15. **Caoimhe Harrington, Newtownshandrum.** Iar-scoláire eile de chuid Scoil Mhuire, Rath Luirc, atá inti. Bhuaidh sí Craobhchomórtas na gColáistí, Sinsir agus Sóisear leis an scoil. She has won the County Senior B Championship with her club. This is her first year on the senior panel.

16. **Stephanie Dunlea, Cloughdubh.** Bhuaidh sí Comórtas Mhic Giolla Bhríde agus Comórtas Puirseil le linn di bheith ina scoláire in U.C.C. She was selected to play on the Combined Universities team. She holds All-Ireland Senior, Gael Linn and Cúige Mumhan Championship medals. Is deirfiúr le Lynn í.

17. **Miriam Deasy, Kilbrittain.** Is í seo an ceathrú bliain ar fhoireann na sinsir di agus tá cam de bhoinn buaite cheana féin aici. She is the holder of All-Ireland Senior Championship, National League and Gael Linn medals, as well as Cúige Mumhan under-age and senior championship medals. She has recently been appointed as Sports Development Officer in Cork Institute of Technology.

18. **Linda O'Sullivan, Ballinhassig.** Bhain sí foireann na sinsir amach don chéad uair anuraidh tar éis di a bheith ar fheabhas ar fhoireann na sóisear. She was full-forward on the victorious Junior team of 1996. She holds All-Ireland Senior and Junior Championship, Senior National League and Gael Linn medals as well as Cúige Mumhan Junior and under-eighteen medals.

19. **Mary Burke, Glen Rovers.** Beidh deis aici inniu Craobhchomórtas na hÉireann a

bhuachaint le dhá chontae. d'Imir sí cheana féin le Contae Luimní. In her first year on the Corcaigh panel, she has won All-Ireland Intermediate and Junior Championship medals with Luimneach. She also holds two Senior County Championship medals in Corcaigh. Tá sí ag obair san TSB i gCorcaigh faoi láthair.

20. **Trisha Doyle, Bishopstown.** Tá foireann na Sinsir bainte amach don chéad uair i mbliana aici. Bhí sí ar fhoireann na Sóisear a bhuaigh an Craobhchomórtas i 1996. As well as her All-Ireland Junior Championship medal, she has also won Gael Linn and Cúige Mumhan Junior and under-eighteen honours. She has represented Cúige Mumhan in Badminton.

Eithne Ní Dhuagáin (Bishopstown) Captaen



Tá áit faoi leith ag Eithne sa chamogaíocht ina club féin agus sa chontae. Is í an chéad duine óna club le bheith ina captaen ar fhoireann Chorcaí.

She was the captain of her Club when it won the County Senior Championship for the first time in 1997 and is now the first member of her Club to captain the county team.

Ina theannta sin, tá an-chuid buaite cheana féin ag Eithne. She has won two Senior All-Ireland Championship medals as well as Senior National League, Gael Linn and Cúige Mumhan Senior and Minor medals.

A physiotherapist by profession, Eithne returned to university this year and won Comórtas Mhic Giolla Bhríde with U.C.C.

She is the daughter of former Baile an Easpaig agus Corcaigh stalwart, Phil Duggan.

Cluiche Ceannais na Sinsear

Cuirtear fáilte is fiche roimh Sheán Ó Muiríosa agus é i gceannas ar Chluiche Ceannais na Sinsear don chéad uair ariamh. Go n-éirí thar barr leis.

Although refereeing Cluiche Ceannais na Sinsear for the first time, Seán is an experienced Réiteoir. He has refereed at every Inter-county level, including the Gael Linn Inter-provincial Final and the Senior Championship semi-final of 1998. He has also been in charge of Third Level Colleges and National Féile na nGael Finals.

Ní hí seo an chéad uair i bPáirc an Chrócaigh do, áfach. Seán was a line umpire and stand-by Réiteoir for the Junior Championship Final in 1997.

Is ball den Chlub Camógaíochta i nDúrlas Éile é agus d'imir sé Iománaíocht le Naomh Mhuire, Cluain Meala. Is Réiteoir Iománaíochta chomh maith é.

IONADAÍ: Miriam Uí Cheallacháin, Uíbh Fáighle



Seán Ó Muiríosa

Na Maoir Chúil
Cairméal Uí Bhriain
Séile Uí Dhuibhshláine
Julie Uí Dhuibhir
Marion Uí Ghreatháin

Na Maoir Líne
Miriam Uí Cheallacháin
(Uíbh Fáighle)
Máire Ní Chonaill
(Áth Cliath)

Cluiche Ceannais na Sóisear

Fáiltítear roimh Chaitríona Mhic Alastair agus í ar ais i bPáirc an Chrócaigh le bheith i gceannas ar Chluiche Ceannais na Sóisear don tarna huair di. Go n-éirí go geal lei arís inniu.

Caitríona has already experienced being "i lár baill" on All-Ireland Final days having refereed Juniors and Minor Championship Finals. Like her colleague, Seán, she has refereed at all Inter-county levels, both in National Leagues and All-Ireland Championships.

Imreoir den chéad scoth atá i gCaitríona agus í ina comhalta den chlub i mBun Abhann Dalla, Aontroim. She has played with distinction for her county at Junior and Senior level and with Cúige Uladh at Senior level. Tá a cion déanta i gcúrsaí riaracháin comh maith aici taréis di bheith ina Cathaoirleach, Rúnaí agus Oifigeach Poiblí de chuid a coiste Contae.

IONADAÍ: Máire Uí Pholáird, Portlárige.



Caitríona Mhic Alastair

Na Maoir Chúil
Gearóidín de Buitléir
Brid Ní Chuinn
Máire Uí Dhochartaigh
Ailís Ní Liain
(Aontroim)

Na Maoir Líne
Máire Uí Pholáird
(Portlárige)
Briainín Ní Uiginn
(Loch Garman)

Cluiche Ceannais na Sinsear

FOR the third year in a row Corcaigh agus An Ghaillimh meet in Cluiche Ceannais na Sinsear. An Ghaillimh a bhí chun tosaigh i 1996 agus Corcaigh a rug an lá leo anuraidh.

Lá stairiúil a bhí ann don Ghaillimh i 1996 nuair a bhualadar Corn Ua Dubhthaigh don chéad uair ariamh. Lá stairiúil a bhí ann ar bhealaí eile chomh maith. It was the first occasion on which the All-Ireland Finals were played with the new Cusack Stand in place. The second of the three-in-a-row meetings was the occasion of the last visit of Máire Bean Mhic Róibín to an All-Ireland Final in Páirc an Chrócaigh in her capacity as Uachtarán na hÉireann. The third, today, will be the last one with the Canal End in its present form. Le cur leis an scéal, déanfar beo-chraoladh ag R.T.É. don chéad uair ariamh.

Is í seo an séú huair do Chorcaigh agus don Ghaillimh casadh ar a chéile sa Chluiche Ceannais. Corcaigh is contesting its thirty-third Final and is seeking its nineteenth title, while An Ghaillimh is contesting its twelfth and seeking its second victory.

Corcaigh has contested thirty two Senior Finals, has won eighteen, and lies second to Áth Cliath in the honours list.

Aon uair déag a bhain An Ghaillimh Cluiche Ceannais na sinsear amach cheana féin. It has the distinction of contesting the first two finals of 1932 and 1933.

Roimh 1996, casadh Corcaigh agus An Ghaillimh ar a chéile sa chluiche Ceannais i 1939, '40 agus 1993.

Corcaigh agus An Ghaillimh i gCluichí Ceannais na hÉireann

1939:	Corcaigh	6-01
	An Ghaillimh	1-01
1940:	Corcaigh	4-01
	An Ghaillimh	2-02
1993:	Corcaigh	3-15
	An Ghaillimh	2-08
1996:	An Ghaillimh	4-08
	Corcaigh	1-15
1997:	Corcaigh	0-15
	An Ghaillimh	2-05

Na Buaiteoirí go dtí seo

Áth Cliath (26) – 1932, '33, '37, '38, '42, '43, '44, '48, '49, '50, '51, '52, '53, '54, '55, '57, '58, '59, '60, '61, '62, '63, '64, '65, '66, '84.

Corcaigh (18) – 1934, '35, '36, '39, '40, '41, '70, '71, '72, '73, '78, '80, '82, '83, '92, '93, '95, '97.

Cill Chainnigh (12) – 1974, '76, '77, '81, '85, '86, '87, '88, '89, '90, '91, '94.

Aontroim (6) – 1945, '46, '47, '56, '67, '79.

Loch Garman (3) – 1968, '69, '75.

An Ghaillimh (1) – 1996.

Linda Mellerick - great come-back after disappointing beginning

By Martin O'Halloran,
Highball Magazine

LINDA MELLERICK, the gifted Cork player, has given a new twist in senior inter-county camogie to the old adage that "a good beginning is half the battle". She made her senior debut with Cork against Dublin in an All-Ireland semi-final in 1985 but finished on the losing side.

However, that disappointing start has been put firmly in the shade by a successful career during which she has reaped a rich harvest of important medals, captained two All-Ireland title winning teams and established herself as one of the giants of the modern game.

Linda now has four All-Ireland senior medals, three All-Ireland club senior souvenirs and seven county championship successes with famed Glen Rovers, proof positive of the consistently high standard of play she has maintained over the years.

Despite her success, she still remains as keen as ever for the game. "I still have the same appetite for the sport and I am looking forward eagerly to the final". The midfield ace, whose years as title winning captain were 1993 and last season, is pleased with the form Cork have displayed on the way to the Bord na Gaeilge summit with Galway, runners-up last year. "We have a well balanced team. We lost a number of good players recently. But there was plenty of competition for places and the team has come together well. I did not expect this to happen so quickly, but I am naturally delighted that this has proven the case".

Over the years, Linda has played against many leading players but has no hesitation in singling out Angela Downey (Kilkenny) for special praise. "Angela is the best player I have played against. I admire her for her skills, but mainly for

the speed she displayed on turning in possession of the sliotar".

Changes are to be introduced into the national women's game. The playing area is to be extended to the full hurling and football regulation size and the number of players increased to fifteen. The Glen Rovers player, whose collection also includes National Irish Bank and Jury's Hotel, Cork, awards as well as Player of the Match at All-Ireland level, welcomes the moves.

"Camogie needs these changes. If they had not come about, we would always be in the shadow of hurling. The image of the game has suffered because of the smaller pitch and this did not help to create the atmosphere associated with hurling occasions. Hopefully the game will be fully appreciated by a wider public when these changes come into operation."

Linda is not satisfied with the publicity that camogie is receiving in general.

"Publicity has increased somewhat, especially around All-Ireland time", she readily concedes. However, there is still a long way to go. What is particularly welcome this year is that the Bord na Gaeilge All-Ireland senior final is to be televised live and that should do much to advance the cause of the sport."

Linda, who has also won Gael Linn Interprovincial medals with Munster, is quietly optimistic about Cork's chances of retaining the title and thus inscribe the county's name on the O'Duffy Cup for the 19th time.

"We have prepared well and are now well geared for this latest encounter with Galway. We appreciate that we face a stern challenge but will not relinquish our crown easily".

The All-Ireland Senior Bord na Gaeilge semi-finals through the eyes of a Sports Journalist

Even the Uachtarán was happy to queue...
There is a first time for everything... or so they tell us!
Two Bord na Gaeilge All-Ireland semi-finals in the one venue.
On paper, the four best sides in the land, an attractive cocktail.

By Niall Scully

Nowlan Park, the home of the Cats, was the venue.

The only strange thing was that Kilkenny were not involved at all – on the pitch that is. Off it, they made sure that the arrangements were PERFECT!

The surface looked in excellent shape, lined brightly and flagged expertly.

A neat programme was produced, and the man on the P.A. was as sharp and as clear as Liz Howard. And the hosts had even organised pleasant weather, quite a feat in the Irish summer of '98.

Corcaigh, of course were the favourites to advance to Páirc an Chrócaigh. The O'Duffy Cup holders had eased past Áth Cliath with all the considerable comfort of an Inter City Express in O'Toole Park. Yet, if they were odds on to beat An Clár in everybody's mind, the Leeside girls weren't showing it. Corcaigh emerged from their dressingroom with a mean and hungry look. Down the long, darkened tunnel on the way to the pitch, their quiet intent firmly suggested that there was a job to be done.

Clare toiled hard, but Cork had all the aces, and they never looked in trouble. Linda Mellerick wears the heart of the team on her sleeve – deeply committed, and no favours asked or given. The youthful Sinéad O'Callaghan showed the stick charm of Jimmy Barry Murphy, while Irene O'Keeffe possesses the pace of Michael Owen. And if Michael's legs are worth £60 million, what price Irene's if she took to the Cat Walk? At the end, there was no wild celebration jig. Just the sweet brew of Barry's Best. Improvement was on the agenda for the final against Galway.

The Tribeswomen had earlier overcome Tiobraid Árann in a cracker. Tipp deserved a replay and the spectacle, indeed the occasion, deserved a much bigger audience. Galway's Tracey Laheen summed up their conviction, a large bandage surrounded her head, a La Kevin Moran, in the second half. And it was a game that demanded such courage. When it mattered most, Galway had the second edge, but Tipp demonstrated to all their emergence as one of the most exciting teams in the country.

They joined the other three teams at the post match function in the Springhill Hotel. The chat was still flying late in the night. 200 people were in attendance. The night's work had brought on a hunger that only food, glorious food, could satisfy. A long line formed towards the man with the white hat and the piping hot taste of Knor side. Even the Uachtarán Phyllis Breslin had to queue... And Phyllis, a champion for fair play, wouldn't have it any other way.

Popping in for a chat was Elsie Cody, that stout-hearted Wexford player. Many a Wexford/Kilkenny tie was enhanced by Elsie and Angela Downey – duels in the sun... and rain. In the latter part of her career in defence, so close did Elsie mark the great one, that she even knew what perfume Kilkenny's top cat favoured. Downstairs in the lobby, Angela's twin, Ann, was enjoying the company of the camogie clan. The chat was still flying late into the night.

Two Bord na Gaeilge All-Ireland semi-finals in the one venue had sparked a favourable feast and response. And in all the debate, not a complaint about the referees. Aine Derham and John Morrissey, you must have been good.



FORWARD CHARGE... Cork's Lynn Dunlea breaks away from Galway's Olivia Broderick during yesterday's All Ireland Camogie final at Croke Park
Pic: Ronan Lang

Rebels too strong for gallant Galway

CORK.....2-13
GALWAY.....0-15

CORK became queens of the silver screen at Croke Park yesterday. In the first-ever Bord na Gaeilge All-Ireland Senior Camogie Final to be shown live on RTE, the Leesiders collected their 19th title.

Yet the holders had to battle every step of the way to overcome the admirable challenge of Galway by four points in a thrilling spectacle that must have won thousands of new fans for the sport.

A crowd of 10,436 endured the most dreadful conditions of high winds and driving rain, yet both teams overcame the elements to produce one of the finest finals of recent times.

Two goals in two minutes during the first half from Cork's classical goal-poacher, Irene O'Keeffe, proved crucial as the favourites overcame a most testing challenge from Galway.

SLAGGING

O'Keeffe, who plans to retire from the inter-county scene now, was overjoyed afterwards. "I have been playing on this Cork team since 1990, but I never managed a goal in Croke Park before. Friends of mine were slagging me about it, and I said to myself I'll have to put that right."

The goal-scoring heroine was concerned at half-time that Cork only held a four-point lead, 2-7 to 0-9, with the wind advantage to face Galway on the resumption.

"I didn't think it was going to be enough, but our backs were superb. They soaked up everything," stated Irene.

Galway manager, Tony Ward, overcame with tears, agreed that O'Keeffe's double strike was vital. "Those two goals were a killer, but I thought we played the better camogie on the day. We did our

By NIAL SCULLY

best, and you can't blame anyone. We are a young side, and we'll be back.

"It must have been a very good spectacle alright, but it's no good losing good matches," reflected Tony.

Galway, attacking the Canal End, began in excellent fashion, with Anne Broderick, Therese Maher, Sharon Glynn and Colette Nevin making positive contributions.

Cork's forwards were being well contained, but the brilliant free-taking of Lynn Dunlea kept Cork in touch as the sides were level four times in that opening period.

Glynn scored the point of the match on 13 minutes, firing over the sliotar in majestic style, but O'Keeffe's first goal on 19 minutes was to grant Cork the lead for the first time.

Linda Mellerick, as busy as a bee throughout the hour, passed outside to O'Keeffe, who found the space and time to fire in a thundering drive, 1-4 to 0-6 for Cork.

Maher responded with a fine point for Galway, but on 21 minutes, after Sinead O'Callaghan had struck the Galway bar, O'Keeffe worked her way in on the left to crack home her second goal, 2-4 to 0-7 for Cork.

Cork had suddenly found their confidence, and they finished the half with a flourish as Fiona O'Driscoll sent over one of the best points of the afternoon.

Yet Galway, who secured their only O'Duffy Cup crown two years ago with a victory over Cork, played with bright optimism on the restart.

They lorded possession for long spells, scoring four points in succession from Ann Forde, Maher, Veronica Curtin and Nevin to only trail by a point on 40 minutes.

In the subsequent scoring exchanges,

Cork just managed to stay ahead of their gallant rivals by two points at most, and one point on two further occasions.

But with four minutes left, and Cork desperately clinging onto a two-point lead, Galway were inches away from a sensational goal.

Forde found Glynn, whose clever, simple pass saw substitute, Denise Gilligan, hit a rocket that went inches to the left of the Hill 16 goal.

Surviving that let-off, Cork proceeded to notch on two more frees from Dunlea, the teacher, whose homework on the training ground, has a habit of finding the right result, nine valuable frees in this triumph.

Even better drama is promised next year when the All-Ireland Final will be 15-a-side on the full pitch with the GAA goals.

And it's likely that Cork will be very much the team to beat as they strive for the three-in-a-row and their 20th crown.

YOUNG SIDE

They are still quite a young side, and they really proved their desire to earn this success. "There's years left in us yet," commented the winning skipper, Eithne Duggan.

Galway's Therese Maher enjoyed a stunning second half display, and her drive was one of the principal reasons why the champions were under so much pressure.

And if Dunlea demonstrated free-taking at it's finest, Galway's Colette Nevin was also on top of her form, shooting six frees and another point from play.

SCORERS — Cork: L Dunlea 0-9 (all frees), I O'Keeffe 2-0, F O'Driscoll 0-3, M O'Connor 0-1 (f) Galway: C Nevin 0-7 (6f), T Maher 0-3, S Glynn, A Hilary, I Hobbins, V Curtin, A Forde 0-1 each.

CORK — C Keohane: E Duggan; D Cronin, V Harte, M Finn; U Troy, M O'Connor, L Mellerick; S O'Callaghan, F O'Driscoll, I O'Keeffe, L Dunlea. Subs: M Deasy for Troy; P O'Connor for Deasy.

GALWAY — L Cumy, O Broderick; A Broderick, T Lihnen, P Nevin; T Maher, S Glynn, A Hilary, C Nevin, I Hobbins, V Curtin; A Forde. Sub: D Gilligan for Curtin.

REF: J. Montsney (Tipperary).

JUNIOR CAMOGIE FINAL Kavanagh inspires a sixth title

GALWAY.....3-11
TIPPERARY.....2-10

DREADFUL weather conditions did not prevent Galway and Tipperary from serving up a truly memorable All-Ireland Junior Camogie final at Croke Park yesterday.

Inspired by a brilliant personal display from Lourda Kavanagh, Galway deservedly prevailed in the end by a four point margin to record their sixth junior title success.

But they had to produce an exceptional performance to wear down Tipp's stubborn resistance in an enthralling encounter.

Kavanagh proved the ace in Galway's pack and her accuracy from play and placed balls helped her compile a personal tally of 1-9.

By JOHN TAYLOR

The game was balanced on a knife edge with 13 minutes remaining after Tipp's Joanne Ryan had fired over an equalising point to make it 2-7 to 1-10.

Kavanagh then assumed centre stage again as she rounded off a typically powerful solo burst with an unstoppable low finish to record the Westerners' second goal.

Tipp's Alice Deane reduced the deficit to two points with a fine point seconds later. But Galway breached the Munster champions' rearguard again after 51 minutes when substitute Eileen Earls and Brenda Daniels combined to set up full-forward, Sandra Tannian, for a well-taken crucial third goal.

That score left Galway with a five-point cushion at 3-10 to 2-8. And although Tipperary battled valiantly during the frantic finale for the goal that they needed their efforts only yielded two further points from Deane and Phil Fogarty in response to Kavanagh's final insurance point for the winners.

Despite playing with the aid of the elements, Galway led by just a single point, 1-6 to 1-5, at the interval.

The standard of striking and score-taking from both sides was exceptional during the opening quarter and Kavanagh's accuracy helped Galway lead 0-4 to 0-3 before Tipp struck for the opening goal after 15 minutes.

A sweeping move the length of the pitch finished with Grainne Shanahan placing Sheena Howard who palmed home from close range. Tipp's lead proved short-lived however as within two minutes Brenda Daniels disposed Tipperary 'keeper, Louise Ryan, to palm home an opportunist goal at the opposite end.

UPPER HAND

With the industrious Michelle Glynn prominent at centre-field, Galway continued to hold the upper hand and Kavanagh and Caroline Murray tagged on two further points to edge them 1-6 to 1-3 in front.

However, Tipperary finished the second half strongly with points from Deane and Shanahan to leave themselves just a point adrift at the break.

During the third quarter Tipperary's tendency to concede frees proved costly as Kavanagh exacted full retribution to extend her side's lead to four points.

But Philomena Fogarty and Angela McDermot were to the fore in galvanising Tipp's resistance and the latter's splendid solo run set up Grainne Shanahan for Tipp's second goal after 41 minutes.

Alice Deane and full back Siobhan Cusack were others to catch the eye for Tipp while besides match-winner Kavanagh, Galway had other heroes in Michelle Glynn, Daniels and inspirational full-back and captain, Ann Dolan.

The industrious Daniels, besides contributing a goal, was the fulcrum of many of Galway's more dangerous attacks and her unselfish foraging throughout made life easier for her fellow forwards.

Galway's win yesterday helped them avenge their defeat to Tipperary in the 1992 decider when the Premier County triumphed by 6-13 to 0-7 to win their only junior crown.

SCORERS — Galway: L Kavanagh 1-9 (5f), S Tannian 1-0, B Daniels 1-0, A Lynskey, C Murray 0-1 each. Tipperary: B Howard 1-1, G Shanahan 1-1, A Deane 0-4 (1f), P Fogarty 0-2, S Ryan, N Dwyer 0-1 (f).

GALWAY — A Connolly, A Dolan, R Broderick, A Kelly, F Healy, M Glynn, C Murray, V Sweeney, A Lynskey, L Kavanagh, B Daniels, S Tannian. Sub: E Earls for Healy.

TIPPERARY — L Ryan, S Cusack, M Coscovan, T Bourke, N Connolly, P Fogarty, A Deane, A McDermot, J Ryan, S Howard, G Shanahan, N Dwyer. Sub: M Looby for Dwyer, F Loughnane for Bourke.

REFEREE — C McAllister (Antrim).

SEPT 1998

Gritty Cork weather storm to claim two

Mellerick pivotal in Rebels' battling All-Ireland triumph



Brendan Larkin

Cork 2-13
Galway 0-15

THERE have been many famous victories recorded by the Cork senior camogie team over the years, but, yesterday's four-point victory over Galway in this year's All-Ireland final at Croke Park, will rank as the best of them.

This was a victory for grit and determination, a never-say-die attitude that many a male side could copy and an absolute will to win that will set this team apart from all the others.

Picture the scene: Cork, who could only manage a four-point (2-7 to 0-9) half time lead after playing with the driving wind and rain, were battling with their backs to the wall and a point in front with four minutes to go, as Galway threw everything at them in search of the winning goal. Yet, the Leesiders found reserves of strength to weather the storm and finish with two match-winning points from Lynn Dunlea to give the county its 19th title, and their second in a row over the westerners.

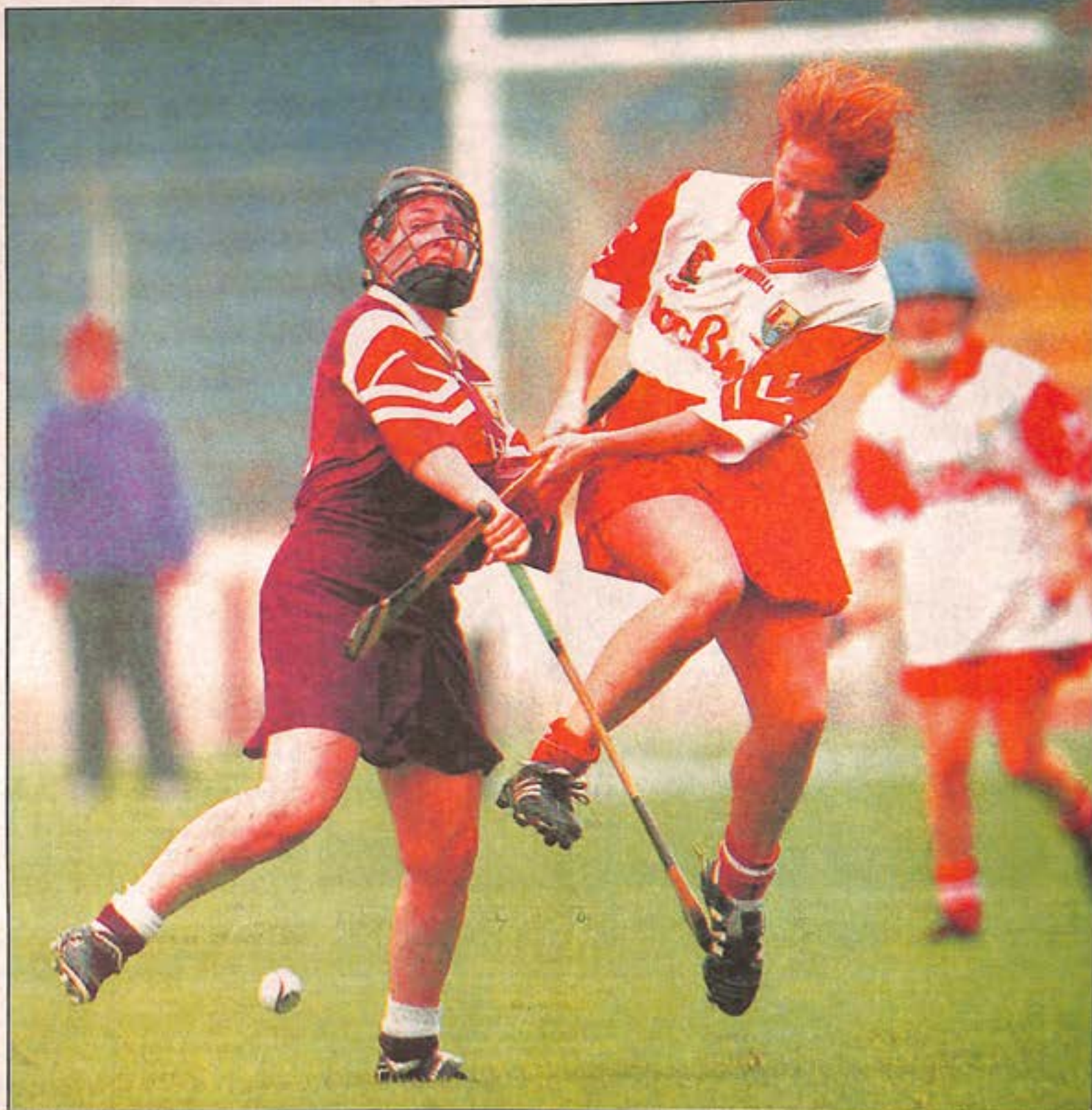
While it was, essentially, a team effort that earned Cork this latest success, there were a number of performances that stood head and shoulders above the others.

The entire Cork defence were magnificent. Time and time again in a pulsating second half they repulsed the Galway attack with bravery beyond the call of duty.

Those in attack made major contributions: Lynn Dunlea, with her impeccable free taking; Irene O'Keeffe, who couldn't have asked for a better day to end her inter-county career, with two smashing goals; and Fiona O'Driscoll, whose pace and strength had the Galway defence in disarray every time she won possession.

However, the one player who stood head and shoulders over all the others was midfielder, Linda Mellerick, who gave her best ever in the red and white.

Now in the twilight of an astonishing career, during which she has won ever honour in the game many times over — yesterday was her fifth All-Ireland success — the Glen Rovers star gave a performance that



Cork's Linda Mellerick and Galway's Olivia Broderick tussle during the All-Ireland camogie final in Croke Park, yesterday.

Picture: INPHO

will rank with the very best seen at Croke Park at any level or discipline.

When Cork were in dire need of someone to lift the spirits, Linda answered the call. Dropping back to help her beleaguered defence, she broke the heart of the Galway girls time and time again with some magnificent runs upfield, before winning the crucial frees which eventually won Cork the match.

Cork played with the elements in the opening half and, given the strength of the wind and rain, needed to be at least six points in front at the break to have any chance.

The signs looked ominous for them, however, when they went in with just a four-point advantage. Indeed, they were even more ominous in the opening minutes, when a very lively Galway side raced into a two point lead.

However, Cork weathered the early Galway onslaught and were level after five minutes with two pointed frees by Lynn Dunlea

Cork parade

THE Cork team will arrive at Kent Station at 7.45 p.m. and then parade to ACC Bank South Mall, the sponsors' headquarters.

After that they will head for Bishopstown, home of the captain Eithne Duggan.

and, with the Galway defenders prepared to concede frees rather than let the eager Cork forwards through, all their scores in the opening quarter came from placed balls, courtesy of Dundee's accuracy.

The powerful play of Sharon Glenn at midfield for Galway ensured her side enjoyed more than their share of the play and the westerners were well worth their 0-6 to 0-4 lead, before Cork's forwards finally got through for a

goal in the 17th minute to keep them in the game.

Following a marvellous run by Linda Mellerick from deep in her own half, her pass found Irene O'Keeffe in the clear and the Inniscarra lady blasted home a goal to settle the nerves.

On the puck out, the impressive Therese Maher tied the game for the fourth time with a magnificent point, but, Cork took control from there to the break and Irene O'Keeffe's second goal was no more than they deserved.

Would it the Rebel's four-point interval lead be enough, was the talk among the Cork supporters in an attendance of 10,436, as the defending champions turned to face the wind and rain.

The answer came in one of the most pulsating second halves seen at the venue for many a day. After Lynn Dunlea stretched the Cork lead with a point, Galway, through the superb play of Therese Maher and Sharon Glynn pinned Cork in their own half for long periods and a succession of

points had the deficit down to the minimum by the end of the third quarter.

It was heart-stopping camogie, with the tension unbearable, but, in just one moment of agony for Galway, and utter relief for Cork, this year's All-Ireland senior final was won and lost.

Receiving a pass on the edge of the Cork square and with only the goalkeeper to beat, substitute Denise Gilligan blasted wide and gave Cork the initiative. They subsequently had the insurance scores from Lynn Dunlea, to conclude a truly memorable final.

Scorers — Cork: L. Dunlea 3-9 (0-8 frees, 0-1 30s); I. O'Keeffe 2-0; F. O'Driscoll 0-3; M. O'Connor 0-1 (frees). Galway: C. Nevin 0-7 (0-5 frees); T. Maher 0-3; I. Hobbins, S. Glynn, A. Forde, V. Curtin, A. Hillary 0-1 each. Cork: C. Keohane; E. Harris, M. Finn; U. Troyick; S. O'Callaghan, F. Dunlea, Sub. M. Deasy, M. Deary. Galway: L. Curry; O. T. Lahsen, P. Nevin; T. Lary; C. Nevin, I. Hobbins, D. Gilligan, Sub. D. Gilligan, Curran. Referee: J. Morris.

SEPT 1998

Galway in-a-row

Reasons for Cork fans to be cheerful

1) CORK DEFENCE. Especially in the second half. After playing with the strong wind in the first half, Cork turned with a slender lead of just four points — would it be enough? Facing such elements, guaranteed to be under a lot of pressure, there is always a tendency by any defence to concede frees. Galway's free-taker Colette Nevin had been flawless in the first half into a difficult, swirling wind. Camogie is a game with rich potential for fouls and Colette would surely punish any transgressions. It didn't pan out like that. With captain Eithne Duggan rock-solid at full-back, Denise Cronin outstanding on the right wing, Mags Finn on the left completely snuffing out Nevin from play, and Vivienne Harris negating the powerful Sharon Glynn in the centre, Galway were confined to a mere six points for the second half. Match-winning statistic, match-winning performance.

2) GOALS. Cork got them, Galway didn't. Simple as that. But it wasn't just the goals themselves, valuable and all as they were — it was the timing of those goals. Two-thirds of the way into the first half, with the strong wind, Cork were trailing by two points, with Galway playing superbly. Enter Irene O'Keefe. Playing, she says, her last game for Cork, within two minutes, Irene scored two of the finest goals you'll ever see — the second, especially, was one for the ages. After the powerful Sinead O'Callaghan had a heart-breaker come back off the cross-bar, Irene picked up the ball close to the end-line, about 20 metres from goal. Dummied outside, but turned back inside, sped along the end-line, made a bit of an angle for herself, and thunderbolted to the net. A vital goal, for Cork. On the other hand, you just never felt that Galway were going to get a goal, especially not in the second half, when they so badly needed it. Again, tribute to the Cork defence.

3) FREE-TAKING. Absolutely magnificent, for both sides. In extremely difficult conditions for free-takers — swirling wind, narrow posts, light ball — Colette Nevin was 6 from 7, and Lynn Dunlea, 10 from 11. But in the heart-stopping second half, Colette got just two chances, Lynn got five, four of which were from difficult angles and distances. She slotted them all.

4) LINDA MELLERICK. I know there are other contenders — Therese Maher, Sharon Glynn, Colette Nevin, for Galway, Denise

THE KEY FACTORS

DIARMUID O'FLYNN



Cronin, Irene O'Keefe, Lynn Dunlea, for Cork — but Linda was my player-of-the-game. When it was most needed, she took the game by the scruff of the neck in the second half, and her long runs and clearances from defence eventually broke Galway. One run in particular, in the second half, comes to mind. Chased by Sharon Glynn, Linda carried the ball about 40 yards, into the Galway half. Eventually, failing to catch up, Sharon fouled her. I think Lynn pointed the resultant free, but — even more vital — it left Galway's star player a little winded. Fitness, stamina, determination and will-to-win.

5) CORA KEOHANE. Goalkeeper is such a dodgy position. One mistake, and you're a goat — slandered, insulted, lynched, crucified. It's so open, you see, everyone will see that mistake. Yesterday, Cora had a few opportunities to make that mistake, she was perfect. One save in particular, twenty minutes into the second half, Galway pressing hard, was pivotal. But not alone did Cora make the save, she also worked hard along the end line afterwards, and eventually, accepted a wide ball. A solid and reassuring presence.

6) THE LEAD. From the time Irene O'Keefe got her second goal, Cork never relinquished the lead again. They held onto it, like their lives depended on it. Because they knew — and there was a sense of this throughout the ground — that if Galway just got their noses in front anytime in that second half, the girls from the west would surely triumph. But Cork battled like hell to hold that lead, and though Galway twice came within a point, that was as close as they would come. Not close enough.

7) THE MISS. I hesitate to write this. I'm sure Denise Gilligan, Galway's second-half substitute, won't need to read this here. Three minutes to go, Galway losing by two points, a terrific move: Ann Forde to Sharon Glynn to Denise, and finally, the Cork cover was cracked. Wide. But — and this was a big factor — Keohane had dashed courageously out from goal, and had closed down the angle hugely. For forwards, there's the glory and sometimes you miss. Fact of life.



Cork players celebrate their victory over Galway at the final whistle in Croke Park yesterday.

Picture: INPHO.

Party by the Lee awaits the Queens of Camogie

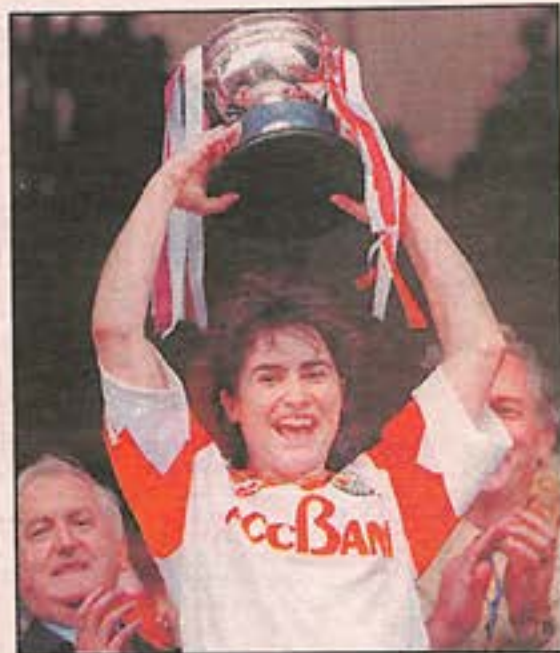
ALL-IRELAND senior camogie champions Cork are sure of a rousing reception when they return to Leeside tonight with the O'Duffy Cup for the 19th time.

The victorious party will depart Heuston Station at 5.30 p.m. today and are expected to arrive in Cork at 8 p.m.

The team will parade on an open deck bus to the offices of the ACC Bank (team sponsors) on the South Mall, and will later move on to the Bishopscourt club, home of captain Eithne Duggan where they are assured of a rousing welcome.

County Board PRO Mary Newman-McCarthy today called on all the Cork clubs to come out and give the team the welcome they deserve.

Cork captain Eithne Duggan lifts the O'Duffy Cup after beating Galway in the final.



By BRENDAN LARKIN

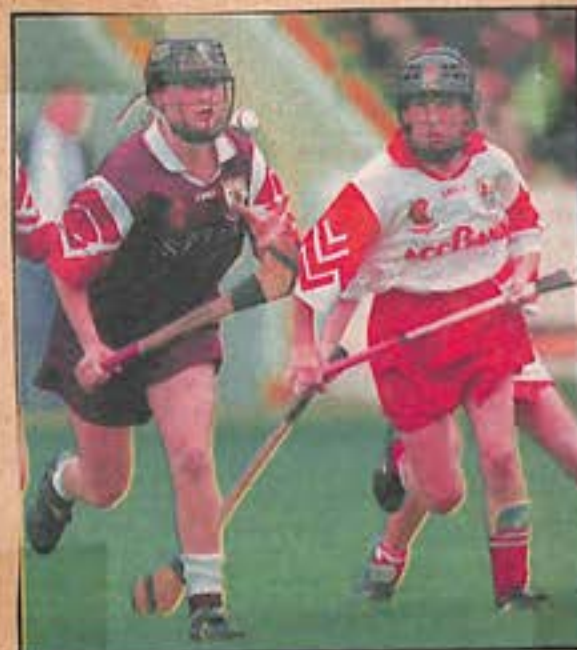
"Yesterday's victory was one for heart and commitment. All the girls showed their true character and determination when the chips were down, and this victory will rank as one of the very best we've had."

For Player Of The Match Irene

O'Keefe it was a day she will never forget.

She announced earlier in the week that she was retiring from inter-county camogie after the final, but could never have envisaged bowing out on such a high note.

Talking to *Echo Sport* today, two-goal hero Irene said she was sad at calling it a day, but said her decision was final.



Therese Maher of Galway bursts through the Cork defence.



Cork's Irene O'Keeffe is surrounded by Galway players Anne Broderick (left) and Tracey Laheen, while (below) Eithne Duggan, Cork captain raises the cup after the All Ireland final in Croke Park.

Picture: SPORTSFILE.

SEPT 1998

Kavanagh breaks Tipp's hearts!

Galway attacking ace guides junior women to All-Ireland success

Galway.....3-11
Tipperary.....2-10

—by Brendan Carroll—

GALWAY'S juniors may have stuttered a little early on but towards the end had sufficiently imposed their authority on the game to run out convincing winners of the All-Ireland camogie title at Croke Park on Sunday.

And the key to their success was a near-perfect performance by Lourda Kavanagh, who pointed six frees and scored another 1-3 from play to underline her attacking capabilities.

That, and a rock-solid performance by full back and captain Ann Dolan, who time and again mopped up nearly everything that came her way, ensured a sixth All-Ireland junior title for the westerners.

Playing with the aid of the strong wind in the opening half, Galway were four points to three ahead after ten minutes, Kavanagh getting three of them and Aoife Lynskey one before Tipperary's Grainne Shanahan — who was involved in a real battle with Galway defender Fiona Healy throughout the hour — worked her way in before

sending a pass to Sheena Howard, who palmed to goal. But the pressure was on the

Broderick's hat-trick of final wins

Successful Galway junior camogie manager Michael Broderick was completing a notable hat-trick of All-Ireland wins at Croke Park on Sunday.

The Castlegar clubman had guided the Galway minor camogie team to All-Ireland glory in 1977 and was also at the helm when the juniors captured the championship two years later.

Broderick was delighted with the performance of the Galway girls who displayed great heart in edging out Tipperary. "I am very proud of them and they deserved to win if only for their dedication on the training ground alone."

He also praised the organisers of the team's victorious homecoming which round its way through Ballinasloe, Mullagh, Duniry, Loughrea and Castlegar. "It showed how much the victory meant and we are indebted to all who were involved."

other end within minutes and only good defending by Tipperary kept out Galway attackers Brenda Daniels and Sandra Tannian. They couldn't hold out in the 17th minute, however, when Michelle Glynn — sister of Galway senior star Sharon — sent a ball in from halfway that was gathered by Tannian, whose shot was stopped by Tipp goalie Louise Ryan.

But as Ryan tried to clear her lines while moving off to her right, Tannian kept hustling until the goalkeeper dropped the ball, Daniels snatched it up and palmed to the net.

Kavanagh and Caroline Murray pointed to make it 1-6 to 1-3 for Galway after 22 minutes and then Glynn was just wide of goal after a surging attack. Tipperary came back, however, with two points from Alice Deane and Grainne Shanahan to leave just a point between them at half time, not a great advantage for Galway considering the strength of the wind behind them in the first half.

But despite facing into the elements in the second half, Galway pulled ahead with three pointed frees by Kavanagh in the opening minutes. Shanahan pulled a goal back for the Tipp girls after being set up by hardworking midfielder Angela McDermott, whose uncharacteristically missed

as she tried to strike it away. Two more Tipp points after another Kavanagh free had the Munster champions level for the first time in the half until the crucial score arrived in the 16th minute for Galway, Lourda Kavanagh doing all the work before shooting low to the bottom left corner of the opposition goal.

Galway were never to look back after that, going from strength to strength and gaining in confidence as their superior fitness came into play and after twenty minutes sub Eileen Earls sent Brenda Daniels on an incisive run before delivering the final pass to Tannian, whose shot from the right went all the way for Galway's third goal.

Tipperary were by now a largely spent force, their first half exertions against the wind having its effect on their fitness and though they did muster another two points, they never looked like recovering sufficiently from there to the end.

Apart from the main stars, Kavanagh and Dolan, Galway also had strong performances from Brenda Daniels, Michelle Glynn and Alva Kelly.

Galway: A. Connolly; A. Dolan; R. Broderick, A. Kelly, F. Healy; M. Glynn, C. Murray (0-1); V. Sweeney; A. Lynskey (0-1); L. Kavanagh (1-9, six pts. from frees); B. Daniels (1-0); S. Tannian (1-



STRIKE . . . Galway's Martina Glynn launches an attack against Tipperary in the All-Ireland junior camogie final at Croke Park on Sunday.

0). Sub.: E. Earls for Lynskey, 45 mins.

Tipperary: L. Ryan; S. Cusack; M. Corcoran, T. Burke, N.

Connolly; P. Fogarty (0-2), A. Deane (0-4, one free), A. McDermott; J. Ryan (0-1), S. Howard (1-1), G. Shanahan (1-1); N. Dwyer (0-1, free).

Subs.: M. Looby for Dwyer, 48 mins., F. Loughnane for Connolly, 52 mins.

Referee: C. McAllister (Antrim).



Jubilant . . . Galway junior camogie captain Ann Dolan raises the New Ireland Cup aloft after their All-Ireland final victory over Tipperary on Sunday.

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All-Ireland final luckless Galway

Cork 2-13 :: Galway 0-15

—by Brendan Carroll—

GALWAY'S bogey team did it again in a gripping All-Ireland Senior Camogie final at Croke Park on Sunday — just as they had done in this year's league final and both last year's championship and league finals, Cork emerged victorious . . . and by the same margin of four points as in each of the other three encounters!

In the end, Galway, outsiders going into the game, were left to rue what might have been . . . had a golden chance of a goal not gone abegging minutes from the end and had Cork not stolen in for two goals in the space of four minutes in the first half.

Now it's two years in a row that Galway have been left with the gallant losers tag — and the history-making first ever victory in the final the previous year, against the same opposition, is becoming more of a distant memory.

Things had looked quite promising when they trailed by only four points after a first half playing against the driving wind and rain, and on a slippery surface that made matters difficult for both sides — though despite the conditions the teams managed to serve up quality fare.

The vocal Galway support could sense the possibility of another stirring victory when, within ten minutes of the second half resuming, the gap was down to a single point, and their side had the wind behind their backs now.

But while they came so close, there was a point past which they were simply unable to advance — and five minutes later, midway through the

second half, a **Therese Maher** point proved ultimately to be Galway's last hurrah.

It turned out to be the final score they could muster, despite remaining an agonising two points behind the champions right up until the final two minutes, when a pair of pointed frees by Cork's top scorer **Lynn Dunlea** finally put the issue beyond doubt.

Few among the Galway players and mentors could hide the heartbreak of defeat afterwards, the tears all the more stinging in the knowledge that this was one they certainly could have won, despite having been largely written off before the game.

None was more disconsolate than substitute **Denise Gilligan**, the Craughwell teenager whose two goals in the '96 final won the title for Galway that year, but who didn't need to be told on Sunday that she had fluffed a great chance when put through for goal three minutes from the end, shooting inches wide. Had she succeeded, it would have put Galway a point ahead and in the driving seat.



Under pressure . . . Galway attacker Colette Nevin is challenged by Cork's Linda Mellerick in this incident from Sunday's All-Ireland senior camogie final at Croke Park.

Certainly there was no shame, Cork had been put to the pin of their collars to carve out a hard-won victory against the team who have been their modern-day main rivals and a pulsating second half especially had spectators on the edge of their seats . . . but as Galway team manager **Tony Ward** said afterwards, no matter how you paint it, even losing a good game is still losing.

The vast majority of Cork's scores came from their vaunted full forward **Lynn Dunlea**, who notched up a total of nine points — but every one of them was from frees as full back **Olivia Broderick** and the Galway defence held her scoreless.

Indeed, apart from the two killer goals in the first half by **Irene O'Keeffe**, only **Fiona O'Driscoll** managed to breach the Galway defence from play, scoring three good points.

In contrast, every single one of the four Galway forwards, plus their three midfielders, scored points from play, while seventeen years old **Colette Nevin** was excellent from frees, hitting over six points from placed balls.

Despite starting the game playing against the wind, Galway had opened quite strongly and midway through the first half were ahead by two points, thanks to four points from Colette Nevin, one from **Imelda Hobbins** and a terrific point from half way by **Sharon Glynn**, who, between injuries and suspension, was playing her first full championship game of the year and while at times she was lacking in pace she still played a pivotal role in the middle of the field.

With the Galway defence, and especially **Ann Broderick**, marshalling Cork well, it took

Lynn Dunlea's freetaking, pointing four times, to keep the Leesiders in touch. But the Galway defence must take the blame for what was to transpire after that, events which were to turn the game Cork's way and establish for them an advantage which they were never to subsequently surrender.

It started with the Galway goal coming under strong pressure after eighteen minutes when a **Denise Cronin** free was batted away by goalkeeper **Louise Curry** and cleared by **Tracey Laheen**.

The clearance was picked up by **Linda Mellerick** — the midfielder who was to prove one of the greatest thorns in the side of Galway — and funnelled to **Irene O'Keeffe**, who jinked past a couple of defenders left flat-footed and shot to the net from close range for Cork's first goal.

Therese Maher had an excellent point almost straight away to level matters but in the 22nd minute Galway were caught out again when a **Sinead O'Callaghan** shot from the right deflected off the crossbar and was picked up close to the endline by **O'Keeffe** — and the Galway defence stood back as she wormed her

way back in from the left to shoot home her second goal.

Another **Nevin** free was cancelled in the 26th minute by Cork's first point from play by **Fiona O'Driscoll**, who was to add another before half time along with one each from **Nevin** and **Dunlea** to leave Cork ahead by 2-7 to 0-9 at half time — a four-point advantage that looked rather slim in the context of the fact that they had the strong wind at their backs.

While **Dunlea** stretched it five soon after the restart Galway gradually whittled down the deficit over the next ten minutes or so with points from **Ann Forde**, **Therese Maher** — more and more exerting an influence for Galway at midfield — **Veronica Curtin** and **Colette Nevin**, to bring them to within point of Cork.

Over the next few minutes was tit-for-tat as **Aine Hillier** and **Therese Maher** (from halfway) swapped points with Cork's **Lynn Dunlea** and **Mar O'Connor**. Then in the 18th minute **O'Driscoll** pointed for the third time to leave her side two points up.

Cork were now defending wholeheartedly, with **Mellerick** especially active, roaming between defence and attack as Galway tried desperately to

Agony for seniors

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Galway camp left to rue absence of luck against old rivals!

—by Brendan Carroll—

THE fickleness of luck had a lot to do with the outcome of Sunday's All-Ireland senior camogie final judging by the reactions of many of the Galway players in the immediate aftermath of a terrific contest at Croke Park... it went with Cork, but went against Galway.

Most of them, battling to contain the tears of disappointment at their second defeat in two years, felt that Galway had played well enough to have upset the odds as the Galway team of '96 had done. But when it came to the crunch, the gods tended towards the Leesiders.

Team captain Olivia Broderick, whose face to face encounter with Cork's full forward Lynn Dunlea had been flagged beforehand as one of the keys to the outcome, felt that Galway had their chances but that they didn't always make the best use of.

"We did a lot of good hurling against the breeze in the first half and we were picking off our points but Cork had two lucky goals that left us four points down at half time," she said.

She could only be philosophical about the one that got away for Galway, the

late golden chance that substitute Denise Gilligan whipped inches wide: "There are days they go in and other days they don't."

Goalkeeper Louise Curry was under no doubt but that if they shot had gone in, Galway would have won it. "It's that bit of luck on the day that we just didn't get," she added.

However, she was insistent that this wasn't the end of the road for the present Galway team: "There's loads left in this team yet — the average age is in the early 20s."

Midfielder-turned-forward Sharon Glynn was "fiercely disappointed" that having reduced the deficit from four points down to one that Galway had failed to overhaul the Munster champions in the second half.

"I thought we were doing better in the first half, even though we were playing

against the wind then. There was a lot of talk before the game about Lynn Dunlea, but she was held scoreless and they still won."

"They got an awful lot of points from frees — we gave away a lot of frees that were in all the wrong places that they could score from," she added.

With regard to herself she was quite happy with her own recovery from a spate of injuries: "This was my first full championship game this year, I thought I held up all right, but I was a bit caught for pace for a while in the first half."

Tony Ward, manager of the team for the past four years, was every bit as upset: "The girls are gutted. We were confident we could reverse the result of last year's defeat but Cork defended with everything they had while we were coming at them and the luck was with them on the day."



THE CHASE... Galway forward Veronica Curtin bears down on the Cork's posts during the Ireland senior camogie final at Croke Park.

back into contention while time began to run down.

Sharon Glynn — moved up into attack in the second half — tested goalkeeper Cora Keohane with a viciously dipping long range free that was just blocked away and another dangerous-looking free from Colette Nevin only needed a touch to send it to the net but went wide of the mark until, with three minutes left, came the incident that will leave Denise Gilligan with nightmares.

Ann Forde passed to Glynn inside the Cork rearguard. Glynn, having the option of an easy point or a possible goal herself, reckoned that Gilligan on her left had the better chance and passed to her. The Craughwell sub, under pressure from the advancing goalkeeper and closing backs, whipped a quick shot goalwards... but inches the wrong side of the post.

Two pointed frees in the 29th and 30th minutes by Dunlea raised the siege for Cork and while Sharon Glynn twice tried, from a free and then a '30', to shot low for goal in the dying seconds, there was to be no comeback for Galway and Cork held out to the final whistle and retained their crown.

At the end of a gripping climax, Galway were shattered, second best is never a

consolation when you get as far as an All-Ireland final. But they can hold their heads high, having played their hearts out, especially players like Colette Nevin, Sharon Glynn, Therese Maher and Anne Broderick who particularly stood out.

Cork: C. Keohane; E. Duggan; D. Cronin, V. Harris, M. Finn; U. Troy, M. O'Connor (0-1, free), L. Mellerick; S. O'Callaghan; F. O'Driscoll (0-3), L. O'Keefe (2-0); L. Dunlea (0-

9, eight frees, one '30'). Subs.: M. Deasy for Troy 45 mins., P. O'Connor for Deasy 60 mins.

Galway: L. Curry; O. Broderick; A. Broderick, T. Laheen, P. Nevin; T. Maher (0-3), S. Flynn (0-1), A. Hillary (0-1); C. Nevin (0-7, six frees), I. Hobbins (0-1), V. Curtin (0-1); A. Forde (0-1). Sub.: D. Gilligan for Curtin, 50 mins.

Referee: J. Morrissey (Tipperary).

CONNACHT TRIBUNE

Sports Star of the Week



Therese Maher

IT WAS a disappointing day at Croke Park for the Galway senior camogie team when once again they were beaten at the final hurdle by Cork. There were heroic displays, though, by so many on a Galway team that came so close to upsetting the odds.

Chief among these was Therese Maher of Shamrocks, who wins the Sports Star of the Week accolade for her sterling efforts in the middle of the field, constantly acting as the launching pad for Galway attacks as the westerners strove to get the upper hand and never flagging in her efforts.

She wins the award this week ahead of others with strong claims, including Galway Junior camogie player, Lourda Kavanagh of Davitts, who scored 1-9 in her side's All-Ireland final victory over Tipperary on Sunday; Galway intermediate hurler Rory Gantley and Galway United's Billy Clery.

Tipp's first half promise fails to blossom

Galway 3-11 Tipperary 2-10

By Gerry Slevin

Decidedly unfortunate not to have been doubly represented on Camogie's All Ireland final day in Croke Park, Tipp's reliance on their juniors for national honours came unstuck in very wet and windy conditions on Sunday.

The promise displayed in the first half, at the end of which they were but a point in arrears (1-5 to 1-6), having played against a strong wind, was, alas, not maintained. Much of the damage was done in the opening minutes of the second half with failure to convert possession and also a proneness to fouling which led to Galway's top scorer Lourda Kavanagh sending over three early points.

Tipp did recover, Grainne Shanahan's goal spurring them on and while the sides were level as the fourth quarter began, two Galway goals in the 15th and 20th minutes upset the apple cart as far as Tipp were concerned. They fought gallant-

ly to the end and might have snatched a late goal, but by now Galway were not to be denied, their strong defence shutting out the Tipp challenge and the final whistle saw Tipp's bid for their second title in the grade, denied.

QUALITY PLAY

Such was the quality of the play throughout, that one can only imagine how both sides would have performed had the weather been kinder. The pace was fast, the skill always very evident and there was no shortage of commitment throughout.

Tipp led only once in the hour, and then for a brief period mid way through the first half. A fine save from Tipp keeper Louise Ryan saw her clearance go to Tess Bourke who set up an excellent move that ended with Grainne Shanahan setting up Sheena Howard and she hand passed to the Galway net. This put Tipp in the driver's seat, 1-3 to 0-4 but within three minutes Galway had regained the lead. Louise Ryan saved again but she was dispossessed as she emerged to clear and Brenda Daniels was in to notch Galway's first goal.

While Galway set about building on that lead, adding two points, Tipp finished the half well with points from Alice

Deane and Grainne Shanahan and were only a point in arrears at the break.

For the second half, Tipp moved Grainne Shanahan to full forward and straight from the throw-in were awarded a free which Alice Deane sent wide. Galway looked a more determined side in this half and the Tipp defence conceded three frees in the opening eight minutes which Lourda Kavanagh converted.

TIPP GOAL

The Tipp mood that was taking a decidedly downward graph shot up suddenly when Angela McDermott soloed through the Galway defence and Grainne Shanahan finished the

move with a goal. Lourda Kavanagh converted a free at the other end but Philomena Fogarty kept Tipp in touch with a point and after Mary Looby had replaced Niamh Dwyer, Joanne Ryan lofted over the equaliser as the third quarter ended, 2-7 to 1-10.

Angela McDermott had been the mainstay of the Tipp attack up to now, especially since half time, her darting runs providing problems for the Galway defence. Galway introduced Eileen Earls in a bid to curb her and it paid off for a while. Lourda Kavanagh left Louise Ryan standing when she shot Galway's second goal in the 15th minute, the ball just getting inside the post. This was a cruel blow to a revived Tipp side whose defence had been holding up quite well, but though Alice Deane pointed in reply, Galway were soon raiding again and full forward Sandra Tannian ended the raid with her side's third goal.

3-10 to 2-8 the score now stood at, with ten minutes remaining. Tipp tried everything to get back into the hunt and Philomena Fogarty got a point back. Goals were needed but the Galway defence was not in a generous mood. Lourda

Kavanagh finished off a great personal contribution (1-9) with her final point at the other end seven minutes from time, and while Tipp went into attack from there on, an Alice Deane point just on full time was all they could manage.

GUTSY PERFORMANCE

A gutsy and heroic performance from Tipp in all the circumstances. The loss of Siobhan Ryan and Paula Bulfin through injury, was huge, both having been so influential throughout the provincial campaign and again in the drawn game against Derry. Perhaps also, that long trip to Derry for the All Ireland semi final replay, only a week in advance of the

final was not the best preparation, but it had to be undertaken because of the slackness that allowed Derry to draw in the Ragg two weeks before that.

To their credit they played with tremendous dash throughout with full back Siobhan Cusack particularly effective behind and Maedbh Corcoran and Niamh Connolly doing very well on the wings. Louise Ryan made a number of splendid saves and was unfortunate in the way in which she was dispossessed for Galway's first goal. Tess Bourke was a tower of strength at centre back while Alice Deane led the side from mid field with plenty of industry and some fine scores. Philomena Fogarty's best contributions came in the second half with Angela McDermott the axis of the Tipp attack, running herself into the ground and always a serious threat. Sheena Howard and Grainne Shanahan were the most dangerous in attack with Joanne Ryan also prominent and Niamh Dwyer's influence best felt in the first half.

So, not Tipp's year in the end. Nevertheless, to have reached the senior semi final, taking Kilkenny's scalp before being eclipsed by Galway, with the

juniors triumphant in a three-game campaign in Munster and then disposing of Ulster champions, Derry, clearly shows the standing of the game in the Premier county. Next season, it will be on to fifteen a side, and what better time to make an impression!

SCORERS AND LINE OUTS

Scorers for Galway were, L. Kavanagh 1-9 (1 30, 4 frees), B. Daniels and S. Tannian 1-0 each, A. Lynskey and C. Moriarty 0-1 each.

Tipp's replies came from S. Howard and G. Shanahan 1-1 each, A. Deane, 0-4 (1 30, 1 free), P. Fogarty 0-2, J. Ryan, N. Dwyer (free) 0-1 each.

Each side had twelve wides, with Galway awarded thirteen frees, against nine for Tipp. Each team also forced a 30.

GALWAY -- Aoife Connolly, Ann Dolan (capt), Rita Broderick, Alva Kelly, Fiona Healy, Michelle Glynn, Caroline Murray, Veronica Sweeney, Aoife Lynskey, Lourda Kavanagh, Brenda Daniels, Sandra Tannian.

Sub -- Eileen Earls for Murray.

TIPPERARY -- Louise Ryan (Holycross/Ballycahill), Siobhan Cusack (Toomevara), Maedhbh Corcoran (Moycarkey/Borris), Tess Bourke (Shannon Rovers), Niamh Connolly (Templemore), Philomena Fogarty (Cashel), Alice Deane, capt (Kilruane), Angela McDermott (Knockavilla), Joanne Ryan (Cashel), Sheena Howard (Burgess), Grainne Shanahan (Toomevara), Niamh Dwyer (Moycarkey).

Subs -- Mary Looby (Drom n Inch) for Dwyer, Fiona Loughnane (Templemore), for Bourke.

Referee: Caitriona McAllister, Antrim.

Sunday September 6th

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

Cork 2-13

Galway 0-15

Cork - C. Keohane, E. Duggan, D. Cronin, V. Harris, M. Finn, U. Troy, M. O'Connor 0-1, L. Mellerick, S. O'Callaghan, P. O'Driscoll 0-3, I. O'Keeffe 2-0, L. Dunlea 0-9. Subs - M. Deasy for Troy, P. O'Connor for Deasy.

Galway - L. Curry, O. Broderick, A. Broderick, T. Laheen, P. Nevin, T. Maher 0-3, S. Glynn 0-1, A. Hillary 0-1, C. Nevin 0-7, I. Hobbins 0-1, V. Curtin 0-1, A. Forde 0-1. Sub - D. Gilligan for Curtin.

Referee - J. Morrissey (Tipperary).

All-Ireland Junior Camogie

Championship Final At Croke Park

Galway 3-11

Tipperary 2-10

Galway - A. Connolly, A. Dolan, R. Broderick, A. Kelly, F. Healy, M. Glynn, C. Murray 0-1, V. Sweeney, A. Lynskey 0-1, L. Kavanagh 1-9, B. Daniels 1-0, S. Tannian 1-0. Sub - E. Earls for Healy.

Tipperary - L. Ryan, S. Cusack, M. Corcoran, T. Bourke, N. Connolly, P. Fogarty 0-2, A. Deane 0-4, A. McDermott, J. Ryan 0-1, S. Howard 1-1, G. Shanahan 1-1, N. Dwyer 0-1. Subs - M. Looby for Dwyer, F. Loughnane for Bourke.

Referee - C. McAllister (Antrim).

O'Keeffe's goal made for a memorable scene

PLEASE allow me, through your newspaper, to congratulate the Cork Senior Camogie team on their wonderful win over Galway in the All-Ireland final.

I haven't felt so excited about a Cork team winning anything before now, and the reason I got so excited was the sheer determination and brilliant finish to Irene O'Keeffe's second goal.

It was a scene unmatched by any other. The way she chased after that ball - out along the end line almost to the sideline - picked it up, headed back towards goal, casting aside any challenge that confronted her, moving outfield marginally and then, with others trying to close her down, unleashed a powerful shot which buried the ball in the Galway net. It was sheer determination, speed and skill, and

wrapped together to create a memorable scene. Congratulations Irene!

Well done also to Linda Mellerick, for those powerful surges out of defence, and head on into the Galway lines. I could almost feel the encouragement myself, not to mention the benefit to the players. And how well they all responded to those moves. Well done to all and again.

Well done to Galway for contributing to making it such a great game in such dreadful conditions. Thanks also to RTE for the live coverage, it's high time that the skills of those ladies are seen by the whole country, at first hand.

Enjoy the celebrations girls and thanks for the memory Irene.

Catherine (Dolly) Lomassey
Armagh
Kilmore
Co. Cork

Goals push Cork out of reach

CORK 2-13
GALWAY 0-15

Ian O'Riordan

RAIN and wind tried to dampen the spirits at Croke Park for yesterday's Bord na Gaeilge All-Ireland camogie final, but nothing got in the way of Cork's celebrations as they claimed their 19th O'Duffy Cup and second in succession in all too familiar style.

Facing Galway for the third year in a row, with a title each from the previous two, this victory will rubber stamp their authority as the best camogie county around. Four points separated them last year and again this time out. As in the past the advantage of superior fitness and experience told.

Cork built themselves a winning lead and basically held on to survive the best challenges Galway had to offer. Lynn Dunlea was simply outstanding at full forward, drilling over nine points, six from frees, and proving once again how games can be won or lost with dependable free-takers. Added to that was the firepower of Irene O'Keeffe, whose two goals in the first half had Galway constantly playing catch-up afterwards. Unfortunately for them, this meant it wasn't to be their day.

"We always thought that there wouldn't be much more in it than a couple of goals," said corner forward O'Keeffe, who secured exactly that tally for Cork. "They kept coming at us alright but our back line was very strong and that made a big difference in the end. Winning again against Galway adds a little extra buzz because they're probably our greatest rivals at the moment."

It was that set of backs, led by captain Eithne Dunne at full back, that gave Galway the most trouble, confirmed by the Galway full forward Ann Forde's single point. The experienced Galway player is usually a dependable score-maker, but found the walls of defence a little too high on this occasion.



ON A BREAK ... Cork's Lynn Dunlea rounds Galway's Olivia Broderick during yesterday's All-Ireland senior camogie final at Croke Park. — (Photograph: Bryan O'Brien).

Cork chose to play with the strong wind in the first half, a strategy that paid off well. Collette Nevin had Galway up two points but Dunlea had them even in as many minutes and after that they kept the slightly nervous-looking Galway side under constant pressure. Nevin did her best to keep them in touch, and as Galway also benefited from the Trojan work of Sharon Glynn at midfield, things were reasonably well matched until the Cork goal spree kicked in.

Last year's captain, Linda

Mellerick, was once again a marvel at midfield and even though she only once made the scoreboard, she created plenty of scores. Considering Mellerick had planned to retire after last season's victory, you just had to wonder where she continues to get her energy and enthusiasm.

She set up O'Keeffe's first goal after 19 minutes and demonstrated her phenomenal pace and acute awareness on a number of occasions that allowed Ursula Troy and Mary O'Connor to add scores from midfield. For one of

the older members of the Cork squad, it was a truly inspiring performance.

O'Keeffe's second goal perhaps best illustrated Cork's attitude — hungry and determined. When Sinéad O'Callaghan's shot rebounded off the crossbar, O'Keeffe was first in to snatch possession and blast home the three points.

The impressive scoring form of Nevin allowed Galway to go into the break four points down, 2-7 to 0-9. It could have been a lot

worse, as Dunlea reminded them moments into the second half with her sixth point.

Galway then went through one of the better patches with Aine Hillery, Glynn and Veronica Curtin all stepping up a notch and proving the team were well able to score. Therese Maher's rocket shot took them to within a point for the first time since the early stages. Concern in the Cork camp was made clear when they replaced Troy with Miriam Deasy.

Mellerick responded and Galway, for the moment, were back on the rocks. Time was running out and still that winning score refused to come.

The voluble 10,436 attendance were then treated to a heart-stopping moment when Galway substitute Denise Gilligan was given a heaven-sent chance of snatching the game in the last two minutes. Played clear in front of the Cork goal by a swift Forde pass and with only Cora Keohane to beat, Gilligan, to the relief of some and dismay of others, fired left and wide.

An inconsolable miss made all the worse by Dunlea's final two points in the last seconds that ensured the cup would stay in Cork's hands. Just as the sun made the briefest of appearances at Croke Park, referee John Morrissey blew the final whistle and extended the Cork dominance for another 12 months — at least.

Galway manager Tony Ward tried his best to sum up the mood in the western camp. "It's a double disappointment, I suppose, to lose two All-Irelands back to back," he said. "Still, I don't think anybody can say that there was too much between the teams out there. That extra bit of experience and luck probably saw them through, but we gave them a good match all the same."

CORK: C. Keohane; E. Duggan; D. Cronin; V. Harris; M. Finn; U. Troy (0-1); M. O'Connor (0-1); L. Mellerick (0-1); S. O'Callaghan; F. O'Driscoll (0-1); I. O'Keeffe (2-0); L. Dunlea (0-9). Sub: M. Deasy for Troy (44 mins).
GALWAY: L. Curry; O. Broderick; A. Broderick; T. Lathen; P. Nevin; T. Maher (0-3); S. Glynn (0-1); A. Hillery (0-1); C. Nevin (0-0); I. Hobbins (0-1); V. Curtin (0-1); A. Forde (0-1). Sub: D. Gilligan for Maher (47 mins).
Referee: J. Morrissey.

Kavanagh inspires Galway juniors

AN OVERJOYED Ann Dolan had the honour of accepting the first All-Ireland title of the summer on behalf of Galway after a truly entertaining junior camogie final at Croke Park yesterday.

The wintry conditions didn't seem to bother centre forward Lourda Kavanagh who stirred up a hurricane of her own by scoring 1-9 and she gave Tipperary all sorts of problems. Galway moved straight in front with the strong

GALWAY 3-11
TIPPERARY 2-10

Ian O'Riordan

wind behind them and never looked like surrendering that lead for long throughout the 60 minutes.

Alice Deane was keeping the Tipperary deficit to a minimum

before Sheena Howard burst through for a surprise goal against the flow of play which left Galway trailing for the only time in the match. Moments later Brenda Daniels did the same and from then on Galway looked fitter, more organised and more productive.

Just a point down at the interval, 1-6 to 1-5, Tipperary had no response to Galway's firepower in the second half but, to their credit,

they were never overrun. Kavanagh extended the lead before a momentary lapse in Galway's concentration allowed Grainne Shanahan to send in Tipperary's second goal. Joanne Ryan then levelled with 15 minutes to go.

That was the final wake-up call for Galway as Kavanagh and then Sandra Tannian fired home a goal each. Tipperary added a few more points through Philomena Fogarty

and even forced Aoife Connolly to pull off a few acrobatic saves in front of the Galway net but at that stage it was asking for a miracle to expect a last-minute reprieve.

GALWAY: A. Connolly; A. Dolan; R. Broderick; A. Kelly; F. Healy; M. Glynn; C. Murray (0-1); V. Sweeney; A. Lynskey (0-1); L. Kavanagh (1-9); B. Daniels (1-0); S. Tannian (1-0). Sub: A. Murray for C. Murray (48 mins).
TIPPERARY: L. Ryan; S. Cusack; M. Corcoran; T. Bourke; N. Connolly; P. Fogarty (0-2); A. Deane (0-4); A. McDermott; J. Ryan (0-1); S. Howard (1-1); G. Shanahan (1-1); N. Dwyer (0-1). Sub: F. Loughane for Bourke (52 mins).
Referee: Chaitríona Mhic Ailteair.



The Cork bench celebrates at the final whistle in yesterday's All-Ireland Camogie Final.

Picture: INPHO

Rebels are high after big wins

IT WAS a jump for joy for Cork's camogie girls as they rounded off a magnificent week for sports down south with another Leaside All-Ireland victory.

Cork beat Galway by 2-13 to 0-15 to collect their 19th senior camogie title in front of more than 10,000 spectators at Croke Park...and our picture shows the moment the final whistle blew.

Meanwhile Cork City battled from a goal down to defeat Derry City 2-1. And there was joy across the country as Roy Keane and Denis Irwin were the heroes for Ireland as they defeated the mighty Croatians 2-0 at Lansdowne Road.

See Echo Sports.

SEPT 1998

A bitter pill to swallow again as luckless Galway's chances go blowing in the wind

by Tom Higgins

IN contrast to the Cork dressingroom, things were very sombre in the Galway camp as they felt that they had the chances to win, but did not take them.

It was a bitter pill to swallow as this was the third year in a row they had met Cork in the decider, and having won in 1996, they felt that they had a chance of taking the second title.

Last year they went under to the Rebel County by 0-15 to 2-5. Galway were beaten in this year's National league final in Ballinasloe by four points

and, yesterday, it was a case of another four-point victory for Cork with a score of 2-13 to 0-15.

Captain Olivia Broderick said, "I am very disappointed we had our chances but did not take our scores. We had the run of the play all day, and were picking off our points but Cork had two lucky goals, and we went in, I think, four points down. We did a lot of the hurling against the breeze.

"Denise Gilligan had a chance for a goal late in the second-half, which could have made the difference. There are days they go in and other days they don't. I suppose

there is always next year"

Centre-forward Imelda Hobbs was also very down hearted. "We didn't take our chances. We didn't have the luck. Cork seemed to make better use of the wind, when they had it, than we did. There was an awful wind out there in the first-half but I think in the second-half it began to die down. It was all on the day, and things did not go our way. Our juniors did very well. They trained hard and well deserved their success. There is a super panel there, and now that they have won the Junior a number of them will be

coming up on to the senior panel, which should give use a great boost."

A devastated centre-back, Tracy Laheen, chipped in, "I am still waiting for a medal. It was a tough game and we should have won it. They got a lot of scores from frees, which made the difference in the end. They are a bogey team, and four points is a bogey score. We worked hard but things did not go with us on the day."

Sharon Glynn had this to say: "I felt better than I did last year, as I had no All-Ireland championship games this year. Still, on the day things didn't go too bad for me,

as I felt I played well. At least one medal is going into our house, as my sister Michelle was on the Junior winning side.

Trainer Tony Ward was perhaps the most disappointed man in Croke Park.

"We were beaten last year, and we were confident we could reverse the result. No one can say either side played better than the other but the luck was with Cork. They had that little bit more experience and they defended with everything they had, as we were coming at them hammer and tongs at different stages. We will have to wait for another time".



Fiona O'Driscoll of Cork battles for the ball with Tracy Laheen of Galway in the All-Ireland Final.

Juniors provide some consolation for Westerners after hard-earned victory over plucky Tipperary

Galway
Tipperary

3-11
2-10

by Tom Higgins.

GALWAY had some consolation for the defeat of their seniors when their talented Junior side took their title with a hard earned win over Tipperary in the opening game at Croke park yesterday.

Galway were hot favourites to take this crown for the eighth time, but they looked in trouble while playing with a gale force wind when they were only a point in front 1-6 to 1-5 at the break. They did not

play well in the opening half as they seemed over confident and although they set up some good scoring chances, poor shooting and overuse of the ball cost them dearly.

Tipperary gave their all in the opening half and thanks to a splendid display from Toomevara's Siobhan Cusack at full back, captain Alice Deane and their real star Angela McDermott in the middle of the field, along with Sheena Howard in the half-forward line they really put it up to their more fancied opponents.

They began to run at the Galway defence who

seemed to be suspect when under pressure.

Galway made the early running to be 0-4 to 0-2 up after ten minutes but then Tipperary hit a purple patch and a point by Sheena Howard and a palmed goal by the same player, from a pass by Grainne Shanahan, made the score 1-3 to 0-4 after fourteen minutes.

However two minutes later a long ball by Michelle Glynn was latched onto by Sandra Tannian and although her shot was well saved by goalkeeper Louise Ryan, she was then dispossessed by Brenda

Daniels who palmed the ball to the net to leave it 1-4 to 1-3. Galway went a goal in front with points from Lourda Kavanagh and Caroline Murray but Tipperary came back to score the final two points of the half to leave the minimum between the sides at the break.

Tipperary must have felt well pleased as they had the aid of the breeze in the second half.

However Galway really tightened up their defence in the second period, and marking closely gave the Tipperary forwards little scope. Ably led by their captain Ann

Dolan they went into the attack from the start and with the Tipperary defence beginning to foul, their ace free taker Lourda Kavanagh put over three frees in the opening seven minutes to stretch the Galway lead to four points.

Slack marking however in the Galway defence let Grainne Shanahan to race through the defence for a fine goal in the 40th minute, when she gave goalkeeper Aoife Connolly absolutely no chance from close range.

When Joanne Ryan scored a point just three minutes later the sides

were level and everything looked perfectly set up for an exciting finish.

However it was after this score that Galway's experience began to tell and two goals in the space of five minutes - in the 45th minute by Lourda Kavanagh, who had a tremendous day scoring 1-9, and in the 50th by Sandra Tannian - really put Galway very much in control.

Although Tipperary fought on gallantly they had put so much into the opening half that they began to tire in the closing stages and a fitter Galway side, with Michelle

Glynn setting up some excellent scoring chances for her forwards, ran out worthy winners at the finish.

Scorers, Galway: L. Kavanagh 1-9 (0-1 "30", 0-4 frees), B. Daniels 1-2, S. Tannian 1-0, C. Murray 0-1, A. Lynskey 0-1.
Tipperary: S. Howard 1-1, E. Shanahan 1-1, A. Deane 0-4 (0-1 free), P. Fogarty 0-2, J. Ryan 0-1, Dwyer 0-1 (free).
Galway: A. Connolly, A. Dolan, B. Broderick, A. Kelly, F. Healy, M. Glynn, C. Murray, V. Sweeney, A. Lynskey, L. Kavanagh, B. Daniels, S. Tannian, Sub. E. Earl's for C. Murray (45th minute).
Tipperary: L. Ryan, S. Cusack, K. Corcoran, T. Bourke, N. Corcoran, Fogarty, A. Deane, A. McDermott, J. Ryan, S. Howard, G. Shanahan, N. Dwyer, Sub. M. Lonsky for Dwyer (50th minute), F. Lonsky for T. Bourke (52nd minute).
Referee: C. McAlister (Adm.)



REBEL CHAMPIONS... Cork's victorious camogie team celebrate their All Ireland triumph over Galway at Croke Park

Pic: Ronan Lang

Battling Cork halt Galway's charge



Cork's Linda Mellerick clears under pressure from Galway's Olivia Broderick during the senior All-Ireland camogie final yesterday.

SOME years ago, the late John Wayne won his one and only Oscar for his role in the film *True Grit*.

The Cork senior camogie team didn't have to wear a black patch over their eye in Croke Park yesterday to win their 19th All-Ireland title, but they did give a display of true grit to break the hearts of the Galway girls for the second year in a row.

Cork looked in serious trouble when they could only manage a four point half time lead after playing with the driving wind and rain, and one felt it was only a matter of time before the Galway side hit the front and went on to claim their second title.

However we reckoned without the spirit, commitment and dogged determination of the Cork girls, who produced a magnificent second half performance to deny the westerners.

When Cork look back on this latest victory in years to come, they will recall the heroic deeds of their defence who fought an incredible rearguard action for practically the entire second half.

Cora Keohane was unbeatable in goal; team captain Eithne Duggan was a colossus at full back, and the entire

Defence wins All Ireland title for the rebels

Cork
Galway

2-13
0-15

By BRENDAN LARKIN

half backline of Denise Cronin, Vivienne Harris and Mags Finn was magnificent.

The midfield of Ursula Troy, Mary O'Connor and Linda Mellerick in particular worked their socks off to ensure a plentiful supply of ball into their forward colleagues.

Game

Their industry in the centre of the field kept the rebels in the game when it seemed Galway might win.

For Sinead O'Callaghan it was an historic victory in that she was winning her second All-Ireland senior camogie medal in five months.

Last May she captained St. Marys Convent, Charleville to All-Ireland schools honours and yesterday her pace and skill had the Gal-

way defence in a sort of trouble.

Fiona O'Driscoll whose boundless energy took her over every inch of the ground scored three crucial points and might had a goal or two had she opted to take the ball in closer before shooting at goal.

Two goal hero Irene O'Keefe couldn't have chosen a better day to end her inter-county career with five All-Ireland medals to her credit.

Lynn Dunlea's free-taking was impeccable, particular her second last effort.

Cork were hanging on grimly to a two point lead but won a free out near the touchline 30 metres from the Galway goal.

A point and the Galway girls needed a goal to level it.

Lynn duly converted the free and added the insurance point just before the final whistle to bring the curtain down on a truly magnificent season for Cork camogie.

Mellerick's glowing tribute to Cork coach

by Diarmuid O'Flynn

STILL FULL of energy, Linda Mellerick bounded up the steps, heading for her team-mates.

I complimented her on her second-half performance, told her I reckoned she was the Player-of-the-Game.

"Thanks very much. 'Twas tough going there. At half-time, we knew we were really up against it - there was a ferocious wind. But fair play to all, and our backs in particular, they defended and harried and blocked, and thank God, we got the win in the end."

Linda felt they owed much to their coach and trainer, Tommy Nott: "We trained very hard for this - I've never felt fitter. We've worked very hard, and we looked very sharp."

"I thought this morning the conditions would suit Galway, being a bigger side. We knew it would take double the effort to hit the ball, double the effort to chase it - because that would really take a lot out of you."

Had she made a conscious decision at the start of that second half, that she would have to step up?

"Yeah, I suppose. People look to me, I know

- they look to the older players. I've the experience behind me, and it's up to me and a couple of the others, like Denise Cronin and a few others, to come out and take the game by the scruff of the neck - and fair play to them, they did."

Is it all becoming a bit of a habit at this stage, all those All-Ireland medals?

"This is number five, and they all rate to me as high as the next. If we had lost today, I would probably have been the most depressed player in the whole team. Wearing this Cork jersey and winning All-Irelands means everything to me, and I suppose that's what keeps me going!" An absolutely tremendous example.

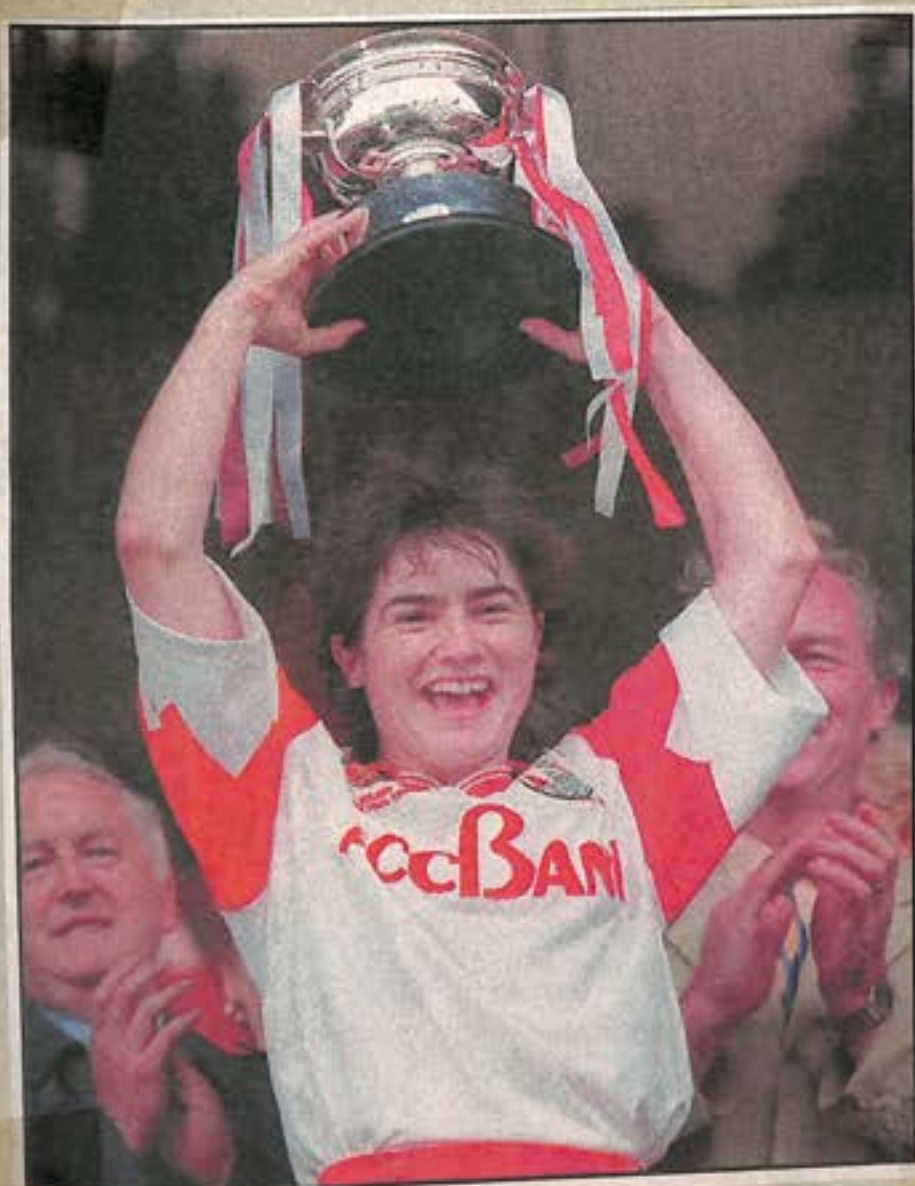
The afore-mentioned Mr. Nott was in ebullient form - asked if was worried at half-time, if he felt four points looked to be enough of a lead, he replied: "It didn't - but we were four points ahead, which is a lot better than being four points behind, I think! But the wind was very strong. But our backs were very good in the second half - their defending was brilliant altogether."

Last one up the tunnel, TV interviews all fin-

ished, Cup tucked under her arm, was a euphoric team captain Eithne Duggan: "It was a tremendous defensive performance in the second half - everybody got behind the ball. We said at half-time we just weren't going to lose it..." and they didn't. "We were under a bit of pressure with their puck-outs in the second half, but then it was hard enough for them to score as well - you might judge for the wind, but then it might die on you - it was very hard to judge it."

Was she worried when Sharon Glynn was moved to centre-forward for the second half? "Well, I knew Viv (Harris) would be well able to handle her! But it also meant they were in trouble, when they took her out of the middle of the field - it was a good sign too!"

I didn't press Eithne further - in a daze, all she wanted was rejoin her team-mates. "It's unbelievable, fantastic - I'm gob-smacked really. They just put me on T na G, and I went blank! I think I'm going to be hoarse for the next few days." But she'll be an All-Ireland-winning captain for ever. Something nice to take home with you.





O'Keeffe ends her Croker famine

THIS is the moment that ended an eight-year Croker Park goal-scoring famine for Cork's Irene O'Keeffe.

Irene waited all that time to score her first goal in Croker — and yesterday she picked the perfect moment to strike . . . on the double.

By NIAL SCULLY

Her two goals in yesterday's highly-exciting Bord na Gaelle All-Ireland Senior Camogie Final against Galway helped Cork to their 19th title.

Being constantly reminded over the years by friendly jibes that she never hit the net in Croker Park, Irene was determined to silence the critics.

Now, mission accomplished, she plans to retire from the Cork jersey after collecting a sackful of honours.

In the programme, Irene is described as having the pace of Michael Owen.

The writer wondered what price to put on Irene's legs if Owen's are valued at £60 million. But yesterday no money could have bought the satisfaction of those two golden wonders.

IRENE'S DREAM MOMENT . . .



Irene has rectified not goaling in Croker

by Diarmuid O'Flynn

It was an amazing little cameo, really.

As we waited in the tunnel under the cavernous new Cusack Stand, the first Cork player to exit the field — long before anyone else — was centre-back Vivienne Harris.

Just 19, playing in her fourth successive All-Ireland Senior Camogie Final, and winning her third medal, this was old-hat, really.

No trace of emotion, of any fuss. "Well done, Vivienne" — "Thanks . . ." and a wan kind of a smile. A serious player. A very serious player — shades of Mick O'Connell.

But then, soon after, came the rest. Wreathed in smiles. Battling Mags Finn — "I'm getting too bloody old for this!" followed by several of the younger brigade, followed by war whoops, as they entered the sanctuary of the dressing-room.

Side-by-side along the corridor, came Irene O'Keeffe and Lynn Dunlea, the two scoring heroines of this day for Cork.

For Irene, scoring apart, it was a particularly significant day: "I made up my mind at the start of the year — the

legs were getting a bit weary from it, so, I just made my mind up to go out now."

Retirement. What a waste of camogie talent! I asked her about the goals — they were pure determination, with the skill to back it up.

"A friend of mine told me before I came up that I'd never scored a goal in Croker Park in all the years playing, so I said I'd better rectify that before I go!

"I'm surprised I got in so quickly for the second one — the gap opened up, so I said okay, take the opportunity, it mightn't come again!

"I just put the head down, and went for it. And luckily, it went into the back of the net." Always, luckily.

At half-time, however, Irene was a worried girl.

"I didn't think we were far enough in front at half-time, at all — only four points up, with that much of a wind.

"But the backs were tremendous in the second-half — they really won it for us, when it came down to it."

But when it came down to it, goals were vital, too. Very vital.

Lynn Dunlea had a fantastic day with her free-taking. "I'm not com-

plaining. I was pretty fortunate today, and thankfully, everything seemed to be going well . . ." Fortunately, luckily, thankfully — would you ever give us a bloody break! Surely there's more to it than that?

"I suppose I have put in a lot of training, a lot of practising for this. Generally, I'm training three nights with the county, and every second night then I might go for half an hour myself, and practice the frees. It's just something I would do anyway." So, there is something more to it than luck! But what about that wind — surely it was problem?

"Obviously we weren't expecting a wind like this, but with the forecast then as it was, we just had to take account of that. We did a little bit this morning, and we discussed it at the practice session. It was quite difficult — it seemed to be changing. You'd run out to take a free, and it would seem to be in your face, but then when you went to pick it, it would seem to be blowing another way. So really, to be honest, what I just tried to then was get my shoulders on target and hit it hard, try not to let it too much."



Galway's captain Ann Dolan lifts the All Ireland Junior Camogie trophy in Croker Park yesterday.

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Joanne O'Callaghan, minor vice-captain, and Eithne Duggan, senior captain, lead their teams on a victory parade through Cork last night.

Picture: Richard Mills.



Cork captain Eithne Duggan gets a rousing reception at Kent Station.

Rousing reception for camogie heroines

"LET it be to the women, where would we be without them," declared Bishop John Buckley last night at the welcome home ceremony for the victorious Cork senior camogie team.

It was, the Bishop added, "one of the great camogie teams of all time."

This was a sentiment which was mirrored in the faces of the hundreds of people who lined Patrick Street for the open top bus tour of victory.

The team arrived on the 7.45 pm train from Dublin and were welcomed at the station by Lord Mayor of Cork, Cllr Joe O'Flynn, and a strong contingent of family, friends and fans.

From there the parade headed for the city centre where, outside the offices of their main sponsors, ACC Bank, formal speeches were made by the many dignitaries who turned out to welcome the players bringing the O'Duffy Cup to the city for the nineteenth time.

It was a "tremendous and exciting game to watch," Lord Mayor Cllr O'Flynn declared. "This is a team of sheer determination and great fitness and the cup was won in great style," he said to rousing cheers.

Cllr O'Flynn paid a special tribute to player of the match Irene O'Keefe

who scored two decisive goals and vouchsafed Cork's win.

"Irene's magnificent goals gave Cork that added confidence to go on and win the game."

Winning an All-Ireland title was a difficult task, "but to retain the title is an even harder thing to do," Cllr John Kevin Murphy, chairman, Cork County Council, told last night's gathering on South Mall.

His view was fully supported by the Bishop of Cork.

Dr Buckley spoke of the team's "demonstration of sporting skills and boundless energy."

The team had given camogie fans "great joy and happiness" in their games throughout the season, the Bishop added.

On behalf of the sponsors, Mr Liam Harte, ACC, said "what Sonia O'Sullivan is doing internationally, this camogie team are doing nationally."

Chairman of Cork County GAA Board, Mr Brian Barrett, speaking of the 19 Cork All-Ireland senior camogie victories said "this was one of the greatest games of all time."

"It was an heroic performance and I never saw such grit and determination to win," he declared.



Irene Ó Caoimh - sár imreoir Camógaíochta Chorcaigh

O'Keeffe's goals prove decisive

Cork take senior camogie title for 19th time after win over Galway in cracking final

CORK 2-13
GALWAY 0-15

CORK, if not quite the dream team, are the supreme team of the current camogie climate. Last Sunday at Croke Park, they won their 19th Bord na Gaeilge All-Ireland Senior Camogie title.

They are moving ever nearer to Dublin's record of 26 titles. Over 10,000 spectators saw Cork collect the O'Duffy Cup in the most demanding of conditions. High winds and heavy rain did their best to spoil the party, and the first ever live showing on RTE of the Final.

But the two teams rose above the elements to produce a cracking duel that contained much to admire and remember. The two first half goals from Inniscarra's Irene O'Keeffe proved absolutely crucial.

Cork, the holders and favourites, were getting quite a test from Galway, who began in very assured fashion. Those goals helped the Leesiders lead by four points at the interval 2-7 to 0-9, but goal scoring heroine, O'Keeffe, feared it mightn't be enough.

"Galway had the wind in the second half, and they really came at us, our backs were to the wall, but our defence played very well, and they soaked up everything," remarked the Inniscarra ace.

O'Keeffe had never scored a goal in Croke before, a record that has

caused her to be the target of some light hearted banter from friends, but she ended the famine on 19 minutes, with a thundering drive to the net at the Hill 16 end following a precise pass from Linda Mellerick.

That strike had given Cork the lead for the first time, 1-4 to 0-6, and inside a minute, O'Keeffe had notched her second goal. Ballyagran's richly gifted performer, Sinead O'Callaghan, sent a stinging drive that rebounded off the bar towards the Nally Stand.

Showing her renowned pace, O'Keeffe was first on the scene to collect the sliotar, before working her way in along the left to aim a rasper past Galway goalkeeper, Louise Curry. Those goals lifted Cork's confidence and they now displayed more of a swagger in their work.

Fr O'Neill's Fiona O'Driscoll was inches away from another Cork goal, but she did add two points before the interval, the last of which was among the top efforts of the day.

Four times the sides were level in that first half, and Cork, early on, could thank the free taking accuracy of Cloughduv's Lynn Dunlea for settling troubled nerves. Dunlea knows the lonely hours of the training ground as she tries to perfect her art, and she contributed nine frees in all to Cork's total.



Despite her jersey being pulled, Cork's Irene O'Keeffe bursts through the challenges of Galway's Anne Broderick (left) and Tracey Labeen (right) to score a goal. All-Ireland Camogie Final at Croke Park on Sunday. O'Keeffe scored two goals on the day which made all the difference.

Galway's Colette Nevin, with six frees, wasn't that far behind, and in the opening period, Galway had gems in Anne Broderick and Sharon Glynn, who sent over a peach of a point. On the resumption, Galway's centre field of Glynn, Aine Hillary, and especially Therese Maher, were causing mounting problems for Cork.

Four points in succession from Ann Forde, Maher, Veronica Curtin and Nevin saw Galway only trail by one point on 40 minutes, 2-8 to 0-13. Cork endured huge pressure, but digging deep, they just about managed

to hold onto their lead, even if it was by one point on a couple of occasions. Two Dunlea frees, another from Mary O'Connor, plus a 47th minute O'Driscoll point saw Cork ahead by two points, 2-11 to 0-15.

Then four minutes from time, Galway came within a whisper of snatching the O'Duffy cup from the banks of the Lee. Forde's pass put Glynn in a very promising position. Glynn slipped a quick, clever pass to substitute, Denise Gilligan, who was running in on the left.

Gilligan's shot was hit with power and at shoul-

der height, but, fortunately for Cork, it flew just wide of the left hand post.

Cork had made the great escape. Dunlea tacked on two more points to extend the winning margin to four points. The magnificent Mellerick gave another towering display. She had run herself to exhaustion as Cork had to show real character to survive.

Bishopstown's Eithne Duggan had the honour of leading the Cork players up the steps of the Hogan Stand to collect the trophy. She might well be the last captain of a 12 a side team as the sport

goes 15 a side on the standard GAA pitch next season.

Scorers Cork: L Dunlea 0-9 (all frees), I O'Keeffe 2-0, F O'Driscoll 0-3, M O'Connor 0-1. Galway: G Nevin 0-7, (6f), T Maher 0-3, S Glynn, A Hillary, I Hobbins, V Curtin, A Forde 0-1 each.

Cork: C Keohane (Barrrooe), E Duggan (Bishopstown), D Cronin (Glen Rovers), V Harris (Bishopstown), R Finn (Fr O'Neills), U Troy (Newtownshandrum), M O'Connor (Granagh-Ballingarry), L Mellerick (Glen Rovers), Sinead O'Callaghan (Ballyagran), P O'Driscoll (Fr

O'Neill's), I O'Keefe (Inniscarra), L Driscoll (Cloughduv), S Deasy (Kilbrittain), Troy, P O'Connor (Newtownshandrum) for Cork.

Galway: L Curry (Piarasigh), O Broderick (Davitts), A Broderick (Davitts), T Labeen (Piarasigh), P Nevin (Mullagh), T Maher (Shamrocks), S Glynn (Na Piarasigh), A Hillary (Na Piarasigh), C Keohane (Cappitaggie), I Hobbins (Craughnag), V Curtin (Craughnag), Forde (Na Piarasigh), Sub D Gilligan (Craughnag) for Galway.

Ref J Morrissey (Kerry).



ON THE BREAK ... Galway's Imelda Hobbins is in the thick of action against Cork during the All-Ireland senior camogie final at Croke Park on Sunday. Photos Joe O'Shaughnessy.

Eithne captained Cork to victory

Eithne Duggan, who plays with the Bishopstown club, captained the Cork team to victory in last Sunday's absorbing camogie final, to carry home the Duffy Cup.

Readers are reminded that her father, Phil Duggan, played for Cork in senior hurling in the 'fifties, the time of the Rackards and Ringy. Phil hails from Grenagh in Mid Cork and was a very effective midfielder.

Phil's wife (nee Carey) is from Mohonagh, near Skibbereen, and has the same name as her husband, with a slight difference of a "y" instead of an "i." Whatever about that, they must "fill" the cup.

How about giving the girls a fair go



Diarmuid O'Flynn

OFFSIDE

FOLLOWING on next Sunday's All-Ireland Senior Hurling final, there will be a huge formal banquet for the teams involved, with all the trappings.

RTE's Sunday Game will have a 'live' studio link-up with the winner's enclosure, all the top RTE GAA people involved. Interviews, craic, highlights — the whole nine metres. To top off the evening then, we will have that breathless announcement, the moment we've all been waiting for, of course — man-of-the-match. Raucous acclaim, and up will step another bashful recipient of half-a-ton of cut glass.

All great stuff, done in the best of taste, great entertainment, and about time too.

Last Sunday evening, after winning their second All-Ireland Senior Camogie Final in a row, the triumphant girls of Cork returned to their hotel, the Lucan Spa. That evening, they had a relaxed dinner, sponsored by the Cork Association in Dublin (and kudos to Tom Barry, Pío O'Leary — the renowned artist from Ballyphehane — and his committee). It was a good-humoured, lively, enjoyable affair. But no RTE 'live' studio link-up. In fact, no RTE at all! The girls had all been hoping to watch the highlights on Sunday Sport. It didn't happen.

And it struck me, the contrast couldn't have been more stark. The

lads get on live television, the girls don't even get to see the recorded highlights. Only later — the hotel having recorded the programme — did they get to admire their efforts on the field, but really, that is all such a shame. And an injustice.

I'm writing the following about a Cork team, but please accept that I'm not writing as a Cork supporter. It's just simple fact.

This Cork side has won five All-Ireland Senior Camogie titles in the 90's. They now have more combined All-Ireland titles — all grades of camogie — than any other county, at 35, with a chance to make it 36 next Sunday, when their Intermediate side takes on Down. Last year, when their male counterparts cracked the century barrier of titles, with an extra sport, an extra grade and extra years in which to do it, it was splashed all over the place. For the girls — zilch. When Meath footballers won the old Sam Maguire in 1987, and the new in 1988, it was also big news. Yet last year, the girls won the old O'Duffy Cup, this year, they won the new O'Duffy Cup. Nothing. In fact, what's the O'Duffy Cup?

Double standards. The camogie teams of Cork, Galway and Tipperary that graced Croke Park last Sunday, trained at least as hard and as often as either Offaly or Kilkenny next Sunday. They displayed levels of skill at least on a par with either of those sides. They should now be recognised for that.

Sport isn't all about recognition, and being on live television, of course, much as though that impression is now given. And watching Muireann Harrington and Stephanie Dunlea lead a magnificent



Cork celebrate after the All-Ireland camogie final. Picture: INPHO/Lorraine O'Sullivan

chorus for hours on end, into the early morning, you couldn't help but think that this was true sport. Untainted by money, no big incentives, no huge rewards, just the sheer, unadulterated joy of victory.

And by the way, let me say that the fitness and stamina shown on Croke Park earlier in the day was just a warm-up. The true test came at about 1.45 in the morning, with one more ploughing of Athenry's Lonely Fields, followed by another chorus of Come on ye Girls in Red, and one final, belted run-through of just about every come-all-ye that was ever written, with — and fair dues to them — several of the U-21 hurlers, who had waited over from their semi-final victory of the previous day, on base.

But that scene will always be there, as long as we're all Irish. What isn't there, and what should be there, and what this sport needs to grow, is more media coverage.

And especially, more live TV. And camogie deserves to grow. It is a magnificent sport in its own right. The statement that these girls wouldn't live on a top-class hurling field is rubbish. First of all, I think some of these girls actually would find a place in many a good hurling side, but secondly, it's a meaningless comparison anyway.

A few weeks ago, the whole country watched Sonia O'Sullivan race to two brilliant victories in the European Championships. Who gave a damn about her time? Who gave a damn about how it would compare with the time for the men?

Last Sunday in Croke Park, we had two great games. Two precarious half-time leads, two great backs-to-the-wall second half performances by the eventual winners. Two great competitions. Will we see such drama, such skill, next Sunday?

Time for more recognition. Now.

Mellerick lauds epic performance from two

by Diarmuid O'Flynn

"IF WE HAD twenty of these, it wouldn't be enough!" said Linda Mellerick, in accepting a Player-of-the-Game trophy from the management of the Lucan Spa Hotel after Sunday's heroic performance in Cork's battling win over Galway, to retain their All-Ireland Senior Camogie crown. And it was oh-so-true.

This was an epic team performance — from both sides. Sometimes, when you watch a game live, you miss some of the details, and most reports filed on the Monday would be based purely on what the naked eye had seen, from a distance of up to a hundred yards. But at two o'clock in the morning in the Lu-

can Spa Hotel, surrounded by a group of elated Cork players and supporters, we had a chance to see the game again, on RTE 1. This time with slow-motion, replays and commentary. Lots of commentary — from the box and also (more informatively and far more entertainingly, but this is still a family newspaper!) from the immediate surrounds of the Spa lobby.

Everything that the naked eye had missed, was now filled in by the television.

First, let's take Galway. They were magnificent — absolutely magnificent. They hit the field at full speed, and though playing into a gale-force wind, had Cork in serious trouble. Driven on from the back by Tracey Laheen es-

pecially, the Brodericks, Anne and Olivia, and Pamela Nevin; with Therese Maher, Sharon Glynn and Aine Hillary winning midfield; Imelda Nevin, Ann Forde and Veronica Curtin causing problems inside, and the superbly accurate Colette Nevin punishing all fouls, they looked much the better side. No 'ifs', and no 'buts' — Cork were in serious trouble.

Then came those two Irene O'Keeffe goals. It gave Cork the lead, but facing those second-half elements, four points just didn't seem enough.

In that second half, Galway, again, were magnificent. O'Keeffe's goals apart, all the best scores in this game came from Galway — a brilliant trio of points from midfielder Maher, a

mighty drive into the first-half gale from halfway by the stupendous Glynn, a super catch, turn, run and shot from Forde. Top-drawer stuff. And yet — they were beaten.

To the naked eye, incredible — how did Cork hold out in that second half? Mellerick was obvious — the blonde helmet-less head, the flying runs. Eye-catching, even to the most myopic. But — one person, even one as talented as this — doesn't win games. Nor did she. The camera told the fuller story.

There was Eithne Duggan. And there she was again, and again, and again. Just getting the stick in at a critical time. Getting the hip in, getting the blocks in. There was Vivienne Harris. Doing her best Paul McGrath im-

fully committed sides



Siobhan Cusack has matters under control. (B.D.)

pression, holding the fort in the middle of the defence. Battling out the high, dangerous ball — battenning down the hatches.

There was the speedy and tenacious Denise Cronin, the strong and tenacious Mags Finn, not yielding an inch. Yesterday, I said Cora Keohane had closed the angle on Denise Gilligan, when she had that clear shot at the Cork goal. It wasn't — it was the flying Cronin (the flying Finn would fit beautifully there, but...), storming in from the side, and enough to hurry any shot.

There was the strength and skill of Sinead O'Callaghan, winning vital frees at vital times, the hustle and bustle of Fiona O'Driscoll, with three crashing points from play. There was

Lynn Dunlea, who gave as good a free-taking exhibition as Croke Park has ever seen. There was Ursula Troy and Miriam Deasy, who never gave up, even when things weren't going the best for them.

And, there was Mary O'Connor. Even with the naked eye, how could I have missed her? The amount of work she did was phenomenal, and the pointed free (which I also missed, giving it to Lynn Dunlea!) from almost half-way, in the second-half, was a heart-breaker for Galway.

Epic, yes, and there it all was, thanks be to television. Surely, there is more to come from these two young sides. And I'm including Linda Mellerick and Irene O'Keeffe.

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Yeeessss... Irene O'Keeffe punches the air after goaling for Cork during the first half of Sunday's All-Ireland camogie final against Galway in Croke Park.

Pic: Brendan Moran/SPORTSFILE

Mallow welcomes heroes

By Trish O'Dea

YOUNG girls in red shirts scrambling for Cork camogie stars' autographs is a heart-warming sight in these days of Spice Girl mania, and all of the shouting at Mallow Railway Station on Monday evening was in honour of the Cork stars who brought home their second All-Ireland in a row.

And North Cork's role in the Rebels' victory did not go unnoticed. UDC Chairman Tadhg Curtis was quick to point out that, arguably, the two outstanding talents of the game, Linda Mellerick and Irene O'Keeffe have strong connections here.

Linda's parents are originally from Mallow and Irene has worked with AIB in North Cork

for nearly nine years, in both Kanturk and Mallow.

And we also have a claim on star Caoimhe Harrington from Newtownshandrum, whose mother Mary Coakley is from Mallow and taught at St Mary's School.

Irene had confirmed in *The Corkman* last week that this would be her last final, win or lose. Given that she scored two stunning goals in Sunday's clash I asked her if she was still determined to call it a day.

"Definitely," she replied, "I could only go down hill from here."

Though they ran out deserved champions at

the end, Irene admitted that the half time mood was anything but confident: "We were only four points up and we didn't think it was much of a lead. There was a gale force wind blowing in Galway's favour."

Like several others on the team, Irene credits a superb performance by the Cork defence for keeping Galway at bay.

She is now on a week's holidays from AIB in Mallow, but is sure of a warm welcome back next Monday, judging by all the AIB uniforms lining the platform at Mallow to congratulate her.

Her manager, John O'Connell, said: "She is Seanie Leary and Charlie McCarthy wrapped into one."



Dayna Sheehan, Sinead Nott and Christopher Sheehan all ready to welcome home the victorious camogie teams at Kent station.



Members of the victorious All-Ireland minor Cork camogie team celebrating at the official reception in Bishopstown GAA club.

Picture: Richard Mills



Eithne Duggan, captain of Cork camogie team arriving for their victory parade through Cork.

pride in our city



Eithne Duggan, captain of the All-Ireland camogie team holding the O'Duffy Cup aloft, to the delight of the crowd in the South Mall.
Picture: Richard Mill



The victorious All-Ireland camogie teams parading through Patrick Street during their victory parade.



Cork camogie star Linda Mellerick in action during the All-Ireland final against Galway in Croke Park last Sunday, which Cork won by four points.



Eithne Duggan with Maria Monahan, Jacky O'Hea, Vicky Dillon and Naoimh and Fiona O'Sullivan.



Cobh's shining star, double gold medal-winner Sonia O'Sullivan has put Cork on the map again.

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VANQUISHED ... the Galway senior camogie team which was defeated by Cork in Sunday's All-Ireland final at Croke Park. Back row, left to right, Aine Hillary, Ann Broderick, Louise Curry, Therese Maher, Sharon Glynn. Front row, Pamela Nevin, Ann Forde, Imelda Hobbins, Olivia Broderick, Colette Nevin, Veronica Curtin, Tracey Laheen.



CHAMPIONS ... the Galway junior camogie team which defeated Tipperary in the All-Ireland final at Croke Park last Sunday. Back row, left to right, Caroline Murray, Michelle Glynn, Veronica Sweeney, Alva Kelly, Aoife Connolly, Lourda Kavanagh. Front row, Aoife Lynskey, Fiona Healy, Rita Broderick, Ann Dolan, Breda Daniels, Sandra Tannion.